



# CALVARY

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### Calvary Annual Report for 2021

#### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AGENDA

January 30, 2022

1. Presentation of Vestry Nominees & Voting
2. Report of the Rector
3. Report of the Senior Warden
4. Report of Financials and Budget
5. Staff Reports
6. Committee Reports
7. Question and Answer Session
8. Resolutions and Greetings
9. For the Good of the Church
10. Results of Vestry Election

#### Rector's Report – Calvary Annual Parish Meeting January 30, 2022

There have been any number of words and phrases that have become worn out over the last two years. Unprecedented became threadbare about halfway through 2020. 'An abundance of caution' was the same. Do you remember in March of 2020 when those known to be experts predicted that we might be living under the reign of the COVID pandemic until the end of that year and we shook our heads in utter and literal disbelief. No way, we said. We'll be back 'to normal' in a couple of months. Nothing can derail our lives for 9 months. Looking back we seemed so naïve and maybe even arrogant. And frankly we were. Naïve rightfully and arrogant naturally.

Is there a word that comes to your mind when you think of 2021? I'm sure there are many. Trying, frustrating, lonely, unpredictable, but maybe also hopefully and anticipatory. If we ever doubted our ability to refocus, regroup, rethink we need not doubt that any longer. 2021 has proven our fortitude as well as our flexibility and I want us to keep that in mind as we move forward into 2022 and beyond.

In early 2021 vaccines were beginning to be offered; to those most at risk and then to the wider population. Here at Calvary we rushed to be in line to be vaccinated. We wanted to be safe. We wanted this COVID pandemic to be a thing of the past. And vaccinated, and now boosted we now are for which I am very grateful.

Do you remember last Easter? It was a glorious day outside in the Spalding parking lot. We put chairs a safe distance apart, wore masks, and were thrilled to be able to see each other face to face, the upper half of our faces at least. Our nimble choir provided acapella music that was perfect as always. The weather was beautiful and the joy of Easter seemed especially palpable. Not long after, we formed a re-opening committee, ably led by Meg Scharre, and we guardedly and carefully returned to in-person services, again with much joy at being able to be together. Soon a bit of confidence returned, the COVID numbers in our area were waning and we removed our masks. Boy did that seem short lived. As predicted, we found ourselves and our world facing one COVID variant after another and with each new variant came a wave of emotions. There are two images in my mind that have prevailed throughout this year one is that of being a surfer riding a giant wave, only to be hit after another and another (not that I have any idea how to surf, but this last year is what I imagine surfing to be like). The other image is a little more ominous and it is that of trying to walk in quicksand, with the ever-shifting ground underfoot. The good news is that while the quicksand of this past year has often felt like it was moving higher and higher and that the world was sinking lower and lower, the quicksand has not overcome us. We have held on and I am convinced that we will weather this and will come out better for having done so.

Our reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians has so much to offer us in terms of how we are to order our shared life together in terms of loving God, loving neighbor and loving self and in this 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter, the 12<sup>th</sup> verse speaks to our lives- at all times, but especially in the time in which we find ourselves right now. "For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part, but then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known." If there has ever been a time in our lives that we have been aware that we do not have all the answers and see only dimly this certainly is it. Unfortunately, it is not entirely over yet, this reign of COVID and its offspring, but we have signs and we have inklings and we have hope that in the days ahead there will be new life. In this winter of 2022 there will also be spring.

In the meantime, in the waiting time, all has not been fallow. As you have read already, or will read, from the reports provided for you by the wonderful leadership here at Calvary, many good things have been happening. We have been gifted many times over with wonderful folks joining our staff to take us into the future. The Music Director Search Committee, chaired by the diligent and enthusiastic Sandra Cherry did a stellar job in bringing us Jacob Cook and Hannah Park to continue the tradition of excellence in music here at Calvary. They have both been bright lights through some seemingly trying days and their willingness to 'roll with' whatever COVID and consequently I brought has been a shining example for us all. Services have certainly required great flexibility of all involved as we tried to safely navigate each wave of the pandemic. The altar guild, ushers, readers, servers, Eucharistic Ministers, and video production team have risen to the occasion time and again and I am incredibly grateful for their patience and willingness to make whatever changes were necessary to keep everyone as safe as possible. Quite often these changes were made on Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning requiring everyone to scramble to accommodate the constant shifts in COVID infection rates. Jim Barnes, Meg Scharre, James Moody, Will Cary and Jacob Gary and all their teams have made these seemingly constant changes appear to be seamless. Thank you all. In the present month we have added Cori Vivian and her husband Alec to our roster of support staff. Cori is a second year Seminarian at Louisville Seminary who will serve through May as an intern here at Calvary. We are very glad to have both Cori and Alec at Calvary. Cori will be approaching several of you for interviews which I know you will be more than happy to give. Joseph Reese has stepped in also in January to bridge the gap as the Interim Administrative assistant. In a very short time he has navigated the sometimes deep waters of bulletin

preparation and all other things involved in Office Administration and keeping me somewhat in line. In the next week I will be announcing the hiring of a new Administrative Assistant who will train with Joseph and move into the position in full when he begins his permanent position in Mental Health Care.

In 2021 your vestry made a commitment to our future in the future of Calvary by purchasing a new camera and audio system as well as continuing the accessibility project that began, at least in planning phases, in 2020. As it is with all things new there has been a learning curve as we have moved from the 'familiar' switcher studio which utilized IPADs and the existing, 60 year old, sound system to the new upgraded system. Will and Jacob continue to tirelessly to make our on-line presence top notch so that those who watch on-line will have the experience of being here in person. The ramp in the nave was complete mid-year and the ramp to the North Entry was completed in the fall. We anticipate having our elevator to the second floor up and running in early Spring. Just last weekend when I visited St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Birmingham, Alabama, as we hauled my two granddaughters and all their 'stuff' along with food for a post-baptismal reception I was reminded in a very real way why an elevator is a necessity so that all, young and old and in-between can easily access all areas of the church building.

In continuing our care for our children and their families, we have hired Callie Hausman to re-engage our Children's ministry and look toward the future. She has begun engaging with our families in a variety of ways and as we are able to return together safely we will add a variety of opportunities for the youngest in our midst. We are grateful indeed to have Callie back on the home team.

Our Calvary Care team, under the loving leadership of Linda French has reached out to many members near and far in times of need and in times of joy. This ministry has kept us all connected during this time when we often felt anything but. Another ministry that offers connection in our We're Going Places Group. Ruth Robbins and Larry Brown stayed the course in providing fun and engaging spots to gather for lunch until the Pandemic shut that down. Larry Brown has had to retired from his leadership role in this and his smiling face will certainly be missed but Larry Davis has stepped up to the task and is working with area restaurants to provide safe and delicious offerings for this blossoming group.

Another care team has not skipped a beat since the onset of the COVID pandemic and that is the Food Ministry team. Margaret Dickinson and her band of merry and faithful volunteers have given countless hours to providing food to our neighbors each week. As I wrote this, I realized that the number of hours committed by the Food Ministry Volunteers is perhaps the only thing that Margaret doesn't count. The number of bags of food and masks that have been given out since the onset of the pandemic is staggering. As of this past Thursday, week 94, Calvary's Food Ministry team has given out 6,060 masks and 12,873 Bags of food which have provided food for 19,188 people. This ministry in now way happens in a vacuum. There are many who contribute food, both individuals and groups. Each week we wait with eager longing to see what will come from St Matthew's Area Ministry and St Paul's Episcopal Church both of whom have been contributing to this ministry from the beginning. They certainly are not the only ones. Don't forget that we have Souper Bowl Sunday Coming up in two weeks on February 13<sup>th</sup>. S-o-u-p-e-r Bowl Sunday is a specific opportunity for each of us to take part in feeding our neighbors with cans of soup. February 13<sup>th</sup> is also the date of our annual Bishop's visit. We hope that Bishop White will be able to join us in our Sunday Forum to fill us in on the workings of the Diocese and Church at large, especially our efforts toward helping our neighbors in Western Kentucky who have been deeply affected by the recent mega tornado. We also hope to be able to have a reception after the service that day to Welcome our newly confirmed members. At this date we have 3-6 folks who will be confirmed into the

Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement here at Calvary. As soon as we determine if we can safely join for Sunday Forum and a reception we will spread the news far and wide.

New committees also began in 2021, the Welcome Committee and the Wedding/Funeral Committee. You can read their reports in the packed but suffice it to say they have both brought welcome to those coming into our doors. We look to expand this ministry of welcome as we are able to have more opportunities for gathering together in coffee hour and in other times of fellowship. Also, at the end of 2021 the Vestry voted to set aside \$30,000 from the 2022 Endowment Draw to be used for Grants to area agencies. Over the next couple of weeks a new Grants Committee will be tasked with this developing policies and procedures with the Vestry's support and will.

In the fall a practice of Compline began at 7 pm each Sunday evening. We have taken a brief break recently but will begin again this evening. A small and faithful group have gathered each Sunday evening in prayer and soon we hope to add a meal to continue to build on forming community for all here.

Bible Study continues under the faithful leadership of Cindy Curry. Typically this group meets on Wednesdays at Panera on Rudy Lane but recently has again shifted to Zoom as have most of our gatherings. Education for Ministry, EfM, mentored by Bart Brown and myself also continues to provide engaging encounters with Scripture Church History, and theology. If you would like to join either of these groups we would love to have you. Please let me know and I will direct you to the right folks.

This week we will resume our Thursday noonday Eucharist with Healing and Calvary's Well will again hit the streets to reach out to those who are houseless. We continue to be actively involved in our Urban Partnership with Christ Church Cathedral, Our Merciful Savior, and St. George's as the core partners in this shared ministry. Laundry Love which offers free laundry services to our neighbors has moved from in-person to vouchers which we provide for Aunt Bee's Laundromat. St. Thomas Episcopal Church provides the washing pods and the Partnership provides funds for each voucher for three loads of wash, approximately worth \$15. In 2021 your vestry also boldly reached out to our family in need in the West Louisville Now Campaign by providing \$20,000 to support much needed repairs for St. George's and Our Merciful Savior. We look forward to our ongoing shared ministry together.

In Lent the partnership will gather together on Wednesday evenings on Zoom to Study *The Church Cracked Open* by Stephanie Speller's from the Presiding Bishop's Office. Canon Spellers will be joining us for this study which I believe will have a limited number of spaces available. Please watch for more information to come on this shared Lenten Study. As we did last year, the core churches of the Urban Partnership will share in our Holy Week observances. This year we anticipate being able to have these in person at the various churches with Calvary hosting the Good Friday offerings.

As you can see there are all sorts of wonderful ministries going on that Calvary is engaged in and there will be more opportunities to reach out to the world and to build community here as we are more able to open our doors to the wider world and gather together. I know we all very much look forward to that reality. The possibilities of what we can do in the future are great. We have proven not only our fortitude through perseverance but also our flexibility through constant change. It may be our tendency to avoid change at all cost after this time that has required such constant flexibility but I want to ask us not to do that.

For the first time in the long life and ministry of Calvary the slate has been wiped clean and we have been given the opportunity to create a faith community for the future in any way we choose. We can grow into the followers of Jesus that we have been called to be, not just in word but by example. Our reading today from the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians gives us a perfect blueprint for how to do that. It is a blueprint for loving God, loving neighbor and loving self. It defines how we do this by being patient, kind, not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude; by not being irritable or resentful nor rejoicing in wrongdoings but rejoicing in truth. The blueprint for love includes bearing all things, believing all things and enduring all things.

You know, I think we've already done some of that so we are well on our way to becoming what our Presiding Bishop has called the Episcopal Church to be, Beloved Community.

Part of what we do here today is bring new people into visible positions of Leadership in our community. A lot is asked of members of the vestry and as we continue in this new and exciting and hope-filled time I am going to ask that we start each of our vestry meetings with this reminder that we have from our friend St. Paul of the blueprint for love. We may start all our meetings here with this reminder. I don't think it can hurt for us to be reminded as many times as possible what a life of love following a God of love asks of us.

I am so grateful to be here with you in this new time in the world and this new time filled with opportunities for our future here in Downtown Louisville. I am so excited to live into this new life in love as we strive to embody loving God, loving neighbor, loving self, and actively seeking to bring others into this love.

### **Senior Warden's Report**

As my term on Vestry ends, I want to say I am amazed how much our church has accomplished especially considering the health restrictions placed on us during the last two years. In spite of Covid19, Calvary has not just survived, but has thrived.

At a time when we couldn't gather together in our church, much effort was put forth by so many to bring a weekly worship service into our homes. Then, for a brief and joyful time, we were able to gather outdoors for an Easter service in the parking lot of Spalding University. Once we could take baby steps to be indoors, we wore masks, learned to sit far apart and exchange peace at a distance. Most recently, we were able to have a full choir, and then intinction of wine. Although we didn't know how long this would continue, we have learned the true meaning of hope.

Calvary members have shown resilience and dedication to make it possible to worship as well as to continue to reach out to the needy in the nearby community. There have been volunteers from other churches and organizations who donated items to Calvary to be distributed. During the peak of Covid19 (before vaccines were available to all), members would be here to make sure this would happen. As soon as Covid19 restrictions began to lift, Outreach volunteers returned in numbers to continue the generosity and dedication that is needed during the week to provide this service.

Calvary has been changing with the times and the opportunity. To name a few updates, a new sound system now improves the service especially for the hearing impaired. Updated restrooms on both floors as well as a reconstruction to make a family restroom, painting of Frazier Hall and other spaces to brighten up the gathering areas, new flooring for the sacristy and hallways, an improvement of signage with a lovely new monument in front of Calvary, handicap access to Calvary with a ramp at the north entrance as well as a ramp in our nave was completed. Soon, an elevator will provide handicap access to the second floor. Our music program has made changes with a new organist and music director. EFM has entered its' second year at Calvary. Sunday Forum has continued with speakers and Bible study as Covid19 restrictions allowed. New committees have been formed for Outreach and Weddings as well as Coffee Hour.

I have to say goodbye to serving on Vestry but want to acknowledge I learned so much about the world of Calvary. I have seen and know you are what makes Calvary a house of God...your volunteerism, your charity, your generosity, your love. Whether it is as an altar guild member, a reader, coffee hour host, choir member, volunteer driver, caring member contacting those who are sick or need help--if only a call, volunteering to answer the phone, organizing the library, cleaning out the basement, volunteering to remake the cushions for the pews that were shortened near the ramp or fixing the sound system, volunteering to reach-out to the community, to serve on various committees, making donations above and beyond an annual pledge to a fund Calvary's future, ushering, serving ....I could go on and on. You amaze me people of Calvary Episcopal Church.

Donna Duvall, Senior Warden

### **Treasurer Report**

The Finance Committee met monthly via Zoom during 2021 to review the financial report for the previous month with a goal of being good stewards of the funds provided by our parishioners past and present. The 2021 fiscal year ended with a surplus as a result of contributions exceeding what we had budgeted and expenses below the budgeted amounts.

Our revenues were over budget due to faithful pledgers, a few new donors and a generous bequest. We received pledge payments totaling \$210,846.04 - more than the total pledged of \$196,450.00 since some payments were received this year for pledges from the previous year. Other revenue items that were ahead of budget were Unrestricted Gifts and Unrestricted Bequests. We received a bequest of \$15,538.27 from Elizabeth Poindexter's estate and an additional \$650.00 from Frannie Lewis' estate. The draw from our endowment, \$351,000.00 in 2021, constituted 64% of our revenue budget. The final revenue total was \$609,838.99 exceeding the budget of \$550,038.00 by \$59,800.99.

On the expense side, we had considerable savings in Staff Expenses when the only full-time staff member left and we no longer had staff pension and insurance expenses. The Program Expenses were also under budget since we had half the budgeted choir salaries in the spring, the Parish Life expenses were minimal, and we did not have any expenses for the annual CEEP conference. As a result, the Vestry was able to approve \$15,000.00 in unbudgeted expenditures for painting the parish hall and \$15,000.00 for outreach contributions to the diocesan West Louisville Now fund. The expenses for the year totaled \$510,159.03, below the budget of \$550,048.00, for a total savings of \$39,878.97.

The net budget surplus for 2021 was \$99,759.96. The Vestry voted in December to transfer that sum from the operating checking account into the Calvary for the Future fund to be used to make future loan payments on the PNC line of credit we took out to fund the accessibility project. The total cost of the project, including adding an interior ramp, an exterior ramp and an elevator to make our church fully accessible, is estimated at \$391,000.00. We have been able to cash flow almost \$130,000.00 with pledges, memorial gifts and matches to those contributions from the endowment fund. The balance on the line of credit as of December 31, 2021 was \$137,739.10. When the elevator is finally installed, we expect to draw an additional \$125,000.00 or so to pay the balance of the expenses. We appreciate those who have contributed to these improvements which will make the church welcoming to all.

Thank you to the members of the Finance Committee, Donna Duvall, Jamie Hendon, Jim Hill, Ruth Robins, Stephanie Smith, Pat Vaughn and Lee Shafer, who have offered good counsel and oversight of Calvary's finances this year.

Sally Reisz, Treasurer

### **Children and Family Ministry**

As we are consulting families and planning for a startup in the Fall, in the meantime, projects to participate in the liturgical seasons began in Advent 2021. Just a few activities include Advent calendars, chalk house blessing during Epiphany, observing Candlemas on Feb. 2 at home, Lenten, Easter, and Pentecost activities, this Spring. Currently packets are available for families to receive at home by contacting Callie who will deliver or mail information to your home. We are continuing to consult families for preferences and ideas as we plan future programming. As it becomes easier and safer to meet in-person, we will alert everyone and welcome your family, neighbors, and friends.

Callie Hausman, Director of Christian Education

### **Music**

Dear Calvary,

I am writing to you with a grateful heart as we begin a new year in the life of the church. I feel fortunate to be writing this report on the happenings of 2021, and I am excited to serve this church as Music Director. I am grateful for all the musicians who have shaped Calvary's music program into what it is today, and I hope that I am able to continue the strong tradition of beautiful music in worship that has long been established.

Since I started as Music Director in August of 2021, there have been quite a few things that I believe are worthy of including in this report. We have hired a new organist. We have laid the foundation for a choral scholars' program. We have hired new section leaders in the choir. We have joined with Bourbon Baroque to bring Handel's Messiah as an offering to our community. And, we have coped with the restrictions and challenges of the pandemic to bring some truly beautiful music to our services especially through Advent and Christmas into this time after the Epiphany.

The hiring of our new organist was one of the most significant challenges from late July into the fall. Paul Isaacs ably filled the bench as our interim organist after Marsha Roberts completed her time as the

previous interim. On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Hannah Park, began the position of Organist. Hannah recently relocated to Louisville, and we are fortunate to have found a great musician to serve as organist. She has come into a very busy job and done very well to adapt in a short time. Speaking for myself and the choir, we have really enjoyed getting to know Hannah and work with her. I know that her musical offerings will be special to the congregation in 2022.

You also may have noticed that we currently have two high school students who are our alto section leaders. They are the first of what I hope will be a strong tradition of a choral scholars' program that will eventually feature a quartet of high school students in addition to the adult section leaders. Through this program, I hope to enhance the Calvary Choir with high quality young musicians, and also to introduce young singers to the musical traditions of the Episcopal Church. Calvary has the potential to be a place where young singers can learn the importance and role of music in the life of the church, and hopefully, they will continue singing and participating in church music throughout their lives.

Another significant event in 2021 was the hosting and offering of Bourbon Baroque's presentation of Handel's Messiah over Thanksgiving weekend. Many people came to our sacred space from throughout the community who otherwise might not have visited, and Bourbon Baroque presented a truly inspirational performance of Handel's famous work. This presentation was a good way to bring back the Calvary Sacred Arts series after many months of not being able to do things due to COVID precautions. While COVID is still with us, and in many ways worse right now, I do hope that 2022 will see more Sacred Arts events that we can share with the congregation and the larger community.

Finally, I want to also commend the choir and Hannah for so many beautiful additions to our services. Whether it was the anthems at the offertory or communion, or the Advent Lessons and Carols service, or the Christmas Eve prelude music (also Judy Wilson and Rosemary), or the Christmas Lessons and Carols, know that there has been much love and dedication of time and talent put into bringing beauty to our services through music. "When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole creation cried, Alleluia!"

Jacob Cook, Director of Music

## **Committee Reports**

### **Adult Christian Education**

For the Six Months Ended December 2021

During this shortened year the Sunday Forum resumed in-person meetings in Parker Hall. Discussions during the Sunday Forum included:

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|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. First Esdras  | 7. The Wisdom of Solomon |
| 2. Second Esdras | 8. Baruch                |



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| 3. | Prayer of Manassas | 9.  | Letter of Jeremiah (a continuation of Baruch) |
| 4. | Prayer of Azaria   | 10. | Esther  |
| 5. | Song of Susanna    | 11. | Ben Sanders on Matthew 18                     |
| 6. | Bel and the Dragon | 12. | Gospel of Luke                                |

Calvary's Education for Ministry (EfM) group started its second year with members Bart Brown, Pattie Davidson, Donna Duvall, Larry Frederiksen, Beverly Haverstock, Derek Inghram, Jennifer Kling, Joseph Reese, Meg Scharre, Lee Shafer, Deborah Stewart, and Anne Marie De Zeeuw. The group met every week on either Monday or Tuesday in the evening. The EfM course of study is a four-year curriculum aimed at developing a theologically informed and reflective laity capable of discussing the bible, church history and theology. Calvary's members this year were focused on the bible and church history.

Special thanks to the Calvary Adult Education committee for guiding us this year: Bart Brown, Donna Duvall, Linda French, Joseph Reese, Ben Sanders, Lee Shafer, Jonathan Smith.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bart Brown, Chair

## **Altar Guild**

The Calvary Altar Guild is responsible for preparing the altar for services and maintaining the linens, as well as arranging flowers for the altar and chancel and for decorating the church for Christmas and Easter. We invite you to come and join us! You will find this is a rewarding ministry that is easy and takes only about one hour per month.

I am grateful to all who serve on the Altar Guild: Cindy Curry, Margaret Dickinson, Donna Duvall, Glenna Harris, Lynne Lyndrup, Ben Sanders, Mary Sanders and Deborah Stewart. And thanks to Art Dietz for helping us procure supplies.

Special thanks to all Calvary parishioners who donated flowers in 2021. If you are interested in donating flowers for the altar and/or chancel in memory of or in thanksgiving for loved ones, to celebrate a special occasion, or simply to the glory of God, please contact the Calvary office.

We look forward to serving Calvary throughout 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Scharre

## **Burial Ground**

This very special Calvary place has served for the past quarter-century as a secluded spot for remembering and reflecting on those interred there, and for quiet contemplation of the many lives who have touched ours, wherever they may rest. In addition to the churchyard space, the bronze plaque naming those committed in the burial ground is mounted in the 'memorial nook' in the adjacent corner of the narthex. Its most recent additions under way are our dear friends and fellow parishioners Harold Six and Jack Reisz, commemorated last fall.

We continue to seek contributions to maintain and enhance this space, both from those anticipating interment there, and those who simply wish to support its upkeep and development. Please inquire about participation. Visit when you can, light a candle, say an extra prayer, and linger a bit. With everyone's help, this small space can continue to serve as a unique and inspiring asset for the use of our parish.

Dorn Crawford

## **Calvary Care**

With the continued COVID crisis, many of our own parishioners are still alone in their homes or in nursing facilities. It remains essential that we continue showing our love and concern in any way possible.

Many of the Calvary Care Committee contributed to the good works and not all send me numbers of contacts, so I am certain there were even more than listed here. Let me highlight just November and December to give an overview of our most recent activities:

In November, there were 61 acts of reaching out to others. Most contacts were of cards mailed, but there were also phone calls made, emails and text messages sent, dishes delivered, and help given to those who couldn't leave their homes. Thanksgiving cards were written to our members who are not able to attend services at this time.

In December, our members are especially thoughtful and giving in our care of all Calvary parishioners.

There were 243 reported acts of reaching out to others. Most contacts were of "get well" and "sympathy" cards mailed, but there were also phone calls, emails and text messages sent. Christmas cards and special goodies were delivered in abundance.

God's blessings on all the members of this thoughtful and essential committee.

Happily submitted by Linda French

## Communications

Entering into the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of '*extenuating circumstances*', meant Communications volunteers and staff continued to maximize our online resources in order to stay in touch with one another.

Early in the year, Connection editor Jonathan Smith and his team of contributors published a special 'Construction / Preservation' issue to educate the parish about the upcoming accessibility construction and the organ restoration plans. He also spear-headed the 'Covid Stay-cation' special issue of content submitted by parishioners of their covid-time activities, since at that time we could not be physically together. These were in addition to the regular Connection issues keeping us informed about the general goings-on at Calvary. **I cannot thank Jonathan and his team enough for all they did and do to keep us connected!**

Our Communications Coordinator, Jacob Gary continues to update our website, publish our weekly email, boost our FB presence and, together with Will Cary, manage the live-stream of our Sunday services. Thank you, Jacob!

In the spring, the Communications Committee assisted the Rector in the roll out of new logos and headers for all materials, both print and virtual, resulting in a more welcoming and more streamlined look for Calvary.

Will Cary coordinated the installation of a new sound system over the summer that greatly improved sound quality both in person and online.

Penny Brisson leant her advertising experience to a set of radio ads in September to promote our new Compline service on Sunday evenings. We also ran ads in early December promoting our Christmas services.

Facebook posts are primarily created by Jacob Gary and me. Typical content includes ‘thought for the day’, news about covid protocols, publicizing special concerts and services, links to the weekly email blast, and of course, links to the service live streams.

In partnership with the Welcome Committee and the Rector, we began adding the following language developed by Derek Inghram to the cover of our weekly service bulletin:

We welcome ALL:  
People of Color  
LGBTQ+  
Partnered and Single  
Differently Abled  
Families and children  
Young and Old  
Our Homeless Neighbors  
The Alcoholic and Addicted  
Believers and those Questioning Faith  
Anyone who Desires a Spiritual Home.  
Calvary’s welcome extends to all.

But more importantly— **God welcomes you for exactly who you are.**

For 2022 and beyond, the Welcome Committee will take over external out-reach ‘marketing’ communications, while Communications will continue to handle ‘in-reach’ to our existing members.

**Communication Stats for 2021:**

Weekly email blast:	Over 340 subscribers
Website:	Over 400 unique visitors per month
Facebook:	775 followers. Our services are followed regularly across the Kyana area and beyond. 55% of our regular viewers are in Louisville, with others ranging from Lexington to Elizabethtown, southern IN, and places as far flung as Pennsylvania, Alabama, and Virginia.
Instagram:	107 followers

I would like to thank the many, many people who have a hand in ‘making things happen’ vis a vis Calvary Communications. I have named some in this report, but there are many more, and I appreciate ALL their efforts.

Sincerely,  
Mary Redden, Communications Liaison to the Vestry

**Eucharistic Ministers/Acolytes/Crucifers**

A special thanks to all who have served as Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes or Crucifers during 2021. It's been a year of challenge, but everyone has shown flexibility, grace and good humor as we adjust with changing circumstances. I look forward to your participation in the coming year. If anyone is interested in serving in these roles in 2022, please see Lee or me.

Jim Barnes

### **Lectors**

Covid has thinned our ranks, and of course for much of 2020 and part of 2021 suspended general participation; special thanks to Tom Shafer for doing much of the reading during those days. As we returned to somewhat regular services starting in April 2021, we had a roster of twenty volunteers, and all were quite dependable, either reading as scheduled or letting me know in advance if they needed a substitute.

I want to salute the many years of faithful service of Clyde Warner. He may yet return to the lectern, but has "retired" during the pandemic.

I am grateful to all who volunteer, prepare, and show up to make this contribution. Special thanks to Margaret Bond this past year for sharing the draft bulletin so that I can distribute the readings ahead of time. If you wish to volunteer, please share your email address with me at smith@hanover.edu.

Jonathan Smith

### **Outreach**

The Outreach Committee now formally exists. We have a group who can discuss and decide policy, solve problems that arise, and entertain new ideas for reaching our community.

The Food Pantry is our most obvious way of reaching out beyond our walls. The reality of Covid presented challenges. Fortunately, adaptability is one of our gifts. Just as the number of people experiencing food insecurity greatly increased, many pantries had to close. We remained open. The food distribution was moved outside. Clients approached from the garden and a reduced number of volunteers served from the doorway. Masks were required and provided. The number of hungry people served has doubled since the first of the year. Meat, produce and toiletries have been added donations. Literally thousands have been fed. A core group of eighteen volunteers work on a regular basis. These are people who are dedicated to providing food while respecting the dignity of every person served. We accept regular large donations from several local churches and serve as a distribution point for their outreach programs.

The Well is a separate but related program which takes prepared food directly to the streets weekly. Because the event draws a hundred people or more, it had to be cancelled for the duration of Covid. Happily, we can report that The Well will reopen when conditions allow. We will begin slowly by providing a peanut butter sandwich, a cookie and a bottle of water in an individual bag.

Because all activities had to take place out of doors, the clothing distribution had to be cancelled. We are hoping to coordinate with another agency to provide this service in the future.

Inability to go into the schools required that the violin lessons provided free to children be curtailed temporarily. Some creative ideas such as individual lessons on outside porches made it possible for several children to continue learning during the pandemic.

We anticipate that the coming year will present opportunities to continue our feeding ministries and to participate in projects that address the housing needs of the homeless.

Respectfully submitted by

Burnell Esbenshade, Vestry Liaison to Outreach

### **Parish Life/Hospitality**

Coffee hour was resumed during Advent but is currently on hold due to high Covid numbers. We will await hearing from Lee as to when coffee hour will resume.

We are urging coffee hour hosts to keep it simple. There is an updated sign in book in Frazier Hall.

The next big event will be when the Bishop visits on February 13th. This would typically be a more formal reception but we will have to see if we will be able to host this.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pattie Davidson

### **Property**

It's been a very busy year at Calvary with multiple projects underway. The interior ramp was delayed numerous times by engineering issues but was finally completed and functional in July, creating access to and from the Parish Hall. Blending well with the existing architecture it also adds functionality as an expanded area for Baptisms.

The exterior ramp was completed in under 8 weeks and adds a well-needed, accessible entrance to all areas in our office/classroom/fellowship structure and our Sanctuary. Also on the exterior, a new stone monument style sign has been installed to replace the battered metal/fluorescent signage on Fourth Street. Lighting for the sign is in the works.

The elevator project was projected to take 5 months and currently is on hold for six weeks for the manufacture of the elevator car. It should remain within the original budget and be completed by April if things go well.

We have replaced the HVAC units in the basement and on the roof for the choir loft and Parker Hall. This project went very smoothly, performed by Walker Mechanical who are under contract for annual maintenance of all HVAC units as well as our boiler which was successfully fired up around the first of November.

The family restroom was completely remodeled and updated, and work was recently completed on new sinks for the women's bathroom on the second floor and new faucet hardware has been installed in the Sacristy, flower prep sink and the library off the chancel. Also new flooring was installed in the Sacristy area.

The other noticeable project in September was the installation, adjusting and training for a new audio/video system in the Sanctuary. Parts of the old sound system were over 60 years old and due for modernization. The new system is state of the art and after a few weeks of tweaking is adding a new dimension to our inhouse and streaming worship experience.

We'll keep you all informed as to progress on the elevator.

Will Cary, Co-chair Property

### **Stewardship**

In response to the 2022 Every Member Canvas led by Louisa Henson, the members of Calvary pledged \$168,130 to support the mission of Calvary. Special thanks are due to the committee for their work on the Every Member Canvas: Bart Brown, Donna Duvall, Jamie Hendon, Louisa Henson, Jim Hill, Elyse Hensley, Michael Hensley, Lee Shafer.

Bart Brown, Chair

### **Ushers**

I'd like to thank everybody for their service who helped out in the back. If anyone is interested in serving as an usher, please contact me or Lee. The team looks forward to another year of service to the church.

James Moody

### **Wedding Committee**

The Wedding Committee was formed in the spring of 2021 under the guidance and direction of Reverend Lee Shaffer. Wedding Guidelines, Rules, Fees and Application for Marriage were established.

Members of the Wedding Committee that graciously agreed to serve include: Susan Baker, Pattie Davidson, Arthur Dietz, Glenna Harris, Meg Scharre and Joan Wempe. Designated members attend rehearsal and the wedding service.

A Member of the Altar Guild will be present if there is communion.

2021 Weddings at Calvary after forming the Committee:

5-29-21 The Order of Service of marriage according to the Mar Thoma Rite was performed by The Chief Celebrant and the Deacon (Mar Thoma Church). The Organist was Margaret Dickinson. Approximately 200 guests and family were in attendance.

10-2-21 The Rev. Lee Shafer was the Officiant for The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage for two of Calvary Episcopal Church members. The Organist was Margaret Dickinson. Approximately 150 guests and family members were in attendance.

12/31/21 Wedding was held New Year's Eve. The Rev. Lee Shafer was the Officiant and Organist was Margaret Dickinson. Estimated attendance was 220 guests and family members.

Special Thank You to the Wedding Committee for their commitment, service, support, and flexibility to this ministry.

Joan F. Wempe

### **Welcome and Evangelism**

The Welcome Committee was created this year. In July, a group began to meet to discuss ways in which we could attract, welcome, and assimilate visitors and newcomers. We determined that there were two important parts to this work; making a warm and inclusive invitation to our nearby community and finding ways to better know and work with each other.

We adopted a modified version of the Invitation to Communion which we all find so moving. It appears on the cover of our weekly service leaflet. Some of us have agreed to wear nametags as we introduce ourselves to newcomers. Our outer doors are open during services and there are now banners at the front entrance. We will create a welcome table at Coffee Hour. We have been specific about all the different groups we hope to include.

While the Communications Committee is responsible for all media, we have made a start to increasing attendance by the use of thematic and informative postcards. David Stewart reports that the first postcard went out in October to approximately 2300 residential addresses in our "neighborhood." The second postcard went out to the same addresses in November with an announcement of the upcoming Bourbon Baroque performances. The third card went out in early December with an invitation to join us at Calvary for our Advent and Christmas time services. It arrived in time to alert visitors to the Advent Lessons and Carols.

While we do not know the numbers, we have reason to believe that several newcomers have responded to the postcards. We will continue to send them.

Respectfully submitted by Burnell Esbenshade, Vestry Liaison to the Welcome Committee, with David Stewart of the Committee.



**RESOLUTIONS AND GREETINGS**

**GREETINGS FROM  
THE 2022 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING OF  
CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

The Annual Congregational Meeting of Calvary Episcopal Church,

Grateful to the Bishop and Staff of the Diocese of Kentucky for continual support of Calvary Episcopal Church,

Gratified by the personal interest manifested by the Right Reverend Terry Allen White, Bishop of Kentucky, Expresses its warm GREETINGS to the Bishop of Kentucky and his staff; and,

Expresses its APPRECIATION for the work of the Bishop of Kentucky and his staff throughout the Diocese;

THEREFORE: May God bless our Bishop, his staff, other clergy, and all the people of the Diocese of Kentucky. May God grant that we may fashion our lives according to the example of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior so that we may show the power of His love to all among whom we live.

## Vestry Nominees



Larry Davis

After praying for Our Lord's guidance, a great deal of personal debate and the urging of several friends to include current and past members of the Vestry, I am asking for your prayerful consideration of my application to become a member of our Vestry. My reasons for wanting to serve are: To continue to help Calvary's outreach programs and growing the parish's membership while maintaining our beautiful facility and traditions.

I joined Calvary just 3 years ago. My first Sunday happened to be Lee's first Sunday as our Rector. Prior to joining our parish, I was a 20-year member of Grace Episcopal Hopkinsville, where I was confirmed. I served on several committees at Grace to include: Hospitality, the Choir, Men's Club, Kitchen Crew, and building and grounds. I also served as an adult acolyte. At Calvary I'm involved in the following:

- Outreach committees to include the Food and Personal Care Items Ministry
- The Well, where we care for the homeless. (I'm currently doing all the purchasing for the Well)
- Serving on the Hospitality Committee (you have probably seen me running around our kitchen during coffee hour).
- Calvary Cares where Joan and I have mailed over 300 cards during the past year.
- Serving as co-chair of We Are Going Places
- Assisted with food prep for the Lenten Lunches.

My educational, professional, and military background are as follows:

- BA University of Florida and MBA Duke University
- President / CEO, Olde Time Country Buffet
- Regional Vice President, Red Lobster Restaurants
- Several other Senior Management positions in the restaurant business
- US Army, Honorably Discharged Medically. Highest Rank: Major, Army Intelligence Corp

I believe the bible teaches us we are called to serve God by caring for our fellow children of God and our temporary home, the earth. The Lord has placed all of this in our hands so as a Christian I must serve if I'm going to follow the teachings of Jesus.

Thank You,

Larry Davis



Arthur H. Dietz, Jr.

I was born in Louisville, Kentucky on June 12, 1947. My parents were Arthur and Eleanora Butler Dietz. I attended public schools and graduated from Louisville Male High School in 1965. After high school, I attended Western Kentucky University for two years and completed my Bachelor's Degree at the University of Louisville. I attended Graduate School at the University of Louisville and completed my Master's Degree in 1976.

I have worked primarily in the public sector. Firstly, I worked in the field of Public Health and secondly, in the field of Public Education. I retired as an administrator from the Jefferson County Public Schools in 2014. After that, I worked as the Education Manager for the Louisville Free Public Library from 2014-2019. I am now fully retired.

I am married to Martha Jean Egner Dietz who is a retired public school teacher. My wife and I have four sons, Arthur III, Eric, Andrew, and Stephen. We are also the proud grandparents of five grandchildren.

Over my life span, I have been involved in politics, church, civic and professional organizations, and heraldic organizations. My hobbies include genealogy, travel, spending time with family and friends, and antiquing.

My wife and I have attended Calvary for nearly 50 years. It has been the fabric of our religious life. I have served the church in many capacities over the years including the offices of Junior and Senior Warden. If elected, I will continue to serve Calvary Church to the best of my ability.



Lynne H Lyndrup

Lynne Lyndrup is a part-time marketing/office manager for a commercial real estate company with plans to fully retire in 2022. She has been a member of Calvary for over 20 years.

In the past she has served as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, a Lector, an Usher, as well as served on and chaired the former Hospitality Committee and the Altar Guild. She was also on the Search Committee when Ned Morris was chosen as Calvary's priest in 2004. She currently continues to serve as an Usher, Altar Guild member and is the secretary of the Property Committee. Her most recent accomplishment of her time on the Property Committee was to renovate what is now known as the Family Restroom.



Joseph Reese

Joseph moved to Louisville in the fall of 2018 for graduate school and joined Calvary shortly after arriving. He recently completed his graduate studies and is anticipating beginning full-time work as a mental health therapist soon.

Joseph has volunteered with the food pantry ministry, Calvary’s Well, and the children’s program. He also helps facilitate the Sunday morning Forum, is a lay eucharistic minister, and serves on the Education, Endowment Advisory, and Outreach committees. He is temporarily assisting with administrative tasks at Calvary until the administrative assistant position is filled.



Nick Stouffer

My parents, Walter and Kathleen Stouffer moved to Louisville from Missouri in 1953. When my dad was stationed in England during WWII, he met and married my mom. Mom, dad and my sister, Laurel, first moved to Missouri then eventually moved to Louisville – The Highlands - around 1953.

They became members of Calvary Episcopal Church where I was baptized and attended bible school along with my sister. My dad passed away in 1965 and mom received support from the Calvary community and especially from Mr. and Mrs. Six. My mom made the decision to stay in Louisville and not return to England.

I attended schools in the Highlands and graduated from Atherton High School in 1974. During the 70’s is when I quit attending Calvary. After high school, I started working at JCPS in the maintenance department. I ended up in the plumbing division. I worked there for 20+ years and left to start my own business. I got my journeyman then my master license in Plumbing at this time. My business continues today.

My mom stayed in the house until she passed away in 2000. I acquired the house I grew up in and moved in in 2001 along with my now wife, Sally Riede. Around this time, I decided to return to Calvary in honor of my parents. I became reacquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Six which helped in welcoming me to Calvary. Mr. Six invited me to usher with him one Sunday and I continued to usher on a regular basis until Mr. Six became ill. Sally and I got married and held our reception at Calvary in May 2009 by Ned Morris, Pastor.

Today, I am not only a member of Calvary but am also the plumber. One way I could do more for Calvary besides attending services and making donations on a regular basis is to return to ushering and charging Calvary at a below rate or no charge at all.