

THE PROCLAIMER

JAN/FEB 2021

A BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

CALVARY CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH IS
CHRIST-CENTERED
BIBLE-BELIEVING
GOSPEL-MOTIVATED
COMMUNITY-BUILDING

OUR MISSION IS TO
PROCLAIM THE GOOD
NEWS OF JESUS
IN WORD AND DEED
HERE, NEAR, AND FAR.

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WORSHIP SURVEY FOLLOW-UP REFLECTIONS

A long, long time ago, in a pre-pandemic world, Calvary Church participated in a Worship Survey in February 2019, followed by a Worship Survey Follow-Up in February 2020. Because of the constantly changing nature of worship and more immediate worship needs these past several months, it has taken us some time to process the results of the survey. The results have now been seen and discussed by the Worship Planning Team and the Calvary Consistory.

There were 119 Calvary people who completed the Worship Survey Follow-up compared to 111 from the original Worship Survey. Having processed and discussed the results of the survey with Pastor Eli, the Worship Planning Team, and the Consistory, I am pleased to say that the results of the surveys are overwhelmingly positive: The people who took the survey value the worship ministry here at Calvary.

There are many images/charts from the survey that I could share

to demonstrate the positivity of the survey. The most telling image is the chart that accompanies this article. Well over half of you (56 percent) believe we are where we should be with our worship ministry, (compared to 44 percent last year) and 35 percent of you believe we are on the right track with what we are doing (compared to 44 percent last year). This means that over 91 percent of you either like where we are or like where we are headed. The main thing that changed this past year is that more of you believe we are closer to where we should be.

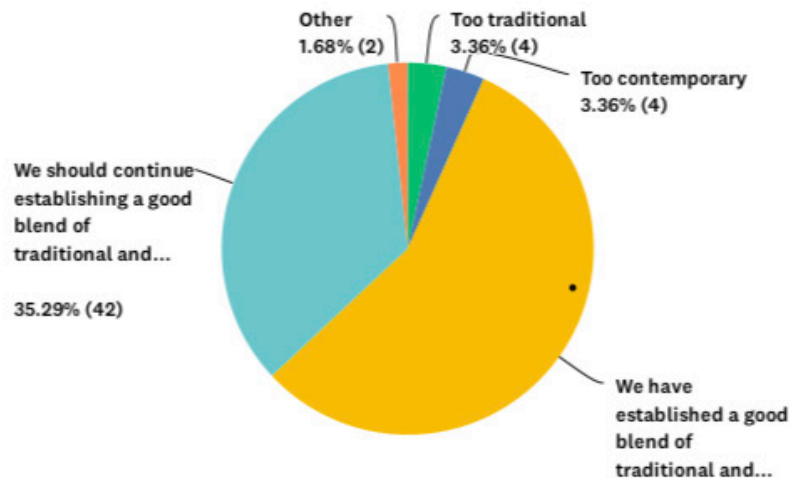
For us as leaders in worship ministry, this is extremely exciting and encouraging. Worship ministry is often a point of great contention and division. Here at Calvary this is a great strength on which we

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Editorial by
Nick Van Beek
Lead Pastor
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Worship Survey Question: What statement accurately describes how you feel about Calvary's worship?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Too traditional	3.36%	4
Too contemporary	3.36%	4
We have established a good blend of traditional and contemporary	56.30%	67
We should continue establishing a good blend of traditional and contemporary	35.29%	42
Other	1.68%	2
TOTAL		119

ANCHOR UPDATE

HERE

CALVARY IS HOSTING MINNEAPOLIS SERVE AUGUST 2022

Calvary's council approved co-hosting the full, week-long, high school SERVE trip for the summers of 2022-2024 with Faith Christian Reformed Church of New Brighton, MN. Calvary hosted SERVE trips from 2007-2010 and has agreed to make another three year commitment with ThereforeGo Ministries (formerly Youth Unlimited) to bring high school students from churches across North

America for a week of discipleship, including work projects, worship services, and group activities around the Twin Cities. Jake Kamp, Facilities Director, is supportive of the event and has helped us determine August is the best time for Calvary's facilities because both Agamim and Berry Patch are not in the first few weeks of August.

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History Moment

Name changes are not new for us! Below is a timeline of our previous names.

1919-1955	1932-1955	1955-1992	1992-2020	2020
AFRYMS	AFRYWS			THEREFOREgo MINISTRIES
American Federation of Reformed Young Men's Societies	American Federation of Reformed Young Women's Societies	The Young Calvinist Federation	Youth Unlimited	ThereforeGo Ministries

... *Anchor update continued from page 3*

The idea for this commitment began with the collaboration Travis Deur initiated with me. Travis is Classis Lake Superior's Youth Champion and is charged with connecting and encouraging the youth ministries of the churches in our classis. During one of his first visits with me, we walked around Calvary's facility and discussed how it would be a perfect space for hosting a SERVE trip.

As a result of this conversation, Calvary CRC and Faith CRC worked together in hosting TC Serve in the summer of 2019, a weekend ministry event that brought in 50 middle school students and ten high school helpers for community projects, worship services, and games in the gym. The event went so well, Travis and I began to think bigger.

We met with Amanda Rozenboom, SERVE Director of ThereforeGo Ministries, about possibly hosting the week-long high school SERVE trip this fall. Amanda was elated! She said with our facility, our location, Calvary's experience hosting SERVE, and two churches working together was an awesome equation for bringing a SERVE trip to the Twin Cities. Travis, who was recently ordained as a commissioned pastor at Faith CRC, proposed the idea to Faith's council, and they also unanimously approved.

Hosting SERVE is a big commitment, but speaking to Dalen and Sharon Asche, Linda Ribbens, Erica Liddle, Camryn Rettig, Aleida VanderBrug, and others who volunteered last time, they were overwhelmingly positive about the experience and about the prospect of hosting again. They loved leading and were amazed at the time and energy so many members of Calvary poured into the event. This time around, our church power will be doubled by working with Faith CRC. Faith CRC and Pastor Travis are very excited to contribute. This will continue to strengthen our relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ at Faith CRC.

If you can't tell, I am pumped about hosting SERVE! I really think the SERVE experience is formative in making disciples of Christ and reflects strengths of our Reformed faith. Teenagers serve in the kingdom of God through bringing shalom to our communities by

packing food, painting houses, landscaping, playing with kids struggling through poverty, and supporting great local organizations. All this inspires them to find fulfillment in volunteering now and later on in their lives. Teenagers deepen their faith in Christ by hearing the Word of God proclaimed, discussing the meaning in small groups, and engaging in devotions. Teenagers build important friendships with others from their church and with other teens from other churches, building up the universal church.

And guess what? The kids LOVE IT! Almost every time I spend time with teens from our church, someone shares a great story from their SERVE experience - whether it be tubing down a river, some really goofy kid on their team, an epic volleyball game during free time, or some valuable friendships developed during the week.

Another reason I'm excited to host SERVE is for the leadership development of Calvary teenagers as they help run the event. At Sioux Falls SERVE, I experienced the close knit high school/college group work together and take on leadership roles and they had a blast doing it! I know our kids will too! And that's only the teenagers! Hosting SERVE mobilizes local churches and impacts everyone involved. ThereforeGo Ministry's SERVE Prep Kit says that the host church is a "temporary workforce" that will "bring glory to God, encouragement to believers and a strong testimony to those not yet following Christ, while advancing the efforts of the host church and network of ministries."

Calvary will be that type of workforce because this fits our mission and values as a church. My hope is that hosting SERVE trips becomes a long-term rhythm of our church ministry, continuing to transform lives by the Holy Spirit through SERVE year after year. Josh Van Hulzen, Jon's brother who works for First CRC in Sioux Falls, told me his church has hosted Serve for 18 consecutive years, and the church enjoys doing it every summer! I believe Calvary has the potential to become another constant SERVE location for many years. Expect to hear more about hosting SERVE in the coming months!



Eli Groenendyk
Pastor of
Discipleship
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COMMUNITY BUILDING

15 things you didn't know about Tim and Linda Ribbens



1. Both came from large families (Tim is forth out of six children; Linda is the baby of seven children). Tim was raised in Sioux Center, IA. His father was one of the first five professors when Dordt College opened back in 1955. Linda was raised on a dairy farm near Pease, MN. She milked many cows and fed many calves while growing up!
2. Tim has been singing in a choir every year since grade five. As a seventh grader, Linda represented Mille Lacs County in the MN State Spelling Bee in 1969.
3. Tim (only 17 years old) drove a school bus about 15,000 miles as a student during his senior year at Hull Western Christian High School. [Tim's classmate, Karen Groen, was one of the students that rode on his bus.]
4. Linda wrote Tim a letter of encouragement (just as a good friend) while he was on Serve for three weeks in Cary, MS during the summer after his first year at Dordt College. After reading that letter, Tim decided he was going to marry Linda – even though they were not currently dating. They married on June 3, 1978, three weeks after they both graduated from Dordt. They moved to Minneapolis and joined Calvary that same month.
5. Both of their mothers passed away at a relatively early age (Linda's at age 60, only three months after Tim and Linda married; Tim's at age 58).
6. Linda taught fifth grade at Calvin Christian School (Avail Academy) for five and a half years until their daughter arrived. When she began teaching in 1978, the Edina campus (the only campus then) had only four classrooms. She returned to CCS from 1993-2001 as an instructional para for grades five through eight. Tim and Linda have both served on the school board.
7. Their children are adopted – Teresa in 1984 and David in 1988. They celebrate their birthdays AND their adoption anniversaries each year.
8. Tim was a CPA for 42 years and retired in 2020. In connection with one of his business clients back in the early-80s, he had dinner with Elliot Roosevelt (third son of FDR, 32nd president of the U.S.).
9. They enjoy traveling. For their 30th wedding anniversary, they went on a wonderful tour of the Holy Land. Their latest big trip was a bus and train tour through the Canadian Rockies in the summer of 2019 (see attached picture). Their favorite vacation is an annual time-share week in Hilton Head, SC.
10. Linda has taken an annual trip with her three remaining sisters every year since 2002. The travels included destinations from the east coast to the west coast. Their trip to Branson this year was canceled due to COVID.
11. Before their son's wedding in 2015, they stepped way outside their comfort zone and took ballroom dance lessons.
12. Both of their children and their families live in Phoenix, AZ. They have four grandchildren ranging in age from three months to ten years old, and two step-grandsons.
13. They have been involved with VEAP for over fifteen years – Linda as Calvary's church representative and volunteer; Tim served on their board for one term.
14. Hobbies – Tim enjoys golf, including golf with the "seniors" from church on Thursdays in the summer months; Linda enjoys reading for a book club, flower gardening in the summer, and spending time with friends.
15. The question they get asked the most: "When are you moving to AZ?" Our answer ... no current plans to move, but do plan to spend more time there in the winter months now that Tim is retired.

LEADING THE MISSION

Council Update

HERE

Most of you know in early 2020 the Calvary Improvement Project Committee was busy working with an architect to complete some initial plans to improve our building. Then suddenly COVID hit and stopped everything. With all the time that has passed the committee thought it was appropriate to give the congregation an update.

A few weeks ago, the committee met simply to reconnect on where we are after an abrupt halt to plans. In that meeting we recapped where we were before COVID and wondered if there were any ways to move forward. Here are some of the key updates from that meeting that I think are important to pass on to the congregation:

The committee was very excited to share the plans we had for Calvary in early 2020 and are still excited about these plans going forward. We wondered if there were any benefits to move forward despite the challenges of the pandemic. The unified response is we would not want to move forward until we could thoroughly present the plan to the full congregation in multiple, in-person meetings to get our church body fully behind the project. The consensus was that this approach is simply not possible with so many of our members remote and the inability to meet in groups effectively. The question also came up if there was any financial reason to move forward now such as a reduction in cost of the project. We reached out to our architect on the project and in most cases expenses are higher now for construction than they were earlier this year.

As we moved to the end of our meeting it was clear to the committee that even though Calvary is growing and God has blessed Calvary financially during this time, now is not the right time to do such a large project. However, it was abundantly clear at the conclusion of our meeting that everyone is still excited about moving forward with an improvement project at Calvary at the right time. We all agreed it is in God's hands and He will guide us with those decision-making processes alongside the congregation in the future.

If any of you have any questions about the project or have input, please reach out to me to talk further. I would be glad to hear your thoughts during this time or answer any questions.

By Craig Veurink
Calvary Improvement
Project Committee Chair



CALVARY COUNCIL

Elders

Len Attema
Karen DeKam
Randy Hedman
Greg Marcus
Tim Ribbens
Casey Soerens
Wayne Tobak

Deacons

Andrew Feikema
Angela Orcutt
Jesse Post
Marcus VanderBrug
Nathan Zwagerman
Tim Zwiers
Nathaniel Zylstra

Officers

Council Chair:	Len Attema
Council Vice-chair:	Tim Ribbens
Council Clerk:	Andrew Feikema
Consistory Chair:	Nick Van Beek
Consistory Vice-chair:	Eli Groenendyk
Deacon Chair:	Tim Zwiers
Deacon Vice-Chair:	Angela Orcutt
Treasurer:	Nathaniel Zylstra
Membership Clerk:	Randy Hedman

Shepherding Districts

District 1: A – Feikema
E: Wayne Tobak, D: Angela Orcutt

District 2: Groen - Liddle
E: Greg Marcus, D: Nathan Zwagerman

District 3: Marcus - Schumi
E: Casey Soerens, D: Jesse Post

District 4: Soerens – Z
E: Karen DeKam D: Andrew Feikema

Council Teams

Shepherding Team: Karen DeKam, Andrew Feikema, *Randy Hedman, Greg Marcus, Angela Orcutt, Jess Post, Casey Soerens, Wayne Tobak, Nathan Zwagerman, Pastor Nick

Administrative Team: *Len Attema, Matt DeKam, Elmer Jelgerhuis, Tim Ribbens, Marcus VanderBrug, Nathaniel Zylstra

Youth Ministries Team: *Pastor Eli, Deb Attema, Kim Attema, Tim Zwiers

** indicates chairperson*

SPHERE SOVEREIGNTY

*Interview with
Darcy Terpstra*



NEAR

Where do you work?

I work for Cargill, based at the Excelsior Crossings location in Hopkins (although I've been working from home since March).

What are your roles and responsibilities?

My role in the Human Services department is currently split into two main functions. The first is administering Cargill's pension plans, which includes maintaining relationships with vendors, answering employee questions, working with auditors on the plan audits, and a lot of data review. The second role I perform is more of a subject matter expert/project manager role for the retirement plan activities and interfaces being impacted by a change in payroll/HR systems in 2021.

What are you currently working on that excites you?

Honestly, a lot about my job excites me. I love the interactions I have with co-workers, vendors, other Cargill employees, and all of the variety of people I get to work with on this large project. I love retirement plans. I am enjoying digging into a new system to discover how it works, analyzing the impact on our processes, finding ways to make things more efficient, and communicating with developers and end users alike.

What in your job reveals God's sphere sovereignty?

To give some background, Cargill's mission is to help the world thrive by nourishing the world. Cargill employs over 150,000 employees globally, who work with farmers, producers, manufacturers, retailers, governments, and more to accomplish this. Although I'm not in the field, labs, production facilities or other divisions, I work with many spheres

that need to work together to accomplish the company and employee goals: retirement goals for employees and employers, government regulations, global and local relationships, partnerships, and more. I love how God designed us to work together in all of these spheres to take care of one another. As we are all human, it isn't perfect, but you can see how all these spheres long for restoration, for elimination of hunger, taking care of God's creation.

How do you see God at work in your job?

As mentioned in the previous paragraph, I see God working through relationships, through our hearts and other ways as we interact, strive to educate employees about retirement benefits, maintain compliance with government regulations, answer questions, listen, and more. Cargill encourages giving and volunteering, and helping one another out, which is a gift to me and another way God works. God has definitely blessed me, walking beside me as I've been stretched and grown, gently showing my weaknesses, and building upon strengths. Whether I am working with an employee who is in a financial hardship, someone retiring and planning for their future, a developer working to build an interface with a vendor or whatever I am doing, I am encouraged to use the gifts God has given me for His glory and to work a little harder to improve my weaknesses, and experience God's grace each day.

Are your coworkers Christians? Have you had opportunities to talk with them about what they believe? Have you been able to share your faith in Christ with them?

Some of my coworkers are Christian, and others are not. I had several opportunities to bring up my faith with a former coworker who does not believe in Christ before she took another job opportunity. Although she hasn't come to know Christ, it was a privilege to speak freely about my faith with her. Within the retirement team, I'm blessed to have each of them know and believe in Christ. We discuss our beliefs, faith, struggles on a pretty frequent basis, and have been blessed to share some of our favorite Bible verses as comfort or encouragement, and pray for each other. What a blessing!

Worship Service Schedule

January 3

Worship led by Pastor Nick
Mark 1:1-11
The Beginning
Offering: Ministries Fund

January 10

Worship led by Pastor Nick
Matthew 2:1-12
Hunting a King
Offering: MN Teen/Adult Challenge

January 17

Worship led by Pastor Nick
John 1:29-42
The What of God
Offering: Bethany Chr. Services

January 24

Worship led by Pastor Nick
Luke 2:41-55
Kid Jesus
Offering: Calvary Ministries Fund

January 31

Worship led by Pastor Eli
Acts 10:23-48
The Holy Spirit and the Gospel
Offering: Christian Ed Fund

February 7

Worship led by Pastor Eli
Psalm 119
Dive Into the Word
Offering: Cadets

February 14

Worship led by Pastor Nick
Exodus 3:1-15
I Am
Offering: SALT

February 23

Worship led by Pastor Nick
John 6:24-35; 53-54
I Am....The Bread of Life
Offering: Christian Ed Fund

February 28

Worship led by Pastor Nick
John 8:12-30
I Am....The Light of the World
Offering: World Renew

CALVARY BIRTHDAYS

HERE

January Birthdays


Jan 2	Amos Vliem	Jan 20	Maggie Feikema
Jan 6	Tim Schmidt	Jan 23	Piper Moser
Jan 7	Joni Hall	Jan 24	Vicki Hall, Scott Mellema
Jan 8	Eli De Kam	Jan 25	Jack Van Marion
Jan 14	Missy Kamp	Jan 26	Natalie Hoekman
Jan 15	Jaclyn Brouwer, Sue De Young	Jan 27	Peter Harkema
Jan 16	Emilyn Bosch, Addison Koelewyn	Jan 29	Lydia Marcus, Linda Ribbens
Jan 17	Paislee Olson-Bengry	Jan 30	Breanna Beckering
Jan 18	Nate Hall	Jan 31	Zach Rindels

February Birthdays

Feb 3	Wren Wingblade, Molly Zylstra	Feb 19	Paul Vliem
Feb 5	Sarah Zwagerman	Feb 20	Sharon Asche
Feb 11	Dave Blankespoor, Simon Bosch	Feb 22	Wayne Tobak
Feb 12	Jim De Young	Feb 23	Pat Douma, Malachi Rindels, Carrie Van Beek
Feb 16	Ruth DeVries, Paula Rindels	Feb 24	Caden Orcutt
Feb 17	Peter Bosch	Feb 28	Ruth Muyskens



www.calvarytwincities.org

 calvarycrdina

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