



Bishop Chane Challenges Parishes at Diocesan Convention

Bishop John Bryson Chane has challenged the congregations of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington to abandon their competitiveness with one another and mobilize themselves into a collaborative missionary diocese equipped to engage vigorously and effectively in the ministry of Jesus Christ in a rapidly changing environment.

Taking up the challenge would summon the diocese's 93 congregations to share resources and talents in ways unfamiliar to Episcopalians accustomed to "solo" congregational activities in which they have been barely aware of the church's life and work outside their own buildings and programs.

Bishop Chane's dramatic address formed the high point of the 110th convention of the diocese, which convened clergy and lay delegates of the Episcopal congregations in Washington National Cathedral January 29 and 30. The Diocese of Washington comprises Episcopal congregations in the District and Maryland's Montgomery, Prince George's, Charles and St. Mary's counties.

The bishop's speech and reports from other diocesan staff members portrayed a dramatic increase in staff and redirection of activities that Chane has put in place since he was elected bishop here three years ago. The expansion has put particular emphasis on aiding congregations to build membership and improve finances, mounting new diocesan programs for high school and college students, and ex-

panding collaborative work with the Diocese of Honduras and the Anglican Province of Southern Africa.

Some of the new work will be funded by grants secured by diocesan staff members. Chane cited in particular a \$200,000, five-year grant from Fresh Ministries of Florida for the diocese's work in southern Africa and two grants secured by Canon Preston Hannibal for college work: \$90,000 to create an Episcopal chaplaincy at Bowie State College and \$18,000 for the Episcopal-Lutheran chaplaincy at Howard University.

The convention adopted a budget of \$4,483,559 to pay for its work during the coming year. The expansion of diocesan programs has been funded largely by the decision two years ago to apply the earnings of the Soper Trust to diocesan work. The 2004 budget includes revenue of \$1,383,559 from the Soper Trust; \$2,778,000 is projected to be contributed by congregations. Previously the earnings of the trust funded grants to outreach projects outside regular diocesan and congregational programs.

Also funding the budget is \$200,000 projected to come from the Bishop's Appeal. In 2004 the first appeal by the bishop for direct support of the diocese raised \$145,464.

The lengthy Windsor Report, issued in October by an international Anglican committee appointed by Archbishop Rowan Williams of Canterbury to assess the uproar over the election of openly gay Gene Robinson as bishop of New Hampshire, drew little atten- □ *page 2*

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Feb. 20, 2005

The Second
Sunday in Lent

Number 1516

□ **page 1** tion at the Washington convention. The report criticized the Episcopal Church's ratification of Robinson's election as hasty and out of step with majority Anglican opinion. It also criticized the intrusion of several African and Asian bishops into U.S. dioceses to minister to conservative Episcopal churches angry with their bishops for supporting Robinson's election.

Chane noted that decision-making in the Episcopal Church—including the election of bishops—is shared by bishops, priests and lay people while in many other Anglican provinces bishops are appointed and policy-making is solely in the hands of the primate, the head bishop of a province.

“Such governance is as alien and problematic to us in America as is our governance to others in the worldwide Anglican Communion,” Chane said. He named no names, but Archbishop Peter Akinola, the primate of the Anglican Church of Nigeria, who recently spoke in Washington, has been one of the most vituperative critics of the Episcopal Church's support of the Robinson election.

The convention adopted two resolutions related to the Windsor Report.

One recommended to Washington Episcopalians careful reading of the report. The other called for the holding of a diocese-wide conversation on marriage during the coming year.

The question of whether the church can properly bless same-sex marriage has been part of the controversy surrounding Bishop Robinson's election. He has lived in a committed relationship with another man for a number of years.

In addition to criticizing the U.S. ratification of Robinson's election, the Windsor Report also deplored the decision of the Diocese of New Westminster (Vancouver, British Columbia) in the Anglican Church of Canada to move ahead on its own and formally authorize a rite for same-sex marriages. Same-sex marriage is now legal in much of Canada.

St. Stephen's was represented at the Washington convention by alternate delegate Bill MacKaye. Fern Hunt, the delegate, was unable to attend. Senior priest Frank Dunn and affiliated priests Linda Kaufman and Ron Conner have no vote in the Washington convention because they have not been admitted to canonical residence despite their work here.

-Bill MacKaye

BREAD

is the newsletter of
St. Stephen
and the Incarnation
Episcopal Church

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A Musical Celebration marking the Rededication of the 1928 Kilgen Pipe Organ

Saturday, April 16, 3pm

featuring...

J. Reilly Lewis, world class conductor and organist, conductor of the Cathedral Choral Society and the Washington Bach Consort.

Judy Dodge, music director of Saint Columba's Parish and member of the Standing Commission on Anglican Music and Liturgy; along with the **Saint Columba Singers**

The **parish choirs** of Saint Stephen and the Incarnation
Students of the **Scholarship Music Program**

Mark your calendar now!

Odds and Ends

Leota Lawrence is back from Guyana, where she spent a month. Her Mom turned 97 while Leota was there, and Leota says her Mom is doing quite well.

St. Stephen's has received preliminary approval for a grant from the **Casey Trees Endowment** to plant new trees on the East side of the church. We're working on the final step in the proposal process.

Have you checked out our **redesigned web site** yet? With great help from the diocesan staff person who maintains the diocesan web site, we've redesigned St. Stephen's web site, borrowing heavily from designs and information on other churches sites. We'll be striving to keep our web site up-to-date;

from now on you should be able to find information on upcoming programs and special worship services. If you've not seen it lately, take a look—www.saintstephensdc.org!

Urban Village's youth services director, Martin Stone, is interested in forming a **partnership for youth** in the neighborhood. He's looking for people interested in tutoring or leading after-school activities. Call him at 301-925-4412.

Two more dates to mark in your calendar:

Sunday, June 5: Bishop Chane's Visitation to St. Stephen's.

Sunday, June 12: St. Stephen's Parish Picnic, in Rock Creek Park, following the 10:30 service.

WORSHIP at St. Stephen's

Sundays

8:00a—

Holy Eucharist,
Rite I

10:30a—

Holy Eucharist,
Rite II with
Children's
Spiritual
Formation

Celebrants and
Preachers

2/20: The Rev.
Ronald Conner
(8:00); the Rev.
Frank Dunn
(10:30)

2/27: The Rev.
Linda Kaufman
(8:00); The
Rev. Linda
Kaufman,
Celebrant; Anna
Gilcher,
Preacher
(10:30)

Groundwork Class Schedule

"Groundwork: Digging Deep for Growth in Faith" is our Lenten adult spiritual formation class. We meet at 9:15am on Sundays in the parish hall; all are welcome to join in any or all classes. Upcoming class topics:

February 20 □ Faith Stories: Traveling with God

Is it possible to find God in our lives? How do we trust our own faith stories so that we can share them in a way that invites others into deeper faith?

February 27 □ Thirsting Souls: Living Invitation

Jesus invites us to seek the Truth. How can we create a community where others are drawn to thirst after hope, meaning, and love?

March 6 □ Take a New Look: Checking your Vision

Are the eyes of St. Stephen's—and our own—open or closed about things? Are we willing to have our eyes opened anew?

March 13 □ Leaving the Grave Behind

How can we nurture, own, and communicate the vitality of our community of faith in a way that people will want to join us on our journey?

LECTIONS

2nd Sunday in Lent
(Feb. 20)

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalms 121

Romans 4:1-5,
13-17

John 3:1-17

3rd Sunday in Lent
(Feb. 27)

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalms 95

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

THE SAINTS

Wednesday, February 23

POLYCARP, BISHOP AND MARTYR
OF SMYRNA, 156

Birthday: Atiba Pertilla

*Heavenly Birthday: Anna
Dyson, 1998*

Thursday, February 24

SAINT MATTHIAS THE APOSTLE

Saturday, February 26

Heavenly Birthday:

*Vonnie Bell Clayton,
2001*

Monday, February 28

Birthday: Leota

*Lawrence, Louis
Samblin*

Tuesday, March 1

DAVID, BISHOP OF MENEVIA,
WALES, c.544

Wednesday, March 2

CHAD, BISHOP OF LICHFIELD,
672

Thursday, March 3

JOHN AND CHARLES WESLEY,
PRIESTS, 1791, 1788

Birthday: Michael

Wilpers

THE PRAYERS

Here's who we've been praying for recently:

•Jennifer Blackman, Duane Bonds, Faith Curry, Edith Eder, Shepherd Graves, Ruth Murphy, Daphne Piper, Hazel Shecut, and all who desire to be restored to health; those who are home-bound; and all who care for aging relatives, the sick and the homebound;

•Melissa Abel (sister of Kelsey Menehan), Connie Adeyeri, the Brown family, The Bright/Veneklasen family, Paanii Buckman, Faustina Douglas, Martha Carty, Millie Fenwick, Katie Finley (sister of Mary Alcuin Kelly), Sunny Jackson (Ernie Jackson's sister), Susie Johnson, Evelyn Jones (relative of Frank Dunn), Maia Lawrence, Norbert Mages (father of Lisa Mages), Deborah Mallory (friend of Mary Alcuin Kelly), Brother John Mathis, Robert Dean McClellan (friend of Mary Alcuin Kelly), Wil, Mary Lynn and Melissa Mefford (Michele Lewis's sister and family), Barbara Oldland, Karl Palmberg (grandfather of Elizabeth Palmberg), Marisella Ruiz Ibarra (friend of Mary Alcuin Kelly), Hilda Thomas (mother of George Frederick Thomas), Diane Vickers (friend of Bill MacKaye), Willard Webster (brother of Ellen Baynard), Astrid West-Harrington (Daphne Piper's aunt), Ellen Williams, and all those who have been commended to our prayers.

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ON THE COVER...

Organ Console,
Renovated!

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