

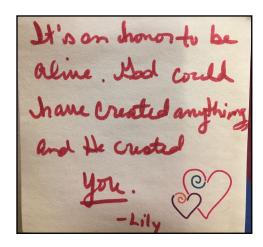
The Newsletter of Calvary Episcopal Church Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

FEBRUARY 11, 2024

Lily Wants **Us** to Know

From the mouth of babes we often hear the Holy Spirit speak. For the last several months, we have been responding to questions that "Lily Wants to Know." She is a fifth grader who askes insightful questions about God and church that have appeared in this column. Now, Lily wants us to know something she told an adult who was going through a challenging time.

"It's an honor to be alive. God could have created anything and He created you." −Lily ■



Ten Years Together

Thank you for celebrating on Sunday, January 28 (after the 11 a.m. service) to mark ten years with you as Rector of Calvary Church. I received some wonderful presents including a poem from Kathy Ayres (read by Russ Ayres) and a custom bobblehead of me as a soccer player with #16, Rector XVI of Calvary.

Several people asked me the obvious question, "Can you believe it has been ten years?" The honest answer is that, in some ways, it feels like we have been together for a very long time. In other ways, it feels like I arrived recently and have much left to do.

On reflection, it seems there have been a few seasons or stages of ministry together. The staff and choir and elected leadership, while changing in composition, were exceptionally strong to guide us through it all discerning where God was leading us.

The first several years, or first season, were about the

congregation resting and refocusing after the diocesan split and aftermath that drained everyone. A lot of great ministry took place but that was a time to reconnect with the Diocese and Bishop, look outward with a renewed focus as we had always done, and imagine how God was calling us to "be Church" in the next time of ministry. It was in the early days we were getting to know and trust one another, and were able to offer weddings for gay and straight couples, began weekly Rector's classes on the Bible, welcomed the Presiding Bishop to Calvary, and stabilized our finances.

The second season of ministry together was one of growth in many ways. We began a relationship with the Tree of Life, grew as a congregation, and continued our venerable traditions (concerts, work with AA, PIIN, CLASP, EECM) and added new ones like an Easter Egg Hunt and plastic recycling and added a Rabbi to our Christmas pageant. We were in a very strong position and planning for a capital campaign in early spring 2020. That was supposed to be the start of season three. I clearly remember standing in the Parish Hall on March 8, 2020 watching children running around, those new and old at Calvary engaging one another, and talking about the future. The energy was palpable. The next week, everything shut down for what most thought would be a few months but turned into a few years. We began streaming services. Thanks to the generosity of many parishioners, we developed a sixcamera system and will likely continue streaming worship for the long-term future. Worship online was good but not the same as in person.

As the pandemic dragged on, people were dispersed and disconnected. Still, we persevered with worship in person and then not and then in person again. We lost many to death or moving away from the city. I had a heart attack and almost died but recovered. We helped form what became the Beloved Community initiative to work towards racial reconciliation. We opened our doors to a fledgling Ethiopian Orthodox congregation to give them a start. We created a virtual tour of the whole building for those who could not be physically present. We welcomed a Rabbi-in-Residence. We worked with the Pittsburgh Penguins to develop the Hunt Armory to become an ice rink for the community. We strengthened ties with the Jewish and Muslim

-continued on page 2

Ten Years, continued from page 1

communities. Season 3 ended up being COVID-tide, a type of death of the old. That time is over.

The next season, four, is starting to emerge. It is not clear what that will look like yet but there are a few guideposts. One is that we have and will consistently follow what Blessed Weezie Wells calls "The Calvary Way." That is, we follow wherever Jesus leads with humility, grace, diligence, and dignity doing the basics well focused on loving God in Christ and loving our neighbors. We bring the best of our history to meet the present and embrace the future.

Another is a capital campaign, already underway, to preserve, sustain, and share our facilities. Another guidepost for the next season will include partnerships with other organizations including the Episcopal Church and those from the Jewish, Muslim, other Christian, and other communities. We can be more authentically and fully Episcopal Christians while developing relationships with those who differ from us.

Another guidepost is that it will include many new people to Calvary to augment those who have been faithful for years. Since the summer of 2023, something remarkable has begun to take place. Last Sunday, we had seventeen children in their special liturgy during the 11 a.m. service. That is far more children than we have had in a very long time.

Recently, new people of all ages, color, identities, and family configurations have made Calvary their home. Five years ago, I knew virtually everyone in the pews. Now, there are many new people. If there is someone you do not know, please introduce yourself.

There is a palpable excitement and energy around the place again, a type of resurrection. What we know from the Easter story in the Gospels is that those who first met the resurrected Jesus did not immediately recognize him. No one expected the resurrection and could not imagine the possibility, let alone the reality, of that.

Resurrection does not necessarily look exactly like the old. There is continuity but change. I don't know yet what the resurrected life in Christ at Calvary will look like but we can look for these guideposts to help.

Thank you for ten great years. There is no place I'd rather be than in Pittsburgh at Calvary with you. —*Jonathon* ■

A Priest and a Rabbi Walk into a Classroom

Rabbi Aaron Bisno and the Rev. Jonathon Jensen will continue to teach a class together. We will focus on the great stories of Judaism in the Book of Genesis. The classes will be in person in McClintic Hall, also known as the choir room, on **Sundays at 10 a.m.** Sessions are recorded and posted to Calvary's YouTube page with a link in the Friday email. All are welcome to attend.

Anointing on Sundays at 11 a.m.



Before the pandemic, we had a practice of offering anointing with oil and laying on of hands by a priest during communion at the 11 a.m. service. Beginning on the first Sunday of Lent, and continuing throughout the season, we will resume

this practice. In Easter, we will evaluate to see if we want to continue.

Laying on of hands and anointing with oil is an ancient Christian act of devotion adapted from our Jewish forebears. The laying on of hands means the priest places his or her hands on the head of the person and prays for them. This originates from blessing someone to office or symbolically to pass on the presence of the Holy Spirit and is also associated with healing. Think of all the times Jesus touched someone. It is another way to pray physically to accompany words.

Anointing with oil has long been a part of healing. Think of the Good Samaritan story in which the man who was beaten is treated with wine, anointed with oil, and his wounds bandaged. In our context, the priest will make a sign of the cross on your forehead using oil blessed for that purpose.

In the Bible, anointing with oil has many uses. It could be a sign of hospitality. It could also mean to set apart someone or something for special service. Finally, anointing was used as a way of praying for healing for the sick. It signifies the giving and/or the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Most significantly, Jesus the Christ (a title not a last name) means Jesus the Anointed One. *Christos* in Greek is derived from the Hebrew word Messiah meaning the one anointed from God. In this simple act of physical prayer, we are participating in Jesus, the Anointed One, entering into our lives.

Soup Group News

Thank you to all that supported our Souper Bowl Sales. Thanks to the cooks, sellers and shoppers! Look for the grand total in the weekly email blast soon.

The next scheduled cooking session is **Friday**, **March 8 at 9 a.m.** It is helpful for me to know is you are planning to cook that day. I like to have enough jobs for everyone that volunteers and not too many tasks that we can't finish in a timely manner. Please let me know if you are planning to join us.

If you are not a cook, please consider being a delivery person! Our soup is not restricted to Calvary members. Brighten someone's day with soup!

-Adele Eley, adele.eley@gmail.com, 412.719.9637 ■

Calvary's Office Hours Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

LENT, HOLY WEEK, AND EASTER AT CALVARY 2024

Tuesday Night 2024 Lenten Preaching Series

"Hope - Rooted in Christ"

6 P.M. Dinner • 7 P.M. Holy Eucharist with hymns and sermon

February 20

Calvary Preacher: The Rev. Moni McIntyre 315 Shady Ave. at Walnut, E. Liberty

February 27

St. Thomas Preacher: The Rev. Charles Fischer 378 Delaware Ave, Oakmont

March 5

St. Stephen's Preacher: The Rev. Liddy Barlow 600 Pitt Street, Wilkinsburg

March 12

St. Andrew's Preacher: The Rev. Leslie Reimer 5801 Hampton Street, Highland Park

March 19

RedeemerPreacher: The Rev. Carter Hawley 5700 Forbes Avenue, Squirrel Hill

The Lenten Series is back!

The Lenten Series is a weekly program sponsored by the parishes in our district of the Diocese (which encompasses the East End and the immediate eastern suburbs of Pittsburgh). Each Tuesday in Lent one parish in our district will host a simple supper at 6 pm followed by a Eucharist at 7 pm. A different preacher is featured each week. See the accompanying image for details.

Calvary will be hosting the series on Tuesday, February 20. We need volunteers on that day to help with the dinner – setting up and/or serving, and/or cleaning up. If you can help, please call or email Kim Pieratt (412.661.0120, ext. 111; kpieratt@calvarypgh.org). ■

The complete schedule of services for Lent, Holy Week, and Easter are listed on the insert in this issue, and is posted on the Calvary website: www.calvarypgh.org



As one of your Lenten disciplines, consider joining with other parishioners at Calvary for the service of Evening Prayer at 6 p.m. in the Lady Chapel each Monday and Thursday of Lent. We'll start this practice on Monday, February 19, and meet each Monday and Thursday through March 21.

Praying at certain points of the day has its origins in Judaism and was practiced in the early church and monastic traditions. Evening Prayer is derived from the monastic prayer services and is one of the Daily Offices found in our *Book of Common Prayer*. The service of Evening Prayer is about 20 minutes long and includes Psalms, Scripture, and Prayers for the day (but no sermon or music).

If you have questions or are interested in helping to lead this service, please contact Steve Shandor (steve.shandor@gmail.com) or Michael Salmon (oriolefish@gmail.com). ■

Lenten Quiet Day

Saturday, February 24, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Adults of all ages are invited to our Lenten Quiet Day, an opportunity to slow down, be quiet, spend time with God and refresh your spirit. We'll reflect on "Jesus as the True Vine," a theme inspired by John 15:1-17. The morning will include worship, meditations on a theme, and periods of silence, during which participants can choose to pray, read, draw, or journal on their own. Prompts will be available for those who would like more structure during the periods of silence. We will end our time together with a Eucharist in the Lady Chapel.

So that we can plan adequately, please sign up by Monday, February 19 by contacting Kim Pieratt (kpieratt@ calvarypgh.org or 412.661.0120 ext. 111). If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Rev. Cameron Soulis (csoulis@calvarypgh.org). ■



PRESERVE • SUSTAIN • SHARE

Let the Little Children Come Unto Me....

Over the past few months, the Capital Campaign has been in a soft launch – organizing and training campaign volunteers, soliciting Vestry members and the Campaign Leadership, having Awareness Gatherings, and beginning solicitations of those who attended the gatherings. The Campaign Committee will host coffee hour on February 18th to expand our communication about the campaign, how you can access information, and more importantly, to share our progress with you. To communicate the financial progress, the Campaign requires a metric to illustrate the number of pledges and the amount pledged to date. We could use a thermometer like most other financial goal programs, but that seemed so mundane. What to do?

On January 21st, I went to speak to our future visionaries – the Christian Formation Group. So, how do you explain a Capital Campaign to a group of 7-12 year olds? Conceptually, it was the same as an Awareness Gathering. I drew a crude picture of a church, a path labeled "Rooted in Christ" and we discussed who uses the church building, and how those ministries fulfill a specific purpose while also putting Christ's message of service into action. The kids were amazed at the multitude of people who come to Calvary and use its spaces. Each time we talked about a specific group or ministry, I added a smiley face inside the building. Soon, the building was full of smiley faces. There was a lot of energy in the room as they realized the importance of Calvary in so many peoples' lives. Then I asked, "What if there were no building here?" Shock, incredulity, and the realization that so many people couldn't be served. Now they understood the "Preserve and Sustain" of the mission and how it leads to "Share". I talked about the projects that will be undertaken to "Preserve and Sustain," and received some interesting comments:

- Wow, 15 years old for the boiler. Isn't that super old?
- Why does Rabbi Aaron live at Calvary? (Rabbi in Residence mission)
- Why is there an old stove in the kitchen? We made soup but couldn't use it.
- The Swan Garden is dangerous.
- Wow, new stained-glass windows!
- Do you have a bank account for the money?

Soon, a chorus of "What can we do to help?" erupted. After many ideas about how to raise money (and an offer from one child to give me money from his pocket that day), I asked for a gift from them. "Please make a performance chart for the Campaign so people can see Calvary's progress to reach our financial goal." Immediately, the room erupted again with ideas. The enthusiasm for their mission was awe-inspiring. They are so excited to participate and share their work with the parish community. I have no idea what it will look like, but I know for sure it comes from kids who appreciate Calvary and our inclusive mission. It will be awesome! At the end of my meeting with them, a child approached me and whispered "So, what else can we do for you?" Inspiration comes in all forms.

Kudos to Calvary's Christian Formation program and to the parents of these delightful, appreciative children. Come to Coffee Hour on February 18th where we can all see what the kids have created!

-Mary Lou Southwood, Campaign Co-Chair ■

MUSICAL NOTES by Alan Lewis



On Sunday afternoon, February 18, at 4 p.m., the acclaimed Baroque ensemble Apollo's Fire, based in Cleveland, will perform here at Calvary as part of Chatham Baroque's concert series. The program features music by Heinrich Biber, the seventeenth-century

master of extravagant expressivity and experimental violintunings. Tickets are available at the door or at www.chathambaroque.org.

On Sunday morning, March 3, Dr. Susan Rice and the Heinz Chapel Choir of the University of Pittsburgh will make their annual visit to Calvary to sing in our 11 a.m. service. It's always a treat to hear this *a cappella* choir; they always sing interesting and beautiful music, and they overflow with both enthusiasm and skill. (Their appearances here each year are both an outreach to the community and a generous form of thanks for the use of Calvary's facilities for their annual work-day retreat, earlier this month.)

An advance notice that Evensong for March will take place, not on the usual first Sunday of the month, but on Sunday the 10th, at 5 p.m. Music for that day will be by the longtime organist of Gloucester Cathedral, Herbert Sumsion, including his Evening Service in G, and picturesque and appealing anthem, *They That Go Down to the Sea in Ships*, based on the Psalm for that day.

And, finally, a note that, on Friday and Saturday evenings, March 15 and 16, Chatham Baroque offers their annual "Joy of Bach" concert. This year's program features the beautiful solo cantata *Ich habe genug*, with bass-baritone Jonathan Woody, and the Sixth Brandenburg Concerto. One of the several instrumentalists joining the ensemble for this performance is a Calvary native, Rebecca Humphrey Diederich, long based in Philadelphia; it will be lovely to welcome her back under our roof.

Visit the Calvary website at www.calvarypgh.org



In my sermon on Sunday, January 21st I talked about call and about how God calls us not only to follow Jesus, but also into the work and occupations of our lives. Although our call to follow Jesus remains constant, the ways in which Jesus calls us to follow and deepen our relationship with him change over the course of our lives. Thus, part of the work of the Christian life is to listen for God's voice as we go through our lives and consider what God might be asking of us in each phase.

That practice of listening for God's voice and considering what God might be asking of you is called discernment. It's not always easy. As I've wrestled with my own questions of what God might be calling me to, I've found two books especially useful.

The first is *Listening Hearts: Discerning Call in Community* by Suzanne G. Farnham, Joseph P. Gill, R. Taylor McLean, and Susan M. Ward (New York: Morehouse, 1991, with updates in 2011 and 2021). This book was written by a group of Episcopalians who were trying to develop a clear understanding of spiritual discernment. The book explores themes of Christian discernment, call, and community, especially as they relate to one another.

The second is *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation* by Parker J. Palmer (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2000). Parker Palmer is a well-known Quaker author and leader. In this book, Palmer reflects on the work of finding one's true calling, and relates with humor and humility his personal experiences with discerning his vocation.

A third book I'd like to recommend as a resource is *Shaping a Faithful Life: Discernment and Discipleship for Young Adults* by Kathleen Henderson Staudt (New York: Morehouse, 2021). This book, which is in a workbook style with questions for reflection and discussion, would be most helpful to those who are wrestling with questions of larger purpose and life vocation. I have not yet read it. But I know the author and I attended a retreat on discernment which she led four years ago. I respect her and her work very much.

All three books are available in the Calvary bookstore.

If you are wrestling with questions about your own call from God and would like to have a conversation about them, let me know. I'm glad to listen. —*Cameron* ■

Chili Fest 2024

Chilifest on Saturday, January 27 was an enjoyable night with an overflowing Parish Hall. Over thirty people made chili with others bringing salads and cornbread. Thank you to the Parish Council and parish staff for organizing the event and to all who participated.

—Jonathon







Chili Fest winners were (I to r) David leong (Best Outlaw Chili Award), Christina Simmons (James Knight Award for those who don't like chili), and David Charonis (Wanted Dead or Alive Chili).

On Sunday, January 29, the Vestry hosted a festive coffee hour in honor of Jonathon's 10 years of ministry at Calvary. Kathy Ayres wrote the following poem for the occasion, inspired by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and Russ Ayres read it aloud.

Listen parishioners and you shall hear, The tale of a rector that we hold dear.

Twas late in December, two thousand thirteen, A man came among us to lead Calvary's team.

He came for a visit to Pittsburgh's fair city, To celebrate with us the feast of nativity.

Soon after with Natalie, his lovely bride, They settled their lodgings here in Shadyside.

He started his mission to preach and to pray, And hung out at Calvary by night and by day.

Undaunted by weather, by rain or by snow, He stood on the sidewalks with ashes to go.

The South was behind him, chill winters his fate, He answered that challenge by learning to skate.

First Penguins, then hockey, then family fun nights, The Armory soon became filled with delights.

But when the pandemic made churches go dark, Our Jonathon made an indelible mark.

With cameras and streaming we worshipped online, Two patient years brought us back bread and wine.

He's gathered new friends from countries afar, Becoming quite quickly a media star.

He's welcomed a rabbi, an imam and more, His motto in Pittsburgh: I stand by the door. ■



Christ-Centered Yoga

Christ-Centered Yoga continues on Monday nights through March 11, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. You may join any week. Every-body and all-bodies are welcome! We meet in the Parish Hall for 20-30 minutes of yoga, followed by journaling. Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat or beach towel, and paper and pen for journaling. Optional items to bring are yoga blocks, and/or a bath or beach towel for your knees, hips, etc. on the hard floor.

Christ-Centered Yoga is led by Calvary parishioner, Elizabeth Hepburn Miller. Please contact her with questions or concerns at www.bebyelizabeth.com or email Elizabeth@BeByElizabeth.com. ■

Mah Jongg Night at Calvary

Every Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. the Tree of Life Synagogue Sisterhood and Women of Calvary come together to host a mah jongg night at Calvary Episcopal Church. This gathering has been thriving for over a year, bringing together both beginners and seasoned experts. The warm and welcoming atmosphere ensures that newcomers feel right at home, fostering an environment where everyone can learn and play at their own pace. The weekly gathering serves not only as a platform for the enjoyment of this timeless game but also as an opportunity for strengthening interfaith community and friendships. Participants span generations, creating a vibrant and diverse community where wisdom is shared across age groups, further enriching the experience for everyone involved.

To learn more, please email Stacey Hausman (sisterhood@ treeoflifepgh.org), or just show up at 6:30 on a Thursday. ■



Calvary Creation Care: Solar Panels

by Laura Everhart and Thomas Slater Why solar panels?

We began this column in *Agape* last month and highlighted that burning fossil fuels, principally oil and natural gas, to heat and cool buildings is one of the largest contributors to global warming. The two primary ways to combat global warming are to use less energy and to create more energy without using fossil fuels. Since last June and under Jonathon's direction, the Calvary Creation Care (CCC) group has been investigating the environmental and business case for solar panels at Calvary.

Solar panels are a relatively new technology and the University of Delaware is credited with installing some of the first solar panels for commercial use in 1973 (Smithsonianmag.com). Today, solar panels are popping up on homes, commercial buildings, even the tops of parking meters and bike stations. With the manufacture of solar panels becoming cheaper, many organizations are looking to use solar power for generating electricity instead of relying on coal- and natural gas-fired power plants.

All Episcopal churches have been called by the National Church to strive for fully renewable energy sources by 2030. For Calvary, we're looking to simultaneously invest in the future of our parish and the natural world. Financial projections indicate cost savings over the next 30 years that would coincide with a meaningful reduction in our environmental footprint.

We hosted a recent coffee hour where members of the committee were available for questions, and we also shared our slides from our Adult Forum presentation last fall. We still have many questions to answer, but here are several of the biggest considerations:

- Would require large initial investment in panels, but create significant cash savings over the long term.
- Our buildings are not suitable for rooftop panels whereas installing parking lot solar panel canopies is feasible.
- Would constitute a visual representation of our commitment to a sustainable future
- Includes a 40% direct pay rebate from the IRS on our total cost, even as a religious institution
- Local examples include the new Pittsbugh airport project, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Frick Park Environmental Center, and Hazelwood Green.

We invite your comments and suggestions as we move forward with our research. Please contact Matt Muldoon if you'd like to know more or share your thoughts by email: mattmuldoon@msn.com.

We will use this column for news, updates, and opportunities to get involved. Ask questions and consider joining our CCC. Just e-mail Tom Slater (patobyblack@yahoo.com). ■

Children's Faith Formation

Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 11 o'clock Service



Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW) is a special time for children to pray, ask questions, and hear the good news of God's love. The Sunday scripture readings are proclaimed and explained on a level appropriate to children ages 4-11. Any child in this age group may participate - no registration is necessary.

Children are invited to gather with adult leaders after the Opening Prayer and process to the Refectory. They return to their families at the time of the Peace. If you are running a little late and miss the beginning of the service, no worries! Drop in and join us in the Refectory.



Open on Sundays from 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and for other church events as published.

Details at https://www.calvarypgh.org/the-nursery

Faith Formation Highlights



The new year is off to a great start! Beginning with the Feast of Epiphany, students pondered the Magi's three gifts. Creativity flourished as students decorated wooden stars and crafted their own symbolic "gifts" from modeling clay. The older group enjoyed a hands-on experience with

frankincense resin, and then created Epiphany House Blessing Kits.

The following week, Miss Elsa's class focused on Jesus' baptism, emphasizing His role as the "Light of the World." The symbolism of light was reinforced as they crafted beeswax candles.



The older students had a great time in the kitchen preparing soup for the upcoming Soup Group fundraiser. While working, they discussed the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his emphasis on serving others as a fundamental way to express one's love for God and each other. Thank you, Miss Adele, for leading this lesson!

Recently, Miss Elsa's class learned about how Jesus invited his friends to follow him. They discussed the ways that each of us is called to follow in God's way of love and pondered what the disciples must have thought when Jesus told them to put down their nets. The students enjoyed making colorful tin foil fish to display in the classroom and to connect with the idea of being "fishers of men."

Level II students welcomed Ms. Mary Lou Southwood as special guest speaker and learned about the ongoing Capital Campaign. Mary Lou gave an informative and inspiring overview of the importance of this effort and challenged students to contribute by helping to create a visual aid to reflect the campaign's progress. The students were excited and immediately began brainstorming creative ideas of how they can contribute to preserving, sustaining and sharing the blessing that is Calvary Church. Thank you, Mary Lou!



Lastly, the aquaponics system set up by our Faith Formation classes in the fall has truly flourished! The sight of the vibrant fish swimming gracefully amidst the flourishing greenery brings a unique sense of warmth and hope during these chilly winter days, reminding us of the beauty and resilience of life even in the most challenging of seasons.



Sheldon Calvary Summer Camp

Think Summer!

Sheldon Calvary Camp is an Episcopal summer camp for children, youth, and adults, and welcomes campers and staff of all denominations and faiths. Calvary Camp's core program is a traditional overnight summer camp for kids looking to have fun every day in an environment that teaches community-building and models acceptance of differences. Campers live in cabins of 8 or 9 children with two counselors, and participate in activities that may include swimming, arts and crafts, tennis, athletics, kayaking, environmental education, archery, team building, and photography. Most children come for one week; some come for two or more. In the final two weeks of the summer, we have two Family Camp sessions for families to enjoy together.

Learn more at www.calvarycamp.org

Agape Deadline

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, March 1, 2024.** Please e-mail your text to calvary@calvarypgh.org or deliver it directly to the church office.

Agape, the newsletter of Calvary Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is published monthly (except July), and is mailed to active members and friends of the Parish. You may opt out of receiving a printed copy and read each issue online at www.calvarypgh.org. Contact the Parish office at 412.661.0120 for details. ■

The Bookstore at Calvary

During the holy season of Lent, the Bookstore has a variety of devotional books to read during this time including The Book of Common Prayer (available in leatherbound and soft cover), which contains the liturgies, prayers, and theological documents of the Episcopal Church and much more. Celtic Daily Prayer is prayers and readings from the Northumbria Community in northern England. This collection of liturgies, prayers, and meditations inspired by traditional Celtic Christianity brings the power of an ancient tradition to life for seekers today. Building on the foundation set down in the first volume, Celtic Daily *Prayer Book Two: Farther Up and Farther In*, takes one deeper into spirituality of the Northumbria Community, offering resources that have emerged out of real-life experiences of seeking God in many differing contexts throughout the world. Assembled by a commission of church liturgists, lay people, and clergy in New Zealand, A New Zealand Prayer Book offers services and prayers for holy days as well as for weekly services and personal mediation. Saint Augustine's Prayer Book is a book of prayer and practice - with disciplines, habits, and patterns for building a Christian spiritual life.

Additional titles for consideration during Lent:

Wild Hope: Stories for Lent from the Vanishing by Gayle Boss, with art by David G. Klein, provides beautiful woodcut-type pictures of twenty-five endangered animals vanishing at a faster rate than at any other time in Earth's history. Their stories thaw



our stiff hearts and wake in us a wild hope that from all this death and ruin, something new could rise. The promise of Lent is that something new will rise.

John Dominic Crossan and Sarah Sexton Crossan explore the intersection of the theology around the resurrection of Christ and how it has manifested in Christian iconography in Resurrecting Easter: How the West Lost and the East Kept the Original Easter Vision. The Crossans painstakingly traveled throughout the ancient Eastern church, documenting through text and image a completely different model for understanding Easter's resurrection story, one that provides promise and hope for us today.

Under the Fig Tree: Visual Prayers and Poems for Lent by Roger Hutchison allows the reader an opportunity to reflect, slow down, and walk with Jesus as a friend and disciple, to sit with Jesus under the fig tree and talk, listen, and glimpse the face and heart of authentic love.

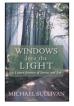
The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis takes the form of a series of letters from senior demon Screwtape to his nephew Wormwood, a Junior Tempter. The uncle's mentorship pertains to the nephew's responsibility in securing the damnation of a British man known only as "the Patient".



Donnel O'Flynn explores the deep-rooted traditions of the Cross as Life-Giving Tree through Christian history, complete with images of the Cross from across the Christian world, inviting readers to see the Cross as healer of division and a symbol of life rather than death in *Holy Cross, Life-Giving Tree*.

Explore reflections of seminary students in *Praises Abound:* Hymns and Meditations for Lent & Easter Week from the Seminary of the Southwest. The collection is of selected works by students of Dr. Schulz-Widmar during his thirty-year teaching career at the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest, Austin, Texas.

Walk with author Michael Sullivan on a Lenten journey in *Windows into the Light: A Lenten Journey of Stories and Art.* Organized around holy days and Sundays in Lent, chapters begin with a prayer or poetic excerpt, followed by scripture for the day or week. A narrative then



expands on the themes introduced by the prayer and scripture.

Finally, for the younger reader, *What We Do in Lent: A Child's Activity Book* by Anna E. Kitchen and illustrated by Dorothy Thompson Perez is filled with interactive puzzles, color-by-number pages, word finds, mazes, and more. This fun-filled activity book can help children ages 4 to 7 grow to a deeper understanding of the true meaning of the holy season of Lent.

Bookshop.org

By ordering books through the Calvary page on Bookshop.org, the Bookstore will receive a portion of the profits. This is another way you can support the Bookstore, which is a member of the Episcopal Booksellers Association as well as an independent bookstore, when shopping for books. Bookshop.org will ship your books from their whole-saler's warehouse (usually within 2-3 days) directly to you, handle the customer service, returns and overhead, and the Bookstore at Calvary will receive a small stipend!

alibris

Alibris is an online store that sells new books, used books, out-of-print books, rare books, and other media through an online network of independent booksellers. Calvary has over 300 mostly out of print, donated books available online at http://hymnal82.alibrisstore.com. Checkout the unique offerings that are reasonably priced.

Bookstore Hours

The Bookstore is open on Sunday from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call the Bookstore at 412.661.0120 ext. 133 (please leave a message) or email at bookstore@calvarypgh.org and we will contact you. Cash, check, Discover®, MasterCard®, and Visa® along with touch-free payments are accepted. ■

EASTER DAY MEMORIALS

If you would like to have your loved ones remembered in the Easter Day bulletin, please fill out this form and return it, with your donation,

no later th	an Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024.
Name (as you w	ould like it to appear):
Donor's name:	
Donor's telepho	ne: ()
Please mail to:	Lynda Kennedy
	Calvary Episcopal Church
	315 Shady Avenue
	Pittsburgh, PA 15206-4388

Spiritual Reflection - Kate Bowler

Adult spiritual formation may be described as the step-bystep discovery of God's presence in our lives and our personal transformation along the way. In Calvary's Spiritual Reflection meetings, we share, reflect upon, and discuss inspirational ideas that develop and deepen our personal relationships with God and with one another. At each meeting, a short reading serves as a catalyst for discovery of God in our daily lives. Meetings are group-led, and no preparation is required. Our interactions follow the Principals for Contemplative Dialogue of the Merton Institute for Contemplative Living.

For this term we will use Kate Bowler's *Good Enough*. A religion professor at Duke, Bowler gained national attention with her book *Everything Happens for a Reason (and other lies I've loved)*, written after her Stage IV cancer diagnosis at age 35. *Good Enough*, with co-author Jessica Ritchie, is a collection of devotionals and prayers that push back against our culture's messages of "living your best life now" and forced positivity. "This book understands me, especially the parts I keep hidden," says author Barbara Brown Taylor.

Meetings are held in the Evans Room from 7-8 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday evening of each month. The meetings are hybrid, allowing "in person" conversation while others join remotely using Zoom. Upcoming meeting dates are February 20, and March 5 and 19. Email Matt Muldoon (mattmuldoon@msn.com) or Sondra Krimmel (sskrimmel@gmail.com) for information or to be added to the email list. Please feel welcome to join us at any time. ■

Notes From the Calvary Archive

For decades, Calvary has marked the start of the Lenten season with a pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday. Once again this year, the clergy and congregation will share a meal of pancakes and fellowship the day before Ash Wednesday.

Years ago, Calvary held a "Mardi Gras" celebration and a smorgasbord of other activities to go along with the traditional pancake meal. The festive event was one of the church's yearly efforts to raise funds for its school.

In the 1960s and 1970s, the dinner was preceded by events such as family games, children's cartoons and an adult social hour. After the meal, there was a Grand March through what was then Calvary's Upper Gymnasium (McClintic Hall.) Attendees wore costumes and, at the evening's end, a king and queen were crowned.

An ad in *Agape* for February 22, 1966, promoted the following:

- Children's Art Exhibit in the Lounge
- Game Room in Lower Gymnasium
- Pancake Supper in the Dining Room
- Two showings of Lovelace Puppets in the Upper Gymnasium (McClintic Hall)
- Grand March with the judging of costumes

An *Agape* issue in 1982 touted Calvary's Shrove Tuesday events: "Join the festivities at MARDI GRAS... Come in costume... as your own ethnic character or someone who's in the news.... You could be shy Di or Prince Charles or maybe The Beatles..." Games in the Parish Hall began the evening and a compline service followed the pancake supper and Grand March.

By the mid 1980s, Mardi Gras activities were phased out. According to the February 9, 1986 *Agape*, clergy and vestry members "with a little help from their friends" served the traditional pancake dinner, \$1.50 for children and \$3.00 for adults.

Gospel and Breakfast (GAB)

Sundays, 10 – 10:45 a.m., the Evans Room

This class is for young adults and parents of young children to meet for fellowship, light breakfast, and a discussion of the Gospel passage appointed for the day. We gather in the Evans Room on Sundays during the Christian Formation hour (10 - 10.45 a.m.). The nursery will be open at that time, or you can bring your little one(s) along if you prefer. Drop in whenever you can. No prior knowledge needed.

Questions? Please contact the Rev. Cameron Soulis (csoulis@calvarypgh.org or 412.661.0120, ext. 123). ■

The Church Mouse

I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to the Rector, Jonathon Jensen, and the Calvary family for helping me get relocated and settled into my new home. It is an honor to have joined the Calvary staff.

Sincerely, Guy Tillman, Sexton. ■



We will return to Daylight Saving Time at 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 10. When setting your clocks ahead, it is a good time to check the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors at home. ■



Join us in the Parish Hall from 7–9 p.m., followed by a brief discussion with Clint Van Dusen.



Thursday, March 21

Directed by Agnieszkak Holland (also renowned for *Europa*, *Europa*, 1999). 119 min. From the faith of a tiny Gypsy girl who prays to stop Allied planes from bombing her Slovakia (1944) to her migration to a Chicago ghetto (1977), the Catholic Church considers her sainthood. Apostate Father Frank Shore (Ed Harris) – known as a "miracle killer" – is assigned to the case only to fall passionately in love with her daughter (Anne Heche).



315 Shady Avenue ■ Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15206 email: calvary@calvarypgh.org ■ www.calvarypgh.org telephone: 412.661.0120

The Rev. Jonathon W. Jensen, Rector The Rev. Cameron J. Soulis, Associate Rector The Rev. Geoffrey S. Royce, Deacon Rabbi Aaron Bisno, Rabbi-in-Residence Ms. Deanna Briody, McNulty Intern The Rev. Ruth Bosch Becker, Assisting Pastor The Rev. Carol Henley, Assisting Priest Dr. Alan Lewis, Director of Music Jon Tyillian, Assistant Organist Lynda Kennedy, Director of Finance Vicki Rispoli, Director of Children's Formation Kenneth Smith, Director of Communications Kim Pieratt, Parish Administrator Jim Gubash, Head Sexton Adam Augustine, Ron Johnston, Mary Ann Packer, Guy Tillman, Sextons Vivian Rispoli, A/V Technician David Ieong, Senior Warden Wendy Lomicka, Junior Warden Lauren Ernst, Treasurer Daniel Geroni, Assistant Treasurer

Have you remembered Calvary in your will?

Holy Baptism

If you, or someone you know, desires to partake in this sacrament, please contact the Reverend Cameron Soulis at csoulis@ calvarypgh.org or 412.661.0120, ext. 123 as soon as possible, so that the appropriate preparation and arrangements can be made.

An expanded version of this issue of *Agape*, with additional content may be viewed on the Calvary website at **www.calvarypgh.org**

LENT, HOLY WEEK, AND EASTER AT CALVARY 2024

Ash Wednesday: February 14

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II, will be celebrated at 7 A.M., Noon, and 7:30* P.M. *Imposition of Ashes at all services*

Ashes To Go will be available at 12:15 P.M. at the front steps on Shady Avenue, and at 6 P.M. in the front driveway circle.

SUNDAYS IN LENT

February 18, 25, March 3, 10, 17

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II, will be celebrated at 8 A.M., 9 A.M., 11* A.M. The Great Litany in Procession on February 18 at 11 A.M.

WEEKDAYS IN LENT

The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated in the Lady Chapel on Wednesdays at Noon.

Evening Prayer at 6 P.M. in the Lady Chapel each Monday and Thursday from February 19 through March 21

LENTEN QUIET DAY

Saturday, February 24 at 9 A.M.

We will begin in the Lady Chapel

CHORAL EVENSONG:

Sunday, March 10, at 5* P.M.

Palm Sunday, March 24

Liturgy of the Palms, Holy Eucharist and Sermon at 8, 9 & 11* A.M.

Musical Meditation on the Passion of the Christ at 5* P.M.

Monday in Holy Week, March 25
The Holy Eucharist, in the Lady Chapel, 6 P.M.

Tuesday in Holy Week, March 26 The Holy Eucharist, in the Lady Chapel, 6 P.M.

Wednesday in Holy Week, March 27 The Holy Eucharist, in the Lady Chapel, at Noon and 6 P.M.

Maundy Thursday, March 28

The Holy Eucharist in the Lady Chapel, at 12 Noon; The Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar, 7:30* P.M.

Good Friday, March 29

Good Friday Liturgy, 12* Noon;

Following the service, the Church will remain open for meditation from 1:30 until 3 P.M.

Good Friday Liturgy, 7:30* P.M.

The Great Vigil of Easter, March 30, 8* P.M.

Lighting of the Paschal Candle, Scriptural Prophecies, Baptisms, and the First Eucharist of Easter

Easter Day, March 31

Holy Eucharist and Homily at 8 A.M. Festal Holy Eucharist and Sermon at 9 ఈ 11* A.M. Easter Egg Hunt, 10:15 A.M.

* INDICATES THE SERVICE WILL BE LIVESTREAMED





Proceeds benefit The Women of Calvary's Annual Bazaar. Visit http://tinyurl.com/ybrtttcx for details



East Liberty Valley Historical Society



Wednesday, March 6, 2024

An Overview of the Pittsburgh City Archives

In this illustrated talk, city archivist and sixth-generation Pittsburgher Charles Succop takes a deep dive into the newly accessible online archives, focusing on records and photographs related to the history of the East Liberty Valley.

Join us in the Parish Hall at 7 p.m.

COMING:

Wednesday, April 3

From the Steel City to the White City

In his new book, Zachary Brodt explores Western Pennsylvania's representation at Chicago's Columbian Exposition in 1893, the first major step in demonstrating that Pittsburgh was more than simply America's crucible – it was also a region of developing culture and innovation. This illustrated talk will examine Western Pennsylvania's exhibits at the exposition, as well as the experiences of Pittsburghers visiting the fairgrounds. Zach also will discuss how the Columbian Exposition influenced Pittsburgh's development at the turn of the 20th century. A book signing will follow.

Wednesday, May 1

The Legacy of George Westinghouse

Wednesday, June 5

The Old East Liberty: A Reading by Joseph Bathanti and Linda Schifino



Sunday, February 18 • 4:00 p.m. Calvary Episcopal Church

ALBUM RELEASE CONCERT

Apollo's Fire returns with a new program based on Heinrich Biber's stunning Sonatas on the Mysteries of the Rosary, along with instrumental works inspired by the baroque tradition of stylus fantasticus. Concertmaster Alan Choo joins Grammy-winning harpsichordist Jeannette Sorrell, Chatham Baroque's Andrew Fouts, and a colorful ensemble to present their unique interpretation of these masterworks.

Alan Choo violin & direction
Jeannette Sorrell harpsichord, organ, & co-direction
Andrew Fouts violin
Rebecca Landell cello
Kivie Cahn-Lipman lirone & viola da gamba
William Simms theorbo & baroque guitar
Anna O'Connell triple harp

Tickets & information at: https://www.chathambarogue.org/concert/apollos-fire-violin-fantasy/

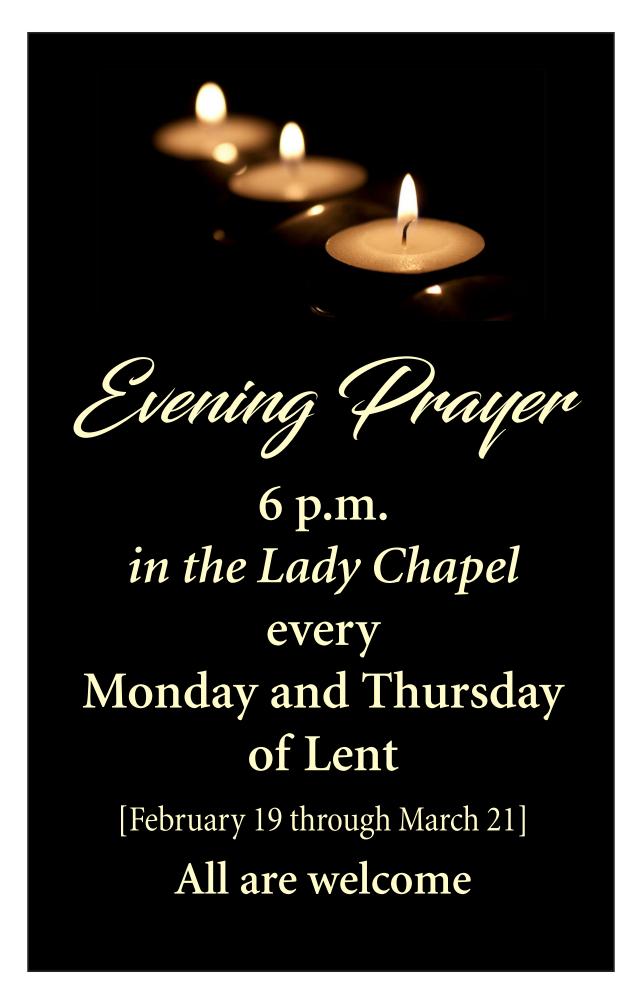


Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 13, 2024 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

\$10 per person / \$20 per family

Please make reservations with Kim at 412.661.0120 ext.111 or kpieratt @calvarypgh.org



Calvary Movie Night: Thursday, February 15, at 7 p.m.

A MOTION PICTURE THAT CELEBRATES THE TIMELESS JOY OF ORIGINAL INNOCENCE.



PARAMOUNT PICTURES PRESENTS A FILM BY

Franco zeffirelli

HIS FIRST FILM SINCE "ROMEO & JULIET"

"Brother sun sister moon"

STARRING GRAHAM FAULKNER / JUDI BOWKER AND ALEC GUINNESS AS POPE INNOCENT III WORDS AND MUSIC COMPOSED AND SUNG BY DONOVAN / ASSOCIATE PRODUCER DYSON LOVELL ORIGINAL STORY AND SCREENPLAY BY SUSO CECCHI D'AMICO, KENNETH ROSS, LINA WERTMULLER AND FRANCO ZEFFIRELLI / PRODUCED BY LUCIANO PERUGIA

FOR EURO INTERNATIONAL FILMS AND VIC FILM (PRODUCTIONS) LTD. / DIRECTED BY FRANCO ZEFFIRELLI

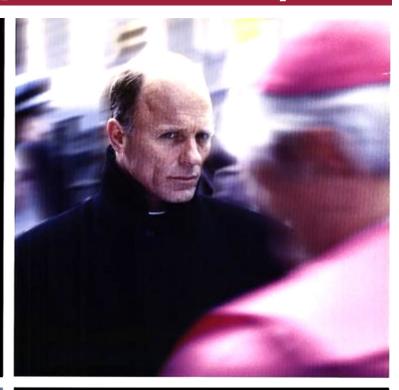
Parental Guidance

TECHNICOLOR® PANAVISION® A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

Calvary Movie Night: Thursday, March 21, at 7 p.m.

"A
MASTERWORK!
PACKS THE
POWER OF
A GENUINE
REVELATION...
SMART AND
EXCEPTIONALLY
ARTICULATE!"

-Kevin Thomas, LOS ANGELES TIMES





ED HARRIS + ANNE HECHE AND ARMIN MUELLER-STAHL

THE THIRD MIRACLE

A ROMANTIC THRILLER BY AGNIESZKA HOLLAND

> SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

Calvary Movie Night: Thursday, April 18, at 7 p.m.

a mighty motion picture experience...touch it sense it...feel it... the ... you can't forget it! Miracle worker



the a flash of intensely personal drama... a brilliant bolt of bold motion picture entertainment... a film beyond the usual! starring ANNE BANCROFT WORKEY and introducing PATTY DUKE with VICTOR JORY

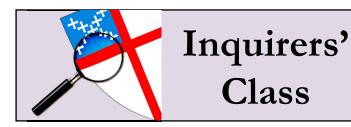
ANDREW PRINE, INGA SWENSON, AND KATHLEEN COMEGYS. SCREEN PLAY BY WILLIAM GIBSON BASED UPON HIS STAGE PLAY

Tuesday Night 2024 Lenten Preaching Series

"Hope - Rooted in Christ"

6 P.M. Dinner ● 7 P.M. Holy Eucharist with hymns and sermon

February 20	
	reacher: The Rev. Moni McIntyre
315 Shady Ave. at Walnut, E. Lib	
February 27	424
St. Thomas	Preacher: The Rev. Charles Fischer
378 Delaware Ave, Oakmont	() () () () () () () () () ()
March 5	
St. Stephen's	Preacher: The Rev. Liddy Barlow
600 Pitt Street, Wilkinsburg	
March 12	
St. Andrew's	Preacher: The Rev. Leslie Reimer
5801 Hampton Street, Highland	Park
March 19	
RedeemerP	reacher: The Rev. Carter Hawley
5700 Forbes Avenue, Squirrel Hi	II



Inquirers' Class

The adult Inquirers' Class at Calvary began on February 8 and will continue for another six weeks. It's not too late to join us! More details about the class are below. Please email the Rev. Cameron Soulis if you'd like to be part of this class (see her email address below).

The Inquirers' Class is for any adult who wants to deepen his or her understanding of the Christian faith, the Episcopal Church, the Anglican tradition, and/or Calvary Church. It is also a chance to connect with others and learn more about Calvary, especially for those who are newer to our parish. This class will serve as preparation for adults seeking Confirmation, or Reception in the Episcopal Church, or the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. (These are all sacramental affirmations of one's Christian faith in the presence of a bishop, and will be offered on Sunday, April 7 at 11 a.m., during Bishop Ketlen Solak's annual visitation.)

The Inquirers' Class will meet from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Thursdays through March 21. It will begin with a light upper and fellowship, followed by a talk by a member of the clergy, small group discussion, and a chance to ask questions. Over the course of the class, we will discuss, among other things, the Bible, prayer, the sacraments, what Episcopalians believe, and Calvary's history and identity as a congregation.

If you would like to attend this class, or if you have any questions about it, please contact Cameron (csoulis@ calvarypgh.org). ■

Staying in Touch

Please contact Calvary's Parish Administrator Kim Pieratt at the Church office if you have any questions about flower memorials, prayer list additions, or scheduling of events. Kim can be contacted at 412.661.0120, ext. 111 or send an email to kpieratt@calvarypgh.org. We ask that you keep us informed if you have a home address, phone or email change.

Stay in Touch with the Diocese

Visit the diocesan website at

www.episcopalpgh.org

Submissions for publication on the diocesan web site, calendar, and the *Grace Happens* weekly e-newsletter should be sent electronically to

info@episcopalpgh.org.

Please be sure to include your complete contact information with any submission.

EECM Food Pantry

East End Cooperative Ministry operates the second largest food pantry in Pittsburgh. Donations can be dropped off at Calvary during office hours: Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday mornings. Below is a list of items particularly requested at this time. Thank you to all who have continued to donate to the EECM food cart. Your support is greatly appreciated.

- Bottled Water Instant mashed potatoes
- Canned tomato sauce, vegetables, beans
- Spaghetti and macaroni pasta
- Canned soups Mac & Cheese boxes
- Oatmeal and whole grain cereals
- White and brown rice
- Disposable utensils (fork, spoon, knife)
- Disposable plates Disposable bowls
- Ziploc bags, any size Napkins
- Paper Towels Sugar Salt ■

Clergy Contact Information

- The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, jjensen@calvarypgh.org
- The Rev. Cameron Soulis, csoulis@calvarypgh.org
- Deacon Geoffrey Royce, groyce@calvarypgh.org
 - Rabbi Aaron Bisno, rabbi@calvarypgh.org
 - Deanna Briody, dbriody@calvarypgh.org ■







Deadline (Friday):

Publication Date (Sunday):

January 5 January 14

February 2 February 11 [Lenten Issue]

March 1 March 10 [Easter Issue]

April 5 April 14 [End of Program Year]

May 3 May 12

June 7 June 16 [Summer Issue]

August 9 August 18 [Beginning of Program Year]

September 6 September 15

October 4 October 13

November 1 November 10 [Advent Issue]

December 6 December 15

2024 CALENDAR

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