

070318 newSpin
News with some Spin
Edited by Bill Lewellis

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Diocesan Council approves Capital Campaign to Provide New Hope

[From Bishop Paul] On March 8, Diocesan Council determined to begin a campaign to raise \$3.6 million: 75% for Sudan, and 25% for new ministries to the needy at home. What we are going to do is unique: a capital campaign for somebody else. "The Diocese," in the institutional sense, is not the beneficiary of this effort. That by itself will set this effort apart. I am grateful to all who have worked to bring us to this moment. Now our adventure begins in Jesus' name. [\[Download more info at our blog.\]](#)

Relationships will continue

Those connections between members of the international body will continue, no matter what U.S. Episcopal or Anglican Communion leaders decide, Bishop Marshall said. "Relationships exist and grow on levels that institutions ... can abet, but can neither create nor destroy." Download the Morning Call, March 16, story [at our blog](#).

An invitation to the Chrism Mass from Bishop Paul

On Thursday, March 29, at 11 a.m., at the Cathedral of the Nativity, we will have our annual celebration of the "Chrism mass." Rectors (or senior wardens where there no rector) are asked to let Linda Shifter know how many people are coming from each parish, so that we may offer lunch to all.

Why would you want to come to this liturgy? Historically this is a "clergy only" event, and one of my first tinkering upon coming to serve here was to make it an event for all: we all have an investment in this service. Several things happen.

In order, the first is the renewal of ordination vows--an ideal time for each of us to affirm those priests and deacons who week-in and week- out provide moments of affirmation and strength for each of us. The second is the blessing of the oil of the sick used throughout the diocese--all who have part in the visitation of the sick and ministries of healing are especially invited to attend. Finally, after the eucharist we bless the chrism--the "oil of gladness" that signifies our life in the Holy Spirit, oil that is especially used in baptism and confirmation.

I hope you are able to be with us for this purposeful moment in our Lenten tune-up.

Faithfully,
+Paul

Diocesan Life. April

The April edition of Diocesan Life is available [here](#).

Parish Newsletters

Download parish newsletters [at our blog](#).

Ordination of Deacons

Sunday, March 25 (7:00 pm) at the Cathedral Church of the Nativity. James Thibodeaux (St. Gabriel's, Douglassville) and Steven Ling (Grace Church, Kingston).

Youth/adult mission trip meeting in Whitehall

Youth and adults interested in the mission trip to Clinchco, Virginia, June 23-30 are invited to an information session at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Whitehall on Sunday, March 25, at 4 p.m. Registration forms and packing lists will be available. Father Daniel Gunn, who has organized the trip, will tell us how to prepare and what to expect. Please join us if you wish to participate or if you are interested in helping to sponsor youth going on the trip. *[From Beverly Doneker, senior warden, St. Stephen's, Whitehall]*

A Triduum and Workshop invitation

Father Pat Malloy has heard from some members of our diocesan community that, as much as they would like to celebrate the Triduum as it is prescribed in the Prayer Book, it is not "on the radar screen" of most members of the parish. Others have said that they cannot imagine that the benefits would outweigh the effort necessary to pull these services together. The Vestry of Grace Church, therefore, would like to invite those who do not celebrate the Triduum in their home parishes but would like to, to worship with the Grace community for the three days. The services on Thursday and Friday will be at 7:30, and the Saturday evening Easter Vigil will be at 8:00.

A workshop on "taking it home" will be hosted by Grace the following Thursday evening, 6:00 to 9:00. If you plan to attend the workshop, please [let Father Malloy know](#) by Monday of Holy Week. He would also be happy to provide additional information. [Download context here](#).

epiScope

[Don't miss it](#). It's "a look at what the secular media is saying about The Episcopal Church," according to Jan Nunley, the woman behind the curtain, "providing us with the capacity to see ourselves as others see us."

Episcopal Life Online to debut March 22

I'm looking forward to this. The new online edition of the *Episcopal Life* newspaper is ready for launch, and URLs to the new site will soon be announced. The new site is a collaborative project of the newspaper and the Episcopal News Service. [Read more here](#) about this new venture where *Episcopal Life* will offer breaking news and features posted several times daily.

Bulletin Inserts take new form

The popular "Episcopal Life This Week" inserts for parish leaflets and newsletters are now available in four-color formats. See complete information [here](#).

Making Our Mark

MakingOurMark is a [website](#) and the name of the walk that the Archbishops of Canterbury and York will lead in London on March 24 to mark 200 years since the end of the slave trade. Take a look at the video launched recently on YouTube, [Archbishops' reflections on the slave pits in Zanzibar](#). The Church of England is to invite thousands of people from across the country to join the Archbishops in the Walk of Witness which will culminate in a large-scale act of worship. The event forms the main part of the Church's wider awareness campaign, *Making our Mark*. More resources [here](#).

Shift Happens

Thanks to Elizabeth House, senior warden at Grace, Allentown, for the pointer to this “truly amazing” [video from Break.com](#).

Money and Faith

[Download](#) a brochure announcing a *Money and Faith Retreat* led by The Rev. Kirk "Chief" Kubicek to on June 15-16, 2007, at Kirkridge Conference Center for clergy and partners.

The Silmarillion

On four Wednesdays in March and April, at Trinity Church, Bethlehem, Professor Jack Vickrey will be leading a group to read and discuss J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Silmarillion*. More info [here](#).

Pray for ...

March 25: St. James/St. George Church, Jermyn. Janice Black, senior warden. The Rev. John R. Gamble, priest-in-charge. *April 1:* St. Mark's Church, Moscow. The Rev. Earl P. Trygar, Sr., rector. [Calendar and prayer cycle for April](#). Pray for Rowan, Archbishop of Canterbury; Katharine, our Presiding Bishop; Andrew, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada; and Paul, our Bishop. Pray for the House of Bishops as it meets in Texas, March 16-21.

Bill Lord R.I.P.

[From Canon Ginny Rex Day, rector, Trinity, Mt. Pocono] Many in our diocesan community have known Bill over the years. He was a true leader in stewardship in the most fulsome sense of that word. For some time he has been living with Progressive Supra-Nuclear Palsey. Bill died Saturday night and so I write to ask your prayers for him, for his wife Barbara, and for their family.

The Episcopal Church welcomed me. Ask Me.

It has occurred to me that a T-shirt logo that might have some potential for evangelism would be *The Episcopal Church welcomed me*. Perhaps with the addition: *Ask me*. Think of the stories we outcasts who have been welcomed into the Episcopal Church might be invited to tell. For example: 1. I was a woman in another church who heard God's call to ordained ministry ... 2. I am gay or lesbian ... 3. I was an RC priest who dared to marry ... 4. I was an RC priest who could no longer tell people they were not welcome at the altar table because they practiced birth control ... 5. I married after a divorce without petitioning for an annulment ... 6. I had questions ... 7. I was a stranger in town ... 8. I was a young man in love with another and refused in my Church ... Oh the stories we might tell! A few of these were submitted in response to my post on another list. Are there others? [Tell Bill](#).

Safeguarding God's Children Training

The session scheduled for Christ Church, Reading March 17 was snowed out. It will be held there on June 2. Please contact [Rosemary Kleintop](#), 610-691-5655 ext. 224, at your earliest convenience to confirm your attendance at the June 2 offering or to switch to another date or location. More info about “Safeguarding” [here](#).

Advocacy for Children

Parishes mark miles on way to Walk-a-Thon

Children's Ministries of the Diocese of Bethlehem will sponsor an April 21 Walk a Mile in Their Shoes Walk-a-Thon to benefit four Child Advocacy Centers of northeastern Pennsylvania. The five-mile walk (with one mile option) will begin at the Masonic Temple, 1534 Linden Street,

Allentown, at 10:15 am. Registration will be open from 9:00 to 10:15. Organize a team and make a difference in the lives of abused children throughout our region. Visit Diobethkids.org for brochures, team registration forms, sponsor forms and more information to make your parish campaign and our diocesan Walk-a-Thon a success.

Meet Episcopal Authors at the Cathedral, April 29, 1-3 pm

Deirdre Good will be signing copies of her new book, *Jesus' Family Values*. Also (all the following are from the Cathedral): Anne E. Kitch, *Taking the Plunge*, a practical theology of baptism and parenting. Peter Pearson, *A Brush With God*, an inside look at the writing of icons. Jenifer Gamber, *My Faith, My Life*, a guide to teen confirmation. Gene Witiak, *True Confessions of a Veterinarian: An Unconditional Love Story*, a lifetime of wonderful stories from this Vet's view.

Reaching the Generation of Learned Skeptics and Cultured Despisers

Zeisberger Memorial Lecture, presented by Thomas Bandy pastor, author, leading voice on church leadership and transformation. Friday, April 13, 9:30–2:30pm Prosser Auditorium, Hauptert Union Building, Moravian College, Monocacy & Locust Streets, Bethlehem. Free. [Register online.](#)

Back issues

Find recent back editions of newSpin: [070306](#), [070302](#), [070219](#), and [070218](#).

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