

**070524 newSpin**  
**News with some Spin**  
**Edited by Bill Lewellis**

\*The *newSpin* Blog: [www.diobeth.typepad.com/diobeth\\_newspin](http://www.diobeth.typepad.com/diobeth_newspin)

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**June 2**

**The Rev. Margaret Merrell**

A Memorial Service for the Rev. Margaret Merrell, a priest of the Diocese of Bethlehem who died on April 16, will be held on Saturday, June 2, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at Christ Church, Susquehanna. Margaret served as rector of Susquehanna Country Ministry (Christ Church, Susquehanna and St. Mark's, New Milford) from 1979 to the mid '90s. She was the first woman to serve as a rector in the Diocese of Bethlehem. [Read more here.](#)

**June 7**

**Corpus Christi**

Bishop Paul will preside at a regional Corpus Christi eucharist at Holy Cross, Wilkes-Barre, 7:00 p.m. Bill Lewellis will preach.

**June 27**

**Bishop's Day with Kids**

Register today for the Bishop's Day with Kids, *Narnia – The Lion, the Bishop and the Wardrobe* to be held Wednesday, June 27 at the Cathedral, Bethlehem. Open to kids, kindergarten to grade six. Register by June 8 to get a free Narnia T-Shirt. There will be a bus to the event from the north. More info: [www.diobethkids.org](http://www.diobethkids.org). And there's a bulletin insert that may be downloaded [here](#).

"The world is run by the people who show up, and the body of Christ is, as skeptical St. Thomas learned a week late, experienced by those who show up." Read Bishop Paul's recent note about [people who show up](#).

**There's no such thing as doing prayer badly**

Prayer is something you can have whether your heart is full of happiness or full of sorrow. Since it's not a job or a test, it doesn't matter whether or not you think you do it well – there's no such thing as doing prayer badly. [From *It Works If You Work It, an eMo* by Barbara Crafton. [Read it all here](#). If you would like to read Barbara's reflections several times a week, ask [Bill](#) to have your email address added to our "Bethlehem of Pa" interactive list.]

**Bishop Anthony Poggo of Kajo Keji**

The Diocese of Bethlehem will be represented at the enthronement, June 3, of Bishop Anthony Poggo of the Diocese of Kajo Keji in southern Sudan. Former archdeacon Rick Cluett will represent Bishop Paul. Mrs. Connie Fegley will represent our diocesan World Mission committee. [More here](#). "We all rejoice at your election," Bishop Paul wrote "and give thanks that God is providing our sisters and brothers with a strong and loving leader ... Please know that all of our churches will be praying for you by name."

**June Diocesan Life**

The June edition of *Diocesan Life* may be downloaded [here](#).

## **Pray for ...**

Calendar and prayer cycle [for June](#).

## **Parish Newsletters**

Download parish newsletters [here](#).

## **Give 'til it hurts**

“I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc., is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little... There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditures exclude them.” Read [Peter Harer's reflection](#) on these words of C.S.Lewis.

## **Are all your parishioners, including newcomers, receiving *Diocesan Life*?**

All parishioners should be receiving *Diocesan Life* by snail mail, monthly, at no cost to the recipient. The mailing list is to be kept current by parish offices. Though hard copy of the current list is sent annually to parish offices for wholesale updating – parish offices should have received one during May – anyone (parish offices or individuals) may indicate additions, deletions and changes to the list at any time by sending those to [elife@aflwebprinting.com](mailto:elife@aflwebprinting.com). In doing this, please indicate that your list revisions are for “the *Diocesan Life* edition of *Episcopal Life*.” Your changes, if they are few, may be called in to 800-374-9510. Email, however, is preferable. Revisions may be sent also by snail mail to: Episcopal Life Circulation Department, PO BOX 2050, Voorhees, NJ 08043-8000. Parish offices that would like to receive an electronic list may request an Excel copy of their current list from [Bill Lewellis](#).

## ***Jubilate***

Hymnody for Pentecost 2007 (May 27 to November 25), published by the Diocese of Bethlehem for our diocesan community and for free distribution to the world, [may be downloaded here](#) as an Acrobat or MSWord file. *Jubilate* is a service of our Liturgy and Music Commission, specifically Canon Cliff Carr who has been doing this for more than 20 years.

## **They walked miles for abused children**

On a beautiful Saturday in April, 71 people from around the Diocese of Bethlehem gathered to *Walk a Mile in Their Shoes*, making a witness in downtown Allentown on behalf of abused children. Almost all walked the entire five-mile course. Some \$9,000 was collected for four Child Advocacy Centers in various parts of the 14 counties of our diocesan community. Read the *Diocesan Life* story and see a few photos [here](#).

## **In the News**

To keep up with Episcopal Church news and how our church is faring in news coverage across the country, even around the world, you may find the following resources helpful: (1) [Episcopal Life Online](#), where you will find far more than you might think its title suggests, (2) [epiScope](#), a look at what the secular media is saying about The Episcopal Church, providing us with the capacity to see ourselves as others see us (3) [Episcopal Café](#), (4) [Anglicans Online](#), The first three are updated daily, at times hourly. AnglicansOnline is updated weekly, usually late Sunday evenings.

## **Making a difference**

While the news is full of stories of our disagreements, Episcopalians are working to make a difference in our world. Anglican/Episcopal networks are active connecting people who want to use their gifts for creating a better world. Developing ways to provide food security for those who lack resources, providing treated mosquito nets to prevent malaria, lobbying governments to enact just laws, working to stop global warming, volunteering to teach children and adults, offering technical skills for clean water and sharing technology are some ways people are busy and involved. Some networks are all volunteer, others have paid staff to track efforts and offer specialized organizational talents. [Here](#) are just a few that might be of interest.

## **Yard Sale at Grace, Allentown**

Saturdays, June 2 and 9, 7:30 to 3:30. Fifth and Linden, Allentown. Donations will be accepted on Sundays after church, May 27. The collection area for donations will be the AIDS Outreach building, open until 12:30 pm on those dates.

## **Who are your delegates?**

Deacon George Loeffler, wearing his diocesan secretary hat, has mailed requests to parishes seeking lists of your certified delegates for the October 2007 Diocesan Convention. He has asked to receive this information by mid-July. If your parish office has not received this mailing, or if you have questions, please contact [Deacon George](#).

## **Bulletin Insert for Pentecost**

The Presiding Bishop's Pentecost Message is featured in the May 27 "Episcopal Life This Week" [bulletin inserts for parish leaflets and newsletters](#). Also included are ideas on becoming involved in the Episcopal Church & Visual Arts (ECVA). Bulletin inserts are offered in full color and black/white formats on either a full 8.5" by 11" sheet or half of an 8.5" by 11" sheet double-sided.

## **Become a world-renowned artist**

You may be interested in [this information](#) on the competition to design the annual Anglican Communion Christmas Card 2007. If you enter, please note the request to send a copy, rather than the original artwork. The deadline for this competition is July 7.

## **A Guide to Religion and Politics**

As the 2008 election campaigns accelerate, ReligionLink offers [an extensive guide to experts on religion and politics](#), from issues, including abortion and church politicking, to faith and ethnic groups.

## **Lambeth Conference 2008**

Bishops from around the globe are expected to join in worship, study, conversation, and discussion in July 2008 on the campus of the University of Kent at Canterbury, England. Detailed information on the Conference, called by the Archbishop of Canterbury every ten years, will be updated at the [official website](#) on a regular basis.

## **Decision on Lambeth invitations**

[Episcopal News Service] The Archbishop of Canterbury's decision to withhold a small number of invitations to the 2008 Lambeth Conference of Bishops drew reaction as soon as the announcement was made public May 22. About 880 invitations are being sent out from the Archbishop, Dr. Rowan Williams. The Rev. Canon Kenneth Kearon, secretary general of the Anglican Communion, confirmed to Episcopal News Service that Bishop Gene Robinson of New Hampshire and Martyn Minns, bishop of the Church of Nigeria-founded Convocation of

Anglicans in North America (CANA) are among the "small number of bishops" who have not been invited to the 2008 conference. Read the Episcopal News Service story [here](#).

### **No reactive communications, please**

[From Bishop Paul] The presiding bishop has had her secretary, Sheryl, communicate to the bishops of this church a desire for no reactive communications in the wake of recent announcements from the Primate of All England regarding who will not be attending the Lambeth Conference planned for 2008. I want you to be aware that I have noted this development and will pray for guidance in this matter. Given the great work we are called to be doing in Southern Sudan, we must continue to budget our energy in a way that serves our mission. [+Paul]

### **Conversations between people who disagree**

"You and I ought not to die, before we have explained ourselves to each other." That's the first sentence of a letter from John Adams to Thomas Jefferson. It came after years of silence occasioned by severe disagreements. A mutual friend persuaded them to write each other. Read all of [When in Doubt, Love](#) by Dick Staub. In his opinion column, Staub shares a few guidelines that have helped him facilitate conversations between people who disagree.

### **Images for your use**

Four Episcopal artists, commissioned by the Episcopal Church's Office of Communication's web department, have each created a set of 12 Christian symbols that have been placed on the church's website for use at no charge for non-commercial purposes. The symbols lend themselves readily to use on banners, posters, bulletin covers, postcard mailers, newsletters, study guides, Christian education curriculum materials, parish-produced devotionals, and church websites. The graphics are available [here](#) in both medium and high resolutions. The story is available [here](#).

### **Diocese to offer Worship Leader Training**

A special day of training will be held on Saturday, September 22 from 9:00 until 3:00, for anyone interested in becoming licensed as a Worship Leader (formerly called Lay Reader). The tentative location is Trinity Church, Mount Pocono. The Diocesan Commission on Ministry offers this training and other training for lay persons. The facilitator will be the Rev. Edward K. Erb of St. John's Church, Hamlin, member of both the Liturgy & Music Commission and the Commission on Ministry. A Worship Leader is defined in the Constitution and Canons as "a lay person who regularly leads public worship under the direction of the member of the clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith." Worship Leaders would assist with leading non-sacramental services, such as Morning and Evening Prayer. Registration information will be forthcoming. You may contact [Father Erb](#) for further information.

### **Golf with Brigid**

June 16, Cherry Valley Golf Course, Stroudsburg. Download info [here](#).

### **Back issues**

Find recent back editions of this *newSpin* newsletter: [070511](#), [070507](#), [070503](#), [070425](#), [070416](#).

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Published four to eight times monthly, the newSpin newsletter is intended especially for clergy, elected or appointed members of diocesan commissions or committees, wardens, vestry members anyone who has leadership responsibility for a specific ministry in a congregation. Any interested parishioner may be added to the list. Send your email address to [blewellis@diobeth.org](mailto:blewellis@diobeth.org). Thanks.]

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Be attentive. Be intelligent. Be reasonable. Be responsible.  
Be in Love. And, if necessary, change. --Bernard Lonergan