

# 2015 Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference

*for shepherds and other caregivers of the flock*

## **MEDIA ADVISORY:**

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The 15th Annual Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference will take place on Friday, April 24, 2015 at Christ Church at Grove Farm, 249 Duff Road, Sewickley, PA.

The keynote speaker is Reid Carpenter, President Emeritus, The Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation. The theme "The Holy Spirit on Fire" is the title of a book written by The Rev. Samuel M. Shoemaker who is now in the Book of Holy Men and Women, celebrating his feast day on January 31st.

The Pittsburgh Pastoral Care Conference was initiated by The Coalition for Leadership, Education and Advocacy for Recovery (CLEAR) at the Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation through a grant from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The purpose was to teach clergy and laity about current issues and problems facing people today in a fast paced, high tech culture that did not exist when many clergy were in seminary.

Today, the conference focuses its efforts on the following Pastoral Care concerns: Addiction and Recovery, Mental Health and Wellness, Family and Marriage, Community Outreach and Reflections in Ministry. It trains not only clergy, but laity, social workers, counselors, nurses, caregivers and volunteers.

Members of the planning team include representatives from: Church at Grove Farm, Christian Associates of Southwest PA, Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, The Oasis Recovery Center & CLEAR, Pittsburgh Catholic Diocese, Pittsburgh Mercy Health System, Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and Samaritan Counseling Center.

The conference is sponsored by The Widows Corporation and St. Joseph Institute for Addiction among many other local social service and treatment centers including The Oasis Recovery Center, a 501c3 non-profit organization based in Pittsburgh.

The public is invited to attend. For more information: [www.pghpc.org](http://www.pghpc.org)  
Media is encouraged to call 412-281-8360 for credentials.