



Old Sayings—Rev. Dr. Lee F. Shafer, Rector

We are now at the end of the tenth month of the longest year of our lives. It is hard to believe that it's Fall and we are still where we were in March, at least as far as the COVID pandemic is concerned. Initially we thought we'd be on the other side of the crisis by now, at least that was what was imagined at first. We had visions of happily coming back together for a major celebration around the time of Pentecost. Pentecost is long gone and Advent is coming quickly. For those who followed the very popular series *Game of Thrones*, the dire warning "Winter is coming" may seem all too real this year.

If living into the eighth month of a worldwide pandemic that has taken the lives of over 225,000 people in the United States were not enough, we have two other crises in our midst that have heightened our anxieties: the crisis of systemic racism that had undergirded every aspect of our lives, and the upcoming elections. Because we can no longer be physically present with one another to have conversations, we are relegated to platforms, such as Zoom, in which only one person may speak; or, worse, to the 24/7 media sources which use every tactic possible toward inflammation which draws us in. We post hateful things on social media as if the whole world would not be able to see into our deepest places of anger and fear revealed in these words. Who have we become? How have we gotten here? We seem to be far from who we were created to be. Has the spark of love grown so dim that it cannot be rekindled? If that is so then winter is coming for sure.

Over the past week I have heard the words "brittle" and "fragile" more than one time to describe how folks are feeling right now. I would add to that "quick-tempered," which may be the result of feeling brittle and fragile—and tired. It is emotionally exhausting to live in the unknown for months that seem like years, and there is no form of exhaustion so deep as emotional exhaustion. And so we need to name that and recognize the situation both in our brothers and sisters and in ourselves, and we need to be kind to our brothers and sisters and to ourselves, not listening to those who would demonize but those who would build up. I might even be so bold as to ask us to consider turning off our televisions for a day or two, staying off social media except those places that give you peace and comfort, and remembering that there is only one God and that God is a God of love and hope; and anything in this world that does not bring hope and bring people together rather than dividing us is not of God. As our Presiding Bishop reminds us, "If it is not of love, it is not of God." Hold that thought in the days ahead.

In his letter to the Thessalonians, Paul writes, "We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ." That is our responsibility in these dark and fearful days—to work in faith and labor in love and remain steadfast in hope. It has long been said that Scripture brings comfort to the uncomfortable and discomfort to those who are comfortable. Perhaps many of us have been comfortable for too long. Perhaps we who are now uncomfortable can look to the Lord of Love to bring us comfort and to shed light in our darkness. More than ever the spark of love needs to be ignited in our country, and if those who follow Jesus cannot show that love to each other and to the world, then what hope is there? Think on that in the days ahead. What you say to others matters. What you post on social media matters. The world will see whom you truly follow by how you act, or moreover react. Let that always be in the love of Christ and for his people because we all are God's people and God loves us all equally.





Calvary Connection

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In closing I want to share with you what Bishop White shared with the diocesan clergy early this week. These are thoughts from Bishop Stephen Charleston: "I know what I am about to ask will not be a popular question right now. But with the foresight of faith I believe it needs to be asked by those of us who can see beyond the daily headlines. So here it is: how will we find reconciliation in our national family? After so much anger, so much denial, so much misinformation, how will we find our way back to unity in diversity? How will we re-learn to live together? It may seem too soon to ask these questions. We are still in the heat of the moment, fighting our way forward through this election, with many voices trying to fan the flames of fear among us. But one day this fight will be finished. The demagogues will be sent away and we will be looking at one another not as adversaries, but as fellow citizens. How will we reconcile them? How will we no longer be a house divided? As people of faith it will be up to us to help answer that question with a plan of reconciliation, a plan for accuracy and understanding: accuracy in the facts of our recent history and a clear understanding of what they mean for us all. This process of reconciliation will need to be lived out one day if we are going to heal and become something new. It will not be easy. The wounds are deep. But that is precisely why we should start thinking now about how our future will not be lived out in perpetual blame, but in a process of deep change."

I believe that the way we can begin the work of deep change is to remember who we are, to turn away from those powers that inflame us in anger and despair, and return to the one who lights the fire of love and care for all of humanity. I invite you to return to look deep within your beloved self created in the image of God and let the spark of love overcome the flame of fear and spread throughout your being and into our community, and into the world. Amen.

God's peace,

Lee+



Judy Wilson's Calvary-Engelhard Violin program continues on Zoom during the pandemic. [Click here](#) to view.



The Vestry Voice—Donna Duvall, 2020 Vestry Secretary

Due to the Covid-19 coronavirus, the Vestry met on September 22, 2020 on Zoom, with the following items of note:

- Calvary Outreach has continued helping the needy during Covid; so far over 4,800 people have been fed with the distribution of 3,044 bags of groceries as of September 23.
- Louisa Henson is the Chair of the 2020 Stewardship canvas for Calvary. Her beautifully written letter was recently mailed to all members with a pledge card to kick off the campaign.
- An ad hoc committee on accessibility will investigate and report back to the vestry as to how Calvary can best provide access from the parking lot to the north entry, north entry to Nave and north entry to second floor. It will be led by Stephanie Smith, Junior Warden and include Donna Duvall, Larry Frederiksen, Jamie Hendon, Molly McLeod and Wilma Wilson. They will work with Harry Dumesnil of K. Norman Berry Architects to present a plan as quickly as possible so we can consider our expense needs for this as well as the organ repair at the same time.
- Our Senior Warden will be out of commission for a while as she will have hip replacement surgery and then be in rehab. We wish her a safe and speedy recovery.
- Since we have had no insurance claims for some time, the Finance Committee recommended we move to a higher deductible of \$10,000 which will save \$3,800 annually of our operating budget. In order to prevent the impact on future operating budgets if we do have a claim, they also recommended funding the \$10,000 deductible with a transfer of current surplus funds into a restricted account. The Vestry approved this change.
- August revenues were 37,209.33 (\$30,000 being investment income). Expenses were \$45,214.90. Net Operating revenue/expense was (\$8,005.57). The year-to-date actual revenues were \$400,068.79. YTD actual expenses \$376,732.79. YTD net operating revenue/expense was \$23,336.00.
- The new monument sign for the lawn in front of the church will require Metro Council action for approval. After the new members of the Council take office we will follow up to try to get it.
- A virtual tour of Calvary will be done by Google and will be available on all media sites.
- The Diocesan Convention is November 14 (via Zoom Room this year due to Covid). Donna Duvall and James Moody will be the delegates representing Calvary.



All Saints Day Sunday, November 1

Upcoming Schedules

Watch Calvary emails for opportunities to come together online in these extraordinary times.



Calvary Connection

When You Watch Calvary's Sunday Service Streaming on Facebook— *David Stewart*

There is a lot going on at Calvary these days. But not in-person services. And we all miss those. The next best thing? The weekly services are live streamed on Facebook.

In-person services require a lot of effort. We all know what goes into a Sunday service. What might not be so obvious is what goes into a Sunday service that is live-streamed on Facebook.

There are the usual activities. Lee prepares a sermon and sets the altar. She lights the candles. Shawn and the choir prepare the music. Tom prepares for the readings.

In the background, though, videographers and an audio technician prepare for the streaming. Look at these pictures to see what is going on in the background each Sunday.



The service



Will Cary sets up the audio



Shawn Dawson talks with videographers Andrew Fischer and Jacob Gary



Tom Shafer reads the lessons



The Gospel



Andrew Fischer and Lee Shafer prepare the altar for communion



Shawn rehearses a choir of Elliott Eckel, Aaron Hill, Brooke Gladstone, and Mary Greenwood.



Food Closet Report: Turkey Day Ahead!—Margaret Dickinson

Our food program finished week 32 on Thursday the 29th with 49 bags of groceries and 49 bags of produce, plus 24 gallons of milk! St Paul's deserves special mention as they just passed the 11,000 mark of donated items since they began Service in the Shade! Our staggering stats are now

- 2017 masks (a milestone passed!)
- 3773 bags
- 6020 fed (another milestone).

We give thanks that so many have come together to enable us to do this. The need is way more staggering than our numbers!

We felt an overwhelming need to continue our traditional turkey giveaway, and after much thought about how we could reorient our operation outside, we hope we have it figured out. In just three days, we have already given out 124 vouchers, with many relieved clients who said they wouldn't have been able to afford one this year.

CHALLENGE: TWO for ONE! When you buy your own Thanksgiving Turkey, please buy TWO and bring one on Monday morning, November 23, to Calvary to feed the poor. In this way, our Calvary family members can make sure our neighborhood families can celebrate too! Turkey Day (when we give them out) is November 24. Thank you!



Part of the harvest in Calvary's garden



Tim Duncan prepares to greet our guests



TURKEY DAY IS COMING!!!

Bring us your extra turkey on **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23.**

We give them away on **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24.**

THANK YOU!!!



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—please share with the children in your life



Hallowe'en

By John Kendrick Bangs

*The ghosts of all things past parade,
Emerging from the mist and shade
That hid them from our gaze,
And, full of song and ringing mirth,
In one glad moment of rebirth,
And again they walk the ways of earth
As in the ancient days.*

*The beacon light shines on the hill,
The will-o'-wisps the forests fill
With flashes filched from noon;
And witches on their broomsticks spry
Speed here and yonder in the sky,
And lift their strident voices high
Unto the Hunter's Moon.*

*The air resounds with tuneful notes
From myriads of straining throats,
All hailing Folly Queen;
So join the swelling choral throng,
Forget your sorrow and your wrong,
In one glad hour of joyous song
To honor Hallowe'en!*



If you are reading the Calvary Connection online, click [this link](#) to go to delightful Halloween coloring and age-appropriate printable lessons. Enjoy!

Children's Corner is a regular feature of the Calvary Connection. Submissions and suggestions are welcome.



Office Hours and Service Times

Sundays

Facebook feed of services only

Thursdays

12:05 pm Holy Eucharist with Anointing (**suspended**)

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 am - 3 pm (**suspended; Mon., Tues., Thurs. 9-noon during pandemic**)

Food and Clothes Closet (**food only, MTT**)

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Would you like to get emails from Calvary? We send them out regularly to list the schedule for the week or happenings within the parish such as marriages, births and the passing of our members.

Go to www.calvaryepiscopal.org, Under About Us, select Contact Us and fill out the form to request digital communications.