



CALVARY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHRONICLE

making God's love visible in downtown Memphis

Spring/Summer 2024



New Spaces
and Places

CLERGY

The Rt. Rev. Phoebe Roaf
Bishop, Diocese of West TN

The Rev. Paul McLain
Associate Rector

The Rev. Audrey Gonzalez
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Scott Walters
Rector

The Rev. Katherine Bush
Associate Rector

The Rev. Mimsy Jones
Deacon

VESTRY

Ben Boeving
Sr. Warden

Cathy Awsumb

Allison Parker

Jessica Flynn
Jr. Warden

Bill Bangham

Christina Ross

Clay Woemmel
Warden at Large

Franklin Barton

Shannon Tucker

Madge Deacon
Clerk

Kate Connell

Mary Jane Viar

Erik Ball
Treasurer

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Brie Wallace

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* youth representative

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MC Hitt *

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Facilities Manager

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Finance Manager

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Information Officer

Mary O'Brien
Parish Chef

Jeremy Demarest
Director of Youth Ministry

Dr. Kristin Lensch
Organist-Choirmaster

Ebet Peebles
Welcome and Community

Jackson Hearn
Associate Organist

Connie Marshall
Information Officer

Steve Smith
Director of Finance & Operations

Monica Marshall
Sexton

Christine Todd
Director of Outreach Ministries



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This place where we worship side by side and celebrate our biggest joys and mourn our deepest heartaches with each other is exactly what I think Jesus had in mind when he taught us to love our neighbors.

Front cover: Shadows on the new floor in Calvary's nave from the AIDS fabric sculpture, which was hung in January.

MAKING IS THINKING

by the Rev. Scott Walters, Rector



A hand plane with a sharp iron will produce long, wispy, even translucent slivers of wood. Last fall, I pinned a mahogany shaving to the wall of my shop and wrote “Making is thinking” on it with a fine-tipped Sharpie. It’s a decoration I find satisfying to an absurd degree.

“Making is thinking” is a quote from a book by Richard Sennett titled *The Craftsman*, which is meant for a much broader audience than carpenters, potters, and other tradespeople we typically associate with craft. Sennett includes a section on the community of Linux open-source computer programmers, for example, whom he very much counts among the craftspeople that interest him. I love the idea that we often come to understand the world as much in the act of doing as we do in the act of reflection. By making as much as in ruminating.

Recently, a section of our old staff parking lot was replaced by a patch of grass, thanks to a grant in remembrance of our late and brilliant friend, Tommy Pacello, and demolition began inside our buildings in earnest. In one sense, these projects are the result of years of planning, thinking, revising, and conversing with groups and individuals and experts and neighbors. But if making is a form of thinking, the things we make are ways of understanding the world as well, not just expressions of what we’ve already come to know.

This may sound strange, but we know it to be true. When Calvary Church was built in 1843, it wasn’t a monument to the congregation’s 11-year past. It was a means of engaging, encountering, and learning what God might be calling us to in a changing young city—which is precisely what Calvary’s people are doing in 2024. Our making is a form of thinking, comprehending, understanding, and learning as well.

Christians have long held that one mark we carry of our Creator is our own creativity. And in creating things in the world, we learn about the world, even as we change it a little by the very things we make. Our making can be knitting a sock or rebuilding a carburetor, writing a thank you note or the great American novel, arranging flowers into a bouquet or numbers into a spreadsheet, sweeping a floor or setting a broken bone in a child’s arm. It seems clear, from the first



a picture from Scott's workshop
(photo by Scott Walters)

moments of the Bible, that God doesn’t want homo sapiens only to be the thinking species. God wants us to engage the world by creating and learning about the world God loves in that work.

So, as I direct your attention toward the rest of this lovely summer edition of our Chronicle, I invite you to look at what you read here through the lens of Richard Sennett’s terse little maxim: “Making is thinking.” Consider each and every story that’s told or event that’s been scheduled as a way we have made or hope to make something in the world, right here in Memphis, and that in each and every one of these creative acts, we have an opportunity to learn more about the world. Its needs and its loves. Its deepest wounds and its astonishing capacity to heal. Its brutality at times, but also its breathtaking beauty as well. I hope everything we do at Calvary is done with the open-hearted humility of people who want to understand better and learn from every last thing we do.

I thank God for the image of a loving Creator I see in each of you and in the wildly different ways you engage the world with your life. In fact, I think I learned a thing or two by writing down these paragraphs at Director of Communications Robyn Banks’s kind but persistent request, as a small piece of the beautiful publication she’s created. I also think that the next time I look up from a blissful session of making in my shop and see the note to myself on that shaving, what I’ll think of first will not be what might become of the lumber in my hands, but what might come to be in Memphis next because of Calvary’s people, which is to say ... because of you.

ALL YOUR CONSTRUCTION QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Okay, most of them...

by David Lusk

I got a call this week from Calvary parishioners who've been away from Memphis for a few weeks. They asked how they can now get into the church, where to park, and if the elevator is working. These are all important questions! Here are some answers about what's happening on the Calvary Memphis block now and in the next several months.

What is happening at Calvary?

It's business as usual at Calvary. Two Sunday services are happening, plus Sunday school in the Grizzlies Prep small building and refreshments after the 10:30 service in the Welcome Inn building. Right now, the staff offices are still on the 4th floor. So, no real changes to programming have happened, except that Wednesday night meals and programs this Spring happened at St. Mary's Cathedral.

Where is the construction happening?

All this activity is happening amidst Phase 2 of the Great Calvary Renovation Project. Remember how easily we all became accustomed to church in the Great Hall? And remember that we got back into the renovated church on time? The same will be true of the renovations of the Parish Hall building (4th floor, 3rd floor, Great Hall, Montgomery Foyer, Library, Kitchen, Mural Room, Outreach rooms) and the new building (youth rooms, Orgill Room, Choir suite, Emison Room). Except for the 4th-



floor offices and the sacristy/vesting rooms, the buildings have been emptied, and demolition has begun.

How do I get to church?

On Sunday mornings, getting to the church is easy. Our contractors, Montgomery Martin Inc., have assured us that we will have use of the East door (formerly the alley door), stairs, elevator, and the restrooms outside the Great Hall for as long as possible. Remember there is street parking near the Bell Tower, and there are always friendly ushers to welcome you in that door. Later this year, when the elevator undergoes its rehab, the Second Street ramp will be complete, and we'll also have a new restroom near the front of the church. The chain link fence near the East door looks forbidding, but you can enter it from at least four points on Sunday morning. We've lost some parking spots, but there is easy parking on the surrounding streets and nearby surface lots.

When will construction be complete?

The entire renovation project will be completed by late January of 2025—just in time for Lenten Preaching and Waffle Shop. Prepare yourself for a much more open kitchen with walk-in coolers, a consolidated beverage area, and the same great food; a Mural Room flooded with natural light coming from doorways leading into the central atrium; a chapel and mixed-use space on the southwest corner of the 1st

floor; staff offices on 1st floor right by the east doors; updated and enlarged restrooms; direct traffic routes that connect all three buildings seamlessly; a new foyer and ramp on 2nd Street. I could wax semi-poetically about many more pieces of this project while discussing how each piece is wrapped in the history and patina that is unmistakably Calvary.

What is happening in the former staff parking lot?

We have a new green space! The asphalt of the former staff (between the new building playground and the Welcome Inn building) was removed, fill dirt was put down, and sod was rolled out. Picture using that space for post-service refreshments, a place to sit and watch the construction progress, or attend an al fresco meeting. This space was made possible by a generous grant from the Tommy Pacello Foundation.

How did we get here?

It's been a considerable effort to get to this point. Allow me some shout-outs, please: to Margaret Craddock for helping secure the Pacello grant; to Richard Hendricks for his diligence in clearing 70 years of accumulation out of the buildings; to Henry Grovesnor for finding us suitable storage space in one of his nearby properties; to Scott Walters and his carpentry tricks that saved large pieces of the mural; to Scott Crosby for his legal acumen as it relates to our contractor agreements; to the vestries of the past few years for agreeing to this project; and to all us Calvary parishioners, staffers and friends for joyfully getting us to this point.

It will be a hectic, exciting time for Calvary as no corner of our historic buildings is left untouched. Let me know if you need more answers!



ADULT SUMMER FORMATION

This summer, we will forgo live-streaming Sunday morning formation. We know this is a valuable offering to many folks; however, this summer's classes will have a roundtable discussion format that will not transfer well beyond the room. We encourage you to come and be "in the room where it happens" whenever you can join us. When we have a guest speaker or are sharing Calvary community and construction updates, we commit to live-streaming or providing a recording. We will continue to live-stream the 10:30 worship service. Thanks for your understanding as we provide a summer reprieve for our staff and budget.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CALVARY'S BUILDINGS

JUNE 2

As Phase 2 of our renovations gets underway, the story of the evolution of Calvary's three buildings is being revealed in new ways. Charles Shipp will walk us through the ways Calvary was built and rebuilt over the years to better serve its mission. There will be time for questions about the past, present, and future of Calvary's buildings as well.

LECTIONARY DISCUSSION

JUNE 9-30

Come read the Scripture lessons for the day and learn about the context and connections that are intertwined in them. Join clergy and parishioners around the table and dig into the stories before you walk into church. What would you preach about?

WOMEN IN SCRIPTURE & MINISTRY

JULY 7-28

At the end of July, the Episcopal Church will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first American women ordained as priests. Each Sunday of the month, we'll take a look at the stories and verses from the Bible used to support and to prevent women from exercising this full ministry. Katherine Bush will lead the conversation.



ALL ARE WELCOME

SUMMER FELLOWSHIP

JUNE 12: TRIVIA NIGHT
Come with a team, or find a team when you arrive for our annual Trivia night at St. Mary's Cathedral! Dinner (\$8/adults, \$4/kids, \$20/max) begins at 5:15.

JULY 17: GAME NIGHT
Join us for a night of board games, fellowship, and laughter at St. Mary's Cathedral! Dinner (\$8/adults, \$4/kids, \$20/max) begins at 5:15.

JULY 28: MOVIE NIGHT
Join us for a special screening of The Philadelphia Eleven, a documentary about the first Episcopal women priests. Time and location TBA.

AUGUST 21: MOVIE NIGHT
Bring the whole family for this fun summer movie night as we explore with Moana. What can I say except you're welcome... to join us at St. Mary's Cathedral! Dinner (\$8/adults, \$4/kids, \$20/max) begins at 5:15.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUMMER FORMATION

JUNE 2 - AUG 25 SUMMER OF SERVICE

Children and Youth will complete service projects that give back to the community we love. We will explore our gifts and make use of them. We will grow closer to our friends and make new ones. We will combine our efforts to reach a shared goal. Come make cards for the sick, make snack bags for the hungry, paint pictures for the homebound, and much more! Come join the fun as we practice our faith “not only with our words, but in our lives!”



ALL THINGS COMPASSION CAMP
BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

DISCOVER what every living thing needs to survive,
EXPLORE local ecosystems, and
GROW in compassion for God's "Bright & Beautiful" creation!

Wednesday Evenings in June
5:00-7:30p.m.

June 5 & 12 @ Grace-St. Luke's
June 19 @ St. George's Episcopal
June 26 @ Holy Communion

Hosted by: 

Scan to register!



ALL PARENTS AND CHILDREN ARE INVITED TO

COFFEE & PLAYDATES

JUNE 8 & 22 • JULY 13 & 27 • AUGUST 10 & 24
10-11:30 A.M.

CONTACT JOCELYN BUSBY,
JBUSBY@CALVARYMEMPHIS.ORG
FOR LOCATIONS



Episcopal Youth Community

SUMMER OF SERVICE

June 1: Pride parade and working the booth
Sign up for a shift here:
calvarymemphis.org/pride-parade

June 21 at Calvary's Welcome Inn
from 4 to 6 p.m.:
Making bags for Sista 2 Sista

July 21 at Calvary from 6 to 8 a.m.:
Calvary's Basement Church

TALKING AND PRAYING

by a Basement Church Volunteer

In November of 2023, Director of Outreach Ministries Christine Todd initiated an opportunity during Basement Church for our neighbors to “Talk and Pray” every few weeks if there were sufficient volunteers in the ongoing programs. As our neighbors came down the hall past the Mural Room, they could talk with the volunteer in the hall as they waited in line, or they could go into the Mural Room and sit with the volunteer at a table toward the back where it was quiet. When they talked and shared their feelings, we said we would pray for them that day and continue praying for them.

These are some of the prayers they requested as they moved down the hall:

Many prayers for family, for a friend with a hurting leg, for getting a job and their own place to live, that they can hold on to the job they just got, for people addicted to drugs, to “get off the streets,” that the cold would hold

off a little longer, that we could “be human” and to thank the church for opening its doors to everyone, to get a job and a bank account, for peace in the city, for peace and truth, to “be a better me,” to be in better health. One man said he had just gotten out of prison and wanted to pray for those still in prison.

Others wanted to sit down and talk:

One man asked for prayer for his wife because she cries so much. One man’s mother is very ill. A lady with high blood pressure was concerned about her family. That morning, it was getting late. Richard Hendricks brought a meal to her and to another lady waiting to make sure they did not miss breakfast.

One man is in his 60’s. If he could begin receiving his Social Security, he would use the money to start a yard cleaning service again. It made him feel good to help others.



One man is 78 and said he is having health problems. But then he began to talk more about his spiritual and emotional feelings. He began to pray himself and cry. He prayed, “Lord, use me. Make me strong enough to do your will and help others. I want to encourage and help people to understand you.” Then he said, “I understood when I was younger, but now I understand much more about God and Jesus. We must act. We must show ourselves. The other night, I was very low. I was thinking about how I have lost a lot of time not being what I should have been. I’m sorry. I want to be better. I keep thinking of Jesus’s dying for me...” In speaking these words, his tears rolled down again. As we stood to walk back out, he had difficulty rising from his chair. He said, “It’s okay. Just give me a minute, and I’ll get going again.”

If you would like to be part of this ministry at 6 a.m. on Sunday mornings, contact Christine Todd at ctodd@calvarymemphis.org.

CALVARY CELEBRATES GRADUATING SENIORS

Class of 2024

We asked this year's graduating seniors: How has Calvary influenced you? What do you love most about your church? Here are their responses:



Sophie Boeving

God loves everyone- no exceptions! This simple statement has taught me to embrace the concept of diversity. Calvary is the perfect blend of tradition and non judgement. I am proud that my church doesn't just talk about helping others; it makes it its mission. You can see it every day!

I am headed to UT, Knoxville.



Caroline Holtzclaw

Calvary to me is a great place for reflection. It's a safe place for me to close my eyes and remember what has led me to where I am today. I love seeing my family and friends there as we listen to my Aunt Kate (the Rev. Katherine Bush) and the Rev. Scott Walters preach.

I'm going to Virginia Tech next year and majoring in General Engineering.



Chloe Madden

I have loved growing up at Calvary. I have enjoyed being a member at a place where my whole family is, and I will miss it here a lot next year. I will be going to LSU next year majoring in Pre-Physical Therapy.



Sophia Marmion

Through Calvary, I met my Memphis family and I learned how to build a relationship with God. Being here has fueled my passion for music, and I have found amazing support from everyone in the Calvary Choir. My parents and I

barely knew anyone when we moved to Memphis, but Calvary welcomed me into the community and helped me foster a deep connection to this city.

This fall, I will be attending University College London where I will study Politics and International Relations.



Abby Trott

Calvary has been a huge part of my life since I was a little kid running through the office hallways upstairs while my mom was working. My favorite part of Calvary is by far the community. I absolutely love getting to chit chat with Katherine, Scott, or Paul for a quick second at the altar. And my favorite part of being first server very well may be scurrying over to the other side of the altar to give Brennan a hug during the Peace. I am going to miss my Calvary peeps.

I am going to the University of Mississippi next year in the Sally McDonnell Barksdale honors college to study chemistry.



Guild of the Holy Spirit Theresa S. Hardison Award

by Laurie Monypeny, President, Guild of the Holy Spirit

For Theresa S. Hardison, education in all areas was one of the most important aspects of a child's life. One of her most important goals was teaching children to be ready to further their education and embrace learning both physically and spiritually. Many children still remember her from her early teaching years at Shady Grove Elementary and later at Westhaven Elementary. Theresa was also a volunteer director of children's education for many years and was very active in forming Calvary Sunday School curricula and teaching it to our many children.

After Theresa's death in 2013, the Guild of the Holy Spirit

established the Theresa S. Hardison Award for a deserving graduating high school senior at Calvary Episcopal Church. This \$500 award is given annually to one of our high school seniors in recognition of their hard work, dedication, and commitment to Calvary and the diocesan Episcopal community.

This year's recipient of the Theresa S. Hardison Award is CHLOIE MADDEN, whose participation in all levels of church activity has been truly impressive. The Guild of the Holy Spirit is proud of Chloe and wishes her the best in her college career at Louisiana State University.

SPEAKING FROM THE HEART

by Bill Bangham

Early on in this year's Lenten Preaching series, I noticed Joe Birch—Channel 5's evening anchor—quietly slip into our nave. I had seen him several times already this year and several times last. I later learned he has often attended over the 46 years he has been a news anchor in Memphis.

But this year was different. In a few days, he would be one of our preachers.

I remember watching Joe the first time we moved to Memphis in 1981 and thinking, this guy has the chops. He won't be here long. He's got the looks, personality, and skills prized by network news. Somebody will snatch him up.

I was wrong. He stayed and invested himself deeply in our community. From the foundation of his Christian faith, he has used his public platform for change in our city, most of which many might say are small, but I would say profound.

I joked with him about sizing up the competition. He laughed and said how much he looked forward to speaking. "Sometimes I don't like what I have to say on my newscasts," he said. "What are you going to speak on then?" I asked. "I'm going to speak from the heart," he said.

That's the glue that binds all our speakers together. They

embrace faith from different perspectives—some dramatically, others more nuanced. Some live a life of the mind, drawing from wells of deep thought. Others are activists, a force for justice and righteousness, often among those who have little or no voice in our society. But all speak from the heart.

I won't attempt a synopsis of what each said. There isn't room here. And I've never been one to tell others what they heard and how to think. The presentations of all 17 speakers are online. If you weren't able to attend, you can judge for yourself. If you were, they're worth hearing and seeing again.

There were moments special to me during the Series and unanticipated connections.

Micah Greenstein, senior rabbi of Temple Israel in Memphis, and Anwar Arafat, an Imam for the Islamic Association of Greater Memphis, both referenced the conflict in Gaza in separate presentations, one from the Jewish and the other from the Palestinian perspective; I thought we missed an opportunity. If we had invited them together for a dialog, it would have been rich. They would have handled it with mutual respect and grace.

When the producer of *The Nutty Professor* and *Bruce Almighty*, Tom Shadyac, asked one of the young men he works with through the inner city effort Shadyac founded, Memphis Rox, how many



Joe Birch, preaching on Friday, March 1. To listen to any of this year's preachers, visit calvarymemphis.org/learn/lenten-preaching-series/2024-lps-sermons/. (photo by Bill Bangham)

of his friends had died from gun violence, and the response was 25, I shuddered.

Catherine Meeks was the first of three preachers to refer to Howard Thurmond during the Lenten Series. She is a storyteller who has lived a life dedicated to social justice while promoting healthy racial dialogue. I was introduced to Thurmond's book, *Jesus and the Disinherited*, in our Sacred Ground study at Calvary this year. The book had a profound effect on me. As one of the members of our group commented, Thurmond is wicked smart. Meeks's words drew me back into rereading sections of it again and sometimes again.

John Pitzer, associate rector for outreach/mission and pastoral care at Trinity Episcopal Church in New Orleans, spoke while wandering through the congregation rather than from the pulpit. His premise is all are called, not just clergy, and that discovering that calling can be one of the most significant things we can do. It took me back to my late 20s when I struggled with a sense of call. It didn't lead to seminary, which I and others thought, but from a career as a biologist to a vocation as a writer, photojournalist, and magazine editor trying to make sense of our world through a focus on religion and culture amid turmoil and change.

It took me ten years to figure it out, more than anyone I know.

To see and talk with Pádraig Ó Tuama again and thank him for the door he opened for me during last year's Series was affirming. Last year, he led a Saturday retreat on poetry, specifically writing collects, which led to a new direction for my own writing. I have long considered writing a secondary skill to my photography. But now that I am no longer able to do the photography I'm drawn to, I've rediscovered a new depth to my writing, which I'm exploring. Ó Tuama was, and is, a gift for me.

I could go on at length, but this is a good place to stop with one more thought: Some of the most significant connections I've made through the Lenten Series are fellow members at Calvary. As we puzzled together what we heard, those who were once acquaintances became close friends. That's a richness of the heart that will live on.

The day Joe Birch spoke from his heart, we talked for a moment afterward. I told him how much his words touched me. I also told him he wouldn't see it, but when he went on the air that evening, I would wave at him.

I still do.

PILGRIMAGE TO MONTGOMERY AND SELMA, ALABAMA

by Mary Fortin

On a warm spring Thursday, a group of Pilgrims from Calvary and Grace-St. Luke's Episcopal Churches boarded a bus and began an amazing trip to Montgomery, Alabama—intending to explore our country's history regarding racial injustice and inequity. The quest was to learn and recognize the truth of our history as a platform for moving forward to achieve racial justice and equity.

The bus travel afforded time for an icebreaker that included who we each were, what we brought with us, and what we left behind. The stage of what we would experience was set as we watched the movie *Selma*—our journey would culminate in the film's setting on the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

Friday was a full day—we visited the Legacy Museum—one of the three EJI (Equal Justice Initiative) sites started by Bryan Stevenson. Through art, videos, photos, and displays, the history of the Transatlantic Slave Trade, Slavery in the United States, Lynching, Segregation, and Incarceration are chronicled. Our 2-hour visit was enough time to touch on a portion of these topics. The exhibits were informative, thorough, and challenging to absorb—sobering and tragic as to how people were impacted during this time in our history.

After a lunch break, we traveled to the newly opened Freedom Monument Sculpture Park, where



photo courtesy of Mary Fortin

we were greeted by a diverse collection of sculptures and other notable displays, including a rail car in which enslaved people were transported and cabins in which Black families lived. The final exhibit was a massive monument with the family names of enslaved people. I found both my maiden name, Bryan, and my married name, Fortin, on the monument.

A dinner at Martha's Place,

where we were served delicious home-cooked comfort food, and Compline were the final events of the day. The Rev. Katherine and the Rev. Laura Gettys guided us in sharing our experiences and feelings about what we had experienced.

On Saturday, we had a driving tour of key sites in downtown Montgomery, including the home where Martin Luther King, Jr. lived, the center of the city where

slave trading was conducted, the King Memorial Baptist Church, and the Greyhound Bus Station where the freedom riders were attacked, among other sites. Our guide, Ann Clemons, shared stories and facts relating to the sites that gave us a flavor of the history and events that were so impactful to Civil Rights. We also toured the third of the EJI sites—the National Memorial for Peace and Justice. Set on a hill in Montgomery, the memorial honors thousands of victims of racial terror lynchings—many of these had never been documented before the EJI initiative. The people who were lynched were listed on memorials by county—of note was the number of lynchings that have been documented for Shelby County—more than many of the other counties across the south.

Several of our group stayed in Montgomery, while the rest of us had the opportunity to visit the campus of Tuskegee University, a historically Black university founded by Booker T. Washington in 1881. We also visited the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site. It was there, at Moton Field, that the Army Air Corps conducted a military test to determine if African Americans could be trained to fly combat airplanes. Another full day was concluded with dinner and Compline.

Our final day started early, and we attended church at the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd. The priest and parishioners welcomed us to this historically Black church, which was built in 1899 by a group that separated from St. John's Episcopal Church in Montgomery. The church's mission is to welcome pilgrims to its parish—we shared, prayed, experienced Holy Eucharist, and ate with this welcoming group.

Our last stop was the nearby town of Selma, where the march from Selma to Montgomery was organized at Brown Chapel AME Church. We walked across the Edmund Pettus Bridge just as many did on March 7, 1965.

Our return to Memphis on Sunday afternoon afforded us time to rest and reflect on the three-day pilgrimage's many learnings and experiences. I came home with a variety of emotions from the experience and the desire to reflect on how to move forward toward social justice and equity.

Thanks to the Rev. Katherine Bush and the Rev. Laura Gettys, who provided excellent hospitality, spiritual guidance, and leadership throughout our journey.

"The trip made me understand more fully how Memphis and our story are connected with other stories from the south and the Civil Rights movement in general and the trajectory of the movement in general and its relationship with the rest of the country. I feel more fully the context of what happened in Memphis after being in Alabama." ~ Matt Seltzer



Clarence Day created The Day Foundation in 1960 to assist those in need by awarding significant grants to initiate unique social service, leadership, arts, and youth programs in Memphis and the Mid-South.

CALVARY RECEIVES GIFT FROM DAY FOUNDATION

Fifteen years after losing Clarence Day, the Day Foundation has awarded Calvary \$250,000 to fund renovations that will make our space more open and welcoming

by Margaret Craddock

Those of you who were members of Calvary before 2009 might remember the gentleman who regularly sat in a left rear center aisle pew and always turned around and smiled at the children as they processed. He was active at Calvary and in the community, serving on our vestry and numerous local and national boards. He was a collector, a businessman, and an athlete. He played tennis, swam, and skied. He was a pilot, scuba diver, and sailor. He invested in timber and trucking companies and owned a cattle ranch. He endowed a scholarship and faculty awards at Rhodes and his alma mater Centre College. He spent Christmas morning sharing gifts with the children in the Youth Villages residential treatment programs.

This unique polymath was Clarence Day, who created The Day Foundation in 1960 to assist those in need by awarding significant grants to initiate unique social service, leadership, arts, and youth programs in Memphis and the Mid-South. In 1979, the foundation won a national "Business in the Arts" citation from Forbes Magazine for providing start-up funds to create art

programs for children, prisoners, and senior citizens.

We lost Clarence suddenly and tragically in 2009 when he died at age 82 from injuries suffered in an automobile accident. Every pew was full at his funeral on Halloween Day as the community paid tribute to this uniquely accomplished man.

We believe that Clarence would have enthusiastically supported Calvary's Capital Campaign. Fifteen years after losing him, the Day Foundation has awarded Calvary \$250,000 to fund renovations that will make our space more open and welcoming. This one-time grant for our new atrium will significantly improve Calvary's overall navigability and accessibility.

As we look forward to the completion of our renovations and the return to our new spaces, let us not forget the individuals who made this possible. Among them, we honor the memory of the man with the twinkling eyes in a left rear center aisle pew, whose spirit and contributions continue to inspire us.



PIPING

An organ restoration update

by Dr. Kristin Lensch, Organist-Choirmaster



It has been six months since I gave the last update on the organ renovation project, and I'm excited to report on its significant progress since then. Your support and interest have been instrumental in this journey.

Remember when we worshiped in the Great Hall last summer and fall? It seems so long ago now! During that time, the organ was not playable. The original blower (from 1935) and ductwork had been sent to Boston to be refurbished and prepped to last at least another 86 years. This is a testament to the unique history and significance of our organ.

It was reinstalled in late November so we could enjoy being back in the beautifully renovated nave and worshiping and singing hymns with the organ in our usual way. Associate Organist Jackson Hearn and I were glad to be using our feet again to play more than just a damper pedal on the piano!

In January, Joseph Rotella and his crew refreshed and prepared the south chamber (Swell and Choir divisions) for the reinstallation of the mechanism, i.e., all the pieces and parts that allow the pipes to access the wind and speak. They cleaned and painted the walls and ductwork.



Joseph and Jonathan Ambrosino both returned in February. Joseph reinstalled the pipe racks that had been given new pouches, leather and wind reservoirs, and chests, which were cleaned, re-leathered, and refinished. Jonathan spent a lot of time in the north chamber (Pedal and Great divisions) cleaning the remaining pipes and fitting them with new sleeves.

One of the largest pipes also needed some resoldering, which was done onsite by his assistant.

Jonathan also began the tonal changes, shifting the tone back to its original course. One significant change is that he increased the wind pressure of the pedal ranks, giving them a boost in volume. It's a subtle shift, but it improved the balance, loudening the lower-sounding pitches produced by the pedals.

Meanwhile, Chris Broome, a specialist in organ reed stops, is subcontracted to restore our reeds (the trumpets, oboe, clarinet, English horn, and vox humana). Chris is repairing the reeds that were damaged in the theft. Pictures of that work have been on the bulletin board opposite the library for the last three months. He is also working closely with Jonathan to determine which reeds were altered in the 1980s.



In order to restore them to their original state, Chris and Jonathan have traveled to the locations of our "sister" instruments, Trinity Episcopal (New Haven, CT), Church of the Advent (Boston), and the Groton School (Groton, MA). There, they examined unaltered pipework, took measurements, and created "sample" pipes to use as a template for restoration. Then, in Chris's shop, the pipes are placed on the "voicing machine," where they can make adjustments to resemble the tone of the sample pipes. Both men have websites; if you visit jonathanambrosino.com and broomereeds.com, you will see our organ project listed.

One other significant project is in process: some original pipework was removed in the 1980s. Replica pipes are currently in production. I wish you could hear the excitement in both Joseph's and Jonathan's voices when they talk about their work, and particularly the end result they are working to achieve. You can expect to hear some of this excellent work when about 40% of the removed pipework returns in June! This is a major step towards the final completion of our project.

COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS

This place where we worship side by side and celebrate our biggest joys and mourn our deepest heartaches with each other is exactly what I think Jesus had in mind when he taught us to love our neighbors.

by Robyn Banks, Director of Communications



“He’s going to be dead before Christmas.” That was the first thought that went through my head when Bill and I heard his Stage IV pancreatic cancer diagnosis on June 27, 2022. The surgeon who delivered the news was a little more optimistic... he said perhaps 18

months if the chemotherapy worked. However, the four people in my life who had received Stage IV pancreatic cancer diagnoses all died six months after diagnosis.

Later that day, I found myself in Ardelle and Scott Walters’s living room with Katherine Bush, the four of us trying to

process the news and think of concrete things I could do to begin living out this reality. It was in that moment that I started to understand how important my community and village were going to be. I wouldn’t fully comprehend this until later, but I knew I couldn’t—and didn’t have to—do this alone.

Don’t get me wrong; taking care of someone who is so very sick can be the absolute loneliest experience, even when surrounded by the best people. And yet, I don’t ever want to imagine what those six months (or the year and a half since) would have been like without our community. And that community is you. It was you who rejoiced with us when Bill and I celebrated our marriage at Calvary. It was you who promised to help us raise Emma in a life of Christ when she was baptized at Calvary. And it was you who fed us, checked on us, ran errands

for us, helped in all the ways with Emma, prayed for us, and celebrated Bill’s life with us in such a beautiful way. Grateful will never begin to describe how I feel when I think about those acts of love and care.

Those last days were terrible and sacred. They were filled with love, and they were achingly lonely. I pleaded with Bill to let go, and I hoped for some kind of miracle. Bill was so stubbornly optimistic throughout the entire six months we knew he was sick. He fought harder than I’ve ever seen anyone fight. We had fights about how hard he was fighting because I saw what it was doing to him. It was so hard to watch him suffer.

Even as his body deteriorated, we both held out hope. When the hospice nurse said she was trying to get him through Christmas, he looked at her incredulously and said, “This Christmas?!” It was only six days away. Two days later, another hospice nurse stopped by and said it would only be hours. It was all happening so fast. But, he wouldn’t give up. Even after I assured him that it was okay to let go; that Emma and I would be okay. Even after his mom and sister told him it was okay to go. For four more days I pleaded with him. I knew it was time. But, he still didn’t want to go. Finally on the evening of December 23, I thanked him for making it to Christmas. I’m not proud that I lied to him, but I had a feeling that since the nurse said that’s what she was trying to do, he was working toward the same goal. I picked up his phone and turned on one

of his playlists. And we just lay there and listened to music together. At 8:03 p.m., he slipped peacefully away, taking pieces of our hearts with him.

So, yes, Bill did die before Christmas. The six months between his diagnosis and death were both the longest and shortest six months of my life. I learned so much about cancer, chemo, drugs, reactions, parenting, grief, and love. I learned that grief is unique to the griever. And that as much as I wish I could write the guidebook for grief that I so desperately searched for after Bill died, there is a reason it doesn’t exist.

But what I can share is how important it is to show up for each other. Whether that looks like phone calls, texts, grocery deliveries, Door Dash orders, or hugs in the hallways...all of it means more than you can imagine. And your griever will need you long after the death, the funeral, and even the first year as they navigate life without their person. We all have to keep showing up for each other in whatever ways we are called to do.

I am so lucky to be part of this Calvary community. This place where we worship side by side and celebrate our biggest joys and mourn our deepest heartaches with each other is exactly what I think Jesus had in mind when he taught us to love our neighbors. He knew we would need each other in this world. And I am so grateful for you.





HOLY WEEK AND EASTER 2024



VESTRY UPDATE

by Ben Boeving, Senior Warden



Despite Old Man Winter's icy grip, the 2024 Vestry Retreat was not to be frozen out. The vestry, embodying the true spirit of Calvary, met the challenge with unwavering resilience. The circumstances were not ideal, but we refused to let them dampen our spirits. Instead, we seized the opportunity to get creative, improvise, and find a way to make this year's retreat a virtual success, overcoming the challenges that came our way.

With phase one of the capital campaign renovation completed, the vestry unpacked the experience. What went well? What challenges did we face? How did we handle them? What takeaways can we use for the next phase?

The renovation was not just a success but a resounding one! The improved accessibility, new cushions, the cleaner nave ceiling, and the updated wood finishes that seamlessly blend the old with the new are just a few of the remarkable changes we now enjoy every Sunday morning. The benefits extended beyond the physical changes. The temporary shift of worship to the Great Hall sparked new conversations, fostering new connections that wouldn't have been possible with our habitual self-assigned seats. The jam-packed Great Hall, its makeshift altar, the choir crammed in the corner, and its awkward legroom spoke volumes to newcomers. It said, 'This is Calvary Episcopal Church-a community of commitment and resilience.

So, how do we build on this momentum? What does Calvary need right now? These were the overarching questions the vestry wanted to focus on for 2024.

Our retreat continued by remotely brainstorming our thoughts in the virtual chat box. Scott and Ardelle worked seamlessly together, transferring our ideas in Chick-fil-A drive-through efficiency onto a gigantic scroll.

Clarity, community, and ongoing welcome were common themes, leading the vestry to ask, "What do parishioners want to know, and how do we communicate better?"

We understand that the next phase of renovation, while exciting, may also bring about some anxiety and uncertainty. We know there are questions about Wednesday nights, parking, coffee hour, the elevator, Children's Chapel, and most importantly, the bathroom situation. These are all valid concerns, and we want to assure you that we are considering them as we move forward. Your comfort and needs are our priority.

But why stop there? What do parishioners need to know outside the scope of the renovation? What does it take to be in the bell choir or to teach Sunday School? What's a Baguette Brother, Basement Church, Daughters of the King? When's the next party?

Parishioners, we want you to know that your voice matters to us. The vestry is committed to serving you by actively listening to your suggestions, concerns, thoughts, and questions. Clarity strengthens a community, and we are dedicated to making that a reality in the exciting months ahead. Your input is invaluable to us.

I am honored to serve Calvary alongside this incredible group of caring and thoughtful leaders. Thank you for your support as we enter this next exciting phase!

IN CALVARY'S PRAYERS

Great Expectations

Locke & Reed Waldrop

New Life

- Nov. 26, 2023: Kyle and Dylan Rosencrans, grandsons of Margie & Sid McMillan
- Dec. 1, 2023: Dakota Lucian Angelo, great-grandson of Gayle & Raymond Spence
- Dec. 6, 2023: Heidi Paige Tieman, granddaughter of Mickey & Joel Wilhite
- Dec. 12, 2023: Virginia Anne Finley Wise, granddaughter of Carrington & Alex Wise
- Dec. 13, 2023: Peter Travis Kitterman, grandson of Kim & Jeff Kitterman
- Jan. 1, 2024: Palmer Robert Thuston, son of Mary Milton & Robert Thuston, grandson of Betsy & Ed Kelly
- Jan. 28, 2024: Asher Roman Frias, great-grandson of David Cocke

Saints Departed

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| Linda Anderson, mother of Ashton Anderson | Chris Holliday, friend of Barbara Etheridge | Charla Pinkham, sister of Cap Pinkham |
| Brenda Balfour, cousin of Debbie Balling | Max Turner Huls, friend of Michelle Pellay-Walker | William Paul Purcell, friend of Nancy Manire |
| Peter Ballenger, father of Maury Ballenger | Terry Ingram, friend of Paul McLain | Derrick Ransom, Sr., father of Derrick Ransom |
| Nex Benedict | Chris Jaynes, brother of Michael Jaynes | Matthew Redden, friend of Nick Nesmith |
| Mollie Bird, mother of Chris Bird | Jimmy Jones, husband of Robert Moody | Phyllis Renfro, friend of Peggy Owen |
| Carmen Brooks, friend of Madge & Whit Deacon | Ted Freeman Jones, father of John Jones | Wilma Ridner, friend of Ebet & Clayton Peebles |
| David Bryan, friend of Ruthie & Paul McLain | Margaret Sullivant Jourdan, sister of Henry Sullivant | Charlotte Robbins |
| Dr. James W. Bryant, father of Sam Bryant | Dan Kee, friend of Raymond Spence | Tim Roen, uncle of Paul Roen |
| Gail Cagle, mother of Lee Cagle | Judge David S. Kennedy, friend of Rhoda Smith | Bob Smiddy, friend of Rhoda Smith |
| Pat Churchman, friend of Carrington & Alex Wise | Jeff Kyser, friend of Kendra Martin | Joan Graves Smith, mother of Georgann Woods |
| Lister Clayton, father of Mak Clayton | Corrinne Lane, friend of Louise & Calvin Turley | Julie Stark, wife of Gordon Stark |
| Barbara Flurry Craig, grandmother of Gabbie Munn | Edith Langston, friend of Mary Honey | Tyler Taylor, friend of Ashley Baker |
| Steve Crain, friend of Kim & Jeff Kitterman | Kennedi Lee, granddaughter of Monica Marshall | Panio Tobes, brother-in-law of Elena Akin |
| Chris Davis, friend of Martin Jellinek | LaVelle Leopard, mother of Bailey Leopard | George Carroll Todd, uncle of Carroll Todd |
| Bobby Desjardins, brother of Becky Buczkowski | Mike Lester, friend of Joseph Powell | Paul Turnbow, friend of Michelle Pellay-Walker |
| Amy Doyle, friend of Mary Beth Seltzer | William J. Lovelace, friend of Laurie & Brooks Monypeny | John Turner, grandfather of Catie Thacker |
| Carol Drayton, friend of Mary & Ricky Fortin | Richard Lyon, father of Dalton Lyon | The Rev. Bob Van Doren |
| Keith R. Earle, cousin of Dee Wallace | Alma Manns, sister of Nat Marcotte | Paul Vermel, friend of Michelle Pellay-Walker |
| Carol Lou Flowers, friend of Ardelle & Scott Walters | Lee McWaters, friend of Betsy Kelly | Dudley Waldrop, father of Reed Waldrop |
| Amanda Grice, daughter of Nina & Len Grice | Joy Meguillo, niece of Elena Akin | Kimberly Myatt Wallace, sister-in-law of Dee Wallace |
| Raymond Harvell, father of Patti Newsom Lewis | Alan Meyers, friend of Liz Jones | Michael Weeks, friend of Nancy Manire |
| Sherron Harris, aunt of Dee Wallace | Evelyn Mills | Michael Whitten, friend of Gary Hager |
| Jim Harsch, friend of Kendra & Jim Martin | Julie Follis Morris, friend of Betsy Kelly | Ann Williams, mother of George Williams |
| Dianne Henry, friend of Ruthie & Paul McLain | Catherine A. Nelson, niece of Cathy Awsumb | Rene Wolf, husband of Mary Wolf |
| | Alisha Parker, friend of Michelle Wren | |
| | John Phillips, brother of Robbie Phillips | |



CHRONICLE

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CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

ROOM IN THE INN: SUMMER

Calvary's Room in the Inn, an ecumenical ministry that serves people experiencing homelessness, meets at Calvary the second Sunday of each month from May through September. The program provides emergency shelter and meals for women only during the summer.

There are many opportunities for you to get involved: cook dinner • bring salad • bake bread • make dessert • make up beds • dine with guests • assist in Calvary's Clothes Closet • drop off breakfast • clean up Monday morning • stay overnight • and many more.

For questions, contact Betty Jo Dulaney bettyjodulaney@gmail.com
To sign up, go to calvarymemphis.org/riti

Love God. Love your neighbor. Change the world.



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