



May 1, 2018

What Changes or Reforms Do You Wish the Episcopal Church Would Embrace?

Should the *Book of Common Prayer* be changed, updated, revised, or scrapped? Should the Church embrace stronger positions with respect to the environment, social justice, racial reconciliation, public safety, or economic inequality? Should the Church do more in evangelism, mission development, outreach, and spiritual growth? Every three years the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, the governing body of the Church, gathers to debate these and other issues. Do you have strong views on these and other issues?



In an event sponsored by Diocesan Council, on **Saturday, May 19, at 10 a.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1066 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon, PA**, Bishop McConnell and members of this Diocese's deputation to General Convention this July in Austin, Texas, will hold an open forum to share views on these and other issues facing The Episcopal Church.

This forum is open to all. If you can, please let us know that you are coming so we can have refreshments available. Please RSVP by [clicking here](#).



Rededication of Trinity Cathedral's Bells

Join Bishop McConnell as he blesses and rededicates the bells of Trinity Cathedral in a brief service of music, prayers, and bell ringing on Wednesday, May 2nd at 12:30 p.m. The bells in the cathedral tower were recently refurbished through a gift from a generous donor who wishes to remain anonymous.

"By blessing the bells we, in essence, also rededicate the cathedral to the city it serves," said the bishop. As a public sign of this commitment, the blessing will be held in front of the cathedral along Sixth Avenue. Pastors of the four other downtown churches will join the bishop in witness to our common mission.

The service will also feature Trinity's mysterious "lost" bell, an instrument recently discovered deep in the cathedral's basement, where it appears to have been crated for a century or more. Cathedral staff are looking into how and why it was originally acquired and its potential future use.



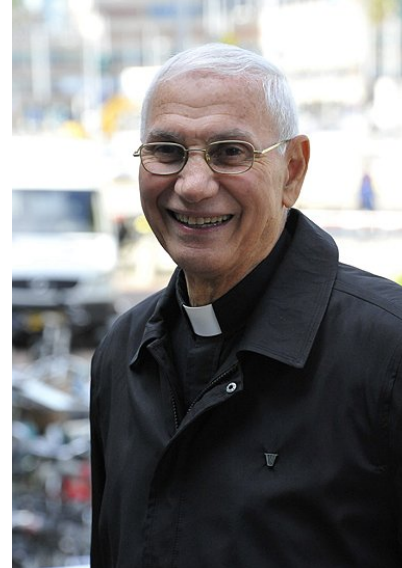
The Rev. Dr. Naim Stifan Ateek to Speak at PTS

The Rev. Dr. Naim Stifan Ateek, co-founder of the Sabeel

Ecumenical Liberation Theology Center and former Canon of St. George's Cathedral in Jerusalem, will be in Pittsburgh May 13-15 to promote his newest book, *A Palestinian Theology of Liberation: The Bible, Justice and the Palestine-Israel Conflict*. Rev. Ateek will be accompanied by Tarek Abuata, a native of Bethlehem and Executive Director of Friends of Sabeel North America (FOSNA).

The Rev. Dr. Ateek will present a free public lecture on Monday, May 14, at 7:30 p.m. at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, 616 N. Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206.

Sabeel, a Palestinian Christian liberation theology organization based in Jerusalem, strives to promote a more accurate awareness of the heritage and witness of Palestinian Christians, and to develop a spirituality based on love, justice, nonviolence, liberation and reconciliation. Sabeel has endorsed the 2007 Kairos Palestine Document, "a prayerful call by Palestinian Christians to end the occupation" based on the 1985 Kairos Document opposing apartheid in South Africa.



The Rev. Dr. Naim Stifan Ateek

Friends of Sabeel North America is one of several international chapters supporting the work of Sabeel through regional conferences, witness trips to the Holy Land, and international gatherings in Jerusalem. During Ateek's FOSNA-sponsored trip he will discuss his book and introduce new audiences in churches and seminaries to the mission of FOSNA.

Palestinian liberation theology aims to interpret scripture in the light of the Palestinian experience under occupation, and uphold the Gospel call for freedom from political, social and economic oppression. At this time of heightened tensions and the plea from Palestine's beleaguered Christian community for our "costly solidarity," its message is crucial for us all.

A flyer is [available here](#).



6K Run/Walk for Clean Water

On Saturday, May 19, thousands of participants from around the globe will walk or run 6K to bring life-changing clean water to communities in need. Each participant's registration fee provides life-changing clean water for one person, so when you participate in the World Vision Global 6K for Water you take that 6K distance away from people in need.

This year the Men's Group of St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, will host the 6K on the scenic Panhandle Trail at the trailhead in Walkers Mill, about 15 minutes from St. Paul's.

To register go to <https://www.teamworldvision.org/team/9974> or for more details contact Jim Miorelli at jamiorelli@gmail.com.





Church Without Walls Event

The next gathering of all of the small groups will be on **Sunday, May 20, at 4 p.m. at** Rodman Street Missionary Baptist Church, 6111 Rodman Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 (East Liberty)



Music That Makes Community

Music that Makes Community, Inc., a not-for-profit organization, connects a worldwide network of practitioners and leaders who share a practice of paperless song leading. They partner with hosts to produce conferences and workshops to teach the practice and create resources for making connections and building a repertoire of songs for paperless song leading.



Music That Makes Community (MMC) is making their first visit to Pittsburgh to sharing paperless music and leadership practices. Join a dynamic team of MMC presenters for a one-day paperless music workshop at the **Church of the Redeemer in Squirrel Hill on Saturday, June 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Explore the basics of paperless music, learn new songs to enrich and strengthen your community, and reflect on strategies for cultivating participatory singing and liturgy. [Click here](#) for more information and workshop registration details.

The workshop is sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh and the Church Planting Initiative at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.



MMC will also host a free Community SING at **Wigle Whiskey's Barrelhouse and Whiskey Garden, on the North Side at 1055 Spring Garden Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15212, on Friday, June 15 at 6 p.m.**

Singers of all ages and abilities are invited to learn songs from diverse spiritual traditions, languages, and cultures, led by Music That Makes Community presenters and song leaders from the surrounding community. [Click here](#) for more information about the Community Sing.

Additional workshop information is also available on [Facebook](#).



EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL PITTSBURGH PASTORAL CARE CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2018 8 AM to 4 PM
CHRIST CHURCH AT GROVE FARM

WELCOMING ALL: PASTORS, LAITY, COUNSELORS,
NURSES, SOCIAL WORKERS, CAREGIVERS, PHYSICIANS,
STUDENTS, THERAPISTS, VOLUNTEERS



KEYNOTE SPEAKER: BISHOP CYNTHIA MOORE-KOIKOI
WESTERN PA CONFERENCE,
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG"
THE ROLE OF THE FAITH COMMUNITY AND PASTORAL CARE
PROVIDERS IN HEALING THE WOUNDS OF DIVISION
IN OUR CULTURE.

FIVE TRACKS, THREE SESSIONS:
ADDICTION & RECOVERY
MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS
FAMILY & MARRIAGE
COMMUNITY OUTREACH
REFLECTIONS IN MINISTRY
CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS AVAILABLE

FULL AGENDA AND REGISTRATION AT
WWW.PGHPC.ORG



Around the Diocese

Bishop McConnell's Visitation Schedule:

May 6: St. Thomas, Oakmont
May 13: St. Andrew's, Highland Park
May 20: Christ Church, North Hills
May 27: Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh

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



ECW Ingathering: Saturday, May 5, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at Christ Church, North Hills, 5910 Babcock Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Save the Date: Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses Spring Luncheon - Wednesday, May 30, 12 Noon, Church of the Redeemer, Squirrel Hill



The next Grace Happens is scheduled for May 15.

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.

