
The Calvary Chronicle

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Calvary Episcopal Church
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Calvary Episcopal Church is a welcoming, caring, Christian community called to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, grow our spiritual gifts, and serve our neighbors.

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Interim's Letter

By the Reverend Dr. Linda Maloney

Miracles were the subject of my sermon on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 8), and my thoughts keep returning to miracles as I prepare to say "goodbye" to Calvary. It was a whole series of miracles that brought me here, and I invite the rest of you to think about the miracles in your own lives that have led you, too, to this place of grace and community.

In my sermon I stressed that miracles happen when two freedoms meet: the freedom of a human person and the freedom of God, who always wills good for us but needs our cooperation to make it happen, not just for ourselves but for others. I think of a time when I was in deep trouble: fired from my job, facing the end of a career and essentially

of my working life when I was only in my mid-fifties, with a son still in college. Then by chance—so it seemed—my path crossed that of some people I had known and worked with, generous people who wanted to help me, and did, by creating a job for me. They took it on trust that I could do good work for them in a field I really had no experience in. They helped me and rescued me from some bad decisions and later supported me on my path to priesthood, which eventually took me away from them.

"He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure." That is how the author of Psalm 40 describes the miracle God did in his or her life, and that is how I feel about so many points in my own life when God's free choice to rescue me or to steer my steps encountered the free choice of other people to help me: when miracles happened. I invite all of you, as you approach a new season of ministry, to reflect on the miracles in your own lives. Use that reflection as a base from which to encounter the new season at Calvary; let it open your hearts to reveal the moments, in the years to come, when your freedom can encounter God's freedom to build up Calvary and make it a light to the world.

Love,
Linda†

Services: January and February

- **Sunday, January 15:** The Second Sunday after the Epiphany. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.
- **Sunday, January 22:** The Third Sunday after the Epiphany. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.
- **Sunday, January 29:** The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.
- **Sunday, February 5:** The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m. **Vestry Meeting.**
- **Sunday, February 12:** The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m. **Vestry Meeting**
- **Sunday, February 19:** The Last Sunday after the Epiphany. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.
- **Wednesday, February 22:** Ash Wednesday Liturgy at 7:00 p.m.
- **Sunday, February 26:** The First Sunday in Lent. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.

Other Important Holy Days

- **January 18:** Confession of Saint Peter the Apostle
- **January 25:** The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle
- **February 2:** The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple
- **February 24:** Feast Day of St. Matthias the Apostle
- For scriptural readings for these holy days, see BCP, pgs. 996-997

Thoughts and Prayers

Please remember in your prayers: The Bloch family, family of Amy Bombard, and the Connelly family, Jay Foy, Patricia Gillespie, Karen Lawsing, Joseph Lawsing, Susan Lehman, Marta Mares & family, Sophie Pycella, the Westman family, all of our college students, and all of our military men and women, home and abroad, especially Jesse Arbogast, Aaron Decker, and Scott Jackson.

Warden's New Year's Greeting

You know I've had a long run previously in this job and about the time I left it I was well on my way to understanding the full responsibilities of the position, which was why I passed it on to Chuck a couple of years ago. The circumstance of my return to this position is still shocking to me despite the passing of four months. I was asked by a couple of folks to consider taking over the position. I agreed to carry the Warden's position until annual meeting and then reevaluate. The evaluation is in. I'm staying on and here is why.

I want to tell you how I've seen the people of Calvary changed since I last had this position. You are becoming more confident. You are getting better at speaking up. I remember wishing someone would talk to me about issues that I knew were circulating and now you won't shut up! Good for you, that's the way I like it! Is it just me or has there been a general growth of mutual appreciation and trust in our congregation? I certainly feel it and it's better than any sign we could hang out front.

Despite the lengthy tenure of our generous and long-suffering interim Linda† and the longest ministerial search in history, or maybe because of this, I find Calvary becoming a much more interesting place. The Soup and Bread Suppers which Ken and Karen had the vision for have really made our church a more lively and connected place. The launching of The Ken's Kitchen project by Jack seems like just the right fun project to honor Ken and our mission of welcoming hospitality and service to our surrounding community.

Our church has done many things over the past two years to preserve the integrity of our building. This year we switched our furnace to natural gas and removed our buried fuel tank. You have all generously contributed to these projects. Folks attending Calvary in

future years will be grateful for your good stewardship. Yet, the most important work is happening in the growing relationships in our Calvary community and its extension to the world outside. Good work people! That's why I love coming here.

John

Announcements: Calvary's Community Soup & Bread Supper

Our Soup and Bread Supper is coming up next week, on **Thursday, January 26**. Please sign up in the undercroft and let us know what soup you would like to provide, or sign up to bring bread. Why not bring a friend or neighbor this month! The more the merrier!! We raised almost \$100 in December for Vermont Irene Relief. This month's donation is going to Vermont Habitat for Humanity. If you have a local charity you would like funds to go to, please let John or Karen Lawsing know. Any questions? Please call John or Barbie Koier at 899-1830.or e-mail them at jbkoier@gmail.com or call Karen Lawsing at 899-4801. Thanks!

Sunday School Dates

Sunday school will be held on the following Sundays unless you hear otherwise from Laura Hill.

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| January 29 | April 15 |
| February 12 | May 6 |
| February 26 | May 20 |
| March 11 | June 3 |
| March 25 | June 17 |
| April 8: Easter Sunday | |
| With Egg Hunt too!! | |

Calvary's Annual Meeting

Changes in Vestry Members: Chuck has resigned from his one-year position and we thank him for his dedication and

commitment. We are happy to say that Llanda Richardson was nominated for and accepted a three-year term on the Vestry. Pat White was nominated to fill her expired three-year term. She has agreed to do it for one year, and then will consider continuing.

Delegates elected to attend the Diocesan Convention in early November are: Fran Ganter and Barbie Koier, and Jack Manning and Sue Prescott are the alternates.

Music

If you have a favorite hymn that we haven't sung lately, please let Laurel, John, or Llanda know. We do take requests! Please call or email Laurel, John, or Llanda...or leave a note on the organ.

Thanks!

Your friendly musicians...

Ecumenical Food Shelf

Please continue to only **donate canned fruits**. Distribution is on the **third Saturday** of each month. Thanks to all of you who continue to donate! If you would like to assist with setup on the Thursday before distribution, distribution on Saturday, or if you have questions, please contact Dave or Fran Ganter at 899-5489.

Vestry Minutes

October 16 Vestry Minutes:

- Financially we are keeping our heads above water. Gifts are helping.
- Soup Supper donations should be kept locally. We will not donate Oct. proceeds to Bricks for Haiti.
- We still have \$100 in Christian Outreach Funds that has not be used this year. A motion was made to use this money for Haiti and have a special collection on Oct. 31, which will be taken to convention on behalf of Calvary. Motion passed.
- The Koiers went to the United Church supper, a multi course dinner. A \$500 donation from the Food Shelf funds these

dinner along with donations from Hannaford. Would Hannaford give us produce to use for our soup?

- Stewardship Sunday will be Nov. 13 with a Table Eucharist downstairs.
- The Bishop has 2 candidates for us so far.
- Environmental Products & Services will remove the old oil tank Oct. 19. Grant money from the Diocese will cover part of the cost.
- A \$1,000 donation was received from Ken Wiggin's sister, designated for Ken's Kitchen. A motion was made to renovate the existing kitchen and put up a memorial plaque calling it Ken's Kitchen.
- The Sausage Booth still needs to be put away and Rummage Sale items still need to be removed. A motion was made to give the United Church the \$50.00 remaining in our Outreach Funds with a thank you note for hosting Harvest Market again this year.
- Chuck will have our new Mission Statement printed and framed for the narthex.
- Karen is giving up monitoring our pager. John Koier will take it over for a week.
- The back door needs repairs. It does not close fully and needs a sweep on the bottom. The side door frame is rotten from rain splashing off the cement step. Chuck & John will investigate.
- UTO boxes will be collected on Stewardship Sunday.
- A thank you letter was received from the Diocese for our timely Audit Report.

October 24 Vestry/MDC Minutes:

- The search is now closed. Three candidates are interested in our position.
- The interview is a two-way process. We interview each other.
- Vestry members will be part of this interview with the MDC, excluding Karen and Pam.
- Candidates should meet Karen at some point.

- Hospitality – lunch and a tour, service upstairs, interview and dinner.
- Actual interview should take one hour tops.
- A thank you letter for coming should be sent the day following the interview, telling them to call with any questions.
- References should be contacted by MDC members.
- If something was said or hinted about dissention – follow up with the Senior Warden at their last church. Ask candidate if people in current congregation know they are looking for a position.
- References can be called at any time.
- Role playing took place for the church tour and face to face interview.

November 13 Vestry Minutes:

- Linda reported that a new financial assessment system was announced at convention. She will bring in the information and explain it to the parish at the Annual Meeting.
- The bill has been paid for the oil tank removal. The tank was 1,000 gals. Ten 55 gallon drums of good oil were taken out.
- AA will begin using the undercroft Tuesday evenings. Their donations will go into item 1746 Heating oil/gas to offset their use of heat and lights.
- At convention Fran presented almost \$400 from Calvary for the Bricks for Haiti project.
- New Safer Church Policy information will be forthcoming. All members required to have the training must have a certificate less than 5 years old.
- November soup supper proceeds will go to the Food Shelf. December will go to Vt. Irene.
- John will add our soup supper info to the online Front Porch Forum.
- The MDC met with Ann. Three people are interested in Calvary.
- Our chimney has been cleaned as required by the gas company. A screened cap is

needed on the chimney to keep squirrels out. The sweep will call us about putting one on.

- The burner ordered by Vermont Gas is too small. Jeff Fortune will research what is needed and will call us.
- Karen will call Brookhaven to find out what their needs are this year.
- John will send out a message to all about caroling at Green Mtn. Nursing Home. If people are interested, we will go.
- So far \$1,150 has been donated to Ken's Kitchen renovation. Jack will bring us plans for changes to our kitchen. We can fundraise in January.
- John has repaired the side door. Weather stripping is still needed.
- The office has a strong wet paint smell since last Fall. Closing off the room makes it worse.
- We should do an air test. Karen will contact Bob Wertz from the Diocesan Earth Stewards Committee on environmental stewardship to see if he has any ideas.
- John is still monitoring the pager. Maybe we should have a signup sheet for monthly monitoring.
- The Ecumenical Ministry will meet here on Dec. 1. Fran and Dave will be present.

Next Chronicle

Please submit articles to me by Thursday, February 16 for the next issue of the Chronicle. In the interim, please watch the Sunday bulletins for weekly announcements. Thanks! *Barbie* (jbkoier@gmail.com)

Fun Stuff... A Glass of Milk

One day, a poor boy who was selling goods from door-to-door to pay his way through school, found he had only one thin dime left, and he was hungry. He decided he would ask for a meal at the next house. However, he lost his nerve when a lovely young woman opened the door. Instead of a meal he asked for a drink

of water! She thought he looked hungry so brought him a large glass of milk. He drank it so slowly, and then asked, "How much do I owe you?" You don't owe me anything," she replied. "Mother has taught us never to accept pay for a kindness." He said ... "Then I thank you from my heart." As Howard Kelly left that house, he not only felt stronger physically, but his faith in God and man was strong also. He had been ready to give up and quit.

Many years later that same young woman became critically ill. The local doctors were baffled. They finally sent her to the big city where they called in specialists to study her rare disease. Dr. Howard Kelly was called in for the consultation. When he heard the name of the town she came from, a strange light filled his eyes. Immediately he rose and went down the hall of the hospital to her room. Dressed in his doctor's gown he went in to see her. He recognized her at once. He went back to the consultation room determined to do his best to save her life. From that day he gave special attention to her case. After a long struggle, the battle was won.

Dr. Kelly requested the business office to pass the final bill to him for approval. He looked at it, then wrote something on the edge, and the bill was sent to her room. She feared to open it, for she was sure it would take the rest of her life to pay for it all. Finally she looked, and something caught her attention on the side of the bill. She read these words ..."Paid in full with one glass of milk." (Signed) Dr. Howard Kelly.

Tears of joy flooded her eyes as her happy heart prayed: "Thank You, God, that Your love has spread broad through human hearts and hands."

There's a saying which goes something like this:

Bread cast on the water comes back to you. The good deed you do today may benefit you or someone you love at the least expected time. If you never see the deed again, at least you will have made the world a better place - And, after all, isn't that what life is all about?