

April/May 2017



CHRONICLE

The Newsletter of Calvary Episcopal Church
making God's love visible in downtown Memphis

calvarymemphis.org

All things Calvary

BY THE REV. F. M. "BUDDY" STALLINGS, PRIEST-IN-CHARGE



Buddy Stallings

Lent at Calvary has been all that it was trumped up to be. And more. I expected it to be busy almost as if nothing else happens at Calvary during Lent except LPS and Waffle Shop. Of course, that is not true. A parish mirrors the cycle of life for all of us, a process that continues every day in every season, days filled with moments of joy and sadness, of beginnings and endings, of devotion and distraction. But it is undoubtedly true that

Calvary's particular way of observing this season is somehow definitional for us as a parish. While it is true that one year's immersion in it does not qualify me to speak conclusively about how that works, even to a newcomer it is clear that the excitement, the fatigue, the inspiration, and the calories mysteriously coalesce into something wonderful not just for us but for people of faith throughout the surrounding area.

The juxtaposition of LPS and Waffle Shop is an extraordinary one. Downstairs there is what can only be described as joyousness (even among those who work like Trojans during these special weeks as waiters/waitresses, greeters, cooks, and many more roles about which I am too removed to know to name). It is a reunion, one that appears to be eagerly anticipated throughout the year and to be accompanied by a remarkable spirit of goodness and enjoyment that even the solemnity of Lent does not and should not diminish. The din of laughter and conversation warms my heart every day, even as the unapologetic fat and sugar content in the over-the-top meals enlarges my—ah—life! Anyone, who would argue that such activity is not appropriate in Lent, needs to give it another try or maybe just get a life. Lent does not (thank God) remove from us the knowledge that Easter is coming!

I have heard a good many sermons in my life, some with the attention span of a gnat and, of course, hanging on to every word of others, the latter occurring much less frequently. That

CALVARY continued on page 14

Save the Date!

Calvary's Parish Picnic in Court Square
Sunday, May 21
following the 10 a.m. worship service

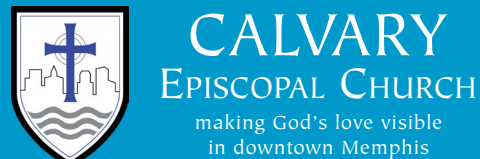
Barbecue, Music, Fun!
Memphis String Orchestra
All invited!
BBQ Lunch

(with vegetarian options)
\$10 adults, \$5 children, \$30 family

Bring your picnic blanket!

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Parish offices open Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Sunday Worship: 8 and 10 a.m.

Email clergy and staff with initial of first name followed by full last name@calvarymemphis.org
Example: bstallings@calvarymemphis.org

CLERGY

The Rev. F.M. "Buddy" Stallings	Priest-in-Charge
The Rev. Eyleen Farmer	Assoc. Rector
The Rev. Audrey Gonzalez	Asst. Priest
The Rev. Paul McLain	Assoc. Rector
The Rev. Neil Raman	Curate

ASSISTING CLERGY

The Venerable Mimsy Jones	901-685-6916
The Rev. Canon Bill Kolb	901-438-0751

VESTRY

Warden's Committee: Fred Piper, *Sr. Warden* (3) • Margaret Craddock, *Jr. Warden* (2) • Tony Graves, *At Large* (2) • Hall Gardner, *Treasurer* • Hank Word, *Clerk* (1)

Sarah Ball (1) • Julie Bethell (2) • Chris Bird (2) • Jan Gwin (3) • Claudia Haltom (3) • Gail Harrell (1) • Palmer Jones (2) • Donovan Smith (3) • Les Smith • Sarah Squire (2) • Peg Wahl (1)

PARISH STAFF

Robyn Banks (312-5207)	Dir. of Communications
Kayla Bartosch (312-5206)	Minister to Youth
Issiah Carroll (525-6602)	Kitchen Assistant
Hilary Chipley (312-5203)	Dir. of Children & Youth
Lynda Gayle Deacon (312-5208)	Music Admin & Event Coordinator
Fred Goldsmith (525-6602)	Information Officer
Melissa Elsholz (312-5212)	St. Cecilia Choir Director
Kristin Lensch (312-5212)	Organist-Choirmaster
Mary O'Brien (312-5211)	Parish Chef
Katie Owen (312-5205)	Parish Administrator
John Palmer (312-5208)	Asst. Organist-Choirmaster
Ebet Peeples (312-5201)	Welcome & Community
Helario Reyna (312-5202)	Facilities Manager
Gary Thompson (525-6602)	Sexton
Christine Todd (312-5214)	Comm. Ministries Coord.
Cindy Yeager (312-5204)	Bookkeeper

Eagle Scout through and through

BY KAYLA BARTOSCH, MINISTER TO YOUTH

“Be prepared” is the motto of the Boy Scouts, which is exactly how Matthew Martin felt when he decided to take on his Eagle Scout project on Saturday, February 11. “I heard that Thistle & Bee needed some new planters in the MIFA Garden. So, that’s what I did” said a humble Matthew. Matthew was in charge of 18 volunteers who came in shifts throughout the day to help build 2 planters from scratch and rebuild some of the others that were in the plot. “I knew how to use the tools and I had the leadership skills to do this project. I learned these through Boy Scouts,” Matthew grinned.

Matthew Martin comes from a long line of Boy Scouts. He belongs to Troop #34 which originally started at Calvary and is now based out of Grace-St. Luke’s Episcopal Church. “He has Boy Scouts in his blood. Matthew will make the 10th Eagle Scout in the family” chimed in his mother Kendra Martin. After Matthew attends a masters conference and has the board review his merit badges, he will join: 4 uncles, 2 cousins, his grandfather, his father, and his older brother as an Eagle Scout. Right now, only 2-5% of Boy Scouts become Eagle Scouts. This family is such a great example of how to keep the Boy Scout tradition thriving.

After you become an Eagle Scout, then what? Matthew plans to continue as a leader in his Boy Scout troop and earn palms for his Eagle Scout badge. An eagle scout can earn a palm when they complete five merit badges every three months until they are 18 years old. “The palm ranking is a little different. The lowest is bronze, with gold as second, and silver as the highest” explained Matthew.

When asked what has kept Matthew motivated since starting in 1st grade, he answered, “It is fun! As I got older I could do more things. My troop is very active and we actually get to do stuff. We go camping, go to public events, and help in the community.”



Once upon a time—it had to have been late autumn—I wandered into Calvary Church for the first time. I had read about a special service for people living with AIDS in the newspaper, and I had a dear friend who had AIDS. He lived far away, and I didn't know of anything I could do except offer a prayer on his behalf. So I came. The nave was full of people I didn't know. There was stirring music and a soulful sermon and candlelight. At the end, people in the congregation were invited to come to the altar rail and ask one of a dozen waiting clergy to say a prayer for our loved one. I joined the long line of people in front of me, and as I moved forward, slowly, I became quite overcome—with love for my friend, Ronnie, and with gratitude for a church willing to offer itself to the community so generously, and in those days, so bravely. By the time it was my turn, tears were streaming down my cheeks.

I don't remember who the clergy person was, nor do I remember a word he said. But I remember the gentle pressure of hands on my shoulders and the feeling of being held. And I will never forget how that feeling helped me somehow to hold my share of the sorrow we all shared.

That experience was on an October night sometime in the 1980s. In subsequent years I would come to Calvary many more times, usually during Lent to listen

to a preacher and have lunch in the Waffle Shop. I loved it! It never once occurred to me that one day, through a series of circumstances so surprising I could not possibly have orchestrated them, I would return to Calvary, not as a star-struck visitor, but as a priest. If you ever have all day and want to know, I can tell you about the whole wild ride. I have served Calvary Church with joy.

Now I am in another autumn, and the unexpected turns in the road continue. In June I will transition from full-time to part-time status, and by December 2017 I will fully retire. This means that beginning this June I won't be in church every Sunday, and my portfolio of responsibilities will change somewhat. This change will allow me to give Thistle & Bee the attention it needs while maintaining close ties for a while longer to this beloved place. It also will make possible more time with other beloveds in my life.

Calvary has been through many seasons, and as we anticipate the arrival of a new rector, I believe we are beginning a brand-new springtime. I look forward to watching, along with all of you, the newness God has in mind for us.



Eyleen Farmer

presented by

Friends of Music at
Calvary Episcopal Church

Music from Stax Academy

THURSDAY,
MAY 4
AT 7 PM
CALVARY
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

Corner of 2nd
& Adams,
Downtown

calvarymemphis.org
901-525-6602

Work Local: a cleaner city; a brighter future

BY JARAD BINGHAM, FRIEND OF CALVARY, WORK LOCAL AND THE HOSPITALITY HUB



Jarad Bingham

Last month the Work Local program made the Mayor's state of the city address. The phone lines were pinging nonstop. I met Robert Knecht, the director of Public Works, on Channel Three Drive for *Live at Nine* with Marybeth Connolly. We recorded a segment with Bev Johnson on WDIA at iHeart media. *High Ground News* asked for interviews for a big story. Marybeth texted to ask if we could bring a participant from Work Local to a taping of her Faith Friday's segment on KWAM-90. I immediately thought of AJ.

AJ was around the Hub from late summer last year. He would sip coffee and check things out, usually holding a basketball.

"Do you play?"
"Some."

He was quietly observing. Unobtrusive. You might say guarded. I later learned that he carried the basketball as part of a lifelong Tai Chi practice, but that was after he went out on the van.

AJ would ask, politely, every few days, "So when is this work van going to start up?" And we'd tell him whatever the latest delay was.

Finally in November, we were cleared to begin, and AJ signed on for the very first trip. I'll never forget what he looked like coming back in from a day picking up litter and trash from the city's highways. He was smiling broadly, all that reservation—reticence—from before, vanished beneath the newly-surfaced autonomy of having earned his way. We were equals.

The next day he came back to the Hub for intake, and we helped him land a real job. I asked him later what inspired him to finally open up to the work of the Hospitality Hub.

"Trust."
"You think the work van helped you trust the Hub?"
"I think I needed to be able to do something for myself

before I was able to trust ya'll to help me out."

"Yeah."

"I didn't know about all the good you all do—until I went out on that van. It changed me."

"What do you mean?"

"Meeting all these good people at the Hub, caring people, made me less about myself. Now I want to help other people."

For some people, Work Local is enough of a carrot to overcome whatever barriers they bring to the process of self-evaluation and life mapping that is the Hospitality Hub's bread and butter. Since November, we've seen 53 new clients after Work Local shifts, nearly half the number of total participants. (15 percent are already working with us, leaving around 35 percent who don't sit through intake.) Of those 53 new clients, we've placed 80 percent with post-shelter programs and services to build toward more stable lives.



We were funded through Public Works for a one-year pilot, and there are talks afoot to fold our crews into the permanent budget. Most mornings before 9 a.m., when I'm still drinking coffee, our crews have picked up their first two dozen bags of trash, six tires, and an old sofa. They had the single biggest day, measured by pounds of garbage, since Public Works began keeping track of those things. To pay a crew for a day's work costs the city \$450; it's possible that rate is worth its weight on the fair market. In case it isn't though, we're raising money from the private sector. To add a third day for a calendar year costs \$23,400, roughly the take from Lobsterpalooza. We have a big fundraiser at Loflin yard April 27 to raise that much again, effectively doubling the reach of the program.

The other benefit to private fundraising, of course, is that it demonstrates support from the public, and that generates political will. If we show, for example, that 1,000 individual citizens have given \$45, or one worker's daily pay, then we are

demonstrating to our public leadership that their community believes in these kinds of progressive solutions to entrenched problems. You can help at ioby.org/project/work.

Restaurateurs are lining up. Miss Cordelia's, Aldos, McEwens, The Brass Door, The Peabody, The Little Tea Shop, The Rendezvous, and your own kitchen at Calvary are volunteering hot lunches one workday a month. If the program scales to five full days, that'll be 30 restaurants committed to helping provide a better way for the extremely poor in Memphis.

What other elegant solutions are out there, just beyond our imaginations, that might bring our city together for the good? What is the role of a faith community in helping to provoke the risks involved with reaching out for an untried thing? What is your role?

I can answer for myself. Last year at this time, in response to Calvary's convocation of community leaders to hear about a way to put homeless people to work and reduce blight, I simply showed up. I took a few notes, and asked a question or two. I leaned in when I might have pulled back, and found myself talking about how we could maybe help pull it off. I became comfortable living in the not-yet, and eventually, solid enough in its promise to ride out waves of detractors and postponements. When the first crews came back with their heads a little higher and their shoulders back and the solution we had dreamed was standing there flesh and blood, I became evangelical. Here's to the hope that each one of us finds his or her good news this year to lean into until the work takes hold and is better for it.



An invitation to worship

By Neil Raman, Curate



Neil Raman

In the weeks leading up to Lent, I was told over and over again that Holy Week would feel like a break in comparison to the Lenten Preaching Series and Waffle Shop. And having experienced a few weeks of Calvary during Lent I do not doubt what I have been told at all.

In the relative quiet and stillness that will fall over Calvary after the last waffle

has been made and the last plate of Fish Pudding has been served, another sort of intensity will begin to make itself known. We will stand on the precipice of the three most important days of the church's year of Grace. We will begin our final preparations for our Paschal feast. Just as we make our private preparations for the Easter celebration, the Church makes public preparation in the way of the Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil liturgies. These three days present us with one liturgy in three parts. One extended three-day service that captures the pathos and despair of Jesus betrayal and Passion before leading us out of that darkness into the light of Easter at the Vigil.

This week reminds us that no part of the story of Jesus' life can be taken on its own. It is incoherent to contemplate Christ's resurrection without also contemplating his betrayal and death, his life and his new commandment to us that we love one another as he has loved us, his incarnation and God's radical desire to be present with us in the mundaneness and ordinariness of our lives as human beings. Our Holy Week liturgies remind us of this fact in a visceral way. The liturgies are designed not only for us to commemorate but for us to participate.

On Maundy Thursday we wash one another's feet and strip the altar, on Good Friday we venerate and contemplate the Cross, and at the Great Vigil of Easter we move, quite literally, from darkness into light and through the waters of baptism proclaiming the mighty works that God in Jesus Christ has accomplished for the whole world. As we participate we are changed. The fact of the matter is that the events commemorated and celebrated in these three days defy explanation. Try as we might, theological language will always fall short of revealing the glory of the Paschal Mystery. It is for this reason that we participate. For in

our participation we begin to glimpse the depth and breadth of what it all means. Through our participation, we can most fully experience the joy of the Easter Feast because we experience it in the context of all that came before it.

On Ash Wednesday the Church extended an invitation to a Holy Lent. It was an invitation to preparation and repentance and I want to make another invitation to you now. As we approach the close of this Lenten season I invite you to join in the Church's Holy Week observances. Walk

with us as we walk with Christ. Experience the betrayal and the anguish of the Passion and then experience the utter joy of the Easter proclamation at the Vigil. But if you can't, worry not, there is no doubt that Easter will come for each of us regardless of whether or not we were able to attend Holy Week liturgies. No question that Christ's resurrection from the dead and our new life in him is in no way dependent on us. I hope to see each of you at Calvary's Holy Week liturgies and look forward to proclaiming Jesus' resurrection with you on Easter Sunday.

As we approach the close of this Lenten season I invite you to join in the Church's Holy Week observances. Walk with us as we walk with Christ. Experience the betrayal and the anguish of the Passion and then experience the utter joy of the Easter proclamation at the Vigil.

Walking with Jesus: a Holy Week reflection

By Sarah Squire, Calvary Parishioner

I've been singing in an Episcopal Church choir since my youth, and I'm not sure I remember a time that I haven't been involved in Holy Week services. Holy Week has always been a very special week to me, and Easter would not be the same without it. I can't imagine resurrection without the rest of the story, and Holy Week provides me with some answers.

My favorite service of the year is Maundy Thursday. After the welcome that Jesus received as he walked into Jerusalem, as remembered on Palm Sunday, we are sent to a small room. Friends are sharing a meal together, and Jesus shows them, again and again, a different way—a humble, loving, life-altering way. But this time, Jesus will no longer be with them to show them the path. The stripping of the altar has always been an emotional experience for me. The lights fade, and the sanctuary is left bare. I can't help but be reminded of this song: "Jesus walked this lonesome valley; he had to walk it by himself; oh, nobody else, could walk it for him; he had to walk it by himself."

But I choose to believe that we are walking with Jesus through this story. The story continues with Good Friday and the crucifixion. Darkness has come, and we feel it, too. "Were you there when they crucified my Lord; were you there when they crucified my Lord; sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble; were you there when they crucified my Lord?"

We wait with Mary and the disciples, and God is with us. We know that light comes out of darkness, and we are assured by the hope of resurrection. "Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul, and sings the tune without the words, and never stops at all." Those beginning lines

from a poem by Emily Dickinson give me great comfort as I can always see a glimmer of light in darkness. Hope doesn't stop.

We see that hope in the light of the Easter Vigil service. Things are not the same. Things are ever changing from the beginning and forever. Christ has risen! The Lord is risen indeed! The church lights are up, bells are ringing, and we are not alone. Love has come again!

I invite you to join me in this story during Holy Week as we walk together with Jesus.



Sarah Squire



JOURNEY THROUGH HOLY WEEK TO EASTER

BEGIN



Palm Sunday, April 9 *8 & 10 am worship service

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, the day we remember Jesus' humble yet triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We begin with the Litany of the Palms (outdoors around the front steps at the 10 a.m. worship service). Both the 8 and 10 a.m. worship services will feature a dramatic reading of Christ's passion story from the Gospel of Matthew. A hot cross bun reception will be held in the Great Hall following the 10 a.m. service.

Good Friday, April 14

*11 am, *12 and 7 pm

Good Friday is the day we remember Jesus' death on the cross.

The JOY Chapter of the DOK will present "The Women of the Passion. A Journey to the Cross" at 11 a.m. Experience the walk Jesus made on his way to the cross through the eyes of the women who loved, admired, and respected him, and never left his side as he was betrayed. This powerful service allows us to reflect on that painful journey as women such as Mary Magdalene, Mary (mother of Jesus), and the wife of Simon of Cyrene (who carried Jesus' cross for him) from the moment He was condemned to the moment it was discovered that the tomb was empty. All are invited to participate.

The Good Friday services at 12 and 7 p.m. will offer worshippers a quiet time for reflection and prayer. Calvary's youth will participate in "live stations of the cross" for children age 4–10 in the education hallway during the 12 p.m. worship service. Children will follow the children's cross to the education hallway during the procession of the 12 p.m. service.



Holy Saturday: Easter Eve, April 15 7 pm The Great Vigil of Easter, followed by the Paschal Party

The Easter Vigil marks the movement from darkness to light as we celebrate the hope given us by Christ's empty tomb. We gather to light the New Fire, hear readings chronicling God's saving deeds in history, and celebrate the first Eucharist of Easter. Following the service, the celebration continues at the Paschal Party in the Great Hall.



The Labyrinth 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday

Calvary's labyrinth will be available in the Great Hall for private walks and meditations. Labyrinths are archetypal forms found in various shapes on all inhabited land masses on earth. They have a single path leading to the center and back out again. Walking a labyrinth may bring clarity, peace or centeredness. Calvary's canvas labyrinth is a smaller version of the one embedded in the nave of Chartres Cathedral in France. If your group would like to schedule a facilitated walk, contact Lynda Gayle Deacon, 901-312-5208 or Ideacon@calvarymemphis.org.



Maundy Thursday, April 13 7 pm

On Maundy Thursday, we remember Jesus' last supper in which he served his friends by washing their feet and instituting the sacrament of his body and blood. During the liturgy, we will experience foot washing, the sacrament of Holy Eucharist, and the stripping of the altar. After the liturgy, the labyrinth will be available in the Great Hall until 9 p.m.



Easter Day, April 16 *7:30 am Traditional Eucharist Sunrise Service *9 & *11 am Festival Eucharist with brass

Easter morning celebrates the risen Christ with songs and shouts of Alleluia! Celebrate the joy of new life! Children are encouraged to bring a flower to adorn the cross.

*Childcare for children 5 and under will be available beginning 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the service.

ADDITIONAL HOLY WEEK INFORMATION

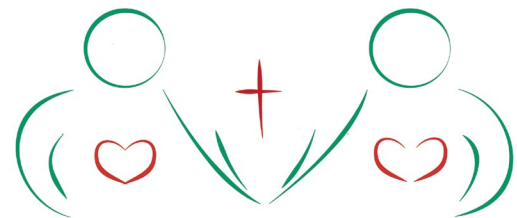
RECONCILIATION OF A PENITENT
Although it is our practice to corporately confess sins during the Eucharist, the **Book of Common Prayer** provides the opportunity for a sacramental confession made privately in the presence of a priest. Many find this liturgy to be meaningful in this season, especially during Holy Week. If you so desire, please contact any member of the clergy to schedule a time for confession and absolution, using the rite for the Reconciliation of a Penitent, found on p. 417 in the Prayer Book.

FORMATION CLASSES
Classes will not meet on Palm Sunday nor Easter Day. Classes for all ages will resume on Sunday, April 23.

KOINONIA
Koinonia dinner and classes will not be offered on Wednesday of Holy Week, April 12; however, the Calvary Choir will rehearse. New Koinonia adult classes and dinner will resume on Wednesday, April 19.

CALVARY OFFICES
Calvary's offices will close at noon on Good Friday, April 14, and will reopen on Tuesday, April 18. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call 901-525-6602, and dial 3.

FORMATION: GIVING OUR SOULS AND BODIES



During our preparation for Holy Week and our time of celebration during the Easter season, we continue our adult Christian formation journey in "Giving our Souls and Bodies." Our theme is based on a line in the Holy Eucharist, Rite I, Prayer I, "and here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee." For Christians, we are called to seek wholeness, wellness, and holiness

in the totality of our lives—heart, soul, strength and mind. We do this by intentionally seeking God in our daily lives by allowing God and our faith to be our compass in all dimensions of that life. When our Christian communities focus on wellness and healing and people within those communities speak honestly with one another and support one another, we all have a better chance of being who God dreams us to be. We also contribute to the wholeness and wellness of the community and world around us.

We will prepare for Holy Week by learning spiritual practices for our walk with Christ and exploring the gift of working with a spiritual director. During the Easter season, we will look at ways to live out our faith in body, mind, and soul through our communal relationship with food, adopting a rule of life, and inviting Sabbath into our often harried lives.

SUNDAYS in the GREAT HALL



Linda Douty
Mischke

Spiritual Direction and Practices for Holy Week and Beyond April 2

Author and retreat leader Linda Douty Mischke will help us prepare our hearts, minds, and souls for Holy Week by inviting us into spiritual practices as we enter this time of sacred journey with Christ. Linda also will describe the practice of spiritual direction and the benefits of meeting regularly with a trained guide to deepen your walk with God.

April 9 – Palm Sunday (Formation classes will not meet)

April 16 – Easter (Formation classes will not meet)



Noah Campbell

Emerging Structures in Memphis for Church- Supported Agriculture April 23

The Rev. Noah Campbell, who is a priest, certified permaculture gardener, and director of the Memphis Center for Food and Faith, will lead us in exploring food justice and creation care. Noah works to invest assets into social structures to support a strong, equitable local food economy and to benefit those whose livelihood and land-tenure demands honest profits over time. He challenges parishes to harness their collective eating power and trade with emergent structures to cultivate a viable pathway for sustained reconciliation with land and neighbor, embodying reconciliation as both discipleship and witness.

Rules of Life: Not Just for Monastics: April 30

The phrase "rule of life" may evoke images of monks and nuns living in community, holding most everything in common, and praying multiple times each day but there is more to it than just that. Join the Rev. Neil Raman in exploring the spirituality of two ancient "rules of life" and discover how they might still be applicable to us today as we think about crafting "rules of life" for ourselves.



Neil Raman

The Sabbath: A Gift to Work For: May 7

According to our biblical texts, the Sabbath is a gift from God. But the sages of Judaism understood that it would take great effort to truly enjoy it as such. Rabbi Katie Bauman of Temple Israel will lead us in exploring some of the most significant ideas of Jewish tradition on how to find true rest and how these ideas might inform our modern lives.



Katie Bauman

May 14 – Youth Sunday and Mother's Day (Formation classes will not meet)

May 21 – Parish Picnic! (Formation classes will not meet)

SUNDAYS in MONTGOMERY FOYER

Bible Study: Feb. 12 – May 7

Each week join the Venerable Mimsy Jones and the Rev. Paul McLain as they lead a series of discussions centered on the biblical basis for wellness and wholeness. We continue to mine the practical wisdom offered in the Book of Proverbs. The study is structured so that you may enter it at any time.

SUNDAYS in EMISON ROOM

Middle East Study Group: March 5 – May 7

This group continues the discussion and exploration of the roots of Islam and the complex issues behind the history of conflict in the Palestinian territories/Israel that began in our Great Hall series in February. Dr. Nabil Bayakly and Alice Shands are leading these sessions.

WEDNESDAYS in the MONTGOMERY FOYER

Faith and Current Events: Jan. 4-May 17

Calvary parishioner Matt Seltzer leads a timely discussion that looks at how we as faithful people can both respond to and shape the events happening in our community, nation, and world.

Special Faith and Current Events Class on Preventing Gun Violence

April 26 in Mural Room, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Representative of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense will offer Be SMART, an educational gun safety and storage presentation for adults. The presentation, endorsed by the national PTA and the TN Department of Safety and Homeland Security, is extremely practical and completely apolitical. As there are 2 million children living in homes with unsecured guns in our country and we have already had an unintentional shooting of a child in Memphis this year, safe gun storage is an important and urgent issue for all adults. We will learn ways to reduce the epidemic of gun violence in our community and country.

WEDNESDAYS in the GREAT HALL

Discovery Class: April 19 - May 17

Discovery is designed to give Calvary newcomers and members the opportunity to explore our Episcopal tradition and connect with others in the Calvary community. This course will be co-led by the Rev. Buddy Stallings and the Rev. Neil Raman. This year in the context of the broad conversation about values currently occurring in our society, we will examine what it is that makes us who and how we are as people of faith, looking particularly at how our Anglican faith and practice shape our response to the world. Learn or be reminded of how prayer in the form of common worship informs our actions in the world. Conversation will be lively and open-ended. While some answers will emerge, learning to live creatively and hopefully in the presence of sacred questions is our deepest hope. Dinner will be served in the Great Hall at 6 p.m. (\$6) and the class will end by 7:30 p.m. A nursery for children 5 and under will be available while we meet. Contact Ebet Peebles at eppebles@calvarymemphis.org or 901-312-5201 by Friday, April 14, to sign up.

Vestry Reflection

By CLAUDIA HALTOM, VESTRY CLASS OF 2017



I absolutely LOVE Waffle Shop! I live for Fish Pudding and chicken salad with aspic. Plus, Linda Nelson and I are the makers of the CRUNCH that is sprinkled on top of the Boston Cream pie. The top secret ingredient is.....shhhhhh sugar!

Why does Waffle Shop matter? I believe it is the mayonnaise that holds together the Lenten Preaching Series. And, I believe that both the preaching and the Waffle Shop together are critical to the life of Calvary. This is what keeps our name in front of the public and at a time when downtown, historic churches have been losing ground and shrinking, it is the Lenten Preaching Series and Waffle Shop as a team that keep Calvary as a brand and a church visible, viable and alive in the community. Without both, together, linked at the hip, Calvary could easily fall into the “old church” category, where people have funerals but not weddings. The food is worth the trip downtown in the middle of the day. But, the speaking is who we are. It defines Calvary as a God-loving, people-loving, diverse, open-minded group of believers.

As a vestry, we strongly support all aspects of this venerable tradition at Calvary and have recommitted ourselves to volunteer, attend, worship, eat, and spread the word. We recognize the Lenten Preaching Series as an outstanding gift to the faith community of Memphis and pledge our continued support to fund excellent speakers, and we urge the parish to show its deepest support as well.



Boston Cream Pie is one of the most popular desserts in Calvary's Waffle Shop.

At the monthly vestry meetings we also get updates from the Rector Search Committee. The committee is moving forward at a breakneck snails pace, and we are told where the committee is in the process of deciding, without detailing the potential candidates’ names. Of course, it is the candidate names we want, because we all want to race home and Google those candidates. But, the vestry is not in the business of micromanaging the search committee. They are working hard, doing their job, and I know that they will give us a great new rector.

The budget is a critical part of every vestry meeting. Under the leadership of Buddy Stallings, our priest-in-charge, it is all good. The lights are still on, the bills are being paid and real lemon is served with the iced tea. The news is that we are considering purchasing from the city the corner property that was Columbus Park. We also have voted to renovate the little building that we own on Jefferson Street that used to be the Nachos Restaurant. For now, it will be used by Grizzlies Prep. And, the good news is that we can pay for these improvements along with some other much needed building maintenance that will give our new rector a church building that is in great shape for another 100 years.

Supporting Buddy during his tenure as priest-in-charge has been an easy vestry job. He has kept us focused, in the middle of the road with no loose cannons on deck. No easy task for an Episcopal church. Thank you, Buddy.

A new chapter with a new rector is about to begin. It is exciting and I look forward to the spiritual leadership that this will bring.



The pews are packed for Rabbi Micah Greenstein during Calvary's Lenten Preaching Series.

Special Friends

By HILARY CHIPLEY, DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

Last spring, I was invited to take part in a steering committee to develop an Episcopal fellowship program for adults with disabilities. This program is the brain child of Holy Communion parishioner, Janie Morris, and Grace-St. Luke's parishioner, Justin Miller. Janie identified the need for a worship and fellowship group for adults with disabilities after her own son, Walker, aged out of the Young Life group. She turned to her church.

The committee was comprised of talented and accomplished clergy and lay people from the Memphis Episcopal world. I was honored and excited to be asked to be a part of this committee and when the first meeting came I was ready to plan and rearing to go.... and I was completely humbled. I was not so sure what or how exactly I could contribute. I offered to do some homework for our group and to educate myself. I met with lay ministers from Christ United Methodist Church and other large Christian churches in town who lead an adults with disabilities group called JOY 901 as well as leaders from Young Life. After a few steering committee meetings of discussion and debate, Justin Miller said, “Let’s just do this.”

Things began to fall into place. All Saints Episcopal Church on the corner of White Station and Quince became our permanent host. Holy Communion, Calvary, Grace-St. Luke's, and Holy Apostles agreed to co-host events. Janie and Justin developed an Episcopal chapel service to begin every Special Friends events. Annunciation, St. George's, St.

Andrew's, Germantown Presbyterian, and the diocesan EYCs came on board to co-host. A model was developed where responsibilities are shared.

Special Friends Fellowship Group now meets twice a month and has 15 to 25 regular attendees. The adults that we serve are hungry for an Episcopal service and fellowship. Special Friends offers a safe and fun environment, where events are not too big, and not too small. Members of this group, pray together, share a meal, and participate in activities tailored to their special needs. Janie and Justin had a vision. I believe that God placed me and other volunteers in this group to help their vision become a reality. We hear the saying “It takes a village” all the time because it is true. While that saying may be overused, there is no better way to say it. It takes many people, with different ideas and opinions and experiences to make God’s work *work*. And then, like Justin said, you just do it.

The next Special Friends Fellowship group event dates are April 9, April 30, May 7, and May 21. Contact Janie Morris at morrishome1@bellsouth.net if you would like to volunteer. Calvary will co-host May 21. Please contact me, hchingley@calvarymemphis.org, if you would like to help that day.



Calvary volunteers at a Special Friends gathering.

CALVARY continued from page 1

is true for most of us, I expect, a truth that both humbles and terrifies every preacher, who has a drop of sense. For those of us who lead worship every week, including often climbing into the pulpit, LPS is a rare experience. Preachers, for a variety of reasons, most of which are our therapeutic issues, are slow to rave about another's sermonizing, certainly to do so genuinely. Though I was pleased with our lineup of preachers, I have been surprised (not a nice thing to admit about myself) at how moving and challenging I have found the sermons to be. Mercifully, I have been able most of the time to get beyond wishing that I had said or written that and have just luxuriated in the gift of extraordinary preaching.

Without exception, every sermon has contained not a small dose of challenge to us as people attempting to live faithfully in a very complicated world during a particularly complicated era. In a delightful variety of ways but with great similarity, these preachers have called us to capaciousness of spirit, mind, and heart. The fact that all have done so without arrogance but with humility and acknowledgment of the narrowness of the road along which we are called to journey has moved me deeply both as a preacher and as a worshipper.

Now, of course, we turn our eyes toward the mystery and surprise of Easter—mystery because it is thoroughly beyond explanation and surprise because it is always wonderment when death is denied the last word. What we know is that the Christ of our faith lives beyond the death and burial of Jesus. Our claim that Christ lives in our

hearts is irrefutable, of course at times more obviously and believably than others, but ultimately irrefutable for it is our experience. What the preachers during Lent reminded us again and again is that it is by our loving actions to others that we demonstrate and bear witness to the truth of Easter to ourselves and indeed to the world.

Wonderful friends of Calvary, I believe that you know these truths in your hearts. Our walk together through Lent this year has had the particular poignancy of occurring during a search for a new rector. As one privileged to lead during this transition, it is important to me that I tell you how faithfully I am experiencing your journey. No matter how we package an interim period, it is unsettling; and, yet, your attendance and giving, your joyfulness and enthusiasm, and your seriousness about the issues and tasks before you have shown me again and again the depth of this venerable place in downtown Memphis. While the future of Calvary Episcopal Church is solid, you know that no parish, not even one as strong and vibrant as ours,

is impervious to the challenges facing the church in this era. But with all my heart, I believe that you are prepared to set the sail for this fine vessel of God into generations that follow. Above all else, this is an exciting time, a time of new direction and revitalization. You are ready for the next phase of your common life at Calvary.

In that knowledge, it is with great affection and respect that I wish you the holiest and most joyful experience of the Great Fifty Days of Easter. Alleluia, Christ is Risen!

“...it is by our loving actions to others that we demonstrate and bear witness to the truth of Easter to ourselves and indeed to the world.”

Community Breakfast Angels

Thank you to these generous "angels" for their support of Calvary's Community Breakfast initiative. Please consider adding your name or your honoree's name. Your gift of \$500 makes this ministry possible each Sunday.

- January 2017:** anonymous in honor of David Balling and Mary Nease, Community Breakfast leaders

February 2017: Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

March 2017: Desi Franklin
- April 2017:** anonymous in honor of Mary Murphy

May 2017: anonymous in honor of Mary Murphy

June 2017: Your name here

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2 Sunday Evensong
Come worship in Calvary's beautiful nave at twilight. Join us for traditional Anglican choral liturgies offered at 5 p.m. on the first Sunday of the month.

April 9-15: Holy Week & Easter Sunday - Sunday Palm Sunday, Labyrinth, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, and Easter Day
See p. 8-9

April 15 Saturday Easter Egg Hunt
See back cover.

April 23 Sunday Welcome Class
Come to the Library at 11:15 a.m. for a Welcome Class. Our Welcome Class is open to anyone—seekers, newcomers to the Episcopal Church, or newcomers to this parish. It is intended to help people discover what we are about and to help them discern whether this is the place where they can best grow in their relationship with God and their ability to serve the world. If you can't attend and want to learn more, contact Ebet Peeples, eepeples@calvarymemphis.org or 901-312-5201.

April 29 Saturday Emmanuel Center Carnival
The ECW will sponsor the annual Emmanuel Center Carnival from Noon to 2 p.m. in the courtyard at the Emmanuel Center property in South Memphis. The event allows children of the neighborhood to participate in games and

enjoy snacks and entertainment, something these children rarely experience. The Center's clients are residents of the 38126 ZIP Code in South Memphis—one of the poorest communities in the nation. Poverty runs rampant here, along with trends in drugs, school cuts, and crime. Almost two-thirds live at or below the poverty line—including a third who scrape by at 50 percent of the poverty level (less than \$12,000 a year for a family of four). This event is a bright spot these children's lives. If you are interested in volunteering or have items to donate (children's books or art supplies) contact Camille Gamble at 901-237-2881 or auburn92@gmail.com.

May 4 Thursday Music from Stax Academy
Friends of Music of Calvary is proud to present musicians of Stax Academy in concert at 7 p.m. The legacy of Memphis soul carries on today through the talent and ambition of the STAX Music Academy, existing to nurture the next generation of great soul communicators from our region. Students have performed for celebrities and dignitaries, such as Oprah Winfrey and Bill Clinton.

May 21 Sunday Parish Picnic
See front cover.

May 24 Wednesday Volunteer Thank You Reception
Calvary does what it does in our community because of the volunteers. All ministry leaders are invited to celebrate the many ministries of Calvary and the volunteer leadership that makes things happen.

WEDDING BELLS

February 11, 2017, Miller Crenshaw & Hunter Cowan
February 25, 2017, Sarah Harrison & Justin Stradley

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Anna Gregory & Terrence Bishop
Katie & John Owen

SAINTS DEPARTED

Ruth Amundson Bedient, aunt of John Palmer
Hilda Boeving, grandmother of Ben Boeving and Blair Cannon
Polly Brown
Melanie Ruth Carlson, daughter of Ralph & Dixie Carlson, friend of Liz Browne
Dorothy Daugherty, aunt of Clayton Peeples
Kathy Embry, sister of Betsy Kelly

Dr. Robert Clayton Ford
Charles Guion, friend of Len Grice
Dan Hill
Andrew Jobe, friend of Donovan Smith
Charles A. Loftiss, father of Neil Loftiss
Madison Morgan, daughter of Trinity Kindel
Judy Odom, friend of Len & Nina Grice
Elizabeth Beazely Renner, sister of Daphne Boyle
Lucy Williford, granddaughter of Lucy Lee



CHRONICLE

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Calvary Episcopal Church • making God's love visible in downtown Memphis

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 15 at 10 a.m.

Rain or Shine!

The Metal Museum

**Don't forget your basket and be on
the lookout for the golden egg!**

