



OCTOBER 2009

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## Mass. deputies lead Episcopal Church to boycott Hyatt hotels

The Episcopal Church will not do business with Hyatt hotels nationally until the hotel chain reinstates the 98 housekeepers recently fired from three Boston and Cambridge hotels and replaced with lower-paid subcontract workers.

The decision, made by the church's Executive Council at its Oct. 5-8 meeting in

Memphis, was instigated by the Diocese of Massachusetts' General Convention deputies and bishops, who submitted a resolution through the council's Standing Committee on Advocacy and Networking.



PHOTO: Episcopal Life Online  
*Executive Council members at work in Memphis on Oct. 6: (from left) Bonnie Anderson, Gay Jennings, Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori, Lee Crawford (back to camera), Mark Harris and Ian Douglas.*

"This boycott would be consistent with the church's faithful witness to economic justice and fair treatment of all workers," the Massachusetts deputies say in their resolution's explanation.

[Read more.](#)

## New gym, newly blessed

With a newly built gymnasium at the diocese's [Barbara C. Harris Center](#) in Greenfield, N.H., kids now have a new play place and conference-goers have more meeting space.

At the Sept. 16 Clergy Day held in the new gym, Bishop Bud Cederholm drew the inaugural free throw; he missed his shot, but the gym was officially blessed anyhow, and

Bishop M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE praised those involved in its planning and construction for completing the project on time and under budget.



PHOTO: Courtesy of the Barbara C. Harris Center  
*The new George H. Kidder Recreation Center at the diocese's camp and conference center in Greenfield, N.H.*

[Read more.](#)

## Diocese marks 225 years at upcoming annual convention

Diocesan Convention becomes a kind of big-tent meeting this year, as the Diocese of Massachusetts marks its 225th year Nov. 6-7 with a celebration that will spill out of Trinity Church onto Boston's Copley Plaza.

A benefit dinner and square dance under a tent on the plaza will enliven the proceedings on Friday night, as will a youth rally with Bishop Tom Shaw on Saturday afternoon leading up to the convention's closing Eucharist.

In between, the 600-some parish delegates and clergy will, among other business, review diocesan mission strategy and consider two resolutions, one on whether clergy should be allowed to solemnize same-gender marriages and another on the church's continuing efforts to come to terms with its complicity in the institution of slavery. And, they will vote on a \$6.4 million budget proposed for 2010.



"Convention is the one occasion when all our congregations, through your representation, are present together in prayer and worship, celebration and deliberation, discernment and lifting up of a common vision for the glory of God and God's kingdom," the bishops wrote to delegates and clergy on Oct. 9. "And then we take it all home to our congregations where our shared mission to be Christ's inviting, forming, sending, serving presence in the world finds local expression."

The schedule of October delegate forums, online registration and Convention materials are all available [here](#).

### Newslinks:

**"Father of the program":** The Oct. 7 *South End News* [profiles](#) Tim Crellin and his 10 years as vicar at St. Stephen's Church in Boston.

**Marchers draw attention to domestic violence:** The Rev. Joel Almono of Grace Church in Lawrence led a prayer vigil during the annual Brides' March mourning victims of domestic violence, noted [here](#) by the *Eagle Tribune* on Sept. 29.

**A half century and counting:** "God has more expectations for you," Bishop Tom Shaw tells St. Michael's Church as it celebrates 50 years of community life in Holliston, according to this Sept. 28 *Metrowest Daily News* [story](#).

**Where a first lady prayed:** Curry College professor and author John Hill gave a talk last month at Christ Church in Quincy on President John Adams's religious journey, and this Sept. 27 *Patriot Ledger* [preview](#) included a sidebar on Christ Church's connection to the second First Lady Adams, Louisa.

**A meaningful opportunity to prepare for a difficult situation before it arises:** Elizabeth Keene from St. Mary's Hospital in Lewiston, Maine, will lead a workshop on "Helping Children (and youth) Cope with Death and Grief" this Saturday, Oct. 17, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m., at St. Peter's Church (320 Boston Post Road) in Weston. This is a gathering for members of parishes, communities and schools to come together and gain strategies for caring for children and youth grieving death and loss. E-mail Kit Lonergan at [klonergan@diomass.org](mailto:klonergan@diomass.org) to sign up. Click [here](#) for more information.

## Coming up

[Oct 17](#): Eucharistic Visitor Training, St. Elizabeth's Church, Sudbury, 9 a.m.  
[Oct 17](#): Workshop: Helping Children Cope with Death and Grief, St. Peter's Church, Weston, 9 a.m.  
[Oct 17](#): Worship Learning Party, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston **POSTPONED TO JAN. 30, 2010.**  
[Oct 20](#): Retired clergy gathering, St. Peter's Church, Weston, 11 a.m.  
[Oct 20, 21, 27, 28 & 29](#): Pre-Diocesan Convention Forums, various locations, 7-9 p.m.  
[Oct 21](#): Contemplative Eucharist, Bethany House of Prayer, Arlington, 7 p.m.  
[Oct 22](#): MECA Storytelling Workshop with Susan Klein, St. Andrew's Church, Framingham, 9 a.m.  
[Oct 22](#): Diocesan Council, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston, 5:30 p.m.  
[Oct 24](#): Safe Church Training, St. Paul's Church, Brookline, 8:30 a.m.  
[Oct 24](#): International Day of Climate Action  
[Oct 28](#): "Modern-Day Slavery and the Campaign to End It" Talk at Grace Church, Medford, 6:45 p.m.  
[Oct 31](#): "Fearless Singing" workshop at Church of St. John the Evangelist, Boston, 10 a.m.  
[Nov 1](#): Magnificat Boston sings Evensong at St. Anne's Church, Lowell, 4 p.m.  
[Nov 3](#): Refreshment Day at Bethany House of Prayer, Arlington, 9 a.m.  
[Nov 4, 11 & 18](#): Wednesday Concert Series at Church of St. John the Evangelist, Boston, 5:30 p.m.  
[Nov 6-7](#): Diocesan Convention, Trinity Church, Boston  
[Nov 6-7](#): "Art on the Pews" Show, St. Peter's Church, Cambridge  
[Nov 8](#): "Healing Spaces: The Science of Place and Well-Being" lecture, Trinity Church, Boston, 2 p.m.  
[Nov 10](#): "Amartya Sen: Reducing Injustice on Earth" lecture at Trinity Church, Boston, 7 p.m.  
[Nov 11](#): Green Gathering at Bethany House of Prayer, Arlington, 6 p.m.  
[Nov 13-14](#): Antiracism Ministry's "Conversations on Racism," Trinity Church, Boston  
[Nov 14](#): Safe Church Training, St. James's Church, Cambridge, 8:30 a.m.  
[Nov 14](#): Eucharistic Visitor Training, St. Mary's Church, Barnstable, 9 a.m.  
[Nov 14](#): Holly Fair, Church of the Holy Nativity, South Weymouth, 9 a.m.  
[Nov 15](#): Youth Leadership Training for Adults, St. Andrew's Church, Hanover, 3 p.m.  
[Nov 15](#): South Shore Deanery Bowl-a-thon, Colonial Lanes on Rte. 18 in Weymouth, 3 p.m.  
[Nov 20-22](#): Junior High Youth Retreat, Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center, Greenfield, N.H.  
[Nov 21](#): Parenting Workshop, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston, 10 a.m.

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