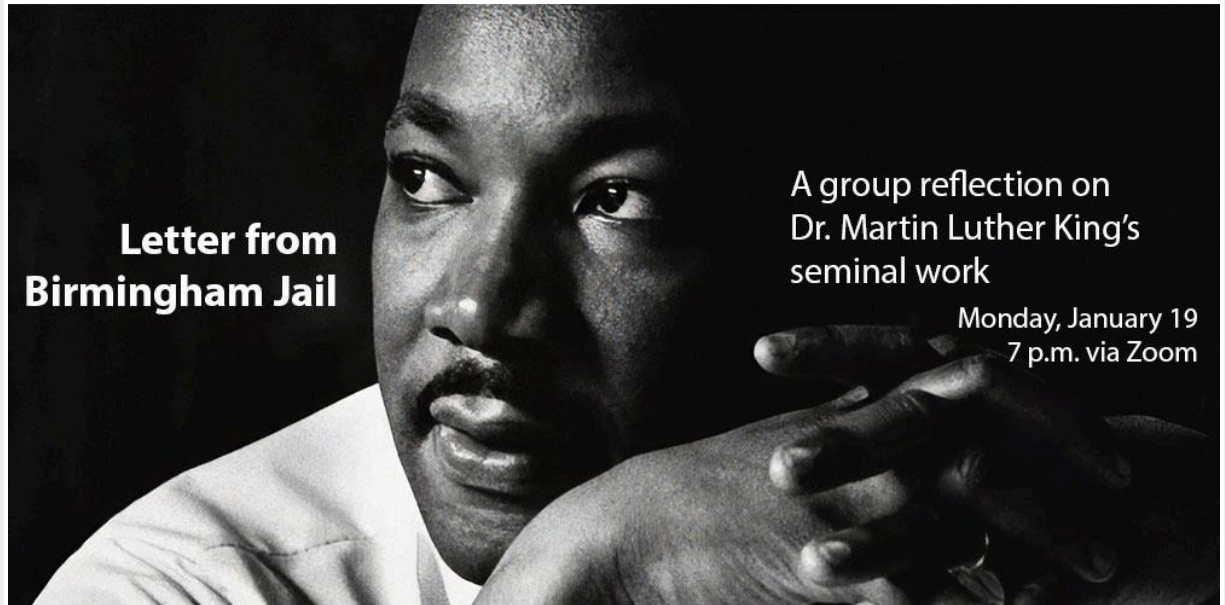


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January 8, 2026



Letter from Birmingham Jail

A group reflection on
Dr. Martin Luther King's
seminal work

Monday, January 19
7 p.m. via Zoom

Please join the **Commission on Race and Reconciliation** and the **Social Justice and Outreach Committee** for a thoughtful commemoration of the life and legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on **Monday, January 19 at 7 p.m.**

We will reflect together on Dr. King's seminal work, *Letter from the Birmingham Jail*, widely regarded as one of his most powerful writings and a foundational text in the ongoing struggle for justice. It is in this letter that Dr. King offers the enduring reminder: "Justice too long delayed is justice denied." This document remains a cornerstone of the Civil Rights Movement and a significant contribution to American history.

A Zoom discussion will be held at 7p.m. on Monday, January 19, at 7 p.m. Please register at www.episcopalpgh.org/mlk-birmingham-jail/

Participants are encouraged to read [Letter from the Birmingham Jail](#) in advance. The "Letter from Birmingham Jail" [infographic](#) on Course Hero also provides helpful context and background information.

For additional information, please contact the Rev. Canon Eric McIntosh at emcintosh@episcopalpgh.org or Marilyn Mulvihill at mimi15143@yahoo.com



Bring the Cantate Usquam Singers

to Sing With You on a Sunday

The mission of the Cantate Usquam Pilgrim Singers is to bring music to churches that don't have choirs or the resources to sing at their regular services.

Cantate Usquam, founded in December 2024, literally means "sing

anywhere," **and we are a volunteer choir based in Pittsburgh that charges nothing.**

**Cantate Usquam
Pilgrim Singers**
Sing Anywhere!

We would love to come and sing with you at your church! Since last February to June we sang at the following churches: St. Peter's, Blairsville; St. Bartholomew's/Trinity, Scottdale (twice); St. Matthew's, Homestead; St. Barnabas, Brackenridge (twice); St. Peter's, Brentwood; Cross Creek Presbyterian, Burgettstown; Hoboken Presbyterian Church, Blawnox; and One in Christ Church, Ambridge.

We already have queue going for the Spring of 2026, so if your church would like us to come, please be in touch and join the queue, as we will begin to schedule specific dates in the next month.

The Cantate Usquam Pilgrim Singers:

- want to sing WITH you and share the joy that music brings to worship
- are led by musicians who have experience leading congregations and choirs in singing and can provide keyboard accompaniment
- are non-denominational
- work with your church to sing hymns and music from your tradition
- will sing choir pieces for a prelude, offertory, and/or communion
- love to sing a capella but can also use available instruments
- will be scheduling dates beginning in the Spring of 2026, but NOT for Holy Week or Easter services
- wear no robes and sing from within your congregation, not up front
-

For more information and/or to schedule a date, contact Michael Salmon at oriolefish@gmail.com of 904-718-7622 or Penny

Anderson penny_anderson@fastmail.fm Or 412-310-9167.



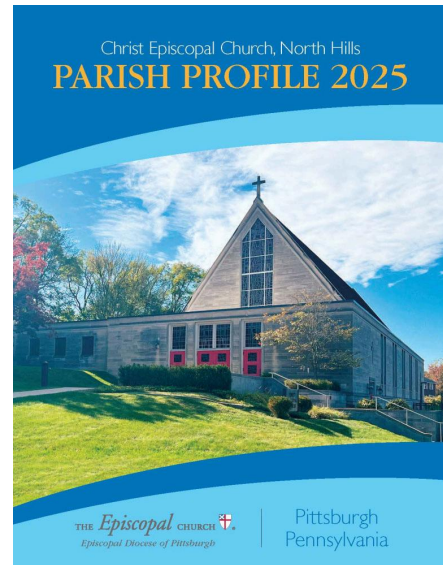
Christ Church, North Hills, Launches Search for Next Rector

Christ Church, North Hills, is searching for its next Rector. View the [Rector Search section of Christ Church's website](#) for more information, including a comprehensive parish profile.

Christ Church's Discernment Committee will be accepting applications for its full-time Rector position through February 17, 2026. Questions about the position may be directed to the Discernment Committee Chair, Cindy Allshouse,

at DiscernmentCommittee@ChristChurchPGH.org, or to Interim Transition Minister, the Rev. Kimberly Karashin, at kkarashin@episcopalpgh.org.

If you know of any qualified clergy who may be interested in discerning a call to Christ Church, please share with them this opportunity.



Diocesan Transition News

After ten years of faithful service, and at the end of the Spring 2026 semester, **the Rev. Dan Isadore** will be leaving his position as University and Young Adult Chaplain. He will continue in an as-needed capacity from now on until then, but he will primarily be discerning and preparing for his next call. Dan has made a real difference in the lives of students and young adults during a transitional stage of their lives, an impact that will continue after his work has changed. Despite challenges along the way, his focus on connection created numerous opportunities to coach, mentor, and guide people in their spiritual development. We are grateful for his accomplishments.



Please join +Bishop Ketlen and many others around the diocese in giving thanks for his ministry.



Notes from the Treasurer

The IRS **2026 business standard mileage rate will be 72.5 cents per mile**, up 2.5 cents from 2025. The charitable mileage rate remains unchanged at 14 cents per mile.

The deadline for **2025 W-2 & 1099 is February 2, 2026**. All forms are due to the recipient and tax agency by **February 2, 2026**.

Form W-2 must be filed if you paid at least \$600 in wages (including non-cash payments) to an employee, or if you withheld any taxes.



Form 1099-NEC is used to report Nonemployee Compensation over \$600 for services performed by independent contractors, freelancers, attorneys, and other service providers. **A best practice is to request and retain a completed Form W-9 from every vendor before making any payments.**

You can find more answers at www.irs.gov/forms or www.pa.gov/agencies/revenue.



Around the Diocese



[available here](#) Bishop Ketlen's Schedule:

January 11: St. Stephen's, McKeesport
January 18: St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg
January 25: St. Peter's, Brentwood
February 1: Nativity, Crafton

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

Bishop Ketlen's visitation schedule for January – August, 2026 is [available here](#).

The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer for January – August, 2026, is [available here](#).

To schedule time with Bishop Ketlen, contact Andrea Rath at 412-721-0853, ext. 251, or arath@episcopalpgh.org.



Did You Know?

The Diocese of Venezuela

Did you know that the Diocese of Venezuela is a part of the Episcopal Church? As such, and at this time of chaotic uncertainty for the parishioners of that diocese and their fellow citizens, please pray for them.

To access more information about the Episcopal Church's response to recent events, policy, and call to action, follow the link below the Episcopal Church's Office of Government Relations: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/>

See also this story from Episcopal New

Service: <https://episcopalnewsservice.org/2026/01/05/episcopal-leaders-respond-to-us-attack-on-venezuela-presidents-capture/>





Parting Shots

Bishop Ketlen Visited Church of the Atonement in Carnegie

On Sunday, December 21, Bishop Ketlen visited the Church of the Atonement, Carnegie. She and Scott were warmly welcomed by an small but vibrant congregation.



--Photos courtesy Heather Kistler

Extraordinary Classical Music in Blairsville

St. Peter's, Blairsville, has been hosting the [Blairsville Chamber Music Society](#) concerts regularly for about the past year. The Society makes a donation to St. Peter's Laundry Love mission each time they play (with new invited classical musicians each time) and encourage attendees to also contribute. The concert pictured was their New Year's Nocturne, a special candlelit New Year's Eve/New Year's Day Concert combo.



[More photos on BCMS's Facebook page.](#)



Has your parish been featured in the news? Do you have an event or content to share?
Please let us know via email at info@episcopalpgh.org