



Wednesday, July 5, 2017

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / www.diomass.org

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Diocesan Convention preparation is underway

*Deadline for resolutions,
nominations, reports is Sept. 8.*

*Plan to attend a pre-convention
forum in October.*

The 232nd annual Diocesan Convention will take place on *Saturday, Nov. 4* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Preliminary information was sent to delegates and clergy on June 30 and also is posted at www.diomass.org/diocesan-convention-2017.

All resolutions, nominations for diocesan elections, proposed constitutional and canonical amendments and committee reports are due in the Office of Convention and Council by **Friday, Sept. 8 at 5 p.m.**

Positions to be filled by election at this year's convention include: secretary and treasurer of the diocese; alternate deputies to the 2018 General Convention; alternate deputies to Provincial Synod; members of Standing Committee, the Diocesan Disciplinary Board, the Cathedral Chapter and the Board of Directors of the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center, and a member of the Trustees of Donations. Find the position descriptions [here](#) and the nomination form [here](#).

Pre-convention forums in October will offer an important opportunity for learning and discussion about the issues and business to come before the convention, including resolutions and the proposed budget. All are welcome; clergy and convention delegates are especially encouraged to participate. Forums are scheduled to take place from 7 to 9 p.m. on:

- *Wednesday, Oct. 18* at the Church of the Good Shepherd (74 High Street) in Wareham;
- *Thursday, Oct. 19* at Emmanuel Church (5 Bryant Street) in Wakefield;
- *Tuesday, Oct. 24* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston; and
- *Wednesday, Oct. 25* at St. Elizabeth's Church (1 Morse Road) in Sudbury.

FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Office of Convention and Council (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or lsimons@diomass.org).

Church Pension Group offers "Planning for Wellness" conferences

*Oct. 3 for lay employees
Oct. 4-5 for clergy*

The Church Pension Group will host an overnight "Planning for Wellness" conference for members of the clergy and their spouses and partners, to be held *Wednesday-Thursday, Oct. 4-5* (starting at 9 a.m. on Wednesday and concluding at 1 p.m. on Thursday) at the Holiday Inn (31 Hampshire Street) in Mansfield. The conference will focus on managing finances (with one-on-one financial discussions available on a first-come, first-served basis), improving well-being through exercise, nutrition and stress management;

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[Visit the Events calendar here.](#)

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and maximizing Church Pension Group plan benefits, including information about plan revisions that will become effective in January 2018.

The fee to attend is \$75 for clergy members or \$100 per couple, which includes the overnight stay and meals. (There is a reduced rate for those staying off-site).

A similar program for church lay employees and their spouses and partners will be offered at no cost on *Tuesday, Oct. 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*, at the Holiday Inn, Mansfield.

Child and elder care costs for all participants can be subsidized up to a certain amount. To register or learn more, visit www.cpg.org/pfw or contact admissions@cp.org or 888-274-2828.

***Cathedral now offering
Santa Misa en Español
on Wednesdays***

*Also: Creation Care Service on
Sunday, July 30*

Santa Misa en Español, a Spanish-language service of Holy Eucharist, is now being offered at *noon on Wednesdays* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston, in the Chapel of St. John the Evangelist. The Rev. Edgar Gutierrez-Duarte is the celebrant, with the Rev. Ema Rosero-Nordalm, the Rev. Nancy Gossling and the Rev. Bryan Pearson assisting. All are welcome.

Additionally, as part of a series of creative liturgies on fifth Sundays, July 30 will be Creation Care Sunday at the cathedral church's 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist, featuring readings and music relating to creation care. Everyone is invited.

FOR INFORMATION: Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Boston (617-482-4826, ext. 221 or cathedral@diomass.org).

CHURCHWIDE:

- The **Episcopal Church Advisory Council for the Stewardship of Creation is accepting applications for the latest round of grants** for local faith-based projects for mitigating climate change and safeguarding the integrity of creation. Recommendations for grants up to \$10,000 will be made to the Episcopal Church's Executive Council for its October 2017 meeting, with final grant decisions to be announced in November and funds released in December. More information is available [here](#). The application deadline is Aug. 20.

- Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America issued a joint statement on May 18 calling for **prayer, advocacy and fasting for hunger awareness** on the 21st of each month through December 2018, at which time the 115th Congress will conclude. The effort targets the 21st day because by that time each month, 90 percent of SNAP (formerly known as food stamps) benefits have been used, causing families to experience the last week of the month as a hungry week. Read more [here](#).

Upcoming youth ministry events:

Questions about these events may be directed to the Rev. H. Mark Smith (617/482-4826, ext. 215 or hmsmith@diomass.org).

- The **Youth Leadership Academy (YLA) camp** is *Sunday-Friday, July 23-July 28* at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. This special week at the camp is the official launch of a yearlong program designed for young leaders entering 9th or 10th grade in the fall. The camp experience offers leadership development and faith formation, plus all that summer camp has to offer. At the end of the week, participants are introduced to the yearlong YLA and invited to continue (but signing up for the YLA week at camp is not committing to the yearlong program). Register at www.bchcenter.org/camp.

Those who can't make the launch week at camp but feel that the yearlong YLA program might be for them can apply online [here](#).

- **Applications for the 2017-2018 Diocesan Youth Council (DYC) are now available.** Find all instructions for completing applications [here](#). All applications are due *Wednesday, Aug. 16*. Members of the Diocesan Youth Council are students in the 10th-12th grades who act as the official youth presence at Diocesan Convention. They also work throughout the year to plan and run diocesan youth events and strive to make the church a nurturing Christian community that encourages the spiritual growth of young people.

- The **Office of Youth Ministry's 2017-2018 events** have been announced and are available [here](#), including middle and high school retreats, pre-Confirmation retreats and the Good Friday retreat. More information and registration forms are available on the "[Upcoming Events](#)" page at www.diomassyouth.org. Information about a fall series of youth worker gatherings will be available soon.

TRAINING & LEARNING:

- Save the date for **Diocesan Stewardship Leaders Training: Saturday, Sept. 9, 9 a.m.**, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Join with stewardship leaders from across the diocese to hear what's working in other congregations and spend the morning learning about the fundamentals of jump-starting the annual pledge campaign. More details and registration information will follow soon.

FOR INFORMATION: Lynd Matt, Office of Development (617-482-4826, ext. 515 or lmatt@diomass.org).

GRANTS & LOANS:

- Applications for **2017 deanery (Sending Serving and House of Mercy) grants** are available [here](#). They are due by *Monday, Oct. 16*.

FOR INFORMATION: Lauren Zook, Grants Administration (617-482-4826, ext. 306 or lzook@diomass.org).

- The deadline to apply for **clergy sabbatical grants for 2018** is *Monday, Oct. 16, 2017*. Application information is available [here](#). Completed applications should be sent to: Office of the Bishop Suffragan, Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, 138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111. Notifications of grant awards will be sent out on Nov. 16, 2017.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Michael Hodges (978-475-0529 or mhodges@christchurchandover.org) or The Rev. Kate Ekrem (781-862-6408 or kate@our-redeemer.net).

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its June 15 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Voted a letter of gratitude be sent to Win Treese, who is stepping down as co-chair of the Mission Strategy Implementation Organizing Team.

Heard a mission strategy update from consultant Kristin Hendler.

Heard a report from the mission hub program director, Jin Min Lee, on several of the hubs, and voted approval of the following hub budgets:

Plymouth, Cape and Islands Mission Hub for 2017, maximum spending of \$70,292.28.

North Shore Mission Hub for 2017, maximum spending of \$222,195.

Metrowest Mission Hub for 2017-2018, maximum spending of \$156,571.

Merrimack Valley Mission Hub, allocation of \$70,000, with \$55,000 of that amount to be allocated from the proceeds of unspent funds from the South Shore Mission Hub and \$15,000 granted from the Sears Fund, with the request that the hub re-examine its budget to find possibilities for reduced spending in order to complete its program year.

Heard possibilities for other uses of the remaining unspent funds from the South Shore Mission Hub.

Voted that the Executive Committee at its next meeting will review and vote on the budget for the South Coast Mission Hub.

Voted to accept the audit of the 2016 financial statements of the diocese.

Reviewed an updated version of the proposed 2018 diocesan budget.

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Voted to allocate 25 percent of assessment revenue from the 2018 operating budget to strategic ministries.

Voted to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$150,000 from the agency funds of the diocese for severance and outplacement assistance for diocesan staff in 2018.

Reviewed the positions to be filled by election at this year's Diocesan Convention.

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Saturday, Sept. 9, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Society of St. Margaret (50 Harden Hill Road) in Duxbury. FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Office of Convention and Council (617-482-4826, ext. 406 or lsimons@diomass.org).*

JOB POSTINGS:

Go to www.diomass.org
(Resources for Congregations & Clergy > [Employment](#)).

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site: three positions, [director of programs and engagement](#), [director of operations](#) and [grants, network and communications organizer](#), at Episcopal City Mission; [coordinator of Christian education](#) at St. Dunstan's Church in Dover; [sexton](#) at St. Stephen's Church in Lynn; two positions, [communications assistant](#) and [director of children and youth ministries](#) at St. Paul's Church in Brookline; [director of Christian education for children and youth](#) at St. Michael's Church in Marblehead; [director of youth ministry](#) at St. Paul's Church in Lynnfield; [bookkeeper](#) at the Church of St. Augustine and St. Martin in Boston; [children's minister](#) at Grace Church in New Bedford; [director of children, youth and family ministries](#) at All Saints Parish in Brookline; [development and operations manager](#) for Life Together; [music administrator](#) at Trinity Church in Boston; [organist](#) at Emmanuel Chapel in Manchester-by-the-Sea; and [sexton](#) at All Saints' Church of the North Shore in Danvers.

CLERGY SEARCH & CALL REPORT:

Communication regarding deployment and parish transitions should be directed to the Rev. Dr. Jean Baptiste Ntagengwa (617/482-4826, ext. 400 or jbntagengwa@diomass.org).

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:

BOSTON, Trinity Church
CAMBRIDGE, St. Peter's Church
WALTHAM, Christ Church

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

COHASSET, St. Stephen's Church
DUXBURY, Church of St. John the Evangelist
MEDFORD, Grace Church
VINEYARD HAVEN, Grace Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

FALMOUTH, St. Barnabas's Church

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CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

FRANKLIN, St. John's Church
HANOVER, St. Andrew's Church

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

None at this time.

OTHER OPEN POSITIONS:

BROOKLINE, St. Paul's Church: Curate/assistant/associate rector

CLERGY CHANGES:

The Rev. Paul Bresnahan has been called as interim dean of St. Peter's Cathedral in Helena, Mont., starting on Aug. 1.

The Rev. Sarah Conner has been appointed interim priest at St. Peter's Church in Cambridge, starting Aug. 14.

The Rev. Nancy Jane Hagner, the associate rector at Trinity Church in Princeton, N.J., has been called as rector of Trinity Church in Concord starting Oct. 1.

The Rev. Duncan Hilton has been called as minister for discipleship and discernment at St. Michael's Church in Brattleboro, Vt., starting on July 1.

NEXT fyi:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of each month. The deadline for the Aug. 2 issue is **Wednesday, July 26 at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.
