



Weekly at St. Brendan's

- Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship, via live streaming**
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UcKCY2BEJXlqMoVc_nXXG7ew
- Monday 8:15 a.m. Daily Morning Prayer, via zoom**
 Zoom website <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/4796201105>
11:00 a.m. Be a Modern Episcopalian, via zoom
 Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>.
- Tuesday 7:00 a.m. AA meeting, via zoom**
 Dial in: 312-626-6799 Meeting Id:345 892 252
9:00 a.m. Staff meeting, via zoom
 Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>
11:00 a.m. Bible Study, via zoom
 Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>.
4:30 p.m. Book Club discussion, via zoom
 Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484853481>
- Friday 7:30 p.m. Suspended-Game Night, via zoom**
 Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/4575423762>

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Celebrant: The Rev. Julie Smith

Participating and representing St. Brendan's in prayer and worship and receiving Holy Eucharist for all members and friends of St. Brendan's.

The Priest's Corner

Some Important Learning Opportunities to "Bind Up" your Own Racism and Two Important Works of Love

Do you remember when we had the total parish meeting after George Floyd was murdered and many people at St. Brendan's clearly said, "We must do something." Nearly 40% of our church participated in the meeting, and there was a lot of follow-up. It's still going strong.

FIRST THING TO DO: As you know we posted a banner outside our church that stated, "St. Brendan's Believes Black Lives Matter." This prompted phone calls and email messages critical of our actions. Now, in the first of a planned series of Zoom webinars; we seek to articulate for our members and for the general public:

- the beliefs of the Episcopal Church on issues such as systemic racism and racial inequity;
- the beliefs of many members of St. Brendan's on those same issues and, in addition, the decision we took to display the banner; and
- the background and goals of the national Black Lives Matter organization. Subsequent forums will examine "Race, Religion and Reconciliation" from a variety of other perspectives.

The Panelists for September 1 at 7:15pm

Rev. Eric McIntosh, Canon for the Beloved Community, Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh

Tim Austin, Senior Warden, St. Brendan's

Tanisha Long, Founder, Black Lives Matter of Pittsburgh

Moderator: Jon Delano, Money & Politics Editor for KDKA-TV

SECOND THING TO DO: Hone up your understanding of Black Lives Matter. (Learn the response to "But...all lives matter!" as well as how to handle the critique: "It's all Marxist.") Please join Julie and Ginny for the third discussion in this series. Attendance at a prior discussion is not necessary to be a part of our NEXT DISCUSSION –Thursday September 3, 4:30 p.m.

We will use the time to discuss what we learned from participating in the public forum St. Brendan's is hosting to address race, religion and reconciliation on Tuesday, September 1 at 7:15 pm via Zoom.

We hope to discuss what being an ally means for us individually/collectively and how to process what we are experiencing.

THIRD THING TO DO: Consider becoming a Lay Pastoral Care Minister. We meet by Zoom every two weeks. We have started a food bank and are making sure hungry people get the food. We review who has requested prayers and make sure these prayers are being offered up. We keep in touch with several of these people, who want us to, by checking on how things are going. We make preparations for and help with administering Eucharist for our parishioners who want to make an appointment to come to church and receive the sacrament. They come to the portico of the church (masked and in a socially distanced way) to receive communion. We call people who have lost loved ones through death, parishioners who are hospitalized or have family members who are ill or having surgery. We consider ministry like the following:

FOURTH THING TO DO: Do you remember Mary and Jon DeMartino? Jon was instrumental in getting our ESL and Conversation Friends to come about at St. Brendan's. Mary and Jon were regulars at our church for a couple years until Mary's job took her back to Boston. During their time in the area Mary joined her siblings caring for her aging mother—who developed blindness and a number of basic aging challenges. Mary's mom came to St. Brendan's for special occasions, and many of us had the chance to spend time with her when she visited. The siblings now are in need of help, especially as COVID-19 complications have developed. Here is the huge need this family and their dear mother has. Here in Mary's words:

"...on a personal note, I want to ask a favor-which is kind of lousy of me seeing as how we've been gone for two years. But my sister is struggling to get caretakers for my mom and it's close to impossible for me to get back and help given my job. My older sister's health has worsened, my brother and his wife are less inclined to help and are annoyed at the practices my younger sister wants in place to protect my mom from COVID-19. The woman we had helping out and filling shifts, has had to quit due to family issues; and I am seriously worried about my younger sister's health and stress over this. The agency we used to help out can't get people either.

Do you know if there is anyone trustworthy in the St. Brendan's congregation that might be able to do this type of work and is willing to travel to Canonsburg to do it? More than one would be great. My mom is a sweet-tempered person; and everyone who has ever cared for her or even knew her, just loves her. If you know of anyone, I can put them in touch with my sister who lives just down the road from the church to get details.

Sorry to impose; but my concern for my sisters and my mom has to supersede my embarrassment at asking for a favor. Please say hi and give our love to all at St. Brendan's."

—Mary

Please let me know if you are moved by this appeal for help and have some time to help with this pressing need.

Regis+



St. Brendan's ESL program is starting up again starting on September 1. If you would like to meet people from other countries and help them to feel more comfortable and successful in Pittsburgh, this might be your ministry. We have several volunteers, all of whom work with the students online through Zoom. The students are arranged into two classes - one for high beginner students and the other for intermediate to advanced students. Both classes meet at the same time, each with its own lessons and volunteers. The lessons are prepared for you. Volunteers can be flexible about when they volunteer so they can sign up when they see on our ESL online calendar what times they want to work. The classes are conducted Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:00 to 11:30 and Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30pm.

If you are thinking about volunteering and have any questions, you are free to contact one of us: Tim Austin austover@gmail.com Linda Schneider schneiderlinda@comcas.net Ginny Volponi gabby4045@gmail.com Joyce Donadee jdjdonadee@gmail.com.

The ESL team needs volunteers to translate our ESL flyer, which advertises our classes to people in the community. If you know someone who could translate our flyer into Spanish, Mandarin, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, or one of the Indian languages, please let Joyce Donadee know at jdjdonadee@gmail.com.

Senior Warden's Corner

Last Saturday, sixteen Brendanites met on a Zoom call with two representatives of the Bishop Nominating Committee. (As context for those who do not know the back-story: the Diocese of Pittsburgh is currently in the process of searching for a successor to Bishop McConnell.)

The Committee had given us some questions in advance on such topics as (i) areas of strength at St. Brendan's, (ii) ways in which we have interacted with the Diocese in the past, and (iii) key factors that we hope the Committee will consider as it sifts through the pool of candidates. In the end, though, our discussion ranged quite broadly and everyone, I think, had a chance to contribute. Canon Jim Shocuir, Rector of Christ Church-North Hills, moderated the session; he was very engaged throughout the hour and (as the Committee had promised) spent most of his time *listening* carefully to what we had to say.

I am very grateful to all those who signed up for the Zoom session. At future points in the search process, Brendanites will be given additional chances to participate and our parish Deputies will ultimately represent us in casting votes in the election itself. I will keep you updated on developments and I am happy to answer whatever questions you may have.

Sr. Warden, Tim Austin

Collection for Haiti: We have resumed our collection of items to be sent to Haiti. Summer clothing, shoes and any medical supplies (walkers, wheelchairs, etc.) are especially needed. If you have items to donate, you can drop them off in the large blue bin on the front porch of St. Brendan's. Thank you for any help you can give!

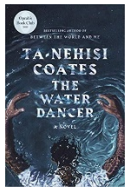
**ST. BRENDAN'S BELIEVES
BLACK LIVES MATTER**
JOIN US FOR A PUBLIC FORUM VIA ZOOM
Tuesday, September 1 @ 7:15pm
visit us at stbrendans.org for details

Mark Your Calendars: Tuesday, September 1 at 7:15 pm. St. Brendan's is hosting a public forum to address race, religion and reconciliation on Tuesday, September 1 at 7:15 pm via Zoom. Jon Delano from KDKA-TV will be moderating. Speakers will be Eric McIntosh, Canon for the Beloved Community for the Diocese, Tim Austin, our Senior Warden, and Tanisha Brown, founder of Black Lives Matter of Pittsburgh.

Please visit stbrendans.org for more information. Email Katie at StBrendansKatie@gmail.com to register.

Anti-Racism/Black Lives Matter Please join Julie and Ginny for the third discussion in this series. Attendance at a prior discussion is not necessary to be a part of our NEXT DISCUSSION –**Thursday September 3, 4:30 p.m.** We will use the time to discuss what we learned from participating in the public forum St. Brendan's is hosting to address race, religion and reconciliation on **Tuesday, September 1 at 7:15 pm** via Zoom. We hope to discuss what being an ally means for us individually/collectively and how to process what we are experiencing. Contact Ginny Volponi if you have questions: ginny4045@gmail.com.

The Zoom link for the Antiracism discussions is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4796201105>. Meeting ID: 479 620 1105 One tap mobile +13126266799,,4796201105# US (Chicago) +19292056099,,4796201105# US (New York)



Our book discussion group meets on Tuesdays at 4:30 via zoom. We are reading – *The Water Dancer* by Ta-Nehisi Coates. We read a chapter or two at a time - not the whole book - so our discussions can go a bit deeper. Our first discussion on this book will be September 8, at 4:30 via zoom.

If you would like to join us or if you need assistance getting the book, please Contact Julie jlsphone1@gmail.com.

Feel free to join us on zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81484853481> Meeting ID: 814 8485 3481, if needed.

CRIS Advocacy. (Christian Response In Emergency Situations). This week we are supporting the World Vision, an international organization that provides life-saving food, clear water and healthcare for families fighting for survival. Our donation helps build new wells.



You can help. We have tubs outside to the right of the front doors for any food donations. Or, if you wish, checks can be sent to St. Brendan's and we will convert them into grocery gift cards. **We have now discovered a new mission. There are halfway houses in lower income areas who share any donations to them with their neighbors, and we will be supporting them with some of our food donations. This gives those residents a sense of meaningful purpose, being the ones to share rather than the ones in need.** We will continue distributing food to the North Hills Food Bank and the Community Outreach.

Need food? We can help. If you or someone you know has a food shortage, contact the church and we will be happy to help.



Do you have a special prayer request? Contact Ruth Horton rvhorton@gmail.com. Pastoral Care Ministry members will include those persons in daily prayers or send out a prayer via text or email to someone if requested. All prayers and requests are kept confidential.

Kid's Corner

Buoyed by Faith

It isn't easy, to . . .

What is the hardest thing you have ever done? Learning how to ride a bike, or climbing up on monkey bars (geo domes?) or learning how to read? Math?

As a kid, everything seemed to be a mystery. My older brothers and sisters could all do things that I couldn't do. They did help me learn how to ride a bike and what I remember about learning is how many times I fell. Because the summer I learned how to ride a bike, I fell. A LOT!!! I had brush burns, bruises, a black eye, and skinned knees. I had band aids on for weeks. Then one day, almost like magic, I rode up a hill a bit wobbly but I rode up what seemed like a mountain, but I think it was a mound of dirt. And then I coasted down the other side. And. I. Didn't. Fall.

It was amazing. After that I tried and learned a lot of different things, but what I found out was if I was if I had a challenge to overcome, I really had to commit myself to meeting that challenge. I would have to work hard, and I would have to have help – I could not do everything by myself. That way, when I did accomplish my challenge, I felt really good about myself. But sometimes learning how to do something meant I had to give up something else. For instance, learning how to play trumpet in middle school meant practicing when other friends were playing. But knowing how to play an instrument later meant I played in marching band and met my best friends who are still my friends today.

Sometimes, making a choice feels like making a sacrifice. But that is what it means to be committed to a goal or to being a part of a team. You may sacrifice for the greater good.

This is what Jesus is trying to explain to the disciples today in the lessons. He's telling them they will face difficult times and have to make hard decisions – just like he is making about going to Jerusalem. It may not be what you want to do, but it is what he had to do.

When one disciple, Simon Peter tries to stop him, by talking him out of a hard decision to follow what God needs Jesus to do, Jesus says something that sounds curious to us – Jesus says, "Get behind me, Satan! You are seeing things from a human point of view, not from God's."

What Jesus means is, I made a promise, a commitment, and God wants me keep my promise and finish my commitment. It's not easy, but I have to do it. I have to follow through. Jesus tells his disciples, it won't be easy to be my follower, but if you really want to be one of us – and call yourself my follower – you need to not put yourself first. You need to help others – what he really said was "you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me."

But this is where we meet Jesus, and our friends. Jesus promises us it won't be easy to follow him, but just like other commitments, there is no greater joy than following through on your word to follow Jesus.

Peace,
Julie+



We celebrate our **September wedding anniversaries:**

2 Patricia & Neil Galone 8 Linda & Jason Konley 8 Tamara & Bill Spoonhoward 30 Michele & Michael Long

We celebrate our **September birthdays:**



1 Ethan Burdette	1 Anthony Turo	3 Luke Cerra	8 Griffin Wick
11 Phoebe Juel	12 AJ McKenna	13 Sylvia Affleck	13 Bobby Cerra
13 Jason Konley	14 Tash Zukowski	15 Max Karn	15 George Latta
16 Wes Sands	17 Ida LaQuatra	18 Rory Sands	18 Anelisa Tarrant
22 Melinda Bell	23 Michael Donadee	26 Lauren Chappo	

If you would like your birthday and/or wedding celebration published in our Little Log, please contact Katie, StBrendansKatie@gmail.com.

Racial Justice course available: Stevenson School for Ministry (SSFM) in the diocese of Central PA is offering a 5 week course called "Racial Justice and the Body of Christ" in September via Zoom. The course is FREE and is being taught by Dr. Joshua Davis, an SSFM faculty member. Anyone can take this course. To register, go to the link below.

<https://diocesecpa.org/shaped-by-faith-courses/>.

Please consider applying for an absentee ballot. We want you to stay safe.

Registered voters can sign up today at votesPA.com/ApplyMailBallot.



5 things you can do in less than 5 minutes:

- Make your bed
 - Feed your dog
 - Prepare a bowl of cereal
 - Reply to your parent's text
 - Sign up to vote by mail in the November 3 general election
- votesPA.com**

You Can Make a Difference. No matter your political preference, we all agree that voting is one of the most important civic responsibilities we have. And perhaps the most consequential election of our life time is coming up in November.

We need to do all we can to make sure that as many citizens as possible are registered to vote. Unfortunately, it is very difficult for some people to register. They work shifts, they lack transportation and many other obstacles stand in their way. You can help! We have voter registration forms with instructions available outside and in front of the building. We are urging each member of the parish to take 3 of the preaddressed applications and put a stamp on each. When you are out and about be aware of folks you meet who may not be registered and offer them an application. The cashier at the market, the Amazon delivery driver, the pizza delivery man, all these folks might welcome at chance to get registered to vote. Applications must be received by October 19, so we have lots of time. If everyone in the parish got 3 new voters, we could add almost 500 voters! Please do your part.

Dear Friends of St. Brendan's,

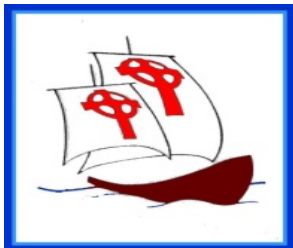
St. Brendan's Episcopal Church would like to thank, and request your prayers for, the following parishioners and friends or family of parishioners. Each is a medical professional or an emergency first responder who is helping people cope with the Coronavirus outbreak. They are using their skills and risking their own well-being by tending to those whose health has been threatened.

We are grateful for their selfless dedication and ask that God watch over them, keep them safe and give them both strength and rest. We hope that you will join the church in thanking and praying for:

Kimberly Becker	Maddie Bell	Kate Burnett	Frank Casey	Bob Cerra
Brenna Conroy	Adele Cotter	James Cotter	Laura Dugan Demers	Nicholas Demers
Andrea Dickerson	Franklin Park Police Department		Franklin Park Volunteer Fire Department	
Rebecca Donadee	Amanda Gagnon	Jeff Gagnon	Shelley Gagnon	Betsy Gentile
Lynne Gloor	Ann Hockenberry	Beth Lutz Hoffman	Eric Hood	John Jacobs and staff
Kerri Jensen	Dr. Ken	Luke O'Neill	Kim Pierce	Becca Sands
Warren Sands	Andrew Smith	Justin Zeigler	Cindy	Jennifer
Julie	Lane	Mike	Patrick	

Prayer for our medical personnel and first responders.

Lord, please bless and care for all healthcare workers and first responders. Grant them wisdom, knowledge, skill and compassion so that they may be instruments of Your healing power for those they serve and care for. Give them strength and support. May they be able to do their work in a spirit of love and kindness and mercy. Keep them safe and well as they make personal sacrifices on behalf of Your community. Amen.



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: Dan Moore
Historian: Ellen Groves
Holiday Arts & Crafts Sale: Karen Dennis
Memorial Garden: Dan Moore
Merry Meal Makers (M&M's): Saundy Waseleski
Parish Profile: Inactive
Reiki Ministry: Melanie Popovich
Rental: George Snyder
Scholarship: Tom Waseleski
Sticks & Strings: Joni Reis
Debbie Jennings
Web Site: Kelli Cerra

VESTRY MEMBERS

Sr. Warden: Tim Austin
Jr. Warden & Secretary/Clerk: Ruth Horton
Adult Formation: Dean Peters
Audio-Visual Technology: Cameron Grosh
Communication: Annemarie Malbon
Finance: Mary Bertucci
Fundraising: Larry Toler
Inreach & Hospitality: Janice Moore
Newcomers: Mary Bertucci
Dean Peters
Outreach: Donna Aiello
Safety & Security: Tim Austin
Stewardship: Larry Toler
Treasurer: Ellen Groves
Assistant Treasurer: Roger Botti
Worship: Cameron Grosh

WORSHIP MINISTRY LEADERS

Acolytes: Anelisa Tarrant
Altar Guild: Anelisa Tarrant
Pastoral Care Ministry: Ruth Horton
Flower Ministry: Sylvia Affleck
Libby Juel
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

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, Regis Smolko ~ regisjs@verizon.net

Youth Education Director, Julie Smith ~ jlsphone1@gmail.com

Parish Administrator, Katie Cervone ~ stbrendans@comcast.net

Music Director, Daniel May ~ bluesub@verizon.net

Nursery Director, Meghan Thompson ~ meghanthompson328@gmail.com

OUTREACH MINISTRY LEADERS

Adopt-A-Highway: Tom Waseleski
CRIES Advocacy: Ellen Groves
English as a Second Language: Tim Austin
Joyce Donadee
Linda Schneider
Garden of Hope: Tim Michael
Justice Ministry: Donna Aiello
Miryam's: Julia Wick
Rob & George Latta
North Hills Food Banks: Ruth Horton & Donna Aiello