

# THE PROCLAIMER

SEP/OCT 2023

A BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

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

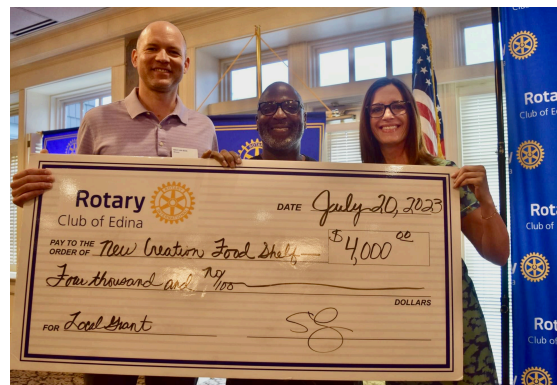
OUR MISSION IS TO  
**PROCLAIM THE GOOD**  
**NEWS OF JESUS**  
**IN WORD AND DEED**  
**HERE, NEAR, AND FAR.**

## IN THIS ISSUE

- 2-3 Ministry Update
- 4 Community Building
- 5 Leading the Mission
- 6 A Note from Nate
- 7 Sphere Sovereignty
- 8 Calvary Birthdays

## NEW CREATION, ROTARY, AND CALVARY

This past month, I experienced a meaningful moment in my ministry as a pastor. In many ways, it was a superficial moment; a quick picture with Pastor Daniel at a Rotary meeting where I, on behalf of Rotary, presented him, on behalf of the New Creation Food Shelf, with a big, fake check. This fleeting moment, along with the phony check, symbolized something authentically significant to me.



resides. The Edina Rotary Club gives out annual grants to various local non-profit organizations to enrich their impact on our city. Out of 43 applicants, the New Creation Food Shelf was one of 18 recipients of local grant funds. While I encouraged Pastor Daniel to apply, the Local Grants Committee recognized the big impact this small food shelf is having in the Twin Cities.

As the director of the Community Grants Committee at the Edina Rotary Club, I had the pleasure of introducing Pastor Daniel and New Creation as one of our grant recipients. The woman on the right side of the picture is Shelly Loberg, the president of

*...continued on page 2*

We took this picture after Pastor Daniel spoke for a few minutes at a weekly Rotary meeting about the ways the New Creation Food Shelf had utilized a \$4,000 grant to help provide some ventilation in their basement where the Food Shelf

Editorial by  
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... Editorial continued from page 1

The Rotary Club of Edina, a leader in our community and Vice-President for the Edina Chamber of Commerce. It was a pleasure to take this photo with two leaders in our community who are serving our city in meaningful ways.

For me, this was a Kingdom moment; a culmination of many aspects of Kingdom work, a moment where the Sovereignty of God brings together the work of His body with other churches, races, community leaders and organizations for His Glory, the growth of His Kingdom and the common good of society.

Calvary has encouraged Pastor Eli and I to help the church be the presence of Christ in our community. The Edina Rotary is one of the ways we have sought to do this. Additionally, Calvary encouraged us to model racial reconciliation by developing a partnership with a church that is not like ours. By God's grace, we have been building a partnership with New Creation for over three years now.

This picture, then, was a moment where all of these different aspects of our ministry and presence came together. For me, it's a picture of God's sovereignty, provision, and grace. I'm grateful for Calvary's desire to be the presence of Christ in our community. I'm grateful for our commitment to model racial reconciliation and feed the hungry. I'm grateful for the time, energy, and money we invest in things beyond ourselves for the common good. Also, I'm grateful that God provides moments like these where we see Him using our feeble attempts to build His Kingdom.

May God continue to bless us as we seek to do good for His glory here, near, and far!

By Pastor Nick

## MINISTRY UPDATE

HERE



### Showcasing and Serving the Twin Cities

"My favorite worksite was doing drywall because it was fun and I just love doing it." These are the words of a high school student named Nathan who drove from Illinois to participate in Twin Cities SERVE hosted by Calvary Christian Reformed Church in Edina. The 50 students and 15 leaders from churches across the country followed a daily rhythm of volunteer work, worship, and games for one week. This particular student was helping hang drywall on a ceiling in a multi-unit apartment in Prior Lake being constructed by Habitat for Humanity. One of the humorous yet important goals of TC SERVE is to channel teen energy to serve the Lord and to serve others.

The group was divided into seven teams, named after Minnesota towns that are difficult to say such as Chokio. The local Minnesota host churches got to enjoy their guesses all week long. The seven teams were sent out to serve the Cities by stocking food at New Creation Food Shelf, VEAP, and Second Harvest Heartland, constructing low income housing with Habitat for Humanity, Urban Homeworks, building relationships with people at Minnesota Teen Challenge, Veterans' Home, sorting clothes for Good in the Hood, St. Vincent's, doing yard work at The Haven and Little Earth, cleaning schools like Berry Patch, Agamim, and Avail Academy, and washing cars for free outside Calvary.





For fun, the group shopped at Mall of America, hiked by Minnehaha Falls, and played at Valley Fair. Not to mention the intense wallyball games at the church facility, or the Family Feud, Gingerbread house competition, Just Dance tournament, or talent show.

The work, worship, and relationships inspire a passion for volunteerism and provide the teenagers with much needed social interaction with their peers and all generations. A student named Rachel from Michigan said, "SERVE helped me realize that even my work can bring glory to God."

Twin Cities SERVE also activated local churches to serve their own communities. At Calvary, 30 church members were prayer partners of participants, 20 were involved with providing food or assisting at worksites, and twelve of Calvary's youth group served as support staff all week. The 65 guests were housed at Calvary's facility all week long.

The mission trip is within a network of SERVE sites organized by Therefore Go Ministries based in Grand Rapids, MI. The ministry organization provides connections, training, and the curriculum for the week. The theme was "What do you want?" which is what Jesus asks his disciples. Each night focused on a topic of self-worth, freedom, love, and others.

The week strongly affected the teenagers' identity. Brooklyn from Iowa said, "The woman at Teen Challenge had an incredible story and was willing to share and express her love and gratitude to the Lord. She lived in a way we should all strive to. She really impacted me in a way I will never forget."

Mason from Michigan said, "Jesus impacted my life this week when we talked about the gifts we had. It helped me realize I am worth something."

Breanna from Illinois said, "I feel like now, at the end of the week, I feel more confident in myself, and in my faith in the Lord. I want to work on helping others see their worth."

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Eli Groenendyk  
Pastor of  
Discipleship  
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# COMMUNITY BUILDING

HERE

## 15 things you didn't know about Bruce and Donna Mulder



1. We were united in marriage in 1996. Our blended family began with three teenagers. An older couple at Willmar Christian Reformed Church was matchmaking us behind the scenes. We were both actively involved with the Friendship Ministry for Adults with Disabilities.
2. Our oldest is Kelly Vanderleest, married to Dave, lives in Sargeant Bluff, IA with four of our six grandchildren ranging in age from 13-18. Lanae Prosper, married to Don, lives in Monticello with the other two grandchildren ages 16 and 14. Abraham, our youngest, lives in Albany, NY and works as Union President for the USPS. God's provision for us is to have all teenagers again, 27 years later.
3. In 2015, before Donna retired and after being diagnosed with Rheumatoid Arthritis, we began wintering in Mesa, AZ. Cold temperatures had become increasingly difficult for Bruce and his Raynauds Disease. We became snowbirds by buying a second home in 2018. Donna retired from a career in mental health and Bruce worked at Rice Memorial Hospital for over 40 years. In retirement, Donna enjoys papercrafting and cornhole and Bruce enjoys golfing and pickleball.
4. Let's talk about miracles for a minute - #1. Donna weighed two pounds eleven ounces when she was born. #2. When she was diagnosed with RA, she was told most get the diagnosis at age 40 but she was 50. #3. She felt the presence of God when in the hospital (for the first time) in March 2016 at the U of M.
5. Donna was born and raised in Indiana, the second of five children, but she still doesn't know what a Hoosier is?
6. Covid provided the opportunity to week Zoom with her sisters and three children which continues even now.
7. Her mother sang professionally on TV.
8. She attended private school for six years and attended church daily.
9. She knows a lot about Alateen and Alanon.
10. She is missing a chunk of eyelashes (since childhood) due to making a "wish" that her dad wouldn't die from a nut allergy reaction. It worked but she doesn't recommend it.
11. Donna was a baton twirler and always had a dream to be a teacher. If you ever need a song in Czechoslovakian, she knows one.
12. Bruce grew up on a farm in West Central Minnesota. He is the oldest of three. As the only son of a farmer, he learned all about long hours of working and how trusting in God and having faith was needed every step of the way.
13. Bruce attended a local Christian school, played lots of basketball on the court at school or in the barn. He had a great family life and learned work ethics that he wanted his grandchildren to learn.
14. Bruce became a pilot and was part owner of a plane in a flying group. After a trip to the ER with vertigo, Bruce traded in his wings for snowbirding.
15. Bruce and Donna moved to Eden Prairie two years ago to be closer to the airport for flying back and forth to Arizona. They have a dream to go on an Alaskan Cruise some day. They took the entire family on a Disney Christmas Cruise, It was truly a magical time and it was a first for them all.

*They are grateful that the Lord brought them together and goes before them, above them, beside them and Behind them.*



# LEADING THE MISSION

Council Update

HERE

Welcome back from your summer activities and vacations. Our new church year is starting with **The Great Calvary Get Together** (all-church picnic) after worship on Sunday, September 10. As Pastor Eli encouraged a few Sundays ago, please put it on your calendar! Everyone is invited! Sunday school for children and adults will start the following Sunday and our WNA, Bible Studies, and other activities will begin as well.

The Worship Team (WT) developed a job description for the part time Worship Coordinator that was included in the approved budget for the current fiscal year (F2024). The job description has been approved by the Consistory and the Council and the WT is making great progress in the search for the Worship Coordinator.

I'm sure you're noticing the steady progress being made on our Commons Renovation. Steve Abbring leads a walk-through with our contractor every other week and we get an update on progress as well as planned activities for the next two weeks. The contractor's work in the Commons will be nearing completion in early September. Calvary is ordering all the new lettering, appliances, and Audio/Video equipment directly and that is scheduled to arrive in early September. New furniture will arrive in late September and the sanctuary carpet will be installed in late September. Thank you for your patience and for respecting the contractor's tools and work areas. The project is going very well, Sherburne Slater (SS) has been a great contractor, and SS says Steve Abbring and Jake are great to work with (no surprise there.)

Our student and adult guests at Twin Cities SERVE indicated it was a great week and they provided a lot of positive feedback. Great job Pastor Eli and the many, many of you that helped make it a success!

The fall meeting of Classis Lake Superior (regional body of Christian Reformed Churches) will meet on September 18 and 19. Calvary will send a Pastor, Deacon, and Elder as delegates. If you are interested in more details, visit <https://www.classislakesuperior.org/> By **Elmer Jelgerhuis**  
Chair of Council

## CALVARY COUNCIL

### Elders

Jason Byers  
Matt De Kam  
Ruth DeVries  
Elmer Jelgerhuis  
Eileen Rosenwinkel  
Jon Van Hulzen  
Paul Vliem

### Deacons

Josh Abercrombie  
Karen Groen  
Joel Kamp  
Matt Koelewyn  
Brenda Liddle  
Marion Sandfort  
Rosanne Van Marion

### Officers

Council Chair:	Elmer Jelgerhuis
Council Vice-chair:	Jon Van Hulzen
Council Clerk:	Paul Vliem
Consistory Chair:	Nick Van Beek
Consistory Vice-chair:	Elmer Jelgerhuis
Consistory Clerk:	Jon Van Hulzen
Deacon Chair:	Matt Koelewyn
Treasurer:	Josh Abercrombie
Deacon Clerk:	Joel Kamp
Membership Clerk:	Randy Hedman

### Shepherding Districts

**District 1: A – Groenendyk**  
E: Jason Byers, D: Roseanne Van Marion

**District 2: Hall - Liddle**  
E: Ruth DeVries, D: Joel Kamp

**District 3: Marcus - Schumi**  
E: Jon Van Hulzen, D: Karen Groen

**District 4: Smith – Z**  
E: Eileen Rosenwinkel D: Brenda Liddle

### Council Teams

**Shepherding Team:** Pastor Nick, Jason Byers, Ruth De Vries, Karen Groen, Brenda Liddle, Joel Kamp, Eileen Rosenwinkel, \*Marion Sandfort, Jon Van Hulzen, Rosanne Van Marion, Paul Vliem

**Administrative Team:** Josh Abercrombie, \*Elmer Jelgerhuis, Matt Koelewyn, Matt De Kam, Jake Kamp

**Youth Ministries Team:** \*Pastor Eli, Deb Attema, Kim Attema, Mateo De Kam, Pam Schmidt

*\* indicates chairperson*

## Meet the Gorters



This spring we officially welcomed Michael, Kari, Ben and Alex Gorter into the Calvary family. For those who haven't had the opportunity to personally meet them the following is a small introduction to the Gorters.

The Gorter family lives in Chanhasen. Michael grew up in a missionary family and spent much of his childhood in Odesa, Ukraine before going to Dordt. He works as a public accountant. Kari grew up in Red Wing and currently is a stay-at-home mom, but worked as a children's librarian before kids. They have two sons. Ben (3) loves talking to people, music, and books, and Alex (1) greets everyone he sees, and loves doing everything with Ben. The Gorters appreciate the biblical teaching, service opportunities, children's ministry, and fellowship they've found at Calvary. They have felt welcomed into a small group with other couples with young children. They are looking forward to getting to know others more and growing and serving alongside the church family.

## A Note from Nate

Dear Calvary Family,

Cheerio from England! I just wanted to let you know that I am serving with Youth with a Mission (YWAM) in England. I live and work in a huge manor called Holmsted manor which is located in Southern England.

The ministries of YWAM Holmsted are centered around worshipping God and serving others. This base runs various schools such as DTS (Discipleship Training School) for post high school students, Mission Adventures for high school students, and further training courses for students in missions, Bible knowledge, and leadership training. This base is also very busy serving others in our local community. This location is a hub area for many immigrant communities. I serve in every area to make things run smoothly on the base. I am active in all areas of the grounds work including pruning, mowing, weeding and planting. This base was recently part of a large garden tour which is one of the ways we welcome the community to the

manor. I also help in the maintenance of the base by running daily checks to make sure all fire alarms and fire doors are working properly to fix anything that might be broken or adjusted. In a very old estate, there are many jobs to do. We also welcome many missionaries and guests to stay here so there is a lot of laundry and hospitality work to do.

What is most exciting to me is the local ministry that we do every week. Our base has a food truck and on every Saturday and Sunday morning we drive into the city and feed the many homeless people a hot breakfast. This is a highly anticipated event for many people and some of them are starting to recognize me. They love to talk to me about the U.S. and their politics and sports. We also help run a local food bank where we label various foods and stock shelves. I love all the work that I do to help others in need but most of all to be able to show people the love of Jesus and share the good news of the gospel. Every week we go to parks and do prayer walks all around the city. We often talk with and pray for people.

I want to thank Calvary for their prayers for me and

for praying for me during the congregational prayer. I like that we livestream the services so that I am still able to watch a sermon by Pastor Nick or the children's sermon with Pastor Eli. As a member of Calvary, my prayers go out to you as you minister and show the love of Christ.

As I wrap up this message I leave you with these words.

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."

God's Love,  
Nate Hall

## SPHERE SOVEREIGNTY

Interview with  
Camryn Rettig

NEAR



### Where do you work?

I work at The Boys and Girls Club of the Twin Cities: Little Earth United Tribes

### What are your roles and responsibilities?

My job title is Education Specialist at the Boys and Girls Club in Little Earth. I work with kindergarten through fifth grade of 38 different Native tribes. I also work with some middle and high schoolers. Together, my coworkers and I work to combat the education crisis in the community. We work on social and emotional skill building, TRAIL, STEM, math and literacy skills. The program allows us to help these kids work on their whole self; something that the Native Medicine Wheel talks about.

### What are you currently working on that you are excited about?

In my position, I am able to work with some of the most vulnerable in the community. It is exciting to see the strides they make in their young, academic careers. We have seen students start two to three grade levels below where they should be and over the course of a year they have achieved the grade level they should be in. This is a big accomplishment for this community. It continues to

give them hope and it is exciting to see that their future is getting that much brighter.

### Since God is sovereign over every sphere, how do you see God at work in your job?

We help open the eyes of these kids that there is more to the world than the 9.4 acres that is Little Earth. God's hand is in creating opportunities for faith based organizations to come to Little Earth and bless a community. SERVE has been one of those opportunities that blessed the community. A group from SERVE helped them get their sweat lodge area ready and created a greater sense of community. They came together at the end of the day with different beliefs but a united goal of blessing Little Earth.

### 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 Christians although most are not. We do have moments that we are able to have conversations about faith that can include different opinions of faith. The conversations I have with my Christian coworkers are deeper and include questions. We are able to grow together in faith. Many of my coworkers believe that there is a greater something out there but they are just not sure that is God. There is a balance to talking about faith because I work in a Native Community where respect of their culture is important to them. I believe that working in a community like Little Earth I can make more of an impact by actions.

## Worship Service Schedule

### September 3

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
Fruit of the Spirit: Self-control  
Offering: Calvary Ministry Fund

### September 10

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
The Beatitudes  
Offering: Honduras Discretionary Fund

### September 17

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
The Beatitudes: Poverty  
Offering: Christian Ed. Fund

### September 24

Worship led by Travis Deur  
Offering: Salt/Arrive Ministries

### October 1

Worship led by Anthony Systma  
Offering: Resonate Global-Systemsma

### October 8

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
The Beatitudes: Mourning  
Offering: Salt/Arrive Ministries

### October 15

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
The Beatitudes: Meekness  
Offering: Christian Ed. Fund

### October 22

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
The Beatitudes: Hunger and Thirst  
Offering: Urban Homeworks

### October 29

Worship led by Pastor Nick  
The Beatitudes: Mercy  
Offering: VEAP

## CALVARY BIRTHDAYS

HERE

### September Birthdays

- |        |   |        |                                |
|--------|---|--------|--------------------------------|
| Sep 1  | Noah Vliem  | Sep 13 | Brynlee Vis                    |
| Sep 4  | Phil Hop,<br>Ed Schrottenboer                       | Sep 14 | Cheryl Rettig                  |
| Sep 5  | Joel Kamp   | Sep 16 | Jannes Kamp                    |
| Sep 6  | Keegan Mellema,<br>Maddie Schmidt,<br>Noelle Zwiars | Sep 18 | Gerrit Hedman,<br>Hazel Staudt |
| Sep 7  | Katie De Kam  | Sep 19 | Greg Marcus                    |
| Sep 10 | Aerie DeJong,<br>Mike Miedema                       | Sep 22 | Brad Zwagerman                 |
|        |   | Sep 26 | Heather Mellema                |
|        |   | Sep 28 | Karen Groen                    |
|        |   | Sep 30 | Matt DeJong                    |

### October Birthdays

- |        |  |        |   |
|--------|--|--------|---|
| Oct 1  | Erica Liddle   | Oct 18 | Kathy Klompeen,<br>WinAnn Schumi,<br>Joy Vliem              |
| Oct 2  | Lauren Hedman,<br>Lindsey Petersen                                       | Oct 19 | Andrew Beekman,<br>Gerb Korthuis                            |
| Oct 3  | Cindy TeBrake  | Oct 20 | Steve Abbring,<br>Rod Broekhuis                             |
| Oct 6  | Evelyn De Kam<br>Craig Downey,<br>Fern Kobes,<br>Phyllis Nibbelink       | Oct 21 | Axel Moser  |
| Oct 7  | Lisa DeKam   | Oct 22 | John DeVries,<br>Randy Hedman                               |
| Oct 8  | Stan DeVries   | Oct 23 | Carole Korthuis   |
| Oct 10 | Elmer Jelgerhuis,<br>Jonathan Posthuma,<br>Tim Ribbens,<br>Casey Soerens | Oct 24 | Max Rindels   |
| Oct 12 | Mark Zwiars  | Oct 26 | Jason Byers, Libby Kamp<br>Don Klompeen,<br>Maddie Van Beek |
| Oct 13 | Theo Schmidt   | Oct 31 | Linda Marcus,<br>Cheryl Vis                                 |
| Oct 17 | Harris Hubers  |        |   |
| Oct 18 | Mateo De Kam   |        |   |



[www.calvarytwincities.org](http://www.calvarytwincities.org)

 [calvarycrchedina](https://www.facebook.com/calvarycrchedina)

 [calvary.gram](https://www.instagram.com/calvary.gram)

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