

DECEMBER 2022

COMMUNITY OF HOPE International



2023 Annual Covenant Renewal Time Approaching!

BE ON THE LOOKOUT!

Do you know who receives your center's invoice for the Annual Covenant Renewal Fee? Is it your parish treasurer, your center facilitator, your vestry or other oversight body? Take a minute to find out who that person is to let them know that invoices are going out soon! The deadline for the Annual Covenant Renewal Fee is January 31, 2023, so please contact COHI if you have questions we can answer to clarify your invoice. Payments can be made online to the COHI website at the [DONATE NOW](#) tab or mailed to COHI at:

7904 E Chaparral Rd, A-110
Box 510
Scottsdale, AZ 85250

Your Annual Covenant Renewal Fee helps to nurture and sustain the creative, productive work we are called to do. The renewal fee is a licensing fee which gives you access for one year to the COHI Curriculum and Training Videos, Facilitator Exchanges, Circle of Care Ideas, Topical Webinars, Monthly Communications, and Curriculum Updates.

Our community life is based on mutual giving which gives us the resources necessary to grow and serve in the Spirit of God. We deeply appreciate your support and celebrate with you the blessing of our life and work together.



A Prayer for Advent

**PAM PIEDFORT - COHI VICE-PRESIDENT
ST. GEORGE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SAN ANTONIO TX**

A Parent's Advent Prayer

*By Arianne Braithwaite Lehn
from Ash & Starlight*

*Dear God,
I now stop what I'm doing,
what I'm thinking
what I'm scrambling to plan
and hustling to finish
so that I can
be here.*

*Be here in the safety and warmth of your love.
This love that holds me fast and keeps me centered.*

*What I want to be a season of joy for my children (family)
so quickly becomes a season of
increased expectations for me—
not because they expect things,
but because I do.*

A Prayer for Advent

Continued

*It's the pressure I put on myself to
make things perfect,
and memorable,
and happy,
and "special."*

*But, you came to me amidst darkness and stars—
reminding me how darkness and light
are most beautiful together.
And, in that holy, mysterious and messy night,
you defined perfection, promising me that leaning into the mystery
and laying down in loving awe
compose the most faithful response.*

*You tell me the best gift I can give my family this Christmas is
to look with love into their eyes.*

*To pause throughout the day
to pray over them.*

*To envelop them with arms
of fierce grace when I feel
most angry and annoyed.*

*To sit in wonder for a moment (or many)
and marvel at all that shaped
our family this year.*

*To give thanks
and allow tears to fall
and dreams to rise.*

*To take my pilgrim band
by their hands and walk together,
deep into the heart of Bethlehem
shining bright within our souls.*

*This will be more than enough,
because you've made a manger
in which my heart will rest and find
your heartbeat becoming mine.
Amen*



COHI Introduces Two New Regional Representatives

COHI welcomes Tricia Wilson as the new Regional Representative for the Heritage West Region of Texas. Tricia attends St. James Episcopal Church in Austin where she is also the Training Facilitator for new Lay-Chaplains. Thanks, Tricia, for taking on this important work.



St. James Church in Austin



From left, Sarah Roberts, Jennifer Sassin, Jeff Williams, & Tricia Wilson



We also welcome Helen E. Hansen, PhD as the new Great Lakes Regional Representative. She is the Pastoral Care Coordinator for Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Minneapolis. Helen is currently planning a training for two other Episcopal churches as well as the Cathedral. We welcome Helen's interest in this ministry.



SAINT MARK'S
EPISCOPAL
CATHEDRAL
MINNEAPOLIS

Thank You for Your Generosity!

SARAH ROBERTS - COHI PRESIDENT

At the beginning of our Homecoming year, we asked you to contribute monetary and written tributes to those chaplains who had enhanced your COHI experience. Thank you for your generosity and for sharing the impressive legacy of our honorees. A total of \$6850 was received which helped defray expenses for our 2022 Conference.



Honored COHI Alums 2022



*The Rev. Diana
Johnson, Cathedral
of St. Mark Salt
Lake*



*Frances Patch, St.
James Ep Austin*



*Brother Michael
Gallagher OSB*



*Harmony Kiser, St.
Aidan's Milton GA*



*Maria Wellisch, St.
George Ep San
Antonio*



*Ann Baskett, St.
Jame UMC Little
Rock*



*The Rev. Helen
Appleberg, Founder*



*Jennifer Sassin
Pohick Ep Lorton, VA*



*Jenny Smith, St.
James UMC Little
Rock*



*Karen Murphy Grace
Episcopal
Gainesville G*



*Kathy Bump, St.
Aidan's Milton GA*



*Pam Heidt, St.
Peter's Ep Rockport
TX*



*Lin Boudreaux, St.
Mark's San Marcos
TX*



*Sarah Roberts,
Grace Episcopal
Gainesville GA*



*Susan Hiller, St.
James UMC Little
Rock*



Gather Your Circle of Care to Make Stocking Stuffers!

KAREN MURPHY - LEADERSHIP TEAM
GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, GAINSEVILLE GA

What can you create and give to friends and family that emits a lovely fragrance and offers a meaningful message? Imagine little bundles of fabric or mesh with whole cloves or other spices in them, put into stockings to fill the room with holiday scents. Like the bags shown, each can be tied with a ribbon or yarn with the following quote attached:



2 Corinthians 2:14-15 “But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads in every place the fragrance that comes from knowing him. For we are the aroma of Christ to God...”



St. Michael and All Angels COHI Commissioning

JOYCE THOMPSON, SENIOR WARDEN-STONE MOUNTAIN GA

On 3rd April, 2022 ten members of SMAA completed a 14-week instructional course on Pastoral Ministry to assist Fr. Winston in offering pastoral care and sharing SMAA's hospitality.

Now, they have completed their field training and are commissioned as Pastoral Care givers. On Sunday, 9th October, 2022, ten members of SMAA.

Please keep them in your prayers as they minister to the sick and shut-in.



**SMAA'S NEW
PASTORAL CARE
TEAM**
CONGRATULATIONS!



**The newest video password has been released!
Please check with your regional rep. for more
information!**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

**Tell us about books & blogs you like,
ways of reaching care-receivers, and
training ideas that work!**

Deadline: 1/5/2023

**Email Pam Piedfort at
pamelapiedfort@gmail.com
to share your story!**
