

Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey
Ministry Institute
Report to the 225th Annual Diocesan Convention - 2008

Again, I wish to thank all the commissions and committees and staff of the Diocese – without you the Ministry Institute would not have had such a splendid year. Your continued efforts at ensuring that everyone in the “Diocese of New Jersey (has) opportunities for Christian formation, spirituality, and ministry learning and development” are most appreciated, particularly since most of the offerings are planned by the commissions and committees of the Diocese.

The Spring and Fall 2008 Institute offerings were presented in the fourth and fifth semesters of the Institute.

In Spring 2008, there were twenty-two different courses, workshops, or events offered: fifteen planned for everyone, including two for adults working in youth ministry planned by the Youth Ministry Office, one planned specifically for the laity, one planned specifically for vestry members, and five planned specifically by and for the clergy. The Ministry Institute staff was especially pleased to again offer a class in the School for Deacons, open to everyone, and a lay retreat lead by Bishop Councill - “Preparing for Lent”. Of the activities presented for everyone or the laity, 429 individuals registered.

In Fall 2008, there were seventeen different courses, workshops, or events offered: eleven planned for everyone, including two for adults working in youth ministry planned by the Youth Ministry Office, one planned specifically for the laity, and five planned specifically by and for the clergy. Of the activities presented for everyone or the laity, 311 individuals registered.

For Spring 2009, twenty-two different courses, workshops, or events are being offered: fifteen planned for everyone, including two for adults working in youth ministry planned by the Youth Ministry Office, one planned specifically for the laity, four planned specifically by and for the clergy, and, for the first time, two specifically planned for young adults. The Institute staff is delighted that Bishop Councill will lead a lay retreat “Preparing for Pentecost” in May 2009.

Submitted by,
Constance White
Co-Director of the Ministry Institute
January 2009