

# Section E

## Other Reports

## **ADVISORY TASK FORCE ON COLLABORATION**

The Advisory Task Force on Collaboration was created in response to a Resolution of the 144th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh. The mission of the proposed Task Force was to study and identify “opportunities for mutual and collaborative ministry partnerships” between the Dioceses of Pittsburgh and Northwestern Pennsylvania, and to explore resources for shared ministry as well with other neighboring dioceses and with programs and resources available through Province III.

With the advice of the Standing Committee, Bishop Price appointed four clergy and four lay members to the Task Force: Mr. Lionel Deimel of St. Paul’s, Mt. Lebanon; Mrs. Annis Rogers of St. Mark’s, Johnstown; Mr. Ken Stiles of Calvary, East Liberty; the Rev. Kristian Opat of St. Paul’s, Mt. Lebanon and diocesan Youth Missioner; the Rev. Canon Scott Quinn of Nativity, Crafton and Canon to the Ordinary; the Rev. Dr. Bruce Robison (Task Force Chair) of St. Andrew’s, Highland Park; and the Rev. Vicente Santiago of St. Mark’s, Johnstown. Bishop Price has also participated actively with the Task Force, and we have appreciated the valuable participation as well of Mr. John Rogers and Mrs. Gwen Santiago, both of St. Mark’s, Johnstown.

The Task Force met several times during the early part of the year to discuss the theme of collaboration and to brainstorm areas of interest. Canon Quinn initiated a review of programs and resources available through Province III, and Bishop Price initiated conversation with the Bishops of Northwestern Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Central Pennsylvania. We received a very positive response from our neighbors of the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania. Bishop Rowe appointed the Rev. Adam Trambley, Rector of St. John’s Episcopal Church in Sharon, Pennsylvania, as liaison to our Task Force and with Fr. Trambley’s assistance we began to develop a framework of common interests.

On July 10, 2010, approximately 20 members of our Task Force and clergy and lay members from Northwestern Pennsylvania, including Bishops Price and Rowe and the Canons to the Ordinary of both dioceses, met at Epiphany Church in Grove City. At that meeting we developed some specific goals for collaborative ministry. Bishops Price and Rowe are working to develop a plan for a shared Clergy Conference, probably in the fall of 2011, and there are plans moving forward for a higher level of sharing in areas of Continuing Education and canonical training (Anti-Racism, Safe Church/Misconduct Prevention, etc.) for clergy and lay ministers. The Chancellors of the two dioceses, with Committees on Constitution and Canons, will be working to develop shared structures for the implementation of Title IV boards and panels, and there are teams working to develop collaborative plans for youth events and mission opportunities. The Task Force will continue meeting in the fall of 2010, and the next meeting with our partners from Northwestern Pennsylvania will be at Epiphany Church, Grove City, on Saturday, January 8, 2011.

The rationale for the creation of the Task Force on Collaboration emphasized themes of mutuality and good stewardship in the context of a renewed spirit of connectedness between our diocese and the wider Episcopal Church. In that context I would simply express my deep appreciation for the hard work and creative engagement of Bishop Price, the members of our Task Force, and Bishop Rowe and our friends in Northwestern Pennsylvania. I believe there will be many good results from this conversation in the days and years ahead.

Bruce Robison, Chair  
Advisory Task Force on Collaboration

## **ANGLICAN FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER**

Dr. Samuel Shoemaker, whose wife Helen was instrumental in founding the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer, was proposed for commemoration in “Holy Women, Holy Men” at the 2009 General Convention of The Episcopal Church. The commemoration date is January 31. Although the date in 2010 was a Sunday, Calvary Church in East Liberty celebrated. Those who had known Sam were invited to come and share memories at the adult discussion, and at the 11:00 a.m. Eucharist sainthood – and Dr. Shoemaker’s work with the beginnings of Alcoholics Anonymous – were sermon topics. It was a wonderful celebration. Note: There is now a “Shoemaker Room” at Calvary.

Helen used to say of her husband that he “taught her to pray.” Both Shoemakers believed in the importance of small groups in the spread and sharing of Christian teaching, ideals and prayer. Bishop Pardue suggested the name “Anglican Fellowship of Prayer” for the movement Helen was founding in 1958; his vision was that her teachings on prayer go beyond Pittsburgh, and they did – as well as the teachings of others who shared the goals of the AFP.

The ECW of the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania invited me to give an update on the AFP May 8 at St. James’ Church in Titusville, which I very much enjoyed doing. In addition, that ECW planned a retreat September 25 at the Episcopal House in Chautauqua. The Rt. Rev. Donald Hultstrand (executive director of the AFP in the 1970s) was asked to be the retreat leader; his topic, “The Praying Church.” ECW members in the Diocese of Pittsburgh were invited to attend, and to contact Linda Getts, ECW President here, if they could come.

All are invited to visit our website at [www.afp.org](http://www.afp.org).

Respectfully submitted,  
Mrs. Celinda C. Scott  
Corresponding Secretary and Website Coordinator  
Anglican Fellowship of Prayer, US Council  
Parishioner, Christ Episcopal Church, Indiana, PA

## **ARCHDEACON’S REPORT**

We began our year by welcoming Bishop Kenneth Price and by celebrating the ordination of Linda Tardy Wilson to the diaconate at the 2009 Diocesan Convention. Linda has been serving at All Soul’s in North Versailles. The Rev. Wade Lawrence decided to retire from parish ministry, though he continues some part-time ministry as a deacon at Christ Church, North Hills.

It continues to be a great blessing to work with Bishop Price. I am especially grateful for his deep understanding of the diaconate. The deacons of the diocese gathered with Bishop Price this past spring for a Deacon’s Day. It was wonderful to have the Rev. Canon Karl Ruttan, Canon for Life Formation from the Diocese of Southern Ohio and head of their School for Deacons, help facilitate the day. Karl was already well acquainted with the Diocese of Pittsburgh given his past service as Rector of Christ Church, Greensburg.

A key focus of this past year has been to set a direction for deacon formation in the diocese of Pittsburgh. We reviewed the “best practices” in the wider church and found a variety of approaches being used to meet the canonical requirements for deacon training. Many dioceses offer programs in collaboration with

neighboring dioceses in order to better leverage resources and gather a larger community of students. We considered developing an in-house program as well as partnering with several different neighboring dioceses for deacon formation. After much consideration, the Bishop, the Commission on Ministry and I are delighted to be able to offer a School for Deacons in partnership with both the Diocese of Southern Ohio and the Diocese of Ohio. The School for Deacons is a long-established program of the Diocese of Southern Ohio. This formation program provides a good balance of academic preparation, theological reflection and spiritual development over a three year period. Participants meet one weekend a month (for 10 months a year). I am excited about our partnership and have become actively involved with Karl and the other members of the oversight committee. I look forward to having members of the Diocese of Pittsburgh participate as instructors for parts of the program as well.

Ann Staples and I represented Pittsburgh at the NAAD (North American Association for the Diaconate) conference held in Chicago this past June. Ann's presentation of her ministry through the Coal Country Youth Hangout at the Ministry Fair part of the conference was well received.

I also wish to thank the Rev. Dr. Bruce Robison and the congregation of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church for their ongoing support.

The Venerable Jean Chess

## **COMMISSION ON RACISM**

The Commission on Racism works within and through the Diocese to witness to the equality of all persons before God and to raise awareness of racism and to counteract it. Because racism, both covert and hidden, continues to harm our communities and parishes, the Commission suggests that prayer and practical actions to combat racism should be a part of every parish's program.

The two major projects for which the Commission has responsibility are the diocesan celebration of the Feast of Absalom Jones and the anti-racism training that is required of all diocesan leaders, both lay and clergy. General Convention has set 14 as the minimum number of hours for the training and has also mandated that "Seeing the Face of God in Each Other" curriculum and methodology be used.

This year we decided that each of the two trainings we do during the year would focus on a specific group. The first training was planned to take place in one of the districts. The parish that volunteered to host the training felt that nearby parishes would be responsive because there would be very little travel time involved. Unfortunately, the only parish that responded was the host parish but without other parishes responding that training had to be canceled due to low registration.

The second training was focused on the leadership of the Diocese (Board of Trustees, Standing Committee, and Diocesan Council). We were encouraged to find a retreat center and do an overnight. We had never done an overnight before. On the evaluations, some of the participants specifically referred to the benefits of it having been an overnight. During the workshop the participants were charged with developing a plan to work for the elimination of racism in the diocese. To see members of the governing bodies of the diocese developing a plan to work toward eliminating racism in the diocese was quite exciting. The trainer for this workshop was the former program officer for anti-racism and gender equity at the Episcopal Church Center, The Rev. Jayne Oasin.

The Diocese always celebrates the Feast of Absalom Jones the first Saturday in February. During the night preceding the celebration, at least 20 inches of snow fell. The celebration was rescheduled for May 1, 2010. The guest preacher was the Rev. Dr. John Welsh, Vice President and Dean of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. The unique feature this year was the afternoon program that featured a presentation by the Kuntu Repertory Theatre entitled "The Legacy of Absalom Jones." Kuntu was founded in 1974 and is the oldest theater in Pittsburgh presenting plays about African-Americans. Dr. Vernel Lillie is the founder of Kuntu Repertory Theatre and created this original production. Once again, youth were invited to participate in a literary contest, with submissions to be on the subject of racism. This year there were 138 entries. Submissions were received from across the United States, including New York and California. The winner was announced and a presentation was made. Another addition this year was special activities for young children and these activities focused on Absalom Jones.

Our mission statement requires us to take practical actions to combat racism. This spring the Commission wrote to the Allegheny County District Attorney urging justice for Jordan Miles. Jordan Miles, an unarmed CAPA High School honor student was assaulted and brutally beaten by three undercover members of the Pittsburgh police force on January 12, 2009. He is African-American and was walking in Homewood from his home to his grandmother's home. The police filed a number of charges against him that were dismissed by the District Justice and the police were urging the District Attorney to re-file the charges.

On May 15, 2010, Commission members again met for an annual planning day at the Community of Celebration. The previous year's work was evaluated and next year's work was planned.

The Commission annually sends letters to each parish asking that minorities be identified for the Bishop's leadership pool. This list gives the Bishop a list to refer to when he is making appointments. Since Bishop Price is new to the diocese, this list is an important resource for him. Letters were also sent to each parish asking that members of their parish be recommended for appointment by the Bishop to the Commission on Racism. Unfortunately, there was only one response this year to either of these appeals.

Members of the Commission continue to represent the diocese working with other faith-based groups within the community to combat the sin of Racism.

The Commission continues to be blessed with talented and hardworking members. We are being asked to provide, and in some instances create, resource materials that can be used at the parish level, particularly with young people. As our work expands, we will need to acquire new members and we also continue to need broader representation from throughout the diocese.

Members of the Commission are Nancy Travis Bolden, Chair, Dr. Frances Dannenberg and the Rev. Dr. Jared Jackson, all from Redeemer, Squirrel Hill; Alfred Mann and Dr. Elizabeth Middleton, both from St. Andrew's, Highland Park; the Rev. Nancy Chalfant-Walker, St. Stephen's, Wilkinsburg; and Darryl Powell, St. Thomas, Oakmont.

This year we welcomed the following new members: Denise Johnson, Dr. Elizabeth Howard, Jonathon Milton and the Rt. Rev. Kenneth Price.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy Travis Bolden, Chair

## CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATES OF SOUTHWEST PENNSYLVANIA

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Thank you! Because of the investment of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, TEC, along with 25 other Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant judicatories across the region, lives are being touched and transformed. Your partnership with Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania (CASP) seeks to be “*a Unifying Voice in the name of Jesus Christ for the Mission of the Gospel and the Wholeness of Communities.*” In Jesus name diverse confessions and traditions find common ground for witness and service.

Christian Associates Television invites you to tune into “Callings,” a celebration of the churches, ministries, and individuals who have answered “yes” to God’s call to serve his Church and love his people. “Callings” is an interview show co-hosted by Terry Caywood and Pastor Don Green. God calls us to give ourselves to his Church and to each other. “Callings” tells the stories of those who accept the call. “Callings” airs on Comcast Channel 95 in the city of Pittsburgh, Monday through Friday at 11 a.m. and every evening at 7 p.m. Viewers throughout the region can also watch on Comcast ON DEMAND.

Rev. Kimberly Greway has been called as Director of Chaplaincy Services at Allegheny County Jail succeeding Rev. Lynn Yeso. Additions to and changes in personnel are assisting in building upon both our basic pastoral care of inmates and our pre- and post-release program, HOPE. The recidivism rate of our HOPE graduates continues to be in the teens as compared with a general population rate of 65 percent. The Word and an incarnate witness by volunteers to Jesus Christ can transform lives! We continue to need mentors for our HOPE men and women, and worship teams to conduct worship on all pods of the jail.

“Together with Glad and Generous Hearts” (Acts 2:42-47) is the theme for the 2011 National Workshop on Christian Unity, May 9-12 at the Sheraton Station Square. We encourage you to join EDEIO (Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers) along with other denominational networks in this national gathering. For information visit [www.nwcu.org](http://www.nwcu.org).

“Sharing Faith, Sharing Life” is an interfaith initiative bringing Christians, Jews, Muslims and Hindus together to recruit new blood donors who are motivated by their religious beliefs. “Sharing Faith, Sharing Life” does not ask us to compromise our heartfelt beliefs, certainly not our confession of Jesus as Lord. Rather, amidst our religious diversity this blood donor initiative seeks to assist us in affirming our neighbors who are different, yet as persons of one common humanity. Then together we respond in pursuit of that common goal... Donate Blood.

We are most grateful for the presence of Bishop Kenneth Price at our Council table, and Rev. Cynthia Bronson Sweigert’s presence as his proxy. Your continued financial support is most appreciated as we deal with continued intra-denominational conflict and declining judicatory revenues. Know that the bishops and executives are joined in prayer with you during this 2010 Convention. *Veni, Creator Spiritus!*

Pax, Salaam, Shalom,  
The Rev. Dr. Donald B. Green  
Executive Director

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

This is the first year that we have started to gather information about the Christian Education programs in the diocese and then to provide ways for parish Sunday school contact people to be able to communicate with each other. First we collected information from each parish to learn the contact names for the Sunday school program, the curriculum the church is using, learn if the church has Sunday school during the main service or have a separate Christian education hour and the numbers of children in the program. This information was then shared with Sunday school directors so that they have a way to contact each other and be able to better picture what another program may look like. Now that we know the e-mails of the contact people of most of the parishes, we have been able to share ideas and ask questions by e-mail, which started as soon as this information became available.

Then we decided to move forward and have meetings. The participants suggested the topics and brought ideas they wanted to share. At our meetings we saw some Godly Play materials and learned about setting up a Holy Communion class. At the two meetings that we had this year, the participants were able to hear about the Calvary Bookstore from Betty Howard and learn about the Diocesan Resource Center. One topic which was discussed both through e-mail and through the meetings was the concern that we had about Sunday school attendance. This led to more discussions about sharing ideas of activities and curriculums which may better engage children in learning and that the children enjoy. We now have started to share some special materials with each other and to order curriculum materials together to take advantage of large group lower rates.

Christian Education is excited about sponsoring a workshop on Sept. 11 for the diocese concerning Christian Formation and its central role in church ministries today. Sharon Pearson, from Church Publishing, is a nationally-known workshop presenter who will be giving the workshop to the participants.

There will be a Christian Education information table at this year's Diocesan Convention. Also at the convention there will be a Christian Formation workshop where clergy, delegates, and parishioners from the diocese will learn ways to engage people of all ages in Christian formation activities.

For the future, we are looking at having a Godly Play trainer to come to our diocese to give a workshop for teachers. We are helping key people in the diocese to be aware of the Charter for Lifelong Christian Formation that was adopted at the last General Convention to better understand the role of Christian formation to invite, inspire, and transform people in the Episcopal Church. We are taking steps to work with the Christian Formation people in the Episcopal Diocese of Northwest Pennsylvania and the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio. Our present diocese Resource Center is not being utilized but we are looking at ways to make curriculum samples available to parishes for the future and to be able to have a way to become better informed about Christian formation options that are available to energize Christian formation and to help church growth.

Joyce Donadee  
St. Brendan's Episcopal Church

## **COAL COUNTRY HANGOUT YOUTH CENTER**

Coal Country Hangout Youth Center (CCHYC) is a full-service youth center that has been responding to the educational, human services and social needs of children and their families in Northern Cambria, PA, since 1996. Our goals are to provide affordable child care, promote healthy behavior in children through

family support, and address the educational, cultural and spiritual devastation experienced by families in this Appalachian region.

CCHYC offers programs otherwise unavailable to the communities in the area. The Center targets a population of approximately 6,000 boys and girls, infants to age 18 living in rural locales within four school districts, eight boroughs, and seven townships extending from northern Cambria County into northeastern Indiana County and southwestern Clearfield County.

In January of this year, CCHYC welcomed Bregetta “Bree” Whited as the new director of the Teen Center. Encouraging community outreach, under Bree’s direction the teens were a strong helping presence at the free spaghetti dinner co-sponsored by the Northern Laurel Highlands Ministerium and the Spangler Volunteer Fire Association. The Teen Center is open on Friday and Saturday evenings, and an average of 25 to 40 kids ages 11 to 18 enjoy basketball, pool, volleyball and television. Dances and special events are held on a regular basis.

CCHYC has an established after-school and summer enrichment curriculum, “Cambria Re-Coal-lections,” which stresses the interrelatedness of various artistic disciplines with the region’s historic dependency on coal mining. Over the years, 17 workshops have been offered, serving more than 550 children.

This fall, grants from the United Way, the Richard King Mellon Foundation, the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies and the Pennsylvania Humanities Council will support two educational workshops. “The History of the Jewish Migration to the Northern Cambria Area 1918-1925,” is offered in conjunction with Northern Cambria High School under the direction of Karen Bowman and Ryan Bixby of the University of Akron. “Food & Fitness for Preschoolers” is a collaboration of the CCHYC Preschool and Pre-K Counts at Northern Cambria Elementary School under the direction of Hannah Brewer of Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Last summer’s Artz Kamp looked at “Where the Wild Things *Were*: Flora and Fauna in Western PA c.1900.” Classes in puppetry and painting for grades four through seven were taught by Laura Opshinsky and Lynne Magee from the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art. A wonderful evening of performance and an art show followed the two-week experience.

Coal Country Daycare/Preschool is looking forward to an exciting year which will include two new field trips – to the Johnstown Heritage Children’s Museum this fall and an all-day family outing to Idlewild Park next May. Of course, annual events such as the Pumpkin Patch trip, the Northern Cambria Borough Christmas Parade and the Muscular Dystrophy Hop-a-thon are eagerly awaited.

The ecumenical youth group “Saints Alive!” has scheduled a “lock-in” on November 12. Br. Chris Baumann, a postulant for priesthood in the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, is doing his clinical internship with CCHYC and will coordinate this event.

As CCHYC begins its 15th year of operation, we are grateful to all our supporters for making it possible. We look forward to continuing to offer the children of this area safe and supervised care, activities, challenges and new opportunities which would not otherwise be available to them.

Respectfully submitted,  
Deacon Ann Staples  
President, CCHYC Board of Directors



## COMMUNITY OF CELEBRATION

2010 marks our 25th year in Aliquippa. In 1985 the Community of Celebration moved from its home at the Cathedral and College of the Holy Spirit in Millport, Isle of Cumbrae, Scotland. Our roots go back to the 1960s in the renewal of an inner-city church in Houston, Texas. In 1972 the Bishop of Coventry invited a group from the Church of the Redeemer to come to England and share their experience of corporate parish renewal, and the Community of Celebration was born.

During our 13 years in the UK we developed into a contemporary Benedictine religious order, and upon returning to an urban setting in the USA, The Community was recognized by the Standing Commission of Religious Communities of the House of Bishops as a Christian Community, listed on page 127 of *The Episcopal Church Annual 2010*.

The National Association of Episcopal Christian Communities (NAECC) is an association that shares and communicates the fruits of the Gospel, realized in community, with the church and the world. Our vision is of a church, all of whose members realize the fruits of the Gospel in community. Bill Farra serves as its convener, and the Community will host NAECC's next annual meeting in September, 2011.

The Rev. Dr. Moni McIntyre, Rector of Holy Cross Episcopal Church in Homewood, was the speaker at Celebration's 25th Annual Conference in June. Her theme was *Nonviolent Social Change*. Celebration's small conference facility can host and cater for groups of up to 32 people for day conferences, and with our two Guest Houses and other guest rooms we can offer overnight accommodation for 16 people. In addition to our own conferences and individuals who come for retreats, we welcome groups such as the Diocesan Commission on Racism, parish staff and vestry retreats, board meetings, and youth groups on mission.

The Rev. Steven McKeown spends part of his time serving St. Paul's, Steubenville in the Diocese of Ohio and even more of his time as chaplain to the FBI of Western PA, the Aliquippa Police and Fire Departments, the Aliquippa City Council, the Civil Air Patrol (teaching a course in moral leadership), the Federal Air Marshalls, and he serves on the Aliquippa Weed and Seed team.

Celebration is part of a faith-based collaborative which addresses the long-term social and economic issues that trap individuals, families, neighborhoods and communities in cyclical poverty. The groups have been providing critical services in substance abuse, life skills and job training, leadership development, civic engagement and community development activities, and we are convinced that working together will be much more effective. The project is creating a new model of individual and community recovery that has sparked interest by foundation and private sector funders.

James von Minden has developed a keen interest in iconography over the past 2 years. He is part of a local group under the tutelage of an expert iconographer, and he has produced several icons.

On our website, [www.communityofcelebration.com](http://www.communityofcelebration.com), we offer Celebration's music CDs, tapes, songbooks, Psalm collections, and anthems for sale. As our music ministry spans over 40 years, we often receive emails from people who are delighted to have discovered Fisherfolk/Celebration music which was important in their faith journey. We are also contacted by those who are new to Celebration's unique blend of worship resources.

### **Worship Schedule – Chapel of the Holy Spirit**

Monday thru Friday:   Morning Prayer – 8:00 a.m.  
                                  Noonday Prayer – 12:30 p.m.  
                                  Evening Prayer – 5:30 p.m.

Weekly Eucharist on Saturday – 5:30 p.m. (Followed by a common meal to which all are welcome.) Eucharist is also provided on Major Feast days.

Worship in the style of Taizé – first Sunday of every month (except February) at 7:00 p.m. (8:00 p.m. during Daylight Savings Time)

## **CURSILLO**

With the permission of the Standing committee in November 2009, and under the guidance of Bishop Price, the reorganization and renewal of Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh is moving forward with energy and enthusiasm.

Our first organizational meeting was held March 11 at the Diocesan offices. A temporary governing board was elected. It includes Celinda Scott, Christ Church, Indiana; Cindy Leap, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Johnstown; and the Rev. Vicente Santiago, St. Mark's, Johnstown, as Spiritual director.

Over two dozen Cursillistas from across the diocese gathered at St. Mark's in Johnstown on June 13, 2010 to renew their commitment to the Cursillo movement. The word "Ultreya" literally means onward. An Ultreya is a regular gathering of Cursillistas for the purpose of encouraging and developing the witnessing Fourth Day apostolic community. The Community of Celebration opened the Ultreya by leading the music. Barbara Taylor, our National Cursillo representative, came from Long Island, NY to deliver the lay witness talk. The lay response was given by Enid Bishop who was part of the team that brought Cursillo to the Diocese of Pittsburgh. It was important that she was here as we renew the movement within the Diocese. The Clergy response was given by the Rev. Vicente Santiago. A time of fellowship followed the Ultreya.

At our August 14th meeting four additional board members were elected. They are Steve Stagnitta, St. Andrew's, Highland Park; the Rev. Bruce Robison, St. Andrew's, Highland Park; Lionel Deimel, St. Paul's, Mount Lebanon; and Gwen Santiago and John Rogers, St. Mark's, Johnstown. With the Holy Spirit's help we hope to host an authentic three-day weekend for the spring of 2011.

A fall Ultreya will be held at Church of the Nativity, Crafton, on November 6, 2010 starting at 4:00 p.m. Please watch the diocesan newsletter *Grace Happens* for more information. . If you would like more information on Cursillo, please check out our website at [www.cursillo-episcopal-pgh.org](http://www.cursillo-episcopal-pgh.org).

In Peace, De Colores!  
Cindy Leap

## **DIOCESAN LIFE COMMITTEE**

The Diocesan Life Committee was instituted in 2009 by the Diocesan Council in response to a resolution of the Special Convention of 2008 to create a group as a vehicle of intentional relationship building. The initial offering was an event on April 10, 2010, called "Moving Forward Together," to encourage the process of rebuilding the life of the diocese and repairing broken relationships among individuals, groups, and parishes within our diocese. A report of this event is available on the diocesan website.

Growing out of this event is a workshop for diocesan convention 2010 titled “Moving Forward Together: The Conversation Continues.” The Committee was a co-sponsor of the Diocesan Day at the Pirates on September 19.

In development for May 7, 2011, is a day of intergenerational activities and workshops covering a wide range of interests and all ages from nursery through adult. There will be a generous mix of content (workshops), fun and relationships.

In addition to the Diocesan Life Committee’s initiatives, the DLC will assist with the development of conversations in support of two initiatives sponsored by the Bishop: Conversations on Human Sexuality and Conversations on the Anglican Covenant. Again the emphasis will be on having opportunities for sharing different perspectives without being judged.

Diane Duntley  
Chair, Diocesan Life Committee

## **DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATION**

The concluding year has brought a healthy stability to diocesan communications, both internally within the diocese, and externally to the wider church and general public.

Our electronic newsletter, *Grace Happens*, has become a staple in the diocese and a success story among peer publications. On September 1, 2010, the diocese published its 66th edition of the newsletter. Additionally, over 30 other special-edition newsletters have been distributed exclusively to clergy and diocesan leaders. Currently, *Grace Happens* is being sent to 1,732 e-mail addresses. Consistently, the percentage of subscribers who open each week’s e-mail is nearly double the average at similar electronic publications produced by religious organizations.

Our Web site, [www.episcopalpgh.org](http://www.episcopalpgh.org), has supplied information about the diocese 38,173 times in the last year to 18,489 unique visitors. On average, the site is visited 105 times every day. Twenty-six percent of the traffic comes directly to the site; 37 percent is accessed through search engines; and, remarkably, another 37 percent of our visitors are brought our way through links on other Web sites.

Once visitors land on [episcopalpgh.org](http://episcopalpgh.org), they tend to look around. Visitors averaged 2.4 page views per visit, for a total of 93,888 page views during the year. After the home page, the second-most visited resource was our parish roster, which is one of 30 pages devoted to information about diocesan structures. As of this writing, there are 353 stories about the diocese posted on the site.

The diocese enjoyed favorable publicity in the secular news media through a strategic media relations campaign. Stories placed in local newspapers, television and radio over the past year include: Dean George Werner’s leading the U.S. Congress in prayer (September 2009); Bishop Kenneth Price’s nomination as provisional bishop (September 2009); the judge’s awarding control of assets to the diocese (October 2009); the diocesan convention (October 2009); the release of clergy who no longer participate in the diocese (October and November, 2009); repairs to Holy Cross church (December 2009); Bishop Price’s invitation to parish leaders to discuss differences (January 2010); the local Episcopal response to the Haitian earthquake (February 2010); the election of the Rev. Dr. James Simons to the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church (February 2010); Absalom Jones Day and the Frank E. Bolden Literary Contest (May 2010); the release of frozen investment funds (June 2010); and more.

The diocesan communications efforts continue to be led by Rich Creehan, who serves as Director of Communication and liaison to the media, and Andy Muhl, who administers the Web site and electronic newsletters. Both are independent contractors engaged by the bishop to provide their professional expertise to the diocese.

A joint Communications Committee of Diocesan Council and the Standing Committee, co-chaired respectively by Fran Gargotta and Lee Hicks, is currently being restructured.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rich Creehan  
Director of Communication

## **EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN**

ECW work in the diocese has been slow and steady. Last December, members packed Christmas boxes at Deb Wiles' house for the Seaman's Institute river ministry. This spring, Deb and I attended the ECW Provincial Meeting in West Virginia just prior to Synod. We had a successful Spring Ingathering hosted by the Women of Calvary with our bishop as chief celebrant and preacher for the Eucharist. Speaker was Jane Banning, past National ECW President. At that meeting, Mary Sweeney was elected chairperson of the Finance Committee as by then we had received the ECW Endowment Funds from Pool I. Our Fall Ingathering will be held on September 18th at St. Mark's, Johnstown, at which time we will be awarding our first grants. Soon we will have a chairperson for the Memorial Membership Fund so we can award scholarships again. On January 7, 2011 a Night at the Public Theater is planned.

The Board met with Dana Philips at the end of July to plan and set goals for the year. She helped us to look back to see where we had been and then to look to the future to see where we wanted to go. Four goals emerged from the discussion. Goal 1 – We want each woman in the diocese to feel part of the diocese and her parish. Goal 2 – We want each woman in the diocese to have a range of activities to grow through prayer, education, leadership development, and fun. Goal 3 – We want women in the diocese to feel a part of diocesan outreach including UTO and other diocesan-wide activities. Goal 4 – We want each parish to be enabled to have some sort of fundraising activity, no matter how large or small that supports diocesan-wide outreach activities.

Linda Getts  
President

## **JUBILEE MINISTRY**

Jubilee Ministry is called to help the church live out its prophetic vision of empowering people to “do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly before their god” (Micah 6:8).

At present there are three Jubilee Ministry Centers in the diocese:

- Trinity Cathedral
- St. Stephen's, Wilkesburg's Neighborhood Youth Outreach Program
- Coal Country Hangout Youth Center in Northern Cambria

Jubilee Ministry was launched at the General Convention 1982. While we are called to feed the hungry, we are also equally called to address the cause of that hunger. Therefore the goal of Jubilee Ministry is to know the difference and to be prepared to work for both charity and justice.

The Jubilee Network consists of over 600 Jubilee Ministry Centers spread across all provinces of the Episcopal Church, serving the poor and oppressed in their communities. Many provide direct services – food, shelter, healthcare or other assistance. Others advocate on issues of human rights. Most do both, but all focus on empowering their congregations and communities. Visit these Jubilee Centers online at [http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109342\\_11902\\_ENG\\_HTML.htm](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109342_11902_ENG_HTML.htm).

How do you apply to become a Jubilee Ministry? The application process for becoming designated as a Jubilee Ministry is straightforward and can be found on the Episcopal Church’s website at [http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109342\\_15649\\_ENG\\_HTML.htm](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109342_15649_ENG_HTML.htm).

First, contact your Diocesan Jubilee Officer (DJO) for an application or find it online. Complete the application and return as indicated. Plan to meet with your DJO to share your ministry and tell the story of how your work helps to meet basic human needs and build a just society. You may also introduce key members of your staff and/or leadership committee, and ask any questions you may have about Jubilee Ministry.

The DJO will share information about your ministry with the bishop of the diocese, who will determine whether it meets the criteria established by Executive Council and may designate your ministry a Jubilee Ministry. A Certificate of Designation may be issued by the Diocesan Bishop for presentation.

Once designated by your bishop, the Office of Jubilee Ministry will share the story of your ministry with the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church seeking affirmation as a newly-designated Jubilee Ministry. A Certificate of Affirmation will be issued by the Presiding Officers on behalf of the Executive Council for presentation.

By creating a direct and dynamic link between our theology and our ethics – the talk and walk of our faith – Jubilee Ministry involves your congregation in the important work of empowering people to change their lives. Our network of experienced justice and charity ministries shares best practices and proven techniques to take your ministry to the next level. Join us in the fight against poverty and inequity, and together we can lift up strong and empowered communities.

Faithfully submitted,  
Bill Farra  
Diocesan Jubilee Officer

## PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

A report on our work in 2009

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### OUR MISSION

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Article 12 of the Council’s *Constitution and Bylaws* sets its mission: “The Pennsylvania Council of Churches is a voluntary association of separate and autonomous Christian churches, within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, through which its members seek to manifest their fellowship (koinonia) with one another, to engage in common ministries of witness and service, and to advance towards the goal

of visible unity.” This brief annual report illustrates how the Council tried to fulfill its mission in 2009. For additional information, visit [www.pachurches.org](http://www.pachurches.org).

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## FELLOWSHIP

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The former presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Pr. H. George Anderson, argued in an article in *Ecumenical Trends* that “it is clear that personal relationships between our bishops and leaders of other traditions enabled them to take the lead in ecumenical arrangements of all sorts.” The Council has focused on building and sustaining personal relationships and fellowship among the leaders of its member church bodies by

- engaging in common prayer and worship at its board meetings,
  - encouraging leaders to share stories of their coming to faith and their call to ministry,
  - encouraging the sharing of both the opportunities offered by and the concerns of member church bodies around Pennsylvania, and
  - hosting an overnight gathering for religious leaders at the Nittany Lion Inn in State College.
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## COMMON MINISTRIES OF WITNESS AND SERVICE

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### WITNESS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Through its public advocacy ministry, the Council witnessed on behalf of social justice and for the common good. Priorities for the 2009–2010 legislative session were poverty (including all related issues like housing, hunger, health care) and public education. Additional work was done on civic engagement (thanks to an unsolicited grant from the Wallace Global Fund), torture (through the National Religious Campaign Against Torture) and gun violence (which resulted in the endorsement by the Council’s Board of Directors of a resolution on gun violence). Information on issues and opportunities for involvement can be found at [www.pachurchesadvocacy.org](http://www.pachurchesadvocacy.org).

### MINISTRIES OF SERVICE

The Council supported local churches engaging in trucker and traveler ministry at three sites, where three chaplains served along with volunteers and local church leaders. The Council also supported local churches (in the Fruitbelt and in Chester County) engaged in ministry with migrant and seasonal farm workers. Field chaplains and volunteers offer farm workers and their families worship services, spiritual counseling, clothing and other material aid, assistance with immigration issues, emergency transportation for medical care, translation services, emergency housing and food, and recreation.

### WITNESS AMONG PERSONS AT LEISURE

The Council also worked with local park ministry committees to assist in chaplain recruitment and program administration. The annual training held just after the Memorial Day holiday ensured that chaplains were equipped for their ministry. Twenty-three chaplains served campers in 37 state, federal, and private campgrounds.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR CHURCH WORKERS

The Council sponsored a three-day continuing education event for clergy and other church workers, the Pennsylvania State Pastors’ Conference. Planned by a committee of representatives from member bodies, the conference featured the Rev. Dr. Gilbert R. Rendle, senior consultant, Texas Methodist Foundation Institute for Clergy and Congregational Excellence.

## **PITTSBURGH YOUTH INITIATIVE**

The Pittsburgh Youth Initiative is very pleased to submit a report of its first program year. The first diocesan youth event was held on August 22, 2009. The youth initiative hosted a hike with Bishop Johnson in North Park. There were eight parishes represented and about 50 youth joined together for a wonderful event. After the hike, a cookout lunch was generously provided by the owners of Pamela's Diner and everyone joined in a celebration of the Eucharist before parting ways. All of the participants were given a t-shirt for the event thanks to the support of Bishop Johnson.

In November, Calvary Episcopal Church invited the youth of the diocese to join them for a lock-in. From Friday evening through Saturday morning (Nov 20-21), youth from a number of parishes around the diocese gathered for games, food, teaching, and worship. The youth initiative would like to thank Vanessa Sterling and the parish of Calvary Church for their warm hospitality.

A ski trip was planned for January 23, 2010, but was cancelled due to unseasonably warm weather and rain.

On Saturday, April 24, 2010, the Youth Initiative organized an opportunity for all youth leaders, both volunteer and staff, to meet with one another and with Bishop Price. This was a very encouraging event for all in attendance. Youth leaders and the Bishop gathered for lunch and conversation about what was going on in the diocese for our youth and what dreams they had for the future. Bishop Price reaffirmed his commitment to the youth of the diocese and the youth leaders were grateful for his time and attention.

Over the weekend of May 14-16, 2010, the Diocese of Pittsburgh hosted its first diocesan youth retreat in recent years. The youth traveled to Sheldon Calvary Camp where we received a very warm welcome. The youth initiative would like to thank Tim Green and the staff of Sheldon Calvary Camp for opening their doors to us. In past years, this weekend was a time for the youth group of Christ Church North Hills to gather for their parish youth group retreat. This year, they invited the rest of the youth of the diocese to join them, which allowed the youth initiative to host this event. Thank you to Vicki O'Brien and the Christ Church youth group for their hard work and generosity.

Throughout the year the Pittsburgh Youth Initiative Board continued to meet monthly for planning and discussion. We look forward to another program year and a number of opportunities for the youth of the diocese to gather for fellowship, fun, and worship. The Youth Initiative would like to thank the diocese for their support of this critical ministry in our diocese.

Respectfully Submitted: August 16, 2010  
The Rev. Kris Opat  
Chair of the Pittsburgh Youth Initiative

## **PRAYING FOR COMMUNION**

Song & Silence for All God's Family  
...a pilgrimage of trust, a vigil of moving forward in Christ Jesus...  
<http://www.episcopalpgh.org/resources/praying-for-communion/>

The idea is a simple one. On the last Saturday of each month, at least one person from each parish gathers with others from the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh at a different host parish each month for prayer. Praying together in song and silence – celebrating the beauty of an inner life, a communion with God, and the love which Jesus Christ taught us. Amidst the realities of grief and gratitude, we seek to be

available for such a Spirited Presence, a leaven of communion in the Church, in the human family. With humility and openhearted gentleness, we pray for the grace of deep listening, to live in loving balance: *contemptus mundi, amor mundi; nothing matters, everything matters*. May we each grow in God, and may we grow also in the awareness and respect for the work of God in others.

*“Begin the work of peace in yourself so that, once you are at peace, you can bring peace to others.” – St. Ambrose*

Beginning on Jan 31, 2009, twelve people from six parishes gathered at Emmanuel Episcopal (North Side). The prayer pilgrimage journeyed that year to host parishes Trinity Cathedral, Church of the Redeemer (Squirrel Hill), St. Stephen’s Episcopal (Wilkinsburg), St. Andrew’s Episcopal (Highland Park), Calvary Episcopal (East Liberty), All Saints (Brighton Heights), St. Paul’s Episcopal (Mt. Lebanon), Community of Celebration (Aliquippa), St. Peter’s Episcopal (Blairsville, co-hosted by Christ Church, Indiana), and Church of the Nativity (Crafton).

In 2010, a new addition to this unfolding journey was *Praying with Anglican Contemplatives & Other Saints & Sinners*, offering a brief introduction to a different historical person each month as we proceeded with the parish to parish pilgrimage of trust:

Sat., Jan. 30: All Soul’s, North Versailles, John Woolman – Presenter: Don Youse, Jr.

Sat., Feb. 27: St. Brendan’s, Franklin Park, Frank Laubach – Presenter: Nancy Chalfant-Walker

Sat., March 27 : St. Peter’s Episcopal, Brentwood, Thomas R. Kelly – Presenter: CJ Gonzalez

Sat., April 10: Church of the Redeemer – *Moving Forward Together*

As of April 2010, 120 individuals from 19 parishes have participated in at least one of the contemplative prayer services. By the end of 2010, the *Praying for Communion* pilgrimage will have journeyed with twenty-two parishes as we seek discernment for proceeding in 2011.

Sat., May 22: Credo – *Strength for the Journey*

Sat., June 26: Pilgrimage to Ohio for conference with Walter Brueggemann

Sat., July 31: St. Matthew’s, Homestead, Gerard Manley Hopkins – Presenter: Wes Rohrer

Sat., Aug 28: Holy Cross, Homewood, Julian of Norwich – Presenter: Rebecca Cole Turner

Sat., Sept. 25: St. Thomas Memorial, Oakmont, Hildegard of Bingen – Presenter: Susy Robison

Sat., Oct. 30: Young adult-led Pilgrimage, Christ Church, North Hills, Blessed Vida Dutton Scudder – Presenter: Joan Gundersen

Sat., Dec. 4: St. Stephen’s, McKeesport, William Temple – Presenter: Bishop Ken Price

We welcome your participation!

Carol Gonzalez

412-322-2189 or Teacher41@aol.com.

*“It is by the love that unites you that all will know that you are my disciples.”*

## **ROCK THE WORLD YOUTH MISSION ALLIANCE**

Rock the World Youth Mission Alliance is blessed to have our headquarters in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Rock the World’s mission is to multiply young Christian leaders. We pursued this mission this past year through Ambridge Youth Ignite and the Ambridge Sports and Arts Camp; the national “re:mix Young Adult Conference”; the ministry of our Epicenter interns in Ambridge, Aliquippa and Belize; the ministry of our Josiah Project interns in Pittsburgh, Mozambique and Greenville; a youth ministry training seminar



with the Anglican Diocese of Bolivia, and a missions class at Saints Augustine Seminary in the Anglican Diocese of Peru. Finally, Rock the World turned 21 in August of 2010, and welcomed a new Executive Director, Matthew Sweet. The Rev. Whis Hays, Founder, became the Director Emeritus and serves in an advisory role.

Ambridge Youth Ignite (AYI) is a year-around program that seeks to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the youth in Ambridge, and help them become engaged members of their community. Eric and Shea Geisbert began AYI in 2004 as a “second summer” initiative of the Josiah Project, RTW’s collegiate leadership training program. Originally, AYI was mainly a summer sports camp, but it has expanded recently to include an arts camp, youth Lacrosse team, year-round mentoring and arts classes, and overseas mission projects as well. In January, AYI sent a team to Lima to conduct a Sports & Arts Camp in the Anglican Diocese of Peru. This summer, AYI served approximately 100 Ambridge youth through the annual Sports & Arts Camp.

The re:mix Young Adult Conference, held in April in conjunction with New Wineskins for Global Mission, yielded great fruit, as 80 percent of the young people committed to ask at least two people to join them in following Jesus in the next year, and 46 percent committed to devote at least one year of their life to leading others to Jesus outside the United States!

Rock the World’s Epicenter interns served with Church Army’s Uncommon Grounds café in Aliquippa, as well as interning at YWAM in Belize. One Epicenter intern, Roberto Park (son of SAMS missionaries the Rev. John and Susan Park), also started a Sunday Night Fellowship Group in Ambridge to provide an opportunity for worship, Bible study and fellowship for young adults.

Our Josiah Project interns served in Pittsburgh at the Student Church Planting Experience conference, with AYI, at an orphanage for AIDS babies in Mozambique, and Tucker Hannah from Advent, Nashville, served his second summer interning at a youth group at Christ Church, Greenville, SC.

Meredith Borel, our Director of Global Initiatives, traveled to the Diocese of Bolivia in January to train youth ministry leaders, then to the Diocese of Peru to teach the first practical Global Missions class at Saints Augustine Seminary. She is currently preparing to represent Rock the World at the Third Lausanne Congress on World Evangelization in Capetown, South Africa.

In August we celebrated 21 years of God’s work through this ministry! We welcomed our new executive director, Matthew Sweet, and honored outgoing director and founder, the Rev. Whis Hays. As we enter a new season, we hope to better serve the parishes of the diocese, especially through Striking Fire Youth Ministry Training Seminars and re:mix Regional Conferences. Please go to [www.rocktheworld.org](http://www.rocktheworld.org) to learn more about how we can partner to multiply young Christian leaders here in this diocese and beyond!

Meredith Borel, Director of Global Initiatives  
The Rev. Whis Hays, Founder and Director Emeritus

## **REPORT OF SHELDON CALVARY CAMP**

Seventy-four years ago, Calvary Camp was established as a place for children and young people to experience Christian faith as it is integrated into every aspect of daily life: living, playing, and worshipping together. Sheldon Calvary Camp continues to live out this mission to offer an environment where spiritual growth is encouraged and self-esteem is fostered. We seek to build a Christian

community which nurtures friendship, models the acceptance of individual differences, and values all of God's creation.

In the summer of 2010, nearly 1,300 individuals experienced the ministry of Calvary Camp:

Coed campers – 903

Family campers – 325

Day Campers - 54

Opportunity campers (differently-abled adults) – 65

The camp staff recognized four Outstanding Campers, who exemplify the spirit of Calvary Camp: Quinn Kobelak, Shannon Greenbaum, Vaughan Skinker and Craig Ketchum.

The life of the camp is centered in Bishop Thomas Chapel, St. Michael's by the Lake. Compline was read on 18 weekday evenings. The Holy Eucharist was celebrated on nine Friday nights at the close of camping sessions, and on six weekday mornings during Family Camp. There were 10 Sunday morning celebrations of the Eucharist. The Calvary Camp community also celebrated a baptism in July.

We were delighted to welcome Bishop Price for several visits this summer. During staff training, he came to meet and commission the staff of 2010. At the camp board meeting in June, he saw Coed Camp in action, and in August he shared time and conversation with campers at Family Camp. The Bishop's life-time of experience in camping is helpful and supportive for us in so many ways.

Leadership is provided by the camp directors: Tim Green, Executive Director, the Rev. Leslie Reimer, Director of Spiritual Life, Anne Muhl, Administrative Director, and P. J. Williamson, Aquatic Director. With their guidance, a staff of 75 young adults, including 23 staff-in-training, provided recreation, learning opportunities, nurture and care for the campers. The staff also included five kitchen staff, six nurses, and a night watchman, keeping campers well fed, healthy, and safe.

Support and encouragement for the work of Calvary Camp comes from the camp's committed and energetic Board of Directors: David Dix, President, Lewis Amis, Dr. Charles Atwood, Susan Carenbauer, Steven Conomikes, Elvira Eichleay, Normandie Fulson, Jessica Green, Timothy Greene, Colleen Kilbert, Lawrence Knapp, the Rev. Dr. Moni McIntyre, Cheryl Milford, the Rev. Scott Quinn, the Rev. Nathan Rugh, David Sharbaugh, Amy Ludman, Tamara Spoonhoward, John Strong, Gary Taylor, the Rev. Jeffrey Murph, and the Rt. Rev. Kenneth L. Price, Jr., *ex officio*. The Rev. John Thomas is Director Emeritus.

Sheldon Calvary Camp is a ministry which extends far beyond the boundaries of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Staff members came from 10 states and from Spain, and campers from 20 states. At the same time, the camp continues to be a resource to the people and parishes of Pittsburgh, providing a transforming experience of God's love expressed in Christian community. We are especially pleased to be working with the Pittsburgh Youth Initiative of the diocese in providing year round opportunities for young people in the diocese.

If you have never been to Calvary Camp, you are always welcome to visit. If you know children and young people who would enjoy camp, please consider sending them to camp. Information is available on our website at [www.calvarycamp.org](http://www.calvarycamp.org). Our hope is to share this remarkable, holy place on the Lake Erie shore with as many people as possible each year.

In Faith,

Timothy N. Green  
Executive Director

The Rev. Leslie G. Reimer  
Director of Spiritual Life

Anne M. Muhl  
Administrative Director

## SHEPHERD WELLNESS COMMUNITY

Shepherd Wellness Community is the only AIDS Community Center in Western Pennsylvania. From its inception in 1987, Shepherd Wellness Community has offered support and assistance to persons infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in an atmosphere of acceptance and understanding. Our mission affirms that “Shepherd Wellness Community is a safe, compassionate community empowering people affected by HIV/AIDS to live with dignity.”

Although independently incorporated and governed by an elected Board of Directors, Shepherd Wellness Community is a sub-parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh (of the Episcopal Church) and operates under the 501(c)3 nonprofit umbrella of the diocese.

Shepherd Wellness Community arose out of a desperate need. Societal denial, prejudice and fear characterized the early years of the AIDS epidemic. There was no place in Pittsburgh where people with AIDS could gather with their partners, families and friends in a safe, secure setting that provided shelter from the stresses they were undergoing. In 1987, four young men living with AIDS, a social worker, a physician and Father Lynn Edwards met to discuss what could be done. With initial funding from the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh, they created a gathering place and resource center for people affected by HIV/AIDS.

In the fall of 2001, the Bloomfield Community United Methodist Church donated their church and parsonage to Shepherd Wellness for use as an AIDS Community Center and offices.

Over the past 23 years, as the needs of our members have changed, SWC has responded by adding new HIV/AIDS programs and services. Our scope of services in 2010 includes:

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- Wellness dinners three times each week, where SWC members, friends and family socialize and share HIV/AIDS information. Last year we served over 12,000 meals.
- Support groups for HIV-positive members, for individuals affected by HIV/AIDS (parents, friends, loved ones), and for heterosexual HIV-positive people.
- Quality of life social events, outings and our annual SWC Picnic for persons affected by HIV/AIDS, to help combat isolation and loneliness and reach out to affected families.
- Words of Wellness newsletter mailed every other month to 2,400 households offering AIDS information, personal sharing and insight and hope for those living with HIV/AIDS.
- Spiritual Life programs including interfaith services and spiritual life speakers.
- Peer counseling offering our HIV positive members support, counseling and referrals to community services.
- Treatment Education, HIV Risk Reduction, and Wellness education programs.
- Alternative and holistic therapy programs, fitness and life skill classes.
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The Board of Directors, staff and members of Shepherd Wellness Community express our gratitude to the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh for many years of support which have touched the lives of hundreds of people living with HIV/AIDS. In 2011, a grant from the Episcopal Diocese will help us to reach out to families affected by AIDS through our Quality of Life outings and social events.

Sincerely,  
B. Scott Peterman  
Executive Director, Shepherd Wellness Community

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Members of the Social Justice and Outreach Committee include: Wes Rohrer (St. Andrew's), Jerry Stephenson (Christ Church, North Hills), Moni McIntyre (The Church of the Holy Cross), Judy Rosensteel (All Souls, North Versailles), Nate Rugh (Calvary), Jared Jackson (representing the Commission on Racism), Marianne Novy (Redeemer), Sue DeWalt (Calvary), Colleen Sari (Calvary), and Nancy Lapp, Chair.

Since we are an entirely new committee of the diocese, one of our early decisions was to develop a mission statement.

“I will show you my faith by what I do.” (James 2:18)

The mission of the Social Justice and Outreach Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of Pittsburgh is to encourage the people of God to hear and respond to the cries of the poor, the hungry, the oppressed, and the alienated within our communities, the nation and the world. All this we do in the name of Jesus the Christ who called us to feed his sheep.

In late August, packets of materials were sent to all churches of the diocese concerning church and interfaith activities surrounding the G-20 summit meeting in Pittsburgh. We encouraged participation and particularly understanding of world economic problems, noting the concerns of the faith community in the summit are much as the goals we have accepted in the Millennium Development Goals.

The Committee developed a survey which was sent to the churches of the diocese in order to develop a contact list, find out about the outreach activities in our churches, and ask for suggestions for diocesan-wide projects. Eleven of the twenty-seven parishes responded.

A display at Convention with materials and information concerning social justice and outreach issues, staffed by members of the committee stimulated considerable interest.

Diocesan Council asked for recommendations concerning the Lambeth funds provided in the diocesan budget. In accordance with the mission statement of the Social Justice and Outreach Committee and the Millennium Development Goals of the TEC, we proposed that our .7 percent Lambeth resolution funds in the amount of \$2,955 be divided in thirds: one-third would be designated for the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund (targeted to the needs of Haiti if possible); one-third would be designated for the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank; and one-third would be designated for the direct needs of people of the Homewood neighborhood. This later would be for the needs of the Homewood community beyond The Church of the Holy Cross, for the requests that come for help with such things as heating and electric bills, doctor bills, the local food banks, and needs of the community, one of the neediest areas of our Diocese. Our recommendation was accepted by council.

In planning for a diocesan-wide project, after consideration of several venues, it was decided that an action project in line with goals of Social Justice and Outreach in which all could participate would be working with Habitat for Humanity to renovate a home. A speaker from Habitat for Humanity of Pittsburgh, Christina Bologna their Faith representative, presented their program to about 100 folks from the diocese churches on March 21. A house in Sharpsburg was chosen. Our obligations were to raise between \$20,000 and \$30,000 and to provide volunteers on workdays. A meeting of representatives who would serve as coordinators from participating churches was held on April 15, and a kick-off program led by Bishop Price took place on May 8 at the Sharpsburg house. Work continued in May and June. A dedication of the house for the Somalian family will take place when the new owners' "sweat" hours are completed, probably in September. We are thankful to the coordinators, rectors, vestries, and all the volunteers who helped us reach our goals and benefited from the work and fellowship with others of the

diocese and community. The following churches participated with funds and/or volunteers: All Saints, All Souls, Calvary, Christ Church North Hills, Church of the Holy Cross, Church of the Nativity, Church of the Redeemer, St. Andrew's, St. Peter's Brentwood, St. Paul's Mt. Lebanon, St. Stephens Wilkinsburg, St. Thomas Oakmont, and Trinity Cathedral.

As the new season opens, other diocesan-wide plans and projects are being considered. These will undoubtedly include help with the Episcopal Urban Caucus meeting in Pittsburgh next February, participation in the All in God's Family event, work with the hungry and homeless in our midst, and sharing our resources with those throughout the world. The Committee has been very active and enthusiastic about these concerns.

Nancy Lapp

## TRINITY CATHEDRAL CHAPTER

God has continued to bless and challenge Trinity Cathedral to live into our mission since the last Diocesan Convention as well as be the cathedral for the whole of the diocese(s). Our task was "to serve the Lord Jesus Christ in the heart of this metropolitan community" by faithfully engaging in the following activities:

- Being a holy, welcoming, spiritual home for all.
- Communicating, with excellence, the truth, beauty, and excitement of Christian faith to all ages and people in the context of contemporary life and culture.
- Providing a vibrant home for discipleship, study, service, outreach and fellowship for both metropolitan and Diocesan communities.
- Being rooted in our rich tradition of Anglican theology and sacramental worship.
- Serving as both the seat and doorway for the Diocese.

Some of the specific ways in which we were blessed and challenged follow:

### **Holy, welcoming, spiritual home for all**

- We actively, faithfully, and humbly attempted to live out the mandate articulated in our Special Resolution, ratified by Chapter in July 2008 and the Parish in September 2008, "...*the people and Chapter of Trinity Cathedral proclaim their allegiance to Jesus Christ and their continued support of the vision of Trinity Cathedral to be "A Missionary Cathedral Building Up a Missionary People of God" for any and all who enter our doors—whether they be our parish members, our diocesan brothers and sisters in Christ, our friends in the arts, our neighbors who live and work in downtown Pittsburgh, or our visitors from near and far.*"
- We offered daily celebrations of Holy Eucharist – once over the lunch hour Monday through Saturday and twice on Sunday mornings.
- We dedicated ourselves to morning and evening prayers during the weekdays.
- Trinity Cathedral welcomed our new seminarian Michelle Domeisen.

### **Communicating the truth, beauty, and excitement of Christian faith**

- Father Paul Johnston continued his Chaplaincy to the Arts in a variety of exciting ways including the annual *Blessing of the Artists* liturgy, prayer groups with members of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, service on the board of the Oakland Girls Choir, and showcasing Trinity Cathedral's amazing acoustics by inviting instrumental and vocal musicians to perform for our parish, Diocesan, and general communities

### **Home for discipleship, study, service, outreach, and fellowship**

- We have dedicated one Tuesday a month during lunchtime to special prayer time to praise God for his many blessings regarding the Cathedral and to seek His guidance in continuing to be the Cathedral for all.
- The Cathedral began what will become an annual celebration of All Saints Day with the silent movie version of the *Phantom of the Opera* and organ recital.
- Trinity Cathedral engaged in weekly adult Christian Education forums in which in which participants studied the Gospel lessons and in particular, the Sermon on the Mount through the lens of *The Good and Beautiful Life*, explored their spiritual gifts and had many enjoyable moments discussing *Finding God in the Questions*.
- One small-group home Bible study continued to meet faithfully on a bi-weekly basis.
- The Cathedral hosted numerous bible studies and support group activities during the week days.
- Our ministry, in partnership with the Diocese and others, to Shepherd's Heart continued during the late fall, winter, and early spring. Our congregation made egg casseroles for Sunday morning breakfasts for the patrons of Shepherd's Heart as well as provided volunteers on selected Sunday and weekday mornings to support the ministry. This summer we collected used towels for the clients of Shepherd's Heart to use for personal hygiene and showering.
- Our walk-in ministry for the homeless, in conjunction with other downtown churches continued as we served numerous individuals by providing spiritual comfort and material comforts such as clothing, blankets, meals, bus passes.
- Our Cathedral raised up members of a Movers Guild to assist with preparations for large events such as Diocesan gatherings.
- A weeding ministry was established to care for the newly-landscaped burial ground.

### **Rich tradition of Anglican theology and sacramental worship**

- Cathedral worship services utilized the full spectrum of liturgical opportunities afforded by the Book of Common Prayer including Rite I and II usage in the Daily Offices and Holy Eucharist.
- Healing Prayer ministry was offered by members of the Order of St. Luke on Sunday mornings, by clergy at the Thursday noon Eucharist, and privately to individuals who live, work, or visit our downtown Cathedral.
- Other sacramental ministries and rites of Holy Baptism, Reconciliation, and Holy Matrimony were celebrated publicly and privately throughout the year.
- The Trinity Cathedral Choir and Music Guild greatly enhanced the Sunday morning and Holy Day worship services through a wide variety of choral anthems and special instrumental offerings. The First Sunday in Lent featured a Sung Litany in procession and the Tridium offered numerous chants, hymns, and anthems in support of the special liturgies for each day.
- Trinity Cathedral hosted a Renewal of Marriage Vows ceremony and reception open to all married couples and particularly those who were married at Trinity.

### **The seat and the doorway for the Diocese**

- We served as the host of a number of Diocesan events including the annual Renewal of Vows for clergy during Holy Week, and the Diocesan Convention in October 2009 (as we will again in 2010). The Cathedral has regularly hosted the monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees and Standing Committee.
- We also were blessed to have Bishop Kenneth Price celebrate the Easter Sunday service, Trinity Sunday visitation, and join us for our annual Victorian Tea reception with his wife, Mariann.

We look forward to continuing to do the work God lays before us.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly L. Glass, Chair, Executive Committee, Trinity Cathedral Chapter

## TRINITY SCHOOL FOR MINISTRY

There is much to report from Trinity School for Ministry, but this convention report will focus on the most important aspect of our life together as a community of faith and learning in the past year: curriculum review.

Trinity School for Ministry has begun the implementation phase of a major curriculum review begun nearly three years ago. Trinity's curriculum is foundational to the Kingdom-building work of "Forming Christian Leaders for Mission." It is the means by which TSM conveys its Trinitarian vision of the Kingdom of God to its students, both lay and clergy, who in turn take that vision out to the world to bring people to the saving grace of Jesus Christ. Curriculum review is one of the most important tasks facing any institution of higher learning. It is difficult, time consuming, and richly rewarding work, and it is work in which the entire Trinity Community has been engaged for several years. At this February's board of trustees meeting, Trinity's revised curriculum was enthusiastically endorsed. The work has produced a curriculum that continues to build on the firm Christ-centered, evangelical, and Anglican foundation on which Trinity was founded.

TSM's curriculum review is the result of a fresh approach to the central questions of, "Who are we as an institution? What kind of Christian leader do we want to help to form? How is our curriculum designed to reflect both who we are and what kind of leader we want to help to form?" Out of these central questions emerged a three-phased process that was spread over a three-year period. The board of trustees led the way in Phase One by taking a close and thoughtful look at "Who are we as an institution?" This phase involved an examination of our core values, particularly in the broader context of the changing landscape of 21st century Anglicanism. This phase included interviews with representatives of all of Trinity's many constituencies. Current students, alumni, board members, faculty, supporters, and church leaders both here and abroad were asked to discuss their perceptions of Trinity and their vision for the future. Out of this intentional listening process came a clarification of TSM's core values, which strongly reaffirmed the tradition rooted in the primacy of the Scriptures and the doctrine of salvation by grace alone through faith alone, as expressed in the classic *Book of Common Prayer*.

Building on this work, Phase Two took a serious look at "What kind of Christian leader do we help to form?" This phase also involved a listening process to explore the nature of the Church that we will be serving at this time in our history. There were lengthy and useful discussions among our various constituencies to help us to understand the realities of the changing global and North American Anglicanism. As the result of this work, the faculty created a comprehensive list of student outcomes reflecting TSM's goal to form strong leaders taking the Gospel message to every part of the globe.

The curriculum review was intentionally designed to have each phase build on the other. With Phases One and Two complete, we were able to move to Phase Three by taking a serious look at Trinity's existing curriculum. There was clearly much that was positive and constructive. But there were some specific areas that we needed to look at more closely. For example, we are increasingly sensitive to the increased cost of a degree, potentially adding to student debt. Student debt is seen as a real impediment to students being able to take on small churches or church planting after graduation.

The faculty carefully examined every class offered and every extra-curricular program in which our students are involved. There was much prayer and much conversation. It was at this point in the process that curriculum review became curriculum revision. A number of positive and very exciting ideas came from the faculty in this period. A new, more integrated and comprehensive curriculum began to emerge. The approval of the board trustees that we could begin the implementation phase. Here are some brief highlights of the new curriculum.

- Revision of Trinity's language requirement

A survey of the language requirements of other seminaries showed a range from eight semesters of language to no language requirement. During our discernment process we addressed the question of what language training will assist the pastor/minister in his/her work. The Biblical Studies department came up with a creative answer. All students will be required to take an introductory course, Introduction to Biblical Languages and Interpretation. This course will offer students a broad based introduction of both Greek and Hebrew. The student will then choose which of the two languages will be continued in grammar and exegesis. This change was made possible by the realities of new technologies and language resources.

- Elimination of 500-level survey courses

It was decided that the broad-based survey courses were limiting a student's ability to go into comprehensive depth in the full range of courses for which Trinity has always been particularly strong: Bible, Church History, and Systematic Theology. Under the new curriculum, the introductory survey material will be integrated into a series of upper-level courses. This will expose every student to the full breadth of a discipline. For example in Old Testament, each student will now take individual courses in Pentateuch, Prophets, and the Writings. In New Testament, students will take Gospels, The Writings of Paul, and Acts and the Early Church. The same pattern will be repeated in Church History with requirements in all of the key period in history: Early Church, Medieval and Reformation, and Modern. Likewise Systematic Theology will be taught in three classes: God the Father, the Creator; God the Son, the Reconciler; and God the Holy Spirit, the Redeemer, which will also integrate Church, Ministry and Sacraments.

- Formation and Catechesis

In Pastoral Theology, a new course will be required. Formation and Catechesis will give every Master of Divinity student exposure to the crucial topic of how we as a Church teach our parishes and congregations. There has been much discussion lately that the Church has largely failed in this task. This course will provide students the opportunity to explore new ways to help spiritually form our people.

- Mission

Our mission is to Form Christian Leaders for Mission. Our goal is to prepare faithful witnesses to the Gospel, ready to plant churches, build churches, and grow churches to fulfill the Great Commission. To that end, World Mission and Evangelism and Church Planting will now be required of all students. During our discussions, one phrase seemed to summarize the goal of our curriculum review process: "Laying Sure Foundations."

The Venerable Mark Stevenson, PhD

Academic Dean