Calvary Presbyterian Church Non-Profit Organization

2343 Country Club Blvd. U.S. Postage Paid

Stockton, CA 95204 **Stockton, California**

 **Permit No. 161**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

 

“My eyes will be open and my ears attentive to every prayer made in this place. For I have chosen this Temple and set it apart to be holy—a place where my name will be honored forever. I will always watch over it, for it is dear to my heart.” – 2 Chronicles 7:15-16

For twenty years King Solomon worked tirelessly to finish one of the largest construction projects in Israel’s history – an expansive, first-of-its-kind temple dedicated to the worship of the Lord. It was an impressive feat, since even his father David was not able to accomplish the task.

After dedicating the first temple of Israel, Solomon receives a message from God:

“My eyes will be open and my ears attentive to every prayer made in this place. For I have chosen this Temple and set it apart to be holy—a place where my name will be honored forever. I will always watch over it, for it is dear to my heart.” (2 Chronicles 7:15-16)

It became clear that the temple would be the meeting place between God and His people. It was a place where prayers could be lifted up to God and where the real presence of the Lord would dwell. That is … until Jesus.

The presence of God in that first temple prefigures the actual presence of God through the incarnation; God literally ‘dwelled among us’ through Jesus:

“So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father’s one and only Son.” (John 1:14)

As we read the Gospels, it becomes clearer that the temple will no longer exist in one specific place. Now, because of what Jesus did on the cross by making a way for us to go directly to God, WE have become the temple of the Lord.

The temple now exists within every human heart:

“For we are the temple of the living God.” (2 Corinthians 6:16)

 “Don’t you realize that all of you together are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God lives inyou?” (1 Corinthians 3:16)

The fact that we have become a temple of the living God radically changes the way that we can and should pray. God’s presence through prayer is no longer confined to places of worship. We have the direct presence of God with us whenever we pray, because we are God’s temple.

And surely today our success as followers of Jesus begins and ends with our own prayer life, especially since prayer is not confined to specific places and all of us are temples to the living God.

As we look toward what God has in store for Calvary, prayer will play a central role in our journey. In light of that, I’d like to invite you in joining us in corporate and individual prayer (more on that in this edition of Calvary Press).

We’re launching a new prayer space at the church, not because prayer happens in a place, but because together we are the living temples of God who are able to pray wherever and whenever.

Ultimately, our desire is that this prayer room will become a place for you to pray throughout the week. A place where miracles will be seen. A place where prophecies will be heard and shared. A place where the real presence of the Holy Spirit will be felt. A place where together we will learn to talk to God and be filled anew with His living Spirit within us.

Solomon knew that the success of the nation hinged on having a rich and spacious prayer life. God commands him, “if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land.” (2 Chronicles 7:14)

Will you join me in humbling ourselves, seeking the face of God, and praying for Him to heal us? Will you join me as we journey together in prayer in our church over the next year?

Yours in Christ,

****

Pastor Andrew

**You Are Not Alone!**

Your church family is here for you during this unprecedented time in our nation and world. At Calvary, we have always been known for our ability to pull together when something needs to get done. With the direction and oversight of pastor Andrew Phillips, your church leaders have been working on keeping you connected and rooted in Christ.

Leaders have made the commitment to stay in regular contact with every member and friend of our church to keep them informed about resources for Bible study, videoconferencing, devotions, and prayer groups. If you have not been contacted please let us know by connecting with Brian in the office (209.466.0221 or email info@cpcstockton.org), pastor Andrew (pastor@cpcstockton.org) or any Elder or Deacon.

Remember that the church is not a building, rather it is the people who make up the church. That’s you. So even as we continue to have live streamed services, we are still the church and you are still part of it.



We should expect God to do miracles.

July Financials

Income 11,188.33

Expenses 19,166.71

Net -7,978.38

"Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ….” – Ephesians 3:20-21

***Deacon’s Corner***

Deacon’s on-going outreach project: Toiletry collection and canned food drive.

HEALING PRAYERS

-Leo Griggs

-Jen Bellomi, for the students,

parents and teachers

-Mae Chu's mother, broke her left arm

-June Kuwahara, hip surgery recovery

-Judi, endoscopy

-Julie's father-in-law, upper back surgery and pain

-Terry, non-cancerous brain lesion

-Christina's cousins, Eric and Donna, Covid recovery

-Gilsik Kim, cancer treatment

-Tatsumi, healing for leg

-Evelyn Curiel, gall bladder surgery recovery

-Jeff, veritgo

-Tricia Katayama, cancer treatment.

-Luis Agguire, healing for eye injury

-Ted and Sue Yoneda, cancer treatment

-Ongoing fires in California

-Small groups

-New believers

-For our country, let us remember to turn all concerns, fears, anxieties and everything else over to our Lord. Let God's truth go through this nation.

CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathies are extended to the family of U.S. Hospital man, Christopher (Bobby) Gnem, 22. Bobby was a member of the Calvary Presbyterian Church basketball team, a graduate of Lincoln High School and was engaged to be married. Bobby and 8 marines were killed during a training mission off the coast of southern California. Prayer extended to John and Christina Martin, whose son, Robert King, was killed in a traffic accident this month.

BLESSINGS

Christian and Shivani recently purchased and moved into their new home. Kathy Oda will retire at the end of the month. Congratulations from your Calvary family.

Many have asked how you can to continue to support Calvary with offerings and tithes while we are not meeting in person. Please mail your offerings to the church at 2343 Country Club Blvd., Stockton, CA 95204. Thank you for your continued support and God bless you!

**August Facilities Report**
Since we are holding our services online, the only facilities change to report from the building committee is that the gym has new LED fixtures. This will reduce our energy consumption and result in cost savings throughout the year.

Steve Takemoto

**School of Theology – The Psalms**

The School of Theology course kicked off on Thursday, August 20 with a great group of eager participants! Pastor Andrew has a style of teaching that invited your participation and engagement. He made it clear not to feel guilty if other obligations prevent you from attending one of his classes. I will say that once you’ve taken one of his classes, you’ll be hooked. It was so refreshing to see the young members of our congregation take this class. I’m looking forward to the next class and I hope you’ll be there to join us!

Dave Furukawa

**Calvary Prayer Night Kickoff**

We will be holding a weekly prayer evening to renew, encourage, and equip you in your faith! Kicking off on the evening of **October 4 at 6pm**. We hope to see you there.

**Calvary on Live-Stream**

With the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic here in the United States, we at Calvary Presbyterian Church have been graced with the opportunity to continue our services online through livestream outlets such as YouTube and Facebook. We want to share and celebrate some exciting statistics we have been seeing.

In the past 28 days, our Sunday Service livestreams have received over 1.5 thousand views and are currently averaging about 2.3 thousand minutes viewed weekly. In total we have reached over 3.6 thousand people through our social media channels in just the past 28 days! We praise God for the open doors and opportunities Calvary has been able to use in order to advance the Gospel message to places we never imagined amidst the current circumstances of the world. We also want to thank our Calvary family for remaining faithful in attending our livestream services and showing your involvement in the comment sections! As we continue to navigate through these unprecedented times, we look forward to the ways God will be continuing to use our Calvary family for his glory.

Brett Nakashima

**Special Offerings**

|  |  |
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| **In Memory of Rev. Saburo Masada** | **Masks for our Community** |
| Gary & Susan Low | Mabelle Acebron |
| Jeannie Matsumoto | Sarah Alcantra |
| Carolyn Sakai | Jane Carson |
| Kurt Shigematsu | Tom & Mayko Horita |
| Steve & Barbara Takemoto | Stephen Lofy |
| Sam & Kinuyo Tanaka | Duane & Jean Sakoda |
|  |  |
| **Deacon’s Fund** | **Youth Ministry** |
| Ted & Sue Yoneda | Marion Masada |

**Membership renewal month & membership class**

September is membership renewal month. Please join us this month by renewing your membership at Calvary. Go to **www.cpcstockton.org/renew.**

Not a member? Want to find out what membership at Calvary is all about? You’re invited to our next membership class! It will be on **October 18 from 2 to 4:30pm**.

Go to **www.cpcstockton.org/membership** to get signed up!

**September 2020**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
| 30**Live-stream worship****service:**10:00am | 31 | 1 | 2Pastor’s Devotion  | 3This Sunday @ Calvary!**Mask Distribution:**3pm – 4pm | 4Office closed | 5 |
| 6**Live-stream worship****service:**10:00am**Online****Congregational****Meeting:**11:30am – 12:30pm | 7 | 8 | 9Pastor’s Devotion | 10This Sunday @ Calvary!**Mask Distribution:**3pm – 4pm | 11Office closed | 12 |
| 13**Live-stream worship****service:**10:00am | 14 | 15 | 16Pastor’s Devotion | 17This Sunday @ Calvary!**Mask Distribution:**3pm – 4pm | 18Office closed | 19 |
| 20**Live-stream worship****service:**10:00am | 21 | 22**CP Deadline** | 23Pastor’s Devotion | 24This Sunday @ Calvary!**Mask Distribution:**3pm – 4pm | 25Office closed | 26 |
| 27**Live-stream worship****service:**10:00am | 28 | 29 | 30**CP Mailing**Pastor’s Devotion | 1This Sunday @ Calvary!**Mask Distribution:**3pm – 4pm | 2Office closed | 3 |

**Church office hours: Monday – Thursday: 8:30 am – 5:30 pm**