

**37<sup>th</sup> Episcopal Urban Caucus Assembly**  
**March 15-18, 2017**  
**Host: Diocese of New Jersey**



**Theme: "Know your Story Live it Boldly"**

Doubletree Hotel by Hilton  
4355 US Route 1, Princeton, NJ 08540

**Welcome Letter**  
**The Rt. Rev. William Stokes**  
**Diocese of New Jersey**

**EPISCOPAL URBAN CAUCUS - 37th ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**  
**2017 Program Schedule and Workshops**

**Wednesday, March 15**

- Check into hotel
- 3:00 to 6:00 Assembly registration
- 5:00 – 6:00 Orientation for youth and new Assembly participants
- 7:00 - 9:00 Welcome reception and presentation from the Diocese of NJ (At Hotel)
- 9:00 PM Compline

**Thursday, March 16**

- 7:00 AM Bible study or Morning Prayer in Hotel
- Breakfast on your own, Registration continues
- 9:15 Welcome: The Rt. Rev. William Stokes, Diocesan Bishop of New Jersey
- 9:30 – 10:30 Plenary session
- Keynote Speaker (Dr. Warren Dennis – Prof. Urban Ministry,  
New Brunswick Seminary)
- 10:30 – 11:00 BREAK
- 11:00 – 11:30 Question and Answer period
- 12:00 PM Luncheon Speaker:
- The Very Rev. Rene John (Dean, Trinity Cathedral, Trenton, NJ)
- 1:30 PM Travel to Site -- Visit Camden NJ (Presentation from local churches)
- 5:00 PM Bus to the Trinity Church, Trenton Cathedral (Dinner provided)
- Assembly Eucharist with "Remembrance of the Saints of the EUC"
- End of Service Buses will return to the Hotel

**Friday, March 17**

- 7:00 AM Bible Study or Morning Prayer
- Breakfast on your own
- 9:00 – 10:00 Registration Continues
- 9:30 – 11:30 Plenary: Commission on Black Ministry – Diocese of New Jersey
- 12:00 – 1:00 Luncheon on your own
- 1:30 – 2:30 Afternoon Workshops (Anti-racism, Jubilee Ministry)
- 2:30 – 3:30 Afternoon Workshops (Anti-racism, Jubilee Ministry)
- 3:30 – 5:30 Networking Time and Free Time
- 6:00 – 7:00 Cash Bar
- 7:00 – 10:00 Banquet Dinner

**Saturday, March 18**

- Breakfast on your own
- 9:00 – noon Annual Business Meeting Election of Board members and Resolutions
- 12:00PM EUC Board meeting

## EPISCOPAL URBAN CAUCUS - 37th ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

### Keynote Presenter – Dr. Warren L. Dennis



Dr. Dennis, on the occasion of his retirement in May 2015, was honored with a resolution from the Seminary Board of Trustees naming him Professor Emeritus of New Brunswick Theological Seminary. Dr. Dennis served as The Dirk Romeyn Professor of Metro-Urban Ministry and Director of Doctoral Ministry at NBTS from 1992-2015. He developed an urban concentration in NBTS' Master of Theological Studies and Master of Divinity degree

programs, and he established the first Doctor of Ministry in Metro-Urban Ministry degree for professional clergy development. He is an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church USA. Prior to coming to New Brunswick in 1992, he served for eight years as the Associate Executive for Metropolitan Ministries and Mission for the Presbytery of Detroit, supporting 92 churches and four campus ministries. From 1980 to 1985, he was pastor of First and Olivet Presbyterian Church, a multiracial congregation in Wilmington, Delaware, specializing in inner-city ministry in culturally diverse neighborhoods. As a retirement gift former students of Dr. Dennis established the Warren L. Dennis Lecture in Metro-Urban Ministry Endowment to ensure his legacy lives on in a new and tangible way.

The speaker each year will be invited by the President of NBTS, following the nomination of the speaker by the current holder of the Dirk Romeyn Professor of Metro-Urban Ministry chair and approval by the Faculty Council. At each event, scholars from disciplines that are outside the traditional walls of theological education who are working on urban studies and religion will also be considered.

#### **PUBLICATIONS:**

- "The Challenges of Afrocentric Ministry for Urban Theological Education", *Afrocentric Approaches to Christian Ministry: Strengthening Urban Congregations in African American Communities*, ed. Ronald Edward Peters, and Marsha Snulligan Haney, University Press of America, 2006.
- "A Commentary," *Transforming The City: Reframing Education For Urban Ministry*, ed. Eldin Villafane, Bruce W. Jackson, Robert A Evans, and Alice Frazer Evans, Wm. Eerdmans Publishing, 2001.
- *A Manual for Doctor of Ministry*: New Brunswick Theological Seminary, 1998; revised, 2001.
- "African-American Males: A Matter of Fact . . . A Matter of Faith", *National Council Presbyterian Men* (Louisville: PCUSA, 1992). A response to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA to Overture 90-90 from Pittsburgh Presbytery concerning the risks faced by African American males in this society.
- "In Service To An Urban Ministry Strategy" *Church and Society, PCUSA*, (Nov./Dec., 1995).
- "Urban Theological Education: A Conversation about Curriculum" *Journal of Theological Education*, (Fall, 1997).
- "Not In My Back Yard" *ACT Journal Vol. IX*, (Fall, 1998).

**EPISCOPAL URBAN CAUCUS - 37th ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**  
**Luncheon Speaker – The Very Rev. René John**



The Very Rev. René Rory John is the seventh Dean of Trinity Cathedral, Trenton, New Jersey. Elected October 2006. He has been a priest for thirty three years, and was originally ordained in the Diocese of Trinidad & Tobago at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Port of Spain, Trinidad. Prior to moving to Trinity Cathedral Dean John served at St. Thomas' in Brooklyn, a parish with twenty different nations represented among its members: Jamaica, Panama, Haiti, Montserrat, the Dominican Republic, Barbados, Trinidad, and the United States of America.

Since moving to New Jersey, Dean John has overseen the growth of many of the Cathedral's outreach ministries, including an expansion of the Food Pantry, opening of a satellite meal program of the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, a weekly farmers market- encouraging better nutrition for neighborhood residents. Dean John recruited lay leaders to revitalize the Cathedral's ministry with youth. Trinity Cathedral youth are now involved even at a Diocesan level, and have been a recipient of the Bishop Van Duzer College Scholarship Award. Dean John has coordinated for the past nine years, with Princeton University, a Community Action Week. During this week students get an opportunity to work and dialogue with organizations which serve the Trenton community, such as Trenton Area Soup Kitchen, Arm in Arm, and the Rescue Mission.

Dean John has also spearheaded opportunities for important discussions on gun violence, and it's contribution to the death of our citizens, as well as important informational forums on the Affordable Care Act with congressman Rush Holt.

Ministry for Dean John is about collaborating and learning to work in concert with others for the building up of our community. He has enjoyed serving on the Boards of several Trenton organizations such as Mobile Meals of Trenton, Interfaith Caregivers of Greater Mercer County, Trenton Ecumenical Area Ministry and the United Mercer Interfaith Organization a coalition of clergy working to seek a just and better Trenton.

**EPISCOPAL URBAN CAUCUS - 37th ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**  
**Workshop and Presenters**

**Commission on Black Ministry in the Diocese of New Jersey**

**Description**

When the commission was chartered in 2015, eight of the eleven Black congregations in the Diocese of NJ were without permanent clergy, an urgent situation. Bishop Stokes chartered this commission with priorities to include support for recruiting the new Canon Missioner for Black Ministries, assessment of Black congregations needs, developing vocations and supporting Black ministries within the Diocese.

This workshop outlines this unique ministry in NJ and the Episcopal Church.

**The Rev. Canon Brian Jemmott – First Canon Missioner for Black Ministries:**



Ordained a priest in the Diocese of Trinidad and Tobago in the Province of the West Indies on the Feast of St. Matthew, September 21, 1991, Fr. Jemmott has served in the Diocese of Atlanta since 1997 as a parish priest and in campus ministry. He has been rector of the Church of the Holy Cross in Atlanta since 2006. Fr. Jemmott earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from Episcopal Divinity School in 2009. His thesis was titled,

*"Other Sheep I Have: Realizing God's Kingdom Beyond the Margins by Celebrating God's Diversity in the Black Episcopal Church."* February 1, 2016 CFr. Jemmott was chosen as the Canon Missioner for Black Ministries in the Diocese of New Jersey. In January 2017 Canon Jemmott was named Canon to the Ordinary for the diocese.

**Members of the Commission:**

Canon Annette Buchanan (Chair), Ms. Wendy Blackman, Mr. Marcus Gales, Ms. Nataliece Moore, the Rev. Martin Oguke, the Rev. Deacon Clive Sang, Ms. Linda Shomo, the Rev. Leroy Saunders and the Rev. Canon James Wynn were appointed to the commission. The Rev. Canon Brian Jemmott – Canon Missioner for Black Ministries, joins the meetings as the staff liaison.

# EPISCOPAL URBAN CAUCUS - 37th ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

## Workshop and Presenters

### Anti-Racism in the Diocese of New Jersey

#### Description

The current Anti-racism initiatives in the Diocese of NJ is a result of actions taken to address past wrongs in our diocese. It is one of the most robust programs in the Episcopal Church, fully supported by diocesan budget with resolutions to ensure that those in leadership positions including clergy and lay attend the training. This workshop describes the history and program of the Anti-racism commission and team in the Diocese of New Jersey.

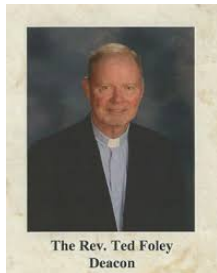
#### Presenters

##### **The Rev. Ted Moore, Deacon**



Ted Moore was ordained to the diaconate in June 2005 and now serves as deacon at Grace Church, Plainfield, NJ where several outreach ministries have been initiated including various health ministries and Grace's Community garden. Since 2013 he has served as Project Director for English as a Second Language (ESL) classes administered under the Plainfield Community Outreach umbrella. In 2010-11 Ted served St. Elizabeth's church in Elizabeth, NJ as Chaplain at the Kean University campus, Union, NJ. He has also served on several diocesan committees including Finance & Budget, Nominations, Committee on the Diaconate, the Anti-Racism Commission (co-chairperson) and the Black Clergy Caucus. Ted's secular employment has been mostly in pharmaceutical sales and marketing for Hoffmann-La Roche, Heathway's Communications and Syncom Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

##### **The Rev. Ted Foley, Deacon**



Ted Foley was ordained as a vocational deacon in the Diocese of NJ in May 2014. Since that time he has become progressively more active in justice ministries at both the diocesan and local parish levels. Along with Deacon Ted Moore, in 2015 Deacon Foley was appointed as co-chair of the Diocesan Anti-Racism Commission. In alignment with the Baptismal Covenant to "strive for justice and peace among all people" the strategic focus of this commission is to *undo institutional racism*. Deacon Foley currently serves as a deacon at Christ Episcopal Church, Toms River, NJ.

##### **Ms. Wendy Blackman**



Wendy is a thirty year member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Plainfield, New Jersey. She has served on Standing Committee, Diocesan Council, Youth Council, Anti-Racism Commission and other committees in the Diocese of NJ. She is also a member of UBE Earl B. Scott chapter for many years. Wendy is a retired Critical nurse who thoroughly enjoy being an advocate for justice in this country and the world.

## EPISCOPAL URBAN CAUCUS - 37th ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

### Workshop and Presenters

#### Jubilee Ministry in the Diocese of New Jersey

##### **Description**

This workshop highlights the journey, challenges and successes of implementing Jubilee Ministries in the Diocese of New Jersey.

##### **Presenter**



Canon Clara Gregory currently serves as the Jubilee Officer for the Diocese of New Jersey. Appointed to the Jubilee Office in November, 2010, she has grown our number of Jubilee Sites from 13 to 28.

Clara served as Senior Warden and Outreach Chairperson for Trinity Cathedral for many years. In this capacity, she broadened associations with local healthcare facilities, governments, colleges, and not-for-profit organizations; which has led to the establishment of various free services in the areas of healthcare, job development and social services to those most in need in Trenton and beyond. Through her dedication to food and nutrition ministries, Clara is also the co-founder of "The Healthier Heart Farmers' Market at Trinity Cathedral."

Clara is currently a board member of the following organizations representing the Diocese of New Jersey and the Cathedral: Anti-Poverty Network of NJ, NJ Council of Churches, Lutheran Episcopal Advocacy Ministry of NJ, and St. Francis Medical Center - Institutional Review Board. She has been recognized for her service and contributions to the community through numerous awards, including a State of New Jersey Joint Legislative Community Champion "Shero" Award, and a Molino Medicaid Community Champion Award.

Clara holds a Master of Public Administration Degree from Rutgers University, and a Certificate in Public Management/Policy from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Driven by her call to serve others through Christ, Clara's baptismal life and ministry are inspired by a quote from Mother Teresa, "The very fact that God has placed a certain soul in our way is a sign that God wants us to do something for him or her. It is not chance; it has been planned by God. We are bound by conscience to him or to her."