

# ST. BENEDICT'S WORKSHOP

Equipping Disciples | Nurturing Vocations | Strengthening Communities

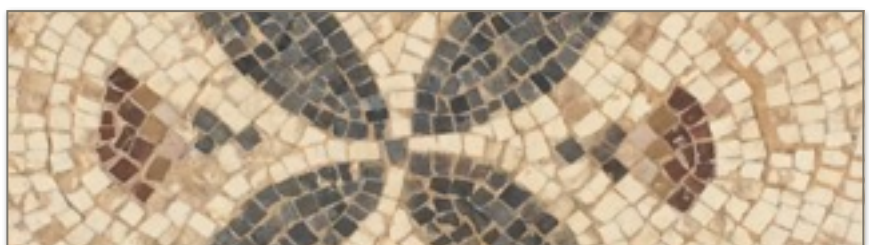
## The Workshop's New Collaboration with Seminary of the Southwest

St. Benedict's Workshop and Seminary of Southwest in Austin recently began working together to expand the reach of their overlapping ministries. To facilitate the new relationship, John Lewis was appointed as Southwest's part-time Interim Director of Formational Outreach. He joins Jane Patterson, Assistant Professor of New Testament at Southwest, to bring 15 years of Workshop experience and expertise in Christian formation to help the seminary develop a program for church-wide lay formation. John will also oversee the seminary's program for clergy continuing education and the Iona Initiative at Southwest. The Iona program is a creative nationwide consortium for educating mainly bi-vocational priests and deacons in 20 participating Episcopal dioceses. Locally adaptable, the program provides resources for ministerial training in diocesan communities.



## Bishop Gary Lillibrige to Join the Workshop

The photo above shows The Rt. Rev. Gary and Catherine Lillibrige overlooking the caves of Qumran while they were participating in the Workshop's pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2014. After he retires as Bishop of the Diocese of West Texas in June 2017, Gary will join the staff of St. Benedict's Workshop in a part-time capacity to teach, write, lead Workshop study groups, and participate in the Iona teaching program. We look forward to the new ways God will shape us through Gary's wisdom and experience, relaxed style, and dedicated commitment to teaching and proclaiming the gospel of Christ. Please join us as we enthusiastically welcome Gary and Catherine to the Workshop community. Watch for details!





### **Benedictine Experience Duncan Park, Colorado**

For the second summer in a row, the Workshop hosted a group of church leaders for a Benedictine Experience at Duncan Park, a camp of the Diocese of West Texas in the beautiful Rocky Mountains of Colorado. The weeklong gathering gives participants the opportunity to live in a Christian community shaped by the rhythms of Benedictine life that include prayer, scripture study, worship, work, leisure, and hospitality. This challenging, rewarding week continues the Workshop's focus on forming leaders for the future's new, emerging church.



### **Deadline Approaches to Register for the Workshop's 2017 Holy Land Pilgrimage**

Experience the palpable holiness of the places where people first encountered the love of God through Christ. This May 31 - June 13 pilgrimage will allow ample time for contemplation and reflection on scripture together at various sites known through the Gospels. Registration closes in January 2017. For more details contact Katherine at the Workshop (210-599-4224).

### *Weekend Workshop on Vocation Challenges the Church*

St. Benedict's Workshop recently gathered a diverse group of Episcopal church leaders, both lay and ordained, to consider new ways for approaching vocational discernment in the church and in daily life. Over the weekend of November 11-13 at Camp Capers, Dr. Kathleen Cahalan, Professor of Practical Theology at St. John's University (Collegeville, MN) and Convener of the Collegeville Seminars on Vocation, and writer Laura Fanucci, M.Div., opened our vision to the wide variety of ways in which God calls us to love and work over the course of our lives. The assembled group included Bishops' representatives from the dioceses of Wyoming, Texas, and West Texas, as well as members of the Discernment Committee and Examining Chaplains of West Texas and the Commission on Ministries at St. Mark's in San Antonio.

Through your gifts and the sustaining support of the Workshop community, we continue to promote the vision of lay and clergy vocational discernment expressed in the canons of the Episcopal Church:

*Each Diocese shall make provision for the affirmation and development of the ministry of all baptized persons, including: (a) Assistance in understanding that all baptized persons are called to minister in Christ's name, to identify their gifts with the help of the Church and to serve Christ's mission at all times and in all places. (b) Assistance in understanding that all baptized persons are called to sustain their ministries through commitment to life-long Christian formation.... The Bishop and Commission [on Ministry] shall provide encouragement, training, and necessary resources to assist each congregation in developing an ongoing process of community discernment appropriate to the cultural background, age, and life experiences of all persons seeking direction in their call to ministry.*

