



# DOCC

*Disciples of Christ in Community*



## Dear Friends of DOCC:

“DOCC is transformational. It changed my life forever.” Words or words like these are repeated over and over by people who have experienced the **DISCIPLES OF CHRIST IN COMMUNITY (DOCC)** course. Through lectures and small group discussions, people find a new understanding of Christ and a deepened commitment to both their faith journey and service to others.

Since its beginnings with **the Rev. John Jenkins** at Trinity, New Orleans, in 1974, DOCC has graduated nearly 30,000 participants in more than 400 churches nationwide. Today DOCC plays an integral role in the life of Washington National Cathedral—both locally and nationally. As the program’s national manager, the Cathedral seeks to enable communities near and far to engage in a step-by-step journey into the heart and soul of Christianity. Since 2006, the Cathedral’s own Congregation has enrolled 340 people in the DOCC program here, and we are excited to announce upcoming training sessions for new and existing presenters and group facilitators at the Cathedral, from June 20 to 22, and at the Kanuga Conference Center, Hendersonville, North Carolina, from June 15 to 20.

DOCC strives to build a Christ-centered community. Beginning in the small groups formed during the course, such a community is not rooted in doctrine—but in what the New Testament calls *agape*: unconditional, no-strings-attached love. DOCC explores what difference the Christian faith can really make in our lives and how we can come to know the depth and power it truly has to offer.

The success of the national DOCC program is attributed to volunteers and participants like you. As solid testimony to the power of DOCC, many participants have indicated that they feel a stronger connection to God and their faith journey. This newsletter features a significant partnership underway in Baltimore across race and class lines and shows how DOCC works in prisons. DVD recordings of DOCC programs are now available as a virtual vehicle, which brings DOCC to your own home or parish. Also of note is DOCC’s follow-up companion course, **TRANSFORMING LITERATURE OF THE BIBLE (TLB)**.

We hope you will join us at the Cathedral from June 20 to 22 to complete the required 18 hours of training for presenters and group facilitators. Training for seminar leaders for the TLB course is also offered over ten hours, June 20 and 21. It is not necessary to be a DOCC graduate to take TLB. More information and registration instructions are provided inside. For groups of 12 or more, you may request that training be brought to your own church or community.

To learn more, view the DOCC syllabus, or to read a sample lecture, visit [www.nationalcathedral.org](http://www.nationalcathedral.org). For questions related to the national DOCC program, please contact the DOCC office at (877) 537-2356.

*William H Barnwell*

The Rev. William Barnwell  
 canon missionary, Washington National Cathedral  
 and national DOCC coordinator



*Canon William Barnwell with class*

## Training for Transformative Literature of the Bible (TLB) Seminar Leaders

JUNE 20–21, 2008

*Register soon—attendance for TLB is limited to 20 participants.*

In this 36-week course, participants “plow deep” into the great stories and events of Scripture. In seminars of 12 or fewer, participants respond first to the content of selected passages and then reflect on how these writings touch their lives. Fifteen seminar groups have now completed TLB and report high evaluations from their participants.

Part One focuses on the Hebrew Scripture and Part Two focuses on the Christian Testament. Participants may take one part of the course at a time. Each session requires two to four hours of preparation. TLB is designed as a follow-up to basic DOCC, but basic DOCC is not required.

The Cathedral TLB training begins on Friday, June 20, at 2 PM, and ends by Saturday, June 21, at 3 PM. A fee of \$135 per person double occupancy or \$115 per person single occupancy at the Cathedral College includes meals. An additional fee of \$150 for licensing and materials includes two commentaries by Canon Barnwell, *Oxford Annotated Bible (NRSV)*, and *Listening For God*.

To register, please send a check or money order made payable to *Washington National Cathedral* to the attention of Ruby Robertson. See the registration form for more details.

The required ten hours of training for TLB seminar leaders will be offered at Kanuga, Hendersonville, North Carolina during their Christian Formation Conference, June 20–25, 2008, as well as at Washington National Cathedral, June 21–22, 2008.

Call **Ruby Robertson** at (877) 537-2356, or e-mail [docc@cathedral.org](mailto:docc@cathedral.org) for more information. Visit [www.nationalcathedral.org](http://www.nationalcathedral.org) to view the TLB syllabus and two sample lectures.



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## DOCC and TLB Training at Kanuga

JUNE 15–20, 2008

The Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, North Carolina, is offering DOCC and TLB training at their annual Christian Formation conference.

Longtime DOCC presenter **the Rev. Jim Pritchett**, canon to the ordinary of Western North Carolina, presents DOCC training, and **Ford Rowan** of Annapolis, Maryland, presents TLB training.

Kanuga would like participants in DOCC and TLB to be part of the entire Christian Formation Conference, but you may register for only the portions of the conference in which DOCC and TLB are offered. Pritchett may be reached at (828) 225-6656. Contact **Crystal Swafford** at (828) 692-9136 for details or to register. Visit [www.kanuga.org](http://www.kanuga.org) for more details on the June conference.

## DOCC Now Available on DVD

For churches whose clergy are not able to give the DOCC lectures, a DVD with a study guide for participants is now available. The DVD was made as **Washington National Cathedral Dean Samuel T. Lloyd III** and **Canon William Barnwell** gave the DOCC lectures at the Cathedral during seventeen weeks beginning in the fall of 2006. Small group facilitators must have the same training as the facilitators in the regular DOCC groups.

The “DVD DOCC” is now being offered at Christ Church, Kensington, Maryland. **Ron Owen**, a DOCC facilitator there, says:

What a great opportunity for churches with limited resources to enjoy the DOCC journey when local lecturers are not available. The high-quality DVD program provides virtually the same great DOCC experience received by participants at the Cathedral. This is a good way to bring DOCC to your church.

Call Owen (904) 612-3243 or Barnwell for more information. The DVD and study guide (which can be reproduced by your church) cost \$100.

## Training for DOCC Presenters and Facilitators\*

JUNE 20–22, 2008

The Cathedral DOCC facilitator training begins on Friday, June 20, at 2 PM and ends by Sunday, June 22, at 3 PM. Washington National Cathedral can accommodate thirty non-commuting participants on a first come, first served basis at the Cathedral College. The cost for those staying at the College is \$350 for single occupancy and \$298 for double occupancy per person. This includes all meals, the one-time fee of \$100 for the DOCC manuals, and licensing fee. The cost is \$185 per person without lodging, with meals. There are also numerous hotels located near the Cathedral—please call (202) 537-5522 if you are unsure of booking your accommodations.

All meals are served except for Saturday night when participants can enjoy a meal at a local restaurant.

Call **Ruby Robertson** at (877) 537-2356, or e-mail [docc@cathedral.org](mailto:docc@cathedral.org) for more information. Visit [www.nationalcathedral.org](http://www.nationalcathedral.org) to view the syllabus.

\*You must be recommended by your rector or priest-in-charge to take part in DOCC for facilitators. Those who will be offering DOCC in prisons will participate in the regular program but will have special times together.



*Cathedral Dean Samuel T. Lloyd with a DOCC group*

## DOCC Helps Establish a Black/White Partnership in Baltimore, Maryland

Faith Lutheran Church, an African-American congregation in Baltimore, Maryland, and the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, an affluent church near the suburbs, have been participating together in DOCC since November. They take turns meeting at each church. The partnership (FLARE) began a year ago as a joint Bible study. The study was so important to those who participated that they decided to do DOCC together.

**The Rev. John Heinemeier**, pastor at Faith, says of the program:

At our last session when we were talking about 'Jesus and the Kingdom of God,' the group, holding fast at forty, agreed that this shared DOCC program is one of the most meaningful experiences they have had of the coming Kingdom of God, what Dr. King called 'the beloved community.'

**The Rev. Paul Tunkle**, rector at Redeemer, says: "This is a new experience for many of the members of Redeemer, and they have found that their Biblical perspectives have been enlarged and their circle of relationships expanded. We are finding this both joyous and challenging and in both cases, faithful to the Gospel."

One of the reasons Baltimore DOCC is working so well is that both Heinemeier and Tunkle are fully committed to it and attend every session. What a great model this is for our churches so separated by race, class, denomination, and geography.

Contact either Heinemeier, at (410) 534-2419; Tunkle, at (410) 435-7333; or Barnwell, at (202) 537-5522 for further information.

## DOCC Goes Into Prisons

A few years ago, DOCC's founder, **the Rev. John Jenkins**, developed a version of DOCC designed for follow-up to the broad-based prison ministry, Kairos, which now serves 340 prisons throughout the nation. Titled *The Journey* (so as not to confuse the DOCC acronym with Department of Corrections), DOCC in prisons has worked well. **Ike Griffin**, the former executive director of Kairos, says:

*The Journey* plays a key role in providing a safe place for prison residents to become vulnerable, something that is not supposed to happen in prison. Unlocking vulnerability allows love and compassion to take root in their lives.

"What I like about DOCC is that it helps us listen to each other, like the way God listens to us."

DOCC has also functioned well at Angola, the huge Louisiana state prison north of Baton Rouge. One inmate said, "What I like about DOCC is that it helps us listen to each other, like the way God listens to us." Another said, "What I like so much about DOCC is it's not about doctrine. It's about that *agape* and our responsibility to one another. We got fundamentalist Baptists, Catholics, Muslims, fundamentalists everything in here. If we started arguing about doctrine, we'd be killing each other.

We'd be like the Middle East."

Griffin says we need more people trained to do DOCC in prisons. If you would like to be a DOCC presenter or facilitator in prisons, contact Griffin at (407) 657-1828. Please consider attending our DOCC training at the Cathedral June 20-22, 2008. For those who work in prisons, we will waive the \$100 licensing fee. **Ford Rowan**, a long-time DOCC presenter and facilitator and the past president of Kairos in Maryland, will help with the training.



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# June Training Registration Information

## Name & Address

Name .....

Church Name .....

Address.....

City..... State..... Zip.....

Phone ..... Fax.....

E-mail .....

## I plan to attend

DOCC training

TLB training

Do you have access requirements (please describe)?.....

Do you have special meal requirements (please describe)?.....

## If you plan to stay at the Cathedral College, please include additional information:

Single room

Double room

Roommate (if preference) .....

*The Cathedral College is a nonsmoking facility.*

**Method of Payment** Check or money order only. Make checks payable to *Washington National Cathedral*.

Return completed form and payment to:

WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL  
Attn: DOCC  
Massachusetts and Wisconsin Avenues, NW  
Washington, DC 20016-5098

For confirmation of your registration, please include an e-mail address or fax number.

## Refund Policy

A handling fee of \$50 is deducted for cancellations. Refunds or substitute requests must be made in writing and received by mail or by e-mail to [docc@cathedral.org](mailto:docc@cathedral.org).

For more information, please visit [www.nationalcathedral.org](http://www.nationalcathedral.org) or call (877) 537-2356.

“We are finding this both joyous and challenging...”



WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL  
Massachusetts and Wisconsin Avenues, NW  
Washington DC 20016-5098



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## DOCC National Committee Seeks Volunteers

The DOCC National Committee seeks to dynamically expand the reach of DOCC from Washington National Cathedral to Christian communities throughout the country. The goal is to build Christ-centered communities and a deepened commitment to faith and service to others. If you are interested in being part of this work and spreading the teachings of DOCC nationwide contact **Mona Hanford**, chair of the National DOCC Committee, at [docc@cathedral.org](mailto:docc@cathedral.org).