

Jubilate Deo

The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

Spring 2020

5 Tips for Living Faithfully Through COVID-19

Prayer Center Chaplain offers strategies of faith; words of wisdom and hope

By The Rev. Dr. Sandi Kerner, Chaplain of The Prayer Center, St. Christopher Camp & Conference Center

Shell shock describes the myriad of symptoms of battle or combat fatigue which ensue from prolonged engagement in the terrors of warfare. The negative side effects include: nightmares, sleep disturbance, anxiety, panic, an inability to reason, emotional detachment and physical symptoms such as nausea, sweating, rapid pulse, headaches, or dizziness, among others. During World War I, soldiers identified as suffering from shell shock were given only a few days rest from battle then returned to their assigned posts in the line of fire. Since that time, we have learned much about the effects of trauma on the human body, mind, soul, emotions, and spirit and how to begin the mitigating and healing process.



JOY HUNTER

Classified now as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), these and other symptoms can manifest in the wake of various experiences of trauma – when an event or series of events are too much to bear or when life goes beyond the edge of what is possible to perceive and respond to. Too much happens too fast. Trauma distresses body, mind, soul, relationships, and communities, producing frightening thoughts, painful and wide-ranging emotions, and physical duress. At the same time, as some succumb to stress with diminished coping, others step boldly into the front lines, energized and focused, ready to take on the battle. In time, their sacrificial service will require a high

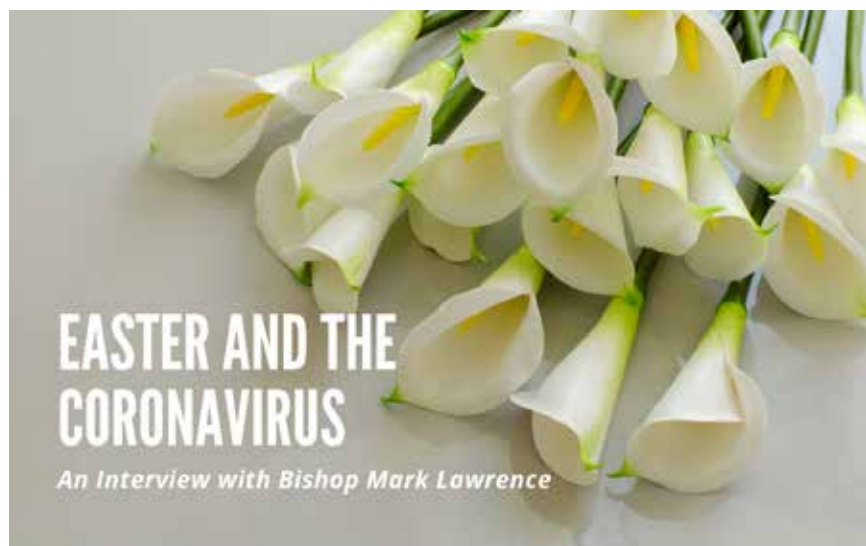
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Easter and the Coronavirus

An Interview with Bishop Mark Lawrence

By Joy Hunter, Editor

Bishop, for many of us this will be the first time in our lives we won't be in church on Easter morning. No Easter lilies; No packed crowd singing "Welcome Happy Morning;" No flowering of the cross. No big Easter dinner with extended family. The feeling of malaise is giving way to something darker. How are we to approach Easter this year?



There's some remarkable irony there. Just think about that first Easter morning when Mary Magdalene and Mary, the mother of James, and Salome went to the tomb on the first day of the week just as the sun was rising. They were not going in the way you and I go to the Easter morning service with a great deal of expectation and hope, waiting to say, "Alleluia, the Lord is risen," and hear one another say, "He is risen indeed, Alleluia!" They were going with spices to anoint the buried body of Jesus. They were hardly in a mood of expectation, of joy, of hope. They were going there overwhelmed by life, overwhelmed with what they had lost, what they did not have, who they could not see, the one they could not hold.

If we go through all of the Easter stories, one after another it is of Jesus appearing to a relatively small

group of people. Not in a religious setting. Not in a synagogue, not in a temple, but in a home. It may be that we need to rediscover the power of the resurrection to lift us in the midst of our gloom, in the midst of our daily lives. It's not something we have to go to to experience him, but whenever we gather in his name, he can be among us. That's one aspect we need to cultivate and, perhaps, rediscover.

To be honest, I will miss it too—Easter morning at church. I will miss singing, "Welcome happy morning." "The Day of Resurrection," all of those great Easter hymns. I think I can play them here at home. In fact, I think I will!

Is there a way to enter Holy Week and Easter on a deeper level during this time of social isolation?

The power of Jesus' resurrection in the daily life of believers doesn't have to be related to us walking through these (Holy Week) events in the way we're used to doing them. We can allow him to meet us in the ways that he wants.

I think of those two disciples walking to Emmaus on Easter day. They met him as they traveled along the road, which is the way most of us meet him, as we're traveling along the road of life. They met him while they were in the middle

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My Internet Church

By Elizabeth Lipscomb, St. Philip's Church, Charleston

When I went online this morning, the camera panned an empty church. The clergy and four choir members bravely assembled and began to conduct the service as if the pews held Christmas Eve capacity. Tears streamed down my face as I took in this visual reminder of our dire times and realized how sad I was at not being able to worship together. I wanted to be there with others, basking in the presence of the Holy Spirit, before the cross, joining multiple voices in praise and thanksgiving. I wanted to celebrate Communion and its promise for us all. This is so lonely!

But after I started to chill out about our new world of Sunday morning, I learned this does not have to be so bad. There are actually some pretty good things about it:

- I am worshipping in my nightgown and believe me, to not get dressed up is a blessing!
- I can have a snack and the rattling of paper or the sound of a crunch will not disturb anyone.

- Despite my terrible voice I am free to sing as loud as I want, even scaring myself into a fit of laughter.

- My dog can worship with me and occasionally howl in unison at my fractured off-key voice.

- I won't get distracted looking at someone thinking, "Gosh, she's aged. She needs a new hair style!" And then immediately have to refocus, listen and ask for forgiveness for being so judgy! Oh, Come on! You have done it, too—don't be judgy of me being judgy!

- I have this absolutely beautiful view of God's creation while at this service. All of nature is present, not just altar ferns or tree branches outside an aisle window.

- I can throw my hands up to the ceiling in praise.

- I can dance in the Spirit during a hymn.
- I can weep copiously and aloud during prayers that move me.

- I can openly talk to God, voicing my sins and fears, and asking for forgiveness.

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LOVING
YOUR NEIGHBORS

JOIN THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF SOUTH CAROLINA FOR A VIRTUAL

GATHERING OF WOMEN

Videos Available Online May 2, Beginning 9 a.m.

Beth Snyder will speak on "Loving Your Neighbor: Biblical Hospitality from the Heart of a Southern Celebrator."

Jayne Gurley, co-founder of Face to Face Ministry with Drawing Near to God will speak on "Women Mentoring Women."

www.adosc.org

Easter and the Coronavirus

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of their need, which is how most of us meet him. They met him without recognizing who he was, which is the way most of us first approach him. And they met him thinking, at first, he was a stranger, which is who he is to most of us when we first encounter him. It is strange – this whole situation we’re in. But we can still meet him or he us. We can encounter him and it can be life transforming. Sometimes you have to let go of what you think is most precious in order to discover He who is most precious of all.

How will this Easter be different for you?

Well, I won’t be in church on Sunday. I’ll be in church on Saturday doing a video recording which will be used on Sunday. Easter I will be home. To be honest, I don’t know what that will be like. It might be quite enjoyable. It will be very different, too, because usually we have a large family gathering. We may have some family come, but we won’t have all of them here. If we did and someone got sick, a lot of people would have to go into quarantine!

Is there anything you’ve been struggling with, personally as we go through the pandemic?

You know what I struggle with? I struggle with what to make of it. Is it some aspect of our fallen human state and world, an evil which is manifesting itself in ways that we need to eradicate? Or is there something more that we as a people need to grapple with, things we need to reflect upon?

In some ways I’m eager to get back to normal, but in some ways there was a lot about the normal that wasn’t necessarily wholesome. Life for many of us has been busier. As TS Eliot put it years ago, we find our-

selves “distracted from distraction by distraction.” That’s the normal. During this pandemic there have been more distractions for me than there were before and more disorienting distractions than there were before. The pace hasn’t stopped, the busyness hasn’t stopped, the phone calls have increased, the text messages have increased. I’m thinking to myself, I ought to be using this quarantine to go deeper with God, deeper in prayer, deeper in intercession for the world, and preparing myself, the Diocese and the church for whatever is going to be on the far side of this, that God might want to do.

If all we’re doing is filling our lives with busyness, making more and more videos, and spending all our time trying to learn this technology so we provide things for and stay connected with people but get no connection with God, no connection with the deeper things of the soul, it’s been a profound waste of a crisis.

It’s true, that much of our church life, as we know it, has been removed. And our clergy are desperate to find a way to replace it, to try to stay connected with their people; meet their people’s needs. But what if that’s not what we should be about? What if we need to be still and know that he is God? That he will be exalted among the nations. That he will be exalted among the earth.

I feel an odd sense of disconnect from what I think I ought to be connected with during this time of quarantine; consumed with busyness when I wonder if what I’m really being called to is the quiet place of prayer, reflection and study and time of soul.

Jesus’ appearance to Mary was one on one. The appearance of Jesus in Luke’s Gospel at the tomb was to three women. The appearance

of Jesus on the road to Emmaus was to two disciples. He appeared to Peter and even on Easter night when he appeared to the disciples in the upper room, Thomas wasn’t there. None of the appearances until much later was to any number greater than what would appear the 10 of the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) request. So evidently, you can have the hope, and the power, the joy and the reality of the resurrection without a big building filled with people and so maybe what we need to focus on is the power of the resurrection in our homes, in our day-to-day lives, in the midst of our immediate family.

How has social distancing affected your work-life? Home-life?

It really hasn’t affected my home life at all except that I haven’t been around my adult children and grandchildren as much as I would like and so I miss that. Work life? Some, because I’m usually on the road a lot. I suppose it’s affected work the most because when I meet with people I meet them as a whole entity, a physical person. You pick up things from them that you don’t pick up through a virtual meeting. So it’s a really strange environment. One becomes more and more aware of the importance of the incarnation that God took on our human form, our human condition. In one way that’s limiting. But to appear to everyone on a screen is not the same as embodied human interaction. There’s no virtual substitute for life lived in relationship to people.

Right now, there’s no method to prevent and no medicine to cure this deadly infection. What is your spiritual prescription for us, as the people of this Diocese?

Part of the Christian answer to that is in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He has removed the sting of death. We don’t sit lightly towards it. We grieve just like other people at the loss of loved ones. We don’t seek to be foolish as we look at death, but we don’t have to fear what comes next. The Christian answer to all of that is “We are more than conquers through Christ who strengthens us.” “He who has begun a good work in us will bring it to completion” so be still and know that he is God. “He will be exalted among the nations. He will be exalted in the earth.”

That is part of the Christian answer to all of this. Along with the fact that we need to be in intercession and in prayer for our world, for those who are fearful, for those who are suffering, for those who are dying without the hope that the gospel brings, for those who are on the front lines caring for those who are coming into the hospitals and the ICU units, many of whom may be there because of their commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ, who have entered into this life as a nurse or as a doctor as their Christian calling. Others are serving as missionary doctors, many with inadequate tools, no ventilators at all. For researchers in medicines and vaccinations. And for our political leaders.

So in the midst of that we need to be in prayer. There’s plenty to keep us occupied if we only look at it through the priorities that God has for us at this time. We can go about our daily lives with a sense of purpose, faithfulness and love.

I told some clergy in our smaller congregations during a recent Zoom call of a scene in the movie version of The Hobbit. Lady Galadriel asks Gandalf why he included Bilbo Baggins in the dwarf’s dangerous mission against a dragon?

Gandalf answered, “Saruman thinks that it is only power that keeps evil in check. But that is not what I have discovered. I’ve discovered it is often the small, kind, and loving act that keeps evil at bay.”

My Internet Church

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Maybe this time is teaching me what it really means to have freedom to worship. I have been doing worship social distancing in the church; closed in on myself and socially afraid to openly display my enthusiasm for the Lord. I am learning that, when so moved, lifting my voice and hands high in the privacy of my home is a liberation of the gratitude I feel for the Lord. I look forward to the day we can all be together with delighted greetings, little waves to each other, shaking hands, giving hugs, passing the peace. But don’t get judgy when you hear me loudly belt out a song or accidentally hit you in the shoulder with my hand going up in praise.

Today, I realized again that God is always here and this does not have to be lonely. Hundreds of thousands are joining me right now in devotion and prayer. I am part of a different kind of church service but it is not diluted by empty pews. Instead, in some ways, it is even stronger with the knowledge that so many are worshipping and many more are moving toward Christ in this troubled time.

“Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts.” (NLT)

Colossians 3:16

An Invitation from Patricia Smith, President of the Anglican Women

Loving Your Neighbor and Mentoring: Virtual Annual Gathering of Women May 2, 2020

Dear Sisters in Christ,

The time is coming for us to be together “virtually” for our Annual Gathering of Women, 2020. The Board and I are excited to announce that on Saturday, May 2 beginning at 9:00 am, the teachings prepared by our two speakers and a news update from me, will be available to watch on the women’s ministry page of our Diocesan website at adosc.org.



The messages have been lovingly prepared by Beth Snyder and Jayne Gurley!

Beth, who hails from Walterboro, SC, wears many hats – wife, mama bird, Grammie. She is married to the Rev. Greg Snyder, and they have served St. John’s Parish Church on Johns Island for over 17 years.

Many of you know Beth as the Executive Assistant to Bishop Lawrence and Diocesan Convention Coordinator for over 10 years. Her spiritual gifts of encouragement, administration, discernment and prayer are used in her ministry to the Bishop and diocese.

Beth will be speaking on “Loving Your Neighbor – Biblical Hospitality from the Heart of a Southern Celebrator.” She will also feature some friends who will share testimonies of how the Lord has worked in different situations.

Jayne, a member of St. Philip’s Church, Charleston, has been married to Tom for 51 years, has three beautiful daughters and nine lively grandchildren. She is a writer and speaker and has published six children’s books. She is a member of the American Board for Save the Mothers, an initiative recognized by the U.N

Jayne has given presentations to teens and university students on God’s plan for healthy relationships. Jayne is the co-founder of Face to Face Mentoring Ministry, a part of the Drawing Near to God Ministry which is led by Joanne Ellison.

Jayne will be speaking on “Women Mentoring Women” addressing some of the main issues we deal with and giving us some specific guidelines we can take with us. It will help us immensely put the art of loving our sister neighbors into practice.

I certainly hope you can join me in watching beginning Saturday, May 2, at 9:00 am on the Anglican Women’s Page of the Diocesan website, www.adosc.org.

Sheltering at home with Christ,

Patricia Smith
President, Anglican Women

Anglican Women Look Back, Around and Forward for 2020 Vision

By Patricia Smith, President, Women of The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

Recently my oldest daughter suffered tremendously from a ruptured cornea, describing it as “worse than labor.” With healing prayer and a strict protocol to follow, we trust her vision will be completely restored. This incident caused me to think how vital clear vision is for our lives. Looking back to remember, looking around to discern and looking forward to plan are all part of vision, critical for living abundantly and victoriously in 2020.

Looking back...

Looking back briefly over 2019 – at our Annual Gathering on May 4, we feasted on rich spiritual food as Bishop Mark Lawrence held out the heart of Christian Hospitality. The Art of Neighboring book was recommended as a tool to help us live out the second great commandment - “Love our neighbors as ourselves.” In the afternoon, a workshop on Overcoming Anxiety was offered. Many ladies purchased the resource, The Believer’s Battle Strategy for deeper Bible study on the topic.

Our Retreat in late October with the theme, Giver and Gift: Life by the Spirit, deepened our understanding of our Father God, the many gifts and the fruit of the Spirit. We were taught the essence of each gift and fruit and what it looks like to walk by the spirit. Workshops were held to help us identify our gifting, another to hear testimonies on how the older women have mentored younger women in the church and still another where a fun, creative art project was done. Prayer guides were distributed to aid and encourage us to



LISA GREENSLIT

Praying together at the 2019 Women’s Retreat.

faithfully intercede for all our clergy, including our Bishop.

Our Praise and Glory fund richly blessed the ministry of St. Alban’s Chapel at the Citadel and six seminarians received the benefit of the funds collected through the Diocesan Periodical Club. Thanks so much for your generous support. Great job!

Looking around....

Our daughter said that to look to the left or the right was excruciatingly painful. This can be the case when we look at the world and its leaders around us. As it says in Psalm

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A Mentoring Idea:

The Annual Prayer Card

Simple Method Focuses & Unites Family in Prayer

By Patricia Smith, President, Anglican Women of The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

Women mentoring women,” is the second half of our Anglican Women’s mission statement. The idea of mentoring or being mentored might seem daunting, yet doing it is often simpler than we think. Sometimes it’s just an idea shared that changes how we live. Years ago, I was “mentored” by an 80+ year old grandmother, living in the mid-west, without her even knowing it, when she very casually shared something that resonated in my spirit: The Prayer Card.

I told her that praying for our ever-expanding family (which now numbers 20), was becoming a bit of a burden. My husband and I wanted to lift up everyone’s needs, but we felt the burden of becoming prayer pack horses. There had to be a better way!

Here’s what she did: At the beginning of each year she asked all family members, children included, for one single prayer request. She compiled the list via email and then sent it out to all the family members, requesting they pray for one another. At the end of each year around Christmas, they would share, either in person or via email, their praise reports of how God

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Responding to God’s Call to... “Start a Ukulele Band!”

By Janis Breazeale, Saint Matthew’s, Fort Motte, Founding Member of the Ft Motte Ukulele Choir (AKA “The Ukuloonies”)

It all began with a simple prayer, and a longing for God to use me for His purpose in a unique and more challenging way.

Feeling stuck in the spiritual gift of hospitality, I began praying diligently for a new spiritual gift. Then, one night I heard a voice tell me to start a ukulele band. I kept hearing this voice repeatedly and realized it must be God.

I began arguing with God, because I had no musical background and feared I was not capable of such a daunting task. I knew the Bible was full of men and women chosen, not because of what they could do, but because of what God could do through them. Was I faithful enough to trust God? I know that, in the hands of God, we can become more than we can imagine; we just need to be willing to let Him transform us. I had to step out in faith and trust Him.

After telling my good friend about hearing God’s voice, she boldly jumped in, becoming the second member of the band, and took me to buy my first tiny ukulele. The next Sunday, I smuggled my Uke into church and waited with great anticipation to pluck it from my bag during announcement time. When the big moment came, I boldly jumped up and explained that God wanted me to start a ukulele band!

Eyes rolled and snickers rippled across the pews as this six-foot tall, 70-year-old woman strummed a tiny soprano ukulele! They were right, I did look like Tiny Tim, and I did need to tune my instrument. But little did they know, I was God’s instrument and God was tuning me. Afterwards, one person asked me why I didn’t just join the choir. I said, “Well, God didn’t tell me to join the choir; He told me to start a ukulele band!”

That same person not only joined the band but found us a ukulele course in the North Carolina mountains run by Jim Pankey. Jim has since come to Fort Motte to run workshops for our ever-growing band of 18 brothers and sisters in Christ!

We now have a name, The Ukuloonies, because we ARE a little bit crazy and we love to laugh! Our mission is simple: singing hymns of worship and praise to God’s glory and His glory only. Colossians 3.23-24 is taped to my ukulele... “And whatever you do, do it heartedly as to the Lord and not of men knowing that



JACKIE SMITH

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from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance: for you serve the Lord.”

Although we began in Fort Motte, with our church members, we now have folks from around the county and the Columbia area, from different churches, and some with no church affiliation. Musical talent or experience is NOT a requirement to be a Ukuloonie! We are now receiving requests to play at schools, churches, clubs, retirement homes, and birthday parties from all over the state. Our “gigs” are opportunities to share the love of Christ, serve our Lord, and witness in a joy-filled

way through music! Because we took that first step in faith, God has blessed each of us with spiritual gifts we did not realize we had.

It really is miraculous how we have grown and, for me, confirmation that this was God’s voice I heard that night, not just my own “crazy” idea. I may never truly know why God chose each person for the band, or why they said yes, but God knows. I just know that my life has changed forever, and I have learned a profound lesson, don’t be afraid to step out when you hear His voice calling you. To God be the glory!

Bishop Lawrence Installed as Provincial Chaplain of the Daughters of the Holy Cross

By Beth Snyder, St. John’s Parish Church, Johns Island

On a chilly, rainy Friday evening in January, over 100 gathered at St. John’s Parish Church on Johns Island, to witness the installation of our Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence, as the Provincial Chaplain of the Daughters of the Holy Cross (ACNA). At the invitation of the DHC provincial president, Diane Brown, who came from Texas for the installation, chapter members of the Daughters of the King were also present to witness and worship together.

Bishop Lawrence preached on 1 Kings 19:9-18, “Listening for His Voice: Living Life with the Holy Spirit”. He reminded us, as it says in scripture, that the Lord delights in us.

He offered three “soul care” pointers to put into practice:

1. Ask God to open our ears to hear Him.
2. Create spaces to hear His voice—discover where He resides

in the “thin spaces.”

3. Be attentive to Him—through His word and through His spirit.

Following our worship together, St. John’s Parish DHC chapter, St. Anna’s, hosted a reception for all in attendance. This “reunion” of diocesan women was a wonderful witness to our bishop, and to our diocese, to have so many from all parts of our diocese represented.

St. John’s Parish Church also served as the host for the DHC Provincial Council meeting, January 24-25, 2020. Provincial Council officers traveled from all over the U.S. and Canada to participate in the weekend meeting.

At present, there are seven Daughters of the Holy Cross chapters in The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, with four more in discernment. For more information about Daughters of the Holy Cross, visit their website: www.daughter-shc.org

South Carolina Supreme Court Denies Petition for Writ of Prohibition by The Episcopal Church

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

On March 31, 2020 the South Carolina Supreme Court announced that it had denied the Petition for a Writ of Prohibition submitted on February 21 by The Episcopal Church (TEC) and The Episcopal Church in South Carolina (TECSC), which sought to prevent Judge Edgar W. Dickson from ruling on the Diocese’s and parishes motion to clarify the Supreme Court’s earlier ruling. If granted, the petition would have prevented Judge Dickson from ruling on the case as he has indicated he was about to do. The Supreme Court’s order succinctly states: “Petitioners seek a Writ of Prohibition to prevent the circuit court from clarifying this Court’s decision in Protestant Episcopal Church in the Diocese of S.C. v. Episcopal Church, 412 S.C. 211, 806 S.E. 2d 82 (2017). The petition is denied.”

This ruling by the Supreme Court allows Judge Dickson to proceed with clarifying the Court’s earlier August 2017 ruling, which was comprised of five separate opin-

ions. That situation is unprecedented in the history of the court. This open-ended denial of the petition by the Supreme Court places no restrictions upon the appropriateness of Judge Dickson’s work in interpreting the meaning of the original ruling.

Ironically, this ruling comes almost exactly a year after TEC and TECSC filed a similar Petition with the high court for a Writ of Mandamus meant to force Judge Dickson to rule in the case. The Mandamus Petition asked the Supreme Court to require the Circuit Court to interpret the Supreme Court’s August 2, 2017 ruling favorably for TEC and TECSC. That petition was also denied by the Supreme Court in July of last year.

As before, the Prohibition Petition was an attempt to end run Judge Dickson’s exercise of his discretion in interpreting the August 2, 2017 decision in a manner that may differ from TEC and TECSC’s interpretation.

The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina welcomes this decision by

the South Carolina Supreme Court affirming that the Circuit Court is the proper venue to resolve the many uncertain issues arising from the August 2, 2017 decision.

The Rev. Marcus Kaiser, President of the diocesan Standing Committee observed, “In this time, our focus is on caring for our people and praying for a world deeply rocked by the COVID-19 pandemic. Still, we are profoundly grateful that the Supreme Court has denied the request for a Writ of Prohibition, and hope this ruling helps move things along. We pray for Judge Dickson and the complex issues he has to deal with, even as we continue to focus on concerns far more pressing to most people.”

The brief in support of the motion by the Diocese to dismiss this Petition can be found on the Diocesan website, along with further background on the earlier Petition for Mandamus.

The Viral Shuttering of Other Gods

By The Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence, Bishop of The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

(The following is an edited version of a sermon by Bishop Mark Lawrence, given on Palm Sunday, 2020 at St. Michael's Church in Charleston, SC)

I received an email last week that included a brief message that I've been ruminating on ever since. It was from an acquaintance of mine, Bishop James Wong, who is the Anglican Archbishop of the Indian Ocean. Let me share part of it with you.

"In three short months, just like He did with the plagues of Egypt, God has taken away everything we worship. God said, 'You want to worship athletes, I will shut down the stadiums. You want to worship musicians, I will shut down Civic Centers. You want to worship actors, I will shut down theaters. You want to worship money, I will shut down the economy and collapse the stock market. You don't want to go to church and worship Me, I will make it where you can't go to church.'"

I imagine he could have mentioned others: You want to worship health; I will empty your gyms and fill your hospitals. You want to worship recreation; I will close the Magic Kingdom and gate your parks. You want to worship travel and exotic places; I will dock your cruise liners and ground your planes. You want to indulge in the nightlife; I will close your restaurants and bars and shutter your cities.

Well that has the ring of truth to it—mostly! Yet not entirely. It could be understood to mean God sent this coronavirus as a judgement on the world. Yet I for one am not ready to say that. I am inclined to



FABIENNE FILIPPONE

say it is a judgement upon our idols. It reveals to us how frail life can be and how vain at times our pursuits. You will remember the first two commandments of the Decalogue. "God spoke these words and said: I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods but me. You shall not make for yourself any idol." The reformer John Calvin said, "The human heart is a factory for the making of idols." When we give ourselves to idols, embracing God's good gifts

separate from Him they invariably turn empty and let us down—whether as individuals, communities, or even nations. "Claiming to be wise they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man..." (Romans 1:22-23)

The Judeo-Christian scriptures teach us that life is meaningful and good. That evil, which is parasitic, brings disorder into the healthy and good order of God's creation. This evil includes destructive infectious diseases like the coronavirus and non-infectious diseases like cancer. It includes moral corruption such as human trafficking as well as the moral corruption that most of us partake in whenever we willfully choose to turn away from God and from what He has declared as good. This happens often in our daily lives. In big ways and in small ways.

Some years ago, when our

children were young I was playing Monopoly with them. I understood strategy well. I purchased all the "green" property on the board as well as Boardwalk and Park Place and put up houses and hotels. I bought the railroads. Soon my oldest daughter close to bankruptcy left the game. Then my son Joseph landed on my hotels, and after mortgaging all his property, said, "Dad, I'm going up to bed." I said, "Joe, I'll loan you some money." "No, Dad I'm sleepy." That left only our daughter Emily. Soon she was left bankrupt. "Well, Dad, I'm going to bed." "Please, Emily, here's some money, stay in the game." No, it's late. I'm tired." Left alone with my money, my property, my hotels and houses, I collected it all, folded the board and faced the fact that it all goes back in the box.

All too easily, we can live our lives without any reference to God. Yet as Dr. Christopher Wright notes, we do not live life without him. "He is the source of our lives, of our health. It is God's creation that gives us the food we eat, the water we drink and the air we breathe."

Whether it is the work we yearn to get back to, the sports we miss, the recreation, or travel we are presently denied, it is God who is the source of it all. The beauty in art and music; in the sunset over the creeks and marsh of the low country; the glow of the moonlight through the pines; the glistening of the gas lamps on a misty Charleston street at night; the surprise in the rush of a covey of quail flushed from the bush; the warmth of handshake, or the voice of a longtime friend who greets us from behind—God is the author,

giver and invigorating power behind all that makes life worth living. The question this virus and quarantine forces upon us is what happens when we do return to "normal" life. Will we enjoy the gifts of a gracious God with or without a relationship to him?

Every blessing and every sorrow that comes our way is used by God to draw us to himself. The God who in the wonders of creation dazzles us with beauty comes to us in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is through him that we come into the eternal life of the Father—the giver of all that is true, and lovely and gracious.

When loss and sorrow break our hearts, he who wept at the death of his friend invites us with the words: "Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest."

When life's path seems obscure, the way ahead most foggy, faith brings us under the Lordship of Jesus Christ assuring us that the hands, which hold the future, are the same hands that touched the leper, healed the blind, and bore the nails upon the cross.

When our goodness fails, as it always does, the forgiveness of the cross washes us, heals us, and shall ultimately transform us. And when our lives draw to an end, or we close the eyes of a loved one at a bedside, he is the one who comforts us, "Let not your hearts be troubled, you believe in God believe also in me...I go to prepare a place for you that where I am you may be also." When all other gods fail: when all our idols are shuttered—He who is the beginning and the end will remain.

Living Faithfully Through COVID-19

Continued from Page 1

personal cost, often occasioning physical exhaustion and compassion fatigue. Caregivers among us know the cost only too well.

In the wake of trauma, in the midst of this coronavirus pandemic, we may feel out



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of control, afraid, jarred, disoriented, tired, agitated, overwhelmed, exhausted, and powerless. Energy runs out quickly and we feel unproductive or foggy. We have difficulty concentrating and wonder how we can go through so many emotions in one day. We can become teary in a moment, then laugh uproariously at a funny meme in the next. We dive head-long into worry and snap back with an angry flare. When a friend asked how I was coping with the effects of this pandemic, I replied, "I am all over the map." She felt relieved to hear me confess that because she was concerned about her own volatile emotions.

As trauma's effects intensify, some persons experience hopelessness and depression and may choose to deal with pain by numbing-out or self-medicating. Chronic health problems often increase. Sleep disturbances – too much, too little, or nightmares – erode our ability to rest in a restoring pattern. We

can become hyper-aware and over-reactive to life's annoyances. Sometimes, we experience flashbacks to previous traumatic events and are easily triggered into re-living previous terrors. Some may engage in self-harming behaviors as a way to deal with emotional pain. Present trauma often re-surfaces past trauma when it has not been sufficiently healed or mitigated. This multiplication of the combined effects of past and present trauma is overwhelming.

How shall we then live in this season of trauma, stress, and loss? How do we, as disciples of Jesus Christ, maintain and even deepen our trust in God in the midst of suffering? Doubtless, you have read many articles and listened to many sermons and podcasts offering guidance, reflection, and advice for living faithfully in this season.

Permit me to offer a few suggestions from the viewpoint of a healing prayer minister.

1. Acknowledge signs of the effects of trauma in yourself and others.

Be honest with yourself about how you are coping on any given day. You may wish to write your thoughts and feelings or speak them aloud to God or a friend. Share your feelings and experience of living in this time of crisis with another person who will listen deeply to you, one who will not attempt to fix or make you feel better. Good listening enfolds the other in a safe space, does not judge or advise, accepts the person as he or she is, and communicates support at a deeper level than words. Consider professional counseling if the effects of trauma become debilitating or unrelenting.

2. Read and pray the psalms.

Think of believers through the centuries, and even today, who pray these psalms and be comforted that you are not alone in this time of trial. You are among a faithful community, a great cloud of witnesses, who have walked a similar path. Jesus himself cried out from the cross those soul-rending words from Psalm 22:1, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" King David gave voice to the fears of God's chosen people when he lamented in Psalm 13:1-2, "How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all day long?"

Meaningful psalms for this time include those that express both disorientation and re-orientation, both lament and hope. Theologian and Old Testament Professor Walter Brueggemann suggests praying these psalms constitutes a bold act of faith, addressing God with pleas, complaint, personal and communal lament, and even imprecation (giving voice to resentment and desire for vengeance). Psalm 38 is described as a prayer for healing, featuring lament, isolation, petition, and confession. Hope rises as the psalmist prays, "But it is for you, O Lord, that I wait; it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer" (38:15). Grieve your losses; offer the pain and anger to God. Find companionship in prayer with the psalms.

3. Invite Jesus into your experience and memories of traumatic events and times.

"Jesus, show me where you are (or were) in this experience or memory." The truth of God's Word is he is with us always (Matt 28:20; Heb 13:5); that nothing can separate us from his love (Rom 8:39); and "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Heb

13:8). Jesus was and is with you in every place and time. Picture him with eyes of faith as being with you and for you in any experience or memory, especially in suffering. Watch what he does; listen to what he speaks. Record what you see and hear; share it with another person. Know his healing presence, words, and actions through prayer.

4. Observe a regular rhythm of prayer during the day.

Prayer offices such as Morning, Midday, and Evening Prayer, and Compline before sleep, keep us anchored in prayer, scripture, and community in a season where everything else in our world feels out of rhythm and untethered. Listen to and make music with spiritual hymns and songs. Rest in a comfortable chair or couch as you listen to quiet worship music, inviting the Holy Spirit to fill you during a time of soaking prayer.

5. Remember and care for those in need.

Reach out in small ways to others who are hurting or need assistance in some practical way. Be a channel of God's tangible and healing love for someone this day.

Finally, beloved, call to mind the faithfulness of God, the track record God has with you. Remember God's saving acts and grace in your life.

"May God himself, the God who makes everything holy and whole, make you holy and whole, put you together – spirit, soul, and body – and keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ. The One who called you is completely dependable. If he said it, he'll do it" (1 Thess 5:23, 24 MSG).

Top Five Things to Know About Church Revitalization

The Rev. Canon Mark Eldredge, the Director of Church Revitalization and Coaching for the American Anglican Council was scheduled to give a workshop on Church revitalization at our 2020 Convention, which had to be postponed due to COVID 19. Here he graciously shares some of the insights he intended to present.

When a church finds itself in a season of plateau or decline and wants to do something about it to grow, it's time for church revitalization. Here are the top five things a church needs to know to begin the process of church revitalization.

1) A church needs to know there is no revitalization without renewal. When God wants to revive a church, he always takes them through the following renewals in this order: Personal Renewal, Relational Renewal, and Missional Renewal. Often plateaued or declining churches try to bypass these renewals and go straight to organizational or structural renewal and it won't work. To be blunt, that's often like shifting chairs around on the Titanic.

2) A church must have a great commitment to the Great Commission. If fulfilling the Great Commission is simply a nice idea, it will never get the attention it needs and the church won't turn around. Without a core conviction that the lost must be sought so they can be saved and made Jesus' disciples, the church will continue to look inward and speed up its decline. Since God's Word commands it and the needs of lost people demand it, the church must be convinced they have to grow no matter what it takes.

3) As a church commits to fulfilling the Great Commission, it needs to develop a clear, doable, and tangible vision for targeting the specific unchurched people group to which it's called. With a clear and specific vision, the church can develop and deploy evangelis-

tic strategies that will match the unchurched people God is calling them to. If the vision is not specific and doable it will simply be a nice statement in the bulletin and on the website and it will never result in growth.

4) It is important to know that revitalization is much more about church health than church growth. The church is the Body of Christ, not a business. It is an organism, not just an organization. God created healthy living things to grow. If a church isn't growing it is a matter of figuring out where it is unhealthy and bringing health to those areas. When a church is healthy in all of its VITAL areas it will grow! Canon Mark teaches those VITAL areas in detail in the AAC's ReVive! Church Revitalization Program.

5) It is essential for a church to know there is no revitalization without pain. That is because revitalization requires change, change means loss to what was, and whenever there is a loss there is pain. Because of this reality it is essential that church leadership learn how to lead change well, over time, in order to not "blow things up" which has sometimes happened.

If you would like more information on church revitalization or would like to schedule a ReVive! Church Revitalization Program in your church, go to www.churchrevive.org or contact Canon Mark Eldredge at meldredge@americananglican.org. ReVive! consists of a Church Health Assessment, a Weekend visit and Seminar, and six months of follow-up coaching.

OSA Mentoring Program Blesses Children and Mentors

By Debra Gillespie Bays, Mentor Coordinator, Old St. Andrew's Parish Church



JOY HUNTER

"I just love mentoring," said Ann Hannifin, holding a letter she received from one of the children she mentors. "It's the highlight of my week!"

The Senior Steering Committee at Old St. Andrew's Parish Church in Charleston was organized in 2016. This committee arranges monthly social functions and coordinates several outreach events annually. Soon after its inception, goals were established for the 10-member committee. Mentoring students at Springfield Elementary School, just a short distance up the road from Old St. Andrew's, became a priority objective. Our mentoring recruitment began the summer of 2016 for the upcoming school year and has remained an ongoing

outreach program until our hiatus while schools are closed during the pandemic.

The mentoring program started with four volunteers. Now, in its fourth year, the number of volunteers has fluctuated, reaching a high of 15 mentors one school year. While most volunteers are OSA members, a few friends from outside the church also mentor and are most appreciated and welcomed. A mentor may choose their grade level, day of the week and time of day that best fits their own schedule. It is their choice to work with either one

or two students, meeting with each for 30 minutes outside the classroom. The student's teacher provides an assignment and the books required. The school permits new mentors to be added throughout the year. Very quickly, a rapport is established between the mentor and student. The mentor learns about the child's family and home life, where they have lived and what interests they have. As the school year unfolds, the student begins to feel comfortable with their mentor, and both mentor and mentee look forward to their time together each week. While academic improvement is the main goal, fostering self-esteem and character development also occurs as the children are being mentored. In some cases, the mentor establishes such a strong bond with their assigned pupil that they request the same child again for the next school year, moving up a grade level with them.

Springfield Elementary is a pre-kindergarten through fifth grade school and is included in the Charleston School District. Approximately 700 students attend. Old St. Andrew's has continued to build a relationship with Springfield Elementary outside of mentoring. We also provide financial support to them, as funds permit, to purchase t-shirts for various school groups, supplies for the school nurse, needed items for clubs, and a new book for each student at Christmas. Additionally, the Springfield Chorus performs one day during OSA's annual Tea Room, and all attending enjoy the sweet, enthusiastic voices of our neighboring school's children. As we strive to be a blessing to Springfield Elementary, they, too, bring blessings to us.

Anglican Women; Clarity of Vision

Continued from Page 2

2:1-3, "Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us." We see there is an unholy momentum accelerating as many attack God's commands, seeking to remove moral boundaries from society, including the sanctity of life, marriage and sexuality. The current global pandemic draws us to our knees for the many seriously afflicted by the COVID 19 virus and its deep financial impact on families, the church and so many businesses. Our clergy and national leadership desperately need our daily intercessory prayers and support to stand firmly in these challenging times and to boldly speak God's truth.

Not paralyzed by fear, we look up to our Lord for courage and faith. Our new logo depicts our "looking around" protocol...prayer, daily Bible reading, Holy Spirit driven private and corporate worship, and good works as we speak the truth in love to our neighbors.

Looking forward...

At our "Virtual" Annual Gathering, May 2, we will enjoy hearing more on the second commandment as "Beth Snyder and Friends" share their wisdom and testimonies of how they have practiced the Art of Neighboring.

Jayne Gurley, a leader in the Face To Face Mentoring Ministry of Drawing Near to God, will share on the theme extolled in Titus 2:3-5 of older women mentoring younger women. Lastly, the closest neighbors we are to love are our families. This fall at our Annual Retreat on October 23-25 we will hear Susan Yates from Falls Church, VA speak on many issues related to faith and family.

As we draw from the past, engage the present and look forward to the future, our vision of what God is doing to guide us becomes clearer. No need for excruciating pain, fear or paralysis, our clear vision protocol keeps the path simple and plain as we earnestly and wholeheartedly love God and our neighbor.

The Annual Prayer Card

Continued from Page 3

met their need. The new requests were then compiled for the upcoming year.

In 2014 as our entire family gathered in Illinois for Christmas, I felt it was the perfect time to get it rolling! The hardest part was encouraging everyone to limit their requests to just one. To this day, even though I ask for one, somehow two, three or four requests are sent in. With four married children and 10 grandchildren, my husband and myself, I pray for one family per day.

Each January I resend the former years' requests back to them. They send in the new prayer requests and their wonderful praise reports from the previous year. Some years we are able to share in person the joy of one another's victories and agree to persevere in prayer for the still unanswered ones. I compile the Prayer Card and send it to each family.

How has It worked? God has worked. Yearly requests range from:

"Help me get ____ potty trained."
"Help ____ overcome a speech impediment."

"I need wisdom for my business."
"Help me hear God's voice more clearly"
"I need grace to be more faithful to my quiet time."

We also share the fellowship of suffering alongside one another. Support and connection on a heart level becomes normal, especially for those far away. And I take joy in passing on a legacy of praying for one another, of trusting God for the future, of remembering to stay connected with one another in good times and difficult ones.

That little grandmother didn't know she was mentoring me in how to more intentionally love my husband and children when she casually shared a practice she started years ago. Mentoring takes on many forms. I will ever be grateful that she opened up her life to me and passed on something that has become a vital tool in building family unity, and bearing, through prayer, one another's burdens.

Ten Steps to Stress Relief During the COVID-19 Pandemic

By The Rev. Bill Oldland, Rector, St. Bartholmew's Church, Hartsville

I wonder if we remember what we thought about the outbreak of this disease when we first learned about it in early February. Personally, I kept myself aware of it by watching the news, but in daily life it was a disease that was “over there.” At the time it didn’t have much impact on my daily responsibilities, my agenda, or my way of life. Everything was pretty normal.

As we are aware “normal” has now changed. The disease has affected everyone’s life. To be honest I still keep myself abreast of the most recent news but I also find it sometimes raises my anxiety level. What drives my anxiety is not necessarily my fear of the disease, but reorganizing my day to find items in stores. I never thought I would find myself asking people where they had recently found paper towels, toilet paper, or other disposable items. In one respect it is really funny. On the other hand it shows how we can let some things affect our anxiety and stress levels.

To that end I would like to propose some stress relief options as we continue to live under a new “normal” for the near future.

1. Turn off the television and computer reports when you have your questions answered. It is very important to keep informed concerning developments in our country and state. I have also noticed that the news media has many reports involving every aspect of our current situation and crisis. Some of these reports are very helpful. Sometimes I find the additional reports raise my anxiety and stress level. At that time I have found it beneficial to turn off the television or computer and step away. During that time my anxiety level settles down and I can process what I have heard or read.

2. On your phone, computer or paper calendar mark out a specific time just for prayer and reflection. We often get so busy or so anxious that we neglect our time with God. We all admit that God is ultimately in control. We don’t know the ultimate answer



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to what we are experiencing. We do know the one person who has promised to comfort us and be with us through all things. Time with Jesus can allow us to face the world with new hope and new life.

3. Schedule private time. This time can be daily. It is not time to think about what is going to occur at work that day. It is time to reflect on one’s own spiritual growth and personal goals. It is a time to assess how we are doing spiritually, physically, emotionally and mentally.

4. Schedule time with family and/or friends. One of the most amazing things to occur during this troubled time is the renewal of friendships and more connections with family.

For those who have iPads, computers, or certain cell phones it is possible to have face to face conversations. My wife and I have been able to see our children and grandchildren and reconnect with old friends. In addition, I have had increased phone conversations with many people I cherish and love. Hearing their voices and what is happening in their lives is comforting and relaxing.

5. Turn off your cell phone. I know I just said to use the electronic devices to assist us in reconnecting with people. So it must seem a little ridiculous to also say we should cut off our cell phones. However, cell phones can, if we let them, rule our lives. There is no place we go where we don’t see someone using their cell phone to text someone or check e-mails and messages. The constant sound of a new text message can become a distraction or make us feel that we are missing something very important. Cutting off the phone for a short period of time can do us a world of good.

6. Read a good book. I am talking about one with real pages. E-books are great, but it is too tempting to start checking e-mails and messages.

7. Plan a wonderful meal. One way to get away from business is to casually plan a very nice meal with someone. For those of us who are married it is a time to work together and talk while we are preparing an evening meal. For those who are not married why not use the new communication possibilities to share some time over a meal with a family member or friend. Why not have a meal together over the internet? It might be just the thing to do at the end of the week.

8. Take a nap. I don’t know if heaven has hammocks or easy chairs, but we do have them here. Use them.

9. Take a walk or exercise. Not only are these times good for the body they can also be good for the soul. Walks allow us to be present with the beauty of God’s creation. Recently I have been walking more. On these excursions I have noticed more of the wildlife around my own home. I have also noticed the way vines and trees have grown together in interesting ways. Planned exercise routines help me to relax my mind and concentrate on my own well-being.

10. Finally, enjoy a sunrise, sunset, or even a rain storm. One of my seminary professors from Virginia joined me on a trip to South Carolina. Shortly after we arrived at our destination, a rain storm with lightning and thunder came upon us. He went out on the covered front porch and sat down on the couch. After the storm passed, he came back inside. His first comment was, “I can’t remember the last time I took the time to listen to the rain in a storm. I feel so relaxed.” Personally, I enjoy watching the sunrise or sunset. They are two of my special moments of each day. It is so relaxing and so amazing to see the beauty of God’s creation come alive every morning. At the end of the day, the world slowly becomes still as the sun sets and the colors of God’s pallet paint the sky.

I know we are in different times. I understand how anxiety can affect us. It can make us fearful. Fear can make us ineffective and impotent. I hope these 10 ideas can help us remember who is with us, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He has kept all of his promises to us. We can trust him, rely on him and place our hope in him all the time. We can definitely rest assured that he is walking with us now.

Peace and prayers for a time of relief from stress in these interesting days.

Generosity: The Hidden Virtue of Any Church That “Gets” the Gospel

By The Rev. Canon David Roseberry, Canon for Mission for the ACNA, Executive Director of LeaderWorks

Somewhere in a long-misplaced file folder I have a cartoon drawing from The New Yorker Magazine. It shows two young college students walking out of a lecture hall at their university. They had just sat through some professor’s lecture. It must have been boring because one of the students says to the other, “What was he talking about?” And the other student replies, “He never said...”. That’s funny.

I was scheduled to be both the preacher and a workshop leader at your 2020 Diocesan Convention – but since it had to be canceled due to COVID-19 I want to be sure everyone in your wonderful diocese hears what I was planning to say.

Here is my message in a nutshell: Generosity is the hidden virtue of any church that “gets” the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It was true of the first Christians in the New Testament. They gave and gave generously. It is true of any growing church today. And it could be true of you, your church, and your diocese. Through the ACNA sponsored program called The Evergreen Project, you can find ways to help your church become a generous church and your diocese a generous diocese.



JOY HUNTER

Every church should have ideas about how to reach people. Every church should have the passion to reach more people. If the reputation of your diocese is what I have heard of it for over 30 years, you have the heart, passion, and courage to preach the Gospel, teach the faith, and reach your neighborhoods and communities.

But the one thing that may be holding your church back from taking bold next steps for mission is not vision, passion, or faith. It could

be that your congregation lacks a strong base of committed members who are financially engaged and personally generous members.

The lack of generosity in a parish will hobble it. This is where The Evergreen Project comes in. The Evergreen Project can help your church raise the level of stewardship and generosity within your congregation in order to accomplish your mission.

How? We have the program and communication resources to help

your rector and your vestry teach, preach, and reach people with the good news of giving. When you join this movement and subscribe to our principle resource “The Generosity Box,” you will receive everything you need to help your people get the virtue and the joy of giving. You will get our fully implementable plans, programs, outlines, and timelines to help your congregation move forward in this vital area of congregational life and health.

We have seen it happen in the first year. Archbishop Beach commissioned this teaching ministry in 2018. We put our plans together and in 2019, about 150 congregations in the ACNA took the step and joined our movement. These churches received our Anglican-oriented program and access to our online webinars and coaching sessions.

The year ended well for these churches. Across the ACNA we have heard reports of 10% to 15% increase in financial commitment. And more! We have seen more members sign pledge cards.

Visit our website at <https://theevergreenproject.org/> and see what

you think. We are in the process of writing our new program and curriculum for 2020 and it is going to be great! I invite every church in The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina to join this movement with a paid subscription of \$225 a year. When

you do you will receive all the materials needed to implement a stewardship and generosity program in 2020. Your church will become stronger, healthier, and more generous for your ministry and for the people you are trying to reach.

Each leader and each congregation has an opportunity to take these steps together. At The Evergreen Project we are focused on this central purpose: to collect, create, and curate the best resources to help your church thrive. Join us there, subscribe to The Generosity Box, and receive all the program resources, training, coaching, and tools you need to help the members of your congregation become the generous givers that God has called them to be.

There! That is what I intended to say!

The lack of generosity in a parish will hobble it.



Above, left, Gloria Kwashi receives a check from the Anglican Women of the Diocese.

Praise & Glory Gift Inspires Praise and Thanksgiving in Nigeria

By Libussa Huge, St. Paul's Church, Summerville, Diocesan Praise and Glory Chairman

In the spring of 2017 Gloria Kwashi, founder of the Zambiri Outreach and Child Care Centre and wife of Archbishop Benjamin Kwashi of Nigeria, spoke to the Women of our Diocese at the annual gathering of Anglican Women held at Prince George Winyah in Georgetown. She shared her vision of creating a safe haven for young women who come to study in her city of Jos, Nigeria. Gloria's heart went out to these girls, who often end up being exploited or abused while trying to pursue their education. Gloria's track record in helping impoverished children and her passionate devotion to Jesus compelled the Diocesan Women to help raise funds through the Praise & Glory ministry for Gloria's Safe Haven project. In 2018 we collected \$5,000 and in 2019 we added another \$2,400 bringing the total to \$7,400.

Getting the money to Nigeria proved an unanticipated challenge, since no banks were willing to take the risk of making a transfer. Finally, at the New Wineskins Conference held in Ridgecrest last September, the Praise & Glory funds were hand-delivered to one of the keynote speakers, who happened to be Gloria's husband, the Most Rev. Benjamin Kwashi.

In November, the Rev. Craig Borrett, Rector of Christ-St. Paul's, Yonges Island, and his wife, Nancy, took a mission trip to visit the Kwashis, with whom they have worked on other projects. To their great surprise, Gloria had arranged a gathering of women on the nearly completed foundation of her "Safe Haven" women's housing complex and asked Nancy, as a representative of our Diocese, to formally present the funds!

We wish to thank all those who have participated in the Praise & Glory offering and partnered with Gloria to proclaim the gospel in word and deed.

Praying for Toilet Paper

By Pringle Franklin, St. Philip's Church, Charleston

It was early March. Across the nation, toilet paper was in high demand, an unforeseen scarcity caused by COVID-19. When the shortage hit, we had 15 rolls on hand for our family of five. We did what we could to stretch our supply.

Who knew that a respiratory virus from China would curtail civilized life in the United States? As people stayed home to slow the spread of the Coronavirus, chaos erupted in shopping patterns and supply chains. Manufacturers and distributors could not pivot in time. Popular foods and other household products also temporarily vanished.

The first week in March, I was reduced to buying pork butt and a purple cabbage for dinner. Forget about the spaghetti and meatballs on my menu plan—faster shoppers had snatched all the ground beef, ground pork, tomatoes, and spaghetti noodles from my local store.

For security, I purchased rice and dried beans. We would not starve. But there was no obvious substitute for toilet paper. I searched hopefully over the next few weeks, but shelves remained depressingly bare. Everyone I knew was anxious to find some T.P.

Toilet paper rations took effect: shoppers lucky enough to find any could buy only two packages. Stores restocked at night, so early shopping became the go-to strategy. Lines formed in the parking lot before doors opened. By 9 a.m., every last quilted square had been carried away.

This contest didn't appeal to me. I enjoy a focused prayer time in the morning, including 20 minutes of Centering Prayer. This entails giving myself over to God, releasing all pressing concerns, and sitting silently in his presence. This daily practice has deepened my trust in his goodness. Despite outward circumstances, inner calm prevails. Anxiety recedes, replaced by a surety of his constant care.

I determined that fear would not alter my routine; I continued to pray early and shop later.

March was a month of no-hitters. Despite venturing out three times a week, I failed to find any toilet paper. (Luckily my mother brought me a four-pack.) Eventually I became weary of the hunt and ignored the paper goods aisle.

During the first week of April, we were down to five rolls. I found myself in one of the larger Harris Teeters in Charleston; by now the store was doing a remarkable job of restocking.



SAM FRANKLIN

"God is bigger than any earthly problem," says Franklin. "I planted my feet firmly on the linoleum floor and silently prayed: Lord, I don't care that there isn't any toilet paper here. You are the God of abundance. You know where all the toilet paper in the world is located. You will provide, in your perfect way."

The meat and produce departments were back to normal. Encouraged, I decided to check for the grand prize. As I turned the corner, my eyes swept over the view: as expected, nothing but empty green shelves.

Disappointment poked me, yet I could see the humor in this. A sense of mirth bubbled up. Weeks earlier a friend had shared a YouTube video suggesting rags as a toilet paper replacement. Gross? Yes. Yet I reminded myself: no matter how weird things might get, God is bigger than any earthly problem. I planted

my feet firmly on the linoleum floor and silently prayed:

"Lord, I don't care that there isn't any toilet paper here. You are the God of abundance. You know where all the toilet paper in the world is located. You will provide, in your perfect way. Even if we run out and have to use something crazy, it will be all right. I trust in your goodness and abundance." Not an ounce of fear remained after that. I sensed that God had received my prayer. That was enough. I felt happy enough to chuckle.

To my astonishment, the prayer was answered the following day.

My husband, son, and I left Charleston at 5:30 a.m. to drive to Washington, D.C.—and back. The goal was to move our son's things out of his short-term apartment. In early March, Benton had flown home when his internship closed for "two weeks." At that point, he expected to return. Instead, more closings and lockdowns sprung up. A month later, his lease was about to expire; we decided to zip up there, pack him up, and get the heck out.

It was just after 2 p.m. when we entered the deserted Capitol Hill apartment. His roommate, a Congressional intern from California, had moved out two weeks earlier. The dorm-style apartment was exactly as he had left it.

"By the way, Mom," he said, "we ordered a bunch of toilet paper on Amazon, back before there was a shortage." Benton nodded toward the modest pantry. Eighteen jumbo rolls sat on the shelves, along with

five rolls of paper towels. My eyes widened in surprise. What luxury!

"God is the God of abundance," I said, laughing. Soon I had filled him in on my grocery store prayer.

After our return to Charleston, I resisted the urge to cling to my Charmin. I took three precious rolls to a friend who was running dangerously low. I wanted to be as generous, as God had been generous with me.

John Dickson Shares "A Doubter's Guide to the Christian Faith"

Essential Christian Truth in 83 Words

By Douglas LeBlanc, Director of Communications, St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

Christian apologist John Dickson relied on the brevity of the Apostles' Creed for "A Doubter's Guide to the Christian Faith: A Defense of the Things All Christians Agree On," which he presented February 12 at St. Philip's Church in Charleston.

Dickson began his career in the late 1980s as a singer-songwriter with the band In the Silence. Since then, he has completed a theology degree from Moore Theological College and a doctorate in ancient history from Macquarie University. He is a Distinguished Fellow and Senior Lecturer in Public Christianity at Ridley College in Melbourne.

During a multiple-day visit to St. Philip's and the Diocese, Dickson also made presentations at Porter-Gaud School and the College of Charleston.

His presentation on February 12 was part of the normal Wednesdays Alive Holy Eucharist and fellowship supper at St. Philip's.

"Sometimes," he said, "people

believe they have embraced Christianity, but on closer inspection they have embraced a poor substitute."

Dickson based the evening's address on three stanzas and 83 words of the Apostles' Creed, which "all Christians agree on, including even Hillsong," he said, to scattered laughter, before playing a brief video of Hillsong Church's "This I Believe (the Creed)" (youtu.be/FtUNQ-pu2b7Q).

The Apostles' Creed centers on three core themes: the reality of God, the history of Jesus, and the life of the Holy Spirit. "That sounds like Theology 101, but actually it's profound," Dickson said.

The opening affirmation of "God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth" means that "God was the source of the universe, not part of it," Dickson said. "By definition, the God who made time and space cannot be part of time and space."

That affirmation also means God's creation is a gift: "matter is

good, stuff is good," he said. Genesis stands in contrast with Enûma Eliš, the Babylonian creation myth that sees the world as the accidental wreckage of a war among the gods.

Modern atheism rivals Babylonian paganism in its low view of the world. "The good thing in the Western world is that virtually no one lives like an atheist," Dickson said. "All of life is brimming with significance" when we understand that God is the giver of life.

There is a related warning: it is possible to grieve the giver.

"Aussies like to think of sin as the things other people get up with," he said. He proposed an understanding of sin that applies to all of us: "Agreeing that there's more to life than the material world, and then settling for it anyway."

Jesus saw the Prodigal Son as wanting everything the father had to give but wanting nothing to do with the father. We treat God the same way. "We want the gifts of the Father and ignore the Father."

The second stanza, about Jesus, is five times longer than the stanza on God creating the world. This stanza devotes 20 words to the last three days of Jesus' time on earth.

Dickson remembered that he once lost a DVD from Blockbuster Video and later struggled briefly about whether to face down the crushing fee when he found it behind a piece of furniture. Then the mail brought welcome news. "We're Wiping the Slate Clean," meaning that Blockbuster customers could return long-overdue packages for no fee.

Dickson enjoyed the timing of the announcement, which coincided with Easter.

"God is in the business of wiping the slate clean," he said. "Blockbuster was handing out forgiveness as Christians were celebrating the life and resurrection of Jesus."

Dickson highlighted the clause "he suffered under Pontius Pilate," which reminds us that "Christianity is historical. It really happened." The

creed grounds the history of Jesus in the specific years of Pontius Pilate's reign.

The gospel makes very specific claims about Jesus' public life and actions, when Pilate was governor, in time and space.

"This is not a story from Middle-earth," Dickson said, alluding to J.R.R. Tolkien's works of fiction. This is part of the history of the Middle East."

The last stanza is about the work of the Holy Spirit, and his role in forming community among the early Christians. The phrase "communion of saints" refers to "the togetherness, the partnership" of Christians throughout history.

"The Spirit is taking ordinary people—sometimes too ordinary—and turning them into something beautiful."

He showed a video snippet of Oxford University history professor Teresa Morgan discussing what she

God's Winding Path to the Job I Love

St. Christopher's Weekend Manager Reflects on God's Favor and Direction

By Jack Rankin, Weekend Manager, St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

Here's a comment I hear with some frequency: "When you retire, I want your job." I think the job title—Weekend Manager at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center—gives people images of being paid to read books, sip coffee throughout the day, and answer the phone when it rings.

In truth, it's a demanding job that includes calls in the middle of the night and anticipating the needs of our honored guests. It requires patience and a deep affection for people. And, yes, I love it.

Working at St. Christopher reminds me of the winding path that has taken me here. Along that path, I see how God has shown me favor. Good things I never imagined would happen have happened. Things that I did not deserve, I received. He answered crucial prayers.

I was born in Tampa, Florida, and fortunate enough to grow up in the small town of Brooksville. Moving from Tampa to Brooksville, as a pre-teen, was like growing up in New York and moving to Hollywood, South Carolina. My culture shock was abundant.

I made friends quickly and realized our house was only a couple of blocks from the local 250-watt daytime radio station. I started hanging around the station so much, other opportunities popped up: sweeping the floors



JACK RANKIN

“Ardy has always been a stabilizing force in my life. She always had a way to bring me back to center,” says Jack, above with his wife of nearly 50 years.

and cleaning the bathroom were the first two. After sign-off I would practice being an announcer.

One day the afternoon guy was in the middle of his show and the fire siren across the street blared. Being a volunteer fireman, Woody said, "Well sport, it's all yours," and he ran out the front door.

I was 12 years old and left in charge of the radio station! I never imagined that would happen, but it did. It also started a career that lasted 35 years in media, including as on-air talent, copywriter, advertising sales, station management, and morning TV weatherman. It was a career that allowed me to meet some of the most fascinating people, including the singer James Brown.

When I was 20 years old, and fresh from a tour of duty in Vietnam, I was stationed in Atlanta at Fort McPherson. At that time, Atlanta had a large Lebanese community. One day a friend invited me to a Lebanese party. It was there, standing by the food table, that I met a cute young woman, started talking and realized we had the same taste in music. We started dating and were married four months later.

That was almost 50 years ago, and they said it wouldn't last. I didn't deserve this wonderful person in my life, but she is a gift I received. And I not only received Ardy as my wife, but seven children and 26 grandchildren! And all along I thought I wanted only two children. Go figure.

Ardy has always been a stabilizing force in my life. She's always had a way to bring me back to center. One night, when I was lamenting about how many kids we had and the pressure of raising them, she asked me, "Which one do you want to send back?"

“It depends on the day,” I said.

In 1985 my mother (who was a saint for putting up with me) died of cancer. The symptoms were all there, but not wanting to inconvenience others, she put off seeing the doctor. When she finally saw her doctor, it was just too late.

Thirteen years later, Ardy discovered a lump in her breast. The next day I took her to the doctor not knowing why she had set the appointment. When she got back in the car, she told me she had another appointment with a surgeon, right then. That's when I found out what was happening. The next day she had surgery to remove the tumor, the same type

of tumor from which my mom had suffered. After radiation, chemo, time, and lots of prayers, she was healed.

Nineteen years later, the cancer returned. Her tumor markers were extremely high and the radiology report showed there were small tumors in her liver, “too numerous to count.” It didn’t look good. Her doctor placed her on one prescription medicine, and a year or so later we went for a checkup and the results of a CAT scan. It was then the doctor told us there was no evidence of any cancer.

Once again, God answered crucial prayers.

In 2005 we moved to Charleston, ending up in an apartment in the Sgt. Jasper Apartments at the end of Broad Street. We enjoyed Charleston, but it seemed that every business venture I took in that seven-year period went nowhere. Real estate, insurance, advertising—nothing seemed to work for me.

In 2011 I was told of an opportunity, a job opening as Weekend Manager at St. Christopher. I joined the staff in January 2012.

Once again, God had shown me favor and directed my path. Good things I never imagined would happen have happened. Things that I did not deserve, I received. He answered crucial prayers.

With each new year, I become more deeply aware of this truth: *"Trust in the Lord with all you heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your paths"* (Prov. 3: 5-6).

Longing to Reopen and Welcome Guests Back to St. Christopher

Cancellations Result in Over \$800,000 in Lost Revenue; Donations Sought

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



BOB LAWRENCE

In the past few days, the jasmine that covers this gate has come into full bloom.

As St. Christopher remains closed, with almost all of the staff on unpaid furlough, my wife, Lynn, and I continue to pray and walk this hallowed campus. In our daily walks through an eerily empty campus, we always find our way to the entrance gate. In the past few days, the jasmine that covers this gate has come into full bloom. The fragrant aroma that burst forth there is truly spectacular, particularly in the aftermath of recent rains that left the air crisp and cool. As I've stood there, taking in the sweet smell of blooming jasmine, I have been made all the more aware of the fragrant aroma of Christ that so permeates these hallowed grounds through the people whom God has called to share in this ministry.

I long for the return of being able to welcome guests through

these fragrant gates. In the meantime, we wait in hope and expectation. Our application for a loan from the Payroll Protection Program of the CARES Act was not considered in the first fund allocation. We now wait expectantly for another opportunity with additional funding recently appropriated. With a present loss through cancellations of over \$800,000.00, which represents over one fourth of our expected annual program revenue, St. Christopher is sorely challenged to maintain any staff.

In response to an appeal of April 3, blessedly, many faithful supporters of the ministries and people of St. Christopher, have responded generously. As of this writing, over \$55,000 has been received in contributions both large and small, which have arrived from as far away as

England, with heartfelt messages of care, support and love. These funds are all designated for personnel costs, and most especially will be used toward continuing health insurance coverage for as long as possible for unpaid furloughed staff. Unfortunately they will not last long. We still need your help. We still need your contributions and prayers.

On the "other side" of this corona age, we know that we will not be able to pick up with business as usual. Much will have changed. A reduced staff will be challenged with having to do more with less, but I pray we will still be a staff that is committed to continuing to exemplify the aroma of Christ. We have

been a staff that prayers together regularly in a daily rhythm of prayer and in our weekly staff chapel....a staff that includes housekeepers that pray over rooms as they clean them, food service staff that lovingly prepare meals and offer prayers of blessing over them before they are served, facility staff that gather early every day for intentional Bible study and intercessory prayer, naturalists who truly love Jesus and children and who seek to convey that love in the beauty of creation even now in online teaching opportunities, program and administrative staff who are continuing to carry out their responsibilities at little or no compensation.

Please give as you are able to support St. Christopher and the people who serve here. They truly are those who give this sacred place the fragrant aroma of Christ.

But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. **For we are the aroma of Christ to God** among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.

2 Corinthians 2:14-15


ST. CHRISTOPHER
 Camp and Conference Center

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

Outdoor Encounters: Getting Up Close and Personal with Nature

By Laurinda Rapp, Outdoor Encounters Coordinator, St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

Do you enjoy connecting with God through nature? When we see creation, we see aspects of God: his attention to detail, his majesty, vastness, and beauty.

St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center created Outdoor Encounters (OE) to help people connect with God through creation, through the outdoors. Here, we have access to 315 acres, including a salt marsh, a maritime forest, and a mile of beachfront. OE gives guests the chance to explore, have fun, and be up close and personal with nature.

your group is larger, we recommend splitting the group.

Guided Tours: Our guided tours take visitors through a variety of areas, depending on their areas of interest. Our trained naturalists will lead you through the forest, dunes, or salt marsh teaching you about local flora and fauna.

Orienteering: Our one-hour orienteering excursions, involve learning how to use a compass and then have participants draw on their newly-acquired skills to complete



PROVIDED BY ST. CHRISTOPHER

Our most popular paddle trips bring you down the slow-moving, peaceful waters of Privateer Creek and end at a boathouse on the beach. Heron, dolphin, and other wildlife are common sights. The trip lasts about two hours.

What activities does OE offer?

Our outings range from two-hour team-building activities and excursions to multiple-day adventures, including sunset paddles on the estuary and inland creeks, overnight camping, rock wall climbing, guided tours through the forest, beach, or dunes, and visits to our legendary mud pit.

Kayaking: Our most popular paddle trips bring you down the slow-moving, peaceful waters of Privateer Creek and end at a boathouse on the beach. Heron, dolphin, and other wildlife are common sights. The trip lasts about two hours. If you're interested in a longer paddle, we can take you on a multi-day experience of carrying equipment on kayaks and staying on uninhabited islands in the Charleston area.

Camping: Our remote campsite is set on the edge of a salt marsh, located on the end of a mile-long road that winds through the forest. The campsite has a rustic campfire area with flat areas for tents, and access to a dock. Be prepared for a backcountry toilet (or we can set up a rental portable toilet for an additional charge).

Team-building: Our two-hour team-building sessions are a great way to build trust and develop as a group. We offer a number of challenges throughout our property, for instance the whale watch experience, where your team learns to balance on a giant balance beam or alligator alley where you try to get your team to walk through a short trail of boards. Our program is ideal for groups of 7 to 15 people. If

one or two orienteering courses through our property.

Seining: Our seining activity takes groups to the beach where they will work as a team to pull a large net through the surf. Participants learn about the wildlife found in our estuary and enjoy the surprise of seeing what they catch!

Climbing Wall: We have an indoor climbing wall, towering 25 feet high. Challenge yourself and your team members as you each push your limits while learning how to trust others.

Mud Pit: For many groups, our mud pit is a must. It gives guests a chance to get down and dirty and to cover themselves with plough mud from head to toe. Guides walk participants a mile down the beach before entering the salt marsh trail and ending in the mud pit.

We can also create custom trips if you have another experience in mind.

Who can participate?

We can accommodate guests of all ages, from 5 to 100 years plus! No previous experience is necessary. We will teach you all you need to know and provide the necessary equipment. OE helps you bond and grow in relationship with others. Come with your family, small group, friends, or as a couple.

How do I find more information?

Visit stchristopher.org/outdoor-encounters or contact Laurinda Rapp at lrapp@stchristopher.org, (843) 768-0429.

Legacy Giving Enables Additions at St. Christopher

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

St. Christopher is blessed to have a new play area for the youngest of our conference center guests that we have named Eve's Fun Park. It replaces an aged climbing structure, in the shaded area between the beach and Palmetto and Sea Oats Lodge buildings, that served us well for over three decades. That structure was a generous gift to St. Christopher from Britt and Doodle Lowry at the time of Britt's retirement as the first full-time Executive Director of St. Christopher. The new play area, to be called Eve's Fun Park, was made possible through the use of an unrestricted bequest received from the estate of Eve Kinloch Evans. The generosity of both the Lowry family and Eve Evans are blessings beyond measure because they were given to serve future generations, much like the initial bequest of the Morawetz family who gave the whole of Seabrook Island to serve the children of South Carolina. Similarly, Kimbel Chapel was built solely through provisions in the settlement of the Kimbel estate following the deaths of William A. Kimbel and Maud Kimbel in the early 1980s. The generosity of all of these families allowed structures, buildings and places for the benefit of others through plans put in place as part of their financial and estate planning. To my knowledge, few if any members of these benefactors' families ever had opportunities to share in their forbearer's largesse to St. Christopher. Countless others however have benefitted greatly, including myself and the tens of thousands of guests we have served since 1938.

While giving to the Annual Fund of St. Christopher has become part of the charitable giving for several hundred families, and has indeed blessed our ongoing operational needs, it is only through the generosity and blessing of larger gifts that St. Christopher has been able to make enhancements and additions to our property. In recent years, the full restoration of the



BOB LAWRENCE

Above, the twin grandsons of the Lawrences, (from left, Hank and Huck Lawrence, sons of the Rev. Newman and Trish Lawrence) enjoy the new playground equipment.

Chapel of the Palms, and the porch and storage additions to Susanna's House were only possible through generous gifts given outside of normal operational needs. These two enhanced facilities have already blessed thousands in just a few years, and will continue to do so for many years yet to come. The legacy of selflessness and generosity is one in which we can rejoice. It is also one in which we can share by considering how we too might give to bless future generations through our own financial support of St. Christopher, regardless of who might be blessed to steward this ministry in the future, trusting that ultimately God will always be in control.

Your gift can be given online at stchristopher.org/give/ or a check can be mailed using the form on page 8. As mentioned in this article, naming St. Christopher as a beneficiary in one's own estate planning is also a way that others have mightily blessed this hallowed place. Regardless of how you choose to support this ministry, please know that your gift in any amount will be gratefully received and faithfully used to steward all that is St. Christopher.

If you are interested in learning more about planned giving to St. Christopher, contact the Rev. Robert S. Lawrence at blawrence@stchristopher.org or (843) 768-0429.

The Gift of a Personal Retreat

By The Rev. Dr. Sandi Kerner, Chaplain, St. Christopher Camp & Conference Center

*Silent, surrendered, calm and still,
open to the Word of God
Heart humbled to His will; offered
is the servant of God.*
(words by Sister Pamela Hayes)

What a gift in our scheduled, harried lives to set aside time to unplug, breathe deeply, come away to rest, be restored and renewed in such a place of beauty - meandering on forest trails, walking on the beach, resting on a porch or in a quiet space.

St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center is one of those thin places, where heaven touches earth, a holy place where God encounters us, and we encounter God.

We invite you to come for a personal retreat at St. Christopher once the COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted! Give yourself or someone else this gift of time and Presence.

Personal retreats may be reserved up to 30 days in advance. Come for a day, an overnight, or a few nights. We provide breakfast for an overnight stay; other meals

may be purchased. We suggest you think about arriving on Monday and staying until Wednesday. In this window of time we tend to have fewer guests; the cost is less for those days and we offer Holy Eucharist (communion) on Tuesdays at 12:30 PM with prayers for healing.



JOY HUNTER

What does a personal retreat day look like?

Some suggestions: Breakfast, Morning Prayer at The Prayer Center, a beach or forest walk, reading on the porch, and lunch followed by Noonday Prayer or our Healing Eucharist on Tuesdays. Request a time for spiritual direction or

personal healing prayer. Take a nap. Paint a prayer stone. Meditate on God's Word. Journal. Listen. Walk the Crosswalk, a pilgrimage throughout the campus to visit and meditate where crosses are placed. We have a prayer guide for the Crosswalk available in the Welcome Center and Prayer Center. Come to Evening Prayer and enjoy dinner. Rest, walk, read, and watch the evening gather - without phones or television. Head to the beach and view the sunset. Sleep soundly in the stillness and become centered in God.

Jesus said, "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly" (Matthew 11:28-30, MSG).

Beson New Rector of Prince George Winyah

The Rev. Gary N. Beson II, who served as one of the founders and eventually the Rector of Saint Timothy's Cane Bay, a church plant, has been called to serve as the Rector of Prince George Winyah in Georgetown, SC. "After eight years of being involved with the early stages of church plants in Pittsburgh and Cane Bay, Sue and I are grateful to have been able to share in ministry at two different church plants with family and friends," says Beson. "And we are joyfully looking forward to this next season of ministry with Prince George Winyah. The transition from planting to colonial church should prove to be exciting and we look forward to getting to know their family and growing in ministry and love with them. Many have told me what a great first season of ministry Sue and I were able to experience—to



have been given the opportunity to join others in planting two churches and watch them grow were times that Sue and I will always cherish and thank the Lord for. Now we are excited and grateful to be called to a 'new thing' serving at Prince George Winyah—it is an exciting thing—to have been given the opportunity to serve a very different church and ministry experience, while serving the same Lord in the same Diocese." Gary believes that for church planting to succeed, two things must occur. We need healthy 'mother' churches with leaders who feel called to plant and we need well trained and prepared planters surrounded by committed lay people who feel called to go. This Diocese, in Beson's opinion has both and now he can help lead a stable and growing "mother church" to be the senders and/or supporters of the great commission. Beson's first Sunday as Rector of Prince George Winyah was the last time the church gathered as a body in their historic space. He says his years in church planting have served him well in the new and unique

place all churches find themselves in. Prince George has, without interruption, continued to provide video links to their Worship, Sunday School, Healing Prayer service, Kid's church and bible teachings for men and women. The youth are partnering with three other local churches on Sunday nights to view and participate in SURGE, and two families have actually joined the church during this eight week period. Gary and Sue look forward to the time when they can gather with the body in Georgetown to worship on Sundays and in the meanwhile plans for next year's 300th Anniversary of the church founding are going on. "Zoom meetings, emails, texts and phone calls are the new normal and this church has taken this redirection in stride, Sue and I are thrilled to be called and adopted by such a passionate and generous family," says Beson and he added "this place has muscle... Spiritual, emotional, physical and financial muscle...it is going to be thrilling to be part of the Lord's plan for this church at the beginning of the next 300 years!"

People News

Please keep the family and loved ones of the Rev. Drew Collins, Chaplain at Intrepid Hospice in your prayers. Drew's father, Charles Andrew Collins, died March 30 peacefully in his sleep at the assisted living facility where he'd lived for the past 2 1/2 years. Per his wishes he was cremated and no definitive plans for a service will be able to take shape until the restrictions surrounding COVID-19 have passed.



Please keep the family and loved ones of the Rt. Rev. John Buchanan in your prayers. He died April 15 surrounded by his loving family. Prior to his election as Coadjutor to the Diocese of West Missouri, Bishop Buchanan served in three parishes in South Carolina, St. Barnabas' Church in Dillon, St. Matthew's Church, Darlington and St. Andrew's Church in Mt. Pleasant. Following his retirement as the VI Bishop of West Missouri he returned to South Carolina where he served as Bishop-in-residence at St. Michael's Church, Charleston. There was a private family service on Saturday, April 18, at Grace Church Cathedral (TEC), Charleston. A public memorial Eucharist will be held at a later time to be determined.



Please keep the family and loved ones of Mary Goldsberry in your prayers. Mary died on January 4, 2020. Mary served on the Diocesan Episcopal Church Women's Board from 1984-1998. She was an active member of Old St. Andrew's and St. Peter's (which is now Church of the Good Shepherd) where she served as a Bible teacher and taught many Bible classes. Mary was Charleston District Director for two years and served as Communications Chair-

person, writing monthly articles for the Jubilate Deo. She published six Diocesan ECW handbooks during this time. Mary and her husband, Dennis, were from Canada. They moved back after Dennis retired as a professor at the College of Charleston. (We are grateful to Margie Williams for providing us with this information).

Please keep the family and loved ones of the Rev. Jason Hamshaw, who serves as the Rector of All Saints, Florence, in your prayers. Jason's father, James Hamshaw, died following a hard-fought battle with cancer on March 28. A service was held on April 8.



This past February, the Rev. Thomas (Tom) Hendrickson accepted a call to serve as the Coordinator of Pastoral Care Ministries at the Church of the Cross, Bluffton. Prior to this, Hendrickson served as the Rector of The Historic Church of the Epiphany for seven years. In a note to the Church of the Cross, their Rector the Very Rev. Dr. Chuck Owens wrote, "Assisted by his wife Terri, Tom will be nurturing and inspiring the many involved in our efforts to personally minister to those who find themselves struggling in a season of sorrow, need or despair, while simultaneously exploring new and exciting ways to share the love of Christ. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!" Hendrickson and his wife, Terri live on Hilton Head.



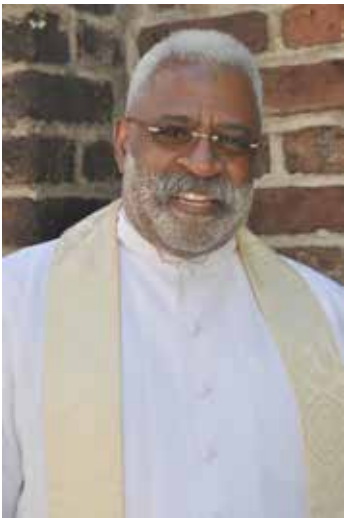
Please keep the family and loved ones of the Rev. Bill Oldland, Rector of St. Bartholomew's, Hartsville, in your prayers. Bill's father, William A. Oldland, died on January 28 at the age of 92. The service was held on January 31 at St. Bartholomew's. For more than 54 years William had



been a licensed lay reader in the Diocese. He served at Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island, the Franke home and St. Bartholomew's. The ADOSC is excited to welcome the Rev. Canon Dr. Jon C. Shuler back into our Diocese. Shuler, the Global leader of NAMS (the New Anglican Missionary Society) has served global churches for more than 45 years and has been leading NAMS since 1994. Between 1994 and 1998 he served as the leader of NAMS under Bishop Salmon in our Diocese. Jon's heart for evangelistic outreach and training communities of "disciples who make disciples" of Jesus Christ is well known throughout the world. He has assisted in growing the Church on six continents, and is often asked to teach at conferences on Church growth and planting, discipleship and leadership development. From 2000 and 2007, under Shuler's leadership the network helped plant 13 new congregations in North America and eight overseas. After graduating from the United States Military Academy (West Point, NY), he earned a Post Graduate Diploma in Theology and a Doctor of Philosophy in Church History at the University of Durham (Durham, England). He was ordained as a presbyter of the Church in 1973. In January 2014 Bishop Albert Vun, Diocese of Sabah, Malaysia, made Jon a canon missionary of his diocese. Jon and his wife, Cynthia, an internationally recognized artist who specializes in painting and printmaking, have been married more than 48 years, and have three children and four grandchildren. The Rev. Hamilton Smith, Rector of St. Thomas' Church in Mt. Pleas-

Gallant Receives North Star Award; Honored for his Work in the Community

On Friday, February 21, The Rev. Jimmy Gallant, Vicar of St. Andrew's, Charleston, was honored by the Charleston County Republican Party and the Citadel Republican Society at a banquet in celebration of Black History Month. The event recognized and paid tribute to local African Americans who have distinguished themselves through their own accomplishments and service to the community. Gallant was presented with the North Star award named after the North Star in the sky that slaves used to navigate to the northern states for freedom. Gallant was an elected member of Charleston City Council and has served on a multitude of public commissions and task forces, ranging



JOY HUNTER

from local to international. Gallant currently serves as Senior Chaplain for Charleston Police Department (a position he has held since 1990) and operates the non-profit Gallant Evangelistic Ministries on the Charleston Peninsula. Among Gallant's noteworthy endeavors were his service on the Governor's Juvenile Justice Task Force and the Attorney General's Task Force on Gangs and Gang Violence. Gallant was one of only five chaplains selected to minister to the athletes at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, where he helped athletes deal with the grief and trauma associated with the infamous Olympic Park bombing.

Coronavirus Game Plans for Dad Tips for Dads with Time on Our Hands During a Pandemic:

By Jay Crouse, Diocesan Coordinator for Men's Ministry

1. If you have not already begun an exciting record keeping strategy, for each child, begin a journal now. Just order one on Amazon. And even better, you should have one journal dedicated to each child. Your journal is to record milestones-like our stay at home memories during the pandemic- in your child's life, funny events, what is going on in the world. There is a lot to include under this topic. This journal, in time, will become a precious keepsake for each of your children and such fun memories for you.
2. Wow, this one is big. How do we maintain date night with our wives during this crisis? Invite your kids to host Mom and Dad, with a special, romantic date night dinner. And the kids must clean up the kitchen! This can be comical, kids team work, creative and a team effort.
3. My family has already celebrated two Zoom birthday parties. No doubt each family has gone way beyond being creative on how to stay in touch with family via Zoom.
4. Ah, what the heck, since we have time on our hands when just weeks ago, we had no time on our hands try this. Do you set annual goals? Not New Year's Eve resolutions, but actually take time at least once a year to hear where God is leading you for the next 12 months. Here is an easy starting point. Where, over the next 12 months, is God leading you in your faith life, family life, personal life and professional/ministry life. Then your next step would be to sit with each of your kids and ask them these goal setting questions. Keep a record in your journal and review it with them from time to time.
5. When the stay-at-home order was announced with journal in hand, I began to reflect over my life on those people who had and have influenced me: in my life, in my faith, in my profession, in my family, etc. You may be delightfully surprised by what you discover through this process. Then send a letter to some of your influencers and thank them for investing in your life.



SARA KLAUBER

EQUIPPING TODAY'S MEN TO BE TOMORROW'S DISCIPLE MAKERS



Powerful Men's Conference Touches, Renews Lives with the Father's Blessing

By Edwin Smythe, St. Michael's Church, Charleston

The Christian Men's Conference is an annual gathering that takes place each February at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center. It serves as a place where men from all over can come together and experience fellowship with one another, amazing teachings, and (most importantly) the power of God. The freedom men receive each year at the conference to walk with Jesus as beloved sons of God is indescribable. Our conference has a reputation for empowering men to be Holy Spirit-filled leaders in their homes, their businesses, and all other areas of life. The conference is a healthy place where men can humble themselves

before God in prayer and worship and seek a deeper and more intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

This year's conference had more than 280 men in attendance from all different walks of life. Since the conference's leadership primarily consists of Anglicans and chooses to support The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina's Men's Ministry, it is very popular among members of The Anglican Church in North America and represented by almost every church in the South Carolina Diocese. However, there are other organizations that send men to the conference including Benjamin's Way, a rehabilitation center led by Charleston native Jack Henley. This year's crowd also had representation from Kenya by Anglican Bishop Abraham and his priests.

There were some great things that occurred throughout the weekend including the amazing worship we had at each session led by Todd Fields, formerly of North Point Community Church in Alpharetta Georgia. Now he is the director of Worship Circle, a ministry dedicated to raising future worship leaders. Todd did a very good job ushering us into the Presence of God. We also witnessed men renounce addictions that had gripped them most of their lives and commit to living in purity. However, the focus of the conference for 2020 was the healing from fatherlessness. It was our consideration on the conference board that every man suffers from fatherlessness in one way or another and we felt a call to see that shortcoming redeemed through the love of our perfect Heavenly Father.



NOAH MYERS

This year's conference theme was "The Father's Blessing" which focused on the restored sonship of Christian men by their perfect Heavenly Father for the inevitable failures and wounds placed on them by earthly fathers and father figures. The theme also brought to light many misunderstandings of what true masculinity is and exposed the falsities of the world's instruction for manliness.

This year's conference theme was "The Father's Blessing" which focused on the restored sonship of Christian men by their perfect Heavenly Father for the inevitable failures and wounds placed on

instruction for manliness. This year's speaker, the Rev. Rob Sturdy, who serves as the Chaplain at The Citadel, articulately broke down the lies that grip so many men and encouraged all to step into freedom with Jesus in humility, rather than participate in greedy self-promotion and use of shame as a means of control. Rob has a reputation for radically calling people into their walk with God which he

We encourage every man to attend the men's conference if the opportunity presents itself. We understand that a weekend away is a big commitment. However, it is worth prioritizing that time to get out to beautiful St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, where one can step away from what occupies him and enter into a weekend of rest, renewal and reshaping before returning to their families and work with a healthy and Christ-driven perspective.

The four talks are available at christianmensconference.com

Listen to the four talks on The Father's Blessing at christianmensconference.com

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demonstrated mightily on the stage. It was absolutely stunning to see so many men repent of poor behavior, forgive themselves, their fathers, and their father figures and allow healing of Christ to begin.



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Making It a Family Event Five in the Same Family Attend Christian Men's Conference Together

By Dickie Miler, St. Paul's Church, Summerville

Almost 28 years ago, I was one of the early, brave pilgrims who ventured out to St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center on a cold and wet February day for the initial Christian Men's Conference. Simply put, it was life changing, and I have been richly blessed and spiritually fed each year, after attending these weekend retreats. There is something special and unique about a bunch of guys getting away and being open and honest with each other about their faith and walk with the Lord.

Over the years, favored by God's amazing grace, the conference attendance has exploded from approximately 60 to more than 280 men. In addition, men started taking their sons and grandsons to the conference, which was and has been a real inspiration of modeling the journey of faith to the next generation. Being a father of four daughters, I could only imagine how special that opportunity might be.

This year, I found out! With the theme of the conference being "The Fathers Blessing,"

I was burdened to alter my "solo ride" attendance and prayerfully threw out the invitation to my extended family. Praise the Lord, I had the privilege and honor of taking both of my sons-in-law, and two of my nephews to the conference! What an awesome experience!

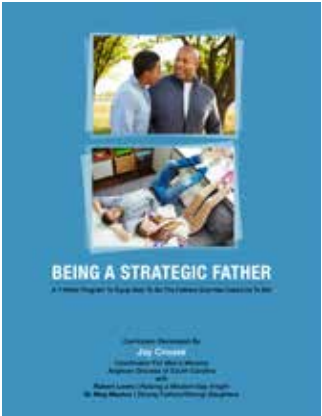
The five of us stayed in an off-campus cottage, which allowed us to enjoy an incredible time of listening to each other, praying with each other, growing spiritually together, and generally getting to know each other on a more personal level. From Rob Sturdy's teaching that our Heavenly Father is always present in our lives, is as proud as a peacock of us, and is forever pleased with us...just because we are his adopted sons...was powerfully freeing and heart healing to each of us. It was a game changer in our walk with the Lord, and our relationship with each other. We each left loving Jesus just a little bit more!

We can't wait to go back for next year's conference...and maybe take a few additional brethren (and a future grandson)!

Just Released: Being A Strategic Father

Seven-Week Program Helps Equip Men to Be the Fathers God Has Called Them to Be

Curriculum Developed by Jay Crouse, Coordinator for Men's Ministry, The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, with Robert Lewis/ *Raising a Modern Day Knight* and Dr. Meg Meeker/ *Strong Fathers/ Strong Daughters*



When teaching on leadership, Andy Stanley, founder of North Point Church in Atlanta, GA, puts this stake in the ground: "the most unique leadership we will ever hold is that of father and mother." He continues that the cold reality that every other leadership role we may attain can and will be replaced, but not so as parents. Being a father is a unique, life long, leadership position only you will hold! How then are we to be coached, equipped, prepared to follow in our heavenly Father's footsteps, as the fathers He calls us to be?

There is only one place in which to faithfully accomplish such a big, holy, audacious adventure: the Christian Church. Church leaders, you now have available to you a seven-week resource for you to provide for the fathers in your congregation a great opportunity to join together to be strategic fathers.

The curriculum overview:

1. Sizing Yourself Up as a Dad;
2. Shaping Up as a Dad;
3. Dad's Workout Program for his son(s) and daughter(s);
4. For a son: you are the most important Man in his life;
5. For a daughter: you are the most important Man in her life;
6. Living into Being a Strategic Father

This curriculum is free and available through Jay Crouse. Contact him at jaycrouse@aol.com or (941) 320-0271.

From Tea Room to Take Out

St. Paul’s, Summerville, Pivots to Accommodate Social Distancing Restrictions

By Peggy Lassanske, St. Paul’s Church, Summerville

As a relative new member of St. Paul’s, it was inspiring to observe the excitement, dedication and attention to detail surrounding preparations for St Paul’s Tea Room; an event that requires months of planning and contributions from almost every member. As opening day approached, there was constant news about a world-wide pandemic, threatening people’s health and well-being. To thwart the spread of the coronavirus, people nation-wide were encouraged to conduct social-distancing. So, the door closed on months of planning. Yet, St Paul’s Tea Room volunteers were not frozen in fear and quickly turned the operation to take-out only.

According to Tea Room Co-ordinator, Susan Haynes, “Kitchen staff, platers and folks to make desserts were still needed. Doar Hall and outside areas needed to be set-up in order to spread folks out as they ordered and picked up food. People to answer phones to take orders were needed. How could we plan for all this! We could not! Of course, God knew what we needed.



VICKI HARLAN

Ronna Tombs and Bill Westfall “lift up their hands and bless the Lord” as they serve as take out servers.

He provided just the right number of volunteers to serve in-house and

to bake at home. He provided prayer warriors and encouragers. We all came together in the most amazing way to get the job done because the Holy Spirit was leading us.”

Susan continued, “We didn’t have our traditional Tea Room, but we had the Spirit of the Tea Room. Our parishioners and the community came out to get their fix of tomato pie (our amazing kitchen ladies baked 120 one Tuesday!) she-crab soup, hummingbird cake, Huguenot torte and the other Tea Room favorites. On March 17, St. Patrick (aka

Father John Scott) came to bless

us. Even a group of ladies came with their own table and china, dressed in hats and Tea Room attire, to enjoy a lovely meal on the plaza surrounded by beautiful azaleas.

Additionally, many people took home beautiful, one-of-a-kind items from our gift shop. Out of love, non-members were motivated to donate hundreds of dollars. And, neighborly love prompted St. Paul’s Gift Shop volunteers to donate unsold items to Summerville’s Habitat for Humanity, Second Chances and offer the best-of-the-best of unsold gift items to a church neighbor, Bethany Methodist, for their October Tea Room. Before we closed our doors, the Tea Room was blessed with revenue to cover our expenses and a little more.”

The story of St Paul’s Tea Room in 2020 brings to mind the old adage; “When God closes a door, he opens another one.” There are



numerous examples of closed doors in the Bible: God closed the gate to the Garden of Eden; Paul and Silas experienced closed doors as they spread the gospel and Jesus’ followers believed the cross was a closed door, too. In each example, there was always lag time before another door opened.

The Tea Room was scheduled to be open for 10 days; however, it closed after only two. Disappointing? Or a gift of time? Lent is a time for reflection, discernment and perhaps redirection. May we all be inspired by the example of St Paul’s Tea Room volunteers who continued to move in faith, demonstrating love for each other, our parish and our community. May we all stand on the rock of God’s love and take time to listen for God’s direction.

Getting to Know Our Newly Ordained Priests



Luke Deman

Vicar, St. Timothy’s, Cane Bay

Ordained to the Priesthood:
December 5, 2019 at St. Timothy’s Cane Bay

Family:

Jennifer, Oscar (7), Marcie (2)

Favorite Movie or TV Show:
Empire Strikes Back!

Favorite/least favorite food:
My favorite is pizza. There’s no such thing as bad pizza. Least favorite: sardines.

One Item on your Bucket List:
In general, just more travel. After being sheltered at home for the last 6 weeks, I’d settle for travel that’s farther than the backyard!

An adventurous moment:
Quitting my job and going to seminary. It felt like that scene in Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade where Indiana Jones has to take a step out onto thin air not knowing how he’s going to get across. A total leap of faith!

Proud Moment:
Becoming a father. I can’t believe that I was entrusted with two of the best people that ever got made.

Free-time activity:
Hanging out with friends. Visiting over zoom doesn’t come close to sitting across from really cool people.

Music or sports event:
Music event, generally.

How you recharge spiritually:
A few months ago I would have said solitude, but it turns out that too much of anything is spiritually draining! I find myself most recharged if I can spend some time in study in the Bible - especially if that study doesn’t have any practical application. It can’t be for sermon prep or Bible study. Just time spent learning in the Bible for the pure enjoyment of what I find.



Corey Prescott

Assistant Rector, St. John’s, Florence

Ordained to the Priesthood:
December 8, 2019 at St. John’s Church, Florence

Now Serving:

Family:
Cory, Grace (4), Ford (1 ½)

Favorite Movie or TV Show:
Does college football count? If not, then the Masters.

Favorite/least favorite food:
I’ve been known to forego dessert for another helping of my grandmother’s sweet potato casserole. Least favorite: Cucumbers

One Item on your Bucket List:
Drive across the country using only unpaved surfaces (except to resupply)

An adventurous moment:
Looking for waterfalls and getting lost on a single lane, two-way gravel “road” on a riverbank in West Virginia with a newborn.

Proud Moment:
A reflexive, one handed dive, catch, and flip of my daughter as she toddled off our new patio. She stuck the landing, too.

Free-time activity:
I like to learn new things, so I go on kicks. I just built a raised garden, and I’m learning all sorts of things (fun and not so fun) about repairs and improvements to our old house.

Music or sports event: Sports event

How you recharge spiritually: I find my spiritual lows usually come after I’ve let distractions eat away at my regular spiritual disciplines. So the Lord calls me to repent and go back to the basics to be refreshed: physical exercise, writing, reading, protecting time with family, personal study of scripture, and personal prayer all play an important part of anchoring me spiritually.



Will Klauber

Vicar, St. Aidan’s, Johns Island

Ordained to the Priesthood:
December 7, 2019 at St. John’s Parish Church, Johns Island

Family:
Sara, Elizabeth (8), William (6)

Favorite Movie or TV Show:
Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee

Favorite/least favorite food:
Favorite: That’s a really hard one. Top three: 1.) Frogmore Stew 2.) Fried shrimp with fried okra and mac and cheese 3.) BBQ
Least favorite: Cilantro

One Item on your Bucket List:
An elk hunting trip out West.

An adventurous moment:
In college I went on a two-week surf trip to Indonesia. During that trip we visited the Ubud Sacred Monkey Forest where I was bitten by a monkey.

Proud Moment:
Whenever I get to witness my children’s successes in life. I’m a pretty hopeless parent honestly. When they succeed and reach milestones I take great joy in celebrating with them.

Free-time activity:
Hunting, fishing, surfing

Music or sports event:
Gamecock baseball

How you recharge spiritually:
Being in the woods or on the water. Being reminded of the beauty and intricacies of creation and the fact that, considering everything that we see and know of creation, God said that it was man who was “very good.” Knowing that, despite the trials of this life, one day we will once again walk with God, as Adam and Eve did before the Fall, on a redeemed Earth helps me draw closer to Him.



Newman Lawrence

Assistant Pastor, Church of Our Saviour, Johns Island

Ordained to the Priesthood:
December 12, 2019 at Church of Our Saviour, Johns Island

Family:
Trish, Hank (2 1/2), Huck (2 1/2)

Favorite Movie or TV Show:
Parks and Rec

Favorite/least favorite food:
Favorite: BBQ as in pulled pork, and not the yellow kind...
Least favorite: That yellow stuff posing as BBQ

One Item on your Bucket List:
The Appalachian Trail

An adventurous moment:
I have twin 2 year olds, every moment is an adventure

Proud Moment:
See above

Free-time activity:
Anything in the outdoors, hunting, fishing, hiking especially if/ when Hank and Huck can join me

Music or sports event:
The Steeldrivers, live any day in almost any venue

How you recharge spiritually:
Time in the outdoors enjoying God’s creation. Getting away from the sound of cars, phones, walkmans or transistor radios. Being able to hear God in these places while reflecting on His words.

Retreat a Bonding and Renewing Time for Clergy Spouses

By Lisa Dubay, Holy Trinity Windermere, Charleston

The Clergy Spouses' Retreat is hosted each year by Allison Lawrence as a time of rest, relaxation and renewal for clergy spouses. It is held at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, where the views are

beautiful, the beach and hiking trails can be enjoyed, and the sounds of hectic daily lives are far enough away to allow ears to open for the Lord. It is designed to bring spouses of the clergy in the diocese closer to God and closer to one another.

Our speaker at this past retreat, held in January, was Anne Kennedy, an ordained Anglican priest, writer, mother of six, and a clergy spouse to husband Matt who is rector of the Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd, Binghamton, NY. Anne writes a daily blog called Preventing Grace, has published a devotional titled *Nailed It: 365 Sarcastic Devotionals for Angry and Worn Out People*, and is currently working on a second book. Her humorous and down-to-earth teachings were centered on the expectations of clergy spouses: those that our congregations have of us, that our spouses have of us, that we have of our-



LISA DUBAY

"Whether it's been a month or a year, it seems like we just pick back up from where we left off, encouraging one another, laughing together, holding each other accountable, crying together, and sharing sorrows together," says Lanier Prescott.

selves and those we have of Jesus. Her lessons led to meaningful small group sharing, conversation, and self-reflection. Allie Thies led beautiful music for worship at our sessions and Sunday eucharist. The schedule for the weekend allows for learning, fun, and free time. There are the primary teaching sessions, but free time is scheduled, as well as time to socialize. One very popular activity over the last seven years has been a painting session led by Carrie Davis, which provides a relaxing outlet for creativity. However, walks on the beach, meals prepared by the St. Christopher staff, and a reception – often hosted by Bob and Lynn

Lawrence at their home – are very much cherished and offer lots of time for conversation and bonding. Ultimately, it is the fellowship with sisters and brothers in Christ who truly understand your role in life that makes the weekend unmissable. The walk of a clergy spouse can be hard and lonely at times, but God has given us other clergy spouses to shine a light and help us find our way. The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina is a leader in encouraging these relationships.

A Sweet Balm to My Soul

By Lanier Prescott, Good Samaritan Church Plant, Summerville

The Clergy Spouse Retreat has been such a sweet weekend away for me; I don't think I have missed one yet! It is a wonderful mix of fellowship, teaching, fun, and time away. To be honest, I wondered about whether to go to this past retreat. We had lots going on at home, and I was going to be out of town the following weekend. Was it just too much for me and my family? I decided to go, mostly because I love spending time with these women, and I knew it would be a great time of fellowship. This weekend did not disappoint - I came away feeling rested, refreshed, renewed, and encouraged. It was such a sweet balm to my soul in the midst of busyness and struggles and just regular life to have time away with friends who just seem to "get" me and who can carry burdens and share in joys with me. Whether it's been a month or a year, it seems like we just pick back up from where we left off, encouraging one another, laughing together, holding each other accountable, crying together, and sharing sorrows together. I am thankful to God for this community that I have; even if we don't see each other often, knowing that we are praying and supporting each other from afar."

People News

Continued from Page 10

ant, has transferred his canonical residence from The Diocese of the Carolinas to The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina. Hamilton is a native of Summerville, South Carolina, but has considered Mount Pleasant his home since 2001. After finishing at the College of

Charleston in 1998, Hamilton attended Law School at the University of South Carolina. After completing Law School in 2001, Hamilton and his wife, Lizzie, were married and moved to Mount Pleasant where he began to practice law in Charleston at the firm of Young, Clement & Rivers. It was during this time that Hamilton felt called to become an ordained minister. In 2003, Hamilton, Lizzie, and their first child, Charlotte, moved to England for three years where Hamilton studied Theology at Oxford University. From 2006-09, Hamilton served as the Assistant Minister at the Church of the Holy Comforter in Sumter, SC. In 2009, he joined the staff of St. Michael's Church in Charleston, SC, where he served until April 2013. He was sent out from St. Michael's to start St. Thomas' where he now serves as its Lead Minister. When not working, Hamilton loves to spend time with friends and family on the water or on the dock. He also enjoys losing to his son, David, in chess and trying to beat his daughter, Charlotte, in Wii "Just Dance."

Please keep the family and loved ones of the Rev. Fred Sosnowski in your prayers. He died March 6, 2020. His funeral was held March 11, 2020 at St. John's Parish Church,

Johns Island. Mr. Sosnowski was a graduate of the University of South Carolina and Virginia Theological Seminary. While at USC, he received the Algernon Sydney Sullivan prize, awarded for "a spirit of love for and helpfulness to other men and women." He was ordained as a Deacon at St. John's Church in 1955, the first service ever held in the



present church building which was still under construction. In 1956, he was ordained to the priesthood at Trinity Cathedral. He served as Rector of St. Matthew's Church, in Henderson, TX. He later returned to Bugby Plantation on Wadmalaw Island to farm with his father. Sosnowski often said that he was blessed to have been able to answer the two strong calls on his life: to serve God's children through ministry and to enjoy God's creation through farming. He returned to active ministry and served as Assistant at St. Philip's Church and Rector of St. Jude's in Walterboro before becoming Director of the Pastoral Counseling Center in North Charleston where he remained until his retirement in 1997. He continued in retirement to serve as an associate for pastoral care at several area churches. He is survived by his wife, Polly Sosnowski; one daughter, Laura Ramsay Sosnowski; four sons, John F. Sosnowski (Jessie Cara), Charles Sosnowski Ramsay (Rebecca), The Rev. James S. Sosnowski (Gretchen), Michael S. Sosnowski (Chelsea); and five grandchildren. Memorials may be made to St. John's Parish Church.

John Scott Dances with the Stars for Alzheimer's Relief

On March 14, the Rev. John Scott, who serves as a Pastoral Assistant at St. Paul's Church in Summerville, participated in The ARK of Summerville's Dancing with the Stars. The event raised more than \$102,000 for the group which provides Alzheimer's Family Support Services.

In a note explaining his participation Scott wrote, "Many of you may know that my father died at age 69 after a seven-year battle with Alzheimer's disease and now it has touched my own generation, with my younger sister's and brother-in-law's recent diagnosis with early onset dementia. Anything I can do to help with the research and service to individuals with that dreaded disease, I am committed to do so - even to the point of making a fool of myself in public. So when THE ARK of Summerville asked me to participate in their Annual Fund Raiser of "Dancing With The Stars" I had to immediately answer in the affirmative.

Proceeds from the fundraiser support The ARK's many programs and essential services for families experiencing Alzheimer's disease or related dementia.



TONI SCOTT

The Rev. John Scott's partner was Sarah Sharpe, a dance instructor at Charleston Ball Room Dance Studio.

"Each of our celebrity dancers went above and beyond their fundraising goal," said Megan Severn, development director of The ARK. "We are so grateful for the support of all of the dancers for all of their hard work, time, and support of The ARK. More than five million Americans are living with Alzheimer's, and as many as 16 million will have the disease in the next 30 years. Now more than ever, it is imperative that we work to raise awareness and funds for families living with Alzheimer's or related dementia."

Job Openings

Lower School Chaplain, Porter-Gaud School

The Lower School (grades 1-4) Chaplain fosters spiritual development for Porter-Gaud students, teaches religion classes and provides pastoral care to students, faculty, and families. As primary responsibilities, the Lower School Chaplain leads weekly Lower School chapel for students and teaches Lower School religion classes. Learn more at: portergaud.edu/

Director of Operations, Church of the Holy Cross

The Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island and Daniel Island is seeking a Director of Operations to bring management, unity and coordination to the key operations departments of Facilities, Finance, Human Resources, Communications, IT and Membership Administration. The DoO will have a firm commitment to and belief in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and an unwavering commitment that Scripture is the authoritative Word of God. Learn more at: holycross.net/jobs.

Youth Minister, Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant

The candidate who is called will have a passion for ministry with youth, and be able to flourish within Anglican Christianity, while working with staff and parishioners to achieve the Parish Vision Statement - "We are a church with one great purpose: 'Go and make disciples.' They will be able to communicate the Gospel in an engaging and articulate way, and exhibit strong interpersonal skills and a professional demeanor. Learn more at adosc.org/about/employment-opportunities/

THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF SOUTH CAROLINA INVITES YOU TO THE ANNUAL

WOMEN'S RETREAT

October 23-25, 2020 St. Christopher Camp & Conference Center
Register by October 8 at www.adosc.org

Teachings, Young Mom's Luncheon, Q&A Panel

Susan Alexander Yates
Prolific author, blogger and speaker on subjects of marriage, parenting, faith and women's issues, Susan is a mom to five and grandmother to 21. She and her husband, John (the former Rector of The Falls Church Anglican) have been married 50 years.
www.susanalexanderyates.com/

Mark your calendar for St. Christopher's

Healing 101: Foundations for the Ministry of Christian Healing Prayer; October 1-4

Are you:

- Interested in learning more about Christian healing prayer ministry?
- Hoping for teaching and some hands-on experience in giving and receiving healing prayer?
- Wanting to begin or grow a healing prayer ministry in your church or fellowship?
- Curious about what all this "laying on hands" in prayer is about?
- Wondering....does healing prayer "work"?
- Not quite sure how to pray with others?
- Seeking to become a better listener?

Then, this weekend is for you! Our focus is the biblical, theological, and practical founda-

tions of the ministry of Christian healing prayer. Come and be refreshed, come and learn, come and experience the healing love of God through Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit ... in a beautiful setting on the beach, a holy and sacred place where so many have encountered the near presence of God.

Sessions include teaching, Q&A, sharing, prayer. Small groups will reflect on presentations and pray with one another. The Facilitators will be Jean and Johnnie Corbett, seasoned leaders and teachers of healing prayer and the Rev. Dr. Sandi Kerner, Chaplain, The Prayer Center.

Additional details will be released soon.

Jubilate Deo

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New Chapter of the Daughters of the Holy Cross Instituted at Saint James

By Virginia Bartels, Saint James Anglican, James Island

On February 9, 2020, 20 women received their membership cards and crosses, stated their vows, and instituted the Daughters of the Holy Cross (DHC) Ruth Chapter at Saint James, Charleston. The Rev. Arthur Jenkins, Chaplain of the chapter and Rector



BRUCE FORD

of the church, and Sally Dixon, President of St. Anna's DHC chapter at St. John's as well as the Ruth Chapter's mentor, officiated the ceremony. Following five months of training and discernment, the women took vows regarding the Rule of Life for prayer, service, study, and

evangelism. The Rev. Bruce Ford and his wife Nancy, representing the Provincial Council, came from Jacksonville, Florida, to be present at the service. Nancy awarded the DHC charter to Jenkins. After the service, the Daughters of the Holy Cross hosted a reception for members of the congregation.

On February 11, new officers were elected, as follow: Deborah Harley, president; Maxine Swafford, vice-president; Sonya Droze, treasurer; and Donna Lewis, secretary. Amy Knox will make the new DHC banner. Virginia Bartels, as former president, will serve as advisor to the new president, as requested.

The members of this order are part of the National Daughters of the Holy Cross, with Bishop Mark Lawrence serving as the provincial chaplain. The vision of DHC is to gather Anglican women into a nurturing and empowering community called to be servants, committing their lives to His work and service. They pray daily for their church, its clergy, the Order, and those in need.



The Church of the Holy Trinity, Grahamville, dedicated 40 copies of Magnify the Lord, the new ACNA hymnal, during its February 2 worship service. They were purchased by members of the choir as a memorial gift in honor of Brendan Adam Moser, grandson of Organist/Choir Director Margaret Bukkosy. Brendan was a special needs child who died last year at the age of 14. Above: The Rector, the Rev. James Gibson with Margaret Bukkosy.

Grandparenting Ministry Heartily Recommends *Frog's Rainy Day Story*

World Magazine's "Picture Book of the Year," Written and Illustrated by Couple from St. Philip's, Charleston

By Lynn Land Dayton, St. Philip's Church, Charleston

Grandparenting ministry, called Generations, began at St. Philip's Church in Charleston a little over a year ago. We have learned the reality of the influence and importance of being intentional in looking for opportunities to reach the hearts of grandchildren. Grandparents are second only to parents in passing the legacy of faith to the next generation!

The mission of Generations is "to serve the church by encouraging, empowering and equipping grandparents in their God-given role of passing faith in Jesus Christ to their children, grandchildren and future generations."

We are always looking for outstanding materials and small group studies that will further our mission, and we recently found just that when we were introduced to Michael Dowling's outstanding book, *Frog's Rainy-Day Story and Other Fables*.

Frog's Rainy-Day Story teaches biblical values and Scriptural truth to the next generation. At our last Generations gathering, Michael gave an excellent overview of the



book, which is beautifully illustrated by his wife, Sarah. The Rev. Brian McGreevy, our clergy oversight for the ministry, also shared about the importance of teaching our grandchildren a biblical worldview. Both Michael and Sarah attend St. Philip's Church.

It is worth noting that this award-winning, 72-page, hard-cover book with more than 50 colorful illustrations was just designated a picture book of the year by WORLD magazine. It has received rave reviews from Jim Daly, president of Focus on the Family, and others.

Autographed copies can be ordered at <https://FrogsRainyDayStory.com>. The book also can be purchased at booksellers nationwide. Burrowing Deeper study guides, which are downloadable for free from the book's website, make the book an especially valuable resource for family devotions, homeschooling, and classes in Christian schools and churches.

I heartily recommend *Frog's Rainy Day Story*!

Calendar Notes

View full calendar at www.adosc.org

May 2; Ang. Women's Gathering, Pg. 1
October 1-4; Healing 101, Pg. 14
October 10-23; Behold the Man, Men's Pilgrimage to the Holy Land
October 23-25; Women's Retreat, Pg. 14
October 30-Nov. 1; Middle School Weekend
November 20-22; High School Weekend

A Doubter's Guide

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considers the greatest contribution of Christianity to theology: that God is always just, always loving, and always merciful.

When Dickson was nine, he lost his father in a plane crash, and he said this loss has made him think about death frequently—perhaps, he said, too frequently.

"I'll tell you what's weirder and more psychologically damaging: never thinking about death," he said.

He mentioned coming to know James Garbett, a magistrate of the court in New South Wales, who began visiting Dickson's parish after receiving a diagnosis of cancer.

"He decided there were two things that most mattered in life: family and God," Dickson said. Garbett said the gospels "have the ring of good testimony," and ultimately he came to believe in Jesus' resurrection. "Jesus rose again, and he offers eternal resurrection to all."

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