



January 29, 2020

Seeking Members of the Nominating Committee for the next Bishop of Pittsburgh



Our bishop, the Right Reverend Dorsey W.M. McConnell, has announced his retirement date in 2021. In discussions with the Bishop, the Standing Committee has revised the schedule for the election and Consecration of the IX Bishop of Pittsburgh.

January 23, 2021: Special Convention to elect the next bishop
February 13, 2021: "Snow date" for the election, if needed
June 5 or 12, 2021: Consecration of the IX Bishop of Pittsburgh

The Standing Committee of the diocese will appoint a Nominating Committee to search for candidates and present them for final approval by the Standing Committee and ultimately election at the Special Convention. At this time, the Standing Committee asks that you recommend to them the names of any individuals who could capably serve on the Nominating Committee.

More details about the tasks of the Nominating Committee, together with an application form (available by clicking [here for a Word document](#) or [here for a PDF](#)), are available on the diocesan website at www.episcopalpg.org.

Applications are due by February 1, 2020. In the coming months, please consult the Diocesan website and the Diocesan newsletter, Grace Happens, for news about the process to call our next Bishop of Pittsburgh.



Overwhelming Response to Holy Cross Gun Buyback

When the clergy and lay leaders of Holy Cross, Homewood, hoped to remove a few firearms from their neighborhood, they never expected what would come from the community or the media.

The MLK Day buyback began with what police described as an "unlikely" goal of collecting 100 guns. The initial \$5,000 in privately raised funds was depleted in the first 45 minutes, but still, the guns poured in and so did additional financial donations. Nearly 150 firearms were eventually surrendered, including two semi-automatic rifles.

Priest-in-charge the Rev. Torrey Johnson, Outreach Minister Guy Brown, Senior Warden Sylvia Wilson, and longtime parishioner Dr. Leon Haley were quoted extensively in the local media, by CNN, and even interviewed on the BBC.





Holy Cross considers this to be its First Annual MLK Gun Buyback, and has heard from other churches that want to join in the effort. Donations for the buyback fund continue to be accepted through the Episcopal Lutheran Alliance, elallianceinc.org.

Here's a sampling of the recent coverage:

[Local church organizing gun buyback program](#) (KDKA video)

[Church gun buyback in honor of MLK runs out of money in first hour](#) (CNN)

- [Senior Warden Sylvia Wilson interviewed on "Up All Night"](#) (BBC audio)
- [Nearly 150 guns turned in during Holy Cross MLK gun buyback event](#) (New Pittsburgh Courier)
- [Tony Norman: the radical spirit of the Homewood gun buyback](#) (Pittsburgh Post-Gazette)



Renew, Refresh: Refill Your Cup on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon

We will explore things in our lives that create chaos and stress, and we'll reconnect to ourselves, to each other, and to God. We're still in the planning phase, so more details are to come! [Click here to sign up!](#) Cost for the retreat is \$30.

[St. Paul's Episcopal Church](#), 1066 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228



Interfaith Conference on the Environment



The Long Journey:
*From Extracting the Past
 to Cultivating the Future*

**Pennsylvania
 Interfaith Power & Light
 Annual Conference**
 Sunday afternoon
February 9, 2020
*Philadelphia - **Pittsburgh** - Scranton*

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Pittsburgh Theological Seminary 616 N. Highland Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15206	Register now at paipl.org
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Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light, a faith-based organization for protecting the environment, will hold its annual conference on Sunday, February 9, at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, beginning at 1 p.m.

The keynote speaker, Colette Pichon Battle, founder of the Gulf Coast Center for Law and Policy, will discuss what we in Pennsylvania can learn from Louisiana's experience with fossil fuels as we work toward environmental justice. To preregister see PAIPL.org.



Episcopal Youth Event 2020

Every three years, the Episcopal Church convenes an international youth conference fittingly called the *Episcopal Youth Event*, or *EYE* for short.

This event is hosted so "that the energy of the youth of the Episcopal Church can continue to be utilized in active ministry as members of the Body of Christ."

This year, *EYE20* will be held in College Park, Maryland, a suburb of Washington D.C. and a manageable commute from Pittsburgh, from **July 7-11**. Because *EYE* only happens every three years and is just a few hours away, the diocese is hoping to send a delegation and hopes you consider joining youth from across the country!

The theme for *EYE20* is "unite! ¡unámonos!" The Planning Team chose this theme at their October meeting after considerable time in discussion, reflection, and prayer. Youth participants in *EYE20* must be enrolled in 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grade during this school year or must have turned at least 15 and be no older than 19 by the event start. Current freshman who are 14 will have an opportunity



to attend *EYE2023* as the Episcopal Youth Event is on a three-year cycle. More information can be found at <https://events.episcopalchurch.org/eye>.

EYE is a great opportunity for youth in the diocese to come together in fellowship, to learn to be disciples of Christ, and to meet fellow young Christians from across the Episcopal Church. If you or your youth are interested in joining the diocese at *EYE* please contact Luke Zerra, Youth Minister at St. Paul's Mt. Lebanon, **by Thursday, February 14**, at lzerra@stpaulspgh.org.

We want to make sure that the diocese is well represented at EYE20 this July!



Taizé Service in Johnstown

On **Sunday, February 16, at 6:30 p.m.** [St. Mark's Episcopal Church](#), 335 Locust Street in Johnstown, will host a Taizé service as part of its Community Common Prayer Series.

This unique form of Christian worship was developed in 1940 by Brother Roger Schütz, founding member of the ecumenical monastic [Taizé Community](#) located in Taizé, Saône-et-Loire, Burgundy, France.



The singing of distinctive and much-repeated prayer chants during this candlelit prayer services is one of the Taizé community's trademarks. The music emphasizes simple phrases, usually lines from Psalms or other pieces of Scripture, repeated or sung in canon. The repetition is designed to help meditation and prayer.

Refreshments and conversation will be available following the service. All are welcome.

For additional information about the service or St. Mark's Community Common Prayer Series, please contact the Rev. Nancy Threadgill at 814-535-6797 or revnancy-stmarks@atlanticbbn.net.





• A GENTLY USED BOOK, DVD, AND CD SALE,
PLUS BAKED GOODS AND SOUP •

WARM TALES, TASTY TREATS

FRIDAY, FEB. 21, 9 TO 6

SATURDAY, FEB. 22, 9 TO 12; BAG SALE 12 TO 2

ST. BRENDAN'S CHURCH, FRANKLIN PARK

WWW.STBRENDANS.ORG 412-364-5974



[St. Brendan's Episcopal Church](http://www.stbrendans.org)

Located at the corner of Rochester and McAleer Roads in Franklin Park, PA
2365 McAleer Road, Sewickley, PA 15143



Youth Mental Health First Aid Training

Youth Mental Health First Aid training will be offered on **Saturday, February 22, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.** at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Mt. Lebanon.

Heather Panzica will be presenting the topic of mental health and mental health first aid for youth. She is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) with a bachelor's degree in psychology, and is a youth mental health first aid certified instructor.

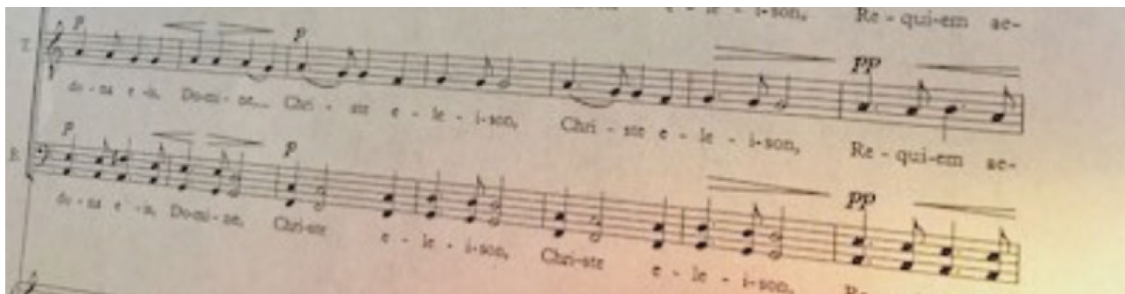
This training, open to all, is for anyone who works with or has any interaction with youth. Participants will learn to recognize common risk factors and warning signs of specific types of illnesses such as anxiety, depression, substance use, bipolar disorder, eating disorders, etc., and then figure out, "What do I do?" and "Where can someone find help?" It's important to note, this training does not make participants able to take on the responsibilities of professionals - it helps take the hesitation out of starting conversations about



mental health by improving understanding and providing an action plan to safely and responsibly address a potential mental health issue.

You can sign up [by clicking here](#). The cost for the training is \$20. For more information or questions, contact Kristen Morgan at kmorgan@stpaulspgh.org.

[St. Paul's Episcopal Church](#), 1066 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228



PREMIERE OF ALL SAINTS REQUIEM BY DOUGLAS STARR

FEBRUARY 28
7:30 P.M.

**SAINT PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MT. LEBANON, PA**

FEBRUARY 29
7:30 P.M.

**SAINT VINCENT
ARCHABBEY BASILICA
LATROBE, PA**

Featuring: Katy Shackelton-Williams, Valerie Vernon-Thomas, Rich Williams, Daniel Teadt, Chaz Bowers, the St. Vincent Camerata of St. Vincent College, the Schola Cantorum Franciscana of Franciscan University, and the Chancel Choir of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

SUGGESTED DONATION \$10

[St. Paul's Episcopal Church](#), 1066 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15228
Additional details are [available here](#).



Read a Book for Lent: *Beloved*, by Toni Morrison

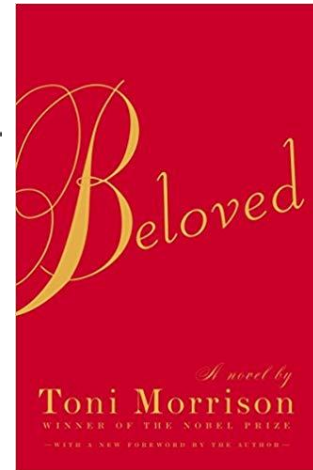
Find a friend to share it with...
Form a book group in your parish...
Read it own your own...

For Lent this year, the **Commission on Race and Reconciliation** (CORR) is remembering author Toni Morrison, who died last August at the age of 88. She was the first African-American woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature for her writing and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Obama in 2012.

Her work is "a prose so precise, so faithful to speech and so charged with pain and wonder that the novel becomes poetry," said John Leonard, former Executive Editor of the New York Times Book

Review.

More information about how to incorporate this amazing book into your Lenten practices will be coming soon from the CORR.



Sheldon Calvary Camp 2020



Established in 1936, Sheldon Calvary Camp (SCC) is located on the scenic shores of Lake Erie in Conneaut, Ohio. SCC is a summer camp for children ages 7-16 and families. Our staff is composed of young adults ages 17 and older, an experienced supervisory team and camp directors. Many of our staff members are former campers who want to share their experiences with others.

Coed Camp and Stars & Stripes - These are week long sessions for boys and girls ages 8-16 offering a full recreational camping experience. Campers spend days engaged in activities such as swimming instruction, fine arts, tennis, athletics, archery, and experiential education. Nine campers of similar ages live together in each cabin under the guidance and supervision of two counselors. Each day ends with campfire or chapel.

Day Camp - This program runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily for boys and girls ages 7-12 during the 4th of July week. Campers participate in small group activities including swimming, games, crafts, and nature!

Ready, Set, Camp! - This 4-day, 3-night program is geared toward younger campers ages 7-12. It offers the same activities as Coed Camp but is designed for children and parents who may be apprehensive about a whole week away from home or challenged to fit a full week of camp into their summer schedules. Campers can explore and enjoy the complete camping experience, just for a shorter period of time!

2020 Camping Sessions

Coed I: June 14-20

Coed II: June 21-27

Stars & Stripes: June 28- July 3

Ready, Set, Camp!: June 28- July 1

Day Camp: June 29-July 3

Coed III: July 5-11

Coed IV: July 12-25 (two weeks)

Coed V: July 26-August 1

For more information, please visit www.calvarycamp.org or call (440) 593-4381.



Around the Diocese

Bishop McConnell's Visitation Schedule:

February 9: All Souls, North Versailles

February 16: Emmanuel, North Side

February 23: Atonement, Carnegie

March 1: St. David's, Peters Township

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

Annual Meetings: As we enter the annual meeting season, all parishes are reminded to complete and submit the [Parish Annual Meeting Report Form](#) as soon as possible.



Parting Shot

A dedicated group of volunteers reinstalled pews at Old Saint Luke's in Carnegie on Saturday, January 25, following a much needed floor refinishing project. Established in 1765 as a stockade church, Old St. Luke's has served the community as a religious institution and gathering place for over 250 years. More about Old Saint Luke's is available at www.oldsaintlukes.org.



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.

