



E-SPIRIT

The e-newsletter of the
Episcopal Diocese of West Missouri

January 24, 2012
Hugh Welsh, Editor

Annual Bishop's Ball this weekend at Grace Church in Carthage

The Diocese of West Missouri Youth Action Council cordially invites you, and a guest, to attend the seventh annual

BISHOPSBALL 2012

SATURDAY, THE TWENTY-EIGHT OF JANUARY TWO THOUSAND AND TWELVE | AT HALF-PAST SIX O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

MEMORIAL HALL | 407 SOUTH GARRISON AVENUE, CARTHAGE, MISSOURI

A BUFFET OF HORS D'OEUVRES AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED | SEMI-FORMAL AND FORMAL DRESS

A PORTION OF THE \$15 DONATION PER PERSON WILL BENEFIT AN SERVICE ORGANIZATION SELECTED BY ATTENDEES

IN ADDITION TO RAISING FUNDS FOR A WORTHY CAUSE THE YOUTH ACTION COUNCIL IS LOOKING FORWARD TO CELEBRATING 200 YOUTH MINISTRY WITH SPECIAL RECOGNITIONAL MUSIC AND DANCING

The Youth Action Council is applying the final touches to this year's Bishop's Ball, an event honoring outstanding work by the diocese's youth that includes food, music and dancing -- lots of dancing. The occasion, hosted by Bishop Martin Field and his wife, Donna, will begin 6:30 p.m. Saturday, January 28 inside Memorial Hall at Grace Church in Carthage. A bus will depart from St. Paul's in Kansas City at 2 p.m. Saturday and return at approximately 3 p.m. Sunday. An overnight lock-in, which is a part of the bus service, will be held at Grace Church from 11 p.m. Saturday to noon Sunday. For more information, [click here](#).

Youth Leader Retreat Training February 10 and 11



Are you called to be a youth leader? If so, you should attend the Youth Leader Retreat Training Friday, February 10 and Saturday, February 11 at St. Paul's in Kansas City. The event will begin 7 p.m. Friday with fellowship and dinner, then an overnight stay and meetings until 5 p.m. Saturday. For more information, contact Kim Snodgrass at 417-793-0780.

Registration deadline February 14 for Botswana trip



Join Bishop Martin Field and his wife, Donna, for a trip to our Companion Diocese of Botswana Saturday, April 28 to Monday, May 14. The journey will also include safari destinations in South Africa and Zambia. The registration deadline is Tuesday, February 14. A deposit of \$1,500 per person is required. Space is limited. For more information, including a registration form, itinerary and pricing information, please [click here](#).

The Rev. Joe Behen to be installed as new rector of Church of the Redeemer (Kansas City) January 25

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Submissions for the E-Spirit should be emailed to: westmo_spirit@swbell.net



The Rev. Joe Behen will be installed as the new rector of Church of the Redeemer (Kansas City) 7 p.m. Wednesday, January 25. All members of the diocese are invited. A reception will follow.

Celebration of Absalom Jones February 11



A celebration of Absalom Jones, the first African-American Episcopal priest, will be held 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, February 11 at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City. Bishop Martin Field will preside and the Rev. Dr. Emanuel Cleaver III will deliver the homily.

Born a slave in Sussex County, Del., in 1746, Jones co-founded the Free African Society, an organization devoted to helping widows and orphans and assimilating newly freed black men into urban life. Jones organized the black community to serve as nurses and attendants during Philadelphia's yellow fever epidemic. Later, the Free African Society formed a congregation that applied for membership in the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania. It was admitted in 1794 as the African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas, and Jones served there as deacon and priest.

Retreat at Rivendell February 24 and 25 to explore the concept of purgatory



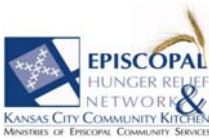
A retreat Friday, February 24 and Saturday, February 25 at Rivendell Community, located off Route 13 about 35 miles north of Springfield, will study the concept of purgatory, not only in the afterlife but as a mode of Christian experience here and now. The retreat will draw on Dante's *The Divine Comedy*, focusing on Purgatorio. To make a reservation, please contact 417-827-2868 or email Retreat Coordinator Susie Danielsson at susiedanielsson@gmail.com.

The Rev Stan Runnels among the candidates for eighth bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh



The Rev. Stan Runnels, rector of St. Paul's (Kansas City), was selected by a search committee as one of four candidates for bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Members of the parish have two weeks to petition for other names to be considered before the April 21 election. Runnels has been St. Paul's rector since March 2006.

Kansas City Community Kitchen boasts record year for meals served



The Kansas City Community Kitchen, part of Episcopal Community Services, served a record number of meals in 2011. In all, 159,162 meals were prepared, a 17 percent increase from the previous year. Six hundred twenty meals were served every day. If you are interested in volunteering at the kitchen, call 816-472-0744.

Haitians quietly mark second year after earthquake



The streets of Port-au-Prince were empty January 12 but the churches were full as residents of the Haitian capital remembered the day two years ago when a magnitude-7 earthquake devastated vast parts of southern Haiti. "Some people stayed home to reflect quietly," Episcopal Diocese of Haiti Bishop Jean Zaché Duracin told Episcopal News Service during a telephone interview after a morning service at the ruined Holy Trinity Cathedral in Port-au-Prince. Duracin was about to leave for an official ceremony marking the National Day of Remembrance declared by the Haitian government when ENS reached him. The earthquake, whose epicenter struck 10 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince at 4:53 p.m. local time on January 12, 2010, was immediately followed by two aftershocks of 5.9 and 5.5 magnitude. Close to 300,000 were killed. About a third of Haiti's approximately 9 million people lived in Port-au-Prince at the time of the quake. Of those 1.6 million people in the capital and elsewhere were left homeless on streets filled with the rubble of 80,000 destroyed buildings. For the entire Episcopal News Service article, [click here](#).