

JUNE 2022

COMMUNITY OF HOPE International



HONORING ALUMS

St. Peter's Honors Pam Heidt

PAM PIEDFORT, VICE PRESIDENT

The members of Community of Hope at St. Peter's sent a beautiful not to honor Pam Heidt.

Pam exemplifies the caring and compassionate qualities as prescribed by Community of Hope International. This donation is given in tribute to her years of service to others.

Sincerely,

Mary Catherine Pugh

On Behalf of St. Peter's Community of Hope





COHI Facilitator Training Coming August 11, 12, & 13 2022!

WHAT

A 2-1/2 day training that provides facilitators with tips and tools plus hands-on experience.

- Basic facilitation skills
- Key points of each COHI training module
- Group exercises for each module
- Approaches for building trust and a sense of community
- Participant workbook plus handouts

WHEN

Thursday, August 11, Friday, August 12, and Saturday, August 13

WHERE

Via ZOOM. To ensure the best possible experience for all participants, a ZOOM line is recommended for each registrant.

WHO

- First-time COHI training facilitators
- Experienced COHI training facilitators looking for new ideas
- Inquirers contemplating beginning a COHI ministry

COST

\$350 per person

REGISTRATION

*\$350 per person. Go to www.cohinternational.org to register online. Space is limited to the first 20 registrants. **Registration closes on 7/15/22.***

QUESTIONS?

Contact Jennifer Sassin at jennifer@jsassin.com or call (210) 305-8066



Update from the President

SARAH ROBERTS, COHI PRESIDENT

Dear Community,

In 2021, our theme for our virtual conference was “IMAGINE THE FUTURE: New Ways to Be & New Ways to Do” and the Community of Hope Board of Directors (BOD) has taken this to heart. In the Fall of 2021, COHI entered a contract with The Rt. Reverend Brian Prior, owner of Prioritize Coaching, LLC, to aide us in an organizational redevelopment process to ensure future sustainability of the organization. Brian is a Certified Coach with the International Coaching Federation, is a coach / leader with the Academy of Artful Leadership and is a coach and consultant for the Episcopal Camp and Conference Centers. His broad portfolio of experience with individuals and organizational leadership development includes religious, non-profit, health care, and education contexts.

In May 2022, the Board of Directors, along with Brian, spent 3 days together for our first in-person board meeting since January 2020! We gathered at Camp Capers in Boerne, TX and worked tirelessly on who we are, where we have come from, and where we are headed. We agreed on the foundational principle that “We encounter God in and through community”. This is the reason we exist, our “why”. We will continue our ministry in the ways we always have while expanding our understanding of how and where pastoral care happens and acknowledging the comprehensively formational nature of our curriculum and best practices, always looking and listening to the Spirit for new ways to be and new ways to do.

During our time at Camp Capers, and with the wisdom of our coach, the BOD made the decision to begin the process of dissolving the current board and building a new board and executive structure. The future board will be smaller with more specific roles and with the support of robust committees made up of both board and non-board members.

The Executive Committee will consist of a Board Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. The BOD will be completed with Committee Chairs for the following 4 areas: Communications, Finance, Curriculum/Charism, and Membership. Term limits will be observed.

We are currently collecting names for nominations. If you feel called to submit your own name, or to nominate someone who you believe has and is willing to give the time, talent, and treasure required to participate on this working board, please contact me at Sarah.Roberts@cohinternational.org or submit through your Regional Representative.

It is an exciting time to be on the BOD as we set the course for the next generation of Community of Hope International. All of this work is carried alongside the theme of the 2022 Annual Conference, Homecoming: Path To a New Day. I hope to see you there!

Peace,
Sarah



2022 Community of Hope Annual Conference

October 7-9, 2022



Lay Chaplains Create Extensive Care Network

BETSY WOLFF

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL - COLUMBIA, SC

"At Trinity, we have a strong commitment to providing pastoral care to our three thousand plus members," said Canon Pastor Jimmy Hartley. "Having twenty-five lay chaplains trained by Community of Hope International is essential to our efforts."





Lay Chaplains Create Extensive Care Network (contd.)

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral's twenty-five COHI lay chaplains are creating an administrative and training foundation while expanding pastoral care to members in a variety of ways.

Canon Hartley provided chaplain training using Notebird, which is pastoral care software to help churches track parishioner interactions, assign follow-ups, and record outreach activities. Donna Peele, head of the hospital chaplaincy program at Lexington Medical Center, provided a three-hour training to eight chaplains. Leeza's Caring Connection senior-living facility staff provided training for five chaplains on how to care for caregivers.

Working under the guidance of Canon Pastor Hartley, the group is identifying additional needs lay chaplains can meet, while ensuring coordination with clergy and avoiding duplication of services.

Canon Hartley adds that the inclusion of lay chaplains who have been members of Trinity for many years increases access to many people through the long-standing church friendships that link people together so well.

Present activities include the following: monthly calls to members on Trinity's prayer list with follow-up to address individual needs such as calls, visits, or home communion by clergy; the delivery of a note and small gift to new members and recently baptized babies; and the expansion of lay chaplains' calls and visits to members who are hospitalized, homebound, or in care settings.

Locating members in need of pastoral care services is the biggest identified challenge. Early promotion activities include providing lay chaplain service information through social media and working with clergy, staff, and long-time chaplains.

Additional outreach will include development of a QR Code for use in a brief flyer, the Trinity website, and social media work, updating the pastoral care page on the website, and providing lay chaplain promotion information for clergy and members holding key positions in laity groups.



Collaborative Center Engages Experts

ANN DAVIDSON

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH - YAKIMA, WA

Our Community of Hope International group of 7 lay-chaplains is a collaboration of 4 churches in Eastern Washington, including St. Michael's, St. Timothy, Holy Trinity, and St. Matthews, which was commissioned in October 2019. We were fortunate to start before COVID and that enabled us to get a good foundation before the pandemic started. We have continued our service and have all learned to adapt to lay ministering via email, phone, text, and Zoom. Not the most ideal, but our group continues to work together via our monthly Zoom meetings.



Our group decided many months ago to learn new things to aid us in our ministry. We all try to read various articles that the group may find helpful. Our aim is now to ask various health, spiritual, and mental care experts to join our monthly meetings. Recently a representative of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) gave us a very informative lecture on mental illness and what resources are available. We are scheduling a Hospice caregiver to help us understand the program.

The more we learn, the better we can serve. The more we learn, the better we can hear you, the better we can care, and the better we can give comfort.



Reflection on the Rule–We Begin Again

**PAM PIEDFORT - BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE
ST. GEORGE CHURCH - SAN ANTONIO TX**

In May we begin again reading the rule, but we do not start over. If that seems contradictory, let me explain. Each time I go back to the beginning I'm a little different. When I was teaching elementary school, I had to be aware of the "prior knowledge" each student brings to a lesson. We discussed the children's knowledge of a given subject by "thinking about our thinking." I would ask my students to go to the "file cabinets" in their brains and to pull out the "file" about the subject at hand. The analogy is obviously dated in this age of flash drives and the Cloud, but the point is clear. We cannot fully understand that which we have no prior knowledge of.

That's how I felt during my first reading of the rule: I had no folders containing information about monastic life and little about ancient religions. At the end of August as I finished my first reading of the rule, I had more questions than answers. As Sister Judith Sutera says in her commentary for August 31, "Several places in the rule, (Benedict) has instructed that the rule be read regularly because it is only a beginning for beginners." So Benedict addressed my beginner's bewilderment.

To return to my first sentence, I begin again, but I do not start over because each time I reread the rule, I bring a little more experience to it. In Sutera's commentary for May 2, she says, "The whole rule can be summed up as a call to mindfulness." During my readings, I "think about my thinking" and begin to realize where in my life I can interject Benedict's rule for the day. In subsequent readings, I can remember how I had planned to adopt a rule on a previous day and whether I had been successful. Benedict's rule is assisting in the creation of my personal rule of life little by little and day by day.



MONTHLY PRAYER

Prayer adapted from Bishops Against Gun Violence

**THE MOST REVEREND MICHAEL B. CURRY
PRESIDING BISHOP OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

"Dear God, bind up the wounds of all that suffer from gun violence. Those maimed and stifled. Those left alone and grieving. Those who struggle to get through one more day. Bless them Lord with your presence. Help them with your hope. Dear Lord, for all lives that have forever been changed and broken by the scourge of gun violence, for all who for malice or illness are instruments of violence and death, for all who have died today, and for those that will die tomorrow. God of tender mercy, please be with those that are overwhelmed, enraged, frustrated, and demoralized by the plague of gun violence. Give us all a sense of your presence. Plant with us the seeds of hope and the courage of love and resolve. For those whose hope for life in this world is shattered and broken, loving God, make us instruments of your peace. God of justice, help us your church. Help us as a country to find our voice to do what is right for the sake of life. For your dream is of a world where children are safe and where all live together without fear. All this we pray in the name of the one that offered his life so we might live, Jesus the Christ."





Book Review

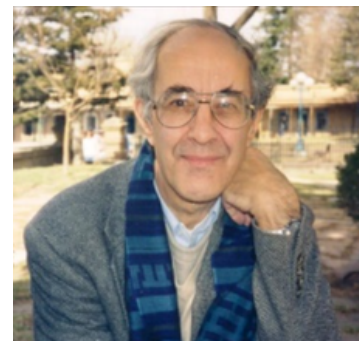
So many books! So little time!

Exploring the Spiritual Vision of Henri Nouwen

CAROLYN ERSHLER

BOARD REGIONAL REP COORDINATOR, REG REP FOR UTAH

Henri Nouwen was a Catholic priest, a prolific writer, and a member of a L'Arche (French for The Ark) community that served people with developmental disabilities. Nouwen's writings about the spiritual life are of special interest to those of us who are called to serve others in a pastoral ministry. He often talks about how dealing honestly with our own pain can allow us to recognize and serve others who are suffering.



Books such as *The Wounded Healer* are primers for those engaged in a listening ministry. His compassionate interpretation of *The Return of the Prodigal Son* allows the reader to sympathize with all the characters in this parable and to realize the depth of love that God has for us all.

Currently on my bedside table is *The Inner Voice of Love*, a compilation of the diaries that Nouwen kept during a particularly difficult time in his life. I also refer frequently to *Bread for the Journey*, a daybook of reflections. Nouwen's direct, clear writing style is soothing and leads to moments of deep reflection. Many of you may already be aware of Nouwen's work, but hopefully this will encourage all of us to learn from this gifted writer.



Beloved COHI Innovator Ann Baskette Dies

Anise “Ann” Lee Barton Baskette departed this life on January 8, 2022 after a courageous battle with Parkinson’s Disease. She was born May 18, 1940 in South Bend, Indiana, to Carl Barton and Virginia Morris.



On March 4, 1960, she married Bill A.

Baskette, and they lived in Little Rock their entire married life. Ann and Bill were blessed with three children, Beverly, Brad and Bart. During this time she was employed by Union National Insurance Company and was very much involved in school and community activities.

After Bill’s untimely death at age forty-two, she co-founded a local chapter of the widowed support group THEOS (They Help Each Other Spiritually), eventually helping to establish seven other Arkansas chapters. After working in THEOS, she and Susan Dodson Hiller (another young widow) decided to start a business of their own. After several iterations, it became Medical Office Managements Systems, Inc. (MOMS- quite appropriate since they were both moms.), specializing in computerizing medical clinics. In 1992 MOMS was chosen as the Arkansas Small Business of the Year. After MOMS was sold, Ann joined the staff of her church, St. James United Methodist. In that position she established and was director of a training center for Community of Hope, a Lay Chaplaincy program. To date, more than three hundred people have passed through this program.

Ann is survived by her children, Beverly Baskette Ryan, Bradley Allen Baskette (Sherri) and Barton Alden Baskette, her grandchildren, Jordan Ryan, Elizabeth Baskette, Rudy Baskette, and her great-grandchild, Lilly Baskette. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and her favorite cousins, Vera Bowers and Charlene Barksdale.

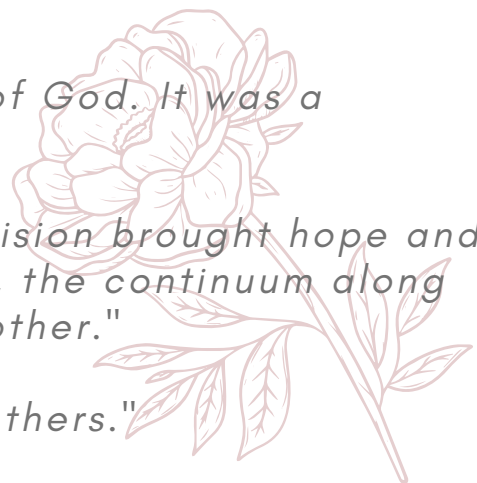


In Memory of / In Honor of

"In memory of Helen was a delightful servant of God. It was a blessing to have known her."

"In memory of Helen Appelberg whose loving vision brought hope and joy to so very many people at all points in life, the continuum along which we walk alongside and care for one another."

"Helen showed us how to show God's love to others."



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

We want to hear from you!

July 2, 2022

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

Send us an Honored Alums story!
Tell us about books & blogs you like,
ways of reaching care-receivers,
and training ideas that work!