

Agape

The Newsletter of
Calvary Episcopal Church
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

APRIL 10, 2022

Lent and Easter in Pittsburgh

The weather, of late, has struck me as analogous to the situation in the country (and world) over the last two years. A Pittsburgh winter is supposed to be long and dreary with occasional blizzards. Weather, in addition to topography and industry, has shaped the character of the region. We, as a people, can get tougher or buckle under its weight. Pittsburghers have chosen the former. Grey is the color and mood of the sky for what seems like a month longer than it should be. We all accept that as part of the bargain for living in an otherwise fantastic community.

This winter, we had days of almost 70 degree weather with sunny skies when some plants started to bloom. A week later, a heavy snow snuffed out the new growth. That occurred several times. Now, as we are officially in spring and at the beginning of April, the days continue to fluctuate between spells of a spring struggling to emerge and a winter that does not want to let go. A 40 degree swing in 24 hours is not really that surprising anymore. The only aspect of our winter and spring that is truly predictable and reliable is the uncertainty of it.

In the past two years, we have been in a similar state. How many times have things seemed to begin to get a little bit better, with some light on the horizon and even a vaccine, then a new spike in cases of COVID or a new variant push us back? How many major events like the murder of George Floyd or a difficult election and aftermath or the economy or inflation and now a war in eastern Europe threw us back into darkness each time things seemed to be getting better and more recognizable? There has been nothing predictable and reliable about our world other than its uncertainty. The assurances we relied on in the past make less sense now. It is easy to give up hope when it is snuffed out so many times.

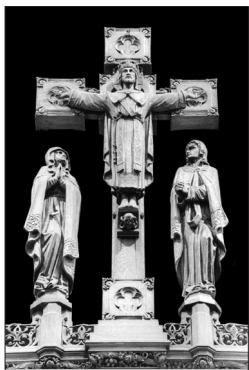


The Church, in her wisdom, has that understanding of the uncertainty of the world and life built into its rhythm. That is precisely the season we are moving through in Lent and Holy Week leading to Easter. The season of Lent is the back and forth of a Pittsburgh winter and spring but it ultimately leads somewhere, to someone.

The counterintuitive message of the season is that we get tougher by becoming more vulnerable. We repent to Jesus to be redeemed and made whole. We confess our sins, our shortcomings, our failures, things done and left undone, our pride in thinking we have it all figured out and our reliance on ourselves and turn to the one God who always reaches out to us.

Repentance is not a one-time event. We go back and forth from failure to new growth, from winter to spring, from fear to faith, and ultimately from death to life. The Gospel proclaims this uncertainty of life and is made whole in the promise of resurrection faith in which new and eternal life is available to all who believe. And Easter is soon to arrive.

—Jonathon ■



HOLY WEEK *and* EASTER *at* CALVARY

April 10, The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist, 8 A.M.
Procession, Liturgy of the Palms, Holy Eucharist
and Sermon, 9 & 11 A.M.*
(No 5 p.m. Eventide Service this day)

April 11, Monday in Holy Week The Holy Eucharist, in the Chapel, 6 P.M.

April 12, Tuesday in Holy Week The Holy Eucharist, in the Chapel, 6 P.M.

April 13, Wednesday in Holy Week The Holy Eucharist, in the Chapel, 6 P.M.

April 14, Maundy Thursday

The Holy Eucharist, in the Chapel, 12 NOON;
The Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar,
7:30 P.M.*

April 15, Good Friday

Good Friday Liturgy and
Musical Meditation, 12 P.M.*;
Tolling of the Tower Bell, 3 P.M.

Good Friday Sacred Concert, 8 P.M.*
Freewill offering.

April 16, The Great Vigil of Easter

Lighting of the Paschal Candle,
Scriptural Prophecies, Baptisms, and
the First Eucharist of Easter, 8 P.M.*

April 17, Easter Day (The Sunday of the Resurrection)

Holy Eucharist and Homily, 8 A.M.
Festal Holy Eucharist and Sermon, 9 & 11 A.M.*
Easter Egg Hunt, 10:15 A.M.
(No 5 p.m. Eventide Service this day)

*** INDICATES THE SERVICE WILL BE LIVESTREAMED**

The 167th Annual Meeting

The Nominating Committee of the Vestry will receive nominations in the parlor for Vestry and Parish Council members on **Sunday, April 24, 2022** after all three morning services. That is also the Sunday of the Bishop's visit for Confirmation.

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.calvarypgh.org/bylaws.pdf

**The 167th Annual Parish Meeting
of Calvary Church will be held
Sunday, June 5, 2022 at 10 a.m.,
in the Nave**

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

Please note that there has been a change in the date of Calvary's Annual Parish Meeting. The new date is Sunday,

June 5, at 10 a.m. in the Nave. This change was made to ensure the proper amount of time, according to our church bylaws, for the nomination process to unfold. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Please do make every effort to attend, as the Meeting is where the election for new Vestry and Parish Council members will be held and reports will be given by parish leaders.

While the date of the Meeting has moved, Nomination Sunday remains on April 24. After each of the three morning services, our Nominating Committee will be available in the Parlor to receive nominations to consider for Vestry and Parish Council. Any voting member of the parish may submit nominations on that day. This year's Nominating Committee members, approved by the Vestry at the March 28 regular meeting, are: Catherine Davidson, Chair, Jean Adams, Bob Eley, Ian Everhart, Sarah Wilson, and The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, ex officio

Names may also be submitted at any time to members of the Nominating Committee, or by email to chair, Catherine Davidson at cmd402@gmail.com, or the Rector at jjensen@calvarypgh.org. ■

Preachers at Calvary

Listed below are the preachers scheduled at Calvary for 11 a.m. and holy days. Unless otherwise noted, we will offer services every Sunday at 8, 9, and 11 a.m., with an Eventide service at 5 p.m. (except Palm Sunday, April 10 and Easter Day, April 17).

April 10, Palm Sunday – The Rev. Liddy Barlow, *preacher*

April 14, Maundy Thursday – The Rev. Charles Fischer, *preacher*,
at 7:30 p.m.

April 15, Good Friday – The Rev. Geoffrey Royce, *preacher*,
at Noon

April 16, Easter Vigil – The Rev. Neil Raman, *preacher*, at 8 p.m.

April 17, Easter Day – The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, *preacher*

April 24, Easter II – The Rt. Rev. Ketlen Solak, *preacher*

May 1, Easter III – The Rev. Geoffrey Royce, *preacher*, at 5 p.m.
(Marathon Sunday)

May 8, Easter IV – The Rev. Dr. Asa Lee, *preacher*

May 15, Easter V – The Rev. Liddy Barlow, *preacher*

May 22, Easter VI – The Rev. Carol Henley, *preacher*

May 29, Easter VII – The Rev. Neil Raman, *preacher*

June 5, Pentecost – The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, *preacher*

Notes

Sunday, April 24: Bishop's Visit for Confirmation /
Nominating Sunday

Sunday, May 1: Marathon Sunday (Services at 8 a.m. & 5 p.m. only)

Sunday, May 8: Mother's Day

Sunday, May 15: Final Eventide service of the season /
first Garden Service of the summer

Monday, May 30: Memorial Day

Sunday, June 5: Feast of Pentecost / The Annual Parish Meeting

The Preachers



The Rev. Liddy Barlow, ordained in the United Church of Christ, was the first woman installed as Executive Director of Christian Associates of Southwestern Pennsylvania in 2014.

For fifty years, Christian Associates has built relationships among Christians who are Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant; Black and white; liberal and conservative; rural and urban; from 28 church bodies in the 10 counties of greater Pittsburgh. It was started by the Rev. W. Lee Hicks, who was later a member of, and buried from, Calvary Church.



The Rev. Charles Fischer is Vice President for Seminary Advancement at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He was ordained an Episcopal priest in 2009.



The Rev. Carol Henley is a Priest Associate at Calvary Church, and will preach during Lent and Easter. She was ordained a priest in 1983.



The IX Bishop of Pittsburgh, the Right Rev. Ketlen Solak, was ordained at Calvary Church in 2021 and as a priest in 2005. She will preach here on the second Sunday of Easter.



The Rev. Dr. Asa Lee is the new President of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He is ordained in the Progressive National Baptist Convention and has a Doctor of Ministry degree from Virginia Theological Seminary. Dr. Lee and our Bishop, Ketlen Solak, met when they began the program together at VTS which is also the alma mater of our Rector. ■

New Trees at Calvary Church

Calvary Church has two new trees that grace our property. The first is an oak in memory of the Rev. Dr. Harold T. Lewis, Rector XV of Calvary Church. It stands gracefully near the sidewalk on Shady Avenue to welcome all who enter. The oak is immediately to the right as one enters the parking lot. A plaque, honoring Dr. Lewis, will be installed later. Parishioner Nancy Washington conceived the idea and helped implement it.

The second tree is a flowering cherry in honor of the baptism of Frederick Phillips by his parents, Anna and Chris. Until a few years ago, we had a beautiful flowering cherry in the circle drive that finally died of old age. The new cherry tree is in the same location as the former one.

The planting of the new oak necessitated moving a small dogwood and a redbud. They have been relocated between the parking lot and Marchand Street. ■

Coffee Hours

By popular request, we will begin to serve coffee and tea after all three morning services. We will also have coffee and tea before the 8 a.m. service for members who already gather to "tailgate," as they call it, before worship. Carafes of coffee and hot water will be placed in the Parish Hall on the table. We are seeking intentionally to create more opportunities for people to be together safely. Please be aware, in the Parish Hall, some will not be masked while enjoying coffee or tea during social time. For the time being, please continue to wear a mask everywhere else in Calvary. ■

From the Senior Warden: Calvary's Listening Process

Of listening, the theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, "Just as love to God begins with listening to his Word, so the beginning of love for the brethren is learning to listen to them." I am deeply moved as I reflect upon both these words and this year of opening ears to fellow parishioners, for Bonhoeffer practically marks the added word "learning" in bright highlighter when referring to our journey of listening to one another. As much as I and other church leaders have been striving to listen well to you, the past many months have been just as much ones of continuously "learning to listen" to the people of our congregation.



This remarkable time has been one of active listening at Calvary Church. Stepping back to view the whole, I prefer to describe it all as "the listening process". Most visibly, our Vestry has led two listening sessions opened to all parishioners, gathering together members in number to offer their appreciations as well as hopes for Calvary's future. These sessions yielded an astonishingly vast and diverse body of feedback. Additionally, I and other church leaders have fielded numerous emails, input forms, phone calls and in-person chats with fellow congregants. And this great volume of sharing, while daunting, has fed our learning in profound and meaningful ways. Calvary members have much on their minds and full hearts for our church.

The individual thoughts, opinions, suggestions, and perspectives are far too many to list all in one place. But, over time, reoccurring themes emerged from this input that began to illustrate the picture of what parishioners identify as critical values and priorities of our church. On Saturday, March 26, the Vestry and full-time clergy gathered for a day-long retreat to consider these emergent themes, as well as to think strategically about how they might help to guide our future directions.

I am pleased to share these four main themes with you, illustrated by common feedback shared by parishioners throughout the entire listening process. These themes formed the outline of the Vestry retreat and drove our conversations. If you've shared your input this past year (and even if you have not!), I am hopeful that you may see how your own voice speaks within these themes.

The Future of Our Congregation

In some form or another, the health and growth of Calvary parish is heavily on the minds of its people. Many who've spoken out hope for a more abundant presence of children and youth at worship, as part of kid-centered activities and

groups, and in church life in general. Others have wondered how to increase our appeal to new members seeking a church home, and about how to make Calvary a parish that invites, welcomes, and connects spiritual seekers, in ways both familiar and new, during a time when church attendance in general is dropping off.

Re-emerging From the Pandemic

Your Vestry fully sees and feels the effect the past two years of separation, isolation, and worry have had upon our congregation and community. While the church has taken every measure to help mitigate the pain of this loss, no video stream or Zoom gathering can fully meet the basic human need to see one another in person, face-to-face, to keep in true communion. Calvary parishioners yearn to see each other's faces, to share coffee (perhaps chili?) and conversation, to break bread at the table together, to teach and learn, to comfort and be comforted, and to roll up their sleeves and do the work God has given us to do, side by side.

Lay Leadership

Both before the pandemic and in times past, the tradition of leadership cultivated from everyday members in the pews lives vividly in the memories of our congregants. There is such a richly prided history of involvement in the Vestry, Parish Council, committee work, Adult Forum, classes and seminars, spiritual mentorship, and informal ways of leading one another towards living as true, faithful followers of Christ. The question that has arisen over and over again from many at Calvary concerns how we may both fortify our current models of leadership as well as reimagine and innovate where changes in our congregation and in our greater community and world call us to do so.

Our Social Mission

Few aspects of parish identity cause more pride to swell in the hearts of Calvary members, or for more call to deeper engagement, than our long, storied history of community outreach and work towards social justice. An exhaustive listing of groups and programs would include but not be limited to EECM, the Women of Calvary, CLASP, The Neighborhood Academy, Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute, and our ongoing ministry of space to multiple organizations. Newer efforts such as the Beloved Community Initiative, Sacred Ground series for racial education, and Be the Bridge groups center our long-standing focus on racial justice and reconciliation. Calvary Church is known for both an inward and outward-looking perspective on God's call to continuously build a world where all people may live in health, dignity, justice, and respect. Our ever-changing circumstances challenge our congregation to look, every day, with fresh eyes at the needs of others, and interrogate the fulness of our efforts to, as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. posed it, "create a beloved community".

—continued on the next page

–Senior Warden, continued

At the retreat, we as the Vestry and clergy explored these themes at length and wrestled with how best to take steps in response with fidelity and fulness. I hope that you are beginning to and will continue to see some of these steps be taken as we tiptoe back towards “normalcy”. Nevertheless, the best thing about a true listening process is that it is continuous and never-ending. Stay tuned for more response to your feedback to unfold, and please do stay in communication with your church leadership as we continue to engage with both formal and informal avenues of our listening process.

Yours, in Christ,
David Jeong, Senior Warden ■

The Bookstore at Calvary

Easter

The Bookstore has a variety of items to fill up any Easter basket no matter your age including:



- Delicious Sarris Candies including milk chocolate covered pretzel rods and premium milk and dark chocolate bars.
- Children’s books such as *The Runaway Bunny* and *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* along with a soft and cuddly Peter Rabbit plush.
- Calvary and Episcopal themed items such as 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.

Baptism

The sacrament of Holy Baptism will be offered at the Great Vigil of Easter, Saturday, April 16, 2022 at 8 p.m. The Bookstore has a wide selection of gifts to commemorate the Sacrament of Baptism including Baptism albums, toy cubes, and a variety of Bibles, books, cards and jewelry.



Fabulous Finds

Thousands of books are donated to the Bookstore during the year. Many are everyday books. Some are treasures. A few of these treasures that have been carefully selected can be found on the Fabulous Finds shelf. It’s an eclectic collection. Most of these books are out of print and include themes such as spiritual, religious, art, nature, humor, cooking, and childhood favorites. Books you can’t find anymore and may bring back memories. Books to make you feel good. Good prices, too!



Volunteers Needed

The Bookstore at Calvary is an all-volunteer entity. Volunteers are greatly needed to work in the Bookstore and the time commitment is not large. Perhaps you have an hour you can give after Sunday services. Scheduling is very flexible and volunteers are always willing to help each other out in a pinch. Training is provided on how to complete sales transactions and is easy to learn. If working with books and great people is something you might enjoy, please give some thought to helping in the Bookstore. We are always looking for volunteers. Can’t make a monthly commitment? Then consider volunteering during the annual used book sale or during the annual inventory count. Contact Pat Standing at 412.481.8613, email her at pstanding623@gmail.com, or stop into the Bookstore and ask any staff how you can help.



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, comics, graphic novels, literary collections, and travel to name just a few. Checkout the unique offerings that are reasonably priced.

Calvary website link to The Bookstore at Calvary



Go to <https://www.calvarypg.org> and click on The Bookstore at Calvary located in the upper right corner or go directly to the site at www.calvarypg.org/the-bookstore-at-calvary. You will find a monthly newsletter along with pictures of featured items and upcoming events.

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 at bookstore@calvarypg.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. ■



Please Wear a Mask
While You Are at Calvary Church

CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN FORMATION



Sunday School

The Nursery will be open and Sunday School in-person with Zoom option (hybrid). Please note: If your child plans to attend via Zoom, please contact vrispoi@calvarypgh.org so that we can plan accordingly.

There will be no Christian Formation classes on Easter Sunday. The Nursery *will* be open.



Calvary Youth Garden Project Updates



We're making progress!

In March, we broke ground on our community vegetable garden. We began by marking off the two plots where we want to create our garden and got out tools from the shed. With help from three generations of Calvary present, we used our shovels to create the base for our garden and started to put the hopes for our project into action. We now have both plant beds almost ready for planting.

We've also created a blueprint for our garden. We measured the square foot for each plant and discussed the ways in which this garden will be able to benefit our community. After the blueprint's completion, we started seedlings of our selected plants: cucumbers, tomatoes, and sweet bell peppers. We have also decided to plant chives in the smaller sections of our plot in order to make the best out of all the space we have been provided. Through the planning and additional work we have accomplished, our garden's future is already in good hands. *Sara Woodside, Youth Project Leader*

Our next work session will be on Saturday, April 30, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. We will meet at the garden site near the Level B (side) entrance. Lunch will be provided. Bring a friend! Lunch will be provided. Bring a friend!

Church Tour for Families

It was great to have so many parents and their little ones participate in our first “behind the scenes” church tour led by The Rev. Neil Raman. The children got an up-close look at important areas and items used during the church service and learned about their significance, helping to foster participation in the liturgy and a greater understanding of the rich traditions of our faith. Another tour will be offered soon. Be on the lookout for details. Contact vrispoli@calvarypgh.org for more information.



Parents of Little Ones (P.O.L.O.)

Are you a parent of a baby or preschooler? Parents of Little Ones is a ministry that forges spiritual, supportive, and social connections for families with children aged newborn through kindergarten. Life changes a lot with that first newborn. It changes again sending that last Kindergartener to school. For those days and everything between, friendships within the P.O.L.O. community support the journey.

Thanks to everyone who was able to drop in for coffee and bagels last month! If you missed this one, no worries. Be on the lookout for details about our next get-together coming up soon! For more information or to be added to the email list, please contact vrispoli@calvarypgh.org.



EASTER EGG HUNT

- Easter Day -
Sunday, April 17, 2022
at 10:15 a.m.

Children of all ages are invited to find eggs hidden in the Swan Garden and adjoining courtyard. Please come and bring friends!

—continued on the next page

Egg Hunt Preparation

Middle and high school students are invited to help plan and prepare for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. We will meet at 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 16th in the conference room to fill eggs with candy and go over details of the event.

PLEASE NOTE: Youth events are open to all middle school/high school students. Enrollment in Sunday school is NOT required. Verification of community service hours will be provided upon request.



At Home

This week, as the Church and our families prepare for the feast of Easter, notice with your children the purple cloth, noting that in a few days we will change to white, the color of light. Easter Sunday is the beginning of the 50 days of Easter. We will be celebrating the Light of the Risen Christ for fifty days!

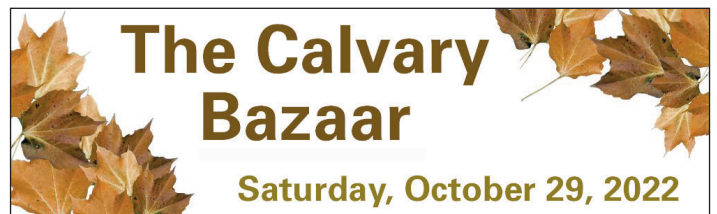
This Lent, we have carried our cross, and with it, the challenges of living in this time of uncertainty with daily changes in our world. The children know Jesus as the Light who came into the world. The light of the Risen Christ has conquered death and will shine forever. This is the light that Jesus shares with each of us. The Light brings clarity, hope, and allows us to be present in this moment and see the world with eyes of faith.

Now is our time to celebrate the strength of the Light, the light that is stronger than the darkness. In the gospel, early in the morning, the women approached the tomb. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid!", a few verses later, Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid". Words we hear so often, we know they must be important for us! Like the women at the tomb who encountered the Risen Christ, may we go forth walking as children of the Light. The light of Christ, rising in glory, will dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds. Alleluia!

Adapted from: Heinrich, M. (2019, December 9). CGS in the home. CGSUSA. Retrieved April 1, 2022, from <https://www.cgsusa.org/resources-for-parents/>



—Vicki Rispoli, *Director of Children's Christian Formation*,
vrispoli@calvarypgh.org, 412.661.0120 ext. 116 ■



The Calvary Bazaar has been set for October 29 and although it is months away, the organizing committee is already making plans for the big day. More details will follow later this spring and summer but the committee is now searching for some new leaders to help with the event.

Leaders are needed to help organize the Cafe Table, which serves simple refreshments like coffee and tea and snacks to shoppers on Bazaar Day. Also needed is a secretary for the Bazaar's organizing committee. The secretary takes notes from the committee's occasional meetings and emails committee members up-to-date information about planning for the Bazaar.

Anyone interested in these openings – or getting involved some other way in the 2022 fall Bazaar – can contact Bazaar chairperson, Kathy Farrington, farringtonk@me.com, or Mary Ann Slater, slatersaur904@gmail.com. ■

Shoe Collection for Ethiopia

We will be collecting shoes for people in the Salayesh Abo village in the Menz province of Showa region of Ethiopia. This is the home village of Alem who is in the photo with the Rector in the entryway to church. She was the leader who helped found the Ethiopian Orthodox church in Pittsburgh. Hiwot, one of our preschool teachers, is from the same area. Hiwot will be traveling there in July and will deliver the shoes and other supplies. This is one of the areas where people are suffering because of ongoing conflicts.

The people in the village are building their church that will seat about 50 people. It is from local stone being quarried by local people. Many of them are cutting and carrying stone without any shoes to build their church. If you have any shoes you are not wearing (no heels or winter boots please), please consider donating them to people who have none. There will be a collection point in the parish hall.

I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.
—Matthew 25:35-36 ■



Parish Register

BAPTISMS

Olivia Grace Dixon-Ernst, May 31, 2020
Sofia Grace Turcic, July 12, 2020
Giovanni Paul Lopes, September 5, 2020
Benedict William Riehl, September 5, 2020
Tessa Lauren Crossley, September 6, 2020
Andrew James Cruickshank, October 10, 2020
John Walter Garcia, November 7, 2020
Reza John Chowdhury Callaway, June 19, 2021
Clare McPhail Everhart, November 7, 2021
Parker Grace Long, November 7, 2021
Una Patricia Russo, November 7, 2021
Willamina Juliet Sparkman, November 26, 2021
Findlay John Wootten, December 11, 2021
Nigel Thomas Wootten, December 11, 2021
Julia Edie Lavage, December 26, 2021
Natalie Winnie Lavage, December 26, 2021
Frederick Christopher Phillips, January 29, 2022

CONFIRMED ON MAY 9, 2021

Benjamin Bugaile	Dmetrius Charles Cicchitto
Katharine Jamison Byrd	Austin Childs Holden
Ben Callaway	Benjamin Allen Maye
Douglas Holmes	Quinn Barkley Randall
Carrington North	Sara Tebbs Woodside
Fiona Madeline Brown	Gabriella Tarek Abdalla

RECEIVED ON MAY 9, 2021

Mary Jane Bent	Erin O'Rourke
Brian Crossley	Mary Ann Owens
Kasey Walls	Robert Jessen Owens, Jr.
Michael Jeffrey Grott	Ashleigh Riehl
Peter Hughes	David Riehl
Wanda Hughes	Michelle Woods

MARRIAGES

Haley Olivia Mears and Zachary Emmanuel Snyder,
September 25, 2020
Susan Elizabeth Bloom Roth and Nicholas Lewandowski,
October 3, 2020
Kailey Lynn Hughes and Adam Michael Kramer,
November 14, 2020
Ethan Matthew LaPlaca and Adam Troy Bailey,
March 20, 2021
Elisha Marie Hoffman and William Childs Austin,
October 23, 2021
Carey Roberta Aul and John Waldo Douglas III,
December 11, 2021

BURIALS

Jane Treherne-Thomas, August 17, 2020
Mary Frank, October 23, 2020
Charles Adebayo Oke, October 24, 2020
James Knox, December 14, 2020
Emily Jarrett, June 30, 2020

Jean A. Robinson, January 22, 2021
James McGough, February 12, 2021
Harriet Schach, February 27, 2021
Gary Abbs, May 8, 2021
Marylyn Knolle, April 17, 2021
Colette Wilkins, May 30, 2021
Kay Childs Bissell, June 5, 2021
G. William Bissell, June 5, 2021
Robert Carver, June 5, 2021
Edward "Ted" Hamilton, July 2, 2021
Jane Johnson Flucker, July 17, 2021
Kathleen Hendrickson, August 18, 2021
Conroy D. Guyer, September 21, 2021
John Hunter Dane, October 1, 2021
Sue A. Neff, October 2, 2021
Della Ellis Hale, November 3, 2021
Catherine Sugarbaker, November 10, 2021
The Rev. Dr. Harold T. Lewis, January 5, 2022
John Wellman Becker, January 8, 2022
Christopher Weiss, January 15, 2022
SungWha Oh, January 29, 2022
Alma Speed Fox, February 3, 2022
William C. Baskin, Jr., March 7, 2022
James Lee Houston, March 10, 2022

TRANSFERRED IN

Anna Phillips, November 24, 2019
from St. John's, Massena, NY
Christopher Phillips, December 8, 2019
from St. Luke's, Atlanta, GA
Ellen Graff, March 10, 2021
from St. Michael's of the Valley, Ligonier, PA
Ethan LaPlaca, April 6, 2021
from St. Andrew's, Pittsburgh, PA
Patricia Carey, June 30, 2021
from Christ Church Cathedral, Cincinnati, OH
Adam Hallowell, September 23, 2021
from All Souls Episcopal, Washington, DC
Judith Conkle, February 10, 2022
from St. Matthew's, Wheeling, WV
Diana Jannetta, February 25, 2022
from St. Michael's of the Valley, Ligonier, PA

TRANSFERRED OUT

Brian and Carrie Peck, August 25, 2020
to Church of the Good Shepherd, York, SC
John Ferraro, September 1, 2020
to St. Stephen's, Wilkensburg, PA
Chip Reynolds and Ellen Detlefsen, October 6, 2020
to St. Luke's Cathedral, Portland, ME
Vaughan and Bonnie Blaxter, November 17, 2020
to St. Michael's of the Valley, Ligonier, PA
Edward and Anita Seifert, April 6, 2021
Christ Church Fox Chapel, Pittsburgh, PA
Arthur and Sally Gregg, August 2, 2021
to St. Francis by the Sea, Blue Hill, ME
Ashley Dalton Forsythe, December 17, 2021
to St. Mary's Episcopal, Ardmore, PA ■

Obedience and Freedom

Obedience is about more than conformity to rules or subjection to authority. While these practices are often the objective trappings of obedience, it is about so much more. It is about results and goals. It is about the maintenance of human souls.

As a child I have to say obedience was not one of my strong suits. Part of this can be attributed to hyper-activity and an attention deficit issue. These things were not generally being diagnosed in the 1950's. My mother would have described it by saying, "You never listen to me." This always sounded like she was blaming me for something I chose to do. It would probably have been more accurate to say that I simply did not hear her. However, we understand the disconnect the result was that I was often lost or at sea amid a flurry of apparent choices that I didn't know how to navigate.

Even without these obstacles many people relegate the role of obedience to a lower ranking practice. Obedience is for the simple-minded or the uninformed or the untalented. Some would say that obedience is an interference or unnecessary encumbrance that limits my choices. Actually, obedience is a gift that determines what our choices could possibly be or not be.

We are all subject to a non-specific obedience in service of the common good. Through this very general obedience we maintain our regard for the well being of others. It includes cursory levels of obedience like obeying the law, obeying those who have been charged with our care like teachers or doctors or lifeguards. This kind of obedience ensures that we will not fall into an unnecessary position of dangerous potential, possibly risking the security of others.

There are several fruits of obedience:

Stability – Derived from the recognition of the choices actually offered to us.

Openness – Expressed in one's willingness to accept what is required.

Ease – Retire from /or be relieved of the constraints or pressure of knowing what one ought to do.

Connection – Establishes a relation of trust in what is true or appropriate

Identity – Rests on the attributes of the soul (love, will) rather than what you do.

Purpose – Broadened by renunciation of self-interest or self-involvement leading to a turning towards others

Peace – (surrender) Curtailing the struggle with the possible/weighing the unknown. Minimizing the children of doubt (cynicism, despair, anxiety, dread)

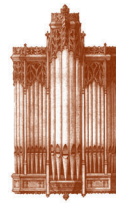
All of these lead to the ultimate outcome of obedience, its highest goal, freedom. All of these fruits/benefits involve learning that we all live within a limited freedom. Only one can have unlimited freedom and that one is the One with whom all things are possible. That One, God, thankfully is

very interested in extending freedom to us and I believe to all God's creatures.

The reason we "read, mark, learn and inwardly digest the Bible is to discover how to obey God by learning about God's character and intentions. Mary at the wedding at Cana consigns us to obedience to her Son, Jesus. She tells us, "Do whatever he tells you." Jesus by his obedience to His Father leads all of us to the foot of the cross, and past his empty tomb, where our freedom is secured.

–The Rev. Geoffrey Royce ■

MUSICAL NOTES by Alan Lewis



There is at last good news on the organ-front: the long-delayed electronic components that effect the connection between the organ keys and its 7500 pipes have at last made it through the now-infamous "supply chain," and are ready for installation. That process will entail a few weeks of down-time for the instrument, and so, rather than our being without it for Holy Week and Easter, the work will commence a week or so after Easter, allowing us to have it for that important span, as well, for the Bishop's visitation on the Second Sunday of Easter.

The "body" (and the sound) of the organ will be unchanged; what this work will do is to replace what we might think of as its "central nervous system" with components that should be better able to withstand the assaults of electrical storms, both by being more modular (so if one component does suffer damage, it doesn't derail the whole system), and by interconnecting those modules with fiber-optic cable (which does not conduct electricity), rather than copper wire (which, of course, does). In the tradition of renovations at Calvary, it will sound "as though it has always been here," but will, I hope and trust, work more reliably than it has for the last thirty years, whatever the weather.

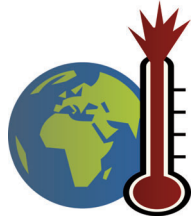
This will mean spending a significant portion of Eastertide with reduced accompaniment, so I'd ask everyone to take an extra deep breath and lean into our hymn-singing with additional gusto. (And no reason not to practice that already for Easter itself: the trials of the last couple of years, and the fact that it's our first Easter together since 2019, should make for an extra joyful experience of "Jesus Christ is risen today.")

May your Holy Week and the Eastertide beyond be newly and deeply meaningful, experienced once more in the company of this wonderful community. ■

www.calvarypgh.org

Care for Creation on a Warming Planet

How are we as Christians and people of Calvary demonstrating our care of creation with actions that address climate change?



Calvary already practices environmental stewardship in diverse ways. In planning renovations and repairs to the church building, the Vestry and the staff make energy savings and sustainability a high priority. Recent contributions by our faith community include:

- Recycling more than 3500 pounds (and counting!) of plastic bags
- Seven benches made of recycled content now placed throughout our communities
- Recycling all service leaflets and office paper;
- Replacement of most lights with LEDs (though not yet in the sanctuary);
- Motion sensor lights in restrooms and some offices;
- New bike racks by the parking lot entrance;
- Creating reusable welcome tote bags and decreased use of plastic plates and cups.

Most recently, we have created box gardens on the parking lot side of the church to be tended by children and youth groups as a visible sign of intentional creation care. We are also planting new trees, particularly native species, on the grounds, and are exploring how we might use solar panels in ways appropriate for our historic building.

Calvary has also joined PA Interfaith Power and Light (PAIPL.org), a vibrant coalition of faith organizations in our state which offers webinars, sponsors group activities, and organized shared actions on climate change.

But we know we can still do more:

How can the traditions of our faith, our culture, and our personal experiences and beliefs serve as guides to inform our actions as individuals and as a faith community? One way to begin is through an activity called a “Theological Reflection.” Wendy Lomicka, who serves as a mentor in the Education for Ministry (EfM) program will host a conversation to explore this question at the May 15 Adult Forum at 10 a.m. We welcome people of all ages, perspectives and levels of interest for what we hope will be the renewal of activities and conversations to demonstrate care for creation and the climate.

Questions and suggestions: Fr. Jensen, Wendy Lomicka, Tom Slater, or Catherine Davidson ■

Please remember Calvary Church
in your will.

Calvary Church Seeks Associate Rector

Calvary Episcopal Church seeks a full-time Curate or Associate to join our staff this summer. The transitional deacon or priest will have primary responsibility for pastoral care, young adult ministry, and outreach (with assistance from the Rector and Senior Associate) and share in all aspects of priestly ministry. The new staff member will be invited to offer her or his own gifts for new ministry initiatives and learn with an experienced team. The former Associate recently retired after she served 30 years in the congregation. **Read More** at www.calvarypgh.org. ■

Soup Group

On **Friday, April 29**, the Soup Group will meet in Calvary’s kitchen at 9 a.m. We will be making soup and casseroles to add to our inventory. If you don’t like to cook or don’t have time to cook, think about being a delivery person. You can share our soup or casseroles to fellow parishioners, friends, family and anyone that might enjoy them. These items can be found in the freezer in the pantry. There are also dry soup mixes on the shelf opposite the freezer. If you have any questions, please contact me.



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

Agape Deadline

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, May 6, 2022**. 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. ■

CALVARY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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



2022

Beginnings at Calvary Episcopal Church

Sign up for 1, 2, 3, 4, or all 5 weeks!

Music Camp (Ages 2-8)

May 31 - June 3 (Tuesday - Friday)
June 6 - June 10 (Monday - Friday)

Full Days: 9am - 3pm
Half Days: 9am - 1pm

Basic Music Theory, Rhythm and Dance,
Make Instruments, Record Own Music,
Experience Different Musical Genres
Play a Variety of Instruments,
Musical Games, Outdoor Summer Fun, and more...

Camp T-shirt and costumes will be provided.
Reception and Musical on June 10 at 4pm

Art Camp (Ages 2-8)

June 13 - June 17 (Monday - Friday)
June 20 - June 24 (Monday - Friday)

Full Days: 9am - 3pm
Half Days: 9am - 1pm

Environmental Art, Painting,
Sculpture, Digital Photography, Cartooning,
Fashion Art, Face Painting,
Paper Mache, Color Games,
Outdoor Summer Fun, and more...

Camp T-shirt and art supplies will be provided.
Reception and Art Exhibit on June 24 at 4pm

French Camp (Ages 4-8)

June 27 - July 1 (Monday - Friday)
Half Days: 9am - 1pm

Experience French Culture, Learn Basic Vocabulary, Sing French Songs, Dance,
Prepare, Taste and Serve Simple French Cuisine,
Outdoor Summer Fun, and more...

Camp T-shirt and costumes will be provided.
French Tea Party served by our *Beauty and the Beast* characters on July 1 at 12:30pm

Healthy snacks will be provided. You will need to pack a lunch for your child each day.

For more information, contact Tammy Lewis, Director
beginnings@calvarypgh.org • 412-661-3025 • 315 Shady Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

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. ■

Beware of Email Scams!

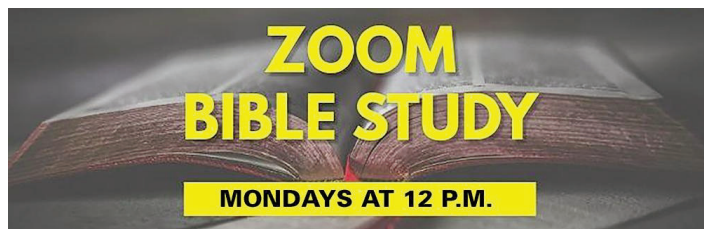
Always be careful when you check your email since scams are on the rise again. Never give out your personal information. Your bank, utility companies, the Social Security Administration, and the IRS will never contact you for that information. Emails that appear to come from Rector, and requests “a favor” or gift cards are still happening. Don’t respond, simply delete it. Any email from Calvary always uses @calvarypgh.org, never gmail.com. ■

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. ■

Holy Baptism

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



Led by The Rev. Geoffrey Royce, Deacon

Sign-up for receiving the Zoom link
by writing to groyce@calvarypgh.org ■



www.facebook.com/CalvaryEpiscopalChurch

On-Going at Calvary

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 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!) ■

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.

Thursday, April 14 – Maundy Thursday

Friday, April 15 – Good Friday

Sunday, April 17 – Easter Day

Wednesday, April 27, 7 p.m. – Caste Book Study via Zoom

Monday, May 9, 7:30–9 p.m. – Lecture with Isabel Wilkerson, author of *Caste* at Carnegie Music Hall (Oakland) ■





The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

April 10: St. Brendan's Episcopal Church, Franklin Park, the Reverend Dr. Julie Smith, and the Reverend Darrell Johnson.

April 17: Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh, the Reverend Aidan Smith, the Reverend Dr. Wesley Hill, The Reverend Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan, and the Cathedral Chapter; and the Walk-In Ministry at Trinity Cathedral.

April 24: Calvary Episcopal Church, East Liberty, the Reverend Jonathon Jensen, the Reverend Neil Raman, the Reverend Carol Henley, and the Reverend Ruth Bosch Becker (ELCA); and the Bookstore at Calvary.

May 1: Retired clergy, including the Reverend David Casto, the Reverend Nancy Chalfant-Walker, the Reverend David Else, the Reverend Dr. Judith Gentle, and the Reverend John Golden.

May 8: St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Blairsville, and the Reverend Joseph Baird.

May 15: St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Brackenridge, and the Reverend Dr. Frank Yesko. ■

Bishop's Visitation Schedule

April 10: St. Brendan's, Franklin Park

April 17: Trinity Cathedral (Easter)

April 24: Calvary, East Liberty

May 1: No Visitation

May 8: St. Peter's, Blairsville

May 15: St Barnabas, Brackenridge ■

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 class is an opportunity to take a deeper dive into who we are as Episcopalians and even 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 Calvary. This class serves as preparation for those who are interested in confirmation or reception in the Episcopal Church and the reaffirmation of baptismal vows.

The Discipleship class meets at 10 a.m. in the Refectory. Classes will continue each Sunday, with the exception of Easter Day, through May 15.

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 ■



East Liberty Valley Historical Society

All talks will be held in the Parish Hall of Calvary Church. Admission is free. Masks and social distancing are required. The lecture series is named for its late founder, the anthropologist, art historian and author Marilyn Evert, who died in 2018.

Wednesday, May 4, 7 p.m.
"Heinz Chapel's Origin Story: A Fresh Look"

Historian and Heinz Chapel docent Frank Kurtik explores how H.J. Heinz's 1914 wish to honor his mother led to a Gothic chapel on the University of Pittsburgh campus two decades later. Mr. Kurtik also will highlight the chapel's construction and its Medieval symbolism in stone and glass.

Wednesday, June 1, 7 p.m.
"Sophie: The Incomparable Mayor Masloff"

Historian Barbara Burstin reveals how the daughter of Romanian immigrants in the Hill District rose to become the first woman and first Jewish mayor of Pittsburgh, and how her leadership continues to shape the city we live in today. Dr. Burstin is the author of the 2019 biography of Sophie Masloff. ■



The East Liberty Valley Historical Society

Spring 2022 Marilyn Evert Lecture Series

**Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall
Calvary Episcopal Church, 315 Shady Avenue, 15206
Free and Open to the Public**

Wednesday, March 9

“Pittsburgh’s Little Italy: Memories from the Italian American Community of Larimer”

Melissa Marinaro, director of the Italian American Program at the Heinz History Center, traces the social history of a vibrant ethnic East End neighborhood that thrived from the late 19th century to the 1960s.

Wednesday, April 6

“The Art of the Landscape in Mellon Park”

Architectural historian and historic preservation consultant Angelique Bamberg details the East End park’s evolution from grand private estates on both sides of Fifth Avenue to public landscape, a story that stretches from the Gilded Age to Renaissance Pittsburgh and beyond.

Wednesday, May 4

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Wednesday, June 1

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Historian Barbara Burstin reveals how the daughter of Romanian immigrants in the Hill District rose to become the first woman and first Jewish mayor of Pittsburgh, and how her leadership continues to shape the city we live in today. Dr. Burstin is the author of the 2019 biography of Sophie Masloff.

Deadline (Friday):

Publication Date (Sunday):

- January 7 January 16
 February 4 February 13 [Lenten Issue]
 March 4 March 13 [Easter Issue]
 April 1 April 10
 May 6 May 15
- June 3 June 12 [Summer Issue]
- August 12 August 21
 September 9 September 18
 October 7 October 16
 November 4 November 13 [Advent Issue]
 December 2 December 11

2022 CALENDAR

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