

E Connect

Easter Three, April 6, 2008

Office of Communications, Diocese of Chicago

Contact: David Skidmore dskidmore@episcopalchicago.org



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. Registration begins at 8 am; Bishop Lee's presentation at 9 am; and the day ends at 4 pm. Cost is \$25 per person (or \$20 for groups of four or more).

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](#)

NEWSFLASH—clergy recover from Holy Week and resolve to break with tradition by registering their members for Leadership and Ministry Fair **before the deadline**.

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."

Keiskamma Altarpiece on display during Eastertide

The Keiskamma Altarpiece was welcomed back to the cathedral on March 29 and 30 with the youth pilgrimage on Saturday and the Choral Eucharist on Sunday. Over 60 youth and adults joined Bishop Lee for a procession into the cathedral where participants learned about the altarpiece and took part in art and spirituality activities. The day included a tour of cathedral and diocesan center stations, and a closing Eucharist at which the youths' own altarpiece, created that day, was displayed. Keiskamma representatives Eunice Mangwane, an AIDS counselor in Hamburg, and Noseti Makhubalo, the project's lead artist, were on hand to tell the story of the altarpiece's creation and the work of the AIDS program in the Hamburg region.

The altarpiece will be on display through Eastertide, the last installation before its return to South Africa. 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. Dr. Carol Hofmeyr, who founded the AIDS clinic in Hamburg and inspired the women there to create the Altarpiece, will be present May 11 for the farewell service and Eucharist closing out the Altarpiece's installation.

The Altarpiece will be on display in the cathedral and open for viewing at these times:

Wednesdays - 12:30 pm to 6:00 p.m. (Healing Service at 5:30 pm)

Thursdays - 12:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Fridays - 12:30 pm to 6:00 pm

Saturdays - 12:30 pm to 6:00 pm (except 3/29 and 5/3)

Sundays - 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

For information or to arrange special tours call the cathedral office (312) 787-7360 or email dcampbell@saintjamescathedral.org. Also check the [diocesan](#) and [cathedral](#) websites for event information occurring during the Altarpiece's installation.

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

Episcopal Peace Fellowship installs memorial at St. James Cathedral

The day after the U.S. death toll in Iraq reached 4,000, peace advocates gathered at St. James Cathedral to pray and open a display commemorating this somber benchmark and the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Iraqis in the five-year-old war and occupation. The gathering at the cathedral March 24, sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) and the Episcopal Peace Fellowship, drew dozens of peace activists and supporters, and reporters and camera crews from most of Chicago's TV stations.

Across the walls lining the nave, volunteers with the EPF and AFSC have hung white banners on which are pinned panels of black squares with the names of the U.S. military dead. The Iraqi dead, whose names still await verification, were represented by the white banners. The memorial panels are arranged alphabetically by the states of the deceased.

In his welcoming remarks, Bishop Jeffrey Lee said that the church both stands in the light of the Resurrection and also lives with the grief "which is the marker of the true cost of this war."

The service ended with the placement of flowers at the base of the memorial panels, and the singing of "Peace, Salaam, Shalom" by Chris Inserra and Susan Salidor. The memorial panels will be on display in the cathedral until May 1.

--the [full story](#) is available online--

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

Lilly Endowment sponsors clergy renewal grants

Lilly Endowment Inc. is accepting applications for grants from the National Clergy Renewal Program which supports extended sabbaticals for pastors and a complementary set of activities for "congregational renewal" in their parishes. A maximum of 120 congregations will receive grants of up to \$45,000 each, of which \$15,000 may be used for expenses associated with the renewal program. Additional information is available on the program's web site. The deadline for receiving applications is May 14, 2008.

Who may apply: Christian congregations that have an ordained pastor with a master of divinity degree from an accredited theological school. The grants are available for congregations in all states except Indiana, where the endowment offers a separate program.

Contact: Lilly Endowment
2801 North Meridian Street
Indianapolis, Ind. 46208
(317) 916-7350
clergyrenewal@yahoo.com
<http://www.clergyrenewal.org>

Deanery Confirmation Days

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

Clergy Notes

The Rev. Tom Janiec will be retiring as rector of St. Philip's, Palatine the end of June. His last Sunday there is June 29.

The Rev. Tom Lamb retires as rector of St. Bride's, Oregon the end of April. His last Sunday at St. Bride's is April 22.

The Rev. Amanda Brady has assumed her new ministry as interim at St. Mark's, Evanston. The parish will welcome her on April 6.

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:

Deacon Barb Bishop's husband, **Robert**, who is undergoing a procedure Thursday.

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

NOTE: The Faith Xplorer's camp for April 4-6 has been cancelled. If you are interested in this innovative formation and confirmation preparation program contact [Canon Vicki Garvey](#) (312) 751-4204.

Keeping God's People Safe training

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, is hosting 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 has used 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 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 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

Integrity sponsors Eucharist at St. James Cathedral

The National Board of Integrity, an organization within the Episcopal Church advocating for the rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, invites all Episcopalians and other faithful friends, both lay and clergy, to a celebration of the Eucharist:

- at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. James,
- at the corner of E. Huron Street and Rush Street in Chicago,
- at 7:30 p.m. on **Friday, April 18th, 2008**
- A reception will follow in the narthex of the Cathedral

This Eucharist is being celebrated in conjunction with the spring meeting of the national board of Integrity, which is being held in Chicago on April 18 and 19. Bishop Jeffrey Lee of the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago will celebrate at this Eucharist, the Very Rev. Joy Rogers, the provost of the cathedral, will host the event, the Rev. Bonnie Perry, Rector All Saints Ravenswood, will preach, and the Rev. Susan

Russell, the national President of Integrity, will speak about Integrity's ministry in the Episcopal Church. The offering at this Eucharist will be designated for support of Integrity's presence at the Lambeth Conference of Anglican bishops in Canterbury, England, July 10th to August 4th, 2008. Please plan to attend this festive event.

Bishop Gene Robinson to preside at "welcoming and affirming Eucharist" at Seabury-Western

In conjunction with the second meeting of the Chicago Consultation, which takes place at Seabury the week of April 13, 2008 there will be a special "Welcoming and Affirming Holy Eucharist" service on **Wednesday, April 16** at 5:30 p.m. in the Seabury Chapel, to which the greater community is invited. The Rt. Rev. V. Gene Robinson will be presiding and preaching at this service, which is being planned and conducted by LGBT students, who earlier that day will have had a special meeting with Integrity President, The Rev. Susan Russell.

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 joint Episcopal, Lutheran and Methodist Eucharist will be celebrated **Tuesday, April 15** at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 306 S Prospect, Park Ridge beginning at 6 pm.

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

Bishop Anderson House Spring Benefit

Bishop Anderson House will hold its annual Rites of Spring benefit on Sunday April 20 at Salvatore's Ristorante, 525 W. Arlington Place, Chicago starting at 6 pm. The benefit will celebrate the recent graduates of the Lay Chaplaincy Training Program. The sixth annual celebration includes a dinner and a silent auction featuring baskets created by diocesan congregations. Cost is \$100 per person. Tickets for the benefit raffle are \$10 each or \$25 for three. Grand prize is two nights and spa privileges at The American Club in Kohler, Wis. For information contact Cheryl Holt at (312) 563-4825 or poverino@aol.com

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](#).

AntiRacism Training

Crossroads Ministry will conduct a two and a half day antiracism training **Thursday May 1 through Saturday May 3** at the Lutheran School of Theology, 1100 E. 55th, Chicago. The 2003 Diocesan Convention called for all persons elected to diocesan standing committees and commissions, and related boards and agencies to undergo antiracism training. The 2003 General Convention mandated 8 hours of antiracism training for members of the church.

Friday's session runs from 6 to 9 p.m., while Saturday and Sunday sessions run from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. All participants must attend all three sessions. The fee for participants affiliated with the Diocese of Chicago is \$65 which covers lunch on Saturdays and Sunday. For non-affiliated participants the fee is \$225 which covers registration and lunches. For information contact Derrick Dawson, chair of the AntiRacism Commission, at (773) 960-5355 derrick.dawson@bfkn.com

Healing of the Earth service in Blue Island

St. Joseph and St. Aidans in Blue Island will be hosting a prayer service for the Healing of the Earth on **Sunday, May 18** beginning at 4 pm. The service will include a blessing of the community gardens and the Calumet Sag Channel by the congregation's priest in charge, the Rev. Rod Reinhart and other religious leaders. The parish invites all farmers, gardeners, environmental activists and anyone concerned with the planet's sustainability to attend this service to pray for healing the air, land and water; pray for peace, justice and prosperity for our cities; and to speak out against environmental degradation.

St. Joseph and St. Aidan's is located at Greenwood and Oak Street, west of Western Avenue. For formation contact Reinhart at revrod@comcast.net

Ministry in Daily Life conference

Episcopal Partners for Faithfulness in Daily Life, an affiliate of the Coalition for Ministry in Daily Life, is sponsoring a conference on building the partnerships for fostering ministry in daily life on **Thursday May 29** at The Cenacle in Lincoln Park. The Beyond Base Camp: Becoming an Equipped Church conference runs from 8 am to 4:15 pm, and is intended for lay members exploring their ministry in daily life, for clergy exploring how they might equip the faithful, and for diocesan staff who are interested in strengthening the connections between worship and daily life.

Registration information online at [The Cenacle](#) is at 513 W. Fullerton. For information contact William Thompson at Thompcom@aol.com

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, <http://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

Datewatch for 2009: Leadership and Ministry Fair on Saturday April 25, 2009

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—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

Bulletin inserts on Appalachian Ministries and Habitat for Humanity

The April 6 Episcopal Life Weekly bulletin insert features Episcopal Appalachian Ministries, which serves the people of mountain communities in eight dioceses. The April 13 Episcopal Life Weekly bulletin insert focuses on Habitat for Humanity. Episcopal Life Weekly bulletin inserts are available in color and black/white formats on either a full 8.5" by 11" sheet or half of an 8.5" by 11" sheet double-sided. To download: http://www.episcopalchurch.org/78650_8852_ENG_HTM.htm

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.

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

Churches invited to endorse statement on the Gift of Communion

In advance of the 2008 Lambeth Conference Inclusive Church UK has released a statement (see below) which it is encouraging congregations throughout the Anglican Communion to endorse. In this statement, the group invites parishes to give thanks for the gift of the Anglican Communion, and to affirm their commitment to its historic generosity. In its website introduction to the statement, Inclusive Church UK states: "At a time of debate and discernment in our life together we believe the best way forward will not include segregating or excluding those with whom we disagree."

Representatives of congregations that are in agreement with the statement can send an email to endorse@giftofcommunion.org listing their name, parish, diocese and province. Inclusive Church UK emphasizes that persons making the endorsement to have the agreement of their parish council or vestry before signing, and note that this invitation is intended for churches, and not individuals. Questions or concerns may be sent to Inclusive Church UK at info@giftofcommunion.org

"As Christians, we believe that all people have been made in the image of God. We believe that God loves each and every person with an infinite, never-ending, unconditional love.

As members of the body of Christ, we acknowledge each person's unique and valuable contribution as we seek together to build up that body in love.

As members of the Anglican Communion, we celebrate the gift of our diversity and are committed to being a broad Church that accepts and welcomes difference. We acknowledge our need of God's forgiveness for the sins and failings which harm our shared witness in the world. We believe our unity is rooted in our baptism in Christ, and we will seek to maintain that unity through the grace of the Holy Spirit who lives and works in each one of us."