

**Fall
2020**



**Diocese
of
Central
Pennsylvania**

**Daughters
of
the
King
Assembly**



September 22, 2020

Letter from our Diocesan President

Greetings Sisters in Christ,

As the seasons transition into fall, all of us seem to peer more than usual into uncertainty. Where are the sounds of football, the voices of children playing with friends, the scenes of holiday decorations, the gathering of friends for lunch, the ability to bid farewell to loved ones who have passed on, the opportunity for regular worship in our church buildings, the visits to shut-ins, the family gatherings marking important occasions? Yet, we as Daughters do, in fact, look forward with joy as we take to heart Saint Paul's words in Romans 5, reminding us to rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that our sufferings will produce endurance, character, and hope, and that God's love is being poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

The Order of the Daughters of the King has done exceptionally well during the COVID-19 pandemic as the Holy Spirit has indeed brought us all together in many ways: Conversations with Daughters, Cross+Links, The Royal Cross, outdoor gatherings, the spring province retreat with Chaz Howard, regular chapter meetings, prayer lists, and prayer meetings. What a gift we have at our fingertips with the availability of Zoom technology!

Moving into fall, I believe that keeping our communities -- especially our Daughters' communities -- together through prayer and communication, and conversation is one of the most important things we need to do. The age-old vision of the Anglican communion's common prayer is so powerful as we work our way through the 52 days of Nehemiah's Prayer Vigil. We can be together, praying together in virtual community as well as in spiritual community. With that in mind, join us on Saturday morning, October 24, for the annual fall assembly hosted by The Peacemakers of The Memorial Church of the Prince of Peace, Gettysburg, PA. "Peacemaking Yesterday and Today" 9-1 via Zoom.

The other day as I was at the gym on a recumbent bicycle, these words came to me over and over: "stand firm in your faith." My dear sisters, I implore you in these uncertain, rapidly changing times to stand firm in your faith with one mind and one heart bound together by God's gift of the Holy Spirit.

For His Sake,
Linda



Diocesan Officers

Linda Hoover	President
Kristle Evans	1st Vice President
Susan Landin	2nd Vice President
Ross Fairweather	Corresponding Secretary
Kitty Mussett	Recording Secretary
Alison Vedder	Treasurer

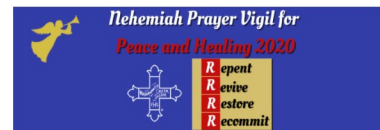
What's Happening in DOK DCPA

- **Executive board meetings** are held on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom or conference call. We conduct business-and-prayer meetings on the odd-numbered months and prayer meetings on even months. Our most recent meeting was September 7, 2020.

- **Resources for members:**

DOK National: <https://www.doknational.org/>;

- ⇒ The Royal Cross, Cross + Links, "Conversations with Daughters" Zoom calls
- ⇒ Resources for the Pandemic
- ⇒ Resource for Racial Justice
- ⇒ Nehemiah Prayer Vigil (see next page)



DOK Province III: <http://dokproviii.org/>

- Our **2020 DPCA Fall assembly** will be offered as a virtual event by Prince of Peace in Gettysburg on Sat., October 24th from 9:00 to 12:30 via Zoom. There will be a business meeting which will include a discussion about proposing a slate of officers for election at the 2021 Spring Assembly. This will require a nominating committee, of which there should be representation from each chapter; a Chair will be appointed by the President.
- **DPCA Service projects:** New service project suggestions:
 1. Compose a prayer and send it to the sick, the shut-ins, people isolated by COVID-19, etc.
 2. Do it within our own parishes or individually.
 3. Consider becoming part of the bishop's Eliminate Racism Initiative
- **A mailing list** of all members has been created and will be used by President Linda Hoover to distribute (via email) items of importance; this will offload work from the chapter presidents and allow you to get information faster. (Chapter leaders will continue to inform members who do not use email.) The next step is to update the directory; Ross Fairweather is working on this now.
- **Triennial:** The DOK National Triennial will be held June 23-27, 2021 in Baltimore, Maryland. Province III is the host of this national gathering. Our diocese is in charge of Registration. The theme is "come to the Table" based on Luke 13:29. Attendance is estimated at 350-400 (due to Covid-19), down from nearly 900. A decision will be made by the end of the year about moving forward with plans or cancelling due to a lingering pandemic.
- **2021 Province III** retreat is being planned for mid April. This event is needed for elections and will likely be held at a large church in the DC area.
- **How to serve** during quarantine: We are prayer warriors and as such, we should reach out with prayers, telephone calls, emails, hand-written notes, contact shut-ins.



Nehemiah Prayer Vigil 2020

This material was taken from the DOK National website at <https://www.doknational.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1414736&hhSearchTerms=%22Nehemiah+and+Prayer+and+Vigil%22>

We are encircling in PRAYER our families, churches, cities and our nation from September 1st through October 22nd, a total of 52 days, so that the Holy Spirit can come into our country and bring about peace and healing. This is much like Nehemiah did in 52 days to bring peace and healing to the Jews in Jerusalem 450 years before Christ. Please refresh yourself by reading again the book of Nehemiah, and asking the Lord to show you how to pray. Luke 24:45 says, "Jesus opened the minds of his disciples to an understanding of the scriptures." What He did for them. He does for us, if we ask. Please join us in prayer.

Our Four Prayer Points:

1. **Repent** - of injustice, inequality, hatred, violence and racism
2. **Restore** - peace, civility, compassion; spiritual, physical and mental health.
3. **Revive** - sense of being one people - "*One nation under God.*"
4. **Recommit** - daily to our motto, asking the Lord, "*What will you have me do?*" and asking the Lord to give you strength and courage to follow His direction.



From the Book of Nehemiah

1. Nehemiah's prayer: Chapter 1: "O Lord, I confess the sins we Israelites (USA), including myself and my father's house, have committed against You."
2. Nehemiah recruits families to do the work: Chapter 2: The people listened to Nehemiah, and they replied "Let us start rebuilding the walls." So they began the good work.
3. Nehemiah's confirmation of the work: Chapter 2: "The God of heaven will give us success. We will start rebuilding."
4. Nehemiah is helped to restore 9 gates around the broken walls: Chapter 6: "So the wall was completed in 52 days!"
5. Ezra opens the Book of the Law: Chapter 8: "All the people stood up and listened to the Word of God; all the people lifted their hands and shouted Amen! Amen! Then bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground."
6. Nehemiah encouraged the people to take a day of rest and celebration. Because the Lord was overjoyed with the worship of the people, Nehemiah said, "Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength!"
7. The people agreed to obey the commands of the Lord. Chapter 10 "We will not neglect the house of our God."

Daughters, we are building walls of Prayer around our families, our churches, our cities, and our nation from September 1st - Oct 22nd, a total of 52 days, so that the Holy Spirit like Ezra can come into our country and bring about peace and healing! Please join us. (cont'd next page)

Nehemiah Prayer Vigil 2020 (cont'd)

Prayers of Repentance

Heavenly Father, look with pity on those who are threatened by hunger, injustice, terror or death; help us to banish cruelty from our midst, strengthen those who seek equality for all and grant that every one of us may receive a due share in the riches of this land through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Book of Common Prayer, Nigeria

Almighty God, Creator of all,
You marvelously made us in Your image;
but we have corrupted ourselves and distorted
Your likeness by rejecting your love and hurting our
neighbor.
We have done wrong and neglected to do right. We are
sincerely sorry and repent of our sins.
Cleanse us and forgive us through the sacrifice of Your
Son; remake us and lead us by Your Spirit, the Comforter.
We ask this through Jesus the Messiah our Lord. Amen

From the Kenyan Liturgy at Christ Church, Jerusalem

Prayer of Compassion

Dear Lord, Help us to remember that wherever we go,
whomever we meet, we should be kind and gentle,
thoughtful and gracious, for we know not what burdens
others may bear, in their hearts, or in their minds, or in
their bodies. Let us remember we are the body of
Christ, and should always reach out to others with your
compassionate heart.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

Author Unknown

Oh Great God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob,
Just as Nehemiah prayed day and night
For the people of Israel, I
am praying for the people of the United
States

Yes, and even for the world.

The people of this country
Have not kept the commandments.
We have not kept the statutes
That you gave to Moses.
And we ask your forgiveness.

We remember your word to Moses.
We have been unfaithful.
But, O Lord, hear the prayers
Of your servants who delight in your name.
Grant us your mercy.

Restore in us that justice
That treats everyone as your child.
Remind us of the love that Jesus taught.
Return us to a community of your followers.
Lord, have mercy on us and forgive us.

©Susan Keith September 1, 2020
By Susan Keith, National Enrichment Chair

A Prayer of Right Action

Dear Lord,
Send me holy courage to respond to people
in pain, to take action in time of crisis, to re-
store the Church where it is crumbling, to af-
fect a world in need, to be a living, breathing,
active instrument of God's peace. In Jesus'
Name, Amen

St. Francis of Assisi

Nehemiah Prayer Vigil 2020 (cont'd)

A Prayer for the Wanderers

Lord of the Universe, we are a wandering people.
We wandered into Egypt to escape famine
And we became enslaved.
You, O Lord, sent Moses to lead us out of Egypt
And we wandered for years
Because we bickered and demanded more.

The people of England and Ireland
Wandered to North America
To escape famine and oppression.
Our reaction to this unsettled land
Was to perpetuate the spirit of oppression
By killing or corralling the natives of the land.

When we no longer had the natives to oppress
We imported people from other lands to be our
slaves.
And that spirit of oppression continued.
Lord of Light and Healing,
Help us to break this cycle of oppression.
Teach us that the Rule of Life is love not hate.

Lord Jesus, we continue to nail you to a cross,
As we persecute your people.
Come Lord Jesus
Send us a Moses
To lead us out of this life style.
Renew a spirit of love and compassion in your
people.

©Susan Keith September 3, 2020
By Susan Keith, National Enrichment Chair
Written on Day 3 of the 52-day Prayer Vigil.

A Prayer for God's Peace

Dear Lord,
Make me an instrument of thy Peace; this is my
prayer.
Where there is hatred, let me sew love, and by
grace, may it be there,
For it is in giving that we receive; it is in following
that we are freed; it is in dying that we are born; to
live eternally.
In Jesus' Name, Amen.

A Prayer for the Children

My Lord, Jesus,
How you must cry when you look upon us.
You loved the children so much.
You encouraged us to model their innocence.

To see our children enslaved Treated as sex toys
Or forced into slave labor
Must hurt you deeply.

We who love you, regret that this is happening. Help
us free these children;
To heal them from their spiritual wounds,
To teach them Your love.

While we are keeping the perpetrators
From doing any more harm,
Help us to heal the emotional and spiritual ills
That caused them to be so evil.

Help us to bring about your love
In this world and in this nation.
We need to learn to care for each other
Just as you, Dear Lord, care for each of us.

©Susan Keith September 2, 2020
By Susan Keith, National Enrichment Chair
Written on Day 2 of the 52-day Prayer Vigil.

Nehemiah Prayer Vigil 2020 (cont'd)

Sodom

Dear Lord, Abraham pleaded with you
For Sodom and Gomorrah
For the sake of the righteous
That might have lived in those cities.

We, O Holy One, plead with you
For the sake of the righteous in this country.
For the behavior of this country must
Wear you beyond forbearance.

We have neglected the laws of hospitality
Which call for the protection of strangers
Which call for the feeding and sheltering
Of those who come to our oasis.

Instead we treat people we don't know
The ones that don't look like us
The ones that don't sound like us
With fear and hatred.

We beg you Lord to heal our people
Heal them of their fear
Teach them that in your hands
There is nothing to fear.

We thank you for your grace, Dear Lord.
May you continue to reach out to us
Even if through your tears
To help us and remove fear from our lives.

©Susan Keith September 5, 2020
By Susan Keith, National Enrichment Chair

Plagues

Elohim, Lord God Almighty,
You sent the plagues to the people of Egypt
To get them to release your people
From being held as slaves.

There is a plague amongst us
And we do not even care enough
For each other to take simple precautions.
We fuss and fume over safeguards.

This plague is killing off people all around the world.
It is killing people because we have become selfish.
We insist that we can do what we want
With no regard to the effect on others.

Lord, bring us back into community.
Remind us of Jesus' insistence of having community.
Unite us in loving each other,
Help us to build your Beloved Community.

Save us from the frogs and plagues.
Save us from lice and flies.
Save us, Dear Lord, from ourselves.
Send your Holy Spirit to guide us.

©Susan Keith September 5, 2020
By Susan Keith, National Enrichment Chair

II Chronicles 7:14

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and **heal** their land."

II Chronicles 7:14

Nehemiah Prayer Vigil 2020 (cont'd)

Fear

El, it is so easy to sit at your feet
To bask in your glory
To listen to the angels sing
To forget about what is going on in the world.

I don't understand why people treat each other
so badly.
Well, yes I do. At least in general terms.
Each person has a different story
But they all have the same foundation.

They fear. They have not been shown love.
They were not born with fear. They were taught.
Taught by people who feared.
They have not taken the time to sit at Your feet.

When a dog snarls, snaps and reacts in fear
You can either euthanize it or
Take the time to treat it with love and kindness
Until it learns to trust.

We have imprisoned and killed
People who snarl, snap and react in fear.
It's not working.
We need to try love and kindness for a change.

It will take time. It will take patience.
We need to reach out to the people on the street.
We need to remember that sometimes
The people in authority fear also.

Lord keep us close and fill us with your love
Then send us out to patiently and caringly
Share that love with all those who are hurting.
Help us to reform and heal all your children.

©Susan Keith September 8, 2020
By Susan Keith, National Enrichment Chair

News from Dame Julian of Norwich



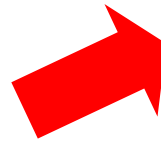
On Wednesday, August 26th, Sheryl Stout (left) and Sian Packard (right) participated in the Service of Admission to the Daughters of the King., lead by The Rev. Jeffrey Packard (rear) and chapter president Kitty Mussett (center). During the service, Sian and Sheryl took vows of service and prayer and accepted the cross of the order to become Daughters of the King.

Kitty Mussett has stepped down from her role as chapter president. Kelley Paulsen has accepted responsibility as the new chapter president. Newly-admitted Daughter Sheryl Stout has agreed to step into the role of Chapter Vice President.

FALL ASSEMBLY — Save the Date

Chapter President Susan Steffen and her team are planning an exciting Fall Assembly for us with the theme of **“Peacemaking ... Yesterday and Today.”** Save the date of Saturday, October 24th from 9-1 for our virtual gathering via Zoom.

**SAT. OCT.
24th**



News from Harriet Lane Johnston

During this time of unprecedented and ongoing COVID-19 uncertainty, suspension of church services, social distancing, and racial injustice and tragedy, the Harriet Lane Johnston Chapter has maintained a wonderful communication through prayer, invitations to zoom services, and reaching out to those in need by email, notes and calls.

We have followed and prayed for a father and son in their path to a restoration to health following injuries sustained on a hike, we have prayed for the safe return of daughters who traveled home following the initial outbreak of the virus, we have prayed for some of our sisters who are experiencing fears for a spouse's health, and then thanksgiving for a successful outcome of a surgery, for sisters who have sustained a loss, and for sisters who have been affected by business limitations and closures. We have continued our prayer list and communicated with each other when additional prayers are requested. Some of us have made masks for distribution to agencies and others in need, we have knitted prayer shawls, participated in back-to-school programs, and reached out to others less fortunate. Several daughters have found online courses and new sources of prayer and comfort. Many of us have taken part in Zoom services, including evening prayer and Compline. We have also explored beyond our own churches and worshipped with the National Cathedral, St. Thomas Episcopal Church in NYC, and Trinity Wall Street. Some of us are now venturing back to church and experiencing the new norm of masks and passing the peace by waving.

Our twice a month gatherings have been specifically designated to prayer, with services offered by several of the sisters, and so, we are experiencing ever more deeply what it means to be a Daughter of the King as we explore a wider range of living into our dedication to prayer, evangelism and mission.

Most recently ten of us sat in a circle in the openness of a park and shared our fears, our sadness and worries, but then all of that was tempered by the joy of being together and sharing prayers. Later this month, we will come together for a service of healing and sharing in the Eucharist.

While this has certainly been a time of exploration and soul searching, we have all been uplifted and sure of the love of our Lord, who supports us all the day-long. We pray 'Thy Kingdom Come' with new understanding, awareness and purpose.

Rejoicing this this day the Lord has made, Susan Landin



News from Susan Landin

Membership

The Province III Daughters at Large chairs met on September 10 via Zoom / phone conference and plan to meet again on November 12.

Most especially at this time of physical distancing, it is important to remember how much being in touch matters. Sending cards, calling our adopted DALs and other daughters who may have lost contact with chapters, becoming prayer partners, are just a few ways we can reach out.

The National Office is a great source of help with membership issues, and Kathy Paulo, our Province President and Membership Chair, is willing to help with and concerns surrounding payment of dues. There was also discussion about utilizing our Strategic Plan to help us further our goals for DALs.

Prayer is the cornerstone of our life, and to help you easily keep our Daughters at Large in your prayers, please find below our DOK prayer.

O Eternal Father, through Your Holy Spirit You unite us as Daughters wherever we may be throughout the world. We live in a place of gratitude for this Sisterhood and we pray for Your grace and blessings for all Daughters at Large whose sense of connectedness is sometimes difficult. Whatever their circumstances, O Lord, make Your presence known and strengthen them in their prayer and loving service. Keep us all mindful of their needs as we hold them to Your light. In Your Holy name Jesus Christ, we offer our prayer. Amen

Daughters at Large

Having recently come into this role of 2nd Vice President, I am still feeling my way. And so, it has taken me a bit of time to connect with the Daughters of Glory through Carole Dembosky.

While I have more to learn, what I know is that while the Daughters of Glory have not met for many months, and are wary of meeting, due to COVID, they remain a vital part of St. Andrew in the Valley. Some of the Daughters are attending church services, and most Daughters are involved in many of their parish committees and / or activities.

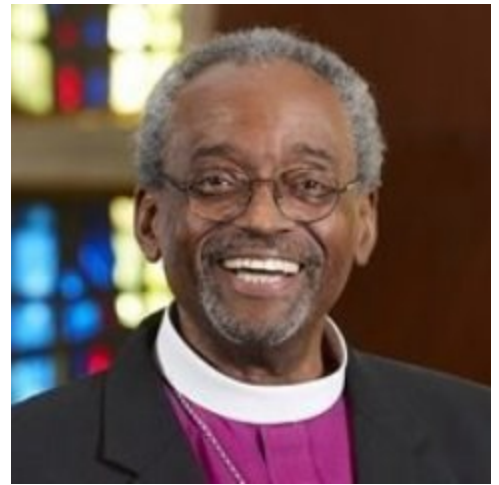
Carole, as Secretary, provides communication to her Daughters to keep them up to date and engaged in DOK happenings and offerings. Email conversations are personable, warm and full of love and concern for each other. And, although, the Daughters of Glory continue without an 'official' President, that in no way has diminished their desire to remain a chapter. These Daughters are a busy group of wonderful women working their way through our current wilderness.

Let us keep Carole and the Daughters of Glory in our prayers.

Habits of Grace, ... from Presiding Bishop Curry

July 26, 2020

Earlier this week, I was preparing a very brief meditation for a kind of public service announcement on prayer in the time of pandemic. And as I was preparing, something dawned on me that I wanted to share with you. There are two instances and there may be others to be sure, in both the Hebrew scriptures and in the New Testament where you see prayer linked directly with action.



One example is found in First Kings where the prophet Elijah is fleeing for his life. He, in Chapter 19, says he ends up at a cave near Mount Horeb, which is Mount Sinai in other places. And there for 40 days, he's in prayer, fasting and struggling. And after that time of prayer, when he kind of senses what God wants him to do, he then goes out and leads a reformation in Israel that was really significant.

His prayer led him to action. You see the same kind of pattern in Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane, he's praying about what he should do. And that leads him to make the decision to give his life, to show what love looks like for the cause and way of love. But it's that prayer that leads to action. It occurred to me that in this time of pandemic, it may be helpful to remember that our prayer can lead to actions. We can't do all the things that we used to do, but we can do some things. We can pray, pray for all of the conditions and all of the situations that we are aware of in our world, and that we are aware of because of this pandemic, but also take some action. There are ways we can support causes that help people in this time.

There are ways that we can support ministries that are helpful, but there's some simple ways. We can keep social distance. That's a way of action. It's an act of prayer. We can pay attention to public health officials and their guidance, that's an action. And we can wear, of course, these. We can wear these face masks. And so I was trying to think of what is a prayer that combines prayer and action in the Book of Common Prayer? And I found it, there are many, but this one stands out.

It's the prayer of St. Francis:

Lord make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love. Where there is injury, pardon. Where there is discord, union. Where there is doubt, faith. Where there is despair, hope. Where there is darkness, light. Where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Pray and do what you can.

Prayers



Prayer from Archbishop Welby

Keep us good Lord,
Under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all those who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us
from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord. **Amen.**

The Prayer of the Order

O Eternal Father, you have sent us your Son to teach us things pertaining to your heavenly Kingdom.

Give your blessing to our Order wherever it may be throughout the world.

Grant that we, your Daughters, ever may discern your truth and bear the cross through the battles of our earthly life.

Give us strength to overcome temptation and the grace to work to spread your Kingdom and to gather your scattered sheep within your fold.

Pour out upon us the sevenfold gift of the Holy Spirit that we may always remember it is your work we are called to do, that all we think, do or say may be pleasing in your sight.

We ask it all For His Sake, our King and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen.



O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

“For the Human Family” BCP, 815