

Welcome Our New Music Director!

Dear Friends,

It has been my pleasure to work with Shawn Dawson in his capacity as Interim Music Director for the past many months. I am so happy he has accepted the position of Full Time Music Director effective July 1. He is a welcome addition to the staff and a talented musician with whom I enjoy working. Those of you who have heard him play or conduct the choir enjoy his musical offerings as much as I do. I am grateful to the Vestry for their vision and forethought during this time of transition in establishing this position and fulfilling Calvary's strategic plan. Please join me in welcoming Shawn, his wife Audrey and their daughter Elizabeth to Calvary. Yours in Christ, Elizabeth



H. Elizabeth Back—Priest-in-Charge



Shawn Dawson Bio

Shawn R. Dawson holds a Master of Music degree in Organ Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music, where he studied organ with Professor David Higgs and improvisation with Dr. William Porter. Mr. Dawson earned a Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance from Baldwin Wallace University Conservatory of Music studying organ with Professor Nicole Keller.

Currently pursuing a DMA in Organ Performance and a cognate in Sacred Music at the College-Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati, Mr. Dawson studies organ, harpsichord, and continuo with Dr. Michael Unger. At CCM, he is in his third year as the Graduate Assistant for the Organ and Harpsichord Department, teaching secondary organ students and tuning the Juget-Sinclair continuo organ. Mr. Dawson has served as a church musician for over a decade, playing organ and piano, and working with choirs and instrumentalists.



Calvary Connection

2018 Lenten Recital and Lunch Series

The 2018 Calvary Episcopal Church Lenten Recital and Lunch Series begins on Wednesday, February 21, at 12:05 pm.

Glenna Metcalfe, Organist at Broadway Baptist Church, begins the 29th annual Lenten series on February 21.



The Lenten Series continues:

- ◇ February 28 with an organ Recital by Daniel Martin, Director of Music at St. James Episcopal, Pewee Valley.
- ◇ On March 7, Calvary's Zachary Hood will present a trombone recital.
- ◇ March 14, the newly appointed Calvary Director of Music, Shawn Dawson, will be the featured organist.
- ◇ The series concludes on March 21 with a BACH Birthday Bash performed by the Bellarmine University SCHOLA directed by Timothy Glasscock and accompanied by Margaret Dickinson.

The concerts and luncheons, freshly prepared by Calvary volunteers, are free, with an opportunity to participate in a free will offering to help support Calvary's outreach program. For further information, please call 587-6011 or 893-7954.

All recitals begin at 12:05PM, with lunch following at 12:30PM. Proceeds from a strictly free will offering will be targeted for our outreach efforts.

Calvary Connection

Calvary Elects New Vestry Members

Nick Baker

Nick has been a member of Calvary for twenty years. He has been married to his wife Susan for forty-four years. Together they have three children, Hank, Sarah Riggle and Matthew. Nick retired from practicing law in 2016 after fifty years. He served as a Kentucky State Senator 1970-1978. He previously served on the Vestry and continues to serve as an usher and assist with Coffee Hour and special events.

His vision for Calvary includes maintaining and strengthening our excellent worship and music program, continuing our food and clothing mission to those in need and making greater efforts to increase membership. Nick is proud of Calvary's tradition of independence and leadership in our Diocese and community.

Artie Dietz

Artie Dietz is married to Amy and has two sons: Arthur – 18, and Alexander - 7. He works for Jefferson County Public Schools as an assistant principal at Jefferson County High School. He supervises the daily operations of JCPSeSchool – an online curriculum program for middle and high school students. He has worked in various aspects of alternative education for almost 27 years.

Artie has been a Calvary member since early childhood – as long as he can remember! He has served as Acolyte, Youth Group Representative, Sunday School Teacher, and Usher. Artie enjoyed his formative years growing up in the “Calvary family.” He wants to ensure that his boys will have similar memories of Calvary. He is willing to invest his time and talent to see that Calvary has a viable future.

Linda French

After long and prayerful consideration, Linda submits her to join the Vestry. She would like to do whatever she can to help our beloved Calvary grow and prosper again.

In her 42 years of teaching in public and private schools in three different countries, she has served many years as faculty/administration liaison and at the Board of Education in personnel issues. As Secretary of the county educational association, Linda championed communication and transparency throughout the system. In 9 of the 10 schools she worked in, Linda was elected Teacher of the Year. For 4 years, she served on the Site Base Decision Making School Governance Committee, which is responsible for developing curriculum and policies, and participated in numerous employment interviews.

After thoroughly enjoying teaching and believing in her strengths, Linda retired two years ago and discovered that she was good at retirement! She suddenly found that she had the time and energy to devote to many of Calvary's fine programs. For Linda, the most important has been in Outreach through the Food and Clothing ministry and Calvary's Well where she works with the homeless. She has been in the choir for many years and more recently cutting cakes and serving at Coffee Hour. This year she is chairing the Flower Delivery Committee and is looking forward to helping with the Lenten Luncheon Series.

Linda strongly believes in the dignity of all human beings with there being no exceptions to that statement. We are called to follow Jesus' example of loving our neighbors, of helping each other, and of doing all things with great kindness. Galatians 5:13 teaches that we are all called to “serve one another humbly with love.” By serving others, we are serving God and Linda is willing to be your servant on Calvary's Vestry, if you so choose.

Stephanie Smith

Stephanie and her husband, Jon, came to Calvary in the early 80's and raised their children in the Church. For a period, she transferred to St Matthew's, but returned in 2016 to support the changes and renewal after difficult times. For Stephanie, it has been rewarding to be here for that renewal and if she were to serve on the vestry, it would be with the goal of seeing it grow even stronger.

Calvary can certainly benefit from having effective pastoral leadership, but its bedrock is an engaged community of people who care for one another and for those outside our walls. She says, “We have not waited for a permanent Rector to decide to do things--and to do them--and I hope that level of engagement by the people of the church will continue to grow.”

Currently Stephanie is a member of the choir, a Sunday School volunteer and providing Abby's Library (children's

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Calvary Connection

Our Cup Runneth Over—2018 Vestry

Each Vestry builds on the hard work of those Vestries before us. It is certainly true that they have laid the foundation upon which your current Vestry, with God's guidance and your voice, strives to take us into an even brighter, clearer, future in love and service to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. "Our cup runneth over."

For most Vestries, there is so much good to say about what they accomplished in bringing us together and moving us forward; but I want to focus on the class of 2017 which has just rotated off. They took the responsibility seriously and worked diligently, faithfully; and they deserve our applause and gratitude. That class was comprised of Penny Brisson, Bart Brown, Tim Duncan, Dean French, and Meg Scharre. Wow! What talent! What dedication! What passion! They set the bar high for the rest of us. "Our cup runneth over."

Here's where if I had a spotlight, I'd shine it now. For the past 1 3/4 years, Calvary has had the most extraordinary blessing of having Meg Scharre as our Senior Warden. I know for certain that God calls people at critical times in our lives to lead us, lift us up, help us reclaim our faith. I know for certain that God called Meg to be that person for Calvary for a season. "Our cup runneth over."

God continues to bless us. None of the class of 2017 is fading away. They continue to serve on key committees, giving their hearts and talents without skipping a beat. "Our cup runneth over."

So, a most sincere and heartfelt thank you to each of you and an extra special thanks to Meg. Calvary is a better place because of you. "Our cup runneth over."

Don Snow—Senior Warden

Here is a list of the newly elected Executive Committee members:

- ◇ Don Snow, Senior Warden
- ◇ Linda French, Junior Warden
- ◇ Sally Reisz, Treasurer
- ◇ Stephanie Smith, Secretary

Many thanks to our friends who have rotated off the Vestry:

- ◇ Penny Brisson
- ◇ Bart Brown
- ◇ Tim Duncan
- ◇ Dean French
- ◇ Meg Scharre



Calvary Connection

The Vestry Voice

Happy New Year! As this article is my last official duty as Vestry Secretary, I will be handing the reigns to the very capable Stephanie Smith for future publications of the Vestry Voice.

The Vestry met on January 16th and had the following discussions:

- ◇ Ending December 2017, Calvary had a \$21,253 budget surplus. Pledges, Undesignated Gifts and Easter Receipts were ahead of the budgeted amount. Calvary's Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes (CEEP) expenses, Office Expenses and the severance package included in Bookkeeper Salary were over budget but due to budgeted items that were not realized in 2017, Search Expenses and the Diocesan Urban Mission, Calvary ended the fiscal year with the stated surplus.
- ◇ In the December meeting, the Vestry approved the 2018 Budget, but \$4,000 of Moving Expenses were not accounted for in the approved budget. Sally Reisz and the Budget Committee recommended correcting the 2018 budget by taking those funds out of General Facility Maintenance. The surplus can be allocated to the Preservation Fund by the Vestry once we have seen the Property Committee's prioritization of projects.
- ◇ The Endowment is now over \$8 Million due to strong investment performance, however Sally Reisz took the opportunity to remind the Vestry that the church should seek to reduce its reliance on the endowment through increased pledging.
- ◇ At the next Vestry meeting, the Parish Profile will be reviewed and then be ready for public discussion. The Vestry recommended a salary guideline for the Search Committee to include in the Parish Profile.
- ◇ Don Snow, Sally Reisz, and Jamie Hendon thanked the outgoing Vestry members (Meg Scharre, Penny Brisson, Tim Duncan, Bart Brown and Dean French) for their service during one of the most trying times in Calvary's history. It was also marked as a sign of vitality that there were 12 candidates for the Vestry election on January 21st where in the previous years there have only 5 or 7.
- ◇ Calvary's Well has been out nearly every day in the extreme cold weather. A great act of charity and ministry by those involved.
- ◇ The Vestry had a lively discussion about whether Calvary should have a person answer the phone rather than an answering service. This was an important discussion that stemmed from the Strategic Plan so that the Church would be more welcoming and attentive to the needs of its members and neighbors.

Penny Brisson—2017 Secretary To the Vestry



Calvary Connection

Earthy Thoughts

A Reflection on a Winter Morning The Garden of Goodness

Faith and Contradiction. There was a time when I thought those two words were utterly incompatible, enemies of one another. But as I get older I've come to believe that they are actually quite comfortable with one another, maybe even, inseparable.

- The universal Logos, the Cosmic Christ . . . and . . . the Jesus of Nazareth who washes his disciples' dirt and dung encrusted feet.
- The scorned poor, society's losers . . . and . . . God's honored guests seated at the head of the great banquet table in God's Kingdom.
- The Church's desire for strong leaders . . . and . . . Jesus' call for simple servants.
- Life and then Death . . . and . . . Death then Life.

On an especially raw morning during our recent cold spell, I went to check on the Garden of Goodness, and, at first glance, I wasn't sure that had been a good idea. What had just a few months ago been a place full of light and brilliant colors, life and bounty, now seemed so bleak and desolate. The summer row of sunflowers I had marveled at - how they danced back and forth in the wind and let the sun slowly, gently turn them in place - had become a line of brittle, bent-over stalks. The wildflower garden was no more than the skeletons and dry bones of what once were blooms of red, yellow, purple. The last few autumn kale leaves still standing had shriveled and turned brown in a coating of ice.

Poet Christina Rossetti used a similar winter garden scene:

My life is like a faded leaf,
My harvest dwindled to a husk . . .
My life is like a frozen thing,
No bud nor greenness can I see.



Pretty grim stuff. Hold on, though. She's not finished, and I'm not done walking in the garden that winter morning. I went about gathering up trash and pulling up the last few dead plants for the compost pile and, wondering how deep the cold had gone, I picked at the ground with a trowel.

There they were, there, and then there, and no longer thinking about how cold it was, I went looking for more. Seeds. In the wildflower patch, in the sunflower rows, around and in the compost piles. Seeds.

My life is like a frozen thing,
No bud nor greenness can I see:
Yet rise it shall, the sap of Spring;
O Jesus, rise in me.

Our poet finishes.

Faith's Great, Grand Contradiction of what we think we know - Life and Death - is in truth, Death then Life.

We can imagine Jesus picking up a handful of dried wheat and letting the seeds fall from his hands when we read his words to his disciples, "Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed; but if it dies, it produces many seeds." (John 12:24) So that we understand that that there is more to this than a gardening tip, Jesus once again gathers his disciples, and this time a crowd as well, to declare that, "If anyone would follow me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." (Mark 8:34) Everyone in that first-century crowd knew that Jesus was talking about death, and not some difficulty or inconvenience we are complaining about when we say something or someone is our cross to bear. And to be sure that everyone will know that Jesus meant death in a more profound way than the physical sense, Luke adds the word 'daily' to 'take up their cross.' (Luke 9:23)

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Calvary Connection

Calvary is Reading

Eloise and Michael Hensley have two grandchildren in the Cincinnati area, so they drive there frequently and enjoy reading aloud as they travel – Michael drives and Eloise reads. They have been reading the series by Jefferson Bass which is the pen name for Jon Jefferson and William Bass. Jon Jefferson is a contemporary American author and television documentary maker. Jefferson has written ten novels in the Body Farm series under the pen name Jefferson Bass, in consultation with renowned forensic anthropologist William M.



Bass, as well as two non-fiction books about Bass's life and forensic cases. The series features the body farm outside Knoxville in connection with the University of TN Medical Center. Patricia Cornwall also featured the body farm in one of her novels.

Don Snow has been reading the latest Jack Reacher novel by Lee Child and the latest from Michael Connelly and now reading the new novel from Ken Follett.

Britt Shelton has reading anything she can find on how to run a Vacation Bible School.

David Stewart keeps a number of books going at the same time. Recently he finished "The Fountainhead" by Ayn Rand; he wanted to try and understand why so many of the Trump Administration regarded Rand such an influence in their lives. Loving the books by John le Carre, he read the latest thriller, "A Legacy of Spies," a book that takes le Carre's work back to his original "The Spy Who Came in From the Cold."

Ongoing at this point is the re-read of an old friend, "Zorba the Greek" by Nikos Kazantzakis and the latest by Salman Rushdie, "The Golden House," and Adam Rutherford's, "A Brief History of Everyone Who Ever Lived." Just in the past week, after reading an article on Ursula K. Le Guin, who has just died, he found that an informative work for the young writer Le Guin was the "Tao Te Ching." He has picked up a translation from 1919 but it will take future "Calvary is Reading" columns to find out what he thinks of the work.

Save the Dates

The Lenten Event is February 11th at 10am in Frazier Hall. This is an inter-generational event. We will be doing crafts and activities to prepare for the Lent season.

The Shrove Pancake Supper is February 13th 6-8pm in Parker Hall. This is also an inter-generational event. Come enjoy a Pancake Dinner and King Cake! You won't want to miss the march around the grounds to bury the Alleluias. We are encouraging everyone to dress in a New Orleans Mardi Gras theme. There will be plenty of fun areas with props for photos. This is a free event; however, we are asking for donations:

Pancake mix	Spray oil	Eggs
Bacon	Sausage	Butter
Syrup	Beverages	Monetary donations

Please join us!

Britt Shelton—Sunday School Coordinator

Calvary Connection

Calvary Rector Search

On Sunday, January 28, 2018, Search Committee members, Deborah Stewart, Bart Brown, Cindy Curry and Art Dietz were on hand in the Adult Forum to offer a review of the Congregational Assessment Results. Deborah Stewart, chair of the Rector Search committee provided a brief overview of the results which included the following:

Survey Process Statistics:

Number of respondents: 115

Response rate as percentage of average attendance: 128%

Overall Satisfaction:

Overall 31% are satisfied with how things are in our church.

However, 53% are “on the fence.”

Only 16% are dissatisfied.

Our overall rating of church satisfaction is LOW.

Overall Energy:

Overall, it seems that we are just going through the motions of church activity and there isn't much excitement about it among our members.

45% clearly disagree with that statement.

22% clearly agree with that statement.

33% are on the fence.

Our overall rating of church energy level is AVERAGE.

Attendance trend:

Compared with 3 years ago, 57 % said they attended worship about the same; 26% indicated they attend less and 17% said they attended more.

Our average annual attendance has decreased by 3 % in the past three years.

Value of Activity Beyond Worship:

When asked if participation in church activities were very meaningful, 67% clearly agreed; 31% were on the fence and 2% clearly disagreed.

Our rating of church activity beyond worship is AVERAGE.

Top Three Priorities:

When asked where additional energy should be placed to expand or improve our ministries these were the top three:

First: Make necessary changes to attract families with children to our church.

Second: Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them in the life of the church.

Third: Provide more opportunities for Christian education and spiritual formation at every age and stage of life.

Calvary's Demographic Data:

61% are 65 and over.

16% are 55-64

15% are 45-54

5% are 35-44

2% are 25-24

1% are 19-24

Calvary is 98% white and 68% have graduate degrees.

The Energy-Satisfaction Map:

The levels of satisfaction and energy have been found to be reliable indicators of the health and vitality of a church. There are four quadrants on this map. **Calvary** falls in the **high-energy-low satisfaction** quadrant. Churches in this quadrant are often struggling to structure and channel their energy into a direction they feel good about.

Critical Success Factors for Improving Satisfaction:

Among the areas where Calvary might need significant improvement are:

- Friendly Atmosphere
- Different Decision Approaches
- Resolve Problems
- Supported Ministry
- Members Called to Ministry
- Leaders Representative
- Tolerance of Differences

[Click here to see the entire report.](#) (You must have the Connection in electronic for to use this link)

The Search Committee continues to work on the profile and parish portfolio which will be posted to a national data base, hopefully by the end of February.

Calvary Connection

Earthy Thoughts—continued from Page 6

Paul understood this when he wrote of his own personal transformation of Death then Life: “I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me.” (Galatians 2:20)

Death first, then Life - a new identity, a new way of being, centered in God, a birth to a deeper and higher Life in a growing relationship to the Giver of Life.

The now desolate Garden of Goodness will soon come back to life and will instruct us and show us again of the Creator’s message about Death and about Life, as did a monastic garden for Thomas Merton:

I am here, planted as a seed in the cosmos . . .
created by the Spirit in Christ.
I am here to grow.

Tim Duncan



Calvary Connection

New Vestry Members—continued from page 3

books for the families of those who come to us for food.) Now retired, her career covered a variety of legal and management roles in various companies. Stephanie is active in volunteer roles as Vice Chair of the Community Foundation, Secretary of the Center for Women and Families and Executive Director of the Louisville Master Chorale.

Judy Pease Wilson

Calvary has been Judy's spiritual home since moving to Louisville in January of 1985 to take a position in the Louisville Orchestra's string section. First, moving into an apartment in Old Louisville, she started shopping around for an Episcopal church and walked into Calvary on her first Sunday morning here. IT was then she heard the powerful words of Fr. Ben Sanders, the uplifting music of Margaret & Melvin Dickinson, said "This is it!" and has been a member ever since. Judy has served Calvary in many capacities from the time she joined the Congregation, but the best perk about Calvary is the community she has enjoyed.

Judy, having witnessed Calvary's many peaks and valleys during her time here, but notes this Church has always been resilient. She believes we will continue to realize that resiliency through the Rector Search and keeping our ongoing outreach ministries active and alive. For Judy, it is heartening to see the longstanding ministries thrive, such as the Food & Clothes Closet, and the new and evolving ministries, such as the Garden of Goodness and Calvary's Well. Of course, the Outreach ministry nearest and dearest to my heart is the Calvary-Engelhard Suzuki Violin Scholarship Program, begun by Winfrey Blackburn, then fully embraced and funded by the Congregation of Calvary, a generous and gracious act for which she is eternally grateful. Judy is convinced that the children in this program will derive lifelong benefits which far exceed learning to play a musical instrument and is inspired by them each day.

Judy states, "Calvary's strength has always been to uphold the stewardship of our faith in God's Word, our Liturgy, and our beautiful music, so bound together in our worship. I feel strongly that this shared commitment keeps us all grounded and dedicated not only to each other, but to Calvary."

Furthermore, she writes, "Surely God's presence is felt here at Calvary and in the spirit of work upon which to build, new work already set in motion, and new work not yet identified, I humbly place my hat in the ring to serve on the Vestry and to do the work God has given us to do."

Calvary Service History (dates are her best guess):

Lay Eucharistic Minister – 1986 to present Lay Eucharistic Visitor – 2000 to present Flower Delivery – 1987 to present Sunday School teacher – 1987-1989 Youth Group Leader – 1989-1993 Acolyte Director

– 2003-2014 Worship Committee 2003-2008 Calvary Youth/String Ensemble – 1996 to present Calvary – Engelhard Suzuki Violin Scholarship Program 2014 to present Calvary Food/Clothes Closet summertime volunteer – 2016 to present

Louisville Orchestra Service History:

Louisville Orchestra Musicians Committee – 1987-1989 & 2011-2016 Louisville Orchestra Fogel

Committee – 1993-1995 Louisville Orchestra Contributed Income Committee – 1994-1996 Louisville Orchestra Education Committee – 1996-2000 Louisville Orchestra Strategic Planning Committee – 2015-2016 Louisville Suzuki String Association 2005-2015.



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Calvary Episcopal Church is a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky. Calvary is a vibrant community of faith in downtown Louisville. We strive to make the Gospel known in worship, word, and action. Calvary draws its members from all walks of life, and many different neighborhoods in and around Louisville. We take great joy in the way our members join together in worship of God and in service, drawing on our many backgrounds.

For more information about Calvary Episcopal Church, please contact Rev. H. Elizabeth Back., our Priest-in-Charge. For questions about this newsletter or to help with its production, please contact the editor, David Stewart. Contact information: (502)235-1628 or dstewart@adcatmedia.com.

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.

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Go to www.CalvaryEpiscopal.org. Click on the button at the bottom of the page that reads, "Get Updates From Us."

You also scan the QR Code below with your smartphone.



"And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love..."