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December 17, 2021

Bishop Solak's 2022 Parish Visitation Schedule

Bishop Solak's 2022 visitation schedule is now available for download and printing [by clicking here.](#)

New this year, the schedule is based, not on the calendar year, but on our church year calendar which begins on the first Sunday of Advent and runs through the Last Sunday after Pentecost.

The 2022 Diocesan Cycle of Prayer will be available soon.

These documents, along with many others, are available under the [Resources tab](#) on the diocesan website.

2021-22 Church Year		Episcopal Visitation Schedule The Rt. Rev. Kellen A. Solak Principal Bishop of Pittsburgh	
November 2021		June	June 1 Christ Church, North Hills (Pentecost)
Nov. 28 St. Andrew's, Highland Park		June 12 Christ Church, Indiana (Trinity Sunday)	
December		June 20 St. Michael's, Lehigh	
Dec. 5 Advent, Inaugural		June 28 No Visitation	
Dec. 12 Advent, Bookline		Summer	
Dec. 19 Trinity, Cranberry		No Visitation in July and August	
Dec. 26 Trinity, Cranberry (Christmas Eve)		July 2-8 Clergy's Retreat	
Dec. 28 No Visitation		July 27-Aug. 3 Lambeth Conference	
January 2022		September	
Jan. 2 No Visitation		Sept. 4 No Visitation (Labor Day)	
Jan. 9 All Saints, North Versailles		Sept. 11 Holy Cross, Homestead	
Jan. 16 St. Peter's, Broomfield		Sept. 18 St. Thomas, Oakmont	
Jan. 23 Annunciation, Carnegie		Sept. 25 St. Matthew's, Homestead	
Jan. 30 Emmanuel, North Side		October	
February		Oct. 2 St. Mark's, Johnstown	
Feb. 6 No Visitation		Oct. 9 St. Bartholomew's, Northside (Lit)	
Feb. 13 College for Bishop		Oct. 16 St. Francis, Somerset	
Feb. 20 St. David's, Penn Township		Oct. 23 St. Paul's, Kirmington (n.s.)	
Feb. 27 St. Stephen's, Wilkensburg		Oct. 30 St. Stephen's, McKeesport	
March		November	
Mar. 6 All Saints, North Versailles		Nov. 8 Redeemer, Spang Hill	
Mar. 13 St. Thomas, Cranberry		Nov. 15 St. Ignace, Carnegie	
Mar. 20 St. James, Penn Hills		Nov. 22 St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon	
Mar. 27 House of Bishop		December	
Mar. 28 All Saints, Wilkensburg		No Visitation	
April		January	
Apr. 3 No Visitation		Jan. 1 Christ Church, North Hills (Pentecost)	
Apr. 10 St. Basil's, Franklin Park		Jan. 8 Christ Church, Indiana (Trinity Sunday)	
Apr. 17 Trinity, Cranberry (Easter)		Jan. 15 St. Michael's, Lehigh	
Apr. 24 Christ Church, East Liberty		Jan. 22 No Visitation	
May		February	
May 3 No Visitation		Feb. 6 No Visitation	
May 10 St. Peter's, Broomfield		Feb. 13 College for Bishop	
May 17 St. Basil's, Cranberry		Feb. 20 St. David's, Penn Township	
May 24 St. Thomas, Cranberry		Feb. 27 St. Stephen's, Wilkensburg	
May 31 No Visitation (Easter Vigil)		March	



Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's 2021 Christmas Message

[Episcopal News Service] "The Christmas stories are reminders that this Jesus came to show us how to love as God loves. And one of the ways we love as God loves is to help those who are refugees, those who seek asylum from political tyranny, poverty, famine, or other hardship."

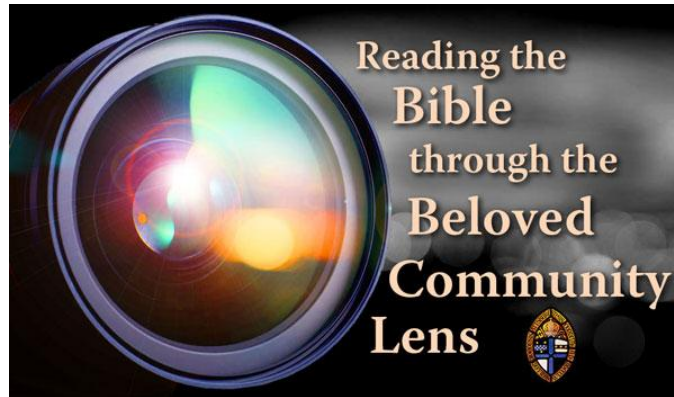
View the video or download the transcript of the 2021 Christmas message from the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church, [here.](#)



Beloved Community Initiative Announces Upcoming Events



The Beloved Community Initiative (BCI) is pleased to announce upcoming events for 2022 and invites everyone in the diocese to participate.



In Matthew 22:37-39 Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" In Matthew 5:43-48, Jesus said to love your enemy.

Following those commandments, you are invited to read scripture again adding lenses from the Beloved Community.

This online Bible Study will be offered **throughout 2022 at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.**

The inaugural session will be held via Zoom on **Wednesday, January 5, at 7 p.m.**

The link to join is [available by clicking here.](#)



What gives you life when looking at scripture though the lens of the love of Jesus?

The BCI invites you to join us as we come together to pray for healing, reconciliation and racial justice.

This online prayer and discussion event will be offered **throughout 2022 at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month.**

The inaugural session will be held via Zoom on **Wednesday, January 19, at 7 p.m.**

The link to join is [available by clicking here.](#)



Worshipping Online: New World, New Risks

Episcopal churches have leaned into the tectonic shift in worshipping brought on by the persistence of COVID-19. Online services allow congregations to reach people near and far, swelling congregations in both size and geographic diversity. Today, as we tiptoe out of the pandemic, cyber worshipping continues. However, this new frontier is not without hidden risks.

Reciting a poem or singing a song or hymn from a purchased hymnal is commonplace in churches. This is acceptable for in-person religious services protected by the Religious Services Exemption of copyright law; but the exemption does not cover streamed, podcast, or prerecorded services posted on the internet, because online services are broadcast beyond church walls.



Copyright law can be confusing. Fortunately, the Church Insurance Companies and Church Publishing Incorporated, two divisions of CPG, can help with the [copyright risk management fact sheet](#), which contains FAQs and links to resources for licenses to reprint, podcast, and record hymns and songs. It also connects users to a customizable worship-planning tool available through Church Publishing and a resource for obtaining performance licenses for a library of 29 million songs.

[Read more here.](#)



Closing of St. Paul's, Monongahela

In late October, the vestry of St. Paul's, Monongahela, made the difficult decision to close at the end of this year. The parish's last service will be Sunday, December 26, at 11 a.m.

Vestry members cited St. Paul's financial status, dwindling membership, and a number of large property maintenance issues as primary reasons for the decision to close. Certainly, the pandemic has also contributed to the parish's recent difficulties. The Bishop's Office had been in close contact with the vestry of St. Paul's in the months leading up to its decision, and alternative outcomes were hoped for and explored. Now, the vestry and Bishop are following the process for the closing of a parish, as outlined in our [diocesan canons](#) (Canon XXV, Section 6).

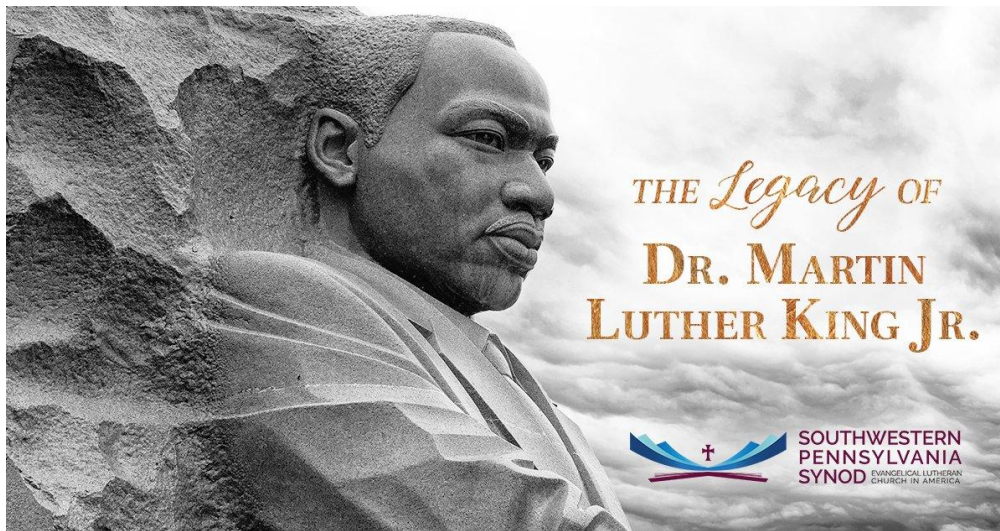


St. Paul's became a parish of the Diocese in 1860, and we are grateful for its ministry to the city of Monongahela and its surrounding communities over the decades. We are also grateful to the current leadership of St. Paul's, who have been faithful to the parish throughout its recent challenges. We know that their decision to close the parish was a difficult one – one that was not made lightly, nor without a great deal of prayer.

At the end of the year, the property of St. Paul's will come under the stewardship of the Diocese, and its future will be assessed.

Please keep the people of St. Paul's in your prayers, and pray, too, for the continued and renewed witness of Christ's Church in Monongahela and throughout our communities.





The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh is joining the Southwest Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in celebrating the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with an ecumenical service of Holy Communion.

Sunday, January 16, 2022, at 4 p.m.

**[Berkley Hills Lutheran Church](#), 517 Sangree Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237 (North Hills)
Bishop Abraham Allende, Presiding, the Rev. Lamont Wells, Preaching**

The service will encourage membership of the Synod's partners to be engaged actively in the practice of nonviolence in our continuing efforts to build the Beloved Community in Pittsburgh.

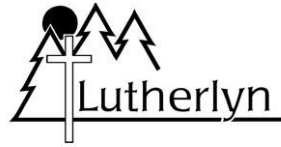
As allowed by COVID protocols, the service will be in person and livestreamed. Masks are required for in-person attendance.

View the Livestream at: [SWPASYNOD.ORG/MLK2022](https://swpasynod.org/mlk2022)

Interfaith and community partners are also invited and most welcome.

Opportunities for service and anti-racist action suggested for the King Holiday on Monday, January 17th, and beyond can be found at swpasynod.org/mlk2022.

ELCA Community Partners:



Episcopal Cottage of Chautauqua Seeks Hosts for the 2022 Season

The Episcopal Cottage of Chautauqua in western New York is seeking applications for the role of cottage host/s to commence with the 2022 Season.

Founded in 1919, in the historic Chautauqua Institution, the Episcopal Cottage has been providing a ministry of hospitality for over 100 years. Episcopalians, and non-Episcopalians alike, share in the home like atmosphere provided by the cottage and its hosts. This position offers a unique opportunity to become part of the Chautauqua community.



Host/s are provided a full season pass and on-site parking allowing for full access to outstanding lectures, religious activities, art, music and theater.

The host/s must possess excellent verbal communication skills, be highly organized and have an outgoing personality. Hosts must feel very comfortable working with people and reporting to a Board of Directors. They must have a vehicle and a valid driver license, and be fully COVID-19 vaccinated.

Additional information on the Episcopal Cottage of Chautauqua can be found at <https://episcopalcottage.com/>

For full consideration, please submit cover letter and resume by January 9, 2022. Please send inquiries and/or questions to: Virginia Taylor at EHost@rochester.rr.com



Save the Date: Absalom Jones Day Celebration

Absalom Jones (1746–1818) founded the first black Episcopal congregation in Philadelphia in 1794, and in 1802, he was the first African American to be ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church. Jones is listed on the Episcopal calendar of saints and is remembered liturgically on the date of his death, February 13.



Please join Bishop Solak and United Methodist Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi at **10 a.m. on Saturday, February 12**, for an ecumenical celebration of the life of the Rev. Absalom Jones.

The celebration will feature the theme, "All Gods People," and will be hosted by the Commission on Race and Reconciliation and the Beloved Community Initiative at **Trinity Cathedral, 328 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222**

The day, running from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., will include worship, lunch, and a panel discussion of Beloved Community experiences.



[Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi](#) of the Western Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church, will be the preacher.

Registration to attend will be available soon.

Find more about the Rev. Absalom Jones at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Absalom_Jones.



Diocese Seeks Treasurer and Director of Administration

The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh is seeking an individual with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance to serve as Treasurer and Director of Administration. This position reports to the Bishop and works closely with the Diocese's parishes and governing bodies. The person serving in this role will be responsible for the administration of all accounting activities; preparing various monthly/annual financial statements, budgets, and reports; coordinating the annual diocesan audit; overseeing the administration of benefits; managing two employees; and other compliance, consulting, and administrative functions.



Complete details and application instructions are available [on the diocesan website](#). The deadline to apply is December 31, 2021.



Around the Diocese

Bishop Solak's Visitation Schedule:

December 19: Nativity, Crafton

December 24: Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh (Christmas Eve)

January 9: All Souls, North Versailles



January 16: St. Peter's, Brentwood

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

Diocesan Office Holiday Observance: The diocesan offices will be closed from Friday, December 25 until Monday, January 3.

A Note from the IRS: Beginning Jan. 1, 2022, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car (also vans, pickups or panel trucks) will be 58.5 cents per mile driven for business use, up 2.5 cents from the rate for 2021. The rate for miles driven in service of charitable organizations will be 14 cents per mile, unchanged from 2021.



Has your parish been featured in the news?
Please let us know via email at info@episcopalpgh.org
