

Pre-Conference 2010 Reading and Preparation

Leadership Marks for Creating and Growing Vital Congregations Focusing on the “Five Skills in Gallup Inventory for Mission Redevelopers”

April 8-10, 2010 Thursday-Saturday,
Camp McDowell, Nauvoo, Alabama

April 29-May 1, 2010 (Thursday-Saturday)
Canterbury Retreat and Conference Center, Ovida Florida

June 9-11, 2010 (Wednesday - Friday)
Wednesday-Friday, Kanuga, Hendersonville, NC

Registration: <http://www.marksofleadershipregistration.org>
Additional Information: <http://www.marksofleadership.org>

Plenary Speakers:

- **The Rev. Charles Fulton** (former Congregational Development Director, ECC)
- **Mary MacGregor** (Director Leadership Development, Diocese of Texas)
- **The Rev. Thomas Brackett** (Program Officer for Church Planting and Redevelopment, ECC)
- **Bishop William Gregg** (North Caroline) or and **Leo Frade** (Southeast Florida)
- **Archdeacon Bryan Hobbs** (Director of Nehemiah Process, Diocese of Southeast Florida)

To the participant:

- So you will have a realistic data analysis of your parish or diocese we ask you to locate the following and bring with you to the conference. **Download, analyze, and look at the 10 year data Parochial Report charts from your diocese and the church where you worship.** See www.episcopalchurch.org; Congregational Research; Studying Your Congregation and Community. The "Participation & Trends" gives Baptized Members, Worship Attendance (ASA) and Plate/Pledge data.
- **Below is a list of a few books we ask you to read before arriving.** We do not expect to spend time discussing or critiquing the authors. This reading will open your thought processes in leadership issues and concerns. Any concepts you find helpful begin to apply in your leadership role or context. We are aware you can adapt the non-Anglican authors to Episcopal polity and culture. There will be long list of resources in your Conference Notebook.

Congregational Leadership

Practicing Greatness, 7 Disciplines for Extraordinary Spiritual Leaders, pp 170, 2006 by Reggie McNeal, (a Leadership Network Publication). McNeal is a missional leadership specialist for Leadership Network. He is a presenter at the Kanuga Vestry Conference, Jan 8-10.2010 and speaks to many denominational leadership gatherings. His book includes the discipline of: self-awareness; self-management; self-discovery; mission; decision making; belonging; and aloneness. A great book for a group study by a church staff, vestry, or clericus. www.Jossey-Bass.com

Governance and Ministry, Rethinking Board Membership, pp 249,2009, The Alban Institute, by Dan Hotchkiss, senior consultant at Alban Institute. Gilbert R. Rendle (author for three Alban Institute books) states Hotchkiss helps the vestry, staff, and members understand and fill their critical roles as they are aligned to the appropriate mission. The reader will see an abundant mix of ideas, language, models, and steps to assist congregations use leadership well. The book plus the 40 pages of appendixes are worth the read. Any rector/vicar and vestry would gain insight into his figures distinguishing “vestry (board) from staff”, “oversight from management”, “policy from ministry tasks”. He is helpful in identify the “Bumps along the Road” within congregational change. Many ideas and models would be a welcome addition to Episcopal Vestry Manuals.

Raising the Roof: The Pastoral-to-Program Transition, pp 176, 2009, by Alice Mann, who writes out of her experience as a senior consultant of Alban Institute. Mann is a popular leader of many conferences and seminars in Episcopal circles. The book provides all the resources needed for the leadership to make these transitions happen.

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III Hospitality, Invitation, Incorporation, (Evangelism) System

Fusion: Turning First-Time Guests into Fully-Engaged Members of Your Church, pp.190, 2007, by Nelson Searcy, founder of The Journey Church in New York City in 2002. He has trained over 20,000 pastors and church leaders in events and through ChurchLeader Insights, an internet resource of pastors. Fusion is built on Searcy's *Assimilation Seminar*, a step-by-step, tested and proven plan for assimilation that starts with the first seven minutes for a visitor at your church. This is one of the most complete books on new member ministry. Many congregations in the Diocese of Southeast Florida have successfully adapted these steps into an Episcopal culture. The resources in Appendix A-E, 20 pages can easily be used in most Episcopal Churches.

Leadership in Small Groups and Adult Classes

Activate: An Entirely New Approach to Small Groups, pp 222, 2008, www.regalbooks.com by Nelson Searcy and Kerrick Thomas, pastors at The Journey Church, NYC. This is the expansion of the DVD Small Group Seminar offered by www.ChurchLeaderInsights.com. This small book lists some of the 21st Century paradigm shifts such as: "Think Friends... Not Intimacy", "Think Promotional Months...Not Ongoing Sign-Ups", "Think Decentralization...Not Staff Control"; "Think Leader Multiplication...Not Group Multiplication". Their Group Covenant is really a "rule of life" or a discipline for Christian maturity.