

Agape

The Newsletter of
Calvary Episcopal Church
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

AUGUST 22, 2021

September 12: The New Program Year Begins

Our regular service schedule will continue as it has for the summer with services at 8 a.m. in the Lady Chapel, 9: a.m. in the Swan Garden (or in the Church in the event of rain), and 11 a.m. in the Church.

It is our hope that we will be able to reintroduce some long-absent liturgical ceremonial on Sunday, September 12. On that day the 11 a.m. liturgy will return to a liturgical pattern similar to what we observed at the beginning of 2020. The most noticeable changes involve the location of the choir and the beginning and end of the liturgy. The choir will return to the choir stalls from their current location in the transept. The choir and other liturgical ministers will process into the church from the back of the church at the beginning of the liturgy and will process out at its conclusion. The Gospel will be proclaimed from the crossing platform as it has been this summer. For the time being, communion will still be administered from stations at the front of the crossing platform.

We will continue to livestream the 11 a.m. liturgy on both YouTube and Facebook.

Beginning on September 26, the 9 a.m. liturgy will be celebrated in the church from an altar at the crossing. The clergy and a server will process in through the Lady Chapel.

In the interest of public health, we will continue to offer communion of one kind (bread only). It is our hope to reintroduce the common cup as soon as it safe to do so.

We are reimagining the Sunday afternoon schedule a bit. We are regularizing a 5 p.m. Sunday service each week, under the generic title Eventide. These services, alternately taking the form of Evensong and of the Holy Eucharist, will employ Rite I, with its language that recalls earlier liturgies dating back all the way to the first sixteenth-century Book of Common Prayer. This has already been our pattern in Evensong, and the absence of a Eucharist in this idiom in our offerings has felt like an anomaly for some time.



In general, Eventide will alternate weekly between choral evensong (on the first and third Sundays of the month) and Eucharist (on the second, fourth, and fifth Sundays), but with flexibility to accommodate the annual choral Requiem on the first Sunday of November, and two services of Lessons and Carols in December, one emphasizing Advent, the other Christmas. All will involve considerable music, some for the full Choir, others for the small ensemble that evolved as the “Quarantet” during Covid-tide.

The Eventide Eucharist will be a departure from CandleMass, a liturgy we developed in 2015, and have offered in this time slot. The intimate seating of that service, in the choir stalls, now feels at odds with appropriately generous spacing of households or individuals. Instead, the celebration will take place on the crossing platform, with spacious seating in the nave and transepts. But we hope that some of the intimate flavor and musical style of CandleMass will remain, simply transposed into a different part of our liturgical space, and into the more focused musical sound of the one-on-a-part ensemble that we developed last year.

—The Rev. Neil Raman ■

Guest Preacher

On Sunday, September 19, 2021 at the 9 and 11 a.m. services our guest preacher will be the Rev. Charles Fischer who is the Vice President for Advancement at the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. He has previously served as Director of Alumni, Annual Fund, and Church Relations at the Virginia Theological Seminary and as a parish priest at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Atlanta. Please welcome Charles to Calvary. ■



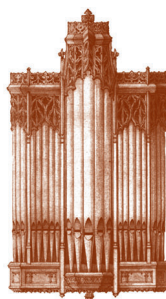
EfM (Education for Ministry) started in 1975 when the School of Theology at the University of the South (Sewanee) decided to develop a curriculum which would provide a basic theological education to lay Christians. EfM is a distance learning course in which the members of the group meet each week to discuss reading materials which provide a basic education about Christianity and contemporary theological issues. It is a four-year program, but students commit to only one year at a time. The first year is devoted to reading and understanding the Old Testament; second, the New Testament; third the history of the Christian Church; fourth, contemporary theological issues. The group also engages in a theological discussion on a topic of their choosing for part of the session. Discussions are led by trained mentors who act as moderators and fellow seekers.

Calvary hosts two EfM groups which are currently recruiting new participants. Members of the groups can be from various parishes as well as other denominations. The evening group meets Wednesdays from 6–9 p.m.; the morning group on Thursdays from 9:30–12:30. The cost of the program is \$375 a year and includes all textbooks. For more information on the program in general, please visit <http://efm.sewanee.edu/about-efm/about-efm>. To discuss the Thursday morning group please contact Barbara Brooks at tipark4me@aol.com or Diane Santoriello at Dianesantoriello@gmail.com. If interested in the Wednesday night group, contact Vanessa Sterling at vmsterling@gmail.com or 412.551.2042. ■

Staying in Touch

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

MUSICAL NOTES by Alan Lewis



The Calvary Choir and I are eagerly anticipating a return to relative normal this fall. Rehearsals will resume on Thursday, September 9, at 7:30 p.m. It'll be a great time for new members to join; please be in touch with me by email, on alewis@calvarypgh.org, for more information. Music for the fall includes the Mozart Requiem, on November 7; it's a wonderful piece, and will be a moving and powerful way to acknowledge and offer up so much cumulative grief and loss from the past couple of years.

As you may already have heard, Calvary suffered a lightning strike in mid-July, which affected the organ badly. The vastly complicated circuitry that transmits information from the player at the keyboards to the valves that play its more-than-7,000 pipes was severely damaged. While this has happened a number of times before, to various degrees, this seems to have been a much more severe "hit" than previous ones have been. (When I turned the organ on to check it, what sounded like every pipe in the instrument began to play at once – a sound no one ever wants to hear!)

Our technicians have been able to make about 30% of the organ playable. The current global microchip shortage will cause a fuller recovery to take considerably more time; it will also be so expensive as to require us to include it in an upcoming capital campaign. But a full recovery is anticipated eventually, and with the intention that upgrades to the components and materials will prevent yet another occurrence of this costly interruption in our musical life. Stay "tuned" for updates. ■

A Poem for Calvary

We recently received a lovely poem from parishioner Phil Sunderman. The verse is a response to a visit from a member who delivered flowers from the Calvary Altar to his home and shared some time together.

Phil turned 100 years old this year. He and his family have been a part of Calvary Church for a long time. His brother, Herman, was one of the original campers, in 1937, at Sheldon Calvary Camp.

The poem has been reprinted in the online version of this issue of *Agape*. ■

Please remember Calvary Church
in your will.



The Calvary Bazaar Saturday, October 30, 2021

The Women of Cavalry are hard at work getting ready for their annual fall Bazaar.

Below are ways you can help this worthy cause, which brings in about \$20,000 for local agencies that support women and children. Contact information for each Bazaar table is given.

Donations should be in good, clean condition and packed into boxes labeled for the rooms for which they are intended. Donations that are perishable, such as baked goods, should be brought in the day before, or the day of, the Bazaar. More details will be announced later.



Café table – Needs donations of simple treats and light refreshments to serve Bazaar attendees on October 30. Someone is needed to organize/chair the table this year. Contact Kathy Farrington at farringtonk@me.com or Mary Ann Slater at slatersaur904@gmail.com if interested.

Children's Books and Toys – Seeks donations including new or gently used, quality children's books, toys and décor appropriate for a child's bedroom or playroom. Anyone interested in serving as chairperson for the table should contact Kathy Farrington at farringtonk@me.com or Mary Ann Slater at slatersaur904@gmail.com

Nature's Gifts – Offers holiday flower bulbs and indoor plants. To donate small plants for the table, contact Diane Styles at dianestyles137@gmail.com. Volunteers are considering other plans for the table. To find out more, check out the survey at www.calvarypgh.org/woc-survey

Attic Treasures – Requests donations of clean, gently used items such as china, knick-knacks, glassware, small appliances, sports equipment and furniture. Volunteers will be needed to set up the week before as well as work on October 30. Contact Joan Dytman at joandytman@gmail.com and/or Mary Jane Bent at maryjanebent@gmail.com

Baked Goods – If you like to bake and want to share a favorite recipe, consider making your specialty for the table. Breads, coffee cakes, regular cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, pies, novelty items are all welcome. Contact Chairperson Maryann Moore mpmoore456@gmail.com.

Silent Auction – Chairwoman Sandy Ekstrom seeks tickets to sporting events, theater, opera, ballet, symphony, etc., hand-created gift baskets or donations of decorative arts or free passes to stay at your vacation home. Contact is sandyeks@verizon.net or 412.721.9764.

Handmade table – Features all kinds of hand-crafted gifts, blankets, seasonal kitchen towels, dog coats, sachets, cards, soaps, stuffed animals; children's sweaters; wooden birdhouses. Knitted hats, scarves and mittens in Steeler black and gold and colors of local colleges are popular. Contact is Nancy Carpenter, ngcarpenter@hotmail.com. Ask Nancy if you need yarn.

Linens Table – Seeks donations of vintage as well as new tablecloths, placemats, dresser and table runners, dish towels and cloths, hankies, doilies, coasters, bed linens. Hand-embroidered items and unique contributions are always welcome. Contact Margie Muldoon at margiemuldoon@msn.com

The New to You Room – Features an eclectic collection of new and gently used merchandise: china, glassware, kitchen items, artwork, home decor etc. Volunteers are needed to unpack and stage the Evans Room the week before the Bazaar. Contact Kathy Ayres 412.404.8921 or kayres@chatham.edu.

The Gourmet table – Seeks donations of homemade preserves, sauces, candy, dips, mixes, and frozen items are welcome. Please package items securely in containers or wrapping. For preserves and sauces, please use 8 oz jars when possible. If you want advice on pricing your item, please leave a note with your donation or call Leigh Gallagher at 412.400.2032.

Boutique – Looking for donations of scarves, purses, wallets, belts, gloves, hats and ties. Contact Laura Marchl at 412.363.2167 or laura.marchl@yahoo.com, or Tracy Morris at 412.715.8851 or tlmorris56@yahoo.com.

Jewelry – The table is looking for quality jewelry. Personal stories behind jewelry donations are appreciated by customers. Please contact Liz Exler at elizabethexl@msn.com ■



Pack to School Project

Lincoln School in Homewood relies on donations from our local community at the start of each school year to help purchase needed items such as school supplies and uniforms for their students. With the gracious donations of Calvary parishioners, Women of Calvary has been supporting this outreach program for many years. We typically ask for specific items, but because of the ongoing pandemic, we are only asking for monetary donations.

Please consider contributing to this very worthy cause! Checks should be sent to or dropped off at Calvary and made payable to Calvary Episcopal Church with "Pack to School" on the memo line. The deadline is August 31.

For more information, please contact Tammy Lewis at 412.661.0120 or tlewis@calvarypgh.org. ■

BE *the* BRIDGE

"Be the Bridge" is a Christian organization founded by Toni Morrison, author of *Be The Bridge: Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation*. They foster healthy conversations surrounding racial reconciliation and pursue oneness in communities, starting with the body of Christ. By learning and using practical steps, people are better equipped to respond to racial issues and partake in building bridges in our society, our culture and in the world. Bridge building groups are forming throughout the country and on social media. Members of Sisters Celebrating Diversity are leading two small bridge-building groups in the city of Pittsburgh. The group meets at Calvary monthly. Please contact co-leaders Ernestine Sudduth at stinebo4@msn.com or Tracy Labar at tracypghgirl@gmail.com for details. ■

CROP Hunger Walk October 10

Pittsburgh East CROP Hunger Walk registration is open. In 2021, we will continue to fight against the challenges of disease, disaster, displacement and other concerns that leave people hungry. Join with us as we raise funds to help neighbors near and far get the meals they need for today and sustainable food security for tomorrow! So far we have raised over \$1,400 in online donations and \$170 in Facebook donations or reported cash and checks!

For details, visit the CROP Walk website at events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/event/pittsburghpa ■



Let's Review

Dog Days Decline. Perseids Predominate. Let us pause to look back over the last several months.

- Storm-felled tree limb damaged Beginnings' playground fence. Easy repair for the Sextons, though.
 - Beginnings Summer Camps inaugural season ended with declarations of great success. Thorough clean-up has already been effected in anticipation of the start of the school year.
 - Beautiful Dogwood tree planted in Swan Garden in honor of our beloved Jean Robinson, so suddenly taken from us. A lovely remembrance of a beautiful soul. Saint Jean.
 - Chatham Baroque recorded their recent virtual concert on and about the Crossing. The acoustic is just sooo good.
 - Candidates for Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh grace Calvary for one of four "Walkabouts" to introduce themselves to and take questions from the people of said Diocese.
 - The Blessed Community Initiative hosted live/on-line explanation of mission from Calvary's Nave. Look for future opportunities to become involved.
 - Ethiopian Orthodox Community consecrated "Tabot", and the space in which it is to be honored, throughout the whole Church, outside as well as in, in glorious ten-hour ceremony, live and on-line. (Followed by the best, most festive, food-filled celebration.)
 - An impromptu town meeting was held in the Parish Hall to discuss the Penguins' proposed seasonal ice rink in the Hunt Armory. Discussions are ongoing with Calvary and our neighbors at Sacred Heart Parish about parking privileges for expected patrons.
 - Women of Song held multi-day retreat, then concertized in the Church. First time in a while that an actual choir has inhabited the stalls.
 - Not lightning, but "electrical storm anomaly" caused complete organ silencing, with only 30% restored as of this writing. Also: fire/security system failure, demise of one computer monitor, and failure of rest-room light in Crypt – all now repaired. Electricity is weird.
 - In planning for their return to Calvary for their celebration of the High Holy Days, Tree Of Life personnel looked into temporarily air conditioning the Nave. Hey! Don't get any ideas.
 - Book Store volunteers inspected, sorted, and displayed well over 10,000 donated items, fraying nerves and thumbs. Week-long Used Book Sale ends at press time, today. Spa treatments are probably in order.
 - Calvary Camp ended great season without Family Camp week, out of an abundance of caution.
- And... The masks came back.
Be safe out there. ■



**Sermon Preached by
The Reverend Jonathon W. Jensen, Rector
at Calvary Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
on the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, Year B, Proper 12
July 25, 2021**

John 6:1-21

It was the smell that first caught my attention. Incense... and a lot of it. This was the good kind so it was not a college dorm room but unmistakably church. Then I noticed layers of aromas underneath and closed my eyes to try to identify them.

Rich coffee that was familiar and easy like a childhood friend. That transported me momentarily back in time to my 20s where I spent every day, for five years, in a coffee house. The smell of freshly roasted coffee beans permeated everything... emanating out of my clothes for days. That made me think of learning, expectation, and the time of being young.

Beneath the incense and coffee were many more that were less familiar, exotic even. Cumin, turmeric, curry, ginger, garlic, spicy peppers, and several I did not recognize. But they smelled like happiness and hope. I had been welcomed into someone's joyful, family reunion.

I opened my eyes when I heard someone say, "Father Jonathon, welcome and thank you for having us. Taste this." Then she put something in my mouth before I could say no. It was delicious. We were in the refectory of Calvary where there were preparations for a great feast, all vegetarian. A service in the church was about to conclude, and the people were hungry.

The Ethiopian Orthodox Church in Pittsburgh now meets at Calvary every Saturday morning. This was the most important day in the life of their relatively new congregation. The service was a blessing of their tabot, the replica of the ark of the covenant and ten commandments, that formally made them a church. They believe the original Ark of the Covenant is in Ethiopia. They had an archbishop from Ethiopia, the bishop of Pennsylvania, several priests and well over 150 people present. The feast was the pinnacle of the celebration of the community.

No one was wearing shoes. The prophet Moses met God in a bush on fire that was not burned up. An angel told Moses to remove his shoes because he was in the presence of God and was standing on holy ground. They remove their shoes in worship as a sign of reverence and respect.

They processed around Calvary three times with the Ark, singing the whole way. Everyone was dressed in traditional garb, white robes with green, yellow, and red that are the colors of Ethiopia. They put on their shoes for the procession and took them off again. It was similar to sitting, standing, and kneeling in our tradition.

They had a full ten-hour service (10 hours!) from 2 a.m. until noon with fasting before. They celebrated with singing and dancing with drums, prayers, chanting, communion, Bible readings, and multiple sermons. After all that everyone was famished.

Our Gospel reading today is also about a feast at the end of the day. If you have paid close attention, we have been focused this year on the Gospel of Mark but changed today to John. We have five Sundays in a row with stories about Jesus as the bread of life that nourishes the soul.

The story we heard appears in five different forms in the New Testament. People loved to tell it. I have heard it or preached about it numerous times but have come to understand it in a new way after experiencing the Ethiopian worship service. A confession... I only did two hours rather than the full ten but think I got the point.

There are at least two possible interpretations to the feeding of the 5,000 people. Both can be true. The first is that Jesus exercised his divine power and multiplied five loaves and two fish so they became enough to feed 5,000 people. It was a sign that Jesus was the Christ, the anointed one of God. Jesus is the bread that feeds the soul.

In this first interpretation, Jesus took the offering of the boy and used it for the Kingdom. His small offering was consecrated for God's purposes and became enough to feed 5,000 people with 12 baskets left over. 12 baskets represent the 12 tribes of Israel that suggest everyone. Notice that Jesus didn't create something out of nothing. He used the gifts offered in faith. That's how God often works, using the tools at hand, usually us. What we have to give, when offered in faith, is always enough to build up God's Kingdom – showing love in action

While we may be quick to discount such a literal approach, consider this: we hear this story with full bellies and whatever we order is delivered to our door. Most people hear it from hunger, not abundance. It's hard to search for a metaphorical meaning on an empty stomach.

How else, then, might we approach this story physically full, yet spiritually hungry? A second, interpretation is more figurative but no less true. We are told that the crowds had followed Jesus because they had seen his miraculous healings of the sick. He had been teaching for a full day all

about the Kingdom of God, what God’s vision for the world looks like.

Rather than a new saying, Jesus used the gathering of hungry people as a teaching moment. Had they learned to recognize, serve, and love their neighbors? Had they learned to offer themselves to enact God’s Kingdom and put love in action?

Andrew, a fisherman by trade, put forward a boy who had five loaves of bread and two fish. This recalled a story about the prophet Elisha who fed 100 people with 20 barley loaves. Then he had the people recline that calls to mind the 23rd Psalm, “He makes me lie down in green pastures.” Jesus then took the bread, blessed, broke and gave the gifts to the people. Notice that is the same wording and imagery in our Communion service... took, blessed, broke, and gave.

The crowds came wanting another miracle. A miracle is exactly what they got – but not how they expected. We wouldn’t go out to the country or game all day with nothing to eat. As those in the crowd saw the generosity of the boy offering all he had to others, they began to share what **they** had. The boy was the first person who seemed to understand Jesus’ message. The boy expressed that tangibly or sacramentally by offering what he had for the benefit of others... by offering himself. Love is not love unless it is shared.

As the Gospel was shared, as incarnate love was given away, the crowd understood his message for the first time. They gave freely of themselves so there were twelve baskets of generosity left over. Notice, too, that Christ commanded that they gather up all the remaining pieces. Nothing is wasted when it is offered to God in faith. It was truly a miracle. A crowd, expecting to receive, learned how to **give** of themselves.

The story does not say, but one can imagine the feast of bread and fish was not a silent and somber affair. There were at least 5,000 people present. They probably sang and danced, told stories, and had children running everywhere. This scene was so festive they wanted it to continue so they tried to carry off Jesus and make him King. A miracle machine... so he left.

In the Swan Garden, the Ethiopian Church feast had vast amounts of food, coffee, singing, and dancing with children running everywhere. It bore a striking resemblance to a church potluck although the food was different. I was invited to sit with the clergy that felt like the big kids table at Thanksgiving. They and many members thanked Calvary profusely for welcoming them. They had contacted churches all over and none responded but us. It’s what we do.

In Ethiopia, they sit on the floor on pillows but we had chairs in the Garden. They don’t have utensils but use a sour bread called injera, like a spongy crepe, to scoop up food from a communal dish. We had spicy lentils, curried chick peas, collard greens, and bunch of things I could do not identify but were delicious. I needed a Tums later but ate it all out of respect.

On my breath and through my skin I could smell the whole day emanating out of me. I sat there taking it all in awash in all the sounds and smells listening to a sermon in Amharic, their native language. If I had to use one word to describe the whole event... it is joyful. Then it hit me.

They were reenacting the Gospel story. After a whole day of teaching and praying about the Kingdom of God, they shared it in a communal feast, feeding 5,000 or a few hundred. This is what love in action looks like. That was a sacrament if there ever was one. They celebrated Jesus as the bread of life and fed one another a joy that emanates out to the world.

Notes: *The name of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church in Pittsburgh is Kedist Selassie Orthodox Tewahedo. Kedist is blessed or holy. Selassie is Trinity. Orthodox means right worship or belief. Tewahedo means unified and refers to Christ as fully human and fully divine unified in one nature.*

The Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church was established in the 4th century and has about 38 million members. The Anglican Communion has about 80 million members. The majority of members of both groups are in Africa.

Green, yellow, and red are also the pan-African colors, out of respect, because Ethiopia is the oldest independent state in Africa and the only one that was not colonized. Italy tried for a few years in World War II but were repelled. ■





News of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

Overdose Awareness Day: A Time to Remember

Deaths by overdose accelerated during the COVID-19 pandemic. Each person lost to overdose is a person precious to God and created in God's image. Together, we can remember them in prayer and support those left behind.

Our region will observe International Overdose Awareness Day at Noon on Friday, August 27, with a memorial at Trinity Cathedral, 328 Sixth Avenue in Downtown Pittsburgh. The interfaith service includes prayers from faith leaders, testimonies from survivors, and blessings for first responders. Preceding the service, the cathedral bells will toll for each overdose death in Allegheny County. ■

2021 Diocesan Convention The 156th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh Saturday, October 16, 2021

Current documents relating to the Convention are available on the diocesan website at www.episcopalpgh.org/resources/2021-diocesan-convention/

The Diocesan Nominating Committee is seeking people willing to accept nomination to positions on diocesan boards and commissions that will be elected at the 2021 Diocesan Convention. Visit the above listed web address for a description of open positions to be elected, and a nomination form, with instructions, that is to be submitted to the Diocesan Office.

Thank you.

The Diocesan Nominating Committee ■

The Resolutions Committee is now accepting items to be considered at convention.

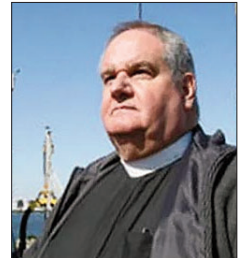
Proposed resolutions may be submitted by any parish or individuals. Each must conform to Robert's Rules of Order

and include a short explanation or rationale, as well as contact information for at least two sponsors.

A submission form, which contains a model resolution and submission instructions, is available at www.episcopalpgh.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Resolution-Submission-Form-2021.pdf. Please submit your resolution no later than Friday, September 10. ■

Rest in Peace: The Rev. Canon James D. Von Dreele

The Rev. Canon James D. Von Dreele, 74, died in Seasons Hospice at Wilmington Hospital in Wilmington, DE, Friday, July 23, 2021, after a long illness. He was 74 years old.



Jim+ was the rector at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Homestead from 1976 to 1996. During this time, he was active in an inter-denominational group of clergy and labor union members challenging corporate decisions affecting the lives of unemployed families in the Pittsburgh area.

Following his tenure in Homestead, Jim+ was named executive director of the Seamen's Church Institute in Philadelphia. This nonprofit organization provides hospitality and help for the crew members of shipping docked in the Port of Philadelphia. In this position he was an active advocate for seafarer's rights and was also elected president of the North American Maritime Ministry Association.

Fr. Von Dreele's obituary is available at www.capegazette.com/.

May Jim+'s soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. ■



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. ■

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

August 22: Campus Ministry, the Reverend Dan Isadore, University Chaplain; and the Children's Ministry Team

August 29: Retired clergy, including the Reverend Dr. Canon Harold Lewis, the Reverend Sandra Ritchie, the Reverend Vicente Santiago, the Reverend Dr. Steven Smalley, and the Reverend Dr. Richard Stinson

September 5: Retired clergy, including the Reverend Walter Szymanski, the Reverend Philip Wainwright, the Reverend Linda Tardy Wilson, the Reverend Mary Weatherwax, the Very Reverend George Werner, the Reverend Randy Younkin and the Reverend Agustin Zubieta

September 12: Church of the Holy Cross, Homewood, and the Reverend Torrey Johnson (ELCA)

September 19: St. Thomas Memorial Episcopal Church, Oakmont, the Reverend Jeffrey Murph, and the Reverend Dr. Norman Koehler; and the Chapel at UPMC St. Margaret ■

Bishop's Visitation Schedule

September 12: Holy Cross, Homewood

September 18: New Bishop Consecration (*Saturday*) ■



Current stories from ENS

The Rev. Nancy Frausto named Director of Latinx Studies at Seminary of the Southwest

Alan Hayes Receives Historical Society's Burr Prize
Historical Society of the Episcopal Church

New Church Divinity School of the Pacific
Continuing Ed Courses Include Navigating Conflict,
Pastoral Care with Marginalized Communities

Groundbreaking Free Congregational Vitality
Assessment Tool Launches Version 2.0
The FaithX Project

Trinity Church Wall Street Provides more than
\$675,000 in Emergency COVID Aid to Partners in
Africa, Latin America, and Asia

—continues in the next column

[The Calvary Episcopal Church Newsletter, *Agape*, August 22, 2021]

TryTank Experimental Lab and York St. John University of England Launch Survey to Study the Impact of Covid-19 on the Episcopal Church

Episcopal Church Foundation
Launches New Website: ecf.org

[Read the stories at www.episcopalnewsservice.org](http://www.episcopalnewsservice.org)

Bonnie-Marie was our recent McNulty Intern at Calvary and is currently assisting clergy at Trinity Cathedral

**God Willing
and the People Consenting**

The Rt. Reverend Dorsey W. M. McConnell
on Behalf of the Standing Committee

will ordain

Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan

to the Sacred Order of Priests
in Christ's one holy catholic
and apostolic Church

Saturday, September 4, 2021
at ten o'clock in the morning

at

Trinity Cathedral
328 Sixth Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

Your prayers and presence are requested
Clergy: Red Stoles Reception to follow



www.facebook.com/EpiscopalPittsburgh

The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh mailing address:

325 Oliver Avenue, Suite 300, Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412.721.0853 | info@episcopalpgh.org

Andy Muhl, Executive Assistant
412.721.0853 ext. 251 | amuhl@episcopalpgh.org ■



For the 40th time, we're back! The 2021-2022 school year, the 40th year of Beginnings, is upon us and we are as excited as we can be!

For the first time, Beginnings will offer classes 5 days a week in addition to our current 3-day program. At the current time, we have 54 students enrolled with half our families attending 5 days and half attending 3 days. We had 31 students last year. Our teachers will begin preparing for the school year on August 24. We plan to hold our class-wide parent orientations via Zoom during the morning of September 2, followed by a COVID-safe back-to-school picnic from 5:30 – 7 p.m. that same evening. We are already hearing great things from parents that their children are eager for school to start on September 8.

Once again, we will be accepting students beginning at 18 months. All of our teachers will be fully vaccinated and we are determined to provide our students with as normal an experience as possible as we continue to cope with the pandemic.

We look forward to sharing our school year with you!

–Tammy Lewis, *Director* ■

Sunday Services In-person Worship

8 a.m. - Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

A said service of Holy Communion in the Chapel

9 a.m. - Holy Eucharist

A service in the Garden (weather permitting),
with hymns and music

11 a.m. - Holy Eucharist (Rite II)

A service at the High Altar in the Church
with music for choir, organ and congregation

Online Worship

Follow either of the following links
for the 11 o'clock livestream:

Our website – www.calvarypgh.org/live
or Facebook –

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

The bulletin and readings may be viewed
on the Calvary website as PDFs at
www.calvarypgh.org/bulletins-and-readings-archive

CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Calvary's Nursery will be available on Sundays starting September 12 between 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Because of the ongoing pandemic and our COVID safety protocols, we will use 2 of our classrooms this fall.

Red Classroom: Infants and toddlers under the age of 2. Masks will not be required.

Orange Classroom: Children, ages 2 – 4. Masks will be required.

Our Nursery workers are fully vaccinated and will be masked at all times. All children's temperatures will be taken at drop-off. Please be mindful of others and keep your children at home if they show any signs of illness.

Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 12. Classes will be held each Sunday morning from 10 – 10:50 a.m. We will offer in-person and Zoom classes. We plan to have classes for the following age groups:

- Ages 3 – 4: Yellow Classroom, Level A
- Kindergarten - Grade 3: Purple Classroom, Level A
- Grades 4 – 8: Blue Classroom, Level A
- High School: Conference Room, Level E

Journey Group will start on Sunday, October 3. We'll gather via Zoom and in-person in the Evans Room from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. on the first and third Sundays of each month. We invite all youth in middle and high school to join us.

Important: If you are new to Sunday school or Journey Group, please email me with your contact information so we can share Zoom links if necessary.

Also important: We need **volunteers** to help with both our in-person and Zoom classes. We're going to have a great Sunday school year and would love for you to share your talents with our children and youth! All teachers working in-person will need to show proof of vaccination against COVID-19. Please call or email me if you are interested.

–Tammy Lewis, *Director of Children's Christian Formation*,
tlewis@calvarypgh.org, 412.661.0120 ext. 116 ■

Visit the Calvary website at
www.calvarypgh.org



www.facebook.com/CalvaryEpiscopalChurch



The Nominating Committee of the Vestry

will receive nominations in the parlor for
Vestry and Parish Council members on
Sunday, September 12, 2021
after all services.

Charlie Atwood, David Jeong, Fred Roth, and Sarah Wilson
are the members of the committee.
The Rector is an ex officio member.

Names may be also be submitted at any time to members
of the Nominating Committee, or by email, to the chair,
Jamie McMahon at jamie.mcmahon@gmail.com
or the Rector at jjensen@calvarypgh.org.

The 166th Annual Parish Meeting of Calvary Church will be held Sunday, October 3 on the observance of St. Michael's Day at 10 A.M., in the Parish Hall

Election of members of the Vestry and Parish Council
will take place and reports from the Wardens,
Treasurer and others will be given.
Please make every effort to attend. ■

CALVARY 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
at nraman@calvarypgh.org / 412.661.0120 ext. 112.

CYAM 2021 Fall Schedule

Wednesday, August 25 at 7 p.m.

Bible Study over Zoom

Thursday, August 26 at 5:45 p.m.

Holy Happy Hour at TBA

Thursday, September 2 at 7 p.m.

Bible Study over Zoom

Sunday, September 5 at 12:15 p.m.

Brunch at TBA

Thursday, September 9 at 7 p.m.

Bible Study over Zoom

Thursday, September 16 at 5:45 p.m.

Holy Happy Hour at TBA

Sunday, September 26 at 12:15 p.m.

Brunch at TBA ■

Blessing of the Animals

Please bring your furry and feathered friends and gather
with the clergy of Calvary Episcopal Church in the
Swan Garden on **Sunday, October 10, 2021 at 3 p.m.** for the
annual Blessing of the Animals.

Human and animal treats will be served. For their happiness
and safety, please keep your pets leashed or otherwise
in your loving care. ■

Spiritual Reflection – Julian of Norwich



Adult spiritual formation may be
described as the step-by-step discovery
of God's presence in our lives and our
personal transformation along the way.
Calvary's Spiritual Reflection meetings continue to be a
regular and familiar forum for small group peer ministry.
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.

Every few months, we choose as a guide the writings of a
different author. At each meeting, a short reading serves as
a catalyst for reflection upon, and discussion of, God in our
daily lives.

This Fall we will use the writings of Julian of Norwich
(1343–1416). Julian was a Middle Ages mystic who is best
known for authoring for first book written in English by a
woman author. Her *Revelations of Divine Love* describes a
series of visions of the passion of Christ Julian received
when on her deathbed with a serious illness. She recovered
and, over many years, wrote of her visions and her
understanding of their meaning. Julian's theology was
optimistic and spoke of God's omnibenevolence and love in
terms of joy and compassion. A characteristic element of her
mystical theology was a daring likening of divine love to
motherly love. For our meetings, we will use the book,
Enfolded in Love: Daily Readings with Julian of Norwich by
Robert Llewelyn.

Meetings are held in the Evans Room from 7–8 p.m. on
the first and third Tuesday evening of each month.
The meetings are hybrid, allowing “in person” conversation
while using Zoom so others can join remotely. Upcoming
meetings will occur on September 7 and 21, and October 5
and 19. 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. ■

The Bookstore at Calvary

The Bookstore at Calvary's 2021 Used Book Sale runs through Sunday, August 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day. Fill a bag for \$15 with a huge selection of books including children's, fiction, and nonfiction, as well as books on tape, games, CDs, DVDs, and vinyl records. All proceeds of the Used Book Sale benefit local educational and literacy organizations.

Spotlight on New Book Titles



Award-winning author Diane Butler Bass goes beyond the culture wars to offer a refreshing take on the comprehensive, multi-faceted nature of Jesus, keeping his teachings relevant and alive in our daily lives in **Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence**.

Beloved nun and social activist Joan Chittister offers a soul-stirring guide for all who feel disillusioned and dissatisfied with the power-hungry institutions and systems of this world in **The Time is Now: A Call to Uncommon Courage**.

Mark D. W. Edington's **We Shall Be Changed: Questions for the Post-Pandemic Church** is designed to spur conversation with parishes, fellowship groups, and clergy gatherings about how to embrace the gifts this time has given while anticipating and addressing the very real challenges the church will confront in the future.

After her brother died unexpectedly and her mother moved into a dementia care facility, spiritual travel writer and Episcopal deacon Lori Erickson felt called to a new quest: to face death head on, with the eye of a tourist and the heart of a pastor in **Near the Exit: Travels with the Not-So-Grim Reaper**.

Rachel Held Evans and Matthew Paul Turner answers many children's first questions about God in the beautiful picture book **What is God Like?** A baby boy is hidden in a basket floating on the Nile. A fearful mother sings a song of protection. And a brave sister seeks a change to save her brother in **Hiding Baby Moses** by Judith L. Roth.

In the first of two volumes, Lynn Japinga acquaints us with the women of the Old Testament in **From Widows to Warriors: Women's Stories from the Old Testament**. From flawed heroes like Ruth and Rahab to fierce fighters like Deborah and Jael, readers will encounter a wealth of foremothers in the faith in all their messy, yet redeemable, humanity. Volume two, **From Daughter to Disciples: Women's Stories from the New Testament**, is a Bible study introducing and retelling every female character who

contributes to one or more New Testament stories, diving deeply into what each woman's story means for us today with questions for reflection and discussion.

Bound in the Bond of Life: Pittsburgh Writers Reflect on the Tree of Life Tragedy by Beth Kissileff and Eric S. Lidji is an anthology of essays written by local journalists, academics, rabbis, and other community members, revealing a city's attempt to cope, make sense of, and come to terms with the unfathomable horror of the killing of eleven people and injuring six more in the deadliest anti-Semitic attack in America history at Pittsburgh's Tree of Life Synagogue on October 27, 2018.



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. Calvary has over 200 mostly out of print, donated books available online at <http://hymnal82.alibrisstore.com>. 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. Checkout the unique offerings that are reasonably priced.

Calvary website link to The Bookstore at Calvary

Go to <https://www.calvaryph.org> and click on The Bookstore at Calvary located in the upper right corner or go directly to the site at <https://www.calvaryph.org/the-bookstore-at-calvary>. You will find a monthly newsletter along with pictures of featured items available. Be sure to mark the website as one of your favorites!

How to access The Bookstore at Calvary

The Bookstore is open on Sunday from 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. During the week, contact the Bookstore at 412.661.0120, ext. 133 (please leave a message) or by email at bookstore@calvaryph.org and we will contact you. In addition, we can arrange for contactless pick-up of your items. Cash, check, Discover®, MasterCard®, and Visa® along with touch-free payments are accepted. ■





Calvary Church and offices will be closed on Monday, September 6, 2021, in observance of Labor Day, to honor and recognize the American labor movement and the works and contributions of laborers to the development and achievements of the United States. ■

Agape Deadline

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, September 10, 2021**. 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. ■



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 McMahan, *Senior Warden*
G. Frederic Roth, *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, Ron Johnston,
James Knight, Mary Ann Packer, *Sextons*
Sherry Bloom, *Manager, The Bookstore at Calvary*
Robert Dilts, Mary Ann Slater, *Archivists*

Tree of Life to Worship at Calvary for High Holy Days



Dear Jonathon,

As part of our High Holiday observance this year, Tree of Life's Good Neighbor Committee is conducting a food drive to benefit the Squirrel Hill Food Pantry. We will be collecting items during our September Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services, which we are holding once again in your beautiful Calvary Episcopal Church.

We deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity, which you first demonstrated when we were searching for High Holiday prayer space in the aftermath of the attack of October 27, 2018, which rendered our synagogue building unusable. We are happy to report that the plan for rehabilitating our building has developed in significant and exciting ways over the past year, although we are not at a point where we can return there yet. As such, we gratefully accepted the offer to worship at Calvary again for our 2021 High Holidays.

As an expression of our gratitude, we will be donating a percentage of the foodstuffs we collect to the East End Cooperative Ministry, in honor of Calvary Episcopal Church. It is our understanding that EECM is the regular beneficiary of Calvary Episcopal's on-going food drive. As a recipient of the kindness of Calvary Episcopal, Tree of Life is delighted to pay that kindheartedness forward with this contribution to EECM.

We hope you will inform your leadership and congregants of our upcoming gift, so they will know how much we appreciate their continued compassion.

With best wishes,
Irwin Harris, VP-Ritual
Tree of Life Congregation ■

2021 Holidays and Observances

Sunday, October 3: **St. Michael & All Angels** [Observed]
Monday, November 1: **All Saints' Day**
Tuesday, November 2: **All Souls Day / Election Day**
Sunday, November 7: **All Saints' Sunday;**
Return to Eastern Standard Time ■

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

A Poem for Calvary

The Flower Lady

By Phil Sunderman – 7/7/21

They said she would come...'
the voice on the telephone
said so.

~~~~~  
"When in the source of human events..."

Thus wrote Thomas Jefferson,  
ordered by those assembled  
in Philadelphia  
on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1776.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident;"

he continued,  
and ended  
with this...

"we mutually pledge to each other

our lives, our fortunes,  
and our sacred honor."

This was Sunday,  
The 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 2021...  
...Independence Day...

and the lady  
with the flowers  
was at my front door.

She said her name was Kathy.'  
She was slight of build  
and the bouquet  
of flowers  
and a large glass vase  
seemed almost too much for her.

I greeted her  
and motioned her  
toward the kitchen  
where she filled the vase  
with water  
and arranged the flowers  
within the shapely vessel.

The kitchen table...  
that's where the  
beautiful flowers  
in the glass vase  
found their place...  
and they are there,  
even now.

That lovely vase  
filled with gorgeous flowers  
of moderate size  
and from a red through  
a variety of pink colors  
to almost white.  
All this, surrounded with greens...  
to set off the colors  
and the floral forms.

To the kitchen table...  
...from a Sacred Place...  
Kathy brought the flowers...  
from an Altar...  
to a humble,  
small, rough table.'

Down grading?

No! Not at all.  
We do not ask God's blessing  
at our meals  
at this table'  
never did.

Just the two of us...  
One a hundred years old  
the other almost ninety-five,  
... it's quiet.

It's hard to think of God  
as you finish a bowl of hot oats...  
or an English muffin...a bagel...  
or canned pears and cottage cheese...  
or even a heaping bowl of  
Cheerios and milk.

For over sixty-five years  
we have eaten  
at this table...  
...with and without kids;  
it's been Blessed...

with a thousand  
different words,  
spoken and often silent.

It may not be an Altar...  
...this small table  
where Kathy set the  
vase filled with lovely flowers,  
but it is where...  
... LOVE gathered...  
day after day.

That Blesses every meal...  
...and the flowers are so lovely.

—————  




## **Pig Roast and More!**

### **Honoring Bishop Dorsey and Betsy McConnell**



**Saturday, August 28th  
4 to 7 pm  
Christ Episcopal Church  
5910 Babcock Blvd.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237**



**RSVP online at [www.episcopalpgh.org](http://www.episcopalpgh.org)  
by August 20th**

**Door Prizes  
Cookie Table  
Games**

**Balloon Art  
50/50 Raffle  
Video Booth**

**Island Theme**

**Drop by and say farewell!**





# share the warmth 2021



This winter you can help those in need by donating new or gently used coats to the 2021 EECM Coat Drive.

## NEW COATS

Drop off new coats with tags by October 15 at:  
East End Cooperative Ministry, 6140 Station St, Entrance A

## GENTLY USED COATS

Bring your used coats to Strong II Dry Cleaners between September 7 and October 13 and have them cleaned for free. Strong II will deliver the cleaned coats directly to EECM!

Drop off coats in plastic bags and tell the clerk that they are for the EECM Coat Drive. Bring in your own dry cleaning or laundry at the same time – *no leather, suede, fur, or alterations* – and get 50% off when you pre-pay!



7620 Frankstown Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15208  
Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri 8am–3:30pm | Sat 11am–3pm  
Closed Sunday and Wednesday



EAST END  
COOPERATIVE  
MINISTRY

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Questions? Contact Tracy Hudson  
412 345-7124 | [tracyh@eecm.org](mailto:tracyh@eecm.org)



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Wednesday, September 29, 2021  
The Neighborhood Academy  
709 N Aiken Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Registration is now open at  
[theneighborhoodacademy.org](http://theneighborhoodacademy.org)



Join The Neighborhood Academy for a thought-provoking evening with Wes Moore: bestselling author, combat veteran, social entrepreneur, and former CEO of Robin Hood - one of the largest anti-poverty forces in the nation.

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# Join us for the 2021 PIIN Virtual Banquet “Real Justice”

with Brandi Fisher and  
Terri Minor Spencer  
Sunday, August 29, 2021  
6:00-7:00 PM

Join us for an evening of stimulating presentations about issues important to our organization and community – racial justice, and the fight for equity. We are pleased to announce that our speakers will be **Brandi Fisher**, President/CEO of the **Alliance for Police Accountability**, and **Terri Minor Spencer**, Founder and President of **West End P.O.W.E.R.** and PIIN EXPO Field Organizer.



**Brandi Fisher**



**Terri Minor Spencer**

**Register today at**  
**<https://piinpa.org/registration-2021-piin-banquet/>**

All registered attendees will receive an email closer to the date of the event with more information on how to access the banquet online. Join us!