

# Jubilate Deo

The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina

Fall 2023

## Diocese Moves to Purchase Land for Camp and Retreat Center

The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina is excited to announce they have signed a contract to purchase an 80-acre property on the north end of Lady's Island, in Beaufort County, to serve as the future home of Camp Jubilee, a diocesan camp and retreat center. The property, which is undeveloped, has one mile of waterfront on Broomfield Creek. Please join us in thanking God for showing us this new land and for all the blessings that will come from it. Additional information about fundraising opportunities will be coming soon.

are definitely going to be back there for the next several summers while we hope to purchase and develop this new property, but it will take some time and everybody joining together. We are very excited to have this piece of property on our radar.



ANN CLAIRE GAILLARD

Camp Jubilee has located an 80-acre piece of property on the backside of Lady's Island in Beaufort. "We have found, we believe...our forever home," says Weldon.

### Can you describe it?

Yes. It's 80 acres on the backside of Lady's Island, in Beaufort. It's on Broomfield Creek, and if you count the marsh along the sides, which we do, it has one mile of waterfront – water for kayaking, boating, swimming, fishing and all sorts of other water activities. It's a beautiful, beautiful piece of property. I think, for what we feel called to do, which will happen in three phases, we'll only use maybe a third to half of the property. We wanted to have enough real estate so we wouldn't hinder

those who come after us in 20, 30, or 100 years. When the Lord places it on their hearts to do something additional, we wanted to make sure there was enough land for them to be able to do that.

### I know you're planning to use it as a children's camp. Will it be just for kids?

No, absolutely not. Phase 1 is to purchase the land. Phase 2 is to build and develop our summer camp. Phase 3 is to build and develop

*Continued on Page 2*

## Expanding Ministries to Spanish-Speaking Communities

By The Rev. David M Dubay, Canon for Hispanic Ministry, Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, Rector, Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Charleston

For the last 25 years the Spanish-speaking migrant population has been steadily growing in our diocese, especially along the coast and near farmland and golf courses. Until 2018 most new Spanish-speaking communities were in rural areas due to the abundance of work and a strong network of family, friends, and neighbors from their countries of origin. Since 2020 the flow of Spanish-speaking migrants has increased greatly and the mostly Mexican population of migrant people (the majority young and from farming communities) has been joined by a large influx of Central and South American people, many with professional certifications and college degrees. This newer group of people seem to be finding homes and jobs in our cities due to the recent shortage of native restaurant and hotel workers. In Charleston the Spanish-speaking migrant population has nearly tripled in the last few years.

So, what is the reaction of the church?

*Continued on Page 5*

## Forever Home for Camp Jubilee

An Interview with the Very Rev. Canon Ken Weldon, Executive Director of Camp Jubilee, by Joy Hunter, Editor

### So, Ken, I hear you have big news!

We do. We do. Camp Jubilee has found a piece of property in Beaufort and we have it under contract. We have found, we believe, the place the Lord has shown us for our forever home. He blessed us mightily this past summer with temporary lodging at Camp Kinard in Batesburg-Leesville and Awanita Valley up above Greenville, but we knew neither of those were going to be our forever home. We

## Anglican Ministry at College of Charleston Off to "Amazing Start"

By The Rev. Taylor Daniel, Anglican Campus Pastor to the College of Charleston

Hello all! I am writing to let you know we have launched a new campus ministry at The College of Charleston. We're calling it Campus Communion. (More on that below.) The details of how we've gotten here are intricate and interesting but it all boils down to this – Jesus calls us to make disciples of all nations, and that starts with our own backyard. With that simple truth and vision, multiple churches in our diocese have come together and commissioned me to plant an Anglican student ministry on campus at CofC.

It's off to an amazing start! And I want to tell you all about it!

### Where We Are

As I write this, I am already four weeks into the job. In that time, churches around the state (as well as other parents who have somehow

heard the word) have given me the names of students headed to or already at the school. I've reached out to these broke college kids with a tried-and-true ministry tactic – I offered to buy them lunch. As more and more have taken me up on that offer, I've heard their stories. Then, I started introducing them to each other and some of them started to hit it off. The



JUSTIN HARE

We kicked off our semester with a bowling night, and had 14 College of Charleston students joining us!

practical upshot? We kicked off our semester with a bowling night, and had 14 CofC students joining us! This past Saturday we got the band back together for Mexican food trivia night. And we'll keep going

every week – with more students getting connected and invited, via their friends, into Christian community for the first time in their college careers.

### Where We're Going

Believe it or not, all of this is part of a bigger group-building plan for this ministry and that plan is very simple. It goes like this: Individuals lead to small groups lead to large groups.

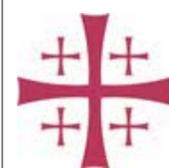
That's it! As I've engaged with these initial students, I've been able to see how the Lord has gone before us in this ministry. He has sent some amazing young people our way. I've seen students' eyes light up at the vision of being part of a new, fresh movement of God at the college. Already a core group is forming, a core group eager to invite friends, to

*Continued on Page 4*

## Ordination of Vocational Deacons

January 27, 2024

God willing, on Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Bishop Chip Edgar will ordain five individuals to the Sacred



Order of Deacons in Christ's One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke and St.

Paul in Charleston, South Carolina. Your prayers and presence are requested.

The candidates for ordination are Joel Billings from St. John's, Florence; Chet Houston, from St. Helena's, Beaufort; Scott Poelker from St. Paul's Anglican, Summerville, Doug Ringer from St. Philip's, Charleston and Earl Sease from Christ-St. Paul's, Yorges Island.

Read the candidates' bios at [www.adosc.org](http://www.adosc.org).

# First Summer of Camp Jubilee Marked By Joy

By Justin Johnson, Director of Camp Jubilee, ADOSC

This summer, as in years past, our diocese hosted summer camp. However, the program that took place this summer was like none other. Following the completion of our final summer at St. Christopher in 2022, we quickly began working to continue camp ministry in the diocese by establishing a new summer camp program. This meant starting from scratch

of hosting summer camp in 2023 was daunting, to say the least. There was a lot of uncertainty surrounding our program's identity, location, camper participation, and ability to recruit a staff. But we knew we had been called to this ministry, and just like so many others in the diocese, the loss of a place to gather did not change that calling.

Amid the challenges that lay be-

Camp Kinard outside of Columbia, which is located on 300 acres with two beautiful lakes, and the other was Awanita Valley, located in the mountains of South Carolina. Both sites provided us with everything we needed and more.

Soon after, the Lord gave us a name, Camp Jubilee, harkening to the freedom, rest, forgiveness, and new life found in the Year of Jubilee – all of which are key characteristics of the Camp Jubilee community. Now with a name and locations to gather, the next step was to spread the word by letting people know we would be hosting summer camp, inviting families to join, and creating a way for them to register.

We were not sure what the response would be. Would campers want to try something new, and would families be willing to send their children to places they had never seen? As we traveled to share about Camp Jubilee, we were able to listen to how

people were feeling and answer many of their questions. Hosting camp in different regions of the state also proved to be a blessing as it allowed us to engage families from outside of our diocese who had never been a part of camp.

The final piece of the puzzle was recruiting and training a staff.



EMMA MCLAIN

As the campers stepped into new environments and took part in new activities, the feedback was unanimous: they loved it!

Again, the Lord graciously provided for our needs by calling a truly amazing team of 15 staff, all of whom had previously participated in camp ministry within the diocese in the past. Despite the fact of having to literally live out of their cars for three months, drive all over the state every 7-10 days, and go without a day off in between most sessions, all on top of what is already a very demanding job, these young leaders faithfully received the call to step into this season of ministry and did so with abundant joy. We needed to maintain the ethos of what camp is, while also stepping into this new season with hands wide open, following the Spirit's lead. That meant

adapting some parts of our program and laying aside other aspects from the past for the sake of embracing what the Lord was calling us to in this new season. The staff did so humbly, willingly, and creatively, helping to craft a program that was fresh and impactful.

After months of prayer and hard work we welcomed our first campers to Camp Jubilee on June 7. This was just the beginning of what would be an incredible and life-changing summer marked by joy and expectation. Week after week, campers arrived ready to reconnect with old friends, make new ones, and hungry to meet with

Continued on Page 8



"BOO" WELDON

In all, Camp Jubilee welcomed nearly 400 campers this past summer, while also discipling and raising up 15 staff, nine interns, and 25 counselors.

and building a program from the ground up. We began this journey empty-handed, without a basketball, water balloon, or hula hoop to our name. In fact, the ministry itself no longer had a name, and more importantly, we no longer had a place to host camp. With just nine months until summer, the prospect

fore us, the Lord kept inviting us to trust that he can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). What has followed over the past year has been a continual witness of the Lord doing just that. After scouring the state for a place to host camp, the Lord provided us two amazing locations! One was

## Camp Jubilee Property Under Contract

Continued from Page 1

our retreat center. The goal is a summer camp and retreat center that can be utilized year round for all sorts of ministries and a variety of programs. Our hope is that it will definitely be a place for all, a place not just for our diocese, but for the greater Anglican Church in North America, and a regional retreat center where God's people will gather to encounter the Lord, a place of hospitality, a place of rest, reflection, renewal.

### How long were you looking?

When we lost our camp property on Seabrook Island the Wednesday after Easter, 2022, we immediately knew we needed to find a temporary place for summer camp. We've been calling this in-between time a "tabernacle season" or a "tent season." Camp Jubilee (the new summer camp ministry of our diocese) took place at Camp Kinard and at Awanita Valley this past summer, but we immediately started looking at property and having people send us potential sites. We didn't start actively looking until summer camp ended in August of 2022, our last summer on Seabrook. Most of this past year hasn't been spent looking for property. It's been spent preparing to have camp without our own property, which was a pretty large undertaking, and I take full credit for how well we did, even though Justin Johnson and Ann Claire Gailliard did all the work! Seriously, I had very little to do with it. Justin and Anne Claire are rock stars, and what they did this past summer and this past year, putting camp together on short notice, was nothing short of amazing.

### So you looked at a lot of different places. What made this one stand out?

Several things. One, we all felt a call to the Beaufort area initially. Two, we looked at several pieces of property in various places. If possible, we wanted to be somewhere along the South Carolina coast, preferably in the



JUSTIN JOHNSON

We need \$3.7 million, \$3.8 when you add in what we'll need for closing costs and due diligence costs.

Lowcountry, simply to have water we could use. If you get up into the Grand Strand area and I love the places up there, most of that waterfront property is already developed or is not ideal for a camp and retreat center setting. One of the things we wanted, and I used this phrase again and again, was "functional camp water." This is different from beautiful water. We looked at a lot of pieces of property that were in the marsh. They were beautiful to look at, sitting on your porch, but we wanted actual water you could get into and play in for boating, fishing, and swimming, etc. For some of those other properties we visited, we would have needed to build a dock nine miles long just to get to the water. So, we wanted functional camp water, which this property on Lady's Island has. We also looked at several pieces of property that were two or three times as expensive, and ultimately, for our plans

and our use, and what we believe the Lord is calling us to, they just weren't as good as this piece of property.

Finally, though, at the end of the day the reason for this particular place is that when Justin and I first stepped foot on the property, the Holy Spirit stirred in our hearts. And every single person from our diocese, Bishop Edgar and various priests, our Camp Jubilee vision team and others, everybody that has stepped foot on that property has felt moved by the Holy Spirit. Not just that this is a property we could use, or this is a good property for our purposes, but this is the property the Lord has for us.

We believe this property is for us and that the Lord has kept it there undeveloped for all these years for a day such as today.

### And how much money do we need to purchase this property?

We need \$3.7 million, \$3.8 when you add in what we'll need for closing costs and due diligence costs.

We'll need additional funding to finish all of phase one, which is to build a few things so we can begin enjoying the property and getting people out there. These initial projects won't get us anywhere near to being able to run a summer camp or retreat center yet, but we're looking to get a dock on the property so we can start to use it for water sports and activities. We're looking to build an outdoor chapel-pavilion we can use as a multi-purpose space that will be open on all four sides. And then the third thing would be a tractor shed with secure storage to house a tractor and a bushhog and a couple of vehicles to get around the property. Once the property is ours, we'll have to maintain roads and cut the grass and do all the things to keep it functional. So, dock, chapel-pavilion, tractor shed and finally some signage along the road and some fencing so we can begin enjoying it and our new neighbors will know we're there.

We don't want to wait three or four years to do these things if we don't have to. We want to have these initial projects completed so people can go out there and start camping, rustic camping, right away. There will be no electricity and no water yet at this point, but we want to be able to get out there and enjoy it. We also want to be able to get out there and show potential donors, potential partners in ministry, what the long-term vision is. They say a picture is worth 1000 words, but when you actually step foot on the property and see it with your own eyes, well that's worth 1000 pictures.

### That's fabulous. That said, we've got a lot of other needs in the Diocese. We've lost several properties. Why do we need a camp?

Great question. We understand there are many very important things going on with our parishes right now. Some are in the midst of property acquisitions and there are major building projects ongoing at others, but the Lord has put this property in front of us now and we trust that his timing is perfect. For now, we are simply trying to buy the land. Later, in God's time, we plan to build the best camp and retreat center we can during the next phase. It is an incredibly exciting time in the life and ministry of the diocese. This is a process that we feel is God led. We have a small window of time to get the "dirt" and there is a sense of urgency to secure those funds. We have been working with a faithful vision team of lay and clergy for much of 2023 and this team, along with many others, truly feel that this is the piece of property and now is the time.

Camp is a place where Christian leaders, present leaders of our church and beyond, Christian leaders in the world, are formed. It's a great pipeline of Christian leadership. Lots of our clergy, lay leaders, people on vestries,

Continued on Page 15

# Two Priests Walk into a Bar....

Theology on Tap Provides Space for Connection, Conversation, and Authentic Questions

“Two priests walk into a bar...” It may sound more like the start of a joke than a ministry, but if on a Tuesday evening you found yourself on a certain block of Market Street in Charleston, chances are this is exactly what you would see.

Visitors to the area are a bit off guard at the sight, but the regulars at Henry’s are not.

In the spring of 2021 Justin Hare and Brian McGreevy, both priests at St. Philip’s, along with three young adults from the church, met to brainstorm a new ministry which would focus on reaching young professionals.

“We started with the strong conviction that everyone has deep longings for God, for

real conversation about things that matter, and for a life well-lived,” says Justin. “We also noticed that there were fewer and fewer places where people could gather organically and have good conversation. So, for us it was less about trying to find the next best program or silver bullet to reach young people and more about creating a relaxed environment where young adults – whether they go to church or not – would feel welcomed and able to ask good questions without fear of embarrassment. We wanted to create a space where we could model what a good conversation about meaningful things looks like.”

A typical Theology on Tap night starts at 7 p.m. in one of the private rooms upstairs at Henry’s on the Market. A crowd of folks

in their 20s and 30s gathers gradually, with people socializing and enjoying some pizza that the church provides from the pizzeria next door. A curated playlist of music that relates to the evening’s theme is playing in the background. At 7:30, Justin and Brian grab a seat at a table in the corner and have a spirited

conversation about the evening’s topic, which they’ve been reading on and thinking about in advance.

“We aim to discuss topics that resonate with the lived experience of young adults today. Our goal is to be relatable, practical, and also thought provoking. Whatever the topic, we seek to open up the Word of God and shed light on what God has to

say about it. We’ve discussed a wide variety of things from friendship and loneliness, to anxiety, money, and technology. It is all about presenting God’s Word and His will and showing how it offers a more excellent and beautiful story than the one we are naturally presented with in the world today,” Justin added

After Justin and Brian finish their dialog, members from the crowd pose questions they have been texting in via a QR code that allows the questioner to remain anonymous. The questions don’t have to pertain to the topic at all, and often they don’t, but many of the questions are deep and extremely thought-provoking, or sometimes coming from a place of brokenness or fear.

“Theology on Tap is the best young adult ministry I’ve ever been a part of. It is a time free of judgment and pressure and gives me an anonymous outlet to ask questions that are relevant to my current stage of life. I make a point to always bring someone new...”

**Caroline Falcone**



PROVIDED

“We aim to discuss topics that resonate with the lived experience of young adults today,” says Hare. “Our goal is to be relatable, practical and also thought provoking. Whatever the topic, we seek to open up the Word of God and shed light on what God has to say about it.”

Folks who are there can up-vote the questions they think are most interesting, and a moderator starts with the one with the most “likes” for Justin and Brian to address.

“That’s what I like most about what we do,” says Justin. “Whether you like the topic of the evening or not, you can still pose any question or idea you have and it can get really interesting from there.”

The close relationship that Justin and Brian have has to be one of the factors that makes Theology on Tap work. “Brian was one of the chaplains at Porter Gaud when I was finishing high school there,” says Justin.

“When I became the youth minister at St. Michael’s in 2010, we worked closely together and our friendship has continued to grow over the years since then.”

Brian notes, “Much of what we discuss at Theology on Tap is the importance of Truth, Beauty, and Goodness. Part of the good and beautiful way God has made the world is that we were made for relationship. One of the many things Justin and I share is a love of C.S. Lewis, who said that the best friendships are not simply about liking the other person, but about the friendship being oriented around

Continued on Page 10

# Good Shepherd Settles into Temporary Space

Begins Season of “Hopeful Expectation”

By The Rev. Will Klauber, Rector, Church of the Good Shepherd, Charleston

As you may know, early this summer we were informed that the SC Supreme Court formally denied our petition for rehearing, effectively handing our buildings and property over to the Episcopal Church. We were the final church to hear this news, and in the few short months since the opinion was finalized what has happened has been nothing less than a miraculous series of divine interventions.

Soon to be nomads, we immediately began contacting and meeting with churches and businesses in our corner of West Ashley. After speaking with several pastors of churches located within two miles of the building, Pastor Joe Warring and the congregation at Northbridge Baptist Church were empathetic to our situation. They were quick to boldly and prayerfully step out in faith, as they saw our mission and vision to be worthwhile and consistent with their own. Their congregation voted unanimously to partner with us in an effort to work together and see the Kingdom of God grow. We reached agreements to be able to worship in their sanctuary on Sunday afternoons at 4 p.m., and move our day school into their education building, which once housed a K-12 Christian school.

Although the school closed 15 years ago, the education building was still being used for their Children’s ministries on Sunday mornings. So now, every Friday we stow much of the resources in our Tots and 2K classes so Northbridge can use those spaces. The partnership has started strong, and I can only



JOY HUNTER

“For now, we rest,” says Klauber. “The Lord has provided us a place to tabernacle while we wait on the plans for our new home to come together. Not apart from our brothers and sisters, but with them in partnership for the Gospel, in the hope that we might see God’s Kingdom come here on earth.”

attribute that to God preparing the way. He has certainly ordered our steps and has not left us wanting.

While Northbridge could meet our day school and worship needs, we were still in need of office space for our staff. Thanks to the kindness of the Rev. Jeff Miller and the leadership at St. Philip’s, Charleston, we have been provided office space at 25 Cumberland Street, right next to our brothers and sisters from Holy Trinity. The Lord has provided us a constant reminder we are not alone.

In this whole transition, the support we have received from brothers and sisters throughout the diocese has been incredible. In our

last Sunday at Miles Drive, and our first at Northbridge, we were graced by clergy from Church of the Cross, Bluffton; St. Helena’s, Beaufort; Holy Trinity Anglican, Charleston; St. Alban’s, the Citadel; Christ Church Anglican, Mt Pleasant; and Old St. Andrew’s, Charleston, the latter of which provided the food for a glorious meal following the last service on Miles Drive.

The amount of support we have received in this transition has been truly overwhelming and humbling, but if this is the highlight of our journey then we are in trouble.

Recently, my wife Sara and I were reflecting upon our personal

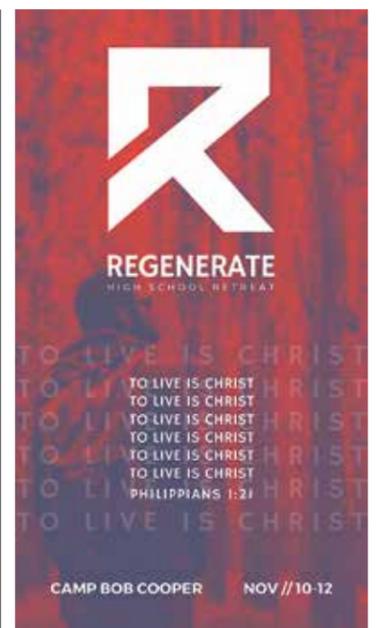
experience in ministry. She pointed out that the entire time we have been in some state of flux. From my start in youth ministry until now, we have never felt we were in a position or place that was long term.

We knew my time in youth and summer camp ministry would not last forever, and our time church planting just out of seminary was transitional. The past three years at Good Shepherd have always had a great deal of instability about them.

As a friend and fellow clergyman said recently, the Lord has ‘uniquely equipped’ us for the challenges at hand. Uniquely equipped to stabilize in the midst of instability and uncertainty, remain steadfast against a rapidly shifting tide, and lead the people of our parish well in the midst of great tribulation. We have been called to leave our home to follow God out into the wilderness knowing He will provide for us a new home, as he did with Abraham and Sarah. We could never do this without the strength and wisdom of the Holy Spirit which was clearly and liberally poured out upon our congregation. We could never have done this alone either. The ways in which our Baptist brethren, and the churches in the diocese have sacrificially given in order that we might succeed have showed us that the love of Christ is literally and tangibly present in the people of our diocese. For this, I am truly grateful.

For now, we rest. The Lord has provided us a place to tabernacle while we wait on the plans for our

Continued on Page 7



Regenerate High School Retreat, November 10-12

Join high schoolers from all across South Carolina at Regenerate! The retreat will be held November 10-12, 2023, at Camp Bob Cooper in Summerton. Students can expect incredible recreation, engaging large-group sessions, thoughtful worship, breakout workshops, and tasty meals. This year’s teaching will go through the book of Philippians to discover how you belong to God and to God’s family because of who Jesus is and what he has done.

Registration is being handled through group leaders. If you do not have a home parish, or your church doesn’t have a youth group, please contact Hunter Myers at hunter@your-cathedral.org to register!

# Prayer Center Now Based at the Cathedral

## Resources Available for Prayer Ministry Teams

By The Rev. Dr. Sandi Kerner, Canon for Prayer & Healing, The Cathedral of St. Luke & St. Paul, Charleston

As a Diocese we have long cultivated healing prayer ministry in our parishes and diocesan ministries. In the 1980s Jean and Johnnie Corbett, along with Fr. Rick Belser, began healing prayer ministry first at St. John's, Johns Island, and then at St. Michael's, Charleston, calling forth and equipping prayer ministers with teaching from Christian Healing Ministries in Jacksonville, FL, and the Order of St. Luke the Physician (OSL). As healing prayer spread throughout the Diocese, it was no longer uncommon to find this ministry offered as part of Sunday worship and weekday services in our parishes and as part of our diocesan life in family, outreach, youth, and spiritual growth ministries. We have a unique legacy and charism as a Diocese for cultivating this ministry.

Moreover, we are charged with a gospel mandate – to do what Jesus did – to teach and to proclaim the gospel of the kingdom and to heal every disease and affliction. Jesus said, *“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest”* (Matt. 9:35-38). Cultivating healing ministry carries the same gospel urgency as preaching and teaching in the heart of Jesus.

Establishing The Prayer Center at St. Christopher 10 years ago, Fr. Bob Lawrence, then Executive Director, envisioned setting healing prayer ministry at the heart of our Diocese. He and others created space at the camp for equipping and refreshing prayer ministers and offering retreats and conferences on healing prayer. Fr. Rob Kunes, the



AARON BRITTON

first Chaplain at The Prayer Center, formed a team that offered healing prayer to individuals through appointments and weekly healing services within the context of Holy Eucharist.

Fr. Bob observed, “If one associates the word ‘healing’ only with the healing of a physical bodily wound, they miss the full scope of what healing prayer is all about, and its importance for the full body of Christ across the globe. Healing prayer seeks wholeness, reconciliation, and restoration across the full range of physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. It applies to individuals, churches, communities, and nations. We all need it at some level throughout our lives, and our broken world certainly needs healing prayer every day. A broader understanding of healing prayer ministry to allow for greater involvement of our diocesan members and churches can and will go a long way toward achieving true wholeness and health in the Body of Christ.”

In February of this year, the work of The Prayer Center transitioned to a new home base, again at the heart of our Diocese, and is now situated at the Cathedral of St. Luke

and St. Paul in Charleston. It was my joy to pick up the work that Fr. Rob had begun at Camp, to widen it, and now to bring it into a new season. This calling includes serving as a resource for parishes and diocesan ministries seeking to refresh, expand, or explore healing prayer ministries.

Recently, I met with Heather Jackson, Director of Connections and Prayer Ministry at St. Paul's, Summerville, to explore how we could work together. She exclaimed, “I am so excited that our diocese has a renewed sense of how integral healing prayer is to the gospel of Jesus Christ. I know for my own life, God used inner healing prayer to bring me to a deeper heart knowledge of His love for me as He healed me from childhood trauma. It has been my honor to pray for others for a while now, and it never gets old to see how He sets people free and restores them to an intimate relationship with Himself. The difference is astounding. I'm so thrilled that we, as St. Paul's prayer ministry, will have more resources for encouragement, refreshment, and further training. To God be the glory!”

Christ Church, Mt. Pleasant, has re-ignited their ministry of healing prayer during Sunday worship. “At Christ Church in Mt. Pleasant, we asked Sandi Kerner to help us re-start our Sunday morning prayer ministry, and her assistance in co-leading the training sessions with me was invaluable,” said Fr. Ted Duvall, Rector of Christ Church. Healing prayer ministers are now available during Holy Communion to pray with those seeking healing for themselves or others.

Other churches and ministries who have requested consultation and training include St.

Continued on Page 6

# St. John's Parish Church Purchases Property

On October 3, 2023 at 9:30 a.m., St. John's Parish Church closed on a 20-acre parcel of property at 1643 Main Road on Johns Island.

“We are relieved, hopeful, expectant, joyful, and humbled in the Lord Jesus Christ for His faithfulness in leading us to this piece of land,” said the Rev'd Jeremy Shelton, Rector.

Historically, 1643 Main Road was owned by St. John's Parish Church until 1812, and now will be their future home. Locally the parcel has been known as “Church Place,” an appropriate name that will remain.

The congregation raised the entire \$1.6 million needed to purchase the property outright in less than three months. Shelton remarked, “The faithfulness of the Lord brings all of us to greater faithfulness, obedience, and generosity every day. The Lord has been good to St. John's Parish Church these last 15 months, and we are sure He will continue the good work He has begun.”

Senior Warden, Ben Dixon, said, “I feel extremely fortunate to be part of this process, one that we as a Parish have not undertaken in almost 300 years. It is exciting to own new property on which to build a church. It has also been a blessing to experience the steadfastness of our congregation as we stepped out in faith during this process. While this is only the beginning of our journey, we now have a place to call home, to minister to the people of Johns and Wadmalaw Islands, for many years – and generations – to come.”

Special thanks go, first to the Lord Almighty, the entire congregation of St. John's Parish Church, and also to: Ben Dixon, Sr. Warden; Jon Grandin, real estate agent; Thomas Puckette, Treasurer; and Sally Dixon, Parish Administrator.

# College of Charleston Ministry

Continued from Page 1

evangelize, and to take ownership.

As we gather and grow through our weekly social events, on-campus lunches, our individual hangouts, and our worship together in church each Sunday, we're moving from a collection of individuals to a small group. Lord willing, we're looking to make that move official by mid-October. From there, we'll keep building until we have enough small groups to add a “large group” meeting every week. I hope and pray that we realize that dream sometime next semester. All of this is in service of our core ministry aims: to see students at The College of Charleston encounter the gospel, grow in their faith, and take up their callings to serve in God's Kingdom.



TAYLOR DANIEL

*As I've engaged with these initial students, I've been able to see how the Lord has gone before us in this ministry. He has sent some amazing young people our way. I've seen students' eyes light up at the vision of being part of a new, fresh movement of God at the college.*

## What We Need

With all that said (and thank you for reading this far!), we could really use your help for three things.

**1. Pray:** We need your prayers! And that's not just some token Christian language. I really mean it! Yesterday I struck up a conversation with a CofC sophomore purely because I was wearing a Memphis shirt and she, being from Memphis, asked if I was too. After talking all things our hometown, I told her what I do and she said that, while she identifies as an agnostic, she'd love to learn more. We're getting lunch Wednesday. And friends, God is doing things like that all the time! He loves these students far more than we do. So won't you join me in committing to pray regularly for more of these divine appointments, both with and between students, for the expanding of his Kingdom?

**2. Partner With Us:** If college ministry, and giving the gospel to those who don't know it, is something close to your heart, please consider partnering with us in this ministry. Our organizational structure relies on a partnership between the diocese, local churches, and individual donors to meet our needs. Your contributions can go directly to buying the free lunch that entices a new student to give us a hearing. In a time in which over 50% of Gen Zers report dealing with either depression, anxiety, or spiritual apathy, ministries centered on campus are a powerful remedy that provides belonging and hope! As a registered 501c3, all donations are completely tax deductible and you can give either

financially come alongside it, every conversation counts. I can always be reached on my personal cell (901)-413-7370 or via email at [tdaniel@adosc.org](mailto:tdaniel@adosc.org).

## One More Thing! What's in a Name...

Earlier I said I'd elaborate a bit more on our name. Why Campus Communion? We call this ministry Campus Communion because that name hits two big values for us.

### 1. We Plug Students into the Greater Christian Tradition.

We are, in many ways, like other campus ministries in that we seek to

monthly or lump sum. For more information or to give today, visit <https://adosc.org/ministries-and-departments/college-ministry/>

### 3. Tell Someone About Us:

At this stage we're all in with the old maxim, all press is good press! Whether it's a college student you know who needs to know about us, or someone else who can commit to pray for this work or

evangelize and disciple students so they bear fruit in their lives and are plugged into the church. Yet we're also different, and distinctly Anglican, because of our emphasis on the larger tradition. Rather than running away from Christianity's past, we use its enduring customs as tools to teach and equip. We throw parties on certain Saint's feast days and talk about the lessons of their lives. We walk through the Church calendar and use its liturgical rhythms to shape our services. In all of it, we seek to show students that the faith is far wider, weirder, and more wonderful than they've heard, that all its riches are theirs, and that they can actually help!

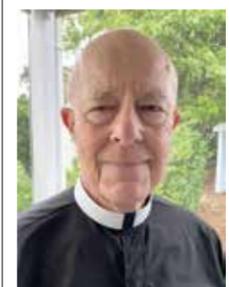
### 2. We Are About Community.

Don't get it twisted, we're a ministry; we teach and preach and serve together. But, we're not a place where you have to believe all the right things to belong. We also laugh together and regularly fellowship. If some students who still won't darken the door of a Bible study want to join us for Taco Tuesdays or bowling night, that's great! Campus Communion is a “come as you are” ministry. We seek to be a rest stop for tired Christians and a safe place for skeptics.

Friends, it is a truly awesome thing to be writing to you about all of this. I am so humbled and thankful to be a part of what the Lord is doing in and through his church here in Charleston. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions you may have. If you want to join our email list to receive updates visit <https://adosc.org/ministries-and-departments/college-ministry/>.

# Doug Ringer Becomes Chaplain to Bishop Edgar

Early this fall, Bishop Edgar asked Doug Ringer, a parishioner of St. Philip's Church, Charleston, who is soon to be ordained a Deacon, to serve as his Bishop's Chaplain for the next season.



“Doug will assist me in numerous ways,” says the Bishop, “especially with parish visits and other traveling obligations. I'm

grateful he has agreed to serve our Diocese in this way. Doug and I have known each other for years as amateur triathletes (that was a previous life for me) in South Carolina, and I love his heart for Christ and His Church.”

Doug and his wife of 56 years, Scharlene, have worshiped at St. Philip's since moving into the Charleston area some eight years ago. Doug has been active in the St. Philip's healing prayer ministry as well as providing Eucharist to home bound church members. He leads a combined Morning Prayer/Eucharist service at the Canterbury House in downtown Charleston and the Atria assisted living and memory care facility in Mt. Pleasant, each once a week.

Continued on Page 16

# Holy Cross Music Academy Develops Musicians; Provides “On-Ramp”

By Jake Willis, Holy Cross, Daniel Island

The Church of the Holy Cross on Daniel Island recently began a new program somewhat unusual for a church: a full-on music lessons school called Holy Cross Music Academy. I am Jake Willis, worship leader for Holy Cross and director of Holy Cross Music Academy, and here's more about how this unique offering in

It began five or six years ago with a handful of wonderful families that asked me to teach guitar or piano lessons on Daniel Island. These students had a passion for it and stuck with it, and I had a desire to help them use their gifts in new ways. I began inviting them to play with me at church and I started planning local events at restaurants

than Bennett approached me with an idea he wanted me to pray about: formally opening up our preschool rooms, which sat empty in the afternoons, for music lessons. We both knew it was a large need on Daniel Island, and that the road I had paved doing freelance lessons and local events with students would be a good on-ramp for the community. After much prayer, vision-development, and planning, Holy Cross Music Academy (HCMA) was launched in January of 2023. All of our instructors are believers who are involved with music leadership at their own local churches.

There is one glaringly obvious question about HCMA: why do this all through a church? Within the vision we have laid out, the answer falls into three categories: discipleship to students, outreach to our community, and provision for our instructors.

**Discipleship:** Private lessons offer a wonderful way to develop relationships. An instructor gets time to know a student on their own terms, away from peer pressure or their families, and teach in a way



JESSICA WILLIS

Jake Willis, Willy Bruenner, David Bruenner, Caleb Bennett (HCMA student on drums) and Eliza Dennis (HCMA student on guitar) play together at New Realm Brewing Company on Daniel Island during the Holy Cross Music Academy Launch Party. HCMA hosted a public event at New Realm just after the opening of the school in the spring of 2023 to celebrate and share about the new opportunities related to the school for the community. Both Eliza and Caleb have begun playing with the worship team on Sunday mornings at Holy Cross Daniel Island.

that fits that student's personality, goals, and character. Learning music has an interesting way of revealing aspects of one's self; I am constantly digging beneath the music I teach to address both the positive character traits and the insecurities of my students. And, when you know a student is a believer, it provides a unique avenue for discipleship and mentorship.

Additionally, we disciple through opportunities to play on our worship teams at Holy Cross. I learned a tremendous amount when

I was in high school by playing in the worship team at my church, and I offer my students many opportunities to play with us on Sundays, in the hope that they'll grow in life and in their relationship with the Lord in similar ways. Holy Cross Daniel Island has nine current or former students regularly involved in our Sunday morning worship teams and numerous others who have been invited in for one-off occasions.

**Outreach:** Much like Holy Cross' preschool, this program

Continued on Page 7



JESSICA WILLIS

Lindsey Heyward, instructor and local worship leader, enjoying a laugh with her guitar student, Campbell Lennon, during a lesson.

our community came to be and the vision behind it.

Since moving to Charleston in 2017 to be a worship leader at Holy Cross, the Lord has slowly placed a unique path for music, ministry, and mentorship in front of me.

where they could play their songs. When Black Tie Lessons, a fantastic music lessons program on DI, closed in the midst of COVID, it opened a door allowing our church to reach the community in a new way.

In the fall of 2021, Holy Cross Daniel Island campus pastor Jona-

## Expanding Spanish-Speaking Ministries

Continued from Page 1

The Roman Catholic church on Johns Island has services in Spanish every weekend. There are a few smaller Pentecostal churches pastored by bi-vocational pastors on Johns Island, and now a Spanish-speaking Baptist church has been planted on Hwy 61 by an American pastor. That church is right across the road from our own Old St. Andrew's Parish Church. Our Diocesan response to the need for ministry through the language barrier has been small but more than that of other denominations in the area.

In the 1980s, St. John's Episcopal Church opened their doors to the Spanish Migrant population as La Iglesia San Juan. While that church was a noted presence on the Island, they did little in the way of outreach and as the population of the area grew, that congregation did not. In 2010, when the Diocese disassociated from the Episcopal Church, we discovered that there was a very large population of people in over five work camps on Johns Island. We shut down the church, purchased a trailer and some chairs, and began setting up "The Church on the Move." That ministry has travelled to one of two formerly migrant work camps nearly every Saturday since then. Our aim is to provide pastoral care, worship, and prayer opportunities for the camp inhabitants. The ministry has been run mostly by me and my assistant Rodrigo Haddad de Sousa. We have had some wonderful assistance from the Church of Our Saviour on Johns Island, Christ Church Anglican in Mount Pleasant, and a few others, as well as monetary help from Saint James and St. Philip's (both in Charleston).

Recently we have realized that our time in the work camps, while a blessing, is reaching a very small number of the Spanish-speaking people of our area with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Over the last year I have purposely been engaging restaurant and hotel employ-

ees in conversation and I have found that a Spanish worship service at an hour that works for them would be greatly appreciated and well attended. We believe it is now essential to begin worship services in urban locations where the population has grown.

If you speak Spanish we need your help.

The Anglican church has a wealth of excellent theological resources and wonderful music and a liturgical tradition that is familiar to many of the Spanish-speaking people in our area. There is a large group of unchurched Spanish-speaking people in our cities and towns. And the majority of the folks coming into our midst most recently are under 26 years old. We have a cross-cultural evangelistic challenge right here in our own backyards.

The plan is to begin a Spanish Eucharist that will eventually lead to a Spanish congregation housed in our Cathedral in downtown Charleston, which is close to the restaurants and hotels. There is opportunity right now if churches choose to minister directly to Spanish-speaking people in every city in our diocese.

Recently our own Fr. Roger Griffin sent me a copy of the 2019 *Book of Common Prayer* translated into Spanish and I have put together a bilingual, side-by-side version for our parishes. Currently we only have one Eucharist service available, but I am working to add baptism, confirmation, marriage, morning prayer, and evening prayer very soon. If you would like a copy of it to reproduce electronically, just let me know. The bilingual ESV Bible

is available now so we don't have to publish our own. The Alpha Course in Spanish has been extremely popular with those to whom we minister.

Recently, using this new side-by-side resource, the Rev. Jason Varnadore, Rector of St. David's, Cheraw, baptized the child of a Spanish-speaking family. So the ministry is spreading.

Finally, the question you may be asking is why do we need to do this? Why don't they just learn English?

I would start by saying that our Lord Jesus probably spoke at least three languages. And at Pentecost the good news was preached in many, many languages without leaving town. I believe there are enough resources and Spanish-speaking people within our own churches to minister to these marginalized and unreached people as well as those who have traveled to our state with an intact and strong faith in our Lord and Savior and who just want a church.

We don't need to do political battle over the immigration struggle because that is a losing battle our government cannot seem to do anything about right now. The truth is these people are in our midst. They are in our backyards, they are here, they need Jesus, and they need the love of a Christian Church as do we all.

If you would like to learn more about how to bring this ministry to your church, or if you would be willing to serve on the Hispanic Ministries board, help with the service at the Cathedral, or accompany us out to the work camp on some Saturday morning to make breakfast and engage in prayerful fellowship with some wonderful people, please let me know. You can reach me at (843) 801-5856 or Fr.dubay@gmail.com.

Que Dios se bendiga.

## Pray. Obey. Stay

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

The idea of planting a church can be daunting. It is overwhelming to consider proper funding, location, logistics, and leadership. All of those unknowns can undermine the best of intentions.

I offer you an alternative. Rather than setting out to plant a church, consider taking one small step beyond what your church is likely already doing.

The end goal is not to plant more churches. The end goal is to see a harvest of individuals come to salvation through Jesus Christ.

I am always so encouraged by the amount and variety of outreach done throughout our Diocese in our attempts to reach others with the love of Christ.

The gap between outreach and church planting is not as wide as you may think. However, it does require one change. Whereas outreach, by definition, is the act of reaching out and then returning back to what is safe and normal, church planting is the work of reaching out and then staying there!

Listen to Paul's church-planting efforts in Iconium. "So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands." (Acts 14:3)

Continued on Page 7

# Robust Diocesan Men's Ministry Has Active Season

By Jay Crouse, Coordinator for Men's Ministry, ADOSC

Our Men's Ministry has been active this year. Al Zadig, Lee Cox, and I completed, with 10 men of St. Michael's, Charleston, a newly created program, K2 Pipeline. K2 is a nine-month curriculum developed by Al Zadig and me using "Next

Our first Behold the Man Couples pilgrimage to the Holy Land took place April 15-28, 2023, with 12 couples. Our next couple's pilgrimage will take place April 13-26, 2024.

As the Coordinator for Men's Ministries in the Diocese I've had several opportunities to speak about men's ministry over the past five months: at St. Luke's, Hilton Head, with Matthew Rivers as my two-by-two partner; Christ the King, Pawley's Island with Lee Jones as my two-by-two partner; Men of the Cathedral, Charleston, with Bishop Edgar as my two-by-two partner; Church of the Cross, Bluffton, with Al Zadig and David George as my two-by-two partners and Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island, with Norm Brahen and Tom Horton as my two-by-two partners.

Three of our churches have identified new men's ministry contacts: Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island: Norm Brahen and Daniel Island, Jonathan Bennett; Old St. Andrew's, Charleston: Jacob Rogers, Associate; and Church of the Cross, Bluffton: Jonathan Riddle, Associate, Rod Musselman, Brad Zervus and Tom Henrickson.

Our Christian Men's Conference is scheduled for February 23-25, 2024. This year we will host two speakers: Dr. Josh Mulvihill, Executive Director of Church and Family at Renew Nation ministry and Dan Davis,

Founder of Animate Mentoring. Both men will focus on our three-year theme, "Faith in the Home."

## "The Rest of the Story"

The Rest of the Story was an ending radio broadcaster Paul Harvey used for many years to introduce his final broadcast story. So, here is "The Rest of the Story" for our men's ministry news.

An opinion piece appeared in the New York Times this past week entitled, "Being There."

The author, David French, was writing about a startling discovery he had made recently: male loneliness is not a new phenomenon but

to his amazement this epidemic is afflicting a surprising group of men: American fathers!

The rest of the story: your diocesan men's ministry is a rich resource for fathers in our churches, especially for those churches committed to creating community which encourages fathers to be their best. Are we "being there" for fathers in our churches? If so, we have the resources to help you succeed.

Do you have questions about specific areas of men's ministry? Here are some contacts you'll find helpful: Men's Hikes: Les Sease:lsease@coloursandpapers.com; BASIC (a John Eldredge weekend retreat): Lee Jones: ljones14@sc.rr.com; Behold the Man Holy Land pilgrimages: Jay Crouse: jaycrouse@aol.com; Christian Men's Conference: Richard Moore: moore@meridianee.com; K2 Pipeline: Jay Crouse: jaycrouse@aol.com

Your Diocesan Men's Ministry leadership team strives to provide the churches in the Diocese with the structure, strategy, and resources to launch your men's ministry or take it to a new level. Please review our resources at [menandthechurch.com](http://menandthechurch.com) or visit our site on the diocesan website: <https://adosc.org/ministries-and-departments/mens-ministry/>.



PROVIDED

Our first Behold the Man Couples pilgrimage to the Holy Land took place April 15-28, 2023, with 12 couples. Our next couple's pilgrimage will take place April 13-26, 2024.

Step" curriculum by Christian Leadership Concepts. The nine-month program finished up on May 30, 2023. All of the details to provide this men's ministry program in your church are available via [jaycrouse@aol.com](mailto:jaycrouse@aol.com).

Under the direction of the branding firm, Wizardly, our Behold the Man pilgrimage ministry has a new logo!



Under the direction of the branding firm, Wizardly, our Behold the Man pilgrimage ministry has a new logo!

## Prayer *Continued from Page 4*

Jude's, Walterboro (with area-wide churches); Church of Our Saviour, Johns Island; and the Diocesan Youth Commission, among others.

Contact Sandi for consultation or collaboration: [sandi@your-cathedral.org](mailto:sandi@your-cathedral.org).

The harvest is indeed plentiful and the laborers are few. Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out more laborers who can listen and pray effectively with others for healing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Eucharist with Healing Prayer that was begun at the Prayer Center at Camp continues at Church of Our Saviour on Tuesdays at 1:15 p.m.

# Four Diocesan Churches Partner in Kenyan Mission Trip

By Freda Woodward, the Parish Church of St. Helena, Beaufort

This past July, 16 individuals from four churches in the ADOSC (St. Paul's Anglican, Summerville; Prince George Winyah, Georgetown; the Parish Church at Habersham, Beaufort; and the Parish Church of St. Helena, Beaufort) embarked on a 10-day mission trip to Kisumu, Kenya where we joined with clergy and laypeople from the Anglican Diocese of Maseno South. The Rev. Fred Onyango, who now serves on staff at St. Paul's, served as our guide.

Because Fred's home church is Emmanuel in Kisumu we had access and insight that would have been impossible without his understanding of the community. Using his local knowledge, he developed specific ways each of us might bless and be blessed during our time in Kisumu. Fred also worked with locals to ensure materials would be available when we arrived from the U.S. so the team could immediately begin building six new homes to provide shelter and security for families in the region.

The team enjoyed many joyful times throughout the mission. The most joyful ones involved Vacation Bible School for 500 led by Lynnette Kelly, assisted by Jane Manos, Freda Woodward, and Heidi Smith; a Worship Workshop taught by Daniel Miles and Brett Kucera; a Leadership Conference led by the Rev. Tripp Jeffords; and a Healing Prayer Workshop led by the Rev. Fred Onyango and the Rev. Jim Cato.

Singing was a regular part of our mission and as Jane Manos from St. Helena's said, "Singing



PROVIDED

Above, Brett Kucera (on the ground, right), of Prince George Winyah, Georgetown, assists in the building of a new home. The team built six homes while there and have funds to build a total of 16.

Amazing Grace in three languages and praising the Lord together was overwhelming."

Opportunities abounded for team members to serve Kenyans with special needs. Some visited a school and a church service for the deaf. Some visited a medical center where hopes of a future mission were discussed. Others participated in the healing prayer workshop.

Praises rose to God daily with our newfound brothers and sisters saying the call and response: "God is good/All the time/All the time/God is good!" Team members returned with a feeling of a job begun but not finished.

"Witnessing the joy and gratitude on the faces of these families filled the team with an overwhelming sense of fulfillment," said the Rev. Tripp Jeffords, Rector of St. Paul's, Summerville. "We are so thankful for the brothers and sisters who supported this mission trip. We've raised sufficient funds to build a total of 16 homes. And so, the work will continue."

Our hope is to continue our relationship with the Diocese of Maseno South. If you are interested in learning about plans for future missions, you may contact the Rev. Fred Oyango at [fredo@stpaulsummerville.org](mailto:fredo@stpaulsummerville.org).

# PGW Puts Sewing Skills to Use; Dress a Girl Around the World

By Mary Holland, Prince George Winyah, Georgetown

The Prince George Winyah chapter of Dress a Girl Around the World was started in 2018 by Libby O'Hara. She was traveling in Africa to visit family, and was taken aback by the abject poverty she witnessed. While researching how to help, she found this organization. Because her employment allowed her to purchase fabric and supplies at a substantial discount, our chapter was born at PGW.

I became aware of this group after moving to Georgetown almost four years ago. There was a display in the Parish Hall containing several handmade dresses, along with information about the ministry. I was thrilled to find I could put my sewing skills to good use!

After learning the group meets monthly, I made plans to participate in the next session. Once there, I met our group members, who were most welcoming. We have a small core group that meet monthly to sew and plan our next dress shipment. I became involved because I felt this was a way to make a real difference, especially when I learned that these dresses can help reduce the risk of human trafficking of these little girls. I also learned that a dress from our group may be the only new item of clothing these girls will ever receive.

The national Dress a Girl organization provides great information on how to make the dresses, how to procure the supplies, sizing, and tips on useful practices. They will also ship dresses internationally if needed. Our group uses the patterns given, but we usually send our dresses to missions with which our parish is affiliated. We have sent dresses to Kenya, the Bahamas, Guatemala, and Mexico in the last several years. The response we receive is always terrific!



This is a wonderful ministry for any parish looking for a new way to help girls in need. Sewing skills are needed, but those who don't sew can also help by cutting and making dress kits for others to sew. It is a great small group opportunity, or could be done in large group settings as well.

Our Dress a Girl group would be happy to hold a workshop to help other churches who may wish to start a group. If you'd like to learn more, contact me at [meholland22@yahoo.com](mailto:meholland22@yahoo.com).

Thanks to the Rev. Roger and Joanne Griffin, the dresses from PGW were given to children at an ACNA church in Fresnillo, Mexico on Children's Day. The pockets were a big hit!



# Mere Anglicanism

January 18-20, 2024

## Speaking the Truth in Love: The Church and the Challenge of the New Morality

Registration closes December 27

Speaking the Truth in love is a scriptural mandate for Christians, yet our culture today often sees Truth and Love as incompatible. In seeking to engage a hurting world, how can the Church share the Truth of God's Word that makes for human flourishing while speaking from a place of deep empathy and compassion and humility? World-class theologians and scholars who have done deep and thoughtful work on this question will help us engage this challenge both philosophically and practically at this year's Mere Anglicanism Conference.

Presenters include eminent scholars Sam Allberry, D.A. Carson, John Dickson, Rebecca McLaughlin, Amy Orr-Ewing, Vaughan Roberts, Calvin Robinson, and Carl Trueman. The conference will include two festal worship services: an opening Choral Evensong and a Choral Eucharist, officiated by Diocesan Bishop Chip Edgar and Archbishop Foley Beach, respectively, as well as daily Morning Prayer. The registration fee of \$275 includes all sessions and conference materials; lodging and travel are not included.

Learn more and register at <https://www.mereanglicanism.org/>

# Getting "The Right People on the Bus"

St. Michael's CARE Team Invites Parishioners to Minister in Areas of Giftedness

Submitted by the CARE Team, St. Michael's Church, Charleston

When David Richardson, Chair of the CARE team ministry at St. Michael's Church, Charleston, talks about what they do, he stresses God's answers to prayer and their eagerness to follow Christ in showing love to others, and quotes Jim Collins' best-selling business book, *Good to Great*.

In *Good to Great*, Collins points out that the most important thing great companies did was not implementing a new vision or strategy. "The first thing great companies did was to get the right people involved on the team." In shorthand, "Get the right people on the bus!"

St. Michael's CARE team organizes and oversees ministry to parishioners and friends locally. The team does a great job of "getting the right people on the bus."

"The single question we ask each person we meet with is, 'What is your passion?' or 'What do you really enjoy or love doing?'" says Richardson. "What I have personally experienced in ministry is when you discover a person's passion and pray for the Holy Spirit to connect and use their passion for ministry, ministry flourishes."

As a large church, St. Michael's has many outreach ministries. Two parishioners whose work, through CARE, perfectly illustrates the "bus" metaphor are Betty Schaffer and Christen Reese.

### Schaffer Sends Encouragement Through Scribes for Christ

Below, Betty shares why she joined (and now serves as Lead Shepherd) on the team Scribes for Christ, which sends personalized, hand-written notes of encouragement, expressions of hope, and prayers for healing on behalf of the church to those in need:

"Two events in my life prompted me to become involved in Scribes for Christ, one as the writer and one as a receiver of a note or card," says Schaeffer. "Upon my arrival in Bordeaux, France to teach for a year, I wrote postcards to each of my numerous aunts and uncles. Only one of my uncles responded. I was not particularly close to my Uncle Ed, but

he was on my list. He was extremely poor, my aunt had already died, and he had no children.

"He told me how proud he was of me and how much the card I sent meant to him. He had taken my postcard to the local gathering spot for the men in the community--the train depot--and shared it with all of them. I felt awful because I had put so little thought into the card, and it had meant so much to him. I promised myself that I would always take a moment to write what I truly felt going forward. The second event was when my mother was at my home for several months before she passed away. When she was no longer able to attend her church, and despite the fact that she was not even in town, her circle of friends from her church frequently sent her cards to remind her they were praying for her, and it was also a reminder that her church had not forgotten her. She would read those cards over and over. I saw how much they meant to her. When David Richardson spoke about C.A.R.E. at church one Sunday, I was drawn, to be sure, by the Holy Spirit, to participate in that ministry by sending cards to parishioners to remind them that their church loves them and has not forgotten them."

### Reese Touches Lives with Chocolate Cakes

Christen Reese, co-owner (with her husband David) of the business Chocolate Cake,



JOY HUNTER

"I wanted to do more than make cake to make money," says Christen Reese, co-owner of Chocolate Cake. "I wanted to serve God, and others in need."

has a totally different passion, but she, too, is eager to use her gifts to show her love for Christ and her neighbors.

Christen has had a career of entrepreneurial endeavors. In 2007, following the advice of family and friends, she launched Chocolate Cake, a web-based, made-to-order, hospitality business. With the guidance of some great Charleston chefs, she put her Chocolate Cake on the map. Sixteen years later, the cakes' delicate, yummy texture, paired with the richness of chocolate, continues to create immediate fans.

"As a woman, as a Christian, as a St. Michaelite, I wanted to find a way to use my gifts in ministry," she says. "I wanted to do more than make cake to make money. I wanted to serve God, and others in need."

Christen discussed ideas with her husband, David Reese, who serves with CARE at St. Michael's. "My husband is very supportive," she says. "I feel like we're always in tandem."

Continued on Page 15

## Bible Quizzing Deepens Children's Knowledge and Faith

By Heather Pienkos, Children's Director, Christ Church Anglican, Mt. Pleasant

Once upon a time, there was a little brown-eyed, brown-haired girl who always sat in the front row eager to learn the Bible stories told in Children's Church. Along with the story, a Bible verse was always taught in a song. Thanks to these repetitive songs this little girl grew up and memorized a lot of Bible verses which have become gentle reminders God has sent throughout her life. Today that girl can confidently tell you the truths of the Bible will soak into your life, strengthen you emotionally through the deep valleys, bring a deeper peace into your life amidst uncertainties, and will be used by God to renew your mind daily.

Committing something to memory is similar to committing to a relationship. When one is seeking a relationship, you find yourself wanting to know everything about that person. Jesus frequently quoted the Old Testament in his life and ministry. He actually quoted from 24 different books roughly 180 times! It is abundantly clear he thought of the Bible as the ultimate authority in life and a way to understand the heart and desires of God.

Knowing the goodness of memorizing Bible verses, we have

brought children's Bible quizzing into our church. Bible quizzing can help your child come to know all there is about God. It's a way to daily practice spiritual self-discipline and commit the scriptures to memory. Through quizzing, children experience a deep fellowship with their own team, their competitors, and, most importantly, with Jesus Christ.

This fall, a few of our diocesan churches are participating in children's Bible quizzing. Our church, Christ Church Anglican, has a team of 10 children committing to memorizing Bible verses.

Consider these facts about Bible quizzing:

- 80% of children and teenagers who have been involved in Bible quizzing for three or more consecutive years stay in church for the rest of their lives.
- The longer children are in Bible quizzing, the more their faith grows.
- The human brain is capable of storing somewhere between 10 and 100 terabytes. Through Bible quizzing, these kids learn 20 Bible verses a year!

Continued on Page 16

## Church Planting

Continued from Page 4

Paul "remained for a long time." During that time of incarnational ministry, the Gospel was preached and the Lord "bore witness to the word of his grace." We make much of Paul's missionary journeys. But a closer study of Paul reveals that he often "remained a long time" with the individuals he reached with the Gospel.

If the thought of planting a church feels daunting, then let me give you three things that every church in our Diocese can do right now.

- 1) Pray – ask the Lord to reveal who He is calling you to reach
- 2) Obey – faithfully take the first step of trusting His leading
- 3) Stay – make a commitment to reach and then be incarnate in a meaningful way

The end goal is not to plant more churches. The end goal is to see a harvest of individuals come to salvation through Jesus Christ. Based off Jesus' own life and ministry, may we be a Diocese which is committed to Pray, Obey and Stay.

If you or your church would be interested in exploring what Pray, Obey and Stay looks like in your specific context, please let me know and I would love the opportunity to support and encourage you. Contact me at [tsimonis@sthelenas1712.org](mailto:tsimonis@sthelenas1712.org)

## Holy Cross Music Academy Continued from Page 5

invites the community into a consistent relationship with our church and with wonderful Christian instructors. By creating a positive experience in our small community, we hope that families will feel comfortable enough to attend church with us when we invite their students to be a part of something. And, more importantly, that when a significant pastoral need arises in their life, our church may quickly come to mind as somewhere they can go for help. Relationships matter deeply when it comes to outreach and evangelism, and we hope HCMA is an avenue for furthering the gospel through new relationships in our community.

**Provision for instructors:** Many jobs in church music are part-time, contracted, or require extra income on the side. HCMA provides a faith-based environment for talented local church musicians to work and to provide for themselves in a way that combines their passion for music and ministry. This can be a fantastic "second job" for part-time worship leaders in Charleston, and is much more in line with their calling and giftings than Uber driving or waiting tables. We have instructors from a variety of denominational backgrounds, as well as instructors versed in both traditional and contemporary music. As someone who has been on that journey myself, I am very pas-

sionate about the fact that HCMA provides this opportunity for local worship musicians and compensates them competitively with the other music schools around town.

Holy Cross Music Academy currently has eight regular instructors and we have had between 60-80 students since our January launch, with hopes of growing this fall as we begin our first full school year. Lessons are open to both children (ages six and up) and adults. If you'd like to learn more about what we do, check out our website: [hcmusicacademy.com](http://hcmusicacademy.com).

## Good Shepherd

Continued from Page 3

new home to come together. Not apart from our brothers and sisters, but with them in partnership for the Gospel, in the hope that we might see God's Kingdom come here on earth. Thank you for your prayers, your help moving, and your encouragement along the way. It has made this trial into a season of hopeful expectation. We know that wherever we are gathered together, God is with us. Even in this uncertainty, God has been, is, and will be glorified. To Him be the glory and honor, as he has provided a way forward for his children at Good Shepherd.

# Anglican Leadership Institute Completes 11th Session

The Anglican Leadership Institute convened throughout much of September at the FOCUS Study Center in Massachusetts. The 11th session of 15 participants, from 12 different countries, ran from September 6 – 27. Under the continuing leadership of Bishop Mark Lawrence as the Interim Executive Director, with the assistance of the Rev. Bob Lawrence, this was the second institute in 2023, following a three-year hiatus due to COVID-19.

The Institute was born of a vision cast by Bishop Lawrence in his address to the annual Diocesan Convention in March 2014. In that convention address, Bishop Lawrence asked the question, “What if we establish in this Diocese an institute to bring emerging Anglican leaders from across the world for ...three weeks...of residential study, prayer, renewal and reflection with seasoned Christian leaders and scholars? Imagine what a season for building relationships of gospel affection and missionary vision for reaching the secular and religious cultures of the 21st Century might mean for those who labor in demanding vineyards under great deprivation, and persecution.”

From that early vision, the Anglican Leadership Institute began in January 2016, with the Rev. Dr. Peter Moore serving as its inaugural Executive Director. It convened for the first time on Sullivan’s Island, SC at Mugdock Castle and welcomed 14 participants from 11 different countries.

With the gathering of 10 cohorts since 2016, there are now 151 graduated Fellows of the Anglican Leadership Institute that collectively come from 31 different countries. While half of these countries are in Africa, representing 92 of the current graduated Fellows, other



BETH EDGAR

The 11th session of the Anglican Leadership Institute gathered 15 participants from 12 different countries, and ran from September 6 – 27.

Fellows include 10 from Asia, 14 from South America, seven from Australia, seven from Europe, and 21 from North America.

Each Institute has brought emerging Anglican leaders together for a unique learning experience in principles of leadership built upon the foundation of Anglican Formularies and the Jerusalem Declaration. In addition to lectures on the Bible, culture, and preaching they are also given tools to assess their gifts, character, and leadership styles. Over the years of ALI, participants have encountered faithful teachers, inspiring Anglican leaders, and gifted CEOs of noted companies. Born of a vision of what might be, this effort has reached the far corners of the Anglican Communion, knitting together emerging leaders into a unique partnership for the Kingdom of God. Additionally, the participants strengthen one another, enjoy fellowship, and develop

connections that last a lifetime.

The 15 participants of the 11th Institute hail from Tanzania, Burundi, Brazil, South Sudan, Kenya, Argentina, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Mongolia, and the U.S. Speakers included Bishop Chip Edgar, Bishop Ken Clarke, Bishop Grant LeMarquand, Bishop Andrew Williams, the Rev. Dr. Phil Ashey, the Rev. Dr. Chris Royer, the Rev. Dr. Sandra Kerner, the Rev. Dr. Frog Orr-Ewing, Dr. Melody Martini, the Rev. John Barr, the Rev. Greg Kronz, and Ms. Julie Chapman. The environs of the FOCUS Study Center and the surrounding area also afforded opportunities for recreation. Please keep this vital Gospel ministry in your prayers, as well as among your considerations for financial support. It continues to allow the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina to bless the wider church in fostering strategic missional relationships throughout the world.

## Orr-Ewing to Lead Anglican Leadership Institute

The Board of the Anglican Leadership Institute is happy to announce that the Rev. Canon Dr. Frog Orr-Ewing was named as the next Director of the Anglican Leadership Institute in the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina. He participated in the final week of the 11th gathering of the Institute, September 6-28, at the FOCUS Study Center on Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts as one of several featured speakers. Near the end of this gathering, he officially assumed his new ministry as the Director when Bishop Mark Lawrence, who has served as the Interim Director since late 2022, passed the leadership responsibilities to him.



Frog lives in England with his wife Amy and their three teenage sons. He is the Rector of Latimer Minster at Stampwell Farm in Beaconsfield. He has been the Canon Theologian and Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow of Mission at the University of Winchester since 2018. He previously served as the Chaplain and Missioner at the Oxford Centre for Christian Apologetics (OCCA), Vicar of All Saints, Peckham, and a Curate at St. Aldates, Oxford. He earned his B.A. in Theology at Oxford University, where he also gained an MTh in Applied Theology. He has a PhD in Nineteenth Century Anglican Missiology from King’s College London, and since 2012 has enriched his passion for poetry, community, and conservation through his stewardship of Stampwell Farm on the outskirts of London. He is also the co-author with his wife Amy of *Holy Warriors, Deep and Millennials*.

## Camp Jubilee Joy

*Continued from Page 2*

the Lord. As the campers stepped into new environments and took part in new activities, the feedback was unanimous: they loved it! The campers embraced this new season just as the staff had, enjoying every bit of what Camp Jubilee had to offer. In fact, we heard many longtime campers say this was their favorite year of camp yet!

In addition to making fun memories, camp proved to be life-changing for many campers. Again and again campers publicly professed newfound faith in Jesus or a renewed commitment to walk as a disciple of Christ. Praise the Lord!

In all, Camp Jubilee welcomed nearly 400 campers this past summer, while also discipling and raising up 15 staff, nine interns, and 25 counselors. The ministry from this summer is continuing to bear fruit as many of the student leaders who served as staff, interns, and counselors have returned to their schools to lead, and in some cases start, ministries on their campuses. The Lord truly exceeded all our expectations going into this past summer. He continues to show us his faithfulness and his desire to meet with his people.

Finally, the Lord allowed all of this to happen in large part through the gracious support of his people. Our ability to rent spaces, purchase resources, and hire a staff was due to the generous giving of individuals and parishes around our diocese, and we are incredibly grateful for the support we have and continue to receive. This past year has shown that Camp Jubilee is not just the ministry of a few, but it is truly a ministry of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina. As we look forward to what lies ahead for Camp Jubilee, we do so with eager anticipation for what the Lord will continue to do in and through this ministry.

## Bishop Focuses on Servanthood During Deacons’ Day

By The Rev. Jim Cato, The Parish Church of St. Helena, Beaufort

Bishop Chip Edgar met with diocesan vocational deacons at his second annual Deacons’ Day on September 16 at The Cathedral of St. Luke and St. Paul in Charleston.

The Bishop based his remarks on Rod Schaeffer’s book, *The Power of Weakness*, which he highly commended to the group. “The look at leadership through St. Paul’s eyes,” said the Bishop, “very much suits the heart of a deacon, which is servanthood ‘weakness’. It is a method of showing God’s strength and is the way the Gospel is most powerfully displayed.

“Quite often we have a vision, and our determination to fulfill it can get in the way of growing the kingdom as God wants us to grow it.

“We begin ministry and many times think it belongs to us. It doesn’t work that way with God. God has a ministry. We don’t. He allows us to participate in it. We plant, water and weed. I trust that God, having given me the ministry, will complete the job,” he said.

“Make sure that the vision is from God. Vision isn’t imposed on people. It is developed among people,” said the bishop.

As an example, Bishop Edgar used his own life. When he arrived in Columbia to plant the Church of the Apostles, he loved traditional hymns so much that the thought of a guitar in church was anathema to him. The thought of never hearing “Hail Thee, Festival Day” with its intricacies was horrifying. But one day, without a music director, they had



JANET ECHOLS

to throw in the towel, stop the hymn in the middle. Afterward, he approached Rod Lewis to ask about names of potential candidates for music director. “Rod said, ‘Why are you not considering me?’”

Dr. Rodney Lewis has a doctoral degree in guitar and other musical interests.

“This man changed my life,” said Bishop Edgar. Dr. Lewis also has served as music director and coordinator for the Anglican Church in North America’s first Triennial Gathering.

“The idea of worldly leadership doesn’t really work the way God works in churches,” the Bishop said.

The Bishop went on to discuss St. Paul’s leading and encouraging the early Christians and Gentiles while advancing the kingdom, and he noted that Paul could be very harsh. Paul was angry, but not at the people. He was angry at those who continued to spread heresy, something that fundamentally changed the story of Christ.

Paul was a card-carrying Pharisee, a Pharisee among Pharisees. At St. Paul’s conversion, he didn’t turn in his membership card. He was still fervent, but he had a dramatic conversion of imagination (the origin of meaning) as with

the change in C.S. Lewis after his conversion. Paul had a vast amount of knowledge, which was rearranged and used for God’s intended vision to grow the kingdom. All those people (Jesus’ followers and Gentiles) that Paul once disdained, Jesus put in his face to love and serve them.

“Vision,” said the Bishop, “is born in the context of people: How can I get people to move to the Cross?”

Paul preached the Gospel everywhere he went, and he was persecuted for it — sometimes to the point of near death. Paul was a preacher and his preaching — and the preaching from the pulpit today — “reminds people over and over and over of the dominating power of the Cross.”

Following Bishop Edgar’s address, the group went to his residence for lunch and fellowship. The third annual Deacons’ Day is scheduled for September 14, 2024, Holy Cross Day.

## Local Anglican Pens Angelic Story Just in time for Christmas!

This Christmas, give the gift of fine art. *Bazriel and the Frozen Bells of Noël* is a full-color Christmas storybook featuring 95 paintings from famous artists such as Monet, Van Gogh, Degas, Renoir, and Rembrandt.

Pringle Franklin, a member of St. Philip’s Church in Charleston, is the author of this newly released book about an angelic rescue mission into France on Christmas Eve.

The mystical fantasy is written from a Christian worldview. The nine-chapter story gently grows in suspense to reach a satisfying twist ending. Entertaining for the whole family, the book is written for readers ages 9 to 12. The art accompanies the action of the story and visually conveys the era and the two settings: heaven and France in 1890. If you find a painting or artist you love, you can interact with a QR code inside the book to learn more. Besides its local author, the book features two other Charleston connections: a painting of St. Philip’s Church by local artist Charles D’Antonio and a print from the Gibbes Museum of Art (Good Friday in Spain by Albert James Webb).

Available in downtown Charleston at Buxton Books, Historic Charleston shops, and the Preservation Society of Charleston Shop. Available online at Etsy: <https://www.etsy.com/listing/1509198962/beautiful-christmas-book-with-famous-art>

# Trading the American Dream for God's Dream

## Holy Cross Family Shares Adoption Experience

By Annie Hamlin, Church of the Holy Cross, Daniel Island

Fifteen years ago, in Southern China, one tiny two-year-old was placed in my arms. In this one precious, enormous moment, our hearts were opened to the Lord and broken for the orphan. That summer everything changed, as He shook us out of our "comfortable" and helped us see the world through His eyes and through His heart for the fatherless.

I once read that "comfortable" is the most dangerous place for a believer to be and we were comfortable. We had been blessed with four healthy biological children, three awesome little boys, as well as our beautiful, two-year-old baby girl. We had talked about adoption for years, but our lives were just as they were supposed to be as we raised our children and lived out our "American Dream." However, it was our biological children the Lord used to bring our casual conversations about adoption to fruition as it became more and more "uncomfortable" to love our children, while so many others were literally dying to be loved. Adoption is not comfortable, but it was that "uncomfortable" that exposed our hearts and wrecked us, as the Lord began to reveal to us the orphan's reality.

Lizzie came to us with an understanding no two-year-old should ever have. I remember taking her back to visit her orphanage to say goodbye, after having her for only a few days. I remember the fear with which she clung to me as each nanny (unsuccessfully) tried to take her from me and I remember telling her to wave bye-bye as we boarded the bus to leave the only place she had ever known, and I will never forget the relief and the joy that visibly washed over her as she smiled and waved good-bye.

The next few years were spent in a place both hard and beautiful as we adjusted to a



The Hamlin family's journey has been a mixture of "arduous and amazing." Back row: Christian 25, Charlie 23, Chris, Annie, Caleb 20; Front row: Bella 25 (Christian's girlfriend), Lizzie 17, Maggie 16, Lucy 15, Will 19 and Emmeline 17. Not pictured: Alex 11, in Honduras, who the Hamlins hope to bring home next year. (See pg. 10.)

life filled with medical appointments, clubfoot castings and surgeries. We found ourselves living out a crash course in trauma scars and the brokenness that will seep into the heart of even one so young. It was uncomfortable and it was difficult, but the Lord used it to bring us to our knees and to push us to a place of dependence as He gently peeled away our pride and presented our hearts to us as they truly were.

Five years after Lizzie came home, we found ourselves back in China, this time for two determined little girls with cerebral palsy and once again the Lord showed us realities that broke us and equipped us for the refining to come. Once again, these two brave little girls were ready to leave all they had known and walk off with strangers whom they had never met and could not understand. Maggie and Lucy were so very ready to belong and to be loved. Once again, the path laid out before us

was scary and difficult but it was the kind of experience that changes you and points you right to Jesus.

By the Fall of 2017, we had settled into a new normal, just on the edge of comfortable, when we felt the Lord calling us back. Will had just turned 14 when he came home to our family. We adopted him the day before he would have aged out of the Chinese system to begin the rest of his life in "the second orphanage," a dark reality that so many children face after aging out. Will is blind and when he came home, had no English at all, but the Lord readied him and equipped us, and Will's transition was filled with a peace that could only come from the Holy Spirit.

Our family's journey has been an exquisite mixture of arduous and amazing. The language barrier is challenging. The medical and the therapy appointments are difficult. Learning to parent trauma is painful. Letting go of "normal" is super hard, but the Lord enters into to all of it. His presence has been so tangible and so evident as we have stepped outside of ourselves and our American Dream and into His dream for our family.

This year, Lizzie will be a senior in high school. She is a straight "A" student and in defiance of 18 clubfoot castings and multiple surgeries, is a beast on the soccer field! Will is a rising junior and despite being blind, is an amazing musician. He participates in his high school marching and concert band and is a part of our church's praise band! Maggie will be a high school sophomore this year and although she has to fight her cerebral palsy daily, has such a joy about her and a faith that challenges me! She has a very hard time

Continued on Page 10

## Bishop Edgar and Chris Walchesky Named to ACNA Hymnal Commission

At the June 2023 meeting of the College of Bishops, Archbishop Foley Beach named, and the College confirmed, a 2030 Hymnal Commission. That team will prepare an official Hymnal for approval by the College of Bishops and provincial use by June 2029.

Two individuals from our Diocese, Bishop Chip Edgar and Chris Walchesky, who serves as the Direc-

tor of Music and Choirmaster at St. Philip's Church, Charleston, are on the Commission.

Chris, a 2030 Hymnal? Six years seems like such a long time. Why will it take so long?



MOLLY HARE

Above, Chris Walchesky directs the choir at St. Philip's Church, Charleston.

tor of Music and Choirmaster at St. Philip's Church, Charleston, are on the Commission.

We threw a few questions Chris's way.

similar amount of time. Projects like this one are the production of a committee of people, representing different areas of focus in the worship life of the Church. Gathering people together, most of whom are musicians and clergy already engaged in full-time ministry in a parish setting, takes plenty of time!

There are 12 people on the Commission. How will the work be organized?

Our work will be divided among four sub-committees:

- Hymns of the Anglican patrimony (think hymns distinctive of the English Cathedral tradition, that which composes the repertoire of our latest hymnals of 1940, 1982, and the REC's Book of Common Praise, 2017)
- Hymns of ecumenical/global significance
- Hymns, choruses, & spiritual songs of the last half-century
- Service music for BCP 2019, both ordinary and traditional language texts

We will meet in person in November in Arlington, TX, but most of our meetings will be over Zoom once assignments have been given.

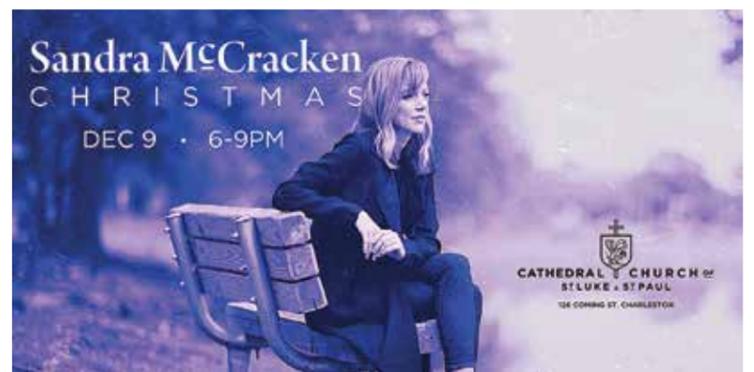
Has any work begun yet?

I would say that the vast majority of music that will be part of this hymnal has already been composed, so yes! But we're at the very beginning of this project.

What are you most excited about with this project?

I'm excited and hopeful for what a hymnal will mean for the larger province. Since leaving TEC in 2012, and with many other jurisdictions never having been part of or

Continued on Page 11



## Winning Writers at St. John's Parish Church, Johns Island

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

Jane Vaughn and Mary Seabrook, parishioners at St. John's Parish Church, Johns Island, received a wonderful surprise when they attended the 2023 Blue Ridge Mountain Christian Writers Conference. This was the first time these two members of the Charleston chapter of Word Weavers International attended this large, prestigious conference held every May at the Ridgcrest Conference Center in Black Mountain, NC.

Months earlier, Jane and Mary each made a brave first step into the publishing world by submitting a personal story for a chance to be included in an anthology of encouraging stories from special needs families. From the many submissions, both of their stories were accepted, quite an honor for a first effort! The book, Room at the Table: Encouraging Stories from Special Needs Families, published by Mt. Zion Ridge Press LLC, was entered in the conference's elite Selah

Award contest by its lead authors/compilers, Stephanie Pavlantos and Starr Ayers. The contest for works published in 2022 had more than 450 entries in 29 categories. Room at the Table won first place in the Anthologies category!

The book was also submitted to the conference's coveted Director's Choice Award contest in which the 29 Selah Award categories were condensed to five related-genre groups. The Anthologies category was included in the Devotions/Bible Studies/Gift Books group. Both past and present conference attendees could submit a 2022 published work and a total of 80 entries vied for a top spot in one of the five groups. Room at the Table won first place again! Happy tears of surprise were shed at the Awards ceremony held on Wednesday night, May 31, and these two godly women, with their first-ever submissions, can now call themselves published and (first

Continued on Page 16

# Beauty Opens Hearts and Minds to Gospel

By Charles DeAntonio, St. Philip's Church, Charleston

“Beauty is possibly the most important issue for the church in our day.” When a friend made this remark over coffee, I was a little startled. As an artist, my life is built around the importance of beauty. I have long advocated for beauty as the indispensable companion of goodness and truth, but I had been unaccustomed to hearing serious Christians assert beauty's place so strongly. Happily, my friend seems to be part of a swelling tide of believers convinced that beauty is essential.

As a child of the Lowcountry, I took it for granted that the world was a beautiful place. As the son of an artist, I took it for granted that most people valued and understood beautiful things, but as I entered the wider world I realized that beauty of the kind I had chosen for my vocation was not so universally recognized or acknowledged. Thirty years on, I have painted hundreds of pictures – portraits, landscapes, still lifes, narrative paintings – and I have seen how beauty works in people's lives. Without beauty we cannot understand God's world. Beauty is essential, and people should find it in the church.

One example, and a highlight of my career, is “The Presentation at the Temple” which hangs over the doors into the sanctuary at St Philip's in Charleston. More than a decade since its hanging, I am always delighted to hear how the painting has become a part of the life of the church, a familiar reminder of the gospel just at the place one comes and goes, walking into worship and walking out into the world. When the doors are open, the painting can also be seen from the street, sometimes catching the eye of passersby who notice they are standing right where the figures are placed. As the docents explain the story, they embody the message of the painting's setting as the gospel comes out onto the sidewalk and into people's lives, meeting the people where they are.

This is what I had hoped the painting would do. Charlie Luce, a Bishop Gadsden resident in his early 90s, provided the initial inspiration simply by being what his surname suggests, a man imbued with the light of Christ. That light I saw in his eyes recalled Simeon and his prophecy, “My eyes have seen thy salvation.” At that time our children were



“When we invest time, talent, and treasure in beauty, we can see our investment bear fruit for the glory of God and for the good of His people,” says DeAntonio. “The Anglican tradition has borne this out for centuries, and now it's our turn!” Above: “The Presentation at the Temple” by Charles DeAntonio.

part of the choir at St. Philip's, invited to sing by organist and choirmaster, Capers Cross, an old family friend with another fitting surname. Capers loved beauty, worked hard for it, and taught his singers to love and work hard for it as well, making music for the glory of God and for the joy of shining the light of His salvation. For many years Capers instilled in St. Philipians his confident commitment to beauty's vital role in the church and was certainly part of what made St. Philip's a wonderful home for the painting.

As I talk with new members, often also new Anglicans, I am struck by how many of them mention beauty, excited about architec-

tural elements, vestments, liturgy, and music that called them in and nourished them. My childhood church, St Andrew's in Mount Pleasant, similarly embraces and advocates for beauty, and I have heard the same excitement from their congregants, encouraged by expressions in a very different style doing the same work in their lives. In these, and many other churches, beauty is part of what draws people in and helps prepare them to encounter the holiness of God in joyful worship.

When we invest time, talent, and treasure in beauty, we can see our investment bear fruit for the glory of God and for the good of His people. The Anglican tradition has borne this out for centuries, and now it's our turn! We can develop our understanding of what true beauty is and how it works. We can discover more about its compelling power to open hearts and minds to the gospel. We can cultivate this wonderful gift of God together to better reach a world that is desperate for goodness, truth, and also beauty.

How might you and your parish be a part? St Philip's engages these questions with a “Friends of Beauty” fellowship, meeting monthly to consider how we can live up to our name. St. Andrew's quarterly Kairos Forums seek to do the same. If you need ideas or encouragement to get something started, I'd love to hear from you at charlesdeantonio@gmail.com.

Charles is the son of well-known Charleston artist, Charles DeAntonio Sr. He received training at the College of Charleston and the Savannah College of Art and Design. He still lives and works in the Lowcountry. You can view his work at <http://www.charlesdupredeantonio.com/>

## Theology on Tap

Continued from Page 3

a greater goal and purpose, seeing the same Truth. One of the things that makes Theology on Tap successful is not only that we talk about the important dynamics of true friendship, but also that we are naturally modeling what a deep conversation that flows out of that kind of friendship looks like.”



Each session's opening dialog and Q&A time is recorded and then uploaded on a variety of podcast platforms, and the podcast

has attracted a following from around the country. Brian recalls the couple from New York City who were visiting Charleston and had listened to the podcast and wanted to come in person, as well as the bar patron in his 20s who thought Brian and Justin were a comedy act but got hooked while listening and stayed for the whole evening.

One regular attendee, Caroline Falcone, had this to say about the experience:

“Since I've moved to Charleston, Tuesday is my very favorite day of the week. I get to go to Henry's with all my best friends, eat pizza, and listen to two of the most wise, devoted, and knowledgeable men I know talk to each other. Theology on Tap is the best young adult ministry I've ever been a part of. It is a time free of judgment and pressure and gives me an anonymous outlet to ask questions that are relevant to my current stage of life. I make a point to always bring someone new each time, with the draw being that you can make a million new friends, or you don't have to talk to anyone - and that's the best part. Come as you are - Anglican, Christian, or unsure - and you will be surprised at what you hear. All you have to do is listen to two good friends talk about life and it is SO MUCH FUN. Every week I pray that the Lord will move Theology on Tap to every Tuesday, not just bimonthly. :)”

## Trading the American Dream Continued from Page 9

speaking but feels the Lord calling her to share the gospel with the lost. Lucy will be a high school freshman this year and even though she typically uses crutches or a walker



Above, Chris and Annie with Alex (11) who is living in Honduras at the LAMB children's home. The Hamlins have begun the process of adopting Alex. “We are hoping to have him home in the next year or so,” says Annie.

to get around without falling, has completed two 5K races!

We knew when we adopted our children, they would no longer be orphans, that they would be loved and cherished forever and that their journeys would be transformational. What we were to discover was that,

in the process, is that we were no longer orphans and that we were being transformed as the Lord used every bit of the broken and the beautiful to wake us up and set our hearts on fire for Him. I believe adoption is the clearest picture of the gospel that we have as scripture tells us in John 14:18 (NIV), “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.” As believers we are adopted into God's family and loved and cherished forever as we let go of control and release our hearts to Him.

Our kids' memories and their stories are filled with loss and trauma, but they are home and they are healing. It completely shatters you when you think back on the love and the attention that you poured into your biological children and you begin to understand (in the depths of your spirit), the loss your adopted children have suffered and the loss that millions of other waiting children are stranded in.

According to estimated statistics, there are over 100 million orphans in the world. Every day over 38,000 children will age out; that's one orphan every few seconds. Less than 1% of all orphan children will be adopted.

James 1:27 tells us to, “care for widows and orphans in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.” It is easy to turn away. It is easy to be busy. It is easy to get discouraged by well-meaning family and friends. It is easy to live that American Dream, but once

your eyes have been opened and your hearts completely shattered, there is no excuse that satisfies.

There was nothing special about our family. There was no grand, overt sign from God. We just said “Yes” and began to understand what daily dependence on the Lord truly meant. There are many ways to help, but as one adult orphan said while speaking at the 2013 CAFO Summit, “When I grew up in the orphanage it was Christians who came and built nicer buildings. Christians who bought us beds, clothing and provided money monthly for food. It was a Christian, who wrote a letter in a shoebox, who first told me I was loved. It was the Christians who met all my physical and material needs in that orphanage. But it was also Christians who neglected my biggest need. Children in orphanages don't need more money, nicer buildings, or better clothes. I am not an orphan because I lost my home or provisions. I am an orphan because I lost my parents. I needed a mom and a dad. I needed a family. Christians treated all my temporary symptoms of need but never cured my long-term disease of being orphan. I am still an orphan.”

If you have ever considered adoption, pray, talk to other adoptive families and then reach out to an agency. His still small voice may be calling you.

## New Campus Additions at Christ the King

By Angela Gallup, Christ the King, Pawleys Island

Christ the King in Pawleys Island has seen several campus improvements in the past year which are drawing attention from passersby on bustling Ocean Highway. Under the leadership of CTK's Wardens, Mike Knight and

campus is a place where kids can come to know and love Jesus.”

A new sign has also been constructed, displaying the parish's new, shortened name, and making it easier for people to find Christ the King. With this sign came several other additions that enhance the front part the campus viewable from Ocean Highway: new stonework, flower beds, irrigation, and lighting for a small grove of magnificent live oaks. Kelly Callahan, of Sign Restore, took a rough idea from Junior Warden, Matt Giltmier, and made it into an inviting and attractive sign. These projects took many hands, ideas, hard work, and generous donations from Christ the King parishioners. Barbara and



ANGELA GALLUP

Matt Giltmier, the Building and Grounds Committee have spent the better part of a year working to enhance and beautify our campus.

In the spring, a new playground was opened for parishioners and visitors to use. At the ribbon cutting, Revd Roger Revell, Rector, noted that this playground is “a space that will help make our parish welcoming to kids. It will ensure that our

Gary O'Loughlin cut the ribbon to officially dedicate the sign on June 11, 2023.

These improvements have already increased Christ the King's visibility to locals and visitors in Georgetown County. They are helping Christ the King to live out its vision to be a “Community of Christ followers that are being changed by God to serve the world.”

# An Ordination, Hour-by-Hour

By The Rev. David Rowe, Church of the Good Shepherd and Porter-Gaud School, Charleston

On Wednesday, September 6, I was ordained as a Deacon (which translates as ‘Servant’). The service was at Porter-Gaud School, where I serve as the Lower School Chaplain. We decided that this would be the most fitting location, since the school is effectively my ‘parish’: 270+ lower school kids, plus staff and parents.

This is what my ordination was like from the inside, starting with the previous evening.

## Tuesday

6 p.m. – My clergy shirt arrives – the previous one I had ordered did not fit. The new one doesn’t fit either, but it’s close enough. This is the first time my wife has seen me in clericals, and she laughs.

7 p.m. – We eat dinner with Tre Sheppard, who will be the preacher at the service. Tre was one of our leaders in YWAM (Youth With A Mission) in England, and now serves a church in Northern Ireland. He explains that he was due to fly in this evening, but somehow felt ‘wrong’ about it so spent £100 to change all his flights and arrive a day earlier. It turns out United Airlines then grounded all their Tuesday flights, including the one he would have been on. Thanks, Jesus!

10-11 p.m. – Final proofread of the service bulletin. Find two mistakes. Hope there aren’t more.

11 p.m. - 6 a.m. – Sleep badly. Our toddler did not get the memo. Bless his heart.

## Wednesday

7-9 a.m. – Feed my children and take the eldest two to their school. I get to Porter-Gaud and make a map so that guests for the service won’t get lost. (They still do.)

9-Noon – Regular school day, except that lots of people say “Congratulations.” One of the fourth grade classes makes me a poster with messages from the students. One says, “CONGRATS YOU HAVE WORKED SO HARD TO ALMOST BE A PRIEST.” I recruit some co-workers to direct traffic and guests, and get together with Finola and Mackenzie, both fifth graders, to practice their readings.

Noon-2 p.m. – Suddenly realize I don’t have the right size paper for the bulletins and have to rush around campus finding someone to “borrow” from. Then, while I get all the microphones ready, an angelic colleague sets up the livestream link so my family in Britain (and friends in various places) can watch.



BRINK NORTON

In answer to the Bishop’s Examination, I get to say, “I do so trust,” “I do so believe,” “I am so persuaded,” and – most importantly for me – “I will, the Lord being my helper.” I lie prostrate on the floor.

2-3:30 p.m. – People start arriving. Christal Heyward, the best gospel singer in Charleston (IMHO), arrives. The Bishop arrives. My family arrive. Guests arrive. It is 94° and I am running around, sweating a lot. I make a final cup of tea and put on my clericals.

3:30 p.m. – Gathered with the other clergy of the Diocese, the Bishop prays for the service and we process in, singing Amazing Grace. Will Klauber, the Rector of my home church, and Jeremy Shelton, the Rector of my sending church, pres-

ent me to the Bishop. I swear the Oath of Conformity and the Oath of Canonical Obedience. Having only sworn two oaths in my whole life before – to get married and to become a U.S. citizen – two in about 30 seconds feels overwhelming. I kneel down for the Litany.

3:50 p.m. – Finola and Mackenzie nail their readings – including the list of Greek names of the first deacons in Acts 6 – and I’m so proud of them. Tre preaches, and starts by telling a joke that only my wife and I could possibly get. I love him!

4 p.m. – Christal leads my favorite worship song: Made A Way by Travis Greene. It is 13 years since I started my first discernment process, and it has been a long, often-confusing journey since. But He has made a way.

4:15 p.m. – In answer to the Bishop’s Examination, I get to say, “I do so trust,” “I do so believe,” “I am so persuaded,” and – most importantly for me – “I will, the Lord being my helper.” I lie prostrate on the floor. The floor is unclean and uncomfortable, but at the same time it feels completely right. Then I kneel and the Bishop, his hands on my head, prays “In your great goodness, O Lord, make this your servant a Deacon in your Church.” The people, with a loud voice, say AMEN, and my wife and children come onto the stage to vest me with the Stole of servanthood.

4:30 p.m. – The service concludes and the mingling begins. There are hugs, brownies, lemonade, and more hugs, but I have two things running around in my head. The first is a sentence: “It is easy to serve people you love.” And the second is a prayer that my wife’s Lebanese grandmother used to pray every day: “Lord, help me to love people like You do.”

## Young Missionary Family Discovers Anglicanism in Cambodia

By Anthony Pelloni, St. Timothy’s Church, Summerville, Missionary in Cambodia

Anthony and Anna Pelloni, who, while stateside, are members of St. Timothy’s Anglican Church in Summerville, serve full-time as missionaries in Cambodia where they have been living and serving as teachers since 2015. They plan to return to Cambodia on October 24.



Anthony, Anna, and their four daughters are scheduled to return to Cambodia October 24. News flash: They recently announced they are expecting their fifth daughter in February!

Did you know the Anglican Church is spread across the entire globe? Neither did I, until my family and I discovered the Anglican Church in Cambodia in 2016.

We are the Pelloni family and we have been living and serving as teachers in a Christian bilingual school for middle-class Cambodian children since 2015. During our nearly eight years in Cambodia, the Lord has blessed us with four beautiful daughters who were all born in the same clinic in Phnom Penh where we live. During our time in Cambodia, the Lord deepened our love for Him, our love of fellowship amongst believers, and our love for the global church, all of which have led us to the work He has called us to today: church planting.

When Anna and I moved to Cambodia to teach in 2015, we began praying for and seeking a church to be involved in. Being from South Carolina, one thing we didn’t anticipate was how difficult it would be to find a biblically based church with a solid community! We searched for about a year without much luck and then our first daughter was born. After the first month of navigating the transition of adding a newborn into our life, we decided to go to the Church of Christ Our Peace (CCOP). I’d heard it was an Anglican church, but growing up as a non-believer I didn’t really know what that meant.

I came to faith during my freshman year at The Citadel in 2010 and spent most of my time with non-denominational campus ministries. I didn’t really understand denominational differences or even that different churches worshiped in different ways, so when

we walked into CCOP for the first time, I was very confused.

We said a lot of things together, we stood up and sat down a lot, and I noticed quickly that we took communion every single week. Even though I didn’t fully understand what was happening at the time, the Lord provided exactly what we were looking for, which was a deep and loving community of believers. The first Sunday we walked into church, we found seven other families, all of whom either had or were about to have their first child, just like us. Even though many of those friends have since left Cambodia, we were all able to be in communion with one another while living in Cambodia, even going on to have second, third, and in our case fourth children while supporting one another through that process. It was a beautiful picture of God’s kingdom on earth.

As time went on, I began to fall in love with the liturgy, order of service, and weekly communion that we participated in at church. Growing up as a non-believer, Anglicanism gave a depth to my faith because every week I was professing what I believe with other believers around me professing the same things, many of whom are not even Anglican! The Lord used our experience at CCOP and in the Anglican Church to grow our love for being a part of church ministry. In 2018, our rector approached us and asked us to be a part of a new church plant on the other side of the city where we were living. We were so excited! We had been praying for a way to

be more involved in our church in Cambodia and there was God giving us exactly what we desired. COVID caused a waiting period and after nearly two years of our church closing, the plant started taking shape again. During these somewhat silent years, the Lord deepened our love for the church even more.

When the church finally opened back up in 2022, we began to pray to the Lord and ask if we could invest in CCOP and church planting as our full-time job instead of just as volunteers. Again, the Lord answered our prayers by sending to us our oldest Cambodian friends who said they also felt called to plant a church outside of the city and asked us to help them become missionaries. The Lord used our oldest friends to remind us of our

## Hymnal

Continued from Page 9

having left earlier than 2012, there hasn’t been a standard set for what constitutes “Anglican worship music” in our churches and I think this is more important than it might seem on the surface. There is also a significant desire to have such a resource in the ACNA, which has led to the publication of a non-ACNA approved hymnal titled *Sing Unto the Lord* simply to fulfill this need. Promotional material has been given to many churches in the diocese, but it’s important to know this hymnal is not the hymnal to be approved by the College of Bishops. Some churches or even more specifically contemporary services in our diocese may not feel that there is a need for a hymnal, but I think this project is important for the province as a whole, and is certainly more important than creating another book to fill a pew rack or the back of a chair. We are in need of an approved worship resource so our worship may indeed be considered Common in Prayer. And it goes without saying that this book will contain more modern music that is already in the repertoire of many of our churches.

**Are there hymns that are hands-down, shoe-ins?**

Not necessarily, but one of the things the commission will address is the noticeable lack of hymns of the American church repertoire that are absent in the hymnal most still have in the pews, Hymnal 1982. I think that’s something to look forward to.

**Do you have any favorites?**

This is an unfair question! I think for someone like me who could fill an entire hymnal with “favorites,” a project like this is quite appropriate!

**Is there a role for the person-in-the-pew to play? Can we send in our favorites? Or will the team be open to input from outside the Commission?**

Absolutely! Please send any thoughts to [hymnalcommission@anglicanchurch.net](mailto:hymnalcommission@anglicanchurch.net).

Continued on Page 16

## Kathie Phillips Retires

The Rev. Kathie Phillips, who has been serving at St. Luke's, Hilton Head, for nearly 30 years, and has served as their deacon since her ordination in 2005, retired this September. The church held a special celebration in her honor Sunday, September 10 following their 10 a.m. worship service. In addition to her role as a deacon, serving during Sunday worship services, Kathie, at one time held the title of Director of the church's preschool, taking it from 10 children to 72 (when she retired). She and her husband, Bill, started the Church Mouse thrift shop with just six volunteers. It now has a full-time manager, over 100 volunteers and has distributed over \$1.5 million in grants, scholarships, and donations to mis-



JOY HUNTER

sions. Kathie also worked with the Outreach Committee and the Missions Committee. Through connections made through the Rev. Greg Kronz, the former Rector of St. Luke's, Kathie became a part of Global Teams and was able to use her gifts taking care of missionaries. "Whoever thought an old lady in her 70s would be traveling all over the world teaching missionaries to take care of themselves?" marvels Kathie. Her ministry has had

*Continued on Page 13*

## Death of the Rev. Eddie Driggers

December 9, 1953 — June 24, 2023

*The following is an edited version of the obituary which appeared in the Post and Courier*

We give thanks for the life and ministry of the Rev. Eddie Driggers. Eddie, husband of the late Lennis Beach Driggers, entered into eternal rest surrounded by his family and friends on Saturday, June 24, 2023.

Born and raised in the Charleston area, Eddie served his country in the U.S. Navy then worked for Lent's Red and White in Goose Creek for some time. He served his community as a well-known and respected member of law enforcement for over 30 years.

He first joined the City of North Charleston Police Department in 1975 and served in various capacities, from patrol officer to specialized units. In 1986, Eddie moved to the Charleston County Police Department (which later transitioned to the Charleston County Sheriff's Office). He was a member of the inaugural SWAT and DIVE teams and was instrumental in establishing the first negotiation team. He rose to the rank of Assistant Sheriff before his retirement in 2006.

When he was not working as a first responder, Eddie continued to be an integral part of serving the community. He was a chaplain with the Coastal Crisis Chaplaincy for many years. Eddie will always be remembered for his love of family, friends, the city and first responders. But foremost, was his love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. "Do you know you are loved today?" was his favorite question to ask of anyone and everyone he met.

He was ordained as a deacon in the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina in 2012. A true servant, he helped plant a new church in North Charleston, the Church of the Resurrection, where he attended and served up until his death.



JOY HUNTER

In 2013, he once again answered the call to serve. Eddie returned to law enforcement as the Chief of Police for the City of North Charleston Police Department. Eddie was known for his love of people, his wisdom and integrity.

Eddie is survived by two sons, three sisters and two grandchildren. His funeral was held, July 1, 2023 at the Cathedral of Praise.

## The Rev. Shay Gaillard Named Dean of the Beaufort Deanery

In a recent letter to all clergy, Bishop Edgar announced that the Very Rev. Chuck Owens, the Rector of the Church of the Cross, Bluffton, is retiring from the position of Dean of the Beaufort Deanery. Bishop Edgar wrote, "I'm very grateful for the wise leadership he has provided and I will miss his encouragement and support as Dean." The Rev. Shay Gaillard, Rector of St. Helena's, Beaufort, has been appointed, by Bishop Edgar, as the new Dean of the Beaufort Deanery. The Bishop went on to write in his recent letter, "Shay brings many gifts to this role with his own stellar leadership and wisdom, and I look forward to working with him in this capacity." We give thanks for the work of Chuck Owens and willingness of Shay Gaillard to step into this position.



## People News

Tanya Bevis has accepted a call to serve as the Connections and Events Coordinator for Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island. She will be the first person someone meets when entering the office along with serving as the coordinator of parish events and other administrative



tasks. Tanya is married to Jerry, has three children, ages 26, 28, and 30, and is blessed with three grandchildren.

The Rev. Stephen Davis recently accepted a call to serve as an Assistant Priest at Christ the King, Pawley's Island. In a note to the congregation, the Rev. Dr. Roger Revell wrote, "I am very pleased and grateful to God to announce that Stephen will be



joining our ministry team as an Assistant Pastor/Priest. Together with me and the Vestry, Bishop Chip is likewise enthusiastic about this plan. Although Stephen will be new to CtK, he is not new to our diocese, having served in the Georgetown area deanery for the past eight years. Stephen is a godly, seasoned, trustworthy, and gifted minister." In addition, Stephen has accepted a full-time position as the Bereavement/Spiritual Care Coordinator with ProMedica Hospice in Myrtle Beach. Stephen and his wife, Mercedes, have three children, Kai, Emma and Chip.



and Amanda Edgar, son and daughter-in-law of Bishop Edgar and Beth. Thanks be to God!



The Rev. Dan Farley, who served as a deacon at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Charleston, stepped down from active ministry as a deacon on August 6. Farley's Parkinson's disease has progressed to the point where he is experiencing "freezing" episodes. He and his wife, Sue, will continue worshipping at Good Shepherd, and he will be available to serve there when needed. Please keep Dan and Sue in your prayers during this time.



St. Jude's Church, Walterboro, is happy to announce that Ann Claire Gaillard is joining their ministry staff as the Director of Student Ministries. The Rector, Newman Lawrence, is very excited about what this means for the youth and college aged students not only at St. Jude's but in the Walterboro area. "We are blessed beyond measure to have Ann Claire joining our

staff. Her passion for small church ministry and relational ministry is a huge step forward for St. Jude's in building His kingdom." Ann Claire wrote in a note to the church, "The Lord has very clearly placed a call on my heart for student ministry, and that is something that has been a consistent call over my life. That call has taken on different meanings and roles as a counselor, intern and staff member at Camp St. Christopher and as Assistant Director at Camp Jubilee as well as working as a middle school teacher for the past three years." St. Jude's will be sharing Ann Claire with Camp Jubilee where she will continue to serve as the Assistant Camp Director.

The Rev. Fred Gough, Vicar of St. Barnabas, Dillon, recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Gough, who spent 41 years of his ministry serving in two churches in the ADOSC (30 years at St. Barnabas, and 11 years at St. Matthew's, Darlington), says the one piece of advice



he has for young clergy is to "Love your people." In addition to his ministry in the Anglican world, Gough also "loved his people" as a Chaplain in the SC State Guard and through numerous civic positions. "When I think about what my life would be like if I weren't here (in the ADOSC), it's not a happy prospect. There are so many people around the country suffering from abysmal spiritual leadership. We are greatly blessed with the spiritual leadership we have." He is married to Catherine Hill Gough.

On August 15, Trinity Collegiate School in Darlington welcomed the Rev. Jason Hamshaw, Rector of All Saints, Florence, as their part-time Chaplain. Hamshaw will lead the students in a brief Morning Prayer service and offer a gospel message to



400 students. This is an exciting opportunity for All Saints' Church to continue to follow the call of our Lord in the Great Commission! Trinity Collegiate School, founded in 1995, is an independent college preparatory school for students in grades 6-12.

St. Helena's, Beaufort, recently welcomed Maddie Hapner as their Youth Ministry Resident Intern. The announcement to the congregation said, "Maddie Hapner, a graduate of Holy Trinity, returned from a mission and training with YWAM this past year and was looking



for a way to continue to grow in her faith. After her summer job, she became interested in helping Camden (St. Helena's Director of Student Ministries) part-time as a youth ministry resident. She is an ideal candidate with a strong and lively faith who is one of our own."

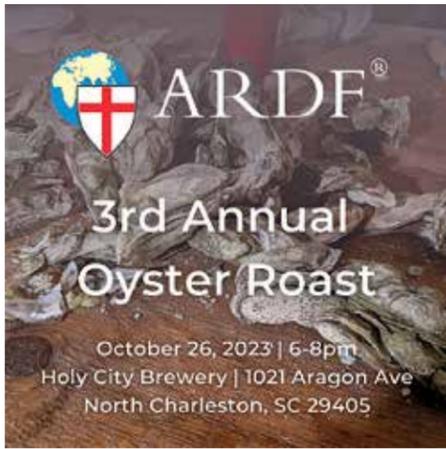
Bishop Alden Hathaway, who serves as Bishop in Residence at St. Helena's, Beaufort, celebrated



his 90th birthday on August 13. In honor of his birthday, Jennifer Heyd Wharton gave St. Helena's a portrait of Bishop Hathaway, which now hangs in their Ridley Room. Jennifer is an award-winning oil and watercolor portrait artist whose paintings have been commissioned by individual art collectors and corporations throughout the U.S.

The Rev. Dr. Donnie Hayes, Priest-in-Charge of Advent, Marion, who serves in the SC State Guard and also works full-time as a Chaplain for Veteran Village in Florence, SC, recently earned his second doctorate. Hayes graduated from Erskine College and Theological Seminary, in Due West, SC, on May 6, 2023 with a D. Min, Summa Cum Laude. His dissertation is titled The Battlefield of Faith. In it he discusses the battlefields clergy face and provides a blueprint for a healing ministry and cross-denominational retreat where clergy can reset, restore, and renew their ministry calling and then get back in the fight. In 2021 Lifeway/Barna commissioned a research study showing clergy are leaving the ministry in record numbers, estimated at 1,500 per month. Hayes has set up a non-profit which can help keep clergy healthy. Contact him at hayestown@bellsouth.net to learn more.





You're invited to ARDF's 3rd Annual Oyster Roast from 6-9 p.m. on October 26! Join ARDF for another great evening of food, fellowship, and live music at Holy City Brewing. Throughout the evening, they will be sharing about their valued Proven Partner program. Tickets are \$30 per person and includes beverages and food. Learn more and register here! <https://ardf.salsalabs.org/OysterRoastSCOct2023/index.html>

## Phillips Retires

*Continued from Page 12*

a wide reach, from the children who attended the preschool, to those being served through the Church Mouse ministry, to missionaries around the world, to individual members of St. Luke's community, and throughout the diocese. "People ask, 'Now that you're retired what are you going to do?'" she says, "And I say, 'I don't know. God hasn't told me yet!'" With both the diaconate and the missionary work Kathie stresses, "God initiated it. It's God's timing. And I've loved every minute of it."

# A Tribute to the Rev. Rick Belser

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

The following is excerpted from a tribute sent to the congregation of St. Michael's on August 12, 2023. It is reprinted with permission.

I met Rick when I was a young seminarian attending St. Luke's School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. I became his assistant at St. Michael's in 1997, and thus began a Gospel partnership that would change the course of my life. To that point, I had never known a priest like Rick. Here was a guy who wrote many a sermon from a deer stand, and while crouching in the woods turkey hunting. He taught me to shrimp, hunt, and fish! He was a master teacher of all things outdoors and within the sanctuary. He taught me how to baptize, marry and bury, he taught me how to craft a sermon, and teach Scripture. I do believe I learned more from Rick in my years as his assistant, than I did in seminary. In those wonderful years, I also recount the date nights Elizabeth and I would have with Annie and Rick, where we could share more deeply our lives, dreams, and even heartbreaks.

Yet, if I were to sum Rick up in one word, it would have to be the word beloved. I can't remember a sermon Rick ever preached where he didn't call out to us as the 'beloved.' Rick's typical sermon had three major parts. He would begin with an engaging story, make a turn into teaching the context of the Gospel passage, then would finish by applying that message to our daily lives, always, always introducing that third section with the word - beloved. Rick used that beautiful word tenderly to say you are loved by our Lord more than you can ever know. ... The New Testament understanding of beloved "suggests an esteem



PROVIDED BY FAMILY

lenged by the Gospel and extraordinarily loved and valued as a son.

This love created within Rick a deep desire to see renewal sweep St. Michael's Church. To that end, he introduced renewal music to our congregation, adding the Parish "Praise and Thanksgiving Songbook" into every pew. As an innovator in renewal, his legacy moved much beyond St. Michael's Church as he helped introduce the Cursillo movement and the Alpha Course to the Diocese of South Carolina.

## From the Obituary

We give thanks for the life and ministry of the Rev. Rick Belser. Rick, who served as the Rector of St. Michael's Church, Charleston for 21 years, died on August 12, 2023.

for others that comes from recognizing their worth as children of God. That's certainly how each of Rick's sermons left me; c h a l -

A graduate of Washington & Lee University, Rick received his MDiv from Virginia Theological Seminary. He was ordained a Deacon on June 29, 1969, and a priest on April 5, 1970. He served as the beloved Rector of St. Michael's Church in Charleston, for 21 years and served for 18 years as the Chair of the Commission on Ministry as well as the Standing Committee. He was responsible for bringing the Cursillo movement to Charleston in 1977 and was on the initial South Carolina Team and Board of the Kairos Prison Ministry. He brought Alpha to St. Michael's and held the first Alpha in the Caribbean. He served his country in the U.S. Army (active duty) as 1st Lieutenant Adjutant General's Corps.

In addition to his time at St. Michael's, Belser served as Rector at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Fort Mill, SC; Rector at St. John's on Johns Island; interim Rector at Holy Trinity on Folly Road; interim Rector at St. John's Lutheran Church; Rector at St. Mary's Virgin Gorda; interim Rector at Christ Church Anglican Church in Mt. Pleasant; Rector at St. Mark's Anglican Pro-Cathedral in Egypt under the authority of Archbishop Mouneer Anis where he also taught at The Anglican Seminary; Rector at All Saints' Cathedral in Cairo, Egypt also under the authority of Archbishop Mouneer Anis. Upon returning to Charleston, SC, Rev. Belser was the interim minister at The Redeemer in Orangeburg, SC. He was the author of *Son and Heir*.

He is survived by his wife of 31 years, Anne and six children and grandchildren. The funeral was held August 18 at St. Michael's Church and he was interred in the churchyard. The service may be viewed online at [http://youtube.com/live/\\_4MNZdJJoBc](http://youtube.com/live/_4MNZdJJoBc).

On August 20, the Rev. Al Zadig, Rector of St. Michael's Church, Charleston, announced Will Kendrick is joining their staff as Youth Ministry Leader.



Will currently works with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes at the College of Charleston, a position he will keep as St. Michael's integrates their middle and high school youth ministry with mentors from Will's ministry at the College of Charleston. "This is a strategic paradigm for youth ministry as our high schoolers will receive mentorship from collegiate athletes," said Zadig. Will and his wife, Hannah, have one daughter Olive Eloise, born April 2023.

Madison Kuzia has accepted a call to serve as the Parish Administrator at Christ St. Paul's, Yorges Island. Madison had been serving as the Assistant Communications Director at St. Michael's Church, Charleston, but with this move will be joining the staff of the church in which she grew up, was confirmed, and now worships and sings on Sundays with her family. The Rev. Al Zadig, Rector of St. Michael's wrote, "I am excited for this new chapter in her life and thankful for her gifting work at St. Michael's. From social media to Sunday Bulletins to being our voice on the phone when the office is called, Madison's heart for Christ has al-



ways led her." Madison, who is married to Elijah, wrote, "God has been incredibly faithful in orchestrating this new season for Elijah and me, and I am expectant of the ways He will continue moving in our lives and in the ministry at Christ St. Paul's. Where He leads, we will follow. It is our joy to live in His faithfulness and to listen to His voice. His will is the best place to be."

Harper Mobley has expanded her role as Director of Traditional Music to include the Children and Family Ministry for Holy Cross, Sullivan's Island. Harper joined the Holy Cross staff several years ago as the worship leader and choir director for the Traditional Church services, in addition to teaching at the Holy Cross Music Academy. She has been working full time in the accommodations and food service industry, but joined Holy Cross full time to lead the Music Ministry and to pastor the Children and Family service. In a note to the congregation, the Interim Rector, the Very Rev. Paul Fuener, wrote, "She's talented in reaching children and their parents, and brings gifts of musical skill, love of children, intelligence and quick-on-her feet adaptability, hard work, administration, and strong Christian faith."



Paul Reese accepted a call to serve as the Associate Director of Music at St. Philip's Church, Charleston. He earned baccalaureates in organ and Bible from Philadelphia Biblical University and a Master of Music

in organ performance from Westminster Choir College. Prior to coming to St. Philip's, he held church music positions in the greater Philadelphia area and in Charleston, and taught music full time in classical Christian schools. Not only an organist, Paul regularly performs as a violinist and baritone. He and his wife, Trisha, have a son, Paul Frederick IV, who was born on the peninsula--the only true Charlestonian in the family. Paul enjoys being the only organist he knows who can build a house while listening to a good novel. Most Mondays you can find the Reese family enjoying the local beaches around Charleston. He cannot imagine a better job than working in a church that seeks to exalt Christ each and every day. Paul believes church music is a participatory activity and looks forward to making music together with all the St. Philipians!

Karen Rothenberger has accepted a call to serve as the new Assistant Treasurer for the ADOSC, succeeding Nancy Armstrong who served the Diocese for more than 30 years. Karen and her husband, John, are empty-nesters (the parents of four post-college-age children) and are presently in the process of relocating from Illinois to Mt. Pleasant. Karen is a CPA who



received her BS from DePaul University in Chicago. She began her career in public accounting at Arthur Anderson where she grew into a Senior Staff Accountant in Audit. She then stayed home with her family for many years and decided to return to accounting in 2020. Most recently she served as a Financial Assistant/Payables Manager for an association management company in Chicago, where she provided financial analysis and advisory accounting services to over 20 associations. Nancy, who was involved in the selection process said, "I feel very good about turning over this work to Karen, and I know she will be a wonderful asset to the Diocese!" Karen adds, "I'm thrilled to be here and look forward to serving the diocese and carrying on the work Nancy has built." Karen began work on July 10.



Christ the King, Pawleys Island, is pleased to announce the appointment of Laura Smith as their parish's new Director of Children's & Family Ministry. In this position Laura will coordinate and oversee ministry to children (6 months to 12 years old/6th grade). Additionally, she will plan and host an array of family ministry initiatives and events (together with a team of volunteers). Laura was born and raised as a "Pawleys girl," growing up on the beach and in the river. She is a (proud) graduate of the University of South Carolina, where she received her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. More recently, Laura completed her master's degree in Educational Leadership.

Laura and her husband, Newton, have three children, Noah, Beauford, and Elledge Jane. In joining the parish staff, Laura relinquished her role as an elementary school teacher, which she had held for the prior seven years. Commenting on Laura's appointment, the Rector, Revd Dr Roger Revell, said, "We are overjoyed Laura has joined our ministry team! We see this as an answer to prayer, as Christ continues to provide for CtK in a season of stabilization and growth following COVID and a three-year interim. Laura is a capable, enthusiastic, and creative teacher, with a heart for the Lord and a love of children."



After a long search process, Christ St. Paul's, Yorges Island, is happy to announce that Evan Sustar will be joining their ministry staff as the newly established Family Ministry Director. In a note to the congregation, the Rector, the Rev. Kyle Holtzower, wrote, "Evan is coming to the Lowcountry after serving close to seven years as student pastor for a larger church in his hometown of Anderson, SC. His passion for discipleship of the next generation will lead the way as we meet the critical demand for ministry to the younger members of our community. Evan will oversee the spiritual formation of all children and students from birth through high school and work to establish strong family discipleship in the home." Evan is married to Elizabeth Sustar and they have one

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Continued on Page 16

# Two Diocesan Ministries Awarded Matthew 25 Grants

*The Matthew 25 Initiative (M25i) of the ACNA exists to support Anglican ministries to the vulnerable, marginalized, and under-resourced.*

Recently M25i awarded grants to five ministries, two of which are in the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina. The following information was included in their report. Learn about the other recipients and how you can help to fund these efforts at <https://www.anglicanjusticeandmercy.org/>

## St. Helena's Loves Their Neighbors Through the Compassion Action Team

St. Helena's, Beaufort's Compassion Action Team (CAT) was awarded a grant of \$11,500. CAT focuses on home repairs, as well as offering compassionate support and encouragement with the love of Christ.

Key examples of this work include emergency repairs to stop ceilings from leaking or falling in, repairing unsafe porches and sinking floors, installing ramps and toilets, donating furniture to elderly and/or disabled residents, as well as providing hot-water heaters to families and beds for kids.

This ministry extends grace and friendship to those the church might not have been able to reach and forges new relationships and developing partnerships with referral agencies like HELP of Beaufort, Salvation Army, Habitat, and United Way. This effort not only helps those who are in need but also bridges gaps and builds trust for the long term.

With additional funds and a more collaborative community approach, the church would like to expand the CAT services, focus-

ing on three specific categories: home repair, financial assistance, and well-being support (health and wellness, food and clothing, etc.) They have established a group of parishioners who serve as volunteers, contractors who do home repairs, deacons and Stephen ministers who pray and talk with residents, as well as health/counseling professionals who often provide consults. The church also has strong partnerships with the Good Neighbor Free Medical Clinic, Radiance Women's Center, addiction recovery homes, and neighborhood associations that could help with referrals and additional services.

## St. Paul's Addresses Food Insecurity

The Food Distribution Program at St. Paul's Church in downtown Summerville received a grant of \$5,750. The Food Distribution Program provides healthy food to the church's neighbors who are experiencing food insecurity. The pantry also provides a safe, loving environment to shop for free clothing, and other personal care needs.

The food ministries are available to the vulnerable on a regular basis. The pantry is open two mornings and two evenings a week, and the church hosts a once-a-month drive-through food distribution event, as well. Volunteers are trained to ensure the best possible relational experiences between neighbors and volunteers. The clothing and diaper ministries are other services instrumental in the mercy mission.

St. Paul's Church's vision is to transform their current space, Skardon Hall, into an entire Mercy Ministries building. The M25i Grant and matching funds would enable them



PROVIDED

*The Compassion Action Team of St. Helena's Anglican Church in action earlier this year, seeking to live out the Gospel, share God's love, and serve the most vulnerable through their home repair projects and LOVE Beaufort local missions efforts in the community.*

to purchase a medium industrial refrigerator and large industrial freezer in addition to completing some renovations to their current kitchen area so they can start to serve fresh hot soup and food to their neighbors. By having the proper tools, they will be able to sustain fresh food, dairy, fruits, veggies, and frozen meat. With the cost of food on the continual rise, buying healthy food to serve is becoming more of a challenge. Their pantry is often low on food due to a limited budget.

Last year alone their almost two-year-old pantry served over 1,100 families. The drive-through food distribution, which turns 11 this year, served over 1,400 families in 2022. "The food insecurity rate in Dorchester County is

8.6%, which is about 13,880 people, including children. 37% of food-insecure people in Dorchester County do not qualify for SNAP assistance or other government-run assistance programs," says Alicia Hauss, Lowcountry Food Bank.

The impact of this initiative is felt at family's tables. The once-a-month visit will provide a family with non-perishable food for at least a week. We hope to provide them with ample healthy food choices, recipes to bring home, hot soup to eat, and diapers cradle to grave. It is our goal to continue representing Christ in a loving, serving, pleasant environment for those who are suffering the difficult challenges of living at or below the poverty level.

## Food Program Enables CSP to Build New Relationships

By Madison Kuzia, Christ-St. Paul's, Hollywood

The July heat was just beginning to reach its peak when the food distribution started for the day. It was my first time being a part of the ministry that partners with the Lowcountry Food Bank for one of their senior food box programs. The team began their work in the shade of the narthex at Christ-St. Paul's, preparing food items in neat stacks and bagging fresh carrots.

Soon, cars began pulling into the church parking lot, forming a line. What happened next took me aback. With over 80 food kits to distribute that day, the volunteers did not rush. With every car that pulled up to the curb and rolled down their window, a familiar conversation began:

"How's the family?"... "Your truck is looking good..." "We haven't seen you in while, have you been alright?" "Is your grandmother doing well?"

I was floored at how relationships had begun to grow and blossom from this ministry, relationships that might not exist otherwise.

As a staff member in Diocesan churches, I've been a part

of many conversations about how to strengthen communities that have been divided. How can the church bridge the gap? How can we be Jesus to people around us that might not be in our church family? How can we show people love?

As I stood in the noonday heat, surrounded by carrots, I witnessed how distributing food can help build relationships that strengthen a community with the love of Jesus. It caused me to wonder what other ways I could show up and show Jesus to my community.

For Christ-St. Paul's, that looks like continuing our participation in the food bank and launching an Alpha Course in our area. We hope Alpha will provide an opportunity to listen to and love those who may not be comfortable in a church or have difficult questions about God.

I see God moving like this through so many ministries in the Diocese. So, my question is which one is He calling you to? "...And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? (Romans 10:14)?"



MADISON KUZIA

*Above: John Tissot prepares packages to be distributed.*

## Is Your Church Battling This Public Health Crisis?

*On May 3, 2023, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services released the following, "Today, United States Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy released a new Surgeon General Advisory calling attention to the public health crisis of loneliness, isolation, and lack of connection in our country. Even before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, approximately half of U.S. adults reported experiencing measurable levels of loneliness. Disconnection fundamentally affects our mental, physical, and societal health. In fact, loneliness and isolation increase the risk for individuals to develop mental health challenges in their lives, and lacking connection can increase the risk for premature death to levels comparable to smoking daily." Read the full report at <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/surgeon-general-social-connection-advisory.pdf>*

Editor's Note: With this in mind, the following article in St. Helena's newsletter highlighted the role our churches can play in combatting loneliness and isolation.

## Belonging

By Hall Sumner, The Parish Church of St. Helena, Beaufort

The slower pace of summer, spending time with friends and family, and enjoying the outdoors hopefully affords us all some time to reflect on the numerous blessings that the Lord has bestowed upon us. With activities around the parish



ADRIANNA GEO

operating at a more relaxed pace this season, it is my prayer that we all take some time to be still and discern how we might be called into a stronger relationship with God and, through him, our parish family.

My wife, Amy, and I have been members of St. Helena's since we moved to Beaufort in 1996. Admittedly, I was more of an attendee than a member of the parish family for several years as work, kids, and other commitments drew me away from the life of the parish. What changed that for me was serious time in prayer and a commitment to getting involved.

I started off serving as an usher, then Amy and I joined a Foyer Group (now called Table Groups), and eventually I was called to serve as a Lay Eucharistic Minister and serve on the Vestry. All of this has been extremely gratifying and worthwhile, but joining a small group is the one commitment I made that has had the most impact on my faith and my sense of belonging to our church family.

Our group of nine men meets weekly to study God's word and how we can put it into action in our lives. Not all are members of St. Helena's and I think the different perspectives add a valuable element to our discussions. The one constant, however, is the commitment to Gospel truth and what that means in our lives as husbands, fathers, co-workers, and friends. We celebrate together the blessings of this life, and we mourn with and encourage one another in times of loss.

The Lord is doing amazing things in our community through St. Helena's. I encourage all of us to pray about how we might be called to serve or to strengthen our sense of belonging to the parish family.

Volunteer at the Treasure House or on one of Jai Dowell's community outreach projects. Join a table group, bible study, or small group. Most of all, listen to what He is calling us to. Look forward with anticipation to all that He is doing through our parish this fall and how you might be a part of it.

# A Seminarian Begins at Nashotah House

By Kurt Walters, Church of the Holy Cross, Sullivans and Daniel Islands

It was a long day of travel. After three airports, a five-hour delay, and an hour wait at the rental car counter, I am on my way to Nashotah House Theological Seminary. The sky is gray, and a light rain is falling. After 30 minutes on the road, I pull through the gates of Nashotah House. The wet pavement shines like black vinyl and is contrasted by lush green lawns, tall emerald oaks, and prickly pines. Gothic stone buildings reminiscent of a monastic abbey from long ago are tucked away between the trees. It is beautiful and stately. This was my first view of Nashotah House last June. Now it is our family home. It is the sight of a transformation, a transformation from layman to clergy. A transformation not only for me, but my entire family.

Nashotah House can feel timeless. Walking from my student apartment to the Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin, I hear Michael the Bell. I'd better walk faster if I don't want to be late to chapel. St. Mary's was built in 1866, and Michael the Bell has been calling the faithful to prayer since 1884. This is not a commuter school. There are about 40 residential seminarians living on campus; the faculty and their families live on campus. Residents include students from the Solomon Islands and Nigeria to South Carolina. Though we have diverse backgrounds, all of us together follow the discipline and structure of the Nashotah House community.

I rise early. I am usually reading something at 6:00 a.m. By 7:45 a.m., I am dressed in a black cassock and entering St. Mary's for chapel. The ebony wood inside the chapel is exquisitely carved and contrasts strikingly with the white walls and vibrant stained-glass windows. The morning worship makes me feel reverent as I begin each day. Breakfast at the refectory follows. The faculty eat next to us and help in the cleanup.



KURT WALTERS

"None of us do this alone," says Walters. Above with his wife, Danielle and children, Adele (8) and Conrad (5).

As a refectorian, I help ensure the cleanliness of our dining hall and kitchen. We all work at Nashotah House. We are not monks, but we are reminded of Benedict in everything we do on campus. Three times a day, the ever-present Michael the Bell rings and reminds each of us of our calling.

None of us do this alone. With me is my loving wife, Danielle; she leaves behind her position as Chair of the Bridge Program at Charleston Southern University. The university has graciously retained Danielle's teaching position, now remote for the duration of our time at Nashotah House. Our children, Adele (8) and Conrad (5), said goodbye to their friends in Charleston and are making some new friends in Wisconsin. The entire family is starting anew; we are all looking forward to a white Christmas. Also, I am blessed to have my wife and children with me. It's a beautiful thing to look out from my pew and see my children attending Evensong on weekday evenings. My daughter loves to see her daddy at "work."



PARKER ASPLIN

"Nashotah House can feel timeless," says Walters. "Walking from my student apartment to the Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin, I hear Michael the Bell... I'd better walk faster if I don't want to be late to chapel. St. Mary's was built in 1866, and Michael the Bell has been calling the faithful to prayer since 1884."

I am called to the priesthood, and the Lord has pressed into my heart a ministry to serve the elderly and the sick as a chaplain. In Matthew, Jesus says to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few." Our diocese needs laborers. Out of 19,597 parishioners in the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, only six parishioners sought and were approved to move forward on the path to priestly ordination. Two of us have been chosen to attend Nashotah House, Alonzo Crawford, and myself. How does my experience some 900 miles from South Carolina involve you? To grow as a diocese, we need clergy, and clergy requires seminary, and seminary requires community. I would ask that you come and join us on this journey. We are growing leaders for Christ's holy church. Your prayers, your thoughts, as well as your spiritual and financial support are needed and welcome. Please visit <https://holycross.net/> seminary for updates.

## The Right Bus

Continued from Page 7

And now through the CARE ministry we get to minister together."

Her cakes have been given to families following a death or during an illness. "They bring comfort in times of loss and happiness in times of joy," she says. She's also shared cakes in times of celebration. "That's the beautiful part of ministry – it touches people lives, brings people together."

Richardson and his team are always eager to help people find a place they can serve. "Finding the right people for the CARE Ministry in a church the size of St. Michael's was an overwhelming task," he says. "We lifted this question up in prayer and asked God to bless our ministry two ways. First, to direct us to the 'Who' – God's choice of people in our church with the right passion, gifts and talents – and second, to focus and listen to the heart of the person we were speaking with, rather than doing the most talking."

They also took active steps to find who in the parish needed to be served. They placed CARE cards in each pew so parishioners could let the church know who in the congregation needed special attention. "The Cooks for Christ ministry expanded under the leadership of Julie Molony, and volunteers for food preparation doubled almost overnight through the discovery and implementation of an app that allowed CARE to engage our entire parish in the meals ministry," says Richardson.

"Our CARE team continues in prayer and thanksgiving," he says, "for the continued growth of the CARE ministry at St. Michael's. It's still a work in progress but it continues to draw us closer to Jesus through prayers and to the who and what will accomplish his Kingdom work. People may not always remember what you say, or even what you do, but they almost always remember how you make them feel."

For the many parishioners contributing their special talents to the CARE ministry, it is an opportunity to live out Ephesians 2:10: "We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

## St. Philip's Hosts Haiti Partnership Annual Meeting

By Suzanne McCord, St. Philip's Church, Charleston

St. Philip's Church in Charleston was the host church for the 2023 la Gonave Haiti Partnership (LGHP) annual meeting. Each year one of the member churches in the la Gonave Haiti Partnership takes a turn at hosting the annual meeting. This year's meeting was well attended in person by many partners and friends who traveled from Georgia, Florida, Arkansas, Virginia, Tennessee, and North and South Carolina to Charleston for the weekend event. Additional U.S. and Haitian partners joined virtually via livestream.

The Haitian partners who joined us included the Rev. Jean Madoche Vil (Pere Vil) who is our Priest in Charge of the island diocese which consists of 10 churches (each with a lay pastor) and adjoining schools. We also were able to hear live and recorded reports from Pere Vil; Dr. Charles Lazar, the doctor in charge of the Bill Rice Community Healthcare Network; Jean Thony, Agriculture Program Manager; Claude Valdemar, Economic Development Director; and Dantel Martin, Director of Adult Education.

During the meeting, we took a virtual tour of our newest school, St. Martha and St. Mary Middle School in the rural community of Palma. We were able to celebrate with the teachers and 7th grade students who were the first class to complete a year

at the new school. We just learned that all 20 of these 7th graders passed their national exams and will be able to move on to 8th grade. This is an amazing accomplishment during this extremely difficult time for the country of Haiti.

I will conclude with this excerpt from LGHP's 2022 Annual Report:

You may ask, "Given the terrible challenges that our Haitian friends have faced over the past year, what could possibly have been accomplished in 2022?" That is a fair question. In the past, we've seen the isolation of la Gonave Island as a significant hurdle to achieving a better life for its residents. Today, its isolation has served to protect our friends from the terrible violence experienced by many on Haiti's mainland. This violence and the hardships it creates have been driving Haitians to seek shelter on la Gonave, bringing resources and talents to the island it would not otherwise receive. This too, though, increases demand for housing, food, medicine, and other supplies already difficult to find.

In spite of the chaos and fear that grips much of the nation of Haiti, in 2022 our partners on la Gonave provided more than 12,000 health care visits, bought and distributed kid goats to the neediest families in every community, enrolled and educated more than 1400 children across the island, and even cele-

brated the opening of a new rural middle school.

"We stay strong," is the assurance of our Haitian friends on la Gonave. If this is their cry, how can we do less?

The 2023 annual partnership meeting was evidence of the strength of this mutual relationship—we are staying strong together—and God is blessing all the partners as we suffer with Him and through Him, patiently waiting with expectation for what He is working out in the country of Haiti. Even though we cannot benefit from being physically present with our partners in Haiti, we are thankful that we are still able to benefit from sharing our successes and challenges via live video exchanges and written communications.

If you would like to learn more about the mission of la Gonave Haiti Partnership please reach out to the Rev. Gerry McCord at (843) 224-1342, [gerrymccord@gmail.com](mailto:gerrymccord@gmail.com), Suzanne McCord (843) 224-1630, [suzanne1959@gmail.com](mailto:suzanne1959@gmail.com), or Miles Barkley at (843) 514-6984, [miles@lee-associates.com](mailto:miles@lee-associates.com).

If you think your church might like to partner with a sister church in Haiti, we would welcome the opportunity to come share information with your vestry or missions committee. For more info about LGHP visit <https://lagonavepartners.org/>.

## Camp Jubilee Property Under Contract

Continued from Page 2

and people staffing and worshipping in our churches were formed by the Holy Spirit through the ministry of our camp and conference center. We see it as essential to what we're doing as a diocese. It's not ancillary. It is core to who we are. And so we believe it's a critical ministry for our entire diocese. Our Bishop feels strongly about this, and the leadership around the diocese feels strongly about it.

Camp is also, historically, the gathering place of our diocese. A lot of times, and I'm guilty of this, we function as though we're a congregational church. We get focused on our own congregation, our parish, which is faithful and good. The local parish is the place where we're called to do ministry day in and day out, but one of the joys and blessings of Anglicanism is we're part of something bigger than just our congregation. Camp is the place where we come together and are reminded that we're part of something bigger.

**Why is it, do you think, people encounter Christ in a deeper way when they go to a camp?**

I think the Lord wants to encounter us all day, every day, in various places. Whenever anybody

asks me about why we need conference centers, camps, retreats, and retreat centers, I always go to the scripture verse, "Be still and know that I am the Lord." We live in a world that is loud and busy. Many of us live lifestyles that are hectic from sunup to sundown. To even begin to "be still" requires, at least for me, an effort. It takes a while to quiet the noise in my head, whether it's my own voice or the voices of the world, or the news, or the media, or all the things that are assaulting us. Our telephones are beeping at us 90 times a minute, telling us something that seems to us to be of the utmost importance. Being able to get out into God's creation, away from the hustle and bustle, makes it easier to hear that still small voice of the Lord better than we can in other places. At least I can, and I think others can as well. So camp and retreat centers are a place where we can go and be still in a place that is quiet. I know that the Lord can speak to us anytime and that He wants to and does, but I think that it certainly makes it easier for us to hear Him when we can get away from some of the noise of the world. Camp is a place where we slow down and better hear the voice of Jesus.

# Community Nativity Festival in December

By Pam Lee, Christ the King Anglican Church, Pawley's Island

The 5th annual Community Nativity Festival is set this year for December 11-16 at Christ the King Anglican Church in Pawleys Island. This free event is open to the public from 4:00-7:00 p.m. daily and features hundreds of nativity scenes depicting the birth of Christ, using a wide variety of artistic methods and materials.



of the beautiful nativities displayed throughout our entire church campus. Last year we added a new tradition by building a stable and having a live nativity scene during the week, right out on Highway 17 where passersby see it happen.

The idea for our own festival originated after members of the women's ministry toured the Mepkin Abbey's Creche Festival in 2017. That first year we set it up in one afternoon, using nativity sets members brought from home. Now, setup takes place over two weeks and we have more than 350 sets and ornaments on display. Last year, the total number of visitors to our church campus almost outmatched the number of nativities, with over 330 people stopping in to enjoy the sights.

"One of the most meaningful parts of the entire event is all of the prayer requests people leave in our sanctuary in the manger," said Pam Lee, coordinator for the festival. "Last year we received about 90 cards, and we prayed over them during our prayer meetings for many weeks, reading each one aloud to the team. We are honored by the trust people have shown in allowing us to lift their needs up to the Lord."

Church members are very involved in the process of this unique ministry. We start the week with a churchwide Kickoff Sunday Chili Cookoff, with fun activities like a firepit with hot chocolate outside and games and crafts inside. The evening concludes with the first tour

As word of the Community Nativity Festival expands, we hear more stories from people who look forward to returning the next year. Visitors have come from across the state and some have planned their vacations around the event. We are grateful to have this growing ministry at Christ the King and we invite you all to make the journey to Pawleys Island to join us in this meaningful, fun, and reverent experience.

## Provincial Council Members of DHC Meet at Saint James Anglican Church

By Virginia B. Bartels, Saint James Anglican Church, Charleston

On July 28 and 29, 2023, members of the Provincial Council for Daughters of the Holy Cross (DHC) met at Saint James Anglican Church on James Island to conduct their annual meeting for planning. Ten representatives from throughout the United States—including Georgia, Florida, Texas, California, and Tennessee—convened to focus on the various services and committees of the Council. Much of their time was devoted to preparations for the upcoming DHC Provincial Assembly 2024 to be held September 12-15, 2024, at Ridgecrest Conference Center in Ridgecrest, NC.

The Rev. Richard Grimball, chaplain for the Ruth Chapter, and the Rev. Tim Surratt, who was serving as interim priest of Saint James, met and prayed with Council members and later joined them for lunch. Various Ruth Chapter members took turns serving the Council snacks and meals. Sharing their final dinner, several Council and chapter members enjoyed exchanging ideas and gratitude on behalf of DHC.

## 20th Annual Golf Tournament Benefits St. Matthias Montessori School

About 80 players – including Bishop Chip Edgar – teed off August 26 at Shannon Greens Golf Course in Summerton to raise funds for St. Matthias Montessori Preschool. This was the benefit tournament's 20th year. With the course's holes sponsored by local businesses and many prizes (and two free muligans), the players enjoyed beautiful weather and high scores; the winning team tallied a 53.

Vernon DeFee led planning and promotion for the tournament, Fr. Denman Isgett welcomed and blessed the players, and many more members of the congregation were involved in administration, food preparation, and other support roles.

St. Matthias Montessori, located on the church's campus in downtown Summerton, welcomed returning and new students after Labor Day. Enrollment is up significantly this year, and the teaching staff look forward to providing a well-rounded Christian education to 3-, 4- and 5-year-olds.

The Bishop, who had been in the area several days for the Florence Deanery's clergy retreat, teamed with Fr. Hal Fenters (retired Orangeburg Dean), Fr. Bill Clarkson (Rector of Church of the Apostles, Barnwell), and Keith Doran.

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The Rt Revd Chip Edgar  
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Editor  
Joy Hunter  
109 Arbor Road  
Summerville, SC 29485  
jhunter@adosc.org  
(843) 696-1757

Subscription Questions/  
Address Changes  
office@adosc.org  
(843) 722-4075

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## Bishop's Chaplain

Continued from Page 4

Doug earned his B.S. from University of South Carolina and his M.A. from Appalachian State University. He worked as a Special Agent with NCIS for several years before segueing into the CIA, where he was a case officer for 29 years before retirement.

Doug and Scharlene have two daughters and four grandchildren. One daughter is in TX and the other lives on Johns Island, attending St. John's Anglican.

He will be ordained on January 27, 2024.

## Pelloni Family

Continued from Page 11

vision for ministry: to raise up a generation of Cambodians who love the Lord and follow him daily with every aspect of their lives.

In the summer of 2022 we began the process of leaving teaching to become full-time missionaries with our church in Cambodia. This led us to join SAMS, the Society of Anglican Missionaries & Senders, so we could raise support and go back to Cambodia to invest in the church plant full time. We arrived in the United States to start that process in February, 2023. The Lord has faithfully provided for us wherever we are and often through the Anglican Church.

When we got to the U.S., we needed a stateside home church and he led us to St Timothy's in Cane Bay. At our first service there we were so happy to find that we said a similar liturgy to our church in Cambodia! I like what Father Luke (our rector here in the States) said about our weekly worship: "When we come to worship every week, we gather around a table and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. When we proclaim our faith every Sunday, we proclaim it with every other Anglican church around the world, together professing one faith in Christ."

We are currently still stateside, continuing to raise funds to return to Cambodia and be a part of the church plant the Lord brought to our attention back in 2018. We are so excited and honored to be a part of and play a role in the global Anglican Church here and abroad in South East Asia. If you would like to support our ministry or hear more about our life in Cambodia, we would love to connect with you! You can reach us via email at [anthonypelloni@sams-usa.org](mailto:anthonypelloni@sams-usa.org) or by searching for us at the SAMS website: <https://give.samsusa.org/missionary/anthony-and-anna-pelloni>.

## People News

Continued from Page 13

son, August. The Sustars officially joined the Christ-St. Paul's family Sunday, September 10.

Jeremy Vause, who had served as the (contemporary) worship team leader and Minister of Music for Prince George Winyah for the past 10 years, has accepted an expanded role

adding that of Choir Director and Organist, following the death of their longtime, treasured Organist/Choir Director Jim Calk. In a note to the congregation the Rector, the Rev. Gary Beson wrote, "All will agree we could not be more blessed to have Jeremy on our staff. He is a musician and vocalist of diverse ability, always providing a can-do spirit and unerringly reliable. He is beloved by all on the worship team, the choir, and the family of PGW!" Jeremy is a vocal coach, singer, actor, and music director. He has been coaching singers for over a decade and has been coaching actors and public speakers since 2019. He has a M.F.A. in Performing Arts from Savannah College of Art and Design, a B.A. in Music with a concentration in vocal performance from Coastal Carolina University, and he recently completed training in NYC to become a certified teacher of the Miller Voice Method. Jeremy is a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and the Voice and Speech Trainers Association.



Matthew Wilkinson recently accepted the position as the Director of Music at St. Michael's Church, Charleston. In a note to the congregation, the Rector, the Rev. Al Zadig, wrote, "It is my pleasure to announce the return of Matthew Wilkinson as our Director of Music. Many of you remember Matthew, who served faithfully as our Director of Music from August, 2014 through December, 2019, leaving to pursue God's call for Master and Doctorate degrees. His first Sunday at St. Michael's was September 3. Matthew, his wife, Melanie, and their daughter, Annika... There is much to know about the Wilkinson family since they have been gone, including their time living and traveling through Europe, and most recently their experience with Christ Church, Plano."



## Upcoming Events

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

- ARDF Oyster Roast, October 26
- Clergy Retreat, November 6-8
- Regenerate, November 10-12
- Mere Anglicanism, January 18-20, 2024
- Clergy Spouse Retreat, January 25-27
- 2024 Christian Men's Conference, Feb. 23-25
- ADOSC Convention, March 8-9
- DOK Spring Retreat, April 12-14

## Quizzing

Continued from Page 7

Many kids don't think they can participate in the quiz because they don't have a good memory. Quizzing actually solves that problem. Their confidence grows and their faith deepens.

Please join in praying for this team that the word of God completely changes their lives. You can bet that this brown-eyed girl is going to learn more Bible verses herself! And you can too!! Feel free to message me and I can send you a free bookmark of the Bible verses. And if you want to introduce a program for Bible quizzing at your church, contact me (Heather Pienkos) at [hpienkos@christch.org](mailto:hpienkos@christch.org).

The Bible is a book of tremendous wisdom that can impact every area of our lives. By memorizing scriptures, we are able to have wisdom with us at all times. Luke 2:52 says that even Jesus grew in wisdom during his earthly life. Shouldn't we do the same?

## Writers

Continued from Page 9

place) award-winning authors. Congratulations and praise be to God!

Well worth the read, *Room at the Table: Encouraging Stories from Special Needs Families* is available at Amazon in both Kindle edition and paperback.

To learn more about Word Weavers International, a global organization of support/critique groups for Christian worldview writers, contact Timothy Griggs, president of the Charleston chapter, at [media@stjohnsparish.net](mailto:media@stjohnsparish.net), or visit the Word Weavers International website at [www.word-weavers.com](http://www.word-weavers.com).

