

JANUARY 17, 2021

100th Anniversary of First Worship Service on Radio

**Sermon Preached by
The Rev. Jonathon W. Jensen, Rector
at Calvary Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh, PA
on The Second Sunday after Christmas, Year B
January 3, 2021**

Let us pray. Almighty God, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word; Grant that the same light enkindled in our hearts may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

100 years ago, Calvary Episcopal Church was a part of radio history. The first worship service, anywhere in the world, was broadcast from here over KDKA on January 2, 1921.

Radio waves had been known of for some time. It was a local Westinghouse engineer by the name of Frank Conrad, whose formal education stopped at 7th grade, who made it all work. He created his own broadcast radio station from his garage in Wilksburg, two miles from Calvary. There is a Wendy's fast-food restaurant there now where the garage was on Penn Avenue. Twice per week, Conrad talked and played requests of records he borrowed from a local store. He had to mention the name of the store to keep the records coming. That initiative caught the attention of the executives at Westinghouse.

One of them, Harry Davis, was Vice President for Engineering and a visionary leader who saw the technological and commercial possibilities. Radio was the wave of the future. He had a much larger transmitter built. They broadcast from a shack on top of the Westinghouse K building in East Pittsburgh.

On November 2, 1920 KDKA launched the first, licensed commercial radio station. They were owned by Westinghouse. They broadcast presidential election returns and played music between updates. Warren Harding won in a landslide. It was probably heard by hundreds, rather than millions of people. Early radio was like early computers... you had to build your own.

The leaders wanted to expand the market of commercial radio and expand their technological abilities. To do this, they needed to test their capacity to offer remote broadcasts far from the studio. At the same

time, they were trying to figure out a schedule of programming. Sundays, it was thought, would be good for religious programming. Some have suggested the company also wanted to sell more home radios and to create a broader audience for their products.



Whatever their motives were, things came together at the right time. A choir member of Calvary, Fletcher Hallock, worked in the offices at Westinghouse. He suggested they speak to the Rector and make Calvary the location of the experiment. Harry Davis was also a Calvary member.

That probably made negotiations easier. The Rector and Vestry readily gave their consent after their concerns were addressed. Was radio dangerous? Would the black box blow up? Was the equipment loud or disruptive or unsightly to the congregation present?

The Rector at the time, Edwin van Etten, agreed but thought this new medium of commercial radio would be a passing fad. Either no one would listen or the technology would fail. The studio was miles away and no one had done this before. It was likely to be a big "fizzle." So, he did what any sensible boss would do and had his assistant preach. It was Evening Prayer with a sermon by Mr. Whittemore.

One can imagine the energy in the room that first night. They had practiced for weeks before the event. This was not only the first religious service on radio, it was the first remote broadcast.

That is, this was the first broadcast where everyone was not in the studio. The service was sent by telephone line from Calvary to the studio in East Pittsburgh and broadcast from there. The choir was filled with "wires and tubes."

There were two young men present as sound engineers on that day. Mr. Whittemore, the preacher, noticed them and asked them to wear choir robes to make them inconspicuous. One of the sound engineers happened to be Jewish and the other Irish Catholic. Years later,

—continued on page 2

Radio History, continued from page 1

the Rector said these two young men helped symbolize the “real universality of radio religion.” Protestant, Catholic, and Jew were working together to make history.

Van Etten thought this first radio service would be a non-event. We have the original bulletin from that day printed at the end of today’s bulletin. There are two brief paragraphs about the radio service. The scores from the Episcopal boys’ basketball league take up more room in the bulletin. They played in the gym, the current choir room.

A worship service over the radio turned out to be an instant hit. That week, people from hundreds of miles away called or wrote to say how they could participate for the first time. They were shut in or worked or lived too far away. This new technology connected them to the community again. Letters poured in... a type of fan mail. Many of them contained dimes or nickels on post cards.

The Rector had a firm policy that the new marvel of radio should never be used to raise money for the church. Imagine how much would have come in when they were, quite literally, the only show on the air for close to a year. Despite his protests, the money did arrive. 4,000 letters arrived in the first week. It was used to pay for the bronze plaque on the front of the church that is still there.

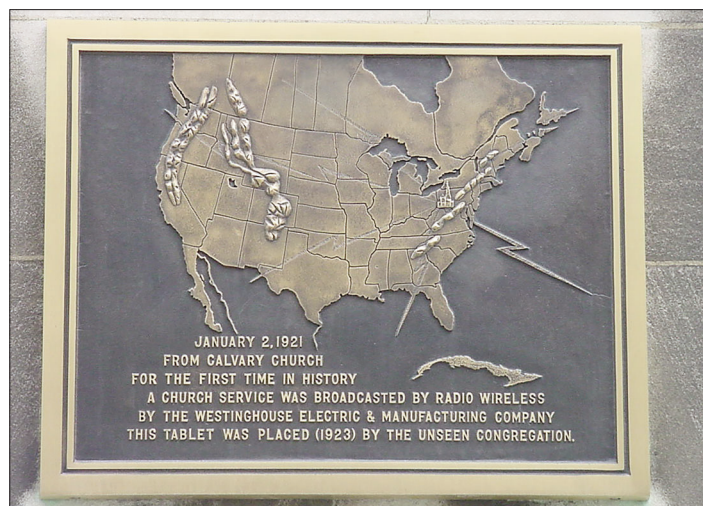
It tells what happened and shows a bird’s eye view of North America with crossed lightning bolts meeting over a church in Pittsburgh.

Later in 1921, KDKA would be the first to broadcast a college football game... Pitt beat West Virginia. They broadcast the first play by play of a baseball game, the first tennis match, the first remote theater broadcast, and first presidential inauguration among many others. The first test of a remote broadcast, that made all that possible, started here. By the end of 1921, there were more than 200 licensed stations. Radio had become a phenomenon. Worship over the wireless or radio religion was embraced, relatively quickly, as a new normal.

Only a few years before, we had just come out of World War I and the Spanish Flu pandemic that killed 50,000,000 around the world. We did not go out seeking to broadcast on radio but saw it as an experiment and quickly adopted the new technology. The Rector wrote that he wanted the experience of worship to be as “normal” as possible for those listening and those in person.

We’re trying to do the same thing now with our new technology of streaming.

They also recognized this new medium could reach almost everyone. They called it universality of radio religion. Radio meant the idea of the parish was not only the neighborhood or city but that almost anyone anywhere could hear the Gospel. 100 years later, in the midst of a pandemic, we also had to experiment with a new technology. Our idea of a parish has expanded again.



Everyone knows it is not the same as we lack the physical community gathered. But it can serve to remind us of the Great Cloud of Witnesses who are gathered in Spirit. They are all the faithful, the living and the dead, who are gathered in God. While we may not be physically present together, we are joined together through the death and resurrection of Christ in one communion and fellowship.

There are many questions the new technology raises... Practical ones like how does one do pastoral care or fellowship or receive sacraments online? How can you be a member of a church where you are not physically present? There are many larger questions about what it means to be Church now with this new medium as the new normal. It is likely, when the pandemic ends, many will prefer to worship online while many will prefer to be in person.

Thankfully, our forebears led the way with some of this 100 years ago. Because the first radio service was so sudden, they did not have time to prepare a special liturgy or sermon for the occasion. Mr. Whittemore preached a “normal” sermon that is about four times longer than one of mine. That is not the direction I am suggesting. At the end, the preacher addressed the “radio congregation” specifically. It is a message that still matters in our time. His sermon ending is printed in our bulletin today.

He reminded us we are on the eve of a great Christian festival, what we call the Epiphany.

It celebrates the wise men who followed a star to pay homage to the Christ child, a light to the whole world. The star is a metaphor for faith in Jesus.

He said, “Starlight is not broad daylight. Starlight does not make everything plain, but there is light enough to show us our direction, light enough always to take the next Step. We cannot see ahead all the days of the year. We can see today and today the star shines and today we can guide our feet by that new light.” That’s part of faith, just enough light to see the next step.

The other part is just as important. “Grant that this same light enkindled in our hearts may shine forth in our lives.”

—continued on page 3

That is real faith in Jesus. It is not only that one shall humbly follow the light of a guiding star in Jesus. The real miracle is that the same light of Christ shall enter into your heart and emanate from you... so others have hope, so you work for a just world for all. We always point to God with whatever tools we have- radio, the web, or person to person- to share the light of Christ. We have no idea what the future will bring but we know how to meet the future. In faith, following the star, one step at a time.

Some Historical Fun Facts About Calvary 100 Years Ago

- Regarding the first worship service on radio, Edwin van Etten said, "I thought there would be some sort of fluke in the connection and that the whole thing would be a fizzle."
- Radio broadcasts continued from Calvary on KDKA radio until 1962.
- Harry Davis, called the Father of Radio, would partner with Westinghouse, RCA, and General Electric to form the first broadcasting company we now know as NBC and became the first Chairman of the Board for NBC. He held nearly 80 patents and oversaw the electrification of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railway, the first single-phase railway electrification in the world.



Mr. Davis

- If the fan mail did not warm the Rector to the new technology, one call closer to home did. Soon after the broadcasts began, a neighbor of the Rector's mother in New York (Rhinebeck) showed up at Mrs. Van Etten's house with a radio receiver under his arm. He set up his aerial and gave her the headphones to listen. She was delighted to hear her son over 400 miles away but thought it was a joke he was playing.
- The earliest days of radio saw all sorts of people finding ways to get on the air. An ingenious one was by a choir boy who arranged to send greetings to his family during the service. He told them, "Just before Dr. Van Etten gives the hymn before the sermon... If you listen carefully you will hear a little cough. It'll be me, Mom."
- For worship, they would have prayed from the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer 1892 edition. The "new" Prayer Book would come out in 1928. Our current Prayer Book was authorized in 1979. Their Episcopal hymnal was from 1916. Our current hymnal was authorized in 1982.
- The bronze plaque on the front of the church that commemorates the event was dedicated on June 3, 1923. People from all over the country sent in dimes in support. This was the only departure from Van Etten's conviction this new marvel (radio) should never be used to raise money. The plaque was replaced and rededicated in May, 1970.
- Lewis Bliss Whittemore (1885-1965), the preacher on January 2nd, served as the third Bishop of Western Michigan from 1937-1953. The Bishop Whittemore

Foundation, in that diocese, supports new ministries and building projects there.

• Edwin van Etten (1884-1956) was 33 years old when he became the 8th Rector of Calvary in 1917 and departed in 1940 at age 56. That makes him our longest serving Rector. The current building was consecrated in 1907 or ten years before he arrived. He departed to become Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral in Boston and served there from 1940-1953.



Mr. Whittemore



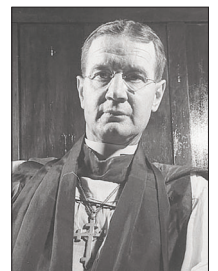
Mr. van Etten

• George Hodges was the assistant priest at Calvary from 1881-1889 and became the 5th Rector of Calvary from 1889-1894. He departed to become Dean and Professor of Homiletics at Episcopal Theological School in Cambridge, MA. Both Van Etten and Whittemore studied under Hodges there but in different years. Interestingly, the Vestry called Van Etten as Rector and Whittemore as Assistant Rector at the same time. Van Etten was only a year older than Whittemore but had more experience.



Mr. Hodges

• Van Etten was succeeded as Rector by Arthur Kinsolving who was Dean of the Cathedral in Garden City, NY from 1933-1940. He served as 9th Rector of Calvary from 1940-1945 when he was elected Missionary Bishop of Arizona. Kinsolving was ordained Bishop at Calvary. We have a copy of the ordination bulletin in our parish archives and gave copies of it and photos to his family members when they visited a few years ago. His father was a Missionary Bishop of Brazil.



Mr. Kinsolving

• In addition to the premiere of worship on radio, Edwin van Etten was also Rector during the Spanish Flu when Calvary was a military hospital. Public services were suspended several months because of the pandemic. Van Etten is the priest that chose our patron, St. Michael, that was reaffirmed by Sam Shoemaker, the 12th Rector.

• The first sermon on radio was from the Calvary pulpit, octagonal in shape, that is carved of white oak as is all the woodwork. The canopy has a grape and vine motif that continues the theme of the rood screen. The red velvet valence, on the canopy, was installed to muffle the echoes of primitive microphones sometime after radio broadcasting began.

• The pulpit has multiple carved figures. At the base are the Old Testament prophets (from left to right) Jeremiah, Zechariah, Hosea, Ezekiel, and Habakkuk. Standing symbolically on their foundation, in individual niches, are

-continued on page 4

early Church preachers and teachers (from left to right) are St. John Chrysostom, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Bernard of Clairvaux, St. Anselm, St. Athanasius, and Savonarola. The shields on the pulpit are for the United States and Episcopal Dioceses (at the time) of Pennsylvania including Erie, Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), Pittsburgh, and Harrisburg.

- The pulpit had a “ship’s bell” clock added, from the Chelsea Clock Company, probably during the early 1940s. It sits near the preacher’s right hand so he or she can resist preaching for too long. It was restored in the last few years. The clock is made of Bakelite, the first synthetic plastic patented in 1909 by Belgian-American chemist, Leo Baekeland.



- The pulpit has an electric 8" fan (model # 98926A) above and behind the preacher. This was made by the Westinghouse Electric MFG Company. The patent dates from 1897–1910 making it original or soon after the building was consecrated in 1907. It was inoperative for some time then restored by head sexton, Jim Gubash. It now works well and is relatively quiet.

- The sermon preached on January 2, 1921 was titled “The Wood and the Sword” from the text II Samuel 18:8. The theme is the inner life (the wood or woods) is more dangerous than the outer life (the sword) or what we might call the world. It is quite long by our standards today, approximately four times as many words as one of the current (16th) Rector’s sermons. The concluding paragraphs are quite good and are addressed specifically to the radio congregation. They are quoted here in full. The format and style are in the original text. The final line is from the Gospel of Matthew 5:16.

My friends, one would not lose an opportunity to speak and be heard by the radio congregation. He would want to say something that could be of use and of strength and of meaning to every one who might hear his word. He would want to point out with all earnestness that the real perils and dangers of life are never the outside ones. It is never the difficult tasks that prove fatal to life. The real dangers to life are always the inside uncertainty, the inside entanglements and the inside inability.

This is the eve of a great Christian festival. In our western Christendom we call it the eve of the Epiphany. It is the time so tradition says, when the star led the wise men to the Infant Jesus. That star shone high and bright. It is a lovely symbol of the faith of Jesus. High above all the shadows, no matter how dark and how gruesome and how fearsome, away up there on high that star shone! Above all the underbrush and the thicket and the jungle and the entanglements of life that star shone. And so that star still shines- exquisite symbol of the faith of Jesus. There is a prayer that we used tonight which says the whole thing. “O God who has poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate word.” So the prayer begins. There is new light

from the Bethlehem star. Starlight is not broad daylight. Starlight does not make everything plain, but there is light enough to show us our direction, light enough always to take the next Step. We cannot see ahead all the days of the year. We can see today and today the star shines and today we can guide our feet by that new light. So the prayer begins. And the prayer goes on: “Grant that the same light enkindled in our hearts may shine forth in our lives.” There is the rest of Christianity. There is the other meaning of the faith of Jesus. It is not only that a man shall humbly follow the light of his guiding star. It is more. It is that the miracle shall happen that somehow there shall come light into his own heart. He will let his light shine forth in his life that it may be of help and of meaning and of strength and of guidance to other men. ‘Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven.’ ■



Above: The fan and valence on the pulpit canopy.

Below: The carved figures at the base of the pulpit.





From the Rector

Dear Calvary Parish,

On Sunday evening, January 3rd, I experienced severe chest pains that led me to Shadyside Hospital. Test results showed that I had a heart attack. An excellent team performed a procedure that evening to address it. After two nights in the hospital and a lot of poking and prodding, I returned home where I am resting.

The physicians said I should expect a full recovery and that extensive testing revealed my health is excellent except for the partially occluded (blocked) artery that has now been fixed.

The whole experience has been quite surreal as I eat in a mostly healthy manner, exercise regularly, don't smoke, rarely drink alcohol, and have no family history of heart issues. One doctor told me I was "just unlucky" but, in fact, I feel remarkably blessed. I will write more about that later. I realize this news can be shocking or worrying. Please know I am okay, but am a little tired. I will take some time off to rest and recover. For now, please keep me and Natalie in your prayers. All shall be well.

Yours in Christ,

Jonathon ■

From the Senior Warden

Dear Friends in Christ,

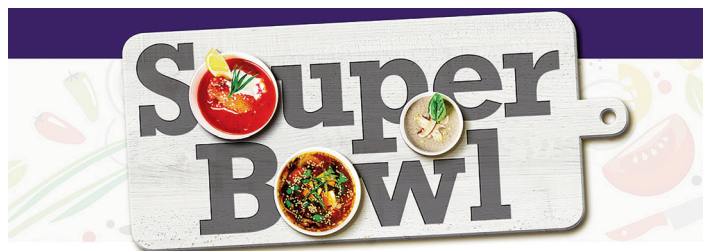
As you read in the message above, the rector had a serious health issue earlier this week. As he notes, the doctors indicate that he will make a full recovery, for which we can all be very grateful. I have spoken with Jonathon and he is in good spirits, and looks forward to resuming his ministry with us. However, he will be taking the next several weeks off to rest and recuperate.

I am sure that some might wish to reach out to him to express good wishes and prayers for his healing. I would strongly encourage all members of the parish to keep these communications in written form, either by notes and cards, or emails. Please give Jonathon some time and space to rest and do not expect an immediate response. For any matters related to the parish, you may contact Leslie or Neil, and you are certainly welcome to reach out to me as well.

We give thanks to God that our beloved rector is on the mend and that he will be with us again soon.

Sincerely,

Jamie McMahon ■



Soup Group Sale 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

On **Sunday, February 7, 2021**, the Soup Group will be selling dry soup mixes and many of our frozen homemade soups. Pints of frozen soup will be available for \$5 and quarts for \$10. Small dry mixes of Split Pea 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 reception area near the entrance from the parking lot. Masks and social distancing are required.

Calvary will not be open for worship on that day. If you do not feel comfortable entering the lobby, you may call me on my cell phone and I will bring the soup to you in the parking lot.

If these times are not convenient for you, I can make arrangements to meet you at Calvary at another time.

Proceeds from this sale will benefit our Beginnings Preschool and Hello Neighbor, a program that helps welcome and integrate refugees new to Pittsburgh. The founder, Sloane Davidson, is a Calvary Camp alumna. For more information see <https://helloneighbor.io>

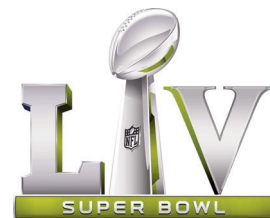
Please contact me with any questions.

–Adele Eley, adele.eley@gmail.com, 412.719.9637 (cell) ■

Super Bowl Facts

The First AFL-NFL World Championship Game in professional American football, afterwards referred to as Super Bowl I, was played on January 15, 1967 at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum in Los Angeles, California. The National Football League (NFL) champion Green Bay Packers defeated the American Football League (AFL) champion Kansas City Chiefs by the score of 35–10.

Super Bowl 55 will take place in Tampa, Florida, at the home of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, on Sunday, February 7, 2021. The Super Bowl has never been played later on the calendar than February 7. ■



www.calvarypgh.org

A Land of Plenty Where No One Waves Back

“To exist in society, you must choose a side.”

– *Musa Dagdeviren (food anthropologist/Netflix’s Chef’s Table, series 5, episode 2)*

Our society grew out of an expansionist project that saw North America as a land of tremendous if not unlimited resources. No one would invest in the exploration of any territory unless that territory promised to yield some benefit, some future for trade. Many of us have heard the story of European colonists seeking various freedoms – freedom from social limits, freedom from economic limits, freedom from religious limits. These motives are dubious at best. History points out that once free of these limits in the New World colonists simply imposed their own limits on those perceived as other. Our colonial period was defined by a desire to escape conditional restraints accompanied by a lingering suspicion of circumstances and others that were different.

Expectation for the colonists was a two-sided or two-faced coin. One side presented with unlimited possibility, the other with unlimited risk. It is difficult to imagine their mindset. Crossing a vast body of water, one that until recently for them had an edge over which one could fall. Their goal, not very much more assuring, was to reach a land where the unknowns far outweighed the knowns. Variables are the common denominator in both risk and possibility. Many different people, all seeking change amid changing circumstances created a perfect storm for conflict, competition and factionalism.

The question, “Is there enough for everyone?” is the motivating purpose of expansionism, the assumption being, “No, there isn’t enough”. So, the spirit of acquisition, conquest, and domination takes hold. All of this was baked into our culture from the beginning. Eventually it was also written into our laws. It is still happening and finding its consummate expression in climate change and the mass migrations that climate change causes. Only instead of expanding the range of our trade and resources in order to protect the environment, we are simply monetizing the imbalance of the ecosystem upon which all life depends.

So, if there is not enough for everyone, the next question is, “Who gets to belong”? Here what once appeared to be unlimited bounty begins to look like a pie that will be divided up. Zero-sum thinking takes a front seat. My gain will be my opposers loss and vice versa. Warfare is the ultimate expression of the zero-sum game.

Clearly, many of the early settlers died. Only 40 of the original 110 remained to greet the first supply ships in Jamestown in 1608. Similarly, at Plymouth 45 of the original 102 died in the first year. Once established these communities encountered ongoing hardships with disease, wild animals, and indigenous people. The natives who met the first settlers treated them as honored guests, bestowing

gifts and offering to guide them on their explorations. This probably did not conform to European expectations. The natives were clearly operating out of a whole different idea of decorum, property, and divine purpose. And for a while all went well. The settlers and the countries they came from saw the natives through expansionist eyes as possible trade partners. But eventually the intentions of the settlers became clear and the usual European solution of war broke out.

Taking a side is not always adversarial. Sometimes it is just about caring. Sometimes it is the best way to deal with the unacceptable, the denial of another’s personhood. Taking a side opens a path to a collective purpose exceeding individual goals and being of the same mind. (Philippians 2:2)

St. Paul admonishes the Corinthians for thinking that the salvation club opened membership to only a superior few who had very special spiritual gifts. They forgot about the necessary interdependence of all spiritual gifts and those possessing them. The Galatians received a similar letter because of their belief that it was all well and good that Gentiles (all those who were not sons of the Torah) could be included in the salvation club but they would have to be circumcized first. St. Paul says, “NO! That is not what you were taught.”

“Jesus is Lord” would be a commitment to choosing a side, though “Lord make haste to help me” sets a proper scale in which to approach choosing salvation. Jesus, we know, always chooses the side of the one perceived as “other,” the one who does not belong. In this he ignores and goes beyond the boundaries that define the other. His regular choice of company challenges the limits of what is unacceptable or offensive both to God and though we often do not recognize it, to us as well.

–*The Rev. Geoffrey Royce* ■



The Church Mouse

A thank you letter was received from Michael Bartley, Director of Development and Public Relations at East End Cooperative Ministry, thanking Calvary parishioners for the donation of over 135 gift cards

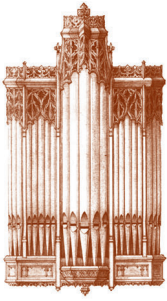
for their Christmas Toy Drive. The entire letter has been posted on the web version of this issue of *Agape*.

We celebrated the wedding of **Laura Jones** (daughter of Sue Jones) and **Chris Schroeder** (“Carnegie Mellon son” of Deborah Kelly & Satya) on December 12, 2020. Serendipitously, Sue and Deborah began putting their heads together to introduce them back in December 2018.

Lee and Marie Houston celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on December 29, 2020.

Best Wishes to **Hazel Dixon** who celebrated her 90th birthday on January 9, 2021. ■

MUSICAL NOTES by Alan Lewis



During the season of Epiphany a canticle drawn from Chapter 60 of the prophecy of Isaiah often comes into use. It begins,

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has dawned
upon you.

For behold, darkness covers the land;
deep gloom enshrouds the peoples.

But over you the Lord will rise, and his
glory will appear upon you.

(This is printed at page 87 of *The Book of Common Prayer* as Canticle 11, one of the dozen or so options for a response to readings at Morning Prayer.)

Most of the Prayer Book canticles are subtitled with the opening words of their Latin equivalents, so this one is widely known as “Surge, illuminare.” (Our service on the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6, began with a Latin setting of those words by William Byrd.) Obvious as it is, it only struck me after that morning that the English word “surge” has come freshly into constant use as we contemplate the worrisome and sometimes deadly spread of COVID-19 in our community, the nation, and the world. In response to this “surge,” we as a culture are not shining, but are cowering, posturing, arguing, and generally wallowing in the “deep gloom” that Isaiah says “enshrouds the peoples.”

Epiphany, following Christ’s Nativity as it does like clockwork each year, is a season of light in more than just words. The slowly growing light that gradually brightens our hemisphere as a consequence of the changing season is both a fact and a metaphor, a primal sign of hope even in the midst of our intellectual awareness of almanacs and equinoxes. From the light of a star, the themes of this liturgical season move on to healing, peace, and, ultimately, cycle back to the revelation of the dazzling light of the Transfiguration.

The English monk Alcuin of York (ca. 735-804) was an influential advisor to the Frankish king (and eventual emperor) Charlemagne. A prayer attributed to Alcuin, adapted by the modern priest and poet, Christopher Idle (b. 1938), furnishes the text to Hymn 465 in our *Hymnal*. I think it is well- suited to this time. It runs:

Eternal Light, shine in our hearts.

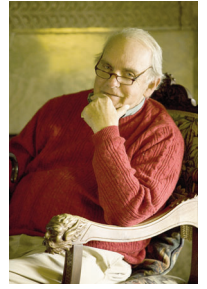
Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil.

Eternal Power, be our support.

Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance.

*Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ■*

Spiritual Reflection – Frederick Buechner



For the Fall/Winter term we are using the writings of Frederick Buechner. Now 94 years old, Buechner is an author of fiction, sermons, daily reflections and memoirs, and recipient of several literature awards and honorary degrees. Buechner’s writings on Christianity and spirituality are particularly rich and, according to biographer Dale Brown, encompass these themes: faith despite doubt, hope through grace, searching for meaning, our shared story, meaning of “Christian,” and sinners as saints.

Meetings are held using Zoom from 7–8 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday evening of each month. **The next meeting is on January 19, 2021.**

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 at any time. ■

Holy Baptism



Dates for public celebrations of Holy Baptism will be determined when public worship resumes at Calvary. Private celebrations of the Sacrament can be scheduled by contacting The Reverend Neil Raman (nraman@calvarypgh.org or 412.661.0120, ext. 112). ■

EECM Food Pantry

East End Cooperative Ministry Food Pantry is still operating during the pandemic, with appropriate plans to protect those receiving food. Donations can be dropped off at Calvary during office hours: Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday mornings from 10 a.m. until Noon. 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 ■

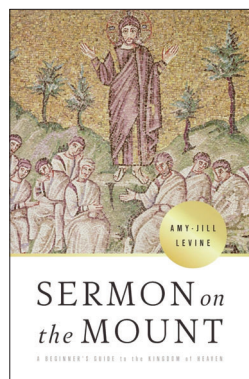


Visit the Calvary website at
www.calvarypgh.org

The Bookstore at Calvary

Save the Date: Zoom Conversation with Dr. Amy-Jill Levine

The Episcopal Booksellers Association will be presenting a Zoom conversation with internationally renowned New Testament and Jewish Studies Professor, Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, to discuss her newest book, *Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven* on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at



7 p.m. EST. The Bookstore is offering a 20% discount to all purchasers of the book. This will be a free event and registration will be required. A Zoom link will be available soon. Dr. Levine introduces the major topics in the Sermon on the Mount, explains historical and theological contexts, and shows how the words of Jesus echo his Jewish tradition and speak forward to reach hearts and minds today.



Local Organizations Benefiting from the 2020 Used Book Sale

The Bookstore's mission statement is "to serve the parish and provide outreach to the wider community as we navigate our spiritual journeys and live out our faith." The Bookstore supports many worthy causes including being the sponsor of the 2020 Calvary Episcopal Church Used Book Sale netting \$5,000. The money raised from this fundraising event benefitted eight local organizations:

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

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

City of Asylum builds a just community by protecting and celebrating creative free expression. They provide sanctuary to endangered literary writers, so that the writers can continue to write, and their voices are not silenced. They offer a broad range of free literary, arts, and humanities programs in a community setting to build social equity through cultural exchange. And by transforming blighted properties into homes for our programs, they anchor neighborhood economic development. More information is available at www.cityofasylum.org.

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

Homewood Children's Village has their own signature initiatives and with the help of partner organizations they are building a strong village of support for every child from cradle to career. Together they are working towards a future where all of our youth graduate from high school ready to thrive in college, career, and life. To learn more, go to www.hcvpgh.org.

Libraries: Braddock and Homestead: These libraries uplift and improve the lives of youth, families and the elderly, by serving as a community activities center for residents with Homestead serving the Mon Valley and Braddock serving Turtle Creek, East Pittsburgh, Braddock, North Braddock, and Chalfant.

Literacy Pittsburgh (formerly known as Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Association) offers literacy programs for adult and families in Allegheny and Beaver County. Free classes and tutoring move students from learning to earning and help them succeed as workers, parents, and neighbors. For more information, please go to www.literacypittsburgh.org.



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 since 1997. Calvary has over 200 mostly out of print, donated books available online at <http://hymnal82.alibrisstore.com>. The collection of offerings includes art, bibles, children's fiction, comics, and graphic novels, fiction, history, literary collections, literary criticism, nature, 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.

How to access The Bookstore at Calvary

This is a reminder that the Bookstore is still available to meet your needs. If you are interested in obtaining any items, contact the Bookstore at 412.661.0120 ext. 133 (please leave a message) or by email at bookstore@calvarypgh.org and we will contact you. In addition, we can arrange for contactless pick-up of your items.

Calvary website link to The Bookstore at Calvary

Go to www.calvarypgh.org and click on The Bookstore at Calvary located in the upper right corner or go directly to the site at www.calvarypgh.org/the-bookstore-at-calvary. You will find a monthly newsletter along with pictures of a featured items available along with information on upcoming Zoom Conversations with Authors. Be sure to mark the website as one of your favorites! ■



Happy New Year from Beginnings!

We would like to share with you the video of our “Lights, Love, and Celebrations” unit that includes our virtual Holiday Program. The YouTube link is <https://youtu.be/0JhaIruskEw>. After exploring the holidays of Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa, we decorated our classrooms and hallways with our student projects for all to enjoy. Our program began with our youngest team (Orange) wearing sparkly Santa hats, shaking their bells to “Jingle Bells” and ended with our oldest team (Blue) sharing their beautiful, hand-painted artwork and dancing with big soft globes to “What a Wonderful World.” Other performances included a lively team dance to “Powwow” (Green), honoring the culture of Native Americans and a lovely song and dance to “This Little Light of Mine” (Purple) followed by a very sweet, unique shadow show of Gingerbread Baby (Purple). Not only do we perform as a gift to our families and friends at Calvary and Beginnings, but it’s also a time where we learn and improve so many skills, including teamwork, paying attention, following directions, patience, sequencing, art, space, time, energy, rhythm, and expression. We look forward to being back in the Nave performing our annual Holiday Program with our families, followed by a visit from Santa and a potluck luncheon. As you will see in the video, our last day of school in 2020 ended with a quiet, sparkling blanket of snow – enticing us all to go home and snuggle with our families.

A winter break around the holidays is always something we look forward to each year, but the Beginnings staff were just as excited about the end of the holiday break and the beginning of the new semester. We welcomed the children back on January 4 with a new unit, “Winter: Do you want to build a snowman?” The students will be exploring and answering questions such as: Why is it winter? Why do we have snow in the winter? What is a snowman’s favorite season? and Why if I had feathers would I need a winter coat? Other topics will include “From Ice to a Puddle,” “The Flight of a Snowflake,” and “Sleeping Trees, Sleeping Garden.”

For indoor movement activities, areas in two of our classrooms have been “transformed” into mini-ice rinks where the children can pretend to skate. The Refectory is also a good indoor space for gross motor activities during extremely cold and/or wet winter days. Throwing plush toy snowballs is actually a lot of fun! For sensory play, we’ve added cotton balls, white felt, quilt batting, shaving cream, white and sparkly playdough, ice cubes, and water tables in each of the classrooms. We’ll also experiment and create our own artificial snow.

We are preparing for our parent-teacher conferences to take place at the end of this month. Mid-year is a great time to assess our students’ progress and to make new learning goals for the upcoming weeks and remainder of the school year. We expect 100% turnout because of the flexibility and convenience of having Zoom sessions.

Our annual Valentine’s ♥ Dance-a-thon will take place on **Thursday, February 11**. More details will follow.

It’s exciting that we are already receiving enrollment applications for the 2021–22 school year. Open enrollment is coming up for both current and new families. Even though we’re still unsure about how the pandemic will play out during 2021, I expect that we’ll reach our maximum number of students in the fall. If you have friends or family who are interested in our preschool program, please have them contact me soon.

–Tammy Lewis, *Director* ■



CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Christmas Pageant

We were busy during the month of December filming this year’s virtual Christmas Pageant. Here’s the YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/3ZPHwOC404w>. I’d like to give a very special thank you to all the Calvary families, Beginnings families and Barnyard Petting Zoo for helping make our first virtual pageant a success! A full list of cast and crew is available in the online version of this issue of *Agape*.

Children’s Christmas Eve Zoom Session

Fourteen children attended our first Christmas Eve Children’s Service via Zoom. Participants received gift bags with cookies, candy canes, hot chocolate, Christmas crafts and activities, and battery-operated candles prior to the service. We discussed *Nativity of the Lord* (Luke 2:1-20) and ended the session singing “Silent Night,” holding up the candles in the votives we decorated. It was a very special time we all shared together!

Children’s Christian Formation Opportunities

Age 3 - K: Children in this age group are welcome to join our Sunday morning Zoom sessions with Grades 1 – 6 from 9:50–10:50 a.m. (Meeting ID is listed below.)

Grades 1-6: Sunday school Zoom sessions will be held from 9:50–10:50 a.m. until further notice. (Meeting ID: 878 8224 3941, Passcode: 116060) Led by Tammy Lewis.

Confirmation Class: Zoom sessions will be held each Sunday from 10–10:45 a.m., January – April. (Meeting ID: 812 6517 4553, Passcode: 839660) Led by Laura Marchl.

–Tammy Lewis, *Director of Children’s Christian Formation*,
tlewis@calvarypg.org, 412.661.0120 ext. 116 ■



Wish We Were Here

Whirling Angels, Nibbling Animals, Masked Magi Make Magical Virtual Viewing: Amazed passers-by witness Christmas Pageant recorded for release after the Fourth Sunday of Advent service with iPads and phones on Calvary front lawn while fairly mild weather varied

from sun to drizzle and back. Submitted videos of family carol singing enhanced final edited production. Missing? Masses of parishioners, families and guests in our vaulted venue.... Next year!

Seasons Process, According to Precedent: With the Feast of the Epiphany (this year a day of Holy Hope in the midst of worldly chaos), removal of poinsettias, new-this-year altar crèche, and now red-ribboned wreaths signal end of memorably different Christmas season.

Fluctuation Frustration: Owing to the most recent advisories, streamed-only services currently being presented by maximum of ten consistently-same persons at each – a Calvary “pod.” Weekly Lector rotation temporarily suspended. Things will change, of a certainty.

Media in Service of Message Marches On: 100th anniversary of first remote radio broadcast on KDKA from Calvary elicits extensive coverage in local newspapers – online editions, as most are these days. January 3 commemorative service – fittingly – remotely streamed.

Systems Stories:

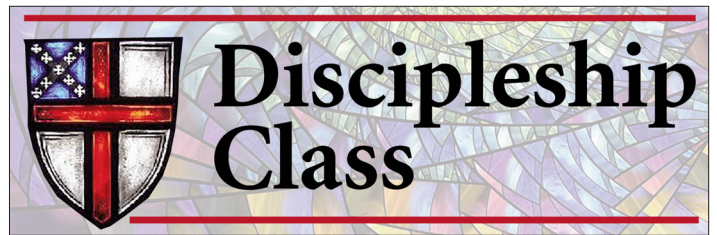
1. Massive Parish House roof drain cistern reunited with city waste-water system, saving us from severe backup situation. Pump blow-out in well-below-grade depository discovered during recent rains in nick of time. Beginnings classrooms spared.

2. Following earlier upgrades in Beginnings, all air-handling unit filters in parish house office areas now HEPA standard. Simultaneous repair of valve in Bookstore unit solves excessive heat annoyance, permitting annual inventory to proceed safely and comfortably with a max of three volunteers.

Monolith Moored in Calvary Courtyard: Eight and a half foot, portable, propane powered, 48,000 BTU totem to temper chill, provide a modicum of comfort during the cold season for well ventilated and distanced gatherings in Swan Garden. Oh, for the day when we can go back inside!

-30-

www.calvarypgh.org



This winter, Calvary will be offering a Discipleship Class. The class is an opportunity to take a closer look at who we are as Episcopalians and more fundamentally who we are as Christians. The class is also an opportunity for those who are newer to Calvary to connect with others and learn more about the congregation.

The Discipleship Class also serves as preparation for those who are interested in the rites of confirmation, reception, or the reaffirmation of baptismal vows in the Episcopal Church. The class will be held on Sunday mornings from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. The class will take place over Zoom and use breakout rooms for small group discussions. This is the Zoom link for the class: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87350371507?pwd=NVEFPZCs4UE9nd1VwZDIxQS8rQ1o5Zz09>. Sessions will continue through Sunday, April 25.

Each session will include a short talk by a member of the clergy or a member of the parish, small group discussion, and an opportunity to ask questions. Over the course of the class you can expect to hear about prayer, the sacraments, Calvary’s buildings, Calvary’s history and identity as a congregation, and get to know others who are new to Calvary. If you are interested in attending or have any questions about the class or about confirmation, reception, or the reaffirmation of baptismal vows contact the Rev. Neil Raman at nraman@calvarypgh.org ■

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. ■

Home Communion

If you would like to have Communion (bread) brought to your home, the clergy are happy to do so. It will be prepared and placed in a sealed plastic bag and brought to your door. Please contact the clergy or the church office to make arrangements. ■





Have you watched the Calvary Virtual Christmas Pageant for 2020? It is posted to our Facebook and YouTube pages. There is also a special “Behind the Scenes” video. A complete cast list can be viewed on the online issue of this *Agape*. Direct links to all of our videos are on the Calvary website. ■

Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes for those who have requested them are available from the Church office from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Please pick them up to help defray the unnecessary costs of mailing. ■



Church Finances: A Reminder

You are encouraged to make every effort to keep up with your pledge payments during this time of the Church not holding public worship. Our expenses continue apace. Every staff member is paid during this time. They are all busy at Calvary in different ways than usual. You may send payments by mail or electronically. The Church office receives mail delivery daily. Many thanks. ■

Plastic Recycling

Thank you to the many people that are recycling plastic film to the collection 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. ■



www.facebook.com/CalvaryEpiscopalChurch

Have you completed and returned your 2021 Annual Appeal Pledge Card?

If you need a pledge card, please visit the Calvary website or contact Kim Pieratt in the Church office at 412.661.0120 extension 111 or email her at kpieratt@calvarypgh.org

Stewardship of All Our Gifts

Thank you to all who have made a commitment to support Calvary in this upcoming year. Giving from parishioners constitutes the majority of our income. We appreciate your generosity and commitment during these difficult times.

Twenty-three families have made new pledges this year. About 30% of those who have pledged have raised their commitment from last year. If you are able, please join us and make a pledge to support Calvary’s mission and ministry. ■

CALVARY YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

If you are in your 20s or 30s and new to Pittsburgh, Calvary, or CYAM, welcome! For more information, or to be added to our email list, please contact The Rev. Neil Raman at nraman@calvarypgh.org / 412.661.0120 ext. 112.

Wednesday, January 20 at 7 p.m.

Bible Study over Zoom

Thursday, January 21 at 5:45 p.m.

Holy Happy Hour over Zoom

Wednesday, January 27 at 7 p.m.

Bible Study over Zoom ■

Calvary on YouTube

Please visit our YouTube channel. There is a direct link to our service, sermon, and class videos on the Calvary website.

If you subscribe and ‘ring the bell’ you will be notified every time we post a new video.



Trivia: YouTube is the 2nd most visited site in the world. • 37% of all mobile internet traffic belongs to YouTube • The first video was posted in 2005 from the San Diego Zoo • There are more than 31 million YouTube channels out there • YouTube is technically the second largest search engine in the world. ■

Please recycle this newsletter when you have finished reading it.

2021 Holidays and Observances

Monday, January 18: **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
[Federal Holiday; The Church and Offices will be Closed this day]

Sunday, February 7: **Souper Bowl Soup Sale**

Sunday, February 14: **Valentine's Day**

Monday, February 15: **Presidents' Day**
[Federal Holiday]

Tuesday, February 16: **Shrove Tuesday**

Wednesday, February 17: **Ash Wednesday** ■

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

Altar Flowers

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

Communicating with the Church and Clergy

Each Friday, Calvary will send out an email with some brief announcements and a link to the full-text bulletin for the upcoming Sunday service. The email will have a direct link (one to click on to take you to the page) to the Calvary website and Calvary YouTube and Facebook pages where the service will be streamed, The Calvary YouTube page has an archive of high resolution videos of past services, sermons, and classes. A direct link is far easier than typing the addresses below which also work.

Calvary YouTube Page

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAsWoq8c-yqHDFay_hWtkyQ

Calvary Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/CalvaryEpiscopalChurch/>

Clergy Contact Information

Please feel free to contact any of our clergy. We are ready to help.

- The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, jjensen@calvarypgh.org
- The Rev. Leslie Reimer, lreimer@calvarypgh.org
- The Rev. Neil Raman, nraman@calvarypgh.org
- Deacon Geoffrey Royce, groyce@calvarypgh.org ■

Agape Deadline

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, February 5, 2021**. 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. ■

Please remember Calvary Church in your will.



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

The Reverend Jonathon W. Jensen, *Rector*
The Reverend Leslie G. Reimer, *Senior Associate Rector*
The Reverend Neil K. Raman, *Associate Rector*
The Reverend Ruth Bosch Becker, *Assisting Pastor*
The Reverend Carol Henley, *Assisting Priest*
The Reverend Dr. Moni McIntyre, *Assisting Priest*
The Reverend Geoffrey Royce, *Deacon*
Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan, *McNulty Intern*
The Reverend Dr. Harold T. Lewis, *Rector Emeritus*
Dr. Alan Lewis, *Director of Music*
Jon Tyillian, *Assistant Organist*
Jamie McMahan, *Senior Warden*
G. Frederic Roth, *Junior Warden*
Robert Eley, *Treasurer*
Lynda Kennedy, *Director of Finance*
Tammy Lewis, *Director, Beginnings;*
Director of Children's Formation
Kim Pieratt, *Parish Administrator*
Louise Wells, *Special Assistant to the Rector*
Kenneth Smith, *Director of Communications*
Jim Gubash, *Head Sexton*
Adam Augustine, Ron Johnston,
James Knight, Mary Ann Packer, *Sextons*
Sherry Bloom, *Manager*; The Bookstore at Calvary
Robert Dilts, Mary Ann Slater, *Archivists*

www.calvarypgh.org



News of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh



Bishop's Visitation Schedule

- January 17:** Nativity, Crafton
- January 24:** St. Paul's, Monongahela
- January 31:** Advent, Brookline
- February 7:** All Souls, North Versailles
- February 14:** Emmanuel, North Side ■

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

- January 17:** Non-parochial clergy, including the Reverend Simon Barnes, the Reverend Mabel Fanguy, and the Reverend Daniel Hall, M.D.
- January 24:** St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Monongahela, and the Reverend Charles Schaller (ELCA)
- January 31:** The Nominating and Transition Committees searching for our ninth Bishop
- February 7:** All Souls Episcopal Church, North Versailles, and the Reverend Dr. Terry Hunt
- February 14:** Emmanuel Episcopal Church, North Side, and the Reverend Don Youse, Jr., M.D. ■



National Cathedral tolls bell 300 times as US passes 300,000 COVID-19 deaths

By David Paulsen | Posted December 15, 2020

[Episcopal News Service] Washington National Cathedral on December 15 tolled its bell 300 times, once for every 1,000 people who have died from COVID-19 in the United States, as another grim milestone in the pandemic coincided this week with the promise of hope offered by a vaccine.

American deaths have now topped 300,000, and over 16 million cases have been reported in the United States. Worldwide cases have passed 71 million, including 1.6 million deaths, according to the World Health Organization.

"The climbing death toll from this pandemic seems disturbingly routine. How awful that is," National Cathedral Dean Randy Hollerith said in a written statement.

"The Christian faith teaches that each person is a beloved child of God, and that my well-being is deeply connected to your well-being. We are not lone individuals free from responsibility; rather, we are dependent upon one another for our very lives and commanded to love our neighbors as ourselves."

The cathedral, located in the nation's capital, tolls its 12-ton bell for every funeral held there, and it tolled the bell 200 times on September 20 after COVID-19 deaths in the United States reached 200,000. ■

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. ■

The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh mailing address:
325 Oliver Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412.721.0853 | info@episcopalpgh.org

The Rt. Rev. Dorsey McConnell, Bishop
412.721.0853 ext. 252 | dmccconnell@episcopalpgh.org

Andy Muhl, Executive Assistant
412.721.0853 ext. 251 | amuhl@episcopalpgh.org ■



Find us on: **facebook®**

www.facebook.com/EpiscopalPittsburgh



Revised Timeline for the Election of the IX Bishop of Pittsburgh

A Letter from Bishop McConnell

January 8, 2021

Dear friends in Christ,

This year is a year of hope. We look forward to the widespread distribution of effective vaccines that will lead to the end of the Covid pandemic. However, it is certain that mitigation practices must be in place for some months to come, which will further affect the process for the election of the ninth bishop of Pittsburgh.

We had hoped that critical events such as the discernment retreat for candidates and the final slate's public visit to the diocese would be able to take place in-person. This seems highly unlikely if our current schedule is followed.

At the request of the Nominating Committee and with the consent of the Standing Committee, I have revised the date of the special convention for the election of the next bishop, from April 24 to June 26, 2021. The date for the consecration of my successor has changed accordingly, to November 13, with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry as the chief consecrator. I will retire, as originally planned, on September 11 and the Standing Committee will hold ecclesiastical authority until the new bishop is in place.

This year the Standing Committee has elected the Reverend Noah Evans, the rector of St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, as its president. I have asked him, on the Standing Committee's behalf, to provide you with further details on the revised schedule.

I am confident that this shift will give the people of the diocese, and the candidates themselves, the opportunity for a full discernment, with much more in-person engagement than would have been possible otherwise.

This comes with my grateful prayers and blessings.

(The Right Reverend) Dorsey W. M. McConnell, D.D.
VIII Bishop of Pittsburgh ■

A Letter from the Standing Committee

January 8, 2021

Dear friends,

As Bishop McConnell stated, the Standing Committee has consented to his request to change the date for the election of the IX Bishop of Pittsburgh.

In doing so, we are hopeful as well that this will give our Nominating Committee the opportunity to meet with our excellent pool of potential candidates in person during their discernment process, and may allow us to have Public Candidate Visits take place in some form of in-person gatherings. The revised timetable is as follows:

- Announcement of slate and petition period begins – early May
- Tentative Public Candidate Visits – mid-June
- Election of the IX Bishop of Pittsburgh – Saturday, June 26
- Retirement of Bishop Dorsey McConnell – Saturday, September 11
- Consecration of the IX Bishop of Pittsburgh – Saturday, November 13

We are aware that this revised timetable results in a two-month period between the retirement of Bishop Dorsey and the consecration of our new bishop. Following the Canons of the Episcopal Church, the Standing Committee will serve as the Ecclesiastical Authority of the diocese during that short period of time; most likely our bishop-elect will also be in residence and work in the diocese for some or all of that period.

The Standing Committee continues to join with the Nominating Committee in their optimism about the quality of the potential candidates. Please join us in prayer for their work, for this period of transition for our diocese and in thanksgiving for Bishop Dorsey and Betsy McConnell's ministry with us.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Peace,

The Rev. Noah H. Evans, President; Lisa Brown, Secretary;
Kathy Baird; The Rev. Jonathon Jensen; Robert Johnston;
The Rev. Dr. Moni McIntyre; The Rev. Annis Rogers;
Steve Stagnitta ■

2020 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT CAST AND CREW

Narrator: Alex Holden

Isaiah: Marley Kotkiewicz

Micah: Austin Holden

Elizabeth: Sara Woodside

Zechariah: Ben Maye

Gabriel: Collinson Burgwin

Mary: Grace Tonti

Joseph: Austin Holden

Joseph's Angel: Collinson Burgwin

Innkeeper: Anna Tonti

Narrating Shepherd: Austin Holden

Shepherds' Angel: Marley Kotkiewicz

Speaking Shepherds: Collinson Burgwin, Alex Holden, Austin Holden, and Sara Woodside

Non-speaking Shepherds: Carter Glass, Julia Norton, Will Norton, Harvey Riehl, Lenora Riehl, Anna Tonti, Nathan Tonti, Clara Yoest, and Beginnings students and their family members

Angels: Beginnings students

Sheep and Cattle: Beginnings students

Star: Lorelai Russo

Magi: Marley Kotkiewicz, Ben Maye, and August Yoest

Jesus: Krit Kc

John the Baptist: Benny Riehl

Animal Wranglers: Families members of our cast

Helpers and Organizers: Corinne Branquet, Ron Johnston, Daria Loshak, Mary Ann Packer, Katie Riordan, Fred Roth, Ken Smith, and family members of our cast



“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” – Guy, Christen and Lorelai Russo

“Mary, Did you Know?” – Juliette Guillou

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” – Elias and Sylvie Ray

“Angels We Have Heard on High” – August and Clara Yoest

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” – Carter Glass

“Away in a Manger” – Julia and Will Norton

“We Three Kings” – Phil, Ellen, and Ben Maye

“Go Tell It on the Mountain: – Molly and Jane Ales

“Silent Night” – Katie Riordan

Voice of “May the Peace of the Lord Be Always with You!” – Carter Glass



Merry Christmas:

Julia and Will Norton

Collinson Burgwin, Austin Holden, Marley Kotkiewicz, and Sara Woodside

Harvey and Lenora Riehl

Carter and Preston Glass

Caroline and Michael DeRosa

Autumn, Hazel, and Owen Ewing

Pittsburgh parish marks its role in radio history

Posted Dec 30, 2020

[Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh] It was the first Sunday in 1921. While Pittsburgh’s Calvary Episcopal Church started its day in typical fashion with Holy Communion and Morning Prayer, it would later hold an evening service unlike anything that had ever taken place before.

“An interesting arrangement has been made for tonight’s service,” Calvary’s then rector, the Rev. Edwin Jan van Etten, wrote in the parish bulletin. He noted that the International Radio Company (part of Westinghouse Electric) had installed wireless equipment in the church, and that the hymns and sermon to be preached by his associate, the Rev. Lewis Bliss Whittemore, would be “flashed for a radius of more than a thousand miles through space!”

Thus, Calvary came to host and officiate the first religious service ever broadcast to the world.

Westinghouse’s KDKA radio station had just become the first in the country to begin broadcasting a mere two months earlier. And it had never originated a program outside of its own studios until that night at Calvary.

Calvary’s weekly presence on KDKA would last for more than 40 years. The station’s “clear-channel” license allowed it to broadcast at 50,000 watts on a frequency that was not shared with any other station. That meant its programs could be heard in much of the eastern and central United States, and if atmospheric conditions were right, well beyond.

Calvary’s national prominence grew, as did the profiles of its clergy. Whittemore would later become Bishop of Western Michigan. Van Etten headed to Boston to serve as dean of the cathedral. He was succeeded by the Rev. Arthur Kinsolving, himself a former dean and future bishop. Calvary would attract rectors from the likes of the Rev. Sam Shoemaker, who helped established Alcoholics Anonymous, and in more recent times, the Rev. Dr. Harold T. Lewis. The current rector, the Rev. Jonathon W. Jensen, was the dean of Trinity Cathedral in Little Rock.

Notable guests would also grace Calvary’s pulpit over the years. The church has hosted several presiding bishops, former Archbishop of Canterbury George Carey, and the Nobel Peace Prize winner, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu of South Africa.

On Sunday, Jan. 3, 2021 – exactly one hundred years plus one day after that groundbreaking Evening Prayer – Calvary commemorated its role in broadcast history. The 11 a.m. Eucharist featured the music played during its 1921 inaugural broadcast and Jensen preached about the anniversary.

Just as it did a century ago, Calvary’s service went out to the entire world, although this time using the modern technology of live streaming over the Internet. Calvary has been streaming its services and parish life regularly since the onset of the Covid pandemic, and the church is now permanently equipped with five video cameras that are fully integrated with the audio system. ■

A gift has been made in your honor!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh is pleased to make a donation to Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania (CASP) in honor of the people and parishes of the diocese.

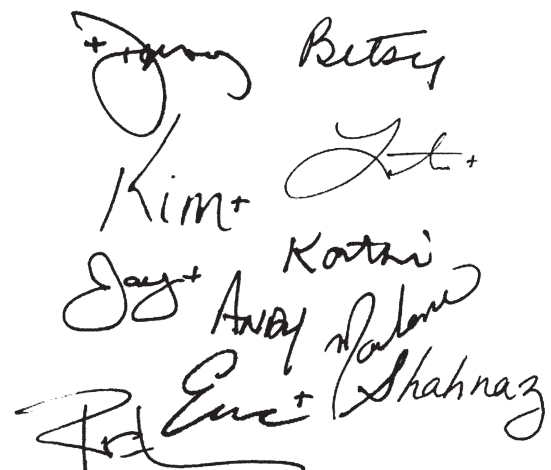


In 2021, CASP will be publishing volume four of their “The Word In Our Voices” series of collected sermons and writings by clergy from throughout their member judicatories. This new volume is titled “Who Is My Neighbor? Southwest Pennsylvania Preaches on Race in America.”

The Rev. Liddy Barlow, CASP’s Executive Minister said, “The finished book, like earlier volumes in the series, will be of interest to preachers and congregations, who can use it in study and discussion groups. Your support will help us with the printing and postage costs. Thank you all so much for your partnership in our ministry!”

CASP brings together Anglican, Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant church bodies in the 10 counties of Southwest Pennsylvania to work for the unity of the church and the wholeness of communities. Founded in 1970, the organization includes 28 judicatories representing 2,000 local congregations and 1,000,000 Christians in Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington and Westmoreland counties.

Our best wishes for a blessed Christmas. ■



Calvary Church in Pittsburgh

The Second Sunday After Christmas.

JANUARY 2, 1921.

- 8:30 A. M.—THE HOLY COMMUNION.
9:30 A. M.—MORNING PRAYER AND SERMON.
Mr. Whittemore preaches
9:30 A. M.—THE CHURCH SCHOOL.
11:00 A. M.—THE HOLY COMMUNION AND SERMON.
Mr. van Etten preaches

The Collect

Almighty God, who hast poured upon us the new light of thine incarnate Word; Grant that the same light enkindled in our hearts may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Hymns

49, 418, 324, 540.

The Anthems.

Joseph, tender Joseph mine,
Help me rock this babe divine.
Son of God in lowly stall,
Bringing peace on earth,
Good will to all.
Rejoice! to us is born this day,
In Bethlehem, Christ the Lord,
His praise be everlasting,
Sleep, sleep,
Son of God in lowly cradle,
Sleep, Oh Lord, Jesus Christ.

—Christmas Song XIV Century

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
As men of old have sung.

It come a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When halfspent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind,
With Mary we behold it,
The Virgin Mother kind.

To shed God's love aright
She bore to men a Saviour,
When halfspent was the night.

—Praetorius

New Year's Service.

7:45 P. M.

Mr. Whittemore preaches

Processional Hymn 321.

Evening Prayer (Prayer Book p. 16)

ANTHEM CAROLS—

Came Three Holy Kings.....Russian
Carol of the Russian Children.....White Russia
The Angels and the Shepherds.....Bohemian
Bethlehem.....Folks Song of Italy

OFFERTORY CAROLS—

Jesu Bambino.....Italian
We Three Kings.....English
The Shepherd's Story.....Morris

KNEELING CAROL—Holy Night, Peaceful Night.

Recessional Hymn 51.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

A Happy New Year to You All!

I want to write a word of thanks to you all for making our Christmas such a good one. The music was never better. The church is lovely with Christmas greens. The Children's Festival and Tree was the best we have ever had—with some 700 children in the church. The services were attended by large congregations both on Christmas Day and on the following Sunday. Mrs. Groff tells me that more contributions were sent for the Christmas baskets than she remembers in many years.

One of the gracious kindnesses of the season was the thoughtful remembrance of your parsons with many tokens of Christmas cheer. Mr. Whittemore and I are very appreciative of your constant courtesies.

I wonder if you know what the Choir men and boys do on Christmas Eve? It is a time when families most gladly stay at home together. At considerable sacrifice, our choir take each year a list of sick and shut-in persons and go to sing carols at their houses. This year again I gave Mr. Gaul a list of such persons. His only comment was that they could visit more places than I had suggested! So we added to the list.

The regular monthly meeting of the Woman's Auxiliary will be held Thursday, January 6th, at 10:30 A. M. in St Peter's Parish House.

THE EPIPHANY

Thursday of this week (January 6) is the Feast of the Epiphany or Manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. This is the supposed time of the visit of the Magi or Wisemen to the new-born Christ child. The Holy Communion is at ten o'clock.

EPIPHANY CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

Next Sunday night (January 9) we plan the Epiphany Candlelight Service with its impressive symbolism of the spread of the Light. From the great Candle burning for our Lord, are lighted lesser candles for the Apostles and Bishops of the Church. From them the light spreads to clergy and choir.

"Come ye and let us walk in the light of the Lord. And He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths."

BASKET BALL LEAGUE

The Boys' Club is entered in the Episcopal Church Basket Ball League with the following Churches: St. Thomas, Oakmont; St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg; St. James, St. Peter's, Ascension and Calvary. Our games up to date have resulted in the following scores:

Calvary—St. Thomas.....	35-36
Calvary—St. James.....	30-13
Calvary—Ascension	27-25
Calvary—St. Stephen's	28-19
Calvary—St. Peter's	41-13
Calvary—Ascension	32-34

Any young men in the parish who are interested in playing basket ball are invited to come to the gymnasium on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

CLERGY CALLS

Unless prevented Mr. Lang and I plan to call on Tuesday afternoon, January 4, (2-5) on parishioners whose addresses we have on the following streets:—Penn to Negley, Broad, Dearborn, Kincaid, Rosetta, Breedshill, Colombo, Breedsport, Schenley, Warble, Winebiddle, Evaline, Pacific, Atlantic, Rebecca, Graham, Fairmount, and Roup.

And on Thursday afternoon, January 6 we hope to visit on these streets:—Woodland, Murrayhill Ave., S. Negley above Fifth Ave., Dunmoyle St. and Place, Fair Oaks.

TONIGHT'S SERVICE

An interesting arrangement has been made for tonight's service. The International Radio Company (Westinghouse) has installed wireless telephone receiving apparatus in the chancel, and tonight's music, sermon and service will be flashed for a radius of more than a thousand miles through space! There will be special Christmas Carols and Gounod's magnificent Credo by the choir. Mr. Whittemore will preach a New Year's sermon.

Is it not wonderful to think that wireless receivers for hundreds of miles around us may hear tonight the incomparable service of the prayer book; the lovely carols of Christmas; the tremendous Nicene confession; and the spoken sermon's word of cheer for the New Year!

NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the Sunday in the week or "octave" of the Epiphany Festival. In the morning I hope to preach on "The Three Kings." In the evening we plan our Epiphany Candlelight Service.

MRS. HARRAH COMES TO CALVARY

It is a great satisfaction to tell you that Mrs. Ella M. Harrah, for the last six years the Medical-Social Worker at the Homeopathic Hospital in Pittsburgh will come to us in January for a month's trial of the position of our Parish Nurse. Mrs. Harrah is well known to many of our parish people who are interested and informed in community work. She has had a wide and varied experience in nursing and in social work. More than this for the past nine years she has been working here in our own city. I am indeed glad she will make trial of working here with us. And I bespeak for her most cordial welcome and co-operation from you all!

THE CHRISTMAS MANGER

It is always a delight to see so many people each year coming with their children to see the Christmas Manger. The church is open each day until five o'clock. Everyone is welcome to come in to the beautiful quiet church, fragrant with balsam greens, and see the Manger and pray a prayer to the dear Christ of Christmas.

THE NEW YEAR

"He came to my desk with a trembling lip,—
The lesson was done,—
'Dear teacher, I want a new leaf,' he said;
'I have spoiled this one.'
I took the old leaf, soiled and blotted,
And gave him a new one all unspotted,
And into his sad eyes smiled,
'Do better now, my child.'

"I came to the Throne with a trembling soul—
The old year was done,—
'Dear Father, I want a new leaf,' I said;
'I have spoiled this one.'
He took the old leaf, stained and blotted,
And gave me a new one all unspotted
And into my sad heart smiled,
'Do better now, my child.'"

Edwin J. Van Etten



EAST END
COOPERATIVE
MINISTRY

community. transformation. hope.

THANK YOU SO
MUCH! 😊

December 28, 2020

Jonathan W. Jensen
315 Shady Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206-4388

Dear Jonathan W. Jensen:

Thank you for your in-kind donation to East End Cooperative Ministry. Your donation of over 135 gift cards on 12/25/2020 to EECM shows that you share our vision *to change the lives of people facing the impacts of poverty.*

With 43,000 Community Kitchen meals per year, 1,200 families served in the Food Pantry, over 1,000 children and youth excelling in school and growing their civic engagement skills, and 80% of clients in our education and employment training program finding employment, we're providing a bedrock for prosperity in the East End. Your donation is an important stone in the firm foundation that people need in order to work their way out of poverty, homelessness, unemployment and hunger. Thanks to your gift, local youth now have the means to gain the values and skills that will allow them to live happy and healthy lives right here at home.

EECM began in the East End 50 years ago, and with your help, we have been able to expand across the city of Pittsburgh. It's an exciting time to be a Pittsburgher, but not all can share in this excitement. Your gift ensures that everyone has the opportunity for education, employment, and a home. EECM is here to make sure that Pittsburgh's newfound prosperity is inclusive, not exclusive. We are truly thankful for you, as your gift makes all of this possible.

Sincerely,

Michael Bartley
Director of Development and Public Relations

East End Cooperative Ministry is a Section 501(C)(3) Non-Profit Agency and all donations are Tax Deductible.

6140 Station Street • Pittsburgh • PA • 15206 • 412.361.5549 • www.eecm.org