
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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Rector's Message

From Reverend Regina Christianson

Talk to any child this time of year, and they will want to tell you all about their Halloween costume. Sometimes it is a costume of someone who has super powers, or a role from a favorite book or film, or an animal. Sometimes it is a person they would like to be; sometimes it is something they find funny. And sometimes it is something very scary. They will try hard to scare themselves, to scare someone else. They will be just as happy to be grossed out or to gross out someone else. And then they come home with their treasure trove and their stories. It is all so irrational, and so compelling. What is going on? And why on earth should this be the subject of the Rector's letter?

Most religions observe the autumn equinox, investing it with meaning taken from what they observe is happening in nature. In the Northern Hemisphere, the crops are matured and are being harvested, the days are observably shorter, nature is preparing for winter sleep. The Celts responded to these things by remembering our own human lives as finite, and by remembering the ancestors. They marked the equinox as their New Year, called *Samhain*. Christians picked up the theme, remembering All Saints on Nov. 1 and All Souls on Nov. 2. Oct. 31 is the Celtic New Year's Eve, *Oidhche Shamhna*, a celebration that looks at some hard truths, including the inevitability of death. In *Oidhche Shamhna*, All Saints Day, and All Souls day we face what is scary- darkness, cold, isolation, illness, famine, and death.

The three days show us three ways to face fear and loss. The children show us on Halloween that we can make fun of what scares us, and lessen its grip on us. All Saints shows us that celebrating what is good, true, beautiful and holy also lessens the grip of fear and evil. All Souls shows us that honoring those we love who have died, and mourning their loss also lessens the grip of grief. We face our most fearsome boogiemen and find we can go on, be joyful, and live life abundantly.

To enact these ideas in our own parish life, on the last Sunday of October we will invite the children to come in costume. The children will have a chance to tell us all about scary and wonderful things. On the following Sunday, we will observe All Saints by singing lots of songs about saints and angels. That day we will also observe All Souls; during the choir anthem the

congregation will be invited forward to light candles in remembrance. We will also name those remembered at the altar during the Eucharist. You will soon be getting a request for those names.

As the days grow shorter and the sun lower near the horizon, I invite you to the hearth of community, for story sharing, for music for the soul, for laughter and tears. And so we build up the Body of Christ.

Regina†

Services: October & Early November

- **Sunday, October 7:** The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.
- **Sunday, October 14:** The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.
- **Sunday, October 21:** The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m. **Vestry**
- **Sunday, October 28:** The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.
- **Sunday, November 4:** The Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.
- **Sunday, November 11:** The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost. Holy Eucharist at 9:30 a.m. **Vestry**
- **Other Important Holy Days**
- **October 18:** Feast Day of Saint Luke the Evangelist
- **October 23:** Feast Day of Saint James of Jerusalem, Brother of our Lord Jesus Christ
- **October 29:** Feast Day of Saint. Simon and Saint Jude, Apostles
- **November 1:** All Saints Day
- **November 2:** Commemoration of All Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

For scriptural readings for these holy days, see BCP, page 999-1000.

Thoughts and Prayers

Please remember in your prayers: The Bloch family, the Connelly family, the Foster Family, Jay Foy, Patricia Gillespie, Karen Lawsing,

Karly, Kip, 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.

The Warden's Corner

Dear Calvary Folks,

Thanks to everyone who helped us pull together a highly successful Harvest Market fundraiser. Though the totals are still not tallied at this point, it is clear that we brought in at least \$2,400.00 and that is a great return for all of your efforts!

From my perspective, it is always rewarding to do a project with you all. For me, the joy and camaraderie of hanging out at the sausage grill, at times struggling to keep up with the demand, makes the old adage true: "congregations that work together stay together." I think that's in the Episcopal Handbook somewhere.

We are still in the process of cleaning out the undercroft from the remnants of the rummage sale, but when this is done we will begin the construction of Ken's Kitchen and an office for Regina†. Jack is chomping at the bit to get started with this and that is a good thing! Yes, there will be change, an outward and visible manifestation of a church that is committed to serving our community and that is a good thing.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Love,

John

Announcements: Calvary's Community Soup & Bread Supper - October 25

Our Soup Supper is coming up on October 25. Please Sign up in the Undercroft to bring your favorite soup and bread, and to help with set-up and clean-up! Thanks!!!

We raised just over \$200 for the Humane Society at the September Soup Supper. October's Soup Supper will benefit our Food Shelf.

Food Shelf in Desperate Need!

Our Food Shelf is in desperate need of donations. Last month is the first month ever that there was nothing left to be used the following month. Calvary's donations are usually fruit, but please bring in additional non-perishable food items if you are able to do so. We are not the only food shelf that is in need. With the holidays approaching the need for families is even greater. Thank you for whatever you are able to provide!

Sunday School Dates Through December

Laura has submitted the following proposed Sunday School dates through the end of the year. She has signed on to teach three of the Sundays and is hoping other families will be available to help out with the remaining Sundays. The proposed dates are:

October 14 (Hills are teaching) **Ben's Baptism**

October 21

October 28 – Halloween Costumes encouraged!

November 4 & 18

December 2

December 16 and 23. (Hills are teaching)

The Hills have signed up for October 14 and December 16 & 23. Laura is more than happy to work with the families to identify a leader for each lesson. Stay tuned for further updates!

Please let Laura know if you are available to teach on the open Sundays. Thanks!

Meditation Group

Our parish is continuing to host a meditation group, Monday evenings starting at 6:00 PM and ending around 7:30 PM. Please feel free to attend whenever you wish.

Choir

Calvary's choir is wonderful! Please join us for Choir Practice at Calvary on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:00 p.m. If you are unable to attend Wednesday nights, please arrive at church at 8:45 a.m. on Sunday. It is a fun multigenerational experience and we are seeking more members!

The Following Letter was Recently Received from Karen Lawsing

"To Our Calvary Family:

"As you all know Ken and I have long valued the love and support we receive from you. In so many facets, spiritually, emotionally, socially and physically, we have benefited from your presence in our lives. You've had our back.

"When Ken was on the Finance Committee, he constantly spoke about financial sustainability and stability.

"When he was in Brigham & Women's Hospital, he continued to have an eye for Calvary's future.

"We decided that we would donate funds for the Church Endowment fund. This was in his will, which, unfortunately, was never signed.

"I made the decision to honor Ken's wishes. Now that my financial situation is defrosting, I can donate \$5,000 to help insure Calvary's future for the generations of children and families that are joining our church.

"I appreciate all the support you have given me since his passing. I am so proud of our commitment to our community with our Soup & Bread suppers and the development of "Ken's Kitchen."

"Thank you all and our love to you all."

Karen Lawsing & Ken Wiggin.

Calvary's Own Cookbook

As we have mention, Fran Ganter and Tyna Westman have generously offered to undertake the huge task of publishing a cookbook which will include any and all of your favorite recipes that you would like to submit. They are suggesting that we make it a soup and bread cookbook, as it has become very apparent that Calvary folks definitely know how to make lip-smacking good soups and breads. So, we need your recipes. We can always publish a cookbook with blank pages, but we would rather not! So, please send us a few of your favorite recipes so we can get the cookbook underway. Email, photo copies, handwritten recipes are accepted. Please, please send them along to either of us. If

you have any questions, please contact Fran at fganter@myfairpoint.net, or Tyna at tynawestman@myfairpoint.net.

Vestry Minutes: August

- Plate Income is at 96% thanks to new families. Pledges are down slightly. Building Rental is up thanks to the AA group. Fundraising is down, but Harvest Market is coming. Total Income is 60,24%, right where we want it.
- Expenses: Some items are up because year end supplies have been received. Gas use was up but our furnace has been adjusted to use less gas. Our original deposit will be refunded in Oct. Holding off on budget plan until gas use stabilizes. Total operating expenses are on target.
- The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.
- Jack Manning is working on selling old Calvary items. Diocese will be contacted about other needs for our unused items.
- Tyna has a kitchen designer waiting. \$1,500 to spend on renovations.
- Discussion took place about an office for Regina. A motion was made to set Regina's office as a priority and to work with Regina to establish a workable plan by the next vestry meeting. Motion passed. Jack will manage both the kitchen and office projects.
- The church area upstairs will be unlocked to the public. Jack will dead bolt the undercroft side of the door at the bottom of the front stairs and the hallway side of the exit door near the pulpit.
- During the heating season we must close the front & rear doors during use of the church. A plan is needed for unlocking and relocking these doors.
- Fire Dept. lock box – A motion was made to buy the Knox-box for the Fire Dept.'s access to Calvary in case of an emergency. The motion passed. The box will cost \$159.00.
- The combination key box that Jack installed on the rear door is working well.

- Harvest Market takes place Sept. 29 & 30. The Tag Sale will also take place on Friday. Jeff will organize the Sausage Booth, Gail the Tag Sale and Laurel the Soup Starter sales. Pat White has donated a quilt that will be raffled off. We will personally invite new folks to help. Jack asked if he could set up his vintage motorcycle tent again. Yes, it draws customers to our area.
- The recipient of our August Soup Supper will be Meals on Wheels, September will be the Humane Society and October will be the Food Shelf.
- A facilities chair and committee is needed. Fran has a book with a plan for the committee. Jack will organize the committee and a chair will come from the Annual Meeting next January.
- A two fold hospitality committee is needed. Greeters are needed to shepherd newcomers. Name tags should be worn. Jack offered to greet. Also, a committee is needed to organize special brunch/lunch/dinner functions. Fran and Tyna are interested.
- The need for a pastoral care committee will be tabled for future discussion.
- Regina will write up an appeal for the Chronicle regarding facilities and hospitality.
- A request was received to hold Mary Kintner's yoga class at Calvary up until Sept. 15. The Monday or Wednesday nights in question are both being used by the Meditation Group and the Choir. Each of these groups require concentration and/or quiet. Another group here at Calvary on either night would compromise those needs.
- Stephen and Regina have offered a concert to fundraise to purchase new hymnals: Wonder, Love and Praise. All were in favor.
- A soft space is needed in the rear of the church for small toddlers. A rear pew could be removed and a safe, contained area set up with mats and a gate. Jack offered a rocking chair. Pat will help to prepare the space.

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

Scholarship has recently unearthed a previously unknown verse to the hymn *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God*, by Lesbia Scott. It is unclear from the handwriting whether it is original to Ms. Scott. From internal evidence, including scratch and tooth-mark marginalia, current scholarship believes that her cat, Childe Harold, is the true author. The verse itself is indecipherable at present, being mouse-nibbled sometime in the 1930s. The chorus has been reconstructed to read as follows:

And one was a loser and one was a geek
And one was a long-haired hippie commie freak
And they all went to church at least once a week,
And I mean to be one too (three, four, five, six, seven...)

Peace,

Regina†

November Chronicle

Please submit articles to me by Thursday, November 8, for the next Chronicle. In the mean- time, please watch the Sunday bulletins for announcements. *Barbie* (jbkoier@gmail.com)

Fun Stuff...

Church Bulletins!

They're back! Those wonderful Church Bulletins! Thank God for church ladies with typewriters. These sentences (with all the BLOOPERS) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services:

The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hostility.

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.

This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.

The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.

Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours.'
