

# Jubilate Deo

The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina

April/May 2007 Volume CXII, No. 2

## Suffragan Bishop William Skilton Resigns

*Statement by the Standing Committee upon the resignation and retirement of The Right Rev. William J. Skilton*

The Diocese of South Carolina is deeply grateful to Bishop William Skilton for his committed ministry among us as Bishop Suffragan over the past eleven years. His warmth and genuine affection have won the hearts of many. He is a caring and dedicated pastor who has modeled for us compassion, justice and equality for all God's people.

We are particularly grateful for his vision for global ministry. His missionary zeal has inspired us in this diocese to a new commitment to the Church outside our borders. Because of Bishop Skilton's ministry among us, we have established strong relationships with our brothers and sisters in our companion diocese of the Dominican Republic, and we have learned ever more deeply to welcome the "strangers among us."

We are especially appreciative of Bill's sensitivity and cooperation over these past weeks as we discussed and designed his retirement. After Bill had made his decision to step down, he agreed to absent himself from the Diocesan office and curtail his normal activities during this time of transition.

We trust that Bill's activities as "Bishop retired" will shine with the same luster as his previous 42 years of ministry. We pray that God's blessing will pursue and overtake both Bill and his wife Lynn as they continue in the venture of following our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

In Christ alone,

The Rev. J. Haden McCormick  
For the Standing Committee

CHRISTIANITY  
EXPLORED

May 12, 2007  
Christ Church  
Mt. Pleasant

Find out more  
on page two.

## Consents for Election Ruled Insufficient Diocesan Leadership Confident About the Future

On Thursday March 15th I received a phone call from the Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori giving notification that she was declaring null and void the election of The Very Rev. Mark Lawrence to be bishop of The Diocese of South Carolina. Although more than a majority of dioceses had voted to consent to Fr. Mark's election, there were canonical deficiencies in the written responses sent to us. Several dioceses, both on and off American soil, thought that electronic permission was sufficient as had been their past accepted practice. The canons which apply are III.11.4(b), pp. 101-102 in the newly published 2006 Constitutions and Canons that require the prescribed testimonial to the consent be signed by a majority of each standing committee.

I have notified Fr. Mark of her decision. We offer our deepest condolences to Fr. Mark and his wife Allison who have navigated this time of process with class, dignity and courage. I know

that it is toughest on Allison who has had to watch her beloved spouse suffer so many indignities. We hope that they will agree to continue to be a part of the Diocese of South Carolina's pursuit of securing our next Diocesan. Fr. Lawrence has modeled exemplary patience and calmness by enduring a level of scrutiny and persecution that is without precedent in The Episcopal Church (TEC).

Our Chancellor, Nick Ziegler has been suffering with bad health for several months. Currently our acting Chancellor, Wade Logan, is out of the country. He is scheduled to return within ten days. Upon his return we will convene both the Chancellor and acting Chancellor to discuss our options within the canons of TEC. The Standing Committee will then plot a course of action for the near future.

In the meantime the Standing Committee will continue our partnership with our acting Bishop, the Right Rev. Edward Lloyd Salmon in tending to the needs of our diocese as we have for

over the past 8 months. Bishop Salmon will represent us this week at the House of Bishop's meeting to be held in Camp Allen, Texas.

I hope that this tragic outcome will be a wake up call to both clergy and lay through out TEC as to the conditions in our church.

I have been blessed and encouraged by the many clergy and lay people throughout the world that have worked tirelessly on Fr. Mark's behalf making phone calls and communicating through the electronic media in an effort to secure a majority of consents.

As I write this release I am reminded of Christ's words in Luke 9:62 But Jesus said to him, "No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." Our hand is to the plow, and in faithfulness to our Christ, we will not look back.

The Rev. J. Haden McCormick  
President of the Standing Committee  
of the Diocese of South Carolina

## To the Sources

By The Rev. Dr. Kendall S. Harmon,  
Canon Theologian of the Diocese of South Carolina

**"The longer you look back," said Winston Churchill, "the farther you can look forward."**

I get a lot of phone calls and emails these days asking for a way to gain perspective in the midst of the great challenges to Anglicanism at the beginning of the 21st century. There are no easy answers, no simple solutions, and no short road maps available. As Bishop Tom Wright has noted in a speech to the Church of England General Synod, we have not been this way before.

In the midst of this uncertainty, a call to all of us may be found in Churchill's words above and in the phrase "Ad Fontes," literally "to the sources." This was the key emphasis of the Renaissance, which came from scholars' rediscovered passion to go back to the original sources, the Greek and Latin classics. A similar desire to go back to the Bible itself on its own terms led to the Protestant Reformation.

To the sources is easier to say than to do. When I was a graduate student at Regent College in Vancouver, British Columbia, I was privileged to be

in an environment where American, Canadian, Asian, and European students intermixed in nearly equal numbers. In the seminars one difference between the Americans and all the others was their over reliance on secondary sources. They would say Karl Barth said or believed something, but it would be based on a book or article they had read about Barth. When the non-American students challenged them to show where this idea actually appeared in Barth's own writings, in nine out of ten instances they were stumped.

A similar problem is present in today's church. Most people will not admit it, but the truth is busy clergy often put sermons together based on pulpit helps and commentaries about the Bible rather than a study of Scripture itself. Books about Anglicanism are far, far more relied upon than original 16th century Anglican texts.

I plead for an avoidance of all such shortcuts. To the Bible and to the original Cranmerian liturgies and the Anglican formularies. To our foundational documents in prayer, thought, meditation, small group study, adult



**Bishop Salmon Presented with State's Highest Civilian Honor**

Over 300 attended a Gala in honor of Bishop and Mrs. Salmon on February 16. The Bishop received the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor. *Read more on page four.*

education classes, and whatever other means are available.

The way forward is the long look back - all the way back - to the sources. It has led to powerful renewal in the Church before, and it can happen again.

# A Letter from Bishop Skilton

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

After much prayer, counsel, consideration, and recognition of the Canonical safeguards respecting Suffragan Bishops, I have decided to resign as Bishop Suffragan of South Carolina. This decision, freely made by me, is at the request of the Standing Committee of the Diocese and with the concurrence of the Bishop-elect, Mark Lawrence. The Standing Committee has agreed to provide me with all the benefits that I requested.

I believe my departure will enable Father Lawrence to create a diocesan staff that will more effectively respond to his developing vision and gifts that he brings to the Diocese. My resignation will, accordingly, become effective December 31, 2006.

I am indebted to you, the people of the Diocese, for your support of my ministry over these 42 years as a Deacon, Mission Priest, College Chaplain, Parish Priest, and a Bishop Suffragan

since March 2, 1996. Both Lynn and I are thankful for the enduring love shown to us during these years.

My plan now is to concentrate on the work that I have been doing nationally and internationally in the wider church. I am and will continue to be a Missionary Bishop - a Latino - and the vineyard in which I will work in the future is a developing one.

Please be assured of my continued support of you and of my continued support of your Bishop-elect, Mark Lawrence, as he begins his new ministry among you. I believe that he and his wife, Allison, will be a blessing during these troubled times in our Church.

Finally, I thank you for allowing this "Hispanic" to minister to you and with you; and be assured that I will continue to proudly wear Bishop Temple's ring.

Paz in Christ,  
The Rt. Rev. William J. Skilton



*The Episcopal Church Women  
and The Daughters of the King  
of the Diocese of South Carolina  
cordially invite you to attend  
A celebration for the ministry of*

*The Rt. Rev. and Mrs. William J. Skilton*

Saturday, April 21st, 2007

2:00—5:00 pm

Holy Eucharist and Reception

St. John's Parish

3673 Maybank Highway

Johns Island, South Carolina

RSVP St. Johns Parish, (843) 559-9560

# CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

May 12, 2007

Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant

Are you looking for a way to reach out to neighbors, friends or relatives with the gospel,

Explore effective ways to evangelize... Learn how to teach Mark's Gospel...

but don't know how to get them to come to church or open the Bible?

Do you feel a tug toward teaching or leadership in your church, but have no idea where to start?

Join us for the Christianity Explored Conference featuring Rico Tice of All Soul's Church in London. Rico is a passionate evangelist who travels the world with the good news of Jesus Christ. He is the primary writer and presenter in the award winning Christianity Explored series. Joining Rico will be Barry Cooper and Sam Shammas, course developers for Christianity Explored and Discipleship Explored.



Rico Tice of All Soul's, London, will lead the Conference.

Where: Christ Church, Mount Pleasant  
When: Saturday May 12, 2007, 9:00am to 4:00pm  
Cost: \$30 (includes lunch & materials)

"The Christianity Explored conference is the most effective lay training event I have seen. Biblical, practical and compelling, the conference centered on Christ not method, equipped us with the word of God, and moved us forward to love Christ and his gospel and to share our faith to the glory of God."

David Short, Rector, St John's Shaughnessy Anglican Church Vancouver, BC

Learn more at [www.christianityexplored.com](http://www.christianityexplored.com). Register for the conference at [www.dioceseofsc.org](http://www.dioceseofsc.org)



The Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy held its 16th annual banquet on February 1st at the North Charleston Convention Center. Over 400 people attended and raised \$12,500 for the Chaplaincy. This year's speaker was Chief Rodney McGilvary of Biloxi, Mississippi. Above, Bishop Salmon is presented with a retirement clock by Captain Jim Woods, a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Photo: Bill Murton



## Diocesan ECW Calendar

### April

- 13 Patriots, Plantations and Pecans, St. Stephen's, N.Myrtle Beach, Bus Trip to Historic Sites,
- 21 Reception Honoring Bishop Skilton, St. John's, Johns Island
- 23-27 St. Philip's Tea Room, Charleston
- 29 Country Store, St. Matthias', Summerton

### May

- 4 Executive Board Meeting, St. Helena's Beaufort
- 5 123rd Annual Meeting of the ECW of Diocese of SC, St. Helena's Beaufort
- 6 Church Periodical Club Ingathering (Suggested Date)
- 19 All Saints, Hilton Head Island, Garden Tour Parish Fund Raiser
- 20 UTO Spring Ingathering (Suggested Date)
- 27 Country Store, St. Matthias', Summerton

The Addiction Recovery Commission

of the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina



**We're here for you.**

Visit [www.episcopalrecoverysc.org](http://www.episcopalrecoverysc.org)

# Mere Anglicanism Amidst Bloggers and Camellias

By Sue Careless, News Editor for The Anglican Planet

Editor's Note: This article first appeared in *The Anglican Planet*.

While firestorms rage in The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion, gentle breezes and camellia blossoms welcomed 250 people to the second annual Mere Anglicanism conference held Jan. 25-27 in Charleston, South Carolina. The conference was a chance not to ignore the turmoil, but to have a few moments to reflect thoughtfully and worshipfully in the eye of the storm.

## Bloggers Unite

There was also a high tech twist to the gathering--a bloggers' dinner where those who post online journals and those who enjoy reading and replying to them could dine together. Stand Firm blogger Greg Griffiths also ran a workshop on the impact of the internet on the church.

Griffiths observed that information about the church was now "outside the control of diocesan power structures." This "information reformation" allows information to be disseminated freely, no longer "highly filtered and heavily packaged" by church bureaucracy. In the past, even the secular media "depended too heavily on press releases from the diocesan office." And parishioners had to wait thirty days before they could read news in a diocesan paper. Now the same parishioners can read news from a General Convention or a Primates' Meeting just thirty minutes after it occurs.

Many parish websites now have links to orthodox websites such as Stand Firm or Titusonenine run by Canon theologian Kendall Harmon or David Virtue's Virtueonline.

"The speed of information doesn't change the meaning," said Griffiths.

These alternative news sources mean that the church bureaucracy cannot "spin the news" so easily. As for errors, Griffiths said he tries to use reliable sources but that after an item is posted, "it's open to discussion and correction" and is usually corrected online within half an hour.

## An International Perspective

The theological conference drew primarily from the eastern seaboard but participants from as far away as California and British Columbia also attended. Stephen Noll, the Vice-Chancellor of Uganda Christian University in Mukono, Uganda, gave the con-

ference an international perspective as did the keynote speaker, Pakistan born Michael Nazir-Ali, the Bishop of Rochester, England.

Noll observed that "there was no agreed-upon mechanism of discipline" in the Anglican Communion. While he felt a covenant would be very useful for identity and mission, he feared the Communion could dissolve before it was completed. Noll argued that the Communion spoke in 1998 and that all members should have conformed. "Because we didn't discipline those who disobeyed, the Communion sent the message: 'We didn't really mean what we said.'"

Noll concluded by asking, "What stops a body of believers from coming together and agreeing on doctrine and discipline?" He thought a new communion was coming into being. "A formal structure may need to be knocked down so a new, living structure can be built up."

The world-renowned Anglican scholar Bishop Nazir-Ali tackled "The Nature and Calling of the Anglican Communion." He sought to "recognize all that God has done through the Communion," but also tried to offer a "sober estimation of its weaknesses so in God's good time they could be remedied."

The bishop argued that Anglican theology had overemphasized the Incarnation at the expense of the Atonement. The local parish system, with its commitment to the local community was based on the doctrine of the Incarnation but needed to stress also the Atonement. "Anglicans realize well the incarnational model of the parish system, ministering with the grain, but this only works well as long as the culture remains

open to Christianity and is sympathetic to a Christian world view."

He agreed with Callum Brown's assessment in *Death of Christian Britain* that Christianity ceased to be the public religion of Britain when it ceased to be practiced in the home, "when mothers ceased passing on the faith to their children."

He also observed that "When the Bible is translated into different African languages it unleashes forces that missionaries could not have foreseen. This always happens in people and cultures." He claimed that "Translatability is at the centre of Anglicanism."

At the same time, he warned that "faith must not be so completely translated into a culture that it becomes

captive to one group and is not available to others." He cited perceptions that because Armenians are Christians, Iranians can't be. Assyrians are Christians, so Kurds cannot be. "The Church must not excessively identify with the State." He claimed that "the Reformation did not produce world missions," and that the nation states that arose made it difficult for people to conceive of a universal Church.

While the "Exodus trajectory speaks to an oppressed people...parts of every culture will need to come under the judgment of Christ."

Just as "translatability" must not result in "captivity," the Bishop of Rochester also argued for "legitimate diversity." Anglican mission was not

Bishop Nazir-Ali argued that Anglican theology had overemphasized the Incarnation at the expense of the Atonement.

to create "a lot of little Church of Englands." There must be a spiritual transmission not a mere "transmission of culture." He felt there was a tendency in Anglicanism to "capitulate to culture."

Speaking of the Instruments of Unity, Bishop Nazir-Ali admitted, "I do wonder if they're enough" to hold the Anglican Communion together. He argued that "real creativity comes from movements" whether the monastic movement in the 4th century or the missionary movement in the 18th. "Today we need movements to keep the Church alive."

The conference chaplain, Dr. Leander Harding, preached that an idol is "a god you make with your hands to suit your own purposes. It fits like a glove because it's tailor-made. Idols promise much but they deliver little and ask more and more." Harding warned that we are in a struggle with idols in our Church. It doesn't help to just have the law. We must "fall in love with God and his seeking, searching love," shown in his hand stretched out to us, "the pierced and glorified hand of Jesus." Only that will break the power of idols and life-destroying addictions.

## Edith Humphrey on Scripture, Reason and Tradition

Canadian Dr. Edith Humphrey of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary gave a superb analysis of the contemporary misuse of Richard Hooker's three-fold cord of Scripture, Reason and the traditional voice of the Church (Tradition). She also noted how a fourth element,



The world-renowned Anglican scholar Bishop Nazir-Ali tackled "The Nature and Calling of the Anglican Communion."

Experience, "has made a takeover bid." Personal experience, she argued, has become sadly the "trump card" with "veto power" over Scripture and all else.

"The so-called 'Wesleyan Quadrilateral,' in which Scripture, Tradition, Reason and Experience are taken to be primary sources...has made inroads into our own Anglican communion. I am witness to this through my five-year participation in the Anglican Communion of Canada's Primate's Theological Commission, where the Quadrilateral frequently raised its cheeky head.

"Wesley, though utterly intent that his Christian brothers and sisters possess not simply creedal orthodoxy, but a living experience of the Lord, would have been appalled at the idea of making personal experience an authority for theology. This means that for many, if our current experience is different than that believed or practised in the past Church, then the experience of today must be heeded."

## Ashley Null, Authority on Cranmer

Dr. Ashley Null, Canon Theologian of the Diocese of Western Kansas, considered a world authority on Thomas Cranmer, spoke eloquently on the architect of the English Reformation. Cranmer, Null said, would have us plant our souls like seeds in the "garden of Scripture for Scripture gives life." Reason and Tradition are merely "hoes and spades," tools to work the soil.

## Panel Discussions

Three panels, one of scholars, one of lay activists and one of "Common Cause" bishops were also remarkably lively. (Disclaimer: as the news editor of the *Anglican Planet* I was one of the participants on the lay activists' panel.)

Sarah Hey, one of the young organizers of Mere Anglicanism, views the annual conference as an opportunity for laypeople and clergy to "dig a little deeper into Anglican theology and identity, while at the same time forming more networking and communication links with one another as traditional Anglicans who love the gospel of Jesus Christ."

The conference participants parted knowing the times are dark and the way ahead uncertain, but they seemed to appreciate even a small window of opportunity to reflect and encourage one another.



Stephen Noll asked, "What stops a body of believers from coming together and agreeing on doctrine and discipline?" He thought a new communion was coming into being.

# Gala Held in Honor of the Salmons

Over 300 people gathered at the Hibernian Hall in Charleston, SC, on Friday, February 16, to honor the retiring XIII Bishop of South Carolina, The Rt. Reverend Edward Lloyd Salmon, Jr. During the event,



State Representative Ben Hagood presented the Bishop with the state's highest civilian honor, the Order of the Palmetto.

Representative Hagood presented the award on Governor Mark Sanford's behalf. In a letter written to the Bishop, Sanford noted, "Your tradition of servant leadership and deep desire to grow your church in accordance with the Great Commission has continued to serve you well as you immersed yourself into your duties and responsi-

bilities as Bishop. The fruits of Godly leadership will certainly leave a firm foundation for your successors in the episcopate." Sanford also said of the Bishop, "You are an extraordinary role model for all whose paths you cross, and your integrity and compassion are an inspiration to every life you touch."

## Bishop Salmon Week

In addition to the Order of the Palmetto, a number of tributes were presented, including one from Charleston's mayor, Joseph P. Riley, who proclaimed the week of February 16 through February 22 as "Bishop Salmon Week." Mayor Riley noted that under Bishop Salmon's leadership "the Diocese of South Carolina has grown dramatically in parish membership, church attendance and congregational expansion, exceeding



the demographic percentages of population growth."

Indeed, during a period of decline for most mainline denominations, including the Episcopal Church, the Diocese of South Carolina, under the leadership of Bishop Salmon, stands out as the only diocese in the nation increasing at a rate greater than that of the general population.

## Portrait Unveiled

Like his two predecessors as Bishop of South Carolina, and by way of establishing a local ecclesiastical tradition, Bishop Salmon had his "official" portrait painted by Roy Goodbred, and the portrait's unveiling led to one of the many standing ovations of the evening.

The gala, honoring the Bishop, his wife, Louise, and their family followed a Service of Evensong, held at St. Michael's Church.

Photos: Sylvia Weeks



*A Bright Light* Moderate **DISTINGUISHED BISHOP**  
**Powerful** *A Positive Leader* **Courteous**  
 An Excellent Example *Friend* **Dedicated** *Committed* **Kind**  
 Compassionate **Faithful** *Graceful*  
 Mentor *A Star that has radiated the love of Christ*

"...In the constellation that we know as the Anglican Communion you have been a star that has radiated the love of Christ and firm, but compassionate, leadership. In your diocese you have been a greatly loved bishop, known for your clear teaching and positive leadership... You have been a church builder and deeply committed to the mission of the Church. In the national Church, though you are recognised as a bishop committed to sexual ethics as the universal Church has received it, you have manifested this with courtesy, kindness and respect. In this you have modelled the Leader you and I have struggled to emulate during a lifetime of faithful ministry. Indeed, you have made many friends on both sides of the divide because your convictions have been expressed with grace and the love of Christ..."

**The Archbishop of Canterbury**  
 1991-1992, Lord Carey of Clifton

"...One of the things that is remarkable about you is that you say precisely what you mean, and you expect no less of those with whom you labor. It is as if you are saying, "Anything less than honesty is unworthy of the call that the Honest One has placed on your life."... You, my friend, are truly a Successor to the Apostles, and at a time when we deal with so much confused leadership and contentious issues, you stand as a beacon of clarity and vision. I am humbled and honored to know you."

**The Right Reverend**  
**Keith L. Ackerman**  
 Bishop of Quincy (Illinois)

"...I am writing on the occasion of your retirement to say how blessed I have been by your ministry, your courage and your moderation. I am sure your diocese has been greatly blessed by your presence and work among them. I look forward to our continuing association for the sake of the kingdom."

**The Right Reverend**  
**Michael Nazir-Ali,**  
 Bishop of Rochester, England

"...I have come to depend on you so regularly for excellent example, sound advice, and supportive fellowship in the mission of the Church. So I shall miss you profoundly as a next-door neighbor, but find comfort in anticipating your continuation as a member of the House of Bishops. There, too, your leadership and influence has been truly remarkable; +Edward Salmon, His Grace of South Carolina, always sees through any morass to recognize and identify for us the core element of any problem, any dilemma. I cannot begin to number the times you have led us in the return from rambling monologues to relevant discourse—and the skills in conflict management (if not always resolution) are skills that I seriously covet..."

**Dorsey F. Henderson, Jr.**  
 Bishop of Upper South Carolina

"...I count it a great privilege to have served alongside you, such a fine Christian man and distinguished bishop... You have taught me, and you have helped me to understand, a great deal; and I'm very grateful to you."

**The Right Reverend**  
**Michael Scott-Joynt,**  
 Bishop of Winchester

"...Bishop Ed Salmon is and has been a bright light in the midst of the Episcopal Church and through all this difficult time. His learning is rich and his willingness to share his wisdom has been a blessing to all of us who have known him and worked with him. His skill in leading and growing the Diocese of South Carolina is legendary... But above all, Bishop Salmon's dedication to the Church as the Body of Christ, and to the Lord who is (still) Head of that Body, has been inspiring!..."

**The Right Reverend**  
**James M. Stanton**  
 Bishop of Dallas

"It has been a delight and inspiration for Maggie and myself to get to know you over the last few years. Your leadership both locally in the diocese, nationally in the American Episcopal Church, and internationally in the Anglican Communion, has been warm and powerful and hugely appreciated. Your friendship has been a source of real encouragement and blessing. We thank God for you and all that he has given to us through you!"

**Bishop N. T. Wright**  
 Bishop of Durham,  
 Auckland Castle, England

"In 1999 Fred Barbee and I dedicated a book of Thomas Cranmer's Collects to the XIII Bishop of South Carolina – to you, in other words. We wrote there that you were our friend, our mentor, and our companion in ministry. For me, not a word of this has changed. You have befriended generations of struggling parish clergy... You have been a mentor to generations of learning – and also failing – clergy... For myself, you have

always taught me about how not to react, and over-react. You gave me peace. You still do now.... You have affirmed the good, constantly, while not holding our faults and our sins against us. You have trusted God, in other words: the God and Father of Our Lord Jesus Christ..."

**The Very Rev. Dr. theol Paul F.M. Zahl**  
 Dean and President of  
 Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry

"...Ed Salmon's vision for faithful growth and restructuring of diocesan ministry around parishes and missions has not only born fruit within the diocese of South Carolina but has caught a foothold in the minds of leaders in other parts of the Church. What is more impressive yet, is to do this while holding to the faith once delivered to the saints when others were hedging here and there. Please pass on to him my deepest respect and admiration. And to the good people of South Carolina I say to you what I told my wife last Friday, and shared with the people of St. Paul's, Bakersfield, during last Sunday's sermon, "I have lashed myself to the mast of Jesus Christ and will ride out this storm—wherever the ship of faith takes me."

**The Very Rev. Mark Lawrence**  
 Rector, St. Paul's, Bakersfield, CA  
 Bishop-Elect for Diocese of SC

# 30<sup>th</sup> Tea Room & Gift Shop

Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant  
April 23 – May 4.

Over the past 30 years, the Christ Church Tea Room has been a highly anticipated Lowcountry event, attracting more than 50,000 visitors. Begun by the women of Christ Church to raise funds for outreach, these dedicated ladies grew the lettuce, caught and picked the shrimp, and prepared the delicious meals.

Entering into its fourth century, Christ Church has grown from the tiny, recently renovated historic church, established in 1706, to the large, new campus seen at [www.christch.org](http://www.christch.org). The Tea Room has grown as well, serving an average of 4000 meals over a two-week period. The time-tested menu of she-crab soup, okra-soup, ham biscuits, shrimp salad, turkey salad, and turkey sandwiches remains untouched. Also featured will be the famous array of delicious homemade desserts, baked daily by parishioners.

During the two weeks of Tea Room, the Christ Church Parish Hall is transformed into a dining room and Christ Church parishioners are transformed into restaurant staff. The hours are Monday through Friday, 11:30 am to 2:00 pm. Take-out is headquartered in Holt Hall, and orders may be placed by phone, fax, e-mail or in person. The phone number is (843) 884-9090, the fax number is (843) 884-3705, and the e-mail is [takeout@christch.org](mailto:takeout@christch.org).

In addition to the delicious food, The Tea Room includes a gift shop, guaranteed to be full of Attic Treasures including jewelry, art, china and glassware, toys and handmade items.

Christ Church donates its Tea Room proceeds to such programs as Meals on Wheels, My Sister's House, Lowcountry Chaplaincy and East Cooper Community Outreach.

Christ Church is on Highway 17 at Long Point Road in Mt. Pleasant. Call 884-9090 or visit the website at [www.christch.org](http://www.christch.org) for more information.



Beth Snyder, ECW Spiritual Life Chair, with speakers, The Very Rev. John and Sylvia Burwell.

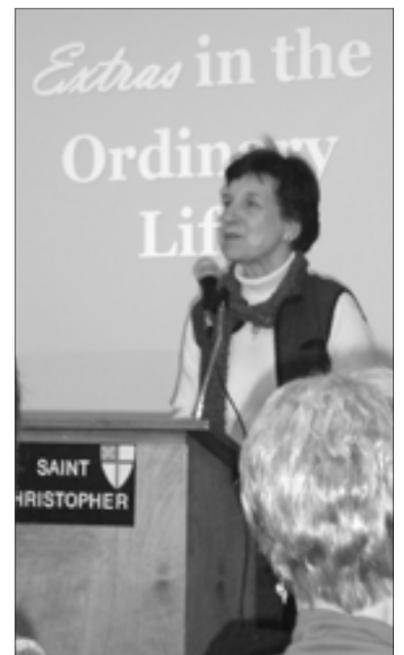
**E**xtras in the Ordinary Life" was the theme for the 2007 Diocesan Women's Retreat held at Camp St. Christopher, February 2-4. Participants from SC, NC, GA and AL joined together to hear from The Very Rev. John and Sylvia Burwell as they taught on extraordinary priorities, extraordinary joy and extraordinary love. Praise and Worship was led by gifted musician, Sharon Harper. The Rev. Dr. Greg Snyder from St. John's Parish served as the chaplain for the retreat. The participants were also treated to testi-

monies from our mission and prayer partners, God's Littlest Lambs, St. John's Mission and Save R Kids. We feasted on God's Word, and at Chef Steve's table, and left filled to the brim! The weekend was full of laughter, tears, encouragement, rest, refreshment, and praise and honor to His Name!

Don't miss this opportunity to gather with other sisters in Christ next year! Watch the fall issue of the Jubilate Deo for registration information. Mark your calendars now for February 1-3, 2008.

## Extras in the Ordinary Life

### ECW Retreat 2007



ECW President Catherine Jones greets conference participants.

## 123rd Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of South Carolina

**E**piscopal women and clergy throughout the Diocese are cordially invited to attend the 123rd Annual Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of South Carolina to be held at St. Helena's Parish Church, Beaufort hosted by the ECW of the Parish on Saturday, May 5 with registration beginning at 8:30 am. The business meeting will begin at 9 am.

Items on the agenda include selection of the Diocesan Project for the

coming year by delegates and the approval of Prayer Partners, a report from our current ECW Diocesan President Catherine Jones, and reports on our Diocesan Project and Prayer Partners. Contributions to the Diocesan Project God's Littlest Lambs, as well as CPC and UTO offerings will be received.

Following the business meeting, we will hear from our outstanding keynote speaker.

After lunch there will be a service of Holy Communion during which our

President-elect Sue Griffin of Holy Comforter, Sumter, and other ECW Diocesan Board members will be installed.

Reservations may be made by calling St. Helena's Parish Church office at 843-522-1712 or by writing to The Parish Church of St. Helena, PO Box. 1043, Beaufort, SC 29901—att. Donna McLean, Annual Meeting Chairperson. The \$15 reservation fee may be mailed in or paid at the door. Please make checks payable to St. Helena's ECW.

## Rest for your Soul

### Healing Mission at Holy Comforter Focuses on Stress Relief

**T**he Church of the Holy Comforter invites you to a healing mission on April 22 and 23. The Reverend Rick Belser of St Michael's Church, Charleston, will lead the mission on "healing from the stresses of every day life." The teachings will begin on Sunday morning, with Mr. Belser giving both the 8:30 and 11 a.m. sermons. His teaching will continue at 7 p.m. on both Sunday and Monday nights. All sessions will take place in the sanctuary.

Mr. Belser has been teaching a healing ministry for many years and

training people to serve as instruments of God's healing grace.

During the Mission, we will focus on seeking healing from the daily stress that wears on our hearts, minds and bodies. This will be a time to lie down in the green pastures mentioned in Psalm 23 through worship, individual prayer, and teachings by the Rev. Rick Belser. If you are weary and heavy-laden, bring that to the Shepherd on April 22 and 23 and find rest for your soul. "And Jesus said to them, 'Come aside by yourselves to a quiet place and rest a while.'" 2 Corinthians 4:8.



### Our Newest Daughters of the King

**O**ur Newest Junior DOK chapter was chartered in late January at Trinity, Pinopolis. Pictured above are our three newest Juniors: (l-r) Peyton Watford, Holly McPherson and Kaitlyn Mundy.

Upcoming events for the Daughters: Province IV Summer Retreat at Kanuga, June 22-24. The theme will

be, "Lord What will you have me do?" Our teachers will be The Rt. Rev. John Howe, National Chaplain; The Rt. Rev. William J. Skilton, Province IV Chaplain, and Joan Dalrymple, National President.

The Daughters Fall Assembly is September 15th at Epiphany in Eutawville.

#### Training for Volunteers: Survivor Follow Up Group

Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy's Survivor Follow Up Group will be holding an informational meeting on April 16th for anyone interested in becoming a volunteer. The meeting will be from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm at John Wesley United Methodist Church. Please contact the Chaplaincy's office at 724-1212 with any questions.

By Dr. Rob Rienow, Family Pastor,  
Wheaton Bible Church, Wheaton, IL  
www.visionaryparenting.com

**D**uring the last decade, churches all over the country have added a new ministry to their church: Family Ministry. For larger churches, this has often included adding a part-time or full-time Family Pastor to provide leadership for this new ministry area.

### The Silo Problem

However, in many cases this exciting new addition to the ministry “menu” has exacerbated some chronic problems in the church, and even in the home. As ministry specialization has increased, the various ministries of the church have tended to become disconnected, and function as “silos” rather than partners. As a result, the children’s ministry, youth ministry, men’s ministry, etc., are all doing great things, but they rarely calendar together, fellowship together, or strategize together toward common goals and objectives. Each ministry has their constituency, who they want to “reach for Christ.” Perhaps you have already been in a number of leadership meetings where this dysfunction was identified, and then, after each meeting, you all returned to your silos to continue business as usual.

Not only does this model exacerbate the historic problem of independent ministries, but it also increases competition and division among the staff team. Every church has a limited supply of resources. Those resources need to be allocated in staff and

church, and they scatter!

And now we have a wonderful new silo: Family Ministry! Now we want to invite you to come to participate in our children’s ministry programs, our youth ministry programs, our men’s and women’s ministry programs, AND our brand new family programs!

I want to suggest that forming a new department of family ministry, as an independent entity in the church structure, is a recipe for problems, frustration, and ineffective ministry. However, because it is the easiest way to jump on the family ministry wave, this is the model many churches choose.

So what is the alternative? Is there a way to approach the formation and development of family ministry that brings the staff of the church together and helps stem the tide of family fragmentation as well?

The answer is a resounding yes! But the starting place for effective change in this area lies far beneath the challenge of staff structure, programming,



# Family Ministry Target or strategy?

healthy, and pleasing to God.” Please don’t misunderstand what I am saying. There is nothing wrong with that goal, nor is there anything wrong with these programs. But as long as they are designed with a “target audience” mentality, the silo-independent, and program-based model of ministry will continue...and I believe we will continue to see marginal effectiveness overall.

I believe that we need to make a paradigm shift to see marriages and families not as ministry targets, but as the key to our Great Commission strategy. Jesus gave the mission to the church in Matthew 28, “Make disciples.” How is the church to go about this task? What is it going to take to help people all around the world discover Christ, develop in Christ, and deploy for Christ?

I am overwhelmingly convinced that the Scriptures point to the family as God’s primary vehicle for faith formation. In Genesis 18:17-18, God gives Abraham his specific instructions for how he is to start a generational movement that will bless all the nations. The Lord says, “For I have chosen him (Abraham), so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just, so that the LORD will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.”

Abraham’s job was to make his family a discipleship center! That was the God ordained starting point for His plan to fill the earth with worshippers.

Then in the Great Commandment in Deuteronomy 6:5 and following, we find this, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. These commandments that I give to you today are to be upon your hearts.” At this point, this command that Jesus says is the most important one of all, is completely in the abstract. It is a fair question for the follower

of Christ to say, “so what do I do with this command? Where do I start in real life?” The next verse answers the question. “Impress these commands on your

*Continued page seven.*

Here are two of the dozens of examples of the strong teaching on family that was found during this period.

#### Jonathan Edwards, 1751, in his “Farewell Sermon”

“We have had great disputes [about] how the church ought to be regulated; and indeed the subject of these disputes was of great importance: but the due regulation of your families is of no less, and, in some respects, of much greater importance. Every Christian family ought to be as it were a little church, consecrated to Christ, and wholly influenced and governed by his rules. And family education and order are some of the chief means of grace. If these fail, all other means are likely to prove ineffectual. If these are duly maintained, all the means of grace will be likely to prosper and be successful.”

#### Matthew Henry, 1704, in his “Sermon Concerning Family Religion”

“The pious and zealous endeavors of ministers for the reformation of manners, and the suppression of vice and profaneness, are the joy and encouragement of all good people in the land, and a happy indication, that God hath yet mercy in store for us. Now I know not anything that will contribute more to the furtherance of this good work than the bringing of family religion into practice and reputation. Here the reformation must begin. Other methods may check the disease we complain of, but this, if it might universally obtain, would cure it.”



Dr. Rob Rienow, author of *Visionary Parenting*, meets with diocesan clergy and children’s ministers at a workshop held at St. Paul’s, Summerville.

programming. Tough decisions are required. Priorities have to be set. In many church settings, the dollars go to the ministry leaders who are able to lobby the best for their cause. There are perceived winners and losers, and resentment is not far behind.

### Family Fragmentation

From the standpoint of the family attending the church, this can be increasingly frustrating. It is possible for a family to come to church on a Sunday morning and be hit with invitations to the next children’s outreach event, youth group overnight, women’s bible study, and men’s ministry service day... all on the same weekend. As a result, our families often feel guilty that they are not more involved in all the things they are “supposed” to be involved in. However, and more importantly, our ministry silos can actually contribute to the problem of the fragmentation of the family. The family shows up for

and resources. We must first deal with a fundamental theological and philosophical question related to the nature and the purpose of the family.

### A Target or Strategy?

I will attempt to state the question simply, and then nuance it. The question is this, “Do we believe that the family should be a ministry target or Great Commission strategy?”

For a church that sees the family as a “ministry target,” they will develop more and more programs to “help families be better.” So a premarital ministry will start, then a marriage mentoring ministry, then a few parenting seminars, financial workshops...and the list will continue to grow. What is the end goal of this myriad of programs? Usually, the end goals are not stated or identified, but if they were to be written down, they would be something like, “This program exists to help the marriages in our church be

# The Wake Up Call

## Waking Up to the Call of Fatherhood

By Peter Rothermel, Dept. of Christian Faith Formation, Diocese of SC

*"He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers. . ."*  
Malachi 4:6 (NIV)

Everybody wakes up differently in the morning. My wife has a routine of waking early without an alarm, getting a cup of coffee and settling into a quiet time of Bible reading before everyone else gets out of bed. She wakes up slowly and needs her coffee. I usually wake to an alarm and drive her crazy with my seemingly alert and bouncy movement around the house. Once I get out of bed, I like to get moving.

### The Trumpet Call

Well, it was about three years ago when I woke up to an alarm that I would refer to as a trumpet sound. I woke up to my call as a father. I was attending my first conference for children's pastors in Atlanta. I was with a group of Directors of Christian Education/Faith Formation (DCE/Fs) from our diocese and about 2,000 other people involved in children's ministry. I was new in my position as Coordinator for the Department of Christian Faith Formation and a bit uncomfortable in this new environment of children's ministry. It seemed like a major change for me, going from the youth ministry format of cool, contemporary bands to clowns and ventriloquists, but the reality of this conference was that God was showing up in big ways.

At this conference I heard a consistent message through several different main session speakers, as well as through the feedback of those around me. The message that came through

George Barna, Karyn Henley and Larry Fowler was consistent with what I had experienced in my 11 years of youth ministry. This message stated clearly that the fruit of the way the church has been ministering to children is limited. The truth is that many children and youth who spend their school years going to Sunday school, church and youth programs leave their current churches, because they don't have a clear or solid understanding of God, the Bible, salvation, or the church.

### Including Parents

The wake up call's message was that we had forgotten to include the parents in these ministries. We now needed to equip parents to minister to their children, as it is their primary responsibility to train up their children in the faith and love of Christ. Families had grown dependent on the church to do this for them. Time spent in church and in church activities without parental support just doesn't produce healthy fruit. Parents have the potential of many more hours to teach their children than we do as children's and

youth ministers.

So, there it was—BOOM—conviction! I was a parent who was getting my children to church, sending them to Christian school and just hoping that they would "get it" from how we were living. I would look for teachable moments and we

would say evening prayers—but wait! I am responsible for the spiritual growth of my children! I need to model and teach them about the most important, most incredible relationship available to mankind. I can have the honor of raising my children to love the Lord! But, how do I do it? Here I am, a man who has spent years intentionally teaching others about Christ, but I didn't know how to bring it home to my own family.

But wait!  
I am  
responsible  
for the spiritual  
growth of  
my children.



### Just Seven Minutes a Day

One of the resources that I brought back from that children's pastors' conference was a Bible for children (ages 7-10 years) by Karyn Henley called the Day-by-Day Bible ([www.karynhenley.com](http://www.karynhenley.com)). It breaks up the Bible into 7-minute daily readings and it takes you through the whole Bible. I now had a tool and a plan to start daily bedtime reading with my family. My wife had been doing this some, and she had also taught Sunday school, but I now felt called to take responsibility and not miss out on the opportunity to start being intentional about helping my children know the Bible and learn to grow in relationship with Christ. It doesn't just happen. I needed a wake up call, a plan, and now, a tool (this is a "guy thing," I think). So we

were off on the beginning of a new adventure as a family.

This was also a new adventure for the Department of Christian Faith Formation. Our group of DCE/Fs all got the clear wake up call that we needed to equip parents—and there, we

I needed a  
wake-up call,  
a plan  
and  
a tool.

had a vision for this department. A small group came back from this conference with a new direction and plan from God—a new emphasis and start to our approach to children's ministry. As the last few years have gone by, this momentum has grown and there are many more stories

of conviction and movement of the Holy Spirit. I believe we are in the beginnings of a major movement of God.

### Strength in Accountability

As for my adventure as a father, I am learning every day. I am now meeting with another father weekly. We meet to keep each other awake—to remind, encourage and pray with each other. We are sharing the journey and the burdens as well as the joys of being fathers and husbands. We know that it is vital for us to be good husbands first as a way of loving our children. We also know that this does not come naturally and that we need God and one another to stay awake.

Thank you, God, for restoring purpose to my life and for waking me up to enjoy the most precious treasure of my wife and children, the beauty of your Word and guidance, and the opportunity to know you and to share you with them. It is a bumpy ride and a transition of priorities, but that is what makes this journey an adventure! As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

## Family Ministry

*Continued from page six.*

children. Talk about them when you sit at home. . ."

The first action step of the Great Commandment is for families to pass faith to the next generation. Why is that so important? Because God has ordained the family to lead a movement of multigenerational faithfulness, so that the world will be filled with worship.

### Reclaim the Theology

I am convinced that we need to reclaim a theology of family if "family ministry" is every going to become what it needs to be. It doesn't need to be invented or developed, but reclaimed! This belief that the family is to serve as the foundational discipleship center was a cornerstone of the Reformation.

### Changes to Come

How would it change the way your church "does business" if the family was seen as an essential discipleship center? How would it change the way you work together if every staff member saw themselves as a "family minister" because they were thoroughly convinced that if the families in the church fail in their

role of "making disciples" then the church is likely to fail as well? What if family ministry on the organization chart was not another vertical silo with separate leadership, but it was a horizontal strategy that went through every ministry of the church, with a team of leaders ready to serve and support all the ministries?

### A Revolutionary Movement

I realize these are big questions. Digging into these questions with your church staff will be far more difficult than starting a new family ministry silo, but the silo will not get you where you want to go. If you are like me, you believe God wants to start a revolutionary movement in the church and in the home. If that is what you want, then take the narrow and hard road. You will not find any great movements of the church that have happened because of new programming. They happen when a group of people return to and reclaim biblical theology, practice it in their own homes, and lead.



# Millennium Development Goals

**J**ust what are the Millennium Development Goals? (MDGs) Why is there a need for such goals? It is hard for most of us to fathom, but one billion people (one out of every six in the world) live on less than \$1 per day. An additional two billion people live on less than \$2 per day. Finally, a worldwide effort to diminish this problem is in place. It is called the Millennium Development Goals. In 2000, under the auspices of the United Nations, leaders from 191 countries agreed on this plan that should be able to cut extreme global poverty in half

Does everyone support the MDGs? Well, just about everyone. Certainly, they should if they are familiar with them. We mentioned that 191 countries, including the United States had signed on to achieving these goals. Realistically, however, the United States is way behind most other countries in the proportion of their GNP that goes for foreign aid. Our total dollars expended for that purpose have increased in recent years, but we are near the bottom of the list of developed countries for proportional giving. Those countries that have already met the 0.7% goal are Norway, Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. Members of the European Union have committed to reaching the goal by 2015. Lacking a strong desire to meet these goals from our national government, it behooves us as individuals to help out. The Episcopal Church has strongly endorsed the MDGs. So has the Anglican Communion, The Archbishop of Canterbury, most Episcopal dioceses in this country, and many other Christian denominations.



by the year 2015. It calls for 0.7% of a nation's income to be spent on development aid. The goals, and part of the rationale for each of them, are listed in the box to the right. As you can tell, these goals are very similar to what Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) has been working on for years. In fact, all ERD programs relate to one or more of these goals. They are also similar to what Jesus told us in Matthew 25 (feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, etc.)

In fact, our most recent General Convention called for this to be a primary mission effort of the church for the next three years. In her investiture sermon, Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori called for us to support the MDGs. At the recent Primates meeting in Tanzania, MDGs met with solid support.

**Monitoring and Accountability**  
Do not think that this is just a case of throwing money at a problem and



hoping it will go away. The recipient nations are under an obligation to use the assistance wisely and to use their own resources more effectively. Measurements, monitoring, and accountability are part of the program. Each developing nation has to report on progress made each year for each of the goals. United Nations experts are available to work with these countries in an attempt to insure any funds are spent wisely. Of course, ERD demands

More information about ERD and the MDGs can be found online at [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org). Donations can be earmarked for MDGs. Or, if you have a particular interest in helping out on just one or more of the eight goals, specifying which goals you want your contribution to apply to will accomplish that. Any and all contributions are appreciated. However, if you want to find out what is considered "your share," then multiply your annual income by

## Millennium Development Goals

- 1. Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger: One person dies from hunger every 3.5 seconds.**
- 2. Achieve Universal Primary Education for Children: More than 100,000,000 elementary school age children are not enrolled in a school today.**
- 3. Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women: Millions of women lack the ability to become self-sufficient.**
- 4. Reduce Child Mortality: 1200 children under age five die every hour. Most of these deaths would be preventable with clean water and improved sanitation, nutrition and medical treatment.**
- 5. Improve Maternal Health: Over a half million women die from complications of pregnancy and childbirth each year.**
- 6. Combat Diseases such as HIV/AIDS and Malaria: These are preventable diseases that kill thousands every day, especially in sub-Saharan Africa.**
- 7. Ensure Environmental Sustainability: Clean water and sanitation can save numerous lives.**
- 8. Create a Global Partnership for Development: Increased international aid and debt forgiveness can help the goals be realized.**

accountability for all its expenditures. During the Feb. 28 web-cast, "A Conversation with the Church," broadcast on National Public Radio, a phone caller asked the Presiding Bishop this question, (slightly paraphrased), "In view of all the disagreement within the church, at a time when so many people around the world are suffering daily, what can we as members of our church do?" Her advice was to learn about the MDGs, encourage others to learn about the MDGs, and to make a difference by contributing through Episcopal Relief and Development.

### How You Can Help

If you would like to help in this effort, send your gift to the new address for ERD donations: PO Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058. If your church would like to make this a project, I would be glad to be of assistance.

0.7%. For example, a \$50,000 annual income would call for a donation of \$350. (\$50,000 x .007). Philanthropic projects do not get much more important than the Millennium Development Goals. Certainly, helping those people most in need around the world by supporting the MDGs through Episcopal Relief and Development is something on which virtually all of us should agree. I trust members of our relatively affluent diocese will respond generously. Encourage your clergy to make this a priority.

Harmon B. Person  
Diocesan Rep for ERD  
[Hbpjlp2@bellsouth.net](mailto:Hbpjlp2@bellsouth.net)  
(843) 766-8040

# Can this teen be Saved?

Probably not with silliness.

## Fluff doesn't attract teens

By Dave Wright, Diocesan Coordinator for Youth Ministry

**T**ime Magazine recently ran an article titled "In Touch With Jesus" with the revealing subtitle "Sugarcoated, MTV-style youth ministry is so over. Bible-based worship is packing teens in pews now!" The story confirms what many of our youth ministers have been saying for several years. The old style of youth ministry consisting of fun and games with a little bit of Jesus, has proven to be ineffective. According to a Barna survey, 61% of adults polled who are now in their 20s said they had participated in church activities as teens but no longer do. Sociologist Christian Smith's book *Soul Searching: The Religious and Spiritual Lives of American Teenagers* reveals a reality that American teens today do not subscribe to the most basic doctrines of the church. Smith comments on the problem as follows: "With all the competing demands on their time, religion becomes a low priority, and so they practice their faith in shallow ways." What is emerging in the research and the reality of where

teenagers enjoy) to attract teens to the church, then we should not be surprised when few want to settle down for in-depth Bible study and prayer. Yet another challenge we find when we offer fun-and-entertainment-based ministry is that by the very nature of entertainment, we have to keep offering bigger and better fun. The reality is that entertainment, like addictions, requires more intense experiences to keep fulfilling the desire or need. Eventually we run out of ideas and or energy to keep the momentum going, and teenagers wander off feeling disappointed.

If we want to see fruit that will last, we must recognize the deeper hunger in students for Biblical truth and an engaging spirituality.



### A shift in our thinking!

The reality behind the change that is taking place in churches around the world is a basic truth that the whole church needs to notice. If we want to see fruit that will last, we have to teach youth how to

helps people to see that we can run enjoyable (fun) youth group meetings where the focus is Jesus, and the games and activities we lead are relevant to that focus, not distractions from it. Many youth leaders need to figure out the best way to run youth groups that are focused on the gospel and based in scripture.

### The points of resistance...

Three sources of resistance or objection come to the surface when youth ministry leaders try to implement this biblical approach to ministry. First is what I call the social club factor. If a congregation consists of a large number of people for whom the church is little more than a social club with a weekly

Eucharist, then attempting a more biblical approach to youth ministry will face resistance. Such churches are ones where the average member is involved in men's or women's groups but not Bible studies, prayer groups, or adult formation classes. To challenge students to engage in these functions of the church, when their parents are not doing so, is no small undertaking.

The second resistance is the famous "we have always done it that way" phrase of the church. Often the scope of how a church does youth ministry can be limited by the experience of the previous generations. For a youth leader to suggest that good ministry consists of much more than social outings and service projects, can bring

*Continued on page ten.*



ministries are growing is a significant gap between the way youth ministry used to be and the way of the future.

### Where did we get stuck?

First, let me suggest that the harvest we reap is related to the way we sow seeds. Many years ago at a Willow Creek Leadership Conference, I heard a phrase that has stuck with me ever since. "What we win people with, we win them to." The point being made was simple. If we offer fun and games and little content, we should not expect spiritual depth among the youth of our churches. To take it a step further, if we use wild and crazy fun (which most

be the church today! For this reason, we have brought in speakers like Ken and Julie Moser to our weekends and training events. Ken teaches a way to run youth groups that is centered on the gospel, steeped in scripture, involves prayer and engages students in service, in order for them to experience the body of Christ. His approach is a fundamental paradigm shift because it places discipleship ahead of evangelism, just as Jesus did (see the Great Commission). In other words, it seeks to build up the body before reaching out to the world. Ken's book of youth group meetings *Programs 2 Go* has become a resource we are distributing to our youth ministers. However, Ken's way is not the only way. It simply

## Leading our Youth to Lemonade

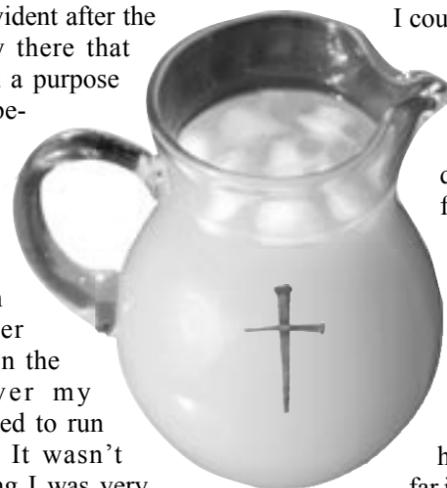
By Darrin Owens, Youth Minister, Christ St. Paul's, Younges Island

Recently, I was fortunate enough to go across the pond to The Bible Centered Youth Worker Conference. It being my first trip to jolly ole England; I was a bit more than excited to go. I was also blessed enough to be able to bring my beautiful wife and my very active and sweet, 17-month-old son.

It was evident after the first day there that God had a purpose for me being there.

It was also obvious that Satan had other plans. On the way over my son started to run a fever. It wasn't something I was very worried about because my wife is a registered nurse. To make a long story short, my son's fever spiked above 104 degrees, and he went into a seizure. I prayed over my son as we waited for the ambulance. In that moment, I knew if Satan was trying this hard to distract me, God had a wonderful plan for this trip. After spending the night

in the hospital, and making sure my son was okay, I got my family back to where we were staying and was able to make it to the conference. There, I was confronted with a great question that I had honestly not thought about in a while. "Do we, as youth workers, produce fruit that will last?" Searching my heart, I could only answer that I hoped so.



The more I thought about the question, the more it felt as if Christ himself was asking me. The realization I came up with is that we as youth ministers have an overwhelming need to share the gospel. I had spent my years so far in youth ministry telling youth all the truths of the Bible. Through the years, I've had some very devoted youth and I've had some that got their "get out of youth group free card" when they got their driver's license. Of course we have all heard the old saying, "you can lead a horse to water but

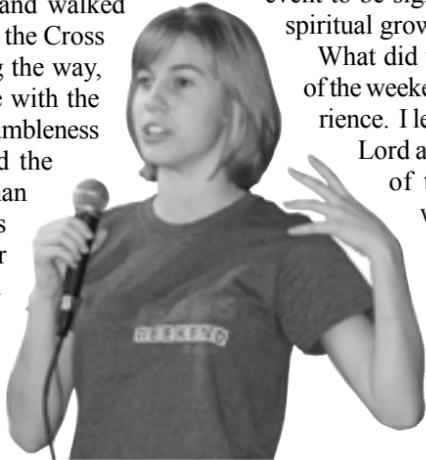
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# 1 Amazing Life in 3 Days:

Jesus Weekend 2007

He never ran for public office. He never wrote a book. He never traveled more than 200 miles from his hometown. He died before he was 40. And yet, he still changed history. We count our years by his life. His name is known around the world: Jesus.

On March 2 through 4 at Camp St. Christopher, we took 130 participants through the life of our Savior at JESUS WEEKEND. This is a powerful event catered to Confirmation groups, but open to all youth. We started with Christmas and walked through His life through the Cross and on to Easter. Along the way, we challenged everyone with the joy of discipleship, the humbleness of the foot washing and the pain of the Cross. Jonathan Bennett from Holy Cross along with Dickie Miler and Oeland Camp from St. Paul's, Summerville, offered the teaching. Brenda Szymanowski and the Youth Commission facilitated a



whole camp full of small group discussions. Stewart Fenters led us in musical worship and Phillip Holaday brought the joy to the weekend with mixers and games. Rev. Ken Weldon offered us Eucharist on Sunday, and Charlotte Smith was our overall leader and host and did an excellent job keeping everything on track. If you group didn't make it this year, make plans to come next Spring. So many youth find this event to be significant in their spiritual growth.

What did the youth think of the weekend? "Fun experience. I learned about the Lord and the meaning of the cross." "It was awesome." "Getting closer to the Lord and knowing more of what he went through for us."



By Oeland Camp, Youth Minister, St. Paul's, Summerville

## Can This Teen be Saved?

Continued from page nine.

about a firestorm of criticism. To skip over the fun and games in favor of Bible study, worship, and prayer may mean that parents don't perceive the youth group to be as fun as they had growing up. Until we experience dynamic Bible teaching, engaging prayer and worship, and life changing missions and evangelism opportunities, we cannot grasp that students will warm to such. At times, we wrongly assume that students don't want or are not ready to be challenged.

## Consumer Driven Mentality

The third resistance comes from our American consumer-driven mentality. This has profoundly affected the American church! The entertainment model of ministry is driven by celebrity status and the wow factor. We seem to think

that to get the attention of teenagers, we must compete with Hollywood. The research and reality of many ministries today is showing this thinking to be inaccurate. Entertainment-driven ministry has been the norm for more than a decade, and yet the research done by Christian Smith concludes that the faith of today's teens is best described as moralistic therapeutic deism! In recent years, our diocesan youth events have moved away from bringing in the big name speakers, bands, and worship leaders. That is not to suggest that they are not effective in ministry, but we question why we need someone who has been on television or in movies to communicate the gospel. Why spend enormous amounts of money on celebrities when we have excellent communicators and worship leaders in our midst who do not need to make a living from it? Having said that, in

many places where we still see entertainment driven youth events, we find that God is doing good things there. A recent national youth event that some of our churches participated in had wild and crazy antics on stage, a concert style worship band, and an excellent speaker who challenged students with the gospel. Some of us there wondered why we needed all the entertainment when students were really hungry for the truth about God and an experience of worship. It seemed such a mixed offering and certainly was not an experience that could be replicated in the local church. However, the gospel was clear and challenged the students. The Holy Spirit's movement was clear in the event. We praise God for that!

## Fruit That Will Last

If we want to see fruit that will last, we must recognize the deeper hunger in students for Biblical truth and an engaging spirituality. We have to compare our methods to that which we see in scripture and slay some sacred cows! This shift in our thinking is relevant not only to youth ministry but to the whole of our church.

To read the full article in *Time Magazine* online, go to: <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1552027-1,00.html>.

## Leading our Youth

Continued from page nine.

you can't make him drink," right? Well if Christ is the water in this analogy, I feel as though at times I've been leading my youth to lemonade or maybe Kool-Aid. It still is made primarily of water but the powder just makes it look and taste a bit different. I wasn't leading teenagers to the full Gospel. The main thing in my teaching was Christ but I felt as if I had to put enough extra stuff or "powder" in the teaching that all the youth would feel comfortable. It's very easy to get caught up in the mentality that we have to make our youth group comfortable to all who attend. The problem is that we neglect teaching the youth to be disciples.

During my time at the conference, I was reminded that Christ didn't just want us to have a personal relationship with Him. If that were the case, wouldn't he take us from this world when we accept Him as our Lord and Savior? He left us here to "go and make disciples of all nations." Here was my next tough question, "How do you 'make disciples of all nations' from Hollywood, South Carolina?" That's a hard question!

The good thing is it's a question that I don't have to answer now or maybe at all. Christ has called me to "GO," not to sit and come up with a plan, then go. Can you imagine how long it

would have taken to spread the gospel if God had let the disciples do it on their own? I'm pretty sure we would be worshiping Oprah over here in the States by the time Christianity made it over here.

Finally and most importantly while in London, I was able to spend some time with youth pastors who are teaching and proclaiming the Gospel with joy in a place where Christian complacency is the norm. Although England has many churches, Christianity is even more out of the mainstream than it is here. Their struggles seem only to bring about joy in the fact that they are doing God's Will. I pray to God that I can have such joy in my struggles and setbacks. If I had to pick one thing I brought back with me from my trip to share, it would be the image of my son and the excitement he had as he saw me coming back to the flat where we were staying. He was looking out the window in expectation that I would be coming home. When he saw me he was jumping up and down, screaming "Daddy, Daddy," and wanting to be in my arms. That made it all too clear what my purpose in ministry was. I'm here because others need to know the joy that is inside us and the desire to with and held by our heavenly Father.



**When:** Saturday, April 28, 2007, 12:30-8:00 pm

**Who:** Any middle and high school students who have a heart for worship

**Where:** Church of the Holy Cross, 2520 Middle Street, Sullivan's Island, SC

**Cost:** \$10 (at the door... advance registration not necessary)

**Speaker:** The Rev. David Dubay, St. Philip's Church, Charleston

**Topic:** What is worship?

**The power of Mosaic is that we won't just be talking about worship...we'll be doing it!** Throughout the afternoon you will experience three distinct worship styles and venues. Our time together will conclude with a powerful worship experience in which the various styles will be blended together.

**Details and Format:**  
 12 p.m. Registration Opens  
 1 p.m. Mosaic Begins  
 6 p.m. Dinner (provided)  
 7-8 p.m. Final Worship Experience

**Questions?**  
 Contact Lisa Jones at 843.722.4075 or [lisaj@dioceseofsc.org](mailto:lisaj@dioceseofsc.org)

# The Vestry Retreat *A Time to Unify*

Thoughts on Faithful and Effective Church Leadership

By Elizabeth Pennewill

**I**n the last edition of the *Jubilate Deo* the planning retreat was described as a wise investment of time and financial resources. To recap, the planning retreat is held in the fall and its purpose is for the church's leadership to make plans for the following year. Ideally, this retreat is held before the annual budget is developed.

The planning retreat will address key questions such as: How effectively are this year's goals being accomplished? In what areas of ministry does God seem to be blessing us this year? What steps might we take next year that will help to fulfill our vision?

## The Purpose of the Vestry Retreat

The planning retreat is entirely different from the vestry retreat normally held early in the year following a church's annual meeting. The dual purpose of the vestry retreat is to foster unity among vestry members while providing training in spiritual leadership.

## Spiritual Leadership

A well-planned vestry retreat will help undergird the vestry's spiritual leadership responsibilities by exhorting the members to a higher understanding of their calling and giving them tools to deepen their own Christian walk. For example, *The Spirit of the Disciplines: Understanding How God Changes Lives* by Dallas Willard, is a great resource that would form the basis of a terrific vestry retreat.

Spiritual leaders are not content with the status quo. They see leadership from a biblical worldview which means they are servants first. They have a clear understanding that the church's mission is the Great Commission (Matthew 28). Spiritual leaders pray for God's vision for their church

and align their resources, systems and ministries accordingly. They will not tolerate a maintenance mindset. Many spiritual leaders are born, and vestries are blessed to have them, and others can be made with effective training.

## The Role of the Vestry

Another means to building up the vestry body is to focus on their role as spiritual leaders. How is a vestry member's responsibility different from that of a board member of any other not-for-profit organization? Here are a few teaching ideas:

## Ten Teaching Points for Vestry Retreats

**1. Pray** – "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." James 5:16; "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Acts 2:42

**2. Tithe** – "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." - Malachi 3:10

**"The Canons of the church give exclusive authority over the fiscal affairs of the parish to the vestry. But vestry members are also spiritual leaders who are committed to building up the Body of Christ so that it can be an effective instrument of mission and ministry in the world."**

*Vestry Handbook, Diocese of South Carolina*

**3. Define Reality** – Max DePree calls this the first responsibility of a leader. It involves looking at the church's culture and systems in terms of its size, assessing the condition of the church in terms of its discipleship effectiveness.

**4. Affirm and Focus on the Vision** – A good vision is aligned with the Great Commission. It is discerned by the rector and affirmed by the leadership. Unified, they hold the vision up to the congregation.

**5. Engage in Strategic Planning/Alignment** – If a church's systems, resources, and ministries are not aligned with the vision, the church is stuck.

## 6. Be Good Stewards of Resources

– The vestry has exclusive authority over the fiscal affairs of the parish, but if that's the main consideration guiding decision-making, the vestry is stuck.



Maria Sample, above, cares for a young patient during the ninth Medical Mission to the Dominican Republic. Photo: Peter R. Smith

## Tenth Diocesan Medical Mission Planned

The tenth Mission Medical will travel to the Dominican Republic July 19-29, 2007, to celebrate and share our faith with our Dominican brothers and sisters. The mission team has traveled to Santo Domingo, San Francisco, and Santiago DR, to set up short term medical, dental, and pharmacy clinics in the poorest of barrios in these urban areas.

This year's mission team includes physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, lay support people, and Rev. Becky Coerper as the team chaplain. We will set up temporary at the Albergue Children's Shelter and at Cristo Salvador church and anticipate seeing between 700-800

patients during our visit. These patients typically do not have access and cannot afford basic medical treatment within their own country.

While much "doctoring" will occur, the primary purpose of this trip is to reestablish and further deepen our relationship in Christ with our Dominican friends and family. Please remember our group in prayer as we prepare and travel. The continued support throughout the Diocese means so much to the success of this mission.

Submitted in His service, Peter R. Smith, DMD, St. Helena, Beaufort, SC

**7. Be Continuous Learners** – One tiny example: Does the vestry know all that the Diocese has to offer? Is the church taking advantage of all of the excellent resources available to them in the areas of youth ministry, Christian faith formation, college and young adult ministry and leadership consulting? Do they know how the congregational development department supports churches that have a vision?

**8. Be Unafraid of Change** – "And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." – Jesus

**9. Be Unified** – Nothing guarantees a divided congregation like a divided vestry.

**10. Be Clear** – "There's something unique and different that makes a leader, and it's not about creativity or courage or integrity. As important as they are, you can have those attributes and still fail to be a great leader. A leader's job is to rally people toward a better future. Leaders can't help but change the present, because the present

isn't good enough. They succeed only when they find a way to make people excited by and confident in what comes next...For a leader, the challenge is that in every society ever studied, people fear the future. The future is unstable, unknown, and therefore potentially dangerous. So in order to succeed, leaders must engage our fear of the unknown and turn it into spiritedness. By far the most effective way to turn fear into confidence is to be clear – to define the future in such vivid terms that we can see where we are headed. Clarity is the antidote to anxiety, and therefore clarity is the preoccupation of the effective leader. If you do nothing else as a leader, be clear."

– The Clear Leader, by Bill Breen, Fast Company, Issue 92, Page 65, March 2005

If you are interested in learning more about church leadership, check the next edition of the *Jubilate Deo*, or call me, Elizabeth Pennewill, Consultant for Congregational Leadership Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina 843-452-1986 pennewill@esite-usa.com.



# St. Andrew's Mission Church's Container Arrives in Liberia

**T**he twenty-foot container of church, school, medical and relief items sent by St. Andrew's Mission Church in Charleston arrived safely in Liberia in December.

Food items, clothing, blankets, books and toys were distributed among five different orphanages over the Christmas holiday. The elderly residents of the Fendell Displaced Shelter also received items.

In January the medical equipment and supplies were delivered to the Medical Director and staff at the St. Timothy Hospital, located in Robertsport, Grand Cape Mount County, northwestern Liberia. The National Association of Capemountainians in the America, Inc. (NACA) collaborated with St. Andrew's Mission Church to help transport and distribute the medical equipment and supplies from the Freeport of Monrovia to the St. Timothy Hospital in Robertsport City.

In 2005, NACA reopened the outpatient unit of the hospital and has since continued to pay honorariums to the medical staff. St. Timothy Hospital provides vital health services to the people of Robertsport and its environs.

Hundreds of used 1940 and 1982 Hymnals and more than 300 hundred 1979 Books of Common Prayer will be distributed to clergy and church representatives in March during the upcoming Diocese Convention of the Episcopal Church of Liberia. Also included were used church hangings, linens, frontals, chalices, patens and ciborium.



The Clergy of the Diocese of Liberia are expected to receive clerical shirts, cassocks, vestments, etc., donated by the Vestment Exchange Program, located in the Diocese of New Jersey, and churches in the Diocese of South Carolina. Other non-Episcopal clergy will also receive clerical shirts.

The Hymnals, Prayer Books, church materials and ornaments will help to revitalize many Episcopal churches that were badly affected by the brutal Liberian Civil War that ended three years ago. The Episcopal Church of Liberia, like the Episcopal Church, USA, uses the same Hymnals and Prayer Books. Some rural congregations in Liberia do not have any Hymnal or Prayer Books to conduct worship services.

Theological books, Bible Commentaries and Interpreters, Bibles, etc., are expected to be donated to the Theology Department at the Cuttington University College in Suacoco, Liberia. These items will help to equip the library at the Cuttington University College. Cuttington is owned and operated by the Episcopal

Church of Liberia, and both Rev. James Yarsiah and Rev. Wilmot Merchant are graduates of this institution.

A few schools have been earmarked to receive donations of the five computers, two typewriters and two printers. Electricity is scarce in Liberia, and this makes it difficult to operate electrical equipment. However, in July 2006, electricity was restored to many parts of the capital city, Monrovia.

As Liberia recovers from 14 years of the brutal civil war and destruction, St. Andrew's Mission Church, in collaboration with the Diocese of South Carolina, other churches, institutions and individuals are making a huge impact on the empowerment and rebuilding of broken and shattered lives of God's children.

The donated items have made a big difference in the life of the Church, schools, hospital, orphanages and community in Liberia. All the beneficiaries expressed their gratitude. Several Episcopal churches in the Diocese of South Carolina have agreed to collaborate with St. Andrew's Mission Church in subsequent global outreach efforts.

## Restructuring Diocesan Support for Social Ministries

By Ed Dyckman, Department of Social Ministries, Diocese of South Carolina.

**E**cclasiastically Speaking... is the "language" one must use when visiting the Deaneries of the Diocese of South Carolina. Well, not really. The Department of Social Ministries has visited four deaneries and the clergy we met couldn't have been nicer or more accommodating! The photo shows the members of the Florence Deanery with whom we met on Valentines Day! Appropriate to the occasion, we demonstrated the website of our partner "Abundant Hearts" at <http://www.abundanthearts.org> as well as our Department's website at [www.socialministries.com](http://www.socialministries.com).

Our message focused on: (a) inreach and outreach, i.e., how we can help churches serve the needy both within and without their church family; and (b) communication, i.e., how we can use Abundant Hearts technology to streamline communication between and among church groups (Episcopal Church Women, Youth, Christian Education, Outreach and Missions, etc.) at the church, community (ecumenical), Deanery, and Diocesan levels.

Another important message is, starting with the 2008 budget, the Diocesan Council will place all ministries and missions, i.e., those traditionally supported by the Diocese and others operating from within communities, on a level-funding playing

field using the concept of "zero-based" budgeting. Through the *Jubilate Deo* and our Social Ministries Electronic-Newsletter we will inform all Diocesan ministries, missions, and churches of the zero-based budgeting criteria developed by the Diocese's Finance Committee and approved by the Diocesan Council. The "bottom-line?" Rather than anticipating receipt of 2008 operational funds from the Diocese, all ministries and missions need more fully to use the tools available to them through the Department of Social Ministries, e.g., its website, electronic newsletter, Abundant Hearts communication techniques, and event seed money, to INSPIRE churches and communities to provide these ministries and missions with direct financial and volunteer support. To help the process work, we encourage all church offices to: (a) pass the monthly Social Ministries E-newsletter contents to all their parishioners and (b) publish the website address [www.socialministries.com](http://www.socialministries.com) in all their parish publications.

If you would like to share information concerning communication and social ministry and mission needs and opportunities in your community, please contact Ed Dyckman, Chair, Department of Social Ministries, at 843-367-5647, [edward.dyckman@att.net](mailto:edward.dyckman@att.net) and/or [ed@socialministries.com](mailto:ed@socialministries.com).



By Sam Clawson

**A**nthony Kodjo Kowbeidu returned to the land of his birth on February 2, 2007, but this was a different Liberia than the one he left in 1994. Anthony returned to re-establish contact and to begin a new relationship with St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Monrovia. On Sunday after his arrival, he stood in the pulpit of St. Thomas and preached a sermon on hope to a congregation that was spilling into the streets.

Sometimes to know where you are going you have to know where you have been.

Anthony began life in a yellow mud hut in Yapoia, Liberia, a village of 150. He was nine years old when he saw his first white man, a missionary. Little did he know that this strange man who gave him candy was a missionary for the same Lord that Anthony later came to worship and serve. For at that time, Anthony had been raised in the traditional African religion. It was not until his family moved from the village to Monrovia when he was 10 that his family became Christians and he came to know Jesus Christ.

## A Nightmare of Violence

The Liberia of Anthony's birth became a nightmare of violence that lasted until he left for America in 1994. From the violent regime of Samuel Doe through the atrocities of Charles Taylor and his rebels, life was a daily struggle to avoid the seemingly random acts of violence by men in uniform. This was especially true after Taylor was elected president, following his bloody rebellion. Anthony remembers often working his way carefully through the streets while going to get his mother some food, hoping to avoid the roving bands of rebels, stealing and killing at will.

One afternoon he was confronted with a drunken group of marauders who pointed their rifles to several corpses that had been lying in the street for days in the hot sun. "Hey you, bury



Anthony with his friend, Thomas Collins.

these bodies!" Anthony will never forget that scene and the smell that lingers to this day in his memory.

The horror of the rebels knew no boundaries. His family lived in a small four room house behind a store, with his mother, two sisters, two brothers and his nephew. For no reason, the alcohol and drug crazed rebels came one night and burned his home. His family

# God is Here and God is Near

Associate Rector from St. Andrew's Mt. Pleasant,  
Anthony Kowbeidu, Visits Liberian Homeland

was forced to flee in order to survive. Anthony sought refuge in the compound of the American Embassy.

## Salvation in Christ

The one thing that the rebels could not destroy was hope. For Anthony had received a gift more valuable than a house or even his dignity, the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. The

people of St. Thomas continued to worship and, throughout the trials and tribulations, remained faithful. They bound together in worship even as every family lost family members and friends.

*We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing. Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring. 2 Thes. 1:3-4*

## A New Home A New Life

In the midst of these circumstances, Dr. Charles A. Clark, senior warden and now leader of the Unity Party, saw Anthony's faithfulness. He offered to help Anthony out of these depths.

Through great personal sacrifice, he sponsored Anthony to study in the United States, paying for his flight to America and his first year at Voorhees College. Bishop Salmon and others soon came alongside Anthony as he completed his degree in sociology at Voorhees and his divinity degree at University of the South (Sewanee).

Even during this time, the war raged on. In 1998, Anthony returned to Monrovia for his mother's funeral. When he entered the country at Roberts International Airport, he was met by rebel troops, who took his suitcase and dumped the contents, spilling even his mother's burial clothes,

the same clothes he had lovingly bought the week before for his beloved mother, onto the filthy ground.

## Returning to Liberia

Now, let's fast forward to February 2, 2007. As the plane taxied to Roberts International Airport, old memories flooded in. This time, however, he was



From left, Anthony's sister, Afua, Anthony, his niece Gbadee and nephew Amandu.

greeted with, "Welcome to Liberia." Customs asked him to open his suitcase but immediately passed him through as a missionary. The traffic into Monrovia was not stopped by rebel checkpoints but only the heavy traffic of people moving about freely. In Monrovia, people filled the streets. Unarmed, yes, unarmed, policemen now stood where camo-clad rebels once stood with their powerful rifles. He saw the hope in the faces of the people, despite the devastation to the infrastructure of the country. The country, including Monrovia, its capital of approximately 700,000 people, is still without electricity, other than what is supplied by private generators.

As Anthony climbed to the pulpit at St. Thomas the Sunday after he returned, he spoke to this very hope that is ours in Christ Jesus our Lord. His text was from Ezekiel 37, the Valley of Dry Bones.

*The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "O Sovereign LORD, you alone know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.'" Ezekiel 37: 1-6*

## God is Here and Near

Anthony preached a sermon of hope, restoration and renewal. "God is here and God is near." Even in the midst of war, God says, "I was there." In the midst of devastation, God calls out to us, "I was there." There is no place that we can go and not be with His Spirit.

Anthony also preached a sermon that challenged the church in Liberia, comparing the Church, whether in Liberia or America, to a car filled with gas, but sitting in a garage. He challenged the church to get out and preach the Gospel: "Get the car out of the garage and onto the highways."

The church responded powerfully to Anthony's sermon, with a chorus of "amen's."

In later meetings with Father James Sellee, the rector of St. Thomas, along with Dr. Clark and members of the vestry, Anthony explored the most pressing needs of the church. Time after time, representatives of the congregation said that education is the single most urgent need. The school that St. Thomas had operated had been burned during the war.

## Islamic Schools Established

Father Sellee noted that, since the war, petrol dollars have poured in from Arab countries and Islamic schools are being established. While Muslims account for 20% of the population, Sellee said, "their influence is becoming disproportionate."

Anthony was also able to renew his ties with family and friends. His brother, two sisters, nephew and many aunts, uncles and cousins warmly welcomed him home. Despite many severe and continuing hardships, his family has endured, mainly through Anthony's sacrificial assistance.

While Monrovia seems to be a large city with the streets teeming with people, it is really a small town. When walking the streets, hardly a block passed without someone calling to Anthony, "Kodjo, is that you!?" Anthony will lead a medical/dental mission back to Monrovia next year and prays that our Lord will open doors that will lead to a re-building the St Thomas school.

*Anthony Kowbeidu is associate rector at St Andrew's, Mt. Pleasant and oversees Missions, Outreach, and Evangelism. He was accompanied to Liberia by Sam Clawson, St. Andrew's International Missions Team Leader.*

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## That All May be One

Fifth Annual All Edisto Women's Ministry Conference

By The Rev. E. Weyman Camp IV,  
Rector, Trinity Episcopal Church,  
Edisto

*"I in them and thou in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that thou hast sent me and hast loved them even as thou hast loved me." John 17*

The 5th Annual All Edisto Women's Ministry Conference was held this past February 10, 2007, at the Presbyterian Church. It was very significant in several ways.

### 1. 100% of the Edisto churches participated!

Lay leadership from every church on Edisto Island was involved, named on the program, and lead in some aspect of the day's activities. 100% !! This is spiritually huge! Edisto Island is still a relatively small and geographically separate place, but differences and disagreements still exist. What if 100% of the churches of any other larger area all participated together? For anything? I think our Lord Jesus, by the power of His Holy Spirit, won a big victory for His Kingdom on Edisto Island!

### 2. Over 300 ladies attended!

The largest sanctuary on the island was filled to overflowing, standing room only. There is only one other building on the island that could hold more people - the Presbyterian Gym!

### 3. Racial Barriers were demolished!

Sisters who are black and white all gave leadership in teaching, testifying, praying, singing and participating.

### 4. Denominational Barriers were demolished!

Baptists, Roman Catholics, Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Methodists, AME, RMUE, Independent and non-denominational all came together. They sang traditional hymns, renewal music and gospel!

### 5. Trinity gave significant servant leadership!

Nineteen ladies from Trinity exercised servant leadership for this conference. Even though the conference was held in the Presbyterian sanctuary, they were served and supported by Episcopalians. This included our own Martha Sparks as a leading organizer and Joanne Ellison, the keynote speaker, from St. Andrews, Mt. Pleasant. Spiritually, it's a great place to be.

The last night Jesus was with his apostles he prayed for his future disciples that they may become perfectly one. Over the last 1,000 years, ever since the split between the East and the West in the Church, we have understood this in some spiritually disassociated way. But on one day, in one place, for one moment, on Edisto Island, it was so! Thank you Lord for the taste! Can't wait for heaven!

## A Year of Breakthroughs News from China

By The Rev. Wang

At the beginning of 2006, I reported on the Messiah concert held at the city indoor stadium and how it had miraculously come together. By the end of the year, we began to see the fruits of that concert. The rippling effect of that event is showing up in my life and in the lives of my colleagues.

### Working with HIV/AIDS Patients

Wonderful things are happening in the work among heroin addicts and those with HIV/AIDS, particularly those who live in rural areas without access to information or assistance. My role has clearly become that of a teacher, pastor, counselor, priest and consultant, not only with those who suffer from drug and HIV problems, but also to those ministering to the poor, the hearing impaired the Bible school students and halfway house residents.

I love teaching because it gives me an opportunity to utilize the years of training I've received. The hard part is the resistance people have to reading and studying God's word on their own. Most of those I work with are used to attending worship services and hearing Scriptures read and preached from. They are not used to delving into the Bible and studying it on their own. Every Sunday night, I am teaching a Bible Study using the inductive method. Please pray for this every time you pray for me.

### Serving in the Drug Rehabilitation Center

I am also teaching residents at the Refuge, a drug rehabilitation center. This group has personally experienced the power of God through their initial rehabilitation, yet their previous psychological problems and tenuous hold on Biblical truth sometimes derails them. Each resident is assigned two buddies who stay with them for seven days, keeping close tabs on them even when they go to the loo. When they need a fix, the buddies pray with them and, with God's help, they come through both literally and physically. This group presents its own set of challenges for their helpers and for me as well.

### Great Sorrow Opens Doors to Sharing the Gospel

One recent experience has touched the lives of many. Yang, a 21-year-old HIV positive rehab resident, who drove for the Refuge Center became seriously infected after having teeth extracted and died two months later. While he was still in the hospital, I was able to go with the director of his group from the HIV/AIDS ministry to serve him the Eucharist daily. When he was released, I asked a licensed Hospice friend to help the Refuge residents set up his care unit and taught them how to care for him. That's when I realized that God, in His mercy, was bringing his saving grace in Christ to the AIDS hospital where

I have no relatives in this land and every day I rely on God's help to survive spiritually, emotionally and physically.

I need your help.

other patients and their families had a chance to hear the Gospel. During Yang's illness, his caregivers had the opportunity to join us at our Services. There is no way to predict how God's grace will be extended or how it will be carried out. All I can say is that no matter how limited my human effort has been in these seemingly helpless cases, God finds a way to break into these marginalized lives with the hope of life eternal.

At Yang's funeral, I gave his eulogy, and spoke about the Christian's hope of eternal life with God. It made me realize that it is not about what I do or fail to do, but about what God is doing in a land devastated and in people who have absolutely no hope.

### Your Support is Needed

I said yes to Christ's call to the ordained ministry in China in 1986. After

20 years, it's all beginning to make sense. Many people look at me and think that since I look the part and can get lost in a crowd, I need no support. But that's far from the truth. I have no relatives in this land, and every day I rely on God's help to survive, survive spiritually, emotionally and physically. I need your help.

In this next year I would love to see some of our local church members give their testimonies, pray and teach some of the other local Christians. If you can assist us, please call St. Michael's Church at 843-723-0603 or Bishop Salmon at 843-722-4075. Let's work together for the mercy, grace and blessings of God to reach to all those who need help, one person at a time to

*The author of this article is serving in a culturally-sensitive country. At her request we are not publishing her full name.*

## A Message of Faith and Hope Bishop Skilton Delivers Homily at Dominican Republic Diocesan Convention

“God is good, all the time. And all the time, God is good.” This is a common greeting and response of the faithful in the African church. These were also the only English words spoken by Right Reverend William Skilton during his homily at the closing Eucharist and consecration service of the recent Diocesan convention of the Dominican Republic Episcopal Church February 2nd-4th 2007. Bishop Skilton’s message of hope and faith energized an already-electrified overflow crowd of 800 at the Santo Domingo Cultural Arts Center. The celebration of shared faith in the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ started as a mile long procession from Epiphany Church down to the seaside center. Hymns sung in Spanish filled the air throughout the route, as vested clergy, seminarians, friends, family and parishioners professed their faith in song for all of the city to hear.

Reverends Tommy Tipton, Callie Perkins, Terence Lee, Marshall Huey, and Dr. Peter Smith joined Bishop Skilton for the three day convention and celebration of the Dominican Episcopal Church hosted by Bishop Julio Holguin and the local parishes of the island. The spirit-filled event



The Rev. Miguelina Espinal, shown above with Bishop Skilton, is the vicar of the Church in Bonao. She preached at General Convention and serves from Province IX on Executive Council. Photo: Peter R. Smith

renewed the ongoing relationship of the our diocese and theirs.

## Local Episcopalian Prepares for United Nations Policy-Making on the Girl-Child

Dottie Pagliaro is reading a lot about girls this month, but not in *Seventeen* or other popular girl magazines. As an Anglican-Episcopal delegate to the 51st United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW), she is studying major reports about violence and discrimination against girls.

The annual UNCSW meeting brings together thousands of women from around the world to promote gender equality and empowerment of women. The theme of this year’s UNCSW gathering, from February 26 through March 9, 2007, at the United Nations headquarters in New York City, is “the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child.” More than 60 Anglican women and girls, from 31 nations in both the developing and the developed worlds, will participate as members of the largest non-governmental delegation to UNCSW.

As a delegate, Dottie will attend plenary sessions at the UN, as well as parallel educational and cultural events, engage in round-table conversations with other delegates, and select a particular area of focus, such as education, health, prostitution, trafficking, or violence.

Dottie attends Grace Church, Charleston, and has been active in national Episcopal Church activities. She was also a delegate in 2006 to the Anglican-Episcopal delegate to the 50th United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW).

“I hope to learn much about the status of girls in the world, because they are the future for women, for the church, and for the global community,” said Dottie. “I am also eager to hear the different perspectives of my Anglican sister delegates.”

In preparation for UNCSW, Dottie is doing her homework, reading the same reports, background papers, opening statements, and documents such as The Convention on the Rights of the Child, as are the member states of UNCSW. She is also studying reports from organizations beyond the United Nations that care about girls, such as UNICEF. Recently, UNICEF issued The State of the World’s Children 2007 documenting that millions of girls continue to live in poverty, are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS, are less likely to attend school than boys, and are often subject to physical and sexual violence.

According to Carolyn Hannan, Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women at the United Nations, adolescent girls ages nine to fourteen are especially vulnerable to the effects of poverty and HIV/AIDS, as well as armed conflict. As adults die, she said, girls are more likely to be taken out of school in order to run households. The burden of domestic responsibility both ends their education and isolates girls by cutting them off from their peers.

While her work as a delegate to UNCSW will be sobering, Dottie also imagines it will be inspiring and empowering. She will witness the UNCSW creating new policies for member states that benefit girls. She will also experience the Anglican Communion’s own commitment to creating a better future for girls. Just as the UNCSW begins, the Anglican women and girl delegates will be welcomed and commissioned at a special event on February 24th, 2007, at Trinity Church on Wall Street entitled Girls Claiming the Future: Hopes and Challenges. UNICEF.

## Annual Church Business Conference

May 6-8

The 3rd Annual Diocesan Church Business Conference is coming to St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center May 6-8, 2007. We will begin Sunday night with a social hour, dinner, and group discussion. This year we are pleased to have The Rev. Gerald Keucher, author of “Remember the Future, Financial Leadership and Asset Management for Congregations” as our Monday plenary speaker.

Father Keucher has been on the administrative staff as the controller of the Diocese of New York for more than a decade. He will present three one-hour sessions covering such topics as Leadership (having the confidence in a future and making decisions for the future), Assets, (how to think clearly about managing property, endowments, and reserve funds), and Investments, (how to manage them with prudence so they maintain their purchasing power over the long term). After a morning of serious work, we will have the afternoon free or you may take a nature walk led by Jim Koenig, program manager at the camp. Storyteller Tim Lowry will entertain us Monday night, performing “The Book of Esther, a Joyful Reading!” Tuesday morning breakout workshops will be held on facilities management, church labor laws, discretionary funds, and much

more! We will end our conference with a closing Eucharist, with The Rev. Terence Lee serving as our Chaplain.

Who should attend?

Treasurers, vestry members, parish administrators, Senior and Junior Wardens, Finance Committee Members, Business Managers, Rectors—anyone involved in the business affairs of the church.



### Who should attend?

**Treasurers  
Vestry Members  
Parish Administrators  
Senior and Junior Wardens  
Finance Committee Members  
Business Managers  
Rectors  
Anyone involved in the business affairs of the church.**

Please make plans now to join us—you may clip and mail in the registration form, below, or go on-line to [www.dioceseofsc.org](http://www.dioceseofsc.org), click on

“calendar,” locate the event, then click “register now.” If you register on-line, be prepared to pay with a credit card or direct debit from your checking account. The cost is \$125 per person double occupancy and \$175 single occupancy. This covers lodging, the conference and materials (including a complimentary copy of Gerald Keucher’s book), and all meals. We wish to encourage everyone to come and stay overnight to gain the full experience of networking with your peers; however, commuter rates are available.

### 2007 Church Business Conference, May 6-8,

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Church: \_\_\_\_\_ Church City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephones: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax # \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Roomate Preference: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Single Room Preference: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Current Church Software: Finance: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Membership: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lodging (all meals included): (check one)  
 \$125 per person, Double Occubancy  
 \$175 per person, Single Occupancy  
 Commuter rate: Check all days that apply  
 Sunday \$30  Monday \$40  Tuesday \$30 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Complete one form per attendee and enclose appropriate fee.

Please clip and return registration form by April 20, 2007. Only those cancellations received by April 20th will qualify for a refund. Make checks payable to Diocese of South Carolina and return to Linda Bunting, P. O. Box 20127, Charleston, SC, 29413. Questions? Call 722-4075 for additional information.

## Introducing the Director for College and Young Adult Ministries

Daron Taylor recently joined the diocesan team as our Director for College and Young Adult Ministries. Daron and his wife Debbi, along with their two children, come to us from East Lansing, Michigan, where Daron



served as the Pastor to Young Adults at Trinity Church.

If you spend any time with Daron,

you will hear his passion for the "missing generation" within the Church. Many churches around the world are facing the challenge of engaging those between the ages of 18 and 30 with the gospel and integrating them within the life of the church. It is to this mission that Daron has been called and he is excited to be serving with us.

Daron is available to meet with anyone who is considering how to reach our college-age and young adults. If you have questions for Daron, he can be reached by e-mail at [daront@dioceseofsc.org](mailto:daront@dioceseofsc.org) or by phone at 737.2697.

## The Pastoral Crisis Intervention Course

The Pastoral Crisis Intervention Course will be taught May 10-11, 2007, at MUSC's Harper Student Center. The Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy and MUSC's Department of Pastoral Care is sponsoring this course. The course was co-authored by Father Rob Dewey shortly before the September 11 attack. The Course addresses how to assist a person, or a community, in crisis, whether it is psychological and/or spiritual. Participants will receive

continuing education credit from the University of Maryland. To find out more information about the course, visit the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation's website at [www.ICISF.org](http://www.ICISF.org) and click on pastoral crisis intervention. To receive a brochure on this course email [ccc@coastalcrisischaplain.org](mailto:ccc@coastalcrisischaplain.org) or call 843-724-1212.

## The Calendar

### April

- 11-15 New Wineskins for Global Missions Conference
- 16 Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy Volunteer Training
- 21 Celebration of Ministry for the Rt. Rev. William Skilton
- 21 The Maine Event at Cathedral of St. Luke & St. Paul
- 22-23 Healing Mission, Holy Comforter, Sumter
- 23 - May 4 Christ Church Tea Room
- 28 Mosaic, Youth Event

### May

- 5 Diocesan ECW Annual Meeting
- 5 Day of Healing Prayer, St. Michael's, Charleston
- 6 Founders Day, York Place
- 6-8 Annual Church Business Conference
- 10-11 Pastoral Crisis Intervention Training
- 12 Christianity Explored
- 18-19 Spiritual Gifts Workshop, Holy Comforter, Sumter
- 20 United Thank Offering Ingathering (Suggested Date)

# Jubilate Deo

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The Rt. Rev. Edward L. Salmon, Jr., *Bishop*

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## Margaret C. "Peggy" Robinson Retires After 44 Years of Service

Peggy Robinson known as "Mrs. York Place" has decided it is time to say goodbye to York Place and life as she has known it for quite some time. During her 44-year tenure as Executive Secretary at York Place, she has worked for four CEO's, welcomed countless visitors and has been the first contact with literally thousands of callers.

Peggy has witnessed many changes through the years. Begun in Charleston, SC, as a home for indigent women and children, the Episcopal Church Home for Children became a much-needed residential treatment center for emotionally disturbed children. Now known as York Place, Peggy has referred many families to the proper source for assistance with a problem child.

Her work has been a great enjoyment, but her passion is bridge and golf. Her plans are to participate more in both. She also keeps healthy by working out at the "Y" and being involved with her family's activities. She is very active in her church and community. At present, she sings in the choir at Divine Savior and serves as a Lector and Eucharistic minister. Peggy is active at the York YMCA, a member of the Clover Woman's Club and the Red Hat Club.



Friends celebrated with Peggy (above, left) at a reception held in her honor. She is shown with Susan Wallace, Chair of the Board of Trustees.

When asked about retirement, Peggy commented: "Retirement will give me time to slow down and spend more time with my children and family and friends. I feel fortunate that I have had the opportunity to be part of York Place for 44 years."

Peggy's positive attitude, dedication to service, integrity, kindness to everyone and her untiring loyalty to York Place has been a wonderful example. We will truly miss "Mrs. York Place."

### Important Dates for York Place:

Put these events on your calendar: Founders Day: Sunday, May 6, 2007, and "Play for the Child" Golf Tournament, Friday, June 1, 2007. For information, please contact York Place at 803-684-4011.

## More Than Just a Cookbook

*Plantation Tours and Tastes* is not a typical church cookbook. It is a work of art steeped in the traditions of a parish that dates back to 1721. Written as a celebration for the 60th anniversary of the Plantation & Home Tours begun by the women of Prince George Winyah Episcopal Church in 1947, this book contains much more than just recipes. This 200+ page cookbook features 575 Lowcountry



recipes, cooking hints, and reprints of original artwork from 31 local artists.

Though the recipes are outstanding samplings of the regional cuisine, it is the rich history contained in its pages that makes this book outstanding. *Plantation Tours and Tastes* features tantalizing tidbits of information on Georgetown, Prince George Winyah and the Episcopal Churchwomen. The historical background of each home and plantation featured in the annual tour (a unique time in which private homes and plantations are open to the public for two days) is given and highlighted by a collection of beautiful paintings from local artists.

Every page is infused with a charm

that radiates from the deep soul of the South. As if the recipes and the histories weren't enough, the cookbook is packed with kitchen tips and hints honed by years of experience from some of the South's best down-home cooks. Also collected are table blessings and prayers for the kitchen and hearth that warm and fill the soul the way the recipes do the belly.

*Plantation Tours and Tastes* is one cookbook that will not languish on the shelf. Containing a little something for everyone, it makes the perfect conversation piece – a cookbook worthy of becoming a coffee table book.

Copies of *Plantation Tours and Tastes* may be obtained by sending \$29.95 plus \$5.00 shipping and handling to the following address:

Plantation Tours and Tastes  
Prince George Winyah Church  
PO Box 674  
Georgetown, South Carolina 29442

### Spiritual Gifts Workshop, May 18-19

Discover your gifts at the next Spiritual Gifts Workshop at the Church of the Holy Comforter in Sumter, SC. The workshop will cover the study, identification, and development of each individual's spiritual gifts. The cost is \$25 per person. Please register in advance by May 4. Join us! Church of the Holy Comforter, 213 N Main, Sumter, SC 29150, (803) 773-3823, [info@holyccomforter.net](mailto:info@holyccomforter.net).