# Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania

Serving 10 Counties, 25 Christian Faith Traditions, 2000 Congregations and 1,000,000 Christian Members

# The Call...

to be one in Christ



Apr. 2009, Number 2

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

# Ecumenical Theologian to Speak on "Catholic-Orthodox Relations: Hopes for the Future"

The 9th Annual SS Cyril and Methodius Lecture will take place on **Monday, May 4, 2009** at St. Paul's Seminary in Pittsburgh at 7:00 p.m. The featured speaker is Rev. Ronald G. Roberson. "Catholic-Orthodox Relations: Hopes for the Future" draws on Fr. Roberson's extensive expertise in ecumenical studies.

On the Web: www.casp.org

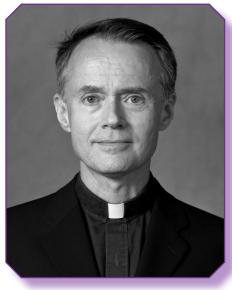
Ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1977, Fr. Roberson began studying the Eastern Churches of

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Greece, Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey while traveling extensively in Eastern Europe and the Middle East in 1982. In 1988, he was appointed to the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (Eastern section) in Vatican City, where his responsibilities included relations with the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, the Orthodox Churches of Greece, Cyprus, Romania, and Finland, and the Orthodox in the Diaspora. Fr. Roberson has presented conferences in ecumenism since 1993. He has served as the Associate Director of the Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs on the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops since 1995. Fr. Roberson currently serves as a Catholic member of the International Dialogue between the Catholic Church and the Oriental Orthodox Churches

The annual lecture series is sponsored by the SS Cyril & Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary. The Seminary, located in Pittsburgh, serves as the center of learning for Byzantine Catholic Churches in North America. There is no charge



Rev. Ronald Roberson

for the lecture but registration is required. Contact the Seminary at 412-321-8383.



# REFLECTIONS ALONG THE WAY



### Dear Siblings in Our Lord,

"So they (Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome) went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid." (Mark 16:8)

Those women fled the empty tomb of Jesus in fear and terror. "What does this mean?" - a stone rolled back from the grave, an angelic announcement and a commission? "Jesus has been raised!" "Go, tell!" But "they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid."

Fear and terror are normative experiences for folk today. "Has the stock market hit the bottom yet?" "Will I have a job tomorrow?" "What if I get ill without health insurance?" "I'm afraid to ask for help." Like the women at the tomb we're even afraid to verbalize our fears and anxiety. The global economic downturn has caused all of us to question our future plans, be they a college education for our kids, hopes for retirement, a new home, etc. We have become cautious about what purchases we make, and our lack of consumption further distresses the downward economic spiral. "What does this mean?"

We who are the Church, Christ's living body in the world today have a tremendous opportunity this Eastertide. In the face of fear and terror about our physical health, economic prosperity, and clouded global future, we dare to boldly preach death and resurrection – Jesus crucified and raised by the Father to new life! Yes, we are bold to call the faithful to confident trust in that God who gives life to a dead man, our human brother and to each of us through him. Because of that faith in Jesus life transforming resurrection, we can be bold in inviting the faithful to die and be raised anew; to die to the norms of individualism, self-gratification, consumerism and over-consumption, and to be raised to a new life based on the Kingdom's norms of love of God and neighbor, of sacrifice and service to family and the needy "other" in our midst.

Of course such a personal resurrection by the faithful may seem to be un-American. After all, spending less on self and doing more with and for others will not help grow an economy based on conspicuous consumption. But in the process we may be able to help transform our culture and society in life-transforming ways. Just imagine a community where people actually talked with each other instead of being fixated before the TV or Wii. Imagine helping a struggling student with reading and telling a lonely elder the stories of God's love through the ages. Imagine growing a garden with our neighbors solely to provide produce to the local food pantry. Such is the power of the resurrected, transformed life. But that can only happen when we are bold in proclaiming Jesus death and resurrection and our dying and being raised.

Happy Easter! "Christ is Risen! He is risen, indeed!" Proclaim Him boldly!

In Christ's love and transforming grace,

Paster Lon Sheen

# Two Programs Available for Families and Care Providers of Veterans



Both of the following seminars will be held at the John Jay Center at Robert Morris University in Moon Township, PA. To register, contact kimberlyhall@comcast.net or 412-244-1244. Christian Associates is pleased to be a sponsor/ partner in this service to our returning veterans and their families.

### Caring for a Veteran?

You've never served in the military, so how do you understand what veterans and their families experience before, during, and after deployment? How might teachers, pastors, and other care providers empathize with these military folks and better address their needs? Find out at a FREE one-day seminar on Friday, May 22 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Combat veterans LTC Ros Gammon, MAJ Patrick Moore and WO1 Margie Moldovan will share their experiences. Workshops on Substance Abuse, Women's Trauma, Suicide Prevention, Spirituality, Traumatic Brain Injury, and Child/Adolescent issues will be offered throughout the day. For a modest fee, CEUs will be available.

### The Absent Veteran: A Retreat for Families

Do you have veterans and their family members in your congregation? Then invite them to this FREE one-day retreat on **Saturday, May 23 from 10:00 a.m.** – **2:00 p.m.** The retreat will provide tools to the veteran's family to help them cope with deployment transitions and assist with reintegration after deployment. Following greetings by County Executive Dan Onorato and Senator John Pippy (a veteran himself), Dr. Bruce Rabin, UPMC Wellness Director, will discuss coping with stress and anxiety. Various workshops and activities will be offered for the adults while the children play on a climbing wall, do arts and crafts, and engage with the Pirate Parrot. Lunch is included.

### Clinical Pastoral Education

Join one of the few CPE programs in the nation to offer training in ministry to the terminally ill. Family Hospice and Palliative Care is one of the largest hospices in Western Pennsylvania and its CPE program is accredited by the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy.

The CPE unit is a part-time extended unit beginning in September, 2009 and completing in May 2010. Participants complete 12 hours each week in didactic sessions, supervision, and direct care with hospice patients.

For more information, please contact Rev. Dr. Edward Pehanich at epehanich@familyhospice.com or 412-829-2818.

# A Place Where Spirits Soar!

### BISHOP WILLIAM G. CONNARE CENTER

(Formerly St. Joseph Center)

# WORKSHOPS - MEETINGS - CAMPS - PARTIE'S CONFERENCES - BANQUETS - RETREATS

Discover the difference our special atmosphere can make!

Have your spirits lifted by the serene and sylvan setting, excellent food, attractive and economical accommodations, and friendly service. Meeting rooms for 20 - 200, dining service for up to 240, beautiful 320-seat Chapel for services and convocations - all under one roof.

Route 30 East, Greensburg FOR INFORMATION, VISIT OR CALL 724-834-7350

# Spiritual Direction & Leadership Program at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Preuma, a two-year, graduate certificate program in spiritual direction and spiritual leadership, offers educational and supervised training of pastors and laity in an ecumenical context. Dr. Martha Robbins, Director 412-441-3304 ext. 2126 mrobbins@pts.edu www.pts.edu/pneuma

### **The Pittsburgh Compline Choir**

Heinz Memorial Chapel University of Pittsburgh Campus 412-682-6886 www.compline.lucpgh.com

Dates: Sundays Time: 8:30 p.m.

 Apr. 5 – Dr. Stanley Yoder from Zion Lutheran Church, Penn Hills
 Apr. 12 – Andrew Scanlon from First Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh and Director, Pittsburgh Compline Choir
 Apr. 19 – Dr. Ann Labounsky from

**Duquesne University** 

### Also at Heinz Memorial Chapel

John Calvin 500th Anniversary Celebration

Date: Sun. April 26

Time: 3:00 p.m., reception following Preacher: Dr. Charles Partee Sponsored by Pittsburgh Chapter, Presbyterian Association of Musicians Bmckelway@aol.com 412-366-4513

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### **Martina Spiritual Renewal Center**

5244 Clarwin Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15229 412-931-9766 www.sistersoftheholyspirit.com

# Holy Week / Triduum Retreat (Silent with Meager Meals): The Triduum Unveiled"

Dates: Thur. Apr. 9 – Sun. Apr. 12
Time: Begins Holy Thur. 7:00 p.m. and ends Easter Sun. after breakfast
Presenter: Fr. Mark Gruber, OSB
Offering: \$160; registration requested

# Family Retreat / Family Faith Festival: "Reconciliation and Forgiveness"

Date: Sun. May 3

Time: Begins 9:00 a.m. with beverages and donuts, ends at 4:30 p.m.
Offering: \$20 adults, \$10 children ages 10

omering: \$20 adults, \$10 children ages 1 and under; registration requested

# Mystagogia Retreat: "Understanding the Mysteries of Faith"

Date: Sat. May 30

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Presenter: Fr. David Muczulski, OFM Offering: \$25; registration requested

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### **Kearns Spirituality Center**

9000 Babcock Blvd
Allison Park, PA 15101
412-635-6314
To register, call 412-366-1124
www.divineprovidenceweb.org

### The Spirituality of Art

Dates: Tues. April 7, 14, 21, 28 Time: 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. Artist: Marilyn Noszka, MA

Fee: \$50 entire course; \$15 per session.

Please bring your own pastels and explore your creativity; individual instruction us-

ing still life.

### **North Hills Chorale Spring Concert**

Dates and Times: Fri. May 8, 8:00 p.m. and Sat. May 9, 3:00 p.m.

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### First Lutheran Church

615 Grant Street Pittsburgh, PA 15219 412-471-8125

### **German Service on Good Friday**

Date: Fri. Apr. 10 Time: 10:00 a.m.

Liturgist: Rev. Horst H. Bandle

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### Music at Calvary

315 Shady Avenue at Walnut Street Pittsburgh, PA 15202-3854 412-661-0120 www.calvarypgh.org

# The Good Friday Liturgy with *The Seven* Last Words by Théodore Dubois

Fri. Apr. 10 - Noon to 3:00 p.m.

### Good Friday Concert: G.F. Handel, Brockes-Passion

Fri. Apr. 10 - 7:00 p.m.

# Oberlin College Collegium Musicum in Concert

Sun. Apr. 19 - 5:00 p.m.

# McVay Recital, co-sponsored by OAS - Bruce Neswick

Sun. Apr. 26 - 4:00 p.m. Tickets: \$12; \$2 student

### **Evensong for Ascension Day**

Thur. May 21 - 8:00 p.m. Choirs of St Andrew's Highland Park and Calvary

### Music in a Great Space

Shadyside Presbyterian Church 5121 Westminster Place Pittsburgh, PA 15232

### **Rodrigo Guitar Trio**

Sun. Apr. 19 - 4:00 p.m.

# Shadyside Choral Society & Chancel Choir

Sun. May 17 - 4:00 p.m.

Tickets \$10 for adults; \$5 for seniors (60+); students & children are free.

### Music at Rodef Shalom

4905 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 412-621-6566

### **Ionian Chamber Players**

Mon. Apr. 20 - 8:00 p.m.

Open to the public, free of charge, reception follows

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### Crestfield Camp and Conference Center

Pittsburgh Presbytery 195 Taggart Road Slippery Rock, PA 16057 724-792-4022 www.crestfield.net

### Women's Retreat

Dates: Fri. Apr. 17 – Sat. Apr. 18 or Sun.

Fee: \$65 one night, \$100 two nights

Leaders: Revs. Carmen Cox Harwell and DeNeice Welch

### Art and History in Pittsburgh, a Way-Points Retreat

Dates: Sun. Apr. 26 – Thur. Apr. 30 Fee: \$495 double, \$550 single Leader: Rev. Andrew Purves

Discover Pittsburgh's cultural landmarks and the beauty of nature at the conference center.

### Psalms for Life, a Retreat for Seniors

Dates: Tues. May 19 – Wed. May 20 Fee: \$65 double, transportation provided Leaders: Linda Pokrajach and Rev. Cynthia McClung

Explore how the Psalms fit into daily life, using Scripture, music, and creative arts.

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### Franciscan Spirit & Life Center

3605 McRoberts Road Pittsburgh, PA 15234 412-881-9207 www.osfprov.org

### Friendship with God

Date: Thur. Apr. 23 Time: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Presenter: Johannah Jones

Cost: \$15, deposit \$5; register by Apr. 14

Growing through and strengthening our relationship with God

### The Church Alive In Christ

Date: Mon. Apr. 27 Time: 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Presenter: Dr. Maureen Crossen Cost: \$15; register by Apr. 16

Reflect on the depth of Paul's faith in Christ and as the essence of the Church.

### **God's Extravagant Love**

Dates: Sat. June 6 & 13 Times: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Presenters: Sr. Joanne Brazinski, OSF and

Sr. Marlene Kline, OSF

Cost: \$25 per session, includes lunch;

register by May 25

Participants are encouraged to attend both sessions.

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### St. Joseph Spirituality Center

A Ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph 1020 State Street Baden, PA 15005 724-869-6585 Registrations – Sr. Marian Mills, 724-869-2151 x6609 www.stjoseph-baden.org

# Experiencing Spirituality in the Midst of Loss

Date: Fri. Apr. 24

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Presenters: Srs. Lisa Balcerek, Barbara

Finch & Catherine Higgins Fee: \$65 includes lunch

Workshop for mental health and health care professionals, offers 6 CEUs.

### **Day of Vocational Discernment**

Date: Sat. May 2

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Fee: \$15 includes lunch

For further info call Sr. Dorothy Pashuta,

412-661-2528.

### **Eco-Education Series**

Dates: call Sr. Lyn Szymkiewicz, 724-869-2151 ext 6285 or email lynszym@ stjoseph-baden.org

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### **Tabor House of Prayer**

A ministry of the Sisters of St. Francis 146 Hawthorne Road Pittsburgh, PA 15209 412-821-1149 www.millvalefranciscans.org

Learning to Love Yourself: Scriptural Guidelines for Developing Self-Esteem

Dates: Fri. May 1 - Sat. May 2

Time: Begins 7:00 p.m. Fri. and ends Sat.

with supper

Presenter: Eileen Colianni

Fee: \$55

Explore reassurances of The Word and insights to become free to love our neighbors as ourselves, not instead of ourselves.

### **Celebrating the Older You**

Dates: Mon. May 13, 20, 27 & June 3

Time: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Book Fee: Approx. \$12.00, donations

appreciated

Book study to become a wiser, warmer,

mature woman.

# Catholic Charities / Diocese of Pittsburgh

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212 Ninth Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-456-6967
www.ccpgh.org

### 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Wisdom, Age and Grace Conference: "All Wisdom Comes from the Lord"

Location: Four Points by Sheraton in Mars

Date: Fri. May 8

Event fee: \$35 includes breakfast & lunch

Call 412-456-6975 to register

Leaders: Bishop Zubik will celebrate mass; Rev. Terrence P. O'Connor will deliver

keynote address

### **Mount Aloysius College**

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7373 Admiral Perry Highway Cresson, PA 16630 814-886-6404

Summer Contemplative Workshop for clergy, pastors, and church leaders: "Praying and Preaching the Gospel of Mark"

Dates: Tues. June 16 – Thur. June 18

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# Pittsburgh Marathon Impacts Sunday Schedules

Congregations Downtown, on the Hill, in Shadyside, Oakland and East Liberty, as well as on the North Shore and Southside will be impacted by street closings during the Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> Pittsburgh Marathon. Christian Associates assisted the race planners in meeting with afflicted congregations last month, but response was limited. For more information on the impact of the Dicks Sporting Goods Marathon and the Philips Respironics Half Marathon contact Peter McGinty, Operations Director at 412-861-3615 or pmcginty@verizon.net.

# Gaming or Gambling?

Some consider it "gaming," merely an innocent recreational activity. For others it is "gambling," placing one's hopes on Chance or Fate. Whatever you call it, it is here to stay. The expanded Meadows will open mid-April, the Rivers Casino in August, and our Governor wants to legalize video poker. What are the social consequences upon our region? **Holy Rollers** – **Playing Dice with our Future** is the theme of this year's Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference Friday, May 8 from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at Christ Church at Grove Farm, Mt. Nebo (just off the I-79 exit). For more information and to register go to <a href="https://www.pghpc.org">www.pghpc.org</a>. Christian Associates is a sponsoring organization of the Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference.

Events, from page 5

Presenter: Dr. Bonnie Thurston
On-site accommodations, more information available, call number above

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### **Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**

105 Gateshead Drive McMurray, PA 15317 724-941-7467 www.ourredeemer-peters.org

www.ourredcemer-peters.org

# Joyful Noise Worship - Worship for those with Autism

Dates: Second Sun. of each month Time: 2:00 p.m.

A worship service designed for people on the autism spectrum, their families, and anyone else who might benefit from a service in which noise and movement are the expectation, not an interruption.

# UPCOMING CONTINTUING EDUCATION EVENTS

at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Albright-Deering Lectures in Methodist Studies

John Wesley's Practical Theology as a Resource for Discipleship and Service

> April 30, 2009 2:00 & 3:30 p.m.

### Kenneth J. Collins

Professor of Historical Theology and Wesley Studies, Asbury Theological Seminary J. Hubert Henderson Conference on Church and Ministry

The Legacy of John Calvin and the Renewal of Christian Worship

> May 1, 2009 11:30 a.m., 2:30 & 4:30 p.m.

### John D. Witvliet

Director, Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Calvin College and Professor of Music and Worship, Calvin Theological Seminary Summer Leadership Conference

# HEALTHY CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

June 7-10, 2009

### **Nancy Lammers Gross**

Associate Professor and Dean of Student Life, Princeton Theological Seminary

### **Andrew Purves**

Professor of Reformed Theology, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

### Pete Scazzero

Pastor, New Life Fellowship Church Office of Continuing Education 616 N. Highland Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15206 412-441-3304 ext. 2196 ConEd@pts.edu www.pts.edu



# Oberammergau Passion Play

Pastor Don Green, Christian Associates' Executive Director, will serve as spiritual director on a tenday pilgrimage to historic sites of the European Reformation and the Oberammergau Passion Play, May 17-28, 2010.

The pilgrimage begins with a Reformation heritage tour of Switzerland and Germany. Participants will visit and rehearse the stories of the great Protestant reformers – Luther, Calvin, and Zwingli as they tour Geneva, Zurich, Augsburg, Worms, and Wittenberg.

The climax of the pilgrimage will be the Oberammergau Passion Play. Every 10 years, 2,000 villagers of Oberammergau stage and perform this Passion Play in fulfillment of a pledge to God made in 1634, to keep their families safe from the plague. Performed on an open-air stage, with the sky and the mountains of beautiful Bavarian Germany as a backdrop, the play, supported by a dramatic text and accompanied by a full orchestra and choir, rehearses in 25 scenes the passion and death of Jesus. For further information contact Pastor Don at 412-688-9070 or dgreen@casp.org.

# Radical Abundance: A Theology of Sustainability

If you missed the Trinity Institute's 39th National Theological Conference in January, Christian Associates is offering an invitation to experience those lectures. A viewing of the lectures will be held at Christian Associates, 204 37th Street, (Lawrenceville) Pittsburgh, PA 15201 on Wednesday, May 13 from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. There is no cost to attend and join in an ecumenical discussion of the presentations. Contact Tracy Ritchie at 412-688-9070 or tritchie@casp.org to register.

- **9:00, Timothy Gorringe**, environmental theologian, author of "A Theology of the Built Environment: Justice, Empowerment, Redemption."
- **10:30, Nestor O. Miguez**, Latin American New Testament scholar.
- **12:00, Lunch** (on your own)
- **1:00, David Korten**, award winning author of "When Corporations Rule the World."
- **2:30, Majora Carter**, community organizer; host of "The Green" on the Sundance Channel.
- **4:00, Panel Discussion** by the lecturers



# Mission Day 2009

April 15, 2009



The Rt. Rev. Hector Zavala Muñoz Keynote Speaker

Morning Eucharist

The Rev. Canon John Macdonald, Preacher
"Creating Missional Communities"
William D. Taylor, World Evangelical Alliance
Workshops

Spiritual Warfare in the Global Context (Edwina Thomas) Redefining the Missionary (Theresa Newell) The Poor (Nancy Norton)

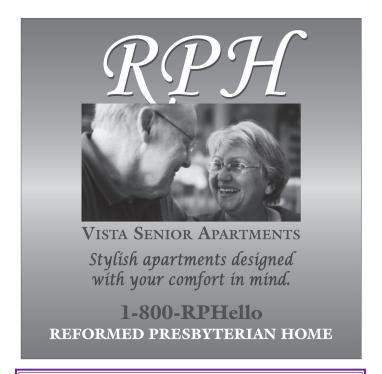
Discerning the Call to be a Missionary (Stewart Wicker) Starting a Parish Mission Committee (Edd Young and Karen Getz) Islam (Chris Royer)

To register contact Trinity's Development Office at development@tsm.edu or 724-266-3838

Trinity School for Ministry 311 Eleventh Street Ambridge, PA 15003 www.tsm.edu

# PA Council of Churches Considers Gun Violence Resolution

The Commission on Public Witness for the PA Council of Churches is asking the Council's Board of Directors to adopt a resolution "to prevent gun violence." Noting, "A rising tide of handgun violence (which) affects all corners of the Commonwealth," the Commission is asking that the council and its member bodies seek enactment of the Lost or Stolen Reporting Requirement Act and the One Handgun a Month Act. "The purpose of this legislation is to disrupt the illegal distribution system that makes handguns available to felons, drug dealers, and other violent individuals in the Commonwealth..," the commission continues, that "The Pennsylvania Council of Churches recognizes the problem as one of handgun distribution, abuse, and violence and not gun ownership, acknowledges that legal gun ownership for the purpose of self defense is a right of most citizens... and asserts the need for responsible gun ownership." The Board of Directors will consider the resolution at their April 14 meeting.



### **Church for Lease**

Former Florence Presbyterian Church for lease. Old Route 22, 1080 Steubenville Pike. 8,000 sq. ft. on two floors, completely furnished with organ, two pianos, 26 oak pews. Call 724-947-1234.

**The Call...** to be one in Christ is ordinarily published bimonthly by Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania, 204 37th Street, Suite 201, Pittsburgh PA 15201-1859. Email: newsletter@casp.org. © 2009. Publisher/Editor: Meg A. Papa. **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 7th of the month prior to the issue the submission is to appear (January 7th for the February issue). Photographs, articles and other submissions about the local church are welcome.

Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania 204 37th Street, Suite 201 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15201-1859 412-688-9070

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