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Barbara Davis checking a child at the mobile medical clinic at Crochu, a remote mountain community

"Tell the story of the children"

Ministry in Haiti

Barbara Davis

(Editor's Note: Barbara Davis is a registered nurse from Holy Trinity, Iron Mountain. She traveled to Haiti in March to offer her nursing services as a volunteer. Burt Purrington, Diocesan International Missions Coordinator was also there.)

Leaving Haiti, Burt Purrington asked me to write something about going to Haiti this March. I asked for suggestions, knowing that he had written and or spoken several times in the diocese about Haiti. He responded, "tell the story of one of the children." I asked, "Which child?"

Barbara Davis, RN of Iron Mountain holds a small patient with a cleft palate



I really knew very little about Haiti before going. I knew it was an extremely poor country, that they needed healthcare providers, and I needed to learn first hand about the situation. Maybe it is better (sometimes) to simply go, without a lot of preconceived ideas. One of my uncles, who visited there while in the Navy many years ago, told me it would make Indonesia "look rich." He had lived and worked in Indonesia. I volunteered in Indonesia post-tsunami. He was correct, and that it is in no way to take away from the suffering the people of Indonesia experienced.

In five days, four of us, Dr. Dianne Pizey, Dr Jean (the Haitian doctor), Denise, a Haitian nurse, and myself, saw 556 registered patients, most of them children. I had up until then only seen pictures and read about severe malnutrition and Kwashiorkor in children, but

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EDS Honors Kelsey

The Episcopal Divinity School has announced that it will confer an honorary degree on James A. Kelsey, Bishop of the Diocese of Northern Michigan, and three other individuals with distinguished and faithful ministries in social justice: Gregory Cameron, Catherine Hoffman, and Njongonkulu Winston Hugh Ndungane.

"EDS is proud to recognize its 2007 honorary degree recipients," said EDS president and dean, The Right Reverend Steven Charleston. "Each one of them is working tirelessly to carry out God's mission of justice, compassion, and reconciliation: Gregory for his ecumenical work through the Anglican Communion; Cathy for her leadership in the area of peace and justice work through the Cambridge Peace Commission; Jim in his work with the Diocese of Northern Michigan in helping all of God's baptized to claim their rightful place in the Church, and Ndungane for his leadership and advocacy related to the Millennium Development Goals."

EDS called Kelsey "An advocate for collaborative ministry... Kelsey and others in the diocese have played a leadership role in introducing collaborative ministry to other dioceses in both the Episcopal Church and elsewhere in the Anglican Communion. EDS recognizes Bishop James Kelsey and the Diocese of Northern Michigan for their prophetic leadership in supporting the baptismal ministry of

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Communicating about the Communique

Jim Kelsey

As many of you know, a critical meeting took place in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in February, which had gathered most of the Primates of the 38 Provinces of the world-wide Anglican Communion. Our Presiding Bishop (aka our Primate) is Katharine Jefferts Schori, and this was the first Primates Meeting since her election last June at General Convention. At the end of the Dar es Salaam meeting, the Primates issued a Communiqué which made several demands, including a September 30, 2007 deadline by which time the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church were to make a commitment not to authorize liturgies for the blessings of same sex relationships, and to reiterate that no consents would be given for the election of any gay or lesbian persons to be bishop in any diocese unless a consensus emerges throughout the Anglican Communion for this to happen. (For the full text of the Communiqué, see <http://www.anglicancommunion.org/acns/articles/42/50/acns4253.cfm>)

In addition, the Communiqué established a so-called "Pastoral Scheme" which was designed to respond to the pastoral needs of those within The Episcopal Church who do not agree with the majority who have affirmed the role of gay and lesbian persons in all aspects of our life and mission; it included the appointment of a so-called "Primate Vicar", who would be nominated by the handful of bishops who have identified themselves as "Windsor compliant bishops" (meaning that they endorse the Windsor Report) What is significant about the Windsor Report is that it redefines the very nature of the Anglican Communion, which has never been a world-wide Church - only a consultative and collegial relationship between

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Thoughts on Dar es Salaam and the Anglican Communion

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completely autonomous Provinces. To redefine the Communion as a world-wide juridical Church is to make the Archbishop of Canterbury more like a Pope, the Primates more like a Roman Curia, and resolutions passed at the Lambeth Conference more like binding legislation, none of which has ever been true in the history of our Church. And thus, there are very few bishops in the Episcopal Church who have identified themselves as "Windsor compliant", and it is quite disturbing that these few would be given authority to select a "Primate Vicar" who would be responsible to a "Pastoral Council" (not to our Presiding Bishop) which would be made up of five persons, two appointed by our Presiding bishop, two appointed by the Standing Committee of the Primates Meeting, and the Chair appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury. This Pastoral Council would have authority to adjudicate disagreements within The Episcopal Church.

Finally, the Communiqué from the Primates' meeting in Dar es Salaam reviewed a draft Covenant which is being developed for consideration at the next Lambeth Conference (in 2008) and then for adoption by the Anglican Consultative Council thereafter. Once established, this Covenant would be offered for the various Provinces of the Anglican Communion to endorse. Any Provinces which could not in conscience sign the Covenant would be considered "associate" members, rather than full members of the Communion. In the proposed draft, Section 6 establishes the Primates as the final arbitrator of any disagreements within the Communion.

With this as a background, I arrived two days before the full Bishops' meeting to participate in the regularly scheduled meeting of a group known as Bishops Working for a Just Society. Our coalition of about 50 bishops meets twice a year, facilitated by the Office for Government Relations of The Episcopal Church (centered in Washington, DC). For two days, we are briefed about major legislation being considered by the US Congress, and we think through strategy for promoting policies endorsed by resolutions at General Convention and Executive Council. This year, we learned about the Farm Bill, which has tremendous (and troubling) implications for many issues reaching beyond agriculture: world hunger, school meal programs, WIC, economic justice, rural development, medical insurance programs and more. Be on the look-out for legislative alerts from EPPN (the Episcopal Public Policy Network) on this. We also learned about the shaping of the federal budget FY'08, and related moral implications, in particular concerns for the poor and those most vulnerable in our society. And we looked at work being done at home and overseas with regard to the Millennium Development Goals. Other issues addressed dealt with immigration, minimum wage, stem cell research, investment in alternative and renewable fuels such as ethanol, the war in Iraq, crises in Northern Uganda, Darfur, the Middle East, Iran, and the Environment. We also learned about CEDAW (the Convention for the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women). The United States is the only major country in the world who has not signed on to this initiative. We discussed how we, as Bishops, could work together to be more effective advocates in this work.

During the meetings of the Bishops Working for a Just Society, there was also discussion about a major world-wide gathering of Anglicans just completed in Boksburg, South Africa, convened to focus on the Millennium Development Goals, and especially the one dealing with the AIDS pandemic (MDG Goal #6). The gathering was called TEAM (Towards Effective Anglican Mission). It was moving to hear from those who were there, as they recounted the remarkable presentations by people from all over the world who told of the depth of human suffering and the response to which our Church is called. It was encouraging to hear about how these Anglicans from around the globe approached the US Episcopalians who were there, and made clear that despite the unpleasantness coming out of the Primates' meeting, they were eager to continue our partnerships in mission of all sorts and configurations, and that they had no intention of withdrawing from communion with us, regardless of what official actions are being taken by the Primates.

On Friday, March 16, the full meeting of the bishops got underway. It quickly became apparent that there was an over-riding agreement that the Primates' Communiqué had far over-stepped their authority, and were claiming for themselves a power which is not theirs, and which represents a centralization which is decidedly un-Anglican.

Monday was set aside for consideration of the proposed Covenant, and we were addressed by the two Episcopal members of the international drafting committee which had prepared an initial draft for the Primates to review in Tanzania. (For the full text of that draft Covenant, see www.anglicancommunion.org/acns/articles/42/50/acns4252.cfm)

The first to speak to us was a self-described conservative, Ephraim Radner. He has been a main player with the dissident groups in the Church, and reception of his remarks were, at best, lukewarm. The next to speak was Kathy Grieb, a New Testament professor of Virginia Theological Seminary (a former professor of Fran Gardner, our Missioner Intern). She is our other representative to the international Covenant Design Group. Some of us, myself included most prominently, have serious questions about the very proposal to create a Covenant which in and of itself defines or determines membership in the Anglican Communion -- but that aside, her presentation itself was unbelievable. I actually had the sense that it was like an historic event, which is to say that what she articulated absolutely blew the whistle on the whole dynamic, and by her truth saying, everything was out on the table in a way that moved us ahead. It was also a tremendously stirring presentation, which received a standing ovation from some, though not by any means all, of the bishops. She described the early stages of the Covenant Design process and then described with condemning clarity how everything

has changed with the Dar es Salaam Communiqué of the Primates. She explained that the Communiqué reveals how the Covenant, once established, will be interpreted, and that what it indicates is that the Primates are assuming for themselves unprecedented power and influence over the several Provinces of the Church, including The Episcopal Church, and that they are not even willing to wait for the Covenant Design process to be completed before asserting that power. Her analysis was powerful and, I believe, had a significant impact on the course of the meeting. You can read the full text of her presentation at: www.episcopalchurch.org/3577_83906_ENG_HTML.htm

I won't try to describe in detail the various parliamentary steps and maneuvers that took place during the business session, but suffice it to say, three resolutions were passed, with but a few amendments along the way. See www.episcopalchurch.org/3577_84148_ENG_HTML.htm for the full text of all three.

In my opinion, what finally passed is a strong statement about who we are and where we are prepared to stand. We do intend to continue relationships with Anglicans world-wide, in whatever official or unofficial capacity might be possible. We have no idea how the Primates or the ACC will respond. Rowan Williams has since said he was "disappointed" in our resolution, and that is hardly surprising, since he no doubt had been hoping that we would capitulate to all of the demands of the Primates.

On the morning of the last business day, Stacy Sauls, Bishop of Lexington and Chair of the Property Disputes Committee gave an in depth report concerning research done on the tactics of the Network and the American Anglican Council (AAC) and other conservative/dissident groups. It was chilling. There is now clear evidence that there has been a strategy by these groups to create an alternative ecclesial structure within the United States, with alternative leadership which might be recognized by the leadership of the Anglican Communion as the true Anglican Church in the United States. If indeed the Anglican Communion is transformed into a hierarchical body

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The Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan

We envision a world in which all people live together in peace and in harmony with all of creation, where all can contribute and the gifts of all are joyfully received, nurtured, and supported, where our diversity is celebrated in community, and every human being is recognized as having eternal significance.

We commit ourselves to identify, nurture, and support the baptismal ministry of every single member/person of this diocese. The baptismal covenant is our guide and inspiration.

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Meetings and Events

All times Eastern

MAY 2007

4	Interfaith Forum	12:00 noon	Wildcat Den - NMU, Marquette
4-6	Prov V ECW Annual Meeting		Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island
11	Diocesan Council	10:00 am	Diocesan Office, Marquette
12	Commission on Ministry	10:00 am	Diocesan Office, Marquette
12	South Central Region	10:00 am	St Stephen's, Escanaba
12	Open Door Workshop	1:00 pm	St Stephen's, Escanaba
23	Youth Committee	5:00 pm	Diocesan Office, Marquette
24	Standing Committee	7:00 pm	Teleconference
27	Commissioning	10:30 am	St Paul's, Marquette
29-31	AMEN (Michigan Dioceses)		Conway, Michigan

JUNE 2007

2	ECW Board	10:30 am	Diocesan Apartment, Marquette
9	Commission on Ministry	10:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
30	Diocesan Council	10:00 am	Diocesan Office, Marquette
24-July1	Summer Camp		Page Center, Little Lake

JULY 2007

6	MinisDevelopStrategyTeam	10:00 am	Diocesan Office, Marquette
24	Judicatory Leaders	12:30 pm	Lutheran Synod (ELCA), MQT
28	Commission on Ministry	10:00 am	Diocesan Office, Marquette
28	Council on Diac Ministry	2:00 pm	Diocesan Office, Marquette

AUGUST 2007

3	Trust Association	10:30 am	Diocesan Office, Marquette
4	Diocesan Council	10:00 am	Diocesan Office, Marquette

SEPTEMBER 2007

4	Judicatory Leaders	12:30 pm	United Methodist Ofc, Marquette
5	MinisDevelopStrategyTeam	10:00 am	Diocesan Office, Marquette
7	Interfaith Forum	12:00 noon	Wildcat Den - NMU, Marquette
8	Diocesan Council	10:00 am	Diocesan Office, Marquette
15	Commission on Ministry	10:00 am	Diocesan Office, Marquette
19-26	House of Bishops		New Orleans, Louisiana

To have meetings included, call 1-800-236-0087 or email gloria@upepiscopal.org

EDS Honors Peace, Justice, Collaboration

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all Episcopalians and for their work in helping to transform congregations from being communities gathered around a minister to ministering communities.” The others receiving honorary degrees are as follows:

Gregory Cameron, Director of Ecumenical Affairs and Studies, and Deputy Secretary General in the Anglican Communion Office in London. EDS recognizes Canon Cameron for his faithful service to ecumenical and inter-Anglican affairs for the Anglican Communion.

Catherine Hoffman is the Director of the Cambridge Peace Commission, Cambridge, Massachusetts. An organization that is dedicated to the concept of thinking globally and acting locally, the Commission acts as a link between the municipal government and neighbors, schools, young people, peace organizations, social justice efforts, anti-violence coalitions, communities, and the municipal governments. EDS recognizes Ms. Hoffman for her peace building, social justice, and local activist work.

Njongonkulu Winston Hugh Ndungane is Archbishop of Cape Town and Metropolitan of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa, which includes 23 dioceses with more than 900 parishes in South Africa, Mozambique, Namibia, Lesotho, Swaziland, Angola, and other nations. Ndungane is known as an outspoken advocate against injustice,

inadequate education, economic oppression and violence both in southern Africa and across the world. EDS recognizes The Most Rev. Ndungane for his work related to the Millennium Development Goals and serving as a powerful example of someone living into God's mission of justice, compassion, and reconciliation. The Archbishop will be speaker at the 2007 EDS Commencement.

Transitions Confirmations

Trinity Church, Gladstone

Trevor Dollhoph
Paul Flaminio
Emily LaPine
John LaPine
Misty Menard
Alex Pickard

Deaths

Mildred Hogg
St Paul's, Marquette

Beverly Eaton
Christ Church, Calumet

Mary-Jane Schmidt
St Paul's, Marquette

Anglican Communion, Continued

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(through the Windsor Report recommendations) and the Primates shift their support to the Network/AAC/CANA/AMiA congregations & dioceses, there will be a legal basis by which the dissident congregations will be able to claim ownership of all properties and church assets.

Meanwhile, of course, there were other matters being discussed during the Bishops meeting, along with those already mentioned:

- the Millennium Development Goals, with special focus on Goal #7, which centers on matters of the Environment

- we heard a lecture by Ian Douglas of Episcopal Divinity School; this included an in-depth report on global climate change, and particularly its impact (along with Katrina) on the Louisiana & Mississippi gulf coast, including an

- ministry in the dioceses most
- by the hurricanes (Louisiana &
- i)
- es around immigration &
- Asia & environmental racism
- es for returning veterans from
- gigil on the 4th anniversary of the
- Iraq war
- ving a movie entitled "For the
- Me So", concerning homosexu-
- ne interpretation of scripture and
- ment to overcome bigotry,

especially within the religious community

Finally, I want to say a word about our new Presiding Bishop, Katharine Jefferts Schori. Everyone I talked with agreed that her style of leadership was tremendously helpful. She did not try to control or manage the group, but sought to create an environment in which folks could interact with openness and trust and honesty, and let the mind of the community emerge. It was clear that the resolutions which emerged do indeed reflect where the Bishops of this Church are right now. Katharine had a gracious and gentle, yet firm hand, as she presided over the business session, and she did it well. I give her a lot of credit.

Now it is time to move ahead with God's work of redemption. Hopefully it will be in partnership with others throughout the Anglican Communion. The extent to which others are ready to keep in partnership with us has yet to be seen - - but that we are prepared to step out in faith and with courage and determination to celebrate God's liberating work in our midst and in the world, have no doubt.

Public Policy and Episcopalians

Soon Episcopalians in Michigan will be able to receive notices of public policy issues and events that affect us as citizens of our state. Look for more information soon on this new network...but in the meantime, sign up be a part of the Episcopal Public Policy Network. You'll receive articles and notices about social policies that the Episcopal Church has taken a stand on, and later you'll also be signed up for the Michigan network as soon as it's up and running. To become a part of EPPN, go to www.episcopalchurch.org/eppn. Here's some more information and ideas:

Episcopalians are represented on Capitol Hill by a group of professional advocates in the Office of Government Relations. While they represent the Church's official public policy positions adopted by General Convention and Executive Council, all Episcopalians share a baptismal responsibility to *strive for justice and peace*.

Things you can do:

Ø Join the EPPN

The Episcopal Public Policy Network is a grassroots organization. When legislation or Administration action is pending, alerts are sent out with analyses of the issue, the Church's position, and easy ways for members to take action. Membership in the EPPN is free.

Ø Do your Homework

Effective advocacy begins with good research. EPPN alerts, libraries, news services, and other advocacy organizations provide a wealth of information.

Ø Write your Members of Congress

Elected officials want to know what you think and feel. A smart, well-written letter is one of the most common and successful ways to convey your message.

Ø Call your Members of Congress

You can ensure that your voice will be heard if you are well prepared and know what to expect.

Ø Visit your Members of Congress

All Senators and Representatives have an office in Washington, D.C. and one or more offices in their state/district. Meetings with legislators and their aides, either in DC or at home, convey your message directly to policymakers.

Ø Raise Awareness in your Community

Join with other Episcopalians and groups to take action and bring attention to your issue.

Ø Use the Media

People who relate effectively with news outlets have powerful allies in their advocacy efforts. Find out how to get your issue or story covered.

Ø Vote

Everyone's vote is significant

Hope for the Children...

Continued from front page

we saw it several times over. There was one small child that we sent to the hospital in Port-au-Prince immediately after examining. He was so malnourished that I believe he was dying. Kwashiorkor is lack of protein and occurs after children are weaned.

There were two children with their mothers that Carmel Valdema brought to the compound. (Carmel is a Haitian registered nurse who directs a comprehensive health care program for severely malnourished children called *Lespwa Timoun*: Haitian Creole for "Hope for Children".) The children were grossly swollen and very ill. Neither could sit, stand, or walk. One had lost her will to eat after about 24 hours and had to be sent to the hospital for tube feedings. I never did understand how or who pays for this. The hospitals are mostly private, church supported, and there are no insurance plans, even if people could pay for them. The child was improving, but still in the hospital when we left. The second child was also improving and eating and able to sit up when we left. Hopefully, Burt can give us a good report of these two children when he returns.

There is no place at the compound for these mothers and children

nutrition program, rather than having these supplies stored everywhere between the compound and their home. We visited the land and it has good soil. Carmel thinks the mothers could grow food there also, giving them meaningful work to do while their children heal, as well as providing food for them. Money is the problem, rather the lack of it. They need about \$100,000 to build.

Carmel showed us the scrapbook that she keeps of before and after pictures of these children. We were fortunate to meet a couple of the "success stories". These stories often seem to include the whole family. The family of the sick child is empowered by association, I think, and the younger children benefit by what the mothers learn.

Back to the children...like children everywhere, they are charming. Unfortunately, most are borderline malnourished, if not seriously starving. The disease/illnesses are mostly what I would call "diseases of poverty." We probably saw TB, but had no way of diagnosing it, and I assume some also had HIV, but again no way of diagnosis for it either. There were skin problems ranging from scabies to ringworm and perhaps others we didn't recognize. Many of the

One of the sites where we held a clinic, Thoman, has not had a medical clinic there in two years. Can anyone in this country even imagine that? Many of the children had never seen a doctor in their lives.

All the sites that we visited have nutrition clinics held once a month, with the families receiving vitamins, a protein supplement, and vaccinations as appropriate. The children are weighed and given worm medication. The mothers receive some teaching concerning the health of their children. Logistically, it would be too much for the people and the staff to have a medical clinic at the same time. I'm not sure there is enough money to cover both.

It is expensive to have a medical clinic even when we go as volunteers. The Haitian doctor, who was a valuable resource to us, seeing the adults and consulting when we weren't sure what we were seeing, costs the nutrition program \$50 a day (U.S.). The translator, the driver, the healthcare workers and nurse, who run the pharmacy, register the patients, and take vital signs, each cost about \$30 a day (U.S.) Gasoline for is about \$5 a gallon. This is very good money for the Haitians, where the average wage is \$0.50 to \$1.00 a day, if you can get a job.

We also saw other health problems, like cleft lip, seizures and small children who will never walk or be "normal" related to problems at birth. Apparently trained midwives are as scarce as doctors. None of the sites that we visited had a healthcare provider living in that community, even in the remote village of Crochu. To get to Crochu, you drive an hour, and then you walk an hour over a road no one in this country would call a road. There may be a local healing person, but no one educated either in Haiti or any other country to care for the people living there.

One bright spot was the HIV/AIDS workshop scheduled for the week I left. Last year there were 40 youths, This year, there are 105 registered. For some of these young people it means hours of walking or catching a ride with a top-top (the local taxis, if they had the fare), to go to Croix-des-Bouquet to attend. It is a "train-the-trainer" program that has had success in Uganda.

Everyone encouraged me to read "Mountains Beyond Mountains," by Tracy Kidder. I would like to recommend that to everyone in the diocese who would like some more background about Haiti also, as well as reading from its bibliography.

And yes, God Willing, I will be going back! There is so much to do yet.



Three-fourths of the team with their hosts: John Madden, Everett, WA; Barbara Davis, RN, Iron Mountain, MI; Dianne Pizey, MD, Minneapolis; Carmel Valdema, RN; and Father Fritz Valdema ("Pere Val") at the site near Croix-des-Bouquets where a new health center called Lespwa Timoun (Haitian Creole for "Hope for Children") will be constructed when funds are available.

to stay. They make a bed out of rugs and sleep on the floor of the school at night. Before the children arrive for classes, they move out of the school and spend their day under one of the trees in the compound, caring for their children, cooking, and doing some laundry.

Carmel has a dream. There is land ready to build a "home" for these mothers and children...some place that they aren't sharing with the school and the public space in the compound. She wants it built so they can store the pharmacy, the records, and the bags of the protein supplement used for the

children who were not part of the nutrition program had worms and/or parasites, from the lack of clean water. They were anemic, some from the worms and parasites, some from poor diet, or a combination of these things. There were upper respiratory problems that Dr. Dianne believed were caused by the air pollution from the smoke of the charcoal cooking fires, burning garbage, and the ever present dust. Mothers would say "the child had coughed since he/she was born." We also saw a lot of children with ear infections.

Sawyer Family Resource Center update

Gin Mannisto

The new Sawyer Family Resource Center continues to take shape and develop within the broad range of possibilities at K.I. Sawyer. In the past year and a half, conversations between people have brought into being a new place for people to gather, learn, meet others with similar interests and challenges. Our role as a diocese is shifting to one of support as this new center gets going.

As the Resource Center gets going, numerous organizations, churches and individuals have contributed financially, and with gifts such as furniture, equipment, supplies and time. The Resource Center has applied for a United Thank Offering grant, as well as one offered by Hamburger Helper. There are also possibilities for local, regional and national grants.

They have held a number of fundraisers, including a monthly Pasty Sale; they offer pasties from Crystal Falls provider Nylund Pasties. All proceeds from the sale go to the Resource Center. Contact Kelly Wood at 906-372-9272 for more information. They will start the monthly flea market in June, and continue until September.

Currently programs include a Life Skills class, with plans for GED and Parenting classes. A quilting program is being organized, with lots of enthusiasm being generated. This will involve Boy Scouts, students from the elementary school, and community members. They plan to make lap quilts for those in the military from the U.P.

The Center is also developing a food pantry.

Open Door

Workshop

May 12 1-3 pm

St. Stephen's, Escanaba

hosted by the

South Central Region

Featuring conversation

with local media

professionals