

# Jubilate Deo

The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

Winter 2026

## 2026 Diocesan Convention Set for March 13-14

By The Rev. Joyce Harder, ADOSC Staff



JOY HUNTER

Convention delegates enjoy break during 2025 Convention at St. Philip's Church in Charleston.

Plans are set for the 2026 annual Diocesan Convention, which will take place in Myrtle Beach March 13-14, hosted by Trinity Church. This year's theme is "Everyone Fully Mature in Christ." On Friday, a Eucharist and Renewal of Clergy Vows will take place beginning at 5:00 p.m. at Trinity Church (3000 N Kings Hwy). Following the service, a light social hour will take place at the Marina Inn at Grande Dunes (8121 Amalfi Pl), which will be the site for the business meeting on Saturday. Dinner will be on one's own at one of the many wonderful restaurants in Myrtle Beach.

Registration begins Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. just outside the Marina Inn's grand ballroom, where a continental breakfast will be served. The Youth Commission will conduct Morning Prayer at 9:00, which

will be followed by the business meeting. Among many items on the agenda will be the honoring of Susan Burns, Human Resource Manager/Finance Assistant, who is retiring following 19 years of service to the Diocese. Seminars Coby Tucker and Dylan Moore will highlight their progress at Trinity Anglican Seminary and Nashotah House, respectively. And we will be treated to videos highlighting God's amazing work throughout the Diocese over the past 12 months.

### Elections to Be Held

Elections for Standing Committee, the Diocesan Council, the Ecclesiastical Court and Provincial Assembly will be held on Saturday.

For the Standing Committee, we will elect two clergy and two lay people for three-year terms. Candidates include: the Very Rev. Karl Burns, the Rev. Luke Deman, the Rev. Denman Isgett, the Rev. Will Klauber, the Rev. Cindy Larsen, the Rev. Jason Varnadore, Randy Howie, Susan MacDonald, Bradford S. Marshall, and Danny Morgan.

For the Diocesan Council, we will elect two clergy and two lay people for three-year terms. Candidates include: the Rev. Dave Fisher, the Rev. Fred Ochieng Onyango, the Rev. Aaron Schnupp, the Rev. John Sosnowski, Sallie Brach, Gill Frierson, Les Sease, and Josh Wills.

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## Join Us for a Day of Jubilee, March 7

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

All are invited to come and celebrate the "Day of Jubilee" on Saturday, March 7 on our new camp property in Beaufort. Last March, we hosted more than 500 people at our inaugural "Day of Jubilee!" and it was such a tremendous blessing we all agreed to make this a yearly event on the first Saturday in March. We will gather for Holy Eucharist, camp games, property tours, live music, and a fine meal. Everyone is invited to bring a chair and a side dish or dessert to share. We also ask you to carpool as parking is somewhat limited. Festivities will begin at 1:00 p.m.

Friends, Camp Jubilee is thrilled to host our diocesan family and friends as we continue to celebrate all that the Lord has done, all that the Lord is doing, and all that we trust and believe the Lord will do with this critical ministry of our diocese and with the development of our new Camp and Retreat Center.

If you have yet to be able to visit the property, the Day of Jubilee is the perfect time to see the fullness of what the Holy Spirit is doing through this ministry. If you have been on the property before, you already know how amazing it is, and we are excited to welcome you back. Camp Jubilee is your Camp and Retreat Center. We want it to be a gift and a blessing to all. Our desire is that it would be a place of rest, a place of reflection, and a place of renewal. We trust it will be



GINNIE RAINES

Worshippers enjoy an outdoor celebration of Holy Eucharist on the Day of Jubilee at our new camp property in 2025.

a place where faith is strengthened, a place where lifelong friendships are formed, and a place where children and adults will encounter the living Christ.

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## St. John-Holy Trinity Seeks Support for Structural Repairs

By Joy Hunter, Editor

For nearly two centuries, St. John's Chapel at the corner of Hanover and Amherst Streets in Charleston has served as a beacon of worship and ministry. Today, the chapel is continuing in a new phase, facing new challenges—not only the uniting of two congregations but also the restoring of its physical structure to enable it to continue bringing hope and the love of Christ to their parish family and surrounding community.

In 2024, under Bishop Chip Edgar's direction, the congregation of Holy Trinity, Charleston (which had lost its property in a legal dispute with the Episcopal Church), combined with the congregation of St. John's Chapel. The Rev. Canon David Dubay, who had served as Holy Trinity's rector since 2009, was assigned to oversee both.



DAVID DUBAY

Made of solid pine and installed in 1839, the columns suffered from termite damage.

While, as expected, there are challenges merging two congregations with two distinct cultures,

they now face additional challenges pertaining to structural issues with their property.

### Structural Issues

"We were just getting settled," said Dubay, "and about two weeks in, one of the four columns holding up the porch gave way."

The columns, made of solid pine, were original to the building, which dates to 1839. "There was some termite damage noticed a few years back," said Dubay, "but it wasn't addressed, just patched and painted over."

The church contracted with ACON Construction to oversee the repairs.

"We've got a wonderful construction company," said Dubay. "It's

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## "Why I Walk." A 17-Year Walk for Water Participant Shares Story

By Dr. Linda Karges-Bone, St. Paul's Anglican Church, Summerville

On March 21, 2026 St. Paul's Anglican Church in Summerville will dispatch what is shaping up to be a formidable team to participate in the 20th annual Walk for Water event through Water Mission. This Christian engineering firm based in Charleston, SC provides water and sanitation units, living out its mission to honor God by developing, implementing, and sharing best-in-class, safe water solutions that transform as many lives as possible, as quickly as possible.



© WATER MISSION

Above, a young girl in Indonesia gets a glass of clean drinking water from a Water Mission project.

The mission is critical, with over two billion people lacking access to safe water. This crisis results in the death of one person every 37 seconds due to water-borne illness,

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# Gospel Identity vs. Expressive Individualism

The Difference Between “Come As You Are” and “Stay As You Are” and the Importance of Christian Community

By Lea Andrews, St. Philip's Church, Charleston

Time after time, the Mere Anglicanism Conference has addressed societal issues of extreme importance, but the 2026 theme, “You Are Not Your Own: Gospel Identity in an Age of Expressive Individualism,” could be the most urgent to date. This year's speakers were called on to help us understand how we got here — to this point in history that has us looking to ourselves rather than toward God for answers — and to equip us, both clergy and lay people alike, to spread the Gospel in a culture that may be reluctant to hear it.

## The Rev. Dr. Carl Trueman: “Where Does It End? Expressive Individualism’s ‘Brave New World’”

Following the opening Choral Evensong service at St. Philip's Church on Thursday, January 22, the Rev. Dr. Carl Trueman was the first of seven speakers to take the podium at the Charleston Music Hall. Trueman, a British theologian and author with degrees from Cambridge and the University of Aberdeen, offered both a wakeup call and seeds of hope for our future.

First, what is expressive individualism? “It's the idea that the thing that really constitutes us, that makes us significant, that grants us a feeling of value,” explained Trueman, “are the feelings we have inside and our ability to express them and be respected for them or accepted for them by the world at large.” While this may seem somewhat innocuous, Trueman pointed out that it's a dramatic shift in thinking from just 50 years ago, when terms such as “job satisfaction” were unheard of. Rather than relating to one's own psychological satisfaction, “job satisfaction” in those days would have related entirely to how one's job allowed



JOY HUNTER

Panel discusses questions posed by moderator, the Rev. Dr. John Dickson.

oneself to fulfill obligations to other people, to “bring home the bacon.”

Part of this shift from the teleological is related to what Trueman referred to as the “crumbling of external authority.” Over time, the purpose-driven life came to be seen as oppressive, and we are now living in “choose your own destiny” times, when any bit of external pressure to change oneself in any way — to dress more modestly or to curb foul language, for example — is seen as a threat to one's authenticity.

How does the tape play out then? It's a difficult question because the goalpost keeps moving: once one issue stabilizes, another comes along. But essential to limiting the destruction of our society is the rebuilding of our understanding of what it means to be human as made in the image of God, to recapture

embodiment, recapture friendship, and recapture rituals — and that happens in the church. We cannot simply legislate this problem away. “The real recapturing of humanity, the real thing that will place limits on the insanity of the world around us, are the communities of faithful Christian believers who take humanity seriously,” said Trueman. This focus on community was the common thread that was woven through the

pointing to the Enlightenment and the turn towards the subject as the catalyst. Back that up with Marx and the rise of critical theory and Freud's push towards therapy, and all of a sudden it's the 1980s and 90s and the American academic world is exhausted and primed for the next big idea. Forty years later, instead of deconstructing texts, we're deconstructing boy and girl.

We as Christians have our work cut out for us, which Mohler outlined in a rapid-fire homework assignment with 12 points at the end of his lecture. Among our instructions is to embrace the plan set out for us in Genesis — to be fruitful and multiply. “We may not be able to outmaneuver them,” said Mohler, “but we can outbreed them... Raise them, surrounded by the gospel, and raise them, instructing them in the commands of God, and get them ready for a challenge which will be even greater than our own.” The embodied reality of Christian marriage and family is a powerful antidote to expressive individualism.

conference.

## Albert Mohler Jr.: “How Did We Get Here? Tracing the Development and Embrace of the Tenets of Expressive Individualism in Western Culture.”

The next morning, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Albert Mohler Jr., who endeared himself to the audience by sharing that while he's Baptist by theology, he's “Anglican by taste” (a term happily adopted by some of the speakers who followed), delved further into the rise of expressive individualism and “the stunning situation in which we now find ourselves.”

Mohler compressed a college-level modern philosophy course into one sitting while

## Michael Nazir-Ali: “Dying to Live: Jesus' Ethic for Finding Fulfillment.”

Monsignor Michael Nazir-Ali, who served as Bishop of Rochester in the Church of England but now, as a Roman Catholic, is Prelate of Honour of His Holiness to the Holy See, brought the focus to selflessness, service, and sacrifice. He pointed out that our bodies cannot be separated from ourselves just as our minds cannot (“I am in the wrong body” has no medical or scientific basis) and that we are made — one for another — with a common task: to make and nurture a family, which men and women fulfill in their own way.

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## Gentle, Welcoming Points of Connection

### All Saints' Hosts Game Night and Narnia Series

By Chelsea Hamshaw, All Saints', Florence



PROVIDED

In a culture marked by isolation and hurry, these nights offer a simple but powerful witness to the communion God intends for His people. Above, Jason Hamshaw explains the rules of a game.

Christian formation takes many faithful forms—through the gathered life of the Church, study, prayer, and the slow shaping of hearts and habits over time. At All Saints, we've found that some of the recent work of fellowship and formation is happening in very ordinary, but meaningful places—around a table with a board game, in shared laughter, and through stories that teach us of the “deeper magic from the dawn of time.”

Several times each year, we open our home for Family Game Nights as an expression of Christian hospitality and fellowship. We serve dinner—sometimes with a messy house, sometimes with laundry still on top of the dryer, but always in the spirit of the joy in hospitality. These evenings, inspired to some degree by Rosaria Butterfield's, “The Gospel Comes with a House Key” bring together young, single adults, busy families, and elderly parishioners—often on “unlikely” teams—where genuine fellowship, laughter, and meaningful connection can take root.

In a culture marked by isolation and hurry, these nights offer a simple but powerful witness to the communion God intends for His people. They have also become a gentle

and welcoming point of connection for visitors and unchurched friends from the wider community.

This winter, that same spirit of shared life has shaped a new teaching series centered on *The Chronicles of Narnia*. As a parish, we are reading one book each month together and gathering on the third Friday of each month for discussion, teaching, and “immersive” fun! Children will receive Narnia “passports” and a “stamp” for each book they read, alongside Narnia-themed meals, treats, and other immersive elements designed to awaken joy and wonder. Together, we are reflecting on Narnia as an isthmus—a narrow land that leads us toward the land we were truly made for. Through C.S. Lewis's faithful imagination, we'll explore themes of sacrifice, resurrection, obedience, and glory, learning how these stories train our hearts to recognize the deeper realities proclaimed in Scripture.

Whether gathered around a game table or stepping through a wardrobe into a story that points beyond itself, we give thanks for the quiet, faithful ways the Lord continues to form His people—drawing us toward joy, communion, and our true home in Christ.

## Let's Thrive Together!

Initiative Invites Gifts of \$100 per Year to Support Parishes Unable to Fund Full-Time Clergy

In January of 2026, Bishop Chip Edgar and I sat down to chat about the Thrive Together Initiative. Here's our conversation.

Joy Hunter, Editor

### Bishop, you launched the Thrive Together initiative in the fall of last year. How is it going?

It is going really well! Each time I visit a parish, I ask the Rector for a bit of time at the announcements so I can put in a plug for the Thrive Together Initiative. I'm amazed by the overwhelming positive response I get from folks each time I announce it. And the response has been amazing. I began talking about this in October and by the end of the year we had right at \$68,000 donated. That's mostly \$100 at a time—a really encouraging response!

I have had some folks who were troubled that I was asking for money during a service of Holy Eucharist, but the reality is, that's the only face-to-face time I'm able to get with the whole diocese. And, again, the response encourages me that it's a good approach.

### Can you describe the “why” behind it? Why do we need a Thrive Together fund?

We've got several churches—many of them churches which have been around for a long time as places where the faith has been lived out in teaching, worship, prayers, fellowship—in smaller communities that can't afford a full-time pastor. The demographics of most of those places are such that they could

support a pastor if the right person with the right support were there. I believe that if we as a whole diocese could cooperate with those congregations and get them a pastor, we'd see them grow, and, ultimately, become self-sustaining. The Thrive Together Initiative is a good-faith effort to test that out.

### And what was the actual “ask” per family?

Only \$100 dollars per year. And this is important — I make it clear that if a family (could be a single adult, a family, empty-nesters, whatever!) would struggle to give \$100, or if that \$100 gift in any way detracts from giving to the local parish, then I don't want

that gift. You get an absolute pass on this request. Do not feel obligated, or like you're letting down the team. I like to say that if you could lose a \$100 bill in the parking lot, and survive without disruption — that's the \$100 I'm asking for.

### If there was a specific goal for funds raised, have you reached it?

There's not a specific goal in mind. But I believe that if we were able to count on about \$180,000 a year (a little over half what the estimated capacity of the diocese is at \$100/family) for the next several years, we'd be able to help most of our churches in this situation.

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JOY HUNTER



## Day of Jubilee

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As the Lord continues to build Camp Jubilee, this yearly gathering will evolve as well. We look forward to a “Day of Jubilee!” a few years from now when we will kayak from our docks, and host a pickleball tournament on our new courts; a day when old friends are sitting on the rocking chairs on the porch of our dining hall reconnecting with lifelong friends; a day when kids are swimming in the Jubilee pool, and families are coming for the whole weekend to stay in one of our guest cottages. We look forward to a day when we will come together as God’s people in our chapel pavilion to hear His holy word, to sing His praises, and to feast at His table.

Beloved in Christ, our hearts are overflowing with gratitude for all the work that the Lord has begun through this ministry and on this magnificent piece of property. We look forward to a day when we will gather to give thanks to the Lord for bringing the property development of Camp Jubilee to completion. This place and this ministry will bless our diocese and will bless the world for generations to

come. We know the Lord can do this, and we believe He will. To Him be the glory, now and forever.



The property is located at 333 Brickyard Point Rd.,

South, in Beaufort. Please RSVP ahead of time by clicking the QR code or visiting <https://www.campjubileesc.org/>

# St. John’s Parish Church Moves Forward

An Interview with The Rev. Jeremy Shelton, Rector

Following a SC Supreme Court ruling in 2022, eight congregations in the ADOSC were required to relinquish their property to the Episcopal Church. All but one\* moved from their historic properties into temporary worship space. Here is an update from one of those congregations, St. John’s Parish Church on Johns Island.

**Jeremy, it’s been a while now since you’ve been out of your building. Tell us what’s been happening.**

We’ve been on this journey for three and a half years. In July, it’ll be four years. I was just saying on Sunday, in those three and a half years, we’ve had 15 years’ worth of experiences. Some were amazing and really great experiences, but some were tragic and traumas and hard to deal with. Some of them were just normal everyday things that churches go through. But the reality is we have packaged about 15 years’ worth of experiences into the last three.

**And where is your congregation worshipping now?**

We worship on Sunday mornings at Haut Gap Middle School here on Johns Island. We have about 175 on Sunday mornings for worship. We also have a space we call Resurrection Hall which we rent for our weekly operations.

**What’s Resurrection Hall like? Is it an office building?**

It’s about 3,000 square feet. We have office space; some meeting spaces; a small library; a kitchen; and a chapel as well that we have used when the school is not available to us. We have made it work for worship.



TIMOTHY GRIGGS

The congregation of St. John’s Parish Church worshipped on their new property on December 21, 2025. Above, the rector, the Rev. Jeremy Shelton, celebrates the Eucharist.

**And you rent it?**

We do. Between Resurrection Hall and Haut Gap Middle School and the one storage space we have, we pay about \$120,000 a year. It is insane. We are very eager and very motivated to get into our permanent space.

**So, that leads us to the big news. Tell us about what’s going on there. What’s happening with the property?**

In October of ‘23, we purchased outright a parcel of land that’s just under 22 acres. At the end of 2025, we completed a capital fundraising campaign where we raised \$4.7 million in pledges to develop the property. We affectionately call the property “Church Place.” Providentially, historically, the land we bought was actually owned by St. John’s Par-

ish Church. It was part of the original Glebe lands that go back to the middle 1700s. It is now the property of St. John’s Parish Church once again. We are now developing that land. We have a road already built onto the property and are in the process of finalizing the design process for our first buildings and are beginning the permitting process to build those buildings.

**What will you be able to do with the amount pledged so far?**

With the \$4.7 million we have pledged, we’re going to be able to build phase one, which will include a multi-purpose fellowship hall. We will worship in that space, which will also include a kitchen, gathering space, a couple of classrooms, and then also a second

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# The Rev. Drew Miller Becomes Rector of Saint James

By Joy Hunter, Editor

Saint James Anglican Church, in Charleston, began a new season of hope on February 2, 2026, with Bishop Chip Edgar’s institution of the Rev. Drew Miller as their new Rector.

In a message to the congregation, prior to his institution, Bishop Edgar shared, “I am convinced that Drew Miller is the priest that Saint James needs for the next phase of their life as a church... Saint James, I can only say how blessed you are that your Search Committee has done such a great job. I am eager to see what God has in store for your life together as the years unfold.”

Drew reflected, “It is an astonishing thing to think that the Lord has seen fit to bring me back to the islands I love so much – much less to call me to pastor such an historic community of faith. It is an honor, and a fearsome joy, and I’m just so grateful to be here. I’m eager to see what it means to share in the way of Jesus with this congregation, in this time and in this place.”

Speaking of those who had an influence on his ministry style he said, “I’m so grateful, to have had so many formative years serving under leaders I trust – Corey (Prescott), Rob



LARRY OWENS

Above, parishioner Jay Millen (center) presents the new rector with a Bible, “Drew, preach the Word at all times, and let our worship and our life together manifest the grace and truth of this Book.”

(Sturdy), and Todd (Simonis) to name a few. If I bring anything useful to the task, they are likely to blame.”

## The Many Versions of Drew

The Rev. Corey Prescott, Rector of St. John’s, Florence, under whom Drew had recently served as Assistant Rector, preached to the packed crowd. In his sermon, he gave a glimpse into who Drew is and what they could expect. The two had been friends as teens, both attending and serving at Camp St. Christopher together before going to seminary.

“Those camp days were my first introduction to Drew,” he said. “And for some reason or another, I have had a front-row view to many of the major stages of Drew’s life. Let me give you just a couple.

“There’s goofy-hat Drew. Those were the camp days. You remember it. Full-brimmed, khaki, fish all over it. I don’t know why he wore it. Not to attract the girls, that’s for sure.

“But it was one of those goofy things that kind of became endearing. And if you get to know Drew, there’s a few of those. And then, of course, seminary, there’s long-haired Drew. I have pictures to prove it.

“And then we spent some time together in Florence, where I got to know gray-haired Drew.

“One of those Sundays when Drew was serving alongside me at St. John’s, we were putting out the chairs for our outdoor service...

“He had some friends from Savannah who were going to join us for worship, Christ Church friends who were passing through town. He wanted to make sure I had a chance to speak to them after the service. And so I did. I asked them what it was that would cause them to want to stop and see Drew one more time.

“They said they missed a lot about him. I asked, ‘Why?’ Not that I was truly surprised, but I wanted to know what it was exactly. And they said one of the things they missed most, actually, was his preaching. And as I remember it, this

is what they said, ‘He has a way of hitting you with the full weight of the deepest conviction; the kind that makes you squirm a little bit; the kind that leaves you uncomfortable, uneasy. But then he doesn’t leave you there, but he leads you to the gospel’...

“It’s something I know personally because it is the way Drew preaches. It is one of the gifts he brings to the people of Saint James and to this community. And it is the way of the gospel to expose us for who we are, warts and all, but not to leave us there.

“Friends. Jesus brings us peace, but he does it through conflict. He does it through exposing what is true. Whether we want to admit that it’s true or not,

that’s the gospel. And if there’s anything held in common between all those versions of Drew that I know, it’s the gospel.”

## Reflecting on the service

“I was overwhelmed by the number of clergy who came, and a variety of family and friends from so many different seasons of ministry,” said Drew. “The St. Philip’s music crew was predictably amazing. Corey’s sermon was powerful, convicting and inspiring. And the food after! What a joyful evening.”

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“It’s an astonishing thing... to pastor such an historic community of faith. It is an honor and fearsome joy.”

# Classical Christian Education in the Heart of the Holy City

By The Rev. Justin Hare, St. Philip's Academy, St. Philip's Church, Charleston

Something very old is being birthed on the Charleston peninsula.

Through the generosity of many passionate about classical Christian education, St. Philip's Academy will welcome its inaugural class for the 2026-2027 academic year. Located on the beautiful, historic campus of St. Philip's Church at 51 State Street, St. Philip's Academy is now opening the doors of its newly renovated 15,000 square foot building for educational use. Beginning with K5-4th grade and adding a grade a year through 12th grade, St. Philip's Academy aims to serve the greater Charleston community and beyond for years to come.

You will not find smart boards, iPads, or laptops in its classrooms or corridors. Instead its curriculum is free from screen dependence. However, do not mistake a classical education for an antiquated one. For centuries classical graduates learned fortitude and patience through its rigorous curriculum. They developed diligence and temperance. They were filled with reverence toward their Creator and a sense of duty toward their fellow man. Many of our nation's founders received a classical education, and the revival of this form of education is an attempt to produce more of such men and women today when the need for wise, self-sacrificial leaders and principled, virtuous citizens is so pronounced.

If we wish to see such a recovery in our day, we must return to the old paths. Classical education centers on the classical languages of Latin



and Greek. Martin Cochran describes what was commonplace not that long ago:

*Beginning at about the age of eight, students were required to learn Latin and Greek grammar and to read the Roman historians Tacitus and Livy, the Greek historians Herodotus and Thucydides, and to translate the Latin poetry of Vergil and Horace. A formal education also stressed the seven liberal arts: grammar, logic, and rhetoric (the trivium), as well as arithmetic, geometry, astronomy, and music (the quadrivium).*

These were common requirements for entrance into American colleges and universities in the not so distant past. Such a course of study trained scholars how to think in an ever-shifting world. It was designed to shape the minds, mold the hearts, and develop the tastes of those fortunate enough to receive it. Yes, it gave scholars facility with the English language. It certainly sharpened their ability to think and communicate effectively. But it also



SARA BEAVER

*The mission of St. Philip's Academy is clear: to cultivate academic excellence through a classical Christian education, to inspire students to love and honor God and neighbor, and to prepare them to be principled leaders and citizens who serve others as ambassadors for Christ.*

did much more than that. It also instilled virtue and wisdom by immersing them into a wider culture.

Education, in the classical understanding, has always been chiefly concerned about the transmission of a culture more than mere information. It sought to pass on its customs and values, and in so doing, it gave the next generation an identity rooted in something beyond themselves. It did this by immersing its young

in the language, history, and stories that made that culture what it was. It was only as education became more technical and detached from the moorings of truth, goodness, and beauty, that Western civilization began to decline.

Something very old indeed is coming to Charleston, yet it is precisely what our society needs most. While the lights of this great 2,000-year-old Western tradition may appear dim and flickering today, their fires still burn as warm as ever. The mission of St. Philip's Academy is clear: *to cultivate academic excellence through a classical Christian education, to inspire students to love and honor God and neighbor, and to prepare them to be principled leaders and citizens who serve others as ambassadors for Christ.* Along with classical curriculum publisher Memoria Press, St. Philip's Academy seeks nothing short of saving Western civilization, one student at a time.

If you would like to learn more about classical education in general or St. Philip's Academy in particular, let me cordially invite you to join me, the founding Headmaster of St. Philip's Academy, for a community-wide, eight-week course called "Discovering Classical-A Special Forum on Classical Christian Education." This class has been developed in conjunction with Dr. Andrew Alwine, chair of the College of Charleston's Classics Department from 2020-2025, who will also take part in teaching portions of it. The course is free but space is limited, so registration is required. For more details and to register, please visit [www.stpacademy.org](http://www.stpacademy.org).

## 2026 Convention

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For the Ecclesiastical Court, we will elect two clergy and two lay people for three-year terms. Candidates include: the Very Rev. Gary Beson, the Rev. Chet Houston, Ashley Bryant Harbin, and Mikell Scarborough.

For the Provincial Assembly, we will elect nine clergy and nine lay people for three-year terms. Candidates include: the Rev. Canon Laura Bowman, the Very Rev. John Burwell, the Rev. Claudia Carruci, the Rev. Shay Gaillard, the Rev. Ryan Landes, the Rev. Cindy Larsen, the Rev. Canon Jim Lewis, the Rev. Zach Miller, the Rev. Hamilton Smith, John Benson, Janis Breazeale, Anna Bruner, Katherine Cannon, Ashley Bryant Harbin, Joy Hunter, Cathy Jacobs, Justin Johnson, and Jessica Smith.

## Procedural Changes

Two major procedural changes are being inaugurated this year, both born out of a sense of good stewardship. The first is that Convention documents will be emailed to churches on February 12 with a request for churches to print the documents and furnish copies to their clergy and delegates. A second email will go out on March 5 with the same request. All clergy and delegates will be responsible for bringing their own printed copies to the Convention. This change will result in a \$3,800 savings to the Diocese.

The second procedural change concerns the voting process. At last year's Provincial Assembly, the ACNA successfully introduced Vevox, a top-rated, real-time audience engagement and voting platform. Delegates simply use a smart phone or tablet to cast votes. ACNA offers the use of their Vevox license to dioceses at no charge. Changing from the old keypad system will save

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## "Why I Walk" Continued from page 1

mostly children under the age of five. In fact, 50% of hospital beds in developing nations are filled with patients suffering from water-borne disease. Negative ramifications echo throughout communities where children, typically girls, miss 43 million school days per year as they carry water for their families. In addition to missing out on education that might change their futures, these girls face dangers from wild animals, abduction, and attack. The situation is unfair and, for the members of St. Paul's, intolerable.

Our team will join with 5,000 other folks at the walk to raise funds and awareness for the global water crisis. The event has become the fourth-largest community gathering in Charleston, drawing families, corporate and nonprofit groups, and church teams to the beautiful Riverfront Park on the old Charleston Navy Base.

St. Paul's Anglican has long supported Water Mission as a beneficiary of funds raised during their annual Tea Room (see pg. 16). However, this new team adds a fresh impetus to the commitment to bringing both clean water and the Gospel "water of life" message to over 7 million people in 57 countries. Our team is co-captained by me (Dr. Linda Karges-Bone), a veteran leader of 17 teams, and the Rev. Fred Ochieng Onyango, a native of Kenya, one of the eight permanent mission countries where Water Mission has a presence and whose own mother



© WATER MISSION

*Dr. Bone with a quilt made from 16 years-worth of Walk for Water shirts.*

carried water for her family until she was 70 years old. The first running water was brought to her village by Water Mission. At press time, our St. Paul's team is #1 out of almost 100 teams in funds raised and so I was asked to explain my passion for and commitment to this work.

Seventeen years ago, I began a walk in faith that has shaped my perspective on life, purpose, and what matters. Becoming involved and working with an international

charity that brings water purification units to the most vulnerable on our planet enlightened and invigorated me. Now, with over \$150,000 in funds raised by my annual Walk for Water teams, I pause to reflect. Why do I spend three months every year as a volunteer for Water Mission? Why relentlessly campaign, write, post and boldly ask for support? I look backward to turning 50, a "watershed" experience for me. I know they say that 50 is the "new 30," and I certainly posted that pithy phrase on my Facebook page, but I still felt a certain pull at my own mortality. I had written 34

books and achieved tenure at my university. Some of you may remember my "Prayerful Parenting" messages on Christian radio. Clearly, life both personally and professionally had been fruitful. Yet, turning 50, I felt a strong, spiritual leading to use my talents for talking, writing, and encouraging to create something of substance, something more.

And, I walk every day, finding it invigorating and reflective. For me,

the annual Walk for Water speaks of taking action, "walking the walk." And it offered an opportunity to involve students at Charleston Southern University, where I was a professor for 37 years. I involved CSU folks until I retired and then cobbled together groups of like-minded folks who shared the vision until last year, when my priest at St Paul's, Father Fred, his wife Sophy and their four children registered to walk with my team. During the 2025 walk, Fred and Sophy and I talked about the possibility of curating a St Paul's team and they asked me to pray about it. I'd been worshipping with this Anglican community for about 10 years and appreciated the commitment to serving what our Rector, Father Tripp Jeffords, calls "the last, the least, and the lost."

Raising funds for Water Mission has become a calling. I don't mind asking people for money or, more importantly, inviting them to think about the reality of what girls and women face every day in places like Kenya, Mexico, Tanzania, Peru, Honduras, and Uganda, not to mention the refugees in Ukraine and other places destroyed by war or natural disasters.

Water Mission is often the first, first responder when disaster strikes and I respect that. Without a clean water supply, Doctors without Bor-

ders, the Red Cross and others cannot deliver their essential services. Water changes everything. That is so powerful. I think John 4:14 captures the mission. *"But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life."*

An interesting thing unfolded over the past 17 years and I can only attribute it to God. Every year after year five, when I raised \$5,000, my stated goal was exceeded

and it ended up being the number of years we engaged as a team. So, for year eight it would end up \$8,250 and for year 11 \$11,480 and so on through last year when we topped \$16K for year 16 as a team. People are so generous, so caring. Sometimes, a friend who is not a believer will hand me a check saying Christian organizations have "turned them off" over the years but "This is different." Clearly, the Spirit speaks when we cannot. Join us. Or, send our team a gift. My link for the "St. Paul's Anglican" team is: <https://walkforwater.rallybound.org/2026-walk-for-water/Team/View/220306/St-Pauls-Anglican-Summerville>.

St. Paul's Anglican leads fundraising with their Walk for Water team.



PROVIDED

Campers and a counselor from a 2025 session enjoy time in the pool.

## Summer Camp Begins May 29

Jesus: Our True and Better Shepherd

By Justin Johnson, Camp Director, Camp Jubilee

Summer will be here before you know it, and that means camp is just around the corner! This summer we are excited to continue to host sessions at Camp Kinard outside of Lexington, SC, while also hosting our first-ever Adventure Week in the mountains at Camp Hannon in Sunset, South Carolina. Just as we do at a traditional week of camp, Adventure Week campers will sleep in Camp Hannon's newly renovated cabins and enjoy delicious cooked meals in their dining hall. However, these campers will also have an opportunity to participate in activities such as rock climbing on a natural rock face, completing a seven-station zip-line course, axe throwing, and even tubing offsite on the French Broad River, and hiking on the Blue Ridge Parkway!

Regardless of what session campers attend, they will enjoy a fun array of activities, be welcomed into an intentional and joyful community, and will encounter the Lord through scripture, worship, and prayer. This summer our theme is "True and Better" in which we will look at the story of David and Goliath in 1 Samuel and ultimately learn that Jesus is our true and better shepherd, savior, and king.

Whether your family has participated in Camp Jubilee in the past or this would be your first summer, we invite you to join us for what is sure to be another amazing year of camp! To learn more and to register, visit <https://www.campjubileesc.org/>

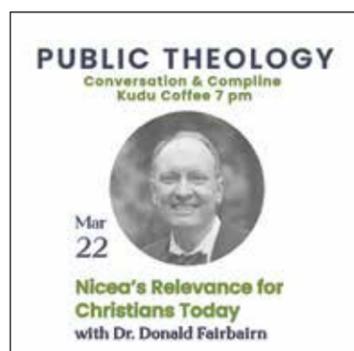


2026 Camp Schedule	
SESSION 1: K-2ND BUDDY CAMP @ CAMP KINARD	FRI-SAT: MAY 29-30
SESSION 2: 2ND-4TH @ CAMP KINARD	MON-THUR: JUNE 1-4
SESSION 3: K-2ND BUDDY CAMP @ CAMP KINARD	FRI-SAT: JUNE 5-6
SESSION 4: 6TH-8TH @ CAMP KINARD	MON-SAT: JUNE 8-13
SESSION 5: 3RD-5TH @ CAMP KINARD	MON-FRI: JUNE 15-19
SESSION 6: 4TH-6TH @ CAMP KINARD	SUN-THUR: JUNE 28-JULY 2
SESSION 7: 9TH-12TH SENIOR SESSION @ CAMP KINARD	SUN-FRI: JULY 5-10
SESSION 8: 7TH-9TH ADVENTURE WEEK @ CAMP HANNON	MON-SAT: JULY 13-18
SESSION 9: 3RD-5TH @ CAMP KINARD	TUES-SAT: JULY 21-25

## Cathedral Offers Public Theology Event

Many Anglican churches say the Nicene Creed in worship every Sunday. But what if this 1700-year-old creed feels outdated or even unnecessary in our time? How might the story of Nicea breathe fresh life into our weekly confession of faith? The Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul invites you to join them at Kudu Coffee located at 4 Vanderhorst Street in Charleston for an evening with patristics scholar Dr. Donald Fairbairn from Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary as he helps us understand Nicea's significance today.

The event is free, though you are urged to support Kudu Coffee with a food and/or beverage purchase.



# Saint Luke's Opens "Doors and Hearts" to International Students

By June Smith, Saint Luke's Anglican Church, Hilton Head

This past year parishioners at Saint Luke's Anglican Church in Hilton Head had the opportunity to host international students from the University of South Carolina and Columbia International University during their Thanksgiving break.

As the Chair of our parish's Mission Committee, I am always on the lookout for ways we can reach beyond our church community. Having ministered to international students with The Navigators when I lived in Columbia, I have a special heart for international students.

In Columbia I partnered with International Friendship Ministry (IFM), which for over 40 years has welcomed international students to South Carolina. It is the desire of IFM to show the love of Christ in practical ways to our international friends.

Some of those ways include hosting a weekly dinner, pairing students with friendship partners, and taking students on excursions in the region.

For our outreach at Saint Luke's, students came to Hilton Head on Wednesday and stayed with hosts from Saint Luke's until Sunday. During their time with us, they got to experience a traditional Thanks-

commented, "You not only opened up your doors, but you opened up your hearts."

It was a beautiful reflection of the Body of Christ at work as the hosts joined with the students for



PROVIDED

For our outreach at Saint Luke's, students came to Hilton Head on Wednesday and stayed with hosts from Saint Luke's until Sunday. During their time with us, they got to experience a traditional Thanksgiving holiday, tour Hilton Head and Savannah, and attend Saint Luke's on Sunday morning.

giving holiday, tour Hilton Head and Savannah, and attend Saint Luke's on Sunday morning.

The group included 14 internationals and two IFM staff representing eight countries: Oman, Iran, Nigeria, Colombia, India, Taiwan, China and Hong Kong.

What a great opportunity it was to bless the students and the parishioners at Saint Luke's. One student

Thanksgiving and some of the other activities. The hosts at Saint Luke's all expressed what a wonderful and enriching experience it was for them. This was Saint Luke's second year to host internationals and has now become an annual tradition as it clearly brings blessings to all participants.

## "Comfort, Comfort" Hamshaw Album Released

Trusting God When the "Outcome is Hidden or Not What We Wanted"

By Chelsea Hamshaw, All Saints' Church, Florence

Chelsea Hamshaw serves as the Administrator and Director of Music at All Saints' Church and is married to the Rector, the Rev. Jason Hamshaw who was diagnosed with cancer in 2023.

The Christian life is often marked by endurance, waiting, and trusting God to act when the way forward is hidden. Scripture resounds with the cries of the prophets, the call to prepare our hearts, and the promise that Christ has come to ransom his people—and will come again to make all things new. We live between promise and fulfillment, learning again and again how to hope in the dark and to listen for the voice that still cries, "Prepare the way of the Lord."

For our family, that posture of waiting became intensely real over the past year. After a year of radiation, chemotherapy, and major surgery on Jason's primary tumor — and a brief window of hope that cancer might be a word behind us — we learned that a new tumor had developed in his liver. The news came with all the dread and frailty such words bear. Even as ordinary life continued with our four boys, I was learning the hard lesson of what it means to not give way to fear, even when worry lingers heavy in the air.

That tension — between fear and trust — eventually became the bridge to the short album *Comfort, Comfort*. It was written as a trembling trust that even here, in uncertainty, Christ is near — and that He will accomplish His purposes.

Isaiah's words, which we often read in Advent, echoed in my heart: "Comfort, comfort my people, says your God." There is still a tender word to come. Even in the deep valley, the God of the Highest Heaven gives songs in the night (Job 35:10), for He Himself has gone to far greater depths.

*Wait*, a song on the album, was written in a hospital waiting room shortly after Jason's diagnosis. The words came quietly, shaped by the long hours outside treatment rooms and the desperate longing to see the Lord's hand in the dark:

"I wait for the Lord, in the watches of the night, His eye is on



MICAH MCCOY

That tension — between fear and trust — eventually became the bridge to the short album *Comfort, Comfort*. It was written as a trembling trust that even here, in uncertainty, Christ is near — and that He will accomplish His purposes.

me. I wait for the Lord, in the longing, in the dark His light is still seen. So then come, Lord Jesus, healing Shepherd. Far as the curse is found, oh make us whole."

That song became a watchman's prayer. This refrain became a continual reminder to me that waiting is not passive, but the steady posture of those who trust that God is at work for our highest good, even when the outcome is hidden, or not what we wanted.

That promise met me in hospital corridors and in the many sleep-

# BSF Brings an Aroma of the Word

Community, Scripture, and the Quiet Work of God through Bible Study Fellowship

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

*“BSF has grown me in studying the Word of God more deeply, and the meaningful, intentional prayers for each other bring us into deep fellowship with one another.”*

— Gail

As I begin my tenth year at Our Saviour, I’m more convinced than ever that God knows exactly where He has placed this church — and why. After nearly a decade of ministry on the Sea Islands, I’ve come to know our community well. Many here are retired or semi-retired (though some are still working full time). Many are empty nesters, grandparents, volunteers, neighbors who are deeply invested in the life of this place.

And two themes have stood out consistently over the years: a genuine need for community and a real hunger for the Word of God.

From the beginning, small groups have been one of the primary ways Our Saviour has met those two longings. Weekly discipleship groups, men’s and women’s Bible studies, and book groups have become vital spaces where relationships deepen and faith is formed. These gatherings have not only strengthened those already part of our parish but have also reached people who were searching — sometimes for a church, sometimes simply for meaning — while drawing all of us further into mature discipleship.

## When BSF Entered the Story

About three years ago, Lori Newsom approached me with a question: would Our Saviour consider hosting a Bible Study Fellowship? I was somewhat familiar with BSF — my daughter had participated in one while living in Houston — so I wasn’t concerned about the content. What I hadn’t fully grasped yet was the potential impact.

Lori helped me see that BSF is not just a Bible study but a lay-led, interdenominational ministry of teaching and training that aligns beautifully with our mission of Disciples Making Disciples. It wasn’t just about what might happen within our walls, but what God could do through this church for the wider community.

Despite the fact that we were in the middle of a massive renovation — dust, noise, and all — BSF launched here two years ago

with a study of the book of Revelation. I’ll admit, my reaction echoed Gamaliel’s words in the book of Acts: a group of women studying the end times in a construction zone? “Well, if this is of God, there’s no stopping it.”

And there wasn’t.

## How It Works — and Why It Matters

BSF’s rhythm is both simple and profound: trained hostesses gather and greet, teaching is offered through recorded instruction, and small groups engage in thoughtful discussion. Throughout the week, participants continue with assigned reading, prayer, and written reflection. Last year they studied the Gospel of John, followed by several shorter “mini-studies.” This January they are exploring the book of Esther, and in February they will begin a year-long study titled Exile and Return, focusing on Ezekiel, Daniel, Ezra, Haggai, Zechariah, Nehemiah, and Malachi.

The BSF hosted at Our Saviour is a women’s gathering, though BSF also offers studies for men and children (learn more at [www.bsfindernational.org](http://www.bsfindernational.org)).

## The Fruit We’ve Seen

One participant put it simply:

*“Attended my first BSF group last season... only regret is that I didn’t start sooner! Grateful for the study and fellowship that goes hand in hand. Humbled to be part of such a God-led group.”*

— Debbie V

Each Monday at 10 a.m., there is an unmistakable energy in the building. As the women gather, there is joy, expectancy, and a



KARL BURNS

*“Lori helped me see that BSF is not just a Bible study but a lay-led, interdenominational ministry of teaching and training that aligns beautifully with our mission of Disciples Making Disciples. It wasn’t just about what might happen within our walls, but what God could do through this church for the wider community.” Above, women gather at the Church of our Saviour.*

shared desire to grow deeper in God’s Word. Over time, something else has developed — an aroma, if you will. The aroma of the glory of God.

The apostle Paul captures this beautifully in 2 Corinthians 2:14–15: *“But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.”*

When the BSF ladies depart around 11:30, there is a lingering sense of the Holy Spirit’s presence here at Our Saviour. I’m deeply thankful for that. But even more, I’m grateful that this fragrance does not stay behind. It goes with them — into homes, neighborhoods, volunteer organizations, coffee shops, and conversations — among those who are being saved and those still searching. While a few BSF participants have found their church home at Our Saviour, the greater fruit has been something broader and quieter: our doors opened wider, our witness strengthened. The Church of Our Saviour is increasingly known as a “city on a hill,” a place where the Word of God is preached, studied, and carried into the world.

And that, I believe, is exactly where God intends us to be.

## CtK Holds Worship Night for Area Students

By Julianna Fletcher, Christ the King, Pawleys Island

At the end of last year, students from across the Waccamaw Neck gathered at Christ the King, Pawleys Island for a Student Worship and Testimony Night — an evening marked by Scripture, worship, and powerful stories of God at work among young people.

The night was the fruit of an organic movement that began earlier this year when Christ the King’s Student Minister, Banks Wise, and summer youth intern, Mary Darby Moore, launched a simple weekly gathering called Beaches and Bibles. The first week drew just five students—and far too much pizza—but like the early Church described in Acts 2, the Lord “added to their number” week by week as students intentionally invited friends. What began as a small summer group steadily grew into a vibrant student community marked by friendship, prayer, and Scripture.

Alongside this growth, the student ministry expanded its reach beyond formal gatherings. Banks invested relationally in students throughout the community — meeting them where they were through fishing trips, basketball games, breakfasts, school practices, and sporting events. This outward-facing approach also strengthened the parachurch ministry of Young Life in the Waccamaw Neck, deepening collaboration and shared care for local students.

These connections led to the idea of gathering all these students together for a single evening of worship and testimony. The event, held December 17, began at 7:40 p.m., inspired by Luke 7:40, where Jesus says, *“I have something to tell you.”* Throughout the evening, students read Scripture, shared personal testimonies of how Jesus had spoken into their lives, and were led in worship by a nine-member student band. Students came from many schools and backgrounds, filling the Christ the King campus with energy, reverence, and joy.

One particularly moving testimony came from Mike, a sophomore at Georgetown High School, who shared, “I came to the Christ the King student ministry at a very low place in my life after losing my grandpa and suffering a serious football injury. I made new friends, had fun, and it helped get my head away from the bad things in my life.”

The evening was a vivid reminder of the power of presence, invitation, and faithful investment in young people — and of Christ’s ongoing work in drawing students to Himself through authentic community and worship.

## St. John’s Parish Church

Continued from page 3

building that’s going to have offices and classrooms as well. Phase two will be to build the more grand sanctuary.

### Do you have the building plans already?

All that is being finalized right now. We are just at the ending stages of the design process. But we’re getting really close to having those things ready for publishing. We’re just not quite ready yet. It’s going to be a nice open design with vaulted ceilings and exposed wood. It’s very beautiful and functional at the same time.

We were able to have our first service on the property this past December. We had a service of Lessons and Carols, with Holy Communion. It was glorious. More than 200 people came to worship the Lord and walk around the new property.

### Ah... fabulous! Switching gears now, what are some of the challenges you’re facing at this point or what’s been difficult?

I think I said last year when we did this update that we face a



TIMOTHY GRIGGS

St. John’s parishioners worship on the grounds of their new property.

lot of the same challenges a church plant faces, and that’s still the case. I really believe we are still in the phase of essentially going through what those in the Book of Acts were going through, trying to build things. We’re in a facility on Sunday mornings that we don’t have any control over. Last summer, for example, the big hurdle for us was that the school was closed because they were renovating. We couldn’t

use our normal worship space for 10 weeks out of the year. That’s a large chunk of time to not be able to have regular worship space.

### Did you lose people during that time?

No, no, no. The Lord has been faithful in that from the very beginning. The challenge is that we don’t have a permanent space. We need a

permanent space. But the blessing is that the congregation knows that, sees that, and is highly motivated to make it happen, to make our new future permanent home happen. That’s been a great blessing.

Another challenge for us is that I’m the only clergy for 350-plus people. We have a couple of retired priests who help out from time to time, and I’m thankful for that. But the reality is we need a full-time associate. I’ve been in the process of trying to find a full-time associate for a while now, and things just haven’t come together yet.

I’m hopeful that the Lord will provide that sometime this year. And then also, hopeful that the Lord will continue to provide the financial means necessary to keep that associate on long term. Those are two of the bigger challenges right now. Finding an associate and being able to keep the associate. Then also, the big hurdles at this point are going to be the permitting process for building, constructing and developing Church Place. That’s always a big one, getting through all the permits and all the red tape.

### What is something good that’s come out of this season?

The Lord’s provision, easily. Every time we need something financially, it’s there. Just enough for what we need. Just enough money to construct the road that was permitted to be built. It was there. We didn’t have to take out any loans or anything like that to purchase the property. We told the congregation, “This is a piece of property we like, that we think would be good for us to own. Do you see that vision with us?” And the congregation responded overwhelmingly, and we were able to purchase the property outright — pay cash for it, no loans. The same thing has been working out so far financially with the building campaign. The Lord has provided everything we need at the right time. I’ve got no reason to believe that that’s going to stop anytime soon, that he will provide an associate for us at the right time. It’s going to be the right one called at the right time, and that he will also provide financially to support

Continued on Page 15

## OSA Parishioners Ring the Bell with Enthusiasm

Nearly One in Three Parishioners Participate in Community Outreach



BRENDA RINDGE

*"It doesn't surprise me that so many people volunteered," said the church's rector, the Rev. Marshall Huey. "It's what this church does." Above, Tom and Lynda Higgins take a turn.*

Some might say the parishioners at Old St. Andrew's are a bunch of ding-a-lings. In November and December, OSA members and friends rang a bell in front of the Lowe's Foods less than a mile from the church and collected \$4,250 for the local Salvation Army, which serves Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester counties.

It was part of the Salvation Army's annual Red Kettle Campaign, a 134-year-old international tradition that provides humanitarian aid.

"When Old St. Andrew's picked up the bell, they picked up the mission," said Salvation Army Capt. Josh Davis. "Every coin dropped was more than a donation. It was an act of love, a signal of hope, and a reminder that the Gospel still rings loud in our streets."

After Josh talked about the Red Kettle at the church's Outreach Committee in October, Christian Education Director Brenda Rindge committed church members to an ambitious 100 hours of volunteering.

"When I saw that OSA was signed up for so many hours, I felt it would be a meaningful experience for our family," said parishioner Jean Bartlett.

Jean, her husband Bill, and sons Bo, 13, and Tyler James, 8, decided to give an hour a week to the cause that supported her uncle years ago when he served in Vietnam.

"It was special to have an entire hour of uninterrupted time together as a family," Jean said. "We enjoyed dressing up in our holiday gear, and the boys took turns ringing the bell in 10-minute rotations."

*Continued on Page 9*

## Shaped by Nashotah House

"I didn't realize then just how much this place would shape me—not just as a seminarian, but as a husband, a father and a servant of the Church."

By Kurt Walters, Senior MDIV, Candidate for Holy Orders, ADOSC, Church of the Holy Spirit, Daniel Island

When I first arrived at Nashotah House Theological Seminary, it was a rainy day and driving onto campus the first time, the emerald trees arched over the road like a cathedral and the gothic buildings rose with quiet dignity. It felt almost like I had stepped out of time. This House was unlike anywhere else I had ever been. You can feel that it's touched by history — professors who shaped generations, traditions carried on in liturgy, prayers soaked into the stones, and rhythms handed down by those who came before us. At the start, I knew I was joining something bigger than myself, but I didn't realize then just how much this place would shape me — not just as a seminarian, but as a husband, a father, and a servant of the Church.

Now, two years in with one left to go, I can see more clearly how this place has shaped my story, my studies, and even my friendships. Nashotah immerses us in Anglican history, but it isn't dusty history. It's alive. We chant the psalms, walk the cloister, and share meals in the same rhythms as generations before us. The faith of those before me has quietly become part of mine.

The House stretches me in ways I didn't expect. The courses press me deep into Scripture, the writings of the Church Fathers, and the great theologians of our tradition invite us into a living, grounded ministry. We are part of a community; this has been as important as the classes. Living, worshiping, studying, and eating together has forged lasting bonds. This is a community of people who have prayed with me when I was worn down, encouraged me in seasons of doubt, and shared laughter that made the effort lighter.

Much of the formation is outside the campus halls. Serving at the local parish of St. Michael's showed me what it means to step into the rhythms of parish life: teaching, preaching, walking with people through both joys and struggles. Clinical Pastoral Education at St. Camillus retirement community stretched me even more. Sitting with people in moments of illness, vulnerability, or even at the end of life taught me that ministry isn't about clever words — it's about presence. I learned the grace of silence, the gift of listening, and how even fragile people like me can still carry God's love.

This year, I've been serving as Senior Refectorian (The refectory is our dining hall). It may sound simple, but the work cleaning the tables, sweeping floors, and washing dishes has been one of the most rewarding things I've

This year, I've been serving as Senior Refectorian (The refectory is our dining hall). It may sound simple, but the work cleaning the tables, sweeping floors, and washing dishes has been one of the most rewarding things I've done. Leadership here isn't about authority; it's about hospitality, about helping others eat and find rest. It has reminded me that ministry at its heart is never about recognition but about charity expressed quietly and faithfully in service.



KURT WALTERS

*Our children have given up much too. At ten and seven, they have had to say goodbye to friends and step into a new life shaped by the seminary rhythms. Slowly, they are beginning to see that this journey is not just their father's — it is ours. They are learning that God uses entire families when He calls someone to serve His Church. Watching their resilience has been both humbling and inspiring. Walters, above, with his family.*

done. Leadership here isn't about authority; it's about hospitality, about helping others

eat and find rest. It has reminded me that ministry at its heart is never about recognition but about charity expressed quietly and faithfully in service.

In life, I have learned lessons from both heavy and gentle hands. The heavy hand can teach resilience, but rarely teaches how to lead. It has been from the gentle hand — gentle mentors, gentle friends, gentle nudges of God's Spirit — that I have learned what true leadership looks like: patience, humility, and compassion. Gentleness is the soil where real strength grows.

Yet perhaps the most profound formation is not mine alone — it belongs to my family as well. Danielle, my wife, has been formed through this journey in her own way. Teaching remotely during a season when higher education is being reshaped by artificial intelligence, she has carried the stress and uncertainty of her work with remarkable grace. At the same time, she has stood beside me, supporting my calling

with quiet strength. Her sacrifice is what has made my road safe to travel.

Our children have given up much too. At ten and seven, they have had to say goodbye to friends and step into a new life shaped by the seminary rhythms. Slowly, they are beginning to see that this journey is not just their father's — it is ours. They are learning that God uses entire families when He calls someone to serve His Church. Watching their resilience has been both humbling and inspiring.

When I stop and reflect, I keep coming back to that great commandment: to love God, love my neighbor, and love myself. And not reluctantly — but joyfully. Joy, I'm learning, is the true mark of love. It's what makes service light instead of heavy. It's what keeps us moving forward, even when the way is hard.

So here I am — two years in, with one to go. I stand at the beginning of a new trail. Nashotah has shaped me deeply. It has formed my walk with God, my learning, my family, my friendships, and my leadership. It has taught me that the greatest leaders are servants with gentle hands and joyful hearts.

Nashotah House is not just a place. It has been a catalyst, an institute of character, and a community of saints in training — sending me out to do the work the Lord intends for me. Years from now, whether I stand at the altar, visit a hospital room, or gather around a parish table, I know the lessons of Nashotah will still echo. The emerald trees, the gothic stones, and the rain-washed pavement will always remind me of the place where God formed me — and where He will continue to form others for his church.

## Comfort, Comfort *Continued from page 5*

less hours before dawn. I began to understand that the comfort of God is not the absence of sorrow, but His presence within it — the Shepherd who gathers His lambs close to His heart and walks with His people through the valley of the shadow.

This second year of chemotherapy has been darker than the first, yet the Lord's tender care has been ever nearer. Through it all, our church family has embodied that comfort — praying with us, singing with us, holding our boys, and reminding us again and again that the Light shines in the darkness,

and the darkness cannot overcome it. I am more grateful than ever that God has ordained the Church as the means by which we walk out a life of faith together.

*Comfort, Comfort* was written from this place — songs of vigil for a waiting people. Though they were formed during a season traditionally set apart for watching and hope, they are meant for any time when the road feels long and the future unclear. Christ has come into the world once, and He will come again — to judge, to heal, and to make all things new. Our waiting is not

empty; it is full of His promises and the sure hope that the story ends in glory.

This work has also opened the door to what comes next. Songs have come in an unbidden and often sudden way through this season. To be honest, I never thought I'd bear the title songwriter, but often these songs are written within just an hour or two of sitting at the piano or picking at the guitar. The Lord has met me with many words of comfort, and my prayer is that these songs would meet others who find themselves in seasons of suf-

fering and darkness. I rejoice that our God is one who does "give us songs in the night." I'm currently at work on a new EP to be released in Lent, continuing to explore the mystery of suffering and glory, and the deep comfort found in knowing that Christ will lead us through no darker door than He has gone before. These songs are shaped by the same conviction: that our hope rests not in escape from suffering, but in the assurance that Jesus has entered fully into it, and that His glory is revealed not apart from the cross, but through it.



*Comfort, Comfort* is available on Apple Music, Spotify, Pandora, Bandcamp, Amazon Music, and other major streaming platforms, as well as CDs.

# Lives Transformed When We Answer the Call

The Bridge Church and International Abba Ministries Make a Difference in the Lives of the Homeless

By Mark Von Allmen, Saint James Anglican Church, James Island

*“There is a time to plant and a time to harvest what is planted.” Ecclesiastes 3:2*

When this takes place in the soil, it is so much more predictable than when it plays out in our lives or in the life of a church or ministry. Often, we may not even remember planting the seeds that come to harvest.

Such was the case this past fall when Christ St. Paul’s hosted a conference called “Go Ye Therefore.” The purpose was to encourage parishioners and churches to impact the lost in their communities for Jesus. That may seem to make this article about planting seeds, but it really is much more about the fluidity of seedtime and harvest.

## On Fire for Missions

It was in the fall of 2014 when Saint James Anglican on James Island began a movement towards local mission work. I was fresh off a second mission trip serving the LAMB Institute in Honduras. After that, everything changed for me.

The feeling of mission trips is always so great as you set aside time and money to let God work through you, and then discover what is more profound is what the Holy Spirit does in you. Why wait for the next mission trip?

I began looking for local outreach opportunities Saint James could become involved in when I picked up a copy of the Jubilate Deo from church one Sunday. In that edition I found an article about the Bridge Church, an outreach being led by Tom Hample and the Cathedral to serve the homeless. They provided a church service with music, a message, a meal, and ministry on Saturday nights. I spoke with Tom, and he invited me to join them the following Saturday.

Soon, we were being set on fire for local missions. Saint James, led by Arthur Jenkins at the time, and a congregation that always says “yes” to God when it comes to missions, jumped into the rotation serving one Saturday a month. We joined other Anglican churches that were called to partner with the Cathedral to bring the love of Jesus to the streets of Charleston.

In 2019, the Bridge Church was growing in scope, adding much-needed services for the homeless. However, when the city dispersed

the homeless from a tent city under the overpass at Huger Street, we, along with the people, moved to 529 Meeting Street, where we shared a space with Military Community Connections, which was fast becoming a resource to the homeless.

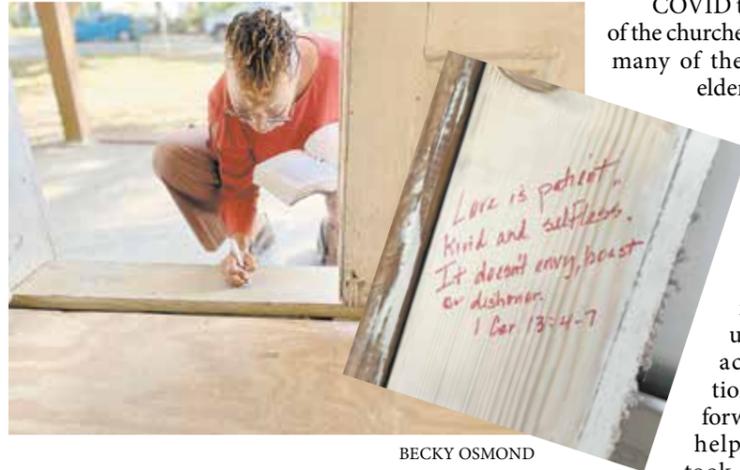
Less than a year later, COVID hit, and the Bridge Church had to adjust to provide takeout meals only, no message or ministry.

## Wanting to Do More

Leaving the Bridge Church on a cool, wet January night, I said a prayer many of us have prayed before, “Oh Lord, I wish I could do more.”

I heard Him say, “So why don’t you?”

With God’s leading, I connected with Jack Henley, a young man from Saint James who started International Abba Ministries (IAM), a ministry providing recovery housing for men struggling with various addictions. IAM’s goal was to bring healing by introducing these men to Jesus and discipling them going forward.



BECKY OSMOND

Prior to the carpentry finishing work, Evangeline Williams and other volunteers interested in the women’s house ministry walked through the house, praying for those who would be making their home inside and blessed the house, writing encouraging scripture verses into the construction.



TIM EVERETT

The need for the men’s and women’s ABBA houses are much greater than you can imagine. People are needed to mentor/befriend individuals and we have a great need right now for funds to complete construction of the women’s house and to provide funding for daily operations. Above, work continues on the women’s house.

The Lord saw a connection that needed to be made, and we began assisting with housing options for some of the homeless.

Soon afterward I joined IAM as the local director of operations, and we began renovating houses to provide a safe place where homeless men could meet Jesus and receive His love and forgiveness.

COVID took a toll on some of the churches involved because many of the volunteers were elderly and vulnerable.

With churches pulling out of the Bridge Church due to COVID 19, IAM, which was fast becoming a mixture of individuals from churches across denominational lines, stepped forward and, with the help of Saint James, took over running the Bridge Church.

Through God’s constant miraculous provision of finances and materials, IAM renovated

and filled a second house and then a third. We have now renovated four houses at a total cost of about \$200K+ and completed them for about \$60K.

Every time a need presents itself, God shows up!

We needed an HVAC unit and someone offered one before we even knew we needed it. We needed a licensed electrician and couldn’t afford one, and an electrician showed up at a Bible study saying he was looking for somewhere to donate his services. On and on it went to this very day.

We are reaching out for help now because the ministry is growing and the needs of these men are greater than our volunteers and finances can handle.

I am reminded by the Holy Spirit that in Matt. 9:38 Jesus said, “Ask the Lord of the harvest to send workers.” We did, and he continues to send them.

Currently, we are housing 12 men from all walks of life, ministering to them the healing power of the love of Jesus.

As the need grows, so do the number of workers. Led by the Holy Spirit they bring what God has told them to bring.

Some come from Anglican churches and lead their churches to support the Bridge Church, IAM, and the men’s houses.

- Church of the Resurrection, North Charleston has taken over the Bridge Church in North Charleston and provides support for the men’s houses.

- Two men from Mt. Pleasant (one from Christ Church and one from St. Andrew’s) work with the homeless, and start Bible studies at the houses.

- Old Saint Andrews, Charleston, provides manpower and financial support to the men’s houses as well as providing great support for our upcoming women’s house.

- Christ St. Paul’s in Hollywood gets involved as other churches do. One or two people answer the call and eventually it spreads to the church at large. One couple begins picking the guys up for church and providing jobs and whatever is needed. Another man comes along and begins mentoring and starts a Bible study at the house in Hollywood. So now these residents are getting basic physical needs met. They have found community. They are receiving counseling services; they are getting inner

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## St. John-Holy Trinity

Continued from page 1

the same one that’s working with Prince George Winyah (Anglican Church) in Georgetown. “We found we had to replace all four columns. One column was removed to get its size, and they are turning four giant sapele logs in a mill in the upstate to build the new columns. For now, the porch is held up by jacks.”

The cost of the column replacement is \$115,000, some of which has been paid through donations, but the restoration is consuming funds previously designated for ministry.

In addition to the columns, other maintenance issues, which had been deferred over the last three years, needed tending. “We had to remove all the insulation from underneath the church,” said Dubay. The second floor of their Parish House had to be renovated as well.

“When we first got here, we had a pretty substantial bucket of money that came in from gifts from the diocese, but also some money left to us by a very dear parishioner in the past,” said Dubay. “We were going to put all that into ministry but much of it has gone toward property restoration.”

## Congregation Eager to Serve

With an average of 50 attending worship on Sunday mornings, the congregation is not large, but they are growing. “We’ve already had five confirmations and six baptisms,” says Dubay.

And the congregation is eager to serve. “The folks who stayed (from both Holy Trinity and St. John’s) are sold out for Jesus,” says Dubay. “They are in it. They are faithful and dogged. They love the neighbors, they love each other, and they love Jesus.”

“We’d like to get this (construction issue) out of the way,” says Dubay, “because we have ministry happening. We have a strong ministry to the hungry in the



DAVID DUBAY

The cost of the column replacement is \$115,000, some of which has been paid through donations, but the restoration is consuming funds previously designated for ministry. “We’d like to get this (construction issue) out of the way,” says Dubay, “because we have ministry happening.” In addition to the columns, other maintenance issues, which had been deferred over the last three years, needed tending.

neighborhood. We help feed hundreds of people every Sunday after church. We are reaching out to the schools and beginning a ministry to

dundreds of people walk by our church every day,” says Dubay. “Some are going to work. Some are out walking their dogs. We want to be out front,

the two middle schools in the area. We will be opening our doors as a meeting place for events and community organizations around town.”

The church’s Daughters of the Holy Cross has re-started. They have a burgeoning prayer ministry. “We have a strong women’s ministry and are engaging slowly with our men’s ministry,” said Dubay. Five men from the church attended the diocesan Christian Men’s Conference in February.

They are also starting a ministry in which they serve coffee in front of the church before Sunday morning services begin. “Hundreds of people walk by our church every day,” says Dubay. “Some are going to work. Some are out walking their dogs. We want to be out front,

offering them coffee and conversation. Letting them know that the church is open and that we all love Jesus and our neighbors.”

The ministry and the vision for the church centers on Ezekiel 47, where the water of life pours out from the east side of the temple and brings life. “We want to continue bringing the water of life – Jesus – to our community,” says Dubay.

## We Need Your Support

“We’ve had people from the neighborhood come in and join us, and we’ve also had people from other parts of Charleston join us,” says Dubay. “We’re slowly getting over the initial struggle of joining congregations, and I’m noticing the blessings of it now. There’s a lot we can and are doing, but we need some help.”

To learn more and to contribute funds for the repair of their building, or to help them to bring the “water of life” to their surrounding community, visit <https://esanglican.org/>.

# Anglican Discipleship? Thoughts on Ordination

By The Rev. Canon Dr. Jon C. Shuler, PhD

This past December the Anglican House Publishers announced the winners of the 2025 Archbishop's Annual Theological Essay Contest. One of the winners was our own Jon Shuler from Pawleys Island who took third place in the clergy essays for the following essay.

By the grace of God, I have never been part of a church community that did not grow numerically: the small Episcopal church where I grew up; the three churches where I served as a curate; the four I served as a Rector; the two I planted; and the two I served as an Interim Rector. Faithful discipleship means everything to me today, but it was not always so.

I was never given explicit teaching about discipleship. All my early experience led me to presume that numerical growth meant we were making disciples, and that growth mattered to me. I first became aware of the decline of the Episcopal church in 1968, and I had dedicated myself to turning that outgoing tide. Four years of theological education followed by sixteen years of ordained ministry had not yet taught me to be a disciple-making disciple, however. I had learned to grow the church, but I was still blind to the centrality of this missing ministry. Then in 1988 the Lord intervened. And he did so in four distinct and memorable moments.

First, as I sat in my beloved associate rector's office for our morning coffee time in early January, I saw on his wall a child's drawing with the text of Mt. 28:18-20. As I looked it seemed I distinctly heard these words: "The Great Commission is the mission of my church."

Second, I had just signed that year's Parochial Report, one day late, and asked my executive assistant to hand carry it to the bishop's office. I told her I was going into the church to say Evening Prayer and then would be going home early. The moment I knelt I seemed to hear these words: "You are mighty proud of that Parochial Report." Immediately smitten I was plunged into what I can only call a "Divine Interrogatory." By the Spirit of God, I believe it was shown to me that all the numbers, all the money, all the new buildings, and all the effort of the previous year were not impressing my Lord. That painful question time ended after several minutes with this declaration: "I called you to

make disciples, and you are making Episcopalians."

Third, that was the year the Archbishop of Canterbury called for a Decade of Evangelism for the entire Anglican Communion. The General Convention in Detroit, Michigan that August passed a resolution in concurrence. I was seated in the gallery as the vote was called and was stunned that the resolution passed without any debate. The following day as I drove home to Tennessee, I was still distressed. At some point on the Interstate, I shook my fist at heaven and said: "Lord, they didn't even know what they were voting for." Immediately I heard in my spirit: "I did. I meant it." Instantly I believed the Decade of Evangelism was inspired by God.

Shaken, I turned on my radio to find some music but found that the mountains of East Tennessee were preventing all but AM stations from reaching me. Scanning that wavelength, I stumbled on an old mountain preacher, and the fourth and final nail was driven into the coffin of my understanding of discipleship. His hyperventilating style was so strange to me that I found myself laughing, that is until the power of his text drew me in. He was preaching from I Corinthians 3:1-15, but he was camped out on verse 13. "Each one's work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done."

Repeatedly, he emphasized that the word was not "size" but "sort." I can hear him still: "Beloved, it says whatsoever sor-r-r-t, not whatsoever si-i-i-ze."

By that time, I had been a part of the Anglican Family for forty-three years, had been a priest for sixteen years, had trained for ordination for four before that, and as I said above had only seen the church grow numerically wherever I had served. From that day I never doubted I was being redirected by the Lord, indeed from that humbling moment I also recognized afresh my sinful Anglican arrogance. This rough mountain preacher knew biblical truth that, somehow, I had missed. Returning home I entered an intense season of prayer and study. The issue before me now was what "sort" of disciple was I making? Before another year had gone by, I would be convinced of three things:

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By the Revd Canon Zach Barton, The Cathedral Church of St. Luke & St. Paul, Charleston

On a Wednesday afternoon in early January, just hours before my ordination to the priesthood, I walked into the Cathedral Church and sat in the quiet sanctuary for a time. Praying, thinking, breathing. Praying for God to sustain me as he has in my nearly 15 years of ministry. Thinking about all the places our family has lived, wandering like pilgrims as we did our best to follow his leading: one step, one foot in front of the other for well over a decade. From Virginia to Texas, to Florida, to Massachusetts, and now to South Carolina.

As I sat there in the silence, I was grateful for my wife of 15 years and the constant encouragement she has been to me through it all: grueling years of seminary with toddlers orbiting us, too many moves to stay sane, and ministry posts up and down the east coast. The occasion of my ordination was also an occasion to recognize her years of faithfulness.

We've been on this road a long time, and the last three years have been spent in discernment of holy orders in the ADOSC while on staff at the Cathedral. I'm so grateful to my colleagues Peet Dickinson, Patrick Schlabs, and Hunter Myers for coming alongside a guy like me who was coming into the Anglican Way from other denominations. Each stop along the way has made me who I am today, and I have been blessed by all of the friends and mentors who have invested in me in the past as well as here at the Cathedral.

Ordination is such a strange and holy thing. Being set apart for a specific task – for life, I mean. Being humbled with your face on the dirty ground. Being weighed down with the holy hands and lifted up by the prayers of brother and sister clergy. As I looked into the Bishop's eyes I was flooded with aspirations: to be a man of God, a faithful pastor, a



WADE SPEES

"As I looked into the Bishop's eyes I was flooded with aspirations: to be a man of God, a faithful pastor, a humble servant. With him looking into my eyes and seeing an imperfect but earnest almost-priest." Above, Barton is surrounded and prayed for by clergy just prior to the Bishop's laying on of hands in ordination on January 7, 2026.

humble servant. With him looking into my eyes and seeing an imperfect but earnest almost-priest. A deacon mere moments away from joining the men and women at my back,

Ordination is such a strange and holy thing. Being set apart for a specific task – for life, I mean. Being humbled with your face on the dirty ground. Being weighed down with the holy hands and lifted up by the prayers of brother and sister clergy.

with their hands outstretched at the moment of consecration.

Kneeling before the Bishop, I was reminded of my reception into the ACNA and my ordination as a deacon. Remembering all the while, this time, that a priest is always a deacon. A shepherd is always a servant before anything else. In the days since ordination, some folks have asked me if I felt different or if I had undergone some kind of on-

logical change in those moments. My honest answer is, "I'm not sure." But something special did happen in those holy moments. As the Rev. Bliss Spillar said of ordination, "It is not that you become a different sort of creature, but that you will be asked to become more deeply what you already are — a baptized member of Christ's body, a friend of the Bridegroom, a servant of the mysteries. Ordination does not lift you above the people of God; it roots you more deeply among them, like a tree whose branches may only rise heavenward because its roots have gone down into the dark soil of humanity." In that case, I can say confidently that ordination has set me apart to become more deeply what I already am and that reality will continue to root me deeply among these people I love – "the Lord being my helper," of course! Those five words may be the most crucial of the entire ordination liturgy. (Thank you, Revd Dave Fisher for that good reminder!)

My ordination service at the Cathedral was such a special experience. My lifelong best friend from Texas preached the sermon and friends and former ministry colleagues flew in from L.A. and Boston to be readers and presenters. Their words of encouragement lifted

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## Ring the Bell *Continued from page 7*

Brenda's recruiting tactics included wearing a Santa hat while ringing a bell in front of the church and writing the "Top 10 Reasons to Ring the Bell," but she found that the best advertising was those who had taken a shift. Even the most reluctant of volunteers reported it was an enjoyable experience.

"This was definitely an outreach effort that spread throughout the entire parish," said Dianne Bowler, longtime chair of the church's Outreach Committee.

Some, like Bartlee Davis (no relation to Josh) and her 10-year-old daughter, Shealy, committed to additional shifts after working their first. The Davises spent an hour with the kettle on Black Friday, then immediately signed up for a second shift and committed Dad Scott and brother Clayton, 12, to a shift of their own.

"It's such an easy way to do a good deed for others," Bartlee said. "I love that Shealy is getting a good lesson in caring for others."

Volunteers found that the experience also blessed them. Many donors thanked them for being there as they deposited their dollars or pennies into the kettle.

"One gentleman donated three separate times because he was so impressed by the boys' enthusiasm," Jean said. "Another woman brought each of us a snack bag and shared that when she had been homeless, the Salvation Army had supported her."

Old St. Andrew's collections were part of nearly \$150,000 raised locally that will stay in the Lowcountry to provide meals and shelter for the needy, disaster relief, children's programs, rehabilitation services, anti-human trafficking and more.

Although the church fell short by about 25 percent of its 100-hour goal, nearly 100 people ranging in age from three to 83 participated in the project. That amounts to nearly one of every three who attend OSA's services on Sundays.

"It doesn't surprise me that so many people volunteered," said the church's rector, the Rev. Marshall Huey. "It's what this church does."



BARTLEE DAVIS

Volunteers of all ages joined in the fun!

Since the earliest days of its 320-year history, Old St. Andrew's has had a reputation as an "Outreach Church," providing food and medical care in the once-rural Church Creek area even in the 1700s.

Today, an active Outreach Committee gives more than \$250,000 annually to support its mission of "Seeking and Serving those in Need."

From the West Ashley High School food pantry to Holy City Missions warming shelter to blood drives at the church, care packages mailed to college students, and participation in Water Mission's Walk for Water, there's never a shortage of Outreach projects.

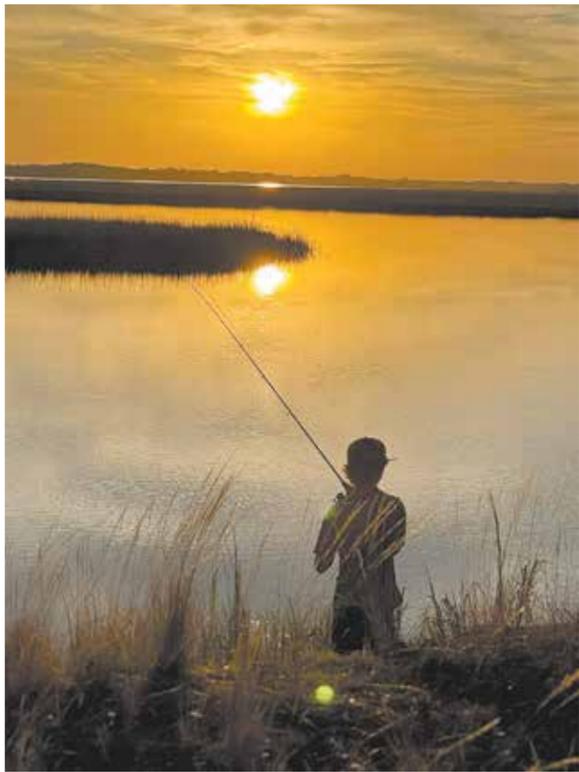
The first Sunday of each month, a 120-gallon plastic bin on wheels, affectionately known as Big Blue, is wheeled to the church patio, where attendees of the three Sunday services drop in the item requested that month. Nonperishable food. Winter coats. School supplies.

The bin typically has to be emptied between services to prevent overflowing.

"We are big followers of Luke 3:11," Father Marshall said. "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise. When we are able to share our blessings and enable others with our gifts, it's just great ministry."

# “Let’s Go!” Camping at Camp Jubilee

By Cole O’Keefe, St. John’s Church, Florence



JAMES MCCOY

During the downtime, families spent quality time with one another by going for walks, fishing by the marsh, or simply tossing a ball around.

Upon arrival at Lady’s Island in Beaufort, it was clear that the Camp Jubilee property is meant to have children running around, having fun with one another, and enjoying God’s beautiful creation by the marsh. This reality did not take long to set in once the children of St. John’s left their cars to immediately explore the property, many looking for the best spots to fish for the weekend. While there are no physical buildings on the property yet, it was clear that this piece of land has endless possibilities for God to continue this camp ministry for many years to come.

St. John’s dads and granddads were fortunate to be able to spend a weekend camping on the Camp Jubilee property with their children/grandchildren recently.

Over the course of the trip, we were able to serve Camp Jubilee by picking up debris near the waterway and clearing out some of the trees. The kids especially enjoyed pumping the well so the water could be treated. Some even claimed they could do that task for more than 30 hours, but unfortunately for them, that opportunity never came to fruition.

During the downtime, families spent quality time with one another by going for walks, fishing by the marsh, or simply tossing a ball around. Later, we had s’mores by the campfire, and ended our night together with Compline. After reflecting on the day the Lord had given us, many were able to praise God for the gift of being together with family, for God’s beauty in creation, like the sunset we all marveled at, and for the ability to serve Camp Jubilee and do the work He had given us to do.

The following morning was extra special because there was a baptism. Carys, Jack, and Liam McCoy all decided they wanted to be baptized, and we were able to celebrate with them as they emerged from the water in the Beaufort River. These were the first baptisms ever done at the new Camp Jubilee property, and there will surely be many more. The Very Rev. Ken Weldon and his wife, Boo, joined us to celebrate as well, and then Ken was able to lead us in our service of Holy Eucharist before we departed.

While the name and the property may be new, this ministry has existed for many years,

and I would argue has been a vital component of ministry in the diocese. Camp Jubilee’s mission is to share the good news of the Gospel with every camper, to shape the campers, counselors, and staff through worship and community, and to send them out to be salt and light in their local communities. During this season of waiting for the completion of Jubilee’s “forever home,” camp has lived further into its mission these past few summers and has been able to change children’s lives as they engage with the Gospel and raise up leaders



JAMES MCCOY

The kids especially enjoyed pumping the well so the water could be treated.

through intentional discipleship. It was a joy to be able to be at the Jubilee property together, and what a joy it will be to continue to witness what God will do through Camp Jubilee and the property for His glory.

## GrandCamp: Passing on a Legacy of Faith and Fun

By Wanda DeLorge, Christ Church Anglican, Mt. Pleasant

GrandCamp 2026 will be held June 15-19 at Epworth by the Sea Conference Center on St. Simon’s Island, GA. Grandparents, along with their grandchildren who have completed first grade through completion of fifth grade, are invited to attend. This year’s theme will be: The Life of Moses.

God calls us to leave a legacy of faith in Christ Jesus to the generations following us. GrandCamp is a fun-filled, five-day overnight Christian program designed to help grandparents do just that.

Grandparents and their grandchildren will have fun, meet new friends, and together develop a closer bond with God. If you have grandchildren in that age range, come and learn how to be intentional about showing the light of Christ to your grandchild. Come and praise the Lord with your grandchild. Come and watch your relationship with your grandchild blossom and grow!

GrandCamp is a wonderful birthday gift for your grandchildren. And it’s a great gift for your grandchildren’s parents to give to you! The gift of a memory is so much better than a wrapped gift and my grown children (and yours, too) would welcome the suggestion.

For more information on GrandCamp and to register, type “GrandCamp” on the search bar at [www.adosc.org](http://www.adosc.org). See additional story pg. 14.



## Mere Anglicanism

Continued from page 2

### Mary Eberstadt: “You are Not Your Own: Life, Liberty, and the Human Body”

Mary Eberstadt, author of *Adam and Eve After the Pill*, furthered the focus on family by speaking on the aftermath of the sexual revolution and the birth control pill, when sex moved from procreation to recreation — and a matter not of morality but of arithmetic arose. “The revolution led to massive ... increases in rates of abortion, fatherlessness, divorce, single parenthood,” said Eberstadt, “and, ironically, childlessness, while simultaneously shrinking the family in the great majority of American households.” This great subtraction has reduced the circle of given relationships and helped fuel a crisis of identity. She pointed out that yes, religious people tend to live in families, but also, living in families can make people more religious. “Faith and family are symbiotic, and where one is strong, the other will be, too.”

### Justin Whitmel Earley: “You are Not Your Own: Friendship in a Fragmented World”

Justin Whitmel Earley, a former missionary and current business lawyer (and gym owner, a new bullet point on his resume we learned about during his talk), is also the author of several books, including *Made For People*. Weaving the relationship thread into friendship, he brought the spotlight over to the loneliness epidemic. An alarming statistic he shared came from the 2023 surgeon general’s report: chronic loneliness can reduce life expectancy at the same rate as smoking 14-16 cigarettes a day. He used C.S. Lewis to illustrate the surprising nature of that fact, as



JOY HUNTER

Lewis once quipped that friendship is like art — it’s one of those things that has no survival value, but rather gives value to survival. “I really like disagreeing with C.S. Lewis because it gets people’s attention,” he said. Indeed it did!

The problem of loneliness is not one of reclusiveness, however. We are often restlessly wandering, “alone together” on our phones even at the dinner table (if we gather there at all). This is the current we’re drifting along with. “You cannot become yourself by yourself,” he said. “You can’t. There’s something off when we are only inward and alone. You belong to God ... But you also belong to others.” Earley pushed the importance of covenant friendship, of being vulnerable with other people, of making time for them. And the fire of friendship is contagious—when people see it, they want in.

### Stephen Presley: “You are Not Your Own: Cultural Engagement as Citizens of Christ’s Kingdom”

Stephen Presley, Associate Professor of Church History at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, broadened the perspective,

speaking on engaging the world around us by reflecting the early church, particularly with catechesis and citizenship.

Still, the focus is on community. “We need a new or a renewed vision of what Christian citizenship looks like,” he said. “We are citizens of the city of God, embedded in the city of man, trying to figure out how to live ... we need to give careful consideration to our public theology, building those thick communities.” His message was one of hope — not only because he is seeing a revival of classical thought popping up, including here in our diocese with the founding of St. Philip’s Academy, but also because we are free to love and serve and walk in confidence because Christ is coming again in glory to judge the living and the dead.

### The Rev. Vaughan Roberts: “You are Not Your Own: The Church as the Soul of the World”

The Rev. Vaughan Roberts, Rector of St. Ebbe’s Oxford, delivered the final individual talk. As the Church, we have secure identity, a glorious destiny, an inclusive community, and a captivating purpose. This secure identity is the antithesis of the insecurity that lies behind the mask of “identity” in the secular society, those “loud, confident declarations” that we dare not question.

“We’re told, if you want to know your identity, just look within yourself, search for the hero inside yourself.” We’re told that if we look within, we’ll find freedom and fulfillment. “That’s a gospel message, but it’s a false gospel,” said Roberts. We’re seeing the effects of that false gospel in dehumanization and de-soulment—but when the church is the soul of



JOY HUNTER

“You cannot become yourself by yourself,” said Whitmel Earley. “...There’s something off when we are only inward and alone. You belong to God ... But you also belong to others.”

the world, we are humanized. In Christ, we are humanized. We need to preach a thick Gospel to combat the thin gospel that morphs into a false, therapeutic gospel: Jesus will make you feel good about yourself—you’re not going to get any challenge and you needn’t repent. Come as you are? Yes. But don’t stay as you are. “We’re called to live out the Gospel, to embody the Gospel, to build communities of love,” said Roberts.

We are blessed to be a part of a diocese that prioritizes this thick Gospel and a community of love, and the Mere Anglicanism Conference exemplifies this spirit. How incredible and somewhat surreal it is every time to be a part of this gathering, to see members of our parish and diocesan family sitting elbow-to-elbow with people who’ve crossed the ocean, the country, or a few states to be with us, to understand how our society got here and where we need to go in our shared mission of bringing people to Christ.

## Gaillard to Fill Standing Committee Vacancy

The Rev. Jeremy Shelton, rector of St. John's Parish Church on Johns Island, submitted his resignation from the Standing Committee to Bishop Edgar on December 29. Shelton has discerned the need to step aside to focus on personal and parish priorities. The Diocese is deeply grateful for his sacrificial service on the Standing Committee during this difficult season and prays for God's blessings on his continued ministry at St. John's. His elected term of office would have continued through March 2027.



In keeping with Article VIII, Section 5 of the ADOSC Constitution, the members of the Standing Committee have acted to fill that vacancy. The Very Rev. Shay Gaillard (St. Helena's, Beaufort) has agreed to fill the remainder of the term and was duly elected by the Standing Committee to do so. We give thanks for Dean Gaillard's willingness to step in and pray God's blessings on the coming year of service with the other members of the Standing Committee.

## Thrive Together

*Continued from page 2*

**What are your plans for distributing the funds? When will they begin making an impact?**

We're looking to begin working with churches to find a pastor as soon as this spring, so that they might have someone in place late summer or early fall.

**How will you decide how to distribute the money?**

We know which churches are eligible for this effort, and we'll be working with them soon to see what kind of plan can be developed. The goal is to have the church share in the salary cost of the pastor and be open to coaching and help from the diocese to reach their communities in ways they haven't been able to, yet.

**If someone already gave \$100, but they're moved by this interview, what would you say they should do?**

The ask really is only \$100 per family each year. That's it. That's all. That said, we've already had some folks get excited about this initiative and have given more. I'd welcome that of course, but only in so far as it doesn't negatively impact giving to their own parish.



To give to the Thrive Together Fund click the QR code or visit <https://adosc.org/thrive-together/>



PROVIDED

St. Paul's, Orangeburg, shown above, is one of the churches which qualify to be helped through the Thrive Together campaign.

# New Church Launched in Family Chapel

## Doors Open for the Griffins in Guanajuato, Mexico

By Joanne Griffin, SAMS Missionary, Sending Church: Holy Trinity + St. John's, Charleston



PROVIDED

One month after this article was written the Rt. Rev. Dr. Steven Tighe, Bishop of the Southwest, confirmed the Rev. Roger Griffin as the pastor of the new parish.

If you scroll in and search a Google map of San Miguel de Allende, you'll see a "Capilla Sin Nombre" which is to say, "Chapel with No Name." And I think if you were in a small town in Mexico, looking for a traditional Anglican priest, it would be a similar task. Who really knows we're here? But about a year ago someone did look for an Anglican priest who could come and minister to a group of expats in a beautiful tourist town in Guanajuato, Mexico. They didn't know where to start, so they contacted GAFCON offices in Africa, where their request was forwarded to ACNA offices in the U.S. and, after a series of hand-offs and holy serendipity, a business card was placed into our care. Matt and Rosy found us!

Considering we came to Mexico with a desire to minister to Mexicans, it was with some admitted reluctance on our part that we agreed, over the course of a Zoom call, to "come and see" what God might be doing with some expats in a little town four hours away. In the mean time, Rosy found the owner of the No-Name Chapel, Don Pablo, and talked him into renting his family's historic chapel to the group for a Wednesday evening service.

A curious group of about 20 persons attended that first service in English. Among them, Don Pablo came with his sister and her husband. They were deeply moved to be worshipping in their family chapel, to the point that Don Pablo asked us to also offer a service in Spanish for his many employees. Oh yes! What joy!

Two weeks later we had an English service with about 12, and a Spanish service with almost 30! Every month since May, we have returned to celebrate the Eucharist and bring the Gospel to both beautiful groups.

But is it a "church" yet? It takes a lot of commitment from everyone to start a church. We knew we needed to have weekly Sunday services, but even the once-a-month rent for the chapel was more than the group could support. And where would we have Bible Study, or children's church? San Miguel is expensive! How will God do this? Nonetheless, we saw that God had given Roger favor among both groups, and we love the community they are forming. But where and how could things go forward? Was there no room at the Inns of San Miguel?

"God, what are you doing?" was our daily prayer while we continued the supply and support work, now working in three different states in Mexico every month.

By November we were perplexed and tired. We stepped back from all other services, thinking to get quiet. Instead, we decided to seek that quiet in San Miguel for a couple of weeks—long enough to really know the people involved. We needed clarity. We were exploring ways to overcome the practical hurdles and expenses of a full-time church, knowing it would change our lives radically to uproot from Aguascalientes, to serve in one place after seven years of circuit-riding.

While there, Roger arranged a meeting with Don Pablo, ready to negotiate the possibility of weekly rental of the chapel. That was the first hurdle for the group. But Don Pablo surprised him with the generous suggestion that the group should consider his family chapel their home. For free. Any days or times. Extra garden space for the kids. Whatever. Free.

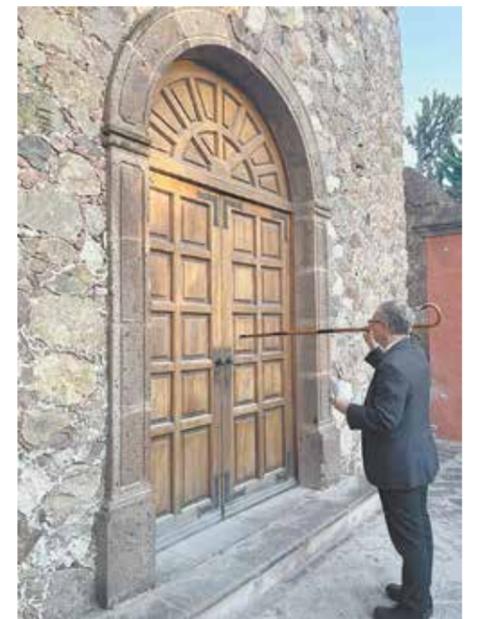
We were stunned into a quiet ride back to our AirBnB, our hearts full of wonder. The next day we procured a rental contract on a little casa for us in San Miguel starting in January of 2026. The adventure begins!

We're home now, downsizing for the move while staring at the higher cost of living, the cost of the interstate move, the unknowns, and—none of it matters! We see that God was already providing for what is obviously a church being born, by His will, in the fullness of time. We are merely His little donkey carrying the Light.

Like some anxious midwife, I immediately bought liturgical fabrics for the altar. Others had already stepped up and donated candlesticks, a podium, and a small sound system. My keyboard will now fill the little chapel with praise. Someone always brings flowers. Everyone brings something for the coffee/snack time between services so that expats and locals have time to meet each other. It's beautiful to watch, and really, we had little to do with it except a plodding obedience. I think we got our answer: Yes. It's a church!

We were stunned into a quiet ride back to our AirBnB, our hearts full of wonder. The next day we procured a rental contract on a little casa for us in San Miguel starting in January of 2026. The adventure begins!

Joanne and her husband, the Rev. Roger Griffin, have been serving with SAMS since 2017. Learn more about their work and support it at: <https://give.samsusa.org/missionary/roger-and-joanne-griffin>. You can also keep up with the Griffins at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/GriffinsInMexico>



PROVIDED

Steven Tighe, Bishop of the Southwest, symbolically knocks on the front door of the church prior to consecrating Saint Mary and Joseph's Chapel to be used for Anglican worship and for the new church plant.

## Lives Transformed *Continued from page 8*

healing; they are finding jobs and becoming part of local churches and even serving in the community.

The stories of God's intervention in the lives of these men are loaded with tragedy and restoration.

One 64-year-old man came to us with a 50-year heroin addiction. He had run from his family for years in shame. Now he has been restored to his daughter and a granddaughter he had never met. After his time with us, he moved to New Hampshire to live near his family.

Another man had "tried it all" to get clean. He came to one of our houses as a complete skeptic, when it comes to Jesus. We told him to just keep his eyes open and see if God would not prove himself to him. Three months later he accepted Jesus as his Savior and was baptized.

A team of men struggling with health problems, a sense of belonging, and troubled pasts becomes an amazing welcoming committee to the new guys the ministry takes in.

The stories of hope and heartache are numerous. Unfortunately, we have lost some

of our guys to overdose and relapse. But once again we recognize we are only seed planters; the results belong to the Lord.

The list of churches has grown to include a number of local churches outside the Anglican network. It really is a beautiful thing to see God's children working hand in hand to do His work. Those churches include Crosstowne in West Ashley, Awaken in North Charleston, and Grace City church in North Charleston to name a few.

So where does this ministry stand today? the Bridge Church is going strong and is now meeting on Saturdays at 5 p.m. at Conway Park in downtown Charleston. We always welcome hands ready to serve and funds to help reduce the cost of food and supplies.

The need for the men's and women's ABBA houses are much greater than you can imagine. People are needed to mentor/befriend individuals and we have a great need right now for funds to complete construction of the women's house and to provide funding for daily operations.

In addition, we have a sponsorship program where we ask individuals or churches

to cover the first month of expenses for a new resident. Many of these men, and soon to include women, come to us broken and in need of a hand up to stabilize their lives. The sponsorship helps provide some food, hygiene products, and other expenses. This gives the individual some time to get themselves accustomed to the requirements of living in one of our Sober Living houses as well as attend Bible studies, meetings, and medical appointments. We ask between \$300 - \$600 for each sponsorship.

If you are interested in knowing more about the ministry or want to give, please visit our website <https://risingwinds.org/>. If you want to know more about Bridge Church you can reach out to Dorothy Murray at [dmurray@risingwinds.org](mailto:dmurray@risingwinds.org). If you are interested in the ministry as a whole, please reach out to our Director, Tim Everett, at (843) 408-6610.

# Three Ordained to the Priesthood

## Barton Ordained to the Priesthood

Bishop Chip Edgar ordained the Rev. Canon Zach Barton to the Sacred Order of Priests on Wednesday, January 7, 2026 at 6 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Luke & St. Paul in Charleston, South Carolina.



The Rev. Canon Zach Barton serves as the Canon for Children's Ministry at the Cathedral of St. Luke & St. Paul in Charleston. This role includes overseeing the nursery and children's formation during Sunday services and equipping parents to disciple

their kids. Zach holds an M.Div from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. He also contributes to family ministry initiatives at the Provincial level as a team member of the Family Leadership Network through Next Generation Leadership Initiative of the ACNA. Prior to his arrival in Charleston, Zach has served churches in Texas, Florida, and Boston, MA. He has been married to Jillian for 14 years and together they have four children.

See story on pg. 9. See photos pg. 13

## Cannon Ordained to the Priesthood

Bishop Chip Edgar ordained the Rev. Tom Cannon to the Sacred Order of Priests on Thursday, January 8 at 6 p.m. at Saint Helena's, Beaufort, South Carolina.



A native of Philadelphia, the Rev. Tom Cannon earned a B.A. degree from the University of South Carolina and an M.Div. from Reformed Theological Seminary. He came to our Diocese from the Presbyterian Church in America, where for 36 years, his ministry included work

on the university campus, parish ministry, and heading up Reformed University Fellowship for the PCA in places such as Australia, New York City, and Savannah. Tom and his wife Dawn are members of Saint Helena's in Beaufort. He serves as a Humane Letters teacher and Assistant Chaplain at Holy Trinity Classical Christian School. Married for 39 years, Tom and Dawn have three adult children and two grandchildren. As an inveterate fan of Gamecock and Philadelphia sports, Tom is clearly a glutton for punishment. See photos pg. 13

## Myers Ordained to the Priesthood

Bishop Chip Edgar ordained the Rev. Canon Hunter Myers to the Sacred order of Priests on Wednesday, February 4 at 6 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul in Charleston, South Carolina.



The Rev. Canon Hunter Myers serves as the Canon for Student Ministry at the Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul in Charleston. He was born in Denver, but grew up in South Carolina. Prior to coming to the Cathedral, Hunter served churches in Irmo and

Columbia. He has degrees from Columbia International University, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and has studied at Nashotah House Theological Seminary. In addition to serving at the Cathedral he serves part-time as the Canon for Student Ministry for our diocese. Hunter is married to Karina and they have one son. See photos pg. 13.

## Debra Eident Ordained to the Transitional Diaconate

Bishop Chip Edgar ordained Debra Eident to the Sacred Order of Deacons on Thursday, October 30, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the Church of the Resurrection in Surfside Beach, South Carolina.



Debra has been a member of Church of the Resurrection in Surfside Beach for the past six years, where she currently teaches women's Bible study and preaches the Word on occasional Sundays. She is a native of Charlotte, NC, and previously served as an

associate Lutheran minister at Christ the King Church in south Charlotte. In that capacity, she served as Teaching Pastor and pastor in charge of care ministries. Debra holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from the University of North Carolina and a Master of Divinity from the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC. Debra has been married to Ken for the past 32 years, and in her free time enjoys spending time with family, friends and her dog Gus as well as painting, crocheting and watching both college and professional sports. She especially enjoys Tarheel basketball, the Boston Red Sox and the Atlanta Braves.

## People News



8 lbs. Parents Mei Mei and Colin Becker are delighted with their new addition. Both mother and baby are doing well.

Christ the King is very happy to welcome Julianna Fletcher as its new Worship Minister. Julianna



has a long record of service in God's church, having supported and led worship in a variety of contexts, from Baptist to non-denominational to Anglican. Julianna is gifted

for drawing Christ's people into worship using a diverse repertoire, ranging from hymns to more contemporary expressions. She regularly leads music at conferences around the Carolinas, from Mt. Pleasant, SC to the Cove Conference Center in NC. At CtK, Julianna will also take the lead on parish communications and other strategic connection initiatives, ensuring that members are meaningfully integrated into the life of the church and equipped for growth and service. Julianna and her husband, Joel, have three grown children.



Please keep the family and loved ones of Mark Hocutt in your prayers. Mark, who served as the sexton at St. John's Parish Church on Johns Is-

land died on January 7, 2025. The Rev. Jeremy Shelton, Rector of the church, writes, "Mark's unexpected and untimely death will certainly leave a void here at St. John's Parish Church. Not only was Mark our church Sexton, he was also a beloved member of our congregation, a loving dad to sons Graham and Banks, a helper to anyone in need, a true servant of all. But we are not a people who mourn without hope. We always look toward the promises freely given in the Risen Lord Jesus Christ who Mark knew as Savior. Please be in prayer for his entire family and all of his friends at St. John's Parish Church."

The Rev. Canon Dr. Sandi Kerner, who served as our Diocesan Canon for Prayer and Healing and as Canon for Prayer and Pastoral Care on staff at the Cathedral, recently accepted a call to serve part-time as a priest on the staff of St. Mark's in Jacksonville, along with



other ministry opportunities. In a note to the congregation in which the announcement was made, the Very Rev. Peet Dickinson, Dean of the Cathedral, wrote about Sandi, "Our beloved pastor and sister, Sandi Kerner, has often spoken of the Celtic Christian concept of 'thin places,' which are those places where the veil between heaven and earth is particularly thin. Holy pilgrimage sites and church sanctuaries and stunning locations in nature can all be thin places, and when you're there, you know that God is near to you and you are near to God. I would add that there are some people in this life who make any place they occupy a 'thin place.' Sandi Kerner is just such a person. Sandi will be much missed."

Please keep the Rev. Michael Lumpkin, who was the long-time Rector at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Summerville and now serves as the



Senior Associate to the Rector at Prince George Winyah in Georgetown, in your prayers. Mike was recently diagnosed with an aggressive form of prostate cancer and is now undergoing treatment.

The Rev. Scott Poelker, who serves as a deacon at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Summerville, accepted a call to serve as the Chaplain for the church's Christian Learning Center (CLC) and Trinity Classical Academy. In a note to the church the Rector,



the Rev. Tripp Jeffords, wrote, "This is the first time we've had this position at the schools. He will support teachers and the administration in whatever their spiritual needs might be." Scott was ordained as a Deacon on January 27, 2024, and is assigned to St. Paul's, where he seeks to provide relief for vulnerable people living in mobile home parks and children and youth suffering from anxiety and depression.

We don't normally recognize clergy birthdays but couldn't let the Rev. Chuck Pollak's 95th slip by. Chuck, who turned 95 on October 11, serves as a priest associate for prison ministry at St. Helena's in Beaufort dedicating time to the Kairos ministry and actively participating in Kairos weekends. In addition, he faithfully leads the church's weekly 1928 Prayer Book Service at



4:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and visits local nursing homes, offering care and compassion to residents. The staff of St. Helena's held a special birthday celebration for him. Happy (belated) birthday, Chuck!

Please keep the family and loved ones of Ellin Reitmeier, wife of the Rev. Skip Reitmeier, in your prayers.



Ellin died surrounded by loved ones on Saturday, December 13, 2025 following a battle with an aggressive form of cancer. A note to the congregation read: "With

tender hearts, we remember our beloved Ellin. She loved the Lord deeply, cherished her family and her church, and now rests free from pain, wrapped in eternal peace. A celebration of her life was held on January 11 at Christ the King, Pawleys Island, where Ellin served on the parish staff and Skip serves as a deacon.

Annmarie Sease recently joined the staff team at Church of the Holy Spirit, Daniel Island, as Parish Administrator. Annmarie is a Charleston native who grew up in the Diocese of South Carolina. She is grateful to have parents who instilled in her a life-long love of



Jesus. If something was happening at church, she was there and continues to be to this day. She is a proud graduate of Clemson University. She loves to spend her free time cooking, going on adventures, and watching Banana Ball.

Christ Church Anglican welcomed Bella Tabor as their new Student Ministry Intern as they continue their search for the next Student

Ministry Director. On January 7, Bella began assisting in preparing, leading, and ministering to their



students in grades 6-12. Bella grew up attending Christ Church Anglican and was formed through their Student Ministry, making her a wonderful addition to the team. She

is currently a sophomore studying Graphic Design and Communications at Charleston Southern University and brings both experience and a deep love for their students.

The Rev. Dr. Woodleigh "Woody" Volland and his wife Nancy returned to the Lowcountry, and he is now



canonically resident in the ADOSC. In a recent social media post, he shared: "A big thank you to all our well-wishers! It was time. Nancy and I left The Holy

City 22 years ago, and I promised her that, one day, we'd return. She grew up here and has many friends, favorite places, and fond memories. Besides the fact that our new home is dead center between four family members, my hope is to be more active in ministry. I was the only Anglican in my area in Florida, so, once I retired, there wasn't a whole lot to do. Given the number of Anglican churches in this area, I hope to be able to help with supply work, interims, preaching, and teaching. My passion, and doctorate, is helping clergy become better preachers. Hopefully, a call will come. Peace out. Jude 25."

# Three to Be Ordained to the Diaconate

By the Grace of God and the Consent of the People, Bishop Chip Edgar, Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, will ordain John Feimster Davis, Roland LeRoy Skinner III, and Camden Arthur Windham to the Sacred Order of Deacons on Saturday, February 21, 2026 at 10 a.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church located at 316 West Carolina Avenue in Summerville, South Carolina. Your prayers and presence are requested. A reception will follow. Clergy are asked to wear red stoles.

## John Davis to Be Ordained to the Vocational Diaconate



John Davis, originally from Burlington, North Carolina, moved to South Carolina in 1978. Raised in the Presbyterian tradition, he has been an active member of St. Helena's Anglican Church in Beaufort since 2013. He has served as a youth leader, Sunday School teacher, Senior

Warden, usher, lay eucharistic minister, WASH (Wednesdays at St. Helena's) volunteer, and served on numerous committees. John has participated in mission trips to Thailand and Kenya and has assisted and led Holy Communion services at local nursing homes for the past three years. With over 25 years of experience working with high school youth, he has also spent 45 years in the golf industry, including roles in course construction, real estate and building construction, course management, and currently serves as Sales Manager. He attended Anderson College and Horry-Georgetown Technical College, focusing on Golf Course Operations. John Davis and his wife, Melissa, have been married for 39 years. They have three daughters and five grandchildren.

## Roland Skinner to Be Ordained to the Vocational Diaconate



Dr. Roland Skinner was raised and has lived most of his life in Florence, South Carolina. He grew up attending the Church of Christ and joined and was confirmed at St. John's Church in 1995. As a member of St. John's, he has served as a lay reader since 1997.

He has served in the choir and was a member of youth mission teams to the Dominican Republic. He has taught an adult Sunday School class since 2017 and has assisted and led communion services at Southland Nursing Center since 2022. He is a neurologist, having practiced in Knoxville, TN, and Florence for 38 years, retiring in 2022. He is a graduate of Clemson University and the Medical University of South Carolina, where he also did training in internal medicine and neurology. He is board-certified in neurology and sleep medicine and served as president of the South Carolina Neurological Association from 2000 to 2001. He and his wife, Julianne, have been married since 1984 and are parents of two sons, Asa and Larkin.

## Camden Windham to Be Ordained to the Transitional Diaconate



Camden Windham, originally from Lexington, South Carolina, moved to Beaufort in May of 2018. Camden was not raised in the Church but came to know Jesus in the summer of 2012 as part of a student ministry. Since coming to faith, the Church has been the place that he has

planted his feet. He graduated from Columbia International University in December of 2017 with a major in Bible and Youth Ministry. He continued his education at CIU by getting a Masters in Divinity in December of this past year. He has had educational training from Trinity School for Ministry and a Certificate in Anglican Studies from Nashotah House Theological Seminary. He has served as the Director of Student Ministries at St. Helena's since moving to Beaufort. He has a deep passion for the next generation, especially with equipping the next flock of leadership within the Church. Camden is grateful that he "happily stumbled" into Anglicanism. Camden and his wife, Kelly, have been married for six years. They have their first son, Flynn.

## Diocesan Staff Changes

Beginning January 1, Madison Kuzia, who had been serving part-time as the diocesan Communications Assistant, joined our diocesan staff full-time to serve as Bishop Edgar's



Madison Kuzia

Assistant, while continuing to assist with communications. Deacon Joyce Harder, who had served as the Bishop's Assistant, is continuing as Coordinator of Ordinations and Diocesan Events. In addition, Joyce is assisting the Diocesan Chancellor and Canon to the Ordinary as needed.



Joyce Harder

"I am deeply grateful to Joyce for her extraordinary dedication in serving as my assistant," said Bishop Edgar. "Her assistance has been invaluable in navigating the demands of this position. I am especially thankful for her grace and willingness to embrace a new role where her institutional knowledge will continue to be a vital asset. As we look ahead, we are delighted to welcome Madison Kuzia full-time to the team. Madison's energy and fluency with emerging technologies will be a real asset as we enhance our digital communications and administrative processes. We are excited about the future and the gifts each of these women brings to our team."

## Death of The Rev. Kathleen Phillips

We give thanks for the life and ministry of Deacon Kathie Phillips, who went to be with our Lord on November 21, 2025, about a year after having received a diagnosis of Alzheimer's.



Her memorial service was held on Saturday, December 13 at St. Luke's, Hilton Head.

As noted in her obituary, "At St. Luke's Church on Hilton Head Island, she began as parish secretary and soon transformed a struggling children's school into a thriving ministry. About 20 years ago, she answered God's clear call to the diaconate. After an intensive two years of study, she was ordained a deacon in the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina. Her primary vocation as a deacon was the care of missionaries. As International Missionary Care Director for Global Teams, she traveled the world, leading retreats, offering counseling, and nurturing those on the front lines of the mission field to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For many years, she also served on the Global Teams board and led numerous mission teams from St. Luke's to Honduras, Tanzania, and Peru. Commitment to and love for Jesus were the essence of Kathie's life. She was a vital part of St. Luke's intercessory prayer ministry and worked closely with the Rector Emeritus Greg Kronz for nearly 30 years. Her faith shaped every aspect of her being and touched countless lives." Please keep her husband of 61 years, Bill, her family, and loved ones in your prayers.

Read the full obituary here: <https://www.keithfuneral.com/obituaries/Kathleen-Phillips?obId=46489276>

## Death of The Rev. Kay Fryman

We give thanks for the life and ministry of Deacon Kay Fryman who died on January 27, 2026. In a note to the congregation of St. John's, Florence, where Kay served on staff, the Rev. Corey Prescott, Rector, wrote, "With a heavy heart I share that Deacon Kay Fryman has gone to be with our Lord."

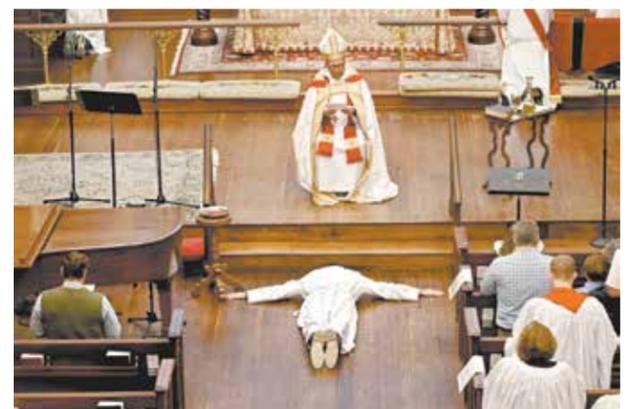
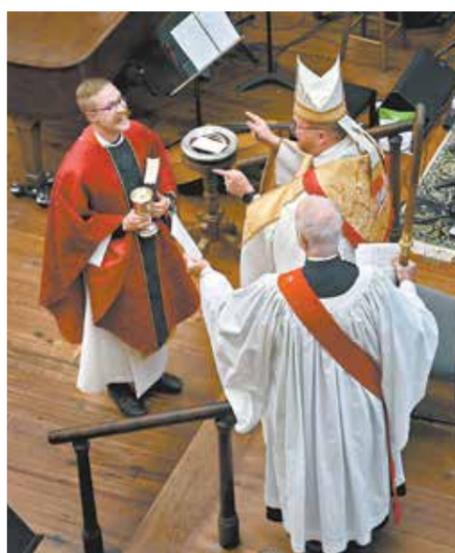
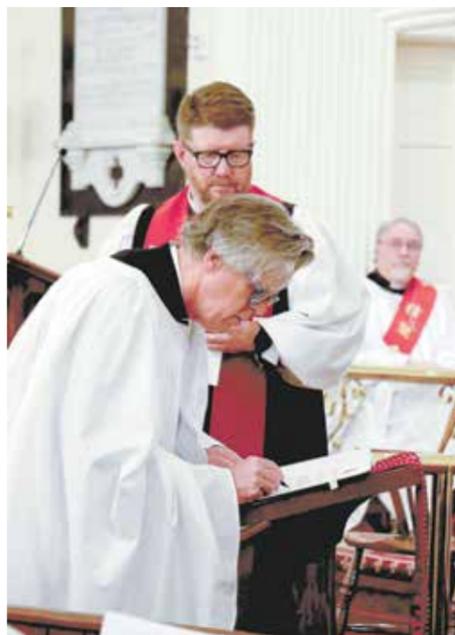


She had a recurrence of cancer this past year and decided several weeks ago to stop treatment, her hope resting securely in the promise won for her by her Savior and ours, Jesus."

A service of Christian Burial was held on Monday, February 9 at St. John's. Please keep her family and loved ones in your prayers.

An excerpt from her obituary reads, "Though accomplished professionally, in 2007 Kay ultimately answered a lifelong call to ministry when she was ordained as a deacon in the Anglican Church and devoted herself to full-time ministry. For the final 18 years of her life, she served faithfully in ministry at St. John's Church in Florence, South Carolina. Her ministry included facilitating women's Bible studies, chaplaincy at Southland Nursing Home, prison ministry at Wateree Correctional Institution, bringing Holy Eucharist to homebound parishioners and so much more. Kay was an avid reader, always studying the word of God and learning more about how to apply it in how she lived out her faith. She modeled compassion, humility, and steadfast service."

Read the full obituary here: <https://www.waterspowellfh.com/obituary/Kay-Fryman>



Ordinations Top left, clockwise: The Rev. Tom Cannon signs the oath of conformity; The Rev. Canon Hunter Myers blesses a child; The Rev. Canon Zach Barton serves communion; The Rev. Canon Zach Barton prostrates himself; The Rev. Canon Hunter Myers receives the chalice; Clergy pray for the Rev. Tom Cannon as he is ordained.

# Trinity Anglican Seminary Receives \$10 Million Lilly Grant to Launch Anglican Formation Network

The Five-Year Collaborative Project will Strengthen Leadership Development Across the Anglican Church in North America

Trinity Anglican Seminary has received a grant of \$9,999,876 from Lilly Endowment Inc. to establish the Anglican Formation Network: Equipping Leaders for Mission. Working in collaboration with the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA) and in partnership with several regional formation centers across the province, this five-year initiative will create a comprehensive leadership development ecosystem to strengthen Anglican ministry formation across North America.

The Anglican Formation Network addresses a critical need in the ACNA. As one of North America's fastest-growing Christian denominations, with 13% growth in 2024, the ACNA needs more well-formed clergy and lay leaders than our existing pathways can provide. The grant will enable Trinity to work closely with the ACNA Provincial Office to develop a strong network of strategic partnerships, including The Ridley Institute, The Charles Simeon Institute, Anselm House, The Anglican Center for Theology and Formation, The Anglican Catechist Training School, the Brazos Societies Project, and others.

"This grant represents a transformative moment not just for Trinity but for the entire Anglican Church in North America," said the Very Rev. Cn. Dr. Bryan Hollon, Dean & President of Trinity Anglican Seminary. "We face a wonderful challenge: The ACNA is growing rapidly, drawing young leaders hungry for theological depth and liturgical formation. But our bishops and rectors tell us often that they need more qualified candidates than we can

supply. The Anglican Formation Network will multiply our capacity to form excellent leaders while ensuring that Anglican formation—grounded in Scripture, shaped by the Prayer Book, and oriented toward mission—becomes more accessible across our province."

The Anglican Formation Network addresses the need for more robust leadership development through three strategic initiatives: first, by cultivating a robust vocational discernment and leadership pipeline infrastructure; second, by integrating residential seminary education with practical church-based ministry experience; and third, by developing consistent leadership formation standards across the ACNA.

"Identifying and developing the next generation of Anglican leaders is the most strategic and valuable investment we can be making in the future of the Anglican Church in North America," said the Rt. Rev. Julian Dobbs, Dean of the Province. "The opportunity to partner with some of our best training institutions, like Trinity, to provide the deep theological and liturgical formation that Anglican ministry requires provides remarkable hope for how God is strengthening His Church in this time."

The program is being funded through

As one of North America's fastest-growing Christian denominations, with 13% growth in 2024, the ACNA needs more well-formed clergy and lay leaders than our existing pathways can provide.

Lilly Endowment's Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative. This initiative is designed to help theological schools across the United States and Canada as they prioritize and respond to the most pressing challenges they face as they prepare pastoral leaders for Christian congregations both now and into the future.

The grant to Trinity Anglican Seminary is one of 45 that was approved in this competitive round of funding to support theological schools as they lead large-scale collaborations with other seminaries, colleges and universities, and other church-related organizations.

Lilly Endowment launched the Pathways for Tomorrow Initiative in 2021. Since then, it has provided grants totaling more than \$700 million to support 163 theological schools in efforts to strengthen their own educational and financial capacities and to assist 61 schools in developing large-scale collaborative endeavors.

Parishes and dioceses interested in partnering with the Anglican Formation Network or learning more about fellowship programs, church-based pathways, and formation opportunities are invited to contact Allyson Martin, Executive Assistant to the Dean & President, at amartin@tas.edu.

# Introducing the ACNA's Affiliated Ministry Program

As part of the ACNA's goal to strengthen and grow its collaboration with local and global missions organizations, the province is opening a new pathway for ministry groups to become an official Affiliated Ministry of the ACNA. Affiliated Ministries must comply with the minimal canonical requirements and will gain visibility and endorsement through provincial platforms. Our first-ever Affiliated Ministry Application is now live. Initial applications will be accepted until March 20, 2026.



An affiliated ministry may be an entity such as a seminary, mission agency, ministry organization, religious society or sodality.

A diocese or other entity that is part of a jurisdiction other than the Anglican Church in North America may also apply for affiliated ministry status, so long as the requirements of Canon 7 Section 1 are met.

All ACNA Affiliated Ministries agree to adhere to the ACNA Fundamental Declarations of the Province.

We look forward to welcoming new ministries into our mission and working together to serve God's people and advance His Kingdom. To express your interest in becoming an Affiliated Ministry please complete the application and an ACNA staff member will be in contact with you.

To learn more and to apply visit [anglicanchurch.net/affiliated-ministries/](http://anglicanchurch.net/affiliated-ministries/)

## Anglican Discipleship? *Continued from page 9*

- Making disciples is the ministry of a Christian.
- You know you have made a disciple when you see them making another.
- Jesus has made very clear in Holy Scripture the disciple that he recognizes.

Though I had thought of myself as an exemplary servant of the Lord I was deeply humbled. These had not been the metrics by which I measured faithfulness, and I knew by then that it must be these three things.

I love the church. She has been my home for nearly eighty years. I love her prayers, her hymns, and many of her ways. But she had not taught me to be a disciple-making man, and thus I was not a disciple-making priest. No one had ever disciplined me intentionally, so I had no idea what it might look like, or how to engage in that ministry. But I did know how to make church people. I knew that intuitively, but now I knew it was insufficient, unless they were faithful disciples in the sight of Christ. But what did the Lord Jesus expect?

I searched for help in many books on discipleship but none of them satisfied. Finally, after more days than I am proud to recount, I decided simply to study every passage in the New Testament where the Lord Jesus is recorded to have said either "My disciple" or "My disciples." I was surprised to discover that there are only nine such verses. As I meditated upon them and began to understand them scales seemed to drop from my eyes. At the same time, I became persuaded that the initial call the Lord gave to his first disciples: "Follow me, and I

will make you fishers of men," (Mt 4:19) is the beginning of the path of discipleship, and Mt 28:19 is the graduation charge. "Go and make disciples of all people." In between are the truths of the nine verses.

My careful study of the text had also helped me to see that though the tradition is to translate the Greek word *poieutes* in Mt 28:19 into English as "go," it is in fact better translated as "going." This knowledge opened a whole new world to me. I saw that what the Lord was commanding was a lifestyle, not a decision for a few to go overseas as missionaries. He was expecting his disciples to be ready, at any time and in any place, to be involved in another person's life who was open to follow Christ in relationship with them.

The first disciples watched this pattern of life in Jesus, and the apostles modeled it after Pentecost. A new disciple learns to be a disciple by being in relationship with a disciple-maker. I grew confident that it is the hidden reality behind the extraordinary growth of the church in the first centuries. Christian men and women became disciple-makers because it was how Christians lived. Wherever they were going, living, playing, working, they were making disciples. It was meant to be as natural as breathing.

How could I have missed this? Was it not clear in the New Testament? Those Jesus called to follow went where he went, listened to what he said, watched what he did. They ate with him; they undoubtedly laughed and wept with him. For the better part of three years those closest to him simply accompanied him and learned from him in the context of ordinary life. The pattern was then repeated by the apostles

and first followers, and for centuries it was so in the lives of ordinary believers.

In time I codified what I believe the Scriptures teach about disciple-making into what I have ever since called "the Cycle of Discipleship." There are normally seven steps.

**1) Welcomed.** The disciple-making Christian must have a welcoming heart to make room in their life for another person. They must be willing to truly befriend the stranger. (Hebrews 13:2)

**2) Gospeled.** They must over time see that this new friend truly understands the gospel of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 3:15) They must lovingly help their new friend come to the knowledge that a decision must be made: to follow Jesus or to turn away? To repent and believe or not? To be a Christian or not to be? But understanding is not enough.

**3) Converted.** The discipler must not cease to pray for their friend until he or she is converted to Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. They must be "born again" to "enter the kingdom of God." (John 3:5) This may be days or years later; the timing is God's. If not baptized they must then be, or be brought to a public reaffirmation.

**4) Nurtured.** It is here that so many of those in the church, who truly believe, have been set adrift. The new convert must be nurtured in the season after their conversion in the way of the Lord. Above all they must develop the habit of abiding in the word of Jesus, which demonstrates to the Lord that someone is "truly his disciple." (John 8:31) They must be guided to understand and live the means of grace that will

## What to Expect: A Sneak Peek at a Day of GrandCamp

By Wanda DeLorge, Christ Church Anglican, Mt. Pleasant

Each day begins at 8:00 a.m. with breakfast followed by morning worship and an intergenerational Bible lesson based on the theme. These lessons are fun and engaging; more importantly, they are steeped in God's Word.

During the second half of the morning, grandparents and grandchildren are separated for 90 minutes. Grandparents attend grandparent classes affectionately known as "GrandBits" where they discuss what it means to be godly and intentional grandparents. Meanwhile, grandchildren spend time with other leaders who engage them in activities such as arts and crafts, games, and Bible stories, all designed to reinforce the theme. Then, the groups are back together for intergenerational games followed by lunch.

Afternoon activities may find you and your grandchildren playing Marco Polo in the pool on one afternoon and participating in a Bible scavenger hunt the next. There are other optional activities you may partake in, or you can stroll the beautiful grounds of Epworth.



WANDA DELORGE

At GrandCamp grandparents and their grandchildren will have fun, meet new friends, and together develop a closer bond with God. Come and praise the Lord with your grandchild. Come and watch your relationship with your grandchild blossom and grow.

After dinner, evening activities are varied as well. One evening grandparents and children may learn to square dance; the following evening they will join in a hilarious and memorable game of shaving-cream wiffle ball!

As the sun sinks below the horizon, the evening activities come to an end. Grandparents retire to their own private rooms with their grandchildren where grandparents will lead personal family devotions using the Scripture passages, discussion questions, and prayers provided in their GrandCamp programs.

Then, a good night's rest to start the next day!

Continued on Page 15

# Looking for Something Profound? This is the Trip for You

Germany's Epic Story — A spiritual pilgrimage of faith, history, and culture



STU BOEHMIG

"This trip felt like a spiritual master class!"  
— Dr. Bob and Karen Schwartz

"If someone has the opportunity to go on this trip, they should absolutely jump on it."  
— Craig Gyergo, Senior Pastor, Christ Church at Grove Farm, Pittsburgh, PA

"I've been on a bunch of trips in my life. This is up there, high, high, high. If you're looking for something different, profound, and will push you spiritually, this is the trip for you."  
— Brian Tome, founder and lead pastor, Crossroads Church, Cincinnati, OH

Are you or your church interested in a life-changing experience that deepens your faith and builds lasting relationships? Join us for a spiritual pilgrimage to the epicenter of modern history.

For over 30 years, the Rev. Stu Boehmig has led travelers on a spiritual pilgrimage to the heart of Europe to explore the moments that shaped Western civilization. Walk in the footsteps of Martin Luther, whose hammer unlocked Biblical truths that had been buried for a thousand years. Tread the cobblestone streets of Weimar, Erfurt, Wittenberg, and the Wartburg Castle, where Luther's courage redefined the church, family, education, music, and modern culture.

But there's more; our journey goes beyond the Reformation. Travel to Buchenwald and Nuremberg, where we do a deep dive into the shadows of the Holocaust, the Nuremberg war trials, and life behind the Iron Curtain during the Cold War. We go behind the news and get a first-hand look at the resilience of the human spirit. Between these powerful historic sites, we enjoy the comfort of four- and five-star hotels and the stunning beauty of the German countryside.

Our spring or fall of 2027 trips are now open for registration. Be bold, stand firm, and see your faith come alive in the places where God changed history!

Ready to take the next step? Visit <https://www.consequentialchristianity.com/travel>; watch our video at [https://youtu.be/d\\_qcwZ-B0eAI](https://youtu.be/d_qcwZ-B0eAI); or email Stu directly at [stu@ourfaith-travels.com](mailto:stu@ourfaith-travels.com). You can also reach him by phone at (724) 321-1753. He'll be happy to talk with you and get you all the info you need to get started.

## St. John's Parish Church Continued from page 6

that on into the future. The Lord's provision is such a great, great blessing... It's so evident in everything that's going on here.

I would also say another great blessing, and it's been going on since the very beginning, is the unity our congregation has. The Lord's provision and our unity. I've heard it many times, but I heard it again in the last two weeks — that our congregation is more united now than it has ever been. Despite the 15 years of events and traumas and tragedies, packed into three. Despite that, we are more united. We are more together. We are more "bought-in" together for the Lord's work.

**What's one thing you want the diocese to know? And how can we, as a diocese, pray for you?**

Well, you can always participate. The diocese can always participate with us. We are excited for anyone to come alongside of us in whatever way you feel led; we are happy to accept. Then pray for us, pray for the permitting process, pray for the continued financial resources to be there when we need them, and then pray that we get the associate we need, and that we can continue to provide financially for that associate long term.

\*St. Matthew's, Fort Motte, purchased their property back from the Episcopal Church and were able to retain their property.

## Ordination Continued from page 9

me just as they had years ago when God's providence had us living in community and serving the same churches together. I have to confess, it has been so painful to relocate so many times in early adulthood. But the upshot is that we have deep, meaningful friendships all over the world. I was taken aback at how many people chose to leave their lives, for a time, to travel from Beaufort and Dallas and L.A. and Boston and Nashville to stand with me and my family. What a gift the saints are.

I return again and again to the stillness and solitude of The Cathedral Church sanctuary. Many of you have enjoyed that space for the same purpose. Today as I sit in its silence, I continue to pray for the same things. For the grace to be a faithful steward of God's message and his mysteries, to love and serve our people well, and to be rooted like a tree among them and for them, the Lord being my helper.



TIMOTHY GRIGGS

I've heard it many times... our congregation is more united now than it has ever been. Despite the 15 years of events and traumas and tragedies, packed into three. Despite that, we are more united. Above: the congregation enjoys its first worship service on the new property.

## Anglican Discipleship? Continued from page 14

help keep them faithful to eternity. The disciple-maker does not rest until these things are understood and can be passed on to another. (Heb 5:12)

**5) Equipped.** The Holy Spirit equips every believer for ministry uniquely, and the one being disciplined must discover that which has been given to them. (I Cor 12:4-7) The discipler is to continue alongside in this journey, in the fellowship of the church.

**6) Deployed.** The new disciple must be helped to find their place in the body of Christ and the world. It is usually a journey of some years,

with twists and turns, but to begin to serve intentionally in Christ is foundational. (I Peter 4:10)

**7) Multiplied.** At last, the disciple-maker does not rest until the one being disciplined is discipling another. Until they are bearing fruit they have not "proved" to be disciples of their Lord. (John 15:8) The fruit that they must bear is another faithful disciple-maker. (John 15:16;17:20) Are they catching men?

You may well ask is disciple-making always this systematic and sequential? No. God may bring

a follower to himself in any way he chooses, but the testimony of his word makes clear that he expects much of those who follow him. The mark of their sincere faith is to be seen by others in their desire to obey him.

To call oneself a disciple yet be disobeying the clear Final Command of the

risen Lord (Mt 28:19), or ignoring his clear teaching, should be unthinkable. Every one of these steps is a part of the revealed pathway to mature discipleship, but only the final one "proves" it to the Lord.

How then does all this relate to the challenge put before us in this essay contest?

We were asked to describe "faithful Anglican discipleship," and I hope I have shown that discipleship is a Christian subject, not an Anglican one. The baptized believer has been baptized into Christ, not the Anglican Family. The family of the church is to be the crucible in which the life of Christ is learned and lived and passed on. And if that is to be true in the church it must be true in the families of the church. It must be true of all the members of the church.

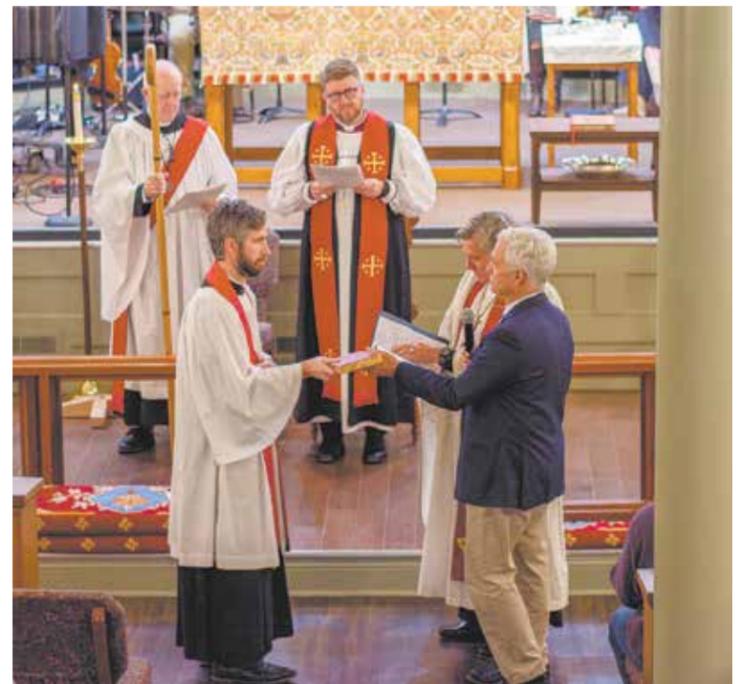
We were asked how "do we reflect on the fruit of our labors?" The metric the Lord Jesus gives is clear. Are followers "catching men?" Are disciples "bearing much fruit" and thus "proving" to be his disciples?

We were asked "how to nurture discipleship in our parishes." The ipsum verbum of the Lord reveals that we do so by making disciples in all our life.

One last point. The path of a disciple-making disciple is always walked in relationship with someone already on that path. It is not fully taught in classrooms or from pulpits. Rather it is demonstrated by a visible life lived in Christ and obedient to him and passed on to others. "That which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you may have fellowship with us: and our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ." (I John 1:3,4)

The members of our parishes will not know that path if they are not led by someone walking that path. The clergy are no exception. Nor are staff members, nor volunteer lay leaders. The faithful church is one that makes disciple-making disciples, raises up disciple-making leaders, and plants disciple-making churches. To pass on our Anglican traditions and yet not be seeing this pattern manifest where we serve, is to place ourselves in danger on that Great Day. But I write not to arouse fear, but with John the apostle to call you to a life of great joy. "That your joy may be full."

## Miller Institution Continued from page 3



MADISON KUZIA

Above, parishioner Fred Whittle (right, foreground) presents the new rector with a Book of Common Prayer, "Drew, be a man of prayer and use this book to build us up as living stones of a holy temple."

### Meet Drew Miller

Raised on Johns Island, Drew grew up at St. John's Parish Church. He first recognized the immense love of God while a middle schooler at a diocesan youth event, Mondo Weekend. After spending several summers in and around summer camp, Drew received his undergraduate degree from Furman University (Greenville, SC). After serving as an assistant/interim at St. Andrew's City Church for several years, he received his Masters of Divinity

from Trinity School for Ministry (Ambridge, PA). He was ordained in the Diocese of the Carolinas, and then served for several years as the curate for church planting at Christ Church Anglican, Savannah (GAD), working in Statesboro, GA. In June of 2022, Drew joined the staff of St. John's Anglican Church in Florence, where he served as Assistant Rector prior to his call to Saint James Anglican. Drew is married to Jessie and they have two children, Silas and Rosie, and one rascal of a pup, Rex. Drew loves fiction, archaeology, river sailing, and good coffee.

## PGW Women to Host 79th Annual Tour of Historic Plantations and Homes March 27 & 28

The women of Prince George Winyah Church, Georgetown will host their 79th Annual Tour of Historic Plantations and Homes on March 27 and 28. This event, the oldest running plantation tour in Georgetown and Charleston counties, is always popular with decorators, colonial and early American history buffs, gardeners, and visitors to South Carolina's coast. Georgetown, founded in 1729, was for two centuries one of the wealthiest areas in both the Colonial era, then in the young United States. The growing of indigo in Colonial America, then rice in the 19th century created a wealthy society that left behind beautiful dwellings, gardens, and public buildings, many of which are open to visitors only once a year. Tour goes on this self-guided tour are able to go inside many of the elegant dwellings, taking a step back in time.

All funds raised by the tours are allocated to local mission work and the preservation of PGW's historic church buildings.

Tickets are available by mail, and purchasing tickets in advance during the annual ticket pre-sale is recommended. Purchasing tickets in advance allows you to skip the ticket line and get a head start on your itinerary. The tour sites vary by day.

Single-day tickets are \$70 each and two-day tickets are \$130. Advance ticket sales will be underway from February 2 until March 6, 2026. A limited number of tickets are available at the door on both tour days. The complete list of plantations and homes sites that are featured on tour, and advance ticket and lunch requests, may be found on



PROVIDED  
The grounds of the Arcadia Plantation, shown above, will be on the tour Saturday, March 28.

the plantation tour's website at [www.princegeorgeplantationtours.com](http://www.princegeorgeplantationtours.com).

For more information, call (843) 633-1502 or [info@princegeorgeplantationtours.com](mailto:info@princegeorgeplantationtours.com). Forms and requests for tickets may be mailed to Plantation Tours Tickets, P.O. Box 1307, Georgetown, South Carolina, 29442.

## Old St. Andrew's to Host Annual Tea Room and Gift Shop

Charleston's oldest Tea Room Continues its Beloved Tradition.

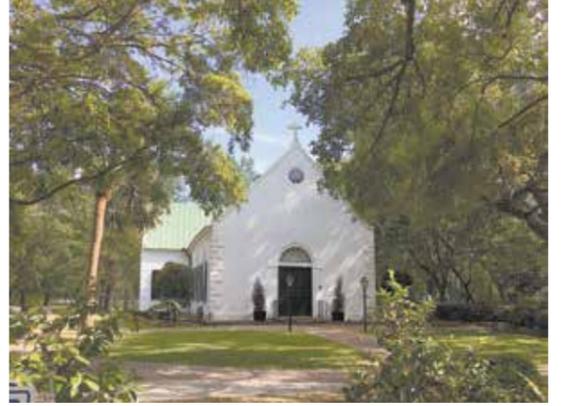
The annual Tea Room and Gift Shop sponsored by Old St. Andrew's Parish Church will be held March 9 - 21. Lunch will be served Monday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and will feature Lowcountry favorites from time-honored recipes.

The Tea Room menu will include she-crab soup, okra soup, chicken salad and shrimp paste sandwiches, salads and homemade desserts. The Gift Shop will feature handmade craft and food items. Church tours will be offered each day.

Proceeds from the Tea

Room and Gift Shop support the mission, outreach, and parish programs of the Church Women of Old St. Andrew's.

Reservations for groups of three or more can be made by calling (843) 990-6281 after February 23.



The history of St. Andrew's Parish Church which was established and built in 1706 is detailed in *Against All Odds: History of Saint Andrew's Parish Church, Charleston, 1706-2013*.

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The Rt Revd Chip Edgar  
Bishop, South Carolina

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## St. Paul's Anglican Church to Host Tea Room and Gift Shop in April

St. Paul's Anglican Church in Summerville is excited to open the Tea Room and Gift Shop for another wonderful year of treats and delights! The Tea Room offers delicious, homemade desserts and sandwiches, with an assortment of beverages to enjoy. Additionally, their Gift Shop offers an eclectic mix of handmade crafts, household treasures, and plants generously donated by parishioners. The Tea Room & Gift Shop will be open April 20-24 and April 27-30 from 11:30 am - 2 pm.

## Save the Date: Diocesan Night at the Riverdogs, June 5

Join us Friday, June 5 at the Joseph P. Riley Jr. Park, Charleston, for the annual Anglican Diocese of South Carolina's Night at the RiverDogs with Bishop Chip and Beth Edgar! The game begins at 7:05 pm. A block of seats in the covered upper deck along the first base line is now being reserved. Don't miss this fun time to gather with friends from across the diocese. Additional information will be released soon. If you have any questions please reach out to [jharder@adosc.org](mailto:jharder@adosc.org).

## Calendar Notes

View full calendar at [adosc.org/events/](https://adosc.org/events/)

- Diaconal Ordination, February 21
- Day of Jubilee, March 7
- Old St. Andrew's Tea Room, March 9-21
- Ann. of Bishop Edgar's Consecration, March 12
- Diocesan Convention, March 13-14
- Walk for Water, March 21
- Easter Day, April 5
- St. Paul's Ang. Tea Room, April 20-24, 27-30
- Camp Jubilee, May 29-July 25
- Diocesan Night at the RiverDogs, June 5
- GrandCamp June 15-19
- Friends of Cursillo Retreat, June 19-21
- ARDF Family Mission Trip, June 27-July 3
- ACNA Provincial Council, July 17-19
- ACNA Provincial Assembly, July 25
- ARDF Family Mission Trip, June 27-July 3

## Opening the Hunt: The Blessing of Being a "Hunting Vicar"

By the Rev. Stephen Scarff, Hospice Chaplain, Charleston

On November 22, 2025, I had the distinct honor of offering the blessing for the opening of the formal hunt season for the Low Country Hunt. This allowed me to bless not only the riders, horses and hounds, but give thanks for the Hunt's supporters and the generous landowners who open their homes and properties to keep this tradition alive.

Established in 2006, the Low Country Hunt is a "live hunt" with locations for hunts throughout the low country. Our community often engages in joint meets, traveling across the Carolinas and beyond. At its heart, fox hunting is about the pursuit and the amazing relationship between horse and rider. There is a unique magic in navigating jumps and watching a pack of hounds at work.

Brought over from England, fox hunting was, until recently, a thriving sport. Many of our Founding Fathers were avid hunters and accomplished equestrians. The relationship between the Church and the Hunt is well-established, and it wasn't uncommon to have a "hunting vicar" in the pulpit.

I began fox hunting (coyote mostly) in Southern California with the West Hills Hunt 25 ago. West Hills was the oldest hunt west of the Mississippi and boasted

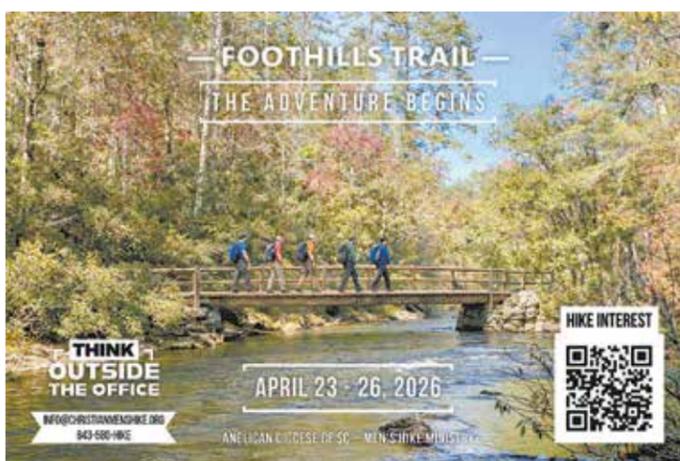
membership that included Ronald Reagan, Walt Disney, Jose Ferrer and Burgis Meridith. It is where I really learned to ride the rugged hills and unforgiving desert scrub of the Central Coast and where I earned my colors. It truly is the most fun to be had on a horse.

More recently, I was called to offer a blessing over the Boxing Day Hunt. This a traditional day of hunting, which in England often begins at a village pub, serves as a time to honor the Huntsman—who is responsible for the care of the pack and ensures participants have a good day of the sport.

Fox hunting continues to be important to local communities supporting the preservation of land in this country, keeping it open and undeveloped. It remains a privilege to continue the tradition of being a "hunting vicar."

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## Seitz Releases New Book about Ecclesiastes

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Seitz, Theologian in Residence at the Parish Church at Habersham, released a new book, *The Predestinate; Ecclesiastes and the Man Who Outshone the Sun King*. Baylor University Press shared, "This is an unusual book, rich with intrigue. It is, foremost, a book about Ecclesiastes—not a commentary, not another scholarly monograph, but rather a guide to understanding the angle of vision the ancient text asks us to see: that is, how to live our lives within proper limits, how to surrender ourselves to God, and finally how to learn to die." Learn more about the book and purchase a copy at <https://www.baylorpress.com/9781481324465/the-predestinate/>.

## Convention *Continued from page 4*

the Diocese an additional \$5,800. Training will be provided prior to voting, and extra smartphones and tablets will be available for those who need them.

Please pray for: The planning team and their efforts; Bishop Edgar as he prepares to address and continues to lead the Diocese; the churches as they elect delegates; that election outcomes at the convention will be according to the Lord's will; that the Lord will prepare the hearts and minds of those elected by the convention; for traveling mercies; and that the Holy Spirit will flood the gathering with joy, praise, thanksgiving, productivity, and holy unity.