

E Connect

Easter, March 22, 2008

Office of Communications, Diocese of Chicago

Contact: David Skidmore dskidmore@episcopalchicago.org



Easter Message from Bishop Lee

Dear Friends,

“There is so much good news out there!” That was a spontaneous outburst from one of the participants in a gathering last month of clergy who are in new positions or new to the diocese. It came in response to a question I asked about what the priorities should be for our work together as a new bishop and leaders in the Diocese of Chicago. This was one person’s answer to that question: “There is so much good news out there ... in our churches and in the communities we serve. We need to hear about it and celebrate it.”

I agree. As I have begun traveling around the diocese I am struck by just how much good news is being made real in the lives of individuals and congregations and agencies of our church. From parish food pantries and feeding ministries to the dedication of a new, multi-million dollar residential facility for at-risk youth at Lawrence Hall. From the heroic response of chaplains and congregations to horror on the NIU campus to the joyful celebration of the latest youth gathering at Happening. From quiet acts of prayer in a hospital room to public advocacy for the passage of just hunger legislation. From the introduction of a child to the story of the Good Shepherd to our ongoing organizational struggle to address the sin of racism. In large ways and small the Episcopal Church in Northern Illinois is announcing the Good News that Jesus brought: the Kingdom of God, the Reign of God is in our midst.

The author Brian McLaren says that for too much of Christian history the good news of Jesus has become the good news about Jesus. And he says the good news of Jesus is just this: God has chosen to enter into partnership with humankind to save this world from self-destruction. In Jesus God has entered the human condition to save it, to save us from our selfishness and greed, from our murderous mistrust and hatred of one another. The great and mighty good news of Easter is that not even death could stop that project. God will not fail.

Given its obvious shortcomings and even sinfulness we should not need to be reminded that the Church is not the same thing as the Kingdom of God. But the Church is a sacrament, a living sign of Christ himself and it serves as an effective sacramental sign when it is working to make God’s Kingdom, God’s Reign of justice and peace and love a visible reality. My heart sings when I look around this Diocese and see many, many signs of how that is happening here. It is happening in the Diocese of Chicago and, by God’s grace it is happening all over the Episcopal Church. The most striking thing about attending my first meeting of the House of Bishops was to note how many stories there were about the Good News of God’s Reign from all over the country. I believe the overwhelming majority of the bishops of our church want to focus there and not on the issues that divide us. This world is dying to see an example of what it could mean to walk together in love without needing to agree on everything. That in itself would be a powerful sign of the Kingdom. I believe God wants this church to be such a sign.

So in this Easter season I invite you to look for signs of the Kingdom of God. They are all around you. Look for ways you can join with members of your church, with friends in your community to make the love of God real for someone else. Tell the Good News. The resurrection of Jesus Christ sets us free to act in ways that can transform the world. We will find challenges. We may be misunderstood or opposed or worse. But there is nothing to fear. Christ has overcome the world and God's Reign is very near.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Jeffrey

The Five Marks of Mission

From anglicancommunion.org [Mission and Evangelism](#) section

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
To respond to human need by loving service
To seek to transform unjust structures of society
To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation
and sustain and renew the life of the earth

NEWS

Bishop Lee to be keynote speaker at Leadership and Ministry Fair

Bishop Jeffrey Lee will give the opening address on **Saturday, April 19** when clergy and lay leaders gather at the Lutheran School of Theology for a day of learning and sharing as a diocesan community.

Leadership and Ministry Fair has something for everyone, with over 60 learning opportunities covering a broad range of topics. As has been true over the last few years, we will again be presenting offerings for those intent on demystifying the intricacies of life on a vestry or bishop's committee, for those investigating a call to ordained leadership, for those beginning to think about ministries in daily life, and more. Although there are always, of necessity, some repeats from former Fairs, learning opportunities on new and timely topics are added yearly. This year there will again be a full set of sessions in Spanish as well as workshops dealing with technology and offerings on the nature of the church itself.

Areas of concentration: issues for vestries and bishop's committees; aspirants, postulants and those in discernment; Hispanic ministry; congregational development and vitality; effective groups; formation; music; mission and outreach; spirituality; stewardship; technology; youth and young adult ministry.

A full listing of learning opportunities is available on our website so save the date and encourage members of your congregation to join you on April 19. As one past participant commented, "This is a must do for all leaders in the church."

Register now!

For information contact [Anne Cothran](#) at (312) 751-4206. Schedule, workshops, directions and registration form are [online](#)

Here are some comments from last year's Leadership fair participants:

"This is a must do for all leaders in the church."

"Good practical information"

"Time very well spent!"

"A great learning experience!"

"Great topics and presenters!"

"New and creative ideas"

"Great for a new vestry person"

"The time flew by-we weren't ready to leave when the time was up."

"A chance to recharge, re-energize with new ideas."

Youth Pilgrimage to St. James Cathedral to view the Keiskamma Altarpiece

The Bishop of Chicago and the people of St. James invite the youth of our diocese to make a pilgrimage to the Cathedral on **Saturday March 29** to welcome the return of the Keiskamma Altarpiece to Chicago. The Altarpiece will be on display through Eastertide, the last installation before its return to South Africa.

The day begins with registration at 9:30 am, followed by the program starting at 10 am. The day ends with a closing worship at 4 pm. Transportation from Metra stations to the cathedral will be

arranged with advance notice from those traveling. The [Metra schedule](#) and [registration form](#) are on the diocesan website



The Altarpiece was created by women of Hamburg, South Africa as a hope filled response to the tragedy of AIDS in their community. It stands 14 feet high and 22 feet across, three layers deep, opening layer after layer to tell the story of their lives – their courage and their faith. This day offers us all an opportunity to encounter the Spirit in art, in community, in worship.

Plan to accompany your young people to the Cathedral to meet our new bishop and to open imaginations to God's workings among us. For information call the cathedral office (312) 787-7360 or email dcampbell@saintjamescathedral.org; or contact Sue Cromer, canon for youth and young adult ministry, scromer@episcopalchicago.org

Kennon Callahan returns for church development conference

Church development expert Kennon Callahan will lead his second conference for the Diocese of Chicago on **April 7, 8 and 9** at St. Michael's, Barrington. In Leadership Resources for a Missional Church, Callahan will teach participants how to grow generous congregations, ones which focus on bringing ministry and mission to the real hurts, hopes, and needs of the community. His advice centers on twelve characteristics of effective congregations; six Relational and six Functional.

The sessions run from 1:30-5:00 and 7:00-8:30 pm each day. The 7:00-8:30 pm session is intended for those members of clergy and vestry that cannot attend the earlier session though participants can attend both sessions if they so desire.

Registration for diocesan members (lay & ordained) is \$100; the rate for non-Diocese of Chicago registrants is \$250 (meals not included). Clergy and lay leaders of other Province V dioceses and of other Northern Illinois denominations are encouraged to participate. Please register by March 28. The registration form is available on the [diocesan website](#). For information contact Elizabeth Erickson (312) 751-4212 eerickson@episcopalchicago.org

Bishop Scantlebury to visit Sudan

Assistant Bishop Victor Scantlebury will be representing Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefforts Schori on a fact-finding mission to Sudan April 16 through 26. The group will be gathering information on the stalled peace accord between the government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement; and attending the enthronement of the Episcopal Church of Sudan's new primate, Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul, on April 21 in Juba. Archbishop Deng, who has served as bishop of Chicago's companion diocese of Renk since 1988. He succeeds The Most Rev. Joseph Marona who retired the end of December.

Episcopal Peace Fellowship plans memorial at St. James Cathedral

The Episcopal Peace Fellowship will be erecting a memorial inside St. James Cathedral to commemorate the deaths of over 3,900 U.S. military personnel in Iraq, and the more than 600,000 Iraqi military members and civilians who have also lost their lives in the five years of this conflict. When the count of U.S. armed forces deaths reaches 4,000, the Fellowship will organize a memorial service that day at the cathedral.

A statement on the EPF website reads:

We will be there to mourn the human cost of war, call for the troops to come home and support funding of an Iraqi-led reconstruction in their war-torn country. Each year that the occupation of Iraq continues, grim new milestones that are reminders of the human cost of war will be recorded.

Our display honors every U.S. serviceperson and all Iraqis who have died in Iraq. In a meditative act of remembrance, volunteers from all over Chicago helped to assemble the memorial by hand writing the name, rank, age, and hometown of each casualty.

Estimates of the Iraqi death toll vary widely, but a recent study put the figure at more than 600,000 Iraqis killed,¹ while other estimates put the number over one million. The field of white in our display symbolizes both the innumerable Iraqi casualties, and our hopes for peace for the Iraqi people.

This display is a testament to our commitment to change course in Iraq. We believe not one more Iraqi or U.S. soldier should be killed; not one more U.S. dollar should be spent sustaining war and occupation.

This project is a collaboration of the American Friends Service Committee, The Episcopal Peace Fellowship and St. James Cathedral

Has your congregation submitted its pledge to the treasurer's office?

As of March 14, the Office of the Treasurer had received pledges to the 2008 diocesan budget from 82 congregations, about two-thirds of the 121 parishes and missions in the Diocese of Chicago. The total pledged stands at just over \$2.1 million. Income from congregational pledges for the 2008 budget is set at \$3,131,740. Of the 82 congregations pledging, two dozen have pledged at or above their Common Mission Share. The parish with the biggest increase is Trinity Church, Aurora which upped its pledge by 131 percent. The largest pledge to date is \$243,832; the smallest is \$500. There are still 40 congregations that have not turned in pledges. Under the voluntary giving guidelines adopted by Diocesan Convention, congregations are encouraged to give from 11 percent to 15 percent of their operating income as defined under Report of Revenues and Expenses for 2007 on page 3 of the annual parochial report. The prescribed levels are determined by the congregations' income range: for income below \$100,000, the CMS is 11 percent; for income ranging \$100,000 to \$200,000 the CMS is 13 percent; and for income over \$200,000 the CMS is 15 percent. To view the latest figures on congregational pledges to the diocesan budget visit <http://www.episichicago.org/treasurers-office/CongregationalResources.cfm#Parochial>

Applications needed for Bishop Awards

Bishops Associates, the ministry support organization for the Bishop of Chicago, is accepting applications for the Bishop's Awards program. The awards are from the Bishop of Chicago in recognition of members of the Diocese of Chicago who have made an outstanding contribution in service to the church, the wider community in northern Illinois, or to the world. Criteria used in evaluating the nominees: 1) the capability and creativity of the nominee's achievement; 2) the impact of the achievement on the community; 3) the achievement's influence on the spiritual life of the people involved with or affected by the achievement.

Nomination forms and guidelines have been posted on the [diocesan website](#).

The deadline for receiving nominations is 4 pm on April 7, 2008. Awards will be presented at the Bishop's Associates annual luncheon May 8, 2008 at the Union League Club of Chicago, 65 W. Jackson, Chicago. Nominations should be submitted to:

Bishop's Awards
Episcopal Church Center
65 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611

Or by email to: bishopsassociates@episcopalchicago.org

For information contact Michael Stephenson, Canon for Development at (312) 751-6725 or mstephenson@episcopalchicago.org

Good Friday offering for the church in Jerusalem and Middle East

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori has asked Episcopalians to continue their prayers and generous support for their fellow Anglicans in the Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. In 2006 Episcopal churches and members gave a record \$368,000 through the Good Friday Offering. This commitment is needed for this year's Good Friday Offering to help fund, hospitals, schools and orphanages serving persons of all faiths in the Middle East. Resources including a poster, bulletin design, and offering envelopes are available on the [Episcopal Church website](#).

Deanery Confirmation Days

The schedule for the spring deanery confirmations has been posted on the [diocesan website](#), and is accompanying this issue of Connect.

Institutions

Bishop Lee will preside at the institution of **the Rev. Timothy Squier** as rector of [St. Ignatius, Antioch](#) on Sunday, April 12 at 3 pm.

Pray for:

Terry Bowers, recovering from surgery

The Rev. John Throop who is recovering from surgery.

Address updates for Anglican Advance

Over 40 congregations have not sent in updated mailing lists for the Anglican Advance newspaper. The Office of Communications receives emails and calls each week from readers who have not been receiving recent issues. If your parish has not sent in an updated list in the past year, please do so as soon as possible. We prefer to receive lists electronically in Excel format if possible, though we can import Word and ASCII text formats. Lists should be emailed to Tracey James at tjames@episcopalchicago.org

EVENTS

Book signing and discussion at St. Barnabas, Glen Ellyn

Author Rodney Clapp, a member of St. Barnabas, Glen Ellyn, will participating in a book signing and discussion of his latest work, *Johnny Cash and the Great American Contradiction: Christianity and the Battle for the Soul of a Nation* on **Saturday, March 29** at 7 pm at St. Barnabas. The parish is located at 22W415 Butterfield Road. For information call 630-469-13894

Faith X-plorer weekend at Camp Algonquin

Faith X-plorers is a weekend event designed to allow senior high youth the space and opportunity to grow as a Christian in a fun-filled outdoor setting. Formerly known as Confirmation Camp, this program has been offered in a retreat setting for over four years. It is all about forming a relationship with oneself, others, and Jesus Christ, all as the participants prepare to accept the radical claim that they are Christ's body on earth; in other words, that they are the church. It is open to high-school age youth and adult mentors. Whether baptized, confirmed or just exploring, everyone is welcome.

Faith X-plorers will be held the weekend of **April 4 through 6** at Camp Algonquin in Algonquin. For more information and/or to register your group, contact Sue Cromer (312-751-6722) scromer@episcopalchicago.org or Vicki Garvey (312-751-4204) vgarvey@episcopalchicago.org

Keeping God's People Safe training

Saturday March 15th Level 1 training

9 am to 11 am

Calvary Episcopal Church

105 West Maple St. Lombard IL 60148

Please register with the parish office: 630-620-8899

Saturday April 12 Level 2 Training

9 am to 1 pm

St. Benedict's Episcopal Church

909 Lily Cache Lane, Bolingbrook 60440

Register with the Church Office: admin@stbenedict.ws or 630-759-5955

May 15 and 16, 2008 Train the Trainer

Church Pension Group will conduct a Sexual Harrassment Prevention Train the Trainer's event which will include the new videos. A new video on Equal Employment Opportunity laws will also be screened. Attendance will be by invitation from the diocesan Office of Pastoral Care. Contact: The Rev. Canon Randall Warren rwarren@episcopalchicago.org

Panel discussions on Keiskamma Altarpiece

St. James Cathedral, well known in Chicago as a venue for the presentation of high quality music and art, will host Community Concerns in the Arts, a four part series of panel discussions that will explore socially conscious artistic practice in Chicago. The free public programs will bring together panelists from the city's arts organizations for this series of lively discussions, with Q&A following.

The series will use the **Keiskamma Altarpiece**—on view **March 27 through May 11** at St. James Cathedral following a U.S. tour—as a starting point for the first presentation, and a backdrop for the next three discussions. The altarpiece is a truly remarkable work of community art created by 130 people, predominantly women, in rural, poverty-stricken, AIDS-affected Hamburg, South Africa. It is a masterful and massive (14 x 22 feet) work done in embroidery, appliqué, beadwork, and photography on three layers of wood panels, combining stories of the loss of community members with a message of hope for the future. The work provided solace in the face of suffering and grief, and much-needed income, for the artists.

All programs in the series are at **6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** at St. James Cathedral, corner of Wabash Ave. and Huron Street, and are free to the public. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m.

The series is organized by Nathan Mason, Curator of Special Projects, Public Art Program, Visual Arts Division, Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs.

Community Concerns in the Arts is co-presented by the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, the Hamburg Committee of the Chicago Sister Cities International Program, Chicago Artists Resource (www.chicagoartistsresource.org) and St. James Cathedral.

April 1: "Introducing and contextualizing the Keiskamma Altarpiece." The first panel will feature Eunice Mangwane, a healthcare worker and AIDS educator, and Noseti Makhubalo, the lead artist for the altarpiece. Both are Xhosa women from Hamburg intimately involved in the work of the Keiskamma Trust. Hear their stories of how a disheartened community came together to create a work of hope and a message to the world, and at the same time, a means of financial support in a poverty-stricken village.

April 8: "Individual Practice." Bernard Williams, Preston Jackson and Marva Jolly. Three well-established Chicago artists will discuss their artwork and how it addresses social issues and community concerns.

April 22: "Community Practice." Chicago is home to a long tradition of community-based art. archi-treasures, the Chicago Public Art Group, and Marwen are three important organizations currently involved in the practice and promulgation of community-based art. Joyce Fernandes, archi-treasures; Jon Pounds, the Chicago Public Art Group, and Scott Lundias, Marwen, are the panelists.

April 29: "Presenters and Funders." How presenters and funders of the Visual Arts address social issues and community concerns through the arts while also promoting and nurturing artists is the topic of the final panel. Panelists include Chuck Thurow, Hyde Park Art Center; Faheem Majeed, South Side Community Art Center; Riva Lehrer, Access Living; Michelle Boone, Joyce Foundation, and Encarnacion Teruel, Illinois Arts Council.

The Keiskamma Altarpiece is owned and exhibited by the Keiskamma Trust, which includes the Keiskamma Arts Project, the Keiskamma Health Project, and the Umtha Welanga HIV/AIDS Treatment Center in Hamburg, South Africa.

Contacts:

Community Concerns in the Arts: Nathan Mason, 312-742-1232

Chicago Dept. of Cultural Affairs: Kennon Brown, 312-744-8948

Keiskamma at St. James Cathedral: Eileen Harakal, 773-296-0779

National Workshop on Christian Unity

The National Workshop on Christian Unity will meet for its 45th annual gathering in Chicago **April 14 through 17, 2008**. The Chicago Marriott O'Hare will be the primary venue for the workshop which is organized around the theme of "Pray without Ceasing." Participating churches include the American Baptist Churches in the USA, the Catholic Church, The Disciples of Christ, the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, The Episcopal Church, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the National Council of Churches of Christ, USA, the Presbyterian Church USA, the United Church of Christ, and the United Methodist Church.

Eight or more seminars will be offered each day on critical ecumenical issues. The conference will also offer denominational worship services, and a Wednesday evening cultural event at the newly designed Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies on South Michigan Avenue. All members of Chicago faith communities are welcome at the opening prayer service Monday, April 14 at Mary Seat of Wisdom parish, 920 W. Granville Ave., in Park Ridge. Featured speakers include Sister Dr. Lorelei F.

Fuchs, S.A., theological consultant for The Interchurch Center, New York and the preacher for the workshop's opening service; the Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon, general secretary of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA; and Dr. James W. Fleming, director of the Explorations in Antiquity Center in LaGrange, Georgia.

A closing panel discussion on Thursday April 17 at 10:45 am moderated by Dr. John Blessington, executive producer of cultural and religious broadcasts for CBS Television, will examine The Local Churches and the Global Church. Participating on the panel will be Dr. Margaret O'Gara, professor of theology at the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto; the Very Rev. Leonid Kishkovsky, director of external affairs and interchurch relations for the Orthodox Church in America; and Dr. Joseph Small, director of theology, worship and education for the Presbyterian Church USA.

Full registration, due by March 15, is \$125. After that it is \$150. Daily attendance is \$50 per day. Full registration for students is \$50.

For hotel reservations call (866) 614-8407 or for hotel information, call (773) 693-4444. More information online at www.nwcu.org

Chicago Episcopal Cursillo weekend

The next Chicago Episcopal Cursillo weekend will be **May 1-4, 2008** at the Italian Cultural Center, Casa Italia, 1621 N. 39th Ave., Stone Park. Team training will be in April at Church of Our Saviour, Elmhurst. The weekend team will be led by rectora Shanon Edwards of St. Paul's, LaSalle. Palanca can be left at St. Johns Episcopal Church in Naperville (630 355 0467). For information visit [Chicago Episcopal Cursillo](#).

American Friends of the Episcopal Church of Sudan conference

The Diocese of Chicago and Commission on Global Ministry are hosting the 4th Annual American Friends of the Episcopal Church of Sudan Conference, *Growing Relationships...Building Partnerships*, **May 30-June 1, 2008**, at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, with Holy Eucharist on June 1, at St. Paul and the Redeemer, both located in Hyde Park. Bishop Jeffrey Lee will open the Conference with welcoming remarks. Keynote speaker for this 3-day event will be Archbishop of the Episcopal Church of the Sudan, The Most Rev. Daniel Deng Bul, newly elected, and former bishop of Chicago's companion diocese, Renk Diocese.

Plenary sessions, with panels related to the theme, will lead to interest groups for continued networking and conversation; how to prepare for future relationships, making contacts, humanitarian efforts in Sudan sponsored by Sudanese in the US, nuts and bolts of building partnerships, spiritual reflection throughout, led by Fr. Matthew Gunter. This national conference will offer many opportunities for learning more about how connecting hopes and gifts can grow relationships... build partnerships.

Go to the website, www.afreecs.org, for information about AFRECS, past conferences, and registration information. There is an early registration discount of \$25.00. Contact conference coordinator, Jackie Kraus, with questions or offers to volunteer to be on the Planning Committee and/or volunteer during the Conference, kraus.jackie@yahoo.com.

Gulf Coast mission trip planned for August 2008

The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry has organized a second Gulf Coast mission trip this coming August for high school and college age youth and the adults who work with them. The week long mission, **August 2 through 9** will be based at two of the Katrina work camps: Mission on the Bay in Bay St. Louis, Miss., and Camp Coast Care at Long Beach, Miss. High school and college youth teams will be based at Mission on the Bay while adults not working with the youth will be based at Camp Coast Care. Both teams have a limit of 50 persons. Cost has not been set. The organizers hope to keep the youth costs to \$200 or less per student through fundraising efforts and diocesan subsidies. Travel will be by Amtrak from Chicago to New Orleans and then in rented vans to the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The Diocese of Chicago's 2008 Mission Trip is a ministry to the people whose lives were affected by Hurricane Katrina in Bay St. Louis, Long Beach, Pearlinton, and other areas in Mississippi. Volunteers participating in the activities of the mission trip will be expected to be involved in specific repair and building activities including, but not limited to: gutting houses, cleaning debris, gardening, yard work, roofing, carpentry, dry walling, digging and building steps, plumbing, glasswork, insulating, painting, flooring, masonry, electrical wiring and other facets of repair, remodeling and renovation. These activities include, but are not limited to: the use of power tools such as saws and drills, as well as the use of hand tools. The foregoing activities will also require climbing with and without supplies, tools and materials as well as working in high places such as on roofs and other facets of construction work.

Volunteers may, in their free time, engage in non-sponsored activities including, swimming, or other sports activities of their choosing. Planned evening activities may include, but are not limited to: visiting the local community, traveling to visit places or people of regional interest.

For more information contact Canon Sue Cromer at (312) 751-6722 or scromer@episcopalchicago.org

RESOURCES

Position Opening—Christian Education

St. Mary's, Park Ridge is seeking a director of Christian Education. The new Director will continue the strong programming currently in place, and lead the implementation of new programs to ensure that every child and youth feels a connection to the church family and has opportunity to explore their faith and Christian values.

The Director is responsible for developing and leading the spiritual life of the children, youth and their families within the parish; have oversight of children's programming from nursery through high school; have budget oversight; and may seek grants to enhance programmatic possibilities. Programs will be led and developed taking into account the issues facing today's children, youth and families, bringing a sense of fellowship and inclusion to all who become involved in the life of the church. The Director will be the primary catechist for the parish's middle and high school ministry.

This is a 3/4 time position that carries both salary and benefits commensurate with the responsibilities as outlined above.

For more information: Visit www.stmaryspr.org to learn more about our parish and view our Parish Profile (<http://www.stmaryspr.org/node/271>).

Please direct inquiries to David Mazza, chairperson of our search committee, by email to dcfsearch@stmaryspr.org, or c/o St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 847.823.4126.

To be considered

Please send your resume to: dcfsearch@stmaryspr.org

Position Opening—Administrative assistant for Assistant Bishop

The Office of the Assistant Bishop and the Department of Christian Formation, and Youth and Young Adult Ministry is seeking an administrative assistant to fill a vacancy created with the appointment of Anne Cothran as administrative assistant to Bishop Jeffrey Lee. This is a full-time position with competitive salary and benefits. For a full description see the posting on the [diocesan website](#) or in the accompanying attachment.

Position Opening—Compensation and Benefits Administrator

The Diocese of Chicago is accepting applications for the fulltime position of compensation and benefits administrator in the Office of Finance and Administration. Responsibilities include payroll, benefits (including health care, pension, section 125 and 403b), bank deposits, mission reports and mission support, monitoring parochial report completion, monitoring and reporting on Common Mission Share Pledges. The administrator assists in preparing for the audit; providing switchboard relief; budget preparation and web site maintenance; and serves as backup for the bookkeeper.

Additional duties include arranging set up for various meetings, including preparing agendas and writing minutes. The compensation and benefits administrator reports to the treasurer.

Send resume and cover letter to:

Keith Kampert
Office of the Treasurer
Episcopal Church Center
65 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611
Or by email to kkampert@episcopalchicago.org

Position Opening—Youth Minister

St. James the Less in Northfield is seeking a part-time Youth Minister to lead programs for our Junior High and Senior High School youth. We are looking for a person who is creative and innovative, enjoys young people, has a deep Christian spirituality, and is able to teach the faith of the Episcopal Church. Responsibilities include sustaining and growing the existing youth groups as a vital part of the parish community, combining groups (Junior High and Senior High) as the need indicates; working with the Youth Task Force to plan and assess the programs offered; planning and holding regularly scheduled gatherings throughout the year; contributing regularly to the life of the parish including a presence at Sunday morning services; serving the community beyond St. James the Less by leading periodic youth group service projects and an annual mission trip (for each group); communicating youth group activities through the weekly bulletin, monthly parish newsletter, emails, youth newsletter, website and occasional Adult Forum presentations; serving as a lay pastor for children ranging from 6th grade through high school (11 - 18 years) and their families; leading confirmation preparation on Sunday mornings; managing youth group budget; and participating in youth group fund raisers.

This is a parttime position, 12 hours weekly. Contact: The Rev. Jane Schaefer (Rector), 847-446-8430; Fax: 847-446-8734; or jane@stjamestheless.org

Consecration DVD

The Office of Communication has the DVD of the February 2, 2008 Ordination and Consecration of the 12th Bishop of Chicago available for orders. Titled *Together Proclaim*, the DVD runs two hours and nine minutes and may be ordered for \$10 per disk, shipping included by contacting David Skidmore, canon for communication. Or send your order with check made payable to The Diocese of Chicago (with notation Consecration Video) to:

Office of Communication
Episcopal Church Center
65 E. Huron St.
Chicago, IL 60611

Church Periodical Club Sunday is May 4

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori has designated Sunday May 4 as Church Periodical Club Sunday. The CPC wants parishes to request grants for books for adults (associated with the anglican communion worldwide) and for children (any children) for parish outreach. Go to episcopalchurch.org/cpc for grant request forms, and information on where to send donations. Also, encourage your parishes to put out penny collection jars. A mile in pennies adds up to \$844.80 In 2007 The CPC gave \$61,851.00 for book requests (adult & children) worldwide

Support group for family caregivers and supporters

Rekindling the Flame is a new ministry of Grace Episcopal Church for the support and sustenance of Family Caregivers and Their Supporters. It includes a monthly Interfaith service of prayer and

reflection followed by a time of discussion, networking and sharing of experiences. Periodic speakers and programs will provide resources and information on issues faced by Caregivers. We have established a directory of Caregiver Services and resources that is accessible from the Grace Church website (www.graceoakpark.org).

Rekindling the Flame meets on the third Sunday of each month, beginning December 16, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church, 924 Lake Street, Oak Park, IL 60301. Our e-mail address is: rekindlingtheflame@sbcglobal.net. Our phone number is 708.386.8036 ext. 36.

If attendance makes respite care necessary, Steven Smith, the Caregiver Specialist at Oak Park Township Senior Services, can arrange respite care when either the caregiver or care recipient is 60 or older, or when a grandparent of any age is raising a grandchild. He can be reached at 708-383-8060.

Book discussion on Evil, Sexuality and Disease in Grunewald's Crucifixion

The Rev. Canon Randall Warren, canon for deployment and pastoral care, will be leading a discussion of Eugene Monick's *Evil, Sexuality, and Disease in Grunewald's Body of Christ* on Wednesday evenings in April. The discussions will take place at 6:15 pm in room 308 of the Episcopal Church Center, Rush and Huron Streets, Chicago. Call Canon Warren for more information at (312) 751-4209 or email him at rwarren@episcopalchicago.org