

THE *Apostle*

June 2008 The Episcopal Diocese of Alabama Vol. 93, No. 5

Sawyerville Day Camp: What's Your Story?

For the 15th year in a row, young people and adults from across our diocese will be serving children at Sawyerville Day Camp in Greensboro, this year on June 21-29. In addition to arts and crafts, swimming, and games, the staff, guest presenters, and planned field trips will help the youngsters learn more about themselves and their heritage as they explore together the theme "What's Your Story?"

Youth Ministries Coordinator Leslie Manning expresses a special thank you to everyone in our diocese for supporting this

life-changing ministry, which is our gift to the needy children who live in Hale County. "Your support is what makes this camp run so well. We receive \$10,000 from our diocese, but the rest of the money we need comes from generous parishes through fundraising and outreach grants. Parishes and individuals have also generously donated pool towels, goggles, bathing suits, art and craft supplies, musical instruments, and other much-needed and most-welcome items. We also greatly appreciate your prayers."

For more information please see page 7.



Remembering Jonathan Daniels on August 9



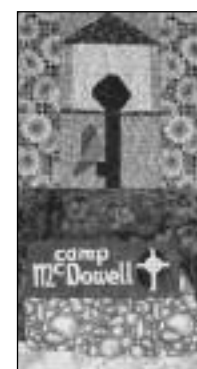
Our diocese, the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast, and Reach Inc. of Lowndes County are once again sponsoring the annual pilgrimage honoring Jonathan Myrick Daniels and other martyrs who gave their lives helping others during the civil rights movement. This year's pilgrimage, scheduled for

August 9 in Hayneville, will begin at 11 a.m. at the Courthouse Square with a procession to the old county jail where Jonathan, Ruby Sales, and other civil rights workers were detained for a week in August 1965. Jonathan was born in 1939 in Keene, New Hampshire, and graduated from Virginia Military Institute (VMI) before entering Episcopal Theological School in Cambridge, Massachusetts. In March 1965

he came to Selma to assist in voter registration work in Dallas and Lowndes Counties. He and his coworkers were arrested on August 14 in Fort Deposit for joining a picket line, and they were transferred to the county jail in Hayneville, where they remained until their release on August 20.

The pilgrimage procession continues on to the old Cash Grocery Store where Jonathan stepped forward to protect Ruby from sheriff's deputy Tom Coleman, who was threatening her; Jonathan died from a blast from the officer's 12-gauge shotgun. The procession leads back to the square and the monument placed by VMI in Jonathan's honor. The pilgrimage ends with a worship service in the Courthouse, where Tom Coleman was tried and acquitted. Bishop Sloan will serve as the celebrant during the service, and 1982 VMI graduate Darryl K. Horne, who is the president and CEO of Spectrum Sciences and Software Holdings, will give a special address. *For more information please contact the Rev. Pat Wingo at pwingo@dioala.org or 205/715-2060 ext. 317.*

Create Some Summer Fun!



Looking for a relaxing, fun summer getaway? Here's your chance to beat the heat and enjoy being creative! The Alabama Folk School

at Camp McDowell is offering a wide variety of more than 30 weeklong and more than 25 weekend classes. *For more information please see page 6.*

Lambeth Resources Available Online



The Most Rev. Rowan Williams and his wife, Jane

The Most Rev. Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and his wife, Jane, will be hosting the Lambeth Conference and the Spouses' Conference from July 16 to August 3 in Canterbury, England. The

Lambeth Conference, which is one of the global Anglican Communion's Instruments of Communion, takes place every 10 years at the archbishop's invitation. It is the one occasion when archbishops and diocesan, assistant, and suffragan bishops can meet for worship, study, and conversation. Bishop Parsley and Becky as well as Bishop Sloan and Tina will be attending.

For official information about the conferences, please visit the following Web sites:

www.anglicancommunion.org

www.episcopalchurch.org

www.lambethconference.org

www.episcopal-life.org/95270_ENG_HTM.htm
(Episcopal Life Weekly bulletin inserts)

www.episcopalchurch.org/79901_97098_ENG_HTM.htm
(Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori's May 20th news conference on the Lambeth Conference)

www.episcopalchurch.org/newsline.htm (Episcopal Church Center Public Affairs Office NewsLine)

www.episcopal-life.org (Episcopal Life online stories)



Lambeth Conference Prayer

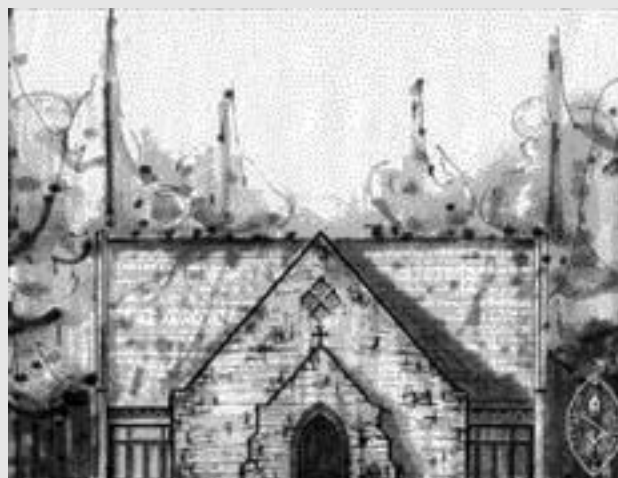
Pour down upon us, O God, the gifts of your Holy Spirit, that those who prepare for the Lambeth Conference may be filled with wisdom and understanding. May they know at work within them that creative energy and vision which belong to our humanity, made in your image and redeemed by your love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Camp McDowell Brick/Paver Campaign

“Completing the vision: one brick, one act, at a time.”

You are invited to help complete the Chapel of St. Francis at Camp McDowell by purchasing a brick or paver in honor or memory of a family member or friend. The bricks and pavers will be used for walkways and patios.

For more information please visit www.campmcdowell.com and follow the link to the Brick Campaign, e-mail Mark@campmcdowell.com, or call the camp office at 205/387-1806.



Clergy News

The Rev. David Crippen retired as rector of St. Joseph's-on-the-Mountain on May 11.

The Rev. Ken Fields joined the staff of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields in Houston, Texas, on June 1. Ken served a number of parishes in our diocese, most recently as rector and chaplain of Canterbury Chapel in Tuscaloosa.

The Rev. Van Foreman began serving as rector of the Church of the Resurrection in Gadsden on June 1. Van previously served as rector of Christ Church in Albertville.

The Rev. Chris Girata joined the staff of St. Luke's in Birmingham on June 1. Chris comes to our diocese from the Diocese of Atlanta.

The Rev. Tim Murphy began serving as rector of St. Mary's in Jasper in April.

Responding to the Devastation in Myanmar

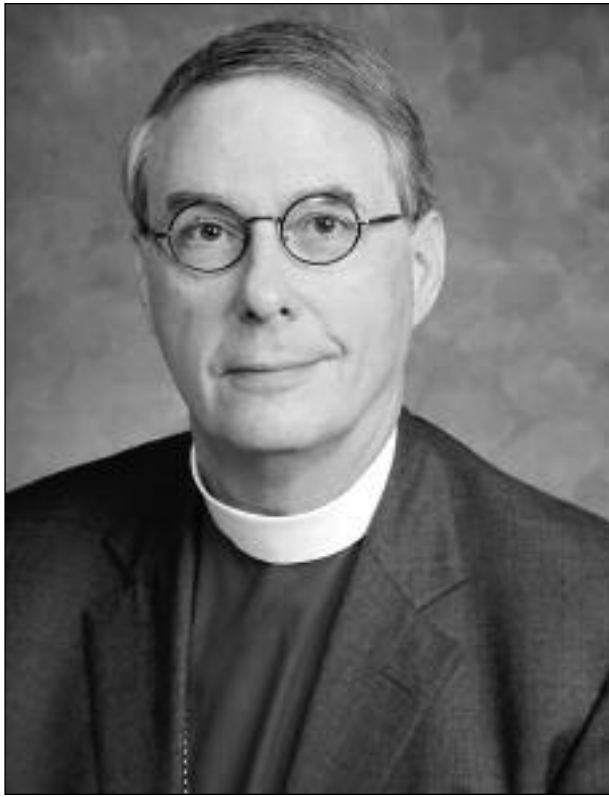
Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) continues to respond to the devastation caused by Cyclone Nargis by providing churches and individuals with an opportunity to help those affected by this deadly disaster. The storm, the worst natural disaster in Myanmar's history, has left more than 100,000 dead and another 41,000-plus missing. In the low-lying Irrawaddy River Delta, entire villages were inundated by a 12-foot wall of water, and more than 5,000 square kilometers in this region remained under water long enough to destroy the vital rice crop and much of the country's agricultural and fishing industry. Officials fear the death toll could continue to rise as

the damaged areas become more accessible. Contaminated water, food shortages, and deadly diseases are causing additional suffering. ERD has established relationships with local partners in Myanmar, which has enabled the delivery of assistance, including clean water, food, and shelter, quickly to many of the most vulnerable people.

To help people affected by the cyclone in Myanmar, please make a donation to Episcopal Relief and Development's "Myanmar & Cyclone Response," online at www.er-d.org, calling 800/334-7626 ext. 5129, or mailing a contribution to Episcopal Relief and Development "Myanmar & Cyclone Response"



P.O. Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058. Please note your parish and/or the Diocese of Alabama on your contributions. *To schedule a program regarding Episcopal Relief and Development for your congregation please contact Judy Quick at jgquick@bellsouth.net or 205/669.6862.*



Photograph by Billy Brown

Dear Friends in Christ:

An old friend recently sent me the article reprinted below, which was written years ago and continues to reflect the passionate love for our Lord and the Episcopal Church that burns in the heart of many of us. I offer it to you, slightly edited, as a witness to the enduring spirit of this Church, to the sure truth that as some things change much remains the same, and in hopes that it will bring a smile to your face.

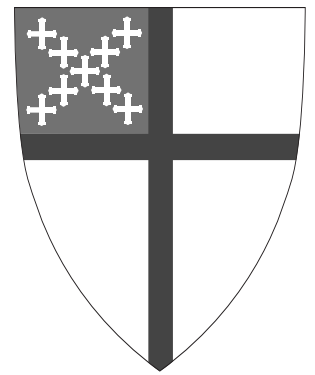
I love the Episcopal Church, and in spite of the desirability of modern ecumenism, perhaps I secretly hope that I may die in her arms. I love her not conditionally or with calculation, not with careful reservations, but freely, joyfully, wholeheartedly.

I love the stone-and-brick stateliness of her old city parishes, even when they get down at the heels because “the neighborhood has changed.” And her tatty little small-town churches, smelling faintly musty and damp, kept going somehow in the face of great challenges by devoted, self-giving souls. And her gleaming, spanking-fresh suburban churches too, whose modern architecture speaks of the unending creativity of the Spirit.

I love her high-church places with their clouds of smoke from the incense pot and their chants. And no less do I love her low-church parishes, all furniture polish and gleaming brass and memorial tablets, some still with the restrained but curiously exuberant dignity of choral Morning Prayer.

I love her Book of Common Prayer, her firm doctrine and emphasis on sound learning, her devo-

I Love the Episcopal Church



tion to scripture and tradition, and the glorious cadences of her language. But I love too the freedom that she grants her children, her openness to the new, her breadth of humanity, her expansive love, learned at the feet of Christ.

I love the bright young families proudly ranged in their pews on Sunday morning, and the elegant elderly who have seen it all, and the sparse little congregations on weekdays whose hushed devotion to their Lord is an almost palpable radiance. And her old priests whose eyes show the compassion taught them in a lifetime, and her young priests who are so sure that the world can be won in five years at the outside.

I love the names of her heroes—Cranmer, Hooker, Julian, Pusey, Gore, Underhill, Lewis, Seabury, Breck, DeKoven. And a hundred others, including some private ones of my own.

I love the letters to *The Living Church* that begin, “Dear Sir: It is high time . . .” And the solemn verbiage with which the Executive Council launches a new project, the billowing sleeves of the bishops’ rochets, and the whole mad range of possible headgear that clerics can wear. I even love the battered Prayer Books in the pew racks that are sometimes confused with Hymnals.

I love the eccentric ladies in city parishes who dress in liturgical colors. And the uproarious stories about departed dignitaries that are told whenever the clergy gather and have time for small talk.

I love the Holy Communion, and the beauty of holiness, and the hands of young and old reverently raised to receive the sacrament.

I really can’t help it. I don’t know if everybody ought to be an Episcopalian; it may be that other people feel as strongly about their Churches as I do about mine. I do know that I love the Episcopal Church and that I am sworn to her, forsaking all others.

I’m glad of it. And it isn’t denominational loyalty or sectarian spirit or party fervor or naiveté about her imperfections. It’s love.

Written originally by the Rev. James Pearson, edited by the Rev. Don Henning, and further edited by yours truly.

With every blessing for your many ministries and a refreshing summer,

Faithfully in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Henry N. Parsley Jr.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

In the Diocese of Alabama

About 34,000 baptized members in 91 parishes and worshiping communities and 8 college campus ministries. Established in 1830.

Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Henry Nutt Parsley Jr.

Bishop Suffragan

The Rt. Rev. John McKee Sloan

Carpenter House

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205/715-2060

The Apostle

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In the United States

A community of about 2.4 million members in 119 dioceses in the Americas and abroad. Established in 1789.

Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori

Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10017
212/867-8400



The Anglican Communion

An 80-million-member worldwide community of 38 provinces.

Archbishop of Canterbury

The Most Rev. Rowan D. Williams

Lambeth Palace, London
England SE17JU



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All editorial submissions should be mailed to Norma McKittrick, Editor, *The Apostle*, 2156 Kent Way, Birmingham, AL 35226; or E-mailed to Apostledit@aol.com. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope for any materials to be returned. The deadline for each issue is the 1st of the preceding month.

All address corrections or additions should be mailed to Denise Servant, Circulation Secretary, *The Apostle*, 521 North 20th Street, Birmingham, AL 35203; or E-mailed to dservant@dioala.org.

POSTMASTER: Please send address corrections to Denise Servant, Circulation Secretary, The Apostle, 521 North 20th Street, Birmingham, AL 35203.



Laughter and beads may be odd sacraments, but they can surely be outward and visible signs of God's inward and spiritual grace, some of the "countless ways by which God uses material things to reach out to us" (Book of Common Prayer, page 861).

On Mother's Day, we took my wife out to lunch. When the waiter came to the table, Miss Tina asked him how he was doing. He was having some troubles that don't really bear repeating in this column, but he was sort of "bummed out," he said.

Our whole family was together, and it was just fun. I don't remember the details, but as the meal and the conversation went along, we all got tickled several times. The things that were funny then don't really look all that humorous in print, but it was so funny at the time that we wondered if we were disturbing the peace.

When it was about time to leave, one of the waitresses stopped at our table and said how much she enjoyed our coming in, how nice it was to see a family laughing together. And then, as if waiting for his cue, our gloomy waiter came back with my credit card and told us that we'd brightened his day.

In seminary, several of us decided we ought to send a delegation of pilgrims to the largest religious festival in the country and that it ought to be us. So

Odd Sacraments

four seminarians and one brave seminary spouse went to Mardi Gras in New Orleans. We considered it our duty to throw ourselves totally into the celebration, vowing that we would make a report at the next seminary luncheon. We enjoyed it immensely, maybe even too much.

On Fat Tuesday I put on my Sewanee academic gown and a blue bandanna on my head, and I painted on a sad clown's face with a big red tear coming from one of my eyes. Just before sundown a melancholy feeling snatched me, and I parted ways with my friends, just to catch a little privacy. I went to Jackson Square and was amazed to find it almost deserted as most folks were downtown to watch the parades. I sat down under a streetlight and started to whistle.

I suppose my whistling matched my mood—I tried to whistle "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," a great jazz tune, but it came out as the blues. I was surprised when an older couple threw me some change thinking that I was a down-on-my-luck street performer. Some girls saw my sad clown face and tried to make me smile. I was having a great time, whistling and watching the people, and knowing that I was part of the show for them, as they were for me.

A young couple stopped; the young man told me that he'd painted tears on his face before too. When I asked him why, he said it was because of people like me who didn't know the Lord Jesus. I invited them to sit with me, and we had a long conversation, which got better after they realized they were talking to someone who was not only sober but who also knew a little about the Bible. At some point I saw a pretty girl trying to get my attention. She assumed that I'd been caught by evangelists and, mimicking my sad face, pulled the corners of her mouth up with her fingers to make a smile. I gave her a sad sigh and shrugged. When she came over to give me a necklace, I took one of mine and gave it to her. She kissed me on the cheek, and then I couldn't help but smile. I wished her a happy Mardi Gras, and she walked on.

In that moment it occurred to me that there are many kinds of ministry and many ways to preach the Gospel. For some it might be handing out pamphlets at Mardi Gras, but for others it comes in other ways, maybe even exchanging beads and a kiss on the cheek. I tried the idea on my street-preaching friends. I remember saying something like, "If all love comes from God and that girl and I just exchanged some regular old human concern for each other, isn't that spreading the love of God? Isn't that what you're trying to do?" But they wanted no part of it.

After a while I stood to leave. The young lady said she'd pray for me, and I thanked her. The young man asked me what I did, and I told him I was an Episcopal seminarian. He was a seminarian, too, in a different denomination. We shook hands, and as I walked away I began to whistle again, "Just a Closer

Walk with Thee," this time with the jazz that it deserved. An older man who'd had a few drinks heard me and reached out to shake my hand. I turned to see the young man watching, and we waved.

At baptisms and confirmations we're asked: "Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?" We certainly need to preach the redemption of the world in the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ; that's an essential part of proclaiming the Gospel, proclaiming by word. We also need to share God's unconditional love by loving each other, and understand that this is part of proclaiming the Good News as well, by example, in how we live. Laughter and beads may be odd sacraments, but they can surely be outward and visible signs of God's inward and spiritual grace, some of the "countless ways by which God uses material things to reach out to us" (Book of Common Prayer, page 861).

Proclaim the Good News of the love of God, Christians, in all you say, with all you have, and in all you do.

+ KEE

The Rt. Rev. John McKee Sloan

Bishops' Visitation Schedule

Sunday, June 1

11 a.m. Bishop Sloan,
St. Andrew's, Montevallo

Sunday, June 8

10 a.m. Bishop Sloan,
St. Barnabas', Hartselle

Sunday, June 15

10:30 a.m. Bishop Parsley,
St. Matthias', Tuscaloosa
11 a.m. Bishop Sloan, St. Paul's,
Lowndesboro

Sunday, June 22

10:15 a.m. Bishop Sloan, Trinity,
Wetumpka
11 a.m. Bishop Parsley,
St. Columba, Huntsville

Sunday, June 29

11 a.m. Bishop Parsley, St. Mark's,
Prattville
11 a.m. Bishop Sloan, St. Mark's,
Boligee

Deacons in Our Midst

By the Venerable Louise Thibodaux

This is the fifth article in our “Deacons in Our Midst” series. In each article, a deacon has written in his or her own voice about the nature of diaconal ministry. Deacons serve as icons for all baptized people by illustrating the nature of the baptismal covenant that we all share. Deacons work in community with other deacons to “interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world” (Book of Common Prayer, page 543). Deacons also work with nonchurch communities, offering hope to the poor, opportunity to the disenfranchised, and peace to those who are in turmoil. Because of this, deacons are continually challenged to “think outside the box” and embrace a kind of leadership that is both life changing and world changing. Deacon Steve Shanks writes about this aspect of diaconal ministry in his own words.

The Rev. Deacon Steve Shanks

The Rev. Deacon Steve Shanks serves St. Andrew's in Montevallo and Trinity Church in Clanton.

One of the most important things I offer to the Diocese of Alabama happens through my work as Diocesan Jubilee Officer. The stated goal of Jubilee Ministry is to teach others to connect the *talk* of faith with the *walk* of peace and justice for all people. The concept of Jubilee was established by the following text in Leviticus: “You shall hallow the fiftieth year and you shall proclaim liberty throughout the land to all its inhabitants” (Leviticus 25:10). Coincidentally this quotation is also inscribed on the Liberty Bell.

How do we proclaim liberty? Well sometimes it starts with a single congregation that wants to begin walking in faith. Or it can begin with a cluster of churches within a community that perceive a need to serve the poor in a particular way. Any of these congregations or clusters of congregations can become designated by the Episcopal Church as a Jubilee Center if they agree to do one or more of the following: advocacy on behalf of the people they serve, empowering staff and volunteers to connect their work with their



The pharmacy at Good Samaritan Clinic at Grace Church in Cullman

baptismal vows, evangelizing through prayer or pastoral presence, and inviting others to share in worship. In this way all Jubilee Ministries give back to God through what God has given them.

The opportunities for Jubilee Centers are endless. This year two additional Jubilee Centers were introduced at our diocesan convention: St. John's in Decatur, where a free medical clinic has been established, and Nativity in Huntsville, which provides literacy training in the local community, free medical services at target elementary schools, and medical missions to Honduras. These two new Jubilee Centers join the ones already established in our diocese: Grace Church in Woodlawn (Birmingham), St. Timothy's in Athens, Jubilee Center in Montgomery, Christ Church in Fairfield (Birmingham), Good Samaritan Clinic at Grace Church in Cullman, and Chattahoochee Valley Ministries supported by St. Matthew's-in-the-Pines in Seale and St. Stephen's in Smith Station. Each of these parishes or agencies is experiencing the depth of God's compassion by responding to the needs, concerns, and hopes of the people they serve.

So why is this important to me as a deacon? It is simply this—I believe that as Christians we must rely on the Holy Spirit not only to keep us in the faith, but also to lead us beyond the realm of merely cognitive knowledge about God into the personal knowledge of God and God's workings in the world. Such knowledge comes from living in relationship with God and participating through Christ and the Spirit in the life of God among us.

Said another way: we must “leave the head and descend with our mind into the heart.” When we speak about God (do theology) we must also speak with God (prayer) and experience God with us (presence). Our primary text is the Exodus story that recalls how God intervenes in the very middle of abandonment and dereliction to bring us all to a new land of freedom. All of this becomes a “head trip” unless we allow ourselves to experience it for ourselves. To do this we ourselves must risk. We must risk walking with the poor, offering hope to the captives, and returning thanks to God even as we are becoming instruments of reconciliation.



Jubilee Center at St. Timothy's in Athens

Archbishop Tutu, Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori, and Bishop Parsley at Sewanee

The commencement and baccalaureate ceremonies at Sewanee on May 9 and 10 featured addresses from the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori and the Most Rev. Desmond M. Tutu, Anglican archbishop emeritus and the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize recipient. In his sermon during the Commencement Eucharist service, Archbishop Tutu noted that “it was a privilege to preach in the presence of Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori, and he thanked her “for her graciousness in the face of considerable provocation from some of the things happening in our communion.”

Speaking specifically to the 346 graduates from the College of Arts and Sciences and the 40 graduates from the School of Theology, Archbishop Tutu reminded them to “thank God

for all the blessings in your lives, for all who have helped you. Well done to those who have supported you—your parents, children, partners, and teachers.” Archbishop Tutu also noted that the victory against apartheid in South Africa was due in part to all students on their campuses around the world. “We asked for your help, and you gave it, and we accomplished it,” he said. “Thank you. Thank you. Thank you!”

Bishop Parsley presided at the Eucharist and presented St. Luke's crosses to the graduates. Dr. Joel Cunningham, vice chancellor and president of the University, and the Very Rev. Dr. William S. Stafford, dean of the School of Theology, presented the diplomas.

In her address to the graduates during the Baccalaureate Service on May 10, Presiding



The Rev. Walter B. A. Brownridge, associate dean of the School of Theology; the Rt. Rev. Henry N. Parsley Jr., chancellor of the University and bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama; the Most Rev. Desmond M. Tutu, Anglican archbishop emeritus of the City of Cape Town in South Africa; and the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church in the United States of America

Bishop Jefferts Schori urged them to “provoke one another!” This ability is part of being effective leaders and change agents, she explained, adding that “to lead is to call people into a larger vision, provoking others into action.” Presiding Bishop Jefferts Schori received an honorary degree from the university at the ceremony.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

Compiled by Fiona Watts, Publicity Chair

From Dee Buzby, ECW President

One of the joys of being our Diocesan ECW President is visiting parishes all across our diocese to attend convocation meetings. It was a pleasure this spring to renew friendships and meet so many women who are living their faith by working for their parish, our diocese, and the world. They are amazing, committed, and gracious women, and I want to acknowledge their decision to serve the Lord with gladness.

I am very pleased to announce that the Wine and Cheese Auction held at All Saints' in Birmingham on April 17th raised approximately \$20,000 toward the ECW ACTS2 Pledge for the sacristy of the new chapel at Camp McDowell. It was a memorable night with warm hospitality from the ECW of All Saints', delightful music from the St. Mark's Praise Singers, delicious and bountiful treats from the ECW of St. Mary's-on-the-Highlands, wine, more than 300 items for auction including contributions from Bishop Parsley and Bishop Sloan, a large crowd including many clergy, and a festive atmosphere enjoyed by all. A huge thank you to Fiona Watts, Olivia Weingarten, Alleen Cater, and their committee for a job well done, to all who contributed, and especially to those who came and participated in the evening. Your support of the ECW is very much appreciated and heartfelt!

On April 8th at Carpenter House, the ECW Board was honored to have Bishop Parsley lead us in Noonday Prayers and dedicate the Bishop Stough Cross, designed by the late Cordray Parker and given by the ECW as our Corporate Gift. We were pleased to have Leslie Stough Lynch, Bishop Stough's daughter; Summer Stough Horn, Bishop Stough's niece; past ECW Presidents Olivia Weingarten and Alleen Cater; representatives from the Church of the Advent; and members of the Carpenter House Staff join us for this very Spirit-filled occasion. Please stop by the chapel when you visit Carpenter House and view the cross from the chapel and also the garden for different perspectives.

This year seems to be flying by, but I hope you will take time this summer to relax, renew, and listen to God's words, which are intended just for you.

Blessings to you all!



Bishop Parsley, Summer Stough Horn, Leslie Stough Lynch, Olivia Weingarten, Alleen Cater, and Dee Buzby



CAMP McDOWELL

Create Some Summer Fun!

By Megan Huston, Director of the Alabama Folk School at Camp McDowell

This summer come enjoy Camp McDowell's modern accommodations as well as the more than 1,100 acres of beautiful trails, creeks, and canyons while you let your creativity flow. Perhaps there is an art form you have always wanted to try but never had the opportunity—or maybe you have a favorite hobby you never have time to enjoy. Now is the time to participate in one of our many classes, which range from blacksmithing and glasswork to weaving, pottery, and music.

We are thrilled to offer glassworks this summer. Donna Branch, from McCalla, will teach some of the classes. Her creations have been exhibited in galleries and museums internationally including the Red Clay Survey in Huntsville, the Alabama Museum of Art, and the Montgomery Museum of Art. In addition her work is included in many private collections. As an award-winning artist, Donna has been featured in *Southern Living Magazine*, and she will be featured in an upcoming segment on HGTV. For more about Donna please visit www.donnabranche.com.

Linda Munoz also teaches glass as well as mosaics at our Alabama Folk School. This summer she will be helping participants create beautiful necklaces, pendants, and other jewelry in her fused-glass art class. Linda also teaches classes at ORBIX Hot Glass Studio in Fort Payne, and she has taught mosaic art to both adults and children in workshops in Alabama and Mississippi. You can see some of her creations at Kentucky Gallery in Northport, ORBIX Hot Glass Gallery in Fort Payne, Bear Creek Glass in Birmingham, Black Belt Treasures in Camden, and Mountain Mama's in Cloudland, Georgia. For more about Linda please visit, www.cottonpatchart.com or visit her studio in York.

For a complete list of Alabama Folk School classes please visit www.campmcdowell.com/FolkSchool or contact me at 205/ 387-1806. Be sure to ask me about group discounts!



Glasswork created by Donna Branch; photo by Ralph Anderson



Fused-glass pendant created by Linda Munoz

Upcoming ECW Events and Deadlines

- October 9-10** ECW Fall conference at St. Stephen's in Birmingham
- October 19-24** Annual Watercolor Workshop at Camp McDowell
- November 7-9** Alabama Diocese Daughters of the King (DOK) Fall Assembly led by Bishop Sloan at Camp McDowell

Please update your convocation coordinator and the ECW board when ECW leaders change at your parish. You can complete an online form at www.alabamaecw.org/2008ParishECWInfoSheet.pdf. For details and additional events please see the ECW Calendar Handbook and visit www.alabamaecw.org.

Mark your calendars now for **October 9–10** and plan to attend this year's exciting **Fall Conference hosted by the Birmingham Convocation at St. Stephen's in Birmingham**. The Rev. Dr. Jo Bailey Wells from Duke University will speak on the theme "Blessed Is She Who Believes."

Also make plans now to attend the **11th Annual Watercolor Workshop October 19–24** at Wonderful, Wonderful Camp McDowell. Space is limited; please contact Tora Johnson at 256/237 9900 or toradave@earthlink.net for more information.

FOR AND ABOUT YOUTH

Representing Our Diocese at Lobby Days for Uganda

By Jen Manning, Youth Minister of St. Thomas' in Huntsville

More than 800 people, mostly high-school and college students, from all 50 states traveled to Washington, D.C., earlier this year to participate in the "Be a Piece of the Peace" Lobby Days for Uganda. Sarah Chaplin (of Auburn), Daniel Strandlund (youth minister of St. Luke's in Birmingham), Kristin Hanson (EYC member of St. Thomas' in Huntsville), Allison Kendrick (of Camp McDowell and Invisible Children), and I were part of the lobbying group, the largest group lobbying for any African cause in the history of our country.

Two Canadians, one Ugandan native, and two Mobile natives-turned Ugandan missionaries joined us to form the Alabama team. We went to Capitol Hill and met with our state's senators and representatives to ask for increased U.S. support in the Juba peace talks and monetary aid for the people living in war-torn northern Uganda. For the most part we received very positive feedback, and since Lobby Days more than 40 senators and representatives have signed a letter to United Nations (UN) Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon urging him to work for more diplomatic and material support from the UN in Juba and northern Uganda. This is a huge accomplishment, and all of us are proud that we had something to do with it!

Invisible Children, Resolve Uganda, and several other groups sponsored Lobby Days. Over the past several years, many young people in our diocese have become involved with Invisible Children, a nonprofit organization that promotes education as the key to bringing peace to northern Uganda. Invisible Children's Schools for Schools (S4S) program pairs schools in our country with schools in Uganda, and our students raise money for their teacher training, construction, and tuition. Many youth in our diocese have joined S4S clubs or started a club at their own high school or college.

While we know that the war in Uganda isn't the most pressing issue in today's world, we believe that any situation that causes human suffering is infinitely important, and we feel strongly called to help the people who have suffered for more than 20 years as a result of this war. **For more information please visit www.invisiblechildren.com, www.resolveuganda.org, and www.ugandalobbyday.com. We also urge you to visit the Web sites of our state's senators and representatives and send them an e-mail or letter urging them to support additional diplomatic and material support. You can help us make the world a better place—you too can be a "piece of the peace."**



Sarah Chaplin, Daniel Strandlund, Jen Manning, Kristin Hanson, and Allison Kendrick

Sawyererville Day Camp What's Your Story?

By Leslie Manning, Our Diocesan Youth Ministries Coordinator

The energy and enthusiasm for our 15th annual Sawyererville Day Camp has been building for several months, and more youth from across our diocese have applied to serve on staff than ever before. Everyone is looking forward to giving 200-plus children and young teens from the Greensboro and Sawyererville communities in Hale County a week of fun and learning they will always remember.

We have chosen the theme "What's your story?" for this year's camp, scheduled for June 21–29 in Greensboro. Smith Williams will be with us again to lead a program in diversity training and dialogue and help us learn how to craft our own story while recognizing and respecting our individual heritage. We have planned small-group discussions, arts and crafts, guest storytellers including the Ascension puppet team, and John Scalisi's Get Rhythm Inc. drum workshop, as well as poetry writing and photography workshops, great music, games, and of course lots of time in the swimming pool. We will also enjoy educational pieces including an AIDS awareness speaker, a field trip to the Rosa Parks museum in Montgomery, and an overnight for the older campers at the McWane Science Center in Birmingham.

Lots of incredible people are helping plan and direct this year's camp program, and we owe them a special thank you for giving their time, energy, and expertise. Joanna Ware and Pastor Kervin Jones are serving as our Upper Camp program directors with support from William Blackerby, Hannah Ware, and AC Black. Christy Neely is directing the Lower Camp with the help of diocesan youth ministers Clay Cutler and Lindsay Joe. Louise Griffin is coordinating our staff, and Carole Kelley is coordinating meals and snacks. Lorelle Johnson and D'ann Sommerall are serving as our camp nurses, and the Rev. Mark Waldo Jr. and Brooks Boylan as chaplains. Music Coordinator Corey Jones is already keeping us both on beat and upbeat. Andrew Nelson is coordinating the carnival we'll host on the last day for the Lower Campers, and Carol Kendrick is serving as our supply drive coordinator. Laura Jackson is serving as our prayer partner coordinator, Kate Grill is overseeing the arts and crafts activities, and Greensboro residents Debbie Tabb and Evelyn Dillard are our site and volunteer coordinators. Special thanks to Sally Sinclair for keeping our Web site up and running, and a great big thanks to our diocesan Sawyererville Commission for their support and hard work. We have many other people to thank too! So many creative and passionate hearts and minds have come together to make this camp happen.

We invite you to come to Greensboro to visit for a day, especially the final day for the carnival, closing worship service, and a potluck lunch with people from the two communities. You could even help us clean up the camp site! **If you'd like to visit (youth under the age of 18 need to have a parent or youth minister come with them) please contact me at lmanning@dioala.org or 205/715-2060 ext. 325. For more information please visit www.sawyerervilleworkproject.org.**

Please keep us in your prayers as we tell our stories in Hale County!



What's Happening This Summer?

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| June 14 | Youth Department Brainstorming meeting, 10 a.m.– 4:30 p.m. |
| June 21-29 | Sawyererville Day Camp |
| July 1-8 | Special Session at Camp McDowell |
| July 8-13 | Episcopal Youth Event in San Antonio, Texas |
| July 18-29 | Care of Creation pilgrimage to Alaska |
| August 9 | Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage in Hayneville |

For more information please visit www.dioala.org/ministries/youth.html. If you have questions please e-mail Leslie Manning at lmanning@dioala.org or Sarah Sartain at ssartain@dioala.org.

Storing Historic Records

By James L. Baggett, Archivist, Birmingham Public Library

I appreciated the letters and e-mails I received thanking me for the article I wrote for the September/October 2007 Apostle. I hope all of you find this second article useful for preserving your parish's as well as your personal documents. I want to say a special thank you to Janice Glor and acknowledge all the hard work she has done to organize, catalog, and preserve the historic documents and materials that are stored at Carpenter House.



You can extend the life of your historic documents by hundreds of years by following a few simple rules:

The most important factor in the preservation of your parish archives is the **storage environment**. Never store historic documents and photographs in an attic, basement, or outbuilding that doesn't have climate control. Instead, keep them in an area that is heated and air conditioned to limit exposure to temperature fluctuations and high humidity as well as prevent the growth of mold and mildew and potential damage from rodents and insects.

When you are deciding where to store archival materials, **think about what is in and around the space**. Are there water pipes or a bathroom or kitchen overhead? Are there windows close by? If so, make sure they are tightly sealed to prevent a water leak, which could destroy the records of your parish's history.

Depending on the size of your **documents and photographs**, you can store them in a filing cabinet or in archival boxes on shelves. Never store them on the floor because of the potential danger of water damage, and never stack boxes on top of each other

because the top box(es) can crush the ones below and damage the documents inside.

Store **letters** in acid-free file folders or acid-free boxes. Remove them from envelopes and store them flat, not folded; folded paper will eventually tear along the folds. Remove all metal paper clips and staples since over time these will rust and damage the paper; you can replace staples and metal paper clips with plastic paper clips, but it is not necessary.

Since **newspaper clippings** are difficult to preserve, photocopy (Xerox) them onto acid-free paper and discard the original; the copy will last hundreds of years longer than the original. If you want to preserve the original, file it in an acid-free folder with other newspaper clippings but not with any other documents—over time newsprint will damage other documents it touches. You can store whole newspaper pages open in flat boxes.

Store **scrapbooks, church registers, ledgers, and other bound records** flat in acid-free flat boxes.

Place **architectural drawings and blueprints** flat in a large flat-file drawer. If the size of your collection requires a large flat-filing cabinet and you don't wish to purchase one, you can roll up the drawings and blueprints and store them in archival-safe tubes. Do not secure the rolled papers with rubber bands



since they will eventually harden and stain and tear the paper.

Local office-supply stores do not offer archival storage supplies, but you can order them from companies that provide products for archives worldwide. Contact the Hollinger Corporation at 800/634-0491 or www.hollingercorp.com, University Products at 800/628-1912 or www.universityproducts.com, Gaylord Brothers at 800/448-6160 or www.Gaylord.com, and Conservation Resources at 800/634-6932 or www.conservationresources.com.

Remember that you do not have to tackle storing your archival materials by yourself—the Birmingham Public Library serves as the archives for our diocese and several parishes. My staff and I are available to answer your questions, visit with you at your parish, and provide hands-on assistance. For more information please contact me at jbaggott@bham.lib.al.us or 205/226-3631.

Trinity in Clanton Supports Relay for Life

The members of Trinity Church in Clanton participated for the first time in this year's Chilton County Relay for Life Celebration and raised more than \$1,750. The Cancer Society sponsored the event, which was held at the city park on April 25.



Trinity Church's tent at the Relay for Life Celebration

Working Together To Create Commemorative Needlepoint Kneelers

By Alleen Cater

In November 2007 Trinity Church in Bessemer celebrated its 120th anniversary. As part of that celebration, four needlepoint kneelers were dedicated for Trinity's Chapel of Our Lady, which was given in 2005 by Mrs. C. L. Seale Sr. and her grandson Donald Jay Howton in memory of Sharmee Seale Howton, who was Mrs. Seale's daughter and Mr. Howton's mother. Mrs. Seale and Mr. Howton also gave the kneelers, which were designed, stitched, and finished as a collaborative effort by Jay Howton, Alleen Cater, and Chris Beals.

The project took almost two years to complete from start to finish—never get in a hurry for needlepoint! The designs not as ornate as Trinity's lovely altar rail kneelers since the chapel kneelers will rest on an ornate Persian runner. The chapel kneelers feature three traditional symbols for Mary plus one design taken from the logo of St. Mary's School in Raleigh, North Carolina; many thanks to Sally Legg of the Cathedral Church of the Advent for allowing us to copy her lily design. St. Mary's-on-the-Highlands' member Mary Ruth Thomas and Advent members Nancy Poynor, Jesse Ann Jemison, and I stitched the kneelers.

The production of the Trinity chapel kneelers is one of several recent collaborative efforts by women of different parishes who offer their time and talent to enhance a parish's worship setting. This joining of hands is a mark of the Episcopal family within our diocese. Lark Howell of Grace Church in Anniston, Mary Ruth Thomas of St. Mary's-on-the-Highlands, and I are slowly organizing an Internet-based St. Clare's Needle Arts Guild, and we look for-

ward to providing a network of assistance for all sorts of projects. For more information about the e-guild please visit www.alabamaeccv.org and search for St. Clare's Needle Arts Guild or contact me at alleenc@bellsouth.net.

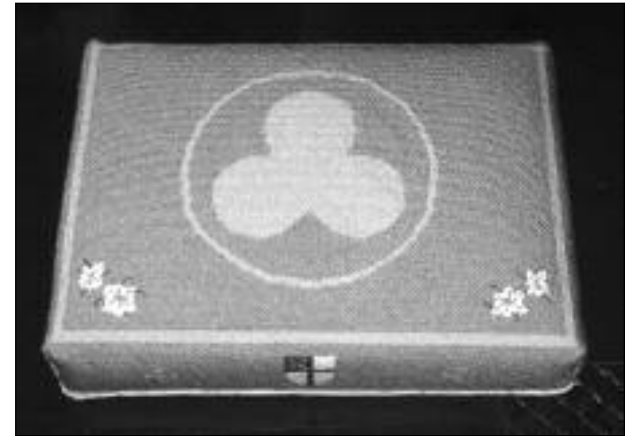
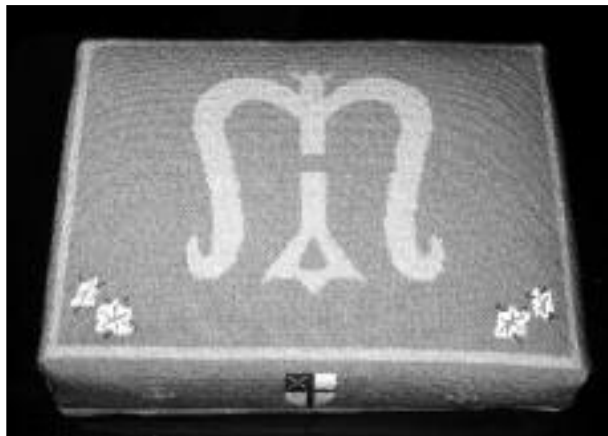


Photo by Rachel Carter

Our Young People Continue Their Good Work

The young people who attended the SIFAT portion of our diocesan Spring Break Conference this past March went back to the site of their outreach day to continue the good work they had started two months before. This time they helped haul away trash, clear out ditches, fix speed bumps, and host a kickoff event for the residents of the trailer park in Lineville, Alabama. It was a wonderful day of shared ministry!



Photo by Rachel Carter

UPCOMING RETREATS, CONFERENCES, AND SPECIAL EVENTS

PEACE ON AND WITH THE EARTH CONFERENCE

June 20-21, St. Mary's Retreat Center in Sewanee

Episcopal Peace Fellowship invites you to attend this mini-conference exploring the relationship between faith, peace, and the environment. A reception and dinner on Friday evening will honor the Rev. Dr. John M. Gessell, a retired ethics professor of the seminary at Sewanee and author of numerous books exploring the theory and practice of social ethics. Saturday's program will feature a number of workshops including The Greening of the Church, Working with Water, and Food & Faith: Justice, Joy & Daily Bread. Scholarships are available. **For more information please visit www.epfnational.org or contact the Rev. Allison Sandlin Liles at Holy Trinity in Auburn, 334/887-9506 or holytrinityassistant@charterinternet.com.**

12TH ANNUAL FOUNDATION FOR LITURGICAL MUSIC CONFERENCE

June 26-28 at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church in Birmingham

The Foundation for Liturgical Music (FLM), a nonprofit ecumenical organization, has been bringing topnotch liturgical musicians to the Birmingham area for the past 11 years to serve as faculty for Music Ministry Series Conferences. The theme for this year's event is *I Send You Out On a Mission of Love*. Participants can choose sessions from specific areas including vocal (choral experience and master cantor), liturgy, keyboard, guitar, instrumental, and percussion. Courses are also being offered that will interest those involved with children and youth ministries.

This year's faculty includes liturgical artists John Angotti, Kate Cuddy, Bobby Fisher, Deanna Light, Steve Petrunak, and Paul Tate, as well as six-time Unity Award winner Sarah Hart, vocal artist Meredith Dean Joseph, and percussionist Dion Clay. The artists will give a free concert at 7 p.m. on Friday, June 27. **For more information please visit www.foundationforliturgicalmusic.org.**

MCDOWELL FALL WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

October 19-24 at Camp McDowell

Wayne Spradley, a realistic artist, will teach beginners along with anyone else wishing to paint with him. Both Pat Dews, a nationally known abstract artist, and Janet Rogers, a semirealistic artist who specializes in painting flowers and people, will be teaching as well. Each participant may choose one teacher to study with during the week. **For more information please contact Tora Johnson at 256/237-9900 or toradave@earthlink.net.**

LIVING STREAMS WORKSHOP

October 27-29 at Camp McDowell

The Camp McDowell Environmental Center is offering the



Servicios en Español/Services in Spanish

Iglesia Episcopal de la Gracia

901 Kingman Road
Birmingham, AL 35235
205/838-2565

Sábado 6 p.m.
Saturday 6 p.m.
Domingo 2 p.m.
Sunday 2 p.m.

Iglesia Episcopal de Todos los Santos/All Saints'

3rd Avenue NE/PO Box 401
Aliceville, AL 35442
205/372-4071

Domingo 9 a.m.
Sunday 9 a.m.

Iglesia de la Ascensión/Ascension

315 Clanton Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36104
334/263-5529

Tercero Domingo de Mes
6 p.m.
Third Sunday of the month
6 p.m.

English classes are offered at La Ascensión/Ascension in Montgomery every Sunday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. **If you would like to serve as a tutor** for one or more of the weekly classes, please contact Pam Long at 334/590-1441 or pam@xlanguage.net. **For more information about services and/or Spanish-speaking classes**, please contact the Rev. Dr. Hernan Afanador, our Diocesan Missioner for Hispanic Ministries, at 205/381-4885 or hernan_afanador@yahoo.com.

free teacher "FunShop" **Living Streams: Creating a Real Appreciation for the Water on which We Depend** on October 27-29. The workshop, which is a collaboration of many qualified sponsoring partners including Legacy, Alabama Water Watch, and Sierra Club, will give you the opportunity to wade the streams and ponds of Camp McDowell and study the macro-invertebrates that live in the water, gaining knowledge for yourself and also learning how to make teaching this information fun and interesting for your students. Alabama Water Watch (www.alabamawatch.org) will certify you to do bio-assessments of streams in your local area, and you can use the free materials

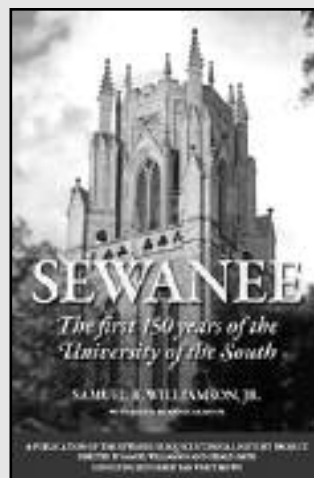
(Macro Mania games, collection nets, specimen containers, and so much more) with your students. **For more information about the McDowell Environmental Center (MEC) or this teacher workshop, please visit www.campmcdowell.com/cmec/Teacher_Workshops.htm or contact Maggie Johnston at maggie@campmcdowell.com or 205/387-1806.**

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING (DOK) FALL ASSEMBLY

November 7-9 at Camp McDowell

Bishop Sloan will lead this year's annual diocesan Daughter of the King (DOK) Fall Assembly. **Please save the date and watch for further information.**

Comprehensive History of Sewanee Now Available



Sewanee: The First 150 Years of the University of the South provides the first comprehensive history of this unique educational institution. Making full use of the university's rich archival resources and of many interviews, the history examines and reexamines every facet of Sewanee's storied past from the original concepts behind its creation to the desperate struggle after the Civil War to become a distinctive and effective Episcopal university in the South.

The Rt. Rev. Nicholas Hamner Cobbs, the 1st Bishop of Alabama, joined other Southern bishops as well as priests and lay leaders at a meeting on July 4, 1857, on Lookout Mountain to establish the university. New information in *Sewanee* confirms the offer of the vice-chancellorship to Jefferson Davis, reveals correspondence between Vice-Chancellor Benjamin Wiggins and President Theodore Roosevelt, and examines the constant struggle to raise adequate financial resources, a goal not achieved until the 1980s. The new book also presents in a new perspective remarkable athletic feats—and defeats, the confrontation and accommodation related to the civil rights movement, and the University's Board

of Trustees key role during the past 150 years.

For more information please contact the Episcopal Book Store at 205/323-2959 or ebsinfo@episcobooks.com, or Sewanee at 931/598-1000 or www.sewanee.edu.

What's New/Noteworthy at the Episcopal Book Store



Tiny Bears Bible Board Book by Sally Lloyd-Jones

Written especially for children age six and under, *Tiny Bears Bible* offers a warm, fuzzy reminder of how God loves his children in a format that little ones can cuddle. Together with their friend Tiny Bear, children will discover 11 Bible stories in a book they can carry with them wherever they go. The closing story leaves us with this loving reminder: "No matter what, no matter where, God is with us, Tiny Bear." Sally Lloyd-Jones includes some of the most familiar Bible stories, which provides parents and grandparents lots of teachable, precious moments as they explore God's love together.



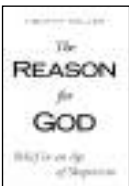
Grace on the Go: 101 Quick Ways to Pray by Barbara Bartocci

Barbara Bartocci has written this Christian book of prayers for people on the go—people who live at warp speed and do not want to pass God on the way. While many emphasize setting aside quiet time with God, Bartocci reaches out to those who want to spend time with God in the non-quiet time. The book includes a wide variety of devotions including Quick Prayers for Compassionate Caregivers and Quick Prayers for Determined Dieters.



Living with Purpose in a Worn-Out Body by Missy Buchanan

Writing with compassion and honesty, Missy Buchanan gives voice to many persons in nursing homes and retirement centers who have mingled emotions of loss, gratitude, resignation, courage, loneliness, and love. She tells readers about the difficult feelings people living an assisted life experience—the ambivalence about being alive so long, the struggle against self-pity, and the frustrations of limited strength and movement. She also mines the joys of living—laughter among friends, seeing grandchildren grow up, and sifting through happy memories. She uses carefully chosen passages from the Psalms and New Testament to stir hope and trust in God's will, allowing the reader to respond with the joy and fortitude of faith.



The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism by Timothy Keller

Why does God allow suffering in the world? How could a loving God send people to Hell? Why isn't Christianity more inclusive? How can one religion be "right" and the others "wrong"? Why have so many wars been fought in the name of God? These are just a few of the questions and doubts even ardent believers wrestle with today, and Timothy Keller has included the most frequently voiced doubts and the most important reasons for faith, addressing each doubt and explaining each reason. He uses literature, philosophy, real-life conversations, and reasoning to explain how faith in a Christian God is a soundly rational belief held by thoughtful people of intellectual integrity with a compassion for those who want to know the truth.

Mark Your Calendar

Diocesan Convention February 19-21 in Montgomery

Cursillo Weekends #163 June 11-15, #164 September 17-21, #165 October 15-19

Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) July 8-13

Province IV Youth Event June 24-30

Sawyer Day Camp June 21-29

Special Session at Camp McDowell July 1-8

June 8-13 Spirituality Conference at Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, North Carolina. For more information please call 828/692-9136, e-mail info@kanuga.org, or visit www.kanuga.org.

June 15-20 Christian Formation Conference at Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, North Carolina. For more information please call 828/692-9136, e-mail info@kanuga.org, or visit www.kanuga.org.

June 20-21 Peace On and With the Earth Conference at St. Mary's Retreat Center in Sewanee. For more information please see the description on page 10, visit www.epfnational.org, or contact the Rev. Allison Sandlin Liles at Holy Trinity in Auburn, 334/887-9506 or holytrinityassistant@charterinternet.com.

June 22-27 Youth Week Conference at Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, North Carolina. For more information please call 828/692-9136, e-mail info@kanuga.org, or visit www.kanuga.org.

June 23-30 Intensive/Post Intensive Retreat at the Benedictine Retreat Center in Cullman. For more information please call 205/991-6964 or e-mail tschached@bellsouth.net.

June 25-July 1 Franciscan Sisters in the Episcopal Church "Consider Your Call" exploratory workshop in San Francisco. For more information please call 415/824-0288 or visit www.communitystfrancis.org.

June 26-28 "Our Mission of Love: I Send You Out," the 12th Annual Foundation for Liturgical Music Ecumenical Music Ministry Conference at Our Lady of the Valley Catholic Church in Birmingham. For more information please see the description on page 10, visit www.foundationforliturgicalmusic.org, or e-mail Nancy Ryan at nryan95@alltel.net.

June 29-July 4 Renewal Conference at the Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, North Carolina. For more information please call 828/692-9136, e-mail info@kanuga.org, or visit www.kanuga.org.

August 9 Annual Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage in Hayneville. For more information please see the story on page 1 or contact the Rev. Pat Wingo at pwingo@dioala.org or 205/715-2060 ext. 317.

August 24-29 Holy Works for Holy Places workshop led by Lark Howell of Anniston with assistance by Marnie Smith of Columbia, South Carolina, at the Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, North Carolina. For more information please call 828/692-9136, e-mail info@kanuga.org, or visit www.kanuga.org.

August 29-September 1 Solo flight XVIII intergenerational conference at the Kanuga Conference Center in Hendersonville, North Carolina. For more information please call 828/692-9136, e-mail info@kanuga.org, or visit www.kanuga.org.

August 29-31 Introduction to Centering Prayer Retreat at the Benedictine Retreat Center in Cullman. For more information please call 256/734-8302.



Barbara & Susan's Guide to the Empty Nest by Barbara Rainey and Susan Yates

One reviewer writes, "With my fourth child enrolled in a university a thousand miles away, I devoured *Barbara & Susan's Guide to the Empty Nest!* I especially appreciated the emphasis on taking time to reflect on my life story and then gearing up to embrace my future with both purpose and passion. We baby boomers always wanted to change the world; the good news is that we still can—as older, wiser, focused women of God."



Yours, Jack: Spiritual Direction from C.S. Lewis edited by Paul F. Ford

Similar to *A Year with C.S. Lewis*, this new book pulls inspirational daily readings from Lewis's collected letters. He spent a good portion of each day corresponding with some of the thousands of people he served as a spiritual director giving advice on the Christian life, and currently his letters are available only in their entirety in a set of three hefty tomes. Paul Ford's format of inspirational readings culled from the collection offers an easier look at this great author and spiritual leader's lifetime of correspondence.



All the People in the Bible: An A-Z Guide to the Saints, Scoundrels, and Other Characters in Scripture by Richard R. Losch

You'll find literally all of the Bible's characters in this comprehensive and fascinating new reference work by the Rev. Richard R. Losch, the retired rector of St. James' in Livingston. From Aaron to Zopar, Father Losch details each person in a lively narrative style that will have you flipping page after page. While the entries cover familiar and not-so-familiar figures, his focus falls more on expanding our knowledge about the lesser characters. The appendix's listing of every person named in the Bible and Apocrypha includes pronunciation, brief identification, and where he or she appears. (Signed copies are available at the bookstore.)

For more information about these and other books or to have a staff member research and special order a particular book, please contact the Episcopal Book Store, 2015 Sixth Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203; 205/323-2959; e-mail ebinfo@episcobooks.com. You can also visit the bookstore online at www.episcobooks.com. The bookstore is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. NOTE: The bookstore will be closed June 9-15 for annual inventory.

New Bell Tower at St. Matthew's-in-the-Pines



Joyce Parker in front of the bell named in her honor

Bishop Parsley blessed the completed bell tower at **St. Matthew's-in-the-Pines in Seale** during his recent parish visitation. He dubbed the bell "Joyce" in honor of Joyce Parker, who gave the bell to the parish, where she worships when she visits her home in Russell County.

Christ Church Honors Rector



On April 27 the members of **Christ Church in Albertville** celebrated Creation Sunday by planting a tree in honor of their rector, the Rev. Van Foreman, who was leaving the parish to begin serving the Church of the Resurrection in Rainbow City. The parish said a fond farewell to Van and his wife, Heidi, during a covered-dish luncheon.



You are cordially invited to a Reception and Book Signing celebrating the release of

All the People in the Bible: An A-Z Guide to the Saints, Scoundrels, and Other Characters in Scripture

by the Rev. Richard R. Losch, Retired Rector of St. James' in Livingston

Sunday, June 8, from 2 to 4 pm. in the Parish House

Touring Choirs To Perform at St. Thomas'



The Boys Touring Choir, The Girls Touring Choir, and The MasterSinger Choir from The Choir School at St. Peter's in Charlotte, North Carolina, will give a free concert at **St. Thomas' in Birmingham** on June 20 at 7:30 p.m. The nonprofit choir school offers superior music education and performance opportunities for boys and girls who have the ability and desire to work and learn and also to maintain in Charlotte a fine example of the English choral tradition. The Boys Choir made its debut in 1993, the Girls Choir in 1998, and the MasterSingers in 2003, all under the direction of Choirmaster Ben Outen.

The choirs, which consist of children from diverse cultural, religious, and socioeconomic backgrounds from the Charlotte area, have toured throughout North Carolina, the United States, and Great Britain. During the concert at St. Thomas' the choirs will sing separately and together, mixing classical and sacred music with folksongs and contemporary favorites and featuring two pieces commissioned in honor of their 15th anniversary season. *For more information please contact the parish office at 205/269-2700 or Marilee Manske at 205/981-6703 or acappella@charter.net.*

Monica Romano is leading an **intergenerational mission trip to Honduras July 18-28** on behalf of **St. John's in Montgomery**. If you are interested in joining the mission team or if you would like to take youth (age 16 or older) with you on the mission trip, please contact Monica at monica.a.romano@gmail.com or 334/262-1937 or 334/546-1848.

St. John's Hosts Zoo 2 U



St. John's in Montgomery held Zoo 2 U on Saturday, April 19, in conjunction with Earth Day. The Montgomery Zoo brought several of their animals and talked with the children about how each species is becoming endangered through loss of habitation or hunting. The children made snack treats of fruit, corn, peanut butter, and seeds for the zoo to take back to feed their animals.

Our diocesan Task Force for the Stewardship of Creation reminds us to remember the three Rs

(Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) when we clean out our garage, basement, or attic. Try finding new uses for items before you throw them out to be sent to the landfill! *For more information about environmental efforts specific to our diocese, please visit www.stewardsforcreation.org.*



MAILING ADDRESSES AND DEADLINES

Postmaster, parishes, and individuals, please send all address changes to Circulation Secretary Denise Servant, Carpenter House, 521 North 20th Street, Birmingham, AL 35203-2682; 205/715-2060 ext. 300; E-mail dservant@dioala.org.

Please send all submissions to Editor Norma McKittrick (205/979-2680). **Please e-mail text and photos** to Apostledit@aol.com or **mail them** to 2156 Kent Way, Birmingham, AL 35226.

The submission deadline for the **July/August** issue is **June 15**; the deadline for the **September/October** issue is **August 15**.