

Jubilate Deo

The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina

February/March 2009 Volume 113, No. 6

A New Look; Cost Savings, too

With this issue of the *Jubilate Deo* we introduce the use of color and an upgrade in paper stock. These changes are being made without an increase in printing costs. They are a result of a change in printers. We hope you enjoy the improvements.

The Editor

Becoming a Healthier Pastor/Becoming a Healthier Church

Workshops Offered Prior to
Diocesan Convention

Two workshops will be held on March 12, prior to 218th Diocesan Convention. The Rev. Dr. Leander Harding will teach a workshop on “Becoming a Healthier Pastor,” for clergy from 10 a.m. until noon. After a break for “lunch on your own,” a second workshop, “Becoming a Healthier Church,” will be offered to clergy, lay delegates and lay leaders from 2 to 4 p.m. The workshops are open and no registration is necessary.

Dr. Harding teaches Pastoral Theology and is Head of Chapel at Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. Ordained for 25 years, he has served in rural, suburban and urban parishes.



Both workshops will be based on books by the same title by Ronald Richardson. Though the workshops will assume no prior reading or knowledge of the material, Dr. Harding encourages reading the books either before or after the workshops to enrich the experience.

Continued page two

Saint James to Host “Heart for Missions” Banquet, February 13

On Friday, February 13 at 6:00 p.m., Saint James, Charleston, will host the annual “Heart For (World) Missions” Banquet. The Campbell family from Guyana (South America) and the Rev. Alan Winter of Front Line Missions in Brazil will share stories of their work. American Indian handicrafts will be included in a silent auction. All proceeds go to the LAMB Institute in Honduras, Save R Kids in Guyana and the Diocesan medical mission to the Dominican Republic. Reserve your seat (\$30 per person) by calling the church office at (843) 795-1623 or contact Paul Mitchell at (843) 345-7790.



Above, clergy gather on the grounds of St. Paul's, Summerville, prior to the 217th Diocesan Convention.

LISA GREENSLIT

218th Diocesan Convention “Charting Our Course—Shaping the Future”

The 218th Diocesan Convention will run March 12 to 13 with the main business session held at Christ Church in Mt. Pleasant. The theme for this year's convention is “Charting Our Course—Shaping the Future.” Matters of diocesan vision and mission will be at the forefront of the Bishop's Address as well as in the reports from various committees and ministries of the diocese.

Bishop Lawrence wants to complement the business and fellowship dimensions of the Convention with an opportunity for spiritual refreshment and reflection on clergy and parish ministry focus. Therefore he has scheduled, prior

to the convention's start, on Thursday, March 12, two workshops, led by the Rev. Dr. Leander Harding. These will be given for both clergy and laity and will be held at St. Andrews in Mt. Pleasant. The first, “Becoming a Healthier Pastor,” will be offered for clergy (priests and deacons only) from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The second, “Becoming a Healthier Church,” is open to clergy, lay delegates and parish leaders. It will run from 2 to 4 p.m. Lunch is “on your own.”

Continuing that evening, a service of Holy Eucharist, which serves as the traditional beginning to the convention, will be offered at 5:00 p.m. at Christ Church in Mt. Pleasant. Following the service, all delegates are invited to a reception

which will be held on the aircraft carrier the USS Yorktown at Patriots Point. The cost for the reception for delegates is included in their registration fee. Guests are welcome to attend, but must register with Randy McPhail ahead of time. The cost for guests is \$70 per person. Contact Randy at (843) 722-4075 or rmcphail@dioceseofsc.org.

On Friday, March 13, the business session of the convention will begin with registration open at 7:30 a.m. The meeting will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m. Visitors may attend the business session of the convention but must register with Randy McPhail ahead of time. Contact Randy at the number above.



Bishop Gadsden Residents raise a wall on the new Habitat home.

Age, No Barrier Bishop Gadsden Residents Fund and Build Habitat House

The resident-run Bishop Gadsden Outreach Committee selected Sea Island Habitat for Humanity as their 2008 Charity of Choice. As a result Bishop Gadsden residents, along with resident families, future residents and employees, raised \$55,000 and are assisting in the building of a Habitat home.

This is the second time that the Bishop Gadsden community has taken on such a feat. The first time was in 2000, when they became the first retirement community in the country to raise the funds and physically build a house with Habitat for Humanity.

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Our Diocesan Purpose Statement: To respond to the Great Commission by so presenting Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit that all may come to know Him as Savior and follow Him as Lord in the fellowship of His Church.



ABBE THOMY

One of the better descriptions of the Church I’ve read over the years comes from a character in J. F. Powers’ novel, *Wheat that Springeth Green*. Powers, a semi-reclusive Catholic writer known primarily for his short stories, has given us a helpful analogy for understanding the Church—he pictures her as a big old ship. As one character tells another in the story:

“This is a big old ship, Bill. She creaks, she rolls, and at times she makes you want to throw up. But she gets where she’s going. Always has, always will, until the end of time. With or without you.”

I thought of that description of the church some time ago when I read an article in the newspaper of a cruise ship returning to New York from a vacation in the Bahamas. It seems the ship encountered a storm at sea. One disturbed passenger was quoted as saying, “We were going back and forth, up and down. And then, ‘Boom!’” The cruise ship, Norwegian Dawn was hit by a freak 70-foot wave. Reaching as high as deck ten, the wave smashed windows, flooded cabins, and sent furniture flying across rooms. One passenger complained, “Why would you go through a storm? Can’t they see it coming? I’m trying not to be angry.” The captain of the ship wasn’t quoted in the story so there’s no way of knowing whether the storm was foreseen, unavoidable, or underestimated. This much I know as a crewman on the Ship of Faith: there are times you can see a storm approaching, you can even warn others on board it is coming, but there’s no way to avoid the storm if the course charted and the storm’s trajectory are aligned.

Charting Our Course— Shaping the Future

By The Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence

I’ve read enough church history to know some ecclesiastical storms are unavoidable because the church carries out her mission in a world of stormy climates and changing seas. Some storms are less disturbing than predicted, while others hit you with a 70-foot wave after the chief petty officer has announced calm seas ahead. The Episcopal Church at its 2003 General Convention chose to head straight into a gathering storm. Some of us at this convention warned that departing from the charted course of Scripture and catholicity was sheer imprudence. Bishop Salmon, Kendall Harmon, John Burwell and others from the South Carolina deputation were among those who warned of impending danger. As a deputy to General Convention from the Diocese of San Joaquin and a member of the Committee on the Consecration of Bishops, I, too, warned in a minority report from the committee of possible irreparable harm from the course charted. Nevertheless, the majority of the crew—bishops, priests and laity—thought we were merely alarmists. So into the storm we headed. At this point no one knows how it will turnout. This old ship of the Anglican Communion is rolling about on rough seas. More than a few passengers have been tossed overboard, some are in sick bay, and still others have gathered in lifeboats. It is an unfortunate situation, and all the more so in that it was avoidable, or at least could have been more adequately prepared for, and perhaps the worst of it even circumnavigated. Where the Anglican Communion and The Episcopal Church go from here frankly no one knows. These are uncharted waters for all of us. I suppose those of us who love Holy Scripture may take solace in the narrative from the 27th Chapter of The Book of Acts where St. Paul warns the captain and crew of the ship that was taking him to Rome not to set sail, but, ignored as he was, they were soon engulfed by a tempestuous wind called a northeaster. Yes, God’s ultimate purposes were accomplished but at great loss to ship and freight.

I mention this because as we prepare for the upcoming 218th Convention of the Diocese of South Carolina the stormy seas have not abated in the almost six years since General Convention 2003.

If anything, the swath from the north-easter has broadened and intensified, engulfing more and more provinces of the Anglican Communion. While nothing is certain at this point, it seems clear to me that there is no immediate solution to our present crisis. In the midst of a storm, most of us can only react to changing circumstances as they develop. My commitment is to keep in line with the Scriptures, the historic faith of the Church, and the larger Anglican Communion. So long as we can remain Episcopalian and keep with these three instruments of trustworthy navigation, there is no reason at this point to man the lifeboats. Though many would like to see this crisis ended, or hear prophetic predictions of calmer seas, such are not likely to be forthcoming. The next foreseeable sounding of significance is the Primates’ Meeting in February 2009 and the Anglican Consultative Council in May. At both meetings, issues regarding the Anglican Covenant and, I suspect, the proposed new province in North America will be in the forefront. Then comes TEC’s General Convention in July. It’s questionable that any of these will be ports of decisive destiny; still, vigilance is a virtue.

While there are many dimensions of our present situation we cannot control, (what else is new?), that does not free us from discerning God’s vision for the Diocese of South Carolina as we near the end of this first decade of the 21st Century and prepare to enter the next. Rather, it makes it even more imperative. This raises for me the question—“What is a diocese supposed to do?” Theologians often reflect on what a diocese is—such as those who say, the Diocese is the basic or fundamental unit of the Church. But that is a statement of being, not of doing. I have spent more than a little time lately reflecting on this question. And from there, the more specific question—“What is the Diocese of South Carolina supposed to do?” Or put another way, “What is God calling the Diocese of South Carolina to do?” This is demanding but essential work if we are to maintain both a macro and micro-perspective in God’s kingdom. In fact, it is all the more essential if we are to be proactive about our future rather than merely reactive to the tossing of every

gusty wind and swelling wave. Therefore, I will seek to articulate what I believe this is at our upcoming convention.

What we cannot do alone is resolve the uncertainty of the larger Church. I know it is wearisome to live with this kind of uncertainty about the future; like the character in J. F. Powers’ novel, it has at times made me seasick, and want to throw up. In this day of fast food and email we like immediate resolution. But this old Ship of Faith is usually not good at such quick maneuvers. She is, however, known to have made it through many rough seas and battering storms to the right Port of Call when naysayers were certain she was forever lost. This has less to do with her merit and more to do with the One to whom she belongs—who alone can rule wind and waves. He still speaks to us through His Word and Spirit. He has a vision for what He is calling this diocese to do as well as to be. Certainly part of this is to help shape the future of Anglicanism in the 21st Century. But Peter Senge put it well when he wrote, “Vision becomes a living force only when people truly believe they can shape their future.” I do believe that under God and by his grace we can—and will.

Dr. Leander Harding to Lead Convention Workshops

Continued from page one.

The theme of both workshops will be “leading self, family and congregation.” The workshops will be based on the application of Bowen Family Systems Theory to leadership and congregational life. “The workshops will reflect my experience putting this theory to use during twenty-five years of parish ministry, teaching and consulting,” says Dr. Harding. In addition to a lecture, there will be time for questions and answers, as well as problem-solving.

The Rev. Dr. Leander Harding

Dr. Harding joined Trinity School for Ministry in the Fall of 2005 after twenty-five years in parish ministry. He received his B.A. from the New College in Sarasota, FL, and received his M.Div, cum laude at Andover Newton Theological School in Newton Centre, MA. He was ordained a deacon in The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Maine in 1980 and was ordained a priest in 1981. Harding’s first parish was St. Anne’s Church in Mars Hill, Maine. He was a bi-vocational priest and received part of his income from the parish and part from their commercial sheep farm. After five years, he received a fellowship to do a Ph.D. at Boston College at the Institute for Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry. His thesis was on the theology and psychology of childhood. That work was published by Youth, Theology and Culture press with the title *Reverence for the Heart of the Child*. While at Boston College, Harding served as a part-time rector of The Church of Our Saviour in Arlington, Massachusetts. He then received a call to be the Rector of St. John’s Church in Stamford, Connecticut, a multi-staff downtown parish where he served for sixteen years. Harding has a particular interest in the pastoral implications of systematic theology and the doctrinal implications of pastoral experience. He and his wife, Claudia, recently celebrated 37 years of marriage. They have three grown sons. Harding enjoys playing blues and gospel on the ukulele and harmonica. Visit his blog at <http://leanderharding.com/blog>.

Bishop Gadsden Residents Sponsor and Builds Habitat for Humanity House *Continued from page one.*

This year, Sea Island Habitat for Humanity is celebrating their 30th Anniversary and Bishop Gadsden wanted to help them attain their goal of building 30 homes.

This was an aggressive objective, especially during the current economic climate. The committee organized three main fundraisers, all of which were open to the greater community, and resulted in successfully reaching their fundraising goal. Then, this October, the Bishop Gadsden community (residents and staff) began building the habitat house alongside homeowners-to-be, the Rivers Family. The home is located on Wadmalaw Island in Sea Island Habitat for Humanity’s McCloud Place.

Each Monday and Tuesday, the Bishop Gadsden bus pulls up to the front entrance and a group of volunteers load up for the ride to the Wadmalaw Island jobsite. Upon arrival, the volunteers, ages 69 to 89, gather for their instructions for the day – with each day bringing its own set of fun challenges for the group.

From the pre-build, to framing, to siding, to insulation, Bishop Gadsden residents and staff have been a part of each stage of the process. While the house is not yet complete, the residents volunteered on the house through the



Bishop Gadsden resident Ed Roberts on the worksite.

third week of December. On November 19, the Bishop Gadsden Resident Outreach Committee Chair, Howard Randall, along with Resident Association Treasurer, Warren Watts, presented a check for \$43,200, which along with \$11,800 of in-kind goods and services, brings the total contribution to \$55,000.

Randall remarked, while a picture of the Matterhorn was seen in the background, “In these hard times with your faith and spirit, this mountain has been

moved.” Upon acceptance of the funds, Sea Island Habitat for Humanity Board of Directors President and Bishop Gadsden resident, Jack Hostutler, talked about how important Bishop Gadsden is to Sea Island Habitat. Not just through the building of the house but through their leadership on the board, with himself as President, residents Phyllis Miller and Bill Connellee as members of the board and Bishop Gadsden Vice President, Sarah Tipton as a board member as well.

“Truly rewarding experiences may become relatively few as we advance in years, but the “thrill of victory” can still be realized when we give of ourselves. Working with fellow residents and employees of Bishop Gadsden on “our” Habitat House, side by side, with young AmeriCorps members, RV Caravanners, Church groups and Habitat staff is a joy that overcomes the inevitable muscle pain that accompanies lifting, holding, measuring and hammering,” states Bishop Gadsden resident and regular habitat volunteer Ed Roberts.

Bishop Gadsden looks forward to the completion of the house and being present during the dedication of the Rivers family’s home in the Spring of 2009.

New Voting System for Diocesan Convention

By Nancy Armstrong
Diocesan Administrator

After encountering numerous problems with our scanner and the old OCR paper ballots used for our elections, the diocese has contracted with an Audience Response Technology company called Padgett Communications to help us run our elections at the March Diocesan Convention.



Each delegate will be given an electronic keypad upon check-in to use when it is time to vote. Representatives from Padgett will give everyone instructions on its use (it's easy!), and the goal is to do

our voting in a fraction of the time normally taken. Each election will require delegates to punch in the number (or numbers) assigned to the nominees, and the results will be displayed on a screen for everyone to see. In the event of a runoff, delegates will continue to vote until a majority is achieved before moving on to the next election.

Because it is new, we expect a lot of questions and some uncertainty among delegates, but our staff as well as the staff at Padgett Communications will be prepared to help us all along the way.

If you have any questions prior to the convention, please do not hesitate to call me, Nancy Armstrong, at (843) 722-4075, Ext. 3040.

A Canterbury House "Thank You"

The Residents and staff would like to thank all of our Diocesan parishes, ECWs, Board members, individuals, families and friends who gave so generously (monetarily and of their time) to the Canterbury House during the past Christmas/Advent Season. Even during these uncertain economic times, your contributions have exceeded the years' past. All monetary donations are placed in our Discretionary Account and used to provide the special services, programs and amenities that make Canterbury House unique. Christmas teas, gifts for our residents without families, numerous lovely poinsettias, cookies, candy, fruit, cards, etc., were all graciously received. Thank you for making the Season such a peaceful and joyful time!



LISA GREENSLIT

Above, from left, Katie Greenslit, her newly adopted sister, Faya, brother Nathan and father, Mark. Russian-born Faya joined Mark and Lisa Greenslit's family in December, 2008.

By Lori Hamilton

If you like riddles, here's one: I cost between \$30,000 and \$50,000. I come with no guarantee or warranty. I cannot be exchanged, traded or sold. What am I?

Your first thought might be... "You're a really bad deal." But, in fact, I'm a child.

In 2008, 17,438 foreign born children were adopted by American parents and the riddle answers what these parents paid to bring their children home. Parents traveled to China, Russia, Guate-

to adopt a foreign born child is tedious, revealing, intrusive and costly. The adoptive parents must not only expose themselves through medical reports, tax returns, bank statements, reference letters, employment verification letters, pay stubs, and house deeds, they must also endure home visits and interviews from social workers. In addition, they must be fingerprinted through the Department of Homeland Security, be thoroughly checked out through SLED and through the local police department.

Why would anyone spend this kind of money, travel this far and reveal this much personal information just for a child? Well, that's the answer. It's for a child.

The reasons for adopting are as individual as the parents who adopt. One friend of mine, a physician, told me that as she and her husband stood staring at the cruise brochures scattered across their dining room table, they both had the same thought...surely there's more to life than finding new ways to entertain ourselves. One reason people adopt is altruistic. It's the realization that they have enough stuff.

Another friend told me that she dreamed of a house full of children. However, she did not have the biological means to achieve her goal. At 52, she and her husband are proud parents of a third

grader and two first graders from Russia. They couldn't be happier. Therefore, for them, adoption was the means to fulfilling their dreams.

Back in the '80's Josh McDowell, a world renowned author and speaker, said something I'll never forget. If every Christian family in America adopted one child, almost all the kids would have a home. Today there are 150 million homeless children in the world (according to UNICEF). I don't know if Josh McDowell's words are still true, given the increase in population over the past 20 years, but I do believe that more Christian families could do more.

James 1:27 is pretty clear... "A religion that is pure and stainless according to God the Father is this: to take care of widows and orphans who are suffering and to keep oneself unstained by the world."

In the coming months, I hope you will take time to read about four families. We each attend St. Paul's in Summerville, and we were each brought together by God to support, encourage and love each other's families through adoption. I also hope that you will think about the words of James 1:27. Perhaps, just maybe, somewhere along the way a seed will be planted in another heart. And hopefully one more Christian family will decide that one child is, well, priceless.



TIM HAMILTON

Lori Hamilton and her husband, Tim, adopted Brian from Guatemala in January, 2007.

mala, Vietnam, Ethiopia, and Ukraine, to name a few countries. The adoption process can last anywhere from one to several years. The paperwork required



Rethink/Shift/Retool: Clarity in Discipleship

May 31-June 2, 2009, Litchfield Beach and Golf Resort

Reggie McNeal, Keynote Speaker

Don't miss the Diocese's 2009 Leadership Forum. This annual gathering of clergy and lay leaders serves as a time of training, networking, refocusing and prayer. This year, dynamic author and speaker, Reggie McNeal will be the keynote presenter. Purchase McNeal's books, *The Present Future: Six Tough Questions for the Church* and *Missional Renaissance: Changing the Scorecard for the Church*, at Saints Alive, the bookstore associated with St. Michael's Church at 71 Broad Street in Charleston. Contact Saints Alive at (843) 725-5483.

In an effort to accommodate as many people as possible, the planning team for the upcoming Forum has moved this year's event from from St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center to the Litchfield Beach and Golf Resort. This new resort will enable us to accommodate all who wish to attend. Our hope is that once St. Christopher receives the income needed to move forward with its renovations and expansion, the Forum will return to our own Diocesan property.

Visit www.dioceseofsc.org to learn more and register today.



A Note from Chris Warner Rector, St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

Thank you to everyone who has shown their faith in our ministry at St. Christopher by contributing to St. Christopher's Annual Fund. We are grateful for your support and are excited about our future.

I want to explain that we are asking for support, from all those who love St. Christopher and believe in our ministry, on an ongoing—annual—basis. Like almost all nonprofit organizations, we must rely on contributions, in addition to the revenue we generate from operations, if we are to continue to be a viable and growing ministry. Our needs are varied, and the time has come for us to invite everyone to help through their financial support.

Many of you have come forward with a specific gift that you have indicated is for buildings. While the money raised through our annual fund effort may be used for repair and main-

tenance of our buildings, the purpose of this money raising effort is to develop a base of annual support that continues year after year and is not designated for one specific purpose. This type of unrestricted sup-



port is needed to further our ministry at St. Christopher and may be used to offset operating expenses, provide for additional staff, repair buildings or another purpose that becomes a priority as we move forward to provide

the St. Christopher experience for a wider range of people. For this reason, we would appreciate your indicating that your gift is for the "St. Christopher Annual Fund" rather than for a building fund. By designating that your gift is for our annual fund, you give us the flexibility to put your contribution to use in a way that best serves St. Christopher's ministry.

If you have any questions about the St. Christopher Annual Fund effort, I encourage you to contact Ann Hester Willis, Director of Development for the Diocese. She would love to talk to you further about giving to St. Christopher and how your support will make a difference. You may reach her at the Diocesan offices by calling (843) 722-4075 or by emailing her at ahwillis@dioceseofsc.org.

Thank you again for your generous support of St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center.

St. Christopher's Annual Fund Off To a Great Start!

By Ann Hester Willis
Director of Development, Diocese of South Carolina

The response to the December launch of the annual giving opportunity for St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center has been very encouraging. As of January 6, 2009, more than 225 people have chosen to join St. Christopher in its ministry by giving to the annual fund in an amount totaling over \$53,000.

The Diocese has initiated an annual giving initiative for St. Christopher because additional revenue is needed on a yearly basis to supplement the revenue generated from St. Christopher's operations. The costs of operating St. Christopher have grown substantially in the past several years as insurance, food, and other expenses have increased. Annual gifts make St. Chris-

topher's continued ministry viable by mitigating necessary price increases as we attempt to keep St. Christopher affordable for the many children, families, clergy and church groups that it serves today. These annual gifts also will provide the resources for better maintenance of St. Christopher's facilities and expansion of its ministry. Most importantly, by contributing annually to St. Christopher everyone has the opportunity to be a partner in ministry with St. Christopher, ensuring that its ministry grows and flourishes.

We are thankful for the outpouring of support for St. Christopher and we look forward to God's continuing provision for this powerful ministry.

I want to participate in St. Christopher's ministry!

I want to continue God's work of bringing Rest, Restoration and Renewal by encountering Christ at St. Christopher.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phones: (Home) _____

(Cell) _____ (Office) _____

Email: _____

Mail this form, with your gift to: St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, Diocese of SC, P.O. Box 20127, Charleston, SC , 29413-0127, Attention: Ann Hester Willis, Development Director.



It's time to sign up for Summer Camp at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center. Registration for Episcopalians from the Diocese opened on January 15, 2009 at 9 a.m. Registration for all others opens on February 2 at 9 a.m. Online booking or downloadable registration forms are available at www.st-christopher.org.

Scholarships of up to two-thirds of the final cost will also be available for all sessions. Visit www.stchristopher.org for more detailed information.

Buddy Camps are for a child and an adult to attend together. The total cost is \$180. This is not a per person cost.

We are introducing something new the week of July 27-31. Youth Group camp will allow middle school youth groups to come together as a group with their youth leaders.

SUMMER CAMP 2009

#	Dates	Grades Completed	Cost
1	Mon-Sat (June 8-13)	6-8	\$480
2	Mon-Fri (June 15-19)	4-6	\$399
3	Mon-Thurs (June 22-25)	2-4	\$345
4	Fri-Sat (June 26-27)	Buddy Camp (K-2) ¹	\$180
5	Mon-Sat (July 6-11)	Senior Session (9-11)	\$480
6	Mon-Fri (July 13-17)	4-6	\$399
7	Mon-Thurs (July 20-23)	2-4	\$345
8	Fri-Sat (July 24-25)	Buddy Camp (K-2) ¹	\$180
9	Mon-Fri (July 27-31)	Youth Group (6-8) ²	\$399
10	Mon-Sat (Aug 3-8)	5-7	\$480
11	Mon-Fri (Aug 10-14)	3-5	\$399



JOY HUNTER

Refresh Your Soul! Epic March 20-22

Epic is an opportunity for high school students to engage with God's word and apply it to their lives. The weekend combines contemplative practices with expository Bible teaching to create an experience that gives opportunities for reflection, prayer, and liturgical worship. This retreat is, by design, smaller and more intimate, providing an opportunity for students to experience in depth teaching in a communal atmosphere. Without hype, we allow students to experience God's word and meet with Jesus. Epic will take place at St. Christopher on March 20 to 22. More information is available at <http://www.scyouth.org> or

by contacting Beth Snyder at Diocesan House.

Mark your Calendar for June Student Leadership Camp

Last summer's Growing Leaders week at St. Christopher was a wonderful step toward our vision for leadership development among the high school students of our diocese. The next student leadership camp will take place at St. Christopher June 14 to 18. Information will be soon posted on the camp web pages as well www.scyouth.org.

New Vicar at Grace Episcopal Church, Charleston

The Reverend Calhoun "Callie" Walpole Perkins has been appointed Vicar of Grace Episcopal Church, Charleston, effective January 1, 2009.

Callie comes to Grace from Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church on Pawley's Island, where she has been Assistant Rector since June 2005.



JOY HUNTER

A native of John's Island, Callie was baptized, confirmed, and married at St. John's Episcopal Church. Until she entered seminary, she was a lifelong member of St. John's, where she served on the vestry and in a number of other capacities. She has also served the Diocese of South Carolina as Missioner for Hispanic Ministry, during which time she served as lay vicar for the congregation of San Juan on John's Island, engaging in a number of outreach services to the Hispanic community there. She also has coordinated the diocesan companion relationship between South Carolina and the Dominican Republic.

Callie graduated from The University of the South with a Master of Divinity degree in 2005. She has taught Spanish at Burke High School and at Bishop England, and she is currently a board member for Georgetown County's Habitat for Humanity. She is married to Wilson Perkins.

A Paper-less Jubilate Deo?

Would you prefer to receive this newspaper electronically rather than through the mail? In an effort to control postage costs and reduce our use of paper, we are now offering an electronic version of the *Jubilate Deo*. If you would like to stop receiving the printed version please let us know by e-mailing Joy Hunter at jhunter@dioceseofsc.org.

Do you receive the Diocesan E-newsletter?

Get on the list. Visit www.dioceseofsc.org.

Lamb Institute Receives \$150,000 Grant from US Army Corps of Engineers

By Susan Clarkson Keller
U.S. LAMB Board Chair

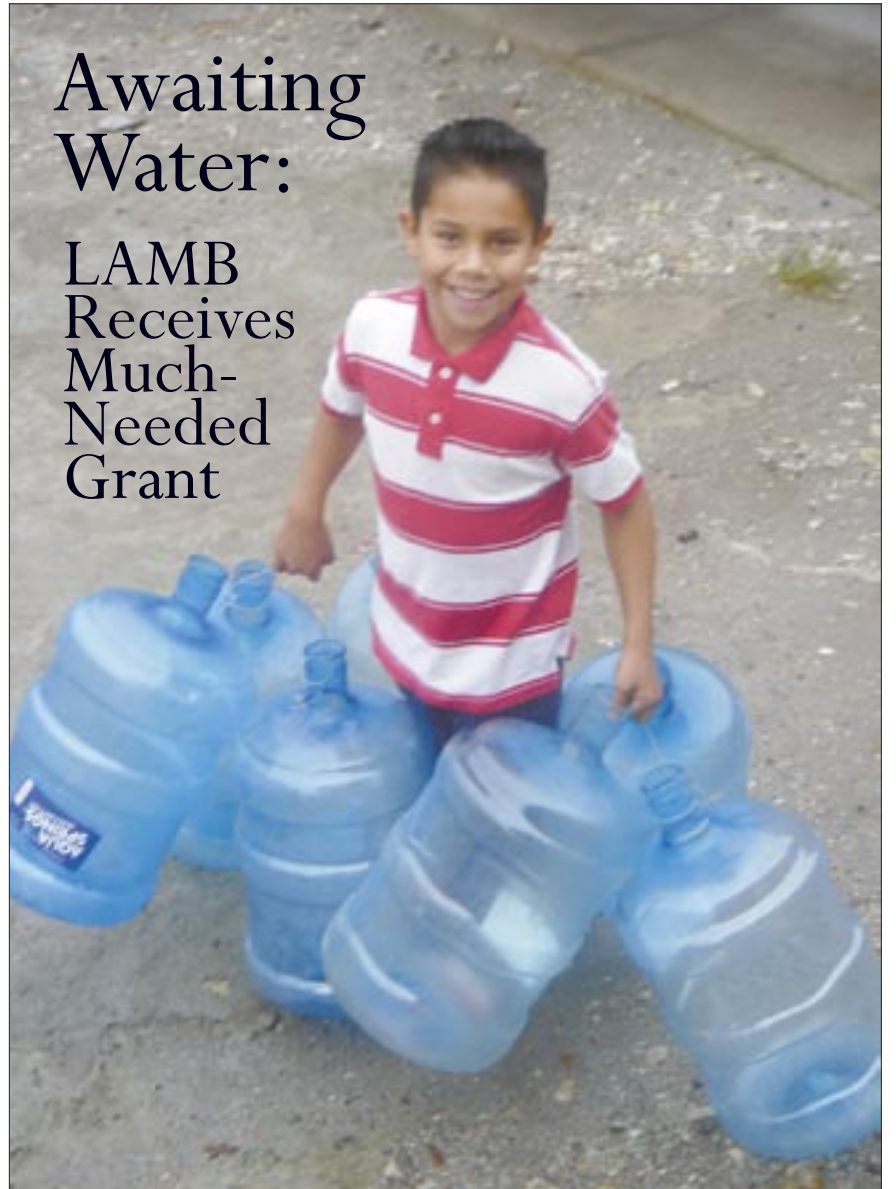
In July of 2006, after much prayer, the LAMB Institute purchased 30 beautiful acres in the rural area of San Buenaventura, Honduras, just about 45 minutes outside of Tegucigalpa. This would be the future site of God's Littlest Lambs Children's Home. We already had 45 children in our full-time care staying in a large rented house on the outskirts of town. The other areas of the ministry – the missionary training institute, the daycare and school, community assistance – would remain in the heart of the city. We started right away preparing the property for Phase 1 of the children's home, building the first cottages and the chapel.

Finding a water source on the property had never been an issue. We were told that there was ample water available. After the first attempt at drilling a well came up dry, we received the sobering news, "There is no water on the property." How could this be, we asked the Lord. There had been confirmation after confirmation that this was where He wanted the children's home. God's people started praying.

After many months of discussing the different options for a water source and consultations with engineers using satellite technology, plans were made for a second attempt at drilling. This was last spring. We all expected that we would hit water this time. The experts were certain that the water was there. A lot of people were praying. They drilled deeper and deeper... still no water. So now we had invested a good bit of money for unsuccessful drilling twice and were still bringing water from the city for \$50 every other day. "Lord, you are the Living Water... what are You up to?"

Meanwhile in Flor del Campo, Tegucigalpa, where the main campus of LAMB is situated, God had chosen to use one of our staff members, Rosangel, behind the scenes to bring about His will for the water problem. Rosangel coordinates our CAP program (Community Assistance Program). Like many of our precious employees, Rosangel grew up in poverty – very close to where LAMB is today. She is a single mom, a beautiful, compassionate Christian who works very hard to see that some of the very poorest in Flor del Campo have food, shelter and medicine. She has a friend in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Over the past year, through that friendship, the work of LAMB has become known to the Corp and their wives. A couple of months ago, we were encouraged to seek a grant from

Awaiting Water: LAMB Receives Much-Needed Grant



Above, Alexander, a resident of God's Littlest Lamb's home carries empty water jugs. Currently water is delivered to LAMB at San Buenaventura every other day.

them for finding a solution to the water problem at San Buenaventura.

On Monday, December 22, Suzy was getting some Christmas gifts for her kids when Rosangel called to tell her that our grant had been approved to the tune of \$150,000! Suzy called me immediately and the word got out to our prayer warriors. God has intervened and in a miraculous way, and He will bring His water in His way and for His mighty glory alone!

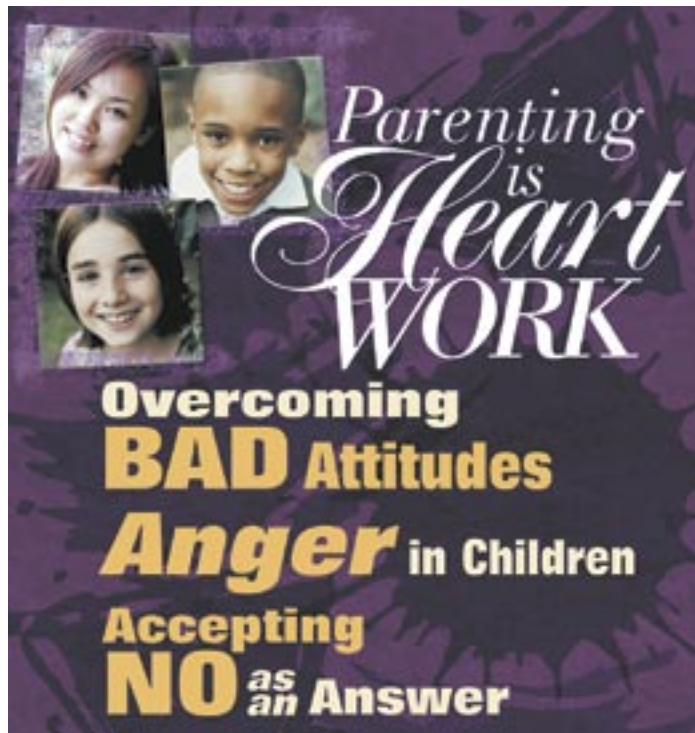
To me, this is a beautiful example of how God does things. How He used Rosangel reminds me of Queen Esther. She was an unlikely choice for a queen, being an Israelite. Yet God chose her to intercede for the people of Israel, saving them from destruction. At LAMB, we had tried everything we could think of, gone to public officials, even to the First Lady's office, to the "experts" and still no water. Just the day before the news, Suzy was told that a request for access to the water of the neighboring town of San Buenaventura was denied. Just as God

used Esther to intercede for the children of Israel, God chose Rosangel, a simple woman living in a poor Honduran neighborhood, to intercede for His children in the countryside of Honduras.

So, this was LAMB's amazing Christmas miracle! We don't know exactly what the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will do to make it happen, but we are confident that with God's help and direction, they will make a way where there has been no way.

To all of those who have been praying for our children to have ready access to water, thank you. Keep praying! The children have been taking baths from a bucket – and only a warm one once weekly. It has been pretty cold over these past winter months. Laundry for 50 children with little water has been quite a challenge for the staff. Yet...this is how most of the world's children live without water. It's a lesson for all of us. God is always good and always faithful.

National Parenting Speakers to Lead Seminar at St. Paul's, Summerville



On Saturday, March 7, from 1 to 5 p.m. nationally-known parenting teachers and authors Dr. Scott Turansky and Mrs. Joanne Miller will lead a parenting seminar for parents of children from age one to 18 at St. Paul's in Summerville.

Dr. Turansky and Mrs. Miller, RN, BSN are the co-founders of the National Center for Biblical Parenting, an organization that offers Christian Parenting Conferences, trains leaders to run Effective Parenting Support Groups, and provides biblical parenting resources to churches.

The Turanskys and the Millers have been in ministry together since 1988. They teach parenting seminars as outreach to the community through churches all over the US. Their books, videos, workbooks, and parent training materials focus

on the heart to help children make lasting changes. Using drama, stories, and the scriptures they give parents the practical help they can use right now.

Scott Turansky

Dr. Scott Turansky and his wife, Carrie, have five grown children. Scott has co-authored four books on parenting and speaks around the country teaching parenting seminars in churches and schools. He and Joanne use drama, practical stories, and examples to teach biblical principles of parenting.

Joanne Miller

Joanne Miller, RN, BSN and her husband, Ed, have two grown sons. Joanne has been a pediatric nurse since 1986 and

is a public speaker. She is a co-author, with Scott, of *Parenting is Heart Work*, along with three other books on parenting. She delights in helping children change their hearts, not just their behavior.

About the Seminar

You will learn practical ideas to help you address the hearts of your kids. The seminar promises to be entertaining, encouraging and life-changing. Bring the children. There will be a nursery for children under three and a "Kids Kamp" for children ages three through fifth grade. A home-cooked family dinner will follow the seminar and offer time to chat with the speakers. The cost is \$35 per family which includes the children's program. Call (843) 871-1991, ext. 19 to register.

Absalom Jones Celebrations February 13-14

All are invited to join in celebrations held in honor of the life and work of Absalom Jones. All events will be held at the Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul in Charleston.

On Friday, February 13 at 7:00 p.m., there will be a Jazz Vespers. The Preacher will be the Rt. Rev. Dr. Alphonza Gadsden, Sr., Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese of the Southeast of the Reformed Episcopal Church, Pineville, SC. A reception will follow.

On Saturday, February 14, at 9 a.m., there will be a Symposium for our African American congregations, to "Continue the Dialogue." The speaker will be Dr. Charles Young, President of Allen University of Columbia, South Carolina.

For more information about the events, contact The Rev. Theodore R. Lewis, Jr., Rector of Calvary Episcopal Church in Charleston at (843)723-3878.

Ministry Money Available

Do you need ministry money for an event at your church to inspire local outreach or domestic mission in 2009? If yes, email edward.dyckman@att.net or call (843) 367-5647. Money is available to help pay for publicity, speakers, refreshments, music, and/or entertainment to fulfill the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.

Christopher Royer Ordained a Priest

The Rev. Christopher S. Royer was ordained a priest on Sunday, January 11 at The Church of the Cross in Bluffton, South Carolina. Bishop Lawrence served as the celebrant. Guest preacher for the service was The Rev. Canon John A. Macdonald, who served as Chris' mentor for spiritual formation at Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. Macdonald is the Director of The Stanway Institute for World Missions and Evangelism and Assistant Professor for Mission and Evangelism at Trinity. The presenters included Macdonald, Mrs. Arlene Magor, The Very Rev. Dr. Charles E Owens, III and Royer's wife, Mrs. Grace Royer, shown below with her husband.



SYLVIA WEEKS

When asked about the service, Chris said, "God's spirit was powerful... and my wife looked beautiful!" Above, the newly ordained, Christopher Royer and his wife, Grace.

Eastside Ministry on the Move

News from the African American Family Center for Biblical Dialogue (AAFCBD)

By Janie D. Wilson, Chief Operating Officer and President, AAFCBD

The new year is upon us. If 2009 passes as quickly as 2008, I would be more assured that the Lord's return is not far away. I love taking time in the beginning of a New Year to thank everyone who has blessed The African American Family Center for Biblical Dialogue (AAFCBD) and St. John's Episcopal Chapel, both located on the Eastside of Charleston at 18 Hanover Street. Your financial gifts, prayers, encouragement, and eagerness to help have strengthened us in the Lord and the power of His might. Saying "thank you" does not seem enough.

I find that reflection is not only good for soul, but it's good holistically (spirit, soul, and body), and it reminds me of an old spiritual that my grandparents sang,

How I got over; How did I make it over; You know my soul looks back in wonder; How did I make it over...

And I want to thank Him for how He brought me; And I want to thank GOD for how He taught me; Oh thank my GOD how He kept me; I'm gonna thank Him 'cause He never left me....

We have been able to accomplish God things this year and I'm uplifted. We adopted the Wilmot J. Fraser Elementary School as our "Jerusalem." This school is located on the Eastside of Charleston, just two blocks from St. John's. The first Christmas Party on their playground for the 250 students at Fraser was glorious. Every student was given a book as a Christmas present from the AAFCBD.

Needless to say, this was not a solo mission. Principal Perren Petersen, Mrs. Gail Blaire (Parent Advocate), Mrs. Grathen (Media/Librarian), Aimee Smith (St. Michael's Episcopal Church), Susie Morrison (St. Michael's Episcopal Church), Jennie Miller (1st Scots Presbyterian Church), friends from Agape InnerCity Christian Assembly, several Board Mem-



Janie Wilson enjoys time with the children during the Christmas Party the AAFCBD held for Fraser Elementary.

bers from both the AAFCBD and Agape and a host of other Christian supporters made it all happen! It shows that when the "body" of Christ comes together, there is nothing we can't accomplish for the Glory of God.

The "Pink Bus" has been purchased, painted and delivered. It will be used to minister to our 26 first-grade girls at Fraser. We will pick them up after school and deliver them home after they've spent time at the St. John's site.

"What Are Little Girls Made Of?" will help us minister to these little girls. As we're instructed in Titus 2:3-5, "...older Women, teach the younger women."

Brother Dallas, the AAFCBD Board of Directors, and I are looking forward to this New Year with great God expectancy - already excited about God's will being performed on the Eastside of Charleston. We love you all and ask that you keep us in prayer throughout the year. Without your prayers we will not be able to accomplish this great task. Have a blessed new year!



FLORENCE ANDERSON

The Pink Bus, paid for by the United Thank Offering, is ready for use with the "What are Little Girls Made of?" ministry.

62st Annual Plantation Tours Sponsored by the Episcopal Church Women of Prince George Winyah Parish

April 3 - 4, 2009

The Sixty-Second Annual Plantation Tours of plantations and town houses in and near Georgetown will be held April 3 to 4, 2009. The majority of the plantations and town houses are privately owned and graciously shared with the Episcopal Church Women of Prince George, Winyah, Parish once a year. A different group of homes is on tour each day.

As part of the tour of pre-Revolutionary and antebellum churches, town houses and plantations, visitors are invited to the Winyah Indigo Society Hall for tea each afternoon.

Home baked goods, local art from the Georgetown Watercolor Society, and books from the Georgetown Historical Society will be available for sale in the Parish Hall.

Houses will be open from 9:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Please allow a full day for each day's tour. Histories and maps showing the routes for the day are provided with tickets.

Hosts and hostesses will be happy to answer any questions you may have concerning the houses that are open. Visitors provide their own transportation. Only cars and vans (no buses) are allowed on the tours because of the many low-hanging oak limbs and soft roadbeds. All Visitors are requested to wear low heeled shoes for their own comfort, as well, as for the protection of the old floors and rugs. You are also reminded that no photographs may be taken inside homes.

In consideration of the homeowners, only a limited number of tickets will be sold for each day; therefore, advance ticket orders are highly recommended. The sale of advance tickets will begin on Monday, February 9, 2009 and will end on Friday, March 20, 2009. To learn more about the tour, ticket pricing and to purchase tickets visit <http://www.pgwinyah.org>. You may also contact Lisa Collins at either per4y@aol.com or (843) 545-8291.

Making Space for God in Worship

Worship Musicians' Forum
with Andy Piercy
Tuesday, February 10

All Worship Leaders, Choirmasters/Organists, and Praise Teams in the Low-country are invited to an evening of worship and encouragement on Tuesday, February 10, at Saint James Church on James Island. The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with soup and a time of fellowship. At 7:00 p.m. the group will gather for teaching, encouragement and worship. The theme for this gathering is "Making Space for God in Worship."

Those who have attended before know how useful and fun these gatherings are. Consider bringing all members of your worship team, and think of other friends you could invite to join in.

Reggie McNeal

2009 Leadership Forum
Keynote Speaker



Reggie McNeal is the Keynote Speaker for the Upcoming 2009 Leadership Forum to be held May 31 through June 2, 2009. Reggie enjoys helping people, leaders, and Christian organiza-

tions pursue more intentional lives. He currently serves as the Missional Leadership Specialist for Leadership Network of Dallas, TX. Reggie's past experience involves over a decade as a denominational executive and leadership development coach. He also served in local congregational leadership for over twenty years, including being the founding pastor of a new church. Reggie has lectured or taught as adjunct faculty for multiple seminaries, including Fuller Theological (Pasadena, CA), Southwestern Baptist (Ft. Worth, TX), Golden Gate Baptist (San Francisco, CA), Trinity Divinity School (Deerfield, IL), and Columbia International (Columbia, SC). In addition, he has served as a consultant to local church, denomination, and para-church leadership teams, as well as seminar developer and presenter for thousands of church leaders across North America. Reggie's work also extends to the business sector, including The Gallup Organization.

Reggie has contributed to numerous denominational publications and church leadership journals, including Leadership and Net Results. His books include *Revolution in Leadership* (Abingdon Press, 1998), *A Work of Heart: Understanding How God Shapes Spiritual Leaders* (Jossey-Bass, 2000), *The Present Future* (Jossey-Bass, 2003), *Practicing Greatness* (Jossey-Bass, 2006), and *Get A Life!* (Broadman & Holman, 2007).

Reggie's education includes a B.A. degree from the University of South Carolina and the M.Div. and Ph.D. degrees both from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Reggie and his wife Cathy, have two daughters, Jessica and Susanna, and make their home in Columbia, South Carolina.

Clarity Preparing Your Church for the Future, Part II

By Elizabeth Pennewill, Consultant for Congregational Leadership

In the last issue of the *Jubilate Deo* we glimpsed the future of the church by looking at three prevailing movements in late 20th century American evangelicalism as set forth by Robert Webber in his 2002 book, *The Younger Evangelicals*. You may recall the "Traditional" evangelical movement which dominated the 1950's through roughly 1975. Next, we briefly looked at the "Pragmatic" movement which arose in the mid-70's and dominated until about 2000. Finally, in an attempt to catch sight of the future of the church, we looked at the current "Emerging" movement in evangelicalism which resonates with post Baby-Boomer generations and represents a huge shift in the way we think about church as we enter the postmodern era.

In keeping with our theme of looking into the future, we turn now to another insightful author, Reggie McNeal. Dr. McNeal is fitting for two important reasons. First, he is an authority on church leadership and has written extensively on the subject of the future of the church. Second, McNeal is the keynote speaker for the 2009 Leadership Forum sponsored by the Diocese of South Carolina May 31 through June 2. In his 2003 book, *The Present Future: Six Tough Questions for the Church*, McNeal, like Webber, asserts that a massive shift is now underway. "We are entering a new epoch of human history called the postmodern world will demand a new

church expression, just as did the rise of the modern world."

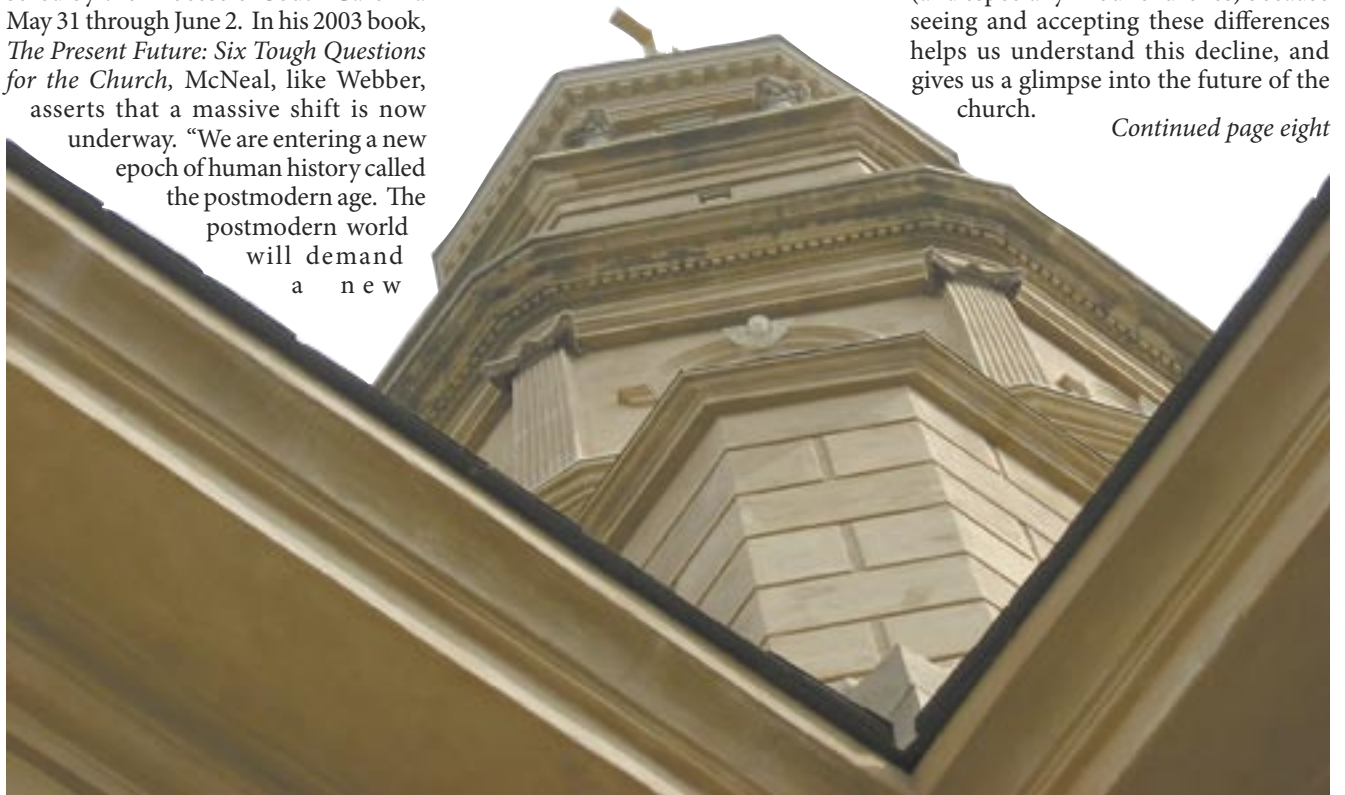
The Collapse of the Church Culture

Because effective leadership begins with defining reality (you cannot get where you're going if you're unclear about where you are), let us pause for a moment to get our bearings. LATITUDE: The Episcopal Church's average Sunday attendance (ASA) declined by 9% from 841,445 to 727,822 in the 10 years between 1997 and 2007*. LONGITUDE: The total US population increased by nearly 13% (from 267 to 301 million) during those same 10 years. This is where the data lines intersect: while research suggests that approximately 30% of Americans attend church regularly** only 0.24% of them attend Episcopal churches. Kingdom growth is our ultimate goal, not ASA, but until we can find a more dimensional measurement for kingdom growth we have to contend with church attendance. And let's be clear about what we see: decline. Even our Diocese, which grew for many years in the midst of a shrinking denomi-

nation, saw a 2% decline from 2006 to 2007.

McNeal begins his book by summarizing the reality facing the church today, describing our current situation as "The Collapse of the Church Culture." In his book's opening McNeal writes, "The current church culture in North America is on life support. It is living off the work, money, and energy of previous generations from a previous world order. The plug will be pulled either when the money runs out (80 percent of money given to congregations comes from people aged fifty-five and older) or when the remaining three-fourths of a generation who are institutional loyalists die off or both." In describing today's church culture, McNeal contrasts it with the early Christian movement and describes it as "an institutional expression of religion that is in part a civil religion and in part a club where religious people can hang out with other people whose politics, worldview, and lifestyle match their own." That's pretty strong, but consistent with the analysis of many authors writing about the church today. McNeal's emphasis on generational differences merits further examination here (and especially in our churches) because seeing and accepting these differences helps us understand this decline, and gives us a glimpse into the future of the church.

Continued page eight



SAMUEL HUNTER

Brain Fitness Program Launched

By Kimberly Farfone, Director of Development and Public Relations, Bishop Gadsden

Bishop Gadsden is committed to staying in the forefront of the senior living industry. Strongly believing that healthy living is critical for all ages, a dedicated wellness staff including dietitians, trainers, physical therapists, and experts in the area of senior behavioral health, oversee the wellness of the residents.

While a traditional physical fitness program is certainly expected at any senior living community, building a fitness program for the brain is something that is not so traditional. Bishop Gadsden believes the result of adding such a program, will guarantee that each and every current and future resident will live in a community that is ahead of the curve and understands the importance of true wellness.

"Our residents are active people. They love life and want to be as healthy as they can, for as long as they can. We want to

provide the tools that improve physical, emotional, financial and mental wellness," states Bishop Gadsden's President/CEO, Bill Trawick.

With a desire to lead the industry in Brain Fitness, Bishop Gadsden has begun to phase-in the [m]Power (<http://www.dakim.com>) and PositScience (<http://www.positscience.com>) programs, each benefiting a different part of the brain. The exercises are accessible for all skill levels. The first phase of the program began this past October, when Bishop Gadsden received a \$15,000 Leadership Gift in memory of Alice O'Donnell, a resident of Bishop Gadsden from 2003 until her passing in August of 2007. A librarian by education, O'Donnell was a life-long learner and loved to keep her mind active. This first phase included two [m]Power machines for use by residents in our Apartment & Cottages,

Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing and Memory Care.

This spring and summer, Bishop Gadsden will add three additional [m]Power machines, along with the PositScience program, all of which will eventually be housed in a Brain Fitness Center. Bishop Gadsden hopes to graduate its first class of PositScience students later this fall.

In addition to supporting current and future residents of all areas of Bishop Gadsden, they hope to offer the program to other local facilities such as Canterbury House and the Ansonborough House upon completion of the Brain Fitness Center.

For more information on Brain Fitness at Bishop Gadsden, please contact Kimberly Farfone, Director of Development & Public Relations at (843) 406-6334, or kimberly.farfone@bishopgadsden.org.

St. John's, Florence Offers Concert Series

St. John's Episcopal Church in Florence will continue its Fourth Annual Epiphany Concert Series with a performance by Jacob Will, bass-baritone, on February 8, the Columbia Baroque Soloists on February 15 and the La Catrina String Quartet on February 22.

There is no charge for the concerts, but donations are accepted. The service of Evening Prayer precedes the concerts at 5:30 in the church. Light refreshments will be provided and a nursery will be available.

A native of Hartsville, Jacob Will is Assistant Professor of Voice at USC. He is an experienced concert artist who has appeared with symphony orchestras throughout the United States and Europe and has been a prize winner in various international singing competitions.

The Columbia Baroque Soloists specializes in the performance of 17th and 18th century European Baroque vocal and instrumental chamber music

at the highest level of artistic excellence. The ensemble performs on period instruments using authentic temperament and pitch. Formed to educate, foster appreciation, and develop audience support for Baroque music in South Carolina, the ensemble encourages and supports the development of artists of Baroque music in the southeastern United States.

La Catrina String Quartet's engagement is a highly anticipated encore to their stellar performance on the 2008 Series. Currently the Quartet-in-Residence of the Western Piedmont Symphony (Hickory, NC) and the Chamber Music Festival of San Miguel de Allende, Mexico, this young quartet has already given multiple world premieres of works written for them and have won numerous awards and competitions. In addition to the concert on February 22, the quartet will offer a master class to area string students on February 21.

Looking for Great Resources?

Visit the Diocese’s New Online Resource Room



Wouldn’t it be wonderful to have access to the best of the best in Christian resources? Our Diocesan Resource Library is continually acquiring great books, videos and DVD curriculum. Need something today? Visit the link at the top right hand corner of our website, www.dioceseofsc.org. Contact Susan Burns at sburns@dioceseofsc.org, or (843) 722-4075 to learn more.

DISCIPLESHIP EXPLORER

By Dave Wright

Long-Awaited DVD Series Released

Discipleship Explored is an eight week journey into the book of Philippians. As groups discover Paul’s extraordinary letter, they explore for themselves the meaning of his words: “For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.”

Discipleship Explored is for anyone who wants to make the most of their Christian lives. In particular, it is perfect for those who have been through Christianity Explored or Alpha or have recently participated in Cursillo. Each session has a Group Discussion, a short study in Philippians, a short talk, and a further Group Discussion.

Philippians is a letter written to young Christians, encouraging them to stand firm and live for Christ. It is compelling, challenging and inspiring - particularly to those beginning the Christian life, because they are on exactly

the same journey as the Philippians! Built into the course is a Bible reading plan to help every participant explore each theme further - and develop the habit of reading the Bible daily. The new DVD resource provides the talks for each week as delivered by course author Barry Cooper. They are visually compelling, engaging, and last ten minutes per session. To view the trailer of the DVD and learn more about Discipleship Explored or Christianity Explored, visit them online at <http://www.christianity-explored.org>.

Discipleship Explored Includes:

- ❖ Confident In Christ (Philippians 1:1-11)
- ❖ Living In Christ (Philippians 1:12-26)
- ❖ Standing Together In Christ (Philippians 1:27 - 2:11)
- ❖ Transformed By Christ (Philippians 2:12-30)
- ❖ Righteous In Christ (Philippians 3:1-9)
- ❖ Knowing Christ (Philippians 3:10 - 4:1)
- ❖ Rejoicing In Christ (Philippians 4:2-9)
- ❖ Content In Christ (Philippians 4:10-23)

Clarity

The Rise of Generational Cultures

A DVD curriculum for *The Present Future* for small groups opens with McNeal expounding upon the impact of generational cultures as a driver of the church culture’s collapse. He highlights five generational groups found in the church today, more than at any time in history, and the personalities, worldviews and expectations they each express. Very broadly, recognizing that not all group members share the same traits, they are:

Seniors (born before 1925) – This remarkable cohort is often called, “The Greatest Generation.” They fought in WWII and secured democracy for the West. Manufacturing was the lifeblood of the economy. Seniors developed a strong sense of strength from their unity. They added 30 years to the life expectancy of Americans and thereby created the notion of retirement. They were patriotic and overwhelmingly Christian. This generation’s DNA carried over into their children’s generation, the “Builders.”

Builders (born between 1926 and 1945) – Builders, together with their parents, expanded on the gains of the Seniors. They built big national corporations such as IBM. Their motto might be, “decently and in order.” Builders were responsible for the last big church planting wave in North America, making sure that there was an array of the major denominations in every community in the country. Sharing with their parents a sense of strength through unity, they would rather build a larger sanctuary to enable everyone to stay together than consider multiple services. For Builders, community churches afforded cultural stability and focus – they raised money for their local churches, built them, wor-

Continued from page seven

shipped in them, got married in them, baptized their children in them, and bought burial plots in their graveyards. Over sixty percent of the Senior and Builder populations attend church.

Boomers (born between 1946 and 1964) – This huge generation (78 million strong), unlike their predecessors, rejected the wisdom and methodologies of previous generations. Boomers, believing they could change established institutions, ushered in the great civil rights movements of the 1960’s and 70’s – social upheavals that the earlier generations could not have tolerated. The manufacturing economy cultivated by Seniors and Builders shifted to a

“Please don’t hear what I am not saying. The death of the church culture as we know it will not be the death of the church. The church Jesus founded is good; it is right... The imminent demise under discussion is the collapse of the unique culture in North America that has come to be called ‘church’.”

– Reggie McNeal

The manufacturing economy cultivated by Seniors and Builders shifted to a service-based economy with a rise in outsourcing of many goods and services. This shift, along with an increase in the amount of money required to maintain a middle-class lifestyle, caused Boomers to become a busy, work-focused, consumer generation. In the church, because Boomers rejected anything they perceived as “old” (including their par-

ents’ values), they introduced changes to the style of worship that had been so carefully developed by their parents. Preferring worship “experiences” with contemporary music combined with other innovations we see in this generation the surge of church “service wars” and the fracturing of many established churches. Forty percent of Boomers attend church.

Generation X (born between 1965 and 1983) – Also called Busters. Because Gen-Xers grew up in the shadow of the huge Boomer bubble, they are the most misunderstood and underrepresented cohort of all. They are survivalists, learning how to fend for themselves as both parents worked, the divorce rate increased and blended families became common. Technology is an essential part of life. The two most important words to a Gen Xer are relationship and authenticity – these two ideas drive everything they do. Initially labeled “Slackers” by the Boomers because they didn’t share the same work ethic, this generation believes that there is more to life than work. While the Boomers live to work, the Gen Xers work to live. They spend their time in tight-knit groups and enjoy experienc-

ing life together. They wait longer to marry and have children later than their parents did. Interestingly, McNeal says that the biggest interpersonal problems he sees on church staffs today are between Boomers and Gen Xers. A typical Gen Xer wants the senior pastor (often a Boomer) to know his children’s names, in other words, to have an authentic relationship with him and his family. This is not the norm for a typical Boomer conditioned to focus on work and results. Gen Xers, if they go to church (and only 20% do, the majority prefer to reject the church rather than rebuild it), want their worship experience to be authentic and are not impressed by the Boomers’ slick worship productions.

Millenials (born between 1984 and 2001) – Also called Bridgers, Gen Y and Mosaics, this generation is the offspring of the later-born Boomers. Millenials have a high self-esteem and will likely be the best educated generation in U.S. history. Unlike their Boomer parents, Millenials do not reject the values of their parents, they embrace them – in fact, they embody many of the conventional values of the Builders and Seniors

Continued page ten



“My only regret about last year’s Leadership Conference is that we didn’t bring more people. The message could not have been more timely for us as a parish. I would highly recommend clergy, staff and vestry members make the effort and take the time to attend this Conference.”

Jim Lewis, Asst. Rector, Resurrection, Surfside

RETHINK/SHIFT/RETOOL: CLARITY IN DISCIPLESHIP

May 31-June 2, 2009
Litchfield Beach and Golf Resort
Reggie McNeal, Keynote Speaker



Buckshot Giving

By Peter C. Moore, D.D., Associate for Transformational Discipleship, St. Michael's Church, Charleston

A friend recently took me to his family's plantation near the Savannah River. The splendid layout stimulated a lot of questions from me, including one in which I revealed that I had never used a loaded gun except at a carnival, and even then I failed to win the large stuffed pink dinosaur. "So, how does one bullet manage to hit a flying bird?" I asked. "Well, each shot contains a lot of bullets," my friend said. Ah, it dawned on me: buckshot.

This got me thinking about Christian stewardship. In respect to our giving, how do we hit the bird? That is, how do we give so that our giving really has the most impact?

It is often said that Malachi 3:10 ("Bring the full tithes into the storehouse...") means that our entire tithe should be directed to the local church. While I respect this point of view, especially for those who have never tried tithing and whose Christian life is more or less limited to the local parish, I am not sure that this can be sustained either biblically or logically.

For example, is the local parish today the equivalent of the Temple in Jerusalem in the days of Malachi? In some ways, yes. It is the center of worship, a place of pilgrimage, and the heart of Israel's spiritual life. Similarly, the local church for many people is the heart and center of their Christian experience.

Giving to God's work, in all its many forms, is a wonderful way to enrich our own Christian experience.

But the Temple, of course, was in Jerusalem, and the local synagogues out in the villages were where spiritual life was nurtured on a weekly basis. Who knows how those local synagogues were financed? All we know is that one godly pagan apparently built a synagogue for the Jews out of his admiration for Jewish piety (Lk. 7:5) This is hardly a recipe for how funds to support the local church should be raised today.

Moreover, the Temple saw to the sorts of needs, I assume, that many government and private institutions tend to today: welfare for the poor, health services, education, orphanages, etc.. In addition to the government, who supports these things today? While some local churches include these ministries in their outreach budgets, many of these programs rely on significant giving outside of the church to survive and grow.

Then, what of special ministries that are critical to the life of the church, but that the church usually does not support with sufficient funds to sustain them: youth outreach ministries, seminary training for clergy, mission societies, Christian educational ministries, Christian radio. Do these not also advance the kingdom of God in significant ways?

When we apportion our giving, which will be a distinct proportion of our income if we recognize that all we have and receive is from the Lord, will we not want to include some of these ministries as well as the local parish? Many Christians have a significant investment in time and prayer in these ministries and have received as much spiritual nurture

and challenge from them as they have in their local parish.

What about including our college, school, United Fund, political party, symphony, hospital, and public radio station in our tithe? Without appearing to be judgmental, I wonder if these really

If I go on a short term mission trip, may I consider the expense part of my tithe?

qualify as part of our tithe to the Lord's work? It would seem to me that giving to these public institutions, along with other secular 501c3 organizations, ought to be above and beyond our tithe, since the tithe is a love gift in response to God's gift to us of the kingdom. If we have been brought into new life in Jesus Christ, then the tithe should be for those things that directly bring him honor and glory.

If I go on a short-term mission trip to some foreign country, may I consider the expense of that trip part of my tithe? This is the kind of murky question no one can answer for anyone else. The key question is always: where is my heart? If my heart is to do everything I can for the Lord, then it is irrelevant if the mission trip is part of the tithe or not. Each one of us is accountable to the Lord in these matters.

Giving to God's work, in all its many forms, is a wonderful way to enrich our own Christian experience. We invest in many people, projects, programs, and – yes – parishes, where Christ's name is honored and his reputation advanced.

"Give and it will be given to you..." said Jesus, and this is nowhere truer than in the relationships we form with those who, in his name, advance the kingdom.

Finally, what of giving our "time and talents?" This certainly is part of our grateful response to God's gift of himself to us. Since our time and talents are the Lord's, as well as our money, it seems that this is a case of: "These you ought also to do." For some reason, certain people may feel that it is impossible to give money, to say nothing of the recommended tithe. Can they substitute time and talents for money? I would argue that even the poorest have some money to give, and so they should. We, of course, have the example of the "widow's mite" in Mark. 12:42.

Bea was a retired schoolteacher who lived on a very limited pension. When our stewardship campaign began she searched her soul deeply. One day she was walking by her favorite women's shop, and there in the window was a "little red coat" – just the thing for a chilly fall in Toronto. Bea really wanted it, until she realized that if she bought it she would have that much less to give to the Lord. Bea let the coat go, and gave the money to the Lord. Then, when asked to tell her story to the congregation before my stewardship sermon, she told about her struggle over that "little red coat." As you might guess, her gift stimulated many others, and – as we say – the rest is history.



Old St. Andrew's Hosts Dominican Partners

Local wood sculptor creates and donates cross in honor of his mother and in memory of his sister

By Sylvia Dwight Folk

For the past several years, Old St. Andrew's Parish Church has joined with Iglesia San Jose (St. Joseph's Church) in Boca Chica, Dominican Republic, in mission and outreach programs. In a role reversal of sorts, Old St. Andrew's recently played host to two travelers from San Jose. As a result, the congregations of the two churches are forging a stronger relationship with a number of what Old St. Andrew's calls "God incidents."

Last spring, the Rev. Marshall Huey led a team on Old St. Andrew's Church's first congregational mission trip to the Dominican Republic. At San Jose, the Rev. Margarita Santana, Rector, and Karen Carroll, an Episcopal missionary from St. Petersburg, FL, directed the Old St. Andrew's team members in their mission work. During their eight-day visit, part of the team assisted teachers in San Jose's new Pre-School, while others built a playground for the Pre-School from scratch.

In September, Old St. Andrew's applied for and was awarded a \$500 grant from the Diocese to be used for publicity about the Dominican Republic Mission Trip. The team members voted unanimously to use the funds toward bringing The Rev. Santana and Ms. Carroll to Charleston to tell the Boca Chica story to the Old St. Andrew's congregation.

Several weeks prior to their visit, Ms. Carroll inquired about the availability of a cross and missal stand for the altar at San Jose. Margaret Jones, a member of Old St. Andrew's who had



The cross above, carved by Mike Poole, is now on the altar in San Jose, Dominican Republic.

visited St. Andrew's Mission, and met with the Piecemakers, a group of women who knit blankets, caps, and other pieces. They also toured downtown Charleston and Magnolia Plantation to gain an understanding of the historical context of Old St. Andrew's Parish Church.

On Sunday, the Rev. Margarita delivered the sermon in Spanish at Old St. Andrew's, with Karen Carroll interpreting the message. Based on the text of the Ten Bridesmaids, Margarita talked about the importance of Christians everywhere keeping their lamps lit to reflect the light of the Lord to others.

Following the sermon, Old St. Andrew's member Margaret Jones and local artist Mike Poole told the story of the cross and missal stand. The presentation of the two pieces to the Rev. Margarita and Karen aptly illustrated the connections in Christian love between these two churches and their members.

The Rector of Old St. Andrew's, The Rev. Marshall Huey, followed up the visit from the Rev. Margarita and Karen with a sermon on the Talents, describing how Old St. Andrew's was fulfilling the mission statement of Acts 1:8 to "be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." He said that he felt that God was leading Old St. Andrew's to fulfill its mission to serve

the "ends of the earth" through this partnership with San Jose Church in Boca Chica, thereby becoming a more "talented" church.

UTO Gifts Top \$30,000

By Nancy Pickering,
Diocesan UTO Chair

This past year the Diocese of South Carolina sent over \$30,000.00 to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society! Our spring and fall UTO Ingatherings were effective, even in difficult financial times. Take note that all the United Thank Offering monies received prior to the December 31 deadline will be used for 2009 grants. Each of you who use the little blue boxes are to be commended. Please share your UTO stories with others in 2009. It's so easy to join this "24-7-365" tradition of blessings and thanksgivings! To learn more about the United Thank Offering in the diocese, and how you can help, contact me at npicks2@charter.net.



Partnering with Parents

Diocese’s Intentional Focus Supported at Conference

By Peter Rothermel, Director of Christian Faith Formation

The following article was submitted by Peter Rothermel while he was attending the Children’s Pastors Conference in Nashville, TN.

It’s hard to believe that five years ago I attended my first Children’s Pastors Conference in Atlanta. That Conference not only challenged my personal and family life, but it also set our Diocesan ministry for Christian

Faith Formation in a direction of partnering with parents.

There were several speakers who addressed the fact that, even though our churches seemed to have thriving children’s programs and great resources, many young people who spent their pre-college years attending these, were leaving the church and their faith behind. The number one reason for this, according to these speakers, was the simple

and undeniable fact that we ministers had forgotten to include the parents in the spiritual training process of their children.

The message was clear and, as a result, the team of children’s ministers from around the diocese that attended, left this conference with a glimpse of a vision of partnering with parents that would not only change the way we were doing ministry but it would change our lives.

I am so grateful for that conference wake-up call. It led me to become a more intentional spiritual leader at home. I tremble to think of what I might have missed in connecting with the hearts of my own children and wife.

I am also amazed at how this conference set us on an amazing journey in our diocese and beyond. As I walk through the resource center at this year’s conference and as I look through the list of over

100 workshop offerings, it is clear that things are changing. There are now many resources and workshops to help churches work with parents. People understand this biblical priority of helping parents disciple their children and it is clear this is a growing movement and not just another program. There are over 2000 people attending here in Nashville and there is another conference on the West coast drawing a similar number of people. The influence these have will be huge.

We will be returning from this conference with tools, teaching and training resources that will be made available through our resource center. We also have nine folks from our Diocese this year who will be sharing their experiences with us in various ways.

As we continue to follow the Lord’s leading for these ministries please continue to pray for families, children, teens and young adults to grow in their relationship with God and each other. Please pray for parents who are learning to bring their faith home and disciple their children and grandchildren. Pray for the churches and leaders who are going through the many challenges and changes that this season brings.

For more information on this conference, go to www.incm.org or Google children’s pastors conference 2009.



BRINK NORTON

Porter Gaud works to help parents connect with their children. In January Rob Rienow of Visionary Parenting offered a seminar at the school. Above, Bishop Lawrence joins the first-grade acolytes after the Lower School Christmas chapel service on December 17, 2008. Bishop Lawrence preached the homily.

Clarity

Continued from page eight

as well. Less individualistic and more team-oriented than Boomers in their attitudes, volunteerism and community service are important to them. With a high self-esteem, Millennials, like their Boomer predecessors, also believe they can change the world, but rather than doing so by reforming institutions, they prefer to make changes one person at a time. They desire to be a part of a movement, not an organization. Fewer than ten percent of Millennials attend church regularly.

Again, let’s be clear – some Gen Xers are now in their mid-40’s! These are the young people, the young families that we all seek when we’re gearing up to grow our churches! They are not young Boomers; they are a different generation

entirely. We must ask ourselves, what are we doing to indicate to them in any way that we understand them?

Generational differences are not the sole explanation for the issues we face in the church today, but it is critically important that leaders acknowledge, understand and appreciate these cultural characteristics as we define the current reality in our own churches and plan for the future. With the undeniable downward trend in church attendance coupled with the ascent of Gen Xers and Millennials, we have to rethink how we will “do church” in postmodern America.

McNeal cautions church leaders, however, not to anticipate a new church expression by asking the wrong questions (for example, How do we do church bet-

ter?), but that an entirely new set of tough questions must be asked and prayerfully considered if we are to address the decline and ultimate collapse of the church culture in America. If you want more information on the tough questions, I urge you to read *The Present Future*. Order copies for your vestry, staff and lay leaders today – a discount is offered through the Saints Alive bookstore by calling (843) 725-5483. Plan for your entire leadership team to learn more about the future of the church by attending the 2009 Leadership Forum, details on page three.

*www.episcopalchurch.org
**National Opinion Research Center, 1996 General Social Survey (GSS)

Members of the Diocesan Staff form a team that is raising awareness among church leaders about new ways of thinking about kingdom growth. Contact us to learn more about multi-generational faithfulness, leadership development, missional effectiveness and Biblical faithfulness. Call Daron Taylor, Dave Wright, Peter Rothermel or Boo Pennewill – we’ll meet you where you are.

Vision for a Soccer Field

West Ashley Church to Sponsor Upward Soccer League

By The Rev. Shay Gaillard, Rector
The Church of the Good Shepherd



The Church of the Good Shepherd is excited to announce that we will be offering an Upward Soccer League to the Charleston community in the Spring of 2009. Upward Sports is a parachurch organization that empowers churches to use sports as a platform to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with children and families. Upward is based in Spartanburg but works with churches around the country and abroad. Upward provides the sports expertise and the organizational training to allow any church to become a league promoter and thus a force for the Gospel in the community. We call our materials “soccer-league-in-a-box.”

So why does a church like Good

Shepherd want to go through the process of putting together a youth sports league in a community that already has plenty of youth soccer? It begins with Vision. The Vision of the Church of the Good Shepherd is to exist for those who are not yet members and to be known for World-changing Children, Strong Families, Confident Leaders, Biblical Preaching, and Spirit-filled Worship. Upward Soccer fits our Vision! It also matches the resources we have. Good Shepherd has almost four full acres of undeveloped land that we feel compelled to use for Gospel ministry. God has given us a vision to see all of that land filled with children. We exist for those who are not yet a part of the church. What church would not want hundreds of people weekly to come to their facil-

ity who may not already have a church home? What church would not want to be known as a church where the Gospel is central and where children are at the center of the Vision?

Why go through the process of putting together a youth sports league?
It fits our vision!

Last week our family minister fielded a phone call from a mom who had just moved to the area and saw on the website that we were hosting Upward Soccer. She had experienced Upward in her previous hometown with

her son. She was not calling to register for soccer. She was calling to find out what time services were. She wanted to be a part of a church that would offer Upward Sports.

If you are in the West Ashley/Charleston area, Registration for our league begins in January and practice begins on March 16. All children, kindergarten through fourth grade are welcome. We are looking for coaches, referees, and game-day volunteers to assist with this exciting, sports outreach. If you can help in any way (business sponsorships are available), please call Jamie Sosnowski at (843) 571-2993.

If you are interested in learning more or exploring Upward for your church, visit www.upward.org.

St. Stephen’s, St. Stephen, to Celebrate 240th Anniversary, April 5

The Vicar of St. Stephen’s, St. Stephen, The Rev. Jeffrey R. Richardson and St. Stephen’s parish family invite you to join them on Sunday, April 5 as they celebrate the 240th anniversary of “The Brick Church” by re-creating the first church services held there in 1769. The service will begin at 11:00 a.m., using the form for Holy Communion from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. All are invited to attend and join in the festivities as St. Stephen’s celebrates this very special occasion as a church and as a community.

Clergy and church members will wear period costumes, and all guests, (children, too) are encouraged to dress accordingly. Those adhering to modern dress will be most welcome, as well. Plans are being made for a family picnic on the grounds following the service. There will be period games prepared for children of all ages. The church is located at 196 Brick Church Circle in St. Stephen. For additional information visit <http://www.ststephenschurchsc.org> or call (843) 567-3419.

TEA TIME: Area Tea Rooms Open

Old St. Andrew’s, Charleston March 23-April 4

St. Paul’s, Summerville March 16-27

The annual Old St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church Tea Room and Gift Shop, the oldest consecutively running Tea Room, will be held March 23 through April 4, 2009. Lunch is served Monday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., featuring Low-country favorites such as okra soup, chicken salad, shrimp paste sandwiches and our famous homemade desserts. The unique gift shop features beautiful handmade items and jam, jellies, pickles and other delectable items. Reservations for groups are encouraged and can be made by calling the church office at (843) 766-1541. Guided tours of the church are offered daily during the Tea Room hours. The church is located at 2604 Ashley River Road, in Charleston, near the historic plantations.

The proceeds will benefit the mission and ministry programs of the Episcopal Church Women of Old St. Andrew’s and the church’s Preservation Fund.



St. Paul’s in Summerville will present a Tea Room and Gift Shop March 16 through 27. Lunch is served Monday through Friday from 11:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. They will offer their noted soups (okra with ham, tomato bisque), salads (spinach with poppy seed dressing, curried chicken salad, shrimp salad) and sandwiches (chicken salad, ham wrap with chutney, and peanut butter and jelly). The specialty, of course is their delicious tomato pie served with a small spinach salad. In the gift shop they will offer handmade jewelry, note cards, scarves, wood crafts, smocked baby items and more. Visit www.stpaulssummerville.org to learn more. All proceeds for the Tea Room and Gift Shop are used to increase the extent and number of outreach and mission projects that St. Paul’s supports. St. Paul’s is located at 316 West Carolina Avenue in Summerville.

Course Relieves “Money Stress” During Financial Downturn

Financial Peace University Offered

St. Paul’s in Summerville will offer Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University February 17 through May 19.

Michele and Ken McCullough, pictured right, took Financial Peace University at St. Paul’s this past fall. Here’s what they said about the experience:

“We would encourage anyone and everyone to consider Dave Ramsey’s FPU. It’s not just for people who are in “in trouble” financially. We have always paid our bills on time, tried to live within our means, own a home, etc. However, we have benefitted in so many ways from Dave’s teachings. We’ve paid off nearly \$20K in debt in the past year of following Dave’s plan! While that is absolutely wonderful, the best part is that the ‘money stress’ has decreased to almost nothing because we feel like we are finally in control.”

In these tough economic times, FPU provides helpful “nuts and bolts” financial information that really works!



St. Paul’s members Ken and Michele McCullough paid off nearly \$20,000 in debt following Dave Ramsey’s plan.

Past participants can take FPU again at no extra cost. Register soon to ensure you get your kit before the class starts!

Cost: \$100 for the kit and lifetime membership (includes book, workbook, 13 audio CD’s – one for each session, envelope system and more). Find out more by visiting www.StPaulsSummerville.org or call Cathie Diggs at (843) 873-1991.



PAUL MITCHELL

St. James’ member George Martindale hands out prizes to children during Vacation Bible School.

Join us: Share the Love in Guyana

St. James, Charleston, Offers Invitation to Mission

By Paul Mitchell

For the fifth consecutive year, Saint James Episcopal Church on James Island will send a mission team to the people of Cornelia Ida and Anna Catherina villages in the West Demerara region of Guyana. Guyana is a poor South American country located next to Venezuela. The citizens all speak English in this former British colony. The racial origins are African (mostly Christian), Indian (Hindu and Muslim) and Native American. The team will leave Charleston, Monday July 20, 2009, and return July 31.

We want to invite parishioners from all over the diocese to come with us. We minister to the 29 children (ages 5 to 16) and the five staff members of Save R Kids children’s home. We also minister in the community of Mahaica about 50 miles away.

Save R Kids is managed by Michael and Michelle Campbell and their daughters, all of whom are Guyanese Christians. We will do light construction work and visit homes to extend invitations for Bible School and the Jesus party. We stay at the home where there are bunk beds and air conditioned dorms. The food is good and the weather is very much like Charleston in summer. Every night we hold a time for devotions.

This call to mission began when we contacted The Rev. Alan Winter of Front Line missions. We were trying to send supplies to a children’s home in Guyana and someone gave us his phone number for assistance. We succeeded with the delivery and later some of us felt called to go ourselves. God did not just send a box of Bibles but instead sent his son, a real talking, living person.

In July 2005, under the leadership of Alan Winter, nine of us set out to serve at Save R Kids children’s home. Some of us had never even been out of the United States before. Our task was to install a new bathroom and shower block. We also offered to run a Vacation Bible school. We thought there might be about 50 children attending. The word got out that we were there, and on the last day, 180 children showed up. We used every last scrap of paper, glue and crayon for the craft activities. We made do with some songs we had on a CD and the few we knew by heart. Jesus’ name was proclaimed and children from Hindu households got to pray, sing and hear some of our favorite Bible stories.

Three years later we took three musicians, conducted VBS in two locations for 220 children, built a septic tank and installed a 100 ft fence. We have had over 35 people go on this mission, from ages 14 to 82. It is an experience that no one should miss, seeing God at work in a far away place. It is not easy to get there, and white American visitors are few and far between. The natives are friendly and listen politely to what we have to say.

If you’re interested in going, or would like to know more, contact Paul Mitchell at (843) 345-7790 or paulhenry@knology.net. You may also call the church office at (843) 795-4270.

Join St. James on Friday, February 13 for the annual “Heart for Mission” banquet. The guest speakers will be Michael and Michele Campbell from Guyana and the Rev. Alan Winter who is a missionary to Brazil, Guyana and Honduras. Tickets are \$30. Call (843) 795-4270 for more information.



RETHINK/SHIFT/RETOOL: CLARITY IN DISCIPLESHIP

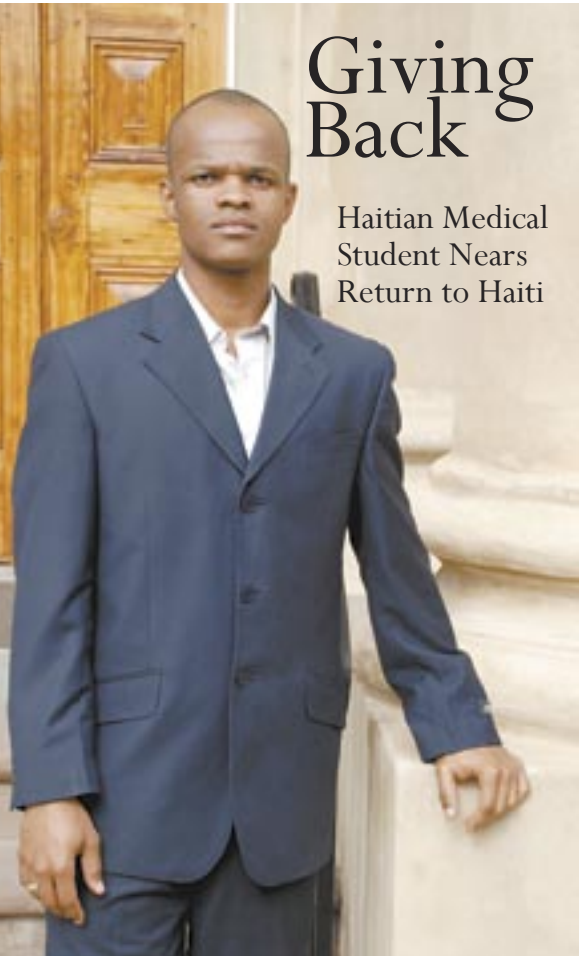
May 31-June 2, 2009
Litchfield Beach and Golf Resort

Sue Griffin to Speak at ECW Deanery Gathering

All the women of the Diocese as well as friends and neighbors are invited to attend the Charleston-West ECW Deanery Gathering March 14 at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Mission in Charleston. Registration will begin at 9 a.m. and the meeting will run from 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Sue Griffin, Diocesan ECW President. There will be workshops on the Anglican Rosary by Virginia Lewis and Altar Guild with Marianne Holmes. Other board members will be available for information and questions. A continental breakfast and delicious lunch will be served, and

we will end our day with the Eucharist Service. Join us for a day of inspiring speakers, educational workshops, and fantastic fellowship! Please call Barbara Braithwaite at (843) 406-9385 to register for this great day. The fee for food will be \$7.00. St. Andrew’s Episcopal Mission is located at 2257 Ashley River Road (Highway 61) in Charleston.





Haitian Medical Student Nears Return to Haiti

FLORANCE ANDERSON

Juska Jean Jacques, pictured left, recently visited area churches to thank them for their spiritual and financial support. Jacques, a 27-year-old Haitian medical student from the island of la Gonave, Haiti, is currently in his fourth year of Medical School in Santiago, Dominican Republic. He is attending medical school through the support of individual donations, and gifts from the Diocesan World Missions board, St. Andrews, Mt. Pleasant and St. Philip's, Charleston. Jacques believes God is leading him to become a doctor, so that he can return to his home of la Gonave and become the first permanent doctor living on the island. He knows there is a great need for good medical services on la Gonave and he feels lead to fill that need. Jacques is an exceptional young man who speaks three languages and is competent in two more, and who knows his strength is in the Lord. If you are interested in learning more about Jacques and other Haitian students who would like to be able to go to college, please call or email Suzanne McCord at (843) 224-1630 or smccord@stphilipchurchsc.org.



HOLLY BEHRE

Pipers from The Citadel Pipe Band make music in front of Grace Church after the 2008 Kirkin' o' the Tartan.

Grace Episcopal Church to hold “Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan” February 8, 2009

Grace Episcopal Church, 98 Wentworth St. in downtown Charleston, will have its annual “Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan” on Sunday, February 8 at 11:00 a.m.

This service of Morning Prayer is a celebration of the Scottish heritage of the Episcopal Church, which dates to the period after the Revolutionary War when the new American church's first

bishop was consecrated by the Scottish Episcopal Church.

All are invited to wear their tartans to the service for a special blessing (the word kirkin' means blessing). Grace's St. Gregory Choir and organist-choirmaster Dr. Scott Bennett will be joined by pipers and drummers from The Citadel Pipe Band.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN MEN’S CONFERENCE February 20-22

The lodge rooms have been filled, but there's still space to sign up for the Diocesan Christian Men's Conference. The conference is designed to address issues facing all men in today's fast-paced world and to provide insights and ideas for dealing victoriously with the constant stress men experience. Bishop Lawrence will be the keynote speaker; The Very Reverend Craige Borrett will serve as Chaplain and David Sadd will lead praise and worship. “This is a unique opportunity for men to take some time off and go to a beautiful Lowcountry Island to experience great fellowship and life-transforming time with the Lord,” says Winn Tutterow, chairman of the Men's Conference Board. This annual Diocesan event, held at St. Christopher's has had a profound effect on many of the

men who have attended. The registration deadline is February 6, 2008. All lodging is assigned on a first come, first served basis. All of the lodge rooms have already been filled. Remaining accommodations are available in the Cabins and Seabrook Villas. Requests for lodging must accompany the full fee. If you wish to be housed with a particular individual(s), you must mail your registration forms and fees in the same envelope. Make checks payable to “Christian Men's Conference.” All registration forms will be acknowledged upon receipt, including lodging assignment. If you do not receive an acknowledgment within 10 days, contact Kory Hall at (843) 602-6448 or kmhall@sc.rr.com.

Christian Men’s Conference, February 20-22, 2009

Name (to appear on nametag): _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephones: _____

E-mail: _____

Home Church: _____ Denomination: _____

Dietary Restrictions/Physical Needs: _____

* Do you require Handrails/Elevator access? _____

Lodging, per person (all meals included): (check one)

Cabin (bunk bed, shared bath)	\$120	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Bring own pillow, sheets, blankets and bath linens)		
Lodge (double bed, private bath) Lodge filled	\$180	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seabrook Villas (twin/double/queen/king bed, private bath)	\$230	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commuter Fee	\$110	<input type="checkbox"/>

I would like to share a room with: _____

I am willing to serve as a small group leader. Yes ☐ No ☐

I would like to donate \$ _____ to the scholarship fund.

Do not mail this form to the Diocesan office. Mail it with your full fee to: Christian Men's Conference, C/O Kory Hall, PO Box 14548, Surfside Beach, SC 29587. Additional information online at www.dioceseofsc.org.

People News

Frances Dudley, 94, of the Snail's Pace in Saluda, NC, entered into eternal rest on Friday, November 14, 2008. Many lives were touched and changed as a result of her ministry and Bible studies at the Snail's Pace. As mentioned in her obituary, “She not only served love and joy to all, but wonderful dinners from the kitchen of the Snail's Pace.”



Jackie Jacobs received the “Magnolia Award” for her needlepoint at the 2008 Coastal Carolina Fair.

Congratulations to Jackie Jacobs, (shown right) a resident of Bishop Gadsden and mother of Janet Bex, a member of Old St. Andrew's, Charleston. Jackie, a member of the Magnolia Chapter of the Embroideries Guild of America (EGA) and a certified Master Craftsmen was recently honored at the Coastal Carolina Fair for her needlepoint of the Nativity Scene.

Congratulations to E'Lane Rutherford, (pictured right) who serves as the Director of Faith Formation at Holy Cross Faith Memorial on Pawley's Island. Al Simpson, State Board of Education Chairman, presented Rutherford with an award for her exceptional volunteer service to the Georgetown County School

District. Rutherford was one of 30 outstanding volunteers who received the prestigious honor at a ceremony Wednesday, October 29, in Columbia. The Volunteer Awards honor significant contributions made by four categories of recipients: individuals, businesses, civic organizations and school improvement councils. Candidates are nominated by school districts across the state. Criteria for selection include promoting student achievement, enhancing school-community relations, strengthening school or district resources, encouraging a positive climate and promoting teacher effectiveness.

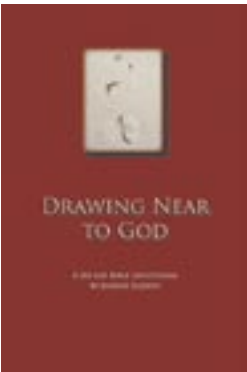


JOHN ROBESON

E'Lane Rutherford, a member of Holy Cross Faith Memorial, stands with Al Simpson, State Board of Education Chairman, who presented Rutherford with an award for her exceptional volunteer service to the Georgetown County School District.

Drawing Near to God A 365-Day Bible Devotional

The new *Drawing Near to God Devotional*, written by Joanne Ellison and published in 2007, is available for sale through Drawing Near to God Ministry at (843) 284-4333, www.drawingneartogod.com or through www.amazon.com. It is a thoughtful gift for family members and friends.



One woman writes, "My husband and I read the devotional every morning and

the Lord always speaks to us, both together and individually."

Another writes, "During the most difficult days in the last several months, this devotional has sustained me."

The devotional would make a perfect birthday gift, one you can even give yourself. It's a gift that will last not only throughout the year, but throughout a lifetime, as God's Word transforms, renews, and restores.

Next Steps Training February 18, March 18

The Department of Social Ministries offers Next Steps Database Training at no cost to volunteers and staff from churches and social ministries throughout South Carolina. Once a person completes the three-hour training session, they're assigned a user ID and password and are able to access the Next Steps database at www.SouthCarolinaMinistries.org. Training sessions are offered February 18 and March 18, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Agape Ministries of Charleston. The on-line Next Steps database links churches and social ministries participating in the Next Steps Program. Learn more by visiting www.SocialMinistries.org.



What to Do About the Teenagers? LAMB Teenagers Experience Transformation

By Suzy McCall

What to do about the teenagers has been a fairly constant theme at our children's home over the years. They are at once our best helpers and our most complicated personalities. Adolescence is a difficult time for anyone, and most parents consider it a challenging time as well, but our young people came to us wounded and angry, confused and downtrodden. Their journey with us, although short, has taken many turns.

One of our girls, who joined us at the age of 12 and is now 16, had been abused by men, young and old, since the age of six. I went with Social Services to her village to pick her up, and had to ask an aunt, "Why didn't you protect her?" The incomprehensible reply was, "She's always been flirtatious." Her brother, also an abuse victim, has been much too quiet, a silent storm threatening to break. One of the other young girls came to us at age ten. She had never been in school, as she was needed to sell tortillas. If she didn't come home with the basket empty, she was beaten and then sent to kneel on the hard ground with a large rock on her head. At age ten, she walked into a police station and asked to be taken to

Social Services. "I want to go to school," she said. Our other teenage boy was used as a "mule" by the gangs; he carried drugs for them. One of our girls is an orphan, both parents having succumbed to AIDS. Another came to us age at 16. When I went to pick her up at an aunt's house, I asked if she wanted to say goodbye to anyone, or if she needed to pack some of her things. She just shrugged her shoulders and got into the car with the clothes on her back. Sixteen years without one significant relationship or even a small bag of clothes to call her own.

Our seven teenagers just returned from a three-week school with YWAM ("Youth With A Mission"). Some of them attended willingly, and two or three dragged their feet. They all came back with a makeover that only Jesus can orchestrate. The quiet boy stood in front of our staff and talked non-stop for twenty minutes about spiritual visions, evangelistic experiences, and forgiveness. The former "mule" says that the Lord has called him to be a praise and worship leader. The young girl whose parents died of AIDS says that for the first time she was able to share her bitterness toward her father, and then forgive him.

All seven presented us with dramas and testimonies, and assured us that this time they had changed for real. Two days after returning to the children's home, they went out to do door-to-door evangelism in the local village. They said they weren't coming home until nine people had accepted Christ.

Some of our staff remained skeptical, and yesterday one woman saw the girls' untidy room and remarked, "I knew they hadn't really changed." The remark was overheard and reported to the teenagers. That afternoon they showed up at the staff meeting, basins and towels in hand, and washed the feet of their caregivers. The woman who made the remark wept.

"And a little child shall lead them . . ." Maybe it's time we learned a thing or two from our "problem children!" When the Lord heals and transforms one person, an entire community can be healed and transformed. Please join us in prayer for these precious young people, that they can now be ambassadors for Christ in our own ministry, and to the ends of the earth.

Help Stop Payday Lending

Ed Dyckman, Chair, Department of Social Ministries

Payday lending is big business—there are more than 1,100 storefront payday lending offices throughout South Carolina. The finance charges paid by mostly low-income people who need a little help between paychecks can reach the equivalent of 390 percent. This amounts to "predatory lending" because the industry preys on people by getting them locked into a cycle of debt. Payday lending practices mainly hurt the poor and the elderly.

I represent the South Carolina Christian Action Council (SCCAC) on a Coalition being organized by the South Carolina Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP-SC) to fight payday lending and other predatory business practices. I attended the Coalition's first meeting in Columbia on January 9, 2009, and can explain how you can help eliminate payday lending in South Carolina.

Payday loans are made to individuals who have a checking account. The consumer can borrow up to \$300 by writing a check to the lender. The lender holds this check from two weeks to 30 days, usually the consumer's next payday. The charge can be up to \$15 for every \$100 borrowed. Loans cannot be renewed (extended) or "flipped." But this does not mean that lenders cannot make repeated payday loans. In addition, in complete

defiance of the law, lenders advertise that consumers can borrow up to \$600 at a time by making two \$300 loans.

Once a borrower has paid off one loan, s/he can immediately take out another loan with the same lender. Most

Our sister states of North Carolina and Georgia have addressed the problem by banning the industry.

consumers are unable to pay the loan at the end of the 14 or 30 days because there is not enough money in their checking account at the time the loan is due. This is because their income may be only \$600 or \$700 per month. Consumers depending on Social Security or Supplemental Security Income (SSI), e.g., people who have low income, have few resources, and are age 65 or older, blind, or disabled; at the most have only \$1,000 to live on for the entire month. One \$300 payday loan payment is 33 percent or more of their monthly income. Quite often, in order to pay off one payday loan, consumers take out additional payday loans with other lenders. An accumulation of seven or eight payday loan

payments are more than double their income. For example, one Charleston consumer credit counselor averaged her clients' payday loans and found that they paid \$1,600 on average for a \$500 loan.

In the last four years 17,797,365 payday loans were made in South Carolina, paying out approximately \$620,675,487 in fees. Indiana has a third more people than South Carolina, but only one million payday loans per year compared to more than four million in South Carolina. Since we know that not all South Carolinians use this type of lending, we can assume that many consumers get caught in a web of numerous loans to keep themselves afloat. An AARP member from Greer, South Carolina, called AARP and reported she had paid \$4,000 in fees last year without touching a penny of the principal owed on her payday loans! She dipped into her pension to stay afloat and ended up with a second mortgage. Ending the constant rewriting of contracts and limiting the total number of loans to any consumer at one time could alleviate many of the financial problems we see these loans cause. This is why so many consumers have multiple payday loans; they literally cannot afford the payment with this model. It is clear from the sheer number of loans each year that borrowers are using one loan to pay off another.

The Federal Government has found that payday lending undermines national security. Since 2007, payday lenders are unable to charge military personnel or their dependents more than 36 percent annual percentage rate (APR). South Carolina should extend this or offer better protection to all our state's citizens. For example, New York maintains a 16 percent interest rate cap and other consumer protections which effectively ban payday storefronts in the state. Massachusetts, which also enforces a usury interest rate cap, filed a cease-and-desist order against companies making illegal payday loans which shut down 91 Internet payday lenders operating in the state. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and the Federal Reserve have regulations that either severely restrict or ban payday lending by their banks. Federal and state policymakers and regulators have the tools to protect their consumers against predatory payday lenders making loans to families.

Our sister states of North Carolina and Georgia addressed the problem of payday lending by banning this industry. Although this is the best solution to ensure the problems stop, short of this, there are modifications that should be made to South Carolina's payday lending laws that will help consumers. For

Continued page 15

By Valjean Jenkins, Holy Comforter DOK Vice-President

The Holy Comforter Chapter of the Daughters of the King in Sumter, South Carolina, will be sponsoring their annual Quiet Day on Saturday, February 28, 2009, to prepare for a Holy Lent and joyous Easter. The Rev. Charles F. Walton, Jr. will offer three meditations on the topic of “Come and see.” (John 1:46).

Walton has been a priest for over 33 years, serving in the Diocese of South Carolina for over 20 years at three different churches. Active in Cursillo and Kairos, he is married to Daughter of the King Anne Walton; they have four children and seven grandchildren and have retired in Sumter, SC.

The Quiet Day will begin with registration at 8:30 and follow with Morning Prayer. Afterwards there will be three meditations, each followed by a time for reflection. Holy Eucharist will begin at 11:30 a.m., and lunch will follow at 12:15 p.m. Reservations are requested. A donation of \$5 would be appreciated.

What is a Quiet Day?

A Quiet Day simply means taking away all obstacles so that those who participate may come into the presence of our Lord, who constantly invites us to “come to Him.” The Lord saw that many were so busy coming and going that they did

not even have a chance to eat; and he encouraged them to stop, find a quiet place, and rest. So they went away and found a solitary place.

In our busy, frantic, modern lives, there is often no time to stop and be quiet for more than a few minutes together. Prayers are said quickly (if at all) before we rush out to the office and at night before we fall into bed too tired to think. A quiet day is an effort to give people a little window of scheduled time to pray, to be still, and to listen to God.

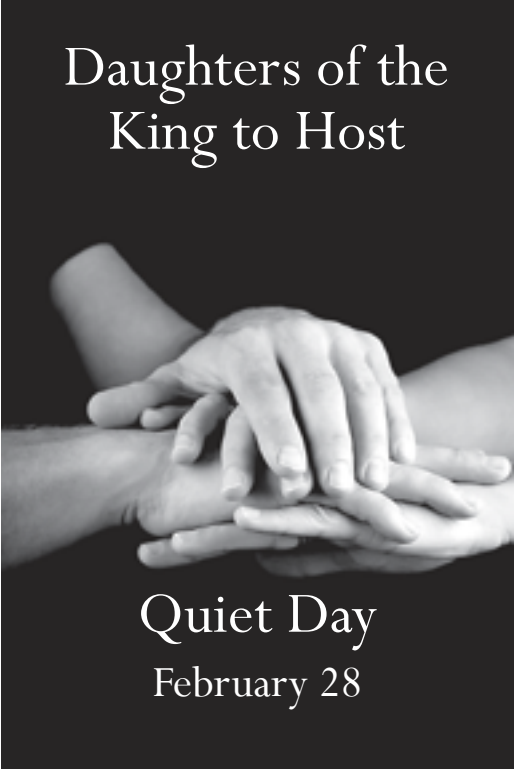
We invite all parishioners and friends to prepare for a Holy Lent and a joyous Easter by coming into His presence with us.

Holy Comforter is located in Sumter, South Carolina, at 213 N. Main Street on the corner of Main and Calhoun Streets. Please call the Church Office (803) 773-3823 to make reservations for lunch and childcare.

Diocesan Spring Retreat for Daughters of the King

March 27-29 St. Christopher

Allison Lawrence, Speaker



KATHY WALKER

Above, members of Coker College’s baseball team enjoy a supper hosted by St. Bartholomew’s in Hartsville and the Diocesan Young Adults and College Ministry Department. In addition to team members, students involved with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes were invited. In all, nearly 60 students and 15 parish members attended the November 2008 event.

Christ Episcopal Church Oyster Roast for Outreach, February 22

The Men of Christ Church are gearing up for their annual Oyster Roast for Outreach. Come and enjoy fellowship, oysters, fish stew, hot dogs, drinks, and live entertainment. All proceeds are given to outreach and support

ministries including ECCO, My Sister’s Place, Windwood Farms, St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, Ministry to Haiti, and others. The event will take place Sunday, February 22, 2009, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 pm at the Oakland



Plantation off of Highway 17 North in Mt. Pleasant. Advance tickets are \$15 for ages 13 and older; \$20 if purchased at the door. Tickets for children ages six-12 are \$6. Children five and under are free. Tickets may be purchased in the church office. For more information call (843) 884-9090.



Episcopal Relief & Development
Healing a hurting world

By Harmon B. Person, Diocesan ERD Representative, hbpjlp2@bellsouth.net

2008 Contributions

Despite tumultuous economic times, Episcopalians in the Diocese of South Carolina were generous with their contributions to Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) in 2008. Contributions, which totaled \$64,712, were up almost 50% from 2007, and over 72% from 2006. Only 11 of our churches made a direct contribution, but 253 individuals from throughout the diocese made gifts directly to ERD. Many of these people contributed more than once. We are grateful that so many decided to help other people in need through ERD.

The 11 supportive churches were: All Saints, Hilton Head; Church of the Good Shepherd, Charleston; Grace Church, Charleston; Holy Communion, Charleston; Holy Cross Faith Memorial, Pawleys Island; Church of the Redeemer, Orangeburg; St. Mark’s Chapel, Beaufort; St. Paul’s Church, Summerville; St. Stephen’s,

Charleston; Trinity Church, Edisto Island; and Trinity Church, Pinopolis. Special thanks go to the clergy and parishioners of Grace Church, Charleston. Once again, Grace led the way with donations of \$8,520 during the year. If you believe ERD should be involved in your church’s outreach program, please urge your clergy to make this happen. I will be glad to be of assistance to any church in the diocese in this effort.

Gift from Diocese of Puerto Rico

As you can imagine, the Diocese of Puerto Rico is by no means an “affluent” diocese. During most years, people from that diocese make modest contributions to ERD. However, the Diocese of Puerto Rico has just announced a three-year commitment to Episcopal Relief and Development to contribute a total of \$300,000. This will be

the largest gift a single diocese has ever given to ERD. Bishop Alvarez designated the \$300,000 to support the Millennium Development Goals. He stated, “We hope that our gift will inspire other dioceses and Episcopalians to partner with ERD in their work towards alleviating poverty and disease.” Actually, ERD has a goal of raising \$3,000,000 to support the Millennium Development Goals. This gift virtually assures that the goal will be met ahead of schedule. What a wonderful example this diocese has set for all of us.

Doctors Without Borders’ List

“Doctors Without Borders,” a large international organization which annually sends about 3000 medical volunteers throughout the world to provide healthcare and medical training wherever it is most needed, recently released a list of what they felt were the ten most pressing humanitarian crises in the world. They were: Childhood Malnutrition, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, HIV/AIDS/TB, Iraq, Myanmar, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan, and Zimbabwe. You should not be surprised to learn that Episcopal Relief and Development

is actively supporting humanitarian work in all but three of these areas. We are not currently involved with work in Ethiopia, Iraq or Somalia. We are, however, making the Episcopal Church’s presence felt in the other seven areas.

Al Ahli Arab Hospital

The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem operates a famous hospital, the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City in the Palestine Territory of Gaza. The hospital has been in existence since 1882, and has been a ministry of the Diocese of Jerusalem for the past 27 years. The hospital provides services that benefit about 45,000 people per year. The hospital is open to all, irrespective of their faith. Muslims, Christians and Jews are all treated equally. It treats the poor without charge. The Director of the hospital is a Christian, but the chief surgeon is a Muslim. Perhaps surprisingly, none of that seems to matter. Instead, the hospital seems to care only about its mission – to help the sick and suffering. Much of the day, the hospital is without electricity. That is just one of the handicaps under which they operate.

Gaza is one of the oldest cities in the world, with a metropolitan area population of about 1.5 million people. It is one of the most densely populated areas in the world. Unemploy-

ment is near 80% and about 80% live below the poverty line, as defined by the World Health Organization. There are about 3,000 Christians living in Gaza. The remainder of the population is Muslim. Israel’s blockade of Gaza has had severe economic repercussions on the area. Israel’s late December and early January attacks on Gaza have resulted in a severe humanitarian crisis. Our Presiding Bishop has called for an end to the repeated rocket attacks by the Palestinian militants as well as an end to Israel’s retaliatory attacks.

American Friends of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, a non-profit organization that supports the mission of that diocese and its 37 institutions throughout the Middle East, described the humanitarian crisis in Gaza as “overwhelming.” That group and Episcopal Relief and Development have provided critical financial assistance to the Al Ahli Arab Hospital. The needs are now greater than ever. A donation to ERD can be designated to help this hospital. All tax-deductible contributions should be sent to ERD, PO Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058.

Be Still and Know God

2009 QUARTERLY CONTEMPLATIVE RETREATS Download Registration Online

St. Christopher hosts quarterly retreats called “Be Still and Know God” which run Sunday through Tuesday afternoon. It’s a time set apart for those who are longing for the Lord and who desire to get away, be quiet, and connect with God and experience His very real and tangible presence.

So many people confess they never hear the Lord speak to them or sense His nearness. This is not surprising considering how noisy and full of distractions our lives are. It’s a sad fact that too many Christians settle for far, far less than what the Lord wants for them when it comes to experiencing His presence and hearing His voice.

Join us for a two-night stay and let us help you slow down, take a deep breath, come into the Lord’s presence and hear

Him speak. There will be worship and short teachings each day, soaking prayer and lots of quiet time for listening, personal reflection and prayer. These retreats will be led by various St. Christopher staff. Retreats begin at 2 p.m. on Sunday and end at 3 p.m. on Tuesday.

The next two retreats are scheduled for February 22 to 24 and May 3 to 5. Space is limited to 25 people per session. This retreat is for adults age 18 and up. We are not able to provide child care. We suggest single occupancy rooms on this retreat because we want participants to have as few distractions as possible.

Go to www.stchristopher.org to download a registration form. For further information, contact Elizabeth Bumpas at ebumpas@stchristopher.org or call (843) 768-0429 ext. 3005.

Payday Lending

Continued from page thirteen

example, a recent bill, H. 3048 calls for the following actions:

- 1) Limit the interest rate payday lenders can charge customers, by capping the interest rate that can be charged on a payday loan to 36 percent APR and allow for a \$5 administrative fee (similar to what was enacted by the Federal government to protect military personnel and their dependents);
- 2) Ban internet payday lending by lenders not licensed in South Carolina, making it an unfair trade practice and the lender’s contract

unenforceable in South Carolina;

- 3) Limit the number of payday loans that a company can make to a consumer to one at any given time; and
- 4) Make lenders who violate the law liable to the customer for damages for each violation.

If you would like to help the Coalition protect the poor and elderly by eliminating payday lending and other predatory business practices in South Carolina, please telephone me at (843) 367-5647 or email me at edward.dyckman@att.net.

Golf Tournament March 21

Old St. Andrew’s Parish Church, Charleston

The tournament is being held to benefit the preservation of Old St. Andrew’s Historic Church building. It will be held at the Shadowmoss plantation Golf Club in Charleston. We’ll be playing Captain’s Choice, limited to the first 128 players (foursomes

only). The shotgun start will be at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$65 per player and includes green fees, cart, and practice balls. There will be prizes and an after-tournament party at the Pavillion. To register visit www.oldstandrews.org, or call Tom Johnson at (843) 571-6219.



BENJAMIN C. BYNUM

Karl Leitzenmayer of Trinity Episcopal Church, Covington, KY, reads with J.T. in the Pleasure Reading Center of the Cathedral Domain Reading Camp, June 2008.

Increasing Literacy

Diocese of Lexington Offers Model Reading Camp

By Ed Dyckman, Chair, Department of Social Ministries

The Greater Columbia Literacy Council reports that South Carolina now has the highest high school drop out rate in the nation. The University of South Carolina’s College of Education website reports that: (a) literacy scores of children in South Carolina have been among the lowest in the Nation and (b) the future for these children, if left unchanged, is grim.

With the coming of the information age, the importance of fluent reading skills has never been greater. Yet more than 44 million Americans, more than 780,000 of them South Carolinians, cannot read well enough to follow doctor’s instructions, vote in an election, or enjoy a simple book with their child. Illiteracy often lies at the root of poverty, unemployment, poor health, and criminal activity.

What can we do about this problem? In 2001 the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington (Kentucky), which ministers to 17 of the poorest 100 counties in the U.S., recognized that a large percentage of its adults were illiterate and the area (Appalachia) was suffering the consequences as unemployment, incarceration, and social unrest increased. The diocese’s response was Reading Camp—a place where children spend one full week in the summer learning that reading is fun. The diocese opened its first Reading Camp in 2002, and today they operate seven Reading Camps, all funded by donations from local churches and businesses and staffed by volunteers.

Reading Camp’s goal is to help children who are reluctant and struggling readers improve literacy skills and become more confident students. The camp does not “look” or “feel” like school. The

setting is the great outdoors, and the materials are new to the children. Each child is helped to read books of their choosing, encouraged to develop a love of learning and given tools for reading proficiency. The children receive personal attention in a “failure-free” setting.

The daily schedule is filled with arts and crafts, games, hiking, swimming, and relaxation time (can you picture one Reading Camp at Camp St. Christopher?). Skills that help children become better and more confident readers are woven throughout the day’s activities. The camp staff includes professional educators, recreation coordinators, and counselors. The kids go through six learning centers in small groups, where they experience writing, pleasure reading, phonics, encoding and decoding, reading comprehension and reading strategies. This accommodates various learning styles. They bring in special speakers like noted Kentucky author George Ella Lyon and author and storyteller Harriette Arrington to encourage the children and build their enthusiasm.

By the end of the week, they have gained confidence and enthusiasm about reading because of the enjoyment and success they experienced at camp. The Reading Camp program is designed to serve the lowest achieving readers in their third and fourth-grade classrooms as identified by their teachers and principals. Reading Camp liaisons work to identify children who are at least one grade level behind in reading skills. Third/fourth grade is when, ideally, we stop learning to read and start reading to learn.

Clergy News

❖ **James Barnhill** was ordained a deacon on January 10 at Holy Comforter, Sumter. James graduated from Trinity School for Ministry in December and has accepted a call to serve as the Rector of St. Paul’s in Bennettsville. Holy Comforter is the home church for James and his wife, Donna.

❖ **The Rev. Rob Dewey**, Senior Chaplain of the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy, was honored with the first-ever “Behind the Scenes Award” from the Charleston County School Board. Superintendent, Dr. Nancy McGinley, presented the award to Chaplain Dewey, explaining that his presence and ministry during times of tragedy within our school system have been a critical factor in the well-being of the faculty, staff, students, and their families during hard times.

❖ Please keep the family of **The Rev. Canon Edward John Morgan**, in your prayers. Canon Morgan, who was a resident of the Bishop Gadsden Retirement Community, died on December 9. The memorial service was held Friday, December 12. Canon Morgan was the widower of Sally Olsen Morgan. He retired as vice-president of the pension fund of the Episcopal Church. He is survived by one daughter, Ann Morgan Peczeniuk and her husband Andrew of New Fairfield, CT; one son, Peter F. Morgan and his wife Jackie of Johns Island, SC; and three grandsons. Memorials may be made to Residents Assistance Fund, Bishop Gadsden Retirement Community, One Bishop Gadsden Way, Charleston, SC 29412.

❖ **The Rev. Callie Perkins** has been called to serve as Vicar of Grace Church

in Charleston. A Celebration of a New Ministry was held at Grace Church on January 14. Callie comes to Grace from Holy Cross Faith Memorial Episcopal Church on Pawley’s Island, where she has been Assistant Rector since June 2005. (See page five.)

❖ **The Rev. Chris Royer** was ordained a priest on January 11 at the Church of the Cross in Bluffton. Chris serves as Assistant to the Rector and Director of Faith Formation at the Church of the Cross. Prior to attending seminary, Chris and his wife, Grace, had served as missionaries in Turkey with their children Daniella and Stephanie. (See page six.)

❖ Please keep **The Rev. Roger Smith** in your prayers. On December 4, after conducting a service at All Saints, Hilton

Head, he lost consciousness on the drive back to Beaufort and was in an auto accident. He was hospitalized with a deflated lung, cracked ribs and a fractured hand. The driver of the truck involved suffered minor lacerations. Smith was released from the hospital December 9 and is recovering at home. Smith retired in December 1993, as the rector of St. Helena’s, Beaufort.

❖ Please keep **The Rev. Jamie Stutler** and his family in your prayers. Jamie’s wife, Eleanor Stutler, age 46, died on November 23, following a fall after having had back surgery. Jamie is currently the Rector of St. Clement’s in Canton, Georgia. Prior to his move to the Diocese of Atlanta, Jamie served in the Diocese of South Carolina at St. Alban’s, Kingsstree, and St. Stephen’s, St. Stephen.

Dr. Cleveland Sellers to Speak at the ECW’s 125th Annual Meeting

On Saturday, April 25, the ECW of the Diocese of South Carolina will hold their 125th Annual Meeting at Trinity Episcopal Church in Myrtle Beach. Dr. Cleveland L. Sellers, Jr. will be the guest speaker. Dr. Sellers is the eighth president of Voorhees College, a predominately black college affiliated with the Episcopal Church. He was the only person ever convicted of a crime in connection with the events of 1968 that came to be known as the “Orangeburg Massacre.” Dr. Sellers was pardoned by Gov. Carroll Campbell in 1993, and became a visiting professor at the University of South Carolina, where he later rose through the ranks and became the Director of African-American Studies, a position he held until he became Voorhees College’s president. This meeting promises to be uplifting and interesting.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY VORHEES COLLEGE

Dr. Sellers will be the guest speaker at the April 25 meeting.

Registration forms and additional information about the meeting will be mailed in early March.

Social Ministry Mapping

Ed Dyckman, Chair, Department of Social Ministries

The Department of Social Ministries invites you to join our Social Ministry Mapping Team. To learn more about Social Ministries visit www.SocialMinistries.com.

What is social ministry mapping?

Social ministry mapping identifies ministries that provide services to people in need in the community. Social ministries include (but are not limited to): aging, criminal justice, disabilities, disaster, maritime, military, education, environmental stewardship, health, HIV/AIDS, homeless, housing, hunger, peace and justice, and resources.

Knowing about these ministries will help the diocese as we launch the Next Steps Program to break the cycle of poverty throughout South Carolina.

Your help identifying them would be greatly appreciated. Social ministries can be found online and in the phone book. You may also visit ministries in your community. Some churches, ministries, and libraries may already have a list of employment services and social services available within your community. Ask around.

Any person interested in this project can help, simply collect the following information about each social ministry: Name; Description of Services; Contact Person Name, Title, Email, Telephone;

Mailing/Street Address; Website; and Digital Photographs of the ministry in action and location—and email the information to edward.dyckman@att.net. Please call me at (843) 367-5647 with questions.

When does the Department need the mapping done?

We would like to receive a steady stream of social ministry mapping information throughout 2009 and 2010. It will be especially helpful to start mapping before we launch Next Steps in your community. We will publish it on the Department’s website and add it to the Next Steps Database for your county.

Clergy Talk...

I called a Rector for clarification on a *Jubilate Deo* article, and in the background heard a woman’s voice. “Just a minute, Mom, I’ll be right back,” said the Rector.

“Oh, that’s nice, you’re spending time with your Mom?” I asked.

“Yeah,” he answered. “You should always escape to your Mom’s, a place you’re known and loved, before a Vestry meeting.”

Joy Hunter



The Church Pension Group to Hold Forums

Hosted by T. Dennis Sullivan, CPG President and CEO

“As we move toward General Convention, we are seeking to communicate directly with the Church about the mission and financial strength of the Fund, and our work in response to General Convention resolutions concerning a denominational health plan and the lay employee benefits study,” said T. Dennis Sullivan, President and CEO of the Church Pension Group. “It is because we feel these issues are so important that we are traveling around the Church to discuss them in person.”

Deputies to the 2009 General Convention are particularly encouraged to attend the full-day Forums.

“This is a great opportunity to share not only thoughts about legislation coming to the General Convention for deliberation in July, but also our developing vision for the future ministry of the Church Pension Group,” added the Rev. Canon Patricia Collier, CPG Senior Executive Vice President, who will also be taking a leadership role in these informational gatherings.

The future Regional Forum schedule is as follows:

February 5	Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas
February 26	Atlanta, Georgia
March 12	San Francisco, California
March 19	Cincinnati, Ohio
March 26	Hartford, Connecticut

Each Regional Forum will include sessions about the financial strength of the Fund (especially relevant in this difficult economic climate), the proposal for a denominational health plan for The Episcopal Church, and the lay employee benefits study and recommendation, as well as Q&A sessions. People are welcome to attend whichever forum is the most convenient.

Continental breakfast and a full lunch will be served to all attendees. For those who need lodging, rooms will be available at the hotels where the Regional Forums are taking place, and special rates have been arranged.

To register visit www.cpg.org/regionalforums or call (800) 992-4555.

The Calendar

February

- “Kirkin’ o’ the Tartan,” February 8. See page 12.
- Worship Musicians Forum, February 11. See page 6.
- Absalom Jones Day Celebration, February 13-14. See page 6.
- Saint James’ “Heart for World” Banquet, February 13. See page 1.
- St. John’s Concert Series, February 15. See page 7.
- Financial Peace University, February 17-May 19. See page 11.
- Next Steps Database Training, February 18. See page 13.
- Diocesan Men’s Conference, February 20-22. See page 12.
- St. John’s Concert Series, February 22. See page 15.
- Be Still and Know God Retreat, February 22-24. See page 15.
- Oyster Roast for Outreach, February 22-24. See page 14.
- Jesus Weekend, February 27-March 1. See page 16.
- Daughters of the King Quiet Day, February 28. See page 14.

March

- Deadline for Upcoming *Jubilate Deo*, March 6
- Parenting is Heart Work Seminar, March 7. See page 5.
- Becoming a Healthier Pastor/Church, March 12. See page 1.
- 218th Diocesan Convention, March 12-13. See page 1.
- Charleston-West ECW Deanery Gathering, March 14. See page 11.
- St. Paul’s Tea Room, March 16-27. See page 11.
- Next Steps Database Training, March 18. See page 13.
- Epic Youth Event, March 20. See page 4.
- Old St. Andrew’s Golf Tournament, March 21. See page 15.
- Old St. Andrew’s Tea Room, March 23-April 4. See page 11.
- St. Helena’s Organ Concert, March 27. See page 1.
- Plantation Tours and Tea, April 3-4. See page 1.
- St. Stephen’s, St. Stephen, 240th Anniversary, April 5. See page 11.
- ECW’s 125th Annual Meeting, April 25. See page 16.
- 2009 Leadership Forum, May 31-June 2, 2009. See page 8.

Jubilate Deo

PUBLISHED BY THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
(843) 722-4075

The Rt. Rev. Mark Joseph Lawrence, *Bishop*

Contributions for the next issue must reach the editor by **March 6**. Contributions for each issue are due by the first Friday of every other month. Send articles to BOTH Editor and the Assistant Editor. Send photographs to the Editor only.

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