

CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES CONNECTION Summer 2012

Day of Reflection & Peace Conference-Aug. 17-18

The 14th Annual Kateri Tekakwitha Peace Conference will take place at the National Kateri Tekakwitha Shrine near Fonda beginning with a potluck supper at 6pm Friday evening. Saturday's activities include keynote speaker John Horgan, author of "The End of War", and a series of conversations with committed peace activists. On Friday, prior to the conference, there will be a day of reflection on the topic "Active Love and Nonviolence—the Only Moral Response to War", featuring Bishop Thomas Gumbleton. Visit www.kateripeaceconference.org for more information or to register.

Looking Ahead to September:

9/19: Informational program by Rev. James Kane on "**Mormonism 101**", Noon-1:30pm @ First Lutheran Church. Bring a bag lunch.

9/20: Cornerstone Protestant Campus Ministry Patrons' Dinner, 6pm @ First Lutheran Church, Albany

9/29: Capital District AIDS Walk in Washington Park.

Transitions

Farewell to the Rev. Rita Root, who was Interim Conference Minister for the NY Conference of the United Church of Christ, and welcome to the Rev. David Gaewski, the new Conference Minister. We welcome the Rev. G. Ewart Morris to Emmaus United Methodist Church in Albany, and offer the Rev. Holly Nye our best wishes as she moves from there to Burnt Hills. Welcome to Dr. David Szczerbacki, the new President of the College of St. Rose, and to Margot Phillips, serving as Interim Coordinator for the Capital Region Ecumenical Organization (CREO). The Rev. Carlos Malave, a Presbyterian minister, is the new Executive Director of Christian Churches Together, a national ecumenical organization.

Capital Region Theological Center

CRTC provides ecumenical theological education, support for clergy, training for ministry, and resourcing services for congregations. Upcoming courses: "***Them's Fightin' Words: What Religion Contributes to In-Civility in American Politics***", with Rev. Dr. James Calvin Davis. Sat., 9/8, 9am-3pm. Cost: \$75 by 8/10, 85 thereafter. Register by 8/19. "***Did You Create Leviathan?: God's Justice in the Book of Job***", with Dr. Michael Dick, Thu., 9/13, 9am-4pm @ Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Cost: \$75 by 8/13, \$90 thereafter. Register by 8/24. Scholarships and group discounts available for most classes. Call 462-2470 or visit www.crtc.org to register or for more information.

Church World Service/CROP Walk News

CWS is assisting refugees and responding to natural disasters around the world. Many thanks to all who participated in the 10 Capital Region CROP Walks on May 6. Final figures from the Albany Walk show around 450 walkers/volunteers from 54 groups. Income, including a \$750 grant from Thrivent and some generous matching funds, has just passed \$86,000. One-quarter of the funds raised will come back to this area to help local food pantries and soup kitchens.

Persons interested in serving on the Committee to plan the May 5, 2013 CROP Hunger Walk are asked to contact the CACC office (462-5450). An organizing meeting will be held on Wed., Sept. 14, at 4:45pm.

This and That

The **FOCUS** Churches are collecting school supplies for children who use their food pantry. Items may be dropped off at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 275 State St., Albany, 12210...Habitat for Humanity Capital District and Rensselaer County Habitat for Humanity have merged and broken ground on "Fox Hollow", a new Habitat community in Troy....The Albany Common Council is calling for applications from qualified city residents to be appointed to the Citizens' Police Review Board. Application deadline: 8/13. Contact Cashawna Parker @434-5087 or parkerc@ci.albany.ny.us.

Congratulations to...

--the Rev. Stanley Bilinski, former CACC Board member who moved to Ohio last year, on his election as Bishop of the Western Diocese of the Polish National Catholic Church!

--St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church on the 55th anniversary of the dedication of their building!

--the Rev. Daniel Quinn and the Rev. Michael Taylor, recently ordained as priests of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany! Rev. Quinn is Associate Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Albany, and Rev. Taylor is Associate Pastor of the newly-formed Blessed (soon to be Saint!) Kateri Tekakwitha Parish in Schenectady.

--the Parish of St. John the Evangelist & St. Joseph in Rensselaer on its 160th anniversary!

Healing Hearts Ministry

The Rev. Dr. Alan Rhodes, currently serving as pastor of the Esperance-Sloansville United Methodist Church, has been active in the Healing Hearts Ministry Domestic Violence Program and is asking all pastors and religious leaders to sign on to the statement "**Faith Communities Stand Against Domestic Violence**" before October, which is Domestic Violence Month. For more information, contact him at alanrhodes25@gmail.com.

Help Wanted

--CACC needs volunteers to serve on the Shelter Oversight Committee, to assist with grant writing, and to serve as Shelter bookkeeper. Call the CACC office @462-5450 or e-mail us at CapAreaCC@aol.com.

--the First Church in Albany (Reformed) is looking for a part-time communications coordinator. Responsibilities include monthly newsletter, weekly bulletins, and communication with the wider community through print, electronic, and social media. Start date Oct. 1. Complete job description is posted on the church website: www.firstchurchinalbany.org. To apply, mail cover

letter and résumé to The First Church in Albany, Attn.: Monica Marsh, 110 No. Pearl St., Albany, 12207, or send them via e-mail to cd-ad@firstchurchinalbany.org.

August, 2012

9-13 Habitat for Humanity Tent-a-thon
14 Shelter Oversight Com., 4pm
15 deadline for articles for Sept. newsletter
*17-18 Peace Conference
19 Eid Al-Fitr (Ramadan ends)

September, 2012

3 Labor Day (office closed)
6 Finance Com., 4:30pm
*12 Albany CROP Com., 4:45pm
13 BOARD OF DIRECTORS, Noon
17-18 Rosh Hashanah

September, 2012 (cont.)

*19 Mormonism 101, Noon-1:30pm
20 PCM Patrons' Dinner
26 Yom Kippur;
Action & Program Com., 4pm

October, 2012

1 CRTC Fall Event
8 Columbus Day (office closed)
10 CDSIF Lifetime Achievement
Awards Ceremony @Beth Emeth
11 CACC Fall Banquet
@ Albany Country Club

[*denotes more information to be found elsewhere in this issue]