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# Calvary Serves our Neighbors: Outreach



At Calvary, we have long had a commitment to serve our neighbors. One of the most powerful ways we do this is through sharing space in our building. The sharing of our buildings allows other, complementary ministries and programs to improve life for the citizens in our city and beyond through direct service and advocacy, education, support groups, music, and other areas. Simply put, we provide space so their ministry can happen or happen more effectively to improve lives.

## **What is Calvary able to provide?**

We offer multiple meeting rooms to accommodate groups from five to one thousand people, from intimate to grand with multiple configurations of tables and chairs. The spaces are handicapped accessible, with an elevator, and offer multiple restroom facilities. We further are able to provide a commercial kitchen and dining facility in addition to a free parking lot that accommodates eighty-five vehicles. A sexton is present for set up, clean up, and building security. All of this is an exceptionally beautiful and historic space, easily accessible from most parts of town. For a long time (and hopefully for a long time to come), we have made sharing our space a priority.

## **Who are our partners in ministry?**

Almost every day of the week and most nights, year-round, outside groups share space with us, more than forty partners. On any given week, the division of who uses space at Calvary is about equal with 50% members and 50% guests or non-members. Our calendar is full serving people.

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## Service and Advocacy

**East End Cooperative Ministry.** This is a joint project of faith communities and government agencies to provide food, shelter, and other services to those in need in our city. More significantly, Calvary hosts week-long summer camps for EECM, during the month of July, for more than one hundred children from the city utilizing the entire facility.



**Alpha House.** This is a ministry, started by Calvary but now independent, to provide housing and resources to those in recovery from addiction. Their board holds meetings at Calvary in addition to the residents offering car washes in our parking lot from April through October every Saturday to raise funds for their program.



**Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network (PIIN).** This is an interfaith advocacy group working for social justice on issues ranging from anti-racism training to affordable housing to a living wage. They hold their annual staff retreat at Calvary and multiple trainings and meetings, usually monthly, throughout the year.



**Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute.** PPI is an affordable counseling center in which spirituality is an important part of the healing process. They hold occasional meetings here, and their staff and clients use the Calvary parking lot every day of the week.



**Jeremiah's Place.** We have been the host of meetings and a major fundraiser for this local ministry that provides emergency care and supplies for newborn children to age 6.



**Amnesty International.** Each year a write-a-thon takes place here with people writing to support human rights around the world.



**Sheldon Calvary Camp.** This wonderful ministry, serving 800 young people each summer, was started by Calvary Church. Their board meetings and monthly services are held here. A portion of all the proceeds from "And Also with Yinz" t-shirts goes directly to the Camp. One of the most significant contributions the



congregation makes to Calvary Camp is the support of The Rev. Leslie Reimer, Associate Rector, who spends two months each summer at Camp.

## Education

**Beginnings Pre-School.** Founded in 1981, one of the most visible ministries of service to our neighbors is the Beginnings Pre-School housed in the lower classroom level of the Parish House. Fifty-four children, ages 2-5, take part in this three day per week program. More than half of the students are foreign born from such countries as Japan, China, Korea, Mexico, Colombia, Italy, Sweden, and Sri Lanka.



**English as a Second Language.** This program, primarily serving families of the Beginnings Program, meets twice per week when the pre-school is in session. About ten to twenty people are at the church to learn about American language and culture. The majority live in the neighborhood.



**The Neighborhood Academy.** This is a private, Christian high school serving youth, from challenging backgrounds, to prepare them for college and citizenship. They hold their annual staff and faculty week-long retreat in August, before the beginning of school, utilizing multiple spaces.



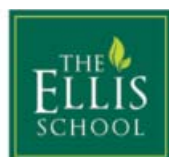
**Functional Literacy Ministry of Haiti.** FLMH meets at least monthly at church. They provide education, medical care, and meals for people in Haiti. Board members drive from parts of Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New York to take part.



**Calvary Lincoln After School Program.** CLASP is a ministry offering arts enrichment to students of the Lincoln-Larimer Elementary School weekly during the school year. All the children are provided scholarships to attend a week at Sheldon Calvary Camp.



**The Ellis School.** Each year, we offer tours for students as part of their class to learn about architecture and host meetings several times each year.



**Education for Ministry.** EFM is a four-year program of Christian formation for small groups. Two groups, one of Calvary members and another of people outside Calvary, each meet weekly.



**The Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council.**

Greater Pittsburgh Literacy Council is a national leader in adult education and family literacy, providing educational programs. They hold meetings at Calvary three or four times each year.



**Music**

**Chatham Baroque.** This trio performs seventeenth and eighteenth century music touring all over North America. They are the Ensemble-in-Residence at Calvary and use space for rehearsals and performances at least monthly. They also augment our musical offerings throughout the year.



**Peanut Butter and Jam.** This is Chatham Baroque's program for music with pre-school children and their parents, performing in McClintic Hall monthly during the school year



**Heinz Chapel Choir.** The Choir uses Calvary as an occasional rehearsal and performance space. Each year they hold their annual retreat here.



**American Guild of Organists.** The AGO is the national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields. We host a concert and meetings, usually twice each year.



**Tuesday Musical Club.** Founded in 1889, this is an amateur musical group (with many retirees) of about fifty people that uses Calvary for practice or performance space each month.



**Renaissance and Baroque Society.**

We are an occasional performance space for this local non-profit group offering music from the Middle Ages to the early classical period.



## Other Friends

**Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science.** PIMS holds two graduations per year at Calvary. That is, every new mortician from the school comes to Calvary.



**Pittsburgh History and Landmarks.** Calvary has hosted various architectural tours and other meetings, a few times per year. The Cram Jam, a tour of churches designed by Ralph Adams Cram, was the most recent large event.



**Allegheny County Board of Elections.** Calvary is a local polling place for elections twice each year.



**Shadyside Dems.** The Democratic Committee for the Seventh Ward of Pittsburgh has long had regular, monthly informational meetings.



**Electronic Waste Recycling.** Held twice each year, Calvary hosts an e-waste recycling event with the church as a drop off site for the community.



In addition, the neighborhood utilizes our paper recycling bins in the parking lot.

## The Episcopal Church

**Diocese of Pittsburgh.** Calvary hosted thirty-five different meetings of groups from the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh in 2016. These groups include the Commission on Ministry, Committee on Communication, Diocesan Council, Standing Committee, Commission on Social Justice, Committee on Budget, Committee on Constitution and Canons, Committee on Diocesan Life, Committee on Strategic Plan, Safe-Church Training, in addition to numerous small and large gatherings of clergy and lay leaders.



**Anglican Fellowship of Prayer.** The AFP was organized in the congregation by Helen Shoemaker, wife of Sam Shoemaker, former Rector of Calvary. AFP is an intercessory prayer group that has returned to hold their board meetings at Calvary after a long absence.

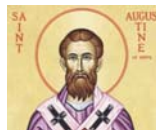


## Support Groups

**Alcoholics Anonymous.** This the oldest AA group in Pittsburgh and meets every Tuesday night, year-round, with over two hundred people who fill the refectory, parish hall, and parking lot and use the kitchen. Sam Shoemaker, a former Rector at Calvary, was the spiritual founder of AA and all related Twelve-Step groups.



**St. Augustine's Fellowship.** This is a Twelve-Step group meeting at Calvary every Monday night year-round with about twenty-five people.



**The Coalition for Leadership, Education, and Advocacy for Recovery.** CLEAR holds regular, monthly board and leadership meetings at Calvary.



The sharing of space in our buildings is a significant and far-reaching form of outreach. All of these outside groups are partners in ministry with us.

We don't all do the same things, but work together to make Pittsburgh a more just and livable city for the benefit of all.



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