

Bishop's Weekly Reflection
June 27, 2007

I have been re-reading a book by Ron Heifetz and Marty Linsky, *Leadership on the Line: Staying Alive through the Dangers of Leading*. It is very insightful about how to stay centered regardless of what is swirling around you. In the last chapter they write about the importance of maintaining a "sacred heart": "*The virtue of a sacred heart lies in the courage to maintain your innocence and wonder, your doubt and curiosity, and your compassion and love even through your darkest, most difficult moments.*" Without a sacred heart, innocence becomes cynicism; curiosity becomes arrogance; and compassion becomes callousness.

One of the reasons this book has been helpful is that it reminds me that leadership is primarily about who you are and secondarily about what you do. Our society places such little emphasis or value on the interior life, that our temptation is always to look for a technique or a gadget that will get us through our hard times. If I can only find a course or a new method or program, then I can deal with my challenges. I am all for education and inquiry, but I believe we must begin with remembering our identity as children of God and always return to that place. In our baptism, we become "Christ's own forever." That is who we are. That is the peace the world cannot give and the world cannot take away. That is our sacred heart.

Our world needs leaders desperately. However, we need leaders that embody innocence, curiosity, and compassion and not cynicism, arrogance, and callousness. We need leaders with sacred hearts.

+Porter

We ask your prayers for Ruth Taylor, mother of Ron Taylor, who has fallen and broken 2 bones in her pelvis. Ron's address is 8433 Fairfield Forest Road, Denver, NC 28037. His e-mail is fronrbt@yahoo.com.

A Day with the Bishop

On July 28, 2007 Bishop Taylor will be at St. Agnes in Franklin for a "Day with the Bishop." All members of the diocese are invited. The day will be devoted to engaging *Communion Matters*, a study document for the Primates *Communique*. The document can be downloaded from www.collegeforbishops.org.

In February of 2007, The Primates of the Anglican Communion (the Presiding Bishops of the 38 national churches around the world) met in Tanzania. They discussed the Episcopal Church's response to the Windsor Report at our General Convention and issued the *Communique*. In turn, they gave the Episcopal Church's House of Bishops a deadline of September 30, 2007 to respond.

The session will last from 10:00-3:00. Registration can be sent to Center for Christian Studies, P.O. Box 5978, Asheville, NC 28813 and the cost is \$25.00 which includes lunch.

Fall Clergy Conference, Lake Logan, Monday, Oct. 15 beginning at 5 pm and ending with lunch on Wednesday, Oct. 17.

June

- 27 Architectural Committee, Bishop Henry Center, 5:30
- 28 Deerfield Board, 3:00
- 30 Budget Forum I, Saint James, Black Mountain, 10:00 - 3:00

July

- 3 Canon for Youth Search Committee Meeting, Bishop Henry Center, 12:00
- 4 Diocesan Office Closed
- 6-14 "Get on the Bus", Senior High Pilgrimage
- 8-14 Camp Henry, Grades 5-6, Session I
- 8-19 Camp Henry Outdoor School (CHOS), Grades 9-10
- 15 Celebration of New Ministry for the Rev. Austin Rios at La Capilla de Santa Maria, Hendersonville, 6:00
- 15-21 Camp Henry, Grades 7-9, Session I
- 18 Lake Logan Steering Committee Meeting, Bishop Henry Center, 3:30
- 19 Interim's Meeting, Bishop Henry Center, 10:00 - 12:00
- 19 Commission on College and Young Adult Ministries, St. James, Black Mtn., 1:00
- 21 Safeguarding God's Children, Messiah, Murphy, 9:30 - 12:30
- 22-28 Camp Henry, Grades 5-6, Session II
- 22-Aug. 2 Camp Henry Outdoor School (CHOS), Grades 11-12
- 26 Companion Diocese Committee, Bishop Henry Center, 3:00 pm
- 25 Ordination to the Priesthood of *Toby Summerour*, Good Shepherd, Cashiers, 6:00 p.m.
- 28 A Day with the Rt. Rev. Porter Taylor, St. Agnes, Franklin, 10:00 - 3:00
- 29-Aug. 4 Camp Henry, Grades 7-9, Session II