

FOURTH WATCH

— Newsletter of The Province of Sewanee —

Province IV of The Episcopal Church

Vol. 14 No. 1

Spring 2014

Synod 2014

Join us for a lively June 4-6 gathering

“Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.”

(1 John 3:18)

Dear Fellow Workers in the Vineyards,

The verse quoted above from John is part of a Lenten meditation from Episcopal Relief and Development (hint: you can subscribe online). It reminds me of a long ago sermon at Province IV Synod by Bishop Michael Curry when he was sharing (enthusiastically, of course) his thoughts on evangelism. “Evangelism,” said +Curry, “is what you do with your feet when you get out of your seat!” Over the past few months, I have been privileged to learn that the people, parishes, and dioceses of Province IV are “out of [their] seats” and wanting to do more - wanting to love not just in word or speech, “but in truth and action.” So, where is she going with this, you may well ask. The short answer is: *Come to Provincial Synod and see!*

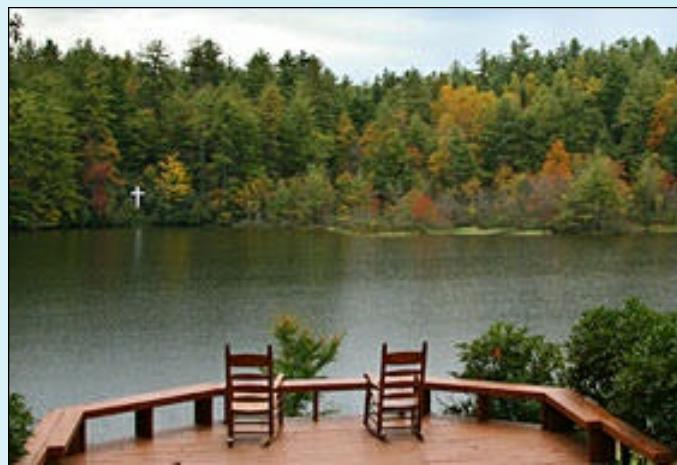


Angela Daniel
PIV President

Our Province IV Synod meeting is coming up soon: June 4-6 at Kanuga Conference Center in the beautiful mountains of western North Carolina. If you are looking forward to long hours of sitting and listening, prepare to be disappointed. Get yourself in shape and dust off your most comfortable shoes, because we all are going to be spending some time getting out of our seats! Upon arrival on Wednesday, we'll greet and hug, happy to make new friends and to be reunited with old ones. We'll socialize and share an evening meal, then appropriately begin our Synod with the Celebration of Holy Eucharist in the lovely Chapel of the Transfiguration.

Re-imagining the Church/TREC

After a restful night for those who have traveled long hours, we'll enjoy a hearty Kanuga breakfast and then hit the ground running for what we hope will be an informative and



Kanuga Lake overlook

inspiring day. We'll gather in the gym (more room!) to lift our voices in song and to catch up on important news from our province and from The Episcopal Church. We'll hear from the Task Force for Re-Imagining the Episcopal Church (TREC) and have time for conversations and questions. Hmmm – this sounds like we're still sitting and listening, doesn't it? Well, some things are just necessary, but hold on.

Do you have a ministry in your diocese of which you are extraordinarily proud? Is there an effort involving youth ministry, world mission, stewardship, servant ministry, congregational development, Christian formation — to name just a few — that might serve as a model for others? Are you looking for inspiration in those or other areas? Province IV Synod is offering an opportunity both to share and to learn, if you're willing to let your feet do a little walking.

On Thursday afternoon, there will be a smorgasbord of breakout groups from which your deputation may choose, centered on topics listed in the agenda. Ideally, your deputation will split up so that you can benefit from all of the offerings. Even more ideally, someone(s) in your deputation may offer to assist with one of the groups by sharing hands-on experience regarding a ministry with which you have been involved!

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EM welcomes new life in Province IV

Greetings to the leaders and churches of Province IV. We welcome this spring season and the new life and warmth it brings. May your ministry and journey be full of new life as well.

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2013 Environmental Network Grants.

Each year EM4 provides several small grants (up to \$1,000) to assist environmental ministry projects within Province IV. Grants have been awarded to assist with educational events, school supplies, garden starts, bike racks, web sites and the like. In 2013, the following received grants from this program:

- **Christ Church Cathedral, Nashville, Tenn.**, to fund a parking space raised bed garden. The garden is built to be educational (to teach about caring for God's creation), nurturing (for the land and those in need to whom we'd give the fresh produce), and forward thinking (to encourage our parishioners to look for an urban space where we could expand our garden plot and aid more in need and be an environmental stewardship example for the community).

- **Church of the Ascension Green Team, Frankfort, Ky.**, to help fund a 2014 Province IV retreat at Lilly Cornett Woods near Pine Mountain, Ky. This retreat will be open to all of

Province IV, and will feature a combination of old-growth forest exploration, mountain top removal site visits, worship, reflection and bible study of issues related to faith and the environment.

- **Diocese of Alabama Task Force for Stewardship, Florence, Ala.**, to provide a stipend to make their website more functional and up to date. The goal is to provide a modest makeover for the website, including the addition of a page with information, and application for each parish to move

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Synod exhibits welcomed

Province IV welcomes individuals and groups to set up exhibits and tables for dispensing information during the 2014 Province IV Synod, June 4-6, at Kanuga.

If you would like a table (or two) reserved for your exhibit, please contact Gene Willard, PIV Administrator, at p4admin@earthlink.net, or telephone him at 828-432-5665. The deadline is May 20.

Synod — June 4-6 — to be a lively gathering

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Additionally, because of the extra space in the gym, we encourage you to share a display or materials that you'd like to highlight or share for the inspiration of others. Get moving — plan now!

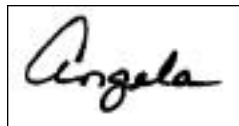
To add to your responsibilities - and to your suitcases - you should remember to bring these three items: **a flashlight, a non-perishable food item, and an Episcopal t-shirt or hat.** After a very busy Thursday afternoon, we will enjoy the kind of social that Episcopalians do so well, and say, "Hats off to Province IV!" Your hat or t-shirt (if you don't want to mess up your hair) will serve as your entry pass. Following dinner, there will be a pleasant surprise, and for that your admission ticket will be a non-perishable food item to be contributed to a local food bank. Later in the evening, we will grab our flashlights and take a gentle hike up the road to Camp Bob to have Compline in the Gehman Chapel (my own personal favorite spot at Kanuga). Afterwards, there still will be plenty of time for deputation caucuses.

Friday morning will begin with Morning Prayer and Eucharist in the Chapel of the Transfiguration followed by

another helping of Kanuga toast before gathering to complete our business. We need you there, so please plan to be present through the closing prayer. Your Province IV Executive Committee (God bless you every one!) is excited about Synod, and we are looking forward to seeing each of you. Please do not hesitate to e-mail or call me if you have questions, suggestions, or new ideas.

"Little Children, let us love. . . ."

Faithfully,



Angela M. Daniel
President, Province IV

P.S. Be prepared for some exciting changes at Kanuga: Wi-Fi throughout the campus; enlarged showers in many of the cottages (you don't have to shower sideways); new stairways, fresh paint, and all sorts of pleasant surprises. www.kanuga.org

**PROVINCE IV: SYNOD
KANUGA CONFERENCE CENTER
JUNE 4 (SUPPER) – 6 (Breakfast/11:45 am), 2014
Early Meeting for Bishops: June 3 (Lunch) – 4 (Lunch), 2014
Registration Form**

Name _____ Diocese _____

Badge Name _____ Day Telephone () _____

Name of attending Spouse or Partner _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Lodging Request: Cottage Guest House Inn

Special Requests: Dietary, Allergies, Mobility, etc.: _____

Roommates/Cottage Mates Requested Other than Spouse: _____

Residential Guest (Includes lodging and meals)	Number of Guests	Rate Per Person	Total Amount Due
Bishop's Meeting: Double occupancy June 3(L)-June 4(L), 2014		\$108	
Bishop's Meeting: Single occupancy June 3(L)-June 4(L), 2014 <small>(Limited number available - private bath not guaranteed)</small>		\$140	
SYNOD: Double occupancy June 4(S)-June 6(B), 2014		\$187	
Single occupancy June 4(S)-June 6(B), 2014 <small>(Limited number available - private bath not guaranteed)</small>		\$253	
Double occupancy June 4(S)-June 5(L), 2014		\$96	
Single occupancy June 4(S)-June 5(L), 2014		\$129	
Double occupancy June 5(S)-June 6(B), 2014		\$91	
Single occupancy June 5(S)-June 6(B), 2014		\$124	
COMMUTER - June 4(S)-June 6(B), 2014 ** ALL MEALS AND FACILITY FEE ARE INCLUDED		\$80	
Total amount due with registration			\$

Registration and
PAYMENT IN FULL
Are due at
Kanuga by
May 2, 2014

Single
occupancy
may
be verified by
calling
weekdays
after
May 16, 2014

Payment: Check MasterCard/VISA/Discover/AmEx # _____ Exp. _____
V-Code _____ (3 digit security code on back of card) Zip Code (where the credit card bill is delivered) _____

- Only ONE couple or participant per form. Please make copies available for your attendees.
- **Cancellation Fee: two nights: \$100.00; one night: \$50.00; \$25.00 Per Commuter. **Applicable refunds will be verified by the Kanuga Reservations Department Conference Registrar.**
- Housing assignments are made by preference and in date order of receipt of your registration form. If you do not show a preference you will be housed at our discretion.
- Check-in starts at 4:00 p.m. on your arrival date and checkout is 10:00 am on your departure date.

Mail Registration Form and Payment to: Kanuga, P.O. Box 250, Hendersonville, NC 28793
Telephone: (828) 692-9136 Fax: (828) 696-3589

Province IV providing many opportunities for young people

Sitting in my Sunroom, I gaze at the flowers that are peaking up from the ground and I think about the beauty that they will fill to my backyard soon. Right now they are inviting me to imagine how lovely my yard will be when everything is in bloom and the warmth of the summer sun brings abundant life with the flowers, the trees, the green grass and the birds and animals that will roam together. I wait in anticipation for what will come and I am thankful for the process that has already begun during the cold, snowy winter months.

Province IV Youth Ministries is following this pattern of preparation and anticipation. During the past few months, the young people and adults within Province IV have been working to create some wonderful events, mission experiences, networking opportunities and spiritual environments where we can come together to learn, share, understand and growth as the Body of Christ. This summer Province IV is offering exciting and dynamic programs and experiences that will give our young people the time and spaces to reflect on what it means to live “The Five Marks of Mission” and to engage in meaningful mission experiences that will motivate and encourage our young people and the adults who accompany them to go back to their dioceses and share the Good News of



Jesus Christ with their friends, with their Church, in their communities and with the world.

Here are some of the opportunities that are being provided by our Province IV Youth Ministries....

- Province IV Diocesan Youth Ministries Coordinators Sabbath Retreat: To be held at Wrightsville Beach, NC, this Sabbath Retreat will allow the Diocesan Coordinators within Province IV to renew, refresh, recreate and rest while they engage with one another sharing their thoughts, challenges and ideas. It is a time that is set apart for reflection, friendship, food, fellowship and faith.
- Province IV Youth Event Middle School Mission Experience: Last summer Province IV held the first Provincial Middle School Youth Mission Experience at Heart of Palm, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. It was overwhelmingly successful with our middle school youth



PIV Youth at last summer's mission trip to Quito, Ecuador

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Youth experiences planned for 2014

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engaging in authentic mission and also reflecting upon that mission work and how God is present as we serve with other people. The second PYE MS Mission Experience will take place June 24 - 28, 2014 at St James Parish, Wilmington, N.C. The theme will “Do Justice, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly with God” and our mission opportunities will be within New Hanover County, N.C.

The PYE MS Planning Team is Sam Bailes (WNC), Charlotte Bailes (WNC), Robin Brown (EC), Matt Coutu (ATL), Megan Taylor (USC), Jamey Graves (NC), The Rev. Stephen Mazingo (FL), The Rev. Mark Powell (EC), Coordinators: Kim Smith (ATL), Christy Beesley (TN) and PIV Youth Ministries Coordinator: Cookie Cantwell

- The Episcopal Youth Event 2014 will be held in Philadelphia, Pa., July 9 - 13, 2014. Approximately 1,500 young people and adults will come together to engage with “The Five Marks of Mission” through keynote speakers, workshops, liturgy and music and interactions with one another. Serving on the EYE 2014 Leadership Team from Province IV is Lillian Hardaway (USC), Roger Villatoro (SEFL), Abi Moon (FL), Arlette Benoit and Cookie Cantwell (Province IV Youth Ministries Coordinator).

- Province IV Youth Event 2014: Immediately following EYE 2014, PYE 2014 will be gather in Philadelphia, Pa. to engage in 3 Days of Urban Mission. Over 125 young people and adults are registered to focus on the theme, “Walk Humbly.” We will be working with St John's Episcopal Church, Kensington, Pa. and with The Church of the Advocate, Philadelphia. Beth Crow and Lisa Aycock (NC) are coordinating PYE 2014.

- The Province IV Youth Ministries Leadership and Network Meeting 2014 will be held in New Orleans, La., December 4 - 7, 2014. Each Diocesan Youth Coordinator will bring 2 - 3 young people to share ideas, to learn from one another, to worship, to dream, to plan and to serve. Amelia Arthur (LA) and The Diocese of Louisiana will be hosting this meeting.

Province IV Youth Ministries continues to work well together and continues to focus on our Baptismal Covenant, “I will with God's Help.” Most of our dioceses are actively engaged within our Province IV Network and we wonderfully enriched by each of these dioceses joining together. In the midst of our activities and events, we are thankful that God is present and active among us and that we are sent into the world



to continue to serve God in all that we do, all that we say and all that we are.

Cookie Cantwell
Province IV Youth Ministries Coordinator



PIV Commission on Ministry to meet

On Tuesday afternoon May 6, 2014, following the bi-annual meeting of the Province IV Transition Officers, the Province IV bishops, Commission on Ministry Chairs, Canons to the Ordinary and transition officers will gather in Birmingham, Ala., for a one-day event focused on the work of Commissions on Ministry specifically related to the process leading to ordination. We plan to meet from 2 p.m. May 6 until 12 p.m. on Wednesday, May 7. The place of meeting is still being arranged so that we can insure that those unable to travel to Birmingham and wishing to join the meeting via electronic means can fully participate. More information will be forthcoming before Easter.

We will begin the meeting with a brief reflection by The Rev. Ron Delbene and provide ample time to answer pertinent questions to the process. Among topics suggested and requested are:

- Best Practices for early discernment (psychological and physical testing and methods of discernment for Postulancy recommendations);
- Alternative formation & training practices in lieu of a traditional 3-year seminary experience;
- Is there a possibility of a shortened period of time during which the canonical requirements can be met for ordination to the priesthood; and

• What is working and what is not.

Please make your hotel reservations now! A limited block of rooms has been reserved at the Tutwiler Hotel Hampton Inn & Suites, 2021 Park Place, Birmingham, Ala. 35203, (phone 205-322-2100) for Tuesday night, May 6. (The rate is \$118 plus tax and parking of \$18). When making reservations, please mention the block code: Province 4 Meeting.



Davis

For questions or more information, please contact The Rev. Canon Chip Davis, cdavis@episwtn.org or 901-937-4782.

The Rev. Canon Chip Davis
Chair, PIV Commission on Ministry

PIV ECW Conference set June 2-4

The Province IV Episcopal Church Women will meet June 2-4 at Kanuga Conference Center for their annual conference, using the theme, “Stir Up the Spirit: Celebremos.”

Province IV ECW President Barbara Owens asks, “Is God calling you to rejuvenate yourself spiritually and mentally, rekindle past friendships and make new ones, and appreciate God’s creation...?”

Keynote speaker and chaplain for the conference will be the Rev. Deacon Nancy R. Crawford, national ECW President. The conference musician will be David Ouzts, director of music at the Church of the Holy Communion in Memphis, Tenn.



Crawford

Crawford, a lifelong Episcopalian, was ordained a deacon at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland, Ore., in 2006. She serves at her home parish, St. Mary’s, in Eugene, Ore.

The speaker and her husband, P.J., have two grown sons and a granddaughter. Last June, she traveled to the Holy Land on an ECW Pilgrimage. She plans to return this December on another scheduled ECW Pilgrimage.

“... As the newly elected national ECW president, I find my ministry as deacon intertwined with the women of our faith,” Crawford said. “Along with other members of the ECW board, I will be encouraging us all, more than ever, to minister in our churches, our communities, and the world, as well as finding time for personal renewal in our walk with God.”

Registration forms and a flyer about the conference are available for download on the home page of the Province IV website: www.provinceiv.org

HIV/AIDS Retreat planned June 6-8

About 23 years ago, a group of volunteers gathered to plan a retreat. It was a retreat designed to provide a period of respite, relaxation, rejuvenation and healing to those living with HIV/AIDS, their spouses/partners, caregivers, family members and friends. Kanuga Conference Center was to be the site of the retreat ...a wonderfully comforting setting in the mountains of Western North Carolina where it was possible to see and get close to God in all that surrounds you.

The retreat began small but soon reached participation numbers over 300 each year as HIV/AIDS continued to take its toll. Many returned each year. Many also lost their battle with AIDS during the year between retreats. Familiar faces disappeared. The need for the retreat has remained as evidenced by continued attendance levels that seem to have leveled off during the recession years to between 200 and 250 people. The demographics of those attending the retreat have changed dramatically. Nearly 80 percent of those attending must have scholarship assistance to cover the cost. Attendees provide a glimpse of the perfect storm of demographics that creates the face of AIDS in the United States: poverty, ignorance, racism, homophobia and addiction.

HIV/AIDS is often referred to as a chronic condition these days. It is said to be manageable much like diabetes or other chronic conditions. Those assessments are true ...provided the person living with HIV has access to good medical care, appropriate medications, has a literacy level adequate to read and understand labels on bottles of medications and treatment regimens provided to them, and has a stable enough living situation to allow compliance with what it really takes to treat a chronic condition. Without all of these prerequisites, HIV/AIDS is not really manageable or chronic. It is still deadly.

Some also believe the misconception that HIV/AIDS has migrated overseas. We still have a serious problem in this country. We have a greater problem in Province IV where it seems AIDS has come to live. Some areas have HIV infection rates that rival those in sub-Saharan Africa. The majority of the faces of AIDS are also faces of color. For a variety of reasons, we no longer “see” people with HIV in our pews - but they are still there.

The first cases of AIDS were identified in June 1981. There is still no cure. There is still no vaccine. The only weapon is prevention education. In Province IV educating folks about anything that involves a component of human sexuality and sexual activity and/or the use of injection drugs is an uphill climb. So we continue to have one of the highest infection rates in the nation.

The 23rd Annual HIV/AIDS Retreat will take place this com-



Bishop Curry

ing June 6 - 8, 2014. It will take place because there is still a need for it. We are blessed to have the Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, Bishop of North Carolina, as our retreat leader. He always touches hearts and reaches the depth of human souls in need. We are also blessed to have Trey Clegg as our music leader. Trey is the organist/choir director at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Atlanta. He also led the massed choir of over 300 for the ordination/consecration of the Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright as the 10th Bishop of Atlanta in 2012. God WILL be praised in word and song!

The Kanuga HIV Retreat is intended for any and all who live in Province IV. However not all dioceses participate. We welcome all and would love to have participation from every diocese. And of course we can always use monetary donations to cover scholarships for attendees. If you would like to become a diocesan representative or you would like to make a donation, please contact our Retreat Planning Committee Chair, Lola Thomas at lola.thomas@aanwg.org.

“I was hungry and you gave me no food, sick and you did not visit me...” And they asked Jesus when did they not feed or comfort Him, Jesus responded: “What you failed to do for the least of these my sisters and brothers, you failed to do for me.”
(From the 25th Chapter of Matthew).

Questions may be directed to Lola at the address above or to me at bruce.garner@att.net. Registration forms for the retreat will also be posted on the website of Province IV.

**Bruce Garner, Vice Chair
Kanuga HIV Retreat Planning Committee**

UTO: Province IV Rep. works on new relationship agreement

As Province IV representative on the United Thank Offering Board I have been kept pretty busy. Besides being the UTO Coordinator for the Diocese of Georgia (see photo and article), I was part of the GAM*/UTO Working Group, which met in Dallas in January 2014, to develop the By-Laws and the Memorandum of Understanding for the United Thank Offering Board (UTO). Both the United Thank Offering Board and the Executive Council of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church have subsequently approved both documents.

The Presiding Bishop and the Executive Council of the General Convention and the United Thank Offering leaders put this group together. (See photo on Page 9.) We feel that this was a monumental undertaking and the results have made it possible to continue having a positive working relationship with The Episcopal Church.

Tess Judge, a representative of the Executive Council to this group and also a member of the Province IV Executive Committee stated, "I had the pleasure of being part of the Working Group from Executive Council that met in Dallas in early January. It was a wonderful opportunity as the group worked together in the most collaborative way with the Holy Spirit among us throughout our meeting."

I was elected Vice President of The United Thank Offering Board in January 2014 and have been active in this leadership role. The UTO Board met in Louisiana, Province IV, in January 2014 and we welcomed three new members to the board. They were new representatives from Province I, Province VI, and Province VII, replacing three of the four UTO Board members who resigned in September 2013. The board is working together as a cohesive whole. We have spent time working on plans for the 125th Anniversary of the United Thank Offering, which we'll celebrate in 2015 in Salt Lake City, Utah, at Triennial/General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

Granting has been a primary focus with the UTO Board, and we are pleased to announce that Ingathering money sent in this year is between \$1,300,000 - \$1,500,000.00 to be used exclusively for granting for 2014. We have had to develop a new on-line granting instrument and we are confident that this will allow grant applications to flow efficiently for this years granting cycle. Grants were due in by February 28. Grant recipients will be named in May 2014 at our UTO Board meeting.

I have sent out grant instructions and reminders to each of our bishops and UTO coordinators in Province IV. I have also been in touch with our Province IV dioceses, which have a

past grant(s) outstanding. (Until the grants are closed a diocese cannot receive a new grant.)

The information on the GAM/UTO Working Group was also sent out to Province IV bishops and ECW /UTO leaders. As news unfolds I am in communication with ECW and diocesan leaders from Province IV, as well as returning e-mail and phone questions and concerns.

Marcie Cherau
PIV UTO Representative

** Governance and Administration for Mission of the Executive Council*



Marcie Cherau, Ga. Bishop Scott Benhase

UTO, DFMS agree on ways forward

The members of the board of the United Thank Offering have issued the following statement on Feb. 18, 2014:

Please join the United Thank Offering Board in giving thanks to God for the collaborative work between the Board, staff of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society and members of Executive Council, the result of which is the creation of organizational documents that clarify and implement the work of the Board, grow the ministry of the United Thank Offering, and facilitate the relationship between the Board and Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (DFMS).

It has come to our attention that some confusion remains over how the Bylaws and Memorandum of Understanding were created, approved and even over their content. The Board wants to share some basic information regarding the process and content with the hope of helping those of you with concerns

about the status of the United Thank Offering. Please know that we are always open to questions; we welcome the opportunity to clear up any confusion that may impede participation in the United Thank Offering.

In October, members of our Board, along with the UTO Coordinator, met with members of Governance and Administration for Mission (GAM) of the Executive Council. We discussed the state of the Board in Executive Session and then decided that a small group of Board members and Executive Council members would meet to look at the governing documents of the Board, along with Paul Nix, who serves as legal counsel for the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society. We left the meeting in October feeling optimistic and hopeful that this process of working together would be mutually informative and help us chart a way forward. In January 2014, the

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GAM/UTO Working Group

The GAM/UTO Working Group met at American Airlines Conference Center on the grounds of the Dallas/Fort Worth Airport in January to put together mutually acceptable By-laws and a Memorandum of Understanding between UTO and The Episcopal Church. The working group, pictured here, includes back row, from left, Dena Lee, UTO Secretary and Prov. III representative;

Dr. Marcie Cherau, UTO Vice President and Prov. IV representative; Stephanie Cheney, Executive Council; Paul Nix, attorney to the Presiding Bishop; front row, from left, Marion Luckey, Executive Council representative to UTO Board; Steve Hutchinson, chair, Executive Council; Barbara Schafer, UTO President & Prov. VIII representative; and Tess Judge, Executive Council.

UTO, DFMS agree to work together

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working group met in Texas to draft Bylaws and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). We spent a great deal of time discussing and deciding what was needed in these documents and those of us who represented the Board feel that the quality of these documents will give us a firm foundation for success moving forward. These documents were then approved unanimously by the Board at the end of January and then by Executive Council at the beginning of February. The Bylaws and MOU are available here:

<http://www.generalconvention.org/ccab/files/513> As the life and work of this Board changes, these documents and our new policies and procedures will continue to change also. We believe that these documents are an excellent and transparent description of the work we do, and highlight how the Board is growing structurally.

In spite of the Board's approval and comfort with the new governing documents, we continue to hear concerns from within The Episcopal Church. We will try to address some of the common concerns here.

1. Some people have shared the concern that the Board will no longer be responsible for the granting process, administration and ministry of the United Thank Offering. The Board continues to be responsible for the work and ministry of the United Thank Offering, including but not limited to granting. As we have for many decades, we will work closely with the trained staff available to us through The Episcopal Church who continue to support our work and help us continually grow our ministry. The ultimate responsibility of grants resides with the Board. The Board bears responsibility for the annual granting process and the administration of the United Thank Offering. Like all of the granting agencies of The Episcopal Church, we do this in cooperation with Executive Council.

2. We have heard that there is a concern that the DFMS staff will take over granting ingathering funds or the operations of the United Thank Offering. Bishop Stacy Sauls, Chief Operating Officer, Sam McDonald, Director of Mission and the Rev. Heather Melton, UTO Coordinator are firm supporters of the work of the United Thank Offering and each has a Blue Box on his or her desk. They have championed our ministry, supported our work, and listened to our concerns. Bishop Sauls is committed to making sure we are able to do that work and that we have access to the staff and resources we need in order to accomplish our goals, but he, or other staff members, do not approve or recommend grants, mission, or ministry undertaken by our Board.

3. The trust funds are legally held by The Episcopal Church (DFMS), as are all trust funds of the Church. The Board creates a budget for the management of these funds for the triennium and updates it yearly. We are aided in the financial work by the Finance Department of The Episcopal Church. They carry out our requests, and they help us follow sound financial prac-



tices.

2013 was a year of tremendous change for the United Thank Offering Board. Not only did the president of the Board die suddenly, but also we were without a staff UTO Coordinator and were coming out of a time of study: INC 055 AD Hoc Committee. We began the process of searching for a new staff UTO Coordinator and

we are pleased and excited to have the Rev. Heather Melton, who was hired in June, on the journey with us.

At the beginning of September, four members of the Board chose to resign. Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori did not fill these vacancies, as some have suggested. Instead, they were filled by the appropriate Provinces of The Episcopal Church in accordance with the 2011 Bylaws, which were then in force. The majority of the Board remained and they continue to bring new ideas and hope to this important ministry. As difficult as all of the changes which took place over the last 13 months have been, we believe that we are poised to move into the next 125 years of the United Thank Offering with a much better understanding of our history and the role of this Board in strong, supportive partnership with the staff and leadership of The Episcopal Church.

Please know that we are very interested in supporting the work and ministry of the United Thank Offering in your diocese. We are currently developing new resources for parishes, children and youth as well as specific initiatives for our 125th anniversary. Our website: www.episcopalchurch.org/uto is a wonderful resource for basic information. We hope that you will continue, or begin to participate in the annual ingathering of funds that are then given out each year as grants to support local ministry. We hope you'll apply for grants so that we can hear the good work that you are doing and partner with you in it.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or concerns that we have not addressed in this letter. The Rev. Heather Melton, hmelton@episcopalchurch.org, is available if you need further information about the United Thank Offering, have questions regarding the process that unfolded or how your congregation might participate in this ministry. She can also put you into contact with your province representative on the Board if you have specific questions.

Barbara Schafer, UTO Board President/Province VIII UTO Representative

UTO Board Executive Committee Members:
Marcie Cherau, Vice President/Province IV Representative
Dena Lee, Secretary/Province III Representative
Susan Howland, Financial Secretary/Province I

Province IV Ministry Coordinators

ALTAR GUILD

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BISHOP'S CHAPLAIN To RETIRED & SURVIVING SPOUSES

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Email: david.reed@ecunet.org

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Email: jennyatswan@netscape.net

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Environmental Ministries at work through partnerships, support

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towards being an Earth Care Congregation.

• **Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light, Louisville, Ky.**, to provide promotion, support and subsidy to enable Episcopal churches in the Diocese of Kentucky to participate in their Harvesting Hands Gleaning program, where volunteers gather to glean left-over produce from farms for use in the community.

May God bless the work of environmental ministry in our Province.

EM4 and Ground for Hope Kentuckiana

On the weekend of March 8-9, Province IV Environmental (EM4) partnered with GreenFaith to conduct a two-day event, Ground for Hope Kentuckiana and Bluegrass. The twin events hosted about 130 people in Lexington and Louisville Kentucky in an interfaith event focused upon worship, speakers, workshops and networking on mobilizing faith communities for the work of environmental ministry. For more information on Ground for Hope events, go to: <http://greenfaith.org/programs/ground-for-hope>.

Church of the Ascension and EM4 Partner for Environmental Retreat

EM4 is happy to announce a joint sponsorship of an environmental retreat at the Pine Mountain Settlement School in Harlan County, Kentucky, on the weekend of May 30 - June 1, 2014. The retreat event will feature a combination of contemplation, prayer, study and tours of both old growth forest



Cappel

(Lilley Cornett Woods) and mountain top removal sites. Issues of spirituality and eco-justice will be engaged. Friday evening will feature David Hurt as Lilley Cornett, a presentation of “Lilley Cornett: A Voice for the Forest”, a Kentucky Chautauqua presentation of the Kentucky Humanities Council (<http://www.neh.gov/events/lilley-cornett-voice-the-forest>). The event is open to the public, but registration is required. For more information, go

to <http://www.kinshipearth.org/em4>.

EM4 and the Center for Religion and the Environment

The partnership continues between EM4 and the Center for Religion and the Environment at the University of the South with the CRE Forum, a monthly discussion group of faculty, staff, students and fellows. This April, we will work with students and faculty to create and host a worship service and Eucharist of reconciliation with degraded land on the university campus. You can stay tuned and benefit from the published content from these events at: <http://cresewanee.wordpress.com/partners-and-collaborators/>.

Speaking, Teaching and Consulting for Environmental Ministry

I am always available for workshops, speaking, preaching and consulting on behalf of environmental ministry in Province IV. Please contact me if I can help. Also, if you or someone you know is involved in environmental ministry in Province IV, but is not in contact with the EM4 network, please contact the EM4 Network coordinator, The Rev. Jerry Cappel, at jjcappel@hotmail.com. Also, visit the EM4 website at: http://www.provinceiv.org/Content/Environmental_Ministries_1.asp.

The Rev. Jerry Cappel
Environmental Network Coordinator

Ashes To Go

PIV campuses providing ashes outside chapel

A practice is growing across the province, one which finds many of our campus ministries involved. It is the practice of providing an Imposition of Ashes to people in their coming and going, often times at a distance from the chapel or home base of the ministers. It is called in most cases, Ashes-to-Go.

When queried as to the reason for performing this important ritual outside the structures of a chapel and a complete liturgy most indicated their intent was a much to provide a generous invitation as opposed to simply a convenience for a public too busy to worship.

The list is in no way exhaustive but it does represent the spread across Province IV of this growing practice.

The Canterbury of Clemson group called theirs Ash & Dash. The Rev. Rob Lundquist, led Canterbury Club of the University of North Carolina-Asheville (right, center photo) as they participated with Baptist and Methodist campus groups. The Rev. Beth Turner of rector of St. Thomas and campus chaplain for the Westminster Canterbury Fellowship at Appalachian State University joined her Presbyterian colleagues in Boone, N.C. In Chattanooga, Noel Reagan of Project Canterbury participated along with the Wesley House of the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga (right, top photo). Athens, Ga. saw students, faculty and staff stop on the corner in front of the Episcopal Center for their imposition of ashes (right, bottom photo). Florida State's Kyle Stillings who leads the people of the Episcopal University Center at Ruge Hall sent teams to more than one location on the Tallahassee campus.

Ashes to Go were also made a available to the community of Delta State in Cleveland, Mississippi, thanks to Calvary Episcopal and Canterbury Jondelyn Catlett.

Each of these locations provided information about the practice, worship schedules for the following days until Easter and an invitation to join in continuing one's prayers and devotion through the regularly held services and events of each ministry.

The Rev. Dann Brown
Chair, PIV Campus Ministries



Visit PIV's website: www.provinceiv.org

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Provincial Calendar

- April 28-30, 2014 — Episcopal Church Building Fund symposium, "Building for a New Tomorrow," Embassy Suites Hotel, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
- May 6-7, 2014 — Province IV Commission on Ministry, TBD, Birmingham, Ala.
- June 2-4, 2014 — Province IV ECW, "Stir Up the Spirit: Celebremos," Kanuga Conference Center, Hendersonville, N.C.
- June 3-4, 2014 — Province IV House of Bishops, Kanuga Conference Center, Hendersonville, N.C.
- June 4-6, 2014 — Province IV Synod (Convocational or Program Synod), Kanuga Conference Center, Hendersonville, N.C.
- June 25 - July 3, 2015 — 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church, Salt Palace, Salt Lake City, Utah