



June 29, 2023

## **Revitalizing and Supporting Lay Preaching and Worship Leading**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Lay leadership, in tandem with clergy leadership, is an integral part of our worship life as Episcopalian Christians. What's more, ongoing formation in leading worship and/or preaching deepens our understanding and enriches us as faith leaders and congregations.



I am pleased to announce our participation in two new certification programs for Lay Preachers and Worship Leaders, which are being offered by the Stevenson School for Ministry. The Diocese of Pittsburgh, in collaboration with our neighboring dioceses of Bethlehem, Central Pennsylvania, and Maryland, is supporting these new programs. Moreover, in collaboration with the Commission on Ministry, I am adopting these as a part of an overall, developing diocesan process of formation for lay preaching and worship leading. More information will be provided in subsequent newsletters.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Rev. Canon Natalie Hall for initiating the revitalization of our local formation instruction in the Love+Teach+Heal (LTH) Academy. For the time being, as we start this new unit, LTH Academy will be on hiatus. Canon Hall, who developed and led the LTH Academy for several years, is concluding her ministry as our Canon for Faith Formation and Evangelism. She will focus her time on serving as Rector of Church of the Redeemer (Squirrel Hill). In addition to LTH, Canon Hall has led effective lay faith formation programs in our diocese, a gift for which we are deeply grateful. Please join me in offering heartfelt thanks to Canon Hall who has truly blessed us by sharing her deep faith and her passion for teaching.

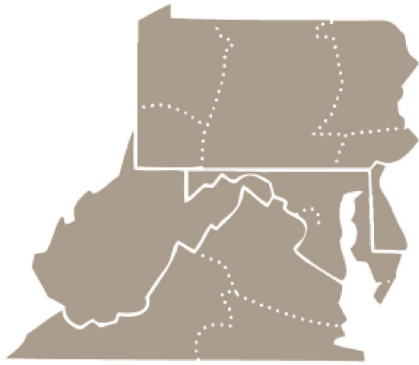
Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read '+ Ketlen'.

Bishop Ketlen



## What is a Province?



What is a Province? Many fellow Episcopalians are unaware of the Provincial system. The Episcopal Church's 110 dioceses spread across 17 countries, are divided into 9 Provinces. These Provinces serve as regional entities that seek to further the mission of the Episcopal Church by coordinating interdependent ministries and pooling intellectual and spiritual resources. By working together with our neighboring dioceses, we can reduce our need to "reinvent the wheel" each time we embark on a project. An example of a Coordinated Ministry is Anti-Racism Awareness and Training.

Through the efforts of the Provincial network coordinator, parishes throughout the Province can learn about projects undertaken by others, get help with a project, or, in some cases, find grant support for a project.

Each year on the first Monday of May, deputies from the 13 Episcopal dioceses in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Washington D.C. and West Virginia, representing 1187 parishes, gather in Martinsburg, West Virginia, to hold the Annual Synod of Province III of the Episcopal Church.

Within a framework of fellowship, prayer, and exchange of ideas, the Province, through the Annual Synod and our Executive Council, endeavors to develop strategies for the sharing of programs, resources and ministries. During General Convention years, the Synod also helps prepare deputies for Convention.

This year our diocese sent three deputies to Synod - (pictured, L to R) the Rev. Canon Eric McIntosh, St. James, Penn Hills; Ms. Florence Atwood, Calvary, East Liberty; and Steven Stagnitta, St. Andrew's, Highland Park.



Following a Morning Prayer service, we participated in discussions on strategic planning, the provincial budget, and changes to the provincial ordinances as well as heard reports from the coordinators of various groups including the Episcopal Church Women, Campus Ministries, Christian Formation and Youth, United Thank Offering, and Environmental Ministries filled the majority of the day. Other presentations included an update on Ecumenical Affairs, the status of the reunification of the Dioceses of Bethlehem and Central Pennsylvania, a report on the Diocese of Maryland's Reparations Project, and a review of the Harriet Tubman grants program.

If you are interested in knowing more about the mission of Province III, or wish to become more involved in the wider Episcopal community, please visit the website



## EfM Fall Enrollment at Calvary is Now Open

### What is EfM?

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a unique four-year theological education program that invites participants to explore their faith and deepen their understanding of Christian traditions. Through a combination of theological study, reflection, and group discussions, EfM fosters a vibrant learning community where individuals grow in their knowledge, spiritual development, and ability to serve.



### Who is EfM for?

EfM is for anyone seeking a deeper engagement with their faith, regardless of prior theological education or denominational affiliation. Whether you're a layperson, clergy, or considering a vocation in ministry, EfM offers a nurturing environment to explore your beliefs, ask questions, and discover new perspectives.

[Calvary Episcopal Church](#) in East Liberty (315 Shady Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA, 15206) has enjoyed strong participation in this program over many years, and like other ministries, it has evolved with the times. Since the pandemic, EfM has adapted to online programming, which for many people, is not just a workable path but a preferred way to study and be in the community.

There are two online options for EfM participation, beginning in September and concluding in May.

### Monday Evenings

Wendy Lomicak and Gaines Campbell will be co-mentoring the Monday evening group. Gaines is a long-standing EfM Mentor and an EfM mentor trainer. Wendy is a recent EfM graduate who completed her mentor training in 2022. For more information, contact Wendy at [wenlom@gmail.com](mailto:wenlom@gmail.com) or call at 412.334.0981.

### Thursday Mornings

Barbara Brooks and Diane Santoriello will continue co-mentoring the Thursday morning group, which has enjoyed active participation over the past several years (photo from the recent graduation ceremony below). For more information, contact Barbara at [tipark4me@aol.com](mailto:tipark4me@aol.com) or call/text 412-726-9811



Don't miss this opportunity to embark on a transformative journey of faith and knowledge! Join Education for Ministry today and unlock the doors to a deeper understanding of your spirituality.

More information is available online at [www.episcopalpgh.org/efm-fall-enrollment-is-now-open/](http://www.episcopalpgh.org/efm-fall-enrollment-is-now-open/)



## Project Resource Fall 2023 Stewardship Training

Project Resource equips stewardship teams with strategic training and flexible resources to design and execute annual stewardship campaigns which can be replicated and adapted in future years. Project Resource is dedicated to fostering cultural and systemic advancements around stewardship as a ministry in the Episcopal Church.

**Five Consecutive Sundays: September 10 through October 8, online via Zoom**  
5 to 7 p.m.

**Copying and pasting stock stewardship resources year after year?**

**Dusting off what you did last year with a few tweaks and a different theme name?**

**You're doing stewardship wrong. Let's change that.**

### Project Resource:

- Helps church teams of clergy and lay leaders utilize effective resources to revolutionize all areas of stewardship and unravel internal money narratives while addressing societal shifts, organizational change, and leadership challenges.
- Guides teams through the training curriculum, session by session, taking into account their unique cultural and geographical context.
- Enables participants to conclude the conference with a customized working plan and measurable goals, designed specifically for their individual congregation.

### Church teams will complete the course with:

- A comprehensive stewardship calendar for year-round planning
- A detailed roadmap for launching their annual campaigns
- Practical training on crafting personalized invitations
- Insight into generational and individual donor motivations

The course fee is \$450 for a team of three members, with an additional cost of \$125 per extra team member.

For further details and registration, please visit <https://project-resource.org/fall2023>.



## Ordinations



On Saturday, June 3, Bishop Ketlen ordained Jim Miorelli and Cynthia Gainer to the Sacred Order of Deacons at Trinity Cathedral.

Deacon Jim, a Transitional Deacon, will be serving at St. Thomas, Canonsburg. Deacon Cindy, a Vocational Deacon, will be serving at St. Bartholomew's, Scottdale.



The Rev. Paul Barker, formerly of St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, and St. Paul's, Kittanning, was ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests by Bishop Matthew Cowden of the Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia on June 17.

Fr. Paul will serve at Christ Church, Bluefield, WV, and as the Executive Director of the Highland Education Project in Welch, WV.



## St. Paul's Youth Serve WV Communities

St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, youth made a big impact during their Mission Trip to Bluefield, WV. They worked hard at some big projects that are important to the community. Check out the newscasts from WVVA-TV to find out more!

## Volunteers from Pennsylvania help clean exterior of Hotel Thelma



**Bluefield's "Serve the Hill" program aids community members**



## **Flowers for St. Barnabas**

The Feast of Saint Barnabas was celebrated at his namesake parish in Brackenridge on June 11 with a special worship service and fellowship gathering. Flowers were donated to in honor of the Feast Day to be planted in the Saint Barnabas Memorial Garden.





## 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 and has had a significant impact in helping refugees adjust well to life in the US.



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](mailto:Karn.Meghan@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!



## Vacation Bible School

**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](mailto: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.

**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:

Parish visitations are on hiatus during the Summer. Bishop Ketlen's visitation schedule is [available here](#).

**Bishop Ketlen will be celebrating Sunday morning services at Trinity Cathedral on July 2 and July 30.**

**Bishop Ketlen will also be celebrating the Eucharist on Saturday, July 15, at 5:30 p.m. at the Community of Celebration, 809 Franklin Avenue, Aliquippa, PA 15001**

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

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](mailto: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](mailto:info@episcopalpgh.org)

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