

June 1st 2011

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MDG News

Lisa Looks at MDG's :

Becoming the Hands and Heart of God in the World



The Reverend Lisa Caton

What has drawn you to what you are doing at this moment? Why are you reading this first Newsletter of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Task Force? What is it about the MDGs that is compelling to you?

Understanding our own motivations is the key to motivating others.

We all have stories to tell about what draws us to the MDGs, what makes us care about people we have never met and whose lives are vastly different than our own. Often our stories start with a flash of recognition of our shared humanity and a deep desire to reach out in the way Jesus did.

When Joan Anders, the rector at

Christ Church in Toms River, went on a sabbatical last year, one of her goals was to have "my heart broken and my eyes opened to the suffering of the world." She understood that to be who God called her to be, she needed to be open to the kind of suffering that Jesus endured. She believed that by being open to such suffering, one could become more compassionate and courageous, more one with all humanity.

Sayah Richardson grew up in West Africa. She knows first-hand the heartache of losing loved ones to malaria. She now lives in Trenton but part of her heart will always be in West Africa. She knows that the people of West Africa do not have the financial resources to prevent this often fatal disease.

Captain Lou Cavaliere is drawn to the MDGs because of his time in the service. While on active duty with the Navy in the 1970's and 80's, he became aware of the role that sailors and merchant seamen play in creating a market for sex trafficking. It moved him to speak out. The US Navy now actively supports the training of its personnel to oppose the trafficking of people. He joined the Task Force to further support the rights of women and children in these developing countries.

(Continued on page # 7)



*“ERD is an
amazing
organization
that does
wonderful
work “*



A Link (or More) From Aline!



Aline Haynes

Welcome friends! I am just so thrilled about this newsletter, but I told Donna and Lou that I am not a writer, and they assured me that I didn't have to be. My feature can be just what I do in my emails to the Task Force—a sharing of the many wonderful bits of MDG related news I find in my own internet mailbox. You don't have to be a computer whiz to learn more about the MDGs, and to help. The Lord knows I am not, but if you do have access to the Internet, you can help out in meaningful ways, adding your voice, increasing your knowledge, and then sharing that knowledge with others. And most of all, and always, you can pray about what you learn.

Here are a few links to get you started, and God bless you! This is a very important story, from the Diocese of El Camino Real, forwarded from Episcopal Relief and Development's (ERD) Site, which I heartily recommend,

“Saving a Life Before a Soul” and if you ever wondered about the importance of the Nets for Life program—maybe this will convince you.

www.inspirationfund.org/inspiration-fund-news/saving-a-life-before-the-soul-casting-a-net-over-malaria

This next article, also from ERD, is about the Landslide victims in Columbia—it just tears at your heart to read it.

www.er-d.org/artnershipsMay2011

ERD is an amazing organization that does wonderful work and I highly recommend that you consider signing up for its emails. It is FREE! Another great group is the Episcopal branch of the ONE Organization, (which is the group that lovely Matt Damon works with, as well as many celebrities); known as the ONE Episcopalian Campaign, it does a great many fabulous things! You can check out how to get involved at:

www.ecusa.anglican.org/109618_1475_ENG_HTML.htm

And now, to close, because music is always a joy, to the Lord and to us, one more link from Aline, just for fun but also as a reminder to be on the watch for the special moments of beauty that can occur in the most ordinary places!

www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXh7JR9oKVE

Blessings,
Aline

Chris's Comments - Message to the MDG Reps from Deacon Christopher Cox

First of all, thanks for the great effort many of you made within your parishes to celebrate ERD/MDG Sunday on March 13. I received reports of special fund raisers, interactive table displays, sermons, creative Power Point and DVD presentations, and more. And in many parishes I believe you were able to make a permanent impact on the hearts and minds of the congregation that will last throughout the year, not just one day. At Trinity Cathedral we began a fund raiser to purchase clean water systems through Episcopal Relief and Development, and also kicked off the permanent sponsorship of a child in impoverished Zambia. A small monthly donation to our child will help provide essentials for nutritional needs, medical and dental care, and expanding educational opportunities. Just these two small programs have already started to raise awareness in the congregation of extreme poverty in parts of Africa and the importance of the MDGs.



MDG Table display used on ERD Sunday at All Saints, Bay Head

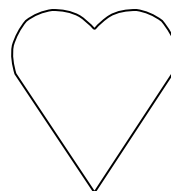
Now to the MDG Rep training day on **Saturday, July 16**, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

This will be held at St. Matthew's church in Pennington, which has easy access to the I295/I95. Lisa and the Task Force have put together a great program that will make your day very worthwhile. We had an excellent response to the training-day planning survey and have developed the day's schedule to meet your needs.

You asked us to share examples of successful MDG initiatives that have engaged other congregations, to discuss organizing tools and techniques, to find ways of developing MDG priorities for your parish, to help you maintain momentum and traction throughout the year, and to have time to share and network ideas during the day. I believe we have an offering that will achieve all these things, with a little help from the Holy Spirit! Please make every effort to attend on July 16.

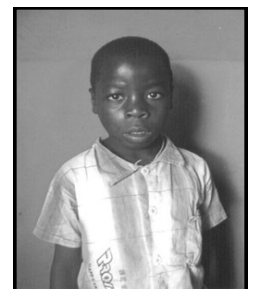
May God continue to bless us and strengthen us in our humble efforts to heal a hurting world.

See you all in July!
Chris



Deacon Chris Cox

"In many parishes I believe you were able to make a permanent impact on the hearts and minds of the congregation that will last throughout the year, not just one day."



Pumulo: Trinity Cathedral's sponsored child in Zambia.



The Rev. Frank Crumbaugh

"All Episcopalians of whatever political opinion and ecclesial preference can influence the discourse within the Church and within the halls of government."



35 Billion Chickens! From The Reverend Frank Crumbaugh



A recent edition of *National Geographic* stirred my prayer and thinking about *the Millennium Development Goals*.

The May 2011 edition of ***National Geographic*** reveals that Earth's population is fast approaching 7 billion persons, and at the present rate of population growth, by 2045 there will 9 billion human beings living on Earth. (One way to imagine this is to think that there could be nearly 3 times as many cars on the Garden State Parkway in 2045 as there are now...."crowded" seems inadequate to describe such conditions).

But even more compelling than overcrowding and snarled traffic is ***National Geographic's*** statistics for 2009 about food consumption. ***NatGeo's*** research reveals that worldwide in 2009,

1.7 million camels
24 million water buffalo
293 million cows
398 million goats
518 million sheep

633 million turkeys
1.1 billion rabbits
1.3 billion pigs
2.6 billion ducks
and 52 billion chickens

were slaughtered for human consumption. These statistics do not take into account any other food-stuffs consumed in 2009. No grains, vegetables, fruit and nuts, wild game, domestic and wild fish and shellfish- ***nothing else is in that single-year total.***

The chastening, convicting quality of these nearly-incomprehensible numbers is not the bloody reality of so many animals slaughtered for human consumption, but that there is anyone on the planet who is malnourished!

National Geographic's statistics for 2009 coupled with the ***Millennium Development Goals*** invite prayer- a way back- in repentance and amendment of life, and ***active ministry***...MDG #1 is "***end extreme poverty and hunger***", meaning specifically A) "***that we halve by 2015 the proportion of persons living on \$1/day or less,***" B) "***that we will achieve full, productive decent employment for all persons,***" and C) "***that we halve by 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.***"

When I read ***National Geographic's*** 2009 statistics, I was thunderstruck. My guess is that you may have a similar reaction. Given the amount of meat described, the

35 Billion Chickens! (Continued from page #4)

mere fact that there **are** MDGs about hunger is appalling. And the MDG doesn't say "eradicate," it just says "*halve*."

We may choose to undertake more moderate (Continued on page # 5) dietary habits, and that would be good for us. But for MDG #1 to be achieved, **it is our political will rather than our personal dietary habits that will have to change.**

Republican, Democrat, Independent, anglo-catholic, evangelical, charismatic fundamentalist...it doesn't matter. **All** Episcopalians of whatever political opinion and ecclesial preference can influence the discourse within the Church and within the halls of government. And I trust and believe that all Episcopalians of goodwill, however else we may differ, can agree that halving the proportion of those who are hungry is a worthwhile goal...one that is achievable, worth our personal sacrifice, and deserving our personal and collective action to influence how the abundance we enjoy as human beings is extended to more people.

The **Millennium Development Goals** are the principal mission focus of The Episcopal Church. Please speak with our parish's MDG rep or me about how you might take a more active part in the efforts our parish, our diocese, and The Episcopal Church are making to embrace and achieve the MDGs.

Love you
See you in Church.
FBC3+

An interesting recycling fact to put in a spot: **The aluminum can you recycle today returns to use within 60-90 days--and saves enough energy to power your tv or computer monitor for three hours, so if you do nothing else--SAVE THOSE ALUMINUM CANS!!!!**

Laughter is brightest, in the place where the food is. - Irish proverb

Non ut edam vivo, sed vivam edo.

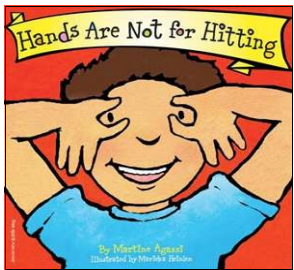
I do not live to eat, but eat to live.

- Quintilianus, *Institutio oratoria*



"The
**Millennium
Development
Goals** are the
principal mission
focus of The
Episcopal
Church."





*"They are for
doing God's
Work"*



MDG Task Force Workshop.. July 16th

The MDG Task Force is holding its first annual training session for Parish Representatives and others interested in learning more about the MDGs on July 16th from 9 am until 4 pm at St. Matthew's Church in Pennington, New Jersey.

Teri Lawver, Board of Trustees Member, will speak about current priorities for Episcopal Relief & Development, Jarrett Kerbel, former Executive Director of Crisis Ministry, will provide training about techniques for engaging congregations, Bill Hoffman, of the World Economic Forum and Millie Barry, from the Carrier

Clinic, will speak about Advocacy Resources and present case studies on working with congregations.

This top-notch group of speakers will inspire participants with practical skills and essential information. Although the training is targeted to Parish MDG Representatives, all who desire to learn more about global poverty issues and congregational engagement are welcome. A donation of \$10 is encouraged.

A light breakfast and lunch will be provided. To sign-up for this event. Please contact Sarah Paige at (609) 394-5281, Extension 10 or spaige@newjersey.anglican.org.

The Hands and Heart of God: (Continued from page #1)

Since you are reading this, chances are, there is some part of your heart that has been cracked open, waiting for an opportunity to respond to this deep sense of identification with "the least of these." (John 25:40).

The MDG community is full of people whose hearts have been cracked open in some way or other. That is the common denominator we share. It is what motivates us and connects us; it defines how we relate to one another and to the world. Our hope is that our work will enable others to recognize the brokenness we share, the brokenness that enables us to reach out to one another and be a healing force in a hurting world.

Being part of the MDG community in the Diocese of New Jersey is not about quick fixes or easy answers. It is about being open to the truth that as Christians we are called to face the suffering in the world so that it can change us.

The purpose of this newsletter is to share our stories; stories of what motivates us, and how we have been led to respond to God's call. We encourage you to share your stories and photographs as we inspire and motivate one another to be the hands and heart of God in the world.

“Is it Me, Lord?” by Donna Freidel



May 26, 2011 was one for the record books, as the saying goes, when the Philadelphia Phillies played the Cincinnati Reds. That was the night Wilson Valdez got his name in those record books they talk about so much. I'm willing to bet, though, that Mr. Valdez' excited call home in the wee hours of the morning after what was a crazy, 19 inning baseball game didn't go the way the young (although at 33, not all that young) journeyman infielder might have imagined such a call going when he dreamed about it, as young, and not so young people dream..

No, “Hey Mama, guess what, I caught the final out to win the game.” Infielders do that all the time, after all, no need to wake Mama up for that.

It was way more exciting when Mrs. Valdez' baby boy was called in to...wait for it...*make his debut as a pitcher* and threw a hitless inning “like a seasoned closer.” And one of the things I particularly admired was the observation that he “showed no fear.”

And in case you're thinking he had been lucky enough to come up against the other team's, shall we say, less impressive hitters, the three Reds he retired in order were Votto, (NL MVP, thank you very much), Bruce and Fisher, not a bum in the bunch.

So, what does all of this have to do with the Millennium Development Goals? Each parish has been asked to produce an MDG representative, two would be even better, and each Convocation needs representatives also, and there remain some open slots. God, and our good Bishop, have put out the call, but like the Phillies line-up, we're running a little thin on volunteers in some parishes. What with youth groups and food pantries and homeless shelters—the harvest is plentiful, it is the workers who are wearying. And you might be feeling burnt-out, or maybe you think you can't do it right. What do you know about Third World Countries after all?

What does an infielder know about pitching a major league baseball game?

What did Moses know about leading the people of Israel through the desert?

What did Ruth know about making her own way in the world, much less fending for her mother-in-law too, and keeping them both from starving in a strange land?

Sometimes we have to do the scary thing, and step out of our comfort zone, but if there was one thing my mother always told me, it was to never show your fear. Nowadays, they call that, never let them see you sweat. And the great thing about that advice is, when you do it, you forget your fear too.

Step out onto the mound if you hear the call, if one, or more of the goals speaks to your heart, and you just might find your own moment for the record books. Or more importantly, a moment of grace.

For information on how to become a parish or convocation representative, see the contact page.





"We decided that we needed a way to capture people's attention, and their intention, and so we came up with the video "



Spotlight on: St. John's Summerville: Spreading Seeds via Sound and Sight



Bill Hoffman

Each issue, we will focus on one of our congregations, and tell you how it has taken a creative approach to bringing the message of the Millennium Development Goals to its congregation...and beyond. St. John's Parish in Sommerville is the ideal choice for our first Newsletter because of the bright, fresh, *young* idea its parish representatives came up with, were able to bring to beautiful, functional life, and then send on out to the rest of the world to enlighten others.

But I will let Bill Hoffman, who is from St. John's, and a member of the Diocesan Task Force, tell you about it.

MDG News: Bill, what, or who, got your parish interested in the MDGs?

Bill: In general, I would say that our Parish Rector, Father Ron Pollack was the primary catalyst. He pointed us toward the work of the Diocese Task Force and then pro-

vided a very nurturing and supportive environment.

MDG News: How did the video project come about, and can you describe it for the readers?

Bill: We decided that we needed a way to capture people's attention, and their intention, and so we came up with the video idea as essentially a commercial to introduce the MDGs at a very high level.. The attention part was based on using a number of photos from a friend of mine (Jan Chipchase). who did some wonderful work in Afghanistan. The intention aspect was to stimulate people to ask more about the MDGs. The hope was that it could be used

MDG News: How did you use the video at your Church and what was the response to it?

Bill: Good question. I personally think it would be fun to have a bit of an MDG "video quilting bee". That is every parish (or parishioner for that

You can view St John's MDG Video Here:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=hElrJdb3eAw

If you would like a copy of it to use at your church, contact Rev. Lisa Caton or Bill Hoffman. See the contact page for more information

Our Youth and MDG Around the Diocese

by Donna Freidel

Thirty Hour Famine: No Food! No Final Fantasy! No Family Guy! No Fone! Just Fun!Fun!Fun!

Young people love to help other people. And the young people at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Glassboro are among some of the best at that kind of love. So, when the idea of a Thirty Hour Famine was first broached, the young people were ready to sign right up. Go without food for thirty hours, to raise money for kids in need in Third World Countries? Not a problem.

Go without computer games, no smart phones, or television sets? No bamboozles or bedazzles, no flamwhizzles or floozles? Uh, can we just donate our allowances and call it a day?

Never one to call it a day, Deacon Lou of the MDG Task Force sweetened the pot (and we at the Task Force wisely did not ask whether pot, medicinal or otherwise had anything else to do with this offer), and he bravely challenged the youth:

"If you raise \$1000.00, I will let you dye my hair purple!"

Yes, he did, folks, right in front of the entire St. Thomas congregation—and about ten gleeful acolytes. There is a lovely plethora of acolytes at St. Thomas, almost all youth group members. Woke them

right up, that announcement did, a real motivator.

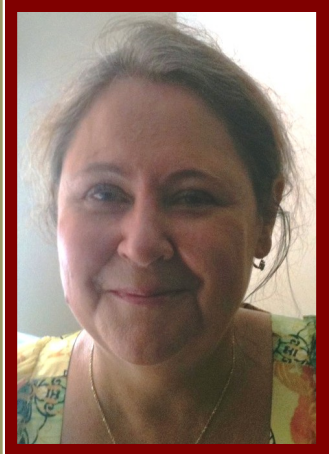
Soon after, at the pancake supper for Shrove Tuesday, (an interesting kick-off for a Famine Fundraiser, must remember to ask Deacon Lou about that), it was discovered that the young people were already almost to that goal (bold little fundraisers they had become—for the children of Africa you understand, please give generously and did you hear about the Deacon's hair?)—so Deacon Lou's loving co-editor and fellow Task Force member felt that something had to be done to keep the motivation high. Feeling sure he would agree, she stood up and announced, in ringing tones:

"Deacon Lou says that if the kids raise \$1500, he will let them dye his hair in *stripes!*"

Suffice it to say, the young people rose to the challenge. He looked lovely. Pictures really are worth a thousand words, aren't they?

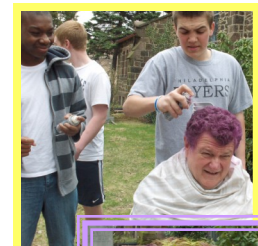
Seriously though, as participant, Hannah Appleby-Wineberg wrote,

Over the course of the weekend we learned many things about hunger, including that it not only occurs in remote African countries, but in our own city and towns. We also learned just how lucky we are....we got to break our fast after 30 hours, while kids across the world continue to suffer. (Continued on page 10)



Donna Freidel

"...we learned many things about hunger, including that it not only occurs in remote African countries, but in our own city and towns."





*[MDG are a way
of] "...caring for
the 'least of
these...'
(Matthew
25:40)"*



Bishop's Banter Comment From Bishop George Cuncell



Over the past year I have watched the Holy Spirit work through the Diocesan Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Task Force. In that short period, the proposal for Diocesan MDG/Episcopal Relief and Development representatives in each church has become a re-

ality: there are now 56 parish representatives from 35 parishes!

To spread understanding about the causes of extreme poverty and to reduce such suffering are central to our calling as Christians. The MDG Task Force members, including the parish representatives, are caring for the - least of these - (Matthew 25:40) in a way that is respectful of our differences and the varieties of ways that God calls us to live into our baptismal covenant.

I thank you for your dedication and compassion and pray that you will continue to be guided by the light of Christ in all that you do.

Our Youth and MDG (Continued from page 9)

I will borrow from Hannah's account of the event to report on their outstanding achievement as well:

The combined Holy Trinity and St. Thomas groups raised \$458.00 from the Pancake Supper; \$1472 from the 30 Hour Famine, for a St Thomas total of \$2130.00. Along with the pledges from Holy Trinity Wenonah and Holy Trinity Vineland, we raised a total of \$3,104.43!! This will feed, provide health care, clothing, school supplies and shelter for about 10 kids for a year.

Congratulations to the young people of St. Thomas, and also to Holy Trinity Wenonah and Holy Trinity Vineland, on a job well done! And kudos to Deacon Lou, for his creative efforts in working with the young people and nurturing their interest in the MDGs!

[Ed. Note: This feature will focus on our young people throughout the Diocese and what they are doing to help the MDG goals; if you have a story to share, please, let us know!]

July 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	Does it make you a little uncomfortable to know.....?					
3 Proper # 9	4 Fourth of July Independence Day	5	7	8 Every 3.6 seconds a person dies of hunger 75% of them are children	9	10
11 Proper # 10	12 	12	13	14	15	16 MDG Training Pennington 9:00 AM— 4:00 PM
17 Proper # 11	18	19	20	21 	22	23 MDG Rep Meeting Princeton 10:00 AM all Welcome
24 Proper #12 31 Proper #13	25 St James The Apostle	26 	27	28	29	30

Workshop Speakers/Leaders

Teri Lawver,

St. Matthew's, Episcopal Church Pennington, New Jersey

Teri served on the Board of Directors of Episcopal Relief & Development for 4 years. Her professional career has been spent at Johnson & Johnson's Corporation. She was recently promoted to the position of President Johnson & Johnson Medical Companies Canada, the Canadian subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson, where she is responsible Johnson & Johnson's medical device portfolio. We are lucky to have her join us at our training workshop since she is in the process of moving to Canada to start her new job.

William Hoffman

St. John's Episcopal Church, Somerville, NJ

Bill works at the World Economic Forum where he leads the Telecommunications Industry Group. This group consists of a global community of industry partners that addresses some of the world's most pressing challenges. Bill's interests lie in leveraging the power of the world's 5 billion cell phones to create new socio-economic opportunities on a global basis. In particular he focuses on the areas of mobile finance and mobile health. He also is a member of the Diocesan Millennium Development Goal (MDG) Task Force.

The Rev. Jarrett Kerbel

St. Martin in the Field, Chestnut Hill, Pennsylvania

Jarrett is the Rector of St. Martin in the Field in Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia. His previous employment was as the Executive Director of the Crisis Ministry of Trenton and Princeton. His ministry doing broad based community organizing began during his ministry in Chicago and guides the approach he takes to all the work he does today.

Millie Barry

St. John's Episcopal Church, Somerville, NJ

Millie graduated from Lafayette College in 2010 with a double major in International Affairs and Psychology. Through her studies, she became interested in the Millennium Development Goals and was inspired to involve her home parish in accomplishing the MDGs. Millie currently works at Carrier Clinic's East Mountain Youth Lodge as a residential counselor. She has been instrumental in working with Bill Hoffman in developing a year-long strategy for educating the congregation at St. John's about the MDGs.

Here is something you can do to further the MDGs without ever leaving the house, or spending a cent—just clicking your mouse! Visit the breast cancer website each day, and by clicking on it and its seven partner tabs, you help out children's health, the rain forest, literacy, women's health, animals, and now, autism and veterans! Check it out: www.breastcancersite.org

Millennium Development Goals (MDG) MDG**Parish Representative Training Workshop**

Purpose of All Day Training Session: To further empower and energize parish representatives to fulfill their education and action roles through:

Presentations by Episcopal Relief & Development (ERD) and advocacy experts about ways to become engaged.

Explore parish organizing tools and techniques.

Learning how the MDG Task Force can serve as a resource for your parish.

Developing friendships and partnerships with other parish representatives and MDG Task Force Members.

9:00 – Registration

9:15 – Welcome and Opening Worship

10:00 - Speaker from Episcopal Relief & Development Brief History
Current Priorities: Nets for Life, Children's Curriculum, Disaster Relief

10:45 – Questions and Answers

11:00 - Break

11:15 – Small group discussions: Sharing accomplishments and challenges at parish level over all as well as reactions to the speaker's comments.

11:45 – Large group reconvenes for small group reflections

12:00– Break for lunch

12:45 – Advocacy Resources and Information – Bill Hoffman

1:15 - Tools and Techniques for Exploring Call Within in Your Parish – Jarrett Kerbel

2:15 - Break

2:30 – Small group discussion about one of three different case studies – Bill Hoffman and Millie Barry

3:15– Large group sharing of case study outcomes/strategies

3:30 – Advice about and next steps – Trisha and Lisa

3:45 - Evaluation and Concluding Prayer





MDG NEWS

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[mdgtf.pbworks.com/w/
page/38475934/
FrontPage](http://mdgtf.pbworks.com/w/page/38475934/FrontPage)

The Millennium Development Goals — Just to Remind You

By the year 2015:

- 1. Eradicate extreme hunger and poverty;**
- 2. Achieve universal primary education;**
- 3. Promote gender equality and empower women;**
- 4. Reduce child mortality;**
- 5. Improve maternal health;**
- 6. Combat HIV/AIDs, Malaria and other diseases;**
- 7. Ensure environmental sustainability;**
- 8. Develop a global partnership for development.**



If only we really listened to Jesus no one would go hungry.