# **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

CX

On the Web: www.casp.org

April 2012, Number 2

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

# **Enthronement of Archbishop William C. Skurla**



The Most Reverend William C. Skurla, D.D. has been appointed as the fifth Metropolitan Archbishop of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh and head of the Byzantine Catholic (Ruthenian) Metropolitan Church *sui iuris* of Pittsburgh, the only Eastern Catholic Metropolitan Church *sui iuris* (self-governing) in the United States. The Archiepiscopal Enthronement of the Most Rev. Skurla will take place on April 18 at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Munhall, PA.

Metropolitan Archbishop-elect William Charles Skurla, D.D. was born in Duluth, Minn. He attended Catholic and public elementary schools and graduated in 1974 from Chisholm High School, Chisholm, Minn. Bishop William attended Deerfield Academy Post-Graduate program in Deerfield, Mass. and then attended Columbia University in New York City, graduating with a concentration in Philosophy in 1981. He then studied at Mary Immaculate Seminary in Northampton, Pa., receiving Master of Divinity (1986) and Master of Theology (1987) degrees.

Skurla entered the Byzantine Franciscan community in Sybertsville, Pa. in 1981 and was solemnly professed in 1985. He was ordained to the diaconate in 1986 and to the priesthood in 1987 at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Freeland, Pa. In 1996, having received and accepted his dispensation from solemn vows as a member of the Order of Friars Minor (OFM), he was incardinated into the Eparchy of Van Nuys, where he served as Pastoral Administrator at St. Melany Byzantine Catholic Church in Tucson, Arizona from 1993 until 2002.

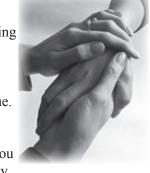
Archbishop-elect William was ordained to the Episcopacy and enthroned as the Third Bishop of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Van Nuys (now the Eparchy of Phoenix) on April 23, 2002 in Phoenix, Ariz. In December 2007 he was appointed Fourth Bishop of the Eparchy of Passaic (N.J.) and was enthroned at St. Michael Cathedral in Passaic on January 29, 2008.

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## **Healing at the End of Life**

You're summoned to the hospital. A 24 year-old parishioner was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident while not wearing a helmet. The family asks you to help them make decisions about

appropriate treatment, possibly removing him from a ventilator, and donation of organs and tissue. What questions do you need to ask? How do you guide that family



in making their decisions, particularly when they come from varied Christian backgrounds?

Healing at the End of Life will be one of four extended workshops offered during the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference, Friday, May 4, 2012, 8 - 4 pm at Christ Church at Grove Farm.

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# REFLECTIONS ALONG THE WAY

Dear Siblings in our Lord,

"The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: 'The right hand of the LORD does valiantly; the right hand of the LORD is exalted; the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.' I shall not die but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD. The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death." (Psalm 118:14-18, NRSV)

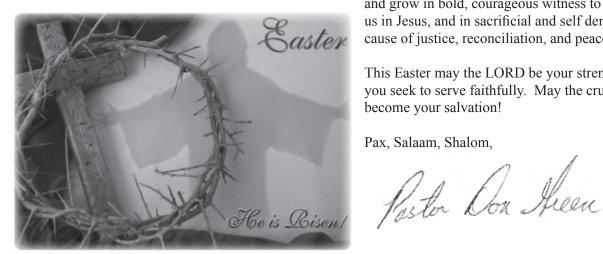
re we being *punished severely*? The headlines continue to be disturbing – a young therapist Lis killed at Western Psych; an Army soldier kills a host of Afghans; assassinations by Israel and counter attacks by Gazans; humanitarian atrocities by Assad in Syria. The endless debates about one's religion or the authenticity of one's confession of belief in the political campaigns; the perceived violation of religious liberty in the implementation of healthcare reform which leads to the media portraying Christian pitted against Christian, all of which undercuts the trust of the faithful in our pews and causes the secularists to point the finger of judgment – are we being severely punished? Christians are fleeing Iraq; live in fear in Egypt and Syria; are in violent conflicts with Muslims in Nigeria – are we being *severely punished?* 

Are the Church's current circumstances a mark of God's judgment upon prior and current infidelity on our part?

In the events of today it is hard to see God's favor upon the Church and believers. Add in our intra-Nicene conflicts and denominational schisms and one wonders if we are in the midst of a Christian "Exile" in a global Babylon. Are the Church's current circumstances a mark of God's judgment upon prior and current infidelity on our part?

The LORD has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death." I'm accustomed to reading this psalm either on Easter Day or at the graveside during the Committal of the deceased. As we approach Holy Week and Easter, we are reminded that in the midst of our despair and affliction, and even if we stand judged, God has not given us over to death. Rather, our God has given our brother Jesus over to death in our stead. The blood-stained cross and a lifeless corpse are the LORD's means of becoming our salvation.

On Resurrection Day Jesus can declare, "but he did not give me over to death." For God raised him from death to new life, and in the same manner God will also raise us to new life! Now we can shout, "The LORD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: 'The right hand of the LORD does valiantly!" And with our songs of victory and our new life through Jesus' resurrection, we can also change



and grow in bold, courageous witness to God's victory for us in Jesus, and in sacrificial and self denying service for the cause of justice, reconciliation, and peace.

This Easter may the LORD be your strength and might as you seek to serve faithfully. May the crucified and risen One become your salvation!

Pax, Salaam, Shalom,

#### **Skurla** (continued from page 1)

The Episcopal chairperson of the Intereparchial Vocations Commission (IEVC) and Intereparchial Youth Commission for the Metropolitan Church, Bishop William was a member of the Committee on the Laity with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). He currently serves as a member of the USCCB Administrative Committee, Priority and Plans Committee, and National Advisory Committee.

Upon his appointment Christian Associates made the following statement:

"With joy, anticipation and thanksgiving we, the Council of Bishops and Judicatory Executives of Christian Associates celebrate along



Dr. Sondra Ely Wheeler



The Rev. Kim J. Schreck

with the clergy, monastics and laity of the Byzantine Archeparchy of Pittsburgh the appointment of the Most Reverend William C. Skurla as their new Metropolitan Archbishop.

We anxiously await his enthronement on April 18, 2012, and his active participation in the cause of Christian unity in our region.

We pray that Metropolitan-elect Skurla will follow in the footsteps of his predecessors, Archbishop Judson Procyk and Archbishop Basil Schott, both of blessed memory in being active leaders in our fellowship as together we seek the unity of Christ's Church amidst our great diversity of traditions. This Metropolis, because of their deep ties to both East and West, and through their persecution in their motherland during the Communist era, are especially sensitive to the pain of the divisions in the Church and subsequent brokenness of Christ's Body in the world today.

We look forward to the unique role that the Byzantine Metropolitan will play in this journey toward being more truly one in Christ Jesus. We pray the Holy Spirit's blessing upon Archbishop-elect Skurla as he prepares to assume his role as chief shepherd of the Archeparchy."

#### **Healing at the End of Life** (continued from page 1)

This three hour workshop will feature presentations from both a Catholic and a Protestant bioethicist and engage participants in conversations about assisting others in making difficult decisions, and about appropriate treatment near the end of life.

The Rev. Kim Schreck and Dr. Sondra Wheeler will be the featured presenters for this workshop. Pastor Don Green, will moderate the workshop and Ms. Pamela Vingle who assists the regional Coalition for Quality at the End of Life (CQEL) will participate in the conversation.

**Dr. Sondra Ely Wheeler** is the Martha Ashby Carr Professor of Christian Ethics at Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington DC. She is a member of the United Methodist Church. Within the broad discipline of Christian ethics, she specializes in theological bioethics, biblical ethics, virtue ethics and the historical roots of Christian moral theology.

Dr. Wheeler holds degrees from Wesleyan University, B.A., Yale Divinity School, M.A.R. and Yale University, Ph.D. Prior to going to Wesley 19 years ago she was on the faculty of the Theology Department at Duquesne University.

Her publications include: Wealth as Peril and Obligation: The New Testament on Possessions; Stewards of Life: Bioethics and Pastoral Care; What We Were Made For: Christian Reflections on Love (forthcoming), and Children of One's Own: Creation and the Limits and Parental Power (forthcoming).

The **Rev. Kim J. Schreck** is a priest of the Diocese of Pittsburgh serving as pastor of St. Rose of Lima Parish (Darlington) Beaver Falls, PA. He was Ordained a Priest of Jesus Christ for the Diocese on June 30th, 2007. He is a native of St. Valentine in Bethel Park.

Father Schreck is a 2001 graduate of the Franciscan University of Steubenville, with a B.A. in Philosophy and Theology. Father Schreck entered St. Paul Seminary in 2001 and in 2003 received an M.A. in Philosophy from Duquesne University.

He studied in Rome from 2003 until 2008; there he completed three Pontifical Degrees, these are degrees from the Pope, Sacrae Theologiae Baccalaureus in Theology, an Pontifical M.A. in Bioethics and an Sacrae Theologiae Licentiatus in Moral Theology. His dissertation is entitled "Human Procreation According to the Creator's Design."

# Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference - "Healing vs. Curing"

Clergy and Laity learning and working towards healing our whole community

# Friday, May 4, 2012 8 AM to 4 PM Christ Church at Grove Farm

#### **Keynote Speaker**



Pastor Frederick W. Reklau

Pastor Frederick W. Reklau is a retired ELCA pastor and author from Winfield, IL, a western suburb of Chicago. He served as a parish pastor for most of his active ministry until his retirement in 2005. His interest in holistic health care began in the 70's and continues today as he leads discussions about health and medicine. In 2010 he published his book, *Partners in Care: Medicine and Ministry Together.* Kenneth Haugh, founder and executive director of Stephen Ministries comments, "An encouraging resource for caregivers, *Partners in Care* emphasizes the importance of a spirit, mind, body approach to healthcare in which the whole person is truly cared for through a partnership between medicine and ministry." Lutheran historian and theologian Martin Marty notes, "Reklau tells a story, enhanced by biblical and theological love... Pastors spend more significant time with patients than medical professionals... Reklau's work is about 'practical theology' which means 'talk about God.'"

Pastor Reklau's Keynote Address is sponsored by Highmark Foundation.

# Four In-depth Workshops

# Healing from Addiction to Recovery

Addiction may present itself in many ways -- via alcohol, drugs, gambling, sex, food, etc. It is a progressive disease that affects the body, mind and spirit. There is no "quick fix" or solution to cure addiction. However, healing and recovery is possible, though it is a life-long spiritual process. In other words, one can be healed, but not cured. In this track, we will review local statistics regarding addiction in our community and hear a first-hand testimony from a person in recovery. The biblical roots of the 12 Step Programs will be reviewed. Addiction affects the whole family and their participation is needed for interventions and healing. In the last session of this track, the speakers will dialogue about how we, as a faith community, can work together to combat this disease.

#### Speakers/Moderators:

The Rev. Canon Dr. Jay Geisler, Canon for Formation, Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh The Rev. Dave Else, Center for Spirituality Brother Mark Lowery, Michael's Place Karen A. Plavan, Ph.D., The Oasis Recovery Center Casey Mullen, Esq., 12 Step Speaker.

### Healing from Mental Health Issues to Recovery

In this mental health track, participants will gain a better understanding of behavioral health challenges of individuals with mental health and substance abuse disorders. Presenters will explore some myths and facts about these issues.

Many challenged individuals feel the church is not welcoming to them. We will hear directly from someone who will share their church experience. In the last session of this track, speakers will present strategies for churches to engage people with behavioral health challenges and dialogue about ways to incorporate them into the life of the church. Pastors can also share their resources and concerns with the healthcare professionals.

Speakers/Moderators:

Wes Sowers, MD, Medical Director, Allegheny County, DHS
Father Hal Baily, Spiritual Support, Allegheny County
Mike Gruber, Coordinator, System Transformation Unit, Allegheny County, DHS
Aurelia Carter, Family Support Specialist, Allegheny County, DHS Allegheny County Coalition for Recovery

## Healing from Family Dysfunction to Healthy Families

This track will focus on healing the entire family, not just a particular member who might be identified or diagnosed as "the problem." Family systems work has powerfully illuminated the ways in which individual issues and concerns can be most effectively addressed in a family context. It has also demonstrated how problems and crises both arise from, and are intensified by, important transitions in the family life cycle—as well as being passed down from generation to generation. Drawing on systems theory, the track will explore the ways that pastoral care can help with normal life cycle transitions, as well as with unexpected crises and traumas. A concluding panel will further talk about these issues and will seek to integrate the healing of families with the religious community or congregation.

*Speakers/Moderators:* 

Walter Smith, Jr., Ph.D., Retired Executive Director, Family Resources Rev. Dr. Ron Barnes, LSW, Executive Director, Anchorpoint Counseling Ministry Caroline Graham-McGuire, M.S.Ed., LPC, Family Therapist Randall Hoedeman, Ph.D., LPC, LMFT, Executive Director, Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute Rev. Cynthia K. Schneider, Minister for Congregational Care, Christ United Methodist Church

# Healing at the End of Life

Medical advancements enable life to be extended even when the quality of life may be extremely diminished. Pastoral Care providers are frequently consulted by patients and their families as they seek to make appropriate decisions near the end of one's life. With ever more religiously diverse families, clergy are often asked to assist with decision making for a person outside of their own faith tradition. In this track, End of Life ethical decision making will be explored by both a Catholic and a Protestant ethicist with ample opportunity for the two presenters to dialogue with each other and to respond to participants questions.

Speakers/Moderators:

Dr. Sondra Ely Wheeler, Ph.D.

Martha Ashley Carr, Professor of Christian Ethics, Wesley Theological Seminary

Rev. Father Kim J. Schreck, STL in Moral Theology, MA in Bioethics and Philosophy and Pastor,

St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church

The Rev. Dr. Donald B. Green, Executive Director, Christian Associates of Southwest PA

Pamela Vingle, Program Manager, Closure, Jewish Healthcare Foundation

\$45 Registration includes Breakfast/Lunch & Book "Partners in Care" (\$20 value) (prior to April 26th).

Entire brochure and registration form available at www.casp.org

# ECUMENICAL EVENTS

#### **Trinity School for Ministry**

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

#### Ministry in the Power of the Holy Spirit

Dates: Mon. June 4 – Wed. June 6

Leader: Judith McNutt

Fee: \$175 for 3 days or \$75/day

Judith McNutt is the Founding Director of Christian Healing Ministries and author of *Angels are for Real*. Healing Service, Wed at 7 pm. Register at 724-266-3838 or www.tsm.edu



#### **Taizé Services**

#### **Christ United Methodist Church**

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

#### **Community of Celebration**

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

#### **East Liberty Presbyterian Church**

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

#### **Hope Lutheran Church of Forest Hills**

353 Ridge Avenue at Braddock Road Hope@Lutheran.com

#### **Community United Methodist Church**

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



#### **Music in Pittsburgh**

#### Glenn Rudolph Choral Music Festival Sun. Apr. 22

Rehearsal at 2:00 pm, service at 5 pm Aspinwall Presbyterian Church

Center Ave @ Third St, Pittsburgh, 15215

For more information, contact Lynne Williams at gpwlew@verizon.net or 724-274-0329

#### Music in Pittsburgh (continued)

Music at Calvary
The Oberlin Collegium Musicum
Sun. Apr. 22, 5 pm
Ascension Day Evensong
Thur. May 17, 7:30pm
Calvary Episcopal Church

315 Shady Ave @ Walnut St, Pittsburgh, 15206

www.calvarypgh.org

#### Organ Artists Series Sun. Apr. 29, 4 pm Christopher Houlihan, Organist

Regular admission \$12 single concert, \$5 for students Saint Bernard Church 311 Washington Rd, Mt. Lebanon 15216 www.oas-series.com

#### Recital – Sun. Apr. 29, 4 pm

André Bierman, Tenor; Cynthia Pock, Piano & Organ First English Evang. Lutheran Church 615 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, 15219 www.flcpittsburgh.org

#### Music in a Great Space Sun. May 6, 4 pm

Choral Evensong with Shadyside Chancel Choir Non-ticketed event Shadyside Presbyterian Church 5121 Westminster Place, Pittsburgh 15232 www.shadysidepres.org

#### Organ Auditions for the Pittsburgh Organ Academy Scholarships Sat. May, 19, beginning at 1 pm

Riverview Presbyterian Church 3505 Perrysville Ave, Pittsburgh, 15214 Scholarships provided by Pittsburgh AGO for high school students, college students and adults. Contact Rich Pinkerton for application before May 10, rich@spchurch.org or 412-343-8900.



#### 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

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

#### Sexual Trauma: Healing Physical, Emotional, Spiritual Wounds

Date: Fri. Apr. 20

Time: 9:30 am – 4:15 pm Presenter: Nancy Fair, MA and Anita Mallinger, LCSW, DA Fee: \$65 includes lunch

A review of sexual trauma with emphasis on effects of spiritual wounding and healing. 6 CE credits for mental health and health care professionals.

#### Choose Life That You May Live: Day of Prayer for Cancer Survivors

Date: Sat. Apr. 28 Time: 10 am – 3 pm

Presenter: Sister Donna Marie Tahaney

This day provides an opportunity to reflect on your journey and how to choose life as you move forward. Prayer, reflection, and sharing will guide you through this day.

#### The Call to Motherhood: A Call to Love

Date: Sat. May 12 Time: 12:30 pm – 4 pm

Presenter: Sister Marguerite Kropinak and

Marilyn Sullivan

Fee: \$15

This day of prayer includes Scriptural insights about God's call to love and how this call is manifested through motherhood.



#### **Mount Aloysius College**

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

# Summer Scripture Institute "A Matter of Perspective: Women in the New Testament"

Dates: Tues. June 12 – Fri. June 15 Leaders: Dr. Bonnie Thurston and Dr.

Marie Noel Keller, RSM

Fee: \$310/resident, \$235/commuter

Overnight accommodations, Ecumenical Studies Library, St. John's Bible display, options for community and solitude. On-line registration: www.mtaloy.edu/gospel or call 814-886-6510.



# ECUMENICAL EVENTS=

#### **Kiski Area Association of Churches**

Kiski School District Area Vandergrift, PA 15690

#### **Prepare-Enrich Certification Workshop**

Date: Tues. Apr. 24 Time: 9 am - 3 pm

Fee: \$175, lunch for free will offering Pleasant View Brethren Church (Kepple

Hill area)

1156 Pleasant View Dr., Vandergrift

www.prepare-enrich.com

Dr. Terry Snyder is certified to train pastors and key leaders to assist premarital couples and married couples in deepening their relationships to each other.

For questions or registration, contact Rev. Phil Gustafson, St. Paul's Evang. Lutheran Church, 724-567-7781 or pastorphilg@ verizon.net







#### **SS Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church**

520 Scott Avenue Jeannette, PA 15644 724-523-3628

#### **Learning Center**

Date: each Wednesday Time: 10 am - 4 pm

Noon hour for peace and prayer

Resources, books, records, CDs, DVDs, **Ikons** 







#### **Rodef Shalom Congregation**

4905 Fifth Avenue, Suite 4 Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2941 412-621-6566

#### Harris Breakfast With Israeli Scholar Paul Liptz

Date: Fri. Apr. 20 Time: 9 am

Call 412-621-6566 for information and reservations.





#### **Trinity Cathedral**

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

# **Noon Eucharist** In Mary's Chapel or Christ the King

Every day, lasting less than 30 minutes Thursdays has a special healing service







#### Pittsburgh Compline Choir

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

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

Dates and Time: Sunday evenings at 8:30 pm

#### Guest Organists:

April 1 (Palm Sunday) – Jacob Temple San Juan Diego Roman Catholic Church

April 8 (Easter) – TBA

April 15 – Dr. Ann Labounsky Duquesne University

April 22 – Jessica Baier, Bower Hill Community Presbyterian Church







## **Epiphany Academy of Formative Spirituality**

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

#### First Mondays

Dates: April 2, May 7, June 4, October 1, November 5, December 3

Time: 7 pm - 8:30 pmFacilitator: Susan Muto, PhD

Cost: \$20/session

Please RSVP 412-341-7494

We will engage in conferences and discussions aimed at helping us find and understand what it means to integrate what we believe and how we live our beliefs in everyday life.

#### **Epiphany Academy** (continued)

#### Fiction and Formation

Dates: Saturdays, April 28, May 19, June 23, August 25, September 22, October 20 Time: please call 412-341-7494

Facilitator: Steve Geitgev

Cost: \$10/session

We will look at short stories and poems in relation to the Holy Scriptures and excerpts from spiritual classics of the Christian tradition. Sign up early, readings are distributed prior to class.







#### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

# **CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION** (CPE) with specialization in end-of-life

Family Hospice and Palliative Care is accepting applications for its 2012-2013 Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program.

The part-time, extended unit begins in September, 2012 and concludes in May, 2013. Interns complete 12 hours weekly in individual and group supervision, didactic seminars and pastoral care of hospice patients in private homes and at two inpatient hospice units. The CPE unit is conducted under the accreditation and standards of the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy (CPSP).

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

#### **FOR SALE**

A restored Victorian 2 story house on a former historical Methodist campground (now inter-denominational). Located in the Tarentum area, one of 33 cottages nestled in the woods with swimming pool, Sunday services and musical programs. A few blocks from river recreation.

2 BR, 1 1/2 baths plus outside shower. Office or sleeping porch. Sleeps up to six. Open porch on two sides.

Grounds maintained by year-round caretaker. Asking \$22K completely furnished.

Brochure available. Call Ginny at 412-828-1048.

#### Foundation of H.O.P.E. Welcomes New Staff

The Foundation of H.O.P.E., Christian Associates' pre- and post- release mentoring programs in conjunction with the Allegheny County Jail (ACJ) Chaplaincy, is pleased to welcome two new staff members to the ministry. *Ms. Caitlin Rohrer* has been chosen to succeed Ms. Tara Goodin as Director of the H.O.P.E. Pre-Release program at ACJ. *Mr. Charles "Jody" Raeford* has been hired to be the H.O.P.E. Aftercare mentoring Program Director.



Ms. Rohrer is a graduate of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, having served as an intern in the H.O.P.E. program while attending seminary. She is a candidate for ordination in the Presbyterian Church, USA. Prior to joining the H.O.P.E. staff she served as Administrative Assistant, Accrediting, for the Association of Theological Schools and has served as Director of Youth Programs at the Hot Metal Bridge Faith community.

Mr. Raeford comes to the Aftercare program from Pressley Ridge where he served in crisis stabilization and family

preservation, and as a master's level family therapist. "Jody" holds a BA in psychology from Edinboro University and a MS in Organizational Leadership from Geneva College. Prior to his human service career, he spent 18 years with US Airways as a senior flight attendant. He is a member of the Northway Christian Community.

The Foundation of H.O.P.E. supports two pods of inmates in their pre-release program at ACJ. Their Aftercare program provides both one-on-one mentors and mentoring support groups for men and women when they have been released from jail.

#### **Bread for the World**

The 2012 Pittsburgh-Western
Pennsylvania Bread for the World
Offering of Letters workshop is on
Saturday, April 28, from 9:30 a.m.
to 12:30 p.m. at The Good Shepherd
Lutheran Church, 4503 Old William
Penn Highway, Monroeville, PA
15146.

This interactive, engaging workshop will give you the tools you need to raise these important poverty issues to your church, campus, or group and to encourage people to advocate for and with hungry people. Breakout sessions will deepen your skills and your knowledge of hunger issues locally, nationally, and globally.

Bread's issue foci this year includes domestic nutrition programs, tax credits for low-income working families, poverty-focused foreign assistance, and international food aid. Actions by several members of Congress in your



area will be very important on these issues

Come meet other Bread members and justice activists in your area—as well as your regional organizer, Larry Hollar—and get energized to make a difference! Also check out the Offering of Letters campaign materials now available online at www.bread. org/OL.

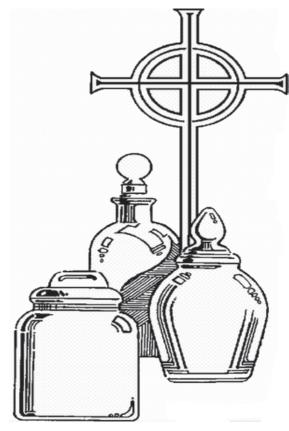
Questions? or to register: Email: **lhollar@bread.org** or call **1-800-619-9239**.



# Joint TEC/ELCA Service for the Renewal of Ordination Vows and Blessing of Chrism Oil

As a further step in the reception process of their full communion relationship two local judicatories will bring their clergy and rostered leaders together during Holy Week for a renewal of vows and the blessing of holy oils. The bishops of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, TEC and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA will gather with their clergy, deacons, and other rostered leaders on Monday, April 2, 2012, at 10:30 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 328 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

The Rt. Rev. Kenneth L. Price, Jr., Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh will be the celebrant and The Rev. Kurt F. Kusserow, Bishop of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod, ELCA will be the preacher. The faithful of both judicatories are invited to join in this solemn renewal of ministerial vows and the blessing



of holy oils for use in anointing for healing and for baptism. Similar Chrism Masses with renewal of vows will be held throughout Holy Week by the Catholic Dioceses of Greensburg and Pittsburgh, and the Anglican Diocese of Pittsburgh.

During the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in January, Bishop Kusserow had invited all of the ELCA's full communion partner clergy to the Lutheran Synod's monthly Ministerial Eucharist. Judicatory leaders and clergy from the Presbyterian Church USA, the Episcopal Church, and the United Church of Christ joined with their Lutheran colleagues to pray for the unity of the Church and to discuss how they can more fully cooperate in ministry in our region.

# **Disaster Work Teams Still Needed in Eastern Pennsylvania**

It was the fall of 2011 when Hurricane IRENE and Tropical Storm LEE pounded 19 counties in Eastern Pennsylvania. One of the most severely impacted areas was Bloomsburg, PA.

Local long term recovery efforts continue to need volunteers to assist with reconstruction of flood damaged homes. Two contacts for volunteering are: AGAPE, a non-denominational, faith-based mission to serve the people of that region (info@agapelovefromabove.org, (570) 317-2210) and St. Luke Lutheran Church (www.stlukesway.org, (570) 784-5035).



Additional information about volunteering your time and how to make appropriate donations of materials or finances for the recovery efforts can be directed to Western PA VOAD (Volunteers Active in Disasters) chair, Mr. Jerry Lynn (jjlynn143@gmail.com, (412) 486-0151).

# June Intensives 2012 at Trinity School for Ministry

June 4-11 | Pastoral Crisis Intervention - PT 725 The Rev. Rob Dewey presents a nationally recognized program for pastors and emergency responders.

June 11-16 | Paul Through Mediterranean Eyes: Cultural Studies in 1 Corinthians - NT 635/875 Dr. Kenneth Bailey returns to Trinity with insights from his new book.

Call the office of Extension Ministries to register 724.266.3838.





an evangelical seminary in the Anglican tradition 311 Eleventh Street, Ambridge, PA 15003 1-800-874-8754 | www.tsm.edu

# **UPCOMING CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENTS**

at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

**Biblical Interpretation A Church Educators' Certification Elective**April 16-20, 2012

James H. Platt, Lecturer in Greek, PTS

Nurtured by God's Word: A Workshop for Christian Educators Journey Inward; Journey Outward April 17, 2012 Steven S. Tuell, Associate Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament, PTS

No Shame in Wesley's Gospel: A 21st Century Pastoral Theology The Albright–Deering Lecture in Methodist Studies April 26, 2012 / 2:00 and 3:45 p.m. Edward P. Wimberly, Professor of Pastoral Care, The Interdenominational Theological Center The Church and the News Media: A Difficult, Necessary, and Inseparable Relationship

The J. Hubert Henderson Conference on Church and Ministry

April 27, 2012 / 11:00 a.m., 2:00 and 4:00 p.m.

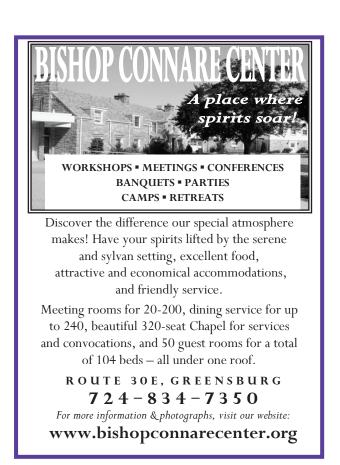
R. Gustav Niebuhr, Associate Professor in Religion and the Media, Syracuse University

Toward the Future Church: The Impact of Contemporary Cultural Movements and Individual Stories of Faith Summer Leadership Conference
June 10-13, 2012
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