

March 2008



## Fresh Start 3.0 Here and Now!

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Here and Now!*

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**FRESH START  
IS NOW  
ACTIVE IN:**

**\* 52 DIOCESES  
IN THE  
UNITED  
STATES**

**\* 5 DIOCESES  
IN THE  
ANGLICAN  
CHURCH OF  
CANADA**

**\* THE  
DIOCESE OF  
LIVERPOOL,  
UNITED  
KINGDOM**

### *New Curriculum Introduced*

Fresh Start 3.0, the upgraded curriculum for clergy and congregations in transition, is available for use now. Launched at the National Facilitators Gathering at Camp Allen in December, the revised material contains more resources, is more versatile, and provides a more user-friendly and flexible format.

Responding to facilitator requests, the new modules now have more in-depth content and provide additional ideas for presentation. Each module contains a resource guide that includes handouts and suggestions for use. There is also a comprehensive bibliography at the front of the manual and a specific one for each module.

Another exciting feature of the new curriculum is the section titled

“Fresh Start in Your Congregation: A Resource for Clergy,” which provides hands-on tools for clergy to use in their own congregations.

Reaction to the new curriculum is overwhelmingly positive, and those attending the Gathering had many laudatory things to say about the changes. “The materials are elegantly designed with lots of content that can be easily presented,” said one participant. Another commented, “The resources and the layout for each module offers an almost fool-proof curriculum.”

Sandy Kolb, (Diocese of Washington and Fresh Start Coordinator for Curriculum), supervised the creation of the new material, both writing modules and over-

seeing the work of the other authors: the Rev. Meghan Froehlich (Ohio); Lynn Schmissrauter (East Tennessee and Fresh Start Coordinator for Training); and Nancy Warren (Washington). A Curriculum Development Team reviewed each draft module and suggested edits. Team members included the Rev. Canon Tim Rich (New Hampshire), the Rev. Canon Ernie Bennett (Central Florida), the Rev. Susan Keller (Washington), and Billie Alban (Connecticut), along with Lynn and Sandy.

For more about Fresh Start 3.0, and a complete “walk through” of the curriculum changes, please visit our website.

### *2008 Facilitator Training Events*

Two Fresh Start Facilitator Training Events are on the calendar for 2008. The first, to be held April 15-18 at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, AZ, will be our first Fresh Start 3.0 training. There are a few openings left at this event. To register, visit our website and download the registration form. Complete and fax the form to 901-523-8952 to ensure a slot. Then mail the form and check as indicated. Scottsdale is lovely at this time of year!

The second training event in 2008 is scheduled for St. Christopher’s Conference Center on Seabrook Island, SC, October 21-24. Registration information for this event will soon be available online.

These events promise to be enlightening as well as fun, and both are planned in beautiful locations. Contact Lynn at [Lynn@episcopalfreshstart.org](mailto:Lynn@episcopalfreshstart.org) for more information.

Visit us on the web at: [www.episcopalfreshstart.org](http://www.episcopalfreshstart.org)



## Website Expanded and Updated

**Fresh Start FAQ:** I am already trained for Fresh Start but my materials are FS 2.0. How do I get the new curriculum?

**Answer:** If you have already completed national Fresh Start training, but were not at the Gathering in December 2007, please download the “walk through” of curriculum changes from the Fresh Start website (click on the “Training” tab, then on FS 3.0) and review it. Then contact the liaison for your diocese (see article on the right) to arrange a telephone briefing. After the briefing you will be given access to the new curriculum. For more information, please contact your diocesan liaison.

Take a minute to log onto the internet and go to:

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

You will see the new Fresh Start website, complete with information about training events, curriculum, national trainers, sponsoring agencies and staff.

In addition to general information regarding Fresh Start, the

new website offers 3.0 facilitators access to a restricted section containing downloadable versions of the entire curriculum, including the most recent updates and additions. This feature provides facilitators with up to the minute information, and it helps us be better stewards of our environment.

### *Some Old/Some New at Fresh Start 3.0 Training*

If you have been to a Fresh Start Training event you know we focus on providing the best experience for all participants. Our goal is to meet participants where they are and make sure they leave a training event with their expectations met—as a minimum.

National evaluations of the program indicate that the success of Fresh Start depends on the skills and commitment of its facilitators. Our training provides all Fresh Start facilitators

(new and existing) with up-to-date information regarding facilitation skills and program design.

If your diocese is new to Fresh Start we help you develop an implementation plan. If you are training for an ongoing program we can help you to re-energize the program with new information and resources. Or...we can help you customize your program for congregational leaders or other target groups.

### *Diocesan Liaisons Named*

As of January 2008, responsibility for serving as the liaison between Fresh Start and the dioceses has transferred to Sandy Kolb and Lynn Schmissrauter. They will be the principal contacts for coordinators of existing diocesan programs and will encourage the participation of dioceses who have not yet implemented Fresh Start. Sandy will be the liaison to dioceses in Provinces I, II, III and V. Lynn will assume responsibility for dioceses in Provinces IV, VI, VII, and VIII. Diocesan Fresh Start coordinators will be hearing from Lynn and Sandy soon as we begin the development of a Fresh Start database.

### Save the Dates 3.0 Training

- Facilitator Training will be held at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Scottsdale, Arizona, April 15-18, 2008. Reserve your spot at this event now!
- Fall 2008 Training to be held October 21-24 at St. Christopher's Conference Center, Seabrook Island, South Carolina

**Don't forget to  
check the website  
for updates to  
3.0 Curriculum!**

### Fresh Start Contacts

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## *Supporting Fresh Start: It Takes a Village*

In addition to the two Fresh Start coordinators, Sandy Kolb and Lynn Schmissrauter, support for Fresh Start is provided by several members of the CREDO Institute staff. The Rev. Mike Ehmer is the overall managing director of the program. He is assisted by Amy Smith, administrative coordinator, and Cindy Vaughn, event and meeting associate. You are

likely to hear from Amy concerning administrative and logistical issues supporting the national program. Issues around meetings (training conferences and our biennial Gathering) fall into Cindy's area of responsibility. Behind the scenes help comes from Chris Austin, information technology associate, and Rhonda Horn, financial associate. Other CREDO staff

members pitch in when needed.

The entire national Fresh Start program is overseen by three agencies:

- Center for Mission Leadership at the Episcopal Church Center
- Episcopal Church Foundation
- CREDO Institute, Inc.

Visit us on the web at: [www.episcopalfreshstart.org](http://www.episcopalfreshstart.org)