



# AGAPE

JANUARY 14, 2018

**CALVARY**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
PITTSBURGH + PENNSYLVANIA

## Gifts in Epiphany

The season of Epiphany is about gifts. The first story we tell is the visit of the wise men or magi who presented the Christ child with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, offerings fit for a king. The season reminds us to be mindful of the many ways, in this crazy world, God's hidden world continues to break into ours right where we are.

I received an unexpected, small but precious, gift in Epiphany. A man from Florida wrote to me, out of the blue, saying he was a retired person who spends his weekends searching for hidden treasure at yard and estate sales. He recently bought some old books and found one that might be of interest to me so he mailed it to Calvary. We sent him back money for the mailing and a photo guide book of the church with a thank you note.

The book was a confirmation present from the Rev. Edwin Van Etten, the 8th Rector of Calvary (1917-1940). Tucked neatly inside, with only a slight crease on one side, were a confirmation certificate and a Sunday bulletin. They are wonderful gifts because a stranger thought they should be returned home and reveal a little glimpse into Calvary's past.

The bulletin (with announcements) reveals our Sunday worship schedule from 1929. Calvary offered Holy Communion at 8:30 a.m., Church School at 9:30 a.m., Choral Morning Prayer at 11 a.m. (the main service), and the "Radio Service" at 7 p.m. On this occasion, the Radio service featured a sermon by Bishop Alexander Mann and confirmation. Confirmation over the radio does not sound like riveting entertainment but there weren't many stations then. Calvary had the first church service broadcast over radio, by KDKA, just eight years before on January 2, 1921. We have always tried new ways to share the faith and serve our neighbors.

Calvary would have just started using the "new Prayer Book" of 1928 one year earlier. The music and worship then would be very familiar to all of us now. The Radio Service was quite similar to our current offering of Evensong (choral Evening Prayer) on the first Sunday of each month at 5 p.m. Even Lent and Holy Week services are revealed. With a few differences, there is a remarkable degree of continuity.

The bulletin also revealed we had a young adults ministry even back then. After the confirmation service, the Rector invited all the young adults, to a reception, back to his home located at 420 S. Dallas Avenue, a handsome Tudor house in Point Breeze.

The confirmation certificate was presented to Betty Wharton Brooke on March 17, 1929. A little research online revealed her obituary. Betty was graduated from Winchester-Thurston School (they merged in 1935) and later the University of Pittsburgh in 1938. She married Thomas Raber who was in the military and later an engineer for Westinghouse. They lived in the Philippines, Japan, France, Boston, and eventually retired to Florida.

My hunch is that little confirmation gift and bulletin traveled all over the world, made it through multiple moves and a world war, and eventually appeared in a yard sale in Florida where the retired gentleman found it and sent it home to Calvary almost 90 years later. He found a book, hidden in a dusty box, that was treasured by her and kept all these years. It has returned home to us as a gift from the past.

In this season of Epiphany, where are God's unexpected gifts revealed to you?

—Jonathon ■

# I Lived as a Monk for Two Years

by Geoffrey Royce. Part 5 of a series.

**Lectio divina** is the practice of divine reading. It is descended to us from Benedictine tradition. Usually based in scriptural reading it encourages knowledge of God and God's "reputation". It can also be used to guide the spirit into still prayer. Focusing at first on the few words that have caught your interest or the movement of your heart stay with that fragment of meaning, holding it in the stillness and silence. Eventually you may be able to move past the words to what stirred you to stay with those words. Lastly you may offer them to God asking God to perhaps allow you to see the meaning of these words in your day or to allow them to return into God's silence.

Over the years I have allowed other kinds of written materials to be part of this practice for myself. The creed, the writings of the saints or doctors of the church seem to me to be as steeped in the revelation of God as scripture. On rare occasions, I have realized that some fictions can lead to something that clearly resembles revelation so I have sometimes unintentionally stumbled upon something that is like being touched by the Holy Spirit. But these are to be carefully examined and not permitted the same assurance of value as scripture or the doctrine of the church.

Also, religious art can be a source for divine reading. With the advent of computers we can visit the great works in churches and museums all over the world from our studies. In the same a sentence or a word from scripture touches us way we can find a detail in a painting or a sculpture that commands our attention. We can dwell on the gentleness or violence or darkness or brightness, shock or calm suggested by the work of art.

Art is a reflection of the human spirit. We see our story, our questions, our wondering in created works. This is so because we are creatures who worship a Creator God. The dynamics of creative images in art in writing perhaps even in the wonders of nature are where we find the hand of God. Contemplating the creative design and purpose of those designs will always lead us to God. ■

## Women of Calvary Grants

In this season of giving, it is appropriate to again thank all the Calvary parishioners who made this year's Holiday Bazaar such a success. And, it is important to remember that the proceeds of every bazaar are a meaningful way of reaching out to those in our community, and the world, who are in need. Here is a listing of the Women of Calvary grant recipients for 2017:

### Off the Floor Pittsburgh

Off the Floor is a local Christian ministry dedicated to supporting families who cannot afford basic furniture for

*—continued in the next column*

their homes. They delivered needed furniture to over 400 households this year, including 436 children, with a waiting list of 54 families. WOC's grant of \$2,000 provides funds to assist at least 10 families on the waiting list.

### Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute (PPI)

The Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute is Western Pennsylvania's oldest interfaith counseling center providing mental health services to over 1000 persons annually. The WOC grant of \$1,000 supports the Silent Samaritan program, which provides funds for nearly 100 sessions for women who need PPI's counseling services, but who cannot afford the fee.

### Pittsburgh Weil School

Pittsburgh Weil Elementary School is a Pre-K to 5th grade school located in Pittsburgh's Hill District. Many families do not have the financial resources to provide their children with gifts for the school's annual Christmas Fun Night. WOC's grant of \$1,000 supplements the Weil Christmas Fund to provide a gift and a holiday meal for each of the 240 students.

### St. Stephen's Neighborhood Youth Outreach Program (NYOP)

NYOP has been offering a safe place for children in Wilkinsburg for nearly 20 years, providing a Christ-centered arts after school program. WOC's grant of \$1,500 provides funding for the healthy food initiative which includes learning about a new fruit or vegetable, cooking, and assembling recipes and a cookbook to take home.

### Shepherd Wellness Community

Shepherd Wellness Community is the only HIV/AIDS community in Western Pennsylvania, offering a safe, compassionate community accepting and empowering people affected by HIV/AIDS to live with dignity. WOC's grant of \$1,000 was given in memory of Fr. Lynn Edwards, the community's founder.

### Women's Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh

The Women's Center and Shelter founded in 1974 offers a safe environment for 6,000 women and more than 300 children annually who are escaping domestic violence situations. WOC's grant of \$1,000 can provide 45 hours of counseling and direct services for children who are witnesses and victims of intimate partner violence.

### Calvary Clergy Discretionary Fund

Throughout the year, our clergy minister to and counsel many people, and support a myriad of pastoral needs. As the Women of Calvary have done for many years, the annual grant of \$2,250 provides monetary support to the clergy for the unanticipated needs of those who come to them for solace and support.

### Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)

WOC grants are normally awarded to local non-profit organizations supporting the needs of women and children. However, this year, an exception was made due to extraordinary international emergencies. WOC awarded \$1,000 to ERD specifically to support the Puerto Rico Hurricane Relief Fund. ■

## The Bookstore at Calvary

The Bookstore's mission statement is "to serve the parish and provide outreach to the wider community as we navigate our spiritual journeys and live out our faith". The Bookstore supported many worthy causes in 2017 including donating a portion of the proceeds from the 'yinzers' related items available at the Bookstore to Sheldon Calvary Camp located in Conneaut, OH. Established in 1936, Harry E. Sheldon Calvary Camp is a camping ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. It strives to work passionately to offer intentionally designed programs where children, young adults, and families develop skills for meaningful peer relationships, deepen connections to the natural environment, integrate faith into their everyday lives, and become dynamic and visionary stewards for our communities. The Bookstore donation in 2017 was used to support the scholarship fund at the camp. To learn more, please go to [www.calvarycamp.org](http://www.calvarycamp.org).

In addition, the Bookstore sponsored the 2017 Calvary Episcopal Church Used Book Sale netting \$3500. The money raised from this fundraising event benefited seven literacy organizations:

Book 'Em is an all-volunteer project of the Thomas Merton Center which sends free books to prisoners in Pennsylvania. In addition to donating books, the Bookstore's monetary donation is used primarily for mailing costs. To learn more about Book 'Em, please visit [www.bookempa.org](http://www.bookempa.org).

Kathy Garrison's Backpack Project focuses on the children of women in POWER: Pennsylvania Organization for Women in Early Recovery. Kathy personalizes each child's backpack with fun and educational materials that she collects on a child's particular interest, whatever it is, from dinosaurs or pandas to Louisa May Alcott or baseball. She fills the backpack with personalized notepaper, word searches, books and puzzles, on the child's topic, as well as school supplies like colored markers and Kleenex®. Further information is available at [www.power-recovery.com](http://www.power-recovery.com).

Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council is a national leader in adult education and family literacy. They provide a variety educational programs for 4,600 adults and families each year in the Pittsburgh area. For more information, please go to [www.gplc.org](http://www.gplc.org).

The Holy Cross Book Project benefits children age 4-13 years old who attend The Church of the Holy Cross in Pittsburgh. Books are purchased that are age

appropriate for every age group including selections related to bullying and teenage insecurities as well as children's daily experiences and feelings. The goal is these books will encourage the children to read more, to foster learning and to attend Sunday school more often. It benefits both parishioner's children and neighborhood children who otherwise would not be exposed to a broad reading experience. The Bookstore's donation underwrites the cost of purchasing appropriate books.

Homeless Children's Education Fund's (HCEF) mission is to advance the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness, guiding them to be productive, empowered citizens. As a national model for addressing the educational needs of unstably-housed children and youth, HCEF leads a collaborative effort among regional partners by providing educational programs and services in Allegheny County and advocating for policy and system improvement. To learn more, please go to [www.homelessfund.org](http://www.homelessfund.org).

Neighborhood Youth Outreach Program (NYOP) is an afterschool program for elementary school children from the surrounding neighborhoods founded by St. Stephen's Episcopal Church Wilkesburg. NYOP uses an arts-based curriculum that includes instrumental music, singing, dance, art, poetry, and photography, all in a Christian context. The NYOP provides a safe place, mentoring relationships, and an atmosphere that promotes personal growth and a sense of belonging. For more information about NYOP, please go to [ststephenspittsburgh.org/youth-outreach](http://ststephenspittsburgh.org/youth-outreach).

Reading is FUNDamental (RIF) Pittsburgh's mission is to provide children with the resources, motivation, and opportunities to develop a life-long love of reading. RIF offers consistent, high-quality "pushed-in" literacy and educational programming for more than 22,000 economically disadvantaged children in Pittsburgh and the surrounding communities. In the last year alone, they put more than 103,000 self-selected books into the homes of the children and families that need them the most. To learn more about RIF, please go to [www.rifpittsburgh.org](http://www.rifpittsburgh.org).

Finally, on behalf of the Bookstore volunteers, a Christmas gift donation was made to Episcopal Relief and Development to support individuals impacted by the recent hurricanes. ■

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Ash Wednesday is  
February 14, 2018

# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Classes for all ages Sundays at 10 a.m.

## A Study of the Gospel of John

Please join the Rector and the Rev. Chuck Esposito in McClintic Hall on Sundays at 10 a.m. as they co-teach this class on the Gospel of John that will continue throughout the academic year. ■



### January 14 – A Winter Books Review

The Rev. Moni McIntyre will share some of her suggestions by African American Authors, focusing on six historical works with a social justice focus.

### January 21 – Gospel of John class, in McClintic Hall

### January 28 – *Them and Now*: Johann Adam Möhler

In this continuing series, the Rev. Chuck Esposito invites a contemplation of issues in contemporary society in light of the writings of historic theologians. We might imagine how they'd respond but, more importantly, we can apply their insights to look critically at our world through the vision of faith they articulated in their day.

Möhler is a German theologian from the modern period (1796-1838) and a student of the University of Tubigen. He wrote in polemic dialog with the theologian Ferdinand Christian Baur, and composed the controversial text "Symbolik" in 1832.

### February 4 – Gospel of John class, in McClintic Hall

### February 11 – *Them and Now*: Soren Kierkegaard

In this continuing series, the Rev. Chuck Esposito invites a contemplation of issues in contemporary society in light of the writings of historic theologians. We might imagine how they'd respond but, more importantly, we can apply their insights to look critically at our world through the vision of faith they articulated in their day.

Soren Kierkegaard is a Danish theologian and existentialist philosopher (1813-1855) who is unique for his critique of the idealist philosophy of his time, advocating for the individual's subjective relationship with Jesus Christ.

### February 18 – Gospel of John class, in McClintic Hall ■

Please remember Calvary Church  
in your will.

# CALVARY YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

If you are in your 20s or 30s and new to Pittsburgh, Calvary, or CYAM, welcome! If you would like more information or to be added to our email list, please contact Susan Roth (sroth@calvarypgh.org / 412.661.0120 ext. 116).

### Sunday, January 21, 12:45 p.m. –

Brunch at Social (6425 Penn Ave., 15206)

### Tuesday, February 6, 5:30 p.m. –

Holy Happy Hour at Industry Public House (4305 Butler St., 15201)

### Sunday, March 4, 12:45 p.m. –

Brunch at Mad Mex (220 S. Highland Ave., 15206)

## Lenten Book Group

By popular request, we will have a book group on *The Book of Joy* one night a week throughout Lent, led by the Rev. Moni McIntyre. Details about timing and location coming soon via email. ■

## Burning of the Palms

Do you have leftover palms from last Palm Sunday? Bring them to church and leave them in the basket in the Parish Hall, and we will burn them at the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper on February 13 to make ashes for Ash Wednesday. ■



## Sheldon Calvary Camp at Calvary Episcopal Church

Join us for the Camp service, an informal celebration of the Holy Eucharist, at 3 p.m. The Reverend Leslie Reimer is the celebrant, and we use music from the Camp songbook. Mark your calendars and join us when you can!

We will meet on these Sundays:

January 28, February 25,  
March 25, April 22, and May 27 ■



## News of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

### ***Lenten Learning Day '18: Love. Teach. Heal.***

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, March 3**, and plan to participate in Lenten Learning Day 2018, a special day of worshipping and learning alongside others from across the diocese. This year's event will take place at St. James, Penn Hills.

During November's diocesan convention, Bishop McConnell expressed the mission of our diocese in three words: *Love, Teach, Heal*. What does this mean for us when we gather in our churches on Sunday mornings – and as we go about our lives outside of Sunday morning church time? This is what we will aim to unpack and explore on March 3.

Helping us to do so will be our special guest, The Reverend Scott Gunn, executive director of Episcopal publishing house Forward Movement.

The agenda for the day is still being finalized, but here is a bit of what you can expect:

- This is a free event, open to all clergy and laypeople.
- The day will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m., and will end with a service of Holy Eucharist from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
- Morning refreshments and lunch will be provided.
- Child care will be available.

More information and online registration, coming soon. ■

Absalom Jones Day will be observed with a Prayer Breakfast at St. James, Penn Hills, on **Saturday, February 3, 2018**. The Rev. Dr. Toussaint King Hill, Jr., pastor of the West Hunter Street Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA, will be the keynote speaker. Additional details are to come. ■

## Bishop's Visitation Schedule

**January 21** – St. Paul's, Monongahela

**January 28** – All Souls, North Versailles

**February 4** – Uganda

**February 11** – Uganda

**February 18** – St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg

**February 25** – Emmanuel, North Side ■

## From the Treasurer

Beginning on January 1, 2018, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) are:

- 54.5 cents for every mile of business travel driven, up one cent from the rate for 2017
- 18 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes, up 1 cent from the rate for 2017
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations

The business mileage rate and the medical and moving expense rates each increased one cent per mile from the rates for 2017. The charitable rate is set by statute and remains unchanged.

The standard mileage rate for business is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile. The rate for medical and moving purposes is based on the variable costs. ■

## Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

**January 14** – St. James Episcopal Church, Penn Hills, and the Rev. Eric McIntosh

**January 21** – St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Monongahela, and the Rev. Charles Schaller (ELCA)

**January 28** – All Souls Episcopal Church, North Versailles, and the Reverend Linda Tardy Wilson.

**February 4** – The Rt. Reverend Dorsey McConnell; and the Commission on Race & Reconciliation.

**February 11** – Non-parochial clergy, including the Reverend Cynthia Bronson Sweigert, the Reverend Mabel Fanguy, the Reverend Daniel Hall, M.D., the Reverend Sara Irwin, and the Reverend Kathryn LaLonde. ■

## Stay in Touch with the Diocese



[www.facebook.com/EpiscopalPittsburgh](http://www.facebook.com/EpiscopalPittsburgh)

Visit the diocesan website at  
[www.episcopalpgh.org](http://www.episcopalpgh.org)

Submissions for publication on the diocesan web site, calendar, and the *Grace Happens* weekly e-newsletter should be sent electronically to  
[info@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:info@episcopalpgh.org).

Please be sure to include your complete contact information with any submission. ■

## Canon for Mission Kimberly Karashin



### *Briefly describe your role in the diocese:*

The word canon has many meanings, but in the context of diocesan staff, it simply refers to one who assists the bishop. *The canon for mission*, then, assists the bishop in matters related to mission.

But what is *mission*? During our recent diocesan convention, Bishop McConnell expressed the mission of our diocese in three words: *love, teach, heal*. It's important to note that this is not an invention of his own, but a way of expressing his understanding of God's purpose and activity throughout history and still today – and especially through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. My role is to initiate, encourage, and oversee efforts – on the part of individuals, parishes, and the diocese as a whole – to join God in *His* mission to love, teach, and heal.

### *Where have you seen God bringing resurrection in our diocese?*

In John 16:7, Jesus told his disciples, “Unless I go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.” Our belief in the resurrection demands that we be willing to follow the guidance of the Holy Spirit, whose presence with us is a direct outcome of Jesus' death, resurrection, and return to the Father. In my work, I am seeing individuals and groups within our diocese begin to take very seriously the need to set aside secular planning and problem-solving techniques in favor of Spirit-led discernment... What is God up to in our neighborhood? Who is He calling us to be? And what is He sending us out into the world to do? It's exciting to see this happen! ■

*Kimberly may be reached at [kkarashin@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:kkarashin@episcopalpgh.org).*

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## From Episcopal News Service

### **Presiding Bishop in Puerto Rico exchanges messages of hope as struggles persist after hurricane**

*[By David Paulsen; Posted January 5, 2018. Episcopal News Service – Toa Baja, Puerto Rico]*

Bishop Rafael Morales leaves no impression he is still wading into his job. He had been leading the Diocese of Puerto Rico a mere two months when Hurricane Maria devastated the island in September, and since then he and his staff and clergy around the diocese have mobilized relief efforts with a determination that this week earned praise from Presiding Bishop Michael Curry during his two-day visit.

*—continued in the next column*



Presiding Bishop Michael Curry joins a group led by the Diocese of Puerto Rico that conducted home visits January 3 to provide medical care to sick residents of Toa Baja. Here, Mariana Cabrera, 83, who suffers from diabetes, high blood pressure and ulcers, is checked by medical personnel. Photo: David Paulsen/ENS

Hurricane Maria was and continues to be an unparalleled catastrophe, Morales said, but he is seizing the opportunity for ministry to his fellow Puerto Ricans.

“Our people have a good heart,” he said January 3, on the road to the coastal town of Toa Baja accompanied by Curry. Puerto Rico's culture is one of thanksgiving, Morales said. “This diocese is a diocese of hope.”

Curry was in Puerto Rico on a pastoral visit, and he preached January 3 in the evening at the Episcopal cathedral in San Juan, the capital of the U.S. territory. The earlier stop in Toa Baja introduced Curry and his delegation to Hugs of Love, a series of pop-up medical clinics the diocese has offered since the hurricane through the health care system it runs. This and other ministries are strengthened by ecumenical partnerships and through collaboration with federal agencies, local nonprofits and the Episcopal Church's Episcopal Relief & Development.

For the Hugs of Love event in Toa Baja, open-air canvas tents were set up on a vacant gravel lot provided by the local Disciples of Christ congregation, which also sent volunteers. They wore hats and shirts with the message “Ama Como Crist” – “Love Like Christ.”

“Thank you for what you've both done. It's God's work,” Curry said to the Disciples of Christ pastor, the Rev. Prudencio Rivera Andujar, and his wife, Azalia Gomez. ■

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### **The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh mailing address:**

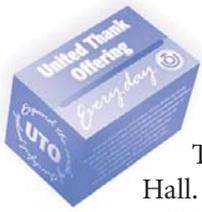
325 Oliver Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-721-0853 | [info@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:info@episcopalpgh.org)

### **The Rt. Rev. Dorsey McConnell, Bishop**

412-721-0853 ext. 252 | [dmcconnell@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:dmcconnell@episcopalpgh.org)

### **Judi Rogers, Executive Assistant**

412-721-0853 ext. 251 | [jrogers@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:jrogers@episcopalpgh.org) ■



## United Thank Offering “Blue Boxes”

There are blue boxes available in the Parish Hall. These boxes have quite a history! At the 1889 Triennial Meeting the Women’s Auxiliary instituted the United Offering for the support of specific mission projects and individual missionaries. Known affectionately as “Blue Boxes,” achieved almost iconic status as the symbol of the UTO. In time the UTO, through the Blue Boxes, became the single most important extra-budgetary source for funding of projects. In 2016, the UTO awarded 32 grants for a total of \$1,161,314.62 for the mission and ministry of The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion. ■

## How to Use Your Blue Box

### Notice the Good Things that Happen Each Day.

**Give Thanks to God** for your blessings.

**Make an Offering** for each blessing.

**Every penny, nickel, dime, quarter, and dollar offered in thanks**

through United Thank Offering  
is given to God’s mission in the world.

**Every coin and bill transforms lives**  
in the United States and around the world.

**Your Blessings** become blessings for others.

When your Blue Box is full, bring it to Calvary and please take a new box home with you, and start all over! ■



Especially for preschool children and their accompanying grown-ups, Chatham Baroque’s Peanut Butter & Jam Sessions encourage young children to become active and enthusiastic listeners through music, dance, and games. Kindermusik teacher Lynda Wingerd joins Chatham Baroque and a variety of special guests for Saturday morning musical adventures that are lively, educational – and fun!

Join us on **February 10, 2018** for *Plenty of Pipes* For full details on this series and ticket information, visit the Chatham Baroque website at [chathambaroque.org](http://chathambaroque.org), or telephone 412.687.1788. ■

## Staying in Touch

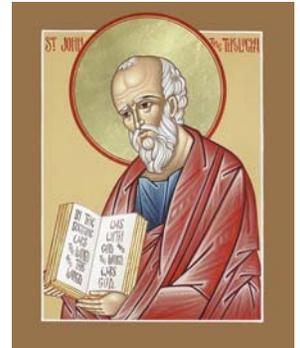
If you wish to sign-up to receive our weekly e-mail blast, please visit the Calvary website at [www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org) and click on “Sign up.”

Be sure to keep us informed if you have a home address, phone or email change. Contact our Parish Secretary, Marsha Morris, at 412.661.0120, ext. 111 or send an email to [secretary@calvarypgh.org](mailto:secretary@calvarypgh.org). ■

## The Gospel of John Class

We hope you will join us at 10 a.m. on Sundays, for a class on the Gospel of John. The Rev. Jonathon Jensen and the Rev. Chuck Esposito will lead the class.

Several people have asked about resources for the class. The most important preparation is to read the whole Gospel, preferably in one sitting. It is only twenty-one chapters. Calvary uses the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible for all worship services but feel free to utilize any translation.



If you would like to do some more in depth study, below are four excellent resources.

Barclay, William. *The Gospel of John*. There are numerous editions of this series first published in the 1950s. It is accessible and easy to read yet surprisingly insightful.

Brown, Raymond. *An Introduction to the Gospel of John*. The Anchor Yale Bible Reference Library. 2003. The leading scholar of the Gospel of John, who died in 1988. This is the most scholarly of the books recommended.

Kittredge, Cynthia. *Conversations with Scripture: The Gospel of John*. Cynthia is the Dean of the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest in Austin from which T.J. Freeman was graduated. She spoke at Calvary last spring.

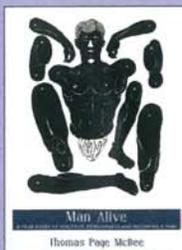
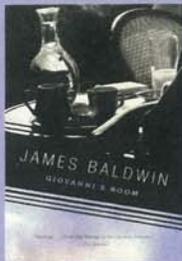
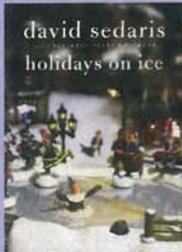
Wright, N.T. *John for Everyone*. 2 vols. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2004. N.T. Wright is a Church of England bishop and a major scholar. This book is written as an introduction for the educated layperson. We used this series for the Gospel of Luke class. ■

## Altar Flowers

Help us keep the church in full bloom by donating flowers in memory of, or in honor of, someone special. If you would like to place a memorial listing, please contact Marsha Morris in the church office at 412.661.0120, ext. 111. ■

# Lavender Book Club:

*An LGBTQ Book Discussion Group*



**Fourth Thursday of the month | 7:30 pm**

**CLP - Main, Classroom A**

*Discuss contemporary and classic LGBTQ fiction and nonfiction*

**January 25, 2018**

**Holidays on Ice** by David Sedaris

An anthology of humorous Christmas tales and essays features excerpts from the author's "Barrel Fever" and "Naked," as well as "The Santaland Diaries," "Season's Greetings to Our Friends and Family," and a new tale of holiday mayhem.

**February 22, 2018**

**Giovanni's Room** by James Baldwin

This tale of conflicted sexual identity in the 1950s centers around the experiences of the American expatriate David, living in Paris and struggling with his feelings of attraction to other men. Unable to face the truth about himself, David proposes to Hella Lincoln. While she is in Spain mulling over his proposal, David falls in love with Giovanni, an Italian bartender and must choose between a conventional life or being true to his own feelings.

**March 22, 2018**

**Blue Is the Warmest Color** by Julie Maroh

One night, when Clementine goes with her friend to a gay bar, she becomes captivated by Emma, a punkish girl with blue hair. This event leads Clementine to discover and explore new aspects of herself.

**April 26, 2018**

**Man Alive** by Thomas Page McBee

What does it really mean to be a man? In *Man Alive*, Thomas Page McBee attempts to answer that question by focusing on two of the men who most impacted his life — one, his otherwise ordinary father who abused him as a child, and the other, a mugger who almost killed him. Standing at the brink of the life-changing decision to transition from female to male, McBee seeks to understand these examples of flawed manhood and tells us how a brush with violence sent him on the quest to untangle a sinister past, and freed him to become the man he was meant to be.

**May 24, 2018**

**In One Person** by John Irving

Tells the story of Billy Abbott, a bisexual man who struggles with his identity and attraction to men, women and transgendered individuals, as the world changes around him.

Book descriptions taken from NoveList, © 2018 EBSCO Publishing

*More information can be found at [carnegielibrary.org](http://carnegielibrary.org) and at [lavenderbook.club](http://lavenderbook.club)*



**MAIN**  
4400 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213



# RACE IN PITTSBURGH:

- **THE JUSTICE SYSTEM**
- **LGBTQ INTERSECTIONS**

Please join us for 2 panel discussions:

- 1) What's Happening in the Justice System
- 2) Intersections of Race and LGBTQ issues in our community.

Each dialogue will take place from 7-9 pm at Church of the Redeemer.

**Monday November 13, 2017:** *Larry Davis, Dean, School of Social Work and Director, Center on Race and Social Problems, University of Pittsburgh*, will be joined by Alfred Blumstein, Professor of Urban Systems and Operations Research at the Heinz College of Carnegie Mellon, David Harris, Professor at University of Pittsburgh Law School, and Celeste Taylor, Voting Rights Advocate, to discuss **What's Happening in the American Justice System.**

**Thursday, March 15, 2018: SAVE THE DATE** for a forum discussing issues of **Intersectionality of Race and LGBTQ Issues.**



*No charge for admission, freewill donations graciously accepted.*

**GREAT ISSUES  
FORUM AT  
REDEEMER:  
WINTER 2017-18**

**March 15, 2018:  
LGBTQ – Race  
Intersections  
System**

**CHURCH OF THE  
REDEEMER,  
SQUIRREL HILL**

5700 Forbes Avenue,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217  
412.422.7100  
[redeempittsburgh.org](http://redeempittsburgh.org)



**We seek to promote  
understanding and  
encourage action around  
justice issues.**

# Calvary Episcopal Church Movie Night: Thursday, January 25, 2018

IN 1996 IN THE ALGERIAN MOUNTAINS,  
CAUGHT BETWEEN A MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND EXTREMIST GUERRILLAS,  
A GROUP OF MONKS FACE THE DECISION OF THEIR LIVES.

INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY.



LAMBERT WILSON    MICHAEL LONSDALE

## OF GODS AND MEN

A FILM BY XAVIER BEUVOIS

**PG-13**

• WINNER  
Grand Prize  
Cannes  
Film Festival

• New York  
Toronto  
Telluride Film Festival

• WINNER  
Best Foreign  
Language Film  
National Board of Review

• 10 César Award  
Nominations including  
BEST PICTURE



In 1996, the Trappist Monks at a monastery in Algeria tend to the needs of the local villagers. They find themselves ensnared in political strife, of which they want no part. Whether to flee to safety from terrorists (and the Army) or stay and continue their good works becomes the pressing question – and gets right to the root of the brothers' beliefs. This film offers a most unusual meditation on faith in the context of the “real world.”

Come for a salad supper (prepare for 2) in the Refectory (at 6 p.m.)

Film starts promptly at 7 p.m.

followed by a brief discussion led by Clint Van Dusen, in the Parish Hall

Please contact Clint by email [apax4cmvd@msn.com](mailto:apax4cmvd@msn.com) or call 412.427.8933



**Musical Notes: A New Year's Resolution**

Warm greetings in this bitterly cold new year.

I want to propose a new year's resolution for your consideration. "When in church, sing." (Regular attendees at the 8 o'clock Sunday service or our weekday services are exempted.)

Singing requires more of us than speaking. It calls upon us to inhale more deeply, employing more of our lung-capacity and drawing life-giving oxygen more deeply into ourselves. The Hebrew words for "breath" and "spirit" are one in the same: in the opening lines of Genesis, when the "Spirit of God" moves over the formless chaos, it is also the breath of God that breathes over the void. This truth is also reflected in the dual meanings of our word "inspiration."

Singing also requires us to put more of our mind to work in shaping our utterance, as we listen not merely to our own words, but to the notes on which we sing them. Psychologists are now leaning away from the familiar characterization of our brain's hemispheres as having profoundly different roles in cognition (which gave rise to many spins on "left" and "right" brain functions). But they still concede that the right brain is more engaged with things like intonation and linguistic emphasis, while the left hemisphere governs other aspects of communication. Thus music still engages both aspects of our minds, uniting them in the work of song.

And work it is: but singing also can energize us. The increased flow of oxygen through lungs working harder to support sung utterance also brings that breath, that life-giving oxygen, to the rest of our beings. The left and right brain functioning together as a unit surely promotes fuller consciousness, a more fully engaged presence in the moment. And the voices around us shape our experience, too, as we blend and intertwine with them, refashioning ourselves through that participation from individuals into a community. When we join our voices not merely on the same word, but in the same breath, and in concord with one another, we unite ourselves more deeply in our act of common prayer.

Please, give it a try. ■

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

This year Ash Wednesday is February 14, which means that the annual parish **Shrove Tuesday Supper will be held February 13 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.** in the Refectory, with clergy making pancakes. Details will be announced. ■

**Baptisms**

- Caleb Adams, June 4, 2017
- Nolan Adams, June 4, 2017
- Sage Ruthanne Eckel, June 4, 2017
- Simon Kaiser Awori Hayanga, June 4, 2017
- Finn Michael Kirby, June 4, 2017
- Claire Bird Dickens McKissick, July 30, 2017
- Amanda Nua Nurley Quaynor, July 30, 2017
- Galen Leif Dann, November 5, 2017
- James Alexander Gusmar, November 5, 2017
- Benjamin Stone Petrie, November 5, 2017

**Marriages**

- Erin Margaret Johnson and William Meany Lutz, April 22, 2017
- Emily Jane Heitechew and Samuel Gene Blake, August 19, 2017
- Debra Alward and Arthur A. Maxwell, II, September 2, 2017
- Casey Nicole Bilger and Jeffrey Carl Bice, October 7, 2017
- Mary L. McKinney and Mark Francis Flaherty, October 20, 2017
- Lilla Oxaal Swan and David McLeod Hillman, December 23, 2017

**Confirmations – May 21, 2017**

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Peter Bickel      | John Nash      |
| Ricardo Bickel    | Brian Peck     |
| Barbara Brooks    | Caroline Peck  |
| Pamela Gianni     | Lois Pruitt    |
| Wendy Lomicka     | Sara Schuchert |
| Cynthia McCormick | Joanna Schultz |

**Burials**

- John M Boering, May 22, 2017
- Wallace W. Smith, June 22, 2017
- Michael R. Neill, July 29, 2017
- Ann Woolfolk Austin, September 1, 2017
- Catherine Fetterman, October 21, 2017
- Brian Nimo Tirimanne, November 18, 2017

**Transferred In**

- Karen Charonis, October 9, 2017  
from St. Andrew's, Highland Park
- David Charonis, October 9, 2017  
from All Saints, Pittsburgh
- Alexandra Davis, October 17, 2017  
from St. Andrew's, Highland Pak
- Margot Woodwell, November 7, 2017  
from St. Michael's of the Valley, Ligonier PA

**Transferred Out**

- Joseph Gaines, May 30, 2017  
to St. Andrew's Episcopal, Denver, CO
- Patricia Speak, May 30, 2017  
to St. Brendan's Episcopal, Franklin Park, PA
- Ruth Fowler, August 15, 2017  
to Holy Comfort Episcopal, Broomfield, CO ■



## Souper Bowl Sunday, Feb. 4: Soup Group Sale

Beginnings had a wonderful start to the Christmas season with our cookie exchange and sing-a-long. The children had fun singing songs and playing instruments, but the highlight was Santa's surprise visit. Just as we were finishing the final chorus of *Santa Claus is Comin' to Town*, the doors of the Parish Hall flung open and Santa came in with a great big HO! HO! HO! The kids rushed over to hug Santa. The rest of the afternoon was spent visiting with Santa and eating cookies. Everyone was given a Christmas book as a gift from Beginnings. The students returned to school the first week of January. Despite the extremely cold temperatures, the teachers and children were eager to be back at school and in each other's company again. We are excited about all of the fun things we have planned for the Spring semester. Look for news in February about our all-school, unit on art and artists. ■

Do you have a favorite soup? The Soup Group would love to have your recipe. We enjoy making soup and would like to share soup with you and provide those in need in the East End of Pittsburgh with \$10 Giant Eagle gift cards and bus passes. On **Sunday, February 4**, after all morning services, the Soup Group will be selling dry soup mixes and many of our frozen homemade soups. Pints will be available for \$5 and quarts for \$10.

In preparation for this sale we will meet on **Wednesday, January 24 at 9 a.m.** in the kitchen. Please join us! Our February cooking session will be **Friday, February 9 at 10 a.m.** Thank you for your support. **Go Steelers!**

—Adele Eley, [adele.eley@gmail.com](mailto:adele.eley@gmail.com) ■

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## “Food of the Month”

East End Cooperative Ministry operates the second largest food pantry in Pittsburgh. **On their wish list for January is Rice-a-Roni; in February it's dry cereal.** Of course, you may donate any food item. Other essential items they can always use include Reusable Grocery/Tote Bags, Disposable Grocery Bags, Individually Wrapped Rolls of Toilet Paper, and Diapers and Baby Wipes (many of the over 500 families we provide groceries for each month have infants). Please leave your items in the shopping cart in the Parish Hall. ■

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## Many Thanks!

Thank you, thank you, and Merry Christmas from the many folks who “walked into” Trinity Cathedral the week before Christmas and received the bounty of toiletries and other non-food items from a host of Calvary parishioners who donated them so generously. Your response was truly gratifying and exceeded the expectations of the volunteers from diocesan churches and the Walk-In Ministry sponsor, the Social Justice and Outreach Committee. ■

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## About Agape

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, February 2, 2018**. Please e-mail your text to [calvary@calvarypgh.org](mailto:calvary@calvarypgh.org) or deliver it directly to the church office.

*Agape*, the newsletter of Calvary Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is published monthly (except July), and is mailed to active members and friends of the Parish. You may opt out of receiving a printed copy and read each issue online at [www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org). Contact the Parish office at 412.661.0120 for details. ■

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## Movie Night: Thursday, January 25, 2018

Lambert Wilson     Michael Lonsdale  
**OF GODS AND MEN**  
a film by Xavier Beauvois

In 1996, the Trappist Monks at a monastery in Algeria tend to the needs of the local villagers. They find themselves ensnared in political strife, of which they want no part. Whether to flee to safety from terrorists (and the Army) or stay and continue their good works becomes the pressing question – and gets right to the root of the brothers' beliefs. This film offers a most unusual meditation on faith in the context of the “real world” and is rated PG13.

Come for a salad supper (prepare for 2) in the Refectory (at 6 p.m.). The film starts promptly at 7 p.m. followed by a brief discussion led by Clint Van Dusen, in the Parish Hall. Please contact Clint by email [apax4cmvd@msn.com](mailto:apax4cmvd@msn.com) or call 412.427.8933 to make reservations. ■

# About The House

*Being a presentation for your perusal of those seemingly mundane housekeeping chores, repairs, modifications, and improvements which affect our worship and parish life experiences at Calvary.*

- The pageantry of Christmas, 2017, has come and gone. All of the greenery (trees, wreaths, and pine rope) and redery (Poinsettias and ribbons) were arrayed with care, and then painstakingly removed. The Pageant costumes, so meticulously prepared, are now folded neatly and put away. The candle trees and pew-end candle stands are once again safely stored in the undercroft. The choir's voices are recovering and Alan Lewis' fingers and toes are no longer numb from the exercise that is organ playing. Now that Epiphany has passed, even the front lawn crèche is gone. A lot of volunteers and a lot of staff did a lot of stuff to make this Christmas season a really memorable one. Many thanks are due to all concerned for a job well done.
- In addition to all of the above, the sextons have been busy during the school break continuing work in Beginnings' classrooms. The dust and grime of many years had become an issue, so the ceilings have been thoroughly cleaned and the recessed lighting fixtures' reflectors washed. Also the painting of walls which could not be finished in the fall is now completed. It is much, much fresher and brighter down there!
- When the church offices reopened the day after Christmas, the staff returned to a cold building. Heating was being handled by our back-up boiler (did you know that we have two?), because our primary boiler was awaiting a repair part. Now, a control device had failed on old "Lula Jane" – mercifully after the weekend's services. Emergency service was summoned, and – imagine! – by the end of day both boilers were running. That was good since the two, in tandem, were needed to overcome the single-digit temperatures of the rest of the week.
- A follow-up: The bid for matching funds to restore two more narthex history windows has been formally submitted to the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation. Now to wait. Fingers crossed.
- Events outside the normal routine of classes, meetings, and regularly scheduled group assemblies: Recently: Dean Cynthia Kitteredge, of Austin, Texas, preached at Calvary. Today: On the day of publication, the choir of Westminster College is presenting. Upcoming are: Movie Night; a Heinz Chapel Choir all-day-retreat; and – lest you forget – Chili-Fest. Good company and good eats!

Respectfully submitted by G. F. Roth, *Junior Warden* ■

[www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)

## Spiritual Reflection: *Meeting Merton*



Adult spiritual formation may be described as the step-by-step discovery of God's presence in our lives and our personal transformation along the way. Calvary's Spiritual Reflection meetings continue to be a regular and familiar forum for small group peer ministry. We share, reflect upon and discuss inspirational ideas that develop and deepen our personal relationships with God and with one another. Meetings are group-led, and no preparation is required.

Each quarter we will use as a guide the writings of a different Christian author. A short reading will serve each meeting as a catalyst to reflection upon, and discussion of, God in our daily lives.

For the Winter quarter, we use Thomas Merton as our guide. Thomas Merton (1915– 1968) led a worldly, privileged and entirely secular life until age 23 when he made a sudden and complete conversion to Roman Catholicism. While staying mostly within Gethsemani Monastery near Louisville, KY, Merton was a social activist and student of comparative religion, and wrote poetry, essays and books on spirituality, social justice and a quiet pacifism. At each meeting we will use for reflection and discussion a short passage by or about Merton.

Meetings are held 7–8 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday evening of each month. **The meetings this quarter are scheduled for January 16, February 6 and 20, and March 6 and 20.** Email Matt Muldoon ([mattmuldoon@msn.com](mailto:mattmuldoon@msn.com)) or Sondra Krimmel ([sskrimmel@gmail.com](mailto:sskrimmel@gmail.com)) for information or to be added to the email list. Please feel welcome to join at any time. ■

## CANDLEMASS

**Second Sundays in 2018, at 5 p.m.**  
**February 11 • March 11**  
**April 8 • May 13**

An intimate celebration of the Holy Eucharist, with music ranging from Gregorian Chant to the present day, led by the Calvary Schola. Light and shadow, Word and gesture, sound and scent combine to draw us to the threshold of the Holy. ■

Cards that say "My gift comes electronically or by mail" can serve as a visible sign of your gift. Look for the purple cards in a basket in the Narthex or by the North Transept door each week, take one, and place it in the offering plate. ■

# CHILI FEST

Saturday, January 27, 2018  
starting at 6 p.m.

● THE HEAT IS ON! ●

Please join us on Saturday, January 27, 2018 for  
Calvary's congregation-wide, family-friendly event!

We will begin serving at 6 p.m., please plan to arrive at 5:30. You are invited to bring your favorite, winning-recipe chili for 10 – 12 servings, or a salad or cornbread. Contributions of beer and wine are also appreciated. If you are bringing chili, please prepare a legible card listing all of the ingredients.

The sign up sheet is posted on an easel in the Parish Hall on Sundays and across from the reception desk during the week. In addition to signing up to bring food you may also sign up to volunteer as a helper during the event. **Please do sign up in advance!**

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer now, please contact Sarah Wilson at 412.586.4636 or e-mail sarahw@scw52.com. Thank you. ■

## Upcoming Musical Events

Sunday, February 4, at 5 p.m.  
Choral Evensong sung by the Calvary Choir

Sunday, February 11, at 5 p.m.  
CandleMass, sung by the Calvary Schola

Please recycle this newsletter  
when you have finished reading it.

## Holy Baptism



The sacrament of Holy Baptism will be offered at the Easter Vigil, Saturday, March 31, 2018 at 8 p.m., the Feast of Pentecost, Sunday, May 20 at 11 a.m., and on the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, July 29 at the 9 a.m. Garden Service.

If you or someone you know desires to partake in this sacrament please contact the Reverend Jonathon Jensen (jjensen@calvarypgh.org or 412.661.0120 ext. 118) as soon as possible, so that the appropriate preparation and arrangements can be made. ■



315 Shady Avenue ■ Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15206  
email: calvary@calvarypgh.org ■ www.calvarypgh.org  
telephone: 412.661.0120

The Reverend Jonathon W. Jensen, *Rector*  
The Reverend Leslie G. Reimer, *Senior Associate Rector*  
The Reverend Ruth Bosch Becker, *Assisting Pastor*  
The Reverend Charles Esposito, *Assisting Priest*  
The Reverend Carol Henley, *Assisting Priest*  
The Reverend Dr. Moni McIntyre, *Assisting Priest*  
Dr. Alan Lewis, *Director of Music*  
Jon Tyillian, *Assistant Organist*  
Susan Roth, *Coordinator for Christian Formation*  
Lynda Kennedy, *Director of Finance*  
Ann Martino, *Director, Beginnings*  
Louise Wells, *Events Coordinator*  
Kenneth Smith, *Director of Communications*  
Jim Gubash, *Head Sexton*  
Andrea Edwards, Ron Johnston, James Knight,  
Tim Martin, Andy Dilts, Levi Ketchem, *Sextons*  
Marsha Morris, *Parish Secretary*  
Jamie McMahon, *Senior Warden*  
G. Frederic Roth, *Junior Warden*  
Robert Eley, *Treasurer*



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An expanded version of this issue of *Agape*,  
with color photos and additional content  
may be viewed on the Calvary website at  
**[www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)**