



DIOCESAN DIGEST

for Central Pennsylvania

October 12, 2010

FROM THE DESK OF.....

BISHOP NATHAN BAXTER

Dear Sisters & Brothers in Christ;

Members of the Commission on Ministry, invited advisors and two persons who are in the early stages of discerning their call to ministry in the Church will gather with me this Wednesday and Thursday for the Bishop's Advisory Conference on Ministry (BACOM). Please pray for us as we come together at the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius Villa Sacred Heart in Danville for a time of fellowship, prayer and discernment. This is an exciting time for our church and our beloved Diocese. We have over 20 persons at different stages of discernment at this time. On Sunday, October 31st at 4:00pm six of those persons will be ordained to the Diaconate. Among the current postulants, we have three who entered Episcopal seminaries this Fall for full time studies towards ordination to the priesthood. And we have a full class of persons attending the School of Christian Studies in preparation for entering the formal discernment process.

God is surely working amongst us. Remember, God calls us in many different ways. Many of the Ordinand's have shared that they best acknowledged God's call to ministry through their friends and colleagues at church suggesting that they pursue such a call. Might that person be you? Are you hearing the gentle nudging of God's still small voice? Or might you be the manifestation of that voice for someone you know?

The School of Christian Studies has several different courses, both short and longer term that are available to all persons in the diocese. Courses that can help you to discern whether the ministry God is calling you to is along the path of ordination or as a lay person in your community. Canon Kate Harrigan is happy to share information about these opportunities at the School, so please contact her if you have any questions.

So, pray for us please, at BACOM, that we may follow God's leading as we discern with our brother and sister about their journey of discernment. And pray in your own heart and your own parish, that you might hear God's voice in your life, and follow where he leads, whether it be to ministry (either lay or ordained) or whether it be to help nudge someone towards the path God is preparing for them.

Peace and Grace,

+Nathan

UPCOMING EVENTS...Oct-Dec

- Oct 13-14 BACOM, Villa Sacred Heart, Danville
- Oct 16 9am-3pm Prayer & Healing Conference at St. Stephen's Cathedral
- Oct 17 Bishop visits St. Luke's, Altoona
- Oct 23 Bishop to participate in Washington National Cathedral Prayer Center anniversary services
- Oct 24 Bishop visits Christ Memorial, Danville
- Oct 25 LARC Day of Dialogue, Keeler Ctr, Hbg (details p. 2)
- Oct 26 Celebration of New Ministry and Installation of The Rev. Janis Yskamp, All Saints, Brookland & Christ Church, Coudersport
- Oct 28 Council of Trustees meeting/retreat, Nativity, Newport
- Oct 29-30 Lay Employee Planning for Tomorrow Conference, Harrisburg Hilton
- Oct 31 Bishop visits St. Stephen's Cathedral, Harrisburg
- Oct 31 4pm Ordination of Deacons, St. Stephen's Cathedral
- Nov 3 Southern Convocation Fall Meeting
- Nov 5-6 Bishop at Dioc. of NW PA Centennial
- Nov 7 Bishop visits St. John the Baptist, York
- Nov 7 4pm Concert for Haiti, St. Stephen's Cathedral, Hbg.
- Nov 9 Lancaster Convocation Fall meeting
- Nov 10 Harrisburg Convocation Fall meeting
- Nov 11-14 Bishop preaching at Diocese of No. CA Centennial
- Nov 16 Altoona Convocation Fall meeting
- Nov 18 Susquehanna Convocation Fall meeting
- Nov 20 Bishop at Good Shepherd, Hawk Run Centennial
- Nov 21 Bishop visits Christ Church, Williamsport
- Nov 21 afternoon West Branch Convocation Fall meeting
- Nov 25-26 Diocesan Office closed for Thanksgiving
- Nov 28 Bishop visits St. Andrew's, York
- Nov 30 Northern Tier Convocation Fall meeting
- Dec 4 Concert #2 for Haiti, St. Andrew's, State College
- Dec 8 Celebration of New Ministry and Installation of The Rev. Paul Towers, St. Luke's, Altoona
- Dec 9 10am Executive Comm. Of Council of Trustees
- Dec 5 Bishop visits Prince of Peace, Gettysburg
- Dec 12 Bishop visits Nativity, Newport
- Dec 19 Bishop visits St. Paul's, 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

2010 STATE PASTORS' CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 8-10

Holiday Inn, Harrisburg East, 4751 Lindle Road
"Gifts of Gospeling and Generosity"

To register go to: www.pachurches.org
If you are attending the conference, don't forget to RSVP for the **Denominational Dinner**, Monday, November 8th at 6pm. Contact Linda Arguedas at 888-235-5959 or larguedas@diocesecpa.org

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REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS...

Larry Calhoun, husband of The Rev. Dee Calhoun, who had a heart attack last week. Larry is home and recovering well. Pray for continued recovery.

The Rev. Tom Gregg, father of The Rev. Rowena Gibbons and a retired Episcopal priest, as he undergoes treatment for brain cancer.

Maddie Letsche, Acolyte at St. Luke's, Altoona, as she undergoes treatment for both thyroid cancer and Image Negative Transverse Myelitis.

Deacon Kerry Walters, who continues treatment for heart problems.

The Rev. Erica Wood, (Retired) Rector of St. Luke's, Mt. Joy, as she continues cancer treatment.

Bob Rose, who continues his cancer battle.

OPERATION UNDERSTANDING

The Operation Understanding Commission is now accepting applications for the November allocation of grants to parishes which support outreach ministries that feed, shelter, clothe, and provide energy assistance to the needy. Application forms, cover sheets, and guidelines are on the diocesan website.

Please send applications by e-mail *no later than October 31, 2010* to nforgang@embarqmail.com. If you do not have access to e-mail, please send your grant application to: Nancy Forgang; 119 Rhodes Avenue; Gettysburg, PA 17325. If you have questions regarding Operation Understanding grants, you may telephone 717-334-0510



The Lutheran-Anglican-Roman Catholic
Coordinating Committee
**invites you to a Day of Dialogue on
Telling the Christian Story
In the 21st Century**

Monday, October 25, 2010 9am-3pm
Cardinal Keeler Center, 4800 Union Deposit Rd, Hbg
Cost \$20 (includes lunch)

Presenter: Rev. Dr. Elias D. Mallon, SA

Fr. Elias is presently involved at Franciscans International, a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) at the United Nations, where he is using his experience and contacts with Islam to work with Muslim countries and NGOs and he is on the NGO Israel-Palestine Working Group.

**Please send registration form with your check
by October 18th**

Payable to: Diocese of Harrisburg

Mail to: Deacon Charles Clark
Diocese of Harrisburg
4800 Union Deposit Road
Harrisburg, PA 17111-3710

Phone: 717-657-4804 ext. 265

(a program flyer and registration form are attached with this Digest and available at www.diocesecpa.org)

FALL CONVOCATION MEETINGS

SOUTHERN Wed. Nov. 3 All Saints, Hanover

LANCASTER Tues. Nov. 9 St. Paul's, Manheim

HARRISBURG Wed. Nov. 10 Mt. Calvary, Camp Hill

ALTOONA Tues. Nov. 16 St. Luke's, Altoona

SUSQUEHANNA Wed. Nov. 17 Christ Church, Danville

WEST BRANCH Sun. Nov. 21 Trinity, Williamsport

NORTHERN TIER Tues. Nov. 30 St. Paul's, Wellsboro

If you have any questions, please contact Diocesan Events Coordinator Linda Arguedas at 888-236-5959 or larguedas@diocesecpa.org

United Thank Offering Ingathering

The suggested fall ingathering date is the Sunday closest to All Saints Day – October 31, 2010.

In 2009, of the over \$5 million in applications, only a little over \$2 million could be awarded in grants. Every penny counts!

A reminder: Any funds collected for UTO should be sent to **Ms. Cindy Mohr, 107 Fishermans Lane, Wrightsville, PA 17368**. Checks should be made out to "Diocese of Central PA/ UTO." Supplies can be obtained on the UTO website www.episcopalchurch.org/UTO or by calling 800 903-5544. If you have any questions, contact Bonnie Chambers, UTO Coordinator, bchambers242@comcast.net.



SAVE THE DATE for HAPPENING # 4 NOVEMBER 12-14, 2010

Happening #4 is a wonderful opportunity for Senior High Youth. It is a renewal retreat weekend held at the Christian Retreat Center, November 12-14, sponsored by the Diocesan Youth Commission.

This event is a program designed by teens for teens and this year Janelle DelSignore is the Happening #4 "rector," who is presently calling together adult and teen staff to prepare for the event.

Questions? We are always delighted to respond, please contact Janelle at 814-574-9197 jed13@scasd.org or Robyn Szoke at 717-236-5959 or rszoke@diocesecpa.org. Check out all the information, including registration forms on the children and youth page at www.diocesecpa.org.