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# Grounded in Christ Growing Anew!

April 1, 2025

EAST END PARISHES  
**2025 LENTEN**  
PREACHING SERIES



## Be Doers of the Word: The Gospel in Action

6 p.m. Dinner | 7 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Sermon

### **Tuesday, April 1**

Preacher: The Rev. Jean Chess  
[Retired Deacon in the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh]

**at St. Stephen's** – 600 Pitt Street, Wilkinsburg

### **Tuesday, April 8**

Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Asa Lee  
[President of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary]

**at St. Andrew's** – 5801 Hampton St., Highland Park



## **The Good Friday Offering**

The history of the Good Friday Offering reaches back to 1922 when, in the aftermath of World War I, The Episcopal Church sought to create new relationships with and among the Christians of the Middle East. From these initial efforts which focused on a combination of relief work and the improvement of ecumenical and Anglican relations, the Good Friday Offering was created.

Through the years many Episcopalians have found the Good Friday Offering to be an effective way to express their support for the ministries of the three dioceses of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Pastoral care, education and health care continue to be primary ministries through which the reconciling spirit of the Christian faith serves all in need. Participation in this ministry is welcome. The generous donations of Episcopalians help the Christian presence in the Land of the Holy One to be a vital and effective force for peace and understanding among all of God's children.



[Click here to make a gift to the Good Friday Offering](#)

By supporting life-giving ministries in the Anglican Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East, including St. George's, Baghdad; the eye clinic in Ras Morbat, Yemen; the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza; and numerous other institutions identified by their dioceses, you are ensuring that our siblings in Christ are not forgotten.

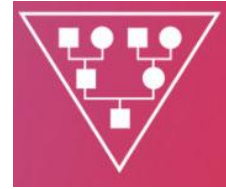
- Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City provides critical medical care to all people, in peacetime and wartime alike.
- St. George's is the only Anglican church in Iraq, serving local Indigenous communities and displaced people through worship, schools, and medical care.
- Christ Church in Aden, Yemen, serves as the grounds of Ras Morbat Eye Clinic, providing critical medical care for all in a war-torn country.
- The Christian National Kindergarten at St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Nablus, in the West Bank, provides high-quality early education to all kindergartners, regardless of religion.



**AI and the Human: Exploring Adaptation**

**April 4, 2025 8:45 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

As artificial intelligence emerges and changes many aspects of human social and work life, what will be its impact on family, science, religion, and nature? AI and the Human: Exploring Adaptation, presented by the Western Pennsylvania Family Center (WPFC) and co-sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, is designed to explore the interplay of AI and human adaptation using the ideas rooted in Bowen Family Systems Theory.



To register or for more information, visit the WPFC website at <https://www.wpfc.net/event/annual-spring-conference/>



## **Spring Tea in Carnegie**

Looking for an enjoyable afternoon? Come to the Spring Tea at Church of the Atonement, 618 Washington Ave., Carnegie on **Saturday April 26 at 1 p.m.. (Doors open at 12:15).**

Spend an Saturday afternoon in a dining room filled with fine china and savor the delicious tastes of homemade crumpets. Win beautiful auction baskets, a 50/50 raffle and many door prizes. Tickets are \$35.00 each. **ADVANCED TICKET SALES ONLY.**



Call Nancy at 412-860-2330 to reserve your tickets before Wed., April 16.



## **Save the Date: Ministry Celebration Day**

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming Ministry Celebration Day, to be held on **Sunday, May 18, 3:30 - 6:30 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church, North Hills.**

This celebration will feature a ministry fair with tables highlighting our ministries together with plenty of time set aside for fellowship and exploring our diverse ministries with time set aside for worship.

A catered dinner will be served. Much more information including a full agenda and





registration details (only for hospitality planning) will be available very soon.

If your parish ministry would like to be represented at the fair, please [fill out this form](#).



## Garden Grants Available Again this Spring

These last few days of February and early days of March have been either a warm sunny prom-ise or a chilly blast with snowflakes flying. What to expect, it's Pittsburgh! Punxsutawney Phil predicted an late spring, but groundhogs have been known to be mistaken after being yanked early in the morning from a cozy warm den. We can only have faith that spring is on its way!



Much more information including the application and instructions are available at [www.episcopalpgh.org/garden-grants-available-again-2025/](http://www.episcopalpgh.org/garden-grants-available-again-2025/) The application deadline is Monday, April 7.



## ECW Spring 2025 Grant Applications Available

The Diocese of Pittsburgh's Episcopal Church Women (ECW) will be making outreach grants in the Spring.

The ECW particularly seeks to support hands-on ministries that help children, adults and families in need of assistance with food, nutrition, health care, housing, education and counseling.

[Click here for the grant application and submission instructions.](#) Applications for the Spring 2025 grants must be submitted before Friday, May 2, 2025.



## ECW Spring 2025 Scholarships Available

The Episcopal Church Women established the Memorial Membership Fund to aid students with educational grants. The fund was begun in 1927 to be used for two missionary training scholarships. In the 94 years of its existence, the scope of the fund has widened to include nursing, theology and other humanitarian fields of study.

**The applications must be received by Friday, May 2, 2025.** The application form with submission instructions is [available by clicking here](#).

For additional information please contact Betty Duckstein at [ducksteine@yahoo.com](mailto:ducksteine@yahoo.com)



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## Recommended by the Social Justice & Outreach Committee (SJO)

### End Gun Violence: PA Advocacy Day

Tuesday, April 8, 2025

PA State Capitol Harrisburg



**What is Advocacy Day?** Advocacy Day is an annual day of visibility and advocacy in Harrisburg, where partners and constituents from across the commonwealth gather to meet with legislators, wear orange shirts and be a visible presence throughout the capitol, and hold a rally, filling the steps of the capitol.

This year we will be advocating for Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs), Secure Storage, Universal Background Checks, Lost & Stolen Firearm Reporting, Ending Untraceable "Ghost Guns" and 3-D Printed Firearms, and \$80 million in Community Violence Intervention (CVI) funding in Gov. Shapiro's FY25 Budget.

If you are interested in attending or have questions, please contact Marilyn Mulvihill, a member of the SJO, at [mimi15143@yahoo.com](mailto:mimi15143@yahoo.com). A bus departing from Station Square is planned along with other carpooling options.

A packet with more information is [available here](#).

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## Around the Diocese

### Bishop Ketlen's Schedule:

**April 6:** St. Brendan's, Franklin Park  
**April 13:** All Souls, North Versailles  
**April 20:** Trinity Cathedral (Easter)  
**April 27:** Calvary, East Liberty



Parish leadership is reminded to complete a form, available in [PDF](#) or [Word](#), at least two weeks in advance of their visitation.

To schedule time with Bishop Ketlen, contact Andrea Rath at 412-721-0853, ext. 251, or [arath@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:arath@episcopalpgh.org).



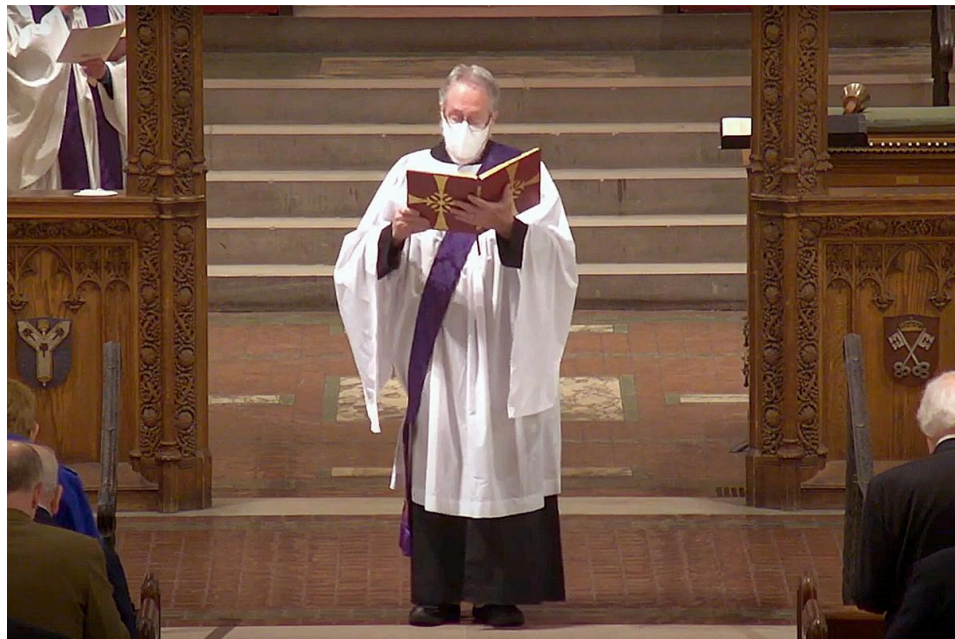
## Parting Shots

### **From the Pittsburgh City Paper: "Pittsburghers of all faiths gather to break the Ramadan fast at iftar"**

At St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Mt. Lebanon, the interfaith ties are longstanding. After frying up fish for the Church's Friday Lenten fish fry, 150 community members returned on a Sunday to break bread at St. Paul's fourth iftar dinner, an interfaith event Rev. Noah Evans described as "very much a part of the fabric of our life here."

When the partnership with the Turkish Cultural Center first began, Rev. Evans tells Pittsburgh City Paper, "I went to more iftars than fish fries."

[Read the story here.](#)



### **From Episcopal News Service: "Pittsburgh church service, other remembrances mark five years since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic"**



At Calvary Episcopal Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the 11 a.m. Eastern service on March 16 was a special observance of the fifth anniversary of the church's shutdown during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic. It included readings that dealt with illness and loss, prayers for healthcare workers and those who died, and music that often is used at funerals, including "O God our Help in Ages Past."

The Rev. Jonathon Jensen, the church's rector, told Episcopal News Service that he started wondering last fall why his congregation, or any congregation in The Episcopal Church, had yet to liturgically mark something that had impacted so many people for so long. So, he and Alan Lewis, the church's director of music, started making plans to do it.

[Read the story here.](#)



*Pittsburgh City Paper Photo by CP Photo: Rachel Wilkinson*

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### **St. Thomas, Oakmont, welcomed Bishop Ketlen**

The Rev. Jeff Murph and the parishioners at St. Thomas, Oakmont, welcomed Bishop Ketlen on Sunday, March 30, for her annual visitation.



The 8 A.M. service



The 10:30 a.m. service





Henry Luck, with his wife Jill, along with Fr. Murph and Bishop Ketlen, reaffirmed his baptismal vows.

