



# Advent

## This Week at St. Brendan's

<b>Sunday</b>	(1-13)	8:00 a.m.	Worship
		8:15 a.m.	Hospitality hour
		8:30 a.m.	Brother's Brother ministry
		9:00 a.m.	Sr. Choir rehearsal
		10:00 a.m.	Worship
		10:00 a.m.	Sunday School
		11:15 a.m.	Hospitality hour
		11:15 a.m.	Discipleship group
<b>Monday</b>	(1-14)	11:00 a.m.	Be a Modern Episcopalian
		7:00 p.m.	Vestry meeting
<b>Tuesday</b>	(1-15)	7:00 a.m.	AA meeting
		10:00 a.m.	Conversation Friends
		10:30 a.m.	Bible Study
		1:30 p.m.	Tai Chi
<b>Wednesday</b>	(1-16)	9:00 a.m.	Men's breakfast
		7:00 p.m.	Worship
		7:00 p.m.	Overeaters Anonymous
		7:00 p.m.	Conversation Friends
		7:30 p.m.	Sr. Choir rehearsal
<b>Thursday</b>	(1-17)	10:00 a.m.	Conversation Friends
<b>Friday</b>	(1-18)	6:00 p.m.	Icon Retreat
<b>Saturday</b>	(1-19)	9:00 a.m.	Sacristans
		9:00 a.m.	Icon Retreat

## Serving Sunday, January 13, 2019

<b>Celebrant:</b>	The Rev. Regis Smolko
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	8:00 a.m. Ellen Groves
	10:00 a.m. Michael Donadee
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Acolyte team
<b>Prayers:</b>	Anne Hunt
<b>Chalice Bearers:</b>	Joyce Donadee
	Michael Donadee
<b>Altar Guild:</b>	Ellen Groves
	Anelisa Tarrant
<b>FISH:</b>	Mary Bertucci
<b>Godly Play:</b>	TBD
<b>Door person:</b>	TBD
<b>Nursery:</b>	Stacy Connifey
	Libby Juel
<b>Ushers:</b>	Chris Fleissner & Mike Wick
<b>Vestry:</b>	Allison Kline
<b>Hospitality:</b>	Anne & Jno Hunt
<b>LEM:</b>	Joyce Donadee

## The Priest's Corner

### Living with Uncertainty

It is so good to be back at St. Brendan's. Even though my days at the church have their share of uncertainty to them, by and large I'm able to recognize a lot of predictability. I really do like predictability, but I've noticed that growth for me most often occurs when I need to interact with uncertainty.

Our last couple days in Florida were heaped with uncertainty. My aunt, whom we were transporting to Pittsburgh to catch a plane to NYC so she could tend to her sick brother, unexpectedly fell. We faced uncertainty as to what we should do next and what really happened to my aunt. How injured was she? I was certain of one thing: we had responsibility for her since she fell under our watch. Yet my mind raced with possible next steps, not at all sure which to take. It wasn't until today that we have some reasonable certainty that she likely will be fine.

A friend had a medical event recently. He was taken to the hospital and given an explanation of the obvious condition. However, my friend was uncertain about whether the condition was the final diagnosis or a symptom of another unknown condition. Uncertainty! How do you handle it?

In Bible study this week we read in Acts about prominent Jews who wanted to kill Paul for his thoughts about the resurrection of the dead. I asked the group what their concept of "what happens after we die?" means. How do you explain "the afterlife" to an inquirer? Are you unsure of what to say? I often am. There are two practical things to try.

First, what do we do when we are uncertain? Try looking over your life and check if you've ever had a similar doubt. If yes, notice how you made it through the doubt and were able to let it go. Acknowledge the evidence that caused you to make it through this past uncertainty. Consciously believe you will surely be able to make it through the latest uncertainty.

Second, when the uncertainty has a positive or negative outcome possibility deliberately choose the positive outcome, and act as if this positive outcome is the "for real" outcome. What do you have to lose?

In conclusion, remember the opposite of uncertainty is actually faith. Faith often is a choice. Faith trumps uncertainty. It's within your power to choose it over uncertainty. Wouldn't you agree?

**Regis +**

# Announcements

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A donation was made to the **Brendan's Family and Friends Fund** by Jennifer & Tom Groves in thanksgiving for Regis Smolko and all the good things he has done for St. Brendan's.

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**Seeking Vestry Nominations.** Would you like to be a candidate for St. Brendan's Vestry? The parish will elect three people to join the nine-member group responsible for the financial and real affairs of the church. The election will take place on January 27 at the parish's annual meeting. Candidates must be willing to serve for a term of three years.

St. Brendan's bylaws require vestry nominees to be baptized persons 16 years of age or older, financial contributors of record at least once within the past 12 months, and regular worshipers in the congregation for six months prior to the annual meeting.

If you are interested in nominating someone or would like to nominate yourself, please let one of these members of the Nominating Committee know: Mary Haider, Jno Hunt, Allison Kline, Dan Moore, Peter Sweet, or Julia Wick.

Here are mini-profiles of two vestry candidates St. Brendan's has so far:

I was born just south of London, but moved to the USA in 1973. After graduate work at the University of Massachusetts, I served as a teacher, researcher and administrator at universities in Chicago, Omaha, and Worcester (Mass.) before retiring last July after five years at Duquesne. My parents were regular church-goers (in the "C-of-E," of course) and I have happily followed their example. I met my wife, Megan (Overby), when we were fellow parishioners at Trinity Church in Highland Park (Ill.), and serving parishes in various roles has been an important part of our life since then. Somewhere there is a photograph of me in a lobster costume, promoting a parish fundraiser in a July 4 parade; Meg served a term as warden, among other things. We are so grateful that we found St. Brendan's shortly after moving to Western Pennsylvania in 2013 and happy to be helping out with the Walk-In Ministry and the ESL classes as well as with all-parish events such as the Cookie Walk.

– **Tim Austin**

Originally from Alabama, I moved with my partner Bradford to Coraopolis four years ago in February. We joined St. Brendan's not long after getting settled in the area. Bradford and I have been together for seven years. I have two children, Bradley and Carrington, and two grandchildren, Lilly, age 2, and Jackson, 6 months, whom I just adore. I work for SiriusXM as a project manager for the northeast. I love Alabama and Steelers football. At St. Brendan's I am an usher and work on the Invite, Welcome and Connect committee. I feel the best thing about St. Brendan's is that we welcome and love everyone.

– **Larry Toler**

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**Help Wanted.** Looking for a way to pitch in at St. Brendan's but not sure how? Here are two places where help is needed.

- **AV team member.** St. Brendan's needs a small crew of parishioners to be trained in the use of the church's audio-visual equipment: microphones, projector, screens, etc. Team members would be available to set up the AV equipment for use at church services and be on call to help renters who occasionally use the technology. If interested, please contact Kevin Boyd or Chris Botti.

- **Banner coordinator.** This person would change the outdoor banners that are used seasonally to promote parish events and also order new banners as needed. If interested, please contact Annemarie Malbon or Tom Waseleski.

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**Please welcome** Lexi Kathryn Harbison, who was born on New Year's Day! Lexi is the granddaughter of member Andrea Dickerson and the late Paul Dickerson. Congratulations to the parents, Lauren and Eric Harbison.

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The parish **Annual Meeting** will be held on January 27, following the 10:00 a.m. service. Parishioners will be given a summary of the church year past and a preview of plans for 2019. Members will also have the opportunity to ask questions of Father Regis and the vestry. St. Brendan's ministry leaders are asked to provide a brief written summary about their ministry in 2018 for inclusion in the parish's annual report to members. The deadline for submitting the reports to the office is Monday, January 14.

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**North Hills Food Pantry.** Did you know that January is both National Soup Month and National Oatmeal Month? Guess the weather is getting cold! Let's do our best to help others warm up with donations of soup or oatmeal, but, as always, any other donations are always welcome. **Please remember, no glass jars.** If you have any questions, contact Ruth Horton at [rvhorton@gmail.com](mailto:rvhorton@gmail.com). Thank you for your support.



Are you using **Amazon Smile** when you shop online? Let's get St. Brendan's free money. Directions are on our website [www.stbrendans.org](http://www.stbrendans.org). Please tell family, friends, co-workers and neighbors to join us.

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Need a gift for someone who has everything? Would you like a way to acknowledge a special family event like a baptism or a birthday? A donation to the **Brendan's Family and Friends** fund is the perfect way to honor that special person or event. BFF funds are earmarked for unbudgeted building needs. Please pick up a BFF card in the narthex or from our website and make a donation today! Thank you for making a difference at St. Brendan's by becoming a BFF donor! Total BFF Donations for 2018 were \$11,632.

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This month the **Book Club** is reading “The Dry” by Jane Harper, a thriller/page-turner set in a parched small Australian town with big secrets. We’ll be meeting in the church library at 7 pm on February 7 to discuss the book and have some fun. Copies are available from the library in print and audio formats. For more information email Pat Carl [pkarrcarl@gmail.com](mailto:pkarrcarl@gmail.com).

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**Winter Coat Drive:** St. Brendan's is collecting new or gently used winter outerwear for refugees. Donations of all sizes of coats, hats, gloves, scarves, etc., may be placed in the collection bin in the narthex beginning. The clothing will be distributed by the Jewish Family and Community Services' Refugee & Immigrant Services organization. If you'd like more information, please contact Darrell Johnson.

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**Help for Haiti.** Many of you know Isaac Mondelus, who is from Haiti and who is active at St. Brendan's. He personally provides financial aid to his family in Haiti and Brazil. There are not many jobs in Haiti and so he is purchasing a small truck to ship to Haiti to create jobs for his sister and other people. The truck will be converted for use as a taxi and his sister will run the business and hire a driver. The truck will be shipped to Haiti and he is asking for donations of used shoes and summer clothing which will be given away or sold, especially clothing for babies and young children. He is also collecting personal items: combs, soap bars, toothbrushes, toothpaste and plastic dishes. Used sewing machines are needed which can provide jobs for people to have to make school uniforms to sell. If you would like to donate, please place your items in the colorful “tap tap” (Haitian taxi) box in the church entrance hall by January 24. Thank you. For more information, please contact Joyce Donadee.

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**Icon Workshop at St. Brendan's:** Byzantine iconography is a highly structured and disciplined art form which combines prayer and painting techniques to create serene images of Christ, Mary, the angels and the saints following centuries-old guidelines. Peter Pearson has been studying and painting icons for nearly 50 years, has authored three books on the subject, has painted hundreds of icons for churches, monasteries, seminaries, convents, and individuals all over the world and has taught hundreds of workshops. Peter's students number in the thousands and each has walked away with an icon of their very own. No previous experience or natural talent is required. We will paint, pray and follow the simple step-by-step instructions.

Please join us **January 17-20** in the social hall at St Brendan's for an Icon Workshop with Peter Pearson. Registration fee is \$250 and includes all supplies and instruction. Contact Kate Heston at [kmheston71@gmail.com](mailto:kmheston71@gmail.com) or 609-651-0080 for more information or to register.

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**Everyone is invited** to attend trainings on how to assist immigrants and refugees with legal accompaniment and home hosting. The workshops, sponsored by New Sanctuary Pittsburgh, are free and open to the public. They will be held January 22, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m., at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 304 Morewood Ave., Pittsburgh. Child care will be available.

One training will provide information on how to provide legal accompaniment for impacted people as they interact with law enforcement, ICE, and the courts system. Bring your questions! You will learn how to accompany immigrants to ICE check-ins, court hearings, and other interactions with law enforcement or the courts.

The other training will focus on how to provide housing for impacted people. Learn to be a good host home, hear about some typical host home experiences, and learn how to become part of the critical team that offers housing in their homes and owned (but not occupied) properties.

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**Trinity Cathedral Walk-In Ministry.** Your donations help to feed and clothe 50 to 60 people each week. The ministry needs: diapers, socks, men and women's underwear, and travel size cans of shaving cream. Please deposit them in the box outside Regis's office. Thank you for all the donations!

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**Please scroll to the next few pages for the Hospitality Hour schedule and the 2019 January ministry calendar.**



# January 2019

## Ministry calendar

Date	Lectors	Altar Guild	Sunday School	Nursery	Usher	Vestry	Hospitality
January 2 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Tammy Spoonhoward	Tammy Spoonhoward	~	~	~	~	~
January 6 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Joan Beatrous L Nate Boyd P Darrell Johnson C Stacey Coyle C Darrell Johnson LEV Stacey Coyle	Tammy Spoonhoward Betsy Smith	Fish Allison Kline  Godly Play TBD	Stacy Connifey Mary Haider	Joyce & Michael Donadee	Kevin Boyd	Kate & Keith Heston
January 9 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Alan Schneider	Linda Schneider	~	~	~	~	~
January 13 Sunday 8 & 0:00 am	8 Ellen Groves L Michael Donadee P Anne Hunt C Joyce Donadee C Michael Donadee LEV Joyce Donadee	Ellen Groves Anelisa Tarrant	Fish Mary Bertucci  Godly Play TBD	Stacy Connifey Libby Juel	Chris Fleissner Mike Wick	Allison Kline	Anne & Jno Hunt
January 16 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Gladys Carlisle	Les Carlisle	~	~	~	~	~
January 20 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Ellen Groves L Dean Peters P Deb Wunsche C Dean Peters C Janice Moore LEV Ruth Horton	Joan Klinefelter Janice Moore	Fish TBD  Godly Play TBD	Stacy Connifey Annemarie Malbon	Brad Thompson Larry Toler	Tom Waseleski	Julia & Mike Wick
January 23 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Ellen Groves	Ellen Groves	~	~	~	~	~
January 27 Sunday 8 & 10:00 am	8 Ruth Horton L Alan Schneider P Susan Shoemaker C Alan Schneider C Tim Austin LEV Darrell Johnson	Chris Botti Janet Fesq	Children's Liturgy	Stacy Connifey Libby Juel	Bob Smith Eric Helmsen	Dean Peters	Mary & Jim Evanochko
January 30 Wednesday 7:00 pm	Tammy Spoonhoward	Tammy Spoonhoward	~	~	~	~	~

# Hospitality Hour Hosts/Hostesses

October 2018  September 2019

## October 2018

- 7 Nancy & George Snyder
- 14 Pat Carl & Joan Beatrous
- 21 Animal Blessing
- 28 Gail Gagnon & Karen Dennis

## November 2018

- 4 Joyce & Michael Donadee
- 11 Darrell Johnson & Ruth Horton
- 18 Eric Helmsen & Joni Reis
- 25 Nancy & Wilder Bancroft

## December 2018

- 2 Saundy & Tom Waseleski
- 9 Chris & Roger Botti
- 16 Anelisa Tarrant & Janet Fesq
- 23 Julia Wick & Ken Parsons
- 30 Rob & George Latta

## January 2019

- 6 Kate & Keith Heston
- 13 Anne & Jno Hunt
- 20 Julia & Mike Wick
- 27 Mary & Jim Evanochko

## February 2019

- 3 The Fleissner family
- 10 Janice & Dan Moore
- 17 Karen & Dean Peters
- 24 Mary & Dale Bertucci

## March 2019

- 3 Amy & Kevin Boyd
- 10 Brad Thompson & Larry Toler
- 17 Allison Kline & Linda Mesko
- 24 Michael Newton & Peter Sweet
- 31 Ellen Groves & Kelli Cerra

## April 2019

- 7 Betsy & Bob Smith
- 14 Sharon Hlawati & Donna Aiello
- 21 Megan Overby & Tim Austin
- 28 Regis Smolko & Ken Parsons

## May 2019

- 5 Karen & Dean Peters
- 12 Sylvia & Bob Affleck
- 19 Sharon & Ron Ladick
- 26 Tammy & Bill Spoonhoward

## June 2019

- 2 Linda & Alan Schneider
- 9 Susan Shoemaker & Margie Davies
- 16 Annemarie Malbon & Janet Fesq
- 23 Parish Picnic
- 30 Jillian Mooman & Cameron Grosh

## July 2019

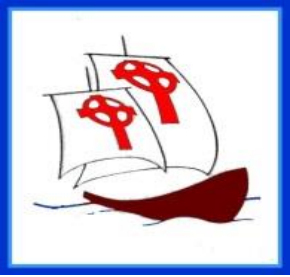
- 7 Stacy Connifey & Mary Haider
- 14 Judy Flick & Marcy Little
- 21 Debbie Wunsche & Jim Gray
- 28 Joan & Paul Klinefelter

## August 2019

- 4 Ruth & Steve Horton
- 11 Angela & Michael Schlumpf
- 18 Allison & Phil Burdette
- 26 Theresa Bryant

## September 2019

- 1 Darrell Johnson & Isaac Mondelus
- 8 Laureen & Todd Douds
- 15 The Aretz & Kinley family
- 22 Melanie & Thaddeus Popovich
- 29 Jean Pett-Ridge & Marge Marine



### **ST. BRENDAN'S MISSION**

Jesus said, "I have come to give life – life in all its fullness." John 10:10.  
Our mission is the realization of fullness through:  
the worship of God; service to the world;  
active concern for each other;  
and education to expand mind and spirit.

### **PARISH LIFE MINISTRY LEADERS**

Audit: Kevin Boyd  
Book Club: Pat Carl  
Brendan's Boots: Tom Waseleski  
Dinner Group: Janice Moore  
Finance Chair: Eric Helmsen  
Green Thumb Gang: Roger Botti  
Historian: Ellen Groves  
Holiday Arts & Crafts Sale: Anelisa Tarrant  
Invite Welcome Connect: Brad Thompson  
Memorial Garden: Dan Moore  
Merry Meal Makers (M&M's): Saundy Waseleski  
Nursery: Stacy Connifey  
Parish Profile: Kelli Cerra  
Reiki Ministry: Melanie Popovich  
Rental: Mark Shoemaker  
Scholarship: Tom Waseleski  
Sticks & Strings: Joni Reis  
Debbie Jennings  
Web Site: Kelli Cerra

### **VESTRY MEMBERS**

Tom Waseleski: Sr. Warden  
Ruth Horton: Jr. Warden & Outreach  
Kevin Boyd: Finance & Technology  
Chris Botti: Fundraising & Clerk  
Allison Kline: Education  
Annemarie Malbon: Communication  
Dean Peters: Worship  
Peter Sweet: Newcomers  
Julia Wick: Hospitality / Inreach / Secretary  
Treasurer: Ellen Groves

### **WORSHIP MINISTRY LEADERS**

Acolytes: Anelisa Tarrant  
Altar Guild: Tammy Spoonhoward  
Flower Ministry: Sylvia Affleck  
Libby Juel  
Community of Hope: Ruth Horton  
Scheduler: Kelli Cerra  
Ushers: Eric Helmsen

### **ST. BRENDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Corner of Rochester & McAleer Roads  
2365 McAleer Road, Sewickley, PA 15143  
Phone: 412-364-5974 ~ Fax: 412-364-6024  
Office hours ~ Monday thru Friday 8:00-2:00  
Web Site ~ <http://www.stbrendans.org>  
Facebook ~ <https://www.facebook.com/StBrendansEpiscopalChurch/>  
Nextdoor ~ <https://franklinparkpittsburgh.nextdoor.com/pages/st-brendans-episcopal-church-sewickley-pa/recommend/>  
Priest in Charge, Fr. Regis Smolko ~ [regisjs@verizon.net](mailto:regisjs@verizon.net)  
Administrative Assistant, Katie Cervone ~ [stbrendans@comcast.net](mailto:stbrendans@comcast.net)  
Music Director, Debbie Wunsche ~ [dwunsche@zoominternet.net](mailto:dwunsche@zoominternet.net)  
Musician, Erica Lin ~ [hylERICA@yahoo.com](mailto:hylERICA@yahoo.com)

### **OUTREACH MINISTRY LEADERS**

Adopt-A-Highway: Tom Waseleski  
CRIES Advocacy: Ellen Groves  
English as a Second Language: Joyce Donadee  
Elizabeth Murphy  
Linda Schneider  
Invite Welcome Connect: Bradford Thompson  
North Hills Food Bank Ministry: Ruth Horton  
Garden of Hope: **Open**  
Miryam's: Julia Wick  
Rob & George Latta  
Janice & Dan Moore  
Stacy Connifey  
Under One Roof: Joyce Donadee  
.lim Fvannchko