



PHOTOS: DORIS HALL

Let's get acquainted

In this issue of *Episcopal Life San Joaquin*, we are pleased to begin an information series about the official organizations and agencies of The Episcopal Church. In future issues we will offer in-depth looks at some of these organizations, as well as many others which are not necessarily "official," but serve the mission of the church in a variety of ways. Some of them were represented at diocesan convention in March.

Archives of the Episcopal Church

The purpose of the Archives is "to preserve by safekeeping, to arrange and to make available the records of the General Convention, Executive Council, and the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, and other important records and memorabilia of the life and work of the Church, and to carry out a program of records management, so as to further the historical dimension of the mission of the Church" (Canon I.5.1-3).

Board for Church Deployment

The Board for Church Deployment functions to oversee the Church Deployment Office . . . study the deployment needs and trends in the Episcopal Church and in other Christian bodies . . . [and] issue and distribute such reports and information concerning deployment as it deems helpful to the Church" (Canon III.26).

Church Pension Group

The Church Pension Fund is a corporation "authorized to establish and administer the clergy pension system, including life, accident and health benefits, of this Church . . ." (Canon I.8.1-5). It now includes these companies: Church Pension Fund; Church Life Insurance Company; Episcopal Church Medical Trust; Church Insurance Company; Church Insurance Agency Corporation; Church Life Insurance Company of Vermont; Church Publishing Incorporated; and CREDO Institute Inc.

A short course on the Lambeth Conference

THE LAMBETH CONFERENCE takes place every ten years at the invitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury. Spouses of the 800+ bishops who attend are invited by the Archbishop of Canterbury's wife to a parallel, independent gathering, the Spouses' Conference.

The current Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, has called the next Lambeth Conference for July 2008. His wife, Jane, will convene the Spouses' Conference.

What is the Lambeth Conference?

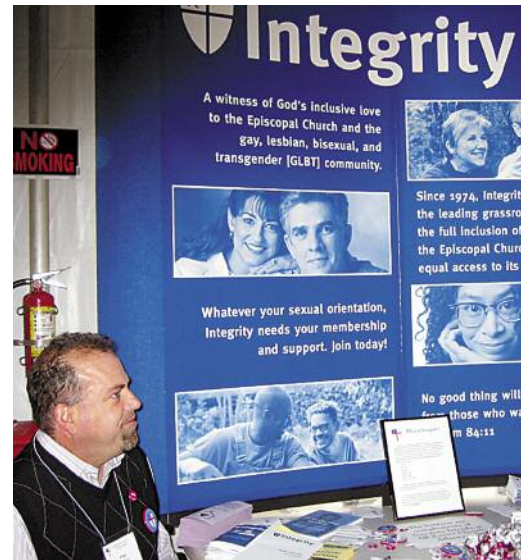
It is the meeting of the archbishops and bishops of the Anglican Communion. The Anglican Communion is a family of churches around the world. Most bishops within the communion look after a diocese, or a region of parishes. If every such bishop attends the Lambeth Conference, it is as if every diocese in the Anglican Communion is meeting with every other.

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INSIDE



■ The co-headmasters of a new secondary school in southern Sudan are former members of Holy Family, Fresno. **Page C**



Left: Jeanette Comegys visits the Washington National Cathedral table at diocesan convention presided over by Bill Latham, San Joaquin's cathedral representative. Bill is happy to visit groups to talk about the cathedral. Call him at 209-571-3467.

Right: Paul Voorhees at the Integrity booth at diocesan convention. Integrity is "a witness to God's inclusive love . . ." Its website is www.integrityusa.org.

The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society of the Protestant Episcopal Church USA

The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (DFMS) is the corporate and legal entity of the national Episcopal Church (Canon I.3).

Episcopal Church Building Fund

The Episcopal Church Building Fund (ECBF) was founded in 1880 to respond to the expansion of the Episcopal Church throughout the United States and the subsequent church building projects. The mission of the ECBF today is to aid in the building, improvement, and repair of churches, rectories, parochial, and diocesan buildings by providing assistance in planning and loans, and to aid in the development of congregations

TO PAGE B

Reconciliation in the Diocese of San Joaquin

Reconciliation retreat changed to June 14 at Holy Family, Fresno

Reconciliation Retreat

The format of the Reconciliation Retreat, originally scheduled for June 11-14, 2008, has been changed to a one day Reconciliation Retreat. This event will be held on June 14, 2008, at Holy Family Church in Fresno from 9 am to 4 pm, and will focus on reconciliation among individuals and congregations. Please register at the diocesan website (www.diosanjoaquin.org), or call/email the diocesan office. While there is no cost for the retreat, a meal donation of \$10 may be made at the event.

Reconciliation Conversations with the Bishop June 16-19

In the week following the retreat Bishop Lamb will travel the diocese to seek reconciliation with those who remain in discernment about participating in the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin.

The schedule for the public forums is as follows:

- June 16: Modesto (2-4 pm and 7-9 pm)
- June 17: Fresno (2-4 pm and 7-9 pm)
- June 18: Bakersfield (2-4 pm and 7-9 pm)
- June 19: Lodi (2-4 pm and 7-9 pm)

Private time with the bishop may be arranged by calling the diocesan office (209-952-0006).

Registration is not required for public forums. Specific locations will be announced by letter to clergy, and will be posted on the website. □

Let's get acquainted

FROM PAGE A

through providing training, education, and resources.

Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical Officers

EDEO provides support and training for diocesan ecumenical officers, encourages ecumenical activity within parishes and dioceses, enhances communication throughout the Episcopal Church about ecumenism, and encourages liaison among all those whose ministries have, or should have, an ecumenical dimension.

Episcopal Life

Episcopal Life is the official national newspaper of the Episcopal Church.

Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD)

Episcopal Relief and Development is a compassionate response of the Episcopal Church to human suffering in the world, established in 1940 by the Episcopal Church in the United States as the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief. Its original mission was to assist refugees fleeing Europe during World War II. In 2000, its name was changed to Episcopal Relief and Development to emphasize ongoing emergency relief work and a growing focus on long-term development and rehabilitation programs.

Forward Movement Publications

Forward Movement Publications is an official agency of the national Episcopal Church. Since 1935 it has produced pamphlets, booklets, and books to encourage and nourish people as they grow in their

lives of prayer and faith. They are best known for the popular quarterly devotional Forward Day by Day, providing daily meditations based on readings from the Bible appointed by the lectionaries.

General Board of Examining Chaplains

The General Board of Examining Chaplains is charged with preparing "at least annually a General Ordination Examination covering the subject matter set forth in Canon III.8.4(e), and shall conduct, administer, and evaluate it in respect to those Candidates for Holy Orders who have been identified to the Board by their several Bishops" (Canon III.25.1-4).

General Theological Seminary

The General Theological Seminary, the oldest Seminary of the Episcopal Church, was established by General Convention in 1817 and has been a New York City landmark since 1926. A leading center for theological education in the Anglican Communion, the Seminary's primary mission is to educate and form leaders for the Church in a changing world.

United Thank Offering

The United Thank Offering is a spiritual and financial partner in the mission work of the Episcopal Church. The United Offering (now the United Thank Offering) was established at the General Convention of 1889. The United Offering became the United Thank Offering in the year 1919. At the 1970 triennial meeting an independent National United Thank Offering Committee was established. Its responsibilities were to promote, interpret, and allocated the offerings annually. □

FROM THE BISHOP

Dear People of God,

I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I pray you had a glorious and joyful Easter and that the celebrations of Pentecost and Trinity have left you with the knowledge of God's presence and love. As of the time you receive this I will have had Sunday visitations in eight or nine of our congregations. Jane and I have enjoyed getting to know members of this diocese and worshipping with you in your home churches. I have been amazed at the strength and vitality of our congregations: the Sacraments are being faithfully administered and received, the sick are being visited, Christian Education is ongoing, the poor and the needy are being ministered to, but most important is that the Gospel is being proclaimed by word and in action.

We still have much hard work ahead of us to put a diocesan structure together. It is very easy to forget all the pieces that interlock to form the network that we call the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin. We are making headway, but it is much slower than most of us expected.

Meanwhile, faith communities are being formed in many places throughout the diocese. There was a report on these faith communities in the last edition of the diocesan newspaper, *Episcopal Life San Joaquin*. Existing faith communities are experiencing growth; for example, St. Francis in Turlock is now using the Methodist Church for worship on Sunday afternoons.



Also, in last month's *Episcopal Life* there was an announcement about a Reconciliation Conference, June 11-14, 2008. Unfortunately we didn't have the response we had hoped for, because those who had voiced dissatisfaction with the Episcopal Church didn't register for the conference. Instead of the three day conference there will be a one day reconciliation retreat held on June 14, 2008, at Holy Family Church in Fresno, beginning at 9:00 a.m. The leader of this retreat will be announced at a later date.

Please remember the Day of Discernment scheduled for May 31, 2008, also at Holy Family Church in Fresno, beginning with registration at 9:30. We will end by 4:00 p.m. There are a number of events going on in this diocese and in neighboring dioceses. Please check the diocesan website (www.diosanjoaquin.org) for more information.

In face of all that is going on in this diocese and the world, I remind you to continue in fervent prayer and meditation for ourselves, for those who have left the Episcopal Church, and for those who find themselves in the middle of all these things. At the Special Convention I asked that the prayer attributed to St. Francis (BCP 833 #62) be used at all services. Please continue to use this prayer in public worship and in your private prayers.

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all evermore."

† Jerry Lamb
Bishop of San Joaquin



Subdeacons Bill O'Hair, left, and Chris Bell, far right, served at the altar with Fr. Bowman and Bishop Lamb. Austin Wrenn was acolyte.

First Sunday in May was busy at St. Clare of Assisi in the Mountains

ON SUN. MAY 4, St. Clare of Assisi in the Mountains enjoyed a visit from the Rt. Rev. Jerry Lamb and his wife, Jane. This was the first time in three years that the congregation had been visited by a bishop.

The bishop celebrated the Holy Eucharist and preached, his theme being one of reconciliation and a bright future for the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin.

After Mass, the women of the church provided a champagne buffet.

The Rev. Marlin Leonard Bowman, the vicar, was honored for 50 years in the ministry.

The Roof Fund Raffle was held, with Jane Lamb drawing the name of the winner, Anna Wren, age 7. The prize was dinner for two at the historic Dorrington Hotel.

Special music for the day was provided by pipe organ, cello, soloist and flute, under the direction of Carol Biederman, minister of music.

Marilyn Pinnow presented T-shirts to the bishop and his wife. The shirts were printed with a list of reasons for being an Episcopalian.

The day concluded with a meeting of Bishop Lamb and the bishop's committee.

Work on the roofs of the church and hall began the next day, under the direction of junior warden Dan Parker. □



The Rev. Marlin Bowman and the Rt. Rev. Jerry Lamb admire the shrine of St. Clare of Assisi.

Fellowship in Ridgecrest

ALL SOULS EPISCOPAL Fellowship is meeting at the Historical Society Building at 230 W. Ridgecrest Blvd. in Ridgecrest on Sundays at 5 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Please contact Charles Andrews at cfa-cla@msn.com or 760-499-1493, or Susan Read at 760-384-4556 for more information.

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www.diosanjoaquin.org

Please look at our website for stories and photos that we didn't have space for in this issue of the diocesan paper. If you aren't a web-surfer, ask a friend who is.

FEATURE

School in southern Sudan provides opportunities for young people

Co-headmasters of new school are former members of Holy Family, Fresno

JIM AND MARY HIGBEE, members of Faith Episcopal Church in Cameron Park, were active members of Holy Family when they lived in Fresno in the 1980s and 1990s. Holy Family counts itself among their supporters as they spend this year in a village in Southern Sudan where they are co-headmasters of a new secondary school.

The school is a project of Hope for Humanity which was founded by Jennifer and Darryl Ernst and Maker Mabor Marial in December 2004 as an organization dedicated to growing educational opportunities for the future leaders of Sudan. It is committed to the idea that education is the best way to help the southern Sudanese to grow and become self-supporting. You can learn more about the organization at hopeforhumanityinc.org.

Hot dog lunch fundraiser for school

On Sun., May 18, following the 10 o'clock service, people at Holy Family enjoyed a traditional hot-weather picnic of hot dogs, potato salad and cool drinks for which they made donations to Hope for Humanity.

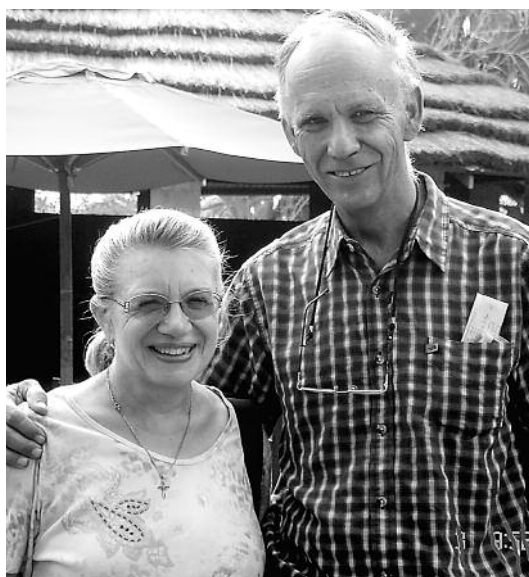
School dedicated March 31

Jennifer and Darryl Ernst were part of the team that traveled to Sudan in March for the official dedication of the school. Jennifer writes:

"The Hope and Resurrection Secondary School in Atiaba, Southern Sudan, was dedicated on March 31, 2008. Presiding over the festivities was the Rt. Rev. Peter James Lee, bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia. In his opening sentences, he stated, 'We are gathered today to dedicate Hope and Resurrection Secondary School. We give thanks to God for the building and opening of the school, and for how Hope and Resurrection Secondary School will provide opportunities for young people in Southern Sudan to grow and learn and go out into the world, serving as agents for change.'

"On a hot summer day, a large group gathered under the shade of mature fig tree on the campus of Hope and Resurrection Secondary School to dedicate and bless the school and give thanks to God for His gift to the people of Southern Sudan. Men, women and children of all ages: bishops, priests and the Mother's Union, village chiefs and local and state government officials and students, delivered speeches, joined in songs of praise and shared the hope that this school is bringing to the region.

"The Sudanese praised Maker Marial, a native son, for his role in getting



Mary and Jim Higbee in Atiaba.

Americans involved in the development of Southern Sudan. They recognize that he is a great ambassador for Southern Sudan. Maker was the inspiration for the school as he made known the plight of the people and their hunger for education.

"Each person expressed their gratitude and how they would personally participate in the support of the school. Some offered a sum of money or a cow (cattle are a source of wealth in Southern Sudan). Others offered a watchful eye, their time or the loan of their oxen and ox plough for the school's garden. All committed their support to the expatriates at the school and prayers

Lambeth Conference

FROM PAGE A

The conference is one of the "instruments of communion," which means that it is one of the ways in which churches in the Anglican Communion relate to one another and are held together.

The first Lambeth Conference was held in 1867 at Lambeth Palace (hence the name), the Archbishop of Canterbury's residence in London. One takes place approximately every ten years.

Who attends the Lambeth Conference?

Bishops and archbishops within the Anglican Communion attend, as well as those in certain kinds of formal relationship with the Anglican Communion. The Archbishop of Canterbury has sent out invitations for the 2008 Conference.

What usually happens at the conference?

Each conference is very different, although there is always a need for continuity from decade to decade. Conferences in the past have tended to pass resolutions on the governance of the church, its ministry and liturgy and its engagement with the world.

As the conference provides the only opportunity for the bishops of the member churches of the Anglican Communion to meet together, there is plenty of time for worship and prayer, bible study, mutual support and encouragement. There is also time for formal discussions and for church business to be done.

Call for workshop leaders for three-day convention

PLANS ARE IN the making for the Diocese of San Joaquin Convention — and Conference and Family Celebration — which promises to be welcoming, informative, inspirational, and eventful, with an appropriate amount of time set aside to conduct business. There will be something for everyone in all age groups, so everyone is welcome.

The dates are Fri., Oct. 24 to Sun., Oct. 26, 2008. The place is Church of the Saviour in Hanford.

Do you have a talent, an interest, or a passion to share? There will be special times and locations for many workshop choices to be offered to delegates and observers who come to convention.

Current workshop ideas for adults and kids include:

- Lay Reader Training
- Altar Guild & Junior Altar Guild Training
- Organization for Church Growth
- Safe Kids
- Rosary Making
- Stewardship/Legacy
- Acolyte Training
- Making Banners and Streamers for Worship
- Iconography
- Vestry/Bishop's Committees
- Liturgical Dance
- Children's Music
- Adult Choir
- Bells
- Bread Making (for Communion)

How about you? What will you do? What is your area of expertise? Would you like to organize or help with one of these workshops? We will also consider other ideas you may have that will enhance the education and understanding of worship among Episcopalians. WE WANT YOU!

If you can help in any way, please contact Beryl Simkins (bsimkins@diosanjoaquin.org) or call 209-785-1373) or Cindy Smith (csmith@diosanjoaquin.org). We need your reply by June 15, 2008. □

for God's blessing on the school. One elder man, likely in his late seventies, said that he has never had one happy day in his life . . . that is, until the day Hope and Resurrection was dedicated!"

The Higbees' blog is at www.higbees.blogspot.com. □

From kitchen to church

By Nedra Voorhees

AFTER MONTHS OF the novelty and intimacy of the Eucharist in the kitchen, St. Frances, Turlock has moved to a new venue. We have simply so increased in numbers on any Sunday, that there is no more room in the inn or in the kitchen.

Way back when, there were only six or seven of us, with Fr. Fred Risard supporting our efforts. Along came the Rev. Kathie Galicia to join us on a regular basis, and then there were more. But now suddenly there are more and more. The chairs have run out, some kids have even had to sit on the floor.

We have enjoyed the close personal relationships that were formed and the innovation of turning a kitchen into a sanctuary, but it is time to find a new place.

Pentecost seemed to be the perfect time to pack our moving sanctuary and go to the Methodist Church's Asbury room on a regular basis. There we can accommodate our increasing numbers for some time to come. We will miss our kitchen Eucharists and the good times that followed in the kitchen, but growth and space are needed for our mission of spreading the good news of Christ's inclusive love in Turlock to continue.

We invite everyone to join us any Sunday afternoon at the Methodist Church at 1660 Arbor Way, Turlock, at 3:00 P.M. to share in the Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior. Coffee and good fellowship to follow. We will make sure you have a chair. All are welcome. □



Lambeth Palace, London



Camp San Joaquin schedule for this summer

Art/Science/Ecology Camp

Monday, July 21 to Saturday, July 26
Fee: \$325
Registration deadline is July 11, 2008.
This is a combined camp for people entering 7th grade through 12th grade. Campers will learn from musicians, artists, photographers, forest rangers and naturalists.

faculty, this camp is designed for those persons entering 4th grade through 8th grade. The camp is designed to increase the participants' appreciation of the natural environment through observation and participation in the many activities the camp offers.

Camp San Joaquin Day is Saturday, July 26, at the conclusion of the Art/Science/Ecology Camp. Everyone is invited.

Brochures and applications are available at each parish. □

Enrichment Camp

Wednesday, July 30 to Saturday, August 2
Fee: \$225
Registration deadline is July 18, 2008.
Staffed by the St. Paul's School, Visalia,

UPCOMING

Clergy and Clergy Spouse Conference in June

THE RT. REV. JERRY LAMB, bishop of San Joaquin, has announced a Clergy and Clergy Spouse Conference to be held Mon., June 23 (1 pm) through Tues., June 24 (11:30 am) at the Irwin Street Inn in Hanford. The cost per person will be \$30, and includes a room at the inn (double occupancy), dinner on Monday and breakfast on Tuesday. Clergy spouses will attend a special program.

The bishop strongly encourages all clergy and spouses to attend; scholarships are available by calling the diocesan office, 209-952-0009. Registration forms are available from the diocesan office, or on the diocesan website www.diosanjoaquin.org. □

Education for Ministry

An Education for Ministry group is being formed in the Fresno Deanery to begin in September and is open to everyone.

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY, affectionately known as EfM, is a program of the theological education-at-a-distance of the School of Theology of the University of the South. Students sign up one year at a time for this four-year program. It covers the basics of a theological education in the Old and New Testaments, church history, liturgy, and theology. Students meet regularly, usually once a week, in seminars under the guidance of trained mentors. The program grants a certificate at the completion of the four years and 18 continuing education units for each year's work.

For additional information, you may visit the EfM website, www.sewane.edu/EFM. Please contact Mark McKeon at 559-999-7843 to learn more about the Fresno group. □

Calling all altar guild members

THE RT. REV. JERRY LAMB, bishop of San Joaquin, has asked the Rev. Marlin Bowman, vicar of St. Clare of Assisi in the Mountains, to help form a diocesan altar guild. Fr. Marlin has sent letters to all the churches of the diocese asking for the name of a contact person.

An active diocesan altar guild plays an important part in diocesan conventions and other diocese-wide functions and also offers guidance and support to local altar guilds.

Fr. Marlin's address is P.O. Box 278, Avery, CA 95224. The phone number is 209-754-5381. □

Write to us! We welcome your comments.

Our mailing address is:
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Do you know someone who didn't receive this paper but would like to?
Please send names and addresses to the editor at the above address.

NEWS BRIEFS

■ **Congratulations** to Fresno State graduate Joshua McDonald, who graduated on May 17, was named one of nine Dean's Undergraduate Medalists at California State University Fresno. Joshua completed three bachelor's degrees with a 4.0 GPA. He has been active in student government and served as the Associated Students, Inc. senator for the College of Arts and Humanities. He was recently honored as top senator of the year. Joshua's parents are Cheryl and the Rev. Jim McDonald.



Dave Stewart

■ Holy Family has new youth director

The young people at Holy Family, Fresno, have a new leader, Dave Stewart. Dave is a 2006 graduate of Fresno State, where he earned his B.A. in history. He is working on a master's in history at Fresno Pacific and is an assistant manager at a Starbucks.

■ Province VIII stewardship conference is June 26-28

"The Greatest Story Ever Told" stewardship and congregational development conference will be held June 26-28 in Portland, Oregon. If at least two people from your congregation are attending this conference the diocese has a \$100 grant for you. You may inquire about late registration by calling the diocesan office, 209-952-0006. Don't delay.

■ Grace Cathedral bids fond farewell to the Rev. Michele Racusin

Posted on the website of Grace Cathedral, San Francisco: For two and a half years, the Rev. Michele Racusin has risen at

3 a.m. on Sunday mornings to drive from her home in California's Central Valley to participate in the worship life at Grace Cathedral. Many mornings, one of her sons would join her on this three-and-a-half hour, pre-dawn trek to San Francisco. Until recently, Michele, who was ordained in 2005, was unable to serve as a priest near her home. . . . Because of recent dramatic changes in that diocese, however, Michele is now able to serve a congregation closer to home. The Grace Cathedral congregation and community will miss Michele, and wish her all the best as she enters the next phase in her ordained ministry. We look forward to seeing her when she returns to visit. □



PHOTO: RICHARD SCHORI

Diocesan chancellor Michael Glass shows his versatility as he offers daddy-love along with chancellor duties at the March convention.

Remembering young adult gathering

Aaron Conner and Bryan Bentley from Grace Mission in Bakersfield attended the Province VIII Young Adult and Higher Education Gathering in Salt Lake City in late March. Aaron shares his reflections of the experience. (excerpted)

THE GATHERING WAS amazing. I haven't had such a spiritually rewarding experience for a long time, and as I think about it, it was much needed.

While I was in Salt Lake, many members of my parish were at St. John's in Lodi for the first convention of the continuing Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin. As they were gathering as grown old adults in an effort to reorganize and continue the mission of the church, I was with about 70 young adults already organized with the same intent on continuing the mission of the church. I was most proud and pleased (and I speak for Bryan also) to represent my parish as a member of the Episcopal Church in San Joaquin. I am also very

happy that I am able to bring back much of what I have encountered and learned.

The theme for this year was At(one)ment, in learning how we are "at one" with the church, each other, and the world. Much of the event centered around the Millennium Developmental Goals set by the United Nations (and adopted as a part of the mission of The Episcopal Church) to accomplish goals such as gender equalization, the reduction of the carbon footprint, allowing natural resources to last longer, and combating the AIDS crisis. These issues affect us all.

During the event we had a choice of workshops to attend. I attended one on Fundamentalism in Christianity.

We had a Service of Light Eucharist where we lit each other's candles from the Candle of the Blessed Sacrament. We were invited to come to the high altar for prayer and healing for anything we needed. The priest and chaplains gave long and personal blessings. It was very moving.

God's Spirit was definitely with and among us during our time there. I look forward to next year's gathering and for the national gathering in December. □