



WASHINGTON window

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The District of Columbia and the Maryland Counties of
Montgomery, Prince George's, Charles and St. Mary's



Partnering Arms

The Transitional Housing Corporation is set to open its first program in Southeast D.C.

By Lucy Chumbley

The faith-based nonprofit Transitional Housing Corporation has been working under the gun to open its third transitional facility, Partner Arms III, by its February 1 deadline. The District of Columbia's Department of Human Services recently purchased the newly renovated red brick building on 37th Street, SE, as part of a commitment to provide more

supportive permanent housing to the city's homeless families.

THC put in a bid to manage the property in November, said Milada Weaver, director of volunteers and communications. On Jan. 2, it learned from the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness that its proposal - to run a two-year program with supportive services - had been approved, and the contract was signed on Jan. 15.

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New group is working toward full inclusion of gay Christians

The Diocese of Washington is well represented in a new group formed late last year to build international coalitions and develop a strategy for the full inclusion of gay and lesbian Christians in the life of the Church.

Called the Chicago Consultation, the 50-member group met for the first time at Seabury-Western Seminary, in Evanston, Ill., Dec. 5-7. Its goals include persuading the Episcopal Church to permit the blessing of same-sex relationships and to removing barriers that keep gay candidates from being elected as bishops.

"Some people call it the gay agenda, but we call it the Gospel agenda," said the Rev.

Bonnie Perry, rector of All Saints, Chicago and co-convenor of the Consultation. "We are asking our church and our communion to see what God has created and know that it is good."

Bishop John Bryson Chane, Jim Naughton, the diocese's canon for communications and advancement and the Rev. Carol Cole Flanagan, the diocese's former canon for congregational development, serve on the group's steering committee.

The Rev. Canon Howard Anderson, warden of the Cathedral College, attended the gathering, as did the Rev. Tim Boggs, associate rector at St. Alban's, D.C.

Boggs will coordinate the con-

sultation's fundraising efforts, and Naughton is serving informally as its communications officer.

The consultation includes two primates of the Anglican Communion-Archbishop Martin de Jesus Barahona of Central America and Archbishop Carlos Touche-Porter of Mexico, who was unable to attend due to illness; 10 bishops from the Episcopal Church, including eight diocesan bishops or bishops-elect; four members of the church's Executive Council; numerous General Convention deputies, and representatives of groups such as Integrity, Claiming the Blessing and Inclusive Church.

At its initial meeting, the con-



The Rev. Timothy Boggs, associate rector at St. Alban's, D.C., shares his views at the first meeting of the Chicago Consultation at Seabury-Western Seminary in early December.

sultation heard papers by the Rev. Canon Marilyn McCord Adams, Regius Professor of Divinity at Christ Church, Oxford University; Bishop Stacy Sauls of the Diocese of Lexington; Dean Jenny Te Paa of St. John's College, Auckland, New Zealand and the Rev. Frederick Quinn of Salt Lake

City, Utah.

"Homophobia is a sin whose end time is now," Adams told the group. Human institutions are riddled with systemic evils, she said. "Our calling is to discern which ones are ripe for uprooting and to take the lead

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in THE window



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St. John's, Norwood welcomes its new organ



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Make the most of the movies on offer this month



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A moving tribute to the dead is now on display at the Cathedral



Please join me in a 'Carbon Fast' this Lent

A few months ago I had the pleasure of hosting a luncheon for the Rt. Rev. James Jones, Bishop of Liverpool, England. Bishop Jones, author of *Jesus and the Earth*, is one of the most visible, creative and outspoken advocates for environmental stewardship and healing in the Anglican Communion. His book has a wonderful companion text entitled *Faith in Conservation: New Approaches to Religion and the Environment* written by Martin Palmer and Victoria Finlay and published by the World Bank. I recommend both books to you during this Lenten season as companions for your daily reflection and prayer.

During Lent it has often been the custom to "give something up." This year during Lent I am suggesting that you and members of your parish community join with me in a "Carbon Fast." Bishop Jones initiated this project in his diocese with great success. It has increased awareness of what each of us, young and old, can do to make a difference in decreasing our "carbon footprint."

May this Lent be for you a time to reflect on your stewardship of the earth and may your prayers lead you to action and a deeper relationship with God who has given to each of us the awesome responsibility of being the stewards of our fragile planet earth; our island home.



**Bishop John
Bryson Chane**

A Carbon Fast for Lent

By the Rt. Rev. James Jones,
Bishop of Liverpool

Traditionally people have given up things for Lent. Last year in the Diocese of Liverpool many parishes took part in a Carbon Fast.

Through it we were able to focus on God's Earth and its poorest people in whom, Jesus said, we were to find him.

This year, in Lent 2008, we invite as many as can to join us in a Carbon Fast.

Over the years I've been able to visit some of the countries most affected by the changing climate. I've sat with village elders in Africa, India and Central America and asked the simple question, "Has the weather changed in your lifetime?" With the answer "yes"

has come stories of cyclones, rivers drying up, harvests failing and flooding.

Whatever is happening to the planet there's no disputing that we're putting more carbon into the atmosphere than ever before and that this is adding to the blanket that's trapping the heat around the earth.

On World Environment Day, I was in Tromso in the Arctic Circle for a service in the Ice Cathedral. Desmond Tutu was preaching next to a block of ice that had fallen away from a melting Ice Cap, and reinforcing our responsibility for God's creation.

St. Paul tells us everything has come into being through and for Christ. This doctrine gives us the ethics of caring for the earth. It is Christ's environment, not ours. He stands at the centre of all creation - as both creator and redeemer.

As the climate changes and impacts the earth it is clear that the poor are already suffering. The tragedy is that those with the power to do something about it are least affected and those who are most affected are powerless to bring about any change. That's why there's a moral imperative on those of us who emit more than our fair share of carbon to rein in our consumption.

It's estimated that in the U.K. we emit 9.5 tons of carbon per person per year whereas in Ethiopia the average is 0.067 tons and in Bangladesh 0.24. Apparently the earth can sustain 0.8 per person! Reducing our carbon footprint is therefore a matter of justice.

When Jesus fasted in the wilderness he kept company with wild beasts and with angels who ministered to him. He came out of that experience with a clear sense of the Kingdom of God which he preached with passion.

As we pray for God's will to be done on earth as it's done in Heaven, the Carbon Fast will be a practical step towards a fairer world, a sustainable planet and the earthing of Heaven.

Follow your own Carbon Fast or choose from this pattern of daily actions. Do it on your own or with those you live with or with a group from your church. As you lay it aside, do so with a prayer.

Ash Wednesday: Remove one light bulb (without inviting danger).

Thursday: Check your house for draughts with a ribbon or feather. If it flutters, buy a draught excluder.

Friday: Whatever mode of transport you usually use, try to make at least one of your journeys more environmentally friendly.

Saturday: Consider whether or not you're using all available avenues for recycling (don't forget that charity shops play a valuable role).

Week 2

Sunday: Find the most environmentally friendly way you can to get to church today (e.g. walk, bike, car share).

Monday: Turn your central heating thermostat down by one degree. If you have separate thermostats on radiators, adjust them to suit the use of the room.

Tuesday: Check that all electrical equipment is switched off rather than on standby when not in use. Screen savers do not save electricity.

Wednesday: As chocolate is still on the menu this Lent, be sure to reward yourself with Fair trade chocolate.

Thursday: Ensure your mobile phone charger is unplugged when not in use.

Friday: Plan your menu for next week and buy only enough food to avoid waste.

Saturday: When shopping, employ the LOAF principle - that is buy Locally produced, Organic, Animal friendly, and Fairly traded goods.

Week 3

Sunday: "Receive the world God has given. Go for a walk. Get wet. Dig the earth" (the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams).

Monday: Fill a liter plastic bottle

with water, replace the lid and place it carefully into your toilet cistern. Water and energy will be saved with every flush.

Tuesday: Take a shower instead of a bath.

Wednesday: Say No to Unwanted plastic Bags (SNUB). Carry a couple with you and refuse the ones you don't really need.

Thursday: Make a point of switching off all lights as you leave the room.

Friday: Only fill your kettle with as much water as you need.

Saturday: Begin the gardening year by going organic. Hand weed or hoe rather than spraying and don't be over tidy. You, your garden and its wildlife will benefit from more relaxed regime.

Week 4

Sunday: Think about the environment Jesus lived in and how it affected his ministry. Reflect on examples of Jesus drawing on his environment for illustrations and inspiration.

Monday: Pick up at least one piece of litter and put it in the bin.

Tuesday: Re-wear clothes which aren't dirty and only run your washing machine when you have a full load.

Wednesday: Find ways to save paper. Do you really need to check your e-mail today? If so, don't print them off.

Thursday: Check your tire pressure. Low tire pressure means high energy/fuel consumption.

Friday: Put out some bird food. Birds will almost certainly find it wherever the location.

Saturday: Utilize local shops or farmers markets if available instead of driving to the supermarket.

Week 5

Sunday: Think prayerfully about how we are using up our resources at an unsustainable rate and what this means for future generations. Reflect on the fact that the richest 20 percent of the world's popula-

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BISHOP'S visitations

February 3: St. Thomas's,
Croom

February 10: 3 p.m., St.
Luke's, D.C. (Absalom Jones).

February 21: All Saints,
Chevy Chase (Thursday, 7:30
p.m. for the installation of the
Rev. Paula Zahl)

February 24: Holy Comforter
(a.m.); 4 p.m. St. Philip's,
Baden for the installation of
the Rev. Vaughan Booker)

Diocese renews its partnership with ESM

By Lucy Chumbley

The Diocesan Council voted unanimously to extend its partnership with Episcopal Senior Ministries for another three years at its Jan. 15 meeting.

The original covenant, which ESM's executive director Joseph E. Resch Jr. likened at the time to a "renewal of vows" between the two organizations was approved by the council and the ESM Board in January 2005. It was designed to rekindle the relationship - now in its 85th year - between the two entities, which agreed to work more closely to promote and expand Episcopal ministries, services and advocacy for seniors, family members and caregivers in the diocese.

Canon to the Ordinary Paul Cooney described the covenant as "kind of a road map" designed to intensify and broaden the level of work carried out by both organizations.

Since 2005, Cooney said, he and Resch have met every two months or so to discuss shared initiatives. Both organizations have benefited from the closer ties: ESM has served as the diocese's primary aging information resource and the diocese has promoted ESM as its coordinating agency for senior ministries.

As part of this expanded relationship, ESM also was asked to provide recommendations for an 'Aging Agenda' for

Council members agree to extend relationship with Episcopal Senior Ministries by three years

the diocese in the coming decades.

To prepare the report, Resch said, consultant Anne Werner Richardson spoke with the offices on aging in all jurisdictions of the diocese, met with the directors of area senior service communities and agencies, compiled demographic data and surveyed approximately 325 people from 33 parishes.

Survey respondents identified their primary aging concerns as their physical and mental health, along with the rising cost of healthcare, the fear of isolation and a desire to maintain independence, he said.

Based on the data collected, the Aging Agenda sets out four areas for the diocese to focus on in the future: developing more affordable housing and support services for seniors; expanding affordable community-based services for those who wish to remain in their homes; increasing its capacity to recruit, coordinate and manage volunteer programs and services; providing education and fostering program and fiscal development.

"All of these recommendations were designed to leverage the resources we have or can get hold of," said Resch, who noted that ESM also has entered into a partnership with the Transitional

Housing Corporation and is actively seeking land for affordable housing.

Having an Aging Agenda is vital, Resch said, as by 2020 the number of people over the age of 60 in the geographic area of the diocese will have increased by about 50 percent. The cost of housing and healthcare is on the rise, and the caregiving workforce is projected to decrease. Obesity and stress-related health issues are mounting, and the expectations of the next generation of older adults are higher than those of previous generations, he added.

"Our board has accepted the Aging Agenda report and is very excited about it," he said.

Now that the diocese has followed suit, the two organizations will begin to implement this agenda in 2008.

In other matters the council:

- Created two new panels: The Committee on Millennium Development Goals and the Committee on Affordable Housing.
- Heard a proposal for a diocesan Task Force on the Historically Black Congregations.

This came in response to an earlier proposal from the Rev. Carleton Hayden to form a Task Force on Black

Congregations in response to two General Convention resolutions on slavery reparations (A123 and A127) and a 2007 Diocesan Convention resolution that called for a study on the impact of slavery in the diocese.

The Diocese of Washington has seven historically black congregations, founded between 1867 and 1930: St. Mary's, Foggy Bottom; St. George's, D.C.; St. Luke's, D.C.; St. Philip's, Anacostia; St. Philip's, Baden; and Calvary and Atonement in the District. St. Monica's, another historically black congregation on Capitol Hill, recently merged with the neighboring parish of St. James'.

"It's very clear we're going to learn a lot by studying and working with the black congregations in this area," said Bishop John Bryson Chane, describing the preliminary discussions as "stimulating and empowering."

The council will consider a formal charge for the group at its March meeting.

- Heard an update from Cooney on the merger of two Capitol Hill congregations, St. Monica's and St. James', which officially joined forces in late December.

"All the indications are quite positive," Cooney said, noting that there has been a "good presence of St. Monica's people at worship."

The parish is now officially known as the Parish of St. Monica and St. James.

Chane to explore a possible link with Jerusalem diocese

Bishop John Bryson Chane will travel to the Holy Land in late August to make a personal pilgrimage and to consider the prospect of entering into a formal partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

"The purpose of this visit is to accept an invitation and to explore the possibility of establishing a relationship with the Diocese of Jerusalem at such a critical time," Chane said.

"It is a visit that has been long overdue," he added, noting that invitations have been extended by the current Bishop of Jerusalem, the Rt. Rev. Suheil Dawani, as well as his predecessors.

During his stay, Chane will visit institutions and parishes of the diocese to see the work of the church in Jerusalem as well as visiting some of Christianity's holy places.



Dawani

"I hope to get enough information to make a recommendation on a companion relationship," he said. The Cathedral

also is planning to sponsor a pilgrimage to Jerusalem this year, he noted, and he anticipates other trips to Jerusalem will be arranged.

The Diocese of Washington currently has an active partnership with the Anglican Province of Southern Africa and ended a formal partnership with the Diocese of Honduras at the beginning of last year.

Bishop Chane and a delegation from the Diocese of Washington explored the possibility of enter-

ing into a relationship with the Diocese of Cuba in 2007 but decided not to recommend a formal partnership for logistical reasons.

"It took us almost two years to get a Treasury license to travel," Chane told Diocesan Council members at a December meeting, stressing that he remains committed to working on Cuban embargo issues.

The 1998 Lambeth Conference encouraged dioceses to enter into "companion relationships across provincial boundaries, as part of the process of developing the cross-cultural nature of the Communion." It also recommended a five-year cap on these partnerships. If a formal relationship between the Diocese of Washington and the Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East comes to be, it would begin in 2009 and last for three years, Chane said.

ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

*That We All May be One:
Many Gifts to Share*

The Diocese of Washington held its annual convention on Jan. 25-26 at Washington National Cathedral. For complete coverage and photos of this event, including the Bishop's address, budget, proceedings and elections, check the Convention Web site at <http://convention.edow.org>.

File photos by Michelle Larsen

Representatives from all around the Diocese of Washington applaud during the diocese's 2007 meeting.



PARTNER ARMS, from page 1

The only catch? The District required that families be able to move in to the building by February.

"We committed to opening 24 days after we got the contract," said THC's executive director Polly Donaldson. "The staff is going all out to make this happen, quite frankly, but the motivation is high because it's a good thing for us and it's a good thing for the homeless population and the city."

The corporation has been recruiting maintenance, security, administrative and professional personnel for the new facility and to augment its existing team. THC will manage the Partner Arms III staff whose salaries will be paid by the city.

A key member of the new team, case manager Marilyn Nelson, has been hired to work at the new site, which consists of 13 two-bedroom units and is located near Fort DuPont Park in Ward 7. Families will meet with Nelson for an initial intake interview before receiving their keys, Donaldson said, and will continue to meet with her each week for the duration of their stay.

Partner Arms III will increase THC's housing capacity by a third, to a total of 40 units, Donaldson said, and will be the organization's first facility in Southeast D.C.

Since 1993, the two-year Partner Arms program has provided 27 apartments to successful applicants, along with a range

of services, including youth enrichment, substance abuse and credit counseling, GED classes and parenting, wellness and home ownership workshops. The program has helped more than 190 families make the transition from homelessness to permanent housing, with an 86 percent success rate after one year.

THC hopes to build on the success of Partner Arms I and II, both located in the Georgia Avenue corridor of Northwest D.C. The new initiative will include the same range of supportive services, Weaver said, but the application process will be slightly different.

"This time, the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness will be working with us to identify families," she said.

The Partner Arms III program also will serve a somewhat needier population, Donaldson said.

"It is similar, but we're targeting a subgroup of the Partner Arms community, and that is the most vulnerable group," she said. This includes families with disabilities, substance abuse issues or mental illness and will require a higher staff to client ratio.

"These are families that have been in shelters where the services are not adequate," Donaldson said. "[Partner Arms III] will keep the families together, but keeps them in a very supportive environment."

Partner Arms III will be evaluated by the city in six months time.

"We're charting new territory here," Weaver said. "We've never done this. The city's never done this. We just really want to make it successful, because if we do, [the city] will do it again, and that will go a long way to alleviating homelessness."

"We know we can do more and this helps us do more," Donaldson said. "It's slightly different, but I think it's up to organizations such as ours to get as creative as possible to expand the number of units we have."

Because of the tight timeline, the DHS purchased furniture for the units, although THC staff have been responsible for moving it in and setting up on-site offices.

"We've been working so hard, and we also have some volunteers that are working with us to get all of the individual units ready," Weaver said.

Although most of the furniture is in place, THC is asking parishes and individuals to help by donating items (or making a financial contribution) to furnish and stock the kitchens and bathrooms, such as small appliances, silverware and dishes. Also needed are new twin-size bed linens and towels, Weaver said. (For a complete list, contact Weaver at 202/291-5535 or mweaver@thcdc.org.)

After graduating from Partner Arms, she said, residents are allowed to keep their household goods and furnishings, so these items are in constant need of

replenishment. Parishes are encouraged to support the program by signing up to adopt an apartment.

In addition to expanding its scope by taking on a project like Partner Arms III, the THC also has been putting the groundwork in place for an affordable housing initiative.

In June 2006, it created an affiliate, THC Affordable Housing, Inc, and in January 2007 it purchased a 34-unit building in the District's Brightwood neighborhood that it plans to develop into long-term affordable housing with some supportive services.

Renovation plans for the building, which has been vacant since 2004 and will need to be completely gutted, are on track, Donaldson said, and the organization hopes to close on the property in the late spring and begin construction work in the summer.

This summer, THC also plans to launch Housing With Care, an affordable housing program that will provide 19 units of reduced cost permanent housing with case management services to low income families in the District's Wards 1, 4 and 5.

"We're hoping when we start the program the first people in it will be Partner Arms graduates," Weaver said.

"This is something that's very exciting for us as we want to be able to reach everybody," Donaldson said. "THC's Board of Directors is very clear that we must do more. We can, and we must."



“We’re charting new territory here. We’ve never done this. The city’s never done this.”

Milada Weaver, director of volunteers and communications, Transitional Housing Corporation





The organ has landed

St. John's, Norwood, had something big to celebrate on Nov. 25 when its new organ, which has been three years in the planning, arrived at the church in two semi trailers. After the Sunday service, parishioners processed out onto the church steps, where they sang a song of praise and the rector, the Rev. Susan Flanders said a prayer.

"Then everybody cheered," said Cynthia Stroman, who headed up the Organ Purchase Committee.

"It was a great day because the parish came out and everybody put on their gloves and unloaded the trucks," she said. "We had a big roast beef dinner that night in the parish hall."

Crafted by the Berghaus Organ Company in Bellville, Ill., the organ has been under construction since January 2007, and the voicing process is now under way. The instrument, a 3-manual organ with 63 ranks and 3,380 pipes, will be dedicated during an April 20 service, Stroman said, and an inaugural concert is set for May 10.

A capital campaign, which set out to raise \$1.5 million for the project, also is well on the way to meeting that goal, she said.

The project began, Stroman said, when St. John's did an assessment of its musical instruments and learned "our organ was ailing - to put it mildly."

While doing its research, her seven-member committee learned that to get the greatest benefit from the new organ, it would need to be moved from its current location in chambers on either side of the chancel to a position at the front.

This called for a large-scale renovation project, which parishioners met with "a combination of excitement and anxiety," she said. Renovation work began last summer and was "largely finished by Christmas Eve."

"It's been a labor of love from many people in the parish," Stroman said. "What we will have when this is all said and done is an enhanced worship experience and space."



MEMBERS of St. John's, Norwood gathered on the Sunday before Thanksgiving to greet and unload two trucks containing the church's long awaited new organ, above left. The service was moved to the Parish Hall the following Sunday as the organ's various pipes and parts were occupying most of the pews in the nave, above, now displaying the finished facade, left. St. John's parishioners will celebrate the conclusion of the three-year "Lift High the Cross" project to renovate the chancel and install a new organ with an April 20 dedication and a May 10 concert. Visit <http://www.stjohnsnorwood.org> for further information.



WINDOW ON FILM

By Beth Lambdin

Atonement (R)

Gorgeous looking but hard to warm up to (even with the manipulative musical score), *Atonement* is garnering heaps of praise. Joe Wright directs a lavish production of Ian McEwan's novel with James McAvoy as the dashing Robbie and Keira Knightley as the lissome Cecilia, star-crossed lovers in 1935 England. This time it's not class disparity keeping the lovers apart, but a dastardly deed committed by Cecilia's impressionable younger sister, Briony (played at different ages by Saoirse Ronan, Romola Garai and Vanessa Redgrave). A series of unfortunate events follow. A high note: Vanessa Redgrave's performance as the wise, dying Briony provides seven minutes of movie heaven.

Charlie Wilson's War (R)

With panache, director Mike Nichols directs an A-list cast: Tom Hanks, Julia Roberts and Philip Seymour Hoffman in an improbably entertaining (but ultimately sobering) film about the Afghanistan war. Hanks plays Wilson as a dissolute good-time Charlie, a representative from the Second Congressional District in Texas, who is primarily interested in booze and broads, although he harbors a streak of integrity. In the 1980s, as a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, he's seduced and later convinced by Joanne Herring (Roberts), a wealthy Texas hostess and Christian crusader, that the Afghans deserve U.S. support (covertly at least) to drive out the Soviets. Hoffman steals the movie as Gust Avrakotos, a CIA operative, who also serves as the unlikely conscience of the story. The dialogue is witty and the pace is fast. Part satire, part romantic comedy,

part anti-war flick, this eclectic film even weaves a Zen story through it to show that our acts, no matter how well-intentioned, carry unintended consequences.

Juno (PG-13)

Several times a year, friends urge me to see a film. This time it's *Juno* and the question is: Did the film live up to the hype? Sort of; it's a hip take on an age-old problem - teen pregnancy. *Juno* (named for a Roman goddess), is directed by Jason Reitman (Thank you for Smoking), written by Diablo Cody (a stripper cum scriptwriter) and stars Ellen Page as a smart-alecky 16-year-old who "accidentally" gets pregnant after seducing her high school sweetie (Michael Cera). Like Keri Russell in *Waitress*, and Katherine Heigl in *Knocked Up*, *Juno* is appalled by impending motherhood, but decides she'll have the "thing," and give it up for adoption to the Loring (Jennifer Garner and Jason Bateman in strong performances), an appealing yuppie couple unable to conceive. But their attractive façade masks a fraying relationship, which threatens *Juno's* fantasy future. *Juno* revels in our young rebel's independent spirit, but I wish its treatment of teen pregnancy weren't quite so breezy. Although *Juno* calls herself a "cautionary whale," this film begs for further discussion with tweens and teens about the "real" challenges of teen pregnancy.

The Great Debaters (PG-13)

Although formulaic, this is a classy film based on a true story. Denzel Washington directs and stars as Melvin B. Tolson, the debate coach who fashioned a champion team at little, all-black Wiley College in Marshall, Texas in 1935. This film proves that the Brits don't have a monopoly on smart, literate films that delight in the beauty of language and the art of debate. Against the backdrop of the Jim Crow South, an elite group of ambitious students (Nate Parker, Jurnee Smolett and Denzel

Whitaker, Jr.) prove their mettle and start winning debates. It's a classic underdog story enriched by Washington's charisma and the appealing young team, which included the first woman (Smolett) as well as the ebullient James Farmer, Jr. (Whitaker, Jr.) as their 14-year-old researcher (and later Civil Rights leader). He's a scene stealer even when Forest Whitaker (no relation) as his father takes center stage.

The Kite Runner (PG-13)

In English and Dari with English subtitles Marc Forster of *Finding Neverland* attempts to bring the best seller by Khaled Hosseini to life on the big screen. It's a classic tale of childhood betrayals and second chances. Along the way we experience life in Afghanistan before and after the Soviet invasion and the rise of the Taliban. The best part of the film focuses on the relationship between two

young boys, Amir (Zekiria Ebrahimi), a privileged Pashtun, and Hassan (Ahmad Khan Mahmoodzada), a Hazara, and Amir's servant (as well as kite runner). One day, Hassan is brutally violated by a gang of Pashtun boys and Amir flees rather than helping his friend. He further betrays Hassan by implicating him in a crime he didn't commit. The boys split for good and Amir and his father immigrate to San Francisco when life deteriorates under the Soviets. Years later, Amir is summoned home to help Hassan's son. Back in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan, family secrets emerge that raise the emotional stakes. Despite its rich source material, the film plods on. Perhaps, the central shame-based theme drained the film's vitality or maybe something just got lost in translation. *Agree? Disagree? Let Beth know what you think of her reviews at beth@bethlambdin.com*



MUST-SEE MOVIES include *The Great Debaters*, a classy film directed by Denzel Washington, the 'improbably entertaining' *Charlie Wilson's War*, starring Julia Roberts and other A-listers and *The Kite Runner*, an emotional tale set in war-torn Afghanistan.



FAMILY FILMS

The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep

If you have ever wondered about the Loch Ness Monster, you will be interested and amused by this action-filled film. The story takes place near a loch in Scotland during World War II. After young Angus MacMorrow (outstandingly portrayed by Alex Etel) finds a large, rock encrusted egg by the shore and secretly brings it home, he soon has a problem that gets harder and harder to hide; the hatchling is a cute, quickly growing and very rambunctious animal which the handyman (Ben Chaplin) identifies as a kelpie, or water horse—a sea creature of Celtic lore.

The movie weaves comedy, the terror of war, and a hint of romance into a lovely tale. The colors

and materials selected for the sets and costumes give the feeling of the 1940s, and the scenes which were shot before a green screen were seamlessly incorporated. This realism may be too strong for young children - especially those under the age of 8. There is an imaginary drowning, an extremely suspenseful workshop scene, as well as a long, violent episode when Angus rides through and under the water on the back of the fully grown, huge water horse amidst heavy British anti-sub artillery fire.

The joy of the film comes from watching the bonds of friendship and family love grow - even during the hardships of war, and the many small moments that flash by but still change the course of their lives.

Rated PG.

Judy Russell teaches music and performing arts at Beauvoir, the National Cathedral Elementary School.





WHAT'S COOKING?

Who knew that pretzels, that most ubiquitous modern snack, began life as a Lenten food?

There are two popular versions of the Lenten pretzel story: One describes how early Christians in northern Italy made a dough of flour, salt and water (as fat, eggs, and milk were banned during the Lenten fast) and fashioned it in the form of two arms crossed in prayer as a reminder that Lent is a season of penance and devotion. They called this bread *bracellae*, or "little arms," from which the Germans later derived the word "brezel."

Another version of the story explains that while preparing unleavened bread for Lent, a young Italian monk decided to use the leftover scraps of dough to create little treats for children who had learned their prayers. He called his creation *pretiola*, which is Latin for "little reward."

Whatever their precise origin, pretzels, which are made from unleavened flour, became Lenten fare in many parts of Europe. In Germany, Austria and Poland, they were baked on Ash Wednesday and sold throughout Lent. It was only during the 1900s that pretzels were adopted as an all-year round snack, with their Lenten significance often overlooked.



Our cartoon is drawn by Bob Erskine.

"I know what you're thinking Mr. Farnsworth ---
'Gifted and Talented!'"

It is never too late to experience grace

■ FAMILY MATTERS:



Margaret M. Treadwell

Uncle Buddy, our McDonnell family patriarch at 94, recently began taking guitar lessons. The last remaining brother of seven with no sisters, his

favorite song is "Amazing Grace," which he practices often on the guitar and daily in his life.

"How did you manage to live so long and so well?" his nieces and nephews wonder, seeing their own fathers in him. Buddy says, "It's because God has something left for me to do."

During World War II, Buddy served as ball gunner on a B-24 Liberator and was also on the B-17, known as the Flying Fortress. He flew 50 missions over Europe and received the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Service medals. The faded newspaper article with accompanying handsome picture cites his "courage, coolness and exceptional skill" which contributed to the success of these mis-

sions.

"Uncle Sam" trained Buddy to be an aircraft mechanic, which he parlayed into a post war job at Brookley Field in Mobile, his hometown. He retired in 1978, and after his beloved wife of 44 years died, Buddy lived by himself in Belle Fountain, Ala., tending his pecan orchard while pursuing his hobbies - bird watching, fishing, eating out, attending church and enjoying friends. Then, Hurricane Katrina hit and changed his life.

Enter my cousin Jean-Marie McDonnell of Daphne, Ala., an artist whose mother recently died. She says, "I had wonderful help in place. I needed to figure out a way to maintain my lifestyle. Buddy needed a place where he would not be alone. I believe family members should not be institutionalized if other alternatives are available. It's working."

She thinks three characteristics lend themselves to Buddy's good quality of life and therefore his longevity:

- Positive Attitude. Although he has a bad knee, terrible hearing and needs a few pills for health issues, Buddy looks forward to what each day might bring, whether it be hummingbirds, church, a

trip to the barbershop, grocery shopping, or sitting, his feet up in a recliner, to watch a football game with a potential Alabama win. He posts aphorisms around his room and the one he first sees in capital letters upon awaking is THINK POSITIVE SMILE.

- Love of All Things. Buddy loves people and always looks for the good in them. He keeps a box of the cards and letters he's received and says, "I save my cards because they have so many beautiful thoughts from friends of mine that I love."

His care extends to plants - his pecan trees, the amaryllis as it blossoms - and to all animals, especially the little dog that jumps into his lap when he positions the recliner just right for her flying leap.

- Control Over his Own Life. Buddy's decision to move in with Jean-Marie was his choice, as was giving up driving voluntarily after a small accident. He has created a routine to keep himself healthy and on course, such as carefully taking his medications with supervision, setting up the coffeepot for the next day, hanging up his clothes, praying a nightly rosary, dressing himself - including put-

ting on his knee brace - doing exercises in his room, practicing the guitar and attending a weekly lesson, enjoying church in a caring community, and eating out twice a week with Jean-Marie.

Buddy wrote about the high points of his life for us cousins, his surrogate children. His chapters were: My Family: Boyhood Days at Point Clear (the most vivid with tales of all our fathers); Sailing and the Lipton Regatta (where he made the team several times, sailed in many regattas all over the country, and once won a race on Lake Ponchartrain in New Orleans); Wonderful Life with Mary Louise, 44 Years; Baseball; Friends; WWII Air Force; and The McDonnell Reunions (he eagerly awaits the next one in July).

He writes simply and clearly about his life and it is a testament to his 94 years lived with "Amazing Grace."

Thank you to Jean-Marie McDonnell for her contribution to our family and this column.

Margaret M. "Peggy" Treadwell, LICSW, is a family, individual and couples therapist and teacher in private practice. She can be contacted at PeggyMcDT@aol.com.

Household vespers*

By Anne Sheldon

O day that is gone, glorify the Lord.
O cat at the window, glorify the Lord.
You crickets in the basement, glorify the Lord.
Praise God and highly exalt him forever.

O creaking stair-step, glorify the Lord.
Old ticking clock, glorify the Lord.
You nightlight in the hall, glorify the Lord.
Praise God and highly exalt him forever.

Bare branches at the window, glorify the Lord.
Lamplit snowflakes glorify the Lord.
You who sleep and you who can't, glorify the Lord.
Praise God and highly exalt him forever.

Oak leaves under frost glorify the Lord.
You dreaming sparrows, glorify the Lord.
O stars behind the clouds, glorify the Lord.
Praise God and highly exalt him forever.

* based on "Song of the Three Young Men," The Apocrypha.

Anne Sheldon is a member of Grace, Silver Spring. She is active as a Biblical storyteller and has worked as a poet-in-the-schools through the Maryland State Arts Council. Her work has appeared in Antietam Review and Poet Lore, as well as in The Living Church.

AIDS altarpiece now on view at Washington National Cathedral

[Episcopal News

Service] The

multi-panel

Keiskamma

Altarpiece, which

commemorates

the dead and

pays tribute to the living of an AIDS-ravaged seaside town, opened at its only East Coast venue on Jan. 16 at Washington National Cathedral.

More than 130 townspeople of Hamburg in the Keiskamma River valley in South Africa's Eastern Cape province crafted the devotional work through embroidery, beadwork, appliqué and photography.

The main figures represented in the devotional work were chosen by the community.

Closed, the central image of the altarpiece is a cross with the body of Christ replaced by the image of a recent widow dressed in traditional attire surrounded by the children of Hamburg.

Sets of "cupboard doors" open to reveal lost family members and friends, a local choir, animals, angels and dramatic life-size photographs of three grandmothers with their grandchildren. These pictures represent an all-too-familiar social phenomenon in South Africa, which may have as many as two million AIDS orphans under the age

of 15 by the end of the decade, a cathedral news release said.

Dr. Carol Hofmeyr, physician and artist, opened the area's only AIDS hospice and treatment center several years ago with her physician husband. Her initial idea was to teach needlework to impoverished women as a means of assisting them economically as well as enabling them to grieve through this unique form of communal therapy. The plan for the altarpiece was born after Hofmeyr visited Colmar in Alsace Lorraine, home to the Isenheim altarpiece, one of the greatest works of the German Renaissance.

The Keiskamma Altarpiece will be on display through March 9, and is free and open to the public. The Altarpiece has shown in Toronto, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle.

The altarpiece will end its North American journey where it began - at St. James Episcopal Cathedral, Chicago -- March 25-May 11. The St. James community has embraced this project from the first sight of the altarpiece on someone's Blackberry, according to a news release e-mailed by a member of the community.

"We in Chicago look forward to bringing it 'home,' before it goes home forever," said Eileen Harakal, national tour manager for the altarpiece.



COMUNIÓN



Simón Bautista

sacerdotes; y también para nuestro ministerio latino: nuestro querido padre Vidal fue recibido como sacerdote dentro del ministerio de esta Iglesia.

Precisamente sobre un aspecto de este evento quiero compartir con ustedes mi reflexión de este número: El recibimiento del padre Vidal como sacerdote en la Unión Anglicana, que en los Estados Unidos y en algunos otros países, incluyendo países latinoamericanos, conocemos más como la Iglesia Episcopal.

¿Por qué decimos que el padre Vidal Rivas fue recibido y no ordenado? ¿Querrá decir esto que su sacerdocio es de menor o mayor grado que el sacerdocio de los otros

diez?

El padre Vidal no fue ordenado el sábado sino recibido porque ya traía un sacerdocio que le había sido conferido por su obispo en su país natal de El Salvador; sí, antes de venir a nuestra Iglesia, él había ejercido el sacerdocio por un periodo de diez años dentro de la Iglesia Católica Romana. En ese sentido nuestra Iglesia Episcopal pone de manifiesto su respeto por las iglesias históricas que han mantenido la línea de la sucesión apostólica, esto es que en el ministerio ordenado no han roto la cadena de sucesión que se simboliza por la imposición de las manos por parte del obispo en la cabeza de aquel a quien se le confieren las órdenes sagradas.

Del mismo modo que a los fieles que vienen a esta iglesia no se les pide que vuelvan a bautizarse o confirmarse si ya lo han hecho, de esa misma manera no se le pide al sacerdote volver a ser ordenado si ya lo ha sido por un obispo de una iglesia cuyo ministerio se reconoce estar en sucesión con los apóstoles.

De cualquier manera, el sábado pasado el padre Vidal recibió la autoridad para ejercer el ministerio sacerdotal en plena capacidad y su grado, respondiendo a la segunda

pregunta en el párrafo tres, es el de todos los demás solo diferenciado por las funciones y posiciones a las que cada uno haya sido llamado.

El caso del padre Vidal es un verdadero ejemplo de perseverancia; es la expresión de que la llamada de Dios para servir a su pueblo trasciende los límites que hemos establecido nosotros los seres humanos y que no se agota tras los barrotes de las disciplinas ortodoxas que muchas veces les ponen bozal al Evangelio y límites al plan de salvación de Dios.

Concluyo expresando en voz alta un deseo que llevo muy profundo dentro de mí: ojalá que la voz de Dios llegue al corazón de algunos de ustedes y de nuestros jóvenes invitándoles a considerar seriamente la llamada al sacerdocio porque como una vez exclamó Jesús: "La mies es mucha y los obreros pocos. Rueguen, pues, al Dueño de la mies que envíe obreros a su mies". Mateo 9: 36-38

Que Dios les bendiga.

Padre Simón Bautista Betances
Misionero Latino Diocesano

Note: This Spanish language column, Communion, is available in English at www.edow.org/ministries/latino.



Photo by Holly Foss

El Reverendo Vidal Rivas, un sacerdote Católico Romano de El Salvador, fue recibido como sacerdote en la Iglesia Episcopal el día 19 de enero durante una ceremonia en la Catedral Nacional de Washington. Rivas es el misionero para las congregaciones Latinas de San Lucas, en Bladensburg, y San Miguel y Todos los Angeles, en Adelphi.



A SAINT FOR FEBRUARY

Scholastica

Commemoration: February 10
Time and place: Born in Nursia, Italy c. 480; died near Monte Cassino, Italy, c. 543

Patronage: Nuns; against storms
Representation: Nun with crozier and crucifix, often pictured with her brother, St. Benedict; nun with her soul departing from her body like a dove

Story in brief: Scholastica was the twin sister of Saint Benedict of Nursia, who founded the Benedictine Order. Her mother, a noblewoman, died in childbirth, and Scholastica grew up devoted to her brother and to Jesus. When Benedict established his monastery at Monte Cassino, Scholastica founded a convent nearby. The convent was under the direction of her brother, therefore Scholastica is regarded as the first Benedictine nun. The rules of their respective houses did not allow the siblings to enter the other's. So they met once a year at a house near Monte Cassino to confer on spiritual matters. St. Gregory tells of the pair's last meeting: Scholastica and Benedict had spent the day deep in conversation, and with nightfall approaching, Benedict prepared to leave. Scholastica asked him to remain with her for the evening. Benedict refused, not wishing to break his own rule by spending a night away from his monastery. Scholastica wept, and prayed that God would intercede. As she prayed, a sudden storm arose, and Benedict and his companions were unable to depart. Three days after his return to Monte Cassino, Benedict saw a vision of Scholastica's soul departing her body, ascending to heaven in the form of a dove. He placed her body in the tomb he had prepared for himself, and arranged for his own to be placed there after his death.

Thank God for the gift of tears

■ BEARINGS:



Martin L. Smith

I have a standing joke with a friend ever since he asked me about a sermon I was preparing: "Which bodily fluid will you be mentioning this time?" He had picked up on my tendency to gravitate toward symbols that derive from the body. So during Lent, long before we arrive once again in Holy Week to confront the primal imagery of the cross and "the water and the blood" which the evangelist John tells us to notice, we can think about tears.

What place do tears have in our spiritual lives? Tradition speaks of the *gift* of tears. Lent is supposed to be a time for reflecting on our own religious experience, and a rewarding discipline might be to question ourselves about our own tears, the tears we permit and the tears we repress. Here is an experiment: During Lent set aside half an hour each week, sit quietly in a private place with notepad and think where your tears are. Which are the kinds of tears that connect us with God and ourselves and one another? Do I ever allow any of these tears to flow?

I can already think of some of the headings I could use to help me focus on different aspects. Perhaps the first would be *Forbidden Tears*. Many of us have gone through life with unshed tears pent up inside us because some authority figures forbade us to cry. I've lost count of the men whom I have had to help release the

tears their parents shamed them into suppressing. It is one thing for parents to stop us whining in self-pity. It is another to censor the expression of grief and loss. The terrible truth is that many adults have been trained not to cry. So many griefs turned to ice in the deep freeze of the heart's recesses! Many of us will never warm up, or become open and free, until those tears have thawed and we allow them to flow. The old hymn *Veni Creator Spiritus* prays "what is frozen warmly tend..." There is an entire spirituality of healing contained in that petition. Imagine what a breakthrough might begin if we had the courage to confess before God that we don't know how to mourn, and need help.

Another category might be *Tears of Truth*. Here we venture into the territory of discernment. Tears tell us different things. Some tears expose our shallow sentimentality. We sob in spite of ourselves at tear-jerking movie scenes. We choke up at martial music and mawkish songs. Other tears reveal our vulnerability to manipulation. How easy it is for so-called evangelists and political orators to work us. The lump-in-the-throat tears they stimulate warn us that hackers know exactly how to get into our emotions for their own ends.

But we also cry because we have allowed truth through our defenses. These are different tears that cleanse and heal us. They tell us that we don't have hearts of stone after all, and that makes us grateful. We can be moved by what is true, what is good and what is beautiful. Tears can assure that we are touched by truth, braced by its painful realism, inspired to embrace its integrity, and honor its demands. Sometimes when I play songs

by two artists who have touched my life, Mili Bernejo and Abby Lincoln, I weep, but not from sentimentality. These songs bring tears because they remind me what these women taught me about passion, and the wholeness that can only be discovered by honoring loss and desire, grief and yearning, fierce anger and tenderness.

And there are *Tears of Connection*. Paul sums up our spirituality of mutual service succinctly: "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep." (Rom. 12:15) And the shortest sentence in scripture is, "Jesus wept." Tears of self-pity water make seeds of resentment germinate. Tears of empathy join us to each other. A heart that is open to God's Spirit allows us to shed tears of joy at the successes and delights that come to others. (Saints even shed tears of joy at blessings given to those they don't even like.) Tears of compassion allow us to share the burdens of others. Tears of intercession might even be ways we can cry on behalf of others, so that thanks to our connectedness in the Spirit, they might not have to cry as much.

Our list of tears can get longer. *Tears of Compunction* through which we admit our own brokenness and surrender denial. *Tears of Bliss*. *Tears of Relief*. Above all, *Tears of sheer gratitude*. Think about them. It won't be long before we realize why the spiritual masters spoke of the gift of tears. Most of us in our very emotionally controlled Episcopalian milieu haven't opened that gift up yet. We need to ask God very simply and sincerely for that gift.

Martin L. Smith is a well-known spiritual writer and priest. He is the senior associate rector at St. Columba's, D.C.

MONTHLY MEDITATION

It is God who clothes the wild grass that is here today and gone tomorrow, burned up in the oven. Won't he be all the more sure to clothe you? What little faith you have!

~ Matthew 6:30

Every time I read or hear this saying of Jesus from the Sermon on the Mount it strikes me differently. Today I think of what I've read about the average lifestyle of a citizen of the United States. A scientist whose name I cannot recall wrote that if each of the world's 6 billion inhabitants lived the way the average American does, it would take three or four planets to sustain us all. The larger perspective about the limitations of this island Earth are sobering. How much do I need? Or, to ask a more probing question: *What* is it that I really need?

Despite the relative affluence of North America and Europe, we suffer from an

epidemic of stress and lifestyle related ailments, both physical and psychological. Ours has been labeled the Age of Anxiety. Sages and anthropologists have even observed a comparatively reduced capacity for joy in our civilization, contrasted with people residing in countries with simpler lifestyles and lower expectations.

This will be no surprise to people striving to cultivate a mindful, spiritual dimension in their lives. We all know you can't buy happiness and that it is where your heart is that will determine the amount of joy you know.

Jesus is not trying to make the comfortable feel guilty about having creature comforts. The Lord knows that guilt is not an effective force for personal transformation. I believe he is appealing to our deepest intuition to bring to the

surface of our minds what we already know: that on this earthly plane nothing can give us peace, satisfy our restless yearning, but a conscious connection with the Ground of Being, the Author of All. God is what we really want.

The question then is: What will my life look like if I am living mindfully in the presence of God? Think about it. If you're not driven to flee from a nameless, faceless fear and from making decisions based on that agenda, what will you do? Jesus is saying that his wish for us is that we lead a life confident in the knowledge that the Power who put us here is near, and that the more of us who discover this the happier and healthier we'll be and the more just life on this planet will become.

The Rev. Randy Lord-Wilkinson is rector of Ascension, Gaithersburg.

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HUNGER FUND REPORT
from the January 10, 2008 Meeting
Jesus said "Feed my sheep."

Starting Funds	\$11,888
Grants:	Granted
• The Street Church, Church of the Epiphany, D.C.	\$4,500
<i>Provides lunch and Eucharist to the homeless in Franklin Square Park every Tuesday.</i>	

Total Requested: \$4,500; Total Granted: \$4,500; Remaining funds: \$7,388

Donations to the Hunger Fund can now be made **ONLINE**
Go to <http://www.hungerfund.net> and click on "Donate Now Online"

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Give Them Their Daily Bread

The price of an ordinary loaf of bread in Swaziland has risen to \$1 — more than most Swazis live on in a day.



The worst drought in modern history, a record low maize harvest, the deaths of farmers in the world's worst HIV-AIDS epidemic, and rising world food prices have created a recipe for mass starvation in this tiny country of one million in southern Africa.

Eighty percent of Swazis are small-scale farmers, dependent on the land for their food and meager livelihoods. Because of the crisis, farmers are being forced to sell off their farm animals and tools to buy food and medicine. This means they no longer have the means to resume farming.

Bishop Mshack Mabuza of Swaziland has used his churches to give away food, but the Anglican Church in Swaziland is overwhelmed. Bishop Mabuza has asked his friends in the Diocese of Washington for assistance. The Southern Africa Partnership Committee has already sent Bishop Mabuza \$1,000.

But that will only buy a single loaf of bread for one person out of every 1,000 in Swaziland. Won't you help to multiply those loaves? Any amount is welcome.

Send checks payable to "Diocese of Washington," indicate they are for "Swaziland Food Crisis," and mail to: Cheryl Daves Wilburn, Episcopal Church House, Mt. St. Alban, Washington, DC 20016. Or give online at www.edow.org/giving

CARBON EAST, from page 2
tion consume 80 percent of its resources while the remaining 80 percent of people have to make do with the remaining 20 percent.

Monday: Pray for wisdom to know how to live in the light of so much inequality.

Tuesday: Go meat free for the day and reflect on the killing of animals for food.

Wednesday: Turn the tap off while brushing your teeth and put the plug in when you wash your face.

Thursday: Lay aside time to explore in more depth the environmental challenges we face and their consequences (e.g. on the Internet or other media sources).

Friday: See what chemicals you have stored up in your cupboards. Dispose of those which are harmful to the environment appropriately and replace them with eco-friendly products if necessary.

Saturday: Use "gray" water from a water butt to wash your car. If there's none available then use a bucket rather than a hose.

Week 6

Sunday: The Earth was made through and for Jesus. How do

you think he would judge the way we live in it today? Take time to reflect on this both globally and personally.

Monday: Stop unwanted junk mail by registering at www.the-dma.org/consumers/offmail-inglist.html.

Tuesday: Replenish the bird food you put out and put up a bird box if possible.

Wednesday: When dusting, avoid using polishes. Just a cloth or duster will often do.

Thursday: Put lids on pans when cooking and use a kettle rather than a pan to boil water.

Friday: Consider joining an environmental organization like Friends of the Earth, WWF, Greenpeace, Christian Ecology Link or A Rocha. Christian Aid and Tearfund are also focusing increasingly on environmental issues.

Saturday: Invest in at least one energy saving light bulb. You could also consider investing in some rechargeable batteries.

Week 7

Sunday: Think about the role of your church within its local environment. Is there anything that

could be done to make it more environmentally friendly?

Monday: Are you sure you are recycling everything possible? Have another check.

Tuesday: If you're planning to go on holiday this year, begin to explore how you can make it "greener."

Wednesday: Take time to write to a public official on an issue of justice about which you feel strongly.

Maundy Thursday: Replace the light bulb you removed on Ash Wednesday with a low energy bulb. While doing this, take the time to make a personal pledge to serve others by pursuing a more sustainable way of life.

Good Friday: Darkness covered the earth on the first Good Friday. Switching off all the lights, sit yourself in darkness for a while. Meditate in and on the darkness. "We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies." Romans 8:22-23

CONSULTATION, from page 1

in eradicating them, beginning in the garden behind our own house!"

In breakout sessions, members began to develop strategies to advance the cause of full inclusion at the Lambeth Conference in July and at the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in Anaheim in 2009. Participants also voiced opposition to the current draft of a proposed Anglican Covenant, which would create a centralized governing body with authority over member churches for the first time in the Communion's history.

"There was tremendous energy in the plenary sessions, and even more in the breakout groups," said the Rev. Ruth Meyers, academic dean at Seabury, and co-convenor of the Consultation. "It was such a talented and committed group that eventually we abandoned some of the formal presentations and started identifying our priorities and making plans."

Participants focused particular attention on building interna-

tional coalitions to work against what the Rev. Mpho Tutu, executive director of the Tutu Institute for Prayer and Pilgrimage in Alexandria, Va., called "interlocking oppressions," the web of economic, political and social factors that determine who has access to power, resources and social approval, and who does not.

Since its initial meeting, the group has hired a part-time coordinator; published several of the papers it received at www.episcopalcafe.com and begun work on a Web site, www.chicagoconsultation.org, scheduled to go online this month.

Participants from other churches in the Anglican Communion included the Very Rev. Victor Atta-Baffoe, dean of St. Nicholas College, Cape Coast, Ghana; Bishop Michael Ingham of the Diocese of New Westminster, Canada; Te Paa; the Rev. Jane Shaw, dean of divinity, New College, Oxford and the Rev. Giles Fraser, founder of Inclusive Church in the United Kingdom.



Washington National Cathedral

COME TO OUR FEBRUARY AND MARCH CENTENNIAL EVENTS

The Sunday Forum: Critical Issues in the Light of Faith

Compelling, intellectually probing, and generous-spirited dialogue about major issues of the day as seen from a Christian perspective. Sundays at 10 AM in the Cathedral nave and on the web.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3
First-Person Faith with Krista Tippett, host of public radio's *Speaking of Faith*

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10
Faith and Bioethics: A Conversation on Stem Cell Research with filmmaker Maria Finitzo and leading bioethicists. Free screening of *Mapping Stem Cell Research: Terra Incognita* Saturday, February 9, at 4 PM.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17
Everything Must Change: The Radical Meaning of the Kingdom of God for Today's World with Brian McLaren, author and emergent church leader



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24
Faith, Politics & the Fight to End Poverty with Sojourners' Jim Wallis

Centennial Celebration of American Preaching

Distinguished preachers deliver the sermon monthly at the 11:15 AM Sunday service.



FEBRUARY 24
The Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston, President of Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge Massachusetts

MARCH 9
The Rev. Fleming Rutledge, internationally recognized preacher and author

Lecture

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 7 PM
Lifting the Veil on Addiction with William Cope Moyers

William Cope Moyers, son of PBS journalist Bill Moyers, carries the message of his spiritual recovery from drug addiction. Tickets at www.nationalcathedral.org.

Exhibit

JANUARY 16-MARCH 9
The Keiskamma Altarpiece: in St. John's Chapel, main level

The Keiskamma Altarpiece, a monumental artwork created by South Africans, speaks eloquently of the power of individuals joining together in sorrow and in hope to commemorate those who have suffered from HIV/AIDS.

Film Screening and Discussion

MONDAY, MARCH 10, 7 PM
Constantine's Sward with James Carroll



James Carroll, author, columnist, and filmmaker, joins us for a screening and discussion of his new film on the roots of religiously inspired contempt and violence. Tickets at www.nationalcathedral.org. Carroll will also be the guest at the Sunday Forum on Sunday, March 9.

Cathedral Crossroads

FEBRUARY 26, 6 PM (program at 7:30 PM)



Walk the labyrinth, attend the Centering Prayer gathering, receive healing from a laying on of hands, or simply sit in the quiet of the nave listening to the strains of harp and Native American flute music. This month's program features Marjory Bankson on "Centering in the Sacred Feminine." Free and open to the public.

Centennial Organ Recital Series

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 5 PM
Marilyn Keiser, Chancellor's Professor of Music at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana



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Washington Window

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activities & events

Feast of the Presentation
6:30 p.m. Feb. 1 at St. Paul's K St. Blessing of candles, procession, and Solemn Mass. Parish choir and orchestra performing. 202/337-2020

Fire & Water
4:30 p.m. Feb. 1 through 2 p.m. Feb. 3 at the Cathedral College: Esther de Waal and Martin Smith present, "Fire & Water: Meeting The Spirit, Renewing Baptism." Trace the paths of imagination, poetry, prayer and theology to renew your experience of the Holy Spirit. \$295. Register at: www.nationalcathedral.org

Appraisal Day, Jewelry Show
11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 2 at Sloans & Kenyon Auctioneers. \$10/item or 3/\$25. All proceeds benefit Episcopal Senior Ministries. Jewelry show by Angela Franco. 202/414-6313

Royal School of Music Anniversary Celebration
3 to 4 p.m. Feb. 2 at Washington National Cathedral. More than 400 singers from around the country. Music and readings all taken from Psalms.

Mardi Gras Celebration
6 p.m. Feb. 2 at St. George's, Glenn Dale. Dinner, silent auction, costume judging and dancing. Call for advance tickets. 301/262-3285

Mardi Gras Fundraiser
(Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington)
6 to 8:30 p.m. Feb. 2 at the American Institute of Architects. Entertainment, hors d'oeuvres, live auction and raffle. Tickets \$75. 202/667-2224

or info@samaritanministry.org
Mardi Gras Celebration
6 p.m. Feb. 5 at Epiphany, D.C. Dixieland Direct Band, jambalaya, King Cakes, a cash bar and a parade. Adults \$15; 12 and under \$5. Portion of proceeds go to Katrina recovery efforts. Reserve tickets at 202/347-2635 or www.epiphanydc.org

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
4 to 7 p.m. Feb. 5 at St. Barnabas, Temple Hills. Proceeds benefit Bishop Walker School. Adults \$9.50, children 3-11 \$7, under 3 free. 301/632-9808

Pancake Supper
4 to 7 p.m. Feb. 5 at Christ, Clinton. Full menu, bake sale, elephant table, basket raffle. Adults \$6, seniors and children 6-12 \$5, under 5 free. 202/868-1330

Mardi Gras Pancake Supper
5 to 7 p.m. Feb. 5 at St. Mary's, Foggy Bottom. Adults \$8, students/youth \$4. 202/333-3985
12-Step Eucharist
7:30 p.m. Feb. 6: at St. Alban's, D.C.: Hope for Recovery ministry team offers a 12-Step Eucharist on the first Wednesday of every month. It's not necessary to be in a 12-step program to attend. Contact sallycraig@aol.com

Repent and Live
12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 7 in Epiphany, D.C.'s Parish Hall. Brown bag lunch presentation by James Wallace on using Lent and Easter texts for self-enrichment and serving others.

Becoming The Gospel
Feb. 7-10 at the Wellspring Retreat and Conference Center in Germantown: An experiential event with silence, small group

The diocese welcomes new priests



Photo by Holly Foss

Bishop John Bryson Chane ordained 10 deacons to the priesthood during a Jan. 19 ceremony at Washington National Cathedral, and also received the Rev. Vidal Rivas, a Roman Catholic priest, into the Episcopal Church as a priest. Pictured here after the service are (front left) Bishop Barbara Harris, Bishop John Bryson Chane, the Rev. Nan Hildebrand, the Rev. Gini Gerbasi, the Rev. Emily Blair Stribling, the Rev. Michele Hagans, the Rev. Tom Murphy and Bishop Gene Robinson; (back left) the Rev. Mpho Tutu, preacher, the Rev. Frances Canham, deacon of the table, the Rev. Timothy Boggs, the Rev. Cindy Simpson, the Rev. Luther Zeigler, the Rev. Vidal Rivas, the Rev. Jan Cope, the Rev. Meredith Syler and the Rev. Simón Bautista, the Gospeller.

sharing, practical application. www.wellspringministry.org; 301/428-3373 or missionwel@aol.com

Men's Group Fish Fry
4 to 7 p.m. Feb. 8 at Trinity, Upper Marlboro. Fried Whitefish, coleslaw, green beans and beverages. Adults \$8, seniors \$7, children 12 and under \$5. Also Feb. 22. 301/627-2636

Racial Reconciliation Training
5 to 9 p.m. Feb. 8 at St. Alban's, Nourse Hall. Diocese's Committee on Racial Reconciliation will conduct an expanded and reformed reconciliation training program. Also Saturday Feb 9, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 202/449-3385 or racial-rec@edow.org

Absalom Jones Celebration Weekend
Feb. 9-10 at St. Luke's, D.C.: The Washington Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians presents the 30th Annual Absalom Jones Service and Celebration for the benefit of the three historically black Episcopal college's scholarship and endowment funds and the Howard University Episcopal Chaplaincy. The Crummell-Cooper Leadership Initiative (a workshop for emerging church leaders) is set for 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 9 and a service of cel-

ebration and award is set for 3 p.m. Feb. 10. 202/829-6445 or managedforyou@aol.com

Introduction to Centering Prayer Workshop
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 9 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Community Center. Learn the method of prayer and its personal spiritual uses. Registration required, suggested donation of \$15. 301-622-1122 or adultre@sjsilverspring.org

Health Discussion
1 p.m. Feb. 13 at Friendship Terrace. Nurse practitioner Gail Bashore leads a discussion on Cardiovascular Disease treatment. No registration required. 202/244-7400 ext. 10.

God's Tombstone
7 p.m. Feb. 13 at St. Augustine's, D.C. Featuring local artists Doris Thomas and Michael Mack. Coffee, tea and dessert, donations accepted for artists honorariums. 202/554-3222

On Beads of Prayer
7 p.m. Feb. 13 workshop at St. Paul's, Piney. Learn the history of prayer beads and how to make a set of them. RSVP to Marcy Hunter at 202/414-6314 or mhunter@esm.org

Friendship Terrace Open House
1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Feb. 14 at Friendship Terrace Retirement

Community. No reservations required. Also held at same time Feb 28. 202/244-7400 or RChambers@esm.org
Day of Recognition for Historically Black Episcopal Colleges

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 16 at Howard University's Rankin Chapel. The Episcopal Church Office of Black Ministries and the Association of Episcopal Colleges present A Day of Recognition in honor of St. Augustine's, St. Paul's and Voorhees colleges. Metro area high school students and high school college counselors, current students of the colleges, alumni and interested persons should plan to attend. 202/421-4119 or www.dcmetrostaalumni.com

St. Alban's Choir Pre-Tour Concert
7 p.m. Feb. 17 at St. Alban's, D.C. A cappella works by Tallis, Palestrina, Poulenc, Britten, Schultz and spiritual arrangements by Dawson and Nicholas White. Reception to follow, no admission charged.

Diana Butler Bass
Feb. 23: Author Diana Butler Bass will speak on Christian practices and congregational vitality at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Burke, Va. www.good-shepherd.net