

Dec. 3, 2020

**Registration deadline is today for workshop to welcome people into the church**

Today is the last day to register for a two-night, online workshop for those interested in welcoming new people into the church.

It will wake place on Dec. 8 and Dec. 15 beginning at 7 p.m. and is open to all members of the diocese, clergy and lay.

The workshop leader will be Jerusalem Greer, the staff officer for evangelism for the Episcopal Church.

“Welcome and Belonging in the Digital Sphere” will look at how to connect with those who are joining congregations digitally, proclaiming Good News in ways that take people from watchers to active participants on Sundays and beyond.

Over two weeks Greer will lead participants in a workshop experience that will include reflection on scripture, story sharing, and practical tips and exercises.  Week 1 (Dec. 8) will cover how to make the pivot from in-person expectations to online expressions, as well as the "why" of this work, and how community can happen. Week 2 (Dec. 15) will cover what digital hospitality really looks like, why engaging everyone in the work matters, and what's next.

Registration can be completed at <https://tinyurl.com/y2pszl9h>. For those who have registered, a link will be sent for the conference two days before the first session.

For more information contact the Rev. Gar Demo at gdemo@stthomasop.org.

**Help is available for upcoming recorded worship services**

As churches prepare for online worship services for late Advent and Christmas, here are two resources that can help:

**>>> Seabury Academy students offer digital content for online services**

Students from Bishop Seabury Academy, an Episcopal school in Lawrence, are providing audio and video content for use in online Christmas services by churches throughout the diocese.

If your church is looking for music, both vocal and instrumental, to enrich Advent and Christmas services, you can browse and download all the submissions through a diocesan Dropbox folder, <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/llszfz138u6poa0/AADzLnF3nmB0LzGUmNYzTqI_a?dl=0>

All videos are free to use, and new videos are still being added by students.

A big thank you goes to Abigail Baldwin, a member of Trinity, Lawrence, for organizing and promoting this program.

**>>> ‘Old Saints for New Days’ sermons are available**

Every Monday at 12:10 p.m., clergy members of the diocesan staff offer a service from Grace Cathedral’s St. Mary’s Chapel, which is livestreamed to YouTube. The service celebrates one of the people commemorated in *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* in the coming week.

On Dec. 21, that will be St. John the Evangelist, with Canon to the Ordinary the Rev. Patrick Funston preaching. The Sunday after Christmas marks the Feast of St. John.

The sermon from this services, both as a video and s written manuscripts in Word, is available for churches to use in worship the following Sunday. Those can be downloaded from a diocesan Dropbox at [https://www.dropbox.com/home/Diocese%20of%20Kansas's%20shared%20workspace/Sermons-Old%20Saints%20for%20New%20Days](https://www.dropbox.com/home/Diocese%20of%20Kansas%27s%20shared%20workspace/Sermons-Old%20Saints%20for%20New%20Days).

Bishop Bascom previously has given permission for these sermons to be used in parish worship, once a month, along with the accompanying lessons. Video and written sermons form other weeks also are available for download at the same link.

**‘Advent Against Racism” calendar now is available**

Elle Hollrah, on behalf of the Education subgroup of the Justice and Racial Reconciliation Task Force, has created an online Advent calendar that invites members of the diocese to examine marginalization of non-white people and work “to change our lives so we may all be changed through Christ.”

It is available at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CvVwP_y2UCgu22xmoC9LYJ7XH_jDv29q-tjZsno2X3E/edit>.

**Time approaches for an online Miqra Jan. 15–18**

**Miqra and Mini-Miqra registration now is open**

Due to the on-going pandemic, Miqra will be online this year. We’ve scheduled multiple sessions over the traditional Miqra weekend, Jan. 15-18, and invite all youth in grades 6–12 and young adults age 18–24-ish to join us.

The registration fee is $20 and includes a Miqra stocking cap and Miqra-in-a-box, with activities and handouts for Miqra. **Please register by Jan. 1** to ensure timely arrival of your Miqra box.

More information and registration is available at <https://tinyurl.com/EDoKUltraCampSessions>

Questions? Contact Karen Schlabach, kschlabach@episcopal-ks.org.

**Miqra readers are needed**

 All members of the diocese are invited to help with the Miqra reading of the entire Bible, from Friday, Jan. 15 at 10 a.m. through Sunday, Jan. 18 at 10 a.m. Sign up for a reading slot, log on to Zoom at your time, find out from the previous reader where to begin and read.

 You may recruit or invite others to read with you and split the time up however you wish. Just make sure someone replaces you before you leave. Sign up for time slots to read at <https://www.volunteersignup.org/ETBWT>

Questions? Contact Karen Schlabach, kschlabach@episcopal-ks.org.

**Miqra stocking caps are available**

Instead of T-shirts, we’ll be offering embroidered Miqra stocking caps this year. They will be dark grey hats with a red brim and a pom-pom on top. The Hebrew Miqra letters will be embroidered on the rim. Order yours online and they will be shipped in early January. Hats are $8, plus $5 for shipping and handling. Order here: <https://tinyurl.com/MiqraHat> (**NOTE** that one hat is included with registration for Miqra or Mini-Miqra).

**New diocesan website will launch soon**

A new diocesan website should be online by the middle of next week, replacing the current site that now is 10 years old and difficult to maintain.

The new site will include content from the old site as well as many new items, including information about minsters and diocesan task forces. It also more prominently will feature diocesan news, and it has a brighter visual style that reflects colors of nature.

Because of Bishop Bascom’s commitment to and love of the Flint Hills, many of the photos on the site were taken by Deacon Charles Pearce from his many visits to the Konza Prairie. We deeply appreciate his generosity in making his photos available for this enhanced communication tool.

**Please note**: After the new site is live, most saved links to items on the diocesan website no longer will work. However, key items, including Covid-related messages from the bishop, will be featured prominently.

If anyone has trouble locating needed information once the new site is online, please contact diocesan Director of Communications Melodie Woerman at mwoerman@episcopal-ks.org for help.

**Church Pension Group releases new interactive clergy compensation report**

The Church Pension Group (CPG), a financial services organization that serves the Episcopal Church, released its 2019 Episcopal Clergy Compensation Report that offers an in-depth look at demographic and geographic differences in clergy compensation across the Episcopal Church: <https://www.cpg.org/global/research/clergy-compensation-report/#/start>

The report includes compensation categorized by region, age, gender, employment status, parish size and operating revenue.

For the first time it breaks down data by gender at a diocesan level and provides compensation figures for all international clergy. It was updated to include an interactive online version with a map-based graphic interface to allow viewers a faster and easier way to access this important information.

**Episcopal Church podcasts have a new online home**

All the podcasts from the Episcopal Church, including the popular “Way of Love with Bishop Michael Curry,” now have a new home online: <https://media.episcopalchurch.org/podcasts/>.

Bishop Curry’s podcast recently released episodes for season 4.

Others available include an audio version of Sermons that Work, the Good Book Club, Prophetic Voices and others.

**Episcopal Migration Ministries offers an online Advent Vigil**

Episcopal Migration Ministries, in partnership with the EMM Asylum Ministry Network and EMM Immigration Detention Ministry Network, will host an online Advent vigil on Sunday, Dec. 13, from 6–7 p.m. Central time

The vigil, available via Zoom webinar and Facebook Live, will offer a time of prayer and reflection in a world being transformed by forced migration.

More information, including a link to register, is available at <https://episcopalchurch.org/posts/publicaffairs/episcopal-migration-ministries-offers-virtual-advent-vigil>.

**Episcopal Relief & Development launches new online prayer experience**

Episcopal Relief & Development has launched a new online prayer experience, designed to provide a curated list of prayers to guide supporters in praying for significant seasons in the Episcopal Church, disasters and other events.

“The staff and partners of Episcopal Relief & Development first turn to prayer when a disaster strikes, and our online community responds with compassion and joins us when we post our prayers to social media,” said Sean McConnell, Senior Director, Engagement, Episcopal Relief & Development. “This tool offers a new way for our friends around the world to join us in a community of common prayers.”

Content will come from the Book of Common Prayer and other sources, such as the organization’s Anglican partners, ecumenical friends, seminary ministry partners, staff members, theologians and spiritual leaders.

Initially, the prayers selected focus on all of those who were impacted by or responded to the record-breaking 2020 hurricane season. Future prayer experiences will expand to include prayers for liturgical seasons, other disasters, and Episcopal Relief & Development’s work with women, children and climate.

The prayer hub is online at <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/worship-resources/let-us-pray/>.

**Are you familiar with TryTank?**

TryTank Experimental Laboratory is a lab for church growth and innovation. It is a joint venture between Virginia Theological Seminary and General Theological Seminary, and has been described as the opposite of a *think* tank – it is a *try* tank.

Led by the Rev. Lorenzo Lebrija, it offers inventive approaches to a variety of challenges facing the Episcopal Church.

It is online at <https://www.trytank.org/>. There also is a link to sign up for its monthly newsletter.

**Anniversaries of ordinations**

Congratulations go to these people as they celebrate the anniversaries of their ordination in the next two weeks:

**Dec. 6**: The Rev. Gar Demo, St. Thomas’, Overland Park (23 years); the Rev. Kelly Demo, St. Thomas’, Overland Park (23 years); the Very Rev. Laurie Lewis, Trinity, Arkansas City and Grace, Winfield (12 years)

**Dec. 7**: The Rev. Mary Siegmund, retired (22 years); the Rev. Steve Mues, retired (47 years); the Very Rev. Jerry Jones, canon to the ordinary, Diocese of Western Kansas (55 years)

**Dec. 8**: The Very Rev. Vicki Smith, St. David’s, Topeka (36 years); the Very Rev. Benjamin Thomas, Saint Francis Ministries, Diocese of Western Kansas (13 years); the Rev. Dennis Gilhousen, retired, Diocese of Western Kansas (41 years)

**Dec. 10**: The Rev. Amy Long, Grace, Hutchinson, Diocese of Western Kansas (4 years); the Rev. William Waln, Grace, Hutchinson, Diocese of Western Kansas (4 years)

**Dec. 11**: Deacon John Roper, St. Andrew’s, Derby (39 years); the Rev. William Wood, retired (53 years)

**Dec. 12**: The Rev. Nancy Shank, Grace, Chanute (33 years)

**Dec. 13**: The Rev. Marc McDonald, St. Andrew’s, Emporia (5 years); the Rev. Phyllis Flory, retired, Diocese of Western Kansas (12 years)

**Dec. 14**: The Rev. Neil Macintosh, retired (58 years); the Rev. Matt Zimmermann, retired (24 years)

**Stay in touch with the diocese on social media**

You can find news, features and updates from the diocese on social media. We’re on Facebook – EpiscopalDioceseofKansas (<https://www.facebook.com/EpiscopalDioceseofKansas>), Twitter – @EpiscoKs and Instagram – @EpiscoKs.

You can find diocesan youth and campus ministries on Instagram, too:

* Youth: @edokyouth
* Canterbury House of Lawrence: @canterburylfk
* Canterbury at K-State: @canterburyatkstate

Bethany House and Garden, one of the newest ministries of the diocese, offers these ways to stay connected:

* Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/bethanyhouseandgarden/>)
* Instagram: @bethanyhouseandgarden
* Twitter: @garden\_bethany

**Next DioLog**

The next edition of *DioLog* will be sent to subscribers on Thursday, Dec. 17, and it will be the last issue of 2020. Information to be included should be sent to Melodie Woerman, diocesan director of communications, at mwoerman@episcopal-ks.org no later than Tuesday, Dec. 15.

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