

# Agape

The Newsletter of  
Calvary Episcopal Church  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

MARCH 19, 2023

## Resurrection Reality Can Catch Us by Surprise

To shift from our experience of the forty days of Lent, that span from the smudge of ashes to the shouts of “Crucify him!” and from the ritual prayer-a-thon of the Great Litany to the stark biddings of the Solemn Collects on Good Friday – to shift from all that to the jubilation of Easter can be a jarring experience.

It is meant to do that.

We need an absolute contrast like this to bring home to us the grounding reality that, because of the very event that Easter recalls, because of the literal, actual, non-metaphorical bodily resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth from a tomb outside Jerusalem, everything – *everything* – is different. We have trouble living continually in the “now” of the resurrection. It’s just too much to take in and carry with us steadily; we need help remembering it and living it. Taking up the rigors of Lent for a few weeks, and then laying them aside again at Easter, can help us shock ourselves into a fresh realization of the depth and height of the wonder we celebrate.

Even the biblical Christians, those first witnesses of the resurrection, who had physically encountered their risen Lord, had trouble living in that wondrous “now,” and were continually being distracted into contention and dispute with one another, and with those around them. How much more difficult for us, who “walk by faith and not by sight,” to grasp and keep hold of that always-new and central reality.

The lifting of whatever Lenten disciplines we might have undertaken, the lightening of our collective liturgical “mood,” from the austerity of plainsong and veiled crosses to jubilant trumpets and a blaze of floral beauty, can help prod us into joining more fully with two millennia of Jesus’ followers in trying afresh to live into the meaning of his resurrection, and its implications for how we approach life in all its gritty and messy daily-ness.

If that resurrection reality can catch us by surprise, for even a moment, then it can catch fire within us; if we



nurture that spark, perhaps we can keep it burning for a day, or a season. The breezes of distraction and humanity inevitably try to quench that flame, driving us back into the dark Lent of life – but the Church, all of us together, is here to help remind each of us of the flame, to help us rekindle it when it flags, and to impel us to share it with others.

May this particular Lent, and every Lent, bring us all into the nearer celebration of a truly joyous Easter.

Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts and voices  
heavenward raise:

sing to God a hymn of gladness,  
sing to God a hymn of praise.  
He, who on the cross a victim,  
for the world’s salvation bled,  
Jesus Christ, the King of glory,  
now is risen from the dead.  
Christ is risen, we are risen!  
Shed upon us heavenly grace,  
rain and dew and gleams of glory  
from the brightness of thy face;  
that, with hearts in heaven dwelling,  
we on earth may fruitful be,  
and by angel hands be gathered,  
and be ever, Lord, with thee.

–Christopher Wordsworth (1807-55), *alt.*;  
The Hymnal 1982, no. 191, stanzas 1 & 4

–Alan Lewis ■



## **INTERFAITH OPPORTUNITIES** **SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2023**

MORNING CLASS AT 10 A.M. – AFTERNOON CONVERSATION AT 1 P.M.

On Sunday April 16, in concert with our Rabbi-in-Residence Aaron Bisno, Calvary Church will welcome special guests Imam Abdullah Antepli and Rabbi Jeffrey Salkin to Pittsburgh. The Imam and Rabbi will co-lead our Sunday morning class “A Priest and a Rabbi Walk into a Classroom... The Parables of Jesus” at 10 a.m. in McClintic Hall. After services and a festive coffee hour, Imam Antepli and Rabbi Salkin will be joined by the Rev. Liddy Barlow for an Interfaith Roundtable Conversation to be facilitated by our Rector, the Rev Jonathon Jensen. This conversation, which is open to the entire community, will begin at 1 p.m. Please plan to join us for these exciting Interfaith Opportunities... and bring a friend!



Imam Abdullah Antepli is a globally acknowledged leader in inter-religious dialogue. He directs (with Yossi Klein Halevi) the Shalom Hartman Institute’s Muslim Leadership Initiative. Born in Turkey, he served as Duke University’s first Muslim chaplain; its director of Center for Muslim Life, and teaches at the Duke’s Sanford School of Public Policy & Divinity School. The NonProfit Times recognized him as one of their Power & Influence Top 50 leaders of 2019, calling him one of the most prominent Muslim leaders in higher education today.



Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin is one of American Judaism’s most prolific and most-quoted rabbis. His blog, “Martini Judaism: for those who want to be shaken and stirred,” published by the Religion News Service, won a 2022 Wilbur Award for the best religion blog of the year. His essays have appeared in the Washington Post, Tablet, Mosaic, Forward, and Commentary. He has written ten books on bar/ bat mitzvah, Israel, masculinity, and Jewish culture, as well as three Torah commentaries. He serves as the rabbi of Temple Israel in West Palm Beach, Florida.



The Rev. Liddy Barlow has served as the first female Executive Minister of Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania since June 2014. In this capacity, she reports to the Council of Bishops and Judicatory Executives, who represent 28 Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox church bodies throughout greater Pittsburgh. She was ordained in the United Church of Christ, served for four years as secretary of the Penn West Conference Board of Directors and six years as chair of the Pittsburgh Association Committee on Ministry.

# HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT CALVARY

## SUNDAYS IN LENT

**March 19, 26**

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



### Midweek Services: Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness

Is your Lenten intention to add more prayer to your days? Are you looking for additional time with God during the week? Does adding some calm and peace to your weekly routine sound appealing?

Consider attending one of Calvary's midweek services, held in our beautiful Lady Chapel. In addition to our regular Wednesday noon Eucharist, we've added three nights of evening prayer and a 6 p.m. Eucharist service for the season of Lent. Evening prayer is a service of scripture and prayers, typically lasting about 15 minutes, and is one of the jewels of the Book of Common Prayer. A weekday Eucharist is more streamlined than on a Sunday and lasts about 30 minutes. Both are opportunities during the week to step away briefly from the busy-ness of life and be in the presence of God.

Evening prayer is offered on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays at 6 p.m. The Eucharist is offered at noon on Wednesdays and at 6 p.m. on Thursdays. All are held in the Lady Chapel. Hope to see you there!

## Palm Sunday, April 2

Liturgy of the Palms, Holy Eucharist and Sermon  
at 8, 9 & 11 A.M.

Ms. Deanna Briody, *preacher*

Musical Meditation on the Passion of the Christ  
at 5 P.M.

## Monday in Holy Week, April 3

The Holy Eucharist, in the Lady Chapel, 6 P.M.  
Mr. Matt Lancaster, *preacher*

## Tuesday in Holy Week, April 4

The Holy Eucharist, in the Lady Chapel, 6 P.M.  
The Rev. Cameron Soulis, *preacher*

## Wednesday in Holy Week, April 5

The Holy Eucharist, in the Lady Chapel,  
at NOON, The Rev. Cameron Soulis, *preacher*,  
and 6 P.M., Mr. Michael Kennedy, *preacher*

## Maundy Thursday, April 6

The Holy Eucharist in the Lady Chapel, at NOON;  
The Rev. Cameron Soulis, *preacher*

The Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar,  
at 7:30 P.M. The Rev. Cameron Soulis, *preacher*

## Good Friday, April 7

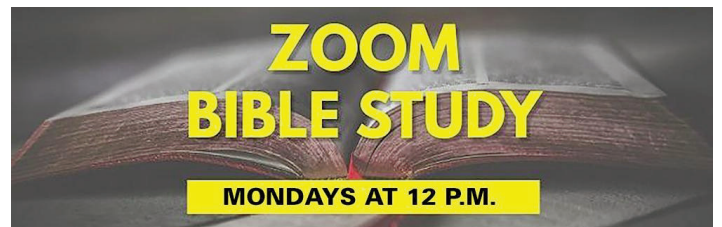
Good Friday Liturgy, at NOON  
The Rev. Geoffrey Royce, *preacher*;  
Following the service, the Church will remain open  
for meditation from 1:30 until 3 P.M.

Good Friday Liturgy, at 7:30 P.M.  
The Rev. Geoffrey Royce, *preacher*

The Great Vigil of Easter, April 8, at 8 P.M.  
Lighting of the Paschal Candle, Scriptural Prophecies,  
and the First Eucharist of Easter  
Ms. Deanna Briody, *preacher*

## Easter Day, April 9

Holy Eucharist and Homily at 8 A.M.  
Festal Holy Eucharist and Sermon at 9 & 11 A.M.  
The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, *preacher*  
Easter Egg Hunt, at 10:15 A.M.



Led by The Rev. Geoffrey Royce, Deacon

We are currently reading The Epistles of Peter. Anyone can join the study at any point. We are simply reading the Bible together and then sharing our thoughts and feelings about what we read. Sign-up to receive the Zoom link by writing to [groyce@calvarypgh.org](mailto:groyce@calvarypgh.org). ■

Please remember Calvary Church  
in your will.





# ANNUAL MEETING

**The Nominating Committee of the Vestry will receive nominations in the Parlor for Vestry and Parish Council members on Sunday, April 16, 2023 after all services.**

Laurie Tocci, Jim Cassaro, Gillian Cannell, Jon Mazur, and Matt Muldoon are the members of the committee.

The Rector is an ex officio member.

Names may be also be submitted at any time to members of the Nominating Committee, or by email, to the chair, Laurie Tocci, at lollyb13@gmail.com or the Rector at jjensen@calvaryphg.org.

The relevant by-laws regarding the annual meeting and nominating committee have been posted on the bulletin board and may be viewed on our website at [www.calvaryphg.org](http://www.calvaryphg.org)

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**The 168th Annual Parish Meeting of Calvary Church will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 10 a.m., in the Parish Hall**

Election of members of the Vestry and Parish Council will take place and reports from the Wardens, Treasurer and others will be given.

Please make every effort to attend. ■

*Thank You!*

Dear Calvary Church,

Thank you! Your outpouring of love and welcome for Neil, Matthew, and me over these last weeks has been overwhelming. The transition to parenthood came a few weeks sooner than we'd anticipated and Neil and I were disappointed to miss the lovely shower planned by the Women of Calvary, but we trust you celebrated in Calvary style! We've spent time over the last few days at home opening your generous gifts and reading your words of encouragement, treasuring each one. It is a blessing to know that we are beginning our time as a family of three in a place where Matthew will be shown so tangibly the love of God and neighbor.

In Christ,  
Elizabeth, Neil, and Matthew ■



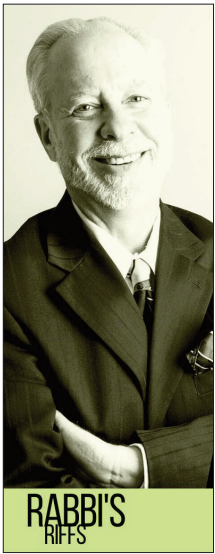
Over forty years ago, long before television ever dreamed of "Emergency", a quiet revolution was beginning in Pittsburgh, PA. An audacious improbable experiment was begun. Over the ensuing years, it was to provide the national standards for pre-hospital emergency care. The experiment went by the name of "Freedom House Ambulance Service" and embodied the disparate dreams of several dozen people.

In 1967, Philip Hallen advanced the idea of high quality emergency medical service. Phil was president of the Maurice Falk Medical Fund, a former ambulance driver, and Chairman of the OEO Health Committee. Morton Coleman, of Pitt's Graduate School of Social Work, suggested combining an ambulance service with a program to train unemployed and underemployed black men and women as medical technicians. Searching for an owner/operator Hallen approached the recently formed Freedom House Enterprises, Inc. (FHE). FHE was an outgrowth of the United Negro Protest Committee located at 2027 Centre Avenue. In an unprecedented partnership with Dr. Peter Safar, known as the Father of CPR; a world leader in resuscitation research; and other pioneers in emergency medicine, Freedom House Paramedics began. Starting from a base in Presbyterian and Mercy Hospitals in 1968, they became the first Paramedics in the United States.

A 30-minute documentary exploring the rise and fall of Freedom House Ambulance may be watched on the PBS Video App or on YouTube. With rare archival images, the program features the story of inception from an original founder, compelling reflections of surviving paramedics, stories of the world-renowned doctors who trained them, and memories of lifelong Hill District residents. ■



Freedom House Paramedics George McCary III, Mitch Brown and John Moon with one of the Freedom House founders Phil Hallen



## Unanticipated Friends

A few weeks ago we finished up a Purim shpiel rehearsal at Calvary Episcopal Church (If you would like to view “Estar Wars”, go to [www.treeoflifepgh.org/purimspiel](http://www.treeoflifepgh.org/purimspiel)). I gathered my things and took the elevator down to the lobby. Exiting the elevator, I heard voices, and came upon a post-rehearsal conversation between Rector Jonathon Jensen and Associate Rector Neil Raman, both of Calvary Episcopal Church, Pastor Vincent Campbell of Ebenezer Baptist Church, and Alan Hausman, President of Tree of Life Congregation. Prior to that evening’s rehearsal, the clergy of the two churches

had never met. I joined in the conversation. At one point, Rector Jensen asked me if I was already planning next year’s Purim shpiel, and I answered that I was thinking of creating a Woodstock Purim with music from that event. Without missing a beat, the Rector emotionally responded, “Oh God! Please don’t have any nudity!” And as we were laughing hysterically, the Associate Rector chimed in, “You know, we can burn incense.” That just took it over the top.

I share this funny moment with you because the Purim shpiel had brought together at that moment two Episcopal priests, a Baptist pastor, a synagogue president and a Rabbi. The joke is not about all five walking into a bar, but rather, sharing a

hilarious moment that deserved to be recorded, and is permanently stored in my brain. This was magical, the chance to be together as five human beings, sharing good humor and each other’s company, shorn of all externals. It is an unanticipated positive outcome of 10.27, and it will not be a rarity. This is whom we have evolved to become, a faith community engaging with other faith communities for the betterment of everyone. It is not that we ignored communal engagement, but an infinite number of doors opened after 10.27, and the only response is to enter them and shake the hands that are extended in friendship and love. The challenge is that there are so many doors, but it is a nice problem to have, despite the root cause.

Our commonalities grew our unity during that moment, and that was indeed a blessing to observe and grasp tightly. It serves as a model for all of humanity that people of different faiths, colors and sexual orientations should be able to share an experience in joy. Humanity is capable of far better than we exhibit. This brief snapshot in time is proof. In this case, it took a book of the Bible to bring us together, but what has kept us together is far more. Our common desire to strengthen our bonds, forged as a result of 10.27, continually motivate us to work together to “build a more perfect union”. It should not take a massacre in a synagogue to do this, but this is where we are at, and that is a very good place. I’d like to think that Queen Esther is smiling down upon us across nearly 2500 years, as she remains a timeless heroine.

From the Tree of Life Newsletter on March 9, 2023 by Rabbi Jeffrey Myers ■

# Confirmation



## Bishop’s Visit to Calvary

Our Bishop, The Right Reverend Dr. Ketlen A. Solak, will visit Calvary on Sunday, April 16 to preach and preside at the 8, 9, and 11 o’clock services, with Confirmation offered at 11.



**Sunday, April 2 –**  
Palm Sunday

**Sunday, April 9 –**  
Easter Day

**Sunday, April 16 –**  
Bishop’s Visitation;

Vestry and Parish Council Nominating Sunday

**Sunday, May 7 –**

City of Pittsburgh Marathon;  
Services at 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. only;  
Election Slate to be announced

**Sunday, May 21 –** Annual Parish Meeting

**Monday, May 29 –** Memorial Day

*The Church and offices will be closed this day* ■

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



# CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION



## Good News

As we approach Holy Week, when we experience the Paschal Mystery – Christ's passion, death, and resurrection, a question might be, how do we present this most important (but also at times troubling and dark) event to the youngest in our community? Sofia Cavalletti, a Hebrew Scripture Scholar who co-developed the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, noted, "The proclamation of the death of Christ should never be disjoined from the announcement of His resurrection. 'Christ has died' is always followed immediately with, 'and Christ is risen.' At the Last Supper, Jesus anticipates the events of the coming day for his disciples. He tells them, "This is my body which is given for you," and "this cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood" (Luke 22:19-20). In these words, Jesus explains that "what will happen on Good Friday will be the gift of his whole self; Jesus will give himself completely as an offering to the Father and to all of us", a tremendous act of love. Our greatest gift to our children can be to initiate them into this mystery, the mystery that life is stronger than death and light overcomes darkness. We can affirm with the child that indeed, the love evidenced in Christ's passion and death is the love that brought about the resurrection – the love that continues to cover the whole world. (Adapted from All about the atrium paschal mystery in the home - CGSUSA. (n.d.). Retrieved April 6, 2022, from [https://www.cgsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/All-About-the-Atrium\\_Paschal-Mystery\\_In-the-Home.pdf](https://www.cgsusa.org/wp-content/uploads/All-About-the-Atrium_Paschal-Mystery_In-the-Home.pdf))



## Raising Tweens, Teens, and Young Adults

Are you a parent or caregiver of a tween, teen, or young adult looking for a safe place to share your thoughts and feelings? If so, you are not alone! This group provides a space where we can support each other, share ideas, collaborate, and commiserate while discussing the challenges of raising older children in today's rapidly changing and complex world. We are in this together!

Please join us for our next meeting on Monday, March 27, 7-8 p.m. via Zoom as we discuss, "How do we help our children focus on well-being while also existing in a world that prioritizes extrinsic measures of success?"

Email [vrispoli@calvaryppgh.org](mailto:vrispoli@calvaryppgh.org) to receive the Zoom link. Hope to see you there!

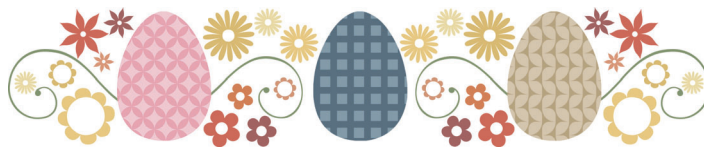
EAST END COOPERATIVE MINISTRY

**Saturday, April 8th**  
**3:00-6:00 PM**  
*In the Calvary Kitchen*

**Cooking**  
FOR A CAUSE

Youth ages 6+ and their families are invited to help prepare a dinner meal for the East End Cooperative Ministry's Shelter program. We will meet in the Calvary kitchen on Saturday, April 8, 3–6 p.m. to prepare the food, which will then be delivered to EECM.

In addition to cooking, we'll also be filling eggs for the Calvary Easter Egg Hunt. If you can't make it but would like to help in other ways, there are opportunities listed on the signup sheet. Questions? Contact [vrispoli@calvaryppgh.org](mailto:vrispoli@calvaryppgh.org). Sign Up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094AAC828A7FD0-eecm>



## Egg Hunt

**Easter Sunday, April 9 at 10:15 a.m.**

Children of all ages are invited to find eggs hidden in the Swan Garden and adjoining courtyard. All are welcome!



## Faith Formation Highlights: Our Lenten Journey

The Faith Formation classes explored the season of Lent and ways we can grow closer to God during this special time of the liturgical year. We discussed various Lenten traditions and practices which help remind us to make space for God in our daily lives.

*—continued on the next page*

The older students talked about prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as the three main practices of Lent. We discussed how these activities might look different for each individual and that there is no one “correct” way to experience Lent. We considered ways the Lenten season could serve as a “reboot” to get us to slow down and spend more time with God. As an activity, the class enjoyed creating a Lenten tree decorated with various ideas for doing small but meaningful actions during our forty-day journey. Lastly, we learned about the origins and significance of pretzels and then enjoyed sharing fresh soft pretzels with the younger students and parents.



Students also discussed how Jesus used the wind to explain the spirit. The wind blows where it may, and we can hear it but not see it. We pondered some of the things involved in being in the Spirit that we

cannot see, but know are there and then learned about the use of the labyrinth as a way to contemplate our spiritual paths and grow closer to God.

### Life in the Vine

We are excited to see that the grapevines we planted back in January are springing to life! We look forward to more planting in the garden later this spring. ■



## Calvary Movie Nights

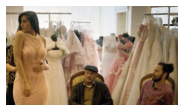
*Third Thursdays in the Parish Hall at 7 p.m.*

### April 13: Dead Man Walking.

Susan Sarandon stars as Sister Helene Prejean still fighting capital punishment from Louisiana. Sean Penn plays the felon.



May 18: **WAJIB.** An Arab Christian father and son handle one another with cranky bickering as the daughter-sister prepares for her wedding. ■



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

## EASTER DAY MEMORIALS

If you would like to have your loved ones remembered in the Easter Day bulletin, please fill out this form and return it, with your donation, **no later than Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023.**

Name (as you would like it to appear):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Donor's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's telephone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to: Lynda Kennedy  
Calvary Episcopal Church  
315 Shady Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206-4388



Beginnings would like to thank everyone who purchased soup during the Souper Bowl Sunday Soup Sale on February 12. The Soup Group donated the proceeds to Beginnings for the purchase of a “Gather and Grill” playhouse and two ride-on cars: a red “Cozy Coupe” and a green “Cozy Coupe Dinosaur.” Thank you, Soup Group and Adele Eley! ■





# The Bookstore at Calvary

## Easter Ideas

Stop in and get a FREE Bunny Bookmark! Choose one of two designs for children to color while supplies last. In addition, the Bookstore has a variety of items to fill up an Easter basket no matter your age including:

Delicious Sarris Candies including milk chocolate covered pretzel rods and premium milk and dark chocolate bars.

Balm XVI, a line of lip balm created by the sixteenth Rectory of Calvary, made from natural beeswax, organic shea butter, organic coconut oil, and essential oil. Available in grapefruit, lime, orange, and peppermint.

Children's books such as *The Runaway Bunny* and *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*

Calvary and Episcopal themed items such as pens, blank notecards, notepads, and postcards as well as clothing and mugs.

Jewelry including earrings and necklaces

Thistle Farms natural body care products

And don't forget to add one of the many Easter cards available to your basket! The Bookstore will be closed on Easter Day.

## Indie Next: Find Your Next Great Read

Pick-up a free copy of the March Indie Next List flier. This trifold flier provides inspired book recommendations from Indie Booksellers including the #1 pick for the month. Hardcover and paperback titles are listed along with a short synopsis and release date.

## Support our independent Bookstore via Bookshop.org

Here is now 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. As an alternative to Amazon, go to [bookshop.org](http://bookshop.org), which gives independent bookstores tools to compete online and financial support to help them maintain their presence in local communities. On the home page in the upper right corner, click Choose a Bookstore, then type zip code 15206 in the **Bookstore Near Me** box, click on **Calvary Bookstore**, then the red **Support this Shop!** box. You will be taken to the Calvary Bookstore homepage where you will find suggestions that will help you focus your readings during Lent and Easter.

Bookshop.org will ship your books from their wholesaler's warehouse (usually within 2-3 days) directly to you, manage the customer service, returns and overhead. Whether you order a book about Lent, or any other title through the Calvary page on Bookshop.org, our Bookstore at Calvary will receive a portion of the profits that can then be used to help with literacy programs in our neighborhood. 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.

## Calvary website link to The Bookstore at Calvary

Go to [www.calvarypgh.org](http://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](http://www.calvarypgh.org/the-bookstore-at-calvary). You will find a monthly newsletter along with pictures of featured items available. Be sure to mark the website as one of your favorites!

## How to access The Bookstore at Calvary

The Bookstore is open on Sunday from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. During the week, contact the Bookstore at 412.661.0120 ext. 133 (please leave a message) or by email – [bookstore@calvarypgh.org](mailto:bookstore@calvarypgh.org) and we will contact you. In addition, we can arrange for contactless pick-up of your items. Cash, check, Discover®, MasterCard®, and Visa® along with touch-free payments are accepted. ■

## EECM Food Pantry

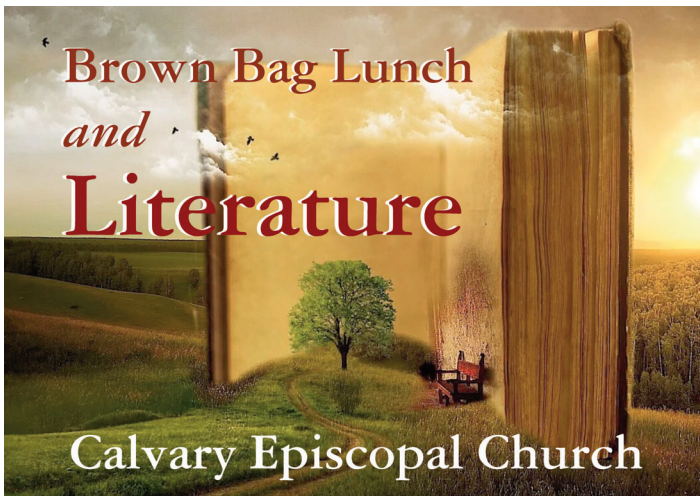
East End Cooperative Ministry operates the second largest food pantry in Pittsburgh. Donations can be dropped off at Calvary during office hours: Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and on Sunday mornings. Below is a list of items particularly requested at this time. **Thank you to all who have continued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

## 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!) ■





## Tuesdays at Noon, in the Nave

In many retreat settings, at mealtime literature of various kinds is read to those eating their meal in silence. Join us at noon every Tuesday for the public reading of selections from great literature.

Unplug and relax in the beauty of one of Pittsburgh's architectural gems while your imagination is nourished by wonderful readings.

**March 21** – Selections from Pierre Michon's *Winter Mythologies*. Michon's exploration in ancient archives has led him to the discovery of such deluded figures and their deeds and his own exceptional powers bestow upon them a renewed life on the written page.

**March 28** – Selections from Ursula K. Le Guin's *The Dispossessed*. This story takes us into the throws of two worlds divided by centuries of distrust. The protagonist, Shevek, will seek answers, question the unquestionable and attempt to tear down walls of hatred that kept the two worlds apart.

Contact The Rev. Geoffrey Royce at [groyce@calvarypgh.org](mailto:groyce@calvarypgh.org) for more information ■



## Gospel and Breakfast

Sundays, 10–10:45 a.m.  
Now extended through Lent!

This class is an opportunity for all parents of young children and all young adults to meet for fellowship, light breakfast, and a discussion of the Gospel passage appointed for the day. We will 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.

If you are a young adult and/or the parent of young children, please join us! Questions? Please contact Cameron at [csoulis@calvarypgh.org](mailto:csoulis@calvarypgh.org) or 412.661.0120, ext. 123. ■

# Congratulations

The Rev. Carol Henley marked the 40th anniversary of her ordination to the priesthood on March 18, 2023. We are grateful for Carol's ministry as an Assisting Priest here at Calvary, and delighted to celebrate this wonderful milestone with her. Carol will be the celebrant at the 11 o'clock service on Sunday, March 19. ■

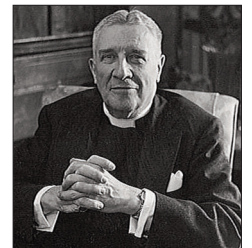


## Notes from the Archives

Seventy-one years ago, in March 1952, Samuel M. Shoemaker became the 12th rector of Calvary Episcopal Church in Pittsburgh.

Shoemaker arrived here after serving at Calvary Episcopal Church in New York City for more than 25 years. Before coming to Pittsburgh, he had earned a national reputation as a great preacher and he had his own radio programs. In New York, Shoemaker also ran a church rescue mission, and his work contained seeds for some ideas eventually embraced by Alcoholics Anonymous.

In Pittsburgh, Shoemaker was on KDKA radio with the show, "Faith That Works." Because of his popularity, Calvary sent copies of his sermons to subscribers all around the country. Memos in Calvary's Archives shows that in 1959, copies of about 4,050 sermons were distributed weekly.



Shoemaker was also a prolific writer. Many of his books are in the archives as well as in the Shoemaker Room. One of the books is "So I Stand by the Door and Other Verses." Shoemaker writes about his attempts to help others find the doorway to God.

"... And all that so many ever find  
Is only the wall where a door ought to be.  
They creep along the wall like blind men,  
With outstretched, groping hands,  
Feeling for a door, Yet they never find it...  
So I stay near the door."

The book of verse was published in 1958, just a few years before Shoemaker retired from Calvary at the end of 1961. He and his wife Helen moved to Baltimore, where he died on the eve of All Saints Day 1963. A memorial service was held at Calvary in Pittsburgh on Nov. 7, 1963. ■

## MUSICAL NOTES by Alan Lewis



Next Sunday morning, March 26, the Heinz Chapel Choir of the University of Pittsburgh will join us in the 11 a.m. service, under their director, Dr. Susan Rice. Their visits are always a welcome introduction to new and different repertoire; the beautiful sounds I heard during their annual retreat-day at Calvary in February whetted my appetite for their visit to our service.

The week after their visit launches us into Holy Week, with Palm Sunday falling on April 2. In a bit of a change from our pattern of many years, the Choir will sing a service, *A Musical Meditation on the Passion of Christ*, at 5 p.m. on Palm Sunday afternoon (rather than on Good Friday evening). We offered this service, loosely modeled on one developed at St. John's College, Cambridge, for the first time last year, and it seems to me to offer a beautiful and prayerful way to engage with the Passion narrative (which is, of course, also our Gospel on Palm Sunday each year). Chatham Baroque and other instrumentalists will join us for that service, and the Choir will present Bach's motet, *Jesu, meine Freude* in the course of the service.

This schedule-adjustment will allow us to offer the Prayer Book Good Friday Liturgy, one of the most solemn services of the Church year, both at Noon and at 7:30 p.m. on Good Friday itself, which the clergy and I hope will permit broader attendance at and engagement with one of the holiest days of the Christian calendar.

My thanks, in advance, to all the singers of our choir whose labors in this season help adorn and deepen our liturgical observance day by day. May our Lent and Passiontide be holy indeed, and a source of a deeper experience of Easter for us all. ■



## A Priest and a Rabbi Walk into a Classroom

Rabbi Aaron Bisno and the Rev. Jonathon Jensen will continue to teach a class together on the parables of Jesus. We will learn together from Jewish and Christian perspectives and how we all might benefit from this wisdom. The classes will be in person in McClintic Hall, also known as the choir room, on **Sundays starting at 10 a.m.** Sessions are recorded and available on Calvary's YouTube page with a link in the Friday email. All are welcome to attend.

For class titles, please visit the Calvary website at [www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org), or check the Friday email blast. ■

## Soup Group News

Thank you to everyone that purchased soup last month for our annual Souper Bowl Sale. Our sales totaled more than \$900! The new playhouse for Beginnings is already in place on our playground. Take a look!



If you missed the sale, there are still several dry mixes available for purchase. Please contact me and I will be happy to meet you before or after church on Sundays. Large mixes are \$10 and the small ones cost \$5.

Please feel free to take soup to friends, neighbors and other Calvary members. Our soup is meant to be shared. We also have casseroles and sweets.

Our next cooking session is scheduled for Friday, March 31 at 9 a.m. in Calvary's kitchen.

Any questions? Contact me, Adele Eley, 412.371.6921 home or 412.719.9637 cell, [adele.eley@gmail.com](mailto:adele.eley@gmail.com) ■

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## With One Voice Seeking Peace in Our Commonwealth.

On March 6, Calvary members Theresa Chalich and Steve Shandor travelled to Harrisburg with some members from St. Paul's Mt. Lebanon to express support for legislation to reduce gun violence, as outlined in a recent Pastoral Letter issued jointly by the bishops of the five Episcopal dioceses of Pennsylvania.

While there they visited the Harrisburg offices of local legislators as part of "Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence" (<https://www.heedinggodscall.org>). They were also able literally to stand together on the steps of the capitol rotunda as Bishop Audrey Scanlan from Central Pennsylvania and other faith leaders expressed the need for legislation to reduce the number of gun deaths in the Commonwealth.

In preparation for the Lobby Day on gun legislation to be held in Harrisburg on March 23, there are petitions available in the Parish Hall for Calvary members to sign to show their support for the proposals in the Pastoral Letter. The petitions will be presented to state legislators as part of the March 23 Lobby Day.

We are also looking for Calvary members interested in attending the Lobby Day in Harrisburg on Thursday, March 23. Please contact Steve Shandor at [steve.shandor@gmail.com](mailto:steve.shandor@gmail.com) for more information. ■

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





# Pastoral CARE

## Calvary Pilgrimage to Israel

The opportunity to walk through the Old City of Jerusalem and in the Galilean footsteps of our Biblical heroes, to stand in Nazareth where Jesus' arrival was foretold, to fall to one's knees in Bethlehem where Jesus was born, to pray where the disciples encountered Jesus' teachings and miracles (in the Upper Room, at Gethsemane, on the Road to Jericho) is for many a once-in-a-lifetime, life-changing experience! Now the opportunity to travel to the Holy Land can be yours! **This coming October 11-22**, our Rector Jonathon Jensen and Rabbi-in-Residence Aaron Bisno will co-lead a first-ever Calvary Church Interfaith Pilgrimage to the Land of Israel! Take a look at the website describing all you'll need to know, by following this link posted to the Calvary website: [www.calvarypgh.org/israel](http://www.calvarypgh.org/israel).

Plan to join us for information sessions coming soon... in the meantime, questions? Call us! ■

## 2023 Easter Monday Flower Delivery – April 10

One of the many traditions at Calvary Episcopal Church is the delivery of the Easter flowers to those for whom prayers were offered during the past year. This is a one-day volunteer opportunity and only requires that you give time on Monday, April 10 to deliver the Easter flowers to parishioners. Volunteers are asked to arrive at the Parish Hall between 9–10 a.m. The list of recipients will be sorted by neighborhood and zip code. Kim Pieratt will prepare the delivery tag which will include the name, address and telephone for each of the recipients. We suggest you call the recipient before leaving the church to let them know you will be delivering an Easter flower to them and where you should leave the flower. If you are interested in volunteering for this volunteer task, or have any questions regarding Easter Monday Flower Delivery, please call Barbara Hicks (412.242.1469) or by email at [barbleeh@verizon.net](mailto:barbleeh@verizon.net) by April 5. William Stevens and Barbara Hicks will be available in the Parish Hall on April 10 to be helpful in anyway as you pick up the flowers you will be delivering.



–William Stevens, *Chair, Easter Monday Flower Delivery* ■

## What to do when you need Pastoral Care

If you are in need of pastoral care, call the church office (412.661.0120) to speak to one of the clergy. All members of the Calvary clergy are available to deal with pastoral care issues.

Your clergy at Calvary want you to call us when you need us. You are not a burden. This is why we became priests. We are honored when you share your life stories. Call us when something terrible happens or when something good happens. We want to walk alongside you as you go through it.

Of course, life happens at all times of day. In the case of illness or death outside of office hours, call the church office and press 2. Your call will be forwarded to an emergency phone where you can leave a message. Please be sure to leave your name and a callback number in the message. A Calvary clergy person will then return your call.

Finally, a reminder that because of privacy laws, hospitals, health care facilities, and health care workers are not permitted to tell us that you are a patient. Please let us know if you or a loved one are in the hospital.

## Ministry Spotlight on the Pastoral Care Committee: Flower Ministry

We continue highlighting the programs of the Pastoral Care Committee. This month we shine a light on the work of the Flower Ministry. Each Sunday following our 11 o'clock service, the altar flowers are divided into smaller bouquets and delivered to parishioners who have had a significant event occur in their life that week. Illness, the birth of a child, marriage, anniversary, or the death of a loved one are among the many reasons why someone is selected to receive altar flowers. Persons interested in volunteering to participate in this very special ministry are encouraged to contact Judie Compher ([jmcompher@aol.com](mailto:jmcompher@aol.com)) or Bonnie Weiss ([janekeenanweiss@gmail.com](mailto:janekeenanweiss@gmail.com)), co-chairs of the Altar Flower Delivery. Persons who wish to suggest a recipient of altar flowers are asked to contact Kim Pieratt, Parish Administrator ([kpieratt@calvarypgh.org](mailto:kpieratt@calvarypgh.org)).

The Pastoral Care Committee's mission is to provide both spiritual and practical support by extending Calvary's ministry through services to those in life transitions, including the homebound, elderly, sick and bereaved. If you are interested in participating in the work of this committee, please contact Michele Bender ([mbbender@gmail.com](mailto:mbbender@gmail.com)) or the Reverend Cameron Soulis ([csoulis@calvarypgh.org](mailto:csoulis@calvarypgh.org)). ■

# CALVARY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

315 Shady Avenue ■ Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15206  
email: [calvary@calvarypgh.org](mailto:calvary@calvarypgh.org) ■ [www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)  
telephone: 412.661.0120

The Rev. Jonathon W. Jensen, *Rector*  
The Rev. Neil K. Raman, *Senior Associate Rector*  
The Rev. Cameron J. Soulis, *Associate Rector*  
The Rev. Ruth Bosch Becker, *Assisting Pastor*  
The Rev. Carol Henley, *Assisting Priest*  
The Rev. Geoffrey S. Royce, *Deacon*  
Rabbi Aaron Bisno, *Rabbi-in-Residence*  
Ms. Deanna Briody, *McNulty Intern*  
Dr. Alan Lewis, *Director of Music*  
Jon Tyillian, *Assistant Organist*  
Lynda Kennedy, *Director of Finance*  
Tammy Lewis, *Director, Beginnings*  
Vicki Rispoli, *Director of Children's Formation*  
Kenneth Smith, *Director of Communications*  
Kim Pieratt, *Parish Administrator*  
Jim Gubash, *Head Sexton*  
Adam Augustine, Ron Johnston, Eric Walker,  
Mary Ann Packer, *Sextons*  
Vivian Rispoli, *A/V Technician*  
David Jeong, *Senior Warden*  
G. Frederic Roth, *Junior Warden*  
Lauren Ernst, *Treasurer*  
Daniel Geroni, *Assistant Treasurer*

## 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](mailto:kpieratt@calvarypgh.org). We ask that you keep us informed if you have a home address, phone or email change. ■

## Holy Baptism

If you, or someone you know, desires to partake in this sacrament, please contact the Reverend Neil Raman at [nraman@calvarypgh.org](mailto:nraman@calvarypgh.org) or 412.661.0120, ext. 112 as soon as possible, so that the appropriate preparation and arrangements can be made. ■



## Spiritual Reflection—Joan Chittister



Every few months, we choose as a guide the writings of a different author. At each meeting, a short reading serves as a catalyst for reflection upon, and discussion of, God in our daily lives.

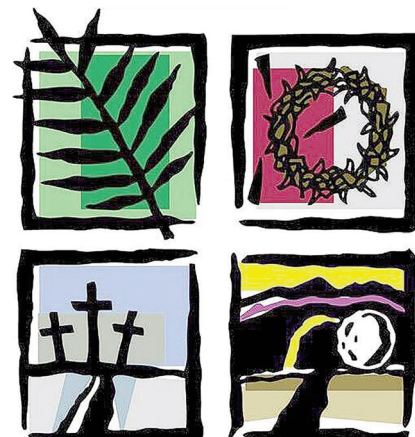
For this term we use the writings of Joan Chittister ([www.joanchittister.org](http://www.joanchittister.org)). Chittister is a religious and social leader advocating for peace, human rights, women's issues, and monastic and church renewal. She has long resided in her community of Benedictine Sisters of Erie, PA. Our group will use *The Breath of the Soul*. This book attends to what we human beings are most inclined to forget, preparing for and engaging in prayer. It is an examination of what we ourselves must bring to the discipline of prayer – whatever form it takes—to make prayer authentic and real, a deep and profound part of our lives.

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 using Zoom so others can join remotely. Upcoming meetings will occur on March 21, April 4 and 18, and May 2 and 16. Email Matt Muldoon ([mattmuldoon@msn.com](mailto:mattmuldoon@msn.com)) or Sondra Krimmel ([sskrimmel@gmail.com](mailto:sskrimmel@gmail.com)) for information or to be added to the email list. Please feel welcome to join us at any time. ■

## Agape Deadline

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, April 7, 2023**. Please e-mail your text to [calvary@calvarypgh.org](mailto:calvary@calvarypgh.org) or deliver it directly to the church office.

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



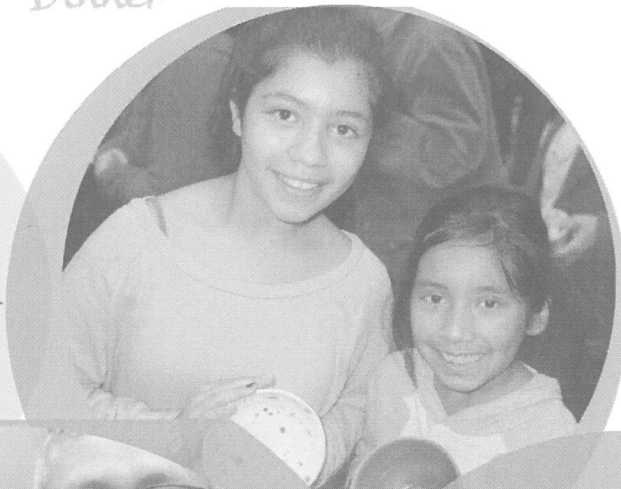


**WEB VERSION**

# Empty Bowls

— Dinner —

A SIMPLE MEAL  
OF SOUP AND  
BREAD TO FIGHT  
HUNGER



**SUNDAY,  
MARCH 26**

1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

6 p.m. - 8 p.m.

RODEF SHALOM  
4905 5TH AVENUE  
IN OAKLAND

**TICKETS**

**\$25** IN ADVANCE  
& SOUP-TO-  
GO PASS  
AVAILABLE

[pittsburghfoodbank.org/  
emptybowls](http://pittsburghfoodbank.org/emptybowls)  
(412) 745-3863

Delicious soups from great Pittsburgh chefs, children's activities, and a silent auction of world-class ceramic art. Ticket holders choose a hand-crafted bowl to take home; new selections of bowls are replenished throughout the event.

**THIS FUNDRAISER BENEFITS**



**CALVARY**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# EASTER EGG HUNT

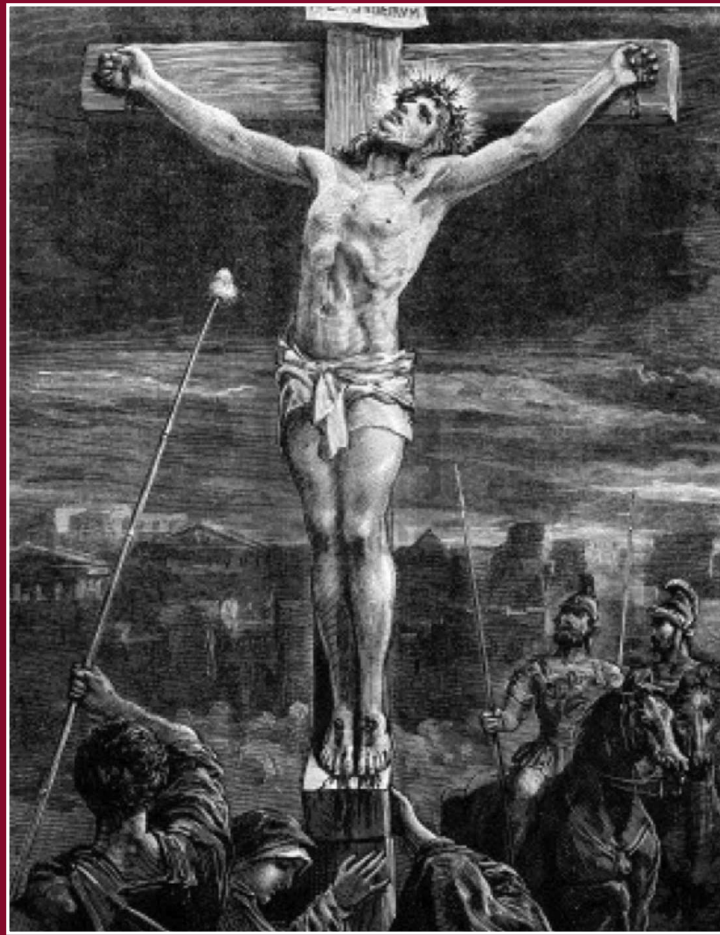
EASTER DAY – SUNDAY, APRIL 9 @ 10:15 A.M.



**Meet inside in the Hallway to the Garden  
All are Welcome**



Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023 at 5 P.M.



The Calvary Choir will sing

*A Musical Meditation  
on the  
Passion of Christ*

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CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

315 Shady Ave. at Walnut St., Pittsburgh 15206

412.661.0120 | [www.calvarypg.org](http://www.calvarypg.org)



**Deadline (Friday):**

**Publication Date (Sunday):**

January 6	January 15
February 3	February 12 [Lenten Issue]
March 10	March 19 [Easter Issue]
April 7	April 16 [End of Program Year]
May 5	May 14
June 2	June 11 [Summer Issue]
August 11	August 20 [Beginning of Program Year]
September 8	September 17
October 6	October 15
November 3	November 12 [Advent Issue]
December 1	December 10

## 2023 CALENDAR

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