



March 14, 2019

## Register Today for Lenten Learning Day 2019

Registration is now open for Lenten Learning Day 2019, **Saturday, March 23**, at [St. Brendan's Episcopal Church](#) in Franklin Park. This will be a special day of learning, worshipping, and building relationships with others across our diocese and communities.

[Click Here to Register](#)



The theme for this year's event is **Good News Within Reach**. Come and learn about some of the mission and ministry taking place throughout our diocese - directly from the people who lead and participate in it. Ponder together how similar forms of mission and ministry might work in your own parish and community context. Get the practical tips and helpful resources you need to join in God's work in the world.



### Special Guest Speaker: Father Paul Abernathy

We are thrilled to be welcoming Father Paul Abernathy as our special guest speaker this year. Father Abernathy is pastor of St. Moses Orthodox Christian Mission in Pittsburgh's Hill District and director of [FOCUS Pittsburgh](#), a non-profit specializing in Trauma-Informed Community Development. Since its inception in 2011, FOCUS Pittsburgh has distributed millions of dollars in food, clothing, furniture, transportation assistance, and emergency relief to the greater Pittsburgh community. The group's Backpack Feeding Program distributes food to 2,500 children every weekend during the school year. Father Abernathy is also CEO of the FOCUS Pittsburgh Free Health Center, which offers free primary, behavioral health, and dental care to

the area's uninsured and underinsured. Father Abernathy and his ministry were recently featured in the [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#).

### What Else is in Store?

Too much to list here. To have a look at the rest of this year's lineup, [click here](#).



## Anglican/Episcopal Studies Introduced at PTS

A program to prepare Episcopal priests, deacons, and lay leaders for ministry - together, in the same setting - has been formally inaugurated at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

The new Anglican/Episcopal Studies Track was celebrated at a Service of Evensong at the seminary on February 28. Bishop McConnell presided and preached.

The course of studies covers church history, doctrine, liturgy, and practical theology. It also offers preparation in areas specifically required for ordination. All Episcopal students take part in the diocese's Love+Teach+Heal Leadership Academy.

The formal partnership with PTS through this curriculum has been a long-standing desire of Bishop McConnell, who sees it a means of ending the separate and uneven levels of ministry preparation traditionally provided to the orders of clergy and laity.

"PTS offers academic excellence and a rich ecumenical environment, which could benefit the larger Episcopal Church," said the bishop. Already several other dioceses have approved the PTS track for their students.

Read more at [www.episcopalpgh.org/pts-partners-with-diocese](http://www.episcopalpgh.org/pts-partners-with-diocese)



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## SJO Film Screening in Squirrel Hill

On Monday, March 25, at 7 p.m., the diocesan Social Justice and Outreach Committee (SJO) will present the documentary film *Plastic Paradise: The Great Pacific Garbage Patch*.

The film provides an opportunity to learn why so many people are now trying to reduce dependence on plastic, continuing our diocese's concern.

It will be screened at the [Episcopal Church of the Redeemer](#), located at 5700 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh 15217.



Elise Yoder, climate activist and co-founder of What's SUP Plastic Challenge Pittsburgh 2019, will give our discussion context and share current local efforts to reduce plastic consumption and production.

This film is free and open to the public, and parking is available at the church. The event is sponsored by the Social Justice and Outreach Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh in collaboration with other members of the ecumenical group *What's SUP* (Single Use Plastics), and the Church of the Redeemer.

For more information, contact Marianne Novy ([mnovy@pitt.edu](mailto:mnovy@pitt.edu))



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## Diocese Sells Donegal Property

On February 25, 2019, the Diocese of Pittsburgh completed the sale of real estate it owned in Donegal, Pennsylvania. The property included 160 acres of land, a guesthouse, and a barn. It was sold to a family with young children for \$730,000.

The rights to coal, as well as oil, gas, and others minerals on the property, were included in the sale under terms that allow the diocese to retain 75% of future royalties and bonus payments on those assets, should the new owners choose to sell these rights.

The sale was authorized by the diocesan Board of Trustees, who are pleased that the price reflects a fair market value. Prior to offering the property, the trustees determined that the guesthouse was under-utilized and that the once-envisioned development of the site into a conference or youth center was no longer in the strategic interest of the diocese.





As with the sale of other surplus properties, the trustees will set aside the proceeds for future diocesan needs that are consistent with the mission of The Episcopal Church.

The sale did not include a smaller parcel of land and house known as the Bishop's Lodge, which the diocese continues to own. Under a life estate agreement dating back to when he was an Episcopal bishop, Robert and Nara Duncan may live there for as long as they desire. The diocese and the Duncans continue to honor that arrangement.



EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL  
EAST END PARISHES

**LENTEN  
PREACHING  
SERIES**



**FORGIVENESS IN A  
TIME OF ALIENATION**

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

**Tuesday, March 19, 2019**

Preacher: The Rev. Neil Raman  
**at St. Andrew's** – 5801 Hampton St., Highland Park

**Tuesday, March 26**

Preacher: The Rev. Leslie Reimer  
**at Calvary** – 315 Shady Ave. at Walnut St., East Liberty

**Tuesday, April 2**

Preacher: The Rev. Eric McIntosh  
**at St. Thomas** – 378 Delaware Ave., Oakmont

**Tuesday, April 9**

Preacher: The Rev. Jeff Murph  
**at St. James** – 11524 Frankstown Rd, Penn Hills



**Downtown Lunchtime Series: Loving Our Enemies**

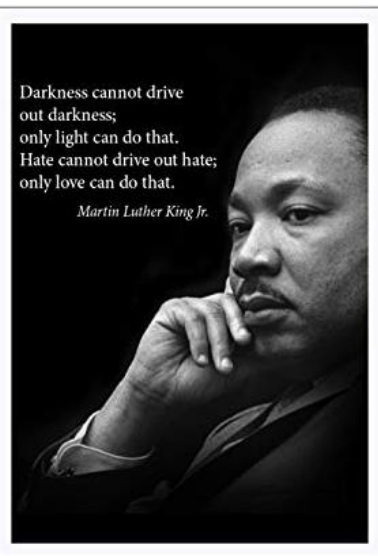
Beginning Wednesday, March 20, Trinity Cathedral will present a noon lunchtime series "Loving Our Enemies."

This is a continuation of the discussion that began last fall about the divisions in American political life and will be led by Bishop Dorsey McConnell and the Rev. Dr. Philip Wainwright.

The series will continue on Wednesdays at noon through April 17th.

[Trinity Episcopal Cathedral](#), 328 Sixth Avenue, Downtown Pittsburgh.

Feel free to bring a lunch.



## Lenten Fish Fry in Monongahela

[St. Paul's Episcopal Church](#)

130 W Main Street

Monongahela PA 15063

Annual Lenten fish fry every Friday during lent from 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Serving 8 oz deep fried or baked cod, deep fried shrimp, french fries, macaroni and cheese , halushki, pierogies, cole slaw, beverages and pie or cake.



Dine in or take out orders available. For more information please call 724-258-7792.





**A Celebration Concert:**



**Bach's**  
**334th Birthday**  
**Sunday, March 24, 2019 • 3:00 pm**

*featuring:* *Reception to Follow • Donation*

**Double Concerto for Violin and Oboe**

**Cantata 115**  
*Mache dich mein Geist bereit.*

**Don Franklin, conductor**

**Church of the Redeemer**  
5700 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

SOLOISTS: ANDREW FOUTS, VIOLIN; SARAH HUEBSCH, OBOE;  
MICHAEL LYNN, FLUTE; ANN LABOUNSKY, ORGAN;  
CROSSLEY HAWN, SOPRANO; KIRSTEN DUBENION-SMITH, ALTO

## Garden Grants Available Again this Spring

Spring is coming! We know this to be true, because seed catalogs have been showing up in our mailboxes, and our weekly church bulletin is starting to advertise fish fry events!

Once again in 2019, the diocesan Social Justice and Outreach (SJO) Committee will offer grants to fund garden initiatives. For the last five years, these grants have been offered to support the efforts of creating and sustaining parish-based vegetable gardens.

This year we have contributions to support garden grants from St. Paul's (Mount Lebanon), Calvary (East Liberty), and Christ Church (North Hills) outreach commissions to supplement the SJO annual budget. Any parish or individual desiring to donate to this effort should contact Kathi Workman at [kworkman@episcopalgph.org](mailto:kworkman@episcopalgph.org).



The maximum grant request for this program should be no more than \$500. An application form with detailed instructions is [available here](#) (Word document) and are due via mail postmark by March 15 or electronically by March 19. Any questions regarding eligibility can be directed to [Marianne Novy](#), Chair of SJO or [Pat Eagon](#), Grant Coordinator.

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## 2019 Anti-Racism Workshop

The next anti-racism training, *Seeing the Face of God in Each Other*, will be held at St. Thomas Memorial Church in Oakmont on Friday and Saturday, April 5 and 6, 2019.



This training is required of all elected leadership, lay and ordained, in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, including all candidates for Holy Orders.

[You may register here.](#) There is no fee for the training but a free-will offering will help offset the cost of the food and refreshments.

In a time when the current climate of our political and social life is marked by polarity and fear, our society has great need for the alternative offered by our faith. St. Paul boldly announces that, "in Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself" (2 Corinthians 5:19). The work of the Church, therefore, is the ministry of reconciliation, and nowhere is this more urgent than in the call to heal the wounds of racial injustice that have so marked our history. This workshop gives us some critical tools to begin the work.

[St Thomas Memorial Church](#), 378 Delaware Ave, Oakmont, PA 15139

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## 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.

Come join fellow Episcopalians from across the diocese at our volunteer workday at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. We'll be working in the Repack Center at GPCFB's main Duquesne warehouse facility (1 North Linden St, Duquesne, PA 15110) **from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, April 13.**



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 [Jmestephenon@verizon.net](mailto:Jmestephenon@verizon.net) by **Wednesday, April 3 at the latest.** We'll need your name, parish affiliation and email address. Volunteers must be at least 12 years of age and be able to stand for 2 or more consecutive hours. We are limited to only 20 volunteers this time. Volunteer spaces will be reserved on a first-come first-served basis.

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# ECW Spring 2019 Grant Applications Available, Due April 16

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

The ECW particularly seeks to support hands-on ministries that help children, adults and families in need of assistance with food, nutrition, health care, housing, education and counseling.

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.

[Click here for the grant application and submission instructions.](#) Applications for the Spring 2019 Grants must be submitted before April 16, 2019.



## ECW Spring 2019 Scholarship Application Available, Due April 18

The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) established the Memorial Membership Fund to aid students with educational grants. The fund was begun in 1927 to be used for two missionary training scholarships. In the 92 years of its existence, the scope of the fund has widened to include nursing, theology and other humanitarian fields of study.



Funds are raised through gifts from individuals or groups in memory of a loved one or friend. This money is invested and the interest used for the granting purposes. Each applicant must:

- be an Episcopalian in good standing (active) in a parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh,
- have completed one year of college or the equivalent,
- be pursuing education in either church or humanitarian related fields,
- submit an application, including a letter stating goals and need, and
- submit a reference letter from their parish priest.

The Memorial Membership Committee will consider each request based on individual need and circumstances. Scholarships are completely unencumbered and may be used as needed to aid the recipient in achieving their educational goals. Each eligible applicant is able to apply once a year for three years.

The applications must be received by Thursday, April 18, 2019. The application form with submission instructions is available [by clicking here](#).

For additional information please contact Betty Duckstein at [ducksteine@yahoo.com](mailto:ducksteine@yahoo.com).







## THE BOOKSTORE AT CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

✦ Lenten and Easter Meditations  
by Evelyn Underhill, Rowan Williams, and others ✦

✦ Easter Music on CD ✦

✦ Anglican Rosaries ✦

✦ Celtic, New Zealand, St. Augustine and other Prayer Books ✦

✦ Crosses in pewter, glass and silver ✦

✦ Organic Chocolate Bars from Equal Exchange Chocolates ✦

■ Ask about Clergy and Congregational discounts ■

315 Shady Avenue (at Walnut Street), East Liberty, 15206  
Off-Street Parking • 412.661.0120, ext. 133



**LOVE. TEACH. HEAL.**  
*Re-imagining Our Diocese*

**Save The Date!**

**2019 Diocesan Convention**  
**Love. Teach. Heal. Re-imagining Our Diocese**

**November 15 & 16**  
**Pittsburgh Theological Seminary**  
**616 N Highland Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15206**



## Around the Diocese

**Bishop McConnell's Visitation Schedule:**

**March 17:** St. Thomas, Canonsburg

**March 24:** St. Thomas, Northern Cambria

**March 31:** St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg

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







## Parting Shots, Ashes-To-Go Edition

This year, with ten published locations (and an unknown number of others), the diocese and its parishes presented the largest presence yet to for this public observance of the first day of Lent.

The outreach generated overwhelming response from those receiving ashes, and it attracted widespread media coverage. Here's a sample:



A Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Photo Gallery is at <https://newsinteractive.post-gazette.com/photos/2019/03/06/fat-tuesday-and-ash-wednesday-lent-begins-in-pittsburgh/>. It includes the Rev. Torrey Johnson at the 911th Airlift Wing in Moon, the Rev. Canon Natalie Hall distributing ashes to kids at St. Stephen's, Wilksburg, and Paul Barker from St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon at their local T station.



This story from KDKA-TV, <https://pittsburgh.cbslocal.com/2019/03/06/pittsburgh-episcopal-diocese-ashes-to-go/> features Paul Barker and Erin Morey of St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon.



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



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