



CHRONICLE

making God's love visible in downtown Memphis

CALVARY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Summer 2026



FINDING BEAUTY

Everywhere



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

The Rev. Wesley Rowell
Associate Rector

The Rev. Mimsy Jones
Deacon

VESTRY

Allison Parker
Sr. Warden

Bill Bangham

Wes Nelson

Barbara Etheridge
Jr. Warden

Zoe Bondi *

Christina Ross

Matt Seltzer
Warden at Large

Joe Brandenburg

Reg Udoj

Clay Woemmel
Clerk

Jordan Edmundson

Mary Jane Viar

Erik Ball
Treasurer

Andy Estes

Ginny Webb

William Etnyre

* youth representative

Heather Grosvenor

Leanne Kleinmann

STAFF

Robyn Banks
Director of Communications

Jackson Hearn
Associate Organist

Monica Marshall
Sexton

Nathan Brasfield
Director of Youth and Community Ministries

Richard Hendricks
Facilities Manager

Margaret McLean
Finance Manager

Jocelyn Busby
Director of Children & Family Ministries

Mary Honey
Information Officer

Mary O'Brien
Parish Chef

Mak Clayton
Community Liaison

Dr. Kristin Lensch
Organist-Choirmaster

Ebet Peoples
Welcome and Community

Connie Marshall
Information Officer

Steve Smith
Director of Finance & Operations



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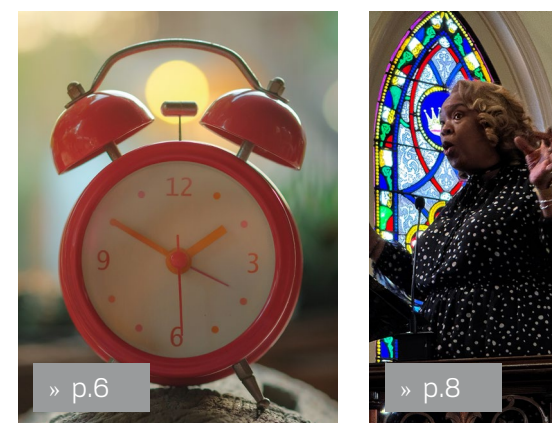
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A fleeting, simple act of kindness, mercy, welcome, or care is also a little ladder toward something more beautiful, as surely as an enduring work of art is. A word of forgiveness or a healing touch can be an opening onto the wholeness each human life was created for.

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Little Ladders

by Scott Walters, Rector

As I write this, it's been raining off and on for days, and the forecasters say it will continue well into next week. Facilities Manager Richard Hendricks just stepped into my office to say he and Heather Grosvenor had managed to fill the planters around our block in between the showers, finishing up early this morning. Calvary's people gave nearly \$2,000 on Mother's Day for this beautification project, which a few vestry members identified and pursued. Lawyers walking up Second Street to court paused to say thank you for these bright gifts, available to every passerby, free of charge.



The mystic philosopher Simone Weil once wrote, "The truly precious things are those forming ladders reaching toward the beauty of the world, openings onto it." This is a helpful way for me to think about the essence of just about everything we do at Calvary, from landscaping to Evensong to Neighborhood Breakfast to Children's Chapel. A fleeting, simple act of kindness, mercy, welcome, or care is also a little ladder toward something more beautiful, as surely as an enduring work of art is. A word of forgiveness or a healing touch can be an opening onto the wholeness each human life was created for.

This *Chronicle* looks back on a beautiful spring at Calvary, from Lenten Preaching and Waffle Shop to Holy Week and Easter, and a Sunday of celebration for our graduating seniors. It highlights the ongoing Bridge Care ministry of our ministry partners at the UT Health Sciences Center and the new Calvary Legacy Society. It also looks toward the summer season to come, which will bring sabbatical time for a priest, some different formation and fellowship offerings for us all, and much more.

As you know well, these are just a few representative ways in which the life of this Christian community blossoms in the world. What they hold in common with the flowers in those sidewalk planters is the way Calvary's life is not hoarded or kept only for ourselves. It's offered to whoever might wander into

our midst, or even just meander past that handsome old church at the corner of Second and Adams.

That you give so much of yourselves so freely for the good of this city changes me, challenges me, forms me a little more into the person God created me to be with each passing season. In a world in which my attention turns too often to what is most cruel and deformed, you are some of the little ladders in my life reaching toward the beauty of the world. You are openings onto a world made more beautiful and more whole by each act of faithful generosity, whether little or large, in response to the good news of redeeming grace that Jesus lived, died, and rose again to make real.



Analog Days

by Katherine Bush, Associate Rector



Sabbaths are about rest at their core, rest as practiced by God in the first chapter of Genesis. And on that seventh day, God paused and appreciated, looking upon the work of creation and seeing its goodness. Later, keeping the Sabbath becomes a commandment for God's people of such import that it precedes laws about violence and theft. "Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy." Beyond pausing or resting, another way of keeping time "holy" is to keep time differently. That is, in sabbath practice, we step out of the schedules and routines we're accustomed to and shape the hours and days of our lives differently for a while. We set certain hours or days or seasons apart, and in those different times we rest, we appreciate, and we change our pace. It's this "living life in different ways" concept of sabbath that I'm most drawn to in this moment approaching my sabbatical summer.

A few years ago, our rector, Scott Walters, and I had a conversation at a Waffle Shop table with a man studying work and labor. He opined that once upon a time, you could watch someone work and know what they do for a living: teaching children, building roofs, caring for the sick. But, he went on, today more and more of us do more and more of our work staring at a screen: emailing, filling in spreadsheets, scheduling, more emailing. So, we can sit amid a group of people who are all 'at work' and not know what any of their jobs are because everyone is focused on the glowing squares in front of them; all of our work looks more and more the same from the outside. It occurred to me that even on my day off, I spend a good bit of time hunched over my laptop: scrolling, reading the news, shopping,

doing my daily allotment of NYT puzzles. This means that, from the outside looking in, my time not at work actually looks a lot like my time at work. Not only could you not discern what I do for a living, but you might not even be able to tell whether I'm at work or at rest.

So, I've been thinking of ways that I can live and move in the world differently, and to do so in such ways that it would be visibly different from the outside looking in. To do that, I hope to go as low-tech as possible, to untether my phone from my hand - and my life from that attention-hoarding machine. And then what? Well, some ideas are still forming, and I know that rest for me needs a little scaffolding (or it's Doritos and back to scrolling). With intention, there will be some reading, some appreciating beauty and art, some learning, some time with good people, some time outside, and a good bit of walking. I've got a little travel planned and will also be glad to be around when my boys are home this summer. Other details are still coming into focus, and I'm excited and curious about what else emerges.

Keep the time holy and keep it differently. I don't

thrive with a lot of white space, so I'll be purposeful about structuring my time, but in some new ways. When Abraham Heschel talks about sabbath practice, he talks about building sanctuaries and cathedrals made of time: creating spaces in which we move at a different pace, speak in distinct vocabularies, and are called into relationship with God and the world in new and particular ways. I can't express how grateful I am for this gift of time, for Calvary generously offering me a different sanctuary to live in for a while. And though I don't exactly know how these analog days will unfold, I feel certain that I'll be a little different when I return to y'all and this sacred space at the end of the summer.

If you're interested in carving out a little sabbatical life for yourself, consider joining me in some deliberate tech-sabbath time this summer and being intentional about what you replace that time with. I'd love to compare notes when I return about how this different way of being in the world changes our perspectives.

A Sanctuary of Spirit and Sustenance

Reflections on the 103rd Lenten Preaching Series

by Katy Leopard, Lenten Preaching Series Coordinator



Rabbi Micah Greenstein greets the congregation.



For over a century, the corner of Second and Adams has served as a spiritual pulse point for the city of Memphis during the season of Lent. However, the 103rd Lenten Preaching

Series (LPS) in 2026 felt uniquely charged. There was a tangible energy in the building this year, a vibrant, humming electricity that moved through the sanctuary, into the Mural Room, and spilled out onto the sidewalks of downtown. It was the sound of a community not just observing a tradition, but actively seeking a transformation.

This year's series was a profound testament to the power of a "diverse pulpit." Calvary has long committed itself to bringing the best of the nation's theologians to Memphis, but 2026 marked a deepening of that mission. The roster

reflected a beautiful, intentional tapestry of voices, local and national, clerical and lay, that spoke directly to the complexities of our modern world.

Locally, we were honored to host Roshun Austin, the executive director of The Works. Her presence bridged the gap between the sacredness of the sanctuary and the sacredness of the neighborhood. When she spoke of "black place-building" and the dignity of housing and food access in Memphis, it wasn't just a lecture; it was a sermon on the Kingdom



Anasa Troutman preaches in Calvary's 103rd Lenten Preaching Series

"Memphis is not just a recipient of wisdom; it is a fountain of it."

of God manifest in our own zip codes.

Similarly, the energy shifted when Anasa Troutman stood in the pulpit. Representing TheBigWe and the historic Clayborn Temple, Anassa brought a prophetic urgency to the series. Her work at the intersection of culture, art, and justice resonated deeply with a congregation hungry for "soul work" that moves beyond the walls of the church. Having voices like Roshun and Anassa alongside our national guests underscored a vital truth: Memphis is not just a recipient of wisdom; it is a fountain of it.

Of course, this season was also marked by the human reality of fragility. We felt a collective ache when we learned that Pádraig Ó Tuama and Marie Howe were unable to join us. These two masters of the intersection between poetry and prayer were highly anticipated. We had guests who traveled from Nashville, Little Rock, and beyond, specifically to attend the retreat and hear their voices in person.

While the disappointment was real, it was met with the very thing the LPS is designed to foster: a community of care. The sanctuary became a house of intercession as we lifted up prayers for their swift and full recovery. We are currently working diligently to reschedule the retreat, holding onto the hope of their eventual arrival with the same patience that the Lenten season requires.

Amid these unexpected cancellations, we witnessed a modern-day miracle in the form of Dr. Mitzi Minor. To step into a pulpit on short notice is a daunting task; to do so with the grace, intellectual depth, and spiritual fire that Mitzi brought is a rare gift. We owe her a debt of gratitude for stepping into the gap and reminding us that God's word is never sidelined by a change in plans. Her contributions were not merely "substitutions" but were essential



Drew Jackson in Calvary's pulpit. Photos by Bill Bangham

highlights of the entire series. And the Wednesday evening dialogues with Jonathan Walton, Heber Brown, Barbara Brown Taylor, and others offered an intimate, deeper dive into questions and theologies both local and national.

Looking back on the 2026 series, we are reminded that the LPS is a unique gift to the City of Memphis. It is one of the few remaining "third places," where the barriers of the world seem to thin. In a time when our public discourse is often heavy and fractured, Calvary's LPS offers a different rhythm. It is a place where people from all walks of life meet at a shared table or a shared pew.

The magic of the series lies in its dual nature: we are nourished by both the Waffles and the WORD. The smell of the Waffle Shop, a Memphis institution in its own right, provided the comfort of tradition and the warmth of hospitality. But it was the Word, delivered through a diverse and powerful array of messengers, that provided the ultimate sustenance.

Thank you to everyone who cooked, served, listened, and prayed. The 103rd Lenten Preaching Series reminded us that even in the "wilderness" of our current times, and when many houses of worship are struggling, there is a well at the corner of Second and Adams that never runs dry. We leave this season full, not just of waffles, but of a renewed spirit and a deeper love for our neighbors.

Waffle Shop: the happiest place in Memphis

by Connie Marshall,
Waffle Shop Chair



A couple of years ago, one of our volunteers described Waffle Shop as the happiest place in Memphis during Lent. This year, it felt like that—and something more.

This year we had settled into our new space, and it showed. There was an ease to everything, an energy that felt both electric and deeply grounded. Volunteers, patrons, and even our speakers could sense it the moment they walked in. It was busy, but it was also joyful.

Familiar faces returned, but this year brought new ones too—many of them younger, all of them ready to work. Some came from Calvary; others joined us from across the city, including a group from the Metal Museum. Calvary vestry and staff stepped in wherever needed, filling shifts and pitching in. On days when we found ourselves short on waitstaff, volunteers simply brought a friend along. One new volunteer captured the spirit of the season: “I’ll come when you need me and do anything to help.”

When our longtime Dessert Room Chair retired, there was a moment of uncertainty. Who would make the meringues? The Tennessee Bourbon pies? The answer came quickly and generously. Friends from outside the church and members of the parish stepped forward: We will. And they did—beautifully.

For the first time in memory, Calvary clergy could be found waiting tables, helping with setup, and serving drinks. It didn’t go unnoticed. Volunteers and guests alike remarked on it, and it became part of the spirit that made this year so distinctive.

There were moments that captured the heart of Waffle Shop in ways statistics never could. One group of customers kept returning, always asking to be seated at the same server’s table. They had all

attended Messick High School, and Waffle Shop had become their annual reunion spot.

And then there are the Montessori students, a beloved tradition where twice a week, they show up ready to work, bringing enthusiasm and focus well beyond their years. Each year, an eighth grader steps into a leadership role, guiding the younger students. This year’s leader did so with kindness and confidence, leaving big shoes to fill.

And they come back. One former Montessori student returned during spring break to wait tables alongside his brother. Another former server, now in college, came back just for lunch. His order hasn’t changed—he still loves the Fish Pudding—and he joked he’d happily serve as its official spokesperson. He shared that he will never forget his time working at Waffle Shop.

Lent reached a high point when first-time speaker Father Ben Bradshaw filled the church to capacity—and Waffle Shop right along with it.

And yes, the numbers tell a good story too. Profits were up. Expenses were down. And in a remarkable show of generosity, customers left more than \$13,000 in tips—all of which will go to support outreach ministries.

But the real story of Waffle Shop 2026 can’t be measured in dollars or attendance. It is in the laughter across tables, in the teamwork behind the scenes, and in the willingness of this community to show up again and again.

It was, once more, the happiest place in Memphis during Lent. And this year, it felt like a glimpse of something even deeper: a community fully alive in service, connection, and joy.

Compassion in Action

How BridgeCare Outreach is Transforming Care for the Unhoused

by Allie Lockhart, MD-MPH Candidate Class of 2028

In April 2024, students at the UTHSC College of Medicine recognized a gap in healthcare access within their surrounding community and felt compelled to act. They observed the significant barriers that unhoused and housing-insecure individuals face when attempting to access care, including challenges with transportation, cost, and navigating the healthcare system. Motivated to address these disparities, they set out to establish a free clinic in downtown Memphis.

Many of these students were already volunteering at Calvary Episcopal Church on Sunday mornings, helping distribute clothing and breakfast. When they shared the idea of adding a student-run free clinic to Neighborhood Breakfast, they received immediate support from the Calvary community. Through this partnership, BridgeCare Outreach was established and has since grown to serve hundreds of individuals.

Now, on any given Sunday morning, nearly 20 UTHSC medical students can be found at Calvary Episcopal Church working together to deliver care to patients. With the support of the clinic's dedicated physicians, Dr. Shelley Ost and Dr. Austin Dalgo, students take vital signs, interview patients, and collaborate to develop individualized care plans.

At BridgeCare Outreach, all care is provided at no cost, including a wide range of medications dispensed directly to patients during their visit. Because many patients face barriers to accessing pharmacies or follow-up care, the clinic aims to provide comprehensive, same-day care in one setting. This is made possible by Dr. Ost and Dr.

Dalgo, who work hard to ensure that common medications, such as those for blood pressure control, are consistently stocked and readily available to patients on-site.

One aspect that makes this clinic especially meaningful is the time students dedicate to truly understanding the patients they serve. Students sit with patients, listen to their stories, and seek to understand not only their symptoms, but the broader context of their lives. They hear firsthand about their patients' challenges and begin to recognize the profound impact of social determinants of health within this population.

As one volunteer reflected, "Working at BridgeCare has allowed me to catch a glimpse of the gut-wrenching reality the unhoused face when they lack access to not only healthcare, but also basic necessities such as food, water, restrooms, and shelter." Through these experiences, students gain a deeper appreciation for the many factors that influence health beyond medical illness alone and learn the importance of treating the whole person.

Another important aspect of BridgeCare Outreach is the continuity of care it has established. Many patients return week after week, allowing students to build meaningful relationships over time. Students remember names, follow up on concerns, and continue conversations from prior visits. This continuity allows trust to grow and deepen with each visit. Some patients have even referred to students as "their doctors," a sentiment that is both humbling and motivating for those early in their training. At BridgeCare Outreach, students strive to ensure patients feel supported in their care and



work closely with them to address their concerns and goals.

This is especially important because many patients have shared that, in previous healthcare experiences, they sometimes felt unheard or overlooked, and that assumptions were made about them because of their housing status or life circumstances. BridgeCare Outreach strives to create an environment where patients feel safe, respected, and genuinely listened to, and where they are treated with dignity and without judgment.

As another volunteer reflected, "I loved being able to talk directly with patients and help with their health concerns in a meaningful way. This experience makes me want to come back and help again. I felt very rewarded and satisfied working with my medical student peers to benefit my community." That sense of shared purpose keeps many students coming back each week. The clinic continues to shape students early in their medical training by emphasizing the importance of access, trust, and continuity in care, and by helping them

grow into more empathetic future physicians.

BridgeCare Outreach continues to grow through the relationships formed each week and the shared commitment between students, physicians, and the Calvary community to care for one another. With continued support, the clinic will expand its reach and continue providing meaningful care while fostering a space where patients are known, listened to, and cared for as individuals.

Support BridgeCare

Scan to view the Amazon Wishlist and donate supplies that go directly to patients at our free clinic. Every item helps us provide same-day, no-cost care to unhoused and housing-insecure neighbors in Memphis.



Introducing the Calvary Legacy Society

by Will Hayley and Bill Craddock

Calvary has always been shaped by the love and generosity of its people—including those who came before us. The Calvary Endowment Foundation, established in 1933 during one of the most uncertain moments in American history, stands as a testament to that faithfulness. We may not remember all their names, but the legacy of those early parishioners is present with us every day.

To build on that legacy and look toward the future, our vestry has created the Calvary Legacy Society—a way to educate and recognize parishioners who make planned gifts to the endowment. These gifts aren't simply financial contributions; they are an expression of love for Calvary and a commitment to sustaining our church's ministry for generations to come.

We have more in common with those 1933 founders than we might expect. We share a home at Calvary. Our church shapes our lives, our families, our faith, and our sense of community. In six years, we will celebrate Calvary's 200th anniversary — a remarkable moment to link our present with our past through the act of stewardship.

A planned gift may be simpler than you think.

It costs nothing today, and estate gifts may be of any size—you do not need to be wealthy to participate. One approach shared by parishioner Hall Gardner: endow your pledge—give a sum that, at a 4–5% annual spend rate, would equal your current annual pledge. For families still raising children or planning for the future, even a smaller placeholder gift represents your family's commitment to Calvary's future. And, as circumstances change, the gift can grow.



Whatever its size, every planned gift unites us with those who came before us in love and legacy.

As you consider a planned gift, we encourage a conversation with your family and your financial advisor. For questions about the Calvary Legacy Society, contact Finance Manager Margaret McLean at mmclean@calvarymemphis.org or 901-312-5207.

Watch for upcoming Legacy Society events, and visit calvarymemphis.org/plannedgiving to learn more.

Columbarium Phase II Now Open

The word "columbarium" comes from the Latin columba — the dove, symbol of the Holy Spirit and of Christian peace. It's a fitting name for what it holds: a sacred place of rest within our community of faith. Calvary's columbarium has offered parishioners exactly that since 1998. Phase I sold out completely. Now, Phase II is here.

The new addition brings 192 funerary niches to the south exterior wall of the church, adjacent to Phase I in our newly renovated courtyard. Each niche holds up to two urns, offering a permanent place within the Calvary community for you or your loved ones.

As with Phase I, construction was funded by the Calvary Endowment Foundation. When you purchase a niche, most of the cost is returned directly to the Endowment, supporting future projects like this one.

Niche cost: \$3,500
\$2,950 is returned to the Endowment as a tax-deductible contribution; \$550 is retained by the church for ongoing care and upkeep.

To purchase a niche or learn more, contact Director of Operations & Finance Steve Smith at (901) 312-5205.

SEEKING GOD TOGETHER: A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY FOR ALL AGES

by Jocelyn Busby, Director of Children & Family Ministries

There is something very special about summer Sundays in the Episcopal Church. I have felt it since childhood, and perhaps you have, too. My senses still tingle with the memories of retreating from the dazzling Southern sunshine into the calm luxury of a cool nave, where morning sun gleamed through stained glass. I distinctly felt a timeless sense of belonging bred by familiarity and was strengthened by the security of being enfolded in community.

While many activities pause for the summer, church continues. Thus, summer is the perfect opportunity to deepen one's journey in faith formation at Calvary, thereby building relationships with God and others. I predict that your fall, winter, and spring have been filled with a whirlwind of work, school, extracurriculars, aftercare, sports, hobbies, and meetings. Summer presents us a chance to slow our pace and narrow the breadth of our many endeavors. Indeed, summer provides a respite in which to turn our minds, hearts, and spirits intentionally towards God.

Calvary's Children, Family, and Youth Ministry departments will offer an innovative opportunity to connect across generations. *Seeking God Together: An Intergenerational Bible Study* will meet on Sundays from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m., beginning May 31, in the Corner Room. Children in grades SK through 12th grade and their loved ones are invited. Individuals are also welcome to join us! We will interpret God's abiding presence through three lenses:

GOD WITHIN US GOD ABOVE US GOD BESIDE US

Led by Jocelyn Busby and Nathan Brasfield, *Seeking God Together* will help us build friendships, learn from one another, and explore the Bible and its meanings. Our curriculum will make space for the exchange of unique experiences and wisdom. We will delve into a different spiritual practice each Sunday, such as praying, saying thanks, confessing, welcoming all, and serving others. A corresponding Bible passage will bring each spiritual practice to life. Our lessons will be interactive and age-appropriate, with time for reflection and fellowship built in.

Families can volunteer to help Jocelyn or Nathan facilitate a discussion by visiting calvarymemphis.org/summerbible. At Calvary, we uphold that every person is capable of deep theological truth, and we have designed this formation offering to provide the perfect forum for sharing ideas across generations. Let us join as companions on the journey as we seek God together!

MORE WAYS TO EXPERIENCE SUMMER AT CALVARY

MAY 31

SUMMER SCRIPTURE

Sundays, May 31 - Aug. 30 | 9:15 a.m.
We'll take a closer look at the readings for each Sunday. Come dig in to some good conversation and learn more about the stories we hear in church.



JUN 6

PRIDE PARADE

Calvary will have a booth at this year's Pride Festival and march in the Memphis Pride Parade — and we'd love for you to be part of it. [Sign up to join us!](#)



JUN 17

GAME NIGHT

Dinner will be served from 5:15 to 6 p.m., followed by an evening of games and summer fun. RSVP now!



JUN 25

BOOK STUDY

Join us this summer for a book discussion of *There Is No Place for Us: Working and Homeless in America* by Brian Goldstone. We will meet at Calvary (or online) at 6 p.m. on June 25, July 23, Aug. 27, and Sept. 17.



JUL 15

TRIVIA NIGHT

Dinner will be served from 5:15 to 6 p.m., followed by trivia and plenty of summer fun! RSVP now!



AUG 19

BINGO AND ICE CREAM

Dinner will be served from 5:15 to 6 p.m., followed by Bingo and plenty of fun. Be sure to bring a dollar store prize for the prize table! RSVP now!





From Ash Wednesday to Alleluia – Calvary’s Lenten and Easter Season 2026

Calvary gathered through every holy season this spring, from the Lenten Preaching Series and Waffle Shop to the candlelit stillness of Holy Week, the shout of Easter morning, and the pure delight of little ones hunting eggs on the church grounds. It was a season full of grace, good food, and great joy.



The Theresa Hardison Award

A Legacy of Learning

by Candace Keirns-Bitensky

Calvary Episcopal Church is rooted in Memphis's early history, and as we explore those roots, we find unexpected connections that deepen our appreciation of the people who labored before us. In that spirit, it is fitting that the Theresa Hardison Award would be announced shortly after the Steuterman-Hardison Organ Concert. Those familiar with Adolf Steuterman's long tenure as organist and choirmaster may not know the equally devoted contributions of his niece, Theresa Hardison, and her children.

Theresa Hardison's calling was children's education—not merely the transmission of facts, but cultivating a love of learning in all its dimensions. She taught at Shady Grove and Westhaven Elementary Schools and contributed directly to Calvary's Sunday school, establishing its curriculum and teaching classes herself.

For decades, her daughter Laurie Monypeny served as president of the Guild of the Holy Spirit. Founded in an era when women had limited ways to shape the life of the church, the Guild helped bridge the gap between

aspiration and reality. Open to all women of Calvary, its members participate in the Lenten Preaching Series, the Waffle Shop, Room in the Inn, and Camp Able. The project closest to Laurie Monypeny's heart is the Theresa Hardison Award, named for her mother. Funded from the Guild's reserves, the \$500 senior gift is presented each year to a graduating high school senior.

Selecting the 2026 recipient was no easy task—Calvary's high school graduates are, without exception, outstanding. The choice was MC Hitt, a graduating senior of St. Mary's Episcopal School, who joined Calvary after a classmate extended an invitation. She has served on the Diocesan Youth Council and as a youth representative on Calvary's vestry, and has participated broadly in the life of the congregation. MC will attend the University of the South at Sewanee, majoring in English and minoring in Religious Studies, with plans to attend seminary.



Calvary Seniors: Class of 2026

Acolytes, choir members, Eucharistic ministers, and EYC faithful — Calvary's Class of 2026 gave so much to this parish and will be deeply missed as they head off on their next great adventures.



WORSHIP WITH US THIS SUMMER

"Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." ~ Matthew 11:28

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist

FORMATION FOR ALL AGES

9:15 a.m.

Summer Scripture in Bethlehem Chapel

Seeking God Together:
Intergenerational Bible Study in
the Corner Room

BREAKFAST

8:45 - 9:15 a.m.

Adults \$5 · Children \$3
Come early, eat together, and
stay for formation.

A MIDWEEK PAUSE

Wednesdays at 12 p.m.

Bethlehem Chapel

Holy Eucharist with prayers for healing. Whether you are carrying a heavy burden or simply need a quiet moment in the middle of your week, you are welcome here.

NEW TO CALVARY?

We are so glad you found us. Calvary Episcopal Church is a congregation where everyone has a place— at the table, in the pew, and in the life of this parish. Contact Ebet Peeples, epeeples@calvarymemphis.org, and she will be happy to help you find your way.

STAY CONNECTED

calvarymemphis.org
facebook.com/calvarymemphis
instagram.com/calvarymemphis
youtube.com/calvaryepiscopal

VESTRY UPDATE

by Allison Parker, Senior Warden



At Calvary, our mission is making God's love visible in downtown Memphis. This year, I've been thinking about what that really looks like—not in theory, but on the ground, in the neighborhood we are part of every day.

During Holy Week, I walked the Stations of the Cross along a two-mile route our rector, Scott Walters, mapped through downtown. As we prayed and moved through the streets, I began to see our surroundings differently—not as something we pass through, but as something we belong to. And what became clear is this: Calvary is exactly where it is meant to be. There is no other place it could be.

We are planted in the heart of downtown Memphis, surrounded by real stories and real needs, with a real opportunity to be light and open-hearted grace to those around us. That kind of presence doesn't happen by accident. It happens when a community knows who it is and why it is here.

That is the work of the vestry this year.

The 2026 vestry began in January with a unique composition—five members rotating off and five joining. In a very real sense, every one of us is new to this vestry together. From the start, we named that this work is not just governance. It is spiritual leadership—shared responsibility for helping this parish flourish and for making God's love visible in this city.

At our retreat, three areas of focus emerged.

First, listening—a commitment to paying attention to the congregation, to one another, and to the movement of the Spirit. Space will be held at every vestry meeting to share what we are hearing from the life of the parish.

Second, service projects—we are building on ongoing ministries like the Lenten Preaching Series and Waffle Shop, while also engaging opportunities such as Room in the Inn, the Emmanuel Meal, campus clean-up and beautification, and immigration support in our city.

Third, gatherings—creating more opportunities for connection within the parish, where relationships can grow and people can find their place.

Underlying all of this is a simple but essential truth: every person at Calvary should feel welcome and know they have a place here—a place to belong and a place to minister, both within this parish and in the neighborhood beyond our doors.

Right now, there is a real sense of life at Calvary. The spaces are full. There is energy and a desire to be part of a community that worships together and lives its faith outwardly. And at the center of that life is a message we must continue to embody: You are welcome here. No exceptions.

In uncertain times, that kind of openness is not optional—it is essential. It is how we make God's love visible.

IN CALVARY'S PRAYERS

Wedding Bells

Irene De Benedictis & Neale Hicks, 05/16/26

New Life

Paul Judson and Virginia Robbins Carlton
grandchildren of Julie Bethell, 04/22/26

Nora Margaret Joyce, daughter of Maggie &
Matthew Joyce, granddaughter of Gigi & Doug
Franklin, niece of Grace Franklin, 02/18/26

Jane Stevens and Cecilia Grace Scofield,
daughters of McKenzie & Wade Scofield, 04/02/26

Saints Departed

Bob Allen, husband of the Rev. Melinda Wood Allen
Lelia Arseni, mother of Doralina Angelescu
Sue Balogh, friend of Kendra Martin
Ken Balogh, friend of Kendra Martin
Fred Beeson, uncle of Betsy Kelly and Louis Jehl
Kamerion Biggs
Kathy Bugg, friend of Kell Christie
Betty Ann Carter, mother of Betsy Carter
Joan Anderson Crisci, friend of Michelle Pellay-
Walker
Paul Dillon, uncle of Robyn Banks
Linda Porter Eason, mother of Lee Anne Eason
Dan Fordice, friend of Len Grice
Mary Gail Garnier, sister of Lee Duncan
Suzanne Hahn, aunt of Tanya Aquino
G. A. Hardaway, friend of Sherry Compton
Carolyn Hays, mother-in-law of Bernie Bernil
Dr. Gene Hooks, grandfather of Battle Beasley
Michael Hwang, son of Joanna Hwang

Stephen Leffler, friend of Rhoda Smith
Dr. Don Lewis, friend of Nina Grice
Joe Loria, stepfather of Gina Miles
Lee Marshall, brother-in-law of Connie Marshall
Dr. Mallory Mattice Jr.
Robbie Phillips
Downing Martin Pryor, brother of Ainslie Todd
Laura Jean Ramsey, aunt of Paige Whittle
Judith Saunders, sister of Jim Boyd
Judge Gerald Skahan, Friends of the Mental Health
Court
Larry Smith, friend of Joseph Powell
Martin Teitel, father of Sam Teitel
Melissa Garrone Thompson, friend of Deb Kinard &
Mary Jane Viar, and Kathy Williams & Mary Nease
Walter Townsend, friend of Nina Grice
Louise Tyson, aunt of Sherry and Michael Compton
Howard Vance
Gary Waldrip, cousin of Juana McCoy
Stephen Dennis White

*Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord; And let light perpetual
shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the
departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*



CHRONICLE

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

Ordination to the Priesthood of the Reverend Wesley Rowell

Monday, June 8, 2026
at 7 p.m.

Calvary Episcopal Church

