

## School Partnership: Sunset High School and Calvary Baptist Church, Oak Cliff



Calvary is blessed to be located just a few blocks from Sunset High School.

We believe that since God planted us here, He must have a mission for us among the students and staff at Sunset.

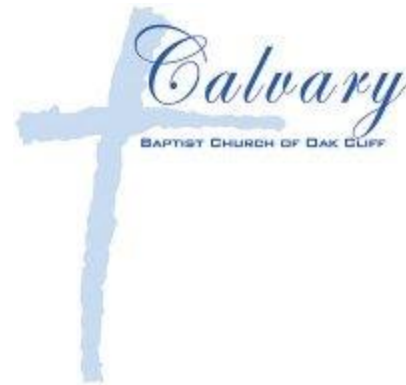
Last year, we were approached by the school to be an emergency shelter in the event of a student evacuation. At that time, we told the staff member who called that we would be open to assisting them in other ways as well. A few weeks later, an assistant principal asked if we would allow the school to bring some students to do some intense TAKS test preparation work with students who were at risk of failing. They brought more than 100 students two different times to provide them some TAKS review. Since that time our church has prayed for the students, faculty and administration of Sunset on a regular basis.



This spring, the school faculty gave some of their more challenging younger students a unique educational experience by challenging them to build race cars out of cardboard and duct tape. Our church provided the space and a few volunteers. About 100 students were in our building for 3 days of planning, building and painting. At the end of that week, the students raced their cars in the school gym. Several Calvary members were invited to attend. Two of our volunteers were asked to speak at the event and were able to inspire the students to

make the best of whatever situation life gave them.

One of the students came by the church the next week. She confided that she had been molested several years ago and was struggling with sexual identity issues. She was excited to know that Calvary would love her and minister to her. We shared the plan of salvation with her and she went home and prayed to receive Jesus that night! She was excited to tell us about it the next day.



A couple of weeks later, during Teacher Appreciation Week, we made cheeseburgers and took them to the staff during lunch time as a way to build more relationships. As a result, one teacher and his wife have attended our services. We are now working with the staff to plan additional ways we can serve them.