

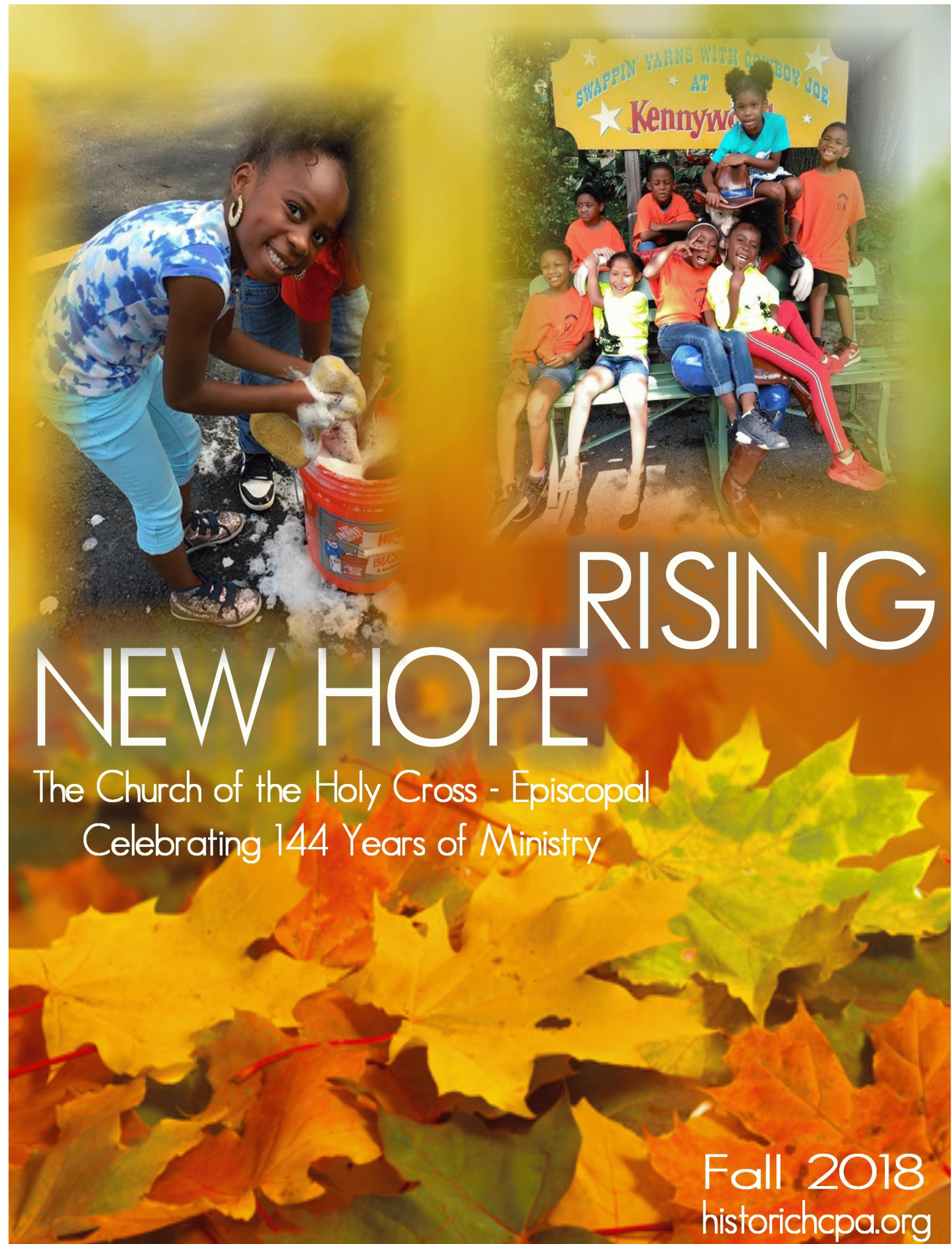


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The Diocese of Pittsburgh
The Episcopal Church in Southwestern Pennsylvania



NEW HOPE RISING

The Church of the Holy Cross - Episcopal
Celebrating 144 Years of Ministry

Fall 2018
historichcpa.org

A FUN-FILLED WEEKEND AT THE CROSS

Saturday, October 13 - 3pm

Sunday, October 14 - 10am

a special performance by
Howie Alexander

JAZZ
ON THE LAWN

with the Bill Henry Band

Tickets
\$25

Special Guest

**Newburgh Mayor
Torrance Harvey**



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Featuring

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Games - Food - Refreshments

Refreshment Booths Available

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7507 Kelly Street Pittsburgh, PA

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

OCTOBER 2018

- 2 Tuesday Morning, GRITS* Men's Bible Study
Every Day Café - 7:30a
- 13 Family & Friend's Day, Jazz at the Cross - 3p
- 14 Family & Friend's Day/Potluck - 10a
- 20 Meet & Greet with the Men of Holy Cross - 4p

NOVEMBER 2018

- 2 Reel Parables Movie Bible Study, 6p
- 3 Fall & Pre-Holiday Shop & Bazaar
- 4 All Saints Sunday/Potluck - make your departed loved one's favorite dish, bring a picture of that loved one 1-2 weeks in advance for display
- 6 **GENERAL ELECTION DAY - Remember to Vote**
Tuesday Morning, GRITS* Men's Bible Study
Every Day Café - 7:30a
- 10 60's & 70's with Aretha Franklin - Dance & Dress up - wear your platforms & Afro
- 10-11 Pittsburgh Episcopal Diocese Convention
- 22 Thanksgiving Day Morning Mass 8a
- 30 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting

DECEMBER 2018

- 4 Tuesday Morning, GRITS* Men's Bible Study
Every Day Café - 7:30a
- 5 Advent Evening Mass children's musical 6p
- 12 Advent Evening Mass children's musical 6p
- 19 Advent Evening Mass children's musical 6p
- 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service children's musical 6p
- 25 Christmas Morning Mass 8am

2019 SAVE THE DATE

- MLK January 21
- Annual Meeting Jan 27
- Black History Month/DC Bus Trip
- Men of Holy Cross 2nd Annual Sweet Hearts Dinner Feb 10
- Phat Tuesday
- Ash Wed Noon and Evening Mass
- Lenten Soup and Supper Wednesday Mass
- 2nd Annual Easter Egg Hunt
- Homewood Ministerium Seven Last Words April
- AYB Summer Program June
- 2nd Annual Movie on the Lawn June
- National Night Out August



AHRCO Allegheny Housing Rehabilitation Corporation

About Us

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Contact Us

Opportunities

Allegheny Housing Rehabilitation Corporation

"In order to succeed...
you must follow your passion." - Milton Washington

CONTENTS

University of Pittsburgh
Chancellor Patrick Gallagher
and

Dr. Kathy Humphrey
invite you to join the celebration
when Pitt and the Community of Homewood
open the doors of the first



THURSDAY. OCTOBER 18TH

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

(Remarks and Ribbon Cutting at 6:15 p.m.)

622 North Homewood Avenue | Pittsburgh, PA 15208

Enjoy an evening of Services and Opportunities
Prizes, Fun, Refreshments, and
children's T-shirts while they last.



www.cec.pitt.edu

**A Publication of
the Church of the Holy Cross
Episcopal**

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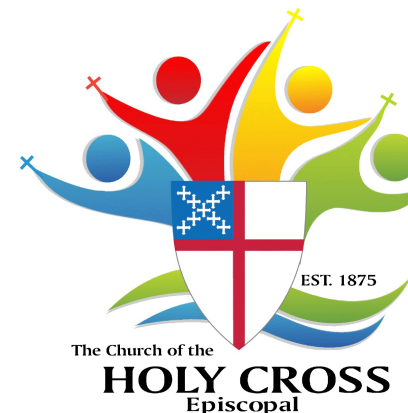
Rev. Torrey O. Johnson, Priest-in-Charge
Karen Graves, Parish Administrator
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Julian Wilson, Sexton
Robert Doswell, Lead Organist/Choir Director
Cecelia Epperson, Archivist

Vestry Members

Sylvia C. Wilson, Senior Warden
Virgil Haley, Junior Warden
Roxie Martin, Vestry Clerk
Carl Fox, Oliver T. Jackson
Carol Wilds, Lyle Wood

Licensed Eucharist Ministers

Nancy Baker, Elaine Effort, Leon L. Haley, PhD
Allison Lee Mann, Darlene D. Malone,
Alexis Meyers, Martha Shelby, Lyle Wood



FEATURES

Page	
8	Press Down Shaken Together: Stewardship Who is ELA?
9	Holy Cross Pictorial Christmas Tree Lighting Good Egg Hunting March for Our Lives Movie on the Lawn Community Gardening Act Your Best National Night Out

COLUMNS

Page	
4	IN THE NEWS
5	FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE
6	BENEATH THE CROSS - Parish Life

EDITOR'S NOTES

In this issue, you will find program updates and pictorials of some of the many events and activities held at the Church of the Holy Cross in the past nine months. Please let the church staff know if you have enjoyed this publication and look for the next edition this winter!



SNEAK PEEK

Also coming up in the next edition of New Hope Rising – a new column "A Living Legacy: featuring our own Rev. Dr. Harold Lewis.

Award Winners



Holy Cross member, the Honorable Judge Kim Berkeley Clark, has been recognized for her work and received the highest honor bestowed to a state court judge by the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) – the William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence.

Judge Clark has earned a national reputation for transforming the way children and families who enter the court system are treated, by creating a “trauma-informed” courthouse.

“The National Center is honored to present the Rehnquist Award to a state court judge who demonstrates the power of leading by example. Judge Clark is a leader who is committed to helping families,” said, NCSC President Mary C. McQueen. “Her work has dramatically improved the lives not only of those who have entered her courtroom but of thousands of other families.”

At the March of Dimes Eighth Annual Transportation, Building, and Construction Awards Luncheon, Sylvia C. Wilson was presented the “Service to Humanity Award.” She received this specifically as the Chairperson of ALCOSAN’s Board of Directors, but also for her various community activities. The luncheon held, June 20, 2018 at the Westin Convention Center, was to celebrate the work of individuals and peer companies, as well as to support the March of Dimes’ mission of fighting for the health of moms and babies.



A Major Development

Rev. Johnson serves in a dual capacity as a Reserve Chaplain at the 911th Airlift Wing here in Pittsburgh. He was recently promoted from Air Force Captain to Major. Congratulations Chaplain Major Torrey O. Johnson!



Happy Retirement!

Elaine Effort’s school counselor suggested that she continue her work with radio because she sounded really good on the radio and did such a nice job. So, instead of becoming an attorney, Elaine had fun at work. She was with KQV Radio for 38 years.

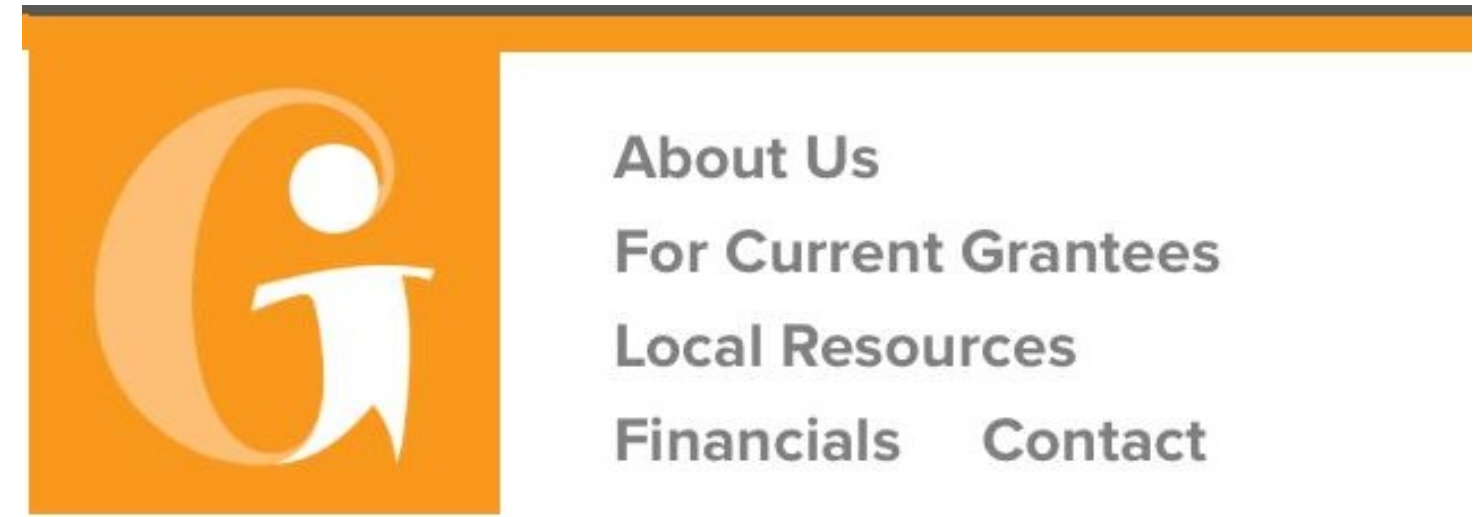
She has been a voice for our community and has always been honest in her coverage. If there were a question about a story, Elaine told her bosses, “I stand by my story.” They would respond, “You stand by the story, I’m standing by you.”

This honesty and sincerity was acquired because of her family and her grandparents, who as Christians, incorporated God’s word in their lives. This same involvement has also been embraced by her husband and children.



Netflix Filming in Homewood

Holy Cross was honored to host the Netflix production crew, actors, and extras. They were in Homewood to film Season 2 of the series “Mindhunter.” Fantastic cooks were on site to prepare lunch for over 100 crew members and the staff of Holy Cross!



THE GRABLE FOUNDATION

AREAS OF FOCUS

RECENT GRANTS APPLICATION

THE GRABLE LEGACY



Improving the Lives of Children

THE GRABLE FOUNDATION



The culminating activity for the summer was "There's No Place like Homewood" a performance with song, music, dance, drama, and poetry — all about the great history in Homewood.



35th ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

For the observance of 35th anniversary of National Night Out, the Homewood Ministerium, a pastoral organization of Homewood churches, provided an evening of safe activities for the overall community. Rev. Torrey Johnson (an active participant with the Homewood Ministerium) and the Church of the Holy Cross joined Bethany and Shiloh Baptist Churches enjoying the fun activities for adults and youth, and all laughs and love.



FROM THE PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

Blessings to the Church of the Holy Cross Family!



As I indicated during the annual meeting in February, my actual start date was December 1, 2018, but I did a lot of preparation, worship service planning, meetings with parishioners and community members, as well as visits with sick and shut-in, during the month of November.

My main message: "New Hope for Holy Cross: A Community Outreach Initiative" has been the focus for 2018. The aim is to revitalize the church while directly speaking to the needs of the community through various programs but also at the same time, ensuring that the spiritual needs of Holy Cross members are also met.

It was suggested that Rev. Johnson meet with small groups of Holy Cross members/stakeholders for the purpose of getting to know him better, to learn more about his ministry, and to discuss issues that normally would not be conducive in a larger environment.

I have held "Meet and Greets" this year, meeting with members of The Rector's Guild, Raise the Roof, the Dorcas Society, the Youth, and a few other stakeholders who attended these small gatherings. I will be meeting the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) and the Men of Holy Cross this fall. It is my hope to expand these greetings to more church members in the coming months. If you know of anyone interested in attending one of these gatherings, or if you have ideas for a future meet & greet, please contact the church office. I thank Martha Shelby and Glenda Mayo for coordinating these efforts.

I stated in the Annual meeting, "I am honored and blessed to serve Holy Cross. I will continue to extend God's love and grace to the Holy Cross membership and the surrounding community."



The Rev. Torrey O. Johnson's Service of Institution was highlighted in the June 10, 2018 issue of the New Pittsburgh Courier. The Right Rev. Dorsey McConnell, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh and the Rev. Kurt Kusserow, Bishop of ELCA Southwestern Pennsylvania presided over the service. Rev. Dr. Lawrence Clark, Pastor of St. Mark Lutheran Church in Chicago delivered the sermon.



BENEATH THE CROSS

Parish Life



In Memoriam

Laurence Cosby, Sr.
Parthenia Brown
Carroll Walters
Doris Brevard

Holy Baptism

Jaxon Ogechi Randolph Aquillera
Xavier Ace McClendon
Gavin Andre McClendon
Haven Alexis McCoy-Lofton
Savannah Alice McCoy-Lofton
JaLil Washington
Gerald Cornell McClendon
Quincy Ashley, Jr.

First Communion

Xavier Ace McClendon
Gavin Andre McClendon
Haven Alexis McCoy-Lofton
Savannah Alice McCoy-Lofton
JaLil Washington

Confirmations

Abumbola Iyabo Talabi
Timothy Herman Reese
Christina R. McClendon
Gerald Cornell McClendon
Haven Alexis McCoy-Lofton
Savanah Alice McCoy-Lofton

- † Holy Cross' Lay Eucharist ministry was reconstituted. Seven faithful church members are assisting Rev. Johnson to provide communion to our sick and shut-in at least twice per month. To date we have served more than 48 calls.
- † The importance of Sunday school and Christian education has been reestablished. Sunday School breakfast is being provided through a grant from Thrivent Financial. Each Sunday, youth receive valuable Christian education along with a meal.
- † Calling Post has been used to contact members for emergencies or a need for rapid response. (Please be sure that your phone number is correct with the church. The call will typically show up as coming from Holy Cross or from a number in Oklahoma.
- † In the area of pastoral care and support, Rev. Johnson has provided over 42 communion calls; made over 10 hospital visits; have given more than five grief & bereavement consultations; presided over four funerals; conducted first communion, youth confirmation and adult discovery confirmation classes.
- † As an active reservist, Rev. Johnson also provides Chaplain care and support at the Military Base: 911th Wing. He leads two Bible study classes twice per month.
- † The Holy Cross website is still under development. Social media has been set up and the design is complete. Facebook and Twitter accounts are both set up. A PayPal account has been established.
- † All of Holy Cross' outreach ministries are managed through ELA – the Episcopal Lutheran Alliance.



ACT YOUR BEST INAUGURAL YEAR

SUMMER ARTS ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Act Your Best (AYB) Summer Arts Program provided Homewood youth with various positive enrichment activities over eight weeks this summer. Three "Learn and Earn" students with the Bloomfield-Garfield Association and the City of Pittsburgh were assigned to AYB as teen mentors. Monday through Friday for eight weeks, AYB youth were provided breakfast and lunch each day and then exposed to a wide array of arts programs and physical activities.

The youth experienced a wealth of field trips (with transportation provided by the Rev. Rodney Lyde and Baptist Temple) to the Phipps Conservatory, the Fort Pitt Blockhouse & Museum, the Incline, the Nationality Rooms at the Cathedral of Learning, Kennywood, the "ART House" in Homewood, and the Carnegie Library. They also visited the County Courthouse and meet the K-9 police dogs and their handlers.

There were hands-on crafting projects, lessons in gardening, and music lessons with hand bells and steel drums.





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The Hillman Foundation's mission is to improve the quality of life in Pittsburgh and southwestern Pennsylvania through strategic and thoughtful grantmaking in support of a wide range of institutions to advance economic development, health, education, human services, the arts, and the environment.

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The Men of Holy Cross went to Dilworth Elementary School to read to the children in grade levels K to 5. It was a successful venture, one that was enjoyed, probably more by the volunteers, than the children.



Holy Cross New Liturgical Dance Team



Honoring Chad Dion Lassiter, (center) Executive Director of the Southwestern Regional Human Rights Commission

PRESS DOWN, SHAKEN TOGETHER: STEWARDSHIP

Parish finances begin and end with stewardship. All that we have belongs to God and is entrusted to us to use for God's purposes. Members of the parish give to the church in stewardship of their possessions, and, then, the vestry uses these offerings in good stewardship of what is given. Stewardship is, first of all, a biblical priority. Jesus talked frequently about the right use of possessions (Luke 12:42-48; 21:1-4; etc.). The Episcopal Church at the General Convention of 1982 called on every member of the church to accept the "biblical tithing as the minimal standard of Christian giving." Among the vestry's responsibility is to ensure that money is used carefully within the parish, and that the needs of others should have a high priority.

- † AC for HC Campaign — The initial bid to install a ductless air conditioning system was much lower than later bids we received. The campaign committee agreed to slow the process down in order to ensure that we had accurate numbers to complete the process. Contributions received to date will be placed in an interest bearing account. Contributions may still be made for this campaign as we know this must be done.
- † In the annual budget, funds to be raised for 2018 was set at \$50,000. To date, \$61,318.05 have been raised via sponsorships and grants. The funds have been used for helping hands and community outreach initiatives; many are listed in this publication. This effort exceeded the goal by almost \$12,000 and has helped offset Holy Cross' general fund expenses.

Holy Cross in Your Estate/Will

The Church of the Holy Cross was recently endowed with a gift from the trust of the late Doris Brevard who was a longtime member of the church. (Her grandparents help to organize Holy Cross.) Doris' plan ensures the continued existence of this historic church. As you do your estate planning, consider how you can help continue the legacy of Holy Cross.

WHO IS ELA?

Unlike Siri, ELA is not "intelligent assistant" that answers voice commands. ELA is the Episcopal Lutheran Alliance – the 501c3 non-profit, tax-exempt, charitable organization of the Church of the Holy Cross. All donations made to this entity are tax deductible.

ELA was re-established and renamed earlier this year, reforming in conjunction with the Episcopal Diocese and the Southwest Lutheran Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). The mission of ELA is to establish collaboration critical to community redevelopment. "We believe in sustainable economic development. We provide programs, resource mobilization, and community organizing that help strengthen and empower our communities."

Dr. Leon Haley, Sr. is the Board Chair. Rev. Torrey O. Johnson is the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Other board members are Glenda Mayo, Oliver Jackson, Martha Shelby, and Glenda Mayo. Community outreach programs that have occurred at the Church of the Holy Cross since December have been under the ELA umbrella. ELA continues its effort to obtain grant to fund all ELA activities and programs.

You can follow ELA activities on an updated ELA website and on the Facebook. All donations for outreach activities can be made through these sites:

- Online: <https://elallianceinc.org>
- On Facebook: Episcopal Lutheran Alliance
- or: Torrey Johnson (Episcopal Lutheran Alliance)

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Through an ELA grant, Holy Cross has re-established its urban garden initiative which is rooted in the history of this church as Holy Cross once owned a grocery store in Homewood. Community gardening helps restore the importance of African-American agricultural history and self-sufficiency.

This year's crop yielded several different varieties of tomatoes, corn, cucumbers, peppers, and herbs: mint, basil, thyme, and dill. Several types of flowers were also planted and bloomed during the season. We are planning a "Fresh From the Garden" cooking workshop as an addition to this garden initiative for those who tilled, planted, worked, watered the garden.

A storage shed has been purchased and is being constructed to store all the necessary equipment. The retaining wall and platform were also completed through a grant from ELA.



BLACK PANTHER COMES TO THE CROSS

FREE! MOVIE
on the Lawn
 Rain Date:
 Sun June 24
Family Fun for Everyone



www.elallianceinc.org
 call: 412-242-3209



June 23, 2018 @ 7pm
 Movie begins at dusk - BYOCB*
 *Bring your own chair or blanket
 7507 Kelly Street Pittsburgh, PA



Holy Cross' first "Movie on the Lawn" screening was the Marvel blockbuster "The Black Panther." It was a first time viewing for some, while others who had seen it multiple times came to enjoy the experience again on the church lawn. Even a rain shower didn't stop moviegoers from enjoying the film and the delicious popcorn and other movie goodies.

Everyone is waiting with excitement for the next movie on the lawn at Holy Cross.



HOLIDAY FUN

FOR HOMEWOOD YOUTH



The Christmas spirit was in Homewood celebrating the first ever Christmas Tree Lighting at the Church of the Holy Cross. Attendees were treated to music from the the Faison Choir, Henry Biggs, and Tim Stevens, singing carols through the night and enjoying cookies and hot cider.

Zone 5 police officers also joined in the fun, donated bags of toys for the children. Over 350 toys were given away and 26 lucky boys and girls won bikes in a drawing. Plans are already underway for the 2018 Christmas Tree Lighting.



GOOD EGG HUNTING

Holy Cross and the Baptist Temple Community group hosted a community Easter Egg Hunt. The grounds of Holy Cross were filled with activity – from a mime group performance and fun in a bouncy house for the youngest kids to an appearance by Mr. and Mrs. Easter Bunny. Everyone enjoyed the hot dogs, chips, beverages, and the many prizes awarded that day.



MARCH FOR OUR LIVES

In response to the deadly nationwide school shootings, 30 young people from the Homewood community attended the March for Our Lives in Washington, DC. on March 24, 2018. Youth and chaperones (Holy Cross members and community residents) traveled by bus to the event where they were interviewed by local, national, and international news media outlets. Clothed in their own "Open Arms, Not Firearms" t-shirts, our youth were poised and gave thoughtful and articulate comments as they relayed their personal perspective on gun violence and the need for safer gun legislation.

During the stay in the nation's capital, Rev. Johnson arranged for tickets to the National Museum of African American History and Culture, a difficult task for such a large group. He also arranged an overnight stay on the Navy base at Bethesda.

