

The Canticle

CALVARY CHURCH SUMMIT

31 Woodland Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901

Tel: 908-277-1814 • Fax: 908-277-2571

Email: info@calvarysummit.org

Website: calvarysummit.org

DECEMBER 2019

“O send out your light and your truth that they may lead me, and bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.”



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS CALVARY CHURCH SUMMIT

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS

8 December at 5:00pm

COMMUNITY MESSIAH SING

15 December at 3:00 pm

CHRISTMAS EVE

12 Noon ~ Holy Eucharist & Carols

4:00 pm ~ The Pageant

7:30 pm ~ Holy Eucharist & Carols

11:00 pm ~ Midnight Mass (Music Begins at 10:30 pm)

CHRISTMAS DAY

10:30 am ~ Holy Eucharist



Advent Credo

By The Reverend Canon Matthew T.L. Corkern, Rector

Allan Boesak's Advent Credo expresses exquisite responsibility and experiences to us:

So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope. Let us see visions of love and peace and justice. Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage: Jesus Christ—the life of the world.

The reality is this: Christmas is coming whether we are ready for the date on the calendar or not. But are we ready for Christ to come and abide with us: To linger long among us and fill us with the hope of Emmanuel (Heb. Literature: *'God among us'*), that aspiration that God can, indeed, create a place in our world and in our midst? To see this hope of the coming Christ is a challenge to orient us, and our worldview that graces our sacred space. The challenge is to make the presence of Christ transparent in every aspect of our being.

As surely as the calendar date comes, so too is our certain hope of the return of Christ – within us, among us, and beyond our walls. We will mark the time of Advent and will hear again the glad tidings of the angels. Throughout it all, do not count yourself with merely counting down the days until Christmas.

Instead, enter this time of year with awareness and deliberation: attention to the season; attention to the Word of God in scripture, carols and hymns; attention to the world around us. Let this period of time, the run-up to Christmas Eve, be more than a big countdown. Number your days. Take note of the things that give you life and how we can best share the goodness of God's gift of Love, found in the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

I wish you and your loved ones a holy Advent and a blessed Christmas.

THE GREENING OF THE CHURCH: FOR ALL AGES

Monday, 23 December, from 11:00 am

Come help decorate our beautiful church for the Christmas holiday, with Robb Moss, a professional florist and educator. Robb, a member of our choir and bell choir, has taught countless classes and workshops at the New York and Brooklyn Botanic Gardens and for garden, corporate and private groups. He is looking forward to sharing his knowledge and expertise with those helping us this year

Come one, come all, and spend as much time as you wish!





A FESTIVAL OF SEVEN LESSONS AND CAROLS

SUNDAY, 8 DECEMBER
5:00PM

CALVARY CHURCH SUMMIT
31 WOODLAND AVENUE
CALVARYSUMMIT.ORG



The Music Corner: Join Us for Lessons & Carols

By Kevin Davis, Organist-Choirmaster

“Lessons and Carols Service” will be held on Sunday, December 8, at 5:00 pm. This service is an outgrowth of the popular Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols that was developed in the wooden cathedral in Truro England in 1880. The original intention of Bishop Edward Benson White was to present a festive spirit of Christmas and to keep his flock out of the local pubs on Christmas Eve. In 1918, it was adapted by King's College at Cambridge and sung on Christmas Eve by the boys choir. King's College continues this tradition and it is now broadcast worldwide by radio stations on Christmas morning.

Please join us in this opportunity to remember what Christmas is truly about and to lift our voices in song and prayer. Members of the congregation and the community will read the lessons and the congregation will join the choir for the carols. The choir will also sing anthems by Palestrina, Ireland, Phillips, Manz, Hassler, Martinson and Guest. We invite you all to join with your families as you prepare for the Christmas celebration.

Christmas Eve services with choir will be at 7:30 pm and 11:00 pm with a choral prelude at 10:30 on December 24.

Advent Focus Groups

Share Your Feedback

1 December, 9:30 am & 11:45 am

8 December, 9:30 am

15 December, 9:30 am

Dear Calvary Parishioners;

We are building our strategic plan for the next 5 years. We very much want to better understand how we can continue to meet your needs. We are hosting four focus group feedback sessions that will be led by Anne Rewey and Nancy Imbalzano for open discussions on what's working, not working, what you want more of and what you may want less of.

Each session is 1 hour and 15 minutes, starting on December 1st, then December 8th and finally on December 15th. The sessions will be in the Parish Hall.

Calvary clergy, staff and members of the Vestry will not be present in order to foster a more open and lively discussion on how Calvary can continue to support your family.

To sign up for a session, visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090844a8af2ca5ff2-building>.

(Please note: we will be holding a separate session for Sunday school catechists and assistants on **Sunday, 15 December at 11:45 am**, and if you are a catechist or assistant, please sign up for that dedicated session only: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090844a8af2ca5ff2-sunday>.)

Thank you.

Nancy Imbalzano and Anne Rewey

G.F. Handel

Messiah

Part 1

Community Sing

Join the Calvary Choir,
Summit Chorale, and
Summit Symphony Orchestra

December 15 at 3pm
Calvary Church Summit

31 Woodland Avenue

Holiday Party & Singalong!

Calvary Church Senior Luncheon

Thursday, December 19, 2019, at 12 Noon

31 Woodland Avenue, Summit



Merry
Christmas!

RSVP: 908-277-1814, extension 13
or email info@calvarysummit.org

Upcoming Luncheon in 2020: May 7 (The Larks)

Why Catechesis of the Good Shepherd?

By Sadie Bennett, Children's Formation Coordinator

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is by far the most labor-intensive children's formation program a parish could undertake. Certification to teach Level I (ages three to six) requires at least ninety hours of training and costs several hundred dollars before you take into account possible travel expenses in the event that the training is out of state. Then, once a parish is able to get enough trained catechists for each level, those individuals still have to commit several hours each week to preparing the environment for children and preparing presentations. In a fully functioning, Montessori atrium, the child leads and the catechist follows, which means a catechist would need to be prepared to give any one of 30 or so presentations at any time – while simultaneously redirecting and guiding the rest of the children as well. It's not easy.

But why should it be? Spiritual formation is just as important as our physical, intellectual, social, emotional and creative development. We wouldn't send our children to a school without certified teachers or to an unlicensed doctor, so why would settle for anything less at church?

Okay, so even if we all agree that spiritual formation is important, how much can a three-year-old really absorb? Aren't they pretty much just coloring in Sunday school? These are excellent questions. Luckily for us, Sophia Cavalletti developed the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd over fifty years using trial and error. With her colleague, Gianna Gobbi, who studied directly under Maria Montessori, they learned which scriptures resonated best with different ages and how to develop materials that would allow for children at various stages of development to meditate on scripture and engage in the liturgy.

The Level I children – between the ages of three and six – have a deep capacity for loving relationships. They want to be loved and give love. They are filled with a natural awe and wonder and they are drawn to beauty. In Level I, the catechist proclaims God's word in its simplest, most essential form. Nothing is complicated. Everything is ordered. And the children absorb everything.

In the atrium, we do not use the word “play”, rather, we use the word “work”. The work of the child is very different from the work of the adult. Adults work in order to accomplish something and they focus on efficiency. The children in the Level I atrium work in order to perfect something and they will often choose to do the same work over and over again. In doing this work, they are forming themselves. And this work is energizing and refreshing, not tiring or frustrating.

The work of the adult is to prepare the environment and provide the materials that will help the children grow closer to God on their own. It is not a relationship that can be built for them, but one that they build themselves. As a result, after nine years in the atria, a child will be able to read and contemplate scripture independently, to lead their peers in prayer services, to fully participate in the liturgy, and to spread the light of Christ through their own words and actions throughout their daily lives. And, of course, we hope that they will continue to participate as teens and adults in the Episcopal Church. As our numbers across the country decline, the health of the Episcopal Church tomorrow depends upon our formation efforts with our children today.

I am grateful to be at Calvary, where children's formation is a priority. And I invite everyone – whether you have children or not – to come be a part of this beautiful program.



All children are invited to
THE CHRISTMAS
PAGEANT
at Calvary Episcopal
Church
December 24 at 4pm



In Cameroon, a Light Shines in Darkness

By The Reverend Canon Elizabeth Geitz, Founder & Chair, Good Shepherd SLF

Dear Calvary Friends,

The familiar Christmas story in “Hark the Herald Angels Sing” began not with song and light, but with darkness in the town of Bethlehem. Deep, piercing darkness—for God’s chosen people were a conquered people the year Jesus was born. Roman occupiers had imposed a despised universal taxation on the Jewish people, and Jewish peasants had lost their homes and land. There was no calm in Israel, only conflict and tension. It was a land torn apart by oppression, persecution, and terror.

Today, the town of Bafut, Cameroon, where Good Shepherd Academy (GSA) is located, is not unlike Israel was when Jesus was born. It, too, is engulfed in oppression, persecution, and terror. Many of its inhabitants have experienced loss of homes, land, and businesses due to an armed conflict between the Anglophone minority, comprising twenty percent (20%) of Cameroon’s population, and the majority Francophone government forces.



**Good Shepherd Sustainable
Learning Foundation**

This conflict began with a simple demand by lawyers and teachers for equality in the application of the English legal and educational systems within the Anglophone, or English-speaking, regions of Cameroon. Today it has escalated to the point where many Anglophones wish to secede from the Republic of Cameroon and reinstate former West Cameroon, which was a separate territory prior to the 1961 reunification and independence of Cameroon which is still in effect today.

As a result of the ongoing violence and conflict in Bafut and the surrounding areas, Good Shepherd Academy, along with the Calvary Centre we all hold so dear, is presently closed. All other educational institutions in Bafut are also closed, including those run by Presbyterians, Catholics, and Baptists. In the meantime, Good Shepherd Academy is currently being protected by a live-in guard and caretaker.

Despite the closures, we have continued to find creative ways of accomplishing our mission. In the Summer of 2018, we ran an overnight summer camp for 86 children with classes in English, math, band, and chorus along with soccer and other sports. During those days, the Calvary Centre was filled with the sounds of laughter and happy students, who were excited to be back in a school environment as they proudly performed on the Hagaman Performing Arts Stage and filled the refectory for dining and worship.

Good Shepherd Sustainable Learning Foundation (GSSLF), the nonprofit which built and supports Good Shepherd Academy, is honored to now also support Good Shepherd Preparatory School (GSPS) which is fully operational in Bamenda. We view it as an essential feeder school into Good Shepherd Academy which is enabling Sister Jane’s children to maintain their educational focus during this interim period. With 844,000 students currently out of school in Cameroon, we are deeply grateful that 26 of our students are able to attend Good Shepherd Prep.

So why is GSPS operational and not GSA? GSPS is located in the city of Bamenda which is relatively safe. We are hopeful that Good Shepherd Academy will reopen sometime in 2020. We will continue to update you through our *Imagining Tomorrow* newsletter.

During this season of Advent, we find ourselves waiting, waiting, waiting for the violence to end, for schools in Bafut to reopen, for the Calvary Centre once again to be filled with students. We find ourselves waiting for the birth of the Christ child who has brought us all together across cultures, races, and thousands of miles into a unity of purpose that brings new life to birth within us all. During this season, we also ask for your continued prayers for our sisters and brothers in Cameroon and your continued support of our mission at GSSLF through Good Shepherd Academy and now Good Shepherd Preparatory School.

Scavenger Hunt at The Cloisters Monday, 17 February

Do you love Medieval Art and like to learn while you have fun?

The Benedictines of Calvary will be traveling to The Cloisters in New York City on Monday, 17 February, 2020, and invite you to come along for the event. Jane has developed a Scavenger Hunt that will combine searching for specific artwork – statues, paintings, beautiful manuscripts, stained glass and items used in worship – with clues drawn from the Rule of Benedict. If you don't know about the Rule, not to worry. A member of the Benedictines of Calvary will be with each small group of three or four to help unpack the clue.



We will be leaving Summit Station in the morning around 9:00 and will have lunch at a restaurant near the Cloisters before our afternoon Scavenger Hunt. We will return late afternoon.

If you are interested in joining this fun event or have questions, contact Jane Tomaine at 908-233-0134 or email Jane at jtomaine@calvarysummit.org.



Integrated Spirituality for Daily Living

DECEMBER 2019

To our dear friends at Calvary,

As the holidays approach, it is easy to lose ourselves in the hustle and bustle of the season. But of course it is the advent of so much more..

On behalf of interweave, I want to take the time to wish you an advent that is full of all that is life-giving as we prepare for another Christmas to come. There is a real sense of gratitude for all we share. May the true blessings of the season be with you and with yours.

Peace and love,
Janet Aulet Maulbeck



Threads of Consciousness Writing Circle



Second Saturdays
December 7, 10:00am-12:00pm

Do you enjoy writing and sharing your stories but too often cannot find the time or the energy? Do you enjoy meditative spaces and delightful connections? If so, join our writing circle! Each month we select a theme to help awaken the spirit and discover what is waiting to be said. All of our sharing is done in an atmosphere of deep listening and respect. No prior writing experience is needed; life experiences welcome!

Lorri Lizza, MBA, has facilitated workshops at Interweave, the Omega Institute, ALIA Institute and the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women.



Calvary Church Summit

31 Woodland Avenue,
Summit, NJ 07901

Tel: 908-277-1814

Email: info@calvarysummit.org

Website: calvarysummit.org

The annual Holy Cross Benedictine Retreat, held October 30 – November 1, brought together attendees from four different churches to learn about the many ways that the Rule of Benedict can guide relationships and community.

The joyful attendees, are left to right:

bottom row – Sally Fullman, Ann Cavouti, Jane Tomaine, Brenda Ash;

2nd row – Joe LaVela (attending all the way from Michigan), Sharon Snapp, Judy Armstrong and Dick Ash;

3rd row – Patrice Quinn, Dawn Ferguson and Susan Huke.

Vestry

Bebe Lee, *Senior Warden*

Susan Favate, *Premises Warden*

Tom Barr, *Treasurer*

Charlie Rall, *Assistant Treasurer*

Doug Sullivan, *Clerk*

Evan Williams, *Finance*

Henry Ogden, *Chancellor*

Billy Artemenko, Nina Deutz,

Jocelyn Dannenbaum, Laura

Dudebout, Todd Fairbairn,

Sara Margaret Geissler,

Caroline Lindabury, Warren Loy,

Kevin Schmidt, Scott Winn.

Staff of Calvary Church

The Reverend Canon Matthew Corkern, *Rector*

The Reverend Kay Locke, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Dr. Jane Tomaine, *Associate Rector*

Mr. Kevin Davis, *Organist-Choirmaster*

Ms. Lara Wiggins, *Youth Program Coordinator*

Mrs. Sadie Bennett, *Children's Formation Coordinator*

Mr. Matt Potter, *Parish Administrator*

Mrs. Alice Engel, *Grants-Communications Officer*

Mrs. Janet Maulbeck, *Interweave Executive Director*

Mr. Charles Jordan *Parish Receptionist*

Mrs. Flora Attardi, *Bookkeeper*

Mr. Cimi Petrela, *Sexton*

rector@calvarysummit.org

klocke@calvarysummit.org

jtomaine@calvarysummit.org

kdavis@calvarysummit.org

lwiggins@calvarysummit.org

sbennett@calvarysummit.org

mpotter@calvarysummit.org

aengel@calvarysummit.org

janetm@interweave.org

info@calvarysummit.org

fattardi@calvarysummit.org

spetrela@calvarysummit.org