March 2019

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Greetings beloved members of Province II!

I pray this issue of InProv2 is as exciting to you all as it is to us! Your Provincial Council has been hard at work. We have contracted with Neva Rae Fox to be our Director of Communications and she has done an amazing job of establishing an active FaceBook presence for our Province. She is working with Jan Paxton, InProv2 editor and webmaster. We have an awesome new logo designed by one of our youth from the Diocese of Albany—many thanks to Grace-Ann Porpiglia! For the remainder of this triennium, we will work on establishing and maintaining closer relationships within all different parts of our Province, continuing to enhance our social media presence, bringing an increased awareness to issues of human trafficking and racism, and building our primary focus areas of ministry (more on that in the next InProv!)

In April, Vice President Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe and I will travel to Paris to help celebrate the Consecration and Installation of the Rev. Mark Eddington, bishop-elect of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe.
The consecration will take place April 6 at The American Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Paris. Please keep us in your prayers.

I have been asked to share the final benediction I offered at our Synod Gathering last year (which was shared with me by the Rev. Brian Baker, former Dean of the Cathedral in Sacramento, CA.). Feel free to use it generously!

The world is now too dangerous and too beautiful for anything but love.  
May your eyes be so blessed that you see God in everyone  
Your ears, so you hear the cries of the poor  
Your feet, so you can run to those who need you  
Your hands, so that everything you give and everything you receive becomes a sacrament  
And may your hearts be so opened, so set on fire, that your love, YOUR LOVE, changes everything.  
And the blessing of God Almighty - Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer - be upon you and remain with you this day and forever.  
Amen!

Looking forward,  
Dahn+

The Rev. Dahn Dean Gandell  
President, Province 2  
Rector, Church of the Ascension, Rochester, NY

**What has Provincial Council been up to?**  

The Province II Provincial Council has adopted those three statements – Re-Imagine. Re-positioned. Re-newed. – to illustrate the willingness to work and partner with dioceses to serve God, His Church, and the world.

The following is an update of the many aspects of the recent activities of the Provincial Council:

- Appointed a Communications Committee which has helped the Province:
  - Launch a new logo, designed by high-school Junior Grace-Ann Porpegglia, as digitized by Meghan Keegan, Communications Officer and Webmaster of the Diocese of Albany;
  - Launch a new *InProv2* logo, consistent with the new Provincial logo;
  - Start the process of website redesign and update to maximize the availability of information to all dioceses, Episcopalians, and others interested in our mission and ministries;
  - Increase our presence on social media, specifically Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter;
  - Start the process of expanding translation of Provincial materials into Spanish and French;
o Start rebuilding regular communications and relationships with various branches of dioceses, including Diocesan communicators and more - - with more to come!
o Start a Provincial ministry of “Prayers for the Times”, with the Litany for a Government Shutdown in both English in Spanish. This litany was shared widely throughout the Church.
o Responded to the needs in Cuba following the devastating tornado

- Engaged the services of Neva Rae Fox as Director of Provincial Communications, who will work closely with Jan Paxton, who will continue as Editor of InProv2 and Webmaster.
- Committed to supporting the anti-sex trafficking and Dalit Christian ministries that were presented at Provincial Synod in 2018.
- Initiated a study of all prior Provincial “networks” to determine viability, as well as a study to determine areas of new ministry need.
- Committed to: (1) building better relationships between the Province and all our dioceses, and among the dioceses within the Province; (2) facilitating and fostering opportunities for cross-diocesan ministries within our Province; and (3) responding to urgent needs within our Province. Relationships require presence. The Provincial Council is committed to becoming a regular, consistent, and continued presence in each and every diocese within the Province within the coming years.
- Begun to plan for Synod 2021 - - more on that to follow as soon as dates and location are finalized!
- Begun to plan for Provincial presence at General Convention 2021.

We’re just getting started! Please join us on this great journey!

- If your Diocese or parish has a ministry that you think would benefit from partnering with other dioceses or parishes, or if you have a suggestion for a Provincial ministry, please let us know by contacting Neva Rae Fox at nevarae@aol.com.
- If you would like to volunteer for a Provincial committee, please contact Province 2’s President at motherdahn@hotmail.com.
- If you have a suggestion for a workshop for Synod 2021, please contact Dorothy-Jane Connolly at djangoldsack.prov2@gmail.com.
- If you have news you’d like to share, a suggestion for inclusion on the Provincial website, or an article suggestion for a future InProv2, please contact Jan Paxton at webeditor@province2.org.

Appointments

The President of the Province, the Rev. Dahn Gandell of the Diocese of Rochester, has announced the following appointments with the advice and consent of Provincial Council:
Advisory Committee to Provincial Council
Philip Fileri, Esq. Diocese of Rochester - Co-chair pfileri@hselaw.com
Dorothy-Jane Connolly, Diocese of Albany – Co-chair djgoldsack.prov2@gmail.com
Neva Rae Fox, Diocese of New Jersey nevarae@aol.com
Grace-Ann Porpeglia, Diocese of Albany graceannporpeglia@gmail.com

Communications Committee
Neva Rae Fox – Co-chair nevarae@aol.com
Dorothy Jane Connolly – Co-chair djgoldsack.prov2@gmail.com
Dahn Gandell motherdahn@hotmail.com
Phyllis Jones, Diocese of New Jersey pjones@dioceseofnj.org
Yvonne O’Neal, Diocese of New York yvonne.oneal@gmail.com
Jan Paxton, Diocese of Newark webeditor@province2.org
Grace Ann Porpeglia graceannporpeglia@gmail.com
Brian Romero, Diocese of Long Island bromeromsw@gmail.com

Ordinance Committee
Philip Fileri, Esq.- Chair pfileri@hselaw.com
Paul Ambos, Diocese of New Jersey pambos@amboslaw.com
Dorothy-Jane Connolly djgoldsack.prov2@gmail.com
Neva Rae Fox nevarae@aol.com

Synod Planning Committee
Dorothy-Jane Connolly – Chair djgoldsack.prov2@gmail.com
Other members to be named later

Several appointments remain. If you are interested in serving on any Provincial Committee, please feel free to reach out to the Rev. Dahn Gandell at motherdahn@hotmail.com. She would be happy to hear from you!

About the logo, its design, and meaning...

Province II is thrilled to launch its new logo. With the in-process addition of the Diocese of Cuba to the Province, we need a logo that represents all of our Dioceses. The long overdue new logo is finally here! So, who designed it and what is the meaning?

The logo reflects the people, mission, and work of Province II. The hands represent the people of the Province doing God’s good work throughout the Province and the World. This is represented by the “hands of peace” upholding the Episcopal Church shield which spans the Atlantic — the International Atlantic Province. We invite you to join us as we continue to live out the meaning of this logo as a community of faith, joined by our love for God, our community and each other. Let us grow closer as a beloved community by carrying out the mission and work of this Province!
In Prov 2

March 2019

The new Provincial logo was designed by Grace-Ann Porpeglia of the Diocese of Albany, a Junior at Christa McAuliffe Academy School of Arts and Sciences of Lake Oswego, Oregon. An avid figure skater, she is interested in studying Criminology/Criminal Justice, Pre-Med, and Political Science in college. She is the daughter of Dorothy-Jane Connolly, Chair of the Synod Planning Committee and former Provincial Chancellor, and granddaughter of the late John Wood Goldsack, former Chancellor of both the Province and the Diocese of NJ. Meaghan Keegan, Communications Officer and Webmaster of the Diocese of Albany, graciously volunteered her time to digitize the design for the Province. Thank you Grace-Ann and Meaghan for all your hard work and patience throughout this process.

Report of the Clerical Representative to Executive Council
Winter Meeting February 21-24

The winter meeting of the Executive Council was held at the Sheraton Midwest City Hotel and Reed Conference Center, OK.

Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry opened his remarks around his experience the prior week when visiting the Anglican Church of Southern Africa. A young Anglican asked him if there was a future for the church. As he pondered the question, he thought “does the church, the community of people who have faith in Jesus, have a future? That may be one of the most critical questions before us in our time.” He continued, “The question applies to all faith communities, not just Episcopal ones, or even solely Christian ones.”

In answering the question, he said, "Faith does not have a future if faith and religion is seen and understood as an institutional arrangement. Faith will not have a future if we believe that the church is an institution that we must prop up to keep it going,"

He reminded us that the Christian church has been an institution periodically; it began as a "Jesus Movement," and later became an institution that crowned emperors, only to be divided by theological schisms and reformations. The church has moved from the established churches of the majority to “a fragile minority.” He said that the way of love exemplified by Jesus is not just the way of love for the world, but can be the way of life for the church. “If we cannot witness to that way of love, then we ought to die because we have nothing to give the world.” The Presiding Bishop insisted that we listen to what the spirit is saying to our church. He inspired us to pray, to “find our life following Jesus’ way of love, then the gates of hell will not prevail against us.”

President of the House of Deputies, the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings devoted her opening remarks to Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby’s decision not to invite same-sex spouses to the 2020 Lambeth Conference of Bishops. She said, “If the communion is not able to hold a global meeting of Anglican bishops and spouses to which everyone is invited, then I think we should not be holding global meetings of Anglican bishops and spouses.”

Jennings continued that Archbishop Idowu-Fearon’s post promulgated “a misconception about the Anglican Communion’s governance” by claiming that the Anglican Communion’s position on marriage is defined by Resolution I.10 of the 1998 Lambeth Conference.
She said that only the Anglican Consultative Council – ACC- is seen as the corporate entity of the Anglican Communion by the instruments' governing documents and British law. Setting policy is only the ACC’s job. She also noted that the resolution’s reference to marriage as a “lifelong union” seems not to pertain to the opposite-sex spouses of bishops who have been divorced and remarried but are still invited to Lambeth. “We are left to conclude that excluding same-sex spouses is a selective decision.” Jennings suggested that, if the communion cannot resolve to invite all of the bishops’ spouses, “I think that the day is coming when we will need to take a hard look at where and how we invest the resources of The Episcopal Church across the Anglican Communion.” She cautioned that her stance “is not at all the same thing as saying that we should not be in relationship with the Anglican Communion.” She said her travels across the communion have seen the communion as life-giving, life-saving, mutual relationships rooted in dioceses, congregations and networks across the world.

“That is the Anglican Communion that deserves our energy and attention, our commitment and our resources,” she said. Archbishop Welby’s refusal currently affects two bishops and one bishop-elect in the Anglican Communion. She stated, "One of the couples is the parents of two young children. I cannot overlook the fact that the Anglican Communion Office has created a public situation in which two children are learning that the hierarchy of the church considers their family to be a source of shame and worthy of exclusion. When little children are collateral damage, that is not the way of love.”

Executive Council heard a report from Treasurer Kurt Barnes that showed the church ended the 2016-2018 triennium with between $5 and $6 million more in income than it had in expenses, due in large part to the startup of some programs delayed to the current triennium. The Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society’s investment portfolio was down just more than six percent in 2018, Barnes reported the portfolio recovered six percent in January. “We just hope and pray that it continues for the remainder of this year.”

Barnes also said the sale of a city block in Austin, TX, which had been hoped would be the site of a new Archives of the Episcopal Church, netted $19million after paying off the debt on the land.

After the opening plenary we spent the rest of the day meeting in committees until the afternoon of Feb. 22 when we visited the Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum. The memorial and museum commemorates the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building by Timothy McVeigh, an act of domestic terrorism that killed 168 people and injured 600 others. Saturday, Feb. 23, we returned to the plenary session. Committees began their reports to the full body, As vice-chair on Mission Beyond the Episcopal Church, we proposed three resolutions:

MB002: Approved the presiding bishop’s and president of the House of Deputies appointments of the Rev. Ted Thompson and the Rev. Alfred E. Moss to the interreligious convening Table of the National Council of Churches;

MB003: Expressing gratitude for the continuing dialogue with the United Methodist Church as they meet in a Special Session of the General Conference, Feb. 23-26 in St. Louis, MO;

MB004: Expressing "deepest concern regarding the humanitarian and political crisis affecting Venezuela and sends greetings to our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Venezuela. All resolutions were approved by the full body.

We traveled to St. Paul’s Episcopal Cathedral in Oklahoma City for Eucharist Sunday morning, Feb. 24. The Presiding Bishop gave the sermon, telling us to overcome evil with good, that we should never avenge ourselves that vengeance is the way of the Lord. We heard several stories on love, the love of humanity and the constitution, loving thy neighbor as ourselves, not listening to gossip and people putting others down around the water coolers in the office. But the best story for me was when the Presiding Bishop related to losing one’s religion in traffic when someone cuts in front of you and you roll down your window and proceed to speak in sign language. He said, “Hold fast for what is good,
don’t let evil overcome good, but overcome evil with good and put up two fingers giving the sign of peace.” I left the cathedral remembering three loves: love God, love your neighbor and don’t forget to love yourself.

We concluded our meeting Sunday afternoon unanimously approving the resolution GO006, "Exclusion of spouses at Lambeth Conference: When does all mean all?" The resolution says, “it finds the decision “inconsistent” with the positions of The Episcopal Church and with multiple statements of Anglican Communion entities that have urged the church to listen to the experiences LGBTQ persons.” Presiding Bishop Michael Curry said in a statement after the vote that the resolution “reflects our commitment to be ‘a house of prayer for all people, as the Bible says, where all are truly welcome.” The words of the Apostle Paul to the Galatians should be true for the church today: “All who have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male or female, for all are one in Christ.”

Respectfully submitted by,
The Rev. Lillian J. Davis-Wilson

Report from the Episcopal Church Women

Greetings to all Province 2 ECW Board Members, Diocesan Presidents, Bishops and friends!

Having recently returned from the second gathering of the National Episcopal Church Women Board, I have some exciting things to share with you! We met at the Emerald Beach Resort in Charlotte Amalie on the island of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands – the Diocese of the Virgin Islands is in Province 2. We experienced warm and sunny days for the most part with an occasional downpour during the afternoon. Our hostess at the hotel was a young woman named Ishani Chinnery, who was a delight – warm, welcoming and accommodating! There is still much physical damage evident in structures around the island resulting from 2017 hurricanes Irma and Maria, and there are people still in temporary housing. We viewed churches where the sanctuaries were visible from the street due to destroyed facades.

On Saturday morning, we visited All Saints Cathedral, where we heard some of its history and visited with their Interim Priest, the Rev. Hayden G. Crawford. We also helped the ladies of All Saints ECW set up for a luncheon the next day honoring Mrs. Ura Gosha, immediate past President of the Diocese of the Virgin Islands ECW. One of Ura’s major accomplishments as President was to encourage the practice of thankful giving through the United Thank Offering, increasing the amount from $0 for the 2012-2015 triennium to almost $36,000, presented at the 2018 Triennial UTO Ingathering. Many gathered to honor her and our own NECW Board 2nd Vice-President, the Rev. Gigi Connor, who was the homilist for the service at the Cathedral the next day. On Sunday, February 10th, we worshiped at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, the home church of the current Diocesan ECW President, Edith Haynes-Lake. We were feted with refreshments and a tour of the island, followed by an afternoon at the president’s home with ECW members from St. Luke’s, as well as other parishes. - complete with an island music band!
The Board was introduced to its newest members: The Rev. Gigi Connor, 2nd Vice-President for Communications, and Jeanne Plecenik, Treasurer. It was good to get to know them. We have also hired a web master, John Wilkerson, who is keeping things organized and up-to-date on the web site. We have created a new monthly newsletter entitled “Branches.” It appears on our web site, ecwnational.org, and you can opt to receive it by email. Information about the Board, and all our activities and ministries can be found there as well. Our Facebook page is receiving many hits and our Social Justice Chair, Ema Rosero-Nordalm, is in the process of setting up a Social Justice Facebook page, which will eventually be published in both English and Spanish. Our Board President, Karen Patterson, has been appointed by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry as a delegate to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women meeting, which will convene in New York City in March.

We approved the 2019 NECW budget in the amount of $185,250.

The Board looked over a prototype for the 2021 Triennial Meeting logo, presented by Cindy Mohr, Province 3 Representative, and offered opinions and suggestions. Our next NECW Board meeting will take place at Nazareth Retreat Center in Boise, Idaho, hosted by Province 8 from May 17-20, 2019.

As the season of Lent approaches, I wish you all a time of quiet, prayer, reflection, and growth in preparation for Holy Week and a glorious celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ on April 21st!

Peace and blessings -  
The Rev. Jennifer Kenna, Province II Representative to ECW

Province II Ministry Update: Anti-Human Trafficking

Those of you who attended Provincial Synod last year may remember The Rev. Adrian Dannhauser’s workshop on the prevention of human trafficking made a true impact on those who attended the 2018 Provincial Synod. Now, the priest, who hails from the Diocese of New York, provided an update on the anti-human trafficking ministry. She reports it has been a busy and successful year, though sadly much work remains to be done:

- In January, 2018, the Diocese of New York Task Force Against Human Trafficking joined with other NYC based anti-trafficking groups to lobby for the Allow States and Victims to Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act of 2017, also known as the FOSTA-SESTA legislation. They travelled to D.C. for a press conference and then knocked on the doors of nearly every Representative in the House to discuss this legislation, which provides survivors and state and local law enforcement with the legal tools to go after websites that are knowingly facilitating human trafficking. FOSTA-SESTA became law in March, marking a great victory for trafficking victims and survivors.
The Task Force also proposed a series of resolutions passed at General Convention that center on the Tourism Child-Protection Code of Conduct ("The Code"), a corporate social responsibility framework that helps companies in the travel and tourism industry protect children from sexual exploitation and trafficking. The resolutions encourage individuals and organizations at all levels of the Church to prioritize doing business with those hotels, travel agencies and airlines that have signed The Code and to advocate for The Code with those members of the travel industry that have not.

Simultaneous with the passage of the resolutions, the Task Force launched a toolkit, NOT IN MY HOTEL, for faith communities to advocate for The Code at local hotels. This toolkit is based on the hotel outreach ministry of Church of the Incarnation in Manhattan and the experience of parishioners who have been advocating at hotels in Midtown Manhattan for the past two years. The NOT IN MY HOTEL toolkit is available here.

The Diocese of New York’s Church of the Incarnation’s anti-trafficking ministry recently began a new advocacy initiative - reaching out to NYC middle and high schools on behalf of ECPAT-USA to encourage trafficking prevention workshops for students.

Real Women Real Stories just released a video about her anti-trafficking ministry: I’m Guided by God in the Fight Against Human Trafficking. There’s also a shorter one: My Faith Compels Me to Be a Voice for the Voiceless.

So, what’s next? Looking forward, the Task Force is planning a Stations of the Cross service for victims and survivors of sex trafficking on Saturday, April 6. They will travel by bus around NYC to pray at specific locations where trafficking occurs. One example is Port Authority Bus Terminal, a prime spot for recruitment.

If you are interested in joining in (or learning more about) the work of this important ministry please contact the Rev. Adrian Dannhauser at adannhauser@churchoftheincarnation.org or Neva Rae Fox at nevarae@aol.com.

Actualización de servicios contra trata de personas—Provincia II, Febrero, 2019

Los que fueron presente al Sínodo Provincial el año pasado posiblemente atendieron el taller del Padre Adrian Dannhauser sobre como impedir trata de personas, y ganaron gran impacto. Ahora, el sacerdote, que es dentro la Diócesis de New York, ha actualizado los servicios suministrados.

En Enero 2018, el Equipo Operativo contra trata de personas en la Diócesis de New York se unió con otros grupos similares en la ciudad de New York para presionar leyes contra Online Trata de Personas, aprobadas en el 2017 (legislación FOSTA-SESTA). Viajaron a Washington D.C., hablaron con la prensa, y después se presentaron en las oficinas de casi todos los miembros de la Cámara de Representantes para discutir esta ley, que provee la policía y los supervivientes con los instrumentos legales para perseguir los sitios web que facilitan trata de personas. FESTA-SOSTA llego a ser ley en Marzo, y eso fue una gran victoria pare supervivientes y víctimas.
El Equipo Operativo también propuso un grupo de resoluciones presentadas, y aceptadas, a la Convención General. Una de las resoluciones, considerada un Código de Conducta Para la Protección de los Niños, es un marco corporativo de responsabilidad social que ayuda compañías en la industria de turismo proteger niños de la explotación sexual. Las resoluciones animan a personas individuales, lo mismo como a las organizaciones en todos niveles de la Iglesia, priorizar y soportar los hoteles, líneas aéreas, y agencias de viajes que han firmado el Código, y a demás recomendar este Código con compañías que todavía no lo han firmado.

Al mismo tiempo del pasaje de esas resoluciones, el Equipo Operativo lanzó un juego de herramientas, NOT IN MY HOTEL (QUE NO EN MI HOTEL!), para que comunidades de fe puedan recomendar el Código en sus propios vecindarios. Este programa se inició en la Iglesia de la Encarnación en New York, y con las experiencias de sus feligreses que continúan a recomendar el programa en hoteles de Manhattan por los dos años pasados.

Los servicios contra trata de personas en la Iglesia de la Encarnación en la Diócesis de New York han introducido un nuevo programa, hablando con estudiantes jóvenes (de 14 a 18 años) para educarlos y posiblemente motivarlos a hacer todo que puedan.

Demás, el Equipo planifica Estaciones de la Cruz el 6 de abril de 2019, viajando en autobús alrededor de New York, y rogando en los puestos típicos donde el tráfico ocurre: estaciones de tren y autobús.

También, hay un video disponible: Dios me Guía en la Lucha Contra Trata de Personas, y otro más corto, Mi Fe me Obliga Ser la Voz Para Esos sin Voz, publicados por Mujeres Reales, Cuentos Reales (Real Women Real Stories).

Que puede hacer uno para educarse, y apoyar estos programas tan importantes? Por favor contactar Padre Adrian Dannhauser a adannahuser@churchoftheincarnation.org o Neva Rae Fox a nevarae@aol.com

Ministry in Motion – Focus on Ash Wednesday

Lent 2019 began on Ash Wednesday, March 5. From the Book of Common Prayer: I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s holy Word. Here is a brief look at what went on around Province II

Ashes-to-Go grows! On Ash Wednesday, Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe and other clergy will once again offered Ashes-to-Go in Syracuse’s Armory Square and outside the Samaritan Center.

Go to the Province II website and see some of the photos of events around the province. Central New York’s Facebook page is full of photos, as well. http://www.province2.org/diocesan-news-stories/ash-wednesday-around-the-province

Here is what you can find: Deacon Bill Lytle, St. George’s, Clifton Park, NY in the Diocese of Albany explained to the Sunday School classes how the burning of last year’s palms to make ashes applies to our lives.
The Rev. Wanda Copeland of Trinity Episcopal Church in Elmira and St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Horseheads (far right) and the Rev. Dr. Howard Whitaker of Grace Episcopal Church in Elmira (second from right) offered Ashes to Go throughout the noon hour on Ash Wednesday in front of the courthouse in downtown Elmira. Photo via WENY.

Grace/ La Gracia Episcopal Church, Diocese of Long Island- ASHES TO GO: from 7 am - 10 am at the White Plains Metro North train station and at Renaissance Plaza, https://planet-news.info/2019/03/06/priests-offer-ashes-to-go-to-white-plains-commuters/  

Ed Zelley in Metuchen, Diocese of New Jersey. Clergy and lay people from across the Diocese imposed ashes in community locations, "taking church to the streets".

Bishop Carlye Hughes giving Ashes to Go in front of Trinity & St. Philip's Cathedral, Newark.

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Diocese of NY - We mark the beginning of the penitential season of Lent today with said masses at 7 & 8 AM, sung mass at 12:10 PM, and solemn mass at 6 PM. Imposition of ashes will be available in the church from 7 AM - 8 PM.

Rev. Lee Crawford, an Episcopal priest at the Church of Our Saviour in Killington, was at Killington Peak Wednesday offering ashes to skiers and riders at Killington Resort. https://www.mynbc5.com/article/skiers-receive-ashes-atop-vermont-mountain/9084954?fbclid=IwAR3OfdCnpTeyGfg1u8I9Kpu_L4xLhZnZ0EPfD023qMDnw_irHH6epe_m9z0

Every congregation in the province had some event on Ash Wednesday. Not everyone shared photos, so these are just a small peek at what went on. Several of our bishops made videos and public statements about Lent and its importance. From the Virgin Islands we have photos from The Rev. Sandra Malone, St. Mary’s, Virgin Gorda. They are from the Ash Wednesday midday service and Rev. Erminie George at the service for seniors at St. Mary’s on Virgin Gorda. See the gallery on their website: http://episcopaldiocesevi.weebly.com/the-latest-news/ash-wednesday-2019

Other news from our 12 dioceses

The Diocese of Albany
Bishop Love has established a new Mission Committee. You can follow them on Facebook. The purpose of the Mission Committee is to provide a forum for missions, empowering, equipping, encouraging, and evangelizing throughout the Episcopal Diocese of Albany for local, regional, national and international missions. Members of the Mission Board are appointed by the Bishop of Albany due to devotion to spreading the Word of God locally and internationally. Board members are empowered by the Holy Spirit, committed to sharing God’s love in Jesus Christ and eager to proclaim His Kingdom with everyone. For questions please email albanymissions@gmail.com.
The Diocese of Central New York
The old saying "time flies when you’re having fun" surely applies to the recently concluded Mission of Miracles medical campaign in El Salvador. Despite long days, which included riding cramped buses up to two hours each way and working in the heat and sometimes in not-so-sanitary conditions, we did have fun. Knowing that we were doing this ministry as Jesus Christ calls us to do, and with guidance from the Holy Spirit, our task was an easy one to bear—even especially compared to the hard life endured by the Salvadorans we were there to serve. Continue reading> https://cnyepiscopal.org/2019/02/faith-and-widespread-support-make-sixteenth-mission-of-miracles-a-success/

The Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe
Representatives of the Anglican-Episcopal in Germany (CAECG) met this weekend annual business meeting in the quaint city Karden on the Moselle river. The program three excellent presentations of different viewpoints on human sexuality within Anglicanism and its ecclesial implications. Presentations were made by 1) Church of Suffragan Bishop David Hamid of the of Gibraltar in Europe; 2) Church of Chaplains Revd Martin Reakes-Williams and Revd Stephen Walton of Düsseldorf; Episcopal Rector Revd Christopher Easthill of Wiesbaden; discussion was facilitated by Church of England chaplain Revd Christopher Jage-Bowler of Berlin.
A very productive annual meeting resulting in new projects for our future. Our common lent project: a plastic free lent (life?) or with as little use of plastic as possible. Join us in this effort to be good stewards of our earth.'

The Episcopal Church in Cuba
La Iglesia Episcopal de Cuba celebrará su 110 Sínodo Anual, en la Catedral Episcopal de Cuba en La Habana. Comenzará el día 28 de Febrero, continuando los días 1ro, 2 y 3 de Marzo.
Por la Iglesia Episcopal asistirán el Rev. Chuck Robertson, la Rvda. Glenda McQueen y la periodista Lynette Willson. De la Diócesis compañera de Puerto Rico estará presente el Rev. Ángel Rivera.
El Oficio de Clausura será el Domingo 3 de Marzo del 2019, en el cual se llevará a cabo el oficio de ordenación al Diaconado. Luego de haber terminado sus exámenes canónicos 4 candidatos recibirán esta orden, para luego ir a realizar su tarea pastoral en diferentes lugares de la Diócesis. Pedimos sus oraciones de acompañamiento en este evento.

Nuestro lema guía para este 110 Sínodo es: Vocación: Fuerza en la llamada y generosidad en la respuesta.

Y el texto bíblico: "Mantengan entre ustedes lazos de paz y permanezcan unidos en el mismo espíritu: un solo cuerpo y un mismo espíritu, pues ustedes han sido llamados a una misma vocación y una misma esperanza". Efesios 4, 3-4.

The Diocese of Haiti
The Diocese of Haiti is in the process of working out its next steps in governance. The diocesan convention was held in the town of Leogane January 29 and 30. The present bishop, the Rt. Rev. Jean Zache Duracin, retired on March 1, as required by the canons of the Episcopal Church. At that point, the diocesan standing committee will become the Ecclesiastical Authority in the diocese. The diocese will be working with the offices of The Episcopal Church to work out a transition to the election of a new bishop and to find a renewed vision for the future of the diocese.

Several people have written articles on the convention and the path forward. Two of them are appended to the blog of the Rev. Canon Mark Harris, Preludium at https://anglicanfuture.blogspot.com/2019/02/the-diocese-of-haiti-turns-to-its-future.html

The Diocese of Long Island
A Cold Spring Harbor site is believed to be cemetery for slaves and freed people. A small cemetery near St. John’s Episcopal Church has been recently rediscovered and cleared to reveal grave markers from the 1800s. Find out more > https://www.dioceseli.org/media/diocesan-news/cold-spring-harbor-site-believed-to-be-cemetery-for-slaves-freed
The Diocese of Newark
The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday declined to review a closely watched New Jersey case in which churches have been barred from receiving tax dollars meant for preservation of historic structures. St. Peter's in Mountain Lakes and St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Mendham were among the churches receiving historic preservation funds. Read more >

The Diocese of New Jersey
The Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey held its 235th Convention on March 2 in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Clergy and lay people from across the Diocese gathered to hear reports on finances, programs, and growth, and to vote on candidates for office and other matters of general concern. Read more >
https://us18.campaign-archive.com/?u=7c264b4b77ef5ef9bcfb336c5&id=3f5f38bb6f#feature1

The Diocese of New York
On March 16 there was a retreat, the Apology Retreat ~ Be a Hero of Apology. This retreat explored what it means to apologize for the sin of slavery and its lingering effects. It provided the skills to apologize effectively so we can look to a new future. This retreat was offered by the Reparations Committee of the Diocese. Apologize? Why? For What? To Whom? How?

The Diocese of Rochester
11th Annual Ecumenical Good Friday Cross Walk - The cross walk planning is under way. Our route this year will be on Genesee Street from Aenon Baptist Church to St Monica’s and back. Find out more >
http://www.episcopalrochester.org/content/11th-annual-ecumenical-good-friday-cross-walk-scheduled

The Diocese of the Virgin Islands
Diocese of the Virgin Islands Celebrates its 100-Year Anniversary
Yes, it is one of the smallest dioceses in The Episcopal Church; and yes, the people of the Virgin Islands have suffered through the ravages of two back-to-back Category 5 hurricanes, but the diocese is rich in history, and with a renewed spirit, it is ready to celebrate its 100th Anniversary as part of The Episcopal Church.

The Bishop of the Virgin Islands, The Rt. Rev. E. Ambrose Gumbs, has declared this historic event worthy of a one-year celebration throughout the diocese, beginning in April. He requested each of the Deans in the three Deaneries, Mrs. Yvette Ross Edwards, Esq., Deanery of St. Croix; Mrs.
Irose-Payne Chalon, Deanery of St. Thomas-St. John; and Ms. Denise R. Reovan, Esq., BVI, to plan for a year filled with activities ranging from church services to youth events. These are designed to bring everyone across the waters for moments of togetherness — a difficult, yet doable, task considering the deaneries are separated by the Atlantic Ocean and Caribbean Sea. The celebration begins at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, on the island of St. Thomas, where the entire diocese is expected to gather to give thanks and glory to God for his bountiful blessings to his children in this vineyard.

When the United States bought St. Thomas, St. John, and St. Croix from Denmark, and the American flag had been run up on April 2, 1917, congregations on those islands automatically came under the jurisdiction of the American Church. At the time there were three large self-supporting parishes—All Saints’ on St. Thomas, with 1,458 communicants; and, on St. Croix, St. Paul’s in Frederiksted, with 558; and St. John’s in Christiansted, with 555. These parishes had been established by the Church of England several generations before as part of that Church’s missionary work in the West Indies.

On the transfer of the U.S. Virgin Islands from Danish to American Sovereignty, the Bishop of Antigua on 30 April 1919 transferred the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Churches of the Anglican Communion in those islands to the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America.

Then, on November 7, 1947, The House of Bishops, assembled at Winston-Salem, North Carolina, elevated the Anglican Churches in the Virgin Islands to the status of a Missionary District, to be known as the Missionary District of the Virgin Islands, under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Puerto Rico. Some 56 years later, on November 24, 1963, the Archbishop of the West Indies transferred ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Anglican Churches in the British Virgin Islands, which had been part of the Diocese of Antigua. Thus the congregations of St. George and St. Paul on Tortola, and St. Mary the Virgin on Virgin Gorda became part of what would be known as the Diocese of the Virgin Islands, under the leadership of the first Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Cedric Mills.

Denise R. Reovan, Esq.
Dean, Virgin Islands Deanery

The Diocese of Western New York
The Church of the Advent, Kenmore, has begun a sponsorship of Nahomy, a twelve year old girl who is cared for at Our Little Roses in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. Our Little Roses is a church ministry devoted to improving the quality of life of the girls of Honduras and saving them from a life of abject poverty and high risk. They are nurtured through God’s love and provided education, healthcare and housing. More information is on the website https://www.ourlittleroses.org/ or by calling The Church of the Advent, 876-6504.
Give it a Try – Laundry Love

There are many examples of ministry in action throughout Province II. An example is Laundry Love, a special ministry of St John’s in Somerville, NJ (Diocese of New Jersey). Through Laundry Love, parishioners assist neighbors in need who are unable, or cannot afford, to wash and clean their clothes.

Once a month, St John’s volunteers station themselves at a laundromat and provide a needed service to many in the community through Laundry Love. The volunteers help clients prepare their laundry for the washing machine, feed the quarters into the machine, and repeat with the dryers.

Flyers announcing Laundry Love are posted in the area shelters, social service agencies, the food bank, and the local luncheon program (housed at St John’s). There are no questions asked – just a willingness on the part of St John’s to help the young and old, families and couples, children and seniors who arrive at the laundromat. The numbers of those being assisted have gradually risen over the months, a tribute to the effectiveness of this ministry, and a sad commentary on the needs of society. Laundry Love is a community effort: members of St John’s donate quarters, clothes soap pods and dryer sheets; volunteers from the church are on hand to coordinate and assist the clients. And, Laundry Love could not happen if not for the generosity and cooperation of a local laundromat.

Laundry Love is a ministry that first developed in California. Over the years, pockets of Laundry Love have emerged across the Episcopal Church. At St John’s, Laundry Love has become a mainstay of ministry in the community.

For more information contact St John’s, 908-722-1250.
Neva Rae Fox, St. John’s, Somerville
Connections in Communion – LEAMJ

Advocacy: Faith in Action

Rooted in God’s covenant, the Lutheran Episcopal Advocacy Ministry of New Jersey (LEAMNJ) addresses the systemic causes of injustice and poverty in New Jersey through civic engagement, shaping public opinion, and advocating for public policies that alleviate the suffering of our fellow children of God and promote the care of God’s creation. The issue priorities are criminal justice, economic justice, immigration justice, and violence prevention.


Find out more about this event and the larger ministry on the website at https://www.leamnj.org/. You can sign up for the Weekly Witness email to stay in touch!

Imagine If....

As of the 2017 statistics, there were 288,872 baptized Episcopalians in Province II.

The Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Curry, has launched a one-off $800,000 USD appeal to fund pensions for clergy in the Diocese of Cuba. The General Convention of The Episcopal Church (TEC) voted last year to readmit Cuba into membership following a separation of 52 years caused by the Cuban revolution. The average stipend for Cuba’s 23 serving clergy is $55 USD per month. Clergy in the diocese are not entitled to state pensions or social security because the Cuban government does not recognize their service as employment.


Imagine if each of us Province II Episcopalians sent just $5.00 to the appeal (https://www.episcopalchurch.org/development/pensions-campaign) – the campaign would be full to overflowing!

Up and Coming

Bishop Transitions:

Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe

A weekend of celebrations April 5-7, 2019 to honor retiring bishop, The Rt. Rev. Pierre Whalon, and to
consecrate and welcome Bishop-elect Mark Edington. Find out all about the plans: https://europebishopsearch.org/home
President of the Province The Rev. Dahn Gandell and Vice President, The Rt. Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan-Probe are planning to attend the festivities!

The Diocese of Haiti

The Diocese of Western New York
There are three farewell events for The Rt. Rev. William Franklin, two regional gatherings and one more formal service to “Pass the Crozier” from Bishop Bill to Bishop Sean, followed by a reception. The two regional celebrations will be on Sunday March 17 at St. James, Batavia, and on Saturday March 23 at St. Luke’s, Jamestown. On Sunday April 7 at St. Paul’s Cathedral, Buffalo, there will be a service to celebrate Bishop Bill’s ministry, as well as to welcome formally The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe as Bishop, Provisional. A reception will follow the service.

Save the Date!
The tentative Synod 2021 dates are April 22-24, 2021 at The Desmond Hotel, Albany, NY. Please hold these dates on your calendar and plan to have all convention deputies in attendance. Watch the Province II website and the In Prov 2 for more information.

Calendar of Coming Events
There are always exciting things going on around the province. The website now has a calendar, as well as the website listings of events that are receiving wider publicity. To get your event onto the provincial calendar, send the information in a ready to copy and paste form to mailto:webeditor@province2.org. The calendar is here: http://www.province2.org/calendar.html. Coming events and opportunities receiving wider publicity are here: http://www.province2.org/opportunities--events.html.
At this time there is information about:
- The Seamen’s Church Institute Food Truck Festival
- Grant Funding for Sacred Spaces
- Roanridge Trust Grants
- Educational Scholarships
- Hybrid Faith Formation Cohort
- Lenten Resources
- And more
Province II Prays
For whom are we praying?
  • All those affected by the scourge of gun violence
  • Those whose lives were and still are overturned by the government shut down

There are litanies and other resources available on our website:
http://www.province2.org/liturgical-resources.html

Victims of unexpected disasters, including Cuba’s tornado:
http://www.province2.org/diocesan-news-stories/cuban-tornado

Find resources on the website under “What can you do?”

What would you like to see?
As we plan the ways that Province II can be a resource and a blessing to the mission of the church, what would you like to see happen? Do you have an idea for something that the province can do or should do to further the ministries of our dioceses? A webinar you’d love to attend? Do you have any comments you want someone to hear and to take seriously? Contact Dorothy Jane Connolly, Chair, Synod Planning Committee (Albany)
mailto:djgoldsack.prov2@gmail.com.

Do you know…?

Have you heard of ECVA? The Episcopal Church & Visual Arts – website: http://ecva.org/
The current exhibition is Suffering, the first of the 2019 Episcopal Church & Visual Arts presentations. Forty-five artists have offered touching, often very personal reflections on this shared human condition. ECVA is pleased to announce its Spring 2019 Member Exhibition, "Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness." The exhibition will be digitally displayed at ECVA.org. ECVA Member Tobias Stanslas Haller BSG will curate