

Connect



A communication resource for clergy and lay leaders
in the Diocese of Chicago

Epiphany One January 11, 2009

NEWS

NOTEBOOK

Presiding Bishop renews call for ceasefire

(Episcopal News Service) Israel's ten-day military operation in the Palestinian-controlled Gaza Strip was stepped up with a ground assault January 3 amid renewed calls from religious and political leaders for an end to the violence that has claimed more than 500 lives.

"The high number of civilian deaths and injuries, which continue to include noncombatants, women, and children, will only prolong the violence years into the future," said Episcopal Church Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori in a [January 5 statement](#). "The first steps toward peace will only come if all parties unite behind an immediate ceasefire."

[Episcopal Relief and Development](#) has donated an initial emergency grant of \$15,000 to the [Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem](#) in support of the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City. An institution run by the Jerusalem diocese, the hospital is providing critical healthcare services to Christians, Muslims and anyone in need.

New Year's Message from the Archbishop of Canterbury

... So what about a New Year in which we try and ask consistently about our own personal decisions and about public policies, national and international, 'Does this feel like something that looks after our real treasure, something that keeps our real wealth safe - the lives and welfare of the youngest and most vulnerable?' [Read more.](#)

Bishop Lee and Provost to appear on 30 Good Minutes

Bishop Jeffrey Lee and the Cathedral provost the Very Rev. Joy Rogers will be making appearances on *30 Good Minutes*, an award-winning weekly broadcast on WTTW Channel 11 (PBS) and in syndication in other U.S. cities. It features many of America's great religious thinkers, selected from a broad range of denominations and faith traditions. The program explores topics of faith through short meditations, documentaries, interviews and commentaries. Bishop Jeffrey Lee will be the featured speaker on Sunday, February 22 at 5 pm. Provost Joy Rogers will provide commentaries on the January 4 and February 1 programs.

Giving to Sudan

As of December 2008, Instructions for Directing Donations to the Diocese of Renk, Episcopal Church of Sudan:

The US Treasury Dept. has called for renewal of Office of Foreign Assets Control registrations, canceling the OFAC registration of Renk Diocese. The Diocese of Virginia applied for, and was granted, OFAC registration status for the purpose of continuing wire transfer of funds to the Episcopal Church of Sudan and its 24 Dioceses. From now until further notice, the process for transfer of funds to our Companion Diocese, Renk, will go via St. Michael's, Barrington, on to the Treasurer's office of the Diocese of Virginia.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THIS PROCESS:

Make checks payable to St. Michael's Episcopal Church, with the designation in the Memo. Mail to St. Michael's, 647 Dundee Ave., Barrington, IL 60010, Attn: Kim Lessner, Operations Associate. Include a brief explanation of the purpose of the donation. [Complete the process by sending an email to Jackie Kraus, Chair of the Renk Subcommittee, COGM.](#)

CLERGY NEWS

The Rev. Eldred George has accepted the call to serve as rector of Grace Church, Freeport. He will preside at his first Eucharist as Grace's rector on January 18. His last Sunday as priest-in-charge for St. Elizabeth/Santa Teresa, Chicago is January 11. **The Rev. Gary Cox** has been appointed priest-in-charge for Santa Teresa and St. Elizabeth. He formerly served as assistant at Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe, Waukegan.

Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Forest is saying farewell to **the Rev. David Lucie** who has accepted a call to serve as rector for St. Michael's parish in Bristol, Rhode Island. His last Sunday at Church of the Holy Spirit is February 1, and he begins his new ministry February 6.

The Rev. Dr. Elaine Caldbeck, assisting priest at St. James Cathedral, has been appointed to parttime coordinator and pastor for children's faith formation at the cathedral.

Institutions

Bishop Lee will preside at the institution of the **Rev. David Hedges** as rector of St. Peter's, Sycamore on Saturday January 17 at 4 pm.

Bishop Lee will preside at the institution of the **Rev. Jon Chip Graves** as rector of St. Mary's, Crystal Lake on Saturday, January 24 at 3 pm.

Ordinations

Bishop Lee ordained Phil Fackler, Shelley Forrester, Tyrone Fowlkes, Bradley Pace, and Court Williams to the priesthood on **Saturday, December 6** at St. James Cathedral.

Pray for:

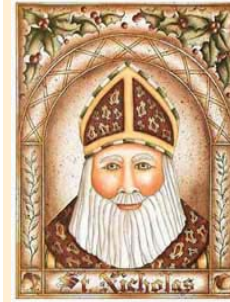
Pray for healing and recovery for:

The Rev. Alselm Amadio, retired priest

Phil Miller of St. James Cathedral and trustee of Episcopal Charities and Community Services.

kraus.jackie@yahoo.com. Thank you for transitioning to this new process and for continued support of Renk Diocese, its parishes and development projects.

DELETE WIRING INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO DECEMBER 2008.



Did you miss seeing the St. Nicholas Exhibit at the Episcopal Church Center? You can learn more about the Bishop of Myra and the Santa Claus legend and customs at St. Nicholas Center.

CALENDAR

Ecumenical Day of Prayer

In observance of the National Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the Ecumenical Millennium Committee will be sponsoring the 9th Annual Chicagoland Ecumenical Prayer Service on **Sunday January 18** at St. Paul Chong Ha Sang Korean Catholic Mission in Des Plaines. Bishop Victor Scantlebury will be the preacher at the 4 pm service. St. Paul's mission is located at 675 Dursey Lane in Des Plaines. More information at the website for the [Week of Prayer for Christian Unity](#).

Trinity Institute conference to examine radical abundance

Trinity Wall Street will present Trinity Institute's 39th National Theological Conference, "Radical Abundance: A Theology of Sustainability" on **January 21-23**. This year's conference will explore the theological basis for re-imagining abundance measured not by consumer satisfaction but by just and sustainable relations with nature and communities.

Through keynote speeches and panel discussions by leading theologians and grassroots activists, this three-day conference will consider radical ideas about abundance, sustainability, and well-being. Interactive

In Memoriam

Leigh Sills, past president of the Episcopal Church Women and coordinator of prison ministry for the ECW, died November 11 of complications from Parkinson's disease at Anderson Hospital in Maryville, Il. A memorial was held December 13 at St. Chrysostom, Chicago.

Bonnie Myers, wife of the Rev. Robert Myers, rector of Church of the Holy Comforter, Kenilworth, died December 18 after a long struggle with cancer. A memorial service was held December 22 at Holy Comforter.

Gary Klever, partner of Deacon William Carlson, died on Christmas Day at age 62. A memorial service was held January 3 at St. Anskar's in Rockford.

The Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

The week of January 11, 2009

Intercessions and thanksgivings are offered for:

Congregations in the Aurora Deanery:

St. Benedict in Bolingbrook; Incarnation in Bloomingdale; Holy Nativity in Clarendon Hills; St. Andrew in Downers Grove;

Companion Dioceses of SE Mexico and Renk:

San Pedro in Veracruz; Glory Church in Renk

Church Briefs

St. James Cathedral has dedicated its new church school space in the cathedral undercroft. The New Year also will feature celebrations of the cathedral's 175th anniversary of its founding as a congregation.

Calvary Church in Lombard has cast a large circle of compassion by raising funds from members and friends to purchase 375 mosquito nets through Episcopal Relief and Development's NetsforLife campaign. Bishop Lee has challenged each congregation and ministry to contribute funds to purchase as many nets as there are members in the Diocese of Chicago (around 40,000). For more information contact **Deacon Liz Meade**, coordinator of the One to One Malaria Net Challenge.

reflection groups throughout will enable you to share your own experiences and solutions with fellow attendees.

Speakers include Majora Carter, a MacArthur Fellow and founder of Sustainable South Bronx ; Timothy Gorringer, St. Luke's professor of theological studies at the University of Exeter ; David Korten, author, *When Corporations Rule the World* ; Nestor Miguez, professor of New Testament studies at Instituto Universitario ISEDT, Buenos Aires ; and Sister Miriam MacGillis founder of Genesis Farm, who will be preacher. For more information visit the Trinity Institute [webpage](#)

Choral Evensong celebrates Richard Hoskin's music ministry

St. Chrysostom, Chicago will celebrate the 25th anniversary of Richard Hoskins appointment as parish music director with a Festival Service of Choral Evensong on **Sunday January 25** at 5:15 pm. A reception will follow the service in the Harding Room. St. Chrysostom's is located at 1424 N. Dearborn Parkway.

The Rev. Jeremiah Wright is speaker for annual Absalom Jones Day Observance

The Rev. Jeremiah Wright, rector emeritus of Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago and noted author and speaker on the black church experience, is the keynote speaker at the annual Absalom Jones Day observance on **Sunday, February 8** at 3 pm at St. Thomas parish, the mother church of black Episcopalians in the Diocese of Chicago. The Chicago chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians is sponsor for the Feb. 8 observance and is tentatively planning a symposium for Saturday, February 7 around Absalom Jones and the challenges and opportunities facing black Episcopalians today.

The observance honors the work of the first African American priest in the Episcopal

Congregational Development Seminar

The Congregations Commission and the Office of Congregational Development are sponsoring a congregational development seminar **Thursday May 14 through Saturday May 16** with noted speakers and authors Keith Brown of the Church Pension Group and The Rev. Canon Dr. Neal O. Michell, canon to the ordinary for the Diocese of Dallas. Michell is the author of *How to Hit the Ground Running: A Quick Start Guide for Congregations with New Leadership*, and *Beyond Business as Usual: Vestry Leadership Development*. Brown, diocesan management consultant for the Church Pension Group, is author of *On the Road Again: Managing Evangelism and Stewardship for the Kingdom*. The sponsors are planning for a \$100 fee for congregations, which may send as many representatives as desired to the seminar. Scholarship assistance will be available. For more information contact Canon Scott Hayashi (312) 751-4210.

Church, Absalom Jones, who was ordained priest in 1804. Jones, with Richard Allen, was among the first leaders of the African American community to lobby for the abolition of slavery. They formed the Free African Society in 1787 after being expelled from St. George's Methodist Church in Philadelphia after refusing to sit in the slave gallery. Later Jones and Allen organized nursing and burial efforts during a two-year yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia, a ministry that won them praise throughout New England. While Allen chose to remain in the Methodist Church—forming the first black church in the United States—Jones chose to join the Episcopal Church, and founded St. Thomas African Episcopal Church in 1794.

St. Thomas parish is located at 3801 S. Wabash. For more information contact Alice Brown at (773) 643-5162 or alice.brown@ameritech.net

RESOURCES

Lectionary Notes

The diocesan liturgical calendars have been delayed. We expect to be mailing complimentary copies, two per congregation, by January 16. Additional copies can be ordered by contacting the Office of Communication (312) 751-4207. To assist with liturgical planning use the following RCL lectionary notes for the Sundays in January. For the full lectionary citations (Revised Common Lectionary and the Episcopal Lectionary) and commemorative days visit [The Lectionary Page](#)

January 11, First Sunday after The Epiphany

Liturgical color: white

Genesis 1: 1-5

Psalms 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1: 4-11

January 18, Second Sunday after The Epiphany

Liturgical color: green

1 Samuel 3: 1-10(11-20)

Psalms 139: 1-5, 12-17

Phyllis Tickle to speak at Seabury-Western in February

Author and theologian Phyllis Tickle will be sharing her insights on the epoch shifts underway in church and society, something she terms The Great Emergence, at a presentation she is giving **February 20 and 21** at Seabury-Western Theological Seminary in Evanston. In her recently published book, *The Great Emergence*, Tickle brings her encyclopedic knowledge of American religion to bear on current shifts in the Christian landscape with her Southern wit and charm. *We are all affected by this significant reality, whether we are aware of it or not.* Young and old, lay and clergy, church member or not—understanding the trends and realities we experience enables us to live in the present more fully.

For those who have already heard Phyllis Tickle speak, such as diocesan clergy who attended the last clergy conference, she will be doing a presentation from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm on Friday, Feb. 20 in Seabury Lounge at the seminary. The seminary urges anyone who has not yet heard Phyllis Tickle attend the later sessions on Friday and Saturday, since the morning session will be geared to those who have previous Great Emergence exposure.

The cost for the two-day session will be \$50, which is \$20 per day plus \$10 for lunch on

1 Corinthians 6: 12-20
John 1: 43-51

January 25, Third Sunday after The Epiphany

Liturgical color: green

Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

Psalm 62: 6-14

1 Corinthians 7: 29-31

Mark 1: 14-20

Episcopal Life weekly bulletin insert

Episcopal Life Weekly bulletin inserts for January 11 offer information about the issue of human trafficking, which refers to people who are trapped or tricked into involuntary servitude. January 11 of each year is designated by the U.S. Congress as National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. Inserts are available here: http://www.episcopalchurch.org/95270_ENG_HTML.htm

Clergy invited to participate in Church Pension Group Called to Serve study

The Church Pension Group is inviting clergy to participate in an important landmark study of the demographics and career experiences of the church's ordained ministers. The 2006 General Convention called for this research and requested a report from the Pension Group to the 2009 General Convention. Clergy will soon be receiving an email from the CPG outlining this project and inviting their participation in the study, Called to Serve. A link will be included in the email for the online version of the study. A paper survey may be requested by contacting Andrea Van Zile at (800) 223-6602 ext 9474 or emailing her at calledtoserve@cpg.org.

Has your congregation submitted its pledge for supporting diocesan mission? Contact [Keith Kampert](mailto:Keith.Kampert@dioceseofchicago.org) (312) 751-4201.

Parochial reports are due March 1. Forms online at [Episcopal Church Research and Statistics](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/research)

Community Organizing Training

The Diocese of Chicago and the Metro Industrial Area Foundation will be sponsoring a Training for Community Organizing at the Episcopal Church Center **January 12 through 16**. The schedule for Monday, January 12 is 11 am to 5 pm; for Tuesday through Friday the schedule is 9:30 am to 5 pm. For

Saturday. Session one will run from 2:00 to 4:00 pm on Friday, Feb. 20, and then snacks will be provided. Session two is from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. On Saturday, Feb. 21, Session three is from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, followed by lunch. Session four is from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.

Starting with the All of the presentations will be at the Sheil Catholic Center, located just across Garrett Place from Seabury-Western. Lunch will be at Seabury. Some parking is available at Seabury-Western, and the seminary is also easily accessible by using the CTA, with a nearby EL stop on Noyes Street in Evanston.

Seabury-Western Theological Seminary is located at 2122 Sheridan Rd. in Evanston IL. To register contact Ron Fox at ron.fox@seabury.edu or calling 847-328-9300 x17. Further details forthcoming.

TrebleFest at St. James Cathedral

The annual TrebleFest will be held at St. James Episcopal Cathedral, 65 E. Huron, Chicago, on **Saturday, February 21, 2009**. As usual, the format will be a day-long workshop which culminates in a Festival Service at 3:00 p.m. in the Cathedral. A letter has been sent to all congregations inviting participation by young choristers.

The guest clinician will be Stephen Tappe. Stephen is a graduate of the Yale School of Music and the Institute of Sacred Music, and has served as organist-choirmaster of two significant parishes in the Episcopal Church: Church of the Good Shepherd, Jacksonville, Florida, and Trinity Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma. He currently serves as organist and choirmaster of St. John's Cathedral, Denver, Colorado. Throughout his professional career, he has supported and actively participated in the work of the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) in America.

TrebleFest Registration will begin at 9:45 a.m. with the rehearsal beginning at 10:00 a.m. The closing Festival Service will be at 3:00 p.m. **Registration form** is on the diocesan website. A modest fee is charged to offset expenses incurred for the Festival.

Leadership and Ministry Fair

Mark your calendars:
Saturday April 25

members of Metro IAF, Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, and Diocese of Chicago (staff, clergy, lay members) the cost is \$250. For others the cost is \$500. Registration is open to the public after December 1. Registration form attached. For information contact [Jessica Abell](mailto:jabell@episcopalchicago.org) (312) 751-6728 or jabell@episcopalchicago.org

Note: Seabury-Western will be offering course credit and continuing education recognition for seminary students participating in the training. Students will be expected to read *Caught in the Middle* by Richard Longworth prior to attending, and complete a five-page paper at the start of the course and another five-page paper at the end. See the attached course description for more information and the week's schedule.

POSITION OPENINGS

Site Director for New Communities Program

This is a parttime position funded for 12 months through the New Communities Program by the Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC) and is a collaboration with LISC, Malcolm X College and the Logan Square Neighborhood Association. The Site Director will be primarily responsible for the overall supervision of the facility during the adult education classes held on Monday evening and Saturday morning. The Site Director will be able to expand his/her work schedule to include Wednesday evening at some point during 2009 to accommodate expanded programming. The Site Director will assist with on-site registration and testing, organize practice sessions with English and Spanish speakers, maintain attendance records, respond to inquiries from the public, and respond to any emergencies in an appropriate, prompt and discreet manner. The Site Director will interact with and provide support to the adult education teachers assigned by Malcolm X College. The Site Director will function in other duties as assigned. Send resume and cover letter to The Rev. Sandra Castillo 773/235-1161 sca652@yahoo.com

WEBNOTES

Episcopal Charities and Community Services has its own website now at <http://www.eccsonline.net/>

St. Anne's in Morrison has launched its first [website](#).

Reflections on the intersection of life and theology at the Canon for Communication's blog: [Episcopal Tidings](#)

Lutheran School of Theology

1100 E 55th St, Chicago

Over 40 workshops on all aspects of ministry! Registration and workshop information coming in February.

Christian formation conference at Kanuga Conference Center, N.C.

The Kanuga Conference Center in North Carolina is the site for a Christian formation conference: Making Disciples-Proclaiming the Word in June. The conference provides a week of lifelong learning for those who lead Christian education programs or simply want to nurture their family's faith. Attend one or both segments: Children's Faith Formation, **June 14-17**, and Adult Faith Formation, **June 16-19**. Keynote speaker is Dr. Fredrica Harris Thompsett, professor of historical theology, Episcopal Divinity School. Leadership certification will be offered for Education for Ministry (EfM), Disciples of Christ in Community (DOCC), Transforming Literature of the Bible, Godly Play and Journey to Adulthood. Participants may register for a half or full week. Parallel programming offered for children and youth. For more information visit www.kanuga.org

Bishop Lee has offered his framework for our work on God's mission:

Grow the Church Form the Faithful Change the World

We will be exploring this charge more throughout 2009.

Using online registration on the diocesan website:

If you would like to arrange online payment on the diocesan website for your event registration fee, you should plan your rates to include a 5 percent charge to cover payment gateway and merchandise account fees. The online payment feature has been used for diocesan events including Whose Church is it anyway?, the MDG summit, and the Beijing Circles presentation. For more information contact David Skidmore at the Office of Communication.

