



# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2022

Calvary Episcopal Church



[www.calvaryclifton.org](http://www.calvaryclifton.org)

*Confident in God's love for us;  
Fearless in our love for all.*

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# WELCOME FROM THE RECTOR



Dear Calvary Parish,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ.

*The Apostle Paul wrote to the Church in his second letter to the Corinthians, And we all, who with unveiled faces reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.*  
(2 Corinthians 3:18)

This past year, Calvary spent time reflecting on the sources of transformation among us as a parish. We are invigorated by prayer and worship, life in community, action, and study and learning at Calvary, and we discovered ways we will strategically continue to grow and be transformed into the future.

We continue to be committed to the core tenets of our Vision as a parish to:

**GROW IN FAITH**

**BE JESUS' HANDS, HEART, AND FEET AMONG OUR NEIGHBORS**

**BE OPEN TO GOD'S GRACE**

I believe this report will give you a glimpse of God's reflected glory among us at Calvary in the past year. Thank you for opening yourself to being transformed by the Holy Spirit at Calvary Parish.

Sincerely,

*Allison*<sup>+</sup>

The Reverend Allison English  
Rector

# ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

## OPENING PRAYER

## PROCEDURE AND RECORDS

Action: Appointment of Recording Secretary to the Annual Meeting

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting

Action: Roll call of Qualified Electors

## BUSINESS OF THE PARISH

Report: Right to Vote and the Process of Election

Report: Nominating Process and the Nominated Class

## NOMINEES

**Vestry** (Elect three to a three-year term)

Mr. J.J. Engelbert Ms. Sharon Grayton Ms. Anne Sesler

**Vestry Officers** (Elect one for each category)

**Senior Warden** Mr. Marshall (Chip) Montrose

**Junior Warden** Mr. Eric Landen

**Diocesan Convention** (Elect slate: (4) delegates and (1) alternate to a one-year term)

Ms. Caroline Bieser Ms. Maggie Davis Mr. J.J. Engelbert

Ms. Jane Paraskevopoulos Ms. Susan Skidmore (alternate)

## ACTION: ELECTION

## SENIOR WARDEN'S COMMENTS

## RECTOR'S COMMENTS

## REPORT: PRESENTATION OF THE 2023 BUDGET

## TIME FOR QUESTIONS

## ACTION: ADJOURNMENT, BLESSING, AND DISMISSAL

# 2021 MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

2022 Annual Meeting of Calvary Episcopal Church January 30, 2022

## Opening Prayer

### PROCEDURE AND RECORDS

Action: Recording Secretary to the Annual Meeting - Elected by Proclamation: Helene Ault

Action: Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting - Motion: Megan Rich 2nd: Chip Montrose Accepted

Action: Roll Call of Qualified Electors:

<u>In Person</u>	Dan Ames	Janet Keller	Allison English
Philomena McCauley	Paul Davis	Betsy DeMatteo	Olivia Hamilton
Bethany Bourgeois	Maggie Davis	Matt DeMatteo	
Michel Bourgeois	Chip Montrose	Brian Quay	
Lois Brown	Tom Bible	JJ Engelbert	
Cynthia Bourgeois	Margaret Reich	Sally Engelbert	
Randy McKnight	Susan Skidmore	Kelsey Logan	
Mary McKnight	Shirley Adams	Allison Logan	

  

<u>Attended by Zoom:</u>	
Carolyn Bieser	Sharon Grayton
Lucas Garza	Rex Van Alstine
Miriam McKenney	Duane Lewis
Susan Jackson	Judy Gardner
Heidi Flanders	Jane Paraskevopoulos
Estrelita Powell	Megan Rich

### BUSINESS

Report: Right to Vote and Process of Election

Report: Nominating Process and Nominated Class

#### Nominees for Vestry Class of 2025 Three to be elected for three-year term

Mr. Lucas Garza Dr. Kelsey Logan Mr. David Meyer

Motion: Olivia Hamilton Elected by Acclamation

#### Nominees for Vestry Officers One to be elected for each category

Senior Warden Mr. Chip Montrose Junior Warden Mr. Eric Landen

Motion: Olivia Hamilton Elected by Acclamation

#### Nominees for Diocesan Convention Four to be elected

Ms. Caroline Bieser Dr. Estrella Dixon-Powell Mr. Chip Montrose Mr. Brian Quay

Motion: Olivia Hamilton Elected by Acclamation

#### SENIOR WARDEN'S COMMENTS – Paul Davis

#### RECTOR'S COMMENTS -The Reverend Allison English

#### REPORT: Treasurer's Report/Budget - Bob Smith Presented by Brian Quay

#### TIME FOR QUESTIONS

Action: Adjournment, Blessing and dismissal

The meeting was adjourned by the Reverend Allison English, Rector

# VESTRY AND CONVENTION DELEGATE NOMINEES

## VESTRY NOMINEE SLATE AT-LARGE MEMBERS (3 YEAR TERM)

### **J.J. ENGELBERT**



J.J. is a lifelong Episcopalian and has been a member of Calvary for 12 years and on the Vestry since 2019. He was raised in the congregation at Christ Church Glendale. After serving many years as counselors at Procter, he and his wife Sally helped start the summer camping program at the Barbara C. Harris Camp & Conference Center for the Diocese of Massachusetts. Returning to the Cincinnati area to be closer to their extended families, they now live in Westwood with their four children. J.J. works at HELP Heating & Cooling and is a very active member of the 9:15 Worship Committee.

J.J. became active at Calvary after leaving Christ Church Cathedral where he served as the Youth & Young Adult Minister for three years.

### **SHARON GRAYTON**

I began coming to Calvary when I was a grad student at CCM. Except for a few years when I had jobs at other churches, I've been attending Calvary ever since. I sing in the choir and am a reader in service. During the interim time between priests, I was on the committee which created the Church Profile. Through the years, I've helped with Tender Mercies and other outreach and education activities. I was married here 30 years ago, we brought our son up here, and I truly feel like Calvary is home.

I live in Westwood with my husband Daren. Our son, Avery, is a junior at Lawrence University in Wisconsin. I work in the Data Department of the Cincinnati Symphony.

I look forward to serving my Calvary family in this new role.

### **ANNE SESLER**

Anne is a lifelong Episcopalian who has been a member of Calvary for three years. She serves on Altar Guild and the Weddings ministry. Professionally, Anne is a communications and lobbyist specialist at a downtown firm focusing on state and local government and media. She also volunteers for several civic and non-profit organizations. Anne and her husband Bryan McCleary live in Mt. Lookout and are blessed with two children, Chris age 25 and Nick age 22.

## VESTRY WARDENS (1-YEAR TERM)

### **MARSHALL "CHIP" MONTROSE - SENIOR WARDEN**

My wife Margaret and I live in the Clifton neighborhood, with our boisterous papillon dog and amazon parrot. Both Margaret and I retired on April Fool's Day 2020 (she from publishing consulting, I from the University of Cincinnati after 16 years in various faculty and administrative roles). I am a cradle Episcopalian, thanks to my British mom Sue. After decades of sporadic church attendance (and a lot of moving around between states and countries as part of my schooling), I got a reaffirmed appreciation for spiritual values by attending Calvary with my mom and having a wife who values her spiritual life. Mom and I started attending the 10:30am service at Calvary together in 2015, and I continued to enjoy the uplifting fellowship and worship community at Calvary after her death. Margaret joined Calvary in 2019 and was a member of the choir until the pandemic struck. She hopes to rejoin this year in between our travels to enjoy the wide world. At Calvary I have been volunteering in worship services (reader, usher) and in 2020 I joined the vestry (where I have been in the teams working on Mission and Vision, Communications, Website revision, and Re-opening after Covid). I am very grateful for the opportunity to work with the Rector and the vestry, as it has been an amazing place to deepen the bonds of faith, love and service that tie us all together. As Senior Warden, my hope is to support Calvary and our rector as we seek to strengthen our church as a welcoming place of faith, comfort, service, and community.

### **ERIC LANDEN- JUNIOR WARDEN**

Eric is a relatively new Episcopalian having grown up at Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church. Eric and his wife, Jen began attending services after Emma (9) and Teddy (7) were born. Emma and Teddy were both baptized at Calvary and attend Apple Tree for afterschool care. Eric attends the 9:30 family service and lives close to Calvary on Warren Avenue. Eric chaired the Profile and Search Committees in 2017 and 2018, has served on the Vestry for the past three years, and is a real estate attorney at Frost Brown Todd downtown. Eric loves history, sailing, snow skiing, and cooking on his backyard smoker.

"Serving on the Profile and Search Committees and Vestry has been a great opportunity to learn about Calvary, cultivate working relationships and friendships with my fellow committee members, and develop aspirations for Calvary. I look forward to serving as Junior Warden to grow our loving community of faith as we support one another within the Church and those in the world around us."

## **DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATES (1-YEAR TERM, ELECT 4 DELEGATES, 1 ALTERNATE)**

### **MAGGIE DAVIS**

Maggie has attended Calvary Church for over 15 years. She has served in various capacities at Calvary, has served on Outreach, including coordinating Tender Mercies in the past. Maggie attends both the 9:30 and the 11 am service.

"I live with my husband Paul in Mason Ohio. I retired from full-time employment to a part-time position in the Provost's Office at Mount St. Joseph University in 2019. It is an important time for our Diocese, and I would be pleased to represent Calvary at the Convention this fall."

### **CAROLINE BIESER**

I am a lifelong Episcopalian and was baptized and confirmed at the Indian Hill Church. I became a member of Calvary when I moved from Glendale (Christ Church Glendale) to Clifton in 2006. I've been a long-time member of Altar Guild and a more recent member of the Usher Team. I have three adult children: CJ, 26; Phoebe 22 and Charlotte, 19. Outside of Calvary I serve as a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) for ProKids as well as serving on the board of Impact 100 Cincinnati (an all-women collective grant giving organization).

### **J.J. ENGELBERT**

See bio on page 4

## **DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATES, *CONTINUED* (1-YEAR TERM, ELECT 4 DELEGATES, 1 ALTERNATE)**



### **JANE PARASKEVOPOULOS**

Jane is retired from Forward Movement. She is a longtime choir member and chalice bearer. Jane visits and offers rides to those parishioners who otherwise could not get where they need to be. She is an angel to the homebound. She serves on the Stewardship committee and bakes great baklava for coffee hour.



### **SUSAN SKIDMORE - ALTERNATE**

Susan came to Calvary when she was two years old - so a lifetime member! She was baptized, confirmed and married at Calvary. All of her four children were also baptized and confirmed at Calvary. She taught Sunday School for 20 years and served for 4 years on the Calvary Vestry. Susan currently heads up the Fellowship committee and is a member of the Stewardship Committee and serves as an Usher. She delights us with her gift of welcome and inclusion.



# MINISTRY REPORTS

# WORSHIP AT CALVARY

## WORSHIP SERVICES AT CALVARY

Worship continued this year at 8:00, 9:15, and 11:00, in a variety of liturgical styles. We were able to offer the 11:00 service online.

## WORSHIP MINISTRIES AT CALVARY

It was a joy to fully return to worship after over a year and a half of pandemic restrictions.

Worship Ministries fully resumed, and we are grateful for the Readers, Chalice Bearers, Acolytes, Ushers and Greeters, Choir, and Altar Guild. Chalice Bearers added several new members to their ministry, and we went from serving one chalice to two on Sunday mornings at the 11:00 service.

Attendance, when taking into account Online Worshipers, is at pre-pandemic levels.

## ACOLYTES

We are especially pleased to have commissioned several new Youth Acolytes at Calvary. We went from one Crucifer position to adding two torchbearers to the Altar Party each week. A special thank you to Suzanne Berger for taking on the role of Acolyte Scheduler. Your encouraging presence each week makes a difference to our young people and their role in worship.

## FEAST DAYS & HOLIDAYS AT CALVARY

Holy Week 2022 offered the chance to experience the story of Jesus' passion and resurrection in powerful ways as we gathered in person once again, with the offering of Stations of the Cross for Ukraine, the return of the Good Friday Service, and the overnight Prayer Vigil from Maundy Thursday to Good Friday at Noon, and the Easter Egg Hunt as highlights.

Pentecost and the Feast of the Holy Cross joyfully bookended the summer months in Ordinary Time as traditional days we celebrated major feasts as one community.

Christmas this year featured a robust pageant at 5:00 and wonderful choral music at 9:00 with over 200 people making it out for worship despite blizzard-level snow!

# WORSHIP AT CALVARY

## 9:15 WORSHIP TEAM REPORT - KELSEY LOGAN

The 9:15 Worship Service is tailored especially for families with children but is open to all people. The service is designed to give children the opportunity to learn about God and his Word through participatory worship, music, drama, and stories, presented in a creative and non-threatening environment. The 9:15 Worship Committee's focus is to continually evolve the service for parish needs. We meet every 1-2 months and are excited to have 3 new team members join in 2022. We are grateful for the new voices Molly McHenry, Kerrie Yates, and Clairice Galey give to our team! Sally and JJ Engelbert, Allison English, Janet Keller, Helene Ault. and Kelsey Logan are veteran members of the team.

### Major successes for 2022:

- We adjusted our service to make room for a processional of the cross, led by the children (and young at heart) of the church.
- We adapted to an earlier Godly Plan start time and Community Hour needs. A major triumph was strategy for 'coffee hour snack saving' so children going to Godly Play don't miss out on the treats.
- Multiple new families joined the service, with many new children.
- New visitor welcome packages were added for weekly distribution at the service.
- Our budget supported purchase of the 2 beautiful new paver candles now in use by the Torchbearers.
- We purchased a new computer for the service.
- Janet Keller repurposed several hand-me-down chasubles to create new altar hangings.
- While we anticipated hiring a musician for the service, in 2022, our search for this person will continue in 2023.

## ALTAR GUILD - SHIRLEY ADAMS AND JANET KELLER

During 2022, the Altar Guild continued to ready the church on Sundays for each of the three services, in addition to special events that take place throughout the year.

In 2022, Altar Guild assisted with 4 funerals, 2 Confirmations, 2 weddings and 6 baptisms. Lent and Advent are our busy times. Beginning with Palm Sunday, Holy Week involves our entire team working behind the scenes as we prepare for Easter Sunday. The sanctuary flowers and the flowering cross are outward examples of the Altar Guild's work to make the season come alive for Calvary parishioners. During Advent and Christmas, Altar Guild's efforts revolve around ensuring that the church reflects a most holy and beautiful memory for us all. This year, the Stewardship committee utilized altar candle stubs to make the Amaryllis gifts for our congregation. We repurposed some of unused chasubles into altar cloths and hangings for the family service. Altar Guild purchased over a dozen new Acolyte Robes for that growing ministry.

# ADULT EDUCATION

We were intentional this year about offering a number of times and places (in person and virtual) to engage Adult Education in 2022.

## LENTEN SERIES

We offered a Zoom Lenten Series due to the pandemic, reading together Eight Habits of Love: Overcome Fear and Transform Your Life by the Reverend Ed Bacon.

## CALVARY COMMUNITY HOUR

The 10:00 Hour has become a time for adults to learn in tandem with the Youth and Godly Play students. This past year we offered weekly explorations, including the Calvary Cares Series (featuring Jeff Neyrose from Spring Grove Cemetery and parishioner Chip Skidmore), a Creation Care series (led by the Rev. Susan Smith and Sherman Smith), and lessons in Scripture and Christian Tradition (led by the Rector).

## EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

The Education for Ministry Program expanded this year to include three new members, for a total of 11 participants. This four-year certificate program offers theological education based upon small-group study and practice. This past year, the cohort explored, "Living Faithfully in Our World" and "Living Faithfully in a Multicultural World."

## CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Kerrie Yates and Sophie Longley were confirmed by the Right Reverend Wayne Smith. Sherman Smith formally reaffirmed his faith. All participated in study and preparation for the Confirmation rite in Calvary Community Hour.



# CHOIR & MUSIC

HOWARD HELVEY, ORGANIST/CHOIRMASTER

## CHOIR

In January 2022 the Choir was amid its first season of relative normalcy following many Covid-pandemic months of not singing together. Seventeen choristers were on the roster, and weekly participation involved 12-15 singers on average. Although there were losses (due to health, geographic move, etc.), the Choir gained several new skilled volunteers, and began the Fall 2022 season with four outstanding Choral Scholars. As continued from 2021, no Organ Scholar was placed during 2022.

## CHOIR LIBRARY

Thanks in part to the *Sanborn Family Fund*, the Choir library was expanded with the purchase of several choral anthems, anthologies, and recordings. As always, effort was made to acquire music with a “long shelf-life,” hopefully with enduring relevance for future generations.

## LITURGY/MUSIC & CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights included: Good Friday Liturgy, with violinist/violist Satish Chetty (April 15); The Winton Woods High School Varsity Ensemble joined CFE for a portion of the concerts on April 15 and Nov. 16. The Sandy Sanborn Martin Memorial Concert, Duruflé *Requiem* performed by the Cincinnati Fusion Ensemble with internationally-renowned guest organist Isabelle Demers (April 24); Gaslight Chamber Music Series with members and guests of CFE (July 22-23); The Mary Slade Rust Martin and Louis Henry Martin Memorial Concert performed by CFE with the return of organist Isabelle Demers (Nov. 16); The 43rd Annual Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols (Dec. 11).

# CHOIR & MUSIC

## INSTRUMENTS

Regular maintenance was applied to the organ, and logistics of restoring or (more likely) replacing its massive original 1927 blower motor continued. Especially in the absence of an Organ Scholar, the organ's sophisticated recorder/sequencer feature proved particularly helpful. The chancel Steinway piano received significant improvements to its internal action (executed by master technician Nevin Essex during the autumn).

## COMMISSIONED WORKS

To help celebrate in 2019 the installation of the Rev. Allison English as Calvary's 19th Rector, the parish commissioned the anthem, *Lift up your hearts*, by Dr. Mack Wilberg (Music Director of the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square). A fully-orchestrated version of the anthem was featured on the March 20, 2022 worldwide broadcast/episode of *Music and the Spoken Word* from Salt Lake City, which was heard and seen by millions of people; to date, the YouTube archive of the program has reached nearly 100,000 views.

Reflecting on Calvary's Vision and Mission Statements, Dr. Mary Louise Bringle (Brevard College, NC) created a commissioned hymn text, *Because God first loved us*. I composed a new tune, *KARBERS RIDGE*, to carry the text, and the congregation sang it for the first time on Calvary's Feast Day, Holy Cross (Sept. 11).

On Nov. 20 the Calvary Choir premiered the commissioned anthem, *Sing praise to God*, by Dr. Ryan Murphy (Associate Music Director of the Tabernacle Choir at Temple Square).

## 2023 OUTLOOK

For twelve weeks beginning in early May, I'm grateful for the opportunity to take a sabbatical leave. During my time away, Mitchell Miller will serve as interim Organist/Choirmaster.

# OUTREACH

Many churches have experienced a shift in their outreach ministries as they begin to re-emerge from COVID. *Calvary is no different.* Where new energy has fueled ministries such as Laundry Love, The Brood, and the Cincinnati Sanctuary Congregation Coalition, other ministries such as Habitat for Humanity and IHN/Found House have struggled to stay afloat given shifts in volunteer interest and availability. 2022 was a year of gathering data about these shifts, and 2023 will be a time to prayerfully discern "next steps."

Some highlights from the year:

Creating meaningful relationships with dozens of low and no-income households at **Laundry Love**. Sharing and receiving God's love through the simple task of washing clothes, and reminding our neighbors of their inherent dignity and worth.

Serving eleven home-cooked meals to mentally ill individuals at **Tender Mercies**. New volunteers have stepped up to serve, and we enjoy getting to know each other and our neighbors in a deeper way through this service opportunity.

Deepening in relationship with **St. Andrew's Food Pantry**. We were able to donate a new refrigerator and chest freezer in honor of Anne and Tate Greenwald, and at Thanksgiving we donated 50+ bags of food and hygiene supplies put together at our "Families Give Thanks" event.

Welcoming a new refugee family from Ghana as part of the **Cincinnati Sanctuary Congregation Coalition**. Calvary parishioners help to acclimate the family, transport them to the grocery and medical and legal appointments. New volunteers are welcome!

Other notable outreach events included our donation of 30 gifts to the **Lighthouse Youth** Christmas program, our continued support of **El Hogar** and **Caracole**, and involving the youth group in discernment around allocating outreach funds.



# CALVARY COMMUNITY

FELLOWSHIP AND FUN RE-EMERGED AS THE PANDEMIC SUBSIDED



The Rector, Vestry Community Team Leader Susan Skidmore, and the Stewardship Team organized members of Calvary in the following special events:

- **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**
  - *THIS YEAR WE GATHERED OUTSIDE AROUND "PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE CORNDOGS" AS A PANDEMIC PRECAUTION*
- **EASTER SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP & CHILDREN'S EGG HUNT**
- **PENTECOST POTLUCK**
  - *WITH ALL-PARISH PHOTOS CAPTURED BY HOWARD HELVEY VIA DRONE CAMERA*
- **NORTHSIDE FOURTH OF JULY PARADE AND BBQ**
  - *GRACIOUSLY HOSTED AT THE HOME OF MATT STEINER & KIRSTEN ANDERSEN, WHO PROVIDED A HYDRATION STATION AND BBQ POTLUCK SPREAD*
- **RE-CONNECT POST-SUMMER POTLUCK**
  - *JUDY GARDNER & CORY OYSLER DISTRIBUTED NEW PARISH DIRECTORIES, YOUTH GROUP SERVED AN ICE CREAM SUNDAE BAR*
- **CALVARY FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS**
  - *WITH MINISTRY FAIR, FUNNEL CAKE TRUCK, AND BOUNCE HOUSE*
- **FOYER GROUPS ORGANIZED**
  - *THREE GROUPS OF 8-14 PEOPLE BEGAN GATHERING REGULARLY FOR DINNER FELLOWSHIP IN EACH OTHER'S HOMES IN FALL 2022*

# PASTORAL CARE

Calvary saw an increase in pastoral care needs in the past year, with many parishioners undergoing major surgeries and treatments, going through life transitions or crises, and seeking pastoral guidance and referrals for further support.

Calvary also saw a major increase in homebound parishioners in 2022.

## EUCARISTIC VISITORS

Due to the spike in homebound parishioners and increased pastoral need, the Rector re-invigorated the Eucharistic Visiting Ministry, including both lay and ordained members Cindy Bourgeois, the Rev. Olivia Hamilton, the Rev. Bob Moore, Jane Paraskevopoulos, the Rt. Rev. Nedi Rivera, and Bob Smith. We made an average of two home visits a week in 2022.

## CALLING MINISTRY

Shirley Adams had a major injury herself, breaking her femur and spending a good deal of time in hospital and rehabilitation. As she recovered, the Rector blessed her initiation of a calling ministry. Shirley faithfully phoned several other homebound parishioners throughout her recovery.



# CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Sally Engelbert, Family and Children's Minister

## CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

2022 was a year of getting back to familiar ways of doing things. With the help of 8 regular volunteers in the Sunday School rooms and more helping with Summer Stories, we provided education opportunities for pre-K through 6th grade children year round.

### GODLY PLAY

Godly Play was our Sunday School program from January through April and again from September through December. The Godly Play program:

- ran for 28 weeks
- told 56 separate stories between the three classes
- added saints of more diverse backgrounds to our All Saints' lesson
- engaged 30 children in exploring the stories of Christian faith and tradition

### SUMMER STORIES

The Summer Stories program ran from June through August during the 9:15 service. All children attending the service participated. Summer stories:

- ran for 12 weeks
- provided opportunities to explore themes connecting the lectionary to children's books

## FAMILY MINISTRIES

Family Events were able to resume in the Spring of 2022 and we have really enjoyed being able to share space and food with each other again in our programming. We started our offerings with outdoor events and moved indoors as we were able later on in the year. These events run smoothly thanks to many volunteers. This year we were also able to expand our audience for some of these events thanks to connections with the Brood and Kids4Peace. Throughout the year we connected over 25 families with programming. Offerings for 2022 included:

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Movie Night
- Krohn Conservatory Prismatica Exhibit
- Families Giving Thanks
- Advent Wreath Making
- Kids Gift Making

# YOUTH MINISTRIES: FEARLESS & YOUTH GROUP

THE REVEREND OLIVIA HAMILTON, CURATE

Our **Fearless Tweens** program meets twice a month on Sunday evenings for a time of fun, fellowship, and formation. This year's group is spirited and kind. The tweens especially enjoy learning and teaching new games, helping to put on the Christmas Pageant, and generally making each other laugh with their silly antics. They also relished the opportunity to give feedback in the Strategic Planning process.

On Sunday mornings, Calvary's high school youth (**Youth Group**) meet up in the Youth Room to reflect on the highs and lows of the week. We laugh together, pray together, and work to make connections between faith and life. Every other Sunday afternoon, Calvary's teens have participated in Kids4Peace Interfaith Youth Group at the "Ish Garage" in Northside. This year we've had a number of guest speakers share their passions with the youth (everything from slam poetry, to mental health and spirituality)!

Laser tag, snow tubing, card games and capture the flag give structure to our time together, but beneath it all the young people of Calvary are learning what it means to be accepted as they are, and celebrated for who they are becoming.

For more information about our youth programs, reach out to Reverend Olivia.



# BUILDINGS & GROUNDS

**TOM BIBLE, BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TEAM LEADER/ VESTRY LIASION**

**GARY GARMON, FACILITIES MANAGER**

**JJ ENGELBERT, DAREN GRAYTON, JIM GRAHAM, JANET KELLER**

**BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS TEAM**

The Buildings and Grounds Team spent 2022 continuing to catch up on deferred maintenance and making major capital improvements to our church buildings and grounds, including overseeing the Catharine Somers Burns Discipleship Center capital project. Below is a list of major projects, in addition to the day-to-day maintenance and oversight provided by Facilities Manager Gary Garmon.

## CHURCH BUILDING

Catharine Somers Burns Discipleship Center (partially funded by major gift)

Mini-splits (AC/Heating Units) in offices and classrooms

Parking Bollards – Eagle Scout Project

Safety glass in classroom door

Additional light in parking lot

Various plumbing and electrical repairs

Various plaster and stucco repairs

Roof repairs

Purchased rubber curbs to replace broken concrete curbs

Insulation for Sanctuary Contract (funded by Diocesan Creation Care Grant)

## CALVARY HOUSE

Water in Basement – dehumidifiers, parging outside

Weed removal

Insulation for Attic Contract (funded by Diocesan Creation Care Grant)

# THE BROOD

The Brood is Calvary's ministry to foster, adoptive, and kinship families in the Cincinnati area, headed up by our Curate, the Rev. Olivia Hamilton. In 2022, The Brood engaged around thirty diverse families. Some members of The Brood have even chosen to make Calvary their church home.

Highlights from the year include:

- Being the recipient of a \$30k multi-year grant from the Diocese's "Committee on Congregational Life" that will help The Brood to expand and reach more families.
- Gathering 12 foster, adoptive, and kinship parents for an Advent Quiet Day led by spiritual director Natasha Burrowes (event pictured below).
- Collaborating with local organization La Soupe for an improv cooking class for six foster/adoptive youth and their caregivers.
- Gathering over a dozen times, in person and on Zoom, to pray together and support one another. Learning from experts in the field such as Fernside Center for Grieving Children and Encompass Adoptees, how best to support the youth in our care.
- Celebrating three adoptions within three separate Brood families!





# BECOMING BELOVED COMMUNITY

In recognition of the milestones and missteps of our past, and with a sense of hope for our future, Calvary has been intentional about regularly exploring the continuing realities of racism in our community, and has made a vested effort to get involved in the Episcopal Church's formal "Becoming Beloved Community" work.

The Sesquicentennial Celebration of the Diocese of Southern Ohio is coming up soon. Bishop Wayne Smith has called upon parishes to join in the Becoming Beloved Community four-fold spiritual path as a vital part of this celebration. This path includes:

- **Telling the Truth**
- **Practicing the Way of Love**
- **Proclaiming the Dream**
- **Repairing the Breach**

The first part of this spiritual journey is **Telling the Truth**. Bishop Smith called upon each parish in the diocese to submit a roughly 1200 word document that explores the history of race relations in our church life.

Vestry Members **Kelsey Logan** and **Megan Rich**, along with the **Reverend Olivia Hamilton**, completed this submission using primary sources available to them. On Sunday, January 15th, the document was shared with the parish.

We will continue the vital work of **Telling the Truth** in Black History Month as we welcome **Bekky Baker** from the **Intercommunity Justice and Peace Center**, who will present a three-part docuseries on Race and Racism in Cincinnati. This series is open to the neighborhood and featured in the **Clifton Chronicle** this quarter.

All are welcome to join the Becoming Beloved Community Team and can do so by contacting Rev. Olivia or Vestry Clerk Megan Rich.



# STRATEGIC PLANNING

## SOURCES OF TRANSFORMATION

Over 70 people completed a parish survey that explored the sources of transformation for our members. The results showed that we have healthy engagement in the areas of Prayer and Worship, Study and Learning, Action, and Life in Community.

## IDENTIFIED GROWTH AREAS

In the months and years to come, we discovered that we have four areas to engage in strategy and growth:

- to make our sanctuary the best worship space for all our congregation
- to identify which outreach ministries are transformative to our congregation
- to strengthen our stewardship
- to continue to find ways to grow in faith across the lifespan and amongst and between the worship services



# PARISH STATISTICS 2022

## BAPTISMS

	DATE
Rooney Marie Ruttkay	4/24/2022
Margot Anne Ruttkay	4/24/2022
Asher Phoenix Wilson McHenry	6/5/2022
Sylvie Rocca Payne	7/3/2022
Victoria Lynn Hill	8/14/2022
Kolbe Joseph Hill	8/14/2022

## CONFIRMATIONS

	DATE
Kerrie Yates	10/23/2022
Sophie Longley	10/23/2022

## MARRIAGE

	DATE
Caroline Kwateng and Brian Renzenbrink	6/25/2022
Lyndsay Alexi Bamberger and Christopher James Postell	9/17/2022

## FUNERALS

	DATE
Phyllis Plattenburg Reid	6/18/2022
Wendy LaTour Morone	6/20/2022
Sally Hamilton	7/1/2022
Taylor Conklin Greenwald	9/3/2022
Robert William Holzel	9/10/2022

YEAR	AVERAGE SUNDAY ATTENDANCE	AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE
2022	98 People	108
2021	66 People (online not included)	Not Reported
2020	133 People (includes online)	Not Reported
2019	112 People	Not Reported
2018	101 People	Not Reported

# PARISH BUDGET 2023

A copy of the full budget line-by-line is available on the Hannaford Stage or via the Chimes link

## Calvary Finance Annual Meeting Report

Category	2022 Actual	2023 Budget
<b>Revenue</b>		
Pledges & Donations	248,500	273,000
Investment Income	645,000	585,000
Rental	48,000	44,000
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>941,500</b>	<b>902,000</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Personnel	441,000	473,000
Ministries	59,000	63,000
Facilities	237,000	147,000
Administrative	65,000	60,000
Outreach	40,000	44,000
Mission Share	94,000	112,000
Misc	1,000	3,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>937,000</b>	<b>902,000</b>
Brood Grants		45,000
Creation Care		10,000
<b>Total Spending including Grants</b>		<b>957,000</b>

# CALVARY 2023 BUDGET COMMENTS

Robert Smith, Calvary Treasurer

Calvary continues to operate in a strong financial position due to both your giving and the gifts from previous parishioners. Below is a brief overview of 2022 financial results and 2023 budget. (A copy of the full budget line-by-line is available by contacting Bob Smith Treasurer at [cliftonbob@mac.com](mailto:cliftonbob@mac.com) or 513-260-3646).

The 2022 spending came in under budget by about \$18,000 despite our failure to budget for an \$18,000 Diocesan Assessment carried over from underpayment in 2021. We are not making that mistake this year. The Clergy, Vestry and Staff did an excellent job of finding savings through better management of hours and type of work done by staff, in our cleaning contract, in office equipment leasing, upgrade and replacement, and facilities maintenance/improvement. Most of the deferred maintenance items have been done which has reduced Facilities costs.

Actual 2022 Revenue was very close to budgeted, except for an overestimate of early payments of 2023 pledges.

The Budget for 2023 is lower by \$35,000 despite payroll increases to keep pace with inflation. The major reason for this is the success in our clergy in securing grants. Currently the Diocese has and will give us \$45,000 to support program and staff cost for Brood and a \$10,000 Creation Care grant to insulate Calvary House. Our Facilities costs are budgeted to be \$90,000 lower this year as the maintenance is "ordinary" rather than emergency. Also, the Creation Care funding helps.

Our invested funds suffered a 17% loss in 2023. The annual return from inception was 5.9%. The von Goeben bequest filled in for that loss, so our fund value finished at \$5,958,000 compared to \$6,472,000 at the beginning of 2022. Throughout 2022, \$415,000 was withdrawn from the fund.



# CALVARY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH CLIFTON

