

# The Philadelphia Theological Institute

“Leading a tradition of theological inquiry”

[www.philadelphiatheologicalinstitute.org](http://www.philadelphiatheologicalinstitute.org)

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## **A REPORT TO THE CONVENTION OF THE DIOCESE OF PENNSYLVANIA --NOVEMBER 2009**

Philadelphia Theological Institute continued its ministry of theological inquiry in the Diocese of Pennsylvania with an out standing program for the academic year, 2008-2009.

On November 13, 2008 the annual preaching day was held at St. Mary's Church, Cathedral Road, Philadelphia PA. The program was led by the Very Rev. John "Jep" Streit, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral in Boston since 1995. Previously he served for eleven years as Episcopal Chaplain at Boston University.

Dean Streit led a structured program looking at the lectionary for the coming liturgical year with the purpose of equipping and energizing preachers. The workshop was interactive, with more questions raised than answers provided.

On February 2, 2009 the Rev. Dr. S. Mark Heim offered two separate programs.

In the afternoon we offered a Clergy Colloquium with Dr .Heim and a responder The Rt. Rev. Fredrick Borsch The lecture and discussion was titled "Saved From Sacrifice: New Light for Preaching in Lent" This was held at the Brossman Center of The Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia who were co-sponsors. The Lutheran Seminary was a good choice of location. Students could attend.

In the evening a public lecture was held at St. Paul's Chestnut Hill, 22 East Chestnut Hill Avenue, Philadelphia PA. The title of the lecture "The Scapegoat: Christ's Death and Our Theology" drew an audience from around the Diocese. St. Paul's Chestnut Hill is a co-sponsoring church. All co-sponsoring church members receive discounts or are admitted free to PTI events that have admission fees.

On March 23, 2009 a book launch occurred at Cathedral Village, Cathedral Road, Philadelphia, PA. PRAYING OUR DAYS: A GUIDE AND COMPANION is the latest book by the Rt. Rev. Frank T. Griswold the 25<sup>th</sup> Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church. The audience was very interested. Following his talk, Bishop Griswold signed books for those who wanted to purchase them.

On March 20 and 21 a weekend workshop was held at The Church of the Holy Spirit in Harleysville, PA. The topic for was “Emerging Ideas for Traditional Churches” with Brad Berglund This two day event offered an Taize workshop and worship on Friday evening. On Saturday the workshop was titled, “Worship As A Spiritual Practice-Emerging Ideas for Traditional Churches”. The event was co-sponsored by The Church of the Holy Spirit and the North Penn Choristers Guild. The church is a PTI sponsor.

The board was led by Dr. Daniell Hamby, chair. At the May 2009 meeting of the board the Rev. Thomas McClellan became the current chair. The Rev. Canon James L. Shannon serves as Executive Director.

PTI is funded by the contributions of interested individuals, a grant from the St. Andrew's Fund, The Bishop White Parish Library Association and program-sharing donations.