

Upcoming programs at the
**Center for
Formation & Mission**
of the Diocese of Mississippi

Hope Among the Fragments
with the Rev. Ephraim Radner
November 4–6

“Seeing the Face of God in Each
Other” Anti-Racism Training
December 7–9

The Trinity Institute National
Theological Webcast Conference
“Religion & Violence”
with James Carroll, James Cone,
Susannah Heschel, Tariq Ramadan, &
Katharine Jefferts Schori
January 21–23

For more information on the
programs of The Center for
Formation & Mission
contact The Rev. Debo Dykes, 601-
948-5954 x107 or debo@dioms.org.

What **is** Annual Council? *Continued from front*

Annual Council is held once a year at a place chosen by the previous Council, usually held the first full weekend in February. However, the date is actually based on the date of Easter for that year. Council is given several powers by the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese: to adopt Canons for the diocese in addition to any other action deemed necessary for the conduct of the business of the diocese, including the debate and passage of various resolutions submitted to the Council. With the bishop, the

CALENDAR

November

1: All Saints' Day **2:** All Souls' Day
2-4: Junior High DOY weekend at Camp Bratton-Green **3:** Diocesan Confirmations, St. Andrew's Cathedral, 10:30 a.m. **4:** Daylight Savings Time ends **5-9:** Bishop Gray's extended visit to the Sowashee Convocation. **6:** Election Day **9-10:** Annual ECW Conference, Gray Center, and Vacancy Consultation Conference **9-11:** Happening #66 at St. Peter's by-the-Lake, Brandon and Happening Reunion at St. Philips', Jackson. **10:** Annual Budget Hearings, Allin House, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.. **14:** Celebration of a New Ministry for the Rev. Lee Winter at Resurrection, Starkville, 6 p.m. **15:** Celebration of a New Ministry for the Rev. Ann Whitaker, Creator, Clinton; 6:30 p.m. **16-18:** Annual Presbyter Spouses Retreat, Gray Center **21-25:** Allin House closed in observance of Thanksgiving **27-30:** Province IV House of Bishops

**For more detailed listings,
consult www.dioms.org or the
latest issue of the MSE.**

Council is given temporal powers of the Diocese, except those delegated to some officer, agency, or committee during the interim between Councils. The Council also has the authority to discuss and adopt the annual budget for the diocese.

This year, the 181st Annual Council will be held in Natchez. Among the agenda items is the election of Deputies to the 76th General Convention, to be held in Anaheim, CA, in 2009.

THE DIO-GRAM

November 2007

Budget and Council Deadlines

November 1: Budget requests due to Diocesan Office
November 10: Annual Budget Hearings
December 15: Deadline for **reports and nominations** to be included in the Special Council issue of the MSE
January 25-27: 181st Annual Council, Natchez



Permanent Staff 2008 Applications Now Being Accepted

Applicants **must** send their application to the Gray Center office **no later than December 15** in order to be guaranteed an interview time. Interviews will be held Thursday, January 3, 2008 at the Big House. For an application, please call Sarah Williams at (601) 859-1556, email cbg@netdoor.com or send your written request to Permanent Staff Applications, c/o Gray Center, 1530 Way Road, Canton, MS, 39046.

2008 UTO Grant Applications are now available from Catherine Johns in the diocesan office, 601-948-5954 or email catherine.johns@ecunet.org. Deadline for return of completed applications is December 31.



Diocesan Scholarship Applications Now Available

Applications for the 2008 Okolona, Capers, Misticos and Warren Trust Scholarships are now available from Catherine Johns in the diocesan office. These annual scholarships recognize outstanding service to church and community among rising college freshman and currently enrolled undergraduates. For more information, contact Catherine Johns by calling 6.1-948-5954 or email catherinejohns@dioms.org.

What **is** Annual Council?

First in a three-part series

From its earliest days, the Church has gathered together during specially called councils in order to worship, define doctrine, and set discipline. Such councils, or synods, still occur at the local, regional, national, and global levels of ecclesiastical government. There are few more poignantly symbolic events than when the Christian community gathers together with its bishop in the name of God. As such, gathering together for Annual Council is one of the most important things we do as the Church in this diocese on a regular basis.

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