

# KIDS LIFE

growing into a life of faith

**JANUARY 2019**

## **Upcoming Events & Announcements**

### **Family Resolutions for 2019**

'Jesus!' tends to be the famous answer for most questions asked of kids in church. Though that answer is correct some of the time, we don't want kids to simply know the answers. And we definitely don't want kids to focus on appearances over true heart change. We want our kids to develop a relationship with our living God. We want them to know how God fits into their days and nights.

Jessica Sausto has some good resolution ideas for 2019 for our families to 'Fix the Growth Mindset.'

**Here are ways to help kids have a growth mindset with their faith. It's as simple as altering the praise and feedback you give to your kids.**

- Let kids know God already loves them no matter what, even when they mess us.
- Remind kids often that the goal is to be best friends with God, not to look good.
- Praise kids for the effort they put into resisting a temptation.
- Praise kids for time they spend getting to know God, not just knowing *about* him.
- Encourage children to openly share their failures with close, trusted friends and adults.
- Encourage children to ask Jesus for help when they're struggling with something. Challenges are a part of life and when they learn to trust God through them, they can grow closer to Him.
- Help children think of new ways they can approach a situation when they struggle with making good choices. We want them to be able to say, 'I made a sinful choice, but Jesus can help me change.'

Starting January 13 - Invite your friends!

**YOU'RE  
INVITED**

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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)

**the LOFT**  
WHERE KIDS LIVE IT OUT LOUD

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.

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Not yet involved in a Connect Group?

Now is the time to get plugged in to one during the *Explore God* series!

We have 6 KidsLife/Youth family groups forming that will meet on Sundays from January 13-February 24.

Childcare is provided for all the times listed below!

### Time Options:

During the 10:30 service (attend the 9, stay for discussion after)

11:45-1:15 (lunch and discussion)

4:30-6 (discussion then dinner)

5-7 (dinner then discussion)

Interested in one of these times? Or want to start your own and invite friends?

Email [tiffany@calvaryop.org](mailto:tiffany@calvaryop.org) to get plugged in or to get more information!



The countdown is on! Join us on

**Saturday, January 19, between 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!

### **Ways you can help with this event:**

-SERVE! This is our biggest outreach event so we need all hands on deck! A variety of positions and shifts are waiting to be filled!

Sign up online [HERE](#).

- Pick up some postcards in the Gathering Place and pass out to friends and neighbors!



**It's time to register for our next PNO!**

**Friday, February 1, 5:30-8:30 PM**

**Sign-ups have begun for our Calvary Sunday attenders. Community families can sign up starting January 14.**

**Sign up in the Gathering Place or by email at [children@calvaryop.org](mailto:children@calvaryop.org).**

**Next 2019 PNO:**

**Friday, April 5** (March 3 & March 18 Sign-Ups Begin)

**About our PNO Ministry:**

Why scramble for a sitter and pay a costly amount when you can bring your children to PNO at Calvary? Cost is \$5 per child (ages infants - 5th graders) for the night. Drop off begins at 5:30 pm and pick up is no later than 8:30 pm. A pizza dinner is served at 6 p.m. Go ahead, check out that restaurant you've heard so much about...catch a movie...go shopping...hang out with friends...or just have a quiet night in while your kids are having a blast!



**KidsLife families,  
we need your help!**

If you haven't yet done this, 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!



**We'll take that!**

If you received some Christmas gifts that aren't quite your style, are duplicates of what you already have, or is something you just don't need, we'll take it!

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!



## 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:

January 16 - Regular Meeting

February 6 - Mother/Son Night!

February 20 - Regular Meeting

**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:

January 9 - Regular Meeting

January 23 - Regular Meeting

February 13 - GEMS & Gent Night!

**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 Resources

### 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.

Have you checked out our Facebook page?

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