

AUGUST 16, 2020

A Plan for Worship, Music, and Christian Formation at Calvary

As “Covid-tide” stretches on and on, threatening to rival or exceed the usual “Green” season after Pentecost in length, it has proven to be an unusual year for forming, much less realizing plans, but we remain faithful to our calling. As the parish staff have come to terms with the continuing likelihood of virtual church attendance, and ongoing uncertainty over the safety of basic activities like gathering or singing in groups, our ideas about what planning the coming year might mean have had to shift in response.

For the months ahead, it has seemed prudent for worship, music, Christian formation, and small group plans at Calvary to reflect the current reality around us; we will certainly hope for a new and more familiar “normal” to emerge soon, but will continue to find ways to make our prayers and practice accord with the necessities of the present.

Worship and Music

In addition to weekly Sunday morning at 11 a.m. webcasts of worship, we plan to concentrate special offerings into a few additional services, roughly monthly, between now and the end of the calendar year. These will include:

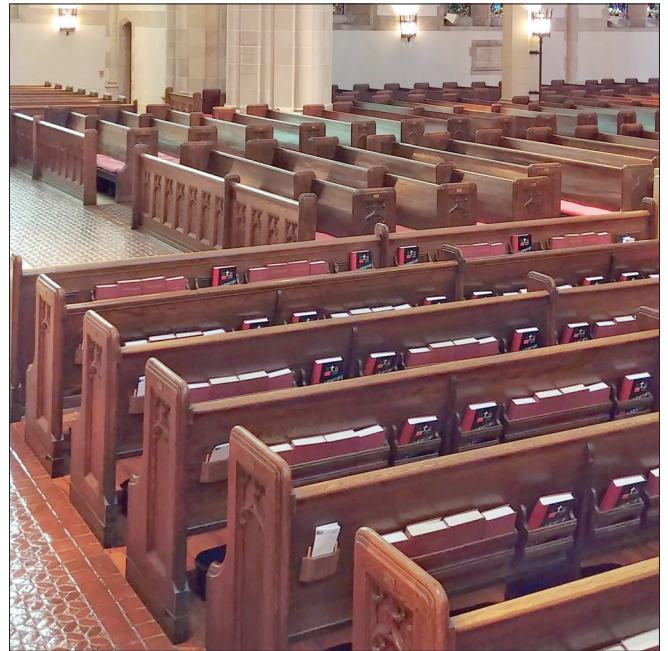
Evensong in observance of St. Michael and All Angels, our patronal feast, on Tuesday, September 29, at 6 p.m.

The annual musical Requiem, on Monday, All Souls Day, November 2, at 6 p.m.

An Advent Procession (similar to, but consciously different from the usual Lessons & Carols service) on the First Sunday of Advent, November 29 at 5 p.m.

A Service of Lessons & Carols for Christmas on the afternoon of the Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 20, at 5 p.m.

For each of these services, a somewhat expanded small group of singers will stand in for the Choir, observing whatever protocols of safety are understood by then to be necessary.



Because the physical ambience of CandleMass is so much a part of the essence of that service, it will be resumed at a later time, when we may gather safely again. Concerts, likewise, seem to be the stuff of future developments, at least for the time being.

We would ask readers of these lines please to take a moment to hold in thought and prayer the members of the Calvary Choir, whose primary experience of our worship together is as prayerful singers, and who are thus feeling the strangeness of these times in a particularly painful way. Singing is so personal an act, so much an expression of one’s essence, that to be deprived of the opportunity to pray thus in their accustomed ways in the service of the worship of God is especially dislocating. My heart goes out to all of them, in this loss, and I grieve that this loss must happen for their common good, and that of us all. We pray regularly for all those in the parish and those whom we serve and hope you continue to pray for us.

—continued on page 2

Staying in Touch

Are you signed up to receive Calvary’s weekly email of news and updates?
If not, visit our website at www.calvarypg.org and click the button at the bottom of the page.

Video Upgrade Update

Thanks to the generosity of many, we have received the necessary funds to begin upgrading our ability to stream and record services when a congregation is present. The parts have all been ordered (some are on backorder) with installation to begin in August. We still welcome donations to this as it will allow us to bolster this system further. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Memorial Services and Weddings

Because of the pandemic, many memorial services and weddings have been postponed. We have started offering these services in the church with a capacity of 25 people by invitation of the family. The service can be recorded and shared by a direct link on YouTube. That is, they are not open videos but may only be viewed by those with whom the family wants to share them. If you would like to schedule a service, please contact one of the clergy.

Christian Formation

Rector's Bible Study with the Rev. Jonathon Jensen

The Rector will lead a class on the Gospel of Matthew beginning Sunday, September 13. A weekly video lecture (about 20-30 minutes) will be posted on the Calvary YouTube page each Sunday morning by 10 a.m. At noon on each following Monday, we will have a Zoom discussion of the relevant section. All are welcome to participate. A link to the Zoom discussion will be shared in the Friday email. Please read the Gospel of Matthew in preparation.

Sacred Ground – A Dialogue Series on Race and Faith – facilitated by the Rev. Leslie Reimer

This series, created by the Episcopal Church, is an opportunity to consider the challenging history and questions of race, framed within a Christian context. A selection of films and readings opens up the conversation. The two core books we will read are *Jesus and the Disinherited*, by Howard Thurman, and *Waking Up White*, by Debby Irving. The group will meet by Zoom on Thursday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m., every other week beginning September 17. Please contact the Rev. Leslie Reimer at lrreimer@calvarypgh.org to sign up and to receive access to the online materials.

An Introduction to Prayer Book Spirituality with the Rev. Neil Raman

“Probably more than any other contemporary religious group, Episcopalians are people of a prayer book. Not only do we use the *Book of Common Prayer* for the conduct of our public services; it is the guide for our private prayer and the source of most of our theology.” – Leonel L. Mitchel

Join the Rev. Neil Raman each week for an exploration of the Episcopal Church's *Book of Common Prayer*. The class will explore the history, spirituality, and meaning of the

liturgies included in the Prayer Book. The class will also discuss the ways in which the *Book of Common Prayer* can be used to support and enrich private prayer. Each session will include a presentation, small group discussions in Zoom Breakout Rooms, and an opportunity to ask questions. The class will meet over Zoom on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30 a.m. beginning on Sunday, September 20. If you are interested in attending or have any questions about the class contact the Rev. Neil Raman (nraman@calvarypgh.org).

The Teaching Family is a new course for the POLO Group (Parents of Little Ones) on Tuesday evenings with *Tammy Lewis and Geoffrey Royce*. We'll be using *The Path Family Storybook: A Journey through the Bible with Families* as our guide. Parents will be presented with a Bible story to read with their child(ren) every two weeks. Along with this story, we will provide summaries of each lesson with some discussion questions for the family to talk over at home. Parents will then meet on Zoom for a 25-30 minute presentation by Geoffrey Royce with engagement of the story by class members. Our goal is to help parents teach their children how individual Bible stories fit together into one greater story: the story of God's incredible love for us. The POLO group will meet by Zoom the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. beginning September 1. Please contact Tammy Lewis at tlewis@calvarypgh.org to sign up. If you are interested, we'll need your email address to send you the Zoom link. This is a great time to join the POLO Group, no matter what your child's age!

Small Groups

The parish office will remain open from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. Beginning on September 14 (a week after Labor Day), the parish office will be open on Monday evenings from 5-9 p.m. for meetings and small groups. A sexton will be present. If your Calvary group, a continuing or new one, would like to meet in the building at that time, you are invited and welcome to do so. Please call Kim at the parish office to schedule the space.

We are mindful of physical health concerns and ask all who come to Calvary to practice social distancing, wear masks while on the premises, and wash one's hands regularly.

Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. –Galatians 6:9

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, Dr. Alan Lewis,
The Rev. Leslie Reimer, The Rev. Neil Raman, and
Deacon Geoffrey Royce ■

The Book of Common Prayer was first published in 1549 during the reign of Edward VI of England. It was the first prayer book to contain the forms of service for daily and Sunday worship in English and to do so within a single volume. ■

Connecting with Our Congregation and Community

On January 2, 1921, Calvary Church hosted the first worship service in the world broadcast over the radio on KDKA. We connected with the city and region using a new tool.

In mid-March, we began streaming our service on Sundays to connect with our community and beyond. The impetus was the pandemic that led us to utilize tools, new to us, of a video camera and the Web. Radio from 100 years ago and streaming video services today are ways of telling our story and the story of Jesus to bring light and hope into the world.

In the next few seasons of ministry (year or two), it is very likely we will have a congregation worshipping in the building and even more people worshipping online with us concurrently.

We have found this is an important point of connection with those who cannot be present physically for any number of reasons; live far away, illness, travel, woke up late, or concerns about health. This has also become a way for new people to discover Calvary and connect with the community.



We have worked diligently to make the online service feel as much like “church” as possible given the circumstances. In late March, we began making plans to continue streaming and recording services when we have a congregation present. With our current set up, we do not have the equipment we need for the future.

We intend to capture that same experience with people present and movement in multiple spaces around the church. We can do this with the right tools. With the assistance of Fred Roth (who runs everything on Sundays) and Neil Raman (responsible for the streaming), I have reviewed several proposals. They all have similar costs and approaches and allow future upgrades as they are needed.

The best plan would allow us to stream and record full services in the church. It would likely take a couple of months to complete because a number of parts are backordered as churches and non-profits realized this would be needed in the future. The system would have three cameras (controlled with a joystick), a computer and two monitors, cable, connectors, other equipment, and installation for \$16,800.

There would be a number of presets for the cameras so a button could be pushed to focus on the pulpit, lectern, high altar, and so on. The camera and equipment selection

take into account our lighting situation with a relatively dark building, particularly on cloudy days. All of it would be integrated into our existing sound system, designed and installed by the same person.

Some services and events to use these new tools to connect with people are the ordination of the next Bishop of Pittsburgh at Calvary in September 2021, the Tree of Life high holidays, concerts, weddings, funerals, Christmas, Easter, and community gatherings in addition to Sunday worship.

This is vital for our future and consistent with how Calvary has used technology to connect with and serve the community for almost 100 years.

If you are able to contribute, please contact me or the Financial Director, Lynda Kennedy (lkennedy@calvarypgh.org) in the parish office. I will be making a contribution and hope you will join me.

—Jonathon ■

Holy Baptism

Dates for public celebrations of Holy Baptism will be determined when public worship resumes at Calvary. Private celebrations of the Sacrament can be scheduled by contacting The Reverend Neil Raman (nraman@calvarypgh.org or 412.661.0120, ext. 112). ■



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

Clergy Contact Information

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

- The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, jjensen@calvarypgh.org
- The Rev. Leslie Reimer, lreimer@calvarypgh.org
- The Rev. Neil Raman, nraman@calvarypgh.org
- Deacon Geoffrey Royce, groyce@calvarypgh.org ■

LOVE. TEACH. HEAL.

Our Mission Guided by the Love of Jesus Christ

Becoming the Beloved Community

July 9, 2020

When I first wrote to you following the death of George Floyd at the hands of the Minneapolis police and the awakening that has stirred in our country as a result, I asked that we might change how we look at the world, and how we act in it, in terms of race, both as individuals and as the Church.

Today I wish to tell you about plans for a substantial initiative to address matters of race in and beyond our diocese.

Beginning September 1, we will launch the Beloved Community Initiative (BCI) as a way to promote the liberating and reconciling love of Jesus Christ, particularly as it relates to racial justice and reconciliation. The idea of the Beloved Community was developed in the early 20th century by the American philosopher Josiah Royce. In his sermons a half-century later, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. used the term to describe a society where racism, bigotry, and discrimination are intentionally removed, where conflicts are resolved without violence, where the oppressed and the oppressor are reconciled, where love and trust triumph over fear and hate, and where peace with justice prevails. It is a reflection of the Kingdom of God.

Our Beloved Community Initiative will develop strategies, rooted in the Gospel, to help fulfill our diocesan mission to Love, Teach, and Heal in the name and power of Jesus Christ; it will serve as a resource for all of us in our efforts to honor our Baptismal Covenant – *to strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being (BCP 305)*. The Initiative will be implemented by two half-time missionaries:



The Reverend Eric McIntosh will become Canon for the Beloved Community. In his on-going role as priest-in-charge of St. James, Penn Hills, Eric+ has built a diverse congregation that is rooted in evangelism. As Canon, he will be responsible for helping the bishop and the diocese determine and declare how Jesus informs our thinking toward justice and reconciliation. He will be charged with developing a



biblically-based curriculum to guide parishes and small groups in exploring the dynamics of racism and implicit bias as a spiritual illness afflicting the Church and our society. He will lead in recruiting and supporting people of color in lay and clerical leadership positions within the diocese; identifying ways to participate in racial justice movements; and establishing a network of racial justice voices within the diocese. He will work closely with existing diocesan groups involved in issues of race and social justice, and with civic and ecumenical groups and leaders who share similar objectives.



Shahnaz Alam-Denlinger, a member of St. Thomas in Oakmont, will serve as BCI Program Coordinator. She brings to this role an understanding of respect and service to others that comes from her growing up in a Muslim household and her conversion to Christianity, not to mention her impressive administrative skills and knowledge of five languages. She will assist Canon Eric+ in developing priorities, schedules and work plans for BCI; arranging associated activities; ensuring efficiency and policy compliance in BCI and other diocesan programs; seeking grants and monitoring expenses; writing and producing reports, documents and promotional materials; and evaluating program effectiveness.

The budget for salaries and relevant program and travel expenses will be funded through a combination of Board of Trustees support, a gracious gift from Calvary, East Liberty, and other sources as they become available.

I ask your prayers and support for this Initiative, for Eric+ and Shahnaz, and for us all as we labor to fulfill the promises we made when we were baptized into new life in Jesus Christ.

Faithfully your bishop,

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

The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh



July 1, 2020

The Commemoration of Pauli Murray

To: The Rector and Vestry of Calvary Episcopal Church

My dear friends;

It is with deep gratitude that I acknowledge Calvary's generous pledge of \$10,000 in support of our efforts toward racial justice and reconciliation, over the twelve-month period beginning September 1, 2020. I am especially grateful for the inspiration of your Rector in proposing the idea that has now blossomed into Beloved Community Initiative.

Your help is an answer to prayer. Following our Presiding Bishop's visit here in 2017 on a Pilgrimage for Repentance, Reconciliation and Renewal, I was hopeful the diocese might engage in a significant work in this direction. The Church Without Walls partnership with Rodman Street Missionary Baptist Church proved transformative for those who participated in it. However, most of our congregations were untouched and largely unconcerned. A Canon appointed then would have enjoyed little support. With the recent murder of George Floyd, it is possible that a sea-change has occurred, or so we hope and pray.

Though the present moment is painful, I believe it is also a gift, an opportunity to make a lasting difference in the racial climate of the diocese and the region. I am thankful that we share the same sense of urgency, thankful for your encouragement and, above all, for your partnership in the Gospel.

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dorsey W.M. McConnell".

(The Rt. Rev.) Dorsey W.M. McConnell, D.D.
VIII Bishop of Pittsburgh

325 Oliver Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh PA 15222

(412) 721-0853 + office@episcopalpgh.org. + www.episcopalpgh.org

The Bookstore at Calvary

Bishop McConnell's July 9, 2020 letter to the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh discussed how we look at the world, and how we act in it, in terms of race, both as individuals and as the Church. The Bookstore at Calvary has a selection of titles addressing this including antiracism, autobiographical, history, and social commentary. Among the titles:

Bishop Desmond Tutu guides readers on an extraordinary spiritual journey in a collection of prayers reflecting the rich soul of Africa in *An African Prayer Book*.

Acclaimed religious scholar Albert Raboteau tells how religion drove the fight for social justice in modern America in *American Prophets: Seven Religious Radicals and Their Struggle for Social and Political Justice*. He sheds light on the lives and thought of seven major prophetic figures (Abraham Joshua Heschel, A. J. Muste, Dorothy Day, Howard Thurman, Thomas Merton, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Fannie Lou Hamer) in twentieth century America whose social activism was motivated by a deeply felt compassion for those suffering injustice

Beloved by Toni Morrison, which was previously the Diocesan Commission on Race and Reconciliation selection for "one book, one community" event during Lent this year. Set after the American Civil War, it is inspired by the life of Margaret Garner, an African American who escaped slavery in Kentucky in late January 1856 by crossing the Ohio River to Ohio, a free state. Captured, she killed her child rather than have her taken back into slavery.

Trevor Noah's *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood* is an autobiographical comedy book written by the South African comedian and host of *The Daily Show with Trevor Noah*.

Philosopher, educator, civil rights leader, and theologian Dr. Howard Thurman's *The Centering Moment* is a collection of prayer-meditations selected from worship services.

Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America by Gilbert King. A nonfiction account of a 1949 court case involving the Groveland Boys, who were accused of rape by 17-year-old Caucasian-American.

Civil rights litigator and legal scholar Michelle Alexander is the author of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. The book discusses race-related issues specific to African-American males and mass incarceration in the United States, but Alexander noted that the discrimination faced by African-American males is prevalent among other minorities and socio-economically disadvantaged populations. Alexander's central premise,

The Bookstore at Calvary's 2020

USED BOOK SALE

SATURDAYS: AUG. 15 & 22

MON – FRI: AUG. 17 – 21

10 AM – 2 PM



PLEASE WEAR A MASK!



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

from which the book derives its title, is that mass incarceration is, metaphorically, the New Jim Crow.

Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America by Michael Eric Dyson looks into the state of race relations in the United States and grapples with the social construct of "whiteness".

This is a reminder that even though the Bookstore is not open to visitors, we are still available to meet your needs. If you are interested in obtaining these book titles or any other of items, contact the Bookstore at 412-661-0120 ext. 133 or email (please leave a message) or bookstore@calvaryph.org and we will contact you. In addition, we can arrange for contactless pick-up of your items.

In addition, over 150 mostly out of print, donated books are available online at www.alibris.com. 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 since 1997. To access the Calvary collection: in the Search Box, type Calvary, in the dropdown box within the search box, click on Sellers, then click on the magnifier icon.

The collection of offerings includes art, bibles, children's fiction, comics, and graphic novels, fiction, history, literary collections, literary criticism, nature, poetry, and travel to name just a few. Each title listing includes the edition, binding, publisher, date published, description, and condition. Prices start from as low as \$4.

The Bookstore Board would like to congratulate Sherry Bloom, Manager, The Bookstore at Calvary, on being selected to the board of the Episcopal Booksellers Association (EBA). Sherry's experience, skills, and talent will be an asset to the EBA – congratulations! ■



Small Groups at Calvary

This fall, in an effort to facilitate connection and deeper spiritual engagement in the midst of separation, Calvary will begin offering a variety of Small Groups. A Small Group consists of eight to fifteen people who gather together regularly, either in person or through Zoom, for a Bible Study, Book Study, or social time. The Contemplative Prayer Group, Education for Ministry, and the Calvary Young Adult Ministry are examples of Small Groups that already exist at Calvary.

The new Small Groups will meet regularly throughout the fall. This is not a permanent commitment and there will be an opportunity to select another group for the Spring. A list of the types of Small Groups can be found below.

If you would like to sign up for a Small Group (you can sign-up for more than one), fill out the form that can be found at <https://www.calvarypgh.org/small-group-registration>. At the beginning of September those who have signed up will be placed in small groups and contacted by a member of the clergy about getting started.

If you have any questions about Small Groups or about signing up contact the Rev. Neil Raman (nraman@calvarypgh.org).

Examples of Small Groups

Bible Study Groups

Bible Study Groups gather regularly to study Scripture. Unlike some of the other Bible Studies offered at Calvary, these groups are lay led. Each group is provided with a curriculum that includes discussion questions.

Book Study Groups

These groups will gather regularly to discuss a book chosen by the group. The clergy are happy to provide assistance in selecting books.

Groups Centered Around Social Connection

These groups have no formal curriculum or agenda. They meet regularly to provide an opportunity for social connection and support.

Prayer Groups

Prayer Groups will gather together regularly for the purpose of praying with one another. Some of these groups, like the Contemplative Prayer Group, are focused on a particular type of prayer. Other groups might decide to focus on intercessory prayer or choose to explore a wide variety of prayer practices.

Education for Ministry

Education for Ministry (EfM) is an international program of lay theological education which integrates the study of the Bible and Christian tradition with theological reflection on the life experiences of the group's members. Six to 12 participants form "communities of learning" that meet weekly for four academic years to worship, discuss study materials, develop their ability to "think theologically," and

become more aware and effective ministers of Christ in the world. [Please note that EfM is a program that requires a larger commitment than other small groups. If you are interested, please contact the Church office.]

POLO

POLO is an acronym for Parents of Little Ones. "Little Ones" are considered to be infants through elementary school (but of course, everyone is welcome). The group provides an opportunity for parents to get to know one another on a social level. From time to time, there will be discussions of issues that lie at the intersection of parenting and faith. ■



Episcopalians, Anglicans organize relief efforts after catastrophic explosion in Beirut

In the aftermath of the devastating explosion that caused widespread damage across Beirut, Lebanon, on Aug. 4, Episcopalians are reaching out to their Anglican counterparts in the region to assess their needs and offer assistance. The explosion, which killed at least 135 people, injured more than 3,000 and left 300,000 homeless, leveled much of the city's port when a fire ignited a massive amount of explosives that had been warehoused there for six years. All Saints Church, part of the Anglican Communion's Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, sits about a mile from the site of the explosion. Surrounded by skyscrapers, the church sustained relatively minor damage given its location; all the glass doors in the parish hall were shattered, but the sanctuary was not seriously damaged. There were no known deaths from the explosion among the church's Arabic-speaking Lebanese and international congregations, according to the church. Since the country's main port has been destroyed, importing repair materials will be exceptionally difficult, Edmunds said. Even getting money into the country is a problem because of the collapse of the Lebanese banking system. Dawani issued an appeal to the Diocese of Jerusalem's international partners for relief funds to repair All Saints Church and the Anglican Center, "but also to engage in a larger outreach effort to those members of the communities in Beirut most stricken by this tragedy." All Saints, being close to the blast but relatively unscathed, might be well-positioned to help with relief efforts, Dawani said. In the U.S., that appeal is being implemented by the American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, which has set up an emergency relief fund. The Middle East Council of Churches is also organizing an appeal, Edmunds said. ■



Hope Springs Eternal

Hope for A Fall Term:

Anticipating reopening with reduced class sizes, Beginnings complete campus (including now locked-to-the-public playground) carefully sanitized, with daily

regimen specified. Classroom practices revised. Teachers trained in new skills. Distancing difficult, but determined doable.

Hope for The Annual Book Sale: Postponed event scheduled to happen even as this article goes to press. Cloistered by COVID, contributors clean out closets and carry in caches of cherished volumes. Traditionally held in tight quarters below stairs, now relocated to the Parish Hall and Refectory, at present not otherwise in use. Available space balloons as tables now ring both – making browsing while social distancing practical.

Hope for Being Seen Soon: 1) Picture posters of Calvary life hung on open wall spaces. 2) Restored children's altar repurposed as information counter at church entry. 3) Restored regal chairs which until recently resided in Parish Hall (James' favorite Sunday morning spot). 3) Refurbished kitchen lighting. The staff just keep doing good stuff.

Hope for Never Having to Use It (but relief that it's there): Rusted Parish House fire escape receives full restorative treatment – scraping, priming, and painting. Unseen, but a good thing to have.

Hope for Another Twenty Years Comfort: Parish House air conditioning motor replaced after significantly long service. Again, unseen. Felt and heard, though.

Hope for A Day When Mini-Narthex Ceiling Stops Leaking: Perennial problem pops up during recent downpours. Thoughts being entertained about more effective – and perhaps decorative – ways to seal out and funnel water away from flat, pooling roof with its ineffective flashing and baroque drainage system.

Hope for Improved Ongoing Streaming Technology: First steps taken for future multi-camera broadcasting of services and more. With so much equipment on backorder, it is clear that we are not alone!

Hope for A Return to Corporate Worship, Learning, Other Shared Experience: 'Nuff said.

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A **canon** can mean a person, usually a priest on the cathedral or diocesan staff, or can mean a church law. The canons of the Church are the governing laws supporting the Constitution of the Episcopal Church. ■

Status Report from the Treasurer

At its June 22 meeting, the Vestry approved the Treasurer's Report for the five months ended May 31, 2020. Even though we are showing a deficit at the end of May, there is some very good news to report on the financial front, considering the fact that we are still in the middle of a pandemic. Pledge Income received is an excellent 97% of the budgeted amount for the first five months of the year. Also, monies received from Gifts & Grants are \$2,300 higher than the five-month budgeted amount. There is also good news in the fact that our actual Operations Fund expenses are \$500 less than the budgeted amount for the first five months of the year. It should be noted that after submitting an application, Calvary received on May 5 a Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) loan from the government (SBA) in the amount of \$164,000, which will be used exclusively for payroll and payroll-related expenses. As of May 31, \$36,556 of these expenses have been paid with funds from this loan. We expect the remaining loan balance to be applied to payroll and payroll-related expenses by the end of July. If we receive Loan Forgiveness by the end of the year, the loan becomes a grant on the income statement, which should lower our budgeted deficit. However, to assist us in making sure we accomplish this goal, please continue your EXCELLENT record so far of fulfilling your 2020 pledge commitment to Calvary Church.

Sincerely, *Bob Eley, Treasurer* ■

Calvary Episcopal Church

Operations Fund (Operating, Outreach & Capital Budgets)

Year-to-Date Financial Results through May 31, 2020

	5-Month Actual 2020	5-Month Budget 2020
Income:		
Pledge and Non-Pledge Contributions	\$408,500	\$421,600
Gifts & Grants for Operations	28,600	26,300
Loose Plate and Special Offerings	7,900	20,000
Transfer from Endowment Fund	110,000	112,100
Beginnings (reimbursement)	7,800	7,800
Trust Income	9,300	9,300
All Other Income	14,400	13,000
Total Income	586,500	610,100
Expenses:		
Salaries & Benefits	442,700	432,100
Diocesan Assessment	65,400	65,400
Maintenance & Operations of Bldgs.	86,100	73,200
Office & Administration/Finance	42,300	43,300
Taxes & Insurance	28,200	28,200
Hospitality & Parish Life	2,800	4,600
Christian Formation and Music	6,000	9,800
Pastoral Care & Outreach	7,300	12,700
Capital	5,000	16,000
Total Expenses	685,800	685,300
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(99,300)	(75,200)



IX Bishop of Pittsburgh Nominating Committee

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH

Bishop Nominating Committee Seeks Input

The first task of the Nominating Committee is to listen carefully to as many people within the diocese as possible in order to develop a clear and complete picture of our diocese – its strengths and its weaknesses, its opportunities and challenges, and its history and its hope for the future. We want to learn as much as we can in order to understand all that God has been doing among us and to discern where God is guiding us in the future and to help us see whom God may be calling to walk with us into that future.

One way of doing this is through a series of parish listening conversations scheduled during August. Calvary will participate in two of these meetings, held via the Zoom videoconference platform. We are seeking to have a broad representation from across our parish family so please consider bringing your perspective to this process.

On each of the following dates, we can have up to 16 people sign up: **Tuesday, August 25, 7-8 p.m.**

Saturday, August 29, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Please email Kim Pieratt at kpieratt@calvarypgh.org or call the church office with your preference, if you are interested to participate. You will be sent a Zoom invitation in the week prior to the meetings.

Thank you. *–Jamie McMahon, Senior Warden ■*

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 to all who have continued to donate to the EECM food cart. Your support is greatly appreciated.

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



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).

Wednesday, August 19 at 7 p.m.

CYAM Bible Study over Zoom

Thursday, August 20 at 5:45 p.m.

Holy Happy Hour in the Swan Garden at Calvary

Thursday, September 3 at 5:45 p.m.

Holy Happy Hour in the Swan Garden at Calvary

Thursday, September 10 at 5:45 p.m.

Holy Happy Hour in the Swan Garden at Calvary

Wednesday, September 23 at 7 p.m.

CYAM Bible Study over Zoom

Thursday, September 24 at 5:45 p.m.

Holy Happy Hour in the Swan Garden at Calvary

Thursday, September 30 at 7 p.m.

CYAM Bible Study over Zoom ■



E D U C A T I O N F O R M I N I S T R Y

Efm 2020–2021: Thursday Mornings at Calvary

Efm, Education for Ministry, is a 36-week long course that encourages its participants to explore their beliefs and behavior through systematic study of the Old and New Testaments, church history, and theology. As part of each session, the group engages in reflecting theologically on a wide range of subjects and issues. Our multi-denominational, intellectually stimulating and committed welcoming group invites you to join us for the next year starting on September 24, 2020 via Zoom!

Interested? Please contact Barbara Brooks by email at: tipark4me@aol.com, or by phone at: 412.726.9811. ■



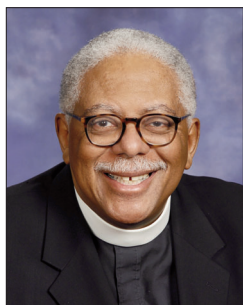
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SYMBOLS or “New occasions teach new duties, time makes ancient good uncouth”

by *The Reverend Dr. Harold T. Lewis*

For the first five or six years of my life, home was a commodious brownstone in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, which my grandfather Cyril purchased for his extended family shortly after he had emigrated to New York from Barbados. That family consisted of me, my parents, my grandparents, my then “maiden aunt” and my uncle, his wife and three children.



When I was four, entertainment came to our household in the form of an Emerson black-and-white television set. And it should be pointed out that virtually every image projected on that screen – be it the member of a sitcom cast or a purveyor of soap – was of a white face. Noted exceptions were Jackie Robinson, who played for the Brooklyn Dodgers, Willie, Mr. Irwin’s houseboy on the “Stu Irwin Show,” and Beulah, the eponymous star of a series about a maid. Other black or brown faces were instantly accorded an announcement on the front or back stairs. A cousin might proclaim “There’s a Negro on Channel 4,” or Grandma might let it be known that “there’s a colored lady on Channel 7.”

Fast forward to the mid-eighties when I served on the Presiding Bishop’s staff in New York. At an anti-racism workshop, we were divided into two groups: white people and people of color. At the end of the day, whites reported that through such media as TV commercials, billboards and posters they were affirmed and celebrated, in short, held up as representative and exemplary, part and parcel of the American fabric; whereas people of color were believed to have somehow fallen short. They are denigrated (which literally means “to blacken.” The positions they purportedly hold or are stereotypically perceived to hold are seen as menial, inferior or second class. In short, their lives seem to matter less or not at all, even to the point of being considered dispensable. Does this sound familiar?

We live in a world of symbols. Symbols can be as large as a military installation or as small as a box of pancake flour. Symbols say something about what we revere about the past and what we hold true about the present and future. For this reason symbols have a shelf life. The Victorian hymn writer had it spot on; “New occasions teach new duties; Time makes ancient good uncouth.” Or if you prefer a more contemporary approach, “A Virginia Town Rethinks Its Confederate Pillars: Iconography clashes with political present.”

It would appear that in the struggle between the iconographers and the people, the people are winning. The front office types at the NFL now concur that genuflection during the National Anthem is an acceptable gesture. The Washington Redskins will be known by a different name. The State of Mississippi has voted to remove the Confederate symbol from its flag. And it is expected that the Edmund Pettus Bridge, named for a Confederate general and Klansman, will be changed to honor the memory of John Lewis, who on that bridge on “Bloody Sunday” came within an inch of his martyrdom. H.T.L.+ ■

Dr. Lewis is the Rector Emeritus of Calvary Church.

Pack to School Drive

The Women of Calvary is once again sponsoring its Pack to School drive to help students and teachers at Lincoln Elementary School begin the new academic year. But this time the annual campaign will have a different look. Instead of collecting backpacks and school supplies, the WOC is asking Calvary parishioners to make a monetary donation to the program.

Classes at Lincoln Elementary, like all in Pittsburgh Public Schools, will be online to start the year. Staff at the school are working to put together packets of learning tools for students to use at home for online classes and then later this year for in-person instruction. These tools will differ from grade level to grade level, and can help in a variety of different lessons. Money collected through Pack to School can help Lincoln will the costs of these packets.

In the past, Calvary parishioners have been most generous in their giving to this worthy program and the WOC is hoping church members will again show strong their support. If you can help again this year, please drop off or send in a check, attention to Lynda Kennedy. The check should be made out to Calvary Episcopal Church; please add “Pack to School program” in the memo line.

The WOC thanks you ahead of your time for your concern and your contribution. ■

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@calvaryph.org. We ask that you keep us informed if you have a home address, phone or email change. ■

The 165th Annual Parish Meeting of Calvary Church

Our annual parish meeting was scheduled to take place in May but was cancelled due to the pandemic. At the annual parish meeting, we elect new members of the Parish Council and Vestry, learn about the finances, facilities, and ministries of the parish, and hear from the Senior Warden and Rector.

This year, the annual parish meeting will be held virtually and has been rescheduled for Sunday, August 30 at 12:30 p.m. We will hold the meeting on Zoom with only a few people, including the Rector and Senior Warden, presenting to make everything flow smoothly. We will have the ability to vote online. Please stay tuned for information about how to join the Zoom meeting.

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

In the Episcopal Church, the Rector is the President of the parish corporation and presides over the annual parish meeting and Vestry meetings. Assistant clergy have seat and voice at both but no vote. Meetings are open to the entire parish.

At Calvary Church, we have sixteen elected Vestry members. The Senior Warden is appointed by the Rector while the Vestry elects one of its own members as Junior Warden. Four members are elected each year, by the whole parish, to a four-year term. After the annual meeting, the Vestry will elect a Treasurer and appoint a Clerk (recording secretary). The current Treasurer (Bob Eley) and Clerk (Sarah Wilson) are both members of the Vestry.

The Senior Warden, currently Jamie McMahon, is the chief elected lay leader of the congregation. At Calvary, the Senior Warden chairs the Finance Committee. The Junior Warden, currently Sue DeWalt, has primary responsibility for the buildings and grounds of the church working with our sextons and contractors.

All Vestry and Parish Council members serve as volunteers. The requirements for Vestry and Parish Council members are few but important. One must be a baptized member of the parish, be a financial "giver of record," and also be able to show leadership by their presence at events and worship in the parish. The regularly scheduled time for Vestry meetings is the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m., changed some months for events like Thanksgiving and Christmas. We have been meeting by Zoom since March.

The Parish Council at Calvary is a group of elected lay

members who assist and advise the Rector and Vestry on issues of program and ministry. For the past few years, the Parish Council has focused on providing the extremely important and helpful ministry of serving as the discernment committee for the parish. That is, they help members of Calvary discern how God is calling them to serve the Church and the world, as an ordained clergy person or as a baptized member. To help with this, we will elect two new members to the Parish Council this year. The parish bylaws state there may be no more than four members per class of four classes, each serving four years. We intend to move to two members per new class for a total of eight people which is ideal for serving in their current capacity. The Parish Council meets as needed. Most recently, it met monthly for six months while serving as a parish discernment committee and then took a break.

The current members of the Vestry and Parish Council have continued to serve beyond the normal tenure due to the COVID-19 virus and the delay of our annual meeting. On behalf of the entire parish, I offer our thanks for the extra service to God, Calvary Church, and our neighbors.

Thank you to outgoing Vestry members: John Ferraro, Kelly Glass, Rennick Remley, and Lucy Weingartner.

Thank you to outgoing Parish Council members: Nan Neureither, Mary Ann Slater, and Anoo Verghis.

The members of the Nominating Committee were Adam Bailey, John Ferraro, Kelly Glass, Lucy Weingartner, Jamie McMahon, and The Rev. Jonathon Jensen ■

Women of Calvary News

The Women of Calvary will not hold its annual bazaar in 2020 due to concerns about the coronavirus and its potential impact on Calvary and its congregation.

The WoC will be asking for tax deductible contributions for East End Charities that benefit women and children. This will be so that we can still offer grants to these institutions. You will be receiving a letter outlining this soon.

The pandemic has caused hardships for many within Pittsburgh, and all agencies receiving WOC grants benefit women and children living in the city. The WOC hopes parishioners will graciously give what they can to this cause.

—Kathy Farrington, Chairperson ■



2020 Holidays and Observances

Monday, September 7: **Labor Day**
(*The Church and offices will be closed this day*)

Saturday, September 19: **Rosh Hashana**

Tuesday, September 22: **First Day of Fall**

Sunday, September 27:
Patronal Festival of Saint Michael and All Angels
(*observed*)

Monday, September 28: **Yom Kippur** ■

Home Communion

If you would like to have Communion (bread) brought to your home, the clergy are happy to do so. It will be prepared and placed in a sealed plastic bag and brought to your door. Please contact the clergy or the church office to make arrangements. ■

Beware of Email Scams!

During the pandemic, scams are on the rise. Fake emails are again circulating to Calvary members. The email appears to come from the Rector, and requests “a favor” or gift cards. Don’t respond to the email, simply delete it. Any email from Calvary always uses @calvarypgh.org, never gmail.com. ■

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. ■



Plastic Recycling

Thank you to the many people that are recycling plastic film to the collection boxes. We will continue our practice of recycling here at Calvary. ■



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, September 4, 2020**. 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. ■

Please remember Calvary Church
in your will.



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 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
Robert Dilts, Mary Ann Slater, *Archivists*

www.calvarypgh.org



News of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

Nominations for 2020 Convention Elections Open

The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh is now welcoming nominations of clergy and lay persons for election to membership on various governing bodies and committees of the Diocese.

This year, two laypersons will be elected to the Board of Trustees. One clergy and one layperson will be elected to the Standing Committee, the Cathedral Chapter and the Committee on Constitution and Canons. Two clergy will be elected to the Disciplinary Board. Finally, one person (clergy or lay) will be elected to the Commission on Ministry and Diocesan Growth Fund.

Multiple candidates for open positions are accepted and encouraged.

All positions carry a term of three years, except for the Standing Committee which has a four-year term.

The nomination form with submission instructions is available on the Diocesan website. ■

The 155th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

October 17, 2020

An Online Convention with specific details to come.

All instructions, letters, and documents are available on the diocesan website at www.episcopalpgh.org. ■

Responding to Racist Violence Resource Hub

In this time of national upheaval, outrage, and fear, the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh has assembled resources to assist individuals, congregations and communities seeking to address racist violence and systemic racism.

Visit www.episcopalpgh.org/resources-for-responding-to-racist-violence/

We'll continue to update the hub as new practices and information become available. ■



Episcopal Relief & Development launches new COVID-19 response web section

Episcopal Relief & Development has added a new section to the website focusing on the organization's response to the COVID-19 Pandemic in countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and in the United States. These pages contain specific information about how Episcopal Relief & Development is supporting partners in the United States and around the world.

The webpages feature new partnership information about the International Program team's support in countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, South Sudan, India, Honduras and Panama. These responses include food, personal protective equipment and educational campaigns to slow the spread of the coronavirus. Visit www.episcopalrelief.org ■

Anglican provinces and agencies around the world issue COVID-19 emergency appeals

Many Anglican Churches and agencies have launched emergency appeals to help poorer hit areas of their own provinces – and harder hit parts of the world – respond to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In New Zealand, Anglican Missions have launched an appeal called Our Global Response. "In Aotearoa, many Anglicans have not lost their income, and some have even saved money during this period", the Bishop of Wellington, Justin Duckworth, said. "I encourage you to get together in families, house churches and parishes and think creatively about how you can give into these places with great need. Every one of us can support these initiatives in prayer, and if you can give financially, I encourage you to give generously."

In Australia, two separate appeals have been launched by the Anglican Board of Mission and Anglican Overseas Aid.

Explaining its Global Emergency Response appeal, the Anglican Board of Mission (ABM) said: "during these uncertain times, and as we seek to understand and as we feel the impact of Covid-19 ourselves here in Australia, ABM continues to be in contact with our overseas partners to assess and respond to this crisis. Partners are working hard on information campaigns including the distribution of handwashing and hygiene kits to prevent Covid-19's spread.

—continued on the back

We anticipate the loss of livelihoods and lack of basic services in many of the communities where we work.”

Anglican Overseas Aid have called their appeal Communities Overcoming Covid-19. “Times are very hard all around the world, and probably will be for months to come”, they said. “And for those of you who are grieving, suffering financially or have been having difficulty coping with restrictions, our prayers are with you.

In Canada, the Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) has allocated \$200,000 CAD (approximately £116,000 GBP) to provide Covid-19 relief in Burundi and Canada – as well as to support the global ACT-Alliance appeal. “The work of our global partners to respond to this pandemic is critical right now,” Will Postma, Executive Director of PWRDF, said. “They are helping the most vulnerable in areas where even the basics of soap, running water and two metres of physical distancing can be a luxury.”

In the UK, the Anglican mission agency USPG (United Society Partner in the Gospel) has launched a Focus on the Future appeal. “We don’t yet know what the full impact of Coronavirus will be globally: on health, on livelihoods, on food security and on people’s life choices”, they said. “The marginalised and those living in extreme poverty will be hardest hit.”

Another UK-based Anglican mission Agency, the Church Mission Society (CMS) has also launched a Covid-19 appeal under its Mission Unscripted initiative. “As the big picture of the pandemic changes week by week, country by country, our priority remains the same: making sure that our people in mission have the support that they need so they can keep bringing the hope of Jesus”, they said. “For some, this means continuing to provide them with mission advice, risk management expertise and loving care so they can stay where they are and continue serving their communities. For others, it has meant bringing them home to the UK unexpectedly.”

The all-island Church of Ireland’s Bishops’ Appeal – which serves as the Province’s World Aid and Development Programme – has released €50,000 Euro (approximately £45,000 GBP) to support five partner mission and development agencies – Christian Aid, Tearfund Ireland, CMS Ireland, USPG, and Motivation – as they work among the world’s most vulnerable people.

In Kenya, Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit has launched a province-wide emergency appeal to support the work of the province’s development arm, Anglican Development Services Kenya.

In the US, staff from Episcopal Relief & Development, part of the US-based Episcopal Church, are in contact with partners in 44 countries to provide technical expertise and financial assistance in response to the pandemic and has launched a Pandemic Response Fund. ■

A new study guide on Christian doctrine has been published by the Anglican Communion. “**What do Anglicans Believe**” is an introduction to Christian doctrine. It draws on both Anglican and ecumenical statements of belief. The guide introduces a number of ecumenical texts and then asks questions to help students consider the practical application of the agreements in the life of their churches; including whether or not the life of their church “demonstrates that it is of Jesus Christ and what he does”; and how churches can show this more clearly. ■

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

August 16: The Commission on Ministry; Education for Ministry; the Disciplinary Board; and the Committee on Constitution & Canons

August 23: Campus Ministry, the Rev. Dan Isadore, University Chaplain; and the Children’s Ministry Team

August 30: Retired clergy, including the Rev. Dr. Canon Harold Lewis, the Rev. Sandra Ritchie, the Rev. Dr. Bruce Robison, the Rev. Vicente Santiago, the Rev. Dr. Steven Smalley, and the Rev. Dr. Richard Stinson

September 6: Retired clergy, including the Rev. Walter Szymanski, the Rev. Philip Wainwright, the Rev. Mary Weatherwax, the Very Rev. George Werner, the Rev. Randy Younkin and the Rev. Agustin Zubieta

September 13: St. Michael’s Episcopal Church, Wayne Township, and the Rev. Arthur Dilg; All Postulants and Candidates for Holy Orders ■



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Stay in Touch with the Diocese

Visit the diocesan website at

www.episcopalpgh.org

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

info@episcopalpgh.org.

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

The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh mailing address:

325 Oliver Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222

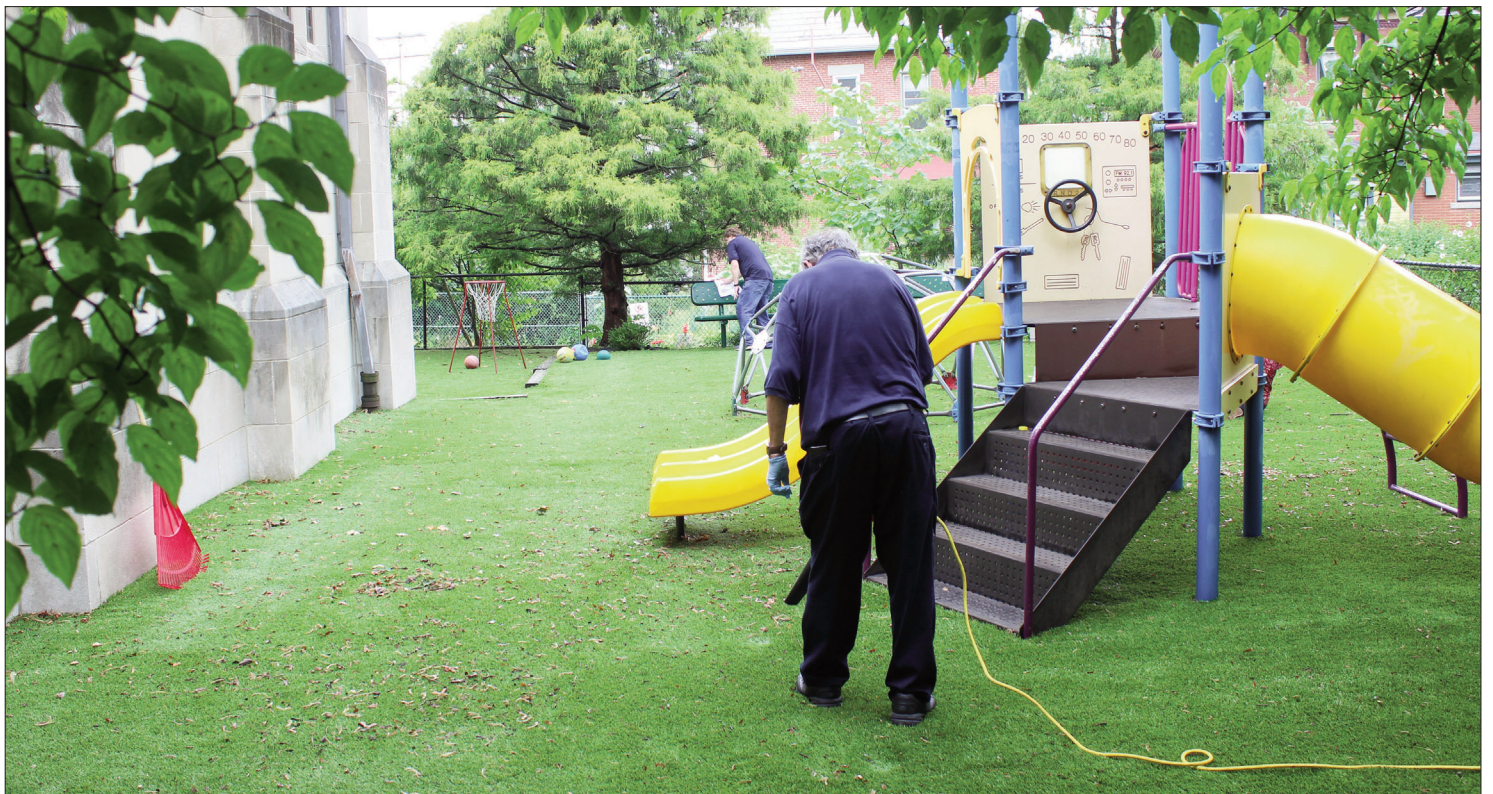
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Andy Muhl, Executive Assistant

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



Playground Cleanup

Beginnings Director Tammy Lewis and sextons Adam Augustine and Ron Johnston performed a cleanup and sanitation of the playground and its equipment. ■

The Bookstore at Calvary's 2020

USED BOOK SALE

SATURDAYS
AUGUST 15 & 22
10 AM – 2 PM

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AUGUST 17 – 21
10 AM – 2 PM

PREVIEW PARTY
FRIDAY, AUGUST 14
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SO ALL CAN BREATHE

Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network

20th Anniversary Virtual Banquet

Featuring Keynote Speaker Jasiri X of 1Hood

Sunday, August 30
7PM - 8:30PM

For more info:

 www.piinpa.org/breathe

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SATURDAY CAR WASH

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SEPTEMBER - 5 AND 12
MORE DATES TO BE DETERMINED

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