



July 2, 2019

Wholly Holy: Exploring Faith, Practice, and Belonging



Wholly Holy: Exploring Faith, Practice, and Belonging in Judaism and Christianity is a series about Jewish and Christian lifecycle events and why we observe them the ways we do.

Free RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/WhollyHoly2019>

In a partnership between Congregation Beth Shalom and the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, Rabbi Jeremy Markiz and the Rev. Canon Natalie Hall will lead a 7-week series on 7 major highlights in Jewish and Christian life observances.

Wednesdays at 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Congregation Beth Shalom, 5915 Beacon Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15217

July 3 Birth & Initiation Rites
July 10 Coming of Age Rituals
July 17 Daily Faith Practices
July 24 Celebrating Marriage
July 31 Leadership in Faith Traditions
August 7 Tending to Times of Sickness
August 14 Mourning and Death Ritual

This series is free* and lunch is included. Free, qualified, on-site childcare is available.

We especially hope to create an inter-generational interfaith conversation. All people, all ages, all experiences are welcome. You do *not* need to be connected to Congregation Beth Shalom or a congregation in the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh to participate.

While it is not mandatory, please RVSP at <https://tinyurl.com/WhollyHoly2019> so we can provide plenty of refreshments.

**A freewill offering to offset costs will be gratefully received.*



Nomination Deadline Extended for Elections at Diocesan Convention

Our diocese has navigated through significant challenges over the past ten years and we are now ready to define our future in terms of new/renewed mission and streamlined governance, reflecting who we are and strive to be.

Our governing bodies need to better reflect the diversity of our parishes and their congregations with all opinions and imaginations having voice in who we are becoming as a diocese. Project CREED has begun that process and we want and need everyone to consider playing an active role. This is OUR CHURCH



and this is your opportunity to shape it! Please consider becoming a candidate, especially if you never have before!

We are now welcoming nominations of clergy and lay persons for election to membership on various governing bodies and committees of the Diocese. **The following are positions to be elected at the 154th Diocesan Convention, November 15 & 16 at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.**

All are three-year terms except Standing Committee, which is a four-year term.

Standing Committee

One Clergy
One Layperson

Board of Trustees

Two Laypersons

Constitution & Canons

One Clergy
One Layperson

Disciplinary Board

Two Clergy
One Layperson

Commission on Ministry

One Layperson OR Clergy

Deputies to 2021 General Convention

Four Clergy & Four Lay Deputies
Four Clergy & Four Lay Alternates

District 1

One Layperson to Diocesan Council

District 2

One Layperson to Diocesan Council

District 3

One Layperson to Diocesan Council
One Layperson to Board of Trustees

District 4

One Layperson to Diocesan Council

Multiple candidates and self-nominations for open positions are encouraged and accepted. You do not need to be a deputy to Diocesan Convention to run for election.

Nomination forms have been mailed to all of the parishes in the Diocese, and are also available on the diocesan web site at www.episcopalpgh.org/resources/2019-diocesan-convention. A brief description of the [canonical responsibilities](#) of each of the boards and committees as well as information about the frequency and time of meeting is also available there. [Nomination forms, which must be signed by the rector or senior warden of the nominee's parish, and a brief bio and photograph, are now due in the diocesan office by July 31.](#) Scanned versions of the form are acceptable and should be emailed to convention@episcopalpgh.org.

We invite all faithful Episcopalians to prayerfully consider volunteering to serve the diocese as best suits their time and talents. The Co-Chairs of the Nominating Committee are Kathy Baird and the Rev. Julie Smith. If you have questions about the work of any of the diocesan committees, feel free to contact Kathy at kathy950@gmail.com, or Julie+ at jlsphone1@gmail.com



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

Note: This date is one week later than our conventions in the past.

[Click here](#) for important convention documents.



Lay Deputy Certification Forms Due NOW!

As we wind down the busy program year and swing into our summer schedules, it is easy to forget that lay deputy certification forms were **due in the diocesan office by June 30.**

A blank form with complete instructions is available online [by clicking here](#). This form must be signed by a Warden OR by two members of the Vestry.

Please contact [Andy Muhl](#) in the diocesan office with any questions.



Call for Convention Resolutions

The Resolutions Committee of Diocesan Council is now accepting items to be considered at our [next diocesan convention](#).

Proposed resolutions may be submitted by any parish or individuals [using this form](#). Each must conform to Robert's Rules of Order and include a short explanation or rationale, as well as contact information for at least two sponsors. An example resolution is on the form.

All proposed resolutions must be submitted no later than September 9, 2019. Submission instructions are on the form.

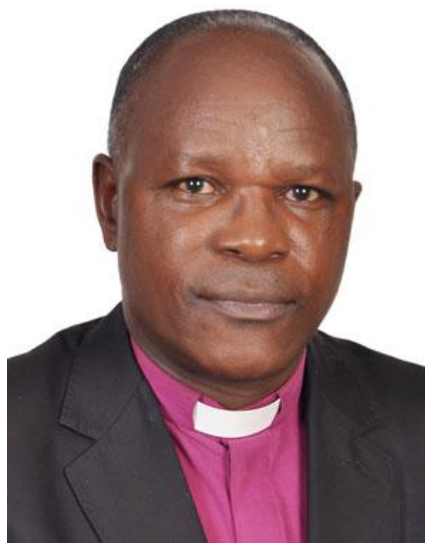


Evensong to Welcome the Archbishop of Burundi to Oakmont

On **Saturday, July 5, at 7:30 p.m.**, St. Thomas Church in Oakmont will welcome the Archbishop and Primate of the Anglican Church of Burundi, the Most Rev. Martin Blaise Nyaboho.

Burundi is a country in central Africa, in the Rift Valley, bordering Rwanda, Tanzania and the Congo.

Archbishop Nyaboho arrives in the United States for a short visit to preach and also to visit his daughter and son-in-law who are parishioners of St. Thomas Church, Patiente Irakoze and Samuel Manirakiza.



The Archbishop will preach at the Evensong and will be welcomed at a reception to be held in his honor following the service. In 1997, Archbishop Nyaboho was consecrated as the first bishop of the Diocese of Makamba and now serves as Archbishop of the province.

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

Youth Choir to Perform at Trinity Cathedral

On **Sunday, July 14**, the [Davidson United Methodist Church](#) youth choir from Washington, PA, will be at Trinity Cathedral for the 10:30 a.m. service.

All are welcome!

The service will include choir led anthems and special music from the choir.

[Trinity Cathedral](#), 328 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222



St. Thomas', Canonsburg, Wins National Recognition

The U.S. National Episcopal Historians and Archivists (NEHA) recognized St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, Canonsburg, on June 20 during the Tri-History Conference held at the University of Toronto, Canada.

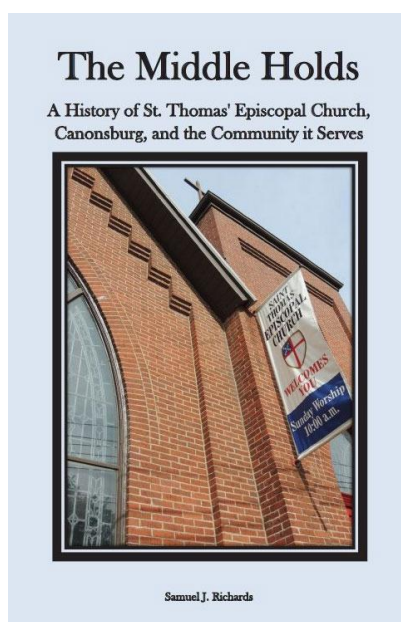
In 2016, parishioner Samuel J. Richards wrote *The Middle Holds: A History of St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, Canonsburg and the Community it Serves* published by Closson Press.

The NEHA awards committee recognized the Canonsburg book with its silver 2019 Laurence D. Fish Outstanding Parish History Award.

Richards' research work is based on the records of St. Thomas' Church, the Archives of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, and interviews of past and present clergy and members of the congregation. His history was written with consideration for multiple audiences. The narrative is helpful for students of church history, genealogists seeking information about family, local history buffs wanting to know a bit more about how Christians approached life along Chartiers Creek from their earliest arrival to the present, and those who have found a spiritual home at St. Thomas' Church.

Historic images of the church and its people help illustrate the text. In addition, appendices include sermon examples ranging from 1947 to 2013, several membership rosters from past church directories, and a transcribed list of all entries from Volume I of the parish Canonical Record of Baptisms.

The Middle Holds is available from [Closson Press](#).



Around the Diocese

Job Opening in Wilkinsburg: [Saint Stephen's](#), 600 Pitt Street in Wilkinsburg, is seeking a person to fill a new position of Parish Ministry Coordinator. This part time position has flexibility for the right candidate. The skills can be taught, but the position requires refined skill at being welcoming, diplomatic, gracious, and helpful to all equally. The typical hours would be Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. We welcome individuals to call the office at 412-243-6100 or to visit the parish on Sunday morning to discuss the position.



Parting Shots I

From Bishop McConnell: "I snuck up on the Rev. Jeff Murph at his 25th Anniversary surprise party at Saint Thomas, Oakmont. Thanks to you, Jeff+ and Meloni, for a beautiful and courageous quarter-century of ministry to the people of God in Oakmont!"



Parting Shots II

A Christ Church, North Hills, choir member was featured on ABC-TV's Good Morning America, *"Beloved 'singing doctor' who sang to 8,000 babies after delivery gets heartfelt honor."*



Read and watch the story at <https://www.goodmorningamerica.com/living/story/beloved-singing-doctor-sang-8000-babies-delivered-honored-64002556>



Parting Shots III

From Bishop McConnell: "A magnificent morning in Brackenridge on June 30, celebrating the 60th anniversary of Saint Barnabas! A thriving community, having come through challenging times. I am so proud of you all, and especially Fr. Frank Yesko!"



See the article about the St. Barnabas anniversary in the [Tribune Review here](#).



All submissions to the *Grace Happens* newsletter and the diocesan web site are welcome and should be sent to amuhl@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.

