

# Agape

The Newsletter of Calvary Episcopal Church  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

APRIL 14, 2019



## Holy Week and Easter

Holy Week is a journey with Jesus in the last days of his earthly life leading to a cross on Calvary hill. It is a reminder that our Christian faith is rooted not in abstract ideas or tidy moral systems, but in the grit and grime and glory of history. This may be a bit embarrassing for some or difficult to understand. This Creator of the universe interacts in human history and has chosen to reveal the divine personhood as a suffering servant. It was folly to the Greeks and a stumbling block to the Jews and is no less an obstacle to overcome even now. It is difficult to live at the heart of the cross.

The theologian Paul Ricouer wrote about the concept of a "First Naiveté." What he meant is that when we are younger we have little or no trouble accepting that God created the world, Jesus walked on water, and the Holy Spirit touches lives. As we get older, gaining more experience and knowledge, that simple or naive faith is eroded. We no longer believe with the same childlike innocence that God is real. If we profess the Creeds or say we believe in miracles, it is usually with caveats or fingers crossed. We know or have experienced too much to believe. Many of us find ourselves having outgrown the "First Naiveté" with not much of substance to replace it.

What Ricouer suggests is a "Second Naiveté." That is, living with the knowledge and experience we have and growing into a mature faith. Simply put, we believe again that the stories are true. Maybe they are not factually accurate in every detail, but true in that they matter and have the possibility to transform the world and our lives. This is a tall order, but with Christ all things are possible. It is what has happened since the very first disciples. It is no more difficult now than it was in Jesus' day. The ancients may have had a different

scientific understanding of the world but they knew that no one comes back from the dead.

What made all those Christians of the early church and today's church willing to die for their faith? What caused all those disciples to leave home or security or wealth and follow Christ? What caused those to give their lives in service to others? They did not give their lives to a general system of ethics or the most reasonable religion with the best liturgy and coffee hours. They met the person of Christ who went to the cross, died, and was resurrected for them and us.

For some, this meeting of Christ again, or a second Naiveté will happen all at once, but for most of us it will be a daily death to self and carrying the cross. The first step is being open to the possibility of Christ. You may not believe in miracles or the cross or even Christ, but can you believe that love is possible and real? That is the first step of faith. Can you be open to the possibility of God? Is it possible that Christ died and rose again for me?

—Jonathon ■

## The Bishop's Visitation

When Bishop McConnell visits Calvary on the evening of May 5, Marathon Sunday, he will preside at the rites of Confirmation, Reception, and the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. These three rites are deeply connected with one another and with the promises made and the new life received in baptism. For much of



its history the church has made provision for those who were baptized as children to take ownership of the promises made on their behalf by making "a mature public affirmation of Christian faith" (BCP, 412) and receive laying on of hands by a bishop through the sacrament of confirmation. **Confirmation** is the rite by which those who were baptized as children take ownership of the promises made on their behalf. When laying hands on the confirmand's head, the bishop prays that they be sustained and strengthened by the Holy Spirit. **Reception** is the rite by which the

—continued on page 2

bishop welcomes those who have been confirmed in the Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Moravian, and some other churches into the fellowship of the Episcopal Church. In addition to confirmation and reception, the church provides an opportunity through the **Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows** for those who either want to mark their return to church after a time away or wish to renew their commitment to the Christian faith to do so in the presence of the congregation and the bishop. These rites are touchstones in a person's walk with Christ.

I invite and encourage you to be with us on May 5 at 5 p.m. to support those who will be confirmed, received, or reaffirm their baptismal vows. —The Rev. Neil Raman ■



**The Nominating Committee of the Vestry will receive nominations in the Parlor for Vestry and Parish Council members on Palm Sunday, April 14, 2019 after all services.**

Adam Bailey, Kathy Farrington, Lance Lugar, Laura Marchl, and Richard Shafer 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, Kathy Farrington at farringtonk@me.com or to the Rector at jjensen@calvarypgh.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.

**The 164th Annual Parish Meeting of Calvary Church will be held Sunday, May 12, 2019 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.** ■

## 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. ■

## CHRISTIAN FORMATION

**May 19 will be the last day for Sunday school and nursery care until the fall.**

### Easter Egg Hunt – April 21

On Easter morning, children of all ages are invited to find eggs hidden in the Swan Garden. Please come and bring friends! Follow the bunny prints from the main lobby entrance to our meeting place in the hallway, and we will begin the hunt at 10:15. (In case of rain, we will relocate to the classrooms on Level A.)

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

### Easter Banner

Those who attended the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper helped to decorate an Easter banner. It is now "buried" for Lent – keep an eye out for it to return on Easter Sunday!

—Susan Roth, Coordinator for Christian Formation  
sroth@calvarypgh.org, 412.661.0120 ext. 116 ■

## Holy Baptism



The sacrament of Holy Baptism will be offered at the Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 20, 2019 at 8 p.m., the Feast of Pentecost, Sunday, June 9 at the 9 a.m. Garden Service, and on the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 18 at the 9 a.m.

### Garden Service.

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

## MUSIC AT CALVARY



**Friday, April 19, at 8 P.M.**

## GOOD FRIDAY CONCERT

Chatham Baroque and other period-instrumentalists join the Calvary Choir and soloists in a program of sacred music reflecting on the Passion.

Schütz, Scheidt, & Buxtehude:

*Herzlich Lieb hab ich dich, O Herr*

Bach, Cantata 78, *Jesu, der du meine Seele*



After hearing many stories of how our students spent their Spring Break, we have jumped right back into the swing of things, making the most of our last two months of the school year.

Our current unit at Beginnings is "The Season of Spring." All of our teams are learning to recognize signs of spring – warmer weather, rain, wind, sunshine, trees budding and flowers blooming. We are fortunate to have a playground that is surrounded by nature so that our children can experience and identify changes from one season to the next. To our surprise, we have even seen bunnies hopping around the fence line.

A couple of special guests have recently visited our school. We welcomed Thomas Hoffman, a local musician who plays and sings for preschools in the Pittsburgh area. Our children seemed to enjoy learning new songs and singing while he played three instruments: banjo, guitar, and fretless banjo. We also had a student from Ellis School who shared her senior project with our Blue Team. She gave a presentation on endangered animals entitled "The Life They Deserve." Our students created a picture to express their ideas and their artwork will be displayed at the Humane Animal Rescue in Homewood.

We would like to say thank you to Charles Altman, Mary Knowles Burgess, and Louise Kay Woodside who have graciously donated to our Valentine's Day Dance-a-thon fundraiser. We have now raised \$4,130 of our \$5,000 goal.

Our next fundraising event is our annual Bake Sale to be held on **Palm Sunday, April 14**. All of our baked goods will be handmade with love by our Beginnings Board members, teachers, families, and ESL group as well as Calvary staff and parishioners. This is a great time to buy some especially sweet and savory items for Sunday brunch, upcoming holiday gatherings and Easter baskets. All proceeds will benefit playground upgrades.

Our last fundraising event of the school year is our Spring Fling to be held on **Friday, May 3**, from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Our theme will be Mister Rogers' Neighborhood to celebrate its 50th anniversary. Everyone is invited and we encourage you to include family, friends, and neighbors. Please save the date and more details will follow.

We are excited to share that our open enrollment periods for current and new families were extremely successful. We are almost enrolled to full capacity for the 2019-20 school year. We only have a few spots remaining, so if you know someone who is interested in our preschool, have them call 412.661.3025 or email [Beginnings@calvarypg.org](mailto:Beginnings@calvarypg.org).

-Tammy Lewis, Director ■

## An Easter Meditation

on John 21:1-9

The faithful women rushed with balm,  
With more excitement than with calm;  
And shocked to find no corpse, they fled  
To tell th' apostles, "He's not dead."

Incredulous men 'midst fright and doom,  
Holed up, afraid, in Upper Room.  
Jerusalem's streets they did not choose  
To walk, for dread fear of the Jews.

But one among them ventured out,  
In alleys, lanes he moved about.  
Thomas, tho' skeptic, did he preach  
The news he'd heard to all in reach?

So when the Risen Lord appeared  
To show them nail-holes, torso speared  
Thomas who was called the Twin  
Was not the Upper Room within.

When he returned, his friends declared  
To him that Jesus, body bared  
Had proved to them that he was risen  
And to them his blessing had he given.

Eight days later Jesus came  
Again; he called out Thomas' name:  
He who had demanded proof  
Now met Jesus 'neath his roof.

"Reach here and touch my pierced flank,"  
But Thomas, kneeling, him did thank:  
"My Lord, my God, I have no doubt."  
And all the disciples raised a shout.

O Lord, grant us who have not seen  
The Risen Lord, his body lean  
To nonetheless believe that he  
Now crucified, risen, makes us free.

-H.T.L. ■

*This message by The Rev. Dr. Harold T. Lewis first appeared in the April 2010 issue of Agape. Dr. Lewis is Calvary's Rector Emeritus.*

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.



## What is a Vestry

The Vestry is the Board of Directors of a parish corporation and congregation subject to diocesan and national church canons (laws). The word “vestry” originally referred to the name of the room where the priest would put on his vestments before the worship services. It was in that room the lay leaders would discuss temporal affairs of the parish with the priest. Over time, the name of the meeting place became the name of the elected group of lay leaders, hence the name “vestry.”



Vestries are responsible for at least three main areas: the care and maintenance of all church properties, for all financial matters of the church (setting budget, raising funds, audits, etc.), and to elect a rector and see that the parish is cared for when there is a vacancy. The Vestry is also traditionally responsible for setting and implementing the policies and goals of the congregation. More than just these temporal affairs, a vestry works in concert with the clergy to be spiritual leaders in the congregation. They also pray for the congregation.

In the Episcopal Church, vestries are comprised of the Rector and elected lay leaders of the congregation. The Rector is the President of the parish corporation and presides over meetings of the Vestry and Congregation. Assistant clergy have seat and voice but no vote. Meetings are open to the entire parish.

At Calvary Church, we have sixteen elected vestry members. Four members are elected each year, by the whole parish, to a four-year term. The Senior Warden is appointed by the Rector from the sitting members. The Vestry, as a body, elects one of its own members as Junior Warden.

Elections take place at our annual parish meeting with nominations for candidates received beginning on Nominating Sunday (also Palm Sunday), April 14 this year. After the Annual Meeting, the Vestry will elect a treasurer and appoint a clerk (secretary) who may or may not be vestry members. Bob Eley has been our Treasurer for about twenty years. Sarah Wilson has been our Secretary for the two last years.

The Senior Warden is the chief elected lay leader of the congregation and is a liaison between the Rector and Vestry. Jamie McMahon is the current Senior Warden. At Calvary, the Senior Warden chairs the Finance Committee. The Junior Warden has primary responsibility for the buildings and grounds of the church, working with our sextons and contractors. Sue Dewalt has been our Junior Warden the past year. All of these lay leaders serve as volunteers.

The requirements for Vestry members are few but important. One must be a baptized member of the parish. One must be able to attend meetings which ordinarily convene on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Refectory. One must be a “giver of record” and also be able

to show leadership by their presence at events and worship in the parish. Our vestry members are also the first to make a financial pledge each year. A list of names of all vestry members, by year their term ends, is printed in each Sunday bulletin.

Please hold us all in prayer as we plan for the future and help lead and serve God and our neighbors through Calvary. ■

## Susan Roth to Become a Full-Time Teacher

Susan has been our Director of Children's Christian Formation for the last several years while working to finish her degree at Carlow University from which she will soon be graduated. She is leaving the part-time position at Calvary to pursue a full-time position in elementary education in Pittsburgh public schools.



Susan has been an insightful leader, skilled teacher, caring colleague, and faithful friend. I am sorry to see her leave the church staff but happy she is able to pursue the career for which she has been preparing. She will continue working at Calvary Camp and as an active member of the congregation. Susan will conclude her time on staff at Calvary at the end of May just before she begins her summer work at Calvary Camp.

Please join me in giving thanks for Susan's faithful and excellent work. —Jonathon ■

## Tammy Lewis Called as New Director of Children's Christian Formation

We are very pleased to announce Tammy Lewis as our new Director of Children's Christian Formation to begin on June 1. The Director oversees the Sunday School program, supports the teachers, coordinates the Christmas Pageants and Easter Egg Hunt, and other related ministries.



Tammy became the Interim Director of our Beginnings Pre-School at Calvary last summer. After an excellent season as Interim, the Board recommended she become the Director. She will be both the Director of the Beginnings Pre-School and Director of Children's Christian Formation.

Tammy and her husband, Peter, have been parishioners at Calvary for the last several years. Peter has been an usher and one of Calvary's delegates to diocesan convention. Tammy has been an usher and Sunday School teacher.

Please join me in giving thanks and welcome to Tammy as our new Children's Christian Formation Director. —Jonathon ■

# HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT CALVARY 2019

## April 14, Palm Sunday

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

## April 15, Monday in Holy Week

The Holy Eucharist, in the Chapel, 6 P.M.

## April 16, Tuesday in Holy Week

The Holy Eucharist, in the Chapel, 6 P.M.

## April 17, Wednesday in Holy Week

The Holy Eucharist, in the Chapel,  
at 7 A.M., 10:30 A.M., and 6 P.M.

## April 18, Maundy Thursday

The Holy Eucharist and Footwashing,  
in the Chapel, at 12 NOON;

The Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar,  
7:30 P.M.

## April 19, Good Friday

Good Friday Liturgy, 12 NOON;

*Following the service, the Church will remain open  
for meditation from 1:30 until 3 P.M.*

Good Friday Concert, 8 P.M.

Chatham Baroque and  
other period-instrumentalists  
join the Calvary Choir and soloists  
in a program of sacred music  
reflecting on the Passion

## April 20, The Great Vigil of Easter, 8 P.M.

Lighting of the Paschal Candle, Scriptural Prophecies,  
Baptisms, and the First Eucharist of Easter

## April 21, Easter Day

8 A.M. Holy Eucharist and Homily  
9 & 11 A.M. Festal Holy Eucharist and Sermon  
Easter Egg Hunt, 10:15 A.M.

## Treasurer's Report

Summarized below is the Calvary Episcopal Church  
Operations Fund Budget for fiscal year 2019, as  
recommended by the Finance Committee and approved  
by the Vestry on February 25, 2019.

Calvary Episcopal Church  
Operations Fund – Consolidated  
For Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2019

	2019 <u>Budget</u>
<b><u>Income</u></b>	
Pledge Income	\$929,000
Non-Pledge Contributions	80,000
Loose Plate Offerings	24,000
Special Offerings	22,000
Endowment Fund	270,100
Trust Income	22,200
Gifts for Operations	190,000
Beginnings - reimbursement to Calvary	15,600
All Other	27,100
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,580,000</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	
Personnel:	
Salaries	638,000
Benefits	353,300
Diocesan Assessment	152,900
Christian Formation & Pastoral Support	11,300
Hospitality/Parish Life/Outreach	40,100
Music	18,000
Maintenance and Operations of Buildings:	
Utilities & Maintenance	105,500
Supplies and Repairs	42,000
Landscaping and Snow Removal	22,000
Office and Administration:	
Supplies and General Office	17,200
Equipment Rentals & Maintenance	38,000
Telephone	7,000
All Other	4,600
Finance:	
Professional Services	17,000
Various Bank and Investment Fees	10,500
All Other	12,500
Insurance and Taxes	110,000
Capital Expenses	35,400
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,635,300</b>
<b>Net (Expenses) over Income</b>	<b>(55,300)</b>

Submitted by Robert Eley, Treasurer ■

## Weekly Offering Cards

Cards that say "My gift comes electronically or by mail" can  
serve as a visible sign of your gift. Look for the purple cards  
in a basket in the Narthex or by the North Transept door  
each week, take one, and place it in the offering plate. ■



## Outreach: Anytime, Anywhere by Anyone

“Outreach” is a term broad in meaning and application. It has come to refer to charitable activities as well as the development of particular demographic groups through focused opportunities for gathering or participation. Ideally no matter what the term “outreach” refers to, it would benefit us to have a common understanding of the motives (expected outcomes) both personal and communal.

“Reaching out,” a similar term, has become a standard way of referring to all instances in which business people and professionals of all kinds, even those seeking employment, seek information or assistance from others in their field. Often people who reach out are thanked for doing so.

What do these actions have in common? They involve an “other.” There is a connection to that “other” and in that connection is the grammar of motivation. The more biblical term for motivation is “intention.” Here we can also note that God only looks on the intentions of the heart. “The plans of the mind belong to man, but the answer of the tongue is from the Lord. All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the spirit. (Proverbs 16:16-19)

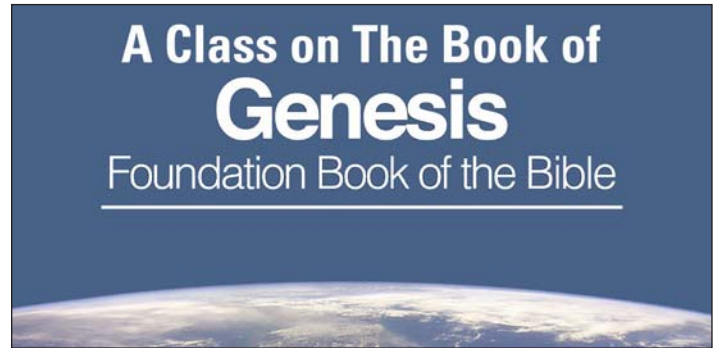
“Outreach” and “reaching out” are about there being an “other,” a connection to that “other,” intention(s) from one or both parties involved and relations conveying meaning(s) between them. Beginning with a deeper examination of intention, let's seek to find a simple path to honest (pure) results. As the truth of Proverbs 16 suggests, we all tend to view our intentions as being pure. Rarely do we notice that intentions can have layers with some good qualities, even hopes and then underneath these, some lesser ones lurking beneath the surface. These lesser ones are not necessarily so disordered so as to qualify as lies or malicious motives but we don't want them to remain hidden or secret.

Often, we believe we are poised to help others. This perspective requires judgment and self-awareness. The possibility that we are projecting a need of our own on others is something we want to avoid. Jesus is not encumbered by projection. He doesn't need to ask someone what they need. In many cases he knows more about the obstacles faced by others than they themselves know. This kind of understanding can only be discerned in prayer and stillness. Important in this process is coming to terms with our own healing, obstacles, and sin (alienation).

It is necessary and transforming for us to see how those we would help are bearing our wounds. Their poverty is a

reflection of our own poverty, expressed as neglect. Their homelessness (not belonging) is a reflection of our own heart's homelessness expressed as a discreet limit to hospitality. Their lack of hygiene is a reflection of our own ill health expressed as alienation.

The unspoken connection shared between those favored by society and those at the margins is the silence that gives birth to the despair of the less fortunate and the anxiety of those better off. And it is in just this space of silence that meaning is born.  
—Geoffrey Royce ■



This fall, we will have a guest teacher for the “Rector's Class” on Sunday mornings. Prof. Robert Owens will lead a class on the Book of Genesis. Bob and his wife, Mary Ann, have been regular participants in the Rector's Class.

Until his recent retirement and move to Pittsburgh, Bob taught Sacred Scripture and was director of the Center for Jewish-Christian Studies at The General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church in New York, where he is now Emeritus Professor of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. In earlier years he held positions at both Protestant and Roman Catholic institutions, and for two years was a visiting scholar at Wolfson College in Oxford University. He has extensive experience teaching in parishes in the New York area. He holds a Ph.D. in ancient Near Eastern Studies from the Johns Hopkins University.

**The first class will convene on Sunday, September 8 at 10 a.m. in McClintic Hall.** The study of Genesis will conclude on Sunday, December 15.

In January 2020, the Rector will begin a study on the Gospel of Mark that will continue through the spring. ■

## May Soup Group

The weather may have warmed up, but soup still makes a great meal. Our next scheduled cooking date is **Friday, May 10 at 10 a.m.** in Calvary's kitchen. New recipes and cooks are welcome. Don't forget to go to the pantry freezer if you want to take soup to a fellow parishioner, neighbor, friend, or family member. If you need more information, please contact me.

—Adele Eley, [adele.eley@gmail.com](mailto:adele.eley@gmail.com), 412.371.6921 ■



## Special Service Times on Marathon Sunday: May 5, 2019

Because the Pittsburgh marathon route limits access to Calvary on May 5, we will have a celebration of the Holy Eucharist at **8 a.m.** and **5 p.m. only**.

Bishop Dorsey McConnell will preach at the 5 p.m. service and will preside at the rites of Confirmation, Reception, and the Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. There will be a hospitality hour following the service. ■

## Easter Monday Flower Delivery

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. On Easter Monday last year, 20 Calvary parishioners and one staff member delivered Easter flowers to 55 recipients.

This is a very easy, one-day volunteer job, and only requires that you have time on **Monday morning, April 22, 2019** to deliver 3-4 Easter flowers to the recipients. Louise Wells prepares the maps to the recipient's home and a card containing a message from the Rector, which is attached to the flowers you are delivering.

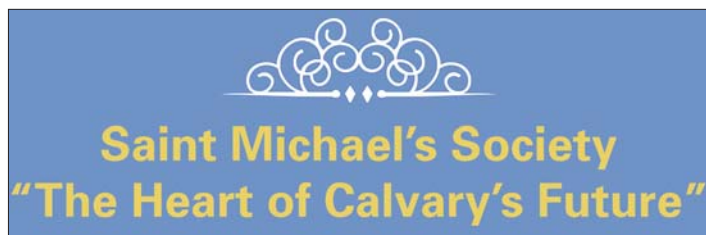
Volunteers are asked to arrive at the Parish Hall between 8:30 and 10 a.m. to choose your flowers for delivery. William Stevens and Barbara Hicks will be at the Parish Hall for assistance to the volunteers, if needed. Coffee, tea and some delicious snacks will be available in the Parish Hall for the volunteers before they start their deliveries.

Please call Barbara Hicks at 412.242.1469 or e-mail her at barbleeh@verizon.net to sign up for Easter Monday Flower Delivery. Thank you! ■



## SHELDON CALVARY CAMP HOLY EUCHARIST at CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Sheldon Calvary Camp service, an informal celebration of the Holy Eucharist, will be held on Sunday afternoon **April 28** and **May 26** at 3 p.m., in the Refectory, then we are at camp for the summer. The Rev. Leslie Reimer is the celebrant, and we use music from the Camp songbook. Mark your calendars and join us when you can! ■



When we were asked if we were willing to write a testimonial about why we included Calvary Church in our estate plan, we were initially reluctant to respond. Our original decision to leave a part of our legacy to Calvary was made after attending a presentation made by the St. Michael's Society Committee. At the time it just seemed like the right thing to do. Now that we reflect upon our decision, there were some unconscious reasons why we decided to do so. In time we came to realize the importance of Calvary Church to the East Liberty/Shadyside communities. Calvary serves as a focal point for so many community activities and support programs and the neighborhood would surely be lost without it. Also, with the shift away from organized religion worldwide, we feel it is even more important to make sure Calvary has financial support after we are gone. Grace and I are relative newcomers (only 10 years) to Calvary, yet we were immediately taken by the spirit and atmosphere of this parish and felt we had a responsibility to ensure its future for a long time to come.

We chose to designate Calvary Church as a beneficiary on Gary's IRA account. It's very simple to do and doesn't require a lot of paperwork. Our hope is that the amount we leave to Calvary will be enough to endow our current annual pledge amount so we won't be missed financially when we are gone. In order to endow your current pledge, you need to contribute about 20 times your annual pledge. This will help ensure the continued vitality of our beloved Calvary Church to those that come after us.

Please consider Calvary in your estate planning.

—Grace and Gary Abbs ■

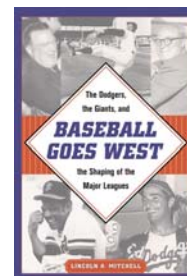
If you are interested in exploring a possible estate gift to Calvary Church, please contact Deborah Kelly at [dc1kelly@gmail.com](mailto:dc1kelly@gmail.com) or 412.688.9299. We would love to welcome you into the St. Michael's Society, our legacy group.

## The East Liberty Valley Historical Society

Spring 2019 Marilyn Evert Lecture Series

**May 3:** "Baseball Goes West: The Dodgers, the Giants, and the Shaping of the Major Leagues" by Lincoln Mitchell  
Political analyst, pundit, educator and author

East Liberty Presbyterian Church  
116 South Highland Avenue, Chapel  
Lecture begins at 7:30 p.m.;  
Free and Open to the Public ■





## Trex Recycling: New Plastic Film Recycling Opportunity at Calvary Church

As Spring unfolds, many of us experience a season of reflection and renewal. In our spiritual lives, we observe Lent and look forward to the promises of Easter. Spring also invites us to enjoy nature and go outside to return to our favorite outdoor activities. In looking both inwardly and outwardly, many of us feel challenged to consider the topic of plastic consumption and the impacts of plastic pollution on the environment. Whether it is seeing plastic litter along our roadsides or the photos of marine debris entering our oceans, we feel an urgency to act and to take responsibility for the situation and the impacts.

Jenna Jambeck, a scientist from the University of Georgia leads a scientific network that studies ocean trash, measures it, and works to advance knowledge on its effects on marine life. Their paper, published in *Science* in 2015, made headlines around the world by estimating that 8 million metric tons of plastic waste had entered the ocean in 2010. China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Sri Lanka were identified as the top five waste generating regions and the lack of waste management infrastructure was identified as the primary cause of these waste inputs entering the ocean.

Their analysis recognizes plastics as an important material to humanity's ongoing future and suggests that an international treaty, not local bans, will be required to address the scale of the global ocean waste challenge. Looking to the future, their analysis also suggests that if as much as half of mismanaged plastic waste from the top twenty waste generating regions was properly disposed, we could see a 40% reduction in this waste entering the ocean by 2025.

In future newsletters, I hope to share more information with you about global collaboration underway to address these challenges. More immediately, I'd like to share a new opportunity for you to take personal action here at Calvary.

In the Parish Hall you will see a Trex Recycling box. You are invited to recycle plastic film in this container including such items as newspaper sleeves, bread bags, cereal liners, dry cleaning bags and grocery bags among others. The material we collect will be weighed and taken to Giant Eagle where it will be used to create such products as outdoor decking and park benches. If we collect 500 pounds of plastic film over 6 months, we will be eligible to receive a park bench made of the recycled plastic from Trex.

Tikkun Olam is a Judaic concept that calls people not to be daunted by the enormity of the world's challenges. Tikkun Olam calls people to participate in repairing the world, not by completing the work nor by abandoning the work, but by beginning it. The Trex Recycling program is one way that we can be invited to practice Tikkun Olam here at Calvary. I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity.

—Wendy Lomicka ■

Wendy Lomicka joined Calvary in 2017. She works at NOVA Chemicals, a Canadian plastic producer, where she focuses on sustainability. She is completing a certificate in Environmental Management at Duquesne University and is an advisor to Project STOP, an ocean waste prevention initiative operating in Indonesia. Contact her at [wenlom@gmail.com](mailto:wenlom@gmail.com) if you would like to help support the Trex Recycling program at Calvary.

## Spiritual Reflection Group

We share, reflect upon and discuss inspirational ideas that develop and deepen our personal relationships with God and with one another. Meetings are group-led, and no preparation is required. Our interactions follow the Principals for Contemplative Dialogue of the Merton Institute for Contemplative Living.

A short reading will serve each meeting as a catalyst for reflection upon, and discussion of, God in our daily lives. For this quarter, we will continue to use Henri Nouwen as our guide. Father Nouwen (1924-1996) was a Dutch-born Roman Catholic priest who studied religious spirituality and modern psychology, serving on the faculty of Yale University, the University of Notre Dame, and Harvard Divinity School. At each meeting, we will use for reflection and discussion a short excerpt from "A Spirituality for Living" or "The Return of the Prodigal Son."

Meetings are held 7-8 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday evening of each month. **We will meet on April 16, May 7 and 21, and June 4.** 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 at any time. ■

greet & gather at  
**Hospitality Hour**  
after the 11 o'clock service

**There are open dates in April and May that need hosts!** Consider hosting a Sunday to mark a special occasion, honoring a particular event or person or asking your group or organization. Please sign up on the display in the Parish Hall or contact Judy Wootten at 724.733.1660 or by email – [jcwootten@comcast.net](mailto:jcwootten@comcast.net) – to schedule a Sunday. Thank you! ■



# How Do We Face the Horror of Mass Murder? The Formation of Squirrel Hill Stands Against Gun Violence

How should one respond when faced with the unthinkable? And how does our faith shape our response? No one expects to face mass murder or hate crimes in our own communities. As Jews, we have faced discrimination, and historically terrible tragedy. Many Jews, including my grandparents and great-grandparents, migrated to the U.S. precisely so that they could live and worship safely.



I am a member of Dor Hadash, one of three congregations that shared the Tree of Life building. When the murderer crashed in, yelling "Kill all the Jews," he killed members of all three congregations, driven by virulent anti-Semitism and hostility to immigrants and refugees. On social media, he ranted about hating Jews because we supported Muslims and immigrants. He particularly targeted HIAS (formerly the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society), which since 1890 has helped immigrants of all kinds, both those coming to the US and those in many countries that need assistance.

One of the priorities of the Dor Hadash Social Action Committee, which I then chaired, was support of immigrants and refugees. We recommended that the congregation support HIAS and participate in their National Refugee Shabbat, to link support for immigrants and refugees to our Jewish history and values. Our attacker was looking for Jews to kill, but as his media posts made clear, he chose his target because Dor Hadash was listed on the HIAS website as one of their supporters. The attack thus felt very personal.

The shock and grief were overwhelming for all of us. However, a core Jewish value is *tikkun olam*, our responsibility to "repair the world." It was, quite simply, impossible to do nothing. A Jewish sage taught of the need to turn tears into action, and that is what members of the Social Action committee did in reaffirming our commitment to support immigrants and refugees and to partner with HIAS. Members of that committee have also joined with others to form a new organization: Squirrel Hill Stands Against Gun Violence. We are open to all and have partnered with a well-respected organization, CeaseFirePA, to work for legislation at all three levels of government to reduce the risk of gun violence.

I invite you all to join in this work. Calvary recently held a very successful letter-writing event to urge City Council to pass gun-control ordinances. I hope some of you will want to go further. Please check out our website, [www.squirrel-hillstandsagainstgunviolence.org](http://www.squirrel-hillstandsagainstgunviolence.org) to find out more about what you can do. Also look for us on Facebook or Twitter.

I also invite you to a major event we are organizing to commemorate the six-month anniversary of the

October 27, 2018, Tree of Life shooting. **On Sunday, April 28, 2019**, Squirrel Hill Stands Against Gun Violence and CeaseFirePA will host "Looking Back, Marching Forward." At 1:30, community, government, and faith leaders will speak at Temple Sinai, 5505 Forbes Avenue in Squirrel Hill, to honor the victims of the October shooting and talk about measures to reduce gun violence. At about 2:30 the group will march to Schenley Park, where a tree will be planted as a symbol of the Squirrel Hill community's continued hope and belief in the future. All are welcome to this free event!

Finally, thanks to Alan Lewis and to the Calvary choir who have, for the past four years, made me feel welcome as a community member of the choir. —Carolyn (Kerry) Ban ■

## The Bookstore at Calvary

The Bookstore has not only books, but a large selection of unique cards for every occasion. Cards by Anne are all-occasion cards with inspirational messages. Also, a diverse selection of It Takes Two® greeting cards are available in their distinct size of 5x7, including anniversary, birthday and belated birthday, blank cards, encouragement, feel better soon, friendship, get well, loss of a pet, support, sympathy, thank you, and thinking of you cards to name just a few.

When a holiday is approaching, the Bookstore offers cards specific to that holiday, including Christmas, Easter, Mother's and Father's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Thanksgiving, and Valentine's Day.

To celebrate a special occasion, the Bookstore has baptism, confirmation, graduation, and wedding cards.

An assortment of handmade cards, including anniversary, birthday, and blank cards will brighten anyone's day who receives these cards.

A collection of decorative blank cards for you to write a personal message inside are available as a single card or in packages of four to ten notecards.

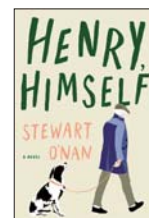
Calvary and Episcopal themed stationary items includes pens, blank notecards, notepads, and postcards.

The Bookstore is open Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Tuesday through Thursday 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cash, check, Discover®, MasterCard®, and Visa® are accepted.

## Book Signing by Stewart O'Nan

On **Sunday, April 28**, Stewart O'Nan will sign copies of his latest book, *Henry, Himself*, in the Parlor, after the 9 and 11 o'clock services.

If you have followed the adventures of the Maxwell family of Pittsburgh in Stewart O'Nan's novels *Wish You Were Here*, or Emily's coping with age and widowhood in *Emily Alone*, here's your chance to get to know Henry, the father and husband. Besides, there's a chapter called "Attic Treasures," so you'll get a glimpse of Calvary's Bazaar (a while ago, it's true). There is an event discount on all copies of *Henry, Himself*. ■



## PIIN 2019 Annual Banquet

Sunday, May 19, 5 – 7 p.m.

Westin Convention Center,

1000 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh 15222

Individual Tickets \$75 | Tables \$750

The 2019 Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network (PIIN) banquet is coming, and the Calvary PIIN Team wants to invite you to support PIIN by joining us at the banquet. Attending the banquet is a great way to learn about PIIN. Anticipate an evening that inspires and energizes – and is fun. This year's keynote speaker will be civil rights leader Diane Nash.

PIIN is unique in bringing together people of different faiths to act powerfully on essential local and regional issues, including living wages, affordable housing, sustainable environmental solutions, public transit, equity in public education, and reducing gun violence. Support for PIIN is an investment in the community. Reserve your dinner by May 14. You can also support PIIN's work by becoming a patron by May 3 or purchasing an ad in the banquet book by April 30.

Please contact Bob King (rking52717@aol.com) or Steve Shandor (steve.shandor@gmail.com) for more information. Visit [piin.org](http://piin.org) for more information about PIIN. ■



## ELECTRONICS RECYCLING EVENT

in Calvary's parking lot

**Saturday, April 27 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

### Computer hard-drive destruction and shredding on site

The following computer components will be accepted for **FREE** at this event: Desktop, laptops, hard drives, flat screen monitors, cell phones, keyboards, mice, printers, cables and wiring, modems; also phone systems and alkaline batteries. Household appliances, VCR/DVDplayers, stereos and speakers will be accepted for a service charge.

**Televisions may be recycled for \$35, but you must register in advance: follow the link on the Calvary website at [www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org).**

A portion of any fees collected at the event benefits Calvary. ■

Please remember  
Calvary Church  
in your will.

## Movie Night: Thursday, May 9



An hilarious satire of Christianity. This Monty Python religious parable will probably offend every denomination equally, but it shouldn't. This film tells the tale of a man whose life parallels Christ. It is the funniest and most sustained feature from Britain's bad boys. Directed by Terry Jones; starring Graham Chapman, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Eric Idle, Terry Jones and Michael Palin.

Please come and bring a salad supper (prepare for 2) in the Refectory (at 6 p.m.) Film starts promptly at 7 p.m. followed by a brief discussion led by Clint Van Dusen, in the Parish Hall. Please RSVP to Clint by Sunday, May 5 at [apax4cmvd@msn.com](mailto:apax4cmvd@msn.com) or 412.660.2297. ■

## Summer Hours

From Sunday, May 26 through Sunday, September 22, the 9 a.m. Holy Eucharist will be celebrated in the Swan Garden (weather permitting). In the event of rain, the service moves to the Nave. The 8 and 11 o'clock services will continue in the Church.

Beginning Wednesday, May 29, weekday celebrations of the Holy Eucharist will take place on Wednesdays only at 7 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. The Eucharist will also be celebrated at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 24, before the Vestry meeting.

The regular weekday Eucharist schedule will resume on Monday, September 9.

From Monday, June 3 through Friday, August 30, the Parish offices will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Church and offices will be closed on Monday, May 27 (Memorial Day), Thursday, July 4 (Independence Day), Friday, July 5, and Monday, September 2 (Labor Day). ■



[www.facebook.com/CalvaryEpiscopalChurch](https://www.facebook.com/CalvaryEpiscopalChurch)

## MUSICAL NOTES by Alan Lewis



As Lent rounds the corner into Holy Week, the Choir is in high gear preparing for the various forms of musical worship and prayer that mark this season. Each of the liturgies of the Holy Week – Palm Sunday, and then the Great Three Days (or *Triduum*) of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday – has a distinctive shape, and particular scope for

musical expression – to say nothing of the special opportunities afforded by Easter morning.

Some of my favorite musical moments in the week ahead are:

On Palm Sunday, the offertory anthem is a setting of an old Latin prayer extolling Christ's sacrifice on the cross, which will have been the subject of the extended Passion reading that is central to that service. The music, by Pierre Villette, is in a hazily rich, jazz-inspired idiom, and the word "gloria," when it comes, near the end, is one of my favorite moments in all of choral music.

On Maundy Thursday, the solemn chanting of Psalm 22 during the stripping of the altars is a powerful moment, meant to help us make the transition from the commemoration of Christ's institution of the Eucharist to his self-offering on the cross the next day.

On Good Friday, the singing of the Passion narrative is always a humbling task, and the Communion motet, Byrd's *Ave verum corpus*, is so beautiful that it feels truly fitting on this most somber and holy day of the calendar.

In the Easter Vigil, the reappearance of the hymn Gloria in excelsis is so welcome, as a mark of the end of the Lenten fast; please, bring bells to ring freely during that exultant song of praise.

At Calvary we also enjoy the opportunity for some extra-liturgical music in observance of Good Friday. Building upon a decades-long tradition laid down by Donald Wilkins and the Pittsburgh Oratorio Society from the 1960s forward, Calvary has expressed its name, and its identity, in part by the presentation of a concert of suitable sacred music on the day that put the Hill of Calvary into our common lexicon.

This year's Good Friday Concert, on April 19 at 8 p.m., features a beautiful Bach cantata (a multi-movement work for choir, instruments, and solo voices) whose textual theme is the redemption of our souls through Christ's self-offering on the Cross. Along with this piece, we'll present a pair of pieces by two of his musical forebears, Samuel Scheidt and Dieterich Buxtehude, setting a chorale that later found its way into Bach's *Saint John Passion*; there will also be some music for the instruments alone. Chatham Baroque and other terrific period-instruments players join us for this concert, and I hope you'll come, and share it with your music-loving friends. A freewill offering is asked, but the

main thing is to come, and mark this occasion through sacred music in this holy place.

Wishing you a solemn, holy, moving and, ultimately, joyful week of prayer and praise as we prepare to go to the tomb and find the stone rolled away once more. ■

---

## CALVARY YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

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

### Thursday, April 18 - Maundy Thursday

Thursday Theology will not meet this day

### Thursday, April 25, 7 p.m.

Thursday Theology in the Evans Room at Calvary

### Sunday, April 28, 12:45 p.m.

Brunch at Panera Bakery Square  
(136 Bakery Square Blvd., 15206)

### Wednesday, May 8, 5:45 p.m.

Holy Happy Hour at Hofbrauhaus  
(2705 South Water St., 15203)

### Sunday May 19, 12:45 p.m.

Brunch at Mad Mex (220 S. Highland Ave., 15206) ■

---

## Open Classes

Are you looking for ways to integrate scripture and tradition with your daily life? Want to connect in a small group setting with others while reading the Bible, church history, and contemporary theology? Do you like to laugh and have dinner with good folks once a week? If so, an Education for Ministry (EfM) group at Calvary may be for you. One group of 12 meets Wednesdays, another on Thursdays, from September through June to connect, worship, discuss, and pray together. While the full EfM course is four years, each participant only commits to a year at a time. Curious? Please come to one of our open meetings: **Wednesday, May 1 from 6-9 p.m.** or **Thursday, May 2 from 9:30 a.m. to Noon** to see how the meetings work. In the meantime, for more information, please contact Vanessa Sterling at 412.551.2042 or vmsterling@gmail.com, Anne Kamstra Keeler at 412.687.1429, or Barbara Brooks at 412.726.9811 or tipark4me@aol.com. ■



---

[www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.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 Reverend Jonathon W. Jensen, *Rector*  
The Reverend Leslie G. Reimer, *Senior Associate Rector*  
The Reverend Neil K. Raman, *Associate Rector*  
The Reverend Ruth Bosch Becker, *Assisting Pastor*  
The Reverend Carol Henley, *Assisting Priest*  
The Reverend Dr. Moni McIntyre, *Assisting Priest*  
The Reverend Dr. Harold T. Lewis, *Rector Emeritus*  
Geoffrey Royce, *McNulty Intern*  
Dr. Alan Lewis, *Director of Music*  
Jon Tyillian, *Assistant Organist*  
Jamie McMahon, *Senior Warden*  
Sue DeWalt, *Junior Warden*  
Robert Eley, *Treasurer*  
Susan Roth, *Coordinator for Christian Formation*  
Lynda Kennedy, *Director of Finance*  
Tammy Lewis, *Director, Beginnings*  
Louise Wells, *Events Coordinator*  
Kenneth Smith, *Director of Communications*  
Jim Gubash, *Head Sexton*  
Andy Dilts, Ron Johnston,  
James Knight, Mary Ann Packer, *Sextons*  
Kim Pieratt, *Parish Administrator*  
Sherry Bloom, *Manager, The Bookstore at Calvary*  
Robert Dilts, Rebecca Randall, *Archivists*

---

An expanded version of this issue of *Agape*,  
with additional content may be viewed  
on the Calvary website at  
**[www.calvarypgh.org](http://www.calvarypgh.org)**

---

## Agape Deadline

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, May 3, 2019**. 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. ■



## Ramblings

**The March of the Sextons:** Seemingly seasonal migration and renewal of staff as Tim Martin retires on April Fool's Day, Sexton Ron celebrates fifteen years' service, and a player yet to be named is expected to join the

team any day. (Say hello to any new Blue Shirt that you see.) James perseveres after thirty-five years.

**Leak Leads to Link Loss:** Probe of phone/internet outages reveals kitchen leak following washing of Lenten Preaching Series dinner dishes (10 gallons of Pasta e Fagioli served in 9 ounce bowls means much mess for clean-up.) Proximity of plumbing dribble and tech portal posed problem, perplexed people, but only temporarily. Resolved. Call/browse with confidence.

**A Kinder, Gentler Entry:** New closers on South Narthex doors don't squeak, don't slam, don't fly free in sudden gusts.

**Not A Bad Seat in the House:** A brief overview of old, fairly recent, and possible future such, and why:

Church #1: Pews, of course. – Used for regularly scheduled services AND recently a Chatham Baroque/Renaissance & Baroque Society concert and Lenten Preaching Series.

Church #2: Restored clergy chair from a previous Calvary, incorporating newly crafted cushioning, recently dedicated, and described at length in the last *Agape*. – Used by service Celebrant.

Parish Hall: Period aluminum chairs (submarine suitable, actually.) – Used for routinely scheduled meetings AND, recently, Lenten Preaching Series supper and Movie Night.

Parlor: New pair of decorative chairs courtesy of downsizing Parishioner donors. – Used for quiet contemplation and meetings requiring a little decorum.

Outside: In the yard, the Lee Hicks memorial bench. – Used to get away from it all, admire the spire, and soon, since it's spring again, await your washed car.

Inside: By the elevator, the Braxton/Warner bench. – Used to wait or converse.

Lobby: The new look of an "Empire" sofa, thanks to another downsizing parish couple. – Used for ...what you use a lobby sofa for.

Undetermined: Somewhere, maybe, a new plastic bench... IF we collect 500 pounds (!) of plastic bag film (see article elsewhere in this issue.) – Used for... getting plastic bags out of the environment. A good thing, right?

A seat at the table for everyone and all but the last entry will see significant use as we enter Holy Week.

As those signs used to say, back in the day, "Enter, Rest, and Pray." ■

-30-

---

Please recycle this newsletter  
when you have finished reading it.



## News of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

### Province III Opioid Task Force Initiative: Camp Spirit Song

August 11-16, 2019—The Claggett Center, Buckeystown, MD

Camp Spirit Song is offered in partnership with the SpiritWorks Foundation to give the gift of a camp experience to children in Province III affected by the opioid substance use disorder of a parent or other close loved one. This is the inaugural year of Camp Spirit Song, and the first camp program of its kind on the east coast, and we ask your prayers and support for our ministry this summer.

Camp provides children grades 4-8 with an opportunity to meet God through:

- the support of a Christian community
- fellowship with peers who share a common experience
- time to rest and play away from the distractions of everyday life

It is our mission to offer Camp Spirit Song at no cost to campers' families. You can help make camp a reality for 40 campers this year by sponsoring a camper. \$1,000 covers the cost of one camper, including room and board, program materials, and staff fees. Individuals, parishes, and dioceses may donate directly toward camper sponsorship. We have one camper scholarship covered by a parish in the Diocese of Maryland, and look forward to many other donors getting in touch with Claggett to support this camp.

To make or pledge a contribution toward Camp Spirit Song, contact Lisa Marie Ryder, co-Executive Director, at 301.874.5147 or [lmryder@claggettcenter.org](mailto:lmryder@claggettcenter.org).

To learn more about Camp Spirit Song, camper applications, and volunteer opportunities, contact Rita Yoe, Program Coordinator, at 301.874.5147 or [ryoe@claggettcenter.org](mailto:ryoe@claggettcenter.org). ■



### Bishop's Visitation Schedule

**April 21:** Trinity Cathedral (Easter)

**April 28:** *No Visitation*

**May 5:** Calvary, East Liberty (5 p.m.)

**May 12:** St. Brendan's, Franklin Park ■

### Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

**April 14:** All Saints Episcopal Church, Brighton Heights, and the Rev. Aidan Smith.

**April 21:** Retired clergy, including the Rev. David Casto, the Rev. Nancy Chalfant-Walker, the Rev. Richard Davies, the Rev. David Else, the Rev. Huett Fleming, the Rev. Dr. Judith Gentle, and the Rev. John Golden.

**April 28:** Non-parochial clergy, including the Rev. Kathryn LaLonde, the Rev. Walter LaLonde, the Rev. William Miller, the Rev. Richard Pollard, and the Rev. Thomas Prichard.

**May 5:** Calvary Episcopal Church, East Liberty, the Rev. Jonathon Jensen, the Rev. Leslie Reimer, the Rev. Neil Raman, the Rev. Carol Henley, the Rev. Moni McIntyre, and the Rev. Ruth Bosch Becker (ELCA); and the Bookstore at Calvary.

**May 12:** St. Brendan's Episcopal Church, Franklin Park, and the Rev. Regis Smolko; and Episcopal Church Women, Betsy Hetzler, president ■

**LOVE. TEACH. HEAL.**  
*Re-imagining Our Diocese*

*Save The Date!*

### 2019 Diocesan Convention

**Love. Teach. Heal. Re-imagining Our Diocese**

**November 15 & 16**

**Pittsburgh Theological Seminary**

**616 N Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206**

### Stay in Touch with the Diocese

Visit the diocesan website at

**[www.episcopalpg.org](http://www.episcopalpg.org)**

Submissions for publication on the diocesan web site, calendar, and the *Grace Happens* weekly e-newsletter should be sent electronically to

**[info@episcopalpg.org](mailto:info@episcopalpg.org)**.

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

**The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh mailing address:**

325 Oliver Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

412-721-0853 | [info@episcopalpg.org](mailto:info@episcopalpg.org)

**The Rt. Rev. Dorsey McConnell, Bishop**

412-721-0853 ext. 252 | [dmcconnell@episcopalpg.org](mailto:dmcconnell@episcopalpg.org)

**Judi Rogers, Executive Assistant**

412-721-0853 ext. 251 | [jrogers@episcopalpg.org](mailto:jrogers@episcopalpg.org) ■

## Bishop McConnell Announces Retirement of Judi Rogers

March 22, 2019

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Anyone who, for almost any reason, has had any dealings with the diocesan office for many years now, has come to know the name Judi Rogers, my Executive Assistant.

For the last ten years, it was Judi, I'm sure, whom you were told to contact for just about anything; she, who would provide the information you needed, point you in the right direction, or set up the appointment you requested. And it was likely she who would contact you when you were not expecting (or even wanting) it, to remind you of that overdue report, or to ask you to rearrange your schedule because of a change in mine.



Recently, Judi informed me of her wish to retire this spring. As much as I would have liked to talk her out of it, I also know how thoughtfully Judi arrives at a decision such as this. She and I agreed that her last day in the office would be May 31.

Judi's tenure began in May 2009, when our office occupied a small rental suite in Monroeville, and the diocese itself was in the throes of reorganizing. As someone very active in the local synod of the ELCA, she brought her stable Lutheran sensibilities to our sometimes chaotic Episcopal world. She served under three bishops – Johnson, Price, and me – and saw numerous changes in our governing bodies and diocesan staff. In July of 2015, when we returned the bishop's office to the third floor of Cathedral House in downtown Pittsburgh, Judi extended her daily commute so as to continue her service to all of us.

Having a background in public relations and broadcasting, she brought us a variety of talents and in her time here developed others. We have relied on her gifts as communicator, editor, general organizer, herder of cats, and wrangler of administrative details across many fields, from liturgy to canon law. She has fielded calls and queries from prelates and rabbis, clergy and wardens, politicians and civil servants, as well as from confused parishioners looking for guidance and hurting strangers looking for help. All of this she has handled with remarkable patience and genuine care, and I will miss her very much indeed.

Please join with me in thanking Judi and wishing her well. And please keep her and her family in your prayers as they embark on the next phase of life.

Faithfully your bishop,

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

## Diocese Sells Donegal Property

On February 25, 2019, the Diocese of Pittsburgh completed the sale of real estate it owned in Donegal, Pennsylvania. The property included 160 acres of land, a guesthouse, and a barn. It was sold to a family with young children for \$730,000.

The rights to coal, as well as oil, gas, and others minerals on the property, were included in the sale under terms that allow the diocese to retain 75% of future royalties and bonus payments on those assets, should the new owners choose to sell these rights.

The sale was authorized by the diocesan Board of Trustees, who are pleased that the price reflects a fair market value. Prior to offering the property, the trustees determined that the guesthouse was under-utilized and that the once-envisioned development of the site into a conference or youth center was no longer in the strategic interest of the diocese.

As with the sale of other surplus properties, the trustees will set aside the proceeds for future diocesan needs that are consistent with the mission of The Episcopal Church.

The sale did not include a smaller parcel of land and house known as the Bishop's Lodge, which the diocese continues to own. Under a life estate agreement dating back to when he was an Episcopal bishop, Robert and Nara Duncan may live there for as long as they desire. The diocese and the Duncans continue to honor that arrangement. ■



[Anglican Communion News Service, April 5, 2019] Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby has honored 27 people, including peace-makers, nuns, academics and gardeners in the 2019 Lambeth Awards. Welby launched the non-academic awards in 2016, and each year presentations have been made to "people who have made an extraordinary contribution to the Church and wider society," Lambeth Palace said in a statement. ■

[Episcopal News Service, April 3, 2019] Last year, parishioners at Emmanuel Memorial Episcopal Church in Champaign, Illinois, took stock of the results of a centennial capital campaign. They had a good problem on their hands: Building renovations, funded. Local charities, supported. And they still had a \$15,000 surplus.

That \$15,000 may not seem like a lot, but with the help of a New York-based charity called RIP Medical Debt, Emmanuel Memorial leveraged the surplus to help wipe away unpaid doctors' bills for 3,617 cash-strapped households across the Diocese of Springfield. Total debt forgiven: \$4 million. "The forgiveness of debt is a Gospel thing. It's throughout the Old Testament. It's throughout the New Testament," the Rev. Beth Maynard, Emmanuel Memorial's rector, said in a phone interview with Episcopal News Service. "This is the season of Lent. We are, all of us, people who have been forgiven by God and whose debts have been forgiven by Christ on the cross." ■

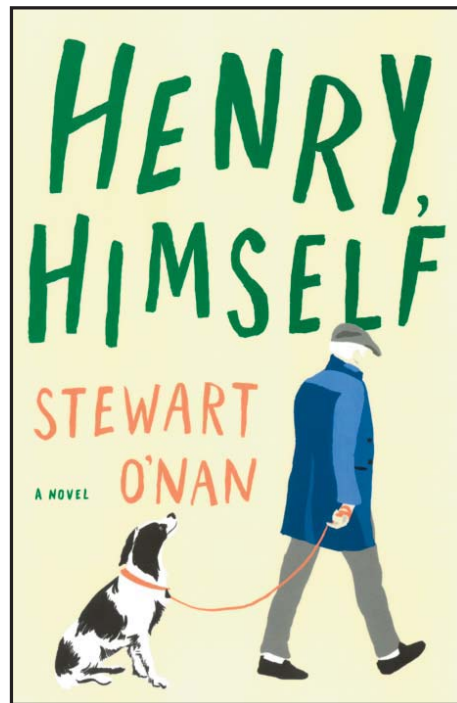




# Stewart O'Nan

## Book Signing

### Sunday, April 28



Please join us in the Parlor  
to talk with author – and Calvary  
parishioner – Stewart O'Nan.  
He will be signing his new book  
*Henry, Himself*  
after the 9 & 11 o'clock services.

In this prequel to the beloved *Emily, Alone*, he offers an  
unsentimental, moving life story of a twentieth-century everyman  
Henry Maxwell. Additional titles by Stewart O'Nan including  
*Emily, Alone* and *Wish You Were Here* are available at the Bookstore

**SQUIRREL HILL STANDS AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE**  
and **CEASEFIRE PA**

invite you to

# **LOOKING BACK, MARCHING FORWARD**

**Sunday, April 28    Temple Sinai    5505 Forbes Ave**



**1:30 pm:** Gather at Temple Sinai, faith leaders and legislators will honor the victims of the Tree of Life Shooting and speak on gun violence prevention

**2:30 pm:** March to Schenley Park to plant a tree for the 6-month anniversary of the attack

**Everyone Welcome!**

 [squirrelhillstandsagainstgunviolence.org](mailto:squirrelhillstandsagainstgunviolence.org)

 Squirrel Hill Stands Against Gun Violence

“Climate change is a huge problem, but we can all help to shape the future.”



**Join us for a free screening of the National Geographic documentary  
*Paris to Pittsburgh***

**You are welcome to stay after the film** to discuss questions such as:  
What limits our own ability to create the change that we know needs to happen?  
How does fear or a feeling of loss affect our ability to engage?  
How can we support each other in moving into a future that is largely unknowable?

*Snacks provided. Raffle (free) for an eco-friendly product*

**Tuesday, May 7, 2019 7:00 pm**

**First United Methodist Church of Pittsburgh**

**5401 Centre Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15232**

**Website: [fumcpittsburgh.org](http://fumcpittsburgh.org), [office@fumcpittsburgh.org](mailto:office@fumcpittsburgh.org)**

 **firstumcpittsburgh**





# BAKE SALE

## PALM SUNDAY

### APRIL 14, 2019

*after all services*

If you would like to donate  
baked goods to the sale,  
please contact Tammy Lewis in the  
Beginnings office at 412.661.3025 or  
by email at [beginnings@calvarypgh.org](mailto:beginnings@calvarypgh.org)

**All proceeds will benefit playground upgrades**



# Calvary Movie Night: Thursday, May 9



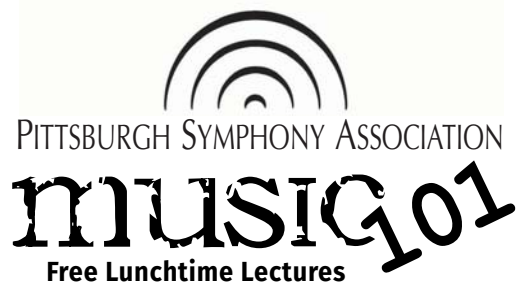
Come for a salad supper (prepare for 2) in the Refectory (at 6 p.m.)

Film starts promptly at 7 p.m.

followed by a brief discussion led by Clint Van Dusen, in the Parish Hall

Please RSVP to Clint by Sunday, May 5 at [apax4cmvd@msn.com](mailto:apax4cmvd@msn.com) or 412.660.2297





2018-19 SEASON

**TUESDAY  
APRIL 23  
2019**



*Associate Principal Bass*

**BRANDON  
McLEAN**

**HEINZ HALL**  
DOROTHY PORTER  
SIMMONS REGENCY  
ROOMS  
**12:30-1:30 PM**

- Open to the public
- No reservations necessary
- FREE Admission
- Donations gladly accepted
- Desserts provided by the PSA
- Enjoy an \$11 brown-bag lunch from The Common Plea, or bring your own.
- To order lunch or for additional information call: **412.904.3288**, or email: **PSAmusic101@pittsburghsymphony.org**
- Pre-ordered lunches available 11:15am onwards.
- Dates and times are subject to change. Please visit our website for schedule, menus and the most up-to-date information.

*“The Art and Angst of Auditioning”*

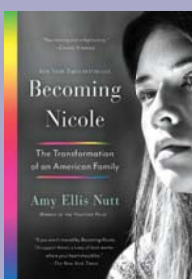
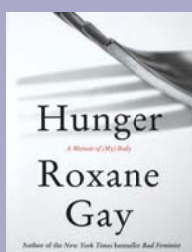
**TO RESERVE PARKING** at least 24 hours in advance, call 412-566-4190, option 2, or visit <http://downtownpittsburgh.com/pdp-reserved-parking-program>

**WWW.PITTSBURGHSYMPHONYASSOCIATION.ORG**



# Lavender Book Club:

## *An LGBTQ Book Discussion Group*



**Fourth Thursday of the month | 6:30 pm**

**CLP – Main, Director's Conference Room, First Floor**

*Discuss contemporary and classic LGBTQ fiction and nonfiction*

**January 24, 2019**

**First Person Plural** by Andrew W. M. Beierle

Conjoined twins Owen and Porter Jamison, inhabiting one body with two heads, one torso, and two very different hearts, find their tentative bond threatened when Owen discovers that he is gay, which nearly destroys Porter's marriage as a complicated romantic rectangle develops.

**The author, Andrew Beierle, will be joining our discussion via Skype to share his inspiration and insight into this fascinating novel.**

**February 28, 2019**

**Hunger: A Memoir of (My) Body** by Roxane Gay

The best-selling author of *Bad Feminist* presents a searingly frank memoir of food, weight, self-image and learning how to feed one's hunger in healthy ways, drawing on the popular essays of her long-running Tumblr blog to illuminate the challenges of navigating the boundaries between self-comfort and self-care.

**March 28, 2019**

**Disobedience** by Naomi Alderman

Learning that her Orthodox Jewish rabbi father has passed away, Manhattan single woman Ronit Krushka returns to the home she fled years earlier and reconnects with a beloved cousin and a forbidden childhood sweetheart, only to become a threat to her former community.

**Please join us for a showing of the movie, Disobedience, on Saturday, March 30 at 2 pm in Classroom A!**

**April 25, 2019**

**All Out: The No-Longer-Secret Stories of Queer Teens throughout the Ages**  
Saundra Mitchell, editor

A collection of historical fiction featuring a transgender soldier, two girls falling in love while mourning Kurt Cobain, and forbidden love in a sixteenth-century Spanish convent.

**May 23, 2019**

**Becoming Nicole: The Transformation of an American Family**  
by Amy Ellis Nutt

The inspiring true story of a transgender girl, her identical twin brother, and an ordinary American family's extraordinary journey to understand, nurture, and celebrate the right to be different—from the Pulitzer Prize-winning science reporter for *The Washington Post*.

Some book descriptions taken from NoveList, © 2018 EBSCO Publishing

*More information can be found at [carnegielibrary.org](http://carnegielibrary.org) and at [lavenderbook.club](http://lavenderbook.club)*



**MAIN**  
4400 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

