



February 13, 2018

Church Without Walls Evensong and Gathering

Sunday, February 18 at 4 p.m.
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
1066 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon, 15228



Over the last year, people from around the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh have been in conversation with members of Rodman Street Missionary Baptist Church around issues of race.

If you've been part of a Church Without Walls small group, please come and re-connect with the whole project. If you're interested in getting involved, this will be a great starting point. We will worship together, enjoying the shared musical ministries of St. Paul's and Rodman Street Baptist. Then, we will engage in discussion.

Please do make sure this date is in your calendar. We all want to hear what God is doing among you, and we need every voice to discern how God is calling us to walk together and serve together in the coming months.

Faithfully,

Bishop McConnell Pastor Canady



Garden Grants to be Available this Spring

Nothing says "Spring" like studying seed catalogs and planning a garden!



Once again in 2018, the diocesan Social Justice and Outreach (SJO) Committee will offer grants to fund garden initiatives. For the last four years, SJO has offered a few small grants to support the efforts of creating and sustaining parish-based vegetable gardens. Four grants were given in 2013, six in 2014 and 2015, eight in 2016, and six in 2017. The increase in the budget to support garden grants was made possible by donations from the outreach commissions of St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, St. Paul's, Kittanning, and Christ Church, North Hills, as well as private donors, which supplemented the limited SJO annual budget. Any parish or individual desiring to donate to this effort should contact the diocesan office or Marianne Nowy, chair of SJO.

In 2017, six established gardens received funding: St. Andrew's, Highland Park; Church of the Redeemer, Squirrel Hill; Holy Cross, Homewood; St. David's, Peters Township; Spring Street Farms at the Community of Celebration, Aliquippa; and Shepherd's Wellness; Bloomfield.



Applying for a garden grant: These grants are intended to support Episcopal parishes and organizations in the Diocese of Pittsburgh to create new vegetable gardens or to support already functioning gardens with small material needs such as seed or plant purchases, fencing, bed construction, soil or fertilizer purchases, soil testing costs, hand tool purchases, water connections, rain barrels, etc. Depending on the location and circumstance, we expect that produce grown will be distributed through local food pantries or organization-based outreach efforts. In past years, some gardens have played a significant role in youth education. *These grants are not intended to support an exclusive or private garden, nor a garden designed solely for*

decorative purposes. We have prepared a guide to setting up a small garden; this guide is available by contacting Pat Eagon. Should your garden be selected, implementation will be in late winter/early spring, 2018.

The maximum grant request for this program should be no more than \$500. Funds are to be used in the calendar year 2018 unless an extension is submitted and approved by the SJO committee. Priority will be given to those applications that seek to start new gardens, but the committee will also consider applications seeking to sustain existing gardens that meet the eligibility described in the application.

[Application forms with submission instructions are available here](#) and are due via mail postmark by March 9, 2018, or electronically by March 13, 2018. Any questions regarding eligibility can be directed to Marianne Nowy, Chair of SJO, at mnowy@pitt.edu or Pat Eagon at pkeagon@gmail.com.



Diocesan Transitions, February 2018

The Rev. Michael Foley has been appointed by Bishop McConnell to serve as the representative of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh on the Board of Directors of the Shepherd Wellness Community. Fr. Foley serves as Rector of the Church of the Redeemer, Squirrel Hill. Shepherd Wellness Community was co-founded by the late Fr. Lynn Edwards, and provides supportive services for people affected by HIV and AIDS.



The governing bodies of the diocese have chosen their officers for the year 2018.

Mr. Russell Ayres will serve as President of the Standing Committee; **Ms.**

Kathleen Baird will serve as Secretary of that body. **Mr. Jerry Stephenson** will continue as President of the Board of Trustees; **Ms. Heather McDonald** will serve as Secretary. **Mr. Jon Delano** will serve as President of Diocesan Council; **the Rev. Jean Chess** will continue to serve as Secretary.

Effective January 1, 2018, **Mr. Rich Creehan** became diocesan Director of External Relations, with primary responsibility to assist the bishop in his engaging the wider community in diocesan priorities, mission and message. Rich formerly served as diocesan Director of Communications and will continue to be spokesman and media liaison.

The Rev. Annis Rogers has been named Vicar of St. Thomas, Northern Cambria, beginning January 1, 2018. This appointment coincides with the retirement of the **Rev. Ann Staples**, who had been serving St. Thomas as Deacon-in-Charge.

The Rev. Charles Hamill has accepted a call to be Rector of Grace Episcopal Church, Old Saybrook, Connecticut. Fr. Hamill had been serving as Assistant Rector of Christ, North Hills, and Priest-in-Charge of All Saints, Brighton Heights.

The Rev. Torrey O. Johnson, a rostered leader of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, has been called to serve as Priest-in-Charge of the Church of the Holy Cross, Homewood. An installation service is scheduled for Sunday, February 25, 2018.

Bishop McConnell has named **Mr. Daniel Moore**, member of St. Brendan's, Franklin Park, to serve a three-year term on the Board of Trustees.



Lenten Learning Day 2018

The Rev. Scott Gunn, Executive Director of Forward Movement,



Lenten Learning Day 2018

Saturday, March 3

St. James, Penn Hills

Bishop Dorsey McConnell has expressed
the mission of the Church in three words:

LOVE.
TEACH.
HEAL.

What does this mean for ourselves and
for our parishes? What does it look like?
And how do we do it?

Join us as Bishop McConnell and others unpack the meaning of the mission.



Our special guest for the day will be
the Reverend Scott Gunn,
Executive Director of Forward Movement,
a publishing ministry of The Episcopal Church.

This is a free event, open to all clergy and laypeople.
Lunch is provided, and child care will be available.
(Please indicate child care needs when registering.)

Check-in and refreshments will be available beginning
at 8:30 a.m., Morning Prayer will start at 9 a.m.

The day will end with Holy Eucharist led by Bishop McConnell at 3:30 p.m.

Register today at www.episcopalpgh.org/lent2018



Since 2007, Bishop McConnell has helped direct [Pilgrim Africa](#), an ecumenical ministry of evangelism and redevelopment for northeast Uganda.

He has been writing and supplying updates over the course of his current trip to that region to support the work of Pilgrim Africa in public health, malaria control, education, and agriculture; to build relationships for the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh with the churches of Uganda; and to explore mission possibilities for us as a diocese, especially in the areas of medicine and education.



Follow Bishop McConnell's travels at www.episcopalpgh.org/bishopsblog/



2018 Renewal of Vows and Blessing of Oils

**A combined observance of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh
and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA**

**Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
328 Sixth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222**



The Rt. Rev. Dorsey W. M. McConnell, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, Presiding

The Rev. Kurt F. Kusserow, Bishop of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA, Preaching

Clergy members are invited to vest (red) and process.

Luncheon will follow the service. Suggested donation is \$10 at the door.
Requested oils will be available following the service.

[Please register here](#) by Monday, March 19, 2018. You may also register by contacting Judi Rogers at jrogers@episcopalpgh.org or by calling 412-721-0853





SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL EAST END PARISHES

LENTEN PREACHING SERIES

PROCLAIMING CHRIST:

not only with our lips but in our lives



6 P.M. Dinner ■ 7 P.M. Holy Eucharist and Sermon

Tuesday, February 20, 2018

Preacher: The Rev. Annis Rogers

at St. Andrew's – 5801 Hampton St., Highland Park

Tuesday, February 27

Preacher: The Rev. Sara Irwin

at Calvary – 315 Shady Ave. at Walnut St., East Liberty

Tuesday, March 6

Preacher: The Rev. Noah Evans

at St. Thomas – 378 Delaware Ave., Oakmont

Tuesday, March 13

Preacher: The Rev. Shawn Malarkey

at St. Stephen's – 600 Pitt St., Wilkinsburg

Tuesday, March 20

Preacher: The Rev. Doug Kinsey

at Church of the Redeemer – 5700 Forbes Ave., Sq. Hill



Downtown Lunchtime Lenten Meditations: "Living for Christ"

Come to [Trinity Cathedral](#), Wednesdays at lunchtime, 12:10 p.m.-12:50 p.m. during this season of Lent.

This series will begin with singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs preparing our hearts and minds for a season of self-examination, prayer, and fasting.

The four following weeks will examine the lives of four Christians who have gone before and consider what inspiration we might take from them for our own Christian lives.

- February 21: Hymns and Psalms for Lent
- February 28: Living for Christ: Patrick of Ireland
- March 7: Living for Christ: Augustine of Canterbury
- March 14: Living for Christ: Thomas of Canterbury



- March 21: Living for Christ: Charles of Cambridge

Feel free to bring your lunch and coffee. Trinity Cathedral is at 325 Oliver Avenue in downtown Pittsburgh.



Lent Madness began in 2010 as the brainchild of the Rev. Tim Schenck, Rector of the Episcopal Parish of St. John the Evangelist in Hingham, Massachusetts. In seeking a fun, engaging way for people to learn about the men and women comprising the Church's Calendar of Saints, Tim came up with this unique Lenten devotion.

The format is straightforward: 32 saints are placed into a tournament-like single elimination bracket. Each pairing remains open for a set period of time and people vote for their favorite saint. Sixteen saints make it to the Round of the Sainly Sixteen; eight advance to the Round of the Elate Eight; four make it to the Faithful Four; two to the Championship; and the winner is awarded the coveted Golden Halo.

The first round consists of basic biographical information about each of the 32 saints. Things get a bit more interesting in the subsequent rounds as participants are offered quotes and quirks, explore legends, and even move into the area of saintly kitsch.

Articles and spots about Lent Madness have appeared in the *Washington Post*, *NPR*, *Huffington Post*, *FOXNews*, *NBC*, *USAToday*, and even *Sports Illustrated*.

Visit www.lentmadness.org to play along.



*A Concert Celebrating the 333rd Birthday of
Johann Sebastian Bach*

featuring

Brandenburg Concerto No. 4 in G Major, BWV 1049

Andrew Fouts, violin • Michael Lynn, recorder

Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit, BWV 106

Cantata Performed in Memory of John Goldsmith

Don Franklin, conductor

The Church of the Redeemer

5700 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Sunday, March 25, 2018 • 3 pm



Grants Available to Help Prepare You for Mission

The Diocese is pleased to announce the availability of new **Formation for Mission Grants** for clergy and laypersons who want to learn more about how to do God's work among His people. [Applications are now being accepted](#) and will continue to be accepted throughout the year until the designated funds are depleted.



For several years, grants have been available to help fund parish mission initiatives. The current [Parish Mission Grants](#) support initiatives aimed at enhancing evangelism, hands-on mission, and racial reconciliation. Many of you have expressed uncertainty, though, as to *how* to share the Good News, *how* to respond with Christ's love to the needs of your neighbors, or *how* to be a positive force for reconciliation in your community. We have heard your concern, and with the Formation for Mission Grants, encourage you to seek out opportunities for learning and formation that will equip you and your parish for mission.

[Much more information here.](#)



2017 Parochial Reports Due March 1

Parishes are reminded that Parochial Reports for the year 2017 are due by March 1, 2018. Reports can be filed through the Episcopal Church's online reporting system, or completed paper copies can be mailed to the diocesan office. For those who file electronically, a signed paper copy should also be submitted to the diocesan office.



Once filed, all parochial reports must be reviewed and certified by the diocese. This year, because of General Convention, the deadline for diocesan review is much earlier than usual and must be completed by May 1st. It is therefore especially important for parishes to make sure their filing deadline of March 1st is met.

It is the joint responsibility of clergy and vestry to assure the timely completion of parochial reports. A blank report form as well as instructions and detailed workbooks for help in filing each page of the report are available online at www.episcopalchurch.org/posts/research/parochial-report

Contact [Judi Rogers](#) or [Kathi Workman](#) in the diocesan office if you have questions about filing your annual parochial report.



It's Annual Meeting Time!

The majority of parishes in the diocese hold their annual meeting in January or February. Annual meeting agendas usually include a review of the accomplishments and challenges of the past year as well as a look ahead to goals for the coming year. While each parish follows their own tradition, this is also typically a time for election of vestry members and officers as well as deputies to diocesan convention.



Following the annual meeting, parishes are asked to keep the diocese informed of changes in leadership. It is also important to report any changes approved to parish by-laws or articles of incorporation, as these must be reviewed by the Standing Committee.

The Parish Annual Meeting Report Form has been mailed to parishes that are expected to have their meetings in January or February. It is also available for [download here](#). Forms will be mailed at a later date to parishes which customarily meet later in the year. Forms are also available by contacting Judi Rogers in the diocesan office at 412-721-0853 or jrogers@episcopalpgh.org.



Around the Diocese

Bishop McConnell's Visitation Schedule:

February 18: St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg

February 25: Emmanuel, North Side

March 4: St. David's, Peters Twp.

March 11: St. Thomas, Canonsburg

Parish leadership is reminded to complete and submit [this form](#) at least two weeks in advance of their visitation.

Hold the Date: A commemoration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination will be held at Trinity Cathedral starting at 6 p.m. on April 4, 2018. Details to come.



Parting Shot

New 'Open Mic' in Carnegie draws performers and audience



[From The Almanac:](#) Performers in all genres and talent levels are laying down the sound in monthly "open mic" sessions at the Church of the Atonement in Carnegie.

The Artists of Atonement Open Mic, as the group is officially known, held the first of its monthly get-togethers on Dec. 3 with 14 performers. By the time the second open mic rolled around on Jan. 7, the roster of performers and the audience packed the undercroft of the church located at 618 Washington Ave. [Read more here.](#)

--Photo by Dave Zuchowski/For The Almanac



The next Grace Happens is scheduled for February 27.

All submissions to the *Grace Happens* newsletter and the diocesan web site are welcome and should be sent to info@episcopalpgh.org. When possible, the copy should be in a Word document and all original logos, pictures and artwork should be attached separately. Please be sure to include your contact information with any submission.

