

JANUARY 22—24, 2010
PHINNEY RIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON



DIANA BUTLER BASS FEATURED *THE WAY* AT PHINNEY RIDGE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN HER BOOK, CHRISTIANITY FOR THE REST OF US.

THE WAY IS AN EXPRESSION OF THE ANCIENT CATECHUMENATE PROCESS OF FORMING NEW CHRISTIANS.

IT IS ALSO A TOOL FOR TODAY'S CHURCH TO WELCOME PEOPLE BACK TO FAITH AND SHAPE THEM IN PRIMARY FAITH PRACTICES OF WORSHIP, PRAYER, SCRIPTURE AND MINISTRY TO THE WORLD.

BRING A TEAM FROM YOUR CONGREGATION, CLERGY AND LAY, TO LEARN ABOUT THE WAY AND HOW YOUR CONGREGATION MIGHT BRING OTHERS TO THE WAY OF CHRIST.

EVENT LEADERS ARE PASTORS PAUL HOFFMAN AND BEV PIRO AND LAY CATECHISTS.

FAITH AND FONT

FOLLOWING THE WAY OF CHRIST

TRAINING FOR PARISH TEAMS, LEADERS AND STUDENTS

WHAT: An experiential training event in the catechumenate process and rites as featured in *Christianity for the Rest of Us* by Diana Butler Bass

WHEN: Friday, January 22 through Sunday, January 24, 2010
registration begins at 5 PM on Friday; the event concludes at 4 PM Sunday

WHERE: All sessions and rites will take place at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church, 7500 Greenwood Avenue North, Seattle, Washington 98103.

Registrants are invited to secure their own accommodations.

COST: The registration fee for Faith and Font is \$150 per person. Student rate for seminarians is \$75 per person. Discounts for congregations bringing 3 or more people.

REGISTER: Mail the registration form, along with payment (payable to PRLC) to **FAITH AND FONT**, c/o Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church, 7500 Greenwood Ave N, Seattle, WA 98103.

Please register early.

Registration deadline is December 30, 2009.

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REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Congregation _____

I am a lay person pastor, elder, deacon seminary student

\$150 full registration fee

\$125 discount registration fee
(I am attending with a group of at least 3 from my congregation.)

\$75 seminary student fee

Enclose a check payable to PRLC and mail to
Faith and Font
c/o Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church
7500 Greenwood Ave N
Seattle, WA 98103

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What happens at a Faith and Font Training Event?

Over the course of 25 hours together participants have the opportunity to learn about and practice elements of the catechumenal process.

Guided by lay catechists from catechumenal churches in the Seattle area, liturgist Pastor Paul Hoffman and convener Pastor Bev Piro, both from Phinney Ridge, join with lay and clergy participants from across the US and form a “mini congregation” for three days.

“Real People” share their “real stories” of coming to faith through the catechumenate process. Participants join with the full Phinney Ridge congregation for worship on Sunday morning which includes the Rite of Welcome for candidates in the PRLC process known as *The Way*.

At past events, folks have come from as far away as Pennsylvania, Indiana and California and as near as Seattle suburbs. They came from Lutheran, Episcopalian, and Methodist churches and from synods, dioceses and seminaries. They came because they have heard a calling to reach out to the unchurched with the goodness and grace of God.

Pastor John Carlson of Coatesville, PA jumped right in and began the process in Lent the very same year. Pastor Carlson and his team interpreted the language of the catechumenate in a way that feels more authentic to them: The process is called *GIFT (Growing in Faith Together)*; “sojourners” are paired with “companions in faith” from the congregation and they meet in small groups led by “shepherds.”

Here’s part of a letter from a local congregation after a group of 10 members attended Faith and Font with their pastor.

On behalf of Prince of Peace’s new small core of catechists, thank you for the excellent Faith and Font training event. It was beautifully and graciously organized and orchestrated. Many of the people who attended from Prince of Peace said it was the best weekend workshop they had ever attended (and I have accompanied them to no small number of workshops!)

We learned a lot. We came home and jumped with both feet into a six-week Lenten program of small group meetings. We had leaders prepared and confident to launch six distinct small groups! In one month, the small group experience has already made a palpable difference in our cohesion as a community and in our understanding of the small group as a vehicle for evangelism and faith formation.

The catechumenate is an *experiential* process of growing in faith. There are lots of books to read about the catechumenate (see www.catechumenate.org for an extensive bibliography) but the incarnational nature of God’s Word makes participation in a training weekend the very best way to grab hold of the process so that it can be incarnated in your own setting. Bring a group with you to be best prepared to spring into action in your congregation. You and your congregation will never be the same.