



# e-mich

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*an e-bulletin from the episcopal diocese of eastern michigan*

## SPIRITUAL RETREAT

the reservations have been coming in (32 so far) for this diocesan sponsored mid-Lent quiet 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.*** It's for everyone, clergy and lay. [reservation form](#). deadline has been extended to March 20.



## EAGLE BUTTE MISSION TRIP 2009

the Global Missions Task Force has set a date for the next Diocesan Mission trip to Eagle Butte, South Dakota. [you are invited](#) to consider going. [application](#).



## MAKING YOUR CHURCH SAFE

[here's the latest](#) on *Safeguarding God's Children* and *Safe Church*, the two training programs required of all employees. Sunday School teachers are now required to take *Safeguarding God's Children*; it's available online.

## WORK WEEK AT CAMP CHICK

give some time and effort while having fun. [Here's how](#).

## WITHHOLDING CHANGES

Katharine Rose points out that the IRS has [an online form](#) that "helps" treasurers figure out the new withholding rates resulting from the "stimulus" package.



## FAMILY CAMP FOR THE DIOCESAN FAMILY

Camp Chick is hosting a [church camp experience](#) for the whole family (however yours is constituted). [here's a flyer](#).



## BECOMING THE HOUSEHOLD OF GOD

[This annual conference](#) is sponsored by the Diocese of Michigan and this year explores the Millennium Development Goals.

## A BOOK ON COMMUNICATING IN THE PARISH

[The Word Made Fresh](#), more than a how-to guide. it will help readers appreciate the significance, value, and role of church communications as a ministry. highly recommended.



## *opportunities for you and your congregation*

3/27-28 — *Becoming Workshop*  
3/28 — *Spiritual Retreat Day*  
4/17-18 — *Diana Butler Bass*  
4/25 — *Safe Church Workshops*  
5/22-25 — *Work Week at Chick*  
6/13-23 — *Eagle Butte Mission Trip*  
6/28-7/5 — *Family Camp*  
7/13-19 — *Music Conference*

## *the Cycle of Prayer*

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

## *news sources*

[Anglican Connections](#)

[This month  
archived](#)

[Episcopal Life Online](#)

[Anglican World](#)

[AC News Service](#)



## TALKING ABOUT COMMUNICATING IN THE PARISH

the Alban institute [interviewed Susan Elliott](#), a freelance writer, editor, and communications director in a large parish. “I think the touchstone for all church communications is invitation and welcome. It's about inviting people to worship with you, to stick around to participate in the life of the congregation—and, just maybe, to be transformed.” check it out.



## GROWING OR SHRINKING?

did you know that Episcopal parishes with a strong liberal emphasis have been growing fastest? Episcopal Life reports on the [latest trends](#). Vestries and evangelism committees might want to check out [this link](#).

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



### THE BISHOP'S LENTEN BIBLE STUDY!

Bishop Todd invites us to [Wade in the Water](#), to join him in using the Sunday lessons to help inform our thinking about our Baptismal Covenant.

### 27% OF AMERICANS DON'T WANT A RELIGIOUS FUNERAL!

The latest American Religious Identification Survey (ARIS) [shows](#) that more and more Americans claim no religious affiliation and that significantly fewer Americans call themselves Christian than a generation ago. [Here's](#) USA Today's take on the survey.

### SEE A MODERN SAINT CONVERT A SINNER, RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES!

Archbishop Tutu was on the [Late Late Show](#). Craig Ferguson can't understand why the Archbishop agreed to come on, but it's clear that Tutu had a powerful positive impact on him. I'm not sure about the conversion part or the sinner part, but...

### GUYS, YOU COULD BE A MONK!

In July the guys at St. Gregory's Abbey in Three Rivers welcome men, 18-45, who would like to [live like a monk for two weeks](#).

### WHY I AM AN EPISCOPALIAN?

the Episcopal Church has recorded a bunch of short interviews with people who can answer that question. the response has been so heavy it has overwhelmed the Church Center's servers. [Check them out](#) ... but be patient.

### DOWN UNDER HELP NEEDED

All Saints, Marysville is trying to do a good thing and invites you to join them. they are collecting prayer shawls (and prayers, of course) for some folks who lost their church and whole town in the catastrophic fire in Australia— Marysville, Australia. [Help](#).

### 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.

### 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](#).

### SEWANEE MUSIC CONFERENCE

July 13-19. [a conference](#) for organists, choir directors and clergy. at the University of the South in Tennessee. they have 2 full-time scholarships for first-time attendees. contact Janet. application deadline, May 1st.

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***e-mich*** is news you can use from the diocese of eastern michigan—contact us at:  
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