

# 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)

June 2011, Number 3

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

## Major Robert Reel Honored Upon Retirement

**Major Robert Reel**, Divisional Commander for Western Pennsylvania, The Salvation Army since 2005 with responsibility for all operations in 28 counties, will retire at the end of June 2011.



Before assuming his current position he and his wife, Major Lynette Reel served as General Secretary, second in command in Western Pennsylvania with responsibility for the operations of Allegheny County. The Reels had prior service in Pittsburgh as the Divisional Secretary with responsibility for Property as well as Program for the Western Pennsylvania Division. He served as the oversight manager for the renovation and rebuilding of Camp Allegheny. From 1993 to 2004 the Reels served The Army in Rochester, NY.

Major Reel has been an active member of the Council of Bishops and Judicatory Executives throughout his tenure in western PA. He currently serves as the Chair of the Council and has been an active member its Executive Committee for several years. He is also a member of the Christian Leaders Fellowship of Pittsburgh.

At their May 18 Council meeting his peers thanked Major Reel for his leadership, not only at Christian Associates but in serving the needs of the poor and needy throughout the region; his witness to the Gospel in word and deed, and his collegial relationship with those who also exercise the office of oversight in the Church.

Major Lynette Reel presented each member of the Council with a plaque quoting the founder of The Salvation Army, General William Booth:

*“While women weep as they do now, I’ll fight; while little children go hungry as they do now, I’ll fight; while men go to prison, in and out, in and out, as they do now, I’ll fight; while there is a drunkard left, while there is a poor lost girl upon the streets, while there remains one dark soul without the light of God, I’ll fight – I’ll fight to the very end.”*

Majors Robert and Lynette Reel will spend their retirement in Lancaster, PA.



DOING  
THE MOST  
GOOD™

## HUNGER is real!

That’s why Christian Associates, along with 50 other community organizations, are joining in a new initiative to address the reality of our neighbors going hungry –*The Southwestern Pennsylvania Food Security Partnership*.

The goal of the Partnership is to reduce hunger by half in the 12-county region, including *Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Somerset, Washington and Westmoreland*.

This Partnership strategy involves five steps:

- *Reaching* out to people who are eligible for food assistance but not accessing it;
- *Re-educating* the public about hunger in our communities;
- *Advocating* at various levels of government to increase assistance to the needy who are facing hunger;
- *Collaborating* across sectors – faith-based, nonprofit, corporate, education – to work more effectively to attack a broad range of issues related to poverty, not just hunger; and

*(continued on page 6)*

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# REFLECTIONS ALONG THE WAY

Dear Siblings in Our Lord,

I heard recently that for all of our “connecting” on Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn, and with emails and text messaging, we are more disengaged from each other than ever. We call them communications tools, but what are we communicating to each other through those media?



Dr. D. Holmes Morton, founder of the Clinic for Special Children in Strasburg, PA addressed the graduates of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine recently. Dr. Morton left a prestigious position at Johns Hopkins to care for and research genetic disorders among the Amish and Old Order Mennonites in central PA. He reminded the graduates about all of the technical tools which they could draw upon in treating their patients. But he repeatedly quoted another physician, reminding those new physicians that “Patient Care is caring for patients.” In short, don’t get so caught up with the technical knowledge and data that you forget to “connect” with the patient. Take time to listen and know who you are treating as a real person with a life story.

***Taking time to be fully present to the other in our midst . . . is not only pastoral care, but the very incarnation of Christ and his grace in our midst in that moment.***

I believe that the same can be said for clergy: *Pastoral Care is caring for people.* I must confess that I make far fewer phone calls today than nine years ago when I began my call at Christian Associates; while the volume of emails I send has increased exponentially. I sometimes justify the lack of vocal, much less direct, physical contact on busyness, or too many irons in the fire, or not enough hours in the day. I fight to resist reaching for my Droid when it vibrates in the middle of a meeting, yet I despise those who do so because it shows disrespect for the neighbor at the table. How we need to be reminded that Pastoral

Care is caring for people! Taking time to be fully present to the other in our midst; listening intently to their story instead of thinking of our next chore, experiencing the other’s life story is not only pastoral care, but the very incarnation of Christ and his grace in our midst in that moment.

Our Council is wrestling with the future of our TV ministry for which we have an audience and how do we “connect” and “communicate” with a younger, potential audience for whom the technology is ever present, always connected. In the process I pray that we don’t forget that “*Pastoral Care is caring for people.*”

Pax, Salaam, Shalom,

*Pastor Don Green*



***Pastoral Care is caring for people.***

## Everyone's Welcome

### *Inclusive Ministries with People with Disabilities and their Families*

More and more resources. More and more people with disabilities and their families finding welcome and opportunities to give as well as to receive. Creative ways to include children with autism and many other disabilities in religious education....you name it.



These are some of the areas of ministry being addressed by the Faith Community Leadership Project in a three year project funded by the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council in collaboration with The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities in New Jersey. This ecumenical, interfaith project has been working with faith networks, seminaries and continuing education opportunities on the development of new resources and training opportunities for clergy and congregations and on highlighting the growing breadth and depth of resources and models in this area of ministry.

July 18-22 is the **Second Annual Institute on Theology and Disability**, being held at Gettysburg Theological Seminary. Presentations and discussion groups focus on theology, Biblical studies, pastoral care, ethics, religious education, congregational ministries and more. For more information, go to [http://rwjms.umdj.edu/boggscenter/projects/Pennsylvania\\_Faith.html](http://rwjms.umdj.edu/boggscenter/projects/Pennsylvania_Faith.html). You can come for Monday, July 18, an introductory day with all the faculty and mentors for the Institute, or for the whole week.

Available now, a CD from the **2010 Summer Institute on Theology and Disability** with lectures by Hans Reinders, Amos Yong, Tom Reynolds, Peggy Johnson, John Swinton, Bill Gaventa, and Erik Carter (audio files) and two booklets on inclusive ministries: **Autism and Faith: A Journey into Community** and **Brain Injury: When the Call Comes. A Congregational Resource**. The CD's may be ordered individually; files downloaded from the website; and/or are available in quantity for faith networks for little or no cost, depending on the method of distribution (while supplies last) [http://rwjms.umdj.edu/boggscenter/products/Product\\_FaithBased.html](http://rwjms.umdj.edu/boggscenter/products/Product_FaithBased.html)

For information or other resources from the Faith Community Leadership Project, go to: [http://rwjms.umdj.edu/boggscenter/projects/Pennsylvania\\_Faith.html](http://rwjms.umdj.edu/boggscenter/projects/Pennsylvania_Faith.html) and/or contact Bill Gaventa, [bill.gaventa@umdj.edu](mailto:bill.gaventa@umdj.edu) or (732) 235-9304.

## Healing Emotions After Loss

### *A referral resource for complicated grief*

Grieving the death of a loved one is undoubtedly one of the hardest things we may ever do as humans. Strong feelings of sadness and loneliness commonly occur following the death of a loved one. Other painful feelings, like fear, anxiety, guilt, resentment, anger, and shame are also common. Experiencing any or all of these emotions during acute grief can be very normal.

Some people find that their grief does not change with time. These people are "stuck" in the grieving process and suffering from the condition called complicated grief. No matter how long it has been, they still feel that all they want is to be with their loved one again. People with complicated grief often feel that life is empty and meaningless or that joy is no longer possible for them.

Researchers at the University of Pittsburgh are hoping to learn how to help people suffering from complicated grief. The **Healing Emotions After Loss (HEAL)** study aims to uncover which treatment is optimal in helping survivors restore their lives. Charles F. Reynolds III, MD and his team are interested in identifying individuals between the ages of 18 and 95 who are grieving for at least six months since the loss.



Contact the HEAL Study Staff at (412) 246-6006 for further information, or visit [www.healstudy.org](http://www.healstudy.org).

# ECUMENICAL EVENTS

## Smithfield United Church of Christ

620 Smithfield Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222  
412-281-1811

### Camp Downtown “God’s Wild Things”

Dates: Mon. June 20 – Fri. June 24  
Times: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm  
Fee: \$30 per child, includes lunch, snacks, t-shirt

The Downtown Ministerium is sponsoring a Vacation Bible School program for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. Youth in seventh through twelfth grade can participate as “camp counselors”. Contact Rev. Liddy Barlow, Minister of Christian Education at Smithfield United Church of Christ, [lbarlow@smithfieldchurch.org](mailto:lbarlow@smithfieldchurch.org) or 412-281-1811.

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## Crestfield Camp and Conference Center

Pittsburgh Presbytery  
195 Taggart Road  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057  
724-792-4022  
[www.crestfield.net](http://www.crestfield.net)

### Summer Camp for Children

Dates: June 19 through August 18  
Fee: varies – go online or call

Sign up your child for a week at camp. The theme this year is “Got Spirit? Finding God in the Everyday”. You have many options from the traditional resident camp to horse camp. Go to our website to find details.

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## Trinity School for Ministry

311 Eleventh Street  
Ambridge, PA 15003  
724-266-3838  
[www.tsm.edu](http://www.tsm.edu)

### The History and Theology of the Diaconate: A Summer Online Course

Dates: June 20 – September 2  
Instructor: Deacon Tara Jernigan, DMin

This online class will explore the ministry of the deacon in the Church from the Scriptural record to the present day. It will trace the history and theology, explore the writings and lives of some notable deacons, and identify the emerging role of the deacon in the contemporary church. For more information or to register, contact Geoffrey Mackey, Director of Distance Learning, 724-266-3838 or [gmackey@tsm.edu](mailto:gmackey@tsm.edu)

### Ancient Wisdom Anglican Futures 2011: Making Disciples in the Christian Catechumenate

Dates: Thur. June 16 – Sat. June 18  
Times: Starts Thur. at 8:00 am & ends Sat. at 12:00 noon  
Cost: \$150 per person, \$60 full time student, cost includes lunch & dinner

Speakers: Rev. Dr. William Harmless, S.J. Professor of Theology at Creighton University, Omaha NE; Rev. Dr. Tory Baucum, rector of Truro Church, Fairfax VA; Rev. Dr. Ashley Null, scholar on the grace and gratitude theology of the English Reformation; Rev. Dr. Graham Tomlin, Dean of St. Mellitus College, London; Mr. Mark Galli, managing editor of Christianity Today.

Check out the description and register at [www.tsm.edu](http://www.tsm.edu)

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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](http://www.stjoseph-baden.org)

### Five-Day Directed Retreat

Dates: Wed. June 22 – Sun. June 26  
Time: Beginning Wed. 7:00 pm through Sun. 12:00 noon  
Retreat Directors: Sister Donna Marie Tahaney, CSJ and staff  
Fee: \$290, includes meals, lodging and individual direction

This retreat, based on the spirituality of St. Ignatius Loyola, is an opportunity for silence and quiet prayer. The retreat includes daily communal prayer and daily individual direction. To register, contact Sr. Donna Marie Tahaney at 724-869-6520.

### The Call to Fatherhood: A Call to Love

Date: Sat. June 11  
Time: 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm  
Leader: Deacon Joseph Compomizzi  
Fee: \$15

In this day of prayer for fathers, Deacon Joseph Compomizzi offers Scriptural insights about God’s call to love and on how this call is manifested and exemplified through the experience of fatherhood.

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## Rodef Shalom Biblical Botanical Garden

4905 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
412-621-6566  
[www.biblicalgardenpittsburgh.org](http://www.biblicalgardenpittsburgh.org)

### Food and Drink in the Biblical World

*Our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibit*  
June 1 to September 15  
Sun. thru Thur. 10 am – 2 pm

# ECUMENICAL EVENTS

## Rodef Shalom (continued. . .)

Wed. also 7 pm – 9 pm  
Sat. 12 noon – 1pm  
Never an admission charge,  
handicapped access. Reserve a free  
tour for your group of 8 or more.

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## Mount Aloysius College

7373 Admiral Peary Highway  
Cresson, PA 16630  
814-886-6510  
www.mtaloy.edu/ecumenical

## Summer Scripture Institute:

### “Philippians: Spirituality & Context”

Dates: Mon. June 13 – Thur. June 16  
Times: Begins Mon. at 1:00 pm, ends  
with lunch on Thur.  
Facilitators: Dr. Marie Noel Keller, Dr.  
Bonnie Thurston  
Fee: \$225 commuters or \$300 for  
overnighters

Explore the letter to the Philippians  
from varied perspectives. Content  
talks and discussion will alternate with  
opportunity for reflection. Cost in-  
cludes workshop, materials and a copy  
of Dr. Keller’s *Priscilla and Aquila*  
which will be the focus of an evening  
lecture on Wednesday. To register, call  
Helen Marie Burns, 814-886-6510 or  
hburns@mtaloy.edu

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## Taizé Services

### Christ United Methodist Church

44 Highland Road, Bethel Park  
www.christumc.net  
First Wed. of each month, 6:30pm

### East Liberty Presbyterian Church

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

### Hope Lutheran Church of Forest Hills

353 Ridge Avenue at Braddock Road  
Hope@Lutheran.com  
Fri. June 4 and Fri. Sept. 10, 7:00 pm

### Community United Methodist Church

3487 Route 130, Irwin  
www.ShareChristWithOthers.org  
or call 724-744-3413  
Second Wed, 7:30 pm

### Faith Lutheran Church

1656 Lincoln Way, McKeesport  
(White Oak)  
www.faithwhiteoak.org  
or call 412-673-2296  
Every Wed, 7:00 pm

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### Laurelville Mennonite Church Center

941 Laurelville Lane  
Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666  
724-423-2056 or 1-800-839-1021  
www.laurelville.org

### Retreat for Families, Friends & Persons with Disabilities

Dates: Wed. July 20 – Sun. July 24  
Times: Begins Wed. at 4:00 pm, ends  
Sun. with lunch at noon  
Fee: Please call for registration and  
lodging costs.

Coming for the first time? Get 20% off  
registration.

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## CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION (CPE)

*with specialization in hospice and end-of-life care*

Applications are now being accepted for the Fall CPE unit at Family Hospice and Palliative Care. The part-time extended unit begins in September 2011 and concludes in May, 2012. Interns complete 12 hours per week of classroom instruction, supervision, and direct pastoral care with hospice patients. Accredited by the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy (CPSP).

For information and an application, please contact:  
Rev. Dr. Edward Pehanich - 412-651-2587 - epehanich@familyhospice.com



For forty years Church World Service has sponsored the CROP Hunger Walk, a community-wide event organized by local congregations to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. Working together ecumenically as churches and with other community organizations, people who participate in CROP Hunger Walks help end hunger one step at a time.

This fall walks will be taking place in Allegheny, Armstrong, Butler, Indiana, Washington and Westmoreland Counties.

For more information about a Walk in your area or for information about how to start a Walk, please contact Rev. Kathy Clark at (412) 728-8442 or by email at [kclark@churchworldservice.org](mailto:kclark@churchworldservice.org). For more information about the ministry of Church World Service, visit [www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org). Information about area Walks can also be found at: [www.cropwalk.org](http://www.cropwalk.org).

Join us in working to end hunger around the world and around the block!

## HUNGER is real!

(continued from page 1)

- *Conducting* this initiative in a streamlined fashion that does not add bureaucracy or administrative burdens to any Partner.

The key to making the strategies work is the creation of a broad-based partnership. Organizations are being recruited now, and Christian Associates is one of the original partners. As CASP looked at the contribution we could make to help launch the initiative, we latched onto the idea to devote four Sundays in June to the theme of hunger – *its existence, its depth, and things that can be done to relieve it.* (Of course the resources provided can be used at other times throughout the summer months.)

The four Sundays in June are meant to spread the word about the Partnership and the goal of reducing hunger, and to help our congregations understand ways they can participate in the effort either as individuals, or through their parishes, or through other organizations and businesses they may be affiliated with.

It is our hope that through sermons from pulpits on those Sundays, and in bulletins and other communications, the four Sundays will help to advance the second strategy – educating the public,



and thereby help advance the other strategies by support from an enlightened community.

Four outlines which describe aspects of hunger and the people affected by it are available at [www.casp.org](http://www.casp.org). These outlines include:

*Hunger & Children,  
Hunger & the Elderly,  
Hunger & Families, and  
Hunger & Veterans.*

For more information about the Partnership, please contact **Pastor Don Green** at [dgreen@casp.org](mailto:dgreen@casp.org) or **Vic Papale** at the Partnership (412) 466-7711 or [vpapale@pittsburghfoodbank.org](mailto:vpapale@pittsburghfoodbank.org).



## Baseball & Theology

*"The one constant through all the years has been baseball. America has rolled by like an army of steamrollers. It has been erased like a blackboard, rebuilt and erased again. But baseball has marked the time. This field, this game: it's a part of our past. It reminds of us of all that once was good and it could be again."* **Field of Dreams**

### It's a Grand Slam Continuing Ed Event with America's favorite pastime!

Baseball is at the core of American culture. How does the Christian faith fit into that baseball diamond? Join us for an examination of the moral, theological, racial, ethnic, and economic dimensions of American baseball with guest lecturer Dr. Shaun Casey. Casey is Professor of Christian Ethics and Director of the National Capital Semester for Seminarians (NCSS) at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC.

The continuing education event begins at 9:30 a.m. inside PNC Park. The first pitch is a day-long seminar with Dr. Casey. Enjoy lunch in the Lexus Club. Watching batting practice is next in the line-up. Then, the Pirates take on the St. Louis Cardinals to make the day a grand slam!

**Baseball & Theology** continuing education seminar includes:

Seminar with Dr. Casey

Lunch in the Lexus Club

Club Box Seats for the game

Snacks & Prizes

Dinner

.5 CEUs (continuing education units)

\$100/person (if you register BEFORE July 31)

\$125/person (after July 31)



For more information or to register, go to [wpaumc.org](http://wpaumc.org).  
This event is open to all baseball fans! Space is limited!

### **Samaritan Counseling Center**

**Providing Hope and Healing Using the Resources of Faith**

*The Samaritan Counseling Center is fully accredited by the Samaritan Institute, Denver, CO, and has 7 offices throughout Allegheny, Butler and Beaver Counties. Our 17 therapists are state licensed and/or credentialed by a national professional agency.*

*Professional, faith-based counseling is offered for individuals, couples, families, children and adolescents. We are able to accept most major health insurance benefits and we can adjust fees based on gross family income.*

Carl Baughman, MDiv, MS, LMFT  
Executive Director

414 Grant St.  
Sewickley, PA 15143  
412-741-7430 x402



255 Washington Rd.  
Mt. Lebanon, 15216  
412-741-7430 x402

[www.samaritancounseling.net](http://www.samaritancounseling.net)

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## **UPCOMING CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS**

at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

### SUMMER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

**GETTING READY FOR  
TOMORROW'S CHURCH:  
MISSIONAL AND  
GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES  
ON CHRIST'S CHURCH**

June 5-8, 2011

**Lois Y. Barrett**  
Associate Professor,  
Associated Mennonite  
Biblical Seminary

**Jin S. Kim**  
Senior Pastor,  
Church of All Nations

**Jehu J. Hanciles**  
Associate Professor,  
Fuller Theological Seminary

### TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOP

**BUILDING BLOCKS  
OF FAITH**

September 24, 2011

**Kathy L. Dawson**  
Associate Professor of  
Christian Education,  
Columbia Theological  
Seminary

### W. McCLURE LECTURES IN WORLD MISSION AND EVANGELISM

**THE GATHERING AND  
UPBUILDING OF THE  
MISSIONAL COMMUNITY  
FOR ITS SENDING**

September 26, 2011  
11:30 a.m.,  
4:15 & 7:30 p.m.

September 27, 2011  
11:30 a.m.

**Darrel L. Guder**  
Professor,  
Princeton Theological  
Seminary

Office of  
Continuing Education  
616 N. Highland Ave.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206  
412-924-1345  
ConEd@pts.edu  
[www.pts.edu](http://www.pts.edu)



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Classified Advertisements may be placed at a PREPAID cost of \$10.00 for 40 words or less. The publication of ads/events does not indicate specific endorsement of an organization, ad or event, and is strictly of an informative nature. *The DEADLINE for all submissions is the 15th of the month prior to the issue the submission is to appear (August 15th for the September issue).*

Photographs, articles and other submissions about the local church are welcome.