



November 7, 2019



## **2019 Diocesan Convention Registration Is Now Open**

The 154th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, will be held on November 15 & 16, 2019, at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, 616 N. Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Online and printable registration forms for all deputies, visitors and guests are available on the diocesan web site at [www.episcopalpgh.org/resources/2019-diocesan-convention/](http://www.episcopalpgh.org/resources/2019-diocesan-convention/)

[Click here](#) for online registration (preferred)

[Click here](#) for printable registration form

[Click Here](#) for a tentative Convention Agenda

**The deadline for registering is Friday, November 8, 2019**



# Veterans Luncheon

**Sunday November 10th at Noon**

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**



**4048 Brownsville Road**



**Brentwood- 15227**

Featuring a guest speaker from

**The Crabtree-Kovacicek Veterans House**

A 22 bed shelter in Washington PA, whose goal is to provide an environment that allows veterans to work together, to grow and to heal, thus leading them back to independent living while in the safety of a serene, Christ-centered environment.

**All veterans and their families**

**are invited to attend this FREE event.**

**Seating is limited . . . Call the church at**

**412-884-5225 to reserve your spot today!**



## **St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, Announces Award-Winning Author Will Speak In Pittsburgh**

*Unselfie: Raising caring, successful kids in a plugged-in, trophy-driven world*

Internationally recognized child development expert and best-selling author Dr. Michele Borba will deliver a presentation for parents and educators, **7-8:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 11, 2019, in the Upper St. Clair High School theater.** Titled, "Unselfie: Raising caring, successful kids in a plugged-in, trophy-driven world," **the program is free and open to the public.**

According to Dr. Borba, in our hyper-connected, social-media-saturated society, many of us (especially young people) are so obsessed with snapping "selfies" and living a virtual life online that we're forgetting how to care for the people right in front of us. That resulting Selfie Syndrome is leading to an empathy crisis in youth.

But there is a solution: studies show that the antidote to Selfie Syndrome is empathy. And the good news is that empathy can be cultivated in children, starting even before they can talk. In "UnSelfie," Dr. Borba presents new and compelling research that explains how to impart this key skill to kids and why empathy paves the way for future happiness and



success. She offers audiences practical ways to activate empathy to raise kids with compassion, courage, and conviction to become social changemakers and make a difference in our world.

"This program is an innovative collaboration between the faith community, community organizations and local schools," said the Rev. Noah H. Evans, Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Mt. Lebanon. "It flows from our faith commitments to care for the wider community, and help build a world of love and care for all people."

Dr. Borba is an educational psychologist whose work focuses on children, teens, parenting, bullying and moral development. Her work aims to help strengthen children's character and resilience, build strong families, create compassionate and just school cultures, and reduce peer cruelty. She has delivered keynotes and workshops to more than 1,000,000 participants and authored 24 books including "UnSelfie: Why Empathetic Kids Succeed in Our All-About-Me World."

Director of St. Paul's Episcopal Nursery School, Eileen Sharbaugh notes, "Dr. Borba has a good message, not only for those interested in everyday parenting information around empathy, but she has also looked at the relationship between empathy and some of our broader societal issues."

Dr. Borba received a Doctorate in Educational Psychology and Counseling from the University of San Francisco. She earned her graduate and undergraduate degrees from the University of Santa Clara, and a Life Teaching Credential from San Jose State University. She is a former classroom teacher who has worked with children in regular education as well as with learning, physical, behavioral and emotional disabilities, and in a private practice for troubled youth.

Funding for this event was provided by St. Paul's Episcopal Church and St. Paul's Episcopal Nursery School in partnership with the Community Foundation of Upper St. Clair. Additional support was provided by the Upper St. Clair School District, the USC Parent Teacher Council Wellness Committee and the Youth Steering Committee of Upper St. Clair.



# BOOK LAUNCH

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## THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRAYING THE OUR FATHER

BY WESLEY HILL

November 13  
at Trinity Cathedral

7:00 PM with a book reading  
followed by a wine reception  
and book signing by the author

Copies of the book will be  
available to purchase for \$10.00



Wesley Hill re-introduces the Lord's prayer. He shows us a God who is delighted to hear prayer. Petition by petition, in conversation with the Christian tradition, he draws out the significance of Jesus' words for prayer today.





One Day

## Two Special Events



ECW  
meeting  
with UTO  
Ingathering

Sat., Nov. 23, 2019

9:30 am – 2:00 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Mt. Lebanon  
1066 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228



Pack  
Christmas  
Boxes for the  
Seamen

### Please Join Us

#### Schedule for the Day

- 9:30 am • Registration – Coffee and Snacks
- 9:45 am - 11:30 am • ECW business meeting.
  - Discussion: *How to take ECW into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*
  - UTO Ingathering
- 11:30 am - 12:30 pm • Lunch and Fellowship
- 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm • Pack Christmas boxes for distribution by the Seamen's Institute for seamen working on our waterways over the Christmas holiday.

We are hoping this combined program (business meeting *and* packing ministry) will allow more people to attend, and participate in the joy of sharing Christmas with those Seamen who will be away from their families on Christmas.

Our ECW focus is to find new ways to serve our local communities. We encourage you to come and join in the discussion and prayer about the future of our ministry.

#### To Register:

Call St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 412-531-7153

**Registration Deadline November 20, 2019**

Key items needed for the approximately 50 boxes being packed are beef jerky, protein bars, chapstick, DVDs and CDs, and puzzle books.



## Growth Fund Applications Now Available, Due November 25

If your parish is interested in applying for a loan or grant from the Growth Fund for the second round of 2019 funding, please submit a completed application to Kathi Workman, Diocesan Treasurer and Director of Administration, by Monday, November 25th.

The application with detailed instructions can be [found here \(PDF\)](#).

Please remember to include quotes from contractors and a copy of your budget and year-to-date financial report with your application.



If you have any questions or need help please contact Amy Shelley, Growth Fund Committee Chair, at [ashelley@controlledclimatesystems.com](mailto:ashelley@controlledclimatesystems.com) or Kathi Workman at [kworkman@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:kworkman@episcopalpgh.org) with any questions or for more information.



By the Grace of God and with the people consenting,  
The Right Reverend Dorsey W. M. McConnell  
Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh  
On behalf of the Right Reverend William H. Stokes  
Bishop of the Diocese of New Jersey  
will ordain to the  
Sacred Order of Priests  
In Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church

**Laura Jennifer Di Panfilo**

On Saturday, the Seventh Day of December  
Being the Feast of St. Ambrose of Milan  
In the Year of Our Lord 2019 at 10:30 in the Morning  
In St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh, PA  
Your Prayers and Presence are Requested.



*Clergy: Red Stoles*

*Reception follows*



St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
1066 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228



## Disability Insurance for Lay Employees To Be Available in 2020



The Church Pension Group (CPG), administrator of health, retirement, and other benefits for the Episcopal Church, has a new disability insurance provider beginning in 2020, Zurich American Life Insurance Company. If your parish does not currently offer disability insurance to its lay employees, please consider adding this important benefit as you consider your parish budgets for next year.

CPG will be releasing more information about the short-and long-term disability plans and costs in the months ahead and plans to hold a special enrollment period in February. The Diocese will email that information to parishes once it becomes available.



## Episcopal Service Corps 2020-2021 Application, Discernment Quiz Now Available

The Episcopal Service Corps (ESC) discernment quiz and application are now available for the 2020-2021 service year.

"Episcopal Service Corps is an opportunity for young adults to focus on vocational discernment and spiritual formation while serving the needs of the world through the Episcopal Church," says Wendy Johnson, ESC Network Coordinator. "ESC is also an opportunity for The Episcopal Church to

express its commitment to transforming communities in the Way of Love by supporting these young adults as the hands and feet of the Jesus Movement."

### **About Episcopal Service Corps**

Episcopal Service Corps is a network of young adults ages 21-32 serving through locally organized intentional communities that are dedicated to:

- Serving others in solidarity
- Promoting justice in community
- Deepening spiritual awareness
- Discerning vocation
- Living simply



Everyone serving through ESC commits to a household Rule of Life and regular spiritual direction, discernment and community practices. During their #ServiceYear, Corps members receive housing, health coverage, and small stipends to cover living expenses, transportation and food. For many young adults, this year serves as an opportunity for vocational discernment broadly understood. Many of our participants move into positions of leadership within their local churches, the wider Episcopal Church, and community organizations.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis until programs reach capacity. Placement offers are made beginning on #FirstOfferFriday, February 7, 2020.

Visit the ESC website for the application and discernment quiz as well as details about the application process and each ESC local program, [www.EpiscopalServiceCorps.org](http://www.EpiscopalServiceCorps.org).

Questions about Episcopal Service Corps, contact Wendy Johnson, [wjohnson@episcopalchurch.org](mailto:wjohnson@episcopalchurch.org).



## **Volunteers Needed to Provide Spiritual and Pastoral Care**



Allegheny Health Network  
Palliative Care  
**SPIRITUAL CARE**

The Palliative Medicine division of the Allegheny Health Network is currently recruiting volunteers for 2020 to provide spiritual/pastoral care to our inpatients. Palliative care focuses on helping to alleviate the suffering which accompanies serious illness. These symptoms may be physical, emotional, psychological, or spiritual. Training will be provided by the health network, by palliative care clinical staff, the palliative care spiritual care coordinator, and local hospital chaplains. Anyone 18 years of age or older is invited to apply. No prior experience needed, though it is welcomed. Schedules are arranged at the volunteer's convenience.

West Penn Hospital, Jefferson Regional Hospital, Forbes Regional Hospital, Allegheny Valley Hospital, and Allegheny General Hospital all have palliative care inpatients. The patients whom we serve are at all points along the continuum of their illness, from initial diagnosis, through aggressive treatment, to comfort measures only and referral to hospice. It is a rewarding experience serving patients and their families who are facing spiritual crises and a host of existential questions.

For more information, please contact Chaplain Kim Rapczak at [Kimberly.Rapczak@ahn.org](mailto:Kimberly.Rapczak@ahn.org) or 412-738-4650. You may also fill out the volunteer application found at [www.ahn.org/volunteer-application](http://www.ahn.org/volunteer-application). Make sure you indicate at which hospital you are interested in working, and under the category of 'other,' fill in 'palliative care/spiritual care.'



## **Around the Diocese**

### **Bishop McConnell's Visitation Schedule:**

**November 17:** Good Shepherd, Hazelwood

**November 24:** St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

**December 1:** Holy Cross, Homewood  
**December 8:** Advent, Jeannette

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



## Parting Shot

St. Andrew's, Highland Park, partnered with the Larimer Green Team to present the fourth annual Pumpkin Party at the Larimer Community Garden. The event was highlighted in [Print](#), Pittsburgh's weekly East End newspaper.



## A pumpkin party in Larimer gets the Halloween spirit going

The fourth annual pumpkin party at the Larimer Community Garden was a bittersweet event. The party marked the end of the community garden in that location. Next year, while there may be a pumpkin party, the garden will be more of a park, with a concert venue.

Carolyn Peeks, of the Larimer Green Team, said the Green Team partners with St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Highland Park every year to put on the event. The pumpkins were donated by Giant Eagle, but the children had to clean them out themselves.

Barbara Lewis of Morningside was in charge of opening the tops of the pumpkins then, when the pumpkin innards were returned to her, she would separate the seeds for roasting.

### Print photos



At right, Avery Kirk, 2, of Larimer picked the biggest pumpkin she could carry, while below, sisters Lily, 13, the Mad Hatter, and her sister Ivy, 3, the Incredible Hulk, work on their respective pumpkins.



Alonna Littlejohn, 8, of Larimer is not thrilled with the feel of the inside of the pumpkin as she cleans it out before carving it.



Rhiikka Hinkson of Penn Hills both carved and painted her pumpkin to use as a jack-o-lantern for the holiday.



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



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