

# Hiawathaland

News for and about the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan



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## Lucky Trip to Myanmar Offers Gifts of Communion

*Rise Thew Forrester*

A country in Asia, a woman from the Upper Peninsula, and thanksgivings of many people. These three came together in January for Marion Luckey of St. John's, Munising when she joined an Episcopal Church group traveling to Myanmar for a cultural immersion experience.

Marion is a member of the United Thank Offering funds national committee's partnership for global mission, and she is their representative for Asia and the South Pacific. Through the UTO committee, she met Kitty Babson, the Episcopal Church's missionary in Myanmar. Babson was offering a cultural immersion trip to visit with the Anglican Church of the Province of Myanmar, through the Virginia Theological Seminary (VTS). The group that went provided a retreat program for clergy and seminarians for the Diocese of Toungoo in Myanmar.

The purpose for those who went was to develop a more informed and accurate knowledge of the complex religious, social, political and economic situations that exist in Myanmar right now; and how these apply to the Anglican Church. The 5 other people that traveled there with Marion included two VTS seminarians, and the Bishop of Utah and her husband, along with Babson.

Myanmar, a country a little smaller than the state of Texas, is also known as Burma (see map inset). It is 87% Buddhist, 5% Christian (mostly Baptist and Roman Catholic), and 4% Muslim.

At the retreat, one of the priests was from the "black" area (where tourists



and travel are not permitted). There are no roads there, and he had to walk for a day and a half to get to the retreat. The bishop will slip in to these areas every couple of years for confirmations, since the government will not allow him to travel there openly.

Bringing her experience of mutual ministry in our diocese to the Church in Myanmar, Marion commented that it was clerically oriented, "because clergy are educated and have resources that they can share with others. They share a lot of the service, but not the liturgy. When I talked with them about involving the whole congregations, some were excited, and some were turned off by it."

When asked what the people of the Anglican Church in Myanmar have to teach us, Marion said "perseverance, and a Christian discipline, that we would do well to emulate. They have a discipline of study and prayer and service. Electricity is very scarce in Toungoo, where we stayed. The generator went on at 6pm and off at first light. A fire was lit under a water tank for showers. Simple living leaves more room for study, prayer, interaction with others that I think is on the wane here. Family, and church family are very, very important.

When she went to visit a school, St. Peter's, she was shown a gracious hospitality that belied the poverty around them. "I was impressed at how basic the living conditions were, and how really joyful the students were, and how dedicated. Not materialistic at all. I found it very refreshing," she said.

Marion would welcome invitations from congregations or groups who would like to hear more about her trip.

Visit the diocesan website at

[www.dionomi.org](http://www.dionomi.org)

### DEADLINES

September Issue  
Tuesday, July 27

October Issue  
Tuesday, Sept. 7

*Next Month  
in the CIH...*

+Youth Camp photos

+Fall upcoming events



Tutoring class for high school students at the diocesan office building, Yangoon, Myanmar



## ECW Fall Retreat Planned

Shirley Mande

The annual fall silent retreat for women, sponsored by Northern Michigan's ECW will be held on Friday, September 24 and Saturday, September 25 at the Page Conference Center at Little Lake.

The retreat begins with dinner at 6:00 PM EST Friday and ends at 4:00 PM EST Saturday. The retreat leader is the Rev. Ginnie Peacock, who has conducted the retreat from its inception at Little Lake. The cost is \$20 and includes simple meals on Friday evening and breakfast and lunch on Saturday plus the overnight accommodations. There is the added incentive of being able to spend a night before or after the retreat at Little Lake for the nominal cost of \$6:00 per night..

Please bring personal hygiene items plus sleeping bags or sheets, pillows, towels and washcloths. Mail the following registration form to Judy Britton at 365 Kirkpatrick Lane, Gwinn, MI 49841 or call her at 906-346-6852. She can also be reached through the internet at [rbritton@nmu.edu](mailto:rbritton@nmu.edu). Plan to arrive by Friday 5:00 PM EST and extend the initiation to your friends. Female guests of all denominations are welcome!!! Enjoy this time of prayer, reflection and meditation with us as well as the opportunity for spiritual growth and enjoyment of the tranquility of the lake.

Deadline for registration is the 15th of September 2004.

### REGISTRATION FORM: WOMEN'S FALLSILENT RETREAT

ECW Silent Retreat @ Page Conference Center, Little Lake, MI  
September 24-25, 2004 (Friday & Saturday)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to ECW of Northern Michigan

## CAMP NEW DAY UP

### Set for August

This is the third summer for Camp New Day UP, the summer camp program for children and younger siblings of prison inmates which our Diocese helped initiate and we now share with Methodists, Presbyterians, Lutherans, Roman Catholics, and others. Mark Engle of St. Paul's, Marquette, chairs the planning group, Mat Metor of St. Steven's, Escanaba, is the Camp Director, and staff members come from our congregations throughout the diocese (as well as other denominations). One of the three weeks of camp will be held in August at our own Page Center in Little Lake.

This year, the number of campers registered is more than double the number of previous years (over 40 signed up so far). Word of mouth between family members is that this is a great experience for their kids. The increased numbers also means that the expense to run this ministry is increasing as well. Jim Kelsey, Bishop of Northern Michigan says, "It's exciting to see this ministry growing! So, I'm asking you to consider how we, as a diocese, can muster some extra support this year."

The best way to help is to sponsor a camper (\$250 for each) through our Adopt-A-Camper Program - see [www.dionomi.org/Ministries](http://www.dionomi.org/Ministries) for more information. Could your congregation, or your youth group, or ECW, or any other group help out? Of course, any amount will be gratefully received!

Donations can be sent to the Diocesan Office, 131 E Ridge St in Marquette 49855 - checks made out to Camp New Day UP.



## This book of prayers inspires, informs

Rise Thew Forrester

A book of historical and contemporary prayers is not the normal addition to a "summer reading list," but then this is not your normal book of prayers. *Give Us Grace: An Anthology of Anglican Prayers* by Christopher L. Webber (Morehouse Publishing, 2004) is a fascinating look at the breadth of concern, language, history and faith of the Anglican Church.

Beginning with Thomas Cranmer, the architect of the first Book of Common Prayer, and moving through the centuries and continents of the Anglican world, Webber has brought together in one place a touching picture of a faithful people at prayer. From the beginnings in the Reformation, through the bloody wars of religion that followed, into contemporary Anglicans around the world, he includes a brief biography of each prayer's author. The descriptions of their lives and faith are often as interesting as their prayer, and sometimes moving. The prayers collected in *Give Us Grace* are arranged chronologically by author and indexed topically, and a section at the end gathers contemporary prayers from countries around the Anglican Communion.

...Continued on Page D

## Crystal Falls awarded Grant

The United Thank Offering national committee has approved \$15,000 of a grant request from St. Mark's in Crystal Falls, to help install a vertical lift. This will make their worship and fellowship areas accessible by all.

"I can just hear the coins falling into the little blue boxes," said Maria Maniaci, diocesan UTO representative. UTO grants are fund from the donations of Episcopalians across the country who drop coins into a little blue cardboard box in thanksgiving for each and every one of God's blessings.

## Diocesan priest deposed in June

Rise Thew Forrester

Steven E. Ford was deposed for offenses specified in Title IV, Canon 1, Section (a) of the Constitution and Canons of the Episcopal Church, on June 14, 2004. Ford, a member of the Ministry Support Team at All Saint's Church, Newberry, pleaded no contest to one count of aggravated assault last September. He served 60 days in county jail, followed now by two years of probation.

Care and consultation for the congregation of All Saints and the Ford family are being offered by Diocesan staff and the Response Team of the Diocese."

### 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.*

#### Diocesan Offices

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

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# ECW Province V Meeting Wrap-up Mackinac Event A Great Success

Shirley Mande

Our Lights Showed on Mackinac Island: Province V Episcopal Church Women gathered at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island for their annual meeting on May 14-16. All dioceses in Province V were in Attendance - 189 in number with 58 from Northern Michigan Diocese. Our own Bishop, James Kelsey presented his PowerPoint presentation at the opening dinner Friday night which highlighted the history of our diocese and the UP as well as clearly identifying the goals of mutual ministry.

The wondrous quilt and the logo of the convention's booklet was designed by Coralie Hambleton from St. Paul's, Marquette.

Joyce Menard was unanimously re-elected by acclamation as President of Province V. Our Northern Michigan Diocesan President, Linda Vollwerth, demonstrated her warm leadership skills in the organizing of the meeting, greeting of guests, and delegation of responsibilities. Maria Maniaci and Elizabeth Jacobson jointly prepared the convention booklet that received rave reviews. Sue Karnack and Marion Luckey efficiently managed the budgetary and registration issues while Carolyn Orchard, Teena Maki, Judy Britton and Virginia Peacock developed and helped to lead the worship services. Alice Lewis assumed responsibility for obtaining the speakers and coordinating the workshops- not an easy task. Jan Buchman was the picture of hospitality in her geranium bedecked hat in her role as hospitality coordinator. She received great help from her husband Ed, and also Rick

Hambleton and Thelma Clarage. Judy Anderson was a willing worker at many tasks and her caring heart enabled the presence of Leila Johns, our diocesan "honored woman." Barbara Kell left her hospitality role to respond to an emergency for a woman attending the convention and drove her to Manistique-true yoooper hospitality.

Teena Maki assumed many roles at his gathering and is also Province V's representative at the National Level for CPC's Miles of Pennies which makes grants to preschool and literacy programs. Pat Tourangeau, UTO Representative for Province V at the National level reported that \$250,000 was granted this year.

Catherine Maples Waynick, Bishop of the Diocese of Indianapolis, was the key note speaker with the theme of stewardship. Joy Tway, National President of the UTO committee, Janet Nicholas, CPC Board, and Betty Patterson, ECW Board were also in attendance.

Eleven workshops were conducted and included topics such as leadership, laughter and spirituality, Walking the Labyrinth, creativity, the enneagram, and music.

Participants at the convention had the opportunity to weave a section of the 8 foot altar cloth, designed by Laura Buckley.

Mark your calendars now and plan to attend the convention in Milwaukee on March 11-13, 2005 at the Milwaukee Marriott West. Meanwhile, Let Your Light Shine everyday.

# Bridging the Gap: Finding a Place in East and West

Kevin Thew Forrester

About six years ago, while living in Eastern Oregon, I realized the need to do some of my own soul-work. Perhaps having a child on the way had something to do with it. Perhaps turning 40 played a role. Perhaps having spent the last 20 years of my life struggling to change the church and recover baptismal ministry had left me a tad exhausted. The reasons are many, and they all led me to pay attention to my own heart and soul. Where was the Spirit? Where was life? Why did I tend to repeat the same mistakes in life and create the same hurts in those I loved?

My soul-work entered a new stage on Pentecost, at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, when I, as a Christian, received Buddhist "lay ordination" and a new name, to go along with my Christian name: Genpo (Japanese, for "way of universal wisdom"). I now walk the path of Christianity and Zen Buddhism. What on earth would possess me to do something like this?

I've come to see that most of the pain and suffering we experience in life stem from our tendency, out of fear of some sort, to create walls and barriers between ourselves and others. We cling to these walls - I know I do. Walls of self-importance, of success, of perfection. And in so doing we hurt ourselves and the ones we love.

We also live in a world where not only religions, but denominations within religions, exclaim and proclaim that their way to God is the only path to salvation. The God of Abraham and Sara, of Jesus, of Mohammed, is even invoked to kill others. Fear, again, is the reason.

I have often wrestled with the Jesus of John's gospel, who reveals to his friends, that he is "the way, the truth, and the life." I've wondered about this passage as I've held in awe the words of Paul, that we - each and every creature of creation - live, move, and have our being in God. How do we say yes, if we can, to both of these claims on our hearts? Can they both be true?

My soul-work has led me to see that the way of Jesus is the way of truth and life. Anointed by the Spirit, Jesus reveals to humanity that the way of God is the path of boundless compassion and of utter regard for all God's creatures. I remember my astonishment upon first understanding that Jesus realized he was beloved by God at his baptism, *and he had not even done anything yet*. He had not achieved, changed, perfected, anything. He was loved by God simply because he was God's child. We are beloved of God as we are, and nothing can ever change this. This is the simple truth so hard for each of us to know in our heart of hearts - at least it has been for me. Our hearts ache to know this love for ourselves. Awareness of belovedness, is, as I see it, the very life blood of the way of Jesus. For me it is sacred salve to the soul - salvific. It is the way of salvation - offering us healing from the fears, anxieties, and greeds of our own blinding egos.

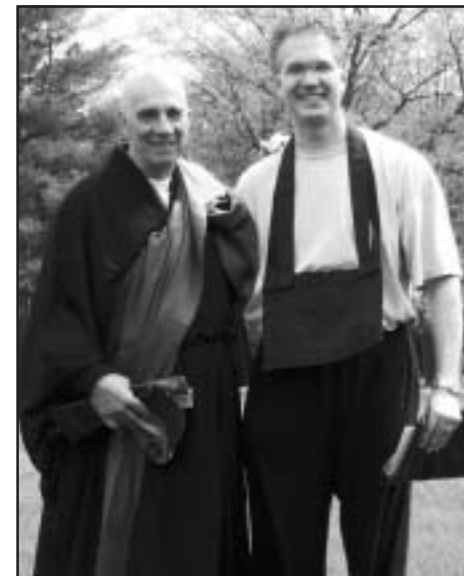
I see now a Jesus who does not raise the bar to salvation, but lowers it so far that it disappears. Our own children, Miriam and Liam, have been welcomed to communion since birth not because of anything they know, but because of who they are - God's beloved. There is nothing we can do or need do to win God's love. That is precisely the good news. Human beings always want to make conditions. Jesus reveals that for God to love us there are no conditions. We are *of* God and belong *to* God because God has made us - each and every one of us, who are both beautiful and broken.

And yet, it has not been easy for me to see this belovedness in my own life, or in all of God's creatures - such as those who flew planes into the Twin Towers. I seem to thrive on setting-up conditions for God's love. My fear and ego needs have been blinding all too often. Sin is another word for such blindness. Sin has little, if anything, to do with being bad. It has everything to do, as far as I can tell, with being blind to our own goodness. And when we are blind we hurt ourselves and others - sometimes quite deeply.

Zen Buddhism, for me, is about learning how to see the bedrock truth of our baptism - we are beloved. To say this may sound odd, at first. But 2,500 years ago, an Indian prince became known as the Buddha, or the Enlightened One, because he courageously sat and faced his fears, and after years of facing them, saw this basic truth about life: we are one, utterly one, yet we do not know it. We suffer because we fearfully cling to this or that thing (for me, trying to be perfect) in the hope that it will bring us happiness.

After his awakening, or enlightenment, it is said that the Buddha encountered some of his earlier friends. They noticed the change in him and asked if he were a god? He said no, I am simply a human being who is finally awake. The way of the Buddha is essentially about waking up to who we are, and what creation is - utterly one and sacred.

There are many streams of Buddhism, but the essence of Zen Buddhism is  
...Continued on Page D



Kevin Thew Forrester, right, and Shoken Winecoff, Abbot of Ryumonji Zen monastery in Iowa.

## Meetings and Events

All Times Eastern

### JULY

21	Trust Association	10:30am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
22	Youth Ministry Planning	10:00am	St Stephen's, Escanaba
24	Diocesan Council	10:00am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
31	Commission on Ministry	10:00am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette

### AUGUST

8-14	Camp New Day U.P.		Presbytery Point & Camp Michigamme
15-21	Camp New Day U.P.		Page Center, Little Lake

### SEPTEMBER

8	MinisDevelopStrategyTeam	11:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
10-11	Diaconal Ministry Conf		St Stephen's, Escanaba
14-16	Rectors/Missioners Conf		Page Center, Little Lake
17-18	LifeCycles		Diocesan Offices, Marquette
23-28	House of Bishops		
25	South Central Region	10:00am	St Stephen's, Escanaba
25	Presider Workshop	1:00pm	St Stephen's, Escanaba

### OCTOBER

2	Diocesan Council	10:00am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
9	Commission on Ministry	10:00am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
12	MinisDevelopStrategyTeam	11:00 am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
15-17	Diocesan Convention		Western Region - Houghton
19	Trust Association	10:30am	Diocesan Offices, Marquette
22-24	Visitors Weekend		

To have meetings included, call 1-800-236-0087

## Padilla Earns D.Min. Degree

Seabury Western has granted the degree of Doctor of Ministry to Manuel Padilla, Missioner for the Western Region of our diocese. The title of the Padilla's thesis is *The Power to Fall: Liberating the Church for Ministry*. He says, "Basically I attempt to answer five questions that I often hear visitors to the diocese ask: What is Mutual Ministry, How did we get here, What process do we use, What is the role of the Missioner, and What are the next steps?"

He notes that the thesis hasn't even been bound yet and it's already out of date--because the discovery process has been updated and improved, the older version of which he describes in some detail. "That's one of the reasons we've been so reluctant to put anything to paper. The process keeps evolving and improving. But we have a snapshot of where we were 'once upon a time.'"

## ECW Province V Thanks, A Letter from the President

Province V  
Province of the Midwest

Dear church family in the Diocese of Northern Michigan,

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the time and effort you put into the whole experience had at the Episcopal Church Women's Province V Annual Meeting, May 14-16 at the Grand Hotel. The prayers from throughout the diocese insured our 'success'. The donated gifts which were wrapped so lovely and distributed by the Hospitality Committee was a great outpouring of love. The boutonnieres, corsages, and flowered hats brought a festive cheerful welcome and provided a clear identification means for those in need of assistance throughout our meeting. The varieties of spiritual gifts shared by the workshop leaders were clear at every turn! The variety of liturgies and music drenched the weekend in wonderful worship. The gracious setting of hospitality was so fantastic.

There were many amazing firsts accomplished at this meeting. This was the first time: the meeting length was shorter. the Keynote Speaker was a bishop, who is a woman, the host diocesan bishop did a presentation on that diocese as the after dinner speaker, the National United Thank Offering (UTO) Committee Chair attended a Province V meeting or visited our Diocese.

This year was the largest attendance of young women (<49 years of age) and first time attenders at this meeting. At last year's Province V ECW Meeting, only 77 attended our meeting in Chicago. This year 53 attended from Northern Michigan alone, and some 180 were registered. During the past 12 years, the average attendance is 100 ±5. Undoubtedly, these numbers were due to the location. But the fact remains, that they came and heard the success stories of the Episcopal Church Women and the Diocese of Northern Michigan was FANTASTIC!

I can not thank you enough for all the many contributions made, prayers and all manner of gifts given.

With love, prayers & gratitude,

Joyce A. Fletcher Menard

## A "Zen Christian"

*Continued from Page C...*

learning to sit quietly, resting in our sacred breath, facing our fears, and coming to see for ourselves that we are one with all creation. Zen offers a method, you might say, to see what Jesus saw in his own baptism: that we are indeed beloved by God. There is no need to cling to anything in the desperate hope that it is what will make us acceptable before God. All of creation is always already accepted by God as it is.

There are rich and diverse histories within Buddhism and Christianity. The truth I am awakening to through my own Zen practice is that all we can do as children of God is learn to honor each other as precious and holy, and as fragile as dew on a blade of spring grass. For me, this is nothing other than the way of Jesus

the Christ. As a Christian, I see this as learning to rest in the reign of God which is always already among us.

If you are interested in reading more about Zen and Christianity, here are a few fine books. Marcus Borg has a fairly new book entitled, *Jesus and Buddha: The Parallel Sayings*. The Vietnamese Buddhist monk (who was friend of the late Roman Catholic monk, Thomas Merton), has written the beautiful work, *Living Buddha, Living Christ*. There is also a Jesuit priest, Robert E. Kennedy, Chair of the Theology Department at St. Peter's College, who has written *Zen Spirit, Christian Spirit: The Place of Zen in Christian Life* and *Zen Gifts to Christians*. Kennedy is also a Zen Roshi, or Zen teacher.



Kids from Trinity Church, Gladstone celebrate as they finish putting together their volcano for their summer Sunday program, "Lava Lava Island."

## South Central Region to Host Workshops

Please mark your calendars as the South Central Region hosts two workshops in the fall. The first workshop will be on priestly ministries focusing on the presider (body language, role of presider in relation to other participants, etc) and it will take place on Saturday, September 25th, beginning at 1:00pm(eastern) and ending by 3:00pm. Lunch will be served at Noon. This gathering is open to those interested in priestly ministries in the diocese. Worship coordinators and those who preside as priests are encouraged to attend this workshop.

The next workshop will be on preaching and it will take place on Saturday, November 20th at 1:00pm(eastern) and ending by 3:00pm. Lunch will be provided at Noon. Once again this workshop is open to those interested in preaching.

## Give Us Grace

*Continued from Page B...*

I enjoyed skimming through this volume; it reminded me of parts of Anglican history that I had forgotten, and taught me new stories of faith in adversity as well as peace. I am astonished, as always, at the strength of the human spirit caught up in God's Spirit, as witnessed by many of the prayers in this book. There are prayers for peace in times of violence, prayers for a faithful death from those killed for their beliefs, prayers for courage and discernment, prayers for unity, justice, mission, Dragon Boat Festivals, families of farmers, and the remembrance of the Gunpowder Plot.

*Give us Grace* can be ordered through your local bookseller, or from Morehouse Publishing, 800-877-0012, or online at [www.morehousegroup.com](http://www.morehousegroup.com).

## Around the Diocese...

**Grace Church, Ishpeming** is spearheading an interfaith service in conjunction with Ishpeming's summer sesquicentennial (150 years) celebrations. Involved in the planning are representatives from the Roman Catholic, Jewish, ELCA Lutheran, and Episcopal communities. The interfaith service was held in Bancroft Park in Ishpeming on Sunday, June 20th. The service highlighted the role of religious communities in the history of Ishpeming, including prayers in various languages. A community ice cream social followed.

## UPChat Moves to new Server

UP Chat, the diocesan email list from news and information has been changed to a new server, through the national church. The change came in an attempt to avoid some difficulties that had been experienced with Ecunet, the previous service. If you are interested in getting signed up for the new, easier UPChat, email Jane Cisluycis, Diocesan Operations Coordinator at [janeclisluycis@dionomi.org](mailto:janeclisluycis@dionomi.org).

## Transitions

### Confirmations

Seth Dompierre  
Shaun Pynnonen  
*St. John's, Negaunee*

### Deaths

Roy Hadden  
*St. Alban's Church, Manistique*

William "Bish" Collins  
*Grace, Ishpeming*