



## What You Should Know about PEP

Progressive Episcopalians of Pittsburgh (PEP) is a group of Episcopal laypeople and clergy dedicated to maintaining The Episcopal Church as a theologically diverse expression of Anglicanism in America and to maintaining the health and unity of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. PEP is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Pennsylvania corporation founded in 2003 and a member of Via Media USA, an alliance of similar groups in other dioceses.

## PEP's Mission Statement

Progressive Episcopalians of Pittsburgh (PEP) advocates for strong bonds with the wider Episcopal Church, for a diocesan community bound together in charity and grace, and for an inclusive and just church and society.

## PEP Activities

PEP engages in numerous activities in support of The Episcopal Church and the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. PEP

- Encourages participation in diocesan affairs
- Identifies qualified people to run for diocesan offices
- Facilitates dialogue within the diocese
- Increases trust within the diocese by promoting transparency and a strong lay voice
- Acts as a monitor concerned with avoiding the mistakes of the past
- Sponsors fellowship events to which everyone in the diocese is invited, such as our annual picnic and Epiphany party
- Invites speakers who bring new ideas to the diocese
- Advocates for a church relevant to 21<sup>st</sup> century America

- Publishes church-related news
- Donates contemporary educational materials to the Resource Center
- Supports returning parishes
- Helps churches obtain low-cost software
- Supports groups with similar goals in other dioceses

## PEP on the Internet

Electronic communications have been used extensively by PEP since its inception. Here are some PEP sites you might want to investigate:

- The PEP Web site (<http://progressiveepiscopalians.org>): There is some good information here, but we need some help in bringing it up to date. (Our Web site needs a redesign. Any volunteers?)
- Page where you can join PEP and pay dues (<http://goo.gl/Oalhz1>): This is a page on our Web site. Our membership form explains membership categories.
- The PEP Facebook page (<https://facebook.com/ProgEpisPgh>): We post notices here (e.g., meeting information), as well as links to news and commentary of interest to PEP members.
- The PEP Yahoo! Group, PEPchat (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PEPchat>): PEPchat is an e-mail list used by PEP to communicate with its members and friends. The list has an associated Web site hosted by Yahoo! You can subscribe to the list at the Web site shown.
- The PEP slide show prepared for the 2013 diocesan convention and available at the PEP table (<http://youtu.be/CEE4MKPcFCs>): View our slide show at your leisure on YouTube.
- Pittsburgh Update (<http://update.pittsburghepiscopal.org>): Every Monday, this blog is updated with news of the diocese and the wider church. The emphasis is on controversial issues, threats to church integrity, and property litigation.
- Welcome to My Church (<http://welcometomychurch.org>): The archive of newspaper advertisements run by PEP in 2007 and 2008.
- A Pittsburgh Episcopal Voice (<http://pittsburghepiscopal.org>): A Web site intended to counter the arguments for schism advanced on the Parish Toolbox site sponsored by the diocese. The site has not been updated since 2008.