

Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania

Serving 10 Counties, 26 Christian Faith Traditions, 2000 Congregations and 1,000,000 Christian Members

The Call...

On the Web: www.casp.org

to be one in Christ



October 2009, Number 5

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

Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project

Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre presents *Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project*, a work that demonstrates how ballet can transcend the art form to become an agent of change, not only in the individual but also in the world. Set for five performances during the week of Kristallnacht, November 12-15 at the Byham Theater, this project extends beyond the stage, partnering with a broad spectrum of Pittsburgh organizations including Christian Associates and the United Jewish Federation's Holocaust Center to create educational programming and inspire a community-wide dialogue about the Holocaust. **Of Faith and Kristallnacht** on November 4 at

7:00 p.m. at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Monroeville is one such partnership.

Originally choreographed for Ballet Austin in 2005 by Artistic Director Stephen Mills, *Light* was created in response to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, when Mills began contemplating the individual's responsibility to promote social justice. The resulting work features choreography that is often stark, athletic and raw, using symbolic movement in place of overt Holocaust references and Nazi imagery. Divided into five sections, the ballet explores the universal themes of family, segregation, isolation, survival and the hope of the unconquerable human



Light / The Holocaust & Humanity Project

spirit. Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel wrote, "Some things are too large to write about, but nothing is too small." With that passage in mind, the ballet follows one person's journey from suffering to salvation.

Single tickets may be purchased by calling 412-456-6666 or visit www.pbt.org. For group sales call 412-454-9129.

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Of Faith and Kristallnacht

Dr. Robert P. Ericksen, a renowned historian of the Holocaust and professor of history at Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA will be the presenter at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Monroeville on Wednesday, November 4 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. This workshop is sponsored by Christian Associates and the Religious Leadership Forum of Southwest PA in conjunction with *Light/ The Holocaust & Humanity Project* of the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre and the UJF Holocaust Center.

Of Faith, on page 6

REFLECTIONS ALONG THE WAY



Dear Siblings in Our Lord,

As I write, the G-20 Pittsburgh Summit is about to begin. For southwestern Pennsylvania the world has come to the fork of our sacred three rivers. The Sherpas have done their advanced planning; the finance ministers and heads of state are enroute. Advocates of many diverse causes have issued their press releases and protestors have taken to the streets. With the eyes of the world upon us we are overwhelmed by the diversity of peoples and tongues, and differences of opinion and perspective of those who come to our hometown. There is a cacophony of varied sounds and competing messages pounding into our consciousness.

As people of faith how are we to deal with such diversity of humanity and competing claims for what is fair and just for the good of all? What does our Christian faith and our respective confessional traditions have to assist us in responding with hospitality, openness to listen, and dialogue without compromising the particularity of our deep-seated beliefs?

In Genesis we find our common roots in Adam; we are all one flesh in God's creation. But we also learn of human sin which would divide siblings one from another, clans and tribes, nations and languages in terms of protecting my own perceived superiority over my neighbor. It is the latter that we see enacted in the Pittsburgh Summit and accompanying statements, street theater and rallies, as nations and groups compete for recognition, resources, and power.

On September 21 the interfaith community of Pittsburgh offered one response. Without sacrificing the particularity of our Christian faith or Jewish or Muslim beliefs, we came together to give public witness to peace and unity as common siblings of Adam. We prayed for peace, both during the summit, but also for global reconciliation, an end to warfare, and genuine peace with justice for all the world's inhabitants. From each of our sacred texts reflections were offered that were powerfully prophetic in their common call for a just distribution of creation's resources, particular attention to the needs of the poor and marginalized, and for the care of the earth and its environment. Praying together amid our diversity and great differences, we demonstrated to those who gather for the G-20 summit what faith has to say to economic power and justice.

By the time you read this letter the summit will be over. We'll get back to our routines and find something else to grumble about besides congested traffic and disrupted commerce. I pray that our continued response to diversity of opinion and disparity of resources and opportunity will reflect our interfaith witness at St. Paul Cathedral. However, as we look to the commemoration of Kristallnacht, we know all too well that even people of faith can be caught up in the sin that divides and exploits. May we continue to be faithful for the sake of our neighbor, to everyone who is also our sibling in the flesh.

In Christ's love and transforming grace,

Pastor Don Heen



Pittsburghgives.org

a resource of The Pittsburgh Foundation

Wednesday, October 28

The Best Day of the Year to Give to Christian Associates

The Pittsburgh Foundation has made it easier than ever for you to extend a helping hand to Christian Associates. Just log on to the new www.PittsburghGives.org. Christian Associates is listed in this online directory which features a detailed, searchable profile of Christian Associates and secure donation options. All at the click of your mouse!

And starting at **10 am on Wednesday, October 28**, The Pittsburgh Foundation will host *The Pittsburgh Day of Giving* – a day when your gift of \$50 or more (up to \$2,500) will be matched 50 cents to the \$1. So mark your calendar for October 28, log on to pittsburghgives.org by 10 am (the matching funds are expected to be exhausted within an hour) and donate online to Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania. It's the fastest way to make your gift go 50% further.

How to log on and give to Christian Associates using PittsburghGives:

1. Go to: <http://www.PittsburghGives.org>
2. On the top right hand side, click the button "Login"

3. On the right lower side, click "Create Login."
NOTE: We encourage you to do this step well ahead of October 28 so that you can login immediately on that day and give. It is anticipated the Match monies will be exhausted within an hour.
4. Fill in information and click "Register"; a confirmation will appear; press "Continue".
5. Log in using your email and new password.
6. On the top right hand side, there is a "Find Nonprofits" tab in white, enter **Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania**.
7. You will see the nonprofit portrait; if you'd like to donate immediately, click the blue "Donate Now" button next to the nonprofit name. Click the "Donate to Nonprofit" underneath that button. You are free, at any time, to click on the non-profit name, read the portrait and then click "Donate Now".
8. Put in the contribution amount. There is a minimum contribution of \$50.00.
9. Click "Add to Giving Cart."
10. When you are ready to check out, click "Checkout."

You will receive a confirmation email that will be your tax receipt. Please print it out for your tax records.



ECUMENICAL EVENTS

Crestfield Camp and Conference Center

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

Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes: A Retreat for Seniors

Dates: Sun. Oct. 11 – Thur. Oct. 15
Fee: \$375; \$150 for day use, call or go
online for specifics
Leader: Dr. Kenneth Bailey

Dr. Bailey will introduce you to Jesus in his
historical setting.

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Family Hospice and Palliative Care

3708 Fifth Avenue, Suite 300
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412-802-6249

Compassion Sabbath Retreat

Date: Tues. Oct. 13
Time: 12:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Thomas Long
Fee: \$50; registration required
To register, call Amy Slade, 412-647-5700
or aes72@pitt.edu.

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Franciscan Spirit & Life Center

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

Christian Parenting, Part II

Date: Wed. Oct. 14
Time: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Fee: \$7
Presenter: MaryAnn Garfold
Topics include: Peer pressure, bullying,
parenting children with special needs

Thomas Merton on the Spiritual Life

2009 Vineyard Guild Retreat
Dates: Thur. Oct. 22 – Sat. Oct. 24

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Bonnie
Bowman Thurston
For more information visit
www.vineyardguild.org

Baking with St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Date: Mon. Nov. 9
Time: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Fee: \$10
Presenter: MaryAnn Garfold

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Alzheimer's Association

1100 Liberty Avenue, Suite E-201
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-261-5040
www.alz.org/pa

Caring For Persons With Dementia: Spiritual Aspects and Rewards

Date: Fri. Oct. 16
Time: 8:00 a.m. registration;
8:45 a.m. – 4:15 p.m. program
Place: Four Points by Sheraton, 910
Sheraton Dr., Mars, PA 16046
Cost: \$75 professional; \$25 caregiver/
family member/clergy
Pre-registration is required by Oct. 9

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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.SOSE.ORG

Retreat: Word Among Us

Dates: Oct. 16-17; Nov. 6-7; Jan. 22-23
Time: Begins Fri. at 7:00 p.m., concludes
Sat. at 6:00 p.m.
Fee: \$55, includes meals

Bring three of your favorite Scriptures,
and a photo of someone who has touched
your heart spiritually. *Note: each retreat
focuses on different Gospels.*

Spirituality of Icon Writing Blessed Mother Icon

Dates: Thur. Oct. 22 – Sun. Oct. 25

Times: starts Thur. 6:30 p.m.
Presenter: Rosaire Kopczenski, OSF
Fee: \$400 includes lodging, meals and
materials
Call now for further information.

Living By Faith: Following the Book of Jabez

Date: Sat. Nov. 28
Time: 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Fee: \$30, includes lunch

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Epiphany Roman Catholic Church

1018 Centre Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15219, Uptown
412-471-0257

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick Mass

Date: Sat. Oct. 17
Time: 9:00 a.m., Mass;
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Continental break-
fast, health screenings, free flu shots.
All are welcome!

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Music in Pittsburgh

William Porter, organist from Eastman School of Music

Date: Tues. Oct. 20, 7:30 p.m.
No admission charge
St. Paul Cathedral
108 N. Dithridge St., Oakland 15213

Ken Medema, Pianist/Singer

Date: Sun. Oct. 25, 4:00 p.m. - Music in a
Great Space
Admission \$10 adults; \$5 seniors;
students & children free
Shadyside Presbyterian Church
5121 Westminster Place, Pgh 15232
www.shadysidepres.org

Michael Unger, Eastman School of Music

Date: Sun. Nov. 15, 4:00 p.m. - Organ
Artist Series (OAS)
Regular admission \$12, student \$2
Heinz Memorial Chapel
Fifth & Bellefield Ave., Pittsburgh 15260
www.oas-series.com



ECUMENICAL EVENTS

Kenneth Danchik, Associate Organist from St. Paul Cathedral

Date: Sun. Nov. 22, 4:00 p.m.

No admission charge

St. Paul Cathedral

108 N. Dithridge St., Oakland 15213

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Good Grief Center for Bereavement Support

2717 Murray Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15217

412-224-4700

www.goodgriefcenter.com

Let's Talk About Grief Conference

Date: Wed. Oct. 21

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Churchill Valley Country Club,
800 Beulah Rd, Pittsburgh 15235

Keynote: Jeff Zaslow, co-author of The
Last Lecture with Randy Pausch

Fee: \$80 entire day; \$60 student, entire
day; \$50 lunch, keynote & panel dis-
cussion

Call or go online to register.

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Sixth Presbyterian Church

1688 Murray Avenue

Pittsburgh, PA 15217

412-421-2752

www.sixthchurch.org

Gospel Weekend

Dates: Sat. Oct. 24 & Sun. Oct. 25

Time: Sat. 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sun. rehearsal at 9:30 a.m., worship at
11:00 a.m.

There is no fee

To register call 412-421-2752 or email
sixthchurchevents@verizon.net.

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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 – Sister Ann Francis Hanley –
724-869-6587

www.stjoseph-baden.org

The Spirituality of Caregiving

Date: Sat. Oct. 31

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Presenter: Sr. Catherine Higgins, CSJ

Fee: \$20, includes lunch

Where Creation and Interfaith Meet: Reflections of Thomas Berry

Date: Sat. Nov. 7

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Presenter: Sr. Barbara Finch, CSJ

Fee: \$20, includes lunch

Finding God in Sustainability

Date: Sat. Nov. 21

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Presenter: Sr. Lyn Szymkiewicz, CSJ

Fee: \$25, includes lunch

To register, contact Carol Brown,
724-334-0648.

Spirituality and Recovery: How to Conduct Spirituality Recovery Groups

Date: Thur. Dec. 3

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Presenters: Rev. Barbara W. Rogers and
Jack Mittereder

Fee: \$80

Five CECs for mental health & health care
professionals. To register, contact Nancy
Mundy, WPIC, 412-802-6900.

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First English Evangelical Lutheran Church

615 Grant Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

412-471-8125

www.flcpittsburgh.org

Office of Evening Prayer for All Saints

Date: Sun. Nov. 1

Time: 4:00 p.m.

Featuring special choral and organ music
of Felix Mendelssohn

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Pittsburgh Compline Choir

Heinz Memorial Chapel

University of Pittsburgh campus

412-682-6886

www.compline.lucpgh.com

Compline: Choral Prayer at the Close of the Day

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

Guest Organists:

Nov. 1 – Alan Lewis, Calvary Episcopal
Church

Nov. 8 – David Schaap, Trinity Episcopal
Church

Nov. 15 – Cynthia Pock, First English
Lutheran Church

Nov. 22 – Preston Showman, Third
Presbyterian Church

Nov. 29 – Robert Kardasz, St. Mary of the
Assumption

Dec. 6 – Charlotte Roederer, St. John's
Lutheran, Perrysville

Dec. 13 – Signe Mitchell, First English
Lutheran, Butler

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Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry

Parish Nurse office 412-232-5815

ParishNurse@mercy.pmhs.org

www.pmhs.org

17th Annual Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry Symposium

"Parish Nurses and Health Ministers: In
the Forefront of Changing Health Care"

Date & Time: Sat. Nov. 7, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00
p.m.

Cost: \$45, Earn 4 CEs

Location: Sr. M. Ferdinand Clark

Auditorium, UPMC Mercy Hospital,
1400 Locust Street, Pittsburgh 15219

Of Faith, from page 1

Ericksen's books, Theologians Under Hitler (1985) and Betrayal: German Churches and the Holocaust (1999) were widely acclaimed, and were the subject of a PBS documentary in 2004. In addition to chronicling the roots of "resurrection" ideology associated with German nationalism, the film examined efforts to deny the Jewish roots of Christianity. It also introduces viewers to three theologians: Paul Althaus, Emanuel Hirsch, and Gerhard Kittel, who in varying degrees supported Adolf Hitler and the ideology of the Nazi party. Although the subject matter is difficult, "it doesn't mean that we shouldn't challenge ourselves to understand how Christians respond to important political questions or to look into the circumstances where Christians have responded badly," Ericksen says. "Just because it's difficult doesn't mean we shouldn't strive to be as honest and courageous as we can be to look at Christian practice and faith where times were hard and mistakes were made." He maintains affiliations with the Humboldt Foundation of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, and sits on the editorial board of *Kirchliche Zeitgeschichte*, an important German journal.

Following Dr. Ericksen's presentation a panel will engage him in making connections to faith and the Church today. Panelists include: Sister Gemma del Duca, National Catholic Center for Holocaust Education at Seton Hill University, Greensburg; Rabbi James Gibson, head rabbi at Temple Sinai, Pittsburgh; and Pastor Don Green, Executive Director, Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania. "My ideal audience will be 90% Christian and 10% Jewish," says Pastor Green. The Jews understand the church's role in the Holocaust. Christians do not. It's not something we talk about. We need to understand the church's failure to speak against evil, and where does that come into play in our day? We need to think about the issue of how we deal with anybody who is different from us, especially when economic times are tough." There is no charge for this event, which is open to clergy and laity. Please contact tritchie@casp.org or call 412-688-9070 to register.

Vineyard Guild Retreat

Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bowman Thurston, former New Testament Professor at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, will be the keynote speaker for the 2009 Vineyard Guild Retreat which is being held at the Franciscan Spirit and Life Center October 22 - 24. The Vineyard Guild is an ecumenical community of clergy and laity who are dedicated to nurturing spiritual growth in congregations and communities. For more information visit www.vineyardguild.org.

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FOR INFORMATION, VISIT OR CALL 724-834-7350

North Hills Youth Ministry

Counseling Center

is **NOW**



Anchorpoint
Counseling Ministry

We have a new name and a new look, but remain committed to our mission of "Building hope and understanding through faith-based counseling and support services for youth, adults, couples, and families in our communities."

The North Hills Youth Ministry, Inc. was created in 1966 by the North Hills Ministerial Association. The North Hills Youth Ministry Counseling Center, now Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry, will assist all individuals and families to feel empowered to reach their full potential by providing opportunities for counseling, tutoring, and parent education.

412.366.1300

www.anchorpointcounselingministry.org

Connecting Faith with the Death Penalty

An interfaith panel of local religious leaders will address why and how faith commitments and teachings speak to the death penalty at **Connecting Faith with the Death Penalty** on Sunday, November 8 at 1:30 at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. This free program is sponsored by Pittsburgh Faith in Action. The panel will be moderated by the Rev. Sandy Strauss, a Presbyterian who serves as director of public advocacy for the PA Council of Churches. Panelists include: Rabbi Art Donsky, Temple Ohav Shalom; Rev. David Morse, a retired United Methodist pastor; Rector Moni McIntyre, Holy Cross Episcopal Church; Father Frank Almade, St. John Diego Roman Catholic Parish; and Pastor Don Green, Executive Director, Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania. For more information contact Liz Wolfskill at 412-784-1667 or lwolfstix@yahoo.com.

Part-Time Youth Ministry Coordinator Needed

St. John's Lutheran Church of Highland at 311 Cumberland Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15237, is seeking a part-time Youth Ministry Coordinator for their congregation who would oversee the youth ministry of the church (grades 1-12) by organizing the program year and coordinating volunteers to facilitate the events. For more information, please call St. John's at 412-364-1606.

CALLED TO WELCOME: FURTHER ALONG THE WAY

at
Pittsburgh
Theological
Seminary

Learn practical advice and aid for congregations to include **people with disabilities** and make use of their gifts in the congregation's ministry.



Oct. 19, 2009
9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Eric W. Carter

Associate Professor
in the Department of
Rehabilitation Psychology
and Special Education,
University of
Wisconsin-Madison

Office of
Continuing Education
616 N. Highland Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-441-3304
ext. 2196

ConEd@pts.edu
www.pts.edu



CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY AND UNDOING VIOLENCE: STRATEGIES FOR PEACE THAT WORK!

at
Pittsburgh
Theological
Seminary

Consider MLK Jr.'s ideas about nonviolence as a strategy for undoing violence and its harmful effects in society.



Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28, 2009
7:00-8:30 p.m.

Ronald E. Peters

Director of the Metro-
Urban Institute and
Henry L. Hillman
Professor of Urban
Ministry, PTS

Office of
Continuing Education
616 N. Highland Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-441-3304
ext. 2196

ConEd@pts.edu
www.pts.edu



What Does the Lord Require of Us?

Jim Winkler, General Secretary of the Board of Church and Society, the international public policy and social advocacy agency of the United Methodist Church, will lead several workshops in the region October 10 and 11. The General Secretary has led delegations to the Middle East, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and elsewhere seeking peaceful solutions to global conflict. He is a frequent spokesperson on social justice matters to the national and international media.

On Saturday, October 10, Winkler will lead two similar workshops focused on Poverty/Hunger/Needs of Children from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Erie and from 3:00-8:00 p.m. at Christ Community United Methodist Church, Butler. Each workshop will include a presentation by Secretary Winkler, a meal, and breakout session with local community organizations. On Sunday, October 11, Winkler will preach at the 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. services at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Allison Park. His theme for both the worship and the afternoon workshop will be "Peace: Why Not In Our Time?" These workshops are open to the ecumenical community.

To make reservations including meals call the UMC Conference Center: 800-866-3382. For more information contact Sally Ernst, sallyern@hotmail.com or Tracy Merrick, tracym@aol.com.

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204 37th Street, Suite 201
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412-688-9070

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UPCOMING CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS

at Pittsburgh
Theological
Seminary

SERIES ON
THEOLOGY AND
SCIENCE

TECHNOLOGY AND THE PRACTICES OF MINISTRY

Oct. 12, 19, 26,
2009
10:00 a.m.-
12:15 p.m.

**Deirdre
Hainsworth**
Assistant
Professor of
Christian Ethics,
PTS and Director,
Center for
Business, Religion
and Public Life

JOURNEY INWARD;
JOURNEY OUTWARD

A WORKSHOP SERIES FOR CHURCH EDUCATORS: DON'T LET THEOLOGY SCARE You!

Oct. 29, 2009
9:00 a.m. -
3:00 p.m.

**M. Craig
Barnes**
Professor of
Ministry, PTS and
Pastor, Shadyside
Presbyterian
Church

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Continuing
Education
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