

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

June 2013, Number 3

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

Welcome to Christian Associates

Welcome to Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania (CASP), our regional, Christian, ecumenical association!

For 43 years CASP has worked to promote Christian unity among our 26 member judicatories (regional governing bodies of denominations) representing 16 distinct Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox communions.

Amidst our diversity of theologies, traditions, practices and teachings, CASP seeks to be a "unifying voice in the name of Jesus Christ for the mission of the Gospel and the wholeness of communities."

Four times a year the bishops and church leaders from those judicatories come together to develop trust and friendship among each other, which in turn promotes forthright discussion of not only that which unites us to our Divine Savior and Lord, but particularly those issues, both doctrinal and social, which still divide the body of Christ in this region.

The core values of the Council of Bishops and Judiciary Executives (Board of Directors) are *Collegiality, Connectedness, and Collaboration*.

Because of the diversity of our faith traditions and with the executive leadership at the table, CASP continues to be unique among ecumenical expressions across the country.

The major programs of this ecumenical organization include:

- Christian Associates Television (Comcast channel 95 in the City of Pittsburgh), now operated on behalf of CASP by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh;
- Administering the chaplaincy and pre- and post-release programs at the Allegheny County Jail (in partnership of our subsidiary corporation, The Foundation of H.O.P.E.);
- Disaster preparedness, response and long term recovery (PA VOAD, Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters, Western PA VOAD and SW PA Long Term Recovery Task Force); and
- Partnering with others in dialogue and programmatic initiatives (Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference, Returning Veterans Conference, Religious Leadership Forum of SWPA).

The Rev. Dr. Donald B. Green serves as Executive Director. Officers include:

- The Rev. Dr. Sheldon Sorge, Pastor to the Pittsburgh Presbytery, PCUSA, President;
- Bishop David Zubik, Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, Vice President;
- Rev. Dr. Eric Brown, Presiding Elder, Allegheny Scranton District, AME, Secretary.

Visit us at www.casp.org.

Outreach Ministry Inventory, Assessment and Collaborative Plan

Christian Associates (CASP) has contracted Strategy Solutions Inc. through a grant from The Forbes Funds to assist us in fulfilling one of CASP's stated goals: creating an inventory of all member related faith-based outreach ministries (children, youth and family; geriatric; camp, educational, social services, food & nutrition, etc.).

The purpose of this project is to:

- Conduct an inventory of current existing social justice and outreach ministries of the 26 judicatories that are currently members of CASP,
- Evaluate each agency's education process regarding their judicatory's faith tradition and the implications of it on the mission of the agency,
- Identify opportunities for collaboration and potential consolidation of programs and services that would result in mission enhancement and potential cost savings and economies of scale, and
- Work with CASP leadership to prioritize opportunities and develop an action plan for implementation of collaborative enhancements.

Surveys have been sent to those agencies, ministries and organizations which have been identified by CASP member judicatories.

If you are an administrator, an employee, board member or donor of any of the identified organizations, contact Pastor Don Green, 412-688-9070 or dgreen@casp.org to verify that your ministry has been contacted to participate in this project.

Our Core Values:

Collegiality + Connectedness + Collaboration

This issue of The Call is being provided to each participant in the annual gatherings of the Penn West Conference, United Church of Christ; the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference, United Methodist Church in addition to our regular readers.

Inside this Edition

Reflections Along the Way	2
Celebrating Holy Week 2013	4
Ecumenical Events	6
Returning Military Conference	7
Music for the Spirit: Singing City	8

REFLECTIONS ALONG THE WAY

Dear Siblings in our Lord,

“You anoint my head with oil; (Psalm 23:5b) “Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.” (James 5:14)



During Western Holy Week this year I attended three different Chrism Masses which included clergy from four of our member judicatories (see page 5). Participating in these liturgies where clergy renew their ordination vows and holy oils are blessed has become a highlight of my paschal preparation each year since I've been at Christian Associates.

Such worship events may be foreign to some who read this letter. I'm told of a certain Lutheran bishop who when the tradition of anointing with oil was revived in our practice was asked if he had an “oil stock” (a small metal container to hold the blessed oil) commented, “The only oil stock I have is in Gulf.” But with post Vatican II liturgical renewal, the practice of anointing with oil has been restored to our pastoral set of ministry tools.

Like water, bread and wine, anointing with oil can be a powerful witness to the healing and life restoring power of God.

As a parish pastor it was always a joy to make the sign of the cross on the forehead of each candidate whom I baptized saying, “Name, child of God you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.” Folk have related to me how much it meant to them when they were in the hospital or a shut-in or near death to be anointed with oil in the name of Christ as a visible sign of God’s promised presence to them in their time of need.

Blessing in the name of our Triune God and anointing for healing in the name of our Divine Savior and Lord are not only rich in scriptural symbolism, but also powerful reminders of whom we are and of the nature of our God. Moses anointed Aaron and his sons to be priests, and Samuel anointed David to be king; and so too, we who have been baptized are anointed with oil to be “*a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people.*” (1 Peter 2:9a) Like Aaron and David God’s blessing comes to us with a commission, “*that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light*” (1 Peter 2:9b) Blessed to be a blessing to others!

Like water, bread and wine, anointing with oil can be a powerful witness to the healing and life restoring power of God. For those of us who are annointers, our words and actions with that blessed, perfumed oil become a visible, human reality of God’s presence in our midst. Such anointing gives visible proclamation to our trust that God can and does heal our afflictions, and ultimately heals us unto eternal life through Jesus, anointed by Mary, sibling of Martha and Lazarus, crucified and raised to new life.

In this Pentecost season, may we continue our call to be bold proclaimers of God’s blessing and healing for us as individuals within the whole human family, but also for the healing of the nations.

Pax, Salaam, Shalom,

Pastor Don Allen



Anointing for healing is rich in scriptural symbolism.

I need help with:

- Feeding my family.
- Becoming a volunteer.
- Getting taxes done.
- Avoiding eviction.
- Caring for my grandmother.
- Keeping my heat on.
- Joining the workforce.
- Finding a summer camp.
- Protecting a friend.

I can help with:

- All of the above.



Need help? Dial 2-1-1.

It's your friendly-community-24-hour-professionally-staffed hotline for help with human services. If you need help, info or referrals in your community, call 2-1-1 first. If 2-1-1 is not available where you are, dial 1-888-553-5778.



UPCOMING CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS

at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Spiritual and Emotional Growth Throughout Life: Insights from the Ministry of Fred Rogers
Summer Leadership Conference
June 9-12, 2013

Amy Hollingsworth, Psychologist and Author of *The Simple Faith of Mister Rogers*

Steven S. Tuell, James S. Kelso Associate Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament, PTS

Martha A. Robbins, Joan Marshall Associate Professor of Pastoral Care, PTS

Seeing with the Eyes of Faith: Visual Art as an Entry to Prayer
Spiritual Formation Elective
Sept. 22-27, 2013

Kristine Haig, Co-Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Morgantown, W.Va.

Finishing with Vitality: A Seminar for Pastors
Oct. 3-4, 2013
David C. Rich, Retired PC(USA) Minister

Mission in the Global Public Square
The W. Don McClure Lectures in World Mission and Evangelism

Sept. 23, 2013 / 11:30 a.m., 4:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 24, 2013 / 11:30 a.m.

Vinoth Ramachandra, Secretary for Dialogue and Social Engagement, International Fellowship of Evangelical Students, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Spirituality in the Home, Church, and World

30th Annual Teacher Training Workshop

Sept. 28, 2013 / 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

B. DeNeice Welch, Senior Pastor, Bidwell Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Refreshing Your Old Testament Biblical Hebrew

Mondays, Sept. 30- Nov. 9, 2013

Jim Durlesser, Adjunct Faculty in Biblical Languages, PTS

Office of Continuing Education
616 N. Highland Ave.
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
412-924-1345
ConEd@pts.edu
www.pts.edu



**PITTSBURGH
THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY**

Celebrating Holy Week 2013 . . .



Archbishop Robert Duncan blessing Oil of the Sick



Bishop Dorsey McConnell preaching



Bishop Kurt Kusserow presiding at the Eucharist

Chrism Masses

During Western Holy Week Anglican, Episcopal, Lutheran and Roman Catholic bishops and clergy gathered to renew their ordination vows and to bless holy oils.

(Chrism, perfumed oil used in Baptism and Confirmation; Oil for the Catechumens for anointing those preparing for Baptism; and Oil of the Sick for anointing those who are ill).

Full Communion partners, The Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh and the SW PA Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church In America, joined together for worship and lunch on Monday of Holy Week at First

English Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh with their Bishops Dorsey McConnell and Kurt Kusserow.

On Tuesday Archbishop Robert Duncan, Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh, led his faithful in a similar observance at Christ the Redeemer Parish, Canonsburg.

On Maundy Thursday Bishops Lawrence Brandt and David Zubik celebrated their Chrism Masses at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg and St. Paul Cathedral, Pittsburgh.

Bishop David Zubik celebrates Chrism Mass at St. Paul Cathedral, Pittsburgh



Bishop McConnell consecrating the Chrism



Bishop Zubik adds perfume to the Chrism



Bishop Lawrence Brandt breathes on the Chrism

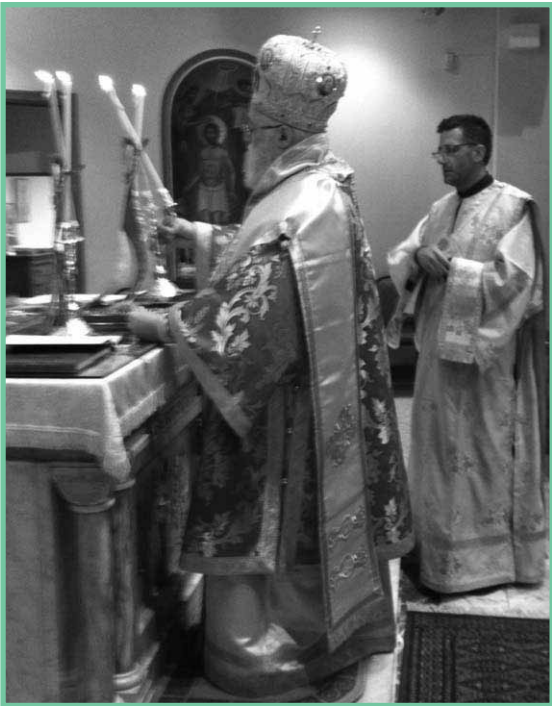


Archbishop Duncan and clergy concelebrating the Eucharist



Bishop Brandt blessing Oil of the Sick

and the Paschal Mystery . . .



**Paschal Vigil at
St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox
Cathedral in Pittsburgh**



**Holy Friday at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church
in Warren, Ohio**

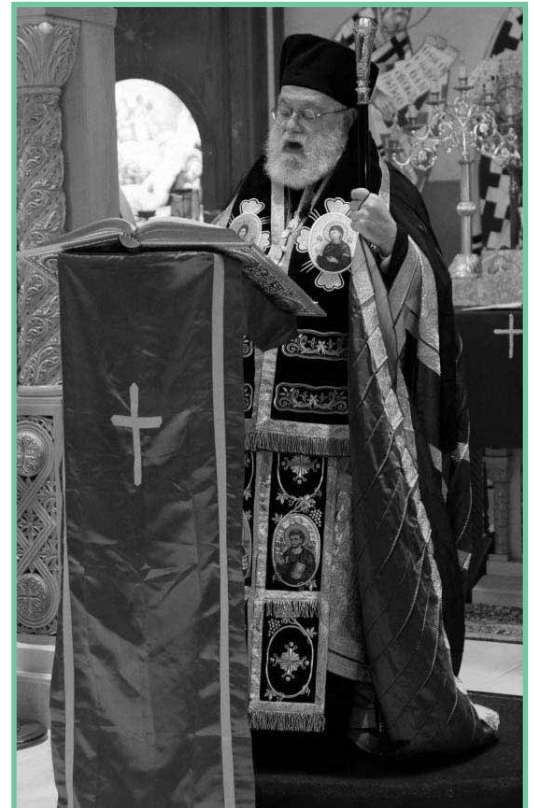
Orthodox Holy Week and Easter

Metropolitan Savas, Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh, observed Holy Week (April 28 – May 3) and Easter (May 5) by celebrating liturgies around the archdiocese including Holy Friday at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, Warren, Ohio and the Paschal Vigil at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Pittsburgh, PA.

Hierarchs of Christian Associates other Orthodox communions celebrated Jesus death and resurrection with similar rites throughout their respective dioceses.



**Paschal Vigil at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox
Cathedral in Pittsburgh**



**Metropolitan Savas reads the Passion
Gospel on Holy Friday at St. Demetrios
Greek Orthodox Church in Warren, Ohio**

Photo credits: Chuck Austin, The Pittsburgh Catholic; Andy Muhl, Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh; David Trautman, Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh; Mary Seamans, The Catholic Accent; Singing City, Ted Weigand; Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh

ECUMENICAL EVENTS

Trinity School for Ministry

311 Eleventh St., Ambridge, PA 15003
1-800-874-8754; www.tsm.edu

Healing Prayer with Nigel Mumford

Dates: June 3–5, non-credit course
Leader: Rev. Nigel Mumford; Fee: \$150
Register at 724-266-3838 or www.tsm.edu.

Taizé Services

Community of Celebration

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

East Liberty Presbyterian Church

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

Hope Lutheran Church of Forest Hills

353 Ridge Avenue at Braddock Road
Hope@Lutheran.com
Fri. June 7, Sept. 6, 7 pm

St. Joseph Spirituality Center

A Ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph
1020 State St., Baden, PA 15005
724-869-6585

Registrations: Sister Ann Francis Hanley:
724-869-6587; www.stjoseph-baden.org

Day of Discernment

Date: Sat. June 1; 10 am – 4 pm
Presenter: Sister Dorothy Paschuta, CSJ
Fee: \$15 includes lunch
For information contact Sister Dorothy Paschuta,
724-869-6092 or dpashuta@stjoseph-baden.org.

Five-Day Directed Retreat

Dates: Fri. June 14 – Tues. June 18
Time: 7 pm (Fri.) – 12 noon (Tues.)
Presenters: Sister Donna Marie Tahaney and
Spiritual Direction Team
Fee: \$300 inc. meals, lodging, and direction.
Contact Sister Donna Marie Tahaney, retreat
director, to register: 724-869-6520.

Mount Aloysius College

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

Summer Scripture Institute “Acts of the Apostles: The Who and The How”

Dates: Tues. June 25 – Fri. June 28
Times: Tues. 3:30 pm until Fri. at 1 pm
Facilitators: Dr. Bonnie Thurston and Dr. Marie
Noel Keller, RSM
Fee: Includes all meals and materials, \$235/com-
muter, \$300/resident
On-line registration: www.mtaloy.edu and select
Ecumenical Studies or call 814-886-6404.

Mount Aloysius College

(continued . . .)

Thomas Merton on Christian Prayer

Dates: Thur. July 11 – Fri. July 12
Times: Thur. 2 pm – Fri. 6 pm
Facilitator: Dr. Bonnie Thurston
Fee: \$120/commuter, \$150/resident
To register contact Sr. Helen Marie Burns, RSM
at 814-886-6404 or hburns@mtaloy.edu.

Rodef Shalom Congregation

4905 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2941
412-621-6566
www.biblicalgardenpittsburgh.org

Botanical Symbols in World Religions

June 1 to September 15
Sun. thru Thur. 10 am – 2 pm
Wed. also 7 pm – 9 pm
Sat. Noon – 1pm
Never an admission charge, handicap accessible.
Reserve a free tour for your group of 8 or more.

Trinity Cathedral

328 Sixth Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
412-232-6404
www.trinitycathedralpgh.org

Noon Eucharist in Mary’s Chapel or Christ the King Altar

Every day, lasting less than 30 minutes; Thursday
is a special healing service.

Epiphany Academy of Formative Spirituality

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

First Mondays – Faith Deepening in the Year of Faith

Dates: June 3, Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2
Time: 7 pm – 8:30 pm
Facilitator: Susan Muto, PhD
Cost: \$20/session; RSVP 412-341-7494

Summer Institute: “Working Women— What We Can Learn from Three Doctors of The Church

Dates: Mon. June 10 – Thur. June 13
Time: 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm
Facilitators: Susan Muto, PhD and Lori Mitchell
McMahon
Cost: \$100; RSVP 412-341-7494

Fiction and Formation

Dates: Saturday, June 22, Aug 24, Sep 21, Oct 19
Time: 9–10:30 am
Facilitator: Steve Geitgoy
Cost: \$10/session; RSVP 412-341-7494

Westminster Highlands

263 Big Bend Rd., Emlenton, PA 16373
724-738-0058
www.highlandsrocks.org

Highlands ROCKS Family Festival

Date: Sat. June 1; Times: Noon – 8 pm
Free entry & parking, purchase tickets for games
& activities

Jumonville Christian Camp & Retreat Center

887 Jumonville Road
Hopwood, PA 15445
1-800-463-7688
www.jumonville.org

Joni & Friends Family Retreat

Dates: Mon. July 29 – Fri. Aug. 2
Information: 937-352-4095 or
www.joniandfriends.org/family-retreats

Camp Huff & Puff

Dates: Thur. Aug. 8 – Tues. Aug. 13
Leader: Carol Kuczma; Cost: \$125
For information or to register: www.healthylungs.
org/65/Camp_Huff-n-Puff.html.

Autism Family Retreat

Dates: Fri. Aug. 23 – Sun. Aug. 25
Time: Fri. 6 pm – Sun. 1 pm
Leader: Rev. Ed Saxman
Cost: \$99/adult; \$49/child (3-11 yrs)
Registration deadline: Aug. 15

First Lutheran Church

615 Grant Street, Pittsburgh 15219
412-471-8125

Camp Downtown

“Parables on Parade”

Dates: June 24–28; Times: 9 am – 4 pm
Fee: \$40-1st child, \$30-2nd child, etc.
Deadline to register – June 2

The Downtown Ministerium is again sponsoring
a Vacation Bible School program for children in
kindergarten through sixth grade. Youth in seventh
through twelfth grade can participate as “camp
counselors”. For information: Cora Weiland @
First Lutheran, 412-877-7124 or
clw@flcpittsburgh.org

First United Methodist Church

5401 Centre Ave.
Pittsburgh 15232
412-681-4222
www.FirstUMCPittsburgh.org

The Cosmic Christ and the Historical Jesus

Dates: Fri. June 28 – Sun. June 30
Times: Fri. 7 pm – Sun. 1 pm
Leaders: Dr. Matthew Fox, Dr. Andrew Harvey and
Dr. Bruce Chilton
Cost: \$50 at www.ChristPath.org for onsite or live
streaming

Returning Military Conference



Save the Date -- and the Details!

Friday, October 18 - 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Passavant Hospital Foundation
Conference Center and Theatre
700 Cumberland Woods Drive
Allison Park, PA 15101

Christian Associates continues to partner with Allegheny County Departments of Behavioral Health and Veterans Affairs, along with several other organizations committed to addressing the needs of our regional military personnel, in planning and hosting this annual conference.

The Returning Military Conference seeks to equip clergy, social workers, educators and others who relate to active military personnel and veterans, and their families, to understand and respond to their needs before, during, and after deployment.

Since few of our current clergy have served in the military, and in light of the challenges faced by our military and their families due to multiple deployments and the trauma of combat, this conference serves as a valuable opportunity to enhance the clergy's empathy and skills in relating to their neighbors in the military.

Look to the September issue of *The Call* for a full agenda of speakers and workshops.

This conference is FREE (minimal charge for CEU's).



Classified Ad

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE)

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

Family Hospice and Palliative Care is accepting applications for their September 2013 - May, 2014 CPE program.

The program is a part time, extended unit accredited by the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy (CPSP).

For more information and an application, please contact Rev. Dr. Edward Pehanich epehanich@familyhospice.com.



SCRIPTURE UNION USA
Helping people meet God every day.™

Super Kids

Prime Time

Our **SuperKids** and **PrimeTime** resources are perfect for your outreach, Vacation Bible School, after school and other programs for children.

Nancy Lee Cochran
Director, E100 Pittsburgh Initiative

Contact us at
(412) 463-8380 or
www.scriptureunion.org

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

BISHOP CONNARE CENTER
A place where spirits soar!

WORKSHOPS • MEETINGS • CONFERENCES
BANQUETS • PARTIES
CAMPS • RETREATS

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

ROUTE 30E, GREENSBURG
724-834-7350

For more information & photographs, visit our website:

www.bishopconnarecenter.org

Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania

204 37th Street, Suite 201

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15201-1859

412-688-9070

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PITTSBURGH, PA
PERMIT NO. 1245

The Call . . . to be one in Christ is ordinarily published bimonthly by **Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania, 204 37th Street, Suite 201, Pittsburgh, PA 15201-1859**. Email: newsletter@casp.org. (C) 2010. **No fax submissions are accepted.**

Classified Advertisements may be placed at a PREPAID cost of \$10.00 for 40 words or less. The publication of ads/events does not indicate specific endorsement of an organization, ad or event, and is strictly of an informative nature. *The DEADLINE for all submissions is the 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.



Archbishop Wuerl with Manfred Honeck

Music for the Spirit Festival *Singing City*

Archbishop Donald Cardinal Wuerl returned to Pittsburgh on April 20 to give the festival address as a choir of 2,000 voices and the Children's Festival Chorus of Pittsburgh joined the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra (PSO) for *Singing City* at the Petersen Event Center, Oakland (Pittsburgh).

Building on the historic concert in the Vatican for Pope John Paul II in January 2004, PSO Music Director Manfred Honeck has continued the orchestra's commitment to *Music for the Spirit*, a partnership between

the PSO and the faith communities in the Pittsburgh metropolitan region to perform concerts that celebrate the spiritual and universal message of music.

Christian Associates is proud to be a partner in planning the PSO's *Music for the Spirit* series. Executive Director, Pastor Don Green serves on the symphony's *Music for the Spirit* Committee and was privileged to be one of the religious leaders participating as a reader in *Singing City*.



Music for the Spirit filled the Petersen Event Center on April 20