

Agape

The Newsletter of
Calvary Episcopal Church
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

St. Michael and All Angels

On Sunday, October 3, we will celebrate the patronal festival of Calvary Episcopal Church, the feast of St. Michael and All Angels. Calvary's patron saint was chosen by the Rev. Dr. Edwin van Etten in 1923. (This was a far reaching decision – when Sheldon Calvary Camp was established by Calvary Church in 1936, the original stone altar was dedicated as St. Michael's by the Lake.)

What is the connection between Calvary, the place where Jesus died, and St. Michael and all the angels? We read the story of the great cosmic battle against the dragon, where the one called the Devil and Satan is defeated. Jesus' crucifixion on Calvary overthrows sin and death forever. There is resonance for us today, as we continue in our baptismal promises to renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God and to turn from the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God.

As we mark the feast of St. Michael and All Angels, we remember and reflect on the life of this parish. We are mindful of Calvary's faithful presence and service through over one hundred years of history, including two world wars and now two pandemics. We are grateful for Calvary's witness in the struggles to respect the dignity of every human being – from civil rights to the role of women in the church to AIDS ministry to full inclusion of all people in the sacraments of marriage and ordination to the Beloved Community Initiative. We recall the strong stand Calvary took to preserve the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, as we prepare to host the ordination of our new Bishop. We have seen the spiritual strength and endurance of this unique community of Christians.

For me, the patronal festival is always a time to pause and picture the countless numbers of people who have worshipped and prayed in this place,



Michael Vanquishing Satan is a painting by the Italian High Renaissance artist Raphael, 1518, Louvre, Paris

generations of families and those who passed through for only a moment. The lovely sound of the choir, the cries of babies being baptized, the voices joined to say the Lord's Prayer, our collective lamentation in times of trouble, the joy of newly married couples, the tears of those who mourn, the whispers of people seeking solace and solitude in this space – all echo across the years. We gather still, to receive God's grace and mercy, and to find strength to show God's love to a world where cosmic forces still challenge the vision of wholeness and hope. May St. Michael and all the angels be our constant companions.

—The Rev. Leslie Reimer ■

MUSICAL NOTES by Alan Lewis



The designation of Christian churches after various saints or other figures is an ancient practice, stretching back too far to pinpoint an origin. There is no obvious way for a given church's name to anticipate the identity of those whose spiritual home it will be, but our spiritual identity can indeed be shaped by the patronage of, and our attention to, the saints whose names

our churches bear.

Calvary, of course, is named, not after a person, but a Biblical place, the hill on which our Lord's crucifixion took place. As such, we might have claimed Holy Cross Day as our "feast of title" (the term used when a church's name is not a person, but a place or idea – like Incarnation, or Resurrection). That we have instead long aligned ourselves "on the side of the angels," with St. Michael and All Angels as our patrons and their collective feast day as our patronal feast, surely says less about the people who constituted Calvary when that association was adopted, or even who we are now, than it does about who we once hoped, and still continue to hope, to invoke to our aid, and to use as our models and guides.

The word *angel*, like its close relative evangelist, derives from the Greek word meaning *messenger*. (The "ev-" prefix imparts a sense of goodness; an evangelist is a messenger who brings good news.) The scriptures are teeming with angels, from the cherubim guarding access to Eden in Genesis 3 to a great variety of angels bearing tidings of various sorts (most familiarly, proclaiming to Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds, and ultimately the women at the tomb, the astonishing events that unfold across the Gospels). Finally, in Revelation, we encounter angels engaging in the constant worship of God – the worship we dare to join week by week, as we sing, "Holy, holy, holy." By claiming St. Michael and all the angels as our collective patron, Calvary has aligned itself with the proclamation of the good news, and with the worship of the God from whom that news comes, and toward whom it points.

So on October 3 (the Sunday following September 29, the traditional date for the commemoration of St. Michael and All Angels) we once again turn our minds and tune our voices toward the angels. Perhaps fittingly, that day also marks the beginning of a modification to our schedule of afternoon service offerings. We inaugurate "Eventide," an every-Sunday-at-5 service, on that day, offering Choral Evensong with scriptures and music reflecting the ministries of angels among the faithful. Going forward, this service will alternate between Evensong and Eucharistic celebrations (more or less regularly, week by week), the latter recalling some musical aspects of our recent services of CandleMass, but allowing for more appropriate physical distancing than was possible in that service, where seating was confined to

the choir stalls. Rite I, the traditional language of the Episcopal Church, otherwise heard seldom at Calvary, will continue to be used for Evensong, and will be the idiom for those Eucharists, as well.

We hope that you will find these additions to our worship life to be meaningful, and that by engaging in them, we may all align ourselves more and more with those messengers who bring us good tidings, guide us through the wilderness of our lives, and lead our praises in the heavenly Jerusalem. ■



The 166th Annual Parish Meeting of Calvary Church will be held Sunday, October 3, 2021 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@calvarypg.org / 412.661.0120 ext. 112.

CYAM 2021 Fall Schedule

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

Holy Happy Hour at TBA

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

Brunch at TBA

Thursday, October 14 at 5:45 p.m.

Holy Happy Hour at TBA

Thursday, October 28 at 7 p.m.

Thursday Theology

Sunday, October 31 at 12:15 p.m.

Brunch at TBA ■



The Calvary Bazaar Saturday, October 30, 2021

Many WOC members are hard at work gearing up for the event, and would like your help. If you have donations to give or would like to volunteer, please contact one of the coordinators listed below. Volunteering for the Bazaar – either the day of or during the busy week before – is a great way to make new friends and discover more about the many wonderful ministries and people at Calvary. The WOC invites longtime parishioners as well as parish newcomers to help in this wonderful fundraiser that supports local agencies serving children and mothers.

Contact information if you would like to help:

Nature's Gifts – Diane Styles at dianestyles137@gmail.com

Attic Treasures – Joan Dytman at joandytman@gmail.com or Mary Jane Bent at maryjanebent@gmail.com

Handmade Table – Nancy Carpenter at ngcarpenter@hotmail.com

Baked Goods Table – Maryann Moore at mpmoore456@gmail.com

Silent Auction – Sandy Ekstrom at sandyeks@verizon.net or 412.721.9764

Linens Table – Margie Muldoon at margiemuldoon@msn.com

New-to-You Room – Kathy Ayres at kayres@chatham.edu

Jewelry – Liz Exler at elizabethexl@msn.com

Gourmet Table – Leigh Gallagher at 412.400.2032

Boutique – Contact Laura Marchl at 412.363.2167 or laura.marchl@yahoo.com, or Tracy Morris at 412.715.8851 or tlmorris56@yahoo.com.

For 50 years, the Women of Calvary's annual Bazaar has raised money to support local agencies that support the needs of children and women. In recent years, the WOC has distributed at least \$20,000 each year to support East End groups.

Because of COVID restrictions, the WOC could not hold the Bazaar last year and instead sought monetary donations for the cause. Through the generosity of Calvary parishioners, it collected money to give grants totaling \$24,000 to 15 area agencies, which are listed below.

Local grant recipients of 2020 WOC funds

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

Casa San Jose

Diocesan Garden Grant Program

Holy Cross Church

–continued in the next column

Homeless Children's Education Fund
Jeremiah' Place
Jubilee Association
Off the Floor Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute (PPI)
Shepherd's Heart Fellowship
Shepherd Wellness Community
Sojourner House
Western PA Diaper Bank
YMCA (Homewood)
Calvary Clergy Discretionary Fund

Bazaar organizers are appreciative of all the volunteer support they have received in past years, and are excited to bring back the event this on October 30. For more information about how you can help, contact Mary Ann Slater at slatersaur904@gmail.com or check your weekly Sunday bulletin. ■

Spiritual Reflection – *Julian of Norwich*



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 the 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 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. ■

Please remember Calvary Church
in your will.



This is the 40th year of Beginnings and it “began” on Tuesday, September 7!

Our goal this year is to move back toward “normal” while keeping the health and safety of our students and teachers in the forefront of our minds.

We have offered (for the first time ever) the option to attend 5 days a week. So far, 28 of our 55 enrolled students are in our 5-day program and 27 are in the 3-day program.

One of the things I love about Beginning is its diversity. This year, the first language of 23 of our 55 students is not English. Our students speak Arabic, Finnish, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, and Ukraine Russian. The diversity is not limited to our students. Our teachers speak French, Ukraine Russian, Nepalese, Amharic (the official language of Ethiopia), Hindi and Japanese (and also English). Wow!

Beginnings is structured around the “team model” because it enables us to create an environment where children feel secured, supported and connected to each other. Our 5 teams are Blue (4’s), Purple (3’s), Orange (2½ – 3), Yellow (2 – 2½), and Red (18 months – 2).

As part of the team model, we will spend the first 6 weeks getting to know each other, understanding the importance of rules so we can learn, stay safe and have fun. We will also reinforce the importance of taking responsibility to help the team and daily routines to create the structure that finish everything planned for the day.

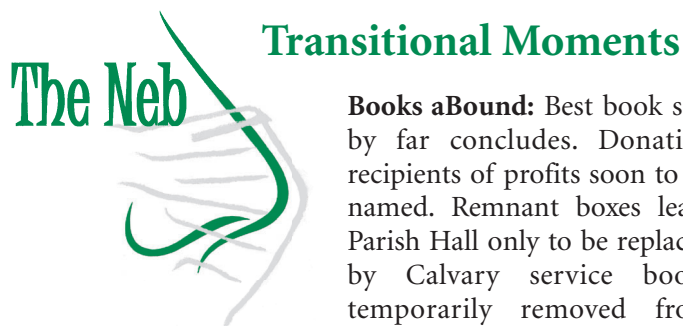
The Blue and Purple Teams will learn to be part of a team by answering such questions as:

- How can a team stay safe?
- How can a team have fun?
- What makes a team a good team?
- Is everyone on a team important?
- What is responsibility?
- What do cooperation and compromise mean?

Our curriculum for this year is called the Creative Curriculum and was developed by Teaching Strategies. The program stresses a whole-child approach to education where children have the opportunity to develop not only math and literacy skills but also social-emotional, physical, and cognitive skills.

We are so excited about all of the changes at Beginnings. Please come visit to see this very important part of Calvary.

–Tammy Lewis, *Director* ■



pews to make way for other worship volumes in anticipation of...

High Holy Days: Tree of Life in-person Rosh Hashanah, Kol Nidre, and Yom Kippur services live-streamed from Nave. Mixed emotions – happy to have ever-welcome friends here again, yet wish them the comfort of their own foreseen permanent space. Meantime, the Shofar sounds again at Calvary.

Ecumenical Enthusiasm Endures: Ethiopian Orthodox Community, usually meeting Saturday mornings in Refectory, hold several highly elaborate liturgical services in Church Sanctuary – soon a celebratory bonfire will be lit in parking lot as well. Yes, a bonfire.

Bishop Retires. Long Live the Bishop: +Dorsey McConnell officially ends term as Diocesan leader, handing reins to Ketlen Solak+ who will be ordained Bishop at Calvary in November. Preparations for the event have begun in earnest. Got your tee-shirt? Check the Bookstore.

Beginnings Is Back Up: Following Summer camps and with available expanded days. Full cleanup, newly installed closet, and fanciful new wall graphics greet toddlers and parents on opening day. The kids are indeed alright.

Sayonara Summer: Last Garden Service of the year occurs on this Agape’s date of publication. Nursery now up and running on Sundays. Nominations for Vestry/Parish Council are in and Annual Meeting is just around the corner. Sigh – it all passed so quickly.

Organ Operation Update: As of post time, due to parts unavailability, out of 100 stops 27 are working (with the aid of temporary wiring). Had previously guessed 30% to the good, but then did a pipe recount. Oops. Good for hymns – bad for Widor.

The Church as Sieve: Recent torrential downpours cause water incursions in Nave, Clergy offices, and Parish Hall. Mini-Narthex yet again sheds ceiling paint and plaster... and, yes this is being addressed. Yeah, it’s leaky but it’s ours.

Oh, the Perversity of Inanimate Objects! A/C unit rented by Tree of Life to cool Nave during High Holy Days services, although brand new, partially fails after first two days. Mercifully cooler weather makes it less an issue.

Still.....

Chill.

-30-

CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Calvary's Nursery: Available each Sunday between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Because of the ongoing pandemic and our COVID safety protocols, we are using two of our classrooms this fall.

Infants and toddlers (Infant – 24 months): Red Classroom
Children (Ages 2 - 4): Orange Classroom

Nursery staff:

Juliette Guillou – Juliette is the daughter of Corinne Branquet, one of our Beginnings' teachers.

Leyu Belachew – Leyu is the daughter of Alem Gebeyehu, Chairperson of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church.

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.



We have many opportunities for our children and youth to be involved between now and the end of December. We will revisit our plan for January. Hopefully things will be more COVID safe by then and we can spend more time gathering together. If you wish to be involved in any of the following, please email me.

- Sunday School
- Journey Group
- Christmas Pageant
- Acolyte during the 9 or 11 a.m. service.
- Attend Movie Nights in the Parish Hall

Sunday School: 10 – 10:50 a.m. We currently offer three hybrid Sunday school classes (in-person and Zoom):

Age 3 - Kindergarten: Purple Classroom, led by Elsa Buehler, Zoom Member ID: 899 1902 6109, Passcode: 450426

Grades 1-5: Blue Classroom, led by Tammy Lewis, Zoom Member ID 884 5400 4651, Passcode: 780382

Middle and High School: Gym, led by Rebecca Cotton, Zoom Member ID 884 5400 4651, Passcode: 780382

Journey Group: 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. We'll meet the first and third Sundays of each month starting October 3. You may join us in the Gym or on Zoom: Member ID 852 4314 1536, Passcode 730639. Led by Katie Riordan Bucci and Tammy Lewis.

The Journey Group will focus on the Bible as the basis of social justice initiatives rather than social justice for its own sake. We'll have Friday Movie Nights in the Parish Hall and have opportunities for community involvement.

New Team of Teachers:

Please welcome **Rebecca Cotton** who will be teaching our combined upper elementary/middle school/high school Sunday school classes between now and the end of December. She'll also be helping with our Christmas Pageant. Rebecca was born and raised near Vail, Colorado. She grew up attending the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration where she was an acolyte, sacristan, Sunday school volunteer, and enthusiastic youth group participant. After graduating from the University of Michigan with a B.S. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Rebecca returned to Vail where she served as Transfiguration's youth minister for 2.5 years, leading programming for middle and high school students, organizing youth trips, and keeping the church's teens well supplied with ice cream and Starbucks. Rebecca is now a second year master's student at Carnegie Mellon and hopes to launch a career in environmental policy when she graduates with her degree in Public Policy & Management. She loves hiking, dance, and reading sci-fi and fantasy novels, and is very excited to meet Calvary's youth!



Please welcome **Elsa Buehler** who will be teaching our Age 3 – Kindergarten's Sunday school classes. Elsa is finishing her master's degree in Library and Information Science at Pitt while student teaching at Faulk School. She was a teacher on our Orange Team last year and taught both music and art to our campers this summer. Elsa will resume teaching at Beginnings in the spring after she graduates.

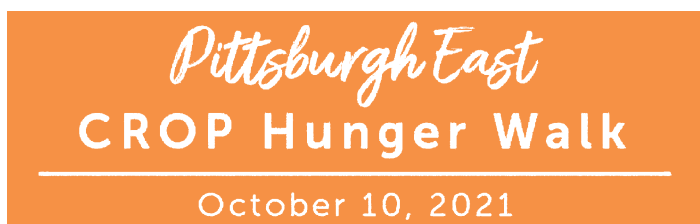


Please also welcome back **Katie Riordan Bucci** who will be teaching our Journey Group and helping with our Christmas Pageant. She's been involved with our children and youth the past couple of years and those who already know her love her! Katie is an OR nurse at Magee Hospital.



We are fortunate to have our amazing Sunday school team this year! I hope you join us!

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



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

Learn to be an USHER

Here is a simple but a useful way to serve Calvary! The 9 o'clock Ushers are looking for more people to help at the Sunday services. Persons of any age are welcome! You would be scheduled to serve no more than twice a month if we have enough people. Please contact Lyn Orr at 412.782.2957 or by email lynreedorr@gmail.com for more information. ■

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, thru September 19; Holy Eucharist (Rite II) at the Crossing, returning September 26, with congregational hymns and organ music

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

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

5 p.m. - Evensong (Beginning October 3)

A service of The Holy Eucharist or Evensong in the traditional language of Rite I

Online Worship

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

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

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

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



Please Wear a Mask
While You Are at Calvary Church

Honoring Saint Francis of Assisi

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. ■

alibris 

Alibris is an online store that sells new books, used books, out-of-print books, rare books, and other media through an online network of independent booksellers since 1997. The Bookstore at Calvary has over 230 mostly out of print, donated books available online. 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 at hymnal82.alibrisstore.com. ■

The Bookstore at Calvary

2021 Used Book Sale

The Bookstore at Calvary would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who helped make the 2021 Used Book Sale our most successful event ever! This includes the donations from parishioners, the helpers who spent countless hours sorting and organizing all the items, the volunteers who assisted on the selling days, the workers who packed unsold merchandise to be donated to other organizations, the sextons who assisted the volunteers from set-up to clean-up and helped customers to their cars with their purchases, and those who supported the used book sale with their purchases. Look for updates in upcoming issues of *Agape* regarding literacy organizations that received a monetary donation from the proceeds of the sale and where the unsold books were donated.

Spotlight on Gently Used Recent Bestselling Hardback Books for under \$10

Stacey Abrams is not only a passionate advocate of democracy, but also an inspiring example of how to practice it. In **Our Time Is Now**, she exposes systematic voter suppression efforts across America, and tells us what we need to do to fight back.

Louise Erdrich's **The Night Watchman** is a novel about a senator who tried to "emancipate" Native American tribes in the 1950s and one of the men who led the fight against this so-called emancipation: "Emancipated. But they were not enslaved. Freed from being Indians was the idea."

Dreamers of Dreams: Tales of the Old Testament is a re-telling of the most dramatic stories of the Old Testament with imagination and power by renowned children's author Monica Furlong and illustrated with Cherry Denman's exquisitely rich and detailed illustrations.

Simon the Fiddler by Paulette Jiles is set at the end of the Civil War in Texas about twenty-three-year-old itinerant fiddle player Simon Boudin, a ragtag band of musicians with whom he travels trying to make a living, and the charming young Irish lass who steals his heart.

The Splendid and the Vile by Erik Larson is about Winston Churchill during WWII and how those formative years cemented his reputation as the leader we now remember. WWII was a time that demanded leadership and courage, and Churchill had the difficult job of trying to lead Britain as it single-handedly fought Hitler while other countries cowered and accepted defeat.

Charlie Mackesy offers inspiration and hope in uncertain times in **The Boy, the Mole, the Fox, and the Horse**, following the tale of a curious boy, a greedy mole, a wary fox and a wise horse who find themselves together in sometimes difficult terrain, sharing their greatest fears and biggest discoveries about vulnerability, kindness, hope, friendship and love.

A Promised Land is extraordinarily intimate and introspective – the story of Barack Obama's bet with history, the faith of a community organizer tested on the world stage. Obama is candid about the balancing act of running for office as a Black American, bearing the expectations of a generation buoyed by messages of "hope and change," and meeting the moral challenges of high-stakes decision-making.

Susan Orlean's **The Library Book** re-opens the unsolved mystery of the most catastrophic library fire in American history. On the morning of April 29, 1986, a fire alarm sounded in the Los Angeles Public Library. It was the largest library fire in the history of the United States burning for more than seven hours, destroying four hundred thousand books, damaging seven hundred thousand more, and shutting the library for seven years. The mystery remains: did someone purposefully set fire to the library – and if so, who?

All the Devils are Here is the last installment in Louise Penny's Chief Inspector Gamache series, Armand Gamache confronts the devil within himself as his family is threatened by greedy, powerful professionals trying to cover up a fatal engineering flaw.

Humans of New York: Stories is the culmination of five years of innovative storytelling on the streets of New York City. During this time, photographer Brandon Stanton stopped, photographed, and interviewed more than ten thousand strangers, eventually sharing their stories on his blog, Humans of New York. The interviews accompanying the photographs go deeper, exhibiting the intimate storytelling that the blog has become famous for today. Ranging from whimsical to heartbreaking, these stories have attracted a global following of more than 30 million people across several social media platforms.

A signed copy of **Unbelievable** by Katy Tur is her darkly comic, fascinatingly bizarre, and often scary story of how America sent a former reality show host to the White House. It's also the story of what it was like for Tur to be there as it happened, inside a no-rules world where reporters were spat on, demeaned, and discredited.

Jacqueline Winspear's beloved fictional heroine Maisie Dobbs investigates the mysterious murder of an American war correspondent in London during the Blitz in a page-turning tale of love and war, terror and survival in **The American Agent**.



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@calvarypgh.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. ■

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] ■

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. ■

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



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The Reverend Jonathon W. Jensen, *Rector*
The Reverend Leslie G. Reimer, *Senior Associate Rector*
The Reverend Neil K. Raman, *Associate Rector*
The Reverend Ruth Bosch Becker, *Assisting Pastor*
The Reverend Carol Henley, *Assisting Priest*
The Reverend Dr. Moni McIntyre, *Assisting Priest*
The Reverend Geoffrey Royce, *Deacon*
The Reverend Dr. Harold T. Lewis, *Rector Emeritus*
Dr. Alan Lewis, *Director of Music*
Jon Tyillian, *Assistant Organist*
Jamie 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*

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, or a Vestry member, and requests "a favor," gift cards, or copies of our Parish directory. Don't respond to the email, simply delete it. Any email from Calvary always uses [@calvarypgh.org](mailto:calvarypgh.org), never gmail, yahoo, or aol.com.

- **NEVER EVER** give anyone your password or credit card information.
- Avoid opening unsolicited attachments.
- Be wary of social engineering.
- Don't blindly click links. If you do click an unsolicited link, and it takes you to a sign-in page, **DON'T** sign in.
- If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. ■

Agape Deadline

The deadline for submission of news and notices for the next issue is **Friday, October 8, 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. ■

On-Going at Calvary

Plastic Recycling

Thank you to the many people that are recycling plastic film and bags to the box located in the Parish House lobby across from the reception desk. We will continue our practice of recycling here at Calvary. You are helping to keep thousands of pounds of waste out of landfills. (And, Yes, bubble wrap is recyclable!) ■

Altar Flowers

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

Please recycle this newsletter
when you have finished reading it.



News of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh



Diocese of Pittsburgh Notified of Successful Canonical Consent Process

[August 17, 2021] The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh has received notification from Presiding Bishop and Primate Michael B. Curry that Bishop-elect Ketlen Solak has received the required majority of consents in the canonical consent process detailed in Canon III.11.3. The consents received have been certified by the Rev. Canon Michael Barlowe, Registrar of the General Convention.

In giving consent to her ordination and consecration, standing committees and bishops with jurisdiction attest to knowing of “no impediment on account of which” Bishop-elect Solak ought not to be ordained as bishop, and that her election was conducted in accordance with the canons.

The Rev. Solak was elected diocesan bishop on June 26, 2021. ■

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/

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. ■

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

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

September 26: St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, Homestead, and the Reverend Raymond Ursin (ELCA)

October 3: St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, Johnstown, and the Reverend Nancy Threadgill

October 10: St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church, Scottsdale, and St. Francis-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church, Somerset, and the Reverend William ‘Biff’ Carpenter

October 17: St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Kittanning, and Jonathan Rosnick, Lay Pastoral Associate ■



Hospital chaplain develops system that helps loved ones speak for patients who can’t

by Egan Millard, posted September 9, 2021

[Episcopal News Service] Amid all the bodily suffering that hospital workers have seen during the COVID-19 pandemic, Elizabeth Tracey was bothered by another kind of suffering: the dehumanization of care for patients who were intubated and could not speak. Wanting to restore a personal connection between patients and medical staff, she developed an audio system that helps doctors and nurses get to know their patients through the voices of their loved ones.

Even before the pandemic, Tracey – an Episcopalian and lay chaplain at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland – had been witnessing burnout and frustration among doctors and nurses. Burdened with growing workloads and dealing increasingly with computerized processes, many medical workers were feeling demoralized and disconnected from their patients.

COVID-19 dramatically escalated that phenomenon. Hospital staff have been stretched to their limits, treating unprecedented numbers of patients who are on ventilators and unable to speak. On top of that, the relatives and friends who normally would communicate on behalf of nonverbal patients and give doctors personal insights have been unable to visit for much of the pandemic.

—continues on the back

“All of my patients are intubated, sedated and often prone, and there’s no family telling me their story. I have no idea who they are,” Tracey recalled him saying.

Other doctors and nurses told her the same thing. The lack of personal connection not only contributed to their sense of dehumanization in medicine, but also made it harder to make the right decisions. Getting some sense of the patient’s personality and lifestyle can help doctors determine appropriate care and avoid putting the person through unnecessary procedures.

“I told him I could reach out to the designated contact person listed in patients’ medical charts and find out a bit about them,” she recalled.

That conversation was the genesis of the program now known as This Is My Story, or TIMS. Tracey and other hospital staff members begin by identifying patients who can’t speak – because of intubation or another reason – and who are expected to stay in the hospital longer than three days. She calls their listed contacts and has 10- to 20-minute recorded conversations, asking questions from open-ended to specific. To get the conversation going on a light note, she often asks the relative or friend whether the patient has any pets.

“Most people really love their dogs or other pets and are happy to describe their wonderful qualities, so it helps begin the conversation, usually on a very positive note,” Tracey told Episcopal News Service.

She asks about personality traits, relationships, hobbies, even favorite foods. Then she’ll ask the friends or family members what they would like to say to the patient and what they’d like the medical team to know. She edits the interview down to about 2 minutes and embeds the audio file in the patient’s electronic record so any member of the care team can listen to it.

Tracey, a member of St. James Episcopal Church in Monkton, Maryland, has worked as a broadcast journalist for decades and is the director of Health Newsfeed, a brief daily podcast from Johns Hopkins Medicine that’s syndicated on national radio stations.

“Clearly this helped me a lot in creating TIMS, as I was already very familiar with the format of brief, informative audio,” she told ENS. “Audio files work really well because the clinician can multitask while listening. They can chart, for example, while they hear the patient’s story. Clinicians are already deluged with text-based material.”

Despite some initial skepticism, doctors and nurses have responded positively to TIMS. One doctor, who at first wasn’t convinced it would have any impact, agreed to try it with his patients, and within a few days, he was requesting it for all his eligible patients, Tracey said. Nurses have told her they feel more connected to the patients after listening to the clips, sometimes discovering things they have in common, and giving them something to talk about with their



Medical staff at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland, use TIMS to log audio interviews with patients’ loved ones. Photo: Johns Hopkins Medicine

conscious patients, even if they can’t reply with anything more than a smile.

“Sometimes listening to a file brings a tear to someone’s eyes, because they’re so raw and human,” one nurse told Tracey.

The TIMS program has taken on a life of its own, with the help of a \$50,000 grant from Johns Hopkins. The chaplaincy department has expanded the program to other units and hospitals in the Johns Hopkins system, and it is now available in languages other than English. Chaplains – including those doing clinical pastoral education training – do the phone interviews, and medical students help edit them down. ■

Read more at episcopalnewsservice.org



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EVENTIDE

at Calvary Episcopal Church

Sunday Evenings at 5 p.m.

Beginning October 3, 2021



The Holy Eucharist and the office of Evensong are both classical expressions of our Anglican liturgical heritage. This service, cast in the traditional language of Rite I, will alternate between these liturgies, with Evensong sung by the Choir on the first and third Sundays of the month, and a Communion service, with vocal music provided by a small ensemble, on the second, fourth, and fifth Sundays. Please join us.



First Sundays:
Choral Evensong



Second Sundays:
Eventide Eucharist



Third Sundays:
Choral Evensong



Fourth/Fifth Sundays:
Eventide Eucharist

Sunday, Nov. 7 – *Mozart Requiem*
Sunday, Dec. 5 – Lessons & Carols for Advent
Sunday, Dec. 19 – Lessons & Carols for Christmas
No Eventide Service on December 26

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

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Thanks to the Tree of Life Men’s Club, here’s a great and easy opportunity to eliminate the clutter, help the environment, and support TOL. All at the same time!

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- You fill the bag and then seal it with the bag’s easy self-stick fold over. Each bag has an approximate capacity of up to 30 lbs. (one 15”x 12”x 10” banker’s box).
- Then you deliver the bag(s) yourself to **Shred America-Iron City** in the Strip District during regular business hours (9-5; M-F). 3220 Penn Ave., Pgh., PA 15201. If you prefer, a Men’s Club member will come to your home to pick the bag(s) up and deliver them to Shred America-Iron City on your behalf, at no additional charge!!

Sign up using [this link.](#)

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