

Connect



A communication resource for clergy and lay leaders in the Diocese of Chicago

Easter Five May 10, 2009

Office of Communication, Diocese of Chicago
Submissions for Connect should go to David Skidmore, Canon for Communication. Archives on the Connect webpage.

NEWS

News sources: *Anglican Communion News Service, Episcopal News Service, Office of Communication, Diocese of Chicago.*

Bishop Lee issues letter on swine flu outbreak

Bishop Jeffrey Lee has issued a letter to clergy and congregations on the recent swine flu outbreak, calling for members to be “calmly attentive to our own health and the health of our communities.” With the ease of viral transmissions through air travel and global commerce, “responsible behavior becomes an ethical mandate as well as good stewardship of our bodies and lives,” he said. So far the virus has appeared in 41 states, infecting nearly 900 people, and causing one death. The largest outbreak is in Mexico which has 1,100 cases, and experienced 42 deaths.

Along with practicing basic preventive practices, we must also keep all those affected by the flu outbreak in our regular Prayers of the People on Sundays, and be careful how we refer to people who are affected. A good resource, he said, is [Enriching Our Worship 2](#) which has formats for public services of healing and pastoral visits. He also recommended the [Congregational Resources page](#) on the diocesan website for additional resources.

Bishops explore path to church revitalization

A group of bishops, and church growth specialists, writers and consultants gathered in Chicago April 28-29 to explore paths for developing a revitalized church, one more attuned to post-modern sensibilities, and more nimble in developing new leaders and responding to evangelism opportunities.

The group identified places where revitalization work is showing promise, structures and systems that hinder such work, and actions at the diocesan level that could move this work forward. Out of the discussion the group drafted a plan for a spring 2010 House of Bishops presentation.

In a [paper](#) prepared for the meeting, author and church development visionary Brian McLaren noted in the foreword that the Episcopal Church is uniquely situated-theologically,

NOTEBOOK

Diocese of Chicago Summer Camp Sessions

Session I: Introduction to Camp

June 29 - 30, 2009

For children entering grades two & three

Session I: Mixed Age Camp

June 28 - July 3, 2009

For children entering grades three to seven

Session II: Middler Camp

July 5 - 10, 2009

For children entering grades three to six

Session III: Junior High & High School Camp

Monday July 13 - Saturday, July, 18,
2009

day/date change for 2009 only! For youth entering grades seven to ten

**This Session starts Monday due to General Convention, but, if travel to camp on Monday is not possible, we will offer a Pre-Camp Overnighter for a smaller group on Sunday - Monday*

For more information contact Canon Sue Cromer (312) 751-6722.

Managing for Growth and Transition

Managing for Growth and Transition continues **Friday, May 8 through Saturday May 9** with noted speakers

and authors Keith Brown of the Church Pension Group and The Rev. Canon Dr. Neal O. Michell, canon to the ordinary for the Diocese of Dallas. Michell is the author of *How to Hit the Ground Running: A Quick Start Guide for Congregations with New Leadership*, and *Beyond Business as Usual: Vestry Leadership Development*. Brown, diocesan management consultant for the Church Pension Group, is author of *On the Road Again: Managing Evangelism and Stewardship for the Kingdom*.

liturgically and spiritually-to be a landing place for non-churched and de-churched spiritual seekers. But the window of opportunity could be missed, he warned.

Bold and critical action is needed, he said, by a cohort of creative and courageous bishops to create “a zone of innovation and empowerment, a zone in which creative young/emerging leaders can be supported to plant new faith communities relevant to the needs of young adults . . . “ Such a move, said McLaren, could do for the 21st century Episcopal Church what the Church of England failed to do for the followers of John Wesley in the 19th century.

Bishop Jeffrey Lee attended the meeting along with six other Episcopal bishops; authors and speakers Phyllis Tickel and Diana Butler-Bass; and several church revitalization leaders, including the Rev. Karen Ward, founder of [Anglimergent](#) and missionary for Church of the Apostles, Seattle.

Brent House students awarded theological education fellowships

Two members of the Brent House Episcopal campus ministry community at the University of Chicago have been awarded fellowships from the Fund for Theological Education. Alda Balthrop-Lewis-a first year student at the Chicago Divinity School and one of the energizing forces in Brent House’s new Mosaic program-received a Ministry Fellowship, which will allow her to pursue a project around religion and public dialogue. She served as an intern at Speaking of Faith and plans to explore how institutions like the BBC report on religion. Nina Giviyan-Kermani, one of Brent House’s peer ministers and newly confirmed at Easter Vigil, received an Undergraduate Fellowship, which is designed to help third and fourth year undergrads explore their vocational possibilities. She has been exploring questions of ministry and vocation most of her life and also brings a deep, personal interest in Islam and the Middle East.

Six honored with Bishop's Award

Bishop Jeffrey Lee presented the Bishop’s Award to six lay ministers and leaders at the annual spring luncheon of Bishops Associates, May 7 at the Union League Club, Chicago. Receiving the honor were Mary Fran Crist, a licensed nurse practitioner with the LaSalle County Episcopal Ministry and co-founder of the National Episcopal Health Ministry; Helen Klaviter of St. Clement’s, Harvey, interim director of the parish Jubilee Center programs and member of the diocesan Hunger Commission; Sandra McPhee of St. Matthew’s, Evanston, a member of the Episcopal Church’s Executive Council, director for the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes, and member of the

Conference is at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 647 Dundee Ave., Barrington. More information at the [Conferences and Workshops](#) webpage.

Assistance for energy bill

Peoples Gas is advising churches to inform their members that Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funds are still available to assist customers with their energy bills. Customers can apply by calling the Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County (CEDA) at 800-571-2332. More information at the [CEDA website](#). Peoples Gas also offers short-term payment arrangement programs and a new Minimum Payment Option. The MPO allows customers who have received a disconnection notice the opportunity to stay connected to service while taking steps to address their financial situation. Call [Peoples Gas](#) for more information 866-556-6001.

Pre-General Convention forums

Three pre-General Convention forums will be held **June 2**, **June 4**, and **June 10** with the bishops, deputies and alternates of the Diocese of Chicago. This is an opportunity to learn about the purpose and operations of the General Convention, and the issues coming before the 76th General Convention which meets in Anaheim, Calif July 8-17.

Tuesday June 2 6:30 pm
St. James the Less
550 Sunset Ridge Rd.
Northfield

Thursday June 4 6:30 pm
St. Edmund's
61st St. and S. Michigan Ave.
Chicago

Wednesday June 10 6:30pm
St. Barnabas
22W415 Butterfield Road
Glen Ellyn

Check in at 6:30 pm. Program begins at 7 pm.

International Anglican Women's Network steering group; Colin Silvester of Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Fores, and member of Bishop and Trustees and the board of Episcopal Charities and Community Services; Deborah Sobol of St. James Cathedral, and pianist and founder of the cathedral's Rush Hour Concert Series; and Dollie Williams, executive director of the Primo Center for Women and Children in Chicago, an agency of Episcopal Charities and Community Services. The Bishop's Awards are presented to members of the Diocese of Chicago in recognition of an outstanding contribution in service to the church, the wider community in northern Illinois, or to the world.

Has your parochial report been filed?

As of May 5, 85 of 125 congregations have filed parochial reports for 2008. Reports were due March 1, and must be filed by June to ensure the data is included in the next Episcopal Church Annual. Full compliance is important as the information is used to calculate the Diocese of Chicago's assessment for supporting The Episcopal Church budget, and in developing a church-wide profile of the church. Parochial report workbooks are online. For information contact Anna Stefaniak (312) 751-4202.

Clergy News

The Episcopal campus ministry board of Canterbury Northwestern has called **The Rev. Lisa Graves** to be the interim chaplain. Graves, a Virginia Theological Seminary graduate, formerly served at St. John's Episcopal Church in Roanoke, Virginia where she focused on formation, marketing and new worship programs. She is married to the Rev. Chip Graves, rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Crystal Lake.

The board of the joint Episcopal and Lutheran South Loop Campus Ministry has called **the Rev. Megan Jones** to serve as chaplain starting in June. Jones is a pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America currently serving as chaplain at the Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta.

Kristin White of the Diocese of Oregon has been called to serve as assistant at Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Forest. White will graduate this month with a Master of Divinity from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary.

Bishop Jeffrey Lee will ordain **Anna Patrick Brawley, Julianne Bunting, Donna Marie Ialongo, Aaron R. Gerlach, Elizabeth A. Molitors, Patrick R. Perkins, Marion Kyger Phipps, and E. Suzanne Wille** to the transitional diaconate on Saturday June 6 at 11 am at St. James Cathedral, Chicago.

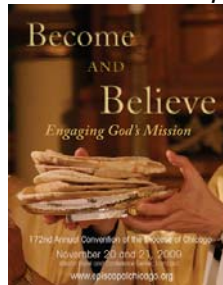
Accessibility grants

Applications for the second phase of the Retirement Research Foundation's Accessible Faith Grant Program are due June 26. Churches in Cook, Lake, and DuPage counties are eligible to apply for the grants which may cover up to 50 percent of a project's cost, for a maximum of \$30,000. More information at the [Retirement Research Foundation](#) website or by calling (773) 714-8080.

Become and Believe

172nd Annual Convention of the Diocese of Chicago

Friday November 20 and Saturday November 21, 2009



The annual convention will again meet at the Westin Hotel and Conference Center, 70 Yorktown Rd, Lombard.

Early Bird Registration in effect June 1 through September 18.

Nominations and resolutions are due

September 25. See the [Diocesan Convention](#) webpage for more information.

Diocesan Staff

Barbara Rasero of Grace Church, Oak Park has joined the diocesan staff as administrative assistant for the Offices of Christian Formation and Youth and Young Adult Ministry, and as diocesan event planner. She succeeds Courtenay Smith who is stepping down to join her husband in retirement. They will be moving later this year to their retirement home in North Carolina.

Pray for

Sadie Ellen Brandt Mysen, daughter of the Rev. Andrea Mysen and the Rev. Rene' Brandt, who is recovering from open heart surgery.

Patricia Swartz, sister of the Rev. Elizabeth Anderson, vicar of Holy Family, Lake Villa. Patricia has been diagnosed with cancer.

The families of the **38 Chicago children and youth** who have died from violence this school year.

In Memoriam

Thomas Lee Fowlkes, father of the Rev. Tyrone Fowlkes, died Thursday April 30. A funeral was held May 5 at the Divine Direction Christian Church in Indianapolis.

Church briefs

Garden dedication at St. Clement, Harvey

Members of the American Legion Riders, and friends from other veterans organizations will gather with the people of St.

Clement's Episcopal Church on **Sunday, May 17**, at 2:00 pm in Harvey to dedicate new plantings in the church community garden in memory of Illinois men and women who served in the military or died in service to their country. Shireen O'Brien, director of the Riders, and Father Rod Reinhart, pastor of St. Clement's, will read names of the fallen, say the prayers and remember those who suffered and served. St. Clement's Community Garden is part of a major food, clothing and prayer ministry at St. Clement's Church. Each month, hundreds of needy people, including many veterans, receive physical and spiritual sustenance from the church's prayer meetings and Jubilee pantry programs.

Recital at Trinity, Highland Park

Soprano Lisa Rogers Lee will give a recital at Trinity Episcopal Church, Highland Park on **Sunday May 17th** at 4 pm.

Accompanying her will be organist/pianist Margaret Chen and violinist Martin Davids. Music of Buxtehude, Purcell, Debussy

CALENDAR

This is a sample of events occurring in the Diocese of Chicago. Check the Master Calendar on the diocesan website for a full listing of diocesan events and meetings and the Google calendar for events sponsored by congregations and organizations.

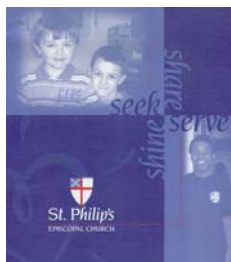
Relmagine Illinois meeting with Governor Quinn

This past March four community groups affiliated with Industrial Areas Foundation met with Governor Pat Quinn to address issues around state funding, taxation, citizen involvement and political corruption. A follow-up meeting to continue the dialogue is scheduled for **Sunday, May 17** at 2:30 pm at Congregation Solel, 1301 Clavey Rd., Highland Park. The synagogue is located just east of Highway 41. The community groups-Lake County United, United Power for Action and Justice, DuPage United and PACT-have recruited over 800 leaders who have pledged to work with Governor Quinn to root out nepotism and a culture of corruption, press for adequate revenue and fiscal responsibility, emphasize the needs of people over politics, pursue fair and progressive taxation, and welcome diverse voices in state and local government. For more information contact Tom Lenz (847) 266-9803 or tomlenz@uic.edu

Former presiding bishop Frank Griswold to speak at DeKoven conference

Former Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold will speak at opening dinner for the conference *New Wine: The Episcopal Church, Gift and Challenge*, **Wednesday May 13** at the DeKoven Center, Racine, Wis. Reception is at 6 pm; dinner at 7 pm; and the presentation by Bishop Griswold at 8 pm. Bishop Griswold served as 10th bishop of Chicago until his election and consecration as the 25th presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church

and Hoiby. Free will offering. <http://www.trinity-churchhp.org/>



Picture perfect profile

St. Philip's, Palatine has produced a vibrant and inviting parish profile around its statement of mission: seek, share, serve, shine. The parish expects to begin receiving names for a half-time rector in the coming weeks.

in January 1998. DeKoven Center is at 600 21st St, Racine. For information contact Donna Jorgenson (262) 633-6401 or visit www.dekovencenter.org [note: the last issue of Connect incorrectly listed Friday as May 13]

TRAINING

KEEPING GOD'S PEOPLE SAFE: Levels 1 & 2

Wednesday May 13 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

Employees of the Diocese's Churches and Agencies may find this a convenient time to participate in the required training.

Burrill Hall in the Diocesan Center

65 East Huron Street, Chicago 60611

Elizabeth (Beth) Erickson, eerickson@episcopalchicago.org or 312-751-4212

9:30-11:30: Protecting God's People (Level 1)

1:30-12:00: Lunch

12:00-3:30 pm: Leading & Caring for God's People (Level 2)

AntiRacism Training

The AntiRacism Commission of the Diocese of Chicago will be sponsoring an antiracism training led by Crossroads Ministry **Thursday May 14 through Saturday May 16** at the Lutheran School of Theology, 1100 E. 55th St, Chicago.

Diocesan Convention has made it policy for all employees and leaders serving in the diocese to complete antiracism training.

Contact: Derrick Dawson (773) 960-5355

derrickcharlesdawson@gmail.com

POSITIONS OPEN

Employment opportunities in the offices of the Diocese of Chicago, congregations of the diocese, and affiliated organizations and institutions.

Parttime Controller in Lake Forest

Church of the Holy Spirit in Lake Forest is seeking qualified candidates for position of Controller. Individuals should have sound accounting skills, relevant experience and ability to get along well with others in a very collegial environment.

Familiarity with ACS GeneralLedger a plus. Flexible schedule available for this 15-20 hour per week position. Please send your inquiries to Church of the Holy Spirit, 400 E.

Westminster, Lake Forest, IL 60045 (Attention: Linda Allebach) or lallebach@chslf.org.

Parttime parish secretary in Bolingbrook

Church of St. Benedict in Bolingbrook seeks a parttime parish secretary. Ten hours a week. Duties include offering hospitality to visitors, friends, and vendors; creating and copying the weekly bulletin; answering phone, email, and

Northern Illinois Integrity Chapter meeting

The Northern Illinois Chapter of Integrity will hold its first general meeting of the year at St. Chad's Episcopal Church, 6245 N. Second St., Love's Park IL 61111, at 7:00 pm on **Monday, May 11**. The meeting will open with a potluck supper, and is open to everyone who believes in opening all the Sacraments in the Episcopal Church to all the baptized.

The Chapter hopes to hold a series of community-building meetings at different locations around the Diocese this year. Contact integritynorthernillinois@yahoo.com for menu suggestions, to ask for a ride or volunteer to carpool.

U2charist at Grace, Oak Park

Grace Church, Oak Park is hosting a U2Charist on **Saturday, May 16** at 6 pm. The service features the music of the rock group U2 woven around the Eucharist and information on the Millennium Development Goals. The U2 cover group Elevation will be performing the service music. Learn more about the U2charist at the Episcopalians for Global Reconciliation website. Grace Church is located at 924 Lake Street. Contact the parish office at (708) 386-8036.

Eucharist for those affected by the economic crisis

All Saints, Chicago will host a Eucharist for people affected by the ongoing economic crisis, on **Sunday May 17**. For more information contact the parish office. 773-561-0111

Parttime parish secretary in Bolingbrook

Church of St. Benedict in Bolingbrook seeks a parttime parish secretary. Ten hours a week. Duties include offering hospitality to visitors, friends, and vendors; creating and copying the weekly bulletin; answering phone, email, and faxes; maintaining office management and record-keeping. Strong familiarity with Microsoft Word is desired; familiarity with The Book of Common Prayer, The Episcopal Church, copy machines, and Microsoft Outlook is preferred. Hourly rate of \$9-10, depending on experience. Email resume and cover letter, or any questions, to the vicar, the Rev. Heidi Haverkamp, at revheidi@stbenedict.ws

Executive director for Samaritan Counseling Center

The Samaritan Counseling Center, a 501(c) 3 organization registered in the State of Illinois is currently seeking an Executive Director. The Executive Director is responsible for promoting the mission and increasing the visibility of the Center through public presentations, fundraising and networking and management of the professional staff.

Requirements: Masters in psychology, divinity, social work or a related field. The ideal candidate will be licensed as a mental health professional. This position would be full-time if ED is a clinician (75% admin, 25% counseling) or three quarters time if only administrative. Interested candidates should forward a letter of interest and resume, along with salary requirements, to the attention of Jane Trueheart Huels at janehuels@msn.com or 804 Prospect Avenue, Winnetka, IL 60093.

General Convention Webcast

General Convention 2009 of the Episcopal Church will be the topic of a live webcast on **Wednesday, May 13** at 8 am Pacific (9 am Mountain, 10 am Central, 11 am Eastern).

The webcast will originate from Anaheim, the site of this year's General Convention.

Participants in the live webcast will be: Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori; President of the House of Deputies Bonnie Anderson; Executive Officer and Secretary of the General Convention, the Rev. Gregory Straub; and Bishop J. Jon Bruno of the Diocese of Los Angeles, the host diocese.

Questions will be accepted via email and from the invited guests in the audience. To access the live webcast, go to the Episcopal Church website: www.episcopalchurch.org.

For more information: [General Convention](#)

Theology and peace conference at Techny

James Alison, Tony Bartlett and Andrew Marr, OSB, are the keynote speakers for the second annual Theology and Peace conference, **May 26-28** at the Techny Towers Retreat Center, 2001 Waukegan Rd. Techny, IL. The gathering is for theologians, pastors, activists and others for developing insights of mimetic theory toward the formation of a Christian theology and practice of peace.

The program will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26, and end with lunch on Thursday, May 28, 2009. A plenary presentation by each speaker will be followed by personal reflection and small and large group dialogue facilitated by spiritual guide Dorothy Whiston, D.Min. Worship and prayer, interest groups, social gatherings, free time and a brief business meeting will complete the schedule.

Download the conference [registration form and flyer](#). Or contact Rev. Mary McKinney, Registrar, Theology and Peace, 18 Golfview Place, DeKalb, IL 60115-1855

Community organizing training

Are you interested in becoming an agent for social change in your community? Do you hope to develop the skills necessary to accomplish your goals? If so, Metro Industrial Areas Foundation, Episcopal Charities and community Services, Seabury Western Seminary are co-sponsoring an intensive training to assist you in expanding upon your leadership and and community organizing skills. A unique interactive learning experience the five-day training delves into issues such as how to identify and address substandard housing and public safety; how to create the power needed to negotiate with government officials and corporations; how to be a more effective "public" person; and how to reinvigorate failing or struggling congregations. All clergy

Expressions

An occasional column highlighting verse, brief essays, and other reflective expressions.

May Day

We used to leave flowers,
Ring the doorbell
run and hide
And wait
small children in our tenny runners
I think God leaves offerings
we won't trip over
Small and hanging on the door
A couple flowers maybe
but still significant
After all
Signs don't have to be big
Seeds are small
Some tiny as mustard
God leaves them
Grows them
Small enough
But still
Still an offering
Significant
Even rings the bell and runs away
And waits
Signs of the Kingdom here now
Yet to come
Both
Still an offering
Still significant
Still whispering sometimes waving in the wind
Like wheat in the summer
Offering
Our offering His offering
on the altar
In the field
Hanging on the door knob
Ring the bell, run away
And wait
Signs of the Kingdom
When we open the door
God in His tenny runners
Waiting in the bushes

*Catharine Phillips
May 1, 2009*

and lay leaders are encouraged to attend.

The training, led by Michael Gecan of the Industrial Areas Foundation, will be held **June 15-19** at Seabury Western Seminary from 9:30-5:30 Monday through Thursday, and 9:30-2:30 Friday. The registration fee is \$300, and lunch will be provided each day.

To register, use the pdf form on the conference webpage, and mail with a check for \$300 addressed to:
The Diocese of Chicago c/o Clarence Langdon
65 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611

Please contact Sarah Lenaeus with any further questions (312) 751-3578.

Episcopal Day at Great America

The Diocese of Chicago's Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry is co-sponsoring Episcopal Day at Six Flags Great America **Tuesday, August 11** with the Dioceses of Fond du lac and Milwaukee. A ticket booth for Episcopalians will be staffed from 9 am to 11 am in front of the park entrance at the Great America park in Gurnee. A Eucharist will be celebrated at the park's Wilderness Theatre at 5 pm. Tickets are only \$30 per person, a \$25 savings over the general admission price at the gate. Children under age 3 are free. A meal deal may be purchased ahead of time for \$10.50, or \$11 on the day of the event. Deadline for ordering tickets is August 1. For more information call Sue Cromer 312-751-6722 or e-mail: scromer@episcopalchicago.org or Barbara Rasero at 312-751-4206 brasero@episcopalchicago.org

Leading change through self-differentiation

The Lombard Mennonite Peace Center is offering our Here I Stand: Leading Change Through Self-Differentiation on **August 18-20**, 2009, at Church of the Redeemer Lutheran Church, 139 E. First St., Hinsdale, Illinois. The training seminar begins Tuesday August 18 at 1:30 pm, and ends Thursday, August 20

at 12:30 pm. It is designed for clergy, Christian formation directors, clinical pastoral education directors, spiritual directors, and members of commissions or committees on ministry. The goal is to develop facilitators for groups using the Here I Stand program.

Church leaders have learned that short-term solutions and quick-fixes do little to address the multi-generational patterns which characterize the functioning of congregations and other church organizations.

In the Here I Stand process, participants - with the help of a facilitator trained at this event - develop and reflect on their own "Beliefs Chart." Using this chart, facilitators invite greater clarity of beliefs among church members or others as they observe and think about the influence of relationship pressures on the shaping of their beliefs and principles over the years.

To prepare for the seminar, participants are required to read *Extraordinary Relationships: A New Way of Thinking About Human Interactions* by Dr. Roberta Gilbert.

Tuition is \$295 for registrations received prior to July 22, 2009 and \$345 if received after July 22, 2009. For information contact the LMPC at Admin@LMPeaceCenter.org or call (630) 627-0507. Registration brochure at <http://www.lmpeacecenter.org/>