

March 13, 2018

Diocesan Information Session: 2018 Property Agreement

The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh will sponsor an informational gathering on March 22 at <u>Church of the Redeemer</u>, 5700 Forbes Avenue in Squirrel Hill, beginning at 7 p.m.

Bishop Dorsey McConnell and diocesan chancellor, Andy Roman, will be present to discuss the recently announced agreement between the Episcopal Diocese and nine congregations that participate in the Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh.



More information on the agreement is available here. Bishop McConnell's letter to the diocese regarding the agreement is available here.

Registration is requested, but not required, in order to help our host anticipate the number of people who might attend.

Click Here to Register Now



MARCH FOR OUR LIVES

A group of <u>St. Paul's</u>, <u>Mt. Lebanon</u>, youth is organizing participation in the March For Our Lives. Below is their request for you to join them in this effort:

Enough is enough. There have been far too many shootings and we aren't going to stand for it anymore, we can't lose any more innocent lives and we can't have our youth scared to go to school.

Anyone in the Diocese who feels now is the time for action can come with us to Washington DC on March 24 to protest our current gun laws. Please email jbhorrigan1@gmail.com if you're interested.

Sincerely, Madigan Balfe, 9th Grade

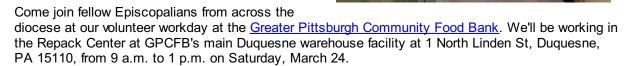






Episcopal Workday at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

Again this year the Social Justice and Outreach Committee is sponsoring a repack session at the Food Bank during Lent.



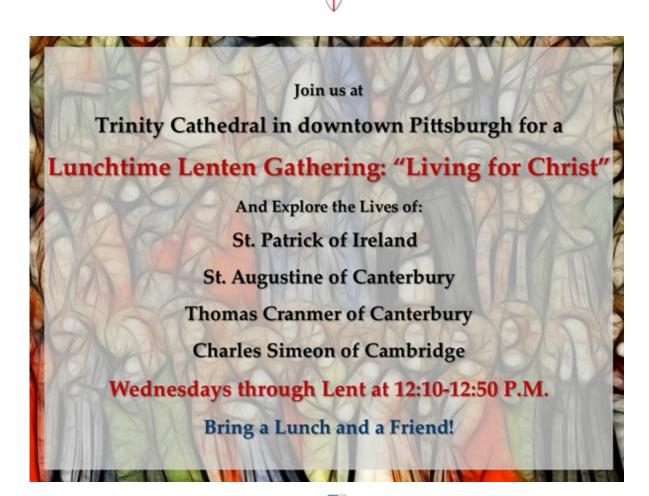


Serving as a central distribution center for over 350 local food pantries across 11 counties in southwestern Pennsylvania, GPCFB's operations are efficient, economical and truly impressive.

We'll assist the GPCFB repack team by sorting and repacking groceries. The exact project will depend on their inventory at the time. In the past we've had very rewarding experiences repacking food ranging from cereals to oranges. The Food Bank is always well organized and makes excellent use of our volunteer time.

To reserve your volunteer slot contact Jerry Stephenson at JJmestephenson@verizon.net by Monday, March 19 at the latest. We'll need your

name, email/phone and parish affiliation for the roster sheet. Volunteers must be at least 12 years of age and be able to stand for 2 or more consecutive hours. We are limited to 30 volunteers. Volunteer spaces will be reserved on a first-come first-served basis.



GREAT ISSUES:

SERVING LGBTQ YOUTH: INTERSECTIONAL APPROACHES

Please join us for the second panel discussion in our Winter 2017-2018 series which will focus on **Serving Local LGBTQ Youth**. The dialogue will take place from 7-8:30pm in the parish hall.

Thursday, March 15, 2018: We are excited to welcome three panelists for this important discussion. J. Coley Alston is a youth care coordinator and foster care specialist at Persad Center who has served LGBTQ youth in various capacities. They have a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Pittsburgh with a certificate in LGBT Individuals' Health and Wellness. Julian Gill-Peterson is an Assistant Professor of English at the University of Pittsburgh. Julian's book, Histories of the Transgender Child, will be published by the University of Minnesota Press this fall. Shauna Lucadamo is the Gender and Sexuality Advisor for the Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS), and the Project Manager for the getREAL initiative and co-facilitator of the DHS Inclusion Steering Committee. She is an experienced trainer, facilitator and public speaker who oversees all work related to sexual orientation, gender identity and expression across DHS. Our speakers will explore the topic of approaches to serving local LGBTQ youth.



No charge for admission, freewill donations graciously accepted.

GREAT ISSUES FORUM AT REDEEMER

March 15, 2018: Serving LGBTQ Youth

We seek to promote understanding and encourage action around justice issues.

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, SOUIRREL HILL

5700 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217 412.422.7100 redeemerpittsburgh.org





Faithful Responses to Gun Violence: A Pittsburgh Conversation

Monday, March 19, 2018 7:00 – 9:30 PM

Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh 5738 Forbes Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15217

An interfaith evening of inspiration and conversation with neighbors, clergy, public officials and those impacted by gun violence. Open to people of all faiths and hope no matter your background.

- · Find common ground through the teachings of our faith traditions
- Hear first-person stories and expert testimonies
- Listen to your neighbors and share your perspectives through Table Talk
- Connect and get involved in local organizations working to decrease the impact of gun violence in our neighborhoods

Confirmed Speakers as of 3/1/18:

Rev. Tim Smith, Center of Life, Hazelwood
Rev. Doug Patterson, Smithfield United Church of Christ, Downtown
Rabbi Jamie Gibson, Temple Sinai, Squirrel Hill
Director Karen Hacker, Allegheny County Health Department
Rep. Dan Frankel, 23rd Legislative District PA

More speakers and tabling organizations to be announced.

RSVP by March 16 by visiting www.casp.org/gunviolence



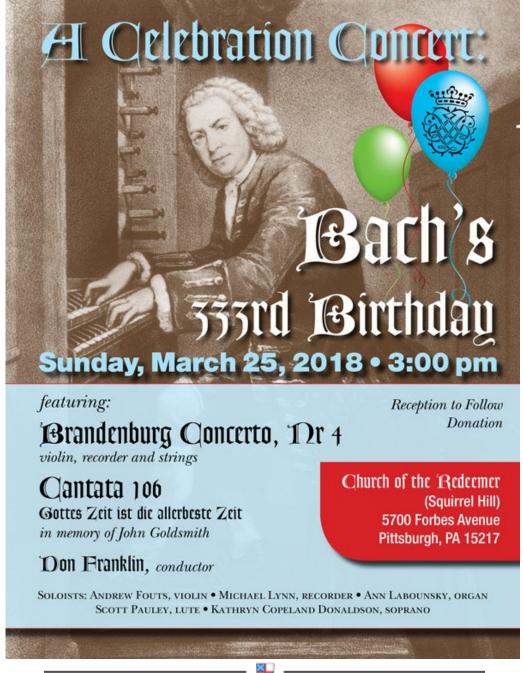




More information or requests for organizational tables:

Rev. Liddy Barlow, CASP, <u>lbarlow@casp.org</u> Rabbi Ron Symons, JCC, <u>rsymons@iccpgh.org</u> Josh Sayles, CRC, <u>jsayles@ifedpgh.org</u>







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



A Prayer of Thanksgiving for Milestone Ordination Anniversaries

We give thanks for the dedicated service of the clergy of the diocese who are celebrating milestone anniversaries of ordination this year. May God continue to bless their ministries!



A list of these faithful servants can be found here.



HOMEWOOD COMMUNITY MINISTRIES INC

Presents

THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF JESUS



12:00 NOON

GOOD FRIDAY -- March 30, 2018 @ The Historic Church of the Holy Cross 7507 Kelly Street Pittsburgh, PA 15208 412-242-3209 staff@historichcpa.org



Great Vigil of Easter at Chatham University

Join Bishop McConnell for the Great Vigil of Easter at Chatham University, as the traditional first service of the Resurrection, with all its deep liturgical symbolism, is celebrated in a casual campus setting.

The Vigil begins at 9 p.m. on Saturday, March 31, with the lighting of the Paschal fire on the patio of Chatham's Athletic & Fitness Center, before processing to the Mellon Center for the remainder of the service.



Your presence will lend spiritual support to the diocese's expanding university chaplaincy under the direction of the Rev. Dan Isadore.



Honoring the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Please plan to attend an ecumenical service honoring the Christian witness of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to be held at Trinity Cathedral, downtown, beginning 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 4.

This observance will be held 50 years to the hour that Dr. King was assassinated.

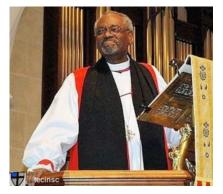
The prayer service, accentuated by Gospel music provided by the 30-voice Lemington Corale, will bring together churches of many denominations and traditions, in honor of Dr. King's legacy and his message for us today.





Report from the 2018 Forma Conference

At the end of January, I attended the annual Forma Christian Formation conference, this year held in Charleston, South Carolina. This is the fifth Forma conference I've attended and it is exciting to see this gathering evolve from being a source of primarily practical resources to a group which casts a prophetic voice as to who we are as a church and how we might more fully embrace the Jesus Movement.



The key note speaker was Dr. Jennifer Harvey, author of *Dear White Christians* and *Raising White Children*. She was electrifying and provocative, and she challenged our notions of the work of racial reconciliation. She argued that reconciliation has largely failed because it is under-girded with false narratives that must be addressed before more substantive progress can be made. The Presiding Bishop is a fan of her work and it was really cool to see the two of them meet and express mutual admiration. As our diocese works toward addressing racism, her work is worth considering.

Also at Forma, I took part in a gathering of people who will be attending General Convention in different capacities. While there are many topics that will be addressed at General Convention, our discussion focused on two topics that have direct bearing on formation:

• Work that is being done to update the *Safeguarding God's Children* materials. Specifically, the Task Force to Update Sexual Misconduct Policies, which is an Interim Body of General Convention, is working to re-evaluate the contract The Episcopal Church has with Presidium (who provides the training modules); and is working to revise the Safeguarding policies to

include vulnerable adults and LGBTQ+ youth. Significantly, the task force is seeking to shape their work not from an insurance-driven liability concern, but rather from a theological understanding.

Work that is being done by the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism towards crafting a
policy framework for anti-racism training across the church. Rather than designing curriculum
per se, the task force is interested in defining a rubric which includes key concepts that should
be addressed in any anti-racism training; and also includes a way of assessing the skill level
needed, ranging from awareness to competency to mastery. By defining this framework without
specifying a curriculum or program, local anti-racism initiatives can be tailored to each context
and need.

For a sense of the energy, joy, and passion of this gathering, <u>Bishop Curry's sermon</u> at the closing Eucharist at Grace Cathedral was incredible. "We all need to become lyin' midwifes."

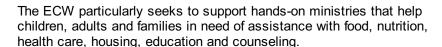
If you would like to learn more about <u>Forma</u> as an organization or the conference, please be in touch.

--Lisa Brown, St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, <u>Icbrown15243@gmail.com</u>



ECW Spring 2018 Grant Applications Due April 5

The Diocese of Pittsburgh's Episcopal Church Women (ECW) will be making outreach grants in the spring.





The grants are primarily designed for ministries within the diocese and with the goal of even distribution across all districts. It is hoped that these small grants will enable the continuation of existing ministries on the local level. However, the ECW will continue its policy of also awarding grants to some national and international ministries such as Episcopal Relief & Development.

<u>Click here for the grant application and submission instructions</u>. Applications for the Spring 2018 Grants must be submitted before April 5, 2018.



St. Brendan's Speaker Series Presents:

"GEORGE WASHINGTON FLOPPED HERE..."

Len Barcousky
Journalist, Historian, and Author
April 8 at 7 p.m.

Complimentary refreshments beginning at 6 p.m.

\$12 Adult (\$10 phone reserved) \$5 Student 412-364-5974



St. Brendan's Episcopal Church, 2365 McAleer Road, Sewickley/Franklin Park, PA 15143





Inviting ALL
Men and Women,
Younger and Older,
and
All the In-betweens!



Christ Episcopal Church, North Hills

5910 Babcock Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Schedule of events:

9:30 Welcome - Coffee and Snacks

10:00 Registration

10:15-10:45 Brief ECW Business Meeting

11:00-11:45 Program (See Below)

Noon-1:00pm Lunch (\$10.00 paid at door)

1:00 pm Holy Eucharist – Bishop McConnell Celebrant

Program:





Pastor Deo's Street Ministry

CELEBRATING JESUS CHRIST IN WORD AND DEED

One hundred children, mostly boys between the ages of 6 to 20 are enrolled in the Mustard Seed Street Ministry. Founded in 2006 by Pastor Deogratias Gashagaza, children are invited to the Prison Fellowship Offices three days per week where they are able to enjoy a nutritious meal, shower and wash their clothes, participate in a Bible study and enjoy fellowship.

Our guest speakers, Deacon Christine McIlvain and Joyce Wingett, will present a heartwarming program on how the Mustard Seed Project is sharing the love of Jesus Christ to the street children of Kigali. Rwanda.

Three Ways to Register:

- Visit www.episcopalpgh.org/uto
- · Email your information to hetzlerb@verizon.net
- Call Christ Church 412-364-2442

Registration Deadline: April 25, 2018





On Good Friday, offerings are invited from across The Episcopal Church to support the four dioceses in the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

Funds are used to promote peace and mutual understanding through pastoral care, health care, and educational programs throughout the region.

To learn more about our Church's work in the Middle East, please visit www.episcopalchurch.org/goodfridayoffering

JESUS SAID, "WALK WHILE YOU HAVE THE LIGHT, SO THAT THE DARKNESS MAY NOT OVERTAKE YOU." (JOHN 12:35)



Around the Diocese

Bishop McConnell's Visitation Schedule:

March 18: Redeemer, Squirrel Hill March 25: St. Brendan's, Franklin Park

April 8: Calvary, East Liberty April 22: St. Peter's, Brentwood

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



Seeking Cantor For New Church

Joint Lutheran-Episcopal congregation seeks cantor to lead, contribute, and collaborate in developing congregation's music program and expression. We're so new that we are still settling on a name, otherwise it would be listed here! Candidates should have knowledge of sacred music, hymnody, and chant from a diversity of traditions and time periods. Our focus is on musical forms that do not necessarily require the infrastructure of typical church music programs. For example, Music that Makes Community is one resource for the kind of music we desire. Familiarity with Lutheran and Anglican liturgical practices and theological perspectives highly desirable. The congregation meets at 3:30 PM each Sunday at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 600 Pitt Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15221. Services are approximately one hour long.

Responsibilities

- Lead congregational singing at worship, empowering congregants to discover their voices with growing confidence to sing a capella in unison and simple harmony.
- Assist community in discovering their own musical forms
- Select hymnody, chant, and other songs to accompany liturgical seasons and biblical text

- themes, seeking to enhance congregation's experience and make memorable connections for upcoming week and beyond.
- Contribute musical settings and ideas for prayer, creed, and other liturgical elements of worship.
- Confident to lead community in learning and participating in singing both familiar and unfamiliar music, to include helping young children participate.
- Capable of accompanying on piano, organ, or instrumentation as needed or desired. Primary focus, however, is leading congregation in vocal singing.
- Develop positive working relationship with pastor/rector
- Lead music at worship on church-related holidays and observance (Holy Week, Easter, Christmas, and at occasional services such as weddings and funerals in collaboration with pastor/rector.
- Lead occasional planned off-site musical events (example: hymn-sing at area bar or coffee shop)
- Manage administrative matters as needed, such as planning for music during worship, ordering new music, procuring necessary licensures, and supplying information for worship bulletins and periodic publicity.

This Lutheran-Episcopal church plant is a growing Christian faith community with approximately 30 active members. We began worshipping together during Advent 2017 and our community includes members who have limited or interrupted experience in church settings. A primary goal for us is to develop musical expression as central to our faith and community. Our church includes many active babies, toddlers, and young children, and a major goal is to assist them in discovering their voices included in the larger group as they learn to express faith through music. Our community is still developing in all aspects of faith and corporate life. As a result, there is ample room for creative exploration, inviting our new cantor's unique gifts. The successful candidate for cantor will lead confidently, inspire our congregation, and share a collaborative ethic with the pastor/rector and people of the church.

This position is approximately 5-6 hours per week. Salary range is \$150-200 per week. Additional information is available upon request. Please send resume and letter of interest to the Rev. Canon Natalie Hall at nhall@episcopalpgh.org.

The next Grace Happens is scheduled for March 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.

