

# Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania

Serving 10 Counties, 26 Christian Faith Traditions, 2,000 Congregations and 1,000,000 Christian Members

# The Call . . . . to be one in Christ



On the Web: [www.casp.org](http://www.casp.org)

September 2012, Number 4

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

## United Methodist Military Chaplain to Speak



Chaplain Jonathan Bell receiving the Octavius V. Catto Medal

**Jonathan Bell** has two titles, pastor and major, and considers his career choice a merging of two vital ministries.

Rev. Bell is pastor of Blacklick Community United Methodist Church in Indiana County and a military chaplain with the rank of major in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard. Chaplain Bell will lead a workshop on Spirituality and Veterans during the **Support Our Veterans: A Community Effort, October 11, 2012, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00p.m. at Soldiers and Sailors National Military Museum, 4141 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213.**

Being career military has been Bell's dream since childhood, as he shared for an article in The Tribune-Democrat, Johnstown. "From grade school, getting into a military academy was my goal," Bell said. "When I made my final decision for West Point, it was the first time I had prayed about it. I had the thought there was something else I should be doing," he said. "I was not supposed to sign the contract for West Point, even though it

*had been my focus of attention for years. I heard God's call to the military chaplain ministry."*

Bell has been a chaplain since 2000 and has served in the Middle East in Iraq and Afghanistan and some locations he isn't at liberty to divulge. Bell serves as chaplain for the 171st Air Refueling Wing, 258th Air Traffic Control Squadron, Pennsylvania Air National Guard. He returned from Afghanistan in February after being deployed at the end of June 2011.

For his overseas service, Bell received the Pennsylvania National Guard's Octavius V. Catto Medal, was recognized as Chaplain of the Quarter for U.S. Central Command and was nominated as the 2011 Air National Guard Chaplain of the Year.

Chaplain Bell comes from a family of United Methodist clergy. His parents, the Revs. David and Audrey, serve parishes in Stahlstown and Dawson, while his brother serves a congregation in North Huntingdon.

## Support Our Veterans: A Community Effort

**Mr. Michael Graber** will be the keynote speaker at **Support Our Veterans: A Community Effort, October 11, 2012, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00p.m. at Soldiers and Sailors National Military Museum, 4141 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213.**

His topic, *PTSD and Co-Occurring Disorder Among Returning Combat Veterans* is designed to present information related to Mr. Graber's experience working with combat veterans of the current conflict (Southwest Asia). Specifically, he will be talking about soldiers that return from combat and suffer from a unique form of Anxiety, Depression, PTSD, and the drug-induced behavior that is the direct result of severe, prolonged trauma.



Graber, as Programs Director, is the developer and principal architect of all of the veteran programs at Impact Services (Philadelphia) beginning in 1993. Impact now

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# REFLECTIONS ALONG THE WAY

Dear Siblings in our Lord,

*“So I say, ‘Wisdom is better than might; yet the poor man’s wisdom is despised, and his words are not heeded.’ The quiet words of the wise are more to be heeded than the shouting of a ruler among fools. Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one bungler destroys much good.” (Ec.9:16-18)*

The Battle of Antietam on September 17, 1862 may have been the bloodiest single day of the Civil War. But it was also the day that Lawrenceville's Allegheny Arsenal blew up. More than 70 of the munition workers were killed, mostly young girls. Just as Antietam would prove the costliest day in military dead, the Arsenal explosion would produce the largest civilian death tally in the American Civil War.



In the words of The Pittsburgh Gazette, it was "an appalling scene." Where the heat was most intense, there was nothing but white bones in a heap. They had burned like pine logs. More than half of the dead girls were so badly charred, or otherwise disfigured, that they could not be identified. They were

**This anniversary of the Civil War gives America the opportunity to pause and reflect upon the consequences of any and every war.**

mostly small, nimble-fingered children. But the reality of 1860s Pittsburgh, already an industrial and manufacturing giant, was that children worked like adults. They worked regardless of gender, often in crowded and dangerous conditions.

Allegheny Cemetery donated a parcel of land for a mass burial pit. It was out of sight of prominent Pittsburgh burial plots, belonging to families who were making handsome profits from the war. "By this terrible calamity all are of the poorer classes" wrote the Gazette. (Adapted from a Post-Gazette article by Michael Connors, July 3, 2012)

Now, 150 years after the Civil War we still have not learned the folly of war! Women and children are still recruited as soldiers and non-combatant enablers or they become the “collateral damage” of battle, whether in Afghanistan and Syria, or the drug wars in Columbia and Mexico. I long for the “quiet words of the wise” amidst the shouts for preemptive attacks against Iran. We know who will be the victims – women, children, and the poor.

This anniversary of the Civil War gives America the opportunity to pause and reflect upon the consequences of any and every war. “Wisdom is better than weapons of war.” While Pittsburgh gave over 24,000 men and boys for combat in the Civil War, today our region has a disproportionate number of military, especially in the National Guard and the Reserves who have seen far too many deployments, far too many families’ lives disrupted, too many veterans taking their own lives; too much of the “poorer classes” bearing the cost of America’s military engagements.

It is time that we hear “the poor man’s wisdom” and heeded his word, instead of “listening to the shouts of a ruler” or the action of “one bungler.”

Pax, Salaam, Shalom,

*Pastor Don Green*





# SAVE THE DATE

SUPPORT OUR VETERANS: A COMMUNITY EFFORT

\*\*\*\*\*

October 11, 2012

Soldiers and Sailors National Military Museum  
4141 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

This conference is intended for care providers, the spiritual care community and school personnel who have contact with veterans, their spouses and children. The intent of this day is to help professionals better understand some of the physical and behavioral health issues associated with reintegration into the community.

Presentations include:

- ✓ PTSD and Co-Occurring Disorder among Returning Combat Veterans
- ✓ The Military Experience
- ✓ Veterans Panel

Workshops include:

- ✓ Spirituality
- ✓ The Effects of Deployment on Children and Families
- ✓ Military Sexual Trauma
- ✓ Stress Management

To be placed on the mailing list for the conference contact [traininginformation@comcast.net](mailto:traininginformation@comcast.net)

# SAVE THE DATE

## Support Our Veterans *continued from page one. . .*

has the only (first) VA/HUD funded housing program that work exclusively with special needs veterans suffering from co-occurring disorder (major mental health disorder and addictive drug use) also known as Dual Diagnosis.

Impact Services, during the last 16 years, has worked with 10 VA hospitals in 5 states providing aggressive program outreach, a distinction that has no equal with veteran service providers in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Impact offers a comprehensive support system for homeless veterans that includes short-term, long-term, and permanent housing options in addition to labor services, counseling services, legal services referrals, transportation support, and vocational training referrals, to skill specific education for permanent employment opportunities.

Graber is a veteran of the United States Navy and the United States Army (NG). His background includes a diversified career with both profit and non-profit companies with more than 23 years of management experience working with veterans with specific needs that require life changing outcomes.

He has received both the VFW State of PA and National VFW Award for Most Distinguished and Outstanding Service to Veterans (James C. Gates Award). He attended the Community College of Philadelphia and Temple University.

**Support Our Veterans: A Community Effort** is free to all clergy, pastoral care providers, teachers and social workers. There is a cost of CEU's. To register contact: **training information@comcast.net**.

## Enriching Connections between Persons with Mental Illness and Local Congregations

Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute, Rodef Shalom Congregation, and Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic (WPIC) are hosting a mental health training workshop for clergy and laity on **October 25, 2012, 1 - 4 p.m. at Rodef Shalom Congregation**, 4905 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. The workshop is free of charge, except for a small fee to process CEU's if interested.

The workshop is being planned by:

- Ms. Michelle Snyder, M.Div, LSW, Director of Clergy and Congregational Care, Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute;
- Rabbi Sharyn Henry, Associate Rabbi at Rodef Shalom; and
- Dr. Jessica Kettle, MD, who practices Adolescent and Pediatric Psychiatry at WPIC and chairs the clinic's Spirituality Committee.

A key component of this workshop highlights testimonies of persons who, while experiencing mental illness, have been active leaders and participants in congregational life.

A DVD, *Creating Caring Congregations*, presents perspectives from adolescents, adults and a pastor experiencing mental illness. The DVD highlights testimonies and congregational responses that promote positive connections, education and support. A list of resources for spiritual communities will be provided, including print and audiovisual materials as well as on-site training.

Discussion and Q&A will allow participants to identify specific ways of meeting the need for better

connections and inclusiveness within their own spiritual community. The presentation reflects an interfaith perspective.

At the conclusion of this workshop, participants should be able to:



1. Identify congregational resources and organizations which provide basic information about mental illness;
2. Identify a process for educating congregational members and leaders to implement compassionate and effective ways to include persons experiencing mental illness;
3. Identify steps to take when a person experiences a mental health crisis during a congregational activity;
4. Discuss ways to address common challenges within congregational and community life experienced by persons in recovery from mental illness.

To pre-register contact: Office of Pastoral Care Services, WPIC, **412-246-5202**.



## East Liberty Presbyterian Church

Hope Academy of Music and the Arts  
116 S. Highland Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15206  
412-441-3800 x11  
www.HopeAcademyArts.com  
**Contact Hope Academy to register.**

### Dance

Dates: starts September 22  
Time: varies by program  
Tuition: \$35/term  
Creative Movement, ages 4 & 5; Pre-Ballet, ages 6-9; Ballet I, ages 10-13 and Ballroom Dance, Grades 4-6 – please register based on the age of the child on September 1.

### Theater

Dates: starts September 22  
Time: Saturdays, 9:15 am – Noon  
Tuition: \$130/term  
Musical theater workshop – acting, singing and dancing – Grades 2 & 3, Grades 4-6

### EL CEO

Dates: orientation session Sat. Sept. 19  
Time: 3:00 – 4:30 pm; Tuition: \$10  
East Liberty Community Engagement Orchestra – Everyone plays! Young musicians and their musically-inclined parents are invited to participate in this orchestra.

## Music in Pittsburgh

### Organ Artists Series

Regular admission \$12 single concert, \$5 for students  
www.oas-series.com

**Sun. October 28, 4:00 pm** at St. Paul Cathedral  
108 Dithridge Street, Pittsburgh, 15213  
Christopher Herrick, International Concert Organist

**Sun. November 18, 4:00 pm** at Shadyside Presbyterian Church  
5121 Westminster Place, Pittsburgh, 15232  
Joan Lippincott, Professor Emerita of Organ at Westminster Choir College of Rider University, Princeton, NJ

### Festival Service with Music of Glenn Rudolph

**Sun. Oct. 21, 5:00 pm**  
Singers rehearse 2:00-4:30 pm, a tea will follow the service  
Aspinwall Presbyterian Church  
299 Third Street, Aspinwall, 15215  
Contact Barbara McKelway, 412-366-4513

## Martina Spiritual Renewal Center

5244 Clarwin Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15229  
412-931-9766

www.sistersoftheholyspirit.com

## Martina Spiritual Renewal (cont. . . .)

### Encounter with Silence Scriptural Retreat (Silent)

Dates: Sun. Sept. 23 thru Sun. Sept. 30  
Time: Begins Sun, 9/23 at 8:00 pm and ends Sun. 9/30 with Brunch  
Presenter: Fr. Frank G. Erdeljac  
Offering: \$375; Registration requested by Sept. 10th  
Scripture-based retreat in silence, meditation, and prayer with four daily meditations on Gospel teaching.

### Women's Retreat Weekend

“What Can We Learn From the Not So Good Girls in the Scriptures?”  
Dates: Fri. Oct. 12 – Sun. Oct. 14  
Time: Begins 8:00 pm Fri. & ends Sun. with Brunch  
Presenter: Jo Ann Paradise, D.Min.  
Offering: \$130; Registration requested by Sept. 23rd  
There are many stories in the Scriptures of women who made choices that diminished their holiness and caused harm. We will look at their journeys and hear God's invitation to redemption to them and to us.

## Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry

Parish Nurse office 412-232-5815  
ParishNurse@mercy.pmhs.org  
www.pmhs.org

### Parish Nurse Four-day Preparation Course

Dates: Sept. 21-22, Oct. 5-6  
UPMC Mercy Sister M. Ferdinand Clark Auditorium, Building C, Level 2  
1400 Locust St., Uptown, 15219  
Cost: \$395, includes course materials, free parking. Limited scholarships available;  
Deadline: Sept. 14

### 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Mercy Parish Nurse and Health Ministry Symposium:

“Visioning Ministries of Health”  
Date & Time: Sat. Oct. 20, 9:00 am – 1:30 pm  
UPMC Mercy Sister M. Ferdinand Clark Auditorium, Building C, Level 2  
1400 Locust St., Uptown, 15219  
Cost: \$30 for CE credit, \$10 student nurses; Registration deadline: Oct. 12  
Fee includes brunch, free parking, symposium materials

## Pittsburgh Compline Choir

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

## Pittsburgh Compline Choir (cont. . . .)

### Compline: Choral Prayer at the Close of the Day

Date and Time: Sundays at 8:00 pm

Guest Musicians for Prelude:  
Sept. 9 – Dr. Christine Clewell, Indiana University PA & Zion Lutheran Church, Indiana, PA  
Sept. 16 – Larry Allen, Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church, and  
Scott Bell, Oboe, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra  
Sept. 23 – David Sogg, co-principal bassoon, Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra  
Sept. 30 – Peter Lulely, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
Oct. 7 – Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra Horn Section  
Oct. 14 – R. Craig Dobbins, Presbyterian Church of Sewickley  
Oct. 21 – John Cannon, Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church

## 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

### A Morning With God

Date: Wed. Oct. 3; Time: 9:30 am – Noon  
Presenter: Sister Melania Polensky, CSJ  
Fee: \$10

Communal prayer and reflection in the chapel, outdoors or in a quiet space.

### Journey from Grief to Healing

Dates: Thursdays from Oct. 11 to Nov. 15  
Time: 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm  
Presenter: Sister Mary Ann Thimons, CSJ  
No fee; To register: 412-600-3247.

Input, sharing and mutual support, learning to cope, surviving and healing skills.

### To Be or Not to Be Ethical – What is at Stake?

Date: Fri. Oct. 12 - 9:30 am – 4:15 pm  
Presenter: Sr. Mary Louise Wessel, Ph.D.  
Fee: \$65, includes lunch

Explore contemporary issues and how ethical theories apply to helping health professionals. 6 Cont. Ed. Credits for mental health and health care professionals.

### Beginning Experience Weekend Retreat

Date: Fri. Oct. 12 – Sun. Oct. 14  
Time: Fri. 7:00 pm – Sun. 3:00 pm  
Presenters: *Beginning Experience* Team

## St. Joseph Spirituality Center (cont...)

*Beginning Experience* is a program for adults grieving the loss of a spousal relationship through death, divorce or separation. Trained team members who are themselves widowed, separated, or divorced will conduct this retreat at Gilmory Retreat Center, Coraopolis. To register, call Steve Smith, 412-367-4948.

## Epiphany Academy of Formative Spirituality

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

## Feeding Our Spiritual Hunger

Dates: Sat. Sept. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 3  
Time: 9:00 am – Noon  
Fee: \$30 per session, RSVP one week in advance of each session

In-depth studies of Francis de Sales, Br. Lawrence of the Resurrection, and John Wesley.

## First Monday Seminars on Adult Faith Formation

Dates: Oct. 1, Nov. 5, Dec. 3  
Facilitator, Susan Muto, PhD  
Fee: \$20 per session

Helping us discover and understand what it means to integrate what we believe and how we live our beliefs in everyday life.

## ER for the Soul: A Mini-Retreat

Dates: Sat. Oct. 13, 27, Nov. 10 & Dec. 15  
Time: 9:00 am - Noon  
Facilitator: Susan Muto, PhD  
Fee: \$20 per session, RSVP one week in advance of each session

Six interrelated videos which will enable you to share what it means to be spiritually mature. Includes companion guide.

## Fiction and Formation Reading Program

Dates: Sat. Sept. 22, Oct. 20  
Time: 9:00-10:30 am  
Facilitator: Rev. Steve Geitgey  
Fee: \$10 per session

## Conversations in Christ

Dates: Tues. Sept. 25, Oct. 2, 9, and 16  
Time: 7:00 – 9:15 pm  
Facilitator: Susan Muto, PhD  
Fee: \$20 per session

## Meditating with the Masters

Teresa of Avila's The Way of Perfection  
Dates: Wed. Sept. 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 14  
Time: 7:00 – 8:30 pm  
Facilitator: Susan Muto, PhD  
Fee: \$45 for the series, RSVP one week in advance of each session

## Kearns Spirituality Center

9000 Babcock Blvd  
Allison Park, PA 15101  
412-366-1124  
www.divineprovidenceweb.org

## Labyrinth Evenings

Dates: Tues. Sept. 11, 18, Oct. 2, 9  
Time: 6:00 – 8:00 pm  
Fee: \$10 per session, includes snack

Praying with Psalms, open your heart to God as you walk the labyrinth.

## The Contested Legacy of Vatican II

Date: Wed. Sept. 19; Time: 7:30-9:30 pm  
Speaker: R. Scott Appleby, PhD  
Fee: \$15

Examine the post-Conciliar period of aggiornamento and its effect on the modern world.

## Peace Forum Series

Date: Sun. Sept. 30; Time: 3:00-5:00 pm  
Donations accepted.

Current issues related to peace and justice. For information: pnpp@verizon.net or 412-367-0383.

## A Prayer to Wear: 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm Bracelet Meditation Activity

Date: Tues. Oct. 16; Time: 10 am – 2 pm  
Facilitator: Ellen Carlins, BS  
Fee: \$25 = \$15 materials fee; Total \$40, includes lunch. Limited to 20 participants

Focus on the well-known Psalm while beading a unique piece of jewelry.

## Taizé Services

### Christ United Methodist Church

44 Highland Road, Bethel Park, PA 15102  
www.christumc.net  
First Wed. of each month, 6:30pm, Sept thru May

### Community of Celebration

809 Franklin Avenue, Aliquippa  
www.communityofcelebration.com  
First Sun. of each month, 7:30 pm

### Community United Methodist Church

3487 Route 130, Irwin  
www.ShareChristWithOthers.com  
Second Wed. of each month, 7:30 pm

### East Liberty Presbyterian Church

116 S. Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh 15206  
www.cathedralofhope.org  
Every Wed, 7:00 pm

### Faith Lutheran Church

1656 Lincoln Way, White Oak 15235  
www.faithwhiteoak.org  
Every Wed, 7:00 pm

## Taizé Services (cont...)

**Hope Lutheran Church of Forest Hills**  
353 Ridge Avenue at Braddock Road  
Hope@Lutheran.com  
First Fri. of each month, 7:00 pm

## Trinity School for Ministry

311 Eleventh Street, Ambridge, PA 15003  
724-266-3838  
www.tsm.edu

## Christian Theology & Counseling Theory

Dates: January 14-18, 2013  
Instructor: Joanne Martin, MPA, LCSW  
Cost: \$250, PA State Certified, 27 CEUs

This course will compare and contrast the key tenets of the Christian faith with contemporary practices in the field of counseling.

## J.R.R. Tolkien: The Theology of Middle Earth

Dates: January 14-18, 2013  
Instructor: The Rev. Dr. Joel Scandrett

This class explores the theology of this Christian artist and his works, including the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy.

## St. James Episcopal Church

11524 Frankstown Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235 (Penn Hills)  
Diocese office: 412-721-0853  
www.episcopalpgh.org

## Anti-Racism Workshop

Dates & Times: Fri. Oct. 5, 3pm – 8:30pm  
Sat. Oct. 6, 8:30am – 5:00 pm  
Includes Fri. dinner, Sat. breakfast & lunch FREE but registration is required by Oct. 1 at www.episcopalpgh.org/arw or call 412-721-0853; Free will donation for food is gratefully accepted.

Be empowered to work for the fulfillment of Jesus' command, "Love your neighbor as yourself". Activities, discussion, videos and materials. You MUST attend both days.

## CLASSIFIED AD

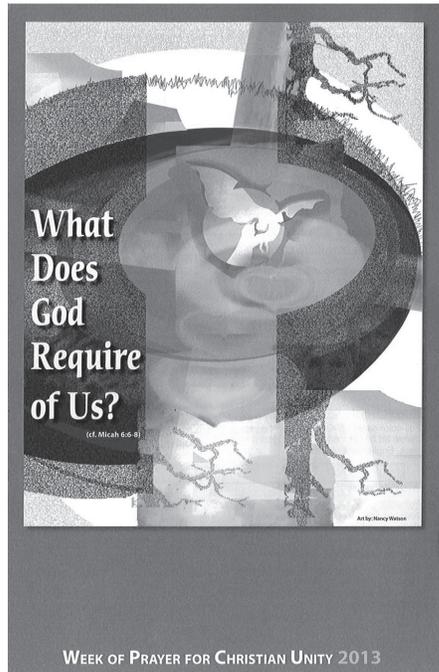
The **Pittsburgh Baptist Association** will host **Tony Campolo** on **September 22, 2012, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.** at the **Peters Creek Baptist Church**; 6300 Library Rd; South Park, PA 15129.

Dr. Campolo (preacher, educator and founder of Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education) will speak on "*The Church in the Postmodern World*".  
**Cost: \$20.**

To register, contact 412-687-3940 / pghbaptist@aol.com. Pittsburgh Baptist Association; 159 N. Bellefield Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

## What Does God Require of Us? 2013 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute has announced the theme, *What Does God Require of Us?* and the availability of resources for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Since 1966 the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches and the Vatican Council for Promoting Christian Unity have collaborated on common texts for the international celebration of the Week of Prayer. In honor of their centenary the Student Christian Movement of India was invited to assist in preparing the resources for 2013. This includes the All India Catholic Federation and the National Council of Churches in India.



The Council of Bishops and Judiciary Executives of Christian Associates welcomes invitations by local Ministeriums to co-host services to commemorate the Week of Prayer (traditionally January 18-25), or Ecumenical Sunday (January 20), and the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. National Holiday (January 21). Executive Director, Pastor Don Green is also available to preach or participate in local commemorations. Please contact Pastor Green with your invitation for the Council's participation and or Pastor Green's engagement at 412-688-9070 or [dgreen@casp.org](mailto:dgreen@casp.org).

Resources are available in print or on the internet at [www.geii.org](http://www.geii.org). Consider subscribing to *Ecumenical Trends* published monthly (except August) by the Graymoor; a bargain at only \$25.00 per year.

## Foundation of H.O.P.E. Receives Planning Grant

The Foundation of H.O.P.E., the supporting corporation to Christian Associates which works in collaboration with the Allegheny County Jail Chaplaincy to provide pre- and post release training and mentoring, has received a grant to assist in board development and strategic development.



The Foundation board is led by Mr. John Tumolo, Esq. and has engaged Strategy Solutions as their consultant for the planning process. Major goals of the planning which have been identified include:

- maintaining quality programming with measurable outcomes;
- developing a continuum of care which includes chaplaincy and pre- and post-release programming; and
- plans to market that continuum to other counties in the region in partnership with Christian Associates.

## Executive Director Receives Two Appointments

Christian Associates' Executive Director, **Pastor Don Green** has recently been appointed to the Joint State Government Commission's Advisory Commission on Capital Punishment and the National Council of Churches in Christ, USA's (NCC) Faith & Order Commission.

The Advisory Committee on Capital Punishment will assist the Commission's legislative task force (Senators Lisa M. Boscola, Stewart J. Greenleaf and Daylin B. Leach) in collaboration with the Justice Center for Research, Pennsylvania State University, in conducting a study of the administration of the death penalty in the Commonwealth.

Green is one of two clergy appointed to the 25 member Committee. Other Committee members from our region include:



- Marshall Dayan, Esq., Assistant Federal Public Defender, Western District of PA;
- Matthew Mangino, Esq., PA Board of Probation and Parole;
- Daniel Nagin, Ph.D., Professor of Public Policy and Statistics, CMU; and
- District Attorney Stephen Zappala.

Additionally, Pastor Green will serve as a liaison from the NCC's Local and Regional Ecumenism Committee to the NCC's Faith & Order Commission. He will not be representing his denomination, the ELCA.

The Faith & Order Commission brings together from a very wide spectrum of Christian bodies:

Evangelical, Pentecostal, Holiness, Emergent, Catholic, Orthodox, Episcopal, Historic Peace Churches, Historically Black Churches, Lutheran, Reformed, Methodist and Baptist.

The Constitution of the NCC defines the mission succinctly:

*"The Faith and Order Commission affirms the oneness of the Church of Jesus Christ and keeps before the churches the Gospel call to visible unity in one faith and one Eucharist communion, expressed in worship and in common life in Christ, in order that the world may believe."*

While not a member of the NCC, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops is a full member of Faith and Order.

Pastor Green will attend his first meeting in Seattle in October.



The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA

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**BIBLICAL COMMUNITY AND NEW  
TESTAMENT FAITH:  
HOW DO WE LIVE IT?**

**Dr. Carolyn Osiek, RSCJ**  
Charles Fischer Professor  
of New Testament  
Emerita, Brite Divinity  
School



*Models of Biblical Community,  
Discipleship, and Ministry*  
**September 14, 2012, 7:00-9:00 p.m.**

*Living New Testament Faith:  
Core Insights from the Gospels,  
Paul, and Revelation*  
**September 15, 2012,  
9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.**

Early registration and multiple party discounts available. For more information and to register online visit [www.pts.edu/Pneuma\\_News](http://www.pts.edu/Pneuma_News).

**Pittsburgh Theological Seminary**  
Dr. Martha Robbins, Director of *Pneuma*  
412-924-1423  
mrobbins@pts.edu

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**(724) 650-6499**  
**[www.scriptureunion.org](http://www.scriptureunion.org)**

"Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

*Psalms 119:105*

**UPCOMING CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS**

at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

**Imagination in Christian Education**  
*29<sup>th</sup> Annual Teacher Training Workshop*  
*A Christian Educator Certification Elective*  
September 22, 2012 / 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.  
*Jeff Eddings*, Pastor, Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community  
*Jim Walker*, Pastor, Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community

**European Churches' Perspectives on Mission Among the Roma People**  
*W. Don McClure Lectures in World Mission and Evangelism*  
September 24, 2012 / 11:30 a.m., 4:00, and 7:30 p.m. / September 25 / 11:30 a.m.  
*Anne-Marie Kool*, Professor of Missiology, Karoli Gaspar University of the Reformed Church, Hungary

**Polishing your New Testament Greek Reading**  
Wednesdays, September 26- October 31, 2012 / 12:30-2:00 p.m.  
*James Durlleser*, Lecturer in Biblical Languages, PTS

**From Malachi to Matthew**  
Wednesdays, October 3-24, 2012 / 7:30-9:00 p.m.  
*James E. Davison*, Director of Continuing Education, PTS

**Understanding Religious Faith and Other "Supernatural" Phenomena: A Family Systems Approach**  
*34<sup>th</sup> Pittsburgh Family Systems Conference and Symposium*  
October 19-20, 2012  
*Randall Frost*, Director of Training and Research, Living Systems, Vancouver, British Columbia

**The Artist as Exegete: Picturing the Sacrifice of Isaac**  
Tuesdays, October 23- November 13, 2012 / 7:00-8:30 p.m.  
*Karen Bowden Cooper*, Curator of the Kelso Bible Lands Museum and Lecturer in Hebrew, PTS

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### **Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network (PIIN)**

*"Moving People of Faith Into Action"*

The Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network will conduct their **2012 Public Action Meeting, Fire of Faith: Rekindling Democracy & Community** at Rodef Shalom Congregation, 4905 5th Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 on **Thursday, October 18, 2012, 7:00 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.** Doors will open at 6:15 p.m. with choir performances at 6:45 p.m.

PIIN invites you to join 1,200 people as they take action on local and regional issues.

For more information, please contact [office@piin.org](mailto:office@piin.org) or 412-621-9230 [www.piin.org](http://www.piin.org) | [facebook.com/piinpg](https://www.facebook.com/piinpg) | [twitter/pghfaithimpact](https://twitter.com/pghfaithimpact).



### **A Weekend of Celebration**

The **Lutheran University Center** in Oakland will commemorate their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of campus ministry to Pitt, CMU and the surrounding colleges in Pittsburgh on **October 6 and 7, 2012**.

A Golf Outing and an Alumni Picnic and Silent Auction will be held on Saturday. A Breakfast will be held on Sunday at 9:45 a.m. and will proceed worship at 10:45 a.m.

For additional information contact [kimwilson@alumni.pitt.edu](mailto:kimwilson@alumni.pitt.edu) | 412-523-3630 or the Lutheran University Center | 412-682-6886 | [www.lucpgh.com](http://www.lucpgh.com).