Calvary Episcopal Church’s mission is to make God’s love visible in downtown Memphis. The Friends of Music ministry seeks to make it visible by enhancing the sacred music of Calvary’s liturgies, while also opening the doors of Calvary to the larger community of the Mid-South for a variety of concert opportunities.

If you would like to become a Friend of Music, please contact Organist-Choirmaster Kristin Lensch: klensch@calvarymemphis.org or visit calvarymemphis.org/friends-of-music to donate via PayPal.

You also may contact one of the committee members: Desi Franklin, chair; Frank Anthony; Kell Christie; John Palmer; Katy Piecuch; and Dave Rupke.

EVENSONG
Sun., Sept. 8, 2019, 5:00 p.m.
also on Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Jan. 5, 2020, Feb. 2, March 1, April 5, May 3

Join us for a traditional Anglican choral liturgy in Calvary’s beautiful nave at twilight. “Choral Evensong is a 45-min long peace-inducing church service in which the ‘song’ of voices sounding together in harmony is heard at the ‘even’ point between the active day and restful night, allowing listeners time for restful contemplation–church members, agnostics and atheists alike.” (from choralevensong.org)

A SERVICE OF ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS
Sun., Dec. 1, 4:00 p.m.

Join us for a traditional candlelight service of scripture and song featuring the Calvary choirs, and prepare your heart for the birth of Christ.
Friends of Music at Calvary presents

AN EVENING WITH LILY AFSHAR
Friday, Sept. 27, 7:30 p.m.

Lily Afshar has broken barriers throughout her career. The first woman in the world to earn a doctorate in guitar performance, Afshar has developed an international reputation as performer, pedagogue, and recording artist. Her collaborative work with composers and artists has resulted in notable world premieres and seven CDs. Born in Iran to a musical family, she has also arranged and published Persian and Azerbaijani folk music for guitar. This remarkable woman is professor of guitar at The University of Memphis. Heavy hors d’oeuvres and beverages served.

Friends of Music at Calvary presents

THE FISK JUBILEE SINGERS IN CONCERT
Friday, Nov. 15, 7:30 p.m.

Fisk University opened in Nashville in 1866 as the first American university to offer a liberal arts education to “young men and women irrespective of color.” Five years later the school was in dire financial straits. George L. White, Fisk treasurer and music professor then, created a nine-member choral ensemble of students and took them on tour to earn money for the University. Eventually, enough money was raised to build the University’s first building. The ensemble continues to travel around the world, singing the Negro spiritual and representing Fisk University. Over the years, they have been invited to sing at the White House, won a Dove Award, and been inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame. Devoted to the development of amateur and volunteer choristers and musicians of every age level, Nicole has created organ and choral scholar programs, developed successful children’s choir programs, and has led choirs on tour. A festive reception follows this free concert.

Friends of Music at Calvary presents

STEUTERMAN-HARDISON CONCERT FEATURING NICOLE KELLER
Friday, Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m.

Nicole Keller is an active solo and chamber music recitalist and clinician. She is on faculty at the Baldwin Wallace University Conservatory of Music in Berea, Ohio where she teaches organ and harpsichord. She serves as associate Organist at Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland. Devoted to the development of amateur and volunteer choristers and musicians of every age level, Nicole has created organ and choral scholar programs, developed successful children’s choir programs, and has led choirs on tour. A festive reception follows this free concert.

Friends of Music at Calvary presents

IRIS ORCHESTRA IN THE GREAT HALL
Friday, April 24, 7:00 p.m.

Since 2000, IRIS Orchestra has boasted a stellar roster of talent from the leading orchestras, universities and chamber groups in the country, all of whom share a passionate commitment to the highest standards of performance. These virtuosic musicians have created an exhilarating laboratory for musical discovery. Join us for this exclusive chamber concert featuring IRIS string musicians, including the IRIS Artist Fellows, performing master chamber works.

HYMNATHON!
Sunday, May 24, 11:15 a.m.

Join the choirs after church for lunch and a Hymn Sing to start singing their way through the entire hymnal. A fundraiser for the 2021 St. Alban Cathedral residency, you will have the opportunity to bid to sing your favorite hymn, provided it is in The Hymnal 1982. Stay as long as you wish – it’s likely to last overnight!