



Wednesday, Sept. 1, 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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**Observe Creation Care
Sunday on Oct. 3**

Bishop Bud Cederholm encourages the congregations of the diocese to join in observing **Oct. 3**, the Sunday closest to the feast of St. Francis, as “**Creation Care Sunday**.” He asks congregations to consider holding a “Blessing of the Animals” or other creation-themed liturgy on that day and to take up a collection to support the new diocesan [Green Grants Initiative](#), which encourages, challenges and supports congregations in environmental stewardship through grants, idea sharing and education. A [bulletin insert for Creation Care Sunday](#) is available at www.diomass.org (see “Calendar” under “News/Events/Media”). Liturgical resources for the occasion will be posted as soon as they are available.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Lise Hildebrandt (508-295-2840 or lisehild@yahoo.com), Dawn Tesorero (617-477-9402 or dawn_tess@hotmail.com) or Diane Pound, Bishop Cederholm’s Office (617-482-4826, ext. 349 or dianep@diomass.org).

**Bishops sign interfaith
statement supporting
affordable housing law**

Bishop M. Thomas Shaw, SSJE, Bishop Bud Cederholm and Bishop Gayle E. Harris of the Diocese of Massachusetts, together with Bishop Gordon Scruton of the Diocese of Western Massachusetts, have joined with other state religious leaders in signing an **interfaith statement supporting the Massachusetts affordable housing law** (Chapter 40B). The law faces repeal via ballot question in November; those who are against repeal are urging a “no” vote on Question Two.

The interfaith statement credits the law with providing affordable homes for tens of thousands of Massachusetts residents and describes it as “a critical means of expanding affordable housing opportunities for thousands of people who need it.”

“Social justice and the dignity of all persons are fundamental values for communities of faith and they call us to speak out: All people should have the opportunity to live in affordable, safe housing,” the statement says. **The bishops urge members of the clergy to consider signing the statement**, available at www.ipetitions.com/petition/protectaffordablehousing. More information is available at www.protectaffordablehousing.org.
FOR INFORMATION: Katie Campbell Simons, Episcopal City Mission (617-482-4826, ext. 224); kcsimons@diomass.org.

**Get equipped at Sept. 25
Resource Day**

Register now (go to www.diomass.org and see “Calendar” under “News/Events/Media”) for “**Equipped to Answer God’s Call**,” the **annual diocesan Resource Day**, this year on *Saturday, Sept. 25, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*, at Bentley University in Waltham. Workshops on

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a wide range of topics, from stewardship, youth ministry, education, communications, mission and outreach, congregational development and business practices, will help parish teams develop skills and provide spiritual and practical help for joining God's mission in the world.

There are a limited number of exhibit tables available at Resource Day for those who would like to display materials or information about their organization, group or ministry.

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

***“Pray, Serve, Reflect”
with others on Sept. 11***

The diocese's Life Together young adult intern program is planning a **second annual diocesanwide Day of Service** to coincide with the National Day of Service on *Saturday, Sept. 11*.

Projects planned for this year include: environmental actions at Emery House in West Newbury and Grace Church in Medford; an effort out of St. Stephen's Church in Boston to revamp the Blackstone Elementary School's library; food pantry work at Christ Church in Quincy and St. Mary's Church in Dorchester; and a service event at St. Andrew's Church in Framingham to honor veterans. Other sites will include the Church of the Holy Spirit in Mattapan and the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.

Visit www.diomassintern.org/911 for updates and online registration.

FOR INFORMATION: Mary Beth Mills-Curran (508-414-9321); marybeth@diomassintern.org.

Oct. 16 summit for small churches is in the works

A **Small Church Summit, “Called to Transformation: From Survival to Vitality in Small Churches,”** will be offered on *Saturday, Oct. 16, 8:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*, at St. Peter's Church (320 Boston Post Road) in Weston. Growing out of the Small Church Summit held in 2008 and workshops at last year's Resource Day, the upcoming program will feature a morning presentation on developing ministry teams, led by the Rev. Helen Trainor, a deacon and attorney with the Legal Aid Justice Center in Virginia, and an afternoon workshop of participants' choosing. Workshop leaders will include the Rev. Nancy Moore, an author and the vicar of three Maine parishes; Bishop Bud Cederholm; and members of the diocesan staff.

The Small Church Summit is aimed at congregations with part-time clergy and/or membership of fewer than 125, but participants from all congregations are welcome. Cost is \$15 for the first participant from a congregation and \$10 each for additional team members. Lunch will be provided. Online registration will be available soon at www.diomass.org (go to “Calendar” under “News/Events/Media”).

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Cynthia Hubbard (617-482-4826, ext. 400); chubbard@diomass.org.

Diocesan Convention preparations underway

Diocesan Convention takes place *Saturday, Nov. 6* at St. Stephen's Church in Lynn. **All nominations, proposed constitutional amendments, resolutions and committee reports are due in the Office of Convention and Council no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 10.** [Forms are available at www.diomass.org.](http://www.diomass.org)

It is important that **delegate changes** made prior to the convention be reported to the Office of Convention and Council. Convention materials will be sent to delegates on file in the diocesan database as of Oct. 1.

Friday night accommodations are available at the Sheraton Colonial Hotel in Wakefield for those who plan to arrive the night before the convention, which will start early on Saturday morning. Reservations can be made at <http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1005203629&key=A1A8> or by calling 888-627-7205 (ask for the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts annual convention group rate of \$99 plus tax).

During Convention there will be a **program for children** ages 5-12 and childcare for those who are four years old and younger. More information will be included in the October mailing to clergy and delegates. The children's program contact person is Amy Cook (617-482-4826, ext. 645 or acook@diomass.org).

Pre-Diocesan Convention delegate forums in October offer an important opportunity for learning and discussion about the issues and business to come before the convention, including resolutions and the proposed budget. Forums are scheduled to take place from 7 to 9 p.m. on:

- *Tuesday, Oct. 19* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston;
- *Wednesday, Oct. 20* at Trinity Church (124 River Road) in Topsfield;
- *Wednesday, Oct. 27* at St. Mary's Church (258 Concord Street) in Newton Lower Falls; and
- *Thursday, Oct. 28* at Christ Church (149 Court Street) in Plymouth.

FOR INFORMATION: Lois Murphey, Office of Convention and Council (617-482-4826, ext. 406; FAX: 617-482-8431); loism@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.

- More than 60 **Episcopal Church scholarships** are available to students from a variety of ethnic and foreign backgrounds, among others, and applications are now being accepted through Oct. 15. The list of scholarships and available trust funds is available at <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/documents/ScholarshipTrustFunds121609.pdf>. All materials, including the application form and instructions for filing, are available at http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109539_110675_ENG_HTM.htm. *FOR INFORMATION: Terry Foster, Mission Office Associate, Episcopal Church Center (tfoster@episcopalchurch.org).*
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- Free [online Safe Church Training](#), using the curriculum “Safeguarding Our Children,” is now available for use by congregations in this diocese. Those who need to take the training should contact their parish clergy to receive a unique ID and password to access the program. More information is available at www.diomass.org (see “Training and Learning Opportunities” under “Inside the Diocese”) or from Lynn Clark, Human Resources Manager (617-482-4826, ext. 578 or lclark@diomass.org).

Safe Church Training events will continue to be offered, with the next sessions scheduled on these upcoming *Saturdays*, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.: *Sept. 18* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston, and *Oct. 2* at St. Peter’s Church (4 Ocean Street) in Beverly. 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](#) (see “Training & Learning Opportunities” under “Inside the Diocese”).

FOR TRAINING EVENT INFORMATION: Dick Vanderlippe, Safe Church Training coordinator (978-263-1895); rvan@aol.com.

- **Eucharistic Visitor Training** will be offered on two *Saturdays this fall*, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.: *Oct. 2* at the Church of the Messiah (13 Church Street) in Woods Hole (register by Sept. 25) and *Nov. 13* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston (register by Nov. 6). 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 **Episcopal Church Women’s annual retreat** takes place *Friday-Saturday, Oct. 15-16* at St. Margaret’s Convent (17 Highland Park Street) in Boston. The Rev. Gretchen Grimshaw will lead the retreat program, “Women of the Bible.” All women are welcome, and may come for the overnight retreat (\$60), which includes participating in the daily office with the sisters, or just for the Saturday program (\$30). Meals are included. The reservation deadline is Oct. 1.

FOR INFORMATION/RESERVATIONS: Betty Murray (617-332-5939); eg.murray@verizon.net.

- A diocesan-sponsored **training session for adult leaders of the Journey to Adulthood (J2A)** youth ministry program will take place on *Saturday, Oct. 23, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*, at St. Andrew’s Church (3 Maple Street) in Framingham. The session will be helpful to those already leading a J2A program as well as those interested in

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starting one. Cost is \$25 per person. Online registration will be available soon at www.diomass.org (go to "Calendar" under "News/Events/Media").

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

● **The sisters of the Society of St. Margaret invite participation in two upcoming events:**

- *Saturday, Oct. 2, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.:* **Outdoor Clean-up** at St. Margaret's Convent. Volunteers in good physical condition are invited to help with raking and other yard work. Lunch will be provided at 12:30 p.m. RSVP by Sept. 29.

- *Friday-Sunday, Oct. 8-10:* **"An Invitation to Explore" inquirers' weekend** is an opportunity for women who are interested in learning more about the religious life to come as inquirers and experience the sisters' life and work.

FOR INFORMATION/RESERVATIONS: St. Margaret's Convent, Boston (617-445-8961 or reservations@ssmbos.org); www.ssmbos.org.

- As part of its year-long centennial celebration, the sisters of the Order of St. Anne-Bethany invite members of the diocese to join them for their **Dedication Day 100th Anniversary** on *Saturday, Oct. 2*. Bishop Bud Cederholm will take part in the midday celebration focusing on children, their families and the young at heart. RSVP to the [Bethany House of Prayer](#) (see below).

Other upcoming offerings at the Bethany House of Prayer, a ministry with the sisters of the Order of St. Anne, include:

- *Third Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 15, 7 p.m.:* **Contemplative Eucharist** in St. Anne's Chapel;

- *Fourth Tuesdays, beginning Sept. 28:* **"Poetry for Contemplation and Conversation" group** led by the Rev. Eleanor Panasevich and Kimberly Green (\$30 per session; register by Sept. 23);

- *First Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.:* **Refreshment Days**. On *Oct. 5*, the Rev. Addison Hall and the Very Rev. Jep Streit will lead the morning meditation (\$40, includes midday dinner);

- **"Awakening to Mystery and Abundant Life: Contemplative Prayer and Reflection": Daytime and evening groups** (to be announced), October-January (\$30 per session), led by Mary Meader and Julia Slayton;

- *Fridays, Oct. 15-Nov. 19, 9:30-11 a.m.:* **Centering Circle for Mothers**, led by Mary Ann Christie Burnside and Mary Curlew (suggested donation \$20).

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

- Ecclesia Ministries invites hikers to take part in its second annual **Blue Hills Hike** on *Saturday, Oct. 16, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.*, at Houghton's Pond in Blue Hills Reservation. The hike is a fundraising event for Ecclesia's programs serving those who are homeless. Hikers can choose one of two trails, and then will gather to celebrate with a picnic lunch.

FOR INFORMATION: Carol Hornblower (617-335-1983) or www.ecclesia-ministries.org.

Ecclesia Ministries' **CityReach** is an overnight urban outreach program offered several times per year to educate young people and adults about homelessness. Participants arrive at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston on Friday night, where they meet teachers who are themselves homeless and walk together through the city. Following the guided walk, they share a liturgy and then sleep in the cathedral. On Saturday morning, CityReach participants offer clothing and a simple meal to poor and homeless guests. They also form teams to go out to offer sandwiches and clothes to people at South Station, Copley Square and other sites. On Saturday afternoon, they reflect upon their experiences and prepare presentations that become part of the worship service at home churches. **Upcoming CityReach weekends are scheduled on Oct. 22-23 and Dec. 3-4.**

FOR INFORMATION/TO REGISTER: www.ecclesia-ministries.org.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Saturday, Sept. 18, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.*, at Christ Church (1132 Highland Avenue) in Needham.

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

JOB POSTINGS:

Go to www.diomass.org
(Quick Links > [Employment](#)).

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site are: [organist and choir director](#) at St. John's Church in Westwood; [parish secretary](#) at Trinity Church in Wrentham; [director of Christian formation](#) at Grace Church in Medford; [director of religious education](#) at All Saints' Church in Chelmsford; [choir director-organist](#) at Trinity Church in Topsfield; two positions, [education minister](#) and [minister of music](#), at the Church of the Holy Nativity in South Weymouth; [minister of music](#) at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Reading; and [membership coordinator](#) at All Saints Parish in Brookline.

PARISH SEARCH & CALL REPORT

Go to www.diomass.org for details (Inside the Diocese > [Clergy Deployment/Transition Ministry](#)).

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

September Transition Ministry Conference: Twice a year, the Rev. Canon Cynthia Hubbard meets with other transition officers to share names of clergy who are in search for a new position and parishes searching for a rector. The next meeting will be on **Sept. 20**. Any in the clergy who are interested in having their names put forward for positions outside of this diocese should contact Cynthia Hubbard as soon as possible (617-482-4826, ext. 400 or chubbard@diomass.org).

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:
ARLINGTON, Church of Our Saviour
CAMBRIDGE, St. Peter's Church
GLOUCESTER, St. John's Church

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:
MEDFIELD, Church of the Advent
RANDOLPH, Trinity Church

CHURCHES PREPARING PROFILE:
BEDFORD, St. Paul's Church
ROXBURY, St. Cyprian's Church

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:
DEDHAM: Church of the Good Shepherd (*Please contact the Rev. Canon Cynthia Hubbard directly.*)

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:
CHARLESTOWN, St. John's Church
SOUTHBOROUGH, St. Mark's Church
WAREHAM, Church of the Good Shepherd

NEXT fyi:

fyi is issued on the first Wednesday of each month. The submission deadline for the Oct. 6 issue is **Wednesday, Sept. 29 at noon**. 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](#)).