

Jubilate Deo

The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

Fall 2025

Thrive Together

Bishop Edgar Launches New Initiative to Support Our Smallest Congregations

By Joy Hunter, Editor

This October, Bishop Edgar is launching the Thrive Together initiative, a program in which he will invite every family (whatever size) to contribute \$100 to ensure the thriving of every congregation in the diocese. “Most of our families, even single people, could afford to make a \$100 donation in a given year,” he said.

When asked what sparked the idea, he mentioned the Builders for Christ campaign, an annual appeal started years ago by Bishop Ed Salmon. That initiative focused initially on raising funds to recruit youth ministers and provide capital for churches engaged in building expansion and renovation.

This new initiative focuses in these first years on providing support to some of our smallest congregations.

“While having a full-time rector doesn’t ensure that a church will thrive,” said Bishop Edgar, “not having a full-time rector certainly makes it that much more difficult. One of my goals for Thrive Together is for the Diocese, as a whole, to come together alongside our smaller congregations, particularly the ones that can’t afford a full-time priest, and help them do that.

“We’re unique as a diocese in the ACNA,” (Anglican Church in North America) he said. “The vast majority of the ACNA is made up of new church plants. I’d say 80% are less than 15 years old.

“Not so with our diocese. When I visit a church that’s been a part of the community for more than 100, 200 or even 300 years, the thought of that church not being an active



presence for the gospel in that community grieves me. I detest the thought of a church – whose grounds and buildings have been hallowed by the worship of generations of Christians – disappearing.”

The Bishop does not believe a church has to be big to thrive. “The size of a congregation is not the best determiner of health,” he said. “Authentic worship, the proclamation of the Gospel and an outward focus” are three things he highlights when evaluating church health. “I’ve seen some amazing ministry in our smaller congregations.”

His concern is more about sustainability. “We have a number of churches that rely on the pastoral and sacramental preaching ministry of a retired priest who lives nearby,” he said. “That situation might be fine for now. But my question to the congregation is, ‘What comes next? Are you confident that when that retired priest is no longer willing or able to serve, another retired priest will live nearby?’ The system works for now, but it’s not sustainable.

“When people talk about helping smaller, struggling congregations, two words are bandied about,” he adds. “One is revitalization, and the other is replanting. Most acknowledge that if a church is in the position where it needs revitalizing or replanting, it likely doesn’t have the resources to do that on its own. It may be a larger, stronger, healthier parish would choose to come alongside another parish to help it. But that’s also one of the things a diocese can do. We’ve got folks who are excellent in terms of revitalizing and re-

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Surprised, Challenged, Moved by New Wineskins for Global Mission Conference

By Brett Kucera, Prince George Winyah Anglican Church, Georgetown



JOY HUNTER

Members of St. Philip’s Church, Charleston join with 1,500 others worshipping at the closing service of Holy Eucharist during the conference on Saturday, September 20, 2025.

“Go where God leads”

The Society of Anglican Missionaries and Senders, or SAMS, has a slogan: “Go where God leads.” As for me, my wife Sherry Kucera, and our church’s mission and outreach committee chair, Anne Hill, God led us to the 2025 New Wineskins for Global Mission Conference. Despite having served on six mission teams over the last four years,

I’m ashamed to say that until this weekend, I thought SAMS was an RV owners club. As a newly commissioned youth minister, I’m finding there’s seemingly no end to what I don’t know. Gratefully, God led me to the right place. Amen! I was blessed to learn many more wonderful and life-changing things over three days in Black Mountain, NC at the Ridgcrest Conference Center.

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No “Fleeting Mountain Top”

Recent Cursillo Results in Permanent Change

By Christy Kohnle, Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant

Those of us who have been Christians for a while may—imperceptibly, over time—reach the point where we think we’ve heard it all. We’ve heard so many sermons about the woman at the well, the good Samaritan, and the prodigal son that we could preach a three-point sermon on any of them ourselves. Bible passages which were once fresh have, over our lifetime, become familiar and stale.

That’s where I was.

I was in the midst of my “dry season” when my husband, Tony, and I were invited to attend a Cursillo weekend at Church of the Holy Comforter in Sumter. I didn’t know what to expect. I assumed that—as was the case with other retreats I had attended in the past—it would be a time to get away for a spiritual reboot, which would likely include

some sort of short-lived “mountaintop experience.” But, as fleeting as those experiences had been in the past, I knew that, over the previous months, my spiritual fire had dimmed, and I had even become a bit cynical. I was ready for another mountaintop experience.

I have been told I have a “Type A+” personality. But the need to do things well and get things right was, in large part, driven by an addiction to people-pleasing. Over the years, it caused so much unnecessary stress in my life, and I found myself doing many things not out of joyful service, but out of the compulsion to rise to others’ expectations. And there was another painful side to that people-pleasing coin: I had let others’ opinions keep me from doing the thing I knew God was

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The Rev. Mary Ellen Doran Elected President of the Standing Committee

At the September meeting of the ADOSC Standing Committee, the Rev. Mary Ellen Doran was elected to serve as President of the Standing Committee. Doran is presently the rector of Trinity Church Pinopolis, having previously served as the rector of St. David’s, Cheraw and is in her third year on the Standing Committee. She is a graduate of Trinity Anglican Seminary, after serving in multiple lay ministry capacities at St. James Anglican in Charleston. Doran was elected to serve as President following the resignation from the Standing Committee by the Rev. David Booman (Holy Comforter, Sumter). The Rev. Jeremy Shelton continues as the Vice-president. The Standing Committee has authority under the canons to fill the vacancy for the remaining six months of Booman’s term. The current members of the Standing Committee are: The Rev.



JOY HUNTER

Mary Ellen Doran, 2026 President (2025-2026), Mr. Bobby Kilgo, 2026, Mr. Terry Jenkins, 2026, The Rev. Bill Clarkson, 2027, The Rev. Jeremy Shelton, 2027 Vice-President (2025), Mr. Bob Kunes 2027, Secretary (2025), Mrs. Shirley Wiggins, 2027, The Rev. Corey Prescott, 2028, The Rev. Jamie Sosnowski, 2028, Mrs. Lindsay Dew, 2028 and Mr. Ben Dixon, 2028.

Nominations Sought for Upcoming Diocesan Elections

Each year at Diocesan Convention, our Diocese elects members of our parishes (clergy and lay) to fill various leadership positions. These include those serving on the Standing Committee, the Diocesan Council, our Ecclesiastical Court and (as in this year) representatives to the Provincial Assembly of the ACNA. All are important. And all reflect the nature of the Body of Christ. To function faithfully and effectively, the church depends upon all its members, exercising all their gifts, together.

In November, the nominations process for the next elections (at Convention, March 14, 2026) will formally be opened and there will be a general invitation to all in the Diocese to participate in that process. In preparation for that work,

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New Wineskins *Continued from page 1*



Though all 130 attendees aren't pictured, the ADOSC had one of the largest group of attendees at the recent New Wineskins conference. The Gulf Atlantic beat us with 144!

As missionaries, Sherry and I have been to Kenya four times, once to the Abacos, Bahamas, and once to the area of this very conference, helping Hurricane Helene survivors in Burnsville, NC. This November, we're traveling to Antigua to worship with the Rev. Raliville Christian, who was one of the Anglican clergy in attendance at New Wineskins, to visit his parish, play music, and to fellowship with his youth ministry. What was remarkable about this gathering of missionaries and senders, was that just like studying the Bible, no matter how much or little you know or have experienced, God will meet you at your level, and continually draw you deeper.

"Well, well, well..."

In a room with 1,500 Christians representing more than 60 countries, (and more of God's creatures wearing collars than the Westminster Dog Show) the Holy Spirit's presence was palpable at every moment, and in every corner of this holy mountainside. New Wineskins was astonishingly well planned, well organized, and well executed. The music was phenomenal and deeply moving. Emcee and executive director Jenny Noyes is charming, funny, energetic, and exactly where God has led her. The great commission from Matthew 28:19-20 coursed through every moment of this gathering. I found it exhilarating that scripture was foundational to each and every speaker's presentation—even in a theologically sound homily from child preacher Daniel Booman (who is from our own Diocese). Being a grade-school music teacher, I've wit-

nessed countless standing ovations for child performers from well-meaning parents, but I can honestly report that no 11-year-old since Mozart has better deserved his standing ovation than Daniel!

"I have you right where I want you."

In one of many profoundly moving testimonies, the Rev. Dr. Akua B. Ofori-Boateng of Ghana, confessed that she had lived a life craving acclamation. Having reached spectacular levels of human achievement, and an insatiable desire for more, she was ultimately surprised to find her worldly success unfulfilling. Only in surrendering her will to God has she found rest. This deeply resonated with me. I've been a professional musician my entire life and spent 30 years away from organized religion until COVID-19 shuttered my entertainment business, thereby shattering the illusion that success was the result of me being smart and working hard. My life is nothing I have done. It's a gift from our loving God. After handing over management of my life and career to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, seeking repentance, and asking God for the strength to be humbly obedient and to go where He sends, I'm grateful to have been warmly greeted as the prodigal by the Father, who ran to meet me. Today, I know the only thing worse than organized religion is unorganized religion. But does this mean I should abandon my platform as a secular artist

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Young ADOSC Preacher Gives Penultimate Address at New Wineskins

Daniel Booman, age 11, gave the following sermon on Saturday, September 20, 2025 to a gathering of 1,500 worshippers during the closing service of Holy Eucharist at the New Wineskins for Global Mission Conference, held at the Ridgecrest Conference Center in Black Mountain, NC. He spoke just prior to the Archbishop.

Hello, my name is Daniel Booman, and I'm from the Church of the Holy Comforter in Sumter, South Carolina. My dad is a pastor. My mom homeschools my siblings and me, and I have two brothers, Micah and Ezra, and one sister, Eva. I have two chubby orange cats who look like basketballs, and one skinny gray cat who looks more like a weasel, and also a hedgehog who hisses like a cat. So, we really like cats who look like other things and hedgehogs who act like cats.

I got to talk to the kids' group at the last New Wineskins, and Ms. Jenny Noyes asked if I would come share about our theme verse for this conference, Matthew 12:21: "In his name, the nations will put their hope."

The first thing I noticed when I read this verse in my Bible was the footnote connecting these verses to Isaiah, who wrote them first. In Isaiah, I saw some differences that I thought were interesting. One difference, most obviously, is that the last line that Matthew writes in verse 21, "In his name, the nations will put their hope," is not even in the Isaiah passage. Why did Matthew write that verse?

Matthew might have put that verse in because the Gentiles would probably have felt excluded from hoping in Jesus, because before that time, only the Jews were promised a savior they could hope in. Matthew wanted everybody to know that anybody can now



"We can show the world what it is like to be loved like a child of God," said Booman, age 11, during his sermon. "We can bring hope to the nations."

hope for a savior, not just the Jews, because feeling excluded is a terrible feeling.

When I was about six years old, when we played outside after lunch at school, I always wanted to play with this kid named Tim, who was a lot older than me. He was so awesome. I often followed him around and asked him to play with me, but he always wanted to play with his friends who were his age. He was a nice kid, and he tried to include me sometimes, but I usually couldn't keep up with him. I couldn't make myself older than I was. And in the same way, before Jesus came, the Gentiles couldn't be a part of the group. They couldn't have a relationship with God, no matter what they did in their own strength. Imagine the Gentiles suddenly being welcomed into a family that they couldn't get into by any powers of their own. It probably

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Three Churches Join in Kenya Mission Trip

By Betsy Shelton, St. Paul's Anglican Church, Summerville

Did you ever wonder what it means "to make a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland?" One translation states that God will provide a solution, guidance, and hope in seemingly impossible circumstances, sustaining believers and guiding them despite barren and difficult circumstances. God often uses His people to provide streams of hope so that life can emerge from places of dryness and despair.

In June 2025, 28 missionaries from St. Paul's Anglican in Summerville, Prince George Winyah in Georgetown, and the Parish Church at Habersham in Beaufort traveled to Kenya to offer hope and encouragement to our brothers and sisters in Christ within the Diocese of Maseno South.

Life in Kenya is not easy, with much poverty, unemployment, and disease. Team members spent their days either building mud-brick houses for four families in several villages around Kisumu or providing a variety of medical services to over 1,700 Kenyans, some of whom had walked long hours and many miles for treatment, at two parish camp sites. Where there was little hope for adequate shelter, a family of six now has a new home with a tin roof, windows, and doors to ward off the elements.

Where there was illness, there is now hope of recovery and a pathway to victory. "When God calls you to step out on faith,



Above, Josh Wills, who serves as the Youth Minister at St. Paul's Anglican Church, prays with ACK Missions Director Oscar Otieno at the blessing of a new home in the village.

he blesses you beyond measure," said Tracy Morris about working at a tent pharmacy filling prescriptions. The dryness and despair of these impoverished communities were replaced with smiling faces, grateful hearts, and joyful spirits.

Our days were packed from early morning to late into the evening as we too enjoyed the fruits of the Spirit in service to the Lord. In addition to construction and medical care, the team provided nearly 800 children with a vibrant, activity-filled day at two different VBS camps. Snacks and craft supplies were

consumed in no time and to see the children grinning from ear to ear was truly the "icing on the cake."

Other highlights included a visit to the Huma Girls Secondary School, a diocesan boarding school for young girls who greeted us with songs and broad smiles. The Very Rev. Gary Beson, Rector of Prince George Winyah led the dedication of the school's new multi-purpose room built by funds from his parish; attending Sunday worship services at various local churches where several team members were the guest preachers; and experiencing a special dance recital by the students at the Maseno School for the Deaf (yes, deaf students doing complex dance routines to the beat of the music- awesome!).

Prior to the team's arrival, six team members conducted a Grandparents' Ministry workshop for both clergy and laity at St. Stephen's Cathedral located in the heart of Kisumu. This workshop was heartily embraced by all and especially by Bishop Charles Ong'injo who has created a task force to implement this ministry throughout the diocese. A GrandCamp is now being planned for August 2026. (See article on pg. 9)

And while we went to serve, as is so often the case in God's economy, it was we who received more than we could possibly give. No better example of service done in the love of Christ was the incredible work done by The Mothers' Union. This awesome group of women has chapters throughout the diocese. They provided delicious meals and hot drinks for us wherever we went. They also provide funding for the establishment of Christian

primary schools and regularly sponsor events for women. We had the privilege of experiencing the morning flag raising and biblical recitation ceremony at one of the schools as well as attending a portion of the Mothers' Union annual women's retreat. Their gift of hospitality was truly apparent in the love and care these women lavishly showered upon us wherever we went.

This story would be incomplete without an acknowledgement of gratitude and thanksgiving for the amazing extent of Kenyan hospitality. First, after 17 plus hours of travel, we were met late in the night at the Kisumu airport by Bishop Charles and a joyous group of diocesan staff members along with Fr. Fred Ochieng Onyango's family. (Fred is from the area and now serves as Priest Associate for Mission and Outreach at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Summerville.) Their welcoming smiles and bigger-than-life hugs dissipated our travel fatigue in a nanosecond.

Second, we each were assigned a diocesan member who daily welcomed us and came alongside to cheerfully look after our every need, be it ensuring we had a water bottle or carrying our day bag or answering our multitude of questions, to even negotiating on our behalf in the marketplaces. Lifelong friendships were made in short order, and the bonds of love continue to grow even now. For returning missionaries, the trip provided a deepening of relationships that were already established... "like coming home to my home away from home to be with my Kenyan family,

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The Long Way Home: A Journey from Baptist Roots to the Anglican Way

By The Rev. Phillip Wilson, St. Paul's Anglican Church, Summerville

It feels like just yesterday I stepped into an Anglican church for the first time—St. Michael's in downtown Charleston, 2007. What began as an attempt to impress my now wife turned into the beginning of a long and beautiful journey down the Canterbury Trail. But for me, it wasn't just a walk, it was the long way home.

My story doesn't begin there, though. I was six years old, sitting in a pew at the Southern Baptist church in which I grew up, watching our annual Easter passion play. I was captivated by the drama playing out before me, watching Jesus suffer, die, and rise again. That night, I walked down the aisle and gave my life to Jesus. Ironically, the mystery that first drew me to Jesus is now the very mystery I proclaim each week at the Table: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

However, "mystery" isn't how I would have described my early faith. I had a rich and faithful upbringing—Bible drills, Sunday School, and genuine community. I learned to love Scripture and was supported through hard seasons, including my parents' divorce and my grandfather's death. That Baptist church nurtured my faith and affirmed my call to ministry, eventually sending me to Charleston Southern University.



JOY HUNTER

A font just inside St. Paul's Anglican Church is filled with holy water for those choosing to bless themselves upon entering.

Fast forward to my college years, it was at CSU that my theological world expanded. I began reading Luther, Calvin, Wesley, Wright, et al. and I began seeing Scripture not just as a guidebook but as the living and active Word revealing Christ and His grace. I began to find myself drawn to a Reformed understanding of Scripture. I found myself, not just immersed in the narrative of Scripture, but adding in the beauties of tradition from the early church scholars and theologians. Through this, my soul began searching, praying, and watching for what God might be doing next.

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Taking to the Streets With Prayer

Teens Engage in Weekly Prayer Walks Through Downtown Beaufort

This past summer, Eliza Solomons, a rising senior at Anderson University who served as a summer intern at St. Helena's, Beaufort, invited members of their parish youth group to come together on Mondays at 8:30 a.m. for a prayer walk. She and I chatted about it. Come listen in. (Joy Hunter, Editor)

Who came up with the idea for a prayer walk?

I really wanted to do prayer walks with the high school girls because I thought it would be something they would enjoy. We have a great group of high schoolers here at St. Helena's who are really strong in their faith and love praying for each other and for others. I thought it would be a perfect opportunity for them to pray together and remind them they can always pray for people and their community. Prayer changes things.

Wonderful! And how did you choose which neighborhood to walk in?

I loved walking the downtown Point when I was in high school, and it's right next to where St. Helena's is. Our kids often hang out in the Church Street parking lot before and after youth group, so I thought they could park there and then we could walk down to this neighborhood in central downtown Beaufort. It's an easy place to walk. There are lots of tourists, and I thought it might spark some ideas for things they could pray about, for the community.



ELIZA SOLOMONS

We have a great group of high schoolers here at St. Helena's who are really strong in their faith and love praying for each other and for others," said Eliza. "I thought it would be a perfect opportunity for them to pray together and remind them they can always pray for people and their community."

Did you give them any guidance on how to pray or what to pray?

Each time before we started, I read them a psalm. Usually there's a theme with the psalm. It was usually a shorter psalm. And they would think about it as they were walking, so it could inspire what they prayed about. And then, of course, we prayed a lot for the community of Beaufort, because, while it's an awesome town, we're by the water. We see a lot of tourists, and a lot of different parts of worldly culture.

Before Water Festival, which is our biggest festival, we walked over the bridge, and they prayed for all the people who were going to be there during Water Festival. They prayed for their community. They prayed for the tourists who would be there and that, if they had a chance, they could interact with them. The next week, when they showed up, they were saying, "Oh! We prayed about meeting people, and we met people, and got to talk with them."

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The Right Question to Ask When Thinking "Church Planting"

By The Rev. Canon Todd Simonis, ADOSC Canon for Church Planting

I've got a wonderful job. I get to talk about church planting with individuals, with rectors and with people who are thinking about planting. I love the responsibility entrusted to me. One thing I've noticed, though, is when I meet with people and talk about church planting, there's often a lot of confusion about what church planting actually is. There are a lot of misconceptions about it. I want to bring a little bit of clarity about what church planting is, because when we understand that, we can back it up to make it really practical.

Church planting is not something you decide to do. Church planting is not another ministry of the church. It's not an initiative you take on.

Church planting is primarily an act of submission. It's less about starting something new and more about fulfilling who God has called every follower of Jesus Christ to be. So new churches are not the result of someone doing new practices. New churches are the result of people living with a new posture.

The number one question I get when we talk about planting is, "How?" How do you plant new churches? How do you pay for it? How do you find a location? How do you find another organizer? (We've had a hard enough time finding the one we have!)

When people begin with "how," they're actually confusing church planting with church replication. What I mean is — we have a church in mind (typically the church we go to) and our default is to ask, "How can we

replicate what we're doing here in a different location?"

What I want to suggest is that church planting is very different because it begins with a different question.

It's not "how?" It's "why?" Why do we do this? Does anyone reading this have a loved one in your life who does not know Jesus? Someone you have a burden for — wanting them to know Christ? If you do, you know what I mean.

That burden is why we plant churches.

We don't plant churches to have more churches. We don't plant churches to have a bigger Diocese. We plant churches because it's the most effective way of reaching nonbelievers with the gospel message. That has to be our motivation.

Church planting is not about my preferences. One of the things I do in my role as the Diocesan Canon for Church Planting is assess other people who feel they might be called to church planting.

One of the biggest traps someone may fall into when they think they're called to planting is that they get to create the church they've always wanted. They get to pull the "greatest hits" of every church experience they've ever had in the past, put it together, and then lead that church.

What I want to suggest is that church planting is not about preferences. It's just the opposite. Church planting is mostly about sacrifice. Church planting is about giving up

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Three Churches Visit Kenya

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who I know will always be there to welcome me into the fold," said Lynette Kelley.

Third, the food, oh the food! Everywhere we went we enjoyed copious amounts of food, drink, and genuine hospitality, whether it was lunch in a village or an evening of fellowship at the homes of various parishioners, including Fred and Sophie's beautiful new house. Mission work is often arduous with long days and short nights, all of which melt away when we remember the events of each day. As Lynette said, "one of the memories I won't forget was the long bus ride home from Fr. Fred's Kenyan home where we just sang for over an hour giving praise and thanks to God." Truly the memories of the hospitality, love, and friendship that our team enjoyed, both collectively and individually, will live on long after our tired muscles and sleep-deprived bodies have returned to some sense of normalcy.

Speaking of normalcy, anyone who has been on a mission trip will testify there is no "return to normalcy" upon returning home. After experiencing the joys of serving, the sweetness of receiving and the seeds of love planted in the hearts of all God's people, our lives will never be the same. On behalf of the entire team, we thank the Diocese of Maseno South for the opportunity to have been with you all and for changing our hearts and souls. We have been spiritually enriched beyond words. "This year's three-church mission trip to Kenya was the fruit of a couple of friendships that by God's grace have been multiplied and transformed into a larger-than-life partnership for both dioceses. What a joy it was to be poured out for the Lord," said the Very Rev. Gary Beson. We give glory to God for making this trip possible, for the work done and for the safe return of all.

Lastly, we want to give thanks to those of you who supported us on this trip, be it finan-



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One highlight of the trip was a visit to the Huma Girls Secondary School, a diocesan boarding school for young girls.

cially, with daily prayer covering, or providing supplies. Your generosity of money and time was much needed and joyfully received. You too were a vital part of this outreach mission. To those who could not join us this year, please prayerfully consider doing so next year. Even if you can't go physically, you can still be an important part of this ministry. I encourage you to ask the Lord how He might have you serve, whether it is being a prayer warrior for our missionaries, providing financial support to team members wishing to go but lacking the resources, or assisting with fundraising activities, collection of supplies and administrative tasks. There are many ways to serve our Lord in support of our Kenyan brothers and sisters. Won't you please consider joining us on our next trip?

Biggest Camp Jubilee Yet

By The Rev. Canon Ken Weldon, Executive Director, Camp Jubilee

Summer Camp Highlights

Camp Jubilee has completed its third summer of camp, and the Lord continues to reveal His faithfulness through this ministry. This past summer, our campers encountered Jesus as they examined the narrative of Lazarus being raised from the dead and Jesus’ own death and resurrection. Through both the teachings and relational ministry at camp we witnessed many campers being comforted by Christ’s love, repenting of their sins, being transformed by the Holy Spirit, and receiving the gospel for the first time. Set against the backdrop of God’s creation and the fun of hiking, swimming, kayaking, and simply celebrating the goodness of the Lord in genuine Christian community, Camp Jubilee continues to be a tremendous blessing to all. It is a joy to watch as Christ uses this ministry to bring His people closer to Himself and closer to each other.

The summer of 2025 was our biggest yet as we hosted 623 campers, led by a ministry team of 20 paid staff and 48 volunteer counselors and interns. We were almost at total capacity at our two temporary homes, Camp Kinard in Batesburg-Leesville, SC and Awanita Valley just north of Traveler’s Rest, SC. We did have a few openings for campers at a couple of our summer sessions, but we also had waiting lists for many at others. When the new Camp Jubilee property in Beaufort opens fully, we will be able to host 1,200 campers per summer, effectively doubling our capacity. Camp Jubilee is grateful for the hospitality and generosity of our two host



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sites as we continue in this “tabernacle season” of offering our summer camping program in temporary settings.

Camp Jubilee is not just a place of gathering but is also a place of sending. Each of our campers, staff, and counselors have intentionally been sent out from camp to be “salt” and “light” in their local communities. We are already seeing tangible fruit from this on many high school and college campuses, and we have been blessed to have five of our camp staff step into full-time ministry roles in the Diocese over the last 12 months. We invite you to continue to pray for the ministry of Camp Jubilee. We would ask you to pray for our programs, our staff and volunteers, and all our campers and their families. We trust that Jesus is going before us as we enter Phase II of our Capital Campaign to raise money to build all the necessary infrastructure and buildings needed to begin hosting summer camp and retreats on our new property. We would also like to invite you to come and visit your new camp property at any time.

Friends, the Lord continues to work in and through Camp Jubilee to reach his people with the gospel and to raise up the next generation of leaders for His Church! Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Camp Jubilee Updates

We are nearing completion of Phase I of the Capital Campaign (Property Acquisition), owing a remaining \$80K on mortgage for property. We’re moving into Phase II of Capital Campaign (Summer Camp Development). Camp Jubilee Trustees have hired Michael Sinkus as our Capital Campaign Consultant and we continue to meet with individual donors, churches, businesses, and foundations. We anticipate beginning Phase II fundraising this fall. We continue to work with Beaufort County for “Final Approval” of Site Plan.

Our Property Development Leadership Team includes: Jay Ham of Compass Rose Development (Project Supervisor), Ward Edwards Engineering (Civil Engineers), Newkirk Environmental (Docks), Allison Ramsay Architects (Architects), Witmer, Jones, Keefer (Landscape Architects) and Joe Ervin (Camp Jubilee Trustee – Construction Liaison).

Camp Jubilee Property Development Budget

As we move from property acquisition to property development, we will now begin Phase 2 of our Capital Campaign, raising funds for construction. The following are projected costs.

Total Site Work	\$2,825,000
Chapel Pavilion	\$1,350,000
Jubilee Hall	\$1,875,000
Welcome Center	\$1,050,000
Camper Cabins	\$2,880,000
6@ \$480,000	
Guest Cottages	\$2,340,000
6@ \$390,000	
Docks (2)	\$ 200,000
Pool & Pavilion	\$ 650,000
Rec. Field/Courts	\$ 350,000
Staff Houses	\$1,280,000
2@ \$640,000	

Daniel Booman Preaches

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would have been difficult to grasp after so many years of being excluded. So now they have a savior to hope in.

The second difference I noticed was that in Matthew 12, verse 18, “*he will proclaim justice to Gentiles.*” Isaiah had originally used the phrase, “*Bring justice.*” But Matthew wrote “*proclaim justice.*” So what’s the difference between bringing justice and proclaiming justice? I think Matthew was saying that Jesus would take God’s justice on himself on the cross instead of the Gentiles receiving the justice they deserved, because the idea of bringing justice to the Gentiles might make them feel scared. Normally, we think of justice as punishment. But if Jesus took the punishment so that the people could proclaim that good news to the Gentiles, then they could have hope in Jesus instead of feeling scared of the punishment. It took away that fear.

The idea of being scared of punishment made me think about a time when I rode my little brother’s scooter down our steep driveway. My parents told me not to ride it down the driveway, but I did it anyway. So I lost control and landed right on my front teeth. I had just grown in my nice adult teeth, by the way. So anyway, I chipped my tooth. My mom was so upset. I was so exhausted from the fall that I took a nap. When I woke up, I found my dad sitting on the side of my bed. What was he going to say? Would I be grounded forever? I deserved punishment, but mom and dad paid for the dentist to fix it and forgave me. It was such relief to know that my parents loved me and wanted to make sure I was okay.

Maybe the Gentiles needed that assurance, too. Seeing all of these connections between the Gentiles of the Bible in my own life, I can see that we are all meant to feel cared for by God because he was willing to send his chosen beloved son to save us. He gives us what he most loved to rescue us from our own sin and include us in his family. If he loved his own son so much and was willing to give him up, he must love us immensely. God wants to save us. He wants us to have hope in him, and he wants to have a relationship with us.

Lots of people who have grown up in other religions or cultures think that they are slaves to their God and that their work depends on making the right sacrifices or doing enough good works. But that’s what makes Christianity different. With our God, we are not slaves. We are children, all of us. And so if we have a relationship with the one true God, it’s up to us to tell the others who don’t know what it’s like to be loved by God instead of being a slave. We don’t have to be slaves to our fear of judgment or losing our relationship with God because he is including us to be a part of his family forever.

Even if people have heard about Jesus, they might not understand what this new relationship with him looks like because they are still thinking of themselves as slaves. We can show the world what it is like to be loved like a child of God. We can bring hope to the nations.

Will you pray with me? Dear God, please give us strength to tell people about you and your never-ending love. Please let us show them what it means to be a child of God. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

+++++

Following the standing ovation Daniel received, Archbishop Steve Wood joined him at the podium and, with his hand on Daniel’s shoulder, invited those gathered to extend their hands toward Daniel and pray for him. “Father, we thank you that before our eyes, the gospel transitions from one generation to the next. We thank you that in every generation you have raised up young men and young women to be your witnesses. We thank you today for Daniel. We thank you, Father, for your call upon his life. We pray that he would continue to grow in grace and favor and in knowledge and love of you and your son, Jesus Christ. We pray, Lord, that the work that you have begun in him would continue throughout the course of his life, that he might be your man in the appropriate time and season, and that he would be your witness in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, to the ends of the age and the world. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen. Well done!”

Teen Prayer Walk

Continued from page 3

It was so neat to see them pray about being a light in the community and then go out and actually be a light in the community.

Did they pray in small groups or was it all of you praying together?

So, it just depended on the week. The nice part about the layout of that downtown area is there are several spots good for tourist views. We’d stop about five or six times to pray. They would talk with their friends, of course. And think about what they wanted to pray about. When we’d get to a spot, we’d do some popcorn prayer. Or if somebody specifically said, “Hey, I really want to pray when we get there,” they’d pray for us as a group, and then we’d continue walking until we got to the next spot. It usually went on for about an hour.

Were all the kids comfortable praying out loud?

It depended on the person, but they do like to pray. Some prayers were shorter than others, but all prayers are powerful. It was really sweet watching as some of them, when they started, didn’t know if they wanted to pray and would definitely squeeze the hand of the person next to them. They’d be like, “You pray. I’m going to sit this one out.” But later, all the people who were showing up really consistently wanted to pray and were eager to pray for people they’d met and the week ahead. It was really special.

They’re pretty ready to pray. We have an awesome group here, and that’s because of Camden Windham, our youth minister. I’m just a summer intern. He’s done a great job. We have a leadership team. And a lot of those girls on the leadership team show up eager and ready to pray.

They prayed for the community. Did they also pray for their own needs?

Yes. They’d pray for each other, or whatever was on their hearts. What’s really special is a lot of times at the different spots, one girl would say, “I’ll start, or I want to lead” And then ask, “Hey, what can I pray for everybody in the circle about?”

It looked different every time, and it’s been really cool to see the girls bring different ideas to it. One week, we had a girl say, “Next week, we should pray ‘ACTS’ (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication) in all the different spots.”

If someone else wanted to do this, do you have any advice for them?

Just to do it. It’s awesome. I definitely prayed through what to bring to the girls and what scripture to use. When we started, I didn’t know if the scripture would have much of an effect on their prayers, but they really soak it in, and they usually pray something related to the psalm shared that morning. The scripture you’re feeding them makes such an impact on them and on their day.

I was nervous about giving them scripture at first, be-

cause the kids in this youth group, especially the ones that are showing up, are very biblically literate. They’re very “in” their Bibles. So I was thinking, I don’t know if they’ll want to read some random psalm. But they love it. They love hearing it, and they soak it in. They’ve made my job so easy. They show up ready to pray, and they want to ask questions. So, definitely bring scripture into it. There are a lot of things I could say, but because I’m a person, I can get it wrong. But I know the Lord’s never going to get it wrong.

Historic Properties Engage in Restoration

With property ownership disputes behind us, there has been a surge in restoration and repair work around the Diocese. The following images illustrate the exciting work in which three of our congregations are engaged.

The Cathedral of St. Luke & St. Paul, Charleston

Built on an old filled-in creek bed in the early 1800s, the Cathedral foundation has settled with the portico (or porch) settling toward Coming Street, and the rest of the building settling toward St Philip's Street. In addition, damage from the great earthquake of 1886 and lingering problems caused by the use of elastomeric paint after Hurricane Hugo have compounded the issues. The portico was heavy and crumbling. The construction team is fully deconstructing the pediment of the portico and reconstructing it using modern, stronger, lighter materials not available when the Cathedral building was originally constructed. They'll finish by ensuring the exterior is historically faithful to the original facade.



The Parish Church of Prince George Winyah, Georgetown

Prince George Winyah's church building was constructed in 1747. There have been additions since then, most notably the steeple clock tower and narthex that were added in 1824. There has been no systematic overhaul of the roof structure for 275 years. Through the centuries, the massive hand-cut timbers supporting the roof have suffered damage from water, dry rot and termites, as well as simply age. The timbers were visibly sagging, cracks were appearing in the ceiling, and most alarming, the outer brick walls were spreading further apart as the brick columns within deteriorated and provided less and less proper support to the roof system.

In the past year, following significant engineering studies by Stantec Engineering, the vestry accepted the option to not replace the timber, but to preserve the old and provide substantial (an understatement) reinforcement to the timbers of the roof. While the PGW family was happily able to remain in the building for Sunday worship, the contractor performed a remarkable feat over their heads of overhauling and re-building of the roof system with 4" X 12" laminate beams running the length on both sides as the new core of the roof system and re-establishing plumb. There was as much as six inches of sag from plumb on some of the timbers! Then all 72 trusses spanning the width of the interior and each brick column of the interior were re-built or reinforced. The plaster barrel ceiling, which was 40% removed, received new plaster accomplished by Charleston artisans.

To finish off this renovation, new HVAC has been installed, gorgeous 19th century flooring replaced



the carpet in the chancel, the brass chandeliers were replaced, hundreds of windowpanes were re-pointed, then the framework painted, and the badly yellow-faded plexiglass



over the stained glass windows was removed and replaced with high quality new glass protection. The renovation has been topped off with a state-of-the-art audio system to complement the previously upgraded video system. New period-piece, three-inch pew cushions will replace the hardened, aged and faded current seats.

The project cost was \$1.5 million. This is Phase 1 of their \$10 million project. Coincident to this, Prince George has funded and seen

completed the construction of a dining hall and multipurpose building for the Huma Women's Boarding school in Kenya, a school that has an enrollment of 700 high school aged girls. In Phase 2, Prince George will break ground in January, 2026, for their own new parish hall, triple in size to the current one, plus a second-floor addition for a new youth center and new gathering spaces.

St. Philip's Church, Charleston

The current St Philip's church building, (whose congregation was established in 1680) was rebuilt in 1838 by the congregation from the foundations of the 1723 church after the fire of 1835. As we all know, time and the elements are unkind to historic structures as the elements of stucco, brick, mortar and plaster are subject to water intrusion and natural deterioration. The last major renovation undertaken on St. Philip's Church structure occurred more than 30 years ago following Hurricane Hugo. In 2022, a construction committee was charged with surveying the scope of work needed and providing budget estimates for each building. For six months, a team from Stantec Engineers and Magee Ratcliff Construction climbed/crawled and inspected every nook and cranny, from the cross to the crawl space. They produced a 495-page document including 88 line items detailing costs. This became the document defining the scope of work referred to as "A Generational Fix". In 2022 the team began initial work on the historic church's roof and guttering system. Bits of the roof parapet wall had fallen into the churchyard during storms, and plaster inside the sanctuary showed signs of water intrusion. They also sounded all stucco on the exterior of the nave and repointed brickwork where needed. In 2023, they completed work on the nave, and in 2024 began work on the steeple and porticos. A lightning protection system was updated, the cross regilded, the copper sheathing and glass windows on the spire were resealed, and the clocks refurbished. The stucco and brickwork around the lantern level have been completed and the lower levels are being assessed and any needed repairs done. Recently, work moved inside the sanctuary. Scaffolding has been erected, and an updated HVAC system is in the process of being installed, as well as a new lighting system. All interior plasterwork and architectural details are being assessed for damage, and any needed repairs are being done by skilled craftsmen. The electrical system is also being inspected and updated. Ultimately, the interior sanctuary will receive a fresh coat of paint. The interior and exterior work is expected to continue until late fall and early 2026.

Photos beginning top left, down: The newly gilt cross atop St. Philip's steeple, Nathan Youngman; Parishioners enter Cathedral, Wade Spees; St. Philip's wrapped in scaffolding, Nathan Youngman; The nave of Prince George Winyah protected in plastic, by Mike Lumpkin; Top right: Workers at the Cathedral prepare to lower granite beams to the ground, Wade Spees; Before and after columns inside Prince George Winyah - note missing mortar between bricks, Mike Lumpkin; The Cathedral wrapped in netting, Wade Spees; The scaffolding in the balcony of St. Philip's allows workers access to decorative columns, Lea Andrews.

Ready to Roll and Serve Whenever Disaster Strikes

By The Rev. Newman Lawrence, St. Jude's Church, Walterboro

I have spent many summers and falls in the mountains of Western North Carolina and have often joked with my congregation that if I ever go missing it's because I'm planting a church up there and they can come join in worship when they're visiting their mountain homes. Saluda, Flat Rock, and Hendersonville have long been the site of second homes for folks from the Low-country and our Diocese. Many of us from South Carolina could make that drive up the Saluda Grade and into the foothills of the Appalachians with our eyes closed (but I don't recommend that).

I suppose, in part, it's my love for that area that compelled me to want to help those affected by Hurricane Helene, but even more it was the call of Jesus to love our neighbors.

Going into the 2025 Hurricane season, St. Jude's Church, Walterboro, where I serve as the rector, worked through the Anglican Relief and Development Fund's "Hitch a Trailer & Go" Program.



Newman Lawrence and Bob Smith of St. Jude's working with ARDF in Kentucky September 2024.

We acquired a 16' enclosed trailer we are now equipping with gear and supplies to enable us to respond to those in need whenever natural disasters hit. Over the past few years, St. Jude's volunteers have worked alongside ARDF Disaster Response Network's teams in Kentucky and Western North Carolina.

In September of 2024, Hurricane Helene came up through the Gulf and Mexico and wreaked havoc all through its path. The winds were felt from Florida all the way through Western North Carolina and Tennessee. The unique situation in this particular storm was

the amount of rain falling on already saturated ground and swollen creeks and rivers throughout the mountains. Many of those small mountain creeks and rivers feed into larger watersheds and the power of all that water coming together literally wiped towns off the map.



NEWMAN LAWRENCE

When WNC was hit, our Diocese already had plans for the Clergy Retreat, the Christian Men's Conference, and Men's Hikes all to be occurring in those very mountains through the fall and spring. We needed to help in whatever way we could.

Through my work with ARDF over the years, I was aware of the grant program for the trailers but never thought it was something St. Jude's could afford. When I brought it up to the church, not just that I felt called to help but that I wanted us to become a parish that also supported other parishes through the use of our trailer, the congregation jumped at the opportunity. Through the generous donations of the church we have purchased our trailer, branded it with St. Jude's and the ADOSC Logo's, along with ARDF's per the grant guidelines, and we have built shelves to organize our equipment.

We are now in the process of purchasing equipment to use in the current relief and rebuilding efforts in WNC and to have them at-the-ready when future storms will come our way.

If you would like to support St. Jude's either by joining us on a relief trip or helping equip our trailer please reach out to me, Newman Lawrence, at (843) 549-1050. If you are interested in the ARDF "Hitch a Trailer & Go" program, visit <https://ardf.org/trailers-and-warehouses>.



Christian Men's Conference FEBRUARY 6-8, 2026 | ARDEN, NC

Lutheridge Camp and Conference Center is located near Asheville in Arden, North Carolina on 160-acres of scenic land. The location allows for great hiking, canoeing, rock climbing, and more. Lutheridge offers a variety of meeting spaces, comfortable lodging, and excellent dining.



CMC SPEAKER Jed Roseberry

2026 Theme

Made in the Image of God:
Finding Our True Identity in Christ



The Department for Men's Ministry is excited to announce The Rev. Dr. Jed Roseberry will be our 2026 Christian Men's Conference speaker. Jed is an ordained Anglican priest and the founding pastor of Restoration Anglican Church. He and his wife Stacy live in Richardson, Texas with their children. Jed is an avid bike rider and enjoys DIY projects. Jed comes to the CMC highly recommended by several close friends within the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina. His own identity as someone having been made in the image of God is something he has wrestled with over the years and will speak to us about finding our identity in Christ and being uniquely made in God's image at our 2026 Christian Men's Conference.



christianmensconference.com
info@christianmensconference.com
843-310-2050

Charleston, Race and Religion Cathedral to Host Public Theology Event November 16

The Cathedral invites you to join them for their final Public Theology event of 2025 on Sunday, November 16, at 6 p.m. The conversation will focus on *Christianity and Slavery in the South* and be led by Dr. Otis Pickett.

Dr. Pickett planned to be a pastor. Growing up in Charleston, he became a Christian in high school and was disciplined in Reformed University Fellowship at Clemson University. But while attending Covenant Seminary in St Louis, his trajectory shifted in a significant way. While living near public housing in Ferguson, Missouri, he was struck by the disparate treatment of the Black community

there with the apparent indifference of this treatment by local white churches. Committed to finding out why this was the case, Dr. Pickett's journey led him to a study of the presbyterian church in antebellum Charleston and eventually to a Phd in history from the University of Mississippi.

Dr. Pickett has recently returned to Clemson to teach history and serve as the Public Historian. He has also published his first book, *Southern Shepherds, Savage Wolves: Presbyterian Domestic Missionaries and Race in South Carolina, 1802-1874*.

Thrive Together

Continued from page 1

visioning, gifted folks who can help retool what a church currently has.

"We don't want to interfere if a church says, 'We're good,'" he said, "But if they're at the point where they say, 'We can't do this anymore. Not only can we not afford a priest; we can't pay our electric bill. We're going to disband.' That's not acceptable. And often a congregation doesn't realize they're at that point until that day arrives."

As a Diocese we're committed to the 10/10/10 plan for giving. We ask lay people to tithe 10% to their local church. We ask churches to give 10% to the Diocese, and the Diocese gives 10% to the province.

"Most of our parishes can and should be giving 10%," he said. "Not all parishes do, but that's the starting point." Rather than asking churches to give toward the Thrive Together initiative, this appeal is to individuals and family units.

"Our average Sunday attendance across the Diocese is about 8,000, which translates to an estimated 3,200 family units (Thanks, ChatGPT)," he said. "Now, just as not every parish gives 10% not every family unit will be able to give \$100.

That's okay. This 'ask' is not intended to induce guilt. It's also not to interfere with what you give to your local congregation. I will not ever look for the Diocese to take away from the ministry of our local churches, but we are asking for anyone who is able to give \$100 to this effort, to do so.

"And if you're in a position where you could comfortably give more, I'm asking you to consider that.

"As St. Paul says, 'if one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.' (1 Corinthians 12:26.) My desire with this effort is to have our entire Diocese rejoice as all of our churches Thrive Together."

To give to the Thrive Together initiative click the QR code or mail your check, made out to The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, noting "Thrive Together" on the memo line, to The ADOSC, PO Box 20127, Charleston, SC 29413.



Church of the Holy Cross, Stateburg Embarks on Capital Campaign to Replace Parish House Steps

By Kathy Brown, Church of the Holy Cross, Stateburg

The Historic Church of the Holy Cross has embarked on many building and restoration projects in recent years, with the largest project having a \$91,500 price tag to replace the parish house outside steps.

As with all historic properties, ongoing maintenance and repairs are greatly needed, and can be especially challenging for a small congregation. Coming out of COVID and the lawsuit, Holy Cross attendance was averaging approximately 20 participants per week. And while our average attendance today has more than doubled, praise God, the congregation faces a big financial challenge to meet operations – as well as other capital repair needs.

Our capital campaign focus has been: "For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you." With God's faithfulness and blessings, we have raised half of the cost of replacing the parish house steps. However, as individuals contributed to the capital campaign, our



MICHAEL RIDGILL

Steps repair underway.

operational budget began suffering – and we still face many additional necessary repairs.

God has blessed us with these challenges, and our small and prayerfully mighty congregation continues to pray seven scriptures, as we seek His guidance and direction for being good stewards of those blessings:

- Philippians 1:9-10 for direction and wisdom
- 1 Chronicles 29:17 for willing hearts
- Luke 6:38 for giving hearts
- Ephesians 3:20-21 for vision
- Hebrews 11:1 for faith
- 1 Peter 3:8 for unity
- Philippians 4:13 for victory

If you would like to join us in prayer or give towards the Church of the Holy Cross restoration projects, go to www.holycrossstateburg.com

Camp Jubilee
Continued from page 4

Maintenance Bldg	\$ 525,000
Furniture & Equip.	\$ 850,000
Project Management \$	200,000
Cost Contingency 15%	
	\$1,750,000
TOTAL EST.	\$18,125,000

If you or your parish would like to contribute to the property development fund visit our donations page at <https://adosc.org/about/donate-now/>. You may donate toward a specific building. Naming opportunities are available. To learn more contact me at kweldon@adosc.org.

Diocesan Elections
Continued from page 1

you're encouraged to begin considering how you or others might most effectively serve the Diocese in one of the roles described in more detail below. Please give these opportunities your prayerful consideration, and then be prepared to respond when the nominations are opened next month.

Diocesan Council

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

Standing Committee

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

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Vacation Bible School: Why Every Church Needs to Do It (Yes, Even Yours)

By Heather Pienkos, Christ Church Anglican, Mt. Pleasant

According to Barna Group, two-thirds (67%) of Christians come to faith before the age of 18, and nearly half of all Americans who accept Jesus as their Savior do so before age 13 (Barna, 2019). If that doesn't make you pause mid-snack, this might: studies also show that church attendance among families is steadily declining, with only about 36% of Gen Z attending church weekly, compared to 43% of Millennials and 51% of Gen X (Pew Research, 2023). What does that mean for the church today? It means we must reach children while their hearts are open and their curiosity is alive. VBS is one of the most effective tools we have to do that. It's not just an old tradition. It's a sacred opportunity that is clearly needed today. And here's the kicker: a Lifeway study found that over 70% of churches that run VBS report it as their most effective outreach of the year (Lifeway Research, 2018). That's right—your best shot at connecting with your community might just involve pool noodles and goldfish crackers!

Every summer, churches across the country come alive with the joyful noise of kids laughing, singing, crafting, and occasionally sticking googly eyes to furniture. But underneath the glitter is something eternal: a chance to introduce children to Jesus in a real, unforgettable way. VBS creates an environment where faith feels safe, fun, and foundational. Kids aren't just told about Jesus—they see Him lived out in the love, attention, and kindness of leaders and volunteers. They discover that church isn't boring or judgmental—it's alive, welcoming, and deeply relevant. For many children, VBS is their first-ever experience in a church building. For others, it's a much-needed faith refresher during a dry season. Either way, VBS becomes a space where the Spirit of



CATIE COMER

Out of 120 children who attended Christ Church's VBS, only 26 were from their own church. "When children experience joy, love, and truth at VBS, they associate church with something good," says Pienkos, "something joyful, something unique, and something light in this dark world. And when you invite them back, they're more likely to come—because they already feel like they belong."

God moves, hearts soften, and the Gospel is heard clearly.

This summer, our church—Christ Church Anglican—hosted 120 children at VBS. And here's the twist: we don't even have a building right now! We partnered with a generous neighboring church and hosted our entire week in their space. Out of the 120 children, only 26 were from our own church family. The rest? Kids from our community. Kids who were invited by neighbors, friends, or simply heard the buzz. By the end of the week, they left with

ing with your church on a deeper level. When children experience joy, love, and truth at VBS, they associate church with something good, something joyful, something unique, and something light in this dark world. And when you invite them back, they're more likely to come—because they already feel like they belong. That's why we make it a point to invite every VBS family to Sunday services. The decorations may come down, but the fun, friendships, and faith continue every week.

Bible verses in their heads, hope in their hearts, and sometimes a little frosting on their shirts. We saw firsthand the power of simply saying, "Come." VBS became the bridge between our church and the community we're called to serve. And it reminded us that ministry often looks like duct tape, dancing, and dinosaur-themed snacks.

One of the best things about VBS? It doesn't have to end on Friday. We had a mom say, "I wish your VBS lasted longer!" And our answer? "It does. It's called Sunday morning—come back!" VBS is the perfect on-ramp for kids and families to begin connect-

VBS isn't just a one-time event—it's a bridge to a lasting church connection. You don't need a full-time staff or Broadway-level sets to do VBS. All you need is:

- A heart for kids
 - A handful of volunteers
 - A plan (it doesn't have to be fancy)
 - And a willingness to embrace the unexpected (and glitter)
- Small church? Perfect. No fancy tech? Even better. Only one volunteer who can carry a tune? That's all you need.

The goal isn't perfection—it's presence. Being present with kids, opening the Bible with them, and showing them the love of Christ in real, relational ways. If you're wondering what curriculum to use, how to promote it, or what to do when the snack budget runs low—I'm happy to share what worked for us (and what didn't). Whether you're planning your first VBS or looking to refresh an old tradition, you don't have to do it alone. Reach out with any questions—I'd love to help your church say "yes" to the mission of reaching kids for Christ.

Vacation Bible School isn't just a week—it's an open door. It's an invitation. It's an echo of Jesus' words: "Let the little children come to me." So whether your church is thriving, rebuilding, or somewhere in between—VBS is a chance to spark life, faith, and connection. It's one of the greatest investments your church can make in this generation and the next. And if you're still unsure—just remember: 120 kids showed up this year at ours. Only 26 of them were from our church. Now, they know they're loved, they know the name of Jesus, and they know this church is a place where they're always welcome. That's VBS. That's the mission. And yes—your church can do it too.

A Letter from Seminary Dylan Moore Writes from Nashotah House

Dear Saints of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina,

Because dioceses are of a larger nature, many of you may not know me and I probably do not know you, but I rejoice in knowing we are one in our Lord Jesus Christ. My name is Dylan Moore, and I write this letter with a heart full of gratitude to our Lord for you and for all of my family and friends back home in South Carolina. You have played a significant role in supporting us and sending us as your seminarians, especially my home parish, The Parish Church at Habersham in Beaufort. Over the past few years, I've been able to witness the Lord doing a mighty work in that church. It is through the faithfulness and readiness of God's saints within his church that we could even dream of taking on this adventure of seminary. So, thank you!

Also central to this adventure is my wife, Kristen, and her open and ready heart to listen to the Lord however He may be leading. She was the first one to mention any notion of my calling to holy orders. And her strength and care for our



DYLAN MOORE

We moved onto campus here at Nashotah House Theological Seminary in Delafield, Wisconsin at the beginning of July and can already say we love it here.

household has been an anchor not only for me, but also for our children, Asa and Jane. I would not--we would not--be here if it weren't for her love for the Lord.

We moved onto campus here at Nashotah House Theological

Seminary in Delafield, Wisconsin at the beginning of July and can already say we love it here. It has been amazing to see how God is already using this move to help us grow and to shape us. We've had to learn what utter trust in God looks like, partic-

ularly by way of provision for our family. He has provided abundantly but the posture we've had to adopt is incredibly humbling. Our family has also had to learn how to adapt, as with any move, to a new schedule and new demands. But the Lord has been clearly leading us day by day so all these things have been wonderful to experience.

For one, the chapel life here at Nashotah is incredible. We are required to attend morning and evening prayer Monday through Friday along with daily Holy Eucharist. Having this community in constant prayer is such a powerfully unifying practice. It leaves no ambiguity for what the intention of the school is, and that is for forming godly priests for Christ's church. I am beyond thankful for this.

I have also been loving my classes! The week after we moved in I had 'Intro to Anglican Church Music' as a class for a week and was enthralled by the beauty of our Anglican heritage of music and worship. As a musician, I loved seeing how central music has been

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ST. PHILIP'S ACADEMY

A Christian School in the Classical Tradition

FALL 2026
K5 - 4th grade

OPEN HOUSE

October 21, 6 pm
November 14, 1:30 pm

51 State Street
Charleston, SC 29401

Register by filling out an inquiry form at:
stpacademy.org/inquiry

St. Philip's Academy will host Open Houses on Oct. 21 from 6-7pm and Nov. 14 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in their newly renovated building located at 51 State Street in downtown Charleston. Hear more about this classical Christian school which will be offering grades K5 through 4th grade in the fall of 2026. Priority enrollment will be given to ACNA members.

To learn more or register, visit stpacademy.org.

Transformed Through Healing Prayer

How the Ministries of the ADOSC are Impacting Christians in Cambodia

By Anthony Pelloni, SAMS Missionary, Cambodia

In 2023, when Anna and I were in South Carolina fundraising, we had the great blessing of visiting many churches and seeing some of the different ministries churches were utilizing to reach out and bless those in their congregations and communities. One ministry that caught my attention was that of healing prayer ministry happening around the Diocese. Just before we finished our fundraising and were sent to Cambodia, Prince George Winyah invited Anna and me to come and receive a night of healing prayer in preparation for our ministry. The experience was very impactful and led us to feel closer to the people of PGW who were choosing to invest intentional time in sending us out into the world to share the Gospel of Christ. That experience has stuck with me even to this day!

At the start of the year, I took a role with our church here in Cambodia to lead and grow our student dorm ministries. As I got to know

the dorm leaders and visited with the students, one thing became very clear. These students are going to church; they are attending Bible studies; they are learning the Gospel. But they are not experiencing the Gospel in the way that Christ loves us. I spent a lot of time praying for the Lord to direct me in how to help the students and dorm leaders grow closer to one another and to see the Gospels as not simply stories about Jesus, but as an example for Jesus teaching us how to live our lives and engage with one another.

That memory of being prayed over kept coming to my mind.

After some time, I reached out to the Rev. Dr. Sandi Kerner, our Diocese's Canon for Healing Prayer, to learn more about healing prayer to see if it was a ministry that would bless our young people and help them grow closer to one another. After one zoom call, the answer for how to help these students grow deeper not only in their faith in Christ, but also in their love for one

another became painfully obvious. I needed to teach them how to pray together and give them opportunities to do so!

After Sandi so generously got me started, I began to warm the dorm leaders up to the idea of praying with one another and with the students. I began adapting the teaching into short and manageable lessons focusing on questions and answers that challenged the students to think deeper than the pages of the Bible text. Questions like, "Who is impacted by illness? How does physical illness lead to spiritual and emotional sickness? How does the well-being or lack thereof of one member of the body/family impact those around them?" After doing one lesson, the dorm leaders were awestruck at the new way of thinking about Jesus' miracles from the four Gospels. One of them even said, "our students need these lessons in their lives."

I continued to adapt the lessons



ANTHONY PELLONI

"The students split into groups of three and I challenged them: one person speak and share your burdens with your group and trust that they will receive your words," said Anthony. "For the other two, listen to the burdens of your friend. After sharing and listening, I challenged them to lay hands on one another and then to actually pray right there."

and prayed for the Lord to use them to open the eyes of the students and dorm leaders to see how prayer was not something we just do, but it's something that changes us. It draws us closer to God and to each other.

And something amazing happened! After the second lesson, which looked at Jesus healing a demon-possessed man, a demon-possessed girl reached out to the church



PROVIDED

Above, Anthony Pelloni teaches the students about healing prayer.

Continued on Page 11

OSA Welcomes Highlands Latin School

Old St. Andrew's and Highlands Latin School have partnered to welcome HLS to Old St. Andrew's this fall. HLS is a "hybrid" Christian home school program headquartered nationally in Louisville, Kentucky. The format for the HLS program is a classroom setting Tuesdays and Thursdays with homeschooling on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Megan Alwine, local director of HLS, started the school four years ago, and the school has been located previously at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in the West Ashley area of Charleston. Early this year, Megan and Fr. Marshall Huey, Rector of Old St. Andrew's, began discussions to bring HLS to Old St. Andrew's, and following several meetings and Vestry discussion at Old St. Andrew's, the Vestry voted unanimously to enter into an operating agreement for HLS to come to the church. The school opened at Old St. Andrew's on Tuesday, August 19, with a morning prayer opening ceremony in the church, complete with a bagpiper. Eighty-five students are currently enrolled.

HLS begins each day with a chapel program in the church followed by classroom instruction. Fr. Huey describes HLS as a "perfect fit" for Old St. Andrew's, because of its Christian focus, classical school curriculum, and student body size. In addition, the Sunday school building at the church has undergone significant renovations in the past five years and now is well-suited to house the school. Old St. Andrew's was exploring the idea of starting a preschool when the discussions with HLS began. Old St. Andrew's and Highlands Latin School are off to a great beginning, and looking forward to a great partnership!

Anglican Way

Continued from page 3

As I was finishing my degree and internship, I met Karey at a trivia night. We quickly fell for each other and we often wondered and joked how a Southern Baptist ministry student and this sweet, cradle Anglican could make it work. Then came the invite—to attend church with her at St. Michael's.

That Sunday changed everything. The beauty of the liturgy, the fire of the prayers, the gospel-centered preaching of the Rev'd Al Zadig, and the grace I encountered at the Eucharist—it all lit something in me.

Then came a phone call. The Rev'd Hal Fenters of Trinity Church in Pinopolis reached out—unbeknownst to me, two of my trivia night friends were related to him and he was the rector of the parish in which Karey grew up. He invited me to apply for the Director of Faith Formation role. Everything began to shift. My journey truly began, and this Southern Baptist found himself walking the Canterbury Trail, taking the long way home. I would join the ministry team at Trinity Pinopolis in January of 2008.

In his book *Evangelicals on the Canterbury Trail*, Robert Webber writes, "I didn't leave evangelicalism. I took it with me — and found it transfigured." For many evangelicals, the journey toward liturgical worship isn't about abandoning faith, it's about deepening it.

It's about discovering worship that centers not on me, but on God.

It's about entering the sacred rhythm of the Church—the prayers, the creeds, the table—and realizing this isn't dead ritual, it's a living tradition.

The beauty of Anglican worship isn't that it erases our past but that it roots us

more deeply in the story of Christ—through Word, Sacrament, and the historic faith of the Church.

Apparently, it seems I may have walked the Canterbury Trail from Southern Baptist to Anglican before it became a debated topic in certain circles. Recently, there's been some buzz about a Southern Baptist seminary professor moving to Trinity Anglican Seminary (which I'm proud to call my alma mater). A good friend shared a post about it, and it got me thinking once again about my journey and wanting to go a little deeper into why so many are stepping into liturgical traditions like Anglicanism.

If I am honest, I have found myself once again disenfranchised by those who are a part of the Baptist tradition and do not quite understand the Anglican Way. I was seeing articles about how the Baptist church has gone wrong, stepping away from right doctrine and how the creeds are to blame.

Friends, I don't think this shift is a slight against evangelical denominations, and rarely do theological disagreements lead the way.

For me, I didn't leave because I was angry. I wasn't burned out or disillusioned. I left the Baptist tradition because I was hungry—for something deeper, older, and more rooted—something I did not know I was even looking for. I was not being led by worship preference or by the need for a weekly recital of the Nicene Creed, but by deep longings in my soul.

As a soon-to-be pastor, I loved preaching and the community that helped form me. But over time, I began to sense something was missing in the weekly rhythm of worship. The gospel was proclaimed, yes—but it wasn't being embodied. The service centered on the

sermon, almost performative, but I longed for worship that told the whole story of God, week after week—not just through words, but through actions, liturgy, and sacraments.

When I discovered the Anglican tradition, something clicked. The liturgy wasn't stale or stiff—it was alive with beauty, Scripture, and sacred order. It didn't revolve around a personality or performance. It revolved around Christ, made present in Word and Sacrament. And in the Eucharist, I encountered not just a remembrance of Jesus, but a real participation in His grace. I bought into the mystery of faith: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. I met the Holy Spirit in a way I never had before.

This journey wasn't a rejection of my past—it was the fulfillment of my formation. I didn't stop being evangelical; I became more sacramental. The Anglican Church gave me a deeper well from which to draw—a rhythm that forms me, a theology that nourishes me, and a table that always welcomes.

In the words of Robert Webber, I came to learn that "The road to the future runs through the past."

Since beginning this journey, I have drawn deeply from the well of Anglicanism. From my confirmation to church planting; from my ordination to serving in both low and high church contexts; I have been reminded each Sunday of the beauty and richness liturgical worship offers the soul.

I'm not saying Anglicans have a corner on liturgical worship. But I do believe our distinctive expression—rooted in Scripture, the Creeds, the Thirty-Nine Articles, and the Book of Common Prayer—offers a grounded, beautiful, and embodied way of being the Church in a chaotic world.

Ours is a worship that engages the whole person—body, mind, spirit, and soul. Anglicanism has long recognized that we are embodied creatures who benefit from visible, tangible expressions of spiritual reality. Our movements—kneeling for prayer, making the sign of the cross, vestments, liturgical seasons, and processions—are outward signs pointing to inward grace, echoing the Church's sacramental vision.

In short, Anglicanism integrates Reformed theological convictions with a reverent and ordered liturgical life. It offers a rich synthesis—honoring both the heart and the form of Christian worship.

Webber once wrote: "The Book of Common Prayer has met two deep needs of mine: one for a daily prayer and Scripture reading, the other for a living connection to the Church through the ages. A touchstone in my stormy passage to adult faith, the Prayer Book still anchors me in Christ-centered worship and directs me in the well-worn paths of Christian discipleship."

Many of us can relate. We look at our lives—or the lives of our children—and long for a faith that is rooted, rhythmic, and rich. We long to pass on a tradition that forms disciples and anchors them in the life of the Triune God. In our parishes, people are finding voice for storm-tossed seasons of life and encountering God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in deeper, more tangible ways. I still remember our bishop's charge at Annual Convention: to "remain steadfast in Prayer Book worship."

Yet, it is more than just liturgy. It is about meeting the living God and responding to the work of the Gospel through the movements and proclamation of Word and Sacrament as we encounter means of Grace.

Continued on Page 12

Grandparenting Ministry Heads to Kenya

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

What do grandparents in Eastern Africa have in common with those in the U.S.? There are more similarities than you think! On May 26, our six-person team of clergy and lay leaders from St. Paul's Anglican Church in Summerville and Prince George Winyah Parish Church in Georgetown, traveled to Kenya at the request of Bishop Charles Ong'injo and the Rev. Fred Onyango. We were invited to introduce the grandparent ministry to the Anglican Diocese of Maseno South in Kisumu, Kenya.

Upon our arrival, we immediately noticed that the faces of Kenyan grandparents radiate love when they talk about their grandchildren. However, like grandparents in the United States, they often do not recognize that grandparenting is a divinely ordained spiritual calling.

On the second day, our team held a six-hour conference entitled "Godly Grandparenting" for the clergy of the Diocese of Maseno South. Together with our brothers and sisters in Kenya, we dug into Scripture and discussed the fact that God has given grandparents a unique calling for this season of life: to share their faith in Christ Jesus with their grandchildren and the generations coming after them. The following day, we hosted a similar event for a group of selected lay leaders.

Each conference featured five sessions where we discussed the importance of leaving a Gospel-shaped legacy; interceding on behalf of our grandchildren, both privately and corporately; cultivating a culture of blessing within families; and praying for healing from generational sins and brokenness. People have asked us if we used translators, and the answer is no. While we mastered a few words in Swahili ("jambo" for hello and "asante sana" for thank you very much), the people in and around Kisumu, including most of the school-aged children, speak excellent English.

We are thankful to God that the conferences were well-received. At the conclusion of the second day, Bishop Charles announced the implementation of a grandparenting ministry in the churches within his diocese. A 15-member task force, comprised of both clergy and laity, was appointed to oversee this initiative.

Our team provided the task force with books from our Diocese, handouts, and the PowerPoint presentations used for the conferences. Since June, we have continued to strengthen our relationship with our friends in Kenya. We are prayerfully planning to host a GrandCamp and offer additional conferences there in August 2026.

Christ commands all Christians to be His "witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8). Our fervent prayer is that the grandparenting movement, which began in Kenya this summer, along with the concept of GrandCamp, will eventually spread throughout Kenya, across the continent of Africa, and beyond.

Bishops of the Anglican Province of Alexandria Gather at New Wineskins Conference

Three of the current diocesan bishops of the Province of Alexandria, along with two of the recent past assisting bishops of the province, were among the many bishops that participated in the recent New Wineskins 2025: Hope for the Nations conference at Ridgecrest, North Carolina. Their presence offered the opportunity for engagement with our official diocesan companion relationship with the Province of Alexandria. Both Bishop Ashley Null, Bishop of North-



BOB LAWRENCE

ern Africa, and Bishop Jeremiah Maet Paul, Bishop of Gambella also had opportunities prior to the conference to visit parishes in the diocese.

Pictured from left to right: Bishop Jeremiah Maet Paul, Gambella; Bishop Kuan Kim Seng, former Horn of Africa;

Bishop Grant LeMarquand, former Horn of Africa; Bishop Martin Reaves-Williams, Horn of Africa; Bishop Ashley Null, North Africa.

GrandCamp: Silly and Sacred

And the Best Thing I Did All Summer

By The Very Rev. Karl Burns, Church of Our Saviour, Johns Island

What was the best thing you did this past summer? I've got my answer locked in: GrandCamp with my nine-year-old grandson, Lewis!

Over the years, I've spent many summers at camps and retreats, but this one? This one topped them all. We laughed, played, prayed, and made memories that will last far beyond our time at Epworth by the Sea on St. Simons Island, Georgia. It wasn't just the highlight of my summer—it was a heart-filling adventure that brought Lewis and me closer to each other and to God.

In so many ways, GrandCamp is a sacred space. For four days, Lewis set aside Legos, video games, and Taekwondo, while I stepped away from preaching, pastoral care, and yard work. Together, we turned our hearts toward Jesus. We studied Bible stories, memorized scripture, built a simple circuit to light a bulb, and prayed using a bag of Skittles—and yes, we ate them too!

GrandCamp is sacred because it fosters meaningful connections with other grandparents. I loved getting to know fellow grandparents from across the country, hearing their hopes for their children and grandchildren, and praying with them throughout the week. Lewis, too, bonded with the other kids. It was such a blessing to watch them encourage each other in faith and grow in their love for the Lord.

But GrandCamp isn't only sacred—it's also a wonderfully silly place! Water balloons, relay races, and square dancing, helped us all experience faith with childlike joy. My personal favorite? Shaving cream wiffle ball. Turns out, a handful of shaving cream and a high-five are great ways to make foamy friends!

While there were many planned activities, Lewis and I especially enjoyed the unstructured afternoons—swimming in the pool, exploring the beach, and walking the pier on St. Simons Island. Squirt gun battles, boogie board surfing, and seaside strolls were all memory-making moments. But my favorite time? Our evening devotionals. Though we



RILEIGH BARBER

GrandCamp is sacred... but it isn't only sacred—it's also a wonderfully silly place! Water balloons, relay races, and square dancing, helped us all experience faith with childlike joy.

were tired and ready for bed, our devotional guide helped us open up about our faith and our lives.

On our third night, Lewis asked me, "Papa, when did you give your life to Jesus?" He was amazed to hear that I was not much older than he was. I'm pretty sure he wouldn't

have asked that question before GrandCamp.

And Lewis's favorite moment? I asked him. The Sunday after we returned, he stood in front of the congregation at Our Saviour and shared that his favorite moment was the last night—when his Papa gave him a blessing.

We had spent about 30 minutes sitting on a bench overlooking the intercoastal waterway. I told him how much I love him, how much he means to me, how deeply God loves him, and how God will guide and strengthen him.

His response? "I love you, Papa."

That was it—I was undone. My heart was full, and my soul rejoiced. Lewis reaffirmed his faith and commitment, and we walked hand in hand back to the chapel. Along the way, we somehow ended up talking about shaving cream going up our noses during wiffle ball.

I told you—GrandCamp is a sacred space, but it's also a silly space!

We're already looking forward to next summer's GrandCamp (June 15–19, 2026). Lewis and I have even convinced his little sister and Mimi to join us! He wanted me to tell you something too:

"Tell them it'll be the best thing they will do all summer."

Amen, Lewis. Amen.

Diocesan Elections

Continued from page 7

Ecclesiastical Court

A court of six clergy (priests or deacons) and five laity, elected by Diocesan Convention, to hear such complaints of misconduct as may be brought against clergy of the Diocese.

Provincial Assembly

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

Mere Anglicanism

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You Are Not Your Own: Gospel Identity in an Age of Expressive Individualism



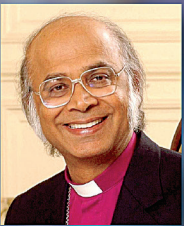
Dr. Albert Mohler, author of *Culture Shift: Engaging Current Issues with Timeless Truth*



The Rev. Dr. Carl Trueman, author of *The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self*



Mary Eberstadt, author of *How the West Really Lost God: A New Theory of Secularization*



Dr. Michael Nazir-Ali, author of *Faith, Freedom and the Future: Challenges for the 21st Century*



The Rev. Vaughan Roberts, author of *Authentic Church: True Spirituality in an Age of Counterfeits*



Justin Whitmel Earley, J.D., author of *Made for People*



Dr. Stephen Presley, author of *Cultural Sanctification: Engaging the World Like the Early Church*



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One Mission Trip; Two Perspectives

Don't Be Afraid to Step Out of Your Comfort Zone and Try Something New

Mom's Joy Restored and Faith Renewed by Youth Mission Trip

By Sharon Hough, St. Paul's Anglican Church, Summerville



SHARON HOUGH
It was so much fun to see the kids open up to us and look forward to hanging out with us each day.

My oldest daughter, Grace, had been signed up for this mission trip for months. I was so happy for her to finally experience her first mission trip. You see, mission work is in her DNA. I went on a mission trip to Mexico when I was her age and what a life-changing experience that was for me. My mom worked in missions for 25 years and was going to take Grace with her on a mission trip to Honduras when she turned 16. Unfortunately, my mom passed away before that trip was able to happen. As anyone who has lost a parent knows, the grief that follows and learning to live without your mom is not easy. I know my mom is in heaven, but life without her just wasn't the same.

Why did I go?

It was early in the summer. I prayed for God to restore my joy. John 16:24 says that if you ask, you will receive and your joy will be fulfilled. About a month before the trip, Josh Wills, our youth minister, sent an email to the youth mission

team letting them know they needed another chaperone for the mission trip. I knew that if I was supposed to go, God would make a way. With the blessing of Fr. Tripp...and my daughter Grace, I was able to go, along with my youngest daughter, Abigail.

What did we do?

We left early Saturday morning, sent off with the prayers of St. Paul's in the new church bus with 10 high school students and three adults. Fourteen hours later we arrived in Aliquippa, PA.

The first morning we attended Sunday services, and the sermon was about how the harvest was plentiful, but the laborers are few. What a great sermon to kick off a week of service and outreach. I prayed daily that God would show us his harvest.

After breakfast and before heading out, we began our day with devotion time and prayer as a group. Our mornings were filled with yard work—fixing up neighbors' yards, mowing their grass, fixing railings, screen porches and landscaping.

Some of us were more helpful on prayer walks as we walked the streets picking up trash and speaking to those we came in contact with to see if they needed us to pray with them about anything. We were also able to pray with a lady who was dying from cancer and spend time with her and encourage her.

After lunch we would head out to the park to hold a VBS for the neighborhood kids. We walked up and down the streets knocking on doors to invite children to come play with us at the park. It was so much fun to see the kids open up to us and look forward to hanging out with us each day. We focused on building relationships with the kids.

After dinner, we ended our days with a debriefing, sharing the highs and lows of every day and seeing what we could improve upon the next day. Our fearless leaders, Josh and Sam, were able to help the high schoolers see that because you don't have to earn God's love and that God wants to give us good things, we can mirror this love to the neighborhood kids by our actions. So, the neighborhood kids asked for water guns and popsicles. We had water wars with the kids every day, played kickball, chase and had so much fun spending time with them. The kids saw how much we genuinely cared about them and wanted to spend time with them. On the last day of VBS we drove up right on time at 1:30 p.m. and the neighborhood kids were all there waiting for us to arrive. We didn't have to knock on any doors that day. They came to us. It was a beautiful moment for all of us to see the importance of just being a friend and sharing the love of God with someone by your actions. We were able to pray with the kids and encourage them to shine their light when they returned to school. It was really special to see the youth step out of their comfort zone and pray with the kids and share their testimonies with them.

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Teen Senses God's Presence as Group Ministers in Aliquippa

By Susanna Prescott, (Age 17), Good Samaritan Anglican Church, Summerville

The last full week of the summer, I went on a mission trip with the youth group of St. Paul's Anglican Church in Summerville to Aliquippa, Pennsylvania. It was a week of growth, growing closer in my relationship with the other youth and growing closer in my relationship with God.

In the mornings, we did yard work for adults who could not do yard work themselves. In addition,

On Tuesday, a few of the same kids showed up, and a few more did too. We did a Bible lesson with them and sang a song. After asking the kids what they wanted us to do, we got water guns and filled up buckets of water for them to play with. On Wednesday, after asking what they wanted to do, we again enjoyed playing with them with water guns and got the kids popsicles. Throughout the week, as we



JOSH WILLS
It was a week of growth, growing closer in my relationship with the other youth and growing closer in my relationship with God.

some of us went on prayer walks to see if people were out on their porches and to pray with them and for the neighborhoods.

One particularly meaningful time for me was meeting with Karen, who has lung cancer. I could feel the Holy Spirit with us as we walked into her trailer to pray with her. While others were praying, she was crying. I felt God in the room with us. While I was praying for Karen, she locked eyes with me, and I could see how much she loved God.

Every afternoon, we ran a VBS for kids in a neighborhood park. When we arrived on Monday, we knocked on a few doors, but either had no response or the kids said they'd come and then didn't show up. On Monday, we played with and got to know the five kids who came.

ministered to the kids, I felt God's presence and felt the kids watching us. One thing I remember from when we were sitting around in a circle, a kid named CJ pointed to me and said, "She's nice." I think what he was trying to say was that he sensed God's love coming through me. Each day, after playing with the kids we spent time in worship. And while others dispersed, two kids stayed and worshipped with us throughout the rest of the week. We connected with the kids.

The last day of our time with them, we arrived at the park 15 minutes early and a lot of the kids were already there, waiting for us around a tree! This made me realize how much they appreciated us coming and saw the love of Christ in us.

No Fleeting Mountain Top

Continued from page 1.

calling me to do. Earlier in my life, as God was opening doors and giving me favor to do the thing I knew He had created me for, I let the opinions of a critical few stop me. Over the years, anger had set in—first with my critics, and then with God.

It wasn't conscious; it just was.

It was with all of this baggage that I entered my Cursillo weekend. Although I didn't know what lay ahead, as Tony and I drove to Sumter, I asked God to deal with whatever was in me that needed to be dealt with. I was ready. I needed healing.

The second evening, in our devotional time, one of Cursillo #196's spiritual leaders, Janet Echols, read from Luke 15—the parable of the prodigal son. Immediately, I began to tune out. After a short time, the summa cum laude student in me thought I'd better pay attention—there may be discussion, and since I hadn't heard or read it in a while, a refresher

It has been many weeks now since that Cursillo weekend and, rather than a fleeting "mountaintop" moment, it has brought a permanent change to my life. I know the Lord doesn't always move for everyone in this dramatic way during Cursillo. But... If you are ever invited to attend, I encourage you to accept the invitation.

might be good. When I tuned back in, Janet was reading, "...now, the older son..."

Ah...the older son. The son who had everything the father owned. The son who had enjoyed the ongoing favor of the father and lived in the presence of the father. I had always thought him to be so ungrateful and blind to all he had. In truth, I had seen him as the real villain of the story because, while the younger son came to recognize his sin and repented, the

older son was indignant and self-righteous and never saw his own sin.

And, in that moment, the thought came to me: "Christy, you are that son." It hit me hard; I felt as David must have felt when he heard the prophet Nathan's admonishment: "David, you are that man." (2 Samuel 12:7)

It was true.

I had spent so much of my time and energy in a futile attempt to constantly please

others. And when I failed, I blamed God. Like the older brother, I complained to God about how hard I was working for Him, while it seemed so many others, who made no real effort to please Him, got a pass. And like the older brother, I had become indignant and self-righteous and never saw that the real problem was my own sin.

For the first time, I saw my desire to please man more than God as sin. As much as I knew the Bible, and thought all my effort was pleasing to Him, I had been blind to the fact that I had been striving for the opposite of what God tells us to do: "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men." (Colossians 3:23)

That was the first thing God dealt with in Sumter that weekend.

Recognizing and confessing that "gateway" sin led to a cascade of recognition and healing of several other sins and painful experiences from my past. In such a sweet and tender way, in the company of God's people (many of whom I didn't even know prior to Cursillo), the Lord brought clarity and understanding for some of these, and complete healing for others. Within those 72 eye-and heart-opening hours, the Lord dealt with my sin and renewed my spirit. Only as the

weekend progressed did I begin to understand how I had been lifted up in prayer, supported, and loved by so many as part of the Cursillo community.

It has been many weeks now since that Cursillo weekend and, rather than a fleeting "mountaintop" moment, it has brought a permanent change to my life.

I know the Lord doesn't always move for everyone in this dramatic way during Cursillo. But the love and prayer, the instruction, fellowship, and wise counsel I experienced there are things we all need.

If you are ever invited to attend, I encourage you to accept the invitation. Whether you are a life-long Christian who thinks you've heard it all, a new Christian who is eagerly seeking to know more of God, or anywhere in between, three days focusing on Him through this extraordinary experience may—as it did for me—lift your spirit, renew your faith, and draw you closer to our loving Father.

February Trip Planned to West Bengal Join Holy Cross in Sharing God's Love Through Action

By Christine Donovan, Church of the Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island

In West Bengal, India, daily life is a struggle for many—especially children who face the harsh realities of poverty, trafficking, and abandonment. For those trapped in these circumstances, hope can feel distant. But through the faithful work of Bishop Probal Dutta and the ongoing partnership with Church of the Holy Cross on Sullivan's Island, as well as other Charleston area churches including St. Philip's and Seacoast, light is breaking through.

Since 2020, Holy Cross has supported Bishop Dutta's ministry, which has rescued children from trafficking, built safe houses and schools, cared for orphans, provided rural education, organized eye and dental clinics, and supported the planting of new churches. His work is a testimony to the transformative power of faith and community—and we are honored to be a part of it.

In February 2026, a team from Holy Cross will return to West Bengal to continue this life-giving mission, and we invite you to join us.

This year's team will once again include medical professionals—particularly dental hygienists and dentists—as well as volunteers helping with women's ministry, children's outreach, and vision care. We'll offer clinics and community programs in partnership with local churches and schools, and spend precious time with

the girls in the safe house—many of whom were rescued from deeply traumatic situations. These girls, now thriving and filled with joy, eagerly await the return of their friends from America with hugs, songs, and cards.

How Can You Help?

Even if you can't travel, there are many ways to be part of this mission:

- Dental professionals (dentists and hygienists): Consider joining the team
- Donations of supplies: Reading glasses, sunglasses, dental supplies, hygiene products, and school materials are all greatly needed. Call us if you need more specifics.
- Sponsor a girl in the safe house or help support their care

- Organize a collection of gently used or new glasses in your church or neighborhood
- Pray for the team, the ministry partners, and the people they serve.

A moment that captured the joy of connection: on the second day of last year's dental clinic, villagers lined the dirt roads outside their huts, showing off how they were brushing their teeth—grinning proudly at the difference a little care had made. Whether they shared our faith or not, the people we met felt the love of Christ in every

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Sandra Brown, a dental hygienist from Church of the Holy Cross, examines a villager's teeth.

PROVIDED

PGW & CTK Join in Relief Efforts Year After Storm

By Marie Ahlert, Christ the King, Pawleys Island

On Sunday, July 27, 2025, a mission team of 16 from Prince George Winyah in Georgetown and Christ the King Church in Pawleys Island, arrived at the High Pastures Christian Retreat Center in Burnsville, NC to spend a week serving those devastated by Hurricane Helene.

Thanks to arrangements made through Anglican Relief and Development, we joined others from Virginia and Michigan working under the direction of two individuals from the Fuller Center for Housing Disaster ReBuilders. A group of 24 in all, we ranged in age from 17-82.

The volunteers were split into teams and sent to different job sites. One team went to a home owned by a young lady named Jennifer. She woke the night of the storm to no electricity, the sound of pouring rain, and her two dogs and a cat on her bed. She got out of bed and found she was up to her knees in water. Not thinking clearly, she went to her front door and opened it. The water came rushing in. (Keep in mind, she is at least 50 feet higher than the river at the bottom of her street!) She tried to hold the door shut, but the force of the water was more than she could handle. Suddenly, she heard a loud whooshing sound, and the door slammed. Jennifer was able to escape by climbing out a window. She swam through water up to her neck, pulled herself up the mountain and walked for miles before finding a neighbor on higher ground.



MARIE AHLERT

Volunteers hang siding and soffits on Mr. Riddle's home.

Now Jennifer is living in a camper and a tent at the bottom of the hill where her barn used to be. It took five months before anyone was even willing to help her start to rebuild her home. She has no insurance. Her house is still completely gutted, and the work has come to a standstill because there aren't enough plumbers and electricians to do all of the work that is needed. And, her second winter is just around the corner. Our group helped with many jobs to help rebuild her house. To be honest, possibly the most important thing we did was to sit and listen to Jennifer tell her story. She definitely needed someone to listen while she talked and cried.

Groups also worked at other sites, completing various tasks. Some included working on a French drain, drilling to find a water source, installing a water heater and shower, installing electrical outlets and insulation, painting, planting, and organizing the distribution center. At one work site the younger

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Healing Prayer in Cambodia

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for help in exorcising the demon from her body and spirit. The family had long been seeking ways to help their daughter with no luck and finally reached out to one of our pastors for help. The students were amazed; here they were learning

her. This miracle led to the baptism of the girl and her entire family, and also to the family getting rid of every idol inside their house. Amazing!

After they shared this with me, I did not want to stop the momentum, so I asked them to take the lessons a



ANTHONY PELLONI

What I saw was incredible! Very quickly 41 students were sharing deep parts of their lives with each other, things that culturally are not normal to share with one another, and they were doing so while laying hands on one another. I was able to see the demeanor of the students changing right before my eyes.

about Jesus working miracles, and now there was an opportunity to put their learning to practical use!

Long story short, that girl was prayed over by the pastor and some of the students in the dorm and ultimately healed of the demons and other things that had been done to

step further. I challenged them: let's do a prayer night where we bring all three of our dorms and students together and give them an opportunity to learn about how to pray together and then give them a chance to do it right there.

The dorm leaders were keen

to give it a try. After a few weeks of planning and praying for the Lord to do something mighty, we came to the night of prayer on August 10. I taught about the miracle from Luke 13:10-17 where Jesus heals a woman with a broken spirit. I explained that in our lives, many things happen that cause us to live with our backs bent over because of the weight/burden we carry from our life experiences. But Jesus sees the things we carry and he wants to heal us and set us free from carrying those things. When Jesus touched and prayed for the woman, she was miraculously healed and this is the example we are going to try tonight.

The students split into groups of three and I challenged them: one person speak and share your burdens with your group and trust that they will receive your words. For the other two, listen to the burdens of your friend. After sharing and listening, I challenged them to lay hands on one another and then to actually pray right there, not simply share and then go about their lives.

What I saw was incredible! Very quickly 41 students were sharing deep parts of their lives with each other, things that culturally are not normal to share with one another, and they were doing so while laying hands on one another. I was able to see the demeanor of the students changing right before my eyes. Truly it was a testament to God about healing prayer and of laying our hands on one another with intentional prayer. Please pray for me as I continue to work with our student

dorms in helping the students commit to praying together and growing in their relationship with Jesus and one another. Pray also for us to find a new leader to hopefully plant a new student dorm in 2026.

We are so blessed to be a part of the ADOSC through resources, prayer, and financial support. Here in Cambodia, resources are limited and with Christianity not being the norm, it can be challenging to teach and bring Christian customs to the people of Cambodia. Ministries like our Diocesan Healing Prayer Ministry go a long way toward blessing people around the world. We are thankful and honored to be a part of, and play a role in, the global Anglican Church here and abroad in South East Asia and how our Diocese is blessing the Anglican Church of Cambodia.

To continue living in Cambodia and blessing the local Anglican church here, we depend on faithful support from churches and partners like many of you to sustain our ministry in Cambodia. If you would like to support our ministry or hear more about our life in Cambodia, we would love to connect with you! You can reach us via email at anthonypelloni@sams-usa.org or by searching for us at the SAMS website: <https://give.samsusa.org/misionary/anthony-and-anna-pelloni>.

Church Planting

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what I currently experience in my home church and walking away from it for someone who does not yet know Jesus.

Yes, on some level, it is exciting, but there's trepidation, there's fear, and an incredible amount of sacrifice. Because of that, church planting doesn't begin in the Diocesan office. It doesn't begin with a church's mission or outreach committee.

Instead, church planting begins with every single individual who understands that the great commission is not just a banner to be placed on the church website. It's what has been entrusted to every single follower of Jesus. "Go, therefore. Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey all that I have commanded you."

As far as I can tell, God's heart, his strategy for advancing the knowledge of him and what we call the gospel, his strategy has always been about establishing outposts of the kingdom.

If you have that conviction and a heart for those who do not yet know Jesus, let's talk.

Contact Todd Simonis at tsimonis@sthenas1712.org.

A Burden Lifted; a Burden Laid

A Newly Ordained Priest Reflects on His Ordination

By The Rev. Dave Fisher, Church of the Cross, Bluffton

The following article first appeared in the newsletter of the Church of the Cross. It is reprinted with permission.

Do you feel different after your ordination?" I have been asked this question quite a few times since being ordained to the priesthood two weeks ago, and I would imagine Father Jon Collins has received this question over these weeks as well.

In conversations during the preceding months, I often said that ordination to the priesthood would mean I would be able to more fully do the work entrusted to me as Parish Chaplain of The Church of the Cross. After all, as a deacon, I was able to minister to the sick and those near death. I was able to assist in worship, preach, and teach. I was even able to officiate funerals.

However, only a priest can pronounce God's blessing and absolution, and only a priest can consecrate the elements at the Table. For this reason, any time Eucharist was to be a part of the funeral service, I needed a priest with me. Now that I have been charged and empowered to be a minister of God's Word and Sacraments, I can "do my job" more fully than before.

But that doesn't really answer the question, does it? "Do I feel different?"



CAROLYN FISHER

"I am still the same man with the same anxieties, the same gifts, and the same patterns," says Dave, above, after his ordination on June 20, 2025 with his wife, Caitlin. "I'm still Dave, so I still have to be reminded that the whole weight of ministry is not on my side of the yoke. Jesus carries the vast majority of that."

[Let me see if I can keep from answering a little longer...]

One thing I can say for certain is that a burden has been lifted, and another has been laid. The applications, interviews, and discernment process are finished. The Anglican Ministry classes are through, and the exams have all been submitted and graded. This process took more than two years. If we include all the wrestling with God that I have done since I was first called into ministry, this process has taken more than 14 years.

And at the end of all of it, I do (finally) trust that I have become a priest by the will of God and the consent of the Church. I trust that I have received — and will receive — the grace I need through the presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

All this means that a heaviness has been lifted from me. But ordination comes with a new weight.

Just before the bishop laid his hands on me and prayed for me to receive the Holy Spirit "for the office and work of a Priest in the Church of God," he said these words to me: "Remember how great is this treasure committed to your charge. They are the sheep of Christ for whom he shed his blood. The Church and Congregation whom you will serve is his bride, his body. If the Church, or any of her members, is hurt or hindered

by your negligence, you must know both the gravity of your fault, and the grievous judgment that will result."

These words are only a small part of the Exhortation given to every priest at ordination. They're not a secret. In fact, you can read the whole thing beginning on page 488 of our Book of Common Prayer.

And it would be difficult — irresponsible, actually — not to feel different with these words ringing in your ears. A burden lifted and a burden laid.

I am still the same man with the same anxieties, the same gifts, and the same patterns. I'm still Dave, so I still have to be reminded that the whole weight of ministry is not on my side of the yoke. Jesus carries the vast majority of that.

After all, my role during the Examination part of the ordination service was to answer each of seven questions in the affirmative before adding, "...the Lord being my helper."

Before asking the question that began this article, some of you have begun with the congratulatory statement, "You made it!!!"

It's true that in some ways, ordination is a finish line. But mostly, and in much more important ways, it's a starting line.

So, do I feel different? Yes and no. Ask me again a few years into the race.

People News

Katie Freer accepted a call to serve as the Director of Women's Ministries, a newly created position, at St.



Philip's Church in Charleston. In a note to the congregation the Rector, the Rev. Jeff Miller, wrote, "It has long been my desire to provide the women of St. Philip's with the same level

of leadership, encouragement, and spiritual guidance that has helped our men's ministries thrive. To that end, and with the enthusiastic approval of our Vestry, I am thrilled to announce the creation of a new staff position: Director of Women's Ministries. Beginning this September, Katie Freer will join the staff in this important role. Katie is no stranger to St. Philip's. Raised in our parish, she is a graduate of Ashley Hall and Davidson College. She brings with her a wealth of experience in Christian education and children's ministry, and her life is marked by deep faith and a joyful commitment to serving the Lord. She is the wife of Daniel and the mother of four wonderful children, and she embodies the grace, wisdom, and energy we had hoped to find in this role."



Please keep the Rev. Shay Gaillard, Rector of the Parish Church of St. Helena in Beaufort and his family in your prayers. Shay's father, Samuel Porcher Gaillard III,

84, died July 27. A Rite of Christian Burial service was held at Old St. Andrew's Anglican Church in Charleston on Thursday, July 31.

After a thorough and prayerful search process, the St. Philip's Academy Board of Visitors unanimously



recommended the Rev. Justin Hare to serve as the inaugural Headmaster of St. Philip's Academy. In a note to the congregation, the Rev. Jeff Miller, Rector of St. Philip's Church, Charleston noted, "Justin possesses the leadership gifts, pastoral sensitivity, and intellectual acumen to guide our new school with excellence. He is well known and deeply respected within our church family and beyond, and we believe that his leadership will be instrumental in establishing a school marked by both academic distinction and deep Christian faith." Justin will continue to serve as a priest associate at St. Philip's, serving on their Sunday clergy team and will continue to share in the preaching ministry on a regular basis.

Crystal Huggins accepted a call to serve as the Children's Minister at St. Paul's, Conway. In a note to the congregation, the Rector, the Rev. Jason Collins, wrote, "Crystal is no stranger to St. Paul's Church. Crystal has been on the Day School faculty for 11 years. She has worked with the 1-year-old and 2-year-old classes in the Mother's Morning Out program and she teaches a



4-year-old pre-K class. This past school year, Crystal became the director of our entire day school ministry. Before coming to the St. Paul's Day School, Crystal worked with 3-year-olds in a pre-school program in Alabama. She also provided at-home day care services for children. Crystal holds certifications in Child Development, CPR, and First Aid." Crystal is married to Allen, has three grown sons and a

daughter. She and her family have been active in The Village Ministry and youth group."

Holton Johnson accepted a call to serve as the Director of Music Ministry at St. Helena's, Beaufort. A native of Gulfport, Mississippi, Holton first encountered the transformative power of music in the public schools as a euphonium player. Over time, his calling shifted from performance and education to ministry, as he discovered a deep love for choral and sacred music during his studies. He holds degrees from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and The University of

Southern Mississippi, including an Associate of Arts, a Bachelor's in Music Education, and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting. His training includes work in brass instruments, voice, organ, piano, and conducting. Dedicated to the heritage and future of sacred music, Holton is excited to move into a new calling to serve as Director of Music Ministry at St. Helena's Anglican Church in Beaufort. He brings together classical training and pastoral sensitivity to support vibrant congregational singing, develop choirs of all ages, and uphold the rich liturgical traditions of the Church. He and his wife, Katelyn, have a daughter Annessa (9 months). Outside of ministry, Holton enjoys honing his barista skills at home, cooking for his family and friends, and unwinding with a good show or movie.

The Very Rev. Peet Dickinson, Dean of the Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul in Charleston, invited the Rev. Patrick Schlabs to serve as Canon Vicar. In a note to the congregation, Dickinson wrote, "by assuming the office of Vicar, Patrick is being given expanded authority over the day-to-day ministry of the Cathedral

Church, especially over the areas of worship, discipleship, pastoral care, mission, hospitality, and



he will serve as the Chief of Staff. This appointment in some ways acknowledges roles in which Patrick has already been serving, but elevating him to this position also gives him

the official mantle of responsibility needed in leading our church's team of leaders."

The Rev. Randy Shirley accepted a call to serve as the Interim Rector at Church of the Resurrection, Surfside Beach. Randy came to Resurrection having recently served at Church of the Resurrection in North Charleston. He previously served as the Priest-in-Charge at St. John's Chapel, Charleston; Assistant to the Rector at St. Michael's Church, Charleston; and as Chaplain intern at ShadySide Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



He holds a Master of Divinity from Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, a Master of Science from Clemson University, and a Bachelor of Science from The Citadel. He is married to Elizabeth (Liz) and their extended family includes three children, four grandchildren, and a spoiled family dog. Randy is a retired Army combat veteran who served in Somalia and with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in Central and South America. Randy enjoys any activity on the water, action movies, and spending time with friends.

Anglican Way

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John Wesley once said: "By 'means of grace' I understand outward signs, words, or actions ordained of God... The chief of these means are prayer, whether in secret or with the great congregation; searching the Scriptures; and receiving the Lord's Supper."

What I came to experience and learn is that I need the Eucharist every week—not as mere remembrance, but as a means of grace, where the living Christ meets me in bread and wine. Here, I receive what I cannot give myself: His mercy for my sin, His strength for my weakness, His life for my weary soul. I come with arms stretched out, palms up bringing nothing, clinging to the comfortable words of the liturgy I just proclaimed over the people. At the Table, worship becomes more than words—it becomes participation in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection. This is where my faith is nourished, my hope renewed, and my love rekindled.

The Church may offer many good things, but in the Eucharist I find the one thing I cannot live without: Christ Himself.

As I reflect on my journey, I'm deeply grateful for the many dear friends, mentors, and fellow pastors who continue to serve faithfully in Southern Baptist and other non-liturgical traditions. The Church is far bigger than any one stream, and God's grace is not confined to a single expression. There is space at the Table for all who belong to Christ. Though our liturgies and practices may differ, we are bound together by one Lord, one faith, one baptism. My hope is that we might approach one another with humility, curiosity, and Christian charity—learning from one another, honoring each other's convictions, and bearing witness together to the beauty of the gospel. For in the end, our unity is not built on uniformity, but on Christ Himself.

Why is this conversation so important today? Because many

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One Year - Twice the Baptisms

JIMMY HILL

“Over the last few years, St. David’s has reserved a shelter at Cheraw State Park and baptized its newest members in Lake Juniper,” says the Rev. Jason Varnadore, Rector (shown right). “Last year we were surprised we had four to baptize. This year we had eight! The Lord has been very gracious to us out here in the wilderness as we plan to build a new home for our congregation. After the baptisms and communion, we all spent the afternoon together at the park, sharing a covered dish lunch and swimming.”



MOSES NICKERSON

West Bengal

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gentle touch, every offered prayer, every act of kindness.

We believe the Gospel is most powerful when lived out in service. Through your support—whether through prayers, donations, or personal involvement—we can continue to bring hope to the forgotten corners of the world.

Together, we are the hands and feet of Christ. Let’s go where love is needed most.

For more information about joining or supporting the team contact Alan Brown, alan.brown26.2@gmail.com, or (843) 513-7444.

Update from Nashotah House

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in our tradition and I pray that it stays that way for generations to come. I am taking four classes in the fall term which has just begun: Ascetical Theology, Intro to Biblical Greek, St. Ephrem the Syrian, and Intro to Christian Liturgy. If you know me, you know I couldn’t be happier learning all of these things. I love to learn and to see others love to learn. I believe that is central to my calling. I want to help people fall in love not only with learning, and not only learning about God, but learning to know God and becoming like Him. These classes have already given me things to ponder and wrestle with that I pray the Lord will use for His glory in the years to come.

Lastly, while we knew this move would be hard on our family as we took our children away from all of their cousins, we have been surprised to become engrained in such a wonderful community as Nashotah House. Particularly, Asa, our four-year-old son has become the life of the cul de sac. He asks to go outside as soon as he wakes up, and never wears shoes, or a shirt for that matter! And he never wants to come inside at the end of the day. It warms my heart to see my children have a fun and safe place to simply be themselves. He has learned to like drama, albeit with some hesitation, as he was forced to star in Peter Pan, which the kids threw together by themselves! Every day when I come



NASHOTAH HOUSE

We are required to attend morning and evening prayer Monday through Friday along with daily Holy Eucharist. Having this community in constant prayer is such a powerfully unifying practice.

home he’s eager to tell me about what they “played today” whether it be Star Wars or Indiana Jones or Harry Potter. And Jane, at two years of age is that child who cannot stay out of the dirt. We always have to have three to four outfits ready for her outdoor expeditions. She is trying her best to keep up with her brother, and she wouldn’t have it any other way!

Thank you for praying for us and supporting us as we have made this move out of obedience to our Lord. Know that we feel like we’re not only living but thriving here. We cannot wait to see what’s to come in the following months, but we look forward to updating you all. And dear saints at the Parish Church at Habersham, we cannot wait to visit you all this Christmas. May the Lord be with every one of you as you walk in His ways.

Godspeed, Dylan Moore

“Unceasing Prayer”

Church of the Holy Spirit Spends Week Praying 24/7

The Church of the Holy Spirit on Daniel Island spent the month of September being “Persistent in Prayer,” ending with one week (September 22-27) covering all 168 hours in prayer. The Rev. Jonathan Bennet, Rector, preached on prayer and provided resources including a prayer journal and prayer devotionals. He offered services of morning, midday and evening prayer each day that week and invited their Life Groups, vestry, staff, individuals, couples and families to sign up to cover the week 24/7, praying for “our church, our community, our world.”

“If we are truly to be about the work of God’s Kingdom, then everything we do must begin and end with prayer,” said Bennett. “My prayer is that more and more, it will permeate all that we are and all that we do.”

At the end of the month he said, “It has been an amazing month at Church of the Holy Spirit focusing on ‘Persistent Prayer.’ I have experienced and heard of some incredible answers, particularly with regard to health and finances.”

Here are some of the quotes parishioners sent in about the experience:

“Wonderful experience this month focusing on prayer. Showing me the more I give my will up to him the more useful I can be in his name and the less selfish in my actions.”



JESSICA WILLIS

The church offered a women’s stretch and pray class. The ladies spent an hour in various stretching positions, guided by parishioner Christine Williamson. Melissa Bennett shared scripture verses throughout for reflection and prayer.

“To ensure I was not late for my hour with God, I set my alarm to 2:55 a.m. for my 3:00 a.m. prayer time. When my alarm sounded, I knew it was Jesus calling me to chat. How fun that I experienced Him that way this week! So very thankful to experience “Jesus Calling,” literally!”

“I’ve reached a plateau of peace I’ve been praying for a very, very long time. I’m taking more calm, peaceful moments with God to enjoy this blessing.”

“...I began reading the Prayer Book for the Office of Morning Prayer, then Holy Communion. Somehow,

just reading those offices by myself, silently, and in private made the prayers more relevant to me.”

“My God answered me today. I sought him, he answered, and I cannot keep it inside.”

In a note to the congregation, Bennett wrote, “I hope, and pray, that this may inspire you to be more persistent in prayer and that you might continue in some new prayer discipline such as journaling, or prayer walking, or joining us each week for Morning Prayer on Wednesdays. May prayer be at the core of who we are both individually and corporately.”

Three Years of Community, Conversation, and Craft Beverages: Theology on Tap Returns for the Fall

By Amanda Jenkins, Church of the Holy Spirit, Daniel Island

For the past three years, Church of the Holy Spirit’s Theology on Tap has been a spirited staple on our parish calendar. The monthly gathering combines a panel discussion with community connection over drinks and shared curiosity. What began as a simple idea to meet people where they are has grown into a well-loved tradition, drawing parishioners, neighbors, friends, and even the occasional skeptic into conversations about faith, life, and everything in between.

Hosted at New Realm Brewery and open to all inquisitive minds, Theology on Tap offers a relaxed atmosphere to engage with Christian theology in a real-world context. Topics have ranged from Christianity & Environmental Stewardship to Was Jesus a Capitalist or a Communist? An expansive understanding of doctrine isn’t as much a requirement as curiosity and a willingness to entertain challenging perspectives. Attendees are encouraged to submit their questions on a given topic anonymously. This is no pulpit preaching or a sterilized sermon; it is a chance to come together and navigate different aspects of Christianity as a community. Over the years, we’ve welcomed a diverse lineup of panelists — clergy, local leaders, educators, theologians, and our own Bishop Chip Edgar — each bringing fresh insight to the questions our community is asking today.

After taking a break for summer, Theology on Tap returned on September 17 with a discussion on



JONATHAN BENNETT

The Rev. Dr. Kendall Harmon, Theologian in Residence at Holy Cross, Sullivan’s Island, entertains questions.

Is the Bible Relevant and Reliable? The panel delved into what the Bible means for individuals in the 21st century and probed the topic of Biblical inerrancy. Attendees chewed on answers that were thoughtful, candid, and often laced with humor—reminding us that faith is both serious and joy-filled.

Two more sessions are slotted for this year, the next taking place on October 15. Just in time for Halloween and the season that glorifies the otherworldly, the topic will be Is All Spirituality Good? Unpacking Witchcraft, Angels, Miracles, and Spiritual Encounters. Attendees can expect more thoughtful provocations than jump scares as panelists look into spirituality through the lens of Christian theology and Biblical teachings. Following that will

be the November 19 discussion of How Do We, as Christians, Navigate a World that is Changing Because of Artificial Intelligence? Panelists will be exploring relationships, work, and meaning in a landscape where AI is part of everyday life.

As we enter a new season of topics, we give thanks for another year of Theology on Tap—a space that continues to offer more than just good conversation. It’s a place of welcome, where friends become community, questions are honored, and faith is lived out in dialogue. Theology on Tap has shown us that ministry can take many forms, sometimes beginning with something as simple as a shared table. It is one reminder among many that the church’s work is alive beyond our walls.

Making a Joyful Noise — with the Ukulele

By The Rev. Tom Woodle, *The Well by the Sea, Myrtle Beach*

One of the greatest God-given gifts is the gift of music. Music is so much more than the simple enjoyment we get out of listening to the radio or singing in the shower. Music is therapeutic and relational. We share our love for it with those around us and it is often called the “universal language” because of its ability to draw us together from vastly different backgrounds and places. Research has shown that listening to music does so much for the brain and the emotions, increasing dopamine levels and triggering neuro-transmitter action that fights depression and brightens our mood. But when you create music, your brain goes to the cognitive Super Bowl! Everything about it is good and this goodness can be passed on to those around you. It’s apparent that God loves music and desires for us to be co-creators with Him in singing and making music on various instruments. It’s good for everyone!

Church Music

In the Church, music has been a vital part of worship since the beginning. Although the early church did not utilize musical instruments, they certainly sang and praised God in their worship. The oldest surviving hymn of the Christian Church is found in our Anglican *Book of Common Prayer* in the Evening Prayer service. While we do not know the tune of the Phos Hilaron (O Gladsome Light), we do know it was sung. The early Church Fathers looked down upon musical instruments in the church, believing they were either “too Jewish” or in the worst case, remnants of pagan practices. But by the seventh century, musical instruments began to appear in worship with the organ being the primary instrument of choice. As time went on, other instruments were added until contemporary times, when you have practically every musical instrument imaginable being utilized in the Church. And these contemporary instruments have allowed us to move beyond the walls of the church in sharing God’s gift with the world around us.

This brings me to my point: the ukulele has now made its way into the Church and is providing yet another avenue of spreading the gospel and joy to those who might not otherwise be open to hearing the gospel. And it is providing a therapeutic way for Christians to come together and enter into the great psychological and spiritual benefits of creating music.



TOM WOODLE

A Happy Instrument

Now, before you relegate the ukulele to simply being a “gimmick” instrument that is more toy than serious musical instrument, note that the joyful sound of the uke makes it nearly impossible to listen to and not smile. It is truly the “happy instrument.” The first time I ever saw a ukulele being used in worship was in Hawaii, of course, where the uke originated, thanks to two cabinet and musical instrument makers who had immigrated to Hawaii from Portugal to work the sugarcane fields. After their first year, it became apparent that farming was not their cup of tea, so Augusto Diaz and Jose Espirito Santo returned to what they knew best: making cabinets and instruments.

The Portuguese who immigrated to Hawaii had brought with them the machete, which was a musical instrument much like what we now know as the ukulele. Making some slight changes to the body of the instrument and replacing the steel strings with “cat gut” strings, the ukulele was born in 1879. The native Hawaiians called it the “ukulele,” which

translated from their Polynesian dialect, literally means, “jumping flea.” It is supposed that this name came from the movement of the fingers along the fretboard of the uke.

The song I heard in worship with the ukulele was “Blessed Be Your Name,” and I was amazed at how well it fit right into the service and how smoothly the instrument melted into the musical production. It was a joyous and happy sound, befitting the worship of the One who purchased eternity for us and, by grace, offers us eternal life.

While ukes were introduced to the mainland United States in the early twenties, there was a lull in their popularity after the 1950s. But in recent years, they have come back to being an instrument used by many of the top musicians on the American music scene. And we are now seeing them utilized in our churches.

One reason the uke is regaining popularity is because it is a relatively easy instrument to learn to play. It can be as complex as a classical guitar, or as simple as strumming a simple melody in 4/4 time.

An Outreach Tool

I have been playing the uke for 68 years, since I was four. But my inspiration for starting a uke band at our church actually came from Janis Breazeale at St. Matthew’s Parish in Fort Motte, who began a uke band called the “Ukuloonies” at her church several years ago. That got me re-interested in the uke and we soon began a uke band at The Well. In the two and a half years since, the band has grown to around 25 members, most of whom had never before played a musical instrument. We now perform at various venues around the Grand Strand area. We often recite the purpose of our band, “To share the love of Jesus through happy music,” no strings attached (no pun intended). We perform a lot of popular music,

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Mom’s Joy Restored

Continued from Page 10

We also made space for fun. When our work was finished we played on the slip-n-slide, played putt-putt and enjoyed hanging out. And we ate too much ice cream.

What did I learn?

I came on the trip to be the mom and help cook, clean, and drive the bus. What I didn’t know is how much of a blessing these kids would be to me. God restored my joy through this trip. He reminded me how much fun kids are. I got to hang out with my kids for a week, serve the community and build relationships with each person on the trip. We became a big family, sharing meals together, praying, serving and having fun. Everyone got along and we laughed so much.

I also learned that St. Paul’s has an anointed youth minister who cares about the hearts and souls of the youth at St. Paul’s. Josh poured so much wisdom into the youth, and it was amazing to see them grasp the lessons he taught about building relationships, servant stewardship, and the importance of abiding in Christ every day.

He told them each and every one has a testimony and stressed the importance of sharing your testimony when given the opportunity. You can debate theology, but you can’t debate about the things that God has done in your life.

John 13:35 “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” On our trip I got to see this in action. Being the hands and feet of Christ, not just through words, but also through actions had a profound impact on me. *“Yet not I, but through Christ in me.”*

What can you learn from our trip?

You don’t have to go to Aliquippa to have an impact on a community. But trips like this do spark a light in you that might have gone dim. Don’t be afraid to step out of your comfort zone and try new ways to serve. Who knows, you might be like me, a church organist driving a bus full of teenagers to Aliquippa.

Operation Christmas Child Is So Much More!

By Julie Thornton, *St. Michael’s Church, Charleston*

Operation Christmas Child is so much more!” This thought was running through my mind over and over in my first visit to the Samaritan’s Purse Operation Christmas Child (OCC) distribution center in late November 2024. I had been involved in packing OCC Shoe Boxes for decades, since my girls were young. I loved the idea of seeing a sweet child in a country far away receive wonderful gifts and being shown Christian love from our church and my family.

But I learned so many new things, powerful things, which reframed my perspective regarding OCC. Here are three “aha” moments (of many) that I had while working as a volunteer at the distribution center.

First, these boxes are special, blessed, and prayed over. I assumed that the volunteers might alter the boxes in some way. The only thing the volunteers and staff are doing is checking for items deemed dangerous or un-shippable. The boxes are not changed because the family or individual who took the time wanted those items to go to a child and prayed for that box. That box is



SAMARITAN’S PURSE

inspected, taped shut, and sent! It is beautiful.

Second, a child receives only one box in a lifetime. I had assumed, incorrectly, that countries and communities might have repeat deliveries to the children. The box is a very special gift and includes a powerful Gospel message about the love of Christ, why Jesus was born, and how the child and his family can be born again. With each box comes an invitation to the child to

attend a Gospel class. The volunteers who deliver the boxes stay and teach classes to the children who wish to listen. So many children come to saving faith through this amazing operation.

Third, OCC and Samaritan’s Purse are a blessing to the volunteers and to all who choose to participate. It is also an incredibly well-oiled machine. My mind was blown

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Anglican Way

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faithful Christians—both publicly and quietly—have found themselves drawn into more liturgical traditions. Some, I have quoted above like John Wesley, the great founder of Methodism, who remained devoted to the Anglican Church throughout his life. I am thankful for the detailed outline of the journey of Robert Webber, a leading voice in worship theology, whose path led him into the richness of liturgical worship. And I think of those who find their way into our Eucharistic services on Sunday mornings—searching for a more rooted and embodied faith, and discovering a voice in the ancient words and rhythms of the liturgy.

This isn’t a new phenomenon. It’s a movement that has unfolded over decades, even centuries.

And as seekers come through our doors, as Christians from other traditions find their way to our tables, and as we point all people to Jesus—may we embrace being distinctively different. May we rest in the fullness of Scripture and the beauty of the Book of Common Prayer as we join together to make much of Christ.

NC Relief

Continued from Page 11

group befriended Mrs. Riddle, her special needs daughter, and the five-year-old son of one of the hired workers who spoke little English. Friendships were established and the daughter is still in contact with some of our team.

Sharon, the volunteer coordinator for Fuller, had been living in a tiny room for months. Some of the group decided to pamper Sharon one day. The team organized and cleaned Sharon’s living space so she would have a place to work and shelves to store her personal items. We also organized the onsite storage shed. By the time the group was finished, all of the tools and equipment were sorted and placed, by category, on new shelving, and they had built a charging station for all the rechargeable power tools.

Each evening Banks Wise (Student Minister at CtK) led a devotion and Brett Kucera (Youth Minister at PGW) and Mary Darby Moore (from CtK) led the group in worship. It was absolutely amazing to listen to the youngest of those in our group talk about Jesus and sing His praises every day!

The Church of the Cross Youth Serve Those Transitioning out of Homelessness in Atlanta

By Bennett Ellison and Faith Morgan, The Church of the Cross, Bluffton

The youth of The Church of the Cross had the opportunity to do our summer mission trip in Atlanta, Georgia. We served with a ministry called RATL, which stands for Restoration Atlanta. RATL partners with homeless shelters to provide programming for women and children transitioning out of homelessness. Throughout the summer, this looks like having a summer camp Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. for the kids. This gives the moms an opportunity to work or search for work while having free, safe childcare.

RATL has full-time staff members to run camp but also invites groups like ours to come and be fully immersed in the ministry.

RATL's tagline is "being with is more transformative than doing for." The heart behind this model is that the greatest level of transformation in missions, and all aspects of life, is formed through relationships. Through living, eating, and playing in the shelter throughout the week, our team was fully immersed! This was truly a transformative experience for our whole team. I've asked one of our seniors, Faith, to write a reflection on her experience.

I can't explain what a wonderful experience serving with RATL was. Going into this trip, I didn't have many expectations, but I was a little worried since people in my family kept telling me to "stay safe." However, I never felt unsafe in any way. RATL is full of care, joy, and love. The staff genuinely cares for all the kids and is so fun to be around. One of my favorite memories with a staff member, Ms. Dominique, was playing board games together in our free time. Her jokes and contagious laugh made my stomach cramp from laughing so hard. Serving at RATL's camp is how I imagined my teachers felt in elementary school. For example, throughout the school day, teachers break up plenty of fights and



PROVIDED

Students from the Church of the Cross enjoy playing with children in Restoration Atlanta's childcare program.

arguments. I realized while talking to these kids that sometimes a grumpy kid needs a little extra love, whether that's through a hug or even a cup of water. One little girl had gotten into about 10 fights that morning, so I pulled her aside to talk through what she was dealing with. After we talked, she just stayed hugging the side of my leg. I don't know how long she stayed there with me, but when she was ready, she let go and kept on playing, and this time with no fighting. This showed me that you can't make a judgment on someone based on how they're acting in the moment. Sometimes we can be a little tired and just need some extra love.

Each of us from The Church of the Cross were assigned a group of RATL kids to be with for the majority of the daily programming. I was assigned to the girls, ages 13 to 14. There are currently only two girls at the shelter that age; most are younger. While it was disappointing at first to have such a small group compared to everyone else, it was a blessing in disguise. Because I had a smaller group, I got to know my two girls on a different level and build a strong connection with them. One of

my girls, Mahogany, is very friendly and calm spirited. One of the most impactful moments with Mahogany was when we said goodbye to the kids at the end of our time at RATL. She was watching TV in the movie room, so I came from behind to give her a hug. She didn't turn around to look at me when I hugged her, and before she did, she asked, "Is this Faith?" And when I told her it was me, she said she already knew because she recognized my nails rubbing her back. This made me feel like I had done my job in building a strong and personal relationship with the kids.

The other girl in my group was Zamiya. She is an amazing artist and has a bubbly personality. However, I could tell she was going through something. When saying goodbye I felt like that the Lord gave me a word to share with Zamiya and her friends. While I was sharing what was on my heart, Zamiya started crying, and then I started crying. She hugged me and said she would never forget what I told her. That was a powerful moment, and I trust those words I shared will bless her and strengthen her relationship with the Lord."



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Joyful Noise

Continued from page 14

but we strategically throw in what we call, our "zingers," or music that talks about Jesus or the abundant Christian life. We easily transition from the Beach Boy's Fun, Fun, Fun into the Barry McGuire tune, It's a Happy Road or from Toto's Africa to Mo Betta Life.

Ukes By The Sea, (the name of our uke band) gives us an outreach into the community that is vastly different from the more overtly evangelical efforts. People enjoy the music and smile...a lot! They hear of the love of Jesus in a joyful and non-threatening context. Of course, they realize pretty quickly that we are from a church, and our hope is that people who might not be open to church attendance, or who may have had bad experiences with the church, will see the joy and fellowship that we have and take a second look at the church, or, more importantly, a look at Jesus.

But there is more to our uke band than outreach. The fellowship

it promotes is worth its weight in gold. People love being together in a wholesome atmosphere and enjoying the music together. Deep friendships have developed over the happy sounds of uke music and people who learn the uke are able to continue to play on their own at home or with their families. It is obvious that people love being a part of a performing band by virtue of the fact that they put so much effort into learning the music, rehearsing and performing around the community. The payoff is immeasurable, not only in the sharing of the love of Jesus, but in the therapeutic value of playing and singing.

Uke bands are a definite plus for churches, even if they are not performing bands, but simply get-together jam groups. There is no downside and starting a uke group in your church is as simple as one person deciding to purchase a

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New Wineskins

Continued from page 2

performing in concert halls and corporate events to work exclusively within the faith community?

Dr. Akua stated that God uses our brokenness and our skills to serve His glory. Wherever we are standing, that is our mission field. We are all uniquely placed to bring about the Kingdom of God. Over the last four years, my secular "Tony Starlight" concerts have been generating checks from secular people written to Prince George Winyah Church in support of Christian mission in Kenya. "Bwana asifiwe!" God calls us to His adventure. Sometimes that means traveling across the globe, or down the block, or across the hall. Other times God says, "Be still. I have you right where I want you."

"When you don't forgive..."

As a person whose most persistent problem is one of abundance, ("Thank you for your kind invitation, but I'm too tired from being too busy doing too many wonderful things to go do another wonderful thing!") I was humbled to hear the testimonies of persecuted Christians. Like any good American Anglican, I know I need to keep this short, so I will share just one of the powerful testimonies from the persecuted serving in hostile countries. The Ven. Justice Onyeka Olornkwo told of giving

way to faith and trusting God in the face of seemingly certain death. He told a harrowing story of escape through divine intervention. Yet, he humbly warned about allowing anger for those who persecute you to envelop you to the point of immobility. "When you don't forgive, you are not moving forward." Christ teaches us to love our enemies and to pray for those who persecute us. Radically counter-culture.

MAP talks

In addition to the addresses in the large auditorium, there were 90 different Mission Awareness Presentation talks, of which each attendee could attend just six. Our PGW contingency divided and conquered, taking in 18 different talks held in small rooms throughout the center, and sharing our experiences. I found several talks which inspired me and will greatly enhance my callings as musician, missionary, and minister.

My deepest passion as youth minister is to ensure that my students "Seek First the Kingdom of God and His Righteousness," and not make being a Christian but one of many attributes by which they would describe themselves. In my case those attributes could include musician, teacher, minister, mentor, son, husband, friend, producer, fund-raiser,

sports fan, missionary, and Christian. The proper order is that I'm a Christian and everything else about me emanates out from and points to that.

Here's are a few highlights from my MAP talk notes:

- The donor is being served at the same level as those being missioned to.
- All you need is a Bible and a brain to do ministry!
- Don't allow yourself to be set apart from a church or faith community.
- People love to tell you their story and be listened to.
- The Spirit of God hovers over lost souls.
- Do not speak loudly.
- A disciple discipling others must live the values of the Gospel.
- Discipleship begins with hearing the Word.
- Repentance clears the decks for mission.
- Create the time and space to invite God into creative collaboration.
- The arts can bring churches together, cross denominationally.
- Europe needs to be missioned to.
- God's greatest evangelism tool is His creation.

"Lord Jesus, the world is a mess. Come now!"

ACNA Arch Bp. Steve Wood's magnificent Saturday morning address made me feel so very blessed to be part of the Global Anglican Church. He effectively challenged us with questions, that I'll paraphrase, "Who are the Samaritans in my life? Who am I avoiding? Which boundaries am I unwilling to cross in service of the Most High?" Dang! I was having such a wonderful time and was just about to head home! Why is he laying all that on me now?

Bp. Wood's sermon is like the New Wineskins Conference as a whole; there's simply just too much to tell. This written overview is akin to reading the recipe for an appetizer versus enjoying the seven-course meal. You had to be there.

For those praying that the rapture will bail you out of mission in this life, I've got great news. God has work for you! Go where He is leading. Perhaps, if you are willing, God will lead you to the New Wineskins for Global Mission Conference in 2028.

View photos at <https://adosc.pixieset.com/newwineskins2025/> and the plenary speaker videos at <https://www.youtube.com/@NewWineskins>. MAP talks released soon.

Travel the Footsteps of Paul with The Rev. Ron Greiser, April 11-21, Includes Three-Day Cruise

By The Rev. Ron Greiser, Retired from the Church of the Resurrection, Surfside



Have you ever desired to see the Bible come to life? If so, join me April 11-21, 2026 as we follow, “The Journeys of Paul” in Greece. Our 11-day trip begins in the place of Paul’s “Macedonian call” in Philippi where the first European converts to Christianity believed and were baptized. We will follow his steps southward to Thessalonica where he ministered with Jason and the early Christians who turned the world upside down (Acts 17:6). Next, we will adventure through the ruins of Corinth and Athens. Athens is not only the site of the world-famous Acropolis (Parthenon), but also Mars Hill - the sight of Paul’s defense against the idolatry and philosophy of the day.

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The second aspect of our trip takes us to the Aegean Sea. There will be a three-day excursion to the incredible city of Ephesus where Paul spent over two years of his ministry. We will visit Crete, where Titus was placed by Paul to minister, and Patmos, the famous site of the vision of the book of Revelation. Additionally, this segment will include visits to the islands of Mykonos and Santorini, some of Greece’s most famous landmarks. This trip of a lifetime ends in Athens for one last adventure in this city of such historical and Biblical significance. From here we will travel back to the United States. When we arrive home, we will have covered over nine years of the Apostle Paul’s life in nine days. (Two additional days will be travel days.) The Bible will have come alive, and we will never be the same. The cost of the trip is \$5,420, leaving from Washington (IAD). For more information visit: <https://questtravel-group.com/greiser>.

Redeemer Orangeburg DOHC Helps Church Observe Holy Cross Day

On August 16, 2025, the Ruth chapter of the Daughters of the Holy Cross at the Church of the Redeemer in Orangeburg had a fun craft day where they created special crosses with red ribbons and prayer cards. Later, on September 14, Holy Cross Day, they distributed the crosses to the congregation in letting everyone know they were being prayed for.



Christ the King to Hold Nativity Festival, December 6-12

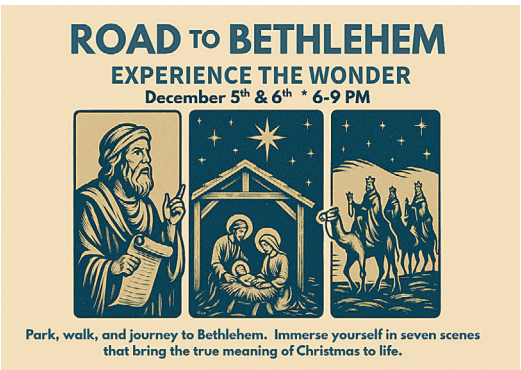
Christ the King in Pawleys Island will host its seventh annual Community Nativity Festival Saturday, December 6 - Friday, December 12. This free event is open to the public from 4:00-7:00 p.m. daily and features hundreds of nativity scenes depicting the birth of Christ, using a wide variety of artistic methods and materials. On Sunday, December 7, in addition to the self-guided tour to view nativities, the evening will include food trucks, live music, vendors, and a live nativity dramatization. As word of the Nativity Festival spreads, we notice visitors returning year after year, sometimes traveling from across the state and even planning their vacations around the event. We invite you all to make the journey to Pawleys Island to join us in this meaningful, fun, and reverent experience.



Church of the Resurrection’s Live Walk-Through Nativity, December 5-6

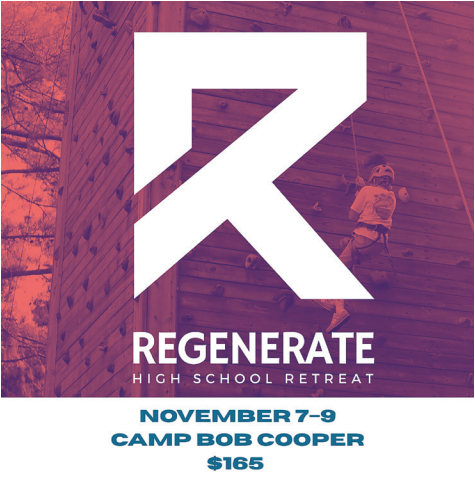
Mark your calendars now for a beloved annual Christmas tradition in the South Strand. “Road to Bethlehem”, a live walk-through Nativity you can enjoy with your family and friends, will be hosted by the Church of the Resurrection, in Surfside Beach from 6 p.m. – 9 p.m. on December 5 and 6. The rain date is December 7. The church is pulling out all the stops for this one-of-a-kind event. You can park your car and enjoy this production by walking through the scenes with a shepherd to guide you. The incredible set-up includes eight scenes with live actors and animals, music, and impressive sets that visitors can enjoy up close while immersing themselves in this experience. The church will have a limited number of golf carts for those with mobility issues.

Tickets for this park-and-walk event are \$8 per family vehicle if purchased before December 3, \$10 after. Larger vans are \$20 per vehicle, small buses \$40. For larger vehicles, contact the church office at (843) 215-4500 x 230. This live holiday event will tell the story of the birth of Christ using a cast of over 50, with live animals including a camel, donkeys, goats, llamas, sheep, and calves. Guests will see familiar scenes from the Bible, including a glimpse of the prophecy of Isaiah some 700 years before the birth of Christ, Gabriel’s visit with Mary and her visit with Elizabeth, and impactful tableaux of a busy Bethlehem street and the traditional manger scene. Your



Road to Bethlehem will end in the sanctuary with various music ensembles to add to your holiday joy. Our prayer is that people will be so touched by what they see, they will want to bring families and friends to help them understand the real meaning of Christmas. Concessions and dinner options will be available for purchase. Donations will be gratefully accepted. For what has become a beloved annual tradition, we recommend visitors arrive early because we expect a large crowd. It will be worth the wait!

To register for Regenerate visit www.adosc.org and under “Ministries” click “Student Ministries.” This year the retreat will be held at Camp Bob Cooper | Speaker: Dr. Ellie Paley



Joyful Noise

Continued from Page 15

uke and learn to play it. Tutorials are readily available on the internet and many ukes come with access to tutorials. The ukulele can be as expensive or as inexpensive as you choose to make it. You can easily find a fine ukulele for under \$100 or you can spend up to \$5,000 on a top-of-the-line instrument. You can visit your local musical instrument store, or you can order one off of the internet. While there are four sizes of ukulele, I always recommend the “tenor” uke as one that is big enough to easily play but not too big to easily carry around. One other big aspect of the ukulele is that you simply cannot take yourself too seriously if you are playing a uke. We have two signs that we set up wherever we play. One identifies us: “Ukes By The Sea” from The Well Anglican Church. The other simply says: Will play ukes for free! Will stop for 50 dollars each! Just remember, wherever you are and whoever you are, “uke an do it!” Grab a uke, thank God for the gift of music, and join the joy. Then spread it all around and don’t be afraid to tell people you are simply “spreading the love of Jesus through happy music!”

Operation Christmas Child

Continued from Page 14

by the efficiency of the operation and how wonderful these servants are who give their time to spreading the Gospel throughout the world. While we were working on the lines, inspecting boxes (we all have a job), we prayed for each box. Also, there were intermittent breaks for the entire center where the leaders announced to which country or community our boxes were going. The leaders led us in a prayer to bless the children who will receive the boxes. The Holy Spirit was there and it was palpable. I learned so much and I was blessed for going. I hope you will participate in some way with OCC. It’s so easy to build a box physically, or through the online QR code. Blessings to OCC and to all of you who give!

Calendar Notes

View full calendar at adosc.org/events/

- Church Plant Training Intensive, October 27-30
- Regenerate High School Retreat, November 7-9
- St. Luke’s Fall Women’s Conference November 9
- Clergy Retreat, November 10-12
- Public Theology with Dr. Otis Pickett, Nov. 16
- 24th Chas. Leadership Prayer Breakfast, Nov. 20
- St. Philip’s Academy Open House, Nov. 21
- COR Walk-Through Nativity, December 5-6
- Nativity Fest at CTK, December 6-12
- Christmas Festival at CTK, December 7
- Jubilate Deo Deadline, January 2, 2026
- Mere Anglicanism, January 22-24
- Christian Men’s Conference, February 6-8
- Diocesan Convention, March 13-14



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