



DIOCESAN DIGEST

for Central Pennsylvania

July 18, 2011

FROM THE DESK OF.....

BISHOP NATHAN BAXTER

Dear Sisters & Brothers;

I realize that many churches are planning for the coming fall parish season. There are two things to which I'd like to call to your attention.

First is the Mutual Ministry Review (MMR) that the Standing Committee of the Diocese is overseeing. It is an opportunity for the bishop and other leaders and leadership structures of the Diocese to review our life together for the benefit of our coming years of mutual ministry. Please see the attached letter from the President of the Standing Committee and me, noting the process and the members of the MMR committee.

Second, I would note that this year marks the 10th anniversary of the "9/11" terrorist attacks. Churches and other communities of faith are considering how this anniversary might be faithfully acknowledged. In a recent resolution by the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church, some suggestions have been offered to guide our planning at the local level. The resolution is attached with this Digest for your review. They offer simple ideas for how local congregations may make a statement of hospitality which addresses the continuing grief, honors the loss, and bridges the gulf between Christian congregations and the Muslim community. I encourage all congregations to consider how we might be a sign of God's reconciliation and love.

Peace & Grace,

+Nathan

Working with the Deacon in the Parish: Opening up the Conversation

A workshop sponsored by The School of Christian Studies

Thursday September 29, 2011, 10am – 3pm
All Saints Church, 120 N. Market St., Selinsgrove

For parishes who would like to engage the ministry of a deacon or who currently have a deacon ministering in their midst

Led by: The Ven. Molly Solbak,

The Rev. Cn. Stephen Casey, The Rev. Cn. Kate Harrigan

The cost for the workshop and lunch is \$10 for first person and \$5 for each additional person attending from a parish
See the flyer attached with this Digest for more information

UPCOMING EVENTS...July–October

Jul 21 Bishop preaching at Lykens Valley Camp Meeting
Jul 24 Bishop visits St. Paul's, Bloomsburg
Jul 30-31 Bishop visits St. John in the Wilderness, Eaglesmere
Aug 7 Bishop visits Christ Church, Berwick
Aug 14 Bishop visits St. Gabriel's, Coles Creek
Aug 15-Sept 4 Bishop on vacation
Sep 5 Diocesan Office closed for Labor Day
Sep 10-11 Bishop visits Trinity Pro-Cathedral, Williamsport
Sep 11 2pm 9/11 10th Anniversary commemoration service, St. Stephen's Cathedral, Harrisburg
Sep 11 5:30pm Bishop at 9/11 10th Anniversary commemoration service, Linglestown
Sep 14-22 Bishop at House of Bishops, Quito, Ecuador
Sep 25 Bishop visits St. Andrew's, York
Sep 27 Installation & Celebration of New Ministry of The Rev. Stephen Swift as Missioner at St. Benedict's, New Freedom
Sep 28 Commission on Ministry and Standing Committee mtgs
Sep 29 10am-3pm Working with the Deacon in the Parish workshop, All Saints, Selinsgrove
Sep 29 10am Council of Trustees meeting
Oct 2 Bishop visits St. Andrew's, State College
Oct 2 Bishop visits of St. Francis, University Park
Oct 13-14 BACOM
Oct 16 Bishop visits St. Luke's, Altoona
Oct 21-22 Clergy Spouses' Retreat at St. Cyril & Methodius, Danville
Oct 23 Bishop visits St. Paul's, Lock Haven
Oct 24 LARC Day of Dialogue
Oct 25-26 Bishop at HOB Pastoral Development Committee meeting, Romalus, Michigan
Oct 29 Deacons' Day
Oct 30 Bishop visits St. Stephen's Cathedral, Harrisburg

If you have an event of interest to the Diocese that you would like to have listed on the Diocesan website calendar, please contact the Diocese at officemailbox@diocesecpa.org or 888-236-5959

ATTENTION ALL CLERGY!

PA STATE PASTORS' CONFERENCE

The Pennsylvania Council of Churches is now accepting registrations for the State Pastors' Conference, **November 14–16** at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East.

This year's conference will explore "Practical and Practiced Awe: Reclaiming the Joy and Wonder of Our Call." The cost is \$150.

Visit www.pachurches.org for more details, including a registration brochure you can download and links to a site where you can register for the conference and reserve a room at the Holiday Inn Harrisburg East.

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REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Sandi Imboden asked that we pass on the following message: "I just got in from the oncologist and am happy to report that my MRI shows that I am cancer-free. I know that all the prayers lifted me up over the last few months and I am very grateful."

Faith Kirchhoff, life member, diocesan convention delegate, and Senior Warden of St Stephen's, Mount Carmel, passed away on Tuesday, July 12th.

The Very Rev. Dr. Guy Fitch Lytle, Professor of Church History and Anglican Studies, Bishop Juhan Professor of Divinity, and Dean Emeritus of The School of Theology, at Sewanee School of Theology died on July 15th. More information can be found at www.theology.sewanee.edu.

Lowell Cohoon, the son of The Rev. Richard Cohoon, died on Sunday, July 15th, at the age of 57.

The Rev. Deacon Alex Dyakiw, is recovering from knee replacement surgery.

The Rev. Deacon Barbara Hary, continues doctors' care for heart-related issues.

Thomas Kerr, father of The Rev. Lauri Kerr, has been diagnosed with advanced lung cancer.

The Rev. Tom Gregg, father of The Rev. Rowena Gibbons is in the late stages of brain cancer.

Maddie Letsche, Acolyte at St. Luke's, Altoona, who continues treatment and physical therapy for Image Negative Transverse Myelitis.

Bob Rose continues his cancer battle.



Cape May Retreat
"The Ministry of Presence"
Marquis de Lafayette Hotel
501 Beach Avenue
Cape May, NJ
September 16-18, 2011

All women in the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania are invited to enjoy a time of learning, reflecting, fellowship and celebrating our ministry as laywomen in the Body of Christ the Church, led by The Rev. Cn. Kate Harrigan. The program includes: group sessions, Eucharist on the beach and an 8am service at The Church of the Advent on Sunday.

Program cost \$20 Registration Deadline August 31st
To download registration form, go to:
www.diocesecpa.org, click on "Our Programs" and "Episcopal Church Women".

Hotel reservations should be made at Marquis de Lafayette Hotel 1-800-257-0432, ext. 151, speak to Joan Haber and ask for the ECW group rate.



United Thank Offering

We are very grateful for the efforts of so many individuals and parishes on behalf of UTO. To ensure funds contributed are received in a timely manner and can be put to use as soon as possible, **please use the form included with this Digest and send it to Bonnie Chambers at the address listed on the form.**

If there are any questions contact Bonnie at bchambers242@comcast.net.



SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN STUDIES

The following courses will be offered by the School of Christian Studies in the 2011-2012 Academic year:

- ◆ Exploring Your Ministry, a Course for Discerning One's Call ~ a year long course running from October through May.
- ◆ The Sacred Scriptures ~ two courses, one offered in the Fall Semester, from September to January and the other in the Spring Semester, from February to May.
- ◆ Christian Ethics ~ offered in the Fall Semester from September to January.
- ◆ Church History ~ offered in the Spring Semester from February to May.
- ◆ Pastoral Care Ministry is offered in four sessions in the Fall, from October to December.

Please watch our website for dates, locations, tuition and registration information, faculty and more details about each course. For further information, please contact

The Rev. Canon Kate Harrigan, Dean
P.O. Box 11937, Harrisburg PA, 17101
Phone (888) 236 5959, Fax (717) 236 6448
Email: kharrigan@diocesecpa.org

Pocket Prayer Shawls

Knitters and crocheters don't forget to keep on making those pocket prayer shawls for sending to our service men and women. Several were blessed by Bp. Baxter at Convention and sent to Ft. Hood.



Instructions for making the pocket prayer shawls are on our website. You can contact Jeannie Zeller (jeanniez@comcast.net) or Carolyn Patterson (cpatterson@diocesecpa.org) about where to send them.



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We have two more options to help you keep up to date with news around the Diocese. The Diocese of Central PA is now on Facebook, and Twitter at:

www.facebook.com/diocesecpa
www.twitter.com/diocesecpa

Or you can follow the links at www.diocesecpa.org

If you have news or announcements of diocesan interest to include in the Diocesan Digest, please contact Carolyn Joy Patterson at cpatterson@diocesecpa.org