

Jubilate Deo

The Diocese of South Carolina

Fall 2015, Volume 120, No.3

Pray for Justices' Decision; South Carolina Supreme Court Hearing, September 23, 2015

By the Rev. Canon Jim Lewis, Canon to the Ordinary

On Wednesday, September 23, 2015, at 10:30 a.m., the Diocese of South Carolina will enter into oral arguments before the South Carolina Supreme Court. The Court has agreed to hear The Episcopal Church's (TEC's) appeal of the trial court ruling in our favor that was announced by Judge Goodstein on February 3rd of this year. In that order, Judge Goodstein ruled that the Diocese and its parishes:

- Are the owners of their real, personal and intellectual property.
- TEC has no legal, beneficial or equitable interest in any of those properties.
- TEC and its officers and agents were permanently enjoined from using our names or symbols.
- All the TEC counterclaims in the trial were dismissed with prejudice.

It is our prayerful hope that the state Supreme Court justices will uphold this decision in its entirety, preserving for our posterity both our right to freedom of religious association and the resources for ministry bequeathed to us by the faithful generations who have gone before us.

We have been abundantly blessed thus far

by both the outcome of this litigation and the relative speed with which it has proceeded. Recognizing that divine favor which has overshadowed us from the beginning, I would commend to you once again the prayer that was prayed around the Diocese prior to the trial last summer.

Consider incorporating this prayer not only in your personal devotions but in your public worship as well.

Gracious Lord, we pray that your will would be done through this trial. May we want what you desire. Speak your words alone through Alan Runyan and the other attorneys who represent us. May the courtroom be filled with the pleasant aroma of Christ, and at the end of the day, protect this Diocese and its parishes that we might bring the redemptive power of the biblical gospel to the South Carolina low country and beyond. Let not our fear of outcomes tarnish our joy or deter us from the mission you have given us. Teach us to bless and never curse those on the other side of this conflict. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. And make us victorious over-comers wherever this road leads. For we ask it all in Jesus' Name. Amen.

It is by God's grace we have come this far. It is his grace that will bring us home.

The Anglican Leadership Institute

New training initiative opens January

Scholars from around the world invited for four-week semester

Students from Myanmar, India, Kenya, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Nigeria and more are coming to Charleston this January for a month of study, training, reflection and nurture at the new Anglican Leadership Institute.

In his 2014 Diocesan Convention Address, Bishop Mark Lawrence called for the creation of a leadership training initiative, which would bring emerging Anglican leaders from across the world for a four-week period of residential study. The Anglican Leadership Institute (ALI) is a response to that call.

ALI will offer men and women with a proven track record of ministry an opportunity to spend a month in community under the guidance and training of expert leaders who have exercised faithful and effective ministry in their own contexts.

There will be two semesters per year open to 15 scholars. The first semester will run from January 4-31, 2016, and the second semester will be held in September 2016. Global Anglican leaders will nominate those with distinctive leadership potential for participation in the four-week semesters. Once selected, ALI



will cover each scholar's expenses for travel, visas, course and residential expenses, as well as any other out-of-pocket costs during their term.

The Semester

Leadership is linked to character even before it is linked to competence. Therefore, the four-week intensive training will focus as much on who leaders are supposed to be as what they are supposed to do.

Each day, scholars will emerge from worship to hear and interact with thoughtful teaching from experienced faculty. Out of their training and giftedness, they will apply the message of Jesus Christ to church history,

theology, preaching and modern culture. Afternoons will culminate in a two-hour

colloquy where students will interact in small groups with the theme of leadership brought by gifted leaders from both church and society. Some of the discussions will be shaped by case studies where realistic challenges call for wise responses.

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JOY HUNTER

Andy Hein, Director of Mission and Ministry of Men at St. Michael's, Charleston, (center) leads a group, including members of St. Michael's, in prayer in front of Emanuel AME on the Sunday evening following the massacre, June 21.

Hate Won't Win

Relatives of Emanuel AME Victims Offer Forgiveness

On June 17, 2015 a 21-year white man entered Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina, and after spending more than an hour in Bible study with the African Americans gathered, shot and killed nine of the participants. When apprehended a day later he confessed to the shooting claiming he hoped to start a "race war."

People in Charleston, across the country and beyond, reeled in shock and grief. Many, glued to their television sets, held a collective breath, waiting to see if the city would erupt in race riots, similar to what was occurring in Ferguson, MO.

Two days after the murders, survivors and relatives of the victims faced the confessed killer in a courtroom via videoconferencing and,

surprising the world, offered words of forgiveness, rather than hate.

In the days following the murders thousands traveled to Emanuel AME not to protest but to pray, weep and lay flowers, cards and gifts at the church's gates. Blacks and whites, people of all races, rather than being polarized, came together.

Prayer vigils were held, tens of thousands congregated on the Ravenel Bridge in a show of unity called the Bridge to Peace.

Many from the Diocese of South Carolina, whose offices are just a few blocks from 'Mother Emanuel,' participated in services, and sought ways to respond in which God could redeem what was unthinkable. Reflections from members of our Diocese begin on page eight of this *Jubilate Deo*.

REST IN PEACE

Victims of the Emanuel AME Shooting

June 17, 2015

The Rev. Clementa Pinckney, 41
Cynthia Hurd, 54
The Rev. Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, 45
Tywanza Sanders, 26
Ethel Lance, 70
Susie Jackson, 87
Depayne Middleton Doctor, 49
The Rev. Daniel Simmons, 74
Myra Thompson, 59

Two days after the massacre, in his first court appearance, on June 19, the confessed murderer, Dylann Roof, faced survivors and relatives of the victims via videoconferencing. Rather than words of condemnation he heard words of forgiveness prompted by faith.

Nadine Collier, the daughter of victim Ethel Lance, said, "To you, (indicating Roof) I forgive you. You took something very precious away from me. I will never talk to her ever again. I will never be able to hold her again. But I forgive you. And have mercy on your soul. You hurt me. You hurt a lot of people, but God forgives you and I forgive you."

"I forgive you. My family forgives you," said Anthony Thompson, husband of Myra Thompson. "We would like you to take this opportunity to repent. Repent, confess, give your life to the one who matters the most – Christ, so he can change it and change your ways no matter what happens to you and you'll be okay..."

Felicia Sanders, who survived the attack by pretending to be dead but lost her son, Tywanza, said, "We welcomed you Wednesday night in our Bible study with open arms. You have killed some of the most beautiful

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O Happy Day: River Baptisms Make Professions of Faith Public

By The Very Rev. Chuck Owens, Rector, Church of the Cross, Bluffton

They were clothed in white cottas, the 23 who were being baptized; among them were infants, young folks and adults - some were in family units, most were not . . . but all were excited about what was to come. Joining them were the 32 adults who would shortly be recommitting themselves to their baptismal covenants made years ago. Other than a love for Jesus, they had very little in common. Standing in the rising waters of the May River, we joined the hundreds on the bluff adjacent to the Historic Campus and the spectators gathered on nearby docks or floating in boats and kayaks: to sing “Shall We Gather at the River,” to respond to the liturgy, to hear a personal testimony, to sing “Down to the River To Pray,” to be immersed, hugged and kissed, and then to be surrounded again by brothers and sisters in Christ to the strains of “O Happy Day!” Wow, what a God-honoring moment!

Why conduct such an unusual service? Why not inside the church on a Sunday morning like we do every month? Why ad-

vertise it and invite people to bring friends? The answer: aside from the obvious impact on those directly involved, to make a public profession of our faith and to underscore our desire to engage the community beyond our doors with the Good News of God in Christ. And praise the Lord we accomplished both. The Island Packet carried a front page picture and article the next day and Bluffton Packet followed a few days later with another article and more pictures.

My friends, we must reach beyond the safety of our walls and risk being criticized for using non-traditional approaches if we are to be obedient to our baptismal covenants in the 21st century. We must have “the courage to will and to persevere” as we “confess the faith of Christ crucified and proclaim his resurrection” (BCP p. 308). Come Holy Spirit, make it be so!

This was reprinted from the Church of the Cross’ electronic newsletter.

JANUARY 28-30
CHARLESTON
SOUTH CAROLINA

William Lane Craig

Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali

Philip Jenkins

Yvonne Haddad

Archbishop Mouneer Anis

Naibee Qureshi

Fouad Mesri

The Reverend Chris Royer, Executive Director of Anglican Frontier Missions, will preach at the Choral Evensong and Festival Eucharist.

ALL ARE WELCOME!
Please visit our website for speaker bios and a complete conference schedule. Our weekend includes individual sessions and a panel discussion with all the speakers. **The cost is \$189** and includes MP3 downloads of the conference sessions.

REGISTER ONLINE AT
MEREANGLICANISM.COM

What Does My Future Hold?

Second Phase of Ministry Launched with Focus on Teen Mothers

The Biblical Family Center (BFC), also known as the African American Family Center for Biblical Dialogue, is eager to alert supporters of the wonderful changes and growth their ministries are experiencing. They're thankful for continued support and are now ready to launch a new ministry to young ladies ages 13-19. “We are alive and well!” says Janie Wilson, President and Chief Operating Officer of the BFC, and wife of the Rev. Dr. Dallas Wilson, Jr., Vicar of St. John’s Chapel in Charleston.



In 2006, Janie had a vision – for a ministry which would be instrumental in transforming the lives of single-head of household primary caregiver families in the low-income neighborhood surrounding St. John’s Chapel. She envisioned it being accomplished through biblical instruction, interpersonal life-long relationships and enrichment that improved the well-being, enhanced the quality of life, and raised the self-esteem of the individual participants.

The vision was expressed in three distinct phases, focused primarily on enriching female single head of household families through the following ministries: “What Are Little Girls Made Of?” presently known as the Pink Bus Ministry, (6-12 years of age); “What Does My Future Hold?” (13 – 29 years of age) and, “Who Holds My Future?” (30+ years of age). With the successful launch and running of the first phase, “What are Little Girls Made of?” (a ministry still housed at St. John’s Chapel; but, now overseen by St. Peter’s Anglican Church, Mt. Pleasant) the BFC is now ready to launch its second phase, “What Does My Future Hold?”

The Biblical Family Center has formed a new 11-member Board of Directors to oversee the fiduciary requirements with Mrs. Henrietta Rivers, Board Chairperson, Janie Wilson, President/COO and Jacqueline Thompson, Ministry Coordinator, to handle the day-to-day administration of “What Does My Future Hold?”

This ministry for pregnant teenagers ages 13-19 will be housed within the Nailah House, a building, owned by another non-profit. Bishop Mark Lawrence blessed and consecrated the Nailah House property in November of 2014. Charleston’s Board of Architectural Review has reviewed and approved the architectural plans and the ministry hopes to break ground in the next few months.

In addition to housing the parenting skills

and vocational training ministry to teen mothers of “What Does My Future Hold? the Nailah House will provide counseling space for the Peninsula Biblical Counseling Center (PBCC), whose offices are now located at St. John’s Chapel.

“Nailah” is said to be an African name meaning success or successful and their hope is that the Nailah House will be a place where success begins. “We’ll work to assist and inspire young teenage mothers to have biblical success for their lives,” says Janie, “helping them find the will of God for their lives and doing it according to Titus 2:3-5.”

“In 2010, using 2 Timothy 3:16, 17 as the launching pad for my ‘training in righteousness,’ I began another journey to pursue postgraduate degrees in my first love, Biblical Counseling,” says Wilson. “Having completed



Architect's rendering of The Nailah House

that course of study, I received my Master’s Degree in Biblical Counseling (MABC) and in the very near future will complete the requirements for a PhD or a D.Min. within the same biblical counseling discipline.

“Overall, I am excited about all that is occurring,” says Wilson. “Growth is necessary for continued life.”

A new and improved website for the BFC is under construction and will be available soon. “We acknowledge that although the Eastside is changing, many things continue to remain the same. Furtherance of the Good News and helping all children and families specifically on the Eastside grow to a greater and deeper understanding and knowledge of Christ is what our efforts are all about.”

To support the work of the Biblical Family Center and the “What Does My Future Hold?” ministry financially, with your tax-deductible gift, send a check, made out to BFC to Biblical Family Center, 18 Hanover Street, Charleston, SC 29403-5515. To learn how you can volunteer with the BFC contact Janie Wilson by emailing her at janiedw@bellsouth.net or calling her at (843) 720-3600 (Office) or (843) 830-0993 (Cell).

St. Michael’s Hosts Evensong for the Persecuted Church, November 4

By Matthew Wilkinson, Music Director and Organist, St. Michael’s Church, Charleston

On Wednesday, November 4 at 6:30 p.m., St. Michael’s Church in Charleston will have an “Evensong for the Persecuted Church.”

The retired Syrian Archbishop John Meno will be addressing the crowd about the persecution of the Egyptian people, and all the Christians in the East. The service will be followed by a reception, with a question and answer session for the Bishop.

The persecution of Christians in the Middle East has dramatically escalated in the past few years. Already a volatile place for religious minorities, the Arab Spring was a catalyst for exponentially increasing the massacring of Orthodox Christians.

Many of these Christians have been overlooked by the West in times past. Yet their councils and their traditions are the most ancient in the world, some dating to the

times of the apostles themselves. In Egypt, the ouster of Mubarak, initially a hopeful invitation for change, culminated into the practical elimination of all remaining Coptic Orthodox Christians. The press has recently been saturated with the news that the radical Islamist group ISIS has completely eradicated the presence of all Christian groups left in Iraq, and most in Syria. Beheadings, crucifixions, forced conversions, and beatings have become commonplace.

This “Evensong for the Persecuted Church” intends to raise awareness about these issues, as well as take up an offering to provide aid and relief to the refugees and suffering in these areas. The choir, which will include not only St. Michael’s choir, but singers from various churches in the area, will sing Anglican chant, anthems, and hymns as well as Orthodox music.

Martha Horn to be Ordained a Priest October 3

On Saturday, October 3, 2015 at 3 p.m. at St. Luke's Church in Hilton Head, the Rev. Martha Horn will be ordained to the priesthood. The Rt. Rev. Mark Lawrence will officiate, celebrate and preach. All are encouraged to join in this joyful celebration. Clergy wear red stoles.



Horn, who is on staff at St. Luke's, graduated from Trinity School for Ministry with a Masters of Divinity. Her passion is Jesus Christ

and sharing the gospel message with all who will listen. Her calling in ministry concerns discipleship, teaching and preaching, pastoral care, and healing ministry. She is also the Chaplain of the Diocesan Women's Ministries. She is a native Charlestonian and the wife of the Rev. Robert Horn, Priest-in-Charge of The Church of the Holy Apostles, Barnwell. The Horns have two children: Legare who is in her 30's and Alexandra her daughter. Her son Joseph Robert Horn IV went to be with his Lord August 29, 1999. Martha and her husband, Robert live in Ridgeland, SC.

Rhinos, Elephants and Men, Oh My!

Gaillard and Campbell to Lead February 2016 Men's Conference

By the Rev. Rob Kunes, Associate Priest, Christ-St. Paul's Parish, Younges Island

In 1999, 39 white rhinos were killed in Pilanesberg Park, South Africa, and it was not the work of poachers. No horns were taken; no bullets used. Who or what was responsible for the death of 10% of the rhino population? The answer: Elephants.

Young bull elephants, who were orphaned as youngsters, had grown into physically mature elephants with a thug mentality. They were killing the rhinos the park worked so hard to protect and harassing busloads of tourists on safari. Why would they do it? Well, like juvenile delinquents, they had grown up without role models.

"I think everyone needs a role model, and these elephants that left the herd had no role model and no idea of what appropriate elephant behavior was," said Gus van Dyk, Pilanesberg Park's field ecologist. "The solution was mentoring: Bring in bigger, older bull elephants to show the young bulls a better way."

Intentional Generational Discipleship is the Theme for this Year's Christian Men's Conference.

We have a fabulous slate of speakers, including our very own Fr. Shay Gaillard as the keynote speaker. Regi Campbell, author of the book *Mentor Like Jesus*, will lead a workshop explaining his program called Radical Mentoring which he has been doing at Northpoint Church in Alpharetta, GA, for the past decade. (Andy Stanley wrote the Foreword to Regi's book.) Through the connection with Northpoint, we have also secured Northpoint's Lead Worship Pastor, Todd Fields, to lead our worship. What an incredible combination of teaching, worship, and fellowship.

Men, mark your calendars! Wives, mark your husband's calendar (because another of Regi's books is titled *What Radical Husbands Do*. February 26-28, 2015 is the date of the next Christian Men's Conference. We hope to see you there!

Age No Barrier to Ministry

Ordained Just Before Turning 80, Decorated Naval Captain Trades Retired Life for Ordained Ministry

By Joy Hunter, Editor

The Rev. Chuck Pollak never intended to become a priest. Throughout his life he accomplished many of his own dreams – to become a Midshipman at the Naval Academy; to serve as a Captain of a U.S. Navy nuclear submarine; and to live on a grand sailing yacht traveling the world (which he did with his wife for 14 years.)

75 years old!" He said "Come on in; we'll talk about it." Then when we met he said, "Well there is an age restriction. You have to be 25 years old, and you've made it three times over."

A few months later, Pollak, who'd been volunteering in the Ridgeland prison, was asked if he'd like to serve as their Assistant Chaplain. The one qualification Pollak didn't

saying, "We have prayerfully considered your situation, and we don't think you're being called to be a deacon."

"At that moment Anne went into shock," says Pollak. "We'd been talking about this and working toward it for a year and a half. She never heard what he said next. He said, 'We think you're being called to be a priest.'"

"When we got in the car that evening Anne burst into tears," continues Pollak. "She said, 'I can't believe it's come to an end like this.'"

"I said, 'Anne, didn't you hear what they said? They think I'm called to be a priest.' She said, 'You're kidding! You're just saying that to make me feel better.'"

"I went home and prayed for a couple of weeks," said Pollak. "Maybe that was what I was called to be. I called the Bishop and told him I'd prayerfully considered it. If they thought I was called to be a priest, I'd do all I could to meet the requirements."

Because of Pollak's prison ministry commitments and in recognition of his educational background (he already held a Masters Degree), he was allowed to "read" for his orders, which meant he embarked on a rigorous individualized course of study rather than

JOY HUNTER

Perhaps that's why it wasn't until he was 79½ that he was ordained a priest.

"I never intended to become a priest," he says.

Pushed Towards the Priesthood

The first nudging Pollak felt toward ordination came in 2008 while at an Anglican Conference in Pittsburgh with his wife, Anne. They were attending the opening worship service watching the procession of bishops, priests and deacons when Pollak says he was pushed from behind.

"We were standing near the aisle," he says, "when somebody shoved me in the back toward the procession. I turned around and there wasn't anybody there. No one was even close. I thought, 'That's crazy!' I turned around and it happened again. I looked back and there was still no one there. When I got in the car I said, 'Anne, the strangest thing happened to me. I think I'm being called to be a deacon.'"

"You do?" she asked.

"I had just joined St. Helena's (Beaufort) and wrote to the rector, (the Rev.) Jeff Miller. I said, 'Jeff I think I'm being called to be a deacon. I don't even know if it's possible, I'm

meet was that he had to be ordained. But that requirement was temporarily waived since he had begun the ordination process.

The ordination process had its twists and turns. Initially he was told he would have to wait a year to begin training because there weren't enough deacon ordinands to form a class. Bishop Ed Salmon solved that by ordaining him as an evangelist. Then, after Salmon's retirement, Bishop Mark Lawrence took his place, and in their first meeting Lawrence said, "I don't see what good it's going to be to make you a deacon." Pollak replied, "Well, Bishop, we've got a problem. I've got this job as a prison chaplain. If I don't get ordained they'll ask me to resign." "Okay, let me think and pray about it tonight," said Lawrence.

The next day a series of interviews were scheduled at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center where those hoping to be approved to start deacon training (and their spouses) would meet one-on-one with the Commission on Ministry, a group charged with discernment and oversight of the process. Bishop Lawrence came early in the day, spoke with the Commission privately, and left.

When it came time for Pollak to be informed of their decision, the Chair of the group, the Very Rev. John Burwell, began by

attending seminary. His training was overseen by the Rev. Jeff Miller and Bishop Alden Hathaway.

"I had to take the same canonicals the guys coming out of seminary did," says Pollak. "Apparently I did okay," he says with smile. At the age of 79 ½ he was ordained a priest.

Ward Room to Board Room to Prison Cell

What would make a decorated nuclear submarine captain turned successful businessman and yacht sailor decide to go into the ministry? It wasn't for the prestige.

Pollak had held impressive roles. After graduating from the Naval Academy in 1952 in the top 25% of his class, Pollak served on several submarines before he was trained by Admiral Hyman Rickover, the "father of the nuclear Navy," for nuclear assignments. Pollak would later take command of the nuclear submarine the USS Lafayette. Following that command he was transferred to Washington DC. In one of his more interesting assignments, he served as the Chief of the Division

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Anglican Leadership Institute

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Evenings will include special guest speakers, while weekends will bring opportunities for ministry in local churches.

The January 2016 Semester will culminate in a three-day immersion on the subject of Islam presented by a phalanx of scholars at the Mere Anglicanism Conference, January 28-30, 2016. The Anglican Leadership Institute is an outgrowth of the Mere Anglicanism Conference that has been held in Charleston, SC for several years.

Visit <http://www.anglicanleadershipinstitute.com/> to learn more about the Institute.

Anglican Leadership Institute Faculty

Anglican Leadership Institute Faculty includes: The Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence, XIV Bishop of South Carolina; The Rev. Dr. Canon Ashley Null, Research Fellow, Humboldt University of Berlin; Dr. Paul Marshall, Senior Fellow at the Hudson Institute's Center for Religious Freedom, Washington, D.C.; The Most Rev. Dr. Mounier H. Anis, Presiding Bishop of Jerusalem and the Middle East; The Rt. Rev. Dr. Michael Nazir-Ali, Former Bishop of Rochester, England; The Rev. Robert Sturdy, Associate Pastor, St. Andrew's Church, Mt. Pleasant; The Rt. Rev. Alden M. Hathaway, Former Sixth Bishop of Pittsburgh and

Bishop-in-Residence of St. Helena's Church, Beaufort; The Very Rev. Dr. Peter C. Moore, Director of the Anglican Leadership Institute Former Dean/President of Trinity School for Ministry; Dr. Melody Buck Martini, Clinical Psychologist and Pastoral Care Minister, St. Michael's Church, Charleston; The Rev. Christopher Royer, Executive Director of Anglican Frontier Missions; Mr. William Hewitt, Philanthropist and Community Leader; Mr. Gary DiCamillo, National Business Leader; Dr. Allen Ross, Professor of Old Testament & Hebrew at Beeson Divinity School, Birmingham, Alabama.

Holy Trinity Nearly Quadruples in 4th Year of Operation

By Candace Brasseur, Communications Director, Holy Trinity Classical Christian School, Beaufort



STEVE ALLEN

Headmaster The Rev. Chad Lawrence, shown above, says, “We are honored to fill families’ desire for a classical Christian education in Beaufort. It’s a privilege to partner in their children’s education.”

When Holy Trinity Classical Christian School, in Beaufort, SC, opened its doors in 2012, there were 50 students in grades K-5th. This year, the school – associated with the Parish Church of St. Helena – welcomed 189 new and returning students in grades K-8th. When Holy Trinity preschoolers start their school year next month, total enrollment numbers are projected to reach 240. The student body is not the only growth the school has experienced. Holy Trinity’s teaching staff for grades K-8th has more than doubled in size--maintaining small class sizes averaging 14 children with a faculty/student ratio of 1:10. Administrative positions also saw growth with the addition of a lower-school Principal, Financial Administrator, and Com-

munications Director in 2015. The school credits the growth to some key factors, such as strong community support, a talented pool of committed faculty, dedicated parents, and students who thrive in the joyful classical learning environment offered at Holy Trinity. Headmaster The Rev. Chad Lawrence says, “We are honored to fill families’ desire for a classical Christian education in Beaufort. It’s a privilege to partner in their children’s education.” Perhaps Holy Trinity parent Andrea Cooler offers the best explanation: “My children adore Holy Trinity. Our school is filled with joy and fosters a love of learning and sense of community that is contagious to nearly everyone who enters. It’s no surprise that we are growing exponentially.”

Founded in 2012, Holy Trinity Classical Christian School provides students and families with a distinctly Christian and classical education. Holy Trinity is the result of a long-standing commitment to education by the Parish Church of St. Helena, beginning in 1748 with the founding of the first free school in Beaufort, SC and later in 1801 by the donation of 20 acres of land for the establishment of Beaufort College--resulting in what is now the University of South Carolina Beaufort. The current student body of Holy Trinity is comprised of families from over a dozen Christian churches of various denominations. For more information about the academic excellence offered at Holy Trinity, please see www.htccs.org

St. Michael’s VBS; Reaching the Community, Powered By Prayer

By Elizabeth Raub, St. Michael’s Church, Charleston

For the second summer in a row, St. Michael’s Church, Charleston, shared the light of Christ outside their walls by holding a weeklong Vacation Bible School (VBS) program – not on their own home turf but at Sanders Clyde Elementary School. VBS at Sanders Clyde is a testament to the power of Christ within His body.

Small groups from St. Michael’s sponsored meals and gathered to serve 250 participants and volunteers every evening. St. Peter’s Anglican Church and Eastbridge Presbyterian Church, both in north Mt. Pleasant, donated props and supplies they had used in their own VBS programs. (After our VBS, we “paid forward” those supplies so other churches could use them in their programs.) Lowcountry Party Animals, a Christian-owned animal rental service, provided an array of animals for the children to enjoy. And with the power of these combined resources and multi-church manpower, at the center of all of it, was prayer.

In addition to those who pledged to pray for VBS on their own, we had a group of eight prayer warriors on site at all times during the VBS day. As is so often the case when real Kingdom work is being done, when souls are at stake, there were attacks and adversities to overcome. Infestations of fruit flies and termites, scheduling issues, illness and anxiety among children – all were overcome in ways that only served to confirm that God is real, and He was with us at Sanders Clyde.

Prayer warriors were present and praying at the opening and closing ceremonies. They went to the room especially designated for prayer – a place of healing and God’s love – and were given a list of both participants and volunteers for that day and prayed over each soul individually. They took prayer walks around the building. Whenever a child needed a “time out” or had other issues, they were taken to the team to receive

prayer. In one case where a group of children ridiculed another child who had suffered a seizure, that room became a place of genuine repentance and reconciliation. On another occasion, a child experiencing a major panic attack was brought to the room and was soothed in an instant.

Children learned about missions and God’s call on their lives, with special visits from Bishop Abraham Yel Nhial, Diocesan Bishop of Awail, Anglican Church of South Sudan, and K.C., both genocide survivors from South Sudan. K.C. is a student in the U.S. who is seeking to go back to his homeland to share the Gospel. After learning about missions, the children then became missionaries, raising \$1,100 in lemonade sales to contribute to costs of getting K.C. home.

That week, through VBS, God’s love poured over children, many of whom had never before experienced it. After learning that the Bible is God’s love story written for them, 60 children received their first Bible. It was more than anyone had anticipated needing, so we quickly drove to St. Michael’s to gather any extra Bibles we could find. The children formed a line and waited patiently for volunteers to inscribe their names in the front. And with that, they were marked as Christ’s own in His book.

God was at work at VBS this summer. He is alive and still working. Perhaps now is your time to serve at Sanders Clyde by becoming a homeroom angel or lunchtime buddy. Perhaps there is a public school in your area which could host VBS.

We may never know the full effect of this VBS ministry but we know the Lord blessed this week for his glory. Lives were changed both with children and volunteers. Please continue to pray for our Sander Clyde Community.

Age No Barrier

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of the Joint Chiefs of Staff involved with the Nuclear Arms Reduction Talks (Salt) with the former Soviet Union. He worked directly with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the White House Security Council, the State Department and the CIA in formulating military assessments and making recommendations for approval by the President (Nixon and then Ford.) He also participated in direct negotiations with the Soviet Union in Geneva, Switzerland, and was awarded the Legion of Merit for each of his last three assignments.

Following early retirement from the Navy in 1979, Pollak spent 10 years in the manufacturing industry before he and Anne purchased a 51-foot sailing yacht, the “Reverie.” They sailed her for 14 years, 10 of which were outside the United States. “We travelled 36,000 miles and visited dozens of foreign countries,” says Pollak.

Though Pollak had first had an awakening of faith while at the Naval Academy, it wasn’t until he and Anne were sailing the world that their faith began to take root.

“Our sailing adventure opened my eyes in a couple ways,” he says. “When you get out there it’s so beautiful. The heavens declare the glory of God. You realize the awesomeness of the world, and how it all fits together. Also you’re dependent. You run into rough weather, and you’re helpless. We ran into a lot of very poor people, abysmally poor, and yet they were very content and happy with their lives. They

seemed to have a peace about them that was impressive. That had an impact on Anne and myself.”

Because of health problems, the Pollaks moved ashore in 2002. While attending church in West Ashley a friend, Cecil Kirkland, urged them to attend a Cursillo renewal weekend. As soon as they got out of Cursillo that same friend urged Pollak to get involved in Kairos, the prison version of Cursillo.

“I said, ‘Cecil you’ve got to be out of your mind. I’m not getting involved in a prison ministry.’ I didn’t even know anyone who’d been in prison,” says Pollak. “Finally, to shut him up, I decided to get involved.”

That experience was a turning point. “It was like – I’d been meant for it,” says Pollak.

He rapidly moved up the organization and was elected to the Kairos’ International Board of Directors, serving as Vice Chairman for one term.

Asked why he got involved in Kairos when he could have enjoyed a relaxing retirement, he says, “I was called by God. It’s that simple.”

“I think after my initial belief that I had absolutely nothing in common with those in prison I realized in many ways we’re just alike. We’re all sinners. And, truly we’re all brothers and sisters in Christ. The men recognize the fact that I want their well-being. I want to see them changed. I want them to know Christ. I want them to feel like they are a part of the Christian family. That sincerity, that honesty, is what seems to connect.

“Every time I’ve even begun to think I

ought to retire or quit I get the word ‘I’ve got to keep going.’

“Let me tell you a story. The day before yesterday, I was coming home from prison and stopped off at the IGA (grocery store). This man came up to me and said, ‘Chaplain do you remember me?’ I said, ‘I know you from Ridgeland. When did you get out?’ We talked and he said, ‘I’m doing wonderfully well. I’ve got a job, my wife came back to me with our two daughters. We bought a house. Things couldn’t be better. I can’t tell you how much you meant to me and how much I learned from you.’

“I went out in the parking lot to take my groceries to the car, and he drives up with his wife and two daughters. He introduces me to his wife and starts telling her how much he’d gotten out of his time with me. She says, ‘I had given up on John, but when he came home I could see he was a changed man. We got back together. We are so happy.’

“I’m not sure where I go from here, but somehow I have the distinct feeling that God is not yet complete with His instruction of me. And besides that, how can you have a better life than I’m having?”

The Rev. Charles D. (Chuck) Pollak is the Assistant Chaplain at the Ridgeland Correctional Institution in Ridgeland, SC, and serves on staff at the Parish Church of St. Helena in Beaufort, SC, as a Chaplain for Prison Ministry. He and his wife, Anne, live in a log home in Walterboro, SC. He has three adult children, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Shifting Landscapes:

From Mine to His
Martha Horn to Lead
Diocesan Women’s Retreat
November 13-15

“Bring your flip flops!”

The Rev. Martha Horn, who will be ordained to the priesthood October 3 and serves as the Chaplain to the Diocesan Women’s Ministries, will be the speaker at the upcoming Diocesan Women’s Ministries-beach retreat in Myrtle Beach this fall! The theme is “Shifting Landscapes: From Mine to His.” This is the second of two identical retreats. The first was held in September and the second will be held November 13-15 at the Hampton Inn & Suites, Myrtle Beach Ocean front. Register at www.dioceseofsc.org.



For Whom Do You Carry Your Stone?

By The Rev. Jonathan Riddle, Assistant to the Rector, The Church of the Cross, Bluffton

One of the most influential people in my life, Elisabeth Elliot died this past June. She was a Christian author and speaker. Her first husband, Jim Elliot, was killed in 1956 while attempting to make missionary contact with the Auca Natives of eastern Ecuador. A year after her husband's death, she and the other widows tried again to reach the Auca. They succeeded and 50 years later the Auca largely worship Christ.



My favorite story she used to share is a biblical legend. It's not found anywhere in the scriptures, but its meaning is throughout the Gospels. The story is this:

Jesus was walking one day with His disciples and He asked each of them to pick up a stone and carry it for Him. They all picked up stones, some bigger, some smaller, Peter picked up the smallest stone possible and placed it in his pocket. They traveled for several hours arriving at the next town tired and hungry. Jesus immediately turned the stones into bread, and said "Eat Up." Of course Peter grew very frustrated knowing that his small stone was only now a munchkin. Jesus again asked His disciples, to pick up another stone and carry it for Him. Peter being a quick learner picked up a large boulder and placed it on his shoulder, and he, Jesus, and the disciples traveled to the next town. Again this time arriving at a river bank more tired and hungrier than before. Jesus calmly asked them to throw their stones into the river which they did at once in obedience to his command. They looked at Him, waiting expectantly for

the stones to be turned into bread, only this time Jesus did nothing. When Peter and the disciples began to grumble Jesus said with great compassion, "For whom did you carry the stone?"

Here's the meaning. The first time around the disciples carried the stones for Jesus, the second time they actually carried the stones for themselves. The point of the story is there are many times we seek to serve God but there's actually a hidden motive, mainly to serve ourselves. Why do we give money to the church, why do we help the little old lady across the street, why do we serve God, and even people in general? Is it to bless God, or do we do it to get God and people to bless us? There is nothing wrong with seeking God's blessings, unless it's the only reason why we're serving Him. He becomes nothing more than an ATM God. As it's been said, "Religious people obey God to get things, Gospel people obey God to get God."

This brings a special meaning to what Jesus said, "But seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

The Bible communicates to us, that if we seek God in thought, word, and deed, with pure heartfelt motives, surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives.

This story was reprinted from the Church of the Cross' electronic newsletter.



ANNA WARNER

"Instead of being building and program-centric, we intend to be missional and people-centric," says the Rev. Chris Warner, Rector of Holy Cross. Above, Holy Cross, Ion, worshippers greet one another at the "passing of the peace."

Holy Cross Opens Doors in I'On

By The Rev. Trevor Spencer, Associate Priest, Church of the Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island, Daniel Island, I'On

God is not a miser. He pours out freely on all those who call on him!" These are the words the Rev. Chris Warner used to begin his sermon on Ephesians 1 at the I'On campus of the Church of the Holy Cross on a hot July day in a brand new building after 10 years of hopes, plans and prayers.

It had been more than 10 years since Holy Cross member and I'On developer Vince Graham wanted to include a church at the center of the community he was building. And since that time, the Church of the Holy Cross worshipped monthly in a tent on the site that now is the home of this new worship space. Members and friends have prayed for the day when a place to worship would open its doors to the community.

The vision for Holy Cross I'On is emerging as a way in which, from this small "chapel of ease," God would raise up disciples who reach out to their neighbors with the good news of Jesus Christ. It's a vision in which a group of women, men, couples, and singles open the doors of their homes to real community and real life in Jesus Christ.

The completion of the I'On chapel is the result of a unique

partnership between Graham and Holy Cross. Holy Cross uses the building three days each week for worship, discipleship groups and other church events, while the remainder of the week it is available for the wider I'On community to use for meetings, weddings and other neighborhood events.

"Because we have limited use of the building, we're thinking differently about how we 'do church,'" said Chris Warner, Rector of Holy Cross. "Instead of being building and program-centric, we intend to be missional and people-centric. We sense God's call to us to reach out in I'On and the Mathis Ferry area of Mount Pleasant with a heavy emphasis on relationships and life groups. Our emerging vision is to make disciples who make disciples." After only a few short weeks, members and visitors are already offering to open their homes to meet this opportunity.

"Open doors and open houses will be the key to transformed lives in I'On," said Warner. "In the years to come, the growing of disciples will be done in community and by the community of Christ's followers."

With the opening of the I'On campus, Holy Cross now has three locations. In addition to the original Sullivan's Island location, a second location was opened in 2006 on Daniel Island. That campus is located centrally on the island and continues to grow in faith and ministry.

The Mathis Ferry/ I'On area is unique in Mount Pleasant in that it is established yet has very few churches in the immediate area. The Church of the Holy Cross is now in the heart of the neighborhood and within an easy walk of a number of neighborhoods nearby. "Our belief is that from this place and through his people God is going to pour out his blessing," said Associate Priest Trevor Spencer. "It's our prayer that being filled with the power of the Holy Spirit and encouraged to share life with those in and around this neighborhood that Holy Cross members continue to invite people into relationship with Jesus."

Currently, Holy Cross holds services at 10:30 a.m. with a Holy Eucharist Rite II Service with contemporary music.

Overwhelmed with Jesus; Joanne Ellison urges women to make space for God in their lives at annual gathering sponsored by Diocesan Women's Ministries

By Yvonne Duty, Church the Resurrection, North Charleston, on Behalf of the Diocesan Women's Ministries

Over 100 women of all ages gathered at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Charleston, May 9, 2015, to hear Joanne Ellison of Drawing Near to God ministries teach on being "Overwhelmed with Jesus." The event was the annual gathering of Diocesan Women's Ministries (DWM).

Attendees embraced the worship music led by Julianna Fletcher, worship leader and Conference Director for 'Drawing Nearer to God'; the teaching from Joanne; the service with homily given by the Rev. Shay Gaillard, Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd; and the prayer ministry led by the Rev. Martha Horn, DWM Chaplain, and Joanne Ellison; ending with a luncheon which provided an excellent opportunity for fellowship with friends old and new.

Joanne urged women to make space for God in their lives, reminding them of the function of the physical heart and the function of the Spiritual heart, gently pointing out that

we flatline if we are not "overwhelmed with Jesus."

After the teaching, prayer ministry teams, led by Chaplain Martha, offered intercessory prayer. It is a measure of how many hearts Joanne touched that many of the women present, of all ages, came forward for prayer. Several prayer ministers, while keeping the prayer requests confidential, mentioned how powerful the experience was.

During the service of Holy Eucharist, celebrated by the Rev. Shay Gaillard, Chaplain Martha offered prayers in memory of the women of our Diocese who had died during the previous year.

A luncheon hosted by the women of Good Shepherd followed, during which Mary Frances Ahl, Diocesan Women's Ministries President, presented a shortened business overview.

The event was noteworthy in that many of the women were first time attendees at



DEB PARKER

Speaker, Joanne Ellison, shown above (left) with Chaplain Martha Horn, urged women to make space for God in their lives, pointing out that "we flatline if we are not 'overwhelmed with Jesus.'"

any gathering, which was especially encouraging as the group works to build momentum in women's ministry.

All were invited to the upcoming fall retreats at which the Rev. Martha Horn will teach on "Changing Landscapes - From mine to His."

The event ended with thanks to Joanne, Julianna, Martha, Shay, and the wonderful women of Good Shepherd.

If you have questions or concerns about the Diocesan Women's Ministries, or you would like to have someone from the leadership team visit your church, contact President, Mary Frances Ahl at kgahl@aol.com.



DAVID GARDNER

Barrier Island Staff Reunion in November

By David Gardner, Director of Environmental Education, St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

In the fall of 1981, St. Christopher launched a fledgling Barrier Island Environmental Education program (“BI”), whose goal was to offer students K-12th grade with an opportunity to learn about and experience nature in a hands-on way. It met with immediate success with sufficient interest from state and local schools to sustain it through the first year and now well beyond. With the start of the fall 2015 season of “BI”, we begin the 35th year of offering this ministry. In celebration of this milestone, we have planned a reunion gathering all former staff that had anything to do with “BI.” On the weekend of November 7, 2015, we hope to gather all former naturalists, administrators, directors, and kitchen/housekeeping and

facilities personnel for a time of recollection, festivities and good food. Free activities during the day will include kayaking, herpetarium and aquarium tours, seining, and of course a trip to the mudpit! We will conclude the festivities with a sumptuous Oyster Roast. Details of lodging options (rooms/cabins/tent sites) and pricing can be found on the St. Christopher website, which also allows for registration. All are priced to be affordable, including the allowance of staff rates for all lodge rooms. Please pass along this information to every former Barrier Island staff member you are in contact with. The more the merrier! We hope to see many folks come to share in this special celebration on Saturday, November 7, 2015.

Accreditation for Camp Saint Christopher

By The Rev. Robert S. Lawrence, Executive Director, St. Christopher Camp and Conf. Center

Throughout much of the year, St. Christopher prepared for the accreditation of its Summer Camp and Barrier Island Environmental Education ministries. This accreditation was sought from the American Camp Association following St. Christopher’s resumption of membership in the association earlier in 2015. The American Camp Association (ACA) is a community of camp professionals who for over 100 years have joined together to share knowledge and experience and to ensure the quality of camp programs. The ACA is the oldest of all camp accreditation organizations, having begun in 1905. With membership in the ACA including over 9,000 programs – and accreditation of these programs at over 2,400 – St. Christopher chose to resubmit itself to the standards that govern camping throughout much of the United States.

With the summer camping ministry at St. Christopher in full swing, accreditation visitors were welcomed on Wednesday, July 29, 2015, for a full day of examining all facets of the program. Well over 200 standards were reviewed that covered multiple items relating to food service, facilities, healthcare, programs, safety, insurance, risk management, communication and human resources. It was an invigorating process throughout the preparation that culminated in a highly successful accreditation visit. While St. Christopher awaits the formal notification of its full accreditation, which is expected to be received in the early fall, we were assured by the official visitors that St. Christopher will be approved for accreditation. When this notification is received, St. Christopher can return to the use of the ACA official accreditation logo as a further indication of its seeking after excel-



lence in all that it offers through its’ accredited programs.

While St. Christopher’s Summer Camp and Barrier Island Environmental Education ministries have remained unaccredited programs for the past seven to eight years, it was most gratifying to realize that when the staff of St. Christopher worked through the process of evaluating ourselves against the industry standards, we were still largely compliant in virtually all areas. While we found we did need to produce sufficient documentation and record keeping, we did so primarily for things we were already doing. While the religious component of the Summer Camp ministry was not an element subject to evaluation, the accreditation visitors noted well the full integration of faith and “lessons learned” discussions among the campers and staff while observing such activities such as archery, “Need-A-Friend”, and seining. St. Christopher is indeed blessed to return to the fold of accredited camps but especially to be one that remains all about Jesus. To God be the Glory!

Clergy Garb Sought

Our Anglican brethren in the Diocese of Aweil, South Sudan and the Gambella region of Ethiopia are in need of clergy shirts, collars and other clerical garb. A SOMA (Sharing of Ministries Abroad) mission team will deliver these during a mission in October. Please either mail or deliver your items to the Rev. Bob Lawrence at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, 2810 Seabrook Island Road, Johns Island, SC 29455.

Cards, Letters, Comments and Gifts We want to hear from you

By The Rev. Robert S. Lawrence, Executive Director, St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

One of the true joys of serving as the Executive Director of St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center is being the recipient of the comments, letters and notes of thanks that come my way from appreciative guests of our conference center, teachers who come with their students for our Barrier Island Environmental Education program, and parents of our summer camp campers. It is an affirmation of the ongoing work and ministry of the staff of St. Christopher who seek to offer Christian hospitality to all we are blessed to serve. While positive comments are the norm, we also receive our fair share of “helpful suggestions” to do things better, as well as some legitimate complaints for things we either messed up or just didn’t do correctly. All are welcome as they serve to help us strive for excellence and not become complacent thinking we finally have it “wired” for perfection. We don’t. There is always room for improvement, further attention to details,

and renewed commitment to consistency of purpose. That primary purpose is to continue to steward the resources entrusted to our care that we might provide a place for rest, restoration and renewal – that we might provide the opportunities for programs where our guests can encounter Jesus Christ and come to know Him as their Savior and Lord.

One of the other ways we receive joy and the affirmation of our ministry is through the generosity of those who offer financial support to St. Christopher. We would not exist if it were not for the generosity of those who select us as the recipients of their charitable giving. The very creation of St. Christopher as a ministry of the Diocese of South Carolina is attributed to the gift of Seabrook Island from the Morawetz family for the purposes of establishing a camp to serve the youth of South Carolina. Throughout the 77 years of our existence, as buildings were added and enhanced, it is most often made possible by the generos-

ity of individuals and parishes that make St. Christopher the recipient of their generosity. We are dependent upon them, and we need more like them. Perhaps that might be you?

In my now almost five years of service at the helm of leadership for St. Christopher, through the generosity of folks like you, we have begun the full restoration of the Chapel of the Palms. We have greatly enhanced Susanna’s House by repurposing it to be the center of all student ministry, with already funded plans for further enhancements yet to come. We have expanded



the recipients of our summer camp scholarship funds to include local students identified by our partnering faith based ministries. We have initiated the Barrier Island Outreach ministry to take our educational program into

the schools that can least afford to come to us. We have purchased a greatly enhanced audio visual suite to serve the growing needs of our diocesan groups. We have hosted international guests of the Diocese in support of our vision of “Making Biblical Anglicans for a Global Age.” All of this through donated funds received through the generosity of others.

While St. Christopher has been able to sustain its basic operations with the revenue generated from fees, it is only through the additional support received through charitable giving that allows us to do the things that so many are now noticing in their comments and thanks.

We need your support. We need folks willing to invest in a work of ministry that is building God’s Kingdom every day. We need to improve our aging infrastructure and to continue to enhance our existing buildings. We want to extend our scholarship support for participants in all of our programs. We want to do all of these things and more through the generosity of folks like you that all might share the joy. It will bless St. Christopher, and I know it will bless you too. For more information about giving to the Annual Fund or including St. Christopher in your will or estate planning, please contact me at blawrence@stchristopher.org or (843) 768-0429.



Prefer to give online?
Please visit
www.stchristopher.org
to contribute.



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Make checks payable to: Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina. Please mail this card with your gift to: St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, Attention: Annual Fund, 2810 Seabrook Island Road, Johns Island, SC 29455-6219.

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Journey to Healing Retreat in January

Christian Healing Ministries (CHM), founded by Francis and Judith MacNutt, is a Christ-centered, ecumenical, non-profit organization that is dedicated to the practice and teaching of healing prayer. CHM will be at St. Christopher for a three-day healing retreat, January 18-20, 2016. The retreat will begin

Monday morning and conclude on Wednesday with a Eucharist before lunch. There will be soaking prayer and personal ministry time for each participant. Last year's Journey to Healing Retreat was filled to capacity. If you are interested, sign up at www.stchristopher.org to guarantee your spot.

Why I Serve on Summer Camp Staff (It's not for the paycheck.)

By Walker Dillard, Summer Staff, St. Christopher Camp and Conf. Center

I'm Walker Dillard and I've had the privilege of working at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center for five years. There's something special about serving in a place that once served you. You get to deliver

- It's the 12-year-old girl from a good family who discovers her hope can be found outside the home. Her heavenly Father can comfort her anywhere.
- It's the 14-year-old boy who finds out his friends love him, even



the same goods that were delivered to you, much like a field you ate from as a child that you now are tilling for the next beneficiaries. The good crop is the gospel, and its life-giving power was made apparent to me through working at St. Christopher.

The fact that I was paid and received room and board is a clear extension of the blessing of the gospel.

When I told fellow students and co-workers I was working at a summer camp, the first question was always about pay. Either that or I was met with polite stares that were hiding the unspoken judgment of my life choices.

A summer camp? You must have lost that internship or better job.

Even those who worked in summer camps cringed when I said it was "Christian." The idea that a camp's primary focus wasn't fun was a little ludicrous to them.

I still make my case for Christian summer camp.

What people struggle to understand is that the ministry of God is layered and deep, not unlike his children. To say, "we tell kids about Jesus," is true, but it doesn't paint the full picture of what happens.

when he admits he doesn't fully trust God and they do.

- It's the 10-year-old boy whose parents are separating and finds his high school age counselor is going through the same thing.

You can't quantify this in spreadsheets and paychecks.

That's why the money doesn't matter to me. I'm sharing exactly what I needed at their ages – the love of Jesus. It comes in many forms, too many to list. Just imagine a time when you were hurting and Jesus comforted you. Now envision that on a 1500 plus scale.

That's what we do and it's of vital importance.

At the end of the day, people say they need love and love comes from God. What do we do with this eternal supply? Exactly what our Savior did. We give it away in abundance. We pour it out to fill all the hills and valleys, all the different landscapes of each soul. We gather the hungry, sit them down and feed them with what Jesus has taken from us and blessed.

This is summer camp. This is ministry. This is what Jesus does for us, so I do it for others.

Outdoor Encounters Adventure Camp Takes Participants Out of Comfort Zones

Treat Your Family, Small Group or Business to an Outdoor Adventure

By Justin Johnson, Outdoor Encounters, St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

Imagine waking up under the canopy of a large live oak tree on the edge of a tidal creek, overlooking salt marsh as far as the eye can see. As you eat your breakfast on the water's edge and think of the adventures that await you for the day, a small pod of dolphins passes slowly by, taking advantage of the creek's exposed banks at low tide to feed on unsuspecting fish. What a way to start your day! Those are exactly the experiences the campers of St. Christopher's Outdoor Encounters Adventure Camp received this summer.

Led by Justin Johnson and Charlotte Hendrick, St. Christopher hosted three Outdoor Encounter Adventure Camps this summer. In the first two sessions, 6th-8th grade campers took part in a base-camp program camping out at the beautiful Crab Dock on St. Christopher property. Their days were full of adventures exploring the woods, the waters, and the pluff mud of St. Christopher as well as taking part in the camp's team-building challenge course and climbing wall. The week was capped off by kayaking across the North Edisto River to have fun exploring Botany Island's Bone Yard Beach.

The third week of the Outdoor Encounters Adventure Camp looked a little different as the 9th-12th grade campers left the borders of St. Christopher to embark on a four-day kayak and camping trip on the Stono River. Although the week began with a few days of stormy weather preventing the group from getting on the water as soon as they had hoped, that did not stop them from having a great adventure! After spending an extra day having fun at camp, the group eagerly launched from Limehouse Bridge on Johns



Island and spent three days on the Stono River kayaking, camping, swimming, and hunting for shark's teeth before being picked up at Sol Legare Landing on James Island. In all, the group kayaked about 18 miles in their three-day journey.

Along with their adventure-filled days, campers learned kayaking and backcountry skills, how to use camp stoves, leadership skills, scripture memory verse, and their need for Jesus Christ as their Savior.

The goal of the Outdoor Encounters Adventure Camps is to create an environment where campers can be led outside of their comfort zone, build intentional relationships, and come to an understanding and knowledge of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, all while encountering the beauty of the Lord's creation. The small group size of the Outdoor Encounters Adventure Camps allows for intentional relationships where leadership skills are built and opens the door for more spiritual growth. Campers in all

three sessions this summer consistently noted the small size and intentionality of relationships among the groups and their leaders as one of the strengths of the program.

Now in its third year, the Outdoor Encounters Adventure Camp continues to see growth in its program success and in the fruit that the Lord is producing through it. The Outdoor Encounters' staff is already planning next summer's adventures!

However, the adventures are not just limited to the Adventure Camp program--Outdoor Encounters offers an array of activities for families, church groups, and business groups. From activities like kayaking and seining to a 25 foot climbing wall and low-ropes challenge course, Outdoor Encounters has something to offer everyone. For more information about Outdoor Encounters or to schedule an event, please visit www.outdoorencounters.org or contact Justin Johnson at jjohnson@stchristopher.org.



Treat Your Family to Thanksgiving at St. Christopher

Continue the family tradition or come and start a new one with the St. Christopher family for the 2015 Thanksgiving Retreat. Each year we set a time aside to give thanks for the Lord's provision in our lives, to reflect on his grace and mercy, and to bask in the glory of his creation. St. Christopher invites you to join with them

in the special season to be renewed in the Spirit.

St. Christopher's Thanksgiving Retreat will host all of the fall activities that their friends and family have come to love. Enjoy guided nature walks, a hayride, kayaking, a beach bonfire, and activities for all ages during the weekend. Step away from the noise and business of

today's world and spend joyful excursions and quiet times with family and friends. The 2014 Thanksgiving Retreat was completely full, so make sure you register soon for this year's event. Visit www.stchristopher.org to learn more.



JOY HUNTER

Change Sensed “at a Visceral Level”



The Rev. Bill Christian, Executive Director of Star Gospel Mission Remarks on Collegiality Among Races

The Rev. Bill Christian, Executive Director of the Star Gospel Mission on Charleston’s eastside, has a unique perspective on the effect the murders of the Emanuel Nine had on the community. The Star Gospel Mission, Charleston’s oldest not-for-profit Christian welfare organization, provides transitional

housing for formerly homeless men. “What I’ve experienced, very simply, is that the black men and white men here are far more interactive than I’ve ever seen them in all the years I’ve been here,” said Christian, who’s been at the mission for 15 years. “They’re communicating frequently, openly, and regularly – sitting out on the porch together, talking, dialoguing. There’s a collegiality that didn’t exist before. Something has changed. I sense it at a visceral level.”

Each day Christian walks past a busy bus stop to pick up newspapers (donated to the mission by the Post and Courier). “When I go by the bus stop there are always 10-20 people there; they’re friendlier now. It’s ‘Hi, Pastor Christian,’ ‘How are you doing Pastor Christian?’ Even if they don’t speak, they smile and I smile back. Prior to this time, a black and white would pass on the street and pro-actively or intentionally not

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St. Paul’s Worships with Baum Temple, AME Zion, in Summerville

By The Rev. Tyler Prescott, Associate Rector, St. Paul’s, Summerville



and bigotry that motivated such an unadulterated act of evil. And, I was

saddened to realize I did not have one African-American friend with whom I could reach out and pray, come together and mourn, or stand alongside in unity. I had acquaintances, especially among the clergy of this Diocese and in Summerville. But it dawned on me that the racial divisions that remain in our state were not going to be healed until true and meaningful relationships began to be built.

As I was processing the day with my wife we were convicted that any

response should reflect a long-term commitment to racial reconciliation rather than a short-term show of solidarity. I was struck by John’s vision in Revelation 7:9 where he sees the faithful from every tongue, tribe, and nation gathered together worshipping before the heavenly throne. If we hope to seek such unity in this age, this is where we must begin, with hearts, minds, and song directed in praise of our Savior. Any

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JOY HUNTER

Only Through Christ Can We Be Reconciled

The Rev. Dr. Dallas Wilson Reflects on the Aftermath of the Emanuel Nine Massacre

The Rev. Dr. Dallas Wilson, Vicar of St. John’s Chapel on the Eastside of Charleston, and his wife, Janie D. Wilson, MABC, were in California at the time of the Mother Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church massacre.

They grieved for the families of the victims and fielded calls from the mayor, the police chief and countless others around the country in response to the shootings.

When they returned to Charleston on Tuesday, June 23 and saw the outpouring of emotion, they were somewhat guarded.

“In my estimation, the events being held in an effort to bring about racial reconciliation and unification gave people a false sense of reconciliation, one based on human efforts and emotion,” said Wilson.

“Human forgiveness is conditional, as is human love, but real forgiveness originates from God and is centered on Christ’s death on the cross. The cross has to be

central, but, in this case was never mentioned.”

“Forgiveness becomes a reality only when we recognize that we have been forgiven by God,” said Wilson.

“It is also my contention, that we have mistakenly confused denominations with the church mentioned in the Bible, believing that this historically grievous tragedy will somehow bring the Body of Christ together. Events held in response to a tragedy won’t bring the church together,” said Wilson.

“People need to be reconciled vertically to God, through the cross of Christ and if they are reconciled in that truth, they’ll be reconciled horizontally to each other.”

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It’s Not a Social Attitude That Brings Unity. It’s Jesus

By The Rev. Tim Surratt, Christ the King, Grace Waccamaw, Pawleys Is.

When Jesus’ name is proclaimed in any circumstance (see Psalm 107) – you can’t contain it and you can’t refute it. “Has the Lord redeemed you? Then speak out!”

The media had no choice but to show the incredible display of grace, forgiveness, and even the hope-through-their-pain that the perpetrator would know Jesus, freely expressed by the families of the victims and the members of Emanuel AME. Oh, that we could all attain such depth of love for Jesus and others, and let us let Him change us into such people! And how irresistible the Church becomes when His name is proclaimed louder than the name of the evil ones or the politicians or the issues or even, in some ways, the victims. And that’s what the members of that Church did!

Charleston is an example to the world of a way to bring unity from tragedy - but it’s not a social attitude that caused this. It’s Jesus. We should savor this time, even though it hurts.

I had the honor of attending the “Bridge to Peace” event in Charleston June 21. The 15,000-person crowd was indescribable, stretching across the Cooper River and beyond. The attitude and the spirit were awesome. The most reverent,

spiritual, and powerful moments were led by the African Americans standing near us.

We enjoyed spontaneous prayers and hymns, free hugs, words of love among strangers, and a common sense of order and respect that deserved more national attention than it received. There were no flak vests or automatic weapons, no tear gas, helmets, nor posters of hate. No screams, jeers, arrests or handcuffs. Instead we experienced silence, prayers, hymns, memories of the lost.

The Holy Spirit was moving over the crowd. I couldn’t help but think about the day of Pentecost - many peoples of many ages, races, political views, and backgrounds seem to all hear the message of the Holy Spirit in their own language as we joined hands and sought God. I hope and pray that the Lord added thousands to the numbers of His Kingdom that day.



I Repent

By The Rev. Mark Cooke

On June 24, 2015, one week after the Emanuel AME massacre, I joined several hundred other believers at Marion Square for a Prayer Vigil for the families of the Mother Emmanuel Nine, for our city, state and nation.

It was a sweet and powerful event filled with strong, Gospel words from Philip Pinckney, a relative of Clementa Pinckney, a Citadel grad and a young minister, along with joyful singing and uplifting prayers. People of every race and background (many not Christians) were gathered, and the entire atmosphere was filled with encouragement and love.

Around 9:00 p.m., we began to make our way towards Mother Emmanuel AME, the police having blocked the streets for us, and God, unbeknownst to me, was about to shift the focus, with this simple minister right in the middle.

Pastors were leading the way, while everyone was singing, and we merged with the multi-colored host already at the church. The next moment, I and several others were in front of Emmanuel facing the crowd when the young man leading us in song says, "Now, a few people are going to say some things."

Not knowing that I was on God's agenda, I began to pray, "Do I have something to say, if so, what?" Then I heard that still, small voice, "Repent of your racism." I waited, wrestled and prayed.

They called the brother to my left, who exhorted the crowd, calling all to embrace the "sound of heaven coming down." They called the guy to my right, who proclaimed a grace-filled word of the Kingdom. While he was speaking, his wife leaned over and said, "You're next." Then there I was standing alone before the throng, "from every language tribe and tongue."

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Hate Won't Win

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people that I know. Every fiber in my body hurts, and I'll never be the same. Tywanza Sanders is my son, but Tywanza was my hero... But as we said in Bible Study, we enjoyed you, but may God have mercy on you."

- Alana Simmons, whose grandfather, the Rev. Daniel Simmons, was murdered, said, "Although my Grandfather and the other victims died at the hands of hate, this is proof — everyone's plea for your soul is proof — that they lived in love and their legacies will live in love, so hate won't win..."

- Bethane Middleton Brown, sister of the Rev. Depayne Middleton Doctor, said, "Depayne Doctor was my sister, and I just thank you (the Judge) on behalf of my family for not allowing hate to win. For me, I'm a work-in-progress, and I acknowledge that I am very angry, but one thing Depayne has always joined in with our family is that she taught me that we are 'the family that love built'. We have no room for hate. So we have to forgive, and I pray God on your soul..."



JOY HUNTER

A crowd, including members from St. Michael's, Charleston, gathers in front of Emanuel AME on Sunday evening, June 21, 2015, for a time of prayer.

That We'd Become One

"God is not African American. He's not white or Latino or Asian. And the children of God come in all nationalities, all colors." The Rev. Jimmy Gallant Reflects on the Emanuel Shootings.

By Joy Hunter, Editor

On June 17, 2015, the night of the racially motivated massacre at "Mother" Emanuel AME, the Rev. Jimmy Gallant, Vicar of St. Andrew's Church, Charleston, was leading a Bible Study at



POST & COURIER

his own parish, just seven miles away. "I was teaching on the 91st Psalm," says Gallant. "It's all about sanctuary. 'He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High abides in the shadow of the Almighty.' It's about how God keeps us safe."

An hour later he received a phone call about the murders.

Gallant, an African American priest in the Diocese of South Carolina and a former four-term City Council member with a reputation for racial reconciliation, knew all of the individuals killed that night.

Myra Thompson, the Bible teach-

er, lived with her husband, Anthony, just around the corner from Gallant and his wife. "Anthony and I went to Benedict College together," he says.

Gallant had a personal and professional relationship with State Senator Clementa Pinckney. "Back when I was on City Council, if I needed something on the state level, I could always call Clementa," he says.

"Pastor Daniel Simmons and I ran into each other at the Waffle House on Montague Avenue each week," says Gallant. "We always hugged. He used to tease me and call me 'Bishop.'"

After a hesitant silence Gallant adds, "It's difficult for me. I'm still grieving."

Though people around the world were affected by the massacre and

responded with an outpouring of sympathy for and solidarity with the survivors, the emotional pain felt by Gallant and others closely tied to the victims is still fresh two months

following the attack.

"Relationship building takes time and can't be contrived or thought of as a project," warns Gallant. "When you treat me just like I treat you — it's done by the power of the Spirit. God doesn't see color. We do."

When Gallant met his congregation for the first time after the massacre, he was questioned about his teaching the week before. "Where is the refuge?" he was asked. "Where's the safe haven? You were teaching about

this just last week. Can I be safe at church?"

"What we have to do is pray," said Gallant. "And continue to trust. That's all we have. The truth is — God is God. He's omnipotent. He's sovereign. He doesn't have to answer questions from me or anybody else."

Gallant takes comfort knowing

his own congregation isn't segregated. "On Sunday mornings we have more than just African Americans worshipping here," he says. "We have some Hispanics, most of white brothers from across the street (involved in a recovery ministry) and then friends of mine who are not African American will come and worship with us. We, too, have to get beyond that dividing line."

When asked how other churches could move in that direction Gallant says, "It starts by spending time together, getting to know each other." He recalls a sermon Tom Skinner, a former chaplain for the Washington Red Skins, gave to a multi-racial sports team. "He challenged all the white brothers to get so comfortable with the African American members of the team that he (the African American) could come to your house and take his shoes off. But it's going to take you to invite him — and then he'll invite you to his house. We do it every now and then," says Gallant, "but often when

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Crisis Chaplains Respond Following Emanuel Shootings

By Joy Hunter, Editor

With 26 years as a crisis chaplain under his belt, the Rev. Rob Dewey, Sr. Chaplain at Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy, has seen more than his share of tragedy. He was called to serve following 9/11. Still, he was not prepared for the mass shooting of nine indi-



viduals attending a Bible Study at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in Charleston, June 17, 2015.

"I struggled greatly with this because of the evil," says Dewey, choking up, when asked about the shooting, a month after it occurred. "I went into a kind of trance. It's easy to preach about good and evil on Sunday morning — but when you experience it, it's a different thing. It's not good."

Rob was home watching television with his wife, Kathy, when the first phone call came in. He received five calls from various police agen-

cies before he could get in uniform and out the door.

"The police dispatcher told us to be careful because it was an active shooter," said Dewey. "Seminary trains you for a lot but they don't train you for an active shooter. I called Gloria, our office manager, at home — the first time in a year — and asked her to try and get 10 chaplains down to the Embassy Suites," (where the family and friends of those murdered were to gather).

Usually police notify relatives in person following an unexpected death, but in the age of the internet and cell phones, communication

often takes place before an officer is able to call on a family personally. When the Emanuel AME shooting occurred, live television coverage, and the word-of-mouth spread through cell phones, insured that family members were notified immediately.

About 300 people, including children, gathered at the hotel.

"One of the good things that happened is that the AME pastors began to show up (at the Embassy Suites) and everybody knows each other really well," says Dewey. "They

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No Matter What this World Throws - Jesus Wins

By The Rev. Greg Smith, Associate Rector and Ion Campus Pastor, Chaplain to The Citadel, Charleston



Bishop Lawrence and clergy from the Diocese attended the service for the Rev. Clementa Pinckney.

MIKE CLARKSON

At each of the four funerals I was able to attend I heard the familiar words from Psalm 37 as the crying family came in: *“I have been young, and now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or his children begging for bread.”*

In what sense could these words possibly be true?

All of this tragedy, senseless violence, crazy summer heat... How could this Scripture (of all) be applied at a funeral? Hadn't the righteous been forsaken?

Jesus said to her, *“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes*

in me, though he die, yet shall he live, (John 11:25)

And there was the answer.

The death, burial and resurrection of Jesus is what we rest in when tragedy strikes. And it is that reality which I saw on display at each funeral. The family was rightly shaken – often at a loss for words – but they were surrounded by the truth. No matter what this world throws at us, Jesus wins.

As speakers got up to share, the constant theme was Jesus and His victory. It was out of that strength those families were able to offer forgiveness. It was out of that strength those families were able to stand strong. It was out of that strength those families offered grace to a world seeking answers.

When Bishop Lawrence asked the clergy to try and attend the

funerals, we knew it was one of the only things we could do. We didn't have relationships with the AME pastors. We didn't have the networks. And we didn't have answers. But we could stand together in the grace of Jesus. And so I went – with a bit of honest trepidation and the welcome was amazing. The AME is a “connectional” church and everywhere I went I was welcomed in and asked to sit with their clergy. At first, I felt out of place, but their great district leader, the Rev. Norvell Goff, shepherded the services to the Gospel and to celebration in Jesus.

“We shall overcome” became a theme not of political change but of a reality that will, truly, happen (and already is) in the Gospel. I saw politicians reach across lines, honor each other, and relate. Gov. Haley, at one of the first funerals, was lightly

attacked by a speaker who said he'd protested outside her house and was glad to see her there. She retorted, “Next time you're outside protesting come up and knock on the door. I'd love to sit down with you!”

That was what I saw. People of every race, tribe and culture, coming together to mourn and observe this strange Gospel we have – a good news that proclaims that no matter what happens here we serve the one who got up from the grave. Jesus is waiting to sit down with us at that future feast where no one will beg for bread for it will be there in abundance.

And I saw grief – but it was a grief rooted in the Gospel and resurrection. At one particular funeral, I saw the family get up and dance – Full out flapping and twirling and running up and down the aisle. It was grief like I'd never seen before! When I grieve I get silent, but these families had something special. They danced in grief letting the emotions bubble over in a mixture of wailing and dancing and mourning that was real and raw. And supported – surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses at every funeral, the clergy, friends, and church members sang songs of the resurrection, reminding us all of the Gospel.

So, what do we do now? For me, it's renewed the need for relationship. We don't have the answers for violence in this world. But we know the one who endured the violence from the world – Jesus, and he offers to sit down at a feast with us. Perhaps that feast could start now as we sit down with pastors across the street and share life together, learning what righteousness looks like through the prism of the Gospel.

I Repent

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To the best of my recollection, these were my words...

“I am a son of this city, and I grew up insulated and ignorant. I went to a segregated church and didn't know a black classmate until the 6th grade.

“I didn't know what racism was, or that I was a racist, but I stand before you now (speaking especially to my black brothers and sisters), repenting and asking your forgiveness, for I have come to know that all races are equally precious in the Kingdom of God.

“This is a critical, historic hour in our city and our nation; I believe it may be the African American moment, for you hold the key.

“Underneath the pain, hurt, and injustices, we need your gift of forgiveness. Repentance, forgiveness and reconciliation are the only way forward towards a true awakening and move of God, and you are the key.

“I do not want to be your white brother; I do not want you to be my black brother or sister. I desire to simply be your brother. I stand here now, first for myself, but may it also be for my white brothers and sisters, repenting of my sin. Will you forgive me?”

“When I stopped there was a moment of silence, then a dear sister in Christ (I must say black for this telling) ran up and embraced me with the words, “I forgive you!” This was followed by one after another, and cheers and shouts, “We forgive you!”

While this may have been the beginning of a new day for me and God's people, and surely one small step among many, I had never felt more clean and whole in all my life.

St. Paul's Joins Baum Temple AME Zion

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striving for unity or reconciliation that is not rooted in the common worship of Jesus is, in my opinion, merely a passing fad.

Thus, an idea was hatched: we could contact a local African-American congregation and see if our churches might come together in corporate worship. After discussing this with the Rev. John Scott, he enthusiastically called, the Rev. Mary Tucker and St. Paul's, Summerville, was invited to join Baum Temple AME Zion Church for worship on a Sunday morning! The opportunity was exciting, but the logistics were daunting. How do we invite over 400 people across four services to completely change their Sunday morning routine? Should we make space for those who don't want to come? What about visitors? What about the weekly offering in the financially slim summer months? Nevertheless, we made plans with uncertainty, but under the conviction that this was the right step for our church and community. How many folks from St. Paul's would join us? One dozen? Twenty? Maybe thirty?

We met over lunch to plan the service and agreed that John, Mary, and I would share in the clergy duties while lay members of both congregations participated as appropriate. While we ate and prayed, the very things I was hoping for our congregation began to happen for us. We were building relationships, sharing the joys and struggles of being pastors, parents, and grandparents; discussing our hopes for the Church and community relationships; and reinforcing our shared bond in Jesus Christ, realizing all our differences pale in comparison to the greatness of God who unites us.

On Sunday July 12, John Scott and I stood up at the peace during the 9am service of St. Paul's, and left our campus for Baum Temple AME Zion, uncertain who would join us. As we stood on the portico of Baum Temple with

Mary Tucker, I was surprised at how many St. Paul's folks were flooding into the church. When it was time, the clergy (along with the magnificent Baum Temple choir!), prayed and began the procession; not your typical, formal Anglican procession, but a dancing, clapping, and spirit-filled march up to the throne of God's grace. As we processed, joyfully clapping and singing “Every Praise,” we could not help but have a taste of the heavenly worship seen in the Revelation passage that was so striking to me when this process began. As we approached our seats at the front of the church, John and I turned to see at least 150 faces from St. Paul's populating the pews of Baum Temple, worshipping side by side with our brothers and sisters who quite literally live on the other side of the railroad tracks.

We left that Sunday convinced that the Lord was calling us to take the next steps in building these relationships. There are many possibilities, including joint fellowship and service, but I am convinced that all of these will fall away if we are not first united in our corporate worship. You see, our own sinfulness renders church programs and “doing stuff together” insufficient for the redemption of



JOY HUNTER

“It is clear to me that only the grace of Christ is sufficient and the restoration of our relationships must begin there,” says the Rev. Tyler Prescott, Associate Rector of St. Paul's, Summerville. Above, church members from Baum Temple AME Zion Church in Summerville welcome guests from St. Paul's Church.

even our own hearts, not to mention abundant and complex social issues. It is clear to me that only the grace of Christ is sufficient and the restoration of our relationships must begin there, encountering this grace in the faithful gathered around Word and Sacrament. Then, and only then, can we reach out together in grace, powered by the Holy Spirit, and confront our community with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We're already planning our next joint worship service. St. Paul's will host and the faithful of Baum Temple will join us in an Anglican setting. In light of this, it is my prayer that these seeds of unity planted in our common worship will, by the grace of God and power of the Holy Spirit, blossom into a fruitful community witness of reconciliation for Summerville and beyond.

That We'd Become One

Continued from Page nine

a white congregation wants to draw closer they say, ‘Come to our church.’ It's got to go both ways. They need to come here, too.”

“Relationship building takes time and can't be contrived or thought of as a project,” warns Gallant. “It has to be real, spontaneous, genuine. People sense when it's conjured up. When you treat me just like I treat you – it's done by the power of the Spirit. God doesn't see color – we do.”

One of the good things Gallant sees happening after the shootings is that relationships between non-African Americans and African Americans are beginning to jell.

“Brothers and sisters are embracing each other,” he says. “What people need to remember is that we're all the children of God. God is not African American. He's not white or Latino or Asian. And the children of God come in all nationalities, all colors.

Jesus prayed we would become one as he and the Father are one. My prayer is we all become one, too.”

Change; Visceral Level

Continued from Page Eight

look at each other. It's a marked difference. That may not be a blockbuster sort of analysis, but on a street level, a day-to-day level, it's remarkable,” he says.

Christian believes leaders in the church and government have important roles to play in seeing that the positive change continues.

“I think the leadership of this city, the mayor and both black and white clergy, can be the catalyst which enables this feeling of good will and tolerance to continue,” he says. “We need to develop relationships between black and white churches. If black and white pastors can continue their relationships, I think we'll secure good relationships well into the future.”

Give up Your Comfort Zones

Retired Emanuel AME Pastor Preaches at St. Michael's, Charleston

By Peg Eastman, St. Michael's Church, Charleston

On Sunday, August 2, 2015, over 360 people packed St. Michael's Church, Charleston, to hear the Rev. Dr. John Gillison give the 10:30 a.m. service sermon, "The Perfect Model for All Times." Gillison had served as Senior Pastor of Mother Emanuel for eight years and was now retired after 56 years of active ministry.

Opening with prayer, the Rev. Gillison began with Philippians 2:5, "Let this mind be in you that is also in Christ Jesus." He stressed that this mindset is the perfect model for today's world and for all time.

Gillison stressed that Christians must give up their comfort zones. He described a "reluctant Moses," who liberated his people and Martin Luther King, who responded to the cries of his people as examples.

"Father forgive them for they know not what they do" were Jesus' immortal words when he hung suffering on the cross, Gillison told the crowd. And forgiveness, love and a hope of salvation were what the bereaved families at Mother Emmanuel offered to the murderer of their loved ones in an act that confounded and inspired not only Charleston, but the entire world. Their forgiveness was a powerful sermon, for they wanted to be like Jesus in their hearts. He went on to say that he was

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Only Through Christ

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Wilson stressed that the church is being attacked not only on the outside, by society; but, internally by those in church leadership who have abandoned Christ's teachings on reconciliation through forgiveness.

"There is something the church needs to do," he said. "Not the white church, not the black church, but, the colorless church – the spiritual church – the ones who are God's own possession, so that we may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light; for we once were not a people, but now we are the people of God - the ecclesia. (1 Peter 2:9, 10)"

"The people of God should repent privately," said Wilson. "We should get on our faces individually and then, corporately. Not for days, weeks or even months; but, from now on. Those of us, who individually make up the Body of Christ, it is we who should say, 'Lord we're desperately sorry.'"

"That's what God is calling the church, the true Body of Christ to do, to truly be 'salt and light' - not just when the cameras are on.

"What's the church to repent for? For not truly showing the world who Christ really is – the only begotten Son of the living God and the only way to the Father.

"Racism and prejudice of any kind are not just awful, they're sin!" said Wilson, with emotion. "They discredit and devalue God's creation - no doubt about it, but marches and singing and holding hands won't change people's hearts. Only Christ can do that. We need to introduce people to Christ and as the Great Commission mandates, make disciples."

"Christ never once said, 'Make Christians,'" says Wilson. "He said, 'Make Disciples!'"

Having stated all of the above, the Wilsons are justifiably proud of the citizens of Charleston and their response to and efforts on behalf of the families, churches and communities affected by this horrific tragedy.

They are equally proud of the progress that the congregation at St. John's Chapel has made. Yes, they've improved the facilities of St. John's. Yes, they've helped improve the emotional and physical lives of those in their community and parish. Primarily, though they're thankful they've made inroads through interpersonal evangelism, Biblical counseling and Biblical discipleship.

Grandparents Seize the Grand Camp Moment!

By Catherine Jacobs, Pass the Legacy Ministry

On June 15, 75 grandparents and grandchildren gathered at St. Christopher for the second annual "Grand Camp." Peter Rothermel, Executive Director of the Department of Christian Faith Formation, joined my ministry, Pass the Legacy Ministry, to lead this "grand" experience for some intergenerational time. A rare experience in our 21st century, these five days of intergenerational fun and intensive study encouraged and informed grandparents on how they can be courageous in their God-given role of grandparenting. Most Baby Boomers today feel their job of raising children is past. They seek their own goals in retirement. Yet the Lord is clear throughout scripture that He wants "one generation to tell of His mighty acts to another" (Psalm 145:4). During Grand Camp, grandparents looked for opportunities to "seize the moment" and pass their faith to their grandchildren through everyday activities. Grand Campers enjoyed the "mudpit," kayaking, evening campfires, as well as interactive Morning Devotions, bedtime Bible readings and age-specific studies. The highlight of the week was "The Blessing Ceremony" where the grandparents spoke words of blessing over each grandchild.

Throughout the week, I witnessed grandparents "seize the moment" and speak words of love and faith into their grandchildren. For some, this was a natural continuation of what they do at home. For many, it was a new experience as they shared their stories of faith for the first time. I was touched as I watched these grandparents rise to the occasion of impacting, for eternity, the hearts of their loved ones. Already, I look forward to greeting these Grand Campers at next year's camp, June 16-20. Contact Cheryl Cargill at ccargill49@gmail.com to register for 2016.

This theme of "Seize the Moment" is an important one. As grandparents, we are called by God to reach the hearts of our grandchil-



DEB PARKER

"Julian (age 8) and I had a great time kayaking together, at Grand Camp," said Cheryl Cargill of St. Paul's Church, Summerville (shown above with grandson).

dren and grown children. We impact them by seizing the moments before us and connect our loved ones with their Heavenly Father.

To learn more about how to encourage grandparents in this Godly role or to get involved in Pass the Legacy Ministry email me, Cathy Jacobs at cathy@passthelegacy.com.

A Photographer Reflects on Grand Camp

by Sherry Schumann, St. Paul's, Summerville

I entered Camp Saint Christopher, thrilled to experience the fourth day of Grand Camp through the lens of a camera. I assumed I was treading on holy ground, a sacred place for grandparents and grandchildren to spend five glorious days together. My assumptions were correct.



SHERRY SCHUMANN

A bright yellow bandana tied around an ankle. Click. Children's hands caked in clay. Click. A grandfather hunched over a table, praying. Click.

Brightly colored bandanas—secured as headbands, tied on ankles and looped like scarves—immediately caught my attention. I quickly learned that teams, designated by colors, accrued points by mastering Bible verses and triumphing in other forms of friendly competition.

Following morning worship, grandparents

and grandchildren separated into different break-out sessions. The children created religious symbols with clay, assembled bird feeders from plastic water bottles and played games while the adults discussed their roles as grandparents in a fast-paced world constantly vying for their grandchildren's attention. Claude Sykes, acknowledging that he was preaching to the choir, noted the limited number of males in the room and challenged those present to encourage other grandfathers to get involved. Founder of Pass the Legacy Ministries, Cathy Jacobs, discussed Grandparent Blessings.

A child's hand tucked into a hand marked with age. Click. Legs, young and old, stepping off twenty-one paces. Click. A face filled with delight over a baby alligator. Click. Grandparents and grandchildren splashing in the surf. Click.

A whirlwind of activity followed lunch: using compasses to hunt buried treasure, handling corn snakes, ogling a baby alligator and refreshing ourselves on Saint Christopher's family-friendly beach. The afternoon



DEB PARKER

culminated in a relay race: teams of two or three striding styro-foam noodles streaked past me before I was able to capture a clear picture. Could it be I was laughing too hard to focus?

Grandparents and grandchildren—fresh after showers, pressed clothes and a hearty dinner—filed into the chapel. I sat at the end of a row, the shutter on my camera silenced for the night. Through the window behind the altar, I watched pelicans take flight as evening hues filled the sky. All seemed peaceful and right with the world as the grandparents, one by one, stepped to the front of the chapel with their grandchildren. Tears streamed down my face as I witnessed ordinary men and women—who only hours earlier were reading a compass and riding a noodle—bestow blessings on their grandchildren. In these precious moments, the ordinary became extraordinary. Everyone left the chapel that evening, changed for the better.

I thank God for Cathy Jacobs, Peter Rothermel and the awesome grandparents who forge the road ahead for those of us grandparents to follow.

All of the ministries offered through St. John's and the African American Family Center for Biblical Dialogue (AAFCBD), a separate non-profit are Christ-centered.

"If people want to do something in response to the Emanuel shooting, they can come down to St. John's, or take part in the Nailah House and Peninsula Biblical Counseling Center," said Wilson, "both are worthwhile home-missions efforts to invest in both, prayerfully and financially."

The Biblical Family Center, which is housed in St. John's Chapel is about to break ground for a new ministry to unwed teen mothers. (Read more on page 2).

"People travel to third world countries to serve and reach out," says Wilson. "There's work to be done right here. We need to bring the light of Christ to the people in our own community – our Jerusalem, in our case, the Eastside-Westside neighborhoods!"

On the 1st and 3rd Saturdays St. John's

Chapel holds a "Holy Saturday Brunch," with music, a message and a meal. All are welcome to come and help serve. St. John's hopes to expand to 2nd and 4th Saturdays. "These are a few of our attempts, though limited, to be disciples of those less fortunate in our community," said Wilson.

To learn how you can get involved contact Brother Dallas at (843) 730-3603 or vicarst-johns@bellsouth.net or (843) 830-4640 (cell).

Crisis Chaplains Respond

Continued from Page Nine

were able to begin ministering to their folks and we were there to support them.”

“We took over the second floor ballroom of the Embassy Suites,” says Dewey. “They were great, providing food and drinks to the relatives and friends.”

Coroner Rae Wooten and her staff used two separate rooms to meet with individual families of the deceased.

The Coastal Crisis Chaplains helped shield those grieving from the media who were trying to come up the stairs and enter the ballroom.

“Rev. Goff is a saint,” said Dewey of the Rev. Dr. Norvel Goff, presiding elder of the Edisto District of the 7th Episcopal District of South Carolina, who was named Interim pastor of Emanuel AME. “When he got there everything calmed down. I got beside him and said, ‘We really need a prayer.’”

Goff led everyone in prayer, and then the group began singing a hymn.

“They were singing, ‘What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear,’” said Dewey. “All these black folks singing even though they knew their parents and children had just been murdered.”

Dewey and the other chaplains stayed with the group until about 4 a.m. when everyone began to disperse.

Though the evil that took place that evening shook Dewey to the core, he was not surprised by the swell of unity which flooded Charleston in its aftermath.

“I attended the bond-hearing of the accused murderer. I witnessed each of the nine families stand before the judge and the accused murderer and say to him ‘we forgive you.’” Dewey said there was not a dry eye in the courtroom as these families shared their pain and also their forgiveness – counting it all to Jesus Christ.

The response of the families of those murdered led the way,” said Dewey.

“Certainly in the time after this situation everyone was of one color,” said Dewey. “What I see happening now, a month later, is

there are some really good things that are on a continuum. One reason it wasn’t as bad in Charleston as it was in Ferguson – is that we’ve always worked on relationships between the different races. We truly care. For example, the black leaders have my cell numbers,” Dewey thumps his cell phone. “And I have theirs. I’m involved in Cool Breeze, Wendell Gaillard’s project (where during the summer months air conditioning units are distributed free of charge to the needy). Two years ago, I was much honored to receive the Martin Luther King, Jr. award for Outstanding Community Service and Keeping the Dream Alive. We’ve always tried to love each other. I think that’s made a huge difference.”

Following the massacre, Goff asked to have Coastal Crisis Chaplains present at each of the nine funerals so they could assist him in ministering to the grieving.

“One of my struggles,” says Dewey, “is that I didn’t have time to grieve back then.”

Burn-out/compassion fatigue is something for which Dewey is always on the alert for those who are called to care. “Several years ago, we had a chaplain who responded to three suicides in one day. He quit after that and never came back,” he said. “I didn’t know he was being called to all three. We wouldn’t have let that happen if we knew.”

“Our first responders – police, fire and EMS personnel – see death and destruction on a regular basis. That’s why there’s such a high burn-out and suicide rate,” he said.

“That’s where our churches need to get involved outside the four walls. I feel it is important that the churches work on being part of the community. Get involved in the local schools. Have a reading program. Have a First Responder Sunday. Recognize their local police, fire and EMS personnel. We need to have relationships with folks, prior to events, so we can carry out the Great Commission. That was why I started this ministry. I saw a need for the Church to reach outside the four walls.” May God bless us all as we continue in His field awaiting harvesting.

Give Up Comfort Zones

Continued from Page 11

thankful for the great outpouring of love to the bereaved families and Mother Emmanuel Church and thanked St. Michael’s Church for its support.

Gillison stressed that as Christians, we can know “hope in piles of ashes,” and asked the timeless question, “Why do bad things happen to good people?” “In spite of bad things, we must have love in our hearts and be able to offer forgiveness,” he said. He stressed that we will never attain perfection, and that all of us are constantly “becoming Christians.”

The Rev. Al Zadig, Rector of St. Michael’s, concluded the service by asking Gillison to be St. Michael’s teacher in a longstanding relationship through the power of the Holy Spirit. He stressed that the morning’s service was intended to plant seeds for the future.

The Rev. Al Zadig moderated a Q&A session with Gillison afterward. People asked, “What does it look like to truly forgive?” “What was it like for the Rev. Gillison to forgive?” And “what do you think Jesus would say after the tragedy at Mother Emmanuel Church?” among other questions.

Gillison stressed that the white and the black communities need to know each other better. He challenged white churches to study black history and contributions blacks have made through the years. To heal the divide between the races, he suggested teaching children love and brotherhood and urged those present to avoid making generalizations about blacks, depersonalizing them and continuing the “spirit of paternalism.” He urged everyone to practice what we preach and keep on praying. He stressed that “God moves in mysterious ways his wonders to perform.” When asked what we should pray for, he asked the congregation to pray for Bishop Richard Morris’s health and that he will appoint the right pastor for Mother Emmanuel.

The Rev. Al Zadig introduced the Galatians Task Force which has been seeking a path forward using Galatians 3:28 “There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

Archbishop Foley Beach to Lead Clergy Conference Oct. 9-21

The Most Rev. Dr. Foley Beach, Archbishop and Primate of the Anglican Church in North America, Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of the South will be the guest speaker at this fall’s clergy conference which will be held October 19-21 at St. Christopher



PROVIDED BY ACNA

Cross Anglican Church in Loganville, GA, from its founding in February 2004, until December, 2013. On October 9, 2010, he was consecrated in Atlanta, Georgia, as the first Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of the South in the Anglican Church in North America. Beach is a graduate of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, the School of Theology at the University of the South, and Georgia State University. Married for more than 30 years, he and his wife, Allison, have two grown children and make their home in the Metro-Atlanta area.

The cost for the conference is \$250 (for a single room), \$150 for a double and \$70 for commuters (covers meals only). Clergy may golf at the Seabrook Island Golf Course Tuesday afternoon. The cost is \$50.

Register at www.dioceseofsc.org.

Archbishop Beach’s passion is to share the Word of God in such a way as to help others discover the incredible living Jesus. Beach served as the Rector and Pastor of Holy

People News



On Thursday, October 8 at 7 p.m. Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Dr. Lorna Barker’s ministry at their church.

Dr. Barker serves as Christ Church’s Director of Music. They will have a celebration in the church featuring music and fellowship followed by a reception in the parish hall.



Bishop Mark Lawrence will commission the Rev. Gary Besson as Vicar of St. Timothy’s Church in Summerville, on September 24 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul’s in Summerville.

This service will be held in conjunction with the institution of the Rev. Tripp Jeffords as Rector of St. Paul’s.

Please keep the Rev. Marc Boutan, Associate Rector at St. Philip’s Church, Charleston, his wife, Patricia (Trish), and their family in your prayers at the death of their 29-year-old daughter Renée, July 4, following a battle with cancer. The funeral was held July 9 at St. Philip’s Church.

Elizabeth Bumpas, missionary to the Diocese of Northern Uganda from



Saint James, James Island, was ordained as a transitional deacon on August 11, 2015 by Bishop Johnson Gakumba with the support of Bishop Mark

Lawrence and the Standing Committee of the Diocese of South Carolina. God willing, she will be ordained to the priesthood in 2016. She has been placed at Christ Church, Gulu, as Curate in charge of the English service. Read about Elizabeth’s ministry on page 15. Read her moving account of the ordination on her blog at <http://elizabethbumpas.com>.

Congratulations to the Rev. Wey Camp, Rector of Holy Trinity, Edisto, and his bride Anne (Kerr) Camp who were married on Sunday, June 28, 2015.



The Church of the Holy Apostles, Barnwell, held a reception honoring the Rev. Jerry DuBose, Rector Emeritus, for his ministry among them, on August 23. Jerry

and his wife, Serena, are relocating to Clemson.

On Saturday, October 3, 2015 at 3 p.m. at St. Luke’s Church in Hilton Head, the Rev. Martha Horn will be ordained to the priesthood. The Rt. Rev. Mark Lawrence will officiate, celebrate and preach. See more on Page 3.



Recent Clemson graduate, Sam Hunter won the ninth annual Summer Camp Staff Reunion Regatta which was held on Saturday, July 11 at St. Christopher. Well

over 100 people came to share in this reunion with 24 entries in the Regatta. Sam served as the Assistant Summer Camp Director this past summer.



Pauline James recently joined the staff of St. Christopher as a ministry associate in the Food Service Department. Pauline came to St. Christopher as a full time employee

following a period of working through a temporary staffing agency. She is a long time resident of Johns Island and an experienced and welcomed addition to the morning kitchen crew.

The Rev. Julian “Tripp” Jeffords, Rector of St. Paul’s, Conway, accepted a call to serve as the Rector of St. Paul’s, Summerville, beginning August 1. See story on Page 13.



on June 15 at Trinity Church, Myrtle Beach.

The Rev. Moisés Quezada Mota was elected as bishop coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of the Dominican Republic on July 25, 2015. Bishop Bill Skilton writes, “Moises is a product of la Iglesia Todos Los Santos and school in La Romana, where Lynn and I served for seven years and has been an outstanding Priest of the Church.” Pending a successful consent process, The Rev. Moisés Quezada Mota, 58, vicar of Misiones Jesús Nazareno and Buen



Samaritano in San Francisco de Macoris, will serve alongside the Rt. Rev. Julio C. Holguín and will succeed Bishop Holguín upon his retirement.



Luther’s Reformational Turn, was awarded the highest level of Distinction and is being commended for further publishing. Copies of the thesis are currently available at the University of Minnesota Bindery (612-626-0507). Congratulations, Matthew!



Philip’s. An interim Rector is a necessary and important step towards revitalizing the energy of the parish and will help prepare them for our new rector. Wilson’s first Sunday at St. Philip’s was July 19.

The Rev. Matthew McCormick recently completed his MTh dissertation in Systematic Theology from Luther Seminary, St. Paul. His thesis, The Absolving Word:

The Vestry of St. Philip’s Church, Charleston, unanimously affirmed Bishop Lawrence’s appointment of the Rev. C. Bradley Wilson as interim Rector of St.



The Storyline

Fall Youth Events

Mondo

Mondo for middle school students will be held October 16-18. Charlotte Smith and Rob Schluter will be our speakers at Mondo. Charlotte is the Minister of Youth and Families at St. John's Church in Florence. Rob is the Family Pastor at St. John's Parish on John's Island. Both are high-energy speakers with a great passion for teaching the Bible and have been well received as speakers in past events.

re:generate

re:generate for high school students will be held November 13-15. The Rev. Rob Sturdy will be our speaker at re:generate. Rob is an Associate Pastor at St. Andrew's, Mount Pleasant, the Director of The Ridley Institute, and previously served as Rector of Trinity Church in Myrtle Beach. Rob is a powerful communicator who brings theological depth and biblical insight with great passion and clarity. We are thrilled to have him back as a speaker at this event!

At both we'll look at the storyline of scripture: Creation - Fall - Redemption - Restoration.

The Birdsongs will return this year to lead us in worship at both events. This Christian Alternative Rock/Power Pop band is composed of four brothers, their sister, and their father. As a band, they have maintained a constant touring presence and have become increasingly popular at festivals, youth events, and churches all over the country. Their heart for ministry and passion for the gospel are a great inspiration for us all.

More information can be found at www.scyouth.org.

Teen Senses God's Call Following Grandparent-Sponsored Mission Trip

The Rev. Kathie Phillips, deacon at St. Luke's, Hilton Head, and her husband, Bill, watched several of their friends take grandchildren on fabulous trips. "We thought what a great idea!" says Kathie, "We had one variation though; we'd take our grandchildren on mission trips." To date they have taken six of their 15 grandchildren to both Tanzania and Honduras. "We pay for their first trip. If they feel God calling them to go again, they work and/or raise their own funds for the trip." Amanda, age 19, who is a sophomore at Hollis University in Roanoke, Virginia, made her fifth trip to Tanzania this past July. Below is her account of the trip.

By Amanda McVey

I've found, over the course of my five mission trips to Tanzania, that two weeks is never long enough. I discovered that especially true this trip. In the 10 days we were in Tanzania, so much happened, but I left wanting nothing more than to stay longer in the country that has stolen my heart.

We spent the majority of our time at the Valentine Children's Home, an orphanage that has been in the works for a few years through the Valentine Project. The dedication was set for Monday, July 6, and the team worked to make sure everything was ready. We helped paint the gates—a simple task that made a difference.

Of course, painting wasn't the only thing we did in our short time at the Children's Home. There were 19 children there, and they all wanted love and affection. I gave countless piggyback rides and played lots of soccer. The children are incredibly adorable; their giggles contagious. There was one girl, though, who stood out to me the most.

Loveness, who looked to be about five or six, was a bit rough on the other kids. She tried to keep them in line, often by hitting or yelling. As tough as Loveness seemed, she was actually a little love bug. She was the first to come up to me when we arrived at the Home. She hugged my legs and smiled. Later, as I played with her I realized she wanted to be held. She craved attention and love, and I was more than happy to oblige.

After our time at the Children's Home, we spent a couple of days in Kibindu, a remote, predominantly Muslim village six hours out of Dar Es Salaam. Our primary intent there was to conduct a medical mission, but I focused my attention elsewhere—on the children.

After five trips to Tanzania, one would assume I'd know more Swahili than I do, but I'm not fluent, so I can't really communicate with the children. Sometimes it gets frustrating because we aren't able to understand each other, but at other times it doesn't matter. We're able to have fun in a language that doesn't require words.



"I've felt God's call so strongly in the five trips I've made to Tanzania, and one day I plan to live there and teach," says Amanda McVey, above in green shirt. "Until then, I hope to continue making these short trips across the ocean to the beautiful country that has stolen my heart."

At first the children were reluctant to join us with our brightly-colored bubble-blowing contraptions. They didn't seem to know what we were doing but eventually came around. The soapy bubbles were nearly irresistible, practically begging to be chased and popped. Before long, the kids figured it out.



"Loveness, who looked to be about five or six, was a bit rough on the other kids," said Amanda, above, holding Loveness. "She tried to keep them (the other children) in line, often by hitting or yelling. As tough as Loveness seemed, she was actually a little love bug."

Some of the older kids were hesitant. They watched their younger companions create and chase bubbles from the sidelines. I offered my bubble wand to a girl who was intrigued but suspicious. I blew some and encouraged her to do the same. She watched as I showed her what to do.

Then she went for it. She only made two bubbles on her first try, but instantly smiled. I let her hold the wand and watched as she figured it out. Her friends looked on, a few reaching out timid hands to grab the bubbles. My giggles soon erupted from the little crowd I'd gathered. My bubble-blowing friend laughed and proceeded to aim at my face. I laughed too and returned the favor before passing off a wand to another friend. We couldn't share words, but we could share bubbles. I think that's all that really mattered.

Before I knew it, the time had come to return to the States. I didn't want to leave. I've felt God's call so strongly in the five trips I've made to Tanzania, and one day I plan to live there and teach. Until then, I hope to continue making these short trips across the ocean to the beautiful country that has stolen my heart. I've been so very blessed. There aren't enough words to express all that happened in our short time there, but as Bishop Valentine said at the dedication of the Children's Home, "God has done it." It's truly amazing to see what can happen when God puts it in someone's heart to do something. I'm so blessed to have and to share this opportunity with others and can't wait to see what God does next.



Journey to Healing Retreat in January

Christian Healing Ministries (CHM), founded by Francis and Judith MacNutt, is a Christ-centered, ecumenical, non-profit organization that is dedicated to the practice and teaching of healing prayer. CHM will be at St. Christopher for a three-day healing retreat, January 18-20, 2016. The

retreat will begin Monday morning and conclude on Wednesday with a Eucharist before lunch. There will be soaking prayer and personal ministry time for each participant.

Last year's Journey to Healing Retreat was filled to capacity. Sign up soon in order to guarantee your spot at www.stchristopher.org.

Jeffords New Rector of St. Paul's, Summerville

By Joy Hunter, Editor

The congregation of St. Paul's Church, Summerville, welcomed the Rev. Julian Thomas "Tripp" Jeffords III, as their new Rector at services on August 16.

"I'm excited about this fresh new start," said Jeffords, 48, a South Carolina native who received his bachelor's degree from the University of South Carolina, his master's in divinity from Duke University Divinity School and an Anglican Studies Diploma from Virginia Theological School.

The new rector looks forward to helping St. Paul's press on toward a future that is "biblically-centered, Christ-centered and Holy Spirit driven."

Jeffords has a passion for biblical discipleship.

"I want everything we do to be according to the Holy Scriptures and



what they teach," he said. "Scripture should be our guidebook for life; instruct the church and direct the faithful on how to live. I believe a lot of the troubles in the church have been because we haven't been disciples of the scriptures and haven't allowed them to direct our hearts and lives. When we do that, and listen

The new rector, his wife, Leslie, and their three teenage sons, Christian, 18; Davis, 17; and Hayden, 15; come to Summerville from Conway, where Jeffords served almost 18 years as the rector of another St. Paul's Church.

to Jesus through the scriptures and through our prayer lives, everybody is blessed."

Jeffords will be formally welcomed as rector during a Sept. 24 service of institution, officiated by the Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence, the 14th Bishop of the Diocese of South Carolina.

Continued on Page 16

What Emerges with Young People Today Becomes the Norm in the Church Tomorrow

By Dave Wright, Diocesan Coordinator for Youth Ministry

In marking the start of my 15th year as Coordinator for Youth Ministries and 30th year in full time youth ministry, I've reflected on several significant developments in our diocese and beyond that relate to both youth ministry and the church in general. What emerges with young people today becomes the norm in the church tomorrow.

A Greater Emphasis On The Bible

In an increasingly post-Christian society, people know less of the scriptures. Our youth ministers are no longer working with students who can easily recall stories or people in scripture. Our adults are generally not highly knowledgeable of the Bible either. This is a trend seen across society. Ed Stetzer, Executive Director of Lifeway, recently described it as an "epidemic of Biblical illiteracy." In combating this, our youth ministers, and our churches, have been striving to teach the Bible more intentionally. Many of our churches have moved towards expository preaching of the scriptures and put a greater emphasis on getting adults into small group Bible studies. In diocesan youth events our teaching is more intently focused on the Bible, resulting in far greater depth. Our Youth Commission students are now taught tools for understanding the Bible and how to lead Bible studies.

An Intentional Move Into Intergenerational Ministries

God used Rob Rienow's "Visionary Parenting" to wake up many in our parishes to the need for passing their faith to the next generation. This was followed by "Faith at Home" and other resources that have become vital tools helping parents communicate their faith to their children. We then saw the men's and women's conferences invite their teenage sons and daughters to grow in faith alongside them. Eventually, grandparents were empowered

as Cathy Jacobs began traveling the diocese teaching "Courageous Grandparenting." All of this had a profound effect on our youth ministries and our congregations. Youth Ministers have found themselves working more closely with children's ministries and with clergy to align ministries in ways that bless families. Interestingly, in speaking with youth ministry folks around the country and overseas, I've discovered this movement is not unique to our diocese, but is a global shift in the ministries of churches. Research is showing that those who grow up involved in the whole life of a congregation, and not just an age segment of it, are far more likely to remain in the church.

Global Partnerships For Mission And Ministry

The bishop's vision has led us to connect to a great number of Anglicans worldwide. As I mentioned a few years back in an address to convention, we have so many Anglican siblings out there to get to know. In the past decade we have gone from having a few relationships with key leaders in other parts of the world, to having multiple global partnerships. Many of our churches have ongoing relationships with Anglicans in another part of the world. Youth and young adults have been able to connect with their Anglican peers in those places. Our relationship with a diocese in Ireland has meant several youth exchanges that have had a tremendous impact on many lives. Our world is getting smaller thanks to the bishop's vision and those willing to enter into relationships all around the globe.

Proclaiming the Gospel With Greater Clarity

For more than a decade, our larger churches have been using courses like Christianity Explored and Alpha to proclaim the gospel. More recently new innovative approaches



have emerged such as the Bridge Church, hosted by our Cathedral, that bring the gospel to unreached people. The emergence of an Evangelism Committee is possibly the most exciting development in our diocese in years. It has already led to training workshops and will continue to put evangelism on the hearts of our people. We have congregations and priests connected with national movements such as The Gospel Coalition and Together for the Gospel that seek to advance the proclamation of the good news. Gospel clarity, like a stronger emphasis on the Bible, is a necessity due to the emerging post-Christian society. We can no longer assume that people understand the gospel, and therefore we are proclaiming it afresh. Our youth events and the weekly youth ministries in our churches reflect this shift. We are now striving to see a generation that is able to articulate the gospel clearly to others.

Youth Ministry Implemented in Smaller Churches

Our simple, sustainable strategy for smaller churches to minister to youth has been implemented in several congregations with great results. Youth ministry now exists in places it did not before! This relational, Bible

centered approach does not require new programs but rather seeks to minister to teens by engaging them in God's word. It is being used in several other dioceses as well, since we created it in conjunction with Young Anglicans Project.

Fewer Full-Time Youth Ministers

At the same time however, we are seeing a trend towards fewer full time youth ministers in parishes. This change, also seen across North American Anglicanism should cause us to rethink our priorities. The trend may be connected to economic downturn, our disaffiliation from TEC, congregational changes of leadership, and shifting priorities in staffing. Yet we need to remember that youth ministry was once a flagship ministry in many of our congregations. It was a pillar of congregational vitality, where the parish was known in the community for having a vibrant youth ministry. We now see more youth ministers moving into the priesthood, a shift often made necessary by stagnant salaries. When youth ministry becomes a stepping-stone to the priesthood, students and families are left wondering when their youth minister will move on. When churches lose youth ministry as a flagship or change youth ministers often, this vital ministry no longer reaches the community. Youth ministry is perhaps the greatest evangelistic field many of our churches have and some are no longer harvesting there.

It is an exciting time to be in the Diocese of South Carolina! We have much to rejoice over, plenty to build on, and a few areas to reflect on for further development.

"Here I am, Lord. Send me."

Evangelism is the DNA the Holy Spirit seeks to implant in every activity of the church

By the Rev. Louise Weld, Associate Rector, Saint James, James Island

More than a decade ago, I sat in the back pew of Saint James church which I had recently started attending as missionary Suzy McCall preached about God calling her to Honduras. Her sermon was on Isaiah 6: "Here I am, Lord, send me," and I thought to myself as I listened to her amazing story, "Thank you Lord, that you are not sending me!"

Years later I still blush when I think of it – the notion that I or anyone who calls Jesus Lord would be exempt from being called and sent, to share the best and most important news in all of history: that Jesus Christ died to reconcile the whole world to himself; that He invites us into His kingdom; And, oh yes, by the way, that the way that this good news would be spread is through His church – through disciples like Suzy, or me, or even you.

Most of us aren't called to travel across an ocean to exercise this calling, but each of us has a unique area of influence, people who are part of our daily lives, whether it's in our families, our community or the grocery store clerk, who are hungry for the bread of life we have to offer.

You may be thinking, "Oh, but I'm not an evangelist." "Our church has too much on its plate already to be thinking about evangelism." "We don't have the resources." Or "I don't know what to say." To which I think Jesus might respond as he did to the boy with five

loaves and two fish: Just give me what little you have and watch what I will do with it.

Since the Holy Spirit landed on and took up residence in the first disciples, men and women who love Jesus have been telling others about Him, and the Gospel is spreading to the ends of the earth. It is the thing each of us has in common: we are called to be evangelists. There has been no further instruction, no change of plan since Jesus told his disciples: *All authority on heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...* (Matthew 28: 20)

So, where do you and your church fit in the living out of this commission? What model of evangelism is best for your congregation? There are plenty of ways to begin. They range from well-organized courses simply to initiating conversations with newcomers in the church lobby.

What follows is by no means an exhaustive list of possibilities for evangelism to take root and produce fruit.

Evangelistic courses

- "Alpha" (www.alphausa.org) and Christianity Explored (www.christianityexplored.org). Both seek specifically to present the Gospel to curious or interested folks. Both have video teaching that can be used in large or small group settings.
- "The World We All Want" (www.thegood-book.com)
- "Introducing God" (www.matthiasmedia.com). The Good Book Company and Matthias Media have other evangelistic materials as well.

Courses designed to teach people how to share their faith

- "Evangelism Explosion" is a proven resource for teaching people to share their faith simply and effectively. It has an on-the-ground presence in our diocese: Langdon Stewart (langdonstewart@gmail.com), who is available to work with churches and lead training.
- "Courageous Grandparenting:" Cathy Jacobs from St. Paul's Summerville <https://passthelegacy.wordpress.com> has been leading this initiative in our diocese, partnering with grandparents, parents, and churches so that children at every age become followers of Jesus. It's a powerful resource especially for churches with lots of grandparents who are concerned for the faith of their children and grandchildren (and nieces and nephews). Grandparent prayer groups are starting up in many churches.
- In "Just Walk Across the Room," Bill Hybels brings personal evangelism into the twenty-first century with a natural relational approach modeled after Jesus himself. The book and curriculum are available on Amazon.com.
- "Holy Conversations" is a 12-week study about how to start everyday conversations about your faith (Richard Peace, IVP).

Evangelism is the DNA the Holy Spirit seeks to implant in every activity of the church, from missions to marriage preparation to vestry meetings. Sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with a broken world is why the church exists. Prayerfully asking the Holy Spirit to show you who in your life needs to hear this good news is the first step. He will

most certainly give you a nudge, as well as the words to speak, the action to take and the love to motivate you.

So, where in your church or your life might sharing your faith happen? In a small group, on an outreach, with a grandchild, at a Beth Moore study, a men's hike, a Cursillo weekend, a Divorce Recovery gathering, a community worship service (like the Bridge Church in Charleston)? The possibilities are endless and the resources plentiful. Our Diocese's Evangelism Committee is eager to help you get started, find the right resources, and support you in any way you need. The Rev. Hal Fenters is chairman, and if your church is doing something in evangelism that would bless others, the Diocesan Evangelism Committee would love to know about it so we might share it with others.

Members of Evangelism Committee:

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Jesus said, "...you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth," Acts. 1: 8

Gospel Transcends Culture; Elizabeth Bumpas Writes from Uganda

Elizabeth Bumpas, a missionary sent from Saint James Church, James Island to the Anglican Diocese of Northern Uganda, was ordained to the transitional diaconate August 11, 2015 by the Rt. Rev. Johnson Gakumba with the support of Bishop Mark Lawrence and the Standing Committee of the Diocese of South Carolina. God willing, she will be ordained to the priesthood in 2016.

It's 8:00 pm in Gulu. The electricity has just gone off – again. It's thundering and lightning outside, and in the distance I hear drumming and traditional music. Perhaps it's a celebration – a wedding maybe. I have a great sense of peace as I settle in for the night. It's hard to believe I've been in Uganda for almost a year and a half. It's gone by so fast. I struggle to put my experiences over the last 18 months into words. Some days have been challenging, some full of excitement and adventure, some have been so perfectly empowered by the Holy Spirit that I am left in complete awe. The Acholi people are warm and gracious and the culture is fascinating. Adjusting has been relatively smooth, mainly due to a great deal of grace given to me by the Lord and with the help from my Acholi brothers and sisters in Christ. Living in a culture so completely different from your own in almost every way requires humility, understanding and patience. I often have to remind myself that I'm not here to bring my culture or my ways of doing things. I'm here because of the gospel of Jesus Christ, which transcends culture.

As you can image, there are so many needs here and no shortage of projects in which to be involved. It's easy to get over overwhelmed and over committed. I was counseled by other missionaries when I arrived to be careful, not to get in over my head, and to let the Lord lead me. I have identified several areas of work to which I feel led by the Lord. In addition to acting as an assistant to the Bishop for International Relations, I have been assigned to Christ Church in Gulu town as the head of the English service. This service has several hundred in attendance every Sunday. I am also committed to these three ministries: Archbishop Janani Luwum Theological College, the Jesus Film Project, and the Women's Development Center.

Archbishop Janani Luwum Theological College

First and foremost, from the very beginning I felt called to support theological training. It's one of the greatest needs in this Diocese. There are many challenges to overcome, one being the fusion of local tribal religions with Christianity. Even some current clergy are caught up in this, and it's the direct result of poor theological training. In addition, clergy need to be able to confidently articu-

late the Christian faith to people who are leaving the Church to convert to Islam. Islam is growing in influence here, and the Church must be prepared. Islam is attracting people by offering free education to children and by inter-marrying with Christian women. It is imperative that we train up the next generation of leaders and insure that they receive adequate theological training. I love teaching classes at the college and am also acting as its Bursar for the moment. The school suffered greatly during the 20 year civil war and closed before re-opening two years ago. It has recently been accredited by Uganda Christian University, and we already have 50 students. It's apparent the Lord's hand is in this ministry. There is a great shortage of priests. One priest may serve 10-12 churches. The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few, and He is calling men and women to join in the Kingdom work. The college has recently moved to a new location and there are many needs including an adequate library for the students. In my opinion, it's the single most important work happening in the Diocese. Interacting with the students is fun. They have welcomed me with open arms and are teaching me so much about the culture.

The Jesus Film Project

Just before Christmas last year I felt a strong prompting by the Holy Spirit to take the Jesus Film to every Archdeaconry in this Diocese. This vision came out of a brainstorming session with the Diocesan Youth Coordinator. The Lord very quickly provided the money needed and we now have new sound equipment, a video projector and a screen to take on the road. The Lord even provided me with a vehicle, a four-wheel drive pick-up, to take to the bush. The Jesus Film shares the gospel of Christ from the book of Luke and has been translated into many languages, including Acholi, the local tribal language. Millions have come to Christ all over the world over the past 40 years through this evangelistic tool. We will not only use this tool to evangelize, but also as a way to disciple and encourage believers. It's imperative that we reach out to the largest demographic in Northern Uganda, the disenfranchised, unemployed youth who are searching for meaning and belonging. As a part of this ministry, I have started the Acholi Bible Fund to provide Bibles to those in the most remote villages who cannot afford one.



Friends in the Apaa Village greet Bumpas prior to the showing of The Jesus Film. "Millions have come to Christ all over the world over the past 40 years through this evangelistic tool," says Bumpas. "We will not only use this tool to evangelize, but also as a way to disciple and encourage believers."

Women's Development Center

Finally, I have been blown away by the response to a comment I made on Facebook in the spring concerning the students of the Women's Development Center, a skills training program for young girls of the Diocese who have missed out on traditional education. They learn tailoring or hairdressing and at the end of their one year program, they are given materials with which to start their own small business. I was heartbroken one day when four crying students came to speak to Rev. Willy, the program's Coordinator and with whom I share an office, because they were being sent home for not paying school fees. They were about to lose their only opportunity for education and to learn a skill with which to earn a living, not to mention a place to be nurtured in the Christian faith. I felt emotionally devastated for these girls. Most cannot read or write and being empowered through this program is so important! I made a comment on Facebook just as a way to share my heart that day. I was not trying to raise funds, but within a week I had \$1,200 to help these girls. Clearly the Lord wanted me to take up their cause. The school struggles to make ends meet. School fees are already low, but many still cannot afford to pay. The Lord led me to invest this money in the School's sewing production unit and to get churches in the Diocese of South Carolina to agree to sell the

purses and tote bags the girls make as a way to raise money for scholarships. So far, eight churches, organizations or individuals are on board and I'm praying for more. The ease with which this project has been formed so far lets me know that the Lord is in it and is making it happen. I am working closely with the program to help them create a local market here in Gulu as well. Empowering these women and having them know how much God loves them is close to my heart. I took the Jesus Film to them in early August, and over 20 girls made first-time commitments to Christ!

These are the ministries the Lord has called me to in Uganda. What a privilege to serve the Kingdom in these ways! If you or your parish would like information on how to become involved in supporting this Diocese or the programs I've mentioned above, I would be happy to speak to your Mission Board or parish when I'm home in December. I would also welcome your consideration to financially support me personally as I serve in Uganda. Saint James Church is my sending church, and they receive all tax-deductable gifts on my behalf. Visit my blog (elizabethbumpas.com) and sign up for email alerts to see regular ministry updates and get more information on contributing to my mission fund. Please feel free to contact me at elizabethbumpas@hotmail.com with any questions. Blessings to you all!



New Bible Study Materials for Caregivers

If you are caring for someone with disabilities, chronic illness, age-related issues, and/or mental illness and you are feeling overwhelmed, you are not alone! The good news is that there is a proven process that can get you from overwhelmed to overjoyed.

If you are looking for real help, The Heart of the Caregiver is a nine-week course you can work through on your own or in a small group. You will come to see yourself, your situation and the person you are caring

for in a whole new way.

The Heart of the Caregiver, which was developed by Mary Tutterow, a member of St. Philip's Church, Charleston, has been taught in small groups over the last five years with amazing results.

Learn more about the course, get information on starting a small group, download a sample chapter or sign up for inspiration and encouragement at www.theheartofthecaregiver.com.

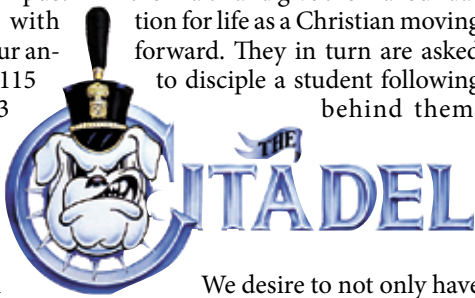
St. Alban's Chapel: Reaching Citadel Cadets with the Gospel

By The Rev. Greg Smith, Chaplain to the Citadel (Episcopal/Anglican) and Associate Rector and I'On Campus Pastor, The Church of The Holy Cross

The students of St. Alban's Chapel are growing and so is our impact on campus. Fall semester 2015 began with record numbers attending our annual Skilton Barbeque. Over 115 people gathered including 13 incoming knobs and their families. The families were encouraged to hear about the ministry of St. Alban's chapel and the support it would provide to their son or daughter.

We have a new focus on discipleship—creating a plan to help these cadets grow in their faith. Our Student Vestry of 13 upper class cadets are personally being discipled by me in small groups and one-on-one appointments. I am taking them

through a systematic discipleship program to move them along in their faith and give them a foundation for life as a Christian moving forward. They in turn are asked to disciple a student following behind them.



We desire to not only have faithful Christian young men and women while they are present at The Citadel; but to train them to take their faith with them beyond the gates out into the world.

St. Alban's alumni are scattered all over the world. We have a graduate on a navy ship in the waters

around Japan. One is serving at Guantanamo Bay in Cuba. Several are in Colorado, California, Washington D.C., and up and down the East Coast. They report back that, as a result of their time at St. Alban's Chapel, they emerged from The Citadel as whole, Christ-centered, servant-oriented men and women. We are seeing the gospel spread from one chaplain's small office to people around the world!

If you would like to hear more about lives being changed on The Citadel campus—contact me, Fr. Greg Smith. I would love to speak to your men's gatherings, alumni groups, or to provide a Citadel focused Sunday morning service at your parish. Contact me at www.STACitadel.org.



Pilot to co-pilot: This is the tower. Do you have a flight plan?

Not certain about those next steps in parish administration? Payroll questions for part-time employees? How to prepare a new clergy compensation package? New tax compliance questions? Can someone help me with this parochial report? These and so many other questions will be answered for you at the

Parish Administration Day
Tuesday, November 10th, 2015
Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant
register at www.dioceseofsc.org

Jubilate Deo

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Flood at Holy Cross, Daniel Island, has Silver Lining

This message, by the Rev. Jonathan Bennett, Associate Rector and Daniel Island Campus Pastor, The Church of the Holy Cross, is reprinted from the church's electronic newsletter.



On Saturday, June 6 a rubber gasket in the sprinkler system in the Parish Hall of Holy Cross, Daniel Island, dry rotted and failed. This caused a highly pressurized stream of water to puncture through a closet wall and quickly begin to flood the Parish Hall building. By God's grace there's an AA group that meets at the church on Saturday night. As they arrived they found water streaming out of the building, and one or two inches on the floor inside. Immediately they contacted the fire department, who came and shut off the water. While some AA members began sweeping out the water that was inside the building,

our Rector, Chris Warner, and our Facilities Manager, Hal Rose, were contacted. They were joined at the church by Leslie Rose, Robert Boyles and his sons Robert and Andrew, who collectively were able to clear out most of the water lying on the floor before Disaster Plus arrived. Their clean up efforts required us to move the Sunday 9 am contemporary service. Therefore, we held it outside, setting the altar and band on the porch, and putting about 100 chairs on the lawn. Despite a little humidity to deal with, the service was a hit, and attracted a good deal of attention from passers by!

All Saints' Hosts Quiet Day, September 26

The Daughters of the King at All Saints Church, Florence, is hosting a Quiet Day on Saturday, September 26. The Rev. Karl Burns, Rector, will offer meditations on the Lord's Prayer. Registration begins as 9 a.m. A light lunch will be provided for \$8 paid at the door. Pre-register by calling (843) 662-7061.

Diocesan Periodical Club Sunday, September 27

The DPC's purpose is to spread the printed word of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. This year Diocesan Women's Ministries are encouraging churches to collect money for the DPC on Sunday, September 27, though your church can celebrate it on any day that is convenient. The DPC is an organization dedicated solely to providing printed materials throughout the Anglican Communion to those who request help and cannot otherwise obtain it. To learn how to promote the work of the DPC in your parish, contact DPC Coordinator Vicki Sheedy at vsheedy@ntinet.com.

Watercolor Prayer Journaling, October 2-4

Join artist Mimi Whaley at St. Christopher in October for the Watercolor Prayer Journaling Retreat. This recurring event will consist of basic watercolor instruction, tools, tips, methods and actual "watercolor journaling." Since the retreat is limited to 12 participants, individual help by the instructor is available for each participant as they develop their journal. Call Rhonda Myers at (843) 768-0429 to register.

Clergy Spouse Retreat, October 16-18

Meredith Kronz and Bethany Hamil will be the guest speakers for the upcoming Clergy Spouse Retreat which will be held at St. Christopher, October 16-18. The theme of this year's gathering is "Life in a Fish Bowl." To learn more visit www.dioceseofsc.org and click the dates on the calendar.

Lindy Kirk Elected First-Vice President of National DOK



At the recent Triennial Convention of the Daughters of the King, Lindy Kirk, a member of Trinity, Edisto, was elected not only to the National Council but also to the office of First Vice-President. Lindy has not let "any grass grow under her feet" in the 15 years that

she has been a Daughter. On the Diocesan level she served as the DOK Treasurer for three years, and for the past nine years she held elected positions on the DOK Province IV board; the last being that of President. In addition to her "Daughterly duties," Lindy and husband Frank have been very active in the Faith Alive and Cursillo ministries. Congratulations are definitely in order for Lindy as she continues to fulfill her DOK vows of prayer, service, and evangelism.

Jeffords New Rector at St. Paul's

Continued from Page 13

Jeffords said it wasn't easy for the family to leave the town where they'd seen their church triple in size, where the children grew up, where Leslie had served as the director of a preschool and her sister, father and extended family still live. But once they sensed God's call to Summerville, they were ready to go. "My time at St. Paul's, Conway, was a blessed experience. I wouldn't trade it for the world," he said. "But I'm ready for fresh, new challenges and new opportunities for kingdom growth." St. Paul's was established in Summerville in 1829. Its former pastor, the Rev. Mike Lumpkin, retired last year, after serving as rector for 19 years. "I'm so thankful for the legacy of Mike Lumpkin and all he's done for St. Paul's," said Jeffords. "He's left the church in a really strong place."



<https://www.facebook.com/DioceseOfSouthCarolina>

Calendar Notes

To learn more about the following events, view the calendar at www.dioceseofsc.org.

- SC Supreme Court Hearing, Sept. 23, Pg 1
- Tripp Jefford's Institution, Sept. 24, Pg 13
- DOK Quiet Day, Sept. 26, Pg 16
- DPC Sunday, Sept. 27, Pg 16
- Horn Ordination, October 3, Pg 3
- Mondo, October 16-18, Pg 13
- Clergy Spouse Retreat, Oct. 16-18, Pg 16
- Clergy Conference, Oct. 19-21, Pg 12
- Cursillo 177, October 22-25
- St. James Bazaar, October 24, Pg 16
- Evensong/Persecuted Church, Nov. 4, Pg 2
- Low Country Walk for Life, Nov. 7, Pg 16
- Parish Admin Day, Nov. 10, Pg 16
- Women's Retreat, Nov. 13-15, Pg 4
- re:generate, Nov. 13-15, Pg 13
- Feeding the Multitude, Nov. 21, Pg 16
- Thanksgiving Retreat Nov. 25-28, Pg 7
- Christian Healing Ministries Retreat, January 18-20, Pg 13
- Mere Anglicanism, Jan 28-30, Pg 2