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OCTOBER 2023

A Good Word - Λόγον Αγαθόν

NEWSLETTER OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH



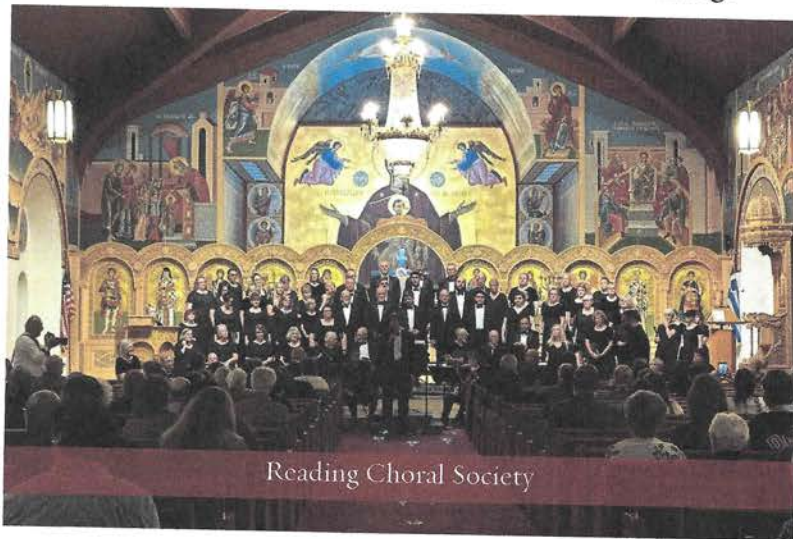
Clergy-Laity Assembly: Fr. George Callos, Chancellor

The 2023 Metropolis Assembly was hosted by the Sts. Constantine & Helen community of Reading, Pennsylvania from 28-30 September. Our Metropolis was honored by the presence of His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, who spent time each day among the delegates and graced us with his kindness and warm Archpastoral blessings.

At the opening Banquet, His Eminence updated the assembly on the status of the charter revision process, and commended the Metropolis and its ministries on the New Metropolis Center project and the opportunities that await following its completion. Citing Ps 126:1 - Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain - His Eminence assured the group that the new center is "being built under the watchful eye of the Great Architect of Creation," and commending us to labor in love and cooperation with one another in order to cooperate with His grace. Following the banquet, participants retired to the hotel for a social hour and fellowship.

Friday's program began with a report from Metropolitan Savas on the progress of the ministries and the opportunities that await the Metropolis in the coming year. Regular reports on Friday and Saturday were heard from the Metropolis Council Vice-Chair, Philoptochos President, Syndesmos President, Regional Archon Commander, Treasurer, Chancellor, Registrar, Archdiocesan Council representatives, and from some of the active committees and ministries, including Finance, Audit, Greek Education, Family Ministry, Religious Education, Youth & Young Adult Ministries, Youth Safety, and Camping Ministries. A comprehensive update on the New Metropolis Center was shared, including pictures of the groundbreaking and current construction progress. A presentation was shared on "Spiritual Transformation and Giving," a newly published work by Bishop Alexei of Sitka & Alaska that talks about the change brought to the giver and the receiver in acts of

almsgiving to the Church and to the poor. Friday evening, following dinner, the Assembly delegates were treated to a beautiful concert by the Reading Choral Society and then a "Greek night" fellowship in the Church Hall with dancing and live music. On Saturday the 2024 Budget was passed by the delegates, and the Assembly elected eight laypersons to the Metropolis Council, two laypersons to the Archdiocesan Council, and three members to the Audit Committee, all for the 2024-2026 term. The reports and subsequent documents from the Assembly are all located on the Metropolis website, at <https://pittsburgh.goarch.org/2023-assembly>



Reading Choral Society

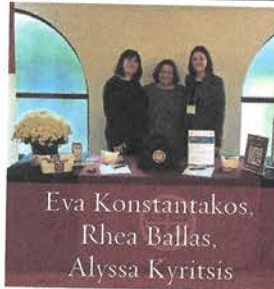
Youth Worker Assembly: Alyssa Kyritsis, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

This year, the Youth Worker Track welcomed 11 registered participants along with a plethora of others who were interested in the speakers and topics we were blessed to offer. The highlight of our time together was spent with His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America and His Eminence Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh who shared their wisdom and listened to our ideas in Youth and Young Adult Ministry. We were also joined in person by the National Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, Eva Konstantakos, who encouraged our Youth Workers to 'Approach Tough Topics in Love' and help us navigate working with young people in our ever-changing world.

Rhea Ballas of the Department of Youth Safety helped our PYSA's navigate our new youth safety platform by offering us our own personal walkthrough session. Virtually, Fr. Nicolaos Tzetzis, Proistamenos of St. Nicholas in Troy, MI, taught us how to 'Engage Parents in Your Ministry' and Pres. Toni Mihalopoulos, founder of the Metropolis of Chicago's Pick Up Your Cross and Follow Me Ministry, opened our eyes to 'Making Ministry Inclusive' by offering ways we can welcome our brothers and sisters with special needs. Overall, it was a wonderful Clergy-Laity spent learning new concepts, sharing ideas and supporting one another.



Isaac Lampart, Ted Cherpas, Alyssa Kyritsis, Rev. Dn. Emmanuël Maginas, Paul Murray, Despina Murray, Pres. Becky Touloumes, Pasquale Santarelli and Anastasis Phyrillas



Eva Konstantakos,
Rhea Ballas,
Alyssa Kyritsis



Ted Cherpas, Alyssa Kyritsis, Dn. Jeremiah Mandoras, Archbishop Elpidophoros, and Metropolitan Savas

HUMS

HOLY UNMERCENARIES MEDICAL SOCIETY
METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH/ANNUNCIATION AKRON

Please join us

**HOLY UNMERCENARIES MEDICAL SOCIETY OF AKRON
ANNUNCIATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH**

FALL RETREAT

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 28TH
9AM - 12 NOON**

**Suffering and the Nature of Healing
An Orthodox Perspective**

**Guest Speakers Dr. Daniel Hinshaw &
Dr. Jane Carnahan Hinshaw**

register at hums@annunciationakron.org
by october 22 2023

Mission Statement: The HUMS of Metropolis of Pittsburgh, Annunciation Akron will be a fellowship of healthcare professionals within the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh. Through the spiritual development and fellowship of its members, the Society aspires to give freely unto others the love, mercy, and healing ministry of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, through worship, education, service, and philanthropy. Four Pillars: The Four Pillars of the HUMS Metropolis of Pittsburgh, Annunciation Akron are (1) Worship (2) Education (3) Service and (4) Philanthropy. These are the means by which the mission of HUMS Metropolis of Pittsburgh will be carried out.

HUMS

HOLY UNMERCENARIES MEDICAL SOCIETY
METROPOLIS OF PITTSBURGH/ANNUNCIATION AKRON

**FALL RETREAT: SUFFERING AND THE NATURE OF HEALING
AN ORTHODOX PERSPECTIVE**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2023 9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, 129 S. Union St. Akron, OH 44304

Guest Speakers: Daniel Hinshaw, M.D. Author of Suffering and the Nature of Healing, and his wife; Jane Carnahan Hinshaw, M.D.

Agenda

0900 – 0905 Opening Prayer Fr. Dean Kokanos
0905 – 0915 Welcome Melanie Morris, President / Introductions Alexandros Nicolozakes, M.D.
0915 – 1030 Suffering-an Orthodox Perspective and Healing Independent of Cure
1030 – 1045 Stretch Break
1045 – 1115 The Therapeutic Encounter and the Business Model of Healthcare—the Stresses of Corporatized Medicine and How the Orthodox Faith May Guide Medical Practice
1115 – 1200 Panel discussion: The Psychology of Incorporating Our Orthodox Faith into the Care of Our Patients
1200 – 1215 General Membership Meeting and Book Study kick off
1215 Closing Prayer Fr. Dean Kokanos

registration fee: \$20 hums annunciation akron members: \$25 non members.
register at hums@annunciationakron.org by october 22, 2023.
a light breakfast will be provided.

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