Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania

Serving 10 Counties, 28 Church Bodies, 2,000 Congregations and 1,000,000 Christian Members

The Call

On the Web: www.casp.org

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5241, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Hicks Memorial Chapel - lower level 616 North Highland Avenue - Pittsburgh, PA 15206





April-May 2019, Number 2

A Unifying Voice in the Name of Jesus Christ for the Mission of the Gospel and the Wholeness of Communities

Pastoral Care Conference Prepares Caregivers to Foster Wholeness and Wellbeing

Healthy Pastors, Healthy Churches, Healthy Communities.

At the 19th annual Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference, we'll explore how our health as caregivers affects the wellbeing of the faith communities we serve and the neighborhoods we live in.

The 2019 Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference takes place Friday, May 10 at Christ Church at Grove Farm (249 Duff Road, Sewickley 15143). Registration opens at 8 a.m., and the day concludes at 4 p.m. This event provides an opportunity for pastors, therapists, social workers, drug and alcohol counselors, and all who may be involved in caring for others to gather to learn and share about issues that affect our flocks today.

Three keynote presentations will shape the day. Ellen Mady, Chancellor of Canonical Services for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, will speak on personal wellbeing and the spiritual practices that can boost health for pastoral caregivers. The Rev. Dr. Graham Standish, Executive Director of Samaritan, will moderate a panel discussion on healthy congregations in today's rapidly changing religious terrain, where change typically happens slowly.



In the afternoon, **Hedda Sharapan**, Child Development Consultant for Fred Rogers Productions, will lead us on a journey through the beloved Mister Rogers' Neighborhood. With videos and storytelling, she will help participants apply the wisdom of Mister Rogers to our own neighborhoods.

Workshops will be offered on a wide range of issues: addiction, marriage, family systems theory, developing volunteer teams for pastoral visitation, and much more.

For more information and to register, visit the Conference website at www.pghpcc.org.

Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference Friday, May 10 - 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Christ Church at Grove Farm







Graham Standish



Hedda Sharapan

Learn to Advocate to End Hunger Across the World and In Your Neighborhood

Over the past 30 years, global hunger and poverty rates have been cut nearly in half. But despite that progress, nearly 821 million people in the world—11 percent of the world's population—remain hungry. Almost half of all child deaths worldwide are linked to malnutrition.

As people of faith, we are called to care for one another and speak out for those in need.

The Southwest PA Bread for the World Team is sponsoring *Better Nutrition, Better Tomorrow: The 2019 Hunger Advocacy Workshop* on **Saturday, May 4 at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary** (616 N. Highland Ave, Pittsburgh). Registration and a light continental breakfast begin at 8:30, with our program starting at 9:00 and ending by noon.

The workshop will help you and your congregation urge our government to accelerate progress toward ending hunger by increasing funding for global child nutrition programs. We'll hear from local advocates, elected officials, and experts on global development as we seek to motivate our congregations to end hunger.

Bread for the World is an ecumenical, nonpartisan organization that advocates in the U.S. Congress for just and merciful hunger policy.

To register, visit http://bit.ly/breadworkshop2019.

EFLECTIONS ALONG THE

Dear friends,

The Allegheny County Council of Churches was a successful and thriving institution.

It sponsored numerous projects and programs. It owned a building on Grant Street and supported a large staff. Each year, thousands of people attended its Easter sunrise services in the new Civic Arena.

It could have continued on, exactly as it was.

But something was missing. The Council of Churches aimed to foster the unity of the church in greater Pittsburgh, and yet, the largest group of Christians in the area — Roman Catholics — were not among its members. Its existing structures did not readily permit Catholic participation. No regional ecumenical agency in the United States included Catholic members.



But its leaders decided that the Council's mission was more important than its survival. They knew there could be no united Christian voice without including Catholics. They decided to do something unprecedented. They voted to dissolve their board of directors, to close their doors ... and then to re-open those doors the next day, as Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania.

The quest for the visible unity of the church includes many such stories. Another is familiar to me from the history of my own denomination, the United Church of Christ. In 1943, the Congregational Christian Church and the Evangelical & Reformed Church both approved a "Basis of Union" that would guide their eventual merger in 1957:

"Affirming our devotion to one God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our membership in the holy catholic Church, which is greater than any single Church and than all the Churches together; Believing that denominations exist not for themselves but as parts of that Church, within which each denomination is to live and labor and, if need be, die; and Confronting the divisions and hostilities of our world, and hearing with a deepened sense of responsibility the prayer of our Lord 'that they all may be one'; Do now declare ourselves to be one body."

In other words, our institutions have a purpose higher than their own perpetuation. Sometimes, our understanding of God's call to unity requires not only the best efforts of our institutions but even the death of those institutions, so that from them, something more faithful can rise.

In March, I had the opportunity to participate in an "Understanding and Analyzing Systemic Racism" training facilitated by Crossroads Antiracism Training and Organizing and hosted by Pittsburgh Theological Seminary¹. As we discussed the ways that racism and white supremacy infest all sectors of American society, the "divisions and hostilities of our world" mentioned in the Basis of Union seemed even more pressing. Perhaps now, just as then, our responsibility to pursue unity requires fresh imagination – and the willingness to let our old ways die.

In this Lenten season we remember the paradox of our faith: that it is through death that resurrection is possible. "Very truly, I tell you," Jesus reminded his disciples, "unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit" (John 12:24).

As we approach the cross this Holy Week, what sacrifices are we being called to make? What existing systems and structures need to die in order for us to draw nearer to God's kingdom? What mission do we hold more dearly than our own survival?

May God bless you in this challenging walk that leads through death to new life.

Your sister in Christ,

The Rev. Liddy Barlow **Executive Minister**

Christian Associates of Southwest PA

Our responsibility to pursue unity requires fresh imagination — and the willingness to let our old ways die.

We Have to Talk: Gatherings of Interfaith Spiritual Leaders Continue

Since the shootings at Tree of Life Synagogue, Christian Associates has been working with the JCC's Center for Loving Kindness and Civic Engagement to bring interfaith leaders together. Leaders from 24 Christian denominations and 8 world religions have participated in these conversations.

Our next We Have to Talk gathering will take place on **Tuesday**, **April 23** at the JCC in Squirrel Hill from 4-6 p.m.

Come meet your colleagues from all traditions and points of view. Come learn about efforts of interfaith cooperation taking place throughout our region. Come reflect on our common commitments as spiritual leaders. Come away more engaged and more inspired, with the phone number of a new friend in your pocket.

RSVPs for the April 23 gathering are recommended but not required; please visit http://bit.ly/wehavetotalkapril23 to let us know you'll be joining us.

Western PA to Host International Assembly to Celebrate 100th Anniversary of Women Ministers Association

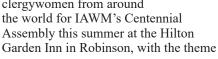
"The woman preacher is a rare and lovely creature, with few associates of her kind ... I'm thinking of seeing if we cannot get a few of us together and do something for the girls of the future." -Madeline Southard, St. Louis, New Year's Eve, 1918

In 1919, Madeline Southard did just

that, founding the International Association of Women Ministers, an organization that continues today in its mission of supporting women clergy and advocating for women's ordination.

the Western
Pennsylvania
Chapter will
welcome
clergywomen from around
the world for LAWM's Cen

100 years later,



"Women's Prophetic Leadership in a Changing Church."

Featured speaker Rev. Dr. Karoline Lewis is Marbury E. Anderson Chair of Biblical Preaching at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. She authors the weekly "Dear Working Preacher" column at www.

workingpreacher.org and is the author of *She: Five Keys to Unlock the Power of Women in Ministry.*

Dr. Lewis will preach at opening worship on Monday evening, July 22, and will offer keynote presentations on Tuesday and Wednesday. The assembly also includes a panel discussion, an international celebration, fellowship time, and a dinner cruise on the Gateway Clipper. It concludes with a 100th anniversary dinner on Wednesday, July 24.



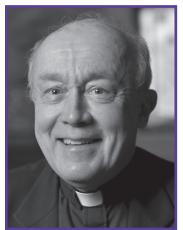
Rev. Dr. Karoline Lewis

More details and online registration is available at https://iawm.ticketspice.com/iawm-centennial-assembly.

Orthodox-Catholic Dialogue Focus of Annual Lecture

The date of Easter - The filioque clause - Synodality and primacy

Since 1965, Catholic and Orthodox theologians have been meeting as the North American Orthodox-Catholic Theological Consultation to explore these and other issues that divide the churches, and propose possible ways forward.



Father Brian Daley

This year, the executive secretary of the Consultation will offer the **19th annual Ss. Cyril and Methodius Lecture**, sponsored by Ss. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary and hosted by St. John's Cathedral Center, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall 15120 on **Thursday, May 9** at 7 p.m.

Fr. Brian Daley, S.J.'s lecture is titled "Breathing Unity: Orthodox-Catholic Dialogue Today and its Promise for the Eastern Catholic Churches."

Fr. Daley is the Catherine F. Huisking Professor of Theology at the University of Notre Dame. He is the author of six books, several volumes of translation, and numerous articles.

In 2012, he received the Ratzinger Prize for Theology; at the award ceremony, Pope Benedict XVI remarked,:

"Father Daley, through his in-depth study of the Fathers of the Church, has placed himself in the best school for knowing and loving the one and undivided Church, also in the wealth of her different traditions; for this reason, he also performs a responsible service in our relations with the Orthodox Churches."

Though the event is free, registration is requested by April 27 by visiting www.bcs.edu or calling 412-321-8383.

We saved a cup for you!

Our #300CupsOfCoffee project will reimburse coffee dates for Christian leaders reaching out to make new friends.

Visit www.casp.org/300cups for all the details.



ECUMENICAL EVENTS

St. Mary Orthodox Church

105 S. 19th St. Pittsburgh, PA 15203 www.stmaryorthodoxchurch.net

Spiritual Self-Care: Warming Up Our Parishes

Date & Time: Sat, April 13, 9:30 a.m.- 1p.m. Fee: Free.

A Lenten retreat led by Mother Christophora of Holy Transfiguration Monastery of Ellwood City, including Divine Liturgy and a Lenten brunch.



New Hope Baptist Church

445 Sixth St. Braddock, PA 15104 412-271-8998

Seven Last Words of Jesus Poetry Jam

Date & Time: Sun., April 14, 4 p.m. Fee: Free.

Poetry, singing, dancing, and more. Contact info@thenhbc.org for more information.



St. James AME Church

444 Lincoln Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15206 www.stjamesamepgh.org

Ecumenical Good Friday Worship Service Date & Time: Fri., April 19, 12 p.m.-3 p.m.

Clergy from throughout the East End of Pittsburgh will offer reflections on the words Jesus spoke from the cross.



Northminister Presbyterian Church

2434 Wilmington Rd. New Castle, PA 16105 www.npcnc.org

Future Church Symposium

Date & Time: Sat., April 27, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Fee: \$35, including lunch. Is your church ready for the future? Come spend a day thinking about the future of the church with futurist and author Leonard Sweet. Len will push participants, through lecture and discussion, to consider how the church of the future will take shape. Register online at www. futurechurchsymposium.com.

Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute

6324 Marchand Street Pittsburgh, PA 15213 412-661-1239 www.pittsburghpastoralinstitute.org

The Comfort of Clay: Healing and **Spirituality Through the Arts**

Date: Fridays, April 26 through May 24

Time: 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

Cost: \$145, including materials

Clay is where you can go to relieve frustrations, practice patience, experiment, and feel the earth on your skin. Learn to use clay with focus on meditation and mindfulness, and discover how clay can be part of your therapeutic approach.



First United Methodist Church

5401 Centre Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15213 www.fumcpittsburgh.org

From Pittsburgh to Paris: A Film by National Geographic

Date & Time: Tues., May 7, 7 p.m. Cost: Free

From coast to coast and around the world, the weather grows more deadly and destructive. We can begin to help shape a better future in our own community. The screening will be followed by a discussion about the intersection of faith and action as we engage in steps to create the change that we know needs to happen.



Bethany College

304-829-7723

www.bethanywv.edu/event/oreon-e-scottlectures

How to Preach a Dangerous Sermon: 2019 Oreon E. Scott Lectures

Dates: Sun., April 28 – Tues., April 30 Location: Oglebay Resort and Conference Center, 465 Lodge Drive, Wheeling WV Cost: \$65 for clergy and lay leaders; \$30 for seminarians. Overnight accommodations available at Oglebay for \$99/night.

Rev. Dr. Frank Thomas, Professor of Homiletics at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, teaches how to "preach with moral imagination" to proclaim freedom for all. His work equips and empowers preachers to transcend their basic skills and techniques, so that their proclamation of the Word causes actual turnaround in the hearts and lives of their hearers, and in their communities.

Epiphany Academy

820 Crane Ave Pittsburgh, PA 15216 412-341-7494 www.epiphanyassociation.org

Spiritual Direction-in-Common

Dates: Wednesdays, May 8-29

Time: 6-8 p.m.

Facilitator: Dr. Susan Muto Cost: \$40, plus book purchase

Participate in group spiritual directionin-common. Participants will be asked to commit themselves to all four sessions as they meditate on selections from Dr. Muto's book, Where Your Treasure Is: The Last Spiritual Counsels of a Modern Master, Fr. Adrian van Kaam. Register by May 1.

Epiphany Institute: Introduction to Formative Spirituality

Dates: Mon., June 10-Tues., June 11

Times: 6 p.m.-8 p.m.

Co-Facilitators: Susan Muto and

Lori McMahon

Cost: \$40, including refreshments

Learn six foundational principles of formative spirituality, as configured by Fr. Adrian van Kaam. These foundational counsels for spiritual living offer participants the opportunity to understand the dynamics of "formation of the heart" and what it means to embrace a formation-in-depth that will serve them for a lifetime. Please register by June 1.



Hempfield Township Parks & Recreation

https://www.hempfieldtwp.com/hempfieldparks-recreation/programs-trips-events/

Pittsburgh Places of Worship Tour

Date & Time: Thurs., May 9, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Cost: \$80 residents, \$90 non-residents, includes bus transportation, tour, and lunch

Join us on a bus trip to Pittsburgh – home to over a thousand churches! Immerse vourself in the history, art and architecture of some of Pittsburgh's places of worship on this tour which includes a lunch at Church Brew Works. Bus departs from parking lot behind PetSmart in Hempfield Square.



ECUMENICAL EVENTS

Sisters Celebrating Diversity

412-983-6637

www.facebook.com/celebratingunity

Tackling Tough Conversations: How to Recognize and Interrupt Racial Microaggressions While Building Bridges

Date & Time: Sat., May 11, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Location: New Hope Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 2710 Shadeland Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212 Cost: \$15, including breakfast

Have you ever been unsure of how to respond to conversations that include negative racial slights, stereotypes, or jokes? Enjoy a hearty breakfast and prepare to be equipped and inspired to tackle these tough conversations. Sisters Celebrating Diversity provides an interactive opportunity build unity and heal racial divisions in the body of Christ. Register by calling the number above or emailing sisterscelebratingdiversity@gmail.com.



Olmsted Manor Retreat Center

17 East Main St. Ludlow, PA 16333 814-945-6512 www.olmstedmanor.org

Pastors' Academy: Preaching Reforms – Fresh Love for Preaching, New Life in the World

Dates: May 13-15

Retreat leader: Rev. Dr. Timothy Matthew

Slemmons

Cost: \$316, including two-nights stay (hotel style with linens), six meals, and tuition. Single rooms available at additional cost.

At times dramatically, often imperceptibly, preaching is ever changing church and creation, society and the soul. The power of the preached Word, of the risen Christ preaching as we preach, is even such that preaching has at times undergone its own reformation. How can you participate, with the utmost faithfulness and fruitfulness, in Jesus' ministry of preaching? What are the tried and true avenues of approach to preaching that offer fresh love for preaching, and new life in the Word? Pastors of all denominations are welcome.



International Association of Women Ministers

Community Presbyterian Church of Ben Avon 7501 Church Avenue Ben Avon, PA 15202 412-761-1233

Celebration of Women in Ministry

Date & Time: Thurs., May 16, 10:30 a.m. Cost: \$20, includes a festive catered lunch

Rev. Dr. Donna Giver-Johnston will be the keynote speaker at the 4th annual celebration, exploring "Women's Call to Preach" through the stories of four 19th-century women who answered that call: Jarena Lee, Francis Willard, Louisa Woosley, and Florence Spearing Randolph. RSVP to Rev. Jean Henderson at jhhh21942@aol.com or 412-352-8001 by May 10.



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT

CHOIR ROBES WITH SASHES. Adult and child/junior sizes. Four sets available. Red, white, or dark blue. Good quality and good used condition. Reasonable. Contact Marcy at: harry.burke@verizon.net.

Kelso Museum of Near Eastern Archaeology

Discover ancient times and places

Excavations sponsored by Pittsburgh Theological Seminary form the core of a significant collection that provides glimpses into daily life in the lands of the Bible from prehistoric times into the Middle Ages.



Free and open to the public!

Wednesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Archaeology Lecture March 28, 7:30 p.m.

With Archaeologist and Kelso Museum Curator Emerita Nancy Lapp

412-924-1395 | Group Tours Welcome! 616 N. Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206



SUMMER RETREATS



The Benedictine monks of Saint Vincent Archabbey have been involved in retreat ministry since 1913, tending to the spiritual needs of Christian men and women in the Latrobe area. Our preached group retreats are given annually from May to July, and have drawn thousands of retreatants to Saint Vincent over the years. A retreat can be a catalyst for spiritual renewal and for concentrating on God's purpose for our earthly existence.

- · May 24-26 Benedictine Spirituality I
- June 14-16 Charismatic Prayer
- June 28-30 Benedictine Spirituality II
- · July 19-21 Men's Retreat
- July 26-28 Silent Retreat

SAINT VINCENT ARCHABBEY • LATROBE • PA 724-805-2139 • www.saintvincentretreats.org

Preparing for Ministry in the Way of Jesus

CONTINUING EDUCATION AT PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



Join us for these upcoming events—

Discerning the Spirit(s) of Formation Schaff Lectures
April 30, 2019 in Youngstown, Ohio, and May 1, 2019 in Pittsburgh, Pa.
James K. A. Smith, Professor of Philosophy, Calvin College

Between the Altar and the World: Interpreting Life Liturgically Henderson Summer Leadership Conference
June 2-5, 2019
Cláudio Carvalhaes, Theologian, Liturgist, Artist, and Associate Professor of Worship, Union Theological Seminary

Celtic Spirituality in Nature Spiritual Formation Elective June 16-19, 2019 Beth Norcross, Founding Director, Center for Spirituality in Nature

Plan on joining us for these fall classes!

O Taste and See: The Spirituality of Food Spiritual Formation Elective Sept. 22-25, 2019 Dan Frayer-Griggs, Ruling Elder, Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community The Art of Transitional Ministry - Week 2 Nov. 18-22, 2019 Paul Rhebergen, Jan Nolting Carter, and Pam Peterson



www.pts.edu/CE

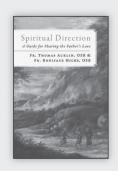
412-924-1345

ConEd@pts.edu

Spiritual Direction I: Art of Accompaniment

June 24-28, 2019 • Rev. Boniface Hicks, O.S.B. and Rev. Thomas Acklin, O.S.B. • Saint Vincent Seminary Institute for Ministry Formation

The need for spiritual direction—or the accompaniment of a spiritual guide—is becoming more prominent in a world where so many are suffering from so many wounds. Through reading, lectures, and discussions, participants will learn the foundational dynamics of spiritual direction. With authors of Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father's Love. To learn more or to register for this weeklong course, please visit IMF.STVINCENT.EDU.





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MODERN CHRISTIANS SEEKING ANCIENT ROOTS

Celebrating 40 years of retrieving ancient Christian wisdom for the church today.













Speakers: Winfield Bevins, Hans Boersma, Timothy George, Christopher Hall, Tish Warren, John Witvliet

JUNE 6 - 7, 2019

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PRESENTED BY:



and



Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania

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The Call... to be one in Christ is ordinarily published bimonthly by **Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania, P.O. Box 5241, Pittsburgh, PA 15206.** Email: newsletter@casp.org. (C) 2010. **No fax submissions are accepted.** Classified Advertisements may be placed at a PREPAID cost of \$10.00 for 40 words or less. The publication of ads/events does not indicate specific endorsement of an organization, ad or event, and is strictly of an informative nature. The DEADLINE for all submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the issue the submission is to appear (May 15th for the June issue). Photographs, articles and other submissions about the local church are welcome.

Free Narcan Available to Help Churches Save Lives



In a life-threatening overdose, you can save a life — if you have Narcan on hand.

Narcan (naloxone) is a drug that can reverse opioid overdoses. Learning to use Narcan is simple, and Pennsylvania law offers provides criminal, civil, and professional immunity to anyone who, in good faith, administers naloxone to an individual experiencing an overdose.

Just as you may prepare your community to respond to cardiac arrest by offering CPR training and purchasing an AED, you can equip your congregation to respond to another medical emergency — overdose — by giving them access to Narcan and training on how to use it.

In Allegheny County, you may request a free supply of Narcan for your church by visiting www.tinyurl.com/achdnarcan. To schedule a training to learn how to use the drug, visit www.tinyurl.com/ACHD-Training.

A few reminders:

- ❖ Check your label! Christian Associates has now completed our first round of updates on church addresses in our new database which means all clergy and congregational mailing labels should now be correct. Please do us a favor and examine your address on this issue of *The Call*. If you see anything that needs to be changed, such as a name, title, or street address, please email mperry@casp.org. Alerting us to address changes helps us save money in postal returns, helping your donations go farther.
- Sign up for e-news! We aim to send our e-newsletter, *Unity n'At*, twice monthly, offering the latest in ecumenical news and events without cluttering your inbox. Sign up by visiting www. casp.org/signup.
- * Check your preaching calendar! Support our ministries and fill your pulpit by inviting Rev. Liddy Barlow to serve as a guest or supply minister. All stipends support Christian Associates. She's currently available May 12, May 19, June 16, Aug 11, Aug 18, and Aug 25. Book your date today!