

January 2024

Dear Patrons and Friends of Allegheny Historic Preservation Society;

AHPS is delighted to tell you that our pew restoration project is well underway. It is a three-stage endeavor:

1. **Pew stabilization.** This has been completed and all pews are safe to sit upon.
2. **Replacing the 130-year old pew cushions** - Through an almost unbelievable encounter on a Cancun beach, we found an "angel" to help find the fabric needed here for our 130 year old pews! Maria owned a wholesale fabric business in NYC for over four decades, and she's connected us to an Italian Manufacturing Co in Tuscany, Italy where the beautiful 100% cotton velveteen (that's the closest match possible to Tiffany's original selection) is still being made! This feels like enough of a "miracle" but there's more! The added blessing is that the price is about 1/8th of what we thought it was going to cost! The canvas for the underside of the cushions is already here, and Rev. Beth is graciously allowing all of the fabric to be stored in the extra rooms at the Parsonage as all the yardage must be dyed at one time to insure consistency. A professional upholsterer has been selected, and we have sufficient funds for the fabric, the shipping and the duty thanks to your support of our Tiffany Angel Card sales and generous contributions. A great beginning!
3. **Refinishing the pews where needed and replacing the decorative pieces that are missing.** This is still on our radar in that we are talking to furniture restorers in the area

AHPS continues with **The Tiffany Concert Series.** The first concert will be The Chamber Orchestra of Pittsburgh on Sunday, February 11, 2024 at 3pm. We are very pleased that this orchestra has returned to Calvary UMC for several years as part of their outreach program. Tickets can be purchased at the door or **Copgh.org.**

The Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra will perform on Sunday, April 21 at 4pm. Again we are very, very pleased that this orchestra continues to return to Calvary with their fine young musicians. Tickets can be purchased at the door or on our web page [ahps-pgh.org](http://ahps-pgh.org)

The Summer Solstice event is again planned for June 20, 2024. This is an open door celebration of the glorious Tiffany Stained Glass windows gracing Calvary. The windows and the Solstice sun is the main event with the windows displaying themselves throughout this special day as dazzling ever-changing pictures. Don't miss this! There will be music, food, friends and of course, the show of Tiffany. Many volunteers will be needed. Can you be one?

AHPS will host a harp concert in the Fall - date to be determined. Following the concert one of our board members will host a wine reception in his historic magnificent house More to come.

We have been so fortunate over the 40 odd years that AHPS has existed to have loyal and generous board members.

**Ruth Pickering McGregor, a former AHPS board member,** has been exactly that -  
*“ More than 30 years ago, I was honored to become involved with AHPS – the Allegheny Historic Preservation Society. This was important to me in part because of my involvement with the Edgewood Historical Society.*

The history connection made sense and there was a need for me to use my public relations / communications background as a volunteer for AHPS. One of my first tasks was to develop a newsletter for the organization.

The newsletter was a good vehicle for reaching other volunteer members, the greater giving community and potential contributors to the organization. An advisory board comprised of community leaders also was established. All were involved in the process of restoring the Tiffany windows.

*Fund raising was augmented by various events, most notably the Tiffany Concert Series. This series continued for many years. It took a brief hiatus and following covid has resumed with great success.*

*Being a part of AHPS has been a rewarding and fulfilling experience for me. We were able to accomplish our original goals, expand the AHPS board to include a greater architectural focus and now looking forward to having an impact on the North Shore community.*

*It is with great joy that I look forward to supporting AHPS and enjoying the Tiffany concerts surrounded by the beautifully restored Tiffany windows. If you can find it in your heart to be involved with AHPS in any way, just do it! You'll be glad you did.”*

*Please take a moment to renew your membership or be a first time member with your show of support. We are a totally volunteer organization allowing roughly 90% of our fund raising to go directly to the various projects. Enclosed is a membership form or you may visit our web page **ahps-pgh.org***

FYI - Some of our expenses are:

Web site maintenance	\$500.
Board Insurance	\$1,000
Accounting fee	\$750
Commonwealth of Pa Charitable Org filing fee	\$150.

The entire Allegheny Historic Preservation Society sends to each of you our very best wishes for a wonderful, happy, healthy 2024. Please seek any of us out when you attend our events. We want to know you.

Kirk Weaver, President  
David Grinnell, Vice President  
Timothy Zinn, Treasurer  
Jesse Belfast, Secretary

Margee Bilyak, Membership Chair  
Nancy Richards, Pew Restoration Chair  
Fred Ruddock, Director  
James Wallace, Director

ALLEGHENY HISTORIC PRESERVATION SOCIETY, INC

PATRON FORM

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ (not shared)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$20.00 HOUSEHOLD

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 INDIVIDUAL

\_\_\_\_\_ \$8.00 SENIOR CITIZEN/STUDENT

\_\_\_\_\_ ADDITIONAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

Please make your check payable to: AHPS, INC.  
971 BEECH STREET  
PITTSBURGH, PA 15233

AHPS is a non-profit historic preservation corporation dedicated to the restoration and preservation of historic structures. Your membership and contributions are tax deductible