

APRIL 14, 2024

Welcoming our new Associate Rector

We are very pleased to announce the call of the Rev. Canon Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan as the new Associate Rector at Calvary Church. Bonnie-Marie was formerly a McNulty Intern (March 2020 – March 2021) at Calvary and, for the past three years, has been Canon (Associate Rector) at Trinity Cathedral in downtown Pittsburgh.

She is originally from Knoxville, TN and spent time in Slovakia and England (where she met her husband, Jamie). She moved to Pittsburgh to attend Trinity School for Ministry from which she was graduated in 2017. She was ordained in the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh in 2021.

Bonnie-Marie will share in all priestly ministries with a focus on newcomers and young adults. At Trinity Cathedral, she has overseen Christian formation, outreach programs, ministry with newcomers, the annual stewardship campaign, and pastoral care among many other duties.

In the larger Church, she serves on the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, was Diocesan Convention Manager from 2018-2021, and was elected as deputy to the upcoming General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

In her spare time, she likes to cook and travel and is a huge college football fan of her native Tennessee Volunteers.

She will join us at Calvary in July. Please welcome Bonnie-Marie and Jamie. Her new email address will be byagerwiggan@calvarypgh.org.



I am delighted and honored to be joining the Calvary community as your Associate Rector! I served as the McNulty Intern, and it is a rare opportunity to return to a place you know and love. I look forward to joining this community and sharing life and faith together.

Calvary has a long and esteemed history of supporting women in ministry and serving the community by sharing its space with those in need. I am grateful to join those who have gone before and continue in the work of Calvary's mission. I'm excited to share in the ministry of Calvary with the excellent team of clergy and staff.

During this time of transition, my prayer is that we would all know and experience the faithfulness of God. That together we will continue to be a community of welcome, worship, learning, and service. I look forward to this new chapter in my ministry and the life of the church.

In Christ,
Bonnie-Marie ■

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Prayer and Anointing for Healing on Sundays at 11 a.m.



The ministry of healing prayer is rooted in Jesus' own ministry, a significant portion of which involved healing and caring for those who suffered in body, mind and spirit. We will offer healing prayer by anointing with oil and the laying on of hands during communion at the 11 a.m. service. If you would like to receive this healing prayer, please come to the Lady Chapel after you receive communion. The priest who is distributing communion at the station by the pulpit will join you there to offer this healing prayer. In Easter, we will evaluate to see if we want to continue this practice. ■



Evening Prayer on Mondays and Thursdays will continue through the Easter season. We will meet each Monday and Thursday through May 23 at 6 p.m. in the Lady Chapel. (The only exception is Ascension Day, Thursday, May 9, when Evensong will be offered at 7:30 p.m.). Please join us!

Praying at certain points of the day has its origins in Judaism and was practiced in the early church and monastic traditions. Evening Prayer is derived from the monastic prayer services and is one of the Daily Offices found in our *Book of Common Prayer*. The service of Evening Prayer is about 20 minutes long and includes Psalms, Scripture, and Prayers for the day (but no sermon or music). If you have questions or are interested in helping to lead this service, please contact Steve Shandor (steve.shandor@gmail.com) or Michael Salmon (oriolefish@gmail.com). ■

A Priest and a Rabbi Walk into a Classroom

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

Calvary's Office Hours
Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



ANNUAL MEETING

The Nominating Committee of the Vestry will receive nominations in the Parlor for Vestry and Parish Council members on **Sunday, April 14, 2024** after all services. David Jeong, chair, Jenn DeRosa, Charlie Atwood, Jean Carr, Mark Rust, and Laura Everhart 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, David Jeong, at jeongnewton@gmail.com or 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 at www.calvarypgh.org/annual-meeting-2024

The 169th Annual Parish Meeting of Calvary Church will be held on Sunday, May 19, 2024 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. ■



The Day of Pentecost: May 19

Holy Baptism at the 11 o'clock service.
Strawberries and Ice Cream will be served after the 11 o'clock service this day.
Everyone is encouraged to wear red.

Starting on Sunday, May 26, the 9 a.m. service will move to the Swan Garden for the summer (weather permitting).

*This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain; but now is Christ arisen!*

Eastertide is the season that runs from the feast of the Resurrection to the commemoration of the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost – a word denoting a span of fifty days. That season is also articulated by the feast of the Ascension, celebrated forty days after Easter, and thus harmonizing with the forty-day spans of Lent and (perhaps less familiarly) the period running from Christmas Day until Candlemas on February 2. A period of forty days is most readily associated with the rains that led to the flood in Genesis, but is also the period cited by the Gospels for the fasting of Jesus prior to beginning his public ministry.

Like Pentecost, the Feast of the Ascension marks an event related in the Gospels. (It is alluded to glancingly in the Gospel of Mark, and related more fully by Luke, both in the closing verses of his Gospel, and in the opening chapter of its sequel, the Acts of the Apostles.) We will celebrate it, as we often do, with a service of Evensong on Thursday, May 9, at 7:30 p.m. The music that evening will include an anthem that is a great favorite of Anglican singers everywhere: Gerald Finzi's *God is gone up*. Based on a text by Edward Taylor, a New England Puritan preacher and poet (d. 1729), the text begins as a kind of echo of bits of Psalm 24:

God is gone up with a triumphant shout:
The Lord with sounding Trumpets' melodies:
Sing Praise, sing Praises out,
Unto our King sing praise seraphic-wise.
Lift up your heads, ye lasting Doors, they sing,
And let the King of Glory enter in.

It then turns to the Ascension more literally:
Methinks I see Heaven's sparkling courtiers fly
In flakes of Glory down him to attend,
And hear heart-cramping notes of Melody
Surround his Chariot as it did ascend;
Mixing their music, making every string
More to enravish as they this tune sing.

Finzi (1901-56) takes his cue both from the "sounding Trumpets' melodies" and the "heart-cramping notes of Melody," crafting music that is largely triumphant, but also, at times, beautifully lyrical (he was, indeed a wonderfully melodic composer). It's been a fair few years since we've sung this piece, and I'm looking forward to reviving it to adorn this occasion. Please join us! ■

The Choir's Pilgrimage

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



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

Calvary's choir has, over the past twenty years or so, made a number of singing visits to the Washington National Cathedral, where daily evensong is offered, and we have had wonderful experiences of singing in that remarkable space. But this will be our first trip "across the Pond," and our first opportunity to take on a full week of the liturgical round of daily Evensong: it's a lot of music to prepare! But what I have found in singing with other choirs on such pilgrimages is that the effort is more than repaid by the sense of fulfillment and purpose that it offers. It allows the group to be grounded in and attached to a location and a purpose in a way that few other forms of travel afford. And the experience of singing in a centuries-old house of prayer and becoming the musical persona of that institution, even just for a week, can be deeply moving and spiritually rich.

I'm immensely grateful that more than forty singers and a few accompanying family members have taken up the challenge of this trip (at no small cost to themselves in time and treasure, to be sure!) Sad as I am that each and every singer can't make the journey work, it will be great to have so many of them along to help shoulder the load. Please keep the Choir and the singers' families in your prayers, both as we prepare to go, and (especially) when we embark upon this pilgrimage. And if you should be moved to help support this venture financially, please feel free to be in touch! ■



THE CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

PRESERVE • SUSTAIN • SHARE

We are very pleased to report that as of this writing, the Capital Campaign currently has 76 pledges and one-time gifts totaling \$2,687,700 which is 45% of our \$6,000,000 goal. While this is great progress, we need to have many more members participate in the Campaign. In order to facilitate this, we are offering several opportunities to learn about the Campaign and make it easy to pledge.

During the early phase of the Campaign we organized neighborhood Awareness Gatherings, mostly in members' homes, to reach other members and share details about the Campaign. These were followed by individual meetings to solicit pledges to the Campaign. However, we understand that while an Awareness Gathering fits some members' needs for information, not everyone wants to, or has the time to attend an informational meeting. To address that, and simplify the process, we are offering several ways for you to get the information you need to participate in the Campaign.

To that end, please send an email to us at campaign@calvarypgh.org,

1. If you would like to attend an Awareness Gathering. Once we have enough responses we will organize a meeting around the schedules of those who respond. As with all prior gatherings, this will be an informational meeting only; you will not be solicited at the meeting. Afterwards you will be contacted personally to discuss your participation in the campaign.

2. If you just have a few questions, either about the Campaign or methods to pay your pledge. The appropriate committee member will respond to you. All discussions are confidential and it is not necessary to discuss your pledge amount.

3. If you are ready to make your pledge, and want a pledge form. Please specify whether you would like to have a hard copy sent in the mail. Otherwise you will receive the form attached to an email.

All the above methods are also available "in person" every Sunday in the Parish Hall before and after services. The Campaign Committee Co-Chairs and Ambassadors will be in the Parish Hall near the children's progress chart and will happily address your questions and comments. They will have relevant documents available for you: the Campaign Case, the Campaign Project List, a List of Naming Opportunities, a description of the numerous "Ways of Giving," and Campaign FAQ's. As outlined above, you may

also request to be put on the list for an Awareness meeting, request a pledge card or have a Campaign person contact you for specific questions.

We look forward eagerly to sharing the details about this critical campaign and to having you join us as we work together to meet the financial goals needed to preserve, sustain, and share Calvary's buildings and mission! ■



Care of Creation

The Calvary Creation Care (CCC) group is our response to the national church's Covenant to Care of Creation which states, in part, "For God's sake, we will adopt practical ways of reducing our climate impact and living more humbly and gently on earth as individuals, households, congregations and dioceses."

The warming weather has us all planning to get outdoors. Please look over these opportunities and resources:

- Community clean-up opportunity in Wilkinsburg on Saturday, May 4. The CCC is partnering with the East End non-profits Grounded Strategies (groundedpgh.org) and Hosanna House (hosannahouse.org). Several acres around an event center are being cleaned and prepared for a summer camp for minority children. Lunch is provided. 10–15 volunteers are needed, so please contact Laura Everhart at lauraelizabetheverhart@gmail.com.
- Bike & Hike Event this summer. Look for details coming soon about this event sponsored by another local non-profit, Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light.
- Keep up with local environmental care efforts by checking the Pittsburgh Episcopal Creation Care News Facebook page or get the same info by emailing Tom Slater (address below) to include you in the PittEpisCreationCare Google Group.
- See the impressive climate efforts of the Diocese of Central PA. Visit diocesepca.org/creation-care-resource-page.
- Earth Day is April 22. Mark your calendar and plan some way to show appreciation for your (earthly) Mother!

To join the CCC group, just e-mail Tom Slater at patobyblack@yahoo.com. ■

Clergy Contact Information

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



A coming together event for all ages

FINISH LINE PARTY

Food, Fun, & Fascinators!
Sunday, May 5, 2024

**Special Service Times on
 Marathon Sunday, May 5**

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

The Parish Council is hosting the second annual **Finish Line Party** after the 5 p.m. service. This party will provide a chance for parishioners from all services to meet and celebrate Calvary. We will ask folks to bring a cold appetizer for eight to share as we chat and play. Bring a Kentucky Derby Hat – or fascinator – to join the parade! *Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Parish Hall.* ■

Soup Group Cooking

The next cooking session is scheduled for **Friday, April 19 at 9 a.m.** in Calvary's kitchen. PLEASE let me know if you are planning to cook that day. This makes it easier for me to decide how many recipes we should make. Casseroles and sweets will also be on the "to do" list that day.

If you are not a cook, please consider being a delivery person. No experience needed. Contact me with any questions.

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

CHORAL EVENSONG



Ascension Day Evensong

Thursday, May 9, at 7:30 P.M.

Music by Philips, Bairstow, and Finzi

Red Geraniums for Pentecost

In Memory of In Honor of

Donor's name: _____

Donor's telephone: (_____) _____-_____

**Both geraniums will be planted
 in the Calvary garden.**

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

Please make checks payable to Calvary Episcopal Church and write "Geraniums" on the memo line.

Your donation of \$10 for the 2 red geraniums is needed at Calvary by **Tuesday, May 14, 2024** so we can place our order with the greenhouse.

Thank You!

Coffee Hour Hosts Needed

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

Children's Faith Formation

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

Children's Liturgy of the **Word**

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

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

Calvary NURSERY

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

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

Easter Egg Hunt

Thank you to everyone who participated in and helped with the annual Calvary Easter Egg Hunt – what a joyful and fun-filled way to celebrate the Risen Christ!



Faith Formation Highlights

Our Lenten journey culminated in an activity-filled Palm Sunday Celebration. Miss Elsa's class discussed The Last Supper within the broader theme of the Paschal Mystery.

The lesson focused on the pivotal moment when Jesus instituted the Eucharist during his last Passover meal with his disciples, emphasizing the significance of the new covenant. The presentation helped deepen the understanding of the Eucharist as a memorial of Christ's death and resurrection, preparing them for a more profound participation in the Easter celebrations. The lesson also included a taste of bread and grape juice, fostering a continued discussion of what it might have been like to eat this meal with Jesus in the Upper Room.



The level II/III students had a busy morning which included baking a large batch of "Resurrection rolls" and then sharing them with the younger group along with a beautifully presented overview of Holy Week. It was truly inspiring to see the older students take on the role of mentors, sharing the profound events of the last days of Jesus with such care and reverence. Afterward, the sweet cinnamon resurrection rolls were enjoyed by all.

Children's Liturgy of the Word on Palm Sunday was especially exciting. After hearing the story of Easter read aloud, the group engaged in a reflective discussion about the events leading up to the death and resurrection of Christ.



A model of the City of Jerusalem helped reinforce the historical aspects of the Triduum and seeing the recently sprouted seeds planted during last week's class inspired a deep sense of awe.

Just as a seed must be buried in the ground before it can break through the soil in a burst of growth, Christ's resurrection signifies the triumph of life over death, light over darkness. Alleluia!



"Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." –John 12:24

AGAPE – April 14, 2024 Second Section

SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH OF TEENS IN YOUR LIFE

A TWO PART ONLINE SERIES FOR
PARENTS, CAREGIVERS AND
COMMUNITY ADULTS

Join **Making Caring Common** to learn practical tips on understanding, navigating, and supporting the mental health of teenagers in day-to-day life. This is part two of the series, focusing on Social Connection, Sleep Habits, and Social Media Habits.

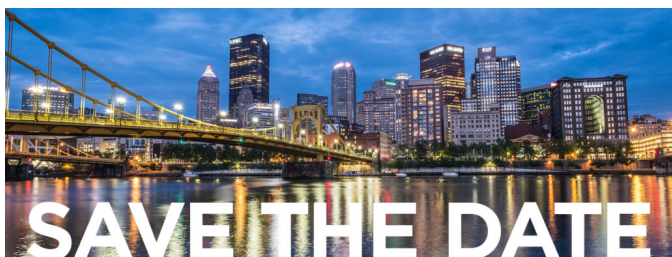
This event is free and open to all parents and caregivers and community adults that support teens such as tutors, faith leaders, employers, extended family members, coaches, etc.

Date & Time: April 24, 2024 – 7 p.m. EST

Registration here: https://harvard.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_IZoNlXa2Sp2Zac_KSqB55g#/registration

Life in the Vine

Be sure to check out our Children's Faith Formation blog at www.calvaryfaithformation.org/blog ■



PITTSBURGH • MAY 13-16, 2024 Festival of Homiletics

Calvary will co-host a national preaching conference, the Festival of Homiletics, from May 13-16, 2024. The event will bring 750-1,000 preachers to Pittsburgh for several days to hear sermons and attend workshops from excellent homilists, from diverse backgrounds, from all fifty states and abroad.

The Festival of Homiletics is an annual event that moves to a different city each year. Participants and workshop leaders are mostly from the “mainline” Protestant denominations such as Episcopal, Lutheran, Presbyterian, and Methodist.

Calvary will be a host site along with East Liberty Presbyterian Church and the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Over four days, the sites will host preachers and workshops from morning to night. Rabbi Jeff Myers and the Rector will lead a workshop on interfaith work.

If anyone is interested in attending, there will be one-day passes available for \$109 at the reception area. ■

Guest Preachers

Calvary welcomes **the Rev. Dr. Joy Moore**, Professor of Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, to be our preacher at the 11 a.m. service on **Pentecost Sunday, May 19**. Dr. Moore is a presenter at the Festival of Homiletics. She earned a Ph.D. in Practical Theology from Brunel University/London School of Theology in 2007.



Joy J. Moore, is serving as Visiting Professor of Religion at Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Alabama. An “Ecclesial Storyteller” Dr. Joy seeks to encourage theologically framed, biblically attentive, and socially compelling interpretations of Christian Scripture to understand contemporary community formation (all that means is she tells community-forming stories from the Bible as a follower of Christ!). An ordained elder in the United Methodist Church, she served as president of the Wesleyan Theological Society from 2020 to 2022. Currently she is working with the Dialogue on Race and Faith Project, developing resources for preaching in an age of contempt. And yes, she is still fascinated by the Marvel Universe!

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On **Sunday, April 28** at the 11 a.m. service, Calvary welcomes the Rt. Rev. Matthew Cowden, Bishop of West Virginia, to be our preacher. He was consecrated as Bishop Coadjutor of West Virginia on March 12, 2022, and became Bishop Diocesan on October 14, 2022.



After an early career as a college theater professor, he followed his joy to pursue ordained ministry and received his Master of Divinity degree at Virginia Theological Seminary. Bishop Cowden was ordained deacon and priest in 2006. He served parishes in the Dioceses of Virginia and Northern Indiana. Bishop Cowden is a friend and recent colleague of our former Associate Rector, the Rev. T.J. Freeman. ■

Agape Deadline

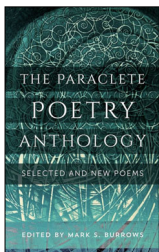
The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, May 3, 2024**. Please e-mail your text to calvary@calvarypgh.org or deliver it directly to the church office.

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

The Bookstore at Calvary

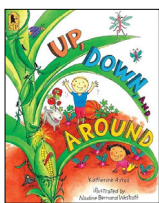
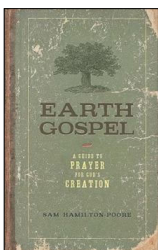
April is National Poetry Month

National Poetry Month, a celebration of poetry which takes place each April, was introduced in 1996 and is organized by the Academy of American Poets as a way to increase awareness and appreciation of poetry in the United States. The Bookstore has a selection of poetry titles including *The Paraclete Poetry Anthology: Selected and New Poems* edited by Mark S. Burrows. With poems by Phyllis Tickle, Scott Cairns, Paul Mariani, Anna Kamienska, Fr. John-Julian, SAID, Bonnie Thurston, Greg Miller, William Woolfitt, Rami Shapiro, Thomas Lynch, Paul Quenon, and Rainer Maria Rilke, this anthology spans the first ten years of the poetry series at Paraclete Press. In *I Pray in Poems: Meditations on Poetry and Faith*, Dave Worster explores the intersection of great works of poetry and Christian faith, offering meditations on what these works illustrate about Christian living. Readers will encounter authors as diverse as William Shakespeare, T.S. Eliot, Rumi, Mary Oliver, and Anna Kamienska. Each poem is followed by an analytical reflection that explores the work and places it within the context of one or more Biblical passages. These meditations will assist the reader in understanding and appreciating the poetry, and will also offer insightful, perhaps even inspiring, thoughts on what it means to live a life in faith.



Arbor Day Friday, April 26

Arbor Day is celebrated on the last Friday in April in the United States. It is marked by the planting of trees and emphasizes caring for them as a way to sustainably protect our planet's natural resources. People often dedicate trees to loved ones. To celebrate the event, the Bookstore has several titles to consider including *Earth Gospel: A Guide to Prayer for God's Creation* by Sam Hamilton Poore. Faced with dilemmas such as global warming, soil erosion, air and water pollution, and rapid extinction of species, how might Christians respond? Aware that much action is required, Hamilton Poore maintains that a Christian response includes the "work" of prayer, "for prayer is itself a way of taking action." In the short but deeply powerful book, *Sacred Nature: Restoring Our Ancient Bond with the Natural World*, best-selling historian of religion Karen Armstrong re-sacralizes nature for modern times. Drawing on her vast knowledge of the world's religious traditions, she vividly describes nature's central place in spirituality across the centuries. In bringing this age-old wisdom to life, Armstrong shows modern readers how to rediscover nature's potency and form a connection to something greater than ourselves. For young readers,



author Katherine Ayres and illustrator Nadine Bernard Westcott set the mood for a rhythmic text that follows nature's course to a feast of backyard bounty in *Up, Down, and Around*.

New Calvary Notecards

Parishioner Laura Everhart has illustrated five views of Calvary in a pack of ten notecards with envelopes. Each set contains two cards depicting five scenes: altar, Calvary Tower, front entrance, quire, and Garden Service. The notecards are blank inside and are available for \$17.50. You can follow Laura on Instagram at @sketchedinstone to see her chronicle some of her drawings and adventures and visit her website at SketchedInStoneArt.com.

Bookshop.org



By ordering books through the Calvary page on Bookshop.org (type zip code 15206 in the Bookstore Near Me box on Bookshop.org, click on Calvary Bookstore, then the red Support this Shop), the Bookstore will receive a portion of the profits. New featured categories include *Interfaith Resources* and *Women's Perspectives*. Other featured categories include *Exploring the Church's Teaching, Making Sense of Christianity*, and *Some of Us are Reading*. Here is another way you can support the Bookstore, which is a member of the Episcopal Booksellers Association as well as an independent bookstore, when shopping for books. Bookshop.org will ship your books from their wholesaler's warehouse (usually within 2–3 days) directly to you, handle the customer service, returns and overhead, and the Bookstore at Calvary will receive a small stipend! Help the Bookstore maintain its presence not only as an Episcopal bookstore, but also an independent bookstore with a share of direct-to-home online book sales.

alibris

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

Volunteer Opportunity

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

Bookstore Hours

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

Composting as Spiritual Practice and Scientific Experiment

Two years ago, I started composting at home. The purpose was a combination of spiritual practice and scientific experiment. As spiritual practice, I often talk about incarnating or putting our faith in action. Part of loving and serving God and our neighbors is to be aware of our impact on them and the world we share. We change the world by first changing ourselves or, in traditional theological terms, allowing God's grace to work through us. I wanted to be more aware of my impact on the environment and limit that when possible. Our plastic bag recycling has been another obvious way we have done this at church.

As a scientific experiment, I wanted to measure how much less trash my family produced by composting and observe what we were throwing away. This could be done by weighing the weekly trash bags and checking what was in them.

Composting is simply a process by which food scraps, leaves, and other organic matter break down or de-compose. This process happens naturally but can be expedited with the right conditions. Once the mix of organic matter is right, nature goes to work with heat, water, worms, insects, and microorganisms. The end result is a wonderful, dark and rich soil that is ideal for most plants and is a natural fertilizer that is used in my garden to produce new vegetables and continue the cycle. It is also fun to make something good and useful and do a small part to help the environment.

To make a compost pile or bin, you need a balance of carbon (browns) and nitrogen (greens) in addition to air and water. Browns or carbons are dead leaves, twigs, paper, and cardboard. Greens or nitrogen are food scraps (no animal products other than eggshells), fresh grass clippings and coffee/tea grounds. Generally, you want 2 parts brown to 1 part green. Avoiding any meat, dairy, baked goods, or cooking oil will allow you to avoid bad smells and pests. We never had any. As a general rule, the smaller the pieces the better. A twig will break down faster than a log.

We did not buy any special tools or spend lots of money on Amazon to buy fancy composting units although that might be the best way to start for many people. (The experiment revealed I was already buying too much junk online with cardboard shipping boxes.) I used two different receptacles, already on hand, to see which worked better. One was an old, blue recycling bin used to keep bird seed to which squirrels had done serious damage trying to get the food. The other was an old dog crate we used to house-train our then puppy. They ended up being equally good.

The lesson is to use what you have on hand. We did buy a one-gallon stainless steel container with lid to sit on the kitchen counter to collect kitchen scraps.

I started with putting some dried leaves I had saved in paper lawn bags from last fall to line the bottom, then placed food scraps on top of that with another layer of cardboard and leaves. Layering carbon then nitrogen then carbon makes it easier to get the ratios right.

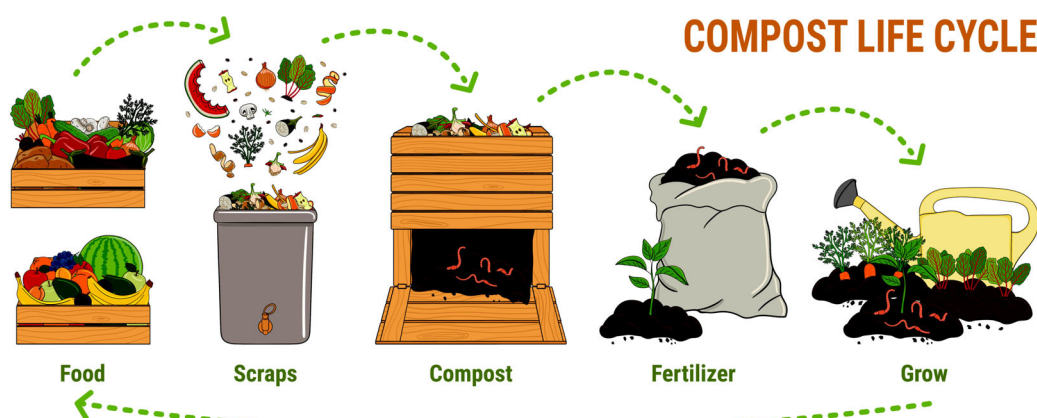
Much to my surprise, we were filling the one-gallon container in the kitchen three times per week and then placing the scraps in the compost pile. All those vegetable and fruit cuttings had been going in the trash. Also much to my surprise, even when adding to the pile three times per week it kept compacting down. Worms and insects were throughout the pile. The process was working.

Ideally, the pile should be moist and turned once a week in the summer and once a month in the winter, for good aeration, but I never bothered. The end result will be the same but takes longer if you let nature do all the work. Under the right conditions, the compost pile will generate heat (about 130 degrees) internally that results when organisms are breaking down waste and reproducing.

After about nine months of adding carbon and nitrogen and otherwise ignoring it, I had two densely laden containers that I dragged to the garden as they had become unbelievably heavy. Both had a rich, dark soil that had never smelled bad and at the end reminded me of the forest. This simple process had produced about 75 gallons of organic soil perfect for the garden. That was from a yard about as big as my office. I am now operating three containers at home this year.

An unexpected result was our trash output dropped by half. With three people and a dog in the house, we now produce one, mostly filled trash bag per week while it was at least two before the experiment started. That is, we produce about 50 fewer trash bags per year going into landfills.

As a spiritual practice and scientific experiment, the whole process was a success. This will not save the world or my soul, but it is a small way to put our faith in action. How has God called you to do that? -Jonathon ■



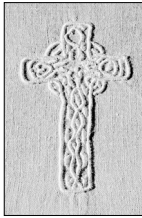
Episcopal Visitation

Our bishop, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Ketlen A. Solak, visited Calvary on Sunday, April 7, and preached and presided at all three services. At the 11 o'clock service, we had three confirmations, one parishioner who was received into the Episcopal Church, and one parishioner who renewed their baptismal vows. These parishioners were **Jacob Choi-Durham, Avery Podolinski, and Madison Stellfox** (for confirmation); **Karen Kianese** (for reception into the Episcopal Church); and **Jett Downey** (for reaffirmation of baptismal vows). Congratulations to all! ■

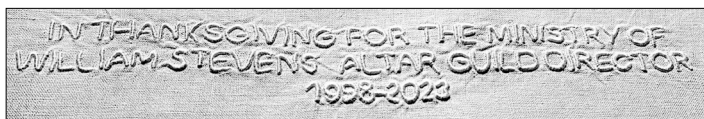


Honoring William Stevens

A brand-new fair linen (the white linen placed on top of an altar and which hangs down on the sides) was delivered to Calvary during this past Holy Week for use on the altar in the All Saints Chapel. It was dedicated on Wednesday in Holy Week and used for the first time on Maundy Thursday. This fair linen was purchased in thanksgiving for William Stevens and his long ministry as Director of the Altar Guild, from which he has recently retired. This piece is quite beautiful; it is made of fine, bright-white linen and is hand-embroidered. The embroidery adorning the linen is shown in the adjacent photos. There are five crosses in the Celtic style, representing the crucifixion wounds of Christ, and an inscription with William's name and dates of service. I invite you to spend a few moments in the All Saints Chapel, and while there, look at this lovely piece of handwork.



If you would like to honor William by contributing toward the purchase of this fair linen, that would be most appreciated. Please write a check to Calvary, noting in the memo line "William Stevens linen." Please know that a gift of any amount is welcome. —Cameron ■



Mark Your Calendar!

THE BOOKSTORE'S ANNUAL USED BOOK SALE

Starts on **Friday, August 9** with a special Preview Sale and continues **Saturday, August 10** – 10 am until 2 pm daily through **Sunday, August 18**.

Start collecting your books, records, CDs, and DVDs. We will begin accepting your donations on June 1.



Easter Flower Delivery Thank You

A longstanding tradition at Calvary Church happens on Easter Monday when volunteers pick up the flowers that had decorated the church on Easter Day, and deliver them to Calvary parishioners who had been on the Calvary Prayer List during the previous year.

This is a huge task and we are so grateful for the many hands who made this important and special outreach ministry possible. This year, 21 volunteers delivered Easter Flowers to the homes of 74 parishioners!

Thank you to the following volunteers who delivered flowers: **Florence Atwood, Annie Augustine, Nancy Barry, David Charonis, George Davis, Kathy Deis, Lucy Douglas, Maryanne Fello & Lea Carone, Denise Fantazier, Donna Hallen, Thomas Koehler, Sandy Levis, Kitsy McNulty, Lyn Orr, Kim Pieratt, Doug & Diane Styles, Bonnie & Tom Weiss, and Weez Kay Woodside**. We are grateful for these volunteers who brought joy and beauty to those who received the flowers.

A special thank you to the following people who worked behind the scenes to make this ministry possible:

- **Kim Pieratt**, Parish Administrator, who worked for many days beforehand to make the deliveries run smoothly. Specifically, Kim collected the names of and contacted each of the volunteer deliverers, prepared a card with the address and phone number for each flower recipient, and matched those recipients with their volunteer delivery person.
- **The Shauf family (Emma, Abigail, Bob, and Trish)** who removed all the flowers from the church after the 11 o'clock service on Easter Day and arranged them on tables in the Parish Hall.

Thank you to all who helped make this valuable ministry possible! ■

Gospel and Breakfast (GAB)

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

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

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

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

Thank You to Letter Writers

Thank you to everyone who helped make the letter-writing event in support of gun safety legislation so successful on March 17. Forty-three people wrote letters to the leaders of the Pennsylvania State Senate at the table in the Parish Hall, and others took the information home with them to write their letters later. We are grateful to Theresa Chalich and Steve Shandor who arranged and prepared for the event, to Jeanette Trauth and Gerrie Littman who were with us from the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC), and to all who took time to write letters.

—Cameron ■



will conclude with an opportunity to share personal experiences and feelings about gun violence.

Temple Sinai is a Reform Jewish congregation located in Squirrel Hill. Founded in 1947, it is committed to bringing justice and compassion to the world.

RAC-PA is the Pennsylvania arm of the national Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. Since its inception in 2020, it has mobilized congregations across the state to take nonpartisan action around the issues of voter education, redistricting, and get-out-the-vote efforts.

CeaseFirePA Education Fund is a 501(c)3 organization that builds awareness about the impacts of gun violence in Pennsylvania by lifting up the voices of survivors and analyzing data on the drivers of violence in the Commonwealth. ■

Thank you for Easter



The stalwart group who arrived early on the morning of Saturday, March 30 to arrange the flowers in the church for Easter. The church was beautiful! Thank you!

Gun Violence Screening

Temple Sinai Hosts *Deadly by Design*: A Presentation About Gun Violence Prevention

Temple Sinai and RAC-PA, the Pennsylvania chapter of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, in partnership with CeaseFirePA, will host a screening about gun violence in Pennsylvania and opportunities for prevention on **Sunday, April 28** from 1-2:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public. To register, please visit: <https://RAC.org/DBD>
The presentation will take place at Temple Sinai, 5500 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, 15217.

Deadly by Design will share stories of Pennsylvanians who have experienced losses due to gun violence. Those individuals believe that the best way to save the next life is to address the gaps in Pennsylvania laws. The program will discuss Extreme Risk Protection Orders and Universal Background Checks, two bills that have been passed by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and await consideration by the Pennsylvania Senate. The presentation

Thank you to the many who brought us moving and beautiful Holy Week and Easter services.

Thank you to...

Alan Lewis, Jon Tyllian, the choir and other musicians who helped lead our worship and sang twice on Easter Sunday. The Altar Guild for all the set up, clean up, and work behind the scenes.

All those who delivered flowers all over the city.

The clergy, staff, and sextons for everything from superb bulletins to sound.

To the ushers, chalice bearers, lectors, acolytes, those who decorated the church with Easter flowers, and everyone else who helped create a welcoming and beautiful experience.

—Jonathon ■

★ MOVIE NIGHT ★

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

the Miracle Worker



Thursday, April 18

The Miracle Worker (1962), Anne Sullivan (Anne Bancroft) confronts the challenge of teaching blind and deaf Helen Keller (Patty Duke) to speak, read Braille and graduate from college. The film is an unforgettable display of physically powerful acting. ■

Altar Flowers

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

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. ■

Have you remembered
Calvary in your will?



CALVARY

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

The Rev. Jonathon W. Jensen, *Rector*
The Rev. Cameron J. Soulis, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Geoffrey S. Royce, *Deacon*
Rabbi Aaron Bisno, *Rabbi-in-Residence*
Ms. Deanna Briody, *McNulty Intern*
The Rev. Ruth Bosch Becker, *Assisting Pastor*
The Rev. Carol Henley, *Assisting Priest*
Dr. Alan Lewis, *Director of Music*
Jon Tyillian, *Assistant Organist*
Lynda Kennedy, *Director of Finance*
Vicki Rispoli, *Director of Children's Formation*
Kenneth Smith, *Director of Communications*
Kim Pieratt, *Parish Administrator*
Jim Gubash, *Head Sexton*
Adam Augustine, Dontia James, Ron Johnston,
Mary Ann Packer, Guy Tillman, *Sextons*
Vivian Rispoli, *A/V Technician*



The Church and offices will be closed on
Monday, May 27 in observance of Memorial Day

Holy Baptism

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



Visit the Calvary website at
www.calvarypgh.org



What's Happening in the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh?

The following is a brief and partial list of upcoming events in and around the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Much more information and details are available at www.episcopalpgh.org, facebook.com/EpiscopalPittsburgh, and through our electronic newsletter, *Grace Happens*.

Thursday, April 18: *Nurturing Our Faith!* With Bishop Ketlen

Spend time online with the Bishop and members of the laity from around the diocese on Thursday, April 18 at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 28: *Refugees Belong Here* Online Panel Discussion

A panel discussion with Episcopal Migration Ministries, Hello Neighbor, Jewish Family & Community Services, and Dor Hadash Refugee Welcome Group. Sponsored by the Social Justice and Outreach Committee. 7 p.m.

Tuesday, May 7: *With One Voice: Interfaith Coalition to End Gun Violence* A Day of advocacy events in Harrisburg

Saturday, May 18: *Diocesan Celebration Day*

A diocesan-wide gathering to worship and fellowship and celebrate our ministry together. Guest speaker will be the Rt. Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe of the Diocese of Central New York. Many more details coming soon.

Thursday, May 30: *Nurturing Our Faith!* With Bishop Ketlen

Spend time online with the Bishop and members of the laity from around the diocese on Thursday, May 30 at 12 Noon.

Saturday, June 1: *Ordinations to the Diaconate*

Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh, at 10 a.m.

Grounded In Christ
Growing Anew!

Sign up to Stay in Touch!

When you sign up for our electronic mailing list, you'll receive regular updates on the happenings in and around the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Visit

<https://www.episcopalpgh.org/resources/grace-happens/>



ANNUAL MEETING

**The 169th
Annual Parish Meeting of
Calvary Episcopal Church
will be held
Sunday, May 19, 2024
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.**

CALVARY
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
PITTSBURGH + PENNSYLVANIA



**Whoa, Nelly!
Don't miss
the Party!**

A coming together event for all ages

FINISH LINE PARTY

Food, Fun, & Fascinators!

Sunday, May 5, 2024

starts right after the 5 p.m.

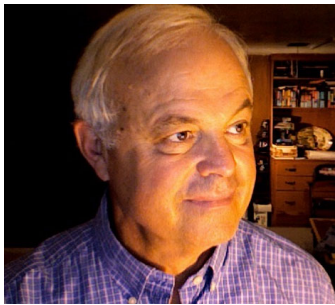
Marathon Sunday Service

Watch for Full Details and Sign-up Sheets



East Liberty Valley Historical Society

The Marilyn Evert Lecture Series.
Join us in the Parish Hall at 7 p.m.



Wednesday, May 1

The Legacy of George Westinghouse

In this illustrated talk, David Bear, founding president of The Westinghouse Legacy, provides an update on developments in Westinghouse Park, including its arboretum certification, the city's new master development plan, and an effort to archaeologically explore the historic site. He also will introduce a new project to honor and archive the Westinghouse legacy.

Wednesday, June 5

The Old East Liberty:

A Reading by Joseph Bathanti and Linda Schifino

The authors read from their new books drawn from childhoods of love and loss in the East Liberty/Larimer of the 1950s and '60s – Bathanti from “The Act of Contrition & Other Stories” and Schifino from “Neighborhood Girl.” Book signings will follow.





Evening Prayer

6 p.m.

in the Lady Chapel

every

**Monday and Thursday
of Easter**

[April 4 thru May 23]

All are welcome

DEADLY BY DESIGN:

A Campaign to End Gun Violence

Hosted by RAC-PA + CeaseFirePA's Interfaith Partners

Free Screening

Sunday, April 28, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Temple Sinai, 5505 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217



Supporting passage of legislation impacting Universal Background Checks, Extreme Risk Protection Orders and Treating Ghost Guns as Real Guns. Meet PA legislators Rep. Dan Frankel, Rep. Abigail Salisbury and Rep. La'Tasha Mayes.

Please register at [RAC.org/DBD](https://rac.org/DBD) or:



Info:

susan.blackman@verizon.net

TEMPLE
SINAI

rac | PENNSYLVANIA
RELIGIOUS ACTION CENTER
OF REFORM JUDAISM

Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network

www.pghpcc.org

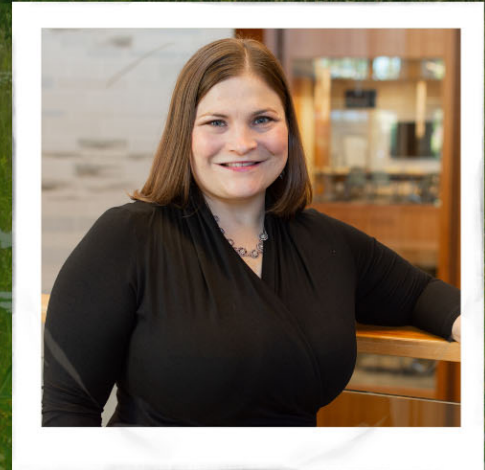
24th Annual Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference

Friday, April 19 2024 – 8am-4pm
Christ United Methodist Church
44 Highland Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102

For clergy, pastors, laity, counselors, social workers,
nurses, teachers, volunteers and others in the flock
helping those needing healing and recovery.

Keynote Speaker:

**The Rev. Kimberly Wagner,
Assistant Professor of
Preaching, Practical
Theology, Princeton
Theological Seminary**



Additional Speakers:

**The Rev. Canon Dr. Jay Geisler
Saleem Ghubril
Bob Jamison
The Rev. Dr. Graham Standish,
Ph.D.**



Register by scanning the QR code or by visiting www.pghpcc.org.

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

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



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

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

APRIL 26, 2024

2ND ANNUAL REENTRY SUMMIT

"MAKE IT MAKE SENSE"

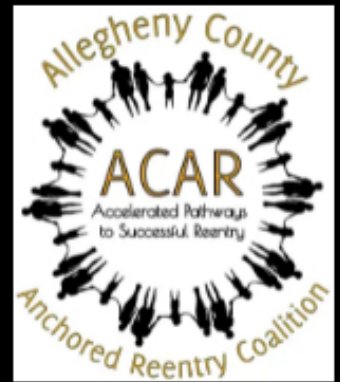


**NO COST TO ATTEND!
REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR
ATTENDANCE AND TABLING
AT SUMMIT!
www.acareentry.org/summit
or use QR Code**



Made with PosterMyWall.com

ACAR ANNUAL REENTRY SUMMIT



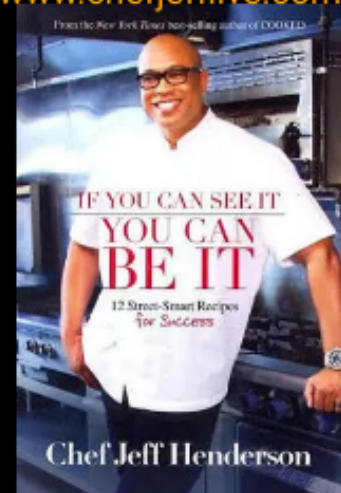
**CCAC ALLEGHENY CAMPUS
FOERSTER STUDENT SERVICES BLDG.
839 RIDGE AVE. PITTSBURGH, PA 15212**

7:15AM-8:00AM REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

8:00AM-2:00PM REENTRY SUMMIT PROGRAM KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Award-winning chef, bestselling author, entrepreneur, television personality and highly sought-after speaker on personal and professional development,

**Chef Jeff Henderson.
www.chefjefflive.com**



**"MAKE IT MAKE SENSE" PANEL
DISCUSSION & ACTION PLAN
RESOURCE CONNECTING & NETWORKING
REMARKS & GIVEAWAYS**

Deadline (Friday):

Publication Date (Sunday):

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

2024 CALENDAR

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