

“Minister” Is a Verb

Dear Calvary Family,

In the Prayer Book Catechism (p. 855) the question is asked, “Who are the Ministers of the Church?” The answer: “The Ministers of the Church are laypersons, bishops, priests, and deacons.” It’s easier to read this answer than to live it out.

Each member of Calvary church is a minister. That means that, in addition to myself, we have approximately 200 ministers at Calvary! Our baptism conferred ministry upon us all and we need to remind ourselves of this truth often!

In everyday parlance we confuse ourselves by referring to the clergy as “the minister”. This suggests that we tend to think of a minister as someone we have - a hired hand - to tend to aspects of operating a church. It’s rather like thinking of the church as a building with a street address instead of its proper New Testament meaning which is that the church is the body of faithful people gathered together for worship and work.

One of my colleagues came up with a startling way of rethinking ministers. He said, “‘minister’ is a VERB! It’s not something one has but what one does!” Just as it is best to think of “love” as a verb, an action word, rather than a static noun, so is it also more useful to think of minister as a verb. The literal meaning of the word is “to serve”. Jesus put it simply: “The son of man came not to be served but to serve”. He reminded his disciples that honor, prestige and prominence are not the marks of a lively faith (another verb?) but servanthood, He being the supreme example. We in turn minister in His name in thanksgiving for His ministry to us.

Ministry is always what takes place where each Christian believes, lives, and moves. It’s not merely what happens at 1337 Winchester Avenue. In fact, most of Calvary’s ministry does not take place at that address.

Martin Luther, the great 16th Century architect of the Reformation gives us a helpful vision and framework for thinking about our lives as ministry. He pointed out four areas in which we live out of response to Christ: 1) our vocation; 2) our family life; 3) our civic responsibilities; and 4) our church life. These categories raise some important questions for us: How can I be Christ’s ambassador at the office in terms of my tasks and the people I encounter? What does it mean to love people with whom I work and share corporate and civic goals? How is Jesus Christ at the center of my marriage and family and friendships? How is my home a place of ministry? How can I serve Christ in others at the grocery store or at school or at a social gathering? How am I using the gifts God has given me so that the whole church congregation is nurtured and built up?

Could it be that a life in Christ is meant to be the life OF Christ?! Look around at Calvary these days. Chances are you’ll see lots of ministers, thankful souls, who are living out their gratitude in the service of others in both large and small ways. Often they shun recognition and quietly go about their ministry as naturally as breathing.

When we share the life we have been given by God’s grace, then in our beloved Calvary family we experience an incredible release of joy and of peace within.

As we approach the fall and the renewal of our regular schedules, perhaps we will rededicate ourselves to serving Christ and in turn discover that “minister” is indeed a verb!

Blessings,

The mission of Calvary Episcopal Church is to seek and serve Christ through **Worship** which invigorates and challenges, **Education** which equips every member for a ministry, **Fellowship** opportunities which nurture all ages, and **Giving** of ourselves for the sake of those who do not belong.

KEENELAND TRIP

The trip to Keeneland is scheduled for Saturday, October 25. The cost is \$40 per person and includes: transportation, admission, program and buffet in the Phoenix Room on the 4th floor overlooking the Paddock where you can stay to watch the races. Paid reservations are due by August 17. Contact Judy Ford or Debbie Johnson.

We Care - Let Know!! Please let us know ASAP when a family member goes to the hospital or nursing home or is scheduled for a procedure. We want to help you share the burden. Call the office at 325-2328 or chip@calvaryepiscopal.com.

New Directories Are Available! They may be picked up in the ambulatory. However, if you are unable to attend church, phone Melissa and she will mail one to you.

Position Open for CARES Executive Director

Resumés are being accepted for a new Executive Director of Community Assistance Referral Services. If interested please send to P.O. Box 1503, Ashland, KY 41105. Salary is negotiable between \$25,000 - \$30,000 depending upon experience.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF LIFE

Little Bobby, scolded for being naughty, was asked by his mother, "How do you expect to get into heaven?" He thought for a moment and then replied: "I'll just run in and out and keep slamming the door until they say, 'For goodness sake, come in or stay out.' Then I'll go in."

A little girl asked her mother, "How did the human race come about?"

The mother answered: "God made Adam and Eve and they had children, and so all mankind was made."

Two days later she asks her father the same question.

The father answered; "Many years ago there were monkeys, and we developed from them."

The confused little girl returns to her mother and says: "Mom, how is it possible that you told me that the human race was created by God, and Papa says we developed from monkeys?"

The mother answers: "Well dear, it is very simple. I told you about the origin of my side of the family, and your father told you about his.

DISCIPLES COURSE

A new adult education course will begin on September 16. It will run for approximately 11 weeks and is entitled "Invitation to John." Session 1 is called "Come and See," Session 2 is called "How Is It Possible," Session 3 is called "Taste for Yourself," Session 4 is called "To Believe or Not to Believe," Session 5 is called "Are We Blind," Session 6 is called "I Couldn't Believe My Eyes," Session 7 is called "Would You Believe It," Session 8 is "What Time Is It," Session 9 is called "Look Out," Session 10 is called "Believing Without Seeing," and Session 11 is called "Do You See Him."

Each session will include a 15 - 20 minute video followed by discussion. The sessions will be facilitated by the Adult Education Committee of the Vestry in the Parish Hall.

2008 Fellowship Hosts

Aug. 17 Diane Zwick
24 Mary Riley

Sept. 7 Picnic in Park
14 Gary and Liz Alexander
21 Leannah and Bruce Leslie
28 Judy and Jerry Ford

Oct. 5 Peter and Donna Yacoe
12 "Trick or Treat" - Honor Youth
19 Dr. and Mrs. John Jones
26 Martha Dodson

Nov. 2 Bill and Betty Lou Moore
9 Sharon and Chip Valentine
16 Mark and Teresa Gordon
23 Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner
30 Mary Riley

Dec. 7 Chili
14 Tina and David Mussetter
21 David Stewart
28 Kathy and Don Setterman

Turn Out the Lights, when you are the last one to leave a room. Help us cut energy waste!

Kroger Cards

Don't forget the Kroger Card program when honoring loved ones. "Gift" your family and friends with Kroger cards. You will not only be providing them with a useful gift, you'll be helping our church earn rebates as well. Call Tina Mussetter at 232-2336 for your special Calvary-keyed card!

Flowers for the Altar The fall season is fast approaching, and we still have several dates available for donating altar flowers. Please keep in mind that it is a wonderful way to memorialize, thank, or celebrate your loved ones. The following dates include: August 31, September 21, 28, November 2, 9, and December 21.

Magazine Drive

Please don't forget that we still need your used magazines for the area nursing homes. See Pam Womack for more details.



For Your Information

The Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost - August 17

First Lesson: Genesis 45:1-15
Epistle: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
Gospel: Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28
Psalm: Ps 133

The Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost - August 24

First Lesson: Exodus 1:8 - 2:10
Epistle: Romans 12: 1-8
Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20
Psalm: Ps 124

Prayers Are Requested for:

Members

Jeanne Martin, Linda Hood, Susie Seaton, Larry Craycraft,
Sharon Valentine, David Slagel, Nancy Ross, Chuck Hanebuth,
Pam Watson, Judy Ford, Phyllis McKenzie and Martha Ross

Friends & Relatives

Ellis Conley, Jane, Susan, Brian, Karen, Audrey Blair, Leonor Salyers,
Eric, Erin, Jon, Chrissie, Bob, Janet, Drew, Tyler, Jessica, Betty W., Dot,
Rob, Bev Hinkles, Mom, Bellamy Family, Kristopher, Marty Thomson,
Vina Piatt, Sue, Joe Moore, Kristey, Wandaleen, Lucy, Molly,
Roberta Felty, and Tom Lambert

Shut-in/Convalescing

Nell Hutchinson, Marie Kephart, Tootie Morefield, Lucille Kazez,
Phyllis McKenzie, William and Betty Brown, Duane Chapman,
and Linda Hood

PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

We are pleased to lift up special needs and thanksgivings related to loved ones. Names are carried for one calendar month unless otherwise requested. Thanksgivings change weekly. Please try to be as concise and specific as you can.

PLEASE BLOCK PRINT

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

NAME OF PERSON(S) TO BE PRAYED FOR:

Their Need (healing, hospital, convalescing, dying, etc.):

Thanksgiving for:

Today's Date: _____

Your Name _____
(important)

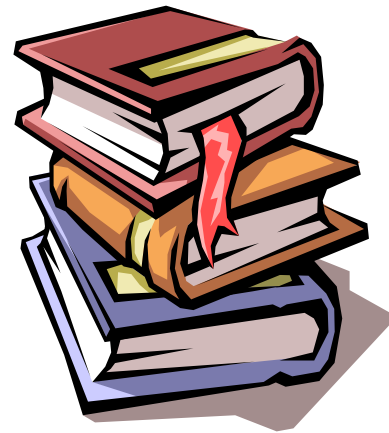
Please place form in offering basin or mail to the office.

Vestry Highlights - July

The Vestry met in regular session on July 28 and...

- Accepted with regret Mark Gordon's resignation as he has been promoted to a new position in Richmond, VA effective August 16.
- Announced that the joint VBS with First Christian Church was a huge success; voted to send a contribution in thanks to FCC.
- Thanked Gail Rous and Eileen Songer for subbing for Carol during her vacation.
- Announced a new Adult Class course for the fall at 9:30 a.m.: "Disciples" program, with first series on St. John, "Invitation to John". Leannah Leslie will reform the Book Club Bible Study during the week with the first book being "Bad Girls of the Bible."
- Heard from various commissions that plans are underway for the fall, especially in the Sunday School and stewardship areas.
- Learned from the Treasurer that as of 6/30 total receipts are behind, due to small investment income; expenses are under budget; a net loss of \$2,732 Y-T-D in income.
- Discussed need for a vestry person to be a "floater", policing the plant for security reasons during services.
- Adjourned with benediction at 7:35 p.m.

Calvary's Book Club will meet for the first time on Wednesday, September 24, in the Heritage Room at 7 p.m. It will be lead by Leannah Leslie. Please begin reading or have already read "Bad Girls of the Bible" by Liz Curtis Higgs. It's a unique clear sighted approach to understanding those other women in scripture, combining a contemporary retelling of their stories with a sold verse by verse study of their mistakes and what lessons we can learn from them.



VBS PHOTO SLIDE SHOW

A computerized slide show of VBS is available at www.fcc-ashland.org.hosting.domaindirect.com/id17.hotmail Check out the pictures of the children and staff!




Birthdays in Our Parish Family in August and July

August 05 John Jones, 06 Bernard O’Nan, 07 Helen Hall,
 11 Caroline Haeberle and Jeanne Martin, 12 Chuck Hood and
 Peter Yacoe, 15 Holden Slagel, 22 Christy Ford, 24 Tom Wuerdeman,
 25 Mitchell Crowley, and 28 Robin Reames

September 01 Donna Yacoe, Charlie Cox, 02 Jordi Pullem,
 03 Suzanne Smith, Debbie Farrington, Cleve McHenry,
 04 Martha Lindsey Cooke, 07 Sam Alexander, 08 Shirley Proffitt,
 13 Catie Jones, 15 Lawless McKenzie, Diane Zwick,
 16 Mitzie Grizzle, 22 Georgia Ann Russell, 27 Sudie Davis,
 30 Johnny Hall

The deadline for the next Crucifer is August 25. Please have all articles for submission in to the office by the above date.



The Rt. Rev. Stacy Sauls, Bishop
 The Rev. Mann S. Valentine, Rector
 Dr. Carol M. Greene, Music Minister

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Melissa S. Owens, Secretary
 Sam Hall, Sexton
 Community Kitchen (606) 325-8144

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