

# Jubililate Deo

The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

Fall 2019

## Prayers Sought for Mediation Beginning September 4

As many are already aware, Circuit Court Judge Edgar Dickson has ordered that the Diocese and the Episcopal Church (TEC) make a further attempt at mediation of all the issues before him in the state court litigation. Both parties have agreed to Mr. Tom Wills of Wills, Massalon & Allen in Charleston as the court appointed mediator. The date appointed for the mediation session is Wednesday, September 4. Please keep the Diocese and this process in your prayers that it might be used for God's good purposes.

*Gracious Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church. Fill it with all truth, in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it. Where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in want, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ your Son our Savior. Amen.*

For additional insight regarding legal matters read, "The Legal Landscape," page 3.

## The Voice of Our Fellow Citizen's Blood Crying From the Ground

A Theologian Reflects on Mass Shootings

By The Rev. Dr. Kendall S. Harmon, Canon Theologian

People's hearts shattered around America and throughout the world when they heard the news of two mass shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio on the first weekend of August within less than 24 hours of each other. In El Paso a single gunman killed 22 people and injured 24 others at a WalMart store on Saturday, after which nine people were killed and 27 were injured in the early hours of Sunday morning at a bar in the downtown Oregon Historic District of Dayton.

While it is nearly impossible to articulate all the feelings and thoughts which we as Christians have in the midst of these kinds of incidents, we must try. It is into these very moments of deep darkness that Christ calls us to learn to bring light. So what then shall we say?

My thoughts begin, of all places, with William Golding's *The Lord of the Flies*. Golding was conscious in the 1950's in England that he was

occupying that 'green and pleasant Land' (Blake) to which so many soldiers returned after World War II. They had been fighting a very

We must begin with a renewed awareness of our capacity for violence, left to ourselves apart from our Saving Lord.

clear evil, Nazism, but when they returned to their "dear, dear land" (Shakespeare) he noticed that too many had fallen into the idea that evil was only something "out there," something external. Since as the 1939 song put it "there will always be an England" he felt too many imbibing a sense that it was a Garden of Eden whose inhabitants were those

Continued on Page 14

## Archbishop Foley Beach Elected to Second Term in ACNA

The College of Bishops of the Anglican Church in North America re-elected the Most Rev. Dr. Foley Beach to serve as its archbishop and primate for a second term on June 15, 2019 just prior to the ACNA Assembly. According to the Church's Constitution, an

archbishop may serve up to two five-year terms. In the Anglican Church in North America, the archbishop oversees bishops, dioceses, and parishes in Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

Continued on Page 5



JESSIE PARKS

"It's truly a blessing to be chosen by this amazing group of godly bishops to serve the Church," says Archbishop Beach, above, right with Archbishop Benjamin Kwashi. "I'm honored and humbled by the confidence that they have placed in me, and I'm excited to be a part of what God is doing through the Anglican Church in North America."

## ACNA Assembly "Flawless" says "Accidental Delegate" Talks Now Available Online

By Suzanne Schwank, The Parish Church of St. Helena, Beaufort

I was an accidental delegate to Assembly 2019, and if I'd had my way, wouldn't have been there at all. Although I hadn't investigated Assembly, I declined nomination as a delegate because I don't like "cast of thousands" events. Plus, it meant going to Texas—in July. There I was, anyway, having been sent as an alternate to the prior Provincial Council meeting that coincided with the biennial Assembly. When flight cancellations kept the South Carolina Assembly delegates in South Carolina, those of us already in Texas were quickly deputized.

I'm confessing my self-serving spirit to emphasize that I was prepared to be overwhelmed by Assembly, but I was wrong. It was a tiny bit of business that gives way to a surfeit of ministry equipping and inspiration with the 2019 theme of Renewing the Call to the Great Commission. I was unprepared (see "hadn't investigated") for the quality and variety of the speakers and offerings. The execution of events and meals was flawless for a cast of one thousand, both North American Anglicans (anyone can register and attend all of Assembly) and global guests.

The Plenary session videos are posted on the ACNA app Media Center (see list next page), and two of these are among the best of their kind I have ever encountered.

Plenary #1 speaker, Dr. James Bryan Smith, Theology Professor and Director of the Spiritual Formation Institute at Friends University, summarized his 14-year study of discipleship that sprang out of his years as Dallas Willard's Teaching Assistant at Fuller Seminary. Dr. Smith presented a Triangle for Transformation: 1) narratives that fill our mind—we live at the mercy of our ideas which run or ruin our lives, but Jesus gave us the "power narratives" that filled His own mind; 2) soul-training exercises—things we can do that enable us to do things we cannot do, and 3) the role of community as vital to transformation. This is a "must watch" teaching.

Plenary #2 speaker, Dr. Russell Moore, is a former Provost and Dean of Southern Baptist Seminary and current President of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. His topic was the "on-mission Christian" response to the existing and accelerating secularization of America. I have been sending the video link to friends far and wide and have suggested to our Rector that he cram as many parishioners as possible into the largest space available to watch this talk. I won't characterize his message so as not to dilute it. Just go to the ACNA App and watch this video.

The general sessions also included pre-



JOY HUNTER

The clergy gather prior to the procession for the opening worship service marking the 10th anniversary of the Anglican Church in North America.

sentations on major ACNA initiatives that provide parish resources and networking. Due to its potential for stewardship, I was intrigued by the just-launched Evergreen Project. Developed by David Roseberry, the retired founding

Rector of Christ Church Plano, the largest Anglican congregation in North America, the Project's goal is to help congregations and dioceses "embrace, build, develop and exhibit

Continued on Page 7



# “You Simply Must Attend an ACNA Provincial Assembly!”

Catherine Jacobs, Executive Director, Pass the Legacy

This is an event anyone in our Diocese would enjoy! I'd love to encourage everyone to consider attending. The worship alone is worth the trip. I felt like I was experiencing a foreshadowing of Heaven! But also, the speakers, the plenary gatherings, the break-out sessions, the bookstore, the exhibits are all amazing. More than anything, it is such a blessing to meet Anglicans from across our country and even the world! I think the higher the title, the humbler the person. I treasured shaking hands with archbishops, bishops etc. I will always remember my experience in Texas, 2019.



JOY HUNTER

Above, worshippers join in praying for Archbishop Foley Beach during the opening service of Holy Eucharist on Friday night. Archbishop Beach was elected to serve a second term as the Province's Archbishop.

The Rev. Marcus Kaiser, Rector Holy Comforter, Sumter

The most recent Provincial Assembly of the Anglican Church in North America truly was a family reunion. When Kim and I arrived, we thought we were just there to enjoy the event and do my little part with the Liturgy Task Force. Bad weather forced a different situation. When the delegates for South Carolina got stranded in Charleston, Bishop Lawrence asked Kim and I to step in. Although I had served as a delegate to the last Provincial Assembly, it was a double honor to serve this time. First, it was unexpected, and second, I got to serve alongside my wife on behalf of this diocese we both love so much.



JOY HUNTER

Still, for me, the most powerful part of Assembly was simply the “in between” times. The worship was soaring and transcendent. The plenary speakers were great. The unified message was clear and biblical. But it was the time in between things

The Rev. Al Zadig, Rector St. Michael's Church, Charleston

The best thing about the assembly was attending with my wife and being poured into for two days. The worship was great and the break-out sessions were challenging, strategic and another reminder that we're never done learning! And it's nice going to a conference that is uniquely Anglican, where we don't have to translate into our paradigm. Oh, and yes, the Assembly brings home once again that we are a global church. I would love to see every priest and spouse use the Assembly as their continuing education get-away!

that convinced me that we serve a wonderful church, for it was in those times that the family reunion happened. That is where I met new family members. That is where I got to hug brothers and sisters I hadn't seen in a while. That is where I got to chat for a moment with the wise old patriarchs who have so shaped me. I have had the privilege of serving on a

provincial committee for the last several years. In that time, those with whom I've served became more than friends. They became family. It didn't hurt my excitement any to introduce Kim to many of them for the first time, and watch her discover what I love about each of them.



Delegates and guests from the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina gather for dinner on the last evening of the Assembly.

glican Church in North America. Our Church is young, and there are still growing pains ahead, but at a national meeting like this, one can really start to get an idea of just how beautiful our province is and how much God is doing through her. Kim and I both left Texas knowing exactly what we wanted to say to anyone who would listen: If you have the chance, you simply must attend a Provincial Assembly!

Jay Crouse, Men's Ministry Coordinator, The Ang. Dio. of SC

It was such a delight to host our Diocesan “Men and the Church” exhibitor booth along with Richard Moore in Frisco, TX. For us it was a total schmooze fest with interest in men's ministry from around the country. I

believe all the contacts we made will create a men's ministry movement in the ACNA with The Ang. Diocese of South Carolina as the leadership hub. Our right next step may be to host the first annual ACNA Men and the Church equipping Summit. The best part: Everyone in the ACNA is on the same biblical and theological page. Praise God. The cuisine highlight was our diocesan delegation dinner at Hard 8 BBQ. No doubt Joy Hunter has the photo to highlight this meal. Where are the TUMS?



JOY HUNTER

Above, South Carolina delegates (from center, left to right), the Rev. Hunter Jordan, Suzanne Schwank and Alan Runyan.

## Assembly Media Now Available Online

### Main Sessions

Video recordings of the following main sessions from the ACNA Assembly are available at: <https://subsplash.com/acna/media/ms/+nbjmvrm>

### Opening Eucharist Sermon

**The Most Rev. Dr. Foley Beach**, Archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America, preaches at the Opening Eucharist.

### Plenary #1

**James Bryan Smith**, Director of the Spiritual Formation Institute at Friends University, preaches on how the forming work of discipleship is an internal work.

### Plenary #2

**Dr. Russell Moore**, President of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention speaks on the United State's changing culture and the response of a Christian on mission.

### Plenary #3

**Ravi Zacharias**, Author and Apologist, speaks on the characteristics of a true disciple.

### Plenary #4

**The Most Rev. Laurent Mbanda**, Archbishop of the Anglican Church of Rwanda speaks on acting in faith in response to the Great Commission.

### Closing Eucharist Sermon

**The Most Rev. Datuk Ng Moon Hing**, Archbishop of Southeast Asia, speaks on being a missional disciple who bears fruit.

### Breakout Sessions

The following audio files are available at <https://subsplash.com/acna/media/>

### Few Like Change

Bishop Lowenfield, Bishop Andrews, and Bishop Jackson

### Disciple-making Through Worship and Music

Philip Percival and Alanna Glover, St Ebbes Oxford

### Navigating the Book of Common Prayer (2019)

The Most Rev. Robert Duncan with a Panel of Liturgy Task Force Members

### The Place of Technology in the Story of God

Mr. John Dyer

### Disciple-Making Through Word and Sacrament

Bishop Stewart Ruch and Team

### Forming People and Pastors into Christ-likeness of Life

The Rev. Geoff Chapman

### ACNA Benefits Discussion

Gray Stephenson, Kirk Patterson, & Linda Mathesius

### Reform and Restoration: The Formation of The Book of Common Prayer (2019)

The Most Rev. Robert Duncan with a Panel of Liturgy Task Force Members

### Fostering and Protecting Our Missional and Relational Unity

Bishop Steve Breedlove, Bishop ClarkLowenfield, Bishop Terrell Glenn, Bishop Trevor Walters

### For all the Saints: Engaging, Equipping and Empowering Women in Leadership

Bishop Clark, Deacon Lisa Schwandt and Katherine Ruch

### Grandparents Making Disciples: Awakening a “Retired” Generation

Catherine Jacobs, Founder and Executive Director of Pass the Legacy Ministry



# Do You Suffer from Christian Tunnel Vision?

Expand Your Worldview. Come to the Cathedral, Charleston

## October 3: Meet Anglican Leaders from Around the World

On October 3 we have the extraordinary opportunity to hear from Anglican leaders from Africa, Asia and South America at “We are One in Christ,” a gathering which will begin at 6 p.m. with a light supper and be followed with brief presentations and time for conversation and interaction afterward.

### Our Guests will Include:

- Bishop Probal Dutta, Bishop of Durgapur, Church of North India
- The Rev. John Chol Daau, Episcopal Church of South Sudan
- Bishop Daniel Wario Qampicha, Diocese of Marsabit, Kenya
- Bishop Stephen Kaziimba, Diocese of Mityana, Uganda
- Bishop Seth Ndayirukiye, Bishop of Matana, Burundi
- Bishop Francis Matui, Bishop of Makueni, Kenya

- Barnard Bisoke Balikenga, Provincial Youth Coordinator, Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Bishop Johnson Gakumba, Diocese of Northern Uganda
- The Rev. Dr. Paul Myint Htet, Provincial Secretary, Myanmar
- The Rev. Fred Ochieng Onyango, Vicar, Emmanuel Church, Shaurimoyo Parish in the Anglican Diocese of Maseno South, Kisumu-Kenya
- The Rev. Canon Dr. Rebecca Nyegenye, Provost of All Saints Cathedral, Kampala, Uganda
- Bishop George Kasangaki, Diocese of Masindi-Kitara, Uganda
- Bishop Joseph Kibucwa, Diocese of Kirinyaga, Kenya
- And more.

### “It Has Transformed Our Parish”

Our (International) partnerships have been one of the driving forces growing our church,” said the Rev. Gary Beson, speaking of St. Timothy’s relationship with the Rev. Fred Onyango, a priest serving in the Anglican Diocese of Maseno South in Kenya and the Rt. Rev. Qampicha Wario, Bishop of Marsabit in the Anglican Church of Kenya.

It’s like Ruth and Esther: ‘your people will be my people; and your God my God.

I can’t imagine not having a relationship with someone from another part of the world, both for my sake and for the growth of our church. You have to be partnered with someone else in the world to keep from getting tunnel vision. It’s easy to sometimes think Jesus is only alive and well in the Diocese of South Carolina. Well, He is alive here, but he’s also alive in a million other places around the world.

*The Rev. Gary Beson, Rector  
St. Timothy’s, Cane Bay*

We have been in an international partnership for the spread of the Gospel and care for God’s people in Northern Uganda for 10 years now. It has transformed our parish from one which was practically unaware of our Anglican brothers and sisters worldwide, to one energized and mutually encouraged by them. From a timid beginning, we now have a vibrant joy-filled, all-in, relationship which has been one of our greatest encouragements during the last seven years of legal wrangling with TEC. Involvement in global ministry does not allow us to focus on ourselves, our problems, our church, but instead launches us into God’s world, focusing on God’s plans, and fulfilling God’s desires. Once begun, we can never turn our backs again on our brothers and sisters throughout the world. What a blessing it is!

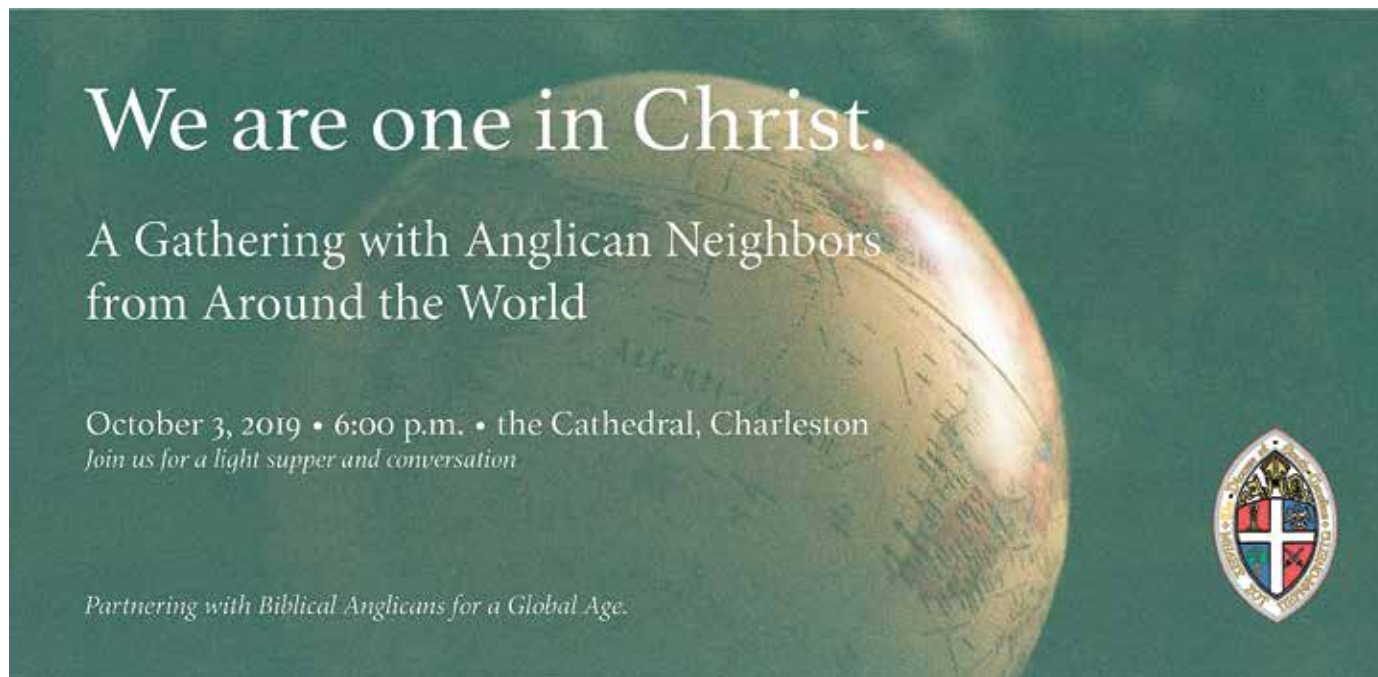
*The Rev. Greg Snyder, Rector  
St. John’s, Johns Island*



Dutta



Daau



Kibucwa



Kasangaki



Qampicha



Kaziimba



Ndayirukiye



Matui



Balikenga



Htet



Gakumba



Onyango



Nyegenye

# The Legal Landscape: Clear Vision

...but Christ is faithful over God’s house as a son. And we are his house, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope. (Hebrews 3:6)

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

Anyone wishing to survey the current legal landscape is immediately challenged with the difficulty of seeing things clearly. Legal matters always (to the surprise of some) come with a certain measure of uncertainty. There are some things, nonetheless that can be said are clear today.

### Things that are not...

Since the five separate opinions of the State Supreme Court in August 2017, some of the claims made about the legal landscape are demonstrably not true. The Episcopal Church (TEC) and its local diocese, the Epis-

copal Church in South Carolina (TECSC) have made repeated assertions to the effect that: (1) The Supreme Court ruling is clear, (2) that 28 or 29 of the 36 parishes in the case created a trust interest in their property by agreeing in a signed written document to the Dennis Canon, that (3) they would be taking control of that property very soon, and (4) welcoming back all the estranged members of The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina eager to rejoin them. This has been their consistent messaging. However, events have demonstrated that none of these are accurate descriptions of reality.

As Circuit Court Judge Edgar Dickson

observed in the hearing last fall, if these matters were clear, the case would not be before him. If there were evidence *any* parish had ever acceded in a signed written document to the Dennis Canon it would have been presented. In fact no one disputes that *no* parish agreed in a signed written document specifically to the Dennis Canon. Consequently, no parish has been forced to relinquish its property (whether they can be is an issue presently before Judge Dickson), nor does the attendance at any of the TECSC regional gatherings suggest anyone besides their own current members are eager to see that happen. Their view of reality is distorted.

### Things that are...

To talk of how things *really* are, we must begin with where our true hope lies. We are Christ’s church. As the writer of Hebrews expresses it, “*we are his house*” and that is where our hope lies. All the resources we hold for ministry are ultimately from him, to be used for him. He will dispose of them as he will, and we can trust that we will be better for it, even if it means His redeeming what we might count as loss. For that reason alone, we can face the uncertainties of the future with hope and even confidence.

*Continued on Page 6*



# The Bishop's Bookshelf

## Thinking Strategically About Book Choices; An Interview with Bishop Mark Lawrence

*I'm an avid reader, always having at least one, and sometimes several, books on my nightstand. But I choose books based on friends' recommendations. Perhaps in reading this you'll be challenged, as I was, to rethink your choices before selecting your next book.*

Joy Hunter, Editor

### **Bishop, I sense you're a voracious reader. Would you use that term to describe yourself?**

I would say as a parish priest I was, but as a Bishop less so, because the schedule and demands – which are voracious – have truncated that.

### **How many books do you read a month?**

Far less than I wish, unfortunately. About two a month.

### **What are you reading right now?**

This summer I'm rereading *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *Macbeth*. I'm also listening to two lecture series on the tragedies of Shakespeare and looking for opportunities to attend performances of those plays. Remarkably, we'll be at the Utah Shakespeare Festival in August, and they're performing *Hamlet* and *Macbeth*. There's also a haunting performance of *Lear* by Anthony Hopkins in a movie version.

I'm also reading *Landscape and Inscape: Vision and Inspiration in Hopkins's Poetry* by Peter Milward and *The Man Who Went into the West: The Life of R.S. Thomas* by Byron Rogers. (Thomas was a Welsh Poet and Anglican Priest). So I'll reread his poems along with this recent biography.

### **How do you go about deciding what to read?**

Often I will choose a reading project. When I was in parish ministry, I did this all the time. I'd read books in three areas: preaching and teaching, leadership, and pastoral ministry.

For preaching and teaching I would read 8 to 12 books per year in theology, commentaries on the scriptures, homiletics or preaching. For leadership I'd read books from the secular world whether it be a book by Stephen Covey, Warren Bennis, Peter Drucker, James Burns, John Maxwell, etc., as well as in the Christian world and certainly biographies of leaders in various walks of life. The other arena was books on pastoral care, what's known as pastoralia. That was for many years what I did in terms of my calling or vocational reading.

### **You're very strategic in your reading.**

I just don't always read the latest thing. I make a reading plan for the year.

One year I did a study of the artist Winslow Homer. That summer I was asked to do the wedding of the son of a parishioner. It was on Long Island. While there, I went to the Met and of all things, they had a temporary exhibit on Winslow Homer. His paintings were brought from all over the world. And, serendipitously, there I was. It was astonishing!

The year I did Grant Wood we were traveling cross-country and our route took us through Cedar Rapids, Iowa where Wood lived. There's a whole museum dedicated to the work of Grant Wood, Marvin Cone and other Midwestern painters of that school. I could go on with many other such "coincidences," such as the year I did Frank Lloyd Wright. Another year I listened to symphonies of Tchaikovsky and read a biography on Tchaikovsky. I won't bore you with more.

### **What made you decide on Shakespeare this year?**

One reason is that I had lectures on audio books by the renowned critic Harold Bloom



Bishop Lawrence's Study

and by Prof. Clare Kinney, so I could listen to the lectures. And what good is listening to lectures on the Tragedies of Shakespeare if you're not going to re-read the plays?

I'm surprised to discover how many people just kind of drift through their life, the month, the year, whatever, without any strategic thinking about intellectual, emotional, or spiritual growth. This spring I listened to a lecture series on the Biblical Wisdom Literature... "*Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice; at the head of the noisy streets she cries out.*"

I also remembered something Loren Eiseley wrote years ago about Charles Darwin. He said that later in life Darwin picked up a Shakespeare play, began to read it, and discovered he'd lost the capacity to read and appreciate it. He'd been studying in such a focused way for so long, he had lost something. Imagine not being able to appreciate the breadth of the human condition. I don't want to get to that place. So let's delve back in.

I hadn't read Shakespeare seriously since I was in college, and he has a lot to say to someone my age. It's a shame when one only reads great literature in college and then only gives oneself to read the latest novel that's been published and talked about on the New York Times best seller list. Should *Brothers' Karamazov* or *Crime and Punishment* only be read by someone in college?

### **Have your children picked up your reading style?**

Well, Chad's the headmaster of a classical Christian school. We had a family gathering last Tuesday, and his daughter, who's between her junior and senior year in high school, was reading on her own *Crime and Punishment* by Dostoevsky. Joe was reading a recent translation of *The Odyssey*. All our daughters are certainly lifelong learners. Chelsea and her husband, Jason, are always reading something, listening to audio books. So—yes, I guess they have.

One difficulty is we have lost the Western tradition that flows from the Hebrews, Greeks and Romans that helped shape who we are as a people. It is systematically being rooted out of our culture, out of our educational system. It's most unfortunate!

### **What book has stuck with you recently?**

I read Michael Hyatt's *Your Best Year Ever* at the beginning of the year. It's a book about thinking strategically about the year ahead and the arenas of your life. I'd say it's a book most Christians would benefit by.

### **If we're talking spiritual books, what are the top ones you'd recommend to others?**

That would depend on with whom I was talking. I have never read – what was the big book for so many years? *Purpose Driven Life*? I've never read *The Purpose Driven Life* because when it came out, I was trying to step away from the driven life. Gordon MacDonald wrote a book years ago in which he had a chapter that described the difference between the called life and the driven life. I was trying not to be driven. But that book has been very helpful to many people. I'm not trying to knock it.

I do delve into books that may be popular at the time, like *What's so Amazing About Grace* by Philip Yancey. I've read books by Dallas Willard and Lewis Smedes. I guess on that level, I do read books that would be called semi-popular—*Soul Keeping*, for instance, by John Ortberg.

### **Do you get books from the library or buy? Print/Kindle?**

I don't get books from the library, though I used to check out audio books there. But I don't have a cassette or CD player in my car anymore. It's all digital. Sometimes I'll get the book, and I'll also have it on audio as I spend so much time on the road. I like to listen to books while I'm in the car. I recently read/listened to *Paul: A Biography* by N.T. Wright. That would be a good book, published recently, that someone might want to get.

### **Do you have a certain time of day you set aside for reading?**

The difficulty with my life is no week is the same. The one normal thing is it's abnormal. There's very little rhythm to the week, to the month. One of the things I miss the most as a bishop is the rhythm of the church year. It's often discarded for the Bishop's visit. I like the church year, appreciate it, live in it. I still do, to some degree, but it's not as easy to do now nor is it as fulsome as it was in parish life.

### **What advice would you give someone who says, "I've got no time to read... after work I've got personal email, Instagram, Facebook, TV...and I'm bushed by the end of the day. Reading takes too much energy."**

With modern technology one is not relegated to the programming of the networks. For instance, recently Allison and I watched the old Monk series. Have you ever watched those? They're wonderfully entertaining. We watched all eight seasons. No commercials. We just had fun. One of our daughters said, "You guys need to have more fun!" I was kind of sad when we finished it.

There's a great BBC Series on Dickens' *Bleak House*—it's outstanding. If you're going to spend an hour watching television, make sure it's good. Something lighthearted like Monk, which is wholesome, or educational, gripping, and soul broadening such as the *Bleak House* series or *Sense and Sensibility*; all those kinds of things are out there.

### **If you could have everyone in the Diocese reading one book this year (other than the Bible), what would it be?**

I can't imagine having one book everyone in the Diocese would read or should read. It depends on the person, but I would like to have most of our priests read a book like *Your Best Year Ever*—something to get them to think more strategically about how they live their lives, how they do their ministry, how they balance things, how they grow. Many Christians would benefit from reading Dr. Henry Cloud's *Nine Things You Simply Must Do*.

I'm surprised to discover how many people just kind of drift through their life, the month, the year, whatever, without any strategic thinking about intellectual, emotional, or spiritual growth. This spring I listened to a lecture series on the Biblical Wisdom Literature and read again through this great tradition found in Job, Proverbs, wisdom of Solomon, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, as well as the Psalms and Jesus. "*Wisdom cries aloud in the street, in the markets she raises her voice; at the head of the noisy streets she cries out.*" And the Psalmist says, "*So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.*" (Ps 90:12)



"I can't be gone for a whole weekend." "Who will take the kids to soccer?"... "My husband hates it when I'm gone. It's not worth the hassle"... "It's out of my comfort zone and a little scary."

By Lori Hatcher

We have a hundred reasons why we shouldn't go to the women's retreat. Some years the voices win out, and we stay home. Later, when we hear the glowing reports from others about how wonderful it was, we feel a pang of regret, but it doesn't last long. "Oh well," we say, "maybe next year." Other times we make the extra effort, and we're the ones sharing happy stories and telling how glad we are that we attended.



I've been a Christian for over 30 years, and I'm a firm believer in women's retreats. Here are a few reasons why with accompanying evidence from the Scripture in case you need extra persuasion.

### Why We Need Women's Retreats:

#### 1. Because it's hard to hear God's voice above the noise of everyday life.

When was the last time you sat before God without a To Do list hanging over you, a pile of laundry the size of Texas Stadium in the background, or family members pressing in on all sides? If you can't remember, you need to attend a retreat.

When was the last time you sat before God without a To Do list hanging over you, a pile of laundry the size of Texas Stadium in the background, or family members pressing in on all sides? If you can't remember, you need to attend a retreat.

"To retreat" means to leave our normally occupied positions and go to a place of safety, quiet, and seclusion. By going to a retreat, we physically remove ourselves from life's distractions, the call of chores, and the demands of people in order to make space for God. If you think you're less spiritual because you struggle to hear from God in the cacophony of your daily life, be encouraged. Even Jesus recognized the value and need to get away. "Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed." (Mark 1:35). Jesus retreated.

#### 2. Because we need each other.

Faith is contagious. Just like a virulent virus, it passes from person to person through close contact. Today's busy world allows little time for women to share faith stories, pray together, and hear biblical messages written with women in mind.

As we consider and apply God's Word together, we learn from each other's varied backgrounds, experiences, and insights. The better we understand God, the stronger

our faith becomes. Then we can strengthen others. Hearing other women's testimonies about God's faithfulness helps me realize that God will also take care of me. Hebrews 10:25 spotlights the value of mutual encouragement and warns us not to neglect corporate worship:

*"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another."*

#### 3. Because meeting together spurs us on to "love and good works" (Hebrews 10:24).

The Greek word for "spur on" is paroxusmus, which means to stir someone up. It has negative connotations such as stirring up disagreement, but in this passage, it underscores the fact that meeting together as believers helps us love and serve God and each other better.

#### 4. Standing side by side with our sisters in Christ, and worshipping, praying, and learning about our precious Savior makes us stronger.

When I join a group of women singing praise songs to God, I experience a taste of what Heaven's going to be like when we're gathered around his throne. When I sit with my sisters and open God's Word, the insights I gain as we study together add weight and credence to its truth. When I pray for others, and they pray for me, I know I'm not alone, no matter how heavy my burden is. Some years their faith strengthens me, and other years my faith strengthens them. Together we bear each other's burdens.

For these and many other reasons, I place a high priority on women's retreats.

When my children were young, it took a great deal of planning and preparation to be away from my family. I'd prepare meals in advance, swap carpool duties, and cash in spend-the-night favors. Some years were financially challenging, and I had to find creative ways to finance my getaways. I'd save my birthday money, squirrel away coupon savings, or apply for scholarships. Other years I've struggled spiritually and had to push myself to go even though I didn't want to. I'd invite a friend to join me so I couldn't back out or commit to carpool with friends. On every occasion, I returned refreshed, strengthened, inspired, and closer to the Lord and my sisters in Christ.

I've never regretted attending a retreat, but I've often regretted not attending. If you've never attended a retreat, or you haven't in a while, why not make plans to attend one? You'll be glad you did.

*This article originally appeared on Crosswalk.com <https://bit.ly/2KisOIR>. Lori Hatcher is a writer, speaker, and author of the book and blog, Hungry for God...Starving for Time, Five-Minute Devotions for Busy Women ([www.LoriHatcher.com](http://www.LoriHatcher.com)).*

# Anglican Women's Retreat at St. Christopher October 25-27

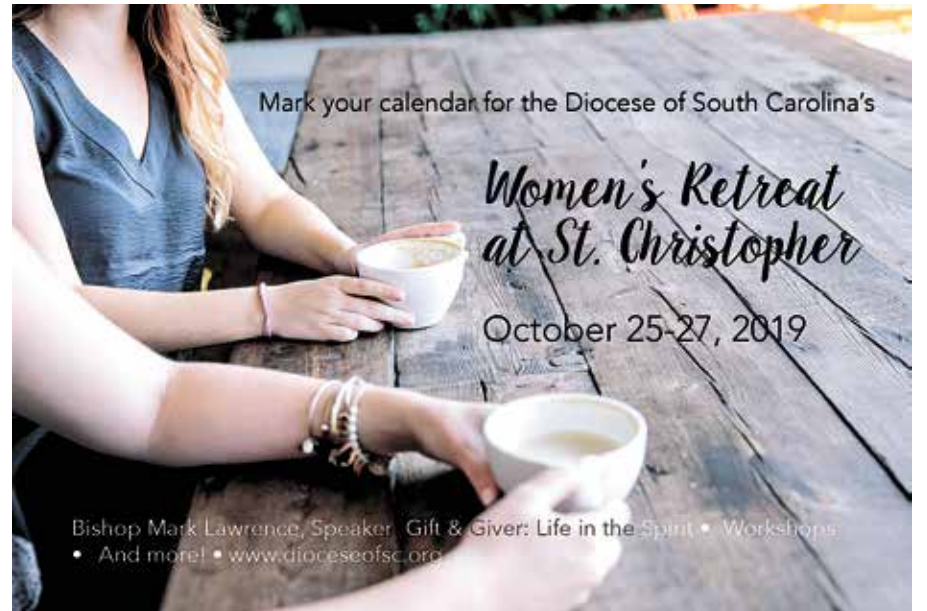
By Joy Hunter, Editor

Ladies, flip your calendar to October and mark the 25-27 for a weekend of fellowship, teaching, rest and restoration at the Anglican Women's Retreat at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center. This year Bishop Mark Lawrence, whose messages received rave reviews last year, will be speaking on "Gift and Giver: Life in the Spirit."

On Saturday, in addition to the teaching sessions, we'll have time set aside for a nature walk with one of St. Christopher's Naturalists, an opportunity for soaking/healing prayer ministry, a chance to express your creative side making a Christmas ornament keepsake with acrylic paints reflecting the theme of the retreat and two workshops, the first being "Doing It All: A Young Mom's Burden, An Older Woman's Opportunity" with Carrie Davis, Christal deBoer and Cathy Jacobs, and the second "Discerning Your Spiritual Gift" with Patricia Smith.

The retreat begins at 4 p.m. on Friday, October 25, with supper served at 6:30 p.m. and ends Sunday morning, October 27, following a service of Holy Eucharist.

Not sure whether you should attend? Say a prayer asking God if



you need both a rest and time for learning more about "life in the spirit." This will be time for both. While you're at it, ask if there's another woman in your life who would benefit as well and when that name pops in your mind, make a phone call. Still not convinced? Give the article, left, "Four Reasons We Need Women's Retreats," and then join me in clicking the "Register" button on the Diocesan website, [www.adosc.org](http://www.adosc.org).

Rooms and cabins are available, as are commuter reservations for those who aren't able to stay at the camp overnight.

If you aren't able to attend without scholarship assistance contact your rector and the leader of your parish's women's ministry. If you still need help, contact Mary Kauser at (843) 814-4035 or by email at [marykauser@gmail.com](mailto:marykauser@gmail.com). The scholarship kitty for the Anglican Women's Retreat was depleted last year and so this year we're unable to provide retreat scholarship assistance but don't want anyone to miss the retreat for financial reasons.

To learn more and register visit [www.adosc.org](http://www.adosc.org).

## Saturday Offerings at the 2019 Anglican Women's Retreat



Davis deBoer

**Doing It All: A Young Mom's Burden, An Older Woman's Opportunity**  
With Carrie Davis, Christal deBoer and Cathy Jacobs



Jacobs

Living in a fast-paced world, young moms struggle with "doing it all." Sometimes survival is the only achievable goal. The 21st century mindset is to live our individual lives. God's vision is for community. In this workshop, we'll hear from two young moms who

will share their struggles and tell how older women and other moms came to their aid.

#### Discerning Your Spiritual Gift

With Patricia Smith, President, Anglican Women, The Ang. Diocese of SC

Everyone has at least one of these.



Smith

Which is yours? God has created each Christian with a unique gifting of grace to function easily, effectively and with excitement in the Body of Christ! This workshop will clarify characteristics related to the seven gifts of grace outlined in Romans 12:6-8. (There will not be a questionnaire.) Understanding how you and others are motivated differently can reduce conflict and build appreciation. Greater glory to God and deeper joy in life, marriage, family and church awaits!

#### Nature Walk

With St. Christopher Naturalist

Put on your walking shoes and explore the maritime forest. During this hour-long hike, you will see live oaks, southern magnolias, loblolly pines and cabbage palmettos. You'll search the forest for its wildlife, and will gain an appreciation and understanding of the forest and how it relates to us.

#### Craft: Ornament

With Cathy Crawford

Join in this hands-on workshop with local crafter Cathy Crawford. Using acrylic paints she'll lead us in making a Christmas Ornament keepsake based on the theme of the weekend, the Holy Spirit.



Crawford

## Beach Elected to Second Term *Continued from Page One*

He has certain responsibilities and duties beyond that of other bishops in the province but does not hold unilateral authority.

Beach was recently installed as the Chairman of the Global Anglican Future Conference (Gafcon). Gafcon is a global movement of orthodox Anglicans representing over 70% of the denomination's active members.

Archbishop Beach expressed his excitement in continuing in this role: "It's truly a blessing to be chosen by this amazing group of godly bishops to serve the Church. I'm honored and humbled by the confidence that they have placed in me, and I'm excited to be a part of what God is doing through the Anglican Church in North America."

As for the future, Beach says he is "committed to seeing this Church fulfill its mission to reach North America with the transforming love of Jesus Christ. We've seen such great growth over the last few years, with new congregations and members in the US, Canada, and Mexico. We are reaching people from all different walks of life and we need to continue doing that."



## Saint Matthew's Outreach Leads International Student to "Second" Family

"It made me feel stronger, less homesick and protected."



Above, front from left, Karina (Viktoria's sister who is now a student at Benedict College on a tennis scholarship), and right, Viktoria Izakova with Rick and Cindy Roe, members of Saint Matthew's.

Submitted by The Rev. Janet Echols, Rector, Saint Matthew's, Fort Motte

**M**y name is Viktoria and I would like to share my story. I am from Strekov, Slovakia and am a recent graduate of Benedict College.

About two years ago in October I was asked by one of my international friends if I would like to go on a trip to Saint Matthew's Parish Church with other International students. The purpose of this trip was to meet new people, create friendships, and spend some quality time together. At the beginning I was not sure if I should go since that was my birthday weekend and I was planning to celebrate with friends, but circumstances or maybe destiny

made me change my mind.

Looking back now it was a great decision. I got to spend two days around wonderful people. We had a great time, a lot of fun, and last, but not least, we met new people and made friendships.

This trip lasted two days which meant we got to spend the night in Ft. Motte. Local people volunteered to offer their homes where students could spend the night. This is how I met Cindy and Rick Roe. I got to spend the night at their house. Since day one they were so nice to me. Looking back now I am so thankful I went on that trip. I cannot imagine my life without them. They are

amazing people who opened not just their home but their hearts as well to me. They became my second family. The past two years they stood up for me, they helped me whenever I needed help, they gave me advice, they watched out for me, they took care of me, and they always treated me like family.

It is not easy to be an International student. Being away from home without family, without support, in a country which is so different from home is not easy. When I came to the United States I was 18 years old, knew no one, barely spoke the language, and was scared.

Today my English is way better, I have friends that support me, my sister is here with me, and I also have people like Cindy and Rick. I can always count on them and that means a lot. It makes me feel stronger, less homesick, and protected. I will never be able to thank them enough for everything they have done for me.

I also want to encourage other International students to go and take advantage of these trips because you never know who you can meet and how they can affect your life.

The people from Saint Matthews are very nice, and every time I go back for a visit they welcome me with open arms. They are great people, and I am happy I got to meet them.

*The next International Students Weekend is October 5-6. See story on Page 16.*

## "I Love Being a Part of Their Lives"

### New Rector of Rural Parishes Looks Back on First Year with Gratefulness

By The Rev. Mary Ellen Doran, Rector, St. David's Church, Cheraw and St. Paul's Church, Bennettsville

**T**his week I said words I wasn't sure I'd ever be able to say: "Let's do it just like we did last year." I had a frame of reference as to how we had done something in the past! And then reality hit: I had passed my one-year anniversary. One year. Can it really only be one year? How did it go so quickly?

July 29, 2018 was my first official preaching Sunday as Rector of both St. David's, Cheraw and St. Paul's, Bennettsville. It has been quite an eventful year with hurricanes, building repairs, loss of ones dear to us, joy at new beginnings, massive growth to St. David's Day Care/School, a building break-in, celebrations—so many challenges and so many blessings.



St. David's, Cheraw

Moving to Cheraw was not without its adjustments. After all, we had lived in Charleston for 21 years. Our girls were raised in our house on James Island and graduated from the high school there. Our friends and support group were deeply planted in our lives. I knew where everything was, the history of most things, what times of day to avoid Folly Road, and what restaurants we enjoyed the most.

When people asked about our adjustment in moving to this area, I usually responded with a joking, "Who needs grocery stores anyway?" In reality, moving to a small town showed me so much more.

In a small town, many of the people have grown up together. They know each other's history, what each other looked like in those "awkward" teen age years. They've celebrated the marriages of each other's children, mourned the loss of each other's loved ones. Sometimes it's tough not being able to join in with those memories or to know enough to say "It's in the old Walmart building" or "They moved into the Smith's old house" as a location reference. Within a few months of being here, I realized that much of what I thought I knew about how to do things does not apply.

Social convention is slightly different in a small town. Not that this does not happen in larger towns, but



here, they live every aspect of life together. In joy and in sorrow, they connect with each other faster than I have ever seen. People show up with food and prayers almost immediately. Rather than dinner out, we spend dinner in—in each other's homes spending time together. (Although dinner out turns into a

social event, too.)

Being at the most northern point of our Diocese presents its own interesting challenges. The closest clergy support to me is approximately 30 minutes away. Many of the Diocesan events are three hours away, and, to be honest, it is easy to feel quite alone up here. We are far from the main concentration of the churches in our Diocese, which is why I am so thankful for the support from my Deanery and our Dean, Ken Weldon.

We also have much to celebrate here. For the first time these two churches have been yoked together—one rector, two different churches, two campuses. What we have been doing over the past year is learning how to work together yet ensuring each church retains its own individual identity. I liken it to having two children. While they are not twins, they are siblings; not identical, but with a need to work together and help each other. Sometimes it's bumpy, just like sibling relationships can be, but like family, we are learning to work through it, to live and grow together.



St. Paul's, Bennettsville

St. David's and St. Paul's have celebrated joint services together. We share one Parish Administrator for both churches. We are currently working to bring both churches under one accounting system. We will begin the ACNA liturgy at both churches in the fall. Some of our ministries are trying to come together to help each other to grow. Yet, each church has its own events and traditions that are special to them that will continue.

My husband, Keith, and I are so blessed that God has called us to do life with these churches. While it has

## Legal Landscape *Continued from Page 3*

And through that lens, we can look clearly at the legal landscape as it stands today.

In the State Court, the case was remitted back to the Circuit Court and several motions are being heard by Judge Edgar Dickson. He conducted a hearing last fall addressing the question of what he needed to decide to interpret the Supreme Court's ruling. This Spring, TEC and TECSC filed a petition for a Writ of Mandamus in an attempt to force him to rule in a fashion that was consistent with their interpretation of the Supreme Court's five separate opinions. This June, the high court denied that petition, leaving him free to complete his work.

This July, Judge Dickson held a hearing on our conditional filing for relief, based on the state's "Betterments Statute." The Betterments Statute allows 48 hours for a party to file when a ruling against them becomes final. We did so, conditionally, when the Supreme Court denied our request for a rehearing. The statute provides that any party who in good faith has made improvements to property they believe they own, may seek compensation for the value of those improvements if a court rules another party is the true owner. While we believe this matter should be stayed for now because we believe that neither the Diocese nor any parish created a trust, Judge Dickson held this hearing to consider the arguments from TEC and TECSC that our complaint should be dismissed. That question is still under his advisement.

In the meantime, he has ruled

that all parties must mediate all the matters currently before his court. A mutually agreed upon mediator (Mr. Tom Wills) has been selected and a date of September 4th set for those confidential discussions. A mediated resolution would avoid what Judge Dickson foresees will be a continued lengthy journey through the courts. To date, every public statement by TECSC has indicated their only interest is in discussing the timing and the terms for the transition of property to TECSC. That is not a resolution that is subject to mediation. Events of that day will demonstrate whether they are now open to meaningful negotiations that could mutually bless all parties or whether they continue to maintain the only thing that can be discussed is how to implement their claimed victory.

To see the full picture, it is also necessary to consider the landscape in the Federal courts. Shortly after the State court litigation began in 2013, TECSC (via Bishop VonRosenberg) filed a federal trademark complaint against Bishop Lawrence in the Federal courts. Based on the Lanham Act, it effectively asserted we were deceiving others into believing we were still the Episcopal Church. The complaint was expanded in 2018 to include TEC as well as the Diocese, Trustees and all the parishes and missions of the Diocese. A complicated journey brought the case to the hands of Judge Richard Gergel, who has completed all pre-trial actions and notified the parties that they

are to be prepared to go to trial. He has filed no further orders since this spring and the parties are awaiting his next actions.

Two further actions before Judge Gergel must also be noted. The first is a complaint filed by TECSC against their own Church Insurance Company (CIC), seeking further damages from the same carrier they sued and settled with earlier for a sum of \$5 million to cover their litigation costs. The current complaint is a result of CIC covering legal expenses of a few of our congregations who still had a valid policy with them at the time litigation began. As a consequence, CIC has also filed in the Federal court seeking a declaratory judgment that would clarify their legal responsibilities for coverage. Our parishes who sought coverage benefits from CIC are named parties in that litigation as well.

While the Diocese and its legal counsel are appropriately confident in our legal positions in all these situations, there will always be uncertainty. The landscape is constantly shifting, sometimes subtly, sometimes significantly and a summary like this only captures glimpses of that. But of one thing, we are supremely confident...

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead... (1 Peter 1:3)*



# No “Junior” Holy Spirit

## Holy Cross Middle Schoolers Make Impact with Outreach

By Melissa Bennett, Associate Youth Pastor, Church of the Holy Cross

Part of our vision at Church of the Holy Cross is to “go home” to serve family and friends; “go out” to serve the church and the local community; and “go off” to serve those in our nation and the world. Next Gen Ministries (the youth ministry of Holy Cross) hopes to help our students meet the vision of “going out” by giving them opportunities to serve others throughout the year. Possibly



Holy Cross middle school students painting the fence at the Daniel Island campus during The Noise.

the students’ favorite opportunity to serve is “The Noise” which happens three to four times during the summer.

The Noise comes from the idea that we want to live out our faith, not only within our church walls or homes, but in the world. We want to put our faith into action and make a “joyful noise” to the Lord so that others may “see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16). A typical “Noise” day looks like this: our middle school students gather in the morning to hear what we’ll be doing and to pray over the day. We then go to a local organization (Lowcountry Orphan Relief, Lowcountry Food Bank, ECCO food drive, Windwood Farms, or even our church campus) to serve in whatever way is needed. We work for a couple of hours and then break for lunch. After lunch we have a Bible devotion and then head off for a fun activity. Each Noise day is a complete surprise to the students!

When asked what she likes about The Noise, Hannah Bennett, a rising 8th grader, said, “I like the service project part. It makes me feel good that I’m having an impact on our community in South Carolina.” As a Christian, Hannah believes it’s important to serve others “because it’s how we can share the love that God gave us, and because that’s what God wants us to do. It’s one way that we can be disciples of Jesus.”

Emmeline Hamlin, also a rising 8th grader, participated in The Noise and had this to say. “I like serving at Lowcountry Orphan Relief best because I really enjoy reading about the kids and what they like. And I enjoy picking out outfits for them.” Serving as a disciple of Jesus is important to Emmeline “because if people know that we’re Christian and see us doing good works, maybe they will become interested and want to follow Jesus, too. And it’s really made me stronger to see all the impacts that can be made on others’ lives—showing the world that Christians are good people, and can help other people come to faith.”

Our Holy Cross community often uses the phrase, “there’s no Junior Holy Spirit.” The Bible is full of young people whose hearts were turned towards the Lord from a young age, and who the Lord used mightily to accomplish

“I like the service project part,” says 8th grader Hannah Bennett. “It makes me feel good that I’m having an impact on our community in South Carolina.”

His works. And many generations later, the Lord is still using the youngest members of His family to spread His message and share His love.

without describing something that can’t be described—the Opening Eucharist at Christ Church. A “taste of heaven” is overworked and almost always theologically daft, but to be one among one thousand with the appearance of every tribe and nation, at the opening explosion of voice and instrument in the soaring space, was to know a foretaste of heaven.

Upon my return, a Presbyterian-turned-Anglican, self-described contrarian friend asked if I thought there would be a 20th anniversary of the ACNA. He noted the 20th century lack of enthusiasm for evangelism in the mainline denominations from which we had come and wondered if this 21st century Anglican Province was different. His question caused me to think back on Assembly not just as an event but as a bellwether of Anglicanism in North America.

Archbishop William Temple described the “genius” of Anglicanism as combining in one fellowship “the traditional faith and order of the Catholic Church with that immediacy of approach to God through Christ with which the evangelical churches especially bear witness as well as freedom of intellectual inquiry . . . .” Will there be a 20th anniversary for ACNA? Well, “Come, Lord Jesus!” But if He does not come this decade, there will be a 20th to celebrate. Anglicanism in North America on view at Assembly is evangelical, liturgical, theologically thoughtful and vigorous.



JONATHAN FURST

Above, students enjoy a post-dinner stroll and a glorious St. Christopher sunset.

## Retreat Helps Incoming and Current College Students Build Community

The free retreat for college students hosted by CCO (Coalition for Christian Outreach) at St. Christopher August 3-4 went “splendidly” according to Campus Minister, Justin Hare. “We had 18 of us out there and everyone seemed to instantly click this year,” he said. “You know it’s a good retreat when the students initiate grabbing ice cream all together after the retreat because they want more

time together!” The gathering (held annually) aims to strengthen college students’ faith and build community before the school year begins. The retreat was targeted at incoming and current college students at Clemson, the University of South Carolina and other colleges in the vicinity. To learn more about the ministry of CCO visit <https://ccojubilee.org>.

## Are You Being Called to Serve in the Diocese?

### Nominating Committee Seeks Submissions for Elections at the 2020 Diocesan Convention

Each fall, the Clergy and other leaders of the Diocese are invited to provide suggestions to the Nominating Committee for individuals to fill the various positions to be selected at the upcoming Diocesan Convention, which, this year, will be held March 13-14, 2020 at the Church of the Cross, Bluffton, SC. We hope you will give prayerful consideration to those God may be calling to serve the Diocese.

The list of the offices to be filled by the 2020 Convention are:

#### Standing Committee (3-year term) (2 clergy, 2 laity)

The Standing Committee is the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese in the absence of the Bishop. The six clergy and six laity have responsibilities including the areas of property, ordinations and corporation matters. They also serve as council of advice to the Bishop.

#### Diocesan Council (3-year term) (2 clergy, 2 laity)

The Diocesan Council is responsible for administering the ministry of the Diocese and to receive and administer all funds raised. In addition to officers, department representatives and ministry leaders, the Council has six clergy and six laity elected by Diocesan Convention. Further, each deanery shall elect one clergy and one laity to represent that deanery.

#### Diocesan Trustees (6-year term) (2 laity)

The Diocesan Trustees serves as a board of three priests and five laymen, presided over by the Bishop, they hold and manage assets on behalf of the Diocese.

#### Ecclesiastical Court (3-year term) (2 clergy, 2 laity)

The Ecclesiastical Court is a court of six clergy (priest or deacon) and five laity, elected by Diocesan Convention, to hear such complaints of misconduct as may be brought against clergy of the Diocese.

#### Provincial Assembly – No election this year

Delegates and members of the Provincial Assembly – Each Diocese in ACNA is represented by its bishops, two clergy and two lay members, plus one additional clergy and lay member for every 1,000 in ASA over 1,000. The Assembly deliberates on matters concerning the Faith and Mission of the Church and meets at least once every five years.

Although the Nominating Committee, chaired by the Rev. Karl Burns, has not yet convened, if you do have a suggestion to share with the committee we invite you to contact Beth Snyder in the Diocesan Office at [bsnyder@adosc.org](mailto:bsnyder@adosc.org) or (843) 722-4075 to request the nominating forms. Please remember, the names you submit are suggestions, not actual nominations. Also make sure those you suggest are actually eligible and willing to serve. The Nominating Committee will then choose a slate.

## ACNA Assembly “Flawless” *Continued from Page 1*

the biblical value of generosity.” The Project’s website is [www.theevergreenproject.org](http://www.theevergreenproject.org)

So many of the workshop topics were compelling that it was difficult to choose. One delegate described them as an “expression of ministries, projects and deep theological thought.” Most were recorded and are on the ACNA App media center. Because I was excited when I first learned that ACNA was developing a new Catechism with a Task Force led by J.I. Packer, I chose two workshops on the final Catechism which has undergone significant improvements as a result of several years feedback from users and the College of Bishops on the published “working draft.”

The structure and content of the final Catechism exceed expectations. It is the first written Catechism created for a church that exists in a post-Christian cultural context. It aims to be accessible to a non-Christian raised in this context but also is designed to restore the Catechism to an integral part of church life as a tool for life-long group and individual study and formation. This final Catechism will be in print by January, 2020 and a pdf version with links should be online by the fall of 2020. An annotated version for instructors is also on the horizon. The release of the new Catechism follows on the heels of another mammoth undertaking—the new Book of Common Prayer which was presented to everyone attending Assembly 2019.

This wouldn’t be a complete picture

## New Rector *Continued from Page 6*

been an adjustment for us, I cannot imagine being part of any other communities. If someone had told me two years ago how much I would love these people, I don’t know that I would have believed it. I am grateful to God

for all of them. I love being a part of their lives and am so thankful they are in mine.

We look forward to what God is going to call us to do in the days, weeks, months and years to come—together with St. David’s and St. Paul’s.



# Kairos Outside - “A Mother’s Journey”

By Doris Hane, St. Matthew’s Parish Church, Fort Motte

I called it Black Saturday, the day my daughter was arrested. I felt the earth tilt as my life was tossed and turned as if a tornado had passed through. My family was forever shattered. I wondered, “What had I done wrong? What could I have said differently? How could I have effectively intervened?” My insides felt as if they were being eroded away with pain and guilt. “Would we ever be happy again as our family suffered through this tragedy?”

It wasn’t until I attended a Kairos Outside event held in Pickens, SC, in 2017, that I realized I wasn’t alone in my feelings. This room was full of women who understood me; who knew the depth of my loss and understood the loneliness of losing a dear family member to prison. They knew what it felt like to see a loved one through a glass window but not be allowed to touch her, to hug her or to comfort her. As we got to know each other and opened the door to our lives a little wider, I found love, acceptance, and encouragement. Kairos Outside was a place where it was easy to talk about the past, the present and the future.

I am extremely blessed to be from a small town and a loving and



Remembering happier times, Doris holds a picture of her daughter as a little girl.

wonderfully compassionate church family. My church family loved me back into existence. Loving and supporting, not just me but my daughter and the rest of my family, through calls, cards and prayer. My church has supported Kairos Prison Ministry for years, but I had never heard of Kairos Outside until my priest, Janet Echols, mentioned to me that I might want to consid-

er attending a weekend. On the last day of the weekend, we sat together with people from our area, and lo and behold Joyce Harder (Deacon at Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant) was at our table. The Lord had been leading her to start a Kairos Outside for the lowcountry and wanted to know if we were interested in helping. I jumped at the chance to be

able to help encourage other women who are facing the challenges of having a loved one incarcerated. To my great surprise, I will be leading Team #1 Lowcountry Kairos Outside in November 2019. This enthusiastic team wants to show the love of Christ to women who are hurting.

Kairos Outside is a Christian ministry for any woman 20 years old or older who has been impacted by incarceration. Guests do not have to be Christians but must be aware that all team members are Christians from different denominations. Kairos Outside provides a safe place for women who may be dealing with issues of isolation, rejection, financial hardship and loneliness. The three-day weekend where our guests hear a series of talks and meditations by women sharing their life’s journey is provided at no cost to guests.

Kairos Outside had a profound impact on my life going forward. I wondered, “How can God use this tragedy for good?” I am now blessed to be in a place where I can use my struggles to help others, a place where I can give support and receive support.

Do you know a woman who has been impacted by incarceration? Or would you like to support Kairos Outside? Please contact The Rev. Joyce Harder for more information at (843) 452-6083.

Please pray for the first Lowcountry Kairos Outside, November 22-24.

## Men of Darlington Love Neighbors Through Prayer



When a person in Darlington is severely afflicted or distressed in mind or body, the men from churches all over the community come together and offer up a prayer session for that individual. “That prayer session is in early morning so we are fresh of mind,” says the Rev. Frank Stoda, a Deacon at Saint Matthew’s, Darlington. “A rock from Black Creek (a local baptismal site) is held and prayed over by each man. On this rock is the inscription “For Where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them” Matthew 18:20. After we do the laying of hands on the rock, we pray as a group for that individual. The rock is then given to the individual with the knowledge that it came from the prayer group.”

# God’s Work in India “Astonishing” to Western Eyes

“...Sight to the Blind, Hearing to the Deaf... It was Like Living in a New Testament Story About the Apostles.”

By Nancy Hardwick, St. Michael’s Church, Charleston

This article first appeared in the Compass. It is reprinted with permission.

Getting out of your “comfort zone” has been a popular expression for many years. Usually it means trying something you haven’t done that will perhaps stretch you a bit. What happens when you step into a “far from comfort zone” and into another culture on the other side of the world and are immersed in a completely different life on a mission trip?



We visited six children’s hostels (safe houses) for children, held three children’s festivals, taught many sessions for adults and children and even dedicated a new church.

Ten intrepid travelers from St. Michael’s Church journeyed to West Bengal, India, on a 13-day mission trip after Thanksgiving in late November, 2018. We saw God at work transforming lives in a place that many folks in the Holy City of Charleston have never heard about. And we learned about the power of prayer at a whole new level.

Our team leaders, Johnnie and Jean Corbett, have deep relationships within the Anglican Diocese of Durgapur in West Bengal and have a long successful partnership with the Bishop of that Diocese, the Rt. Rev. Dr. Probal Dutta. The Corbett’s are key early founders of a vibrant prayer ministry at St. Michael’s and have led six teams to West Bengal over the past decade—supporting many ministries of the Diocese there and holding large Festivals of Hope (preaching and prayer services in remote locations in West Bengal.) Hundreds and sometimes thousands of people attend each of these services. They are held under large tents and generally start with worship songs and dancing, followed by a gospel-centered sermon. At the conclusion of the services, individual prayer is offered for anyone and everyone who desires prayer.

We held six Festivals of Hope in five towns during our recent trip. Overall, we traveled to nine locations by planes, trains and cars across thousands of miles. We visited six children’s hostels (safe houses) for children, held three children’s festivals, taught many sessions for adults and children and even dedicated a new church.

But why did we go? We went to see what God is doing and join his mission in a far

corner of the world. We went to see God at work through our trusted partners at the Diocese of Durgapur in West Bengal, India. We went to learn if by understanding God’s work in India, we can better understand how to support His work in America. We went to pray with people – some Christians and many non-Christians. We prayed with people we didn’t know and who speak languages we don’t understand. But God was there when we prayed for these people and we saw his work.

It was astonishing to our skeptical Western eyes. In our healing prayer services, we saw God restore sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, and heal frozen joints and limbs right in front of us. It was like living in a New Testament story about the apostles. Many healings occurred at the service at Kunor. Two team members prayed for several blind women who had their sight restored. In one instance, after several prayers, the team members put their fingers on the eyes of the blind woman and prayed again. When she looked up she said, “I can see you!”

A blind twelve-year-old orphan girl, Mary, was also miraculously healed. Many of our team had noticed her when we first arrived at the site for the Festival. She was obviously blind, and wherever she walked she was assisted by her friends. After prayer with members of our team she literally looked up and smiled. She was so joyful and began to look around. Her expression changed completely. It was obvious that she could finally see! She walked out of the tent without any help; her friends took notice, and they became excited too. We later discovered that one of our team members had been so touched by seeing her at a service the year before that he had prayed for her all year from America.



JEAN CORBETT

Mary, above right, received healing from her blindness at a festival. “It was astonishing to our skeptical Western eyes,” says Hardwick.

Other healings included a number of people with hearing impairment. A few of the men and women who came for prayer were deaf in both ears. One of our team members prayed for a deaf man, and hearing was restored immediately in one ear. The team member continued to pray for several minutes and finally put his finger in the deaf ear. When the prayer concluded, he removed his finger, and hearing was restored in both ears! A pastor who was serving as an interpreter stood behind the deaf man and snapped his fingers, and the man immediately responded to the sound.

Another healing involved an older woman who asked that we pray for her shoulder and left arm. She had so much pain she couldn’t lift her arm. After a few minutes of prayer, she began to smile and lifted her arm over her head. She was so happy and thankful. People began to leave and spread the news that people were being healed. Some people left and returned with family members who wanted prayer. We prayed for everyone who



Camp as a Glimpse of Heaven

# Camper Turned Summer-Staff Experience “Incredible”

By Emma Smith, Sophomore at Clemson University, Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant

Some places are very near to your heart: where you feel closest to the Lord, where you flourish, learn and grow, where you find enormous beauty and strong community. I like to call these places “glimpses of heaven” as they remind me of the beauty the Lord promises to us for eternity. For me, that place is Camp St. Christopher.

As the final month of camp is drawing near, I have begun to reflect on my first summer on staff. I have made more memories than I can count and have been so privileged to live in this glimpse of heaven.

I came to camp every summer while growing up. It was absolutely my favorite week of the year. It is difficult to describe the joy of summer camp to those who have never been, but I will do my best. Imagine the most exciting, joyful, laughter-filled emotion possible; now add that emotion to the freedom of being parentless for a few days, and you’ve got a pretty good understanding. Camp was my haven.

As I continued my annual visits, my love for this place only grew. I accepted the Lord here and nurtured my faith with the help of counselors and staff, and when I became old enough to counsel, these mentors nurtured my leadership. Finally, the time came to apply for summer staff.

Application day was comical. I was very nervous, anxiously waiting by my computer for the application to open. I filled it out carefully, reading over and over my responses to the many questions. I had been awaiting this day for a very long time—practically my entire childhood—and now that my time to be on summer staff had arrived, it was going to be incredible.

After being out here for about two months, I can say that summer staff is, in fact, incredible. I have never experienced a community like this. My fellow staff are perhaps the kindest and most genuine people I have ever had the pleasure of meeting.

Justin Johnson, our director, has been such a strong leader, one of great faith, wisdom, and most important, grace. In our off time, the staff go sailing together, hold impromptu worship nights in the Chapel of the Palms, and constantly engage in refreshing conversations. I consider these people my family.

Camp is not always so peaceful. In fact, most of the time we live in the organized chaos of damp bathing suits, sandy feet, and very loud campers. Meals are filled with constant questions, spilled drinks, and still very loud campers. Bedtime might be the most difficult part of the day. As the kids begin to wind



PROVIDED

“I came to camp every summer while growing up,” says Smith. “It was absolutely my favorite week of the year. It is difficult to describe the joy of summer camp to those who have never been, but I will do my best: imagine the most exciting, joyful, laughter-filled emotion possible.” Above, campers from this past summer’s session enjoy the mud pit.



JAMES LEGGETT

“Camp is not always so peaceful,” says Emma, above far left, jumping with senior session campers. “In fact, most of the time we live in the organized chaos of damp bathing suits, sandy feet, and very loud campers.”

down for bed, thoughts of family and homesickness call for patience. As these beautiful children wake me up throughout the night to tell me they miss their parents, I thank God for the opportunity to minister to them in their vulnerability.

This summer’s theme, “Living Water,” has proved quite appropriate, as we have had plenty of rain each session. Many activities have been rained out, many impromptu schedule switches have been made, and many thunderstorms have rattled the small cabins. And yet God has proved faithful in this chaos. Like the rain, he has washed over this place, filling each camper with his love and making his overflowing presence known.

What a blessing it has been to minister to so many children every day, especially with such a strong group of believers serving right alongside of me. In times of exhaustion, I lean on them and look back on the work the Lord has done this summer. My first summer on staff has been one of great personal

growth. My relationship with the Lord has only strengthened, and I feel more capable of sharing my faith than I ever have. I see the Lord’s faithfulness in every child who comes to camp and every heart that

over 80 counselors who will be 16 or older by the summer of 2020. If you love to worship the Lord Jesus, spend time with children, and play in God’s creation, camp is the place for you. If you are interested in being a part of the summer camp ministry team next summer, visit [www.stchristopher.org/summer-camp/work-here](http://www.stchristopher.org/summer-camp/work-here) for more information. Staff, counselor, and intern applications will go live on December 1, 2019.

We are already busy preparing for campers to arrive next summer, and summer camp registration is just around the corner. Our Early Registration period will be January 15-31 for all participating members of Anglican/Episcopal parishes and schools. General registration will open on Monday, February 3. If you would like to register your camper for more than one session, you can do so beginning March 1.

For information about summer camp, visit [stchristopher.org](http://stchristopher.org) and click on the Camp Saint Christopher tab.

St. Christopher is seeking 30-plus college-age staff members, eight post-high school interns, and over 80 counselors who will be 16 or older by the summer of 2020.

leaves transformed. I pray that all those who have the means or desire to send their children to Camp St. Christopher do so. What a wonderful place to meet the Lord.

In preparation for next summer, St. Christopher is in search of 30-plus college-age staff members, eight post-high school interns, and

## God’s Work Astonishing *Continued from Page 8*

sought us. I don’t know why God chose to heal so many people that night, but the miracles played out right in front of us.



JEAN CORBETT

Following her healing, Mary walks from the stage of the festival unassisted by her friends.

Of course, we prayed for many people, and we don’t know most of their stories or what happened to them. We will not know this side of heaven how many people were healed during these services. We didn’t understand why some did not appear to be healed while others were healed immediately, but we learned something about people who have been healed after prayer. They are excited and joyful. Their faces change. Expressions of worry and care disappear. You see the transformation in their attitude and appearance. Some immediately run and tell their families and friends. The change is unmistakable.

We also saw God transforming lives in other ways through the ministries of the Diocese. We saw God at work rescuing children from lives of abject poverty, and in some cases trafficking and slavery. We saw the hope and joy on their faces because they now had a safe place to sleep, clean clothes, good food and a school where they could learn. These most basic things, that many take for granted in America, are huge blessings. They add up to hope and a future that is not possible without them. We spoke with two young women, Shanti and Manju, who as children were rescued from a slum in Durgapur. We heard their stories and toured the slum where they

had lived. Shanti had been sold into slavery by her addicted mother and was later taken back from the traffickers by the Diocese. They were cared for and educated through the girls’ hostel at the diocesan compound. Manju is now married and working as an assistant librarian. Shanti is an assistant optometrist. They are beautiful, joyful young women today whose lives were transformed by God and blessed by the ministries of the Diocese of Durgapur.

We saw God transforming the lives of other underprivileged young women through the KSN nursing school where young women who qualify on their university level exams can pursue a three-year course to become a licensed nurse. Other young adults have learned valuable sewing skills at a Sewing Center at the Diocese of Durgapur. We saw God at work in an eye clinic where poor people who cannot afford care, can receive glasses and even restoration of their sight through cataract surgery.

As often happens, we also experienced God transforming us through this mission. Sometimes the experiences shaped us in the same way. Blessings were redefined when we recognized how we take for granted the luxurious choices for food and daily comfort we have in America. We learned to trust God to provide for us when he brought others to serve

and provide for us out of their poverty so we could be sustained on the trip. We experienced grace in the many small ways we helped each other along the journey.

But for me the experience also changed the way I pray. I had prayed for many people back home in America but usually in small groups or in focused prayer sessions for one person where several prayer partners were present. This was different. Praying for hundreds of people who you do not know, many of whom do not speak English, felt strange at first. Soon, however, I began to realize that even though these prayers were brief, they were powerful. Praying with someone on the other side of the world, who you do not know but with whom you are united by praying for the concern of their heart, is very powerful. Somehow, the love you are showing by traveling literally to the other side of the world to meet them, worship with them and pray with them creates a bond across all the boundaries that separate us. God’s love unites us and transcends the many ways we are different. God shows up and things happen.



# A Tree Grows at St. Christopher

Magnolia Planted in Memory of Jack Fleisher

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

What stood out most at a brief ceremony honoring the memory of Jack Fleischer was the silence. About 100 people gathered June 28 at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center on Seabrook Island, SC to remember the young lover of the outdoors who drowned at 19 after diving

into Bohicket Creek. Many were early, and they formed a semi-circle facing the young magnolia planted in his honor.

They stood under the mid-afternoon sun, and they kept silent while waiting for the 2:30 p.m. ceremony to begin.

The participants included his parents,

two younger siblings who were attending a camp session, other campers, and student staff members who worked with and loved the Anderson College student. Fleischer was a summer staff member when he died, which shook the emotional life of his housemates at St. Christopher.

The Rev. Bob Lawrence, Executive Director of St. Christopher, led the brief ceremony. After his death on July 7, 2018, the student was cremated, and his ashes were buried at St. Christopher. "Planting a tree at St. Christopher was the initiative of staff members at Gravatt Camp and Conference Center in Aiken," Lawrence said. The summer staff of 2018 at St. Christopher agreed on a magnolia, which will grow tall and broad. "Tomorrow was to be Jack's birthday, but he has a new birthday in eternity," Lawrence said.

"This tree is little, but it will not stay little for long. It will grow and send down deep roots.

May this tree teach us the power of your presence among us," prayed the Rev. Rob Kunes, Chaplain of the St. Christopher Prayer Center. He prayed as well that in time the magnolia would remind campers of the tree of life described in Revelation 22:1-5.

The Rev. Scott Fleischer, Jack's father, recalled a time when he and wife, Victoria, had trouble finding their son and eventually

discovered that he had climbed to the top of a tree.

"That was his favorite place to be," he said. "I hope this tree will be long-lasting and will give glory to God somehow."

Justin Johnson, Director of Summer Camp at St. Christopher, recalled forming a fast bond with Fleischer when they met at camp. "We both loved the outdoors and running through the marsh at sundown," he said. "Magnolias have a beautiful personality. Through this tree, I hope people will sense the fragrance of Christ."

"This tree is an Ebenezer, a reminder of God's faithfulness to Jack and to us," Johnson said.

The gathered friends and family of Jack Fleischer sang "Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing," including these words composed in 1757: "Here I raise my Ebenezer; / Here by Thy great help I've come; / And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, / Safely to arrive at home."

After Lawrence used palm leaves to sprinkle the young magnolia with holy water, he observed the custom of sprinkling holy water on the gathered congregation.

The service concluded, and those who knew Fleischer well were slow to leave. Silence prevailed again, and many campers embraced his family and each other. Then they began pouring water from their bottles to hydrate the new tree.



DOUG LEBLANC

## It's Not Too Late to Register for the New Wineskins Conference!

From September 26th to 29th, more than a thousand people from over 30 countries will gather for the 9th New Wineskins Global Mission Conference at Ridgecrest Conference Center, NC! With a line-up of 18 plenary speakers, an anointed Anglican praise team leading worship, 70 exhibitors, and over 120 Mission Awareness Presentations (MAP Talks) planned, anyone attending will go home inspired, encouraged, educated and equipped to engage in cross-cultural mission opportunities both here at home and abroad. There will also be over 20 pre-conferences in the days leading up to the conference.

One thing that makes a New Wineskins Conference unique is that we minister to the whole family. Age appropriate missional programs will be offered during morning, afternoon and evening plenary sessions. Our children's program (for ages 0-13) will include a variety of children's curriculums aimed at engaging the hearts and minds of the youngest among us. For high-schoolers and college-aged students, RE:MIX is a student missions conference that runs alongside New Wineskins. It will be co-hosted by Rock The World Youth Mission Alliance and the Young Anglicans Project.

Registration for the New Wineskins Conference is open until the week before the conference, but a late registration fee kicks in on Sept. 9. Go to <https://newwineskinsconference.org/> for all the details. We hope you are planning to attend. If you are interested, please contact us about being a volunteer!

These events will take place at Ridgecrest Conference Center. Please contact Ridgecrest directly at 1-800-588-7222 to make housing and meal reservations.

Why come early to attend a pre-conference?

To go deeper. Many people have already discerned that God is calling them to a specific area of mission or have had their hearts broken for a particular group. Attending a pre-conference can take you from being interested in mission to being actively involved! You can register for any of these pre-conferences (most are free) by clicking on the topic of your choice at <https://newwineskinsconference.org/preconferences> and following the instructions on the landing pages about registering for a specific pre-conference. You don't want to miss this special opportunity to dive deeper into Kingdom ministry!

Pre-conferences:

- Reaching Muslims
- Reaching Hindus
- Reaching College Students
- Reaching Millennials
- International Student Ministry
- Unreached People Groups
- Refugees & Immigrants
- Always Forward Church Planting
- United Adoration
- ACNA Communications Workshop
- Moving Your Parish from Maintenance to Mission
- From Status Quo to Healthy Mission Mobilization
- Praying for the Nations
- Discerning a Long-term Missionary Call
- Missionary Care
- Third Culture Kids
- Healing As Mission
- Persecuted Church
- Business As Mission
- The Arts In Mission
- Global Theological Education
- South East Asia Symposium IV (post-conference)

## Annual Fund Reaches 10 Years

This year of 2019 marks a 10-year milestone since the inauguration of an Annual Fund appeal on behalf of St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center. While twice in the years prior (both in the early 1970's and again at the turn of the millennium), capital campaigns were held to enhance the facilities of St. Christopher; it was not until 2009 that an Annual Fund appeal began.

The Annual Fund was welcomed with a great response: close to a quarter million dollars was given in support of St. Christopher. In the years since, the Annual Fund appeal has garnered an average of \$100,000 in annual charitable giving but never from more than 300 contributors. While St. Christopher is grateful for the commitment expressed in the generosity of these present donors, it is ever more in need for more to be added in both donors and contributions.

At this 10-year milestone of the Annual Fund, your personal support is needed now more than ever as the full ministries of St. Christopher continue to face the future

with ever increasing hope of God's providential blessing. Despite the challenges presented by hurricanes and significant weather closures for each of the past three years in addition to the litigation concerns that could have so easily hampered the resolve over the past seven years, St. Christopher as a ministry of The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina has continued to flourish as guests are welcomed, Christian hospitality is offered, and God's Kingdom is built each and every day. Every day does indeed offer an opportunity of impacting the lives of those who are blessedly served through this ministry.

Your giving to the Annual Fund at any level enhances that opportunity. It enables the ability to hire and retain quality staff that understand their own call to ministry in this place. It allows the staff to continue to enhance aging facilities with upgrades and improvements that better serve you and all other guests. It contributes to the abilities to increase scholarship assistance to serve those who otherwise cannot

afford participation in the Summer Camp, Environmental Education, and Conference programs.

If you have never given in sup-

If you have never given in support of St. Christopher's ministry, please do so this year.

port of St. Christopher's ministry, please do so this year. If you have given in the past but have yet to renew that commitment with an annual gift for 2019, please do so now. Your gift can be given online at [stchristopher.org/give/](http://stchristopher.org/give/) or a check can be mailed using the attached form. Making St. Christopher a beneficiary in one's own estate planning is also a way that others have blessed this hallowed place. Regardless of how you choose to support this ministry, please know that your gift in any amount will be gratefully received and faithfully used to steward all that is St. Christopher.

**ST. CHRISTOPHER**  
Camp and Conference Center

**PLEASE GIVE to the St. Christopher Annual Fund Today.**  
YES, I WANT TO JOIN ST. CHRISTOPHER IN MINISTRY TODAY!

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Steward \$5000+</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Partner \$1000-\$4999</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Friend \$1-\$999</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> My check for \$_____ is enclosed. <input type="checkbox"/> Please bill my credit card. <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MASTERCARD
--	---

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_  
Expires \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Security Code on back \_\_\_\_\_ (cvs code)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Please include your credit card billing address if different from above.

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



## Giving Thanks Daily During a St. Christopher Thanksgiving

At noon on Thanksgiving Day, the guests at St. Christopher Camp & Conference Center's annual Thanksgiving retreat will not be focused on who carves the turkey. Instead, they will gather together for the Holy Eucharist, Anglicanism's central service of giving thanks to God. Thanksgiving dinner begins at 3:00 p.m.



This year's retreat will not lack the North American traditions in the celebration of the holiday, but rather, it will expand on them. The Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade and multiple football games will be available as well as movies, bingo, flag football on the beach, a hayride, and evening s'mores around a bonfire. And how many Thanksgiving celebrations offer free tours of an aquarium and herpetarium?

St. Christopher Camp & Conference Center's Thanksgiving retreat begins with Evening Prayer on Wednesday, Nov. 27, and concludes with lunch on Saturday, Nov. 30. Morning and Evening Prayer will be available regularly.

For more information, visit [stchristopher.org/events/thanksgivingretreat](http://stchristopher.org/events/thanksgivingretreat) or call Bennett Love at (843) 768-0429.

# Being Outdoors Has the Power to Heal

## Barrier Island Outdoor Education Turns the Ordinary into Extraordinary

By David Green, Director of Environmental Education for the Barrier Island Environmental Education Center, St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

The Barrier Island Environmental Education Center has welcomed schools to St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center since 1980. Why do students and teachers leave the formal classroom, trek across the state, and spend two nights and three days at our site? For obvious reasons such as seeing the ocean for the first time or hugging a 100-year-old live oak in our forest or seeing an alligator in its natural habitat.

Educators know the value and benefits of going outside. When a teacher who has worked with a challenging student for months observes this same student opening up and taking part in nature games out on a trail, the question is natural: Why the change? It's simple. Being outdoors has the power to heal.

Being in God's creation has the strength to heal the body physically, the mind emotionally, and the soul spiritually. Nature is for everyone. Studies have shown that being outdoors—breathing in the fresh air—can reduce stress levels. Studies have also shown that students who spend time playing and learning outside are more focused, have higher grade-point averages and cause fewer classroom disruptions. They are better students.

The role of the Barrier Island naturalist is vital in initiating these experiences. The naturalist can take something ordinary and turn it into something extraordinary. A naturalist can show a child how to play in the outdoors and that being outside can be fun and enjoyable.

A naturalist can show the value and beauty of a dried magnolia leaf rolled up on the ground on the forest floor that is offering protection to a



PROVIDED BY ST. CHRISTOPHER

*Being in God's creation has the strength to heal the body physically, the mind emotionally, and the soul spiritually. Nature is for everyone. Studies have shown that being outdoors—breathing in the fresh air—can reduce stress levels.*

young toad from the heat of the sun. A naturalist can point out a fiddler crab's energetic wave as we walk by on the wet, muddy trail through the salt marsh.

A naturalist, simply by listening and spending a few moments with a child on a short walk at camp, can earn trust and offer encouragement to be a better person and to care about the outdoors and its many life forms. A naturalist can start the journey of a child to be a better steward of God's creation.

When I was a child, the place to be was outside. Today, the dis-

connect that a child has with the outdoors is great. Today, for a child going outdoors there is fear. There could be anxiety and misunderstandings of what exactly is out there.

Each year, the Barrier Island staff takes on this challenge by hiring up to 14 passionate and enthusiastic naturalists. They have a wide range of education, but all have one thing in common: a love for the outdoors and a desire to share that with others, both young and old. Lifetime memories are created here at camp. Week after week, we hear about

parents and grandparents who were here as children and are now back with their families. They want to experience this special place together.

Outdoor education is about relationships—with each other, with the outdoors, and with God. Learning how to respect and care for others can bring about respect and care for the environment. We hope that through our bringing awareness to God's creation in unique and fun ways, students will leave feeling connected to their surroundings and a new appreciation will go with them.

## Mary Whyte's Watercolor Workshop Benefits Barrier Island Environmental Education

By Anna Gervais, Assistant Director of Environmental Education, local outreach coordinator, and outdoor encounter coordinator for St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

Watercolor artist Mary Whyte, a member of the board at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, recently led a watercolor workshop for the benefit of its Barrier Island Environmental Education Program's local outreach.

Whyte coached participants in the art of watercolor portraiture. To conclude the workshop, she and St. Christopher hosted an Art of Outreach Gathering. The event was a chance to show the watercolor portraiture of Mary and her students. Throughout the evening, tours of the herpetarium and aquarium were led by students attending Haut Gap, St. John's High School, and Our Lady of Mercy Community Center.

Students discussed what they learned about the reptiles and amphibians of the Barrier Island program. The evening concluded with the singing and storytelling of Ann Caldwell, who performed a blend of a capella spirituals.

"To be an artist is to give proof of God and the beauty that surrounds us," Whyte says in her biography, *More than a Likeness*. The same is true of being a naturalist at the Barrier Island Environmental Education Center.

Young or old, we are irresistibly drawn to the detailed majesty of God's creation. St. Christopher staff believe that by exposing students to the wonders and intricacies of creation, we are opening the door to knowl-

edge of a creator. We are grateful that those doors will continue to open in the lives of young students across Charleston County in the school year ahead.

Whether a student is two or 12-years-old, there is wide-eyed amazement (or trepidation)

when given the chance to touch the bony scales of a young American alligator or the smooth contours of a king snake. Some will reach forward with two cautious fingers. Others boldly place their hands out wide, ready to accept the entire body of the animal. Still

others, who choose only to look, can be coaxed by the bravery of a neighbor into reaching one finger out to the very tip of a tail. They pull back their hand with a satisfied smile, pleased by their ability to face fear.

Our program cultivates curiosity, bravery, and wonder in the lives of young students as they learn biology, ecology, astronomy, and more. For many of these students, a Barrier Island field trip is their first close experience with the Lowcountry's local reptile

and amphibian species. Students may often encounter reptiles and amphibians they are unable to identify. Yet this skill is crucial not only for the students' safety but for the conservation of wildlife.

The naturalists at Barrier Island engage students in experiential educational programs that result in increased knowledge of local wildlife and habitats while promoting stewardship of the environment. Sharing the joy of discovery with our students, we base our teaching philosophy on these words: "But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you; or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish in the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind." (Job 12:7-12)

For the students who attend our immersive field trip, the learning is unforgettable. While the information we share is not spiritual, the experience draws many closer to knowledge of the Creator.

The cost of this field trip can be unattainable for many schools in our community. The local outreach program is a Barrier Island initiative that began in 2009 with the goal of reaching and creating opportunities for all elementary schools of the Charleston community



Mary Whyte, second from right, who serves on the Board of St. Christopher, offered her much-sought after workshop to benefit the Barrier Island program.

Continued on Page 16



Death of the Rev. Fred Berkaw

Please keep the family and loved ones of the Rev. Bergen Frederic (Fred) Berkaw, Jr. in your prayers. Fred, a long-time member, and later deacon, at St. Paul's Church in Summerville, died June 26, 2019, following a brief illness.



"Fred had a passion for social justice issues and played a leading role in race reconciliation in Summerville," said the Rev. Mike Lumpkin (retired), former Rector of St. Paul's. "He loved the Lord Jesus and loved his church." In an effort

to address underlying issues of race and class, Fred established a Reading Camp at St. Paul's, which helped low-income students improve their reading skills while building their self-esteem and confidence. Fred, and his loving wife, Mary, would have been married 49 years this coming October. Following a move to Virginia, Fred transferred to the Anglican Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic. Prior to his death, he was serving as a deacon in two churches, Ebenezer Lutheran Church in Marion, VA and The Church of St. Peter and St. Paul in Roanoke, VA. Letters of condolence

may be sent to Mary at 1414 Mitchell Valley Dr., Marion, VA 24354. The funeral was held on July 3 at Ebenezer Lutheran Church. In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorials be given to the two churches listed above.

Death of Molly Greene

Please keep the family and loved ones of Molly F. Greene, co-founder, chair and chief stewardship officer of Water Mission in your prayers. Molly passed away on July 17 after a tragic accident. The funeral service



was held at St. Philip's Church, Charleston, July 29.

"No words can describe this heartbreaking loss for our family. We know that a larger global family mourns with us and celebrates her life as she blessed so many around the world," said her son, George Greene,

IV, President and COO of Water Mission, in a statement from the family on July 18.

Molly's love for people was felt both locally and worldwide — she made a personal impact on so many. Locally, she took time with

countless people to assist with anything from career counseling to personal encouragement. Through her ministry at Water Mission, she touched millions of lives. Together with her husband, George, she led a worldwide staff of more than 350 people, individuals whom she loved, prayed with, and prayed for. Molly truly believed that her work with Water Mission was fulfilling a calling from God and was driven to do all things with love, excellence, and integrity.

Memorial contributions can be made to Water Mission, in memory of Molly's heart for serving others and passion for providing safe water. Those who were inspired by her life will allow her legacy to continue for many years to come. Contact Water Mission at <https://watermission.org/>.

Death of Sallie McCall

Please keep the family and loved ones of Sallie McCall, the 16 year-old daughter of the Rev. Suzy McCall, Founder and Spiritual Director of LAMB, in your prayers. Sallie took her own life on May 12. In a note to the LAMB family, board chair, Susan Keller wrote, "As many of you know, Suzy McCall's beautiful 16-year-old, Sallie, died suddenly on Sunday, May 12. Experiencing a heartbreak



beyond words, Suzy, the founder and spiritual director of LAMB, has been shattered, as any mother would be. She had raised sweet Sallie since she was six months. Sallie was one of our very first "God's Little Lambs" that the Lord

used to lead the ministry to His vision for starting the LAMB Children's Home. Many of us have known and loved Sallie all of her life. She was such a precious, loving child. The whole LAMB community is grieving. Yet we are not grieving as those without hope (Thessalonians 4:13,14) as we know that Sallie is with the Lord Jesus, whom she loved, and we will all be together again one day. It helps to know that Jesus wept when his dear friend Lazarus died. He is close to the brokenhearted."

The funeral was held Monday, May 13. Memorials may be marked "In Memory of Sallie McCall" and sent to SAMS at <https://samsusa.org/> or LAMB at <https://www.lambinstitute.org/>

People News

**The Rev. Rags Coxe**, who, for the last five years, has served as an assistant at Prince George Winyah, has accepted a call to serve as the next Rector of St. Matthew's, Darlington.



"It's going home," said Rags who was baptized and confirmed at St. Matthew's. "I'm so looking

forward to working with families I know well and getting to know the those who've joined the congregation since I left. It's a good fit!" In a letter to Saint Matthew's, Joe Ervin, the Senior Warden wrote, "Many of you know Rags and Suiter well and those of you who don't are in for a treat. Their first Sunday will be September 29. I ask that you pray for Rags and Suiter as they transition into this new roll." Rags believes his time at Prince George Winyah has him well-prepared for this new ministry. "The things I've been working on at Prince George – evangelism, outreach, prayer ministry, family ministry, men's ministry – those are all things I'm looking forward to contributing to Saint Matthew's," he said. "I'm just blown away that they would have me – but I'm not a prophet, so I'm welcome in my home town!"

**Tim Evans** has accepted a call to join the staff of Christ St. Paul's, Yonges Island, serving as their first



full-time Director of Music Ministries and working with the Rector, the Rev. Craig Borrett, in developing their Young Adult/Young Family ministry. In a note to the

congregation, Borrett writes, "Tim has a long history of music and worship leadership in the greater Charleston area, and he has been serving as the Contemporary Worship leader at a large church in Naples, Florida for the past three years. He and his family decided to return home to family and friends and will be moving back to Summerville later this month. Tim and

his wife, Felicia, have three young sons, Josiah, Noah and Luca (born just last year!) In calling Tim to this new position, the vestry and I are so very thrilled to have Tim join the CSP staff and bring his gifts and family into our parish family."

**The Rev. Dan Farley**, who serves as a Deacon at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Charleston, stepped



down from active ministry on August 25. Dan took this step on the recommendation of his doctors, and at the urging of his Rector, the Rev. Donnie McDaniel, as well as Bishop Mark Lawrence. Dan suffers from spinal as well as heart issues. In a letter to the parish, Dan wrote, "Although short, my time at Good Shepherd has been sweet, and I feel extremely blessed to have had the privilege to minister to each and every one of you. I will be forever grateful to Father Donnie for inviting me to serve as his assistant here at Good Shepherd. I ask for your prayers for Sue and me as we embark on this new journey in our lives."

**Joy Harrity** recently accepted a call to serve as the Ministry Assistant to the Rector at Church of Our Saviour,



John's Island. The Ministry Assistant to the Rector is a new full-time ministry position. In a notice to the church, the Rector, the Rev. Karl Burns wrote, "...I am excited

to watch Joy use her God-given talents connecting people to Christ and community." September 1 will mark Joy's fourth anniversary working at the church. Originally from Philadelphia, Joy has lived in the lowcountry for six years now. "I'm blessed to be here," says Joy, "getting to serve the Lord while living surrounded by the natural beauty of the islands."

**Trish Lawrence** has accepted a call to serve as the Children's Minister

at Church of Our Saviour, Johns Island. The Children's Ministry position is a part-time position with duties that include supervising the nursery and their children's church program. In a letter to the parish, the Rector, the Rev. Karl Burns, wrote,



"I believe that under Trish's leadership, this ministry will grow as she has plans to reach out to the young families in our neighborhoods and help them come to know and accept the love of Jesus." Trish is married to the Rev. Newman Lawrence who serves as an Assistant Priest at the church. They are the parents of 20-month old twins, Hank and Huck.

**Douglas LeBlanc** is the new Communications Director for St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center on Seabrook Island. He comes to the staff after a decade in various editing roles on staff with The Living Church. "I am grateful that Fr. Bob Lawrence has invited me



to begin this new chapter in my vocational and spiritual life," LeBlanc said. LeBlanc and his wife, Monica, will join a congregation of the diocese after visiting those they think will be within a reasonable distance of their new household. "Monica and I have lived in three other states since leaving Louisiana in 1989, and we are thankful for the hospitality already shown to us here in greater Charleston." They are the happy guardians of Mittens, a tuxedo cat still in her feisty younger years.

**The Rev. Donnie McDaniel**, Rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Charleston, has accepted a call to serve as the Associate Rector of Old St. Andrew's, Charleston. His last Sunday at Good Shepherd was July 14, and, after a month sabbatical, he began serving at OSA August 15. In a letter to Good Shepherd, Donnie writes, "I love Good Shepherd,



and more than that, I love her people. It has been a high honor to serve as your rector these three years. These years have not been easy—I was called here as an agent of change...Yet, despite the difficult nature of the decisions I was called here to make, you all worked alongside me beautifully. I have seen God do some wonderful things in and through you, and I would not change a thing."

Please keep **the Very Rev. Dr. Peter Moore**, Director of the Anglican



Leadership Institute, in your prayers. Peter was diagnosed with a glioblastoma brain tumor. He has undergone surgery to remove the tumor and has had six weeks of radiation and chemotherapy. At press time he was "feeling good" and awaiting his next MRI.

**Heather Pienkos** recently accepted a call to serve as the Children's



Director at The Church of the Resurrection, Surfside. In describing her journey to the position Heather writes, "Growing up, God instilled a passion to work with children. He allowed me to encourage children as a counselor to many summer camps, shower children with God's love at each VBS, sending me to India to work with children in orphanages, and much more! My passion while working with children was for each child to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and to know that they are unique, special, and wonderfully made in God's eyes. Heather and her husband Charles have been married 18 years and have three children.

**Robin Quick** has left her position as Director of Ministry to Children, Youth and Families at



Christ Church, Mt Pleasant, to become Executive Director of Joanne Ellison's Drawing Near to God Ministry. Robin joined the Christ Church staff in 2005, became the

Director of Children's Ministries in 2007 and expanded her role to include ministry to youth and families, administrative and outreach ministries including the Tree Church Project, which raised funds for five church buildings in the Diocese of Marsabit, Kenya over the last five years. Robin served on Diocesan Council and currently serves on the Board of Directors of St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center. The Rev. Ted Duvall, Rector of Christ Church says, "Robin's heart and soul have been poured out into so many youngsters (she often calls them 'my kids') to teach them to know and love the Gospel and the life of God's people. Robin is excited about this new call and so we say, 'may God bless this new thing He is doing in your life and ministry.'" Robin and her husband, Joe, and sons Ryan and Brady reside in Mt. Pleasant and will continue to be a part of the Christ Church family that they love so much.



Congratulations to **Chris Walcheky**, Organist & Choirmaster at Saint James Church, Charleston, and his wife, Jessica, as they celebrate the birth of their first child, Cecilia Lillian, who was born on April 28th weighing 8 lbs, 15 oz.



# Miracles in Our Midst

## As I Prayed, I Watched God Do Wonders: People Healed, Lives Transformed, Hope Restored

By Travis Todd, St. Paul's Church, Conway

If you would have asked me at the beginning of my walk with Jesus if miracles happen today, I would have told you "no." Miracles for me were only stories in the Bible because I was taught that healings and miracles and other gifts ceased with the Apostles and we have the Bible now to reveal all that we need to know about God.

It wasn't until about six years ago when I experienced the overwhelming love of Jesus and was baptized in the Holy Spirit that I began to understand the Spiritual gifts and began to witness healings and miracles. My faith grew and I had the boldness and compassion to pray for people. I began to see a world of hurting people, which propelled me to pray for them. As I prayed, I watched God do wonders: people being healed, lives transformed, and hope being restored. My faith wasn't based on what I was told but on what I read in Scripture and the mighty works of God that I experienced first-hand.

In July of 2018, my wife Venessa was pregnant with our third child, but at 29 weeks, something didn't seem right and she was retaining a lot of fluid. There was no way she was going to make it to September 23rd to deliver our baby. We went in for another ultrasound and that is when tragedy struck. The doctor ex-



*We did all we could do and we decided to end Ellis' suffering by removing the ventilator from him and allowing God to work. If it was God's will for Ellis to breathe, he would breathe; if not, it wasn't God's will.*

plained to us that Venessa had Polyhydramnios, which is an excessive amount of amniotic fluid around the baby. It only occurs in about 1-2%

of pregnancies and could be life-threatening to the infant and the mother. He then told us that there seemed to be a growth on our child's back about 2-3 inches long, there was a growth near his kidney, and both of his feet were club-footed.

Our hearts dropped and we did the only thing we knew to do, and that was to pray and inform everyone we knew to pray for our baby boy and Venessa. As we prayed and prepared for his arrival, tragedy struck again. On August 9, we awoke, and for the first time our son was no longer moving. We rushed to the OB/GYN and the ultrasound tech couldn't

find a heartbeat. So we did all that we could do: pray and expect a miracle. The doctor came in and

finally found a faint heartbeat. We were told to go straight to Conway Hospital and deliver our son. I knew if we delivered him at Conway they would separate Venessa from him and take him to MUSC where their medical care was already being transferred. So we decided to take a risk and drive him to MUSC in Charleston.

We spent the entire trip down to Charleston praying that Venessa and our son would be okay. Upon our arrival we were rushed upstairs and then, once again, the doctors delivered terrible news: there was no heartbeat. Finally, a heartbeat was found and Venessa was screaming in pain. I was shoved out of the way and they rushed Venessa for an emergency C-section. After sitting in the hallway by myself for an hour crying out to God to save my wife and child, I was told my wife was okay and I could see my son.

But the doctors delivered more bad news to me: the baby was born premature at 31.5 weeks, he had jaundice, the mass was larger than they expected, his lungs were not developed fully, and there was more malformation on his feet than just being club-footed.



Our hearts were torn, but we were thankful that Venessa and our son Ellis Todd survived the emergency C-section. We were then told that he went without oxygen sometime in the womb, so we could expect developmental delays and lesser cognitive ability, and the doctors weren't sure if he would make it through the weekend. But we prepared and prayed, expecting a miracle.

*Continued on Page 15*

## A Tribute to Ethel Ripley

By The Rev. Janet Echols, Rector, Saint Matthew's, Fort Motte

Ethel Lachicotte Boyle died Saturday, July 20, 2019. Mrs. Ripley, a member of St. Andrew's, Mt. Pleasant, was a member of the Order of the Daughters of the King and served in multiple leadership roles including President of Province IV and as their National President. Mrs. Ripley founded many new chapters locally and nationally.

I have been meaning to write a post about my friend Ethel Ripley who passed away in late July. She was a grand lady! Her grandness used to scare me. I did my best to avoid her. But fortunately she cornered me at a Diocesan convention where we were manning booths all day. I couldn't get away. I was a seminarian and not-so-grand. Her designer suit, proper makeup and flawless severe hair scared me but while trapped, I listened, really listened. And what I heard was amazing! What you might miss in her list of accomplishments in her obituary is that she was part of the early Charismatic movement, was discipled by the Rev. Terry Fullam and was not just a grand lady, she was a grand prayer warrior. She was steeped in the Word and in the Spirit. Problem was that at that point in her life she was feeling a bit "washed up". At the end of our day together I said, "I am not sure if I will come back to SC but if I do I would love to hang out with you some more." She said, "Well, I am not sure what that means."



time I found myself at a gathering with Ethel Ripley I would be sure to "hang out" with her and have younger women join us. Over the years we hung out a lot- at her home, at Pawleys, at DOK gatherings, at church.

Wherever she was, I was drawn to her spirit and the Holy Spirit in her. I loved her as a dear friend and mentor. It was always a joy and blessing to be with her.

Charles became a favorite of hers, living at her beach house while we dated. She even made 600 biscuits for our wedding reception. When God called us to India, it was Ethel who arranged a grant from DOK to help send us. Years later while visiting, Grace was surprised to see so many pictures of our family on Ethel's refrigerator - a sign of her commitment to pray with and for us over the years.

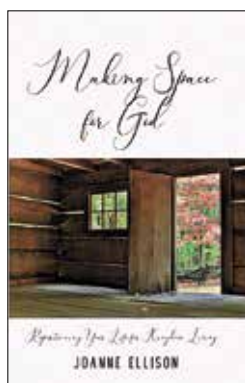
Ethel, thank you for "hanging out" or as Jesus might say, abiding. So many good memories. I love you and miss you.

(Dear Friends, please let this be a lesson, don't let hair or grandness or poverty or age differences get in the way of building relationships... get in the way of love.)

## Making Space for God: Repositioning Your Life for Kingdom Living

New Book from Joanne Ellison, Drawing Near to God

Joanne Ellison, founder of the International nonprofit Drawing Near to God based in Mt. Pleasant, recently released a new book, "Making Space for God: Repositioning Your Life for Kingdom Living."



The inspiration for the book came from a series of teachings about the trials people have shared with the author. "These trials, and the choices we make in the midst of our struggles, are dramatically affected by whether or not we have made space for God in our lives," says Ellison. "Not just Sunday-morning space or Bible-study space or prayer-time space, but openness at the very center of our lives. Although we so often clutter and even squander the space God originally created in us, He still wants to live there. He is gently persistent, infinitely patient, and unfathomably faithful. When we are ready and willing, if we allow Him, He promises to use whatever we make available. And God wastes neither time nor space: He will begin renovations as soon as He gets the go-ahead."

To learn more and buy a copy visit [JoanneEllison.com](http://JoanneEllison.com). or [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)



## October 5 Evangelism Workshop An Answer to Prayer

By Charlie and Lynelle Jensen, Diocesan Evangelism Committee, Church of the Cross, Bluffton

"Father, God, I'm at my wit's end with my family. None of them knows You, and their lives are train wrecks. Father, please guide me when I try to help them see You in their lives. Also, Father, I know You have provided me with opportunities to tell others that I encounter about You. I just don't know what to say...and I'm so afraid I will scare the other person off or look foolish myself. Please teach me, Father, how to be a witness for You in my various environments: work, home, community, recreation, church. In Jesus's name I pray. Amen."

Thank You, thank

You, Father, for answering my prayer! I will attend the Evangelism Workshop that is being held at The Church of the Cross in Bluffton on October 5, 2019, from 10:00 - 3:15.

I'm so appreciative that the workshop is free and includes lunch. I can't wait to see what You have for me at this workshop, Father! I will go to the diocesan website ([www.adosc.org](http://www.adosc.org)) and click on the date of October 5 in the calendar to register. In Jesus's mighty name I pray. Amen."

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8

### Evangelism Workshop

October 5 Church of the Cross, Bluffton

The Diocesan Evangelism Committee will offer an Evangelism Workshop at the Church of the Cross, Bluffton, from 10:00 am - 3:15 pm on Saturday, October 5, 2019. Don't miss this opportunity to learn the different styles of evangelism, discover your natural style for sharing your faith, and learn how to apply it through coaching and role-playing in a relaxed, encouraging environment. There is no cost and lunch will be provided. Have questions? Contact Contact Lynelle Jensen at (443) 995-1753 or Frank Kirk at (843) 869-4339.



# Sights and Sounds of GrandCamp

By Sherry Schumann, St. Paul's Church, Summerville

For the past four years, I've had the joy of serving on the diocesan staff for GrandCamp. One of my responsibilities is to document the camp with still photography. This year's theme was "The Great Adventure: Knowing and Following Jesus as the Good Shepherd."

from the Good Shepherd. She renamed the toy "Wanda, the Wandering Sheep" and presented a delightful, albeit competitive, game entitled, "Where's Wanda?"

The grandchildren were responsible for locating Wanda whenever she was missing, which occurred sporadically, both day and

Carlyle was hysterical. Despite our laughter, another biblical principle was conveyed: "The enemy comes to steal, kill and destroy, but Jesus comes so we can have abundant life." (John 10:10, paraphrased)

I recalled a sharp clap of lightning, the roll of thunder.

On Thursday evening, everyone returned from giving the spoken blessing and filed into the chapel as a massive storm broke overhead. The grandchildren raced to the window behind the altar, watching in awe as God displayed His majesty in the wind, lightning and pelting rain. A deep blue sky appeared, somewhere over Botany Bay beyond the edge of the storm. As the sun sank beneath the horizon and we sang "How Great Is Our God," the storm cloud turned brilliant shades of pink and orange.

One grandparent remarked, "God just stamped His approval on the blessings we gave."

While memories fade and my descriptions pale in comparison to the reality they represent, the impact of GrandCamp is far reaching. In closing, I'll share a portion of a letter I received from a grandmother after camp:

"I wrote each of our grandchildren a personal and rather long note (after GrandCamp), recapping the beauty of being with each of them as we learned more about the relationship we have with our Good Shepherd. I said I loved how we worshipped together, played together, and ate together. I also reminded them of the words in the blessing we gave each of them, and I asked that they keep my letter and put it in a pocket of their album along with their coin, the photo of the Good Shepherd that Deb gave us, the bookmark, a scrap of their green team scarf and the sheep they made the first day which I took off the poster.

"I asked their mothers to look for their envelopes in the mail and find a quiet place when they arrive to read each letter to them separately. I wanted their mothers to have a closer look into our GrandCamp experience and to help with reinforcing the messages. I also wanted them to feel more comfortable about bringing God into their own homes more and into their children's lives in a much more meaningful way. The door has opened



SHERRY SCHUMANN

In flipping through the photographs I took this year, I was drawn not to actual pictures but to the sounds they invoked. I remembered four things in particular...

I recalled Peter Rothermel's voice teaching the grandparents and their grandchildren the tribal call. "He leads...He guides...He protects...He provides. The Lord is my Shepherd." In twelve short words, Peter taught an overview of the Twenty-third Psalm, which no one will forget.

I recalled the voices of the grandchildren hollering, "Where's Wanda?"

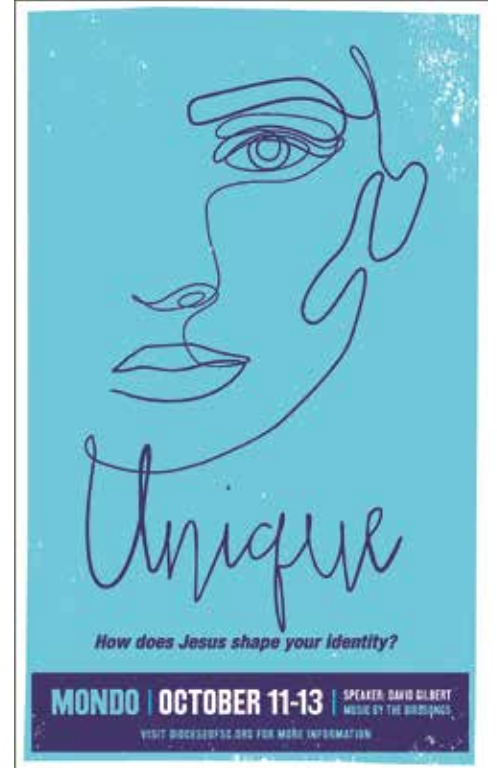
Wanda wasn't a delinquent grandparent or a missing grandchild, as you might suppose. Wanda was a beanie baby lamb marketed by Ty Toys as "Ewey."

Patti Sosnowski, who is a member of our staff, was assigned the task of teaching an important biblical principle: We often stray

night. One grandfather sheepishly (pun intended) admitted that his grandson set the alarm for 6:00 a.m. so they could be the first ones awake in the morning, searching for the lost sheep.

I recalled the laughter when Dylan Reafler, dressed in an overstuffed, inflatable, sheep costume, traipsed into Temple Lodge. Dylan was playing Carlyle, a "cast" sheep. He lay on the floor, turned onto his side, and kept rolling until he was stranded flat on his back, his "legs" wiggling in the air.

According to Phillip Keller, author of *A Shepherd's Look at the Twenty-third Psalm*, a cast sheep will die within hours. When Jesus asks, "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it?" (Luke 15:4) He is talking about a cast sheep.



**Mondo** is an exciting weekend for middle school students that presents the gospel and helps students grow together in their faith. Youth groups come to Mondo to engage in dynamic worship, hear from lively speakers, and enjoy energetic activities. This year's theme is "Unique" looking at how Jesus shapes our identity. Our speaker will be David Gilbert, Youth Minister at St. Philip's Charleston. Music will be led by The Birdsongs! To learn more contact Dave Wright at [dwright@adosc.org](mailto:dwright@adosc.org).

for all of us, and my husband and I feel so grateful that we are able to start talking about and sharing where we are now with both generations..."

Though GrandCamp itself lasts only five days, its impact will last long into the future. I'm so grateful to play a part in this wondrous ministry which—in fun, engaging ways—helps grandparents pass their faith onto their grandchildren.

For more information about GrandCamp, contact Cheryl Cargill at (843)276-1427 or [ccargill49@gmail.com](mailto:ccargill49@gmail.com).

## Blood Crying from the Ground *Continued from Page One*

who rescue from darkness not those susceptible to it.

And so he wrote his devastating portrait of apparently innocent English schoolchildren stranded upon an Island who fall into the need to govern themselves. What begins gradually turns ever more gray and dark, and then uglier and more hideous until it spirals into a vicious murder of one of their own. He wrote it to remind his readers not only of the reality and depth of original sin but also of its potential to flower into exactly the kind of mindless violence we saw in Texas and Ohio in Early August.

We are not simply rebels from the inside out—we have within us violent impulses and jealousies that can flower, given the right circumstances, into the taking of the lives of others around us. Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn put it this way: "The line separating good and evil passes not through states, nor between classes, nor between political parties either -- but right through every human heart -- and through all human hearts."

There is a reason why not long after the Fall in Genesis 3 we read of one brother murdering another in Genesis 4. Fallen human hearts swirl into rage and even murder of one's siblings.

So we must begin with a renewed awareness of our capacity

for violence, left to ourselves apart from our Saving Lord. We then have to go further and acknowledge that we live in a violent society, and cry to God to have mercy on our Land.

Another dimension of these events has to do with the hatred for others that seemed to inform the El Paso shooter. The dignity of all people created in the image of God is something the church must persistently fight for, both by the naming of sins such as racism and xenophobia, but also by a call to pursue the common good in the context of a respect for all human beings.

Can we say something about social media? We must. It has a particular capacity to nurture the kind of vitriol that births these kinds of incidents, especially from subgroups of like-minded individuals. So we have to challenge ourselves about *how* we participate in such forums and venues, and be willing, yes, to call out a lack of civility and respect much less hatred when we see it. We also must find a way to call a time out in our relationships with our smartphones. The longer I live in that world, the more convinced I am than ever that we must allow our bedrooms to be smartphone free zones at night, both for ourselves and our families.

And then there is the public square, and the issue of the availability of guns and our legal process for

handling them. We cannot bypass this area if Jesus is Lord of all.

I cannot be the only one who is sick unto death of these events that happen over and over, year after year, with no real change in our public policy. No matter what side of the aisle you are on, there *has* to be a way to honour the second amendment and do a better job of limiting the access to extreme weapons, especially, without surmounting a considerable bar.

We have to realize that politics is the art of the possible, and that in this area actually the best is the enemy of the good. There must be *some* achievable national bipartisan compromise whereby we can make the present intolerable situation at least somewhat better. If we actually succeed in taking a small step, then we can talk about bigger ones. But let us at least pray and ask our parishioners to seek to find ways to influence our common life so that some kind of better public weapon policy is arrived at.

If we are reminded of our capacity for evil and violence, if we cry to God to have mercy on America, if we seek to be good stewards of social media and use it wisely, and if we find a common public step by which we can more carefully limit extreme weapon availability, maybe some good will come out of the El Paso and Dayton massacres—our God can redeem anything.

## Calling Local Writers! Word Weavers International Starts Local Chapter

By Bonnie Anderson, St. John's Church, Johns Island

Are you a writer? Would you like to join a group of other writers for support and feedback? Charleston now has a chapter of Word Weavers International,



a non-profit organization started in 1997 in Florida. Originally a small group of friends who met to encourage each other in their writing endeavors, WWI has grown to some 600 international members and offers both traditional (local; face-to-face) and online chapters.

Word Weavers International encourages clean, wholesome writing in every genre (fiction, non-fiction, Bible studies/devotionals, magazine/newspaper articles, poetry/songs, memoirs, screen plays, etc.). Whether you are a published profes-

sional or you've just started dabbling, WWI has something to offer you.

Chapters meet monthly and use the "cold sandwich"

method of critique: two positive "I like this" comments with an encouraging constructive suggestion between them. Many Word Weavers have won awards and have become successfully published writers.

For more information about WWI, visit our website at [www.word-weavers.com](http://www.word-weavers.com). For information about the Charleston chapter, contact Bonnie Anderson, President, at (843) 559-4775 (leave a message) or via email [bonnieanderson0706@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieanderson0706@gmail.com). Come and visit. You'll like us!



# Anglicans are Making a Difference at the Border and They Need Your Help

For the two last years, the Church of St. Clement (Anglican) in El Paso had opened its doors monthly to house 30 of the many Central American asylum seekers pouring into El Paso, TX in search of safety and rest.

Once a month they pick up several vans full of those requesting asylum and provide them three days of a safe place to sleep, food to eat, showers, clothing and even toys for the children. Then they help these individuals and families connect to their sponsors and to the place where they will await their asylum hearings. While the seekers are at the church, they are given Spanish New Testaments and receive prayer from on site intercessors. If they are still there by Sunday morning, they attend the Holy Eucharist at Rey de Paz, St. Clement's Spanish-language congregation.

When St. Clement's began this ministry, they were helping meet a practical need. Today, they are trying to address a crisis. Each day, 300-700 asylum seekers pass legally through the US Border checkpoint in El Paso. Then Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) loads them up into buses and drives them into El Paso's downtown, and drops them off with no further assistance. While the federal government does have money allocated for the pur-

pose of housing asylum seekers, as does the United Nations, the funds are blocked from use due to the complex US political debates around immigration. Consequently, ICE has requested that the churches and non-profits of El Paso help; St. Clement's is one of the churches that answered the call.

While the national debate on immigration rages, how do we respond to an immediate crisis? When the vestry of the Church of St. Clement was asked permission to begin this ministry, they prayed for a month, and then voted unanimously to approve it. "It didn't matter that our immigration system is broken," explained Rector Bill Cobb, "the 'refugees' that are released by ICE and granted temporary legal status tell stories of the profound human need and desperation that led them to journey to the United States. We are reminded of Jesus words, 'whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' (Matthew 25:40)."

To help with St. Clement's or to learn how you can minister to the Spanish-speaking migrant population already in our diocese, contact the Rev. David Dubay at [fr.dubay@gmail.com](mailto:fr.dubay@gmail.com).



This is the third year that St. Helena's "Parish Paddlers" (foreground) have participated in the event. BOB SOFALY

## St. Helena's "Parish Paddlers" Raise \$2400 for Cancer Patients in Dragonboat Race

On Saturday, June 22, twenty-one members and friends of The Parish Church of St. Helena participated in DragonBoat Race Day, sponsored by DragonBoat Beaufort. Cheered on by Bishop Alden Hathaway and his wife Barbara, and many members of St. Helena, the church's team paddled it's way to fourth place in their division, their best finish ever. More importantly, their team

raised \$2400 which will be used to provide support for cancer patients.

The organization supports individual cancer patients who live, work or are treated in Beaufort County with needs they cannot afford or for which they lack coverage

This is the third year that the Parish Paddlers have participated in DragonBoat Race Day.

"Our goal is to glorify God in Jesus Christ. One way we do that is by loving our community through our LOVE Beaufort ministry," said Sally Miller, team Captain. "We are proud to be supporters of DragonBoat Beaufort as they assist local cancer patients in a meaningful way by providing financial grants."

## Miracles in our Midst *Continued from Page 13*

Monday came and Ellis was improving. A group of vascular malformation doctors examined him along with a geneticist who diagnosed him with a rare disease called CLOVES Syndrome (Congenital, Lipomatous, Overgrowth, Vascular Malformations, Epidermal Nevi and Spinal/Skeletal Anomalies and/or Scoliosis) which is caused by a mutated PIK3CA gene which causes overgrowths and vascular malformations. There is about 1 in 25 million people who have CLOVES Syndrome or about 300 total people in the world. And most of the people who have CLOVES have problems with their brain and spine. This prompted the doctors to do an MRI on his brain and spine. They reported to us that his brain and spine were perfect which was a true miracle and an answer to prayer.



After being airlifted to MUSC they told the Todds that the mass in Ellis' chest had grown and was blocking his airway, his left lung was collapsed, and his right lung was partially collapsed.

Then we were hit once again with some more devastating news. The mass on his back was changing colors, getting larger and needed to be removed. During the MRI they located another mass above his right lung pushing on his trachea. And the mass that was located on his back contained a large pocket of blood, and if they operated on him, he could bleed out during surgery.

We opted to do the surgery two days later, and once again we were stuck in a place of prayer and preparation, expecting a miracle. The doctor came out and informed us that the surgery went great. And when he cut into the large mass, the pocket of blood had dried up and there was no blood vessel in the mass. Another miracle!

Ellis started improving at a record rate. What was supposed to be months in the NICU at MUSC lasted only one month and we were discharged from the hospital. We returned to Conway and were enjoying the time at home with him, finally being able to hold him and have our entire family back under one roof.

While preparing for Hurricane Florence,

grew and was blocking his airway, his left lung was collapsed, and his right lung was partially collapsed.

A bronchoscopy was performed on Ellis and we were informed that the results showed a 95% blockage in his airway due to the mass in his chest pushing on his trachea. The vent tube was rubbing on his esophagus causing him pain, so they had him on a morphine drip and a sedative. Every time we would go visit Ellis, he would be crying in pain but no sound came from his mouth because the vent tube was blocking his vocal chords. The doctors suggested that they perform a tracheotomy to allow him to breath, but it would only be a temporary fix and he would be on a ventilator his entire life. After much prayer, we decided not to do a tracheotomy; but Ellis continued to suffer. Then one day after we had done all we could do, I cried out to God to help me. Suddenly, I had a sense of supernatural peace that I had not had for months. We came to the realization that not every parent gets the opportunity to hold their baby or take their baby home, and we were given that opportunity.

Ellis' condition worsened and the respiratory therapist had to keep increasing his ventilator settings so that he could breath. We continued to cry out to God to heal Ellis and let him breath. I felt like Abraham preparing to sacrifice his son Isaac to God. I told myself

Venessa was feeding him a bottle. Ellis threw up his milk and then stopped breathing. He had no pulse and his body was limp. My wife started screaming for me and I grabbed him and began CPR. Every time I breathed into his tiny lungs, I cried out to God to save him. I finally heard a faint cry. My son was alive. He was rushed to Conway Hospital and airlifted back to MUSC. We were then notified that the mass in his chest had

I surrendered Ellis to God for Him to have His way, but I still had him on a ventilator pumping air into his lungs and that I needed to truly surrender him to Jesus.

We did all we could do and we decided to end Ellis' suffering by removing the ventilator from him and allowing God to work. If it was God's will for Ellis to breath, he would breath; if not, it wasn't God's will. Venessa and I came to the understanding that if Ellis breathed, it would be our testimony; but even if he didn't, there would be an opportunity to share the Gospel. So on October 21, 2018 about 6 p.m., we called the doctors in to remove Ellis from the ventilator. They informed us how ugly it would be in his last minutes fighting for his life and how within minutes he should expire. They asked if we wanted to hold him or strap him to the bed. We told them we wanted to hold our baby.

They disconnected and removed his vent tube. Everyone stepped out and left Venessa and I alone with Ellis. We began to thank God for our son and the opportunity to spend time with him. All of a sudden, Ellis began to breath on his own. His color returned to him. The doctors came back in after an hour of pulling his vent tube and said his oxygen levels were good. They wanted to see if he could make it through the night. The next day, his vitals were better than the day before. Before our very eyes a miracle had happened when we fully surrendered our son over to Jesus. The doctors stated that the mass must have shrunk down enough to allow him to breath. Four days later Ellis was discharged and sent home.

Since being discharged on October 25th, Ellis has made great progress. He has met milestones such as eating from a ng Tube, to a bottle, to table food; from being unable to make any sounds to saying an arrangement of words; from being weighted down in a hospi-

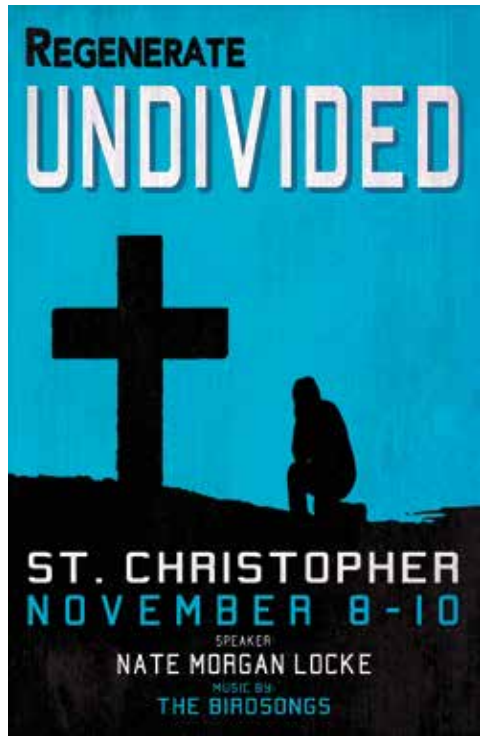


Since being discharged, Ellis has made great progress and his motor and cognitive skills are working fine. ...So, if you were to ask me today if I believe in miracles, I would have to tell you that I have first-hand experience of the mighty work of God through miracles in my own life. And every Sunday at St. Paul's Church, when you hear Ellis screaming out during worship, just know that you yourself are witnessing a miracle yourself.

tal bed to crawling all around. His motor and cognitive skills are working fine.

So, if you were to ask me today if I believe in miracles, I would have to tell you that I have first-hand experience of the mighty work of God through miracles in my own life. And every Sunday at St. Paul's Church, when you hear Ellis screaming out during worship, you are witnessing a miracle yourself.





High school youth groups come together to hear a dynamic message, engage in lively worship, and enjoy time building relationships with one another at Regenerate. To learn more contact Dave Wright at [dwright@adosc.org](mailto:dwright@adosc.org).

## Jubilate Deo

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

The Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence  
Bishop, South Carolina

Contributions for the next issue must reach the editor by November 1, 2019. Submit articles online at <https://www.adosc.org/news-events/jubilate-deo-submission-form/>.

### Editor

Joy Hunter  
109 Arbor Road  
Summerville, SC 29485  
[jhunter@adosc.org](mailto:jhunter@adosc.org)  
(843) 696-1757

### Assistant Editor

The Rev. Canon Dr.  
Kendall S. Harmon  
P.O. Box 2810  
Summerville, SC 29484  
[kendallsharmon@gmail.com](mailto:kendallsharmon@gmail.com)  
(843) 821-7254

### Subscription Questions/ Address Changes

[office@adosc.org](mailto:office@adosc.org)  
(843) 722-4075

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Charleston SC  
PERMIT NO. 330

The Anglican Diocese of SC  
P.O. Box 20127  
Charleston, SC 29413-0127  
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

## Church Planting Update

By The Rev. Todd Simonis, Parish Church of St. Helena, Beaufort

I recently had the privilege of attending the Always Forward Church Planting gathering that met June 19-21 immediately following the ACNA Provincial Assembly. Our gathering was made up of Bishops, Canons for Church Planting and individual church planters. I left incredibly encouraged by how much church planting is happening throughout the ACNA and I am all the more convinced that our diocese is poised to plant many new churches in the days ahead.

Thanks to the leadership provided by the Rev. Canon Dan Alger, our church planting efforts are becoming more clear through the use of the Always Forward Church Planting Network core principles.

Those principles are the four C's: Conviction (Why?), Culture (How?), Constructs (What?) and Collaboration (With Whom?). If you'd like to learn more about these principles and how they might be best implemented in your home church, you can learn more at [Always-Forward.com](http://Always-Forward.com) or purchase a book called "Designed to Lead" by Eric Geiger.

Also consider attending the Always Forward Conference, a blessed gathering of church planters and church plant leaders held at Ridgecrest Conference Center from September 24-26. This year's conference precedes the New Wineskins Conference. (See [article page 10.](#))

While not every congregation in our Diocese may feel ready to plant a new church, every congregation is invited to be part of the conversation. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to your congregation or you would like to hear more about the ongoing church planting efforts in our Diocese. Contact me at [tsimonis@sthelenas1712.org](mailto:tsimonis@sthelenas1712.org).

## Want to Make an Impact for Christ in a Foreign Country (without leaving your own?)

Attend the Upcoming International Students' Weekend in October

St. Matthew's Parish, Fort Motte, is thrilled to be hosting 25 international students at their 6th International Student Weekend, October 5-6. Fishing, boating, a barn dance, plane rides, 4 Wheeling, teaching by Lisa and Leighton Chinn (From the ACMA International Student Ministry Network), Sunday Church Service and lots and lots of eating are in store as we share our lives and our faith with students from USC and Benedict College. Some



of the world's least evangelized countries are sending their best and their brightest, their future leaders, to our state. Here is your chance to do strategic missions! It doesn't take a big budget or a big church, just a big heart. If you would like to volunteer/observe with the intent of bringing International Student Ministry to your church, contact the Rector, the Rev. Janet Echols at (803) 412-8818 or [janetechols@yahoo.com](mailto:janetechols@yahoo.com).

## Looking for an Easy, Effective Outreach for Your Church?

Operation Christmas Child, the 26-year-old ministry of Samaritan's Purse, has distributed over 157 million shoebox gifts to children in dire need worldwide.



Materials are available to get your Church started at no charge! Beloved by all who know OCC, this parish-wide program offers opportunities for the youngest to the oldest Church members. Easy to implement, heart-filling and full of joy, OCC gives every-

one a way to help children in need.

The amazing journey of a shoebox gift begins with each of us, caring enough for orphans worldwide to share our plenty with them. Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts lead to evangelism, discipleship, and the multiplication of believers and churches.

Let's meet to discuss how easy this is for 2019: Duval Acker, 843-693-0690, [duval.acker@carolinaone.com](mailto:duval.acker@carolinaone.com).

## Upcoming Events

### Marriage Retreat, Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island, September 20-21

Holy Cross Church will be hosting the Steadfast Marriage Retreat on September 20-21 at their Sullivan's Island campus. Steadfast Marriage Retreat is a 2 day weekend retreat designed to guide married couples toward a deeper understanding of how to live into the full beauty of their marriages. Drawing from their personal testimony and experience, in a warm setting, Rev. Bill and Dana Henry (<https://www.steadfastmarriage.com>) guide couples toward a deeper understanding of God's plan and purpose in marriage and through issues that can be obstacles for couples within their marriages. Childcare will be available upon request. Visit [www.holycross.net/marriage](http://www.holycross.net/marriage) to learn more and register.

### DOK SC Fall Assembly St. Paul's Church, Summerville September 21

The Rev. Tom Woodle, Rector of The Well by the Sea, Myrtle Beach, will be the speaker at the Daughters of the King (SC) Assembly September 21. The theme for the gathering is "Be still and know that I am God." Learn more by visiting [www.adosc.org](http://www.adosc.org) or contact Bobbie Puckett at [puckettbh@bellsouth.net](mailto:puckettbh@bellsouth.net).

### Hearing God Speak Conference, St. Matthew's, Fort Motte October 19

St. Matthew's, Fort Motte, is hosting a conference on Hearing God Speak with Elizabeth Coleman Saturday October 19 from 9:30 am - 2:30 pm. Mrs. Coleman is a former staff member at Christian Healing Ministries and Streams Ministries International. The \$10 registration fee includes lunch. Please email [cindyroe@gmail.com](mailto:cindyroe@gmail.com) for more information and to register.

### LAMB Dinner Party with A Purpose with Suzy McCall, Saint James, James Island, October 24

Saint James Church on James Island will host the annual LAMB's Dinner Party With A Purpose with Suzy McCall on October 24. The event begins at 5:30 pm with a silent auction. The dinner and program will begin at 6:30 pm Dinner and Program

Come out and support LAMB! Bring a friend, host a table, be a sponsor, volunteer! There will also be a separate LAMB Youth Event with Suzy on Sunday night, October 22. Watch for more information to follow! This event funds more than two months of ministry expenses and it brings together friends of LAMB in glorifying all the beautiful things the Lord has done and continues to do through the ministry. Learn more at <https://www.lambinstitute.org/pwap-2019>

### St. David's, Cheraw, Tour of Homes, December 7

St. David's School Tour of Homes will be held December 7 from 2 to 6 p.m. This year's tour includes six homes that have never been on the tour before. In addition, Old St. David's Church and St. David's Church are open to the public as well. Tickets will be available at the Church or School Office after November 10. The ticket price is \$15.00. To order and reserve tickets call (843) 537-0544 or (843) 537-3832.



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

## Calendar Notes

View full calendar at [www.adosc.org](http://www.adosc.org).

- Sept. 4, Mediation, Pg. 1 and 3
- Sept. 20-21, Steadfast Marriage Retreat, Pg. 16
- Sept. 21, DOK Fall Assembly, Pg. 16
- Sept. 22-Oct. 4, Behold the Man Pilgrimage
- Sept. 26-29, New Wineskins 2019, Pg. 10
- Oct. 3, We are One; International Guests, Pg. 3
- Oct. 5-6, International Students Weekend, Pg. 16
- Oct. 11-13, Mondo, Pg. 14
- Oct. 19, Hearing God Speak Conf., Pg. 16
- Oct. 21-23, Clergy Conference
- Oct. 24, LAMB Dinner Party with Purpose, Pg. 16
- Oct. 25-27, Ang. Women's Conference, Pg. 3
- Nov. 8-10, Regenerate Youth Event, Pg. 16
- Nov. 22-24, Kairos Outside, Pg. 8
- Nov. 27-30, Thanksgiving Retreat, Pg. 11
- Dec. 7, St. David's Tour of Homes, Pg. 16
- March 13-14, 2020, 2020 Diocesan Convention

## Barrier Island Event

Continued from Page 11

that cannot afford to visit the Barrier Island Education Center. Local outreach focuses on a reptile and amphibian class, "It Skinks," that compares a variety of animal species found in maritime forest habitats. The goal of local outreach is to increase knowledge, appreciation, and stewardship of local habitats and wildlife through a hands-on presentation of live reptiles. The program provides a unique learning experience to students and residents at minimal or no cost for participating schools and groups.

This past year, the local outreach program made 24 different field trips possible for schools throughout Charleston, Berkeley, and Dorchester counties. Visits also included trips to local libraries, community centers, and afterschool programs. We reached over 1,800 students in grades K-12 at no cost to the schools we served. This work was made possible through grants, generous donations, and fundraising.