



CALVARY  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# CHRONICLE

making God's love visible in downtown Memphis

Advent 2025

*a thrill  
of hope*





**CALVARY**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**making God's love visible  
in downtown Memphis**

**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

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

## WORSHIP LEADERS

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

The Rev. Katherine Bush  
*Associate Rector*

The Rev. Audrey Gonzalez  
*Assisting Priest*

The Rev. Scott Walters  
*Rector*

Wesley Rowell  
*Minister for Congregational  
Care*

The Rev. Mimsy Jones  
*Deacon*

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*Sr. Warden*

Bill Bangham

MC Hitt \*

Allison Parker  
*Jr. Warden*

Franklin Barton

Matt Seltzer

Christina Ross  
*Warden at Large*

Zoe Bondi \*

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Madge Deacon  
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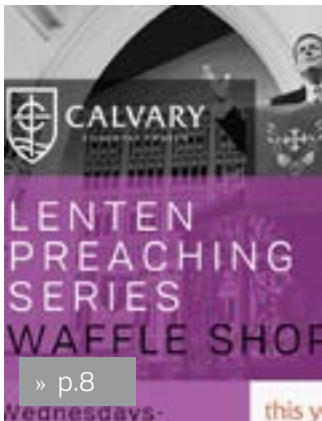
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I wonder if you've had a moment in which you knew in your depths that God's love included you. It might have been a conversation, an encounter, a moment of silence, or beauty, joy, or wonder.

## 8-9 LENTEN PREACHING SERIES

Mark your calendars now for what is sure to be an extraordinary season of Lent at Calvary!



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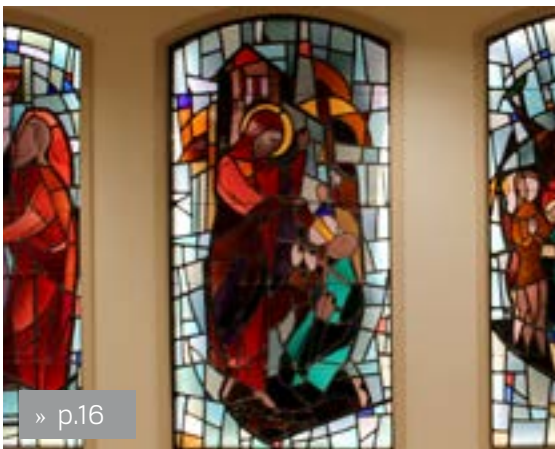
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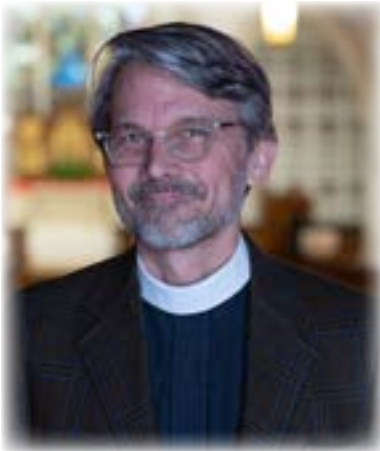
As a member of the vestry, I've been blessed with a unique vantage point—getting both a bird's eye view and an insider's perspective.

# Merciful REMINDERS

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by Scott Walters, Rector

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**F**ive Advents ago, Calvary celebrated Lessons & Carols as best we could in a strange and frightening time. Some choir members were spread out at safe distances in the nave. Others sang from home into their

computers or phones, their heads superimposed in the rafters like heavenly hosts of old. Likewise, some of our lectors read from the church, and others sent recordings from elsewhere. Pádraig Ó Tuama beamed in from Ireland, and Marie Howe read one of her own poems from her Manhattan apartment. The recording of that liturgy lives on in the cloud and in my memory as

a moving document of common prayer during a pandemic.

Marie's poem was a reimagining of the Annunciation to Mary. Or rather, the moment just after she received the angel's message. "Even if I don't see it again—," the poem begins, "nor ever feel it/ I know it is—and that if once it hailed me/ it ever does ..." Advent is rightly thought of as a season of the not quite yet. The twin themes of waiting for the coming of the Christ Child and for the second coming of Christ each pull our attention toward a mysterious future. We also live between those two mysteries, so Advent is an in-between time as well.

I love the image of young Mary, having just received that astonishing message, realizing that there will be a time when she won't see such a sight or feel such a feeling. But she also somehow knows already that the One who hails her in this moment will still be hailing her, calling



*The Annunciation, Henry Ossawa Tanner, public domain, via Wikimedia Commons*

her, reaching for her even on a day when the universe seems silent. She seems to be reminding her future self that this is so.

I wonder if you've had a moment in which you knew in your depths that God's love included you. It might have been a conversation, an encounter, a moment of silence, or beauty, joy, or wonder. Strange as it sounds, it may have been an experience of grief in which you realized how deep your own love for another person can be, and knew that your love must have a larger source beyond yourself. These annunciations don't last. It's their nature not to. But there's a mercy in the reminder that we're not supposed to feel the presence of God in every moment in just the same way.

For most of us, the seasons of Advent and Christmas bring more than tidings of comfort and joy. Maybe you will receive a deep, clear assurance that you are loved, as if a divine annunciation of this truth had been sent just for you. Or maybe

this Advent will be an in-between time, a time for remembering that God's love is just as real when I feel less than lovable, or that God still calls to my life, even on days when I find it difficult to listen.

Maybe Advent is a merciful reminder that most of life is in-between time. And that common prayer—that is, praying with other people, singing with them, serving with them, asking questions that matter alongside them—common prayer has been how almost all Christian people have been loved into their lives by God since the beginning.

I hope you receive the annunciation you need this Advent. And I invite you to remember that it will most likely come to you, not from an angel, but through the person next to you, in the pew or on the sidewalk, sorting socks or serving soup. Remember that even if annunciation takes a humbler form in your life than it did in Mary's, the love that hailed her hails you. It always has. It does right now. It always, always will.



# Advent at Calvary



30

November

## ADVENT FESTIVAL

Create an Advent wreath for use at home. We will provide all the necessary wreath-making supplies, candles, and fresh greenery.

21

December

## LESSONS & CAROLS

Join us at 5 p.m. as Calvary's choirs lead this beloved tradition of scripture, poetry, and song. Hear the story of Christ's birth, sing the carols that have filled hearts for generations, and rejoice in the love of God made known in Bethlehem.

22

December

## EMMANUEL MEAL

Emmanuel Meal is our annual Christmas luncheon for our neighbors who are experiencing poverty or homelessness. There are volunteer needs for help with cooking, serving, cleaning up, and more. All are welcome as we make God's love visible in downtown Memphis during this most special time of year.





# Christmas AT CALVARY

## CHRISTMAS EVE AT 3 P.M. WITH CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

As the sacred story unfolds, our chancel fills with animals, angels, shepherds, and stars! The children's choirs will sing the hymns of the season. Nursery care will be offered for children under five.

## CHRISTMAS EVE AT 6 P.M.

This Festival Eucharist will begin with a special 30-minute prelude at 5:30 p.m. The service will be live-streamed, and nursery care will be available for children under five.

## CHRISTMAS EVE AT 10 P.M.

This service begins with congregational caroling and choral anthems, leading directly into a Festival Eucharist.

## CHRISTMAS DAY AT 4 P.M.

Join us on Christmas Day to celebrate the birth of Christ. The Rev. Scott Walters will preach and celebrate.





CALVARY  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# LENTEN PREACHING SERIES WAFFLE SHOP



Wednesdays-  
Fridays  
February 19-  
March 27, 2026

*preaching*  
12:05 p.m.

*waffle shop*  
11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

*dialogue: live  
podcast recording*  
wednesdays  
6:15-7:15 p.m.

*silence in the city*  
tuesdays  
12-12:30 p.m.

## this year's speakers:

Kirk Whalum  
Anasa Troutman  
Dante Stewart  
Rabbi Micah Greenstein  
Dean Yolanda Pierce  
The Very Rev. Katie Churchwell  
Drew Jackson  
Kontji Anthony  
The Rev. Dr. Johnathan Lee Walton  
Dr. Stephen Cook  
The Rt. Rev. Deon Johnson  
The Rev. Dr. Heber Brown, III  
Roshun Austin  
The Rev. Ben Bradshaw  
The Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor  
Pádraig Ó Tuama  
Marie Howe

LEARN MORE AT  
[CALVARYMEMPHIS.ORG/LENT](http://CALVARYMEMPHIS.ORG/LENT)



## WEDNESDAY

ASH WEDNESDAY **18**DANTÉ STEWART\*\* **25**

A writer and theologian whose book *Shoutin' in the Fire* explores Black faith, identity, and resistance; Stewart's work powerfully bridges personal story with prophetic truth.

KATIE CHURCHWELL\*\* **04**

Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral in Oklahoma City, Churchwell is a trailblazing Episcopal priest known for her vibrant preaching and compassionate, contemporary leadership in the Church.

JOHNATHAN LEE WALTON\*\* **11**

President of Princeton Theological Seminary, Dr. Walton is a scholar, preacher, and public voice on faith, justice, and moral leadership in the modern world.

HEBER BROWN III\*\* **18**

Pastor, community organizer, and founder of the Black Church Food Security Network, Brown connects faith and food justice to nourish both body and soul.

BARBARA BROWN TAYLOR\*\* **25**

An acclaimed preacher, teacher, and *New York Times* bestselling author of *An Altar in the World* and *Leaving Church*, Taylor invites readers to find the sacred in everyday life.

## THURSDAY

KIRK WHALUM **19**

A Grammy-winning jazz saxophonist and ordained minister, Whalum is best known for his hit "I Will Always Love You" solo with Whitney Houston and his deep connection between music and faith.

MICAH GREENSTEIN **26**

Senior Rabbi of Temple Israel in Memphis, Greenstein is a dynamic interfaith leader known for building bridges across religious and racial divides throughout the city.

DREW JACKSON **05**

Poet, pastor, and author of *God Speaks Through Wombs*, Jackson weaves Scripture and social justice into lyrical reflections on Black identity and liberation.

STEPHEN COOK **12**

Senior Pastor of Second Baptist Church in Memphis, Cook is a dynamic preacher and community leader known for inspiring faith, fostering social justice, and nurturing deep connections within the city.

ROSHUN AUSTIN\*\* **19**

CEO of The Works, Inc., Roshun is a visionary community developer working to create affordable housing, economic equity, and thriving neighborhoods in Memphis.

PÁDRAIG Ó TUAMA\*\* **26**

Irish poet, theologian, and host of *Poetry Unbound*, Ó Tuama is known for his soulful storytelling and tender explorations of faith, language, and belonging.

## FRIDAY

ANASA TROUTMAN **20**

An artist, producer, and cultural strategist, Troutman serves as CEO of The Historic Clayborn Temple, where she uses storytelling and creativity to fuel community healing, justice, and spiritual transformation.

YOLANDA PIERCE **27**

Dean of Vanderbilt Divinity School, theologian, and author of *In My Grandmother's House*, Pierce weaves faith, justice, and personal narrative into a powerful theological vision.

KONTJI ANTHONY **06**

A beloved Memphis journalist turned communications entrepreneur, Anthony spent 17 years on WMC Action News 5 and continues to amplify community voices through storytelling.

DEON JOHNSON **13**

Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri, Johnson made history as the first Black, openly gay bishop in the diocese and is celebrated for his joyful, inclusive vision of the Church.

BEN BRADSHAW **20**

A native Memphian and classically trained chef, Bradshaw pastors St. Michael Catholic Church on Summer Ave., blending his culinary gifts and missionary heart into a joyful, hospitable ministry.

MARIE HOWE\*\* **27**

Former New York State Poet Laureate, winner of the 2025 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry, and author of *What the Living Do*, Howe writes luminous, accessible poems about love, loss, and the holiness of ordinary life.

# CORDS OF KINDNESS

## *Bands of Love*



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by Bill Bangham

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**T**he new art installation in Calvary Commons is not the first piece David Johnson has done for Calvary. The artist created the fabric sculpture that cascades down the length of the Nave and drapes above our heads each fall in honor of those living with and affected by AIDS. While fabrics and cords are what we know of him, they were not the first medium he worked in.

It was hair.

"My parents were nomads," said David, "moving from one low-paying job to another at a moment's notice." Each move usually

meant a new school. It is difficult for him to remember how many schools he attended. By the time he was in high school, he had had enough. The family had landed for a time in Jackson, Tenn., where his grandparents lived. When his parents once again found jobs that required moving on, he refused to move with them. He elected to stay with his grandparents.

In the midst of this chaos, the artist in him began to emerge. He would often get in trouble for drawing in class. One teacher told him, "This is history, not drawing," he said. "I knew there was no money for more education past high school," so he learned







*David Johnson in the Commons with his latest art installation at Calvary. Photo by Bill Bangham*



to cut hair in the evenings. By April before his graduation in 1964, he had his state license.

He was making a living. But life was not easy. He was in denial about being gay and engaged. When he came out to his fiancée, she said it didn't matter. She would marry him anyway. The relationship didn't last.

Involvement with a Lambeth College theater group and a trip with them to New York City opened up the world for him. He went back four years in a row. When Overton Square opened in 1970, he moved to Memphis.

"It was the closest thing to Greenwich Village."

He opened his own business, which he operated until two years ago—"I still have clients at







*Cords of Kindness; Bands of Love as seen from the Emison Room on the second floor.*

Trezevant Manor I cut hair for”—and met his life partner.

He began taking classes at the College of Art and (then) Memphis State, and got into decorating. David said it felt “as though all my worlds came together.”

When considering design for the art installation in the Commons, he thought of using cords, but was reticent because of the negative connotations they carry—cords can bind, entangle, represent physical danger, or musical discord. Then one morning in the Rev. Mimsy Jones’ formation class last summer, she shared the following verses from Hosea:

“...I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love.”

—Hosea 11:3-4

They were the words he needed. The art would be cords.

For two weeks, the Memphis Room served as a workshop as David prepared his art for installation.

Cords appear, fly through the space above the Commons, disappear into walls, then reappear, again and again, finally coming together, streaming down the east wall, and ending in a Gordian knot. The colors reflect the stained glass in the walls and Bethlehem Chapel.

They represent those who comprise Calvary— young and old, of different races and sexual orientations, those with means and those without—a complex community that comes together, bound by kindness and love, which makes Calvary such a special place.

# UPCOMING



**Dec.**  
**1**

All are warmly welcome for the ordination of Wesley Steven Rowell as a transitional deacon

at 7 p.m. at Calvary. A festive reception will follow in the Great Hall.

**Dec.**  
**3**

### **Family Feast Days: St. Nicholas**

Celebrate St. Nicholas with songs, stories, and a

simple communion—designed for little ones, but all ages are welcome! Held from 5:15 to 5:45 in the Bethlehem Chapel. Stay for dinner or head home after. Questions? Contact [jbusby@calvarymemphis.org](mailto:jbusby@calvarymemphis.org).

### **Theologians in the Wild, Redux**

Join this Wednesday evening class Dec. 3-17 and read short stories and reflections by some of the best spiritual guides of our day. These readings circle around Advent themes and honor the season as we prepare for Christmas.

**Dec.**  
**6**

### **LGBTQIA+ & Friends Holiday Social**

All are welcome at 4:30 p.m. at the home of Brooks Terry

& Clay Woemmel, 6530 Kirby Forest Cv., 38119, for some holiday cheer! This festive gathering will be a potluck, so bring a favorite dish to share. Sign up to let us know what you're bringing here:

[calvarymemphis.org/holiday](http://calvarymemphis.org/holiday). It's a wonderful season to celebrate community, laughter, and good company—so mark your calendars, and come ready to make the yuletide gay!



**Dec.**  
**7**

### **Bishop's Visit**

The Rt. Rev. Phoebe A. Roaf, the Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of West

Tennessee, will be the celebrant and preacher at both the 8 and 10:30 a.m. worship services, when she makes her annual visit to Calvary for Confirmation.

**Dec.**  
**14**

### **Lessons and Carols: Hymns & Anthems (Adult Formation)**

It's been some time since Calvary offered a Christmas Lessons & Carols (coming up on Sunday evening, Dec. 21). During Sunday morning's adult formation class, we'll take a deeper look at the meaning of the anthems and hymns selected for this beautiful event.

### **YOUnited Diocesan Youth Event**

Join youth from other parishes in the diocese for dinner and Compline at All Saints' Episcopal Church (1508 S White Station Rd.) followed by bowling across the street (1576 S White Station Rd.) at Billy Hardwick's.

**Dec.**  
**21**

### **Christmas Storytime**

During the formation hour, children in PK–5th grade are invited

to cozy up in the Corner Room for Christmas stories, laughter, and holiday fun. Festive attire encouraged—Christmas pajamas welcome!



### **Lessons and Carols: Poetry & Scripture**

Join us for part two of the adult formation class, as we take a deeper look at the meaning of the scriptural readings and the poetry selected for Christmas Lessons & Carols.

### **Christmas Lessons & Carols**

Join us at 5 p.m. as the choirs of Calvary lead this beloved Anglican tradition of scripture, poetry, and song. Hear the ancient prophecies and the story of Christ's birth, sing familiar carols that have echoed through generations, and celebrate the joy of God's love made known in Bethlehem. Stay after for cookies and cocoa in the Great Hall.



**Dec.**  
**22**

### **Emmanuel Meal**

Emmanuel Meal is Calvary's annual Christmas



# EVENTS

luncheon for our neighbors experiencing poverty or homelessness. Volunteers are needed to help with cooking, serving, cleanup, and more. This ministry is completely supported by donations, which will be collected on Sunday mornings beginning Nov. 30. Sign-up at [calvarymemphis.org/emmanuel-meal](http://calvarymemphis.org/emmanuel-meal)!



**Dec.  
24**

## **Christmas Eve at Calvary** **Christmas Eve at 3 p.m. with Children's Christmas Pageant**

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

### **Christmas Eve at 6 p.m.**

This Festival Eucharist service will begin with a special 30-minute prelude at 5:30 p.m., featuring music for strings and choir, featuring the Calvary Choir. Nursery care will be offered for children under 5 during this family-friendly service. This service will be livestreamed.

### **Christmas Eve at 10 p.m.**

This service begins with congregational caroling and choral anthems, leading directly into a Festival Eucharist. This intimate service reflects the glory and beauty of the story of Christ's birth with hallmarks of Anglican worship—candlelight and incense.

**Dec.  
25**

## **Christmas Day** **Christmas Day at 4 p.m.**

Join us on Christmas Day to celebrate the birth of Christ. It's a time for joyous carols and a reflection on the greatest gift of all, filling our hearts with hope and love. The Rev. Scott Walters will preach and celebrate.

## **Calvary Offices**

Staff offices will be closed for the Christmas holiday from Dec. 25 through Jan. 1. If you have a pastoral emergency, call the church at 901-525-6602, and follow the prompts.

**Jan.  
4**

## **Sunday Scripture**

In this morning's adult formation class, dig in to some good conversation and learn more about the stories we hear in church. No homework required in advance, but you'll walk into the 10:30 a.m. liturgy with extra insight and maybe your own ideas about what the preacher could say!

**Jan.  
7**

## **Lenten Sampler (Jan. 7 - Feb. 11)**

What a feast we have to share in Lent—and not just waffles and fish pudding! Join in a conversation each Wednesday evening to get a preview and learn about the array of perspectives and wisdom of the preachers who are coming to Calvary for our annual Lenten Preaching Series.



## **Family Feast Worship: Epiphany**

Celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany with songs, stories, and a simple communion—designed just for little ones. Join us 5:15–5:45 p.m. in the Bethlehem Chapel. All ages welcome! Stay for dinner or head home after. Questions? Contact [jbusby@calvarymemphis.org](mailto:jbusby@calvarymemphis.org).

**Jan.  
11**

## **Three Wise Men, Calvary's own Magi (Jan. 11, 18 & Feb. 8)**

We'll celebrate wisdom from right here in our pews. Come to the adult formation class to learn more from our insightful companions and receive the gift of getting to know each other's stories.

## **Coffee with the Clergy**

Coffee with the Clergy is for anyone new to Calvary or reengaging after a time away. If you are just curious and have a nagging question or two about the quirky miracle that is Calvary Church, grab some coffee in the Commons after the 10:30 a.m. service, and then bring your coffee and questions into the Memphis Room. Enjoy a conversation with the Rev. Wesley Rowell about life at Calvary... or life in general. All are welcome.

## **Special Friends Fellowship**

Special Friends Club is a diocesan fellowship group for adults with special needs. Coordinated by Janie Morris, churches across the diocese take turns sponsoring specific Sundays by providing dinner, volunteers, and activities. It is a wonderful gathering and we would love to have more Calvary folks involved! Please contact Jocelyn Busby at [jbusby@calvarymemphis.org](mailto:jbusby@calvarymemphis.org) for more information.

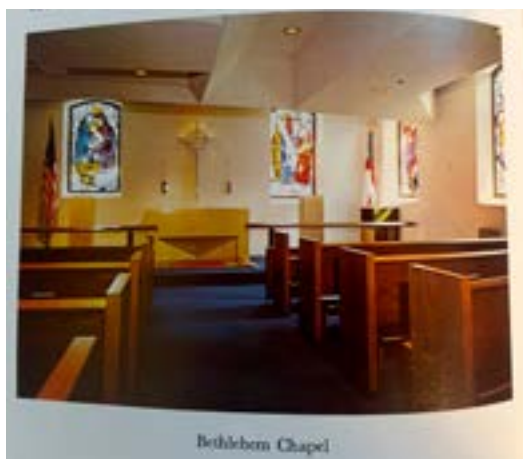
# SEEING IN A NEW *Light*



by Christina Ross

*The triptych of windows in the entry hall*

Walking into the newly renovated spaces at Calvary, one of the most striking things is the art now brought into the light—pieces long stored away or overlooked that now enrich the renewed spaces. The renovation created open, welcoming areas where art and architecture meet. Among the most captivating are the stained-glass windows in the Commons, the entry hall, and the Bethlehem Chapel.



Bethlehem Chapel

*A photo from The Great Book of the former Bethlehem Chapel*

The four windows in the chapel and the nativity window in the Commons are attributed to Memphis artist Dorothy Sturm (1910–1988), most likely created during her

time with Laukhuff Stained Glass on Cooper Avenue. Installed originally in the 1969 Bethlehem Chapel, these windows depict biblical scenes: the nativity, Jesus healing the sick and lame, and Jesus speaking to children. Now backlit, their vivid colors and modern style illuminate ancient stories anew.

The triptych of windows in the entry hall—depicting the Trinity as Hand (Father), Lamb (Son), and Dove (Holy Spirit)—once adorned the Montgomery Foyer. Their bright orange hues now glow warmly as parishioners enter Calvary.

Researching Sturm's legacy deepened my appreciation for her. Known for her work across media—from illustration and enamel to collage and stained glass—her art always reveals "excellent composition, vivid coloration, and the utmost creative qualities of the medium."<sup>1</sup>

My friend Skip Howard wrote an article for The First Baptist Church in March 2025 upon visiting the Lenten Preaching Series, noting the history of Dorothy Sturm,



the artist. In it I learned how deeply rooted in Memphis Dorothy Sturm's story is. She attended Snowden School and St. Mary's Episcopal School, graduating in 1929. Though first recognized for her poetry, she found her calling in visual art. After studies in New York at the Grand Central School of Art, the Art Students League, and Columbia University, she combined her artistic and scientific interests as a medical illustrator. Her hand-painted illustrations for *The Morphology of Human Blood Cells*, first published in 1954 and still in use today, remain a testament to her precision and artistry.

Returning to Memphis in 1934, Sturm became a founding faculty member of the Memphis Academy of Art (later the Memphis College of Art) when it was housed on Adams Avenue in what's now Victorian Village. She taught there for more than forty years, retiring as emeritus professor in 1975. In the mid-1950s, to supplement her teaching and illustration work, she joined Binswanger Glass Company and later Laukhuff Stained Glass, where she learned the craft of stained-glass design and developed her own enamel work in the abstract expressionist style.

Her friend and collaborator Mickey Laukhuff once wrote: "Dorothy Sturm has been teaching so long at the Memphis Academy of Arts and moonlighting as a designer of stained-glass windows and a semi-scientist painting the diseased cells of sickle cell

anemia and always doing her bit to promote the arts of Memphis, that she has come to be taken somewhat for granted. Which is a terrible mistake."

He concluded, "Miss Sturm is a living, breathing testimony to the fact that creative, inventive, innovative, and beautiful art is being created in Memphis."<sup>2</sup>

It's a joy to see her stained-glass windows shine again at Calvary—a vivid reminder that this sacred place can renew its spaces while remaining true to its downtown mission.

*For a full C.V. of Sturm's career, see her page at David Lusk Gallery([davidluskgallery.com/artists/dorothy\\_sturm](http://davidluskgallery.com/artists/dorothy_sturm)) and the database at the National Metal Museum ([metalmuseum.catalogaccess.com](http://metalmuseum.catalogaccess.com)).*

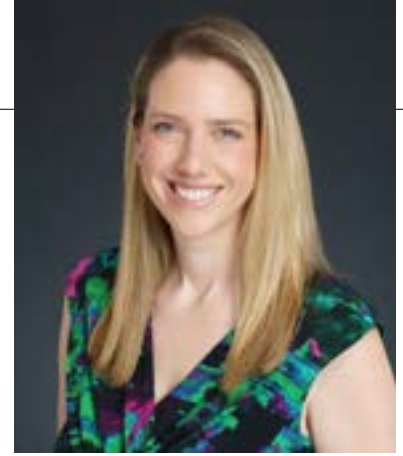
*Acknowledgment is made of contributions to this article by Vincent Astor, the late Calvary Episcopal Church historian, Connie Marshall, the present church historian, David Lusk, and Skip Howard, church historian at First Baptist Church.*

[1] Carrier, Karen Blockman and Donna Riso Leatherman, eds., with text by Dr. Marcus Orr. *Cobalt: The Art of Dorothy Sturm*. Memphis: Cobalt Publishing, 1988.

[2] Northrop, Guy. "Living with art: African masks and sculpture come to MSU." 23 January 1972, section 6, p. 2.

*Stained glass windows in the new Bethlehem Chapel*





# VESTRY UPDATE

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by Jessica Flynn, Senior Warden

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Sometimes when I can't sleep, I listen to the police scanner. I find comfort in knowing there are people out there ready to come to our aid when we call for help—no matter the time or day.

As I muse about why I have this strange habit... could this also be what draws me to Calvary? Our city, our neighbors, our own souls are in desperate need of assistance. We cannot survive here alone. We need each other, and I find this here at Calvary.

As a member of the vestry, I've been blessed with a unique vantage point—getting both a bird's eye view and an insider's perspective. This year's vestry named four values as our guideposts and discussed benchmarks for determining whether, at the end of the year, the church was thriving: community, sanctuary, listening, and inclusion. With joy and without a doubt, at the close of this year, I can report that we are thriving.

We are supporting **Community** both internally and externally at Calvary. Our fantastically renovated and open spaces have been incredible for facilitating new and bolstering established programming. Community is thriving as attendance grows at Wednesday night dinners,

Friends of Music events, and Sunday morning coffee hours. Calvary's Neighborhood Breakfast is busier than ever, and we are increasingly supported by community partnerships. Also, this year we have had vestry members specifically involved in the 87 Adams memorial project and MICAHA, reporting back on the hard work being done to remember the past and create a better future.

I see Calvary's sanctuary as a physical place of refuge, a safe place to worship. We also use **Sanctuary** as a metaphor, where we as a congregation choose love over hate and support each other. We are fostering **Inclusion** and strive to offer a Christian community where you can simply be. This year, our vestry initiated a revitalized LGBTQIA+ Ministry, currently exploring Calvary's history and dream for the future. Also, I was honored to assist in the search and hiring of our new minister for congregational care, Wesley Rowell, whose ministry embodies the connection between inclusion and Christ.

We are **Listening**, without preconceived notions, being open to surprise. We are hearing—from members to visitors alike—that the new spaces are beautiful and more accessible, how gracious our staff and volunteers are, and

that our space is so welcoming and inviting. We know we are thriving, seeing the smiling faces walking through our doors on any given day of the week. Speaking of visitors, vestry members Clay Woemmel and Mary Jane Viar, along with Phoebe Lusk-Hussong, answered the call to lead the coordination for this year's Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee annual convention hosted here at Calvary.

As the governing body, the vestry had enormous joy in being able to approve funds for the Rev. Scott Walters's summer sabbatical, from which he returned rested, inspired, and encouraged—one of our goals for the year. We were also thrilled to approve endowment funds for the porte-cochere construction, which now stands as a welcoming pillar, adding comfort and accessibility in our community.

All of this has been made possible by you—your spirits of service through Christ and your unwavering financial commitments through annual pledges, capital campaign promises, and planned gifts to the endowment.

We are God's community helpers, and we are truly *making God's love visible in downtown Memphis*.



# IN CALVARY'S PRAYERS

## Wedding Bells

Lil Bird & Robert Weaver, 10/25/2025

Phoebe Fulmer & Pierce Williams, 10/18/2025

Caroline Gamble & Tristan Alexander, 10/11/2025

Caroline Jones & Connor Ballard, 9/6/2025

Caroline Kelly & Mark Harthun, 9/20/2025

Meredith Taylor & Collin Howser, 8/23/2025

## Great Expectations

McKenzie & Wade Scofield

Elizabeth Parrish & Hazem Hassan

## New Life

Otis Jones Anderson, son of Sarah & Garrett Anderson,  
and grandson of Palmer & John Jones, 08/05/25

Charles John Banks, son of Lindsay Carlson & Rafe  
Banks, 08/08/25

Edwin Pratt Crenshaw II, son of Bridget & Clay Crenshaw,  
and grandson of Rhea Crenshaw, 07/17/25

Henry Edward Ellis, son of Caroline & Cameron Ellis,  
08/27/25

Elizabeth Connell Hall, daughter of Elizabeth & Connell  
Hall, 08/27/25

Louisa Catherine Man, daughter of Brooke & Christian  
Man, 10/07/25

## Saints Departed

Carol Bailey, mother of Wendy Bailey

Robert Lee "Bob" Browne, husband of Shirley Browne  
and father of Liz Browne

Dave Claus, friend of William Etnyre

Novella Smith Arnold Cromer, mother of Monique Smith

Don Donnelly, brother-in-law of Mary Nease

Roy Falkowski, father of Tanya Aquino

Cherry Falls, life partner of Camille Deadrick

Cecil Raymond Ferguson, grandfather of Olivia Wilmot

Elizabeth Ferguson, friend of many

Johnnie Lucille Ferguson, grandmother of Olivia Wilmot

Ray Forbes

Larry Fuller, friend of Dave Rupke

Michael Gelose, cousin of David Balling

Trow Gillespie, friend of Penn Owen

John Griffin, son of Jane Williams and Walton Griffin

Cole Henderson, friend of Adam Cruthirds

Huey Holden, friend of the McQuiston family

Robert Hollingsworth, friend of the Lusk-Hussong family

Bob Jackson, uncle of Robyn Banks

Judy Johnson, friend of the Bush family

Mildred Johnson, grandmother of Anna Kathryn Word

Gene Johnson, brother-in-law of Ginny Webb

David Keller, uncle of John-Travis Bussell

Bill Kenner, father of Alex Kenner

Barbara King, friend of Eyleen Farmer

Michael Murphree, nephew of Thomas Murphree

Lil Myers, mother of Martin Jellinek

Chris Nicholson, nephew of Mary O'Brien

John Robertson, friend of Martin Jellinek

Daniel Russell, son of Beverly & John Russell

Harry Sayle, friend of Crady Schneider

The Rev. Steve Secaur, friend of Ted Schurch

Shea Smith, brother of Steve Smith

Bob Smith, father of Steve Smith

The Rev. René Somodevilla

Charles Talley, cousin of Monica Marshall

Sarah Doss Thomas, friend of June Rose

Jeannette ("Jet") Thompson, friend of Leslie Atwood  
Smith

Joseph Rhodes Thweatt, friend of Len Grice

Karen Tynes, friend of Lynda Gayle Deacon

Walker Uhlhorn

Chris West, cousin of Mary O'Brien

Beckham West, friend of the Bush family



# CHRONICLE

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

God willing, and the People of God consenting,  
**The Right Reverend Phoebe A. Roaf**  
IV Bishop of West Tennessee  
on behalf of  
**The Right Reverend Sally French**  
VIII Bishop of New Jersey  
will ordain  
**Wesley Steven Rowell**  
to the Sacred Order of Deacons in  
Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church  
Monday, the first of December  
In the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Five  
At seven o'clock in the evening  
Calvary Episcopal Church  
102 N. 2nd St.  
Memphis, Tennessee

**Your prayers and presence are requested.**  
For those unable to attend in person,  
please join us online for this joyous occasion at  
[www.youtube.com/CalvaryEpiscopal](http://www.youtube.com/CalvaryEpiscopal)

Clergy: Red robes Reception following