



Calvary Bible Fellowship

JANUARY 2026 - CHURCH NEWSLETTER



CHRISTMAS PLAY

The children blessed the church with a truly wonderful Christmas play. They did not just perform - they *ministered*. From the joyful songs (all written especially for the play) to the carefully practiced hand motions, it was evident how much heart, effort, and excitement they poured into sharing the message of Christmas. We are deeply thankful for our kids, their teachers, and everyone who helped make the presentation so meaningful.

More than a performance, the play pointed us to a powerful truth: Christmas is about being *called* and *sent*. The word *Christmas* begins with Christ. This comes from the Greek *Christos*, rooted in the Hebrew word *Messiah*. It is not a last name, but a title - meaning *the Anointed One*, chosen and appointed by God for a specific purpose. Jesus was called by God to come into the world on a mission. His name tells us His purpose. *Yeshua* means "the LORD saves." The greatest need of every person is salvation. God came to our broken world to ultimately give His life for us, so that our sins could be forgiven and we could be restored to Him.

The second part of *Christmas* is *MASS*, a word that comes from the Latin *missa*, meaning "to be sent out." This reminds us that Christmas does not end at the manger. It moves outward. We have been entrusted with the greatest news the world has ever known: Jesus—God who saves. And just as He was sent to us, we are now sent to others. Christmas, then, is not only something we celebrate—it is something we carry. God sends us out to share the good news of hope, forgiveness, and new life found in Jesus Christ.

And that leaves us with an important question - one our children helped us reflect on so beautifully: What is the message we are called to go and share? We are *called* by God, and we are *sent* by God - until the whole world hears the good news of Jesus.

ALL THINGS NEW

We love the idea of new beginnings – fresh starts! That is why every year as the calendar ticks off another digit, we make resolutions. More than ½ of all people start the New Year with a promise. 53% promise to save money. 45% promise to lose weight. Some even promise to read the Bible every day. But sadly less than 10% of those who make these promises keep them, because it is not about making the promise, it is about the power to follow through with them!

If you are hopeful about the promise of the New Year, desperate to believe your resolution will somehow be different from other years, remember the one who has the power to help us. It's not about our promises, it is about leaning not to trust in ourselves, and instead depend upon Jesus! He is the only one who can change our heart and desires and transform us from the inside out!

Revelation 21:5 - "Behold, I make all things new."





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UPCOMING EVENTS

"We are Christ's ambassadors. God is making his appeal through us."
- 2 Corinthians 5:20

Typhoon Outreach - We recently took our second trip to Canlaon to continue typhoon relief efforts. We brought around 3,000kg of rice, cooking pots, plates, cups, and utensils - enough to help over 100 families.

Calvary Chapel Canlaon has been faithfully working with local families most affected by the storm, many of whom lost nearly everything. Before distributing the relief goods, we shared a clear Gospel message, because the greatest need is not food that perishes, but Jesus, who never goes away.

Many responded by praying to receive the Lord. Afterward, we were able to bless them with the donated supplies. There were many tears of gratitude - and even more smiles - as people tangibly experienced the love of Jesus poured out into their lives. Lord willing, we plan to return again to begin assisting with the rebuilding of homes for families within the church. Please continue to pray for the people of Canlaon, for Calvary Chapel Canlaon, and for the work God is doing as both physical and spiritual needs are being met!

Christmas Dinner Outreach - The church hosted a special dinner to bless those in need in our community. It was a beautiful opportunity to share the love of Christ in a very tangible way. Many from the church joyfully came out to serve - while others generously brought an abundance of food, ensuring that no one left hungry.



Typhoon Relief



Christmas Outreach



For most of our guests, this was not a place they would normally come. You could sense the awkwardness and uncertainty as they first walked through the doors. But they were quickly greeted with kindness and welcomed as friends.

At the close of the evening, our guests were given an opportunity to respond to the message of Jesus Christ, and many prayed to receive Him. It was a powerful reminder that the Gospel still changes lives.

Please continue to pray for those who attended - especially those who made decisions to follow Christ - that the seeds planted would take root and grow. We are also praying about the possibility of starting a Sunday

afternoon service in Ilonggo to minister to and build them up in their new faith.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

- Sunday 8:30am & 10:30am - Book of Acts
- Second Tuesday 6pm - Book of Daniel
- Wednesday 6pm - Book of Isaiah
- First Wednesday 6pm - Worship & Devotion
- Thursday 8am - Inductive Bible Study [online]
- Second Thursday 6pm - Revelation
- Friday Study 6pm - Men - Women - Youth



Christmas Dinner Outreach