



Agape

JANUARY 14, 2024

An Annual Resolution

Gabriel has wild, red curls that look like flames erupting from his head and an innocent, angelic face. His countenance is not imposing but inviting to put people at ease. He is skilled, a perfectionist even, at what he does.

He leaned in close, so I could feel his breath on the back of my neck, and asked if I had made any resolutions for the new year. This Gabriel was not the angel but the guy who cuts my hair and does so for a few parishioners.

We talked about the many usual plans that people often make such as resolving to lose weight, curse less, quit drinking, get out of debt, and so on. Resolutions for the new year tend to be cessation of a negative rather than taking on a positive action. They are remarkably similar to Lenten disciplines in that way.

If you have made any resolutions, to stop something negative or take on a positive, more power to you. From many years of experience listening to people succeed and fail at this, I encourage you to pick one area to work on and stick to it. If you miss the mark (which is the meaning of sin), try again and keep practicing. Focusing on one substantive change is more likely to occur than having multiple goals.

For many years now, I have had the same resolution and have slowly but surely seen improvement over time. My annual resolution is to become more thankful or grateful for who I am, what I have, who I am with, and to whom I belong.

This is based on a simple insight revealed in Scripture and our religious traditions in both Judaism and Christianity. Aaron Bisno addressed this in a sermon recently when he reminded us the rabbis of old taught that the secret of happiness is being content with what you have.

“... I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”
Philippians 4:11-13

For more examples see: Psalm 37:3-4, 2 Corinthians 12:9-10, Hebrews 13:5, Matthew 5:6 or John 4:13-15.

I would add a slight twist that it is more than being content with what you have. It is to be grateful or thankful for what you have and who you are and even for the challenges we face that produce character.

For this year, I plan to reflect on the blessings of this past year, give thanks for the challenges, and practice being just a little bit more thankful.

To help with this, I offer a prayer from our *Book of Common Prayer* and did not realize there was a Pittsburgh connection until this week. It is the General Thanksgiving on page 836.

The author is the Rev. Dr. Charles Price with whom I studied at Virginia Seminary. Charles was a native of Pittsburgh and had been Rector of St. Michael's in Ligonier. He was one of the main architects of our 1979 Prayer Book and taught at both Virginia Seminary and Harvard.

The prayer was written after a difficult, personal situation to help us give thanks in good and bad times to redirect us back to our hope in Christ.

Let me be a little more thankful this year.

A General Thanksgiving

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

We thank you for setting us at tasks which demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

We thank you also for those disappointments and failures that lead us to acknowledge our dependence on you alone.

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his

—continued on page 2

Resolution, continued from page 1

steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him and make him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

—Jonathon ■

Inquirers' Class

Calvary will offer an adult inquirers' class for seven weeks, beginning on February 8. It is an opportunity to explore who we are as Episcopalians, and even more fundamentally, who we are as Christians. It is also a chance to connect with others and learn more about Calvary, especially for those who are newer to our parish. This class will also serve as preparation for adults seeking Confirmation, or Reception in the Episcopal Church, or the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. (These are all sacramental affirmations of one's Christian faith in the presence of a bishop, and will be offered on Sunday, April 7 at the 11 o'clock service, during Bishop Ketlen Solak's annual visitation.)

The inquirers' class will meet from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Thursdays from February 8 through March 21. It will begin with a light supper and fellowship, followed by a talk by a member of the clergy, small group discussion, and a chance to ask questions. Over the course of the class, we will discuss, among other things, the Bible, prayer, the sacraments, what Episcopalians believe, and Calvary's history and identity as a congregation.

All adults who are interested in deepening their understanding of the Christian faith, the Episcopal Church, the Anglican tradition, and/or Calvary Church are welcome to attend. This class may be of particular interest to those who are new to Calvary or to the Episcopal Church.

If you plan to attend this class or have any questions, please contact the Rev. Cameron Soulis at csoulis@calvarypg.org. ■

A Priest and a Rabbi Walk into a Classroom

Rabbi Aaron Bisno and the Rev. Jonathon Jensen will continue to teach a class together. We will focus on the great stories of Judaism in the Book of Genesis. The classes will be in person in McClintic Hall, also known as the choir room, on **Sundays at 10 a.m.** Sessions are recorded and posted to Calvary's YouTube page with a link in the Friday email. All are welcome to attend. ■



Working from home got you down?

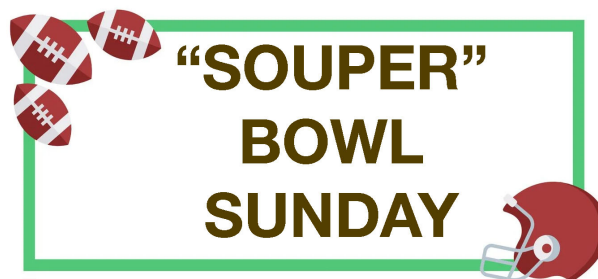
Wednesday Workspace at Calvary

Do you work from home? Do you miss lunch and standing around the coffee machine chatting with other people? Do you have difficulty separating work-life from home-life? Has the initial feeling of flexibility turned to isolation that is a burden on your spiritual and mental health?

Calvary Church invites those who work from home to work from church each Wednesday from 9 a.m. through 5 p.m. We will have the offices open for you to have a quiet work space around other people in a beautiful, familiar and safe space with other church members.

As you are able, you are invited to share in the noon Eucharist in the Lady Chapel and bring your lunch or order from a local restaurant and dine together in the Refectory at 12:30 p.m.

If you would like to take one day per week to work around other people at Calvary, please join us —Jonathon ■



Soup Group Sale: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

On **Sunday, February 11**, the Soup Group will be selling dry soup mixes and many of our frozen homemade soups. If you have a favorite soup that you would like to see included in our sale, please let me know. We will do our best to have this soup available for purchase.

Pints of frozen soup will be available for \$5 and quarts for \$10. Small dry mixes of Split Pea Mixc/ minestrone are \$5 and large mixes of Bazaar Soup are \$10. Cash or checks made out to Calvary Episcopal Church will be accepted. These items will be available in the Parish Hall after all morning services.

Proceeds from this sale will be used to help make a creative space/studio in the Red classroom for the older children in our Christian Formation Program.

Please contact Adele Eley with any questions at adele.eley@gmail.com, 412-719-9637 (cell). ■



THE CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

PRESERVE • SUSTAIN • SHARE

As we start the new year, Calvary's Capital Campaign Committee resumes activities, refreshed and invigorated by the enthusiastic responses received to date. As of January 5, 2024, we have received, from members of the Vestry, campaign leadership, and a few others, signed pledges and one-time gifts totaling \$1,893,000. This is a great start!

In the coming weeks we will announce the schedules for Awareness Gatherings and for tours that will highlight the areas of the church which require investment from the campaign. (For example, lucky tour participants will be able to see the current "belching steam and held together with duct tape" 50-year-old boiler that will be replaced with a new cost-effective, energy-efficient one. Or climb the bell tower with the Rector and the Music Director to see the broken bell system.)

Please stay tuned for more details in the weekly bulletins, Friday emails, and future *Agape* issues.

Thank you, and Happy New Year! ■



Lenten Quiet Day

Adults of all ages are invited to our Lenten Quiet Day, an opportunity to slow down, be quiet, spend time with God, and refresh your spirit. The morning will include worship, meditations on a theme, and periods of silence, during which participants can choose to pray, read, draw, or journal on their own. We will end our time together with a Eucharist in the Lady Chapel.

Look for more information and a sign-up in the coming weeks. If you have questions in the meantime, please contact the Rev. Cameron Soulis (csoulis@calvarypgh.org). ■

The steepest street in the United States is Canton Avenue, located in the Beechview neighborhood, a couple of miles south of downtown Pittsburgh. The street is only 600 feet long, but it has an average grade of 30% over its length. There is even one short section that has a grade of 37%.

MUSICAL NOTES by Alan Lewis

A happy still-new year to all.

As you may have heard over recent months, the Choir is preparing to make a singing pilgrimage to England this summer. Over the past few decades, choirs from across the U.S. have increasingly traveled to the homeland of Anglicanism to sing services in cathedral churches during the summer holidays of the native choirs. This affords American singers the (for us) unusual opportunity to offer daily choral worship, and allows the host institutions a way to keep choral services going during the peak tourism season, when visitors can potentially benefit from a brief encounter with the music that animates the daily rite of Evensong, and with the prayer that the music serves.



Calvary's choir has, over the past twenty years or so, made a number of singing visits to Washington National Cathedral, where daily evensong is offered, and we have had wonderful experiences of singing in that remarkable space. But this will be our first trip "across the Pond," and our first opportunity to take on a full week of the liturgical round of daily Evensong: it's a lot of music to prepare! But what I have found in singing with other choirs on such pilgrimages is that the effort is more than repaid by the sense of fulfillment and purpose that it offers; it allows the group to be grounded in and attached to a location and a purpose in a way that few other forms of travel afford. It's also (thanks to the people one travels with!) a lot of fun.

In August, we will take up a week's residence at Lincoln Cathedral, about 120 miles due north of London. Parts of the building are nearly a thousand years old, though a good deal of it was damaged in a twelfth-century earthquake, and rebuilt over the following century or two. For just over 200 years, its 525-foot central tower-and-spire made it the tallest building in the world, but when that spire collapsed in 1548 it was not rebuilt. (Just fourteen years later, the composer William Byrd arrived to take up a position as Organist and Master of the Choristers – the most eminent of many distinguished and faithful musicians to occupy the position.)

As we prepare for that undertaking, our regular opportunities to sing Evensong here at Calvary will continue, and afford us a chance to feel ever-more-ready for the challenge. Please join us at 5 p.m. on Sunday, February 4, Sunday, March 10 (not the first Sunday, that month), and Sunday, April 7, or on Ascension Day, Thursday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m., for a taste of what we are going abroad to do. ■

Visit the Calvary website at
www.calvarypgh.org

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

February 13, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

\$10 per person / \$20 per family

Make reservations with Kim at 412.661.0120 ext. 111
or kpieratt@calvarypgh.org



ASH WEDNESDAY: **February 14**

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II, will be celebrated at
7 A.M., Noon, and 7:30* P.M.

Imposition of Ashes at all services

Ashes To Go will be available in the
front driveway circle at 12:15 P.M. and 6 P.M.



SUNDAYS IN LENT

February 18, 25, March 3, 10, 17

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II,
will be celebrated at 8 A.M., 9 A.M., 11* A.M.

*The Great Litany in Procession
on February 18 at 11 A.M.*

LENTEN QUIET DAY

Saturday, February 24 at 9 A.M.

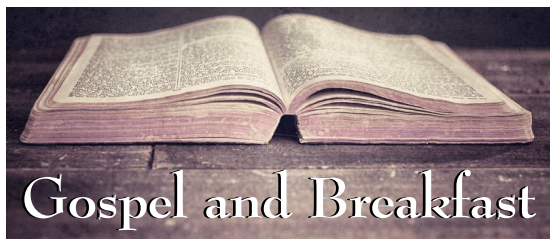
We will begin in the Lady Chapel



CHORAL EVENSONG, 5 P.M.*

Sunday, February 4, and Sunday, March 10

* INDICATES THE SERVICE WILL BE LIVESTREAMED



Gospel and Breakfast (GAB):

Sundays, 10 – 10:45 a.m., the Evans Room

This class is for young adults and parents of young children to meet for fellowship, light breakfast, and a discussion of the Gospel passage appointed for the day. We gather in the Evans Room on Sundays during the Christian Formation hour (10 – 10:45 a.m.). The nursery will be open at that time, or you can bring your little one(s) along if you prefer. Drop in whenever you can. No prior knowledge needed.

Questions? Please contact the Rev. Cameron Soulis
(csoulis@calvarypgh.org or 412.661.0120, ext. 123). ■

~~Zeke~~ Lily Wants to Know [Fourth in the Series]

Is Jesus the moon? The moon is bright white outside, and I wondered if that's Jesus or not. Do you think it is? Love, Ezekiel (4-years old)

Dear Ezekiel,

Great question. The moon is a dark, giant rock that orbits or circles around the Earth. It only looks bright because it reflects light from the sun at night.

Jesus is not the moon. Jesus is not the sun, the giant star in the sky, either. Jesus is the S-o-n, as in Son of God. We see Jesus the Son not directly with our eyes but reflected in other people when they are kind, peaceful, joyful, generous and loving. –Jonathon ■



Episcopal Covenant to Care of Creation

Calvary Creation Care (CCC) was formed in early 2022 by Tom Slater and Catherine Davidson in response to the national church's Covenant to Care for Creation which states, in part, "For God's sake, we will adopt practical ways of reducing our climate impact and living more humbly and gently on earth as individuals, households, congregations and dioceses."

Since then, our small group partnered with Bob Dilts's team in a clean-up day of the gardens around our church, and is actively making connections with East End nonprofits such as Grounded Strategies (GroundedPgh.org) and gathering information on how to reduce our building's impact on global warming. The latter activity will inform the parish on how we might respond to General Convention 2022 Resolution A087 "... committing the church to a goal of net carbon neutrality that each parish seek to reach carbon neutrality by 2030." After all, energy used to heat and cool buildings is among the top three sources of greenhouse gases and the resultant warming of the earth's atmosphere. We led an Adult Forum on solar panels in November. Look for a second Adult Forum by the CCC early this year.

We will use this column for news, updates, and opportunities to get involved. Do consider joining our CCC. Just e-mail Tom Slater (patobyblack@yahoo.com). ■



Faith Night, Flow, and Epiphany

by Jonathan Callard

The Saturday after Thanksgiving, I laced up skates and hit Pittsburgh's Hunt Armory Ice Rink for Faith Night as Jews, Christians, and Muslims gathered together to skate and share pizza. That morning, both sides in the Israel-Gaza war had released hostages during a pause in the fighting. But here in the rink my focus was on keeping my balance. My body was trying to remember how to trust itself.

Once I found a rhythm, a flow, I began to look around. I saw Jewish friends from the Tree of Life congregation. I saw Jonathon+ from Calvary. I saw Muslim girls in their hijabs, swirling around the ice in packs, taking selfies. Amidst conflicts abroad and at home, we circled the rink as if connected by the same current. When I did fall, I got back up and kept skating. I forgot my self-consciousness. I began to lean into my turns, letting my momentum – and strangers of all faiths – pull me forward.

I'm a writer by trade. When I write, I let myself come as I am. I test out my balance on the page. I allow my brain to relax while also keeping alert to what I'm noticing. It takes faith to find this flow, but once I'm moving, not worrying about how good the words are, surprising things begin to happen—and this often occurs when writing in community, when we writers are writing together and listening to each other's words, inspired by the presence of other humans trying to say something.

I imagine that the Magi from the East had to figure out a rhythm and flow on their way to Bethlehem. Like all of us at Hunt Armory, skating in circles on the same ice, they had something in common to focus on – a star. I imagine that the going was rough at first, those wise men trying to figure out how to coexist with each other's unique personality and culture, with the rigors of travel. But they kept returning to their point of reference, that light shining in the night sky. And I believe they came to trust each other, bound by this common purpose. They began to trust in something greater than themselves. And like my finding my confidence among skaters of all religions, like writers letting go of perfection to experience revelation, the Magi came away changed from their encounter with Jesus. They offered him gifts and worshipped him. Scripture says they went home by another way – partly to avoid Herod as warned in a dream, but partly, perhaps, because they were no longer the same people who had started out on their journey.

They saw things differently now because they had seen the Christ child.

This Epiphany, as we celebrate light and Christ's presence among us, let us remember that transformation comes in community, among those who often come from far away, who aren't like us but who have something to share. May we have the courage to lace up our skates, hit the ice, and let those around us – and a star – show us the way home. ■



Chili Fest 2024

Winter's gray and cold have arrived, but Calvary has the perfect antidote. It's Chili Fest time!! Please join us on Saturday evening, January 27, 2024, for Calvary's beloved congregation-wide, family-friendly event! Serving lines open at 6 p.m., so plan to arrive around 5:30 p.m. for some pre-supper fellowship and so that we have time to place all of the delicious food on the serving tables.

You are invited to bring your favorite, winning-recipe chili (enough for 10 – 12 servings) or a salad or cornbread. Calvary will supply dessert. Contributions of beer, wine, and liter soft drinks are also appreciated. If you are bringing chili, please prepare a legible card listing all of the ingredients.

The sign-up sheet is posted 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. We need a lot of volunteers. Please do sign up in advance to help with planning, even though last-minute attendees are always welcome.

If you have any questions, would like to volunteer now, or RSVP, please contact Kim Pieratt at 412.661.0120 or e-mail kpieratt@calvarypgh.org. ■

Visit the Calvary website at
www.calvarypgh.org

Children's Faith Formation

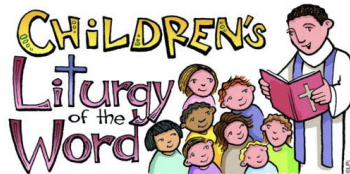
Christmas Pageant – Thank You!



Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Christmas pageant a joyful and memorable event. A special thanks to our friends from Tree of Life for participating and hosting another fantastic Hanukkah party!



Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 11 o'clock Service



Children's Liturgy of the Word (CLW) is a special time for children to pray, ask questions, and hear the good news of God's love. The Sunday scripture readings are proclaimed and explained on a level appropriate to children ages 4-11. Any child in this age group may participate - no registration is necessary.

Children are invited to gather with adult leaders after the Opening Prayer and process to the Refectory. They return to their families at the time of the Peace. If you are running a little late and miss the beginning of the service, no worries! Drop in and join us in the Refectory.



Open on Sundays from 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and for other church events as published.

Details at <https://www.calvarypgh.org/the-nursery>

Children's Faith Formation

Spring 2024



When:

Sundays, 10:00-10:50 AM

Where:

Level A Classrooms and Conference Room

Please register at

www.calvarypgh.org



Faith Formation

Classes meet Sundays 10 – 10:50 a.m. throughout the school year. If you missed fall sign-up, no worries. We'd love to see you this spring! Contact vrishopi@calvarypgh.org for more info.

Nursery Staff



To help better serve the growing number of young families at Calvary, we are looking for extra staff to help in the nursery on Sundays and special occasions. If you or anyone you know might be interested, please email vrishopi@calvarypgh.org for more information. Thank you!

Agape Deadline

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, February 2, 2024**. Please e-mail your text to 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. Contact the Parish office at 412.661.0120 for details. ■

The Bookstore at Calvary

Inventory Sale

The Bookstore annual inventory sale has selected items up to 50% off the original price! Stop by to see a variety of books, Episcopal themed items, gifts, and other items on sale before they are gone.



The Book Exchange

The Book Exchange will be coming back soon! What is the Book Exchange? It is a cart with a selection of books you can borrow, read at your leisure, and then return at no charge located outside the Bookstore. In the meantime, parishioners can continue to donate books to the Book Exchange so others can enjoy the same book for free. Please leave donations for the Book Exchange in the Bookstore or in the workroom (labeled for "Book Exchange"). Can't find a book? Then stop inside the Bookstore to view the selection of book offerings including children's, fiction, nonfiction, poetry, religious, spiritual, and young teen offerings.

Indie Next: Find Your Next Great Read

Stop by the Bookstore to pick-up a free copy of the following fliers from the American Booksellers Association:

January 2024 Indie Next List: this trifold provides inspired book recommendations from Indie Booksellers including the #1 pick for the month. Hardcover and paperback titles are listed.



Best Books for Young Readers: recommendations by independent booksellers from across the nation, which includes suggested ages following each book description.

Each flier includes a short synopsis of the books highlighted along with the release date. Want a specific book but can't find it? The Bookstore can special order a requested title for you at no charge or order via www.bookshop.org (see below on how to order via Bookshop.org).

Bookshop.org

By ordering books through the Calvary page on Bookshop.org (type zip code 15206 in the Bookstore Near Me box on Bookshop.org, click on Calvary Bookstore, then the red Support this Shop), the Bookstore will receive a portion of the profits. Featured categories include **Making Sense of Christianity** and **Some of Us Are Reading**. Here is another way you can support the Bookstore, which is a member of the Episcopal Booksellers Association as well as an independent bookstore, when shopping for books. Bookshop.org will ship your books from their wholesaler's warehouse (usually within 2-3 days) directly to you, handle the customer service, returns and overhead, and the Bookstore at Calvary will receive a small stipend! Help the



Bookstore maintain its presence not only as an Episcopal bookstore, but also an independent bookstore with a share of direct-to-home online book sales.

alibris

Alibris is an online store that sells new books, used books, out-of-print books, rare books, and other media through an online network of independent booksellers. Calvary has over 300 mostly out of print, donated books available online at <http://hymnal82.alibrisstore.com>. The collection of offerings includes art, children's fiction, comics, graphic novels, fiction, poetry, and travel to name just a few. Each title listing includes the edition, binding, publisher, date published, description, and condition. Checkout the unique offerings that are reasonably priced.

Volunteer Opportunity

Interested in volunteering, but have a limited amount of time? As little as two hours a month is all it takes for this very worthwhile ministry with training provided. Contact Cindy Pepples at lucindapepples@gmail.com or stop into the Bookstore and ask any staff how you can help.

New Bookstore Hours

The Bookstore is open on Sunday from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call the Bookstore at 412-661-0120 ext. 133 (please leave a message) or email at bookstore@calvarypgh.org and we will contact you. Cash, check, Discover®, MasterCard®, and Visa® along with touch-free payments are accepted. ■



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

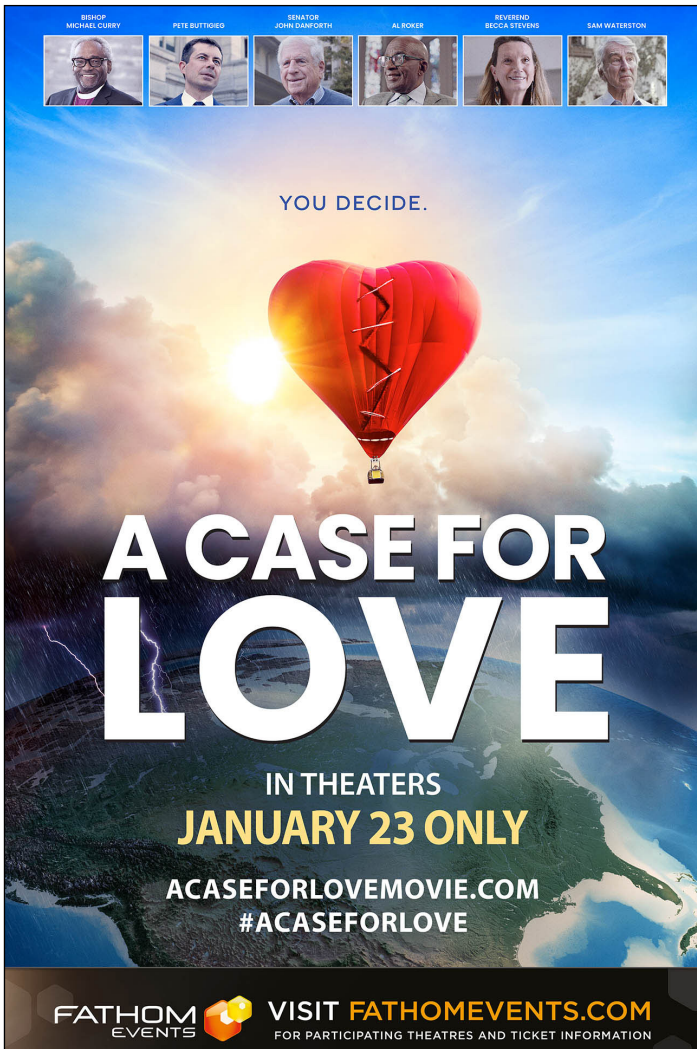
Tuesday, February 13 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

\$10 per person / \$20 per family.

Please make reservations with Kim at
412.661.0120 ext.111 or
kpieratt@calvarypgh.org



Ash Wednesday, February 14, marks the beginning of the season of Lent. On this day ashes are "imposed" on the faithful as a sign of penitence and our mortality. The day is observed as a fast.



Calling All Members, Chapters, and Friends
The Union of Black Episcopalians
is going to the Movies!

WHEN: Tuesday, January 23, 2024

WHAT: "A CASE FOR LOVE"

This documentary, a heartfelt yet personally challenging movie inspired by the teachings and writings of Presiding Bishop Michael Bruce Curry, examines whether love – specifically unselfish love – is the solution to the extreme societal and political divide facing the US.

The film team travels across the U.S. interviewing everyday people from various walks of life and ethnicities, striving to live their lives selflessly. Stories include racial justice, military, foster care, sexual trafficking, love and loss, and others weigh in on the issue.

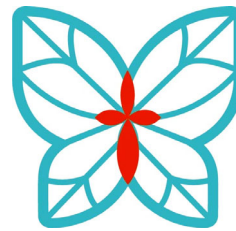
The viewer is challenged to make their own verdict.

Find a theatre: <https://acaseforlovemovie.com/theaters/>

View Movie Trailer: <https://acaseforlovemovie.com>

For one month after seeing the film, commit to living an unselfish life of love. During these 30 days, people across the country will perform daily acts of selflessness and will journal their moments. Movie study guide and journal available at <https://acaseforlovemovie.com>.

www.ube.org



Christ-Centered Yoga

Monday nights, February 5 - March 11, 2024

6:30-7:30 p.m., Meeting in the Parish Hall

Led by Calvary parishioner, Elizabeth Hepburn Miller

20-30 minutes of yoga, followed by journaling

Every-body and all-bodies are welcome here! You have the permission to show up just as you are. All levels and abilities are invited to join as we journey through a 6-week program to share in joy, grounding, resting and breathing together to know God's love for us and make His love known.

What is "Yoga"?

The term yoga refers to a spiritual practice, involving breath, postures and meditation that originated in Ancient India thousands of years ago. Although other religions and philosophies also have their roots in Ancient India, the practice of yoga is not specific or rooted in any one religion.

Much like the disciplines of prayer, fasting, service, and study of scripture, yoga is practiced as a spiritual discipline. Getting still, embodying prayer, and mediating on God's word through gentle movement is yoga, and it is an additional way to connect the body, mind and soul as we care for one's whole spiritual well-being. (Deuteronomy 6:4-5).

To bring:

- Yoga mat or beach towel
- Journal (paper) and pen
- Yoga blocks, optional, if you have them or want them
- Bath or beach towel for your knees, hips, etc. on the hard floor

To wear: - Comfortable clothing

This group is for those...

- looking to find rhythms of getting still
- that have 2024 resolutions to make more intentional space for God's presence
- that want to connect deeper to God and their body in a body-neutral space, with fun and community
- who love yoga, or have never done yoga before!
- that want to develop a practice that is healing and helpful to the body, softening and relaxing for the soul, and engaging for the mind.

Please reach out with any questions or concerns. You are so loved and welcomed here. I can't wait to practice with you!

–Elizabeth Hepburn Miller (you can connect with me at www.beyelizabeth.com or by email at Elizabeth@BeByElizabeth.com) ■

Tuesday Night 2024 Lenten Preaching Series

“Hope – Rooted in Christ”

6 P.M. Dinner • 7 P.M. Holy Eucharist with hymns and sermon

February 20

Calvary Preacher: The Rev. Moni McIntyre
315 Shady Ave. at Walnut, E. Liberty

February 27

St. Thomas Preacher: The Rev. Charles Fischer
378 Delaware Ave, Oakmont

March 5

St. Stephen's Preacher: The Rev. Liddy Barlow
600 Pitt Street, Wilkinsburg

March 12

St. Andrew's Preacher: The Rev. Leslie Reimer
5801 Hampton Street, Highland Park

March 19

Redeemer Preacher: The Rev. Carter Hawley
5700 Forbes Avenue, Squirrel Hill



The Lenten Series is back!

The Lenten Series is a weekly program sponsored by the parishes in our district of the Diocese (which encompasses the East End and the immediate eastern suburbs of Pittsburgh). Each Tuesday in Lent one parish in our district will host a simple supper at 6 pm followed by a Eucharist at 7 pm. A different preacher is featured each week. See the accompanying image for details.

Calvary will be hosting the series on Tuesday, February 20. We need volunteers on that day to help with the dinner – setting up and/or serving, and/or cleaning up. If you can help, please call or email Kim Pieratt (412-661-0120, ext. 111; kpieratt@calvarypg.org). ■

Visit the Calvary website at
www.calvarypg.org

Spiritual Reflection – Kate Bowler

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. In Calvary’s Spiritual Reflection meetings, we share, reflect upon, and discuss inspirational ideas that develop and deepen our personal relationships with God and with one another. At each meeting, a short reading serves as a catalyst for discovery of God in our daily lives. Meetings are group-led, and no preparation is required. Our interactions follow the Principals for Contemplative Dialogue of the Merton Institute for Contemplative Living.

For this term we will use Kate Bowler’s *Good Enough*. A religion professor at Duke, Bowler gained national attention with her book “Everything Happens for a Reason (and other lies I’ve loved),” written after her Stage IV cancer diagnosis at age 35. *Good Enough*, with co-author Jessica Ritchie, is a collection of devotionals and prayers that push back against our culture’s messages of “living your best life now” and forced positivity. “This book understands me, especially the parts I keep hidden,” says author Barbara Brown Taylor.

Meetings are held in the Evans Room from 7-8 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday evening of each month. The meetings are hybrid, allowing “in person” conversation while others join remotely using Zoom. Upcoming meeting dates are January 16, February 6 and 20, and March 5 and 19. Email Matt Muldoon (mattmuldoon@msn.com) or Sondra Krimmel (sskrimmel@gmail.com) for information or to be added to the email list. Please feel welcome to join us at any time. ■

Calvary young Adult Ministry

The Calvary Young Adults will meet for Holy Happy Hour at Lorelei (124 S. Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, 15206) Wednesday, January 17 at 5:45 p.m. Afterwards, we will walk across the street to East Liberty Presbyterian Church (ELPC) for their Taizé Prayer Service at 7:00 pm.

The Taizé Prayer Service at ELPC, if you’ve never attended, is based on the style of worship developed at the Taizé community, an ecumenical Christian monastic fraternity in France. The service at ELPC lasts about an hour and consists of chants from Taizé, spoken prayers, other music, and a time of silence.

If you are in your 20s or 30s, please join us! You are welcome to come to just the Taizé service or happy hour or both, as your schedule and interest allow. If you would like to be added to the Young Adult Ministry email list, please contact the Rev. Cameron Soulis at csoulis@calvarypg.org or 412.661.0120 ext. 123. ■

CALVARY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

The Rev. Jonathon W. Jensen, *Rector*
The Rev. Cameron J. Soulis, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Geoffrey S. Royce, *Deacon*
Rabbi Aaron Bisno, *Rabbi-in-Residence*
Ms. Deanna Briody, *McNulty Intern*
The Rev. Ruth Bosch Becker, *Assisting Pastor*
The Rev. Carol Henley, *Assisting Priest*
Dr. Alan Lewis, *Director of Music*
Jon Tyillian, *Assistant Organist*
Lynda Kennedy, *Director of Finance*
Vicki Rispoli, *Director of Children's Formation*
Kenneth Smith, *Director of Communications*
Kim Pieratt, *Parish Administrator*
Jim Gubash, *Head Sexton*

Adam Augustine, Ron Johnston, Mary Ann Packer,
Guy Tillman, *Sextons*
Vivian Rispoli, *A/V Technician*
David Jeong, *Senior Warden*
Wendy Lomicka, *Junior Warden*
Lauren Ernst, *Treasurer*
Daniel Geroni, *Assistant Treasurer*

Have you remembered
Calvary in your will?

Holy Baptism

If you, or someone you know, desires to partake in this sacrament, please contact the Reverend Cameron Soulis at csoulis@calvarypgh.org or 412.661.0120, ext. 123 as soon as possible, so that the appropriate preparation and arrangements can be made. ■



An expanded version of this issue of *Agape*, with additional content may be viewed on the Calvary website at www.calvarypgh.org



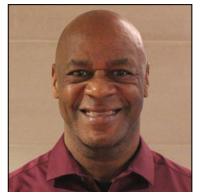
The Church Mouse

From Sexton **Ron Johnston**: Thank you for the outpouring of love, cards, and food from my Calvary family when Carole, my wife of 64 years, passed away. This place is special to me and I appreciate your continuing

love and prayers. ■

Calvary Church has received a gift of a book from **Violins of Hope Greater Pittsburgh**. Sandy Rosen, Patricia Siger, and Lynn Zelenski enclosed a card: "The landmark community event proved to be unlike any other our city has ever experienced, creating a true composition of the human spirit. We will forever be grateful for your kindness and support." The book is on display in the Parish House lobby. ■

We announce the hiring of our new sexton, **Guy Tillman**. He began working in mid-December and has been learning our maintenance and cleaning duties. Please welcome him. ■



Join us in the Parish Hall from 7–9 p.m., followed by a brief discussion with Clint Van Dusen.

"BROTHER SUN SISTER MOON"

Thursday, February 15

(1973) Superbly directed by Franco Zeffirelli, this movie was nominated for an Academy Award for its rich cinematography. Graham Faulkner stars as St. Francis of Assisi in his early ministry by leaving a life of comfort to seek a spiritual union with the world. Judy Bowkers stars as Sister Moon and Alec Guinness as Pope Innocent III. Words and music by Donovan. ■

Staying in Touch

Please contact Calvary's Parish Administrator Kim Pieratt at the Church office if you have any questions about flower memorials, prayer list additions, or scheduling of events. Kim can be contacted at 412.661.0120, ext. 111 or send an email to kpieratt@calvarypgh.org. We ask that you keep us informed if you have a home address, phone or email change. ■



Saturday, January 27, 2024

This is Calvary's congregation-wide,
family-friendly event!

We will begin serving at 6 p.m.,
so please plan to arrive at 5:30.

You are invited to bring your favorite
chili recipe, enough for 10-12 servings,
or a salad, cornbread or drinks.

Calvary will supply the dessert.

There will be games and activities for children,
so bring the kids along.

**SIGN-UP SHEETS
ARE IN THE PARISH HALL**

COLORFUL BACK → GROUND S EXPO

EX-INCARCERATED
PEOPLE ORGANIZING



Light Dinner
at 5:30pm



COME AND JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Hear from impacted people and
their families:

How incarceration impacts the whole family

How to handle the trauma of incarceration

How to restore family relationships when
returning home

How to navigate motherhood post
incarceration and more



**TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE**

Wednesday January 31, 2024 6pm at Pittsburgh Mennonite Church
2018 South Braddock Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15218



On-Going at Calvary

Clergy Contact Information

- The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, jjensen@calvarypgh.org
- The Rev. Cameron Soulis, csoulis@calvarypgh.org
- Deacon Geoffrey Royce, groyce@calvarypgh.org
 - Rabbi Aaron Bisno, rabbi@calvarypgh.org
- Deanna Briody, dbriody@calvarypgh.org ■



Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

Now that coffee hours have resumed, we need hosts to help us. Your group can sponsor a coffee hour by bringing, plating and arranging small sweet and savory snacks for enjoyment after the 11 o'clock service each Sunday. If you are interested, please sign up with Kathy Farrington at farringtonk@me.com or use the sign up sheet at the sign in the Parish Hall. ■

Plastic Recycling

Thank you to the many people who are recycling plastic film and bags to the box located in the Parish House lobby across from the reception desk. We will continue our practice of recycling here at Calvary. You are helping to keep thousands of pounds of waste out of landfills. (And, yes, bubble wrap is recyclable!) ■



Walk-in Ministry Winter Request

Trinity Cathedral hosts a walk-in ministry that provides the most vulnerable among us food, toiletries, clothing, and referral services. They participate along with four other downtown churches as members of the Downtown Ministerium. Calvary has agreed to help with the ministry's request for **winter hats, gloves, and also blankets**. There is a collection box in the Parish Hall. Please drop off your packages there. Thank you. ■

EECM Food Pantry

East End Cooperative Ministry operates the second largest food pantry in Pittsburgh. Donations can be dropped off at Calvary during office hours: Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday mornings. Below is a list of items particularly requested at this time. **Thank you to all who have continued to donate to the EECM food cart.** Your support is greatly appreciated.

- Bottled Water
- Instant mashed potatoes
- Canned tomato sauce, vegetables, beans
- Spaghetti and macaroni pasta
- Canned soups
- Mac & Cheese boxes
- Oatmeal and whole grain cereals
- White and brown rice
- Disposable utensils (fork, spoon, knife)
- Disposable plates
- Disposable bowls
- Ziploc bags, any size
- Napkins
- Paper Towels
- Sugar
- Salt ■

Stay in Touch with the Diocese

Visit the diocesan website at

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.

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



Altar Flowers

Help us keep the church altars in full bloom, including the newest one in the Transept Narthex, by donating flowers in memory of, or in honor of, someone special. If you would like to place a memorial listing, please contact Kim Pieratt in the church office at 412.661.0120, ext. 111. ■

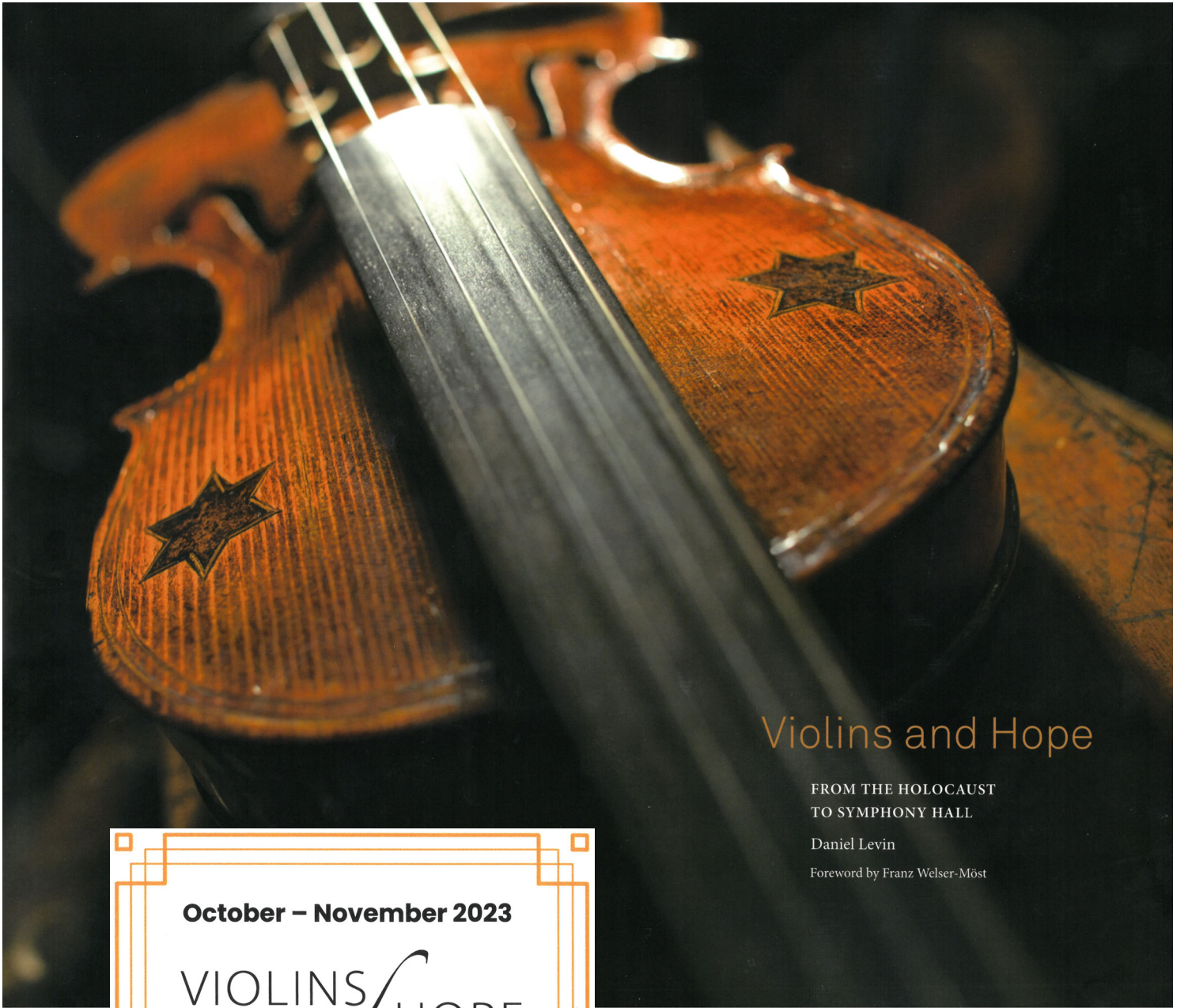


Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

**Tuesday, February 13, 2024
from 6 to 7:30 p.m.**

\$10 per person / \$20 per family

Please make reservations with Kim at
412.661.0120 ext.111 or
kpieratt@calvarypgh.org



Violins and Hope

FROM THE HOLOCAUST
TO SYMPHONY HALL

Daniel Levin

Foreword by Franz Welsch-Möst

October – November 2023

VIOLINS *of* HOPE GREATER PITTSBURGH

This landmark community event proved to be unlike any other our city has ever experienced, creating a true composition of the human spirit.

We will forever be grateful for your kindness and support.

Sandy Rosen, Patricia Siger,
Lynn Zelenski

**Calvary Movie Night:
Thursday, February 15, at 7 p.m.**

**A MOTION PICTURE THAT CELEBRATES
THE TIMELESS JOY OF ORIGINAL INNOCENCE.**

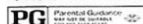


PARAMOUNT PICTURES PRESENTS A FILM BY
Franco Zeffirelli
HIS FIRST FILM SINCE "ROMEO & JULIET"

"BROTHER SUN SISTER MOON"

STARRING GRAHAM FAULKNER / JUDI BOWKER AND ALEC GUINNESS AS POPE INNOCENT III
WORDS AND MUSIC COMPOSED AND SUNG BY DONOVAN / ASSOCIATE PRODUCER DYSON LOVELL
ORIGINAL STORY AND SCREENPLAY BY SUSO CECCHI D'AMICO, KENNETH ROSS, LINA WERTMULLER
AND FRANCO ZEFFIRELLI / PRODUCED BY LUCIANO PERUGIA

FOR EURO INTERNATIONAL FILMS AND VIC FILM (PRODUCTIONS) LTD. / DIRECTED BY FRANCO ZEFFIRELLI



TECHNICOLOR® PANAVISION® A PARAMOUNT PICTURE



**Calvary Movie Night:
Thursday, March 21, at 7 p.m.**

**“A
MASTERWORK!
PACKS THE
POWER OF
A GENUINE
REVELATION...
SMART AND
EXCEPTIONALLY
ARTICULATE!”**

—Kevin Thomas,
LOS ANGELES TIMES



**ED HARRIS + ANNE HECHÉ
AND ARMIN MUELLER-STAHLE**

THE THIRD MIRACLE

**A ROMANTIC THRILLER
BY AGNIESZKA HOLLAND**

SONY PICTURES
CLASSICS

**Calvary Movie Night:
Thursday, April 18, at 7 p.m.**

a mighty motion picture experience...touch it
sense it...feel it...**the**...you can't forget it!
**Miracle
worker**



the a flash of intensely personal drama... a brilliant
Miracle bolt of bold motion picture entertainment...a film
worker beyond the usual! starring **ANNE BANCROFT**
and introducing **PATTY DUKE** with VICTOR JORY

ANDREW PRINE, INGA SWENSON, AND KATHLEEN COMEGYS. SCREEN PLAY BY WILLIAM GIBSON BASED UPON HIS STAGE PLAY.
DIRECTED BY ARTHUR PENN. PRODUCED BY FRED COE. MUSIC COMPOSED BY LAURENCE ROSENTHAL. RELEASED THRU UNITED ARTISTS.

Tuesday Night 2024 Lenten Preaching Series

“Hope – Rooted in Christ”

6 P.M. Dinner • 7 P.M. Holy Eucharist with hymns and sermon

February 20

Calvary Preacher: The Rev. Moni McIntyre
315 Shady Ave. at Walnut, E. Liberty

February 27

St. Thomas Preacher: The Rev. Charles Fischer
378 Delaware Ave, Oakmont

March 5

St. Stephen's Preacher: The Rev. Liddy Barlow
600 Pitt Street, Wilkinsburg

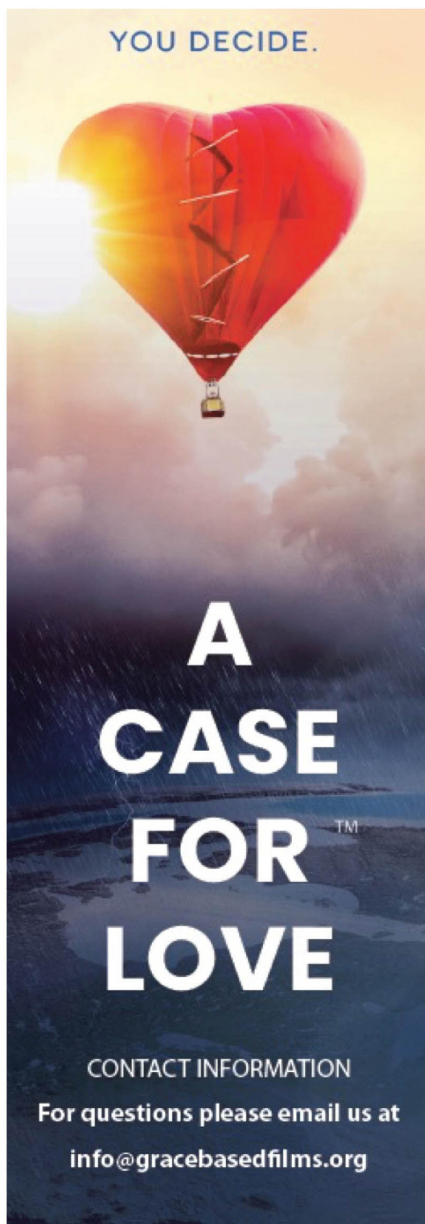
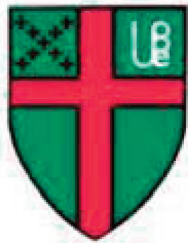
March 12

St. Andrew's Preacher: The Rev. Leslie Reimer
5801 Hampton Street, Highland Park

March 19

Redeemer Preacher: The Rev. Carter Hawley
5700 Forbes Avenue, Squirrel Hill

Union of Black Episcopalians



Calling All UBE Members, Chapters, and Friends

UBE IS GOING TO THE MOVIES!

WHEN: Tuesday, January 23, 2024

WHAT: "A CASE FOR LOVE"

This documentary, a heartfelt yet personally challenging movie inspired by the teachings and writings of Presiding Bishop Michael Bruce Curry, examines whether love – specifically unselfish love – is the solution to the extreme societal and political divide facing the US.

The film team travels across the U.S. interviewing everyday people from various walks of life and ethnicities, striving to live their lives selflessly. Stories include racial justice, military, foster care, sexual trafficking, love and loss, and others as well-known figures including Pete Buttigieg, Al Roker, Sam Waterston, Becca Stevens, Russell Moore, John Danforth, John Clyburn, Kelly Brown Douglas, and Jon Meacham weigh in on the issue.

The viewer is challenged to make their own verdict.

Find a theatre: <https://acaseforlovemovie.com/theaters/>

View Movie Trailer: <https://acaseforlovemovie.com>

For one month after seeing the film, commit to living an unselfish life of love. During these 30 days, people across the country will perform daily acts of selflessness and will journal their moments. Movie study guide and journal available at <https://acaseforlovemovie.com>.

www.ube.org

Deadline (Friday):

Publication Date (Sunday):

January 5	January 14
February 2	February 11 [Lenten Issue]
March 1	March 10 [Easter Issue]
April 5	April 14 [End of Program Year]
May 3	May 12
June 7	June 16 [Summer Issue]
August 9	August 18 [Beginning of Program Year]
September 6	September 15
October 4	October 13
November 1	November 10 [Advent Issue]
December 6	December 15

2024 CALENDAR

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