

Ascension Alliance

SPIRITUALITY IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE

Newsletter

Volume 3, Number 1 • January, 2012

Our Evolving Church

As a result of discussions among the members and leadership, we've done some "tweaking" of our organizational structure, including officially changing our name, our mission, and how we elect (and recall) our leaders.

The current Presiding Bishop and CEO, Rev. Alan R. Kemp, filed Articles of Amendment with the Washington state Secretary of State codifying these changes.

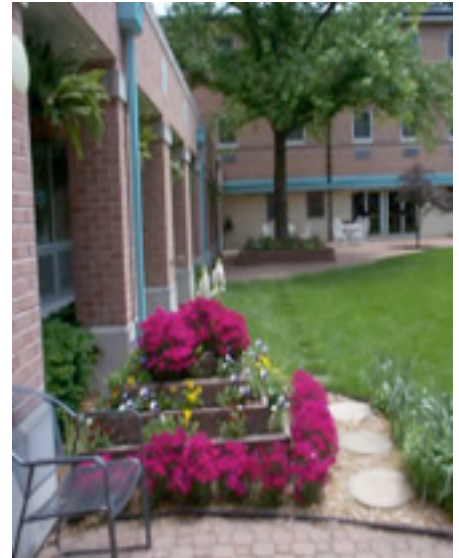
Our unofficial name had been the Ascension Alliance for some time. Now, it's official. We have also been aware that part of the organization's mission has been to be a home for the remnants of Archbishop Herman Adrian Spruit's Catholic Apostolic Church of Antioch-Malabar Rite. So, we put a clause in our Articles of Incorporation formally declaring that the organization would serve that purpose. We have also created three bodies within our organization: a Board of Governors, Council of Bishops, and General Assembly. Perhaps the biggest change, however, is breaking-out the responsibilities of CEO and Presiding Bishop.

Effective Convocation 2012, we will elect our Presiding Bishop for three-year terms. Nominations will come from the General Assembly (clergy, seminarians, and "enrolled" members). The bishops will vote on the nominations and send two names back to the membership for a vote, which will conclude at Convocation. The Presiding Bishop will be our spiritual leader, Chair of the Council of Bishops, and Co-chair of the Board of Governors.

In addition, members of the General Assembly will elect one of its own to serve a three year term on the Board of Governors.

For a more complete discussion of what this all means, see the insert included with this mailing.

Convocation 2012 "Meet me in St. Louis"



Convocation 2012 will be held at the Mercy Center in St. Louis, Missouri, from August 24th through the 27th.

Open to clergy, seminarians, and friends of our movement, attendees will have a range of options in terms of accommodations.

A detailed information sheet and registration form is included with this mailing. In brief, attendees can reserve single occupancy rooms with private bath; single occupancy rooms with shared bath, or double occupancy rooms. Rev. Sandy Olson will be coordinating the program.

Mailing List Corrections

You have received this newsletter because we thought you might like to receive news from us. If you do not wish to be on our mailing list please send an e-mail with your name to:

cosmas@concentric.net

In the subject line simply say, "Remove from mailing list." We will remove you from our databases immediately. In this event, we apologize for any inconvenience.

Contact Information

Presiding Bishop
Alan R. Kemp, D.Min

Mailing Address
PO Box 167
Vaughn, WA 98394

Telephone
(253) 961-9775 (cell)

E-mail
cosmas@concentric.net

Inside

Our Evolving Church	1
Convocation 2012	1
<hr/>	
New Members	2
About the Alliance	2

New Members

Priest. We are very pleased to welcome Father Thomas Hughes from the San Francisco Bay area, who has incardinated into our jurisdiction. Father Tom previously served as a priest in the Old Catholic Diocese of Napa. He has a background in Clinical Pastoral Education and currently serves as chaplain at Willows Pass Health Care Center in Concord, CA.

Seminararian. Patricia Boon-Edgerton Longoni has been accepted into the Master of Divinity program (ordination track) at Ascension Theological College. Patricia is a lifelong learner, already holding masters' degrees in theology, public administration, and counseling.

Seminary Gets "Green Light"

Our seminary, Ascension Theological College, has had its biennial review by the Washington (state) Higher Education Coordinating Board. Our Bachelor of Divinity, Master of Divinity, Master of Pastoral Counseling, and Doctor of Ministry degree programs have been given the "green light" for another two years.

About the Ascension Alliance

One small branch of the Mystical Body

- **A "Free Catholic" and "Emerging" Church.** We are born of a free Catholic vision, in the tradition of a fledgling Independent Catholic movement, inspired by the intuitions of the Emerging Church, and following in the example of Jewish Renewal. We require rigorous preparation for ordained ministry but encourage maximum self-determination and a creative response to the needs of today's world. Our bishops and priests trace their apostolic succession as far back as that of even the most ancient of Catholic and Orthodox communions.

- **We are about fellowship, the spiritual path, and love.** Honoring the legacy of Archbishop Herman Adrian Spruit, we strive to be a fellowship of spiritual pilgrims. Without imposing dogma, we give ourselves and others the freedom and encouragement we need to live the truth and become ever more renewed and transformed. For us, Christ's ministry is the law of love and truth. Saint Augustine may have said it best, "Love and do as you will."

Ascension Alliance

SPIRITUALITY IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE
PO BOX 167, VAUGHN, WA 98394

U.S.
Postage