

EASTER JOY!

For me, the highlight of Holy Week comes at the beginning of the Easter Vigil. Given the scale and beauty of Calvary's sanctuary, the sight of a single candle being carried through the dark church inspires a sense of mystery and wonder. Then the cantor begins to sing the ancient text of the Exsultet with these words:

Rejoice now, heavenly hosts and choirs of angels,
and let your trumpets shout Salvation
for the victory of our mighty King.

Rejoice and sing now, all the round earth,
bright with a glorious splendor,
for darkness has been vanquished by our eternal King.

Many thanks go to those who gave of their time, talent, and treasure to ensure that all the services of Holy Week and Easter were magnificent. I am happy to report that total attendance on Easter Day was up ten percent over 2018 and 2017.

As I wrote earlier this year, our rector, The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, has been with us at Calvary for five years as of February 1, 2019. It is customary in many churches for the rector to take a sabbatical approximately every five years during his or her ministry. This is a time dedicated to refreshment, renewal, and spiritual recharging.

Jonathon's sabbatical began shortly after Easter Sunday and will continue through the end of July. I believe that the most important part of a sabbatical is that it is a gift of time which we give to our rector. Therefore, for any matters related to the parish or for pastoral needs during this time, please contact the Rev. Leslie Reimer or the Rev. Neil Raman. I am also available by email (jamie.mcmahon@gmail.com) or phone (412.889.4248). I would respectfully ask that you do not contact Jonathon directly, as we want to be sure he has the opportunity to be fully away from Calvary for these few months. If there is an urgent reason why you need to speak to the rector, please ask one of us and we can get in touch with him.

All of the normal business of the parish will continue during the rector's sabbatical and we have several assisting clergy who will also be helping out. Please greet them and thank them for their willingness to serve us during this time.

—*Jamie McMahon, Senior Warden* ■

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). ■



Outreach: Anytime, Anywhere, by Anyone

Over the last several weeks I have been volunteering at East End Cooperative Ministries. I show up on Tuesdays in their pantry to help a team of people who assemble orders of food made by clients who come by once a month. All types of people come to solve the same problem, hunger. Some have cars. Some haul away their order in rolling basket carts. The clients sign in at a desk with the expeditor, who helps them fill out the checklist for their order. I like that the clients get to pick what they want. Then we gather it for them and invite each one to look at what amounts to “the catch of the day.” Two refrigerators are filled with items that are donated from a variety of sources and include fresh produce and sometimes meat or even prepared food. They can pick a limited number of items from this assortment.

Part of this whole process is the opportunity of getting to engage with people who are in different ways not at ease with the fact that they depend on this monthly gift of food. There is an opportunity for making a difference in this situation. Most of us have never had to solve the problem of our own hunger in this way. I am quite sure, however, that all of us have experienced being fed out of someone else’s larder. In most cases this has happened because we have been members of families that gathered for meals, sometimes across many miles, even state borders. There is not a single reason why one couldn’t see these clients visiting the food pantry as part of our larger family. That would be the difference one could make.

In my life, I have worked in food service and supermarkets. From both of these perspectives one learns how dear our eating habits are. Having the food you like, prepared the way you like it, is one of the greatest sources of goodness and well-being in a human life. Around it, community is organized and shares in whatever bounty is being offered. So, the food that rolls out of the EECM pantry paves the way for family and other community gatherings to form the bonds that happen over meals, through which God accomplishes what we cannot do for ourselves. It might be that a family would be poised to invite one more person to their table or prepare a soup they could deliver to a shut-in.

Long ago, when I was an undergraduate at Temple University my budget was tight. My being somewhat reckless didn’t help either. In any case, there were short stretches of only days when I would be hungry. On campus was a small shed on wheels in which a woman, who seemed to fill most of the shed, sold hot pretzels. These were an important and

inexpensive staple of my diet. On some days I guess I must have looked a little too thin or tired to her. I would put my fifty cents through the window and in the bag she handed me was an extra pretzel. I have never forgotten her.

—Geoffrey Royce ■

Finding God Serving Others

Recently I have been given the opportunity to volunteer at the East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM). At times, opportunities present themselves when we least expect them and most need them. The EECM provides support for our community through nutritional and housing services, educational and employment assistance, as well as children and youth services. It has an incredible and vast impact upon the East End, as well as Pittsburgh as a whole, has crossed cultures, faiths, races, and classes for almost 50 years.

Being involved in the restaurant industry for 25 years, I was fortunate to have our brilliantly compassionate Volunteer Coordinator, Tracy, place me in the kind and more-than-capable hands of Chef Mike, our ingeniously creative culinary leader. In a normal day we host up to 150 guests for lunch and help another 400 families per month through our food pantry directed by the interminable energy of Nikki, who’s never without a smile or a good and encouraging word to offer. Coordinating all of this and doing much of the leg work is Brett, our Food Services Director, a man with a boundless positive attitude. None of this could occur without the cadre of volunteers who make this effort more an act of family than that of a workforce.

What truly makes this experience wonderful and illuminating is not that this is a soliloquy espousing the virtues of a fantastic organization (though they are truly), it’s an informal treatise on the benefits of service. Ironically, I’ve found that by helping someone else, in no matter how small a way, I am helping myself. It’s self-serving in that by being available for someone else, I can forget about me, get outside of myself and remember that there’s a whole world out there. There’s a paradox that exists within this construct. By attempting to humble myself, lose my ego, and find humility, I also let go of envy, resentment and self-centeredness. I can slowly become more self-aware, more “right-sized.” Humility equals strength. To find peace, to walk with God, try walking with others first. God will find you.

—Gregg Caligiuri

Rector’s note: Gregg is a Calvary parishioner and the owner of two of the clergy’s favorite local restaurants, Shady Grove on Walnut Street and Social in Bakery Square. ■

Alpha House Car Washes

In Calvary’s parking lot – 10 a.m. – on these Saturdays:

May 18, 25; June 1, 8, 15; July 20; August 10, 17, 31;

September 7, 14, 21, 28; October 12, 19. ■

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. Meetings are held 7-8 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday evening of each month. **We will meet on May 21, and June 4.** Email Matt Muldoon (mattmuldoon@msn.com) or Sondra Krimmel (sskrimmel@gmail.com) for information or to be added to the email list. Please feel welcome to join at any time. ■



Ascension Day–Thursday, May 30

**The Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at
6 p.m. in the Lady Chapel**

The Rev. Leslie Reimer, *preacher and celebrant*

Ascension Day is the occasion on which the risen Christ is taken into heaven after appearing to his followers for forty days (Acts 1:1-11, Mk 16:19). The Ascension marks the conclusion of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances. It is the final elevation of his human nature to divine glory and the near presence of God. The Ascension is affirmed by the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds. The Ascension is celebrated on Ascension Day, the Thursday that is the fortieth day of the Easter season. It is a principal feast of the church year in the Episcopal Church. ■

Staying in Touch

Please contact Calvary's Parish Administrator Kim Pieratt in 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. ■



Trex Recycling: Plastic Film Recycling Update

Thank you to everyone who has started to bring in plastic film to our Parish Hall recycling collection box. Since our program began on April 14, we have collected 29 pounds of film products that were taken to the Giant Eagle for recycling. To reach the goal of earning a park bench, we will need to collect about 20 pounds of plastic per week during the 6 month campaign. If you have not already started, please bring your recyclable plastic film products to the Parish Hall for collection. You are invited to recycle newspaper sleeves, bread bags, cereal liners, dry cleaning bags, grocery bags and plastic overwrap that enables you to carry beverages out of a store. Let's try to increase our collection to reach the goal. Contact Wendy Lomicka at wenlom@gmail.com if you have any questions or feedback Thank you! ■

The East Liberty Valley Historical Society

Spring 2019 Marilyn Evert Lecture Series



June 7: "Albright United Methodist Church: A Historical Past, Present and Future"

*presented by Friends of Albright – Representatives of those
who are trying to save Albright from the wrecking ball*

East Liberty Presbyterian Church

116 South Highland Avenue, Chapel

Lecture begins at 7:30 p.m.; Free and Open to the Public ■

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. ■



As spring ripens into summer, our Choir is preparing to visit St. Thomas' Church, New York, where we'll sing in the 11 a.m. service on June 16. Another beautiful edifice designed by Calvary's architect, Ralph Adams Cram, shortly after his work here, St. Thomas' is one of the architectural and musical landmarks of the Episcopal Church; you may've heard their renowned

Choir of Men and Boys in concert at Calvary 8 or 10 years ago. We have enjoyed singing services there several times in the past decade, and I was glad to accept their invitation to be the first visiting choir of this year's summer term, while the choirboys are on holiday.

Speaking of choral visits...I am excited to announce the return of the Choir of Trinity College, Cambridge, to present a concert at Calvary on Friday evening, September 20. I don't yet have any details of their program, but this is widely and rightly recognized as one of the finest choirs in the world; I'm thrilled that we can welcome them back. I hope you'll save the date, and join us for what I know will be a memorable evening. (I'd be grateful to hear from people who might be able to assist in housing or otherwise welcoming our guests in September.)

The Trinity College Choir's concert will, in turn, serve as a benefit for another bit of choral travel by our own choir. This hasn't exactly been a secret, but I'm pleased to go more overtly public with the news that the Calvary Choir will be making a pilgrimage to England to sing a week of daily services at Worcester Cathedral in August of 2021. (These things take time to arrange, and one has to plan ahead!)

I became persuaded of the spiritual and educational value of such choral pilgrimages by my own participation in a trip a friend's choir's made to England two years ago; connecting with our spiritual roots in a place where a tradition of sung daily prayer dates back (with only brief interruptions) for centuries will, I think, enhance the singers' understanding of what we do together back home, deepening our individual and collective spiritual lives, and also enhancing what we share with all who hear us in our native habitat.

Ticket sales for the Trinity concert will help defray the considerable costs of the trip for singers for whom those costs might prevent participation. (Other fund-raising opportunities will doubtless arise as the trip approaches; contributions to the effort are welcome at any time, and in any amount!) ■

Calvary houses two pipe-organs. The larger was built by Casavant-Frères of Québec in 1963; it is accounted one of the region's finest, and its hundred stops and more than 7,000 pipes are heard regularly in services and recitals. The *continuo* organ was built for the parish in 2007 as Op. 59 of the Taylor & Boudy firm of Staunton, Virginia; it contains some 231 pipes played from a single keyboard.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Sunday School & Nursery

May 19 will be our last day for the spring. Both nursery care and Sunday school, including a Confirmation preparation class for 8th and 9th graders, will resume in September.

Easter Egg Hunt Thanks

Enthusiastic egg hunters masterfully sought out and discovered a grand total of 745 Easter eggs hidden around the Swan Garden, McCormick Courtyard, and playground on Easter morning. Many thanks to all who donated candy or contributed toward its purchase, to those who assisted the Easter Bunny with egg-filling and hiding, and especially to everyone who came to participate!

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

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).

Sunday May 19, 12:45 p.m.

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

Holy Baptism



The sacrament of Holy Baptism will be offered on 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. ■

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



Saint Michael's Society "The Heart of Calvary's Future"

I'm not comfortable talking about money, so being asked to write about why I have included Calvary in my estate makes me a little twitchy. That said, Calvary has been a steady presence in my life for 35 years. I am grateful for our parish's rich traditions in social justice, pastoral care, community outreach, liturgical excellence, and theological education. **None of this would be possible if it weren't for parishioners past and present who have shared their many gifts, including financial resources, with the church.** I am including Calvary in my estate planning because I want to support the parish's ongoing ability to reach out to our neighbors in need, be a force for good in the wider community, and offer worship and education opportunities that invite all to seek and serve God "with gladness and singleness of heart."

—Karen Kapsanis ■

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

Summer Soup Group

On **Friday, June 9**, the Soup Group will meet in the kitchen at 10 a.m.

Our next cooking session is scheduled for **Wednesday, July 10 at 8:30 a.m.** On this day we will be making soup for the Super Senior Luncheon that is scheduled that day after the 10:30 a.m. service.



Our final summer cooking session will be on **Friday, August 2 at 10 a.m.**

Please join us for any or all of these dates! New cooks and recipes are always welcome.

—Adele Eley, adele.eley@gmail.com, 412.371.6921 ■

**Please remember Calvary Church
in your will.**



Find us on:
facebook®

www.facebook.com/CalvaryEpiscopalChurch



Red Geraniums for Pentecost

Would you like to donate red geranium plants in honor or memory of your loved ones for **Pentecost Sunday, June 9, 2019**? As is the tradition, the plants will be in the front of the rood screen for the services and then planted in the Calvary gardens. With your donation of \$10, you will be able to buy two geraniums. You may take one home to be planted there or opt to have both planted at Calvary. Order forms are available on the tract racks. **The deadline for orders is Monday, June 3.** ■



The Day of Pentecost: June 9

Holy Baptism at the 9 o'clock service.

Strawberries and Ice Cream

will be served after the 9 o'clock service.

Everyone is encouraged to wear red on that day.

On Pentecost, Calvary Church has the custom of reading the Gospel of the day simultaneously in as many languages as possible. The sound of many languages recalls for us the experience of the disciples and the crowd on that first Pentecost following the Resurrection. We invite anyone who knows a language other than English to read the Gospel in that language at the 9 a.m. or 11 a.m. services. When the Gospel is announced, all will begin to read at the same time in their various languages. (Even if you are a bit shy or not overly confident of perfect pronunciation, you can add your voice to the mix.) Translations of the Bible text in many languages are available at www.bibledatabase.net. **The Gospel reading for Pentecost is from the Gospel of John, chapter 14, verses 8-17, 25-27.** Thank you for helping us celebrate this festival of the Holy Spirit!! ■

With Thanks and Gratitude... Easter Monday Flower Delivery

A very grateful thank you to the 22 volunteers who came to the Parish Hall on Easter Monday to help with the delivery of the 55 Easter flowers to Calvary parishioners who had been on the Calvary Prayer List during the last year.

The following volunteers helped to accomplish this wonderful outreach ministry of Calvary Church. Several of these parishioners volunteered for the first time, and we welcome you to this Easter tradition of Calvary Church.



Thank you... Charles Altman, Michele Bender, Karen Chambers, Kathy Deis, Lucy Douglas, Adele Eley, Donna Hallen, Carol and Ron Johnston, Robin Kamin, Jan McKeag, Lyn Orr, Kim Pieratt, Charlotta Ross, Sue Rossetti, Jean Robinson, Sarah Seay, William Stevens, Laurie Tocci, P.J. Williamson, Louise Kay Woodside, and Judy Wootten.

Weezie Wells, who prepared the cards, addresses and directions that made the delivery task very easy.

Church Sextons, for which we are so grateful, and who came to work on their day off.

James Knight, who transferred the flowers from the Sanctuary to the Parish Hall. James was at the church at 6:45 a.m. to start this task and make the coffee for the volunteers.

Ron Johnston, and his wife Carole, who brought delicious pastries from the Oakmont Bakery so our volunteers would have a sweet treat with their coffee before they started their flower deliveries. Ron also helped James with the clean-up of the church and Parish Hall.

Ken Smith, who published the attractive announcements of this special flower delivery event in the Sunday Bulletin, weekly Calvary email delivered on Friday, and *Agape*.

Clergy, who made announcements on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday encouraging parishioners to volunteer for Easter Monday flower delivery.

I would also like to express my deepest gratitude and thanks to William Stevens. William and I worked together this year on this annual Easter Monday event. It is nice to share this responsibility with William. He was so helpful in organizing the delivery slips by neighborhood, helping to transport flowers from the church to the Parish Hall on Monday morning, arriving at the church at 7:15 to help set up and organize the tables with flowers, and he then delivered many flowers to parishioners.

*Barbara S. Hicks, Volunteer Co-Ordinator
Easter Monday Flower Delivery ■*

Too many books at home?

Gather up your used books and donate them to

The Bookstore at Calvary's **2019 USED BOOK SALE**

**SATURDAY
JUNE 15 & 22
10 AM – 2 PM**

**SUNDAY
JUNE 16 & 23
9 AM – 1 PM**

**PREVIEW PARTY
FRIDAY, JUNE 14
5-7 PM
ADMISSION DONATION \$10**

Proceeds of the Used Book Sale
benefit literacy programs in our Community



The Bookstore at Calvary

Mark your calendars for the Bookstore at Calvary's 2019 Used Book Sale which will be held June 14-16. Book donations will be accepted starting Friday, May 31; however, please no encyclopedias, magazines or textbooks. Volunteers are needed to sort and organize the book donations prior to the sale and are crucial for the continuation of this event! As little as one or two hours of your time can provide a huge impact to the success of the used book sale. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Pat Standring at pstandring@verizon.net or at 412.481.8613 for further details. A preview party will be held Friday, June 14 from 5 to 7 p.m. with an admission donation of \$10. Enjoy a glass of wine and light hors d'oeuvres and be among the first to browse our huge collection of books. Come see the large selection of bestsellers, cookbooks, hardcovers, nonfiction, and paperback book selections along with audiotapes, DVDs, and vinyl records. Hours will be Saturday, June 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday, June 16 are from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. All proceeds of the Used Book Sale benefit literacy programs in our community.

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. ■



PIIN 2019 Annual Banquet

Sunday, May 19, 5 – 7 p.m.

Westin Convention Center,

1000 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh 15222

Individual Tickets \$75 | Tables \$750

This year's Spring Fling themed "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" brought families together from both Beginnings and Calvary. We focused more on having children as an integral part of the festivities. Not only did we have an "indie dance party" with Kid City Rockers but we also filled many of our silent auction baskets with child-friendly tickets, books, movies, games, and toys. Students created "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" themed art canvases which were also part of our silent auction. The entertainment continued with our very own Lindsay Dragan (member of Calvary and has a daughter on the Yellow Team) who sang and played guitar followed by a good friend, Isaac Merz, who is part of a local band called Merz, Miller and The Wolves. Even with the rain, we had a great turnout and our two main goals of the night – "friendraising" and "fundraising" were met. Thanks to everyone who donated and helped with the event. More details will follow in next month's *Agape*. The Spring Fling was a great way to celebrate our community as we enter our final weeks of the school year. We are planning a picnic in the Swan Garden on May 30th before we end for the summer. As the new Director of Beginnings, I can say with all confidence that we have had a fantastic year!

–Tammy Lewis, Director ■

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.

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



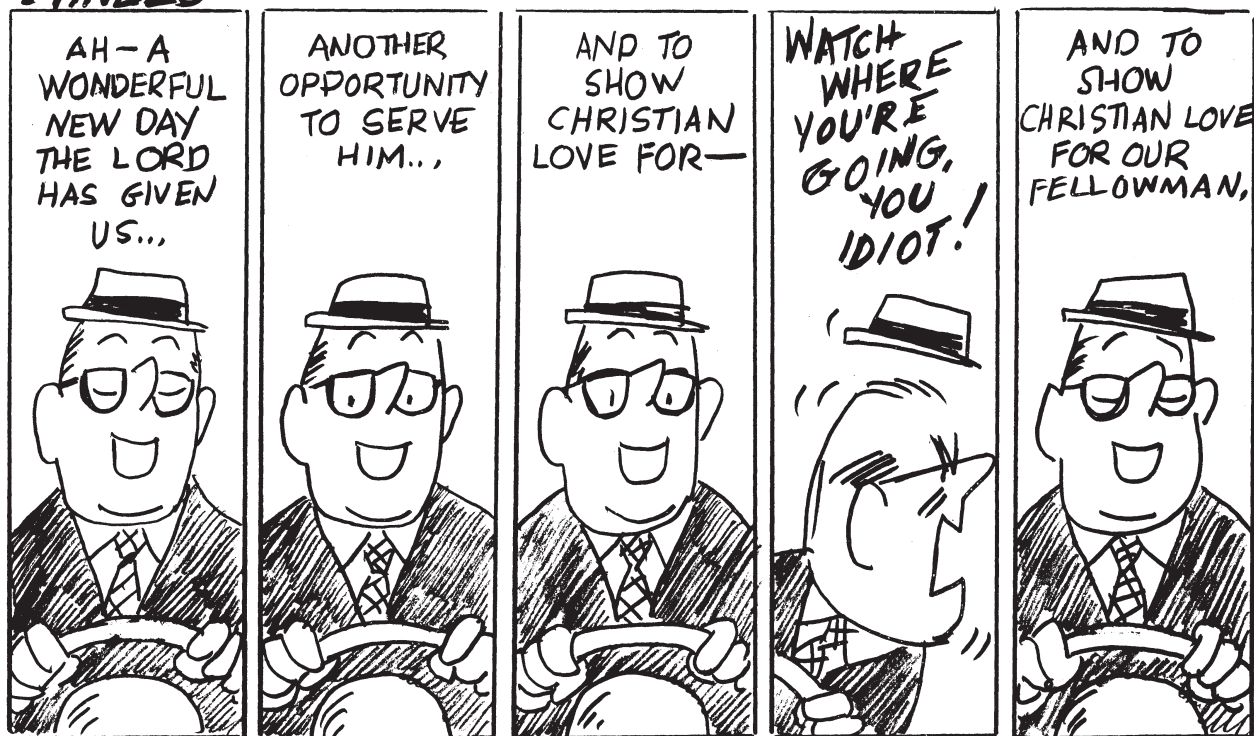
MEMORIAL DAY MONDAY, MAY 27, 2019

The church and offices will be closed

There will be no 6 p.m.
Holy Eucharist that day

Please recycle this newsletter
when you have finished reading it.

PANELS





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

Agape Deadline

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, May 31, 2019**. 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. ■



Rotation

Rector's Sabbatical Spurs Rota Revision: Jonathon Jensen+ evanesces following Easter services... to return in late August. Divvying up duties 'til then will be Senior Warden

Jamie McMahon, ably assisted by Leslie Reimer+ (until camp commences... to return Wednesdays and at the end of Summer,) and Neil Raman+. Carol Henley+ and Moni McIntyre+ sightings are expected during summer.

Gardeners Rotate Crops: Church property perimeter walked, plantings assessed and prayed for – sort of a Rogation Procession. Beds cleared. Lilies and geraniums, remaining after delivery to shut-ins post-Easter, planted. Seven flats of Caladium bulbs in stairwell greenhouse await just-right temp to go outside.

Bumping Process for Bums: Spiral-spindle-backed antique chairs in Parlor deemed unsafe for sitters or themselves – removed to undercroft storage. Decorative dining chairs migrate down from Evans Room to take their places. Excess conference room chairs ascend from Parish Hall to level D to take their places.

Videographer Shadows Stevens to Unlock Secrets of Altar Guild Processes: Merry-Go-Round of changing demands of Holy week provide ideal time to witness all tricks of the trade: Multiple Altar Hangings, Cross Drapings, Clergy Garments, Floral arrangements, Baptisms, Foot Washings, and lots of Communicants to be fed at myriad differing services of worship. Soon a major motion picture? Book your tux, William.

Fun Spring Fling: Beginnings brings it on with Mr. Rogers Neighborhood themed, food truck fed, local beer fueled, art work proffered, gift basket enticed evening fund-raiser. Even a Corn-hole game. Good times.

Lewis Leaps into Breach as Roth Relinquishes Reins: Beginnings director (Tammy) assumes additional role above stairs as Christian Formation Director (Susan) enters world of academe. Good luck, Y'all.

Local Dance Academy Poses Portraits near West Portal: Thrice recently, if you happened by and wondered. All seem to be impressed with our grand edifice... the Neb says, humbly. -30- ■

The Sheldon Calvary Camp service, an informal celebration of the Holy Eucharist, will be held on Sunday afternoon **May 26** at 3 p.m., in the Refectory. After spending the summer at camp, we will resume meeting at Calvary on **September 22**. The Rev. Leslie Reimer is the celebrant, and we use music from the Camp songbook. Mark your calendars and join us when you can! ■



News of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

PROJECT CREED

Q. What is Project CREED?

A. Project CREED is a special project of the Diocese of Pittsburgh to Re-envision the Diocese for the 21st Century as outlined by Lay and Clergy team members with their recommendations subject to the review, consideration, and approval by the Diocesan Convention in November 2019. What is God calling us to do here in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, and how can we redesign the tools in the Diocese that can most effectively help us answer that call?

Q. What are the Key Components of the Project?

A. The project encompasses four areas where volunteers are examining how this Diocese can better live out the words of our mission to Love, Teach, and Heal by focusing on four aspects of our work as individuals, parishes, and a Diocese.

Q. What are Those Four Areas?

A. The four areas are addressed by working groups described in detail below. They include the Governance Working Group focused on right-sizing our governance structure to better accomplish our mission; the New Initiatives Working Group focused on strengthening the ministries of our individual parishes to meet the needs of our own congregations; the Reaching Out to Neighbors Working Group focused on discerning how we can be better neighbors in a larger community; and the Communication Working Group focused on how we can strengthen trust through better communication techniques within and among parishes and with the Diocese as a whole.

Q. Who is Involved in Project CREED?

A. Currently, some 66 members of the Diocese (45 Lay and 21 Clergy) have volunteered to serve on one of the four working groups. Through “Grace Happens” and other communications, every person in the Diocese was invited last Fall to help in this re-envisioning process, and we continue to welcome all volunteers.

Q. How Did Project CREED Come About?

A. The Project began in a conversation between Bishop McConnell and the Standing Committee on ways to create more effective communication and engagement between the bishop’s office, our clergy and our congregations. Diocesan Council had already been considering a review of governance structures. The combined efforts led to a vision of a process

that would create broad-based ownership of changes necessary to our life as a diocese. To assist in this, the Bishop and Standing Committee chose an outside consultant, Judy Stark. Representatives of the three governing bodies of the Diocese – the Standing Committee, the Diocesan Council, and the Board of Trustees, together with the Bishop and his senior staff – met with the consultant for a full day at the end of September 2018, and began to design what became Project CREED. The project received further input from a day-long clergy Convocation in late November, and at the December meeting of Diocesan Council. All agreed that the process had to be all-inclusive, diverse (in all aspects of that word), and committed to producing a substantive “action plan,” not mere words on paper.

Q. Who is the Consultant to Project CREED?

A. Judy Stark from St. Petersburg, Florida, has consulted in various capacities with 16 dioceses across the nation and brings a wealth of knowledge of the broader Church to Project CREED, including how other dioceses approach the issues that we confront in Pittsburgh and how we can develop approaches that best meet our local needs.

Q. Who are the Team & Working Group Leaders in Project CREED?

A. Bishop McConnell has asked Jon Delano, president of Diocesan Council, to serve as Team Leader, and Jon is also serving as chair of the Governance Working Group. Amy Shelley is chairing the New Initiatives Working Group; the Rev. Julie Smith is chairing the Reaching Out to Neighbors Working Group; and Elaine Effort is chairing the Communication Working Group.

Q. What is the Timetable for Action?

A. Each of the four Working Groups is expected to produce “action plans” by this summer for review and approval by the Lay & Clergy Deputies to the 2019 Diocesan Convention this November. If the Governance Working Group proposes changes in our governing structures, that will also require action by the Committee on Constitution & Canons to submit the appropriate language to Convention to amend the legal framework under which we operate. The plan is to provide plenty of time for members of the Diocese to consider the recommendations of Project CREED.

Q. Is It Too Late to Participate in the Working Groups?

A. Absolutely not! We need you! Anyone in the Diocese, Lay or Clergy, who would like to contribute to any of these Working Groups can become a member simply by contacting Andy Muhl, the executive assistant at the Diocese, at amuhl@episcopalpgh.org, or Jon Delano at jon.delano@verizon.net. If you prefer not to be part of the working group but wish to share an idea, just send it along to Jon & Judi.

Q. What is the Focus of the Governance Working Group?

A. Our governance structure, set by the Canons, may be too cumbersome for a diocese of our size. How can we right-size

our elected and appointed diocesan bodies to reflect current needs, insure diversity, respect geography, and guide us into a 21st-century model of leadership, lay and ordained? What works best to build trust and collaboration among parishes, guard against a Pittsburgh-centric governance structure, and remove barriers to entry for all to participate in our governance?

Q. What is the Focus of the New Initiatives Working Group?

A. In a changing world, we need to develop ministries that reflect the needs in our own congregations and beyond. The possibilities include house churches, dinner churches, gatherings in bars and coffee shops, mini-communities of faith that focus on a unique group, such as young mothers, laundry love, and services of choral evensong, compline, 12-step eucharists and more. We want to say yes to these creative expressions of faith that increase the ways we love, teach and heal in the name of Jesus Christ. How can we foster these new ministries, support them financially and otherwise, and encourage congregations to tap into the resources available?

Q. What is the Focus of the Reaching Out to Neighbors Working Group?

A. Our Diocese does not operate in isolation. We are part of larger communities of diverse beliefs. Our neighbors are Christian and non-Christian and, increasingly, not religious at all. How can we discover who they are, minister in our neighborhoods, find strategic partners, and identify local needs and resources? How can we use our assets most effectively to multiply our presence in our communities, expand our capacity for mission, and be a powerful voice inviting others to know the person, work, and love of Jesus Christ? How can we define "Who is our neighbor?" and discern how we can be good neighbors in our own communities?

Q. What is the Focus of the Communication Working Group?

A. Trust depends on constant communication and sharing of information, which is not solely the responsibility of the governing bodies. Building trust requires a commitment to sharing information across parish lines about the work we are doing both together and independently. How can we build and strengthen that trust through 21st Century communication tools? What kind of information should be shared, and how can we facilitate parishes getting to know, connect, and respect each other's contributions to the Diocese? ■



Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

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

May 19: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Highland Park, the Rev. Dr. Bruce Robison, the Rev. Jean Chess, the Rev. Dr. Don Keyes, the Rev. William Marchl, and the Rev. Dean Byrom (UMC)

May 26: Retired clergy, including the Rev. William Haslett, the Rev. Lloyd Hays, the Rev. Louis Hays, the Rev. Dr. Teresa Hunt, the Rev. Austin Hurd, and the Rev. Dr. Jared Jackson

June 2: Christ Episcopal Church, Indiana, and the Rev. William Geiger; and the Rev. Marc Jacobson, missionary

June 9: Christ Episcopal Church, North Hills, the Rev. Canon James Shoucair, the Rev. Christine McIlvain, and the Rev. Lorena Ringle

June 16: Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh, the Rev. Philip Wainwright, and the Rev. Wade Lawrence; the Cathedral Chapter; and the Trinity Cathedral Walk-In Ministry

June 23: St. Michael's of the Valley Episcopal Church, Ligonier, and the Rev. Dr. James Simons; and Sheldon Calvary Camp, Tim Green executive director, the Rev. Leslie Reimer, director of spiritual life, summer staff and campers ■

Bishop's Visitation Schedule

May 12	St. Brendan's, Franklin Park
May 19	St. Andrew's, Highland Park
May 26	<i>Memorial Day</i>
June 2	Christ Church, Indiana
June 9	Christ, North Hills (Pentecost)
June 16	Trinity Cathedral
June 23	St. Michael's, Ligonier
June 30	St. Barnabas, Brackenridge ■

Stay in Touch with the Diocese

Visit the diocesan website at

www.episcopalpgh.org

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

info@episcopalpgh.org.

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

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Andy Muhl, Executive Assistant

412-721-0853 ext. 251 | amuhl@episcopalpgh.org ■

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Red Geraniums for Pentecost

**Would you like to donate red geranium plants
in honor or memory of your loved ones
on Pentecost Sunday, June 9, 2019?**

As is the tradition, the plants will be in the
front of the rood screen for the services
and then planted in the Calvary gardens.

With your donation of \$10,
you will be able to buy two geraniums.
You may take one home to be planted there or
opt to have both planted at Calvary.

An order form is on the next page

Red Geraniums for Pentecost

Would you like to donate red geranium plants in honor or memory of your loved ones for Pentecost Sunday, June 9, 2019? As is the tradition, the plants will be in the front of the rood screen for the services and then planted in the Calvary gardens. With your donation of \$10, you will be able to buy two geraniums. You may take one home to be planted there or opt to have both planted at Calvary.

Red Geraniums for Pentecost

☐ In Memory of

☐ In Honor of

Donor's name: _____

Donor's telephone: (_____) _____

**Please check here if you would like BOTH
geraniums to be planted at Calvary** ☐

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 **Monday, June 3, 2019**
so we can place our order with the greenhouse.

Thank You!

MAY 12
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SUNDAY

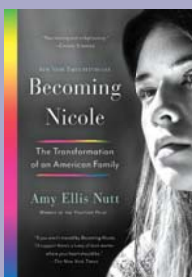
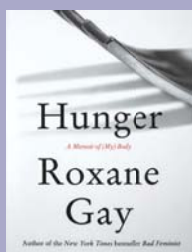
Look for your blue
United Thank Offering
envelopes in the service bulletin.

Thank You for your donations!



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*.

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More information can be found at carnegielibrary.org and at lavenderbook.club



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