



Around Our Diocese

Issue #92

The Diocese of Northern Indiana

June, 2008

*A Passion for the Gospel of Jesus Christ
A Willingness to do Whatever it Takes*

*A Heart for the Lost
A Commitment to One Another*

A Letter from the Bishop

Every ten years, the Archbishop of Canterbury invites all Anglican bishops to a gathering that's come to be known as the Lambeth Conference. Why "Lambeth"? Because the archbishop's official residence in London is called Lambeth Palace, and the first conference – in 1867 – was small enough that the bishops could all fit in that venue. In the intervening years, however, the Anglican Communion has grown markedly, and the conference is now held on the campus of the University of Kent in Canterbury, overlooking the cathedral which is the spiritual center of the Anglican expression of the Christian faith.

This year's Lambeth Conference runs from July 16 through August 3. Over 600 bishops from around the world will be in attendance. Tragically, the conflict in the Communion over human sexuality has led several Anglican provinces – Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, and Nigeria – to decline Archbishop Rowan Williams' invitation, and that means that about 200 bishops will be missing from this important meeting.

Archbishop Rowan has outlined his hopes for the conference in a video posted on YouTube; you can find it at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCJIG_3WPjw. (How's *that* for a "cutting edge" archbishop?) He's seeking, above all, an international consultation of bishops in which we encourage one another in the challenging and sometimes stressful exercise of ministry – better bishops for the sake of a better church, as he puts it. In earlier Lambeth Conferences, bishops engaged in lengthy and sometimes painful legislative sessions, hammering out resolutions over difficult issues. This time, Archbishop Rowan wants to avoid that kind of confrontational gathering, and rather to use the weeks in Canterbury for prayer, Bible study, and a deepening of the bishops' commitment to our Lord and to one another.

How can you support the bishops as they attend the Lambeth Conference? First, you can pray. The Conference website (<http://www.lambethconference.org>) has posted a prayer to be used around the Communion in the days leading up to the meeting:

Pour down upon us, O God, the gifts of your Holy Spirit, that those who prepare for the Lambeth Conference may be filled with wisdom and understanding. May they know at work within them that creative energy and vision which belong to our humanity, made in your image and redeemed by your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Second, you can join the bishops as they study the scriptures. In particular, the bishops will be reflecting on the Gospel of John during their time in Canterbury. You might do your own study of John – either individually, or as a parish – prior to and during the Lambeth Conference. The scriptures have the power to enlighten our path, encourage our faith, and above all lead us to Jesus. I can think of no better preparation for this crucial gathering of bishops than to immerse ourselves in the Word that points to the Word Made Flesh. Read John with the bishops, and your own life will be transformed in wonderful and perhaps surprising ways.

Thank you in advance for the prayer which, I know, will surround Sylvia and me as we travel to Canterbury in mid-July. May Jesus be glorified as the bishops gather in his name.

Yours in Christ,

+Ed

Give It 4 Good – The Stimulus Check Campaign

Episcopalians For Global Reconciliation (E4GR) are encouraging people to pledge all or part of their upcoming economical stimulus checks to organizations working to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. To take the pledge or to learn more about each specific goal, please visit www.giveit4good.org. Working together, we can raise hundreds of thousands of dollars to achieve these goals and reduce suffering among the underprivileged in the world. For more information, please contact Tim Skimina at (248) 459-9776 or t-skimina@northwestern.edu.

Katrina Rebuilding Update

The new structure for St. Peter's in Gulfport, Mississippi was consecrated in April. This was one of many parishes affected by the hurricane. The Diocese of Mississippi sends its heartfelt thanks to all of those who have contributed to the efforts to rebuild, including our own

Camp New Happenings Update

Recruitment of camp counselors is underway for Camp New Happenings, a summer camp for children of the incarcerated. The children range in age from 8 - 11 and live within the diocesan geographical boundaries. Camp dates are August 10-16, 2008.

Applicants (male and female) **must be college students**, have a desire to serve others, provide campers with a positive camping experience and be ready to have a great time as a staff person. All staff are compensated.

Staff applications are available on the Camp New Happenings website (go to the diocesan website for the link). Mail applications to: Camp New Happenings - Northern Indiana, PO Box 4166, Gary, IN 46404. Please Charlotte Strowhorn for additional information.

We are pleased to announce that over \$9,000 was raised for the camp in donations collected at the parishes on Camp New Happenings Sunday. Thank you!

United Thank Offering In-Gathering

Any Sunday in the month of May is designated as the appropriate time for the Spring UTO In-Gathering. Contributions should be forwarded to: Gwen Black, 215 North 7th Street, Gas City, IN 46933.

Summer Office Hours

Please note that the Diocesan Office will be open from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM (EDT) until Labor Day.

ECW Tea

The Episcopal Church Women of St. John the Evangelist, Elkhart cordially invite women of the diocese to a tea on Saturday, June 7th from 2:00 to 3:30 PM (EDT) at the church (226 W. Lexington). Please RSVP to June 1st by calling (574) 295-1725.

Shortcakes on the Blacktop

The 16th Annual Shortcakes on the Blacktop will be held on June 11th from 11-5:30 at the Cathedral Church of St. James, South Bend. (Rain date: June 12th) Join us for homemade strawberry shortcakes, musical performances in the Cathedral, and fellowship. All proceeds will benefit St. Margaret's House, O'Hana Heritage Foundation, and Habitat for Humanity.

Bishop/Diocesan Calendar for June 2008

June 1, 2008

Visitation to St. Alban's, Fort Wayne

June 2, 2008

12:00 PM (EDT) Luncheon for Retired Clergy and Widows at the Summit Club, South Bend

June 3, 2008

12:00 PM (EDT) Diocesan Council for Congregational Excellence

June 7, 2008

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM (EDT) Day for Deacons

June 8, 2008

Visitation to St. Barnabas-in-the-Dunes, Gary

June 9, 2008

10:00 AM Finance Committee

June 13, 2008

12:05 PM (EDT) Holy Eucharist at the Cathedral

June 15, 2008

Indiana Day at the National Cathedral, Washington DC

June 15 - 21, 2008

Diocesan Summer Camp at Camp Mack

June 22, 2008

Visitation to Good Shepherd, East Chicago

June 24, 2008

12:00 PM (EDT) Standing Committee

June 25, 2008

12:05 PM (EDT) Holy Eucharist at the Cathedral

June 27, 2008

7:00 PM (EDT) Ordination of the Rev. Deacon Michael Fulk to the Priesthood at St. Alban's, Fort Wayne

June 28, 2008

10:00 AM (EDT) Diocesan Council

June 29, 2008

Visitation to St. Francis', Chesterton

Around Our Diocese is published monthly. Send stories and/or articles by the 10th of each month to: Jon Adamson, 117 N. Lafayette Blvd., South Bend, IN 46601 or fax 574-287-7914 or e-mail to: info@ednin.org The editor reserves the right to edit all articles.