



Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2012

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of
The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts
138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 / www.diomass.org
(617) 482-4826 / (617) 482-5800 / FAX: (617) 451-6446

**Register for March 3
Spring Learning Event**

Online registration is open [here](#) (or go to www.diomass.org and see March 3 on the Events calendar) for the annual diocesan **Spring Learning Event** on *Saturday, March 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. This year's program is a partnership with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and an occasion for learning and networking with others about local and global mission. Sunitha Mortha, Director of Global Formation and Missions for the ELCA, will introduce an accompaniment model for mission. *FOR INFORMATION: Amy Cook, Resource Center (617-482-4826, ext. 645); acook@diomass.org.*

**Join the Ecumenical
Lenten Carbon Fast**

Sign up for the **2012 Ecumenical Lenten Carbon Fast** [here](#). Those who sign up get daily e-mail suggestions for activities that reduce carbon footprint, beginning Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22 through Easter Day, April 8. Additionally, beginning on Ash Wednesday, each day's fast activity will be posted on a public Facebook page at www.facebook.com/carbonfast.

Initiated last year by the United Church of Christ and endorsed this year by the bishops of the Diocese of Massachusetts, the fast

Continued on page 2

**Participate in 2013
budget process at March
hearings**

The Budget Committee of Diocesan Council invites members of the diocese to participate in upcoming **regional budget hearings**, which are an opportunity to give input and ask questions as part of the 2013 diocesan budget drafting process. The hearings will take place from **7 to 9 p.m. on: Tuesday, March 6** at Christ Church (149 Asbury Street) in South Hamilton; **Wednesday, March 7** at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston; **Wednesday, March 28** at the Church of the Good Shepherd (74 High Street) in Wareham; and **Thursday, March 29** at Trinity Church (81 Elm Street) in Concord. An additional hearing devoted to presentations from representatives of diocesan-funded **strategic ministries** will be held on **Tuesday, March 27, 7-9 p.m.**, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul. Attendance by deanery is encouraged, but all are welcome at any of the hearings.

The 2012 budget is available [here](#).

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

Don't forget Family Day, Saturday, Feb. 11 (10 a.m.-2 p.m.) at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston—a fun time of celebration and learning that marks the beginning of the cathedral church's 100th anniversary year. [More information and the event flier are available here.](#)

P.S.: There will be cake.

Lenten Carbon Fast...Continued from page 1

invites Christians to include carbon reduction into their Lenten spiritual practices. “Living as we are at a time when our actions—along with the actions of only a few generations—have threatened creation as we know it by the excessive burning of fossil fuel, it is fitting to engage in a spiritual discipline of fasting from carbon,” the initiative’s organizers say. They encourage sharing the sign-up invitation with others and ask that congregations consider making the Ecumenical Carbon Fast a part of their Lenten programs by convening discussion groups as a way for participants to focus with others on the fast’s weekly themes and to share their experiences.

Online survey seeks info on New England church energy stewardship

At the 2009 General Convention, the Episcopal Church adopted the Genesis Covenant encouraging congregations to significantly reduce energy use as stewards of God’s creation. Several Province I (New England) dioceses have adopted the covenant and many churches are developing a ministry of energy stewardship. Additionally, the province has hired the Rev. Stephanie Johnson to coordinate resources. She is conducting a simple [online survey](#), open until Feb. 28, to learn about **congregational energy reduction projects** and to offer information and ideas to those interested in beginning this ministry. Anyone interested in congregational energy use is encouraged to respond to the survey, particularly clergy in charge of congregations and chairpersons of environmental stewardship and buildings and grounds committees. *FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Stephanie Johnson, Province I Energy Stewardship Minister (revstephaniejohnson@gmail.com).*

SHOW workshop offers ways for churches to go ‘green’

A Sustainable Houses of Worship (SHOW) workshop takes place on Saturday, [Feb. 11](#) at Epiphany Parish (62 Front Street) in Walpole (click on the event date to register). Participants will learn how to: track energy use, cost and carbon footprint; find no-cost and low-cost projects that can have a big impact on electricity and heating bills; evaluate major energy-using equipment and systems to know if they should be upgraded; incentives, rebates and other financial help available through utility companies; and what green initiatives other congregations have planned or started. *FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Karen Montagno, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 413); kmontagno@diomass.org.*

Leadership reports, Convention delegate forms due by Feb. 20

Congregational Leadership Report and Lay Delegate Certification forms for 2012 have been mailed to all rectors and other priests in charge of congregations. The forms are pre-printed 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 their annual meetings as required by diocesan canons, but no later than the deadline of *Feb. 20*. *FOR INFORMATION: Lois Murphey, Office of Convention and Council (617-482-4826, ext. 406); 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.

- The Massachusetts Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE) invites congregations of the diocese to participate in the **Absalom Jones Celebration** on *Sunday, Feb. 12 at 4 p.m.* at St. Cyprian's Church (1073 Tremont Street) in Roxbury. This service honors persons of color from all congregations of the diocese who have done exemplary work to enhance the ministries and life of their congregations. Choirs are encouraged to participate. Contact the Rev. L. Nelson Foxx (617-547-1805) to confirm choir participation and so that service music can be sent in advance.

- The **DioMass Film Project** invites congregations to capture their stories on video and share them with the wider community at the May 19 DioMass Film Festival—and beyond via their own Web sites and social media. Free workshops on storytelling and filmmaking basics are available upon request to help groups get their projects going, and video submissions will be accepted for the film festival through May 4. More information is available on the project's blog at www.diomassfilmproject.wordpress.com.
TO SET UP A WORKSHOP/FOR INFORMATION: Katie Ernst, Resource Center (617-482-4826, ext. 232); kernst@diomass.org.

- The diocesan Antiracism Ministry Team invites the diocesan community into a ministry of reconciliation with each other and with God. For a pre-Lent event, the team will hold **conversations and training about racism** on *Friday, Feb. 17, 5:30-8:30 p.m., continuing on Saturday, Feb. 18, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Cost per person is \$50. This training is in accordance with General Convention resolutions A047 and B048 and the antiracism training program "Seeing the Face of God in Each Other." Training materials and certificates will be available to participants.

The team also will offer the conversations and training on *Friday, April 27 and Saturday, April 28* at St. David's Church (205 Old Main Street) in South Yarmouth. Registration can be made by contacting Becky Alden at raalden@capecod.net or by leaving a message at 508-394-4184.

The Antiracism Ministry Team meets monthly, and invites anyone interested in this work to join. The next meeting will be *Monday, Feb. 27, 6:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.

- A **B-SAFE program 2012 Partner Orientation meeting** for new and returning church partners will be held on *Sunday, Feb. 26, 1-3 p.m.*, at the Church of the Redeemer (379 Hammond Street) in Chestnut Hill. Lunch will be provided. Together with 50 partner congregations, B-SAFE provides some 600 children and youth in low-income neighborhoods a safe and learning-filled summer. *RSVP/FOR INFORMATION: Jane Tierney (617-262-9070, ext. 202); jltier@aol.com.*

- The diocese's volunteer Congregational Business Consultants will offer their annual **Congregational Business Practices Workshop** on four Saturdays in March, covering key components of parish viability and "nuts and bolts" of parish business life. The goal of the half-day workshop will be to give parish leaders (treasurers, wardens, other vestry members, clergy, other church employees, such as bookkeepers, accountants, office managers) an overview of their most important business responsibilities and to provide them with tools and resources to make their jobs more manageable.

The same workshop will be repeated on these **Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.:** **March 10** at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston; **March 17** at St. Peter's Church (320 Boston Post Road) in Weston; **March 24** at St. Peter's Church (165 Main Street) in Buzzards Bay; and **March 31** at St. Paul's Church (127 Summer Street) in Lynnfield. Click [here](#) to register. The cost is \$25 per participant.

FOR INFORMATION: Chris Meyer, Coordinator (617-527-2739); cmeyer@diomass.org.

- A **Eucharistic Visitor Training** session will be offered on *Saturday, March 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston (register by March 3). Send name, address, phone and sponsoring parish name and town, along with tuition (\$40 for trainees, \$25 for clergy) payable to the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, to: Eucharistic Visitor Training, 15 Fremont Street, Plymouth MA 02360.

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

- **Godly Play training** takes place on three *Saturdays: March 17, April 21 and May 12* at All Saints' Church (17 Clark Street) in Belmont. This training is underwritten by the diocese so that it can be offered at a greatly reduced price: \$160 for all three modules, \$65 per module (before Feb. 17) or \$190 for all three modules, \$90 per module (after Feb. 17). This is one training event over three days; for the most comprehensive training, attendance at all three sessions is strongly recommended.

FOR REGISTRATION FORMS/INFORMATION: The Rev. Cheryl Minor, All Saints' Church, Belmont (617-484-2228); revcminor@aol.com.

- **Safe Church Training** will be offered on these *Saturdays, 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.:* **March 17** at Christ Church (149 Court Street) in Plymouth and **March 31** at St. Peter's Church (421 Wianno Avenue) in Osterville. Registration is required 14 days prior to the training date and can be done online [here](#) (or go to www.diomass.org and see "Training & Learning" under "Resources for Congregations & Clergy").

FOR INFORMATION: Richard Vanderlippe, Safe Church Training coordinator (978-263-1895); rvan@aol.com or rvanderlippe@diomass.org.

- The **Clergy Sabbatical Program** 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. A sabbatical can offer opportunities for creativity and discovery for both the clergy person and the congregation.

All clergy canonically resident in the Diocese of 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. Specific information is [here](#) (or go to www.diomass.org and look under “Resources for Congregations & Clergy”). The **application deadlines for sabbaticals to be taken in 2013**: *March 31, 2012*, for the vestry letter of support, and *May 31, 2012*, for the final application. Send completed applications to: Clare Moffitt, Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, 138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111 or by e-mail to cem@diomass.org. *FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Kate Ekrem (781-862-6408 or kate@our-redeemer.org) or The Rev. Grant Barber (781-974-3210 or revgrant@comcast.net), Clergy Sabbatical Committee co-chairs.*

- The **annual Safe Church Refresher Training for diocesan clergy** will be held on *Tuesday, May 15, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.*, at Christ Church (1132 Highland Avenue) in Needham. It is expected that all clergy canonically resident or licensed in the Diocese of Massachusetts will attend Safe Church Training once every three years. There is no fee for the training; coffee, continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Register online [here](#). *FOR INFORMATION: Diane Pound, Bishop Gayle Harris’s Office (617-482-4826, ext. 349); dianep@diomass.org.*

- Children of clergy canonically resident or licensed in the Diocese of Massachusetts (and their widows/widowers) are eligible to apply for **scholarship grants**. Grants are for undergraduate degree programs for the 2012-2013 academic year. The deadline for submission of applications is *Friday, May 18*; all materials should be sent to: Diane Pound, Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, 138 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111. Notification of grants will be made by June 29.

The “Statement of Policy and Procedure,” which is the basis for making awards, and a “Statement of Personal and Financial Profile,” which all applicants are asked to complete, are available [here](#) (or go to www.diomass.org and see “Grants & Loans” under “Resources for Congregations & Clergy”).

FOR INFORMATION: Diane Pound, Bishop Gayle Harris’s Office (617-482-4826, ext. 349); dianep@diomass.org.

- A second annual **workshop for parish administrators** is being planned for *Tuesday, May 22, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.*, at the diocesan offices (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Details will be forthcoming. *FOR INFORMATION: Diane Pound, Bishop Gayle Harris’s Office (617-482-4826, ext. 349); dianep@diomass.org.*

- **Applications are being accepted for fellowships in the Life Together young adult program** for the 2012-2013 year that begins in August. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Life Together is an 11-month fellowship and leadership development project in the Diocese of Massachusetts that matches emerging young leaders (21-35 years of age) with mission-based nonprofit organizations and churches, and then trains these fellows through spiritual practice, shared leadership models and community organizing tools. Fellowships are full-time, paid positions, with each fellow serving 30 hours per week in a site placement and 5-10 hours a week in leadership training, spiritual formation and reflection with the other fellows in the program. Fellows also live in community together.

FOR INFORMATION: apply@diomassintern.org or visit www.lifetogethercommunity.org.

- *March 15* is the deadline to apply for **Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF) fellowships** for lay and ordained church leaders who are engaged in academic study and transformational ministries that address important areas of need in the Episcopal Church. The ECF typically awards three fellowships per year. New awards will range up to \$15,000 and may be renewable for an additional two years. New fellows will be announced in May. Application information is available [here](#).
FOR INFORMATION: Anne Ditzler (aditzler@episcopalfoundation.org) or Miguel Escobar (mescobar@episcopalfoundation.org), Episcopal Church Foundation, or visit www.episcopalfoundation.org.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its Jan. 21 meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Heard an update from the task force working with Grace Church in North Attleboro on the issue of past-due assessments and debt.

Heard a report from the Treasurer.

Elected Connie Melahoures, Claudette Hunt, Joe Robinson, Chris Trahan, Alan Hesse, John Iredale, Todd Miller and Beverly Morrison to serve one-year terms on the Executive Committee.

Discussed the Life Together program and the appropriate level of funding from the diocesan budget.

Voted to accept a proposed letter from the bishops and deanery representatives to Diocesan Council to those congregations that have not yet made a commitment to participate in the Together Now comprehensive fundraising campaign.

Voted to approve an additional diocesan staff clergy housing allowance for 2012.

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Thursday, Feb. 23, 6-8:30 p.m.*, 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.

JOB POSTINGS:

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

Among the jobs currently posted on the diocesan Web site:
[associate facilities manager](#) for the Cathedral Church of St. Paul
in Boston; [parish secretary](#) at All Saints' Church in Belmont;
[communications coordinator/missioner](#) for the Diocese of Western
Massachusetts; [parish communications and Christian education
coordinator](#) at St. John's Church in Newtonville; [coordinator of
Christian formation for children and youth](#) at St. Paul's Church in
Natick; ; [director of education and youth](#) at St. Elizabeth's Church
in Sudbury; [music director](#) for The Crossing at the Cathedral
Church of St. Paul in Boston; and [coordinator of ministry](#) at St.
Anne's Church in Lowell.

**PARISH SEARCH
& CALL REPORT**

Go to www.diomass.org for
details (Resources for Congrega-
tions & Clergy > Congregation &
Clergy Support > [Clergy Deploy-
ment/Transition Ministry](#)).

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

CHURCHES INITIATING PROCESS:

LYNNFIELD, St. Paul's Church

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

AUBURNDALE, Parish of the Messiah
NEWTON, Grace Church
RANDOLPH, Trinity Church
WEST NEWBURY, All Saints' Church

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

BARNSTABLE, St. Mary's Church
STONEHAM, All Saints' Church

OTHER POSITIONS OPEN TO CLERGY:

ORLEANS, Church of the Holy Spirit: Assistant. Contact the Rev.
Adam Linton (holyspirit@verizon.net).
WINCHESTER, Parish of the Epiphany: Assistant. Contact the
Rev. Thomas Brown (tbrown@3crowns.org).

NEXT fyi:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of each month. The
submission deadline for the March 7 issue is **Wednesday, Feb. 29
at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.

fyi is online at www.diomass.org ([News & Publications > Publications > FYI](#)).
Sign up for monthly "E-news" at www.diomass.org ([News & Publications](#)).
The Diocese of Massachusetts is on Facebook at www.facebook.com/diomass.