



Church Life!

The Magazine of the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio

Spring 2014



Winter Convocation | Transfiguration Time Capsule | St. John's, Cleveland | Sewanee
Music Conference | When We Least Expect It, Jesus Shows Up | Lenten Offerings

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Bishop of Ohio

The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.

ChurchLife!

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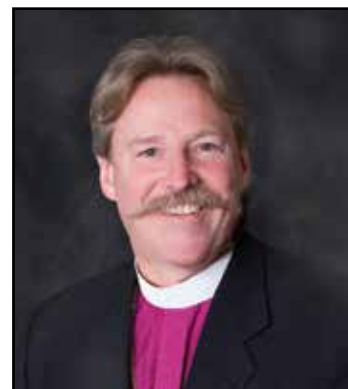
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On the Cover – Participants at this year's Winter Convocation created artwork during the program, led by the Rev. Luiz Coelho.

Religion and Science



I recently attended the City Club of Cleveland's Friday Forum, whose speaker that day was Professor Ahmed Rajab, the Richard T. Watson Assistant Professor of Science and Religion at the Harvard Divinity School, a chair established by the late Chancellor of the Diocese of Ohio, Dick Watson. Dr. Rajab is a physician who holds a doctorate in the history and philosophy of science. In his address entitled *Beyond Conflict and Harmony: Religion and Science in the 21st Century*, he argued that in order to understand how science and religion function in the world today, we must look beyond the classical models of how they relate to each other, i.e. in conflict or in harmony, neither of which is empirically accurate, to how they address human suffering and respond to the human condition. One compelling example he cited was the relationship between science and religion in end-of-life care, both in terms of the issues that are addressed and the practitioners to whom we turn for guidance at that time.

Following the forum, a long-time law colleague of Dick Watson's summed up the conflict model in an observation his father, a mathematics professor, offered many years ago, that religion is for those who do not understand science. I remarked that the inverse could also be claimed, that science is for those who do not understand religion. Of course, neither statement is accurate. Both religion and science inform our understanding of life; not only is each essential to the pursuit of the good, they both are essential, together. How they relate to one another is not the important question; the important question is how together they relate to the human condition.

For many generations, science and religion were understood to be one and the same. Academia and ecclesia were a single institution, and

as Dr. Rajab pointed out, many major scientific discoveries have resulted from the work and support of religious orders and organizations. I was interested to read in Brother Astronomer, the captivating book by the Jesuit priest and astronomy professor Guy Consolmagno, that the Vatican Observatory at the Pope's summer residence at Castel Gandolfo houses a collection of more than 1,000 meteorites. In ancient Egypt and ancient Greece, the temple was the place where people went to be cured. The stories of Jesus do not differentiate between physical and spiritual healing. To the woman with the issue of blood Jesus said, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease," and to the grateful Samaritan leper, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well." In some ways we are now reclaiming what was a given in antiquity, that illness was condition of both body and spirit.

The intersection of religion and science is of critical interest and import as we wrestle with the realities of climate change and come to a deeper

understanding of the stewardship of God's creation. There is no question that the church has an important role to play in shaping the future of environmental responsibility. It is our spiritual mandate. And to meet that challenge, we need to employ

science and religion as dual lenses through which we discern the fragility of God's creation and our fidelity to its care.

To that end, imagine how our proposed new camp and retreat facility, and the programs it would support, might become a fieldtrip desti-

For many generations,
science and religion
were understood to be
one and the same.

nation for countless schoolchildren, a place for learning about renewable energy sources, water reclamation systems, sustainable growing, and care of the land that produces what we eat. Imagine how it might provide a context for young adults to exercise and refine their leadership skills, serving as interns, teachers, and counselors, raising the consciousness of future generations and inspiring new disciplines for living founded on scientific knowledge and religious practice. Imagine how it might serve as a venue for seminars and workshops, retreats for business and non-profit leaders, and all sorts of gatherings, and just by its structure and facilities, expose attendees to the notion that living lightly on the earth and consuming healthy and locally grown foods are matters of social and environmental justice.

The relationship between religion and science is something we live out in the way we treat the world and the people with whom we are given to share it, perhaps especially those who will share it long after we are gone. Jonas Salk, the medical scientist who invented the polio vaccine, observed that “our greatest responsibility is to be good ancestors.” That is a religious claim as much as it is a scientific observation. And what a worthy task for the church, to provide a place and practical experiences that help the children of God, children of all ages, discover just how to fulfill that responsibility.

Gratefully,



The Rt. Rev. Mark Hollingsworth, Jr.
Bishop of Ohio

Winter Convocation Recap

By Ashleigh Johnson, Director of Communications

Winter Convocation 2014 was spent at Kalahari Resort and Convention Center, a venue that was especially great for entertaining children, teens, and kids at heart.

Friday began with the evening prayer, leading into the Rev. Luiz Coelho’s keynote speech. Rev. Coelho’s style of infusing a bit of humor into his presentation was well received. His focus with us was to explore possibilities through which our local congregations can experience “imagery as both missional and transformational” empowering “the people of God to act more effectively in the liberation, proclamation and reconciliation of all of Creation through Christ.” Rev. Coelho led workshops in which participants created art for these purposes and were later used in our convocation worship.

Things picked up on Saturday when workshops took over everyone’s focus. Rev. Coelho led a hands-on workshop where participants explored making liturgical art from the context of their own congregation. Our Guest Workshop Leader, the Rev. Dr. Roger Ferlo, did two instances of his workshop on encountering the Bible as a first-century Greek-speaking reader. Bishop Hollingsworth led a helpful workshop & discussion on vestry & lay leadership. Other workshops included the topics of



Rev. Coelho led a hands-on workshop

focusing on the relationships of congregations & priests in smaller churches, exploring Episcopal spirituality, taking our worship outside of the walls of the church, getting your parish on Facebook, learning about faith-based wellness ministry, conversing about race & racism in today's culture, discovering new relationships with our companion Dioceses, and exploring the role & ministry of the diaconate.

At the Eucharist, the space was beautifully decorated with the creations from Rev. Coelho's workshop. It was nice to have a moment to celebrate and bring the weekend to a close before heading back out into the cold & rain, leaving for our various destinations.

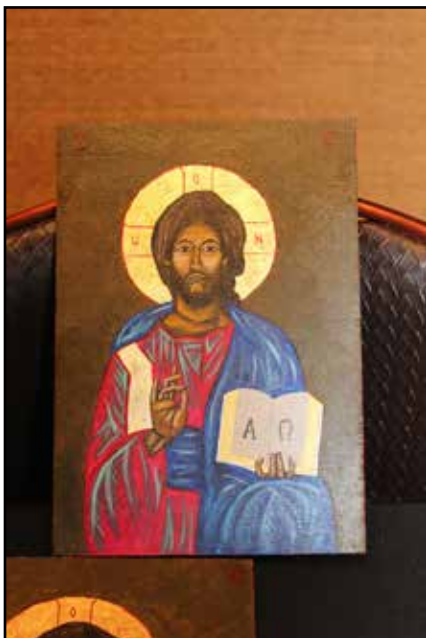
We hope to see you at Winter Convocation 2015!



The Rev. Dr. Roger Ferlo addresses the audience



The Eucharist



One of Rev. Coelho's liturgical art pieces



Bishop Hollingsworth visits the children's class

Transfiguration Time Capsule

by Ashleigh Johnson, Director of Communications



Cornerstone from Church of the Transfiguration

Witnessing the opening of a time capsule that's over 100 years old is something I've never had on my bucket list, but God saw fit to add it to the bunch.

Ten years ago, Church of the Transfiguration was named the Emmanuel Episcopal Church, which sat E. 86th Street and Euclid Avenue in Cleveland since 1902. Early this year, the Church of the Transfiguration was demolished, as the church

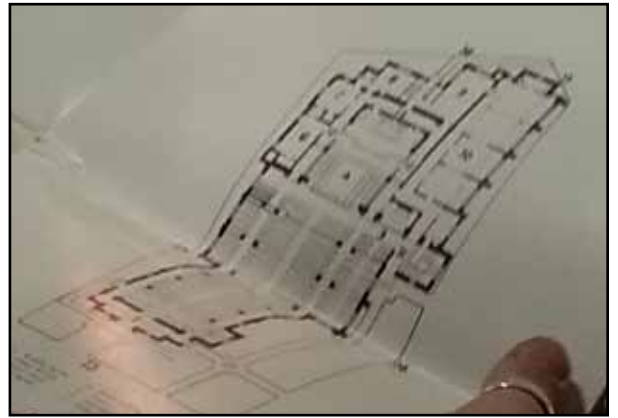
& building had not been active for 5 years. Cleveland Clinic has since purchased the land with plans to build a hotel for families of patients at the hospital.

Before the structure was completely torn down, there was word that there might be a time capsule sealed in the cornerstone of the building. Once the demolition was finished, over 25 people gathered to get a glimpse of life as an Episcopalian in the early 1900s.

Led by archaeologist Mallory Haas from the Center for Community Studies, the lead and copper sealed time capsule revealed a great deal of information about the parishoners of Emmanuel Episcopal Church. We are incredibly grateful for Mallory's hard work and dedication to ensuring that all of the artifacts from Transfiguration are handled and preserved with the utmost care.



Left: Journal of Convention from 1902
Right: Construction plans for Emmanuel Church



A copy of *The Cleveland Leader* newspaper, 1906



Opening the time capsule



Left: A list of donations and communicants, rare photos of rectors and Bishop Leonard, Fourth Bishop of Ohio
Right: An issue of ChurchLife, 1906



Updates at St. John's, Cleveland

by Alex Barton, St. John's Project Developer

Peter Rollins Event

Saturday, February 22nd, famed author and thinker Peter Rollins visited Saint John's Cleveland. More than seventy people showed up to hear what he has been writing and thinking about recently. This particular visit, however, was a part of his "exile tour," as he is moving from the east coast to the west.

It was interesting to note the community that gathered for the particular night in our Parish Hall. There were members of the Diocese but the vast majority of people in attendance were Evangelical or Non-Denominational. Saint John's could not have been a better place for the eclectic group or for the speaker. Right now, the space is undergoing renovation to make way for offices for a community partnership; the paint is still peeling, and the most recent cold knocked out our restrooms. However, Peter Rollins' ideas about community above the indoctrination of culture and turning Biblical parables on their head was well suited to our experiment on the West Side of Cleveland.

He had a number of great points to make as well as some wonderful parables to share. My favorite story was of an Irish competition to build the perfect sheep enclosure. Three people were selected: an architect, an engineer, and a sheep farmer. On the day of the competition they were given the material and a set amount of time. At the end the judges first went to the architect and saw how wonderful a structure was built. They then went to the engineer who had also built a masterful pen. They were beginning to wonder how they could possibly choose a winner when they got to the sheep farmer. He was sitting in a tiny enclosure painting furiously. They were shocked and asked him if he understood



A community gathers to hear Peter Rollins at St. John's, Cleveland

the parameters. His response was that he was outside and they were inside.

Rollins lifted up this story to talk about how rules and doctrine exist in life regardless of church or nation. We have to make conscious efforts to avoid simply buying into a way of life. He tied this to the mission of the church to know and invite the “other.” We invite the other not for the sake of numbers but as Rollins put it “so we can meet ourselves and see how we are seen.”

Saint John’s is an Episcopal experiment to do exactly that and Rollins provided a wonderful platform to talk about our mission. The night ended with a number of tours, different groups in conversation, and a final pit stop to the local pub for more theological discussion.

Summer Interns

We are once again looking for young adult interns (recent college graduates) who are interested in exploring the interplay between faith and work in an urban environment. Because we have no congregation, we are an experiment for the present as well as the future. Some of the questions we are asking are:

- How does the church interact with the community beyond worship?
- How can we be a healthy contributing part of the neighborhood?
- How do we translate faith into healthy interactions and initiatives with the community?

Work sites will include urban farming, tutoring refugees, and recording the stories of our neighbors.

Through the program participants will read books together, watch movies, and meet with some of the leaders that make Cleveland such a dynamic city. And, while there is a program director the hope is that leadership will be shared in discussion and study. The program will provide for all educational material unless otherwise noted.

The two books we will be reading together are Welcoming Justice: God’s Movement Toward Beloved Community by John Perkins, Charles

Marsh & Philip Yancey and Making Peace with the Land: God’s Call to Reconcile with Creation by Fred Bahnson, Norman Wirzba & Bill McKibben.

The program will have a prayer and worship dimension to it, which will include offerings from the program director as well as those arising from the participants’ preference. There will be chances to lead and create worship throughout the experience as well from Sundays to weekday mornings.

If you or anyone you know is interested in an internship at Saint Johns please contact Alex Barton for more information and to set up an interview. abarton@dohio.org

Next Steps

As we move into the season of Lent we will once again be offering Ashes to Go. We will also be offering a Lenten study of Fredrick Douglas’ work and a separate Anglican spirituality experience. We will also be trying a new community event called Bread House, in which participants are invited to come and socialize while baking bread together.

We continue to do the necessary renovation work to the space as fast as we can. By April 1st the heat should be completely restored in time for the Cleveland Public Theatre’s grand production of “Station Hope.” A day long multi-play and art celebration of the Underground Railroad to be held at Saint John’s on April 26th.

This summer we will be hosting a conversation in Ohio City centered on the book Abundant Community. Thanks to the support of the Eliza Bachus Guild of Saint Paul’s Cleveland Heights we have the funding to provide free books.

We continue to recruit more interested people for the projects of renovation, community organizing, and creating meaningful neighborhood interaction. If you have any more questions or would like to hear more please contact Alex Barton, the project developer, at abarton@dohio.org.

Sewanee Church Music Conference

By Jane Scharding Smedley, Sewanee Church Music Conference

The 63rd annual Sewanee Church Music Conference, directed by Dr. Robert Delcamp, President of the Board and University Organist at The University of the South, welcomed three ‘first-timers’ as music faculty this year: Richard Webster, Maxine Thévenot, and Edmund Connolly. The Reverend Barbara Cawthorne Crafton returned as Chaplain, to the great delight of those privileged to hear her in 2011. Webster is Director of Music and Organist at Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston. In addition to their extensive performing and recording careers, Thévenot and Connolly serve as Organist-Choir Director and Assistant Organist-Choir Director, respectively, at the Cathedral of St. John’s in Albuquerque. Reverend Crafton, author, counselor, and spiritual director, has served several churches. She heads The Geranium Farm, an on-line institute for the promotion of spiritual growth.

The scope of the conference allows for many essentials: learning, worship, fellowship, spiritual enrichment, and the proverbial “re-charging of batteries”. This year’s gathering accomplished all this and more. In the first rehearsal, Webster took the 138 singers through all the music to give them a taste of what was in store, while getting acquainted with the ensemble at his disposal.

Choral reading sessions were spaced throughout the week - Richard Webster, Alvin Blount and Peggy Lyden shared proven winners from their own church programs, with anthem packets provided by Elizabeth Smith of Lois Fyfe Music. A highlight of the conference is the presence of this store on campus all week for browsing, professional advice, and conviviality of shoppers. Dr. Mark Schweizer of St. James Press previewed its latest collection, and Dr. Thévenot presented organ music from her native Canada.

Long-time attendee Richard Moore offered two workshops on the use of computer programs especially geared towards the work of church musicians. To judge from the overflow crowd he drew, this was obviously filling a need for many.

The popular and invaluable “Episcopal Basics” class offered by School of Theology

faculty member Susan Rupert now includes “Singing the Altar Book” and “Liturgical Planning” -pertinent topics whether one is serving a small parish or a cathedral.

While the primary focus of the music faculty is the rehearsal and performance of literature for Evensong and Eucharist, each offered sessions on various topics. Thévenot gave a thorough and excellent overview of hymn-playing skills, demonstrating such with attendees Bill Bane, Parks Greene and Richard Mangiagli. In her organ master class, coordinated by Alvin Blount, players Tim Hall, Bill Bane, Jeffrey Ford, and Stanley Workman, Jr. were each allotted 30 minutes; this allowed in-depth observations by the clinician that could be beneficial to all. She shared background tidbits to illustrate reasons for approaching a piece in a certain way. With her delightful and engaging personality, she drew out ideas readily grasped that were applicable elsewhere, while still focusing on improving each player’s skills.

Edmund Connolly’s well-received classes on vocal techniques were further integrated into the group



Photo of Ohioans who attended the 2013 Sewanee Church Music Conference, from left to right: John M Glaze, St. Mary’s, Hillsboro; John W Johns, St. Paul’s, Dayton; Stan Workman, Second Presbyterian Church, Portsmouth; Stephen Casurella, Christ Church, Cincinnati; Justin Wiget, All Saints, Portsmouth; Ned Brooks, St. James, Wooster.

rehearsals: at Webster's invitation, Connelly oversaw warm-ups and made suggestions for dealing with specific issues throughout the week. Such displays of teamwork were noted positively by colleagues.

Choristers from St. George's Episcopal Church in Nashville assisted Webster in his presentation entitled "The Joy of Doing REAL Music with Children". The topic of composing and arranging drew about 35 people who read through submissions conducted by attendees Mark Janus, Stephen Schalchin, Brennan Szafron, Stephen Casurella, and Kirby Colson. Webster facilitated feedback from the observers, with each composer receiving positive and insightful suggestions on their work. A workshop on choral conducting offered Eric Vinciguerra, Jennifer Stammers, Susan Yoe, and Mark Janus (all expertly accompanied by Dory Light) the chance to show their interpretation of Howell's 'Like As the Hart'. In addition to Webster's comments, others made positive and useful observations, further showcasing the collegial aspect of this conference.

Each year one looks to bring back some pearls of wisdom to share with one's choir: a vocal warm-up, a conducting gesture for the clean release of final 's', a catchy phrase to drive home a point - even a good joke! Webster's rehearsals contained many such gems, generously and respectfully shared. Later in the week, on a more personal note, he told his story of being present at the Boston Marathon when the bombings occurred, only two months previously.

The Reverend Barbara Crafton was back as Chaplain - truly by popular demand! Besides deeply spiritual insights, her talents in theater and music, among others, showed forth in her profound messages - choices of words, their delivery, timing, pacing, punctuated with delightful humor. Daily morning homilies were scripture-based, with everyday examples woven throughout. Glimpses of personal stories and musical knowledge obviously resonated with her listeners, including her image of the choir as a model for the world in its blend, ensemble, unity, harmony. In addition to using her voice as a preacher, she very capably served as Precentor at Evensong. Her presence at daily choral rehearsals was further evidence of her appreciation of the conference's focus on liturgy. It was notable that, unlike some years, attendance at morning Mass did not decrease as the week went on! The titles of her four lectures alone enticed listeners to come and hear: *The Music of the Spheres; A Tree Falls in the Forest; Nude Descending Staircase; The Also-Life.*

Special note is made of the various tasks - many behind the scenes - shared by attendees: John Hobbs and the Reverend Thomas Williams at the altar, Frolic producer Jennifer Stammers, among others. Bill Bane now joins the Board of Directors who oversee the planning and execution of the conference. Kim Terry Agee, Director of the Dubose Center, announced her retirement after 25 years. Her presence will be greatly missed.

Faculty for the 2014 conference (July14-20) will be Todd Wilson and Peter Conte, with Bishop J. Neil Alexander as Chaplain. It was announced that Todd Wilson, Trinity Cathedral Cleveland, will become the conference director beginning in 2015, the 65th anniversary of the conference. Information can be found at www.sewaneconference.org

Clergy Changes

- The Rev. **Allan Belton** has left his position as extended supply St. Mark's, Wadsworth.
- The Rev. **Gayle Catinella** will be leaving St. Thomas, Berea to become the rector at St. John's, Youngstown.
- The Rev. **Christopher Coughlin** moved from St. John's, Bowling Green to become the Priest-in-Charge at St. John's, Cuyahoga Falls.
- The Rev. **Aaron Gerlach** will be leaving St. Mark's, Sidney to become the Priest-in-Charge at Old Trinity, Tiffin.
- The Rev. **Caroline Hines** started as the Interim Rector at St. Michael's in the Hills, Toledo.
- The Rev. **Merlin Jacobs** has begun his position as Interim Rector at Trinity, Findlay.
- The Revs. **Peg and Greg Sammons** retired as Co-Rectors from St. Michael's in the Hills, Toledo.
- The Rev. **Christine Schutz** has retired from Trinity Church, Findlay.
- The Rev. **Conrad Selnick** left St. Christopher's by the River, Gates Mills to become the Vice President of Bexley Seabury Seminary for Advancement and Church Relations.
- The Rev. **David Sipes** has left his position as extended supply at St. Mark's, Shelby.

Happening 2014

by Vincent Black, Canon for Christian Formation



With 23 Happeners and 25 parishes represented, this year's attendance was the largest in recent years. Participants, ranging from 9th to 12th grade, spent the weekend of March 7-9 at Christ Church, Hudson for Happening 2014. Happening is led by youth, with the support of adults, and the weekend is spent in a relaxing, informal, loving environment. It is a time for youth to enjoy fellowship, share their faith, get closer to God, and continue to grow in the Christian faith.

We want to thank Christ Church, Hudson for their generosity and exceptional hospitality. Not only did they host Happening 2014, they also hosted the Happening Staff Weekend in January. We are grateful for their hard work in making this year's Happening a success.

Music for a Lifetime

Exploring the Relationship between Music and Identity



How does music make you feel? The Spring Youth Gathering on May 2-4, 2014 at Church of the Ascension in Lakewood, will give youth in grades 7 through 12 the opportunity to explore that feeling and how we incorporate music into not only church but also our daily lives. Through small group activities and live music, youth will have the opportunity to explore and enjoy the sound and words that shape us.

At the Diocesan Youth Event last October youth were introduced to the music of *The LivingStones*, a group of 4 young men who began playing together in 2006 in their own church youth group in Michigan. In 2011 they released their first full-length album, *Glow*. In July of 2012, they released the *Worship EP*.

Youth will have the opportunity to meet and hear these young people at a concert on Saturday Evening, they will join them in their small groups on Saturday afternoon and perform the music for worship on Sunday morning.



Watch your mail for registration materials.

When We Least Expect It, Jesus Shows Up at 7th and Reid

By The Rev. Mary C. Carson, Rector, Church of the Redeemer, Lorain

We postponed Redeemer's annual meeting from January 26 to February 2 because I expected less than half of the usual number of people would be in attendance due to the weather. Once that decision was made, I figured we would be lucky to have 15 people at the Eucharist on the 26th. To put it bluntly, I had very low expectations for the morning, and I quite reluctantly dragged my congested, sleep-deprived body to church.

We could have gathered in Redeemer's side chapel, but I learned at a memorial service on January 23 that when I'm in that space, my liturgical self reverts to Rite 1 and this was to be a Rite 2 Eucharist. I also don't like celebrating the Eucharist with my back to the congregation.

Instead I asked everyone to gather in the choir stalls at the front figuring that 15 people there would be comfortable and we would sing better. We started with about 15 in the choir stalls and then 2 more came in. We adjusted easily to include them. And then someone else came. And then around the time of the sermon, several of the guys from the nearby homeless shelter wandered in. Every time someone came in, I encouraged them to come up front but without any clear sense of where they would sit. But each time, folks got up and shifted. Five people ended up moving from the choir stalls into the sanctuary where seats were available.

In the end, 25 people were present, but that doesn't tell the whole story. The sermon was a time of sharing about what it means to be an ordinary person called to serve Jesus. (Since I had planned to do my annual report in the context of worship, I didn't have a sermon prepared and

my ability to focus on writing one on Saturday night was compromised by my cold.) Those who spoke showed a depth of faith and a vulnerability to share indicative of an increasingly strong faith community.

And then there were the Prayers of the People. They began in the usual manner with few audible additions, but after a petition for those who are sick or in need, one of the homeless guys prayed that all of the people in homeless shelters all over the world would find a place to live and especially that the current uncertainty about the Lorain shelter would be resolved. It's one thing for those of us who have a home to pray for those who are homeless, it's another thing to hear someone who is homeless offer that prayer. That opened the way for others to share including a loud "Amen!" when someone offered thanks that her son is moving into an apartment tomorrow.

When we got to the announcements at the end, one of the homeless guys expressed disappointment that there wasn't going to be a meal as had been announced the week before as being part of the annual meeting. I had no idea if we had any food around, but several parishioners spoke up saying that there was

food, and they made sure the guys were fed.

Serving as rector of a congregation where people don't give a second thought to having a homeless man sit down next to them in church is a blessing beyond measure. That morning I saw the Church at its best doing what we are supposed to do: feeding the hungry, sheltering the cold, sharing our stories, knowing the presence of Christ in and among us.

That morning I saw the Church at its best doing what we are supposed to do.

The final hymn was one of my favorites by Brian Wren. (#304 in The Hymnal 1982):

1 I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven,
loved, and free; in awe and wonder to recall his
life laid down for me.

2 I come with Christians far and near to find,
as all are fed, the new community of love in
Christ's communion bread.

3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends; the love that made us,
makes us one, and strangers now are friends.

4 And thus with joy we meet our Lord; his
presence, always near, is in such friendship bet-
ter known: we see and praise him here.

5 Together met, together bound, we'll go our
different ways; and as his people in the world,
we'll live and speak his praise.

This morning brought this text to life in a to-
tally new way for me. Who would have thought
that Jesus could show up on a bitterly cold,
snowy Sunday morning in Lorain, Ohio? Ex-
pecting the unexpected is what it means to be a
follower of Jesus.

The 2014 Bishop's Annual Appeal is Coming to Your Parish in March and April

by Lael Carter, Development Officer

Allie Thompson, project administra-
tor for the Camp and Retreat Min-
istry, Alex Barton, Historic St. John's
Project Developer, and Keila Eddy,
Urban Service Corps Intern, pitch in
to package and deliver Bishop's Annual
Appeal materials to parishes. Parishes
are asked to launch the Appeal in March
and April.

Gifts to the Bishop's Appeal help sup-
port servant leadership experiences for
young adults, like Allie, Keila, and Alex.
They underwrite mission trips for youth
and adults, make possible summer
internships for high school and college
students, and help to support forma-
tional positions for newly ordained

clergy. Each year through Episcopal Community Services, the Appeal provides \$100,000 in grants that encourage parish based ministries throughout the Diocese.

Through the Bishop's Appeal we undertake ministries beyond the scope of a single parish that draw us together and engage us more fully in God's mission. If you have any questions or suggestions, please call or email Lael Carter, Development Officer, 216-774-0463, lcarter@dohio.org.



How Do We Deal With Change? We Come To Camp!

By The Rev. Peter W. Nielsen, III, Director, Cedar Hills Camp & Conference Center

A letter to the diocesan family,

Many of you are aware that the diocese is moving forward with its plan to develop another location for camp and retreat ministry. However, during the time of fundraising, property acquisition and development, we will still offer the best camping program available at Cedar Hills. Yes, change is in the wind and this raises the question, "How do we deal with change from a Christian perspective?"

We are all aware that change is never-ending in both the big and small aspects of our daily lives. Most often, we respond to change with ease; however, some changes cause us to pause. In this pause, it is important to remind ourselves of two things. First, change is a constant in God's created order. Second, we also must recall that God declared his creation good, and that includes the evolution of all things belonging to God, for which we are simply stewards. The Holy Spirit speaks to the church through its collective determination of mission. Our Diocesan Convention, and our Bishop, have moved to explore the possibility of a new camp and retreat ministry for future generations. If this is where the Spirit of God is leading us, then it is time for us all to stand together in solidarity to see this new thing happen well.

Standing together in community is particularly important when we are called to live into change; especially, as change comes to those we love and those things of this world with which we have become comfortable and familiar. At these times, the Christian must resist fear and groom courage and endurance. We must keep our eyes forward living with anticipation and hope and not allow ourselves to be consumed in what was before. As a community, when we face change in this way, we show all of those around us that we, as the community of Christ, are a people of hope. We witness to all around us our trust in God's grace as we gaze forward expecting surprise and joy in what God is making new.

Yes. There will be another camp opportunity this year at Cedar Hills while we await this new thing. We will again offer the many exciting recreational activities for all ages. However, this season also offers a wonderful educational opportunity to help our youth understand how to deal with change from a particularly Christian perspective. Thus, the words you see highlighted above will at the center of both our experiential education, as well as, supported in the teaching times offered by our Chaplains.

Please consider sending your children to Camp Cedar Hills. We want this to be a fully subscribed season and offer your loved ones an experience of fun and friendships that will last a lifetime. The camp schedule and registration materials can be found on the diocesan website or I can send them directly to your home. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, and I hope to see you at Camp Cedar Hills 2014.

Respectfully, your servant,

The Rev. Peter W. Nielsen, III
Director, Cedar Hills



Christ Church Hosts Lessons and Carols

Sunday evening, December 22, 2013 the Parish Choir of Christ Episcopal Church, Warren hosted the 2nd Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols sung by the combined SEMA Episcopal Choirs of the area.



Fifty singers made up the Festival Choir, Dr. Richard Konzen (Organist-Director of Music, St. John's, Youngstown), was the organist and Gary P. Richards, (Organist-Director of Music, Christ Church, Warren) directed the Festival. Readers for the Festival included: Lorenzo Thomas (SEMA Youth Director); Barbara Jones (Sr. Warden, St. James); Amanda Baker (Vestry Youth Representative, Christ Church); Tim Ruane (Choirster, St. John's, Youngstown); Jan Henrey (Altar Guild, Christ Church, Warren); William Cooper (Lector, St. John's, Sharon); Dr. Lee Snelson (Lector, Christ Church, Warren) and The Rev. J. Jeffrey Baker (Rector, Christ Church, Warren).



The Episcopal Health Ministries invites you to join them in the Big Easy for the 6th Annual Seasons of Health Conference: Empowering Health Ministries. The conference runs from May 7-10, 2014.

Attending the conference is always a great way to obtain continuing education credits, be with other people who believe and practice in the mind, body and spirit connection, and a way to increase your own spiritual awareness.

Faith based nursing incorporates the understanding of mind, body and spirit. Faith based nurses are able to assist people in the faith community understand their health, work through the health care system and walk with people on their life's journey.

The keynote speaker for the conference is G. Scott Morris, M.D., M.Div., Chief Executive Officer of the Church Health Center (www.churchhealthcenter.org). Dr. Morris has an undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia, a Master of Divinity degree from Yale University, and M.D. from Emory University. He is a board certified family practice physician and an ordained United Methodist minister.

Registration Fee (Continuing Education Units included): \$325 includes six meals and program fees.

Late registration fee of \$350 applies after April 1. Note: Cancellation fee of \$25 applies through April 15; fee is \$50 after April 15.

There are scholarship funds available for those who wish to attend this conference. It has been the habit in recent years to encourage folks engaged in parish nursing to attend this gathering. Anyone wishing more information on this should contact Maryfran Crist at maryfrancrist64@gmail.com.

Accommodations are available at the Hilton New Orleans, St. Charles. Reserve by April 30th for the special rate of \$159/night through the EHM Conference Block (parking not included). Call 504-524-8890 or see the hotel link on the EHM website to make your reservation.

To register visit www.episcopalhealthministries.org today!

Lenten Spiritual Offerings and Retreats in the Diocese of Ohio

Lent offers an opportunity for spiritual growth and transformation as we are invited to make intentional choices that grow us ever more fully, as our Baptismal Covenant says, “into the full stature of Christ.” Most of our parishes offer weeknight opportunities for these kinds of reflection and choices and we encourage everyone to participate in their parish’s Lenten offering.

In addition, there are half day retreats offered across our diocese every Saturday during Lent. Many of those are listed below. You are invited to participate in any of them as an addition to your Lenten experience.

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March 29 - Saturday of the Third Week in Lent

- Trinity Cathedral/Cleveland: Middle School Pilgrimage to the Cathedral; 2 pm Saturday to 10 am Sunday; \$20, Grades 6-8

April 5 - Saturday of the Fourth Week in Lent

- Trinity Cathedral/Cleveland: Engaging the Wilderness; 9 am to noon - \$10; Register at krackley@dohio.org or 216-774-0418.
- New Life Church/Uniontown: Letting go this Lent: Forgiveness and Healing; 9:30 am to 12:30 pm - Free; Register at 330-699-3554.

April 12 - Saturday of the Fifth Week in Lent

- Trinity Church/Toledo: When the ordinary becomes the Extraordinary!; 9:30 am to 2:30 pm - All expenses paid by The Diocese of Ohio.

April 13 - Palm Sunday

- Church of the Ascension/Lakewood: Every Life is Braided with Luminous Moments; 1 pm to 5 pm; Free. For more information and to register contact Alex Barton at abarton@dohio.org.

Lenten Reflections

The 2014 Lenten Reflections are available for download on the DOhio.org website. We’re sending them out daily via email and Facebook. If you’d like to subscribe to receive the reflections in your inbox, please do so by going to our Facebook page, click the link of the latest reflection, then click Join My Mailing List.

We’d love to see how you’re reflecting during Lent! Share your photos and videos using the hashtag: #DOhioLent

Facebook - www.facebook.com/dohio

Twitter - @dohio

Instagram - @edohio

For additional information on these and other programs, visit www.dohio.org

ECW President's Report

By Barbara Johansen, President, ECW, Diocese of Ohio

Three years ago I didn't think of this moment but here we are. As Dickens said, "It has been the best of times and the worst of times." There have been many challenges not only to this office but to the Church as a whole. That has always been the case and will continue to be so. Let's focus though, on the celebrations.

We started with the "little dresses for Haiti and then the "Bricks for Haiti. Many pounds of clothing, "little dresses", were shipped to the Diocese of Haiti. Then we ventured into the "Bricks for Haiti", in helping to rebuild the Cathedral there. A building that not only serves as a church but in many ways as meeting places, school, and other much needed space.

Our Yearbook Directory has now been computerized!! With the help of the Diocesan office we have seen this come to fruition. It continues to be a work in process and we find we must make constant changes. Updating reports, officers and Board chairs, committees and the contacts for each church in the Diocese are among the changes that have to be made. My job after leaving office is going to be just that, through our Annual Meeting in May.

We have identified the role of ECW with the companion relationship of Tanga and Belize. We are looking forward to working with the Mothers Union of the provinces and Bishop Wright in Belize.

Finally and very important, we are undertaking a new challenge in relation to the subject of Human Trafficking. We will begin with our Annual Meeting in May. We need to work with those involved to do what we can for this operation. Ohio is the fifth largest area of trouble in this country.

It is with mixed feelings that I come to this point of saying "goodbye". I thank all of you for your love, loyalty and cooperation it takes to hold this great organization together. I thank the Bishop's office and the Diocesan staff for their much garnered direction. I thank my husband Paul, for always willing to take me where I had to go. God's blessings on our next leadership and for all of the work of our faithful members.



In His love, I remain
Respectfully yours,

Barbara Johansen

President of ECW
Diocese of Ohio

ChurchLife!

Trinity Commons
2230 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2499

Coming Up...

Calendar

- April 14
Clergy Renewal of Vows
St. Paul's, Fremont
- April 15
Clergy Renewal of Vows
Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland
- April 18
Good Friday
Diocesan offices closed
- May 2-4
Spring Youth Gathering
Church of the Ascension, Lakewood
- May 6-8
Clergy Conference
The Lodge at Geneva on the Lake
- May 9-10
ECW 137th Annual Meeting
Magnuson Grand Hotel, Howland,
and Christ Church, Warren
- May 17
Bishop's Easter Retreat
St. John's, Cuyahoga Falls
- May 18
Cedar Hills Work Day
Cedar Hills Camp & Conference Center
- May 26
Memorial Day
Diocesan offices closed
- June 21-25
Bishop's Bike Ride

Bishops' Visitations

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|-------|---|---|--|
| March | 4 | St. Andrew's,
Barberton
(Persell) | |
| 30 | Trinity Cathedral,
Cleveland
(Williams) | 4 | St. James,
Wooster
(Hollingsworth) |
| April | | | |
| 6 | Grace, Ravenna
(Bowman) | 11 | St. Timothy's
Massillon
(Hollingsworth) |
| 6 | Christ Church,
Oberlin
(Hollingsworth) | 11 | St. Paul's, Akron
(Williams) |
| 6 | Holy Trinity,
Lisbon
(Persell) | 11 | St. Luke's,
Chardon
(Bowman) |
| 6 | St. Patrick's,
Brunswick
(Williams) | 18 | St. Andrew's,
Toledo
(Hollingsworth) |
| 27 | St. Andrew's,
Elyria
(Persell) | 18 | St. Stephen's, East
Liverpool
(Williams) |
| May | | | |
| 4 | Redeemer, Lorain
(Williams) | 25 | Trinity, Coshocton
(Hollingsworth) |
| 4 | St. Peter's,
Ashtabula
(Bowman) | | |

For the complete calendar of events visit www.dohio.org