



Wednesday, FEB. 3, 2010

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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Budget Committee announces open hearings. See page 2.

Focus on broken economy this Lent. See page 3.

Plus: Be a B-SAFE partner; Sign up for business practices & audits workshops; Stewardship Seminar on April 10; and more. Notes start on page 4.

ERD provides Haiti earthquake response resources at er-d.org

Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) reports in a Jan. 26 update that, with its help, the Diocese of Haiti is running a tent camp for as many as 3,000 earthquake survivors on a field next to the destroyed College St. Pierre. In addition, ERD is continuing its work with the Diocese of the Dominican Republic, IMA World Health and World Village to make daily shipments of food and medical supplies, organize air drops to communities not easily

Continued on page 2

March 6 Learning Event focuses on "Claiming Discipleship"

Registration is open at www.diomass.org for the annual diocesan **Spring Learning Event, "Claiming Discipleship,"** which takes place on *Saturday, March 6, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*, at the George Sherman Union at Boston University. The day's program will include a morning presentation by the Rev. Chip Stokes, Rector of St. Paul's Church in Delray Beach, Fla., on the evolving stages of faith life and meeting the needs of longtime churchgoers and newcomers alike. After lunch, participants will have their choice of workshops, followed by a closing time with Bishop M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE. Cost for the day is \$10 (box lunch an additional \$10).

The morning segment, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., will be Webcast live via www.diomass.org.

FOR INFORMATION: Amy Cook, Resource Center (617/482-4826, ext. 645); acook@diomass.org.

Diocesan community to honor bishop-elect of Connecticut

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul and the Jubilee Ministry invite the diocesan community to a **celebration of the ministry of the Rev. Dr. Ian Douglas** as he prepares for his consecration in April as the 15th bishop of Connecticut. It will take place on *Wednesday, March 3, 6-9 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston, and will be a program of memories and celebration that lifts up Douglas's ongoing commitment to the mission of God and the Millennium Development Goals. A festive reception in the cathedral's Sproat Hall will follow. Suggested donation is \$30 per person; proceeds benefit Jubilee Ministry. Please register online at www.diomass.org (click on "Calendar" under "News/Events/Media").

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Maggie Geller (617/482-4826, ext. 351 or mgeller@diomass.org) or The Rev. Canon Steven Bonsey (617/482-4826, ext. 204 or sbonsey@diomass.org).

Open hearings begin 2011 budget process

At the outset of its work toward drafting the 2011 diocesan budget, the Budget Committee of Diocesan Council will offer **four regional hearings in March and April, open to all**. Attendance by deanery is encouraged, but anyone is welcome to attend any hearing. The program at each will include presentation of key financial matters of the diocese regarding congregations, including development of the 2011 budget and assessments, with time for open discussion.

The hearings will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. on:

- *Tuesday, March 23* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston (Boston Harbor, Neponset River and South Shore deaneries);
- *Thursday, March 25* at the Church of Our Saviour (in the parish hall at 60 Union Street) in Middleboro (Cape and Islands, Mt. Hope-Buzzards Bay and Taunton River deaneries);
- *Thursday, April 15* at Trinity Church (124 River Road) in Topsfield (Merrimack Valley, Mystic Valley and North Shore deaneries); and
- *Thursday, April 22* at St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church (147 Concord Road) in Lincoln (Alewife, Charles River and Concord River deaneries).

In addition, a **Strategic Ministries hearing** is set for *Wednesday, March 24, 7-9 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Diocesan-funded Strategic Ministries will update the Budget Committee on their progress since the hearing last August and present plans and a budget for 2011. *FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Mally Lloyd, Canon to the Ordinary (617/482-4826, ext. 402 or mallyl@diomass.org) or The Rev. Frank Fornaro, Budget Committee (781/275-8262).*

Continued from page 1

accessible by roads, establish communication between dioceses via provision of satellite phones and solar chargers; and respond to the needs of those who have crossed the Haitian border into the Dominican Republic.

ERD's "Haiti Crisis" page at www.er-d.org/HaitiCrisis includes updates and links to "Haiti FAQs," a *Wall Street Journal* video interview with Bishop Jean Zache Duracin, bulletin inserts and special prayers and worship materials.

Bishop M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE asks that donations be directed to ERD's Haiti Fund (online at www.er-d.org or by phone at 800/334-7626, ext. 5129) **or to the Society of St. Margaret** (online at www.ssbos.org or by mail to: 17 Highland Park Street, Boston, MA 02119) whose facilities in Port-au-Prince were destroyed. The sisters are posting updates on the Haiti page of their Web site at www.ssbos.org.

Global Mission Partnership plans medical mission trips

The diocese's **Global Mission Partnership Task Force and Samaritans Now, an Episcopal medical relief program, are hosting an informational meeting** for any and all healthcare professionals interested in participating in a mission trip. Planning

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

is underway for healthcare mission trips in 2010 and 2011 to the Caribbean, West Bank and Africa.

The meeting takes place on *Saturday, April 10, 10 a.m.*, at St. Mary's Church (258 Concord Street) in Newton Lower Falls. Attendance will help participants develop a vision for what is involved in this type of trip, learn more about details of participation as a member of a medical team and discern whether or not it is the right commitment for them.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Ted Gaiser, Global Mission Partnership Task Force (617/782-1577 or tgaiser@diomass.org).

***This Lent:
GC asks for focus on
broken economic order***

Last summer the General Convention of the Episcopal Church adopted a **resolution (D018, sponsored by Massachusetts deputy Ian Douglas) asking the Episcopal Church to devote Lenten prayer and study to our broken economic order**, focusing hearts and minds on its renewal. In support of this call, the network Episcopalians for Global Reconciliation has gathered resources for use by individuals and congregations, available at <http://e4gr.wordpress.com/lent-2010-considering-d018/>. The full text of resolution D018 is available at <http://gc2009.org/ViewLegislation>.

Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori has written to congregations asking their support for the **Good Friday Offering**, taken up annually since 1922 on behalf of the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East. The Good Friday Offering supports a more evident and responsive presence in the Middle East, she writes, as the Episcopal Church there strives to be a voice for reconciliation and an agent, through its institutions, of compassion, healing and education. Good Friday Offering materials, including a poster and bulletin shell, in English and Spanish, are available at www.episcopalchurch.org/gfo.

"Who is God?": The Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston will offer a **lunchtime discussion series on Thursdays in Lent**, focused on understandings and experiences of the divine across different faiths. All are welcome. The programs begin at 12 p.m., with these featured speakers:

- *Feb. 25*—Rabbi Howard Jaffe of Temple Isaiah, Lexington;
- *March 4*—The Rev. Ryuoh Faulconer of Nichiren Buddhist Sangha of Greater New England;
- *March 11*—Bilal Kaleem of the Boston Branch, Muslim American Society;
- *March 18*—The Rev. Nancy Taylor of Old South Church, Boston; and
- *March 25*—The Rev. Hurmon Hamilton of Roxbury Presbyterian Church.

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

NOTES:

Please share the contents of *fyi* with your leadership and congregation through parish bulletins, announcements, newsletters and Web sites. The contacts listed in *fyi* welcome your inquiries for more information.

- The Massachusetts Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians invites the diocese to join its **celebration of the life and legacy of Absalom Jones**, the Episcopal Church's first black priest. The service takes place on *Sunday, Feb. 14, 4 p.m.*, at St. Cyprian's Church (1073 Tremont Street) in Roxbury. The service will include lay leadership awards, music in memory of the late Horace Boyer (editor of the *Lift Every Voice and Sing* hymnal) and preaching by Episcopal Divinity School seminarian Randy Calendar. *FOR INFORMATION: Marsha Isaacs (617/285-0540).*

- Thanks to the support of 51 Episcopal partner congregations and more than 850 volunteers, the B-SAFE (Bishop's Summer Academic and Fun Enrichment) program provided 530 at-risk youth with a safe, structured and learning-filled summer. **B-SAFE needs partners for this summer.** An orientation for new and returning partners will be held on *Sunday, March 21, 1-3 p.m.* (lunch provided), at the Church of the Redeemer (379 Hammond Street) in Chestnut Hill. **Read B-SAFE's invitation letter** at www.diomass.org (go to "Calendar" under "News/Events/Media" and click on March 21). *RSVP/FOR INFORMATION: Jane Tierney (617/262-9070, ext. 13 or jltier@aol.com).*

- **Congregational Leadership Report and Lay Delegate Certification forms for 2010** have been mailed to all rectors or other priests in charge of congregations. The forms were preprinted with the information currently in the diocesan database. Congregations are asked to update the information on these forms and return them to the Office of Convention and Council within 10 days of annual meetings, as required by diocesan canons, but no later than the deadline of *Monday, Feb. 22*. *FOR INFORMATION: Lois Murphey, Office of Convention and Council (617/482-4826, ext. 406); loism@diomass.org.*

- A **Safe Church Training session** will be offered on *Thursday, Feb. 25, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.*, at the Church of the Advent (30 Brimmer Street) in Boston. Cost is \$40 per person; some scholarship support is available. Registration is required 14 days prior to the training date and can be done online via www.diomass.org (go to "Training & Learning Opportunities" under "Inside the Diocese"). *FOR INFORMATION: Dick Vanderlippe, Safe Church Training coordinator (978/263-1895); rvan@aol.com.*

- The diocese's Congregational Business Consultants will offer **workshops on congregational business practices and audits** on three Saturdays in February and March. These half-day sessions are aimed at treasurers, especially new ones, but should be of interest to all clergy and lay people who have business responsibilities in congregations, including wardens and other

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

vestry members. A session on small parish audits follows the business practices portion of the morning and is aimed at leaders involved in the annual audit process in congregations. The workshops take place from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on these Saturdays:

- *Feb. 27* at St. Mary's Church (3055 Main Street) in Barnstable;
- *March 13* at St. Paul's Church (1135 Walnut Street) in Newton Highlands; and
- *March 20* at Emmanuel Church (62 Front Street) in Wakefield.

Cost is \$25 per person; register online at www.diomassevents.org.

FOR INFORMATION: Chris Meyer, Congregational Business

Consultants coordinator (617/527-2739); cmeyer@diomass.org.

- Two diocesan-sponsored **pre-Confirmation retreats** are offered in March—great overnight opportunities for fellowship and worship for all Confirmation candidates in the diocese. They take place at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H., *Friday-Saturday, March 12-13* and *Friday-Saturday, March 26-27* (both retreats start at 7:30 p.m. on Friday and end at 4 p.m. on Saturday). Transportation may be available; please inquire. Register at www.diomassyouth.org.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Kit Lonergan, Office for Youth Ministries (617-482-4826, ext. 215); klonergan@diomass.org.

- **Eucharistic Visitor Training** will be offered on *Saturday, March 13* at St. James's Church (120 Main Street) in Amesbury (register by March 6), and on *Saturday, April 17* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston (register by April 10). Both take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Individuals may register by sending name, mailing address, phone number and sponsoring parish name and town, along with tuition (\$40 for trainees, \$25 for clergy) made payable to the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, to: Eucharistic Visitor Training, 15 Fremont Street, Plymouth, MA 02360. Registration forms are available at www.rvan.org.

FOR INFORMATION: Connie Melahoures, Eucharistic Visitor Training coordinator (508/746-3805); conmel@aol.com.

- The Antiracism Ministry's "**Seeing the Face of God in Each Other: Conversations on Racism**" training will be held on *Friday, March 19 (5:30- 9 p.m.)* and *Saturday, March 20 (8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.)* at St. John's Church (159 Main Street) in Sandwich. The registration fee is \$50, with a deadline of March 8.

TO REGISTER/FOR INFORMATION: Cicily O'Bryant, Antiracism Ministry (sisobryant@yahoo.com).

- The **Clergy Sabbatical Program** sponsored by the bishops seeks to ensure that clergy of the diocese have an opportunity for a time of Sabbath, for a renewal of spirit and a reaffirmation of life with God. All clergy canonically resident in the Diocese of

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

Massachusetts who have been in active, ordained ministry for a minimum of 10 years and in their current congregation for a minimum of five years are eligible to apply. Materials posted at www.diomass.org provide specific information (go to “Inside the Diocese” and look for “Clergy Sabbatical Program” under “Parish & Clergy Support”).

The application deadlines for sabbaticals to be taken in 2011 are: March 31, 2010, for the vestry letter of support, and May 31, 2010, for the final application.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Maggie Geller (617/482-4826, ext. 351); mgeller@diomass.org.

- A diocesan-sponsored **Stewardship Seminar** will be offered on *Saturday, April 10, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. The presenter will be the Rev. Angela Emerson, Stewardship Development Minister for the Diocese of Vermont.

RSVP/FOR INFORMATION: Office of Development (617/482-4826, ext. 306).

- A new version of the Episcopal Church Foundation’s publication **“Funding Future Ministry: A Guide to Planned Giving”** is now available. “Funding Future Ministry’ is one of the most comprehensive manuals I’ve seen for guiding a planned giving program in a local parish,” the diocese’s development director, Lynd Matt, says in a recommendation for the guide. “Certainly, for years to come, it will prove to be an extremely valuable tool for clergy, vestries and planned giving committees in any size parish, whether they are beginning their planned giving program or wish to take an established initiative to the next level,” he says.

The publication is available for purchase from the Episcopal Church Foundation at www.episcopalchurchfoundation.org/tools-and-programs/leadership-tools/funding-future-ministry. Copies will also be available for borrowing from the diocesan Resource Center.

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

- The application process for the **Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF) Fellowship Partners Program** is now open. The application deadline is *March 15*. The ECF grants fellowships, with awards ranging up to \$15,000, for both academic and transformational ministries, with emphasis on partnerships that will have impact on local communities and beyond. Both lay and ordained persons are invited to apply.

FOR INFORMATION: Episcopal Church Foundation (800/697-2858); www.episcopalchurchfoundation.org.

- The **Order of St. Anne is celebrating its centennial** with a year-long series of offerings at the Bethany Convent (25 Hillside Avenue) in Arlington. Upcoming events include:
 - *Saturday, April 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*: Music and Art Retreat led by musician Ellen Oak and artist Janet McKenzie, whose work is featured in the new book *Holiness and the Feminine Spirit*;
 - *Sunday, April 11, 2-4:30 p.m.*: *Catch the Vision* book launch;
 - *Sunday, May 16, 3-5:50 p.m.*: Garden Party and Evening Prayer with Bishop Barbara C. Harris;
 - *Sunday, July 25, 4 p.m.*: St. Anne's Day Celebration with Bishop M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE;
 - *Saturday, Oct. 2*: Dedication Day Anniversary (time to be announced); and
 - *Saturday, Nov. 20*: First Clothing Anniversary Eucharist and Concluding Celebration, with Bishop Mark Hollingsworth, Diocese of Ohio (time to be announced).

All are welcome. Advance registration is requested, as space is limited. A flier of the full schedule is available at www.diomass.org (see "Calendar" under "News/Events/Media" and click on any of the anniversary event dates).

TO REGISTER/FOR INFORMATION: Bethany House of Prayer, Arlington (781/648-2433 or info@BethanyHouseArlington.org); www.BethanyHouseArlington.org.

- Registration is open for February, March and April **CityReach weekends**, an overnight urban outreach program on homelessness coordinated by Ecclesia Ministries for youth and adults. More information is available at www.ecclesia-ministries.org.

Ecclesia Ministries will celebrate a decade and a half of ministry with its founder, the Rev. Debbie Little Wyman, on *Sunday, April 18, 4-6 p.m.*, at Emmanuel Church (15 Newbury Street) in Boston. All are welcome.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Kathy McAdams, Ecclesia Ministries (617/347-8582 Sundays-Thursdays or info@ecclesia-ministries.org); www.ecclesia-ministries.org.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its Jan. 23 meeting, the Diocesan Council took the following actions:

- Heard a report on the program, facilities and finances of the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center from its executive director, John Erdman.
- Heard a report from the treasurer which included updates on payments of 2009 assessments, church closing expenses and proceeds and projected final numbers for 2009.
- Agreed to reconsider its "Guidelines for the Allocation of Proceeds from the Sale of Diocesan Owned Property and Closed Churches" in light of actual experience regarding same.
- Heard a request from the Boston Harbor Deanery regarding

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

allocation of the proceeds from the sale of the property formerly known as the Church of St. Matthew and the Redeemer in South Boston.

- Elected Rebecca Alden, John Iredale and Beverly Joy Morrison to the Executive Committee.

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Thursday, Feb. 25, 6-8:30 p.m., in Sproat Hall at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.*

FOR INFORMATION: Lois Murphey, Office of Convention and Council (617/482-4826, ext. 406); loism@diomass.org.

PARISH SEARCH & CALL REPORT

Go to www.diomass.org for details (Inside the Diocese > Parish and Clergy Support).

Communication regarding deployment and parish transitions should be directed to the Rev. Canon Cynthia Hubbard (617/482-4826, ext. 400 or chubbard@diomass.org).

Any priest who is interested in relocating outside the diocese and would like to have his or her information presented at the **Transition Ministry Conference**, March 8-12, should contact the Rev. Canon Cynthia Hubbard no later than *Monday, Feb. 15.*

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:

ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

DEDHAM, Church of the Good Shepherd
SOUTHBORO, St. Mark's Church

CHURCHES PREPARING PROFILE:

NORWOOD, Grace Church
WAREHAM, Church of the Good Shepherd

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

BEVERLY FARMS: St. John's Church
SAUGUS, St. John's Church (*Please contact the Rev. Canon Cynthia Hubbard directly.*)

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

NEWTON LOWER FALLS, St. Mary's Church
READING, Church of the Good Shepherd

NEXT fyi:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of each month. The submission deadline for the March 3 issue is **Wednesday, Feb. 24 at noon**. Address e-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.

*fyi is online at www.diomass.org (News/Events/Media > Publications).
Sign up for monthly "E-news" at www.diomass.org (Quick Links > Subscribe to E-news).*
