

Hiawathaland

News for and about the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan



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Visit the diocesan
website at
www.dionomi.org

DEADLINES

April 2004
Tuesday, March 9

May Issue
Tuesday, April 6

Inside Episcopal Life:
New national
website for
the church is
unveiled

Conference on Nonviolence

Turning the Cheek, and Walking the Second Mile

Rise Thew Forrester

People came from around the diocese to spend the better part of three days exploring what it means to be a people of nonviolence, standing with Jesus in his ministry against the "powers and principalities" of the world. They came, perhaps expecting to learn something new from a noted biblical scholar and author; they found themselves howling with laughter, led by their spirits in dance, and yes, learning some new things about Jesus and parts of scripture that have puzzled many.

June Keener Wink offered participants opportunities to integrate learning with their mind, body and spirit. They danced, walked, and bumped together in quiet reflection and joyful movement.



This year's winter conference "Becoming a People of Nonviolence" took place February 6-9 at Marygrove Retreat Center in Garden and drew almost 50 people to hear Walter Wink and June Keener Wink lead with scholarship, creativity and humor.

Leading off the first evening, Wink, author of numerous books on the New Testament, including *The Powers that Be* (Doubleday), and *The Human Being* (Fortress Press) laid out his thesis that "violence is the spirituality of our time. We are addicted to it. When all

In a role play not soon forgotten, Vince Reed, Walter Wink, and Sue Ray enact Jesus' saying about giving not only the outer garment, but the inner, too—leaving the debtor naked. "Jesus' hearers would have gotten the joke," Wink told the group, "and they would have howled with laughter just like you did." Vince can attest to that, not only did he hand over his shoes, here, but pants and two shirts as well!



else fails, we turn to violence, and more and more, we make it not just the last resort, but the first resort as well." Calling this the "myth of redemptive violence," he laid out how Jesus, in his life and ministry, consistently criticized not only the myth of redemptive violence, but also the domination system of inequality that it propped up.

On Saturday afternoon, having discussed how Jesus responded to inequalities around him with regard to children, social classes, family, economics and women, he proceeded to make some of the more difficult sayings of Jesus quite concrete, and clear. He

asked what comes to mind when they hear Jesus say: if someone strikes you on the right cheek, offer them the left; if you are compelled to carry a load one mile, carry it two; if you must give your outer garment in payment, offer the inner garment as well. The answers suggested

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Everyone Belongs: Celebrating Our Common Life in Christ

Rise Thew Forrester

When is a children's ministry conference *not* just a children's ministry conference? When it is about answering this question: "how does a community design and develop its common life so that everyone is served - everyone has the potential to discern and exercise gifts of ministry, everyone is invited to find his/her place in the community..." Golly, that sounds as though it was written about mutual ministry in the life of the Diocese of Northern Michigan!

The Diocesan Children's Ministry Commission, in partnership with St. Paul's, Marquette, are offering a conference to all our diocese, inviting us to explore what it means to include children and youth fully, not marginally, in the ministry and mission and worship of our communities. The conference will be held March 19 and 20, at St. Paul's,

Marquette, and is intended not only for those who minister with children and youth, but also those who plan and lead worship, vestries, ministry support teams and covenant groups and all else who are intrigued by a creative approach to planning in our common lives. People are welcome to come to both Friday and Saturday, or just one part. Childcare is available, and children and youth are welcome to join in the program with the adults. A simple supper will be provided on Friday evening, and lunch on Saturday. Brochures for registration will be coming soon.

"This is not so much a focus on children and youth as a commitment to the design of our common life so that young people, like adult people, can find where they fit and are supported in the exercise of their gifts of leadership in



Logo for the organization Children at Worship, offering a workshop in congregational planning for all ages, March 19 and 20, in Marquette.

Continued on Page B...

What's a Core Team? SOMETHING NEW IN OUR DIOCESE

James A. Kelsey

We are all connected. One to another. And well beyond our borders. Across bounds and boundaries. And what matters most in life is the web of our relationships - with one another, with those beyond our immediate familiar circle, and with our Creator God - the Spirit of Life which blows throughout creation.

Within our diocese, we are especially well connected. For all of the challenges and vulnerabilities which result from our being small, there are also strengths and advantages. Chief amongst them is how easy it is for us to be in relationship with one another. Now we have decided to build upon this strength by forming what we are (for now at least) calling the Core Team.

The Core Team is made up of Charlie Piper, Manuel Padilla, Rayford Ray, Kevin Thew Forrester, Anita Wingert, and me. Charlie is the priest in our diocese with the longest tenure, and the rest of us are those who are full-time on the diocesan payroll, and thus in a position to make this sort of gathering a number one priority in our otherwise busy schedules. When we gather, this group of six brings to the table our own relationships with all four regions and many if not most of the key diocesan and regional planning and oversight groups. We come together to strengthen communications and to discern and to develop consensus about any number of matters of common interest and concern throughout the diocese. We meet for full day meetings about once every three weeks. We seek to be a hub within the network of so many connections throughout our diocesan family. This is not to be a centralized power group, but a conduit for strengthening the shared life and mission of us all.

Most of the congregations, groups, and committees of the diocese have regular contact with one or more of the six members of this Core Team. Those who do not may be encouraged over the coming weeks to invite one or more of us to be a liaison. We think that might help us all stay connected.

Why are we trying this as something new in our diocese? In fact, it came out of a desire shared by many of us to take a radical step towards the vision we have embraced in many of our congregations: that of shared, non-hierarchical leadership. It comes out of a recognition that we no longer wish to live in the era of empire, or nation state, or oligarchy, and leadership styles which embrace centralized governance and top-down/control-based management are simply anachronistic. Today and tomorrow we are called to discover new ways of living in community which reflect the radical egalitarian nature of Christian community to which we all aspire. Thus, moving from a single-leader-in-charge to a shared and collaborative approach seems only fitting.

Last November, when Diocesan Council set its goals for 2004, one of the goals was this:

“We will have discovered and are demonstrating new expressions of shared leadership. Our desired result for 2004 is to have a new model for a shared episcopate.”

We think the Core Team strategy will help us move towards that goal in a concrete way. What do you think? We'd certainly welcome your comments and ideas. Speak to any of us in the Core Team or to a member of Diocesan Council.

Transitions

Deaths

Ty Bernson
Trinity, Gladstone

Doris Wood
St. Alban's, Manistique

Cyrus Stimson
St. Alban's, Manistique

Clayton Ford
All Saints, Newberry

Valuing All the Voices, A Common Life in Christ

Continued from front page...

whatever area they discover them. Could be worship, could be pastoral care, could be stewardship, could be liturgical art and music, could be performing arts etc.”

These are the words of Caroline Fairless of “Children at Worship, Congregations in Bloom.” She and her husband Jim Sims are the directors of this national organization which provides resources for congregations committed to the design of worship which includes the participation of their young people.

Friday evening, March 19, they will introduce a new template for collaborative design. The image they will use is an artistic rendition of The Mustard Seed, which allows a community to identify the heartbeat of any function (worship, education, pastoral care etc) and then to develop the program in accordance with that heartbeat.

Saturday, March 20, will focus on the application of the Mustard Seed Template in the collaborative design of worship, in very practical ways – story telling, prayer, music, art, body movement, and others.

Fairless is the author of *Children at Worship ~ Congregations in Bloom, Hambone and Confessions of a Fake Priest* (Church Publishing). Sims has produced two CD's, *Lovestar* and *Metanoia*, and is soon to release a third. Together they have produced *New Voices/*

Ancient Words: Dramatic Adaptations of Scripture (Church Publishing); *The Bloom Box, A Playful Approach to Congregational Change* (LeaderResources, also the publisher of our own *LifeCycles*), and a subscription website, www.childrenatworship.org.

From the website, they describe their organization in this way: “... we teach the precepts and strategies of full inclusion in our worship communities... We are those who know the grievous price of a single voice lost. We are those who know the value of the voices and perspectives of our children and youth. We are those whose hearts beat with the urgent need to transform our traditional and often exclusive forms of worship into structures which engage whole communities. We are committed to the enfranchisement and empowerment and full participation of everyone, particularly the children and those who have remained at the edges of our churches, or even further outside.

“With a focus on the full inclusion of children and youth in our worship communities, Children At Worship ~ Congregations in Bloom individuals asks the questions: Who is among us? Who is missing? What does exclusion cost us? And how do we create vital communities of full participation?”

The Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan

The mission of the Diocese of Northern Michigan is to share in the Church's mission to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. The baptismal covenant is our guide and inspiration.

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THE CHURCH IN HIAWATHALAND

Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan

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Deadline: the fifth of the preceding month

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HMMM...

**WARM, SUNNY WEATHER SWIMMING,
WORSHIP, CRAFTS,
FRIENDSHIP, PRAYER,
SONGS, CAMPFIRES, CABINS,**

**IT MUST BE
YOUTH CAMP AT PAGE**



DATES:

**SENIOR CAMP: 8TH-12TH GRADES JUNE 20 - 25
JUNIOR CAMP: 5TH-7TH GRADES JUNE 26 - JULY 2**

**THINK ABOUT VOLUNTEERING
OR WORKING ON STAFF**

Camp planners are seeking to fill the following positions (paid positions are marked with an asterisk *)

___ *Cabin Counselor (Provides supervision and guidance for up to six campers assigned to a cabin. Must have graduated from high school in 2003 or before, and be 18 years old, preferably with experience as a camper)

___ Junior Counselor (Provides support to Cabin Counselors, and Campers. This is for the two younger camps; must be 16 years or older)

___ *Health Director (Provides primary medical or nursing care during camps. Must be currently certified in CPR and one of the following: licensed physician, registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, licensed emergency medical technician)

___ *Water Safety/Lifeguard (Responsible for Camper safety in an around water, must have appropriate certification)

___ Camp Grandma or Grandpa (Just come and be with the campers and staff, and bring an enjoyment of life, kids and God.)

Call Jane Cislucyic or Rise Thew Forrester at
1-800-236-0087 or email rise@chartermi.net

Wish List for Summer Camps

You can help provide equipment for the youth camps this summer by donating any of the items listed. This list was generated by staff and campers last summer. Donations are tax deductible and very much appreciated! Contact Ginny Peacock, Page Center Manager at 906-475-0009 or Rise Thew Forrester, Camp Director, rise@chartermi.net.

- Coffee pot for lodge
- Lamps for cabins
- Recreation equip: baseball gloves, balls, bats, bases
- Koosh and nerf balls, soccer balls
- Large parachute
- Swim toys: noodles, beach balls, etc.

- Bar stools for the canteen area in rec hall
- Doors on bathroom stalls
- New mop buckets
- New vacuum cleaner, dustbuster
- Furniture in the lodge

- Really Large White board for recreation hall
- Somewhat Smaller white board for lodge
- Menu board for kitchen
- Cork display strips for recreation hall above windows
- Ceiling or stand fans for cabins, and lodge

Meetings and Events

All times Eastern

| March | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|
| 6 | Commission on Ministry | 10:00 am | Diocesan Offices, Marquette |
| 13 | South Central Region | 10:00 am | St Stephen's, Escanaba |
| 11 | Judicatory Leaders | 12:30 pm | ELCA Offices, Marquette |
| 19 | MinisDevelopStrategyTeam | 5:00 pm | Diocesan Offices, Marquette |
| 19-20 | Children's Ministry Conference | | St. Paul's, Marquette |
| 19-24 | House of Bishops | | Camp Allen, Texas |
| April | | | |
| 3 | Diocesan Council | 10:00 am | Diocesan Offices, Marquette |
| 11 | Easter Day: He is Risen!! | | |
| 14 | MinisDevelopStrategyTeam | 11:00 am | Diocesan Offices, Marquette |
| 24 | Commission on Ministry | 10:00 am | Diocesan Offices, Marquette |
| 30 | Trust Association | 10:30 am | Diocesan Offices, Marquette |
| May | | | |
| 1 | LifeCycles | 9:00 am | Diocesan Offices, Marquette |
| 3-4 | Provincial Synod | | Detroit, Michigan |
| 5 | Provincial Ministry Conf | | |
| 7 | South Central Region | 10:00 am | St Stephen's, Escanaba |
| 8 | Diocesan Council | 10:00 am | Diocesan Offices, Marquette |
| 14-16 | Prov V ECW | | Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island |
| 18-19 | Michigan Dioceses | | St Augustine, Conway |
| 20 | MinisDevelopStrategyTeam | 11:00 am | Diocesan Offices, Marquette |
| June | | | |
| 12 | Commission on Ministry | 10:00 am | Diocesan Offices, Marquette |
| 19 | Diocesan Council | 10:00 am | Diocesan Offices, Marquette |
| 20-25 | Senior Camp | | Page Center, Little Lake |
| 27-Jul2 | Junior Camp | | Page Center, Little Lake |

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



Another role play to remember: Walter Wink and Tom Ray enact "going the second mile"--Centurion Tom laughs as Walter, a Jewish peasant and follower of Jesus, insists on carrying a pack not just one mile, as he was asked, but two, which was against military code, and puts Centurion Tom in hot water with his superior officer.

Conference on Nonviolence Lends Lighter Note to Serious Subject

Continued from front page...

all the ways that these saying have been used to tell people to remain passive, to encourage evil, to remain in harm's way. Wink suggested that a close study and actual acting out of these sayings reveals them for what they are: a kind of non-violent turning of the tables. What begins as a power play from the one party gets turned into a ridiculous power shift (see photo captions)

Throughout the weekend, June offered a grounding for the more academic work of Walter, inviting participants gently to explore the

experience of the Hebrew word *nephesh*, which means "all of me, my whole self, body, mind and spirit." Moving around the room with flowing or jerky movements, slow or fast, people took into their bodies what they had been learning with their minds.

Sunday morning before the community eucharist, Walter offered a study of homosexuality and the bible, exploring the context and meaning of what the scriptures do and do not say about this issue that is at the heart of much pain and controversy today.

Around the Diocese...

St. Paul's, Marquette is planning their third annual Seder Dinner for the evening of Maundy Thursday. Hugh Kahler writes, "The Bible tells us that on the evening before Jesus was tried before the Romans, he was at supper with his followers...This passover Seder comes as close to what we think Jesus would have experienced as we can make it, (and is celebrated by Jews all over the world at Passover each year.) There is one change; the script, called the *Haggadah*, is in English, not Aramaic. Everyone is invited to attend. Pray, love, and enjoy."

What's New on the Web: Each week, Barbara Susan, our webservant, will be listing a "congregation of the week" on our diocesan website, at www.dionomi.org. They will be listed alphabetically, beginning with Calumet at the end of Friday. A nice change for your congregation to send us something for your webpage: a picture, news item, event.

Out of the controversy across the church around homosexuality, the Diocese of Bethlehem (PA) has produced a video entitled "Reading the Bible Today" featuring their bishop, Paul Marshall. After reading his mail during late summer on the two highly-publicized issues from General Convention, he decided to develop a presentation to take on the road. His mail was about 50-50, but many people who wrote negatively about the issues asked how the Bible plays into decisions like this. "We live in a world where we take democracy for granted," he said, "where we take biology after Darwin for granted, where we take a universe after Einstein for granted and where we assume things that only the world after Freud can assume. I wanted to demonstrate how all of that plays into how we receive the Bible today, how one Christian who tries to follow Jesus in a thoughtful way receives and uses the Bible." The diocesan office has a copy of this video if you are interested in using it with your congregation.

As we reported in the December issue, Marion Luckey of St. John's, Munising traveled to Myanmar/Burma in January 2004, learning about the church there and sharing in their ministry. She has returned and is available to come and talk about her experiences to your congregation or group. You can contact her at 906-387-4637 or mthanks@iwon.com

A service celebrating Christian Unity took place January 18, at Trinity Church, Gladstone. Faith communities being represented were Episcopal, Lutheran, Methodist, Roman Catholic and Evangelical Covenant.

Think Page!

Summer's coming (really!) Page Center will be open May to October (or earlier if the snow's gone).

Weekend and weekday dates are available for your group or congregation.

Contact Ginny Peacock, Manager 906-475-0009 or write Page Center, PO Box 333, Little Lake, MI 49833

Baptismal Conversations Invitation to Communion

Charlie Piper

Some of the discussion at the baptismal conference in January centered on how we welcome people to the Table.

Joshua and Cynthia Ivey Abitz, (Trinity Church, Mackinac Island) longed to participate in the Eucharist before they were baptized and they found a welcome at Trinity to do so. St. Gregory of Nyssa Church (San Francisco) regularly invites everyone to the supper whether they have been baptized or not.

You may recall that it was only in the early 1970's that it became possible for baptized but unconfirmed people to be admitted to communion (remember those days!). As we began to live into that new awareness we gradually realized that even newly baptized infants belonged at the church's family table just as they did at home. After all, children grasp faith at their own level. Children also know when they have been included or excluded! Now, we are going even more deeply into the mystery of "life in Christ." We believe God is at work in us long before we realize it and respond. Our work as the church is to recognize what has already begun rather than see us "adding something that is missing" to those who are drawn into life in Christ.

Just as Jesus ate and drank with those around him, people are drawn to the table by God before they have given their formal assent.

Here are some ways of wording our welcome to the Eucharist (from a query on UPChat):

"We encourage all who seek a greater and stronger Christian life and a sharing of that strength and life to come forward and receive Holy Communion." -- St. Paul's, Marquette

"All who seek God and are drawn to Christ are welcome at God's table." --St. Mark's Crystal Falls

I tend to say "The Gifts of God for the people of God" and then add "All are welcome to be fed at God's table."

--Rise Thew Forrester

"Communion is open to all who are drawn to the person of Christ." --Trinity, Mackinac Island

Province V ECW Offers Day Registrations for Mackinac Island Gathering

"Come and See... Our Light Shines!" is the theme for the Province V Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women, which will be held on Mackinac Island, May 14-16. Cate Waynick, Bishop of Indianapolis will be the keynote speaker. Other leaders attending will be Harriet Neer, President of the National Episcopal Church Women's Board; Joy Tway, Chair of the United Thank Offering Committee; and Margaret Rose, Director of Women's Ministries at the national church offices in New York.

Province V Annual Meeting Registration Form
Diocese of Northern Michigan - host
Grand Hotel, Mackinaw Island
May 14 - 16, 2004

All of the beds that we reserved at the Grand Hotel are full at this time. If you would like to attend the conference, and arrange your own sleeping/eating accommodations, please use this form.

If you would like to be added to the waiting list for a bed at the Grand (in case of cancellations) please check here: _____

Name _____ Diocese _____

Phone() _____ E-mail _____

Saturday Breakfast: Please choose one meeting or select 'none.'

UTO CPC other ()
none

WORKSHOPS: Workshop selections can be found online. Go to www.episcopalchurch.org/province5/info and look for the listing of workshops.

Please give 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice for each time slot

Saturday morning:

Saturday afternoon (1):

Saturday afternoon (2):

MEALS: Dinner \$75 each: Friday Saturday

Lunch \$30 each: Friday Saturday

B'fast \$25 each: Saturday Sunday

There are other hotels and restaurants that serve meals on the island.

If you plan to stay off the Island, please check the Ferry Schedule before signing up for breakfast or dinner.

Dress code: Evening meals: Dresses or pant suits/coat & tie

Other information: Child care/activities available at an additional charge.

Grand Hotel web site: www.grandhotel.com

Golf tee times must be made 2 weeks in advance

CONFERENCE FEE: \$25.00 per person PLUS MEALS = AMOUNT DUE

Due on or before March 15, 2004

No refunds after May 3, 2004

A final mailing including island information will be done in March.

Make checks payable to: ECW-Diocese of Northern Michigan

Mail to: Marion Luckey

1531 Vardon Road

Munising, MI 49862

Questions: mthanks@iwon.com or (906) 387-4637