

MAY 10, 2020

## Give Up Worship for Lent?

*Fifty years ago, parishioners read a provocative reflection in the Agape newsletter, from the Rector of Christ Church in Nashville, The Rev. John Lane Denson. We republished it in the Agape from March 2019. It is even more relevant now. It is printed in full and considers a possibility that is now a reality with commentary afterward, on our current situation, by the Rector.*

Suppose the church should give up worship services for Lent.

Ideally, and biblically, a Christian community gathers once each week to thank God. Christ conquered death and opened the possibility for new life to all men on the day after the Sabbath. So we are asked to thank Him for this each Sunday. The calendar is so built, and the church's canon law requires it.

But a gospel of grace can neither depend upon a canon nor enforce it very well. Love wins by example, not coercion. But love must sometimes withhold. So suppose the Ship of Love just pulls into the dry dock for Lent?

One possibility is that a lot of us would find out how very much we take for granted. Among the lesser things, are the hours of choir rehearsal, altar preparation, sermon writing, cleaning, lesson planning, and plain, hard hoping many of our devoted members and staff put in every week that goes by.

Among the greater is the accessibility of God. Only the devout who have come up against the wretchedness of despair really know something about God's presence and how it had better never be taken for granted. Such sainthood knows that God is as free to withhold Himself as He is to give Himself.

But just because so many of us have committed the subtle sin of presuming that God's only place in life is in the church and – what is worse – in the building and at the altar, to close the doors for a time might well teach us something about His presence.

It might teach us that the church exists because of God and not the other way around. The church is a pointer, an instrument, a reminder that God is. The building is

a convenient place to rehearse these realities, and it is designed symbolically to remind us of them by its presence. But the building is not the church.

So what if we closed it for Lent? What if, somehow, we could remove it altogether from the streets of life for the next six weeks? Might it not teach us one of the greatest lessons we could learn – that we are God's church? Then what would we do and who would we be?

On Ash Wednesday – and the rest of the time, by God's grace – the services will be planned as conveniently as possible. And the building will be open, as usual. But will we?

Calvary is a gathering and sending place.  
Soon, we will be together again.

### From the Rector

For Lent this year, from the third Sunday on, we did give up being together at church among most other things that involved leaving our homes. As some have said, this felt like the "Lentiest Lent ever." To a degree, it feels like the "Lentiest Easter ever" as we carry on through the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have not given up worship as a community but we did forgo sharing it, and most of our communal life, together in person. We have worked diligently to create a worship experience consistent with the best Calvary and our tradition have to offer. Given the circumstances, we have tried to make our worship feel as much like "church" as possible. But it's not the same.

The author, from fifty years ago, made a point about giving up communal worship might help us find out how much we take for granted at church. I would not say we take these things for granted. Rather, we rely on them as sustaining parts of our individual and communal lives. Acts like choir rehearsal, cleaning, Altar preparation, EFM, sharing space, making soup, hosting lunches, coffee hours, teaching classes, literacy and arts programs, prayer groups, and all the rest are

–continued on page 2

## WORSHIP, continued from page 1

all important because they involve people in community being church together. In their own way, each is a form of worship and service to God and our neighbors. Being away from all that makes me miss and appreciate them, and the people who offer them, all the more.

While we honor the treasure we have received and do our part to take care of it for future generations, there is no sense that Calvary's building is a museum. The building is a symbolic "pointer" in how it is designed and constructed and, more importantly, what happens there. Being and making church together there is what makes the building sacred.

I am in complete agreement with the author that the building is not church, "we are God's church." What has been suspended is the opportunity to be at our gathering and sending place to be church together. That's what I have missed the most.

Calvary is a gathering and sending place. We gather to worship, to learn, to share, to be together, so we are all sent out as community to share what we have experienced and serve God and our neighbors in the community. Soon, we will be together again. Pray for me as I pray for all of you.

—Jonathon ■

## Video of Easter 2019 at Calvary

Thanks to Elizabeth and Joe Seamans, we have a wonderful seven minute video documenting Easter preparation and worship at Calvary from last year. They filmed and edited hours of footage to give a glimpse into life at Calvary. The video is available on the parish website. —Jonathon ■

## EECM Food Pantry

East End Cooperative Ministry Food Pantry is still operating during the pandemic, with appropriate plans to protect those receiving food. Donations can be dropped off at Calvary during office hours: Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Below is a list of items particularly requested at this time. Thank you for your on-going support of this ministry.

- \* Bottled Water
- \* Canned tomato sauce, vegetables, beans
- \* Spaghetti and macaroni pasta
- \* Instant mashed potatoes
- \* Canned soups \* Oatmeal and whole grain cereals
- \* Mac & Cheese boxes \* White and brown rice
- \* Disposable utensils (fork, spoon, knife)
- \* Disposable plates \* Disposable bowls
- \* Ziploc bags, any size \* Napkins \* Paper Towels
- \* Sugar \* Salt ■

## Communicating with the Church and Clergy

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

### Calvary Facebook Page

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

### Calvary YouTube Page

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAsWoq8c-yqHDFay\\_hWtkyQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAsWoq8c-yqHDFay_hWtkyQ)

### Clergy Contact Information

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

- The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, [jjensen@calvarypgh.org](mailto:jjensen@calvarypgh.org)
- The Rev. Leslie Reimer, [lreimer@calvarypgh.org](mailto:lreimer@calvarypgh.org)
- The Rev. Neil Raman, [nraman@calvarypgh.org](mailto:nraman@calvarypgh.org)
- Deacon Geoffrey Royce, [groyce@calvarypgh.org](mailto:groyce@calvarypgh.org) ■



## Red Geraniums for Pentecost

Would you like to donate red geranium plants in honor or memory of your loved ones for Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020? As is the tradition, the plants will be on display during the 11 o'clock service and then planted in the Calvary gardens. Your donation of \$10 will buy two geraniums. Use the form below, or simply email Kim Pieratt at [kpieratt@calvarypgh.org](mailto:kpieratt@calvarypgh.org) with your information, and mail in your check for the geraniums.

In Memory of  In Honor of

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

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

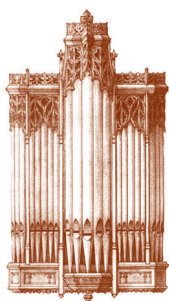
**Both geraniums will be planted in the Calvary garden.**

Please mail to: Lynda Kennedy, Calvary Episcopal Church  
315 Shady Ave., 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 **Monday, May 25, 2020** so we can place our order with the greenhouse.

## MUSICAL NOTES by Alan Lewis



As we traverse the new (or “novel”) season of Corona-tide, with its distance, isolation, and virtual-virtually-everything, my thoughts have been turning to a great composer of the seventeenth century, Heinrich Schütz. Born in 1585, a century before Bach, and passing a large part of his musical lifetime in Dresden, about 75 miles from Leipzig, where Bach was for the bulk of his career, Schütz’s music has never achieved the widespread recognition of Bach’s – perhaps it’s that off-putting umlaut in his surname, or the fact that his music is almost entirely vocal, with built-in language barriers from the original Latin, German, or Italian in which he variously wrote. Or that the music he composed across a fifty-year career still sounds vaguely archaic in ways that Bach’s has come not to (even as outlandishly old-fashioned as Bach must have seemed when first rediscovered a century or so after its composition).

Here is a recent appreciation of Schütz that appeared in connection with the cancellation of a major concert of his music in New York in March: [www.nytimes.com/2020/03/20/arts/music/heinrich-schutz.html](http://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/20/arts/music/heinrich-schutz.html)

What has particularly made me think of Schütz in these recent days is a long period in his life when the Thirty Years War raged across various parts of what we now think of as “Germany,” but which was then a scarcely-organized patchworks of rival principalities of various sorts, in constant struggle over various issues, but none more pressing in the early seventeenth century than religion. As battles broke out across the highly atomized political landscape, choirs in the affected regions fell on predictably hard times. Schütz – a masterful composer of music for huge multiple-choir ensembles, like those favored by his teacher, Gabrieli – acknowledged the challenge of the times in two published collections of music for drastically reduced forces – often just one or two solo voices, with simple *continuo* accompaniment.

I’ve loved these pieces for years, and we’ve heard a few of them over the years here – but, again, the language barrier can be a challenge, and so can finding legible editions of the music. I’ve been recalling them particularly as I’ve been enjoying the opportunity to work with the two singers that the diocesan distancing-guidelines permit us in our webcast services. I want particularly to acknowledge the devoted presence of Sarah Nadler and Guy Russo, week by week: I can’t quite imagine our services over the past two months without them, and am so grateful that they are willing and able to enrich our collective experience of “virtual church.”

And, finally, a thought about that word, “virtual.” While our collective attendance at worship is forced to be “virtual” in these times, I hope that there is nothing short of “actual” about the worship itself. All of us engaged in the services

draw inspiration and encouragement from the intense engagement of those taking part in our prayer from afar; we know you’re there, and we are so grateful for the opportunity (indeed, the “virtue”) presented by Internet technology and its adept practitioners among us to continue in the worship of God in this place at a time when common prayer sometimes feels like all we have left of our old routine. ■

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## CARES Act Charitable Giving Incentives

Most Episcopal organizations rely on generous donors to support their mission and ministry. Stewardship can be deeply spiritual, rooted in a desire to reorient our lives towards God, but it also has a practical side. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act, or CARES Act, signed into law on March 27, 2020, includes several provisions that may affect charitable giving this year. We encourage churches to talk about these opportunities with their congregations.

**New charitable deduction for taxpayers who do not itemize.** Beginning in 2020, individuals can deduct \$300 in charitable contributions from their gross income even if they do not itemize their deductions. Donations must be made in cash to a charity. Gifts of appreciated securities, and gifts to a donor advised fund or supporting organization, do not qualify. Although the permissible amount is modest, it is a new benefit available to many of your donors.

**No cap on charitable deductions for taxpayers who do itemize.** Donors who itemize their deductions can usually deduct cash contributions up to 60% of their adjusted gross income. For 2020, that cap is lifted, and donors contributing cash to charity may deduct up to 100% of their income, a significant tax savings for anyone able to contribute larger amounts. Again, this is only for gifts of cash, and only for gifts made directly to charity (not to donor-advised funds or supporting organizations).

**No required minimum distributions, but qualified charitable distributions still possible.** The CARES Act eliminates required minimum distributions (RMDs) from many retirement plans in 2020. Some donors have been using their RMDs for tax-advantaged charitable gifts by making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) directly to charity. Under the CARES Act it is still possible for donors who are 70½ or over to contribute up to \$100,000 directly to a charity without paying tax on the distribution. This remains a beneficial way for donors to make gifts to your church.

The CARES Act is a complex new law. This article is intended only as a summary of provisions that may be important for church stewardship efforts. Donors should always consult with their own professional advisors before making a gift.

Details available at [www.episcopalfoundation.org](http://www.episcopalfoundation.org) ■





Over the past several weeks, our Beginnings teachers have worked diligently to continue providing their students with the same caring instruction they would have received had we still been able to meet in person. With the support of our families, we are able to connect online with our teams and keep them actively engaged in a virtual learning environment.

Using Zoom, email, and YouTube videos, our teachers, students, parents, and some siblings are able to experience team time together. We have lessons about the current unit, read books, sing songs, do experiments, play games, share recipes, make crafts, have scavenger hunts, and offer daily and weekly challenges. Our teams also enjoy online music with Ms. Sharon.

We spend time researching for additional resources we can provide to our families. Some offer advice and support to our parents, and others include activities and entertainment for their children. We strive to help our families stay healthy, both mentally and physically.

Our three younger teams extended their “Spring” unit, because there are so many exciting things to learn about seeds, flowers, trees and animals this time of the year.

On Earth Day, our Blue Team took a trip around the world. Using a globe, they pointed out their home countries – the U.S., England, Japan, France, Mexico, India, and Korea. They also pointed out the bodies of water, which led them into their “Water and Oceans” unit. Our Purple Team is “diving” into this unit with water play. For example, did you know that grapes float in saltwater?

As soon as stay-at-home orders are lifted, we will plan a school picnic at a local park so our families can be together once again – while still social distancing – as some are moving out of the country or heading off to kindergarten in the fall.

We will continue our enrollment process for the fall with an understanding that COVID-19 may pose some challenges. We will wait to fill the classrooms to the maximum until we learn how social distancing will impact numbers.

I want to thank our amazing teachers and wonderful families. Together, they have worked hard to make sure our students’ school year ends on as high a note as possible. Their teamwork and enthusiasm will end up making Beginnings stronger than ever.

–Tammy Lewis, *Director* ■

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

## 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](mailto:nraman@calvarypgh.org) / 412.661.0120 ext. 112).

**Tuesday, May 12 at 5:45 p.m.**

Virtual Holy Happy Hour over Zoom

**Wednesday, May 13 at 7 p.m.**

CYAM Bible Study over Zoom

**Wednesday, May 20 at 7 p.m.**

CYAM Bible Study over Zoom

**Thursday, May 21 at 5:45 p.m.**

Virtual Holy Happy Hour over Zoom

**Wednesday, May 27 at 7 p.m.**

CYAM Bible Study over Zoom

**Thursday, May 28 at 5:45 p.m.**

Virtual Holy Happy Hour over Zoom ■

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## CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN FORMATION

**Children Age 3 – Grade K** will meet for Sunday school over Zoom from 10 – 10:30 a.m.

**Children Grades 1 – 7** will meet for Sunday school over Zoom from 10:30 – 11 a.m.

**May 10 – 5th Sunday of Easter:** Jesus is our way to God. Heaven is a wonderful place.

**May 17 – 6th Sunday of Easter:** We are members of God’s family. Walk together and love one another.

**May 24 – 7th Sunday of Easter:** We are friends of Jesus.

**May 31 – Pentecost:** Listen! Gift of the Holy Spirit.

**Grades 8 – 9 (Confirmation Class):**

Confirmation will be rescheduled as soon as stay-at-home orders are lifted.

**Journey Group (High School):** We will meet over Zoom at 12:15 p.m. on Sundays.

**All Sunday School Zoom sessions** will be held on May 10, 17, 24, and 31. Information regarding these sessions will be emailed to families each Friday.

**POLO Group (Parents of Little Ones):** We will meet over Zoom on May 17 at 12:30 p.m. Additional information will follow.

–Tammy Lewis, *Director of Children’s Christian Formation*,  
[tlewis@calvarypgh.org](mailto:tlewis@calvarypgh.org), 412.661.0120 ext. 116 ■



# News of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

## Bishop McConnell Adjusts Retirement Date

April 16, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

Due to the extraordinary circumstances brought on by the pandemic, and after much thought and prayer, I have decided to postpone my retirement until September 18, 2021. I have asked the Presiding Bishop to authorize the consecration of my successor on that date. Pursuant to this time frame, at my request the Standing Committee has consented to a new date of April 24, 2021, for a special convention to elect the ninth Bishop of Pittsburgh.

We don't know how long we will be unable to meet together due to the pandemic, nor can we foresee the full impact on our parishes of the economic and personal stresses we will likely be experiencing for some time to come. Extending my tenure by a few months will allow some continuity of pastoral care as we all try to get back on our feet once the worst has past.

This revised schedule will also benefit our discernment process. It may allow some clergy, who sense a call to be the next bishop but are reluctant to leave their parishes so soon after this crisis, to be more willing to be considered given a bit more time for everyone to heal. And, assuming that larger, in-person meetings may be possible in the coming months, there would be opportunities for you in the diocese to gather to express your dreams and wishes concerning the next bishop, and eventually to meet and hear from the nominees at walkabouts shortly before the election.

Finally, this new calendar will give the Nominating Committee more time, under less pressure, to complete their mission. I know from the chair, Michael Braxton, that work is progressing – currently they are collecting information for a diocesan profile – and that they will report in more detail to the diocese in the very near future.

I am very grateful for the support of the Standing Committee. I am especially grateful for its president, Russ Ayres, and for our consultant to the election process, Judy Stark, for their counsel and encouragement as I came to this decision.

I am honored to be able to continue a little longer as your

bishop in a time of such great need. As always, I ask for your prayers, as I assure you of my own.

Faithfully,

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

## A Message from the Nominating Committee

April 22, 2020

Beloved Friends in Christ, Happy Easter to you all.

Although the coronavirus pandemic has cast a shadow over what is usually a joyous time of year, we can rest assured that God's Church and its mission will endure. The Nominating Committee's work continues as well. Although we cannot meet in person right now, we have taken to videoconferencing and other tools at our disposal to move the search process forward. With God's grace and guidance, we adapt and carry on.

We are tasked with identifying a slate of individuals from which our diocese will call our next bishop, who will succeed Bishop McConnell upon his retirement next fall. That slate will be voted on at a special convention to elect the ninth Bishop of Pittsburgh on April 24, 2021. Later this year, we will reach out to parishes to learn what the people of this diocese want and need from our next bishop and will offer a short survey to hear more about what is on the minds of parishioners. Until then, know that the Nominating Committee is committed to completing the work we were called to do, and we ask for your prayers and support.

*–The Nominating Committee for the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh ■*



Row 1 (standing l-r): Michael Braxton, Committee Chair; the Rev. Canon James Shoucair; Kevin Hipolit; the Rev. Aidan Smith; the Rev. Don Youse, Chaplain; the Rev. Linda Tardy Wilson; Richard Peden; Daryl Walker; Shahnaz Alam Denlinger. Row 2 (seated l-r): The Rev. Nano Chalfant-Walker; the Rev. Bill Geiger; Elizabeth Gassler; Gloria Trevino-Frye; the Rev. Laura DiPanfilo; Joseph Macklin II.

–Photo courtesy Judy Stark, Nominating Committee Consultant

## Prayers requested

At our meetings this year, the Standing Committee has offered up the following prayer, taken from the Book of Common Prayer (p. 818, with slight modification), and we ask that all of the congregations of the Diocese incorporate this prayer into their regular worship through the period of search and discernment up to the Special Convention in January 2021:

*Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese, and those who offer themselves as candidates, that we may receive a faithful pastor who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ■*

## Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

**May 10:** 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

**May 17:** St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Highland Park, the Rev. Jean Chess, the Rev. Dr. Don Keyes, the Rev. William Marchl, and the Rev. Dean Byrom (UMC)

**May 24:** Episcopal Church Women, Ann McStay, president; and, Andrew Roman, diocesan Chancellor and Suzanne DeWalt, Vice Chancellor

**May 31:** Christ Episcopal Church, North Hills, the Rev. Canon James Shoucair, the Rev. Christine McIlvain, and the Rev. Lorena Ringle

**June 7:** Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh, the Rev Aidan Smith, the Cathedral Chapter; and the Walk-In Ministry at Trinity Cathedral

**June 14:** Christ Episcopal Church, Indiana, and the Rev. William Geiger; and the Rev. Marc Jacobson, missionary ■



## Executive Council meets virtually to start discussing what a post-pandemic church might look like

by Egan Millard, April 30, 2020

At a special virtual meeting of The Episcopal Church's Executive Council on April 29, church leaders discussed some of the possible changes in store as the church prepares to "re-tool" in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The brief, previously unscheduled meeting of Executive Council was held on Zoom in advance of the council's regular June meeting, which was scheduled to take place in San Juan, Puerto Rico, but will now be held online.

During his remarks, Curry praised the church for its swift and creative response to restrictions on in-person worship, as bishops and other church leaders navigated unprecedented legal, medical and theological dilemmas. Questions emerged about the logistics of the Eucharist – including canonical concerns about the availability of both the bread and wine and hypothetical scenarios like remote consecration – that required quick and thoughtful responses, and ministries like food pantries adapted their practices to the new reality on the fly.

"I saw this church do what I wouldn't have dreamed of, and I thank God for that," Curry said, praising clergy for their ingenuity in pastoral care and remote Holy Week worship.

"It wasn't perfect and it wasn't always pretty, but doggone it, this church kept the feast," Curry said, echoing the message of encouragement he shared in his Word to the Church released the previous day.

Officers of Executive Council, which is tasked with enacting the policies adopted by General Convention and meets at least three times per year, shared updates and discussed topics that the various committees would need to take into consideration before the June meeting. Among the possible changes discussed was a reorientation of the church's operating budget to provide more support to dioceses. While council was assured that the church has enough funds to continue operating, the ongoing financial implications of the pandemic have forced the church to reevaluate how funds will be spent in the coming year.

Read the complete story at [www.episcopalnewsservice.org](http://www.episcopalnewsservice.org) ■



[www.facebook.com/EpiscopalPittsburgh](http://www.facebook.com/EpiscopalPittsburgh)

## Stay in Touch with the Diocese

Visit the diocesan website at

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

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

[info@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:info@episcopalpgh.org).

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

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

325 Oliver Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-721-0853 | [info@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:info@episcopalpgh.org)

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

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

**Andy Muhl, Executive Assistant**

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



## Notes

### Church Offices Open

The parish offices are open, on a limited basis, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Please ring the bell by the parking lot entrance. A handful of people have come each day to pray in the church, to drop off their pledge, plastic bags for recycling, books, food and clothing donations. Please maintain social distancing when you are here.



### Contemplative Prayer

All are welcome to join us virtually for shared silent prayer and reflection on Mondays at 7 p.m. It works better than you might expect! For a Zoom invitation, email Catherine Davidson at [cmd402@gmail.com](mailto:cmd402@gmail.com)



### Annual Parish Meeting

Nomination Sunday and the Annual Parish Meeting will be rescheduled with ample notice on later dates. The current Vestry members will retain their responsibilities until the next Annual Meeting. Four new members will be elected at that time.



### Soup Group

The Soup Group has a sufficient supply and people have made soup in their homes and put it in the freezer. Soup can still be delivered to fellow parishioners, friends, and family members. Because of “social distancing,” I recommend that the soup be left outside the door of the recipient. Then call to let that person know the soup is there. If you have any questions, please contact me.

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



### Holy Baptism

Dates for Holy Baptism will be determined when public worship resumes at Calvary. Please contact the Reverend Neil Raman ([nraman@calvarypg.org](mailto:nraman@calvarypg.org) or 412.661.0120, ext. 112) if you have any questions or if you, or someone you know, desires to partake in this sacrament.



### McNulty Interns

Our two new McNulty Interns, Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan and Jonathan Rosnick, will join us when we are able to have public, corporate worship again. ■

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## The Used Book Sale

Please gather your used books and donate them to The Bookstore at Calvary’s Used Book Sale. Whatever the subject (bestseller, cookbook, hardcover, nonfiction, novel, paperback, softcover) – save it for us! CDs, DVDs, video / audio tapes, and vinyl records too! **You may drop off donations at the Church office Monday thru Friday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** ■

## News from Sheldon Calvary Camp

At its April meeting, the Sheldon Calvary Camp Board unanimously voted to suspend the operation of regular summer camp programs through the end of August, 2020. As difficult as it is to imagine a summer without camp, the Board believes that this is the most responsible choice at this time in order to ensure a secure future for Calvary Camp. We will look for creative ways to keep the camp community connected throughout the summer. For more information, please go to the camp website at [www.calvarycamp.org](http://www.calvarycamp.org). ■



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## The Calvary Fall Bazaar

Have more time on your hands now than usual? Looking for something to do while spending more time inside this spring? Please think about pulling out your extra yarn or fabric and making something for the Handmade Table at this fall’s Calvary Bazaar.

As always, Nancy Carpenter, table chairperson,, is looking for donations of all sorts – hats, gloves and mittens; baby blankets; placemats and basket liners and **anything** with a Steelers theme. Nancy suggests crafters think of something that they themselves would like to have – and then make the item for the bazaar sale. She asks that anyone interested could help by sewing grocery shopping bags to sell at the table. Volunteers should use lightweight canvas or heavy cotton for the bags. Donations of those materials would also be appreciated.

For more information or to share an idea, please contact Nancy at [ngcarpenter@hotmail.com](mailto:ngcarpenter@hotmail.com)

Also, when spring cleaning, keep in mind the New to You room and Attic Treasures. Put aside any possible donations for the fall bazaar. ■

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## Church Finances: A Reminder

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



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



## Obla Di, Obla Da

### COVID Continues to Cause Change in the Customary:

Streaming and video/voice conferencing ubiquitous for Sunday Eucharists, Calvary Camp services, Beginnings classes,

Vestry meetings, EfM, Centering Prayer, young adults bible study and Holy Happy Hours, etc., etc. A brave new world?

**Contributions Keep Coming:** Masks for giveaway mysteriously multiply in entryway donation box. Clothing for Merton Center keeps arriving as people clean out closets. EECM food basket overflows. Plastics recycling bin, the same. Early book sale donations show up, though we don't know when that will happen.

**Sexton Sabbatical? ... Sort of:** What do they do while we're away? Well... they –

- 1: Refinish floors in Church, McClintic Hall, Parish Hall, Refectory, and Communications Office.
- 2: Repair plaster and paint in Lady Chapel balcony and switchgear room.
- 3: Restore entry door hardware and replace drop-ceiling panels in Rector's office.
- 4: Install shelving and reorganize in kitchen and service closets, keep up general maintenance, and provide technical support for Sunday service live-stream.

Whew! No rest for the ... well, you know. And all while keeping a safe distance!

**From Choir and Congregation to Duet (or Trio):** Music director doctors liturgical musical offerings to accommodate the mere two voices allowed for Sunday on-line service. Occasional bass line provided by off-camera masked singer.

**A Tale of Two Guys, et al:** With practically no notice, tenor section leader's father fills in for son as evangelist in live-streamed Good Friday chanting of Passion Gospel, while the latter does daughter daycare for doula wife, called to assist birthing of weeks-premature baby. Everybody doing fine. On most somber day of Christian year, and in the midst of cultural crisis, life goes on.

**Hallelujah!**

-30- ■

## Staying in Touch

Please contact Calvary's Parish Administrator Kim Pieratt at the Church office if you have any questions about flower memorials, prayer list additions, or scheduling of events. Kim can be contacted at 412.661.0120, ext. 111 or send an email to [kpieratt@calvarypgh.org](mailto:kpieratt@calvarypgh.org). We ask that you keep us informed if you have a home address, phone or email change. ■

## Agape Deadline

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, June 5, 2020**. 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. ■

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Please remember Calvary Church  
in your will.

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