Mother’s Day 2017

Baptisms

Eli Sepanouich Cherry
Elijah Thomas Higmaner
Emma Leigh Gaskamp
June James Zahnradl

Those We Love but See No Longer

Nick Powell – March 12
Dianne Michele Morgan – May 8
Gwendolyne Coaley – June 16

Clergy Corner

CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH & SCHOOL

BLOW the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near.

Jesu 2:1

Dear People of Calvary,

In my first Clergy Corner for Calvary Life last summer, I wrote that I was on a long and winding road with Calvary Episcopal Church as the latest bend in the road. I am one year into my tenure as your Curate at Calvary and a year as Episcopal Church’s youngest rector. First, please accept my gratitude for the many gifts of support and love. I am honored here, Calvary, and on the road. I will apply for a postdoctoral fellowship in a year. My formation and practice of priestly ministry of the church is happening each day. My experience and knowledge of what it means to be church is deepening in new and profound ways.

Secondly, Calvary shares in my growth by walking the road beside me. Every conversation and moment of sharing, every education class and meeting, every sermon, every baptism, wedding, funeral, and Holy Eucharist are steps forward in learning about church and spiritual leadership. I look forward to continuing our walk together, as disciples making disciples, with Jesus. That on our walk together we will listen, be curious, and keep our hearts and minds open to all Jesus teaches us about living the Christian life.

Last month, I had the privilege to be the Chaplain-in-Residence at Camp Allen for a week and attend the Festival of Homilies the following week. Each week presented something different, yet both were fruitful this year of curacy ends. To have time to think, pray, read, and reflect, hear inspiring sermons and lectures is a necessity for every curate. Thank you to Fr. Paul Calvary and the Diocese of Texas for providing me this time away.

Camp Allen in the piney woods near Navasota, TX is the perfect setting for rest and reflection. I jokingly said to some of you who asked about my week there that the quiet surroundings allowed me to have a single thought that I could follow all the way through. In every lake there is a bit of truth. The slow and steady rhythm of life, the lake and walking in the woods gave me time to reconnect with my own rhythms and prayer life, sitting by the lake and walking in the woods gave me time to reconnect with my own rhythms and prayer life.

The Festival of Homilies brought together the best and brightest preachers and teachers to cities across the nation for 5 days each year to celebrate and enrich preaching in the church. This year’s festival in San Antonio was as close as I have ever been to one I have five and in person several preachers and theologians whose works I studied such as Walter Brueggemann, Barbara Brown Taylor, Will Willimon, and Brian McLaren. While these might not be household names, their inspiration and influence are invaluable. In the same vein, I have heard preachers and teachers new to me from other traditions and denominations whose powerful gospel messages come through the lives and teachings of others. This is the work of God’s grace and encouragement to me. To be amidst people devoted to the Lord of God encourages me to be a disciple. To be a disciple is to follow the Lamb, to be a disciple is to be a servant. To be an servant is to love. To be an servant of God is to be a servant of Christ. To be a servant of Christ is to be a servant of the gospel of Jesus Christ. To be a servant of the gospel of Jesus Christ is to be a servant of the world and the church.

Finally, my second year of curacy will be an exciting time as I continue to build and strengthen my gifts and skills at Calvary. I will be a part of a new group that includes our current curates and other priests new to the Diocese of Texas with whom I will mentor and guide. I will ask for your prayers for this time of transition for me and the purpose of preparing us for our next calls in the church. I ask your prayers for this time of transition for me and the purpose of preparing us for our next calls in the church.

Blessings,

Rev. Lucia
Calvary Reaches Out: Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity envisions a world where everyone has a decent place to live. Seeking to put God’s love into action, their mission is to bring people together to build homes, communities and hope. Beginning in January 2017, Calvary joined a new home construction project sponsored by St. Laurence Catholic Church of Sugar Land. St. Laurence could not have been more welcoming! For four months, Calvary and St. Laurence volunteers worked together to build a home for Lisa Haywood in North Richmond. But Lisa was no idle spectator as the home progressed from bare slab to studded walls and eventually to finished home with a lawn and new trees. A full-time working professional and mother of two young boys, Lisa still found the energy to nail, saw, caulk and paint on her new home every Saturday.

In March, Calvary was asked if we would be willing to sponsor a lunch for the construction crew. Carol Freeman volunteered to lead the lunch brigade and the people of Calvary responded with enthusiasm. We collected over $500 in donations and were able to feed not one, but two Habitat crews working on side-by-side sister projects on Cerver Avenue! Now that the final coat of paint has dried and the last piece of sod has been watered in, we want to express our gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of this project, whether in the role of construction volunteer, or lunch team member, or through your monetary donations and prayers. You are the hands and feet of Christ!

For those who want to participate in our next Habitat project, please stay tuned. Christ Church of Sugar Land is starting a new build in North Richmond this fall and we hope to join that effort. In the meantime, St. Laurence will continue its critical repair ministry on a weekly basis. Contact Dan Bradley at 281-770-6711 or MDBradley05@gmail.com for more details.

Calvary Connection Weekend

New and long-time Calvary members joined together for Calvary Connection weekend.

This was a fun and informal way to explore the basics of the Christian faith, the history of the Church and Calvary, and the Episcopal form and style of worship. A fun time of learning was had by all through a variety of presentations including skits, a BCP trivia game and a fashion show.

Pentecost Picnic

The all-church Pentecost Picnic was a great time had by all.

EFM Graduation

Congratulations to Mary Katherine Maldonado, Calvary’s newest graduate of EFM! Education for Ministry (EFM) is a unique four-year distance learning certificate program in theological education based on small-group study and practice. Since its founding in 1975, this international program has assisted more than 80,000 participants in discovering and nurturing their call to Christian service. EFM helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together. If you are interested in becoming part of the EFM program, please contact Dan Bradley or John Lyons.
Senior Sunday

Congratulations to Calvary’s newest high school graduates. May God bless the next steps in your journey!

Lizzie Csendes

Richard Cook

Charlotte Johnson

Blanket Ministry

A few years ago, the Daughters of the King began a ministry to pray for all of our high school students on a daily basis. Jeanine Hillis introduced the idea and the DOK said “Yes, absolutely.” We call this the “blanket ministry” since we cover our students in prayer.

Parents of incoming freshman and any new high school students, please pick out a cross you think your sondaughter would like. In the fall during worship, you will present these crosses to your children. We hang them on the Northside wall for four years, and these students are prayed for every day. When they graduate, they are given back their crosses in a special presentation. We hope the students will keep their crosses and remember how loved they are at Calvary where ever they go for the next step of their life journey.

Until now, the crosses hung on the wall with no explanation. This year, Dianne and Mark Duncan helped design and make the beautiful signs we now have.

At the urging of our current high school students and Tim Hillis, we decided to also put the prayer from the BCP that we pray over our youth at each presentation.

Washington, DC Trip

Headmaster, Mr. Malcolm Smith has taken his sixteenth group of Calvary Episcopal preparatory students to Washington D.C. The group, accompanied by parent chaperones, toured the historic sites in Philadelphia, then Gettysburg, before heading into Washington, D.C. 6th grade Calvary students work hard raising over half of the cost for the trip but they also prepare academically. By the time they go to Washington, D.C. they are knowledgeable about the historic significance of the sites, allowing for an unforgettable week of learning and fun.

Lunches of Love

Sixth, seventh, and eighth grade Calvary Episcopal Preparatory Crusaders teamed up recently to spend a morning of service at Lunches of Love at First United Methodist Church in Rosenberg, where they prepared 2,200 lunches for students in our area. Lunches of Love provides nutritious sack lunches to Fort Bend County students who might otherwise go hungry during extended school holidays and weekends. Students at Calvary all participate in service projects throughout the year with the mission of giving back to the community.

The fourth annual Calvary Episcopal Preparatory Drama Club, also known as Calvary Episcopal Players, musical extravaganza of the Lion King Jr. featured 100 students in show stopping costumes and production numbers. An all-volunteer endeavor, parents, teachers, administration and community members come together to create a one of a kind school based production. Students in kindergarten through 12th grade audition and prepare for this all-encompassing show. This year Calvary Episcopal Players initiated a complete backstage student managed tech crew led by Trampus Marek which included set changes, lights, and music queues. Meanwhile on stage, students meet the challenge of presenting Broadway scenes and tunes to a new level. This is the first year the responsibility of the run of the show fell on the shoulders of students. The motto is ‘we don’t do school productions, we just do productions in our school.’ Students are already looking forward to next year’s production of Beauty and the Beast and continued sold out performances.

Prayer for Young Persons

God our Father,
you see your children
growing up in an unsteady and confusing
world. Show them that your ways give
more life than the ways of the world,
and that following you
is better than chasing after selfish goals.
Help them to take failure
not as a measure of their worth
but as a chance for a new start.
Give them strength
to hold their faith in you;
and to keep alive their joy in your
creation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.
Church Staff
The Rev. Paul Wehner, Rector
The Rev. Lecia Brannon, Curate
Kathy Haley, Financial Administrator
Celeste Davis, Parish 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

Vestry
Jewlon Morris, Sr. Warden
Terry Jordan, Jr. Warden
Greg Bethke, Clerk
Leslie Armentini
Roy Haley
Jason Kniss

Oscar Lozano
Dorothy Lyons
Betty Best
Scott McLemore
Joyce Strimple
Amber Zentis

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

Newsletter Team
The Members of Calvary
Kim & Jennifer Hightower, Editors

©2017 Calvary Episcopal Church and School — All Rights Reserved

Design and Layout Produced by KEPHA Resources, Inc. 800.342.3316 How can we help your church?