

## Samson Occom

Samson Occom, the first ordained Native American minister, was born a member of the Mohegan nation near New London, Connecticut in 1723. By the age of sixteen, Occom had been exposed to the evangelical preaching of the Great Awakening. In 1743, he began studying theology at the school of congregational minister Eleazar Wheelock, later founder of Dartmouth College. Occom did mission work among the Native Americans in New England and Montauk, Long Island. In 1759, he was ordained a Presbyterian minister. In 1766, at the behest of Eleazar Wheelock, Occom went to England where he was to raise money for Wheelock's Indian charity school. He preached extensively for over a year, traveling across England and raising over eleven thousand pounds from wealthy patrons including King George III. When he returned from England, however, his family supposedly under the care of Wheelock, was found destitute, and the school for which he had labored moved to Hanover, New Hampshire, where it became Dartmouth College. The funds he had raised had been put toward the education of Englishmen rather than Native Americans. Following a disagreement with the colonial government of Connecticut over a lack of compensation for lands they had sold, Occom and many other Mohegans moved to Oneida territory in upstate New York. There, he and his companions founded the Brothertown Community. In his day, Occom was renowned for his eloquence and spiritual wisdom, and his work among the Mohegans of Connecticut, many of whom became Christians under his guidance, which helped them to avoid later relocation.



*God, Great Spirit, whose breath gives life to the world and whose voice thunders in the wind: We thank you and your servant Samson Occom, strong preacher and teacher among the Mohegan people; and we pray that we, cherishing his example, may love learning and by love build up the communities into which you send us, and on all our paths walk in beauty with Jesus Christ; who with you and the Holy Spirit, is alive and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen*

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## Calendar of Events

*If you would like to see your event listed here, please email [Clelia](mailto:Clelia) or [garritycpg@gmail.com](mailto:garritycpg@gmail.com). If you would like to see your event listed in the diocesan calendar, please email [Barbara](mailto:Barbara).*

### SAVE THE DATES

**Jul 1-31, OPEN DOORS AT TRINITY RENO; 200 Island Ave., Reno, NV.** Pipes on the River, organ concert every Friday Noon-12:30 PM; Stained Glass Artist lecture and tour; Jul 6, 10:30 AM-12 Noon; Labyrinth Walk with music and art, Jul 11, 4:00-8:00 PM; Summer Faire and Festival, Jul 24, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM.

**Jul 11-18, A BENEDICTINE EXPERIENCE, Bishop's Ranch, Healdsburg, CA.** A time to nurture and strengthen our daily lives through prayer and spiritual companionship. For detailed information, or to register, please contact The Friends of St. Benedict at 202-363-8061, or [saintbenedict@verizon.net](mailto:saintbenedict@verizon.net)

**Jul 20, EPIPHANY, LAS VEGAS BOOKCLUB** will meet to discuss *The Brief and Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz, 6:30 PM

**Jul 24, GALILEE BENEFIT CONCERT, St. Patrick's Episcopal Church in Incline Village, 3:00 PM.** Music will be performed by pianist Andrew Campbell and violinist Katie McLin. All proceeds go to Galilee Episcopal Camp and Conference Center. Admission Fee \$20. For tickets, please contact Galilee at 775-749-5546, or visit the St. Patrick's Church Office.

**Jul 31, JOURNALING WORKSHOP: Roisin O'Loughlin, D.Min, presenter, Stillpoint Center for Spiritual Development, Las Vegas, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM.** Cost \$45.

**Jul 31, LAY LITURGICAL LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP, Coventry Cross Episcopal Church, Minden, 1:00 - 5:00 PM.** This workshop is open to all persons interested in liturgical leadership. The workshop is necessary for those seeking to be a licensed Eucharistic Visitor or a Worship Leader in the diocese. For information or to register contact Canon Chuck McCray at [frensdorff.school@gmail.com](mailto:frensdorff.school@gmail.com)

**Aug 4, 11, 18, 25, DREAM GROUP, Cathy Pagano, MA, facilitator. Stillpoint Center for Spiritual Direction, Las Vegas, 6:00 - 8:00 PM.** Newcomers Welcome! \$20 per person.

**Aug 7, INTRODUCTION TO CENTERING PRAYER WORKSHOP: Based on the Teachings of Fr. Thomas Keating, Stillpoint Center for Spiritual Development, Las Vegas, 9:00 AM - Noon.** Freewill offering.

**Aug 10, MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE DIOCESE OF NEVADA offered by the Episcopal Divinity School.** An eight-week online course that focuses on identifying ways to empower people to effectively engage in the world through the ministry of the baptized. No fee. To enroll contact [frensdorff.school@gmail.com](mailto:frensdorff.school@gmail.com)

**Aug 14, GALILEE 90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, 2:00 - 8:00 PM.** Barbecue Dinner at 6:00 PM. We will celebrate this important anniversary with an afternoon of barbecue, as well as singing, kayaking, guided hikes, and a worship service. Bishop Dan Edwards will join in the celebration with a special pre-dinner Eucharist. No registration is necessary for those coming for the day. For those interested in staying the night, the cost is \$40/person, which includes a brunch on August 15th. To make reservations, please call 775-749-5546.

**Aug 19, THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS: A Presentation by Margaret Towne, PhD, Stillpoint Center for Spiritual Development, Las Vegas.** 10-11:30 AM. Freewill offering.

**Aug 21-22, HEALING TOUCH SPIRITUAL MINISTRY, Jeanne Clark, MA presenter. Stillpoint Center for Spiritual Development, Las Vegas.** Cost \$300 (\$150 for repeaters; \$225 for full-time students) 16 credit hours for massage therapists.

**Aug 31, APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR ARTISTS TO REPRESENT THEIR PARISH AT THE 2010 DIOCESE OF NEVADA CONVENTION IN OCTOBER.** Add inspirational art to the Diocese of Nevada. Create and share your works of visual art at the 2010 convention. For information, or to submit a piece of artwork, contact Meg Table at [megtable@hotmail.com](mailto:megtable@hotmail.com) 4500 Pisa Dr. Reno, NV 89509; 775-827-2516.

**Sep 3-6, SOLO FLIGHT AT 20: VISIONING THE FUTURE FOR SINGLE ADULTS IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Richmond, VA.** As Solo Flight gathers for its 20th consecutive year, the coordinators are discerning the future and looking to conduct visioning sessions centering on being single in The Episcopal Church. For further information and registration: <http://www.soloflightministry.net>

**Sep 8, PASTORAL CARE EDUCATION: AN ONLINE INTRODUCTION TO THE FUNDAMENTALS OF PASTORAL CARE offered by the Frensdorff School of Christian Education.** The two-semester class will offer a complete overview of the basic disciplines of pastoral care. It will be taught via Adobe Connect by Jodi Lediard, Maryellen Waltz, Clelia Garrity, Jan Olandese, and Bishop Dan Edwards. The class is strongly recommended for persons currently in vocational discernment for Holy Orders, or for those persons who have been ordained but unable to attend formal Clinical Pastoral Education. Registration for the class is limited. Contact [frensdorff.school@gmail.com](mailto:frensdorff.school@gmail.com)

**Sep 17-19, 24th ANNUAL WESTBERG PARISH NURSE SYMPOSIUM; Thriving in a Changing World.** Embassy Suites & St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles MO. [For information, or to register](#)

**Sep 18, SERVANT-LEADERSHIP**, a model of leadership that is based on shared power, shared decision-making, building trust, collaboration, and mutual accountability. Servant-Leadership training seeks to draw on the gifts, strengths, and abilities of each person in the congregation. **Trinity Church, Reno, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM.** Workshop space is limited. To enroll contact [frensdorff.school@gmail.com](mailto:frensdorff.school@gmail.com)

**Sep 19, SERVANT-LEADERSHIP**, a model of leadership that is based on shared power, shared decision-making, building trust, collaboration, and mutual accountability. Servant-Leadership training seeks to draw on the gifts, strengths, and abilities of each person in the congregation. **Christ Church, Las Vegas, 1:00 - 5:00 PM.** Workshop space is limited. To enroll contact [frensdorff.school@gmail.com](mailto:frensdorff.school@gmail.com)

**Oct 8-10, 1ST ANNUAL DIOCESAN WOMEN'S RETREAT** sponsored by St. Peter's Church, Carson City. The diocesan-wide retreat for Women of Faith will be held at Galilee Episcopal Camp and Conference Center. Co-leaders are Rev. Helen McPeak of Epiphany, Henderson and Rev. Stefani Schatz, Rector of Trinity, Reno. All women of the diocese are welcome and encouraged to bring friends. The cost for the weekend is \$145 - \$160. This includes all meals. To register call 775-749-5546, or send a \$50 non-refundable check to Galilee, PO Box 236, Glenbrook, NV 89413.

**Oct. 30, ORDERS OF MINISTRY: SHAPING THE CHURCH FOR LIFE, Roving Workshop presented by Bishop Dan Edwards, 9:00 AM - Noon, St. Bartholomew's, Ely.** The workshop will look at the roles of laity, priests, deacons, and bishops. Who is responsible for what? What is special in the spirit of each order? What's up to the vestry and warden? What's up to the priest? What's up to the deacon? What is a rector, a priest in charge, an assistant? How can we best share the ministries so that we all grow and God is glorified?

**Oct. 22-24, DIOCESAN CONVENTION, Santa Fe Casino Hotel, N. Rancho Drive, Las Vegas.** Delegates and guests are asked to register in advance. Travelers should call the Santa Fe Casino Hotel at 702-658-4900 to make room reservations. Please mention that you are attending the Episcopal Church Convention to get the group discount rate. Icebreaker Thursday night, Oct. 21, 7-9 PM. Todos Los Santos will host our fellowship gathering at All Saints' Church, Las Vegas. **THE AGENDA AND ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION IS NOW POSTED ON THE CONVENTION WEBSITE** <http://www.diocesenconvention.org/>

 Forward to a Friend

## Ponderings & Prayers

You are about to see the beautiful and powerful presentation, "The Interview With God."

Please share this message with others.



<http://www.theinterviewwithgod.com/popup-frame.html>



## Desert Angels Health Tip of the Week

Some examples of how a Health Ministry at St. Peter & St. Paul in Marietta, Georgia is bringing an extra measure of healing, hope, and health to congregation and the community they serve.

**Our Focus:** Is to find more ways to serve the parish. At the April 11th coffee hours, Annlynn Harris and Linda Shrake offered blood pressure checks. In addition, Annlynn had educational materials on blood pressure management. She brings cardiac expertise to this ministry from her position at Emory as Team Leader on the Cardiac Unit.

**Health and Safety Education:** There are so many opportunities we are currently exploring. There are lots of great programs through the American Red Cross and The American Heart Association which we would like to offer to the church, especially to our children and youth. Fun programs that can target any age group from hand washing, to pool safety, and even baby sitting classes. We will be working with both Kim Land and Ashley Lytle to see how our Pastoral Care ideas can be incorporated into the Children's Ministry and Youth Ministry this coming year.

**Activities and Dates:** This Fall, we will offer a CPR course at the church. It will be an American Heart Association "friends and family" class with individual mannequins provided to each person signed up to take home and teach another person the skills they've learned. Watch for more information in the Breaking Bread or the weekly announcements.

# NEWS BRIEFS

**Holy Trinity, Fallon** is offering a discussion/study group, "Growing Through Divorce," every Friday evening through August 27, 7:00PM in the Parish Hall. **ALSO**, every Sunday in August at 9:45 AM, ventriloquist Roger Pond and his puppet Gary will share Bible stories.

**The second quarter 2010 Diocesan Bulletin of Santiago, Philippines is posted on the diocesan website** through the "Companion Diocese" link, or directly through <http://philippines.diocesenv.org/newsletter/htm>

**All Saints' Parish Youth has Bible Study and Fellowship, Wednesdays from 4:00 to 6:30 PM**

**RAPT in PRAYER, a prayer shawl ministry that meets at St. Peter's, Carson City in the library. Patterns and yarn are available; all knitters need to bring is needles. July meetings are on the 1st and 3rd. All are welcome - we can teach knitting, as well.**

**The first Wednesday of every month:**

**Naomi and Ruth Circle - Healing through Friendship and Prayer: A support group for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one, 5:45 - 6:45 PM, Trinity Episcopal Library, 200 Island St. Reno. We will be reading and discussing the book "*Enduring Grace: Living Portraits of Seven Women Mystics*", by Carol Lee Flinders.**

**Epiphany, Henderson Loss and Grieving Support Group meets the 4th Tuesday of each month from 6:30 - 8:00 PM.**

**Mondays at 7:00 PM - Contemplative Prayer, Epiphany, Henderson.**

**Epiphany Adult Sunday School meets every Sunday at 9:15 AM in the Fellowship Room.**

**Saturdays at 8:00 AM Epiphany's Men's Group Breakfast: Rae's Restaurant, Alternating weeks.**

**The Epiphany Outreach Group will be cooking and serving a meal to the homeless on the 2nd Friday of every month in collaboration with a program operating at St. Timothy's called "Friends of the Desert." Please arrive at 1PM; clean-up is from 6:00-8:00 PM. For information see Ginny, or call her at 476-9150.**

**An Informal, Contemporary Eucharist at 5:30 PM every fourth Saturday of the month at St. Christopher's, Boulder City.**

**Special Youth Breakfast and Bible Lesson the first Sunday of every month at 9:00 AM, St. Christopher's, Boulder City.**

**Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Fallon offers a Bereavement Support "drop-in" group the 2nd Monday of every month from 6:00 - 7:00 PM at the vicarage.**

**and**

**Two 8 week Bereavement Support sessions are also offered in the Fall (September 30th - November 18th) on Thursday evenings from 6:00 - 7:00 PM in the Vicarage.**

**and**

**A "drop-in" Bereavement Group meets the 1st Wednesday of every month at CARES Cottage in Yerington (306 Surprise Street) from 1:00 - 2:00 PM**

**St. Timothy's, Henderson offers a Grief Support Group, the group meets on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at the church. The group is facilitated by hospice chaplains; meeting times are: Mondays at 10:00 AM. The group offers support for those who have experienced any sort of loss. 43 W. Pacific Ave. in Henderson.**

*Please submit your news briefs to Clelia at  
[garritycpg@gmail.com](mailto:garritycpg@gmail.com)*

#### Contact Information

**eNews Chief:** [Clelia](#)  
775.253.5579 (cell phone: no solicitors, please)

#### About Us

The Episcopal Diocese of Nevada embraces 6,000 members from communities throughout Nevada and Bullhead City, Arizona in 34 congregations and 2 new faith communities. Our electronic newsletter service and print journal, The Desert Spirit, are provided to parishes and members free of charge.

Persons interested in the ministry of communications may contact [Barbara](#), [Hallie](#), or [Karl](#) to get involved.

Persons wishing to opt-out and not receive the electronic newsletter can simply unsubscribe by selecting the link at the end of this newsletter.

Changes to snail mail addresses for The Desert Spirit must be sent to the [Editor](#).

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