







IN THIS ISSUE: Holy Week - Pg. 1 | Pentecost Picnic - Pg. 3







HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Just before Holy Week, volunteers use cleaning rags and elbow grease to wash windows, clean the pews, work in the outside space and generally give Calvary a good Spring cleaning. The effort is evident when you process with your palms and enter the Sanctuary for worship.

The Calvary worship schedule provided many opportunities to fully participate in Holy Week as we walked the path to Easter. This year the Covenant Players added to the Maundy Thursday liturgy and the youth once again presented a touching Shadow of the Cross service.

Easter Sunday was a glorious celebration of the Resurrection, and the young ones enjoyed an egg hunt and crafts.









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If the Lord does not build the house, the work of the builders is useless.

If the Lord does not protect the city, it does no good for the sentries to stand guard.

It is useless to work so hard for a living, getting up early and going to bed late.

For the Lord provides for those he loves, while they are asleep.

(Psalm 127:1-3; GNT)



Dear People of Calvary,

As I begin the process of boxing up my books and cleaning out my drawers and shelves, my heart and mind are flooded with memories of the many precious times I have had as your priest. I have laughed and cried with you; baptized and buried; married and consoled; sung and danced; shared the Body and Blood of Christ; and worked with you to build a better world. But best of all, I have had the best seat in the house to witness the many incredible ways that the Holy Spirit has moved and worked among us.



The job of a priest is unique – it comes without a road map, and with no job description except for a general expectation that we will somehow be 'all things to all people.' Yet as daunting as that might seem, I found it to be a life filled with wonder and blessings beyond belief. I have been invited into the most intimate times of your lives – those moments of greatest joy and of deepest sorrow. I have seen God turn sorrow into hope; bring light into darkness; and turn even the smallest blessings into life-changing events. And in all of those occasions, I have been the one that was richly blessed.

As one of my fellow pastors responded to the many *thank-you's* that she received for her work: "... YOU'RE thanking ME?? All I did was show up!" Indeed – I showed up with the hope and prayer that in some way my presence would be a reminder of God's love and God's promise to provide. I showed up and was moved by <u>your</u> demonstrations of faith. The faithfulness that <u>you</u> express in your prayers, and the love I see in your care and concern for your neighbors, nourishes <u>my</u> soul. Therefore, I thank you being the face of Christ for me. And I also thank you for your love and care and support of Sherry, Amber, Travis, and me these past eight years.

You have given me the Ride of my Life!

May God bless you and keep you always, Fr. Paul+

¹ Erin Wathen, January 22, 2014: https://www.patheos.com/blogs/irreverin/2014/01

- 2 —

PENTECOST PICNIC

Each year Calvary celebrates Pentecost with a large family picnic after worship. This year's picnic took on special meaning as we said farewell to Fr. Paul, Sherry and the family. We were joined by church members, staff and teachers from Calvary Prep, and other clergy and special friends.





AROUND CALVARY

HANGIN' OUT WITH THE EYC

Our youth enjoyed two social outings before wrapping up the year. The Chris Tomlin concert was a highlight. The loaded Calvary bus left the church for a night out of music and fun.

Roy and Kathy Haley hosted the youth at their home for a pool party for the last EYC meeting before the summer break.



SUMMER SOCIALS

In May, David and Zahra Cook opened their home for a wonderful evening of Christian fellowship. David did his usual awesome job of preparing brisket, accompanied by tasty side dishes from all attending. The weather was accommodating so everyone could enjoy the indoor and outside spaces.

Circle your calendar: The next social will be hosted by Frank and Lisa Traylor on Friday, June 28. No need to RSVP. Bring a dish to share. Details are in the Sunday bulletin.





LAUNDRY LOVE

This newest Outreach initiative is gaining traction as more and more families come to the Collins Street Washateria for financial assistance with their laundry. Rev. Nancy, along with other Calvary volunteers, provide detergent and quarters, plus friendly conversation, on the second Wednesday of each month.



JUNE GRADUATIONS

Each June we show our love and pride for Calvary graduating seniors. This year was no exception. Seniors receive the cross that was hung in their name in the Narthex when they were incoming freshman, representing four years of prayer for them during their high school years. They may carry the cross with them as they move forward. They also receive a study Bible.







Congrats this year to:
Allie Alsop
Abby Cawthorne
Max Haines
Kaitlyn Hillis
Brody McLemore
Diana Thatcher
Emily Vinson



Education for Ministry (EFM) graduation is also celebrated in June. This year Molly Powell and Lynette Butler received their Certificates of Completion following four years of study. Mentor Dan Bradley is retiring from his leadership role after many years of dedication to the EFM program. In recognition, Rev. Lecia presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation from the University of the South, Sewanee.

CALVARY CONNECT WEEKEND

Calvary Connection Weekend was held May 10-11 as an introduction for those new to Calvary or the Episcopal Church, as well as to provide an opportunity to make new friends and connections. This year nearly 20 adults spent Friday evening and part of Saturday in educational activities, enjoying good meals, and learning ways to connect Calvary.







GETTING TO KNOW YOU: PAT AND GENE HOOTEN

We always enjoy introducing new members to Calvary. Please welcome Pat and Gene Hooten. Pat is a local girl, raised in Rosenberg with her two brothers. Her working background was with a large insurance company based in Houston. Gene and Pat live in Richmond, Texas and love it! They are former members of the Old South Anglican Church of St. John in Richmond. Gene is a disabled Viet Nam Veteran. Pat enjoys gardening, sewing, reading, and four wheeling.





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Vestry

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Officers

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Newsletter Team

The Members of Calvary

Church Staff

The Rev. Paul Wehner, Rector The Rev. Lecia Brannon, Assoc. Rector The Rev. Nancy Wilkes, Deacon Heidi Eland, Parish Administrator Kathy Haley, Financial Administrator Will Mason, Worship Coordinator John Brun, Organist and Choir Director Anne Scarborough, Newcomer Coordinator Suzette Hillis, Communication Betty Anne Taylor, Director of Christian Education Sarah Minkert, Safeguarding Administrator Jose Portill, Sexton

Worship Services

Sunday 8:00 AM Traditional 9:30 AM Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 AM Contemporary

Tuesday 9:30 AM Traditional

Contact us at: (281) 342-2147 www.calvaryrichmond.org

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