
F.Y.I.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 7, 2007

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of
The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts
138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / www.diomass.org
617/482-4826, 482-5800 / 800/696-6079 / FAX: 617/482-8431

March 10 Special Convention to focus on congregational vitality and viability

Information will be mailed this week to clergy and delegates regarding the **special Diocesan Convention, to take place Saturday, March 10** at the George Sherman Union at Boston University. The program, conversation and deliberations will focus on congregational life; characteristics of congregational vitality and viability, developed by the Congregational Development and Support Committee, will be introduced and explored, as well as more information about assessing progress on diocesan mission strategy goals. **Guest preacher at the convention Eucharist will be Bishop Michael Curry of the Diocese of North Carolina.**

The BU facility makes possible an inviting exhibit area, where selected groups and organizations will display materials related to their ministries. Some will have wares for sale, including participants in the diocesan mission leadership trips to Tanzania and El Salvador who will be selling Equal Exchange coffee and chocolate and fair trade crafts from Africa and Central America toward the goal of purchasing 1,000 mosquito nets to help combat malaria in Tanzania, as well as other projects. **Convention-goers interested in supporting exhibitors' efforts are asked to come prepared to shop by cash or check only.**

FOR INFORMATION: Lois Murphey, Office of Convention and Council (617/482-4826, ext. 406); loism@diomass.org.

Affordable health care and immigration policy top Lobby Day agenda

Bishop Tom Shaw and fellow Episcopalians will speak out for economic justice at **Episcopal City Mission's annual Lobby Day, Tuesday, March 27, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston and the State House. Participants will share stories and hear from community advocates and policymakers on affordable health care and immigration issues. All are welcome; no advocacy experience is necessary.

FOR INFORMATION: Elizabeth Green, Episcopal City Mission (617/482-4826, ext. 224); www.episcopalcitymission.org.

New deans appointed

New deans have been appointed for the Alewife and Cape and Islands deaneries. The Rev. Frank Fornaro, Rector of St. Paul's Church in Bedford, has been appointed dean of the Alewife Deanery. He succeeds the Rev. Ann Franklin. The Rev. Brian McGurk, Rector of St. Christopher's Church in Chatham, has been appointed dean of the Cape and Islands Deanery, succeeding the Rev. Robert Appleyard. In announcing these appointments, Bishop Bud Cederholm expressed his thanks and appreciation to each of these individuals for their gifts of leadership and willingness to serve.

F.Y.I. can be found online at www.diomass.org under "News."

**Bishop Cederholm
invites “Climate Rescue”
walkers and witnesses**

Bishop Bud Cederholm will be participating in the March 16-24 Northampton to Boston **Interfaith Walk for Climate Rescue**, sponsored by Religious Witness for the Earth, and he invites others to join him and the individuals, families and teams who will be walking and witnessing for public awareness of global warming. Participants can join the walk for an hour, an afternoon, a weekend or the whole nine days. The event culminates on *Saturday, March 24 with an interfaith service at 2 p.m.* at Old South Church in Copley Square, Boston, followed by a rally. Walkers are asked to sign up by Friday, March 5 via www.climatewalk.org.

FOR INFORMATION: Staff organizer Denise Frizzell (walk@religiouswitness.org) or the Rev. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas (mbj@gracechurchamherst.org).

**UBE and EDS
celebrations
to commemorate
Absalom Jones**

The Massachusetts Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians invites participation in the **annual diocesan Service of Celebration and Thanksgiving for the Life of Absalom Jones**, to be held on *Sunday, Feb. 11 at 4 p.m.* at St. Bartholomew’s Church (239 Harvard Street) in Cambridge. The guest preacher will be Deborah Harmon Hines, first female national president of the Union of Black Episcopalians. A highlight of the annual service is the presentation of the Frederick Douglass Isaacs Jr. Award for outstanding lay leadership to lay persons nominated by their parishes.

FOR INFORMATION: Marsha Isaacs (617/285-0540) or The Rev. L. Nelson Foxx (617/354-8482).

Episcopal Divinity School’s annual celebration of Absalom Jones takes place on *Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 7 p.m.* in St. John’s Memorial Chapel on the EDS campus at 99 Brattle Street in Cambridge. Guest lecturer will be the Rev. Dr. Harold T. Lewis, Rector of Calvary Church in Pittsburgh. He will also preach at EDS’s Absalom Jones Eucharist the following morning, *Thursday, Feb. 15 at 8:30 a.m.* in the chapel.

FOR INFORMATION: Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge (617/868-3450) or www.eds.edu.

**Good Friday Offering
materials are available
online**

In an Epiphany letter to all congregations, Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori has asked that Episcopalians continue to pray for their sisters and brothers in the Holy Land and to **support the Good Friday Offering as an opportunity to demonstrate solidarity with Anglicans and all Christians in that troubled region** of the world. For the past 85 years the Episcopal Church has taken up a Good Friday Offering to be sent to the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East to support hospitals, schools, orphanages and other programs that benefit all people in the province—Christian, Jewish and Muslim alike.

Good Friday Offering materials—posters, bulletin covers and offering envelopes—are available through Episcopal Books and Resources (800/903-5544); the poster and bulletin cover are available online at www.episcopalchurch.org/agr/friday.

N O T E S:

Please share the contents of F.Y.I. with your parish leadership and congregation through your parish bulletin, announcements, newsletters and Web sites. The contacts listed in F.Y.I. welcome your calls for more information.

■ **Application materials for Congregational Development and Support Grants and Sending Serving Grants** are available online at www.diomass.org. The deadline for 2007 grant applications is Monday, April 30.

FOR INFORMATION: Lynn Smith, Congregational Development and Support Grants (lynn@diomass.org); Jim Gammill, Sending Serving Grants (jgammill@alewifedeanery.org); or Clare Moffitt, Office for Congregational Development and Support (617/482-4826, ext. 495).

■ The **B-SAFE** (Bishop's Summer Academic, Fun and Enrichment) program will serve more than 300 children and teens at four sites in Boston this summer. **Partner churches are needed to provide lunches and help organize field trips.** The program runs from June 25 to Aug. 3; partner churches make a one-week commitment to help keep kids healthy and safe in the city this summer. An organizational meeting will be held on March 25.

FOR INFORMATION: Liz Steinhäuser, St. Stephen's Church, Boston (617/262-9070); lizsteinh@netzero.net.

■ Diocesan **Family Camp at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center** takes place *Wednesday-Sunday, June 20-24*. All ages are welcome at this fun and creative spiritual getaway.

FOR INFORMATION: Amy Cook, Resource Center (617/482-4826, ext. 645); acook@diomass.org.

For the **full 2007 summer camp program schedule, go to www.bchcenter.org** or call the camp at 603/547-3400.

■ **Has your congregation had its annual meeting?** Parochial leadership and lay delegate certification forms for 2007 were mailed in December to all rectors or other priests in charge of congregations. The forms are preprinted with the information currently held in the diocesan database. **Forms should be updated as soon as possible after annual meetings** (or by March 1 where annual meetings take place later in the year) and returned to: Office of Convention and Council, Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, 138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111.

Dates and locations for 2007 Diocesan Conventions are: Saturday, March 10—Special Diocesan Convention at Boston University (*see page 1*); and **Friday and Saturday, Nov. 2-3** at the Royal Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Fitchburg.

FOR INFORMATION: Lois Murphey, Office of Convention and Council (617/482-4826, ext. 406); loism@diomass.org.

■ All committees, diocesan leaders and related organizations that did not submit a report to the 2006 Diocesan Convention and wish to have one included for 2006 in the **Journal of Convention** should submit them to the convention office by April 2.

FOR INFORMATION: Lois Murphey, Office of Convention and Council (617/482-4826, ext. 406); loism@diomass.org.

■ A **Eucharistic Visitor Training** course is scheduled for *Saturday, March 24, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*, at the Church of Our Saviour (25 Monmouth Street) in Brookline. Individuals may register by sending their information (name, address, telephone number and sponsoring congregation and town) and tuition (\$35 for trainees, \$20 for clergy, made payable to the Diocese of Massachusetts) to: Eucharistic Visitor Training, 15 Fremont Street, Plymouth, MA 02360. Registration deadline is March 17.

Additional information and the registration form is available online at www.rvan.org/lem.htm.

FOR INFORMATION: Training coordinator Connie Melahoures (508/746-3805); conmel@aol.com.

■ **Volunteers with a love for church history** are being sought to join in the fellowship of the Diocesan Library and Archives ministry in order to make the library and historical records of the diocese more accessible to all researchers. Those with skills such as experience with computers, databases, library work, historical research or archives are welcome. Projects will be determined based on the individual's interests, skills and experience. As much on-the-job training as necessary will be provided.

FOR INFORMATION: Margaret Gardiner, Diocesan Library and Archives (617/482-4826, ext. 504); mgardiner@diomass.org.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its Jan. 19 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

- Heard a report on the progress and activities of the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center from its executive director, John Erdman.
- Heard a report on the Urban Summit held at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston on Jan. 13.
- Elected new Executive Committee membership.

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Thursday, Feb. 15, 6-8:30 p.m.*, in Sproat Hall at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.

FOR INFORMATION: Lois Murphey (617/482-4826, ext. 406); loism@diomass.org.

JOB POSTINGS:

Go to www.diomass.org (see "Employment" under "Who We Are").

Jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site include: **office manager** at St. Stephen's Church in Lynn; **director of Christian formation** at St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church in Lincoln; **grant writer** for Neighborhood Action, Inc.; **administrative assistant** for Trinity Boston Foundation; **director of music** at Christ Church in Waltham; **nursery caregiver** at St. John's Church in Arlington; **youth minister** at St. Michael's Church in Holliston; **Christian formation assistant for music** at Christ Church in Quincy; and **music minister** at Christ Church in Harwich Port.

Observe a holy Lent

■ The Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston offers a **Lenten Fire preaching series** on *Thursdays in Lent*, 12:15 p.m., with conversation over lunch after the service. Preachers will be: **March 1**—The Rev. Dr. Edith Kimbrough of First Street Missionary Baptist Church, Nashville; **March 8**—The Rev. Lawrence A. Ward of Abundant Life Church, Cambridge; **March 15**—The Rev. Pashington Obeng of Wellesley Hills Congregational Church; **March 22**—Dr. Michael E. Haynes, Pastor Emeritus of Twelfth Baptist Church, Roxbury; and **March 29**—The Rev. Jeffrey L. Brown of Union Baptist Church, Cambridge.

FOR INFORMATION: *The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston* (617/482-4826, ext. 221); elc@diomass.org.

■ The **Charles River Deanery will offer a Lenten Quiet Day retreat** on *Saturday, March 3, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.*, at Christ Church (1132 Highland Avenue) in Needham. Cost for the day is \$20 per person. The retreat will be led by the Rev. Mpho A. Tutu, founder and executive director of the Tutu Institute for Prayer and Pilgrimage. She will also preach at Christ Church in Needham on *Sunday, March 4 at the 8:15 a.m. and 10 a.m. services*.

FOR INFORMATION: *The Rev. Karen Coleman, Christ Church, Needham* (781/444-1469).

■ **“Centering Prayer,” a Saturday workshop offered in Lent** at the monastery of the Society of St. John the Evangelist (980 Memorial Drive) in Cambridge takes place on **March 10, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.** and will be led by Brother Roy Cockrum. Workshop fee is \$75 (\$40 for full-time students), which includes lunch.

TO REGISTER/FOR INFORMATION: *Guesthouse Office* (617/876-3037); guesthouse@ssje.org or www.ssje.org.

■ The Society of St. Margaret will offer a **Lenten Day of Prayer**—“Live Lent! Live Life!” led by Sister Carolyn—on *Saturday, March 3, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.*, at St. Margaret’s Convent (17 Highland Park Street) in Roxbury. Donation is \$25, with lunch provided. Reservations should be made by Sunday, Feb. 25.

TO REGISTER/FOR INFORMATION: *St. Margaret’s Convent, Roxbury* (617/445-8961, ext. 127); www.ssmbos.com.

■ The Bethany House of Prayer, a ministry with the Sisters of St. Anne—Bethany (25 Hillside Avenue) in Arlington, will present **“Living Prayerfully,” a retreat led by the Rev. Dr. Margaret Guenther**, noted author, teacher, priest and retreat leader, on *Saturday, March 24, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.* Suggested donation is \$75. Bethany House also will offer a **Lenten Quiet Day** on *Saturday, Feb. 24, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.* (suggested fee is \$60); and a **Refreshment Day** on *Tuesday, March 6, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.*, (suggested fee is \$25). These event fees include midday dinner.

TO REGISTER/FOR INFORMATION: *Bethany House of Prayer, Arlington* (781/648-2433); bethanyretreats@verizon.net.

PARISH SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

For detailed information go to www.diomass.org (see "Clergy Deployment" under "Governance and Administration").

Communication regarding deployment and parish transitions should be directed to the staff officers responsible for deployment: The Rev. Gregory Jacobs (617/482-4826, ext. 404 or [gjacob@diomass.org](mailto:gjacobs@diomass.org)) or The Rev. Cynthia Hubbard (617/482-4826, ext. 400 or chubbard@diomass.org).

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:

LYNNFIELD, St. Paul's Church
NANTUCKET, St. Paul's Church
READING, Church of the Good Shepherd

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

CAMBRIDGE, St. James's Church
FALL RIVER, Church of the Ascension
FALL RIVER, St. John's/St. Stephen's Partnership
HARWICH PORT, Christ Church
NORTH ANDOVER, St. Paul's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

WAKEFIELD, Emmanuel Church

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

COHASSET, St. Stephen's Church
CHELSEA, St. Luke's/San Lucas Church
DOVER, St. Dunstan's Church
HYDE PARK, Christ Church/ Iglesia de San Juan

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

ARLINGTON, Church of Our Saviour
DUXBURY, Church of St. John the Evangelist
NEWBURYPORT, St. Paul's Church

OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:

ANDOVER, Christ Church: curate/assistant rector.

Contact: The Rev. Jeffrey Gill, Rector. Please send materials (including cover letter, resume and CDO) to: jgill@christchurchandover.org.

CHESTNUT HILL, Church of the Redeemer: curate/assistant rector/associate rector. Contact: The Rev. Dorsey McConnell, Rector (617/566-7679); dorsey@redeemerchestnuthill.org.

With this F.Y.I.:

- ✓ Safe Church Training schedule and registration form
- ✓ "The Stories We Live and the Lives We Story" MECA workshop registration form

NEXT F.Y.I.:

Submission deadline for the March 7 issue is:

Wednesday, Feb. 28 at noon.

E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.
