

Calvary

Episcopal Church

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A member of The Episcopal Church (TEC) & The Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida

The Crier

November – December 2019

Periodic Newsletter

"TO KNOW CHRIST, ...
AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN."

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Almighty and gracious Father, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray (beseech thee), faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen
(Collect for 'Thanksgiving, BCP p. 827)

Favorites

Once upon a time there was a husband whose wife died and was taken up to heaven. He was now presented with the enormous task to raise his triplet daughters. Their names were, Joy, Hope and Charity. They were young and needed their father. Those early days were hard as he moved through his grief, loss and despair as best and as brave as he could. If it were not for his "girls" he would not have had the courage to go on. They meant the world to him.

When a birthday came, it was a special, all-day event where he made each of them feel like a princess. He took great measures to plan, to listen intently to their wishes and present them with different, and thoughtful gifts. The cake was always a three-layered Neapolitan, as one liked chocolate, one liked vanilla and one liked strawberry. They would always blow the candles out at the same time and their secret wish was to see their mother one day in heaven and perhaps be touched by a reminder of her while here on earth. They held hands and looked into each other's eyes after sharing the moment.

The father could feel what they wished for and although he could not replace the mother's love, he decided that in each gift he would put a customized note. For the first daughter, it read, "You were your mother's favorite as you brought her Joy." To the second daughter, it read, "You were your mother's favorite as you brought her Hope"; and to the third it read, "You were your mother's favorite

as you brought her Charity." They would stare at the message, the same message each birthday and wonder if this was actually true. They asked their father, "Did mom really have favorites?" He would always reply, "Which part of the cake was the best?" They obviously chose their own flavor as the answer, and this would often break out into a big debate.

Time marched on, and the father was left with an empty nest. Although the girls moved on with their own lives, with marriages, careers and explorations they always made a commitment to celebrate their birthdays together, with their father. He delighted when the doorbell rang and they hugged him tight and planted a gentle kiss on his cheek. It led up to the same cake, the same wish, and the same note in their gifts. They thought of their mother and when age and wisdom had increased so much for all of them, wondering just how many more birthdays they would share with their father, they asked him this question. "Dad, which part of the cake was your favorite?" He replied, "My favorite, at first, was the icing, because I remembered that was the part of the cake I gave to your mother. I remember how she looked at me at that moment. It's like it was yesterday. I could not imagine anything else that could be better than that but after the icing, I tasted the chocolate, the vanilla and the strawberry. Joy, Hope and Charity, enjoyed separately would be anyone's favorite, but taken as a whole, it is best served."

When God so loved the world, the Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit, baked this wonderful cake with many flavors, and many found favor in God's sight. It meant the world to Him. Those wonderful, virtuous ingredients are what makes the creation, as a whole, the very best. God loves each one of us as an individual and God loves us as a whole. Sometimes you have to get beyond the icing to get the full effect, and find out what is truly the favorite. That is sometimes difficult for us when we look only inside of ourselves. Perhaps we need to all hold each other's hand, make a wish for that, and blow out the candles together.

Yours, faithfully in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Father Jon



Leadership

The Senior Warden Report

"I know what it is to be in need and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want I can do everything through him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:12-13

We had our yearly Vestry Retreat last month. The Theme was "Who am I in Christ." We spent a few days at our wonderful Dayspring Conference Center to have fellowship and spend valuable time together in worship. One of our assignments was to write a letter to God concerning our shortcomings with ourselves and our neighbors. It is a good approach to

analyze and to let things go. Give it a try – you will be relieved.

We left with 2 prayers for the morning & evening: Begin each day: How could my works, actions and heart reflect the loving, liberating, life-giving way of Jesus? End your day: When did I see myself or others being loving, liberating or life-giving today? Where do I wish I'd seen or practiced Jesus' way?

We were also able to participate in the last day of Cursillo for the fall weekend which is always a joy to participate. We left refreshed and ready to begin one of our most joyous seasons.

It is my honor and pleasure to serve as the Senior Warden.

JoAnn Martindale, Sr. Warden & Vestry Chair for our Stewardship Commission, Joadale@yahoo.com



Leadership Thought

"A Child of God" (Romans 8:16) & "Sealed by the Holy Spirit" (Ephesians 1:13)

The Vestry Retreat was held at Day Spring October 25-26. The weekend allowed us to learn more about each other, about how we define God for ourselves and who and what we are in Christ. Through music, prayer and sharing it was a space of spiritual intimacy and growth in our walk with Christ. We shared our concepts of God by the image we carry in our mind's eye and by the thoughts we have using the nouns and verbs in our english language to try to describe Him. We learned that we are a Child of that same loving God. We prayed over and for each other discovering that our job is to be the body of Christ and to help others see that the way out is through the healing touch of the Holy Spirit.

By becoming vulnerable; and sharing our story with each other, the places where we have struggled and where God has met us in the struggle, helps to show others where God is for them. When we live in the knowledge that as we go through our darkness God is our light and only then can we share that light in someone else's darkness. In this very way we can evangelize to others, living into our Baptismal Covenant by proclaiming by word an example the Good News of God in Christ, (BCP p 305)

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry said, "Evangelism: as a part of the Jesus Movement, is about sharing the journey into a deeper relationship with God and each other, and not about us controlling the end result. It's not about increasing our market share and its not about propping up the institution. If we believe the relationship with a living God does matter, and that loving relationship with each other matters, then evangelism, and anything that helps us to come closer as human children of God, matters." Bishop Michael Curry

Very simply put, we learned we are each His beloved child, whom He created and knew in the womb. Our goal; to be in closer relationship with God, then walking in that relationship, be the body of Christ drawing others into a deeper relationship with Christ as well.

Know you are Loved by the One who created you,

Submitted by Margaret Richcreek,
Leadership Chair

(Picture Left to Right: Larry Hite, Sandy Rogers, Elyssa Coker, Margaret Richcreek, Denise Hughes-Conlon, JoAnn Martindale, Toni Chapman, Lisa Kingston, Fr. Jon, Karen Hillegas, Bob Lima and Jim Widell)



Annual Meeting Quiche-A-Thon

On Sunday,
January 27, come
to church at 9am
for the Annual
Meeting and bring a Quiche! This is
now a wonderful tradition.



The Diocesan Convention

Every year we send our delegation from Calvary to the Diocese of Southwest Florida's Convention. This year it was held at the Port Charlotte Convention Center in Punta Gorda. There is so much to appreciate about belonging to a larger church as a Diocese. We are blessed to gather and enjoy collegiality with friends from other parishes, learn so much at the offered workshops, fellowship as a delegation, and to worship as a whole. Four members of the Vestry are typically invited to the convention to be a delegate; another reason to consider running for a seat when our election comes up, the end of January. At the time of our new appointments to the Vestry, we invite four members to consider attending the October convention.



Top Left: Lisa Kingston

Above: Fr. Jon receives award for serving on the Diocesan Council

Left: (L to R) Fr. Jon (Delegate), Denise Hughes-Conlon, Rebecca Rogers, Lisa Kingston (Delegate), Sandy Rogers (Delegate), Lynne Roberts, Margaret Richcreek (Alternate), Mike Alford (Postulant & Delegate)

The Vestry Retreat

There are simply few words to describe how wonderfully and spiritually nurturing our Vestry retreats have now become. Our second annual retreat was at Dayspring, our Episcopal Conference Center in Parrish, FL, along the Manatee river and canopied oaks of this sacred wood. These leaders need this time to replenish, to play, to sing, to grow and to flourish on the path that God has led them since they accepted the calling to join this body of leadership within our Church. The pictures, along with Margaret's article (p.4), says it all. Enjoy, and... are you being called to join the Vestry next February?



Diocesan Team Leadership

The Diocesan Youth Leadership Team gathered last Saturday, August 24 at DaySpring for their fall meeting. Composed of 42 high-school youth and adults from congregations throughout the diocese, the YLT determined their mission for the school year and three major goals: community outreach as leaders in their youth groups, increased leadership in existing diocesan programs and leadership training on how to navigate tough issues such as relationships, drugs and social media. Participating from Calvary were **Kenneth and Garrett Fisher** (Our Calvary "stars" for attending).



Clergy Appreciation

Calvary took a moment to celebrate and honor our active and retired clergy, and spouses, on Sunday, October 14th after the 10AM service during coffee hour, with a beautiful cake and festive spirit. We are most grateful for Fr. Jon & Lynne, Dcn. Melissa and Greg, Fr. Mike & Julie, Fr. Hugh & Flo.

Mike Alford's Seminary Journey

Recently, Mike & Fr. Jon traveled together to Nashotah House Theological Seminary in Nashotah, WI. They were there to meet the Dean, Faculty and students regarding the possibility of Mike becoming a student. This is part of his tour of Episcopal seminaries. He has visited CDSP in Berkeley, CA and he also plans to visit VTS in Alexandria, VA and General in NYC. Choosing a seminary is an important decision, based on the type of education, and experiences in worship and community. It is truly a spiritual and formative process that typically lasts three years, fulfilling requirements for a Master of Divinity degree. Time frames, and option for a hybrid distance course of training are being discerned by Mike so please continue to keep him in your prayers.

Vestry Service

Between now and the Annual Parish Meeting on January 29th, our church leadership discerns the very important task of nominating four (4) new members to serve on our Vestry. The leadership of our Vestry is vital to the life of our church, and a representation of those biblical, twelve disciples who long ago had the courage to plant the early church with their efforts and teachings. Each year we look for four faithful members who feel called to serve in this same manner.

The Vestry is made up of Father Jon and twelve members who serve on a three-year rotation.

To serve on the Vestry in the Episcopal Church, one must meet all the following requirements:

- Be a confirmed member of the Episcopal Church, enrolled as a member of the parish, and 18 years of age or older.
- Be a "giver of record" financially;
- Participate in the Eucharist and church activities on routine basis.
- Able to attend monthly Vestry meetings & any committee participation you are elected

A more comprehensive guide to the basic responsibilities of the Vestry are available upon request. We will also receive names until December 8th from any member who is interested and can satisfy the requirements listed above. Joining the Vestry is one of the most rewarding efforts you will ever be a part, forging new and lasting friendships and feeling a true part of the body of Christ.



The 2019 Nominating Committee

Fr. Jon Roberts, Renee Lee, Elyssa Coker, Jim Widell and Karen Hillegas

Christian Education

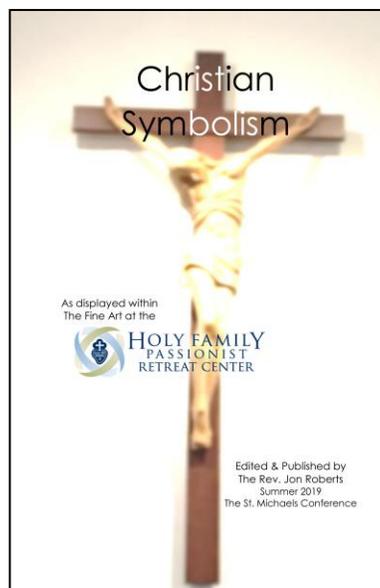
"The Bible Project"

The Bible Project group that meets on Wednesday mornings at 10am has been so meaningful to all who attend. We have enjoyed deep, theological discussions in our Gospel series, as we have recently reviewed St. Luke, St. Mark and the Acts of the Apostles. We are scheduled to continue into St. Matthew and finally St. John, prior to December, and the season of Advent.

To catch up on this video-based study, it's easy. Simply go to thebibleproject.com and begin watching the "Series" related to "How to Read the Bible", "Themes in the Bible" and more. We have enjoyed the interesting and imaginative videos that paint the Bible in a dynamic manner. Good for all ages!

Advent Presentation by Fr. Jon

During the Wednesdays of Advent, Fr. Jon will present an illustrated tour of the liturgical art he has been studying for five years, and teaching on the subject as a faculty member of The St. Michaels Conference. The artwork comes with a guide, that the Passionist Center in W. Hartford, CT, now provides its visitors. The booklet is printed at the church and has a cost of \$5 to cover the expense. They will be made available at the first day of study, Wednesday, December 4th, 10am in Barge Hall.



YAM News

"Youth And Missions" is going really well, with about a dozen middle & high schoolers attending the monthly program. The program consists of gathering and fellowship, good food, group building games and "Indoor volleyball." It is also a continuation of our planning for our summer mission trip. The youth are considering destinations for 2020 that may be near or far, learning about where their time and energy would be most supportive and learning about affordance and strategic planning. Great skills to learn!

The best is yet to come... we are having our first annual Youth Retreat at Dayspring, December 6-8th. Fr. Jon will celebrate the Holy Eucharist on Sunday in the St. Thomas Chapel.

Do you love our Calvary youth? Is cooking and hospitality a gift of yours?

If so, here is your opportunity to love them with food. We are looking for a wholesome, home-cooked meal for Calvary's YAM (Youth & Mission) group that will start meeting each month. Pick any monthly YAM to provide your favorite dish if you wish. Thanks to Mary Schock, Cynthia Laitinen, Polly Leibe and Julie Day for food in past YAMs. The youth will come if we provide the basic ingredients: Fun, Food, Fellowship, Friends and the Love of Christ!!

Next YAM: November 10th after the 10am service.

We may be small but we are mighty. The Mighty YAMS!

YAM includes entertaining games that are high-energy and strategic, prior to our meal time together. Youth from 6th grade to High School are eligible. Please invite young people you know to attend.

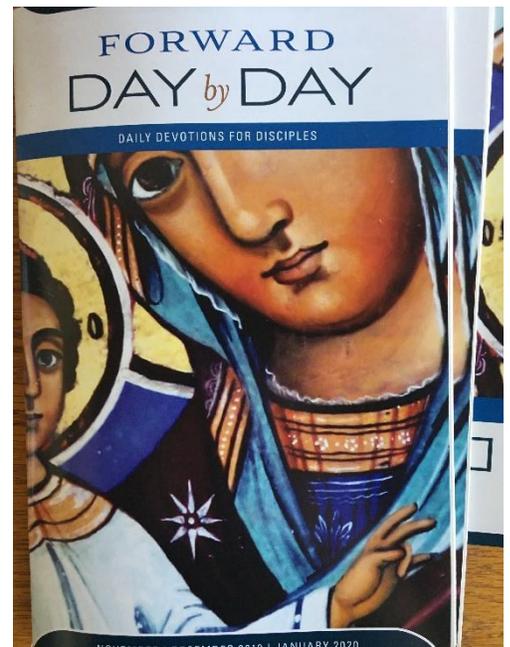
Those who are interested or have more questions, please contact Lynne Roberts at lwroberts@calvaryirb.org or 941/8067232.



64%

The share of American teenagers who rarely or never talk with their friends about religion, according to the Pew Research Center (*World Magazine*, July 20, 2019).

Our youth raised \$1,700 from parking cars at Oktoberfest



Day-By-Day

Pick up a copy of this favorite church periodical devotion.
FREE

Worship

Would you like to serve in Church?

Readers, Ushers, Altar Guild, Lay Eucharistic Members, Acolytes (Youth) are always in short supply, especially at the 8AM service. Whether you attend the earlier or the later service, please see Deacon Melissa or Fr. Jon on how you can join in serving at the Altar, the Lectern, at the front door or around the pews. If you are interested, training is easy. Please see either of them. Also, now is a good time to join the choir as we prepare for the special music of Advent and Christmas. See Matthew Burke.

Worship Report November 2019

Calvary has begun the busy season prior to Advent. Sunday attendance has increased as members return from summer vacation and the school year has begun. You will notice new faces in our pews and participating in church service, a blessing for us.

The annual Blessing of the Animals became a community event this year; clergy of Church of the Isles participated in this ritual and together the pastors blessed a record number of animals. Our property shined both inside and out with activity and Fr. Jon received several compliments on its appearance. Important upcoming dates: All Saints Sunday, November 3rd, we anticipate the baptism of Jennifer and Damon Yokely; On November 17th, we anticipate the baptisms of Cooper Laun, Liam & Labin Yokely, Mark and Alex Anderson.

Advent begins, December 1st. On this day we will begin Lectionary cycle A, the readings of St. Matthew. It will also be the first Sunday for families to present their annual 2020 Pledge to the Lord Jesus, at the altar during the doxology.

Altar Guild: While the Guild prepares for the Advent season, our summer was productive in completing the agenda for repairs and replacements of several items connected with Worship. Under the leadership of Cathy Athanson, our final accomplishment was renovating the cross and candles used by our youth during their services. The Guild sincerely thanks our faithful congregation who have so generously supported our work

Music: Matt Burke, Music Director, welcomed the choir from summer hiatus and we are once again privileged to have beautiful voices accompanying Matt and his talents displayed on the organ. The Advent season of music promises to be a joyous one.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Hillegas, Worship Commission Chair

Church Visit

Over the summer, Melissa & Richard Willbee discovered this lovely church (St. Luke Episcopal) overlooking Lake Huron in upstate Michigan, in Rogers City. They were overjoyed to find it near their new home address. They are active in both Michigan and Florida and proud members who we love, and welcome back, here at Calvary.

If you worship in other churches, whether you are visiting, or if your "home" or secondary church, we welcome all photos and stories behind them. It enriches our lives to know that you are worshiping when away from us, and it also gives us new insights on what other church practices are. Bring back their literature and ideas, share them with us and participate with such ways to crosshatch. See Karen Hillegas or Fr. Jon.



Join the Altar Guild

Would you like to experience the blessing of working among holy things? Would you like to join a dynamic, friendly, loving, nurturing team? Would you like to serve on a ministry where your service

time is limited but your personal rewards are great? If you answered "yes" and would like to know more about how to serve God in this special way, then you will want to join the Altar Guild. We are praying that you will step forward and join the "AG." Please contact Cathy Athanson for any questions you might have. We are hoping that several of you will step forward and volunteer.



We Do Christmas Right

The emphasis on Christmas in the Episcopal tradition is based on more than just a love for custom and pageantry. Anglican theologians have always been particularly interested in the doctrine of the Incarnation, the proclamation that God came among us as one of us. The English Reformation theologians were greatly influenced in this regard by the early fathers of the church, who wrote on this subject in the 4th and 5th Centuries. A good example of this is Lancelot Andrews, Bishop of Winchester (1589-1605), whose 50 Christmas sermons are still inspiring hundreds of years later. It is no wonder that even today, all of us here at Calvary are focused on the message of Christmas, whether we are attending the service of Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve services or during Advent listening to the sermon messages and gazing at the light of the Advent Wreath with the cherished hope of what is to come. We Episcopalians know how to do Christmas right!

Which is a reason as people of the Incarnation, we need to be clear in rejecting the reactionary rhetoric we have been hearing lately which claims that "God is no longer present in our schools" or that the government is waging a "War on Christmas." If we believe that God comes to us, "sets up his tent among us" (in the language of the Gospel of John), then the idea that we can exclude God from his creation, or that there are places where God is "not allowed," is both nonsensical and actually borders on heresy. God is everywhere in God's creation. We might ignore this fact (and often do), but there is no way we can keep God out. God is with us whether we deserve or not, whether we respond to it or not, whether we like or not! That is what Incarnation is all about. God is with us, Emmanuel. To do Christmas right is – above all – to remember that the Christmas message is for everyone, everywhere. It is "glad tidings, peace on earth and goodwill towards all."

Submitted by Cathy Athanson

Researched article from National Altar Guild Association

What are the Twelve Days of Christmas?

"On the Twelfth day of Christmas, my true love gave to me..."

Wait, there are TWELVE Days? I thought Christmas ended at 9am on the 25th of December?

Christmas is a season that lasts until the Epiphany, January 6th.

On Christmas morning, the party has just gotten started! But many people wonder what happens on the rest of the 12 days. Well, not every day of the 12 has a major feast associated with it. But we will cover the ones that do, below.

Christmas Eve: The liturgical day starts at sundown the night before a feast or fast. The Christmas Eve Eucharist is the first worship service of Christmas. The emphasis is usually on the story of the birth of Christ. The church is greened in preparation. Some churches have candlelight services.

The Nativity of Our Lord: Christmas Day is the day of the "Christ Mass." It is a festival day, a day of rejoicing that God has been made man in the person of a tiny baby, born of the virgin Mary. Gift giving on Christmas day is a tradition that can remind us, and help us to put into action, the great gift that God gave the world that day in Bethlehem.



The First Sunday After Christmas: This day is focused more on the theology of the Incarnation and the dual nature of Christ. John 1 is read. This is the very light of God poured into our lives. The Word was made flesh and it changed the world. Jesus came to live among us. There is no other story like this story, and it has radically transformed our world.

January 1: The Holy Name (New Year's Day): This might rock your world a bit. January 1st is actually not the first day of the Church Year. In our calendar, this is the eighth day after Christmas that Jesus was circumcised according to the custom of the Jews (Luke 2). This is when the child was given a name. The name "Jesus" is the Greek form of the Hebrew "Joshua" which means "the Lord will save." The angel that appeared to both Mary and Joseph told them to "call his name Jesus" for he will "save his people from their sins." The name of God is an important and holy aspect of the Hebrew faith. God's name was revealed to Moses as the "I AM" and "Yahweh". To this day, Jews do not pronounce or write the name of God, to set it apart. Because of the power of God to save in Jesus Christ, we celebrate his name on this day. Meanwhile, we are enjoying the public holiday of New Year's Day as well.

The Second Sunday after Christmas: When there is a Second Sunday after Christmas (which is almost always), we focus on the humanity of Christ. He came into this world and walked in our shoes. He experienced life just as we do, but without sin. He was poor, and lowly, and he came to serve. He loved us, even to death. Our God became one of us.

January 6th: The "Epiphany" follows the Twelve Days. It is the feast that commemorates the coming of the Wise Men to Jesus, following the star. These magi were gentiles, non-Jews. No one knows for sure why they were looking for a Jewish Messiah. But they were guided to him by the light of a star. The Epiphany completes the cycle of Christ's birth story, but it also points us out from that moment to the world. Just as the Magi, gentiles, came to see Jesus and followed his light, so all people can be drawn to him. The light of Christ still shines today through us. We are not called to put it under a basket and hide it or try to keep it for ourselves. We are called to shine his light to all the world.

The Feast of the Epiphany both closes the Christmas season and opens the Season after the Epiphany. This is called "ordinary" time. It is not "ordinary" in the sense of "unimportant." Instead, it shows us that our ordinary lives are indeed filled with the light and love of God and are the place where he works.

Submitted by Cathy Athanson

From article written by Greg Goebe, December 23, 2014 (Editor redacted)



The Christmas Services

Tell all your friends you can hardly wait for the joyful arrival of our newborn King, born of the Virgin Mary, in that little town of Bethlehem. Here are the times of services you do not want to miss. Get active in the Choir and in the Youth programs for the month of December for the sake of preparations needed.

Sunday, December 22	After 10AM	4 th Sunday in Advent - "Greening of the Trees"
Tuesday, December 24	4:30PM 9:00PM	Children's Christmas Pageant Christmas Candlelight Lessons & Carols
Wednesday, December 25	11AM	Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

The "Christmas Children's Gift" Pageant

We need youth and adults who are willing to present the Children's Christmas Pageant this year. We have a new script this year, called, "Children's Christmas Gift". Please see Lynne Roberts about this unique, most special, heart-warming and holy version of the Nativity of Christ. We need actors, a narrator, shepherds, an angel, some wise men, the holy family and of course, baby Jesus! The Children's Pageant is offered at 4:30PM on Christmas Eve.

If you wish to be in this year's Pageant...

Orientation: December 1st
(Mandatory)

Rehearsals: December 15th & 22nd
(during Children's Chapel and after 10am service)



Greening of the Church

On the fourth Sunday of Advent, December 22, following the 10AM service we need adults and youth to stay and help put up all the Christmas decorations. We will "Green" the trees with ornaments, string garland along ledges and put out our Christmas lights. It is a traditional event where everyone enjoys the results at the Christmas Eve and Christmas Sundays to follow.

On Sunday December 1, at 3pm, there will be a sing-along production of Handel's "Messiah" at Church Of The Isles, IRB. Organists/Choir Directors, Matthew Burke of Calvary and Tom Kurt of St Jerome Church will be co-directing this event. Please see Matthew if you are interested in the sing-along portion of the concert that will feature professional soloists and a chamber orchestra. The Church of the Isles is located at 200 24th Ave. IRB.



Christmas Poinsettias & Trees

The season would not be the same if not for the beautiful red poinsettias and spruce evergreens that adorn our altar and entrances during Christmas. We would like to purchase anywhere between 30-40 plants from Cosco this year and each one is typically afforded by your contributions. Order forms are found in the reception area and both Narthex. Please order your poinsettias today.

In addition, we need some volunteers willing to drive to Lowes to select and purchase three worthy trees the first week in December. They will be kept fresh and alive in our Barge Hall, out of sight until the fourth Sunday in Advent when they are brought out and decorated. Please let us know if you are willing and able to do the shopping, selecting and delivering. We need to help Fr. Jon who has always performed this task with a willing volunteer. Please let him know if you can step up to the task.

Matthew Burke- Hymnal Presentation

"A Comparison Of Music For Congregational Singing"

On January 5th after the 8 and 10 am church services, our Organist & Choir Director, Mr. Matthew Burke will present

an interactive musical essay that will compare and contrast different types of music that can be used for worship. Audience participation will be part of this presentation so be ready to sing!

This project was part of his continuing education for this year where he attended a writing retreat to the Florida Keys, a great place to write and reflect. It is no wonder that Hemmingway was his most productive in Key West. His sources include; "Wonderful Words Of Life" by Richard J. Mouw and Mark A Knoll, "Then Sings My Soul" by Robert J Morgan, "7 reasons Hymns Are Better than Contemporary Worship Songs" by Jonathan Aigner, "Traditional Vs Contemporary Worship" by Brandon Prout, and various Hymnals. "Thank you for your continued support and I hope to see you there to explore an important topic in our worship." - Matthew Burke



Apollo XIII CDs

Exclusive availability from the Concert by Matthew Burke

\$10 Each

Proceeds go to the Music Program

Cursillo #143

The Episcopal, spiritual retreat, known as "Cursillo" was held at DaySpring, our Diocesan Conference Center on October 25-28th. We were delighted to host two "Pilgrims" from Calvary; Mary & Rick Schock.



Picture: Annual Blessing of our Calvary Cursillo community on August 28th by Fr. Jon



Fellowship

Fellowship Report

Let All That You Do Be Done in Love / 1 Cor. 16:14

We had another successful potluck in September. Thanks to all who came and brought great food to share. In October we also had clergy appreciation Sunday. It was a nice way to let all our clergy and their wives, know that we appreciate all the hard work they do for all of us, each and every day.

Thanks to Susan and Bernd Koester everyone enjoyed celebrating OctoberFest and the event raised ~\$600 for the Church. Please mark your calendars for this annual event.

In October we also had a Fellowship meeting. Some small business items that were discussed were for the people who cover the 10 AM service our Sexton will remove all the trash in the afternoon. If there are small amounts of any item but especially store-bought cookies left over do not save them as they do not save well for the next week so please throw them out or give them to someone who could use them. You can also take them home yourself (one added perk of volunteering for Fellowship!). Coffee cups are now placed in the large bins behind the kitchen. They soak overnight and are run through the dishwasher on Monday. The volunteers do wash up the other trays or utensils. Also please wipe the tablecloths and fold them up. We should not leave them on the table. There are two specific types of cleaning spray bottles; one just for the kitchen and one just for the tables in the Parish Hall. Again, it was discussed that it is not necessary to bring food items to share when you are covering Fellowship on Sunday but if you feel so inclined it is always welcomed.

We were able to create five teams of 4 for the 10 Am service. The 8 o'clock service has 4 teams of two or three. Everyone was encouraged to ask others that they may know to help. We really need more willing workers. More hands would make the work much lighter. It would be nice to have enough volunteers so people could cover a service once every two or three months. The volunteers we have now are very hard workers and they do a great job, but we would like to give them some respite. We are scheduled through December but would like to start the new year with more willing members. Our dream would be that every member of Calvary would be willing to take at least one Sunday. If you are interested contact Denise Hughes Conlon at dhconlon27@gmail.com or any Fellowship volunteer. We would all be happy to train you and have you on board.

Special thanks to all the people who make Fellowship happen. This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lords people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. 2 Corinthians 9:12

Submitted by Denise Hughes-Conlon, Fellowship Chair

Calvary Fall IRB Yard Sale

"Listen Up", Calvary Episcopal Church will again participate in the Indian Rocks Beach annual yard sale. The date has been changed to **Saturday, November 23** (not the Saturday after Thanksgiving as is usual) 8am-2pm. This event has always been a huge success and depends on donations: household items, children's toys, games, holiday decorations, costume jewelry, CDs, DVDs etc. No clothing or electronics please! If you are in doubt, please call Susan Brillat @595-4744 or email ssbrillat@aol. Strong volunteers are needed setting up tables early am day of sale also good salespersons to man the tables during the day of the sale.

If you have your items are several, and boxed up, please call the church to see if we have drivers that can come and pick them up for you. This goes for furniture as well. All pick-ups, if available are only for the week prior to the 23rd and we are also asking for drivers for such deliveries. The date is fast approaching so bring your items to the church office so we can start sorting and pricing.

Thanks for helping to make a successful fundraiser. Susan Brillat

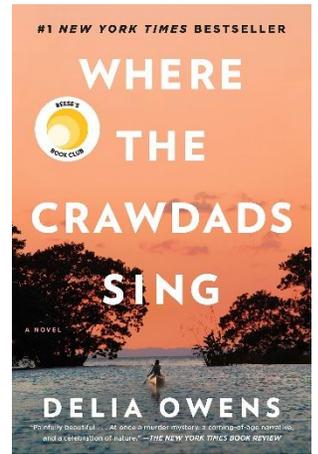
The Bookies of Calvary

We are hoping you will join the "Bookies" at 6:00 PM in the conference room on the following date for discussion, reflection, and great fellowship

Our future book selections are:

November 18	<i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i> by Delia Owens
January 20	<i>Educated A Memoir</i> by Tara Westover
February 17	<i>The Marriage of Opposites</i> by Alice Hoffman
March 16	<i>The Silent Patient</i> by Alex Michaelides

If you have questions, contact Cathy Athanson, durbinwv41@gmail.com.



Calvary Fine Arts Events (CFAE) Update

On Friday, October 11th the "Dr. Otto Band" had heads bobbing to the beat, hands clapping to the rhythm and feet tapping to the drummer!



Calvary's Parish Hall stage was filled with talented musicians all dressed in white (Dr. Otto Gomez on trumpet, John Chacara on bass guitar, Joe Lewis on drums and our own Matt Burke on keyboards) who entertained everyone with smooth jazz sounds old and new. For those of you who missed the concert, Matt joined the group in 2007 when Dr. Otto was then Music Director for "Knightwalkers" in Orlando. Distance through the years has never interfered with their friendship, love for jazz and blending of talent. A very popular concert!

Once again, our wonderful "catering" volunteers/fellow churchwomen, headed by Cynthia Laitinen, provided delicious hors d'oeuvres and wine selections during Intermission.

Calvary's Fine Arts Series will continue its 2019-2020 season with a classical music program featuring Angela Massey on flute and piccolo and pianist Hsin-I Huang on November 2. Be sure to mark your calendars.

Submitted by Liz Robb for The Calvary Fine Arts Events Committee



The “Enchantment” Concert

We will host a concert by international artists Angela Massey on flute and piccolo and Hsin-I Huang on piano Friday, November 2, 2019 at 7PM in the Sanctuary. “Enchantment” is an unforgettable program with Baroque Variations by Marais, virtuosic “Dance of the Sylphs” by Andersen, exquisite “Moment du Cristal” by Uebayashi, Enescu’s “Cantabile et Presto”, and Harberg’s beautiful new piccolo sonata. Massey’s playing has been described as “magical” and Huang as “simply brilliant!”

A “Free Will Offering” will be available to offset the expenses paid for by the Calvary Fine Arts Events Committee (CFAE). Committee members are dedicated to bringing Fine Arts programs to Calvary Episcopal Church and our beach communities. For further information and sponsor opportunities, please contact the Church at 727.595.2374. Everyone is invited to attend a reception to “meet and greet” the performers following the concert in the Parish Hall.



Winterfest on the Rocks Festival

Saturday, February 15, 2020
10 am – 4 pm

Winterfest is a family friendly
festival celebrating
the neighborhood, our pets and the
IRB beach community lifestyle!

Winterfest On The Rocks” includes a Patriotic Pet Parade, Arts and Crafts Festival, interactive Kids’ Activities, elaborate Silent Auction, Fan Favorite – Home Cooked Bake Sale, Music - including Bagpipes, Food Trucks, Food – Refreshments - Beer & Wine..... and more!

We seek to gather those in our community for a day of family-centered fun. Monies raised will assist us in our overall mission, “To know Christ and to make Him known.” This festival also raises awareness to one of our main efforts of compassion and outreach to the poor and impoverished through the ongoing efforts of The Beach Community Food Pantry. This mission program serves the neediest in our neighborhood and beyond with nutritious food sustenance to over 800 individuals every month.

We look forward to having you join us in helping to grow this local, family and community-centered festival. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the Calvary office at 727-595-2374 or email admin@calvaryirb.org.

Join a Fellowship Team

Feeling left out on Sundays? Wish you could help by serving coffee and putting out treats that brings smiles to everyone’s face? You’re in luck. See Denise Hughes-Conlon and she will connect you.

Missions

Food Pantry Report

BCFP is entering into a very busy holiday season and there is lots to report.

We wish to express our gratitude to our friends at Action 2000. At their recently concluded Oktoberfest event, through their 50/50 drawing, \$890 was raised, which was donated to us. It is community support such as this which allows us to continue to feed those in our area who are food challenged. Outstanding! Thank you so much A2K.

The holidays are fast approaching and once again we will be distributing turkeys to our clients for Thanksgiving and Christmas. This has been a BCFP tradition over recent years which helps our clients have a joyful holiday meal.

Community support for our holiday turkey distribution has been an integral part of our ability to serve all those who sign up for the distribution. Once again our friends at IRB Homeowners Association and Century 21/Beggins Realty will be sponsoring a turkey drive for the benefit of BCFP. Details of their turkey drive will be forthcoming on Facebook, etc. Also keep an eye on their signage on Gulf Blvd for dates and times. You can also contact Century 21 directly at 727-596-1811 for more details.

Since our freezer space is generally full with food that is distributed to our clients three times per week, it is difficult for us to accept direct donations of frozen food, including turkeys. If you wish to donate frozen turkeys, please do so through Century 21. We, of course will always be happy to accept non-perishable food products and cash donations during our normal hours: 10 am to noon on Monday and Wednesday and 5 pm to 7 pm Thursdays. Donations can also be given at Calvary Episcopal's main office, 1615 First St, IRB.

We were recently contacted by Florida Dream Center, a non-profit organization, located in St Petersburg. They provide Pinellas county with a number of human services, including feeding the hungry, helping the homeless, job skills training and placement and numerous others. They asked us if we would like to take over their weekly food pickup from one of their donors, Walmart Neighborhood Market, Ulmerton and Starkey Roads. We eagerly agreed. This additional food source will provide us with an additional 10-15 boxes of various food items. Thank you FDC for allowing us to share in your service to the community!

Fr. Jon recently shared that Calvary Episcopal was awarded a \$3,000 Episcopal Diocese grant to benefit BCFP. This grant will result in the addition of a large, secure food drop-off container at Calvary, that will allow non-perishable food items to be donated at any time, day or night. The grant will also provide for the acquisition of food donation bins that can be placed in any approved public place (businesses, condos, etc.) for collection at a later day and time. This grant is reflective of the faith and confidence that the Diocese has in our pantry mission. Thanks to Fr. Jon's initiative to apply for the grant and to award given by the Diocesan Outreach & Evangelism Committee.

We are very appreciative to the Publix Corporation for their semiannual program, 'Food For Sharing', BCFP will be picking up 1-2 pallets of food staples from a local Publix store at the end of November. These food items are a result of the cash donations that the community made at the checkout counter, during the two-week event. Thanks to our friends at Publix and our gracious community!

Submitted by David Kline, BCFP Team Management Leader

Taste of IRB

This annual event, sponsored by the IRB Home Owner's Association will be in downtown Indian Rocks Beach once again, free parking provided by Calvary with shuttles around the clock. The BCFP will be selling water and sodas at the event for their fundraising.



More BCFP News

Our Beach Community Food Pantry continues to be open to the public two mornings and one evening a week. It is supported by a generous group of local volunteers. In the spirit of Thanksgiving, this seems like a good time to highlight two of our volunteers. Eleanor Hughes and Virginia Morrell. These women bring their humor, wisdom, kindness and enviable work ethic to the Wednesday morning food pantry. They are inspiring and bring warmth to our team. Thank you Eleanor and Virginia. Your coworkers and our clients love and appreciate you!

The Pantry continues to support those in need from Clearwater to St. Petersburg thanks to hundreds of volunteer hours and donations from individuals and community businesses and groups.

Every week, neighbors bring in food donations or drop off checks. We also benefit from donations from Calvary Episcopal parishioners, the IRB Homeowners Association, Action 2000, Beggins Century 21, Plumlee Realty, the Silly Sinatras, Crabby Bills, Publix, Walmart, Doubletree Resorts, Indian Shores and North Redington Beach and St Jerome's Catholic Church Food Pantry. They share their excess produce with us weekly.

In the coming months, we will offer a turkey or chicken to our clients prior to Thanksgiving and Christmas. I wish you could be with us as we hand out these holiday birds as our Food Pantry families really appreciate them. We enjoy this day together, smiling, talking about food, families and friends.

This fall, the Pantry sent Connie Curran, Director to a Non-Profit Leadership Training. Not only was this a great training program but it has led to some new relationships, new volunteers and food sources.

We were the chosen charity at Action 2000's Oktoberfest and will be getting a cash donation from that event in November.

As David Kline, former Director of the Beach Community says, Connie Curran is the heart of our food pantry. Connie is being treated for breast cancer. She continues to communicate with the pantry team. We wish her the best, miss her every day and hope to work alongside her again soon. During her treatment, Connie thinks she may need rides to and from her daily treatment. Please contact Marygrace Marycoll@aol.com if you would like to offer your assistance.

Let me conclude with a most sincere thank you to Father Jon, Lia and Debbie for their ongoing support and to all those drivers, shoppers, team leaders, seasonal and local volunteers that make the pantry possible.

Submitted by Margrace Coll, BCFP Team Management Leader

Volunteers Needed

We need your help, please. We are always in need of additional volunteers to assist with:

- The distribution of food during our open hours (Monday and Wednesday, 10am-noon and Thursday, 5-7 pm);
- the pick up of food inventory from our regional food banks at RCS and Feeding Tampa Bay. We have a van, we just need drivers.
- stocking of our inventory during opening hours

If you would like to make a difference in the lives of our clients by donating food, money or volunteer time, we would welcome your participation. Volunteering is not difficult but the personal satisfaction that comes from knowing you are making a difference is very gratifying.

Please contact David Kline (727-418-1673—text or phone) kline22@tampabay.rr.com (email) for more details on this rewarding opportunity.

Espanol translator needed or Policy

We need someone to translate, in writing, our BCFP policy and procedures for the occasional patron who does not speak English. The document can be provided to you upon request. Please see Lisa Kingston if you are interested, lkingston1969@gmail.com.

"I can 1 can" food program

These are the items we need over the summer. When you go to the store, pick up an extra box or can, especially the "BOGOS" and drop it off at the Church in one of our collection baskets.



We Need: **Canned fruit, vegetables, soup, rice, pasta, pasta sauce, cereal, potatoes & sweet potatoes**



Slyce Supports BCFP

On the first Monday of each month, Slyce contributes 10% of their sales to BCFP, which last year resulted in a sizeable donation to the Food Pantry. You can help increase their contribution to us by making it a point to dine at Slyce sometime during the first Monday of each month. Please put future dates on your calendar and join us in supporting Slyce and our food pantry. See you next time on November 4th and December 2nd between 6-8pm.



Christmas Gift Bags



"It's that time of the year again when Christmas will soon be upon us and we need to be prepared. For the past several years we have sponsored a Christmas ministry, providing gifts to the children belonging to one of our three Latino congregations that meet in smaller Episcopal churches in Arcadia, Myakka and Immokalee. There are children who might not otherwise receive a gift for Christmas. Fr. Castro, who tends to these families, has told us this has been an amazing gesture by Calvary, giving joy, hope and charity to those in need.

This year we are using colorful gift bags - square bottoms so they stand up, two handles that are easy for small hands and they hold a good amount of items. We have green bags for the girls and red ones for the boys.

The bags will be available now through the first week in December. Feel free to take as many as you desire to fill. We will need them returned by **December 8**. For those of you who have difficulty shopping, we gladly accept monetary donations and we will do the shopping for you (better than Amazon). It fills your heart with joy when you see the smiles on the children's' faces.

For more information - contact Marilyn Clark, happyclark@aol.com

Laundry Love

We would very much like to begin a new Missional ministry at Calvary called, "Laundry Love." The idea has been used in other Episcopal churches whereas we would allow certain people who do not have the ability to wash their clothes due to finances, to come and use our machines. We would like to start small, letting Connie Curran discern those specially chosen people and inviting them to use our washer and dryer. The idea came from Mary Palmer's conference, "Invite, Welcome, Connect" and we thought would be a great tie-in with the BCFP patrons. There is only one small problem, our equipment is in need of upgrade. If you have a relatively modern washer or dryer, consider donating it, or provide a monetary donation and we will purchase locally at Hansons (~\$800 for both). See Fr. Jon for more detail and interest.

Outreach

Love those Nametags

If you do not have a nametag, let us know and we will be happy to make one for you. If you lost your nametag, let us know and we will be happy to make one for you. If you do not wear your nametag, you do not need to let us know, but we will let you know. Here, to the right are nametags for our Canadian members. When the snow gets really bad up there, and they return, they will be set to go! Nametags help in so many wonderful ways to identify with each other. Keep them at the church or keep them in your care, but please keep them on you when you come to church. Your participation helps us love one another by sharing our names.



A Visitor's note

"Dear Father Jon,
I am sooooo glad that you are still at Calvary, We have visited 3 other Episcopal churches when we have been in Florida in February and we decided that Calvary is our SECOND HOME CHURCH!!! Your service is so similar to ours at home, I like you ALOT!!!, your sermons are good and inspirational, the music is excellent with your superb and talented organist, Matthew, and choir and congregation so welcoming. See you in February! In Christ, Maxanna Demko, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Barberton, Ohio"

Animal Blessing Event



The event brought in 85 dogs and cats, their owners and so many more, on October 6th. Our special thanks to Fr. Jon, Chris & Mary Frances Gorman for organizing. New pastor, Shelly Wilson joined Fr. Jon. The event was well publicized with a sponsored banner by Plumlee Realty, ads in the newspaper and overall great signage. Many of the photos were posted on our Calvary Facebook page for everyone to enjoy.



Pastoral Care

New Counselor at Calvary

I'm excited to be working at Calvary as a counselor. I am a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) and a Masters Certified Addictions Professional (MCAP). My background is working in areas such as alcohol/drug abuse, child sexual abuse and domestic violence. I have a long history of working and training in the field of trauma informed care which is basically training therapists, and agencies to recognize trauma-related behavior and to respond positively. I feel I have been called to incorporate these skills into a caring of the soul. And so, with Fr. Jon's help I am beginning a working practice to address all problems large or small as a part of Calvary's healing ministry.

Pastor Sharon Lewis (previous Rector of Church of the Holy Spirit in Osprey, FL) says, "Healing as proclaimed by God is who He is and what He does, demonstrated through His Son Jesus Christ. He is about healing of whole person-spirit, soul, and body". Healing may be needed to help with life's daily problems such as work, relationships or parenting. It can also be for people who have past hurts that are affecting their current daily living. Whether you believe your problems are big or small I would like to help you through them.

Counseling will be provided on a sliding fee scale designed to provide services to all. Currently I am working on Tuesdays from 12-5 with other times available if these hours do not fit your schedule. Please call me at 727-458-7775 or dhconlon27@gmail.com to schedule a time to begin the journey of healing.

"For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'" (Jeremiah 29:11)

Submitted by Denise Hughes-Conlon

Prayer for Our Travelers

O God, our heavenly Father, whose glory fills the whole creation, and whose presence we find wherever we go: Preserve those who travel [in particular those who return to us each year from the north, our lovely "Snowbirds"]; surround them with your loving care; protect them from every danger; and bring them in safety to their journey's end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen. BCP p.831*

Thanksgiving Invitation

This year, if you hear about someone who will not share Thanksgiving because they have not any family or friends nearby, invite them over to your house. We all have so much to be thankful about.



Laying on of Hands

This is a significant ritual action in several sacramental rites. It is an external sign of the bestowal of God's grace through the prayer or the ministry of the one laying on hands, whether for spiritual growth or ministry or forgiveness or healing. It is the action which accompanies the prayer of consecration in ordination rites. It is a prominent action in the Ministration to the Sick. It accompanies the baptismal signing with the cross, and the pronouncing of the priestly absolution in the Reconciliation of Penitents. It may also accompany the nuptial blessing or other blessings. The term may be used as a synonym for confirmation. (The Episcopal Church)

If you attend our Wednesday, Noon Mass, you will see how the Laying on of Hands is so meaningful. People hear the readings for the day, a brief homily and then invited to come forward for intentional prayers, anointing by the priest and exchange of the peace prior to the Eucharist. The use of Holy Oil for this special application is also extended by Fr. Jon in all of his hospital, rehab. visits as well.

Necrology

The Rev. Canon Millard Fillmore Neal Jr., who served as priest at the Cathedral Church of St. Peter and other diocese parishes, died Monday, Oct. 21, 2019.

The diocese will gather at 11 a.m. Saturday, November 9, to celebrate his life and bid him a loving farewell. The Rt. Rev. Barry Howe will preach.

Canon Neal was raised up for ordination by St. Peter's. He served at a number of other parishes (St. Giles/Pinellas Park, St. Marks/Venice, St. John/Clearwater) and was called to St. Peter's in May 1999 "to help out for three months, and I just never left," he said in December 2005, when he was making one of several attempts to retire. He served twice as priest-in-charge and once as vicar of the Cathedral when they were between settled deans.

"Millard was here when I arrived and was very gracious and accommodating to me as I settled into my role as dean of the cathedral," said Dean Stephen Morris. "He was supportive of me and never failed to tell me what a good job he thought I was doing as we recovered from a period of trial and tribulation. He even told me in the past month how well he thought things were going here and how grateful he was for it," said Morris. "And I never failed to let him know that HE was one of the main reasons we survived a difficult time and that HE was one of the main reasons we are now thriving. I will miss him dearly."

He was also a dear friend of Deacon Melissa Sands & Greg Donham, who attended St. Peter's Cathedral during his tenure there.



Advent Quiet Day

You would do well to care for your soul by attending our Advent Quiet days, starting December 4. We gather inside the Chapel at 9am where a brief meditation is offered by Fr. Jon, Marilyn Clark or Sandy Rogers. After the hour we attend the Advent Christian Art series by Fr. Jon in Barge Hall. About a half hour before the noonday Mass, more Quiet time in which to meditate and center ourselves in prayer. The Quiet Day can continue for anyone who wishes to linger inside the church to pray, as long as they wish.



Property

“Work Crew” Day

Saturday, November 16, 9am-3pm

We are calling every member of Calvary to come to the church on this day to help us maintain, clean, build, plant and restore. There are outside jobs and inside jobs. We have a list of everything we need to have done. The only thing needed now is, YOU!

Can you come for an hour? Can you come for the day? Please put this on your calendar, circle it, highlight it and don't forget it! We need YOU to help keep God's church looking nice and getting prepared for the expected influx of visitors and the Christmas season ahead.

Bob Lima, Jr. Warden



The Sexton's List

“Many hands, make light work”, to echo what Bob Lima said above. We need your help for one day of good, honest, hard work. You will not be disappointed. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FROM 9:00 AM TO 3:00 PM or any part of these hours you can spare. A sign up list is now being formed, so please contact me on what job(s) you would like to do: jhatin@calvaryirb.org

INSIDE Jobs:

1. The mirrors in the restrooms need to be cleaned with windex. A squeegee, clothes and windex are provided.
2. The interior and exterior of the glass doors and windows throughout the church need cleaning and the supplies are provided;
3. Polishing the pews & vacuuming the pews; Organizing visitor cards, envelopes & pens;
4. Floor buffing & cleaning using our industrial machine (Lots of fun!!);
5. Carpet cleaning;
6. Kitchen cleaning;
7. And more!



OUTSIDE Jobs:

1. Power washing sidewalks;
2. The exterior of the North entrance doors to the Sanctuary (wood finish) must be brushed to remove dust and dirt then wiped with a wood preservative in preparation for the winter.
3. The fence around the AC units directly to the south of the Kitchen wall (near exterior door) can be removed and the area could be raked into a more natural looking area. The fencing may be placed to the side of the refuse area for recycling.
4. The interior of the refuse containment fence can be raked and cleaned up, then hosed off if possible.
5. Painting window lentils (underneath 4 windows, outside Barge Hall);
6. Planting Hibiscus' along our fence line;
7. And more!

Thank you for any part of these chores you can participate. It is very much appreciated.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve as your Sexton. If anyone has any questions or suggestions, kindly do not hesitate to contact me at jhatin@calvaryirb.org.

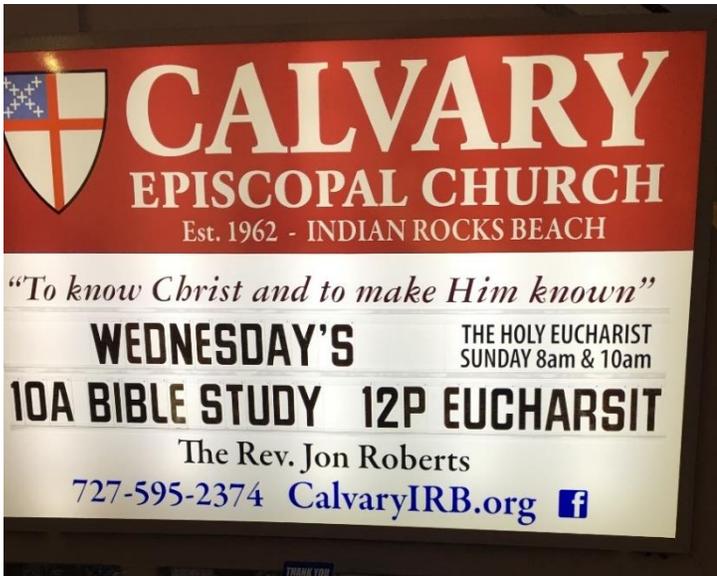
Sincerely, Joseph Hatin, Sexton

Christmas Gift suggestion: Air Conditioners

This year we had to replace three (3) ACs at the church. A great gift idea for Christmas is to contribute towards the expense. We paid \$16,000 total and no amount is too small to contribute.

The Greentown Kids

This is a local and new non-profit organization in IRB that centers around environmental concerns and initiatives. They have been involved with planting sea oats on the beach, teaching on the importance of composting and providing herb gardens, such as the one on our south side of the building. The organization is primarily a group of conscientious parents who are leading by example, instructing and guiding their “kids” along these pursuits. Two years ago, the Vestry was requested to support this local group in some meaningful way. On Saturday, November 16 the GTK will come to Calvary to provide us some volunteer hours to plant \$500 worth of hibiscus on Calvary's property. These funds were generated from proceeds of the 2018 Winterfest event and approved by the Vestry.



Pictures:

Top/Left: An amusing spelling

Above: Denise Hughes-Conlon volunteers to steam clean kitchen floor.

Left: Most recent floral presentation and gift by our talented Dodie Spahr

Winterfest

February 15

Our Church **BIG** Fundraiser
Volunteer and start planning today!



Stewardship

2020 Pledge Goal: \$200,000

We have never passed the benchmark goal of \$200,000 for any of our stewardship campaigns in the past 10 years. Last year we pledged \$184,000. If we reach this goal, this would be a tremendous accomplishment. For new members, please know how important you are and consider your first pledge as a holy act, one that truly makes us one "body." If you have any questions, please ask JoAnn Martindale, our Sr. Warden, Jane Small, our Finance Committee Chairperson, jdsmaill@tampabay.rr.com, or Lia King, our Church Administrative Assistant. Help us next year, reach our goal. Pledge cards are available online, at all church entrances and may be mailed.

The Calvary Endowment Fund

The Endowment Chair, Jo Simpson, presented an update to the Finance Committee in October.

In December 2018 the Fund's balance was reported as \$660,021. Contributions to principal have occurred in 2019 by Vestry approval and as of September 30, our balance is \$756,590.

We would like to see our Fund principal grow. To this end, the Endowment Fund Committee would like to invite everyone of all ages, to participate in a simple, brief fundraiser entitled "Pennies for Prosperity". Beginning now, bring in all those pesky pennies (and any other change you are inclined to have lying around), put them in the offering plate or the "Stewardship" chest at the reception desk and then watch our Fund balance grow. Tax receipts will be issued for wrapped coins. The best part is that everyone can participate!!

The Endowment Fund "interest earned" is, and will continue to be, a significant contributing fund for the operation of the church and the legacy of Calvary's future. Thank you for your support.

The Giving Update

Year-to-date (YTD) our 2019 Pledges are slightly behind by \$2,500, our Non-Pledges are on track and our Plate is behind, by about \$1,700 (hoping to catch up Thanksgiving to Christmas); Special Gifts are above budget by \$7,000, and all non-designated giving categories at the end of September are positive by \$1,800.

Designated giving in the Property category was significantly lower than budgeted by \$11,414. Three ACs were replaced and put us over budget on the expense and we are making an appeal to all our members to make an additional gift to offset before Christmas. An appeal was also sent by the Rector and Sr. Warden to all our Canadian friends and seasonal members, called the "Cold Air Initiative," asking for their support. Two more ACs need replacement in 2020. Remember, we live in Florida and the Church has 12 total units. Please note "AC" on supplement checks or online giving you feel led to make an extra donation.

Everyone should have received the third quarter report that was sent out the third week in October, along with the 2020 Pledge cards. We ask that you keep the cards somewhere visible in your home and to make an intentional prayer habit to ask God how much you should give next year. This exercise, we feel, enriches your relationship with our Lord Jesus. Some of you have already submitted 2020 Pledge cards way ahead of Advent I (Dec. 1st) and we thank you. Everyone and their family is invited to process to the altar on that Sunday or any of the following Sundays leading up to Christmas, as display of offering your family to the Lord. Please consider pledged giving as it provides consistency in our operation and helps us reach our goals.



Apollo XIII CDs

Exclusive availability from the Concert
by Matthew Burke
\$10 Each
Proceeds go to the Music Program

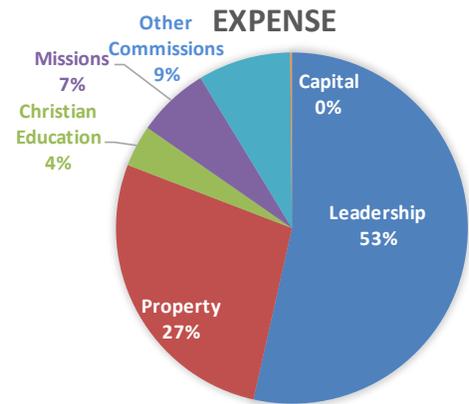
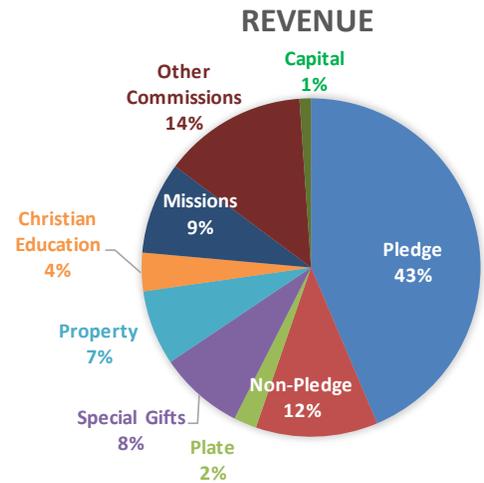
Winterfest

February 15
Our Church BIG Fundraiser
Volunteer and start planning today!

Summary of Financial Activity

(YTD Jan-Sept. 2019)

	Actual	Budget	Difference (+/-)
Revenue			
Pledge	\$138,117	\$140,625	(\$2,508)
Non-Pledge	\$36,895	\$36,000	\$895
Plate	\$6,936	\$8,624	(\$1,688)
Special Gifts	\$25,670	\$18,750	\$6,920
Property	\$22,711	\$34,125	(\$11,414)
Christian Education	\$11,622	\$7,312	\$4,310
Missions	\$27,810	\$26,325	\$1,485
Other Commissions	\$43,391	\$31,692	\$11,699
Capital	\$3,470	\$4,500	(\$1,030)
Investments (Interest only)	\$14,679	\$15,000	(\$321)
Total Revenue	\$331,301	\$322,953	\$8,669
Expenses			
Leadership	\$185,075	\$192,440	(\$7,365)
Property	\$94,507	\$69,863	\$24,644
Christian Education	\$13,239	\$6,300	\$6,939
Missions	\$22,934	\$25,650	(\$2,716)
Other Commissions	\$29,558	\$26,445	\$3,113
Capital	\$516	\$15,000	(\$14,484)
Investments (Fees)*	\$4,614	\$4,725	(\$111)
Total Expenses	\$350,443	\$340,423	\$24,615
Difference	(\$19,142)	(\$17,470)	(\$15,946)



*The 2019 Budget allotted \$20,000 of Revenue to be withdrawn from a Church unrestricted investment fund to stabilize expenses for the year, to which we did approve in August. Thanks to the Special Gifts category and that unrestricted withdrawal we were able to stabilize our operation. Please note that our main expense related to three (3) Air Conditioners that needed to be replaced. Pledged income remains most helpful to create a budget and sustain our Church operation. Please fulfill your pledge by end of December. Please consider increasing your pledge for 2020.

Please fulfill your 2019 pledge and prayerfully consider your commitment to help Calvary fulfill its mission.

Revenue is designated and non-designated for operation of the Church. Expenses listed are general categories of donation and expense. Missions is primarily the Food Pantry and Christian Education is primarily our Youth programs.* Investment Revenue & Expense vary on the Market with realized gains/losses and are currently managed by Merrill Lynch. Interest, not directed for operational use, has been reinvested in the Church Unrestricted and/or Endowment Fund only upon FC recommendation and Vestry approval, recorded in the minutes of each meeting. Minutes are available to online, at calvaryirb.org.

Property Work Crew

November 16
Volunteer to help
bobfpillima@tampabay.rr.com

Hospitality

On Sundays
Volunteer to
helpdhconlon27@gmail.com

Winterfest

February 15
Our Church **BIG** Fundraiser
Volunteer and start planning today!

The Legacy Society

We have been blessed with endowed giving in year's past. You can help this important way of supporting and growing the church, by following what is prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer, p. 445. It says, "The Minister of the Congregation is directed to instruct the people, from time to time about the duty of the Christian parents to make prudent provision for the well-being of their families, and of all person to make wills, while they are in health, arranging for the disposal of their temporal goods, not neglecting, if they are able, to leave bequests for religious and charitable uses."



The Legacy Society

An Endowment of Calvary Episcopal Church

Now is the time to consider this important instruction for the future of the church, for its purpose and for our common well-being, which is held intact by the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is most helpful to give a copy of your will to your family, sharing with them why the Church is important in your planning. This is a measure that creates successive pathways to the next generation.

Easy Online Member Giving with Realm

Calvary has received 75 online donations by parishioners since May, who are using the new Realm ACS app. More people are now making donations through this portal. They have discovered how easy it is to monitor what they give and have greater options in which to enjoy giving to the church. Realm gives online account access, 24/7 for all parishioners who set up an account. Never wait to see your balances or recorded contributions.

In the meantime, if you would like to be able to login to your individual account on Realm, all you need to do is visit our website and find this button for "Easy Online Member Giving." You can set your own user ID and Password to have access to Realm, this online and secure database. In this program you can make direct payments from your checking account or credit/debit card, set or change your profile picture, and most importantly, check your current giving record and pledge balance. What's more is the function of grouping, where all ministries will be able to "one day" communicate within this product for all programs and activities. We are currently working on that product's use from things like Acolyte scheduling, Vestry meetings and fellowship events.



When writing a check to Calvary

If you still prefer to write a physical check to Calvary, and if this donation is "Designated" for anything, you need to write down a brief word or two on the memo line so we know how to direct it towards your account and the overall ledger. The Counters on Monday morning, thank you. Speaking of Counters, we give thanks to Rebecca Alford, Marilyn Clark, Jo Simpson, Cherie Smith and Toni Chapman for their pledged commitment to take on this important task each week.

"A checkbook is a theological document; it will tell you who and what you worship." – Billy Graham

"Never measure your generosity by what you give; but rather what you have left." – RC Bishop Fulton Sheen (1895-1979)

"Choose rather to want less, than to have more." – Thomas A Kempis (1380-1471)

The Episcopal Church sees stewardship as more than simply contributing money to the church; it's also about contributing time and talents, and volunteering for ministry and mission. It's about reaching out to build relationships from a perspective of abundance instead of scarcity. ("What we Do" <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/stewardship>)

The Budget Update

The Finance Committee presented a Financial Procedures Policy to the Vestry in August for their approval. In October, the budget section related to process was approved. This process specifies the order of how a budget is constructed at Calvary, with timelines and responsibilities. At this present time, each Vestry member, responsible for their individual Commission have worked on the details with participating volunteers inside associated areas related. They returned the worksheets to the Finance Committee and now it is going through the first draft. Of course, we have only historical data on past giving. So much depends on the receipts of Pledged Commitments, expected by the third week in December. The final 2020 budget will be reviewed by the Vestry once more, then presented to the Congregation, at large, at the Annual Parish Meeting, January 29th. A copy of the budget will be supplied the week before such meeting in order to give everyone a chance to look it over. As a courtesy, we ask that you raise questions or make observations regarding the budget prior to the meeting and vote to approve on the floor. Please contact the Sr. Warden, JoAnn Martindale, or Finance Committee Chair, Janie Small.



Christmas is just around the corner, and we know you are going to buy things through this retail giant. If you select Calvary as your primary benefit/charity on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile), Calvary receives a percent of a percent on each of your purchases. These add up and are donated to

Calvary every month. So far, from what we can tell, there are about a half dozen parishioners who have set this feature up on their personal or business accounts, including Fr. Jon! Follow the Rector's lead and set up Calvary as your charity with Amazon Smile before your Christmas shopping!

**HONOR THE LORD
WITH YOUR
POSSESSIONS
AND WITH THE
FIRST PRODUCE
OF YOUR ENTIRE
HARVEST.
PROVERBS 3:9**

We believe we honor God through giving our time, talent & treasure towards His Church. Please consider how much God has loved you and pledge to give accordingly.

All things come of the O Lord

**CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2020 PLEDGE CARD**

NAMES OF ALL YOUR FAMILY
Making this pledge together:

ADDRESS:

I/WE PLEDGE TO GIVE FOR 2020:
Total \$ _____ per year

We appreciate all forms of financial giving.
Please consider giving online. Ask about REALM

Signed: _____

TEAR THIS PORTION AND
KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS

Calvary Episcopal Church
PLEDGE TO GIVE

\$ _____
2020 PLEDGE

The Pledge Campaign has begun

Everyone who contributed with a donation over \$20 was sent a 3rd Quarter statement of contribution, along with an invitation letter from the Rector and Sr. Warden, and a 2020 Pledge Card. Instructions to pray over it and present it, beginning the first Sunday in Advent (December 1st) was offered. We will be collected these pledge cards throughout the season of Advent during the time of the Doxology. You and your family will find a deep and sacred meaning on the actual procession with your pledge card to the altar. Of course, you may submit your pledge cards at any time you are ready, and may do so any method you wish. Some have already mailed or hand-delivered and we thank you. If you did not receive a pledge card, you may find a supply of them at any of the entrances around the church.

Connections

The Church "By the Numbers" 2019

Supplied by Steve Hein (Data as of October 11th)

This information may not include some new members received recently but will be in the next edition.

169	55 %	Resident	23	7 %	Inactive
40	13 %	Seasonal	42	14 %	Related / Family
6	2 %	Elderly / Shut-in	0	0 %	Transferred out
21	7 %	New Members	4	1 %	Deceased
			5	2 %	Moved away
236 Total Active Members			74 Total Inactive Members		
Total Active and Inactive Members			310		
135	44 %	Seniors / 65+	136	44 %	Single
132	43 %	Midlife / 20 - 65	174	56 %	Married
43	14 %	Youth			
310 Total Age Demographic			310 Total Married / Single		

Calvary Member Directory

Calvary is creating a member directory. It will be similar to the 2017 version that contained member's names, addresses, phone and email information as well as a picture listing.

We need your help to complete it. Some of the pictures from 2017 could be updated. New members, we need a picture of you. Families, especially those with children, we need an updated picture to show how much the children have grown. If you changed your hair style or want to refresh your picture, we need a picture of you.

How can you help? Email your picture to Lia King at admin@calvaryirb.org. Your image in the picture should not be too small so that it can be enlarged if necessary, with optimum resolution. If you have questions about the process, feel free to ask Steve Hein.

Also included in the text portion will be member's birthdays. Please send Lia your birthday, only month and day, if you have not already shared it with us.

Thank you for your assistance with this project. The directory will help all of us get to know one another better in our Calvary community and stay connected.

Submitted by Steve Hein



Connect spiritually and socially using Black & White XP, Facebook & Yelp. Search for "Calvary Episcopal Church" Indian Rocks Beach, FL.

"Like Us" on your social feeds in order to help us connect to more people and share the great things that are going on at Calvary.

Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries

November Birthdays

1	Mary Brown
2	Joyce McNamara
3	Dianne Oeste
5	Sara Goodrich
9	Gary Spivak
9	Jackie Tatsak
10	Dodie Spahr
12	Juan Luis Collins
13	Christine DiLorenzo
15	Mike Carpenter
18	Marsha England
19	Charles Conlon
22	Bill Athanson
24	Marlene Stark
25	Ed Morgan
25	John Matter
25	Steve Hein
27	Betty Pink
27	Denise Hughes-Conlon
28	Robin Hite

Wedding Anniversaries

November

4	Faith & James Cox
5	Maria & Eduardo Gonzalez
5	Jacqui & Mike Carpenter
13	Dianne & Keith Oeste
16	Julie & Fr. Mike Day
19	Millie & Les Hurst
22	Mary Lou & Eugene Price

December

13	Suzanne & Francois Daviault
14	Mary Frances & Chris Gorman
19	Karen & David Hillegas
27	Robin & Larry Hite

January

2	Natalia & Gordon Ross
8	Rebecca & Sandy Rogers
13	Jane & Steve Small

December Birthdays

3	Condon Sutherland
3	Fr. Hugh Bell
4	Jim Widell
4	Velva Giddings
6	Scharf Turner
9	Cathy Athanson
9	Cynthia Laitinen
9	Loretta Scott
10	Garrett Fisher
10	Steve Small
12	Millie Hurst
13	Francois Daviault
14	Helen Wosnick
15	Patty Call
16	Amy Fisher
17	Grace Alford
17	Jacob Alford
18	Christopher Conlon
20	Caleb Bhagwandin
21	Peter Thomas
22	Lisa Kingston
22	Renee Lee
23	Deborah Whisenand
23	Kenneth Fisher
24	Mary Frances Shaw
26	Charles Pond
28	David Hillegas
31	Natalia Ross

Newlyweds

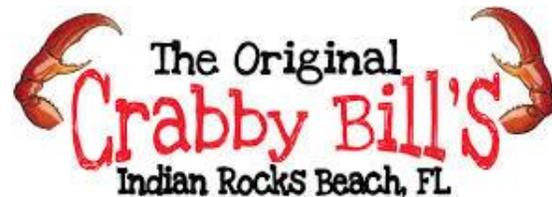
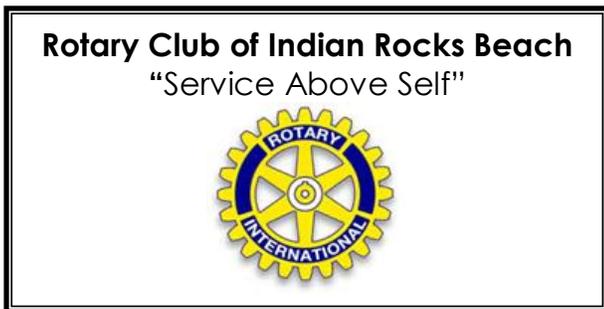
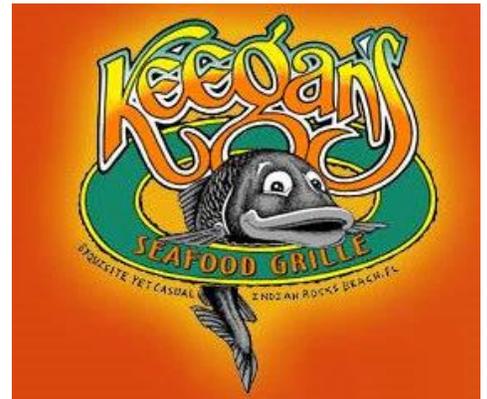
We would like to announce the marriage of Dr. Jeffrey and Carlin Godfrey. They have been attendees of Calvary over the last two years and were wed in Sarasota at The Church of the Redeemer, (Oct. 19) Carlin's home church. Fr. Jon and Lynne Roberts were in attendance per invitation.



If we missed your date or if there is need of correction, we apologize. Please notify the office.

admin@calvaryirb.org

Community Partners



Apollo XIII CDs

Exclusive availability from the Concert
by Matthew Burke
\$10 Each
Proceeds go to the Music Program

**Deadline for the January-February Crier:
December 15, 2019**

Please send all pictures and articles to us by then.

Calvary Episcopal Church

1615 First Street, Indian Rocks Beach, Florida 33785
727-595-2374 www.calvaryirb.org

Bishop:	The Rt. Rev. Dabney T. Smith	
Rector:	The Rev. Jon Roberts	(941) 806-7232 jroberts@calvaryirb.org
Deacon:	The Rev. Melissa Sands	(727)744-2522 deacon.melissa.sands@gmail.com
Music Director:	Mr. Matthew Burke	(727)273-4742 mburke@calvaryirb.org
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Lia King	(727)595-2374 admin@calvaryirb.org
Bookkeeper:	Ms. Nancy Titus	(812)350-1239 tituskn@aol.com
Youth Minister [NEW]:	Mrs. Lynne Roberts	(941)806-7082 Lwroberts@calvaryirb.org
Sexton [NEW]	Mr. Joe Hatin	(352)222-3046 jhatin@calvaryirb.org

Vestry

Christian Education:	Elyssa Coker	elyssacoker@gmail.com
Connections:	Sandy Rogers	sandra.rogers01@gmail.com
Fellowship:	Denise Hughes-Conlon	denise@solutionscounseling.org
Leadership:	Margaret Richcreek	marvelousmargee@yahoo.com
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Outreach:	Renee Lee	leerenee117@gmail.com
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Stewardship:	JoAnn Martindale	joadale@yahoo.com
Missions:	Lisa Kingston	lkingston1969@gmail.com
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New Member:	Toni Chapman	wchapman001@tampabay.rr.com
The Crier Editor:	The Rev. Jon Roberts	jroberts@calvaryirb.org

Not getting the Crier each month?

We strive to send out our information in a timely and efficient manner. If you have changed your email address, PLEASE let Lia King be aware, admin@calvaryirb.org

Meeting with the Rector

When making an appointment to see Father Jon, please do so in advance by either calling him (941/806-7232) or emailing him (jroberts@calvaryirb.org) making request for that meeting and including the purpose. He is available at almost all church events in the evenings and weekends and is usually on the Church campus during Office hours during the days/times listed here below.

Winterfest

February 15
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Volunteer and start planning today!

Sundays
8am & 10am (Holy Eucharist)
10am-Afternoon (Church activities)
Monday – Thursday
9am – 2pm (Office hours)