

# Hiawathaland

News for and about the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan



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Visit the diocesan website at [www.upepiscopal.org](http://www.upepiscopal.org)

DEADLINES

No January Issue

February 2005 Issue  
Tuesday, January 4, 2005

*Advent & Christmas Blessings*

Rise Thew Forrester

The annual Episcopal Church Women's Winter Gathering will feature Suzanne Farnham, founder of Listening Hearts Ministries, a non-profit organization that seeks to make spiritual discernment more comprehensible and tangible. She is co-author of the books *Listening Hearts*, and *Grounded in God*. She leads spiritual discernment retreats and workshops throughout the country.

The retreat will be held at Marygrove Center in Garden, Michigan, from Friday evening February 4 through lunch on Sunday, February 6, 2005. More information on costs and registration will be available to all congregations in the mail, as well as on the web, [www.upepiscopal.org](http://www.upepiscopal.org).

Listening Hearts Ministries' name "rises from the Hebrew-Christian tradition that understands the heart to have more than a physical nature, that sees the heart as the core of the person, at the center of the body, touching all of the body, mind, soul, and spirit. Eastern Orthodox writers bid, 'Let your mind descend into your heart.' When we draw together with truly listening hearts, we enter into communion with one another and with God." (*Listening Hearts*, page 2)

Our own diocese uses guidelines for listening that are outlined in *Listening Hearts* in many different contexts, including *LifeCycles*, the Christian formation process developed here and used in many of our congregations.

"Listening Hearts Ministries' mission is to help people listen ever more deeply for the voice of God. It began as a grassroots effort to develop a clear understanding of spiritual discernment - what it is and how to go about it. The objective was to develop a program that would enable people within a community of faith to help one another seek God's guidance as they wrestled with issues related to personal relationships, vocational choices, ordering of priorities, and moral or ethical dilemmas.



The people of Church of the Ascension, Ontonagon, celebrated 150 years of ministry and worship in October.

## Ontonagon church celebrates 150 years

In the spring of 1851, a young couple in Ontonagon could find no Episcopal priest to perform their marriage. James Burtenshaw and Cornelia Hawley were married by a justice of the peace, but set about organizing an Episcopal congregation soon after, with the help of General Daniel Pitman, a mining official.

Church of the Ascension, Ontonagon, was organized in 1854, and the church building was consecrated in 1856, built of materials transported from Detroit on a charter schooner. The original building burned in 1896 in a fire that also burned much of the town.

On Sunday, October 31, 2004, the current congregation gathered to celebrate 150 years of ministry and worship at Church of the Ascension, remembering all those who have gone before. Church of the Ascension is the oldest parish still active in the diocese (Grace Church, Clifton was the first church built, since closed.)

One of their early leaders was the missionary William Polyseor, known for travelling the western U.P. by a dogsled pulled by Irish Setters. He was also the publisher of the diocese's first newspaper, *The Pathfinder*.

(Historical notes from Diocesan Centennial edition of the Church in Hiawathaland)

## Thanks be to Gloria!



Gloria Price, Office Administrator for the Diocese of Northern Michigan, celebrates 20 years with the diocesan office this month. It is Gloria's pleasant voice that most often greets callers to the office, and her ability to keep 15 balls juggling in the air at

once means that things like Diocesan Convention, accounting and finance, correspondence and office management are done well, with grace and a smile. Gloria, you are a blessing to us. Thank you for your ministry in our midst.

# Report on Anglican Communion needs time, conversation, reflection

*Editor's Note: The following was posted to the Diocesan email list in mid-October, after the release of the Lambeth Commission on Communion's Windsor Report. The Windsor Report addresses the strains in the worldwide Anglican Communion that have arisen from differences around the world, especially in theology and church practices regarding human sexuality. What appears here has been edited for space constraints; the full comments can be read on the diocesan webpage at [www.upepiscopal.org](http://www.upepiscopal.org)*

James A. Kelsey

Those who were at Diocesan Convention heard me talk about the Windsor Report of the Lambeth

Commission. . . you can read my remarks on our web site [under "Bishop's Address"]...

I have downloaded the full report and have been reading through its 93 pages. It is long and complex, and (I believe) extremely well done. (I say that about its thoroughness and even-handed approach, without stating support for any of its specific conclusions or recommendations.) I commend it to your reading. It can be found in its entirety at [windsor2004.anglicancommunion.org](http://windsor2004.anglicancommunion.org)

The full implications of the recommendations of this report are yet to be realized. As I said in my Convention Address, it will take many months for it to be received by the many bodies of our Church, both here within the Episcopal Church, and overseas throughout the Anglican Communion. I have some initial reactions to what I am reading, but I want to have an opportunity to reflect with others from within our diocese and beyond, before having too much to say. All of this needs to settle into perspective.

Still, there were several rumors circulating about the report prior to its release, so there are some basic facts about its content which I would like to point out:

1) Contrary to various rumors, the Episcopal Church has not been "excluded" from the Anglican Communion. This report seeks to identify a way that there can be healing and a restoration of unity and communion even as we live with our disagreements about some important matters.

2) The Lambeth Commission is concerned that the actions taken in Minneapolis (the consent to Gene Robinson's ordination as well as a recognition that local faith communities are operating within the bounds of our common life as they explore and experience liturgies celebrating and blessing same sex unions") as well as similar, subsequent actions taken since then within the Episcopal Church and within the Anglican Church of Canada, were taken without an adequate articulation of the theological

grounds upon which those actions were taken, and without adequate consultation with the rest of the Anglican Communion (particularly through the so-called "Instruments of Unity": the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lambeth Conference, the Anglican Consultative Council, and the meeting of the 38 Primates from throughout the Anglican Communion). The Commission notes that such consultation was taken prior to the ordination of women, but was lacking in these more recent actions. Thus, most of the recommendations which follow are made for the purpose of re-establishing a climate within which that sort of consultation and deliberation might take place over the coming months and years.

3) The Commission's Report is clear that it is not taking a position on human sexuality per se, but on the matters of process by which these sorts of matters can be discussed and how our unity and Communion can be maintained throughout the process of change which occur through the march of human history, and within the bonds of our inter-relationships as a world-wide Body. Thus the Report addresses the way our theological development and ecclesiastical procedures can help us sort out matters about which various Provinces might appropriately differ from those about which there should be world-wide consensus before one Province proceeds. Underlying all of this are questions of trust and authority - all of which have been stretched to near breaking points by recent developments regarding human sexuality.

4) Given the disagreements which have arisen, and serious questions about how we throughout the world-wide Communion may be accountable to one another, even while honoring appropriate differences in context, the Windsor Report proposes that a new Anglican Covenant be developed which would clarify our agreements to be mutually responsible and interdependent (to re-sound a phrase and principle affirmed in 1963 by a world-wide Anglican Congress). My impression is that such a Covenant would provide a common agreement about how we will be accountable to one another, while still respecting the autonomy of each Province of the Communion.

5) The Report also recommends a clarification of the roles of the four "Instruments of Unity" (being the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lambeth Commission, the Primates' Meeting, and the Anglican Consultative Council) and the creation of a Council of Advice for the Archbishop of Canterbury, which might assist the Archbishop in his/her responsibilities for world-wide oversight of the Communion. The Lambeth Commission is clear about the fact that this clarification would carefully avoid granting to these Instruments of Unity any sort of jurisdictional power, as might

make the Archbishop of Canterbury into a Pope, or might make our Consultative Councils into bodies which attempt to dictate matters which have always, within the Anglican Communion, been overseen within more local Provinces and Dioceses.

6) The Episcopal Church of the USA (ECUSA) is "invited to express its regret that the proper constraints of the bonds of affection were breached" with actions taken with regard to the election and consent and ordination of the Bishop of New Hampshire (Gene Robinson). This expression of regret would constitute a desire to remain within the Communion.

7) Those who participated as consecrators in the ordination in New Hampshire (and that includes me) should be invited to consider in all conscience whether they should withdraw themselves from representative functions in the Anglican Communion. (This would mean that Mary and I would not be going to the Lambeth Conference in 2008) The purpose of this recommendation is "to create the space necessary to enable the healing of the Communion".

8) ECUSA is asked to place a moratorium on the election and consent to the ordination of any candidate to be a

Bishop who is living in a same gender union, until some new consensus in the Anglican Communion emerges

9) The Instruments of Union (ArchBp of Canterbury, Primates, ACC, & Lambeth Conference) be urged to move forward with the "listening" process called for at the 1998 Lambeth Conference, which called for the Church to listen to and learn from gay and lesbian persons as well as those who object to changes which are happening in the Communion, and that, as a part of this process, ECUSA be asked "to contribute an explanation, based on scripture, apostolic tradition, and reasoned reflection, as to how a person living in a same gender union may be considered eligible to lead the flock of Christ".

10) The Lambeth Commission has affirmed the position of the Primates that since there is no theological consensus about same sex unions, the Primates as a body cannot support the authorization of such rites. Thus, they call for a moratorium on such rites, and ask Canadian and ECUSA bishops who have authorized them "to express regret that the proper constraints

*Continued on Page C...*

## 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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**Deadline: the fifth of the preceding month**

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# Aligning your calendar with the seasons of the Church

Kevin Thew Forrester, Diocesan Ministry Development Coordinator, offers the following resource:

*Salt of the Earth* is an alternative calendar that was created four years ago to enable the re-telling of the life and story of Jesus Christ. Designed to encourage people to live differently from the dominant culture, its unique shape and design remind those using it that there is a different time going on here - that we're living in God's time, not the world's time.

Just as Jews, Muslims and Buddhists follow their own particular spiritual calendar, Salt of the Earth reminds Christians to recognize they too are a religious minority in a dominant secular culture and could benefit from being much more aware of their own liturgical seasons.

The calendar represents the life of the church and moves in the rhythm of seven seasons, rather than twelve months. Each of the pages marks one of the seven Christian seasons: Advent, Christmas, The Season After Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week, Easter and The Season After Pentecost.

"This annual re-telling and re-living of the narrative of the gospel is a powerful teaching resource for churches and disciples who live in cultures that have forgotten, or have never heard, the Christian story;" - Rev. Ed Searcy says.

Since its first issue, Christians all over North America and in parts of Europe, Asia, Australia and New Zealand have experienced the alternative living that the Salt of the Earth calendar provides.

The web address is — [www.thechristiancalendar.com](http://www.thechristiancalendar.com) The phone number is 604-696-1295.

# Kelsey's Reflections on Windsor Report

*Continued from Page B...*

to the bonds of affection were breached by such authorization", and further, that they should consider in all conscience whether they should withdraw themselves from all representative functions in the Anglican Communion. They also urge that conversations continue about these matters throughout the world-wide Communion, so that a consensus might be determined.

Nevertheless, the Commission stresses that "any demonizing of homosexual persons or their ill-treatment is totally against Christian charity and basic principles of pastoral care".

12) The Lambeth Commission has stated in no uncertain terms: "We do not favor the establishment of parallel jurisdictions", as has been advocated by some dissenters within the Episcopal Church.

13) The Commission calls upon Bishops who believe it is their conscientious duty to intervene in provinces, dioceses, and parishes other than their own to express regret for their actions, to affirm their desire to stay within the Communion, and to put a moratorium upon any further interventions.

14) The Commission recognizes that if these recommendations are not followed, more serious efforts at mediation and arbitration might be necessary. Also, it recognizes that there is a possibility that the present strains within the Communion might result in our learning to walk different paths (in other words, that some Provinces may feel called to withdraw from membership in the Anglican Communion). In the face of these serious times, the Commission affirms that they have seen their task to be "...to work not for division, but for healing and restoration".

As I have said, this is all just "off the press", and it will take some time for the Church at large (as well as each of us individually) to process it and to integrate it into our own life and commitments. I urge you (as I urge myself) not to be reactive, but to reflect, inwardly and with others, about how we might be called to respond to this important report as we move ahead.

I'm sure we'll be having many conversations about all of this over the coming weeks and months (and years). Let us be thankful that we a part of a Church which is trying, at least, to figure out how to bring these matters to the table, so we might discover what future God is calling us to.



*The Compass Rose is the symbol of the Anglican Communion. In Greek lettering around the central cross it quotes scripture: "Truth shall make you free."*

11) Concerning parishes in ECUSA and Canada (and elsewhere) who have dissented from their own Bishops' views on these matters, and other Bishops (including those from overseas) who have crossed diocesan boundaries to "care for" those parishes and thereby violated basic principles of diocesan jurisdiction which have been in place since the Council of Nicea is 325AD, the Lambeth Commission has affirmed the plan for "Delegated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight" approved by the ECUSA House of Bishops, and has condemned the actions of Bishops who have crossed diocesan boundaries outside of those agreements.

## WORLD AIDS DAY: DECEMBER 1

More than 20 years ago, the Episcopal Church declared: "The Church has AIDS". The pandemic of AIDS/HIV continues around the world. You are invited to remember those living with AIDS/HIV around the world, those who love and care for them, and those striving to find an end to this disease.

[www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org)  
Worship that Works sermon on World AIDS day for the first Sunday in Advent.

[www.beliefnet.com/features/aids\\_links.html](http://www.beliefnet.com/features/aids_links.html)  
General information

Some resources for prayer, remembrance, and action are available on the web at various sites, including

Or go to [google.com](http://google.com) and search for World AIDS Day Episcopal

[www.neac.org](http://www.neac.org)  
National Episcopal AIDS Coalition

## MEETINGS AND EVENTS

### Diocesan Calendar

*(All times Eastern)*

#### DECEMBER 2004

4	Standing Committee	11:00am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
9	Western Region Board	5:00pm	Little Old School House, Trout Creek
10	Finance Committee	3:00pm	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
11	Diocesan Council	10:00am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
15	MinisDevelopStrategyTeam	11:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
18	Commission on Ministry	10:00am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette

#### JANUARY 2005

8	Baptismal Ministry Conf	10:00am	St Stephen's, Escanaba
11	MinisDevelopStrategyTeam	11:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
15-6	Affirmation Weekend		Christ Church, Calumet
19	Trust Association	10:30am	Diocesan offices, Marquette
30	Ordination - Leon Jarvis	2:00pm	Marquette General Hospital

#### FEBRUARY 2005

4-6	ECW Winter Gathering		Marygrove Center, Garden
5	ECW Board		Marygrove Center, Garden
9	Ash Wednesday		
12-15	Living Stones		
24	MinisDevelopStrategyTeam	11:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette

#### MARCH 2005

4-5	Diocesan Spring Conference		House of Ludington, Escanaba
6	Youth Ministry Coord	3:00pm	St Stephen's, Escanaba
9-16	House of Bishops		Camp Allen, TX
11-13	Prov V ECW Annual Mtg		Milwaukee WI
25	Good Friday		
27	Easter Sunday - He Is Risen !!		
30	MinisDevelopStrategyTeam	11:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette

#### APRIL 2005

8	UTO Spring Ingathering/CPC Sunday		
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To have meetings included, call 1-800-236-0087



*The International Gift Fair and Alternative Gift Market at St. Paul's Marquette is set for December 3-4*

## Gift Fair benefits developing countries

*Mary-Jane Schmidt*

St. Paul's, Marquette will once again provide Upper Peninsula communities an opportunity to financially support people from around the world who are less fortunate than we. The International Gift Fair and Alternative Gift Market is a favorite shopping destination for holiday customers who are looking for unique and unusual gifts. In it's thirteenth year, this event takes place at the church (corner of High and Ridge streets in Marquette, across from the Diocesan office) on Friday, December 3 (5 to 9 pm) and Saturday, December 4 (10am to 4pm). St. Paul's parish receives no profit from these sales.

Jan Edwards and Jane Barnes are co-leaders of the Gift Fair, and will be offering beautiful international gifts made by artisans in developing countries, including Christmas decorations, musical instruments, toys, pottery, jewelry, home décor and food.

For those people on your list who have everything, Sharon Engle will be heading up the Alternative Gift Market. Alternative gifts are those that offer helpful and hopeful resources to those in need in various places around the world.

## Around the Diocese...

St. Mark's, Crystal Falls recently hosted a "Bring a Friend" event, asking that everyone who comes bring someone who's not a member of the church. On October 3, they hosted an Oktoberfest celebration. The church supplied brats and German Beer Fest music, and everyone brought a German dish to share. Some even dressed up in Bavarian outfits.

The Canterbury Club in Houghton, provided hospitality at the Canterbury House to 15 students who were participating in the annual Progressive Dinner which is sponsored by the Cooperative Christian Campus Ministries.

The donor receives a card to present to their loved ones, explaining the gift that has been given in their name.

In addition, the senior women's group known as "Group I" will hold their famous White Elephant and Bake sale on Saturday. Cone wreaths and hand woven rugs will be featured. Profits from this sale help purchase kitchen equipment for St. Paul's.

The men of the church will once again serve homemade soup and sandwiches during the lunch hour. Last year's lunch profits helped purchase the shelving used in the Gift Fair.

If you are coming from outside Marquette, there will also be a craft fair and the Yooper Dome at Northern Michigan University, as well as other holiday events and sales for other churches and organizations.

The International Gift Fair and Alternative Gift Market gives us an opportunity to show our loving concern for our neighbors in under-developed countries and to those who are in need of direct financial assistance. Spread the word, bring friends, and enjoy the pleasure of helping others. For more information, contact the church office at 906-226-2912.

Students from the Portage Lake United Church, Good Shepherd ELCA Lutheran Church and the St. Albert the Great Roman Catholic Church eat a different course of a meal at one of the different churches. This year the Episcopalians provided the dessert course, the Canterbury Club reported that they were able to answer many questions about the Episcopal Church, and the Canterbury House. It was a good event for the eaters and those providing the Hospitality. This year there are two new freshmen who have joined in: one is a student at Finlandia and comes to us from the Diocese of Milwaukee. There are four students returning from last year.

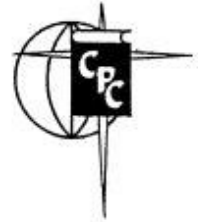
## Miles of Pennies Grant goes to Gwinn Library

*Teena Maki,  
National CPC Miles of Pennies Chair*

The Church Periodical Club has announced that the Forsyth Township Public Library in Gwinn has been awarded a Miles of Pennies grant to purchase children's hardcover books and videos, including many that are Christian-based. These materials will enhance the library for children in the area, providing nourishment for young minds.

The CPC is a national organization affiliated with the Episcopal Church, and the Miles of Pennies program provides grants to schools, libraries and churches for materials for youth.

Please join us in prayers for the continuance of this program to benefit all children, and thanksgiving for the work done by the Church Periodical Club and our diocesan representative, Judy Britton. For more information, contact Judy Britton at 906-346-6854.



## What a difference a "lift" makes!

*Alice Lewis*

St. Alban's, Manistique, was faced with the realization that many of our elderly parish family members were having a difficult time managing the steps that led to the nave and/or the steps leading to the fellowship hall in the undercroft. Some had to remain at home, or sometimes attend the worship service, but were unable to participate fully in the life of the parish because of the inability to maneuver the steps to the undercroft. We also recognized that this number would increase rapidly in the coming years!

It was decided by the vestry, at the urging of a few, to investigate the possibilities for making St. Alban's handicapped accessible to all and for all. In other words, we wanted to find a way for those who have supported the church in the past and those who would consider the church in the future, full access to worship and/or gatherings of all the fellowship!

The idea of a ramp was quickly discarded when investigation revealed that we didn't have land enough to meet the required "slant". We started dreaming of an elevator...from this initial thought, we advanced to a three stage lift which would accommodate a wheelchair, occupant and one other person and could be accessed from the parking lot. This would give entry to either the nave, or the undercroft. Estimates for such a mechanism were received.

Unfortunately, the estimates brought gloom and doom from the standpoint that the expense seemed insurmountable...that is until we investigated the grant program of the United Thank Offering!

In 2002, we applied and were granted a financial "lift" in the form of a

grant from the UTO and with the help of a smaller grant from the Challenge Fund of the diocese, and still further help from memorials made in memory of members and loved ones of the parish family, we were able to realize the DREAM!

The lift is installed, very user friendly, and very, very much appreciated! Members who could not attend worship are now able to enjoy both worship services and all of the happenings of the parish that take place in the undercroft/fellowship hall.

Next, we looked at the entryway to the lift...not a pretty sight! Accessible, yes, but dark, dingy and not very welcoming! This is in the process of correction. Before his death, Roy Hadden instigated and supervised the installation of plasterboard on the walls and ceiling of the entryway. Another member donated paint to brighten the walls and ceiling in memory of those passed on that were supportive of the original dream for a handicapped accessible church! Still another member had commercial indoor/outdoor carpet installed in memory of her late husband.

Ladies of the church will soon be working on cushions to be placed on top of benches being completed on either side of the entryway which will enable folks to sit while waiting or removing their boots before entering the lift! This too, is given in memory of those that did not live to see the dream of a lift realized.

Our sincere thanks and gratitude to all who have made our dream come true...Come visit St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Manistique and see first-hand WHAT A DIFFERENCE A LIFT MAKES!