



The Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee

Welcome Home!

Connections: *home... parish... diocese*

Vocational Diaconate in the Diocese of Tennessee



Vol. 4, No. 10 October 2010

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The Episcopal Church

In the Anglican Communion
A global communion of
77 million Anglicans in
25 member provinces

Archbishop of Canterbury

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon.
Rowan Williams
Anglican Consultative Council
Partnership House
157 Waterloo Road
London, England

Episcopal Seat:
Canterbury Cathedral

In the United States
A communion of 2.5 million
members in 112 dioceses
in the Americas and abroad
Established 1789

Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev.
Katharine Jefferts Schori
Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Avenue
New York NY 10017
800-334-7626

Episcopal Seat:
Washington National Cathedral
Mount St. Albans
Washington DC 20016

In the Diocese of Tennessee
A communion of 16,000
Episcopalians in
47 congregations
in Middle Tennessee
Established 1828

Bishop

The Rt. Rev. John C. Bauerschmidt
Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee
50 Vantage Way, Suite 107
Nashville TN 37228
615-251-3322

Episcopal Seat:
Christ Church Cathedral

The Mission of the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee
is to encourage and equip one another
as baptized people of God, to witness
to the transforming and reconciling power of Jesus Christ.

Welcome to the October 2010 issue of *Connections: home... parish... diocese*. We will accept submissions for *Connections* from throughout the diocese. **As space permits**, we will use as much content as possible, subject to editorial revision. Short announcements of 100 words or less may be sent via email to connections@episcopaldiocese-tn.org. For feature-length stories, contact us in the diocesan office at 615-251-3322.

Digital photos can be submitted as above and must include activity, date and identities of everyone in the photo.

Submissions are accepted until 12:00 Noon on the 15th of the month prior to the upcoming issue and will be given consideration on a first come/first served basis.



Safeguarding God's People*

Protecting children from sexual abuse.

Preventing adult sexual misconduct.

A diocesan workshop for vestries, nursery workers,
Sunday school teachers, volunteer youth leaders and
employees, part-time and full-time,
anywhere in the diocese.*



No workshops are currently scheduled. Watch this space for upcoming events.

Please call the diocesan office at 615-251-3322 to sign up.

***Newly elected vestry members should attend.**

Safeguarding God's People is a curriculum provided by the Church Pension Group.

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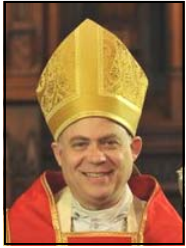
Connections: home... parish... diocese

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Rooted In Scripture And In Tradition



Beginning in January, there will be a new look to ministry in the Diocese of Tennessee, as a group of persons begin formation for ministry in what is called the “vocational diaconate.” I say a new look, but in truth this ministry is rooted in Scripture and in our tradition.

The diaconate is a part of the three-fold order of ordained ministry which comes down to us from the earliest times as the mainstream pattern of ministry in the church, a pattern that was re-affirmed at the Reformation in the Church of England and given additional visibility and definition in the Ordinal of 1550, with rites for ordination of bishops, priests and deacons.

The order of deacons served in various capacities in the first centuries of

the church, in ministries of service often associated with the administration of the church’s charitable works, serving at the altar as well. Deacons were often the bishop’s chief support, and many early bishops had served first as deacons of the diocesan church. Gradually over the centuries the diaconate became less of a distinct ministry, as the charitable work of the Church became more mainstream, and became more a stepping stone to the priesthood. Ironically, the development that marginalized it probably preserved it, a sort of ministry encased in amber, waiting for better times.

In the past forty years the diaconate has revived as a distinct order of ministry in both the Roman Catholic Church and in many churches of the Anglican Communion, not just a stepping stone to the priesthood, now with a renewed focus on the world outside the church’s doors. Vocational deacons are distinct from transitional deacons, who proceed on to the priesthood. Diaconal ministry as

modernly conceived is meant to focus the attention of the church on ministry in the world. The church seeks to ordain people who are already involved in this ministry, especially those who can lead by involving others in this work. They serve at the altar, but their focus lies outside the church. This is a healthy remedy to our institutional pre-occupations, and helps to focus us on the work that remains the common responsibility of all.

I’m grateful to Linda Hutton and the other members of the working group on the vocational diaconate for their careful labor over the past two and a half years. It remains to be said that this is normally a non-stipendiary ministry, under the leadership of the bishop and supervised by the parish priest. It will mean so much to us in the future as we seek to reach out to a world that needs the witness and ministry of the church for healing and for reconciliation. Just imagine how a dedicated group of vocational deacons will shape and form the ministry of the Diocese of Tennessee in the future! God will do a work here that none of us can foresee completely. — *Bishop John*

Bishop’s Statement On Violence In Connection With Islamic Center

Violence directed against Muslim places of worship in Middle Tennessee (such as acts apparently perpetrated in Murfreesboro in this past month) ought to be of grave concern to all in our community. They are of particular concern to members of the Episcopal Church.

We share with many people of different religious traditions, and other people of good will, a commitment made (in the words of our Episcopal Baptismal liturgy) to strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being. Indiscriminate acts of violence are inherently unjust. These particular acts against places of worship erode the civil peace and undermine the social good in which all citizens participate. All of us are diminished and endangered by them.

Violence of this sort is also contrary to the fundamental commitments of Christians in particular. Again, our Baptismal liturgy calls us to seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves. Our Lord Jesus Christ is clear in the Gospel of Luke, in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), that the definition of our neighbor is inclusive rather than exclusive, and specifically includes those who might be counted as enemies. We are called to discern the presence of Christ in every member of the human community.

Finally, that same liturgy of Christian initiation commits us to proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ. We will be unable to share our faith persuasively or gracefully when our neighbors feel threatened in their safety and wellbeing. Christian faith cannot be fruitful in an atmosphere of fear and intimidation.

I encourage all people of good will, and Christians in particular, to work for communities in which all our neighbors, including Muslims, feel both safe and at home.

Hearts In Tune With Needs Of The World

Since its formation in the fall of 2008, the Vocational Diaconate Committee, as appointed by Bishop Bauerschmidt, has worked diligently to develop a process for the formation and education of deacons in the Diocese of Tennessee.

The North American Association for the Diaconate, in their mission statement, describes a deacon as “a baptized person called and empowered by God and the Church to be a model of Christ’s servant ministry for all people. As agents of God’s compassion and reconciling grace, deacons are missionaries to the world and messengers to the Church of the world’s needs, hopes and concerns.... Deacons are living symbols of Christ’s presence as they embody Christ’s servant ministry and point to the presence of Christ in those they serve.”

Through their ordination vows, deacons place themselves under orders to follow Jesus and be obedient to the bishop. The Rev. Dr. Linda A. Hutton, chair of the diocesan Vocational Diaconate Committee, says, “Vocational deacons are the real deacons in the church, although ordained or lay, we are each called to the ministry of servant leadership through out lives. Vocational deacons intentionally serve as a bridge between the church and the world. Vocational deacons have hearts that are in tune with the needs of the world.”

The formation/education process is intended to be completed in a minimum of two years. Before ordination, each candidate must be prepared in and demonstrate competence in five areas: academic studies (The Holy Scriptures, theology and the tradition of the church), diakonia and the diaconate, human awareness and understanding, spiritual development and discipline, and practical training and experience.

The education requirements may be met through completion of two years of online courses such as the program from the Center for Anglican Learning & Leadership at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley CA.

Formation requirements are met by attending monthly events. The Vocational Diocesan Committee has arranged for six overnight gatherings at St. Mary’s Sewanee, beginning in January 2011. Additionally, four Saturday events are scheduled. Topics for these meetings include group development, homiletics, faith development and more. Theological reflections on academic studies are also a part of the process.

Candidates must participate in prevention of sexual misconduct training, Title IV training and anti-racism training. They are also required to choose a spiritual director during the formation process. Evaluation of the participants’ progress will be made in accordance with Canon III, Section 6 (i) of the Episcopal Church canons which states in part, “...there shall be a written report of the evaluation by those authorized by the Commission to be in charge of the evaluation program... [It] shall include a recommendation from the Commission regarding the readiness of the candidate for ordination.”

Candidates are required to communicate with their bishop, in person or by letter, four times a year in the Ember Weeks, reflecting on their development and the process.

The Vocational Diaconate Committee is, along with the chair, Karen Keele, the Rev. Dolores Nicholson (a vocational deacon in the Diocese of Tennessee), the Rev. Mickey Richaud and the Rev. Canon Pamela Snare. At a recent meeting, the committee address potential candidates to help determine

who of them would meet the requirements for discernment.

There are three aspects of the call to the diaconal ministry:

- 1) This is a person who has the ability to articulate the proclamation of servant ministry that is present in the Gospel, and who shows leadership skills and a willingness to lead others into servant ministry.
- 2) A deacon is also one who has the courage to be a prophetic voice to the Church concerning the needs of the powerless and voiceless in the community. She or he is a person who has the mental ability and competence for ordained ministry, and who understands that the diaconate is a life-long discernment of the direction of his or her ministry. This process involves continuous prayer, openness to change, willingness to study, and the active quest for personal growth.
- 3) The vocational diaconate is a distinct order and is not a stepping stone to the priesthood. Likewise, the diaconate is not to be seen as a reward for faithful service as a lay reader, chalice bearer, warden or member of the vestry. Nor is it to be seen as a reward for a pre-existing ministry. The individual aspiring to the Sacred Order of Deacons must clearly articulate and demonstrate that he or she is called to the order of ministry which is personified by servant ministry, diakonia.

How does one know if they are called to the diaconate? First, is the candidate willing to be part of a servant ministry to the world? Do they have they desire and capacity for a life of service in the name of Christ? Do they have the desire and capacity to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns and hopes of the world?

Second, a person with discernable vocation possesses many of the following qualities: a strong commitment to and deep love for Christ and Church; an ability to articulate their faith; a con-

firmed adult member of the Church, in good standing and with the understanding of their ministry as a baptized person; a spiritual life marked by worship, prayer, study and tithing; a vocation to serve and to enable others to serve; empathy for the powerless; a history of satisfactory employment and interpersonal relationships; a willingness to undertake the required preparation; a clear understanding of the ministry of a deacon and a willingness to serve God through the leadership of the bishop.

Third, a person with a discernable vocation to the diaconate would be recognized as being able to live the vision statement for diaconal ministry. They may work in risky places, responding to the needs of the poor, the weak, the addicted, the sick. Deacons are called to engage the issues of justice, mercy, poverty, family and the environment. The role is one of opening doors of opportunity, encouraging others to take risks and serving as agents of change.

Though many people in the Diocese of Tennessee might not realize it, there are four Vocational deacons already serving here. The Rev. Bard Quillman is retired.

The Rev. Al Magee has served at St. Philip's Church Nashville for many years. When asked to describe what led to his call, he responded:

"My involvement with church lay activities and providing assistance to clergy spanned several years. With encouragement from the clergy and through personal study, I developed a strong interest in becoming a clergyman. My vicar, the Rev. William Dimmicki - St. Philip's first priest - arranged an interview with the Rt. Rev. Theodore Barth who encouraged my discernment.

"From 1961 to 1964, I attended a 3-year program with one weekend per month at Dubose Conference Center plus off campus studies. The class of five was led by the Revs. Jack Gessell, Charles Keen, Charles Winters, Fitz Allison and Bill Hethcock. In 1964, I presented a sermon based on scripture

assigned to me by Bishop John Vander Horst and following his approval, I was evaluated by the Canon Examiners: Canon George Fox and the Rev. Fred Gates (who was soon to become bishop).

"The commitment is heavy involvement in lay chores, study of the Holy Scripture and of the Book of Common Prayer and the assignment as deacon is a position of responsibility and challenge... and reward."

As noted, another vocational deacon is the Rev. Dolores Nicholson. She had this to say about her process:

"I really wasn't led to the diaconate as I didn't know there was such an order. I was assigned to this task by then Bishop George Reynolds. It was a matter of 'Accept this or...' and the 'or' wasn't an acceptable option to me.

"The process, as near as I can remember after 20+ years, started with an initial conference with Fr. Rick Britton, then vicar at St. Anselm's, followed by his referral to Bishop Reynolds whose secretary scheduled a meeting. We met.

"I was accepted into a group of about 10 people to the first Vocational Exploration Program (VEP) for those discerning a call to ministry. I spent nine months in the program: weekly group meetings with three mentors and field placement at what was then St. Matthias Parish (the site of the current Church of the Holy Spirit). That was followed by a meeting with the Commission on Ministry.

"The bishop decided to assign me to the diaconate track and my seminary assignment was to the Episcopal Theological Seminary in Lexington KY for a two-year licentiate in the Servant Ministry program. After graduation, I had a final meeting with the bishop and the decision was made for me: ordination.

"The process required me to take focus off myself and onto service to God and the People of God. I had to learn to adhere to a strict schedule as I was teaching full-time during the week. But I got benefits that can't be quantified.

"To anyone considering entering the process to become a Vocational Deacon: pray long and hard to discern the Will of God. Realize that the call - either from God or from your congregation - is an outgrowth of what you've been doing in a 'diaconal' way and that you understand why a collar and ordination are essential to your ministry."

Her advice is well worth heeding as she certainly knows what it takes to serve as a deacon. In fact, she was a recent recipient of the 2010 Stephen Award from the North American Associate for the Diaconate. She was nominated by the Diocesan Vocational Diaconate Steering Committee to receive the award for "having demonstrated a deep commitment to the special ministry of servanthood following the practice of St. Stephen, according to tradition the first deacon appointed by the Apostles to serve tables in Jerusalem, by making Christ's redemptive love known through your word and example, to those among whom you live and work."

Also a vocational deacon, The Rev. Charles Burdeshaw of St. Ann's Church Nashville shares:

"I guess I felt I motivated after my mother passed away. I went through VEP with Dolores Nicholson and we went to seminary together in Lexington, KY for about 20 months. It was a good, shared experience and she and I became close. She is now my "sister." I have been at St Ann's since 1990, and feel very fortunate to be a part of that congregation. I don't have the teaching background that Dolores has, so I haven't been much help in teaching, but I value my service at the altar and other behind-the-scenes functions. I would encourage anyone who is interested in the diaconate to look into it."

Should you have an interest in the Vocational Diaconate program in the Diocese of Tennessee, contact Dr. Hutton at justlinda@charter.net. She and the members of the committee will help you determine if the program is right for you.

Clergy News -

The **Rev. J. Malone Gilliam** has been named Associate Rector for Family Ministry at St. George's Church Nashville. He, his wife and their four daughters have relocated

Parish News -

Recent confirmations: Hong Six Park, Eun Hee Kim, Byeng Heon Lee, Jung Eun Lee, Kyu Jik Joh, Yeong Sian Cho, Sung Pan Cheung, Dong Sob Choi, Mi Hye Na, Won Min Choi, Min Seon Choi, Hui Juk Choe, In Gyu Choe, David Shin, Sung Joon Hong, Julie Choe, **Church of the Holy Spirit Nashville**; Barbara Burnette, John East, Charles Norris, Natalie Riley, Logan Terheggen, **St. Michael's Church Cookeville**.

Recent receptions: Cindy Green, **St. Michael's Church Cookeville**.

Recent baptisms: Myla Bernard, **St. Anselm's Church Nashville**; Emmaline Bredley, Sadie Garner, Caroline Mohr, Posey Wallace, **St. Paul's Church Franklin**; George Wilford, Chase Moore, Josiah Michel, Miriam Michel, Benjamin Michel, Ruthie Collins, **St. Bartholomew's Church Nashville**; Madelyn Aguilera, Henry Mims, Margaret Muenzen, Seth Weisman, Rachel Wike, Benjamin Williams, James Williams III, **Christ Church Cathedral Nashville**.

Church of the Epiphany Lebanon will hold the Prayers of Pink worship service on Tuesday, October 5 at 7:00 PM to remember friends and loved ones who lost their lives to breast cancer and to give thanks for the lives of survivors. A reception will follow. Call 615-444-7336 for information. **St. David's Church Nashville** welcomes Jiby Philip, their new intern from Vanderbilt Divinity School. In addition to being a full-time student, he serves on the board of directors for the Interfaith Alliance of Middle Tennessee. Tickets for **St. Paul's Church Franklin's** English Tea, to be held on December 11, are on sale now at the church office. In July, the Chamber Singers of **St. Bartholomew's Church Nashville** performed on WPLN's "Live in

Youth News -

The **Student Discipleship** at St. George's Church Nashville is "Looking For God in Harry Potter" on Wednesday evenings. For information on attending, contact the Rev. Sarah Kerr at 615-385-2150 x 248. The **St. PYM** of St. Paul's Church Franklin recently took to the rapids for their youth retreat. Youth minister Sally Chambers explains that rafting is a good metaphor for a life with God - "exhilarating and sometimes frightening but a total blast." The **Children's Ministry** at St. Bartholomew's Church Nashville is sponsoring an effort to replace 15 cots used for Room In The Inn. An offering drive ran in August and

from Sullivan's Island SC. Welcome, Gilliam family. The clergy in the Diocese of Tennessee are asked to save the dates: The next Clergy Retreat will be January 31-February 4, 2011 at St. Mary's Sewanee and the Clergy Colloquium will be May 10-12 at Dubose Conference Center Monteagle.

Studio C" program, which featured compositions of five Nashville-based composers, including Associate Director of Music, David Madeira. **St. Ann's Church Nashville** is holding a yard sale on October 9 starting at 7:00 AM. It is hosted by the Choir and funds raised will be used to hire musicians and staff singers for special services. The Fall Fest/Craft Fair of Trinity Church Clarksville will be held on Saturday, October 23 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. There will be children's activities, a bible costume contest, a food booth, craft items and more. Contact Sunisa Bridgforth, chairperson of the Red Door Committee at cakewalk4u@gmail.com for more information. **St. Philip's Church Nashville** is a distribution location for Second Harvest Food Bank and they have room for more volunteers. Contact the church at 615-883-4595 to help. In collaboration with the Nashville Shakespeare Festival and the Destiny Theatre Experience, **Christ Church Cathedral Nashville** will present *The Exonerated*, October 7-9: the stories of six individuals who were wrongfully convicted of crimes and spent from two to twenty-two years on death row before being exonerated. For ticket information, visit the cathedral's website at www.christcathedral.org. **St. George's Church Nashville** will be hosting a national conference called C3: Christ, Church, Culture on February 24-26. Plenary speakers include Don Miller, Makoto Fujimura, Andy Crouch and Christian Smith. A variety of workshops will also focus on practical ways churches can engage culture. See www.stgeorgesinstitute.org for more information or call the Rev. Timothy Jones at 615-385-2150, x 217.

Many parishes in the Diocese of Tennessee will hold Blessings of the Pets/Animals during the first weekend in October to coincide with the Feast of Francis of Assisi. Contact your church for their scheduled event.

September but to donate funds now, contact Carla Schober at carlaschob@gmail.com. The **EYC** of Church of the Resurrection Franklin held their back-to-school lock-in to kick off their new season of discovering their parts in God's story. The **Youth** of St. Philip's Church Nashville held a lock-in of their own. They also said goodbye to summer with a party on the lake, swimming, tubing and enjoying time together. **East Nashville Hope Exchange** has organized as a non-profit organization (501.c3) and has formed a Board of Directors, many of whom previously served on the ENHE Ministry Development Committee. Christ Church Cathedral Nashville's **Youth** to be confirmed will go to Monteagle on retreat October 1-3.

NetsForLife® Fund **Supports MDGs**

President Obama spoke recently during one of the final sessions of the three-day United Nations Summit on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In his speech, the president introduced the new US Global Development Policy, which reaffirms the administration's commitment to the MDGs and outlines an updated approach to supporting development efforts worldwide.

"The purpose of development, and what's needed most right now," the president said, "is creating the conditions where assistance is no longer needed. So we will seek partners who want to build their own capacity to provide for their people. We will seek development that is sustainable."



Episcopal Relief & Development applauds this shift in US aid policy – working through local partners on context-driven solutions that support progress toward achieving the MDGs has been integral to the organization's approach for many years.

The MDGs were adopted in 2000, with the intention that the markers be achieved by 2015. Episcopal Relief & Development uses these goals as a framework to guide its efforts and help measure the impact of its programs. Each of its four focus areas (health, hunger, economic opportunities and disaster response) and all of its international programs work to achieve one or more of the MDGs.

The Episcopal Church initially dedicated itself to supporting the MDGs at the 2003 General Convention, and put its commitment into action in 2006 by endorsing the MDG Inspiration Fund, which raised over \$3.2 million in three years. In 2009, the Church renewed its

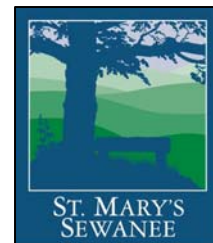
support of the MDGs by pledging 0.7% of its annual budget to the new *NetsforLife®* Inspiration Fund, inspiring Episcopalians to donate and help fight the spread of malaria in sub-Saharan Africa. The *NetsforLife®* Inspiration Fund is now the official channel for the Church's support of the MDGs in the 2010-12 triennium.

The Inspiration Fund supports the *NetsforLife®* program partnership, which, since 2008, has delivered more than 2 million nets across 17 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. *NetsforLife®* combats malaria by training community "malaria agents" to deliver life-saving nets, educating community members about proper net use and maintenance, and providing ongoing monitoring and evaluation of net use. These activities are carried out in partnership with churches and faith-based groups in remote areas across the continent, and result in less sickness, fewer deaths and stronger communities.

"The beauty of focusing on malaria prevention is that it enables progress on all of the MDGs," said Episcopal Relief & Development President Rob Radtke. "Progress cannot be made on reducing extreme poverty, educating children, empowering women or many other priorities if people are sick. The Episcopal Church has been a prophetic voice on the MDGs, and as we enter the final five years before 2015 it is important that we not lose momentum."

Episcopal Relief & Development's Inspiration Fund enables Episcopalians to live their faith by making a positive difference in the lives of millions around the globe through local, grassroots engagement in communities across the country. For more information on how Episcopal Relief & Development is helping The Episcopal Church live its commitment to its neighbors worldwide, visit www.er-d.org.

To support Episcopal Relief & Development's work, please visit www.er-d.org or call 800.334.7626, ext. 5129. Gifts can be mailed to Episcopal Relief & Development, PO Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058.



St. Mary's Sewanee **2010 Fall** **Programs & Retreats**

October 8-10, 2010

*The Buddha's Four Noble Truths:
A Blueprint for Dancing with Life*
Presenter: Phillip Moffitt

October 17-19, 2010

*Centering Prayer as an
11th Step Practice*
Presenters: Roberta Oster
and Becky Hannah

October 29-31, 2010

*All Things Made New:
On Being a 21st Century Christian*
Presenter: The Very Rev. Dr.
Samuel T. Lloyd, III

October 31-November 1, 2010

*The Language of Loss:
Putting Grief Into Words*
Presenter: Amy Lyles Wilson

November 12-14, 2010

*A New Creation - Henri Nouwen's
Vision for Planet Earth*
Presenter: Robert A. Jonas

December 3-5, 2010

Waiting on the Lord
Presenter: Fr. Dexter Brewer

December 31, 2010-

January 1, 2011
*Waking Up - A New Year's
Mindfulness Retreat*
Presenters: The Rev. Gordon
Peerman and Kathy Woods

For more information
please check our website:
www.StMarysSewanee.org
or telephone us at (931) 598-5342

All Women Are Daughters

The annual retreat known as *All Women Are Daughters* will be held November 12-14 at DuBose Conference Center Monteagle.

The weekend provides women of all ages opportunities to develop and nurture intergenerational ties within the diocese. Activities include arts and crafts, exploring the labyrinth, hiking, journaling and more.

The Rev. Monna Mayhall of St. Paul's Church Franklin will be the speaker on Saturday and on Sunday, the Rev. Dolores Nicholson will preach.

Registration forms can be found online at www.duboseconf.org. You can register online or print the form and mail it with your registration fee to DuBose Conference Center, PO Box 339, Monteagle TN 37356.

"Sundays And Beyond" Workshop Announced

On Saturday, November 13, the Commission for Christian Formation will conduct a workshop at Church of the Good Shepherd Brentwood from 9:00 AM-12:00 PM on techniques and materials for adult Christian formation. Experienced workers and facilitators of adult formation programs will share and demonstrate their "best practices" and will have materials and clues on what has worked well for them in their congregations.

The workshop will focus concurrently on two environments for adult formation, Sunday mornings and beyond Sundays so having two people from your congregation attending would let you benefit from both workshops. There will be a plenary session as well in which everyone can share their own experiences, and everyone is encouraged to bring copies of a list of programs that have worked well for you that can be distributed to the participants.



There is no fee to attend, and you do not have to register before the workshop but so the commission can prepare materials, please email Perry Happell at pghappel@bellsouth.net to let him know you are attending.

David Rowe, chair of the Commission for Christian Formation, says, "This will be a great opportunity to learn how we are approaching adult Christian formation and to get some valuable pointers on what we can try out in our congregations. We hope to see you there."

Michael Schut To Preach At Cathedral



On Saturday, October 24, Michael Schut, Economic and Environmental Affairs Officer of the Episcopal Church will be the guest preacher at 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Liturgies and at the 9:45 AM Focused and Faithful Forum at Christ Church Cathedral Nashville.

Prior to his current position, Michael was on the staff of Earth Ministry. He is the author of the recently published book *Money and Faith: The Search for Enough*. He also edited and co-wrote *Simpler Living, Compassionate Life: A Christian Perspective* and the anthology and study guide *Food and Faith: Justice, Joy and Daily Bread*.

He speaks and leads workshops and retreats around the country, connecting faith, justice, sustainable economics and care for all God's creation. He has worked with homeless men, served as a Park Ranger and led wilderness trips. Michael received his Bachelor's degree in Biology from Wheaton College in Illinois and his Master's degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Oregon. He currently resides in Seattle.

For more information on your opportunities to hear Michael Schut preach, call the cathedral at 615-255-7729.

Fish Fry At St. Philip's

On Saturday, October 2, St. Philip's Church Nashville will be the site of a Fish Fry and Yard Sale.

The Yard Sale will begin at 7:00 AM and will end at 2:00 PM. The Fish Fry will start at 11:30. Members of the Men's Club will do the cooking.

St. Philip's Church is located at 85 Fairway Drive in Donelson. For details on this event, please call the church at 615-883-4595.

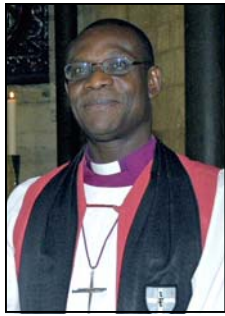
Prayer From Workshop

At the Pastoring in Disaster Workshop presented by Centerstone to the clergy of the diocese, Bishop Bauerschmidt opened with a prayer. Several people have requested the text.

O MOST powerful and glorious Lord God, at whose command the winds blow, and lift up the waves of the sea, and who stillest the rage thereof. We thy creatures, but miserable sinners, do in this our great distress cry unto thee for help: Save, Lord, or else we perish. We confess, when we have been safe, and seen all things quiet about us, we have forgot thee our God, and refused to hearken to the still voice of thy word, and to obey thy commandments: But now we see, how terrible thou art in all thy works of wonder; the great God to be feared above all: And therefore we adore thy Divine Majesty, acknowledging thy power, and imploring thy goodness. Help, Lord, and save us for thy mercy's sake in Jesus Christ thy Son, our Lord. *Amen.*

St. George's Announces Fall Guest For Preaching Series

The St. George's Preaching Series of St. George's Church Nashville is a ministry of the St. George's Institute on Church and Cultural Life. Featuring the most outstanding guest preachers from throughout the worldwide church, the series addresses themes at the intersection of Christ and culture. The vision of this ministry is yet another way to deepen faith, enhance a sense of connection to the wider church and increase outreach to the local community.



Second in the series, the guest preacher for October will be the Most Rev. Josiah Idowu-Fearon. Before his retirement, Fearon served as Archbishop of Kaduna Province for the Anglican Church of Nigeria. He holds a doctorate in Islamic studies and has special interest in Christian-Muslim relations. He will be in Nashville October 20-24 and will participate in several events.

Wednesday, October 20, 6:15 PM

Wednesday Night Live Hot Topics from Pop Culture:
"Why the Anglican Communion is Important"

Thursday, October 21, 11:30 AM

Prime Time Speaker Series:

"Living Daily in a Christian-Muslim World"

Thursday, October 21, 6:30 PM

Service of Healing

Archbishop Fearon will preach

Saturday, October 23, 9:00-11:00 AM

Teaching at St. George's:

"The Future of the Anglican Communion"

Sunday, October 24, 8:45 AM and 11:15 AM Services

"Don't Ever Give Up"

Archbishop Fearon will preach

Rector's Forum, 10:05am

Archbishop Fearon will teach

For more information on these events, contact St. George's Church at 615-385-2150.

God's Green Earth...

October is the month in which many churches hold Blessing of the Pets services. The Living in Creation Ministry thought it would be a good time to address a related topic. Read on:



As Americans, we love our pets...and especially cats. There are approximately 93.6 million owned cats in the United States. When you are looking at that precious kitten and thinking how nice it would be as your pet, do you stop to think about the smelly accessory that goes along with owning a cat? The litter box!

When people think of kitty litter, they usually are referring to a clay litter. To make this litter have a "clumping" effect, Sodium Bentonite is added to the clay. With this addition, the clay litter will "clump" in the presence of moisture. There are several challenges with this type of litter. First, to produce this product, a strip mining process is used. Second, there can be concerns about health problems for your cat when Sodium Bentonite is added to the litter. Third, the only way to dispose of this litter is to toss it out with the garbage.

This brings me to my last point: more than 2 million tons of cat litter are disposed of in US landfills each year. Clay litter does not decompose so it will be in your local landfill for a very long time.

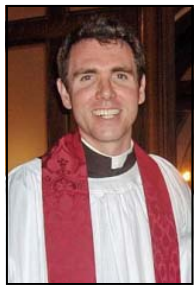
Fortunately, there are several safer and more environmentally friendly alternatives. I have tried the following: pine sawdust pellets, recycled newspaper, wheat husks, sandbox sand, cellulose (plant) fiber and, our new personal (cat) favorite, ground corn cobs.

All of these litters will decompose. Many advertise that, with proper handling, they can be composted to use in flower beds. As with any waste product, safe and proper handling is important. Check the label for safe handling guidelines.

Remember to always be an informed, safe and responsible cat owner. — *Cassandra Cooper, LiCM*

The Rev. Dr. Ben King, The Rev. Dr. William Brosend In New Positions

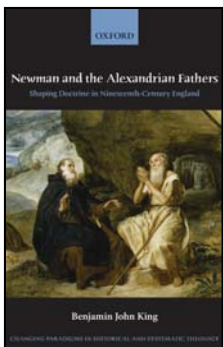
The Rev. Dr. Benjamin J. King, assistant professor of church history, assumed the leadership role of director of The School of Theology's Advanced Degrees Program on September 1, after former director the Rev. William F. Brosend, associate professor of homiletics and former director of ADP, was appointed acting director of The Episcopal Preaching Foundation.



Dr. King, a native of Brighton England, holds two Bachelor's degrees from the University of Cambridge, one in history and one in theology. He received a Master's degree in Theology at Harvard Divinity School and a Ph.D. in Theology at Durham University in the UK. He was ordained a priest in the Church of England by the Bishop of Chichester in 2000. Upon his return to the US, he served in the Diocese of Massachusetts as parish priest in Boston then as Episcopal chaplain at Harvard. He joined faculty of The School of Theology in 2009.

"I am delighted to be stepping into the role of director of the Advanced Degrees Program," says Dr. King. "As Dr. Brosend has brought such high standards to our program, I am looking forward to continuing to strengthen the pool of quality instructors in our program from inside and outside Sewanee."

The Advanced Degrees Program is designed to increase professional knowledge in the practice of ministry. The degrees include Doctor of Ministry, Doctor of Ministry in Preaching, Master of Sacred Theology and Master of Sacred Theology in Anglican Studies. Classes are held in the summer that build up the relationship between the practice of ministry and biblical, historical and theological studies, by combining learning in community with a cycle of daily prayer and worship in the Anglican tradition.



Dr. King is also an author, having published the highly acclaimed book *Newman and the Alexandrian Fathers*, on the life of John Henry Cardinal Newman, a 19th century cleric and theologian who was recently beatified by Pope Benedict.

Newman was a major figure in the Church of England who converted to Catholicism in 1845. Dr. King determines that Newman's public image and writings on the Church Fathers were the work of his own manipulations and he details how Newman was often in trouble with Catholic authorities. The book reveals that Newman was awarded the cardinal's red hat ultimately because he shaped his views to match those of a new pope.

The Alexandrian Fathers were 3rd-, 4th- and 5th-century theologians who helped determine the content of the New Testament and the Creeds. Newman re-quoted and, in some instances, misquoted their findings to reflect what Pope Leo XIII wanted to hear. Pope Leo elevated Newman from priest to cardinal in 1879 and Dr. King presents evidence that Newman put into the mouths of the Church's ancient Fathers words that would please prevalent papal views. At an historic Mass at Cofton Park, Birmingham, in the first beatification ever to take place on British soil, Pope Benedict XVI suggested Newman should take his place beside England's martyrs. Deacon Jack Sullivan, was healed of a spinal disorder after praying for Newman's intercession - a miracle which led to Newman's being made a Blessed.

Dr. King hopes this will not put an end to honest debate about the life of this brilliant theologian.



Dr. Brosend, a priest in the Diocese of Kentucky and licensed to officiate in the Diocese of Tennessee, was ordained in 2005 following more than twenty years of ministry in the American Baptist Churches. He holds a Bachelor's degree from Denison University, a Master's of Divinity degree from Vanderbilt Divinity School and a Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. He is the author or co-author of five books, most recently *The Preaching of Jesus* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2010), and has contributed to numerous articles and essays for many and varied publications. He currently serves on the editorial board of the new *Feasting on the Gospels* series, to be published by Westminster John Knox Press.

The Episcopal Preaching Foundation was formed in 1981 to improve and enhance preaching in the Episcopal Church, providing resources and encouragement to preachers at all levels. Dr. Brosend says, "I have enjoyed working with Dr. Gary Shilling [foundation founder and board chair of TEPF] and the board of The Episcopal Preaching Foundation for the last three years. This is a crucial moment in the life and work of the foundation, particularly with the closing of the Cathedral College in Washington DC. The need for continuing education in preaching after seminary is very real, and we are ready to meet that need, while continuing the great tradition of PEP [Preaching Excellence Program] for seminarians, and expanding our work with the seminaries themselves."

The 2011 National Episcopal Preaching Conference will be held at the Kanuga Conference Center March 21-24. The theme is "Preaching the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus." The keynote speakers include Richard Lischer, Amy-Jill Levine, Cynthia Kittredge and Marcus Borg. For more information on the conference, visit their website at www.kanuga.org.

Crescent Project And The Oasis Conference

As previously noted in the July issue of this publication, Crescent Project's Oasis Conference will be held in Nashville on October 21-23.



This is a conference whose goal is to introduce Christians to the complex world of Islam, to get beyond the headlines to the truth and to equip the Church to effectively reach the Muslim world with the good news of Jesus Christ.

The Oasis Conference, developed and sponsored by Crescent Project, seeks through speakers and workshops to answer questions such as How can we reach out in love to our Muslim neighbors? How can we clearly present the gospel to Muslims without offending them? How can my congregation reach out to the Muslim community down the street? How can my student group reach out to Muslims on my campus?

Crescent Project was founded in 1993 by Fouad Masri. Because of his experience as a Lebanese student living in the US, he realized that internationals in America often have many unmet needs. Crescent Project was founded to prepare American Christians to reach out to the growing Muslim community in the US.

As Fouad writes on the Crescent Project website (www.crescentproject.org), "Personal relationships between Christian and Muslim populations are often strained or non-existent because of rampant misunderstandings that lead to fear and distrust. Our goal is to overcome misunderstandings about Islam through education so that Christians take the initiative to build friendships with their Muslim neighbors. Personal relationships open

the door for discussion about spiritual issues and personal beliefs. Our approach to witnessing is best summed up by this quote taken from our training seminar: "Our job is not to make the Muslim a Christian. Our job is to show them the love of Christ."

The conference runs from Thursday, October 21, to Saturday, October 23 at Otter Creek Church of Christ in Brentwood. One of the highlights of the conference will be an optional visit to a local mosque to witness a Friday prayer service.

You can register for the conference online at www.crescentproject.org/oasis. The registration fee includes conference materials as well as lunch and dinner on Friday and lunch on Saturday. Student and group discounts are available. — *The Rev. Jill Zook-Jones*

Life of Charles Wesley Depicted In Musical

As part of the Sacred Space for the City arts program, musician, academician/churchman and author, the Rev. Dr. ST Kimbrough, Jr. will bring poet Charles Wesley to life in the acclaimed musical drama *Charles Wesley: Sweet Singer*. The one-person show will be presented on Friday, October 29 at 7:30 PM at Christ Church Cathedral Nashville.



Dr. Kimbrough created *Sweet Singer*, which debuted at Carnegie Hall in 1985, and has performed the show more than 500 times. Charles

Wesley is one of Christendom's most outstanding poets, having written some 9000 hymns and sacred poems.

Sweet Singer deals with Wesley's struggle against poverty, his reluctant acceptance of Holy Orders in the Church of England, his adventure to

America, his family life and his poetic genius. Dr. Kimbrough will be accompanied on piano by his son, the Very Rev. Timothy Kimbrough, dean and rector of Christ Church Cathedral.

On Saturday, October 30 at 10:00 AM, also at the cathedral, Dr. Kimbrough will speak about his new book, *The Lyrical Theology of Charles Wesley: A Reader*, published by Cascade Books. Dr. Kimbrough will explore and expand on the themes contained in that work and the program will conclude with a book signing at 12:00 PM.

Tickets are available online at www.christcathedral.org or at the cathedral. For more information, call 615-255-7729.

Trinity Parishioner Meets Archbishop

Shirley Hood, a member of Trinity Church Clarksville had a brief meeting with the Archbishop of Canterbury after a special service at Westminster Cathedral London.

Shirley says, "He was extremely personable and I was delighted to meet him. It was a very special experience."



She and her husband, Charles, were visiting the chapel where they were married and came upon the service honoring the Welsh martyr, St. John Roberts (1576-1610). Shirley also met Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor.



The Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee



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Around the diocese

October 2010

- Blessing of the Pets/Animals, various parishes in the Diocese of Tennessee
- 1-3 Parish Retreat at Fall Creek Falls, St. Michael's Church Cookeville
- 2 Fish Fry/Yard Sale, St. Philip's Church Nashville
- 3 Harvest Dinner, St. George's Church Nashville
- 3 Garden Dedication, Church of the Epiphany Lebanon
- 7-9 "The Exonerated," Christ Church Cathedral Nashville
- 9 Yard Sale, St. Ann's Church Nashville
- 17 *Bishop's Visitation, St. Mark's Church Antioch*
- 22-24 Harvest Moon Retreat, St. Augustine's Chapel Nashville
- 24 *Bishop's Visitation, Trinity Church Winchester*
- 30 Annual Fall Festival and Barbecue, Church of the Advent Nashville
- 31 *Bishop's Visitation, St. James' Church Dickson/Calvary Church Cumberland Furnace*

Italics denote Bishop Bauerschmidt's visitations

**This is a sampling of events in the Diocese of Tennessee.
For a complete listing of events throughout the diocese,
see the Calendar of Events at www.episcopaldiocese-tn.org**