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Grounded in Christ Growing Anew!

May 28, 2025

JUSTICE & FREEDOM: GOD'S STORY IN PITTSBURGH

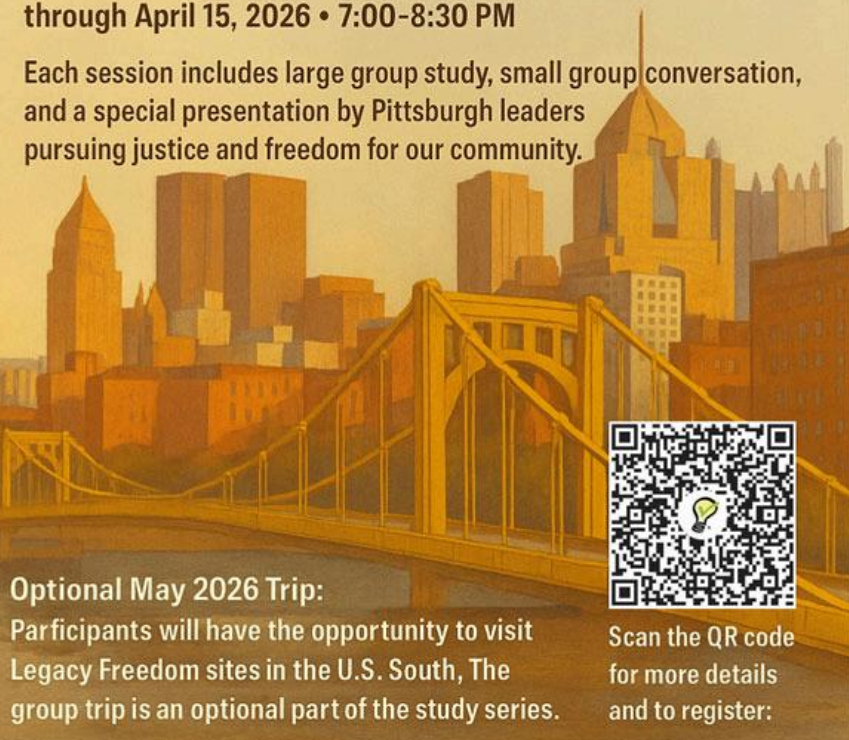
An Interfaith Series on Scripture, Society & Hope

Hosted by Rabbi Daniel Fellman at Temple Sinai
and the Rev, Canon Natalie Hall at Church of the Redeemer

2025 Summer sessions held at Church of the Redeemer
(5700 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217) with more information
for fall sessions forthcoming.

First Wednesday of Each Month from June 4, 2025
through April 15, 2026 • 7:00-8:30 PM

Each session includes large group study, small group conversation,
and a special presentation by Pittsburgh leaders
pursuing justice and freedom for our community.



Optional May 2026 Trip:

Participants will have the opportunity to visit
Legacy Freedom sites in the U.S. South, The
group trip is an optional part of the study series.



Scan the QR code
for more details
and to register:

[Click here to sign up](#)



Introducing Holy Hikes!

St. Michael's of the Valley, Ligonier and St. Francis in the Fields, Somerset have partnered to launch an official chapter of [Holy Hikes](#) in the Diocese, known as Holy Hikes of Southwestern Pennsylvania. We piloted a series of hikes in 2024, as a way to test how the ministry would go and to understand how congregations might collaborate. After a successful initial season, we are ready to launch the ministry diocesan-wide.



The hiking season runs from May to October, although our official launch is delayed until June this year, and the hikes take place in the morning on the third Saturday of each month. The hiking schedule for 2025 is:

- Saturday, June 21, 2025
- Saturday, July 19, 2025
- Saturday, August 16, 2025
- Saturday, September 20, 2025
- Saturday, October 18, 2025

We plan for hikes that are located within a 45 minute drive or less from either church building and alternate between trails that are closer to St. Michael's and ones closer to St. Francis. During the hike, we hold a service of Holy Communion, stopping along the trail to read the scripture and say the prayers, while sharing the Eucharist at the end of the hike or at another appropriate setting along the trail. It's a lovely way to have a worship service!



If you or your congregation are interested in participating—and, perhaps, hosting hikes in your part of the Diocese, we invite you to join us for one of our hikes over the summer to see how we do them and learn more about how we determine which trails to use. Once you decide to host your own hike, we will coordinate communications about the various hiking locations for those third Saturdays during the hiking season. Our hope is that each monthly Holy Hike Saturday will have 3 or more options for hikes in different areas of the Diocese, and we encourage groups of congregations to partner with each other to host them.

In addition, we believe this is an important opportunity for members of the Diocese to invite friends, family, and neighbors—especially those who might not want to attend a Sunday morning service—to something a bit different. We have found it's a wonderful way to build community beyond our four walls. If you are interested in participating this year, please contact our ministry team member [Katie Ong](#). You can also look for information about upcoming hikes in the "Events" section of the [St. Francis website](#) and on its [Facebook page](#), as well as on [St. Michael's Holy Hikes webpage](#) and its [Facebook page](#).



By the Grace of God

The Right Reverend
Ketlen A. Solak
Bishop of Pittsburgh

will ordain

Nicole Leigh Starr

to the Sacred Order of Deacons
in Christ's one holy catholic
and apostolic Church

Saturday, June 14, 2025
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





*Your presence is requested
at the formal installation
of the Very Reverend Aidan Smith
as the 6th Dean of Trinity Cathedral
on Trinity Sunday, June 15
at 10:30 in the morning.*

*A celebratory reception and portrait unveiling
immediately follow the service.*

Trinity Cathedral 328 Sixth Avenue Downtown Pittsburgh



WHY MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID?

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adults.

On average,

130

people die by
suicide every day.

*Source: American Foundation
for Suicide Prevention*

From 1999 to 2019,

841,000

people died from
drug overdoses.

*Source: Centers for Disease
Control and Prevention*

Nearly

1 IN 5

in the U.S. lives
with a mental illness.

*Source: National Institute
of Mental Health*

Training Format:

2 hours individual pre-work plus seven hour in-person workshop.
\$25 to cover materials. Payable by Venmo or bring to the event.

Date and Time:

Sat June 28, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. with half-hour simple lunch provided.

Location:

St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 378 Delaware Ave, Oakmont, PA 15139

How to Register:

Email Carter Hawley: chawley@trinitycathedralpgh.org by Saturday, June 7.

Questions?

Contact Wilma Gaughan, 412-607-4113 - text preferred, calls also okay.



Diocesan Office Summer Hours

Bishop Ketlen has given the office staff permission to work from home until 2 p.m. on Fridays between Memorial Day and Labor Day.



The staff will be maintaining their normal work hours from Monday to Thursday.

Email and voicemail will be monitored and responded to as needed on Fridays.



Around the Diocese



Bishop Ketlen's Schedule:

- June 8:** St. Barnabas, Brackenridge (*Pentecost*)
- June 15:** Trinity Cathedral, Pittsburgh (*Trinity Sunday*)
- June 22:** Redeemer, Squirrel Hill
- June 29:** St. Michael's, Ligonier

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.



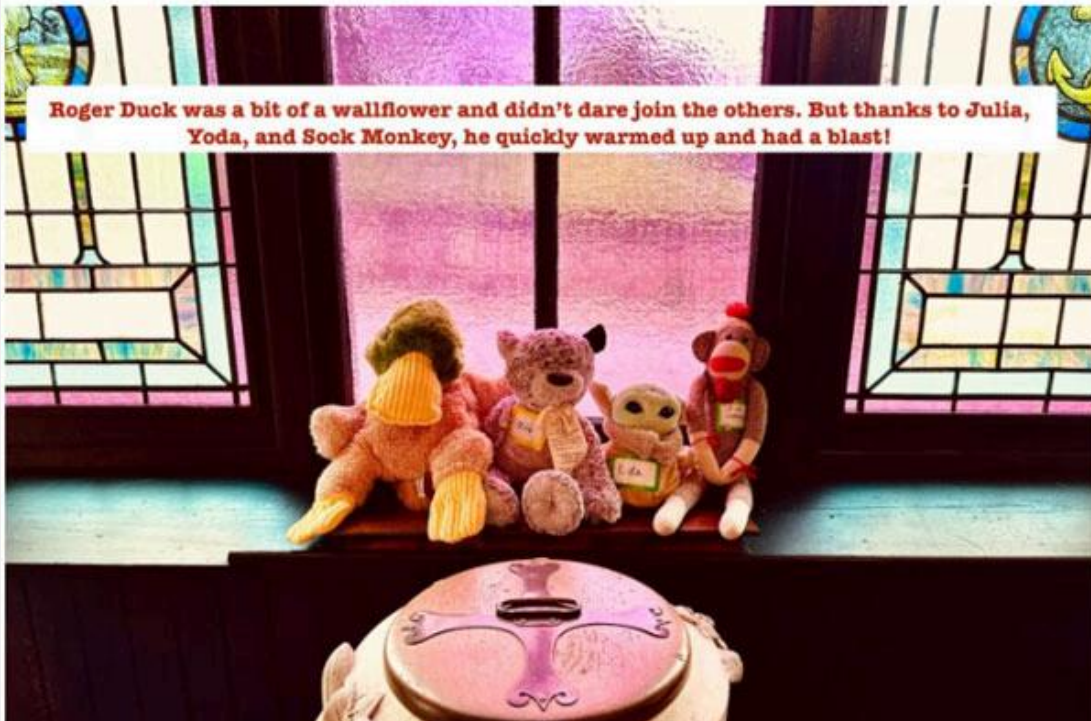
Parting Shots

Stuffed Animal Overnight Retreat in Scottdale

Children and their beloved teddy bears, dolls, or plush animal friends were invited to [St. Bartholomew Trinity Church](http://www.episcopalpgh.org/stuffed-animal-overnight-retreat/) in Scottsdale for a child-centered family worship hour on Saturday, May 17. The children's plush animals and dolls stayed after the service for an overnight Bible camp adventure. See all the pictures at www.episcopalpgh.org/stuffed-animal-overnight-retreat/



The children were eagerly anticipating the opportunity to invite their cherished companions to church. A diverse collection of friends and dolls from various walks of life. ❤️🙏



Roger Duck was a bit of a wallflower and didn't dare join the others. But thanks to Julia, Yoda, and Sock Monkey, he quickly warmed up and had a blast!

--Photos and captions courtesy Daniel Sirianni

Diocesan Ministry Fair

The 2025 Diocesan Celebration of Ministry event took place at Christ Church, North Hills on Sunday, May 18. The event had a ministry fair, A keynote talk by Bishop Ketlen, prayerful worship and singing, fantastic fellowship, and a delightful dinner.

