

# *the* COLLEGE *for* BISHOPS

*2009 Annual Report*

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

In 2009, the College for Bishops continued to gain momentum and strengthen our educational and formational offerings to members of the House of Bishops in many ways.

The College presented exciting continuing-education programming at the March House of Bishops meeting. Presentations included sessions with Bill Bishop and Walter Brueggemann, and another with Rep. David Price of North Carolina and Warren McFarlan of Harvard Business School.

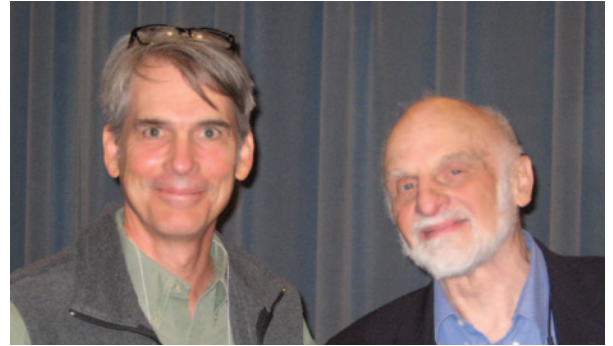
Our New Bishops' and Spouses' Conference served as the formal "entry point" into the College for Bishops for the Class of 2009 bishops and their spouses. These newest Episcopal Church bishops joined with the classes of 2007 and 2008 to begin their work in the three-year Living Our Vows (LOV) program in May. They welcomed peer bishops from Scotland, Ireland and Canada into their class community as well.

One of the highlights of 2009 was the approval of three separate resolutions regarding the College at General Convention. Resolution A008 requested funding for the canonically required LOV program. While the full amount of the request was unable to be honored, funding did increase for the new triennium to approximately \$78,000 per year. Approval of this generous contribution would have been impossible without the support of many individuals in the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies who spoke to the importance of our programming and the impact that it has on the entire Church. We are grateful to those who voiced their support.

General Convention Resolution B002 commended the College for our "excellent work in providing formational programs for new bishops, assistance to dioceses in transition, and continuing education opportunities for all bishops of this Church." Resolution A129 encouraged the College to include world mission orientation in our programming.

Although the increase in General Convention funding for the immediate future is substantial—allowing tuition fees to be lowered for Living Our Vows participants—we continue a robust focus on long-term funding for the College. It is important for us to look at alternative and sustainable funding sources beyond 2012 that will enable the College to offer quality programming and support for future generations of bishops.

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*Bill Bishop and Walter Brueggemann at HOB Meeting (top);  
Warren McFarlan at HOB Meeting (middle); Class of 2009  
Bishops (bottom)*

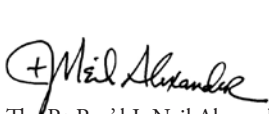
## THE MISSION OF THE COLLEGE FOR BISHOPS

To provide opportunities for education and formation that will strengthen bishops in their personal lives, as diocesan leaders in God's mission and in their vocation to God as a community of bishops in service to the Episcopal Church.

*Continued from cover ...*

The members of our Board of Directors and Advisory Committee, along with our faculty and staff, the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society and CREDO Institute, Inc. have continued to be partners in the work of the College, offering invaluable support. We are thankful to the individuals and organizations that dedicate time and resources to improving the College.

We hope you find this brief overview of the past year in the life of the College for Bishops informative. As a new decade unfolds, we look forward to continuing to serve the Church and we remain committed to providing quality formational and educational opportunities for the bishops of our Church.



The Rt Rev'd J. Neil Alexander  
President, Board of Directors



The Rt Rev'd F. Clayton Matthews  
Managing Director



Dan Edwards and Linda Nicholls at  
LOV Residency



Eugene Sutton and Scott Mayer at  
LOV Residency



Mary Gray-Reeves and Shannon  
Johnston at LOV Residency



Porter Taylor and Trevor Williams at  
LOV Residency

## 2009 COLLEGE FOR BISHOPS PROGRAM REPORT

**90-Day Companion Program** assigns bishop companions to bishops-elect to assist them in the transitional period between election and consecration.

- 11 companion relationships were established in 2009

**New Bishops' and Spouses' Conference** assists the newly-elected bishops and their spouses in forming community and also examining the transitional issues each is facing as they enter a new location, new expectations, and new responsibilities.

- January 2009 – 7 bishops and 6 spouses participated

**Living Our Vows Residency** provides opportunities for new bishops to gather in community, to reflect on the gifts, power, and authority of the episcopate and to acquire resources to lead and serve dioceses effectively and faithfully in the Church.

- May 2009 – 37 participants (including 5 from Canada, 1 from Scotland, 1 from Ireland)

**Living Our Vows Peer Coaching** provides a three-year collegial relationship for new bishops that will support spiritual health and personal development and ultimately equip new bishops with skills for transformative leadership.

- 42 coaching relationships continued or began in 2009

### Participant comments regarding major takeaways from 2009 conferences:

#### NEW BISHOPS' AND SPOUSES' CONFERENCE

- The Episcopal Church, (through Clay Matthews and his staff) really cares about its bishops and their wellness, I don't need to be a Lone Ranger in this ministry.
- A newly owned awareness of my own needs and priorities, the knowledge that I can control and order the chaos in my own way at my own pace.

#### LIVING OUR VOWS RESIDENCY

- As a first year [bishop], the timing and content of the week was a God-send. The topics seemed to be in a perfect progression for my education, conviction, resolve, and encouragement. I leave exhausted, but more hopeful, excited, and confident, with a deeper commitment to my new role and appreciation for its dynamics.
- A better understanding of some of the bishops and issues facing our dioceses and the Church at large.

**Small Group Studies** provide assistance to groups of bishops who gather to study topics of their own choosing.

- 3 Family Systems Theory Meetings – 6 bishop participants, each

**House of Bishops Continuing Education Sessions** provide informational sessions for all bishops attending House of Bishops meetings. Topics and speakers are selected based on recommendations from the House. **March 2009 sessions:**

- "A New Era of Engagement: Gospel Alternatives to Polarization" by Bill Bishop and Walter Brueggemann
- "Economy and Washington" by Warren McFarlan and Rep. David Price

**Short Courses** provide continuing education workshops prior to a House of Bishops meeting and designed to address timely and relevant topics for bishops. **March 2009 sessions (17 participants):**

- "Print Media" by Macky Alston
- "Blogging" by Nicholas Knisely

**CREDO for Bishops** provides opportunities for bishops to examine significant areas of their lives and to discern prayerfully the future direction of their vocation as they respond to God's call in a lifelong process of practice and transformation.

- Inaugural Bishops' CREDO II conference – 17 participants



## LIVING OUR VOWS

We'd like to recognize the following members of the Class of 2007 who completed the three-year *Living Our Vows* Program in May 2009:

### Front row:

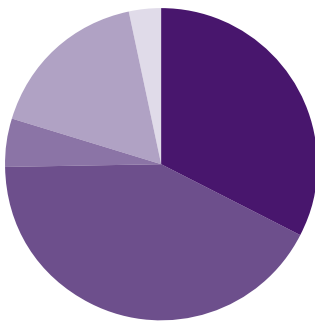
John Bauerschmidt, Tennessee  
 Bob Fitzpatrick, Hawaii  
 Dena Harrison, Texas  
 Larry Benfield, Arkansas  
 Nathan Baxter, Central Pennsylvania  
 Todd Ousley, Eastern Michigan

### Back row:

Bill Love, Albany  
 Mark Beckwith, Newark  
 Dabney Smith, Southwest Florida  
 Barry Beisner, Northern California  
 David Reed, West Texas  
 Tom Breidenthal, Southern Ohio  
 Greg Kerr-Wilson, Qu'Appelle

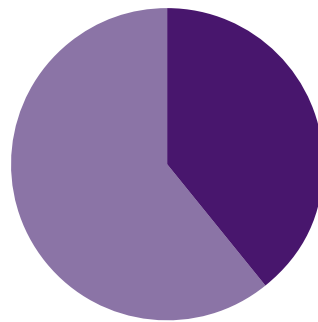
## 2009 FINANCIALS

The staff of CREDO Institute, Inc. is responsible for the day-to-day financial administration of the College for Bishops, with oversight by the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society and the College's Board of Directors. The 2009 surplus will be helpful in weathering the expected shortfall in support in the coming years.



### INCOME

Program Tuition Fees	\$131,332
CREDO Institute	\$170,000
Gen Convention for New Bishops and Spouses	\$20,000
House of Bishops	\$67,575
Other Income	\$13,331
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$402,238</b>



### EXPENSES

Direct Program Expenses	\$141,075
Development and Support	\$216,661
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$357,736</b>

## RESEARCH

The College for Bishops collaborates with organizations such as CREDO Institute, Inc. and professional researchers from colleges and universities across the country to research wellness, leadership and other issues important to the Church. Work continued in 2009 on the projects below. Preliminary findings will be released as they are made available.

- Episcopal Identity Project/*Around One Table* (released in October, see below)
- Episcopal Transitions and Elections Project
- Emotional Health of Clergy and Wellness of Clergy Families
- Emotional Health and Wellness of Bishops and Bishop Spouses

## Around One Table

Exploring Episcopal Identity

*Around One Table* is a multi-layered resource designed to engage people in constructive conversation about the identity and mission of the Episcopal Church and how that relates to their lives and ministries. The reports (in abbreviated and expanded formats) were released on a landing page of The Episcopal Church website in October, along with several short videos regarding identity. To download the *Around One Table* reports or to view the videos visit [www.episcopalchurch.org/aroundsonetable](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/aroundsonetable).



## *the* COLLEGE for BISHOPS

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The Rt Rev'd F. Clayton Matthews

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The Rt Rev'd Dean E. Wolfe

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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*Managing Director*

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The Rev'd J. Michael Ehmer, *Assistant Director, CREDO Institute, Inc. (part time)*

Ms. Amy L. Smith, *Administrative Coordinator (part time)*

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**Web:** [www.collegeforbishops.org](http://www.collegeforbishops.org)

## PLEDGES FROM THE HOUSE OF BISHOPS

We are grateful to the active and resigned bishops who contribute financially towards the work of the College for Bishops. Pledge income remained significant in 2009, totaling \$67,575.

Thank you to the following individuals who pledged or made pledge payments in 2009:

Gladstone B. Adams III, Central New York  
Laura J. Ahrens, Connecticut  
J. Neil Alexander, Atlanta  
David Alvarez, Puerto Rico  
Marc H. Andrus, California  
John C. Bauerschmidt, Tennessee  
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J. Zache Duracin, Haiti  
Francisco Duque, Colombia  
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Duncan M. Gray, Jr., Resigned  
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Wayne P. Wright, Delaware

**If you would like to make a contribution to support the College, visit**  
[www.collegeforbishops.org](http://www.collegeforbishops.org).