

Jubilate Deo

The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

Spring 2022

Supreme Court Releases Unanimous Opinion

Eight Parishes Seek Rehearing

On April 20, 2022, the South Carolina Supreme Court released its unanimous Opinion,* ruling on the state law property issues at the heart of our legal disputes with the Episcopal Church (TEC) resulting from our separation from the denomination in 2012.

This particular ruling was in response to the appeal of Judge Edgar W. Dickson's 2020 order clarifying the high court's 2017 opinions. This recent Opinion affirmed in part and

reversed in part Judge Dickson's order. The original 2017 ruling had the rare character of consisting of five separate opinions (the "Collective Opinions"). Judge Dickson's clarification had affirmed that the disassociated parishes and The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina are, "affirmed as the title owners in fee simple absolute of their respective parish real properties." The court's April 20 ruling affirmed that decision with regards to some parties to the litigation but not others.

Continued on Page 9

A Pastoral Letter to the Clergy and People of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

Following the release of the SC Supreme Court's ruling, Bishop Edgar sent the following letter to the Diocese.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Grace and peace to you, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Today, (April 20, 2022) the Supreme Court of South Carolina published their opinion on the matter of our legal dispute with the Episcopal Church over property owned by parishes, the diocese, and the Trustees of the diocese. The court affirmed Judge Dickson's ruling for some parishes and reversed his findings for others.

The ruling raises many issues that will have to play out in the coming weeks before any actions are taken, so our first response must be to quiet our hearts before the Lord as we pray for grace to meet the days ahead. Some of our churches are relieved that the court ruled their property does indeed belong to them. Some are grieving deeply, as the courts ruling went the opposite direction. If we take seriously St Paul's admonition to rejoice with those who rejoice while we weep with those who weep (Romans 12.15), we will find this to be a season marked by both, regardless of how it affects us personally. So,

lift each other up in prayer as we enter the complex emotions of these days.

Finally, I urge you to remember that when Jesus, early in his earthly ministry, first entrusted the mission of the gospel to his disciples he sent them out with, "...nothing for your journey, no staff, no bag, no bread, no money... not even a change of clothes!" (Luke 9.3) We must remember that while we have enjoyed the benefits of rich resources for gospel ministry, none are actually required. The Lord has provided—and always will provide—all we need to proclaim the gospel, bind up the brokenhearted, heal the sick, set the captives free, do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with our God. The ministry of this diocese to a confused and broken world is dependent on God's mercy and call, not on our property and resources.

I ask your prayers for those of us who are called to lead as we sort through the difficult decisions of the days ahead.

Blessings,

+Chip
The Rt Revd Chip Edgar
Bishop of The Anglican Diocese of SC



JESSICA YURINKO

Bishops of the Anglican Church in North America prepare to lay hands on Edgar to consecrate him as Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina.

Edgar Consecrated Bishop of the Diocese

By Joy Hunter, Editor

The Rt Revd Chip Edgar was consecrated Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina at a festive service held at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St. Paul in Charleston, Saturday, March 12, 2022.

The service began with a lengthy processional of bishops, priests and deacons from the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, the Diocese of the Southeast (Reformed Episcopal Church) and the Diocese of the Carolinas, as well as clergy from other dioceses, laity representing various diocesan ministries, institutions, and ministry partners.

The Archbishop of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA), the Most Reverend Foley Beach was the chief consecrator

and Bishops Mark Lawrence, Steve Wood and William White of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, the Diocese of the Carolinas, and the Diocese of the Southeast, respectively, were co-consecrators. More than a dozen other bishops participated in the service.

"This gathering of people, everyone together... this is a picture of what heaven looks like," said Edgar during the service. "There's a kind of basking in it, that has just been overwhelming to me as the service has unfolded."

In addition to the capacity crowd at the Cathedral, more than 1000 tuned in online from across the country and around the world to join the event.

Continued on Page 2

"You Have My Inexpressible Gratitude and Respect"

Lawrence Thanks Diocese in Final Convention Address

By Joy Hunter, Editor

In his final address to the Convention of The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, Bishop Mark Lawrence thanked various groups for their partnership these last 14 years. "If I have stood firm and at times resolute and perhaps even resilient, it is because you have stood firmly beside me," he said.

The Convention, which was held Friday, March 11, 2022, at Saint James Anglican Church, Charleston, was shortened to enable the consecration of our new bishop, the Rt

Revd Chip Edgar, which was held the next day, Saturday, March 12.

Bishop Lawrence's Address

In his address, Bishop Lawrence reflected on the steep learning curve he had as Bishop, quoting Bishop Salmon, who said the transition "reminded him of a NASCAR race. 'He would drive into the Pit Stop, jump out, and South Carolina 14 would jump in.'"

"Frankly, I have a far less stressful handing over the reins than did he," said Lawrence. "And moreover, I trust Charles Francis Edgar III will have less stressful receiving of them than did I. If this is true, it's partially due to the ACNA - the Anglican Church in North America, the provincial Church we are now part of, and likewise to the greater unity within the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina. In addition, it's partially due to the competence of my successor..."

The most poignant part of his address came at the very end when he thanked various diocesan groups, committees - and his wife, Allison.

"To the clergy of the Diocese, those of you who have shared the battle, been called 'Lawrence-ian Lemmings,'... and other insulting absurdities, you have my inexpressible gratitude and respect. Thank you.

"To the lay members of the diocese, who have stood resilient and

unflinching for the Gospel, and at great cost to self and family traditions... all I've been able to give you is a voice to your faith, and to offer to God on your behalf, many hours spent in prayer on the night shift..."

He thanked the various Standing Committees who "year after year, spent hours dealing with challenges that seemed to come like endless waves of the sea. Not to bless, but to batter..."

Continued on Page 4

Edgar Consecrated Bishop

Continued from Page One



JESSICA YURINKO

The Rev. Dr. Jamey Graham of Saint John Baptist Church in Columbia, South Carolina, who served as preacher, said Edgar was “planted to produce.” He first recalled some of the Bishop’s early ministry “fruit,” – growing St. Mark’s Glen Ellyn, (IL) from 175 to 450 and the Church of the Apostles, Columbia from just 25 to over 400. “God is planting you in a different part of the vineyard for you to produce even more for God, His Church and His kingdom,” he said.

Graham charged the congregation to produce, as well, asking, “What’s your excuse for not serving the Lord?” “Produce where you are planted!” he said. “Keep on serving, keep on producing, keep on lifting up the name of Jesus!”

The choirs of five diocesan churches, as well as musicians and singers from several churches’ contemporary worship teams, a brass ensemble and bagpipes provided extraordinary worship music.

Reflecting on the service afterward, Bishop Edgar said, “It was a glorious, joyful day. I kept being overwhelmed with emotion, with joy. And I was so impressed – this Diocese can throw a party! I don’t just mean the party afterwards, but really putting together a service, all the people involved, the musicians, the planners, the acolytes, everything about it felt amazingly worshipful. The kind of worship,

that is gladness in the presence of God, kept wafting over me through the whole service, the whole day... I feel like Jamie Graham offered us a hook with ‘Planted to Produce.’ Here we are. We’ve got to bear fruit. We’ve got to plant churches. We need to be seeking the lost through evangelism and sharing our faith... But also in terms of growing in impact in the community, growing in service to the community, reaching out to and serving and caring for the weakest, the outcast and the suffering.”



JESSICA YURINKO

Archbishop Beach presents the newly consecrated Bishop with a Bible.

The service was live-streamed and a recording of it may be found at www.adosc.org.

Prior to his consecration, Bishop Edgar had been serving as the Planting Pastor, Rector and Dean of The Cathedral Church of the Apostles (Diocese of the Carolinas) in Columbia, SC, since 2004. He served as the Rector of St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, Glen Ellyn, IL from 1997 – 2004; as the Canon Pastor at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke in Orlando, FL from 1994 – 1997 and as the Curate at St. Paul’s Church, Chattanooga, TN from 1993 – 1994. Dean Edgar and his wife, Beth, have been married for 32 years. They have five grown children and a new granddaughter.

As diocesan bishop, Edgar will lead 53 congregations in the diocese which is affiliated with the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA). The diocese has nearly 20,000 members, 92 priests and 32 deacons in the eastern half of South Carolina.

View the service, and see photos at www.adosc.org.



JESSICA YURINKO

Reflecting on the service afterward, Bishop Edgar (above with wife, Beth) said, “It was a glorious, joyful day. I kept being overwhelmed with emotion, with joy...”

Consecration Sermon

Planted to Produce

“Brother Chip, now God is planting you in a different part of the vineyard for you to produce even more for God, his Church, and his Kingdom.”

This sermon was given on Saturday, March 12, 2022, by the Revd Dr Jamey Graham, Saint John Baptist Church, Columbia, South Carolina, at the Consecration of the Rt Revd Charles Francis Edgar III at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St. Paul in Charleston, South Carolina. You may watch/listen to the sermon at adosc.org.

Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord, by the power of your Grace divine, let my soul look up with a steadfast hope and my will be lost in thine. Amen.

To the Chief Consecrator and Archbishop, Dr. Foley Beach, to the co-consecrators: Bishops Lawrence, White and Wood, to all other bishops, priests, pastors, program participants, members, and friends of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina. For the soon-to-be Bishop and my great friend, Charles Francis Edgar and family, greetings from my family, my wife and children who are here, from St. John Baptist Church and from the Baptist family of South Carolina.

I bring you a message this morning from our Lord from the Old Testament reading, Isaiah 61, which was so eloquently read, and from the Gospel of Luke 13. The message is entitled Planted to Produce, Planted to Produce.

In looking at Isaiah 61, we’re compelled to ponder the question, why is God’s anointed preaching the gospel to the poor? Why is God’s anointed binding up the broken-hearted, proclaiming freedom for the captives, releasing the prisoners from darkness? Why is God’s anointed providing for those who grieve in Zion a Crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning and a garment of praise instead of the spirit of despair?

I’ll tell you why. So he can plant them, you and I, in the earth as oaks of righteousness, so he can plant them to produce for Him. That’s what Jesus is alluding to in John 15:8, saying, “By this my Father is glorified that you bear much fruit, so you will be my disciples.”

You bring glory to God by producing for God wherever he plants you in his vineyard. Yes, you have been planted to produce for God,

soon-to-be-Bishop Chip Edgar.

You have been planted to produce and you have. God planted you to develop you as a strong Oak while you served as a curate at St. Paul’s Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Then God planted you to develop you even more as a Canon pastor of the Cathedral Church of St. Luke in Orlando, Florida. Saints, look at the planting of the Lord.

Brother Chip, God planted you to produce in your first rectorship as senior pastor of St. Mark’s

Brother Chip, now God is planting you in a different part of the vineyard for you to produce even more for God, his Church, and his Kingdom. Now, saints, this message is not just for Brother Chip Edgar. But God has divinely planted each one of us to produce for him.

Isaiah comes to us today to show us that God has delivered you, that God has saved you, that God has set you free in a particular place for a particular assignment.

Whether you are a bishop or a



JOY HUNTER

Graham charged the congregation to produce, as well, asking, “What’s your excuse for not serving the Lord?” “Produce where you are planted!” he said. “Keep on serving, keep on producing, keep on lifting up the name of Jesus!”

Glenn Ellen, Illinois, and you did. The church grew from an average Sunday service worship of 175 to 450 when you left St. Mark’s. Look at the planting of the Lord.

In 2004, God planted you in the Church of the Apostles in Columbia, South Carolina. It was there that 25 people committed to helping the church take root and grow in downtown Columbia, and over the next 18 years, the church grew to nearly 400 in attendance every Sunday - planted to produce.

The Church of the Apostles kept on producing in that it was able to send out 17 newly ordained priests to plant or replant churches from Seattle to Florida, the planting of the Lord. Not to mention how the Church sent out a church planter and about 40 people to plant a daughter church in Lexington, South Carolina -planted to produce.

priest, an elder or a pastor, a deacon or a Sunday school teacher, a choir member or a lay member, you are planted in your church, your community or your diocese to produce for God. Like the trees are designed to produce in their season. God has planted each one of you to produce in your season. So make your life count in your season. Give God the glory in your season. Make a difference in somebody’s life in your season.

Think about it, Saints. Moses did what he could in his season. He led the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage in his season. Then Joshua led the children of Israel into the Promised Land in his season.

FitzSimons Allison, the 12th Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of

Continued on Page 4

Archbishop Beach Joins in 300th Anniversary Celebration for Prince George Winyah

By John Benson, Prince George Winyah, Georgetown

A planned celebration of the Prince George Winyah Parish’s 300th Anniversary faced challenges of delays and COVID, but patience prevailed, and a grand celebration was held.

Finally, the weekend of April 29-May 1 arrived. The Most Rev. Dr. Foley T. Beach and his wife, Allison, joined us for a weekend-long celebration.

The Rev. Gary Beson, Rector of Prince George, and his wife, Sue, hosted the Beaches for a reception at the rectory. It was a delightful evening of conversation and storytelling. The weekend was also the 39th wedding anniversary for the Beaches, and we all learned about

an incredible engagement dinner, which required the climbing of a rope ladder to the top of a bell tower for a dinner proposal contrived by the youth group Foley was leading. The wedding featured a departure in a helicopter – which sounded like a James Bond movie.

On Saturday, the 300th Anniversary Committee provided the Beaches with gift cards for shopping and lunch so they could spend time together on their actual anniversary.

That evening a crowd of 140 people attended a formal sit-down dinner at the Winyah Indigo Society Hall, which was preceded by an hour-long reception. As a surprise during the dinner, the Rt. Rev. Fitz-

Simons Allison, Martha Allison, Allston Allison Kitchens, and Sally Lumpkin, walked to the microphone and led the assembled crowd in singing “Swing Low Sweet Chariot,” which brought those in attendance to their feet to join in the singing.

Following the dinner, Archbishop Beach gave a short talk on the role of an archbishop and our relationship with GAFCON and the Global South. As part of the ACNA we are in communion with 60 of the 80 million Anglicans worldwide.

Each of the special invited guests were recognized with an individual standing ovation – which

Continued on Page 4

The Invitation To Go

By The Rev. Canon Todd Simonis, Diocesan Canon for Church Planting, St. Helena, Beaufort

[Jesus' disciples] found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." -Mark 1:37-38

Jesus could have set up shop, lined up all the sick folks and healed them quickly and efficiently. But the good news of the Gospel is never that we have to find our way to Jesus in some orderly fashion. Instead, the miracle of the Incarnation is that Jesus has come to us in the midst of messy lives.

There was a time in our Southern communities when the majority of the population sought out membership in a local church. That is no longer the case. While that may sadden us, it should not discourage us. Why? Because Jesus is our blueprint for how to reach the unchurched.

Jesus demonstrated for us that we, as the church, must now "go on to the next towns" as well.

Jesus was not led by efficiency. He was led by compassion.

That heart of compassion for those who do not know Jesus is the reason we plant churches today. Planting churches is how we follow in Jesus' footsteps to reach "the next town" one individual at a time.

The only question is whether you will accept Jesus' invitation: "Let US go."



Church Planting in All Sorts of Places (Not Just the "Cool, Hip Ones")

A Church Planting Interview with Bishop Chip Edgar

Our new Bishop comes to the Diocese having successfully planted a church, sent out several young clergy to plant churches, and then, in 2019, his church planted a daughter church. So on March 31, 2022 we sat down together to talk about some of his experiences and what he's learned. Editor, Joy Hunter

Where does the idea for church planting come from?

It comes from the Book of Acts. That's the ministry Paul engaged in when Jesus sent his disciples out into the world – Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, the uttermost parts of the earth. He went from place to place, shared the gospel, established communities raised up leaders, put them in charge, and then went on.

Planting churches is not the same as evangelism. It's not just telling somebody about Jesus. It's making evangelism part and parcel of the culture. People who hear the gospel from the Church then share the gospel. I think that's why the image of planting is such a powerful image and is used so much with establishing and building churches, because you're seeing the gospel take root and grow into a community.

But there are so many churches already, some of which are either dying or getting smaller. It's hard enough getting people to come to them. How is a church plant different? And does it take away from existing churches?

It doesn't have to, but that's the common fear. Think of it this way: if your church has been in its community for 50 years and people haven't come to it, unless you really retool what you are doing they're probably not going to come next Sunday either. So think of church planting as scattering seed in another place. And there's more than one way



JOY HUNTER

"I think the biggest work in planting a church is communicating," said Bishop Edgar. "It's the people telling their friends, inviting their friends, sharing their enthusiasm."

to plant a church. Churches can plant churches within themselves – begin a second service. I remember years ago reading that 85% full is full. When somebody new walks into a room that is 85% full, there's the perception that there's just not enough room. So, a well thought out second service might be the plant that opens the door to other people.

It's identifying a place, a need, a demographic—some target you're currently not reaching. Oftentimes that involves the uncomfortable process of saying, "Okay, instead of doing another service the way we've always done it, we're going to try to do something very different in the hopes that it attracts new people. You can plant a church by starting a Saturday evening service or a Sunday evening service or a second Sunday morning service.

Sometimes the thing that's hindering a church is simply where it is and putting a church somewhere else, which a different group of people are going to drive by every day or hear of in a different way puts it

on people's radar screens in a way that the old location and facility didn't. That may be all it takes to attract new folks. Think of church planting as a way of extending the ministry of a local church in ways that simply weren't being seen in the community before.

How did you start the Church of the Apostles in Columbia?

There's been all sorts of hay made by the media in Charleston about me being gifted in church planting. I don't think that's true. For me, in 2003 it felt like I was being shoved off the deck of an ocean liner and church planting happened to be the lifeboat coming by at the time.

I'd been an Episcopal priest for 10 years or so. And things in the Episcopal Church were changing dramatically. I was trying to decide whether I could still, in faithfulness, continue serving an Episcopal Church. Beth and I decided that we couldn't. I got a call from a group of people, who had gotten my name

from someone else, and they said, "Would you come and help us get this church started?" I had never thought of planting a Church before that.

And you weren't even in South Carolina, were you?

I was in Illinois. Today church planting is a pretty sophisticated undertaking. There are church planter assessments and things you would look at to see whether a person has the gifts for planting a church. I honestly think I would not score very well on those tests. It's just not my gift mix. But I was willing, I was breathing, and more important than the gift set I had was the gift set that that community of people who had the vision for planting the church had. There was a group of about 20 people who really wanted a church planted in Columbia. They were willing to do the work.

I think the biggest work in planting a church is communicating. It's the people telling their friends, inviting their friends, sharing their enthusiasm. You can have the very best church planting strategy, the greatest funding; but if your initial folks don't see their job as telling their friends and inviting people, particularly people who aren't going to church somewhere, you're dead in the water.

Oftentimes planting churches is not about reaching folks who have no connection at all to the gospel. Sometimes it's about planting in a place where folks whose relationship to the church and relationship to the gospel have been injured somehow. Sometimes that's traumatic. Other times it's just careless. Sometimes it's just falling out of the habit.

Continued on Page 10

Standing Committee Statement on Rehearings

By The Rev Tyler Prescott, President, The Standing Committee

This statement was released on May 6, 2022.

This week, after much prayer and discussion as well as consultation with legal counsel, the Trustees and the Standing Committee of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina unanimously decided not to seek a rehearing of the April 20 opinion from the South Carolina Supreme Court. Many of the parishes have reached this same conclusion, although eight* of those named in the lawsuit filed a petition yesterday for rehearing, based on their specific and unique circumstances. Several questions remain about how this decision will be implemented, including that of the betterments statute, which may have implications on how these issues are finally resolved.

Nevertheless, we are preparing for the next steps in bringing this dispute to a resolution and charting a creative path forward for the entire diocese, especially our affected parishes and our summer camp. These ministries will continue. Ministry does not depend upon geography as much as it depends upon the faithfulness of the Lord and the Spirit working in the people of God.

This news will no doubt be met with mixed emotions. While we are thankful that many of the parishes in the lawsuit have retained their property, we grieve as we face the loss of sacred spaces where generations have worshipped and met Jesus.

In his pastoral letter (see page one), Bishop Edgar reminds us that "the ministry of this diocese to a confused and broken world is dependent on God's mercy and call, not on our property and resources." This truth does not lessen our grief, but we grieve as a people with hope (1 Thess 4:13). God remains faithful, Christ still sits on the throne, and our mission remains clear – to proclaim the death, resurrection, and Lordship of Jesus. We will continue to do so boldly, even as we grieve, certain of our strong bonds of fellowship and the Easter hope of the resurrected Christ.

* Parishes filing Petitions: Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant; Good Shepherd, Charleston; Holy Comforter, Sumter; Holy Cross, Stateburg; Old St. Andrews, Charleston; St. Jude's, Walterboro; St. Luke's, Hilton Head; Trinity, Myrtle Beach

Trinity Donations Help Homeless and Connection Leads to Baptism

By Jennifer Forehand, Communications & Coordinating Director, Trinity, Myrtle Beach

An abundance of love poured through Trinity Church during the Lenten season, as the parish collected household items for the Eastern Carolina Housing Organization (ECHO) to support homeless HUD (Housing & Urban Development) and Veteran families in the Myrtle Beach community. On the day of the collection, Thursday, April 28, representatives from ECHO and Trinity joined together for an ice cream social before loading up ECHO's largest ever single donation of household, cleaning & hygiene items.

Joyce Foster, a volunteer for ECHO's My Home Donation Center said, "in the last year, we have helped about 140 individuals and



In the last year, ECHO's My Home Donation Center has helped about 140 individuals and families become housed.

families become housed." ECHO's My Home Donation Center was created at the onset of COVID-19 to collect furniture, household

Continued on Page 10

Bishop Lawrence Expresses Gratitude During Convention

Continued from Page 1

To his wife, Allison he said, “No words can do justice for the price that perhaps I alone know you have paid. I love you.”

Though he and his wife have moved out of the Bishop’s residence, he assured Bishop Elect Edgar he would be available when needed. “I pledge my commitment to stand beside you when you need me. And to stay out of your way in Florence when you don’t.” That remark elicited laughter from the convention.

In closing, he quoted St. Paul, “And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace which is able to build you up and to give

you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.’ God bless you. Thank you.”

The Convention rose for an extended standing ovation for their much-beloved Bishop.

Bishop Elect Edgar Addresses Convention

Bishop Lawrence invited the Very Rev. Chip Edgar to address the Convention and Edgar admitted he had “long been a fan of this diocese.” He also noted three qualities that have stood out to him about our diocese. “The first is my discovery that this is genuinely a praying diocese. I’ve been struck with that time and time again as you have greeted us and phoned us...”

Second, “this Diocese is well ordered and well run....I have been impressed with how clear-focused and able to plan and execute ministries you are.”

“And finally, the last feature I want to mention is this Diocese’s strong focus on the gospel and on the mission of the Church. It would have been easy, given the challenges of

these past 10 years, for you to become embittered and obsessed with the legal proceedings that we labor under. But that has not happened.” Quoting Bishop Lawrence, during his 2008 convention address, prior to Lawrence’s consecration, he said, “The gospel mandate is never up for grabs.... We must light torches and go out with a fresh outpouring of the Holy spirit. Because we have a message to convey to the world. And time demands prudence and dynamism.”

“And that, brothers and sisters, is exactly what I have experienced. And that is who we must always be together as a Diocese.”

Elections

The convention elected the following individuals to various committees: Standing Committee: The Rev. Gary Beson, the Very Rev. Peet Dickinson, Wynne Boone and Judy McMeekin; Diocesan Council: The Rev.



JOY HUNTER

Bishop Lawrence receives an extended standing ovation prior to beginning his convention address.

Chance Perdue, the Rev. Matthew Rivers, Janis Brazeale and Gill Frierson; Diocesan Trustees: Alonzo Galvan; Ecclesiastical Court: The Rev. Jeremy Shelton, the Rev. Greg Smith and the Rev. Nelson Weaver, Rick Adams and Seth Whitaker; ACNA Provincial Council: The Rev. Bob Lawrence (delegate), the Rev. Tyler Prescott (alternate), John Benson and Justin Johnson (delegates), Johnny Wallace and Dave Wright (alternates)



JOY HUNTER

Members of The Well, Myrtle Beach and Holy Apostles, Barnwell (not pictured) receive a standing ovation upon their reception as parishes.

Continued Page 5

Planted to Produce

Continued from Page 2

South Carolina, brought consistent orthodoxy in the Diocese in his season. Ed Salmon, 13th Bishop maintained orthodoxy and brought structural and institutional unity in the Diocese in his season. Brother Edgar’s immediate predecessor, Bishop Mark Lawrence, guided the Diocese through unrelenting attacks on himself and on the Diocese. He never wavered from the truth of the Gospel, and he never wavered from the Diocese’s commitment to missions in his season. And just like these servant leaders, saints, who produced in their season, each one of you must produce and bring glory to God in your season.

Don’t be like the fig tree that Jesus talked about in Luke 13, 6-9. It was planted in a vineyard, a choice garden, and in three years it did not produce any fruit for the owner. What this parable says to us is that we’re not only planted for a season, we’re also planted for a reason. We are here to produce. We’re here to serve. We’re here to bring fruit and bring glory to God. Look at the text. Jesus shows us how God, the owner, planted a fig tree, the Church, in his vineyard, the world. And when God goes to the fig tree, the Church, he’s expecting to find something. He’s expecting to find fruit.

He’s expecting to see some service, some evangelism, some teaching, and discipleship from the Church. But instead, he finds nothing but leaves. He finds rituals and no outreach. He finds worship in the Church and no witness in the community. He finds singing on Sunday morning, but no service during the week. They have leaves but no fruit.

He finds committee meetings, but no commitment to meet real needs. They have leaves but no fruit.

He finds some so called Christians putting money aside in investments or in retirement or in a college fund, but they’re not giving up their tithes and offerings unto the Lord. They have leaves but no fruit.

Then God said, “Behold, these three years I’ve taken care of you.

I’ve fed you by my word. I protected you from the enemy. I gave you chance after chance, and you will not produce. Behold, these three years...”

Somebody say, “Thank God for Grace!” Oh, yes, he is gracious enough to wait on you to produce, wait on you to love your enemy, to pray for those who curse you, to do good to those who spitefully use you and forgive those who do you wrong. Behold, these three years, he’s gracious enough to wait on you to live in the Word, pray in faith, fellowship with believers and witness to the world. Can’t you see the grace in the text?

When justice wanted to cut us down, mercy soothed our case. When justice demanded that we should die, grace gave us another chance. Look at the grace in the text. I see Jesus in the text. When God, the owner of the vineyard, said, “Cut it down, cut the tree down.” Jesus, the vineyard dresser, said, “No, let it alone this year. Let me dig around it. Let me fertilize it.”

Aren’t you glad that Jesus digs around us? Aren’t you glad that Jesus fertilizes us? Look at the digging. When I get sluggish and slothful, he digs around me. When I get stingy and selfish, he digs around me. When I get stagnant and stale, he digs around me. When I get sinful and self-centered he digs around me to free me from sin and from those things that so easily entangle me. But Jesus does not stop with the digging and taking bad things away from me. He also fertilizes me.

He also adds value to my life. He gives me love and joy. He gives me faith and peace. He gives me patience and kindness. He gives me gentleness and forgiveness. He gives me his word and his spirit. He fertilizes me.

That’s why I can say, “Can’t nobody do me like Jesus! Can’t nobody do me like the Lord!” Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

Won’t he pick you up? Won’t he turn you around? Won’t he plant your feet on solid ground? He fertilizes me. Aren’t you glad that he does not want you to fail? Aren’t you glad that he wants you to produce? Hallelujah! He goes out of his way, Hallelujah! He extends his grace and mercy so that you can produce.

So Church, you have no excuse!

Don’t be like the fig tree Jesus talked about.... He’s expecting to see some service, some evangelism, some teaching, and discipleship ... But instead, he finds nothing but leaves. He finds rituals and no outreach. He finds worship in the Church and no witness in the community. He finds singing on Sunday morning, but no service during the week...

You are saved to serve. You are planted to produce.

If he can use a donkey to warn Balaam, then surely, he can use you. If he can use a Rooster to warn Peter, then surely, he can use you. So, what is your excuse for not serving the Lord? If you look at the biblical record, you will see that God used many broken and imperfect people. Abraham was old, but God used him. Jacob was insecure, but God used him. Leah was unattractive. Joseph was abused. Moses stuttered, but God used them. Gideon was poor. Samson was codependent. Rehab was immoral, but God used them. Hallelujah, Hallelujah. David had an affair and had all kinds of family problems, but God used him. Elijah was suicidal. Jeremiah was depressed; Jonah was reluctant, but God used them. Naomi was a widow. John the Baptist was eccentric, to say the least. Peter was impulsive and hot tempered, but God used

them. Martha worried a lot. The Samaritan woman had several failed marriages, but God used them. Zacchaeus was unpopular. Thomas had doubts. Paul had poor health and Timothy was timid, but God used them.

So, what is your excuse? What is your excuse? If God can use these broken and imperfect people, then surely, he can use you.

Look at Jesus, Mary’s baby. Jesus, the Lily of the Valley. Jesus the bright and the morning star. Jesus was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth. No, he was not born in a royal family. In fact, he tiptoed in the back door of human history. He was born of a virgin, had a feeding trough for his bed, a poor carpenter for a stepfather. And yet God used him. He was born in Bethlehem, raised in the ghettos of Nazareth. Nazareth was so insignificant somebody had to ask, “Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?” And yet God used Jesus.

Jesus produced everywhere he went. He set up a headquarters in Capernaum. He turned water in the wine in Cana. He stopped the funeral procession in Nain. He opened up a supermarket in Bethsaida. He calmed a storm. Hallelujah! He calmed a storm in the Sea of Galilee. He cast out the demon in a man in Gadara. He started a crusade in Samaria. He made the lame to walk at the pool of Siloam. Look at Jesus. Everywhere he went, he produced. He gave the blind man his sight in Jericho. He raised Lazarus from the dead in Bethany. Everywhere he went, he produced. And even at Calvary, when the devil meant what the devil meant for bad, God turned it around for his good. At Calvary he died for your sins and mine. At Calvary he shed his blood, and somebody cried out, what can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. At Calvary, the dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in his day. At Calvary, he lifted me. At

Calvary, the Centurion said, “Surely this has got to be the Son of God!” At Calvary he died that we might live. At Calvary he died but I’m so glad that early Sunday morning he got up with all the power in his hands

Oh bishops, rectors, priests, pastors, deacons, teachers, Christian workers in this South Carolina Diocese, produce wherever you are. Produce where God has planted you! Keep on serving, keep on producing, keep on lifting up the name of Jesus and one of these days you will hear him say, “Well done! Well done! Well done, my good and faithful servant. You’ve been faithful over a few things, come on up, come on up, come on up and I’ll make you a ruler over many! God bless you! Heaven smile upon you! Remember you’re planted to produce!

Archbishop Joins in 300th Anniversary

Continued from Page 2

became a joyful ending to a wonderful evening.

Archbishop Beach led Sunday services with the major service at 10:00 a.m. Having him preach a powerful sermon in the historic church will long be remembered by a grateful congregation. He preached on three things (1) Since Jesus is risen from the dead those who have faith in him have forgiveness of their sins (2) Since Jesus is risen from the dead those who have faith in him have eternal life (3) Since Jesus is risen from the dead those who have faith in him can know he is with us even now. The sermon may be viewed on the Prince George YouTube Channel.

Finally, the Beaches joined the congregation for our annual picnic – fried chicken is always the southern piece de resistance.

We give thanks to our living Lord for all the blessings He has bestowed upon a grateful congregation for over 300 years.

Convention

Continued from Page 4

Missions Transition to Parish Status

One of the highlights of the convention was the welcoming of two missions which transitioned to parish status: The Well, Myrtle Beach and Holy Apostles, Barnwell. The clergy and representatives of the two churches received a standing ovation for their new status.

Additional Business

The Rt. Rev. Ken Clarke, retired Bishop of Killmore, Ardaugh and Elfin (Ireland), who was in town for the consecration, spoke briefly encouraging Bishop Elect Edgar to, in the words of St. Timothy, “watch your life and your doctrine closely.” To Bishop Lawrence he said that he is not “retired but refired” for ministry. “Focus on what God has given you a passion for. Let go of what you don’t enjoy,” he said.



JOY HUNTER

The Convention gave thanks for the life of the late Bishop Alex Dickson, who died earlier this year. His widow, Jane Dickson, stood to receive their gratitude.

Both Allison Lawrence and Beth Edgar received bouquets – one as a gift of thanks and one as a gift of welcome. Allison received a standing ovation for her labor among us the last 14 years.

The Rev. Karl Burns, who serves as the Chair of the Search Committee for the new Executive Director for St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, invited both the Rev. Bob Lawrence and the Rev. Ken Weldon to the stage. Lawrence has stepped down from his position as Executive Director and Weldon has accepted a call to serve in that position. Burns spoke of the difficulties St. Christopher has experienced in recent years, including the financial hit they took with COVID and the recent fire in the kitchen/dining area, pointing out that ending the year in the black was a miracle and expressing his gratitude to Bob Lawrence and the camp’s staff. He urged each church to adopt a cabin and then prayed for both Bob and Ken as they enter this next season.

Welcoming New Clergy

The Bishop introduced those who had been ordained since the last Convention: the Rev. Harry Easterling and the Rev. David Marten (to the priesthood) and the Rev. Laura Bowman, the Rev. Henrietta Rivers, the Rev. Ryan Landes and the Rev. Jeff Bennett (to the diaconate).

Conclusion

Before adjourning, the Bishop thanked the staff and volunteers of Saint James for hosting the convention; thanked the Rev. Tyler Prescott and his team for organizing the Edgar Consecration and announced that the 2023 Convention will be held March 10-11 at the Church of the Cross, Bluffton.

Miraculous Healing Follows Retreat and Day of Healing Prayer

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

A week after Wellsprings of Life, our October retreat with Judith MacNutt, Michelle Vitelli and Tammy Bachmann enthusiastically joined in the weekly Tuesday Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayer at The Prayer Center at St. Christopher. They came bearing gifts – specially made candles they had crafted for sale and specified that the income go to St. Christopher as their way of saying “thank you” for the retreat. Michelle asked for prayer at that time. A mass was growing at the base of her skull; physicians determined it was a large amount of walled-off scar tissue from her previous brain surgery. It was pressing on nerves and blood vessels causing severe head and neck pain. Laying on of hands and prayers were offered and group members continued to pray for her over the course of the next few months.

Brain surgery was scheduled for February 25th to remove scar tissue and provide relief. Another craniotomy would then take place in three months to hopefully relieve ear pain, although the physician said her eardrum could not be surgically repaired. He said that repair would require “divine intervention” for healing to occur.

Three days before surgery Michelle received ministry again at The Prayer Center. Her face had become partially paralyzed from the growing mass; her gait was unsteady and the pain unbearable. After receiving Holy Communion, Michelle haltingly made her way across the room to another member of the prayer group who had neurosurgery nearly a year earlier to remove a tumor

(glioblastoma) and who has since received radiation and chemotherapy. Her compassionate heart had moved



For the first time since surgery, she could look up and into the faces of the prayer ministers without the room spinning violently. As she made her way back to the pew, she realized she no longer needed the walker for support.

her to offer prayers for his healing and words of encouragement. Those present were weeping at her selfless act of ministry, offered even in the midst of her own great pain.

After surgery, Michelle’s healing progressed remarkably. Paralysis lifted, pain decreased considerably, and the surgical wound healed rapidly without infection. But severe vertigo plagued her and there was still pain in her ear. The residual vertigo was debilitating, and she required around the clock assistance with daily living. Neighborhood Bible study friends and families kept vigil with her; an Excel spreadsheet detailed help needed, and everyone signed up to care for Michelle.

Three weeks after the surgery, Michelle was quite determined

to participate in a Day of Healing Prayer at St. Michael’s, Charleston, led by Judith MacNutt and her



walker burst into tears when he saw her walking unaided and beaming!

Michelle gave her testimony to the crowd at the Day of Healing Prayer. She returned the next day with her family to worship with St. Michael’s (on Sunday) and shared her healing with the congregation. But there is more to her testimony!

On Monday at her follow-up appointment with the neurosurgeon, Michelle asked him to look into her ear, the one with complete hearing loss and a perforated ear drum. She had felt something “going on” in that ear canal. After peering inside her ear, he stood back looking quite surprised. He said, “I see a perfectly healthy ear drum.” Moreover, she realized she had begun to hear sounds with that ear, sounds she had not heard in the 12 years since the loss was diagnosed. Now the pain was gone!

Loud noises of heavy boxes filled with candle jars landing on metal shelves had been extremely painful; she always wore a protective device in that ear while working in the candle shop to decrease pain. Now pain and vertigo were gone! Hearing has returned to that ear! No further brain surgery is necessary!

Michelle and Tammy recently gifted St. Christopher with a double batch of candles to sell in support of the ministry. They plan to make St. Christopher an outlet for selling their crafted candles at the Conference Center gift shop. These two women, like the candles they create, will continue to shine in their walk of faith with the light and love of Jesus Christ!

Volunteer Doctors, Dentists and Assistants Sow Seeds of Compassion on Edisto

Trinity, Edisto, Partners with the Good Samaritan Clinic

By Will Wright, Trinity, Edisto

The Good Samaritan Clinic on Edisto Island provides basic medical and dental services to the underserved residents of Edisto Island and the surrounding areas. All services are provided at no cost to the individuals in need.

Trinity, Edisto, has graciously provided a long-term ground lease for the clinic to house its gifted modular medical and dental facility. As well, Trinity has provided ongoing financial support via the congregation and Trinity’s Mission Committee. Trinity has also generated a large number of volunteers who serve in both the dental and medical areas.

The Edisto clinic is associated with the Good Samaritan Clinics operating in the Columbia and surrounding areas.

Original funding for the clinic came in the form of generous gifts from multiple organizations and individuals as well as a grant from the Mother Emanuel Foundation.

Multiple obstacles created by the COVID era have been overcome and the facility now operates both its dental and medical ministry at full capacity. The rural nature of Edisto Island has proven to be a good field in which to sow the seed of compassion as reflected in the Luke parable of the Good Samaritan.

The Clinic has partnered with Catholic Charities to provide dentures, partials and other dental assistance to local residents through their Save A Smile program. Amazing results are seen weekly!

The Edisto Clinic is staffed by a dedicated group of mostly retired dentists, medical doctors, physician assistants, nurses, dental assistants and support staff. All have found that pouring their



CAROLINE EYNON

MUSC Medical Student, Kim Comport, who is a member of Trinity, discusses treatment plans with a patient.

time and talent back into their local community has not only blessed those in need, but has provided them with a very rewarding experience.

The efforts of the Clinic are supported by the Edisto Island Ministerial Alliance as well as a multitude of other churches and

organizations on the island. As a faith-based organization, the clinic operates with the clear mission of giving full credit for its efforts to God. All who are associated know and understand we are blessed by serving our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ who are in need.



CAROLINE EYNON

From Scrawny Teen to 20 Years on the Mission Field

An Invitation to the New Wineskins Anglican Frontier Missions' Pre-Conference

By The Rev. Dr. Chris Royer, Executive Director, Anglican Frontier Missions; Priest in Residence, Trinity, Myrtle Beach

As an immature, scrawny high school senior, I had no idea what I was getting into when my church's mission pastor invited four other high school seniors and me to attend Urbana 1984—for free! Theoretically Urbana, one of the largest mission fests in the US, is for college students. However, my pastor decided the best way to use the remaining mission funds from that year was to expand our world and cover our expenses. The five of us said yes to a five-day adventure and a conference about which we knew nothing.



"I had no idea what I was getting into when my church's mission pastor invited four other high school seniors and me to attend Urbana 1984—for free!" says Royer

Urbana '84 guest speakers included Billy Graham, Luis Palau, Ralph Winter, and Greg Livingstone. These men of our great God shared the needs of unreached people groups (UPGs), a term I'd never heard before. A UPG is an ethno-linguistic nation with a common sense of identity, history, and culture where the church has not yet been established, or put another way, where the church is not.

The following fall, I enrolled at Wheaton College. My exposure

to UPGs and frontier missions increased exponentially. Every Sunday, through World Christian

Fellowship, 500 Wheaties and I heard about areas of the world and people groups who still lacked access to the basic gospel message. The beautiful feet Isaiah speaks about (Isaiah 52:7) had not yet trodden their way. God began breaking my heart.

Over time, I understood that God was calling me to a geopolitical nation-state in the Middle East. This nation contained over 80 ethno-linguistic people groups, but just a few hundred indigenous believers lived in the entire country. God graciously used my wife and me to plant two churches comprised of Believers from a Muslim Background (BMB). God graced us with this fruit, not because of our linguistic ability or our spiritual depth. God moved because it was His Kairos Season for Muslims to encounter Jesus in that area of the country.

During my two decades in the Middle East, I repeatedly observed that Muslims worship liturgically with structure, order, and discipline. As a non-denominational evangelical I also noticed that the Anglican liturgy had structure, order, and discipline—and freedom too! Further, I discovered that Muslims are deeply sacramental in their understanding of reality. The sacramental identity is evident in the yearly sacrifice of sheep and goats. Many Muslims believe that this blood and other holy objects convey spiritual power. I came to understand that for BMBs, Anglicanism's sacramentalism



Chris and Grace Royer at his ordination to the priesthood at the Church of the Cross, Bluffton, January 11, 2009

completes and fulfills the deficient sacramentalism endemic to and percolating within Islamic culture with the perfect and unique sacrament, Jesus Christ.

Further, I became convinced that new BMBs needed Jesus AND a new socio-religious tradition within which to follow him because being a Muslim is not only a religious identity but an all-encompassing socioreligious and cultural identity. I found that the Anglican prayer book tradition could provide

Continued Page 7

"Cast an Eye to the Rest of the World"

By The Rev. Robert S. Lawrence, Chair, Anglican Missional Partnerships, Diocesan Representative, ACNA Global Mission Initiative

In his final address to convention in March, Bishop Mark Lawrence spent some time looking back at what we have been through, and what we have accomplished as a diocese during his 14-year tenure. He recalled involvement in the 2008 meetings of bishops at both Lambeth and the first GAFCON gathering in Jerusalem, indicating that that experience helped him to shape a vision for the diocese that then helped to shape so much of our common life, "Making Biblical Anglicans for a Global Age." He recognized that the challenges we faced extended far beyond just internal provincial struggles, but that we were in a battle for the soul of Anglicanism worldwide, and we needed bigger eyes to see the larger world.

As one long involved in international relationships and mission, I welcomed this new vision and was blessed to be invited by Bishop Mark to be part of a newly formed committee, the Anglican Communion Development Committee, to promote and foster strategic missional relationships among the congregations of the diocese. The vision took hold, and many congregations of the diocese began and nurtured lasting strategic partnerships that endure to this day. While Bishop Mark celebrated that truth, he also raised a caution that many of those relationships were begun by congregations with clergy that were quickly approaching retirement. He asked, "Will the next generation be passionate about these relationships?" He went on to then encourage us all to continue to "cast an eye to the rest of the world." I echo that challenge as I continue my own involvement in promoting strategic missional relationships among the congregations of the diocese.

In my role as the Chair of the diocesan committee for Anglican Missional Partnerships, and as the diocesan representative to both Anglican Global Mission Partners (AGMP), and the Global Mission Initiative (GMI) of the ACNA, I was honored to have a meeting early on with Bishop Chip Edgar, to share about this involvement. Bishop Chip

fully endorsed this continued involvement for the diocese in AGMP and the GMI and he affirmed the purpose and goal of the committee for Anglican Missional Partnerships.

The purpose of the committee for Anglican Missional Partnerships is to create and develop strategic missional partnerships throughout the Anglican Communion, carried out by every congregation of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina.

The primary goal is that, "Every congre-

gation is to be in a strategic and missional relationship."

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The Rev. Bob Lawrence (top, left) with the New Wineskins participants who were hosted at the St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center in 2019.

make Charleston their "port of entry and exit" for attending the conference. Those that do so, will need hosts for both lodging and hospitality, as well as transportation to and from the conference. Home-based church hosts are always preferred. All of these guests will also be available to speak in churches, schools and small groups. I will be coordinating the itineraries of all of these guests. I need your support so I welcome your interests and invitations. I also look forward to this incredible glimpse of heaven in the gathering of God's people. Please be in touch with me at robert.stratton.lawrence@gmail.com or (843) 276-1758.

EXPAND YOUR WORLD.

HOST AN INTERNATIONAL GUEST THIS YEAR!

20 International Guests will be available to speak in churches, schools and small groups and will need hosts for both lodging and hospitality. Contact Bob Lawrence to learn more.

The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina



Christian Men's Conference 2022 A Welcomed Return!

By Chet Houston, The Parish Church of St. Helena, Beaufort

Diocesan Men's Ministry Elevated to a Department

By Jay Crouse, Diocesan Coordinator for Men's Ministry



Above: Diocesan Men's Ministry Leadership Team.

At the March 11, 2022, Diocesan Convention the 2022 budget was passed and with that vote our Diocesan Men's Ministry was established as a Department of the Diocese.

With the appointment of Jay Crouse in 2015 as Coordinator of Men's Ministry for the diocese, men's ministry has served under the Department of Faith Formation. Faith Formation Director, Peter Rothermel, invested much time and leadership to help this new ministry initiative become known throughout the diocese and served as an inspired mentor for the new Coordinator.

Over these past seven years, men's ministry has made significant efforts to raise up ministries in many of our churches and throughout the diocese with such ongoing programs as Behold the Man men's pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Basic: John Eldredge's Wild at Heart weekend, the Hiking Ministry, the Men's Summit, and our annual Christian Men's Conference.

In 2021, Bishop Lawrence, began the conversation to establish men's ministry as a separate department with a stand-alone budget. Through his dedication and inspiration, this new department will continue to provide the diocese with the structure, strategy, and resources to live into our vision: "equipping today's men to be tomorrow's disciple makers."

On the weekend of February 25th, 26th & 27th, men from around the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, multiple other dioceses, and church communities nationwide gathered at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center on Seabrook Island to re-energize the annual Christian Men's Conference after a hiatus brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. The theme for this year's conference was, "Faith in the Home", and the guest speaker was John W. Yates, former rector (for 40 years!) of the Falls Church Anglican in of all places, Falls Church, Virginia. Dr. Yates is the father of five adult children and 21 grandchildren, so has walked the walk in terms of raising a family and a flock.

Teaching at length from his book, *How a Man Prays for His Family*, Rev Yates addressed such issues as being able to identify the obstacles to your prayer life, wondering how to connect your family to God's power. The hook at the conclusion of the first night to ensure all the men returned on Saturday morning, was "all you need to know about women." A great tag line if not a great name for his next book, however, the six stages of manhood seemed to be the crowd favorite and very much a thought provoker. Many of the men attending were uplifted to be in the presence of other men, and in a space where it's alright to express their true feelings.

"I was so relieved to know that my feelings of insecurity about praying are shared by others," said Doug Ringer of St. Philip's Church, Charleston. "Dr. Yates explained

there is no real 'formula' for prayer, it is a conversation with God and a conversation we need to have often and with some organization. God always hears our prayers and always answers... yes, no or wait.

"Dr. Yates pointed out some of the reasons prayer is hard for many men - that is hard to focus when there are so many 'other things' to sorry about and, perhaps more importantly, that humbling yourself before God is a form of admitting you are not in charge, not able to do it all yourself. I believe Dr. Yates provided us the mental tools and biblical models to understand better both the need for men to pray for their families and the way to position ourselves to do so. Most importantly, we were given the clear direction that it is absolutely necessary that we, as the main provider of the family, provide not only materially but spiritually. I learned that by thoughtful and consistent prayer, we connect our families with God and, as a bonus, may act as mentors for our children. Thank you, Dr. Yates!"

Scott Poelker of St. Paul's in Summerville, commented, "John Yates' teaching was insightful and practical. I learned about being



JAY CROUSE

"Dr. Yates explained there is no real 'formula' for prayer, it is a conversation with God and a conversation we need to have often and with some organization. God always hears our prayers and always answers...yes, no or wait." said Doug Ringer of St. Philip's Church, Charleston.



JAY CROUSE

Many of the men attending were uplifted to be in the presence of other men, and in a space where it's alright to express their true feelings.

a better father and husband and gained a better understanding of the power of God in these relationships. I'm really glad I attended."

While the conference is always great and something he looks forward to every year, Richard Ivens of the Parish Church of St. Helena's, found a blessing from a different angle this year. "My roommate proved to be a blessing in the way he was able to help me open-up about the topics from the conference and realize I had issues I hadn't seen before. I don't know how they assign roommates, if they pray over them as assigning them, but mine was a blessing."

This is a great testimony to how the Lord works in so many ways during the conference: the guest speaker is but only one. Still, there are always going to be concerns before hosting a large conference, and this year was no different.

Despite the conference being postponed from last year, the main concern coming into the weekend was not the usual logistical concern. On December 17, 2021, a fire consumed the dining hall which forced staff members to re-direct their efforts in order to be able to provide meals for those attending the conference. A temporary or portable kitchen was put in place next to Susanna's House that was more than adequate for accommodating the nearly 200 men in attendance. A true testament to the love of the staff of St. Christopher's, they made

a way in the face of adversity and in doing so, contributed greatly to the overall enjoyment of the attendees. A huge thank-you goes out to each and every staff member; it was a joy to be back together at the camp.



Jay Crouse, Coordinator of Diocesan Men's Ministries with the Rev. Dr. John Yates.



Invitation to AFM Preconference

Continued from Page 6

such a socioreligious identity, not only to individuals but to communities of believers as well. In short, my journey into Anglicanism began with my quest to contextualize the gospel into an Islamic milieu for new BMBs and concluded, years later, with ordination to the priesthood.

From that quest comes the vision of Anglican Frontier Missions (AFM), to do frontier missions Anglicanly. AFM does frontier missions Anglicanly by planting biblically based, multiplying indigenous churches and dioceses among the three billion people and

7,000 UPGs still waiting to hear the gospel. Put another way, our vision is to establish the church where it is not yet viable or visible. Partnering with members of the worldwide Anglican Communion and other Christians living near or among UPGs, AFM equips and sends short- and long-term missionaries who harness the spiritually formational power, practices, and rhythms of the sacraments, liturgy, and the prayer book tradition to disciple believers from Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, animistic, and secular backgrounds.

Currently, dozens of AFM missionaries are serving across the globe in a dozen restricted-access countries. AFM missionaries are being the beautiful feet of Isaiah 52:7. AFM missionaries are doing frontier missions Anglicanly.

Every three years AFM missionaries return home for AFM pre-conferences held before the New Wineskins Mission Conference. As a former priest in the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina (2008-2013) and the Executive Director of AFM, I warmly invite you to join AFM missionaries, staff, prayer partners,

and board members for AFM's tri-annual pre-conference. Join us for Testimonies from the Mission Field (Sept. 20-21, 2022) and Reaching Muslims with the Gospel (Sept 22) to learn how the Spirit is moving in the most fragile and dangerous places on our globe.

More information and registration links can be found at <https://anglicanfrontiers.com/afm-new-wineskins/>. To learn more about doing frontier missions Anglicanly, pick up a digital or hard copy of AFM's silver anniversary book, *Shadows from Light Unapproachable*.

Testimonies from the Mission Field

AFM is hosting Testimonies from the Mission Field an opportunity to hear from Anglican missionaries serving across the globe in restricted-access countries. This pre-conference (and two others) will be held two days before the New Wineskins Missionary Conference (Sept. 22-25, 2022). To learn more and register, visit <https://anglicanfrontiers.com/afm-new-wineskins/>



“Take Heart!” Theme for 2022 Retreat of Anglican Women

Kerner ADOSC Women’s Retreat Speaker

“Take Heart!”

About our Speaker

Jesus prepared his disciples to face into an unprecedented season of trial by speaking these encouraging words, even as his own death loomed very near: *“I have said this to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation. But take heart, I have overcome the world”* (John 16:33, ESV).

Come to our annual Women’s Retreat planned for St. Christopher Camp & Conference Center, October 21-23 and find rest and healing for body and soul.

Look for information about the retreat at www.adosc.org

The Rev. Dr. Sandi Kerner, Director of Programs and Chaplain at St. Christopher, will lead our retreat this year. Ordained Priest in 2005, Sandi served as Rector for 14 years in parishes in Southern Virginia before joining the St. Christopher staff in 2019 and directing The Prayer Center on campus. For many years she has led retreats, offered spiritual direction, and designed and led healing prayer schools. She is a Chaplain in the Order of St. Luke and served for 5 years as Director of Prayer Ministry at Christian Healing Ministries, Jacksonville, FL.

Some Help for a Special Place: St Christopher Camp and Conference Center

By Sunny Walker, President of the Anglican Women

Have you ever been to a place that truly touched you? A place where your life was transformed? A place where you felt God’s presence? Well, St Christopher Camp and Conference Center is just such a place to many of us and has been for many years. In case you haven’t heard, a fire erupted at the

camp before Christmas resulting in the loss of the dining hall. Currently, Susanna’s House (the multipurpose building) is doubling as the dining hall (not a great arrangement, but necessary).

Camp St Christopher is currently the Praise and Glory project for the Anglican Women, and I would like to ask you, as the Body of Christ, to consider donating to this special place. If you would please do so, you may write a check (make it out to “The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina” and on the memo line write “Camp St. Christopher Praise and Glory Project”) and snail mail it to the Diocesan House, 126 Coming St, Charleston, SC 29403, Attention Nancy Armstrong. Or, if more convenient, you can also make an online donation using this link: <https://adosc.org/about/donate-now/>.

If you make an online donation, please contact our Diocesan Praise and Glory Chairman Shirley Wiggins at wigginsfamily1@tds.net to let her know.



Volunteers Still Needed at St. Christopher

St. Christopher still seeks volunteers for lawn maintenance at its spacious campus. Duties include using lawn mowers, string trimmers, and leaf blowers.

Can your church bring a team? “Many hands make light work.”

For more information on how you can help, call Steve Zack at St. Christopher. (843) 768-0429.

Annual Gathering of Anglican Women Held in Florence

Sherry Schumann Teaches on Psalm 23

By Joy Hunter, Editor

“Shepherd Me, O God” was the theme of the Anglican Women’s Gathering held at All Saints’, Florence, April 30. Women from 16 different churches joined in the event which, in addition to time for teaching, offered opportunities for worship, small group fellowship, and workshops.

Sherry Schumann, Executive Director of Christian Grandparenting Network and a charter member of the Legacy Coalition, was the keynote speaker. Interspersing stories from her own life with lessons gleaned from Philip Keller’s book, *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23* she had attendees engaged, looking at the Psalm with new eyes.

“The Annual Gathering was truly wonderful,” said Sunny Walker, President of the Anglican Women, who organized and led the day. “I

really thought I learned something valuable - what Psalm 23 really is.”

Susie Crawford of Redeemer, Pineville said, “I wanted to stand up and say, ‘Amen!’ That woman (Schumann) can preach!”

“I’ve gained a whole new perspective on Psalm 23,” said Bethany Tapp, of St. David’s, Cheraw. “I learned that I am completely dependent upon Him just as sheep are dependent upon their shepherd. I am lost without Him, in all aspects of my life.”

Schumann also spoke on the importance of “The Blessing,” what it is, what the different components are and how it’s done. “I loved that she pointed out that we bless people on behalf



JOY HUNTER

“It was such a happy gathering,” said Catherine Jones, (above right with Jane Barton). “It’s so lovely to see friends from St. Christopher days.” Catherine and Jane first met when they were 12-year-olds.

of God,” said Patricia Smith, former President of the Anglican Women, and a member of St. Paul’s, Summerville, taught on discipleship.

Throughout the day the women engaged in times of spirit-filled worship led by Hamshaw.

“It was such a happy gathering,” said Catherine Jones, of St. Philip’s Church, Charleston. “It was an excellent program and turned out to be a beautiful day. I saw people I hadn’t seen in ages!”

President Walker encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming fall retreat in October, which will be led by the Rev. Dr. Sandi Kerner, Chaplain at the Prayer Center at St. Christopher. The theme for that retreat is “Take Heart!”

See article on this page and look for additional details soon on the diocesan website, www.adosc.org.



JOY HUNTER

“We are like sheep,” said Schumann, “easily distracted, fearful, skittish, senseless, vulnerable, defenseless (but) ... our value is not in who we are but in whose we are. Our value is in the good shepherd.”

Women’s Peace Retreat

Friday, June 3 – Saturday, June 4 With Mary Tutterow

For any woman who would like to rest, relax, and renew learning practices that can keep you in perfect peace.

No matter your circumstances, you can have peace. This retreat is not only an opportunity for you to rest and renew, but it is an opportunity to learn more about the lasting peace only God can give and claim it for yourself.

Peace is a personal choice. Even if the circumstances of your life are in chaos, you can choose peace. It’s not easy, but with insight and practice, you can experience dramatic improvement in your attitude and perspective.

Learn to quiet your mind so you can hear from God. Learn to let go of old thoughts and patterns that run your life, so the Holy Spirit can take over. No matter your circumstances, you can have peace.

Peace retreats are small and very popular. Spaces fill quickly. Come alone or bring a friend, but register now!

For rates and more information visit www.stchristopher.org. Note there is an optional add-on stay until Sunday June 5 for this retreat.

About our Speaker

Mary Tutterow is the author of *The Heart of the Caregiver® Bible Study Series* – written for anyone feeling overwhelmed by the responsibilities and emotions of caring for someone with disabilities, chronic illness or age-related issues. The most recent addition to the series is *The Peaceful Caregiver™*. Mary has been leading Peace Retreats for several years – both in person and online – for anyone looking to live from a perspective of peace. For more information visit www.theheartofthecaregiver.com.



are continuing to seep in and will for some time as I study your book and better learn every day to walk the walk.”

“You were/are a gift from God. I was soooooo encouraged, redirected and inspired by every word you spoke and every scripture we read today. Hugs, thanks and blessings...”

What Attendees say:

“Dear Mary, the retreat was amazing! ‘Thank you’ doesn’t begin to say it all. Your deep meaningful messages

“This retreat was a lifesaver for me! It not only taught me strategies that I could use; it also put me in touch with others that were on the same type of journey!”

An Update from St. Christopher

By The Very Rev. Ken Weldon, Executive Director, St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center

It is an interesting season at St. Christopher. Between the recent South Carolina Supreme Court ruling, a new Executive Director at St. Christopher, and a ministry that is still recovering from the pandemic, there are certainly more questions than answers about the future of St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center. At this point we are reasonably certain that we will be able to oversee and execute summer camp this summer.

Summer Camp 2022

Justin Johnson is entering his sixth summer as the Director of Summer Camp. The Assistant Director is Mims Weldon. All sessions are currently full, with waitlists on each. Our Summer Camp Staff arrived on May 16 to begin preparing for campers who'll arrive on June 3, when the first of three Buddy Camp sessions begins.



JOHN BENSON

Weldon shares a homily during the St. Christopher board meeting in May.

Barrier Island

With the threat of COVID-19 waning, the spring season for the Barrier Island Environmental Education Program returned to a full schedule. With only seven full time Naturalists (compared to a typical year of approximately 14 Naturalists) we were able to host 52 schools and 3,336 students from February to May. Our Director of Barrier Island, Laurinda Rapp, and her team of Naturalists have done a remarkable job in the midst of challenging circumstances.

Continued Page 11

The World has Changed - How Should We Respond?

By David Wright, Diocesan Coordinator for Student Ministries

There are few things more jarring and daunting than being dropped into a foreign culture, having to learn a new language, and navigating your way around. The overwhelming strangeness of absolutely everything leaves one feeling unequipped or unprepared for each new day. This is where the church in America finds itself today. Yet we did not move to a distant country, our country and culture became foreign to us.

Years ago, my wife and I packed up our young family and left America to serve the Lord 4000 miles from the Chicago suburb we had been serving in. I was 10 years into full-time student ministry as we embarked

We are seeing epidemic levels of anxiety and depression among children and teens in America. The suicide rate has risen drastically. Studies are showing us that despite being the most connected generation, teens today are also the loneliest.

on this life-changing venture. We moved to Cheshire, England. Though we knew it would be something of a culture change, we expected a common language and cultural similarities. We were naïve, underestimated the differences and found the first several months overwhelming. Fortunately, our priest was married to an American and they translated life for us.

The shift in culture that America has experienced has been so sudden and strange that it has left many youth and children's ministry leaders scratching their heads. School teachers are experiencing much of the same. Nowhere is this shift more evident than in the area of sexual orientation and gender identity. To grasp the dramatic shift, consider the data of a 2021 study of over 12,000 US adults. The percentage of those who self-identify as LGBTQ has doubled with each generation. Specifically that is 2.6% of Baby Boomers, 4.2% of Gen X, 10.5% of Millennials, and 20.8% of Gen Z.

For schoolteachers (my wife among them) there is a reality that most preteens and teens are experiencing significant confusion around their identity. Every day they have students coming into class announcing a change in how they identify as they try to navigate their world. All this is being driven by our culture and it's right here in South Carolina.

For youth ministers, there is a clear sense that if they teach anything counter to the cultural narrative, some students will drop out of youth group. Approaching cultural issues

is like walking on eggshells. Speak with the wrong tone or words, and students' eyes glaze over. By the way, this is also the experience of many who are working with college students.

A rapidly shifting cultural landscape is not only challenging for those of us in church leadership, but also overwhelming to kids growing up in the midst of it. We are seeing epidemic levels of anxiety and depression among children and teens in America. The suicide rate has risen drastically. Studies are showing us that despite being the most connected generation, teens today are also the loneliest.

Assuming that the rate of cultural change is unlikely to slow, how do we respond as God's people? Let's rule out the instinct to withdraw or hide because we are not likely to become like the Amish and isolate ourselves from the world around us. We need a strategy centered around the gospel, loving others, being gracious, and remaining true to our faith. We need a reorientation that will especially benefit younger generations. Three interconnected points of focus come to mind immediately based on what research is teaching us.

First, we need a renewed understanding of family and its place in ministry. We need our churches to be like big families and our families to be like little churches. The church and family need to be places of worship, discipleship, and serving others. They need to be the structures where we experience relational care, God's love, forgiveness, and truth. It is God's family in which kids need to find their identity and have that affirmed.

Second, we need a culture of hospitality centered in family. Keep in mind the understanding of family just mentioned. We have to see the family as a unit where ministry takes place that not only raises up the next gener-

ation but blesses the world we are immersed in. When exiled to Babylon, God's people were instructed to be a blessing to the place that God had put them. Our families need to be a blessing in their communities. Our churches, as God's bigger family, need to be a blessing to its community. As our kids grow up they need to be a part of how we love others and demonstrate God's love to others.

Petitions for Rehearing Filed

On May 6, the Standing Committee announced that "After much prayer and discussion as well as consultation with legal counsel, the Trustees and the Standing Committee of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina unanimously decided not to seek a rehearing

of the April 20 opinion from the South Carolina Supreme Court." (See the full statement on Page 3). They also announced that eight of the parishes named in the lawsuit did file a petition for rehearing "based on their specific and unique circumstances." Those seeking a rehearing include: Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant; Good Shepherd, Charleston; Holy Comforter, Sumter; Holy Cross, Stateburg; Old St. Andrews, Charleston; St. Jude's, Walterboro; St. Luke's, Hilton Head; Trinity, Myrtle Beach.

Third, we need to be very intentional about the evangelism and discipleship of students (children, teens, and college-age) both in the church and in our communities. Everyone needs good news! We all need hope. The gospel is good news that gives us hope and transforms lives. It is no longer enough to provide Sunday School, VBS, and youth groups for our students and expect transformed lives in this rapidly changing culture. The world has changed too much for the church's strategy for raising up kids to remain the same.

If you would like to learn more about these ideas visit engagingeverygeneration.com or contact me via diocesan house. I'd love to meet with anyone interested in engaging younger generations. I am also available to speak or preach in your church or group.

What's Next?

While resolution of the legal issues is something we all look forward to, many questions regarding the implementation of the ruling, outstanding petitions for rehearing, and issues surrounding the separate betterments suit remain. Explaining the way forward, on

Continued Page 11

Supreme Court Releases Opinion

Continued from Page 1

"Acceded"/"Not Acceded"

The court ruled that of the 29 churches named in the lawsuit, those which they determined "acceded" to the Dennis Canon in their governing documents created a trust interest in their property for the Episcopal Church. The ruling also determined that properties owned by the Diocesan Trustees, including St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center, were held in trust for TEC.

The April 20 opinion found that the following churches "acceded" to the Dennis Canon: Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant; Good Shepherd, Charleston; Holy Comforter, Sumter; Holy Cross, Stateburg; Holy Trinity, Charleston; St. Bartholomew's, Hartsville; St. David's, Cheraw; St. Luke's, Hilton Head; St. Matthew's, Fort Motte; St. James, Charleston; St. John's, Johns Island; St. Jude's, Walterboro; Trinity, Myrtle Beach; and Old St. Andrew's, Charleston.

Those parishes which the court ruled "did not create a trust in favor of the National Church or its diocese," and which will retain their property are: All Saints, Florence; Church of Our Savior, John's Island; Church of the Cross, Bluffton; Christ-St. Paul's, Yonkers Island; Epiphany, Eutawville; Redeemer, Orangeburg; Resurrection, Surfside; St. Helena's, Beaufort; St. Paul's, Bennettsville; St. Paul's, Summerville; St. Philip's, Charleston; the Cathedral Church of St. Luke & St. Paul, Charleston; St. Michael's, Charleston; Trinity, Edisto; and Trinity, Pinopolis. These are in addition to the six parishes declared in the original 2017 ruling to have never created a trust interest in their property: Christ the King - Grace, Waccamaw; St. Paul's, Conway; Prince George, Winyah; St. John's, Florence; St. Matthias, Summerton; St. Matthews, Darlington.

As Bishop Edgar noted in his pastoral letter, "...our first response must be to quiet our hearts before the Lord as we pray for

What's Next?

While resolution of the legal issues is something we all look forward to, many questions regarding the implementation of the ruling, outstanding petitions for rehearing, and issues surrounding the separate betterments suit remain. Explaining the way forward, on

Finding Opportunities to Do Good Car Key Found on Streets of Charleston

By the Rev. Peter, Levasseur, Rector, The Historic Church of the Epiphany, Eutawville

This article first appeared in newsletter of The Historic Church of the Epiphany

Recently, Jenny and I were walking in downtown Charleston enjoying a beautiful spring day. As we are walking, she saw a car key on the ground. She picked up the key and asked those around if this was their car key. No one claimed it. The car key was marked as a Subaru. So, I suggested to Jenny that we walk down the street and see if we could spot a Subaru. As we were walking down the street a little way, she spotted a Subaru across the street. She then push the alarm button on the key. Surprisingly, the alarm went off. So, at this point, we had at least identified the car. We crossed over the street to the vehicle. We were still not sure what to do. We found the car but no owner. So, I called the police to get some information on how to deal with this situation. As I was on the phone there was a woman coming to the car trying to open it up. We noticed she was frantic and

filled with anxiety. At that moment Jenny assured her we had found her key. She was relieved and very grateful. She had shared with us that her father had just passed away and that she borrowed this car from her sister. She offered us money; we declined the offer. I told her that this was a God moment, and we were blessed to be a blessing to her.

I am not sharing this event to boast about our "good deed." Indeed, I am fully aware of how Jesus rebuked the Pharisees for this type of thing. I am only sharing it because often we do not realize that the Lord wants us to be proactive in being instruments of his goodness. In his providence, he may very well be guiding you to find opportunities to do good and he will

even bring those opportunities your way. I have no doubt that the Lord had "set us up" in a good way to bless this person.

But it was not just this person that received a blessing. We were truly blessed to be a blessing to someone else. We were blessed that the Lord used us so we could meet this need for a person who was going through a difficult time in her life. It is our hope and prayer that through this ordeal she will open herself up to the Lord.

We know we are not saved by our good deeds. "For it is by Grace that you have been saved through faith, this is not from yourself, it is the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should boast." Eph. 2:8-9. But though we are not saved by

good works, we are also not saved without them. For Eph. 2:10 goes on to say, "For we are workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

It may take some time and even some sacrifice to do good. But that is what we are called to do as Christians. During this season of Lent, we must even be more cognizant of doing good to others. It is not that God himself needs these good works. But it is your neighbor, relative, and yes even the stranger that needs it. That is why he wants us to be his instrument of his goodness. As we move closer to Good Friday, we should contemplate his all-encompassing sacrifice for us. Let us show our thanks to our Lord for all he has done for us, by being a blessing to others.



Edgar Church Planting Interview

Continued from Page 3

What are some of the benefits of a Church plant?

One of the benefits is newness. People love new stuff. Everybody wants a new car rather than the old car they've been driving for 14 years. People want new clothes, even when the old clothes are absolutely fine. Sometimes it's simply that this is a new thing. And the idea of being part of a new thing attracts people.

I know from that initial group of 20-25 at Church of the Apostles, some of those folks were driven by a desire to start a new thing. That's who they were. And they were the same folks who 16 years later, when we decided to send off a group to plant in Lexington, South Carolina, raised their hands and went because they had this dream of establishing a new church. They were motivated by doing a new thing. They had that kind of drive.

And that wasn't my drive. I was the pastor of a Church. I was looking for a Church to pastor. And it just so happened that I had to plant one in order to get one in God's economy.

What are the hardest things about a church plant?

Uncertainty. Nobody knows, ever. No matter how good your plan is, no matter how extensive a demographic study you've done, you just don't know if it's going to take.

So, there's just this feeling of risk. I remember Sunday mornings getting ready to start a service. We would come processing in like we do in this tradition. And I'd be standing outside praying, "Dear Lord, let there be somebody in the room." I'd served in downtown churches where you'd see 300 to 400 on a Sunday morning. And then when suddenly that number is 40, even though that's a good number starting a church, it felt like danger. It felt like we were on the brink, even though we were growing.

In a lot of church plant situations, the hardest thing is financial, the uncertainty of whether you're going to be looking for a job in the next couple of years.

How about lessons you've learned through your experience?

I'll say this a lot to younger pastors and church planters. The most important thing is that God wants a church there. And I say that because as I look back on it now, I see that there were lots of things that were going on that led to Church of the Apostles growing. Oddly enough, they tended not to be the things we tried to do. We would have this plan. We would do some program and think a bunch of people were going to show up, and then they were going to join our church. Those plans might produce some results, but they didn't account for the kind of steady, week after week growth we were seeing.

were glad that I was there, but I'd never met them. I look back on that, and think it had nothing to do with me. It had nothing to do with my giftedness. It had more to do with the community of people.

But really, God decided there was going to be a church there. We brought our couple of loaves and a few fish, but it was God who built the church.

You can't plan that. You can't strategize that. There are things you can do to support it. But it's God who wants to see his Church grow.

How long does it take to plant or establish a church?

Church plants are often funded on a three-year schedule. The first year the diocese may give \$24,000,

ness, of structure and self-governance. They have their own vestry, their own bylaws, their own copy machine, and they become self-sufficient. But it's a long runway, and it just depends on how quickly the plane gets off the ground.

If money were no object and everybody was willing, what would be your church planting dream for the Diocese?

Often the desire for church planting comes with a desire for a certain kind of church. It's pretty rare that you find a church planter who doesn't want to be near a groovy coffee shop, targeting millennials, 20- to 24-year-olds or whatever. Nobody targets grandparents. Nobody targets poor neighborhoods.

As I drive around South Carolina I see lots of places with church buildings sitting empty. Those places need churches. If we believe that Anglicanism and our understanding of sacramental worship, the connectedness that comes from a diocese is good. If we're right about those things, then we want churches in those places even if they aren't hip.

My dream would be for us to figure out a way to plant churches in those smaller communities. Right now, we're not really paying attention to them.

I've met some young guys whose vision is for being in small, more rural communities. They understand that might involve the necessity of bi-vocational work. They understand they're not going to get all the cool restaurants of Charleston at their fingertips, but they have a passion for that kind of life and the people in those communities. I'd love to see that grow. I'd love to see the gaps between our larger churches filled in with churches in those communities.

And I think that, by definition, those are the churches that require a really long runway. So, how do we make that possible? I've had thoughts about that over the years, and we can talk about that another time, but that's a passion. I want to see Church planting in all sorts of places, not just the cool, hip places.

Church Planting Residency To Launch September of 2022

Jesus did not just talk about ministry ideas with His disciples.

He trained His disciples for ministry.

That is the heart behind our new ADOSC Church Planting Residency. This 12-18 month Residency will help train individuals and teams for the work of church planting in our diocese and beyond. Here are a few logistical details:

- Curriculum will include Assessment, Calling, Training and Practical Application for the planter's specific ministry context.
- Residency is open to both Clergy and Laity.
- Meetings will take place 2 evenings per month with a mix of virtual and in-person gatherings.

We planted Church of the Apostles in March of 2004. And in April of 2006, I had to have a kidney transplant. I was out for about eight weeks. Amazingly, over those eight weeks, Church of the Apostles grew. When I came back, there were more people. They had heard about me. They had been praying for me. They

the second year 18 or something, and then the third year it gives six. The idea is that you have three years to become financially self-sufficient. But there are a lot of variations in that. It's hard to say when a puppy becomes a dog. But there are certain things that are happening. At some point there's this sense of rooted-

Trinity Donations

Continued from Page 3

goods, cleaning products, hygiene items, and food, with the hopes of providing the homeless with more than just a roof over their heads, but to give them hope, joy, and to help them feel at home.

You never know how God is at work bringing people together in our community. During this process Chris Barnes, an employee at ECHO's My Home Donation Center, began working alongside Bryan Hill who, at the time, was employed with ECHO in Human Resources. Bryan, who also serves as the Junior Warden for Trinity Church, invited Chris to join him at the church. Chris had never experienced Anglican worship and through the moving of the Holy Spirit, Chris decided to be baptized on Easter Sunday at Trinity.

"I needed God, I needed ECHO, I needed donations, and they gave it to me," said Chris. "They gave me a new way of life, a new way of living." He said if it wasn't for ECHO, he would be on the streets homeless. "They saved my life, gave me a job, and I got baptized all on the way."

Trinity is thankful for Chris' new outlook on life and his experience of Holy Baptism on Easter Sunday.

Trinity's Rector, the Rev. Chance Perdue prayed over the collected items and, inside each basket, volunteers tucked a prayer blessing for each recipient. "Most importantly, we pray that through these gifts, the recipients will know and experience the completeness of Christ's love," said Perdue.

Through ECHO's My Home Donation Center, donations of household items and furniture go directly to former homeless women, men, children, and veterans moving into their new homes. Call (843) 492-2492 for more information or visit www.echousing.org.

If you are feeling alone and lost in this world or are looking for a church home, we invite you to worship with us at Trinity on Sundays at 8, 9:30 & 11 a.m. Visit us at www.trinitymyrtlebeach.org for more details.

Trinity School for Ministry Announces Certificate for Training Leaders in Anglican Tradition

By Kristen Parise, Trinity School for Ministry

Trinity School for Ministry is launching a new Certificate of Anglican Studies to assist Anglican dioceses and churches in preparing their leaders for ordination in a more affordable way. For its entire history, Trinity has been playing a significant role in training clergy and lay leaders for service in Anglican churches. This latest offering provides a new venue for new leaders to be trained in the core tenets of the Anglican tradition that will enable them to serve their communities well, no matter their prior denominational background.

The Certificate of Anglican Studies is a non-credit, non-degree program of instruction designed to provide students who have already studied the basic theological disciplines at a non-Anglican seminary with a robust understanding of the Anglican tradition. Trinity continues to structure its certificate programs to be flexible and affordable options for those who want to further their education. While the CAS is not intended to be a substitute for a residential education at an Anglican seminary, it is an ideal program for those with an MAR, MDiv or equivalent from an accredited institution of higher learning who are transitioning into Anglicanism.

"Every year, more and more Christians from a diverse array of denominational backgrounds are being called to serve as lay leaders, parish clergy, and church planters in the Anglican church," says The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Bailes, Cathedral Theologian of Christ Church Plano in Plano, Texas. "As an Anglican, I'm delighted with how the Spirit is enriching our church through the addition of these new pilgrims. Trinity will give them the adequate formation and training that will enable them to competently minister as Anglicans. I am thrilled with this new Certificate of Anglican Studies, which provides a focused and rigorous introduction to the history, theology, and liturgical practices of Anglican Christianity."

"This certificate addresses a real need, and we believe God has called us to address this need in this hour," says The Very Rev. Dr. Laurie Thompson, Dean President of Trinity School for Ministry. "The important and positive value of the Anglican model of leadership and discipleship is recognized across Evangelical seminaries. I am excited that we have learned to be more nimble and effective in forming leaders who are embracing the Anglican model and becoming effective leaders in Christ's mission in today's challenging context."

The Certificate of Anglican studies consists of four courses offered annually that can be taken in a variety of formats: online, residential or week-long intensive. Certificate fees are set per course according to the current academic year schedule and are listed on our website at https://www.tsm.edu/tuition_and_fees/. The courses that make up the Certificate are: Anglican and Episcopal History, God the Holy Spirit: Church, Ministry, and Sacraments, Anglican Way of Theology, and Prayer Book: Introduction to Anglican Worship.

The Certificate of Anglican studies launches its first courses in the Summer 2022 term, which is taught online. Applications are now open and can be started through the Trinity website at: <https://www.tsm.edu/apply-now-certificate-programs/>

About Trinity School for Ministry

Trinity School for Ministry is an evangelical seminary in the Anglican tradition. Since 1976, we desire to be a global center for Christian formation, producing outstanding leaders who can plant, renew, and grow churches that make disciples of Jesus Christ.

Egypt Bound!

St. Paul's, Summerville, Family Invites You to Partner with Them in Upcoming Opportunity

By the Rev. Jeff Jacobs, St. Paul's Anglican Church, Summerville

We are excited to announce that Kristin and I (Jeff) have been invited to serve in Cairo, Egypt! I have applied to be the minister to the English-speaking congregations at All Saints'



The Rev. Jeff Jacobs, pictured above with his wife, Kristin, will be serving as the minister to the English speaking congregations at All Saints' Cathedral in Cairo.

Cathedral in Cairo, just a taxi ride away from the pyramids. This is an 18-month opportunity to be immersed in the "hub" of the Province of Alexandria. After 18 months, Archbishop Samy Fawzy plans to send us westward to serve in the Diocese of North Africa.

The Diocese of Egypt is an amazing and vibrant diocese! This YouTube video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=un-NrmG1yGA>) shows just some of the miraculous things being done. The Jacobs family is grateful to be invited to play a small part in it! Please pray for this wonderful diocese and the diverse opportunities we will have to serve the Lord.

Though I will be working at a church, our family will continue raising their own funding through SAMS; we are blessed to be at 35% of our goal for recurring gifts. Please pray with us for 100 more people excited to give recurring gifts of any size.

Why are we raising funds when we will be working at a church?! First, I'd humbly refer you back to the video mentioned above to see all the ways that the Diocese of Egypt wisely stewards God's gifts to them. Second, I would like to share a story to paint some perspective and offer my reason.

When I visited with Archbishop Samy in 2019 as part of my seminary education, he took us to several sites mentioned in the video above. He took us to the hospital in the video where we saw several floors full of refugees seeking medical help for everything from malnutrition to injuries incurred while fleeing for their lives from war and persecution.

We left that hospital and visited Anglican schools in the slums of Ras al-Soda and Sidi Nasser. One of the schools found that their students were suffering badly from malnutrition. The diocese began an initiative that provides a spoonful of molasses and one meal every day, one dairy item once per week, and one meal with some meat in it once per month. This regimen has brought the kids out of anemia, rickets, and dangerous levels of malnutrition. This is just one small piece of a massive diocese, and we want to support their efforts in any way we can. Moreover, by bringing together a team of people in the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina to go with us, pray with us, and give with us, we further our vision of seeing a church diverse, the Church united. When you team up with us, we believe it is one small way we can bring together more unity in the global Anglican Communion.

It is this enormity of both the need, and the efforts to meet those needs, that leads us to ask the church here in North America to send us prayerfully and financially to the church in North Africa. I know it will mean sacrifices for our family and possibly for yours, as well, but this is part of the exciting call God places on our lives.

We love you, and we are so excited to see what God is going to continue to do in the universal Church. Thank

you for praying for us and for making this adventure possible.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. (Eph 3:20-21)

Meet the Jacobs

Jeff and Kristin live in Summerville, SC where they attend St. Paul's Anglican Church. They served in North Africa for two years where they met and fell in love. Jeff has been on staff at St. Paul's since his ordination in May 2020. They have three children, one born on April 25. They look forward to answering the call God has placed on their family when they move to North Africa in September 2022. They are actively looking for people to go with them to Egypt, pray with them for North Africa, and give sacrificially with them to the Kingdom efforts in Egypt. They would love to come share their story at your church, small group, or over coffee. You may contact Jeff and Kristin at FatherJeff@gmail.com for more information or to be added to their quarterly "Ember Day Newsletter."



The Jacobs welcomed their third child, Isaac on April 25. He joins Uri (4) and Eden (21 months).

St. Christopher Update

Conference Center

The Conference Center reservations have also been returning to normal. Many of our "regular" groups are returning after two years.

Interestingly, there are some groups that aren't aware of our December fire. We are trying to manage expectations by telling them before arrival but they don't understand the true impact until they get here. Most have been gracious in the change of our dining venue; it is much more of a "camp feel" when dining in Susanna's House. On-site staff and Directors continue to rotate being on-call for weekend groups of the Conference Center.

Personnel/Volunteers

With guests returning and summer camp fully subscribed, St. Christopher is working hard to address our staffing needs. While we are not where we need to be with being back to the "normal" number of employees, St. Christopher has been blessed in some key areas with regard to personnel. Frankie Scavullo arrived on April 25 to take on the role of Director of Food Service. Frankie is well seasoned in Food Service, having previously served as the Director of Food Service and Executive Chef at Franke Home in Mt. Pleasant. We also welcomed Tyrri Moore to our Facilities Team on March 7. Tyrri brings

Continued from Page 9

a wealth of experience in landscaping. Several of our departments are still relying on other staff (and volunteers) to help complete daily tasks so we are looking to hire in Facilities, Guests Services and the Kitchen. We have a group of dedicated individuals that come out weekly to assist with meals and to assist for Weekend Duty. We also have been blessed to host several groups for volunteer workdays. We recently assembled an application packet for our volunteers to protect Saint Christopher, its employees, and guests, as well as the volunteers themselves. St. Christopher continues to be blessed by volunteer assistance, from both individuals and groups.

Prayers Requested

To close, it has been a joy and a blessing to be called to be the Executive Director at St. Christopher. For the time being, we are pushing forward with all of our ministries and programs. I would ask for your prayers particularly for our staff and for all of our guests. While there is much uncertainty, and there are some formidable challenges ahead, we remain confident in the sovereignty of our God, and our hope will remain in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Rest assured, the mission and ministry of Camp St. Christopher has been in his hands since 1938. It is now. And it will continue to be.

Supreme Court Opinion

Continued from Page 1

many of these issues, is simply impossible because, at this time, it is not clear, nor is it the same for everyone.

On April 22 Bishop Edgar met with the leader of the Episcopal Diocese in South Carolina, Bishop Ruth Woodliff-Stanley to begin conversations about how to move forward. Those conversations are continuing.

In the meantime, Bishop Edgar and the Standing Committee hosted dinner discussions for the clergy and spouses of the churches which the court ruled against. These dinners were an opportunity to offer pastoral care and fellowship as well as time to think strategically together about the path forward. The Rev. Todd Simonis, Canon for Church Planting joined in these dinner discussions.

As Bishop Edgar reminded us in his pastoral letter, "the ministry of this diocese to a confused and broken world is dependent on God's mercy and call, not on our property and resources."

Please continue to lift our legal team, Standing Committee, Diocesan Trustees, Clergy and Vestries of the churches involved in regular prayer.

*The full text of the Opinion may be found at <https://www.sccourts.org/opinions/HTMLFiles/SC/28095.pdf>.

Corey Prescott to Lead St. John's, Florence

The Rev. Corey Prescott has been called to serve as the Rector of St. John's, Florence. Prescott is a graduate of Auburn University and Trinity School for Ministry (mDiv). He grew up in Charleston, attending Saint James Church on James Island. He served on summer camp staff at St. Christopher, and in 2010 became a summer intern for Good Shepherd, West Ashley, a short experience that had a profound impact on him. He continued with the church serving in several roles, overseeing family ministry, community outreach, and general operations of the church until 2017 when he discerned



a call to the priesthood. Upon graduating from Trinity in 2019, he became the Assistant Rector of St. John's Church, Florence, serving under the Very Rev. Ken Weldon.

Corey is married to his high school sweetheart, Cory, and they have two wonderful children with a third on the way. He loves Auburn football, being on the water, and has been known to forego dessert for another helping of his grandmother's sweet potato casserole.

He began his new responsibilities at St. John's on May 1, 2022.

Doran Institution at Trinity Church, Pinopolis, June 1

The Rev. Mary Ellen Doran will be Instituted as the Rector of Trinity Church, Pinopolis, on Wednesday, June 1, 2022.

She received her BA in Religion from Charleston Southern University, and her Masters of Divinity from Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge PA. St. James Church was



her sending church to seminary, and she was ordained a Transitional Deacon there.

She served previously as the Assistant

Pastor at Church of Our Saviour on Johns Island, SC, where she was ordained to the Priesthood. Following Church of Our Saviour, she was called to be the Rector of St. David's, Cheraw, and St. Paul's, Bennettsville, along with overseeing St. David's Day School. In January 2021, the two churches were able to un-yoke, and Doran continued solely at St. David's.

"My husband Keith and I are excited to be able to call Trinity Church our new home," said Mary Ellen. The Doran's live in the Cane Bay area and have two adult daughters. Amanda, a Middle school teacher, is married to their son-in-law Jason, who is a retiring pilot from the Air Force. They have two daughters: Reagan and Kinley. The Doran's other daughter, Madalaine, is a Mental Health Therapist.

Death of the Rev. Dick Archer

Please keep the family and loved ones of the Rev. Dick Archer in your prayers. He died May 5, following an illness.

He was born October 21, 1932 in Johnson City, NY. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served for three years during the Korean War. He then earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Drexel University in 1961 and was employed by Union Carbide for 33 years.

In 1989, he received his Master of Divinity degree from Trinity Episcopal School. Rev. Archer served as priest at Church of Advent, Marion, SC, from 1989 to 1999, and Church of Holy Cross, Stateburg, SC, from 2000 to 2007. He was a member of All Saints Anglican Church since 1967. He was an active member and served as Church Treasurer and as a Lay Reader. He was involved with both Cursillo and Kairos ministries. He was also a member of the Brotherhood of St. Andrews.

Rev. Archer was predeceased by his wife of 67 years, Janet Archer; a son, Rick Archer; a brother, Wilson S. "Red" Archer; and a grandson, Wilson Martin. Survivors include four daughters, Cheryl Jacobus, Dawn Martin (John), Cynthia Carter (Larry), and Angela Hayes; a son, Jim Archer; 9 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held May 7, 2022, at All Saints Anglican Church.



A Thank you from The Very Rev. John Burwell

The Very Rev. John Burwell sends a thank you note to diocese: "I simply want to thank all of you who prayed for me during my recent surgeries for bladder cancer and for all the cards and calls and cares and concerns you've shown to me. In the past three weeks I've had two surgeries, three doses of anesthesia, chemo, and more pain than I've ever had in my life so far. It's been rough. I'm recovering and getting better every day. My main issue now is with energy. I tire far too easily. I find that I have to rest awhile



after about three hours of activity. Everyone tells me this is normal, but this is a completely new experience for me. The tiredness limits my ministry and I want to be done with being tired! Yesterday! God willing, I will be better than normal because of your continued thoughts, prayers, and petitions for me. Thank you. I am reminded of the words of St. Paul to his beloved Philippians.

In the opening of his letter to them Paul says,

Continued on Page 15

People News

Zach Barton has accepted a call to serve as the full-time Children's Ministry Director at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke & St. Paul in Charleston. In a note to the congregation, the Very Rev. Peet Dickinson, Dean of the Cathedral, wrote, "We are overjoyed to welcome



Zach, his wife Jillian, and their four children, Clover (9) Autumn (7), Landry (5), and Skye (3) to our Cathedral Family. They come to us from Cambridge, MA where Zach has served for the last six plus years as the Children's Ministry Director and Church Administrator at Hope Fellowship Church. He comes with a wealth of experience in ministering to children and their families by forming them in God's Word and equipping them to go forth on mission proclaiming the love of God in Christ Jesus. His gifts as a pastor and grace-filled leader are clear. ...Zach has a Masters in Divinity from Gordon-Conwell Seminary in Jacksonville, FL where he was a fellow student with our very own Patrick Schlabs." Zach will begin at the Cathedral on June 1.

The Rev. Elizabeth Bumpas, who serves at Saint James, Charleston, has been named their Executive pastor. In a letter to the parish, the Rev. Arthur Jenkins, Rector, wrote, "I have asked Elizabeth to combine her clergy gifts with her administrative gifts that I may name her as



Executive Pastor. An executive pastor oversees a church's operations, strategic planning, administration, finances, and human resources to achieve its mission and vision. This will not diminish her role as priest and pastor. It means that now Elizabeth will be full-time clergy here. Both as clergy and administrator Elizabeth will be a great team member for your new rector and Saint James."



Peet Dickinson III (age 76) died on February 25, surrounded by his loving family and with the blessed assurance of eternal life in Christ Jesus his risen Savior and Lord.

The Rev. Jeff Jacobs, who serves at St. Paul's, Summerville, and his wife, Kristin, welcomed their third child, Isaac, on Monday April 25. He was delivered early



– at 37 weeks weighing just 4 lbs 15 oz and was 17.5 inches, but he and mom are, thank fully, both healthy and doing well. In addition to mom and dad, big brother and sister (Uri and Eden) welcomed the new arrival. The Jacobs will be leaving the states soon to answer a call to serve in Egypt. (See the story on page 11.)



Madison Kuzia recently joined the staff of St. Michael's Church, Charleston, as their full-time Assistant Communications Director. In addition to

supporting content management of all their social media platforms and external correspondence, Madison will support the Director of Communications ensuring the review and publication of printed and electronic products supporting church ministries are timely and correct. She will also support the church's front desk and office phone ministries. Madison comes to St. Michael's from St. James Church, James Island, where she and her husband Elijah served and worshiped. Madison was most recently a fulltime teacher at Palmetto Christian Daycare and was previously employed at St. James as Director of Publications and Assistant Worship Leader.

Jane Read has accepted a position at Saint James Church on James Island as their new Director of Communications.



Jane will be managing the content on their website and social media platforms as well as in Sunday bulletins and E-news emails to parishioners. Jane and her husband Bill are long-time members of Saint James Church. They three have children, one son and daughter-in-law in Colorado, one son in Virginia, and one daughter at Anderson University. In addition to singing in the choir, Jane has

participated in various ministries throughout the years. In 2018, she retired from her 25-year position as bookkeeper and manager for a family-owned business. In 2021, she was an interim supervisor for Saint James' Mothers Morning Out program.

The Rev. Henrietta Rivers, a transitional deacon, is beginning an internship with the Church of the Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island.



In a letter to the congregation, the Rev. Chris Warner, Rector, wrote, "Henrietta will join with us several Sundays a month through the summer (and primarily at our Sullivan's Island campus) to gain experience serving in the Sunday liturgy. This gives her the opportunity to practice in preparation for her eventual ordination to the priesthood." Henrietta holds a Master of Divinity degree from Trinity School for Ministry. On a daily basis, she shares the Gospel of Christ with students and faculty at Porter Gaud School, as the Middle School Chaplain. In addition to teaching and pastoral care at the school, Henrietta also serves as a Bible study teacher, women's ministry leader, and leader of prayer and inner healing ministries, at St. John's Chapel. Henrietta is married to the Rev. Matthew Rivers, Rector of St. John's Chapel. They have two adult children. She serves on the board of the Anglican Women of SC.

The Rev. Dr. Greg Snyder, Rector of St. John's, Johns Island, who has served at the church for 20 years and his wife, Beth Snyder, who, for the past 14 years, has served as Assistant

to the Bishop and Event Coordinator for the Diocese, will be leaving the Diocese for Tennessee in August. In a letter to his parish, Greg explained, "The Lord has called me to a new ministry, a ministry which He has been preparing me for for nearly five years. A ministry in the academy to young scientists and their professors. On April 13, I accepted the position as Lecturer in Geology at the University of Tennessee. Just a week later, on April 20 as you know, the Supreme Court ruling came down and not in our favor. I do not fully understand the Lord's timing in this, but I must believe that it is good, and true and sure." The Snyders and Beth's mother, June, will be moving to Knoxville, TN, where both their daughters, their spouses and their only grandchild, Ellie Frances live. On May 19 at the final Diocesan Council meeting Beth attended, Bishop Edgar honored her with a special time of prayer at which many council members, through prayer, expressed their appreciation for her many gifts and contributions to the Diocese. Both Snyders will be sorely missed.



TAYLORRAEPHOTOGRAPHY

Death of the Rev. Floyd Finch

Please keep the family and loved ones of the Rev. Floyd Finch in your prayers. Floyd died on Ash Wednesday, March 2, 2022. Floyd was ordained to the priesthood in 1954 and served in the Diocese of North Carolina, the Diocese of Western North Carolina, the Diocese of Atlanta, and the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina until his retirement in 2013.



JOY HUNTER

Expressing appreciation for Finch's ministry to the retired clergy and their spouses in the Diocese, Bishop Lawrence wrote, "You and Leona have been an inexpressible blessing to this diocese in this important ministry since 2006. I can only applaud the wisdom of your appointment to this ministry, thank my predecessor, and praise our Lord for how you both have carried it out with such joy, pastoral sensitivity and godly zeal. It has been a remarkable witness and model for all of us..."

When Floyd retired from serving as the Chaplain to Retired Clergy and their Spouses in the Diocese, Bishop Lawrence wrote a letter to him which said, in part, "You and Leona have been an inexpressible blessing to this diocese in this important ministry since 2006. I can only applaud the wisdom of your appointment to this ministry, thank my predecessor, and praise our Lord for how you both have carried it out with such joy, pastoral sensitivity and godly zeal. It has been a remarkable witness and model for all of us."

"From the early days when you arranged deanery wide gatherings with the retired clergy and spouses in order for me to meet with them as their new bishop and they with me, having lunch, conversations and Q & A; to the stellar mailings that kept us informed of the happenings in the lives of the Retired Treasures; to singing phone calls on birthdays or anniversaries, (including mine), how can I adequately express my gratitude for all you have done for so many and also to help me in this task..."

Floyd's Memorial Service was March 4, 2022 in The Chapel at Bishop Gadsden.

Death of the Rev. Linda Manuel

Please keep the family and loved ones of the Rev. Linda Manuel in your prayers. Linda passed peacefully surrounded by her family on February 15, 2022. She was 77 years old.

Linda had a passion for ministry and was a Coordinator of Christian Education at several parishes over the years. In 1997, she completed her Master of Divinity Degree from Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry in Ambridge PA. She was ordained by Bishop Robert Duncan and went on to work on the Bishop's Mission team in Pittsburgh, PA. She successfully renewed two failing Pittsburgh area churches and served as interim priest for several others. Bob and Linda moved to Georgetown, SC in 2006. Linda continued her ministry in the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina and attended Prince George Winyah Parish Church.



In 2013, Linda was called to plant a church in the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina. That church plant became Grace Anglican Parish, a mission church, in 2014 (www.graceanglicanparish.org). At Grace she "provided steady guidance and love, and kept us outwardly focused while helping us grow together as a close-knit Grace Parish family," says Deacon Laura Bowman.

In 2016, Linda and Bob retired to Sun City - Carolina Lakes in Fort Mill, SC to be closer to their grandchildren.

Linda was predeceased by her husband, Bob; She is survived by her two sons and their spouses.

A funeral service was held at Grace Anglican Parish in Little River, SC on Saturday, June 4th, 2022.

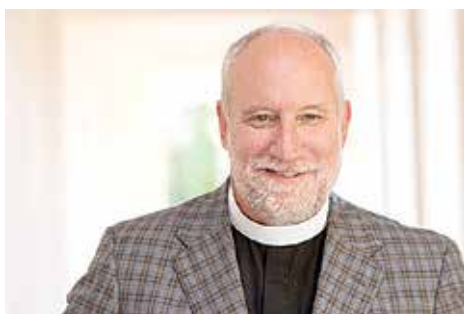
Ken Weldon Named Executive Director of St. Christopher

Early in March, prior to the release of the South Carolina Supreme Court's opinion, Bishop Mark Lawrence, upon the unanimous recommendation of the search committee, called the Very Rev. Ken Weldon to serve as the next Executive Director of St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center.

'Boo' (Weldon's wife) and I are humbled to accept the call to St. Christopher, a place and ministry that has been so important to so many," says Weldon. "We are grateful for the 14 years we have had at St. John's, Florence, and excited to see what the Lord will do moving forward."

The Very Rev. Karl Burns, who served as the chair of the search committee, said, "We're

excited not only because of the long history Ken and Boo have with the camp, but the ongoing relationships they have with the current staff and their passion and vision for moving forward. I have always thought of St. Christopher as the evangelical engine of the diocese and Ken shares that vision, as well."



JOY HUNTER

"The Board of Directors looks forward to working with Ken," says Francis Mack, Chair of St. Christopher's Board of Directors. "We are facing challenging times, but Ken has been a long-time supporter of the camp and has numerous talents which will help us move forward."

Weldon's last Sunday at St. John's was May 1. He began his responsibilities at St. Christopher the first part of May.

Beson Instituted as 35th Rector of Prince George Winyah Parish Church

By John Benson, Prince George Winyah Parish Church, Georgetown

On Sunday afternoon, October 17, 2021, the Rev. Gary N. Beson II was instituted as the 35th Rector of Prince George Winyah Parish Church, in Georgetown, by the Rt. Rev. Mark Lawrence, Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina.

As the Lord would have it, October 17 was the same day, seven years earlier, that Gary was ordained to the priesthood in the Big Green Barn at Carnes Crossroads a few miles from where St Timothy's church plant would take root.

Gary served at St Timothy's until 2020 when he and Sue were called by the wardens, vestry and search committee of PGW to join the 300-year-old church family in Georgetown, SC.

As symbols of his office and authority, Gary was presented several things on the night of his institution by many from the family of PGW. The Sr. Warden presented him with a new bible, the Jr. Warden and Sexton gave him a large wooden "key to the church," laypeople and teachers gave him objects and gifts that highlighted the ministries to which he has been called to steward and join in.

One parishioner noted that "Prince George has been celebrating its 300th Anniversary in 2021 and this service seemed to highlight the joy and energy everyone is sensing as

they prepare for what the Lord may be calling Gary and this church to do and be in the next 300 years!"

The Rev. Joseph Lawrence, (youngest son of Bishop and Allison Lawrence) was the guest preacher and a reception was held after the service in the parish hall of the church.

Sue Beson commented that if the first 20 months of ministry alongside others at PGW are any indication of what the Lord has planned for the Besons in Georgetown, she hopes to be able to serve as long as the Lord allows.

In a letter of thanks to the parish, after the institution, Gary wrote of the joy he experienced at the ordination. "Sue and I feel like we have lived here all our lives," he said. "The love we have received and joy we have shared, since

arriving last year, continues to energize and guide our lives. In the second verse of the old hymn, 'What Wonderful Love is this,' the words explain how Sue and I feel having joined this family:

'To God and to the Lamb, WE will sing; To God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM, While millions join the theme, WE will sing, WE will sing; While millions join the theme, WE will sing.'

We love you all and are grateful to be part of this wonderful church poised to serve God for another 300 years or until HE returns!"



CAROLINE STALVEY

The Rev. Gary and Sue Beson

Dr. Janie Wilson Awarded State's Highest Award, The Order of the Palmetto

Recognized for Biblical Counseling Ministries and Pink Bus Ministry

Dr. Janie D. Wilson, founder and president of the Peninsula Biblical Counseling Ministries was presented with the state's highest award, The Order of the Palmetto at a small gathering at the Cathedral of St. Luke & St. Paul in Charleston on Thursday, March 31, 2022. The Order of the Palmetto is the State of South Carolina's highest civilian honor presented in recognition of a lifetime of extraordinary achievement, service and contributions on a national or statewide scale.

"This is, indeed, an honor," said Wilson. "And not only an honor, I'm very humbled by it. I'm very surprised by it at the same time."

Wilson was nominated by the Rt. Rev. Mark J. Lawrence, Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, who also presented her with the award.

"Dr. Wilson has certainly made a significant impact in our local faith community, as the founder and president of The Peninsula Biblical Counseling Ministries," said Lawrence. "This non-profit was created to equip women in Biblical Leadership within their church, their home and their community. Her personal faith and vision for ministry to women from all walks of life, is a testimony to her commitment to serve the people of Charleston and the wider church community of our state."

"It should be noted also, that she founded the Pink Bus Ministry for young African-American girls on the East Side of Charleston, introducing them to wholesome educational and life opportunities to develop character, values, and virtues that shall assist them in becoming people of virtue who contribute to local, state and national citizenship. Furthermore, she has assisted her husband,



JOY HUNTER

Bishop Mark Lawrence presents Dr. Janie Wilson with the Order of the Palmetto.

The Rev. Dr. Dallas Wilson at St. John's Chapel and the Africa-American Center for Biblical Dialogue in Charleston."

"There's a scripture that always balances my life," said Wilson. "It's Galatians 2:20, and in the amplified version, it says, 'I have been crucified with Christ. That is in him I have shared his crucifixion. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. And the life I live now in the body I live by faith, by adhering to relying on and completely trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me.' That's the quote I'm learning to live by more and more every day."

"Dr. Janie Wilson certainly embodies many of these same qualities upheld in The Order of the Palmetto," said Lawrence, "working diligently—opening her arms to those in need—wise—hard-working and faithful."

An individual must be nominated for the Order of the Palmetto. This once in a lifetime award may only be presented to natives or residents of the State of South Carolina.

Streams of Light from a Heart Broken

Trinity, Pinopolis, Parishioner Writes Devotional for Those Who Grieve

By The Rev. Mary Ellen Doran, Trinity Church, Pinopolis

After her husband, John, died suddenly, Julie Grant, a member of our congregation found herself in that “allegorical valley and discovered her faith was the only source of light that could pierce the darkness.”

As she walked through her grief, she journaled her thoughts, questions and feelings to God. Those writings have been compiled into a devotional, entitled *Streams of Light from a Heart Broken*.

As her devotional book states, “grief is hard. There is absolutely no part of grieving that is remotely pleasant. It is not a systematic, box-ticking list of emotions you proceed through to completion. Grieving, like living, is a process determined by the choices you take on the journey, and there are always choices.”

When I heard of Julie’s book, I ordered a copy and decided to sit down to read through it. What I found was this is not a book to simply read through, but to sit down and engage with on a daily basis (as devotionals are). I was moved by Julie’s honesty and humility and her heart as she navigated through the most painful of journeys, not alone, but by



Julie, above, with her husband John. “I call this photo, ‘My Angel,’” she says.

crying out to Jesus and allowing Him to walk alongside her.

It is Julie’s hope that by sharing her writings, others may be “encouraged as they seek the brightest light in the darkness and that God be glorified in the offering.”

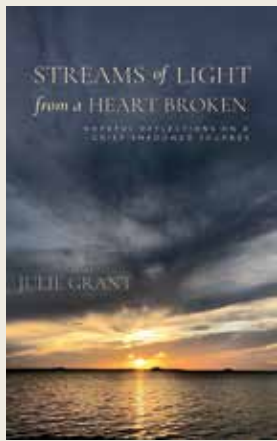
I highly recommend her book not just to individuals or small groups working their way through grief, but to anyone who needs a daily reminder of God’s love for us, in all of our circumstances...because God is good, all the time.

You may order the book on Amazon. Contact Julie at jgrant@homesc.com.

An Excerpt:

Streams of Light from a Heart Broken

Time is passing so strangely right now. It has been a week. It seems much longer in that I don’t understand how we could have experienced all we have in just one week. It also seems much shorter because we are so raw. The outpouring of love and friendship has been so amazing in helping us heal. We have a strange peace; I know that comes from God. I also think, and we discussed this at John’s bedside, that it comes from having no regrets. We are blessed that there were no harbored angers, unforgiveness, or words left unspoken. We always spoke our love. Right before Daniel left for Colorado, we were playing cards, and John just stopped and told our sons how proud he was of them, of the young men they had become. What a gift! God is bringing beauty from the ashes.



John was an organ donor, and his gift may change the lives of more than 50 people. Wow! That gave us such joy.

Knowing his gift could keep someone else from experiencing what we are going through, even for a short time, blessed us.

The celebration of John’s life was so uplifting. We all knew what a great guy he was; apparently it wasn’t a very well-kept secret. So many people! God was moving in a big way. I was so thankful that I could speak. I had so many people praying that my throat wouldn’t close up, and I wouldn’t send a blubbery, squeaky message. I prayed for the words and the voice; I felt like those prayers were answered. It was wonderful to see so many people who were important to both of us.

We are taking one day at a time, one step at a time, sometimes one breath at a time....

The Flowering of Women’s Ministries at Christ Church

By The Rev. Joyce Harder, Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant

God spoke to His people through Isaiah saying, “Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” The Lord is doing a new thing among the women at Christ Church, inspiring and directing a fresh and revitalized approach to women’s ministry in the parish.

Last July, Father Ted Duvall appointed me to gather and lead a Steering Committee of 12 cross-generational women who met over the summer months, both in three small groups of four and in the full group, to prayerfully formulate how to offer opportunities for spiritual growth, prayer, service, and fellowship among all the women at Christ Church. Underlying our deliberations was a deep desire to bring honor to Our Lord Jesus.

Each meeting was characterized by a refinement of the previous meeting’s discussion, and watching God’s plan unfold was marvelous. Out of this process emerged the name “Bloom,” with a tagline of “Rooted & Flourishing in Christ’s Love” and lovely branding by our Director of Communications, Katy Hunter.

The inspired model for ministry is a hybrid one, first, of spiritual growth through vibrant speakers and then, too, opportunities for study and prayer in newly formed women’s small groups called Bloom Groups. A small group setting is the ideal environment for sinking roots deep into the Person of Jesus and into His love within Christian Community, and to that end, the following studies have been recommended for use across the various Bloom Groups.

toward His children during such storms as she and Matt faced in losing their family home and church property to the Episcopal Church.

Other gatherings this year have included three Sunday baby shower luncheons for the following wives of Christ Church Staff members: Liza Koch, wife of Associate Priest, Dr. Jady Koch; Anna Henkel, wife of Director of Music, Dr. Levi Henkel; and Lauren Crawford, wife of Youth Director, Alonzo Crawford.

Among ongoing in-parish service opportunities, Bloom women can join the Meal Brigade Team to provide meals to new mothers, the sick, the convalescing, and the bereaved. They can also serve on the Transportation Team to furnish transportation to church events for parishioners who do not drive. In addition, they can be on the Reception Team, which hosts receptions in the Parish Hall for bereaved families following funerals, for the Bishop’s annual visit, and for occasional unique events. External service projects include adopting a HALOS kindred foster care family for Christmas and supporting Pack a Purse, a ministry for local women in need.

- *Invitation to the Jesus Life: Experiments in Christlikeness* by Jan Johnson
- *Summoned: Answering a Call to the Impossible (a study of Esther)* by Megan Brown
- *Jesus and Women* by Kristi McLelland
- *Risky Faith: Becoming Brave Enough to Trust the God Who is Bigger Than Your World* by Susan Yates

As of this writing, 12 Bloom Groups have formed and are meeting on a regular basis.

In addition to praying in small Bloom Groups, women have an opportunity to engage in a prayer ministry by opting into a confidential Bloom E-Prayer Chain and/or joining a group dedicated to praying in person for the Bloom ministry at Christ Church, as well as for other people and ministries the Spirit brings to mind.

We have been blessed by a sparkling array of speakers at our 4th Monday gatherings, with an average attendance of 80. Our kick-off dinner in September featured Allison Lawrence, wife of former Bishop Mark Lawrence, who deeply moved us with a talk on “Being the Aroma of Christ.” In October, The Rev. Henrietta Rivers, Porter-Gaud Middle School Chaplain and Transitional Deacon at St.

John’s Chapel on the East Side of Charleston, inspired us with a rousing talk on “We Are One Body in Christ.” We were so happy that Henrietta and sisters from St. John’s Chapel joined us in both September and October.

In January we welcomed Susan Yates, internationally acclaimed author and speaker on marriage, family, and women’s issues. Susan did a magnificent job holding up how God is so much bigger than any of our trials at any stage in life.

Anne Kennedy, Anglican author, blogger, wife of the Rev. Matt Kennedy of The Anglican Church of the Good Shepherd in Binghamton, NY and mother of six, spoke to us in March. She emphasized God’s faithfulness



and church property to the Episcopal Church.

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Just for fun, we hosted a parish-wide harbor cruise in April, and our final gathering before we break for the summer will be a table decorating supper in May.

All praise and glory to God for launching this new season among women at Christ Church. Women of all ages and generations are invited, from high school and college-aged students to our 90-something saints!

“They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God. They still bring forth fruit in old age, they are ever full of sap and green, to show that the Lord is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.” Psalm 92:13-15

New Teachers and New Courses for Hope Scholars Academy

Hope Scholars Academy, a Christian high school in the Charleston area has added two faculty and new electives to its curriculum.

“As our school grows, we are expanding our offerings with electives in engineering, art appreciation and painting along with sport skills and intramural athletics.” Anna Goodwin Smith, Head of Schools, said. “I am so excited to welcome our new teachers and add these courses to our college preparatory core curriculum in Bible, world view, science,

math, history, classic literature and languages,” she added.

Stacy Behlmer will teach Engineering 101. Mr. Behlmer is a twenty-year veteran in IT and a certified Robotics Master. He helped create and co-coach a Robotics/Lego league in Messiah Lutheran School, Eau Claire Wisconsin for six years. In Engineering 101, students will design, test, and build machines as a part of the Citadel engineering challenge. They will use computer aided design (CAD) to design a trebuchet,

3D printers to print models and then work together in teams to build a life-size working catapult.

Jay Bruner, Head Coach for College of Charleston tennis, will lead a sports skills and intramural program for the school. Coach Bruner is a graduate of Virginia Tech where he co-captained the tennis team in his junior and senior year. He has served as head coach of the College of Charleston men’s tennis team for 15 seasons.

The Art and Painting course

will offer hands on experience combined with the study of art history and artists. Students will learn a variety of painting techniques including the use of acrylics and oils and study old masters who pioneered work in perspective, frescoes and oils.

Hope Scholars Academy, is a University-Model Christian high school that opened last fall in Park Circle. Anna Goodwin Smith, Head of School, said, “We offer a hybrid private/home-school college prepa-

ratory education that partners with parents to raise the next generation of strong Christian leaders. We teach to the heart of our students while preparing their minds for academic achievement and their hands for service to others.”

Hope Scholars Academy, located at 1059 Crawford Street, hosts Open Houses and Shadow Days. Learn more by visiting hopescholarsacademy.org or contact Anna Goodwin Smith at anna@hopescholarsacademy.org.

“Packages of Care” for College Students

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



JENNIFER DRURY

The Church of the Cross youth assembled nearly 50 care packages that were mailed individually to our college-age men and women who have grown up connected to our church.

Taken From the e-news of The Church of the Cross, Bluffton

Recently Tim Edwards, Jennifer Drury, and The Church of the Cross Youth assembled nearly 50 care packages that were mailed individually to our college-age men and women who have grown up connected to our church. These boxes were stuffed with gift cards, goodies, handwritten letters, and most of all love to say that we care. It was only possible because of gifts given by parishioners and the Rector’s Discretionary fund. We have now received countless emails, texts, and even phone calls saying how much these boxes have meant. Below is one such text I received:

“I picked up the mysterious package today and read who it was from and instantly shed a tear ... I have prayed time and time this semester, and I’ve asked for these signs to keep me on the track of God, and little did I know one would show up as a package. This means so much more to me than you know, and I thank God for you never forgetting about me.”

Thank you, church, for supporting ministries like this, and most of all the people behind them that make it happen.

St. Paul’s Tea Room and Gift Shop Nets \$66K – “To Him be the Glory!”

By Susan Haynes and Vicki Harlan, St. Paul’s Church, Summerville

St. Paul’s Anglican Church in Summerville was thrilled to host our 17th Tea Room and Gift Shop March 14-18 and 21-25. After much prayer and listening, the Tea Room leadership felt God directing us to move forward with our Tea Room 2022. Our options were to offer our Traditional Tea Room and Gift Shop to our community as we had in the past or to offer take-out only with our Gift Shop. We decided we would let our parishioners decide based on whether we could recruit enough volunteers to host a traditional Tea Room. We continued our prayers and set a deadline of February 11 to recruit the 100+ volunteers it takes to run the Tea Room. What a response! By February 11th we had over 90% of the needed volunteers signed up! God is so good!

It has been said that the St. Paul’s Tea Room and Gift Shop runs like a well-oiled machine. We had not had a traditional Tea Room in three years. Our machine was rusty! We began work in earnest and by March 14 we were ready to open our doors to our parishioners, community and friends from afar.

What an amazing two weeks we had loving and serving God and our neighbors! Veteran volunteers and many new recruits, including students from Trinity Classical Academy, renewed friendships and made new friends. Our community came in large numbers to eat and shop and most of all to enjoy fellowship with one another.



LISA GREENSLIT

Over the two weeks our kitchen staff cooked 350 pounds of chicken salad, 350 pounds of shrimp salad, 400 tomato pies, 38 gallons of she crab soup and 500 club sandwiches as well as other menu items.

Over the two weeks our kitchen staff cooked 350 pounds of chicken salad, 350 pounds of shrimp salad, 400 tomato pies, 38 gallons of she crab soup and 500 club sandwiches as well as other menu items. Our huge support staff served in many roles from getting the cars parked to serving, cleanup, etc. Our parishioners and friends brought homemade desserts to tempt the approximately 3,000 guests we served in the dining room and 900 who picked up take-out meals.

The St. Paul’s Gift Shop did not disappoint! Beautiful handmade items, attic treasures and plants were sold to many lucky guests.

Our goal each year for the Tea Room and Gift Shop is to love and serve our Lord and our neighbors near and far. This year we raised \$89,058. The net proceeds were \$66,583! All of this will be distributed to outreach ministries locally, nationally, and internationally. This could not have been possible without our amazing team of volunteers, our church leadership and staff and our community who came to dine and shop. THANK YOU!

Most importantly we give thanks to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for walking with us every day and reminding us once again that with Him all things are possible. To Him be the glory!

Celtic Advent Retreat: December 2022

Caught Up in Love: Celtic Prayer and Wisdom as We Wait, Watch, and Walk

The Prayer Center at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center is partnering with the Community of Aidan and Hilda USA to host a Celtic Advent Retreat December 2-4, 2022. The Community of Aidan and Hilda USA is a dispersed ecumenical Christian community of committed members, explorers, and friends who espouse a common way of life inspired by the Celtic

will lead our Advent retreat. He serves as one of the UK Guardians (Leaders of the Community) and is Vicar of Church of the Ascension, Ealing, and St. Mary’s, West Twyford, on the west side of London. Simon is the author of two books: *Creating Community* and *Followers of the Way*, both available on Amazon. He also contributed to *Celtic Prayer – Caught Up in Love*, a recently published compendium on the many forms of Celtic prayer.

The cost for the retreat is \$355 for a single room (limited availability) and \$305 per person for a double room (2 beds). These fees cover lodging, meals (Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast), and all program costs. Those who choose to join by Zoom will have access to presentations given and could form a discussion group online.

The cost for joining online will be \$100 per person to cover program costs. Some who join via Zoom could gather regionally in person to share a communal retreat experience. We invite you to consider a contribution toward scholarships if you are able. Others in need of assistance may request a partial scholarship. Visit <https://stchristopher.org/> and a registration form is located under The Prayer Center tab. A deposit of \$100 per person is required to reserve a space on campus. For more information, contact Sandi Kerner, US Guardian, at skerner@stchristopher.org.



saints whose communities evangelized and cared for creation and those on the margins of society, giving witness to Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. For more information, visit <https://aidanandhilda.wordpress.com/>. This Community was founded in the UK in 1994 and has spread worldwide to North America, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, and several Scandinavian countries. Some of the original founders include authors and speakers such as the Rev’d Ray Simpson, Russ Parker, and Michael Mitton.

All are welcome to attend the retreat in person or on Zoom. The Rev’d Simon Reed

SC Assembly of the Order of the DOK Holds Annual Spring Retreat

By Dawn Schaeperkoetter, St. Paul’s Anglican, Summerville

Over the weekend of March 18-20, 2022, the South Carolina Assembly of the Order of the Daughters of the King met at St. Christopher Camp and Conference Center for a spirit-filled weekend of worship, fellowship, and rejuvenation during their annual spring retreat. The Rev. Henrietta Rivers was the speaker for the retreat, teaching on “Our Hope in Christ.” Representatives from 1885 Designs, Education=Hope, and Magdalene House were also in attendance.

Drawing from passages in the books of Nehemiah and Joshua, Henrietta began building her message about God always being present with us and protecting us, as He did with the Jews when entering and returning to the Holy Land. God made a way for them, and He’ll make a way for us, too. We are to remember that as Jesus is the salt of the earth and the light of the world, so are His followers called to be, and we do so by staying close to Him. Rivers also provided the women with some practical principles to follow and apply. The teaching was quite uplifting.

Henrietta brought two dozen women from her church, St. John’s Chapel, with her to the retreat. She said “St. John’s has been a bit isolated and is happy to be in fellowship with others. Invitations are being accepted to be in fellowship with other believers, and seeing the women integrate in the body of all believers” has been positive. By the end of the



DANA HENRY

retreat, all the attendees were intermingling, making new friends, and establishing contacts to maintain the fellowship. As shown in the photograph, the SC DOK became one large group of Christian women in accord with one another.

Burwell Thank You

Continued from Page 12

“Every time I think of you, I thank my God. (1:3 CEV) and “You have a special place in my heart.” (1:7a CEV) And you do. Thank you. Thank you so very much! Above all, I thank our Lord God. Because of the early detection that He allowed for me as well as His provision of incredibly gifted physicians and nurses and assistants to work on me. If it is His will, I’m looking forward to quite a few more years of ministry ahead. God gives us far more than we’ll ever know. And for that, I will always say, Thanks Be to God!”

St. Philip's Choir Prepares for Residency in London

Preview their Evensong Music June 5

By Patricia Gould, Organist and Choirmaster, Emeritus, St. Philip's, Charleston

The St. Philip's Choir is extra busy these days as we prepare for a one-week residency at St. Paul's Cathedral in London August 15-21. While in London, the choir plans to rehearse each afternoon and sing Evensong at 5 p.m. in the cathedral. On Sunday, we sing the morning Eucharist service at 11:15, followed by Evensong that afternoon at 3:15.

As of today, 37 singers and another 39 supporters are traveling to London. We will spend mornings touring some of the magnificent sights, then report to rehearsal in early to mid-afternoon. Thankfully, Saturday is a day off!

Our final Evensong offering prior to the trip is Sunday, June 5 at 5 p.m. Please join us at 142 Church Street, Charleston. Music will include that of Dawson, Crosby, Dyson, Stanford, Gounod and Talbot.

Jubilate Deo

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St. Paul's, Summerville, Sets Up The Ebenezer Scrooge Fund To Assist with Adoption Fees

The Anglicans for Life Zoe Chapter at St. Paul's, Summerville is happy to announce that interest-free loans are available for Christian families seeking to adopt children through the Ebenezer Scrooge Fund. The funds can be used to help cover adoption application fees, home studies, court costs, and/or unexpected expenses that may come along during the adoption process. The fund was established in 2019, but due to pandemic delays was only recently activated and made available to families seeking to adopt.

The Ebenezer Scrooge fund was established with proceeds and donations in December of 2019 when St. Paul's hosted a performance of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol by local professional storyteller Tim Lowry. Tim has been touring the country with this one-man show for many years and often attaches a charity to his annual performance tour. On this particular occasion, in keeping with Charles Dickens' love and concern for orphaned children, and in celebration of his 127th show (the same number of performances as Charles Dickens himself) Tim donated his talents, the church sold advance tickets, and also passed the hat after the show. Over \$8,000 was collected.

The Anglicans for Life Zoe Chapter (<https://stpaulsummerville.org/anglicans-for-life/>) named the fund for Ebenezer



The Lowry family

Scrooge as a way of celebrating the fact that in the story Scrooge has a great change of heart toward the poor, particularly where their "right to life" is concerned. In fact, the Ghost of Christmas Present exclaims "Will you decide what men shall live, what men shall die? It may be, that in the sight of Heaven, you are more worthless and less fit to live than millions like this poor man's child. Oh God! To hear the insect on the leaf pronouncing on the too much life among his brothers in the dust!" Strong words that might be pronounced from the pulpit during a Right To Life Sunday sermon! But for the grace of God, any of us would have the same callous heart and uncaring attitude as Ebenezer Scrooge once had.

Like the reformed Mr. Scrooge who vowed to "keep Christmas in his heart all the year," the Zoe Chapter is not satisfied with just a single effort, but plans to continue fundraising. To that end, interested parties can contact Storyteller Tim Lowry (www.storytellertimlowry.com or 843-324-1366) for more information on fundraising efforts and/or information on adopting children. Tim and his wife have two adopted daughters and are always happy to share their adoption stories with others.

If you are seeking to adopt and would like to apply for an interest-free loan, please contact ABBA Fund, the non-profit organization that administers the Ebenezer Scrooge Fund. ABBA Fund (<https://abbafund.org>) has provided over \$9.5M in adoption assistance since 2004 and stewards more than \$2.5M in funds for interest-free adoption loans, 100+ church partnerships, hundreds of individual families and friends, a network of 1,000+ Christian adoptive families, and multiple channels of resources and relationships — all focused on providing adoption assistance for Christian families, and ensuring that orphans are being cared for in loving, nurturing Christian family environments.

"Cursillo . . . Had An Incredible Impact on our Marriage, Our Children, Our Faith"

Encounter the Risen Lord in a refreshing way: Consider Cursillo

By The Rev. Rags Cox, Rector, St. Matthew's Darlington

Years ago my wife, Suiter and I attended Cursillo 141 and it had an incredible impact on our marriage, our children, and our faith," says the Rev. Rags Cox, Rector of St. Matthew's, Darlington. "We met others who shared our experience from all around the Diocese who we now keep up with regularly. More importantly, we fell in love with Jesus and returned to our church home ready to continue our journey with Christ and our people with enthusiasm. What a refreshment to find not only what but Who had been missing in our lives!

If you ever wanted to discover something new about yourself and encounter the Risen Lord in a refreshing way, consider Cursillo. Don't just take my word for it, listen to Bishop Mark Lawrence's powerful testimony here: <https://adosc.org/ministries-and-departments/cursillo/>



TIM WILLOUGHBY

"My life was changed by cursillo in many ways ..." says the Rev. Rags Cox. "That's the kind of effect Cursillo can have. I went from not knowing what to expect with Cursillo - to loving it."

Since that first Cursillo I've been involved serving on team three or four times and once ordained I served as a spiritual advisor. Most recently I served as the spiritual advisor when our diocese was electing our new Bishop.

My life was changed by cursillo in many ways - as a parent and husband. That's the kind of effect Cursillo can have. I went from not knowing what to expect with Cursillo - to loving it.

There are times when we know there is more to our faith life than what we see. Perhaps this is your time to step out and into an experience like nothing you thought possible. What God has in store for you, no one can ever put into words. You have to go there with Him. Maybe this is your time! I would be thrilled to talk to you about Cursillo. Until then, may His blessings and peace be upon you always! Learn more at <https://adosc.org/ministries-and-departments/cursillo/>

"My Goal for Next Mondo is to Have a Van Full of Friends... Come With Me"

Hi, my name is Jocey Seben and I went to Mondo 2021. Mondo is a middle school retreat at Camp St. Christopher on Seabrook Island. It's a time where middle schoolers can get together to play games, meet new people, and attend various seminars to grow their relationship with God. This year, I went with Ruth Russell and Tessa Christensen (from Old St. Andrews). At Mondo, I learned about hope and trusting God. We would start the day with breakfast and Chapel and the Birdsongs, a family band, would perform. Teams of different



colors would then gather and compete against each other. After that, a speaker would come up on stage and speak. Mr. Taylor Daniel, the youth pastor at St. Michael's, talked about Psalm 136 which, I learned, summarizes our Christian story. My favorite seminar was called the Trust-o-meter 5000. This seminar showed how important it is to trust God. We played multiple games, like tug-a-war, dodgeball, wiffle ball, and many more. My goal for next Mondo is to have a van full of friends from Good Shepherd to come with me!

Upcoming Events

View full calendar at adosc.org/events/

- Diocesan Council, May 19
- Clergy Family Picnic, May 30
- Doran Institution, June 1
- Women's Peace Retreat, June 3-4
- Cursillo #190, July 14-17, 2022
- Summer Camp Staff Regatta, July 23
- Jubilate Deo Deadline, July 15
- Intercessory Day of Prayer, August 13
- Diocesan Council, September 15
- New Wineskins for Global Mission, Sept. 22-25
- Cursillo #191, October 13-16, 2022
- Mondo (Middle School Weekend), Oct. 14-16
- Men's Summit, October 15
- Anglican Women's Retreat, October 21-23
- Behold the Man, Pilgrimage Oct. 22-Nov. 4
- Jubilate Deo Deadline, November 4
- Intercessory Day of Prayer, November 5
- Regenerate (High School Weekend), Nov. 18-20
- Diocesan Council, December 15

Announcing Fall Youth Events!

Our fall events this year will focus on "Conversations with Jesus". This theme will allow students to experience a creative approach to the scriptures, discover how Jesus' teaching is relevant to issues today, and learn how we can best interact with others.

Mondo
(for middle school groups) will be October 14-16.

Regenerate
(for high school groups) will be November 18-20.

Both are expected to take place at St. Christopher.

Speakers and music will be announced in the near future.