

Living into Christ's Mission

CONVENTION 2012 FRIDAY HEARINGS & WORKSHOPS – SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

ORIENTATION FOR NEW DEPUTIES – 10:00 a.m. – Morris 10

FRIDAY WORKSHOPS – Morning (10:30 a.m.)

Building Bridges to Hope: Faith Based Communities and the Mentally Ill – Morris 10

Mental illness impacts the lives of at least one in four adults and one in 10 children—or 60 million Americans. People impacted by mental illness are all around us, including sitting in the pews of our churches. New research findings have shown that people with serious mental illness can live lives of recovery when supported by their families and loved ones. Research has also shown that faith can have a positive impact on people with mental illnesses. What role can faith communities play in helping people and families touched by serious mental illness? How can the Church come to embrace, accept and listen to those who have mental illnesses and their families? How can congregations grow and help others to deepen their care for people with serious mental illnesses and their families? These are the questions we will explore in this workshop. Come and learn about the current thinking about mental illnesses, interventions and programs for the mentally ill and discuss how faith based communities can be part of supportive networks for the mentally ill and their families.

Presenters: Deacon Lynn Czarniecki and Mr. Jeff Nelson, retired educator

Missio: Engage - Heritage Ballroom

The Rev. Thomas L. Brackett, Officer for Church Planting and Ministry Redevelopment of The Episcopal Church, will present and lead a discussion on the transformation of church communities and new leadership models for the 21st century. The goal of Missio: Engage is to assist communities of faith in the process of re-rooting their ministries in the communities they are called to serve, with enough critical mass within that this initiative is sustainable and avoids “burnout.” This workshop will be repeated at 5:00 p.m. on Friday.

Lay Pension System (A138) & Denominational Health Plan (A177) – Johnes Room

During the General Convention in 2009 two resolutions were adopted which addressed medical and pension benefits for clergy and lay employees.

- A177 mandates that medical coverage be offered to all employees working 1500 hour or more per year and that all employees must be treated equally
- A138 mandates pension coverage for lay employees working 1000 hours or more per year. This gives canonical authority to the national church and diocesan mandates that were first passed in 1991 and 1993, respectively.

The deadline for implementation is January 1, 2013 and decisions on benefits designs and minimum cost sharing will be reached at the special convention in June.

Presenters: Members of the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Human Resources Issues

FRIDAY WORKSHOPS – Morning (11:00 a.m.)

Options for Senior Support: Where Do We Start? – Morris 9

An overview of resources for seniors including housing, medical care, legal documents, and care giving will be presented from members of the Senior Ministries. There will be a question and answer period.

Presenters: Ms. Elizabeth Moss, Freedom Eldercare; and Ms. Marymae Henley, Cooperative Housing

Worship: One size does not fit all: Looking at Creative Liturgy – Morris 11

This workshop will explore liturgy in the context of what may work in the settings of the participants. Using the Book of Common Prayer, and other resources, participants will learn possibilities and explore creative ideas that may work best in their own church.

Presenters: The Rev. Willie Smith and The Rev. Dr. Canon Sandye Wilson

Newark School of Theology for Ecumenical and Interfaith Studies – Morris 4

Located in downtown Newark, the Newark School of Theology is an ecumenical and interfaith school of theology for persons who desire to take advanced courses in theology without having first to matriculate at a school whose primary mission is professional education for the ordained ministry. The mission is to ground the ministries of religious leaders and lay persons by offering high quality seminary level theological education at an affordable cost. The school also provides training for people who are in the process of ordination as vocational deacons in our diocese, some of whom who participate in the workshop.

Presenter: The Rev. R. Douglas Bendall, Ph.D., President

FRIDAY HEARINGS – Afternoon (times as indicated)

4:30-5:15 Budget Forum & Hearing – **Document 138AC-06 (R)** - *Morris 11*
Presenters: Budget & Finance Committee

5:00-5:45 Human Resources (Compensation Guidelines) **Document 138AC-05** – *Johnes Room*
Presenters: Bishop’s Advisory Committee on Human Resources Issues

5:45-6:30 Resolutions – **Document 138AC-04** – *Johnes Room*
Presenters: Resolutions Committee

6:00-6:30 Constitution and Canons Committee – **Document 138AC-03** – *Morris 2*
Presenters: Committee on Constitution and Canons

FRIDAY WORKSHOPS – Afternoon (start times as indicated)

5:00 – Missio: Engage - Heritage Ballroom

The Rev. Thomas L. Brackett, Officer for Church Planting and Ministry Redevelopment of The Episcopal Church, will present and lead a discussion on the transformation of church communities and new leadership models for the 21st century. The goal of Missio: Engage is to assist communities of faith in the process of re-rooting their ministries in the communities they are called to serve, with enough critical mass within that this initiative is sustainable and avoids “burnout.”

5:00 – Ministry of the Verger: Don’t let it be a mystery - Morris 9

Learn how verging is a special calling to the ordering and conduct of the Church and the Church’s liturgy but is available to all and something that you might well be interested in doing.

Presenters: Mr. Theophilus Thomas, Verger, Trinity & St. Philip’s Cathedral; Ms. Katherine Pendzuk, Training Course Registrar, Vergers’ Guild of the Episcopal Church; The Rev. Matthew Corkern, Chaplain, Vergers’ Guild of the Episcopal Church and Rector at Calvary Church, Summit.

5:15 - Partners Across Borders: Our Newark/Panama Companion Relationship – Morris 10

Since 2006, The Diocese of Newark and the Diocese of Panama have been in a companion relationship designed to foster closer relationships between the two dioceses, bring their congregations closer together, and share experiences to their mutual benefit. Over the years, this relations has found expression in many activities organized by individual churches. Most recently, in October, 2011, a seven-member team of clergy and laity visited Panama to discuss with their counterparts there the nature of the evolving nature of the

companion relationships and ways to further promote and strengthen it. Discussions were also held on how the Diocese of Newark could partner with the Diocese of Panama in developing a deacon formation program. The objective of the workshop will be to report on that visit, to let our congregations know how ministry is conducted in Panama and how we could benefit from their experiences, to create an awareness among our congregations about the companion relationship and to invite ideas on ways to make that relationship a meaningful reality.

Presenters: The Rev. John Perris, St. James', Upper Montclair; Archdeacon Elizabeth Ostuni, Good Shepherd, Wantage; and Ms. Sylvia Montero, Christ Church, Newton

5:15 – Education for Ministry (EfM) – Morris 4

EfM is a program designed to help you do what you've always wanted to do--read and really understand the Bible. It's done in a safe and diverse community of fellow explorers supported and guided by a trained mentor. We have to renew our training every 18 months at a 3 day event.

During the workshop you'll meet students from different groups who'll tell you how they're experiencing the lessons, class time, and the flow of the overall program. Four study years are available-- the first year is Hebrew Scriptures, 2nd Christian, 3rd how'd we get from there to here (Bible to Christianity today), and 4th Christians seeking to serve God in the modern world. You only commit to one year at a time.

There are 8 groups meeting at different times and place available to you around our Diocese. Because each group develops its own special style and procedures, we'll introduce you to as many of our mentors as we can. They'll talk about the unique strengths, goals their communities have developed.

Presenters: The Rev. Mark Waldon and EfM participants

5:30 - NEWARK ACTS: Why They Selected Newark and a Year of Service – Symmes Room

The eight NEWARK ACTS Interns will share their individual stories for coming to Newark and participating in our program. They will talk about their work experiences and ministry in our diocese. The interns will also share their experience of living in an intentional community with strangers that they met on August 28, 2011. There will be time for questions and interaction with each intern.

Presenters: The Newark ACTS Interns; The Rev. Erik Soldwedel, Program Director

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS - Lunch Time (grab a lunch and go)

Centering Prayer: Consenting to the presence and activity of God – Morris 9

This workshop is designed for those who've used this practice for years or those of you who are looking for a way to pray or a new way to pray; or perhaps you're just curious. Centering Prayer is a way to practice consenting to God's presence. There will be an introduction to the prayer and its history, a practice session, and a discussion.

Presenters: The Rev. Diana Clark, assisted by The Rev. Dr. Shane Phelan.

Are you ready to Believe Out Loud? – Symmes Room

The OASIS and Integrity are among the sponsors of Believe Out Loud, a multi-denominational campaign to identify, promote and support congregations that are or want to be intentionally and visibly welcoming of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people. Given the amount of negative messaging they receive from religious groups, LGBT people are wary of approaching any church that does not specifically state they are included, and yet we are approached daily by people looking for safe, welcoming places to worship.

The program can help congregations deal with questions, discomfort and conflict in a prayerful way. It encourages church leaders to examine how their faith community is perceived by outsiders, and many congregations go on to explore how to reach other underserved populations in their neighborhoods.

Presenter: Mr. Christian Paolino

“Co-Creators of The New” - Circle of Leadership – Morris 11

Continue the morning’s breakfast conversation with Ann Smith, co-founder of *Circle Connections*, about the work of rediscovering our greater calling to an abundance of imagination and productivity.

Presenter: Ms. Ann Smith

Justice Board: Focusing on the Needs of Children – Condit/Cobb Rooms

At this workshop sponsored by the Justice Board you will hear from several special ministries in our diocese that focus on the needs of children. Hear the stories of how they began and the unique challenges that were confronted.

Presenters: Representatives from Christ Church, Budd Lake; Care on the Corner’s Kid’s Art Program, St. John the Divine, Hasbrouck Heights; North Porch Centers for Women and Infants; and the Jubilee Center of All Saints’, Hoboken.

Brake the Hunger Cycle – Morris 10

In four years, the Brake the Hunger Cycle Tour has become the largest charity bike event in northern New Jersey. It has raised nearly \$200,000 that was donated to efforts to end hunger, both locally and globally, and including the Community Food Bank of New Jersey. You, too, can be successful in organizing and managing an outreach charity event. The organizers of the Hunger Cycle Tour will provide information and practical tips on how to do it.

Presenters: Mr. Mike Odian and Mr. Roger Pisani, Brake the Hunger Cycle Tour organizers

Hispanic Ministry in Our Diocese: Why and How? – Vail/Baldwin Rooms

Hispanic ministry is part of the diversity within in diocese and active in some of our congregations.

Presenters: The Rev. Rosa Brown-Autry, Ms. Ana Hernandez and Ms. Migdalia Santana, St. Paul’s, Paterson; The Rev. John Habecker, St. John’s, Dover; and The Rev. Rubén Jurado, chair, Hispanic/Latino Ministry Commission

Youth & Young Adult Ministries: Spiritual Growth, Leadership Development and Fun – Johnes Room

The diocesan youth ministry program provides opportunities for our youth and young adults to grow spiritually, develop leadership skills, explore their faith and faith traditions, and meet other young people both here in the diocese and elsewhere in the church. The youth participate in retreats for middle school and high school students and confirmation retreats. Some have traveled to Panama, to the Episcopal Youth Event, and to General Conventions. This year, two of the youth will represent our diocese as deputies to the 2012 General Convention. Come and hear the stories from young people on what it means to them to be part of this ministry.

Presenters: Ms. Caroline Christie, Mr. Gibson Oakley, and Ms. Kai Alston

Chapel: A Place for Meditation and Rest – Morris 1

The chapel is open at all times during the convention on Friday and Saturday to provide a quiet space for contemplation and silence.