

# KIDSLIFE

**DECEMBER 2018**

## **Upcoming Events & Announcements**



### **A Christmas Special**

by KidsLife, ages Toddlers to 5<sup>th</sup> grade

**Sunday, December 9 at all 3 services**

We would like everyone to be a part of this wonderful season of worshipping the Newborn King.

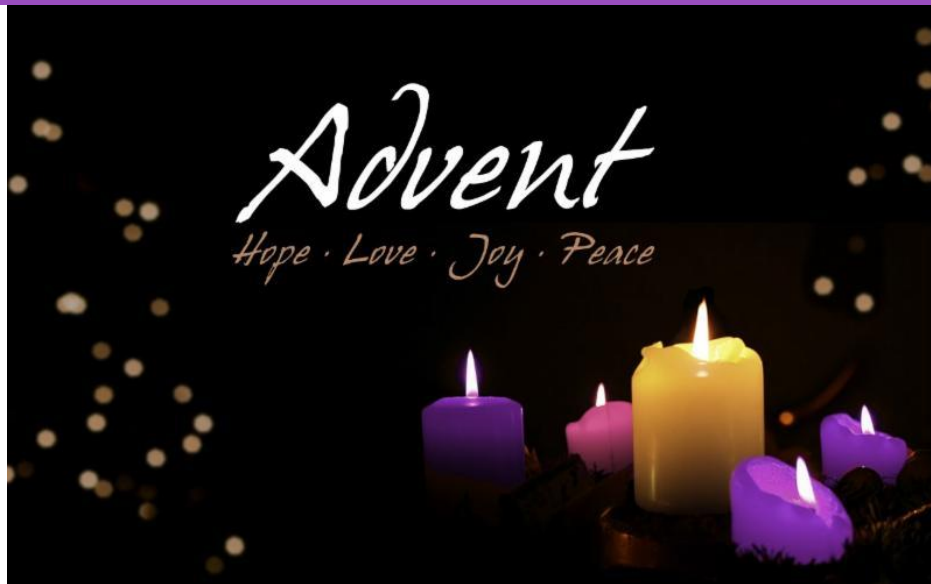
Please plan to be in attendance on the 9<sup>th</sup> as our LOFT children will be leading worship. Our Tiny Town kids will also be singing 3 special songs during the offering collection.

On the 9<sup>th</sup>,  
the LOFT kids will need to  
**MEET IN THE WORSHIP CENTER**  
at 8:40 AM for the 9 & 10:30 services  
or 12:40 PM for the NOOR service.

Tiny Town kids will do regular check-in times and sing during the offering portion.

All the children will return to their classrooms for the remainder of the service. Please wear your 'Christmas best!'

Invite family and friends!



## Check out these Family Advent Devotionals

(also available outside the LOFT and Tiny Town)

25 Days of Bible Verses & Questions

Advent Sunday Devotionals

The Jesus Storybook Bible Advent Guide



**We will celebrate Christmas in the LOFT and Tiny Town on December 16!**

**Please note: The LOFT will be closed December 23 and 30.**

**This is a great time to show your appreciation and send Christmas wishes to our LOFT teachers who serve every Sunday. They are a crucial part in your child's faith walk! Show them how thankful you are with a little gift or a special note from you and your child.**

### **Small Group Teachers:**

**9:00**

**4's/5's - Auntie Judy, Auntie Joanie**

**K- Rachel, Susan**

**1st - Sara, Imelda**

**2nd/3rd – Denise**

**4th/5th - Kirk**

**10:30**

**4's/5's - Barb**

**K/1st - Borkowsky's, Kathy**

**2nd/3rd - John**

**4th/5th - Mark, Megan**



## KidsLife families, we need your help!

Please take 5 minutes to complete **this survey**. Once you do, your family will be entered into a raffle for FREE Parents' Night Out for the 2019-2020 school year. Thanks!



## Basketball for K-5th Graders

Have a child interested in basketball? The Christian Youth Basketball Association has just released their 2019 program information and registration form. Check it out **HERE**.

The season will run from January 5 thru March 2 with practices on Monday nights and games on Saturday mornings.

The league will take place at Southwest Chicago Christian School in Tinley Park.

**Please take note that the discounted registration rate goes through December 15th, so please fill out the forms and send them in as soon as you can.**



## We'll take that!

As Christmas comes upon us, we all receive some gifts that aren't quite our style or taste or are duplicates of what we already have. Or, it's something that just doesn't interest your child.

If you can't exchange them, consider donating any items to our KidsLife Auction that will take place on March 16 at our breakfast. We will turn them into awesome baskets that someone else may love! All items can be given to our Tiny Town staff at any time.

Thanks in advance for helping our KidsLife ministries!



**As the year ends, we want to say a big THANK YOU to all who have served in KidsLife Ministries this year. You are such a blessing to us and we couldn't offer the programs we have and pour God's Word into the kids if it weren't for your helping hands and serving heart!**



## Upcoming Holiday Tiny Town

### Coverage Needed:

Tiny Town, ages infants thru 4, is seeking volunteers for our upcoming holiday services.

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES:

Sunday, Dec 23 at 10 AM

Monday, Dec 24 at 3 PM

Monday, Dec 24 at 5 PM

**This is a great opportunity to still attend one service and then serve at the another. Sign up [HERE](#).**

Calvary Church  
**open play**  
16100 S 104<sup>th</sup> Ave, Orland Park 708.429.2200

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2  
9 AM - NOON**

Calvary Church is offering open gym and our Playland during Christmas break.

Come on in and relax as your kids get out some energy!



**Parental Supervision is Required.**

**Tables will be provided for food and drinks inside the gym.**

# YOU'RE INVITED

exploreGod.com

exploreGod™

JOIN US FOR A 7-WEEK SERIES  
WHERE WE WILL EXPLORE THE  
BIG QUESTIONS

- DOES LIFE HAVE A PURPOSE?
- IS THERE A GOD?
- WHY DOES GOD ALLOW PAIN & SUFFERING?
- IS CHRISTIANITY TOO NARROW?
- IS JESUS REALLY GOD?
- IS THE BIBLE RELIABLE?
- CAN I KNOW GOD PERSONALLY?

BEGINS JANUARY 13, 2019

SERVICE TIMES: 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM &  
1:00 PM (NOOR, ARAB-AMERICAN SERVICE)



Our 4-year-olds thru 5<sup>th</sup>  
graders will be exploring  
these same questions  
during all the services.

**We are so excited about this series that we want  
you to invite your friends and their kids as well!**

Some **EXTRA highlights** in The LOFT during *Explore God*.

**Sunday, January 13 – CEREAL BAR\***

(Enjoy a bowl of your favorite cereal!)

**Sunday, January 20 – PJ's and POP TARTS\***

(Roll out of bed in your pj's and we'll provide the breakfast!)

**Sunday, January 27 – PICK A PRIZE**

(Grab a goody out of our treasure chest!)

**Sunday, February 3 – GLOW**

(Decorate yourself with our glow sticks!)

**Sunday, February 10 – COOKIE DECORATING\***

(Make yourself a yummy treat!)

**Sunday, February 17 – BOYS VS GIRLS**

(Let's have a friendly competition!)

**Sunday, February 24 – CEREAL BAR\***

(Grab another bowl of your favorite cereal!)

\*Allergy-friendly foods will be available.





**There will be several options to join a KidsLife Families Connect Group for the 7 week Explore God series. Not yet plugged in to a connect group and looking to connect with other adults in the same stage of family life as you?**

**Contact Tiffany to find the right fit!**



**Save the date for Saturday, January 19,  
11 AM to 3 PM.**

Winter Wonderland is a free family event that will feature waxed hand art, airbrush painting, snowball wars, sock skating arenas, carnival games, mega obstacle course, food vendors, and so much more! You will definitely want to invite your friends and neighbors!

**In order to make the event successful,  
we need your helping hands!**

**Please consider taking a shift and serving at WW!**

**Sign-up sheets will be in the Gathering Place starting on Dec. 16 or  
sign up online HERE.**



## Please label!

It's that time of year for coats, hats, and gloves. Please make sure to label all outerwear so we can make sure to get it back to the appropriate child when it gets accidentally left behind! Check out the Lost and Found bin behind the Welcome Center or in Tiny Town if items have already gone missing.



## Serving Team

For families with children in Tiny Town, you should have received a letter and a January thru June serving schedule in your mailbox. Please complete the schedule and return it to Tiny Town as soon as possible or follow the link below to schedule online.

**If you do not have children in Tiny Town but would consider serving every 6 to 8 weeks, we'd love to have you on the TT team!**

All sign-ups can be done **ONLINE**. \*Scroll to the bottom of that web page.



## Upcoming Dates:

December 5 - Regular Meeting

December 19 - Dodge-ball Night, Bring a Friend

**Cadets meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, September-May for 2nd-8th grade boys, 6:30-8:30 PM.**

**Enjoy camp-outs, service projects, Bible lessons and applications, badge and wood work, and a pinewood derby!**

**REGISTRATION FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR IS ALWAYS OPEN!**

**For more details and to register your child, go to**

**[www.calvaryop.org/cadets](http://www.calvaryop.org/cadets)**.

**Questions about our Cadet ministry or want to be a Cadet counselor?**

**Contact David Rupert and Ken Jager at [cadets@calvaryop.org](mailto:cadets@calvaryop.org).**



## Upcoming Dates:

December 12 - Christmas Party (this is our only December meeting!)

**GEMS meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, September-May for 2nd-8th grade girls, 6:30-8:30 PM.**

**Enjoy praise and worship, Bible lessons and applications, a camp-out, crafts galore, and service and badge projects.**

**REGISTRATION FOR THE 2018-2019 SCHOOL YEAR IS ALWAYS OPEN.**

**For more details and to register, go to [www.calvaryop.org/gems](http://www.calvaryop.org/gems).**

**Questions about our GEMS ministry or want to be a GEMS counselor? Email Chris Stuursma at [gems@calvaryop.org](mailto:gems@calvaryop.org).**



## PossAbilities Special Needs Ministry

We welcome children with special needs to attend any KidsLife ministry at Calvary Church. Our PossAbilities room is available at the 10:30 AM service, which functions similarly to a special education classroom. In order to include kids with higher functioning needs into our kids worship, we can pair a buddy with your child. For more information contact [Caelie VanderVelde](#), our PossAbilities Coordinator.

## Interested in Serving?

**Be a PossAbilities Buddy! Spend an hour working one-on-one OR in a small group with special needs individuals, assisting them with hands-on activities (i.e. crafts, games, movement exercises), modified Bible lessons, prayer and/or singing worship songs.**

**Where:** Either in Tiny Town or the Loft as a buddy, or in our PossAbilities classroom, a room that functions similarly to a special education classroom, while also promoting inclusive activities.

**Contact [Caelie VanderVelde](#), our PossAbilities Coordinator.**



# Parent iResources

## An easy way to communicate with you!

Is your email inbox being cluttered by so many emails you sometimes miss information from our KidsLife Ministries? We don't want that to happen!

Calvary has a texting app where staff and our program coordinators can alert you to reminders, upcoming events, or notice of closure due to weather or holidays. If you are not yet on our texting group and would like to be, please email [children@calvaryop.org](mailto:children@calvaryop.org).

We promise not to over text you and you can always opt out of certain texting groups. You will not be able to respond to the text but can always email us at [children@calvaryop.org](mailto:children@calvaryop.org) if you have any questions.

### FAMILY BIBLE CHALLENGE

Click [HERE](#) to learn why your family should partake in this challenge!

### FAMILY BLESSING CHALLENGE

Click [HERE](#) to learn how to bless your child.

If you are not on our Blessings/Family Devo Text Group, email [children@calvaryop.org](mailto:children@calvaryop.org) to sign up.

### LOVE LANGUAGES

Ever looked into what your child's love language is? It will greatly improve your relationship with your child when you realize what matters most to them and what they need from you. Have them take a quick quiz!

- [Quiz for Ages 5-8](#)

- [Quiz for Ages 9-12](#)

- [Quiz for Ages 13-17](#)

Take a [quiz](#) yourself!

### PHONE USAGE/CONTRACT

Has your child received their first phone?

Here is a [phone contract](#) that was helpful to go over with my children. Check it out!

Have you checked out our Facebook page?

Come and join the KidsLife Ministries community online right [here](#)!

Well, that's it for this month! We hope you found this eLetter helpful and informative! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Tiffany at [children@calvaryop.org](mailto:children@calvaryop.org). See you next month!