

# GROWING IN FAITH

CHRISTIAN FORMATION  
OFFERINGS AND EVENTS 2026



CALVARY  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH CLIFTON

# From the Rector



Dear Calvary Parishioners,

It probably comes as no surprise that a recent study found the average person becomes distracted every forty seconds when using a computer or smartphone. With so much information at our fingertips, **remaining attentive** has become one of the great challenges of our time.

Our biblical wisdom tradition speaks directly to this: “Listen to counsel and accept discipline, that you may be wise the rest of your days” (Proverbs 19:20).

In a fast-paced and fragmented world, the Church offers something radically grounding: a community shaped by practices that steady the heart, deepen the soul, and teach us how to live with intention.

In 2026, we will explore **twelve spiritual disciplines**-- inward, outward, and corporate-- that form us as faithful people. These practices align beautifully with **Calvary’s mission** to grow inwardly in faith through worship, music, and education, and outwardly through invitation, welcome, and connection. Together, we will learn not only how to center ourselves in God’s presence, but also how to embody God’s love in the world.

**In the pages of this catalog, you’ll find offerings for all ages.** These are opportunities to grow, to wonder, to pray, to study, and to share in community. I warmly invite you to join me on this journey as we discover, practice, and celebrate the rhythms of grace that can transform our lives.

*The Reverend  
Allison English*

RECTOR

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## Calvary Community Hour

Weekly Sunday gathering that nurtures spiritual growth, deepens community, and equips us to live our faith with intention.

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## Lenten Luncheons

Exploring Celtic Spirituality, with practices that attune us to God's presence in creation, community, and the rhythms of daily life.

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## Education for Ministry

Deepen your understanding and become equipped to discern and live out your ministry as a baptized person in daily life.

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## Formation for Children and Teens

Growing in Faith at Every Age

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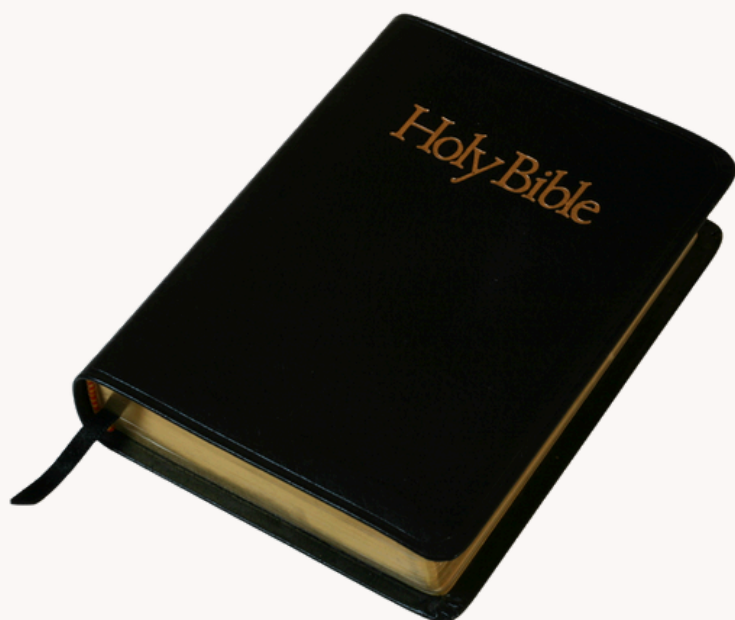
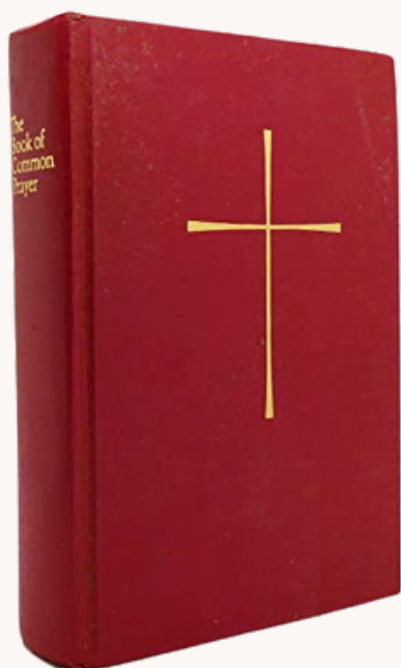
## Justice Has No Borders

Ayman Soliman shares his story at CCAC; sponsored by Clifton Area Interfaith Congregations

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## Exploring the Spiritual Disciplines: 2026 Month-by-Month

Practices That Shape a Faithful Life





DISCIPLESHIP CENTER

# Calvary Community Hour

Calvary Community Hour meets most Sundays at 10:00 a.m. in the Discipleship Center

From January through March, Calvary Community Hour invites us into a season of grounding and growth as we explore the first of the Inward Spiritual Disciplines—meditation, prayer, and fasting—alongside meaningful offerings that engage our community and the world. These months include opportunities to learn contemplative practices, reflect on ethical questions, hear from ministry partners, and engage contemporary issues that shape our lives of faith. Together, these early sessions set the tone for a year of intentional spiritual formation and shared discovery.



# Upcoming Calvary Community Hour Offerings Sundays 10:00 a.m.



## JANUARY

January 4 - **Meditation**: Beginning the Inward Journey

January 11 - **Procter Center Program Preview** featuring Jerusalem and Nathan Greer, Co-Camp Directors

January 18 - **MLK: Where Do We Go From Here?**  
Conversation with Diocesan Beloved Community Missioner & Calvary Member Miriam McKenney

January 25 - **ANNUAL MEETING** - No Community Hour

## FEBRUARY

February 1- **Prayer**: Practices of the Anglican Tradition

February 8, 15, 22 - **Ethics Series** with Don Reed

Part 1: Talking with our Kids/Grandkids about Drinking, Speeding, and Sex (including Porn)

Part 2: How We Make Moral Decisions

Part 3: Two Methods of Moral Decision-Making: "Applied Ethics" and "Casuistry"



## MARCH

March 1 - **Fasting**: Discover fasting through both classic Lenten traditions and non-traditional practices

March 8 & 15- **The Anxious Generation**: Parts 2 & 3 with Alison Taylor

March 22 - **Mid-Lent Grace**: Finding Compassion in our Lenten Practices

March 29 - **PALM SUNDAY**: Enter Holy Week with prayer and intention as we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. (No class.)

# LENTEN LUNCHES 2026

## *Celtic Spirituality*

**JOIN DEACON LIBBIE CRAWFORD  
IN THIS FIVE-WEEK SERIES**

**BEGINS WITH LUNCH AT 12:30PM.  
SOUP PROVIDED; BRING A SALAD,  
BREAD, OR DESSERT TO SHARE**

**PROGRAM CONCLUDES EACH  
WEEK NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM.**

**February 22,  
March 1, 8, 15, and 22  
in the Discipleship Center**



### *Ancient Paths, Sacred Presence*

Experience Lent through the lens of Celtic Spirituality, exploring ancient practices that attune us to God's presence in creation and deepen our walk of faith.



### *Deacon Libbie*

Deacon Libbie Crawford is the Deacon-in-Residence at the Procter Camp and Conference Center. When she is not ministering at camp on Sundays, she worships with us at Calvary.

# EDUCATION

## *for Ministry*

**Education for Ministry (EfM)** is a four-year, small-group theological education program rooted in scripture, church history, ethics, and theology. More than a class, EfM is a practice of listening. Members of the cohort group learn to reflect theologically on their lives, their questions, and the world around them.

Participants read together, pray together, and engage in guided conversation that honors curiosity, doubt, and lived experience. EfM is especially meaningful for those who long to think more deeply about faith without needing all the answers. The EfM group is welcoming new members at Calvary in **Fall 2026**. If you're curious, prayerful, or simply wondering if this space might be for you, we invite you to consider joining us.

**Contact Lois Brown**  
**([lgbrown@miamioh.edu](mailto:lgbrown@miamioh.edu)) or**  
**Ben O'Kelley ([ebokelley@gmail.com](mailto:ebokelley@gmail.com))**  
**to find out more**

**A DEEP, DEDICATED  
SPACE FOR ASKING BIG  
QUESTIONS, STUDYING  
SCRIPTURE AND  
THEOLOGY, AND  
DISCOVERING HOW  
FAITH SHAPES  
EVERYDAY LIFE IN  
COMMUNITY, NOT  
ISOLATION.**





Want your child or teen to get involved? Contact:

**Sally Engelbert** (sally@calvaryclifton.org)

Children and Families

**Stephanie Townes** (stephanie@calvaryclifton.org)

Youth & Fearless Tweens



## Godly Play

**Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

This Sunday School program offers children ages 3-12 sacred space to explore Bible stories through wonder, storytelling, and play, nurturing spiritual language, curiosity, and trust in God together joyfully.



## Youth Group

**Sundays at 10:00 a.m.**

Teenagers grades 7-12 go deeper in faith and service through weekly Sunday gatherings, meaningful relationships, special events, and mission trips that put faith into action.

# CHILDREN & TEENS *Growing in Faith*



## Fearless Tweens

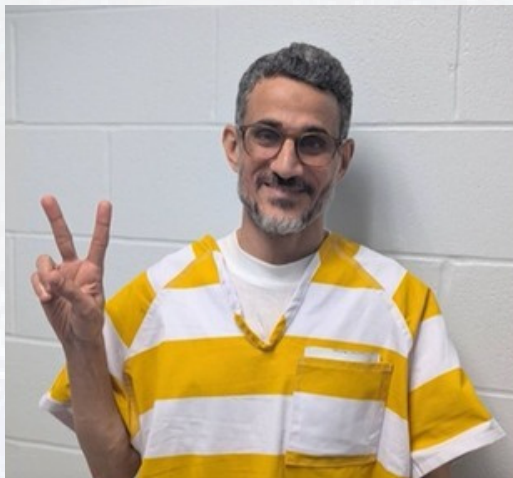
**Select Sundays at 4:00 p.m.**

Fearless Tweens is a fellowship group for ages 9-12, building friendships, exploring faith, asking big questions, and growing confidence through fun, service, and meaningful conversation together.



# Justice Has No Borders with Imam Ayman Soliman

*Former Cincinnati Children's Hospital Chaplain*  
**Unjustly Detained by ICE. Released. Telling his story.**



1,100+ SIGN LETTER SUPPORTING IMAM  
ASKING GOV. DEWINE TO INTERVENE ON AYMAN SOLIMAN'S BEHALF

DEVELOPING  
STORY



An Interfaith Event Hosted By:  
Temple Sholom, Clifton United Methodist,  
Calvary Episcopal, Mt. Auburn Presbyterian

Sunday January 18 at 5 PM  
Clifton Community Arts Center (CCAC McKillip Theatre)

# Exploring SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

THROUGH MONTHLY SPIRITUAL PRACTICES, WE WILL LEARN TO NOTICE GOD IN EVERYDAY LIFE, DEEPEN LOVE OF NEIGHBOR, AND PREPARE TO SHAPE LIFE-GIVING RHYTHMS FOR THE FUTURE.

In 2026, our formation life at Calvary will center on spiritual disciplines, understood not as rigid requirements but as life-giving practices that help us notice God's presence in ordinary days. Using Celebration of Discipline by Richard Foster and Spiritual Disciplines Handbook by Adele Ahlberg Calhoun as guiding texts, we will explore one spiritual practice each month. Practices will include prayer, scripture, simplicity, hospitality, service, and rest. Together, we will learn, experiment, reflect, and support one another as we discern which practices nourish our lives and deepen our love of God and neighbor.

This year is about practice, curiosity, and attentiveness. It is a season for trying things on, letting go of what does not fit, and noticing what helps us live more fully and faithfully.

In 2027, we will build on this shared foundation by moving toward the creation of a Rule of Life, a flexible and life-giving framework that helps us weave these practices into the rhythms of daily living. This two-year journey invites us not toward perfection, but toward intention, shaping lives rooted in prayer, justice, joy, and love.



# SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES

Month by month, these are the spiritual disciplines we will explore together as a parish in 2026. This sequence follows **Richard Foster's** *Celebration of Discipline*. and *Spiritual Disciplines Handbook* by **Adele Ahlberg Calhoun** will serve as a practical companion, offering additional reflection and spiritual exercises.

**JAN**

## **Meditation**

Begin the year by cultivating holy attentiveness.

**FEB**

## **Prayer**

This month we rediscover prayer as relationship rather than requirement.

**MAR**

## **Fasting**

Fasting is more than giving something up: it's making space for what truly gives life.

**APR**

## **Study**

Loving God with our minds, we invite transformation through curiosity, depth, and disciplined attention.

**MAY**

## **Simplicity**

We'll explore simplicity as freedom—freedom from anxiety, from accumulation, and from the narratives that tell us we are what we own.

**JUN**

## **Solitude**

We will practice stepping away from constant demands to rest, reflect, and hear God's voice anew.

**JUL**

## **Yielding**

This month we explore mutuality, humility, and the sacred practice of placing the good of the community above ego.

**AUG**

## **Service**

We deepen our commitment responding to the needs around us, discovering how serving others becomes a pathway to joy and transformation.

**SEP**

## **Confession**

Confession invites truth-telling that leads to healing. What does that look like for us as individuals and as a group?

**OCT**

## **Worship**

We explore how our shared praise, prayer, music, and sacrament reorient us toward hope and ground us in community.

**NOV**

## **Guidance**

God speaks through community as we listen for wisdom in Scripture, tradition, prayerful discernment, and the trusted voices who help us seek God's path together.

**DEC**

## **Celebration**

Celebration reminds us that God's grace is abundant, liberation is real, and delight is a spiritual strength that carries us into the year ahead.



# CONFIDENT IN GOD'S LOVE FOR US FEARLESS IN OUR LOVE FOR ALL



TO GROW INWARDLY IN FAITH THROUGH  
WORSHIP, MUSIC, AND EDUCATION AND  
OUTWARDLY THROUGH INVITATION,  
WELCOME, AND CONNECTION

TO BE JESUS' HEART, HANDS AND FEET,  
HUMBLY COLLABORATING WITH OUR  
NEIGHBORS TO REALIZE BELOVED  
COMMUNITY



TO OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE,  
RECOGNIZING THAT WE ARE ALL BROKEN  
SAINTS AND REDEEMED SINNERS



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EPISCOPAL CHURCH CLIFTON