

MISSION

APM is

a community of caring people committed to the Church's human service ministries and the support of each other in those ministries.

THE ROLE OF OUR MEMBERS

is one of leadership in calling people forth to respond to their baptism through ministry and in modeling new ways of ministering.

WE ARE DEDICATED TO NURTURING RELATIONSHIPS

with individuals and organizations within the Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis and beyond its boundaries.

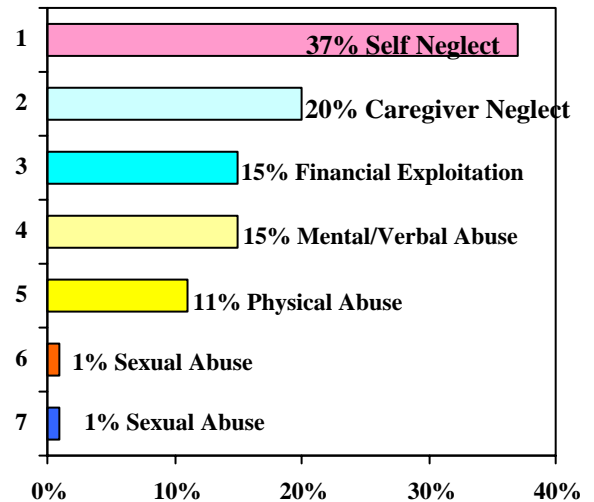
WE ARE A COMMUNITY OF DISCERNMENT

seeking to discover and to implement ways that will strengthen and improve the quality of our ministry modeled after the life and teachings of Jesus.

Training Trainers: Ministry to Vulnerable Adults

On a damp and sometimes snowy Saturday, November 8th, thirty participants and five VAT Task Force members gathered at St. Peter's in Mendota in the first ever Ministry to Vulnerable Adults Trainers workshop. It was the culmination of more than two years collaborative work by Task Force members and hopefully the beginning of something both useful and wonderful. Participants represented a broad spectrum of lay ministers serving in the Archdiocese as Stephen Ministers, Parish Nurses, Pastoral Ministers, Protection of Children and Youth Initiatives, Parish Services Team, RCIA Team, the Catholic Cemeteries Life Transition Ministries, Social Ministry, Shared Ministry, and Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound.

Adult Protection services in 29 states investigated more than 192,000 cases of alleged elder abuse in 2006. These cases involved:



90% of elder abuse and neglect takes place in the home.
Source: National Center on Elder Abuse

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Fall 2008 Ministry Day

On October 23, 2008 the Coalition of Ministry Associations (COMA) sponsored a special Ministry Day here in the Twin Cities. Attendance included over 260 ministers representing 13 different ministry associations serving the Archdiocese.



The scheduled speaker, Marti Jewell, was unable to be with us so she sent her

boss, instead! Christopher Anderson, Executive Director of the National Association for Lay Ministry (NALM), treated the Ministry Day attendees to an assortment of details, statistics and results of the Emerging Models of Pastoral Leadership Project.

The Emerging Models Project is a five year study of parishes and pastoral leadership, funded by a grant from the Lilly Endowment, Inc. It is a collaborative effort of six national organizations designed to develop solid research on pastoral leadership and to engage pastoral leaders in conversation about the future of parish leadership.

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From the Chair:

This Advent our theme of **Reflecting Christ's Light** is especially poignant. In this season of short days and darkness, we often turn inward and reflect on God's movement within us. This reflection will hopefully encourage and strengthen us to bring light to those to whom we minister.

APM offers opportunities to support you both personally and professionally. Make sure to save the date for our annual retreat day with Jackie Witter on January 30th. We need to take time to care for ourselves in order to continue to give to others.

I have heard good feedback and requests for more networking opportunities. At our fall programs we have taken our gathering time to share ideas around the topics of supporting the military and financial/emergency assistance. It is always helpful to hear what others are doing and to get new ideas. If you have topic ideas for future discussion let me know!

As you will read in this issue, our Vulnerable Adult Task Force has completed its task. The finished product is quite impressive and has been well received. Check out Mary Ann's article for the details.

May the Light of Christ surround you in a special way this Advent and Christmas Season!

Kathy Indihar, Chair

TIRED ? WANT QUIET TIME ?

If you are tired and want some quiet time off, Sr. Mary Lamski, CSJ, is offering a "Quiet Day in the City" private/directed retreat, on Wed. Dec. 3, '08, at Carondelet Center, 1890 Randolph in St. Paul, MN, 9:00-2:00 PM. Cost: \$70.

You'll have a room for yourself; coffee, tea and snacks will be provided. Bring your favorite lunch, and at noon have some conversation with other retreatants in the 3rd floor dining room. (Spiritual direction is offered at no extra cost.)

Sr. Mary is on the Boards of APM and COMA (Coalition of Ministries Assn.) and has been a pastoral minister and spiritual director for many years. She is a member of the Sacred Ground Spiritual Directors. To register: call Sacred Ground: 651-696-2798.

MINISTRY COALITION

At the Sept. 21, 2008 meeting of the Coalition of Ministries Association, I submitted for discussion the issue of "Expectations Regarding Full Time and Part Time Positions," one of the top concerns chosen by the APM Board from a list of issues from the National Association for Lay Ministers (NALM), entitled "Working In The Vineyard: A Position Statement on Employment Practices."

The Coalition members discussed our concerns about excessive demands and unrealistic expectations (e.g., "other duties as assigned") in ministry. Other coalition members' concerns were similar, and they added that despite their attempt to keep reasonable boundaries on their time, they were finding it difficult to do so, especially when there were crises in the parish or when their hours were cut, and the same or more work was assigned them.

The "Justice in Employment" document of the Archdiocese was mentioned as well as the possibility of talking to the business administrators about these issues to identify what might be helpful in these situations. One person expressed that she told her pastor that she couldn't take on additional work unless she gave up this and this etc. The Coalition will continue further discussion about these kinds of issues at our November meeting.

This fall the Coalition was busy making preparations for a special fall Ministry Day, Oct. 23, 2008 at Pax Christi in Eden Prairie. The "Emerging Models of Leadership" focused on the four years of research done across the country that involved six national ministry associations. Next spring, April 30, 2009, the annual spring Ministry Day will be at St. Joseph the Worker, Maple Grove. It will build on this fall's event by focusing on "Practicing New Models of Ministry." As Lay Ecclesial Ministers it is in our best interest to give ourselves the time to attend these in-service opportunities and discussions on models of emerging ministry practices. We are indeed in changing times in church ministries! These Ministry Days are meant to help us hear and discern what the Spirit is saying to our parish communities and to each of us who minister in so many diverse ways.

Mary Lamski, CSJ, APM Coalition Representative

Training Trainers: Ministry to Vulnerable Adults (cont)

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The morning session involved presenting the three-hour PowerPoint presentation that may be used to train staff and volunteers ministering to vulnerable adults. There was lively interaction and good sharing between participants and presenters. For those who attended and anyone else interested, the sources used by the task force in assembling the legal data were the Minnesota Statutes 626.557, 626.5572, Subdivision 16 (mandated and voluntary reporting) and section 214.01, Subdivision 2 which further defines the responsibilities of licensed occupations as regards protection of vulnerable adults in Minnesota.

After a delicious box lunch the afternoon session was dedicated to familiarizing participants with the "hot off the press" trainer's manual. Task force members answered questions and gave suggestions on how to use all the materials, including the manual, the PowerPoint CD and the volunteer training folder. Comments made as people left gave every indication the workshop was a success.

Thanks to all who participated. Special thanks to Lisa Amos and St. Peter's for the great hospitality in hosting this event. At this time plans are to hold a second trainers' workshop in the Spring of 2009, after Easter. Contact Mary Ann Kelly-Wright at 952-881-8671 or maryann.kelly-wright@nativitybloomington.org with your questions or for more information. Heartfelt gratitude to all who have supported bringing this effort to fruition and the mission of APM. Bless you!

Mary Ann Kelly-Wright, VAM Board Representative

Supervision

**All Pastoral Care Ministers, professional or volunteer, need to seek supervision!
No one should be ministering to vulnerable individuals
without support and consultation with trained and experienced professionals.**

REFLECTING CHRIST'S LIGHT THROUGH THE LENS OF OUR TIMES



Christ Through the Lens of our Times. Dorothy shared the depths of her passion for the New Creation story. Her enthusiasm for her subject matter was inspiring!

Sharing her personal theology and spirituality, Doro-

thy told us that as a disciple of Jesus Christ, it is helpful to focus on the humanity of Jesus, never denying His divinity, but that Christ's humanity made discipleship attainable for her.

Dorothy celebrated the mystery and wonder of our God as she described our place in the cosmic story. Citing the writings of Thomas Berry and other eco-spirituality writers, she reminded us that the worlds of science and theology intersect in delightful ways. Her comments at times were unsettling and challenging. But isn't that true of theology? To consider the mystery of our God is to realize that our questions will lead to more questions.

It was a blessing for us to hear the wisdom of this inspiring woman in what she referred to as "the last decade" of her life!

Chris Sorensen-Woodside. Program Co-Chair



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Communication Sue Edwards 952-934-5823
 Jamie Moloney 952-890-0045x234
Hospitality Julie Pfab 651-457-2781x7419
 Therese Marie Johnson 763-545-1443
Program Mary Deaner 612-874-0311
 Chris Sorensen Woodside 507-334-3396
Spirituality OPEN
VAM Board Rep Mary Ann Kelly-Wright 952-881-8671

BOARD MEETINGS

The Executive Board meets bi-monthly to implement the APM mission. APM members can play a vital role by helping to identify issues, needs, future leadership, and other concerns for the common good. Please call on any Board members listed above if you have suggestions or needs.

**WE WELCOME NEW APM MEMBERS
2008-2009**

Lisa Engstrom
St. Peter —Forest Lake

Deacon Bob Kelly
St. Thomas Becket in Eagan

Julie Meyer
Archdiocesan Parish Services Team

Louise Vossberg
Church of the Ascension in Minneapolis

Mark Your Calendar Now!

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| Program I Thurs. Dec. 11 9:00 a.m.—noon St. Williams | Catherine Michaud, CSJ “Spirit Working in the Church” |
| Winter Retreat Friday Jan. 30 9:00—3:00 St. Peter’s Mendota | Jackie Witter |
| Program II Wed. April 22 1:00—4:00 p.m. Mary Mother Burnsville | Rev. Dale Korogi |
| Ministry Day April 30, 2009 St. Joseph the Worker Maple Grove | MORE THAN WORDS Practicing New Models of Ministry |
| Spring Banquet Tues. May 26 6:00-9:00 p.m. Binz Refectory | TBA |

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Anderson shared the major findings of the project, enumerated examples of changing parish structures and evolving pastoral leadership roles, and discussed some of the recommendations that emerged. The National Ministry Summit recommendations are calling for formation and support of, and justice for pastoral leaders. Specific information on parish best practices and Summit recommendations can be found online at www.emergingmodels.org. Archbishop Nienstadt spoke briefly about our call to ministry and joined us for lunch.

Note: -Save the date! The COMA sponsored Ministry Day 2009 will be held on April 30 at St. Joseph the Worker in Maple Grove. The theme will be **“More than Words”—Practicing New Models of Ministry.**

Suzie Mrkvicka, Secretary



In the Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis

The Newsletter of the Association of Pastoral Ministers is published for its members as an expression of APM’s mission. Members input, suggestions, and feedback is valued and requested. Please direct this to any board member or email jm Spencer@morecommunity.org