

May 17, 2018



# **Church Without Walls Gathering**

The Church Without Walls will hold a plenary gathering on **Sunday, May 20th, at 4 p.m.** at <u>Rodman</u> <u>Street Missionary Baptist Church</u>.

Our keynote speaker will be **Dr. Michael Tillotson**, Professor of Africana Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Tillotson has just concluded a study, in partnership with Rodman and First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh, exploring the possibilities for intentionally other-centered (allocentric) communities of faith in bringing positive change to our civic institutions.

Dr. Tillotson will present his findings, and engage in Q and A with the assembly, followed by a time of refreshments and fellowship when we can plan our next schedule of meetings. A proposed outline of prayer and study topics will be distributed.

New members are especially welcome. We look forward to seeing you all on the 20th at 4pm!

Faithfully in Christ Jesus,

Bishop Dorsey McConnell and Pastor Darryl Canady

Group leaders are asked to please be in touch with your group members who do not have email to remind them of this upcoming event!

# Is It Time To Make God The Father Gender-Neutral In Our Prayer Book or Are There More Important Things For The Episcopal Church To Do?

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 <u>clicking here</u>.

# Blessing and Rededication of Cathedral Bells

On May 2, Bishop McConnell rededicated the ten bells in the Trinity Cathedral tower, which have been refurbished, along with the mysterious 11th bell that was discovered this year in the cathedral basement. The clergy from all five Christian denominations with downtown churches joined him.





The service was featured prominently on the front page of the <u>Pittsburgh Post-Gazette</u>, and covered by <u>KDKA-TV</u> and <u>WESA (NPR) Radio</u>.



A big "thank you" to the seven other churches that simultaneously rang their bells: First Lutheran, Pittsburgh; Advent, Brookline; Calvary, East Liberty; Redeemer, Squirrel Hill; St. Andrew's, Highland Park; St. Thomas, Oakmont; and St. Thomas, Northern Cambria.

The bell ringers at St. Thomas, Northern Cambria, left to right: Randy Shelly, the Rev. Annis Rogers, and Gerry Strittmatter. --Photo courtesy John Rogers

#### Evensong at Redeemer: The Visitation

May 31, 7:30 p.m. at <u>Church of the Redeemer</u>, 5700 Forbes Avenue, Squirrel Hill, PA 15217

Come and be nourished in the prayers of the Church recalling the Presence of Christ in our lives. Imagine the meeting of Mary and Elizabeth, and John in Elizabeth leaping at the Presence of Jesus in Mary.

The glory of God revealed in Christ invites us, nourishes us, and heals us.



### Diocesan Transitions May 2018

**The Rev. Daniel Isadore**, Chaplain at the University of Pittsburgh and Chatham University, is also now serving as Priest-in-Charge of All Saints, Brighton Heights, effective January 1, 2018.



**The Rev. Charles Martin** passed away on February 16, 2018, at the age of 88. Fr. Martin served variously at Emmanuel, North Side; All Saints, Rosedale; St. Mark's, Johnstown; and after his retirement at St. Bartholomew, Scottdale. He was also Chaplain to St. Margaret Memorial Hospital, and served the diocese in

many roles, including Secretary of Convention, member of Standing Committee, and deputy to General Convention. He was devoted to Sheldon Calvary Camp, and was a presence there every summer for more than 75 years as camper, staff member, board member or volunteer. Fr. Charlie is survived by his second wife, Susan, and four children.

Bishop McConnell has appointed **Ms. Eileen Sharbaugh** to a three-year term on the Commission on Ministry, to expire in December 2020. Eileen is a member of St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon.

**Dr. Joan Gundersen** has retired as Diocesan Archivist, effective March 15, 2018. Joan previously served the diocese as Director of Administration and Treasurer. She will continue in her volunteer role as co-chair of Disaster Preparedness and as an elected alternate to General Convention.

At its March meeting, the Standing Committee named **Ms. Virginia Tuscano** as District 4 representative to the Board of Trustees, fulfilling a term to expire in December 2020. Jinny is a member of St. Michael's, Ligonier. The Board of Trustees also notes that **Ms. Wesley Fox McCloud** resigned her position on the board, effective February 2018.

The Rev. Canon Richard Davies has retired from his position as President and Priest-in-Charge of Old Saint Luke's Church, Woodville. Bishop McConnell has endorsed and confirmed the election by Old Saint Luke's Board of Directors of the Very Rev. Canon Scott Quinn to succeed Canon Davies in that position.

**The Rev. Sara H. Irwin** was called as Pastor by the congregation of St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Carnegie, on Sunday, April 29, and began serving there on May 1, 2018. Sara is a 2004 graduate of General Theological Seminary in New York, and previously served as Rector of Christ Church in Waltham, Massachusetts. She is married to the Rev. Noah Evans, Rector of St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, and they are the parents of two young children.

**The Rev. Neil K. Raman** has been named Associate Rector for Calvary, East Liberty, to begin June 3, 2018. Fr. Neil was ordained in 2016 and most recently served as Curate at Calvary Church in Memphis, Tennessee. He is married to Elizabeth Gassler, who is a classically trained cellist and is completing a Master of Musicology degree.

#### Film Screening at Redeemer

Pride Movie Night, Thursday, June 7th, 7-9 p.m. <u>Church of the</u> <u>Redeemer</u>, 5700 Forbes Avenue, Squirrel Hill, PA 15217

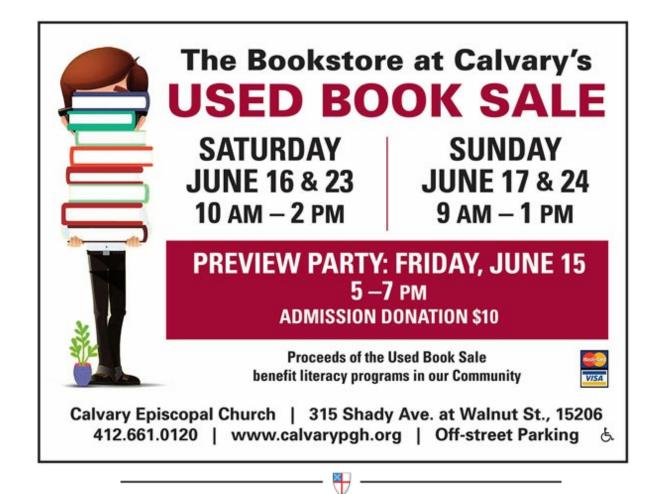
In preparation for PRIDE 2018, Redeemer's Know Your Neighbor and Social Justice Ministries are joining up for a screening of *The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson*.

Learn about the courageous life of trans-icon Marsha P. Johnson and her pivotal role in launching the gay rights movement.

We will conclude with a brief guided discussion. Light refreshments will be provided.

Please RSVP to redeemerchurch@aol.com.





## **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. <u>Click here</u> 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. <u>Click here</u> for more information about the Community Sing.

Additional workshop information is also available on Facebook.

#### **Around the Diocese**

**Bishop McConnell's Visitation Schedule:** 

May 20: Christ Church, North Hills May 27: Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh June 3: St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon June 17: St. Barnabas, Brackenridge



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

**Retired Clergy and Surviving Spouses Spring Luncheon** - Wednesday, May 30, 12 Noon, at Church of the Redeemer in Squirrel Hill. Please RSVP to Judi Rogers at <u>irogers@episcopalpgh.org</u> by Monday, May 21.

## **Parting Shots**

St. Thomas Memorial Episcopal Church, at the corner of Fourth Street and Delaware Avenue, Oakmont, has been awarded, by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior, the prestigious honor of being added to the National Register of Historic Places.

The Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation has also recognized St. Thomas for its building and the E. Howard Clock Company. tower clock dating from 1897.

A celebration with the unveiling of the plaques took place on Sunday, May 6, following the 10:30 a.m. church service.



Bishop McConnell and Fr. Jeff Murph, Rector of St. Thomas, welcome Gary Rogers, President of the Oakmont Historic Society, and Louise Sturgess, of the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, who were on hand to share congratulatory messages for the historic occasion.



Bishop Dorsey McConnell looks on as Mason Eber, Chase Eber, and Kayla Almada unveil the historic plaques.



These two historic plaques were awarded to St. Thomas Memorial Episcopal Church. One plaque was given by the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation for the clock in the clock tower dating back to 1897. The second plaque was given by the U.S. Department of the Interior and recognizes St. Thomas as a historic site and therefore listed in the Register of Historic Sites.

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 <u>info@episcopalpgh.org</u>. 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.

