

CHRONICLE

making God's love visible in downtown Memphis

Advent 2023



making God's love visible in downtown Memphis

The Rt. Rev. Phoebe Roaf

The Rev. Scott Walters

Bishop, Diocese of West TN

PARISH OFFICES ARE OPEN WEEKDAYS 8:30 A.M.-4:00 P.M.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8 a.m. Rite I Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. Rite II Holy Eucharist 5 p.m. Evensong first Sundays, Sept.-May 6 p.m. Contemplative Eucharist

E-mail clergy and staff with initial of first name followed by full last name@calvarymemphis.org Example: swalters@calvarymemphis.org

> The Rev. Audrey Gonzalez Assisting Priest

The Rev. Mimsy Jones Deacon

VESTRY

Rector

CLERGY

Zachary R. Ferguson Sr. Warden

Ben Boeving Jr. Warden

Greta Cooper Young Warden at Large

Shannon Tucker Warden at Large

Cathy Awsumb

Franklin Barton

STAFF

Robvn Banks Director of Communications

Jocelyn Busby Director of Children and Family Ministries

Jeremy Demarest Director of Youth Ministries

Jackson Hearn Associate Organist

38103

David Cocke Kate Connell Elizabeth Crosby Terri Dulaney Jessica Flynn Len Grice Chloie Madden

Youth Representative

Richard Hendricks Facilities Manager

Mary Honey Information Officer

Kristin Lensch Organist-Choirmaster

Monica Marshall Sexton

Mary O'Brien Parish Chef

Jerry Scruggs

Brie Wallace

Clay Woemmel

Madge Deacon

Clerk

Erik Ball

Treasurer

Brennan Seltzer

Youth Representative

Ebet Peeples Director of Welcome & Community

Steve Smith Director of Finance & Operations

Christine Todd Director of *Community* Ministries

Advent Lessons & Carols Dec. 3 at 5:00 p.m.

This Festival Eucharist is family friendly and features music led by the Calvary Choir and Join us in our newly renovated nave for a traditional candlelight service of scripture and trumpet. Nursery care will be offered for song featuring all the Calvary choirs and a string children under 5. This service will be livestreamed. quartet.

Dec. 6 at 5:15 p.m.

Feast of St. Nicholas Christmas Eve at 10:30 p.m. This service begins with congregational Observe the Feast of St. Nicholas with a liturgy caroling and choral anthems. A Festival designed with little people in mind! All are Eucharist follows at 11 p.m. and reflects the glory and beauty of the story of Christ's birth invited for a song, a story, and a simple communion service. Stay for dinner and more, or with hallmarks of Anglican worship-candlelight head home for bedtime. and incense.

Emmanuel Meal

Thursday, Dec. 21 at noon

The Emmanuel Meal is an opportunity for Calvary parishioners of all ages to work together to serve our neighbors experiencing poverty and homelessness a delicious homemade seated meal with music, joy, and gifts.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Dec. 24 at 9 a.m.

We will offer one combined service in the Great Hall. There will be no parish breakfast or formation classes.

Christmas Eve at 3:30 p.m. with Children's Christmas Pageant

Our new chancel will become filled with animals. angels, shepherds, and stars! The St. Cecilia and Boys & Girls Choirs will sing the hymns of the season as the sacred story unfolds. Nursery care will be offered for children under five.



Christmas Eve at 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Day at 4 p.m.

Celebrate the birth of Christ with carols and reflection on our greatest gift of all. The Rev. Katherine Bush will be our preacher.

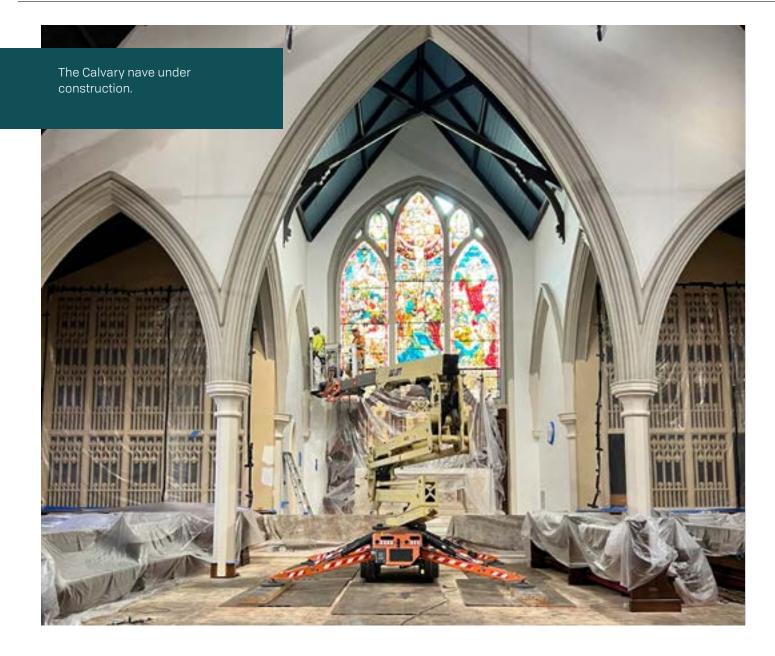
New Year's Eve

Sunday, Dec. 31 at 8 & 10:30 a.m.

We will have the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services with Children's Chapel and nursery care for children under five. However, we will not have parish breakfast or faith formation classes.

Sunday, Dec. 31 at 6 p.m.

All are invited to this special contemplative Eucharist, a beautiful, alternative way to mark the end of one year and the beginning of the next. Join us for this reflective offering with instrumental music and fresh prayers. Afterward, we'll have a chance to toast the New Year with bubbly beverages and a little nibble.



Advent Life in the Marvelous Middle

by the Rev. Scott Walters, Rector

dvent means more than Lit with curmudgeonly priests forbidding the singing of Christmas carols or calendars with chocolates behind tiny cardboard doors. Others will say

it's the Church's New Year or a one thing. Some associate time to anticipate the second coming of Christ as much as the first. Believe it or not, I have at least a little sympathy for all of these Advent associations. This year, however, it's the more-thanone-thinginess of the season I think I'll lean into.

We will move back into a freshly renovated church on the first Sunday of Advent. So, in one sense, that day will be a culmination of the work, not just of the past few months of construction, but of several years of planning and preparation since we, as a community, began to discern that it was our generation's time to attend faithfully to Calvary's buildings and block.

It's just as important that our Advent imaginations hold onto the fact that each person's story will continue to unfold.

But I am equally filled with the anticipation of hearing your voices fill our beautiful worship space again with prayers and praises, and even more curious about what God will do within, among, and through us in this place in the years to come.

So this Advent is very much more than one thing for me at once, and perhaps it is for you, too. I've never sensed more intenselv what God has done in the lives of people in this place for nearly two centuries, even as the future unfurls with new possibilities

in my imagination. And as it does, it occurs to me that this experience participates in the deep wisdom of Advent. It is a season that rolls around year after year, returning as reliably as the sunrise. But it returns with a reminder that God's loving, redeeming work in this world stretches back across generations and oceans to include the whole of the human family thus far. And it extends just as surely far into the future, even to that day when time will be no more. You and I are alive right here and right now in the marvelous middle.

This *Chronicle* contains more than one thing as well, even if there's only ever room in these pages for snippets and teasers of the many ways you are making God's love visible. You'll read about several of our community ministries, such as Emmanuel Meal, Basement Church, and Room in the Inn. Today, I am wondering if an Advent imagination is especially valuable with regard to this work. It's crucial to remember that every person we encounter has a story that stretches back in time. A story that, like all human stories, will contain love and hardship, successes and failures, cruelty, and kindness. Remembering this can make a little space in us for empathy

and compassion. It's just as important that our Advent imaginations hold onto the fact that each person's story will continue to unfold. That none of us, by the grace of God, is only our past. And holding the future open for one another may be as important as acknowledging our histories if we're to be present to one another in healing and lifegiving ways.

So I wish you a blessed morethan-one-thing this Advent. Christ has already come among us, and Christ is coming soon. My prayer for us all is that we let God's grace and abundant life invade our lives here and now in the marvelous middle of time we inhabit, healing old wounds, and opening new and unimaginable possibilities in each of us and in our world as it does.









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HELP SERVE 300 NEIGHBORS WHO ARE STRUGGLING OR EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS A DELICIOUS TURKEY DINNER WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS

from 12 to 1:30 p.m.

How can you help?

- · Make cornbread at your house and bring to Calvary by Sunday, Dec. 17
- Volunteer to serve



- Buy a turkey to offset the price for the meal (\$40)
- Decorate on Wednesday, Dec. 20
- Sign up with your family to help clean up Thursday, Dec. 21, from 1:30 to 3 pm

Calvary's Basement Church serves 180 neighbors experiencing homelessness who eat and pray with us here at Calvary each Sunday morning from 6 a.m. until 8 a.m. We serve our neighbors a hot breakfast, make coffee, provide clothing, find needed toiletry items, help with books, and more. The following "angels" are individuals and families who have donated the \$500 it takes to serve breakfast to over 720 guests each month.

January – In memory of the lives and work of August – In honor of the wonderful staff at Vincent Astor and Roger Wolcott by Christine & Babcock Gifts by Brooks Terry Carroll Todd

February – In honor of Dana Sue and Ann Percer

March – In memory of Henry & Rose Miller by Teresa Elliott

April – In honor of Buck Lewis and his dedication to justice work by his loving wife, Malinda

May – Dr. Larry & Melanie Roberts

June and July – Anonymous gift in honor of the medical students who serve and those from the foot care ministry

Room in Calvary's Inn

In November 2023, Calvary began providing emergency winter shelter with Room in the Inn - Memphis on Friday nights. We greet our guests at 5:30 p.m., have dinner around 6 p.m., and spend time with our guests before they settle in for a comfortable, safe night of sleep at Calvary's Welcome Inn. In the morning, our guests have breakfast and depart by 6:30 am. We host a maximum of 15 guests each week.

We have several opportunities for you to help provide this needed shelter in these cold months. We need volunteers to make beds, provide or serve dinner, wash linens, and clean up in the morning. For those who are willing, we also need overnight shepherds to sleep at Calvary's Welcome Inn. Staying overnight is a fantastic opportunity to spend quality time listening to our guests and offering support and encouragement. We cannot provide this life-saving ministry without overnight shepherds. Our overnight shepherds must be familiar with Safeguarding God's Children as we will be hosting children and vulnerable adults.

Please join us in making God's love visible in downtown Memphis by helping us host our unsheltered and vulnerable guests. If you have any questions, please contact Betty Jo Dulaney at <u>bettyjodulaney@gmail.com</u> or Allison Linnevers at allison.linnevers71@gmail.com.

Learn more and sign up at calvarymemphis.org /emmanuel-meal

Calvary's Angels for Basement Church 2023

September – *In gratitude for the remarkable* efforts of volunteers from Calvary and faith communities all over Memphis who came together again this Lenten season to host Waffle Shop

October – In honor of imprisoned youth by the *Rev. Audrey Gonzalez*

November – In honor of May and Caroline Todd's birthday by Aunt Sharon Bicks

December – *Please consider donating to* Outreach Ministries in honor or memory of someone vou love

Sign up to volunteer at calvarymemphis.org/riti

Something Different

by Reg Udouj



n a mild spring day in 2021, I first walked through the red doors of Calvary to attend the Good Friday service at noon. As I entered the nave, I was struck by the stained-glass window and the little piece of sky-blue ceiling above the altar. The space was calm, quiet, and peaceful - starkly contrasting the traffic noise outside those walls. It felt good to be physically present after a year of not attending church due to the pandemic. After the service, the Rev. Scott Walters invited the congregation to walk the Stations of the Cross, not in the nave but in the surrounding neighborhood. This was such a beautiful way to pray through the stations.

Looking back on that experience, I saw it as a metaphor for the past year of shutdowns and isolation. There were stretches of desolation, broken sidewalks, and overgrown weeds. There were places of hope that provided shelter for the downtrodden. And there were moments of beauty, like the architecture of old buildings, making connections with strangers, and the blooms of new life on the trees and plants we passed along the way. After that day, I had a feeling that Calvary was a new beginning for me.

Although I fell in love with this old historical space, the beautiful liturgy, and the spectacular choir and music, I kept returning for other reasons. It was the people and community here that drew me in. The clergy were generous with their time, asking thoughtful questions and listening to my story. From the greeters to the



people in the pews, everyone was warm and welcoming. I have attended churches of various denominations since I was a child, but I have never felt fully comfortable in those settings. Almost everything was about right belief, right doctrine, who is in and who is out. Although I participated in that way of thinking in the past, that was not who I was becoming.

There was something different about Calvary. As I began to participate in more activities and meet more people, I realized that this church was full of people with diverse backgrounds, beliefs, and life experiences. What binds this community together is common worship, loving God, and loving our neighbor. So many here are the hands and feet of Jesus to the neighbors surrounding this church building. Last December, I had the privilege of serving with others during the annual Emmanuel Meal. It was challenging, beautiful, and inspiring all at the same time. So many parishioners participated in serving our neighbors, and, in turn, we were blessed by them. I will mention one last thing that has brought me closer to God and a few other dear people in this church. With some trepidation, I enrolled in Education for Ministry in the fall of 2022. I knew it would be a lot of reading and a commitment, but it has been well worth it. I have learned much about the history of our sacred text, and I have gained a new perspective on what these ancient writings are trying to say about God and our world. Most importantly, I have had the privilege to have thoughtful discussions with a



The Rev. Scott Walters leads Calvary parishioners in praying the Stations of the Cross through downtown Memphis in 2021.

group of people I now call friends.

I could write more about my experiences with the Lenten Preaching Series, being a new Eucharistic Minister, etc., but I will conclude with this: This church has welcomed me with open arms and has been the hands and feet of Christ to me as well as many, many others. In this place, I receive the bread of life so that I might be that bread for those around me. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Calvary Episcopal Church



Advent 2023 Chronicle

Great Hall. Calvary has been worshipping in the Great Hall while the nave is being renovated.

Calvary parishioners loved getting together at the Overton Park Clubhouse to celebrate the beginning of our annual giving season. Pictured are Randy & Renee Patey, Nina & Len Grice, and Betsy Black.

PREACHING preview

It's the most wonderful time of the year! The 101st year of Calvary's Lenten Preaching Series and Waffle Shop begins Thursday, February 15!

> Look for more information soon about this year's complete lineup that includes Padraig O'Tuama, the Rev, Jacqui Lewis, Anwar Arafat, the Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor, and many more

ADVENT by the Rev. Katherine Bush

[love Advent. I love the Church's version: candles, new colors, even the wild and sometimes harsh readings meant to prepare us for the wildness of God's arrival into our lives all over again. And truth be told, I love the secular version, too: Advent calendars with treats, preparing our homes for Christmas, even the wild and wooly experience of shopping. Frankly, this world can use all the sparkle and twinkly lights we can throw at it.

This season at Calvary will be especially meaningful as we return to worship in our restored Nave. We'll gather for a beautiful liturgy of readings, anthems, and poetry at our annual Lessons & Carols on Sunday evening, Dec. 3. The Bishop will be in our midst on Sunday, December 10, our neighbors will gather for the Emmanuel Meal on Thursday, Dec. 21, and all the while we'll be preparing for a glorious celebration of Christmas.

Amid all the hustle and bustle, we're sharing a few resources that may be helpful guides for you and your households in this season. You can find them at calvarymemphis.org/advent. I also invite you to join us inperson on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings for additional formation offerings.

Sunday Mornings at 9:15

DEC

3

DEC

10

DEC

17

29-

DEC

13

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Good in the Neighborhood: Brian Lyles

Hear the story of the re-opened Cossitt Library and meet someone doing a lot of good in our neighborhood. Lyles is an enthusiastic downtowner and shares a wonderful story of renewal just a few blocks away from Calvary.

Bishop Phoebe Roaf

We welcome Bishop Phoebe as she makes her annual visit to Calvary for Confirmations at our worship services. She will also speak during the formation hour, sharing her reflections and observations.

The Rev. Dr. Rosalyn Nichols

Nichols is the organizing pastor of Freedom's Chapel Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Inter-faith Officer for MIFA, and President of MICAH. It's fitting that this extraordinarily busy woman is coming to talk with us about Sabbath practice in Advent. Come hear this Lenten Preaching favorite in conversation.

Wednesday Evenings at 6:15 **Receiving the Day: Christian Practices for Opening the Gift of Time by** NOV Dorothy Bass, discussion led by Paul McLain

This book is a helpful primer for prayer and retreat time and teaches us how "receiving the day" can be a guiding principle in our everyday lives. Paul will lead a three-week discussion on Wednesday evenings in Advent.





VESTRY UPDATE

by Zach Ferguson, Senior Warden



That an exciting year 2023 has been for Calvary and for the vestry. The energy and love from the people of Calvary is always palpable, but as we have journeyed this year through life and the Capital Campaign, it feels even greater now.

The vestry spent a lot of this year talking about the Capital Campaign, the design of the renovations, changes to those designs, move-in dates, move-out dates, organ pipes, and everything in between. With all of the talk and excitement around the renovations, we also discussed how we continue to engage the congregation while disruptions to our block occur. What kept coming up in discussions was wanting to engage people through small groups.

Clay Woemmel & Brooks Terry graciously hosted a gathering for those new to Calvary. With so many families with children in the parish, finding ways to engage them was essential, and Brie Wallace and Jessica Flynn organized the gathering for the Grizzlies watch party.

One of the initiatives we began last year was the creation of two youth vestry representatives. Chloie Madden and Brennan Seltzer have served in this role over the past year. Having both of them as part of the vestry has been such a blessing, not only to the vestry itself but also to Calvary. Please join me in thanking

both of these young women for serving in this capacity and being such excellent examples for all of us. We are now accepting applications for our next two youth vestry representatives. Interested youth need to be high school students who are confirmed and active with the youth group. They will serve a oneyear term concurrent with the vestry term (January-December).

The vestry's work is to share the leadership of the parish with the rector. We meet to oversee the temporal affairs of the parish, as well as to support the rector and staff in promoting the spiritual welfare of the parish. Over the last few years, as a vestry, we have also wanted to celebrate Calvary's ministries and staff throughout our meetings. We are blessed to have such excellent staff (and volunteers) at Calvary. While we express our thanks during the vestry meetings, I wanted to take this opportunity to send a heartfelt thank you to the staff of Calvary for all you do and to our ministry volunteers for your willingness to serve.

As we approach the end of 2023, I offer thanks to the other outgoing vestry members, David Cocke, Elizabeth Crosby, Jerry Scruggs, and Greta Cooper Young. I think I can speak for all of us when I say it has been an honor and a privilege to serve Calvary in this way. I look forward to making God's love visible in downtown Memphis for many more years.

IN CALVARY'S PRAYERS

Wedding **Bells**

Patrick Blankinship & Jonathan Hancock, 10/14/23 Hannah Burton & Robert Gallant, 10/07/23 Samantha Parkhurst & Jaegar Schlumpberger, 10/07/23

New Life

Collin Davis Jr., son of Bailey & Collin Fountain; grandson of Julie Bethell, 8/16/2023 Zain Hazem Hassan, son of Elizabeth Parrish & Hazem Hassan; grandson of Gwen & Penn Owen, 8/12/2023 Elizabeth May Joyce, daughter of Maggie & Matthew Joyce; granddaughter of Gigi & Doug Franklin, 10/28/2023

Julien Royal Sandy-Hardin, son of Sarah Sandy & Buzz Hardin, 8/9/2023 Ephraim Hatch Sesko, grandson of Harriet & Jake McFadden, 9/10/2023 Sloan Carter Slatery, daughter of Morgan & Wil Slatery; granddaughter of Jane & Charles Slatery, 6/6/2023 Ruby Scott Smith, daughter of Marianne & McLean Smith; granddaughter of Julie & Donovan Smith, 7/5/2023 Jake Stroud, grandson of Harriet & Jake McFadden, 9/10/2023 Amiri Lev Talley-Anlen, son of Shirin & Drake Talley; grandson of Peg & Dan Wahl and Mark Talley, 8/19/2023

Saints Departed

- David Banks Anthony, Jr., brother of Frank Anthony
- Peter Ballenger, father of Maury Ballenger Joan Baldridge-Ballard, friend of Ruthie & Paul McLain

Jennifer Biggs, friend of Molly Polatty Ann Bourkard, friend of Rose Johnston, Kathy Williams & Mary Nease, and Mary Jane Viar & Debbie Kinard

Lina Bowyer, mother of Fred Bowyer and aunt of Elmore Holmes

Connie Brewer, friend of Martha & Jim Boyd Patricia Bryant, step-mother of Sam Bryant Alexander Bulakhov, neighbor of Ruthie & Paul McLain

Robert L. Campbell , friend of Ruthie & Paul McLain

Alphonse Cinotti, friend of Bruce Watson Jean Croye, friend of Katherine Bush Peggy Marshall Crutcher, friend of Connie Marshall and Bob O'Connor

Kingston Davidson Mildred De Bois, friend of Dee Wallace

Mark Dillon, uncle of Robyn Banks Jimmie Dixon, aunt of Paige Whittle Nancy Donovan, mother of Christopher Donovan

Dr. Jerald Duncan, friend of Len Grice Wallace Etheridge, father-in-law of Barbara Etheridge

Tad Foote, father of Diana Barzizza Larry Franklin, father of Doug Franklin Jim Frazier, father of Margaret Gardner Karen Freeman Jim Gabbert

The Rev. Carol Gardner Teofila Bayaton Ginolos, mother of Elena Akin

Herrold Hanson, father of Dave Hanson Michael Thomas Hartsfield, husband of Dottie Hartsfield Pate Hogan, friend of Robyn Banks Katharine Phillips Huffman, cousin of Nino Shipp and Malinda Lewis Roy Keathley Hazel Vanola Harden Lesueur, mother of Keyaunde K'maahd Christopher Lovely, friend of Joseph Powell Ben Mauck, friend of Jim Calandruccio and Paige Whittle Patricia McCullough Corey McLawyer, son of Adie McLawyer Jared McStay Rosie & the Rev. Pete Minton, friends of Kendra Martin Samarra "Sam" Mirza, granddaughter of Carow Crown Walter Scott Montgomery, brother of Rose Johnston Scotty Norman, father of Brett Norman Fred Nunnery Art Odle, father of Jenny Madden The Rev. Nicolette Papanek, friend of Ruthie & Paul McLain Michael Payne, father of Allison Cates

Lyle Phillips, friend of Peg Wahl and Deborah Mavs Maelene Pritchett, aunt of Richard Hendricks

Chris Hanneken, friend of Rick Shields

A. Carl Rainey, III, brother of Lois Rainey Wade Ralston, uncle of Ruthie McLain Robert Rand, friend of Robbie Phillips Lucy Sands, mother of Kim Coggin John Sandy, grandfather of Sarah Sandy The Rev. Van Savage, father of Robbie Phillips Edward Schnacke, father of Kiersten Schnacke The Rev. James Sherley, uncle of Robbie Phillips Jamal "Red" Smith, cousin of David Robinson Wes Smith, friend of Stephen Cates Carolyn Smith, cousin of Mark Mitchell Janet Woemmel Spicer, sister of Jerry Woemmel and aunt of Clay Woemmel Dr. Danny Stephens, friend of Ruthie & Paul McLain Ivy Tinker, friend of Jenny Madden Betty Turnbow, grandmother of John Phillians Suzanne Weatherly, friend of Paige Whittle & Gaby Moorefield Donna Welch, friend of Debbie Kinard & Mary Jane Viar Miriam Williamson, cousin of Paul McLain





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Robyn M. Banks, editor

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NEW YORK POLYPHONY IN CONCERT

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25 AT 7:30 PM CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH - DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS

