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# Nurturing our Faith!

September 11, 2024

## Prayer For September 11



*God the compassionate one, whose loving care extends to all the world, we remember this day your children of many nations and many faiths whose lives were cut short by the fierce flames of anger and hatred. Console those who continue to suffer and grieve, and give them comfort and hope as they look to the future. Out of what we have endured, give us the grace to examine our relationships with those who perceive us as the enemy, and show our leaders the way to use our power to serve the good of all for the healing of the nations. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord who, in reconciling love, was lifted up from the earth that he might draw all things to himself. Amen.*

--by the Most Reverend Frank T. Griswold, former Presiding Bishop



## An Update on the Development of an Episcopal Community in Brookline

There has been a recent development in the ongoing conversation regarding the development of an Episcopal community in Brookline. Church of the Advent has served the Brookline community for many years. In the recent past, the parish's rectory served as the site for the initial development of the Abbey of St. Nicholas. During the last few months, several changes have taken place, which are propelling our ministry in Brookline in a new direction.

As part of a personal journey of discovery, the Rev. William "Biff" Carpenter discerned and chose to embrace a new vocational path. As a result, at the end of August Biff+ concluded his ministry at Church of the Advent to move to Florida where he is now pursuing a course of study to learn the ins and outs of boat/yacht building and repair.

Yet, the proverbial saying “when one door closes, another opens” seems apropos in this case.

During the summer Bishop Ketlen explored the potential for a ministry endeavor with St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Mt. Lebanon, inviting St. Paul’s to consider partnering with the diocese to develop an Episcopal community in Brookline. St. Paul’s gave thoughtful consideration to the idea and submitted a proposal to



Bishop Ketlen, an interesting proposal that is now beginning to take shape.

St. Paul’s is a natural fit because of their proximity to Brookline and the fact that they have many families who reside there, and they have the resources, expertise and energy to put into the development of that property and into an Episcopal community. St Paul’s model of ministry also works well with the vision for an Episcopal community, particularly as they already worship at six different sites. In brief, St. Paul’s is engaging in a 3-year project partnering with the diocese, the last year of which will be about discerning what the future of that property might be after exploring different avenues.

While many details are still in the works, at the beginning of September, St. Paul’s assumed oversight responsibility for the rectory and building of Church of the Advent. St. Paul’s Associate Rector and the Priest-in-Charge at St. Peter’s in Brentwood, have moved into the rectory, an arrangement which will place them in close proximity to the respective parishes they serve.

The Rev. Noah Evans, rector of St. Paul’s, highlights the fact that the building is already doing incredible ministry through the way it is connected to the local community and, in particular, the impact it has on people in recovery. The building houses four AA meetings each week, including one of the only midday AA meetings in the South Hills region. After visiting, Noah+ said that every seat was filled in their parish hall because there were so many attendees. Each week, well over 100 people attend a recovery meeting in the building. This demonstrates the enormous impact this space has in the Brookline community. Noah+ adds that “At St Paul’s we believe that the parish is a geographical area. We serve the wider community and that’s embedded in who we are. So, this is just an extension of that; how can we serve the Brookline community?”



## Fall 2024 Anti-Racism Workshop

# SEEING THE FACE OF GOD IN EACH OTHER

## Race to Reconciliation



Seeing the Face of God in Each Other, our diocesan anti-racism workshop, is taking place online via Zoom **Friday, October 11, and Saturday, October 12, 2024.**

These two days offer a few hours to focus on the beauty and the scope of humanity in the Church and in our world, helping us to go beyond the biases we have that make us push people away, ignore them, or exert power over them—sometimes unwittingly—based only on their appearance. It will help you move more deeply into the mystery of the Body of Christ gathered *from every family, language, people and nation as a Kingdom of priests to serve our God.* (Revelation 5: 9-10)

Why would you want to take this workshop, at this time? Here are a few (but by no means all) reasons:

- God calls each one of us to love our neighbors as ourselves.
- Our nation is struggling with the impact of generations of systemic racism that affect everyone for the worse.
- We, as a diocese, have committed ourselves to a journey toward healing the wounds of racism in our region through the Beloved Community Initiative.
- As a diocese, we have also committed, by vote at diocesan convention, that all in leadership positions, in parishes or at the diocesan level, take the workshop as part of our responsibilities.
- There is always more to learn!

The Commission on Race and Reconciliation has significantly updated and reshaped the workshop for a virtual-reality online experience. If you have taken it in the past and think you could use a brush-up, it would be worth your time.

Our ministry in Christ is to love, to teach and to heal. This workshop will further equip us to be healers.

[Click here for registration and additional details.](#)



## Mental Health Sunday 2024

At this summer's General Convention of The Episcopal Church in Louisville, it was [resolved](#) to celebrate Mental Health Awareness on the Sunday closest to International Mental Health Day, October 10. This year, the nearest Sunday is October 13.

A suggestion for celebrating this day is inviting a speaker who is trained in mental health counseling and spiritual disciplines to speak at your parish.

For example, St. Thomas in Oakmont will have Dr. David Janvier, LPC, a local Certified Clinical Trauma Professional with a Ph.D. in Spiritual Direction, address the church's role in supporting mental health education and awareness during their Christian Education time prior to their main service on October 13.



In addition, there is a curriculum, [Mental Health First Aid](#) put together by the National Council for Mental Health, that is offered by trained facilitators at several of our parishes.

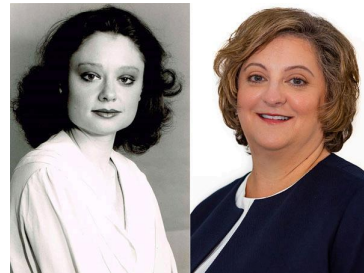
For more information contact Wilma Gaughan, the Parish Nurse at St. Thomas, at [wmarieg@gmail.com](mailto:wmarieg@gmail.com).



## **St. Paul's Concert Series presents Emily Keene with Lya Stroupe**

Hear vocalist Emily Keene and pianist Lya Stroupe perform art songs and arias from German and Austrian composers.

**September 29 at 4 p.m.** at [St. Paul's Episcopal Church](#), 1066 Washington Road, Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228. For more information on this event, [click here](#).



## **Two Opportunities to Hear the Groundbreaking *Roots* Message**

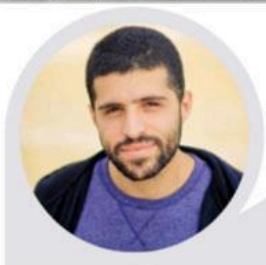
# Two Truths in One Heart Two Peoples in One Land

Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1:00 - 3:00 PM  
at Redeemer (5700 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15217)

Church of the Redeemer with Congregation Beth Shalom Invite You to

## Roots שורשים جذور

Learn from Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger and Noor A'wad, who are leaders in the West Bank Roots/Shorashim/Judur, an Israeli-Palestinian grassroots initiative for understanding, non-violence, and transformation. Roots challenges assumptions the two communities hold about one another, representing a unique network of Israelis and Palestinians who have come to see each other as partners in the work to make changes to reduce tension, prevent escalation, and end conflict.



They will discuss personal experiences, having spent most of their lives in the heart of the conflict, both before and since the events of October 7, 2023. They will share how their perspectives, work, and societies have and have not been changed recently and what they see for the future.

Admission is free with free parking available.

Register by September 18<sup>th</sup> at:

<https://tinyurl.com/RootsinPgh>

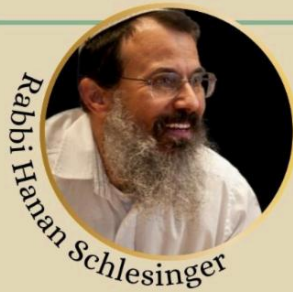


Learn more about Roots at: <https://www.friendsofroots.net>

St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Temple Emanuel of South Hills  
Invite You to an Evening with



**Two Truths in One Heart, Two Peoples in One Land**



Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger

**SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 22  
6:00-8:00 PM**



Noor A'wad

**Temple Emanuel of South Hills  
1250 Bower Hill Road, Mt. Lebanon**

Join us to learn from Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger and Noor A'wad about the challenging and groundbreaking work of Roots/Shorashim/Judur - an Israeli-Palestinian grassroots initiative for understanding, nonviolence and transformation based in Judea & Samaria/the West Bank. Roots is a unique network of local Palestinians and Israelis who have come to see each other as the partners they both need to make changes to end the conflict.

*Learn more about Roots at [www.FriendsOfRoots.net](http://www.FriendsOfRoots.net)*



**Register Here:**

[www.templeemanuelpg.org/event/roots](http://www.templeemanuelpg.org/event/roots)



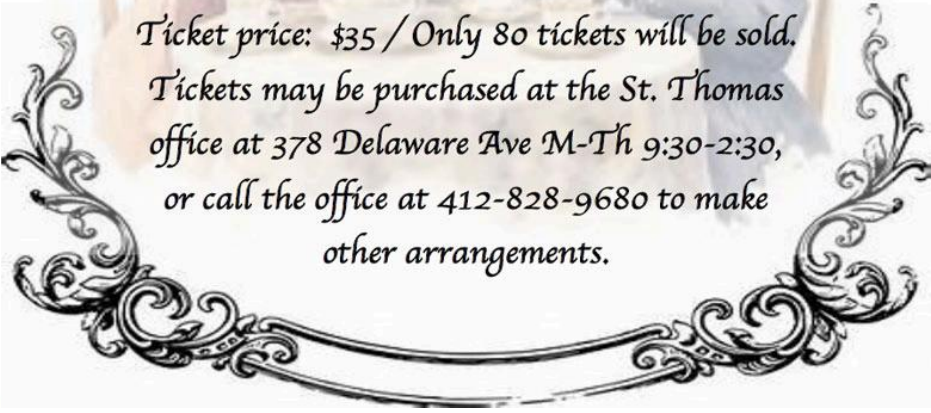


*Tea Party  
at St. Thomas Memorial Church*

*Saturday, October 5 12:30 pm*

*Featuring:*

- . A delicious tea luncheon*
- . Raffle baskets*
- . Kerr House display and walk through tour  
at the museum following the luncheon*



*Ticket price: \$35 / Only 80 tickets will be sold.  
Tickets may be purchased at the St. Thomas  
office at 378 Delaware Ave M-Th 9:30-2:30,  
or call the office at 412-828-9680 to make  
other arrangements.*



CCNH PRESENTS

# WOMEN'S RETREAT STORIES OF FAITH

OCT. 12, 2024  
8:30-4:30

Christianity has many wonderful stories of faith that inspire and encourage us on our own faith journey.

On this retreat, we will delve into a few of these stories: some biblical, some from the Saints, and some a bit more modern.

We will explore how these stories impact us today; bearing witness to God, our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

And we will explore our own faith journey, looking at how our story is important to the people and the world around us



SPEAKER

## THE REV. CANON NANCY SUELLAU

spent her career serving parishes and her Diocese in Jacksonville FL. She retired to Cranberry Township to be close to family. She is a proud grandmother of two and mother of two.

She enjoys the arts, mahjong and helping others to recognize God's presence in their lives.

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, NORTH HILLS  
5910 BABCOCK BLVD.  
PITTSBURGH, PA  
15237 (ROSS TWP)

COST: \$65  
INCLUDES LUNCH & REFRESHMENTS.

REGISTER:



## Zoom Forum Addressing *Safe Church, Safe Communities* Policy Implementation Recording Available

On **Monday, August 26**, clergy-in-charge, senior wardens, and directors of non-parochial organizations in the Diocese participated in a Zoom Forum. The purpose of the Forum was to respond to questions and concerns about the new *Safe Church, Safe Communities* policies and about the process for their implementation between now and December 31 of this year.

The recording is [available here](#).





## Diocesan Convention Registration Now Open

**The 159th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh  
Saturday, November 9, 2024, 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 328 6th Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222**

Registration for all deputies and guests is now open.  
Registration is required for all lay and clergy deputies.

<https://episcopalpgh.wufoo.com/forms/2024-diocesan-convention-registration/>

There is a \$30 fee for all attendees and includes all materials, a continental breakfast and lunch.  
If you cannot afford the fee, please send an email to [convention@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:convention@episcopalpgh.org).

Problems or questions about registering? Contact Andy Muhl at [amuhl@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:amuhl@episcopalpgh.org) or 412-721-0853 ext. 253



## Nominations for Diocesan Leadership Positions Still Open

Recommendations are now being taken by the Nominating Committee for the following positions to be elected at the 159th Diocesan Convention of the Diocese of Pittsburgh on November 9, 2024, at Trinity Cathedral:

- Standing Committee
- Board of Trustees
- Committee on Constitution and Canons
- Commission on Ministry
- Cathedral Chapter
- Growth Fund



Full details about the positions are [available here](#). The 2024 Nomination Form with submission instructions is available here in [PDF](#) or [Word](#).

More details about our 159th Annual Convention, as they become available, are available at <https://www.episcopalpgh.org/resources/2024-diocesan-convention>.



**Around the Diocese**



## Bishop Ketlen's Visitation Schedule:

**September 15:** Holy Cross, Homewood

**September 22:** St. Thomas, Northern Cambria

**October 6:** St. Mark's, Johnstown

**October 12:** St. Bartholomew's, Scottsdale (Sat.)

**October 13:** St. Francis, Somerset

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

Bishop Ketlen's visitation schedule is [available here](#). The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer is [available here](#).

To schedule time with Bishop Ketlen, contact Andrea Rath at 412-721-0853, ext. 251, or [arath@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:arath@episcopalpgh.org).

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## Important Reminders

Registration is now open for the 2024 Annual Clergy Conference at Antiochian Village September 25-27. All clergy are reminded to [register here](#). **The deadline for registration is Monday, September 16.**



Has your parish been featured in the news?  
Please let us know via email at [info@episcopalpgh.org](mailto:info@episcopalpgh.org)

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