



Calvary *Connection*

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

821 South Fourth Street Louisville, KY 40203 | 502.587.6011 | calvaryepiscopal.org

March 2020

Life in the Time of Pandemic—Rev. Dr. Lee F. Shafer, Rector

Dear Friends,

Our world has been turned upside down in the last two weeks in ways that we have never experienced before. In times of turmoil what we tend to do is come together to support each other and in this pandemic we have been told that we must stay apart. We are truly living in the unknown.

In my life when I have experienced personal turmoil and been forced to understand my lack of control I have found the Psalms particularly helpful. The Psalmists are fully honest and open with God, sometimes praising God for all of God's awesome and mighty deeds or glorying in the wonder of creation. At other times the psalmist curses and questions and even wallows in self-pity.

As I thought about this time of anxiety and uncertainty and even fear the Psalm that came to my mind was Psalm 137, particularly verse 4, which, in the Book of Common Prayer is this; "How shall we sing the Lord's song upon alien soil?" The Psalm is written during the time of exile when the Hebrew people have been taken captive and moved to Babylon. They wonder how they can continue to be the people of God in this alien territory. Everything is foreign and unknown.

While we are in our homes physically we are still very much on alien soil and each day the landscape of our lives continues to change. Each day we learn new ways to navigate this foreign land that is our lives. We learn how to sing the Lord's song upon alien soil.

Calvary will continue to provide food to those in need on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. This is being done in the garden and while I know that many of you would like to help distribute the food I must ask that you refrain from coming. The best way to help is to donate non-perishable foods and other supplies. These can be dropped at the Church on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday morning between 9:30 and 11:30. Other times are available as well if you email me at rector@calvaryepiscopal.org or call the church office to get my cell phone number.

We will also continue to have a variety of offerings on-line and in emails. If you know of folks who do not have access to a computer please help by calling them or dropping them notes. The National Church is also posting daily offerings on-line and our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry has a daily presence as well.

(Continued on page 2)





Calvary Connection

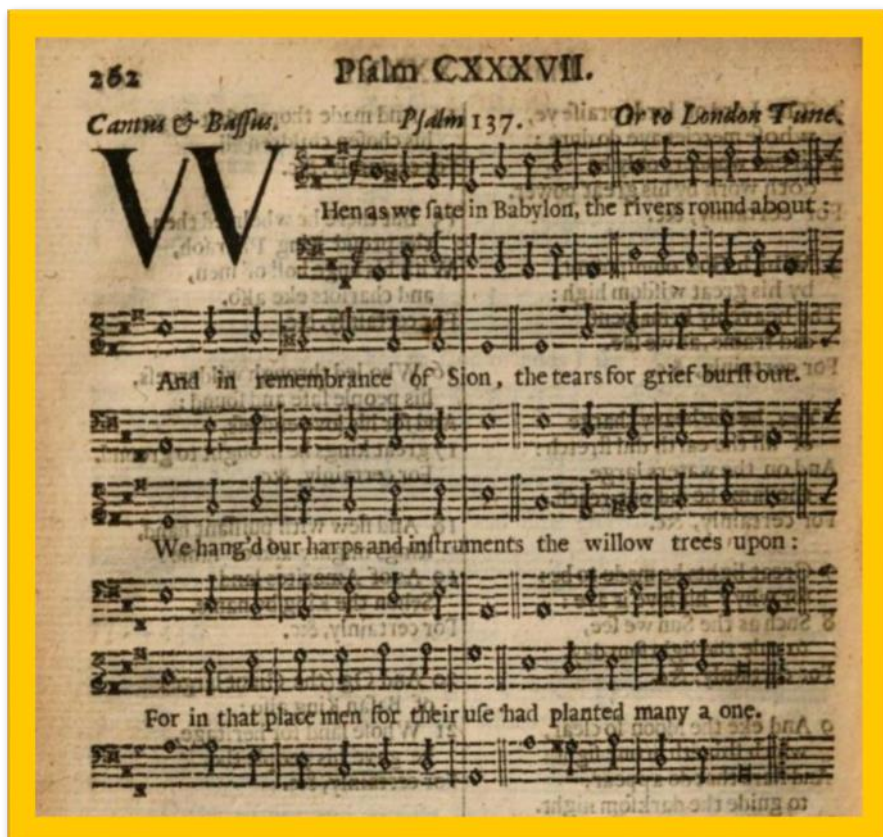
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I recently read an excerpt from a conversation with Rebecca Solnit, author of *A Paradise Built in Hell* in which Solnit questions “What if everything we’ve been told about human nature is wrong, and we’re actually very generous, communitarian, altruistic beings who are distorted by the system we are in but not made happy by it? What if we can actually be better people in a better world?” I was immediately struck by this question because I believe that God’s people have always known that we are in fact generous, communitarian, altruistic beings because we have been made in the generous, communitarian, altruistic image of God. It seems that it is time for us to shine in the world so entrenched in anxiety and fear.

Please continue to give as you are able so that we can continue to reach out to those suffering most in our community. Please stay safe and well and continue to pray for our community, our nation and our world. Please stay in touch with each other by phone or mail or on-line. Together we will continue to sing the Lord’s song upon this alien soil.

God’s peace,

Lee+





The Vestry Voice—*Donna Duvall, 2020 Vestry Secretary*

The Vestry met on February 25, 2020, with the following items of note:

The CEEP convention at the end of February went very well, and Calvary's volunteers did a great job. The service at Calvary was attended by about 400 people and the collection was \$2,300. The next church convention in Louisville will be the General Convention in 2024.

New Committee chairs are Bart Brown for Christian Education, Meg Scharre for Parish Life and Mary Redden for Communications.

We are once again looking for a bookkeeper, since our current bookkeeper has resigned.

Lois O'Hara left the church \$27,901.42, designated for the Food Closet and the Memorial Garden. Her husband Pat O'Hara had been the first person to be buried there. \$5,000 will go to the Memorial Garden Fund, with the remaining \$22,901.42 to go to the Food Closet.

The Organ Committee had submitted its report, recommending a number of changes and repairs for a total of \$646,894. This would include augmenting it to three keyboards, replacing the chests with ones that function differently, changing to a console which would be lower and easier to see over for communicating with the choir, re-voicing and repairing the pipes as well as additions that would allow the organ to produce proper sounds to accompany the choir and lead congregational singing. After learning that there is a three-year waiting list for these repairs with the desired vendor, the Vestry decided to request that we be added to their wait list and that we request the next steps to formalize an agreement for this work.

For the month of January, revenues were \$84,707.67 (\$28,000 being investment income). Expenses were \$53,839.43. Net Operating revenue/expense was (\$30,868.24). The year-to-date actual revenues were \$84,707.67. YTD actual expenses were \$53,839.43. YTD net operating revenue/expense was \$30,868.24. We have a surplus of \$106 thousand from prior years, which has not yet been designated for use.

Upcoming Schedules

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



Collects from Compline—*Linda French, Senior Warden*

(Compline, or the Prayers at the End of the Day, is the final daily office in the Book of Common Prayer, and is meant to prepare us for the long night ahead. In lieu of my column this month, I thought it would be appropriate to share these parts of Compline.)

Collects:

Be our light in the darkness, O Lord, and in your great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night, for the love of your only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen*

Be present, O merciful God, and protect us through the hours of this night, so that we who are wearied by the changes and chances of this life may rest in your eternal changelessness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with your celestial brightness, that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

[at end of service:]

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.

In Easter season, *add* Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

The Officiant concludes

The almighty and merciful Lord, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us and keep us. *Amen*





Adapting to Change, Yes! Food Pantry is Open

Realizing that our food clients will continue to depend on us for food to tide them over the tough spots, the Calvary volunteer food team devised a new method of food bag distribution we hope will be a welcome and healthy solution for continuance of this vital ministry. We moved all distribution operations to the courtyard, with food bags on one table, identification procedures on another, and odd necessities on another. Yes, we even have limited toilet paper! Lee has suspended the thirty day limit (ordinarily clients have to wait thirty days between groceries) which has relieved time-consuming and close-contact paperwork. Most of us are doing this every session, so we are able to monitor the rare person who might try to abuse this system. Clothing distribution is suspended for now, so this may be the first time we ever ask you NOT to donate clothing until this is over!

What if it rains? It did one day and the garden entrance by the gate worked perfectly as a shelter!

How can you help? We have given out 297 bags of food two weeks and a day into the crisis and that has taxed our resources greatly. First Unitarian and Cathedral parishioners plus CLCM have responded wonderfully by bringing in canned goods, peanut butter, spaghetti and sauce, canned chicken, tuna, cereal, Ramen, sweets and bread. We are now getting fresh produce from St. Matthews Community Ministries (even shredded beets and fresh eggs) and Jeffersonville Community Kitchen (rice, beans, canned tomatoes, and black beans). But the need is great and ongoing as long as we can keep on going! Pray that we can!

Margaret Dickinson on behalf of the Calvary Food Team.





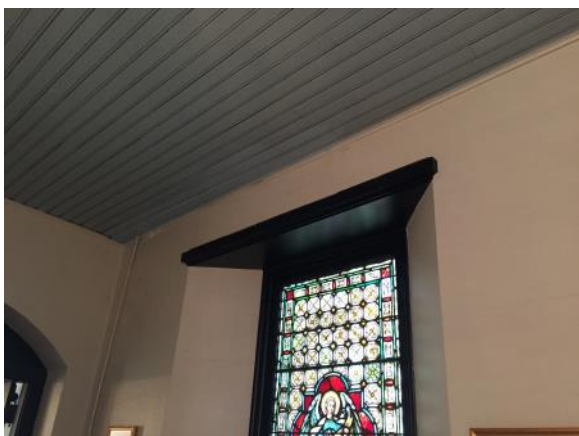
What's New at Calvary Renovations in the Balcony and North Tower

(Editor's note: last month, Will Cary of the Property Committee gave me a quick "tour" of the newly completed work in the back of the church.)

I'm sure many of us come and go at Calvary without even noticing the space to our left as we come in the front door. At the north end of the narthex is a stairway that goes up to the balcony at the back of the nave. Below the stairway is a space traditionally known as the "Bride's Room"—where brides can be out of sight while late-arrivers rush into the wedding. The balcony was probably originally intended as a place for the choir, since where the choir now sits is quite small by Gothic standards. More recently, except in the unusual event of an overflow crowd, the balcony is used only by photographers and (in my memory) a reader who, on Christmas Eve, would read the first words of the Gospel of John into a totally darkened church.

Since the space is off our "beaten path," most of us may not have noticed that it had fallen into dangerous disrepair. Below the floor, every joist had gone soft. The wainscoting was falling apart, and the balusters and newel posts of the stairway were all loose. All the plaster on the second level of the north tower was rotting and, most alarmingly, the west wall above the balcony was in the early stages of collapse, having moved three or four inches. With Will Cary's personal attention and leadership, these problems were tackled in order, over the course of the past year.

Working from the bottom up, first the joists were replaced and the floor put back, so that two stories of scaffolding could be erected to take care of the work above. (Parishioners will remember creeping through the scaffolds to get into church!)

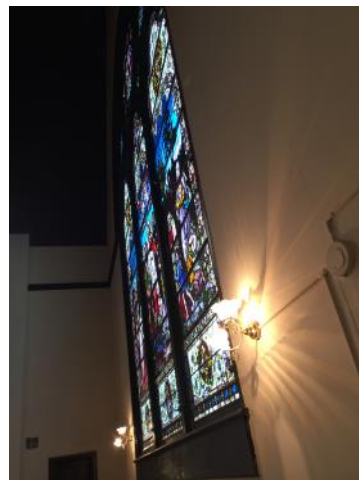


Woodwork around windows needed to be repaired or replaced, along with new plastering and painting of the walls.



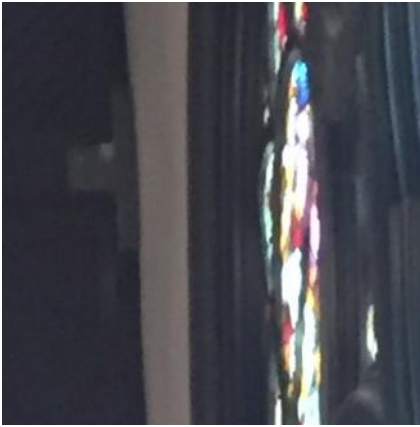
Above the balcony these walls have been re-plastered and painted;

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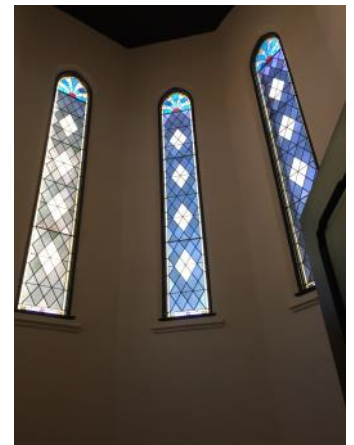
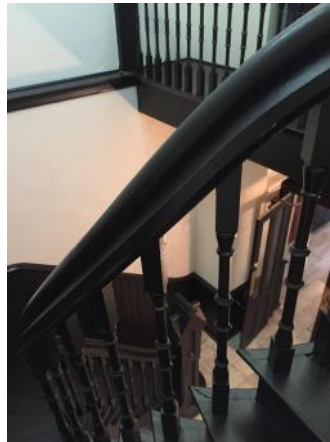


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and to the left of the grand west wall window, you can just make out part of the steel reinforcement that now stabilizes the wall.

New plaster, paint, and windowsills in the upper stairway.



And Will took on personally the task of repairing and painting all the woodwork.

An added archeological prize! As Will was working on the stair-rail, he discovered that it had originally been decorated with this cross at the end, now newly restored.



So when we get back to church again, take a small detour to check out the North Tower and West Wall repairs; and if you see Will, give him a big thanks for his leadership and work on the project!



CEEP2020> THANK YOU!> Gracias!> MERCI!> Asante!> DANKE!

Cindy Curry

On behalf of the CEEP2020 Calvary Host Planning Committee, THANK YOU SO MUCH to EVERYONE for helping make the February Annual Gathering meaningful for so many. We are also grateful to four members of St. James Episcopal Church, Peewee Valley, who swelled our ranks and contributed greatly to the pervasive sense of camaraderie and hospitality! Your offerings of prayer, time, service, and smiles made the difference in the atmosphere and smooth execution of the conference.

Thanks also to our splendid Calvary staff for the months of planning, organizing, and communicating that resulted in such a memorable experience — especially for those who attended the Opening Eucharist. Lee reported that many “went out of their way” in the succeeding days to let her know how much it meant to them. She also expressed her thanks to “the amazing planning Team and Meg who did such a wonderful job coordinating the conference!” Calvary’s outreach programs received \$3000 in donations from CEEP & through the offering at the Eucharist, and Lee extended her thanks for those as well.

Throughout the gathering Joe Swimmer, Executive Director of CEEP, expressed his gratitude for Calvary’s work which actually began before the CEEP2019 gathering in Boston and continued through the closing at Louisville’s Omni Hotel on February 22. CEEP2021 is scheduled for March 3-6 in Dallas, with the theme “Such a Time as This: The Church as Witness Gathering.” The impact of our current world-wide challenges will surely inform the context of that conference, and Calvary’s legacy will no doubt contribute to its success.

Again, deepest thanks for the faithful contributions of everyone to CEEP2020!

CEEP Calvary Host Planning Committee

(Meg Scharre & Bart Brown, co-chairs), The Rev. Dr. Lee Shafer, Jamie Hendon, Cindy Curry)





Spotlight on Calvary's Youth — Deborah Stewart

In my life, my children and grandchildren are my greatest resource. They will carry on long after I am gone. I have spent much of my life instilling the very best I have ever tried to be in their hearts and minds. I am a mother and a grandmother. I have degrees and accomplishments that might define me in other terms but the closest to my heart are the words, "Amma" and "Mom."

I distinctly remember the night I sat on the edge of our grandson's bed trying to calm his fears of the coming night. He was very young and confided his fear of "Crayon People," and other imagined beings. We talked about what was real and what was not real. We talked about how much stronger the light is than the darkness. We talked about his nightlight and the nearness of Granddad and Amma who would be just across the hall if he should need us.

Then, as I tucked him in, I told him Jesus had taught his friends a special prayer to say when they were afraid. I told him one day he would know this prayer by heart. I suggested we say this prayer. I said, "It goes like this,' Our Father who art in heaven...' " At which point he looked my way and said, "Hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven..." He recited from memory the entire Lord's Prayer. He was three years old.

Then I thought, Of course he did! He had been listening to that prayer every Sunday of his life during the eleven o'clock service at Calvary.

On another occasion, he and I sat on the marble steps which lead from the Nave to the Altar. We had just finished practicing piano in Parker Hall and had come to reverence the Cross on our way to the north entrance. It was late afternoon and everyone else had gone. I asked him how it felt to be in this huge space knowing we were the only ones left in the entire church. He paused and said, "Oh, Amma. We are not alone. Every soul who has ever entered this space is here with us now."

He was seven and as we sat there with the Nave bathed in the beautiful natural light of a late fall day, I knew he understood Calvary from a much broader perspective than even I did.

His cousin, who is a second grader, read The Prayers of The People, Rite One during a recent service. In the week preceding the service, she and I practiced reading the prayer. I explained that she would be speaking directly to God using very old words like beseech (another word for ask) and supplications (another word for asking with your whole heart) and Divine Majesty (another way to address God). We talked about the entire prayer and she asked that I stand beside her to whisper words she might have forgotten. She even suggested a small hand signal so I would know when she needed help. She stood before the entire congregation (another word for family) and read with the assurance of a child speaking directly to God.

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Faith Cole and David Stewart



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As she stepped back into the presence of the congregation, she was literally enveloped with hugs and applause, extended hands and smiling faces. It was incredibly touching to me to watch this child receive the blessing of her church family. There was something wholly sacred in that moment and akin to what the Saints of Old called a second blessing.

To be present in the sacred moments of a child's life is exactly what Jesus was saying when his disciples tried to keep the children away from Him. "But Jesus said, 'Suffer little children and forbid them not, to come unto me, for of such is the kingdom of heaven.'" Matthew 19:14 KJV

Calvary is not doing enough to nurture our children. It is just that simple. Those who have tried—and there are many—have done so with love but we as a congregation (aka family) need to do more. We must devote more resources (aka money) to our children's program.

In the coming Connections, I will introduce you to each of our children. I might add that parents must give written approval for me to share these introductions. In the meantime, many thanks are due to all the teachers and nursery staff who have given so much.





Staying Active (Online) During the Plague—Jonathan Smith

(A compilation of ideas for keeping yourself occupied while you're trapped at home:)

Cultural

[Vienna State Opera](#)

Performances are broadcast CET (Central European Time). [Click here](#) to convert CET to EDT.

[Medici TV](#)

"The World's Leading Classical Music Channel"

[Streaming Shakespeare](#)

Performances shared by the Folger Shakespeare Library

[Online museum tours](#)

From *Travel and Leisure* Magazine

[Ten Museums You Can Virtually Visit](#)

[68 Cultural, Historical, and Scientific Collections You Can Visit Online](#)

Both provided by *Smithsonian* Magazine

[Poem-a-day by contemporary poets](#)

[Today in history](#)

(See, one day **is** different from another!)

Keep Your Brain Sharp

[Jigsaw puzzles](#)

[Sudoku](#)

["World's Largest Trivia Quiz Website"](#)

[KrazyDad Puzzles](#)

"Thousands of FREE printable sudoku, logic puzzles, mazes and more. Print as many as you like!"

(But if you can afford it, please send KrazyDad some money—this is an amazing service for puzzle-lovers, with a free-will offering.)

[Brain Games from AARP](#)

For a simple, relatively low-tech way to stay in touch with friends, just set up an email group and use "Reply All" to keep communication going around. The Calvary "Going Places" group (temporarily called "Not Going Places") is using this expedient.

People are now saying that Shakespeare wrote *King Lear* during a plague year. I don't think we can say so precisely when Shakespeare wrote *King Lear*, but Boccaccio definitely wrote *The Decameron* during the plague, and it tells the tale of friends who were isolated together at that time, and entertained one another by telling stories.

Tell us your plague stories! Even better, share some pictures, so we can see the people we're missing. And share your suggestions for staying both sane and healthy in this time of "social distance." Send all to smith@hanover.edu, and if I get enough material, I'll put it all together in the next *Connection*.



Recommended Reading List for a Time of Social Distancing

Mary Redden

NonFiction:

The Righteous Mind: Why Good People are Divided by Politics and Religion by Jonathan Haidt

An explanation of how people's beliefs come primarily from their intuitions, and rational thought often comes after to justify initial beliefs. Haidt explores human morality as it relates to politics and religion

Call the Midwife: a memoir of birth, joy, and hard times by Jennifer Worth

The memoir of a midwife and district nurse at a nunnery in London's East End in the 1950s.

Dopesick by Beth Macy

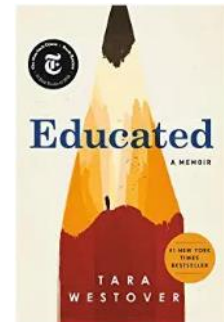
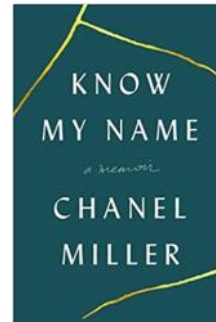
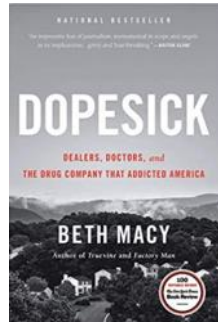
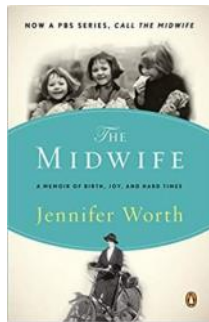
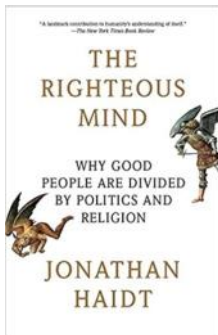
The devastating story of opioid drugs and their impact on those who became addicted or died of an overdose and their families, friends, and communities.

Know My Name: a memoir by Chanel Miller

'Emily Doe' the victim/survivor of the Brock Turner sexual assault case, shares her powerful story.

Educated: a memoir by Tara Westover

From childhood 'off the grid' in rural Idaho with zero classroom schooling, to Brigham Young University and eventually Cambridge, Ms. Westover explores what it means to be 'educated'.



The 6th Extinction: an Unnatural History by Elizabeth Kolbert

Is human behavior is on the verge of causing a mass-**extinction**—the **sixth** in the history of the planet?

Fiction

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Set in Nazi Germany, a young girl is taught to read by her foster father and steals a book from a Nazi bonfire. A lesson in holding on to hope in the worst circumstances.

The Fishbowl by Bradley Somer

A look into the lives of the residents of the Seville on Roxy as observed by a fish falling from the roof as he looks in their windows. Lighthearted and surprisingly touching.

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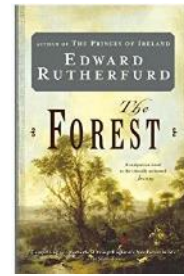
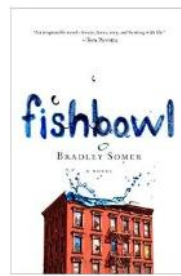
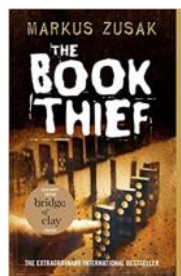
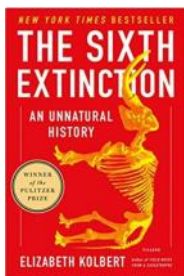
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The Forest by Edward Rutherfurd

Michenor fans will love this book. The living history of the 'New Forest' in southern England from times of the Norman Conquest to today. An epic saga of people whose ambitions, feuds and loyalties made history.

Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi

Homegoing traces the descendants of Maame, an African woman of the Asante who lived in the 1700s. One of her children was taken in slavery to the US. The other remained in Africa. A look at the African and African American experience of family, heritage, and discrimination.



Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng

A novel about identity and belonging. Two families' (one traditional, one not) lives intermingle and cause each to examine their values and social expectations. Soon to be released as a motion picture starring Reese Witherspoon.

The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah

The story two sisters surviving World War II in occupied France. One becomes a French resistance operative code named 'Nightingale'.

Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens

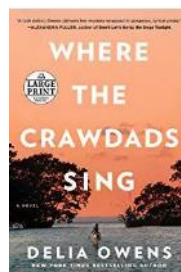
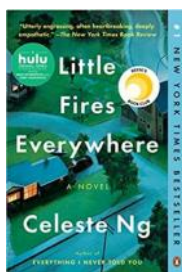
Kya aka 'the Marsh Girl' grows up completely isolated in the swamp after being abandoned by her family. Part inspirational story, part crime drama, part nature guide – this book is a favorite of book clubs.

Special YA/Fantasy recommendations:

The Queen's Poisoner – Book One of the Kingsfountain Trilogy by Jeff Wheeler

Throne of Glass – Book One of Throne of Glass series by Sarah J. Maas

(What are you reading right now? Send your choices to Book Editor Mary Redden at chesteralways@yahoo.com. Thanks!)





CHILDREN'S

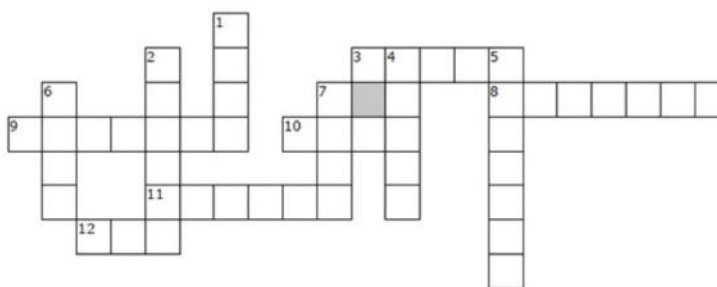
—please share with the children in your life

ORNER

(Print and share)

The Triumphal Entry

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"
Luke 19:38 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. The Son of God
8. A word used for praise and adoration which means "save us"
9. A small town
10. A young animal of the horse family; especially one under one year
11. To stretch out over a large area
12. To secure with a piece of rope

DOWN

1. What a person is called
2. To express admiration or approval of something or someone
4. To go into a place
5. Said something in a loud voice; called out; yelled
6. A male ruler of a country
7. A pathway for vehicles, persons, and animals; a street or highway

VILLAGE	JESUS	SHOUTED	ENTER
COLT	SPREAD	PRAISE	NAME
TIE	ROAD	HOSANNA	KING

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And thanks to Adele Koch for this month's expanded list of activity links:

[Easter Coloring Pages](#)

[Easter Crafts for Kids](#)

[Easter Story for Kids](#)

[Beginner's Bible Stories on YouTube](#)

Speed Museum's [Art Sparks](#) from home

[Crafts related to Shakespeare](#)

[Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems](#) (author of *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* and other books) broadcasts every week day at 1:00 ET, but you can view any episode you missed by clicking the back button on the web page; there are also downloadable activity pages for children of all ages.



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**)

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

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[View larger map](#)

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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.