

August 10, 2023

Hospitality is a Treasured Gift

This past Saturday morning, Scott and I, along with several other Christians and Christian denomination leaders, worshiped with the congregation of Tree of Life during their Shabat service at Rodef Shalom synagogue. We were there to offer our love and support after the sentencing of the man who had so egregiously injured their community and our greater Pittsburgh community on October 27, 2018. Rabbi Hazzan Jeffrey Myers and the members of the Tree of Life were extremely warm and welcoming, and they were deeply grateful for our presence with them.



The liturgy, which was, for the most part, recited in Hebrew, challenged us to stay on our toes in order to

follow the prayers and participate meaningfully in the service. We also had the privilege and joy of taking part in the study of the Torah (the Hebrew Bible), which took place during worship. After the service, and during a time of fellowship, ample opportunity arose for conversation with several Tree of Life parishioners.



Upon reflection, many comments left an impression on me. I was touched by the testimony of Rabbi Myers, who candidly expressed that he had experienced healing as he was preparing for the service. He related how, as he was looking in the mirror that morning, he saw himself smile for the first time in a very, very long time. This smile was accompanied by tears running down his face,

but his smile was a sign of healing in action. I could not help but feel heartfelt compassion for him and his congregation.

What's more, during the fellowship hour conversations, I was touched by the testimony of many who talked about the bonds of affection that had been developed between them and the parishioners at Calvary Episcopal Church. They mentioned more than once how the Rev. Jonathon Jensen, Rector of Calvary, had so graciously welcomed their congregation. Fr. Jensen had kindly offered space to the Tree of Life congregation at Calvary Church immediately after the traumatic event of October, 2018. Five years later, the Tree of Life congregation still celebrates their high holiday liturgies at Calvary, and both congregations enjoy doing many things together. On Saturday, one person even commented about the grace of this warm ongoing fellowship between Calvary and Tree of Life being a positive outcome of the tragedy. This congregant was testifying about the manifest grace of God in the midst of hardship.

Hospitality is a practice that Jesus demonstrated at every turn, and the extension of genuine hospitality is a gift beyond measure. (*Romans 12:13; Hebrews 13:2*)

Faithfully,





Ministry Exploration Day

Saturday, September 16 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Church of the Redeemer in Squirrel Hill 5700 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15217



This is an opportunity to hear about various types of ministry - lay and ordained, review the process toward ordained ministry, as well as have an overview of the role of the Commission on Ministry in your journey.

The day is hosted by the Commission on Ministry (COM) and various clergy and lay ministers will be present to help answer questions and help clarify the next steps in discerning a call.

Contact the Rev. Dr. Julie Smith, Chair of the COM, at 412-995-0915 or jlsphone1@gmail.com with any questions.

Please register here for meal and materials planning. There is no fee for this gathering.



The 158th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

Please join us for the 2023 Diocesan Convention which will be held on Saturday, November 11 at Trinity Cathedral from 7:45 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided for all in attendance.





The work of convention is integral to the health of the diocese. We appreciate clergy and lay deputies of each parish giving their time to make decisions that will contribute to the well-being of the diocese.

In addition to the work of convention, spiritual formation is also something we treasure. This year we will be holding a formation day separate from the Diocesan Convention. This will occur in late April/early May 2024. Details on the formation day will be announced at a later date.



2023 Women's Retreat

All of the women of the diocese are invited to Christ Church, North Hills, for an in-depth exploration of *The Fruits of the Spirit*. This one-day retreat will have lessons, prayer, discussions and an opportunity to walk a Labyrinth to reflect and pray on the lessons of the day.

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NORTH HILLS PRESENTS

2023 WOMEN'S RETREAT -

Fruit of the Spirit



THE REV. CANON NATALIE HALL

RECTOR, CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

Originally ordained a pastor in the ELCA, Rev. Hall has served as a rector of both Lutheran and Episcopal parishes. She is committed to ecumenical dialogue and served as the Diocesan Canon for Evangelism and Faith Formation.

THE REV. LORENA RINGLE

DIR. OF CHRISTIAN FORMATION, CHRIST CHURCH, NORTH HILLS

For more than two decades, Deacon Lorena has served to educate children and families in their faith and service to God. As a deacon she strives to teach that to be a person in the family of Christ is to welcome compassionately those whose suffering is within our reach.



CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH 5910 BABCOCK BLVD PITTSBURGH, PA 15237

30 SEPT. 2023 8:30-4:30 \$65 INCLUDES LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS REGISTER HERE



https://tinyurl.com/mfbjx2cr



Notice of Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Episcopal Church Women of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

Please plan to attend the meeting of the Episcopal Church Women of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh scheduled for Saturday, August 19, 2023, starting at 12 Noon. The meeting will be held online via Zoom.



All women in the parishes of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh are considered to be members of ECW by virtue of their membership in the parish.

The main item of business will be to consider and vote upon the adoption of the Amended and Restated Constitution and Bylaws for the organization, <u>available here</u>.

The Amended and Restated Constitution and Bylaws have been prepared by Diocesan Chancellor, Andy Roman, and have the full support of the current leadership of the ECW, as well as Bishop Ketlen Solak and many others who have reviewed them.

The historic purpose of the ECW was to create opportunities for women members of the parishes in the Diocese to participate more actively in the work and mission of the Church. Over time, the need for such opportunities has changed, as the roles of women in the overall life of the Church have grown and multiplied. Yet, during its existence, many sought to perpetuate the goals of the ECW by making financial gifts or creating endowments that to this day provide annual income that can be distributed at the direction of the ECW board.

Under the proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws, the members of the ECW's Executive Board will be appointed by Diocesan Council and the Board of Trustees. The Executive Board's main responsibility will be to ensure that the ECW continues to make grants of the annual income from endowments and gifts donated to the ECW. ECW will continue to have a President and a Treasurer who will initially be appointed by Diocesan Council with the advice and consent of the Bishop, but who may thereafter be elected by the members of the organization.

Anyone wishing to serve on the Executive Board or in any other role under the reorganized ECW is encouraged to contact Ann McStay at annmostay@gmail.com.

The August 19 Zoom meeting can be joined

here: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82039640573? pwd=UINUMy9aQmJPWFVvSHBHWVVjTmFudz09



Third Order of the Society of Saint Francis

Announcing the Admission of Gloria Ann Trevino to Life Profession Into the Third Order of the Society of Saint Francis

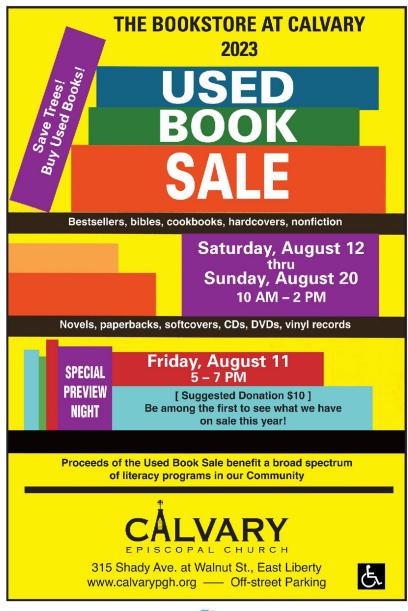
Sunday, September 17, 2023
During the 10 a.m. Eucharist
St. James Episcopal Church
11524 Frankstown Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15235

Having completed the formation process for profession, Gloria will receive the Third Order Franciscan Cross and place her personal Rule of Life upon the altar.

More information about the Third Order may be found at <u>TSSF.org</u>, a religious order of the Episcopal Church.









Old St. Luke's and Mayflower Society to Commemorate Historical Gravesite

Volunteers at <u>Old St. Luke's Church</u> recently made a new discovery within its 18th century grounds.

The Scott Township burial yard is filled with prominent early settlers -- many of whom played leading roles in the region's formative struggles. But one particular grave marks the life of a Revolutionary War veteran who also served in the French and Indian War while claiming direct lineage from the 1620 Mayflower voyage that supplied the continent's first permanent European settlers.



Keith Kammenzind, a Mayflower descendant and amateur genealogist who earlier this year discovered the grave of Daniel South at Old St. Luke's, stresses this is an unusual find.

"This is a pretty unique set of circumstances for somebody to be a veteran of those two wars, and also be directly descended from the Mayflower," says Keith Kammenzind, western colony governor for the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Kammenzind grew up in nearby Green Tree, and recalls childhood trips to the church grounds with his historically-attuned parents. Only during a recent trip, however, did he dig into the lives of those buried here and discover South's unique historical standing.

"If it were left up to us at Old St. Luke's, we never would have heard about this," says board member Bob Carlson. "We are truly grateful to the work and support of Keith and the Mayflower Society."

Old St. Luke's was founded in 1765 in the immediate aftermath of the French and Indian War and held regular services for the South Hills community through the 1930s. After decades of neglect, a group of volunteers formed a non-profit entity to preserve the building, grounds and history for future generations.

"Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation played a major role in guiding the early plans of the saviours of Old St. Luke's," says Mary Lu Denny, Director of Membership Services of the foundation. "Jamie Van Trump and Arthur Ziegler, co-founders of Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation, along with Vinnie Ziegler, Arthur's mother, recognized the significance of Old St. Luke's and the burial ground. They worked with church committees to formulate, raise funds for, and complete projects in the 1960s, 70s and 80s. Landmarks remains committed to Old St. Luke's Church and Burial Grounds to this day."

The board, in conjunction with the Mayflower Society, is planning two days of activities in mid-September to commemorate Daniel South's grave and promote the region's rich history. South's weather-beaten grave stone will be replaced with a new hand-sculpted granite marker that will include the Mayflower insignia.

Carlson says commemorating South's grave falls right in line with the original intentions of Old St. Luke's foundation and committees. "Our mission is to perpetuate and expand interest in the amazing history of Western Pennsylvania and the long reach of the immigrants and other people who moved westward from such places as the Mayflower passengers' first landings in Massachusetts."

For schedule of events and details please go to the <u>Mayflower Society's website</u>. Additional details will be released soon.



In the Sanctuary at
Emmanuel Episcopal Church
957 W. North Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15233
412-231-0454

This acclaimed series is now in it's 32nd season!

Sunday, September 10, 5 p.m. (Pushing forward) On Their Shoulders

Sunday, October 8, 5 p.m. *Are you Connected?*

Sunday, November 12, 5 p.m. *Grace and Gratitude*

Sunday, December 10, 5 p.m. Peace, Be Still

Sunday, January 14, 2024, 5 p.m. *Chaos or Community*

Sunday, February 11, 5 p.m. I am because We are

Sunday, March 10, 5 p.m. From God to Me to You

Sunday, April 14, 5 p.m. *Instruments of Peace*

Sunday, May 12, 5 p.m. *Opening the Closed Door*

"Jazz at Emmanuel — where the spirited and the spiritual join together in a new kind of celebration."

Jazz Vespers incorporates a series of finger-snapping jazz meditations and stirring poetic or interpretive readings that celebrate who we are as beloved human beings before a benevolent and wondrous creator. A scriptural message and passing of the peace round out the celebration of the theme of the day. This not-to-be-missed, unique worship experience is one everyone will want to see and hear for themselves.



Job Opening at St. Peter's, Brentwood

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 4048 Brownsville Road, Brentwood, PA 15227, is looking to fill the position of the Church Secretary. This is a very special ministry as the person in this position is on the front lines and is often the first person the public sees and talks to. They are a reflection of the church and engage in an essential ministry in our parish.



A full job posting and application details are available at www.episcopalpgh.org/brentwood-job-opening/



Around the Diocese



Bishop Ketlen's Visitation Schedule:

Parish visitations are on hiatus during the Summer. Bishop Ketlen's visitation schedule is <u>available here</u>.

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

Parish leadership is reminded to complete and submit <u>this form</u> at least two weeks in advance of their visitation.

To schedule time with Bishop Ketlen, contact Andrea Rath at 412-721-0853, ext. 256, or <u>arath@episcopalpgh.org</u>.

The full church year **Cycle of Prayer** is now <u>available here</u> and Bishop Ketlen's full church year **Visitation Schedule** is <u>available here</u>.



Parting Shot



The Rev. Canon Eric McIntosh and the Rev. Deacon Linda Tardy Wilson represented the Diocese of Pittsburgh at the 55th Annual Business Meeting and Conference of the <u>Union of Black Episcopalians</u> in Montgomery, AL held. July 24-26.

According to Deacon Linda, "This was a vibrant event attended by both adults and children. Besides focusing of annual business, we are able to tour Selma and walk across the Edmund Pettis Bridge. In Montgomery, we visited National Memorial for Peace and Justice, known as the Lynching Museum, as well as the (Equal Justice Initiative) Legacy Museum: from Enslavement to Mass Incarceration. The children packed 250 meals as a community project with Meals on Wheels."

The three bishops, right to left, are the Rt. Rev. Diane Jardine Bruce from the Diocese of West Missouri, the Rt. Rev. Glenda Curry from the Diocese of Alabama, and the Rt. Rev. Smitha Prasdema from the Diocese of Hereford in the Church of England.

Parting Sounds

WQED-FM to Air St. Paul's Performance

Classical WQED-FM will air an original composition by St. Paul's, Mt. Lebanon, former Music Director Doug Starr. The station recorded Starr's *A Wilderness Cantata* during its premiere performance at St. Paul's in May. The work will be broadcast as part of WQED's Performance in Pittsburgh series this coming Friday,



August 11, beginning at 7:00 p.m., and can be heard on the radio at 89.3 FM or online at wgedfm.org.

The cantata unfolds in three movements, each beginning with a variation of a traditional hymn, then expanding with scriptural themes from the Books of Hosea, Kings, and Job. It was conceived when the parish devoted a summer exploring wilderness themes during the Rev. Noah Evan's sabbatical. That period also coincided with a more universal experience of wilderness brought on by the pandemic.

A Wilderness Cantata has also been published as a recording that can be streamed or purchased as a digital album: https://ongoingbox.bandcamp.com/album/hsob095-doug-starr-a-wilderness-cantata.



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

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