



March 30, 2022

Christ Church, North Hills, Helping Afghan Refugees

[Christ Church, North Hills](#) is awaiting approval from the U.S. Department of State to become a qualified sponsor with the Afghan Resettlement Program. Once approved, the parish will be assigned one of the Afghan refugee families currently living in temporary housing on a military base. The parish will assist the family members as they go through the painful process of adjusting to their new country. This will involve helping them with all areas of life including housing, education, transportation, healthcare, public benefits, English language acquisition, job search, and legal matters, as well as everyday activities such as grocery shopping.



Christ Church has organized a committee with five subcommittees, each tasked with one or two aspects of the program. This is a significant undertaking of time and resources, and the parish welcomes anyone in the diocese who might want to join them in this ministry. As one of the team members remarked, "It may only be one refugee family among thousands, but we can help one of them to have a fighting chance for a new life."

If interested, please contact Meghan Karn at Karn.meghan@gmail.com; Nate Weiland at nate_weiland@yahoo.com; or Jim Shoucair at rector@christchurchpgh.org.



A combined observance of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh
and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 10 a.m.

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 328 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (Downtown)

Preaching: The Rev. Kurt F. Kusserow
Bishop, Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA

Presiding: The Rt. Rev. Ketlen A. Solak, D.Min.
Bishop, the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

*Clergy, pastors, and deacons are invited to vest (red/scarlet) and process
There will be a light lunch for clergy following the liturgy.
Registration is for clergy attending lunch and ordering oils.*

Registration for Clergy



Gun Violence Prevention 101

**An educational forum on gun violence
prevention & gun safety policies in PA**

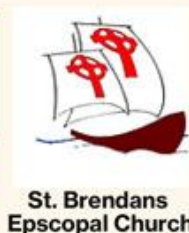
Thursday, April 7th, 2022

7:00 PM Via Zoom



Presenter: Josh Fleitman
Western PA Manager
CeaseFirePA

To register, email:
StBrendansKatie@gmail.com



This Forum is sponsored by St. Brendan's Episcopal Church, in conjunction with Faith in Action, consisting of Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Brendan's, and the Unitarian Universalist Church of the North Hills.



Calvary Searching for New Associate Rector

[Calvary Church](#), in Pittsburgh's East Liberty neighborhood, is searching for a full-time curate or associate rector to join its staff. Applications will be received until the position is filled. Application materials should be sent to Calvary's rector, the Rev. Jonathon Jensen, at jjensen@calvarypgh.org.

For more information, view the complete [job posting](#) and [position description](#).



SJO Forming Environmental Network

The diocesan Social Justice and Outreach Committee (SJO) is forming an Environmental Network, beginning with a pre-Earth Day workshop on **Wednesday, April 20, at 7 pm.**

This workshop will be in-person at Calvary Episcopal Church in East Liberty, and [streamed on Zoom](#).

Recipients of our Green Church grants from All Souls, North Versailles; St. Stephen's, McKeesport; and St. Thomas, Oakmont; as well as representatives from Calvary; St. Paul's, Mt Lebanon; Emmanuel, North Side; Redeemer, Squirrel Hill; All Saints, Brighton Heights; St. Brendan's, Franklin Park; and others will tell their stories.

Topics that will be discussed:

- How is your parish increasing energy efficiency and moving toward zero waste and minimum use of plastic?
- What practical help would you like so your parish could do more?
- How can you get an energy audit, or a grant for one or for some other purpose?
- How can we in the diocese work for a greener region?

For more information contact Thomas Slater, SJO member from Calvary at patobyblack@yahoo.com



Becoming Beloved Community Day

A diocesan-wide celebration and opportunity to explore the Beloved Community



Saturday, April 30, 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

1066 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228

10:30 a.m. - A Holy Eucharist Celebration of the Life and Ministry of **the Rt. Rev. Barbara Harris** with Bishop Ketlen Solak celebrating and the Rev. Noah Evans

preaching.

12 Noon - Lunch and fellowship

1 p.m. - Workshops exploring how to build Beloved Community in Southwestern PA, including Exploring Sacred Ground, "So I'm in a Small Church, what can I do?", Resources for Sunday School, and more.



A full agenda with workshop descriptions and registration details will be available soon.

Calling all singers! Join in a diocesan-wide choir during worship. If you are interested in participating in some wonderful music, please contact Dr. Doug Starr at dstarr@stpaulspgh.org or 412-531-7153 ext. 16



Chicken & Biscuit Take-out Dinner in Johnstown

[St. Mark's](#) is holding a take-out dinner on **Saturday, April 9, 2022 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** at its Parish Hall, located at 335 Locust Street, downtown Johnstown. Take out only. Meals must be ordered in advance. Price is \$ 10 per meal. Each meal includes chicken & biscuit, mashed potatoes, strawberry-spinach salad, and cake.



Proceeds from the take-out dinner benefit Episcopal Church Women and St. Mark's ministries. To order call (814) 535-6797 or email stmarks@atlanticbbn.net.



Organist Position Open in Mt. Lebanon

[Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church, ELCA](#), 975 Washington Road, Pittsburgh, PA, seeks a Director of Music and Organist as of June 15, 2022.

This position is part-time, with an approximate time commitment of twenty hours per week and salary to be determined.

[Click here](#) for more information and a complete job description.



2022 Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference

***Flourishing in Ministry:
Cultivating Well-Being in Clergy & Caregivers***

Friday, May 6, 2022, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Christ United Methodist Church
44 Highland Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102

**PITTSBURGH
PASTORAL
CARE CONFERENCE**

For clergy, pastors, laity, counselors, social workers, nurses, teachers, volunteers and others in the flock helping those needing healing and recovery.

The conference has plenary sessions and 10 breakout workshops.



Keynote Speaker

Matt Bloom, Ph.D., is professor emeritus at the University of Notre Dame, where for more than 20 years he studied the nature of well-being in workplaces, especially for the caring professions. Bloom led the Flourishing in Ministry and WorkWell research projects and is author of *Flourishing in Ministry: How to Cultivate Clergy Well-Being* (2019).

Full workshop descriptions and agenda, additional information about Dr. Bloom, and registration details are available at <https://www.pghpcc.org/>



Five-Minute Lent

All are invited to join again, or, for the first time, in the 5-Minute Lenten series, which is offered during the weekdays of Lent (Mondays-Fridays), beginning Thursday, March 3, 7:00-7:05 p.m. via Zoom.

This special series, entitled, *My God, My God*, is following Psalm 22 verse by verse. This is the Psalm that is read at the closing of the Maundy Thursday service during the stripping of the altar.



[Click here](#) for our evening Zoom link.

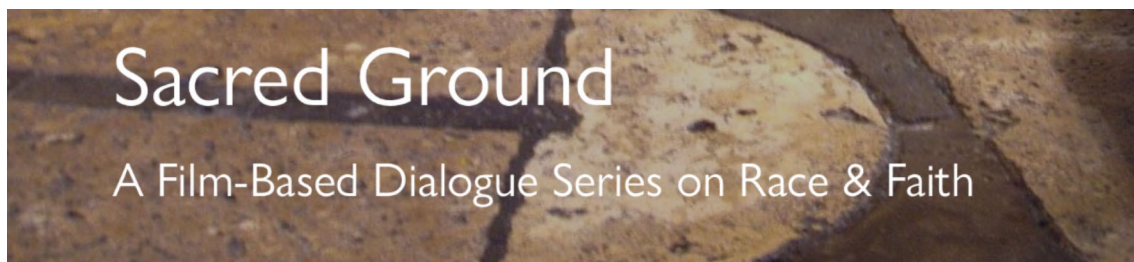
Passcode (if required): Lent

Lent gives us a wonderful opportunity to turn our attention toward the ways God ushers us through difficulties and uncertainties with the unchanging promise of God's presence. Please consider taking part, as able, in this rich and meaningful program.

Five minutes is all that is needed!



Sign Up for "Sacred Ground" Small Groups



Sacred Ground is an important component of Becoming Beloved Community, the Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society.

Sacred Ground is a film- and reading-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. Small groups are invited to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity.

The 10-part series is built around a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories.

The Diocese of Pittsburgh's Beloved Community Initiative (BCI) is creating local small groups to study the *Sacred Ground* curriculum. This will allow parishes to work together in regions or across regions to begin their journey through this important topic of study. BCI will collaborate with trained leaders to organize "Sacred Ground" small group studies, either through zoom or in person.

[Sign up here](#) to indicate your interest in participating. The information you provide will allow BCI to discern the proper format and when the small groups can begin.



Around the Diocese



Bishop Solak's Visitation Schedule:

April 10: St. Brendan's, Franklin Park

April 17: Trinity Cathedral (Easter)

April 24: Calvary, East Liberty

May 8: St. Peter's, Blairsville

Parish leadership is reminded to complete and submit [this form](#) at least two weeks in advance of their visitation. Bishop Solak's visitation schedule is [available here](#).



Parting Shots

Confirmations in Brighton Heights



Andrew Roberts and Mollie Matous were confirmed by Bishop Solak at All Saints, Brighton Heights, on Sunday, March 27.

--Photo courtesy Susy Robison

Hollywood Comes to Oakmont





The production crew of *A Man Called Otto*, a comedy being filmed in the Pittsburgh area, used St. Thomas, Oakmont as the setting for several scenes. The film stars Tom Hanks, Rachel Keller, and Cameron Britton, and is being produced by Rita Wilson. It's based on Swedish novelist Fredrik Backman's best-selling *A Man Called Ove*. More [here](#) and [here](#).

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