

Calvary Bible Fellowship Profile
Coopersburg, PA
Submitted to the Board of Elders 2015-10-12

We offer the following Profile as a means of helping you gain insight into our people, our ministry, our facilities, and the community we serve.

Overview:

A very brief history: Calvary Bible Fellowship Church began worshipping as a Mennonite congregation at our current location in 1869. In the 1950's the Mennonite Brethren in Christ denomination committed themselves to Reformed doctrine and became the Bible Fellowship Church.

Terms that describe the Calvary congregation

- **Loyal** – A strong sense of belonging.
- **Tolerant** – Tolerant of individual preferences not essential to the faith.
- **Compassionate** – Feels and practices compassion toward one another.
- **Responsive** – Committed to applying biblical truth.
- **Excellent** – Offering our best to glorify God.
- **Multi-generational** – Conducting a ministry that includes all generations.

Underlying characteristics

- The centrality of the Scriptures in all we do.
- Commitment to elder-led church government.
- The sovereign leadership of God.
- Evangelism, the Great Commission.
- Clear teaching of the Scriptures with direct application.
- The Faith and Order and fellowship of the BFC denomination.
- A dependence on God's leading as discerned through faithful prayer.
- Celebratory, creative, participatory, blended worship and music.
- Extensive congregational participation in ministry.
- Servant leadership.

Calvary Church seeks to be a congregation that....

- is committed to clear teaching and practical application of the Word of God.
- gathers to respond to God with heartfelt, God-centered worship.
- is committed to caring relationships.
- is inter-generational in nature.
- communicates the Gospel and calls for commitment to Christ and life change.
- disciples those who come to faith in Christ with a goal of Christ-like character.
- moves individuals from spectators to participants to servant leaders.
- generously engages in mercy ministry to the needy.
- is committed to building strong marriages and families.
- makes ministry to children and youth a priority

Perceived Needs

- Ministry to a diverse congregation.
- Implementation of fully developed and approved master plan for land development.
- Improved assimilation, integration, and discipleship of new people.
- Revision of structures and procedures to accommodate growth.
- Comprehensive strategic planning.
- Enlarged presence and outreach to the community.

Calvary Bible Fellowship Profile
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- Effective equipping of teaching and ministry staff.
- Development of new and existing leadership.
- Comprehensive evaluation and ongoing critique of ministries.
- A clear corporate vision expressed in all we do.
- Improved use of technology.

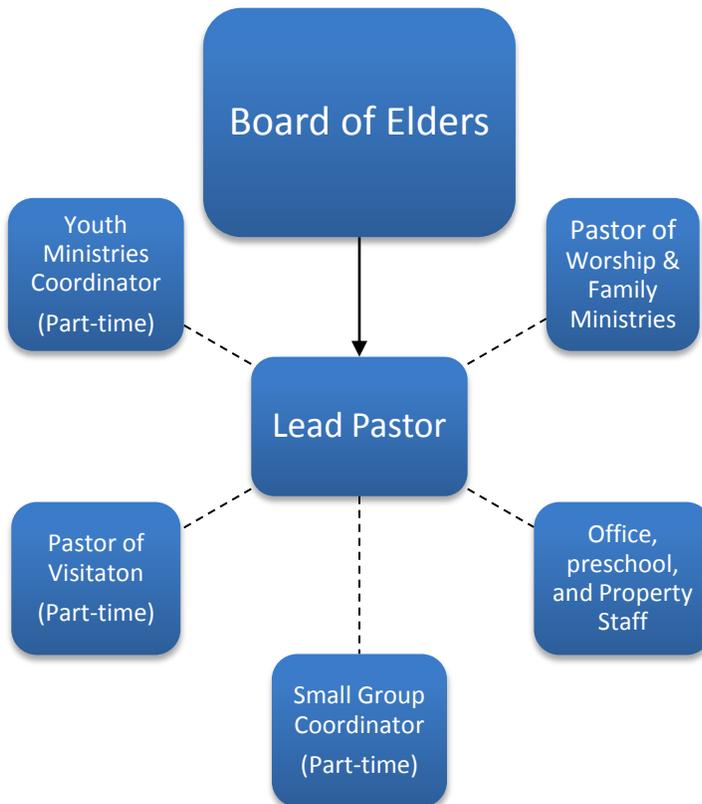
Current Staff: The following are paid positions:

Full-time

Pastor of Worship and Family Ministries
Officer Manager
Property Manager

Part-time

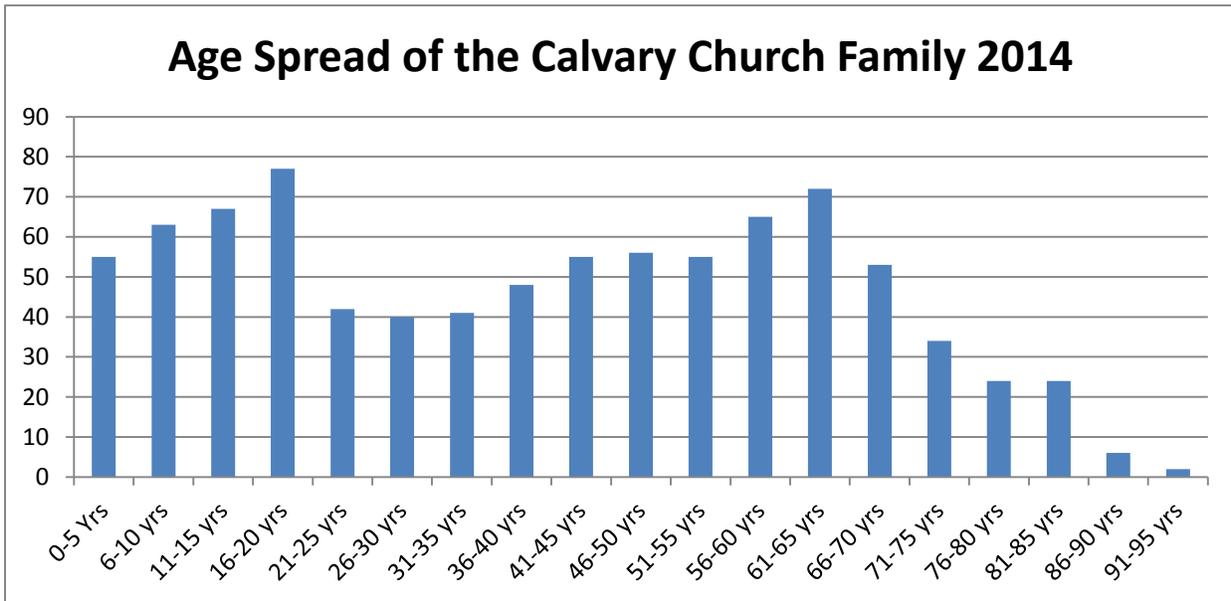
Office Assistant
Pastor of Visitation
Youth Ministries Coordinator
Preschool Director and Teaching Assistants



People: Pertinent Statistics: (As of July 2015)

Current membership – 421
Average attendance – 387 (as of September 28, 2015)
Total constituency – 850
Sunday School and Adult Bible Studies attendance – 262

Calvary Bible Fellowship Profile
Coopersburg, PA
 Submitted to the Board of Elders 2015-10-12



0-5 yrs	6-10 yrs	11-15 yrs	16-20 yrs	21-25 yrs	26-30 yrs
55	63	67	77	42	40
31-35 yrs	36-40 yrs	41-45 yrs	46-50 yrs	51-55 yrs	56-60 yrs
41	48	55	56	55	65
61-65 yrs	66-70 yrs	71-75 yrs	76-80 yrs	81-85 yrs	86-95 yrs
72	53	34	24	24	8

Total included in age spread – 879

- 43 families have children ages 0 through Pre-K
- 50 families have elementary school age children
- 37 families have middle school age children
- 42 families have high school age children
- 39 families have children in college
- 136 families are empty nesters (or have not started a family yet)
- 27 are young singles
- 70 are older singles

In June of 2014 a survey was completed showing the average age of our current congregation to be 38 years old.

(Note: This graph is somewhat skewed because it includes singles *and* family units. Also note that if a family has both an elementary age child and a teen, their number is counted in both columns.)

Ministries:

Vision (approved by the Board of Elders in 2011) In keeping with our Mission, we envision the following for Calvary Church in the next five years:

- We envision calling and installing a pastor of preaching and teaching to provide the congregation with consistent, excellent, expository preaching that will be the capstone of our ministry.

Calvary Bible Fellowship Profile
Coopersburg, PA
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- We envision a congregation connected and disciplined through an expanded ministry of small groups.
- We envision the establishment of another Bible Fellowship Church in our region.
- We envision the development and initiation of a comprehensive plan for improvement and use of all church properties.

Mission (Approved by the Board of Elders in 2011)

Our Mission is to glorify God together by making disciples who joyfully serve in the Southern Lehigh community, surrounding communities, and beyond.

Core Values (Approved by the Board of Elders in 2011)

1. Preaching and Teaching

Because faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God, the expository preaching and teaching of the Scriptures is our primary focus. Therefore, the communication of the truth of the Scriptures, in accordance with the Articles of Faith of the Bible Fellowship Church, will be central to all of our ministries.

2. Fellowship

Because we as children of God are in committed relationship with each other, we share our love and possessions and use our spiritual gifts to serve and encourage one another. Therefore, Calvary Church will minister in the context of relationships that will be God focused, discipleship oriented, and biblically grounded.

3. Leadership

Because Christ is the head of the Church He provides leaders who listen carefully to His direction and model obedience to Him. Therefore, Calvary Church will be led by a team of godly elders who equip believers for ministry and develop leadership.

4. Worship

Because the worship of God is our highest priority and greatest privilege, we acknowledge and declare God's character and worth in all aspects of life. Therefore, our worship will be God centered, biblically sound, purposeful, participatory, and will be at the very heart of all we do.

5. Family

Because God has established both physical and spiritual families, we consider the nurture of both of high priority. Therefore, we will provide an environment that is relational, nurturing, family-friendly, intergenerational, and joyfully supportive of families through all stages of life.

6. Team Ministry

Because the biblical approach to ministry leadership includes teams of gifted, equipped people serving together, we value team ministry. Therefore, we will intentionally develop teams to promote growth and accomplish the work of the ministry.

7. World Missions

Because all authority has been given to Christ and he commands the making of disciples of all nations, and because He is building His Church, we proclaim the good

Calvary Bible Fellowship Profile
Coopersburg, PA
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news of Christ to those near us and like us as well as those far from us and different from us.

Therefore, Calvary Church engages in missions with a focus on the New Testament's emphasis on church planting and church strengthening by sending, financially supporting, and partnering with missionaries and church planters in our region, our nation, and the nations of the world.

8. Prayer

Because all that we do is by divine enabling, prayer is essential to the life of the Church.

Therefore, prayer will be an integral part of all aspects of the church's ministry.

Current Ministry Programs:

Family Night ministries on Wednesday Night include:

- 25 Adults in Prayer and Bible Study
- 83 in DiscipleLand for grade school children
- 45 Middle School Teens
- 40 Senior High Teens

Additional Christian Education ministries:

Women's Ministries (2 weekly Bible studies with average attendance of 95)

Men's Ministries

PrimeTime Senior Adult Ministries

GriefShare

Calvary Preschool

Missions

Calvary Church seeks to take the Great Commission of Jesus seriously.

Together we seek to be engaged in Christ's mission locally, nationally, and globally. Calvary Church rejoices that God has called into active missionary service some of our own members. Calvary Church also partners with a number of other missionaries and church planters in the U. S. and around the world.

Calvary Church provides financial support for our partners through the church's annual unified budget. Currently, over 20% of the annual church budget is designated for support of missionaries, church planters, and other outreach ministries. Reaching the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ is a priority at Calvary Church.

Connect Groups - Calvary is in the process of developing a small group ministry initiative providing a place where people can find fellowship, be mentored in the faith, study the truth of the Scriptures, use their spiritual gifts, engage in mission and outreach to the lost, and provide care for one another.

Facilities: Our three buildings provide excellent facilities. A Master plan for facility development and improvement has been approved by the appropriate official bodies, but has been placed on hold.

Main building built in 1966

The sanctuary seats 310

- Well lit, adequate platform area.
- Organ, piano, drums, and pit area for additional instruments.

**Calvary Bible Fellowship Profile
Coopersburg, PA**

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- Excellent sound system, projection, and flexible lighting.

Nine classrooms

Excellent fellowship hall and kitchen facilities

Nurseries on upper and lower levels

Three offices – (Inter-office communication via integrated phone system and computer with wireless in all locations)

Parking for 160 cars

North Building (the former church building)

Youth activity room

Two additional offices

Two additional classrooms

Fairmount Building

Four additional classrooms

Counseling Office

Parking for 20 cars

Our Community

As the community's largest evangelical church, Calvary experiences high regard from the community and other area churches.

At the last census, Coopersburg Borough had a population of 2,400. Coopersburg RD, zip code 18036 included 12,800 people and Upper Saucon zip code 18034 included 14,808. We have congregants from many other zip codes, but these are most common.

Median Age in Coopersburg is 47.

Median Income per Household was \$64,500.

Median House Value was \$218,000.

94% of the population is white, 3.5% Hispanic, 1.1% Asian, .8% mixed race, .5% Black.

88% of the population have high school or more and 25.3% have higher degrees.

Median Age in Upper Saucon is 40.5.

Median Income per Household was \$ 96,178.

Median House Value was \$ 303,400.

90.4% of the population is white, 3.1% Hispanic, 3.3% Asian, 1.2 % Black.

24% Population increase 2000 to 2010, projected 6.4% average increase 2010-2040.

91% of the population have high school or more and 40.5% have higher degrees.