

TOYS DONATED FOR CHILDREN OF HURRICANE KATRINA



North Porch Collects Toys for Hurricane Victims; Finds Way to Deliver Them in Time for Christmas

In an astonishing combination of determination and divine guidance, the trustees of North Porch managed to send a large collection of toys to children displaced by Hurricane Katrina – and to get them there in time for Christmas!

The Rev. Anne Bolles-Beaven, priest associate at the Church of St. Andrew and Holy Communion in South Orange and a trustee of North Porch, explained that “We didn’t know where the toys were going. We didn’t know how to get them there. We only knew that we had to respond—even if only in a small way—to the devastation left by Hurricane Katrina.”

The North Porch trustees asked each person attending the annual Tea and Toy Fest in November to take two toys to the event: one

toy for the children of North Porch, a diocesan ministry to parents in difficult circumstances, and one toy for children suffering from the effects of Hurricane Katrina.

“North Porch supporters responded with wonderful generosity,” Rev. Bolles-Beaven recalled. There were more than enough toys for the three North Porch centers in Newark, Paterson and Dover. Another car was packed solid with toys to go to Katrina victims, but even at that point the organizers didn’t know how they would get them there.

It turned out that the answer was closer than anyone had imagined. One of the North Porch trustees had a friend who had founded a non-profit organization to help her devastated home town of Slidell, Louisiana. This

group, called Save Our South, was planning to send a truck full of donations of clothing and furniture that had been collected in New Jersey. She was delighted when she found out about the toys.

“We’ve got to get these toys down there in time for Christmas!” she said. “Santa’s got to come this year!”

The pieces were starting to come together. SOS had made arrangements for a truck, but how could they pay for it? The cost seemed prohibitive.

Trucking company dispatchers asked, “Could it wait until after Christmas when the rates came down?”

“No,” SOS answered, “because of the toys.” Incredibly another group of generous people

in Princeton helped raise funds toward the cost of the truck. Boxes were requested from local merchants. The president of North Porch and her family packed the bagged toys into 15 boxes, and helped pack the toys into the big truck for the trip to Louisiana.

Santa arrived with his gifts in time for a Christmas party at the Slidell fire station, with the rest of the toys going to a nearby day care center.

“We had stepped out in faith and God had met us with power,” Rev. Bolles-Beaven concluded. “Our small, yet tender mission was accomplished by the compassionate grace of God working in the hearts and hands of so many. Thank you to everyone who made this miracle possible.”

*Pictured at Episcopal House, October 2005
Bishops Murray (of Panama) and Croneberger*

Companion Relationship Formed With Episcopal Church of Panama

Formal action has been taken to create a Companion Diocese relationship between the Diocese of Newark and the Episcopal Church of Panama. Approval was given when delegates from all six regions of the Episcopal Church of Panama converged at the parochial school of San Cristóbal in Panama City for their 86th annual convention. The Rev. Robert Griner, rector of Christ Church, Newton, and co-chair of the Companion Diocese Committee of Newark, attended the convention to present in person the invitation to the companion relationship.

With a dramatic flair, he dropped to one knee, extended his hand and asked for a response. The hall erupted with a standing ovation, applause and shouts of, “We accept! We accept!” The Rt. Rev. Julio Murray, Bishop of Panama, said with a smile and a hug, “you have your answer.” The following day a formal resolution was passed by acclamation, officially recognizing the Diocese of Newark as a Companion Diocese with the Diocese of Panama.

In the coming months leaders from both committees will be meeting to prayerfully consider how to mutually share gifts and talents with each other. As part of this process, the Companion Diocese Committee has asked that parishes include in the Prayers of the People “Julio, Bishop of Panama.”

A high school youth work trip is scheduled to visit Panama from July 29 to August 5. Application information is available from Kaileen Alston, Youth Missioner, at 973-430-9991.

Anyone wanting to become involved in this committee may obtain further information from the Rev. Robert Griner or Martha Gardner, co-chairs.

Committee to Nominate Next Bishop Closes Nominations, Begins Discernment

*By Mr. Bill McColl, All Saints’ Church, Leonia
Communications Chair for the Bishop Nominating Committee*

The Nominating Committee for the Tenth Bishop of the Diocese of Newark has closed its two-month long nomination process, and is now evaluating the nominees to determine the four to six candidates to be voted on at the special convention to be held September 23.

The nominees who emerge from this discernment phase of the process will be visited by members of the committee, and after further evaluation the finalists will be chosen. Those names will be announced on June 28. Then each candidate will be invited to take part in a “walkabout” of the diocese prior to the special convention.

As the discernment work continues, the committee will hold a series of instructional sessions for deputies in each of the diocese’s ten districts during the spring (*see page 14*).

“They need to understand how the nominating process is functioning, and most importantly to participate in the ‘walkabouts’ and the election,” committee member the Rev. Stuart Smith of St. Clements’ Church in Hawthorne said. “Electors must come to know the nominees as personally as possible.”

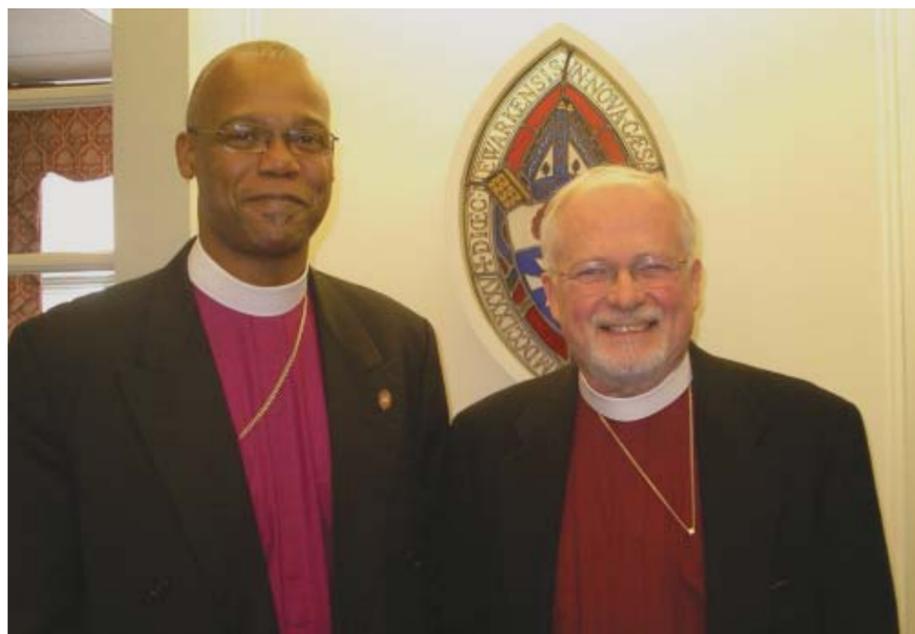
The voters are not the only ones encouraged to participate.

“Others in the diocese also need to know the nominees to share with the electors their thoughts and concerns about the nominees,” he said, and he noted that this is part of the Nominating Committee’s overall mission:

“We want to be as open in our process as possible and to abide by the characteristic skills and qualities the diocese is calling for in a new bishop,” he said.

Anyone interested in attending the instructional sessions can find more information on the Nominating Committee’s website: www.bishopsearch.dioceseofnewark.org.

The Nominating Committee is co-chaired by the Rev. Victoria Geer McGrath of All Saints’ Church in Millington and Dr. Louie Crew of Grace Church in Newark.



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The Bishop's Message

Learnings Along the Way

This year is already proving to be mixed for me, with a host of emotions, and many more likely to come. In my efforts to get in touch with those emotions, I have made some connections with earlier times and experiences in my life.

About one year after Marilyn and I were married, my Bishop sent us to Moscow, Pennsylvania, to start a new mission congregation. I was 27 at the time. We bought a house on Main Street, and together with my three newly-adopted children and a son-on-the-way, we moved into the three-bedroom apartment on the second and third floors. The first floor was reserved for worship, education, and social ministry.

As the parish grew, Sunday School and other educational ventures overflowed upstairs into our living quarters, and our first floor worship space was jammed. We bought another house for the clergy family, to buy some time and make the best use of the house on Main Street, but finally had to face the inevitable, and consider a church building venture. I met an energetic young architect, an Episcopalian, and we designed a multi-purpose structure where every space could easily be converted for other use. Every piece of furniture in the main worship space was movable, even the font and altar. The worship space could easily be converted from a worship setting to a parish hall dinner setting in a matter of minutes. The building provided opportunities for different focus and setting for different experiences of worship, perhaps in the round or with more traditional rows. It was great fun to design liturgies which utilized the variety of settings possible.

Ten years after we left Moscow, we were invited back, and I was asked to address a parish dinner about our beginnings. As I walked into the worship space for evensong, I was stopped by the appearance. The altar now rested securely on a raised platform; the old font was now firmly in place in the worship space; a red carpet ran down a center aisle, clearly indicating the one direction in which worship would be conducted. I actually shed a tear, and then realized that what I was seeing was no longer *my* dream or *my* vision, but the dream of other people in another time, which needed to be honored and respected and appreciated for all that it was seeking to be.

It seems to me that our Presiding Bishop shares with me at least some similar feelings as we journey through this final year of our Offices. I know in particular how meaningful parish visitations are to me, so I am delighted to welcome the Most Rev. Frank T. Griswold as he makes a visitation to the Diocese of Newark on Wednesday, May 24. Bishop Griswold will meet in Newark with clergy of the Diocese that afternoon, and will be the preacher and celebrant at the Cathedral that evening. All are welcome, and we will do our best to accommodate everyone that evening.

As I write this on the feast of St. Matthias, the successor chosen to complete that early band of Christian leaders, I feel a strong tie between the events of his selection and the present time. As we prepare ourselves, both in the Diocese of Newark and in the Episcopal Church, for successors to be called and chosen, may we remember that after those early names were chosen for consideration, the text says, "Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one.'" May this be a time in which we are especially together in prayer before God. Show us which one.

Peace be with you.

+ *John Palmer Croneberger*

Lecciones en el Camino

Translation by the Rev. Edgar Gutiérrez-Duarte
Por el Reverendísimo John Palmer Croneberger

Este año ya está resultando mixto para mí, con muchas emociones y muchas más posiblemente por venir. En mis esfuerzos por ponerme en contacto con esas emociones, he hecho algunas conexiones con ocasiones anteriores y experiencias en mi vida.

Cerca de un año después de que Marilyn y yo nos casamos, mi Obispo nos envió a Moscú, Pensilvania, para empezar una nueva congregación. En ese tiempo yo tenía 27 años. Compramos una casa en Main Street, y junto con mis tres hijos recién adoptados y otro en camino, nos mudamos al apartamento de tres habitaciones en el segundo y tercer piso. El primer piso se reservó para culto, educación, y ministerio social.

Cuando la parroquia creció, la escuela dominical y otras operaciones educativas se expandieron tanto que tuvimos que darles espacio en nuestra área residencial, y nuestro primer lugar de culto estaba lleno de gente. Compramos otra casa para nuestra familia con objeto de ganar algo de tiempo y darle el mejor uso a la casa de Main Street, hasta que finalmente tuvimos que enfrentar lo inevitable y pensar en la tarea de construir una iglesia. Conocí a un joven y enérgico arquitecto, quien era Episcopal, y diseñamos una estructura de múltiple uso donde cada espacio fácilmente podía modificarse para otro uso. Cada pieza del mobiliario en el área del culto principal era movable, incluso la fuente del bautismo y el altar. El espacio para culto fácilmente se podía modificar de área de culto a un salón parroquial para dar una cena en cuestión de minutos. La edificación proveía oportunidades para diferentes enfoques y para diferentes arreglos para culto, bien en círculo o con la organización más tradicional en hileras. Era muy divertido el diseñar liturgias que hacían uso de la gran variedad de arreglos disponible.

Diez años después de que nos fuimos de Moscú, nos invitaron a regresar y se me pidió que hablara sobre nuestros comienzos durante una cena parroquial. Cuando estábamos entrando al área del culto para oración

vespertina, su apariencia de hizo detenerme. El altar ahora descansaba firmemente asegurado en una plataforma elevada; la vieja fuente bautismal ahora estaba sólidamente fija en el área de culto; una alfombra roja marcaba un pasillo central, claramente indicando la única dirección en la que el culto sería llevado a cabo. Yo de hecho derramé una lágrima, y luego me di cuenta de que lo que estaba viendo ya no era *mi* sueño o *mi* visión, sino el sueño de otros en otro tiempo, lo cual debía ser honrado y respetado y apreciado por todo lo que ese sueño buscaba llegar a ser.

Me parece que nuestro Obispo Presidente comparte conmigo al menos algunos sentimientos similares a medida que continuamos nuestra jornada en este año final de nuestros cargos. Se en particular qué tan significativas son para mí las visitas parroquiales, así que estaré encantado de darle la bienvenida al Más Reverendo Frank T. Griswold cuando él lleve a cabo una visita a la Diócesis de Newark el miércoles 24 de Mayo. El Obispo Griswold se reunirá en Newark con el clero de la diócesis durante la tarde, y será el predicador y celebrante en la Catedral esa noche. Todos son bienvenidos, y haremos lo mejor que podamos por acomodarlos a todos.

En tanto que escribo esta durante la fiesta de San Matías, quien fue el sucesor elegido para completar esa primera banda de líderes Cristianos, siento una fuerte conexión entre los eventos de su elección y el tiempo presente. A medida que nos preparamos, tanto en la Diócesis de Newark como en la Iglesia Episcopal, para el llamado y elección de sucesores, recordemos que después de que se escogieron esos primeros nombres para consideración, la escritura dice, "Luego oraron y dijeron, 'Señor, tú conoces el corazón de todos. Muéstranos a quién has escogido.'" Que esta sea una ocasión en que estemos especialmente juntos en oración ante Dios. Muéstranos a quién has escogido.

La Paz esté con ustedes.

Save
The
Date!



The Most Reverend Frank T. Griswold
Photo: Anglican World, Anne Wetzel. Copyright 2003 Episcopal Church. All Rights Reserved.

Presiding Bishop to Visit Diocese of Newark

Wednesday, May 24, 2006

Meeting with Clergy; 2 - 4 PM

New Jersey Historical Society (Dillon Auditorium-1st floor),
52 Park Place, Newark

Celebration of Eucharist; 7:30 PM

Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral, 608 Broad Street, Newark
Celebrant and Preacher: The Most Reverend Frank T. Griswold

ALL ARE WELCOME!

"Therefore, we must be saved by faith, hope, and love..."

Excerpts from Bishop Croneberger's Address at the 2006 Convention (The entire address can be found online at www.dioceseofnewark.org/06cvnadd.html.)

At the 132nd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Newark, Bishop Croneberger clearly laid out his hopes and desires for our diocese as well as for his last year as our bishop. This was not his last address; he will report back at next year's convention. And, there should be a lot to report then since Bishop Croneberger has made his choice. "The choice

for me appears to be: (1) to spend the next twelve months quacking by the roadside and saying goodbye or (2) in addition to the day-to-day requirements of the Office of the Bishop, to choose a number of specific ministry initiatives in which I would like to invest my time and energy, hoping to see them come closer to fruition. I choose #2."

This came later in Croneberger's address. He began:

"William Wordsworth, having learned of the death of his brother, John, wrote a poem to mark his brother's death and commemorate his life. The poem, entitled "Character of the Happy Warrior" includes these three lines:

"'Tis, finally, the man, who, lifted high,
...plays in the many games of life, that one

Where what he most doth value, must be won."

(continued on page 9)

THE VOICE

John P. Croneberger, Bishop of Newark
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E. Christopher Cone, Volunteer Copy Editor

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Submissions to The Voice

The Voice welcomes event listings, stories, spiritual reflections and ideas and suggestions. Photos are wonderful, too! Digital photography is the best, preferably high-resolution JPEGs. Articles and photos can be sent:

- by email to:
theEditor@dioceseofnewark.org.
- or by mail to *The Voice* editorial office address listed above.

Publication is subject to space and deadlines. The editor reserves the right to edit articles for length, style and usage. Letters to the editor must include phone number and church affiliation.

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- Contact Katie Palmer at 973-430-9913 or kpalmer@dioceseofnewark.org.

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Conejitos en la Canasta de Colecta

Translation by the Rev. Edgar Gutiérrez-Duarte
Por la Reverendísima Carol J. Gallagher

Cuando estaba recién ordenada, parte de mis responsabilidades era el ser la capellana del centro educativo para los estudiantes episcopales de Hopkins. Teníamos un grupo muy activo de jóvenes, muchos de los cuales recientemente se habían hecho miembros de la Iglesia Episcopal. Cuando se acercaba mi primera Cuaresma, empezamos a discutir muy en serio cómo íbamos a observar los 40 días. Hablamos sobre servicios y ayunos y proyectos especiales de alcance en los que podríamos tener interés en participar. Esto llevó a una discusión sobre los valores de nuestra comunidad. ¿Qué valorábamos y qué teníamos en común? Este grupo de estudiantes era particularmente brillante y motivado, y me preocupaba el que se crearan más expectativas de sí mismos de lo que el tiempo y los horarios les permitieran. Finalmente decidieron que todos, como grupo, prometerían dejar el chocolate. Es importante destacar que este grupo había decidido que su consigna era, "¡Alabe a Dios y pase el chocolate!" Así que el dejar el chocolate como ejercicio grupal de disciplina espiritual fue un auténtico desafío para ellos. Ellos lucharon con su promesa y con frecuencia se llamaron unos a otros para darse apoyo y orar.

Finalmente la Cuaresma llegó a su término y nos reunimos con la comunidad en la Catedral para celebrar nuestra primera Vigilia Pascual juntos. Como la colecta fue presentada tarde esa noche, noté que había varios conejitos envueltos en papel de aluminio en las canastas de la colecta. Más tarde los estudiantes vinieron y me anunciaron que en gratitud por el final de su ayuno, ellos le habían ofrecido los primeros frutos de su regocijo a Dios – los conejitos de chocolate envueltos en papel de aluminio. Nunca olvidaré la expresión en las caras de los ujieres (y más tarde de la de los que cuentan la colecta) cuando estas inusuales ofrendas aparecieron. Nadie sabía qué hacer. Un ejercicio de Cuaresma había llevado a este grupo de gente joven a expresar gratitud y nadie sabía exactamente cómo recibirla.

Desde esa Cuaresma siempre he considerado que debo retarme a mí misma a realizar un ejercicio espiritual que me lleve a sentirme tan agradecida como lo habían estado esos jóvenes. Mucha gente se embarca en la Cuaresma como un ejercicio doloroso o una carrera de resistencia. Algunos ven a la Cuaresma como una competencia hacia algún tipo de supremacía espiritual. Pero en realidad, todos somos invitados por Cristo a buscar un lugar en nuestras vidas que nos abra el agradecimiento y la habilidad de recibir con gratitud el don no merecido del sacrificio de Cristo por nosotros. Se nos invita a aceptar la invitación de Cristo, a abrir puertas, a derrumbar las murallas que hemos levantado – en todos los casos a darnos cuenta de lo que valoramos, y a hacer campo para Jesús.

**Bunnies in the Alms Basin**

By the Rt. Rev. Carol J. Gallagher

When I was newly ordained, as part of my duties I was the college chaplain to the Episcopal students at Hopkins. We had a very active group of young people, many of whom had recently become part of the Episcopal Church. As my first Lent approached, we began to discuss in earnest how we would observe the 40 days. We talked about services and fasts and special outreach projects in which we might want to participate. This led to a discussion of our community's values. What did we value and what did we share? This group of students was particularly bright and motivated, and I was concerned that they would put more expectations on themselves than time and schedules would allow. They finally decided that they would all commit to giving up chocolate as a group. It's important to point out that this group of people earlier had made their slogan, "Praise the Lord and pass the chocolate!" So giving up chocolate as a communal exercise of spiritual discipline was an authentic challenge for them. They struggled with their commitment and often called each other for mutual encouragement and prayer.

Lent finally came to a close and we gathered with the community at the Cathedral to celebrate our first Easter Vigil together. As the

offering came forward late that night, I noticed that there were several foil-wrapped chocolate bunnies in the plates. Later the students came up to me and announced that in their gratefulness for their fast being over, they had offered the first fruits of their joy to God – the foil-wrapped chocolate bunnies. I will never forget the looks on the faces of the ushers (and later the counters) as these unusual offerings came forward. No one knew quite what to do. A Lenten exercise had moved these young people to gratefulness and no one knew quite how to receive it.

Since that Lent, I have always considered that I must challenge myself to engage in a spiritual exercise that would make me as grateful as those young people had been. So many people take on Lent as a painful exercise or an endurance race. Some even see Lent as a competition towards some spiritual supremacy. But in reality, we are all invited by Christ to seek a place in our lives that will open us to the thanksgiving and the ability to gratefully receive the underserved gift of Christ's sacrifice for all. We are invited to take up Christ's invitation, to open doors, to break down walls we have put up – in all cases to look at what we value, and to make room for Jesus.

Episcopal Church Women Eighth Annual World of Women Program and Luncheon

Saturday, April 1, 2006; 12 NOON – 3 PM
Church of the Saviour, Denville

Speakers:

The Rt. Rev. Carol J. Gallagher, Assistant Bishop of Newark
The Rev. Kathleen Ballard, Deacon, House of Prayer, Newark

This program recognizes women within the diocese who have enriched spiritual lives and promoted cultural growth within their congregations. Each church in the diocese can nominate two women to be honored at this event, and each church is invited to bring up to 5 others to the luncheon. Information packets, sent to all clergy and ECW presidents at the beginning of January, 2006, included reservation forms for the luncheon and instructions for nominating honorees. By Friday, March 10, 2006, please:

- ◆ Return reservation forms for the luncheon to Eleanor Howell, 28 Bedford Street, West Orange, NJ 07018. The form should come from the church with all attendees listed; individual reservations should not be made.
- ◆ Submit honoree biographies to Jessie Wilkerson, ECW Vice President for Programs, 8 Melrose Avenue, East Orange, NJ 07018 (973-675-9044).



At convention, the Rt. Rev. Carol Gallagher and the Rev. Kathleen Ballard, Deacon

**Women's Interactive Network**

Aleta St. James, a motivational speaker and healer, was the featured speaker at the Women's Interactive Network meeting on January 21. WIN is a program of the Lisbeth Linley Foundation, founded to honor the memory of cancer victim Lisbeth Linley Nedds. Shown at the program, which was held at St. Alban's Church in Oakland, are Erika Murphy, Lorraine Knox, speaker Aleta St. James, and Roja Singh. Further information on WIN is available from Lorraine Knox, 201-651-0988.

St. Andrew's, Harrington Park, Hosts Homeless Shelter

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Harrington Park is again this year serving as host to the Overflow Shelter Program sponsored by the Interreligious Fellowship for the Homeless of Bergen County (IRF). St. Andrew's, which has participated in the program for 17 years, is welcoming guests on Saturday nights during February through May.

Each Saturday, up to ten adult men and women who do not have a place to stay are welcomed at St. Andrew's. They have dinner, are given a safe and warm place to sleep, and get breakfast on Sunday morning. They are also given sandwiches to take with them for lunch when they leave the church.

St. Andrew's has been participating in the IRF's Overflow Shelter Program since 1988, shortly after the IRF was founded. Guests are provided shelter and food at St. Andrew's for six months of each year – the longest shelter offering of any church in the IRF.

St. Andrew's is one of 49 congregations that provide shelter to homeless adults in the Overflow Shelter Program. The shelter is physically housed at St. Andrew's. Members of St. Andrew's as well as many people from two other Harrington Park churches, The Community Church and Our Lady of Victories Roman Catholic Church, together with other individuals, volunteer their time as hosts and to provide food. Several Girl Scout troops also participate by cooking dinner and then serving it to guests.

"Two volunteers spend the evening with our guests until 11 p.m.," said Paul Shackford, coordinator of the program, "and then two others stay with them until about 7 a.m. Dozens of people provide dinner, snacks, fruit, dessert, breakfast, and lunches for our guests. Not only are our guests fed well, but also they have a safe, warm place to stay, rather than fending for themselves on Saturday nights."

According to Shackford, the program has been very successful since its inception. "While there were fears and concerns of some of our neighbors when we started 17 years ago, this program has worked very well. Over the years, more than 3,400 adult men and women have stayed in our shelter. People sometimes think that the homeless are someone else's problem, and that we don't have this problem here in Harrington Park. But more than once, we have had guests who grew up and went to school in Harrington Park, yet now are homeless and need someone to reach out to them. We're blessed that we have the facility and the dozens of people needed to maintain this shelter for so many years."

There are opportunities for people to help, by being a volunteer, providing food, or making a monetary donation. "We are particularly interested in having Scouts and high school students participate," said Shackford. "Not only do our volunteers provide an important service, but most realize that they have benefited by their participation."

Further information on becoming a volunteer or providing a monetary or food donation is available from Paul Shackford at 201-768-6885.



Members from Christ Church, Belleville who took part in the retreat to Cape May are, from left to right: Mr. Michael Petti, the Rev. Randy Lee Webster (Curate), Ms. Maggie Gilchrist, Ms. Leslie Haddick, Mr. John Bertrand, Mr. Joseph Dedalonis and the Rev. Paul E. Walker (Vicar).

Christ Church, Belleville's Executive Committee Takes a Journey

By Mr. Joseph Dedalonis and Mr. Michael Petti

January is a time that all churches ask members of their Vestries/Executive Committees to gather in the form of a retreat, which usually takes place on a church's property, and the business of running the parish is the high-point of the event. Typically, budgets are re-considered, building plans are outlined, committee members are appointed and long-term planning is examined. This year, the members of the Executive Committee at Christ Episcopal Church, Belleville, along with their Vicar, the Rev. Paul Walker, decided to do all this, with a twist.

This year they took the retreat off-site and devoted the majority of time to developing a spiritual renewal among its members. The theme of the retreat was the congregation's Spiritual Journey, and what better way to experience a "journey" than to take one? The Executive Committee Retreat started on Saturday morning on the church property and, later, anyone who was able, journeyed to a home in Cape May, New Jersey, to share prayer, food and fellowship for that evening and the next day.

The activities began with a journaling exercise where participants were asked "What in our lives has brought us to where we are today?" This exercise allowed members to share their stories, witnessing the spirit in their lives. Following this exercise, everyone prayed over every other member during a very touching anointing ceremony. Other exercises built upon this activity, culminating with an exercise in which Executive Committee members articulated their individual talents, the group's talents, and then formed a Leadership Covenant. Additionally, they agreed they would attend to their own spiritual growth as individuals and as well as members of the Executive Committee. The hope is that this will lead to a spiritual renewal for the entire community at Christ Church, Belleville.

"I was elated when members of the Executive Committee approached me with this idea, and I felt that the time had come for leadership at Christ Church to take the reins to do this. The spirit is alive and well at Christ Church, Belleville," said the Rev. Paul Walker.



Shown at a reception for grant recipients held in Princeton in December are the Rev. Victoria Geer McGrath, rector of All Saints' Church, Millington; New Jersey Historic Trust vice chair Ms. Carolann Clynes; and acting commissioner Mr. Charles A. Richman of the state Department of Community Affairs.

All Saints' Church, Millington, Receives State Grant to Prepare Master Plan for Building Preservation

By the Rev. Victoria Geer McGrath, Rector, All Saints' Church, Millington

All Saints' Church, Millington, has received a planning grant for historic preservation by the Garden State Historic Preservation Trust Fund, administered by the New Jersey Historic Trust. The church is one of nearly 40 sites in New Jersey selected by the staff of NJHT for grants announced last October. The \$12,461 grant covers 75 percent of the cost of creation of a master plan, including historic preservation, by architect Mark Alan Hewitt of Bernardsville.

The principal leader of the church's formative period was Mary Hudspeth Benson, known for her interception of letters relating to the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. She testified at the trials of John Wilkes Booth and John Surratt, and had to flee to Canada because of attempts on her life. Later moving to Millington, she called upon Bishop Edwin S. Lines in 1903 to ask for a mission church in the town.

The church, designed by Frederick Stone, was completed in 1906. Among the early organizers were Duane H. Nash, manufacturer of an internationally distributed farming plow, and Sydney N. Ogden, a Newark alderman who was among the "summer people" from Newark who came to Millington by train.

The stone church was expanded in 1957 under the leadership of its rector, George E. Rath, later Bishop of Newark. The building needs extensive work, including roofing, new mortar, and repairs to the tower, as well as modifications to make the building more accessible to the handicapped. The grant by the New Jersey Historic Trust will enable the parish to prepare plans for the necessary repairs.

Christ Church, Newton, Gets Youth Center Grant

Christ Church, Newton, with several partners, has received a \$40,000 grant from the New Jersey Faith-Based Initiative to start a faith-based ministry to Hispanic residents. The center, to be located in Christ Church, is the first in Sussex County whose sole focus is to serve Hispanics. It is the first organization of its kind to feature a salaried executive director, Ygnacio Peña.

The new center will offer "Center for Youth," an after-school program two days per week for Latino families. During the year, 25 children in grades three through six will participate in a highly-structured program at Christ Church, including high school mentors, assistance with homework, games, clubs, and guest speakers. Club activities will include martial arts, basketball, cooking, cartooning, "Super Science," media arts, Girl Power and Kids Under Construction, an empowerment program for boys. Guest speakers will share their expertise in science, photography, cooking and other subjects of interest.

According to the Rev. Robert Griner, rector of Christ Church, a noteworthy feature of the awarding of the grant was Christ Church's ability to bring together such diverse entities as the Migrant Ministry of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Paterson, the American Institute of Hispanic Heritage, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sussex County, and the Center for Prevention and Counseling.

Double Celebration at Christ Church, East Orange

By Mr. Bert Jones, Christ Episcopal Church, East Orange

On Sunday, February 5, the congregation of Christ Church, East Orange, had a double treat: the centennial birthday of Mrs. Dorothy Callaway, longtime member and supporter of Christ Church, on the same day as a parochial visit from by the Rt. Rev. John Croneberger.

Bishop Croneberger, making his last official visitation to Christ Church before his retirement, was the celebrant at the 8 and 10:30 a.m. services. After the exchanging of the peace at the second service, the Bishop blessed Mrs. Callaway and told her she was the second person he has known to reach 100 years of age. The first had been his own grandmother.

A celebratory breakfast was held after the early service, at which the Bishop met with the church Vestry members and committee heads. In addition to the meal, the coming together prompted a lively question and answer session with the Bishop.

One of the questions concerned District representations, and the ability of being elected to Diocesan Council. The Bishop assured those present that this was a concern, and that the question of whether the makeup of the Diocesan Council reflects that of the diocese as a whole would be raised with the Council.

The leaders of Christ Church also asked about the strengths of other congregations, which might be used as models. The Bishop responded that he has definitely seen a leadership pattern during his extensive travels through the diocese. Whenever a church is doing well, he continued, there is a strong bond and relationship between clergy and lay people. In churches that are not doing very well, that relationship is minimal at best. His conclusion was that it takes both clergy and lay people, working together, to achieve the desired goals.

Following the 10:30 AM service there was a festive reception for the Bishop and Mrs. Callaway. The church leadership gave Bishop Croneberger a decorative plate depicting Christ Church in honor of its 125th anniversary.



Above, from left to right, Mrs. Anne Guthrie, Bishop Croneberger, Mr. Ron Fraser (behind the bishop) Fr. Guthrie, Mr. Durant Hart, and, in the center, the birthday girl, Mrs. Callaway.

Church of the Epiphany in Orange Celebrates Centennial Anniversary

By Mr. Robert Cottingham, Jr., Church of the Epiphany, Orange

The Church of the Epiphany, located today at 105 Main Street, Orange, is celebrating 100 years as a parish with a year-long series of events. The congregation held a service of Thanksgiving and Rededication on November 20, 2005, with the Rt. Rev. John P. Croneberger presiding. Nearly 400 people attended, with some returning from as far as California. The parish will conclude its celebration with a dinner at Mayfair Farms in West Orange on November 26, 2006.

The Church of the Epiphany was started as a Sunday school for "colored" children in November 1905 at 60 Oakwood Avenue in

Orange. Miss Ruth Marsh of Grace Church, also in Orange, was the founder and teacher of seven students. Because of the enthusiasm and dedication of Grace Church's sexton, Thomas Johnson, the little class grew into the Epiphany Mission. Dr. Charles Walkley and the Rev. H.C. Stone, the rector and assistant rector of Grace, conducted services for the small group of worshippers. According to church records dating back to 1908, Lay Reader (later Rector) George Marshall Plaskett, a student in the General Theological Seminary, conducted services under the direction of the Grace Church Rector. Father

Plaskett went on to lead the church for 50 years after his ordination to the priesthood in 1909.

In 1916 the Epiphany Mission sought financial independence from Grace Episcopal Church, from which it had started. In 1930 Epiphany was admitted to the diocese after an ecclesiastical separation from Grace Church. In 1981, the congregation of Grace Church, Orange had declined to a handful of parishioners and in December of that year it was dissolved.

Since 1987 the Church of the Epiphany has been led by the Rev. Canon Gervais A.M. Clarke, Ph.D., who is the church's sixth Rector.

St. John's, Ramsey, Celebrates Centennial Anniversary in 2006

St. John's Memorial Church in Ramsey is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year.

The congregation began in 1904 and 1905, when a small group of people gathered to worship in Ramsey at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rhoades and Mr. and Mrs. George Stikeman. Previously, they had traveled to the Allendale Episcopal Church.

The congregation grew, and in 1905 Edwin Carpenter donated a triangular parcel of land at the junction of Main and Arch Streets in Ramsey, and George Crocker made a gift of \$10,000 to build a church in memory of his wife, Emma Hanchett Crocker. The church building was dedicated on May 20, 1906.

Marking the 50th anniversary of the church, the parish hall was completed and dedicated on January 29, 1956, by Bp. Benjamin Washburn.

This year's centennial observance started with a service of Evensong on January 22, following the same program used in 1956 at the church's 50th anniversary, based on the 1928 Prayer Book. On February 26 the congregation held a Morning Prayer service to commemorate the first use of the church building for worship, following the 1892 Prayer Book.

A public event of "Memories and Music" will be held on March 12, beginning with tea at 3 p.m., followed by songs and stories portraying the history of the church.

The church's annual art auction will be held on Saturday, March 25, offering prints, paintings, and other art forms. The proceeds of the event will be donated to Mobile Loaves & Fishes, an organization offering long-term assistance to people in the southern United States who were adversely affected by last year's hurricanes.

A festive weekend to celebrate the consecration of the church by Bishop Edwin Lines will take place May 19 through 21. There will be a dinner at Ramsey Country Club on Friday, May 19; a musical afternoon and reception on May 20; and a re-consecration service, celebrated by the Rt. Rev. John Croneberger on May 21 at 10 AM.

100!

Varying Views on Origins of Humankind Presented at St. Paul's Church, Chatham

By Ms. Joan Frey, Adult Education director, St. Paul's Church, Chatham

On three Tuesday evenings in January, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chatham, held a provocative series of presentations on the origins of humankind.

The January 10 presentation focused on Creationism. The speakers were Nick Lally and RoseAnn Salanitri, co-founders of a web site titled "CreationScienceAlive.com" and members of the Creation Study Group of New Jersey.

Lally, a retired science teacher, focused on exposing perceived fraud in the history of evidence supporting the evolutionary theory. Salanitri, a former court reporter and Bible study leader, presented an argument that the earth is young, no more than 6,000 to 10,000 years old, based on the genealogy of the Bible, and was created in the exact way and order described in the Book of Genesis. Salanitri discussed how the "big bang" theory seems to fit with the Biblical account of the creation of the universe. Lally and Salanitri also contended that the Biblical Flood is the cause of many problems in the interpretation of fossil evidence and Carbon 14 dating.

Joan Frey, director of Adult Education at St. Paul's, said that "people lingered long

after the presentation time had passed to talk to the speakers and each other about their concepts of creationism."

The January 17 session on evolution was led by Dr. Chi-hua Chui, assistant professor in the Departments of Genetics and Anthropology at Rutgers University and a member of the Rutgers University Human Genetics Institute.

Dr. Chui stated her belief that evolution is a fact, based on strong fossil evidence and the DNA sequence of living organisms. She used slides to demonstrate that all life comes from a common ancestor of unknown form some millions of years ago, and each species has evolved since that time. This idea is, she believes, the simplest explanation to tie together vast amounts of data from different disciplines. She also noted that the forces shaping evolution are unclear; that natural selection is only one possibility, and our theories are constantly being refined. As a Christian, she said that she sees no conflict between belief in God and evolution.

Questions focused on what our children should be taught in school, as well as philosophical comments about the theory of Intelligent Design. Dr. Chui expressed her opin-

ion that Intelligent Design is not a good explanation for the force guiding evolution.

On January 24, speaker Sigourney (Zoe) Pastorfield-Li presented an argument for the reconciliation of evolution and science. A neurosciences and philosophy major at Columbia University and a member of the Center for the Study of Science and Religion, Pastorfield-Li explained that the theory of Intelligent Design is presented as an alternative to purely naturalistic forms of the theory of evolution. Its stated purpose, she said, is to investigate whether or not existing empirical

evidence implies that life on Earth must have been designed by an intelligent agent or agents. However, Pastorfield-Li expressed her belief that Intelligent Design can't be considered a science, since it doesn't conform to the components of the scientific method.

Ms. Pastorfield-Li used examples from scientific writing, art, and literature to present the view that some things are unknowable, and that both science and religion articulate truth about our reality. She concluded that both science and religion need to learn the lesson of humility, so that each may aid the other.

Below, left to right: Dr. Linda Brzustowicz, a member of St. Paul's Adult Education Committee, Dr. Chi-hua Chui, the speaker, and the Rev. Elizabeth Kaeton, rector of St. Paul's.



Senior Ministries Presents Workshop on Getting Older People to Give Up the Car Keys

Patty Watts, a member of Senior Ministries and the Diocesan Council, presented a program at the recent diocesan convention about the crisis of telling an older person that it is time to stop driving a car. Ms. Watts, a parishioner of St. Gabriel's Church in Milton-Oak Ridge, noted that after the loss of a spouse and the loss of a job, the loss of driving privileges – however it may be imposed – is one of life's most stressful events.

There are many factors that lead to the need to give up driving, including a person's driving safety record, the use of medications, deteriorating visual and hearing acuity, reaction time, arthritis or joint pain, memory loss, loss of coordination, and others. Sometimes friends decline a ride, other drivers honk their horns, there are minor dings and dents in the car, and there are other signs that should be noticed. When these are recognized, there are lots of resources for testing and/or improving driving skills. These include the AARP Driver Safety and 55 Alive programs, AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Driving School

Associations of the Americas, New Jersey Division of Motor Vehicle Services, Alzheimer's Association, and the website SeniorDrivers.org.

Many older people fear that not having their own car will mean isolation and dependence upon others, and sometimes these fears lead them to create excuses for continuing to drive. The economic issue is often raised, but driving a car is an expensive luxury, involving the vehicle itself, insurance, maintenance and repairs, license and registration, and today's high cost of fuel. The money formerly spent on these things can easily pay for taxi fares, for example.

It should be remembered that a taxi takes passengers wherever they want to go, at any time. Many towns offer low-cost or free minibuses for senior citizens. Many churches have outreach programs that offer rides, and often neighbors and friends volunteer. Young people fulfilling high school requirements for community service are a good source of rides.

An excellent option is the Independent Travel Network, ITN America, now expanding from a ten-year experience base in Maine

into New Jersey, starting in Mercer County. A similar program, TransOptions, is working with ITN America in Morris County. Aside from a small fee per ride, clients may donate their cars and receive credit toward future rides without paying cash.

Family members planning to ask an older person to relinquish the car keys should realize that it is a life-changing step, and be well prepared. This might include listing behavioral, medical, and safety concerns, and any "stop driving" orders from physicians; checking the drug information on any medications being used; and planning transportation alternatives in advance.

Common reactions to family intervention include resignation, hostility, negativity, sarcasm, anger, withdrawal, depression, pouting, resentment, vindictiveness, reluctant acceptance, embarrassment, feelings of being unfit, and vehement protest. The family should listen to these expressions, go over the reasons and the evidence, and look at the potentially catastrophic consequences of continued driving. On the affirmative side, family members

should point out that the stress of driving will be gone, and assure the senior that they will help with arranging transportation.

There are a great many sources of information and support. These include AAA, AARP, State Office on Aging, SeniorDrivers.com, Association for Driver Rehabilitation Specialists, Driving School Association of the Americas, NHTSA, National Safety Council, American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, U.S. Administration on Aging, Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, Independent Transportation Network, Blue Cross of Massachusetts, Santa Monica Rotary HelpGuide, New Jersey Foundation for Aging, and Surviving Without Driving. People who do not have internet access can obtain assistance from a public library in finding relevant information online.

"We realize that these are difficult decisions with life-changing results," Ms. Watts concluded. "When they are made, they must be made out of love and concern, and our senior drivers must be convinced that what we are suggesting is the right thing to do."

Senior Ministries—Diocese of Newark: The Senior Ministries Commission seeks opportunities to celebrate the ministry of seniors and to expand the involvement of seniors in our congregations. Their largest event is the annual evensong where we honor seniors with the David P. Hegg II Lifetime Achievement Awards...to be held this year on Sunday May 21 at Christ Church, Ridgewood. In addition, Senior Ministries offers information on aging and ministering with and to seniors. They currently provide resources such as: Offices on Aging Information, hospitalization cards, suggestions as to how congregations and seniors can work together, and information about senior ministries in the Diocese of Newark.

Bringing People with Mental Illness into Parish Life Is Topic of Workshop for Clergy and Laity

The diocesan Bethsaida Team will present a workshop on Thursday, March 23, on the inclusion of people living with mental illness into worship and parish life. The program will be held at St. Elizabeth's Church, Ridgewood, and will open with a light supper at 6:15 p.m. The workshop, beginning at 6:45 p.m., is designed to assist clergy and lay persons to gain an understanding of the effects of mental illness on the lives of persons with schizophrenia and depression. The format of the program will include time for discussion of participants' questions on how best to be inclusive of these individuals.

Dr. Elizabeth Lannigan, a member of St. John's Church, Montclair, and a member of the Bethsaida Team, noted that for people living with schizophrenia and depression, joining a new church or even attending a familiar church can be very challenging. A person with schizophrenia may be confused by the sights and sounds of the service, or communicating with others. In addition, individuals with mental illness speak of their struggles to be accepted by others in social environments.

The workshop will examine how to reach out to a person living with mental illness, with the premise that church should be an environment in which these individuals find comfort and accessibility. The program, acknowledging that the feelings of discomfort of clergy and laity can put up barriers, will consider the experiences of individuals living with mental illnesses in defining a path to bring them into parish life.

Those wishing to attend the workshop may register by March 17 with Dr. Lannigan at 973-744-4948, or by e-mail at lgannigan@aol.com. Travel directions for St. Elizabeth's Church are on the church's website at www.dioceseofnewark.org/StEsRidgewood.

Interview:

Dr. Renée Hill Speaks on Her Approach to the Acceptance of Marriage Equality

On Wednesday, February 15, Oasis sponsored its annual "Celebration of Committed Relationships" service at the Church of the Redeemer in Morristown. The Rev. Phillip Dana Wilson, Rector of Redeemer, celebrated the Eucharist, and the Rev. Dr. Renée L. Hill was the preacher. She is the New Jersey organizer for Lambda Legal, a non-profit organization that is working toward same-sex marriage in New Jersey.

Dr. Hill is a graduate of Bryn Mawr and earned her Ph.D. at Union Theological Seminary, where she also met her partner, the Rev. Mary Foulke. Dr. Hill worked at St. Anne's Church in the South Bronx and St. Mary's in Manhattanville, and taught feminist liberation theology at Episcopal Divinity School. Subsequently she led the peace and justice program at All Saints' Church in Pasadena, California, for four years. Her partner, Mary, accepted a call at the Church of St. Luke in the Fields in Greenwich Village, while Renée took a break from church work to concentrate on her two children. In short order, however, she accepted a position at the Center for Anti-Violence Education, a non-profit program for children and families. When the Center ran out of money, Renée joined the Lambda Legal Defense Fund, where she has been working for the past year.

The following is an interview with Dr. Hill, conducted by Mr. Christian Paolino.

Are there unique challenges or circumstances when working with the African-American and religious communities on the subject of marriage equality?

"Black people are as diverse as any community...I want to dispel the idea that black people are inherently anti-LGBT or against our community getting the right to marry. I feel a more positive approach is to find pockets of support. LGBT people of color tend to be made invisible by those on both the extreme right and left. We're dealing with a constellation of forms of oppression...and we still live in a country that supports a racist perspective. Education and personal experience are important tools. Also, there are many pro-LGBT people of faith, but they get marginalized by the PR machine of the religious right. We need to give these people an opportunity to show their support...give them a voice."

I've heard some pretty uncharitable things from self-described Christians about LGBT people's desire for inclusion in the church, and for the right to be married. What do you say when people quote Bible verses to justify their resistance?

"It all depends on the person's understanding of the Bible and their emotional attachment to that understanding. It's very dif-

ficult to get anywhere in a singular encounter with a Biblical literalist. As Episcopalians, we don't worship the Bible; we worship Jesus Christ as a living example of justice, equality, and freedom. If someone has concerns but is at least open to dialogue, I suggest pointing out verses that demand behavior that we would consider extreme or ridiculous today (rules around food, clothing, etc.). The Bible has been translated and re-translated multiple times, and the condemnations people quote are against specific behavior under specific circumstances, not against a person's whole identity... a concept that didn't even exist then. Lambda Legal is focused on gaining the right of civil marriage, but in general I think people on both sides need to see that 'it's not just about the wedding.' There are far deeper implications: economics, child custody, property, validation of a relationship and the responsibility that goes along with it."

What do you think we should be doing to help bring about equality?

"Our churches need to give people the permission and the tools to actually examine the Bible and understand what is behind the words. I taught a theology class made up mostly of black women. These women had never paid attention to what it really says in the Bible about them. Women in biblical times

were talked about as property. This is not how we understand our faith today, nor what God wants for us. It was a real epiphany for those women. Many of us were raised not to question what we were told in church. People need to challenge their assumptions, the stuff they were raised with. We need to be able to talk about sexuality in a broad way and deal honestly and constructively with all these issues we're so afraid of: sexual violence, child abuse, who is a survivor, who is a perpetrator, etc. I'm impressed with how far the Diocese of Newark has come... there are still places where a woman or a person of color is not even welcome as a priest. In some ways, the LGBT community has dropped the ball by not seeing how their struggle ties to other issues of oppression. We have to ask ourselves, 'What resources do I have to deal with other injustices?'"

(In a mocking whiny voice):

But we've never done it that way before!

"Exactly. We tend to get lost in the routine and details of our worship. We tend to be too inhibited to let the Holy Spirit do her work. When I was doing community-organizing work in Harlem and the South Bronx, the way we worshipped was not like anything you'd find in suburbia, but the spontaneity of it was powerful. Let the Holy Spirit be free, and listen!"

Clergy Family Needs and Interests Surveyed in FOCUS Questionnaire

A questionnaire to be completed by clergy in the Diocese of Newark has been devised by FOCUS, Families of Clergy United in Support. The survey was created after Bishop Carol Gallagher, the Rev. Ed Hasse, the Rev. Allison Moore, and Ms. Kaileen Alston met to design an event for clergy families, and then realized that they needed to know more about such families to be able to design a useful agenda.

FOCUS, which is an organization of the national Episcopal Church, is researching ways to promote the health of families in which at least one member is ordained. The organizers noted that much of ordained ministry occurs in a very public space, where family life is open to public scrutiny and where conflicts "at the office" can directly affect family members.

The survey examines what is good about being part of a clergy family, and what the challenges are; awareness of where to go for support; the differing and sometimes competing needs of ordained and lay family members; what a parish expects of family members; and what kinds of FOCUS group activities would be fun and useful.

The survey form is designed to be completed in as little as ten minutes by each member of a clergy family. Responses are welcomed from such various perspectives as adult (18 and above) children of clergy, clergy spouses or partners, clergy members, and children currently living at home with clergy.

A lot of attention has been given to maintaining confidentiality. For email, each response is sent as an attachment to a separate e-mail, and the sender's address is deleted before the attachment is forwarded to committee members. For conventional mail, separate envelopes are provided for each member of a family.

Printed copies of the survey may be requested from the Rev. Allison Moore at allimore@earthlink.net or 201-461-7260, Church of the Good Shepherd, Fort Lee.

Please Return Christian Formation Cards

In January, the Christian Formation Commission sent a letter to church youth directors, Christian education directors and parish administrators asking for help in staying connected. The Commission is a volunteer group of lay and ordained people who support activities for children, youth and adults to help them grow in their relationship with God. The letter sent in January invites parishes to designate representatives to share information on activities and opportunities relating to Christian formation. A postage-paid yellow response card was included with each letter, and the Commission has requested that recipients return these cards as soon as possible. Anyone who did not receive such a letter and card and would like to be informed about Christian Formation events may call Kitty Kawecki, the diocesan director of resources, at 973-430-9902, or send an email note to her at kkawecki@dioceseofnewark.org.

"Wrestling with Big Questions"

By the Rev. Laurie Matarazzo and Ms. Kitty Kawecki, Christian Formation Commission

*"If you don't know the kind of person I am
and I don't know the kind of person you are
a pattern that others made may prevail in the world
and following the wrong god home we may miss our star."*

These words from the poem "A Ritual to Read to Each Other" by William Stafford express the essential need for knowledge of us and of one another that is at the heart of Christian formation. They convey the way in which reality emerges from honest and open communication, that growth is nurtured by mercy and non-judgmental listening, and that anything less than loving one another falls short of Christ's call to us.

Christian educators, seminary deans and faculty members, bishops, diocesan and congregational leaders from all over the United States and the world gathered in Indianapolis in January for a consultation entitled "Wrestling with the Big Questions." You will note that it was a 'consultation' not a 'conference.' This consultation is a result of Resolution A083 passed at the 2003 General Convention — "Resolved, That the 74th General Convention call every Episcopalian to be able to articulate his or her faith story; and urge dioceses and congregations to create opportunities for these stories to be told." Sponsored by the national church and featuring author and teacher Parker J. Palmer as the keynote speaker, the event was intended to "bring together and build collaborative relationships in order to transform and advance the Episcopal Church's ability to embrace its educational mission more deeply."

One central theme of the consultation, based on Palmer's book "A Hidden Wholeness," was the "circle of trust," a model for teaching and learning in every kind of organizational setting, from vestries and Christian Education committees to classrooms and Bible studies. Trust comes with active listening. Active listening means no advising, no judg-

ing, no fixing: just listening. In small groups, participants shared personal stories and grappled with struggles common to teachers and leaders in the church. Workshops provided more focused activities in designated fields such as Asset Mapping, Cultural Awareness, Young Adult Formation, and Family Ministries. Participants networked in between scheduled activities, exchanging ideas and e-mail addresses for further sharing and relationship-building.

In a letter to participants, the Rev. Dr. James B. Lemler, director of mission of the U.S. Episcopal Church, reflected, "It was truly an occasion of learning and leadership that will contribute to the mission of the Episcopal Church in a lasting way. Together we experienced community, prayer, conversation, and transformation. We engaged our goal of envisioning formation and education that will strengthen the capacities of the Church in its ministry and mission."

Ultimately, education/formation in the church must be done in a way that not only focuses on the individual's path but also builds up the community called the Body of Christ and its capacity for ministry. From the perspective of Proclaiming Education for ALL (PEALL)—the Strategy Team of the Episcopal Council for Christian Education, the work of sifting through the comments, dialogue, and learning of the consultation is well under way. The results will be part of the longer process of visioning and planning for the formation and educational ministries of our Church. We can look forward to strategies and resources for formational ministries coming from these agencies of the national church in the coming year.

Book Review:

St. Benedict's Toolbox: The Nuts and Bolts Of Everyday Benedictine Living (Morehouse, 2005)

Reviewed by the Rev. Robert Morris

Early Christianity was a religion of everyday spiritual practice, not just high ideals and beliefs. The fourth century historian Eusebius says Christians were known through the world for their Way, their distinctive pattern of living. As Christianity became the state religion and merged with a superficially Christian society, this fervent set of practices waned among nominal believers. Ardent disciples formed intentional communities to keep the apostolic spirit alive. Monasticism was born. Two centuries later the great St. Benedict wrote a "simple" *Rule* to guide his monks in the everyday life — one of the enduring interpretations of Christian life.

This ancient *Rule* has become "a center of balance and stability" for the Rev. Dr. Jane Tomaine, Rector of St. Peter's Church in Livingston. Like authors Esther de Waal, Kathleen Norris, and the social activist Sr. Joan Chittister, Jane sees in Benedict's practical wisdom a soul-saving antidote for the pressures and pretensions of life in our culture. In her book *St. Benedict's Toolbox: The Nuts and Bolts of Everyday Benedictine Living*, she examines one aspect of the *Rule* at a time. This highly readable 200-page volume is designed to be used as a workbook for putting Benedictine spiritual practices to work one by one, guided by practical "tools" for implementation and everyday examples. "Don't gallop through this book!" the author warns. "Give time to both digest and practice." Read a chapter, and pick a tool to practice for a week or longer, she suggests.

Benedict's *Rule* covers many practical details of community life, but Jane is more interested in the moral and spiritual heart of the *Rule*. She gives fresh readings of the traditional Benedictine vows: stability, obedience, and conversion of life.

Recognizing the allergy that willful self-directed moderns have to obedience, she suggests we return to the Latin root *obaudire* — to "listen thoroughly" with the heart to what God is saying to us through Scripture, circumstances, and in other ways. Obedience then becomes relationship, conversation, cooperation.

Stability is "staying power," the ability to say "Yes" to God's will for me in the place and the tasks we believe God has given us — a "countercultural" stance in our "keep your

options open" world. Pick a circumstance that calls for perseverance, Dr. Tomaine counsels. Picture actions that would make this possible, then put them into practice.

The *Rule* embodies the heart of the Gospel, both in its spirit of charity and in 73 "instruments of good works" from "love God, others, and self with the whole heart" through "make peace with an adversary before to sun sets" and "never despair of God's mercy." *The Toolbox* sticks close to this gospel spirit as it explores holy reading, practicing God's presence, giving thanks, practicing hospitality, giving alms, practicing forgiveness, and refraining from grumbling. But the book is in no way stuck in the past: praying on the internet and finding God in contemporary work situations also receive attention. The emphasis is on healthy relationships: a lifestyle which "prefers nothing to the love of Christ" and looks for God in all things, however mundane.

The book itself grew out of parish educational project for Dr. Tomaine's doctor of ministry degree, and has been road-tested in real lives. This practicality continues through a website (www.stbenedictstoolbox.org) with information and guidelines for continued practice, and an invitation to share experiences or ask questions. All this makes the book a state-of-the-art guide for a personal pilgrimage or a parish study group.

Among many "liberal" Christians today there's a great deal of agitation about whether or not this or that doctrine has to be believed. Intellectual revision of key teachings is deemed crucial for the Christian future. Be that as it may, spiritual practice is what's crucial for the Christian present, as well as for the sake of our immediate relationship to the needs of the world. Benedict's version of Gospel living provides a way to ground belief in deeds, and share common ground with people with different interpretations of the Creed.

The book cover claims "Practical tools for living a Christ-centered life." I'd say a hearty "Amen" to that.

The Rev. Robert Morris is executive director of Interweave Center for Wholistic Living at Calvary Church in Summit, and the author of *Wrestling with Grace*, and *Suffering and the Courage of God*.

Do you know a boy who loves to sing?



Each year, the acclaimed St. Thomas Choir School seeks exceptional boys to form the entering fourth grade class at the only church-affiliated boarding choir school in the United States. A traditional curriculum, grades four through eight, is taught by a dedicated faculty who understand their roles as educators and mentors. The boys sing five services a week, a concert series, and tour domestically and abroad. Tuition is modest and scholarships are available.



St. Thomas Choir School

202 West 58th Street, New York, NY 10019. For more information call Ruth Cobb (212) 247-3311 or send e-mail to rcobb@choirschool.org.



Faith Renewal Weekend for Young Adults Held at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church, Wayne

By Mr. Timothy Wong, VOCARE Lay Director

Eighteen people between 19 and 35 years of age joined together for a faith renewal weekend retreat in mid-January at St. Timothy's Lutheran Church in Wayne. The retreat was sponsored by VOCARE, which takes its name from the Latin word meaning "to call."

This was the third such annual retreat, attracting Episcopalians and Lutherans from New Jersey, Maine, Massachusetts, South Carolina, New York and Connecticut. Two spiritual directors, the Rev. Marge Lindstrom and the Rev. Rose Hassan, were among the presenters at the retreat. Discussion topics included "singlehood," marriage, God's calling of laity, ordination, community, identity, vocation and other spiritual aspects.

Many of the participants in the three VOCARE weekends have formed a strong and continuing community. Lay Director Timothy Wong reported that, "the VOCARE community in this diocese is growing each year, and it's a strong community filled with love."

The fourth VOCARE retreat will be held on the weekend of January 12-14, 2007. The fee is \$85, and financial assistance is available. Further information on the program is available online at <http://vocare.dioceseofnewark.org/>, or through Lay Director Timothy Wong by calling 973-635-8085 or by email at July212000@hotmail.com.

This year 24 diocesan youth from 16 different churches served at convention, either as pages or youth deputies. Pictured to the right, from left to right, Youth Pages: Kristen Giannone, Sarah Murray, Rebecca Murray, Julia Wiltshire, Hannah Lokko, Ashlee Saro, Amasi Kumeh, Tim Wong (chaperone), and Richard Soni. Youth Deputies: A.J. DeWalt, Benjamin deKruif, Catherine Potter, Janelle Grant, Katie Hoyer, Keith Ferguson, and Walton Clark, Jr.



Souperbowl Sunday



On Superbowl Sunday, February 5, 2006, after worship, the youth from St. Clement's Episcopal Church in Hawthorne collected for a national event called "Souperbowl Sunday" which is run by The Souper Bowl of Caring. Nationally more than \$1,700,000 was collected. The organization is a youth-led, grassroots movement of caring, the result of thousands of young people joining together to fight hunger and poverty in their communities. Since 1993, over \$28 million has been raised for charities across the country. For more information, check the website at www.souperbowl.org. Pictured above, left to right: Kristen Ralston, Katie Ralston, Wes VanHeest, Sam VanHeest, Anthony DeLucca.

Youth Pages

Youth Deputies

70 Diocesan Young People Join 2200 For 4-Day Conference at Disney World

By Mr. Michael Sniffen, Director of Youth and Young Adults, St. Peter's Church, Mountain Lakes

On January 13 more than 70 youth from churches across the Diocese of Newark departed for a four-day youth conference, "Faith in 3-D," at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. They were among more than 2200 young people from all over the United States, including representatives from the Episcopal Church, the Presbyterian Church (USA), and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship who joined together for the conference.

In addition to taking in the attractions of the amusement park, the young people shared their worship, meals, communion, dance, and

discussions of how best to use their individual gifts in collaborative Christian ministry.

Team leader Michael Sniffen accompanied a group from St. Peter's Church, Mountain Lakes, that stayed late at Disney World to see the 50th anniversary fireworks. "As color and drama exploded over Cinderella's castle on the backdrop of a perfectly clear night sky," he recalled, "looks of wonder and excitement were upon all our faces. Jiminy Cricket was there to tell us what was possible if we only wished upon a star. But we did more than wish upon a star that night: we experienced the love of God in

the company of new friends as we were invigorated by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Jamie Summers from St. Peter's Essex Church, Essex Fells, said of the trip, "The Faith in 3-D trip was amazing. I am so happy I went. Not only were the rides great at Disney, but I learned more about religion and I actually listened to the sermons. It was one of my favorite trips I've been on."

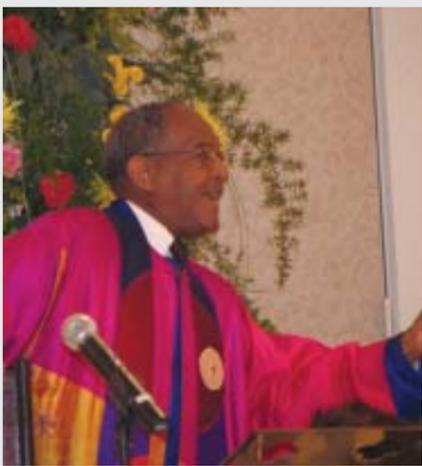
Ethan Weiner had similar sentiments. "Faith in 3-D was an opportunity for groups representing varying branches of Christianity to get together and learn about each other's

similarities and differences. It was an opportunity to have fun and make new friends while we were also becoming closer to God. We also got to go have a blast in Disney World."

Following an instructed Eucharist on Sunday, the youth visited Epcot where they met missionaries from Morocco, fine artists from Mexico, youth leaders from the U.K. and many others. The next day, Monday, the diocesan young people shared in a Martin Luther King Jr. celebration liturgy designed to help the youth remember Dr. King not only in thought, but in deed as well.



Faith in 3-D



The Rev. Dr. James Forbes at Convention

**An Appreciation:
We Must Welcome
All to God's Table**

The Rev. Dr. James Alexander Forbes, Jr., senior minister of the Riverside Church in Manhattan, was the preacher at the Saturday morning Eucharist during the diocesan convention. The following is an appreciation of that address, written by Miguel A. Hernandez, warden of St. John's Church, Dover.

I once saw Dr. Forbes in a Channel 13 television program that took place at Riverside Church in New York City. The program was part of the service for the commemoration of the first anniversary of 9/11. There were many important people at the service, including a number of politicians. Vice President Cheney attended the church and listened to Dr. Forbes' sermon. After the sermon, Dr. Forbes invited Vice President Cheney into his office for a private conversation. I was very interested in the message delivered by Dr. Forbes at that time. I also wondered what Vice President Cheney could have said of Dr. Forbes' powerful message of peace and justice.

As Convention came, I was very pleased to hear that Dr. Forbes was going to deliver the sermon in our gathering, and that he was going to have a small session during our lunch time.

In his sermon at the convention, Dr. Forbes began by sharing his childhood experience of mealtimes in his large family. His mother made sure "all the children were in" before anyone began to eat or, if they weren't, that food would be available when they were. Dr. Forbes invited us to reflect on what it means to be a Christian and to make sure "all the children are in" before we gather around the Lord's Table. "Momma Eternal," he assured us, wants to be sure that everyone is gathered at the table or will be provided for, if not.

As I listened to him preach at Convention I was intrigued. I grew up in El Salvador and my whole family had to work in a market. We never sat down at a table to eat. We ate at different times after we had worked at selling bread and fruit.

The thought of waiting until everybody was at the table before beginning to eat really interested me.

As I understood Dr. Forbes' message, God wants *all* children to be at The Table to partake in Jesus' Bread and Wine. Thus as Christians we are to receive all people who come to join us. No one is to be rejected. We are to love one another as Jesus love us.

That is a challenge for us, but I think we must make sure that all "God's people have a place at the table." No exceptions!

saved by faith, hope, and love...

Excerpts from Bishop Croneberger's Convention Address (continued from page 2)

*'Tis, finally, the man, who, lifted high,
...plays in the many games of life, that one
what he most doth value, must be won.'*

- Wordsworth

Bishop Croneberger continued:
“(What I value most – has got to be won!)”

“Tonight I want to talk to you about values...my values...the ones that undergird my ministry as your Bishop...the principles that have been especially important to me during these past seven years. I choose to present four values this evening that especially inform my work and, I believe, our work, as a diocese. Simply put, these values are:

1. encouraging and empowering each congregation to identify its unique ministry.
2. developing collaboration and collegiality.
3. supporting the ministry of all the Baptized.
4. maintaining a focus on justice issues.”

Bishop Croneberger elaborated on each of these values, describing the progress made and outlining the important areas and plans to be targeted now. (See his address online for more valuable information.)

“In 1952 Reinhold Niebuhr [a 20th century American theologian] wrote these words, ‘Nothing worth doing is completed in our lifetime; therefore, we must be saved by hope. Nothing true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in any immediate context of history; therefore we must be saved by faith. Nothing we do, however virtuous, can be accomplished alone; therefore we are saved by love.’”

“In a perfect world, I would like to have had more time to work as your Bishop in service to the values I have been holding up tonight. But then Neibuhr is right: ‘Nothing worth doing is completed in our lifetime; nothing true or beautiful or good makes complete sense in this present context; and nothing we do can be accomplished alone. Therefore, we must be saved by faith, hope, and love.’”

“The Diocese of Newark has also embarked on a search for the Tenth Bishop of Newark. Armed with a brave and creative Profile, I am excited, both for our present and our future. May we indeed lift every voice and sing.”



Convention Business Session



Convention Eucharists

Photos from Convention by Ms. Pat Hawkins

“I believe that the Diocesan Convention itself has become a powerful congregational resource. The table conversations, workshops, discovery centers, informal conversations, and worship....all point to an evolving, more interactive Diocese, where resources can be shared, community can be built, where we find ourselves in a collegial atmosphere with opportunities to take back to our local congregations some of what has been useful and helpful.”

If you'd like to understand why Dr. Forbes is known as "the preacher's preacher" and you have 30 minutes and web access, you can listen online to Dr. Forbes' sermon. Go to our main web page at www.dioceseofnewark.org and click on "The Rev. Dr. James Forbes' Sermon at Annual Convention" under Special Features on the lower right-hand side of the page. You will be rewarded with a dynamic, thought-provoking sermon that clearly addresses "an issue that concerns the church today. It has to do with the question of who ought to be included in the Body of Christ, but, more importantly, in the circle of our passionate concern." Forbes, a strong proponent of radical inclusion for all God's children, examines the question, "Are all the children in?" He concludes his sermon saying, "Are all the children in? Why Lord? Because at the table we learn how great your love is. And, at the table, we learn how to respect the other whose imperfections are different but are just waiting for the transformative grace of Christ. So, I close my sermon saying this, as you work through your problems, I understand there's going to be a eucharist, and I understand that the Episcopal Church is a eucharistic communion. May I ask you?...Could you from now on when you gather at the table, listen quietly to hear Momma Eternal and try your best to be able to answer when she asks, 'Are all the children in?'"

Chancellor Addresses Legal Issues Concerning Lobbying

At our annual Convention, an emergency resolution demanding our U.S. Senators oppose the nomination of Judge Samuel Alito sent shudders among the ranks of the chancellors and attorneys gathered at the Convention. This reaction was fueled by recent news articles about the IRS' examination of an Episcopal church in Pasadena where a guest speaker preached a sermon expressing strong dissatisfactions with some of the President's policies. Therefore, could the Diocese lose its tax-exempt status if such a resolution passed? The question merits further explanation.

Prohibition Against Political Campaign Intervention or Participation

In general, the IRS places two prohibitions on certain activities by tax-exempt organizations known as 501(c)(3) organizations. One, is that a 501(c)(3) may not participate in, or intervene in, any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office, federal, state or local. No amount of political campaign activity is permitted. Intervention in a public campaign may be subtle or blatant. It may seem to be justified by the press of events or may even be inadvertent. The law prohibits all forms of participation of

intervention in any political campaign. Treasury regulations define the phrase "candidate for public office" as "an individual who offers himself, or is proposed by others, as a contestant for an elective public office, whether such office be national, state, or local."

The IRS regulations provide that participation or intervention include but are not limited to "the publication or distribution of written or printed statements or the making of oral statements on behalf of or in opposition to such a candidate." Reported cases establish that the prohibition extends to indirect involvement. Thus, an entity can run afoul of the law even when it does not identify the candidate by name. "Issue advocacy" may serve as "the opportunity to intervene in a political campaign in a rather surreptitious manner" if a label or other codeword is used as a substitute for a reference to identifiable candidates. Hence, using codes words such as "conservative," "liberal," "pro-life," "pro-choice," can, when coupled with a discussion of the candidacy or the elections, constitute a prohibited intervention. It is this type of activity that triggered the IRS' inquiry in the case of All Saints Episcopal Church in Pasadena. Similarly, another church lost its tax-exempt status in 2000

for publishing full-page ads in newspapers advocating defeat of a presidential candidate.

Prohibitions Against Substantial Part Lobbying Activities

The second type of prohibition is that 501(c)(3)s may not engage in "substantial part" lobbying activities at any level of government. In contrast to the prohibition on political campaigning, this prohibition is not absolute. A tax-exempt organization is permitted to do some lobbying, so long as it is not a "substantial" part of its activities. While there is not a bright line, mechanical percentage test, generally, entities may avoid scrutiny if it limits its expenditures of time and money to between 5 to 20 per cent. As to the types of activities, limited, it includes contacting or urging the public to contact, members or employees of a legislative body for the purpose of proposing, supporting or opposing legislation. Seeking to influence the confirmation of a judicial nominee is lobbying within the meaning of the statutes. It should be noted that these two rules apply to tax-exempt organizations only, and not to activities by individual clergy or laity.

In summary, the Diocese of Newark and its individual parishes and diocesan affiliated



Chancellor Diane Sammons

organizations should not in any way involve themselves in campaigns for public office, but they may take positions on legislation if these activities do not constitute a substantial portion of the organization's time or budget. Consequences of a violation of either of these two prohibitions by a church or a church-affiliated entity in a given tax year may involve the loss of its tax-exempt status, resulting in all of its income being subject to tax.

The Chancellor's office which can be reached through Canon Carter Echols' office (973-430-9906) is available to offer more definitive guidance on specific cases. Another useful resource is "Tax Guide for Church and Religious Organizations," an IRS publication that can be downloaded from www.irs.gov.

The Voice From the Hispanic Ministry Task Force

By the Rev. Edgar A. Gutiérrez-Duarte, St. Paul's Church, Paterson

"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing: now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:18-19a).

Those words from the Prophet Isaiah echo the exciting good news of the Hispanic/Latino Ministry in our Diocese as we move further into this year. The new thing that God is about to do in our Diocese is beginning to spring forth. We could perceive it clearly during our 132nd Annual Diocesan Convention, in different ways: It was noticeable in the increased number of Hispanics/Latinos (lay and ordained) among the deputations from our

different congregations. It was also evident in the large number of inquiries received at the Hispanic Task Force's table, inquiries that reflect a sense of need and almost urgency to learn Spanish as a tool for Hispanic/Latino Ministry.

Yet, the true herald of these good news was our Bishop, the Right Rev. John P. Croneberger, who in his Annual Convention Address, in words that were received with joy by the Hispanic/Latino Episcopalians of the Diocese of Newark, presented clearly the emerging picture of the Hispanic/Latino Ministry in our Diocese:

"As one result of congregations finding and celebrating their special ministries, we

have moved from a small beginning venture in Hispanic ministry to having at least eight bilingual clergy with two more in the ordination process and another six clergy who are at various stages developing their Spanish language skills. Currently, seven congregations in the diocese conduct Spanish-language services on a regular basis. Of course, far more can be done and needs to be done in this area, but ministry to and with the Latino/Latina community is simply part of who we are and who we are called to be as the holy people of God in northern New Jersey...and... we are making solid progress."

Through this statement our Bishop articu-

lated one of the major legacies of his episcopacy: thanks to his determination and his support, the Diocese of Newark finally has taken firm steps to provide our growing Hispanic/Latino population with a place at the table, allowing us to say **"Aquí estamos! / We are here!"** in response to "Mama God's" question—using the unforgettable image from Dr. James A. Forbes' sermon—"are all the children in?"

We invite all to come on board, and to be a part of the good news and excitement. Learn more about our plans for this year and beyond. Contact us at hispanicministrytaskforce@email.dioceseofnewark.org.

Approval of a Resolution at Convention Is Only the Start of Its Implementation

At this year's diocesan convention, teenagers gathered six-deep around a microphone to express their desire for greater leadership opportunities in the church. They were cheered by nearly 500 convention deputies. The subject of all this activity was Resolution 2006-06, titled "Making the Church Inclusive of and Fully Accessible to All Youth and Young Adults."

This was one of 13 resolutions introduced at this year's convention, and ultimately it was adopted. But the adoption of a resolution is only the beginning of its implementation; this is the real work of the Church.

Each year the Committee on Resolutions convenes to determine which proposed resolutions will be presented at convention, which will go onto the Consent Calendar, which is usually reserved for those which the Committee feels may not require full debate prior to action by Convention, and which require further editing and clarification from the authors. In recent years there has been a concerted ef-

fort to make sure that each resolution contains action and accountability components. As committee chair Ms. Patrice Henderson says, "We try to give them teeth." This important step can mean the difference between passing resolutions which simply articulate our best wishes and ones which challenge congregations to work together for the greater good of our community and the glory of God.

Implementation of the approved resolutions is the responsibility of each person in the diocese. The list of these resolutions, including the final count on those that required a tabulated vote, can be found online at <http://www.dioceseofnewark.org/convention/resolutions06.html>. In the case of the resolution cited above, implementation might involve a parish priest, Worship Committee, youth leaders, and others within each parish in the diocese. The online resource identifies the persons or committees that sponsored each resolution; they can be valuable resources in helping a church turn the ideas into reality.

For future conventions, all deputies are welcome to submit resolutions for consideration. The guidelines for submission are online at <http://www.dioceseofnewark.org/convention/rules.html>.

Anyone interested in serving on the Committee on Resolutions for Convention 2007 may obtain further information from Michael Francaviglia at 973-430-9919 or mfrancaviglia@dioceseofnewark.org

Charles Herrera, House of Prayer, Newark, awaits his chance to speak at convention.



HOLA!

Mensaje del Grupo de Trabajo del Ministerio Hispano

Por el Rev. Edgar A. Gutiérrez-Duarte, Iglesia de San Pablo, Paterson

"Ya no recuerdes el ayer, no pienses más en cosas del pasado. Yo voy a hacer algo nuevo, y verás que ahora mismo va a aparecer." (Isaías 43:18-19a).

Esas palabras del profeta Isaías dan eco a las excitantes Buenas Nuevas del Ministerio Hispano/Latino en nuestra diócesis a medida que transcurre este año: Ese algo nuevo que Dios va a hacer en nuestra diócesis está empezando a aparecer. Lo pudimos percibir claramente durante nuestra 132^{ava} Convención Anual, en formas diferentes: Fue evidente en el mayor número de Hispanos/Latinos (laicos y ordenados) presentes en las delegaciones de las diferentes parroquias. También lo percibimos a través del gran número de preguntas que se nos hicieron en nuestra mesa, las que reflejan una sensación de necesidad y aún de urgencia por aprender Español como herramienta para realizar el Ministerio Hispano/Latino.

Sin embargo, el verdadero heraldo de estas Buenas Nuevas fue nuestro Obispo, el Reverendísimo John P. Croneberger, quien en su Discurso Anual de la Convención, en palabras que fueron recibidas con gozo por los Hispanos/Latinos Episcopales de la Diócesis de Newark, presentó claramente el cuadro emergente del Ministerio Hispano/Latino de nuestra Diócesis:

"Como resultado de congregaciones en el proceso de encuentro y celebración de sus ministerios particulares, hemos avanzado de un modesto comienzo en el ministerio Hispano, a un punto en que contamos al menos con ocho clérigos bilingües con otros en el proceso de ordenación y otros seis clérigos que están en diferentes grados de desarrollo de su aprendizaje del Español. Actualmente siete parroquias en la diócesis celebran servicios en Español en forma regular. Por supuesto, mucho más se puede hacer y se necesita realizar en esta área, pero el ministerio hacia y con la comunidad Latino/Latina es sencillamente una parte de quiénes somos y quiénes somos llamados a ser como el santo pueblo de Dios en el norte de Nueva Jersey...y... estamos progresando sólidamente."

Mediante estas palabras nuestro Obispo expresó uno de los mayores legados de su episcopado: gracias a su determinación y a su apoyo, la Diócesis de Newark finalmente ha tomado pasos firmes para darle un lugar en la mesa a nuestra creciente población Hispana/Latina, permitiéndonos decir **"Aquí estamos! / We are here!"** en respuesta a la pregunta de "Mama Dios" —usando la inolvidable imagen del sermón del Dr. James A. Forbes— "están todos los niños aquí?"

Diocese and Many Churches Join to Transform All Saints' Child Care Center in Bergenfield

All Saints' Child Care Center, a primary ministry of All Saints' Church, Bergenfield, began its 11th year of operation in September with a new director and a renewed vision of mission and ministry. "The program has undergone a complete renewal over the past year and all the efforts are yielding the results that we envisioned and have long believed were possible," said Laura Johnston, vestry member who also has a son in the preschool program.

Kathryn King, vicar of All Saints' and the new headmistress of the Child Care Center, is clear about what has made it all possible. "It started with a discernment process for all areas of parish life following the Magnetic Church Conference in 2004. The congregation and vestry have been willing to do the hard work and ministry visioning to restart many areas of parish life, including the child care center. Also, the support we have received from the diocese and other congregations has enabled us to make substantial improvements to the program and facility. God has indeed blessed this effort."

Inter-parish cooperation was essential to the success of the changes. All Saints' Church in Glen Rock, which runs a highly successful child care center, provided consultation on the search for the new director. Grants and loans from the Episcopal Capital Loan Fund and Ward J. Herbert Building Funds enabled the installation of a new playground with safety surfacing. When enrollment started to climb rapidly in September, a request was posted on the diocesan e-mail list seeking chairs and other school equipment for a new classroom. Trinity Church, Kearny, and Cal-

vary Church, Summit, both responded, and Canon Carter Echols and Michael Francaviglia made the connection with diocesan property manager Jim Caputo. He facilitated the gift of furniture and equipment from the former school at St. Mary's Church in Haledon.

King reported that the "donation has made such an incredible difference that the All Saints' vestry has decided to dedicate our new children's library and resource room in honor of the St. Mary's congregation. A dedication Sunday and reception is being planned for Eastertide 2006. Faith Gideon-Brown of St. Andrew's and Holy Communion in South Orange had also seen the posting for school furniture. Although they did not have what we were seeking, they were interested in the tables that we were offering in trade! So St. Andrew's picked up tables and made a donation which we will use to help purchase resources for the new library."

Johnston added, "As a parish we are overwhelmed by what God has brought about through so many avenues. All Saints' Child Care Center began this school year with 18 students and a new director, after a \$33,000 loss in the previous year. Now there are close to 50 students and a positive cash flow! Each month Kathryn sends a letter to school families describing what is happening at church. Three school families have joined the church already this year!"

King concludes, "This has all been possible by the grace of God and the support of the congregations and staff of the diocese. To all we want to say Thank You! We couldn't have done it without you."



Students at Child Care Center, All Saints', Bergenfield

Profiles in Lay Ministry:

Mary Beth King – Lay Leader for Gift Discernment

By Ms. Mary Barrett, Grace Church, Madison, Chair of Diocesan Lay Ministry Committee

Mary Beth King, a member of Church of the Atonement in Fair Lawn, is a soft-spoken woman with a big message for lay people: Your personal abilities and gifts are an important contribution to the reconciliation of God and the world. She believes that people too often do not value the gifts they have as instruments of God's work and have narrow visions of which gifts count. A good fit between the gifts a person actually has and the jobs she or he tries to do for the church or the world makes for a much more joyful experience and a more productive outcome.

Mary Beth's interest in gift discernment began around 1994. She was a member of St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Maywood, one of four churches in the area that were without clergy. The bishops of the diocese challenged the parishioners of St. Martin's and the other three Episcopal churches in Paramus, Fair Lawn and Rochelle Park to explore ways of sharing ministry. Out of that challenge BEAM (Bergen Episcopal Area Ministry), a shared ministry for those four churches, was born. At that time more attention was being given to the idea of the ministry of the baptized, and BEAM explored the ideas of total ministry for their churches. To that end, gift discernment was explored through a team-led confirmation class. For Mary Beth, something in her jelled, and her ministry of gift discernment workshops began.

Over the last decade Mary Beth has led many workshops for congregations, as well as for diocesan meetings. In her workshops she stresses that ministry is a 24/7 affair, not just a two hours on Sunday mornings. What we do in our lives every day, she says, is an opportunity to be an agent for God's mission, no matter what we are doing professionally or otherwise. She finds that this emphasis opens people's awareness of what ministry means, and what their gifts are for.

Participants often comment that they feel confirmed in their offerings to the church and the world through such workshops. Becoming aware of the gifts and abilities that led them to accept particular jobs helps people value the contributions they make. On the other hand, many participants have come to see that they are trying to do a job in their church that is not a good match for who they are. With this understanding, they are able to work on letting go of that job that is unsuitable for them. This makes room for them to find another job that is a better fit, and it makes room for someone who is better suited for the job to step up.

Mary Beth had strong models for ministry as she was growing up. Her father was the rector of St. Martin's Church in Maywood for 22 years, and he and her mother were also involved in diocesan ministries. The Rev. Linda Strohmer, who led BEAM, was an influence in Mary Beth's adult understanding of ministry. Her priest at Atonement, the Rev. Kevin Coffey, has been a supporter and colleague in ministry. She is helping many other people develop their own sense of ministry by helping them discern and value their own gifts.

Individuals or congregational representatives who want to learn more about discernment of gifts for ministry may call Mary Beth King at St. Paul's Church in Montvale, 201-391-3181.



Mary Beth King

Heath Village



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EV 3/06

General Convention of the Episcopal Church Will Meet In Columbus, Ohio, June 12 - 21

By Mr. Kim Byham

The General Convention of the Episcopal Church, held every three years, will meet June 12 to 21 in Columbus, Ohio. The major tasks of the convention will be to elect a new Presiding Bishop and a new president of the House of Deputies, to revise the sections of the Canons that deal with Ministry and with Ecclesiastical Discipline, to consent to the election of bishops, to approve a budget for 2007-2009, and to consider inter-Anglican and schismatic issues.

Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold's nine-year term ends in October, and the House of Bishops will elect a replacement. Nominated as candidates for the position are the Rt. Rev. J. Neil Alexander, Bishop of Atlanta; the Rt. Rev. Edwin F. Gulick, Jr., Bishop of Kentucky, the Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, Bishop of Nevada, and the Rt. Rev. Henry N. Parsley, Jr., Bishop of Alabama. All bishops present, including those who are retired, are eligible to vote. The committee which nominated the candidates, however, included laity and non-Episcopal clergy. (See additional information below.)

The next President of the House of Deputies is likely to be Bonnie Anderson, who appears to be unopposed. From the Diocese of Michigan, she is currently vice president and a member of the Executive Council.

The National Canons dealing with ministry are likely to be changed again. Extensive changes were made in 2003, but many of the changes were considered difficult to understand; the effort this time will be to create a more comprehensible document.

Perhaps the most controversial governance issue will revolve around the Title IV revisions. These canons deal with the disciplining of deacons, priests and bishops. If the proposed changes are adopted, discipline of the laity will be introduced for the first time.

The Executive Council has approved a \$151,986,107 proposed budget for the 2007-2009 triennium. That sum is about \$10 million, or three percent, larger than the current triennium budget, reflecting anticipated growth in contributions from the dioceses. The most controversial decision, approved by the Executive Council in a close vote, was to increase the church's contribution to the Anglican Consultative Council by \$550,000, making the Episcopal Church's total direct contribution to maintaining the Anglican Communion \$2.350 million. It is estimated that other contributions from American sources toward the administration of the Communion total at least another \$2 million. The budget now goes to the General Convention's Joint Standing Committee on

Program, Budget and Finance for hearings and possible revision and then will be presented to General Convention for approval in June.

The 14-member Special Commission on the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion was appointed by Presiding Bishop Frank T. Griswold and the Very Rev. George L. W. Werner, president of the House of Deputies. They charged the commission with preparing the way for General Convention to receive and respond to the Windsor Report, the February 2005 communiqué of the primates from Dromantine, and the actions of the June 2005 meeting of the Anglican Consultative Council. They are continuing to meet until the convention, when they will be replaced by a convention committee consisting of deputies. It is anticipated that the commission members who are deputies will serve on the corresponding convention committee. The Rev. Sandye Wilson from this diocese is a member of the Special Commission.

Kim Byham is president of the Standing Committee, a member of the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church, and a member of All Saints' Church, Hoboken. The Rev. Sandye Wilson, Rector of St. Andrew and Holy Communion, South Orange, contributed to the article.

Convention Survey Examines Diversity

The Inclusion Working Group of the Diocesan Council conducted a survey at the 2005 diocesan convention, designed to examine whether diocesan leadership reflects the diversity of the diocese as a whole. Surveys were distributed to all clergy and lay delegates, as well as staff and working group members attending convention. Below are some of the findings of this survey, based on the 397 forms that were returned.

- ◆ The Diocese of Newark has more women than men in lay leadership by about 21%.
- ◆ 77% of our leaders are between 46 and 77 years old. Only 4% are below 30. The median leadership age is 58.
- ◆ Of the respondents, 81% have completed college and 44% have master's degrees.
- ◆ 71% are in blessed partnerships and only 6% are divorced or do not have partners. 66% live in households of two or fewer, 82% in households of three or fewer.
- ◆ 84% are heterosexual, right in line with the national average.
- ◆ The median leadership income is between \$51,000 and \$99,000; 3% of the delegates make more than \$350,000 annually. The median income in New Jersey is \$48,500.
- ◆ 73% of the respondents own their homes, 13% live in apartments. 81% live with one to three people.
- ◆ 69% of our diocesan representatives come from Bergen, Morris and Essex counties; 6% come from Hudson, 3% from Union and 2% from Warren counties.
- ◆ 85% of the respondents are Anglo-European, 5% are African American, 7% are Black, 2% are Latino, 2% are Native/Pacific Islander, and 2% are Asian. Other groups are represented at less than 1%. The Diocesan demographics reported in the profile for our new bishop report that Latinos/Hispanics represent 18% of population, Blacks represent 16%, Asians 7%.
- ◆ 1% of our delegates use Spanish as their primary language, while 12% speak a language other than English.
- ◆ Non-clergy pledge a median amount of 4.1-5% of income to their churches. 83% of non-clergy give between 1% and 5% to other charities. Clergy pledge a median of 9% of income to their churches, and 84% of them give between 1% and 5% to other charities. People who earn less tend to give a greater percentage of their income.
- ◆ Our leaders have a slight preference for ethnic and low-fat foods. Only 6% are vegetarians.

Complete survey results are available by checking the Diocesan Council section of the website at: www.dioceseofnewark.org/dc.htm.



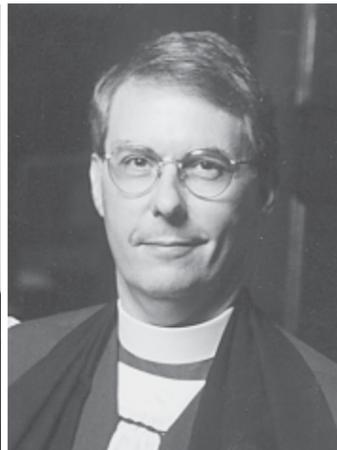
The Rt. Rev. J. Neil Alexander
Diocese of Atlanta



The Rt. Rev. Edwin Gulick
Diocese of Kentucky



The Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori
Diocese of Nevada



The Rt. Rev. Henry Parsley
Diocese of Alabama

Presiding Bishop Nominees Announced

Episcopal News Service

On Wednesday, January 25, 2006, the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop announced the names of those bishops it will place in nomination for election as 26th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church to succeed the 25th Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Frank T. Griswold III, whose nine-year term concludes later this year. The nominees' names will be formally submitted to the General Convention at a joint session on June 17, 2006, and the election of the 26th Presiding Bishop by the House of Bishops will take place on June 18. The new Presiding Bishop will be installed November 4, 2006, at Washington National Cathedral.

The Nominating Committee consists of 29 persons - a bishop, clergy and lay person from each of the nine provinces of the Episcopal Church, elected by the House of Bishops, and two young persons appointed by the President of the House of Deputies. The committee is chaired by Bishop Peter J. Lee of Virginia and Diane B. Pollard of New York.

[The committee stated] "We believe any of the persons named, if elected, and with God's help and the prayerful support of the church, can provide the leadership required in the Episcopal Church at this time. We commend these nominees to the Church and ask that prayers be offered for them, for the Bishops at General Convention who will elect and for the Deputies who will be asked to consent to the election. Most especially we ask prayers for the Episcopal Church and its leadership and for its continuing ministry among the peoples of the several countries it serves in the name of Jesus Christ."



One of Our Diocesan Youth Elected to National Post!

Hannah Lokko, a high school senior from St. Paul's, Englewood, has been selected as one of only two youth from the eleven dioceses of Province II to be a youth deputy to the General Convention of the Episcopal Church USA. Hannah has been a leader in her church for many years, serving as the youth group president, lector, usher, acolyte coordinator, and hospitality minister. In recent years she has become active in diocesan and national programming, as well. She has served on planning teams for diocesan youth retreats and has been the District 9 Youth Deputy to our diocesan convention.

In May 2004 she attended the international S.O.U.L. Conference in Daytona Beach, FL for black Anglican youth and last July Hannah attended the national Episcopal Youth Event where she testified in front 1,300 people (including 52 bishops and the Presiding Bishop) about the ways in which evangelizing for hip hop masses in the Bronx has made her a better leader.

At General Convention, Hannah will have a personal assistant to help her navigate the ins and outs of the Convention as she meets other leaders of the national church and votes on issues that are important in the life of the national church and have an impact on the entire Anglican Communion. In fact, Hannah will vote on the next Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church!

Lenten Opportunities: Having entered the Lenten season, churches in the Diocese of Newark are providing many opportunities for their members, visitors, and guests to observe “a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word.” (1979 *Book of Common Prayer*, p. 265). The opportunities range from adult forums to Lenten book studies to quiet days. A sampling is listed below.

BIBLE STUDY

- ❑ **St. Elizabeth’s Church, Ridgewood;** reading and discussion led by the Rev. John Hartnett on the *Gospel of Luke*; Saturdays at 10 AM
- ❑ **Holy Trinity Church, West Orange;** Wednesdays at 7 PM, Eucharist & Bible Study

BOOK STUDIES

- ❑ **Christ Church, Budd Lake;** Rick Warren’s bestseller *The Purpose Driven Life*; Wednesdays, 7:30 – 9 PM
- ❑ **Christ Church, Pompton Lakes;** Mitch Albom’s *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*; Wednesday evenings, beginning with soup supper, followed by Evening Prayer, and then the book study
- ❑ **Christ Church, Totowa;** Robert Gomes’ bestseller, *The Good Book: Reading the Bible with Heart and Mind*; Wednesdays; 7:45 – 8:45 PM
- ❑ **Good Shepherd, Wantage;** Bill Hybel’s *Too Busy Not to Pray*, parish supper followed by book study and ending with compline

CHILDREN’S SERVICES & PROJECTS

- ❑ **All Saints’, Hoboken;**
 - Children’s Stations of the Cross, Good Friday, April 14, 9:30 AM, geared especially to children, followed by the baking of hot cross buns
 - Children & Family Chapel, Fridays, 3:30 – 4:15 PM, children from all faith traditions are invited to participate in this service where

children will be responsible for pieces of the liturgy; children do not need to be accompanied by a parent, but families are welcome.

- ❑ **Good Shepherd, Wantage;** Third grade through confirmation-age children will be given age-appropriate Bibles plus a list of 40 stories to read during Lent. They will find friends and parishioners to sponsor them for each story they read, and, after Lent, they will choose a project to sponsor with the money they’ve raised.

LENTEN QUIET DAYS

- ❑ **St. Mary’s, Sparta;** “When God Seems Silent,” a day of reflection led by the Rev. Susan Lederhouse
- ❑ **Church of the Atonement, Tenafly;** Saturday, March 25, 9:30 AM – 1 PM; topic “Choosing God, Choosing Life: Rejecting the Idols of Our Day” led by Lynne and Dean Weber, includes biblical learning and discussion, Ignatian meditation, silence, poetry, “art as prayer,” and lunch.

LENTEN SERIES

- ❑ **St. Andrew’s, Harrington Park;** Holy Week to Easter in Scripture, Music and Art; Monday mornings at 11 am followed by brown bag lunch OR Wednesday nights from 8 to 9 PM after worship at 7:30 PM
- ❑ **Christ Church, East Orange;** joint Lenten program with Calvary Roseville United Methodist Church and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (East Orange) starting with

supper of bread and soup, followed by pastor’s teaching and round table discussion on the Lenten study guide “*Wilderness Wanderings*” by Marilyn Brown Oden, and ending with a worship service; Tuesdays at 7 PM at one of three sponsoring churches

- ❑ **All Saints’, Hoboken;** Christian Spirituality series with texts from contemporary Christian writers; Mondays, 7:30 – 9 PM
- ❑ **Grace Church, Madison;** “Opening the Prayer Book” from The New Church’s Teaching Series led by Jeremiah Williamson, Director of Christian Formation; Wednesdays, 7 – 8:30 PM
- ❑ **St. Elizabeth’s Church, Ridgewood;** Monday evening potluck suppers followed by a series on “Living a Life of Balance,” inspired by centuries-old Rule of St. Benedict
- ❑ **St. Mary’s, Sparta;** soup supper followed by 7:30 PM Eucharist and 8:15 PM adult study led by the Rev. Orion Davis on the film “The Passion of the Christ.”

- ❑ **Christ Church, Teaneck;**
 - Created and Called Gifts Discernment Workshop; short presentations, personal reflection exercises, small group sharing, and prayer help participants find their mission and purpose; Mondays, 7:30 – 9 PM
 - The Way of the Cross on the Labyrinth; The Way of the Cross sheds light on nine Passion Events in Jesus’ life by integrating Old and New Testament passages and visual images of the Stations of the Cross. Walk the labyrinth or meditate while accompanying Jesus on his journey. Wednesdays, 6 – 7 PM
 - Centering Prayer; method of prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of God’s pres-

ence by quieting our minds; Wednesdays, 7 – 7:30 PM

- ❑ **St. Michael’s, Wayne;** “Mere Christianity: The Class” led by the Rev. Ellen Donnelly; Tuesdays 7:30 – 9 PM

OUTREACH

- ❑ **St. Stephen’s, Millburn;** “Lent-A-Hand” project encourages parishioners to explore ways in which they can be of service to people in the congregation, community, or wider world. They can simply gather information to use in the future or they can actually engage in a project, but the intent is that each person find something that sparks his or her unique interests and passions. Lent-A-Hand provides an opportunity for St. Stephen’s parishioners to reflect on their lives and the needs of others and to choose an activity where they can make a small difference in the world. In fact, over the years, many projects begun during Lent-A-Hand have become permanent ministries of the church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS—

Walking with Christ through the events of his Passion and death.

- ❑ **All Saints’, Hoboken;** (see *Children’s Services*)
- ❑ **Trinity & St. Philip’s Cathedral, Newark;** Wednesdays at 7 PM; includes a Lenten meal
- ❑ **St. Mark’s, Teaneck;** Fridays at 6:30 PM
- ❑ **Holy Trinity, West Orange;** Fridays, 7 PM

Church of the Holy Spirit, Verona, Saves Money on Church Insurance

In times such as these, when finances are very tight and being squeezed even more by fuel bills during the winter, saving money on church insurance can be a great blessing. The experience of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Verona is an excellent example of how careful investigation and planning can result in real economies.

The Church of the Holy Spirit budgeted \$10,700 in 2005 for insurance; for 2006, the budget figure is \$6,200 – a reduction of \$4,500. This big reduction came about as a result of an article in the monthly newsletter of St. Agnes’ Church, Little Falls, outlining the parish budget. Karen Blasi-Blinder, church administrator and treasurer of Church of the Holy Spirit, noticed how much less St. Agnes’ was spending on insurance, and began an investigation.

Looking back at the process later, she said, “If I had not been serving both in the capacity of treasurer and parish administrator, I would probably not have been reading the newsletter from St. Agnes’, nor recognized the enormous difference between their insurance budget line and ours.”

As a result of that experience, she continued, she wants to build a better awareness among church financial planners that there are options available concerning the choice of an insurance carrier. While some carriers may report that they have the only suitable coverage available, investigation will show that this is not the case. This is not a fixed cost over which a church has no control, going steadily up every year. There are many reputable insurance agents who are happy to share their expertise to help churches get their insurance costs under control.

After saving more than 40% on her church’s insurance coverage, Blasi-Blinder now actively encourages church treasurers to talk to each other and share their ideas on identifying areas for savings in their budgets. She has also suggested that the diocese might set up an electronic message board as part of the website in which such ideas could be shared.

“Where Seniors Feel at Home”

CANTERBURY VILLAGE

is a unique Assisted Living Residence offering spacious, private rooms, home-cooked meals, and personal assistance as needed. All services are conveniently located on one level. Short term stays are also available.

“The very loving and caring staff made my mother feel at home the moment she arrived at Canterbury Village.”
– son of a resident

33 Mt. Pleasant Ave.
West Orange, NJ 07052
973-736-7404

Call for brochure and tour

Equal Housing Opportunity/Not-for-Profit

Episcopal Community Development, Inc. Joins Newark Asset Building Coalition to Offer Financial Education Classes

Episcopal Community Development, Inc. has joined NABC to bring Financial Education classes to Newark. The partnership responsible for this opportunity also includes PNC Bank, Independence Community Foundation, Newark Now, the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice, and the Association for Children of New Jersey. Classes will be held monthly at different locations throughout the city of Newark. Topics will include:

- ◆ saving
- ◆ investing
- ◆ teaching children how to manage their money
- ◆ focusing on seniors
- ◆ using credit
- ◆ budgeting
- ◆ accessing earned income tax credits

Each session will be approximately two hours long, and will include light refreshments. The first session will be held at Episcopal House on Wednesday, April 5, starting at 6 PM. (See graphic at right.)

Save for tomorrow, TODAY!

Join the Newark Asset Building Coalition (NABC) and Episcopal Community Development, Inc. (ECD) as they offer simple techniques that can help you save for rainy days.

There is more to do with money than spend it!

FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP
Wednesday April 5, 2006; 6 – 8 PM
Episcopal House, 31 Mulberry Street, Newark NJ

For registration or additional information, call 973-639-7117 or email nabc@acnj.org.

Clergy Comings and Goings

On Saturday February 25, Bishop Gallagher ordained the **Rev. Audrey Hasselbrook** to the priesthood at Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral.

The **Rev. Richard Swanson** has accepted a call as Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Dowagaic, MI in the Diocese of Western Michigan. His first Sunday in Michigan was March 5, 2006.

Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Child Abuse Awareness Training

The next workshops in Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Child Abuse Awareness are scheduled for **Saturday, March 25, 2006**, at Episcopal House, 31 Mulberry Street, Newark. Course descriptions and registration information are available online at www.dioceseofnewark.org/sexabuse.html.

A resolution from diocesan convention in 2001 requires that all paid employees, full and part-time, of all congregations in the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, all subsidiaries (such as CDCs and nursery schools) of those congregations, and all offices of the Diocese as a whole be trained in the prevention of sexual misconduct and child sexual abuse. Additionally, all volunteer Church Sunday School teachers and youth workers are encouraged to be trained in the prevention of sexual misconduct and child sexual abuse.

**Argyle Fish & Chips Dinner
In Celebration of
St. Patrick's Day**

**Friday, March 17, 2006
5:30 – 7:30 PM**

continuous seating; eat-in or take-out

Grace Church, Nutley
(200 Highfield Lane)
973-235-1177

Tickets (advance):
Adults - \$12, Children - \$7
Tickets (at door):
Adults - \$15, Children - \$10

Pasta Dinner and Auction

**Saturday, May 6, 2006
6 PM**

Church of the Good Shepherd, Fort Lee
(1576 Palisades Avenue)

Pasta Dinner
Live Auction with lots of great items!
No reservations required
Tickets (at door):
Adults- \$15, Seniors - \$12,
Children - \$6 (10 & under)

**"Cell Phone Spirituality:
A Workshop & Dinner for
6th – 12th Graders and
Their Advisors"**

Sunday, April 30, 4 - 6:30 PM
St. Michael's, Wayne
(1219 Ratzler Road)
Cost: \$6/person

Led by the Rev. Kevin Goodrich, Order of Anglican Dominicans and author of the new book by this title. The first 20 6th - 12th graders to make reservation and pay the fee will receive a free copy of the book.

Two Arts Events From Grace Church Van Vorst, Jersey City

GODSPELL: THE MUSICAL

Grace Church Van Vorst proudly announces its production of the popular musical Godspell which will have its run during the Easter season. This is the second year in a row that Grace Van Vorst has presented Godspell with the help of an ACTS/VIM grant from the diocese. The Rev. Janet Broderick will be directing a fully new cast of performers and expects to surprise us with some new twists.

April 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, and 16 at 8 PM
Palm Sunday Service Performance with Communion - April 9, 11 AM
Suggested Donation: \$5

CATHEDRAL ARTS FESTIVAL CHAMPAGNE GALA: A Benefit for the Community

Grace Church Van Vorst will present its 17th Annual Cathedral Arts Festival this May. This important annual fundraiser will begin with the Champagne Gala and continue with many new events throughout the month.

May 6, 7 PM to midnight
Art sale & auctions, fine food, music & dancing
Performance by AMERICAN WATERCOLOR MOVEMENT
Tickets: \$40 in adv / \$50 at door / \$25 for seniors, disabilities, students, and artists

For more information on either of these events:
Grace Church Van Vorst, 39 Erie St, Jersey City, NJ 07302
201-659-2211 ♦ gracevanvorst.dioceseofnewark.org

Hip Hop Mass Day

**Saturday, March 25, 2006
1:30 – 7:30 PM**

St. Paul's Church, 451 Van Houten Street, Paterson
Workshops (1:30 – 4:30) ♦ Mass (4:30 – 6:30) ♦ Dinner (6:30 – 7:30)
with The Hip Hop EMass team from Trinity Church of Morrisania in the Bronx
Please register online at cfc.dioceseofnewark.org/Events.html

**St. Paul's, Chatham, to Present Schubert's
"Mass in G" at Evensong Service**

Sunday, March 26; 5 PM
Reception following, all invited

St. Paul's Church, 200 Main Street, Chatham
Donation: \$5, suggested

For more information, call the parish office at 973-635-8085.

The Parish Choir and friends of St. Paul's Church, Chatham, will sing Schubert's "Mass in G." The mass will be accompanied by an organ and string ensemble. Linda Eriksen, Organist and Choirmaster for St. Paul's, will conduct. The mass includes a Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, Sanctus, Benedictus, and Agnus Dei.

The Hampton Univeristy Concert Choir

Sunday, April 23, 2006; 4 PM
Trinity and St. Philip's Cathedral
608 Broad Street, Newark, NJ

For tickets, please call Connie at 973-672-6406
Donation: \$20.00

The University Concert Choir is the primary touring ensemble for Hampton University located in Hampton, VA. Established in 1876, the choir has toured the USA, parts of Europe and Canada. The choir has performed in Carnegie Hall, Kennedy Center, St. Patrick's Cathedral and was featured at the Inauguration of President William Jefferson Clinton in 1997.

All proceeds will benefit The Cathedral Building Fund and Hampton University Choirs.

TeenCanteen LIVE Rocks On

Friday, March 31, 6:30 PM
St. Michael's, Wayne
(1219 Ratzler Road)

featuring local rock bands, games, and food
Open to all 6th - 12th graders
and their clergy and advisors.
Tickets: \$6/ person

Volunteer adult chaperones receive free admission when signing up by March 24.
For more information, call 973-694-1026.

**Instructional Sessions About
Bishop Nominating Process**

The Nominating Committee for the 10th Bishop of Newark will be holding informational sessions for the special convention deputies and others who are interested. Here is the schedule for those sessions as confirmed so far by the district conveners. Please contact your own district conveners for further information:

- District 1 Wednesday, May 3, 7:30 PM
(site to be determined)
- District 2 Monday, May 1, 7:30 PM
St. David's, Kinnelon
- District 3 Tuesday, May 2, 7:30 PM
St. Paul's, Morris Plains
- District 4 Tuesday, May 23, 7:30 PM
(site to be determined)
- District 5 Monday, May 15, 7:30 PM
St. James', Upper Montclair
- District 6 Tuesday, May 16, 7:30 PM
Grace Van Vorst, Jersey City
- District 7 Thursday, June 15, 7:30 PM
St. Paul's, North Arlington
- District 8 Sunday, May 21, 3 PM
Trinity, Cliffside Park
- District 9 Sunday, April 30, 1 PM
St. Paul's, Montvale
- District 10 Monday, May 1, 7:30 PM
St. Paul's, Paterson

**2006 Summertime
Blues Cruise Sunset Sails
To Benefit St. Peter's Haven***

**Tuesdays, July 18 & 25
and Thursday, July 27, 2006**
Boarding starts at 5:30 PM
Liberty State Park, Jersey City
Tickets: \$35 each
(only 40 tickets being sold for each cruise)

Cruise through New York Harbor for 2 1/2 hours on A.J. Meerwald, New Jersey's official Tall Ship. Enjoy entertainment by a full blues band, free soda, and beer provided by the Brooklyn Brewery. For more information or tickets, call "The Haven" at 973-546-3406.

*St. Peter's Haven for Homeless Families, an important Passaic County community resource in Clifton, NJ, provides shelter for families who become homeless on an emergency basis and provides family case management services throughout their transitional period. "The Haven" also provides food to individuals and families throughout the Greater Clifton area through the food pantry program.

Please Note: Submissions for "Around the Diocese"

Submissions for "Around the Diocese" should have a broad appeal to readers in all districts. Local parish dinners, unless there is a renowned guest speaker or a valuable training seminar taking place, cannot be accepted. Please make sure to write up your submission in 75 words or less and include the following information: date, time, and place of the event as well as contact information. Please do not send promotional flyers. Also, remember the Newark list (emailing to newark@epicom.org) is always a good way to post announcements.

Bishops' Visitations

March 12

- Bishop Croneberger
Christ Church, Harrison, 10 AM
- Bishop Gallagher
St. Paul's, North Arlington, 10 AM

March 26

- Bishop Croneberger
St. James', Ridgefield, 10 AM
- Bishop Gallagher
St. John's, Dover, 10 AM (English)
and 12:30 PM (Spanish)

April 2

- Bishop Gallagher
Epiphany, Allendale, 10:30 AM

April 9

- Bishop Croneberger
Christ Church, Hackensack, 10 AM
- Bishop Gallagher
Trinity, Bayonne, 9:30 AM

April 23

- Bishop Croneberger
St. Andrew's, Newark, 10:30 AM

April 30

- Bishop Croneberger
St. Peter's, Clifton, 8 & 10:15 AM

May 7

- Bishop Gallagher
St. Luke's, Haworth, 10 AM

District Confirmations

April 23

- District 3, Bishop Croneberger
All Saints', Orange, 3 PM

April 30

- District 7, Bishop Gallagher
Christ Church, Belleville, 3 PM

May 6

- District 1, Bishop Gallagher, location tbd

May 7

- District 9, Bishop Gallagher
All Saints', Bergenfield 1 PM
- District 10, Bishops Croneberger &
Gallagher, St. Paul's, Paterson, 4 PM

Diocesan Confirmations

May 20

- Bishops Croneberger & Gallagher,
Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral, 3:30 PM

**Services in Spanish Throughout the Diocese
Misas en Español en la Diócesis**

Grace Episcopal Church

www.dioceseofnewark.org/grace-unioncity
3901 Park Avenue, Union City
201- 863-6334

Domingos: Estudio Bíblico 11:00 AM
Misa 12:00 NOON

St. Anthony of Padua

76 Lodi Street, Hackensack
201-489-3286

Martes 7:30 PM

Sábados 6:00 PM

Domingos 8:00 PM

St. John's Episcopal Church

www.stjohnsofdover.org
11 S. Bergen, Dover, NJ
973-366-2772

Domingos 12:30 PM

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

www.dioceseofnewark.org/stpauls-paterson
451 Van Houten St, Paterson, NJ
973-278-7900

Miércoles:

Estudio Bíblico y Comunión 7:00 PM

Domingos Misa 1:30 PM

Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral

www.trinitystphilipscathedral.dioceseofnewark.org
608 Broad Street, Newark, NJ
973- 822-3505

Cada otro Sábado 1:00 PM

Trinity Episcopal Church

www.trinitychurchkearny.org
575 Kearny Ave, Kearny, NJ
201-991-5894

Domingos 1:00 PM

March 2006						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 2006						
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30						

VOICE DEADLINE

May 2006						
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

March 2006

March 10-12

- Middle School Retreat, Cross Roads, Port Murray

March 10-11

- Cross Roads Board Retreat, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Somerville NJ

March 12

- Bishop Croneberger visitation, Christ Church, Harrison, 10 AM
- Bishop Gallagher visitation, St. Paul's, North Arlington, 10 AM
- ECW Meeting, St. Peter's, Livingston, 2 PM

March 14

- Clergy Conversations with Bishop Croneberger, District 10, St. Paul's, Paterson, 10 AM – 1 PM
- Lay Professionals Meeting, Christ Church, Newton, 12 PM

March 15

- Senior Ministries–Diocese of Newark, Episcopal House, 4 – 6 PM

March 16

- "Fresh Start", St. Clement's, Hawthorne, 10 AM – 1:15 PM
- Mission to Dismantle Racism, Episcopal House, 2 PM

March 18

- "Celebrating Creative Congregations"; New Jersey Institute of Technology, contact Kitty Kawecki, 973-430-9902

March 21

- Cross Roads Board Meeting, Port Murray, 6 – 9 PM
- Oasis Commission, Epis. House, 7:30 PM

March 23

- Workshop on Accessibility for People with Mental Illness, sponsored by the Bethsaida Team, St. Elizabeth's, Ridgewood, 6:45 PM; call 973-744-4948 for more information

March 24-25

- Province 2 Youth Peer Ministry Training Lock-In; location tbd

March 25

- Sexual Misconduct Prevention & Child Abuse Awareness sessions, Episcopal House, Newark, 8 AM
- Ordination to the Priesthood, The Rev. Lorraine Dughi, St. Peter's, Clifton, Bishop Croneberger, 10 AM
- *Coretta Scott King Memorial Service*, Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral, Newark, 10:30 AM; The Rt. Rev. Carol Gallagher, officiant; The Very Rev. Ward Ewing, Dean of GTS, preacher
- Hip Hop Mass Day, St. Paul's, Paterson, 1:30 – 7:30 PM

March 26

- Bishop Croneberger visitation, St. James', Ridgefield, 10 AM
- Bishop Gallagher visitation, St. John's, Dover, 10 AM (Eng) & 12:30 PM (Span)

March 28

- Clergy Conversations, 10 AM – 1 PM
 - Bishop Croneberger, District 8, All Saints', Leonia
 - Bishop Gallagher, District 3, All Saints', Millington
 - Canon Echols, District 5, St. Peter's, Essex Fells

March 28 (continued)

- Women's Commission, Episcopal House, 12 – 2 PM
- District 2 Meeting, Church of The Saviour, Denville, 7:30 PM

March 31-April 1

- Confirmation Preparation Retreat; Grace, Madison. Congregations Assigned: District 5 & 10, congregations in District 4 that are presenting candidates on May 13 and those in District 9 whose candidates will be confirmed on May 7

April 2006

April 1

- "World of Women," Church of the Saviour, Denville, 12 – 3 PM

April 2

- Bishop Gallagher visitation, Epiphany, Allendale, 10:30 AM

April 4

- Clergy Conversations, 10 AM – 1 PM
 - Bishop Gallagher, District 7, Grace Church, Nutley
 - Canon Echols, District 1, St. James', Hackettstown

April 5

- Standing Committee, Episcopal House, 12:30 PM
- Diocesan Council, St. Agnes', Little Falls, 6 PM

April 6

- North Porch Board of Trustees, St. Paul's, Paterson, 10 AM
- Christian Formation Commission, St. Luke's, Montclair, 11:15AM – 1:15 PM
- ACTS/VIM Board Meeting, Episcopal House, 6 PM

April 7-8

- Lenten Retreat for Altar Guild Members sponsored by the Diocesan Altar Guild, Convent St. John Baptist, Mendham; register by March 15 to Sr. Suzanne Elizabeth, 973-643-4641

April 9

- Bishop Croneberger visitation, Christ Church, Hackensack, 10 AM
- Bishop Gallagher visitation, Trinity, Bayonne, 9:30 AM

April 11

- Clergy Collegiality Day, Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral, Newark, 11 AM
- Interim Clergy, St. Agnes', Little Falls, 2 – 3:30 PM

April 14

- **Good Friday** (Episcopal House closed)

April 16

- **Easter Sunday**

April 19

- Senior Ministries–Diocese of Newark, Episcopal House, 4–6 PM

April 20

- "Fresh Start", Episcopal House, 9:30 AM – 1 PM

April 22

- Ordination to the Priesthood, The Rev. Randy Webster, Christ Church, Belleville, Bishop Croneberger, 10 AM

April 23

- Bishop Croneberger visitation, St. Andrew's, Newark, 10:30 AM

April 23 (continued)

- District Confirmation, District 3, Bishop Croneberger, All Saints', Orange, 3 PM

April 25

- Clergy Conversations, 10 AM – 1 PM
 - Bishop Croneberger, District 2, Good Shepherd, Wantage
 - Bishop Gallagher, District 5, Christ Church, Totowa
 - Canon Echols, District 10, St. Elizabeth's, Ridgewood
- Women's Commission, Episcopal House, 12 – 2 PM
- Bethsaida Team, St. Elizabeth's, Ridgewood, 5:30 PM supper, 6 PM mtg

April 27

- Province II Synod, Latham NY; registration at <http://www.province2.org>

April 30

- Bishop Croneberger visitation, St. Peter's, Clifton, 8 & 10:15 AM
- District Confirmation, District 7, Bishop Gallagher, Christ, Belleville, 3 PM

May 2006

May 1

- Ward J. Herbert Fund Board Meeting, Episcopal House, 6 PM
- District 2 Meeting, St. David's, Kinnelon, 7:30 PM
- District 10 Meeting, St. Paul's, Paterson, 7:30 PM

May 2

- Clergy Conversations, 10 AM – 1 PM
 - Bishop Croneberger, District 1, St. Luke's, Hope
 - Bishop Gallagher, District 6, location tbd
 - Canon Echols, District 8, Good Shepherd, Fort Lee

May 3

- ECW Meeting, Episcopal House, 10 AM
- Standing Committee, Episcopal House, 12:30 PM

May 4

- Retired Clergy Luncheon, Episcopal House, 12 PM

May 5-6

- Confirmation Preparation Retreat, St. Peter's, Mountain Lakes; Congregations assigned: Districts 2, 6 & 8; congregations in District 4 whose youth are being confirmed on June 10, and those in District 9 whose youth will be confirmed on May 21

May 6

- Diocesan Altar Guild Spring Meeting, St. Martin's, Maywood, 10 AM – 12 PM
- Reparations Forum sponsored by the Task Force on Reparations, The *Second* Conversation: A Theology for Reparations, Dr. Donald Shriver from Union Theological Seminary, Episcopal House, 8:30 AM – 2 PM
- District Confirmation, District 1, Bishop Gallagher; location tbd

May 7

- Bishop Gallagher visitation, St. Luke's, Haworth, 10 AM
- District Confirmation, District 9, Bishop Gallagher, All Saints', Bergenfield, 1 PM
- District Confirmation, District 10, Bishops Croneberger & Gallagher, St. Paul's, Paterson, 4 PM

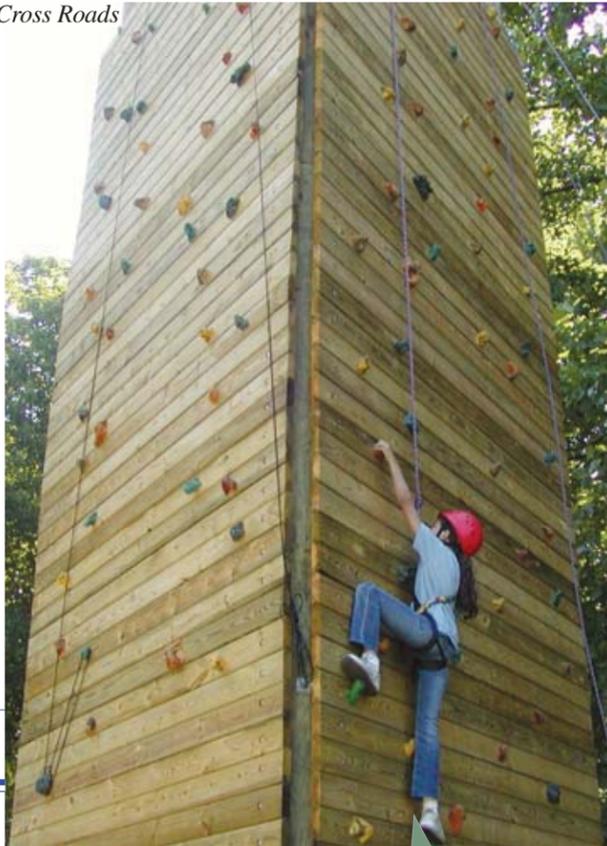
Winter 2006



St. Elizabeth's in Ridgewood during the blizzard of 2006—Sunday, February 12. Two feet of snow fell over Saturday night and early Sunday morning causing many churches in the diocese to close for Sunday services, a most unusual occurrence!

Photo by the Rev. John Hartnett

New Climbing Wall at Cross Roads



Save these dates for Cross Roads!

April 1-
Early Registration Discount

May 20-
Annual Volunteer Day

June 17-
Open Camp Day

Can summer really be on its way?

It is! And it's time to start planning for it. Cross Roads is ready for you! See the following letter from the directors of Cross Roads Outdoor Ministries, Marie Skweir and Andrew Molnar. It is difficult to summarize the amazing leap forward at this joint Episcopal and Lutheran facility during the past year, but read on.



Letter from Camp:

Cross Roads Outdoor Ministries Making Huge Strides with Facilities and Funding

The Spirit is moving in incredible ways at Cross Roads Outdoor Ministries! The blessings in 2005 surpassed all expectations in virtually every area of camp. Some of the highlights included:

- Hiring a mature and professional summer and year-round staff.
- Running a high-quality, successful summer program with over 600 campers.
- Significantly upgrading existing facilities, including building new hermitages, a new climbing wall, and a new lodge roof.
- Implementing comprehensive publicity and marketing initiatives to reconnect with clergy and congregations.
- Streamlining operations, helping to end the year comfortably in the black – the most financially healthy year since Cross Roads' inception.

We believe even greater things are to come, and we hope you will join us as work with God to truly create a Cross Roads where Heaven and Earth meet.

As this is written, it is the beginning of February and we're sitting in our office with the sun shining a balmy 60 degrees through the window. The grass is green, and there are even birds chirping outside. While we know this is only a short respite from winter, it's a great reminder that the 2006 summer camp season is only a few months away.

After a wonderful, successful summer last year with over 600 campers, we are excited to refine the existing programs, add new elements, and continue to offer an enriching and powerful experience for all ages. You can see our new summer brochure online at our new website (www.crossroadsretreat.com), and you may be receiving some soon at your congregation (if you do not, or if you would like more, please let us know). Here are a few highlights of some new things we are offering:

Un-Camp – For youth who like camp activities, but aren't quite comfortable in the "great outdoors," we are offering a "camp" held in the comfort of an air-conditioned retreat center. We'll have all the traditional components of summer camp (swimming, arts and crafts, campfires, etc.) plus pizza parties and movie nights.

Additional horseback riding weeks – In response to our very popular horseback riding camp (which sold out last summer), we are offering additional weeks this year.

Family Camp – This camp is for those parents who enjoyed going to camp when they were children, and who may now want to be with their own families at camp, unencumbered by cell phones and video games. A family – however defined – can come to Cross Roads for a full or half week of swimming, outdoor worship, campfires, faith-building, canoeing, singing, playing, and just lounging around.

Camp for clergy and church leaders with your youth (August 20-25) – This is a great opportunity to get away and enjoy an inspiring week in the outdoors with youth that may be hesitant to come on their own.

Visiting Clergy Program – A new program in which clergy will spend a week at Cross Roads at no charge and serve as on-site presence for each of our summer weeks. (Please call us if you are interested in applying for this unique opportunity.)

This is only a sample of our fun and inspiring programs this summer. Keep in mind that the deadline for the Early Registration Discount is April 1.

If you haven't ever been to Cross Roads, there are two great (and free!) opportunities to see the facilities and meet the staff and Board. First, to help prepare the facilities for the summer season, our Annual Volunteer Day will be held this year on May 20 from 10 AM to 4 PM. Church groups, families, groups of friends, or individuals are welcome for this day of community-building and service. We will also hold an Open Camp Day on June 17 from 1 to 5 PM, offering an opportunity to see what camping is all about. The summer counselors will be present, the pool will be open, and we'll have lots of activities to try out. Please call 908-832-7264 to sign up for either of these events.

We hope to see you at Cross Roads in the coming months!

Andrew Molnar and Marie Skweir, Executive Directors

MARCH/APRIL 2006



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