

Calvary Presbyterian Church
2343 Country Club Blvd.
Stockton, CA 95204

Non-Profit Organization
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Stockton, California
Permit No. 161

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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How To Respond to the COVID19 Crisis

These are uncertain and confusing times. This coronavirus is impacting us all and with cancelled activities, empty store shelves, concerns about health and travel, the impact increases by the day. So, how are Jesus-followers supposed to respond in the midst of all of this?

Last Sunday we looked at a good, godly king of Israel, Hezekiah, who faced a crisis every bit as uncertain and scary as the one we're addressing today as an example. Hezekiah and the people of Jerusalem faced the approaching hoard of Assyrians who laid siege to the city of Jerusalem and promised the destruction of the capital and the nation. Talk about impact, crisis and fear!

In 2 Chronicles 32 we found five responses we need to have in this crisis.

1. **We Trust.** In verse 8 we are reminded, "but with us is the Lord our God, to help us and fight our battles." God is in control. This crisis did not take Him by surprise. It is in the middle of crisis that we rest in the kind, loving and sovereign hands of our heavenly Father.
2. **We're Wise.** In verses 2-5 we learn that Hezekiah, though his trust was fully in God. Took practical precautions that advisors would tell a city under siege to do. For us, that means that we cooperate with government directives to wash our hands, limit exposure to large groups and events, etc.
3. **We're Helpful.** In verse 4 we learn that all the people gathered to help. This is an opportunity to be the church of Jesus Christ in a unique way. Jesus came to serve and we can follow him in thinking through how we might be able to go out of our way to help those around us.
4. **We Pray.** We learn on verse 20 that Hezekiah and Isaiah came together to pray and ask for God's help and deliverance. He answered. Perhaps the best thing we can do these days is pray for God's help.
5. **We Hope.** In verse 8, we learn that Hezekiah's trust in God and his words gave people confidence in God and hope for the future. As Christians, we have a unique opportunity to be the voice of hope to others around us in this time. We have a God who loves us, cares for us, is sovereign and leads us. This bright light of hope because of Jesus should light all the darkness of fear around us. I'm reminded of the last verse of the hymn, Great is Thy Faithfulness which says:

*Pardon for sin and a peace that endures
Your own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine and then thousand beside.*

- Pastor Chris Calvert

FROM THE



After the meeting with Converge, information will now be compiled to find pastor candidate dossiers that suit our church.

Thank you to Pastor Chris Calvert for blessing us, acting as Pulpit Supply. He will preach at Calvary until Easter and from then it will be determined what Sundays he will be here. He is prayerfully looking for a ministry in Washington state.

Keep doing what we're doing at Calvary: serving God as a cohesive body of Christ.

1 Peter 4:11b – "If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ: to Him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."

February Financials 2019

Income: \$19,890.00
Expenses: \$ 9,917.07
Net: \$ 9,973.77

Deacon's Corner



Deacon's on-going Outreach Project: Toiletry Collection Ministry & Canned food Drive

Our deepest sympathies and prayers go out to the Ishihara Family at the passing of our beloved friend, Sue.

We ask for continued prayers for Ron Kuwahara's mom, Revered Saburo Masada, Ruth Yoneshige and Lee Paston.

Dumpster Day & Church Cleanup taking place on Saturday, April 18th starting at 8:00 AM.

Our Pastor search continues, let us remember to put our hope in the Lord.

The Lord said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass."
- Psalm 7:7

Bulletin Board Update

Karen Nakamura, with the help of Mary Nakamura and Marcy Wong, will be updating the Sponsored Children Around The World bulletin board. Please email or text your sponsored child's name, age, location and a picture if you have one. Please indicate the name of the sponsor(s). You can email Karen at karennakamura55@gmail.com or call her at (209) 762-2026.

Marcy Wong will be creating a new bulletin board called "Calvary Connections" displaying member updates. Since so many have moved away or off to college, this will be an excellent way to stay connected on everyone's accomplishments. If you would like to be included, please email Marcy at marcywong@hotmail.com with family updates and/or pictures. Thank you.

His Little Feet

Calvary Presbyterian Church welcomed His Little Feet, International Children's Choir to an evening performance, Sunday March 8. 17 children ages 7-13 who are orphaned and rescued from India and Rwanda delighted us with songs, testimonies, love, and energy. Children were not housed by our church families this year, but we were able to offer them a delicious meal prior to their performance. Thank you to all those involved who made this a successful event.

You are Not Alone!

Your church family is here for you during this unprecedented time in our nation and world. At Calvary we always been known for our ability to pull together when something needs to get done. With the direction and oversight of Pastor Chris Calvert, your church leaders have been working on keeping us connected and rooted in Christ until we can meet again in person.

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 contacting Brian in the office (466.0221 or email cpcstockton@yahoo.com), Ron Kuwahara (712.4207) or any Elder or Deacon. We may not have your most current contact information, so please provide your home and cell number and email address when you contact us.

The office will remain open until further notice. We need our administrative help more than ever as we try to get information out to you as quickly as possible. Brian is committed to being in the office during regular hours – Tuesday to Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. - so you may contact the office with any questions, needs, or concerns and he will contact someone who can help.

Check the church website (www.cpcstockton.org) and Facebook page for information. As you know, things can change rapidly and we are committed to keeping you informed.

Remember that the church is not a building, rather it is the people who make up the church. That's you. So even though we are approaching church and worship differently we are still the church and you are still part of it. You are not alone.

Use this slower-paced time to pray and read and study the Bible. Reach out to others with a phone call or note. This is a time for us to bond as Christ-followers as we learn and grow through this experience and learn to depend on the Lord for strength, comfort, and peace. We have an amazing opportunity to glorify God through this experience.

You are not alone. Your church family is praying for you.

Resources During Shelter-in-Place

Church Leaders: Your Elder or Deacon is your “go to” person for all things CPC. They will pray for you, encourage you and work to provide help if you need it. Expect to be in touch with your leader at least once a week.

Facebook and Website: Look to the church Facebook page and church website to keep you up to speed, connect and bring you spiritual resources. Be sure to “Like” the CPC Facebook page and post comments there that that will serve to encourage others.

Prayer Group Text: Ron Kuwahara has a text group where people can share prayer requests. If you would like to be in that prayer group or have a prayer request, please text Ron at 209-712-4207.

To help you grow spiritually:

Training Videos: Pastor Chris will be recording several brief videos offering scriptural training and encouragement for these times that will be posted on Calvary's website and Facebook pages.

Personal Devotional: We're encouraging each person to access and go through a 14-Day on-line devotional called “**Peace in Our Midst**” starting March 23. This can be found at MyBible.com or on the YouVersion smartphone app. at no charge. You can sign-up to receive this devotional plan at:

<https://my.bible.com/reading-plans/18823-peace-in-our-midst>.

Printed copies of the study are available through the office or your church leader. Contact Brian in the office if you would like a copy mailed to you.

Video Bible Study: In place of gathering for Bible Study as normal, we're providing a two-part message by Craig Groeschel called, "Not Afraid". These two 35 minute messages encourage people to trust God in the midst of chaos and include some handouts to be used for text or online discussion. These are great to share with people who do not attend CPC or may not have put their faith in Christ yet. Find these resources here:

Videos: <https://open.life.church/items/204020-message-video-mp4>

Discussion Questions: <https://open.life.church/items/203978-talk-it-over-doc>

Online Prayer Gathering: About 30 people joined the first Zoom gathering on Sunday, March 22. Pastor Chris shared God's Word and a short study and we spent time praying for the concerns of our church family. Please join us on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. You can download the Zoom app or sign in on the website after you create an account. There will be a new link to each weekly meeting that will be emailed and posted on the church website and Facebook page.

If you have questions or need help, don't hesitate to reach out to one of the church leaders, call or email the church, or contact Pastor Chris (559.360.4120 or chrismichelcalvert@gmail.com).

Special Offerings

Deacon's Fund

Ted & Sue Yoneda

Sumi Yonemoto

In Memory of Miki Kagoshima

Gary & Susan Low

Tak & Linda Saito

Gregory & Luci Smits

Roy & Emily Takeuchi

In Memory of Elaine Low

Michael & Janice Chan

Mary Lam

Jean Lowe

In Memory of Sue Ishihara

Michael & Janice Chan

Allen & Myra Fong

Katie Komure

Gary & Susan Low

Richard & Janet Menor

Jerry & Karen Nakamura

Gary & Sandy Nakashima

Joyce Nakashima

John & Ruth Oda

Tak & Linda Saito

Duane & Jean Sakoda

Tim & Hisako Smith

Roy & Emily Takeuchi

In Memory of Amy Matsumoto

Jeff & Teresa Harada

God wants you to know Him better, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. – 2 Peter 3:18

G – Go to church

R – Read the bible and pray

O – Obey the Bible

W – Witness to others

Man does not live by bread alone. He has to handle some hot potatoes. Know his onions, and be worth his salt. Little wonder man is in a stew.

- Charise Masada

April Worship Participants

April 5th – Worship Participants

Guest Speaker: Pastor Chris Calvert
Chairperson: Brian Kaneko
Greeter: Jerry Nakamura
Ushers: Jerry & Karen Nakamura, Barbara & Judy Takemoto
Praise Group: Praise Team
Fellowship Tea: Jerry & Karen Nakamura

April 12th – Worship Participants

Guest Speaker: Pastor Chris Calvert
Holy Communion: Gene Wong & Trisha Fong
Chairperson: Kory Kambara
Greeter: Mary Nakamura
Ushers: Steve & Barbara Takemoto, Tim & Hisako Smith
Praise Group: Hymn Singers
Fellowship Tea: Easter Potluck

April 19th – Worship Participants

Guest Speaker: T.B.A.
Chairperson: Steve Takemoto
Greeter: Scott Sakoda
Ushers: Scott, Duane & Jeannie Sakoda, Joyce Nakashima
Praise Group: Sandy Nakashima & Brian Kaneko
Fellowship Tea: Gene & Marcy Wong

April 26th – Worship Participants

Guest Speaker: T.B.A.
Chairperson: Tim Smith
Greeter: Gene Wong
Ushers: Gene & Marcy Wong, Dean & Liane Komure
Praise Group: Tim Smith
Fellowship Tea: Duane & Jeannie Sakoda

April 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30 Office closed Tai Chi: 6:00-7:00 pm	31	1 Bible Study: 10:00 am	2	3 Tai Chi: 9:45-10:45 am Gym-Calvary: 5:30 pm Knit Night: 6:30 pm	4
5 Intro to Discipleship 201: 8:55 am Worship Service: 10:00 am	6 Office closed Tai Chi: 6:00-7:00 pm	7	8 Bible Study: 10:00 am	9	10 Tai Chi: 9:45-10:45 am Gym-Calvary: 5:30 pm Knit Night: 6:30 pm	11
12 Intro to Discipleship 201: 8:55 am Communion Sunday Easter Sunday Worship Service: 10:00 am	13 Office closed Tai Chi: 6:00-7:00 pm	14	15 Bible Study: 10:00 am	16	17 Tai Chi: 9:45-10:45 am Gym-Calvary: 5:30 pm Knit Night: 6:30 pm	18
19 Intro to Discipleship 201: 8:55 am Worship Service: 10:00 am Session Meeting: Following Service	20 Tai Chi: 6:00-7:00 pm	21 CP Deadline	22 Bible Study: 10:00 am	23	24 Tai Chi: 9:45-10:45 am Gym-Calvary: 5:30 pm Knit Night: 6:30 pm	25 Men's Fellowship Breakfast: 8:00 am
26 Intro to Discipleship 201: 8:55 am Worship Service: 10:00 am	27 Tai Chi: 6:00-7:00 pm	28	29 Bible Study: 10:00 am CP Mailing	30	1 Tai Chi: 9:45-10:45 am Gym-Calvary: 5:30 pm Knit Night: 6:30 pm	2

Church office hours: Tuesday – Friday: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

B - Basic
I - Instructions
B - Before
L - Leaving
E - Earth