



July 12, 2018

## The 79th Convention of The Episcopal Church



As the General Convention winds down in Austin, Texas, our hard-working deputation has been busy, for lack of a better phrase, *making Episcopal sausage*. It's sometimes messy and not very pretty but the results are worth the effort.

We will have more coverage in a future newsletter but below are some headlines of particular interest.

Episcopal News Service has a section devoted to convention coverage on their web site:  
<https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/tag/general-convention-2018/>



## Braxton Named GTS Trustee

Michael Braxton, of Calvary Episcopal Church, East Liberty, and chair of the Pittsburgh deputation, was elected to the Board of Trustees of [The General Theological Seminary](#) in New York City.

Congratulations Michael!



## A Message from Bishop McConnell



Bishop McConnell posted a message on Facebook as he gathered on July 8 with fellow bishops and Episcopalians as witness to the profound impact of gun violence in our society.



## Pittsburgh ECW Recognized

Congratulations to our Episcopal Church Women! Darrell Powell accepted a Promise Cross on behalf of her work as the diocesan UTO Coordinator from United Thank Offering at the 79th General Convention in Austin, Texas.

Due to the tireless work of Darrell and all the ECW members, and the generosity of our parishioners, ours was the only diocese to increase UTO ingathering donations each year of the triennium.

Congratulations Darrell and ECW!



## Pittsburgh Beer & Hymns



August 15, 7-9 p.m.  
Caliente Pizza & Draft House  
329 Castle Shannon Blvd., Pittsburgh, PA 15234  
Hosted by St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

There is a grand tradition within the Christian church of bringing together hymn-singing and pub culture. Enjoy this modern-day celebration of community, hymns, beer, and fun! Come have pizza, and sing along with a live band!

For more information, visit [www.stpaulspgh.org](http://www.stpaulspgh.org) or email Erin at [emorey@stpaulspgh.org](mailto:emorey@stpaulspgh.org).



## Saint John Evangelical Lutheran Church and The Rev. Sara H. Irwin

Request your prayers and presence  
as we celebrate our new ministry together

Thursday, September 13, 2018  
7:00 PM

**Officiating**  
Bishop Kurt Kusserow  
Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
and  
Bishop Dorsey McConnell  
Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

**Preaching**  
The Rev. Tom Maehl  
Pastor, First Lutheran Church  
Waltham, MA

RSVP 412-279-2952 or [sjelc@saintjohncarnegie.com](mailto:sjelc@saintjohncarnegie.com)

Clergy are invited to vest and process  
The liturgical color will be red





## Run for Thy Neighbor 5K Race

Mark your calendars and spread the word!

The [Christ Episcopal Church, North Hills](#), 5K will be held Saturday, September 22, 2018.

The race has a new name "Run For Thy Neighbor."

Once again, 5K participants will meet at the Harmar Shelter located near Pie Traynor Field and the pool in North Park. Come ready rain or shine to run, walk, cheer, sponsor and/or volunteer the day of the 5K!

This year's proceeds will benefit [HEARTH](#) located in the North Hills. HEARTH provides transitional services and housing for families who are survivors of domestic violence or other trauma and experience homelessness. HEARTH helps participants become independent and economically self sufficient by providing housing, basic needs, health services, transportation, and much more including a requirement to return to school for training.

The 5K event is not exclusive to church members. The event is open to anyone and everyone who wants to participate and be part of something bigger than themselves!

Stay tuned for race registration and casual evening group runs/walks in North Park leading up to the 5K. If you have any questions or want to volunteer in any way before or on race day, please contact race director Shannon Johnson at [CECNH5K@ChristChurchPGH.org](mailto:CECNH5K@ChristChurchPGH.org).



## St. Thomas Church, Oakmont Annual Tea

Please join the women of [St. Thomas Episcopal Church](#), Oakmont, on Saturday, September 29, 2018 at 12:30 p.m. for the annual tea and program.

The Kerr Memorial Museum will be presenting on tableware used during the time of the Kerr family, 1890-1910.

The tea will be located in the parish hall where tea, sandwiches, and delectable desserts will be served. Tickets for a silent auction will be available as well.

Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased July 16 - September 14 through the church office: 412-828-9680 or through Pamela Derby: 724-882-2496. Please hurry due to the limited amount of tickets to be sold.

Thank you for supporting the women of St. Thomas!



## Nominations for 2018 Convention Elections Open

The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh is now welcoming nominations of clergy and lay persons for election to membership on various governing bodies and committees of the Diocese.

This year, three lay persons will be elected to the Board of Trustees. One clergy and one lay person will be elected to the Standing Committee, the Cathedral Chapter and the Committee on Constitution and Canons. One clergy and two lay persons will be elected to the Disciplinary Board. Finally, one person (clergy or lay) will be elected to the Commission on Ministry and Diocesan Growth Fund.

Multiple candidates for open positions are accepted and encouraged. All positions carry a term of three years, except for the Standing Committee which has a four-year term. Nomination forms have been mailed to all of the parishes in the Diocese, and are also [available here](#).



For more information, please contact the Rev. Michael Foley at [mfoley@gts.edu](mailto:mfoley@gts.edu), or Robert Johnston at [rajohnston62@verizon.net](mailto:rajohnston62@verizon.net)



## Seeing the Face of God in Each Other

October 4 & 5, 2018

The Commission on Race and Reconciliation will offer the Episcopal Church's training that addresses systemic racism in our society and how our beliefs and attitudes are shaped.



More than ever we have the opportunity to live out the call to love our neighbors as ourselves with confidence that God who has begun a good work in us will continue that work in us until it is complete.

Come and see. Take time to listen, learn and share the journey toward a beloved community.

Location to be determined. Stay tuned.



## St. Paul's Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

[St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon](#), will be participating in a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, leaving Pittsburgh on February 7, 2019 and returning via Tel Aviv on February 19.

The tour will be guided by Qumri Pilgrimages, operated by Iyad Qumri, former Canon to the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles. Mr. Qumri has guided tours in the Holy Land, where he was born, and where he has raised his family, for 20 years. For a sample itinerary and more, visit [www.iyadqumripilgrimages.com](http://www.iyadqumripilgrimages.com).



The cost of the trip is estimated at \$3,600 for people sleeping two per room and \$4,150 for single occupancy rooms. This includes tours, lodging, meals while there, tip to tour agency, airfare and travel insurance. We will be staying at hotels in Jerusalem and Nazareth during this pilgrimage.

We will begin meeting as a group in September. If you are considering attending, please check your passport and make sure it will be valid through September 2019

If you are interested in going, please contact Dave Sharbaugh at [david.sharbaugh@gmail.com](mailto:david.sharbaugh@gmail.com) or the Rev. Noah Evans at [noah@stpaulspgh.org](mailto:noah@stpaulspgh.org).



## Around the Diocese

### Bishop McConnell's Visitation Schedule:

**July 22:** St. Thomas, Northern Cambria  
**September 9:** St. Michael's, Wayne Twp  
**September 16:** St. John's, Donora  
**September 23:** Holy Cross, Homewood

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



**The next regular edition of *Grace Happens* is scheduled for Tuesday, August 14.**

All submissions to the *Grace Happens* newsletter and the diocesan web site are welcome and should be sent to [info@episcopalpggh.org](mailto:info@episcopalpggh.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.



