

God has a plan...We're it!

"We are God's incarnational presence, the very Body of Christ, the hands and feet and FACE of our Lord," said Bishop Claire Burkat as she unveiled the results of the year-long discernment process that involved nearly 2,000 people across the synod. It represents four strategic directions that emerged:

- * Faith formation
 - * Faith in Action
 - * Connecting and communicating
 - * Equipping and developing
- Instead of yielding a traditional strategic plan, this listening process revealed the instincts and passions of our people to grow deeper in faith and to share that faith with our neighbors in word and deed.

The Assembly reflected that result, devoting significant time to hearing directions and dreams from circles of leaders who have been working in each of the strategic directions, and giving attendees time to reflect on and explore God's call in conversation.

Read more about the process at:
<http://tinyurl.com/sepaface>

"Like social networks, the gospel is spread and extended through relationships," the bishop said. God's plan is about relationships so we can use whatever tools we need to accomplish that plan. We connect in order to be released for mission.

"Mission and ministry will happen because people at the grassroots, in our neighborhoods and in our congregations, want it to happen and are listening to God to direct them, not because it is a synod plan," said Bishop Burkat.

View a video of the bishop's address at:

<http://tinyurl.com/bishopaddress>

View videos of all of the key presentations at:

<http://tinyurl.com/sepavideos>

Download the "facebooklet" discussion guide at:

<http://tinyurl.com/facebooklet>

Assembly news:

2010 budget includes small increase, deficit. The Assembly passed a 2010 budget with an anticipated income of \$2,876,000 and anticipated expenses of \$3,167,175. The 2010 budget rep-

continued on page 9



Tennis Anyone? If playing Tennis on grass courts is your preference, or something you'd love to experience, then mark your calendar for the 11th Annual Artman Tennis Outing on Sunday September 12, 2010. The outing will be held at the Philadelphia Cricket Club and followed by supper on the porch. All proceeds will benefit the Artman Benevolent Care fund. For more information call Brenda Doyle at 215-643-6335 ext. 244.

