

# THE CALVARY PRESS



Publication of Calvary Church, 2343 Country Club Blvd, Stockton, California 95204

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Congregational Meeting (Congregational Meeting):

Sunday, January 17  
Following service

In the book of Revelation, Jesus gives several letters to different churches. I'd encourage you to read over these letters from Revelation chapters 2-3 (and you may remember that I delivered a message on the letter to the church in Ephesus at Church in the Park in November).

As I've reflected on these seven letters over the last few months, I find myself returning to one again and again. Jesus writes this to the church in Philadelphia:

"I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close. You have little strength, yet you obeyed my word and did not deny me. Look, I will force those who belong to Satan's synagogue—those liars who say they are Jews but are not—to come and bow down at your feet.



They will acknowledge that you are the ones I love."

In a year with a pandemic, recession and significant changes in each of our lives, we can see the evidence that God has been shaking us up and preparing us for a future of uncertainty and opportunity.

Maybe you've felt this year like you've been in a period of transition and change, especially with the changes that have taken place with the pandemic.

(Continued on page 4)

## CALVARY BOARD REPORT

We have peace when we surrender our lives to Jesus. Jesus' peace gives us comfort, hope and assurance; not what the world gives.

– John 14:27

- Burglary alarms were replaced with cellular devices in the main building; fire alarms were replaced with cellular devices in the gym by Charlie's Day & Nite Safe Lock & Key Service.
- 2021 budget was approved.
- January 1, 2021 – Annual Gratitude Meeting after worship service: formally referred to as Annual Congregational Meeting.

### November Financials

Income: \$23,053/37

Expenses: \$19,935.15

Net: + \$ 3,808.32

## DEACON'S CORNER

### PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Healing prayers for Benny's cancer.
- Healing prayers for Armand's cancer.
- Healing prayers for the Lux family.
- Healing prayers for John and Christina Martin.
- Healing prayers for William's illness.
- Prayers for those with COVID.
- Prayers for the Operations Christmas Child.
- Prayers for the Ikeda family.
- Prayers for the protection and strength of our health care workers.
- Prayers for leaders of our great nation.
- Prayers for the men and women of our armed forces.

| SUN   | M  | T                            | W   | TH  | F   |
|---|----|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| 27<br>Worship Service:<br>10:00am<br><br>Prayer Night<br>6:00pm – 7:00pm  | 28 | 29<br>Small Group:<br>7:30pm | 30<br>Pastor’s Devotion<br><br>Small Group<br>10:00am<br><br>Catalyst Life Group:<br>7:00pm – 9:00pm  | 31<br>New Year’s Eve<br><br>Weekly Email<br>Newsletter<br><br>New Year’s Eve Worship<br>Night & Year of<br>Announcement:<br>7:00pm – 9:00pm | 1<br>Happy New Year!<br><br>Office Closed |
| 3<br>Worship Service:<br>10:00am<br><br>Prayer Night<br>6:00pm – 7:00pm   | 4  | 5<br>Small Group:<br>7:30pm  | 6<br>Pastor’s Devotion<br><br>Small Group:<br>10:00am<br><br>Catalyst Life Group:<br>7:00pm – 9:00pm  | 7<br>Weekly Email<br>Newsletter   | 8<br>Office Closed                        |
| 10<br>Worship Service:<br>10:00am<br><br>Prayer Night<br>6:00pm – 7:00pm  | 11 | 12<br>Small Group:<br>7:30pm | 13<br>Pastor’s Devotion<br><br>Small Group:<br>10:00am<br><br>Catalyst Life Group:<br>7:00pm – 9:00pm | 14<br>Weekly Email<br>Newsletter  | 15<br>Office Closed                       |
| 17<br>Worship Service:<br>10:00am<br><br>Annual Gratitude<br>Meeting:<br>Following service<br><br>Prayer Night<br>6:00pm – 7:00pm | 18 | 19<br>Small Group:<br>7:30pm | 20<br>Pastor’s Devotion<br><br>Small Group:<br>10:00am<br><br>Catalyst Life Group:<br>7:00pm – 9:00pm | 21<br>Weekly Email<br>Newsletter  | 22<br>Office Closed                       |
| 24<br>Worship Service:<br>10:00am<br><br>Prayer Night<br>6:00pm – 7:00pm  | 25 | 26<br>Small Group:<br>7:30pm | 27<br>Pastor’s Devotion<br><br>Small Group:<br>10:00am<br><br>Catalyst Life Group:<br>7:00pm – 9:00pm | 28<br>Weekly Email<br>Newsletter  | 29<br>Office Closed                       |
| 31<br>Worship Service:<br>10:00am<br><br>Prayer Night<br>6:00pm – 7:00pm  | 1  | 2<br>Small Group:<br>7:30pm  | 3<br>Pastor’s Devotion<br><br>Small Group<br>10:00am<br><br>Catalyst Life Group:<br>7:00pm – 9:00pm   | 4<br>Weekly Email<br>Newsletter   | 5<br>Office Closed                        |

### CATALYST YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Through this very different season of young adult ministry, Catalyst has been able to stay connected and rooted in God’s word weekly online for life group. We have been able to gather over 20 new members over the course of the past few weeks as we are continuing on

in a Gospel Renewal Series with the purpose of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with non-believers and equipping believers to be able to share this Good news. Pray for us that we may be God’s lights in this season!

Calvary Church  
2342 Country Club Blvd  
Stockton, California 95204

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Address label

## Calvary Church "Centering People in Christ"

Please come and join us for:

### Worship service

Every Sunday  
10am to 11am

### Prayer Night

Every Sunday  
6pm



### Wednesday Prayer Walk

Every Wednesday  
2pm to 3pm

### Small Groups

Tuesday Night: 7:30pm  
Wednesday morning: 10am  
Wednesday night: 7pm

We are a welcoming, casual and diverse church in the heart of Stockton's beautiful Country Club neighborhood. We are a community where you are welcomed whether you are new to faith or a lifelong follower of Jesus.

For more information **call:** 209-466-0221 or **email:** [info@calvarystockton.church](mailto:info@calvarystockton.church)  
Visit our **website:** [www.calvarystockton.church](http://www.calvarystockton.church) or **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/calvarystockton](http://www.facebook.com/calvarystockton)

**Office Hours:** Monday through Thursday from 8:30am to 5:30pm

Glory in His holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!

## **SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

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### **Thanksgiving**

Shirley Bertoni  
Trisha Fong  
Jerry & Karen Nakamura  
R. Mitsuo Nakamura  
Dorothy Nishioka  
Jess & Yumi Oji  
Duane & Jean Sakoda  
Jim & Sally Tsunekawa

### **Operation Christmas Child**

Jerry & Karen Nakamura  
Sumi Yonemoto

### **Staff Appreciation**

Aiko Aoyama  
Allen & Myra Fong  
Trisha Fong  
David & Sonsik Furukawa  
Irene Ishida  
Kory & Cori Kambara  
Dean & Liane Komure  
Jerry & Karen Nakamura  
Ren & Julianne Nakashima  
Tak & Linda Saito  
Carolyn Sakai  
Judy Takemoto  
Steve & Barbara Takemoto  
Jim & Sally Tsunekawa  
Sumi Yonemoto  
Ruth Yoneshige

### **Christmas Photos**

Jean Carter  
Allen & Myra Fong  
Trisha Fong

### **In Memory of Rev. Saburo Masada**

Debra Hatanaka  
Carl & Karen Morita

### **In Memory of Katie Komure**

Russell Aoyama  
Jean Carter  
Trisha Fong  
Debra Hatanaka  
Kevin & Nancy Isawa  
Irene Ishida  
Willie & Anna Low  
Jean Lowe  
Carl & Karen Morita  
Nelson & Beverly Nagai  
R. Mitsuo Nakamura  
Brian & Sue Nakashima  
John & Kelly Nakashima  
Ren & Julianne Nakashima  
Philip & Nikki Omi  
Michiko Yamada Oye  
Duane & Jeannie Sakoda  
Paula Tamura  
Kevin & Susan Wong

### **Deacon's Fund**

Willie & Anna Low  
Jerry & Karen Nakamura  
Judy Takemoto  
Ted & Sue Yoneda

### **Masks for Community**

Patricia Parker

### **Birthday Fund**

Jim & Sally Tsunekawa (Bradley)

### **Christmas**

Shirley Bertoni  
Marcia Boyd  
Allen & Myra Fong  
Trisha Fong  
Susie Hamamoto  
Irene Ishida  
Tadashi & Carolyn Ishihara  
Janice Ishimaru  
Kory & Cori Kambara  
Gary & Susan Low  
Jean Lowe  
Charise Masada  
Joan Matsune  
Carl & Karen Morita  
Jerry & Karen Nakamura  
John & Kelly Nakashima  
Ren & Julianne Nakashima  
Dorothy Nishioka  
Fred Peoples  
Tak & Linda Saito  
Carolyn Sakai  
Tim & Hisako Smith  
Judy Takemoto  
Sam & Kinuyo Tanaka  
Jim & Sally Tsunekawa  
Wayne & Debbie Watanabe  
Ted & Sue Yoneda  
Sumi Yonemoto  
Ruth Yoneshige

### **Building Fund**

Shirley Bertoni

### **Youth Ministry**

Jerry & Karen Nakamura

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(continued from page 1)

But Jesus says: I see all the things you do. I have noticed how you've remained faithful to me throughout this season. Now trust me that I will open up a door for you.

I have more to say in the coming months on what this open door will look like for our church. But in short, I think in 2021 we'll experience a period of provision.

God is a God of provision. He is teaching us to learn to rely on his provision and not on our own. Remember when the Israelites were in the wilderness, searching for the promised land? They had all the provision they needed from God – it was literally raining food for them to eat from the sky!

Maybe you've felt like 2020 was the year of wilderness. Being in the wilderness isn't a bad thing because it teaches us to rely on God's provision and not our own strength. How easy would it be for us in a time of fear to just give in to that fear and start to rely on our own strength to get us out?

The church in Philadelphia could have said 'we're scared and we give up.' They would have forgotten what Jesus was promising about an open door because of their perseverance.

As I've been praying and planning for what God has in store for us over the next year, I've heard time and time again that experiencing His provision will be a central focus. **In line with that, I'm excited to announce that 2021 at Calvary will be the Year of ... Provision.**

**Provision for our church. For our community. For the Gospel to be shared. But also, provision in our personal lives. Provision in health, finances, relationships.**

I'll have more to say on that in the next message series, but can I ask you for now to pray and ask for God's provision this year? In fact, why don't you make it your central New Year's resolution to ask for God's provision and commit to persevering, just like the church in Philadelphia?

From all the staff at Calvary I want to wish you a 2021 filled with provision from the Lord.

Yours in Christ,



Pastor Andrew

#### **For more encouraging devotionals**

Go to our website [www.calvarystockton.church/blog](http://www.calvarystockton.church/blog) for a new devotionals every Wednesday. It's a great way to get uplifted and to be filled with the Holy Spirit during the week!