



diakoneo

GREEK: TO BE A SERVANT; TO SERVE

THE ASSOCIATION FOR EPISCOPAL DEACONS | ENGAGING THE DIAKONIA OF ALL BELIEVERS

MAY 2015



IN THIS ISSUE

[Responding to a crisis](#) 1

[From the President](#) 2

[From the Executive Director](#) 3

[The Seven](#) 5

[Advocating for Justice](#) 6

[AED's New Website](#) 7

[Ordination Sermon](#) 8

[Deacon in El Salvador](#) 10

[News from AED's Board](#) 12

[Diocese of St. Ives](#) 13

[Newly Ordained](#) 16

Visit AED online at
www.episcopaldeacons.org
**Become a member of AED -
 Support our work & mission!**

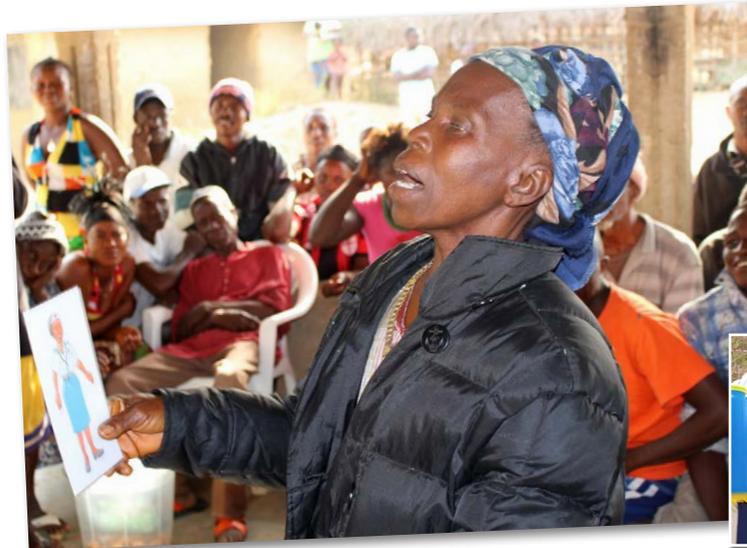
AED ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Like AED's Facebook page
 Join AED's Facebook group.

Sign up for AED's
 newsletter

AED's Yahoo Groups
[Anglodeacons](#) and
[Archdeacons](#)

A DEACON'S PASSION | In this issue, three deacons share their passion for their ministry



A village woman plays a role in a participatory drama called "Bridges of Hope" that has been found very effective in teaching about Ebola and dispelling myths.



Responding to a crisis, rebuilding for the future

BY DEACON TERRAN E. LONGACRE

4,421 dead, 184 of whom were healthcare workers
 Family members taken to a healthcare facility
 and their bodies never seen again
 Foreigners denying the practice of centuries-old burial rites
 Entire communities forced into quarantine for weeks
 without adequate food or supplies

These are some of the elements of the Ebola crisis in Liberia.

Sent to be Field Coordinator

At the start of the crisis, Medical Teams International (MTI) was a very small international non-governmental organization (iNGO) with a new Country Director (CD) sent to revive a shrinking program. However, having been working with the Ministry of Health since just after the war (2003) with excellent relations at the local level in several counties, MTI was uniquely positioned

to partner with the County Health Teams and support them in responding to this crisis. Being small and flexible also made MTI able to respond much more quickly than many of the other partner organizations in the country.

Because of this, the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) of USAID approached MTI and asked them to put forth a proposal for supporting the healthcare system in several counties where they had long-standing relationships. Within weeks, a \$4 million USD

Continued on page 4



MAY 2015

AED is a membership funded association of persons and dioceses within The Episcopal Church whose mission is to increase participation and involvement of all baptized persons in Christ's diaconal ministry, especially by promoting and supporting the diaconate.

Diakoneo is published quarterly by the Association for Episcopal Deacons.
P.O. Box 1516
Westborough, MA 01581-6516
Phone: 508-873-1881

OFFICERS

Dn. Lauren Welch, President
Dn. Maureen Hagen, Vice President
Archdn. Genevieve Grewell, Secretary
Dn. Michael Kitt, Treasurer
Dn. Tina R. Campbell, Past President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Archdn. Douglas Argue
Archdn. Elaine Bellis
The Rev. Canon Kate Harrigan
The Rev. Carol Jablonski
Mr. Tom Lutes
Dn. Geri Swanson
Dn. Susan Page, liaison to the Association of Anglican Deacons in Canada (AACDC)
Dr. Bradley Peterson
The Right Reverend Gregory H. Rickel

STAFF AND LIAISON OFFICERS

Dn. Lori Mills-Curran
Executive Director
lmcii@aol.com

Dn. Anne Pillot
Communications Director, Editor,
Web Deacon
communications@episcopaldeacons.org

Dn. Jo Weber, Membership Director
Membership Office:
PO Box 1160
Los Gatos, CA 95031-1160
membership@episcopaldeacons.org

Dn. Tim Spannaus, Vocational Development
& Lifelong Learning Advisory Council
Convener

©2015
Volume 37 No. 2 ISSN 1070-7875

FROM THE PRESIDENT

“love...live the questions”

Deacons' leadership presence

BY DEACON LAUREN WELCH



I am writing this first column during Lent and before taking office as President in March 2015. I am reading the TREC report that is calling the church to “follow Jesus more deeply,” go “into the neighborhoods,” and to “travel lightly” – three essential qualities of a Missional Church. This will mean that the church becomes vulnerable and walks humbly with God into the neighborhoods without preconceived ideas of what is needed. It is calling the church to listen deeply, and to see what new things the Indwelling Spirit is already doing in the lives of ordinary people who are poor, disenfranchised, skeptical of church, and those of different faiths and traditions. There will be many questions and much debate at General Convention

on how to implement such a version of God's mission.

Yet, Deacons are already in their neighborhoods sharing their lives with people who are homeless, mentally ill, in prisons, unemployed and underemployed, people working to dismantle the effects of racism, dialoging with people from other faith traditions and many other ways. Deacons interpret what is happening in their neighborhoods to the church and invite the church to come and see the new and unexpected things the Spirit is doing in the lives of ordinary people. In 2015, Deacon Susanne Watson-Epting's book, *Unexpected Consequences*, will be out, indicating how the diaconate is uniquely positioned to lead the church at this time.

There are many questions that we need to address as the church seeks to follow Jesus and engage the Indwelling Spirit in the lives all people. Will we allow what we learn from our all-encompassing God in our neighborhoods to change our hearts and transform us? Will we have the courage to expand our consciousness of God and become more of who we are created to be in God's image? I am choosing “love...live the questions” for my column as AED President. The phrase comes from Rainer Maria Rilke, poet and novelist, “Be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and try to love the questions themselves... Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them. The point is, to live everything. Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.” Now is the time for the diaconate to authenticate its leadership presence in the church. I look forward to working with the AED Board as we “love...live the questions” of what it means to engage the diakonia of all believers in the 21st century.

Share your resources & news

- Deacon events
- Your work in the community
- Formation Resources

We're always interested in sharing what you're up to. If you have news or materials to share here or on the website, please contact our editor at communications@episcopaldeacons.org.

AED's Deacon Reception at General Convention

Tuesday, June 30, 7:30 to 9:00 PM
Salt Lake Marriott Downtown at City Creek

Going to General Convention as a deputy or worker?
Planning to drop by for a day or two?
Please join The Association for Episcopal Deacons at a reception to meet and greet the diaconal community. Tickets will be on sale via the website soon. We estimate that 50 or more deacons will be attending, so come join us!

Archdeacon & Deacon Directors' Conference "The best ever"

BY DEACON LORI MILLS-CURRAN



I am writing this column after a long winter in Boston – over nine feet of snow have set a record. Perhaps that was why March's Archdeacon and Deacon Directors' Conference seemed so great to me. The San Antonio sunshine was wonderful; it almost made up for the lack of hot water! This was the first time I ever planned an ADDD Conference. I congratulate myself that although the accommodations left a great deal to be desired (and only the 30% discount offered by the hotel after the hot water failed made me feel like I had done OK in the end) the first comment made in our ending evaluation session was that this conference was "the best ever."

The panel discussion from the various folks on Emerging Paradigms of Collaborative Diaconal Formation was supremely useful. All over the country, people are working together as dioceses, and with seminaries, and on-line, to enrich diaconal formation. The ideas flowed, and I saw people on the panel noting good ideas from other panelists while sitting on the panel themselves! Open Space discussions, as always, covered the gamut: Pastoral Care for Non-Parochial and Retired Deacons; Recruiting Younger Deacons; CPE Alternatives (a perennial favorite); AED's presence at General Convention; Post-Ordination Learning; 12-Step Scripture Study for AA and the Church; Making Meaningful

Annual Reports and Letters of Agreement; How to Bring the Marginalized to the Diaconate; What to Look for in a Bishop; and Cross-Order Formation. Reports on all of these will be posted on our website under "ADDD Conference Open Space Notes."

An important highlight was hearing from Mary Kate Wold, the CEO of the Church Pension Group. Mary Kate and Anne Mallonnee, the Chief Ecclesiastical Officer of CPG, had AED invite a group of geographically dispersed deacons to reflect on how CPG could best serve us. CPG is often a hot-button issue for deacons, who deem ourselves, or are deemed by others, as ineligible per se to benefit from CPG's many benefits for clergy well-being. Financial Planner Janet Todd led a great basic workshop on CPG, and her information is posted on the website. But most impressive was Mary Kate. Her deep desire to learn about our reality was patent to all participants, and she acknowledged several times how complex the issues were. I don't think I have ever before seen anyone be as graciously accommodating to her audience, under circumstances that were often emotionally charged. I believe deacons have a new ally in Mary Kate, and I look forward to working with her.

calendar what's coming

YEAR OF THE DEACON

May 30, 2015, 2 pm
Diocese of Rhode Island
Info at www.episcopaldeacons.org/provincialdiocesan-events

78TH GEN'L CONVENTION

June 25 – July 3, 2015
Salt Lake City, Utah
www.generalconvention.org

Deacons General Convention Reception

Tuesday, June 30, 2015
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Salt Lake Marriott Downtown
at City Creek
Info at episcopaldeacons.org

DOTAC (Diakonia of the Americas and Caribbean)

October 21-25, 2015. Brazil.
Registration is now closed.
pamelamnesbit@gmail.com

2016 DIACONAL ASSEMBLY

June 16-19, 2016
Oak Ridge Hotel & Conference Center, Minneapolis, MN
Details to come.

DIAKONIA WORLD ASSEMBLY

June 28-July 5, 2017
Chicago, IL
Details to come.

To list your event contact

communications@episcopaldeacons.org

2015 Archdeacon & Deacon Directors' Conference

The panel discussion on Collaborative Diaconal Formation yielded many good ideas.



Mary Lenn Dixon from Iona Initiative



Charles Pearce from Bishop Kemper School for Ministry



Dr. Bradley Peterson and The Rev. Lynn Orville talking to Dn. Cathrine Halford

Photos by Archdeacon Charlie Perrin

grant was approved to set up field offices and teams in Sinoe, Bomi, and Grand Cape Mount counties with MTI taking responsibility for managing several Community Care Centers (CCCs) and setting up, training and supervising Rapid Response Teams. In January, I was hired and sent to be the Field Coordinator for the Grand Cape Mount County field office.

Liberia is an interesting place. If you were to judge things by the cars on the street, the style of clothes people wear, and the amount of tech available, you would definitely think it is a “middle income” country. However, these signs belie vast infrastructure gaps that seriously hamper the development of the country. The hydro power plant was destroyed in the war and has yet to be rebuilt. Monrovia, the capital city, runs on a bank of huge generators. Outside of Monrovia, there is no public power structure, only thousands of small generators. There are only 4 or 5 paved roads in the country and entire areas are inaccessible (even by foot) during the rainy season (half the year).



Practical training for the Rapid Response Team — the team is dressed in “full PPE” (personal protective equipment), which is unbearably hot in 90° sunny weather, but absolutely life-saving. In Liberia, 372 healthcare workers were infected with Ebola and 184 died.

Even before the Ebola crisis, the healthcare system was very, very weak. Most counties have 2 doctors, one of whom is the County Health Officer and, therefore, an administrator, not a practicing physician, and the other works in the county’s one hospital. Health Centers or Clinics

are (hopefully) led by a Registered Nurse and might have 1 or 2 other “professional” staff (RNs, certified midwives, physician assistants). Then Ebola came and healthcare workers were getting infected and most facilities closed and their staff left.

In Grand Cape Mount County, there were only a couple of working vehicles in the County Health Team and no budget for fuel. The only lab that could test specimens was in Monrovia, 2-20 hrs away, depending on where you were in the county.

The hospital is on the southernmost tip of the county, farther away than Monrovia. And most health facilities were sorely lacking in supplies.

It took many months for the international community to respond, but finally they swooped in, building Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs) and labs, providing vehicles and fuel, sending teams out into communities to inform and sensitize villagers. Mistakes were made. Since an Ebola victim is most infectious right after death, bodies were gathered up and cremated, in direct contradiction of local burial

practices and without communication with family members. Communities were locked into quarantine and cut off from any source of food and supplies. People were scared, very scared. Fortunately, these mistakes were recognized and rectified. Care kits for quarantined families were put together. Safe & dignified burial teams were created and trained to allow families to bury their dead without spreading infection. One of the jobs of our RRT (Rapid Response Team) was to follow each case and stay in touch with the family, bringing news of testing results and the location and status of patients. Labs were put in place out in the counties and CCCs were built so those who are ill could access care much closer to home.



Terran welcoming everyone at the official opening of the Keita Community Care Center at the beginning of March.

And now the crisis is subsiding. Grand Cape Mount County hasn’t had a positive Ebola case for over 90 days and there has only been 1 case in the entire country in the last 21 days. Health facilities are reopening and as our teams speak

“When the Rapid Response Team (RRT) does not have cases to investigate, they go out into the field to visit communities and sensitize them — teach them about Ebola, encourage them to remain vigilant, ensure that they have materials and instruction on mixing chlorine solution for washing hands, and dispelling numerous myths and rumors about ebola.”

with people in far-flung communities, they are starting to access the facilities again. Schools and borders have reopened.

My job in all of this has been to manage our field office. This means everything from ensuring we have fuel for vehicles to liaising with other partner organizations working in the county to working on future strategy and planning. Right now we are looking at how to transition out of this crisis and move into recovery and how we can support the County Health Team in rebuilding the healthcare system over the long-term.

Why do I do this? Perhaps surprisingly, not because I think I can or should change the world or Africa or even Liberia. That’s neither realistic nor my role as a foreigner, even if I believed that anything needed to be changed

Continued on page 5

(which I'm not sure I do). I love Africa and feel more at home here than I have anywhere else on earth. I also have skills and experience and training which are valuable here and seemingly not so valuable in the US. Though there are some significant restrictions on my self-expression, I love my job, I love the folks I get to work with, and I love the simple lifestyle.

What is my passion in all of this? I am not sure, but there are two things I notice I do regardless of where I am or what my role is. The first is speaking/writing/showing Americans that Africans are the same as them. They are not the "poor, starving children" they see so often in the media. They are everything: filthy rich and dirt poor and mostly in-between, well-educated and illiterate, hard-working, successful, unsuccessful, lazy. They love good clothes and good music and horrible (IMHO) movies. And they want what every human being wants – love and safety and success and a better future for their children.

And then, in conversation with so many people here, I find myself helping people to think of different possibilities for themselves, their families, their communities, their nations. This can look like not paying the expected bribe or teaching my staff how to interact with international donors so someday they will



The Community Care Center in Keita. It was built by UNICEF and we (MTI) stocked it and are managing it. This is the only CCC in the country that is not attached to an existing health facility, which complicates our plans for decommissioning since the CCC has already proved a godsend in an area where the next closest health facility is 2 hours away.

not need to rely on a foreign-based organization as an intermediary.

I guess you could say my passion is helping people to see things differently.

Terran Longacre is a deacon in the diocese of California, currently serving in Liberia.

THE SEVEN

The Seven: Revisioning for the future

BY TOM LUTES

The Seven has been a discernment program, particularly interested in diaconal vocations, and intended for young adults. AED has been hosting this program from 2011-2014, thanks to the hard work of Kyle Pedersen, who received a grant from the Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF) through the Fellowship Partners Program. Kyle then worked in conjunction with former AED Executive Director Susanne Watson Epting to design this unique program.

ECF Fellowships, like the one that Kyle applied for, are given as financial support to emerging ministry leaders and as a means for those leaders to share experience and best practices with the wider church. Kyle applied for the Fellowship with his design for *The Seven* and received grants over a three year period. The impetus, he said, for crafting *The Seven* was an observation that there are many young adults already engaged in community service or civic action, not to mention the intentional communities that coalesce as a result of service

programs like the Episcopal Service Corps. However, despite all the action that takes place, it is not always coupled with reflection. And so the niche was found for *The Seven*.

Thanks to the vision and work that Kyle and Susanne had, there have been over twenty young adults (myself included) who have participated in *The Seven* as a means of reflection and a process of discernment for our diaconal callings. Some of us have discerned calls to action in the diakonia of all believers, while a few of us have discerned calls to the ordained diaconate. I, personally, am hugely appreciative to Kyle and all the others who had a hand in crafting *The Seven*, since I was a discerner in the second year it was offered and I consider it hugely influential in my discernment and formation. I mean, after all, I'm now a postulant to the diaconate in my home diocese of Minnesota!

Where we are now with *The Seven* is in a period of revision and revamping. I, along with Kyle and our AED Executive Director,

Lori Mills-Curran, are working to invite and convene a group of discerners, postulants, *Seven* mentors and young adult deacons, who are all stakeholders in the future of *The Seven*. We plan to convene in Chicago this June, before General Convention, for conversation and envisioning for the future of this wonderful diaconal discernment program for young adults. After that initial face-to-face meeting (and after General Convention has come and gone), we will have follow-up conversations via conference call with those invited to be part of the Chicago group. Our hope is that, as a result of all this narrative sharing and conversation, we will have a formal report concerning *The Seven's* next steps in the November issue of *Diakoneo*.

Tom is a Seven alum and is in his first year of formation for the diaconate. He works as an English teacher at a charter high school in Forest Lake, MN and is a member of AED's board.

A DEACON'S PASSION

Advocating for justice in the Oklahoma prison system

BY DEACON LINDA PAUL

I am currently working in prison ministry, with three different units, staffing with volunteers, and working with a priest to design seasonal programming. I have two minimum/medium security men's prisons and one very large minimum to medium security women's prison. I love what I do. Nothing is earth-shattering, but when I walk outside the gates every week I have the following thoughts –

Death by Lethal Injection

Oklahoma is still trying to work on issues around lethal drugs for death sentences. One of my friends and a priest, now deceased, was the Oklahoma congressman who came up with lethal injection back in the 80's in Oklahoma. Before he died, in a tragic accident several years ago, we talked several times about his feelings about having done the legislation, since he had changed his mind over the years.

Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI)

Now, for the first time since House Bill 3052 was passed into law by the Oklahoma Legislature over three years ago, we might actually get a chance to start basic funding of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative. This will be a full community response, from sentencing to release, that requires the state to provide meaningful supervision of offenders throughout the process of their incarceration. Many offenders will be able to accrue days removed from their sentencing from the beginning of their process instead of waiting for 50-85% of their sentence being served before days can be accrued.

Restorative Justice

As I look over the issues of Restorative Justice I believe we need to begin an educational process in the Episcopal Church to help our people understand the difference between incarceration and rehabilitation. "We" say we believe in rehabilitation, but the unfortunate truth is "we" only believe in incarceration, then rehabilitation once an offender exits the system, which is always too little, too late.

Inter-generational Incarceration and lives of children with parents in prison

We need to discuss the issues of inter-generational incarceration, and how children need help to break free. *New Hope* is one of our programs in Oklahoma that was started by a Deacon to address the issue, especially of children with both parents in prison. While *New Hope* tries to work with 400-500 children every year, there are 30,000 in Oklahoma that have inter-generational incarceration as their legacy, and almost 1/3 currently have both parents in prison.

Fact

Oklahoma has a higher prison population per capita than any other nation in the world. We lead the world and our nation in incarceration of women per capita. We continue to reduce funding for prison personnel, maintenance of prison facilities, and educational programs outside, while we cut the tax rate for the top 10% of Oklahoma's population.

I know I'm only one among many who see this as a tragic circumstance here, but as we become more conservative, we will only see this trend continue in state after state. I see myself as one who has a passion to be an advocate for the issues, but I find very few who want to discuss or deal with the issues, or the need for education on any and all levels. These people are invisible and their issues are ghosts that cannot penetrate our church buildings or our lives.

At times it seems overwhelming. But then I look into the eyes of a father who shows me the picture of his daughter with epilepsy and asks me to pray for her. I hear the cries of a grandmother who couldn't be there to bury a grown child, tragically killed in a work accident. And I counsel young men and women as they try to overcome their life of negativity that has landed them in prison for a 3-5 year stint because of bad choice that should have been a community court project to help them learn better ways to cope and to make decisions.

"I counsel young men and women as they try to overcome their life of negativity..."

Linda Paul serves as a deacon in the Diocese of Oklahoma.

HELP US STAY UP TO DATE

We would be most grateful if you could keep us informed about changes in your Community of Deacons – ordinations, new mailing addresses, new email addresses and deaths.

Updates can be sent at any time to membership@episcopaldeacons.org.

We update our database constantly, and this makes your work and ours much easier when we undertake the annual Directory Survey in the summer.

Thank you!

An overview of AED's new website!

BY DEACON ANNE PILLOT, COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR & WEBMASTER

After listening to the hopes and dreams for a new website and researching different web builders and hosts, AED launched our new site in mid-March. Using the weebly interface, the new site allows for expanded features, easy updating and the possibility of down-the-road options such as member-only pages and online voting.

Specific goals are featured in the callouts below. Other goals included -

- To be a resource for deacons, dioceses and discerners
- Make it easy to submit stories, news, materials and photos
- Ability to be updated by non-web tech persons

NAVIGATION BAR

Organized by categories and drop down menus, the Nav Bar is your main place to find things. Such as -

Publications: Find current and past issues of *Diakoneo* & the Deacon Directory or sign up for AED's newsletter

Events: Listings from AED, dioceses and provinces, plus a slide show of ordination photos

Resources: Sub-Categories of Diaconate Programs & Formation, Diaconal Supervision & Management, Liturgical Resources for Deacons, Diaconal History, Diaconal Theology, Tools for Diaconal Ministry, Monographs, Archdeacon & Deacon Directors' Conference Notes and artwork of the Deacon's Cross

Links: Provides links to dioceses with a deacon-specific page, as well as other church pages.

HOME PAGE NEWS

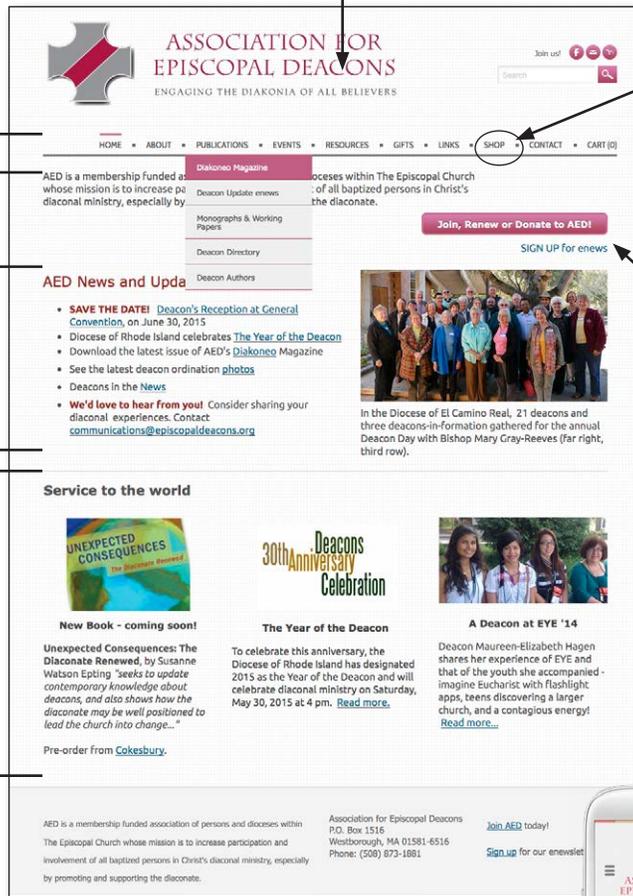
This is a list of current news, such as events, deacons activities, new materials available - all with links to read more.

FEATURED STORIES

These stories may include links to a document, longer story online or an event.

MASTHEAD

The masthead provides consistent and easy access on every page to AED's social media sites, our email, a search box and the navigation bar. Did you know - click the logo and it brings you back to the home page.



SHOP

This is the renamed and redesigned "bookstore." It includes categories that mirror those in the Resources Tab on the Navigation Bar. You will find monographs and working papers, on topics such as Formation, Theology, Music and more, as pdfs to purchase.

EASILY JOIN AED

The buttons - **Join, Renew or Donate to AED** and **Sign up for enews** - are now in a prominent location at the top of every page. Each link takes visitors to more information and the appropriate forms.

PHOTOS

Photos help to tell the story and we'd love to include yours! Pictures of ordinations, events, deacons and/or postulants serving in the community... please consider sharing.

...AND MORE!

It's not possible to describe each page here so please go online and have a look for yourself. And if you have materials to share (or find an error) let me know at communications@episcopaldeacons.org.



The new site is mobile friendly too!

Prepared, Not Perfect

BY DEACON NANCY JOHNSON VADERS

This sermon was preached at the ordination of five deacons at Phillips Chapel, Canterbury School, Greensboro, North Carolina on January 24, 2015.

In the name of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit: Amen. Good morning! What an exciting day for the Episcopal Church, and especially this diocese – a fresh crop of wonderful, smart, capable and crazy new deacons – this is good stuff. I'm so honored to be here, and it was only three years ago, I was sitting there and thinking – wow, I can't believe I made it through this insane process, and this is really exciting, but what the heck am I gonna do after this?

Theoretically I knew what deacons were supposed to be, how we were to perform liturgically and how our ministry outside of the church would fuel what we did within the church walls...but, what does that literally look like? On ordination day, I had no idea. Was I supposed to have it all figured out before collars and stoles appeared? If so, I snuck through with nobody realizing my ignorance, but I think maybe – that's how it's supposed to be. Take a deep breath, we don't have to know exactly what we're doing all the time.

Seems like we plan for everything in this life – or at least we make our attempts. We go to school, we study, we choose professions and partners, and we work hard to attain strange titles – prefixes and suffixes to attach to our names: Rev, Dr., Professor, Mom, Dad, teacher. It takes planning and hard work and sacrifice. There's no doubt about all of that, but it's often the unplanned parts of our lives that define the formation and the labels that we have so carefully crafted.

In fact, oftentimes God chooses the least crafted portion of our lives to call us forward into something new, and we're not always so willing to step outside the comfortable bounds of our carefully planned and executed existence. I know that for

most of you, the road to this place has not always been smooth and simple. There have been potholes and roadblocks and more than a few detours. And that's OK...in fact, that's biblical.

Smooth sailing is not a phrase I'd used to describe the trajectory of



Front: Deacon Leslie Bland with her service dog Titus. Back: Archdeacon William Joyner, Deacon Elaine Tola, Bishop Anne Hodges-Copple, Deacon Brooks Johnson, Deacon Joan Sherrill (in front), Deacon Nancy Vaders (preacher), Deacon Dan Laird

most folks that God calls into service. Look at Jeremiah in our Old Testament reading. God just appointed him “a prophet to the nations” – sounds good, right – a hefty promotion?! But, Jeremiah – he's not ready. He says, “Ah Lord God, truly I do not know how to speak; for I am only a boy.” Walter Brueggemann describes God's words to Jeremiah as both invasive and sovereign...he also says that God's message requires the messenger. But this is certainly not going to be easy, these God-given words are not going to make Jeremiah very popular – there's a reason he's often dubbed the reluctant prophet.

On one hand, you have to applaud him for trying to tell God: Thanks, but I don't really have the right skill set, look how inexperienced I am! But, on the other hand, does he really think he's going to get out of it that easily? A careful glance at scripture will tell you that God usually picks those who, at first, are seemingly the least qualified...and sometimes, the least willing – people who don't necessarily want their lives completely interrupted by a deity with complicated plans.

Jeremiah has a quick and easy response: Thanks God, but call me when I feel like I really know what I'm doing. Thankfully, God doesn't let us off the hook that easily. God speaks plainly, for once, and says to Jeremiah: Don't doubt yourself, I am with you, and that is enough – so, get out there and do the work that I have given you to do.

And God's work – well it certainly won't always be simple, straightforward or perfectly planned and implemented. I know we all want to try and always get things right, But, it is no longer the job of the church to be perfect – it is the job of the church to be ready, to be present and to be willing to do the hard work of service to God and our neighbor.

And deacons, I have some exciting, or ominous words for you: Your

Continued on page 9

job is not insular by nature, you are not bound simply to the church or the world – you are bound to both. So take comfort in the liturgy, take comfort in the familiarity of the prayer book, the paten and the chalice, the bread and the wine – let it strengthen and uphold you, because when that service is over, we have to get right back out there into the world. And as we all know, the world is wild, teeming with fear and violence, joy and wonder. In the words of author Roberto Bolaño, “The world changes every hundred feet.”

And the good news is that we don't always have to know exactly how the world changes, only that it does. We don't need a crystal ball to tell us what happens next – we don't need to know precisely what we're supposed to do all the time – because sometimes, we're gonna make mistakes: say the wrong words, spill the wine, forget someone's name, preach a bad sermon. We're all just little heretics waiting to happen.

But you know what, that's all part of being called into the ministry: it's not always pretty. The call to perfection is a false one, we don't need to be without fault. God tells us in the gospel today that all we need to be, is ready. “Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit.” This is not an isolated theme – not bound only to the Gospel of Luke. The Gospel of Matthew tells us to “be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.” Mark says, “Keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come.” The text reminds us that the world as it is can lull us into sleep – can have us close our eyes to inequity, ignorance and fear. The world, at times, might rather have us sleeping comfortably, than awake with the discomfort of truth.

But, God asks us to be ready. To have our lamps lit. And that sounds easy enough, but is not always a simple task.

A light can be easily snuffed out by the stiff wind of complacency. We can let people tell us that we, the church, are becoming increasingly irrelevant and unnecessary in a world where abstract spirituality is second only to nothing at all. It's disheartening, it's frustrating and it's tempting.

But, let us listen to our gospel herald. Let us take this day, a day when we dress the five of you for action, and reignite the call to be ready – to let the light of a living gospel free in a world that is desperate for

justice and for joy. In the words of the recently departed Marcus Borg: “Christianity's goal is not escape from this world. It loves this world and seeks to change it for the better.”

Thank God, for each of you – Joan, Leslie, Brooks, Dan and Elaine – not for being perfect, but for being willing and ready. You help to remind the rest of us to wake up from our slumber and join the watch with you. Because amazing things can happen when we least expect it.

Do you all know that iconic picture taken of the earth rising over the moon? It was taken by the crew of Apollo 8 almost fifty years ago. The picture, called “Earth Rising,” is so breathtaking – this blue and green marble full of all we have ever known, rising above the lunar surface. But, what you might not know about that picture, is that it was completely unplanned and unexpected. In fact, the crew of Apollo were turning the ship to get a better view of a specific portion of the lunar surface, and when they made the turn, one of the astronauts looked out and said, “Oh my God, look at that.”

They scrambled for their cameras, and only one was loaded with color film. It almost didn't happen, but, it did, and we have this beautiful picture that reflects the totality of creation right back to us in all its unexpected and immeasurable beauty.

After taking their pictures, the crew gathered together and read aloud from the creation story in the book of Genesis, humbled and in awe of what they had just seen: God's creation set before them for a brief, astonishing moment.

That moment, in a tiny rocket orbiting the moon, shows us that the spirit of God is constantly creating, calling us to be awake so that when unpredicted turns happen in our lives, we can be ready.

So congratulations to you five, and thank you all for what you have done, what you are doing now, and what wonderful things lay before you in your ministry. To you – Leslie, Dan, Elaine, Joan and Brooks – this is your Genesis moment. Get ready to look toward the unexpected, and see the spirit of new creation that God has gifted to us all.

Amen.

Nancy Johnson Vaders serves as deacon at St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Winston-Salem, in the Diocese of North Carolina.

Deacons in Province I

In their recent newsletter, Province I highlighted ongoing programs that include deacons:

Deacons Talking while Walking on the Road to Emmaus. Coordinator: Deacon Kyle Pedersen
Cultural Awareness & Anti-Racism Task Force. Coordinator: Deacon Ema Rosero-Nordalm

Human Trafficking

Mary Decker and The Rev. Deacon Alissa are organizing efforts in the Diocese of Connecticut. Mary has developed a Parish Model for Addressing Human Trafficking. She recommends a program in Boston called **My Life, My Choice**, put on by Mrs. Morrisey (former teenage prostitute and heroine addict now working to rehab young people who have been in the trade); and films: **I Choose** (on YouTube) and **Love 146** (love146.org).

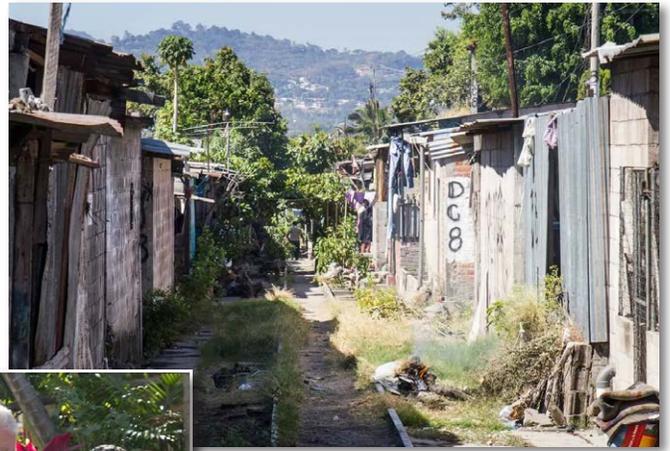
The Rev Deacon Gay Cox has begun investigating opportunities in the Diocese of MA that may include providing informational programs about exploitation and sex trafficking and re-instating a support group for women who are victims of domestic violence. A long-term hope is to operate Dinah's House, a drop-in center for victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

For more information, contact Julie Lytle, Executive Director of Province I. She works to initiate connections and cross-diocesan efforts. Email: executive.director@province1.org.

Deacon Stats

Did you know, As of March 2015...

- There are 2,977 deacons in The Episcopal Church (TEC)
- 60% of deacons in TEC are women (1,784) and 1,193 are men
- In the Anglican Church of Canada (ACC) there are 355 deacons, and 65% are women
- 24% of deacons in TEC and 21% of deacons in the Anglican Church of Canada are members of AED
- In TEC, deacons range in age from 29 - 106 years
- There were 96 ordinations of vocational deacons reported in 2014 in TEC and 12 in the ACC
- In TEC and ACC there are 291 and 15 persons in formation, respectively



Above: San Salvador
Far left: The new Bishop of El Salvador, The Rt. Rev. Juan David Alvarado
Left: Deacons preparing for the consecration of the new Bishop.

A DEACON'S PASSION

Deacon at an El Salvador consecration: history, poverty & celebration

BY DEACON MARK BLINDHEIM

Editor's note: Mark traveled to El Salvador Jan 28- Feb 4 2015 with the Diocese of Olympia for Cristosal Foundation Global School. He participated as the Deacon in the Consecration of the New Bishop of the Anglican Church in El Salvador.

My parish, Emmanuel Mercer Island is deeply involved in many levels regarding the crisis of the thousands of unaccompanied refugee children crossing our border from Central America. While sponsoring a booth at our diocesan convention, we were reminded that our Diocese was taking a delegation to El Salvador for their new Anglican Bishop's consecration, and to learn more of the culture, history, and economic realities there. I was able to get time off, got my passport and some tropical clothing and soon was on a plane to San Salvador.

My purpose was to get some first hand knowledge of why these migrations were taking place. We were told that this would be an important aspect of the trip. I was also informed prior to leaving that I would be reading the Gospel in English for the new Bishop of El Salvador's consecration.

Meeting history up close

Waking up in our 1950's era hotel the next morning I heard the sound of birds I had never heard before. Outside my window I could see the volcano which overlooked San Salvador. I felt a strong kinship here,

as we came from the Pacific Northwest where this string of volcanos on the Pacific Rim passed through. After our first family breakfast of rice, beans, avocados and watermelon without seeds we went with our Cristosal guide to the Chapel of Divine Providence. This was where Archbishop Oscar Romero was assassinated 35 years ago while serving mass. Poignant for me was the fact that the Roman Church announced the beatification of Romero while we were there. I also learned of the continuing social divides which exist within this nation. After seeing the colorful Iglesia del Rosario and Romero's crypt below the National Cathedral, we went to the Jesuit University of Central America. After speaking with members of EMULES, a local LGBT advocacy group, we went to the Museum of Martyrs. This was where six priests and two nuns were murdered in 1989. We saw the memorial garden and the church erected in their honor.

Stories from the Civil War

We saw much poverty everywhere. Iron gates and spools of barbed wire surrounded residences and businesses. We were intentionally taken only to places where we would be safe.

Five gallon propane tanks were everywhere in sight, as people attempted to eke out a living with small street-side enterprises. The 20 year Civil War had ended with the Peace Accords of 1993, which granted blanket amnesty to all participants. Our interpreters were case studies in

"Seeing who these insurgents actually were was a learning experience that I was not ready to receive."

Continued on page 11

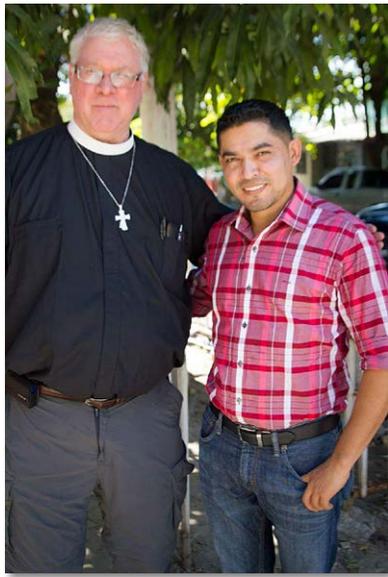
the irresolution which came from this decision. One had a step-father who had edited Romero's radio broadcasts to appear like he was inciting the people to rebellion. He apparently died believing he had done the right thing. The other interpreter had a mother who had fought with the guerrilla forces against the government. I was honored when she gave me the opportunity to interview her and hear her compelling story.

The next day we were scheduled to see the Memorial Wall at Parque Cuscutlan and hear several local authorities speak of the many challenges and difficulties that the Salvadoran people face. This wall is similar to our Vietnam Memorial in Washington DC. It lists the names of over 35,000 men, women and children who were killed or disappeared during the Civil War. One of the Mothers of the Disappeared spoke of this immense national tragedy and how this monument and park serve as a means for persons to heal and remember those victims.

These revelations affected me in many ways. In the late 70's I was an Army Reserve officer who did 2 weeks training yearly at Fort Benning, GA. At that time it was also the location of the School of the Americas which trained those fighting communist insurgencies in Latin America. Seeing who these insurgents actually were was a learning experience that I was not ready to receive. Many years ago, my family's decision to do an overseas adoption was made after seeing a "Guatemalan" baby. Our baby did come from Korea, but it was sobering to consider that the Guatemalan baby may have come from the disappearances in El Salvador.

Consecration

I was immediately transported to the rehearsal for the Bishop's consecration to be held the next day. Many were milling about getting ready. A gentleman came up to me and said, I am the Bishop Suffragan from Guatemala. Bishops from Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama were also present. Later that evening I was driven to a beautiful hotel for a celebration dinner to honor the new incoming Salvadoran Bishop, Juan David Alvarado, and



Deacon Mark Blindheim and Salvadoran friend

"We processed through some of the streets in San Salvador, somehow reminiscent of Jesus' joyful entry into Jerusalem."

a birthday celebration for the retiring Bishop. It was a time of joy, celebration and hope.

To participate in the consecration the next day was joyful and incredible. We processed through some of the streets in San Salvador, somehow reminiscent of Jesus' joyful entry into Jerusalem. I read the Gospel in English and later served at the Table. In the new Bishop's consecration address, he passionately proclaimed what the church would be called to do during his episcopate. As he processed out he was mobbed by his people who were on the outer edges of the church.

That next Sunday we went to worship at San Andreas Apostolos. This was where the new Bishop had done his first mass as a Deacon, then as a priest, and now his first as the consecrated Bishop of El Salvador. That day they were also dedicating the reopening of a school which had been closed for some time. I had brought some t-shirts with me which were gifts from the Resurreccion Daycamp from the farm-workers children in the Skagit Valley, Washington State. They were joyfully received and are currently being worn by the new students.



The children with their t-shirts

Our final day in the field was spent at one of the Cristosol Foundations sponsored communities in Los Calix in Usulután. This was an area which had been destroyed by a hurricane and was being resettled by Civil War veterans.

They provided us with a wonderful meal and fellowship, while displaying the new worship space and community center that was being constructed there.

I learned much of the conditions which were causing the children to migrate, which include gang recruitment, lack of economic opportunity and even climate change.

But I also learned of the Salvadorans' unfailing spirit and faith, despite an incredible history of trauma and obstacles. Our parish and Diocese will continue to accompany them on this journey, for they have as much to give us as we have to give them.



The Bishops of Costa Rica and Honduras

Deacon Mark Blindheim serves as deacon at Emmanuel Episcopal Parish, Mercer Island, WA in the Diocese of Olympia.

AED Board Report

BY DEACON GEN GREWELL, SECRETARY

The AED Board held its annual in-person board meeting following the ADDD Conference held in San Antonio TX, March 22-24, 2015. Fourteen members and two staff participated. Newly elected board members were introduced – VP/Pres. Elect Deacon Maureen Hagen (Diocese of Oregon), Archdeacon Gen Grewell (Diocese of Olympia), Archdeacon Elaine Bellis (Diocese of Chicago), Archdeacon Douglas Argue (Diocese of Southern Ohio), Dr. Bradley Peterson (Lay, Diocese of California), The Rev. Kate Harrigan (Priest, Diocese of Central Pennsylvania) and The Right Rev. Gregory Rickel (Bishop, Diocese of Olympia).

First order of business was to elect a Secretary. Archdeacon Gen Grewell was nominated and elected by acclamation. Michael Kitt, Treasurer, reviewed his report which had been sent to board members prior to our meeting. The Budget for 2015 had been approved in November of 2014.

- *Triennial planning & presenters*
- *General Convention roles & plans*
- *New User-friendly website*

Committee reports from the Triennial Design Team, Past President's, Financial Task Force, Membership, Communications, The Seven, DOTAC/World Diakonia, Vocational and LifeLong Learning, and General Convention Planning were all presented.

Highlights from these reports include the following: Membership Report - Jo Weber will be retiring soon and a transition plan is being worked on. One thing for the Board to keep



Dn. Lauren Welch (president), Dn. Tina Campbell (past-president), Archdn. Douglas Argue, Mr. Tom Lutes, Dr. Bradley Peterson, Archdn. Gen Grewell (secretary), The Rev. Kate Harrigan (priest), Dn. Maureen Hagen (VP/President elect), Archdn. Elaine Bellis, Dn. Geri Swanson

in mind is that membership has been declining in recent years and we need to pay attention. The

Communications Report was offered by Lori Mills-Curran. The new website is up and running. We all were shown the website and

how to access it at the Conference. It really is very user friendly. The Triennial Design Team has had some bumps along the way, but things seems to moving along now. All members need to be conscientious about creeping costs so that they stay within their budget. Presenters have been secured and a theme has almost been decided upon. The venue is Oakridge Hotel and Conference Center in Chaska MN. Triennial dates are June 16-19, 2016. General Convention Planning is well underway. There will be numerous roles for deacons including serving at the daily Eucharists, staffing the AED booth, and following the legislation as it is happening. This will be an all-electronic convention. The Board's next meeting via conference call will be June 16, 2015.

2015 Archdeacon & Deacon Directors' Conference



Dn. Holly Hanback and Canon Charles Simmons take part in one-on-one conversation about their experience of the diaconate.



Dn. Tim Spannus presents the work of the Vocational Development & Lifelong Learning task force as a tool in formation practices.

The Diocese of Rhode Island Designates 2015 as the Year of the Deacon



In 1985 Bishop George Hunt ordained the first class of deacons in the diocese, heralding the beginning of their revival of the vocational Diaconate.

They will be celebrating
30 Years of Diaconal Ministry
on May 30, 2015 at 2 pm.

We plan to bring you news of this event in a later issue of *Diakoneo*. More information can be found at episcopaldeacons.org/provincialdiocesan-events

DIOCESE OF ST. IVES

The fictional Diocese of St. Ives is a recurring column in Diakoneo, dedicated to exploring solutions to “problem moments” in diaconal ministry. The situations are true, but the names have been changed to protect the innocent and guilty. Each issue features responses to the prior chapter, plus a new “case study” with an opportunity for comment.

Response to Chapter XXIII, February 2015

The Lost Sheepdog

BY DEACON KEITH MCCOY

Catching lightning in a bottle is an impossible task. So, it is little wonder that Deacon Jimmie and The Episcopal Church came to a parting of the ways.

To refresh your memory about the last chapter, Archdeacon Spunk was sent to investigate the whereabouts of a long-lost deacon. She found him, happily ministering to his community for these many years after his ordination, just without any Episcopal oversight. The reason for that was, after being rushed through the ordination process as a precursor to a new breed of deacon, Dn. Jimmie fell afoul of the diocese and its myriad rules and customs. Whether he jumped or was pushed, he left the institution, but continued his ministry. The concluding questions were: should he be welcomed back into the fold, and could he be brought back into the church?

The entire ordination process is about testing for orthodoxy. Education aside, the organizational trek towards becoming a deacon or a priest is about the authorities checking each applicant's thoughts and actions to see if they fit into the model of what the church

has erected. Most people fit in easily, but a number are filtered out by the process, both by the church (“We don't hear your call”) and by the applicant (“What you stand for isn't what I really believe”). A small contingent manages to slip through the process, despite their misgivings or beliefs. Deacon Jimmie was one such example.

Bringing Dn. Jimmie back onto the church roster means that the Diocese believes, despite his unorthodox ways, he would not only be an effective minister, but also his pattern of life and ministry follows what The Episcopal Church proclaims. They also get to fix a lacuna in their lists, and perhaps get some reflected glory from his ministry.

But what does the deacon gain through this? Affirmation? Financial backing? The Church gave him the gift of ordination, and he used that to create a space to bring people closer to God and God's creation. Myra Kingsley of Arizona ventured the thought that Dn. Jimmie is functioning as a deacon, and doesn't necessarily need the church. Indeed: why institutionalize what is already working

supremely well?

The Diocese perhaps gains more from having Deacon Jimmie return home than he gets from returning. It is the institutional need to tie up loose ends and create order that is the driving force. If that is the main goal of the Diocese, then it should depose the deacon from the ministry of the Episcopal Church. No matter how it is done, however, there will be a negative connotation to that act, and it could possibly hurt the ongoing ministry of the Church of the Wholesome Community. Is that a consideration?

My thought is, given that Dn. Jimmie has served as a deacon for so many years to great effect, and without any help from the Church, the charitable thing to do would be to accept the anomaly in the records, and let matters go on as they have. How the Diocese acts will determine whether order comes before service, or vice versa. But whatever the Church does, God's work in South Riverside will go on, the rules notwithstanding.

Chapter XXIV

In the Middle

BY DEACON KEITH MCCOY

It was the weekly date night for the Goodleighs, and as they returned home from their favorite trattoria, Trish noticed the light on the answering machine blinking.

“Four calls. Must be a crisis. That means they're looking for the deacon.” And she stepped away to put the leftover scaloppine in the refrigerator.

Parker moved to the light. “I guess Canon George forgot to tell me he was taking the day off.” He hit the play button to hear the messages. And then it started.

“Hi there, Deacon Darling. It's your long lost cousin, Bessie Mae

Moucheaux. I know, it's been ages. When did we last see each other? Aunt Fannie's funeral? And how's Trish doing? Is she still teaching those cute lil' kindergarteners?” The message went on about nothing in particular for another minute and forty-five seconds, until it automatically cut off.

The second call was also Bessie Mae, about being cut off by the answering machine, talking into thin air, not understanding these contraptions, or computers, or ATMs, or other things. After two minutes, the machine again did what it was programmed to do.



Continued on page 14

Call Number Three finally got around to the purpose of the phone visit. “Anyway, I’m calling to tell you our little girl, Desiree – you remember her, don’t you? – is getting married. Yes, she is that old. Been living with this guy for over two years now. Jaison’s a lovely boy, but I’ll never get used to all those tattoos. He’s got a job with the county, so he’s set for life, I’d say.”

She continued with barely a breath taken. “They wanted an outdoor ceremony, so we rented a grove at O’Malley Park. That took forever – all those permits and approvals! I hope it doesn’t rain; thunderstorms can be just awful in July. Then we had to find a place for a reception, and do you know how hard it is to find one that doesn’t want an arm and a leg? It’s a good thing Claude has some pals at the VFW, or we would never have gotten even that.”

There was more until the machine again put an end to the stream of words. The final message was, of course, Bessie Mae.

“So, the only thing we’re lacking here is a minister. Now, Desiree hasn’t been to church in years. I tried dragging her when she was a teenager, but it practically came to tears, so I gave up. And I don’t know about him and his family, but they don’t seem the churchy type to me. I told the kids that if two young people are making a commitment to a life together, I believe Jesus needs to be there in the middle of the promises; that’s the way our families have always done it. Reverend Smithers at our church says he won’t marry anyone who isn’t a member, and I’m sorry but his sermons go on way too long for me to go every week. Not to mention Desiree. Besides, we have you in the family!”

“We’d love for you to come and tie the knot for these two lovers. Nothing too religious: like I said, the kids aren’t much for church, but they did agree with me that having a minister related to us to bring some of God into the occasion would be nice. Goodness – there’s the doorbell. I’ll call you right back, Parker.” That call ended, and there was nothing left for the answering machine to report.

Trish was leaning against the doorframe when Parker turned around. “This sounds like a hoot. Are you going to do it?”

The deacon shook his head. “I don’t know. It’s out of the diocese, so I’d have to get permission from my bishop and that bishop. Plus, I’ve never done a wedding before: the couple really marries each other, and the priest blesses it. Deacons usually don’t do blessings, unless it’s a meal or a sneeze.”

Trish mused about the potential ceremony. “Still, it’s your family. It would be good to catch up with them. And maybe you can do a little evangelizing while you’re there.”

“Little’ and ‘evangelizing’ really don’t go together,” replied the deacon. “You heard what my cousin said; these are second-generation unchurched. In the limited time I would have, what could I possibly say or do that would make a difference?”

Mrs. Goodleigh kissed her husband, and said, “Fortunately, we don’t have to decide tonight. Your cousin promised she would call back, and she’s a woman on a mission.” She picked up her current mystery, and strolled out of the kitchen, saying over her shoulder, “I’m going upstairs to read some Donna Leon and reminisce about that Chianti we had tonight. You can worry about the wedding on the morrow.”

And the deacon, agreeing, followed.

What would you do? Please send responses with your take on rectifying the matter to kmccoy1@optonline.net. Comments received within a month will be taken into consideration when writing the response.

Deacon Keith McCoy has twenty plus years as a deacon and manager of public agencies.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Why I’m a member of AED:

Archdeacon Bill Joyner
Diocese of North Carolina

“The Association for Episcopal Deacons, including its website and resources, is the only place that brings together the needs, hopes and concerns of deacons, just as deacons are to bring to the church the needs, hopes and concerns of the world. Access to resources on deacon discernment, formation, deployment, relationships with priests and congregations; a physical and virtual “gathering place for deacons;” a place to explore the “diakonia of all believers” – AED is all this and so much more. That’s why I am a part of it.”

Why are YOU a member of AED? Reply to communications@episcopaldeacons.org and help promote AED’s resources to others.

Coming in August Explore Diakoneo in pdf

In addition to the printed copy of *Diakoneo* that members of AED receive by mail, in August you’ll also receive a pdf version by email (if we have your email) for the August issue only.

We’re offering an opportunity to explore the enhanced pdf version - in color, with links to additional information and emails.

This extra pdf will **not** change your current choice to receive the printed version, nor will you receive other issues as a pdf unless you choose.

Take a look at the pdf and see what you think. To receive *Diakoneo* as a pdf instead of a mailed copy, please contact our membership office at membership@episcopaldeacons.org.



membership in AED

As a member you'll receive Diakoneo newsletter 4 times per year, plus Deacon Update, our e-newsletter, monthly.

Additional benefits of membership include:

- Support for the ministry of deacons in the US and around the world
- Enable the growth of AED and the sharing of resources
- Make possible financial support for provincial deacon events

Canadian deacons are asked to purchase a "Blended Membership" through the Association of Anglican Deacons in Canada, which provides full member benefits in AED.

Visit www.anglicandeacons.ca or contact Deacon Jacqueline Bouthéon at aadc.members@sympatico.ca.

Join AED! Mail this form or join online.

Mail to:

AED Membership Office
PO Box 1160
Los Gatos, CA 95031-1160



I support the work of AED! Enclosed are my annual dues:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student/limited income membership . . \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron membership \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular membership \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership \$1000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining membership \$75 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership Extended Payment Plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting membership \$150 | <i>\$42 per month for 24 months. (Please contact membership director for details.)</i> |

Annual Donations in excess of \$50 are tax deductible. Deacon membership is fully deductible as a "charitable" part of their service.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Check for US \$ _____ (US bank or US money order)

VISA MasterCard

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Name on Card _____

I am a: deacon presbyter bishop friend

I am in formation for: deacon presbyter

I want to be a deacon:

Birth date: (if deacon or in formation) ____/____/____

Ordination date: (if deacon) ____/____/____

My diocese: _____

Please send my quarterly issue of Diakoneo magazine via:

- email pdf (*saves AED \$2.25!*)
- US mail

social media

Did you know that AED is on facebook? Like AED's Facebook [page](#). Join the conversation on AED's Facebook [group](#).

Visit AED's website at episcopaldeacons.org.

Sign up for AED's newsletter at episcopaldeacons.org
Click "SIGN UP for enews" on the right.



AED's two Yahoo Groups enable conversations between members on matters relating to Deacons and Archdeacons. Visit [Anglodeacons](#) or [Archdeacons](#) and join the conversation.

in memoriam

Deacon deaths received by AED, listed by name, date of death, diocese, (age) and ordination date.

Mary-Kathleen Blanchard, March 19, 2015, Georgia (67) 2004

Peter S. Koeller, Dec. 24, 1914, Milwaukee (70) 2004

John T. LeSueur II, Nov. 10, 2014, New Hampshire (66) 2002

Joan Barr Smith, March 21, 2015, Chicago (75) 2008

Marie Louise Webner, Feb. 3, 2015, Arizona (86) 1989

Dorothy Wolfe, March 20, 2015, Nebraska (85) 2002

Every effort has been made to provide accurate information and we regret any errors. We appreciate being notified when a deacon has died. Please send notifications, including diocese, date of ordination, age and date of death to membership@episcopaldeacons.org.

NEWLY ORDAINED

Recent Ordinations

We celebrate the following diaconal ordinations that have been reported to AED. Ordination notices (date, diocese and deacon) are published as we receive them, and may not be in chronological order. Please send ordination notices to membership@episcopaldeacons.org.

June 20, 2014	Oklahoma	Joyce Maudine Spurgin
Oct. 25, 2014	Wyoming	Christine Kay Galagan
Nov. 7, 2014	West Missouri	Bruce E. Bower, Donna Lynn Stanford
Jan. 10, 2015	Pittsburgh	John Mark Feuerstein
	Western N. Carolina	Michael Ashmore
Jan. 24, 2015	North Carolina	Leslie Bland, Brooks Johnson, Daniel Laird, Joan Sherrill, Elaine Tola
Feb. 14, 2015	San Diego	Philip Lyman Loveless, Thomas Carlo Anthony Morelli, David Hughes Rhodes



At AED's Archdeacon & Deacon Directors' Conference in March, participants took part in one-on-one discussions on diaconal communities and their experiences of formation practices.

*Top: Archdeacons Lynn Johnson and Rose Bogal-Allbritten.
Bottom: Dn. Holly Hanback and Canon Charles Simmons.*