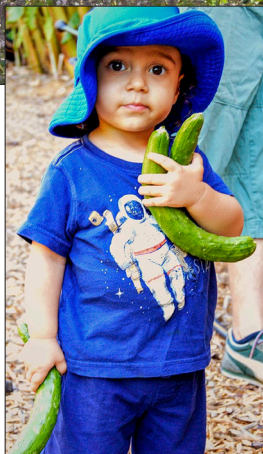




SEEDS OF HOPE PHOTOS

A productive summer with Seeds of Hope

Seeds of Hope, the food justice ministry of the Diocese of Los Angeles, has been working throughout the summer to promote nutrition with a wide range of partners, including congregations of the diocese, Good Samaritan Hospital, Our Saviour Center in El Monte, several Laundry Love locations and congregations of other denominations. The Seeds of Hope staff invites all to join them on Aug. 24, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m., for Friday Night Farming in the Edendale Grove garden and living labyrinth, located next to the Cathedral Center of St. Paul in Echo Park. Work in the garden will be followed by dinner, music and fun. For information, visit seedsofhope.ladiocese.org. Above: Seeds of Hope staff member Steven Trapasso helps volunteers at the July Friday Night Farming event. At right: A little gardener helps harvest vegetables.



September filing dates approach for Diocesan Convention

Calling clergy and lay delegates to Diocesan Convention's 122nd annual meeting Nov. 30 - Dec. 1 at Ontario Convention Center, the Secretary of Convention, Canon Dr. Steve Nishibayashi, has announced dates for filing audit reports and proposed legislation.

Approaching deadlines include:

- ◆ Sept. 1: Proposing changes to the diocesan constitution and canons;
- ◆ Sept. 1: Submitting clergy certification forms;
- ◆ Sept. 21: Proposing resolutions;
- ◆ Oct. 20: Filing opposing explanations to resolutions;
- ◆ Oct. 15: Nominations to diocesan offices;
- ◆ Nov. 4: Reports of work and youth participant registration.

A list of offices open for election, together with other convention details, will soon be available on the diocesan website, www.ladiocese.org/convention. Inquiries may be directed to Nishibayashi by email at snishibayashi@ladiocese.org or by phoning his office at the Cathedral Center, 213.482.2040, ext. 276.

Bishop John Harvey Taylor will convene the annual meeting under the theme "Come Home, EDLA." He has underscored three dimensions of home:

"1. Reconciliation and unity in our diocesan family amid a renewed sense of common purpose under Christ and our commitment to financial transparency;

"2. Our shared work of envisioning our places of worship and ministry as sacramental communities of connection and refreshment — base camps for accomplishing God's work of justice and #BelovedCommunity-building;

"3. Recognizing that, like our Lord, our homeless and housing-insecure siblings, as well as our scapegoated immigrant worker siblings and their families, often have nowhere to lay their heads, which also calls us to ministries of welcome, hospitality, sustainability, and justice." †

Bishop Taylor invites all to concert production of 'Godspell'

Bishop John Harvey Taylor has announced a special production next month of the beloved Broadway musical *Godspell* to raise funds for various diocesan ministries. The professional, semi-staged production will be performed in downtown Los Angeles at the Colburn School's Zipper Hall on Saturday, Sept. 8, and in Santa Barbara at Trinity Church on Sunday, Sept. 9.

Godspell features a parade of beloved songs in an eclectic range of styles, including "Day by Day," "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord," "Learn Your Lessons Well," "All for the Best," "All Good Gifts," "Turn Back, O Man" and "By My Side." In the show, a small group of

people helps Jesus tell parables by using a wide variety of games, and storytelling techniques, with a hefty dose of comic timing. As the action dissolves hauntingly into the Last Supper and the Crucifixion, Jesus' messages of kindness, tolerance and love come vibrantly to life.

More information is available at www.BishopsConcert.org. For sponsorship opportunities, contact the Rev. Lorenzo Lebrija, development officer, at 213.480.2040. Use code AUG15 when ordering tickets by Aug. 15 for a 50% early-bird discount. †



— THURSDAY, AUGUST 9 —

**5 p.m. – 8 p.m. Summer Concert:
Just Dave Country Band**

St. Mark's in-the-Valley Church
2901 Nojoqui Avenue, Los Olivos
Information: yvonne@smitv.org

— SATURDAY, AUGUST 11 —

5 p.m. Lobster Fest

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
12692 Fifth Street, Yucaipa
Information: 909.224.6086

**6 - 9 p.m. Hawaiian Luau with
Episcopal Asiamerica Ministries**

Cathedral Center of St. Paul
840 Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles
Information: ykim@ladiocese.org | 857.600.8922

— SATURDAY, AUGUST 25 —

8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Invite | Welcome | Connect

All Saints Episcopal Church
504 N Camden Drive, Beverly Hills 90210
Information: www.allsaintsbh.org/calendar/iwc

— FRIDAY, AUGUST 31 —

7:10 p.m. 25th annual Episcopal Night

Dodger Stadium
1000 Vin Scully Avenue, Los Angeles 90012
Information and tickets:
See your congregation's Dodger coordinator.

— SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 —

8 p.m. Godspell Concert

Zipper Hall, The Colburn School
200 S. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles 90012
Tickets/Information: www.bishopsconcert.org

— SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 —

6 p.m. Godspell Concert

Trinity Episcopal Church
1500 State Street, Santa Barbara 93101
Tickets/Information: www.bishopsconcert.org

For more listings visit www.ladiocese.org

THE VOLUME 7, NUMBER 26

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Welcoming and feeding the stranger

By Diane Jardine Bruce, bishop suffragan

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Those who stayed after the feeding of the 5,000 went out in search of Jesus and the disciples after they left that place. Jesus cautions them not to search for the bread that perishes, but for the bread that is everlasting — the bread that truly gives life. Every time I read this passage I understand that the people were hungry — not just for the bread that nourished their bodies, but for the bread that would nourish their souls. They went in search of Jesus and wanted more — more Jesus. They wanted more of his words, more of the signs that pointed to who he was and is. They may indeed have been looking for another "free lunch," but in my heart I have to believe that the feeding of the 5,000 opened the hearts of those gathered to a new understand of God in their midst.

Every Sunday across the diocese congregations prepare to share the simple meal of bread and wine after we hear the Word of

God and pray.

We come together because we too are looking for that bread which nourishes our souls and prepares us for the work God is giving us to do. Many Sundays we welcome newcomers into our congregations — and depending upon how they are welcomed, they can and often stay as they are searching for the same thing we are, that bread that sustains us. *How* we welcome them can bring them closer to God, or go away feeling even hungrier than when they came through our doors. How are you in your congregation welcoming the stranger among you? Do you have a way to make a newcomer feel welcomed but not overwhelmed? Do people in your congregation share the peace as enthusiastically with a newcomer as they do with those they know? Are newcomers made to feel welcome at coffee hour?

The crowd followed Jesus because his words and actions drew them close to him. May we on Sundays draw those in our communities close to us. May they feel welcomed and fed as they leave us, and may they want to come back for more. †



'Invite | Welcome | Connect' to be offered in Beverly Hills

All Saints' Church, Beverly Hills, will host a one-day presentation of Invite | Welcome | Connect, a national program that helps churches design and implement gospel-based ministries for genuine welcoming and connecting of new members, on Saturday, Aug. 25. Teams from churches throughout the diocese are welcome to attend this informative and inspiring workshop.

The morning workshop will begin at 9 am.

Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. The afternoon workshop will end at 3 pm. If possible, multiple representatives from each church, including clergy, vestry members, targeted staff, ministry leaders and anyone involved in newcomer ministry. The cost varies from \$150 to \$3000, depending on team size and average Sunday attendance. For more information and to register, visit www.allsaintsbh.org/calendar/iwc. †

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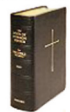
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