



Wednesday, Jan. 6, 2016

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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**Everyone's voice needed
at mission strategy
forums**

It's time to create a new diocesan mission strategy, and everyone's voice is needed. Members of the diocesan community are invited to attend one or more of the six open listening forums scheduled in January and February—opportunities to share insights and experiences and imagine the future together.

A **bulletin insert** for use in congregations is available [here](#). Information regarding translation services and opportunities to participate through online and phone surveys will be forthcoming. Check www.diomass.org/new-mission-strategy for updates.

Open forums will be held on:

- *Sunday, Jan. 10, 2 p.m.*, at St. Mary's Church (3055 Main Street) in Barnstable;
- *Tuesday, Jan. 12, 7 p.m.*, at St. Paul's Church (39 East Central Street) in Natick;
- *Wednesday, Jan. 20, 7 p.m.*, at Christ Church (33 Central Street) in Andover;
- *Tuesday, Jan. 26, 7 p.m.*, at Grace Church (422 County Street) in New Bedford;
- *Thursday, Jan. 28, 7 p.m.*, at St. Thomas's Church (111 High Street) in Taunton; and
- *Saturday, Feb. 27, 10 a.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston.

FOR INFORMATION: Mission Strategy Listening Process Design Team at diomasslistening@gmail.com; www.diomass.org/new-mission-strategy.

**2016 Epiphany Papers
focus on mission discernment**

Epiphany Papers for 2016 are now online, [here](#). These studies follow the lectionary readings for the five Sundays of Epiphany. As the diocese engages in a time of visioning and reflection toward creating a new mission strategy, these simple studies are intended to help individuals and groups reflect on their own understandings of mission, calling and God's revelations in the world.

FOR INFORMATION: Amy Cook, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 645 or acook@diomass.org).

**Save the date:
Spring Learning Event
is March 5**

The annual diocesan Spring Learning Event will be held on *Saturday, March 5* at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. The event will feature "When God Left the Building," a movie that looks at societal changes and their effect on traditional church attendance. The keynote speaker will be Molly Phinney Baskette, author of *Real Good Church*. The day will include vibrant church practices as well as table discussions, hopeful stories and resources. Online registration will open soon. *FOR INFORMATION: Amy Cook, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 645 or acook@diomass.org).*

New deans announced

Four new deans have been named. The Rev. Sara Irwin, Rector of Christ Church in Waltham, has been appointed dean of the **Alewife Deanery**, succeeding the Rev. Holly Antolini. The Rev. Monrelle Williams, Rector of St. Cyprian's Church in Roxbury, has been appointed dean of the **Boston Harbor Deanery**, succeeding the Rev. Stephen Ayres. The Rev. Kate Malin, Rector of St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church in Lincoln, has been appointed dean of the **Concord River Deanery**, succeeding the Rev. Tony Buquor. The Rev. Marc Eames, Rector of the Church of the Advent in Medfield, has been appointed dean of the **Neponset River Deanery**, succeeding the Rev. Michael Godderz.

The bishops express their gratitude to these incoming and outgoing deans for their leadership and willingness to serve.

Register by Jan. 15 for Ministry Discernment Conference

Registration is open through Jan. 15 for the Ministry Discernment Conference, to be held on *Saturday, Feb. 6, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. (The snow date is Feb. 13. Please check www.diomass.org for announcement.) The conference is offered by the bishops and the Commission on Ministry and provides an in-depth look at the 2016 Ministry Discernment Handbook, giving 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 2016 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, one member of which must be a member of the vestry, are appointed by the sponsoring priest and should be named before the conference so that as many members as wish to may attend. Inquirers are also encouraged to bring their spouses or partners to the conference.

Online registration is required, [here](#).

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

B-SAFE partners gather in March for summer planning

B-SAFE summer program partners—new and returning—are invited to gather on *Sunday, March 6, 1-3 p.m.*, at the Church of the Redeemer (379 Hammond Street) in Chestnut Hill to begin planning for B-SAFE 2016. Lunch will be provided. Together with 55 partner congregations, B-SAFE provides a safe and learning-filled summer for more than 650 children and youth from low-income neighborhoods in Boston, Lower Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan and Chelsea.

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

Upcoming youth ministry events:

The 2016 **High School Retreat** will take place *Friday-Sunday, Feb. 5-7*, at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. The weekend retreat features small-group workshops, indoor and outdoor games, worship to get everyone moving and thinking, music by the band Fever Fever and time apart from everyday life to pay more attention to the Spirit of God in our lives. There will also be a chance for participants to contribute to the diocesan mission strategy by participating in a youth-focused forum hosted by the Mission Strategy Listening Process Design Team. Bus transportation is available, as is scholarship support. Registration closes when capacity is reached, or Feb. 1. Register online [here](#).

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

Young people in grades 7-11 are invited to join the fun at **Winter Camp**, *Monday-Saturday, Feb. 15-20*, at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. The week will include a mix of indoor and outdoor activities, including daily worship, focused on renewal of mind, body and spirit. Financial aid and transportation to and from Alewife Station in Cambridge are available. Find more information and register online [here](#).

Summer camp registration will open in mid-January, and brochures will be mailed and the camp Web site updated at that time. Summer camp dates are:

- Session 1: *Sunday, June 26-Friday, July 1*
- Session 2: *Sunday, July 3-Friday, July 8*
- Session 3: *Sunday, July 10-Friday, July 15*
- Session 4: *Sunday, July 17-Friday, July 22*
- Session 5: *Sunday, July 24-Friday, July 29*

Anyone interested in applying to **work as staff for either winter or summer camp** may apply online by visiting the staff application site, [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center (603-547-3400 or info@bchcenter.org); www.bchcenter.org.

The diocesan Office of Youth Ministry has scheduled three Friday-Saturday **Pre-Confirmation Retreats** to help prepare young people for Confirmation: *March 11-12* at St. Christopher's Church, Chatham; and *March 18-19* and *April 8-9*, both at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.

Confirmands and their mentors will gather to meet other young people and explore their call to Confirmation, its promise and challenge. The retreats are led by the members of the Diocesan Youth Council who will lead small groups and give reflections on their own spiritual journeys. Advance retreat registration is required. Register online [here](#).

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

NOTES:

- [Life Together](#) is accepting applications for fellowships starting in August 2016. The 10-month program matches young leaders (21-32 years of age) with mission-based nonprofit organizations, schools and churches throughout eastern Massachusetts. Life Together fellows live in intentional community and receive training in shared leadership models, community organizing tools and diverse spiritual practices. The application deadline is *Monday, Jan. 18*. Resumes with cover letters may be submitted to apply@diomassintern.org.
 - For congregations looking to start or augment their **online giving capabilities**, the diocesan Office of Development has arranged a special offer from Vanco Payment Solutions, which is one of several online service providers used by congregations. Vanco will waive the \$50 set-up fee and waive three months of the service fee (up to \$170 in savings) for congregations that sign up by Jan. 31. More information about Vanco can be found at www.VancoPayments.com. For specific questions or to sign up, call Ginna Marston, Senior Sales Consultant, at 800-675-7430, ext. 8103; mention the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts offer. *FOR INFORMATION ABOUT ONLINE GIVING: Lynd Matt, Office of Development (617-482-4826, ext. 515 or lmatt@diomass.org).*
 - The **Pre-Lenten Retreat for diocesan clergy** will be held *Feb. 2-4* (beginning at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday and ending at 12 p.m. on Thursday) at the Notre Dame Spirituality Center in Ipswich. The retreat leader will be announced. Details and registration information will be sent directly to the clergy. *FOR INFORMATION: Marsha Searle, Office of the Bishop Suffragan (617-482-4826, ext. 445 or msearle@diomass.org).*
 - **Pre-Confirmation Retreats** will be offered on two Saturdays this spring **for adults** preparing to be confirmed or received in the Episcopal Church, each from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.: [Feb. 20](#) at St. Paul's Church (127 Summer Street) in Lynnfield and [April 2](#) at the Church of Our Saviour (120 Center Street) in Middleborough. Led by the Rev. Karen Montagno and Amy Cook, each retreat will explore this next step in a lifelong faith journey through conversations and spiritual practices. One of the bishops will be present for part of each day. Lunch is included; cost is \$10 per person. Click on the dates above to register online. *FOR INFORMATION: Amy Cook, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 645 or acook@diomass.org).*
 - A **Global Mission Summit**, "Our Mission Journey: Sharing Our Present, Imagining Our Future," will be held on *Saturday, April 9, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.*, at St. Peter's Church (320 Boston Post Road) in Weston. The keynote speaker will be the Rev. Titus Presler, author of *Going Global with God*. Registration will open later in January. *FOR INFORMATION: Laura Walta, Global Mission (617-482-4826, ext. 422 or lwalta@diomass.org).*
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TRAINING & LEARNING:

- **“Listen for a Change: Sacred Conversations for Racial Justice” is the focus of the 2016 Trinity Institute**—an annual theological conference offered by Trinity Church, Wall Street in New York City, and Webcast to registered local sites around the country. The conference takes place *Thursday-Sunday, Jan. 21-24*, and will feature *New York Times* columnist Nicholas Kristof, actor and playwright Anna Deavere Smith, Vanderbilt Divinity School dean Emilie Townes and Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry, among others.

The Diocese of Massachusetts, the Mission Institute and Episcopal Divinity School (EDS) are partnering this year to provide a local viewing site at EDS (99 Brattle Street) in Cambridge, where all aspects of the conference will be offered in real time via Webcast. Participants can submit questions via e-mail, and, following each session, local leaders will guide participants deeper into the material through activities and reflection groups. To register or learn more, visit www.eds.edu/listen.

An additional local viewing site will be hosted by Province I of the Episcopal Church at St. Mary’s Church (3055 Main Street) in Barnstable. Questions may be directed to Julie Lytle at executive.director@province1.org.

FOR INFORMATION: The Rev. Karen Montagno, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 413 or kmontagno@diomass.org).

- **Sustainable House of Worship (SHOW) workshops** help congregations learn how to reduce their energy use and cost and evaluate potential energy-saving projects and the purchase of necessary supplies and equipment. In order to apply for a diocesan green grant or green loan, at least two members of the congregation must attend a SHOW workshop. The next SHOW workshop will take place on *Saturday, Jan. 30, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Registration information is available [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: Andrew Del Pilar, Congregational Resources and Training (617-482-4826, ext. 421 or adelpilar@diomass.org).

- The Diocese of Massachusetts’ B-PEACE campaign has joined the national Do Not Stand Idly By campaign, which aims to use the purchasing power of local and state governments to encourage gun manufacturers to insist on high standards of security for all their dealers and to invest in development of “smart-gun” technology to create safer guns. More information about the campaign is available [here](#).

A **local training to learn more about Do Not Stand Idly By**, including how individuals and congregations can support the effort, will be offered on *Sunday, Jan. 31, from 2 to 5 p.m.*, at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston. Questions may be e-mailed to bpeace@ststephensbos.org.

- Annual **Congregational Business Practices workshops** are offered by the diocese's Congregational Consultants to educate parish leaders on the basics of parish business operations. They are ideal for new vestry members, wardens and, especially, treasurers, as well as the clergy. The workshop is given on four Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.: [Feb. 13](#) at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston; [Feb. 20](#) at St. Peter's Church (320 Boston Post Road) in Weston; [Feb. 27](#) at St. Mary's Church (3055 Main Street) in Barnstable; and [March 12](#) at St. Paul's Church (127 Summer Street) in Lynnfield. Click on the dates above to register online.

FOR INFORMATION: Chris Meyer, Congregational Consultants (617-527-2739 or cmeyer@diomass.org).

- Province I of the Episcopal Church is sponsoring the first of the All Our Children regional forums called for in 2015 General Convention Resolution B005, to explore **how congregations can join the movement to address educational inequity**. The gathering will offer two tracks—one for those exploring and just starting school-parish partnerships and another for those who have already established collaborations. Congregations can take action for quality public education for all children by sending a team to this multi-faceted forum. It takes place *Friday-Saturday, Feb. 19-20*, at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H. Find more information and register [here](#).

FOR INFORMATION: Julie Lytle, Province I (617-669-8411 or executive.director@province1.org).

- The Diocese of Massachusetts is sponsoring a **Godly Play training** opportunity *Thursday-Saturday, March 17-19*, at St. Stephen's Church (16 Highland Avenue) in Cohasset. A Core Godly Play Training for beginners and an Advanced Godly Play Training for experienced teachers will take place simultaneously. Scholarships for participants from the Diocese of Massachusetts are available. For information and to register, visit www.godlyplayfoundation.org.

- Two **Clergy Safe Church Refresher Trainings** have been scheduled for 2016: [Tuesday, May 24](#), 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at All Saints' Church (121 North Main Street) in Attleboro (click on the date to register) and [Saturday, Oct. 8](#), 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul (138 Tremont Street) in Boston (registration information will be forthcoming). It is expected that all clergy canonically resident or licensed in the Diocese of Massachusetts will attend a Safe Church Training once every three years. The diocese is committed to healthy church environments and needs the shared wisdom and experience of everyone to make them so.

FOR INFORMATION: Matt Roias, Safe Church Training (617-482-4826, ext. 416 or mroias@diomass.org).

DIOCESAN COUNCIL ACTIONS:

At its Dec. 3, 2015, meeting, the Diocesan Council:

Heard a report from Bishop Alan M. Gates on the recent pilgrimage he and Bishop Gayle E. Harris and a diocesan group made to the Holy Land.

Heard a report from the diocesan treasurer, Lisa Garcia, on goals for the upcoming year, and voted to approve clergy housing allowances for 2015 and 2016.

Voted to approve a first-year budget for the Boston-Cambridge Mission Hub of up to \$85,000.

Heard a report from the Rev. Sam Rodman about the collaborative campaign component of the mission hub fundraising plan.

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

Heard an update about the mission strategy listening sessions.

Heard a report about building repairs that are needed to the St. Luke's and St. Margaret's property in Allston.

At its Nov. 19, 2015, meeting the Executive Committee of Diocesan Council:

Voted to approve a withdrawal of up to \$300,000 from the Maintenance Reserve Fund to mitigate serious structural issues with the parish hall and church building of the St. Luke's and St. Margaret's property in Allston.

Voted to reappoint the Rev. Jane Bearden, Virginia Rogers and Ted Ts'o to the Budget Committee for terms ending in 2018.

Next Diocesan Council meeting: *Friday-Saturday, Jan. 22-23* at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Conference Center in Greenfield, N.H.

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:

[controller](#), a position on the diocesan staff; [director of major gifts](#) at St. Stephen's Church in Boston; [music director](#) at Christ Church in Plymouth; [church administrator](#) at Grace Church in New Bedford; [Sunday school coordinator](#) at the Church of Our Saviour in Arlington; [music director](#) at All Saints' Church of the North Shore in Danvers; [organist](#) at the Church of St. Augustine and St. Martin in Boston; and [communications specialist](#) at St. Stephen's Church in Cohasset.

CLERGY 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:

None at this time.

CHURCHES IN SELF-STUDY:

None at this time.

CHURCHES COMPLETING PROFILE:

None at this time.

CHURCHES RECEIVING NAMES:

None at this time.

CHURCHES NO LONGER RECEIVING NAMES:

DOVER, St. Dunstan's Church
 NORTH BILLERICA, St. Anne's Church
 SANDWICH, St. John's Church
 SOUTH YARMOUTH, St. David's Church
 WABAN, Church of the Good Shepherd
 WESTON, St. Peter's Church (pilot search project)

NEXT fyi:

fyi is published the first Wednesday of each month. The submission deadline for the Feb. 3 issue is **Wednesday, Jan. 27 at noon**. E-mail submissions to tjs@diomass.org.
