



Congregational Resource Day

"Tools for Parishes"

September 27, 2008
Bentley College, Waltham
8:45 AM – 2:30 PM

Join us for a day filled with workshops, discussions, and sessions to help develop skills and give you tools for congregational development. Bring a team from your parish. It's not just for clergy – there is something for everyone. The morning includes three opportunities to participate in workshops.

Please see inside for workshop descriptions. Also during the morning is a parallel event on Global Missions.

Check in opens at 8:00 AM with an opening welcome at 8:45 AM. Lunch is provided. Three workshop slots are offered in the morning, and after lunch everyone gathers together for time with the bishops until 2:30.

- **Cost: FREE (\$20.00 suggested donation taken at the door)**
- **Online registration is required by Tuesday, September 23.**
- **Registration starts September 1 at www.diomass.org.**

Schedule	Parallel Program: Global Mission Event: 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM
<p>8:00 Registration opens</p> <p>8:45 Opening Words</p> <p>9:00 Workshop I</p> <p>10:00 Workshop II</p> <p>11:00 Workshop III</p> <p>12:00 Lunch</p> <p>12:30 Group discussions</p> <p>1:00 Panel with Bishops</p> <p>2:30 Wrap up</p> <p>The <i>Global Mission Event</i> will run concurrently with this program. Participants who register for the Global Mission Event may choose to join the Resource Day events at any time. Please register for specific workshops or the Global Mission Event online.</p>	<p>The Global Partnership Task Force is hosting a mission gathering within the context of Resource Day to support churches in their planning, preparation, and organization of church-based mission trips.</p> <p>Representatives from churches and organizations will be available to share stories, network, and provide information. Come find out about the mission work of your colleagues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hear the mission trips experiences of others• Begin developing your own plans with experienced consultants• Get ideas on budgeting and learn about new fundraising opportunities• Get travel tips and ideas for how to address cultural and spiritual challenges• Acquire some practical tips for taking a group on mission to Central America, Africa, the Middle East, Biloxi, or wherever else God may be leading <p>Mission teams are invited to create a poster presentation of their mission experience and/or international relationship to share their story and build a network with diocesan colleagues (posters should be able to stand on their own).</p> <p>When registering online, please choose the Global Mission Event for your workshop choices.</p>

Session I Workshops, 9:00 - 10:00

- ❑ **“Conversations with Scripture and with Each Other: Spiritual Formation for Lay Leaders”**
Using his new book, *Conversations with Scripture*, Bishop Shaw will lead reflection and discussion on leadership issues and ways to engage Scripture for the strengthening of our church communities. Led by Bishop Tom Shaw.
- ❑ **Sound Business Practices for Congregations**
This workshop will provide an overview of business practices every parish should adopt to ensure that its assets are used wisely and safeguarded. It will include the vestry's duties in business matters, good bookkeeping and reporting practices (including a discussion of software options and payroll processing), and asset protection. It will also provide direction to diocesan and other resources. The material will be very similar to material included in the Congregational Business Practices workshops in the spring. Led by Chris Meyer, Coordinator, Congregational Business Consultants.
- ❑ **Welcoming Young People with Special Needs into Your Church Life and Community**
Many families are facing the challenges of children with moderate special needs. This workshop will discuss how do we invite these families into our congregation and make them feel part of the community. We will also discuss strategies to use in the Sunday school classroom and during worship that can make the family and the child feel more welcome and comfortable in our congregation. Led by the Rev. Becky Crane, deacon & middle school teacher.
- ❑ **Confirmation Helps: Resources, Curriculum, Retreats, and Feeling Good about the End Result**
Are youth disappearing from your pews after confirmation class has ended? Wondering how to update your teaching materials? Bring your questions around confirmation and dialogue with Bishop Cederholm on the diocesan expectations and the deanery model. This workshop will also include an overview of new confirmation resources. Led by Bishop Bud Cederholm and Amy Cook, Christian Formation Specialist and Resource Center Manager.
- ❑ **Shopping for God: Communications Strategies for Local Parishes**
An update of Communications Ideas, this workshop will offer suggestions for marketing your parish across a platform of vehicles using print, electronic communications, advertising, and media relations. We'll look at how research informs our communications and some best practices used by parishes. You'll emerge with a marketing plan that matches your parish to your community and your target audiences. Led by Maria Plati, Director of Communications.
- ❑ **Making Faith Practical: Doing Environmental Stewardship**
This workshop will cover the faith basis of environmental stewardship; offer a primer on the inner workings (mechanical, electrical, and plumbing) of our houses and houses of worship; and offer a fun and engaging way for the whole parish to understand the environmental footprint that individuals, families, and parishes make on the earth. Led by Thomas E. Nutt-Powell, Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light.
- ❑ **Exploring the Roots of Racism**
Tapping into the energy created by national and diocesan resolutions to "See the Face of God in One Another," the presenters will offer interactive approaches to building communities of practice that nurture diversity. Led by the Rev. Karen Montagno and the Diversity in Leadership Group.
- ❑ **Campaigns that Pop: Successful Stewardship Programs for All Churches**
Stewardship campaigns aren't rocket science, but they do require some advance planning. This workshop will give you some nuts and bolts strategies on building a program that works! Led by Scott Kozak, St. Anne's-in-the-Fields Church, Lincoln, MA.

Session II Workshops, 10:00 - 11:00

- ☐ **Worshipful Work for Vestries and Committees**
Conversation with practical ideas to help answer the questions... What spiritual practices help us to exercise spiritual leadership that reflects Jesus' leadership? How is discernment leading to God's agenda different from the usual way we make decisions? What will help our meetings and leadership to be less anxious, divisive and stressful and more worshipful, life giving and unified in Christ? Led by Bishop Bud Cederholm.
- ☐ **Spirituality for Every Day: From the Kitchen Table to the Altar**
In the rhythm of a day or a week, amidst joys and challenges, where is God for you? Perhaps doorways to the life of the spirit are opening to us all the time - a child's question about God, a dilemma at work, caring for another, or in the morning news. Are we awake to such moments? Come and learn how our Christian tradition and communities can help us pay attention to nourishing our spiritual lives and enter fully into the offerings of each day with our faith. Led by Spiritual Directors of Bethany House of Prayer, a ministry with the Sisters of St. Anne-Bethany, Arlington.
- ☐ **Preschools and Daycare Centers Sharing Church Space, Harmoniously**
Many of our churches have preschools or daycare centers but with many different models for this space arrangement. This panel discussion will cover some of the different models and contractual agreements, as well as issues of sharing space with Sunday school and outreach to families using these resources. Led by Amy Cook and panel.
- ☐ **Reclaiming Creation: The Healthy Kids, Healthy Churches, Healthy Communities Curriculum**
Toxic shower curtains, baby bottles, food containers, toys, shampoos . . . What are we to do? Introducing the new Mass. Council of Churches (MCC) curriculum which combines faith grounding with practical action on environmental justice issues. Led by the Rev. M. Lise Hildebrandt, Healthy Churches Consultant (MCC).
- ☐ **Moving Your Parish into the Electronic Age**
Studies show that church seekers use web sites as a primary source of information. Your parish has accepted the electronic communications imperative, but you're daunted by the prospect. We'll demonstrate how easy it is to create an electronic newsletter or start a web site and offer tips for improving your parish web site, including basics on hosting, web design, content, best practices, and do's and don'ts. Led by Tim Kinnel, Electronic Media Manager
- ☐ **Preparing for Diocesan Convention – Part I**
Pre-convention discussion around resolutions and budget to be presented at Diocesan Convention in November. (Actual resolutions won't be published until September). Those who are proposing resolutions at convention will be invited to share and discuss them. Led by Jim Gammill and others.
- ☐ **Building Community with Uprooted People to Serve the Common Good**
Learn how you and your congregation may become involved in a ministry which allows you to share the journey with an uprooted, traumatized asylum seeker and in the process be enriched, revitalized, and inspired by their faith and resiliency. Led by the Rev. Ruth Bersin, Refugee Immigration Ministry.
- ☐ **Yes, You CAN Ask for Money!**
Asking for money in a face-to-face setting can be a daunting task. Come learn how to be more comfortable and confident as you invite people to join you on the journey of giving. Led by Libby Roberts, Director of Major Gifts for the Boston Symphony Orchestra, and on the Stewardship Committee for Trinity Church, Boston.

Session III Workshops, 11:00 - 12:00

- ☐ **Anglican Evangelism: Telling Our Stories**
The best way for us to do evangelism is to do it like Jesus: tell stories that share God's work in our lives and love for us, and invite others to share in God's kingdom. Led by Bishop Gayle Harris.
- ☐ **Vestry 101: A Guide to Vestry Rights and Responsibilities**
The joys, accomplishments, and challenges in serving on the vestry. Learn the nuts and bolts of roles, norms, and expectations in tending the Body of Christ through this essential ministry of leadership. Led by the Rev. Cynthia Hubbard, Staff Officer, Congregational Development and Transitional Ministry.
- ☐ **Building Lay-Ministry in Your Church: How to Recruit, Train, Support, and Retain Church "Volunteers"**
In this workshop we will discuss both the theology of lay ministry vs. "helping out" and the practical steps to successfully recruit and train workers for your church's ministry of inviting, forming, sending, and serving. The practical strategies offered will be tailored to family, pastoral, and program church sizes. Led by the Rev. Joyce Scherer-Hoock.
- ☐ **Youth, Christ, and Culture: Understanding the Popular Theology of Those in your Pews**
Recent research has revealed many shifts in attitudes among young people around spirituality, faith, morals, ethics, and the church. Find out why there is often a disconnect between what is taught and how it is interpreted by teens and their parents. Let these surprising findings help you shape new ways of reaching out. Led by Amy Cook.
- ☐ **Electronic Communication Tools Roundtable**
For people interested in the next level of electronic communication for their parishes, participants will share their tips, resources, and experiences. Topics include advanced web site technology, photo sharing, podcasting, video files, teleconferencing, etc. Led by Tim Kinneel.
- ☐ **Preparing for Diocesan Convention – Part II**
Continuation of pre-convention discussion around resolutions and budget to be presented at Diocesan Convention in November. Led by Jim Gammill and others.
- ☐ **Intro to Lazarus Groups: Working on Money, Spirituality, and Ending Global Poverty**
"Lazarus at the Gate" is a 12-session economic discipleship group that challenges participants to change the way they think about money and spirituality. Groups talk together for six sessions about how to make one commitment to spend joyfully, spend differently (such as Fair Trade options), spend less, and give more, and then spend the next six sessions prayerfully considering different options for giving a collective amount of money to help alleviate global poverty. Led by the Boston Faith and Justice Network.
- ☐ **In Our Own Backyard: Mission and Outreach Opportunities Within the Diocese**
Opportunities for Mission and outreach with people from Africa, Asia and Central and South America are abundant and waiting for us in our Diocese. The Diocese has a rich tradition of outreach and mission overseas. That word about our good works has spread from those communities to their relatives in Massachusetts. Are we ready to serve them in our own backyard as well? This opens up an exciting mission field rich in experiences and learning for all, and there is no need to have big travel expenses! Led by the Rev Edgar A. Gutiérrez-Duarte and the Rev. John Kaoma.
- ☐ **Stewardship for the Other 9 months: Forming a Culture of Generosity** Come and learn how to foster an atmosphere of giving back all year, not just during your fall stewardship campaign. Led by the Rev. Bonnie S. Spencer, Church of Our Savior, Somerset, MA.