

The Episcopal Church at Work

A Newsletter from the Office of Development



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DEVELOPMENT





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Glancing Back and Striding Forward

What have we been doing this year? What is underway for 2023?

This issue of “The Episcopal Church at Work” focuses on the clergy, lay staff, and program leaders serving the ministries of the church to achieve God’s mission in our world.

This newsletter is like an iceberg; what you read here is a fraction of the work underway across our branch of the Jesus Movement. We’ll invite you to go deeper with easy URLs at the end of each article. In 2023, we will revisit these ministry leaders and programs in our online newsletter, which you can sign up for at iam.ec/newsletter.

Is iam.ec/blessgiving a real internet address?

It is! Shortening URLs makes the internet address easier to read and use. Deconstructed, iam.ec = I am Episcopal Church/webpage



Lay leadership is the future of our church.

Helping dioceses and congregations identify and train lay leaders as coaches in Latino faith communities is a priority for Latino Ministries, led by the Revs. Anthony Guillén and Samuel Borbón.

At the forefront of this training effort is the Episcopal Latino Competency Course, which is exactly what it sounds like. Focused on non-Hispanic laity, clergy, and seminarians, the course teaches cultural know-how to those called to serve Latino communities. An intensive seven-day course taught twice a year—once at Virginia Theological Seminary and once at the School of Theology at Sewanee University—the curriculum is designed to enhance Christian formation and expand the reach of our Jesus Movement.



Go deeper

Latino Ministries

- Ecumenical Leadership Academy iam.ec/EcumenicalLeadershipAcademy
- Latino Ministries Songbook iam.ec/LatinosSongbook
- The Episcopal Latino Competency Course iam.ec/3E0Eple

For your calendar

- Nuevo Amanecer 2023

Doing this work

- The Rev. Anthony Guillén, missioner for Latino/Hispanic Ministries and director, Ethnic Ministries
- The Rev. Samuel Borbón, associate missioner for Latino/Hispanic Ministries and Program Development



Church Planting – Discerning the Call to Church Plant

You, too, can be a church planter.



Helping you and others like you discern the call for church planting is exhilarating work. Through in-person and online training, parish and diocesan leaders discern the skills and explore the systems needed to raise up new faith communities both within current parishes and alongside them.

In 2023 the church planting team are joyfully preparing for the return of the Genesis Gathering—bringing church planters, diocesan leaders, lay, and clergy into one space to learn from one another, and empower them to embrace new Christian communities in their hometowns. You, too, can be a church planter.

Go deeper Church Planting

- Church Planting and Redevelopment: iam.ec/ChurchPlantingRedevelopment
- New Episcopal Communities: iam.ec/NewEpiscopalCommunities

For your calendar

- Second Tuesdays: iam.ec/genesis2ndTuesdays

Doing this work

- The Rev. Katherine (Katie) Nakamura Rengers, officer for church planting infrastructure
- Meet the team: iam.ec/ChurchPlantTeam

Church Redevelopment — Pilgrimage in Transition

What does redevelopment look like?

It looks like parishioners and clergy working together to re-imagine a new future. But where to start? With data drawn from four years of observation and surveys, the Office of Church Planting and Redevelopment nurtures a spirit of curiosity around the factors that contribute to intentional redevelopment. The data was gathered from their work with 61 dioceses to help discern the call to leadership and help parishes understand the behaviors of successful redevelopment. Hosting quarterly online gatherings to help potential leaders discern their call, church redevelopment staff actively build trust to encourage potential leaders to imagine new ways their parish can grow and try new ways of engaging their “parishes.”

Go deeper Church Redevelopment

- Genesis II: Re-Vision and Renew iam.ec/genesisII

For your calendar:

- Second Tuesdays: iam.ec/genesis2ndTuesdays

Doing this work:

- The Rev. Thomas Brackett, manager, Church Planting and Redevelopment
- Meet the team: iam.ec/GenesisTeam



Indigenous Ministries

What will it take to fully comprehend the forced assimilation of Indigenous children at Episcopal boarding schools in the 19th and 20th centuries?

This past summer General Convention resolved to know more and called for the creation of an Executive Council Commission and provided the initial funding to begin investigating The Episcopal Church's involvement.

Once the commission is formed in early 2023, the scope and outcomes of their charge will gain focus. A likely product is the creation of a multi-faceted curriculum exploring our difficult history, and shared throughout The Episcopal Church.

Go deeper

- Doctrine of Discovery: iam.ec/IndigenousMinistries

- Statement on Indigenous boarding schools by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and President of the House of Deputies Gay Clark Jennings: bit.ly/3SCZMNB

For your calendar

- Annual Winter Talk Gathering Jan 21-23, virtual registration opens soon.

Doing this work

- The Rev. Bradley Hauff, missionary for Indigenous Ministries
- The Rev. Mary Crist, Indigenous Theological Education Coordinator

The word “parish,” as derived from Latin, refers to the district around a church—not just the people who attend the church. A parish includes the larger community.

Constable Grants:

The Marie Louise Constable Trust provides funding for the purposes of the DFMS, preferably for work of religious education not provided within the budget.

Evangelism – Meeting Jesus and Each Other

Small groups propel evangelism in The Episcopal Church.

Joining our robust array of training and resources is “Centered: A Christian Discipleship Experience.” The series guides small, intentional communities to grow, look, act, and love more like Jesus. The nine-session course invites church members, neighbors, and friends to gather to share a meal, join in prayer, watch short films, and discuss God, belonging, and living a meaningful life.

This program complements our other small group programs and training, and is available in English, French, and Spanish. In early 2023, look for our latest small group resource Living Revival. Designed for congregations to process and deepen their Revival experience.



Go deeper

- Centered: A Christian Discipleship Experience iam.ec/Centered
- Evangelism Blog iam.ec/EvangelismBlog

For your calendar

Revivals coming to a diocese near you!

- Paris, France, March 2023
- Massachusetts, April 2023
- Southern Virginia, April 2023
- Baltimore, July 2023, It's All About Love: A Churchwide Revival
- Eastern Carolina, October 2023
- Missouri, November 2023
- Central New York, December 2023

Doing this work

- Canon Stephanie Spellers, Canon to the Presiding Bishop for Evangelism, Reconciliation, and Creation Care
- Jerusalem Greer, manager of Evangelism and Discipleship and Church Planting
- Sarah Alphin, Associate for Evangelism, Discipleship and Church Planting
- Rachel Jones, Evangelism and Revivals consultant
- Miriam McKenney, Small Group consultant



Good News Gardens – Field Days Immersive Good News Gardens Experiences

Good News Gardens is expanding its offerings with intensive “Field Days” to train parishes and faith communities to use agrarian ministry for evangelism. Utilizing a Constable Grant, Creation Care staff are partnering with like-minded religious organizations and educators to expand what caring for creation looks like. More information about this opportunity is coming in 2023.

Go deeper

- Field Days: iam.ec/FieldDays
- Good News Gardens webinars: iam.ec/3SHUIYc
- Winter 2023: Sharing the Bounty: Stories from the Good News Garden Movement, a short film series with discussion guides

Doing this work

- Jerusalem Greer, manager of Evangelism and Discipleship
- Phoebe Chatfield, Program Associate for Creation Care
- Sarah Alphin - Associate for Evangelism, Discipleship and Church Planting
- Brian Sellers-Petersen, Good News Gardens Consultant
- Charlotte Greeson, Field Days Consultant



African Descent Ministries – We Are One

African Descent Ministries—formerly Black Ministries—is the new name for this 50-year ministry of The Episcopal Church.

The name change, after three years of prayerful discernment, broadens our welcome to include ten convocations of the African diaspora, including cultures and communities of African Americans, South Sudanese, Liberians, Afro Caribbean, Latino, Cuban and Haitian, East, South, and West Africans siblings. Anything that we can do, as The Episcopal Church, to remove barriers to communication has a powerful impact on our ministry. With this name change, African Decent Ministries begins new conversations and invites deeper connections throughout The Episcopal Church.

Go deeper

Healing from Internalized Oppression: iam.ec/AfricanDescentMinistriesHealing

African Descent Ministries hosts Discernment Academy: iam.ec/3DAHAjt

Congregational Programs for Revitalization

Professional Coaching and Mentoring

For your calendar

Healing from Internalized Oppression Retreats

- Diocese of Washington, DC
Feb 3 - 4

- Diocese of Indianapolis,
March 17 - 18

- Diocese of the Virgin Islands,
March 31 - April 1

Afro Caribbean Convocation, April 25 - 27

Diocesan ADM Leaders Conference, May 23 - 25

Black Congregational Leadership Initiative, Oct 31 - Nov 2

Doing this work:

The Rev. Canon Ronald C. Byrd Sr., missionary for African Descent Ministries



Faith Formation: Safe Church/ Safe Communities

Always in community.



Safe Church Training teaches each of us how to create holy places not just for the church, but for the world. Ensuring that we are caring for the vulnerable, the Office of Faith Formation continues to reevaluate and update the training modules. A recent addition to the training suites reinforces awareness and strategies for LGBTQ+ inclusion. Early in 2023, Spanish-language versions of eight courses will be ready for rollout. Each of the Safe Church/Safe Community trainings is designed to create a

church and a context in which God's dream becomes our reality, with room for all of God's children.

Go deeper:

- Safe Church/Safe Communities: iam.ec/SafeChurch
- Safe Church/Safe Communities introductory video: iam.ec/SafeChurchIntro

Doing this work:

- Bronwyn Clark Skov, manager for Safe Church and Special Projects

What is a Full Communion Partner?

Christian denominations (The Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and Church of Sweden, to name three) who recognize the independence of the other partners and agree to admit members of the other denominations to participate in the Sacraments. We believe that our full communion partners hold all the essentials of the Christian faith.

iam.ec/FullCommunionPartners

What is Episcopal Service Corps?

Episcopal Service Corps is a network of local programs offering fellowship and leadership development opportunities that match young leaders with mission-based non-profit organizations, schools, and churches.

Go Deeper: iam.ec/episcopalservicecorps

Young Adult and Youth Formation

The return of the Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) in 2023 is good news! With COVID-cancellation in 2020, six years have passed since this gathering of Episcopal youth. An international youth event, EYE seeks to direct the energy of young people toward active ministry as members of the body of Christ. The first step—before welcoming 800 to 900 youth in August—is to assemble a team of volunteers and adults to provide a robust and thoughtful faith experience. Registration for EYE opens in January and continues until March. Please share registration information with someone you know!

Go deeper

- Episcopal Youth Event – EYE 2023 iam.ec/EYE2023
- Register: iam.ec/EYE2023registration

On your calendar

- Episcopal Youth Event – University of Maryland, July 4-8

Doing this work

- Canon Myra Garnes, officer for Youth Ministries



United Thank Offering invites 2023 annual grants

Grant application deadlines are March 10 for dioceses of The Episcopal Church.

For the next three years, the United Thank Offering, in the spirit of Matthew 25:36, will focus on those whom society has left out or behind. The 2023 grants focus will support innovative mission and ministry projects addressing global incarceration: preventative programs and intervention, prisoner support outreach, prison reform, or post-prison re-entry into society.

Join the Conversation

Huddle With Us

Each month our Evangelism staff and clergy offer a Zoom “Lunch and Learn” session to support trainers and small group leaders using “Centered: A Christian Discipleship Experience.” Register: iam.ec/huddle

Ways to Give

Annual Appeal

Your gifts to The Episcopal Church Annual Appeal and other ministries make a significant difference. We are so thankful for your generosity as we seek to walk in the way of Jesus through our missions and ministries. Below are some ways to partner with us financially.

Text to give Text ‘Appeal’ to 91999

Call (800) 334-7626, ext. 6002

Online iam.ec/blessgiving

Make a gift of securities contact T.J. Houlihan, (212) 716-6271

Feast Days

Jan. 4 Elizabeth Ann Seton, Vowed Religious and Educator, 1821

Jan. 9 Julia Chester Emery, Lay Leader and Missionary, 1922

Jan. 27 John Chrysostom, Bishop and Theologian, 407

Prayer/Meditation

Epiphany

O God, by the leading of a star you manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: Lead us, who know you now by faith, to your presence, where we may see your glory face to face.

-Book of Common Prayer

Give Today

Text ‘Appeal’ to 91999

Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, DFMS is the legal name of the Protestant The Episcopal Church- US.

