



e-mich

vol. 6 issue 3

January 20, 2009

an e-bulletin from the episcopal diocese of eastern michigan

PRAYER NEEDED

Isla Schumaker, mother of the Rev. Sharon Naughton, died January 16th.

Robert Carter, husband of Mona Carter, senior warden at St. Bart's, Mio has had a heart attack and complications following surgery.

KINKIIZI

We have [received word from Bishop John](#) that the Diocese of Kinkiizi is ministering to thousands of refugees fleeing the fighting in Easter Congo. He requests aid.

HAVE YOU GOT YOURS DONE YET?

I have. now I just have to present it to the Vestry at their February meeting and get the signatures. that way I'll be able to get the papers into the Diocesan Center by the deadline, March 2, with days to spare.

I'm talking about the **Parochial Report** of course. the instructions, the workbook, and **Congregational Data Form** can be found online at the [Diocesan website](#).

also, a year's worth of **Tithe Transmittal Forms** were mailed with the Parochial Report Forms. make sure the treasurer uses them when sending the tithe checks.

RADICAL ABUNDANCE

St. John's, Midland will be a high-speed downlink site for Trinity Institute's 2009 National Theological Conference — *Radical Abundance: A Theology of Sustainability*. it's January 21-23, 2009. RSVP by today. [details](#).

NEW SUPPLY LIST

[here's](#) the latest list of clergy available for supply work. Make a copy and mail all the old copies lying around in your files to your enemies to confuse them.

ABOUT THE INAUGURATION

the Presiding Bishop had [this](#) to say. Bishop Gene Robinson, in his latest book, *Eye of the Storm: Swept to the Center by God* [reflected on the inaugural addresses he has heard and compared them to Jesus' inaugural address](#).

opportunities for you and your congregation

1/21-23-09 — *Radical Abundance*
1/30-31/09 — *Formation workshop*
3/9-11/09 — *Spiritual Directors*
3/28/09 — *Spiritual Retreat Day*
4/17-18/09 — *Diana Butler Bass*

the Cycle of Prayer

...for the first quarter of 09 [here](#).

news sources

[Anglican Connections](#)

[This month
archived](#)

[Episcopal Life Online](#)

[Anglican World](#)

[AC News Service](#)

THE ANNUAL SPIRITUAL RETREAT DAY

the topic of this year's Day of Prayer (Saturday, March 28 at St. John's Midland) is: *"Stay with Me, Remain Here with Me": Three Meditations Leading into Holy Week.* Our retreat leader is [Diane Paterson](#).

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Episcopal Relief and Development offers [a bulletin insert and a daily devotional](#) focusing on the ways ERD works toward the Millennium Development Goals. you may download the resources, but if you plan on ordering printed versions, please do so by February 16.

CHRISTIANITY FOR THE REST OF US

Diana Butler Bass is coming to the Horizon Conference Center, Saginaw, on April 17-18, 2009. Bass, an Episcopalian, is an author, speaker and scholar specializing in American religion and culture. [Details](#).

Minutes and Notices

- Blue Water Convocation
- Flint River Convocation (unapproved) [Minutes](#) for 8-08
- Northern Convocation [Minutes](#) for August
- Saginaw Valley Convocation [Minutes](#) for 12-08

Old stuff... but it still might be useful.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

Do you have young people who are looking for a way to make a difference? [Mike Spencer](#) recommends the [Episcopal Service Corps](#), a national federation of young adult service programs. He worked on a program in Los Angeles (97-98). I bet he wouldn't mind offering some first-hand information.

IT WAS A MOMENTOUS YEAR

The Presiding Bishop [reflects on 2008 in the Episcopal Church](#). A [video](#) version.

PRESERVE THOSE HISTORIC SERMONS

The Library of Congress is collecting audio and video recordings of sermons preached between January 16 and 25 that comment on the significance of the inauguration of 2009. Any takers? [details](#)

WORSHIP LEADERS

a new list of competencies and exam have been developed for those who would be Worship Leaders, i.e., folks who lead Morning/Evening Prayer services in the absence of a clergy person. Contact Barb (877-75206020) for details.

WRAP IT IN PRAYER

Charles Olsen at the Alban Institute [offers suggestions](#) on how to make prayer more than perfunctory "book ends" to church meetings.

PRAYERS FOR TIMES LIKE THESE

the Church of England [website offers prayers](#) for times such as these: for those who've lost their job (made redundant in English English), for those who still have a job but feel guilty or at risk, for those struggling to live within their means, for those burdened with debt, and much more. This portion of their website has had heavy traffic, lots and lots of hits.

MAKING YOUR CHURCH SAFE

most of us are familiar with the two workshops offered by the Diocese called *Safeguarding God's Children* and *Safe Church*. *Safeguarding God's Children* is now available online. here's [a letter from the Bishop and instructions](#) on how to get started.

FORMING CHRISTIANS

the Diocese of Western Michigan is hosting a [two day workshop](#) on Christian education and formation featuring Ruth Ann Collins, associate program officer at the Episcopal Church Center, January 30-31, 2009.

FOR SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS

there will be a colloquium for spiritual directors on March 9-11 at the Dominican Center for Religious Development in Detroit titled *God Is Into Groups: Thinking Systemically about Spiritual Direction*. [Flyer](#)

e-mich is news you can use from the diocese of eastern michigan—contact us at: Bp Todd— tousley@eastmich.org, and Tom-- tdowns@eastmich.org