


Calvary Life

CALVARY EPISCOPAL
CHURCH AND SCHOOL
Winter 2018



The angel said to them, "I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord."

LUKE 2:10-11

ANNUAL BISHOP'S VISIT

On Sunday, October 21, The Rt. Rev. Philip Duncan preached at both church services, and celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and Reception for 18 Calvary members. Bishop Duncan was welcomed at a reception following the 8:00am service, and everyone enjoyed breakfast and watching a slideshow highlighting a year's activities in our Calvary Life.



CONGRATULATIONS TO:

The newly baptized: Lance Grafft, Luke Gonzales, Callie Kubala, and Daijia Taylor

Confirmands: Rylea Broussard, Thomas Cornwell, Ross Helbert, Sophia Helbert, Luke Kilgard, Olivia Kniss, Caffie Kubala, Katherine McClellan, Philomina Okonye, Lauren Seiler, Daijia Taylor, Thomas Toledo

Received and Reaffirmed: David Essells, Lori Hoy, Efigenia Toledo

As construction on the extension of our columbarium has begun, I asked Rebecca Maraman to write about how it all began. Fr. Paul+

History of Calvary's Columbarium *(Proof something good can come from a tragedy)*

My husband Van and I had the wonderful opportunity to see much of the world during his years of working for Schlumberger. We lived overseas for about fifteen years, and we looked for a church home at every stop. While Van was Division Manager in Trinidad, we discovered the Anglican Church and fell in love with its style of worship. When we returned to the Richmond area to settle down for good, we looked for a similar type church and found Calvary Episcopal. Calvary turned out to be the perfect choice for us, and we made many friends here. Van and I continued to travel whenever we could, and it was on a trip to Galveston with another couple that my life was changed forever. We had an early dinner on our last day there and were heading home, still in the city limits when suddenly Van's left arm went up and down, and his head dropped on his chest. He had died, without making a sound - a man who had hardly been sick a day in his life!

The Rev. Steve Pope was Rector at Calvary then, and he went with me to Davis-Greenlawn Funeral Home. While still in shock, I bought two plots although Van had been cremated. Fr. Steve performed both a private burial and a celebration of life service for Van.



During my grieving, I realized how much easier it would have been if Calvary had had a columbarium. The idea came to me to start a columbarium fund, and I started giving money earmarked for one and continued for several years. However, I began to think that my project was the "impossible dream" after the architect for the school said it would cost about \$250,000. My columbarium donations sat in the bank until Rev. Frankie Rodriguez came as Rector. He appointed me as the chairman of a two person committee along with Betty Jacobson, to investigate the possibility of a columbarium. The Jacobson's and I drove around to different Episcopal churches, but all had theirs outside. Slightly discouraged, we started looking for companies whose business was columbariums, which we thought would be much less expensive.

Then I started looking inside the church for a place to put one, and found the perfect place. The wall by the Baptismal Font was already recessed and only covered with paneling. I showed it to Betty and she agreed it was perfect! I chose one of the companies she had found, took measurements, and created a cruciform to fit the space. Then I did the math, and exhaled - the amount I had given would be enough! Praise God!! After vestry approval, I did all the correspondence with the company and had the bills sent to Calvary. A women's group gave \$200 to buy the containers for ashes, and Calvary member Barry Neptune did the installation for free. When it was finished, we had a private service and my husband's ashes were the first to be inurned in the new columbarium. Now all but three of the 48 niches have been sold. The proceeds from the sales of the niches were put in the Calvary Foundation Heritage Fund, where it will be used to add 80 more niches and be repaid as they are sold. The columbarium has truly gone from the "impossible dream" to becoming a peaceful (and affordable) place of comfort and rest for families that lose a loved one.

By Rebecca Maraman



IN THE PINEY WOODS

Once again our parish family retreat was at Camp Allen. The weather was wonderful for late October and campers enjoyed some of the familiar fun activities, like the hayride, while also making some new memories, like pumpkin carving. As always, the outdoor Eucharist and campfire highlighted the weekend. Many thanks to all who organized and gave their time and talent to making this a very special time.



STEWARDSHIP DINNER AND CELEBRATION

Biblical stories, music and great food set the stage for our Annual Stewardship Dinner at the Swinging Door. Nearly 150 parishioners gathered as we celebrate the ministries we bring to each other and the community, as we look ahead to another fruitful year.



A THANKSGIVING FEAST

This year's Thanksgiving ministry was stronger than ever, as Calvary members and volunteers gathered to prepare and deliver meals to 900 families in Fort Bend County. This was a year of more: more people receiving a traditional Thanksgiving meal, and more people lending their hands and hearts to the effort. This year we were joined for the first time by the Lighthouse Indian Baptist Church in Missouri City, and we expanded the number of cities we serve. Special thanks to Molly Powell for always keeping us on track through a million details, thanks to the cooks, the kitchen crew, the drivers – everyone who makes this possible.



LIFE AT CALVARY

BLOOD DRIVE

The November blood drive was the final for the year. We had 22 donors, generating 27 units that will help 81 people. As more people learn about this chance to give blood, we had four first time donors. At the end of each year we have a raffle and 16 donors were awarded prizes. As always, thanks to Frank and Mary Ellen Plut for managing this important ministry.

EYC

Our youth enjoyed an early start to the holiday season by hanging lights on the church property. These young people were also very busy helping with the Thanksgiving Feast.

LUNCHES OF LOVE

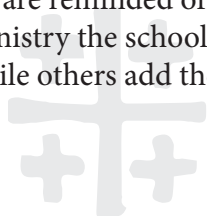
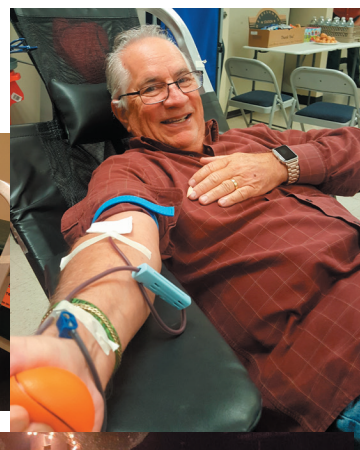
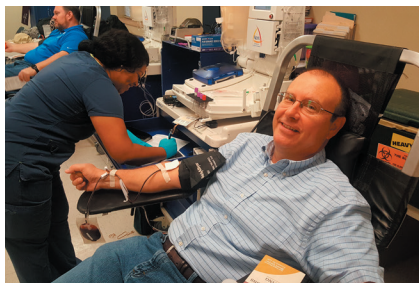
Lunches of Love, a local non-profit organization, is committed to helping end childhood hunger in Fort Bend County by providing a free nutritious sack lunch during extended school holidays and weekends. Calvary participates in this ministry in a variety of ways. On a recent Sunday, church members attending coffee hour and adult Christian Ed decorated lunch bags to bring a smile to each child's face.

WELCOME!

Fr. Paul and Sherry hosted a welcome reception for recent newcomers to Calvary at their home. This social gathering provides an opportunity for newcomers to meet each other, as well as some Vestry members.

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL SUNDAY

On the first Sunday in October, our Calvary students and staff lead our worship service and we are reminded of the special ministry the school brings to the community. The choir brings its gift of music while others add their voices to the worship experience.



Advent and Christmas at Calvary Episcopal Church

Sunday, Dec. 9

9:00 AM 2nd week of Advent–Christmas Cookie Decorating
5:00 PM Christmas Concert–Rosenberg Symphonic Band

Thursday, Dec. 13

7:00 PM Calvary School Christmas Program

Saturday, Dec. 15

12:00 PM Crafts with Santa

Sunday, Dec. 16

9:00 AM 3rd week of Advent–Making Ornaments
6:30 PM Festival of Lessons & Carols@ St. Thomas in Wharton

Wednesday, Dec. 19

8:05 AM Calvary School Lessons & Carols Chapel

Sunday, Dec. 23

10:30 AM Christmas Pageant, children arrive at 9:30
12:00 PM Greening of Church & Tailgate party in the Parish Hall with football on the big screen TV. Chili and hotdogs will be served

Monday, Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Family service at 5:00 PM
Traditional service at 10:30 PM

Christmas Day, Dec. 25

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist Rite II

Sunday, Dec. 30

8:00 & 10:30 AM The First Sunday after Christmas Day

Tuesday, Jan. 1 No Service



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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

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

Worship Services

Sunday

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

Tuesday

9:30 AM	Traditional
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Vestry

Jewlon Morris, Sr. Warden	Jim Kidda
Oscar Lozano, Jr. Warden	Frank Lemkowitz
David Taylor, Clerk	Dorothy Lyons
Leslie Amentini	Missy Marek
Betty Best	Scott McLemore
Roy Haley	Joyce Strimple

Officers

Bill Daw, Chancellor
Christian Iversen, Treasurer
Scott McLemore, Assistant Treasurer

Newsletter Team

The Members of Calvary