

I Smile, God is at work at Calvary Baptist Church Mc Allen, Texas

Meet a church in the Rio Grande Valley where God is at work and bringing smiles to participants through the Ministry Evangelism efforts of the church. Calvary Baptist Church in McAllen, Texas recently completed a Community Transformation Workshop where they were challenge to rethink their Community Outreach and Evangelism strategy for their Jerusalem. Their Pastor, Julio Guarneri is challenging the church in this area and he is leading them on a journey as they seek God for their City. Calvary feels called to be a church that connects with their community and are being the presence of Christ as they serve and meet the needs of their community. Here are some of the ministry evangelism efforts that they have been involved in as they seek to be the presence of Christ. Several of these ministries are newly launched efforts to help them evangelize their community more effectively and be the presence of Christ.



Bread of Life Market ministry is Calvary's food pantry: The Bread of Life Market ministry partners with the RGV Food Bank and works to provide emergency food assistance to the McAllen community. The food distribution is free of charge and is held the second Saturday of every month from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Throughout the distribution participants are prayed with and the Gospel is shared. More importantly, participants experience the presence of Christ through Calvary's members and volunteers. Church members also distribute recipes to families that give them instructions on how to use the products that are being distributed each month. One of the recipes was actually cooked and made available as a sample dish. Each participant was able to taste the delicious dish. The ministry coordinator, Jeanette Ahlenius continues to explore ways to provide nutritional information and classes to families.

Computer Literacy Ministry: Through support from the Evangelism Missions Center of the BGCT, 12 new laptop computers were purchased and installed to increase the ministry capacity and enhance the computer learning of students. Ministry leaders were bringing to class 5 to 7 laptops to accommodate 25 students. With the added computers students can learn from their own laptop and the classes are now being offered more widely to the community. Plans are to set these laptops up in a standalone computer classroom by midyear. Sijham Pereyra is the dedicated Computer Center Instructor and is willing to continue to provide the classes to increase the literacy level of Single Moms in the community for Christ. Sijham is very passionate and dedicated to this ministry and she loves every minute of sharing her knowledge with the class.



VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance): Calvary has partnered with the United Way to provide free income tax preparation services through the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program. Calvary opens its doors twice a week in the evening (Mondays and Thursdays) to provide this service to the community.

Recycling Arts and Crafts Ministry: Arts and Crafts classes are also offered every Thursday morning. The classes assist participants in making jewelry and recycling items (such as bottle tops, plastic, paper, etc). Participant could then sell their art for individual profit as many of them do not have a job. This is a great way for participants to develop skills, learn about businesses, and becoming self-sufficient.

Stress and Conflict Management: Ester Fraire Lopez, a Licensed Professional Counselor, provides classes to our community on different topics such as: How to Deal with Stress, How to Address Conflict.

Celebrate Recovery: Celebrating Recovery is a much appreciated ministry that is offered to individuals struggling with drug recovery, spending addiction, sex addiction and so on.

These are the beginnings of the Ministry Evangelistic efforts of Calvary Baptist Church McAllen to reach their neighborhood for Christ. We solicit your prayers for them as they strive to be the presence of Christ in their community. Church members very hopeful and are excited about what God has in store for Calvary Baptist Church and the McAllen community in 2012.

The Evangelism Missions Center of the BGCT would like to know about and connect with the Evangelistic Outreach Ministry(ies) that you and your church are involved in. A church being the presence of Christ should be the concern for every Church and Christian Leader. Please click on the link below and then complete the form to let us know how your church is evangelizing your community for Christ. Thanks in advance for your response.

[Click Here: Texas Baptist Ministry Evangelism Form](#)

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