



THE EAGLE EYE

PRESCHOOL 3'S AND 4'S; K-12TH GRADE

THEY PUT THE FINE IN FINE ARTS!

Welcome to our new Fine Arts Team. These individuals bring a wealth of experience and talent to our CCS team, and we are thrilled to have them bring our arts department into a new year full of creative expression and worship. God has blessed us with a deeply gifted staff to mold our students.

Pictured from left to right: Mrs. Millie McDonald, Mrs. Mandy Keeler, Mrs. Andrea Case, Mrs. Kate Case, Mr. Nick DeBone, Mr. Justin Auten



***DISTINCT:* SET APART FOR EVERY GOOD USE.**

HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT 2024

High School Retreat is always a fun time for our students to grow and connect with other students. SpringHill Camp for three days is always a great way to start the school year. Our theme for the year is "Distinct." As we go through our year, we are learning what it means to be set apart by God for His good purposes.

"Now in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver but also of wood and clay, some for honorable use, some for dishonorable. Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work."

2 Timothy 2:20-21

OUR MISSION:

Partnering with parents to equip students for personal excellence and the pursuit of God's purpose for their lives.

Calvary
CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS



**FROM THE
ADMINISTRATOR
OF CCS**

We have had an autumn crammed full-to-bursting with activities at CCS this 2024! We've played volleyball, football, soccer, and run cross country. We've hosted tournaments and meets, prayed at the pole, welcomed our school family at Eaglemania, our grand-friends and veterans on November 11, visited apple orchards and science centers, celebrated the coming of Christmas with *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, and made a joyful noise at choir and band concerts!

We are all about to breathe a collective sigh as we ease into a different kind of fullness and swap busy school schedules for fun family gatherings where we will celebrate what Paul, in his letter to the church at Galatia, describes as "the fullness of time."

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God. Galatians 4:4-7

As 2024 gives way to 2025, I pray that your family time will be special and full of memory making. I am so thankful for the Calvary family, and I praise God that because of Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection, Christians have sonship, and celebrate being part of the family of God! What a thing to celebrate! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Charles Dickens: "Of all the months of the year there is not a month one half so welcome to the young, or so full of happy associations, as the last month of the year."

-Sam Anhalt, CCS Administrator

LEAVING A LEGACY

Annual Fund Goal: \$250,000

We have some "leaves" available on our "Leaving A Legacy" trees in the hallway by the gym. This is a lasting way to symbolize the CCS family and our gratitude to donors who have funded "Leaving a Legacy: 40 Years and Beyond." This year our fundraising goal is \$250,000. We are a third of the way there! Would you consider giving?

With your help, Calvary's family can continue to thrive and expand for decades to come.



DISTINCT: INVESTMENT. IMPACT. LEGACY.

BRONZE LEAF: \$500+
SILVER LEAF: \$2500+
GOLD LEAF: \$5000+

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**Office Hours:
7:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**



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CCS EAGLEWEAR?
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A Word from our Bible and Chapel Coordinator...

What a wonderful year we are having in Bible class for the 9-11th graders this year! The students are learning about the Old Testament prophets, and we are just finishing our unit on the prophet Ezekiel. Our students are learning how to write their own devotional lessons to share with others, and spur on spiritual growth. I chose for them to work from Ezekiel 34, a powerful passage that teaches us a lot of important lessons from ancient Israel that still apply to us in some ways today. First, they were required to make sure they understood the Bible passage in its original historical context and in the context of the chapter as a whole, and briefly explain that to their audience in the lesson. Next, they were to tell us how the scripture applies to us today, helping us with the question, "So what?" The results have been so encouraging!

When they were finished with their devotional lessons, I read them aloud to the whole class and had the class take notes on what they learned from the lessons. One student recorded that it felt like the devotions were applying directly to his/her own life. Very cool! Our students are learning how to help others around them grow spiritually!

Below is one example taken from a two person team in that class. I'm sharing it with their permission. Enjoy!

-Mr Tom Beetham, MS/HS Bible Teacher and Chapel Coordinator

EZEKIEL 34:11-24 DEVOTIONAL: By Anonymous CCS Students

Ezekiel 34:11-12 "For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness.

"In the time Ezekiel was written the people had lots of leaders like Kings, Prophets, and Priests. Sadly, those leader or "shepherds" failed the people of Israel or "God's sheep". They led them into sin and to rebellion against God. So God decided he would be the people's shepherd and he will be a perfect shepherd. God had given the people leaders and they all failed, because of our sin nature humans will never be perfect leaders. He will rescue them from exile and lead them. Just like the people of Israel, Jesus is our perfect Shepherd. He will search for us when we get lost and he will save us from harm. In John 10 Jesus says-"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep".

In our lives today there are many people like the hired hand or like the shepherds that Israel had. We have to always remember that our God is the one and only good shepherd and we should cling to him in times of need like a sheep runs to its shepherd when there is a wolf.

There are lots of people who will come into our lives that will let us down. Maybe it's a friend that breaks your trust, maybe it is a family member that isn't there for you when you need them most. Or maybe you are the one who seems to be letting your friends or family down, what do you do then? Just pray and remember that God will love you no matter what happens. He is our good shepherd and no matter how many times this world will let us down, He will never fail, he is holy and he will be our security in the middle of the storm. Then try to have a conversation with your loved ones and try to figure out how you can improve. Or try to tell them what they are doing that makes you feel the way you do. You can't control other people's actions or their response, but you can control your own and the best thing to do in these situations is focus on Jesus the Good Shepherd.

People are flawed and sinful. We can't be perfect, others will let us down and we will let them down. If we find ourselves failing people we care about, then we need to first ask God for forgiveness and the person or people we hurt for forgiveness. Then we need to look to God as our perfect example and try to be more like him."

***DISTINCT:* SUPPORT. EQUIP. PREPARE.**

Introducing our new Student Services Coordinator...

As your Student Services Coordinator at Calvary Christian Schools, I am committed to providing comprehensive support to our students. My role involves a wide range of responsibilities, including academic advising, tutoring coordination, college application and financial aid guidance, ensuring graduation requirements are met, assisting with class schedule changes, coordinating international student services, overseeing testing procedures, and liaising with the Career Tech Center and local scholarship resources. I am particularly excited to bring a renewed focus on career development, empowering students to explore various post-high school pathways, whether it's college, trade school, military service, or the workforce. I am dedicated to helping students succeed academically, socially, and spiritually, and I look forward to working with you and your family to achieve these goals.

-Kelly Walker, Student Services / Financial Aid Facilitator / International Student Coordinator



The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!

On Thursday, December 12th, the Calvary Drama Club took the stage with twenty-seven middle and high school students performing a hilarious and heart-felt Christmas classic, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. The Christmas Pageant is faced with casting the Herdman kids-probably the most inventively awful kids in history. You won't believe the mayhem- and the fun- when the Herdmans collide head-on with the story of Christmas! This delightful show is adapted from the bestselling book by Barbara Johnson and is sure to delight audiences of all ages with a few Christmas carols and lots of laughs (and maybe even a few tears). Thank you to all who joined us to bring this story to life on the Calvary stage!

-Mandy Keeler, Drama & Performing Arts Teacher



A Christmas Celebration for All!

Thanks to our very talented fine arts team combined of Mrs. McDonald, Mr. DeBone and Mr. Auten, our Calvary elementary students along with our middle and high school band and high school choir as they brought an evening filled with festive music and all the joys and comforts Christmas can bring! On Thursday, December 19th they transported all into a winter wonderland of holiday joy from our littlest to our biggest Calvary Eagles.

-Mandy Keeler, Drama & Performing Arts Teacher



First graders exploring and learning at the Lakeshore Museum

After studying communities and learning about quilts in our Family & Community lessons this year, 1st Grade took a field trip to the Lakeshore Museum in Muskegon! We learned about different quilt patterns and even got to design and name our own quilt patterns using shape blocks! The instructor was impressed with the knowledge the students were able to recall from our previous classroom discussions!

The first graders also loved a science challenge as they had to figure out "Whoooo's in the Forest?" while listening to clues from a book and looking at and touching model replicas. As our 1st grade classroom theme is owls, the students were so excited to solve the mystery!

After the lessons, the students loved exploring the museum to learn about Michigan history and the animals that live in Muskegon County. They especially enjoyed some free exploration in the Science center, learning about many things, including weather, sound, and electricity.

There are still many more learning opportunities at the museum - we hope we have the opportunity to go back and learn more soon!

-Jennifer Austin, First Grade Teacher



CCS ATHLETICS

Fall Sports at CCS means hard work in practices, fun competition against other schools, team building, bus rides, stopping to eat with the team, building lasting friendships, and growing godly character. Here is a short wrap-up of the season.

Middle School Volleyball:

The middle school volleyball team was coached by Rachel Harris, Laura Lockwood, and Erin Maine. The team saw great improvement throughout the season and enjoyed many fun and exciting games. The players included Maddy Harris, Heidi Lockwood, Sophia Michelli, Kristina Christiansen, Clementine Case, Natalie Gurr, Claire McPherson, Ava McClain, and Lexi Diaz.

Middle School Soccer:

The Middle School Soccer team put together an exciting and outstanding season under the coaching of Andy Carlson. The team ended the year with 6 wins, and 3 losses. Wyatt Case stepped into the goalie position and had many outstanding saves throughout the season. The offense was led by Nathan Lahti with 16 goals and 3 assists, Westry Keeler with 8 goals and 5 assists, Will Lathi had 6 goals and 4 assists, Chase Toth had 3 goals and 6 assists, and Elliot Case had 2 goals and 3 assists. Five of our 8th grade players including Chase Toth, Levi Butts, Sully Moblo, Bryce Wilson, and Elliot Case led the team in steals, helped the team control the ball, and put together a strong defense. Several younger players played a lot of minutes and played an important role in an exciting season.

MS / HS Cross Country:

Brendan Hamilton, an outstanding runner and graduate of CCS, returned to coach our cross country runners with Ruth Kramer, a runner in the USATF masters division, returning as his assistant. The team was small, but we were able to see some great improvement in our runners. Chase Austin put together a great season and was able to knock over 3 minutes off his time. Heidi Lockwood also had a great year and saw a huge improvement in her time.

High School Volleyball:

The high school volleyball team lead by Coach Adri Colunga had a season full of fun and excitement throughout the season. Our 2024 team included Elissa Lockwood, Abby Colunga, Chloe Case, Jenna Cashler, Raquel Diaz, Grace Baas, and Michayla Assaad. The coaches appreciated each girl and their contributions to the team. One highlight, apart from the exciting games, was the long bus rides where the team sang songs of praise and worship.

High School Soccer:

This year we joined in a co-op team with Muskegon Catholic Central High School and senior, Matt Holland stepped up to the challenge and joined the team. Matt enjoyed the season, was a valuable contributor to the team, and earned a varsity letter in soccer.

High School Football:

Three boys joined the co-op football team with Muskegon Catholic Central High School and had a fun and rewarding season. Zach McFarren was a starter for the team, but was injured partway through the season. Zach played offensive line and had 4 tackles on defense. Quinn Swanson was a starter for the team, but was injured, ending his season early. Quinn had 67 yards rushing, 1 touchdown, 2 receptions, and 20 tackles. Bradley Richards, also a starter for the team, had 11 receptions, 1 touchdown, 21 tackles, 1 fumble recovery, 21 yards rushing, and 1 interception. Bradley earned 1st Team All Region Wide Receiver by the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association.

-Rick Maine, Athletic Director



**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
THE EAGLES!**

Calvary

CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS
PRESCHOOL 3'S AND 4'S; K-12TH GRADE



Making Use of our 62 Acres!

Our middle and high school science classes made use of our 62 acres of land during the first semester! We scoured the grounds to find specimens of all varieties! Our high schoolers gathered insects, leaves, and even a hornets nest (thank you Mr. Mann) to make our own slides to observe under microscopes. While the middle schoolers identified leaves, learned about photosynthesis, and ended with a mushroom hunt after studying about fungi. God has definitely blessed us here at CCS!

-Sandy Dodd, MS / HS Science Teacher

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LEAVING A LEGACY

GRAND HAVEN ROOM ESCAPE



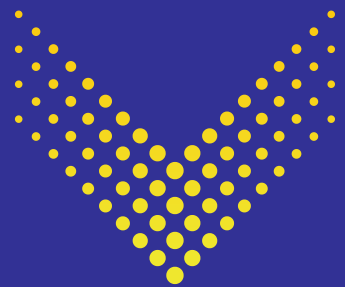
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IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO" THROUGH
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