

The Canticle

CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

31 Woodland Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901

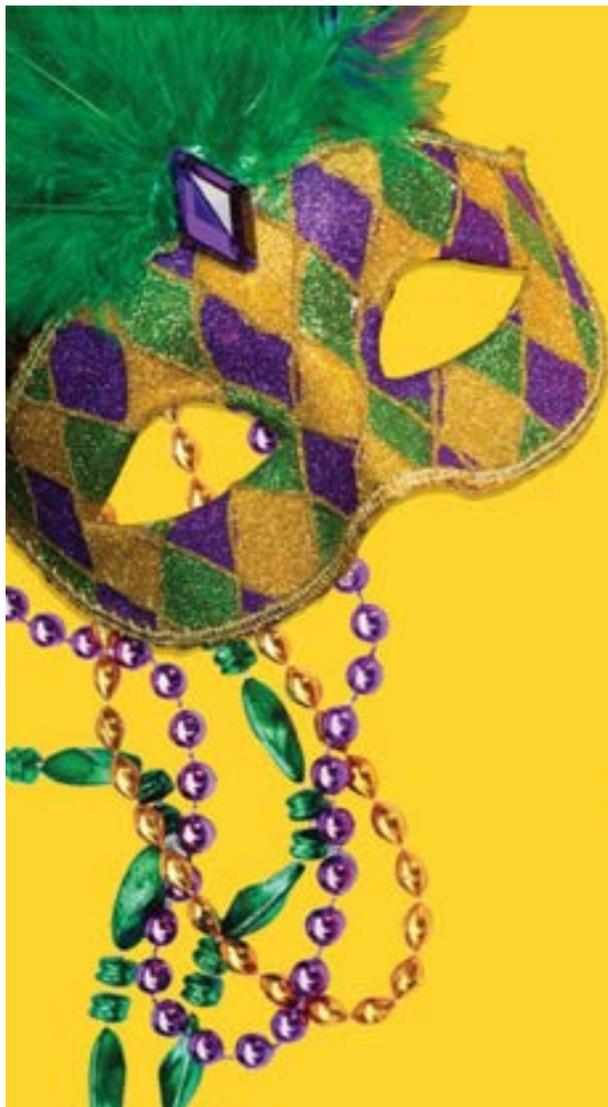
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FEBRUARY 2022

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



A SOLO ORGAN CONCERT
IN THE SPIRIT OF MARDI GRAS

Calvary Carnival

PRESENTED BY DR. EVAN COGSWELL

*Sunday, February 27, at 6:00 pm
Calvary Episcopal Church,
Summit, New Jersey*

FESTIVE RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

MOM'S NIGHT OUT

Monthly, Beginning Thursday, February 24, at 7:00 pm in the Reception Room

Starting this month, Calvary will host a Mom's Night Out on the fourth Thursday of every month. This is especially for mothers of school-aged children and will have no strict agenda other than to get together away from the kids for a brief time. Moms who have seen their children through childhood are welcome as well. Parishioner Mary Clair Sonneman has offered to be the coordinator.

More details will follow in the weekly announcements, but save the date:
Thursday, February 24, 7:00 pm in the Reception Room on the lower level of the Parish House.

IN THE INTERIM ~ EMBRACE THE MOMENT

by Mother Melanie Barbarito, Interim Rector

Do not look back and grieve over the past, for it is gone; and do not be troubled about the future, for it has not yet come. Live in the present, and make it so beautiful that it will be worth remembering.

~ Ida Scott Taylor

In 2009 I was between calls (church jobs) and found myself with an unpaid sabbatical in the wake of the financial woes of the time. There had never before been a period when I did not wake up and get ready for school or work or children—sometimes all three. One morning as I sat with my coffee and my Book of Common Prayer, I idly asked God, “What should I do?” The response came back as clearly as if I had heard it spoken. BE HERE NOW It was immensely freeing. My default would have been to feel guilty about not being able to stay on in my former parish on a part-time basis or to worry about where I would go next. But I didn't feel any of that because I was given permission to live in the moment.



Our parish theme for this year is **Embrace Love, Embrace Calvary**. If you were to embrace Calvary in this moment what would that look like? An embrace involves all of yourself. There's no judgment about an embrace, no perfect embrace. You put into it what you are willing to give; an embrace is a thing of joy. We all know that Calvary is in a time of transition, and that is meant to be a fruitful time. It's not a time to sit back and wait to see what comes next. It's time to participate in the life of the parish and be a part of what comes next. Some might call this participation in the church volunteering. I call it ministry; being a part of God's purpose for your life, for the parish, for the world. Any talent or interest or expertise with which you have been gifted by God, can be used in this “outpost of the Kingdom of God” for your joy and God's glory and Calvary's enlivenment.

My challenge to the members of Calvary is to think today about what you could get done in the next five months to embrace Calvary. Why that time frame? Because once summer hits, folks will want to break the confines of a COVID-restricted world and go away or as I like to say “get outa' Dodge.” But in the meantime, Calvary is searching for a new rector who will be taking a look at what is going on and who is involved. You can help make Calvary's present “so beautiful that it will be worth remembering.” If you have an idea or you wonder how your gifts can be used, talk to me or Carrie Cabush or a member of the Vestry or another member of the church. There are plenty of opportunities in this moment, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Mother Melanie can be reached at (908) 277-1814, ext. 2, or mbarbarito@calvarysummit.org. You can also find her cell phone number by logging into the Breeze membership portal: calvarysummit.breezechms.com



BUTTERMILK PANCAKE BATTER FUNDRAISER

Sunday, February 27 - Tuesday, March 1

Looking forward to eating pancakes on Shrove Tuesday? Make it even easier by purchasing homemade buttermilk pancake mix from the middle school youth group. All you need to add is water to make some delicious pancakes! (The mix keeps for one month at room temperature and six months in the fridge.) Proceeds will be used to make welcome baskets filled with spices and green tea for refugee families resettling in New Jersey through One World, One Love.

\$5 for pancake mix (makes three batches of 10 small pancakes)
\$1 for small bag of chocolate chips

If you are interested in purchasing pancake mix please sign up in the back of the church during February (or email ccabush@calvarysummit.org) to help us limit food waste. We will have some extra bags for sale as well.

We welcome reusable containers! If you would like to receive pancake mix in your own container, please drop it off at the church prior to February 20 with your name attached.

OUTREACH UPDATE by the Outreach Committee

As the cold weather continues, we are increasing our support of Summit Warm Hearts. This month we were able to lend 10 cots, along with sheets and blankets, to the Summit Interfaith Council so that one of the local communities of worship can provide overnight housing to our neighbors without addresses. Many Calvarians have also supported this ministry by volunteering as in-person hosts and providing lunches.

If you are able to volunteer, you can sign up here: <https://www.summitbeacon.org/swh>. Both in-person volunteering and lunch drop offs are located at Beacon (4 Waldron Ave, Summit). In-person volunteers will serve a two-hour shift as hosts, welcoming guests and building relationships with them.

If you are interested in providing lunch, please make sure you have enough food to feed 6-8 adults. Hot meals and foods that can be easily chewed are preferred, but sandwiches and other lunch foods are welcome too.

SOWING SEEDS WITH YOUTH MINISTRY

by the Rev. Carrie Cabush

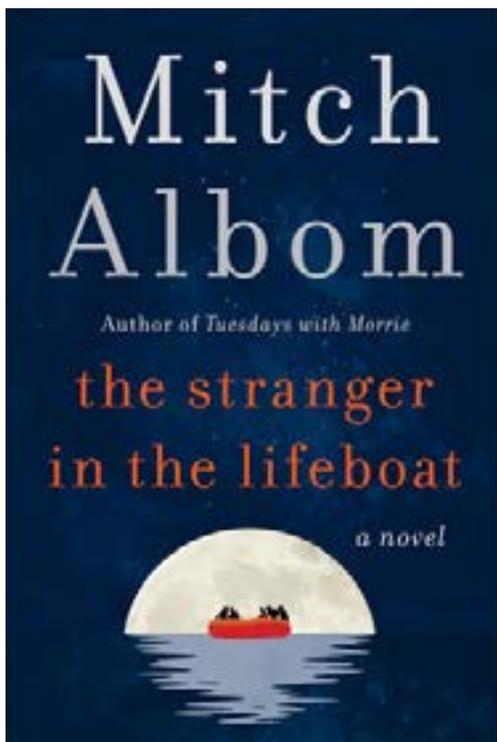
In our everyday lives we can easily fall into ruminating about the past or worrying about the future. But the only moment we actually live in, the only moment we have any control over, is the present. The season of Epiphany is filled with moments in scripture where Jesus's divinity and ministry are so surprising they interrupt the day-to-day. They are moments that force us to stop, watch, and listen as we catch a glimpse of God at work in a new way.

Working with the youth at Calvary is full of these epiphany moments. They know they are still learning, and the wonder on their faces as they discover new lessons about God and themselves is something to behold. Over the past month I have heard middle schoolers start describing themselves based on who they are, not just what they do. I have seen confirmands find comfort in the idea of baptism as a gift freely offered. And I have witnessed teens dream big dreams for the underserved in their community.

It is tempting to speculate about who our youth will become, but this mentality can make it difficult to remember they are full members of our community now. They have voices to raise and gifts to offer in this moment, just as they are. In fact, they may be closer to Jesus' call to have faith like a child than we are some days.

So if you find your mind wandering "anywhere but here" this Epiphany season, ask yourself where God is present for you in this moment. It just might take you by surprise.

Rev. Carrie can be reached at (908) 277-1814 ext. 3 or ccabush@calvarysummit.org.



BOOK GROUP

Tuesdays at 12 Noon

In the Guild Room and on Zoom (link will be included in e-blasts)

Adrift in a raft after a deadly ship explosion, ten people struggle for survival at sea. Three days pass. Short on water, food and hope, they spot a man floating in the waves. They pull him in.

"Thank the Lord we found you," a passenger says.

"I am the Lord," the man whispers.

So begins Mitch Albom's most beguiling and inspiring novel yet...

Through February, the Tuesday Book Group will discuss **The Stranger in the Lifeboat** by Mitch Albom. It can be purchased via Amazon or at your favorite bookseller.

All are welcome, even if you have not yet begun the book. Contact Mother Melanie (mbarbarito@calvarysummit.org or 908-277-1814, ext. 2) for more information.



(From Left) Top Row: Bebe Lee, Susan Favate, Tom Barr, Charlie Rall, Caroline Lindabury;
Middle Row: Lourdes Aboud, KC Artemenko, Nancy Babbitt, David Brewer, Nina Deutz, David Dietze;
Bottom Row: Laura Dudebout, Nancy Imbalzano, Julie Armour Jones, James Nelson, Don Peck, Susan Watts.

WELCOMING THE VESTRY OF 2022

At Calvary's Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 13, seven new vestry members were elected.

We welcome Lourdes Aboud, KC Artemenko, David Brewer, David Dietze, Nina Deutz, Don Peck and Susan Watts.

And we thank outgoing vestry members DeeDee Allen, Todd Fairbairn, Warren Loy,
Leonard Prentice and Kevin Schmidt for their faithful service.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Begins Sunday, February 6

2:00 - 3:00 pm

in the Choir Room

All ages through eighth grade

Contact Evan: ecogswell@calvarysummit.org



THE MUSIC NOTE

by Dr. Evan Cogswell, Organist-Music Director

It is wonderful to be able to start this music note with some good news! After a month of waiting, the COVID numbers have decreased enough that we can start a children's choir. The children's choir will rehearse from 2:00 to 3:00 pm in the choir room on Sundays, beginning February 6.

If you have any questions about the rehearsals or what they entail, email me at ecogswell@calvarysummit.org. No audition is necessary; as long as your children can read, they are welcome to come. The age limit is 8th grade.

Youth who are in high school are welcome to join the adult choir, which rehearses Wednesday nights from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Any adults who enjoy singing are welcome to come to a rehearsal and see if they would enjoy singing with us as well. Again, email me in advance so I know to expect you.

Finally, mark your calendars for Sunday, February 27, at 6:00 pm. As you will have seen on the front page of this month's Canticle, I will be giving my first solo organ recital at Calvary at that time. I have picked a celebratory program in the spirit of Mardi Gras as this will be the last Sunday before Lent.

I'm really looking forward to sharing these works with you, including chant-based works, spiritual settings, and a couple movements of the piece I wrote my dissertation on. There will be a festive reception following as well.



LAUNCHING THE NEWCOMERS WELCOME COMMITTEE

by Lourdes About

“Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing.”
~ Mother Theresa

Sure, you may not actually see our smiles with our masks on, but you may see our eyes twinkling with happiness! It's a new day and a new year in which to invite others into our faith community. If you would like to be a smiling face to those who enter our sanctuary or you'd like to work behind the scenes, coming up with ideas, please email me at happy3b4@yahoo.com to join Calvary's Newcomers Welcome Committee.



This would be a newly formed committee which is in need of greeters, leaders, and bakers who will gather with me to plan ways in which we will welcome those who come to our church and who are considering joining our Calvary community. I encourage our teens to participate, as it would be a beautiful sight to see them engaging with the young and old who brave entering through our doors. I'm rather new myself, so feel free to introduce yourself to me. Let's team up and show the hospitality we aspire to give!

“Today, give a stranger one of your smiles. It might be the only sunshine he sees all day.”
~ H. Jackson Brown, Jr., author of “Life's Little Instruction Book”



FOOD COLLECTION FOR BRIDGES

Until February 13

Help the high school youth group collect shelf-stable food to pack 150 lunches for our Bridges Run in February! Collections can be dropped off at the back of the church or at the church office during the week.

We need 150 of the following:

- shelf-stable chicken or tuna salad
- fruit cups or unsweetened applesauce
- individual containers of nuts, trail mix, goldfish, or pretzels
- fruit and cereal bars (like Nutri-Grain)
- 6 or 8oz water bottles
- brown paper bags
- napkins
- spoons

A WORD FROM THE VESTRY

by Julie Armour Jones on behalf of the Vestry

This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

~ Psalm 118:24

The “bleak midwinter” can be a challenging time of year even during the best of times – the magic of Christmas is behind us, new year’s resolutions may be losing their luster and there is an arctic chill in the air. And this winter, with Omicron bearing down, at times it has felt like a bad case of déjà vu.

It’s easy to wish we could fast-forward to the milder and more carefree days of springtime and summer. And yet, winter doesn’t have to be endured. It can be an opportunity to slow down and recognize, enjoy and even savor the blessings in our lives. Good things can happen at any time of year, so if the bleakness of midwinter has you down, try “embracing the moment” by lighting a candle, getting cozy and meditating on the blessings in your life – and in your life at Calvary. Could this be a time to rediscover what you love most about Calvary? To reconnect with fellow parishioners through a note or a phone call? To introduce Calvary to someone new? To contemplate how you can put your unique gifts to use for our parish community?



For me, I feel blessed to have called Calvary my family’s church home for the past 10 years and to have seen both my sons be active in the youth formation, join mission trips and be Confirmed while here. And, after another COVID winter, I get energized looking forward to the many ways we can continue to grow in fellowship now – and in the weeks and months to come – and how I can contribute to that.

What are some ways you can “embrace the moment” in your own life and in your relationship with Calvary? What special gifts do you bring to the table? How might you put them to use now to help shape the next chapter of Calvary?

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report;

if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do:

and the God of peace shall be with you.

– Philippians 4: 8-9

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December Vestry Meeting Highlights

Note: our Canticle vestry update cadence lags by a month due to the approval process for vestry meeting minutes and The Canticle's publication deadline. If you are interested in "real time" information, please don't hesitate to reach out to Mother Melanie, our Wardens or any member of the vestry.

Thank you to outgoing vestry members

Mother Melanie thanked the Vestry members who will be leaving the Vestry after having served their terms. Thank you to Warren Loy and Kevin Schmidt who served for three years and to DeeDee Allen and Todd Fairbairn who served for one year. Their terms officially ended on Sunday, January 16 following election of their replacements at the Annual Meeting. The slate of vestry nominees to be presented at the Annual Meeting was briefly discussed.

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Reflections on the Bishop's meeting with the parish

Bishop Carlye Hughes, along with Canon Andrew Wright and Chancellor Diane Sammons, visited Calvary on December 14 to discuss the updates in the letter she had sent to the parish regarding the permanent suspension of the disciplinary process against former Calvary Rector, Father Matthew Corkern. She provided a forum to share information, hear comments and respond to questions. Approximately 100 parishioners attended, some in person and most via Zoom link. Many parishioners asked questions and shared heartfelt comments. Bishop Hughes has offered her continued availability to our congregation on this matter moving forward.

Finance committee updates

Treasurer Tom Barr reviewed the Year to Date Financial Report, noting that we fared better than expected in 2021 despite a drop in pledges. In particular, the PPP Grants were a saving grace. The 2022 proposed budget, with pledges projected at \$450,000, was presented and discussed. We expect a loss in 2022 of at least \$243,000 which will be funded by our savings (i.e. the Heritage Fund). Our Heritage Funds are doing well and our accumulated cash will allow us to weather our down year(s) until we gain our financial strength at Calvary. The financial report was accepted as presented.

Ministry reports

According to the reports, Worship & Music, Youth Programs, Children's Spiritual Formation, Outreach and Mission, Pastoral Care, Fellowship and Property Stewardship all have significant activity. Reports on each are provided in the Annual Meeting Report.

Stewardship update

At the time of the meeting, 288 Letters/pledge cards had been sent with \$296,740 total pledged to date of the \$450,000 goal. The shortfall was noted and all agreed that steps to encourage additional pledges would be needed. Mother Melanie and the vestry will continue to reach out to personally thank each individual and family for their pledge.

Rector search

There were no updates at the time of the meeting. More information about the search process can be found in the two-page article in the November Canticle or check it out on the church website, under the "About Us" tag. Members of the vestry will be conducting initial meetings with consultant Canon Gail Avery early in the new year to discuss the path forward and we will be sharing regular updates with the congregation along the way.

As always, if you have questions, concerns or would like a copy of our vestry meeting minutes, please ask Mother Melanie or our Wardens, Bebe Lee and Susan Favate.



JOURNEY INTO ANTI-RACISM WITH CALVARY FAMILIES THIS LENT

Tuesdays in Lent (March 8-April 12) at 6:00 pm

In the Episcopal Church, Lent is a season where we examine how we have strayed from God's love and prayerfully reorient ourselves to God's plan for us. This Lent we invite Calvarians of all ages to engage in the work of antiracism through faith and a childlike state of wonder.

Once a week we will gather over a simple meal and listen to a series of stories from the new Beloved Community Grant recipient, *Tell Me the Truth About Racism*. This curriculum uses Montessori-inspired storytelling to contrast the fallacy that some people are better than others based on the color of their skin with the truth we know from God, that all people are created in God's image. These stories journey from creation to present day, inviting us to see systemic racism throughout history with new eyes.

While this curriculum was originally crafted with children ages 5-12 in mind, the stories are a gift for people of all ages seeking to recognize the racism around them and interrupt it.

After the story each week we will split into age-based groups to engage the story through age-appropriate discussions and activities.

If you prefer not to eat in a group setting, you can join us at 6:30 pm when the story will begin. You can also bring a reusable container to take home leftovers.

Contact Carrie (ccabush@calvarysummit.org) if you would like to learn more.

INTERWEAVE



*Abraham
entertains
travelers—
angelic
messengers in
disguise—with
the desert
hospitality
of his tribal
tradition.*

Rembrandt

Abraham:

Father of Many Nations & Patriarch of Three Religions

Judaism, Christianity and Islam all claim a place in God's Covenant with Abraham and Sarah. All see themselves as inheritors of the core values of that covenant as expressed variously in Judaism, Christianity and Islam, values alive in the three religions and in contemporary culture and geo-politics.

We will read about the beginnings of this world-changing heritage in the story of Abraham, his family and people in the book of Genesis, bringing to bear material from rabbinical commentary, legendary material outside the Bible, the New Testament and the Qur'an.

Do you know the legendary stories about Abraham's early life? Of his dawning awareness of the One God? The subtle nuances of the Patriarchal narratives? The place of Abraham in Christian belief? Come and share our annual meeting of Jews and Christians to study text, and join in learning and sharing the wisdom of our traditions and each other as well!

Rabbi Avi Friedman & The Rev. Robert Corin Morris

Five Fridays at 9:30-11:30 a.m. February 4, 11, 18 25, March 4 on Zoom

*Cosponsored by Congregation Ohr Shalom and Interweave
Zoom link available for registrants from Interweave or the Synagogue
Interweave Members: a free-will donation of \$10 per session is asked.
Synagogue members welcome as part of Ohr Shalom's Adult Education.*

interweave.org/ www.summitsynagogue.org



2022 STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Goal: **\$450,000**
 288 pledge cards sent
 100 received to date (January 26)
 Total pledged for 2022 so far: **\$383,850**

To pledge, visit www.calvarysummit.org/make-a-pledge
 or use the QR code to the left. Thank you!



Calvary Episcopal Church

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PRELIMINARY Calvary's Operating Summary Twelve Months Ending December 31, 2021

	Actual 2021	Annual Budget
Revenue:		
Pledge Income	\$448,640	\$391,000
Open Offering	22,471	10,000
Payment of Prior Year Pledge	42,675	23,500
Other Income	246,423	78,000
Total Revenue	\$760,209	\$502,500
Expense:		
Administrative	\$54,641	\$57,500
Choir & Music	\$23,024	\$46,635
Christian Ed/Fellowship	\$3,571	\$8,000
Insurance	\$58,136	\$56,000
Payroll	\$365,706	\$434,543
Property Maintenance/Utilities	\$148,069	\$113,200
Diocesan Pledge	\$30,000	\$30,000
Outreach	\$14,634	\$14,820
Total Expense	\$697,781	\$760,698
Net Revenue over (Expenses)	\$62,428	(\$258,198)

Vestry

Bebe Lee, *Senior Warden*
 Susan Favate, *Premises Warden*
 Tom Barr, *Treasurer*
 Charlie Rall, *Assistant Treasurer*
 Caroline Lindabury, *Clerk*
 David Dietze, *Finance*
 Lourdes Aboud, KC Artemenko,
 Nancy Babbitt, David Brewer,
 Nina Deutz, David Dietze,
 Laura Dudebout, Nancy Imbalzano,
 Julie Armour Jones, James Nelson,
 Don Peck, Susan Watts.

* "Other Income" outstrips expectation primarily due to 2020 and 2021 Payroll Protection Program loans being forgiven this year.

Staff of Calvary Church

The Rev. Melanie Barbarito, <i>Interim Rector</i>	mbarbarito@calvarysummit.org
The Reverend Carrie Cabush, <i>Assistant Rector</i>	ccabush@calvarysummit.org
The Reverend Kay Locke, <i>Adjunct Priest</i>	klocke@calvarysummit.org
Dr. Evan Cogswell, <i>Organist/Music Director</i>	ecogswell@calvarysummit.org
Mrs. Sadie Bennett, <i>Children's Formation Coordinator</i>	sbennett@calvarysummit.org
Mr. Matt Potter, <i>Parish Administrator</i>	mpotter@calvarysummit.org
Mrs. Janet Maulbeck, <i>Interweave Executive Director</i>	janetm@interweave.org
Mr. Charles Jordan, <i>Parish Receptionist</i>	info@calvarysummit.org
Mrs. Flora Attardi, <i>Bookkeeper</i>	fattardi@calvarysummit.org
Mr. Cimi Petrela, <i>Sexton</i>	spetrela@calvarysummit.org