The 100th Anniversary of the Consecration of Calvary Church’s Current Building

Sermon preached by The Rev. Jonathon Jensen on June 1, 2014

“O ‘twas a joyful sound to hear – our tribes devoutly say – Up Israel to the Temple haste, and keep your festal day.” – From Psalm 122

In 1855, a group of men – and a woman – set out to embody an idea, incarnate in a holy people. The creation was to be something of eternal value. They formed a community of faith we call Calvary Church. In 1907, their grandchildren created a legacy, an endowment in stone and prayer- this place. We finally had a building to match the spirit of the people who make Calvary Church.

Today, we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the consecration of this majestic space. On May 29, 1914, the space was consecrated, made holy, set apart and dedicated to the Glory of God. This is our story of where we come from as a church.

In 1855, a woman named Matilda Dallas Wilkins asked the bishop to start a new congregation in East Liberty. The bishop refused for whatever reason. Matilda’s husband, William, had been President of the Bank of Pittsburgh, a US Senator, and Secretary of War under President Taylor. Her brother, George Mifflin Dallas, had been Vice President of the United States. Matilda knew how to get things done and apparently did not understand the meaning of the word, “no.” She convened a group of men in a local drugstore. From that meeting, was born the idea of Calvary.

Our first place of worship was quite modest compared with what we enjoy now. The building was referred to as, “the little old church behind the mill.” It was shared with two other denominations. The people and congregation flourished. They later bought the building. It burned down in 1870.

By 1861, after about five years, the congregation had outgrown its building. They constructed a new facility and then had to expand it ten years later. The architect, Joseph Kerr, was a local boy who also designed Pittsburgh’s City Hall. That second worship space served the congregation well for over forty years. It was located north of Penn Avenue at Station Street near the present day Trader Joe’s store. The second building was torn down in 1962.

In December 1904, the congregation sold its second building for $85,000 and purchased our current property for $73,000. I cannot imagine the vestry meetings leading up to that. Selling a building that had been the only church many had ever known – for an empty lot and an idea. But that’s exactly what they did. No idea is too great when the people of Calvary set their mind to it.

They enlisted the assistance of Ralph Adams Cram. He was considered the preeminent church architect of his day but this building was his first major work. He later designed East Liberty Presbyterian Church and parts of Princeton University among other prominent projects. This building is a modern take on 13th century English Gothic architecture. He used a traditional form in a new way. In the best sense, we’ve always done it that way.

-continued on page 2
Consecration, continued from page 1.

The first part completed was the massive center tower. In 1906, the rector, Dr. Mclvane, climbed to the top on scaffolding and placed a cross on top of the spire. That's 220 feet high.

About a year and half after it was started, the building was complete. This whole place, without most of the windows or a large organ, was built for $600,000 with a debt of $125,000. $725,000 to build all of this. That's what one, nice, big house, with garage, in Shadyside costs today. One replacement gutter for us now costs $29,000. Can you imagine the resources and the energy they harnessed to create this place – a building to match a people?

Henry Clay Frick was noted as having rendered great assistance to the project both in financial terms and in the selection of the gothic plans. I suspect why our original debt was so small was because Mr. Frick's bank account was so large. But he did not pay for it all. The $125,000 in debt was paid off in seven years. A church building is not consecrated until the debt is paid.

On Friday, May 29, 1914, 100 years ago, the people of Calvary gathered here to celebrate what they had created together. Incidentally, the Pirates were leading the National League at that point of the season. They later tanked and ended second from the cellar. The service of consecration took place at 3 p.m. The afternoon was beautiful. They used Evening Prayer which is quite similar to our service in the Prayer Book. Holy Eucharist was only celebrated once a month. The service of consecration was so large. But he did not pay for it all. The $125,000 in debt was paid off in seven years. A church building is not consecrated until the debt is paid.

The building was filled with the church, the people of God called out to serve. There were past priests, the architect, visiting clergy, the choir, and throngs of people. A nicer version of the program celebrated 100 years ago is inserted in the bulletin. Our old telephone number is on the back. To join with those who have gone before us in this place, we are using the same collect and prayers of the people, two of the hymns, and the same psalm. It is our story of a magnificent building to match a holy people.

The building reminded us who we are called to be – everywhere we look. What is far greater is all the empty spaces that come after my name. There is more room after me than before. There is a whole other wall. It is a reminder to be faithful in our own time. To embody the idea of Calvary one prayer, one stone, one good work, one life changed at a time.

Those are the first few chapters of our history as the people of Calvary. Those who have gone before us were all faithful in their own time. How will we write the next chapter? What will be the next part of our story? What are you called to contribute to this idea embodied in a people and our endowment in stone and prayer?

Source material for this sermon was taken from the Edsal Manuscript in Calvary's archives, the color photograph guidebook of Calvary available in our bookstore, online research about the Pirates, personal conversations with parishioners, and the book Pittsburgh's Immigrants by Lisa A. Alzo with the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

Matilda Dallas Wilkins, our founder, is honored with a small plaque on the second floor of the parish house immediately to the left as one steps off the elevator.

The city of Dallas, TX is likely named after Matilda's brother and former Vice President of the United States, George Mifflin Dallas.

Matilda was the second wife of William Wilkins. He built the Pittsburgh mansion Homewood. He is interred in Homewood Cemetery.

Her father, Alexander James Dallas, had been Secretary of the Treasury under President Madison.

The original meeting called by Mrs. Wilkins was convened at Louis Castner's drugstore.

Matilda Dallas Wilkins, all the priests, all the people – created an idea incarnate here – one prayer, one stone, one good work, one life changed at a time. They knew the building is not the church. The church is the people called out to serve. There were past priests, the architect, visiting clergy, the choir, and throngs of people. A nicer version of the program celebrated 100 years ago is inserted in the bulletin. Our old telephone number is on the back. To join with those who have gone before us in this place, we are using the same collect and prayers of the people, two of the hymns, and the same psalm. It is our story of a magnificent building to match a holy people.

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Summer Worship Schedule

Through August 31, 2014, the 9 a.m. Eucharist will be celebrated in the Swan Garden.

Weekday celebrations of the Holy Eucharist will take place on Wednesdays only, at 7 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. There will also be a celebration at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 23 when the Vestry meets. The regular weekday Eucharist schedule will resume on Monday, September 8.

Until September 1, parish offices will be open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The building will be closed on Fridays throughout the summer. Parish offices will be also be closed on Monday, September 1 (Labor Day).

Visit the Calvary website at www.calvarypgh.org
What’s In a Name?

There is demonstrably a lot of turmoil in many denominations these days about properly naming the union of same sex couples. My most basic suggestion is to ask them what they consider it to be since they are the ministers of the sacred commitment and clergy are called upon only to bless what they are creating. We bless houses, animals, fishing fleets and space ships. Why does this blessin cause such turmoil? Principles of justice and equity are leading the way forward as they did in Civil Rights legislation. God speaks to us in those words also. They remind me of the prophet Micah’s exhortation telling us what the Lord wants, namely “to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with the Lord” (Micah 6:8).

In addition to my common sense approach I will present a brief summary of the history of the marriage vows in the liturgy of the Anglican-Episcopal church to indicate what the purposes of the union have been as stated in these documents. I will draw the conclusion that the purposes of the unions are as much verified in homosexual unions as in heterosexual unions.

In the first Book of Common Prayer (BCP) in 1549 the purposes or “goods” of marriage were itemized in the Exhortation at the beginning of the ceremony. They were as follows: (1) the procreation of children, (2) the way to avoid sins of concupiscence and fornication, and (3) the mutual help and comfort given to the marriage partners. These three purposes were repeated in the 1662 versions of the BCP. As an aside, I will point out that these two prayer books still had Latin editions. In the first American BCP in 1789 all three of these purposes were omitted and the omission continued into the 1928 BCP. In the 1979 BCP, the procreation of children is the only one added back and then with the proviso statement “when it is God’s will”.

I would say that the primary “good” in any marriage is the faithful relationship of the partners and a more than sufficient reason for the union to be called a marriage. For an impressive list of reason, fertility is not a necessary condition for marriage and the “the gift and heritage of children” can be otherwise provided for as is witnessed by the adoption of children by same sex couples in Calvary Church.

The Rev. John J. Fetterman, Theologian in Residence

Bishop McConnell to Speak at PEP Meeting

Members and Visitors are invited to attend the meeting of Progressive Episcopalians of Pittsburgh (PEP) on Monday, June 16, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall at Calvary. Bishop Dorsey McConnell will speak and answer questions on the state of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. For additional information, please contact PEP at info@progressiveepiscopalians.org.

MUSICAL NOTES by Alan Lewis

I’ll spend most of the coming fortnight representing Calvary rather far afield. First, in Washington, D.C., where the Association of Anglican Musicians is holding its annual conference beginning June 15. This Association (best known as “AAM”) is nearing its fiftieth year of service to the Episcopal Church and its musicians: it was conceived of at a meeting in the then-Webster Hall Hotel, right here in Pittsburgh, in 1965. AAM’s mission is “the elevation, stimulation, and support of music and the allied arts in all their aspects in the Anglican church, and especially in their relationship to liturgy.” Its conferences typically include elevated experiences of worship, lively discussions of various topics of professional interest, and the building of a strong community of colleagues dedicated to the service of our Church.

I’ve been heartened at every AAM gathering I’ve attended over the last decade by the widespread awareness and appreciation of Calvary’s situation in the Diocese of Pittsburgh – and also by the sheer name-recognition that Calvary exerts across the Church, and not only because of our recent past. I’m just at the mid-point in a four-year evolving term as AAM’s Vice-President, President, and, ultimately, Past-President. I am both looking forward to experiencing this conference from the “other” side of the rostrum, and (perhaps even more) to returning to “civilian” life in the organization in another couple of years.

The week after AAM’s gathering, the biennial convention of the American Guild of Organists convenes in Boston. I’m a little sheepish to admit, I’ve never gone to a national meeting of the Guild – it draws thousands, and the schedule alone is enough to daunt even the hardiest enthusiast. But I’m going, proud to represent AAM, Pittsburgh, and Calvary Church in that assembly. (Pittsburgh will host a more modest regional convention of the Guild a year from now, so I go with something of an evangelical mission in mind!) Amid the recitals, concerts, classes, discussions, and meetings will also be opportunities for reconnection with colleagues and friends from around the country outside the Episcopal Church, and that, too, will be a source of stimulus and enrichment.

On Thursday, July 24, at 5 p.m., I’ll be playing a “Casual Concert” at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Upper St. Clair. If your path includes the far south hills, you’d be welcome – and there’s a farmer’s market in the church parking lot from 4-7, so you can stock up on local produce beforehand or afterward. Admission to both is free (though the produce is not).
A Note from Joe Wilson

Dear People of Calvary:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to serve as Senior Warden during our transition period. It was a wonderfully challenging and satisfying experience. The joy of the effort came not just from the results, but rather more from the opportunity to work so closely with the Calvary staff, an incredibly committed and talented group of people, and to work so closely with a great number of parishioners at Calvary in many different roles. I remain in awe of the effort extended. Truly, the Holy Spirit was at work through us all.

There was no shortage of committed volunteers – whether to create a Calling Committee, form a Personnel Committee or Endowment Use Committee, act as a sounding board, call our new rector and communicate that call, or welcome Jonathon and Natalie to Calvary. No one who volunteered or who was asked to volunteer failed to fulfill the commitment with enthusiasm, diligence, and good humor. The things we do well, we continued to do well during the transition period. People repeatedly asked what else they could do. Well-timed expressions of encouragement and support came frequently and were deeply appreciated. All of the many suggestions and criticisms were made in a spirit of optimism and improvement.

Without that sense of community and hope, we would not have made the amazing progress we did, and we would not have been in such a good position to welcome Jonathon and Natalie. And welcome, we have done.

Jonathon has told us that one of his first impressions has been of the sense of community that is Calvary.

That sense of community was evident throughout the transition period.

Thank you, everyone, for your optimism, good humor, and extraordinary efforts during the transition. We have a wonderful future before us in expanding God’s Kingdom in this part of His world.

Peace,

Joe

There’s still time to register for

**CHOIR CAMP**

July 7–11 at Calvary

Music, games, recreation, fellowship, and Kennywood!

For more information email alewis@calvarypgh.org

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www.calvarypgh.org

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Volunteers Needed

Off-the-Floor Pittsburgh is a local Christian volunteer ministry which, since 2004, has provided basic used furniture to disadvantaged families who lack these items. A team of 4-5 men or young adults are needed on a Saturday morning to load furniture and make deliveries to 3-4 needy Pittsburgh area families.

**The next date for the Calvary team is Saturday, June 28. If you have already volunteered for June 28, we will contact you to confirm your availability.** We just received the dates for the second half of the year (all Saturdays). Our service dates are: **August 16, October 4, and November 15.** If you want to add your name to the list of available volunteers for June 28 or any future dates, please contact either Matt Muldoon at 412.362.1780 or mattmuldoon@msn.com or Gary Abbs at 412.963.8124 or gary_abbs@comcast.net. If you are a regular volunteer already, please let Matt or Gary know of your availability for the second half of the year.

You can learn more about Off-the-Floor Pittsburgh by visiting their website at www.offthefloorpgh.org. Remember that Off-the-Floor Pittsburgh accepts donations of used furniture. You can arrange pick-up by calling 412.926.5053.

Thank you for your consideration of this very worthwhile ministry.

Assistive Listening System

Calvary has recently purchased three additional hearing assist receivers that you may borrow for use during the 9 and 11 o’clock services in the church. The units are very lightweight and come with an earbud. Ask the usher at the rear of the church. You may borrow the unit for use during the service, we ask that you kindly return it to the table in the Narthex as you leave. The cost to purchase the receivers are $80 each, and we would like to have additional units by the return to our fall worship schedule on September 7. If you would like to help with the purchase of more of the hearing assist receivers, please mail a check, in any amount, to Treasurer Lynda Kennedy, and please write “Hearing Assist” in the memo line.
Dear People of Calvary Church,

With great joy and thanksgiving we have received the news that the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is working to create a more just society for all its citizens by allowing a couple of the same sex to have their marriage recognized by the state.

The Church is also seeking to create a more just society and to bring unity to all people through Christ. One way this has been expressed was on November 25, 2013, when the Right Rev. Dorsey McConnell, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, authorized a “local option” for clergy to bless the life-long covenant of same-sex couples following particular guidelines. “Local option” means the clergyperson in charge of a congregation, the rector in the case of Calvary, may choose to offer a blessing of a lifelong covenant in his or her congregation but no one is compelled to do so. We appreciate the bishop’s thoughtful action as a tangible expression of our call to welcome all people in the name of Christ, recognizing that all in the diocese are not of one mind on the subject. We need each other to be a diocese broad and generous enough to model a Church, a people of God called to proclaim and embody the redemptive love of Christ in the world, focused outwardly rather than inwardly.

For some in our diocese, the provision from the bishop to allow a local option for same-sex blessings, following a specified form, is perceived as to have gone too far. For others, the provision does not go far enough. Our bishop, Dorsey McConnell, is called, and is clearly trying, to serve as the bishop for everyone in our diocese which is always a challenging ministry, especially here given our recent history. Please keep our bishop and all our people in your prayers and remember to treat all with Christian charity, even and especially, when we disagree.

At Calvary, the plan is for us to begin to offer such blessings in the church, under the diocesan guidelines, in the near future. For some time, one blessing of a life-long covenant has been scheduled for the fall. We have received several inquiries and expect there to be more.

**What this means for us at Calvary now**

We may offer only the liturgy, according to its rubrics, authorized by the bishop entitled, *The Witnessing and Blessing of a Lifelong Covenant*. This is part of a larger study called *I Will Bless You, and You Will Be a Blessing: Resources for The Witnessing and Blessing of a Lifelong Covenant in a Same-Sex Relationship*. We may not offer the “wedding” service, formally entitled, *The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage*, in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP p.422). The authorized rite is similar to the Prayer Book wedding service in some ways but differs substantially in others. The bishop has previously given a theological assessment of the document. In our opinion, the text of the rite is like a decent second draft but is what we have to work with now.

Our intention and hope at Calvary is to treat couples of the same sex who seek a blessing of a life-long covenant the same as opposite sex couples who seek a blessing of a marriage at Calvary in every sense except the particular rite that is authorized for use. That is, this will be normal for us at Calvary.

To be clear, all three of us support the full inclusion of all people, straight or gay, in the life of the Church and at Calvary. We will support candidates for ordination, who meet all normal and reasonable criteria and whom we believe so called, regardless of sexual orientation.

To the matter at hand, we rejoice that all adults in Pennsylvania are now able to be married. We recognize and will respect the authorized liturgy for use in the Church but encourage that we, in the Diocese of Pittsburgh and in the Episcopal Church, adopt the same Prayer Book Service entitled *The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage* (BCP p.422), with minimal modification, for all persons in the Church.

There is and shall be room enough for all at Calvary, even those who hold differing opinions on the matter. We are called to serve as clergy for all our parishioners.

**Some further thoughts for discussion**

As part of our discernment, we suggest a reflection on the following questions. These are not intended to criticize but rather to raise legitimate issues for all of us to consider.

What are the differences between a “life-long covenant” and a “marriage?”

How are the rites of a “wedding” or a “blessing of a life-long covenant” related to the concept of “marriage?” Does the ceremony “effect” the other or “recognize” it or something else?

How are the rites of a “wedding” or a “blessing of a life-long covenant” related to the concept of “family?”

-continued on the back.
How does the liturgy for “The Blessing of a Civil Marriage” (BCP p.433) shape our understanding of the nature of marriage and the wedding service?

How does the liturgy entitled “An Order for Marriage” (BCP p.435) shape our understanding of the nature of marriage and the wedding service? The rite effectively allows one to create a wedding service following certain rubrics or guidelines. Are the items listed there considered what is essential for a Christian marriage?

What is a family, understood by the Church, and how does it relate to our understanding of marriage?

Is a blessing of a “life-long covenant” sacramental in the same or similar way to a marriage? Why/why not? What is a sacrament? What particulars are necessary for a sacrament to be “valid?”

What is the purpose or intention of marriage as stated in the Book of Common Prayer (BCP p.423)? Is it or should it be different for couples of the opposite or same sex?

What is our understanding of marriage as a Church and as a state or commonwealth? How are the two understandings different and how are they the same?

In a traditional wedding between a man and a woman, ordained clergy act both as agents of the state and as ministers of the Church. On behalf of the state we perform a wedding and sign documents to make a marriage legal in the state. As ministers of the Church, we bless the marriage between two persons. What, if any, issues does it raise that clergy of the Diocese of Pittsburgh may act as agents of the state for opposite sex couples but may not for same sex couples?

Would separating the “Church” function and “State” function of clergy in a marriage be beneficial or harmful? What difference would it make?

It is often asserted that two people “marry” one another. The priest offers the blessing of God and the Church on the marriage and authorizes the marriage as legal in the eyes of the state. Do you agree or disagree with the premise that two people “marry” one another? What are the implications of this?

One traditional argument given for the purpose of marriage is the procreation and rearing of children. This is admirable but if a couple is not able to have children or chooses not to have children is the marriage deficient or invalid? If a couple past child bearing years marries, what is the purpose?

With what sources do we seek to address these questions; scripture, tradition, reason, science, experience, the Holy Spirit, other faith communities or dioceses, or other sources? What weight should or does each carry?

What does the Bible, and Jesus in particular, say about marriage?

What is the most charitable and reasonable and faithful way to decide the next steps forward together?

The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, Rector
Calvary Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh

The Rev. Leslie Reimer, Associate Rector
Calvary Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh

The Rev. T. J. Freeman, Curate
Calvary Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh

1For the pastoral letter from Bishop McConnell authorizing the blessing, the rite itself, the guidelines for its use, a theological assessment by Bishop McConnell, and related resources please see http://www.episcopalpgh.org/a-pastoral-letter-from-bishop-mcconnell/
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>The First Sunday after Pentecost: TRINITY SUNDAY</td>
<td>George Berkeley, 1753, and Joseph Butler, 1752, Bishops and Theologians</td>
<td>10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting</td>
<td>Bernard M. Izei, Catechist and Martyr in Rhodesia, 1896</td>
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<td>7:30 A.M. Coffee</td>
<td>5:30 P.M. Bookstore Committee Meeting</td>
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<td>8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist</td>
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<td>9:00 A.M. Garden Eucharist</td>
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<td>10:00 A.M. Used Book Sale</td>
<td>7:00 P.M.</td>
<td>10:00 A.M. Choir Warm-Up</td>
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<td>11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist</td>
<td>7:00 P.M.</td>
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<td>St. Augustine's Fellowship</td>
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<td>1:00 P.M. Calvary Conversations Brunch</td>
<td>1:00 P.M.</td>
<td>1:00 P.M. Calvary Camp Bus Returns</td>
<td>1:00 P.M. Calvary Camp Bus Depart</td>
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Saturday July 19, 2014
The Church of the Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ
10:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
10:15 A.M. Garden Eucharist and Holy Baptism
10:30 A.M. Choir Warm-Up
11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
1:00 P.M. Choir Warm-Up
2:00 P.M. The Next Step
2:30 P.M. Calvary Camp Bus Returns
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Sunday July 20, 2014
The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
7:30 A.M. Coffee
8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
9:00 A.M. Garden Eucharist
11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
1:00 P.M. Calvary Camp Bus Departs
7:00 P.M. The Next Step
8:30 P.M. Calvary Camp Bus Returns

Monday July 21, 2014
Albert John Luthuli, Prophetic Witness in South Africa, 1967
8:30 A.M. EECM Day Camp
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
11:00 A.M. Centering Prayer
10:30 A.M. The Next Step
11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist

Tuesday July 22, 2014
Saint Mary Magdalen
8:30 A.M. EECM Day Camp
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Wednesday July 23, 2014
7:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
8:30 A.M. EECM Day Camp
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist

Thursday July 24, 2014
Thomas à Kempis, Priest, 1471
8:30 A.M. EECM Day Camp

Friday July 25, 2014
Saint James the Apostle
The church offices will be closed this day.

Saturday July 26, 2014
The Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary (traditionally identified as Anne and Joachim)
10:30 A.M. The Next Step
1:00 P.M. Calvary Camp Bus Returns

Sunday July 27, 2014
The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
7:30 A.M. Coffee
8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
9:00 A.M. Garden Eucharist and Holy Baptism
10:00 A.M. Choir Warm-Up
11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
1:00 P.M. Calvary Camp Bus Departs

Monday July 28, 2014
Johann Sebastian Bach, 1750, George Frederick Handel, 1759, and Henry Purcell, 1665, Composers
8:30 A.M. EECM Day Camp
7:00 P.M. Centering Prayer
7:00 P.M. St. Augustine’s Fellowship

Tuesday July 29, 2014
Mary, Martha and Lazarus of Bethany
8:30 A.M. EECM Day Camp
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Wednesday July 30, 2014
William Wilberforce, 1833 and Anthony Ashley Cooper, Lord Shaftesbury, 1885, Prophetic Witnesses
7:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
8:30 A.M. EECM Day Camp
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist

Thursday July 31, 2014
Ignatius of Loyola, Priest and Monastic, 1556
8:30 A.M. EECM Day Camp

Friday August 1, 2014
Joseph of Arimathaea
The church offices will be closed this day.

Saturday August 2, 2014
Samuel David Ferguson, Missionary Bishop for West Africa, 1916
10:00 A.M. Centering Prayer
10:30 A.M. The Next Step
11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist

Sunday August 3, 2014
The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
7:30 A.M. Coffee
8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
9:00 A.M. Garden Eucharist
10:00 A.M. Choir Warm-Up
11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist

Monday August 4, 2014
Vacation Bible School
6:00 P.M. Diocesan Committee on Budget and Assessment
7:00 P.M. Diocesan Council
7:00 P.M. Centering Prayer
7:00 P.M. St. Augustine’s Fellowship

Tuesday August 5, 2014
Albrecht Dürer, 1528, Matthias Grünewald, 1529, and Lucas Cranach the Elder, 1553, Artists
9:00 A.M. Vacation Bible School
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
7:00 P.M. AA Meeting

Wednesday August 6, 2014
The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ
7:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
9:00 A.M. Vacation Bible School
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist

Thursday August 7, 2014
John Mason Neale, Priest, 1866, Catherine Winkworth, Poet, 1878
9:00 A.M. Vacation Bible School

Friday August 8, 2014
Dominic, Priest and Friar, 1221
The church offices will be closed this day.

Saturday August 9, 2014
Herman of Alaska, Missionary to the Aleut, 1837
9:00 A.M. FLMH
10:00 A.M. Alpha House Car Wash
10:30 A.M. The Next Step
5:30 P.M. Men’s Shelter Dinner Preparation (at Community House)

Sunday August 10, 2014
The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
7:30 A.M. Coffee
8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
9:00 A.M. Garden Eucharist
10:00 A.M. Choir Warm-Up
11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist

Monday August 11, 2014
Clare, Abbess at Assisi, 1253
7:00 P.M. Centering Prayer
7:00 P.M. St. Augustine’s Fellowship

Tuesday August 12, 2014
Florence Nightingale, Nurse, Social Reformer, 1910
10:00 A.M. Staff Meeting
7:00 P.M. AA

Wednesday August 13, 2014
Jeremy Taylor, Bishop of Down, Connor, and Dromore, 1667
7:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
10:30 A.M. Holy Eucharist

Thursday August 14, 2014
Jonathan Myrick Daniels, Seminarian and Witness for Civil Rights, 1965

Friday August 15, 2014
Saint Mary the Virgin, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ
The church offices will be closed this day.

Saturday August 16, 2014
E-Waste Recycling Event
10:00 A.M. Alpha House Car Wash
10:00 A.M. Centering Prayer for Peace
10:30 A.M. The Next Step

Sunday August 17, 2014
The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
7:30 A.M. Coffee
8:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist
9:00 A.M. Garden Eucharist
10:00 A.M. Choir Warm-Up
11:00 A.M. Holy Eucharist

To check for late breaking changes or additions to the calendar, visit our website at www.calvarypgh.org.
Plans Underway for The Women of Calvary Holiday Bazaar

-- November 15, 2014 --

If you’ve never been to our annual Holiday Bazaar, you won’t want to miss the one we have planned this year. Proceeds benefit women and children in need on Pittsburgh’s East End, and we’ve got a lot of surprises in store. Browse through aisles of gourmet goodies, homemade baked goods, vintage linens, jewelry, handmade items, candles, and holiday plants and wreaths. Explore Attic Treasures for household goods like china, flatware, lamps, small appliances, glassware, games, toys and lots more. Or bid on items like a week at Calvary Camp or a whole array of beauty products and services at our Silent Auction. Our café will be serving fresh coffee, apple cider and mouth-watering baked goods, but you can also make reservations for a three-course lunch served by singing waiters! Please visit our Facebook page at Calvary Holiday Bazaar, and watch for more details in the months to come.

Summer Finances: A Reminder

The church’s expenses continue apace in the summer, at a time when church attendance, and therefore offerings, are lower than usual. You are encouraged to make every effort to keep up with your pledge payments during this season. Some parishioners find it convenient to send their payments by mail if they are away for an extended period. Many thanks.

Pittsburgh “Firsts”

March 30, 1889: The Carnegie Library of Braddock, the first Carnegie Library in America, was dedicated.

1892/1893: The first Ferris Wheel was in operation at the World’s Fair (Columbian Exposition) in Chicago. 264 feet high, more than 2,000 passengers at a load, it was invented by civil engineer, George Washington Gale Ferris (1859–1896), a native of Pittsburgh’s North Side.

August 1, 1953: The first aluminum-faced skyscraper was the Alcoa Building, a 30-story, 410 foot structure. Exterior walls were thin stamped aluminum panels. In 1962 Alcoa developed the pull-tab and Iron City Brewery was the first canner to market it (1962); the first in the world to do so, for a long time, pull-tabs were used only in this area.

December 3, 1989: The first heart, liver and kidney transplant done in simultaneous operations at Presbyterian-University Hospital.

The Next Step Group

Meets every Saturday from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Step Two: “Came To Believe That A Power Greater Than Ourselves Can Restore Us to Sanity” (The Twelve Steps for Christians, 2012 edition) Related Scripture: For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose (Phil. 2:13)

“Step Two is about the birth of faith in us, “wrote the authors of The Twelve Steps for Christians. In Step One, we recognized and accepted our brokenness, and our estrangement from God with compassion toward ourselves and others. We may have asked ourselves: “If I cannot rely upon myself to manage my life, who or what will help me?”

At some point in time, we may come to recognize that continuing to throw our will and personalities into a problem, circumstance or relationship is to no avail. Can we experience a state of peace and stability whenever we are in the midst of the chaos of doing the same things many times over and expecting different results (insanity)?

Writing on Step Two, Dr. Sam Shoemaker struck at the heart of faith when he said, “How do we come to believe that a power greater than ourselves can restore us to sanity? By looking at some people who have had the experience. Faith is much better caught by contagion than taught by instruction. It is an amazing thing to come into a company of Alcoholics Anonymous and hear testimony to the difference that has been wrought in their lives…every church should also have informal gatherings where people seeking faith can hear personal witness from believers.”

- Turning Point: A History of early A.A.’s Spiritual Roots and Successes by Dick B.)

Whether hearing personal witness from believers or receiving God’s gift of the seed of faith and trusting that he is there, practicing Step Two can offer us the peace and stability that can restore us to sanity. We can begin to re-establish our relationship, or, establish a connection to God for the first time. By trusting and believing that God IS, we can come to believe that he will help us replace the self-destructive behaviors (harsh judgments, self-criticism) we identified in Step One and relieve us of the insanity of repeating actions which do not work.

The Next Step group believes being restored to sanity includes being compassionate toward ourselves as we encounter Step Two in our lives. We believe that when we work together in a supportive atmosphere, we can find that Christianity provides an excellent resource for the practice and cultivation of greater love and acceptance of ourselves and others.


August issue: Step Three “Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood him.”
Please Save the Date: An all-parish retreat will be held Saturday, September 13, at Calvary. All members of the parish are invited to the event, which is sponsored by the Women of Calvary.

Registration and a light breakfast are set for 9 a.m. with the retreat running from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Rev. Moni McIntyre, Rector of The Church of the Holy Cross, Homewood, will lead the retreat, focusing on the Scriptural Images of God. More details will follow later in the summer. For any questions, contact Mary Ann Slater, 412.793.8371, saurslater@yahoo.com.

Children’s Corner Book Reviews
by Adele Eley, Coordinator for Christian Formation

Here are some suggestions for summer reading for children, youth and adults! All are available at the Bookstore at Calvary.

The Very Busy Spider by Eric Carle. $6.99. Aren’t spider webs fascinating? This miniature edition of a favorite story will fit into a purse or a pocket and can be read when your toddler is waiting at the restaurant, airport or anywhere! The web, as it grows, can be felt as well as seen.

Bible Knock-Knock Jokes from the Back Pew by Mike Thaler and illustrated by Jared Lee. $4.99. Knock, Knock! Who’s there? Hosanna. Hosanna who? If you want to water the lawn, you will need a “Hosanna” sprinkler. This is just one example of the many jokes in this book. Children may need an adult and the pronunciation key to help find the hidden humor in some of the entries.

The Fault of Our Stars by John Green. $12.99. The author, an Episcopalian, chose an Episcopal church as the venue for a Kid Cancer Support Group. That is where two teens meet and fall in love. Readers will also fall in love with these characters and their courageous outlook on life. The movie adaptation is in theatre now. Part of the film was shot at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Mount Lebanon. Youth and adults are encouraged to read this book and be a part of an intergenerational discussion at an Adult Forum this fall.

Christian Formation

Vacation Bible School - You can register NOW!
Pat, our wooden person, is dressed and ready for VBS. Even though our program isn’t until August 4-8 it is not too soon to register! We will meet at 9 o’clock and finish at 11:30. This year we will be exploring All Things Bright and Beautiful. We will have stories, crafts, games, singing, and snacks. On Friday we will visit the National Aviary in Pittsburgh’s Northside for a tour and educational program. Applications are in the tract racks, online, and Pat has some near the reception desk. This program is open to children ages 4 through Grade 5. The cost is $30. Scholarship money is available.

WANTED: More VBS Volunteers.
Please consider volunteering to assist any or all of the days for VBS. You may call or email me.

Lego. I found some interesting ideas for using Legos to create Bible story scenes. Do you have any Legos that your children are not using? Please put them in the box on the table in the Parish Hall. I’ll keep you posted on our collection and our creations when get enough blocks.

--Adele Eley, Coordinator for Christian Formation; aeley@calvarypgh.org; 412.661.0120 x 116

The Bookstore Needs Sales Help

The bookstore will be open Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday in June and July, and Sundays only in August.

If you are free to work in Calvary’s bookstore during the week, please get in touch with Pat Standring, Sherry Bloom or any one of the bookstore staff. The time commitment for this very worthwhile ministry is 3-4 hours once or twice a month, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

Deadlines for Publications

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue of Agape is Friday, August 8, 2014. Please e-mail your text to calvary@calvarypgh.org or deliver it to the church office. There will be no issue of our newsletter printed in July.

Notices for the Sunday service bulletin must be received by the end of the day on Tuesday during the summer months.

The Calendar may be found as a separate insert in this month’s newsletter.
Coming this summer: Women of Calvary’s Pack to School Project

Is summer vacation looming large on your personal radar screen? Before you go, please be thinking about what supplies you would like to contribute to the Women of Calvary’s Pack to School project for the 2014-2015 school year. The project provides much needed school supplies and other items for children at the Pittsburgh Lincoln School in Homewood. The school continues to be our partner in CLASP, the Calvary-Lincoln After-school Program and is a vital part of the life of Calvary Church’s outreach into communities.

Once again, we would like the next school year to reflect the Christ-centered, compassionate generosity of Calvary.

Here are some suggestions:

**Kindergarten thru 3rd grade:**
Back packs, crayons, pencils and scissors.

**4th and 5th grade:**
Binders, calculators, protractors, glue sticks and colored pencils.

**Donations for classrooms:**
Kleenex, dry erase markers, sanitizer wipes, and colored markers.

**Donations for the school:**
Socks, underwear, tee shirts and School uniforms (white shirts and blue bottoms)

For more information contact Sondra Krimmel, krimmss@yahoo.com and watch for announcements in the summer church bulletins and in the August issue of Agape. Let’s make the coming school year another successful one for the Pittsburgh Lincoln schoolchildren and for Calvary’s spirit of giving.

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Electronic Recycling Event

Secure computer recycling and data destruction event at Calvary on **August 16 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.** The following computer components will be accepted for **FREE**: Desktop, laptops, tablets, servers, hard drives (On-site data destruction will be offered for $10 per hard drive), LCD monitors, Cell phones, Ipods, M P3 players, etc., Computer Peripherals include keyboards, mice, printers (<50lbs), power supplies, motherboards / circuit Boards, cables, UPS batteries and backup systems, power supplies, memory, hard drives, computer fans, routers, switches, wireless routers, access points, bridges, firewalls, cabling, modems, Phones, phone systems, AC adapter and wiring.

The following items will be accepted for a **$10 disposal charge**: Audio/video equipment, radio, receivers, amplifiers, tuners, equalizers, tape decks, VCR, DVD & blue ray players, CRT monitors, wooden speakers, sweepers, hair dryers, toasters, blenders, coffee makers, microwaves and other consumer electronics.

The following items will **NOT BE ACCEPTED**: Televisions, light bulbs, alkaline batteries, freon containing appliances such as air conditioners or refrigerators.

**Commonwealth Computer Recycling** is a socially responsible and environmentally sustainable company, providing safe and secure data privacy protection while helping us to reduce our e-waste footprint. **Thank you so much** for the great response we have had at our previous recycling events.

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Easy Access to Morning Prayer

Here is an easy way to use Morning Prayer at home without having to use two or more books to get to the Scripture readings. Go to www.missionstclare.com and choose a calendar date. There is the added benefit of easy links to Evensong in some of the great Cathedrals of our Church, some in England. If you would enjoy a wider selection of hymns, go to youtube.com and search King’s College Choir or some other choir of note.  

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Church Tours

Calvary’s Architectural History Committee is available to give individual or group tours. If you would enjoy a close-up look at the splendor of our church building please give us a call. Bring along friends or relatives, too. Tours during the day or evening can be arranged. Call the church office for more information: 412.661.0120.

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Soup Group Rescheduled

The Soup Group has been set for **Thursday, July 3 at 10 a.m.** We will NOT cook on Thursday, June 26 as previously announced. We have many tasty soups that await delivery to a friend, neighbor or family member. Please consider taking soup to someone that could use a “pick me up.” You can also get involved by donating money for ingredients or containers. We are happy to have new cooks at any session. Contact me for more information.

- Adele Eley, Adele.eley@gmail.com, 412.371.6921
Thank you so much Calvary “family” for your loving care and support during my recovery from hip surgery. I am especially grateful to the Pastoral Care Committee, The Next Step Group, Women of Calvary, the Soup Group and many other Calvary folk who visited me in the re-hab hospital and provided help with groceries, transport to and from doctor and physical therapy appointments and the pharmacy. Thank you ALL for delicious soup, lovely flowers, cards that made me laugh and comforted me, and for your many prayers. Calvary is truly a community of generous and caring souls and I am blessed to receive your company, conversation, compassion and time.

-Sondra Krimmel.

The Rev. Dr. Harold T. Lewis was honored with the Humanitarian award at The Three Rivers Youth 2014 Nellie Leadership Gala held on Friday, May 16, 2014 at the Carnegie Museum Music Hall, in Oakland.

Jean Robinson was honored at the Forbes Hospice event held at the Fairmont on May 26, 2014 for volunteering 35 years. The award was established in honor of the founder, Rose Ferraro.

Joe Sroka, our McNulty intern, will marry Michelle Toomey on Saturday, August 9, 2014 in Durham, North Carolina. Joe is in the ordination process in the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

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The Church Mouse

What do you get when you mix candles, torches, red robes and white albs, with heavy crosses and banners? Why Calvary’s Acolytes, of course!

Every Sunday our fine corp of acolytes participate in both the 9 and 11 o’clock services. Their tasks vary from lighting altar candles and carrying torches and crosses to serving the priests at communion and carrying and processing with the Gospel Book. You might notice that the high school students are typically the ones carrying the crosses and the Gospel Book. Our high school juniors and seniors have been serving at the Calvary Episcopal Church altar since they were in fourth and fifth grade.

If you are entering grades three through twelve and are interested in serving as an acolyte, please let us know. Laurie Heinricher is the official organizer of the acolytes and she would be thrilled to know that there are more young people interested in taking on this vitally important role.

We will have our annual acolyte training on Saturday, September 13. The exact time is yet to be determined. Keep your eye on the weekly bulletin and the next Agape for more details. In the meantime, feel free to contact Laurie at lauriebeth213@comcast.net or phone her at 412.213.3281.

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EECM Food Pantry

East End Cooperative Ministry operates the second largest food pantry in Pittsburgh. On their “Wish List” in June is Hamburger Helper. In July it’s Macaroni & Cheese, and August it’s Tuna. Of course, you can bring in whatever you wish to donate. Please leave your items in the shopping cart in the Parish Hall. Thank You!