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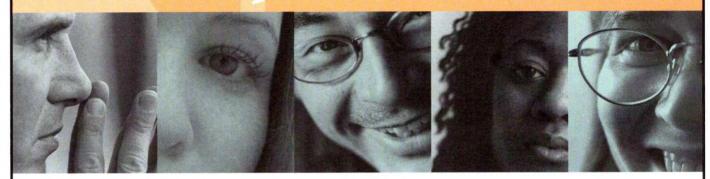
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olume 232 Number 12 The objective of The Living Church magazine is to build up the body of Christ, by describing how God is moving in his Church; by reporting news of the Church in an unbiased manner; and by presenting diverse points of view.

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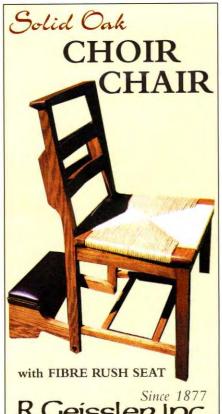
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Reverence the Temple

'Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!'

(John 2:16)

Third Sunday in Lent, March 19, 2006

BCP: Exod. 20:1-17, Psalm 19:7-14, Rom. 7:13-25, John 2:13-22 RCL: Exod. 20:1-17. Psalm 19. 1 Cor. 1:18-25. John 2:13-22

The synoptic writers put the story of the cleansing of the temple toward the end of their gospels (Matthew 21:12-17, Mark 11:15-19, Luke 19:45-48). Because of the event, the authorities want to kill Jesus. It is a prelude to his death.

John places the story early. His account mentions Jesus' death (destroy this temple) but points to the resurrection. We are reading it during Lent because it points to where we are headed. The late Orthodox theologian Alexander Schmemann reminded us, "Above all, Lent is a spiritual journey and its destination is Easter."

The crowded, chaotic marketplace in the temple was not beneficial to the pilgrims. People came to worship and they were coerced into the status of cheated customers. The exchange rate for foreign coins (not allowed in the temple) to shekels was exorbitant. Animals for the sacrifices were overpriced. Those who brought their own animals might be told they were blemished and unacceptable. On an emotional level, Jesus is angry at the abuse. On a theological level, he is saving that his once-and-for-all sacrifice will replace this daily butchering.

The Jews want to know what sign he will show to justify his actions (John 2:18). As Paul states, they stumble over the sign Jesus gives (1 Cor. 1:22-23). When he speaks of the temple of his body raised up in three days, they envision physical building construction work.

We note a movement in Christian theology. There are symbols of the presence of God, such as the mountain in our Exodus story, the Jewish temple, or our own local church, synagogue or mosque. The movement is beyond the symbol to the reality of Jesus embodying the presence of God. This is the temple that will be raised up in three days. The movement goes further: We, the people, are the body of Christ. The church building or temple is no longer the limited place where God chooses to dwell.

In light of this movement, Jesus was not only angry at the desecration of the temple building. He was angry at the abuse of the people, which was a desecration of God's dwelling. God dwells in people. Therefore, we hear with new ears the words of Jesus, "Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" (John 2:16).

Look It Up

Look up the references in Paul's epistles to "the body of Christ" to further flesh out this movement in Christian theology.

Think About It

The dwelling of God in the people is found on the move in many places: in offices, homes, stores, schools and playing fields. Do we treat these places with due reverence?

Next Sunday

Fourth Sunday in Lent

BCP: 2 Chron. 36:14-23, Psalm 122, Eph. 2:4-10, John 6:4-15 RCL: Numbers 21:4-9, Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22, Eph. 2:1-10, John 3:14-21



Part of doing mission is doing business. From Church Publishing come four indispensable new resources for church leaders.

Doing Holy Business: The Best of Vestry Papers, edited by Lindsay Hardin Freeman is a valuable guide for vestries, providing information that is spiritually grounded yet offers practical illustrations and resources to assist vestries in their role as their congregation's elected lay leadership.

A no-nonsense guide to church leadership and parish development, 5 Keys for Church Leaders examines the five aspects of congregational life that are key to the development and growth of strong congregations: build the team; keep healthy; pay attention to generations; open the front door, close the back door; and raise the stewardship level.

Holy Hospitality: Worship and the Baptismal Covenant offers practical ideas for implementing a baptismal ecclesiology at church, including liturgical space, accessibility, child care, ushers, and altar guild.

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Remember the Future: Financial Leadership and Asset Management for Congregations is a primer about sound church asset management.

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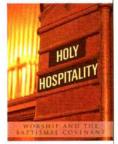
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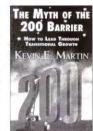
MYTH OF THE 200 BARRIER: How to Lead through Transitional Growth. By Kevin E. Martin. Abingdon Press. Pp. 135. \$14, paper. ISBN 0-687-34324-0.

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP IN THE SMALL MEMBERSHIP CHURCH. By David Canada. Abingdon, Pp. 101, \$12, paper, ISBN 0-687-

www.congregationalresources.org: A guide to Resources for Building Congregational Vitality. Edited by Richard Bass. The Alban Institute, Pp. 250, \$16 (\$12 for members), ISBN 1-56699-266-4.

The Rev. Canon Kevin Martin, acting dean of St. Matthew's Cathedral, Dallas, played an active role in the plant-

revitalizing and growing of congregations in Texas. The energy of that work fueled much enthusiasm among Episcopalians and was one of the initiatives that gave rise to the 20/20 plan. His is one of three recent

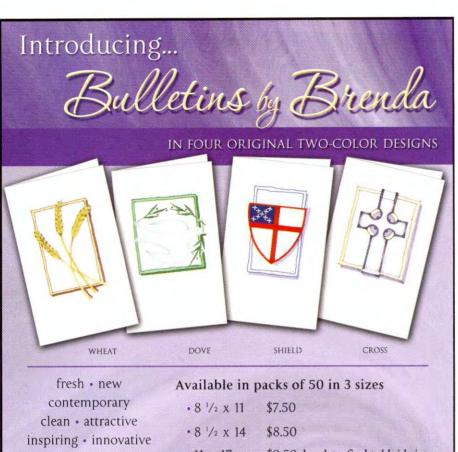


books that will be of interest to congregations of all sizes, but particularly family-sized communities concerned with vitality and growth.

The title of his book is derived from the church growth "myth" that the number 200 represents a plateau in many congregations that is hard to break through. So Martin proposes to lower the bar, using insights derived from Malcolm Gladwell's book, The Tipping Point. Gladwell is fascinated by and writes about how seemingly small matters may influence larger trends. Gladwell captivated Martin with a "Rule of 150," which Martin applies to church growth, asking why pastoral-sized churches that seem stable and healthy at 125 Sunday attendees become so unstable as the number moves toward 150. "My intuitive explanation was that at 125 a congregation begins to grow beyond the ability of the pastor to meet the needs of a certain number of households." Martin writes. "Although I still believe this is true, the Rule of 150 explains this in a more sophisticated

Martin cites the research of British (Continued on page 9)

and scientific way."



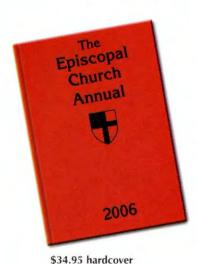
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BOOKS

(Continued from page 6)

anthropologist Robin Dunbar who studied 21 tribal groups worldwide and discovered the average size of a tribal group was just over 148. Dunbar formulated a rule that suggested that "at 150, the number of relationships among people becomes so complex that the group must either divide or face disintegration."

"Many congregations have never taken the time to discover what their members really care about," Canon Martin writes. "Pastors often assume that members really care passionately about what the pastor or the denomination cares about. This is often not true." So what happens if the members really care about the intimate experience of a smaller congregation when the rector or denomination is otherwise committed?

Regardless the size of one's congregation, there is value in Canon Martin's collected experience. It can help move church leadership beyond the consideration of numbers to a more thoughtful engagement with the community

God has committed to their care. David Canada knows about small

Spiritual

Leadership

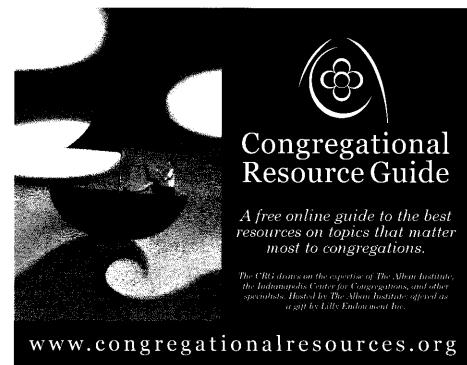
DAVID CANADA

congregations first-hand. He began his ministry with a charge of three small churches, followed by a hospital chaplaincy, nursing home administration, and 24 years as an Army chaplain. When he retired from the military, he came full circle,

assuming the post of pastor of Burkeville United Methodist Charge in Virginia, a 100-year-old cluster of three churches in three adjoining counties, ranging in size from 164 members to 20 (only three of whom remain active). This gifted pastor has mined the wisdom of the three churches' century of shared experience to share it with a new generation of churches whose future points toward such collaborative cooperation.

Defining spiritual leadership as "the art or practice through which the leader helps others move toward spiritual maturation," Canada charts the

(Continued on next page)





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BOOKS

(Continued from previous page)

process of spiritual growth in five alliterative stages: Instincts, Insights, Initiative, Integrity, and Inclusion. But the real strength and treasure of this book are the stories and insights of a lifelong pastor and the people who have shaped his ministry, and theirs, with neither the membership nor the associated resources so many deem essential to modern ministry.

This slim volume is one among a number of Abingdon books on small membership churches. In an institutional culture increasingly intoxicated by delusions of grandeur and intolerant of small congregations, it is especially refreshing to be reminded that small can indeed by beautiful and blessed.

Off-line Resource

At one level, the Alban Institute's book seems a redundancy to those who are oriented to the worldwide web. It's a companion to the Congregational Resource Guide located on the institute's web site, which offers more than 900 resources in more than 100 topic areas. Its utility will be best realized by the confirmed Luddite or those who simply prefer books over other resources.

The book opens with a helpful introduction on resources, followed by nine chapters on a variety of topics encountered in any ministry: building issues, faith and money, evaluation, leadership, crossing cultural boundaries, lay ministry, congregational health, community ministry, and preaching. The real riches of this book are the essays anchoring each of the chapters, at the end of which selected resources are highlighted, including books, web addresses, and contact information for organizations offering their own resources, including professional conferences and workshops. But given the proliferation of such resources, and the vagaries of a cyberworld where web sites appear and disappear with the frequency of independent restaurants, the utility of this portion of the book will likely be short lived.

> (The Rev.) Sam Portaro Berwyn, Ill.

Priesthood in a New Millennium

Toward an Understanding of Anglican Presbyterate in the 21st Century

By **R. David Cox**. Church Publishing, Pp. 473. \$30. ISBN 0-89869-388-8.

R. David Cox has written a very

clear and comprehensive study of priesthood in the Anglican Communion from the late 19th century to the present day. Responding to many changes in church and society which have affected the meaning of priesthood (e.g. the changing character of the Anglican Communion

itself, the identity and roles of priestly ministries, the relationship between church and society), Cox is especially concerned to speak of what priests do and what they share. This discussion of the roles and functions of priesthood is intentionally set within the

context of the whole body of Christ and the ministry of all.

Cox divides this broadly conceived study into two major parts. First he undertakes an overview of the background of the ways in which the meaning of priesthood has been articulated from the late 19th century until now.

Second, he offers a description and an analysis of contemporary issues and challenges facing not only priesthood, but all forms of ministry within the church. Though the book traces the thinking about priesthood from all over the Anglican Communion, the late 19th and

early 20th century Church of England roots are given primary attention, together with subsequent developments in the Episcopal Church.

Cox has proceeded in a thorough way, creating a solid picture of the idea of priesthood. Emphasizing the nature of the priest as representative and as minister, always keeping tension between the individual and the community, Cox has produced a rich, full, and clear picture of the history of this all-important concept for the church. Special attention is given to the role of liturgical reform in the shaping of priesthood. In the second part of the study, the focus is on particular orders and issues presently facing them. Here the author brings in his particular perspectives and, accordingly, the scope of the book narrows considerably, focused primarily on the Episcopal Church.

Throughout, Cox demonstrates his ability to identify and discuss critical issues in interesting and informative ways. Helpful summarizations of developments traced are often made at the end of chapters. The book's focus on the importance of theological thinking about priesthood and community

(Continued on next page)

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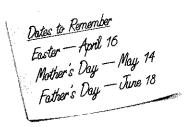
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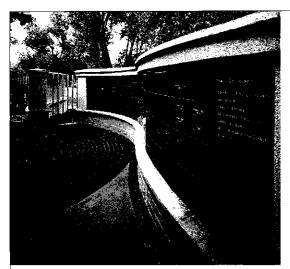
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BOOKS

(Continued from previous page)

might helpfully be supplemented with a discussion of the economic and social realities which so often influence and shape such thinking.

Finally this book reflects and represents a challenge for the Church related to the question of audience. For whom was this book written? In a day when the baptismal covenant and Total Ministry and so many other inclusive concepts of ministry and service in the Church are lifted up, it is ironic that most of the folks who talk about these things are, like David Cox, ordained folks, or, like this reviewer, lay people with very special interests in the church's ordained ministry. What this reality means for this book is that its audience is relatively small, if usually well informed and motivated. I hope readers of this book will find ways to bring its significant vision and analysis of priesthood into dialogue with the broader church and all whose ministries are so ably described by Mr. Cox. Donn Morgan

Church Divinity School of the Pacific Berkeley, Calif.

The Shape of the Liturgy

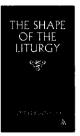
By Dom Gregory Dix. New edition with Introduction by Dr. Simon Jones. Continuum. Pp. 764. \$63.00. ISBN 0-8264-7942-1.

Dom Gregory Dix published his monumental and magisterial Shape of the Liturgy 60 years ago, and this edition of his classic work has been issued to commemorate this anniversary. It is good to know that it will be easily available to a new generation of students because every seminarian (let alone every priest) should own it and read it.

The first edition appeared at a fortuitous time. Not long after *The Shape* saw the light of day, the Church of South India was formed, and Dix's book was to set the stage for the construction of their new liturgy — the first of the modern rites. It is perhaps an irony that this was so, for Dix opposed the proposals for unity in South India. But there was no going back, and the liturgy of the Church of South India was to be immensely

influential in subsequent Anglican and Roman Catholic liturgical renewal.

At the core of Dix's understanding is the so-called "four-fold shape" of the



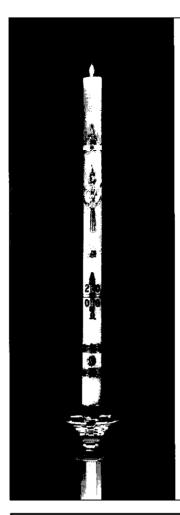
eucharistic action: taking, blessing, breaking, giving. This understanding has become so much the heart of our liturgical sensibility that it is hard now to see how illuminating Dix's study was when it first appeared. It placed the 1662 eucharistic

prayer under immediate and permanent judgment for its inadequacy — an inadequacy that had already been felt, but which had now been laid bare.

The last 60 years have seen extraordinary developments in our understanding both of primitive Christian liturgies and the history of liturgical development both in the East and in the West over 2,000 years. Not surprisingly Dix's theories and ideas have themselves been subject to criticism from time to time, especially with regard to the Offertory and the Fraction. Dix predicted that it would be so. Dr. Jones's Introduction gives us a helpful overview of some of this subsequent reflection.

But there is more in Dix's book that is right than wrong, and no liturgical scholar since Dix has been able to range so widely and so learnedly between the covers of one book, or make such a lasting impression. Even now, no serious student of the liturgy can ignore him. Certainly no one has written more beautifully or more movingly in the English language about the central act of Christian worship. When Dix writes about the strange power that the Eucharist has of "laying hold of human life, of grasping it not only in the abstract but in the particular concrete realities of it, of reaching to anything in it, great impersonal things that rock whole nations and little tender human things of one man's or one woman's living and dying - laying hold of them and translating them into something beyond time," we know that it is true.

(The Very Rev.) Peter Eaton Denver, Colo.



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BOOKS

Attending the Dying

A Handbook of Practical Guidelines By Megory Anderson, Morehouse, Pp. 109. \$9.95, paper. ISBN 0-8192-2108-2.

Megory Anderson, director of the Sacred Dying Foundation in San Francisco, trains others in the art of being



present with the dying. She also was an Anglican monastic in a community in New York. She writes that "death is more than just a monitor going off or the last breath. The place of death

is still a sacred space. Witnessing a death is a profound experience for family members as well as for health professionals. When you have sat vigil with a dying soul, you are forever changed. You have experienced a great mystery. Dying is like being born. It is a miracle in its own right."

This is a very practical and concise handbook of what to expect, how to respond to the dying, and how to support the dying person so that the process is as sacred as possible. The book can be used by people of any faith tradition and would be helpful to chaplains, social workers, hospital personnel, as well as friends and family of the dying.

(The Rev.) Joanna J. Seibert Little Rock, Ark.

Where You Go, I Shall

Gleanings from the Stories

of Biblical Widows

By Jane J. Parkerton, K. Jeanne Person, and Anne Winchell Silver. Cowley. Pp. 129. \$14.95, paper. ISBN 1-56101-237-8.

Two widows and a priest collaborate to offer a book for and about widows. Each chapter begins with a theological reflection by the Rev. Jeanne Person on a biblical widow and some aspect of life as a widow. Jane Parkerton and Anne Silver then comment from their experience of widowhood. Issues of financial insecurity, raising children, being alone,

sexuality, friendship, anger as well as

Where You Co.

l Shall

other topics are discussed in an open, vulnerable, and forthright manner.

The book emerged from a Ruth and Naomi Circle established for widows to support each other. It would be excellent for similar widow support groups and those who minister

with women who have lost their husbands through death.

(The Rev.) Ann Fontaine Lander, Wyo.

Why Study the Past?

The Quest for the Historical ChurchBy **Rowan Williams**. Eerdmans. Pp. 129. \$15. ISBN 0-8028-2990-2.

In this series of four lectures delivered in 2003 at Salisbury Cathedral, Archbishop Rowan Williams makes a refreshing and clear case for the importance of church history in Christian life today. The short answer to the title question is that "the Christian past is unavoidably part of the Christian present." The study of the



history of the Church shows us that "relation to God can be the foundation of a human community unrestricted by time or space, by language or cultural difference."

Archbishop Williams examines approaches to church history from the Book of Acts to Eusebius and from Foxe to Bultmann and the 21st century. One of the most helpful points in the book is the idea that positive moments in Christian history are gifts from God rather than achievements of great individuals or movements. In this light, there are "gifts to be

received from the past," which can be a glimpse of the church's future and an indispensable help for understanding our present.

For the Christian who studies the past, there is an awareness of engaging with "fellow participants in prayer and eucharist, fellow readers of the same scripture." The lectures are, in the end, an extended and often beautiful reflection on the communion of saints

Richard J. Mammana, Jr. Stamford, Conn.

Wondrous Depth

Preaching the Old Testament

By Ellen Davis. Westminster John Knox. Pp. 162. \$19.95, paper. ISBN 0664228593.

My mentor for the priesthood said to me that he doesn't preach from the Old Testament because "somebody might get hurt." Many of us probably

(Continued on next page)

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The Episcopal Network for Stewardship (Continued from previous page)

feel this way or adopt this position at least practically. We go the gospel lesson and hardly venture beyond, certainly not so far as the Old Testament lesson.

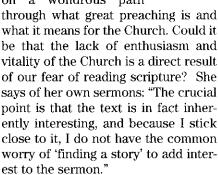
Ellen Davis, professor at Duke Divinity School and frequent teacher at the College of Preachers, challenges us by saying that these essays confront the "gravest scandal" of the North American Church, that is, its "shallow reading of Scripture." Strong words, equally strongly demonstrated in this book. Indeed, Davis takes us on a whirlwind tour of exegetical insights from Augustine, Bernard of Clairvaux, Lancelot Andrewes, Dietrich Bonhoef-

fer, and others, including Jewish interpreters.

Davis is no mere theoretician chiding us. She includes several of her own sermons with annotations on the occasion and her concerns. I found that a helpful exercise and one that I could immediately bring into my preaching practice.

The essay titles give us a sense of her discovery and passion for the text and her subject: "The Art of Astonishing;" "Maximal Speech;" "An Abundance of Meaning;" and "Giving Sight."

Davis takes us not only to wondrous depths but on a wondrous path



Be prepared for a wealth of insights on the text and the task of the preacher with no mincing of words. Ellen Davis continues to astonish us with her insights and commitment to the Old Testament as a vital source of theological reflection.

> (The Rev.) Anthony Petrotta Wilsonville, Ore.

The World Is Flat

By **Thomas Friedman**. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. Pp. 473. \$27.50. ISBN 0-374-29288-4.

People might easily say that this is not a "religious" book, but who today thinks Galileo was meddling in religion when he declared that the earth was round? In fact the implications in this book for the mission of the Christian Church are profound.

The subtitle of the book is "A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century" and the first chapter contends that even though we are only five years into the new century, most people

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who read this book would admit that some pretty amazing things have happened in the last few years — the dot-

com boom and bust, the events of 9/11. Yet individuals, the Church, and the world in general have slept through most of it. Much of the first half of the book is about the way that modern technology, mostly in digital communication, has opened access to the tools of innovation, control of resources, and business success to people around the world, regardless of political or physical boundaries.

Socially sensitive Christians have long been urging a level playing field, recognizing that some people in our society have inherent advantages that tend to keep them on top of the heap. Friedman points out that as the world is flattened, and resources, including important information, are being moved around the world and available to anyone, these advantages disappear. This flattening of the world is

NATIONAL BESTSELLER

The World Is Flat

Thomas L. Friedman

happening faster than most people realize. Does the Church welcome this? Are we ready for the changes that will come? For example, many Americans are aware of the outsourcing of jobs, but few realize to what extent well qualified people in other countries, particularly in India and China, are taking

over leadership in areas that were always assumed to be uniquely American strongholds.

Yet in the Southern Hemisphere in particular, poverty, illness and lack of education are destined to make existing barriers even greater. In other areas, often in the Muslim world, there are those who resist the changes that break down cultural identity and resent the successes of the ever-flat-

tening world. All of this has tremendous implications for ministry and mission both in the flat and "unflat" world.

Thomas Friedman, a three-time Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and columnist for *The New York Times*, dramatically illustrates his points with timely global developments of great consequence that are going on while the world sleeps.

(The Rt. Rev.) David Reed Louisville, Ky.

Cassian and the Fathers

Initiation into the Monastic Tradition
By Thomas Merton, edited by Patrick F.
O'Connell. Cistercian Publications. Pp. 272.
\$29.95, paper. ISBN 0879070013.

This book is not for the faint of heart or slack of mind. Prepared from Thomas Merton's notes for conferences at Gethsemane Monastery, it (Continued on page 37)



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Maintain Moratorium, Archbishop Williams Says

The Archbishop of Canterbury has cautioned the Episcopal Church not to end the House of Bishops' moratorium on consecrating non-celibate homosexual priests to the episcopate, until the Communion is of common mind. The Most Rev. Rowan Williams spoke about the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion during an address for delegations from Anglican Churches to the World Council of Churches assembly in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

"I believe if there is ever to be a change in the discipline and teaching of the Anglican Communion on this matter it should not be the decision of one Church alone," Archbishop Williams said on Feb. 17. The actions of the 74th General Convention in affirming the election of the Bishop of New Hampshire and recognizing rites for the blessing of same-sex unions as within the bounds of Church life had violated the tenets of the catholic faith and are "seen in the Communion as the decision of one Church which has consequences and repercussions for others that they have not fully owned themselves," he said.

Stop the Anxiety

Archbishop Williams admitted he did not know what the Anglican Communion would look like 18 months from now, "but if God has a purpose for us in the Communion, then we can relax" and "stop being so desperately and bitterly anxious." Obedience to God and determined dialogue with one another are the ways forward through the Anglican Communion's crisis over human sexuality, he said.

He bemoaned the parochialism and cultural suspicions that had rendered each side deaf to the reasoning of the other. The debate, "rightly or wrongly" has been seen "as an issue between those who want to hold to an essentially traditional view of doctrine over all, and those who believe that the entire Christian pattern, if you like, is open for revision." That the debate had come to be "represented in these terms indicates



(The Rev.) George Conger photo

Archbishop Orlando de Oliveira (left), Primate of the Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil, and the Most Rev. Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury, process together at the start of a service during the recent World Council of Churches assembly meeting in Porto Alegre, Brazil.

how very polarized and divided the situation has become," he observed.

The "challenge to every single member of the Communion" therefore is "together [to] rediscover a sense that we are all under the judgment of God; that we are all called to holiness; that we are all called to sacrifice."

Archbishop Williams said the Anglican Communion "will expect reaction to what has been said around the Communion" from the General Convention in June. "On a matter where traditionally there has been a very clear teaching," there must be "the highest degree of consensus for such a radical change."

At the primates' meeting in Northern Ireland in February 2005, Archbishop Williams said the position of the Anglican Communion on the issues of human sexuality had been spelled out at the 1998 Lambeth Conference. The Anglican Communion "does not see itself free to sanction same-sex blessing and the ordination of persons in same sex-relationships," he said.

While in Brazil, Archbishop Williams declined to honor a request from the Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil (IEAB) that he admonish and disassociate from the Bishop of Recife, the Rt. Rev. Robinson Cavalcanti.

No Denouncement

Meeting at the Parish of the Ascension in Porto Alegre on Feb. 18, the bishops of the IEAB asked Archbishop Williams to affirm their deposition of Bishop Cavalcanti and to denounce the decision by Archbishop Gregory Venables, Primate of the Province of the Southern Cone, to receive temporarily Bishop Cavalcanti and 40 Recife clergy and 90 percent of the diocese's communicants into his Province.

Several bishops of the IEAB had earlier expressed frustration with Archbishop Williams' inaction, stating they would press him to honor the canonical process of the Brazilian church and issue a public statement putting Bishop Cavalcanti outside the bounds of the Communion. But sources present at the meeting told The Living Church Archbishop Williams declined to be drawn into the fracas and placed the onus on Archbishop Orlando de Oliveira and the Brazilian Church to resolve the crisis. Nor would Archbishop Williams commit to any public statement, instead urging the Brazilians to participate in the Panel of Reference process established to resolve similar disputes.

The schism in the Brazilian Church and the subsequent reception of Bishop Cavalcanti into the Southern Cone has created two Anglican dioceses of Recife: one loyal to the IEAB and Archbishop de Oliveira, under the jurisdiction of Bishop Cavalcanti's former suffragan, the Rt. Rev. Filadelfo Oliveira Neto, and the one under the spiritual authority of Archbishop Venables.

Archbishop Peter Akinola of Nigeria, the leader of the Global South coalition of Anglicans, recognized Bishop Cavalcanti as the rightful Bishop of Recife, and invited him to represent the Brazilian Church last October at the Global South meeting in Egypt.



Alan Shennard/Trinity Church photo

Workers blend a section of newly installed wood floor with the existing section in the sanctuary, one of the final tasks in a \$1.4 million renovation project at Trinity Church in Columbus, Ohio. Trinity, which held its first worship service in the newly renovated 750-seat worship area on Feb. 26, will be the site where the House of Bishops will elect a successor to Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold during the 75th General Convention in June. In addition to refinishing of the floors, the renovation project included the installation of new lighting and air conditioning, repainting, and improved handicap accessibility. The building dates from the late 1860s.

Pension Group Enhances Benefits

The Church Pension Group will make the first change to the way it calculates benefits in more than 20 years, according to Dennis Sullivan, fund president. Speaking to the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes, which gathered at Virginia Theological Seminary Feb. 22-25, Mr. Sullivan said the rate of increase will average 12-18 percent with clergy having a history of very low compensation receiving the largest percentage increase.

The decision is one of many the pension fund has made in response to its recent financial performance, according to Mr. Sullivan, who said benefits and reserves at the end of 2005 had reached \$7.6 billion, an all-time high. Unlike most of the large pension funds in the United States where liabilities far exceed assets, the Church Pension Group possesses sizeable reserves.

The board recently decided to share its good fortune with beneficiaries, Mr. Sullivan said, because the fund "is not in the business of amassing assets just for the sake of amassing assets." The changes include "meaningful enhancements" to benefits in Province 9 and overseas dioceses, a cost-of-living increase for the 27th year in a row, a Christmas benefit known as the 13th check, and a one-time supplement in January designed to offset higher energy costs.

The January check taught the staff two things about recipients, according to Mr. Sullivan. "One, our beneficiaries do not read their mail and, two that they are wonderful people." Despite enclosing an announcement about the impending 14th check with benefit payments last fall, the Church Pension Group received numerous phone calls when the supplementary payment began arriving in mailboxes.

"Most of the people were calling to give the money back, insisting that there had been a mistake," Mr. Sullivan said.

Episcopal News Service contributed to this report.

AROUND THE DIOCESES

Transition Begins

The Rt. Rev. David Bane retired as Bishop of **Southern Virginia** at the close of the festive Eucharist that ended the Feb. 10-12 annual council meeting in Hampton, Va. The service, attended by about 800 clergy, delegates to council and visitors, also commemorated the ministry of Absalom Jones, the Episcopal Church's first African-American priest, who was ordained in 1795.

In his final address to the council the day before, Bishop Bane reviewed some of the history of his nine-year ministry as ordinary, notable in the past three years for increased tension and discord between various factions in the diocese. Bishop Bane compared the beginning of the transition leading to the election of a new bishop to the moment that a high wire trapeze artist actually has to let go and fly through the air.

At the conclusion of the Eucharist, ecclesiastical authority passed to the standing committee, in accordance with the canons of the General Convention as well as diocesan canons. The Rev. Charles A. Joy, rector of St. Andrew's, Norfolk, and newly elected president of the standing committee, said he was optimistic that the diocese would be able to heal and reconcile.

Assisting Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Robert H. Johnson, the retired bishop of Western North Carolina, will serve as an assisting bishop until sometime in the summer, when another interim bishop is expected to be named. That bishop will be expected to work with the diocese during the remainder of the approximately three years it will take Southern Virginia to select a successor to Bishop Bane.

In other business, the council adopted amended versions of two resolutions that addressed votes on human sexuality by the 74th General Convention and the controversy within the Anglican Communion that ensued in 2003.

The approved language in one of the

(Continued on next page)

Southern Virginia

(Continued on next page)

resolutions said that the council "fully embraces the Windsor Report in letter and spirit." The other resolution said that councils of the Church have, and sometimes will, err but that our Lord Jesus Christ, present through the person of the Holy Spirit, can and will correct such error.

Three other resolutions, dealing with reconciliation, the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and anti-racism efforts, were also adopted, as were four canonical changes. New members of the standing committee and the ecclesiastical court were elected, and a balanced \$1.85 million budget was adopted for operations during the coming year.

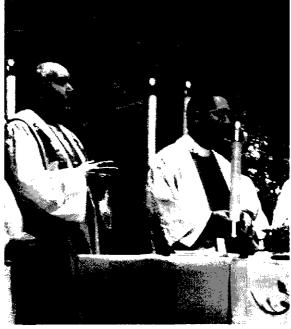
Carlyle Gravely

Diocesan Partnership

Delegates to the annual convention of the Diocese of San Diego, gathered Feb. 10-11 at St. Dunstan's, San Diego, asked the 75th General Convention to "confirm or deny" a recent decision by the Executive Council to approve membership in the Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice and learned about a new partnership with the Bishop of the Rio Grande that is designed to foster diocesan reconciliation over theological differences.

Convention met just days after clergy and parishioners of St. Anne's, Oceanside, voted to leave the Episcopal Church, the second congregation in the diocese to take such action in the weeks prior to the gathering. A core group of some 35 parishioners intend to remain in the Episcopal Church, according to diocesan officials, and convention seated and applauded delegates appointed by the Rt. Rev. James R. Mathes to represent the Oceanside parish community. Similarly, convention seated and applauded delegates and an interim pastor from Christ the King, Alpine, where a number of parishioners also recently departed.

In his first address to the diocese,



Bishop Steenson (left) celebrates the Eucharist with Bishop Mathes at San Diego's convention.

Bishop Mathes made it clear that he leaned toward the liberal side of theology and outlined three challenges: theological diversity, stewardship and formation. Speaking of the Windsor Report, he commended it as a "gift" and lauded its call for sacrifice and repentance from everyone.

The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey Steenson, Bishop of the Rio Grande, delivered the keynote address. His primary text was John 13:34, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one other." Taking this a step further, Bishop Steenson noted that Jesus' words give the world the right to judge the truth of Christianity by the way Christians live out, or fail to live out, this commandment. The two bishops have pledged to remain in conversation with each other and to be available to churches in each other's diocese who may find it helpful to interact with a bishop of a more conservative or progressive position.

Saturday morning began with a plenary session by the two bishops, titled "Building a New Understanding of our Church." The session focused on the Windsor report and how it might be

used as a tool for discussion as the church moves forward. The convention Eucharist immediately followed, and continued the themes of love, unity, and reconciliation.

The 2006 budget of approximately \$1.8 million was approved. Bishop Mathes made balancing the budget a high priority and doing so required cutting diocesan staff and reducing the amount contributed to the program portion of the General Convention budget.

Seven resolutions were considered, four of which were internal issues. A resolution requesting that the Episcopal Church's membership in the Religious Coalition for Reproductive

Choice be voted on by General Convention passed without discussion, after it was noted that the resolution called for a vote by a body larger than the Executive Council and not a debate on reproductive choice itself.

A resolution to "receive, accept, endorse and submit to the Windsor Report, to comply fully with its proposals and expectations," and for the General Convention to do the same generated considerable discussion before it passed. The other debated resolution requested the bishop to "appoint a theologically diverse commission" to study the practice of open communion. The resolution was passed with the friendly amendment to include both clergy and laity in the commission. An amendment to prohibit the practice of open communion (inviting everyone to receive the Sacrament, regardless of baptismal status) until the results of the commission were complete was hotly debated and eventually defeated.

More News, pages 38-45

Fostering the Gift of Leadership

How churches large and small are encouraging and developing the talents of their people

By Heather Newton

Churches are at all times in a state of both growth and release. Newcomers enter the church, lifelong members grow and develop, and the congregation responds to change. At the same time congregations lose loved ones, and members move in and out of various life stages. People bring needs, burdens, and concerns to the church in hope and faith that they will find a community of shoulders to lean on.

It is essential that churches develop mature, skilled, well-rounded lay leaders who will be prepared to respond to these varied needs in ways that are both dynamic and meaningful. Many Episco-

pal congregations may feel they do have the resources to commit to a formal, structured leadership development program. But congregations of any size can work to identify, encourage, and develop leaders from within the congregation itself. This process, informal though it may be,

nonetheless is producing new leaders in parishes across the United States who are contributing in meaningful ways to their host congregations.

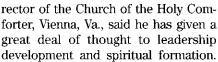
"Leadership is part development and part emergence," said the Rev. Canon David H. Roseberry, rector of Christ Church, Plano, Texas. "People have certain general, innate leadership characteristics that make them natural leaders, and people are also specifically called to service within the church."

The process of selecting people with inherent gifts that are honed in the actual service of the church follows the biblical model that Christ exemplified in calling his disciples, Canon Roseberry said.

"Christ called his disciples, trained them on the job for about 18 months, sent them out into the world, and then reflected on their ministry," he noted. "In our church, people feel called and emerge and we pour our lives into them. They find their place and begin their work and service, and we reflect

upon their efforts and the biblical principles of service and leadership."

Some parishes are beginning to develop more organized prospecifigrams cally designed to develop lay leaders. The Rev. Richard A. Lord,



He is in the process of launching a series of monthly meetings "Leadership called Community" that will focus on four areas: the theology of mission, leadership skill development, personal growth, and resource development. Fr. Lord said he developed the idea through his observations of the parish, and realized that one way to facilitate leadership

would be by bringing people into community for the purpose of growing as leaders.

"My experience has been that there are incredible resources in every congregation that will blossom if they are invited into opportunities to learn and grow," he said. "People want to be involved in something significant, but we have to provide an environment where they can be trained and tap in."

Other parishes have begun to work with external programs aimed at leadership development. At St. Dunstan's, San Diego, a group of people commissioned by the church have received lengthy training in Stephen Ministry, in which lay people learn to offer prayer and companionship to other Christians who are experiencing times of loneliness, depression, illness, pain, grief or other difficulties.

"St. Dunstan's vision for the congregation is for us to be disciples building Christ's Kingdom," said the Rev. Fred Bartlett, St. Dunstan's rector. "Leader-

> ship development is an integral part of this vision. Leadership has to do with training, and training has to do with spiritual formation and the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and so leaders are those who are using their gifts to build Christ's Kingdom here on earth."

> While encouraging lay volunteers is one

way parishes develop leadership, church administrators must also make decisions regarding when to hire additional staff and choosing the best person for any available position. Since most parishes operate with lean staffs, filling each position involves a carefully though-out

"People are brought onto staff in direct response to the question, 'What do we need to provide?" Canon Roseberry said. "If we are lacking in a certain area or ministry, we start from within to look for current staff members or for parish members to start filling the position in small ways, maybe even on a volunteer basis. Almost all of our leadership has emerged from the life of the church. The benefit to this is that they already have a sense of the vision, culture, and ministry of the parish."

Similarly, the Rev. Blair Pogue, rector of St. Matthew's, St. Paul, Minn., says that she hires staff when she needs someone who has more expertise in an area, or who can focus on a specific ministry more than a lay leader could. However, the point of hiring a staff person is to "find someone who can identify, recruit, and equip other leaders in their ministry area," she said. "I have told my staff that

(Continued on next page)



A prayer team at Christ Church, Plano, Texas.



John Dietman (left) and Mike Christenson prepare food for the homeless at the Dorothy Day Center in St. Paul, Minn.

The Gift of Leadership

(Continued from previous page)

their job is to 'give ministry away."

To find the best person for each position, Fr. Lord said that he advertises any open positions and networks with other clergy to locate strong candidates. Then he brings in each candidate to meet the congregation. He interviews each candidate alone, then is joined by parishioners who serve on his advisory committee, and together they interview the candidate. If the interview is for an ordained position, the candidate is invited to give a homily and celebrate the Eucharist at a mid-week evening service so that the congregation can get a sense of his or her presence.

Whatever hiring process is used, parish leadership cannot underestimate the role that the hand of God plays in identifying and selecting the future leadership of the church, says the Rev. Thomas A.

Janikowski, rector of Grace Church, Galesburg, Ill.

"Current church leaders should be all eyes and ears as they look to identify those who are being called," Fr. Janikowski said. "God doesn't gift everyone the same. Yet God's hand is upon each congregation, and God calls out peo-

ple into leadership roles. As the whole congregation grows, the leaders will emerge.

"Our church motto is 'Jehovah Jireh' — God will provide," Fr. Janikowski said. "And God always has. Any time we have had a need, there has always been someone there to fill it. You just have to keep your eyes open to see who God has placed in your midst and don't be afraid to let them lead."

Facilitating the spiritual formation of the entire congregation is also a critical part of a parish's growth. Many parishes offer a range of opportunities for lay people to connect to the congregation, and to develop skills that may serve them individually or that they may begin to use in leadership opportunities within the church. St. Matthew's Church has a range of formation opportunities, most of which are led by lay facilitators. Ms. Pogue said her vision is that as people plug into the various programs that the parish offers, they will find their niche and begin to develop as leaders.

"My goal is to have people work in gift-

based teams," she said. "We're not there yet, but I'd like to eventually have parishioners playing to their strengths, or gifts, both within the parish and without, and working on various projects in community with others. My goal is to get to the point where a new ministry leader is always being mentored by a senior ministry leader, and to where lay ministry leaders are aware of formation and leadership training events, not only in our church, but in the community as well."

Her emphasis on leadership development and spiritual formation is a function of Ms. Pogue's realization that developing leaders will be a critical component in the Episcopal Church's ability to flourish. In the past, leadership development has often been the byproduct of the spiritual development of individuals and the congregation, partly because of the strong emphasis most Episcopalians place on their community of faith.

"The way Episcopalians approach ministry

is more relationally than organizationally," agreed the Rev. Robert Fain, rector of Church of the Good Shepherd, Augusta, Ga. "This characteristic is probably reflected in the organic way most leaders have emerged from smaller or average-sized congregations."

Recently, however, many seminaries and church leaders have begun to be more intentional about developing spiritually solid leaders.

"The problem right now is that Episcopal seminaries are just realizing that they need to train ordained ministers and lay leaders to recruit, equip, and develop leaders," Ms. Pogue said. "This has not always been a part of the curriculum. The development of leaders is an area in which non-denominational Christian churches tend to excel, and we in the Episcopal Church have a lot to learn from them."

Matthew's Church photo

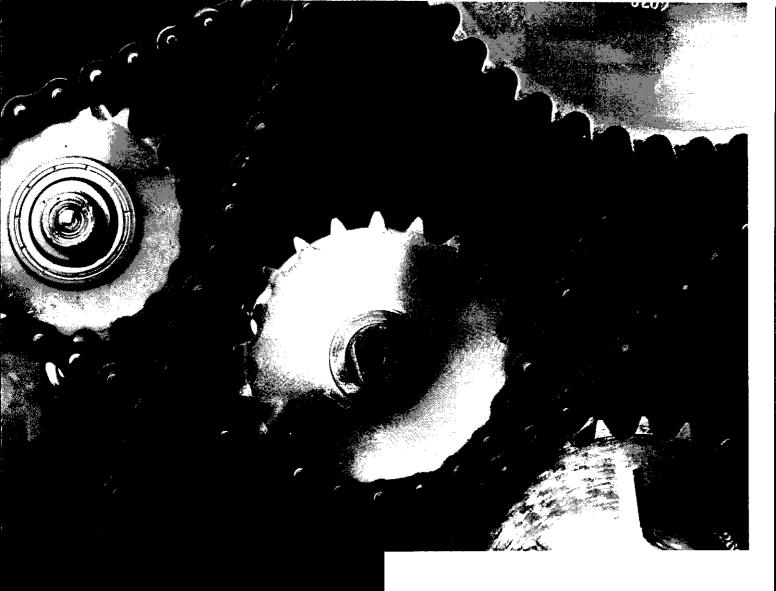
Senior Warden Ann Nerland of St.

Matthew's Church, St. Paul, Minn., pre-

sides at the annual parish meeting.

"The church has to be intentional about developing leaders," Fr. Lord said. "Leadership is not a job; it is how we carry out our spiritual growth. God gives every parish resources and our challenge is to access them and use them for his purposes — and this is the challenge of leadership. It is absolutely essential that leaders are people who are intentional about their spiritual journey."

Heather Newton, a freelance writer based in Arlington, Va., is a frequent contributor to The Living Church. "The way
Episcopalians
approach
ministry
is more
relationally
than
organizationally."



STEPS to successful Committee EADERSHIP

By Howard Hinterthuer

It often seems like a double portion of divine assistance would help if the work we are asked to do involves leading a parish committee or task force. The Living Church asked several parish leaders what strategies they use and qualities they seek to get the job done and maintain unity and high morale.

1. Carefully assemble your team.

The Rev. Ned F. Bowersox, rector of Church of the Good Shepherd, Corpus Christi, Texas, begins the committee appointment process by looking for "a person who has a strong sense of 'who' they are and 'whose' they are. I look for people who are willing to be equipped by God. I always begin with prayer."

Fr. Bowersox said he poses the question, "Will you come and be with us as we pray together and discern God's direction for this organization and this activity?" "We look at why we are gathering and how can we be a graceful assembly," he said. "That does not mean without conflict."

"When people start out on committees, we encourage them to ask, 'Are we clear about what we are here for, what we're going to do for one another, and what we expect of one another?" said the Rev. William Tully, rector If people feel they have been heard, not just indulged, they are willing to continue to be part of the process.

of St. Bartholomew's, New York City. "We strive to bring these questions to a more conscious level."

Fr. Tully said that while diversity of opinion and expertise can be valuable, "We identify upfront that a position of leadership is not the place to hammer out your differences with everybody. You work on that first and then become part of the team."

"For someone to be not only 'right' but also 'effective,' they have to build relationships and be here to see what's going on," said the Rev. Kevin Bean, vicar at St. Bartholomew's. "We look for certain skill sets, talents and gifts. That depends on the group for which we are looking for leaders. Because the vestry has fiduciary responsibilities, we look for people who have expertise in fundraising, the law, and process skills. The parish council requires members who have a more direct connection to the hands-on, programmatic side of the church.

"It isn't just an individual's acquired skills and talents," he said. "Leadership in many cases is based on some of the birthright gifts you have been given: your open heart, your compassionate caring spirit, your listening ear, your sense of humor. Those things don't come from going to college."

All three priests advocate for recruiting expertise, particularly with regard to tasks requiring professional or technical skills. Talented people are repositories of information and they tend to know the right questions to ask.

That's also the position taken by the Rev. Doug Earle, rector of St. Paul's, San Antonio, Texas, who said his parish has changed the way they looked at vestry and leadership committees.

"Previously our key vestry leadership had been people who are interested and had been around for awhile. They possessed institutional memory," he noted. "But we needed some people with expertise in finance and budget preparation, so we recruited people with those skills. It's allowed people to offer the gifts and talents they have most effectively."

2. Establish a general overview of the issues.

Issuing a formal mandate to a committee or leaders can be helpful, depending upon the nature of the task.

"We asked our newly recruited

vestry members to use their expertise to upgrade our financial system and to see if our small endowment is managed properly. There were some pretty clear outcomes we wanted to see," Fr. Earle said. "With other committees, it's more open-ended. With the Christian Education Committee we say, 'You tell us what you want and what you want us to do."

Fr. Bowersox sees value in identifying a clear direction. "If you're aiming for nothing, you're going to hit it," he said. He said that if the issue or key question isn't readily apparent, the group should work to discover the correct question during the committee process.

3. Determine which principles apply.

What are the standards by which any parish activity is measured? What are the things that should not be compromised? Is your goal to include everyone?

Fr. Bowersox cited two guiding principles dear to his parish. The first is the prime directive, "To know Christ and to make him known." The second is the church's vision statement: "We are reclaiming our vision as a missionary people."

Fr. Bean suggested keeping in mind the goal "Do whatever you do to help connect to the wider life of the church."

4. Encourage full participation.

Team members should give their ideas and opinions to the group, then let go of them. The goal isn't to prevail and win the debate; it is to find a path everyone can walk down. Listen to each member, particularly with regard to how they feel about the issues, then strive to find consensus.

The more balanced the members' participation, the happier each member will be with the outcome. Team members have the responsibility to question the credibility of facts and information, but they should avoid challenging the expressed feelings of other members. Leaders should draw others into the discussion because they need to hear from everyone.

"It's important to put out the information ahead of the decision," Fr. Bowersox said. "It's critical in the process of decision-making."

Timing can sometimes be an issue in decision-making, but it's important not to rush things. "Some things are dictated by the calendar. For example, you know you have to have the budget ready for the annual meeting," Fr. Earle said. "But there's also that moment of *kairos* — the opportune moment — when the Spirit says, 'Now, things have come together, people are in place, you have the right mix.'

"Getting people to buy in intellectually isn't always enough," Fr. Earle added. "They have to buy in emotionally as well. That can take time."

f 5. Everyone pulls in the same direction.

Getting everyone on board and working in unison to carry forward the plan can be a challenge. When it comes to decision-making, does the majority rule, or is consensus always necessary?

"I strive for consensus but I don't always get it," Fr. Bowersox said. "I find it is important to convey a sense that you are willing to listen to people who don't agree with the decision. If people feel they've been heard, not just indulged, they are then willing to continue to be part of the process."

"We certainly do not put committees in the straitjacket of having to act only by unanimity or so-called consensus, but we try not to overly rely on the system of voting or division of the house," Fr. Tully said. "You don't want people to feel as if they are in the losing position all the time. If consensus is something broader than unanimity, then maybe we do work by consensus, but I'm very careful about this word because in some church circles it means unanimity — that you don't vote until you have everybody on board.

"When we take a vote, the majority rules," he continued. "But the lore of the parish is that we would never proceed on a big decision on a slim margin. We are likely to pull back until there is a greater degree of comfort."

Fr. Earle feels it is important to keep a faithful dialogue with people. "If they have opportunities to respond and say what's on their mind, they are more likely to be pleased with the decisions that are made." he said.

6. Make adjustments as necessary.

When a plan isn't working, consider applying the same steps of consultation to formulate a new plan. Perhaps an additional piece of information is all that is needed, or a key question can be restated. Often a minor modification will make a world of difference.

"If it's something that's been going on for a long time but doesn't seem to be working we have a group do an assessment," Fr. Bean said. At that point, parish leaders ask serious questions, including:

- Does the ministry help people grow in the faith?
- Is it growing in numbers?
- Is it contributing to a vital, healthy church?
- Is it building membership?
- Does it build greater sustainability?

"If we're not somehow able to find a good way to create a best practice and it's just sort of limping along, then we do make a decision to end something, let it lie fallow, or direct resources at it," Fr. Bean said. "Sometimes we let things die a natural death. That can be a good thing."

Fr. Earle feels it's a mistake to give up too quickly on programs.

"We might try a program once, a program on contemplative prayer for example, and people say, 'Nobody came. We don't want to do that again,' rather than recognizing we've got a program that may need three or four years to seep in. Too often we don't let things take time to simmer."

Howard Hinterthuer is director of client services for Cedarburg, Wis.-based Groth Design Group (www.gdg-architects.com).

Qualities of Leaders

In 2004, Fr. Tully, Fr. Bean, and others at St. Bartholomew's, New York, in the process of hosting a lay leadership conference, developed a compendium of leadership qualities (below) that were later discussed more fully in focus groups. "When you sign on to do a task or take a leadership responsibility, we say this is what we promise to do for you," Fr. Tully said.

Leaders stand united: When we come into leadership, we do so because we buy into the general direction that the church has already established. We agree to engage with other leaders in an exchange of ideas and recognize that not everyone will agree. Our commitment certainly earns us the right to influence or question that direction as time goes on, but broadly speaking leaders help arrive at the working consensus and then support it.

Leaders act to enable others: Leaders recognize that our position is not about *us* – it is about an opportunity to grow by serving others. Neither the leading and decision-making processes nor the positions or committees themselves will fill our personal spiritual needs.

Leaders are models of stewardship: The decision to support and give to the church is absolutely fundamental. Leaders exercise thoughtful, planned stewardship and commit to give generously, in proportion to our own resources.

Leaders practice discretion: Leaders are privy to information and issues that are sometimes sensitive. Our ability to handle sensitive areas in a way that facilitates, rather than impedes, forward action is critical.

Leaders know the church's own history and best practices: St. Bart's has its own story, and learning it is a key to understanding how we have grown and how we rely on certain assumptions until they are proven wanting. Leaders get curious about that story and are resources for sharing it with others.

Leaders embrace creativity and risk: Leaders think creatively about the way things are and the way they could be. We set clear standards for success and failure, and are willing to take informed risks that stretch us as a church to reach ever greater levels of faithful success.

Leaders care for each other: Leaders build a climate of mutual respect and caring that can set a tone for the entire parish. We separate the people from the issues and agree to accept, support, and honor each other in the face of disagreement or the occasional flopped idea.

Leaders cultivate successors: Jesus chose and commissioned followers so that they in turn would create more leaders. We have a responsibility to cultivate others and to unleash their leadership talents. Leaders build successors who can carry on their role as stewards and servants of the community.



Jean Graf

Formation and Friendships Youth Group Experiences to Last a Lifetime

By Madeleine Lambert

"Your church is so different."

"Your church is so different." These words stick in my head. After my friend Liz visited the Episcopal church where my father is the rector, she bombarded me with the differences between St. Boniface and the church she had been attending with her parents. Liz had grown up pushed into this faith, as many children have been. But she chose to come with me after a Saturday night sleepover in middle school. She continued to tell me her first impressions after our trip to Sunday school that morning.

"You guys have so much fun," she said. "I never thought church school could be fun. Maybe not everyone always wants to be there, but they're not afraid to be there. No one feels stupid or 'uncool' because they're at church. When you guys pray, you pray. Everyone bows their heads and closes their eyes."

This ritual of praying at the end of Sunday school didn't shock me, as I'm sure it wouldn't shock a lot of people. But Liz was surprised that the people I shared this Christian education with actually believed and felt truly respectful of it.

Like I said, it didn't shock me. But I think it shocked a lot of my school friends. Middle school was such a formative time. Adolescence is so frightening for some people. Everything you do has such consequences, and I think it really becomes hard to do things without worrying about what others think. That's why it was hard for her to believe that these kids, my friends, could really feel comfortable enough to pray and be proud of it, rather than worrying about what other people would think.

Thinking back to Liz's words, I realize that my church really was different. I visited other churches with my school friends when they went, but they didn't seem to stick with it. Many of my friends fell away from any kind of organized faith. Liz ended up joining my youth group, coming every Sunday and accompanying the group on retreats, projects, and our pilgrimage to Ireland.

We could be ourselves. That was a huge hurdle to overcome as young adolescents.

It's hard for me to believe how long ago all of that was, but those friendships I made in Sunday school were lasting ones. The group had formed unbreakable ties. I think this was really important. To establish this leadership and ministry within the youth at St. Boniface, fostering strong friendships between group members was essential. We weren't afraid of each other, or of what each of us thought of the other. We could be ourselves. That was a huge hurdle to overcome as young adolescents.

The education I received helped to foster a stronger youth ministry. When I was 12 years old, St. Boniface started using a new Christian education curriculum that included Rite-13 (designed for 12 and 13 year olds) and Journey to Adulthood (J2A). This new education approach was a key factor in facilitating leadership in our youth group. It encouraged interactive learning, rather than lessons (or even lectures) from a Sunday school teacher. Instead of memorizing Bible stories, we acted them out; instead of listening to a teacher talk all hour, we played games. In the process, we became more aware of each other. We all became more confident in our roles in the church, and more confident in our relationships within the group.

The many Sundays we spent together helped to bring us closer, but retreats and activities solidified the relationships we shared. Outings to bowling alleys and ski hills took place monthly, sometimes replacing weekend activities with school friends. Of course, we were always welcome to bring our school friends, but that didn't always happen. The people in the youth group were our friends. In my mind, these retreats, outings, and movie nights were the most important way to bring us together. They helped us to see each

other outside of the realm of church, and more as confidantes.

The culmination of this religious education was a pilgrimage to Ireland in my freshman year of high school. When we first heard of this trip, we all thought it would be just that: a trip, a vacation. The 12 of us participating soon learned a pilgrimage is much more than a vacation. During the 12 days of the pilgrimage we cooked our own meals, did our laundry in a stream outside our retreat house, and climbed a mountain that sprawled across the backyard of the cottage in Glendalough where we were staying. We did all of this together and found strength in God and each other in doing so. Sure, we had good times and bad, but we had a blast learning about the religious history of the country as we explored it. We swam underneath waterfalls, climbed mountains, and made promises to each other on an ancient cross. The whole pilgrimage was an amazing experience, and strengthened long and lasting friendships.

As a junior in college, I look back on this trip with fondest memories, thinking about these people who are still so close to my heart. We had no idea what we were getting into some six years ago on our J2A pilgrimage. But as it stands unparalleled by any other experience thus far, these spiritual bonds and beliefs formed by my pilgrimage and youth group activities will last a lifetime.

Madeleine Lambert is an undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a member of St. Boniface Church, Mequon, Wis.



Can the Majority Find Its Voice?

Our Church, like our country, is deeply divided. And, again, like our country, much of the Church's public debate is defined by the extremes. Where is the middle? Why are the moderates so silent in this debate?

Immediately after General Convention 2003, I reacted with anger and outrage. How could we fly in the face of the rest of the Anglican Communion? How could we postpone dealing with gay unions and not postpone the confirmation as bishop of a gay man openly living in a same-sex relationship? How could we put the entire Anglican Communion at risk?

I began to experience a deep sense of loss and grief. Where would I go? If we were not to be members of the Anglican Communion, what *would* we be? I looked forward to the Windsor Report, and then to the Primates' meeting, and then to the Anglican Consultative Council meeting. But there was no magical response, no sudden miracle to heal us, to reunite us. Instead there was a hardening of positions, and an increasing polarization that was evident on the email lists and the ubiquitous internet blogs.

As I slowly recovered from my own grief and anxiety, I began to look for ways forward. Then I realized that the middle, the moderates, were silent. We would talk with each other privately, and send private emails back and forth, but we said little publicly. Why?

Let me suggest that we are a Church (and a country) still experiencing the consequences of the McCarthy era. We have adopted a culture of advocacy, of taking sides and arguing our side for all we're worth. We've also learned to demonize our opponents. Unfortunately, what starts as a tactic ends up becoming a way of life. If you agree with me, you're OK. If you disagree, then you're so wrong that if you persist, you're actually evil.

This demonization of an opponent is a form of McCarthyism that is used by both the right and the left. Demonizing your opponent is not a Christian family value. There's simply too much in scripture about loving our enemies for us to pretend that demonizing is OK. In fact, demonization is a tactic of terrorists. Ter-

rorism wins not when it convinces you of its viewpoint but when it convinces you to be silent. The fear of being attacked convinces us to shut up.

As I began to explore a moderate position, one that sees some good in everyone and some truth in more than one position,

I found myself the target of attacks from both sides. McCarthyism is not so much a political viewpoint as a tactic. I struggled with that reality. I dropped out of some internet lists, and I became quiet on others. I had been successfully terrorized.

I don't think I am unique. There are many of us who have been effectively silenced. But terrorism, whatever its name, only wins when we give in to it. It's time to stand up and stake our position.

I believe that many of us, dare I say the majority, want to find a way both to remain Anglicans and to be a loving Church family to everyone. Is it time to give up a position of win/lose (advocacy) and instead claim a position of win/win (reconciliation)? There must be a way forward for our Church, a way that keeps us together and doing the Lord's work. When we spend all our energy sniping at each other, attacking each other, then only the devil wins.

Maybe it's time for the silent majority to stand up to the bullies of both the right and the left, and speak up for ourselves. Maybe it's time for us to seek a middle way, the way of reconciliation. A way of reconciliation could mean learning to focus on real people and relationships, learning to tolerate strong differences of opinion, learning to live with the historic Anglican understanding that final truth can only be realized after death, and learning to live in prayer for each other. Not a prayer that "they" will be convinced, but rather a prayer that "we" will learn to walk a mile (or more) in "their" shoes and come to love them as Christ already does.

Will you join me? Will you reclaim your voice?

The Rev. Patrick Ormos is rector of St. Andrew's Church, Valparaiso, Ind.

Did You Know...

Sixty percent of Britons surveyed said a church makes their neighborhood a better place to live.

Quote of the Week
The Rt. Rev. James Stanton,
Bishop of Dallas, in a
meditation shared with his
diocese's executive council:
"The fact is that the
Episcopal Church is today
merely a vapor floating
across the ecclesiastical
landscape."

The Freedom to Obey

Scholar and author Jaroslav Pelikan observed that "it has often been noted that an obedience that is open to the future should be defined as supreme activity, not passivity."

This is borne out in the nature of Mary's responses to the angel's proclamation at the Annunciation, which we observe this week. She expresses wonder, gratitude, and ultimately exultation in the Magnificat.

Clearly, then, Mary's title "Handmaid of the Lord" is far deeper and more complex than we may often realize. Her obedience was seen by the fourth century theologian Gregory of Nyssa — whose own feast day is marked some two weeks before the Annunciation — as a model of human freedom lived fully. He saw in the Incarnation God's supreme respect for human freedom and integrity, for this all-important divine act was carried out only when Mary willingly gave her assent.

In our society, it is a common perception that obedience is a sign of weakness, of some freedom that has been lost or denied us. But defining freedom as permissiveness and anarchy is, in fact, a very narrow concept. Mary courageously used her free will to embrace a far deeper and infinite freedom — the freedom that comes through obedience to God. Her active assertion to participate in the incarnation made her a partner with God, and this is what truly makes her "full of grace."

We pray that Mary's example of being open to God's invitation and responding in joyful obedience will be an inspiration throughout the Church, in this season and in the months ahead.

Taking the Lead

Good stewardship means using our talents and gifts as God intended. While this certainly applies to our individual response to God's call, communities of faith also must bear this in mind. Those parishes that help their members make the best use of their skills to God's glory often enjoy increased participation in all aspects of the community's life. Parishes of all sizes and circumstances can strive to nurture and support their members as they grow from observers to participants to leaders.

This Parish Administration Issue is focused on steps and strategies that parishes can take to identify and encourage leaders to shape the life of the community, whether in a paid staff position or as a volunteer. We are grateful to the church leaders from around the country who shared their experiences through these articles. We are confident that our readers will find their insights valuable.

We publish these special issues of The Living Church four times each year. Subscribers will find all our regular features and columns, plus parish-focused articles and advertising. We believe that the topics related to administration are so vital to the health and future of the Church that we send these issues quarterly at no cost to clergy who do not subscribe to the magazine, as well as to any members of the national Executive Council who are non-subscribers. Our hope is that they will recognize the value of these articles and opinion pieces and choose to receive the magazine weekly.

We hope this issue will inspire more readers to share their own leadership development success stories with us for publication in the future. Clearly, then, Mary's title
"Handmaid of the Lord"
is far deeper and
more complex than we
may often realize.



Let Teen Faith Shine

Give Confirmands Opportunities to Live What They Believe

By Sherry Stiteler

There are many factors that contribute to providing an excellent youth program, but sheer mass seems paramount. Bigger is generally guaranteed to be better. This includes having more youth participation in education and worship, larger parish size, more dedicated but "cool" adults, and more funding set aside for this type of ministry.

We don't have critical mass in any of these areas within our church, so we have struggled to find ways to spark enthusiasm among the youth. We want good things for our children. We try to supply them with a good church school program including fun fellowship activities, but somewhere during the middle school years, our efforts with keeping young people involved seem to fall apart.

We invite very young children to worship with us, but there is a subtle, underlying attitude that children are better not seen and not heard — why can't they just stay in church school? The angst-filled teenage years, when our youth need us the most but push us away, are when we allow church to be an optional activity in their overcrowded, overburdened schedules. We don't give them a choice about attending school during the week, but they are allowed to choose not to be at church on Sunday.

Contending with a teenager can be like petting a porcupine best to just leave it alone. As a result, the good things we want for our youth are sacrificed in order to maintain an uneasy peace. Who wants to fight with the kids week after week to do the right thing for themselves when we can't concretely prove to them that their lack of participation is the wrong thing?

In our church, we confirm children as they reach the ninth grade. Parents sincerely desire that their children be confirmed. Sometimes this decision is not made jointly with the young people, but instead is forced upon them. Confirmation becomes a landmark religious event for the parents, a way to prove that they have done all they should do in providing their children with the right tools for leading productive and happy Christian lives. They have done their duty, exposing their children to God and initiating them into church membership. Confirmation simply becomes a religious achievement for parents to catalog with their children's curriculum vitae.

But what is the meaning for the young confirmands? Unfortunately, they may view confirmation as a commencement exercise graduation away from, rather than into, the Church. The young people have agreed to become members as long as they are no longer obligated to attend church school, or church.

In 2004 our church decided to change our approach to the whole confirmation process. We determined that young adults, in stepping up and making their public acceptance of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, were requesting visibility as new members of our church and consenting to all the demands of membership. The rector gave them the usual course of study: an overview of the Bible, the Reformation and Church history, the sacraments, liturgy, catechism, and the creeds. While all this is necessary for their understanding, it isn't very exciting.

What is exciting is learning to live one's faith. Walking the walk can lead to talking the talk. So we expanded confirmation class by adding an experiential learning component. The confirmation class attended services together at our own church, at a "high" Episcopal church in Philadelphia, at a free-form Baptist church, and at a synagogue. As

Each experience had merit, but each became powerful only after the confirmands wrote about what the experience meant to them. a group, we led an Evening Prayer service, read at Stations of the Cross and attended all services and activities during Holy Week. We listened to the faith stories of members of the congregation. We did service work inside and outside of our parish. worked with the church school, and implemented fellowship activities for the congregation.

The young people wore red name tags proclaiming them as confirmands and all their activities were listed in the bulletin each week to enable congregants to engage them in conversation about what they had learned. These young people were no longer silent or invisible.

Reflection sheets were key tools in providing illumination for the confirmands. Each experience had merit, but each became powerful only after the confirmands wrote about what the experience meant to them. The reflection sheets were akin to a series of snapshots revealing the impact of ministry on and through each participant, and these possibly can serve as blueprints as they continue along their spiritual journey and actively participate in ministry.

Jesus Christ promised that whoever follows him will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life. Through confirmation, we ask young people to be beacons, actively shining their good works before others for the glory of God. Treating young people who receive the sacrament of confirmation as valuable and vocal new members of the body of Christ has the power to light up their lives, making them visible, and providing a bright future for our Church.

Sherry Stiteler is a member of St. John's, Concord, Concordville, Pa.

The Reader's Viewpoint article does not necessarily represent the editorial opinion of THE LWING CHURCH or its board of directors.

Force for Unity

We suppose that the most avid readers of TLC consider themselves traditionalists. We believe that we belong in that company. Therefore we were perplexed about your comments concerning Bishop Parsley in your Feb. 19 edi-

torial. We think that TLC is mistaken in identifying support for traditional positions with support for all the activities and operations of particular organizations within a diocese. In particular situations, some advocacy organizations can help or can hurt the cause of unity.

As parents of a recent Sewanee graduate, we do know this: Bishop Parsley has been a force for unity in that very diverse situation in his role



as chancellor. He ensured that the search for a new seminary dean kept in mind the various viewpoints in our Church. In his address to the undergraduates at that institution, he displayed the kind of humor, intellectual strength, and integrity that obviously won the respect of that very demanding (possibly fussy) age group. These are all characteristics important for a Presiding Bishop.

Bruce and Gillian Steinhauer Memphis, Tenn.

In your editorial, "Nominees Much the Same," you express dissatisfaction with the slate of nominees put forth for Presiding Bishop. That's certainly your prerogative. What you failed to do was identify bishops who meet your criteria of "... a bishop known to be a reconciler" and one who has "... at least been pastoral toward Anglo-Catholics and evangelicals."

Since you have taken such a strong stand against, you ought to at least be willing to name who you could be for. One qualification: The person or persons you name must be committed to remaining in the Episcopal Church. Speak, Living Church, for your servant is listening.

(The Rt. Rev.) Sanford Z. K. Hampton Bishop Suffragan of Minnesota (resigned) Assistant Bishop of Olympia (ret.)

Your editorial "Nominees Much the Same" leads me to believe you think the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop could have come up with a better slate. You had hoped there would be nominees more representative of "the Anglo-Catholic perspective" within the Episcopal Church and also "known to be skilled" as reconcilers.

This makes me curious as to the nominees you would have suggested had you been a member of the Joint Com-

(Continued on next page)

Many people have already taken to the lifeboats, but this ship is so sure of its invincibility.

(Continued from previous page)

mittee. Could you suggest a slate of four nominees who are representative of the Anglo-Catholic perspective, skilled at reconciliation, and also in compliance with the canonical requirements for election as Presiding Bishop? I'd like to know who they are.

(The Rev.) Richard J. Anderson Church of the Holy Innocents Corte Madera, Calif.

The Episcopal Church at this point in its history can be likened to the Titanic, with a captain and crew so confident that they are in the vanguard of history, leading the Church into an exciting future. There are those who are warning of danger ahead, but they are being regarded as excess baggage, nothing but a hindrance to progress. Many people have already taken to the lifeboats, but this ship is so sure of its invincibility. Warnings are constantly being given of possible shipwreck ahead if the present course is maintained, but this ship is sure that it's unsinkable.

Now we have four nominees for the role of captain, all of whom will take us full steam ahead toward the icebergs. Shame on the Nominating Committee, and God help the Church.

> (The Rev. Canon) Brian C. Hobden St. James' Episcopal Church Mesilla Park, N.M.

Feeling Good

Methinks Caroline Kramer ["Real Repentance," TLC, Jan. 22] is looking to sell a few flagella! Of course I go to church to feel good. I want forgiveness and I know I can get it. It's contained in what's known as the Good News. If I don't hear about it, I let my priest know. I need it. I want it. And, yes, I feel good receiving it!

> Allan Taylor St. David's Church South Yarmouth, Mass.

Correction: The article "Teaching Stewardship to Children" [TLC, March 5] incorrectly referenced the web address for the Episcopal Church's online stewardship resources. The correct address is: www.episcopalchurch.org/stewardship

Having it Both Ways

I am scandalized that Bishop Duncan would permit the appointment of his diocesan chancellor as executive officer of the Anglican Mission in America (AMiA) [TLC, Feb. 12]. It is my understanding that AMiA is a breakaway group from ECUSA and that Mr. Devlin's superior would be Bishop Charles E. Murphy, who was illegally consecrated to the episcopate. I don't see how one can have it both ways.

> (The Rev.) R. Michael Darrow Denver, Colo.

Distinguished Service

Many chaplains in my episcopacy, and devoted readers of The Living Church, have complained to me about a lack of any refer-

ence to the military service in reporting the death of the Rt. Rev. Charles L. Burgreen, third Bishop of the Armed Forces [TLC, Feb. 12]. I share their dismay. Indeed. Bishop Burgreen's service as an army chaplain, some of it in combat, distinguishes him greatly and we



Bishop Burgreen

would be monumentally remiss if this matter of record was not corrected.

> (The Rt. Rev.) George E. Packard Bishop Suffragan for Chaplaincies New York, N.Y.

Editor's Note: Bishop Burgreen served as a chaplain in the U.S. Army from 1951 until his retirement with the rank of Colonel in 1973.

Accuracy Counts

Many thanks to Fr. Timothy Schenck [TLC, Jan. 29] for reminding us about the importance of a correctly placed apostrophe, as in All Saints'. I have been endeavoring for years to get our local newspaper staff to understand the difference between singular possessive and plural possessive as in Veterans' Day and Presidents' Day.

> (The Rev.) Donald H. Langlois Chandler, Ariz.

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WHY

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By C. William Westerfield

n their book Leadership Challenge, James Kouzes and Barry Posner defined leadership as "the art of mobilizing others to want to struggle for shared aspirations." By our baptism, we are marked as Christ's own; called to seek and serve Christ in all persons; to proclaim the good news of the risen Christ. These are our shared aspirations. Feed the hungry. House the homeless. Care for the sick. Pray for ourselves, our neighbors and the

Once we answer the Church's "Help Wanted" ads, only then does the true training, on the job, start. Life experiences and seminary training give a foundation to our clergy, just as life experiences and other professional

According to *Volunteer Review*Management, the current value of every hour donated is \$17.55.

skills help the laity. However once a person gets hired as an associate rector, or accepts the role of stewardship coordinator, organist, or soup kitchen coordinator, then the real training for the leadership position starts. It is a lifelong journey.

Many parishes have, for quite a while, budgeted professional development funds for clergy and paid lay staff. However, we all recognize that those having paid employment positions in the Church are not the only ones in positions of leadership.

Dr. John Haskin, a psychologist with Management and Behavior Consultants in Michigan, regularly works with many Christian denominations across the theological and political spectrum. "One of the true marks of the health of a congregation is how it functions in the absence of ordained staff or other paid staff positions," he said. "In this regard, leadership is the responsibility of every member of the congregation."

One thing that every parish and diocese must understand is that the only difference between paid leaders and volunteer leaders is a W-2. The first and most important qualification to hold a leadership position in the Church is simply to be baptized. We are all called to live out our baptism by discerning our own call to leadership. We've long recognized that there are four orders of ministry in the Church, and thus four areas of leadership. The fulfillment of our vision cannot be met if any one of these pieces is missing, and no one piece is more or less important than another.

According to research published in

January in *Volunteer Review Management*, the current market fiscal value of every hour donated by volunteers is \$17.55. Consider the fiscal savings that are being provided by volunteer leaders in the parish simply by the number

of volunteer hours, and the true reinvestment that we're making in parishioners as individuals, in our parishes, and ultimately in the national Church is much better understood.

We've come to realize that we cannot afford not to provide professional development for clergy in the church. But we also cannot afford not to provide professional development to those in volunteer leadership positions in parishes, dioceses and the national Church. By design, at every level of church governance, there are equal lay and clerical voices, from parish vestries to the General Conven-

(Continued on next page)



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Those Marked as Christ's Own

(Continued from previous page)

tion. The value of professional development for laity and other volunteers is the same as for clergy and other paid staff.

It is also critical to recognize that the need for leadership development exists in parishes of all sizes, as soon as two people are put together. It doesn't matter if the congregation is a pastoral-, family-, or program-sized community. Training needs to be on every parish's radar.

The next question often is where to

begin. A good first step, according to the Rev. Marilyn Dressel, is to understand the point from which everyone is starting. Now retired, Ms. Dressel served small parishes in the dioceses of Michigan and Eastern Michigan. When she was in active ministry she found the Myers-Briggs Personality Inventory (MBPI) particularly valuable.

"The MBPI gives us, individually and collectively, an understanding of how we prefer to gather and process information and what we prefer to do with the resulting knowledge," Ms. Dressel said.

Leaders from the Pews

Like many clergy, Ms. Dressel recognizes that the paid staff is only one part of the leadership of the parish.

"By sheer numbers, the majority of leaders in any parish come from the pews," she said. "These are people who worship as a community every Sunday, people who go to Cursillo weekends and other experiences together where spiritual formation can occur concurrently with leadership skill development. They come back re-energized to help lead, which is what we're all called to do."

David Jette, president of the Vergers' Guild of the Episcopal Church, cites the fact that most vergers serve as volunteers, often serving as lay liturgical assistants attending to a host of worship details, usually behind the scenes.

"Considering the contribution these volunteers make to the worship of our church, it seems highly appropriate for parishes to help support their continuing education in as many ways as possible," Mr. Jette said.

By our baptism, we are called to be leaders. It isn't a question of whether we will lead. The question is how we will lead and what tools we are going to give ourselves and each other in order to do so.

C. William Westerfield is principal of TIA Group, Traverse City, Mich.



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BOOKS

(Continued from page 17)

consists of Merton's advice on how to be a good monk, filtered through the lens of John Cassian, whose own writings in the fourth century introduced the wisdom of the Eastern Church, as lived by the Desert Fathers, to western monastic communities.

Cassian left his monastery in Jerusalem to journey to Egypt and lived a total of 14 years in and around Scete, absorbing and putting into practice the wisdom and methods of the great Desert Fathers. Yet instead of returning to Jerusalem he ended up in France, where his teaching and writing influenced the development of



a more communally centered monastic life and where his stature was so great that Benedict's Rule advised the reading of Cassian in all his monasteries.

Merton, an intellectual and linguist, was such a prolific reader and writer that, almost single-hand-

edly, he is responsible for a renewal and expansion of monastic spirituality. He not only reached back into the richness of the Christian mystical tradition, but he ventured deeply into the wisdom of Eastern mysticism as well.

The virtues of communal life as set forth for monks and based upon the gospel could well be emulated in our day. At a time of great upheaval within the Episcopal Church and the wider Anglican Communion, Merton and Cassian have something vital to teach us about living life in community, in communion with God and one another.

Mary Ann Benavides Milwaukee, Wis.

Although THE LIVING CHURCH reviews and recommends books, we have no part in the distribution or sale of books, or recordings. Most books here reviewed can be purchased from an Episcopal Bookseller, from a commercial bookstore, from online stores such as Amazon.com, or directly from the publishers through their individ-

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Bishop of New York Condemns English Vote to Divest

The Bishop of New York, the Rt. Rev. Mark Sisk, has rebuked the General Synod of the Church of England for its decision to divest from companies whose products are used by the Israeli government in the West Bank and Gaza.

While sympathizing with synod's desire to support the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. Bishop Sisk said he was "disappointed" by synod's "inadequate response to the enormous, and increasingly, complex situation in the Middle East."

On Feb. 6, synod endorsed a private members motion calling for a "morally responsible investment in the Palestinian occupied territories and, in particular, to disinvest from companies profiting from the illegal occupation, such as Caterpillar, Inc., until they change their policies."

Reaction to the vote from Britain's Jewish community and Church leaders was swift. The Chief Rabbi of Britain, Sir Jonathan Sacks, said it will reduce the Church's ability to act as a force for peace between Israel and the

"...as a tactic it is simplistic and fails to recognize the plight of the ordinary Israeli as well."

- Bishop Sisk on divestment

Palestinians "for as long as the decision remains in force." Former Archbishop of Canterbury George Carey said it was a "most regrettable and one-sided statement" and that its passage made him "ashamed to be an Anglican."

In his Feb. 9 statement, Bishop Sisk said he agreed with Lord Carey's concerns that the synod vote was onesided. Bishop Sisk said he endorsed a of positive engagement policy between Israel and the Palestinians.

The international community must "bring pressure to bear on all parties to find a just and lasting peace" in the region, Bishop Sisk said. "However, I disagree with those who propose divestment as a method to achieve this end because though it does have the good effect of focusing attention on the plight of ordinary Palestinians, as a tactic it is simplistic and fails to recognize the plight of the ordinary Israeli as well. What is called for is constructive engagement, not disinvestment."

Archbishop Rowan Williams clarified the Church of England's position when he addressed Anglican delegates to the World Council of Churches assembly Feb. 17, saying the General Synod did not vote to disinvest.

"Synod in fact voted to continue a process it has begun with one or two particular companies of testing what they are doing against existing ethical guidelines," he said. "The question the Church of England had to face was whether it was willing to profit from activities from which it has moral questions."

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Sudan Won't Break Ties with Episcopal Church

Lambeth Palace has applauded the Episcopal Church of the Sudan's (ECS) decision not to break with the Episcopal Church in protest to the actions of the 74th General Convention on human sexuality. At a recent meeting of the Provincial Synod, the Sudanese Church condemned recent innovations to Church teaching, but decided to continue in prayerful dialogue and Eucharistic fellowship.

The Sudanese General Synod's statement was "a helpful response to the issues facing the Communion today," the Rev. Jonathan Jennings, Lambeth Palace press officer, told The Living Church.

Long unable to meet due to the nation's civil war, the Jan. 23-29 session of synod was the first full gathering of the Sudanese Church since the election of Bishop V. Gene Robinson in 2003. Last July the Sudanese House of Bishops issued a pastoral statement on human sexuality critical of the Episcopal Church, but the Rev. Enock Tombe, provincial secretary of the ECS, told TLC the question of relations with the Episcopal Church could only be decided by synod.

Synod said it strongly opposed the Episcopal Church's consecration of a "practicing homosexual as bishop" and in permitting "the blessing of same-sex relationships." The

(Continued on next page)

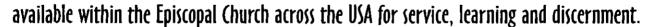


Constance Wilson/Seabury-Western photo

The Very Rev. Gary Hall, dean of Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, delivered his inaugural lecture as professor of Anglican Studies Feb. 16. In his talk titled "The Wild Free Ways of Wit and Art: A Piety for the Present Moment," Dean Hall reflected on how a Church obsessed with its own processes might learn from those both within and without its walls. Quoting from "The Figure Makes a Poem," an early 20th century essay by Robert Frost, Dean Hall advocated for a wild and free way of learning more familiar to artists than scholars.

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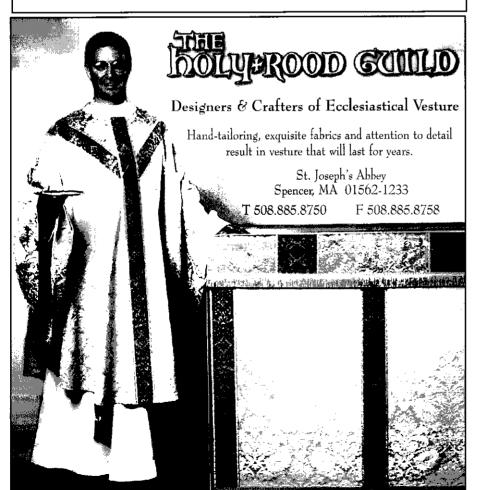
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The Bishop of Indianapolis, the Rt. Rev. Catherine Waynick (left), blesses and dedicates the historic stained glass windows of Christ Church, Madison, Ind., on Feb. 22. Assisting is Anne Haskins, chaplain to the ordinary. The festive gathering brought together historians, conservators, donors and musicians. Restoration and cleaning required 10 years to complete.

(SUDAN - Continued from previous page)

Sudanese Church said it would not countenance "homosexual practice," believing it to be "contrary to biblical teaching," and said human sexuality is "rightly ordered only when expressed within the life-long commitment of marriage between one man and one woman."

In a statement released after the vote, the Sudanese bishops said they saw the normalization of homosexuality by the Episcopal Church as a rejection of scripture as the "inspired, living, and authoritative word of God." However, they acceded to the Archbishop of Canterbury's plea to hold together despite the deep divisions caused by the 74th General Convention. Archbishop Williams began an eight-day visit to the Sudan on Feb. 26.

The bishops pledged to remain in dialogue and continue to pray for the Episcopal Church in hope that it would reconsider its actions for the "sake of their salvation" and for the "unity of the Church."

Vatican Agrees to ARCIC III

The Roman Catholic Church has agreed to a third round of Anglican Roman Catholic International Consultation talks, according to Bishop Brian Farrell, the secretary of the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity.

The "decision has already been made," Bishop Farrell told THE LIVING CHURCH. ARCIC III will examine Roman Catholic and Anglican ecclesiology on the question of the "local and universal Church," he said, but "we will develop this decision more concretely in the future."

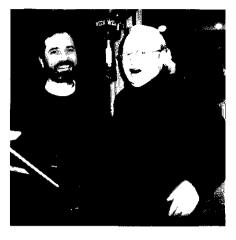
The Rt. Rev. C. Christopher Epting, the Presiding Bishop's deputy for interfaith and ecumenical relations, welcomed the announcement, noting the Episcopal Church and the Roman Catholic Church in the United States had already initiated conversation on this topic.

Relations between the Anglican Communion and the Roman Catholic Church were strained by the actions of the 74th General Convention, and highlevel relations had been halted for almost two years, with the Vatican imposing conditions upon the Anglican Communion in order to complete the joint statement on Mary, released in Seattle last year.

The president of the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of Christian Unity, Cardinal Walter Kasper, told reporters at the World Council of Churches assembly in Brazil the question of homosexuality had become a "new phenomenon" in ecumenical dialogue. "All Christian Churches had the same position on this question," he said, but "now this question has come up" and has been "divisive" in its effects on bilateral dialogue.

Bishop Farrell stated there were "new concerns in our relationship" with the Anglican Communion, but that "we are not just observers, we are participants" in the debate.

"This is one of our ecumenical partners in difficulty and we are very concerned that they find a way out of the difficulty. However, we cannot make up their minds for them. So we have to wait," he said, noting the Vatican would continue in dialogue with the Anglican Communion, in whatever "shape" the Communion might take.



Fr. Burnett (left) and Mr. McKenzie in the recording studio where the spoof radio commercial was created. It has received wide circulation over the internet.

Nan Ross/Episcopal Media Center photo

"Commercial" Provides Clever Church Welcome

Episcopalians with e-mail and speakers for their computer have been hearing what sounds like a radio commercial for an upcoming stock car (Continued on page 44)



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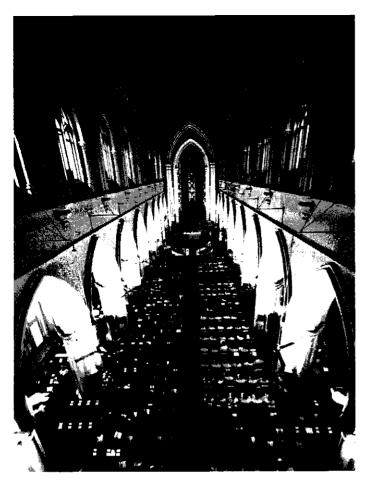
The New Testament Church: A Portrait Gallery,

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An overflow congregation of more than 1,600 people gathered at St. Andrew's Cathedral in Singapore on Feb. 5 for the installation of the Rt. Rev. Dr. John Chew as Primate of the Anglican Province of South East Asia, The Rt. Rev. Robert W. Duncan, Bishop of Pittsburgh and Moderator of the Anglican Communion Network, brought greetings from the Episcopal Church. The Bishop of Lichfield, the Rt. Rev. Jonathan Gledhill, was the Archbishop of Canterbury's representative. The Province of Southeast Asia was created in 1996. It is divided into four dioceses located in Singapore and Malaysia.



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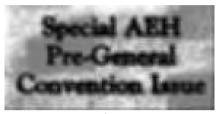
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- Membership growth rooted in an organi and appreciative approach
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Spoof

(Continued from page 41)

race. Except this one advertises an Episcopal church.

A booming voice chanting "This Sunday, Sunday, Sunday! It's a sacramental showdown at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church!" launches a 30-second sound file that has many laughing out loud in disbelief, hitting the forward command on their computers to share it with friends, and some even phoning the Birmingham, Ala., parish that's mentioned.

This is not a joke. It's for real. And while some might call it sacrilegious, not sacramental, many are calling it proof that Episcopalians have a healthy sense of humor.

For Mike McKenzie, 41, the man who created the audio phenomenon, it's an expression of his seriously reenergized faith journey. As the creative services director at Cox Radio of Birmingham, he got the inspiration one day to put his talents to work for his church.

He copied the results in a computer sound file and sent it by e-mail to his rector, the Rev. Marc Burnett, who was so proud of his parishioner he played it from the pulpit. Within a few days, people all over the country were opening their e-mail, not sure whether to believe their ears.

"I'm fairly new to the Episcopal church, only since last May," Mr. McKenzie said, "and St. Andrew's has been a beautiful breath of fresh air. The people here are wonderful, so kind and loving, a real cross-section of folks. Our rector is a teacher, not a preacher, and he inspires you to learn for yourself. This is a great place."

The audio clip has never been broadcast as a radio commercial, but with the response he's had, Mr. McKenzie said he'd be happy to help anyone who wants to advertise their church in a similar way.

Meanwhile he's staying involved at St. Andrew's, preparing for confirmation this spring. "I'm on the way to becoming a full-fledged Episcopalian. Having grown up a Baptist, the Eucharist is new to me; I feel as if I'm communing with God like one of the 12. It stays on my mind a lot."

Nan Ross

Rector Placed on Leave After Shooting Incident

Already roiled by a controversial same-sex blessing and more recently a 48-count criminal indictment against a parishioner, members of St. Mary's Church in Lompoc, Calif., were stunned when a police investigation into a Jan. 19 shooting at the church led to the arrest of the rector.

The Rev. Richard Reynolds was taken into custody Feb. 15 on suspicion of filing a false police report after he admitted to police it was he who fired the gun that shattered his office window. Fr. Reynolds has been placed on temporary disability leave and an interim rector appointed.

Initially Fr. Reynolds told police he was alone in his office at around 9:30 p.m. when a bullet shattered a sliding glass door. Deputies called in a helicopter and a police dog as they attempted to determine whether the shooting was accidental, attempted homicide or vandalism.

In an interview with the Lompoc Record, Bob Lingl, senior warden at St. Mary's, attributed the shooting incident to a number of factors. After a same-sex blessing in September 2003, St. Mary's lost 30 percent of its congregation and 10 percent of its income. More recently the district attorney filed criminal charges against parishioner Euell Ryles over his operation of a business. One of the alleged victims is also a parishioner at St. Mary's and one of the counts against Mr. Ryles, who has been banished from the church until his case is resolved, is that he tried to convince the alleged victim at the parish to stop cooperating with the district attorney.

Another cause of stress for Fr. Revnolds involves his health. At times he has had to use a wheelchair with what was initially thought to be multiple sclerosis, but recently he was diagnosed as having a virus that mimics the symptoms of MS.

""We are going to try to get Richard healthy again," Mr. Lingl told The Record. There is a good portion (of the church) that wants him to come back and there is a good portion that wants to see him move on."

The Rev. Mort Ward, who has been appointed interim rector, met with some 200 members of St. Marv's on Feb. 25.

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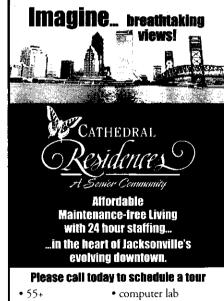
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PEOPLE & PLACES

Appointments

The Rev. Marvin Aycock is vicar of St. Paul's, PO Box 1201, Thomasville, NC

The Rev. Michael W. Besson, Jr., is rector of St. John's, 815 S Broadway, La Porte, TX

The Rev. Rich Biega is missioner at All Souls', 5 Coland Crt., Columbia, SC 29223.

The Rev. Barbara Bond is rector of St. Paul's, PO Box 21333, Canton, OH 44701.

E.A. Carmean is lay canon for art and architecture in the Diocese of West Tennessee, 692 Poplar Ave., Memphis, TN 38105.

Dan Charney is the stewardship missioner for the Diocese of Bethlehem, 333 Wyandotte St., Bethlehem, PA 18015.

The Rev. Roy Cole is priest-in-charge of Nativity, PO Box 456, Union, SC 29745.

The Rev. Barry Cotter is missioner of the East Central Ohio cluster in the Diocese of Southern Ohio.

The Rev. Julian Eibin is rector of St. Paul's, 100 E High St., Mount Vernon, OH 43050.

The Rev. Bryan "Massey" Gentry is vicerector of St. Martin's, 717 Sage Rd., Houston, TX 77056.

The Rev. Connie Hill Gordon is clergy-incharge of St. Barnabas', PO Box 175, Tooele, UT 84074-0175.

The Rev. Lisa Gray is canon for youth and young adult ministries for the Diocese of Michigan, 4800 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI

Tina Hunter is director of communications for the Diocese of Michigan, 4800 Woodward Ave., Detroit, MI 48201-1399.

The Rev. Robert Gaillard Kirkland is rector of Good Shepherd, PO Box 437, York, SC 29745.

The Rev. Jim Lively is rector of St. Matthias', 574 Montrose St., Clermont, FL

The Rev. David Luckett is interim dean at St. Andrew's Cathedral, PO Box 1366, Jackson, MS 39215-1366.

The Rev. Hoyt Massey is interim rector of St. Luke's, 4362 Lafayette St., Marianna, FL 32446-2917.

The Rev. Michael E. Ridgill is rector of St. Bartholomew's, PO Box 487, Hartsville, SC

The Rev. Tim Watts is interim rector of St. Jude's, 200 N Partin Dr., Niceville, FL 32578-

Retirements

The Rev. David Bridgeforth, as rector of St. Timothy's, Columbia, SC.

The Rev. Della Higgins, as deacon of St. Mary's, High Point, NC.

The Rev. Robert E. Neily, as rector of St. Michael's, Grosse Pointe, MI.

The Rev. Canon Gray Temple, Jr., as rector of St. Patrick's, Dunwoody, GA.

The Rev. **Stan Ver Straten**, as interim priest-in-charge of St. Barnabas', Tooele, L'T.

Resignations

The Rev. **Rosemary Posy Jackson**, as executive director of William Temple Episcopal Center, Galveston, TX.

Deaths

The Rev. **Solomon N. Jacobs**, 85, of Hillcrest Heights, Md., died Jan. 20.

Born in Panama, he was raised in Panama and Jamaica before attending Virginia State College and Rutgers. He graduated in 1948 from the Bishop Payne Divinity School with a Master of Divinity, and was ordained to the diaconate that same year by Bishop Dandridge of Tennessee. He was ordained to the priesthood the following year by Bishop Gooden of Panama. He served as priest in charge of two Panama parishes, St. George's, Gatun, and St Mary the Virgin, Silver City, from 1949-51, then served St. Mark's in Nicaragua from 1951-52. He was rector of St. Philips, Omaha, Neb., 1952-58; rector of St. Andrew's, Cleveland, Ohio, 1958-70; and rector of Atonement, Washington, D.C., 1970-74. He served St. Elizabeth Hospital, Washington, D.C., as part-time chaplain from 1972-74, when he became full-time chaplain; he served in that capacity until his retirement in 1985. Following retirement he served as a supply and interim priest, as a clergy associate at Washington National Cathedral, and as a volunteer chaplain at Washington Hospital Center. He is survived by Lynette, his wife of 54 years; two sons, Dr. David Jacobs, of Charlotte, N.C., and the Rev. Gregory A. Jacobs, staff officer for urban ministries at the Diocese of Massachusetts; a daughter, Lisalyn R. Jacobs, Esq., of Arlington, Va.; and five grandchildren.

The Rev. **Samuel Norman McCain**, an advocate for social justice who marched with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in Selma, Ala., died at his home on Peaks Island, Maine, Feb. 4. He was 89.

A native of Syracuse, N.Y., he was a graduate of the State University of New York and the Episcopal Theological Seminary. In 1945 he was ordained deacon and the following year priest in the diocese of Central New York. He was minister-in-charge of St. John's, Champlain, N.Y., and Grace, Copenhagen, N.Y., from 1945-48; and vicar of Christ Memorial, Kilauea, Hawaii, from 1953-58. He was named rector of Epiphany, Newport, N.H., in 1958 and spent the next quarter century in the Diocese of New Hampshire, later serving as vicar of St. David's, Salem, from 1965-70, and St. John the Evangelist, Dunbarton, from 1970-80. He also served as hospital chaplain in Concord from 1970 until his retirement in 1982. His wife, Martha, preceded him in

death; he is survived by three daughters.

Brother **Maurice Francis Poirier**, OCP, died Jan. 21 in Bellevue, Wash., from a heart attack. He was 59.

Born in Manchester, N.H., he earned degrees in accounting from New Hampshire colleges and served for four years in the U.S. Army. He joined the Order of the Community of the Paraclete at St. Stephen's Priory, Seattle, in 2002; he became a novice in 2004 and

professed the following year. He served St. Margaret's, Bellevue, Wash., and Our Savior, Monroe, Wash., in music ministry and as an Alpha leader, and also worked in prison ministry. He is survived by his wife, the Rev. Esther Poirier, rector of Our Savior, Monroe, Wash., and five children.

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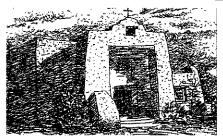
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St. James Church Taos, New Mexico

FULL-TIME RECTOR

Growing program church in Sangre de Cristo mountains seeks rector to

provide leadership in a culturally diverse community with members from a wide variety of political, geographic, cultural, and economic backgrounds. \$2M expansion of church facilities currently underway, supported by pledges to cover construction expenses. Parish priorities are growth and inclusion. Strong lay involvement and leadership.

Taos is a world-class vacation and ski area with a rich amalgam of cultures, extraordinary natural beauty, and a rich history of art and artists.

Send resume to:

Search Committee, St James Church 5794 NDCBU, Taos, NM 87571

E-mail: wes@taosnet.com Website: www.stjamestaos.org

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ANNOUNCEMENT

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FACULTY POSITIONS

FACULTY APPOINTMENT IN NEW TESTAMENT: Nashotah House Theological Seminary is seeking a faculty member in the field of New Testament to begin August 1, 2006. Applicants should be members of the Episcopal Church or another church of the Anglican Communion, who hold a doctorate (Ph.D. or Th.D.) in the field. The position includes teaching the required courses in New Testament Survey and Greek (two semesters each) as well as elective courses. The person appointed, whether ordained or lay, will be expected to participate regularly in the seminary's daily worship in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. Rank and compensation are negotiable. For further details contact: The Very Rev. Robert S. Munday, Ph.D., Dean/President, Nashotah House, 2777 Mission Road, Nashotah, WI 53058. The deadline for applications is April 15, 2006.

MUSIC POSITIONS

PART-TIME ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR: St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Daytona Beach, Florida, is seeking a part-time Organist/Choir Director. Experience with traditional Episcopal/Anglican liturgies is desired. Moeller 2-manual pipe organ, Salary is negotiable/commensurate with experience. Send letter of interest and resume to Music Search Committee, St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 216 Orange Ave., Daytona Beach, FL, 32114. Phone: (386)255-3669 E-mail: staff@stmarvsDB.org.

WANTED: FULL-TIME MUSIC MINISTER with experience in both traditional and contemporary Christian music leadership and performance. We are seeking that unique person who embraces the beauty and possibilities of both traditional and contemporary Christian music to minister to our congregation. We are a middle of the road Episcopal parish with two Rite II services every Sunday: one with traditional hymnody accompanied by the organ and the other with a contemporary band (keyboard, bass, guitar, drums, and several singers) playing contemporary Christian music. We seek to establish a choir (or enlarge the hand) at the contemporary service, and to further develop our music program at the traditional service. Please send a resume with references to the rector. The Rev. Douglas Travis at dtravis@trinitywoodlands.org Phone: (281)367-8113. Website: http://www.trinitywoodlands.org/

MUSIC POSITIONS

FULL-TIME ORGANIST CHOIRMASTER: St. John's Episcopal Church, Tampa. FL. Organist/Choirmaster for corporate-size parish and day school, congregation of 2,000

Responsibilities: Choir of Men and Boys and Choir of Junior and Senior Girls, associated with England's RSCM: Mendelssohn Choir, oratorio and cantata performance; three Sunday morning services; five choir rehearsals weekly; monthly Evensong or meditative services; special music programs throughout year. Three-manual organ, 64 ranks with antiphonal division.

Requirements: Commitment to Anglican Men and Boy Choral tradition, knowledge of Hymnal 1982 and background, experience with RSCM curriculum, proven ability to recruit/retain choristers, especially boys and girls; master's degree (or higher) in music performance, minimum two years of music education for youth and junior choirs. ongoing study in choral technique, voice pedagogy, art of conducting; thorough preparation in organ playing, performance and literature, mechanical knowledge of organ and comprehensive knowledge of church music literature and value and place of church music in liturgical worship: minimum five years of choral direction, organ performance. planning liturgical music in parish setting; ability to work pastorally with choir and collegially with clergy, lay staff and volunteers to encourage spiritual growth; oversee organ maintenance, choir library, care/maintenance of parish musical instruments, planning/expending music budgets. experience with Choir Guild.

Competitive compensation package per AGO guidelines. Applications until May 1, 2006. Send letter of interest. résumé, references, current recording demonstrating choral conducting and organ technique, brief statement of personal philosophy of church music to: Chairman, Organist/Choirmaster Search Committee, St. John's Episcopal Church, 906 S. Orleans Ave., Tampa, FL 33606, Phone: (813) 259-1570; E-mail: organistsearch@stjohnstampa.org; Visit: www.stjohnstampa.org.

FULL-TIME DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST POSITION, Saint Luke's Parish, Darien, CT, is an Episcopal parish of over 900 families and offers four services each Sunday as well as frequent Evensong and other special services. The parish choir includes children trained in the RSCM. Duties include weekly rehearsals, attendance at staff and worship team meetings, playing and conducting at Sanday services and major feast days. The ideal candidate will be spiritually grounded, able to inspire music in the worship of God; he/she will demonstrate a strong commitment to the Anglican tradition while developing a diverse program that combines a variety of musical traditions. This position is supported by an assistant. Salary is commensurate with degree and experience. Position begins in the fall of 2006. Send resumé and letters of recommendation to the Rev. David, R. Anderson, St. Luke's Parish, 1864 Boston Post Road, Darien, Connecticut 06820 or E-mail david.anderson@saintlukesdarien.org. Application deadline: May 1.

POSITIONS OFFERED

FULL-TIME RECTOR: St. James' Episcopal Church, Clovis, New Mexico, is a beautiful, orthodox parish designed in the traditional mission style of the southwest and located in a theologically conservative diocese on the high plains of eastern New Mexico. We are seeking a fulltime rector who will have a visible presence in the life of our church and who will bring energy and enthusiasm into the parish, and strengthen parish unity through effective preaching and pastoral care.

We would like to attract young families as well as increase participation in stewardship and other parish activities. Early retired applicants will be considered. For additional details and a profile please contact: The Search Committee, St. James' Episcopal Church, 1117 North Main St., Clovis, NM 88101. E-mail resume to: st.james@plateautel.net. Deadline for resumes is May 1, 2006.

POSITIONS OFFERED

FULL-TIME ASSISTANT RECTOR: Episcopal Church of the Holy Trinity, Midland, TX. Seeks energetic priest to serve corporate-size orthodox congregation. Responsibilities include ministry among all ages with emphasis on youth: Pastoral Care. Preaching, Education, Spiritual/Prayer Life, Midland, with breath-taking sunrises and sunsets, is a sophisticated, cultural center of West Texas with easy access to all metropolitan cities. CONTACT: Andrew Swartz, 500 W. Texas Ave., Ste. 1410, Midland, TX 79701; E-mail: andrew@swartzbrough.com; Phone: (432) 638-6100, Fax: (432) 682-2970.

FULL-TIME RECTOR: The Church of the Ascension. Frankfort, KY, is an historic parish of 500 communicants. We are seeking a rector to succeed our recently retired rector of 17 years. Frankfort is a growing family-oriented community with many amenities, located in the beautiful Central Kentucky Bluegrass region. Ascension has active lay leadership and involvement, an excellent choir, and a strong history of community outreach. Our priorities are pastoral care. Christian education, strong preaching, and church growth. Send resumes to the Rev. Canon Johnnie E. Ross, Canon to the Ordinary, Episcopal Diocese of Lexington - Mission House, 203 East Fourth St., PO Box 610, Lexington, KY 40588, or E-mail them to JRoss@diolex.org. Further information about the parish and search process may be obtained at www.ascensionfrankfort.org.

FULL-TIME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/DIRECTOR OF CHAPLAINS: The Episcopal City Mission is a unique ministry in the U.S. Episcopal Church serving youth in detention. ECM seeks an Episcopal priest or deacon to succeed a retiring Executive Director/Director of Chaplains. The position requires someone able to maintain and expand an aggressive fundraising program, which has a growing ecumenical base as well as substantial diocesan support. There is a staff of five (budget of \$225,000) serving metropolitan youth in detention centers in the St. Louis. MO area. Applicants should send a resume and CDO profile to: Search Committee, Episcopal City Mission, 1210 Locust St., St. Louis, MO 63103, E-mail: steve_barney@ssmhc.com.

FULL-TIME RECTOR: St. James Episcopal Church, St. James, New York, Pastoral-sized, historic parish, on the North Shore of Long Island, 50 miles from New York City, seeks a full-time rector who will enable us to move toward collaborative clergy/lay ministry, parish growth, a deeper spiritual life. and stronger Christian Education and youth programs. As a congregation, we desire to be transformed by grace into faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, to participate in the work of the Holy Spirit, and to worship within the traditions of the Anglican Communion. Local area offers numerous educational opportunities for all ages and access to many recreational and cultural activities. For more information, please contact: Search Committee, St. James Episcopal Church, 490 N. Country Road, St. James, NY 11780. E-mail: kisides@gmail.com. Application Deadline: March 31, 2006.

FULL-TIME DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCA-TION: St. Peter's Episcopal Church. Fernandina Beach (Amelia Island), Florida, seeks energetic, creative person responsible for total education program of the parish: interpersonal and relational as well as the administrative skills for a volunteer-staffed Christian formation program in the Episcopal tradition; working knowledge of Godly Play and Journey to Adulthood strongly desired, Team players only, B.A./B.S. degree. Episcopalian. At least three years as Christian Education Director or comparable experience. Willingness to live in the community. Resumes and communication to (electronic preferred): The Rev. George Young, St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 801 Atlantic Ave., Fernandina Beach, FL 32034. PH: (904) 261-4293. E-mail: gyoung@stpctersparish.org.

CLASSIFIEDS

POSITIONS OFFERED

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY: Christ Church, a vibrant. 2500-member Episcopal congregation in downtown Raleigh, North Carolina, is seeking a Director of Youth Ministry. We place great emphasis on nourishing the faith and ministry of our young members, and we are looking for someone who will share that passion and commitment. The job will be full-time in a collaborative work environment, and compensation and benefits will be competitive. Applicants should send a cover letter, resume, and a list of references to The Rev. John D. Rohrs at jrohrs@christ-church-raleigh.org or 120 E. Edenton St., P.O. Box 25778, Raleigh, NC 27611.

FULL-TIME RECTOR: St. Paul's, Kent. Chestertown, Maryland. Dedicated, friendly parish based in historic 315year-old church in beautiful setting near college town on Maryland's Eastern Shore seeks an energetic rector to lead us in worship, education, outreach, youth programs, pastoral care and fellowship. Retirees and young families, natives and newcomers make up a vibrant mid-sized congregation known for its warm hospitality, resilience, good humor and good works. Our rural surroundings offer an abundance of natural beauty and outdoor sports along the Chesapeake Bay, plus the intellectual and cultural benefits of charming Chestertown (home of Washington College, founded 1782) and nearby Rock Hall, a busy fishing and yachting center, Drive to Annapolis, Baltimore, D.C. or Philadelphia in less than 2 hours. Lovely, updated rectory overlooking millpond is available. Our church is rich in history, tradition and personality. Come help us forge a vibrant future.

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FULL-TIME ASSOCIATE PRIEST AND CONTEM-PORARY MUSIC MINISTER: Trinity Episcopal Church, The Woodlands, Texas, We are looking for a seasoned priest who is also experienced in performing contemporary Christian music and in forming and leading a contemporary band/choir. Among our goals are incorporating as many talented laypeople as possible (especially youth) in positions of worship leadership while retaining a traditional sense of reverence in a Rite II service. In addition to providing leadership as a music minister we would expect this priest to assume many of the responsibilities of an associate - pastoral care, teaching, some preaching and some administrative responsibilities. Please send a resume with references to the rector. The Rev. Douglas Travis at dtravis@trinitywoodlands.org Phone: (281) 367-8113. Website: http://www.trinitywoodlands.org/

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR: Christ Episcopal Church in New Bern, NC seeks an executive administrator with corporate, non-profit, or church experience to manage the administrative functions of the office of the rector. Responsibilities will include database and personnel record management. executive and program scheduling, facilitating communication with staff and congregational leadership, and other administrative support to the rector. High proficiency in computer skills, communication skills, and multi-tasking skills are required. Salary range begins at \$32,500 and is commensurate with experience and educational background. Christ Church is an EOE that follows all standards of The Episcopal Church. Please fax resume to (252) 514-4013, attention EAR Search. E-mail: christchurch4u@earthlink.net.

POSITIONS OFFERED

SEEKING FULL-TIME RECTOR: St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Lisbon, Maine, St. Matthew's is a Spirit-filled. Eucharistic community that gathers to celebrate the Lord in contemporary, joyful worship. We believe in the healing power of the Holy Spirit, minister to each other through fellowship and prayer, and respond to the Great Commission through involvement in mission and outreach. Responses should be directed to: Nancy Violette, Search Committee Chair, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8 Upland Rd., Lisbon, Maine 04250. E-mail: violette@gwi.net.

FULL-TIME YOUTH CHAPLAIN: Episcopal Church in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. New position with three primary areas of focus: 1) relational ministry to parish middle and high school youth; 2) develop parish outreach to large but disconnected group of young adults in parish and community: 3) outreach worker to youth-oriented social service agencies. Spanish fluency & grant writing skills are pluses. Full-time with full benefits in beautiful Jackson Hole. Apply by May 1st. (The Reverend) J. Kenneth Asel. www.stjohnsjackson.org.

FULL-TIME RECTOR: St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, a suburban church in Centennial Colorado (Denver) is seeking a new rector. Our parish includes over 650 communicants and an avg. Sunday attendance of over 250. We seek a warm Christian leader and inspiring preacher to guide our continued growth. Interested parties please E-mail: mickeyjackson0507@msn.com Website: www.sttims.net.

FULL-TIME RECTOR: St. Paul's, Salt Lake City. Utah, a program-sized parish, is seeking a new rector, St. Paul's is a community of about 600 congregants who worship in an historic Tudor church near downtown, the University of Utah, and majestic mountains, Our congregation is eelectic, inclusive, well-educated, and we love traditional fiturgy and music. We are seeking a priest with a minimum of six years' experience as a rector or equivalent. We desire a leader with strong pastoral and administrative skills who is also a good preacher and teacher. Our parish profile is available online at www.stpauls-slc.org. If you are interested, please send a resume and personal profile to Search Committee, St. Paul's Church, PO Box 11816, Salt Lake City, UT 84147, E-mail: david_L_reed@msn.com, or call (801)355-3799.

ASSOCIATE RECTOR: Christ Episcopal Church (San Pablo Campus), Jacksonville, FL: Primary responsibility is to lead the growing congregation of Christ Episcopal Church's worship site on San Pablo Road in Jacksonville, which is 9.5 miles from the main church campus in Ponte Vedra Beach. When the former Calvary Church separated from the Diocese of Florida primarily because of opposition to some of the actions of the 2003 General Convention, our bishop asked Christ Church to re-build a congregation at its facility. Weekly attendance during the first few weeks has quickly grown to 100-150. Reporting to the rector of the 5.700-member Christ Church, this priest will function somewhat as a vicarreaching out into the community and becoming a catalyst for church growth. Will work closely with the clergy and staff of Christ Church-Ponte Vedra to envision, plan and facilitate programs while maintaining San Pablo as an integral part of our common ministry. Will be a visible and engaged liaison between the two campuses and among more than 100 ministries of Christ Church. Will share in overall preaching, teaching, and pastoral care. At least two years of successful clergy experience and five years of total ministry and leadership experience. Experience as a rector, vicar or priest-in-charge of a worship site an asset. Contact: Charlie Hoskins, E-mail: crhbeach@comcast.net or call:(904) 285-0525.

FULL-TIME CHAPLAIN: Washington University, St. Louis, MO, Episcopal camous ministry. Searching for a priest with a strong commitment to student ministry. Good liturgical and teaching skills necessary. Must have heart for service, ministry and mission and developing student leadership and skills. Must be a pastoral and spiritual leader. Send inquiry & one-page vita to: Search Committee, Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust St., St. Louis, MO 63103. E-mail: laurieinmo@hotmail.com. Must receive by March 22. Check our web page at: www.rockwellhouse.org.

POSITIONS WANTED

LOOKING FOR A CALL: Unemployed female priest looking for a call. Tech savvy, good with youth, Full information at http://revbrenda.com.

RETREAT CENTERS

ART AND SOUL: NURTURING YOUR SPIRITUAL LIFE THROUGH THE CREATIVE ARTS: JUNE 4-8, 2006. SHRINE MONT. A Retreat Center of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia and the Cathedral Shrine of the Transfiguration. Orkney Springs, VA.

In the heart of Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, Classes will include: Writing with Vinita Hampton Wright, Woodcut printing with Margaret Adams Parker, Poetry with Emily Blair Stribling, Fabric art with Martha Gilbert, and Digital design with John Dixon. For more information contact: Carolyn Chilton, Retreat Coordinator, Phone: (540) 856-2141 or visit: www.shrinemont.com

TRAVEL / PILGRIMAGES

GOLF ENTHUSIASTS! ATTENDING THE MASTERS? Accommodations during the Masters Golf Tournament. April 2-9, 2006. Spiritual Golf Package. Bishop Gravatt Center, Aiken, SC. Two Adults \$90-105 per night, includes country breakfast, ONLY 35 minutes to Augusta. call (803) 648-1817 Mon - Fri. for reservations and additional information.

E-mail: gravattguest@mindspring.com

CLERGY OR LAY LEADERS, interested in seeing the world for FREE? England, Greece, Turkey, the Holy Land, Ethiopia, and more! Contact Journeys Unlimited. E-mail journeys@groupist.com or call 800-486-8359 ext 205, 206, or 208.

IRELAND PILGRIMAGE: May 26-June 5, 2006. Led by Deacon Dee Renner of St. John's Church, Fallbrook, CA, See The Book of Kells at Trinity College, Dublin, St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Kevin's Glendalough, Rock of Cashel, Holycross Abbey, St. Mary's Church Famine Museum of Thurles, Tipperary. Clonmachnoise, Crough Patrick and much more. Few places remain. For more information contact Dcn. Dee Renner at deerenner@dslextreme.com or call (951) 695-0466.

RUSTIC CABINS in the Black Hills of SD. In National Forest; near Mt. Rushmore, Custer State Park. Call Diocese of South Dakota at (605) 338-9751 or go to $www.diocesesd.org/camp_remington.htm.$

CHURCH DIRECTORY KEY

Light face type denotes AM, bold face PM; add, address; anno, announced; A-C, Ante-Communion; appt., appointment; B, Benediction; C, Confessions: Cho. Choral: Ch.S. Church School: c. curate; d, deacon, a.r.e., director of religious education; EP, Evening Prayer; Eu, Eucharist; Ev, Evensong; ex, except; 1S, 1st Sunday; hol, holiday; HC, Holy Communion; HD, Holy Days; HS, Healing Service; HU, Holy Unction; Instr. Instructions; Int, Intercessions; LOH, Laying On of Hands; Lit, Litany; Mat, Matins; MP, Morning Prayer; P, Penance; r, rector, r-em, rector emeritus; Ser, Sermon; Sol, Solemn; Sta, Stations; V, Vespers; v, vicar; YPF, Young People's Fellowship. A/C, airconditioned; H/A, handicapped accessible.

H DIRE

AVERY, CA

(Calaveras Big Trees)

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI

Hwy. 4 (209) 754-5381

The Rev. Marlin Leonard Bowman, v Sun MP (Sung) w/High Mass 9

www.stmaryskcmo.org

SARASOTA, FL

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER 222 South Palm Ave. (Downtown)

(941) 955-4263

Website: www.redeemersarasota.org E-mail: COR@redeemersarasota.org;

The Rev. Fredrick A. Robinson, r; the Rev. Richard C. Marsden, asst.; the Rev. James E. Hedman, asst.; the Rev. Ferdinand D. Saunders, asst.

Sun Mass 7:30 (said), 9 & 11 (sung), 2 (Spanish Mass); Sat Mass (Contemporary) 5:30; Mon - Sat Mass 10 daily, Wed Mass 7:30, Thurs Mass 5:30; Daily MP 8:30, (except Sun), Daily EP 5:15

STUART, FL

ST. MARY'S 623 E. Ocean Blvd. (772) 287-3244 The Rev. Thomas T. Pittenger, r; the Rev. David Fran-coeur, assoc r; the Rev. Holly Ostlund, asst r; the Rev. Jonathan Coffey, the Rev. Canon Richard Hardman, the Rev. Peggy Sheldon, assisting; Allen Rosenberg, organist

Sun Eu 7:30, 9, 11, 5. Tues H Eu 12:10; Thurs H Eu 10, Sat 5

MACON, GA

(478) 745-0427 CHRIST CHURCH (1min off I-75) www.christchurchmacon.com 582 Walnut St 'The first church of Macon; established 1825'

The Rev. Dr. J. Wesley Smith, r; the Rev. Dr. Joan Pritcher, v: the Rev. Scott Kidd, c Sun HC 7;45, 9, 11 Wed. HS/LOH 12:05

HONOLULU, HI

ST. MARK'S

(808) 732-2333 539 Kapahulu Ave. (#13 Bus end of line from Waikiki) Sun Masses 7, 9 (Sung); MWF 8 (5th Sun 8 only)

CHICAGO, IL

ASCENSION N. LaSalle Blvd at Elm (312) 664-1271 (312) 642-3638 ascensionchicago.org Sisters of St. Anne.

The Rev. Gary P. Fertig, r; the Rev. Richard Higginbotham Sun Masses 8 (Low), 9 (Sung) 11 (Sol & Ser), MP 7:30, Sol E&B 4 (1S) Daily: MP 6:40 (ex Sun) Masses 7, 6:20 (Wed), 10 (Sat); EP M-S 6, Sun 4; C Sat 5:30-6, Sun 10:30-10:50 Rosary 9:30 Sat

RIVERSIDE, IL (CHICAGO WEST SUBURBAN) ST. PAUL'S PARISH 60 Akenside Rd. www.stpaulsparish.org (708) 447-1604 The Rev. Thomas A. Fraser, r; the Rev. Richard R. Daly, SSC,

parochial vicar Sun Eu 9 & 10:45. Wkdy Eu Tues 7, Wed 7, Fri 10:30. Sacrament of Reconciliation 1st Sat 4-4:30 & by appt, A/C

INDIANAPOLIS, IN

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL 125 Monument Circle, Downtown www.cccindy.org The Very Rev. Gary Goldacker, interim dean and rector

Sun 8 H Eu (Rite I), 9 H Eu (Rite II), 10 Christian Form, 11 Choral Eu (Bite II), 1 Santa Eucaristia: Mon 5:15 H Eu w/ Healing; Martes (Tues) 5:15 Santa Eucaristiá con Curacion; Wed 12:05 H Eu; Thur 5:15 Choral Evensong; Fri 7 H Eu, 12:05 Organ Recital

Radio Services on WICR, 88.7-FM: Sun 5; Fri 7, Evensong

LAFAYETTE, LA

ASCENSION 1030 Johnston St. (337) 232-2732 1/2 block North of ULL www.ascension1030.org Sun H Eu 8, 10:30, 6; Wed H Eu 6; Canterbury Club meets Sun, gratis supper and H Eu 6

NEW ORLEANS, LA

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL 2919 St. Charles Ave.

(504) 895-6602

On the street car line at the corner of 6th St. Please join us for our bicentennial events

Website: www.cccnola.org

The Very Rev. David duPlantier, dean Sun Mass 7:30 (1928), 10:30 (Choral H Eu), 6 (Rite II). Daily Mass: M-F 12:15. Sat 9:30

BOSTON, MA

THE CHURCH OF THE ADVENT 30 Brimmer Street 02108

Email: office@theadvent.org www.theadvent.org The Rev. Allan B. Warren III, r; the Rev. Patrick T. Gray; Eric Hillegas, pastoral assistant for youth

Sun MP 7:30, Ch S, 10:15; Masses 8, 9, 11:15 (Sol High); Mon-Fri, MP 9; Mass 12:15 (except Wed); EP 5:30; Wed, Mass 6; Sat, MP 8:30, Mass 9, C 9:30

KANSAS CITY, MO

OLD ST. MARY'S 1307 Holmes (816) 842-0975

Masses; Sun 8 Low; 10 Sol. Call for schedule.

LAS VEGAS, NV

(702) 735-7655 CHRIST CHURCH 2000 S. Maryland christissavior@lvcm.com 1 mile off strip Sun H Eu 8, 10:30, 6, Sat 5, Daily H Eu (ex Sat) 12:05

MILLVILLE, NJ

CHRIST CHURCH (AAC) 225 Sassafras St., 08332

Sun H Eu 10, Tues 7:30 Prayer Group, Wed HS Eu 7:30

(856) 825-1163

NEWARK, NJ

GRACE CHURCH 950 Broad St., at Federal Sq. www.gracechurchinnewark.org The Rev. J. Carr Holland III, r

Sun Masses 8 & 10 (Sung): Mon-Fri 12:10

ROSWELL, NM

ST. ANDREW'S 505 N. Pennsylvania (505) 622-1353 E-mail: standrewschurch@cableone.net

The Rev. Bob Tally, r

Sun H Eu 8 & 10:30; Wed. Healing Service 7, Sat. Contemp. Service 6

SANTA FE, NM

HOLY FAITH 311 E. Palace (505) 982-4447

Website: www.holyfaithchurchsf.org The Rev. Canon Dale Coleman, r; the Rev. Duncan Lanum, asst.; the Rev. Joan Garcia, d; Mr. John Buck, music director. Sun H Eu 7:45, Sung H Eu 9, 11:30, Christian Ed 10:30. Monday H Rosary 9:30. Tues H Eu 10. Thurs H Eu 12:10. MP and EP daily

NEW YORK, NY

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S Park Ave. and 51st St. www.stbarts.org (212) 378-0200 Sun Eu 8, 9 Cho Eu 11, Cho Ev 5, "Come as you are" Eu 7. Mon-Fri MP 8, Eu 12:05, EP 5:30; Thurs 6 Cho Eu; Sat MP & Eu 10. Church open 365 days 8-8 (Sun 8-9). For tours call

378-0265. Cafe open for breakfast, lunch & dinner Sun-Fri. Book & Gift Shop open daily. ST. THOMAS 5th Ave & 53rd St. www.saintthomaschurch.org (212) 757-7013

The Rev. Andrew C. Mead, r; John Scott, organist and dir. of music: the Rev. Charles F. Wallace, headmaster; the Rev. Robert H. Stafford, the Rev. Victor Lee Austin, the Rev. Jonathan M. Erdman, youth minister; the Rev. Richard Cornish Martin

Sun H Eu 8 (Said), 9 (Sung), 11 (Choral), Ev 4 (Choral); M-F MP & H Eu 8 & 12:10, EP & Eu 5:30 (Tues, Wed & Thur Choral Evensong); Sat H Eu 12:10

PARISH OF TRINITY CHURCH

The Rev. Canon James H. Cooper, D. Min., r The Rev. Canon Anne Mallonee, v (212) 602-0800

Watch & Hear our services and concerts on the Web www.trinitywallstreet.org

Broadway at Wall Street Sun H Eu 9 & 11:15. Mon-Fri MP 8:15 H Eu 12:05, EP 5:15. Open Sun 7-4; Mon-Fri 7-6; Sat 8-4

Broadway at Fulton The Rev. Canon James H. Cooper, D. Min., r

Sun H Eu 8, 10. Mon-Sat Prayer Service 12:30 Open Sun 7-4; Mon-Sat 10-6

ASHEVILLE, NC CATHEDRAL OF ALL SOULS

www.allsoulscathedral.org Sun H Eu 8, 9, 11:15. Wed noon, 5:45; Tues EP 5:30

RALEIGH, NC ST. TIMOTHY'S 4523 Six Forks Rd (919) 787-7590 The Rev. Jay C. James, r: The R. Martin Caldwell, asst Sun MP 8:30, HC 9 (said),11(sung); Daily EP 6

PHILADELPHIA, PA

Shrine of Our Lady of Clemency (215) 563-1876 S.CLEMENTS 20th and Cherry Sts.

Website: www.s-clements.org

Canon W. Gordon Reid, r; the Rev. Richard Wall, c Sun Mass 8 & 11 (High); Matins 7:30; Sol Vespers, Novena & B 4 (June thru Sept; 8 & 10 (High); Daily: Low Mass: Tues, Wed & Fri 7, Mon & Thurs 12:10, Sat 10; Ev & Novena 5:30; Sun C 10-10:45 & by appt.

SELINSGROVE, PA

(570) 374-8289 ALL SAINTS 129 N. Market Sun Mass 10 (Rite I). Weekdays as announced (Rite II) Sacrament of Penance by appt.

WELLSBORO, PA

ST. PAUL'S (570)724-4771

The Rev. Gregory P. Hinton, r. Sat Eu 7:30, Sun Eu 8, 10; Wed H Eu 12

CHARLESTON, SC

CHURCH OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

(843) 722-2024 218 Ashley Ave. Website: www.holycom.org The Rev. Dow Sanderson, r; the Rev. Dan Clarke, c; the

Rev. Francis Zanger, assoc. Sun Mass 8 (Low) 10:30 (Solemn High)

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD (361) 882-1735 700 S. Upper Broadway www.cotgs.org The Rev. Ned F. Bowersox, r; the Rev. Frank E. Fuller, asst; the Rev. Jay Burkardt, asst

HOUSTON, TX

Sun 8, 9, 11:15 & 6

(713) 781-1330 CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION Westheimer at Beltway 8 2525 Seagler

Website: www.ascensionchurch.org

The Rev. Dr. Walter L. Ellis, r Sun H Eu 8, 9:30 & 11; Tues EP 6; Wed HS 5:30; Classes Sun 9:30 & 11; Breakfast every Sun

SAN ANTONIO, TX

CHRIST CHURCH 510 Belknap Pl. (210) 736-3132 Just north of historic downtown www.cecsa.org American Anglican Council Affiliate The Rev. Chuck Collins, r; the Rev. Eric Fenton, assoc; the Rev. John Barrett, asst; the Rev. Dan Lauer, asst Sun Eu 7:30, 8:30, 11

SAN ANTONIO, TX ST. PAUL'S CHURCH AND SCHOOL (210) 226-0345 Inclusive & Affirming Anglican Catholicism since 1883 1018 E. Grayson St., Government Hill

Website: www.stpauls-satx.org

The Rev. Doug Earle, r; Dr. Thomas Lee, organist & dir of music; Kay Karcher Mijangos, Episcopal Montessori School

Sun Mass 8 (Low) & 10:30 (Sol), Ev & B as anno, Wed Eu & HU 10:30; Sat Noonday P (Sung) 12:00 & Rosary (Lady Chapel) 12:15, C by appt

EAU CLAIRE, WI

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL 510 S. Farwell St.

(715) 835-3734

The Very Rev. Bruce N. Gardner, interim dean Sat Vigil Eu (Chapel) 6; Sun Eu 8 (Rite I) & 10 (Rite II Cho); Daily MP 8 (exc Sun); EP 5; Wed Eu 12:15; others as posted

MILWAUKEE. WI

ALL SAINTS' CATHEDRAL (414) 271-7719 818 E. Juneau www.ascathedral.org The Very Rev. George Hillman, dean

Sun Masses 8, 10 (Sung). Daily Mass, MP & EP as posted

LUTHERAN

(Biltmore Village)

(828) 274-2681

MOJAVE, CA

HOPE CHURCH K and Inyo Streets The Rev. William R. Hampton, STS (909) 989-3317 Sun Eu 10:30