

Calling Congregations Grants Gallery: Participating Congregations and Church-Related Organizations

The following are the 68 congregations and church-related organizations receiving Cultures of Call Grants since the awards were initiated in the Spring of 2007.

Spring 2011 VocationCARE Practice Grants

House for All Sinners and Saints, Denver CO - an emerging ELCA congregation in Denver that is "creating space to explore vocation for all ages" and "reflecting together theologically on self and community." Led by Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber, this congregation and is well connected to the ELCA Urban Service Corps, Rainbow (LGBTQ) and other service volunteer and social action groups in the Denver area.

Location: 2900 Elm Street, Denver, CO 80207
Contact: nadia@houseforall.org

Project Contact: Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber, Pastor

Website: <http://www.houseforall.org/>

Knox Presbyterian Church, Naperville, IL - for *Mentors for God's Team*; a coordinated clergy and lay leadership in a project aiming to affect the formation of those "at a critical point in their continued commitment to Christ: college students." Carefully recruited and cultivated mentoring system is at the heart of this effort, which also enlists personnel from the Princeton Youth Forum as a research partner.

Location: 1105 Catalpa Lane, Naperville, IL 60540
Phone: 630-355-8181

Project Contact: Reverend Deborah Roberts

Website: www.knoxpres.org

Mere Christianity Forum at Furman University, Greenville, SC - for *The Servant Scholars Internship Program*. Twin goals for this project: "shaping the faith, intellect, and vocational discernment of young, high potential Furman students and making a significant positive impact in the lives of persons living in poverty through internships in vital social service agencies of the Greenville, SC area." Intentional community will shape the engagement of these internships and reflection on service over two summers. Focus: *Asking Self-Awakening Questions*.

Location: PO Box 4261, Greenville, SC 29608 (at Furman University)
Phone: 864-834-2228; Email: amy@mcforum.org

Project Contact: Rev. Rimes McElveen

www.mcfinc.org

St Mark's Lutheran Church-by-the-Narrows, Tacoma, WA - for *Hearing and Answering Christ's Call*. ELCA congregation to engage a series of VocationCARE retreats for post-confirmation teenagers, young adults, people who are considering professional ministry and people near the age of retirement. An additional retreat by church leadership will launch this series. Each group will engage a design process in the context of these retreats for sustainable implementation.

Location: 6730 North 17th Street, Tacoma, WA 98406
Phone: 253-752-4966; Email: jruud@smlutheran.org

Project Contact: Rev. Jan Ruud, Pastor

Website: www.smlutheran.org

Third Baptist Church of Chicago - for *The Samuel and Eli Project: Listening to Serve God*. African American congregation undertaking an initiative engaging high school aged youth with *Lead Listening Learner* (L3) mentors to "explore, learn and practice spiritual disciplines that will help participants hear and discern God's call."

Focus: Create Space to Explore Christian Vocation.

Location: 1551 W. 95th Street, Chicago, IL 60643
Phone: 773-445-8500

Project Contact: Rev. Malene Johnson, Staff Minister

Website: www.thirdbaptistchicago.org

Virginia Conference, United Methodist Church – Conference-wide engagement of VocationCARE that is directed toward the mentor-candidate relationship of the United Methodist ordination process of the Virginia Conference. Initial two-day training by FTE/VocationCARE is supplemented by coaching system in each district of the Conference and the engagement of mentoring relationships for young adults in college and congregational ministries.

Location: P.O. Box 5606, Glen Allen, VA 23058
Phone: 804-521-1100

Project Contact: Rev. Beth Downs, Director of Ministerial Services

Website: www.vaumc.org

Fall 2010 Grants for Pastoral Internship programs:

Boston University Marsh Chapel – Marsh Chapel community to engage college students in small groups, pastoral practice and active service in the Boston University and Greater Boston communities.

Location: 735 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215
Phone: 617-353-3560; Email: lwhitney@bu.edu

Project Contact: Br. Lawrence Whitney, LC

Website: www.bu.edu/chapel

Church of the Master United Methodist at Otterbein University, Westerville, OH – funds a 20-month *season of support* for young adults engaging a variety of ministry roles and discernment contexts.

Location: 24 North Grove Street, Westerville, OH 43081
Phone: 614-882-2153

Project Contact: Beverly Pancoast, Dir., Next Generation Ministries

Website: <http://www.chmaster.org>

First United Methodist Church, San Marcos, TX – to assist this mid-sized United Methodist congregation in a university community with offering a personalized approach to the practice of ministry which includes careful attention to personal and spiritual growth for interns.

Location: 129 West Hutchison Street, San Marcos, TX 78666
Phone: 512-392-6001

Project Contact: Rev. Ryan Jenson, Associate Pastor

Website: www.fumcsm.org

The Institute for the Study of Asian American Christianity (ISAAC), New York, NY - Ethnic Asian congregations in the New York/New Jersey area engage internships in a program first prototyped by a network of Chinese churches in the New York area.

Location (until Jan. 2012): 788 Rathbun Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10309
Contact: Rev. Andrew Lee; AndrewLee@isaacweb.org

Website: <http://isaacweb.org>

Riverside Presbyterian Church, Sterling, VA – Washington, D.C. metro-area congregation serving a growing Hispanic membership to engage internships that have two seasons of practice (Summers 2011 and 2012) and reflective work during and in-between practice seasons.

Location: 20 Pidgeon Hill Drive, #109, Sterling, VA 20165
Phone: 703-444-3528

Contact: Rev. Brian Clark; Email: Brian@RiversideChurch.com

www.RiversideChurch.com

The Park Church, Charlotte, NC – an African-American congregation in North Carolina to host interns in a variety of ministry rotations, small group discernment and supportive coaching. This congregation has been connected with Project Rising Sun, an FTE leadership development academy for young pastors from diverse backgrounds.

Location: 6029 Beatties Ford Road, Charlotte, NC 28216
Phone: 704-392-1681

Contact: nmartin@upbc.org

Website: www.upbc.org

Fall 2010 VocationCARE Practice Grants

The Episcopal Diocese of Western N. Carolina, the Brother Skiles Vocation Project

Partnership of campus ministry at Appalachian State University and St Luke's Episcopal Church in Boone, NC for practices of mutual mentoring and vocational discernment through service.

Location: St Luke's Episcopal Church, Boone, NC
Phone: 828-406.1332; Email: asucampusminister@gmail.com

Project Contact: The Rev. Beth Turner

Website: www.diocesewnc.org

First Community AME Church, Grand Rapids, MI, Leading Ladies: the Call, the Consecration and the Commitment: a mentoring program for young women of the congregation and neighborhood by women ("griots" or grandmothers/elders) of the congregation.

Location: 500 James Avenue, SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Contact: Reverend Richelle White; rwhite@kuyper.edu

Website: www.fcame.org

Greater St John Church, Upper Marlboro, MD, *The Listening Tree* The Listening Tree demystifies Christian vocation and the call to ministry through intentional intergenerational dialogue engaging young people, clergy and church leaders.

Location: 11425 Old Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
Phone: 301-574-5100

Contact: Rev. Nasheika Knight

Website: www.saintjohn.net

St Mark's AME Zion Church, Dallas, TX, *Works of Piety, Works of Mercy*: supports the traditional Wesleyan small group model for the formation of disciples integrated with the VocationCARE practices of "asking self-awakening questions and reflecting together theologically."

Location: 2311 E. Illinois Avenue, Dallas, TX 75216
Phone: 214-376-7750; Email: stmarkdalla@sbcglobal.net

Contact: Rev. John Morris, Jr.

Website: www.stmarkameziondallas.org

Joy Tabernacle AME Church, Dallas, TX for *The Macedonian Project*: an outreach ministry empowering adolescent males through education, spiritual development and discipleship, life skills training and mentoring.

Name of Church/Organization: Joy Tabernacle A.M.E. Church
Project Description: The Macedonian Project (You have the description)
Address: 3203 Holmes Street, Dallas, Texas 75215
Phone: 214-565-8975
Project Contact: Atty. Yulise R. Waters (yulisewaters@yahoo.com)
Church/Organizational Website: www.joytabernacleame.org

La Croix United Methodist Church, Cape Girardeau, MO for *Ministry as Career Track*: to engage the practice of establishing new ministry opportunities by providing support, encouragement, resources and one-on-one mentoring to youth called to ministry.

Location: 3102 Lexington Avenue, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Phone: 573-339-0302

Project Contact: Rev. Kate Sapp; Email: ksapp@lacroixchurch.org

Website: www.lacroixchurch.org

Cornerstone Church of San Diego - E.Q.U.I.P. (Empowered, Quality, Unified, Inspired and Passionate) Leadership Development Program, an establishment of vocational opportunity that focuses on helping young Christians discover and develop their God-given vocation and enhance abilities to reach out to their peers and lead them to God. Efforts are centered on training and mentoring, annual retreats and one-day initiating workshops for young people.

Location: 1914 Sweetwater Road, National City, CA 91950
Phone: 619-425-9333

Project Contact: Pastor Doug Luffborough, dougluff@yahoo.com

Website: www.turninghearts.com/sandiego/

Full Gospel Baptist Fellowship (FGBF), State of Illinois Women's Division - New Discerners Division, a partnership by FGBF with three congregations that creates a space for a comprehensive, reflective call discernment experience for young women, ages 20-34, and that nurtures their calls to ministry, anticipating their non-traditional aspects.

4553 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60653
PH: 773-726-9775

Project Contact: Rev. Ghana Cooper, GCOOPER@DEPAUL.EDU

Website: WWW.ILLINOISFULLGOSPELBAPTIST.ORG

Participating Congregations:

1. Kingdom Living Full Gospel Baptist Church, Chicago Heights, IL
Paul Upshaw, Senior Pastor
www.kingdomlivingfgbc.org
2. Heritage International Christian Church, Chicago, IL
Overseer Dwight Gunn, Senior Pastor
www.heritageicc.org
3. Love Fellowship Christian Center, Decatur, IL
Overseer James A. Wills, Senior Pastor
217.475.2364

Grace Lutheran Church, River Forest, IL - Grace Works! Grace will nurture and support high school youth as they identify emerging gifts for ministry and service, envision a change they want to see in the world, and form the necessary relationships required for that change. Older adult members of the congregation will accompany youth in service and reflection.

Location: 7300 Division, River Forest, IL 60305
PH: 708-366-6900

Project Contacts: Diane Carioscio (diane_carioscio@comcast.net)
Pastor Bruce Modahl (bmodahl@graceriverforest.org)

Website: www.graceriverforest.org

Oakhurst Presbyterian Church, Decatur, GA - Guide My Feet – a process that re-visits the stories of faith from this multi-cultural congregation as a means for creating space and asking awakening questions in an inter-generational conversation about the call of the next generation of members, individually and collectively.

Location: 118 2nd Avenue, Decatur, GA 30030
PH: 404-378-6284

Project Contact: The Rev. Caroline Leach (carolineleach47@gmail.com)

Website: www.oakhurstpresbyterian.org

St James Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, NC - The Now and Later Mentoring Program designed to establish vocation-enriched opportunities in a focused and well-defined strategy to reach its young members as well as youth in the community. The program consists of one-on-one mentoring, retreats, creative expressions by youth in liturgy and the arts, and service by young people throughout the church on committees and in other program areas.

Location: 820 Ross Avenue, Greensboro, NC 27406
PH: 336-273-6658

Project Contacts: Rhonda Chavis and The Rev. Diane Givens Moffatt (wandawhite@stjamespresby.org)

Website: www.stjamespresby.org

St James United Methodist Church, Alpharetta, GA - "*Can You H.E.A.R. Me Now?*" an initiative joining youth and older adults in **H**earing, **E**xploring, **A**nswering, and **R**esponding to the call of God on their lives: to Christian ministry and other calls for young people and, for older adults (a.k.a. "Senior Saints"), to the sharing of their wisdom, knowledge and presence.

Location: 3000 Webb Bridge Road, Alpharetta, GA 30009
PH: 678-762-1543

Project Contacts: Minister Sheila Bates (youth_pastor@stjamesumc.org);
The Rev. Dr. Michael T. McQueen, Senior Pastor (sr_pastor@stjamesumc.org)

Bethlehem Baptist Church

Alexandria VA
Awarded Fall 2009

Somebody's Calling My Name! A project that creates a space through shared meals, retreats and contemplative practice to assist teens and young adults, with ministry leaders, in discerning God's call on their lives. Extended unique space is also created for ministry leaders for their own storied work. This project revives learnings from the congregational Sabbath of two years ago where non-essential meetings were cancelled and the congregation devoted itself to small group study of the Scriptures.

Project Director: Brenda Faison, Director of Christian Education
(Brenda@bethlehemofalexandria.org)

Phone: 703-619-0056

www.bethlehemofalexandria.org

Bridge Street AME Church

Brooklyn, NY
Awarded Fall 2009

Equipping the Body for Service will create an inter-generational space for exploring vocation in an environment where stories of call are shared, questions dialogue about vocation experienced, along with study and reflection. Specific activities: monthly gatherings and additional workshops and a retreat (specifically to engage Holy Listening) and the development of mentoring relationships through these activities.

Project Directors: Revs. David and Valerie E. Cousin, pastorcousin@aol.com

Phone: 718-452-3936

Church of All Nations
Minneapolis, MN

Awarded Fall 2009

Discerning Vocation Together dynamics of an innovative Parish Resident Internship Program will be integrated into the life of this congregation, creating new practices that expand opportunities for congregation members to "discern vocation together" with resident interns: through cell group meetings, monthly forums, and service in the greater community.

Project Directors: Rev. Jin S. Kim, Senior Pastor & John Nelson, Coordinator of the Internship Program

Contact: jin@cando.org; johnnelson@cando.org

Phone: 763-503-2600

www.cando.org

The Cornelius Corps of the New Community Church
Washington, DC
Awarded Fall 2009

New Community Church, an affiliate of Church of the Saviour, has had an ongoing focus on nurturing the call of each of its members and making that practice mobile to other congregations. New Community Church will share that practice with Vale United Methodist Church of Oakton, VA and Myers Park Presbyterian Church of Charlotte, NC. The program includes seasons of teaching on biblical, theological, and experiential dimensions of God's call and on the recruitment and training of small group leaders, who will develop ongoing structures of vocational exploration and discernment with their small groups,

Project Director: Rev. Jim Melson, Melsons@verizon.net

Phone: 703-609-3209

www.corneliuscorps.org

Wellesley Congregational Church
Wellesley, MA
Awarded Fall 2009

Growing in Faith Together (G.I.F.T.) to foster intentional approach to faith formation and vocational discernment for youth and adults together. GIFT will offer a 20-week program for adults that runs parallel to the church's ninth-grade confirmation class, with intersections in small groups for sharing prayer, conversation and learning regarding Christian practices, belief, and discernment of gifts and God's call.

Project Director: The Rev. Martin B. Copenhaver, martin@wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Phone: 781-235-1988, ext. 12

www.wellesleyvillagechurch.org

Church of the Lakes United Methodist
Canton, OH
Awarded Spring 2009

Faith, Family and Call Program focused on creating an environment where an understanding of call, the language of vocation, and regular communication about faith formation issues between generations are commonplace. Program components include: Communication in the Family retreat; Faith-Sharing Retreat; Language of Call Training Events; Naming Your Call Events, and the formation of a Family, Faith and Call Team. .

Project Directors: Rev. Bryan George (bryan_george@rrbiznet.com) and Ms. Cara Schroeder (Cara529@hotmail.com)

[CLICK HERE FOR WEBSITE](#)

Phone: 330-499-8972

First Baptist Church
Henderson, NC
Awarded Spring 2009

Vocational Mystagogy, this early Church pedagogical model of reflection-praxis-reflection will engage ministry within the context of the liturgy. This summer-long program for high school, college, and seminary students will expand the congregation's imagination about vocation and pastoral ministry through common worship and service.

Project Director: Rev. Paul (Rusty) Edwards

E-mail: rustyedwards@ncol.net

[CLICK HERE FOR WEBSITE](#)

The First Congregational Church

Western Springs, IL
Awarded Spring 2009

Summer Experience in Ministry Project, exposing both young and second career adults to the experience of ministry in a congregational context. Interns engage in vocational/theological reflection with team leaders and expand that conversation with members of the congregation letting their testimonies be heard in the context of other members' testimonies of call.

Project Director: The Rev. Rich Kirchherr
E-mail: rich@wscongo.org

[CLICK HERE FOR WEBSITE](#)

Fourth Presbyterian Church

Greenville, SC
Awarded Spring 2009

Called Fourth, an initiative to make Fourth Presbyterian a church family that intentionally honors vocational listening through the examination of seven callings that are grounded in biblical reflection and lived through the lives of Fourth Presbyterian's members. The contexts for this exploration are patterns of Bible study, local mission experience and story-telling and mentoring.

Project Contact: the Rev. Buz Wilcoxon
E-mail: buz@4thpres-grvl.com

[CLICK HERE FOR WEBSITE](#)

Glide Memorial United Methodist Church

San Francisco, CA
Awarded Spring 2009

Empowerment 2.0, an immersion into Glide Memorial's culture by three seminarians will provide the occasion and structure to engage this congregation's members in their own process of empowerment in vocational exploration by using social service and theological reflection as the means for clarification and embrace of members' callings within Glide and beyond.

Project Director: Rev. Dr. Karen Oliveto, Senior Minister
E-mail: koliveto@glide.org

[CLICK HERE FOR WEBSITE](#)

Park Street Church

Boston, MA
Awarded Spring 2009

Exploring Vocation and Vocational Ministry, this 200 year-old congregation develops a two-stage curriculum (small groups and in-depth immersion in ministry) that engages its young adults in exploring vocation intellectually, reflectively and experientially. With a strong outreach to college students of the Greater Boston area, Park Street works to further its mission as a "sending congregation" for vocational ministry and for the life of committed discipleship.

Project Director: Rev. Jeff Schuliger, Minister for Small Groups
E-mail: jschuliger@parkstreet.org

[CLICK HERE FOR WEBSITE](#)

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese
Los Angeles, CA

Awarded Spring 2009

Young Adult Ministry Formation for the Next Generation, funding for a position of strategic development for a program that will enable young adults in congregations throughout the LA Archdiocese to claim their role as leaders and educators of other youth and young adults.

Project Director: Coordinator of Young Adult Ministry
E-mail: tathibodeaux@la-archdioces.org

<http://www.archdiocese.la/learning/ore/mya/index.html>

[CLICK HERE FOR WEBSITE](#)

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
Cleveland, OH
Awarded Spring 2009

Living the Baptismal Covenant, a curacy and an internship combine efforts to move a common language of vocation of this 700-member congregation into a more studied engagement of discernment in the lives of its young people and the intentional ministry of lay and ordained people to foster young people's discernment.

Project Director: The Rev. Tracey Lind, Dean of Trinity Cathedral
E-mail: tlind@dohio.org

[CLICK HERE FOR WEBSITE](#)

Asbury Temple United Methodist Church
Durham, NC
Awarded Fall 2008

Leading Change will utilize the wealth of wisdom about life and Christian formation in its many servant-hearted community leaders and also the theological experience and expertise among the seminary and college professors that are also members of this congregation. This initiative seeks to impact church and community through mentoring, service, study, dialogue and reflection on the call to ministry with youth in high-risk neighborhoods in Durham. Young people will explore how they may be leaders in the church as well as leaders in the world for the church. A diverse range of mentors will be recruited to accompany youth on this journey; city and community leaders will also be brought into the dialogue.

More information about Asbury Temple:
<http://www.asburytempleumc.org/>

Project Contact:
the Rev. Shane Benjamin, 919.688.4578

Project Coordinator:
Sarah Stockton Howell
sarahstocktonhowell@gmail.com

C.N. Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church

Charlotte, NC

Awarded Fall 2008

CN Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian received \$ 8,115 to partner with Union PSCE (Charlotte, NC) in providing a nine-month supervised ministry experience for young people. This internship is designed to be a catalyst to deepen the "ecclesial vocation" of this church as a calling congregation. Along with engaging children and youth in vocational discernment and development, the intern will work with a "discernment circle" of lay people who will act as a guidance team to assist the intern with his/her call. Members of the same circle will engage their own discernments of call –as it applies to them personally and as it applies to CN Jenkins as a congregation intent on being a "culture of call".

More information about CN Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church:

<http://www.cnjenkins.org/>

Project Contact:

Rev. Eustacia Moffett Marshall, Associate Pastor,

associatepastor@cnjenkins.org

Institute for the Study of Asian American Christianity (ISAAC)

New York, NY

Awarded Fall 2008

Calling Chinese American Youth into Ministry will engage five immigrant Chinese churches with summer internships for high school youth and college age young adults. Students accepted into this program will be mentored by a team consisting of pastoral staff, a lay leader and the ISAAC staff person serving as the project coordinator. Sponsoring congregations will be invited further into their role in the notice and nurture of the next generation of young people as leaders. A specific concern of this engagement is the need to deliberately cultivate future leaders among second generation, English-language ministries of these congregations.

More information about ISAAC at:

<http://isaacweb.org/>

Project Contact:

Rev. Andrew Lee, Eastern Regional Director,

AndrewLee@isaacweb.org

John Knox Presbyterian Church

Greenville, SC

Awarded Fall 2008

Connecting Hearts: Holy Listening in a Congregational Circle of Trust is a project that introduces a new pedagogical model to explore vocational discernment and the call to ministry. Using Parker J. Palmer's *circles of trust* approach, John Knox is intent on sparking personal spiritual renewal and enriching the life of the congregation, expanding its servant capacity to nurture a culture of vocational discernment. This approach will embed a culture of call to support youth, young adults and others as they learn to listen for God's leading in their lives. Specific activities include a series of retreats for a core group who are introduced to principles and practices foundational to forming circles of trust, engaging holy listening, exploring the spiritual journey and forming clearness committees for congregation-wide practice. The project will also include participants from Foothills Presbytery and presbytery member churches.

More information about John Knox Presbyterian Church at:

<http://www.johnknoxpres.org>.

Project Contact:

Rev. Joseph Gaston,

jgaston@johnknoxpres.org

Oak Grove United Methodist Church

Decatur, GA
Awarded Fall 2008

The *Oak Grove Pastoral Scholar Program* will focus on the congregation's role in vocation and the call to ministry through the presence of a recent seminary graduate who, with pastoral staff and lay leaders, will call members to closer reflection and engagement around the question of call. Among other things, this conversation will re-visit the church's rich heritage as a congregation that has called many to ministry – as part of a greater strategy for nurturing a culture of call in the present tense. Conversation and reflection will engage youth and young adults in the question of vocation as well as the Church Council in its role as those who recognize and nurture emerging leaders at Oak Grove.

More information about Oak Grove United Methodist Church
<http://www.ogumc.org>

Project Contact:
Rev. Glenn Ethridge, Senior Pastor,
gethridge@ogumc.org

Reveille United Methodist Church

Richmond, VA
Awarded Fall 2008

Reveille's program, *Still Calling...* will reflect on that congregation's history of members entering the ordained ministry. This project builds on that history by intentionally engaging older and younger members through mentoring, small groups and internships. Older adults will become conditioned in noticing the outward signs of God's call to youth and young adults and in the naming and nurture of their gifts for ministry. Young people will be introduced to a process that enables the recognition of their particular gifts and calling. Those wishing to move further into that process can explore it in a course of study that includes spiritual practice, group spiritual direction, study and mentoring. Internships for the practice of ministry are a further link in vocational exploration. Through this project, Reveille intends to create a living infrastructure that will name and nurtures God's calling and provides concrete avenues for those exploring Christian vocation.

More information about Reveille United Methodist Church at:
<http://www.reveilleumc.org>

Project Contact:
Mr. Dwayne Stinson,
Dwayne@reveilleumc.org

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

New York, NY
Awarded Fall 2008

Watering Roots and Branches: Congregants, Interns and Neighborhood Youth in Shared Theological Reflection aims to connect human resources already embedded in St. Mary's diverse, vibrant community: congregants steeped in the Gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit, neighborhood youth attracted to St. Mary's social activism, and NYIP interns committed to year-long service and vocational discernment. St. Mary's has a long history of success in each of these areas but this process especially enables these three constituencies to come together and to grow into their potential for mutual nurture. NYIP interns will be involved in a program of theological education and guided discussion that will be shared with the parish and neighborhood in a series of monthly gatherings to engage the same topics in a more relaxed atmosphere. These forums will be facilitated by congregational elders and would enable interns to practice ministry as they interpret and share their insights for a wider audience.

More about St. Mary's and the New York Intern Program:
<http://www.stmarysharlem.org> and <http://www.NewYorkInternProgram.org>

Project Contact:
Sarah Nazimova-Baum, LCAT, ATR-BC, NYIP Coordinator and Intern Advisor,
Nazimova-Baum@earthlink.net

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Cleveland Heights, OH
Awarded Fall 2008

Young Adult Vocational Internships for college and post-college young adults serve as an introductory immersion in parish ministry with an emphasis on family ministries but will also include appreciable exposure to pastoral care, liturgy, outreach, preaching and teaching. These internships have been developed as an intentional means of vocational discernment for the interns but also as the means by which the congregation at St. Paul's lives into its role as partners in ministry and discernment. An internship support group of members from the congregation will engage these young adults in their sense of the called life as they live through the twelve months of their commitment. St. Paul's is building on their history with internships that has evolved from meeting vital staffing needs toward seeing these as opportunities, primarily, for vocational nurture.

More about St. Paul's in Cleveland Heights, OH:
<http://www.stpauls-church.org>

Project contact:
Kate Gillooly, Minister for Christian Formation and Program,
kgillooly@stpauls-church.org

Catholic Campus Ministry at Southern Methodist University

Dallas, TX
Awarded Spring 2008
To Love and Serve the Lord

\$12,000 to support *To Love and Serve the Lord*, designed to foster intergenerational dialogue in contexts of discernment, service and spiritual practices for the more than 2,400 Catholic students attending SMU.

Project Director: Rev. Anthony Lackland
E-mail: Frank Santoni, fsantoni@smu.edu

Website: <http://www.smucatholic.org>

First Congregational Church

Glen Ellyn, IL
Awarded Spring 2008
The Elisha Project

\$9,000 to support *The Elisha Project* a program of exploratory internships for 4-6 college students over two summers that introduces them to the inner workings of church life and the practice of ministry. The program has a flexibility that allows interns to tailor their experience to their own passions and talents—liturgical, musical, pastoral, educational—while engaging a multi-lateral exposure to congregational life. Participants will also study and reflect together on resources for the practice of ministry and the spiritual disciplines.

Project Director: Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel, Senior Pastor
E-mail: lillian@firstconge.org

Website: <http://www.firstconge.org>

The Madison/Oakdale Initiative (Madison Square Church and Oakdale Park Church)

Grand Rapids, MI
Awarded Spring 2008
Madison/Oakdale Leadership Initiative

\$12,000 for the *Madison/Oakdale Leadership Initiative*, a collaboration of two Christian Reformed congregations whose focus is training and reflection on the development of leadership potential and a deeper sense of God's call on young lives. Young people will work with mentors and instructors for the purpose of identifying their gifts as leaders and spiritual gifts and graces. Portions of the program consist of a partnership with the Grand Rapids Initiative for Leaders. Additional elements of journaling and self-reporting are wed to prayer and other spiritual practices.

Madison Square Church

Project Director: Christy Carlin Knetsch

E-mail: christy.carlin@madisonsquarechurch.org

Website: <http://www.madisonsquarechurch.org>

Oakdale Park Church

Project Director: Amy Westra

E-mail: amy.westra@sbcglobal.net

Website: <http://www.oakdalepark.org>

Mount Berry Church at Berry College

Mount Berry, GA

Awarded Spring 2008

Discern-Develop-Disciple: Cultivating Vocational Calling at College

Funding will enable a consultation with other schools for the formation of a mentoring program that connects students with faculty and ministry staff mentors to provide theological grounding and practical advice in students' discernment of call.

Project Director: The Rev. Dale McConkey

E-mail: dmconkey@berry.edu

Website: <http://www.berry.edu/religion-in-life>

Mountain View Lutheran Church (ELCA)

Edgewood, WA

Awarded Spring 2008

Called by Name: Vocation and God's Sense of Call

\$12,000 for Called by Name: Vocation and God's Sense of Call an initiative of three interdependent projects:

- Multi-year remodeling of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry for the creation of a "discipleship for life" model;
- Series of annual retreats hosted by Mountain View for regional congregations that educate for models of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry; train pastors and lay leaders for the development of these ministries; and assist congregations in implementation of these new models;
- Establishment of an educational epicenter for pastors and lay leaders on its campuses as an outgrowth of the retreat sequence.

The anticipation of the project is that congregational cultures that bring their focus to children, youth and family ministries reinforce the question of identity and call.

Project Director: The Rev. John Vaswig

E-mail: jvaswig@mtviewlutheran.org

Website: <http://www.mtviewlutheran.org>

Park Avenue United Methodist Church

Minneapolis, MN

Awarded Spring 2008

Light the Path

\$12,000 for the Light the Path project. Through mentorship programs and training for youth and their adult mentors, Park Avenue Church will develop a culture where adults take responsibility in walking alongside youth as they discern the call on their lives. The program promises to add to this congregation's already sustained experience of outreach to its youth and the young people of the surrounding neighborhood.

Head Pastor: Rev. Dennis M. Oglesby, Jr.

E-mail: dennisOglesby@parkavenuechurch.org

Project Director: Tessa Trepp

E-mail: tessatrepp@parkavenuefoundation.org

Website: <http://www.parkavechurch.org/>

Church of the Apostles

Seattle, WA
Awarded Fall 2007
Kaleo

Church of the Apostles, an emerging church plant of the Episcopal Church and the ELCA, offers a program for young adults inviting them to an intensive process of discernment and spiritual preparation for ministry. The program aims to provide a "permeable, breathable and organically structured environment" in which young adults can hear God's call and engage discernment through prayer, scriptural reflection, worship and service among young adult peers. Participants are mentored by young and older clergy in the context of a community that engages discernment as a regular spiritual practice for a "calling community." Candidates have emerged from the Episcopal, Lutheran, Christian Reformed and United Methodist traditions.

Project Director: The Rev. Karen M. Ward
E-mail: info@apostleschurch.org

Website: <http://www.apostleschurch.org>

Covenant United Church of Christ

South Holland, IL
Awarded Fall 2007
Youth Called to Ministry

This program seeks to provide a "safe, sacred space" for teens to engage vocational discernment. The prayerful character and relative safety this environment offers will further the articulation of call among teens and enable them to partake of leadership roles in the congregation: as junior deacons and ushers and engaging in experiments in preaching and service to the greater community. Teens identified with vocational interests undergo mentoring that examines their interests through interviews, questionnaires and conversations with parents and program directors. A culminating emphasis of the program is on gifts identified and shared among peers and with the larger congregation.

Project Director: The Rev. Ethel Southern
E-mail: esoushep29@aol.com

<http://www.covucc.org/>

First United Church of Christ

Northfield, MN
Awarded Fall 2007
Leadership for the 21st Century

Leadership for the 21st Century is a program for a small group of college students and young adults in a shared process of vocational discernment involving the senior pastor, members of the congregation and other resource persons. Weekly conversations also feature shared information about ordained ministry with invitations to students to undertake projects in the church that are accompanied by theological reflection on learning. The program also incorporates music, poetry and visual arts in vocational and theological reflection. The church Web site also provides space for participants to blog.

Project Director: Rev. Sandra K. Johnson
E-mail: sandyjohnson@firstucc.org

Website: <http://www.firstucc.org>

Kidron Mennonite Church

Kidron, OH

Awarded Fall 2007

Ministry Exploration

This concerted effort between Kidron Mennonite Church and Central Christian Schools is a "winsome and positive" initiative that allows 10-12 high school students to explore pastoral ministry as a calling. Conversations take place on consecutive Saturday mornings and include students, school faculty and home church pastors of students. Area pastors will present on various aspects of ministry; some pastors will serve as mentors to these students and invite each to preach in their home churches. The program also includes visits to the Mennonite conference, other churches and agencies and a seminary. Local pastors are the central mentoring and facilitating presence.

Project Director: The Rev. Terry Shue

E-mail: Terry@Kidronmennonite.com

<http://kidron.oh.us.mennonite.net/>

Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention

Washington, DC

Awarded Fall 2007

Calling Congregations Network

An initiative of five congregations in the Washington, D.C. area that encourages adolescents to share leadership roles and to consider the call to ministry. The *Network* interacts with the larger Lott Carey effort that includes an overseas service experience in the summer and attendance at the Mission Convention's summer conference. Impact teams in each congregation support young people's service and discernment within and beyond the congregation.

Participating congregations for this project:

- Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Centreville, VA
- Mount Moriah Baptist Church, Washington, DC
- Maple Springs Baptist Church, Capital Heights, MD
- Ebenezer Baptist Church, Alexandria, VA
- Vermont Avenue Baptist Church, Washington, DC

Project Director: Dr. David Emmanuel Goatley

E-mail: lottcarey@lottcarey.org

Website: <http://www.lottcarey.org>

Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church

Memphis, TN

Awarded Fall 2007

Gideon's Army: Exploring Your Call to Ministry

This program is designed to develop and nurture ten young people ages 15-25 for ministry in the congregation and community at large. Throughout eighteen months, participants will be engaged in teachings, coaching, mentoring/peer mentoring, spiritual gifts assessment, leadership development and service, as well as the practicing spiritual disciplines. The program relies on a strong inter-generational energy that encourages young adults' energy and passion and calls on an older generation's wisdom, passion and experience in making space for the next generation to serve.

Project Director: Rev. Virzola Law, Associate Pastor

E-mail: law.virzola@mbccmemphis.org

Website: <http://www.mbccmemphis.org>

Mt. Olive Evangelical Lutheran Church

Hickory, NC

Awarded Fall 2007

Calling All College Students: Discernment Ministry with Young Adults

This initiative invites students in their college years to a place for discerning God's call in an environment that also invites service within the congregation and service to the larger community. Congregation members serve as mentors to students at nearby Lenoir-Rhyne College in a process focused on leadership development and the discernment of spiritual gifts needed for ordained ministry. Mt. Olive is recognized by the North Carolina Lutheran Synod as a place to "come and see" for its efforts in faith formation. Having served as host to seminarians and Family Ministry majors, Mt. Olive calls its older adults to a greater role in the noticing and nurturing of vocation among young adults.

Project Director: Eric Griggs, Youth and Family Director

E-mail: egriggs@twave.net

Website: <http://www.mtolivelutheran.net>

St. John's Episcopal Church

Ellicott City, MD

Awarded Fall 2007

Holy Discernment: Teen Vocations

St. John's has chosen its confirmation and youth programs as places to introduce a process of vocational discernment that intersects with faith formation. The program seeks to shape teens, their parents and mentors in the language of vocation so that teens can articulate a personal theology and purpose for their lives. The program also anticipates that engaging this process will lead to a vocational awareness among teens that influences subsequent landmark choices in their lives - including college decisions and lifestyle formation. Integrating the movements of pilgrimage, service and conversation with older adults, St. John's believes that students "making their path by walking it" will grow in service to the church and human community and that some will discern a call to ordained ministry. The grant plan also calls for the creation of a community of youth leaders to be sustained in their vocations with youth and to be connected with each other in the Diocese of Maryland.

Project Director: The Rev. Rosemary Beales

E-mail: rbeales@stjohnsec.org

Website: <http://www.stjohnsec.org>

Calvary Baptist Church

Washington, DC

Awarded Spring 2007

Ministerial Intern Project

Calvary Baptist Church partnered with Perkins Divinity School to provide a nine-month structured learning experience for a Baptist student training for ministry within the context of the Calvary congregation. The intern was immersed in urban ministry programs, worship planning and leadership, and a wide range of pastoral care experiences and administrative challenges of the pastorate. To further the development of Calvary as a calling and nurturing congregation, a lay leadership team was formed to work with this intern and the pastor.

Project Director: Rev. Amy K. Butler

E-mail: abutler@calvarydc.org

Website: <http://www.calvarydc.org>

Calvary Lutheran Church

Bemidji, MN

Awarded Spring 2007

Summer Internship Project

Calvary Lutheran has engaged two young adults from their congregation as interns over the summer of 2007 with the aim of exposing them to various aspects of life and leadership within the congregation. The

experience is intended as a platform for discernment of their call to vocational ministry and further exploration. Interns provided leadership to youth and young adult programs, worked with pastoral staff in home and clinical visitations and in planning worship at area nursing homes. Interns also met weekly with area ministers involved in a sermon prep seminar based on the Revised Common Lectionary and provided leadership for a week-long summer camp for primary school children and a young adult Bible study.

Project Director: Hans Vigesaa, Director of Youth and Family Ministries
E-mail: hans@calvarybemidji.org

Website: <http://www.calvarybemidji.org/>

First African Presbyterian Church

Lithonia, GA

Awarded Spring 2007

Calling Congregation Mbongi (or "learning place")

This program builds upon the tradition of leadership and ministry in the African-American Christian Church. Through focused dialogue, reflection and resource exchange, it explores and encourages the vocational call to ministry in the congregation. Project components include monthly ministry sessions that focus on preaching, self-care and ministerial practice; a lay and ministerial retreat; liturgist education for lay members and ministers; biblical teaching opportunities; community action; and the development of a ministerial leadership resource library. Strong on educational aspects, this project also places a large emphasis on spiritual guidance and direction and relies on a highly inter-generational dynamic.

Project Director: Elder Itihari Toure
E-mail: cfabs@firstafrikanchurch.org

Website: <http://www.firstafrikanchurch.org/>

First United Church of Christ

Marion, OH

Awarded Spring 2007

G.O.D. Squad Program: Gathering...Outreach...Discernment

For junior high and early high school students, the G.O.D. Squad project intersperses modules of reflection on calling with local and long distance outreach experiences. Mentors for reflection are the church leaders and older adults of the congregation who accompany young people in their service. A primary aim of the project is to extend the passion for service in the young toward thinking about oneself as called, and called in the context of a worshipping and serving community. A primary text to aid reflection is *The Practice of the Presence of God* by Brother Lawrence.

Project Director: Dr. Amy Sherzer
E-mail: amyandtim85@msn.com, Firstchurch326@verizon.net

Norfolk United Methodist Church

Norfolk, VA

Awarded Spring 2007

Calling 21 Project

Internship activities include Bible study leadership and participation (focused on biblical instances of call), ministry rotation in various aspects of pastoral life and administration and one-on-one sessions with the senior pastor in conversation intended for the articulation and deeper exploration of God's call. Internships are nine weeks in duration.

Project Director: The Rev. Sherry L. Daniels, Senior Pastor
E-mail: stdaniels@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.NorfolkUMC.com>

State College Presbyterian Church

State College, PA

Awarded Spring 2007

College to Congregation Bridge for Theological Discernment

The Bridge Project is a ministry of discernment for students at Penn State University. The goal of the project is to build a bridge between the more than 42,000 university students and the congregation. The program includes small group work with students, meetings with ministers in the State College community and environs and hearing stories of discernment of call from these and other older adults. There are also workshops for the purpose of vocational testing and prescribed spiritual disciplines to aid as tools for discernment and the cultivation of a deeper spiritual life. These practices include the Examen, journaling, Values Sorting, prayer and reading. Participating students include Presbyterians, Episcopalians and Lutherans.

State College Presbyterian has formed an advisory team consisting of congregation members, project leaders and an executive from the Huntingdon PCUSA Presbytery (PA).

Project Director: Diana Wilson Malcom, Associate in Ministry

E-mail: dmalcom@scpresby.org

Website: <http://www.scpresby.org>

Trinity Tabernacle Baptist Church

Mableton, GA

Awarded Spring 2007

The Purpose Project

This project is designed to cultivate a capacity for vocational discernment among young people ages 14-23. The three-tiered project consists of Purpose Workshops and Seminars, a mentoring relationship with an adult in the congregation and engaging reading material and writing serial vocational reflections. In addition to providing an opportunity for young people to gain a sense of identity, the *Purpose Project* will give them an avenue through which to think critically about how their interests and passions are a part of God's larger mission to build relationships and community throughout the world.

Project Director: Rev. Mary Anne Bellinger

E-mail: rev.maryb@yahoo.com

<http://www.trinitytbc.com/>

Wilshire Baptist Church

Dallas, TX

Awarded Spring 2007

YourCall

This is a program of theological discernment for students in grades nine through twelve who are exploring calls to ministry and have shown evidence of related gifts. The goal is to introduce ministry as a viable vocation, guiding gifted young people to a lifetime of service to God by modeling healthy and vibrant ministries and a mentored process of discernment. Mentoring conversations are supplemented by online courses in theology, church history, biblical interpretation, worship and liturgy.

YourCall is part of a comprehensive program of vocational discernment at Wilshire that also includes summer internships for college students and early seminarians, seminary student financial support and a pastoral residency program.

Project Director: Darren DeMent

E-mail: ddement@wilshirebc.org

Pathways Coordinator: Geri McKenzie

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Website: <http://www.wilshirebc.org/>

To find out how your congregation can cultivate a call to ministry in the future leaders of the church, please click [here](#).