

MOUNTAIN ECHOES

EPISCOPAL APPALACHIAN MINISTRIES
▲ A COALITION OF EPISCOPAL DIOCESES ▲
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Newsletter of Episcopal Appalachian Ministries



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Spring 2011

Appalachian Small Grants Initiative Spring 2011 Awards

Coal Country Hangout Youth Center – North Cambria, PA – Diocese of Pittsburgh – Was awarded a grant to help fund the purchase of software for their computer center. Coal Country Hangout Youth Center (CCHYC) in Northern Cambria, Pennsylvania is located in Pennsylvania's Appalachian region. CCHYC is a full service youth center that began in 1996 as a response to the educational, human services, and social needs of children and their families in northern Cambria County.

The goals of CCHYC are: to provide affordable and accessible child care to all families in our community; to emphasize that families can forever influence their children and that we support families to the greatest extent possible in the promotion of healthy behaviors among their children; and to provide a holistic approach to educational, cultural, and spiritual devastation experienced by families in the region.

CCHYC is designed to be a full-service youth center offering programs currently unavailable and highly desirable, if not essential, to the communi-



Coal Country Hangout Youth Center

ties of Northern Cambria County area. The Center targets a population of approximately 6,000 boys and girls, ages infant to 18 living in rural locales within 4 area school districts, 8 boroughs, and 7 townships that extend

from northern Cambria County into northeastern Indiana County and southwestern Clearfield County. CCHYC opened January 1, 2002 with a full-service daycare operating M-F

Continued on page 2...

EAM Board Meets in Blacksburg

Episcopal Appalachian Ministries continues to evolve. The roots of EAM goes back to the 1960's and the sweeping social changes that occurred during that era. It was during that time that the Church was called to pay attention to and address the widespread poverty and social injustices occurring in Appalachia. As a result of this initiative, the Bishops of the Appalachian region formed APSO ("app-so"); the Appalachian People's Service Organization. The offices of APSO were located in an out-building behind Christ Episcopal Church in Blacksburg, VA. **The Rev. "B" Lloyd and Mrs. Sally Mackey** were the face and voice of this organization. Since that time, APSO has been renamed and known as Episcopal Appalachian Ministries or EAM, sometimes called "eem". EAM is now a coalition of 10 Dioceses that serve the Appalachian region.

In April of this year, the EAM Board of Governors returned to its roots and met for its spring retreat and meeting



**Front L-R: Ms. Pam Flemming, Mrs. Mary Ellen Lloyd, The Rev. "B" Lloyd
Back L-R: Mr. Lee Hicks, The Rev. Theresa Kelley, Mr. Harry Chase, The Rev. Scott West, The Rev. Scott Allen, The Ven. Bryant Kibler, The Rev. Leslie Flemming, Mr. A.J. Stack, Mrs. Jane Crist, The Rt. Rev. W. Michie Klusmeyer, Mrs. Mary Berl, The Rev. Dcn. Gordon Brewer**

at Christ Church in Blacksburg, VA. The board members that were present were, **The Rt. Rev. W. Michie Klusmeyer**, Bishop of West Virginia and board president; **The Rev. Theresa**

Kelley, Diocese of West Virginia and board vice-president; **Mrs. Mary Berl**, treasurer from the Diocese of East Tennessee, **Ms. Pam Fleming**, Diocese of Maryland and board secre-

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tary; **The Rev. Leslie Flemming**, Diocese of Southern Ohio; **Mrs. Jane Crist**, Diocese of West Virginia; **The Rev. Scott Allen**, Diocese of Bethlehem; **The Rev. Scott West**, Diocese of Southwestern Virginia and **Mr. A.J. Stacks**, Diocese of Southern Ohio. Also present were the new board members, **The Ven. Bryant Kibler**, Diocese of Lexington; **Mr. Harry Chase**, Diocese of East Tennessee and **Mr. Lee Hicks**, Diocese of Pittsburgh. Executive Coordinator, **The Rev. Dcn. Gordon Brewer**, Diocese of East Tennessee was also present. The board met for the full day on Monday, April 12th. **The Rt. Rev. Neff Powell**, Bishop of Southwestern Virginia joined the board for lunch and celebrated Holy Eucharist.

This was a very productive meeting for the EAM board. The board continued to define the mission of EAM and discussed the importance of the work camps and mission sites in Appala-

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EAM Expands Work Camp/Mission Sites!

Starting this summer, EAM is expanding its work camp programs. For many years the work camp in the Diocese of Southwestern Virginia at **Grace House on the Mountain** in St. Paul, Virginia, has been the sole sponsored mission opportunity. Sandy Elledge, former EAM Coordinator, was very instrumental in getting this program started over 15 years ago. Sandy served as the work camp director up until 2009 when she retired. According to Sandy, "Work camps started at Grace House about 15 years ago. There were young work camps from about 79-88 or 89 but they were held in other places. We revived the work camps about 17 years ago with a couple of adult only ones, then decided to make all the work camps intergenerational. The first one of the current set where held in other places, notably DuBose Center in Monteagle, TN, but Grace House is so much more conducive to the way we did things. We moved to two weeks about 8 or 9 years ago."

Over time, the work camp at Grace House has expanded to 3 weeks. And each year the number of slots for work campers fills up for the following year nearly before the current weeks are over, because the work campers want to come back the next year. It is a wonderful dilemma to have!

Upon Sandy's retirement, Mr. Paul Buckley stepped in to take over the reigns as the EAM Work Camp Director at Grace House for the three spon-

sored weeks. Paul has also had a long history with the EAM work camps and brings a great deal of expertise in coordinating all that needs to be done for the work camps to be successful. Finding the work sites, buying materials and supervising the projects are just a few of the things that Paul does in his ministry as work camp director. Needless to say, there is a lot to be done in running 3 weeks of work camps!

This year, EAM has been able to partner with 3 other mission sites in Appalachia. In addition to the 3 weeks at Grace House, EAM is helping to sponsor and facilitate work camp weeks at the **Highland Educational Project** in the Diocese of West Virginia, **Mission in the Mountains** in the Diocese of Lexington, KY and **St. Timothy's Outreach Center** also in the Diocese of Lexington.

Our future plans and wish is to have a work camp/mission site in each of the Appalachian Dioceses. More complete information about each of the work camp/mission sites can be found on the EAM website: <http://www.visit-eam.org/index.php/mission-opportunities> or by contacting The Rev. Gordon Brewer at episcopalappministries@gmail.com.



Grace House on the Mountain located in St. Paul, VA, Diocese of Southwestern Virginia.

The 2011 work camp dates are:

Mission in the Mountains (Dio. of Lexington, KY)
June 12-18

Highland Educational Project (Dio. of West Virginia)
June 26 – July 1

Grace House on the Mountain (Dio. of Southwestern VA)
July 31- August 20

St. Timothy's Outreach Center (Dio. of Lexington, KY)
Contact for dates

Small Grants... continued from page 1

6:00 a.m.- 6 p.m. The daycare is staffed by a fulltime Director (30 hours weekly) and 9 part-time employees, thus creating new jobs in the community. Currently the day care serves 60 children. The Teen Center is housed on the main level and is open on Friday and Saturday nights, 7-9:30 p.m. and staffed by a rotation of adult volunteers. Recreational space includes a full-size basketball/volleyball court, pool tables, ping-pong tables, air hockey, video games, stereo, and a 60-inch TV with both a VCR and a DVD player. Dances with a local DJ and special events are held on a regular basis.

CCHYC has an established after school and summer enrichment curriculum entitled "Cambria Re-Coalitions", which stress the interrelatedness of various artistic disciplines with the region's historic dependency on a single industry, coal mining. To date, twenty-two such workshops have been offered, serving approximately 600+ children. For more information about CCHYC, please contact The Rev. Dcn. Ann Staples, 1102 Maple Ave., North Cambria, PA 15714; Phone: 814-948-8493; Email: cchyc@comcast.net.

ABLE for Monroe County Adult Literacy- Madisonville, TN – Diocese of East Tennessee- Was granted funds to help purchase curriculum materials for the adult literacy program. ABLE is a new non-profit out of Madisonville, in Monroe County Ten-

nessee. They have filed incorporation papers as a non-profit on, 2-25-2011. They have their FEIN and are in the process of obtaining their 501 3C status. They are not affiliated with any other organization. Hiwassee College has graciously offered them a free office for the next year. All of the officers, board members, and tutors are volunteers and take no salary. There are thus no operating expenses at this time.

LITERACY

When a young father approached a faculty member at Hiwassee College asking for help learning to read, they scoured the area for an adult literacy program. They found that counties in TN do not receive funding for adult literacy programs at this time due to budget constraints. The Adult Education Departments at local schools in the area can only afford GED preparation courses. There exist a few ESL courses for adults who only speak/read Spanish, but no program existed in the county for adult literacy education.

Monroe County is one of the largest and poorest counties in Tennessee. Many of the communities in this county are up in the mountains (Cherokee National Forest accounts

for approximately 50% of county land). Unemployment approached 20% two years ago and remains at approximately 15%. The 2000 Census reported that almost 25% of the adults in our area are either totally or functionally illiterate. As you can imagine, this affects these individuals in finding jobs, daily living, financial situations, and understanding medical/pharmacy instructions.

The goal and sole mission of ABLE is to reach out to those adults in our community needing literacy education, offering them free one on one literacy training in a non-threatening and familiar environment. There will be no cost to the participants. Their aim is to continue enlisting community support (as they have for their new, outstanding Board of Directors) for volunteer tutors, trainers, and funding for the materials required for each learner.

Their new Board includes 2 professors (Ph.D.'s) at Hiwassee College, a family therapist, the county Trustee, the local director of the CAC, and the county librarian. They have volunteers ready to train to be literacy tutors, and they have persons waiting to learn. As soon as they have funds to purchase the first set of training materials and begin teaching, they will approach local civic and religious groups for funding for a viable, operating literacy program. They have been offered support by local physicians, the county school superintendent and oth-

ers in enlisting participants that need literacy training.

Their monetary request was a small and simple one to address a single need. They needed training and learning materials to begin the operation of this program. Each set (reading level) includes teacher and learner material and costs \$137 through Proliteracy's printing division. They wish to use the Laubach teaching material, a proven curriculum developed through Dr. Frank Laubach's enormously successful Each One Teach One program. They requested \$600 to purchase 4 levels of this program plus approximate shipping costs. That is the only request they had.

There is no "budget" for the ABLE program since, at this time, they are a totally volunteer organization with donated headquarters. The only expense for the first year will be teaching material. Monroe County is a "small town" county, and they can count on churches, civic organizations, and local papers to publicize and support them once we are up and running. They plan to continue their work as long as there exists the need for adult literacy education in the county.

Blue Monarch Ministries – Monteagle, TN – Diocese of Tennessee – Was awarded a grant to help in moving a house that was donated to this organization. Blue Monarch, Inc. a

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Board Meets in Blacksburg

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chia. The board renewed its commitment to support and expand the Appalachian work camps. The work camp at Grace House in Southwestern Virginia will continue as it has over the past several years. In addition to the work camp at Grace House, the program has expanded to the Highland Educational Project in the Diocese of West Virginia and to Mission to the Mountains in the Diocese of Lexington. In addition to these mission sites, the board discussed expansion of opportunities with St. Timothy's Outreach Center in Irvine, KY where board member The Ven. Bryant Kibler is priest-in-charge.

The board also began its plans for being present at the 2012 General Convention. The board discussed the need for renewing the Church's awareness of Appalachia and the needs of this unique region. The General Convention is the one opportunity for sharing with the larger Church these needs. The board will be updating the current brochures and promotional material to better communicate with people the mission and ministries of EAM.

One of the purposes of EAM is to serve as a clearinghouse for those seeking to do ministry and mission work in Appalachia. There are many wonderful and essential ministries occurring in all of the Dioceses of Appalachia. The board discussed the need for increased involvement with EAM at the Diocesan level by having Appalachian committees or resource teams



Mary Ellen and "B" Lloyd

in each of the member Dioceses. By having the local committees in place, there would be a greater connection to EAM and then in turn, the Church at large. By serving as a clearinghouse, EAM can then help people connect with ministries occurring at the local level in Appalachia.

The board also discussed the need to continue to be a voice for the people of Appalachia by assisting in and promoting advocacy work. In particular, issues related to the environmental, economic and social justice are very important to Appalachia. Directly related to these three issues is the advocacy work needed in Appalachia for safe coal mining practices and environmentally responsible mineral and gas extraction.

Coal mining practices have improved significantly since coal was discovered in Appalachia during the 1800's. Mining safety is in the forefront and the environmental impact of mineral ex-

traction is still "on the radar screen" for EAM. There continues to be a great deal to advocate for. The coal industry is absolutely tied to our own energy consumption as a country. Coal mining also supports and provides livelihoods for thousands of Appalachian families. It is a complex issue and it is important that EAM continue to keep coal mining and mineral extraction in the forefront as an important and vital issue to address for the people of Appalachia.

EAM does continue to evolve as we have moved into the 21st century. There has been some significant progress made in addressing social and economic issues since EAM was founded in the 1960's. Poverty rates in Appalachia have declined, but not disappeared. Appalachia continues to have one of the highest rates of people living at or below the poverty level, per-capita, of any region within the United States.

The board ended its meeting with a dinner at Christ Church in which The Rev. "B" Lloyd and his wife were able to join. "B" commented that he was so very grateful that the work he began some 40 years ago was continuing. The vision and mission of APSO/EAM continues.

The next board meeting will be held in West Virginia during the month of October.

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Remembering Sally Mackie....

EAM has lost one of its early founders. Mrs. Sally Osborne Mackie died on April 24, 2011. Mrs. Mackie served as Executive Secretary of APSO/EAM for 23 years and Interim Executive Director for one. According to Sandy Elledge, former Executive Coordinator for EAM, "Sally was a wonderful, dedicated person and a great friend. Many people made contributions to APSO/EAM just to get her warm handwritten thank you notes. She became a friend with whom to share all sorts of news of family and life."

Sally was born on July 1, 1928, in Jacksonville, Ill., to Samuel N. Osborne and Mary Capps Osborne. After attending Illinois College for two years she transferred to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, graduating with a bachelor's degree in sociology in 1950. While at UNC she met William E. (Bill) Mackie, who would become her husband of 56 years. Sally's life was marked by hospitality and service. She and Bill hosted weekly "Open House" gatherings for Tech students in the 1960s and 1970s, always a time of good food and enjoyable conversation. Sally's Christmas Eve parties and cocktail receptions for visiting faculty are fondly remembered by all who were welcomed into the Mackie home.

For many years Sally was the Executive Secretary for APSO, now known



as Episcopal Appalachian Ministries. Over the years she was also involved with numerous organizations which served the community, including the Human Relations Council, League of Women Voters, Virginia Mountain Housing (now Community Housing Partners), Interfaith Food Pantry, Christmas Store, Voluntary Action Center, FISH, Montgomery Free Clinic, and the Board of the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library. A long-time member of Christ Episcopal Church, she served on the vestry and altar guild, and was a passionate advocate of outreach ministry.

Predeceased by her parents and husband, Sally is lovingly remembered by her daughters, Christy Mackie and Linda Mackie Griggs; son-in-law, Malcolm David Griggs; grandchildren,

Mary Elizabeth Griggs and Michael Riley Griggs; aunt, Hope Dallman; cousin, Constance Luna; niece, Kathleen Fitzgibbon; and many beloved friends.

Christy and Linda would like to thank the medical staff at LewisGale Hospital at Montgomery for their care and compassion to Sally and her family during the past several months.

A Memorial Service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 30, 2011, at Christ Episcopal Church, Blacksburg. With The Reverend Scott West officiating.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to a charity of the donor's choice. (Source: Roanoke Times News)



Mountain Echoes

Is the printed newsletter of Episcopal Appalachian Ministries.

It is published to affirm and support those involved in ministering to the needs of Appalachian people living in both rural and urban settings. This newsletter serves to inform the Church at large about the social and economic issues that affect Appalachia.

Your letters, articles, pictures and stories are always welcome. Submission deadline for the next issue is September 30th

The Rev. Deacon
L. Gordon Brewer,
Editor



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Visit our website for current information and to subscribe to The Episcopal Appalachian.

Also, consider contributing to EAM by making a donation online or by mail (See page 8).

Thank You! Thank You! To all our contributors...

We are deeply grateful to all who provided monetary support for EAM. Without the support of these contributors, the work of EAM and the ministry it provides could not be done. The list below includes those who have also contributed to the general operating budget of EAM, Work Camps and the Small Grants Initiative over the past year.

AJ Stack
 Alan Nelson Young
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 (New York, NY)

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non-profit organization designed to serve the oppressed and abused women of Tennessee. Blue Monarch accepts women, with their children, who are currently recovering from physical, emotional, and/or sexual abuse, alcohol or drug addictions, poverty, and/or severe family issues. Blue Monarch offers each woman a one to



two year, residential program specifically designed to fit her individual needs and eliminate the abuse and oppression within her life. While they house and support each woman and her children for an entire year, the women strive to further their education, break their addictions, become better mothers, obtain a job, and much more. Their mission is to give these women hope for themselves and their children, and equip them with the tools they need to become strong, confident, and self-sufficient. Since its opening in 2003, Blue Monarch has served over 300 women and children.

Blue Monarch is unique because women and their children (age 12 years and younger) recover together as a family. Blue Monarch residents have suffered from domestic violence, homelessness, educational deficiencies, and poverty. In addition, almost every woman who applies to Blue Monarch is battling an addiction to alcohol, drugs, or both. Substantial research has demonstrated that addicts need long-term, highly structured residential recovery opportunities. Shockingly, studies also reveal that fewer

than 10% of addicted women with children are able to access such programs because by doing so they will have to give custody of their children to other family members or the foster care system. When addicted mothers who still have custody of their children find out that Blue Monarch allows them to keep their children with them while they pursue treatment, it is often the final motivation they need to begin changing their life. The Department of Children's Services will frequently refer a woman to Blue Monarch as an alternative to placing her children in Foster Care. According to the Tennessee Department of Children's Services 2006-2007 Annual Report, the state of Tennessee spent \$432,015,300 during 2006-2007 on child protective services including case management, needs assessments, and custody services.

Blue Monarch relies entirely on contributions of private individuals, businesses, and foundations. They work closely with local, regional, and state programs to avoid duplication of services. Their program staff routinely avail Blue Monarch residents of existing essential services such as mental health care and primary health and dental care. They also have a strong base of donor support with in-kind giving and volunteerism that help us keep our annual budget to approximately \$330,000

Blue Monarch is located in a secluded, safe rural setting. They provide a sanctuary for women to be completely removed from their former neighborhoods and be protected from harmful interactions with people from their past. Without the danger of encountering old friends, romantic interests, dealers, or even family, each resident is able to use our long term program to grow strong in her recovery and focus

all her attention on taking control of her life.

For more information about Blue Monarch, please contact: Kim Seavey; Email:kim@bluemonarch.org; Phone: 931-924-8900



Cumberland Adult Reading Council – Crossville, TN – Diocese of East Tennessee – Was granted funds to help with the purchase of testing materials needed to evaluate reading levels of adults coming to this program. Cumberland Adult Reading Council (CARC) is a nonprofit organization, begun in 2004 and chartered by the State of Tennessee in February, 2005. They began as a ministry of St. Raphael's Episcopal Church, Crossville. The parish and parishioners remain extremely supportive, providing office, tutoring, and computer lab space, photocopying, and many volunteer tutors and board members. They are an affiliate of Proliteracy America, and also a Jubilee Center of the National Episcopal Church; they have also received a commendation from the Friends of the Tennessee Libraries. They are also a member of the Crossville Chamber of Commerce.

CARC's purpose is to provide one-on-one tutoring to adults in basic literacy and math. In addition, they now have tutors who are trained to provide learning in English as a Second Language, and one tutor who provides basic science education. They are the only organization in Cumberland County that provides basic literacy skills to adults. Many of their students are unable to

participate in GED programs in order to obtain their high school equivalency, because their skills fall below those that would allow them to participate in the classes offered in this area.

CARC have trained over 100 tutors and tutored over 100 students; they currently have 47 active tutors and 53 active students. They have also invested in training their own tutor trainer so that they do not have to pay for that expense. Tutoring is done at times and locations that are convenient for both tutor and student. They have employed a part-time program director and community liaison who has established contacts and partnerships with area businesses, churches, and non-profits. They also receive funding from the Cumberland County United Fund.

After 7 years, They have become much more visible in the Cumberland community, which has resulted in an influx of potential tutors and students. As their organization grows, so do our needs.

For more information, please contact: The Rev. Ann Markle; Email: ann.markle@aya.yale.edu; Phone: (931) 484-2407

Franklinton Cycle Works – Columbus, OH – Diocese of Southern Ohio – This outreach ministry of St. John's Episcopal Church teaches youth and adults of this depressed area how to repair and refurbish bicycles. A grant was awarded to help with the purchase of materials needed to build bicycle racks for the program. Franklinton CycleWorks has been in existence since the fall of 2008. They came to-

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Island Rat Community Garden: A tail [sic] of passion, vision, resources and relationships...

By The Rev. Theresa Kelley
Photos by Chuck Saus

After months of meetings, research and the occasional setback, the planning committee of the Island Rat Community Garden, located in Wheeling, WV, is preparing to realize its vision of proving space and resources to encourage folk in the community to learn about growing food, building community and encouraging fellowship.

The Island, once known as the "garden-spot of Wheeling" has a long agrarian history. Centuries of flooding on the Ohio River have produced rich sandy topsoil. Native Americans grew grain here, colonial settlers tended vineyards for winemaking, Victorian summer visitors planted magnificent flower beds which were eventually replaced by vegetables for post-war Islander's Victory Gardens.

Today, the Island is known for its low-income housing, once lovely Victorian homes turned into shabby apartment buildings, rampant drug use and trafficking, and legalized gaming in numerous neighborhood bars and at the local racetrack/casino. Few folk garden anymore, few know their neighbors anymore, few know the history of their community and few have space to plant a garden even if they wanted to.

The passion is clearly that of gardening and raising our own food, reclaiming our Appalachian heritage and reconnecting with the land we inhabit. The vision is to provide space and resources while encouraging others to learn about the benefits of gardening and community. Several members of the planning committee are master gardeners who are willing to share their expertise with others.

Tapping into local resources has provided enough materials to build eight-

een 4 x 10 foot raised beds and fill them with good ole' flood mud. Lumber has been pulled from culled stock at a local building supply center. The dirt, free for the asking, was donated by the city from the last river flood clean-up. The site has moved from its initial location on Maryland Street to an empty lot located at 45 Maryland Street which is owned by a friend of a committee member. All this for less than \$100.00!

Now, about that name. Becoming an official Islander is obtained in two ways, birthright or flood experience. Becoming an "Island Rat" involves ingesting some of that mighty Ohio River water, usually obtained by swimming (not encouraged by parents) or accidental ingestion during flood clean-up. Our mission statement, drafted by committee member D.K. Wright, states, "Despite our whimsical name, the Island Rat Community Gardeners have great respect for the land and for the hardy Island residents who periodically withstand floodwaters, clinging to their families, properties, homes and not least of all, their gardens."

Future plans include a website, more garden sites being developed as interest increases, offering workshops for children, networking with food banks for donating locally grown food, and perhaps cooking and canning classes.

For more information, please email Theresa Kelley at tmkelley57@comcast.net and stay tuned as our gardens grow!



'Pick up our beds and walk' day. The first nine beds had to be dismantled and transported to the new location. From left to right; Danny Swan, Chuck Saus, Terry Sheldon and Gary Perigo. All four are master gardeners.



We also moved the leaf pile donated by the city to the new location. Terry, Gary and Danny wrestled with the heavy, wet leaves that will compost into wonderful mulch!



Terry (background), Danny (left) and Theresa Kelley taking a brief break.

Nation's DJOs to gather in Appalachia in July

Diocesan Jubilee Officers, will be gathering July 6-9 in the Diocese of Lexington, Ky. Those are the dates of the upcoming DJO training event, which will be at Cathedral Domain Camp and Conference Center. There will be more details in coming weeks about making reservations, obtaining scholarships to attend, transportation options and a more detailed agenda.



The training event will include workshops, worship and time for fellowship and networking. Just as importantly, it will also include immersion in the Appalachian culture and a workday. They will spend the first evening together learning about Appalachia and the his-

tory of the region. Deacon Gordon Brewer, executive director of Episcopal Appalachian Ministries, made arrangements for the DJOs to spend the following day at St. Timothy's Outreach Center in Barnes Mountain, Ky., a ministry that has been serving one of the poorest areas in America since 1982.

On Friday and Saturday, they will spend the day focusing on practical topics to help DJOs do their jobs better. They are still planning just what topics to focus on, and DJOs can help us determine that - and some other things - by filling out a brief survey to be found at the Jubilee Ministries website.

For more information about this event, please contact The Rev. Chris Johnson, Social and Economic Justice Officer for TEC,
Email: cjohnson@episcopalchurch.org

EAM Cycle of Prayer

- ◆ May 25 – Those that work for social justice
- ◆ June 1 – Diocesan Summer Camps as they begin
- ◆ June 8 – Diocese of Central Pennsylvania Convention
- ◆ June 15 – Work Camp at Mission in the Mountains
- ◆ June 22 – Ordination of the 4th Bishop of East Tennessee,
(The Rev. George D. Young, III)
- ◆ June 29 – Work Camp at Highland Educational Project
- ◆ July 6 – Diocesan Jubilee Officers Training in Lexington
- ◆ July 13 – Those that work in the coal industry
- ◆ July 20 – Work Camps at St. Timothy's Outreach Center
- ◆ July 27 – The poor and oppressed
- ◆ August 3 – Work Camp at Grace House on the Mountain
- ◆ August 10 – The families served by our work camps
- ◆ August 17 – Those that work for environmental advocacy
- ◆ August 24 – Appalachian children living in poverty
- ◆ August 31 – Educators working in Appalachia

...Continued from page 4

gether as a group of local residents and parishioners with the common interest of expanding, educating and empowering the bicycle community in the urban Appalachian neighborhood of Franklinton. They aim to train both youth and adults in bicycle safety and bicycle repair. Through this hands on approach, FCW will empower the working class to overcome transportation barriers. They collect bicycle donations to recycle for parts and to redistribute back to the community through various educational and maintenance programs.



Franklinton is among the poorest of neighborhoods within Columbus Ohio. Uniquely, the vast majority of Franklinton residents have their roots in Appalachia. Due to Franklinton's proximity to the Scioto River, the neighborhood has been subject to frequent floods throughout its history earning the neighborhood the unfortunate nickname of "The Bottoms". During the period of Appalachian migration toward Factory cities, Franklinton become a settling ground for Appalachian families moving to Columbus due to its inexpensive housing. Sadly, many of the Factory jobs have left the area and job opportunities in the neighborhood have grown sparse. Because of these various factors, we have intentionally chosen to live in this neighborhood and address the needs according to our passions and talents. The bicycle co-operative has become a large part of our service to the neighborhood as we aim to overcome transportation barriers for the

working poor, provide environmentally responsible solutions in urban living, and empower both adults and youth to educate themselves in a cooperative hands on atmosphere.

They have been operating out of several different locations in their short life as an organization but recently organized a fundraising campaign in which they secured \$10,000 for the first year's rent in a commercial property on Broad Street. This new space is located in the neighborhood center and perfectly positions them to serve both the adult and youth population. In the spring of 2010 they received a grant from the United Way to purchase the first set of community bicycle tools. With this important addition to their shop, they are now equipped to work on any bicycle. In March, One of the Co-directors will become certified by the United Bicycle Institute in Portland Oregon in bicycle Mechanics and Shop Operations

For more information, please contact: Greg Lanham; Email: info@franklintoncycpleworks.com; Phone: 614-315-9315

Pocahontas Episcopal Ministries – Slatyfork, WV – Diocese of West Virginia – A grant was awarded to help with the purchase of a projector for their library's community outreach and education program.

Pocahontas Episcopal Ministries is located in rural Pocahontas County, West Virginia. Pocahontas Ministries have been involved with the Linwood Library since its inception 11 months ago. As a result of their help along with that of the local Lions Club, and other community organizations the library is now a reality. The library offers programs that serve both the children and the adults within the geographic area. Pocahontas Episcopal Ministries donated a popcorn machine to the library that is used when free movies are shown to the public. Poca-

hontas Episcopal Ministries also donated a computer and printer to the library. They are used by the library's administrative staff. The library provides space for church related counseling. Members of the Pocahontas Episcopal Ministries serve as volunteer librarians and leaders in the children's reading programs. Last year, for the children's reading program, the volunteers worked in pairs, signing-up for a particular week and choosing a theme based on the volunteer's interest and talents. Children and adult volunteers alike enjoyed this arrangement.

For more information, please contact: Ms Sally Adkins; Email: jjlanter@gmail.com; Phone: (304)339-6353

Reading Camp – Lexington, LY – Diocese of Lexington – Was awarded a grant to fund scholarships for the expansion of the reading camp into new counties of Appalachia. The Reading Camp initiative of the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington is a mission effort that marshals the educational experiences of a network of volunteers and community resources to conduct intensive remedial literacy programs for at-risk children. It is designed to give voice, tools and hope for a better future to children needing a boost in reading. The program focuses on literacy skills in a camp setting for students completing the second, third, and fourth grades who are significantly delayed in their ability to read on grade level, and thus already have a higher probability of dropping out of school. The goals are threefold: (1) to encourage a love for reading, (2) to teach skills for effective reading, and (3) to instill self-confidence.

Since its inception in 2001 at the Cathedral Domain in Lee County, Reading Camp in the Diocese of Lexington has grown from serving 32 children at that first camp, to welcoming an average of 170 children annually to Reading Camps across central, northern and

eastern Kentucky. At Reading Camp programs across the Diocese, they have served 1063 in nine summers. Reading Camp at Pine Mountain Settlement School began in 2004. At Pine Mountain, they have served 238 children in seven years.

Per past reviews from parents, teachers, and principals, their program has increased students' enjoyment of reading, has dramatically improved their attitude toward learning, has improved their confidence in their academic abilities, and has led to greater achievement in the classroom. Please see "Appendix A: Support for Reading Camp," which includes reviews of Reading Camp from the perspectives of principals, teachers, and a parent.



Across the organization, an average of 150 volunteers serve at Kentucky Reading Camps each summer, with many volunteers working multiple weeks of camp in different locations. In 2010, volunteers worked over 24,000 hours during the summer alone. Hundreds more volunteer hours are required for the leadership and staff training, camp planning, and fundraising that occur year-round.

For more information please contact, Allison Duvall, Email: reading-camp1@diolex.org; Phone: (859) 252-6527 x110

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Save The Date!!

Mountain Grace Conference

September 9-10

St. John's Episcopal Church Huntington, West Virginia

Watch our Website for More information:

www.visit-EAM.org

Opportunities to Support Appalachian Kids Camp

The Appalachian Kids Camp will be held this summer, July 5 - 7, at Grace Point Camp and Retreat Center in the Diocese of East Tennessee. Its purpose is to serve the underprivileged children (rising 3rd through 5th graders) of rural Appalachia. You can support this effort in one of two ways.

First, adult volunteers are needed to help supervise and chaperone the kids. Senior High Youth are needed to serve as junior counselors. Second, donations are welcome. You might consider helping with the cost of camp registration (\$135/camper), or a small donation for camper supplies. Any and all support is greatly appreciated as we try to offer a summer experience that may bring unexpected joy to others.

For more information contact: Appalachian Ministry Resource Team, Diocese of East Tennessee:

John Hicks, coordinator for Appalachian Kids Camp
Email: kjhicks04@comcast.net or call 865-938-6846.

The Funeral of Lenell Boise

By Harry G. Chase
EAM Board Member - Diocese of East Tennessee

Donnetta Bell, a young girl of sixteen, called me from White Oak on my 72nd birthday to inform me that Travis Cruitt's stepfather, Lenell Boise, had died. The reason Donnetta called me about Travis's dad was because of my relationship with her as a family advocate that went back to 1998. The date of his death was December 24, 2007. I didn't know Lenell, but I was told he was a shy, gentle man who kept to himself. I remember seeing him this winter at the Jellico post office slumped down in his car next to Travis who was driving.

I left Knoxville on a blustery December 28th at 10 am to purchase some groceries for Darlene Terry, Donnetta's maternal grandmother, on the way to the funeral. Darlene had left a message on my cell phone that morning with an extensive list of essentials she required. "Mr. Chase, would you mind picking up ten pounds of potatoes, pinto beans, eighteen "C" cell batteries, cheese, sliced ham, etc., etc., and full strength cigarettes." I had asked her the previous day about the time and place of funeral for Lenell Boise. This gave her the opportunity to ask for something. I took seventy five dollars of Wal-Mart gift cards with me and a limited amount of cash. I had learned from supporting Darlene's cigarette and beer habits for eight years to always limit cash to purchase no more than two packs of cheap generic cigarettes. After spending around eighty two dollars and purchasing no cigarettes, because I used all my money, I proceed from Wal-Mart in LaFollette to the funeral in White Oak.

I delivered the food to Darlene and proceeded about a half mile up Duff Road to Chadwell Hollow to the Boise home. As I entered Chadwell Hollow Road I noticed a hearse and police car pass me in the opposite direction heading down Duff Road to the Chadwell Hollow Cemetery. I knew they would be back when they realized the interment was not at the cemetery but at the home. I waited for their return as I didn't want to get hemmed in by a hearse on a single-lane road. I was surprised the funeral service was at the home; his body had been interred at Martin's in LaFollette. It never occurred to me that a person could be buried on his property; then again, that person may have a family cemetery.

As I mentioned earlier, it was a very cold rainy day. On the way up Chadwell Hollow Road, I noticed that someone had kindly put gravel down so it wasn't too muddy, and cars could now get up the mountain. I stopped while heading up the road to pick up a young man who was walking up to the Boise home. I can't re-

member his name, but he remembered me from a visit to Hatmaker Hollow the preceding week. He happened to be one of the pall bearers.

This was an extreme rural area surrounded by reclaimed strip mining, and a place that was now at war with drugs.

The Boises owned around seventeen acres at the end of Chadwell Hollow. Travis and Donnetta lived on a parcel of the property. It was evident from the cut in the mountain above the property that it had been mined years ago. Passing the trailer of Travis and Donnetta I proceeded up the mountain and parked my car at the foot of a red one-room shed guarded by a medium-sized brown mixed breed dog. I learned later that the shed was the home of Lenell Boise and that Bobbie Boise lived in a home further up the road. They had separated in 2000 but had never divorced.

It was around eleven thirty when I got out of my car in the driving rain, put on my baseball hat and rain slicker, and went up to a small clearing around the corner of a dilapidated older home, I presumed it was the original homestead. On the right were a series of small sheds. I was now behind the homestead and saw that the back of the home stood without any rear siding exposing piles of wasted material. The beating rain had diminished the stench of mold and waste that usually surrounds these decaying homes. To the right of the house was an old school bus buried in weeds, and I wondered how it ever got to where it rested and if it had been a home for a member of the family at one time. In front of me was a small white canopy over a blue tarpaulin covering the area where Lenell was to be buried. There was also a small grave covered in plastic flower just above the newly dug grave; I didn't ask who was buried there.

The rain seemed to increase as I stood there with about twelve people, several I recognized but could not name. A number of the people had umbrellas but most were standing in the rain hatless and soaking wet.

After twenty minutes, two men, who I

surmised to be from the funeral home because of their formal dress, asked six men to remove the casket from the hearse that was parked in front of my car. I noticed there was an American flag draped over the casket. I then caught sight of three soldiers in dress blues. As the casket was removed from the hearse, two of the soldiers followed; then, the family and the rest of the people in attendance proceeded to an area near the burial site. The casket was lowered onto four bricks to protect it from the wet grass and mud.

The two soldiers then approached the casket and proceeded to remove the flag as the third soldier played taps. I thought, as the flag was being ceremoniously removed from the casket, what a great country we live in where honor is shown to the people who served their country irrespective of where a person lives or what their income is, that there was an element of dignity in Lenell's death.

The flag was presented to Bobbie Boise. Immediately the two men from the funeral home covered the casket with a plastic cover that had Baskerville written all over it. It seemed uncharacteristic to cover the casket; then I thought it may be because the casket was made of press board or some cheap material that could not be exposed to water.

Officiating at the service was the Rev. Ray Woods. He started praying, and as he stood praying under the umbrella held by a funeral attendant, he was filled with the Holy Spirit. With a rising voice he proceeded to tell his congregation, those in attendance, of the wrongs of earthly want and ways and the joys brought forth in the name of Jesus and his saving grace; the rain poured on. I looked over my shoulder to see Danny Bell, Donnetta's father and a person I knew was not a church-goer, soaking wet with a blank stare on his face. I will give him credit for staying without budging an inch through the preaching that was now over thirty minutes. With exception of a few women and one man with lifted hands to the Lord, and saying an "Amen" after each break in the sermon as Ray Woods took a breath, the rest of the group looked wet and in a daze.

I thanked the Lord when Ray finally started praying for the family and not "lamenting the ills of mankind"; I then knew that the sermon was about to close as his voice became more serene.

By now my Red Sox hat and my rain slicker had been drenched and the water was penetrating my sweater and shirt.

The funeral attendant asked if anyone wanted to speak on behalf of Lenell. Two groups of people sang a song. Immediately after the music, Bobbie stepped forward to read a poem she had written in 2000 at the time of her separation from Lenell, the poem was included on the memorial pamphlet. I suddenly remembered having met Bobbie Boise seven years ago at some event and that she was a poet and writer.

I expected the poem, but I didn't expect twenty or more minutes of the history of her relationship with Lenell until I noticed the notebook and the many pages of writing held in her hands. She is a very articulate and prolific writer; hearing her read evoked memories of the event she spoke at and the length of her reading that seemed epoch in proportion.

Bobbie is a very talented person, and I felt guilty for not appreciating her feelings more than I did, but I was wet and very uncomfortable, and I was feeling sorry for myself and Danny. It seemed time stood still, and there was no place to escape without being downright rude.

Finally she stopped and the plastic cover was removed from the casket and the coffin was opened for us to view.

Travis and his mother knelt by the open coffin and started to place objects that meant something personally. Travis placed a pack of cigarettes in Lenell's shirt pocket, a Bible was placed next to his head, a picture of the family was placed on his chest, and some small objects I couldn't see were also placed next to his body. Travis then took off his green John Deere hat, laid it next to Lenell's head and removed a pocket knife from his own pocket and placed it in Lenell's pants pocket.

They then concluded the service, and I went to my car. Donnetta wanted to talk to me after the funeral, so I asked what she wanted. "Can you give me ten dollars? We need cigarettes." Unfortunately, I had to answer no since I had spent all the money I had buying groceries for her grandmother, Darlene.

As I drove down Chadwell Hollow Road back to White Oak, then to Jellico and home to Knoxville, I gave thanks to the Lord for having given me the opportunity to know these people and for being given the chance to show respect for their lives. I even felt touched by the preaching and my tinnitus seemed better during the preaching. It was some hell fire and brimstone sermon, and at times, I felt it was coming pretty close to me.

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This was an extreme rural area surrounded by reclaimed strip mining, and a place that was now at war with drugs.



By now my Red Sox hat and my rain slicker had been drenched and the water was penetrating my sweater and shirt.

Documentary on Appalachia to be Released

[From the Episcopal News Service] The ministry and work of the Episcopal Church to people residing in the vast Appalachian area of the United States will be the focus of an in-depth video exploration, funded by a grant from Odyssey Networks, according to a release from the Episcopal Church's public relations office.

Appalachia covers a large area of the Eastern United States, including mountain territory as far north as southern New York and as far south as Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia.

Episcopal Church work there includes efforts to combat persistent poverty.

The grant was one of many awarded by Odyssey Networks on Jan. 12, according to the release.

"In a time when budgets are being cut and funding for documentary work, particularly pieces dealing with faith and values content, it's a wonderful gift to be awarded from our friends at the Odyssey Networks," Mike Collins, director of digital media for the Episcopal Church, said in the release.

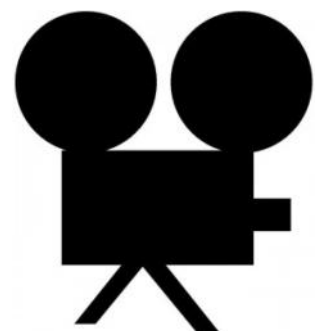
"This film wouldn't be made without this grant."

Collins said he expects the video, tentatively named "Appalachia," to debut later in 2011.

According to the release, Odyssey Networks "seeks to tell the positive stories of faith in action around the globe, helping to present the voices of people of faith as they work towards bridging religious divides and promoting interfaith dialogue." In the past year, Odyssey has distributed

\$335,000 in grants to 17 organizations.

The Episcopal News Service has contacted Episcopal Appalachian Ministries to serve as a resource for this project.



...Continued from page 6

Young Adult Service Camp –at Peterkin- Diocese of West Virginia – This grant was awarded to help with the purchase of building materials for a new young adult service camp being started at Peterkin this summer. The Young Adult Service Camp will be held at Peterkin Conference Center of the Episcopal Diocese of West Virginia. This year is the inaugural camp as we work in the diocese to build up Campus and Young Adult Ministries as well as the program ministry of our Conference Center.

The theme for this camp is ‘Giving Back and Paying Forward’. Participants, ages 18-30 will spend four full working days in the community of Hampshire County WV, a rural county in the eastern part of the state, doing minor home repairs, cleaning, painting, yard and garden work for those who are in need of assistance. The evenings will include 3 educational forums, team building and planning, and celebrating their work with their new neighbors on the closing night of the camp. All activity will be surrounded in prayer and worship.



They hope to give young adults a ‘work camp’ experience as well as educate them generally on Appalachian culture and the causes of poverty and the life issues created by living in poverty. They hope to inspire the participants to give back and pay forward in order to make a difference in the lives of other.

In the future it is their hope that this YASC could be established enough to promote through EAM as an opportunity for young adults/college students from far and wide to come and participate!!

For more information about the Young Adult Service Camp, please contact: The Rev. Cheryl Ann Winter; Email: sttimothysrector@frontier.com; Phone: 304-437-1673



Good Shepherd & John the Evangelist Episcopal Church’s Food Pantry- Milford, PA – Diocese of Bethlehem – A grant was awarded to help with the purchase of picnic tables and benches for the waiting area of the food pantry. Good Shepherd and St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church operate the Ecumenical Food Pantry (EFP), that has been in existence for 25 years. It is the sole charitable dispenser of groceries for Pike County, PA. Recipients come from Pike County and the surrounding area. On average, about 100 people each week, line up for hours to receive groceries from the food pantry. The project that the grant is helping to fund is to create a more comfortable area for the recipients of the food pantry to wait while they are being admitted into the food pantry. This same area will also serve the at times as an “outdoor classroom” for the Good Shepherd Child Care Center single parents. For more information about this ministry, please contact: The Rev. Dr. William J. McGinty, 570-491-5336; Email: williammcginty@hotmail.com,

Trinity Episcopal Church Outreach Ministry – West Pittston, PA – Diocese of Bethlehem – Funds were granted to help with a certification of a music teacher for this outreach ministry. Trinity Episcopal Church of West Pittston intends to continue to establish itself as a genuine advocate for the people of their neighborhood, region and our world. One area of great need and new advocacy support for children, focuses on very young children of the Greater Pittston and surrounding areas who have little support or no opportunity at all to perform the music of their culture with accuracy.

Just as all children are born with the potential to learn to speak and understand their native language, all children are born with the potential to learn to perform and understand their

culture's music. However, many young children at the critical developmental time from birth to age six do not have the exposure, opportunities, means, or guidance for learning all that is essential for organizing the music of their culture. There are simply very few venues for young children to make music in an informal way, very few inclusive, affordable, inexpensive opportunities that assist children to realize their musical intelligence and few supportive, musical communities welcoming of very young children who are in need age-appropriate development of their ability to come to know and perform the music of their culture with parents and others of their community.



In order to serve as an advocate for very young children in a way that contributes to and fosters age-appropriate development while helping to preserve and enhance culture, Trinity Episcopal Church launched a new ministry named, “The Children’s MUSICare Project” in the hope of successfully affording instructional, age-appropriate music environments that contribute to the best overall development of children with this need. With direction from the internationally established Center for Music and Young Children “The Children’s MUSICare Project” has become further established as one of Trinity’s Good Neighbor Outreach Ministries and is growing to be self-sufficient and self-supporting.

Trinity Church received a grant from EAM in 2008 in the amount of \$1,200 to train and certify teachers for this ministry and to provide families with limited resources the opportunity to participate in this program free of charge.

Humans have always made music and have always benefited from the way music forges bonds with others and celebrates what it means to be human. “The Children’s MUSICare Project” is a project for our region aligned to our

parish and Christian mission and one that will assist those with least opportunity for this benefit to benefit from this life-enhancing experience, realize their musical intelligence, discover affirmation and the value of culture and establish bonds with peers, parents and other adults of the community.

For more information about Music-Care please contact: The Rev. John C. Major; Email: jmajor711@msn.com; Phone: 570-654-3261

Cathedral Domain Summer Adventure Program – at Cathedral Domain – Diocese of Lexington – A grant was awarded to purchase safety helmets for the new adventure camp at Cathedral Domain. The “Adventure/ Mission Camp” experience will combine two weeklong sessions (one Senior High and one Middle School) “wilderness camping” on the property of The Cathedral Domain with a Mission, “Work Camp” experience, doing home repair and rehabilitation in partnership with St. Timothy’s Episcopal Outreach Center on Barnes Mountain or with families living within driving distance of the Cathedral Domain Camp and Conference Center. We believe this unique mixture of experiencing God’s creation and living out our faith in service to others will increase young people’s involvement in caring for God’s world and God’s people, both during and beyond their camp experience as well as residents of this economically depressed area of Appalachia with improved living conditions. An additional benefit of the program is the emphasis given to take what you have learned home. If you can build a ramp for a handicapped person in the mountains, why can’t your youth group do it at home? We believe this can be the beginning of a life changing experience.

For more information about Summer Adventure Camp please contact: Sam McDonald, Canon to the Ordinary; Email: smcdonald@diolex.org; Phone: 606-464-8254



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