



CALVARY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

CHRONICLE

making God's love visible in downtown Memphis

Fall 2026





**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

Heather Grosvenor

* youth representative

Leanne Kleinmann

STAFF

Robyn Banks
Director of Communications

Richard Hendricks
Facilities Manager

Margaret McLean
Finance Manager

Nathan Brasfield
*Director of Youth and Community
Ministries*

Mary Honey
Information Officer

Mary O'Brien
Parish Chef

Mak Clayton
Community Liaison

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

Kaitlin Wells
Director of Children & Family



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Love calls us to the things of this world

by Scott Walters, Rector

Not too long ago, Ardelle snuck my t-ball photo onto a shelf in the den. I'm buck-toothed and beaming in my red Jepson Drug-Jones Tire T-shirt and a matching trucker hat two sizes too big for my seven-year-old head. I can still remember how the thick iron-on block letters puckered the fabric when the shirt softened in the wash. I was visibly pleased to have my stature as a bona fide Little Leaguer captured in a photograph.

I bet you've got photographs or memories like mine. A physical object out in the world that incarnated or maybe even engendered a feeling. "Love calls us to the things of this world," said Richard Wilbur in a poem. St. Augustine called a sacrament an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace. I think that T-baller was embodying something the poet and theologian were each getting at in their own way. Tangible things can matter to our spiritual lives. Even to our loves.

The Sunday before I wrote this, we baptized two children at an old marble font with real water on Calvary's 194th birthday, and we said a prayer of

blessing for everyone heading off to school, whether as a student or teacher or crossing guard or admissions counselor. People of all sorts and sizes came

forward for a little plastic backpack tag that said, "Be strong and courageous ... for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." It's a verse from the book of Joshua that expresses an idea we hope people remember: we can't travel beyond the reach of God's presence or God's love.

But printing that verse on a colorful card with the Calvary logo on the back and slipping it into a little fob made it more than just an idea. It became a thing in the world as well. An outward and visible sign of a community who loves me and challenges me and listens to me and teaches me and wants the best for me.





The Rev. Wesley Rowell baptizes Reese, daughter of Alyce & Tucker Marshburn.

At the heart of Christianity is not a doctrine or a proposition, but an incarnation—the incarnation of God in Christ, but also the incarnation of love in our lives. Love made real. Love embodied in what we can touch and hear and smell and see. Jesus said in countless ways that the abundant life of love he called us to wasn't about carrying around an accurate conception of God inside our heads. It shows up in life with other people. Jesus really drove the point home when he said that he was going to show up in our lives with other people: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there."

In this *Chronicle*, you'll meet Kaitlin Wells, our new director of children & family ministries, and look back on the joy-filled evening of Wesley Rowell's ordination

to the priesthood. You'll hear what the vestry has been up to and get an update on the 87 Adams project. You'll read about gatherings and classes and concerts and worship services coming this fall, as well as opportunities to join a small group committed to helping a few neighbors in need or studying a book or simply enjoying one another's company. Hospitality is incarnational holy work in all its forms.

Love calls us to the things of this world. Maybe that's one way to name the thread that connects all these disparate stories. Maybe a question that could help connect us more deeply to one another and to this world is: Where might Love be calling me? Where might Love be calling you?

Meet Kaitlin Wells

Calvary Episcopal Church is delighted to welcome Kaitlin Wells as our new director of children and family ministries. In her own words, here's her story.

I was born in Memphis, since my parents are both from here, but I wasn't raised in this city. My dad is a full-time minister, and I grew up watching him serve on staff at a church in Murfreesboro, where I went through elementary, middle, and high school before earning my bachelor's degree in social welfare at Middle Tennessee State University. In 2016, my parents moved back to Memphis to be near family, and I followed a year later. I have two sisters: one lives here in Memphis, and the other lives abroad with her husband and their daughter.

My husband, Blake, and I met in 2023, married in 2024, and welcomed our son, Drew, this February. Blake grew up in Kansas City, KS, and works as an engineer for Canadian National. These days, we're proud Cooper-Youngers, and Memphis has become home for both of us.

By trade, I'm an elementary school teacher. I taught first and second grade for 10 years, most recently at St. Mary's Episcopal School, and a connection there is actually what led me to Calvary. After Drew was born, between the demands of Blake's work schedule and this new season of life, we knew in our gut that going back to the classroom full time wasn't the right next step for me. We didn't have much of a plan beyond that, but God graciously opened a part-time opportunity at Calvary with a schedule that fits

this new rhythm we're finding as new parents. I'm so thankful to be here, and grateful for colleagues who encourage me to be a mom first and foremost.

Faith has been part of my story from the beginning. My parents still laugh about my kindergarten parent-teacher conference, when my teacher told them I'd been telling the other kids about God's love and following Jesus at the swing set on the public school playground. I've had a wonder and a love for the character of God for as long as I can remember. Like most people in their twenties, I spent that decade wrestling with life and making my own meaning of things. Then, about five years ago, on my 30th birthday, I wrote down an intention: to know God more. That year shook me in the best way, and it taught me to be careful what I write down, because it might come true.



These days, when people ask about my faith, I like to borrow from Carl Jung. When he was asked if he believed in God, he said, "Difficult to answer. I know. I do not need to believe. I know." I've come to know God in a way that's hard to explain. A former mentor once called it "a light beyond words," and that has stayed with me. God's kindness, God's love, and God's curious wonder have changed my life and shaped who I am. I want to share that same kindness, love, and wonder with the most special and important people on this planet: children.

That heart for children started early. While I was in college, I served on staff in the children's ministry at my home church, a large ministry where I learned so much. After graduating with my degree in social work, I worked as the patient resources coordinator for children with special needs, birth through age 21, at a therapy and nursing center. Looking back over every job I've held, I've always found myself drawn to children, and to ministry in one form or another.

My philosophy on children's ministry comes down to this: I'll have done my job well if a child leaves knowing, without pause or hesitation, that they are deeply and uniquely loved. Early in my teaching career, a mentor of mine used the word "choices" to talk about classroom management, and that word has stuck with me ever since, even as my philosophy has grown and changed. I believe all children are good; no one is bad. We all make choices, strong ones and weak ones, that shape us into stronger or weaker people. But no matter what, we are good, because in Genesis 1:31, God calls us good. Children are the most important people on the planet. They carry an eagerness for life, a deep joy, and a rich curiosity that we, as adults, can lose along the way if we're not careful. More often than not, children are our best reminders of how to live whimsical lives.

One of my favorite verses to teach is 1 Timothy 4:12: "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity." Children can be our greatest teachers, if we have the eyes to see it. Even in their youth, they show us what it looks like to live and love freely.

Children can be our greatest teachers, if we have the eyes to see it. Even in their youth, they show us what it looks like to live and love freely.

A few of the smaller things about me: my favorite cup of coffee is a homemade one, at 4 p.m., on my grandparents' porch. Short of that, a vanilla latte has never let me down. And, apparently against majority opinion, I firmly believe fruit belongs in dessert.



Kaitlin & Blake Wells with their son, Drew

Right now, most of my reading is about child development in infants. *The Wonder Weeks* currently lives on my nightstand, which probably says something about where my head is these days. Outside of that, I love painting, crafting, making necklaces, and tending my indoor plants and flowerbeds.

I recently picked up *Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat* and am slowly working my way through it, trying to understand cooking the way my husband does. Blake is quite the chef in his off-time from the railroad.

I asked a few people close to me for one word to describe me, and here's what I got back: "perfect" (Blake), "high-strung" (also Blake, which made me laugh), "insightful," "really funny," "steady," "creative," and "open." I'll take all of those, except the second one.

What I'm looking forward to most at Calvary is its community. Everyone I've met so far has been kind, upbeat, positive, and excited, and I love being around people who bring that kind of energy.

Thank you for welcoming me. I'm looking forward to meeting you all and growing together in this ministry of good work.

Sacred Ground,

by Milton Winters

I am honored to be asked to participate in Calvary's newly organized Legacy Society. For a church with such a faithful past, it is important to plan for its vital future. Recently, the Rev. Scott Walters observed in a sermon that we have not known most of the people who've said their prayers in our pews because they were in bygone generations. Calvary is, as Scott said, quoting T.S. Eliot, "a place where prayer has been valid." Surely, we want this to be true in the future. In all humility, we believe this church is sacred ground and that it does sacred work.

How did I come to see this for myself? Glimpses. The sermons I save and re-read. The music of the choir (in which I have a small part). The medical students and faculty who come to treat our unsheltered sisters and brothers early every Sunday morning. I think of our organist-choirmaster, Kristin Lensch's comment one evening when we were headed in for Evensong and someone expressed surprise that the Great Hall was being set up for Room in the Inn. "I want people who come for Evensong to know about the other things we do," she said.

Calvary means so much to me, and I wish everyone could experience what I have received here. Growing endowments helped two former congregations I've been associated with. One endowment helped install an elevator where the worship space was inaccessible to people with mobility issues. Another helped underwrite a twice-a-week tutoring and supper program for more than 300 children from a nearby underserved neighborhood, and it funded college scholarships for kids who show academic promise.

There are many wonderful causes to support, but the church is not just another cause. Through the church we are claimed as God's own by our baptism. In it we are nourished as we feed on Christ in the Eucharist. By it, at our life's end, we are entrusted to the care of the one who has promised never to forsake or forget us. As I kneel for communion, I think of those I have loved but see no more and rejoice that they are gathered with us around the heavenly throne in the unceasing flow of praise.



Sacred Work

In the Apostles' Creed we say, "I believe in the communion of saints." Calvary is a place where that communion comes alive and goes to work. It is what the Irish call a "thin place," a place of wonder and awe at the edge of mystery, where we draw near the one who has given so much to us. I hear it in the echo of George Herbert's words, "Thou that hast giv'n so much to me, Give one thing more, a grateful heart."

Finally, I want to talk about the practical aspect of this. Making wills is intimidating. Like Ash Wednesday, it reminds us that we are mortal. But with wise counsel and careful planning, it can bring joy to think of what God might do with what we can give, even if it be the proverbial "widow's mite."

Ministry is so much more expensive than it used to be. When Calvary was young, all that was needed was a simple building, a rector, a rectory, some coal for the furnace, and offerings sent away to the missionaries. That was about all it took. How different it is today!

Unlike Joseph and the pharaoh in Egypt, we shouldn't need dreams and an interpreter to tell us that we ought to save in the years of plenty for the hard times that inevitably come. Inflation is here, and like death and taxes, it will always be with us. To state the obvious: I want very much for Calvary to be alive and working for generations to come!



Ways to Give to Calvary's Endowment

We encourage you to consider planned giving as part of your financial and spiritual planning. There are many ways to include Calvary in your long-term financial and estate plans.

All planned gifts and bequests should name The Calvary Endowment Foundation as the beneficiary.

Planned gifts can often be arranged with a simple designation and can play an important role in individual estate planning. Planned gifts to The Calvary Endowment Foundation may include the following:

- Bequest in Your Will
- Beneficiary Designations from IRA, 401(k), brokerage account, or life insurance policies
- Charitable Trusts
- Life Income Gifts

We recommend consulting with your financial advisor or attorney to choose the path that is right for you.

From preparation to design: 87 Adams moves forward

by Margaret Grace Haltom

In the eight months since receiving support from the Mellon Foundation, Calvary's 87 Adams project has launched a national artist-selection process, expanded our coalition and community partnerships, and begun inviting the broader Memphis community into conversations on the memorial's meaning and future. Our collaborative effort to honor the estimated 3,800 enslaved people bought and sold just steps from our altar is now moving from years of preparation toward the design of the permanent space for remembrance and healing.

SELECTING AN ARTIST

This past spring, the Memorial Committee began a national search for an artist whose work could meaningfully engage the history of 87 Adams. We reviewed the work of dozens of aligned artists, invited a select group to submit qualifications, and interviewed semifinalists before choosing our current finalists. The finalists will each develop a preliminary vision for the memorial after spending a weekend at Calvary and in Memphis listening to and learning from our coalition of historians and community partners. Mark your calendars for our finalist visits over the

weekends of September 18–19, September 26–27, and October 17–18; more details will be announced soon. We'll invite you to meet the artists, learn more about the history of 87 Adams, and reflect on what the future space might make possible. In January, we expect the selected artist to begin a two-year collaboration with designers and community partners to shape the memorial and its surrounding landscape.

GROWING OUR COALITION

We expanded our Memorial Committee and assembled a project team to carry on the day-to-day



*Community engagement committee members meeting at Calvary and touring the site.
Photos by Reginald Johnson Sr.*



Members of the 87 Adams community engagement committee standing at a potential site for the future 87 Adams memorial, photo by Reginald Johnson Sr.

work of 87 Adams. We welcomed MaryLynn Mack, executive director of the Memphis Botanic Garden, to the Memorial Committee, bringing our project into conversation with other public landscapes in Memphis. Jazzy Wilson and Randall Garrett both joined the Memorial Committee and the project team, broadening our connections to artists and deepening our relationships across the community. Jazzy, a local artist and former executive director of the Carpenter Art Garden, guides our arts partnerships and artist-selection process. Randall, a community organizer and affordable housing provider, leads our engagement and community conversations.

Jazzy and Randall work closely with longtime project contributors Margaret Haltom and Annie Parker, both lifelong Calvary members. Margaret, who recently completed her PhD in Urban Planning at MIT, serves as project director, coordinating the research, partnerships, fundraising, and overall strategy. Annie, who recently completed her master's degrees in Landscape Architecture and City Planning at the University of Pennsylvania, leads the design process

and project management, aligning the project's artistic vision, physical design, and major milestones. This team works alongside the continuing members of the 87 Adams Memorial Committee: the Rev. Scott Walters, Dr. Earnestine Jenkins, Rich Watkins, Christina Ross, Margaret Craddock, and David Lusk.

DEEPENING COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

This summer, we welcomed a new committee of community partners to guide the project's public outreach and deepen relationships between 87 Adams and the broader Memphis community. In three meetings at Calvary, representatives of local cultural institutions, racial justice organizations, arts organizations, and faith communities envisioned how to invite more Memphians into the history, meaning, and future of 87 Adams. Committee members also helped launch our first citywide outreach, setting up interactive displays and conversation spaces at Juneteenth celebrations in Health Sciences Park, the Douglass neighborhood, and the National Civil Rights Museum. They spoke to hundreds of Memphians about the project, and more than 200 people signed up to remain connected. This growing network will be invited to future programs and conversations as the vision for the memorial takes shape.

As we move toward selecting an artist and shaping a vision for the site, we hope Calvary members will join us in learning, listening, and considering what remembrance and healing at 87 Adams asks of us. In the coming months, we'll share invitations to meet the artists and participate in related programs. For questions or to learn more, contact us at 87adams@calvarymemphis.org.



An Occasion of Glory

by Char Mansfield

“And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God.” Luke 13:29

Sometimes I like to imagine what Heaven will be like. Will there be a choir of millions, with a sound unlike anything we have heard? Will we break bread with Mary and the apostles with our ancestors by our side? Or will it be more mystical: beyond time, beyond bodies, just Love in pure form? Whatever it may be, I'm convinced this life is woven with little whispers of what is to come, if we are prepared

to listen. These intimations of glory awaken us to the divinity of life as it foreshadows life eternal.

The ordination service of our dear friend, the Rev. Wesley Steven Rowell, was such an occasion. As I'm sure you all well know, the journey for Wesley to arrive at that moment was momentous. His granddaddy was a preacher, and his grandma had faith this legacy would carry forward

in her grandchildren. Church was hardly a safe place for a gay boy in the South, though, and young Wesley took his radiant light to the music stage where he would be free to shine. Through the many movements of his life, though, church remained an unexpected refrain, a space that called him home time and time again. This man who seems born for the priesthood, his life a testimony to that great love that will not let us go.





photos by Neil Abadie

With that in mind, I was overwhelmed by the gravity of this occasion. This moment wasn't just personal—it was historic: a Black female bishop ordaining a gay Black man in the South, serving communion at an altar that sits on what was once a site of enslavement, no less. As we sang together the historic Black anthem "Lift Every Voice and Sing", it was clear to me this was what the ancestors meant as they first proclaimed, "Thou who has brought us thus far on the way." This day wasn't about Wesley. It was about the God who has remained with him even when the world around him wouldn't. And as such, paradoxically, it was entirely about Wesley, this beloved child of God, the concrete manifestation of God's love to a world so desperate with need.

There was one moment in particular that remains impressed upon my heart. In this room packed with love and anticipation, with friends and family from every chapter of this dynamically rich life, it may as well have been empty during the examination. The Rt. Rev. Phoebe Roaf, in her majestic ecclesial vestments, looked down

with love at Wesley from the chancel. Now, one thing about Wesley that is obvious from even a brief encounter: there's nothing small about him. His tall, robust stature, broad smile, and inviting charisma are the first things you notice. And then, of course, there's that great big voice. For such a mountainous man, he looked so small to me at that moment. Not from shrinking. Not from rebuke, nor shyness. I believe I saw in that moment the precious young Wesley who had always been meant to stand there. The little boy who wasn't safe to stand in his truth, whom God longed to wrap in Her mighty arms, but whom the church kept at bay. This day was for him, as much as it was for Wesley and the rest of us.

I have known Wesley for only about five years, which is crazy to think about since I can't imagine my life without him. That's the effect he can have on you. As we were all waiting in anticipation for this day to finally arrive, Wesley shared with me a profound encouragement from the Rev. Scott Walters. "Wesley, the congregation has already ordained you." In an odd way, those words made Wesley's ordination service

all the more powerful for me. There is something sacramental about engaging tradition and timeless ritual to affirm a truth that we already know. It's like a child so excited about baptism they dive into the pool before the priest has finished the liturgy. Nothing was more obvious to me than that God has ordained Wesley for the sacred work of ministry. Yet I needed that day, to be there with him and you all, as the many hands were laid on him to consecrate this calling on his life. And somehow, in God's mystery, I felt the power of that transition. As he blessed us with oil after the service, I had the distinct feeling of being blessed not just by a friend but by a priest.

Calvary, I know I do not need to tell you how fortunate you are to have Wesley as a priest. I have been with you on three separate occasions, and each time the love and warmth you have shown me have more than lived up to the name of southern hospitality. Your doors are open to strangers, and they are open to those different from yourselves. This is Kingdom fashion, to be a home to all. Your church has been a great witness to Memphis, and I believe there is even more light to shine with Wesley on your team. My prayer is that his great journey through trial and adversity, through joy and radical self-embrace, would be an invitation to you all to open all the more to your own belovedness and that of the stranger in your midst. Whether they come from east or west, north or south, may the table you spread taste of the Kingdom of God.



Fall 2026 Formation at Calvary

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:15

SEP
13

Rector's Forum: From Polarization to Peacemaking

THE REV. SCOTT WALTERS

Elizabeth Oldfield will be one of Calvary's Lenten Preachers in 2027. Scott Walters kicks off Calvary's fall formation series at Calvary with a discussion of some of her key insights. What's the difference between wrath and anger? What is "People Like Me" syndrome and where does it come from? What might the Christian practice of peacemaking offer in a polarized world?

SEP
20

Sabbatical Gifts

THE REV. KATHERINE BUSH

Come hear about Katherine's experiences and learnings during her summer sabbatical from Calvary.

SEP
27

Hattiloo's 20th Anniversary & Why Black Theater Matters

EKENDAYO BANDELE

Ekundayo Bandele is a renowned playwright and theater director whose work has significantly impacted the American theater landscape. His latest play is "Speak Salvation Speak," which premiered in August of 2026 at Hattiloo, the theater Bandele founded in 2006. As its CEO, he curates annual seasons of plays and programs that celebrate Black culture. He successfully raised 10 million dollars to build and expand Hattiloo Theatre, including a state-of-the-art facility and an endowment. He has also led international initiatives, such as a theater management course in Sudan.

OCT
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& 11

Hope in Times Like These

DR. MITZI MINOR

Beloved Bible scholar Mitzi Minor leads a two-week exploration of some of the wisdom of the Bible, which calls us to be people of hope even in challenging times such as ones we're living in now.

OCT
18

Racism and Creationism

STEVE MCKENZIE

This session examines the strange story in Genesis 9:20-27 and how it has been misused in support of slavery and segregation, arguing that a literalist reading of this story as history is inherently racist and is perpetuated in efforts to install the teaching of creationism in public education.

Steve McKenzie is Professor of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and Spence L. Wilson Senior Research Fellow at Rhode College, where he has taught since 1983. His research has focused on the historical books and on approaches to interpretation of the Bible. Among his publications are [*King David: A Biography*](#) (2000), [*How to Read the Bible*](#) (2005), and commentaries on the books of Kings, Chronicles, and Jonah (with John Kaltner and Rhiannon Graybill).

OCT
25***Christian Nationalism*****JOHN KALTNER**

This session will explore the presence of Christian Nationalism in modern American society, with a focus on how those who espouse it often misuse the Bible to justify their views and actions. We will consider several recent examples of how Christian Nationalists have coopted the biblical text to support their positions on some of the most hotly debated social issues of our time.

John Kaltner is the Virginia Ballou McGehee Chair of Muslim-Christian Relations at Rhodes College, where he has taught since 1996. His main area of training and research is in biblical studies, with a particular interest in the relationship between the Bible and the Qur'an. Among his books are *Ishmael Instructs Isaac: An Introduction to the Qur'an for Bible Readers* (1999), *Islam: What Non-Muslims Should Know* (2016), and *The Bible and the Qur'an: Biblical Figures in the Islamic Tradition* (2018, coauthored with Younus Mirza).

NOV
1***Room in the Inn*****THE REV. LISA ANDERSON**

The Rev. Lisa Anderson is the founding executive director of Room in the Inn-Memphis. She has been involved in the Memphis-Shelby County area as an advocate for those who are experiencing homelessness and those who are guests of Room in the Inn. The mission of RITI-Memphis is, "Sheltering those experiencing homelessness in a safe environment of hospitality." Permanent solutions for complicated issues is the goal on the RITI campus.

NOV
8***A Conversation Around ACEs*****MOLLY NELSON, LCSW**

Fellow Calvary member Molly Crenshaw Nelson will provide an introduction and history of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). Drawing from her experience working with parents and children in Memphis, we will explore what it means to create healthier patterns for ourselves, our families, and the generations that follow.

NOV
15***The Church and Race in Mississippi*****THE REV. MILTON WINTER**

Milton Winter is a native of Cleveland, Mississippi who attended Delta State university, Union Theological, and Princeton Seminaries. A Presbyterian minister in Holly Springs, Mississippi for 28 years, he was confirmed into the Episcopal Church at Calvary in 2016. Years of Milton's popular column in Holly Springs's local newspaper were collected in a book titled *The Preacher's Corner* in 2021. His latest book is *Mississippi Presbyterians and Race: Bending the Arc Toward Justice*.

NOV
22***Update from the 87 Adams Team*****JAZZY MILLER WILSON & RANDALL GARRETT**

A year ago, Calvary received a generous grant from the Mellon Foundation to fund a three-year process to develop a design for a new public memorial space on the site of the market where people were bought and sold on Calvary's block in the 1850s. Jazzy Miller Wilson has led the artist selection process, and Randall Garrett is in charge of community engagement. Come hear what they, and many others, have been up to on this transformative project in 2026.

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 6:15

SEP
2-
Oct
7

Faith, Technology, and the Good Life

PAIGE WHITTLE AND THE REV. SCOTT WALTERS

This fall, Paige Whittle and Scott Walters will lead conversations around a thoughtful Substack Blog titled "The Convivial Society," by L.M. Sacasas. A practicing Christian, Sacasas explores the relationship between technology and culture, and their impact on human flourishing. So, if you're curious about how Christians might think about AI, or the so-called "attention economy," or the importance of wonder, join us! Questions? Contact Scott Walters at swalters@calvarymemphis.org or Paige Whittle at apwmd@comcast.net.

SEP
2-
MAY
12

Education for Ministry

RICHARD HENDRICKS AND FRED PIPER

EfM helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together. *Calvary offers a morning and evening option of EfM. This is a commitment class, and participants are encouraged to commit to the group from September through May.*

TBD

Sacred Ground

MARY BETH SELTZER AND DANA SUE PERCER

Sacred Ground is a soul-shaping, perspective-changing series of conversations about race and faithfulness. This carefully created, eleven-session curriculum offers readings, videos, and rich discussions to open up new ways of thinking about where we've been and where we are going. *This is a commitment class, and participants are encouraged to commit to the group for the duration. Contact Mary Beth Seltzer at mbseitzer2419@gmail.com if you are interested.*

OCT
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Confirmation Class

Engage in a journey alongside Calvary clergy, staff, lay leaders, and our bishop to discover more about the way of love in the Episcopal Church and a deeper life at Calvary. This class is open to all who wonder about their own faith and is also a path toward confirmation and fuller membership in the Episcopal Church through Calvary. *The Sacrament of Confirmation will be offered on Sunday, Dec. 6, when the bishop is our preacher and celebrant.*

Dinner in the Mural Room kicks off our Wednesday evening programs each week.



MORE SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

SMALL GROUPS

Women's Bible Study Group: Tuesdays 8-9 a.m. at Barth House

THE REV. KATHERINE BUSH

Join Calvary women and friends at Barth House, 409 Patterson on the University of Memphis campus, for a lively and life-giving conversation. Together, this open-hearted group of women examines the biblical stories, discovering their relevance and wisdom.

Education for Ministry: Wednesdays 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

RICHARD HENDRICKS AND FRED PIPER

EfM helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with their experiences of the world as they study and engage in theological reflection together. Participants are encouraged to commit to the program from Sept. through May.

Men's Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. at Barth House

The Baguette Brothers gather at Barth House, 409 Patterson on the University of Memphis campus, to read and discuss the Gospel passage for Sunday to discuss the appointed readings for the upcoming Sunday, preparing our hearts and minds for worship ... and musing about what the preacher will say. All men are invited.

Gleanings: Thursdays at Noon Online

THE REV. SCOTT WALTERS

Join Scott Walters for an online conversation this fall as we read and pull meaning from a variety of essays and texts. All are welcome, and newcomers are invited to join the conversation at any time. To receive the weekly email with Zoom link and reading assignment, contact Scott Walters at swalters@calvarymemphis.org.

Millennial Men: Every other Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at Cooper House Project

THE REV. WESLEY ROWELL

Millennial Men at Calvary is an informal gathering for men in the millennial generation (and millennial adjacent) to connect, build friendships, and talk about faith, God, church, life, and whatever else is going on. There's no curriculum and no preparation required, just honest conversation and space to bring questions, experiences, doubts, hopes, and whatever happens to be on your mind. We meet every other Thursday at 7:30 p.m., beginning Aug. 27. Come as you are. Contact Wesley with any questions: wrowell@calvarymemphis.org.

SUNDAYS

Nursery Care

AGES 0-5 | 7:30 A.M. - 12:15 P.M.

Calvary maintains an excellent nursery facility staffed by trained, professional caregivers. Ms. Dorrie, Ms. Kim, and Ms. Janice provide a loving atmosphere, personal attention, and age-appropriate toys and activities, all designed to make the nursery a safe, nurturing place for your child.

Children's Formation Classes

SK THROUGH GRADE 5 | 9:15-10:15 A.M.

Children in grades SK through 5th grade are invited to join us for Godly Play, a Montessori based faith formation curriculum led by the children's formation team. We will offer *Godly Play: The Parables* for grades SK-2nd (classroom B) and *Meet the Saints* by Forward Movement in grades 3rd-5th (classroom A).

Youth Formation Classes

GRADES 6-12 | 9:15-10:15 A.M.

Youth Ministries Sunday Formation gathers young people on the fourth floor to explore scripture, mark the church seasons, wrestle with big questions, and share their faith journeys. Middle school and high school usually meet separately. Need elevator access to the fourth floor? Let Nathan know; it requires a key.

Children's Chapel

10:30 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE

At the beginning of the worship service, children follow the banner out of the church to Children's Chapel, which is currently held in The Corner Room, adjacent to the nursery. There, children experience the liturgy of the word in an interactive and child-friendly manner. Children are escorted back to church at the time of the Peace to join their families for Communion.



Kaitlin Wells

**DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN
AND FAMILY MINISTRIES**

WEDNESDAYS

Nursery Care

AGES 0-5 | 5:30-7:30 P.M.

Calvary maintains an excellent nursery facility staffed by trained, professional caregivers ready to welcome children ages 0-5.

Gathering

6:15-7:15 P.M. | MURAL ROOM

Gathering is an opportunity for children and adults to "sit and stay a while" after dinner for an hour of fellowship. Games, books, puzzles, and coloring materials will be provided. Mrs. Kaitlin and friends will supervise children ages 5 and up if parents wish to attend a class. Look for the EpiscoPals table to sign your child in.

Wednesday Night Episcopal Youth Community (EYC)

GRADES 6-12 | 5:15-7:15 P.M.

Wednesday EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) is for young people in grades 6-12 to meet together on the 4th floor for activities oriented toward building inward community or serving our outward community. Most of the time we are in separate groups for middle school and high school. We conclude most weeks with Compline (the short prayer service for nighttime in the Book of Common Prayer) in the nave at 7:05 p.m. Anyone joining Wednesday EYC is welcome to join youth ministries folks in the Mural Room for dinner beginning at 5:15 p.m.

***** See also Music Formation Opportunities for children and youth on p. 23 *****



Nathan Brasfield

**DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND
COMMUNITY MINISTRIES**

MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!

St. Cecilia Choir

**GRADES K-2 | WEDNESDAYS |
6:15-6:55 P.M.**

Director and Music Educator Mary Jackson leads a rehearsal for Calvary's youngest voices in Kindergarten through Second Grade. They sing periodically at the 10:30 a.m. worship service and at special services. Using a variety of activities, the choristers learn to use their voices through hymns and other sacred songs. After rehearsal, they attend Compline in the church until 7:15 p.m.

The Boys and Girls Choir

**STUDENTS WITH UNCHANGED
VOICES IN GRADES 3 & UP |
WEDNESDAYS | 6:15-6:55 P.M.**

The Boys and Girls Choir, composed of students with unchanged voices in grades three and up, sings semi-monthly at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Using the *Voice for Life* curriculum established by the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM), Organist-Choirmaster Kristin Lensch promotes a complete and quality approach to children's music ministry that is as much a Christian education experience as a musical training experience. Choristers often become peer leaders over time as they progress through the program. Afterward, they attend Compline in the church until 7:15 p.m.



Mary Jackson

**ST. CECILIA CHOIR
DIRECTOR**

Calvary Ringers

WEDNESDAYS | 6:15-7:15 P.M.

Calvary's liturgical five-octave handbell choir, the Calvary Ringers, rehearses weekly. New members are always welcome, and prior bell experience is not required. Calvary Ringers is directed by Jackson Hearn.

Calvary Choir

WEDNESDAYS | 7-9 P.M.

Made up of both professional singers and auditioned volunteers, the Calvary Choir sings each week at the 10:30 a.m. worship service, monthly Evensong, and offers special liturgical services and concerts during the year. Strongly based in the music of the Anglican church, their repertoire spans the centuries and global traditions, from plainsong to spirituals. They are known for both their dedication to and love of music and close camaraderie. Directed by Organist-Choirmaster Kristin Lensch with assistance from Associate Organist Jackson Hearn.



Dr. Kristin Lensch

**ORGANIST-
CHOIRMASTER**



Jackson Hearn

**ASSOCIATE ORGANIST
AND CALVARY RINGERS
DIRECTOR**

MUSIC

Calvary Friends of Music presents

The Choir of Trinity College Cambridge on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at 7 p.m.

Voted one of the top choirs in the world by *Gramophone* magazine, The Choir of Trinity College Cambridge (Steven Grahl, director) will make a stop at Calvary during their international tour in Fall 2026. The choir's roots date back to the fourteenth century, and since then, they have performed extensively on all continents except Antarctica!

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

Sundays

NEIGHBORHOOD BREAKFAST BLESSING

Year-round, Calvary volunteers prepare and serve a hot breakfast to approximately 200 neighbors experiencing homelessness in our community. A member of our clergy team leads the prayers of the community. Volunteers are always welcome.

8:00 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

This service uses more traditional "Elizabethan" language in a contemplative and intimate setting, with traditional hymns.

10:30 A.M. HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II WITH CHILDREN'S CHAPEL

The 10:30 a.m. Eucharist with Children's Chapel attracts a varied congregation of all ages, including a strong contingent of young families. The semi-professional Calvary Choir leads music with participation from our Boys and Girls Choir, St. Cecilia Choir (second grade and younger), and the Calvary Ringers handbell choir.

5 P.M. EVENSONG

EVERY FIRST SUNDAY, OCT.-MAY

A service with ancient roots, Evensong is a 40-minute choral-led service of prayers and scripture. If you need to sit and reflect, if music feeds your soul, if you can't quite make it in the morning, if you believe that beauty is a portal to heaven, this is a service for you.



Wednesdays

NOONDAY PRAYERS

Holy Eucharist with prayers for healing is offered at noon on Wednesdays and features a reflection by one of our clergy.

Tuesdays - Fridays

6:30 A.M. MORNING PRAYER (ONLINE)

Morning Prayer from the *Book of Common Prayer* is offered at 6:30 a.m. Tuesday - Friday on Calvary's Facebook page and YouTube channel. All are welcome to join when your schedule allows.



GO IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

Fall at Calvary brings many opportunities to love and serve our neighbors. Take a look at some of the opportunities below and contact Director of Youth and Community Ministries Nathan Brasfield, nbrasfield@calvarymemphis.org, to sign up for weekly email updates or for more information on how you can get involved.

MICAH

Calvary is a partner congregation of MICAH (Memphis Interfaith Coalition for Action and Hope), which is a vibrant, active organization bringing together members of different churches and religions to address housing and neighborhood liveability, transit equity, and transformational justice. We need more parishioners interested in this kind of work to serve as delegates and/or to serve with certain task forces or initiatives.

Neighborhood Breakfast

Every Sunday morning we continue to welcome around 200 people from 6 to 7:45 a.m. for a free to-go breakfast, clothes closet (including toiletries and other items), and a variety of healthcare services. Neighborhood Breakfast is a longstanding volunteer-led initiative at Calvary so please come help distribute clothes and toiletries, prepare and hand out breakfast items, or simply help everyone feel welcome.

Room in the Inn

Room in the Inn (RITI) is dedicated to serving people experiencing homelessness by providing emergency shelter and meals during the hottest and coldest months of the year—May through August and November through March—sharing the love of God through holy hospitality. There are many ways to help with setup, providing food, serving dinner, and hosting overnight as well as with other tasks the next morning and during the week such as cleanup and laundering bedding. Learn more at calvarymemphis.org/riti.

Clothes Closet Donations

You can pick up donations from those who cannot bring them to Calvary, speak with businesses that might have gently used things to donate, or arrange to place donation bins for coats.

Here is what we most need:

- men and women's clothing (no children's clothing, please) especially: men's pants (preferably jeans), esp. sizes 28-42
- new men's underwear
- travel-size toiletries and hygiene items
- hats/caps
- umbrellas
- rolling suitcases/backpacks
- water bottles
- towels
- bedding
- canes and walkers

Emmanuel Meal

MONDAY, DEC. 21

Emmanuel Meal is our yearly Christmas dinner for our neighbors experiencing poverty or homelessness. You can volunteer to cook, serve, clean up, and more. The Emmanuel Meal depends entirely upon donations, and opportunities to donate on Sunday mornings will begin Nov. 30.



Nathan Brasfield
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH
AND COMMUNITY
MINISTRIES

VESTRY UPDATE

by Matt Seltzer, Warden-at-Large



Serving on vestry has been a meaningful way to feel more connected to my Calvary Episcopal Church community, and it has become a new kind of Christian formation for me. Beyond seeing firsthand the care our parish offers, the vestry has become its own small group, bonded by monthly gatherings and by conversations that range from the spiritual to the everyday. The people serving on Calvary's staff and vestry are wonderful, and they care about you and about our life together.

In the past several months, your vestry has worked to improve security around our reconfigured facilities and to beautify our exterior landscape for the benefit of our downtown community. We have listened to you, whether you spoke to us directly or we simply heard you talking nearby, about how to use our spaces better, care for our parishioners and their families, and treasure our larger community, and we have brought those ideas back to our meetings, always looking for ways to strengthen our mission and its outcomes. Your vestry also works together outside of meetings, for parish events, community events, and countless small pastoral tasks, all on your behalf. This year, your vestry is working to bring the parish together in gatherings of all kinds, in and outside our buildings, and to pray together across a wide range of needs, to keep us all connected.

We have a secure financial position thanks to your continued pledging and planned giving, and your staff and vestry take monthly financial reporting seriously, reviewing it with a constructive eye and taking that responsibility to heart.

Beyond the work the vestry has initiated, we have had the chance to witness some of what Calvary does inside and outside the walls of our reimaged building:

During our time on vestry, we watched our doors reopen after the hard work of the capital campaign and the construction itself.

We treasure the work of parishioners, alongside others in our community, to discern how to tell the story of our church's block through the 87 Adams project, and the remarkable support that story has generated from people near and far. We can't wait to see what comes next from all this thoughtful work.

We have watched the Legacy Society take shape, where lay leaders have focused on making sure we never take our parish ancestors' endowment and mission work for granted. They have honored those who started and stewarded our endowment, and they encourage us, by example, to find simple ways to extend our influence on Calvary's mission far beyond our own place in time.

We have witnessed the ongoing miracle of our parish clergy and staff. Our clergy and staff work hard, in the background and the foreground, to support our mission of making God's love visible in downtown Memphis, helping everyday Memphis look more like the Kingdom of God. We have watched beloved staff and clergy begin new chapters at other parishes, and watched new staff and clergy arrive and immediately find their own ways to bless us with their care. The financial, physical, spiritual, formational, and community care the staff and clergy deliver is inspiring, and serving on vestry has only deepened our wonder and gratitude for them.

Your vestry works for all of us, listens to all of us, and witnesses everything, small and large, that our Calvary community is doing. This work is not a burden; it's a gift of formation and connection unlike any other. I can't recommend it enough.

IN CALVARY'S PRAYERS

Wedding Bells

Ingrid Brunk & David Nelson, 05/31/26

Great Expectations

Skyler & Nick Street

Molly & Wes Nelson

Saints Departed

Julia Aden, friend of Kendra Martin

Shirley Browne, mother of Liz Browne McCoy

Kenneth Francis Clark, Jr.

Thomas H. Fulton, friend of Rhoda Smith

The Rev. Sarah Laymon Hallstrand, mother of the
Rev. Lillian Lammers

Theo Hoel, son of Maddie & Jake Hoel

Sara Holmes, mother of Elmore Holmes

John Peter Hurt, friend of Milton Winter

Rodger Huss, cousin of Michele Crump

Deborah Sue Jordan, friend of Desi Franklin

Harvey Monroe Key, uncle of Dee Wallace

Otto Richard Kiehne, great uncle of Clay Woemmel

John Kiehnhoff, friend of Jackson Hearn

Eddie McCoy, cousin of Bruce Watson

Gary Nadlicki, father of Toni Wackerfus

Jack Roberts, father-in-law of Kristine Roberts

Pat Robison

Linley Schmidt, friend of Barbara Etheridge

Alice Shands, mother of Valentina Cochran

Jennifer Page Shiberou

Jef Terry, friend of Michelle Pellay-Walker

Jenny Lind Udouj, mother of Reg Udouj

Lee Welch

Reid Whitaker, father of Lang Whitaker

Lilibeth Owen Withers, cousin of Penn Owen

Hazel Zachary, mother of Bill Zachary

*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*



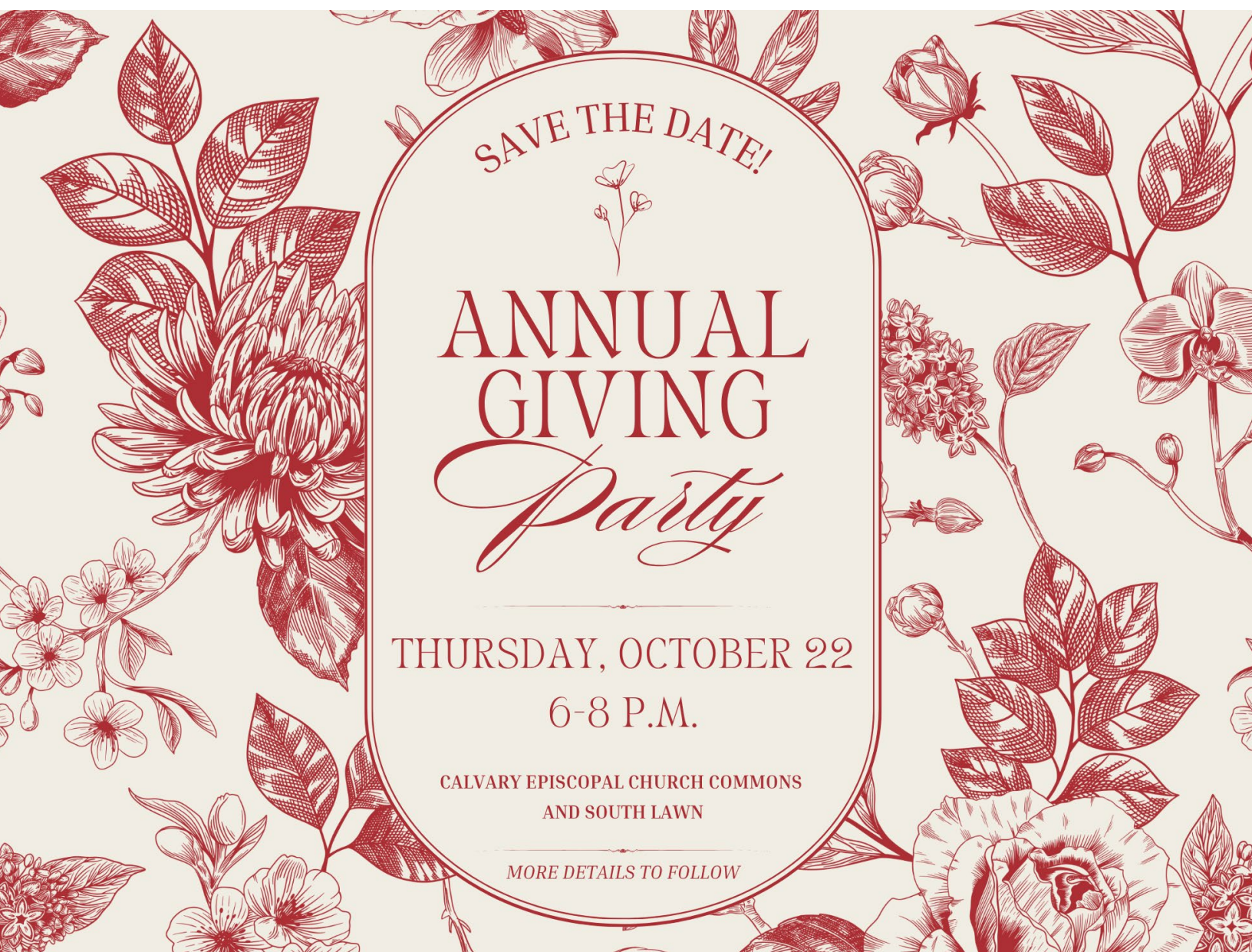
CHRONICLE

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Robyn M. Banks, editor

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



SAVE THE DATE!



ANNUAL GIVING *Party*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22
6-8 P.M.

CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH COMMONS
AND SOUTH LAWN

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW