



Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2015

NEWS and INFORMATION for the clergy and leadership of

The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

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Episcopal Church task force puts forth restructuring recommendations

The Task Force for Reimagining the Episcopal Church, charged by the 2012 General Convention with making restructuring recommendations to the 2015 General Convention, has released its final report. It makes numerous recommendations around congregational and diocesan collaboration, congregational leadership and development, clergy formation, Church Pension Fund initiatives and church property. It also puts forth three multi-part resolutions that call for, among other things, a unicameral governance model; a lowered but mandatory diocesan assessment; and regional consultative groups around church building usage. The report is available [here](#).

Register by Jan. 16 for Ministry Discernment Conference

The Ministry Discernment Conference offered by the bishops and the Commission on Ministry will be held on *Saturday, Feb. 7, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*, at Trinity Church (Copley Square) in Boston. (The snow date is Feb. 14. Please check www.diomass.org for announcement.) The conference provides an in-depth look at the 2015 Ministry Discernment Handbook, and gives potential inquirers an opportunity to learn about the ordination process in the Diocese of Massachusetts and to explore whether their call is to ordained ministry or committed lay ministry.

Any person considering applying for admission to the ordination process in 2015 is required to attend the conference, along with his or her sponsoring priest and at least one member of the Parish Discernment Committee. Discernment Committees are appointed by the sponsoring priest and should be named before the conference so that as many members as wish to may attend. One member of the Discernment Committee must be a member of the vestry. Inquirers are also encouraged to bring their spouses or partners to the conference.

Online registration is required and is available [here](#) through Jan. 16. The cost per person is \$20 and includes registration, materials and lunch.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Canon Edie Dolnikowski, Office for Ordained Vocations (617-482-4826, ext. 514 or edie@diomass.org).

New dean named for Cape and Islands Deanery

The Rev. Deborah Warner, Rector of the Church of the Messiah in Woods Hole, has been appointed the new dean of the Cape and Islands Deanery, effective Jan. 1. She succeeds the Rev. Brian McGurk, Rector of St. Christopher's Church in Chatham, who has served as dean since 2005 and will be beginning a sabbatical in January. Bishop Alan M. Gates expresses his gratitude to both priests for their leadership and willingness to serve.

**Events to honor life,
work & ministry of
Martin Luther King Jr.**

“We Still Have a Dream: End Racism”: Trinity Church (Copley Square) in Boston will host the inaugural Anne B. Bonnyman Symposium on *Sunday, Jan. 18, 1:30-4:30 p.m.*, featuring Marian Wright Edelman as keynote speaker and panelists Debby Irving (*Waking up White*), Randy Testa of Walden Media, the Rev. Liz Walker of Roxbury Presbyterian Church and moderator Barbara Dortch-Okara. Additionally, Bishop Michael Curry of the Diocese of North Carolina will preach at the 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services that day. The program is free and open to all. More information is available [here](#).

Union United Methodist Church and St. Cyprian’s Church in Roxbury will host their 45th annual breakfast celebrating the life, work and ministry of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., on *Monday, Jan. 19, 8 a.m.*, at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center. Voorhees College’s president, Cleveland Sellars, will be the keynote speaker. Additionally, Governor Deval Patrick will be honored, and scholarships will be presented to seniors from the Jeremiah Burke, Madison Park and John D. O’Byrant high schools. Bishop Alan M. Gates will give the benediction. All are welcome. Visit www.mlkbreakfastboston.org for event and ticket information.

Regional Youth Event “Building the Dream/Construyendo el Sueño”: *Saturday, Jan. 17, 3-7 p.m.*, at St. Luke’s-San Lucas Church (201 Washington Avenue) in Chelsea. This event is an opportunity for young people from across the diocese to join in a cross-cultural exchange to showcase youth-led justice-seeking efforts. The program will include workshops, games, dinner and bilingual worship. Register online [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. H. Mark Smith, Office of Youth Ministry (617-482-4826, ext. 215 or hmsmith@diomass.org).

NOTES:

- Since his retirement in 2012, **Bishop Bud Cederholm** has served the diocese as an assisting bishop in a paid capacity for the period of time allowed to a former employer by the Church Pension Fund. That term has now ended. Beginning in January 2015, he will be available voluntarily to assist the bishops occasionally, including making several parish visitations over the course of the year. He will continue his involvement in creation care advocacy and with several congregations developing a mission relationship with preschools and teacher training programs in South Africa. He also will be available to provide Sunday supply and short-term interim and sabbatical coverage for clergy that is paid by parishes.

- The 2015 **Congregational Leadership Report** (pink) and **Lay Delegate Certification Form** (blue) have been mailed to all congregations. The forms are pre-printed with the information currently in the diocesan database. **Congregations are asked to update their information on these forms and return them** within 10 days of their annual meeting, as required by diocesan canon, and no later than *March 6, 2015*.

FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Canon to the Ordinary’s Office (617/482-4826, ext. 406 or lsimons@diomass.org).

- Episcopal City Mission (ECM) invites parish clergy and leadership to respond to a short **survey about mission discernment processes** used by Episcopal parishes and their effectiveness. ECM expects to use the information collected to gauge the need for discernment processes that are more relevant for the life of parishes, and hopes to assist parishes that may be ready to engage in a process of discernment designed to include an intentional contribution to their communities. An e-mail about the survey has been sent to churches, but the survey can also be accessed via this link: <http://bit.ly/ECMParishSurvey>.
FOR INFORMATION: Ruy Costa, Episcopal City Mission (617-482-4826, ext. 208 or rcosta@episcopalcitymission.org).

- **High School Retreat Weekend, Friday-Sunday, Feb. 6-8** at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.: Don't delay in registering online [here](#)—the recent Middle School Retreat filled quickly and this one likely will, too.

Designed and run by the Diocesan Youth Council, the weekend for high school students and their adult mentors includes small group workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship that gets everyone moving and thinking, the live band Fever Fever and time away from the stress of everyday life in order to pay a little more attention to the Spirit of God.

Scholarship support is available, as is bus transportation—but a late fee is charged for registration after Jan. 28, and registration after Feb. 1 cannot be guaranteed.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. H. Mark Smith, Office of Youth Ministry (617-482-4826, ext. 215 or hmsmith@diomass.org).

- Bishop Gates and Bishop Harris will preside at nine **deanery Confirmation services in 2015** (eight in the spring, plus one in September). Locations are still being finalized, but the schedule and deanery assignments for each are available [here](#). Confirmation services are organized by the Office of the Bishop. For more information, contact Diane Pound (617-482-4826, ext. 407 or dpound@diomass.org).

To help prepare young people for Confirmation, the diocesan Office of Youth Ministry has scheduled three retreats:

- *March 13-14* at St. Christopher's Church in Chatham;
- *March 20-21* at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.; and
- *March 27-28* at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center.

Confirmands and their mentors gather at these overnight retreats to explore with each other the baptismal covenant, its promise and challenge. The Diocesan Youth Council leads the retreats, and the groups will be joined by one of the bishops at each.

Advance retreat registration is required, and can be done [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. H. Mark Smith, Office of Youth Ministry (617-482-4826, ext. 215 or hmsmith@diomass.org).

● **B-SAFE summer program partners—new and returning**—are invited to gather on *Sunday, March 1, 1-3 p.m.*, at the Church of the Redeemer (379 Hammond Street) in Chestnut Hill to begin planning for B-SAFE 2015. Lunch will be provided. Together with 55 partner congregations, B-SAFE provides a safe and learning-filled summer for more than 600 children and youth in low-income neighborhoods.

FOR INFORMATION/RSVP: Betsy Walsh, B-SAFE partner organizer (781-249-6554 or betsy@ststephensbos.org).

● The Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H., is seeking **weekly visiting chaplains for the summer 2015 season**. The program's goal is to meet young people where they are in their journeys with Christ or towards Christ, and the camp relies on visiting chaplains to guide campers and staff in this process. The main role of a visiting chaplain is to assist the head chaplain in camp worship and faith formation programs. Visiting chaplains help lead morning and evening worship, assist in "Faith Formation" (Bible study), join campers in some of their daily activities, provide pastoral care to staff members and serve as an active and visible member of the camp community. Visiting chaplains are needed for these camp sessions: *Sunday, June 28-Saturday, July 4; Sunday, July 5-Saturday, July 11; Sunday, July 12-Saturday, July 25* (two-week session—chaplain may choose to work one or both weeks); and *Sunday, July 26-Saturday, Aug. 1*. *FOR INFORMATION: Alessia Doss, Camp Director (603-547-3400 or alessia@bchcenter.org).*

● Networks of congregations in the diocese engaged in global mission are forming, and those involved in facilitating that process would like to know where congregations are developing partnerships. **Congregations are invited to share information about their mission partnerships** via an online survey, [here](#). *FOR INFORMATION: Laura Walta, Global Missions (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or lwalta@diomass.org).*

● Volunteers who like to organize, plan and execute events are needed to **help plan a diocesan Global Mission Summit** to be held in the spring of 2016. *FOR INFORMATION: Laura Walta, Global Missions (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or lwalta@diomass.org).*

- Several **opportunities for travel and learning** are coming up in the new year:

“Drinking from Miriam’s Well,” May 24-June 4: Women and men are invited to join this pilgrimage and mission trip to the land where Jesus lived, which will include visits to sites in Israel and the West Bank associated with holy women, both in biblical times and today, to learn about and bear witness to women’s work for peace and justice. Bishop Gayle E. Harris, the Rev. Gretchen Grimshaw and the Rev. Pamela Werntz will lead the trip. They would like to hear as soon as possible from those interested in joining them (gsgrimshaw@parishofstpaul.org or werntz.emmanuel@gmail.com); an **initial deposit is due by Feb. 1**. To prepare for the journey, participants will gather with the leaders at three Saturday meetings on Feb. 14, March 28 and May 9. More information is available [here](#).

Bishop Harris will lead an **additional trip to the Holy Land** later in the year, *Nov. 15-27*. More information is available by contacting Marsha Searle at 617-482-4826, ext. 445 or msearle@diomass.org.

“In Search of the Early Church: Early Christian Art in Rome, Ravenna and Milan,” March 3-13: Trinity Church in Concord invites others to join its group for this exploration of the early Christian church through the art and architecture found in these three major Italian cities. The tour is designed for travelers who are interested in a serious yet accessible introduction to the origins of Christianity in Italy. More information is available from Trinity Church (978-369-3715 or trinity@trinityconcord.org).

“The Theologies of Mission and Development,” Oct. 9-16: Ten scholarships are available to those who would like to join with others in El Salvador for an interactive course on how the church’s mission intersects with justice, human rights and development work. A diocesan Mission Tithe Matching Grant covers all expenses in El Salvador. More information is available from Laura Walta, Global Missions (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or lwalta@diomass.org).

TRAINING & LEARNING:

- **“Creating Common Good: A Practical Conference for Economic Equality,” Jan. 22-24:** This Trinity Institute conference, featuring Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby and numerous others, will be Webcast live from New York City to local church viewing sites thanks to a Province I grant. Members of the diocese can join a group at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Fall River or St. Mary’s Church in Barnstable to view the presentations and engage in discussion. All are welcome. Registration information is posted at www.province1.org; other viewing locations around New England are listed and additional Massachusetts sites may be added. More information is also available at www.trinitywallstreet.org.
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- The [Leadership Development Initiative](#) will launch its annual **flagship training program** on *Saturday, Jan. 24, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.*, at the Church of the Redeemer (379 Hammond Street) in Chestnut Hill. Teams are trained in five key leadership practices and use them to launch a local justice project based on urgent community needs and the team members' sense of calling. Teams receive support and coaching throughout the spring.
FOR INFORMATION/TO REGISTER: Isaac Martinez, LDI (isaac@lditeam.org).

- Two "Talking Shop" sessions on **"Youth Ministry and The Internet,"** *Saturday, Jan. 31, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.*, at Trinity Church (91 Main Street) in Bridgewater, and *Saturday, Feb. 7, 3-5:30 p.m.*, at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.: These sessions will give youth workers, ministers and mentors an occasion to discuss with one another how to use (and not abuse) social media and other Web-based resources as tools for ministry with young people. The workshop leader will be social media consultant and local youth minister Kate McKey-Dunar. Registration is open, [here](#).
FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. H. Mark Smith, Office of Youth Ministry (617-482-4826, ext. 215 or hmsmith@diomass.org).

- **Eucharistic Visitor Training** will be offered on *Saturday, Jan. 31* at All Saints' Church (121 North Main Street) in Attleboro. Registration information is available online [here](#).
FOR INFORMATION: Connie Melahoures, Eucharistic Visitor Training coordinator (508-746-3805 or conmel@aol.com).

- **Safe Church Training** events will be offered on the following *Saturdays: Jan. 31* at Christ Church (149 Court Street) in Plymouth; *Feb. 28* at Trinity Church (26 White Street) in Haverhill; and *March 28* at St. John's Church (322 South Franklin Street) in Holbrook. Registration can be done online [here](#).
FOR INFORMATION: Esther Powell, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or epowell@diomass.org).

- The Society of St. John the Evangelist will offer a **workshop for seminarians and priests on "Reconciliation: The Pastoral Art of Hearing Confessions,"** on *Saturday, Feb. 7, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.* (including lunch), at the SSJE Monastery (980 Memorial Drive) in Cambridge. Led by Brother Curtis Almquist, SSJE, the workshop will explore the meaning of the Rite of Reconciliation in *The Book of Common Prayer*, and offer practical guidance for hearing confessions in a sacramental context—the need, the setting, the relationships and the boundaries. Preparation and outcome will be discussed. Registration can be made by e-mail to guesthouse@ssje.org.
FOR INFORMATION: Society of St. John the Evangelist (617-876-3037 or guesthouse@ssje.org).

- The diocese's Congregational Consultants are sponsoring **Congregational Business Practices Workshops** again this spring to give parish leadership—especially new parish leaders and treasurers—an exposure to the basics of good business practices in general, and Episcopal Church business practices in particular. The workshops will cover general business practices; compensation and benefits; compliance and reporting; bookkeeping and audits; and safeguarding of assets. The workshop will be offered on four *Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*:
 - *Feb. 28* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston;
 - *March 14* at St. Paul's Church (127 Summer Street) in Lynnfield;
 - *March 21* at St. Peter's Church (165 Main Street) in Buzzards Bay; and
 - *March 28* at St. Peter's Church (320 Boston Post Road) in Weston.
 More information and online registration is available [here](#).
 FOR INFORMATION: *Chris Meyer, Congregational Consultants* (617-482-4826, ext. 305 or cmeyer@diomass.org).

GRANTS & LOANS:

- In acknowledgement of multiple suggestions to award Green Improvement Grants earlier in the year to allow for planning and implementation of projects, the [Creation Care Initiative Green Improvement and Simple Acts grants will follow an earlier timeline for submission in 2015](#). Applicants will have the opportunity to submit either a full application in mid-March, with awards for full applications announced on Earth Day (April 22), or a letter of intent in mid-March and an April 22 application deadline, with awards announced in early June. Applications and a letter of intent template will be available on Jan. 14.
 FOR INFORMATION: *Esther Powell, Congregational Resources and Training* (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or greengrants@diomass.org).
- Applications are accepted monthly for **Mission Tithe Matching Grants**. There are separate applications available for youth mission trips and second-year grants for work with continuing mission partners. Concept papers and applications from congregations with previously approved concepts are due Jan. 15, and on a rolling basis by the 15th of each month thereafter. Staff assistance with congregational discernment and document preparation is available. Application materials are available [here](#).
 FOR INFORMATION: *Laura Walta, Global Mission* (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or lwalta@diomass.org).
- Applications for **2015 Deanery Grants** are available [here](#).
 FOR INFORMATION: *Esther Powell, Congregational Resources and Training* (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or deanerygrants@diomass.org).
- The 2015 application for **Congregational Development Grants** will be available in mid-February and will be due on May 15.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its Dec. 4, 2014, meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Heard a report from Bishop Gayle E. Harris on her recent trip to the Holy Land.

Heard a report from the diocesan treasurer, Jim Gammill, which included updates about the 2013 audit and third-quarter finances and discussion of bequest and reserve policy proposals.

Voted to approve clergy housing allowances for 2015.

Voted to allocate \$10,000 from proceeds from the sale of closed churches to All Saints' Church in Whitman to support its half-time rector.

Heard a report from the Rev. Sam Rodman about two proposed mission hub sites in Roxbury and on the South Shore.

Gave feedback about the November Diocesan Convention and suggestions for future conventions.

Heard an update about the construction project at St. Luke's-San Lucas Church in Chelsea.

Heard an update from Lynd Matt, Director of Development, on the Diocesan Annual Fund.

Next Diocesan Council Meeting: *Friday-Saturday, Jan. 23-24 at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.*

FOR INFORMATION: Laura Simons, Canon to the Ordinary's Office (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: [assistant director](#) of the Life Together young adult fellowship program; [human resource and benefits manager](#) for the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts; [executive director](#) of Metrowest Mission Hub/ProGente Connections; [youth mission coordinator](#) of the Plymouth, Cape and Islands Mission Hub; [nursery staff](#) at Trinity Church in Concord; [caretaker](#) at St. John's Church in Arlington; [secretary](#) at Trinity Church in Melrose; [sexton](#) at the Church of Our Saviour in Milton; [organist](#) at All Saints' Church in Belmont; [Sunday maintenance custodian](#) at Christ Church in Cambridge; [organist-director](#) at St. Paul's Church in Natick; [parish sexton](#) at St. Michael's Church in Milton; and [music director](#) at St. John's Church in Franklin.

PARISH SEARCH & CALL REPORT

Go to www.diomass.org for details (Resources for Congregations & Clergy > Congregation & Clergy Support > [Clergy Deployment/Transition Ministry](#)).

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:

DOVER, St. Dunstan's Church
NORTH BILLERICA, St. Anne's Church
WABAN, Church of the Good Shepherd

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

DEDHAM, St. Paul's Church
SANDWICH, St. John's Church

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

JAMAICA PLAIN, St. John's Church
SOUTH YARMOUTH, St. David's Church
SWANSEA, Christ Church

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

LYNNFIELD, St. Paul's Church
NANTUCKET, St. Paul's Church

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

None at this time.

OTHER POSITIONS OPEN TO CLERGY:

Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center: Camp chaplain.
See description [here](#).

CLERGY CHANGES:

The Rev. Rebecca Black has been appointed as priest-in-charge at Christ Church in Medway starting Dec. 1, 2014.
The Rev. Elibariki Phillip Kutta has been appointed as priest-in-charge at Grace Church in North Attleboro starting Jan. 1.
The Rev. John Satula has been called as rector of St. James's Church in Amesbury starting on Dec. 21, 2014.
The Rev. Diane Wong is serving as a bridge priest at St. John's Church in Arlington starting Dec. 1, 2014.

NEXT fyi:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of each month. The submission deadline for the Feb. 4 issue is **Wednesday, Jan. 28 at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.