

WELCOME TO CALVARY CHAPEL



ONE CHURCH FAMILY IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS



Lebanon, New London, Oakdale, Online, Recovery Church, Uncasville, @ Home Micro Churches, & Multiplying in Eastern



An Introduction to Calvary Chapel

Who We Are, Where We Came From, Where We're Going

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WELCOME TO CALVARY CHAPEL IN EASTERN CONNECTICUT

WHO WE ARE: We are a regional, multi-site, multi-cultural, inter-generational, missional movement of believers in Jesus. We are seeking to be faithful, in our generation, to the call and vision Jesus has given us by reaching every household and every school campus in Eastern Connecticut and Western Rhode Island by 2030. We do this by strategically planting worship centers throughout the region, starting Bible studies in every town, and having a presence on every high school and college campus in the region.

OUR PURPOSE: WIN, DISCIPLE, SEND

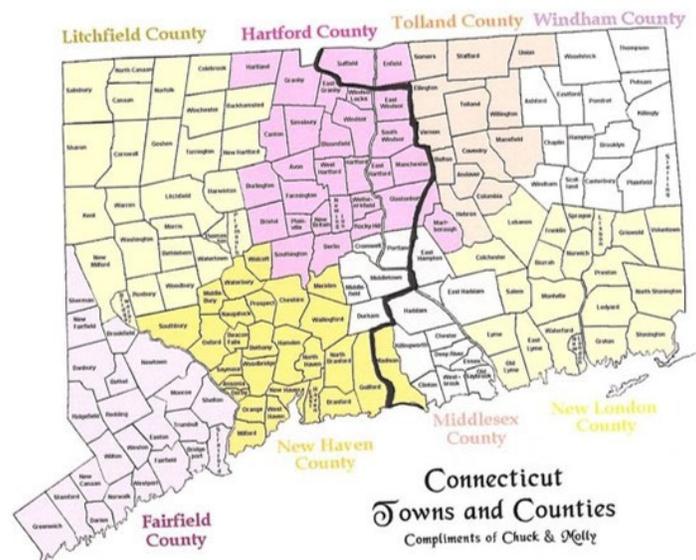
OUR METHOD: Exalting the Savior, Edifying the Believers, Encouraging the Hopeless, Healing the Broken, Loving the Lost

OUR VISION: A New New England

We want to change Eastern Connecticut from being one of the least churched and under-evangelized regions in the United States to being vibrant and spiritually alive.

We want in every town and on every school campus to be the best taught, most loved, most outreach-focused church possible.

We accomplish this together by making Christ known through prayer, corporate worship, personal invitations, generous giving, sacrificial service, life-changing teaching, and in face-to-face small group relationships. We cooperate with what God is doing. We believe the church is bigger than any one particular movement, denomination or church. We welcome and pursue collaborative ministry partnerships with like-minded movements, denominations, churches, seminaries and other Christian ministries, for the sake of the Gospel.



We exist to give every man, woman and child in Eastern Connecticut the opportunity to hear about Jesus, grow in Jesus, and go in Jesus' Name to spiritually hungry, thirsty and dying people locally and to the uttermost parts of the earth.

WHO WE ARE/WHO WE ARE NOT

We are Christ-Centered: First and foremost we are believers and disciples of Jesus Christ. He is the Lord of our lives and of this church. We want to live, speak, act and love in a way that honors Him above all else! We are constantly seeking to build all that we are upon the firm foundation of Jesus Christ and the Word of God.

We are affiliated with Calvary Chapel: As such, there are certain distinctions that we hold as we seek to be a witness in the community and equip believers to become disciples.

- We teach systematically through the Bible.
- We put greater emphasis on what God has done for us than what we can do for Him.
- We believe all of the gifts of the Holy Spirit are for today, yet we believe they are to be used according to the directives of Scripture.

We are Loosely Structured: We place a high priority on openness, flexibility and practicality, believing that such a climate is conducive for personal, relational and spiritual growth. Being loosely structured allows for change, freshness and innovation.

We are a Growing, Caring Family: Our fellowship is much like a family that values communication, informality, spontaneity, personal and corporate growth, freedom of expression, honesty, openness, humor, fun and commitment. As we grow together, we expect to encounter problems and find solutions to them as they arise.

We are Committed to Serve and to Grow: We believe that every person has something of value to offer and that people mature spiritually as they serve. We would love it if you would come and grow with us!

We are not a Denominational Church or the only True Church: Neither are we opposed to denominations as such, only the over-emphasis that has led to division in the Body of Christ. God has given us a vision and a purpose that is changing the lives of many people in our community. However, we are not the only local church that has heard from Him or is attempting to be faithful to His commands. Our desire is not to compete with other churches, but to be faithful to the call God has placed on our fellowship in the context of the Body of Christ.

We are not Typical or Formal: We affirm and appreciate those churches that worship God with a tightly formulated liturgy and structure. However, we have chosen to worship God in a somewhat non-traditional and informal setting. We value expressive and spontaneous worship.

We are not Authoritarian, Rule-Driven, Coercive or Legalistic: Many of us have found authoritarian and rule-driven religion to result in spiritual bondage and emotional defeat. Although we make our belief in the Bible and convictions very clear, we do not seek to enforce them upon people through rigid authoritarianism. Rather, we trust the Holy Spirit to change people from the inside as they yield their heart, soul, mind and strength to Him.

JOIN US!

SOME OF OUR DEFINING ASSUMPTIONS

- * The Bible is the authoritative Word of God and is the primary means of spiritual growth.
- * Church should equip, train and teach people to live a Christian life through all of life's seasons and transitions.
- * The primary source of the ability to minister comes from prayer and personal devotion.
- * Biblical Christianity puts the emphasis on what God has done for us, not on what we can do for Him.
- * Concern for the poor, sinners, widows and orphans grows as the Christian grows in God's love.
- * It is normal for every Christian to give and serve.
- * Suffering is part of every life and is beneficial to Christian growth.
- * The Holy Spirit is willing and able to break in and carry on His work in non-spectacular, non-manipulative and surprising ways.
- * No two churches are alike and each should express its God-given identity to the glory of God. Conflict with one another is a normal part of life and the Christian experience. Conflict within a fellowship is used by God to develop many positive qualities in Christians that are important and cannot be developed without conflict.
- * People who want friends should show themselves friendly.
- * Where God guides He provides.
- * Just as individuals are required to give in order to grow and be obedient, so the local church has an obligation to give to those from whom it derives no direct benefit in order to grow, be obedient and fruitful. Without consistent giving of time, energy and money, both churches and individual Christians become stagnant.
- * Something happens when people are drawn together to worship God that no other feature of human existence can accomplish.
- * Leadership in the church means serving and is functional. It has nothing to do with title, power or position.
- * There is no substitute for the constant, regular preaching, teaching and reading of the Word of God.
- * The Church is a Hospital, a Family, a Seminary, a Temple, and an Army.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

Calvary Chapel has been formed as a fellowship of believers in the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Our supreme desire is to know Christ and be conformed into His image by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We believe that the only true basis of Christian fellowship is His (agape) love, which is greater than any differences we possess and without which we have no right to claim ourselves Christians.

We Believe worship of God should be Spiritual.

Therefore: We remain flexible and yielded to the Holy Spirit to direct our worship.

We Believe worship of God should be Inspirational.

Therefore: We give a great place to music in our worship.

We Believe worship of God should be Intelligent.

Therefore: Our services are designed with great emphasis upon teaching of the Word of God that He might instruct us how He should be worshipped.

We Believe worship of God is Fruitful.

Therefore: We look for His Love in our lives as the supreme manifestation that we have truly been worshipping Him.

We Believe the Bible is the inspired, inerrant and authoritative Word of God. We believe the Bible is the final authority in every area it addresses for every individual Christian, as well as for the church collectively (2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21; John 10:35).

We Believe there is one God who eternally exists as three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that all things were created by Him and for Him (Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 45:21-22; Matthew 28:19; Colossians 1:16).

We Believe that God the Son became a human being in the person of Jesus Christ. That He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, lived a sinless life (for He was without sin), died a substitutionary death for all mankind, was raised from the dead the third day, ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God until His enemies are made His footstool (John 1:1; 14; Matthew 1:18-25; 2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Hebrews 10:12-13).

We Believe the Holy Spirit was sent by the Father and the Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness and judgment. We believe the Holy Spirit regenerates, indwells and seals believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, and that He empowers them to live as His witnesses (John 14:16-17; John 16:7-11; Titus 3:5-6 Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Ephesians 1:13-14; Acts 1:8; Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12-14; Peter 4:10-11).

WHAT WE BELIEVE (continued)

We Believe that God created human beings, male and female, in His own image. He created them sinless, equal in value, dignity and worth (Genesis 1:26-28; Ephesians 5:22-6:4; 1 Timothy 3:1-7).

We Believe that, as a result of the Fall, all people are sinners by nature and in need of a Savior, that Jesus Christ is the one and only Savior of the world and that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Him. We believe that all who call on the name of the Lord shall be saved eternally (Romans 3:10; Romans 3:23; Romans 5:18-19; Matthew 1:21; 1 John 4:14; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Ephesians 2:8-9; Romans 10:9).

We Believe there is one church, the body of Christ, consisting of men and women from every tribe, tongue, people and nation. We believe that each local congregation is an expression of that universal church. We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 4:4; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Revelation 5:9; Acts 2:42-47).

We Believe in a literal return of Jesus Christ to the earth for the consummation of God's redemptive plan (Jude 1:14; Revelation 19:11-16; Revelation 20:4).

We Believe in the resurrection of the dead. Believers will be raised to life and unbelievers to shame and everlasting contempt (hell) (Daniel 12:2; John 5:25-29; Revelation 21:1-22:5).

We are Continuationists: We Believe that all of the gifts of the Holy Spirit mentioned in Scripture are available to and active in His church today (John 14:16-17; John 16:7-11; Titus 3:5-6; Romans 8:9; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; Ephesians 1:13-14; Acts 1:8; Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12-14; 1 Peter 4:10-11).

We are Complementarian: We Believe that God created human beings, male and female, in His own image. He created them sinless, equal in value, dignity and worth. According to His purpose and design, God created them to fulfill distinct but complementary roles in the contexts of marriage, family and the local church (Genesis 1:26-28; Ephesians 5:22-6:4; Timothy 3:1-7).

We are Premillennial: We Believe in the pre-millennial return of Christ to the earth, to sit upon the throne of David and rule over the house of Jacob (Israel), and the entire cosmos, forever (Revelation 20:1-6; Luke 1:31-33; Isaiah 9:6-7).

MEMBERSHIP BELONGING

Our church does not have formal membership, but we do have people who 'belong' to this church. Belonging is determined by the fact that God brought us out of our old way of living without Him into a family of believers where we are learning to live our lives with and for Him. It isn't long before we discover that we really do belong and that we really do need each other. There are several ways in which our belonging to this fellowship happens:

Attendees: This is the simplest and most common way of belonging. We simply attend worship services where we express praise and gratitude towards God and learn about Him and His plan for our lives directly from the Bible. Many of the attendees who come here eventually become 'regulars' who become helpers, supporters, teachers, leaders and servers themselves.

Regular Attendees are afforded all the privileges of those who call upon the name of Christ and are able to effect church life to the degree that they participate and minister. These attendees are subject to the process of church discipline as found in Matthew 18 in areas of Biblical moral purity, Biblical ethics, doctrinal error or other activities not in harmony with the Scriptures. The church is responsible to the attendees to insure that doctrinal, ethical and Biblical moral purity is exhibited by all staff, elders, deacons and workers and attendees. The church shall report regularly to the congregation as to the spiritual, financial, and future status of the church.

While we don't have formal membership, we do have some of the most incredible volunteers servants anywhere! It takes hundreds of volunteers to run our ministries throughout the year.

We're out to change the world! We hope that you join us and find a place of worship and service here with us at Calvary Chapel!

THE GOVERNMENT OF THIS CHURCH

Submission to Jesus as the Head of His Church

The Bible teaches us that Jesus is the head of the church. Historically, in local congregations, there are three main forms of government in Christian churches, with variations on each form. At Calvary Chapel, the type of government used is Episcopal, the same as that of most Calvary Chapels. We think that this type is closest to the teaching in the Bible.

There is room for abuse in any system. The success of church government depends upon the trustworthiness of the pastor, the leaders and the elders.

Episcopal

Episcopal government is the form that existed in the church for the first 15 centuries, and is still practiced by 80% or more of the church. This form is most in keeping with the New Testament model. The pastor of the church functions as an overseer. He is called of God (or should be), and functions with multiple elders, ministers and leaders.

Elements of Episcopal Government

- ◆ One pastor, many elders, ministers and leaders (Acts 15)
- ◆ The elders believe the pastor is called of God and gladly submit to his leadership.
- ◆ The pastor believes in and submits to the counsel and ministry of the appointed elders.
- ◆ The pastor is a teaching shepherd.

Presbyterian

With John Calvin and the Reformation in the 1500's came a form of government in which elders had all of the authority and ruled the church. The pastor was the leading elder, and in Calvin's time, the system was not very different from the Episcopal form of government. Calvin himself originally appointed elders. Martin Luther functioned as Episcopal in the 15th century, but the Lutheran church became far more congregational when it came to America.

Elements of Presbyterian Government

- ◆ Many elders with the pastor as the head elder
- ◆ The elders make all decisions for the church body.

Congregational

The newest form of church government is not from the Bible's teaching, but as a reaction to abuses within church government in England. Congregationalism puts the power into the hands of the voting member of the church (the congregation). The minister is hired by the congregation but with the congregation obeying the Word of God and the leading of the Holy Spirit. Congregationalism came to America with the Puritans as democratic ideals dominated church life.

Elements of Congregational Government

- ◆ The pastor is hired by the congregation.
- ◆ All church decisions are made by a vote of the congregation. Majority rules, not the teaching of the Word of God.

OUR LEADERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ Sincere love for and pursuit of Jesus Christ demonstrated by regular personal worship, meditation on the Word and prayer.
- ◆ A life exemplified with the fullness of the Holy Spirit, faith and wisdom.
- ◆ A perception of leadership not as position, title, power, authority, or privilege, but as an obligation to service and sacrifice.
- ◆ Trust worthiness, with the ability to resist being bribed or bought.
- ◆ Commitment to open and loving communication, solving relational problems, processing anger constructively, encouraging people and building them up, and strictly maintaining confidence.
- ◆ Willingness to be a “team player” and to help one's pastoral associates succeed.
- ◆ A strong, loving marriage in which both husband and wife sense the call to minister.
- ◆ Capable and respected, mature in the faith and with proven ministry ability.
- ◆ Willingness to be judged by strict standards and to accept reproof.
- ◆ Love for people and for Jesus, without desire to benefit personally at the expense of the congregation.
- ◆ Commitment to equipping others for ministry through active recruiting, training, deploying, monitoring and nurturing.
- ◆ Commitment to doing excellent work, taking responsibility seriously, planning and executing well.
- ◆ A committed, cheerful giver who contributes regularly to this fellowship.

CHRISTIANS AND MATERIAL POSSESSIONS

THE VIEW OF THIS CHURCH ON GIVING

We believe the Bible teaches that every area of life is to be given over to God. This includes Jesus being Lord over our finances and possessions.

Somebody once said that you can tell more about a person's spiritual life by looking at their checkbook than by any other indicator. Since we trade the totality of our life (time, energy, emotion and intelligence) for money, we cannot say we have given our lives over to God if He doesn't control our finances, possessions and purchases.

As a church, we trust that God will move His people to give in obedience and in response to believing prayer. We look only to God to meet the material needs of the church. We believe that this policy is a testimony to God's faithfulness and His ability to meet every need. Therefore, we do not solicit funds, make appeals or pass a plate in our meetings. We have provided offering boxes in areas where services are held to receive people's contributions to God's work. We trust God to move people's hearts to be obedient, joyful and willing givers.

We believe that this position does not lessen a believer's responsibility to give to God and the work of His church, but stands as convincing proof that God hears prayer and that it is safe to trust Him at all times.

THE IMPORTANCE OF STEWARDSHIP

The dictionary defines a steward as, "One who manages another's property, finances, or other affairs."

The purpose of the "Parable of the Talents" that Jesus tells in Matthew 25 is to teach about stewardship. A key feature of this parable is accountability. There is a day of reckoning when the master examines each servant to determine how faithful he has been as a steward. The goal of the steward, therefore, is not some type of success as measured in human terms, but rather faithfulness. (1 Corinthians 4:2). In the parable, faithfulness means putting our God-given resources, time, abilities and opportunities to their best possible use.

Paul also makes it quite clear that a day of reckoning awaits Christians regarding their stewardship of the things with which they have been entrusted (1 Corinthians 3:10-15). The purpose of the judgment seat of Jesus Christ is to assess the believer's faithfulness as a steward (2 Corinthians 5:10; Romans 14:10-12). It does not concern the judgment of sin or whether or not he will make it into heaven since "there is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1). This truth of the judgment seat of Christ acts as a sobering warning to believers to be faithful stewards. It also encourages us to be good stewards in a positive way as well, since rewards are promised to those who are faithful.

CHRISTIANS AND MATERIAL POSSESSIONS (continued)

The Bible teaches the following about finances and giving:

- ◆ Believers are expected to give according to their ability. (Luke 12:48; Acts 11:29).
- ◆ Believers are expected to give regularly. This is demonstrated by the New Testament example of regular giving to meet a specific need (1 Corinthians 16:2). This is only logical, since the financial needs of the local church are regular and continuous.
- ◆ The needs of those in full-time ministry are to be met by those to whom they minister (1 Timothy 5:1-18; 1 Corinthians 9:7-12).
- ◆ God is generous to those who are generous. This is a principle of harvest (2 Corinthians 9:6). Our attitude in giving is important.
- ◆ The tithe (10%) principle is the basic giving rate for God's people. This can be seen before the Law was given and after the Law was given (Malachi 3:10). Jesus did not criticize the giving of the tithe, only a hypocritical heart. Our tithe is to be brought into the storehouse (Malachi 3:8-12). The local church is the storehouse in our culture. The tithe is meant to supply the resources for the local church to accomplish its worldwide mission of making disciples, to support the ministry, and to care for those in need. God is just as concerned with how well we use the money we keep as with how much we give to His work. As a result, we need to analyze our purchases to see if they represent genuine needs and wise investments.

THINGS

The concept of stewardship implies that all we possess belongs to God. He has entrusted these things into our care temporarily to be used not only to meet our needs but also the needs of others. A good example is hospitality. When Christians recognize that their homes belong to God, then they use their homes to help those in need. (1 Peter 4:9). With other possessions, we are expected to lend or to give according to our ability to do so.

“Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it is in your power to act. Do not say to your neighbor, ‘Come back later; I’ll give it tomorrow.’” Proverbs 3:27-28

“If a person gets his attitude towards money straight, it will help straighten out every other area in their life.” - Billy Graham

“Christians need two conversions, one for their soul and one for their pocketbook.”

- Martin Luther

“Make all you can, save all you can, give all you can.” - John Wesley

“You can’t take it with you, but you can send it ahead.” - Steve Gregg

BIBLE STUDIES & SMALL GROUPS

Our church began as a small group in a living room. That little group met together to sing worship songs to the Lord, study the Bible, pray and get to know each other better. The model for our Sunday morning meetings grew out of these meetings, but in a larger group it becomes more difficult to know people, to be known and pray for specific needs. So we have kept an emphasis on meeting together in smaller groups. We strongly encourage everyone to get involved in a smaller group as they are able. The goals of our small groups are based on the lifestyle of the early church in Acts 2:42-47.

Goals of Small Groups:

- ◆ To create a church environment of love, acceptance and forgiveness where everyone is welcomed, included, important and cared for.
- ◆ To provide a time and place to celebrate and experience the Christian life in the context of small groups, face-to-face relationships. and provide an opportunity to fellowship (be together with other Christians).
- ◆ To provide an environment where we can pray together and for each other.
- ◆ To worship God together.
- ◆ To experience the healing power of God's presence.
- ◆ To provide an environment of mutual care and concern.
- ◆ To share communion together.
- ◆ To provide an environment where we can know other Christians and be known.
- ◆ To provide a forum for personal growth.
- ◆ To provide an opportunity to learn together from God's Word.
- ◆ To evangelize friends, family and neighbors.

We have various kinds of groups available:

- * Support Groups
- * Growth Groups
- * Bible Studies
- * Outreach Groups
- * Men's Groups
- * Women's Groups

*A complete listing of Small Groups is
located on our website at:*

www.CalvaryChapel316.com

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

MISSIONS AND OUTREACHES WE SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE IN:

ALLAN RIGG: Church Planting

ANTHONY & IRENE CHAPMAN: (Beersheba, Israel)

BAGS OF HOPE: We participate in making sure that every child in the foster system gets a personalized and monogrammed bag with personal items that they can take with them through the foster journey.

BCNE (Baptist Convention of New England): We participate in their regional church planting efforts and international outreaches.

BENEVOLENCE: We set aside resources weekly that are available to those in need.

CALVARY CHRISTIAN FAMILY ORPHANAGE: Haiti

CARE-NET: We support the local Pregnancy Resource Center for women (and men) in crisis pregnancies looking to carry to term.

CECELIA SAKATIRA: Works with Human Trafficking victims in Greece.

COMMUNITY OF HOPE: Women's Transitional Housing in Groton, Connecticut

FLOYD MILES: Teen Challenge

FOSTERING HOPE: We work with this Rhode Island ministry in ministering to foster kids and foster families.

HIS OAKS MINISTRY: Faith Based Opportunity for Men

HOMELESS HOSPITALTY CENTER: We serve regularly at the local Homeless Hospitality Center in New London.

JAMES GANG: We host the James Gang in New London, a Christian based AA group.

MINISTERO INTERNATIONAL: Is a Spanish church that we share facilities with in New London.

NEHEMIAH INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY: Persecuted church in Eritrea

RYAN GRIGGS: (Manchester England) He grew up in our Sunday School. Now Ryan ministers in a hip-hop band in England, mostly going into public schools.

SPARK THE DARK RADIO: Local Christian Radio

BEGINNING TO FOLLOW JESUS THROUGH WATER BAPTISM

The Christian life is a life of constant progress. That progress is marked by transitions from one level of faith to another. Water baptism is a mark of one of the most important decisions and transitions we make in life. The practice of baptism then is a spiritual *"rite of passage"*. In life there are many of these that mark our movement from one stage to another such as graduations, weddings, retirements, becoming parents and the like. Baptism then marks a new direction in our life as we decide, in obedience, to follow after Jesus Christ.

Baptism really pictures the life of Jesus Christ. Jesus was crucified, died and He came back from the dead. Not only did He rise from the dead, but He rose to life never to die again. This is a picture of what happens to us when we are "born-again" and become Christians. We also "die" to an old way of living, our "old life" is buried with Him and we "rise" to new life. This time we belong to God and will live with Him forever. We now have "new life" with God, a life empowered by God Himself.

Just as many of life's other "rites of passage" are public, so also is baptism. In a setting with other believers and maybe some friends and family, we declare publicly our new association with Christ. We declare our new life in God. Here we are initiated into God's family. The physical act takes place when we come up out of the water declaring our new life in Christ.

Besides just the outward act of baptism, there is something deeper that happens at your baptism. Something spiritual, something that happens between you and God. Many people testify that their baptism was a real turning point in their walk with God.

If you are a believer and have found new life in Christ, then the next step for you is baptism. In fact, Jesus said that you should be baptized and this gives you an opportunity to begin obeying Him now (Acts 2:38). You see, success in the Christian life depends largely on your willingness to obey God and this is one of your first opportunities to begin obeying Him.

"Peter replied, 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"

Please use the Connection Card, sign-up online, or call us at 860-848-7400. Or you can simply show up. Calling to register in advance allows us to send you invites for friends and family, and to prepare a certificate for presentation at baptism.

May God richly bless you in your new life as you begin to obey and follow Him.

CHILDREN AT CALVARY CHAPEL

Children at Calvary are a number one priority. They are a present blessing and our future hope. We are grateful for each child God brings us and we pray that each one will come into a dynamic relationship with the living God. Our children's ministry is going somewhere. We have a goal.

Our vision is no different than that for adults. We hope to have children who are the best taught, most loved and effective in school and community. We have a great team of committed, faithful and informed teachers.

We are eager to provide the highest levels of security and safety for the children. Parents using the Pre-school section are sometimes asked to assist. All who serve must fill out an application and have a background check.

Preschool/Kindergarten; Grades 1-6

The same curriculum extends from ages 3, 4, and 5, Kindergarten, and 1st through 6th Grade; and, it teaches through the Old and New Testament. Each lesson is designed to address age appropriate learning, using crafts, skits, video clips and games. Every student receives a "take home" sheet to work at home with families, providing time together to review the lesson. Deuteronomy 6:7 clearly states you are to: "Talk about them [these commandments] when you sit at home, when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up."

All students begin classes right after check-in. They have an in-class worship time, lesson and craft until adult Service is over.

Note: There is a Nursery Room for Parents that provides a visual stream of the Service. In addition, there is a cry room for fussy babies and nursing moms which also provides the streamed Service. Thank God for His great blessings on us all.



TEENS & YOUNG ADULTS

YOUTH GROUP meets every Friday night for Grades 7-12. Our loyal team of workers are committed to equip youth to live for God and to invite friends and neighbors to join in. In the midst of a world that puts pressure on them to do otherwise, Youth Group is a refreshing time with Jesus and fellowship with Christians.

Sunday mornings:

Curriculum Jr. High: To establish their faith in the historic roots of Christianity, and help them to own and walk out their Christian life, they are taught in a 2-year curriculum:

Year One: “Know What You Believe” - A survey of Christian beliefs and doctrine. Baptism is encouraged at the end to publicly express their faith in Jesus Christ.

Year Two: “Know Why You Believe” - This class takes an apologetics approach, teaching and training students to give reasonable answers to reasonable questions. It is a study of the whys and difficult and frequently asked questions about Christianity.

High Schoolers generally remain in the adult service, although they will sometimes meet Sunday mornings for special prayer, worship, Bible study, and encouragement-attempting to be effective Christians in an otherwise hostile world. In addition, outreaches and retreats are planned throughout the year. Discipleship groups also meet in order to dig deeper in the Word of God and the Christian life, as well as to be trained to lead Bible studies in their high schools or neighborhoods.

Missions: Every summer teens plan a mission trip to somewhere in the world, along with other opportunities to participate in World Missions.

Young Adult’s Bible Study meets every Wednesday from 6:30-8:30 pm at a pre-determined location. We provide a strong community for young believers ages 18-30, including high school seniors who are 18. Together we study the Word, and seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. You can also join us by Zoom. For more information, please go to our website at www.CalvaryChapel316.com and click on the Groups tab, follow prompt and click on Group name which is Young Adult’s Bible Study to contact the Leader.

WIDOWS, HOMEBOUND, HOME-CARE SUPPORT

New Commandment Men's Ministry — NCMM

Here at Calvary Chapel we have a unique ministry based on scriptural principles:

James 1:27—"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, [and] to keep himself unspotted from the world."

We have a team available called the New Commandment Men's Ministry that speaks with action to the scripture verse quoted above. This ministry is following the call of Jesus to minister to those in need in unfortunate circumstances.

The New Commandment Men's Ministry meets once a month on Saturday mornings in the annex on Sharp Hill Rd. at 7:00 am for coffee, fellowship and prayer. After that we go out as teams to visit and help around the homes of our widows, home-bound folks or help with home-care support until 10:00 am.

No skills are necessary, and we encourage fathers with teen-age sons to join in this ministry. Help us bring the love and presence of Jesus into places that could otherwise be quite difficult and lonely.

If you are interested in volunteering for this ministry, or are in need of services or know someone who may need services from this ministry, please contact:

Dave Allen at 860-444-4000 or email: blowingsand@att.net

All good works to the glory of God!

ARE YOU SAVED?

Jesus Christ "stands at the door and knocks," but the individual must open the door and invite Him into his or her life.

(1) God loves you and offers a wonderful plan for your life.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

John 10:10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

(2) People are sinful and separated from God. Therefore, they cannot know and experience God's love and plan for their life.

John 3:3 "Jesus answered and said to him, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God'."

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

(3) Jesus Christ is God's only provision for man's sin. Through Him you can know and experience God's love and plan for your life.

Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

John 14:6 "Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

(4) We must individually receive Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; then we can know and experience God's love and plan for our lives.

John 1:12 "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name."

Ephesians 2:8-9 "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."

Revelation 3:20 "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me."

SAVED TO SERVE THIS IS HOW WE CHANGE THE WORLD!

True discipleship is serving God through serving others. God saves us by grace. There is nothing we can do to gain His approval or gain His acceptance, except to trust in Jesus Christ, the sinless One, Who died for us. Once we are born-again and our sins are forgiven, out of gratitude we serve Him. When we are born-again we join ourselves to what God is doing in the world. This is how we change the world, as He changes us! Each Christian is to serve God personally through:

- ◇ Reading and reflecting upon God's Word, the Bible.
- ◇ Praying-Communicating with God.
- ◇ Fellowshiping and Worshipping. Gathering together, in Jesus' Name.
- ◇ Witnessing. Telling everybody everywhere what Jesus has done for us!
- ◇ Giving. The Christian life is a generous life and the committed Christian is committed to giving to God in tithes and offerings.
- ◇ Serving-your gifts.

We have many opportunities to serve including, but not limited to:

- Care Deacon Team-Meals and Hospitality
- Coffee Service/Fellowship Time
- Construction projects
- Facilities Deacon Team
- Guest Services Deacon Team
- Maintenance and grounds upkeep
- Sound and lyrics
- Special events
- Sunday School teachers and assistants
- Worship singers

JOIN THE TEAM!

WE BELONG to God.

THEREFORE: I worship Him with all my heart, soul, mind and strength. Belonging to God means my body, my sexuality, my self-esteem, my goals, my dreams, my resources (time, money, energy, emotion, passion, belongings) and my life belong to Him. My value and worth all come from Him and belong to Him.

WE BELONG to Each Other.

THEREFORE: I'm concerned not only with myself but with other members of God's local and global family. I will use the gifts He has given me to build up and encourage others by first becoming a student of the Word of God which alone is able to build me up. I gather regularly with local believers where we share in worship, the Word, and giving of our lives and resources to each other and His eternal purposes.

WE BELONG to the Global Christian Movement.

THEREFORE: I am a missionary near and far to those outside of an understanding of God's love for them through Jesus Christ. I've been called into this grand adventure as His witness near and far until He returns from heaven. I participate with my faith community in bringing the Good News where it has not yet been heard, understood and established.

If you are interested in getting involved in Calvary Chapel, please fill out a Connection Card in-person or go to our website at www.CalvaryChapel316.com and click on the Get Connected tab or call the office at (860) 848-7400.

Welcome Aboard!

WORSHIP SERVICES & CONTACT INFO

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[Facebook.com/groups/calvarychapelCT](https://www.facebook.com/groups/calvarychapelCT)

When we join the Church, we are joining with what God is doing in the world. Come change the world with us, one soul at a time!

www.CalvaryChapel316.com

Putting People In Touch With God