

Volume 30, No. 2
Summer 2023



CALVARY
CONNECTION



Koinonia

Acts 2.42

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.





Paul Beam
Senior Pastor

We are Meant to be Together!

The church is not a building, but the people.

"You're not alone." Sorry, did I scare you? That might have sounded a little ominous, but it's meant to be more of a statement of fact. And thank goodness for that fact too! Why, because we need others in our lives! Let me prove it to you in these situations: Your favorite team wins the championship, what do you do? You fall and break your leg, what happens now? You return home from an overseas trip, look at all those pictures! You lose your job, where do you turn now? In all of those moments, of either celebration or heart-ache, we need and want other people in our lives. We need people to help us celebrate the moments of victory (kind of hard to do a chest-bump by yourself) and we need other people to lean on when difficulty comes around.

For me, I have found that my church family has always been the place where there were those who came beside me and helped me both celebrate the joys and bear the burdens of life. In the last 6 years that I have been at Calvary, our family has experienced so much loss. Taima's grandfather passed away in 2018, our beloved Associate Pastor Richard Bartel passed in 2019, my father also passed away in 2019, and my mother passed away in 2021. During each of those difficult moments, my church family was right there walking with us through the pain. I specifically remember being at the funeral home in 2021 and looking at the plants in the room with notes from our church family on them. It encouraged me so much to know that there were those who called, sent messages, and even those who drove 4+ hours to be at the funeral!

There are things that we will face in life that we are simply not meant to face alone. This is one reason why Christ created the church. We often forget that the church is not a building, but the people. The church is not a man-made invention, but is formed by Christ's own design and desire. The church is not only His means of grace and the extension of His redemptive purpose to the lost world, but His means of declaring what His Kingdom is like! Christ has redeemed us and placed us in a family of other believers in order for us to accomplish His mission of making disciples of all nations, but also so that we will encourage one another through this part of our journey. The Apostle Paul reminds us in **Galatians 6.2** to *"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."*

Our fellowship and care for one another are based on our common relationship with Jesus. In the body of Christ, there is an amazing diversity. Not just on the exterior, but through our experiences as well. Some of you grew up in God-fearing homes where you were brought to church every week. Some of you never heard the name of Christ until you were already an adult. Some were born in America and some of you were born in another country. Although our backgrounds and experiences are different, we have all responded to the Gospel message in the same way: by faith. And because of that, we are brought into an incredible family who is to seek to maintain the bond of love and peace with each other!

The church is meant to be together! We are meant to spend time with each other, learning about each other's joys and sorrows. We are meant to care about each other's personal situations. We are meant to share meals together and do life with one another! Jesus is our example on this. Think about how many times we see Jesus gathering around a meal with someone or with groups of people. Some of His most well-known miracles happen around a meal!

In John 13.35, Jesus tells us how the world will know that we belong to Jesus: *"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."* It's not because we have fancy church buildings, Christian bumper stickers on our cars, Christian tattoos, or because we have big bibles that we carry around. We proclaim to the world that we have been redeemed by Christ by our love and care for one another.

Based on your Koinonia (fellowship) within the body of Christ, how have you showed the world that you belong to Christ? How have you showed your brother/sister in Christ how much they matter to you?



Steven Bridges
Worship Pastor

We are Better Together!

Abide in Christ & share His love with others.

"Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another." Proverbs 27:17

There is much truth found in Proverbs 27:17. As we continue with the theme of fellowship, let us focus on the importance of "Corporate Fellowship."

I want to share a thought, "It is beneficial to walk through this life with people who have a focus on abiding in Christ." I can only imagine what my life would have been like without having the fellowship of the church. The truth is, we need each other. We must abide in Christ and share the love of Christ with one another. The world around us is chaos, and many things in life are very difficult. One thing we must never forget though is that God is always faithful.

We daily put food into our body that is either good for, or bad for, our physical health. The same goes for our spiritual life. We can either allow our influence to be that of the world or allow God to be our focus. God needs to be our focus. John 15:4-5 states *"Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine, and you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing."*

Christ is our life source. He is eternal life. We must come together to proclaim the gospel of Christ. Pour into each other's lives. Remember we are better together.



Upcoming Events

There is still time to register for Student Week! It will be a time packed with food, fun, games, and most importantly, learning what it looks like to live an authentic faith. This four night event will be July 19-22.

Cost is \$10 per student. Registration is open to all students who have completed 6th-12th grade.

²² Flee the evil desires of youth and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

2 Timothy 2:22

For more information contact:
Jeremy Martinez 806-802-9684
Amber Martinez 806-663-0730



scan to register





To the Ends of the Earth

EVANGILISM. DISCIPLESHIP. MULTIPLICATION.

The mission of Operation Christmas Child is to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world. Through this project, Samaritan's Purse partners with the local church worldwide to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nations.

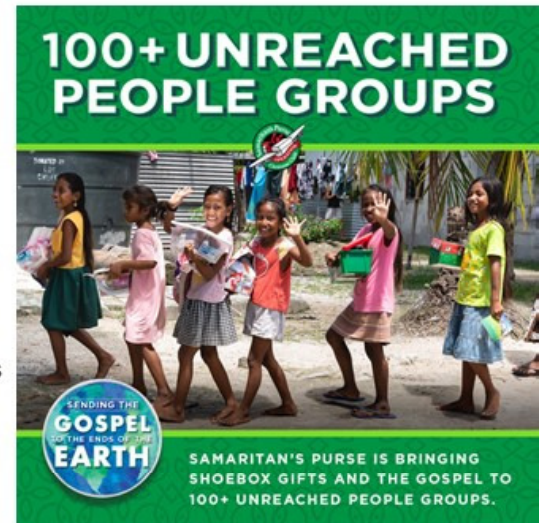
Every shoebox gift packed provides multiple Gospel opportunities through the process of evangelism, discipleship, and multiplication.

EVANGILISM: The Gospel is shared in multiple ways as they open their shoebox gifts.

DISCIPLESHIP: Many boys and girls are invited to participate in *The Greatest Journey* discipleship course.

MULTIPLICATION: As shoebox recipients and *The Greatest Journey* students share their faith with others, these friends trust in Christ and witness to even more people.

Since 2009, more than 17.4 million children have reported decisions for Christ while taking *The Greatest Journey*!



At Calvary Pampa our purpose is to be a group of disciples making disciples. We believe in the mission of Operation Christmas Child! Each shoebox packed means another child, along with their family and friends, will hear the Good News of Jesus. Calvary's year-round OCC collection drive maximizes our efforts by providing a structured system to ensure that each box contains quality items that will bring joy to a child & provide necessities they may not otherwise have access to. Each shoebox packed at our annual packing party contains a WOW item, school supply kit (pencils, crayons, pencil sharpener, spiral notebook), coloring book, soap/washcloth, toothbrush, and fun extras like play dough, puzzles, jump ropes, etc. By collecting year round we're also able to spread out the financial cost into manageable amounts throughout the year, meaning we can send more boxes. **More boxes mean more children hear about Jesus!**

We collected more than 400 WOW items for this year's boxes, which is amazing! But... we have received very few of the other needed items, which means we won't be able to send all 400 boxes. Many of the items needed can be purchased for less than \$1. Please pray about how you can support this Gospel ministry!





Rick Pearson
Associate Pastor

Been awhile since you last attended church? **It's OK. We'll Save you a seat!**

It's Sunday morning. You are in a rush, and the kids are not cooperating. You are running behind. Finally, you get to church. Oh man, we're late!

From the doors comes a smiling face to help you get the kids in and welcomes you into the building. You take a breath and you are surrounded by the Koinonia of the church body, a feeling of belonging, a feeling of love, and acceptance.

Now on to Life Group, where upon entering, you are met by Lisa Mitchell, with a big smile and welcoming hug. Your Sunday morning is getting better by the moment. You are experiencing Gap Class Koinonia. This is the family of God in action, but it does not stop there.

Imagine those out there who do not have what you have. No fellowship, no warm embrace or welcome smile. This feeling, this experience, this family, is what keeps us strong when the world comes crashing in on us.

Has it been a while since you have been to Calvary? Are you missing what we are talking about? Well, this is your lucky day my friend! We are having a family reunion this Sunday at Calvary starting at 9:45 and lasting until after twelve. What do you need to bring? A heart longing for belonging, love, and acceptance (Koinonia). You may be worried that you have been gone a while, well guess what? WELCOME BACK!!!! It's great to see you. Koinonia has no

probationary or time limit. You have a standing reservation here with us at Calvary.

So what do you say, will we see you this Sunday? I hope so. We'll save you a seat. Who knows? You may just get a doughnut and a cup of coffee along with your warm embrace.

Love and Praying for you Guys,

Rick Pearson

⁹ *Two are better than one,
because they have a good return for their labor:*
¹⁰ *If either of them falls down,
one can help the other up.
But pity anyone who falls
and has no one to help them up.*
¹¹ *Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm.
But how can one keep warm alone?*
¹² *Though one may be overpowered,
two can defend themselves.*
A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Calvary Family Fun Day **August 26**



This will be a relaxing day of fun & fellowship at the Ferguson's ranch! There will be opportunities to fish, practice archery, and play archery tag. Burgers will be provided. Bring some drinks, lawn chairs, and any outdoor games you'd like to share.

24 miles north of Pampa on Highway 70

Little CALVARY



Upcoming Events



India Missions and Orphan Support

An ongoing mission partnership to fulfill the biblical commands to make disciples of all nations & to care for the needs of orphans.

In 2022, Calvary Pampa began a mission partnership with Immanuel Church in the Andhra Pradesh region of India. The first mission team, comprised of three people, spent time training pastors and leaders and shared the Gospel in multiple churches and locations, seeing many come to faith in Christ.

During their trip, the team saw firsthand the needs of a group of orphans who were being cared for by Immanuel Church. In 2023, Calvary Pampa began a partnership with Gospel Outreach and Immanuel Church to provide support to the Immanuel Worship Centre Children's Home. We are seeking your support in helping us meet the needs of these orphans. Please pray and consider giving a one-time gift or a monthly recurring gift that will help us provide for their needs. A monthly gift of \$35 will provide for the needs of one of the 11 children under their care.



A mission team will be returning to India in December of 2023. They will lead a pastor's training & assist with a youth conference. They will have the opportunity to proclaim the Gospel in remote areas where it has never been heard! Please be in prayer for this group as they prepare to go into a country that is not friendly to the Gospel.

The individual cost for the trip is \$2,500-\$3,000. Support to offset the cost of the trip is greatly appreciated. You can give to either the orphanage or mission trip by designating your donation or your offering envelope, or scanning the QR code below.





Sunday

Prayer Time - 8:30 am
Life Groups (all ages) - 9:30 am
Morning Worship - 10:45 am

Stream Morning Worship Live:
facebook.com/calvarypampa
youtube.com/calvarypampa
calvarypampa.com/media

Wednesday

Prayer Service- Noon- 1pm
Fellowship Meal (by reservation)- 5:30 pm
Classes & Ministries for all ages- 6:30 pm

Saturday

Prayer Time- 7 pm

*Small group Bible studies meet throughout the week.
Call the church office for times.*

Church Phone: 665-0842
Fax Number: 665-8070

Calvary Pampa exists to make disciples that make disciples by:

connecting people to Christ

connecting people with His truth

connecting people with His church

connecting people with His mission

