



May 16, 2023

By the Grace of God

The Right Reverend
Ketlen A. Solak
Bishop of Pittsburgh
will ordain

Cynthia Marie Gainer
and
James Attilio Miorelli
to the Sacred Order of Deacons
in Christ's one holy catholic
and apostolic Church

Saturday, June 3, 2023
at ten o'clock in the morning

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
328 Sixth Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15222

Your prayers and presence are requested

Clergy: Red Stoles
Reception follows



Mt. Lebanon's Doug Starr to Retire

Before he plays his last service and concludes 30 years as St. Paul's music director, Doug Starr still has one major accomplishment to come: the world premiere of his latest

composition.

Dr. Starr's *A Wilderness Cantata* debuts May 19. Ten days later, on the Feast of Pentecost, he'll retire.

"People are asking me 'what are you going to do after retirement?' and I can't think of it," Starr admitted as both events were quickly approaching. "A lot of my attention and focus is going toward [the cantata]. I don't have time to think about retiring."

His composition was first conceived two years ago, as St. Paul's began designing parish activities around the theme of "Choosing Wilderness." The parish and its rector, the Rev. Noah Evans, had been awarded a Lilly Foundation grant to fund his 2022 sabbatical to several wilderness locales. The grant allowed the parish to partner in that experience at home while he was away.

And as timing would have it, the world was also emerging from a global pandemic.

"Everyone lost people. They lost opportunity. They lost income. They lost jobs. It was a wilderness experience that was ubiquitous, not just isolated events. So, we all kind of resonate with the idea of wilderness," Starr said, adding "The cantata is a reflection on that void."

The concert takes place Friday, May 19, at 7:30 p.m. at the church, 1066 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon. Advance ticket purchase is available at stpaulspgh.org.

Read much more here: <https://www.episcopalpgh.org/mt-lebanons-doug-starr-to-retire/>



Transitions in the Diocese

New Calls

The Rev. Deacon Paul Barker transferred his canonical residence to the Diocese of West Virginia where he is serving as the Pastor at Christ Episcopal Church in Bluefield, WV, and Director of the Highland Education Project in Welch, WV.

On March 3, **the Rev. Deacon Carter Hawley** became the Deacon at Trinity Cathedral, Downtown. Deacon Carter is also the Executive Director of the Association for Episcopal Deacons. Prior to moving to Pittsburgh, she served as Archdeacon in the Episcopal Diocese of Oregon.

Wedding

On March 10, **the Rev. Dr. James B. Simons** married **Sandy Byrd Binder** in Vero Beach, Florida.

Completed Calls

The Rev. Chris Cole, formerly of St. Andrew's, Highland Park, accepted a call to Calvary Episcopal Church in Summit, NJ.

The Rev. Shawn Malarkey will be leaving Nativity, Crafton, on May 16, 2023 to begin a new role as Priest-in-Charge of Eastern Shore Chapel Episcopal Church in Virginia Beach, VA.

Deaths

The Rev. Dr. C. Don Keyes passed to greater glory on Saturday, February 4. Don was a priest canonically resident in the Diocese of New York and in the years since his retirement physically resident in West Virginia, but he was present and well known and for many years licensed here in Pittsburgh as he served as a Professor in the Philosophy Dept. of Duquesne University. He had been especially associated with Trinity Cathedral and St. Andrew's Highland Park.

The Very Rev. George L.W. Werner died on Monday, February 6. Werner served as Dean of Trinity Cathedral for 20 years and served as the President of the Episcopal Church's House of Deputies. Much more about Dean Werner is available [here](#).

Births

The Rev. Neil K. Raman and his wife **Elizabeth Gassler** welcomed baby **Matthew Kumar Gassler Raman** on Saturday, February 25.

Andrew Locher was born March 28. Andrew is the fourth child of **the Rev. Elizabeth Locher** and her husband **Ben**, joining siblings Mary, Peter, and Felicity.

Appointments

Mr. Simon Wu, a member of Church of the Redeemer, Squirrel Hill, was appointed by Bishop Ketlen to the Board of Trustees. Simon's term runs through 2025.

The Rev. Canon Bonnie-Marie Yager-Wiggan has been named Trinity Cathedral's Canon for Formation and Parish Life. Previously, Bonnie-Marie+ served as an Associate Priest at the Cathedral. In her expanded role, she will be helping to oversee areas like faith formation, parish life, and annual stewardship efforts.



Christ Church, North Hills Afghan Resettlement Project Seeks Volunteers

This rewarding ministry helps refugees from Afghanistan settle in the Pittsburgh area by providing friendship and relocation assistance; particularly with English language education and cultural support.

The program has been working with refugees from Afghanistan in our area for the past year. The families helped are doing great and adjusting to life in the US well.



They are in need of English tutors. No prior teaching experience required. They use the Literacy Pittsburgh program, which provides lessons and guidance. If you are interested in helping in this area please contact Meghan Karn at Karn.Meghan@gmail.com



Rummage Sale in Peters Township

[St. David's Episcopal Church](#), 905 E. McMurray Rd, Venetia, PA 15367, is holding a Rummage Sale on **Saturday, June 10 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Early admission is at 8 a.m. and requires a \$5 entrance fee. Regular admission is free at 9 a.m.. The sale ends at 1 p.m. with a \$5 "Bag Sale" at 12:30 p.m.. Volunteers are welcome to help with the sale June 8th - 10th.



Anyone who would like to drop off items for the sale can do so from Sunday afternoon, June 4th, through Wednesday, June 7th. Proceeds from the sale benefit St. David's Capital Campaign Fund. For more information, contact stdavidspetertwp@gmail.com.



Online Learning Pilot Now Underway



Serviam Institute
I Will Serve.

**Sign up now to access free content from the
Diocese of Pennsylvania!**

A year ago, the Diocese of Pennsylvania launched its own online learning platform, **Serviam** (Latin for "I will serve"), to help equip and empower its members for mission and ministry. As they consider broadening their audience to other Episcopal dioceses, they have asked the Diocese of Pittsburgh to participate in a special pilot program that is now underway.

This is your opportunity to access Episcopal-specific online content, completely free of charge!

- Are you serving on your parish's vestry, or just wondering, *What's a vestry?* ... Take Serviam's "Vestry 101" course. Or, for a deeper dive, check out "Canonical and Legal Responsibilities of a Vestry."
- Want to go deeper in your spirituality? Explore "An Introduction to Spiritual Direction."

Other courses include:

- An Introduction to Clergy Transitions,
- Evaluating Your Church's Security, and
- Introduction to Safe Church

Sign up to participate in our Serviam pilot group

[Sign up now](#) to join our Pittsburgh pilot group. Within a few days, you will receive instructions on how to access Serviam and begin your online learning experience.

Sign Up for Serviam Pilot

To help make this pilot as helpful as possible to our friends in the Diocese of Pennsylvania, all participants will be asked to provide feedback through brief, easy-to-use online forms, both on the specific courses completed and on the Serviam experience in general. Your participation and feedback will be greatly appreciated!



A CONVERSATION BETWEEN CHRISTIANS & JEWS TOWARD FRIENDSHIP & DISCOVERY

In the Beginning...

Sunday, May 21, 4:30-6:30 PM w/ dinner

Temple Sinai, 5505 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Sin: Are You an Original?

Sunday, June 11, 4:30-6:30 PM w/ dinner

Rodef Shalom Congregation, 4905 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213

An Eye for an Eye? Turn the Other Cheek?

Sunday, September 10, 4:30-6:30 PM w/ dinner

Church of the Redeemer, 5700 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217

Join the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh and our interfaith partners as we read portions of the book, *The Bible With and Without Jesus*, by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler. We will gather once a month as a large group, with guided instructions to meet independently in small interfaith groups at least once in between the large group events.

Your participation will result in friendship and developing community, building bridges (as we love to do in Pittsburgh!) across lines that some expect to keep us apart. Anti-Jewish violence is on the rise. Characterizing Christians as suspiciously or fundamentally part of ideological extremism such as Christian Nationalism is on the rise. The best way to avoid violence and suspicion is to know each other by name and share a table.

Much more information and registration details for this important conversation series is available at <http://bethshalompgh.org/INTERFAITH-PROGRAM-2023/>



Diocesan Staff Change

Bishop Ketlen would like to announce the resignation of **Jo Ann McLaughlin-Klemencic**, effective May 19, 2023. Jo Ann has accepted a full time job offer outside of the Diocese. We are very appreciative of her hard work over the past two years and wish her the best.

As of May 22, please reach out to Elaine Zevkovich at ezevkovich@episcopalpgh.org with any questions.



It's Not Too Soon to Plan for Vacation Bible School

St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, is thrilled to offer Vacation Bible School (VBS) for children ages pre-k through sixth grade this summer!

Each day will include crafts, snacks, games, stories about our faith and music. St. Paul's VBS will run from **June 26 through June 30, 12:30 to 3 p.m.**



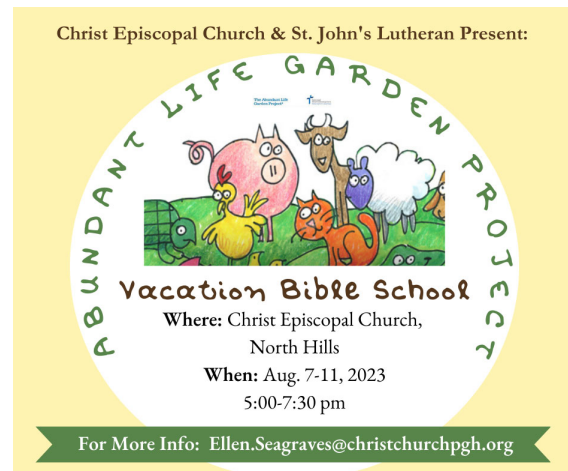
[Sign up here](#). If you would like to volunteer your time or have any questions please contact the Rev. Laura Di Panfilo at laura@stpaulspgh.org.

Abundant Life VBS: Christ Church, North Hills, and St. John's Lutheran Perrysville, are pleased to announce their partnership for this year's Vacation Bible School.

2023's VBS is the Abundant Life Garden Project from Episcopal Relief and Development. This service-oriented curriculum shows us how God has provided all we need and inspires us to help share these resources with others. In this hands-on program, children will get to explore the Bible, work on daily service projects and enjoy games and snacks. This free five-session VBS is offered for all children ages 4 through rising 6th grade. Volunteers of all ages are welcome to help, from rising 7th grade and up. Please note that all volunteers over the age of 14 need to obtain clearances. VBS will run the week of **Aug. 7-11 from 5:00-7:30 p.m.** at Christ Church, North Hills.

- [Click here to Register](#)
- [Click here to Volunteer](#)

For more information, please email Ellen Seagraves, Ministry Program Coordinator for Christ Church, at Ellen.Seagraves@christchurchpgh.org





A Festival for the Jesus Movement

Across the church and around the world, we are hungry for revival and renewal. Join friends from across the country for **"It's All About Love,"** a churchwide festival of worship, learning, community, and action for the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement, to be held Sunday, July 9 through Wednesday, July 12, at the Baltimore Convention Center. [Register by June 1](https://iam.ec/allaboutlove) for Early Bird rate of \$185.

**JULY
9-12
2023**

iam.ec/allaboutlove



"It's All About Love" is organized around three Jesus Movement festival "tents": Evangelism, Racial Reconciliation, and Creation Care. Get ready for evening revival worship and daytime speakers, workshops, panels, and practice opportunities around the big tent themes. Stick with one tent or explore across the tents, following the themes of: worship and liturgy, formation, justice and advocacy, leadership, preaching, stewardship, and youth and children.

Featured speakers, preachers, and artists to include **Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, President of the House of Deputies Julia Ayala Harris, Brian McLaren, the Rev. Mariama White-Hammon, Dr. Kwok Pui-lan, Sarah Augustine, Lilly Lewin, Dr. Catherine Meeks, the Very Rev. Canon Kelly Brown Douglas, the Rev. Winnie Varghese, Live Hymnal & Friends, [and more!](#)**

[Much more information is available here.](#)



Around the Diocese



Bishop Ketlen's Visitation Schedule:

May 21: Christ Church, Indiana
May 28: Christ Church, North Hills (Pentecost)
June 4: Trinity Cathedral (Trinity Sunday)
June 11: St. Thomas, N. Cambria

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

To schedule time with Bishop Ketlen, contact her virtual assistant, Crystal Goforth, at 412-721-0853, ext. 256, or via email at assistant@episcopalpgh.org.

The full church year **Cycle of Prayer** is now [available here](#) and Bishop Ketlen's full church year **Visitation Schedule** is [available here](#).



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