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SALUS CRUCE
*salvation by
the cross*



The Rev. Scott Lenoir Appointed Editor of MS Episcopalian

The Rev. Scott Lenoir recently accepted the position as editor of the Mississippi Episcopalian. Lenoir recently celebrated his 19th anniversary as a priest in the Diocese and has written numerous articles for the Episcopalian and other newspapers over the years.

Regarding plans for the Episcopalian, Lenoir said that he hopes to continue the quality work of former editor Lauren Autenbury as well as focus on "publishing more pictures, more pictures and more pictures with articles and more pictures about the life of the churches and people in the pews that make up our diocese."

"My goal is to publish a twelve page edition every month. We have so many stories of mission and ministry and plenty of professional and amateur writers and photographers in our ranks to tell the stories, which I hope will not only entertain us, but inspire us to employ the projects and programs we read about in our own back yards. Good communication facilitates good ministry."

Lenoir said he also hopes to broaden the advertising base of the paper "because our readership is the perfect target for many businesses."

Prior to entering seminary in 1985, Lenoir worked in broadcasting for several radio and TV stations, primarily at WABG-TV in the Greenwood-Greenville market. He was hired as a reporter/weatherman at WABG in 1978.

"Those were the days where the new guy caught the weather. No meteorologists then, just a weather wire and do the best you can. It was ironic that such an important, if not the most important, concern of the Delta was handled by the most inexperienced rookie."

A qualified weather person was eventually hired and Lenoir moved to anchor the six and ten newscasts and served as the assistant news director for two years before feeling a tug in a different direction.

Not identifying the "tug" too well, Lenoir ended up switching departments at WABG and became an account executive selling and producing advertising. He also was reassigned to host an early morning news and public service show.

In 1985, the call leading to ordination began when he entered seminary at the School of Theology at Sewanee. He graduated in 1988 and was placed as curate under the Rev. David Elliott at St. James' in Greenville. He was also the priest in charge of Redeemer, Greenville.

Lenoir was called to St. Stephen's in Indianola in 1990 where he served five years before being called back to St. James' as rector in 1995.

In 2000, the Lenoir family left the Delta for the Mississippi Coast where he served as Vicar of St. Pierre's in Gautier. He currently serves as Vicar at St. Mary's in Lexington.

Lenoir and his wife, Harriett, celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary in February. They have one child, Christy Rucker, 24, of Abilene, Texas and two grandchildren: Brendon, 4, and Taylor, 6 months.

Trustees of The Diocese of Mississippi – 2007

Trustees of the Diocese of Mississippi (a non-profit corporation) is the legal entity which holds all church property and investments for the benefit of the Episcopal Church in Mississippi. Under the bylaws the Bishop serves as President of the corporation with four elected lay trustees serving staggered terms and a fifth lay person who serves one year by appointment of the Bishop. Those serving in 2007 were Van Duncan, Michael Strojny, Lynn Jenkins, John Davis, and Holmes Adams, who are members of parishes in Jackson, Gulfport and Columbus. Meeting with the Trustees were Ed Thurmond, Treasurer of the Diocese; Mrs. Kathryn W. McCormick, Secretary of the Diocese, and Granville Tate, Diocesan Chancellor.

During 2007 the Trustees held four meetings and conducted other business by conference calls and email. Corporate officers for the year were Van Duncan, Vice President; Lynn Jenkins, Secretary; Kathryn W. McCormick, Treasurer, and D. Carl Black, Jr., Assistant Secretary.

The Trustees continued to work with those congregations whose property was destroyed or badly damaged by Hurricane Katrina. A Diocesan line of credit enabled St. Patrick's, Long Beach, to purchase a new site, and a SBA loan was secured for St. Mark's, Gulfport, for its new facilities.

Other property matters concluded were sale of the former vicarage at Bolton and sale of a right of way at Holy Cross, Olive Branch. Mineral leases were approved for interests in Bolton and at Gray Center. The Gibbons Fund enabled repairs to be made to the Chaplain's residence in Oxford and to the Bishop's residence. The Chancellor assisted Christ Church, Vicksburg, with funds provided by Gibbons, in resolving title issues that arose regarding cemetery lots given to that parish.

All Saints School, Vicksburg, ceased its operations after the end of the 2006-2007 school year. The Trustees, as a major creditor of the school, continued to provide interim financing to enable the school to meet debt service requirements and maintain the property. All Saints is owned by the Dioceses of Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and Western Louisiana, all of whom have been requested to assist in maintenance financing. The property is being marketed by the All Saints Board, and it is hoped that a sale or lease of the property will occur in the near future.

A new fund to be provided by the Estate of Virginia Smith was accepted. A grant of \$25,000 was made to provide working capital for the Honduras Medical Mission from the Gibbons Fund. The accumulated income of the James Cruise Fund was used to pay for \$15,000 of computer equipment for the Diocesan office. To enable Gray Center to pay its current accounts and operate on a balanced budget for 2008, a grant of \$52,000 from the Gibbons Fund was approved in December. The separate fund maintained for Gray Center has regained its original value and will be the source of funding for that ministry for 2008.

In prior years Diocesan trust funds were divided with those emphasizing income and stability under the management of Merrill Lynch and the growth portion handled by Vector Money Management. Through November 30 the income funds earned 6.96%, 9.52%, and 14.97% for the current year. The growth funds had returns of 13.89% to 14.52% with an overall return of 14.15%.

The Okolona Trustees, which include the Trustees of the Diocese, managed funds held for the benefit of African Americans. During the year grants were made for African American students at the Heritage School, St. Andrew's Episcopal School, Sewanee, and Winter Solstice. In addition funding of \$47,500 was approved for 2008 for the chaplain at Jackson State University.

Submitted by:

D. Carl Black, Jr., Assistant Secretary

Continually published for 132 years in the Diocese of Mississippi



Official news organ of the Bishop and the Diocese of Mississippi
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The Rt. Rev. Duncan M. Gray III
Ninth Bishop of Mississippi

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Retired Clergy Wellness

Retirement for anyone can become a lonely and unrewarding period of life exasperated by declining health. Clergy and spouses are no less vulnerable. Thus, during the past year, the bishop and chaplain to the retired clergy and spouses have communicated by card/phone/email on their birthday and wedding anniversary to affirm ongoing care and concern for their well being.

An annual get-together was held at Gray Center for the express purpose of continued fellowship within the diocese, to update the retirees about the mission of the church, and to address any concerns or questions that might be forthcoming. A representative from the Church Pension Group brought us up-to-date on the church pension program and health care.

We expect to DO IT AGAIN in 2008.

Submitted by:

The Rev. Thomas E. Tiller, Jr.

181st Annual Council

181st Annual Council

One Church in Mission Transforming

Locations listed are at the Natchez Convention Center

Where can I get a registration or nomination form?

Individual registration forms are available from your local church office, the diocesan office, and the website, www.dioms.org

What is the late registration fee?

After the January 4 deadline, registration fees increase from \$85 to \$100 per person.

How do I get something put on the tables in the main meeting room?

Any and all materials being placed on the tables at Annual Council must first be approved by the Secretary before being distributed by the vergers/pages. If your group wishes to pass out something in the main meeting hall, please contact Kathryn McCormick on or before January 18.

Can nominations be made from the floor of Council?

Yes. Although all pre-filed nominations are published in this issue of *The Mississippi Episcopalian*, further nominations can be made from the floor of Annual Council on Friday night. To nominate from the floor, complete a Nomination form and submit to the Secretary of Council, Kathryn McCormick, either at the Diocesan Office (on or before January 18) or in person on Friday, January 25. PLEASE NOTE: It would be EXTREMELY HELPFUL if the nomination form and a photo for persons being nominated from the floor on Friday night were submitted by the January 18 date in order to allow preparation of the Nominations Addendum which will be distributed on Saturday Morning.

QUESTIONS about nominations should be directed to Kathryn McCormick, 601-948-5954 or kwmccormick@dioms.org.

FRIDAY, January 25

1:30 – 6:00 p.m.

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

REGISTRATION

.Council Committee meetings

Hearings on Council Resolutions, *Main Hall*

Newcomer orientation

OPENING SERVICE OF EVENING PRAYER

Evening Prayers

Commissioning of newly licensed worship leaders

Bishop's Address

FIRST BUSINESS SESSION

Report of the Credentials Committee

Dispatch of Business Committee

Welcome by Trinity Church, Natchez

Nominations and Elections Committee

DIOCESAN RECEPTION

SATURDAY, January 26

7:30 - 10:30 a.m.

8:30 a.m.

9:00 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m.

5:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

REGISTRATION continues

MORNING PRAYERS

BUSINESS SESSIONS

First Ballot

Presentations and Committee reports

Budget 2008

NOON DAY PRAYERS

COUNCIL LUNCHEON

BUSINESS SESSION

Third ballot

Presentations and Committee reports

CLOSING PRAYERS

Commissioning of newly elected officers

Business Session adjourns

Dinner / Dance

SUNDAY, January 27

9:00 a.m.

Hold for business

10:00 a.m.

Closing Eucharist

Reading of the Memorial Roll

Benediction and Adjournment

Nominations to the 181st Annual Council

TREASURER

Elect one lay person for one-year term.

Mr. Ed Thurmond, St. Mary's, Lexington; Delta Convocation

Treasurer; Retail merchant; Mission Committee; Past senior warden; Rotary Paul Harris Fellow; Former mayor; Past City Chamber of Commerce President; Past County Chamber of Commerce President; Past Director of Miss. Economic Development Council; Past chair of Salvation Army; Past chair of Red Cross; Diocesan treasurer since 1997; Alternate deputy to 2006 General Convention; Finance committee; Insurance and Compensation Review committee; Okolona Trustee; Past chair of Cursillo; Past chair of School for Small Churches; Diocese of South Florida Cursillo Leaders Workshop staff; Chair of Cursillo Leaders Workshop in Diocese of Alabama

Special Gifts: Organizational skills and experience



The Very Rev. Bruce McMillan, Christ Church, Holly Springs; Northern Convocation

Rector-Christ Church, Holly Springs; Member of Holly Springs Housing Authority Board of Commissioners; Trustee, University of the South; President of Friends of the Library; Dean of Northern Convocation; Association for Hispanic Ministry at St. Peter's, Oxford; Executive Committee; Finance Committee; Music & Liturgy Committee

Special Gifts: As an alumnus of the college, I have a commitment to the school, and I am most willing to make all meetings.

Expectations: Further opportunities to serve Sewanee and support her growth



ECCLESIASTICAL TRIAL COURT

Elect two clergy for three-year term.

Elect one lay person for three-year term.

TRUSTEES OF THE DIOCESE

Elect one lay person for four-year term.

LAY

Mr. Michael Strojny, St. Mark's, Gulfport; Coast Convocation

Senior Partner Strojny & Strojny Financial Services; Board of Directors Coast Transit Authority; Acted as advisor to mayor of Biloxi; Served in many civic organizations; Past member of Diocese Trustees

Special Gifts: 30 years accounting senior partner, 25 years investment advisor

Expectations: Attempt to help the Diocese make wise decisions with its trust money, and make sure investments are securely invested and receive an excellent rate of return



THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Elect two clergy for three-year term.

Elect two lay persons for three-year term.

CLERGY

The Rev. Patrick Sanders, St. James', Greenville; Delta Convocation

Curate-St. James', Greenville; Diocesan Coordinator of Youth; President, Greenville Renaissance Scholars Board of Directors; Camp Director for Special Session I; Division of Youth Coordinator; Diocesan Staff

Special Gifts: Energy and vision

Expectations: To represent the Delta and to create awareness of the needs of that particular area of our diocese.



TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

Elect one clergy for three-year term.

CLERGY

The Rev. David Elliott, III, St. Andrew's, Jackson; Central Convocation

Retired priest and chaplain-University of Mississippi; Curate and chaplain-St. Peter's; Teacher-All Saints School; Canon-St. Andrew's; Rector (St. James', Greenville; Holy Trinity, Vicksburg); Associate rector-St. James', Jackson; Habitat for Humanity; Katrina Evacuee & Relief; Operation Shoestring; Mississippi Cures Board; Samaritan Centerboard; Oxford Co-op; Standing Committee; Executive Committee; Mission Strategy Committee; Sewanee Trustee in Tennessee; General Convention Deputy 1985-2003; Social and Urban Affairs Committee

Special Gifts: Being a graduate of both the college and the seminary, I have a working knowledge and love for the mountain.

Expectations: To fulfill the duties of a trustee through attending meetings, casting votes, and maintaining the integrity of the University



Ms. Emily Williams, St. Columb's, Madison; Central Convocation

Marketing Representative for Mississippi Diagnostic Imaging Center; Past service at St. Columb's-Vestry; Senior Warden; Search committee; Co-chair ECS and Sunday School; Current member of Vision and Planning Committee; DOK; Altar Guild; ECW; Served as alternate

Special Gifts: I do know how to work hard, and I do know the importance of the vestry in all situations. I love this church and diocese and am willing to help where I can.



Nominations to the 181st Annual Council

THE STANDING COMMITTEE

Elect one presbyter for four-year term; elect one for unexpired term (One year).

Elect one lay person for four-year term

PRESBYTER

The Rev. Dr. William Ndishabandi, All Saints/Jackson State University, Jackson; Central Convocation

Rector, mentor, Christian educator and spiritual counselor; All Saints church-Jackson State University Community; South Jackson Ministerial Association, Delta; Domestic Violence counseling; Vice president Lee Elementary School PTA; Mentor for Oakley Training School; Habitat for Humanity; Our House, Inc.; Domestic Violence; Boys and Girls Club; former member of Executive Committee; Member of Diocesan Strategy Committee; Spiritual Director Cursillo Movement; Spiritual Director Kairos in Mississippi, Mission Mississippi



Special Gifts: Passion for the ministry, spiritual leadership, experiential church leadership and vision planning

Expectations: Opportunity to share my spiritual gifts for building God's kingdom, and a chance to serve my diocese

The Very Rev. Chan Osborn de Anaya, Christ Church, Vicksburg; Old River Convocation

Rector of Christ Episcopal Church; Cradle Episcopalian; Oblate of Benedictine Monastery; Licensed Spiritual Director; Started Centering Prayer group at Christ Church; Have own Rule of Life and practice it; Mission Mississippi; Ecumenical worship leader; Active in many local outreach projects; Served last six months on Standing Committee, Dean of Old River Convocation; Spiritual Director for Music and Liturgy Conference; Clergy representative Ecclesiastical Trial Court; Representative to Domestic Missionary Partnership



Special Gifts: As I have served this last year, I have noticed that I bring the gifts of my deep spiritual journey as I call others into deepening theirs. I have a fresh heart for this work and bring enthusiasm and skills for drawing the committee into discerning God's presence and purpose. I have a varied and rich background: ICU/CCU nurse; real estate broker; stay at home mom; preschool art teacher, WIC volunteer, etc...

Expectations: We seem to find ourselves in times of great challenge. So many facets of our lives distract and diffuse our attention, making it hard to make commitments necessary to deepen our spiritual journey. We are in a culture that is spiritually hungry. I expect my role on the Standing Committee to reflect the hard work I am doing in my life, my church and my community to forge new ways to reignite this ancient old church of ours as we reclaim our place of spiritual depth, Christian love and service

Lay

Mr. Barry Howell, St. Columb's, Madison; Central Convocation

V.P. and General Manager, KEG Technologies, Inc. Madison, MS; St. Columb's Lay Eucharistic Minister; Priest Search Committee; Men's Club; Confirmation and Inquirer's class teacher; EYC; Sunday School teacher; Vestry; Senior Warden



Special Gifts: 25 years in the Episcopal Church; former

Senior Warden; former Vestry person; wrote St. Columb's endowment program; confirmation teacher; wrote St. Columb's by-laws; very experienced in church canons; very knowledgeable of church's liturgy, history, etc.

Expectations: To make a positive impact on the Diocese, its policies, and its strategic planning.

GENERAL CONVENTION DEPUTY

CLERGY

The Rev. Sylvia Czarnetzky, Chapel of the Cross, Madison; Central Convocation

Associate Rector, Chapel of the Cross; In Sumner, started a Great Books chapter in the Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility; Started a read-aloud program at Bearden Elementary School; Board member, West Tallahatchie Habitat for Humanity; Started parish Giving Tree for Christmas presents for area needy families; Currently, Commission on Ministry; Screening Committee (Presbyters) for COM; Co-Facilitator (with David Johnson) of Post Ordination Consultation; Formerly, Member of Standing Committee (4-year term, including 1 year as president); Presider and celebrant at Diocesan Council 2007 in Bishop's absence; Gray Center Board; Dean of Delta Convocation (1st woman dean in the diocese); member Diocesan Review Committee



The Rev. Zabron "Chip" Davis, Trinity, Natchez; Old River Convocation

Rector, Trinity, Natchez; Priest-in-charge Christ Church, Church Hill; Board of Trustees, Trinity Episcopal Day School; Board of Trustees, Natchez Regional Medical Center; Commission on Ministry; Chair, Examining Chaplains; Conflict Resolutions consultant; Diocesan Review Committee; General Convention Deputy 1997, 2000, 2003, 2006; Member State of the Church committee of the House of Deputies; Member Prayer Book Liturgy and Music legislative subcommittee of General Convention 2003 & 2006



Special Gifts: If elected, this will be my 5th time to serve as a General Convention Deputy. My experience, knowledge for the church, and a love for the Diocese of MS

The Rev. Canon David Johnson, Diocesan Office, Jackson; Central Convocation

Canon to the Ordinary; Former rector, Resurrection, Starkville; Former vicar, St. Patrick's, Long Beach; Former curate, Trinity, Pass Christian; Chair, Presbyter Discernment Committee; Commission on Ministry; Safe Church Trainer and Committee; POC Supervisor; Vacancy and Parish Consultant; General Convention Deputy 2003, 2006; Alternate 2000; Province IV Deployment Officers Convenor; National Fresh Start Faculty and Advisory Committee; Conference of Diocesan Executives; Ministry Committee of 75th General Convention



Special Gifts: Experience, wisdom, energy

Expectations: To serve fully and effectively

Nominations to the 181st Annual Council

The Rev. David Knight, St. Patrick's, Long Beach; Coast Convocation

Rector, St. Patrick's since 2004; Former Curate, St. James', Greenville; Board member- Coast Episcopal School; Board member-Camp Coast Care Advisory Board; Recent board member-LESM; Long Beach clergy associate; Mission Mississippi; Alternate deputy, General Convention 2006; Chair New Church Starts; Vocare Spiritual Director; Honduras Medical Mission; CBG staff; Diocesan Strategy committee; Congregational Redevelopment committee; Alternate deputy GC 2006; Gathering of Leaders group; work with National Church Director of Mission

Special Gifts: Experience at GC 2006; desire to serve on evangelism and mission committees; numerous and varied connections throughout wider church through Katrina relief efforts

Expectations: To be a voice for evangelism and mission; to serve our diocese and wider church with energy and passion; to represent our diocese in the councils of the wider church



The Very Rev. Bruce McMillan, Christ Church, Holly Springs; Northern Convocation

Rector of Christ Church, Holly Springs for 12 years; New dean of Northern Convocation; Member of Holly Springs Housing Authority Board of Commissioners; President-Friends of the Library; Association for Hispanic Ministry at St. Peter's, Oxford; Executive Committee; Finance Committee; Music & Liturgy Committee

Special Gifts: I enjoy collaborative work and do good work under time constraints.

Expectations: Work. Work under pressure and a greater understanding of the inner works of ECUSA.



The Very Rev. Edward O'Connor, St. Andrew's, Jackson; Central Convocation

Dean, Cathedral Parish of St. Andrew's; Standing Committee, Member-COM, COM-Presbyters Discernment, COM-Young Adult Discernment; Camp Director; LESM Board

Special Gifts: Great passion, love for the Episcopal Church, and belief in the governance and structure of the church

Expectations: Time, patience and a willingness to listen and allow for the movement of God's Holy Spirit



The Rev. George Woodliff, Trinity, Yazoo City; Delta Convocation

Rector, Trinity, Yazoo City; Chairman, Yazoo City Ministerial Association; Chaplain, Boys & Girls Club Board; Spiritual Formation Committee; Theology Committee; Theological Convocation Committee

Special Gifts: Faith and clarity of thought



LAY

Mr. Phillip Carpenter, Chapel of the Cross, Madison; Central Convocation

Commercial Real Estate Broker; Vestry; Stewardship chairman; Parish activities chairman; Usher; Rotary; Member of Inner-City Board of Directors; Cursillo #76; Sewanee Trustee

Special Gifts: A love for maintaining The Episcopal Church's relationship with the Anglican Communion and protecting and preserving the faith in Jesus Christ carried as our Lord and Savior

Expectations: To attend and participate in all required meetings and to serve the Diocese by promoting the concepts disclosed the previous questions.



Dr. Anita George, Church of the Resurrection, Starkville; Tombigbee Convocation

Retired College Professor; Educational Consultant; Former vestry member; Board member William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation; Commission on Ministry; Discernment Sub-Committee; Panama Companion Diocese Committee; Chair, Anti-Racism Committee; Co-Chair, Education Committee, General Convention

Special Gifts: Devotion to Christ; devotion to the Episcopal Church; devotion to Christ's people; and devotion to justice

Expectations: To continue anti-racism work and education committee work; to continue to be a Mississippi voice for justice



Mrs. Bobbie Marascalco, Holy Trinity, Vicksburg; Old River Convocation

Owner of Peterson's Art & Antiques; Retired R.N.; Current – Co-Chair 2007 Summer Mission Project working with mission on the Bay; Building for Mission Committee; Breakfast Guild; St. Martha's Guild; Lector; Nursery volunteer; Previously served as senior warden, vestry member, stewardship Chairman, ECW President and Turkey Dinner Chairman; Vicksburg Art Association, Sampler Antique club, and previously board member of Vicksburg Foundation for Historic Preservation; Cursillo; Board of Trustees for All Saints Episcopal School; Annual Council and participated in the first Living into Our Baptism Program; Alternate Deputy to the 2006 General Convention

Special Gifts: Organizational skills and a willingness to listen to all viewpoints. The knowledge that there are always at least two sides to every issue

Expectations: The hope of being a part of a church continuing to mend



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Nominations to the 181st Annual Council

**Canon Kathryn Weathersby McCormick -
St. Andrew's, Jackson, Central Convocation**

Canon for Administration and Finance; Secretary of the Diocese of Mississippi; Deputy to General Convention 2000, 2003 and 2006 serving on Church Pension Fund Committee 2003 (member) & 2006 (secretary); Member and secretary, State of the Church Committee of the House of Deputies, 2006-2009; Chair, Joint Standing Committee for Nominations 2003-2006; CREDO faculty, Province IV Executive Committee, secretary; Diocesan ECW past president; ECW Triennial Delegate, 1991-1997; ECW Triennial Elections Committee, chair; ECW Triennial Registration chair; Conference on Diocesan Executives, member and past president; Past diocesan ECW President; Council delegate several times; Former vestry member; Finance Committee; Diocesan Stewardship Committee.



Special Gifts: I feel that as a diocesan staff person, I offer a unique perspective to the many issues presented at General Convention. Working closely with parishes and missions in the diocese, working with the provincial leadership and serving on the State of the Church committee, I have knowledge of perspectives from different areas. I have a love for the Diocese of Mississippi, and I believe my previous deputy experience will serve this diocese well.

Expectations: I expect to prepare and study the issues coming before General Convention and to fully take part in all phases of General Convention.

Mr. Danny Meadors, St. Patrick's, Long Beach; Coast Convocation

Records Facility Manager, City of Gulfport; Currently serving as verger, past jr. warden, treasurer, vestry member, and mission committee member; Serving on building committee, Board of Ocean Springs; Long Beach Interfaith Hospitality Network; Secretary of the Standing Committee; Chair Licensed Lay Ministry, Past member of Executive Committee; Served as Alternate Deputy General convention 2003 and 2006; Active member of the Verger's Guild Episcopal Church



Dr. Edward Sisson, St. Peter's, Oxford; Northern Convocation

Professor of Anthropology at the University of Mississippi; Former member of vestry; Former senior warden; Former junior warden; Member of last St. Peter's search committee; EFM and DOCC graduate; Eucharistic Minister and Eucharistic Visitor; Brotherhood of St. Andrew; Lector; Hispanic Ministry; Prison Ministry; Member of last discernment committee; Former delegate to Annual Council; Former member of Amos Network; Translator at Baptist Memorial Hospital; Buddy Walk for Mid-South Downs Syndrome Assn.; Former member of Diocesan Strategy Committee, subcommittee on new Congregational Starts; Compensation Review committee; Finance Committee; Standing committee (president 2001), Executive Committee (vice president 1996,1997); Trustee of the Diocese Companion Diocese Committee, Peace and Justice Committee; Transition committee; Vision Steering Committee; Ministries with Gay and Lesbian Persons; Friend of Gray Center; Presently member of Honduras Medical Mission Committee (chair 1997-2000; co-chair 2006-present)



Special Gifts: Idealism tempered with practicality. Broad experience in the church at the local, diocesan, and national levels. Serious student with willingness to study and pray about contemporary and eternal issues facing the church. Willingness to listen to the arguments of others and form an independent opin-

ion regardless of personal cost. Ability to speak Spanish.

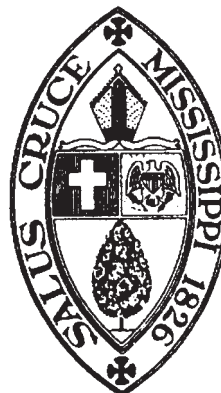
Expectations: General convention will be challenging spiritually and intellectually; there will be long hours and hard work, and there will be wonderful opportunities to worship and celebrate God's grace with Mississippi Deputies, other Episcopalians, and Anglicans from all around the U.S. and the globe.

Mr. Ed Thurmond, St. Mary's, Lexington; Delta Convocation

Treasurer; retail merchant; Mission Committee; Past senior warden; Rotary Paul Harris Fellow; Former mayor; Past City Chamber of Commerce President; Past County Chamber of Commerce President; Past Director of Miss. Economic Development Council; Past chair of Salvation Army; Past chair of Red Cross; Diocesan treasurer since 1997; Alternate deputy to 2006 General Convention; Finance committee; Insurance and Compensation Review committee; Okolona Trustee; Past chair of Cursillo; Past chair of School for Small Churches; Diocese of South Florida Cursillo Leaders Workshop staff; Chair of Cursillo Leaders Workshop in Diocese of Alabama



Special Gifts: Organizational skills and experience



De Colores
Gift Items

Beemon Drugs
Maywood Mart, Jackson
601-366-9431

"Look with mercy, O God our Father, on all whose increasing years bring them weakness, distress, or isolation. Provide for them homes of dignity and peace; give them understanding helpers, and the willingness to accept help; and, as their strength diminishes, increase their faith and their assurance of your love.

This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

A prayer for the Aged,

PETER CLARK, OWNER
(601) 856-0931
MADISON STATION SHOPPING CENTER
P.O. Box 512
MADISON, MS 39130

BCP p. 830

WORSHIP LEADER RENEWALS

CANON 18 SECTION 1. The Bishop of this Diocese shall determine which of those categories of licensed lay ministers authorized by Title III, Canon 4, of the National Canons of the Episcopal Church are to be licensed in this diocese. Individuals shall not be licensed until they have completed that education and training required by Title III, Canon 4, and by such additional training as the Bishop may require.

CENTRAL CONVOCATION

Brandon, St. Luke's: Mara Jean Johnson, Archie McKay, Melba Collier.

Brandon, St. Peter's: Robert Houston, David DeLeeuw, Lisa Maisel, Ross Hartford, Ralph Maisel, Finley Knox, Dorothy Fowler, Charles Fowler, Harry Perdue, Rob Benson.

Canton, Grace: John R. Childress, Sr., Mary Jane Dow, A. P. Durfey, Jr., Holly G. H. Derickson, Marian Durfey, Robert Killelea.

Clinton, Creator: Marti Williams, Michael Milone, Jackie Tyer, Alice Read.

Forest, St. Matthew's: Mary Jo Walsh.

Jackson, All Saints': Cindy Gavette, Jolinda Charbonnet, Emma Magee

Jackson, St. Andrew's: Jacqueline Mohle, Michael S. Flannes, Bill Howard, Jr., Margaret McLarty, John Anderson, Jr., D. Carl Black, Jr., Peggy Newton, Edward Nicholson, Vernon King, Bob Thompson, Dorothy Triplett, Laura Clapp, Diana O'Toole.

Jackson, St. Christopher's: Goldia Revies.

Jackson, St. James': Mary Jane Duncan, Ellen Ford, Jack Fowler, Margaret M. Fowler, John Gibson, Janice Jordan, Hal D. Miller, Jr., Lisa Moore, John Elton Rawson, Mary Crouch Rawson, Yvonne Rogers, Ralph E. Sebrell, Pat S. Sebrell, Heber Simmons, Catchings B. Smith, Michael Upton, Albert Bozeman White, Margaret G. Yerger, L. Buford Yerger, John Slater, Peggy Bowles, W. S. Murphy, Jr., Barbara Block Fowler.

Jackson, St. Mark's: Barbara Beadle Barber, Dixon Wesley Lindsay.

Jackson, St. Philip's: Pam David, Margaret Buhner, Mary Frances Ponder, Lester Hailey, William Buhner, II, A. Frederick Parker, Patience Rall, Glynn Bradshaw, Deborah Hanson, Kenneth Bennett, Thomas Andrew Welch, Julie Breland, Jim Carrington, Grace Duckworth, Gerald McWhorter, Lucette Bennett, Mary Milam, Beverly Herbert, Jan Evers, Ben Preston, Jill Cole Bullard, Nancey Scott.

Madison, Chapel of the Cross: Patricia H. Evans, William Fanning, Ella W. Weston, Ann Homer Cook, Annetta Allred, William Horne, Jr., Robert Wise, Michael Bounds.

Ridgeland, St. Catherine's: Jona Keeton

Ridgeland, St. Columb's: Beatrice Langston Berry, L. Brooks Derryberry, June Steinberger, Siegfried Steinberger, William Girod, Malcolm McMillin, Ernest Vanlandingham, Bob May, Janis Quinn, Floyd Sulser, Jean Roser, Howard Roser, Gregory Grant, Floyd King, Joycelyn Stabler.

Terry, Good Shepherd: Ed Peters, Norma Ainsworth, Patricia Rush.

COAST CONVOCATION

Bay St. Louis, Christ Church: Madeleine Ammentorp, Catherine Larsen.

Biloxi, Redeemer: Laura Frederick, William John Thomas, Dorothy Byrd, Richard Wilder, Virginia Chavez, Malcolm Jones, James Wheeler, Andrea Balias, John Faires, John Nisewaner.

Diamondhead, St. Thomas': H. Edward Weidlich, Jr, Sally Kappus, Robert Bruce, James R. Williams.

Gautier, St. Pierre's: Thomas P. Langley, Donald Waddell, B. A. Thornton, Suzanne Cox.

Gulfport, St. Mark's: John M. Harral, Walter V. Williams, Jerome H. Carver, Larry Killebrew, Suanna Smith, Terry Helms, Jamie Hobbs, Ruthie Wilder, Mary Nichols, Patti Sneed, James Butler, James Keith.

Gulfport, St. Peter's: Robert Daniels, Jr., Maria Watson, Joy Jennings, Sue Cassady.

Long Beach, St. Patrick's: Danny Ray Meadors, Douglas MacCullagh, Susan Gregory, Clelie McCandless, Kitty MacCullagh, Dove Green.

Ocean Springs, St. John's: Joanne P. Calhoun, Joseph William Calhoun, Lena Melton, Mary Jo Morgan.

Pascagoula, St. John's: Chester Dobrowski, W. R. Nichols, Jr., Robert McDonald, Mary Warfield, Robert L. Donald, John Goff, Terry Goff, Lee Crowe Jr., Kay McBroom, Robert McBroom, Janet Williams.

Pass Christian, Trinity: Gordon D. Burton, Evelyn A. Gregory, Thomas C. Shellnut, Stephen D. McNair.

Picayune, St. Paul's: Daniel Herrington, Lucia Terry, Willard Tucker, Patrick Rutherford, Barbara Reid, Frances Crawley.

DELTA CONVOCATION

Cleveland, Calvary: Carol L. Jones, Robert T. Ragan, Clay Rayner Cheryl Line, Evelyn Lyon, Lee Aylward, Keith Pethway, Hilda Povall, Steven Craddock

Greenville, St. James': Walter B. Swain, Jr., Ashley Hines, Dot Meeks, Dotti Lowe, Mike Boyd, Tom Conte, Eugene Bogen.

Greenwood, Nativity: James Amandus Barrett, Jr., Mary Bishop, Jeffrey Lee Cole, Robert Hardeman, Mary Rose Carter, Charlot S. Ray, Henry Flautt, Hank Lamb, *Philip Barbour.

Indianola, St. Stephen's: David B. Allen, William E. Baker, Walton Gresham III, James H. Lear, Richard G. Noble, E. S. Van Cleve, Jr., Eleanor Failing, Woods Eastland, Thomas Gresham.

Lexington, St. Mary's: H. L. Nichols, III, James Lundy

Rolling Fork, Chapel of the Cross: Ruth G. Baggett, Anne W. Weissinger.

Sumner, Advent: Stephen Vaught

Yazoo City, Trinity: Janet C. Nail, Jill Woodliff, Laurie Cummings, Priscilla Harper, Robert Harper

NORTHERN CONVOCATION

Grenada, All Saints': Geoffrey Tetley, James J. Turner.

Holly Springs, Christ Church: Ray Smithers, Janey Fant, Richard Marsalis.

Michigan City, Calvary: Dottie Jenkins.

Oxford, St. Peter's: Michael de L. Landon, Ed Sisson, Patricia Rogers Lewis, Seth Walley, Holt Montgomery, Onaye Farrish, Donald Newlin, Kay Paris, Maurie White.

Southaven, St. Timothy: Joe Schmitt, Kim Leonard.

OLD RIVER CONVOCATION

McComb/Magnolia, Mediator/Redeemer: Curt Lamar, Judy Johnson.

Port Gibson, St. James: Frances Charles Nelson, Charles Marsalis, Katherine Bilbro..

Vicksburg, Christ Church: Brenda Benway, David Benway, Edwin L. Boren, Jane Calhoun, Michael J. Chaney, Timothy Lee Fagerburg, James R. Miller, Sharon S. Miller, Katherine Nordal, Margaret Sabol.

Vicksburg, Holy Trinity: Herbert Watson Jones, Mary Ruth Jones, Lee Davis Thames, John Cole, Patricia Smith.

Vicksburg, St. Alban's: Elizabeth Selby, Richard Eugene Price, Harvey Smith, Jr. Josie Williams

Vicksburg, St. Mary's: Linda Tolliver, Joscelyn A. Jarrett.

SOWASHEE CONVOCATION

Collins, St. Elizabeth's: K. Allan Pinkerton, Raymond Stites.

Columbia, St. Stephen's: Mark Stevens, Ann Simmons, Christine Fortenberry,

Hattiesburg, Ascension: Larry Mullican, Patricia Byrd, Kenneth Cantrell, George Gunter, Edward Brown, Rick Fortenberry, Susan Barfield, Rosalie Zimmerman.

Hattiesburg, Trinity: Sallamae H. Wilcox, Barbara Parker, Harvey Poole, Daniel Chase, Maggie Williams, Patty Bomboy, Sarah Wainwright., Fonda Brady, Lucia Perdue. **Laurel, St. John's:** Pat Landrum Myers, Eugene Harlow, Patricia Bailey, Mike Cockrell, John Jeffries.

Meridian, Mediator: Ann Glass Glazer, Dorothy Reeves, William Stallworth, Nancy Ziller, Sara Scaggs, E. Ann Milsted, Lois Downs, Tim Quick, Jean Garrison, James Robert Smith.

Meridian, St. Paul's: Nancy Arrington.

Philadelphia, St. Francis: Sandy Weatherford, Evelyn Perry, Chris Allen Baker.

TOMBIGBEE CONVOCATION

Aberdeen, St. John's: Velma Lettice Bowen, David Houston, III, Sallie Rowe,

Columbus, Good Shepherd: Nick Gault

Columbus, St. Paul's: Katharine E. Woods, Douglas N. Crowe, Robert Proffitt..

Corinth, St. Paul's: Robert Nelson, Olivia McIntyre, Christy Baird, Lew Perrigo, Jr.

Macon, Nativity: Joe S. Maury

Starkville, Resurrection: Thomas H. Handy, Guy Arnold Hargrove, Robert Collins, Mikell Vance, Lynn Phillips Gaines

Tupelo, All Saints': David R. Sparks, Nathan Duncan.

West Point, Incarnation: Rufus A. Ward, Jr.

Chancellor's Report 2007

The Chancellor of the Diocese attended the meetings of the Trustees of the Diocese, the Executive Committee, and assisted as requested. Additionally the Chancellor performed the tasks and duties below:

- ❖ Conducted research, rendered legal opinions, and conferred with the Bishop, the Canon to the Ordinary, the Canon for Administration and Finance, and lay leaders on a variety of issues affecting or involving the Diocese.

- ❖ Studied and reviewed Roberts Rules of Order, the Council Agenda, attended the Central Convocation pre-Council meeting at St. Andrews, Jackson, attended the Diocesan Council held at the Vicksburg Convention Center in Vicksburg, Mississippi, and assisted as requested.

- ❖ Reviewed the bi-monthly issues of Church Law and Tax Report regarding court decisions involving churches, parishes, dioceses, etc., and called to the attention of the Bishop and the Canon for Administration and Finance the matters of importance to this Diocese.

- ❖ Prepared an audit letter response to the public accounting firm auditing the financial statements of the Diocese, Trustees, and Duncan M. Gray Camp and Conference Center.

- ❖ Worked with the Canon for Administration and Finance on matters involving Diocesan Communications.

- ❖ Studied, reviewed, conferred and met with the Bishop, Canon for Administration and Finance, the Trustees and representatives of Merrill Lynch and Vector Money Management, Inc. involving the management of the Diocese's investment portfolio.

- ❖ Conferred with the Bishop, Trustees, and others, and worked with legal counsel representing All Saints School in Vicksburg on a number of financial and legal issues concerning the school, for which the Trustees are a creditor.

- ❖ Conferred with the Trustees, Clergy, and/or lay leaders, and prepared and/or reviewed documents and issues relating to real estate or loan transactions involving St. Patrick's, Long Beach; worked to modify an existing line of credit to the Trustees from Trustmark National Bank to be used for the acquisition of property along the Gulf Coast for possible relocation sites; the sale of the Bolton Rectory and two transactions for Holy Cross, Olive Branch involving the sale of an easement to BNSF Railway and a mutual easement with an adjoining landowner.

- ❖ Consulted with the Bishop, clergy and others and resolved issues involving certain cemetery plots conveyed by Christ Church, Vicksburg.

- ❖ Consulted with representatives of St. Philip's, Jackson and reviewed proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Parish.

- ❖ Conferred with the President of a Standing Committee of another Diocese concerning a matter affecting that Diocese then before the Standing Committee.

- ❖ Coordinated and advised St. Paul's, Corinth on an appeal before the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission on an employment matter.

- ❖ Worked on a settlement and prepared a release instrument involving matters arising out of a lease of property located in Greenville, Mississippi.

- ❖ Reviewed and commented on a construction agreement for St. James, Jackson.

- ❖ Worked on sales of property received by devise by the Trustees of the Diocese of Mississippi and also by All Saints, Tupelo.

- ❖ Reviewed and commented on a property usage inquiry concerning St. Mary's, Enterprise.

- ❖ Reviewed and revised a promissory note for a modification of a Clergy Housing Fund loan transaction.

- ❖ Conferred with the Bishop, Canon for Administration and Finance, and Deacon for Servant Ministry and Outreach on matters involving Lutheran Episcopal Services of Mississippi, Inc. and also on matters relating to a Memorandum of Understanding with Hope Credit Union involving the Hallelujah Housing Project.

- ❖ Conferred with the Bishop, the Canon to the Ordinary, the Canon for Administration and Finance, the Standing Committee, the Executive Committee, wardens and members of the clergy on ongoing issues involving Hurricane Katrina. These matters include working with the St. Patrick's, Long Beach on issues involving St. Patrick's insurance claim with Church Mutual Insurance Company.

Submitted by:

Granville Tate, Jr., Chancellor



Fostering Independence

Bridgeway Apartments in Picayune, Mississippi, provide assisted-living and supported-employment services for young men and women with developmental disabilities, while allowing the maximum level of independence for each individual.

- Fully accessible, custom-designed apartments
- A comfortable community room for recreational and social activities
- A safe location in a pleasant neighborhood
- Staff on duty 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

For more information about the Bridgeway Apartments contact: Lori Julian, Director of Development, at 601-799-5040 or via e-mail at lori.julian@st-francis.org.



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Education for Ministry - EFM

Education for Ministry is a program of the School of Theology at the University of the South. Designed to be a program of theological education by extension, it includes individual study and group theological reflection. Completion of the program takes four years (students only commit to one year at a time), during which students study the Old and New Testaments, church history, and twentieth century theology. Groups, having between six and twelve students, are led by a trained mentor and meet weekly for group seminars.

The purpose of EFM is to provide a comprehensive, experiential education in the foundations and message of our Christian faith. It is not a degree-granting program, nor is it meant to prepare one for ordained ministry. This experience helps laity to develop knowledge and confidence about the ministry we all share.

During the program term for fall 2006 through spring 2007, the diocese had 22 active groups, 181 students, and 31 trained mentors. Three mentor training events were held at Gray Center where 21 mentors received training. Mentors must receive training prior to taking on a group and thereafter, every 18 months.

EFM continues to be a strong program in Mississippi. Anyone interested in more information on starting a group should contact Peg Wahrendorff (601-482-5012). I would like to thank all the mentors for their dedication to this ministry and the students for their on-going studies.

Submitted by:
Peg Wahrendorff

Report to the Diocese from the Chaplain to the University of Southern Miss

Spring of 2006 began with many new opportunities. I continued to work with Luke Gautier, and the other student EYC leaders at Trinity. While doing so several other opportunities presented themselves: The Rev. Bill Stroop invited me to teach a confirmation class for youth at Trinity, and I also accepted an invitation to move the University Sunday evening service to Trinity, in order to coordinate with the youth group and include the college students who were leading the youth group. Our Wednesday on-campus Eucharist continued to be the staple of my ministry on campus. Some of the most meaningful moments in college ministry are in private conversations with individual students rather than group gatherings.

In addition to my University work, an opportunity to expand my ministry presented itself at last year's Council gathering. I had met the boys from St. Michael's Boys Home on their annual visits to the Church of the Ascension during Advent. We established a rapport during those visits, so I was invited to come down to Picayune once a week to celebrate Eucharist and have lunch with the boys. This led to a very rewarding relationship with the boys and staff until St. Michael's closing in November.

Other spring semester activities included guiding two student couples in pre-marital counseling as well as co-celebrating another student wedding with Father P.J. Curley at St. Michael Catholic Church in Vicksburg. Having both Happening and Happening Reunion in Hattiesburg further added to the fullness of the spring semester. I was also graced with the opportunity to preside over the Holy Week services at St. John's Laurel; a wonderful experience for me because the college students are normally on holiday for Easter.

Summer ushered in preparations for both my 3rd and 4th grade session and First Camp at Camp Bratton-Green as well as the weekly Freshman Preview fair on the Southern Miss campus. I was also able to attend my first Episcopal Chaplains Campus Ministry Conference in Seattle. Summer is always made short by the need to plan the upcoming fall semester.

Fall semester began in a traditional way at Southern Miss with Freshman Move-in Day. In addition to the Wednesday noon Ecumenical Eucharist, a Wednesday evening Eucharist was added in the Danforth Chapel on campus. Sunday evening became an opportunity for an informal gathering for an evening meal and community at a local restaurant with our Sunday Night Supper Club. In order to publicize and invite students to our services and gatherings, 5000 flyers were distributed to Southern Miss student via the student post office boxes. I was also fortunate to be invited to CREDO conference in October.

I thank the Diocese, the Rev. Susan Bear, and the Church of the Ascension for their continued support of my ministry as the Chaplain to the University of Southern Miss.

Submitted by:
The Reverend Bill Barfield+

ECOM (Episcopal Church at Ole Miss) 2007 At-A-Glance

On behalf of our faith community at the University of Mississippi, greetings and peace be with you! ECOM (Episcopal Church at Ole Miss) has been humbled and encouraged by a full and exciting year of campus ministry to the students, faculty, staff, and administration at Oxford. As the diocese and St. Peter's parish make possible our presence, we maintain a commitment to being the "Christian Faith Experience through Word, Sacrament, Fellowship, and Service" for all who will give us the chance. Your individual and corporate prayers, presence, and support have been felt and continue to sustain our existence. Therefore, I am excited to share some highlights from the past year.

WORSHIP. Sunday 5:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist at St. Peter's historically has been called the "college service". However, we have begun to call this traditional-yet-relaxed liturgy "worship in the evening", namely to broaden the pool of worshippers. Thus far, we have seen a positive outcome from this shift in conceptual language; an increasing number of worshippers are non-students of all ages, sorts, and conditions. This intentional shift has helped to share the ECOM understanding that all persons are encouraged to worship, whenever God's people gather to celebrate the Holy Eucharist. Sundays 7:45, 9:00, 11:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m. in Spanish, and Wednesdays 5:30 p.m. continue to see a wider spread of student attendance, still with the majority present for Sundays 5:30 p.m.

MUSIC and LITURGY. The ECOM Musicians have been an invaluable aspect of our life together, as the giftedness of each minister is quite beautiful. The guitar, piano, violin, harmonica, and occasional organ have enhanced the musical component of worship. We rely on the *ECOM Songbook* and *The Hymnal 1982* for song, as efforts carry on to include other resources, such as *Wonder, Love, and Praise, Life Every Voice and Sing II*, and *Taizé* songbook. Moreover, we are committed to providing worshippers with the wideness and depth of diverse liturgies and experiences associated with the Episcopal/Anglican tradition.

EDUCATION and FELLOWSHIP. During the fall and spring terms, Tuesday 8:00 p.m. *Exploring Our Faith* on campus at Barnard Observatory served as a weekly, chaplain-led time for students to engage matters of faith, study the Holy Scriptures, and inquire about the Episcopal/Anglican tradition. The months of June and July offered Wednesday 7:00 p.m. *Food and Faith* at the home of an ECOM Student Campus Peer Minister. There, students (and sometimes the chaplain) gathered to cook, pray, laugh, and have conversation about student life and faith matters. Throughout the year, natural student groups were formed and led to ongoing fellowship: one-on-one, as well as small groups at student residences and lobbies, coffee shops, bookstores, and local spots. Early September marked the kick-off of the new *Canterbury Crew*, a fellowship for graduate students and recent graduates. This energetic and rather diverse group met for lunch following a Sunday 11:00 liturgy, started new community, and planned events, such as participation in informal dinners, lunches, "Theology on Tap", and attendance of music/arts offerings. We continue to explore ways of increased fellowship among all students who associate themselves with ECOM and St. Peter's Parish.

SERVICE and OUTREACH. Year-round, undergraduate and graduate students along with parishioners and friends of St. Peter's come together on Thursdays for *MANNA: A Feeding Ministry*. Operated from St. Peter's Kitchen, *Manna* prepares and delivers balanced meals to multiple less-fed Oxonians, especially select residents of the Oxford Housing Authority and children/families of *LeapFrog* (parish after-school program for at-risk first and second graders). Students serve as St. Peter's EYC Leaders (Wednesdays 5:30 p.m.) of four groups: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12 under the direction of the parish youth minister. A large number of students serve as tutors, enrichment volunteers, and car-pool drivers for *LeapFrog*, which meets most academic weeks on Monday-Wednesday and Tuesday-Thursday at St. Peter's and other locations. Spring break plans included "Mission to Manhattan II", whereby students and the chaplain served in various Episcopal outreach ministries in Manhattan, Bronx, and Harlem. Now, plans are underway for more mission trips in 2008, including Camp Coast Care and New Orleans.

In the rewarding world of campus ministry, there always is more without sufficient time to report it all. We invite you to visit us online at WWW.ECOMOXFORD.ORG to learn more ECOM.

Submitted by:
The Rev. Ollie V. Rencher
Chaplain and Assistant Rector

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Mississippi State University

This was a fruitful year for mission and ministry at Mississippi State University—The People's University. The Episcopal Canterbury Fellowship at MSU is the active Episcopal presence to and on the MSU campus, as well as functioning within the context of the life of the Church of the Resurrection, Starkville. "Canterbury" is a long-standing cooperative ministry of Resurrection and the diocese and serves the spiritual needs of Episcopalians and others alike at MSU—those wanting to further their Christian journeys, those questioning and exploring their beliefs, and those seeking answers and a safe place to ask questions and engage with their faith and doubts. Our year has afforded us ample opportunity for fellowship, worship and servant ministry, as well as time for reflection and engagement of scripture along with theological discussion and personal growth.

This year our students have been involved in many aspects of parish life at Resurrection, including altar guild membership and serving as lectors, instrumentalists, choristers and oblation bearers. MSU students again took active roles in assisting with the parish's annual Easter Egg Hunt, the St. Francis Day Celebration with Blessing of the Animals, and the second annual All Hallows' Eve Celebration with the Blessing of the Trick-or-Treaters. Students serve on the St. Joseph's Guild (buildings and grounds), as EYC coordinator, assistant coordinator and volunteers, and have assisted as Christian formation educators and substitute teachers. We are pleased to have had Canterbury student representation on the parish's rector search committee and to have had a Canterbury student serve as one of Resurrection's alternates to Annual Council of the diocese in 2007. Canterbury students take an active role in the life of Resurrection and beyond.

The Canterbury Fellowship meets whenever school is in session (fall, spring and summer terms), offering year-round programming. Regular gatherings generally include a meal (graciously and deliciously provided by parishioners), worship, discussion, fellowship and fun. Our weekly meetings are held on Wednesday evenings in the Canterbury Lodge at Resurrection. Students participate fully in the Sunday worship services of the parish as well. Canterbury's discussion, study and worship this year have covered a variety of topics, including: outreach and servant ministries, Holy Scripture/Bible study, current events and everyday theology, and more. Monthly, beginning in the fall semester, Canterbury has used *God's Mission in the World: An Ecumenical Christian Study Guide on Global Poverty and the Millennium Development Goals*—a curriculum and resource guide published jointly by the national church and the ELCA—to engage in an in-depth reflection on the MDGs and ways to respond/act. Our liturgies have continued to focus on the *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*, as well as major holy days.

In addition to Wednesday programming, two other offerings were continued in 2007. The first, *Pews, Views & Brews*, involves a reading, discussion and fellowship opportunity for students to explore their faith and beliefs through inquiry in a small group setting. During the spring and fall semesters, we met monthly at local pubs and restaurants to consider two titles: *Peculiar Treasures: A Biblical Who's Who* by Frederick Buechner and *A Wing and a Prayer: A Message of Faith and Hope* by Katharine Jefferts Schori. The *Peculiar Treasures* offering also included parallel scripture readings based on Buechner's particular character vignettes. The groups were a success again this year. Our hope is that *PVB* will continue to attract both MSU students and more of Resurrection's 20- and 30-somethings. Engaging with theology and scripture in an informal, public setting continues to be a positive experience, helping participants to solidify some of their core values and beliefs and to be able to speak more openly about issues surrounding biblical interpretation and personal/Episcopalian experience.

Our popcorn theology offering—*Dinner & a Movie & Compliment, TOO!*—affords students the chance to meet monthly in community, cook and/or share a meal, watch a film with theological implications, discuss it and round the evening with worship. Both monthly offerings continue to attract a steady core of students.

Other activities in which a number of our students participated in 2007 include: attending Annual Council of the Diocese of Mississippi in Vicksburg; participating in a spring work weekend on the Mississippi Gulf Coast at Mission on the Bay; along with Resurrection, again hosting the University's Ash Wednesday Service; participating in Inquirers' Classes (several were confirmed in a variety of locations around the diocese); along with the parish EYC, hosting a *Pub Quiz* event and our second annual *Bratton-Green Eggs & Ham* breakfast to raise money to send local kids in need to Camp Bratton-Green (and helping raise awareness of Bishop Gray's Tent Meeting goals); serving as staff, permanent staff and "permanent grass" for summer sessions at Bratton-Green; co-sponsoring along with MSU's Counseling

Services the annual *Clothesline Project™* and *Take Back the Night™* campaigns, campus-wide offerings to raise awareness of sexual assault and its prevention; hosting the fall Vocare overnight staff training at the Canterbury Lodge; serving as rector (May graduate) and staff for and went as pilgrims to Vocare in the spring and/or fall semesters; helping staff diocesan spring DOY weekends; serving on Winter Solstice staff; and beginning a painting project on the interior of the Canterbury Lodge. Canterbury was pleased to have attended and participated in the Celebration of a New Ministry at Resurrection on November 14 as we welcomed the Rev. Lee Winter, rector. Our students once again participated in Angel Tree gift shopping and delivery through Resurrection as the semester ended for the winter holidays, as well as helping support sustainable living standards through gift giving to both Episcopal Relief and Development and Heifer International.

On September 20, a delegation of five from the Canterbury Fellowship at MSU attended the *Humanity Renewed, Restored, Re-Centered in God* ecumenical worship service in New Orleans with the Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Rowan Williams, archbishop of Canterbury, preaching. This was a wonderful moment for our students and chaplain to witness the larger Church at worship and work, celebrating with it in historic times—continuing the work of rebuilding and reconciling in New Orleans and along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, rededicating the Morial Convention Center, witnessing the sustained recovery support (spiritual, financial and more) of the House of Bishops and member dioceses to and for the dioceses of Louisiana and Mississippi and hearing from Archbishop Williams at a particularly difficult and crucial time in the life of the national church and its relationship to the larger Anglican Communion. This was a powerfully unifying moment both ecumenically within the life of New Orleans and also within the life of this branch of the Anglican Church as many people came together to celebrate God's goodness and a common life of prayer in thanksgiving.

The Episcopal chaplaincy at State continues to be visible through its presence and involvement in a number of on-campus events, activities and engagements. The Canterbury chaplain and students participate in discovery and orientation days, handing out materials and answering questions about the Canterbury Fellowship, as well as gathering new membership information and contacting freshman and transfer students through personal letters and emails as they head off to school. As part of *Canterbury Tails!*, we tailgated at MSU's homecoming football game. For the third consecutive year, Canterbury gave its sponsorship to, endorsement of and participation in the Institute of Interfaith Dialog's annual dinner held at MSU, celebrating with the interfaith community in Iftar, the breaking of the Ramadan fast. Canterbury also continues its long affiliation with the University Common Ministry, the association of campus ministers and ministry groups. Over the course of the year, the chaplain has met with students referred from the University's student counseling center, in addition to providing pre-marital counseling sessions for a number of couples. Upon invitation and/or official appointment, the chaplain continues to function in various membership capacities on committees within the structure of the University by serving as a non-scientist/community member of the Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects in Research, as well as serving as an ongoing member on an interview panel for new staff hires. In 2007, the chaplain represented the campus faith communities by offering invocations at the spring and winter University commencement exercises and, in the fall semester, offered the invocation at the dedication of the MSU Welcome Center.

A huge thank-you is given to the people of Resurrection, Starkville, and to you, the Diocese of Mississippi for your continued support of, not only *our* Mississippi young people, but young people from across the country and world. The university chaplaincy/campus ministry plays an integral role in the spiritual development and formation of young persons, and you are to be commended for your support of vital faith-based programming for them.

For more information about the Episcopal Canterbury Fellowship at MSU, please visit our websites www.resurrectionchurch.com/canterbury and www.msstate.edu/org/canterbury, email msu_canterbury@bellsouth.net, or call 662.323.3483 ext. 102. If you're ever in Starkville, please join us for food, fun, fellowship and worship! GO DAWGS!

Submitted by:
The Rev. J. Brian Ponder, chaplain

Bishop Gray's 2007 Discretionary Fund

Receipts:

Cash on Hand 1/1/2007	\$	2,485.84
Honorariums, Visitations, etc.	\$	16,425.72
Total	\$	18,911.66

Disbursements:

Charities, Grants, Conferences, etc.	\$	15,619.19
Balance on Hand 12/31/2007.	\$	3,292.47

Bishop Gray's 2007 Official Acts

Baptisms	39
Confirmations	280
Received	32
Ordinations to the Transitional Diaconate	2
Ordinations to the Priesthood	3
Sermons and Addresses	136
Diocesan Conferences and Meetings	113
Other Conferences and Meetings	33
(Univ. of South, All Saints' School, House of Bishops, etc.)	
Office Conferences and Appointments	279
Other Calls	15
Community and State Conferences and Meetings	28

BUDGET 2008

	2007 Budget	2007 Actual 12/31/07	2008 Proposed
1 RECEIPTS			
2 Parochial Pledges	1,660,045	1,655,012	1,681,554
3 Prior Year Pledge Payments	72,409	158,067	150,000
4 Coast Appeal	-	1,000	35,000
5 Phillips Trust	222,868	222,868	230,230
6 Johnson Home Trust	8,250	8,250	8,250
7 Beasley Trust	6,199	6,199	6,561
8 Thompson Trust	36,479	36,479	38,006
9 Thompson Aging Ministries	1,106	1,106	1,095
10 Kenneth Willis Trust	12,000	11,055	13,000
11 Church Foundation	13,996	13,996	11,536
12 Wade Moore	-	-	20,000
13 Small Church Moore Fund	10,000	10,000	10,000
14 Thomsen Trust	3,500	3,500	3,500
15 Robert Donnelly	-	-	4,072
16 Thomas Blake Fund	12,000	11,649	11,000
17 Allin House Endowment	36,820	36,820	39,227
18 Theological Education Trusts	5,433	5,433	5,824
19 Parish in Need	-	-	25,000
20 Okolona Endowment for Jackson State	47,500	47,500	47,500
21 Gibbons for Development	30,000	30,000	30,000
22 Reserve for Development	6,160	4,230	-
23 Canon Missioner from St. Barn	75,000	53,000	-
24 Canon Missioner - Other	-	3,603	-
25 Pastoral Missioner from ERD	150,000	150,000	150,000
26 Asst Econ / Dev from ERD	-	-	47,118
27 CFFM Director - Gibbons	40,000	40,000	-
28 CFFM Director - Other	-	9,307	-
29 CFFM Program - Gray Center	12,000	11,000	12,000
30 Battle Hill	3,000	3,425	3,000
31 Trustee Bookkeeping	6,000	6,000	6,000
32 Budget Restoration	-	300	-
33 Investment Interest	8,000	8,400	8,500
34 Memorial Income	-	-	-
35 Mississippi Episcopalian Ads	10,000	7,886	10,000
36 Prior Year Balance	90,000	93,303	-
37 TOTAL RECEIPTS	2,578,765	2,649,388	2,607,973
ONE CHURCH			
49 SUPPORT OF THE BISHOP			
50 BISHOP GRAY			
51 Stipend	77,270	77,270	84,738
52 Housing Allowance	5,000	5,000	-
53 Pension Premium	20,655	20,655	21,233
54 CPG Response	(20,655)	(20,655)	(21,233)
55 Travel	13,000	16,370	12,000
56 Continuing Education	2,000	2,202	2,000
57 Automobile Expense	3,500	3,126	3,000
58 Medical, Life, Disability Insurance	18,434	19,561	19,382
59 Sabbatical Funds	1,500	1,500	1,500
60 BISHOP GRAY TOTAL	120,704	125,029	122,820
61 BISHOP'S HOME			
62 4735 Northampton - Utilities	6,000	5,714	6,000
63 4735 Northampton - Maintenance	5,000	5,000	5,000
64 4735 Northampton - Lease	-	-	-
65 BISHOP'S HOME TOTAL	11,000	10,714	11,000
66 SUPPORT OF THE BISHOP TOTAL	131,704	135,743	133,820
70 ADMINISTRATION & ALLIN HOUSE			
71 CANON TO THE ORDINARY			
72 Stipend	39,062	39,062	36,284
73 Housing Allowance	35,000	35,000	40,000
74 Pension Premium	13,331	13,331	13,731
75 CPG Response	(13,331)	(13,331)	(13,731)
76 Travel	9,000	10,049	9,000
77 Continuing Education	1,000	1,548	1,500
78 Automobile Expense	3,800	4,131	3,760
79 Medical, Life, Disability Insurance	18,434	19,561	19,382
80 CANON TO THE ORDINARY TOTAL	106,296	109,351	109,926
81 CANON FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE			
82 Salary	65,010	65,010	66,961
83 Pension	5,851	5,851	6,026
84 Travel and Continuing Education	3,500	3,967	4,000
85 FICA Taxes	4,973	3,724	5,122
86 Medical, Life, Disability Insurance	19,550	19,745	20,419
87 CANON FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE TOTAL	98,884	98,297	102,528
88 CANON FOR MISSION			
94 SUPPORT STAFF			
95 Bishops' Secretary	33,800	33,800	34,814
96 Bookkeeper	33,800	33,800	34,814
97 Assistant to the Canons	33,150	32,500	30,000
98 Sexton	6,831	6,831	7,036
99 FICA Taxes	8,281	7,978	8,160
100 Pension Premiums	7,605	6,084	6,267
101 Life, Medical Insurance, Disability	33,462	34,907	44,571
102 Support Staff	1,000	-	-
103 SUPPORT STAFF TOTAL	157,929	155,900	165,662
104 GENERAL OFFICE			
105 Sabbatical Funds - staff	2,500	2,500	2,500
106 General	3,800	5,019	5,000
107 LESM - Office Support	-	-	-
108 Parking - staff	8,112	8,321	7,112
109 Parking - meetings	1,300	1,006	1,100
110 Dues and Subscriptions	1,586	1,452	1,586
111 Postage	6,500	9,025	9,100
112 Supplies	6,000	6,226	6,000
113 Printer toner, etc.	800	799	800
114 Bank Charges and Fees	810	516	666
115 Telephone	4,800	5,468	10,200
116 Telephone - Long Distance	5,700	6,694	-
117 Telephone - Advertising	972	1,143	1,116
118 Diocesan Hospitality	500	303	500
119 Equipment Maintenance	-	-	-
120 Maintenance - Computers & Software	8,000	5,297	8,000
121 Maintenance - Contracts	1,800	1,999	2,000
122 Equipment Reserve	3,000	3,000	3,000
123 Automobile Reserve	8,000	8,000	8,000
124 Staff Development	1,300	1,267	1,300
125 Insurance	3,517	3,686	3,686
126 Workers' Compensation	2,850	2,549	2,850
127 Audit	12,000	21,493	15,000
128 Miscellaneous	500	-	500
129 Duplicating - Riso	7,200	5,535	5,200
130 Duplicating - Copier	3,000	4,813	4,600
131 Duplication - Supplies	600	1,004	1,200
132 Bishop Masereka's visit	-	1,360	-
133 GENERAL OFFICE TOTAL	95,147	108,475	101,016

	2007 Budget	2007 Actual 12/31/07	2008 Proposed
135			
136 ALLIN HOUSE			
137 Utilities	7,000	6,995	7,400
138 Maintenance Contracts	1,500	1,739	1,800
139 Renovation/Repayment	21,516	21,516	21,516
140 Repairs and Maintenance Reserve	2,000	2,000	2,000
141 ALLIN HOUSE TOTAL	32,016	32,250	32,716
142 ADMINISTRATION & ALLIN HOUSE TOTAL	490,272	504,273	511,848
143			
144			
145 EPISCOPAL COMMITMENTS			
146 TEC Commitment	320,913	320,913	320,913
147 Coast Support	-	-	35,000
148 Province IV Quota	-	-	-
149 EPISCOPAL COMMITMENTS TOTAL	320,913	320,913	355,913
150			
151 ORDAINED MINISTRY			
152			
153 COMMISSION ON MINISTRY			
154 CDM Expenses	7,500	8,156	7,500
155 Continuing Education for Clergy	5,000	2,367	5,000
156 COMMISSION ON MINISTRY TOTAL	12,500	10,523	12,500
157			
158 THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION			
159 Seminary Tuition and Fees	33,900	35,557	35,905
160 Seminarian Medical & Psychological Exams	750	1,458	1,250
161 Seminarian Life & Medical Insurance	58,934	43,637	51,296
162 Moving to Seminary	7,500	3,258	14,000
163 THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION TOTAL	101,084	83,910	102,451
164			
165 CURACY TRAINING			
166 Curacy Support	30,000	62,448	40,000
167 Moving from Seminary	11,500	4,499	14,000
168 CURACY TRAINING TOTAL	41,500	66,947	54,000
169			
170 RETIRED PRESBYTER SUPPORT			
171 Retired Presbyter Life & Medical Insurance	37,363	40,279	55,177
172 Retired Clergy Wellness	3,380	2,444	2,900
173 Phillips Christmas	9,000	9,000	9,000
174 RETIRED PRESBYTER TOTAL	49,743	51,722	67,077
175			
176 CLERGY CONFERENCES			
177 Clergy Conference	24,740	27,962	29,870
178 Presbyter Spouse Weekend	2,440	2,586	2,400
179 Post Ordination Consultation	-	-	5,440
180 PRESBYTER CONFERENCE TOTAL	27,180	30,548	37,710
181			
182 MISCELLANEOUS			
183 Clergy Consultation	500	580	500
184 Deployment / Search Process	4,000	3,570	3,000
185 Retired Bishop Travel	1,000	-	500
186 Canon Pastor	1,000	-	500
187			
188 Diocesan Confirmations	-	281	500
189 Ordinations	250	146	250
190 MISCELLANEOUS TOTAL	6,750	4,577	5,250
191			
192 ORDAINED MINISTRY TOTAL	238,757	248,227	278,988
193			
194			
195 COMMITTEES / RESOURCES			
196			
197 Diocesan Child Care	-	-	-
198 Safe Church Committee	4,900	2,228	2,500
199			
200 Safe Church Reserve Fund	2,500	2,500	2,500
201 Blanket Surety Bond	2,370	2,370	2,370
202 Non-delegate Council Registration	350	-	300
203 Companion Diocese	5,600	4,604	5,600
204 Panama Medical Mission	3,000	3,000	3,000
205			
206 Sudanese Ministry	7,000	5,276	7,000
207 General Convention Deputies	15,000	15,000	15,000
208 Province IV Synod Deputies	2,880	2,880	2,881
209 Lambeth Reserve	1,500	1,500	1,500
210 TOTAL COMMITTEES / RESOURCES	45,100	39,358	42,651
211			
212 TOTAL ONE CHURCH	1,226,746	1,248,515	1,323,020
213			
214			
215 IN MISSION			
216			
217 SUPPORTED MISSIONS			
218			
219 CONGREGATIONS			
220 Como, Holy Innocents	6,500	6,500	4,000
221 Columbia, St. Stephen's	8,000	8,000	-
222 Jackson, All Saints	15,200	2,045	6,228
223 Jackson, St. Alexis	127,212	127,219	135,000
224 Olive Branch, Holy Cross	29,516	29,516	34,000
225 CONGREGATIONS TOTAL	186,428	173,279	179,228
226			
227 CANON MISSIONER			
228 Bay St. Louis, Christ	-	-	25,000
229 Stipend	31,920	31,920	-
230 Housing Allowance	18,000	18,000	-
231 Pension Premium	8,986	8,986	-
232 CPG Response	(8,986)	(8,986)	-
233 Travel	3,600	3,600	-
234 Continuing Education	500	-	-
235 Sabbatical Reserve	500	500	-
236 Medical, Life, Disability Insurance	18,434	19,062	-
237 TOTAL CANON MISSIONER	72,954	73,082	25,000
238			
239 PASTORAL MISSIONER			
240			
241 Stipend	42,000	42,000	40,740
242 Housing Allowance	36,000	36,000	39,600
243 Pension Premium	14,040	14,040	14,461
244 CPG Response	(14,040)	(14,040)	-
245 Office Expense	12,026	2,515	4,200
246 Telephone / Internet	-	-	1,726
247 Travel	12,000	15,820	9,000
248 Professional Expense	-	-	6,100
249 Continuing Education	2,500	2,084	2,500
250			
251 Moving	-	-	-
252 Medical, Life, Disability Insurance	18,434	18,512	19,382
253 TOTAL PASTORAL MISSIONER	137,000	116,930	137,709
254			
255			
256 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE			
257 Iitta Bena - insurance	625	-	625
258 124 Price Street, Oxford - Maintenance	1,500	1,500	1,500
259 PROPERTY MAINTENANCE TOTAL	2,125	1,500	2,125
260			
261 SUPPORTED MISSIONS TOTAL	398,507	364,792	344,062
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BUDGET 2008

	2007 Budget	2007 Actual 12/31/07	2008 Proposed
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	2007 Budget	2007 Actual 12/31/07	2008 Proposed
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Panama Medical Mission

The Panama Medical Mission was held for one day in each of three different villages near the area of Torti, and several members of the diocese of Panama and the Panama Department of Health joined our team of five Mississippians. The clinic served approximately 1000 patients, including those screened in the newly created "Well Family" system, which gave over the counter medications to family groups who did not need acute medical attention. The Pharmacy dispensed 1512 prescriptions to the 685 patients who did visit a doctor. This effort in common with our companion diocese was very successful and planned again for next year.



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VOLUNTARY PROPORTIONATE GIVING

PARISH/MISSION	2007			2008	
	VPG %	\$\$\$ Estimate	Actual 12/31/2007	VPG %	\$\$\$ Estimate
ABERDEEN, St. John's	10.0%	6,400	3,314	11.0%	7,740
BAY ST. LOUIS, Christ	10.0%	8,600	10,491	11.0%	11,715
BELZONI, St. Thomas'		0	-		
BILOXI, Redeemer	10.0%	28,631	28,630	10.0%	28,631
BOVINA, St. Alban's	13.0%	10,304	10,304	13.0%	11,285
BRANDON, St. Luke's	4.0%	3,368	2,342	4.0%	2,484
BRANDON, St. Peter's	10.0%	24,156	23,303	11.0%	31,254
BROOKHAVEN, Redeemer	7.0%	13,245	13,245	7.0%	13,245
CANTON, Grace	12.0%	21,326	19,812	12.0%	
CARROLLTON, Grace		0	300		300
CLARKSDALE, St. George's	10.0%	17,500	15,479	10.0%	20,000
CLEVELAND, Calvary	12.0%	19,927	15,832	10.0%	13,200
CLINTON, Creator	9.0%	16,920	15,655	6.0%	13,814
COLLINS, St. Elizabeth's	10.0%	3,492	3,480	10.0%	3,900
COLUMBIA, St. Stephen's	10.0%	0	-		894
COLUMBUS, Good Shepherd	12.0%	2,985	2,606		3,240
COLUMBUS, St. Paul's	16.0%	72,600	75,060	16.0%	76,100
COMO, Holy Innocents'	6.0%	5,176	5,176	6.5%	5,739
CORINTH, St. Paul's	10.0%	13,110	13,110	10.0%	16,035
CRYSTAL SPRINGS, Holy Trinity		-	5,000	10.0%	5,300
DIAMONDHEAD, St. Thomas'	12.0%	17,000	16,593	12.0%	18,500
ENTERPRISE, St. Mary's	10.0%	1,730	1,722	10.0%	1,889
FOREST, St. Matthew's	10.0%	475	1,290	10.0%	550
GAUTIER, St. Pierre's	10.0%	10,135	8,559	10.0%	10,135
GREENVILLE, Redeemer	15.0%	4,290	3,890	15.0%	4,320
GREENVILLE, St. James'	14.0%	61,951	49,228	13.0%	44,802
GREENWOOD, Nativity	14.0%	48,500	44,774		50,000
GRENADA, All Saints'	13.0%	23,423	27,084	13.0%	21,614
GULFPORT, St. Mark's	18.0%	60,653	60,653	18.0%	61,266
GULFPORT, St. Peter's	13.0%	32,422	24,537	13.0%	32,000
HATTIESBURG, Ascension	12.0%	23,580	23,580	10.0%	19,150
HATTIESBURG, Trinity	11.0%	44,800	39,000	10.0%	40,483
HOLLANDALE, St. Paul's		0	500		
HOLLY SPRINGS, Christ	10.0%	9,200	8,995	10.0%	10,000
INDIANOLA, St. Stephen's	16.0%	26,700	26,701	14.0%	24,255
INVERNESS, All Saints'	15.0%	3,000	3,000	15.0%	3,000
JACKSON, All Saints'	10.0%	9,270	8,132	15.0%	14,814
JACKSON, Medical Center Ministry		1,000	1,000		1,000
JACKSON, St. Alexis'	10.0%	1,560	-	10.0%	1,850
JACKSON, St. Andrew's	11.8%	145,846	126,945	11.8%	164,379
JACKSON, St. Andrew's Episcopal School		400			
JACKSON, St. James'	8.0%	109,000	109,000	8.0%	115,000
JACKSON, St. Mark's	11.0%	8,800	9,000	10.7%	9,630
JACKSON, St. Christopher	10.0%	3,000	4,500	12.0%	9,396
JACKSON, St. Philip's	12.5%	49,296	49,296	12.5%	50,000
KOSCIUSKO, St. Matthew's	12.0%	3,000	3,000	12.0%	4,122
LAUREL, St. John's	8.0%	18,196	14,268	8.0%	15,879
LELAND, St. John's	10.0%	0	1,153	10.0%	
LEXINGTON, St. Mary's	12.0%	5,927	5,255	14.0%	5,939
LONG BEACH, St. Patrick's	15.0%	21,150	16,199	16.0%	20,960
MADISON, Chapel of the Cross	12.0%	90,240	76,714	12.0%	82,200
MCCOMB, Mediator/Redeemer	10.0%	13,500	13,074	12.0%	18,000
MERIDIAN, Mediator	14.0%	38,000	42,000	14.0%	45,000
MERIDIAN, St. Paul's	19.4%	98,700	98,700	18.0%	98,280
MICHIGAN CITY, Calvary	4.0%	200	-		
NATCHEZ, Trinity	14.0%	41,325	44,319	16.0%	51,000
NEWTON, Trinity		0	-		
OCEAN SPRINGS, St. John's	10.0%	32,000	26,315	11.0%	36,300
OKOLONA, St. Bernard's		0	-		
OLIVE BRANCH, Holy Cross	10.0%	6,790	5,745	10.0%	7,866
OXFORD, St. Peter's	20.0%	120,000	96,440	20.0%	120,000
PASCAGOULA, St. John's	15.0%	43,000	39,500		
PASS CHRISTIAN, Trinity	10.0%	16,200	13,596	8.0%	14,400
PHILADELPHIA, St. Francis'	10.0%	5,941	5,924	10.0%	7,000
PICAYUNE, St. Paul's	12.0%	13,000	10,111	12.0%	11,760
PORT GIBSON, St. James'	3.0%	2,400	1,753	3.0%	3,300
RAYMOND, St. Mark's			520		
RIDGELAND, St. Columb's	14.0%	44,100	40,900	14.0%	45,000
ROLLING FORK, Chapel/Cross	10.0%	4,625	4,338	10.0%	
ROSEDALE, Grace		0	500		
SOUTHAVEN, St. Timothy's	11.0%	32,141	32,141	11.0%	22,865
STARKVILLE, Resurrection	15.0%	35,925	40,099	16.0%	42,230
SUMNER, Advent		-	3,258		
TERRY, Good Shepherd	7.0%	2,600	2,306	8.0%	3,000
TUNICA, Epiphany	5.0%	2,400	5,313	10.0%	-
TUPELO, All Saints'	12.0%	47,880	41,191	12.5%	63,375
VICKSBURG, Christ	12.0%	15,936	16,288	13.5%	16,875
VICKSBURG, Holy Trinity	12.0%	29,400	20,224	13.0%	
VICKSBURG, St. Mary's		1,440	1,440		1,500
WATER VALLEY, Nativity		0	-		
WEST POINT, Incarnation	13.5%	19,750	13,470	14.0%	19,083
WOODVILLE, St. Paul's			1,500		1,500
YAZOO CITY, Trinity	10.0%	8,000	5,941	10.0%	6,000
		1,777,537	1,654,612		1,736,343

RESOLUTIONS

181st Annual Council

Proposed Resolutions

2008 – 1: Affirmation of Uniqueness and Lordship of Jesus Christ

Submitted by: The Rev. Chris Colby, The Rev. Alston Johnson, and The Rev. George F. Woodliff III

Be it resolved that the 181st Annual Council of the Diocese of Mississippi reaffirms the uniqueness and lordship of Jesus Christ in this diocese and “that Jesus is the only perfect image of the Father, and shows us the nature of God” {BCP, p. 849} and that “Holy Scripture doth set out unto us only the Name of Jesus Christ, whereby men must be saved.” [BCP, p. 871]

Explanation: In previous times such a resolution would have been unnecessary. However, a perceived drift toward universalism in the Episcopal Church is leading us away from the historical Faith we have received. It is, therefore, necessary at this time to reaffirm the uniqueness and lordship of Jesus Christ and the scandal of particularity of the cross. What does it mean to be a Christian? It means to turn to him “and accept him as your Savior.” It means “to put your whole trust in his grace and love.” It means to “promise to follow and obey him as your Lord.” [BCP, pp.302-303] This is our faith, and sometimes it is necessary to be reminded “whose we are.” [cf. *1 Corinthians 6:19-20*] In the words of Bishop Gray, “I cannot deny the uniqueness of Jesus Christ, and it is him alone that I call the Lord of my life.” [Bishop’s Address to the 178th Annual Council.]

2008 – 2: Affirmation of Sanctity of Life

Submitted by: The Rev. Mary Berry, The Rev. Sandra DePriest, The Rev. Rose Mary Foncree, and The Rev. George F. Woodliff III

Be it resolved that the 181st Annual Council of the Diocese of Mississippi affirms that human life is a precious gift from God that is to be protected at every stage, from conception to natural death, and encourages all Anglicans to oppose abortion and euthanasia.

Explanation: Anglicans for Life, A Global Ministry Affirming the Sanctity of Life, is encouraging the adoption of this resolution at the 2008 Lambeth Conference. In January 2006, the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church voted to affiliate the church with the Religions Coalition for Reproductive Choice (RCRC), which advocates for unrestricted abortion, including partial-birth abortion. At the 180th Annual Council, this Diocese adopted a resolution that “disassociate[d] this diocese from the action of the Executive Council of The Episcopal Church in its meeting in Des Moines, Iowa, on January 9-12, 2006, in voting to join the RCRC on behalf of The Episcopal Church and request[ed] the Executive Council to rescind that action.” Bishop Gray communicated this resolution to the Executive Council which dismissed its request to rescind The Episcopal Church’s affiliation with the RCRC. This resolution reaffirms this diocese’s continued opposition to affiliation with the RCRC and takes a positive stand concerning the sanctity of life.

2008 – 3: Earth Stewardship

Submitted by: Mr. Andrew Whitehurst and Mr. Roger C. Clapp

Be it resolved that the 181st Annual Council of the Diocese of Mississippi urges every vestry and mission committee to request that every sermon or homily on April 20, 2008 (the Sunday nearest Earth Day) incorporate specific recommendations to communicants to increase responsible stewardship of God’s Creation and that the text of Bishop Gray’s 2008 letter (see below) on Earth Stewardship be either read out loud as part of the sermon/homily or printed in full in the church bulletin or provided to the parish or mission in an appropriate manner on Sunday April 20, 2008.

Letter from Bishop Gray
Sept. 15, 2007

As your Bishop, I must at times bring important issues to the forefront within the diocese. The state of the world is now such that all of us in Mississippi need to reexamine the moral responsibility that we have to protect God’s Earth. The Creation surrounding us is a constant reminder of God’s Grace given to his people. Our actions must honor that grace. As Episcopal Bishop of Mississippi I joined my fellow bishops from the surrounding southeastern states in 2003 to urge our parishes and missions to take on the joyful, weighty responsibility of stewardship of the earth that sustains us all.

In our joint letter, we urged congregations to educate their members on relevant environmental issues in each diocese. In Mississippi, we emphasized recycling, environmental education for children and adults, and education on water issues. The larger issue of climate change was not squarely addressed at the time and was not in the forefront of our message on environmental ministry. For me, this has changed.

As Christians we are stewards of God’s Creation and have a duty and obligation to take care of the earth and its living systems. We feed ourselves by planting in the soil, we drink the earth’s fresh water and are baptized in it, and we breathe its air. This earth is a gift from God that sustains humanity and all of life. “Global warming” appears to be happening in our time though its possible causes generate disagreement. If real, its results include severe damage to our children’s future, the health and future of our communities, and the health of generations yet unborn. Because the consequences could be so dire, and because human actions are demonstrated to be likely causes, we cannot afford to delay action. We Christians, like most Americans, consume material things and energy at a rate never before seen in human history. I hope you will agree that conservative use of energy, fuel, and water, along with the reduction of waste and pollution are all ways to honor God’s Grace toward us.

As your Bishop, I encourage you as an individual, parish, or mission, to recycle if you are not now doing so. I urge you to learn about and implement the actions outlined in the “Climate Change Top Ten”. This list and other materials to help you understand climate change, and lists of recommended actions for individuals and for congregations will be made available at (www.dioms.org) the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi’s website. I hope that you will make use of these resources as they are a solid source of reference on this topic.

As your Bishop I ask senior and junior wardens and priests of every parish and mission in Mississippi to take action now. Identify someone in your congregation to coordinate recycling, energy conservation, and education of all your members in promoting care of the earth. In short, start an environmental ministry in your church now. Our churches must lead by example. I further encourage and expect all wardens and priests to support this environmental ministry as an essential part of our response to the gifts we enjoy from our Creator. Time is of the essence in caring for this rare and beautiful gift God has given us, this earth, our island home.

Thank you for your time and action on this issue. I look forward to hearing about the progress of our individual parishes and missions in the very near future.

2008 – 4: Recycling Program

Submitted by: Mr. Andrew Whitehurst and Mr. Roger C. Clapp

Be it resolved that the 181st Annual Council of the Diocese of Mississippi respectfully requests every County Board of Supervisors in Mississippi adopt and implement by July 1, 2008 a re-cycling program to include recurring public education efforts in schools and local media and material pick-up service for one or more recyclables at every residence and business in the county, and to devote at least 1% of the General Fund to such programs in 2008 and thereafter.

2008 – 5: Humanitarian Crisis in the Darfur Region of Western Sudan

Submitted by: The Rev. Bobby Weatherly

Resolved that the 181st Annual Council of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi, meeting in Natchez MS, January 25-2, 2007, calls upon the United States government to exercise international leadership in addressing the profound humanitarian crisis in the Darfur region of western Sudan.

Resolved that the Council calls upon Investment Firms, especially Franklin Templeton, JP Morgan Chase, Capital Group/American Funds, Fidelity, and Vanguard, to divest their holdings in PetroChina, Sinopec, Petronas, ONGC, and other companies that help the government of Sudan use its oil revenue to provide arms and funds for the genocide.

Resolved that the Council shares the deep concern of international-relief groups, religious leaders, and the United States Congress over the Sudanese government's systematic support of militias that have carried out massive killings, rape, burning of villages, and inhuman acts of horror against the civilians of Darfur, both before and after the ceasefire agreement of April 8, 2004.

Resolved that the Council express its condemnation of the recent actions of the Government of Sudan and President Omar al-Bashiri for:

- violating agreements and attempting to block peacekeepers for Darfur, thereby rejecting key provisions of the U.N. peacekeeping resolution - the same resolution President al_Bashiri "unconditionally accepted" earlier this year.
- adding conditions to the peacekeeping mission that would ensure it will not be effective enough to actually protect civilians.
- use of starvation as a method of ethnic cleansing, and in particular, its destruction of food and water sources and its deliberate and systematic blocking of humanitarian assistance and international aid to the people of Darfur.

Resolved that the Council calls upon the President of the United States and the Congress to use its considerable international influence, authority and leadership to:

- Pressure the Sudanese Government and President Omar al-Bashiri to comply with all the provisions of the U.N. peacekeeping resolution
- Direct the US representative to the United Nations to seek an official investigation by the U.N. of the Government of Sudan's actions in the Darfur region
- Pressure the Government of Sudan to provide unimpeded humanitarian assistance to the people of Darfur and
- Underscore that the mandate to the Government of Sudan is unambiguous and unconditional, and that the international community is prepared to take swift and immediate action to enforce it.

Resolved that the Council expresses its sorrow that the atrocities in Darfur have come at a time when many were hopeful that peace was becoming a possibility after 20 years of civil conflict in the Sudan, and calls upon all parties to rededicate themselves to the promise of peace without allowing the crisis in Darfur to be ignored as a consequence of peace negotiations.

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Resolved the Council joins the international community in mourning the genocide in Rwanda, and calls upon leaders of our nation and the world to take all steps necessary to ensure that the tragic events of Rwanda are never repeated, either in Darfur or anywhere in the world.

RESOLUTIONS

Explanation: Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir is backtracking on his government's agreements and attempting to block peacekeepers for Darfur and it is up to our world leaders to stop it. President Bashir is rejecting key provisions of the U.N. peacekeeping resolution - the same resolution his government "unconditionally accepted" earlier this year. Bashir is now adding conditions to the peacekeeping mission that would ensure it will not be effective enough to actually protect civilians. Government-backed Arab militia known as Janjaweed engage in campaigns to displace and wipe out communities of African tribal farmers. To date about 2,500,000 civilians, targeted because of their ethnic or racial identity, have been driven from their homes, as many as 400,000 people killed, and more than 1,600 villages destroyed by Sudanese government soldiers and government-backed militias.

If world leaders do not respond forcefully now, the Sudanese government will continue to try to finish what they've started in Darfur. More than 2.5 million lives are hanging in the balance. The people of Darfur need President Bush and other world leaders to stand up to the Sudanese government and put a stop to their deceitful attempts to continue waging violence against their own people. The way the world reacts to Sudan's latest round of game-playing will determine if and when peace and security will return to the people of Darfur.

US investment firms invest in PetroChina, Sinopec, Petronas, ONGC, and other companies that help the government of Sudan use its oil revenue to provide arms and funds for the genocide. Of US-based investment firms, Franklin Templeton, JP Morgan Chase, Capital Group/American Funds

Background: Fidelity, and Vanguard, have the largest holdings in PetroChina. The emergency in Sudan's western region of Darfur presents the starkest challenge to the world since the Rwanda genocide in 1994. The crisis continues as thousands more die each month from the effects of inadequate food, water, health care, and shelter in a harsh desert environment. Villages have been razed, women and girls are systematically raped and branded, men and boys murdered, and food and water supplies targeted and destroyed. Government aerial bombardments support the Janjaweed by hurling explosives as well as barrels of nails, car chassis and old appliances from planes to crush people and property. "In February 2004, I abandoned my house because of the conflict. I met six Arabs in the bush, I wanted to take my spear to defend my family, they threatened me with a weapon and I had to stop. The six men raped my daughter, who is 25 years old, in front of me, my wife and the young children" (—H., a man from Magarsa in the Masalit region of Western Darfur). The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) estimates that 350,000 people or more could die in the coming months. Ongoing assessments by independent organizations such as Medecins sans Frontieres (Doctors without Borders) suggest that USAID's estimate may be conservative. If aid is denied or unavailable, as many as a million people could perish. Lives are hanging in the balance on a massive scale. The violence in Darfur is "more than a conflict, it's an organized attempt to do away with one set of people." The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum has issued its first ever genocide emergency. John Prendergast of International Crisis Group warns, "We have not yet hit the apex of the crisis."

The Year at the Gray Center – 2007

2007 began with a wonderfully generous gift from St. James Episcopal Church in Jackson. It allowed us to do many things – like acquire new, more comfortable chairs for the conference center meeting rooms – that we would otherwise have not had the discretionary monies to do. It was a great way to get us into a mood of excitement with confidence that we could do what we had to do this year. And that was to overcome what was, in reality, a deficit of more than \$100,000. Through incredible frugality we cut expenses enough to compensate for the originally expected deficit plus a significant shortfall in anticipated revenues. We ended the year, financially, at just about 'even.'

2007 brought us some new faces and some growth in several ministries. We were fortunate to be able to fill Brian Huckaby's position managing the food operations with a young man who was no stranger to the center, Grae Dickson. Grae is now our Food and Beverage Manager and brings with him over 13 years experience in food services management and the extraordinary experience of having worked with two of Mississippi's most renowned chefs. We have already begun to glean the benefits of his resume. We have also brought in a Guest Services Manager in Brad Knight. This is actually an interning position and a trial for something we've talked about over the years. At this time, it would appear we will continue to fund this job. It has proven to be an invaluable position, supporting everyday, with *every* client, our ministry of hospitality.

Other new faces were seen this summer as we have continued our efforts to encourage increasing numbers of children of color to Camp Bratton-Green. The Okolona Scholarship Fund has continued to fund a large proportion of these youngsters' camp expenses. We successfully doubled our efforts for increased numbers at the year end Winter Solstice Camp.

The Center for Formation and Mission, a diocesan program administered by Rev. Debo Dykes, provides for the generation and presentation of a widely diverse menu of programs each year for personal spiritual enrichment at the Gray Center. It broadened its reach in 2007 and appears on its way to being a solid, ongoing client for the center, and, more importantly, an extension of the center's ministry of spiritual development.

The Bishop's BBQ was resurrected in 2007, and, thanks in great part to the stalwart and energetic young adults of the diocese who organized this, it was famously successful. Their forward thinking is evidenced by the fact that before they left the campus that weekend, they had already appointed the leaders for the 2008 BBQ. Hundreds of others volunteered, donating time and materials and unheard-of gifts for auction to make it the supreme event it was.

Several dedicated supporters of the center provided, planted, and often watered nearly 60 new

trees for Gray Center. They are of all sizes from tiny seedlings to 8 and 9-foot trees. These benefactors plan to bring out an additional group of about 60 more for planting after the first of the year.

While on the subject of contributors, the Men's Work Weekends have done so many jobs to help us. Concrete walkways, tree trimming, land clearing, tree planting, cabin roofing, Arts and Crafts Shack renovating, cabin painting and on and on. Much thanks is due them and to Charley Belote and his staff and, of course, Steve McDavid, who has taken the organizational task seriously in recruiting and shaming the guys to give up their weekend for the center. Five or six weekends are already set for 2008.

Lastly, the Maintenance Department, in and around all their daily repairs and upkeep, completed a couple of enormous jobs this last year. The first was the reconstruction of the front of the chapel at the conference center. All the huge glasswork had to be removed and the supports constructed and then all put back together. It was thoughtful and loving gift by a Friend of Gray Center's that provided for a new set of doors for the chapel, handmade of solid mahogany. In the last weeks of the year, the Gray Center maintenance crew completely refurbished the sewer lagoon at the conference center. Besides being an enormous job it was one that absolutely had to be done and done right. They were up to the task and did well.

We look forward to another improved year in 2008.

Submitted by:

Mr. Bill Horne, Executive Director

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Diocesan Altar Guild (DAG) 2007 Annual Report

The Diocesan Altar Guild has had a productive and busy year. We continue to serve and supply the sacristies at Gray Center and Camp Bratton Green. We also provide disposable (paper) linens to the chapels at Gray Center. The linens are cut, folded, pressed, stamped, and blessed before use at both the chapel at the conference center and the chapel at the camp. Trudy Horne, Anne Bartlow and Jan Belote are now keeping the sacristies supplied and clean. We so appreciate their work in this import service. DAG has also provided the disposable linens to churches on the gulf coast for use during the Hurricane Katrina recovery.

DAG has set up a fund that will help our coast churches supply their sacristies once they have been rebuilt. The Diocese of Western Massachusetts sent a donation to the fund in September. DAG continues to provide the traveling communion sets used each year at annual Council. Since 1987 DAG has provided over 100 deacon stoles for the Diocese. Denise Brown of Hattiesburg has graciously agreed to weave these beautiful stoles for our deacons in order that DAG can continue this wonderful ministry. The DAG Church Supply Closet, housed at St. Mark's in Jackson, has very little in its inventory. Mary Jackson, chairperson for the supply closet, requests that vestments, linens, and brass and silver in good condition be donated to the closet for distribution throughout the diocese as needed.

Church of the Creator, Clinton, hosted the DAG annual meeting on February 24, 2007. Cassandra Price and Linda Tolliver, DAG co-presidents, and members of Church of the Creator welcomed altar guild members from throughout the diocese. Gayden Metcalfe of Greenville was the keynote speaker. She presented a wonderfully entertaining program on the book she coauthored, *Being Dead is No Excuse: The Official Southern Ladies Guide to Hosting the Perfect Funeral*. Jackie Tyler of Creator presented a workshop on church banners and vestments as well as displaying her many beautiful creations. Workshops were also presented on the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and floral design. Following the closing Eucharist, celebrated by the Rev. Ann Whitaker, St. Alban's, Bovina, a lovely luncheon followed in the parish hall. Becky Wright served as chairman of the meeting.

Polly Marshall and Jan Smith, past DAG presidents, and Martha Bigelow represented DAG at the Province IV Altar Guild Meeting, which met in Kanuga, NC in June.

Convocation representatives are: April Alday, Central; Virginia Montgomery, Coast; Judy Johnson, Old River; Joan Moore, Sowashee; Gloria Mitchell, Northern; Roche Lawes, Delta, and Pamela Cox-Tims, Tombigbee. Other officers are Judy Johnson, treasurer; Laurie Noble, secretary; Jeanne Sanders, membership chairmen, Becky Wright, flower guild chairman, and Mary Jackson, supply closet.

The Diocesan Altar Guild continues to instruct, assist and promote fellowship among the Altar Guilds of our diocese and other dioceses. It is our mission to assist the Bishop, clergy, and all congregations in the care of the altars of our churches.

Submitted by:
Cassandra P. Price
Linda Tolliver

Diocesan Youth Report

The fall of 2007 was an average semester for the youth in our diocese. By average, of course, I mean fantastic! What amazes me about events like DOY and Happening is how dedicated and energetic the kids continue to be. What is important to remember is that dedication to their church is, in a lot of ways, dedication to their God. My life in this church and my relationship to God were shaped from the very beginning through my involvement in the various offerings for teenagers in the diocese of Mississippi. It is awesome to see that formation taking place in another generation of Christians.

There are, however, many challenges in maintaining a safe, healthy, and formative environment for the children with whom we have been called to serve. Since I became the Diocesan Youth Coordinator, I have met some of these challenges. To be sure, they would have overtaken us had I not had considerable input and assistance from a group of adults who I have found to be as dedicated and energetic as the kids they are ministering to. That group, I am sorry to report, is fairly small. That would be the first challenge, adult involvement. If you are considering helping us face this particular challenge, please contact me. You might be surprised how much you learn about your own relationship to your church and to God.

The second challenge was financial. Between food, t-shirts, supplies, lodging, and scholarships, we found ourselves in a tight spot. Corey Schneider was instrumental in making sure that we would have enough funds to continue and has taken great steps to lower the costs of putting on DOY. He has found discounts on t-shirts, saved money by ordering our food through Gray Center, and we have decided to link the themes in such a way that we can spread our supplies over two DOY's.

Happening is in great shape as well thanks to the efforts of Ann Marie Schott and Jeff Reich. I was not able to attend this past Happening, but some of the kids from my parish did and they came back saying, "It was the best EVER!" It's funny how many times I've heard this. What I take away from hearing these types of statements is that they must just be getting better and better.

The final challenge, and I'm sure we will meet others, is timely registration. The majority of folks that come to these events are registering two or three days before it begins. This makes it extremely difficult to plan based on numbers and registration fees. Applications can be downloaded from dioms.org and can be sent directly to the diocesan office. Speaking of the diocesan office, the folks that work in that office should be applauded for all they do to assist us in the running of these programs, not to mention what they do for the larger church.

It takes a village to raise a child. It takes the church to change their lives. If we change their lives, they will change the world.

Submitted by:
Patrick Sanders.
patrick@stjamesgreenville.com

Annual Report Companion Diocese Committee

The Dioceses of Panama and Mississippi continue to maintain and develop their longtime relationship. In October 2007 two members of the Mississippi Companion Diocese Committee, Betty Jo Dulaney and Cheri Weber, visited Panama. The Mission Committee of Panama had a well-planned itinerary for them. They met with Bishop Murray, attended morning prayer at Christ Church by the Sea in Colon, visited the Episcopal de Cristo-Colon school, the oldest Episcopal School in Panama, met with the Panamanian ECW Board, and visited the girl's home, Hogar de Ninas. They also visited St. Christopher Parish, San Cristobal Episcopal School, San Juan Church, St. Paul's Parish, St. Luke's Cathedral, and Colegio Episcopal School, which gave them a diverse look at the schools and churches in the Diocese.

Daisy Scantlebury, the Panama Diocesan ECW President, and her husband welcomed and housed the committee members while they visited Panama. Daisy was a guest of the Mississippi ECW Fall Conference in November 2006. Elfreida Beckford, a Panama Diocesan ECW Board member, attended the Mississippi ECW Fall Conference at Gray Center November 9 and 10, 2007. Mississippi Diocesan ECW President Evelyn Gregory and past president Lollie Everett plan to attend the Panama Diocesan ECW Annual Meeting and the Panama Council Meeting January 22-28, 2008. As we come together on these visits, the knowledge of our interdependence and mutual responsibility to all Christians continue to humble us.

Five doctors and volunteers from Mississippi along with 13 from Panama held medical clinics in the Priati, Kuna and Embera Indian villages in October, the fifth such mission to this area. Dr. Frank Criddle was team leader this year while Mike and Dawn Flannes took a sabbatical.

The Panama Mission Committee and Mississippi Companion Diocese Committee are working closely to further their relationship. Plans for the future include joint racial reconciliation training, inclusion in response to national disasters, youth exchange groups, continued ECW exchange, continued medical mission and companion diocese committee visits, and continued interest in and donations to the Bella Vista Children's Home, Hogar de Ninas. Long range hopes are for clergy exchange, parish to parish exchange, altar guild relationships, joint Cursillo, and teacher exchanges during vacations.

The Diocesan ECW Board gives scholarships annually to two students in the Cana'fistulo public school to continue their education. The school only teaches through the 6th grade. For three years they have helped the same students who are doing very well, and the hopes are to continue this project.

Both the Panama Mission Committee and Mississippi Companion Diocese Committees continue to meet and work diligently to strengthen the spiritual growth and togetherness of the partnership. In Christ, Jo Ann Lee.

Submitted by:
Jo Ann Lee, Chair

Sudanese Ministry Committee Report

The mission of the Sudanese Ministry Committee is to offer a network of support for the education, employment, health, and social and spiritual well being of Sudanese refugees in Mississippi. We also work to offer education about the lives of the Sudanese in Mississippi as well as the state of the conflict in Sudan. We see ourselves both as a diocesan ministry of the Episcopal Church and a means to foster ecumenical support for the Sudanese in Mississippi.

The Committee continues to sponsor Sudanese evening prayer, Saint Andrew's Cathedral parish offering food and fellowship following the services. Diocesan clergy have begun celebrating the Eucharist once a month. We mentor Sudanese refugees, helping them with cars, doctors, dentists, job searches, applications for citizenship and passports, and, on a few occasions, attending court with them. We have sponsored a retreat at the Gray Center (we plan another next summer) as well as group conversations with diocesan clergy about the challenges of life in America. We help sponsor students at the Education Center so that they can complete their high school educations. We offer book scholarships each semester to college students. We have offered small loans, and we have begun, with diocesan help, a special relationship with Hope Credit Union for future loans that will allow the young people to develop credit; we are scheduling a training session on financial literacy for the community. We have sent used school books to schools in Southern Sudan and Uganda. We have worked as advocates, recently sending a letter to President Bush, for example, urging his support of the Peace Accords. We are planning a joint program on Sudan with the *Tikkun* group of Beth Israel Congregation for January of 2008.

The elected Sudanese committee allots the book scholarships. Though they do not cover the full costs of books, the money is nevertheless a great help, we are told, and a concrete and significant source of encouragement of these young people's plans to finish their educations. The Sudanese here tell us that they have significantly higher rates of success in completing high school and college educations than their peers in other states.

Submitted by:
Greg Miller



Honduras Medical Mission

For the week that the Honduras Medical Mission is in country, it is a concrete example of One Church in Mission, Inviting, Reconciling, and Transforming. Hondurans and Mississippians are all invited to share the Eucharist and healing clinics. Through the compassion and healing hands of the professionals and their support staff from Mississippi and the local community, God's healing and reconciling grace are made manifest. Most of those who have gone to Honduras speak of how the experience has transformed their lives. They pray that the experience of the team's ministry transforms the lives of those in Honduras.

The 26th annual Honduras Medical Mission was sponsored by the parish of Trinity Church, Hattiesburg from February 24th until March 4th 2007. The 27 team members included physicians (3), dentists (3), nurses (5), vets (2), a pharmacist, a priest, a deacon, and support staff (11). Because of a decline in donations and increased costs, the clinics were only run in San Joaquin, Santa Barbara in 2007. An abbreviated vet clinic was run for part of two days in Concepcion del Norte where full clinics have been run for the past decade. The physicians in the medical clinic saw 736 families representing 2,512 individuals. Over 2,000 of these were treated for intestinal parasites. The pharmacy filled 16,015 prescriptions. The dentists pulled 1,084 teeth from 306 patients. The sealant team sealed 1,485 permanent molars of children to prevent decay. The eye clinic checked the vision of 527 patients and dispensed 338 pair of prescription glasses and over 400 pair of sunglasses. The vets treated 1,032 animals, principally dogs, horses, and cattle.

Through the generosity of a small group of team members, Kinder Mississippi (an educational and feeding program for all preschoolers in San Joaquin) was funded for 2007 and the transport of middle school children from San Joaquin to their public school in San Antonio Majada was partially funded. Both of these programs had been fully funded in the past from donated Honduras Medical Mission funds. At the end of the mission in March 2007, the Honduras Medical Mission was in the red with bills outstanding and could not fund these long-standing, vital programs.

At its meeting in April, the HMM Committee decided that it had to redouble its fund raising efforts, but this alone would not be enough to insure funds to cover the immediate costs of the sponsoring parish planning the 2008 mission. The Committee requested and was given a one-time grant from the Trustees of the Diocese in order to cover expenses until additional funds could be raised. It is the intention of the HMM Committee to raise enough funds through donations and fees paid by team members to fully fund the 2008 mission. The balance at the end of the 2008 mission, equal to or hopefully greater than the diocesan grant, would then serve as a reserve to draw against when organizing subsequent missions.

The HMM Committee met on August 11th to select the team for the 2008 Honduras Medical Mission, which will be sponsored by St. Philip's, Jackson. This, the 27th annual mission, will be in Honduras from February 23rd until the 29th 2008. St. Philip's is the 15th parish to sponsor the mission. The team selected consists of physicians (4), dentists (3), nurses (6), optometrists (2), a pharmacist, a vet, two priests, a deacon, and 11 support staff. Other applicants agreed to be on a waiting list to replace team members who have to dropout at the last moment. A training meeting for this new team will be held at Gray Center on January 18th and 19th.

Committee On Ministry With Gay and Lesbian Persons

The Mission: Our mission is to continue Christ's work of reconciliation and unity among all persons by attaining full inclusion of gay and lesbian persons in the life of the Church.

The Committee met on four occasions during the year (20 January, 28 April, 28 July, and 27 October). A summary of the ongoing projects and accomplishments follow:

1. The Bishop stated in his 24 April 2006 letter, which forwarded the Pastoral Survey Report "*I believe it is a good idea to have a clear statement of welcome published in a visible part of the Church facility (Recommendation D2 from the report). For some of us that welcome is self evident, for others, emotional safety is a real issue.*"

The recommendation reads as follows: "*We respect the dignity of all persons regardless of national origin, race, gender, age or sexual orientation, and welcome and encourage them to participate fully in all areas of parish/mission life.*"

The committee recognizes that this goal has met with limited success and is working on additional measures to be implemented in the coming year to make this a reality.

2. The second annual retreat for gay, lesbian and other interested persons was held 24-26 August 2007 at Gray Center. The Bishop opened the retreat and introduced the leader, The Rev. Fr. Thomas Brown, Rector of St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Brattleboro, Vermont. The theme "Kindle a Flame of Sacred Love" was taken from Hymn 704, words by Charles Wesley. As Anglicans, we are inheritors of an approach to Christian faith that is rooted in Scripture, tradition and reason. Fr. Brown used the hymnody of Charles Wesley, St. John's gospel, and drawing on the works of Martin Smith and Chris Glaser; to invite the participants in conversation and shared theological reflection on the gifts of "kindling flames of sacred love" There were opportunities for silence and both private and small group reflection for the over 50 participants.

The third annual retreat will be 22-24 August 2008 at Gray Center.

3. One of the main projects that the Committee has been working on this year and will become reality in 2008 is developing a special training course for clergy on meeting the pastoral needs of gay and lesbian persons and their family members. This course implements one of the major recommendations of the Pastoral Survey Report. The Bishop has approved the dates for the training, which will be at Gray Center, on 1-2 June 2008. The presenter will be The Rev. Dr. Philip Culbertson, Theological Lecturer at The College of St. John the Evangelist, at The University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand. His presentations will be in part based on Chapter 7 ("Counseling Gays and Lesbians", from his book "Caring for God's People: Counseling and Christian Wholeness"). A special note of thanks is expressed to The Rev. Jane Alexander and Dr. John Allin who have contributed considerable time and energy to this project.
4. As an outgrowth of both retreats, the Committee is continuing to address a desire of the participants to develop a network of gay and lesbian Episcopalians within the diocese. The purpose of this network will be to continue and promote the heightened sense of spiritual connectivity experienced during the retreat and to provide support resources and act as a vehicle to exchange information.

The Committee has recently welcomed two new members: The Rev. David Lemburg from McComb and Van Bankston from Carrollton. Joan Bailey from Jackson and Ed Sisson from Oxford have left the Committee. Many thanks to them for their dedicated work.

Lastly, I would like to thank the members of the Committee who have worked diligently to make the above described projects a reality. All of us are looking forward to 2008 with a strong sense of enthusiasm.

Submitted by:

John A. Lever, Chairman

Mississippi Episcopal Aids Committee

Mission State: To minister and assist those affected by AIDS in Mississippi.

The M.E.A.C. addresses three primary areas related to HIV and AIDS in this diocese. These areas are:

1. Spiritual support for people with AIDS, their care-givers, families, and loved ones
2. Education and prevention
3. Emergency financial aid

Spiritual Support: The AIDS Committee organizes prayer and healing services and memorial services, makes statewide clergy referrals, and coordinates the Adopt-a-Child program, which matches parishes with children who are HIV+ or who have AIDS.

Education and Prevention: The AIDS Committee sponsors the T.A.P. (Teens for AIDS Prevention) Program in the diocese. Books, brochures, and videos are available that address various issues related to HIV infection and AIDS and members of the Committee are available to speak to E.Y.C. or adult education groups.

Financial Aid: The AIDS Committee distributes emergency funds to those who have no other financial resources. Requests for aid must come through doctors, social workers, pharmacists or clergy, as no monies are given directly to individuals. Since 1995 the M.E.A.C. has responded to more than 5,000 requests for assistance with an expenditure of more than \$500,000.00.

Mississippi Episcopal AIDS Committee

The Mississippi Episcopal AIDS Committee (MEAC) was formed by the Diocese of Mississippi in 1988. It addresses three primary areas related to HIV and AIDS in the diocese: 1) Spiritual support for people with AIDS, their caregivers, families, and loved ones; 2) Education and prevention; and 3) Emergency financial support for those who have no other funding source for medicines, transportation, food, and utilities.

MEAC maintains a list of Episcopal priests and pastors from other denominations throughout the state who are willing to minister to those with HIV and AIDS for spiritual support. Calls are taken 24 hours a day by trained volunteers at a telephone crisis line. While some of the calls are for information and are handled effectively by the volunteers, many callers are referred on to a priest or pastor in their area for spiritual counseling. Others are referred for emergency assistance.

The Diocese of Mississippi delegation to the Kanuga HIV and AIDS Retreat in June 2007 was once again the largest ever with 29 people living with HIV/AIDS and five MEAC volunteers and caretakers attending. This total of 34 was a record number and all enjoyed the trip thoroughly. The retreat is sponsored by the Province IV Network of AIDS Ministries and the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition (NEAC). Mississippi MEAC volunteers are active on the regional planning committee and plan to increase the participation in the delegation each year in the future.

Other educational activities are ongoing. MEAC volunteers correspond with all churches in the diocese to make them aware of the committee's goals, activities such as the Kanuga retreat and World AIDS Day (each December 1), and other educational opportunities. Committee members distribute literature to many clergy members and congregants at the annual church council. Plans are underway to speak to groups in each region. Resource materials are maintained in a small library.

The emergency fund maintained by MEAC remained strong during 2007 with a grant of \$40,000 from the HeARTS Against AIDS benefit. Donations were also received from Episcopal churches in the diocese and individuals and organizations throughout the state. These funds are spent at a rate of up to five thousand dollars a month in order to supply essential medications for patients waiting for approval for AIDS drug assistance programs (through the Mississippi State Department of Health) and for Medicaid patients who require more than the allowed seven prescriptions each month. Even patients with medication coverage through private insurance need one-time assistance paying high co-payments.

A social worker, nurse, provider, or clergy member involved with the patient must request assistance through the emergency fund. Requests are received by means of a 24 hour answering service. The poor economy has been evident in the increasing number of requests received, especially for basic necessities such as utilities and food. MEAC continues to be the only source for emergency assistance for HIV and AIDS patients in the state. Sponsors are also matched with families needing assistance at Christmas and other special occasions.

A special grant was received in 2007 for assisting patient placement into substance abuse programs. The Franciscan Sisters awarded these funds.

Changes to both the Mississippi Medicaid eligibility guidelines and the HOPWA management in the Jackson area have been of great concern to committee members during 2007. MS HeARTS Against AIDS has sponsored an additional fundraiser this year to help meet the growing needs. The changes may lead to an increased need for emergency funds for medications and for rent, as has the hurricane.

The Mississippi Episcopal AIDS Committee also works to organize prayer and healing services, memorial services, and to link people to churches. Committee members work closely with HIV/AIDS housing programs, service agencies, and Ryan White health programs. MEAC has worked during 2007 to increase diversity within its membership and to expand knowledge and activities of the committee.

The committee looks forward to continuing to increase the number of people served each year. Emergency assistance helps more than 400 HIV and AIDS victims each year with emergency assistance, and many more with messages of prevention and spiritual support.

Submitted by:
Ella Tardy, Chair

Hallelujah Housing



Episcopal Relief and Development has partnered with the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi to launch the affordable housing project, Hallelujah Housing.

Hallelujah Housing addresses the following recovery needs:

60,000 homes were destroyed along the Mississippi Gulf Coast by Hurricane Katrina.

34,000 rental units destroyed.

Estimated that 2,500 public housing units destroyed.

January 2007: 30,000 FEMA trailers were still in use in the 3 coastal counties. That comprises about 75,000 individuals.

August 29, 2007: 17,185 FEMA trailers were in use. That comprises about 43,000 individuals.

A solution:

Insurance companies have not paid significant amounts to assist with the rebuilding of homes occupied by people who comprise the working class and the working poor. Many families are still living in FEMA trailers or with relatives. Frustration levels, depression rates, and suicide rates have risen. Hopelessness is pervasive.

Filling the gaps left by insurance companies, SBA loans, and Community Development Block Grant shortages is a major task for people living below 60-80% of AMI. Working in collaboration with ECD/Hope Community Credit Union and other non-profit Community Development Corporations, we hope to increase the affordable housing stock by at least 300-400 homes in the next five years.

Through the generosity of ERD, and a grant for \$1,650,000, we are working with two pools of money. Gap funding grants not to exceed \$30,000 will be awarded to qualifying homeowners. Also, a loan loss reserve fund is being created in an account at ECD/Hope Community Credit Union. For many hard working people, after many moves and jobs, there are blemishes on their credit scores. They are anxious to resettle on the coast. This account will provide a guarantee for loans that Hope originates and sells on the secondary market. For many people, this will be the only way home.

Building is underway:

On the second anniversary of Katrina, August 29, 2007, Bishop Gray blessed the home of Bernice and Larry Johnson. Prior to Katrina, the Johnsons had been living in the home built by Larry Johnson's grandparents in Pass Christian. The hurricane left them with nothing but a slab; due to health reasons, Bernice and Larry could not live in their FEMA trailer and had to stay with relatives in Isola, MS. It took them two years to find their way home. A forgivable grant from Hallelujah Housing, in addition to Phase II road home monies and a small amount of insurance, allowed them to return to a home in Pass Christian built on the site of their former home.

Hallelujah Housing is building houses for hard working people whose jobs afford them enough to own a home and live month to month, but whose income, without adequate insurance returns, could not rebuild a home like the one they lived in before Katrina. We are so please to be a part of helping people and families find a way home and rebuild their communities. Hallelujah Housing will be assisting to build clusters of homes in Hancock, Harrison, and Jackson counties.

Submitted by:
The Rev. Carol Borne Stewart
Assistant to the Bishop for Economic and Community Development

Executive Committee

March 8, 2007

The following one year appointments were approved: The Rev. Bill Hanna, All Saints, Jackson; Mrs. Nora Johnson, St. James, Jackson; Mr. John McKee, St. George's, Clarksdale.

Committee appointments were made-Finance Committee: Steve McNair, Scott Bauer and Susan Bear; Capers Scholarship Committee: Susan Bear, Sue Cassady and Bryan Owen; Compensation Review Committee: Keith Webb, Dennis Ryan, Larry Primeaux, and John McKee; Structure Committee: Bill Hanna, Elizabeth Wheatley-Jones, Dennis Ryan and Brian Seage. The Rev. Dennis Ryan was elected vice-president.

Areas of focus were identified by the Executive Committee:

- Task force on small congregations looking at compensation packages, education, clergy support, etc.
- Look at the way we are doing church; evangelism to the unchurched; differences in all areas of the church
- Look at many impoverished areas which need attention; know the needs of the culture and implement change
- Focus on diversity
- Challenge of clergy compensation with rising cost of medical insurance, resources for education; possible need for a third party to interface with priest and vestry concerning compensation
- How to make the invitation; desire for more evangelism; take church into the world
- Diocesan marketing plan via internet
- New structure involvement and implementation
- Ensure that everyone is invited and cared for when they arrive
- Sell All Saints School
- Increase the number of Episcopalians
- More development in the non-traditional church;

Mr. Bill Horne, executive director of Gray Center, reported that earnings are down and Gray Center has had to draw on diocesan support ahead of schedule. He predicted that it would be after camp when he could really predict the outcome for 2007. A major gift was received from St. James Church in Jackson. These funds were used for an amplifier for the camp, cushioned chairs, alarm clocks, \$10,000 applied to the line of credit, bonuses for the staff and several other items. Two golf carts have been donated by Lake Caroline and they have become very handy to travel between the camp and conference center. Lee Lewis has donated many trees for the conference center and has planted them himself.

The 2007 budget was reviewed with a \$137,000 deficit budgeted. This will be monitored during 2007 and adjustments will be made in August. By motion, the Diocese of Mississippi will give Shannon Johnston his bishop's ring at his consecration as bishop coadjutor of the Diocese of Virginia.

By motion the rates for supply clergy at \$125 for one service per day; \$150 for two services per day and \$175 for three services per day. Mileage will be reimbursed at the current IRS rate and overnight accommodations will be provided, if necessary.

There was a report on the progress of the Structure Task. The new structure should create energy, be outcome oriented, have built-in accountability with flexibility and should serve the diocesan vision.

There was discussion on the concept of combining the Executive Committee, Standing Committee and Trustees. Gray Center and Commission on Ministry would remain the same as currently constituted.

There was a review of the 180th Annual Council.

By motion, the Proclamation of Emergency issued after Hurricane Katrina was rescinded.

Bishop Gray reviewed the background of the Darkness into Day campaign and our relationship with the Episcopal Church Foundation. The total raised from the DID campaign was \$2 million. The dioceses of Mississippi and Louisiana no longer have the relationship with ECF and both dioceses will be raising funds independently.

Funds were allocated in the 2006 budget for the Millennium Development Goals will be sent to Bishop Masereka for his work with AIDS children.

June 14, 2007

The Rev. Luther Ott reported on the progress of the Structure Task Force. Bishop Gray's charge to the task force was to look beyond the current structure and to seek a structure with efficiency, accountability and a focus on mission. The diocesan vision must be reflected in any new structure.

The task force will be making two proposals: 1) Canon for Mission or operating officer for mission and ministry. The canon would be accountable to the bishop and Executive Council. 2) an Executive Council which would come from combining the Standing Committee, Executive Committee, and the Trustees. The purpose of this "super committee" would be to have the program arm combined with the funding arm.

The next phase of work for the task force is looking at the operations at the Allin House to look at the current job descriptions and evaluate their place in the new structure. Mr. Chip Westbrook has been contracted to perform this work.

Under the direction of the Rev. Carol Stewart, the diocese will be entering into an agreement with Episcopal Relief and Development for a \$1.5 million grant for affordable housing on the coast. There will also be a relationship with Hope Community Credit Union who will make loans and grants for the mortgages. The goal is to build 1,000 houses in 5 years

Horne and Jerry Hudson, chairman of the Gray Center Board of Directors, reported to the Executive Committee. Mr. Grae Dickson is the new food and beverage director after the resignation of Brian Huckaby in early June.

Horne and Hudson reported that they are anticipating a \$120,000 deficit for 2007 and that Gray Center would need additional funds at the end of the year. Bishop Gray reported that he will establish a task force to look at development and expectations of Gray Center.

The Executive Committee was updated on the status of All Saints School. To date, there is no buyer. There are several parties that we are in negotiations with for a possible long-term lease of the property.

September 6, 2007

Bishop Gray recorded a DVD with a special appeal to churches for increased Voluntary Proportionate Giving or other financial support to assist with the recovery and redevelopment on the coast. The latest fund raising efforts have concentrated on clergy salaries, interest on new property acquisitions and pension assessments for diocesan staff and coast clergy.

The 2007 budget was reviewed. With the pension assessments of the diocesan staff being waived for 2007, the budget is expected to be at break even at the end of 2007. The minutes of the Compensation Review Committee and medical insurance options for 2008 were discussed.

The following motions were passed: 3% increase in the diocesan minimum compensation (pension base); 3% mandatory increase for supported missions and chaplaincies; 3% suggested minimum increase for non-supported missions and parishes.

Horne, executive director of Gray Center, reported to the Executive Committee that the camp numbers have been audited, and the camping dollars are up 3% from 2006, but the number of campers remained the same. The conference center income is down.

The Rev. Carol Stewart made a presentation to the Executive Committee concerning the work by Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) after Hurricane Katrina. \$18 million has been raised by ERD after Katrina and \$6.5 million has been sent to Mississippi for relief and redevelopment. Unity Modular Homes is a green mobile home plant in Columbia, which is being partially funded by ERD.

Bishop Gray and Granville Tate updated the Executive Committee on the status of All Saints School.

December 18, 2007

The proposed 2008 budget was presented as recommended by the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee began with a \$475,000 deficit budget and presented a \$207,000 deficit to the Executive Committee. With some small compensation adjustments and news that Christ Church, Bay St. Louis will only need \$25,000 in support, the Executive Committee began with a deficit of \$157,999. After discussion the 2008 budget was accepted with a \$28,000 deficit. Bishop Gray will work on several unresolved issues. Discussion followed on what the diocesan budget will look like beyond 2008. The issue may be stewardship at the local level, and stewardship education should be encouraged. The funding for the Canon for Mission had to be cut from the 2008 budget. but this position is key to rejuvenation of the ministry of the diocese.

Horne reported to the Executive Committee that the 2008 Gray Center budget would show a \$72,632 deficit. The Trustees granted \$52,000 to Gray Center in December 2007 in order to cover a shortage of cash. This should generate a profit for 2007. Bishop Gray will be the chair of the Gray Center Board of Managers for 2007 and will make Gray Center a top priority. This diocese needs to be able to communicate the mission of Gray Center. It is possible an increased endowment is necessary for Gray Center to operate in the black.

The Rev. Scott Lenoir, new editor of *The Mississippi Episcopalian* met with the Executive Committee. Lenoir shared his thoughts and vision for the newspaper. After discussion, a decision was made to print *The Mississippi Episcopalian* independent of *Episcopal Life*.

Housing Resolutions for 2008 were passed for the diocesan staff.

By motion, the offering at the closing Eucharist will be divided between Episcopal Relief and Development and the University of the South on the occasion of their 150th anniversary.

Bishop Gray reported that the funding bill, which would allow a lease or purchase of the All Saints property, has passed the House of Representatives and is awaiting passage by the Senate and signature of President Bush.

Submitted by:

Kathryn Weathersby McCormick, Secretary

A-V Center Report

The Audio-Visual Resource Center continues to serve parishes, individuals and organizations in the Diocese of Mississippi by supplementing, enriching, and enabling the process of spiritual formation. We supply programs to educate and entertain those on the spiritual journey.

Technology moves ever onward, and the A-V Center adjusts our collection to reflect this change. We are buying more DVDs as resources become available in that format. Also, we are investigating the use of books on CD.

During the past year we have supplied programs to Episcopalians in other states as well as the Diocese of Mississippi.

We continue to recover from our losses from Katrina, replacing programs that were lost and forgoing postage and other expenses for patrons in the affected areas.

The resources of the A-V Center are available for the cost of postage only. You may contact the director by mail at P.O. Box 145, Yazoo City, MS 39194; by telephone at 662-746-5557 (ask for Miss Janet); or by e-mail at to discuss what is available and what is suitable for your purpose.

12/17/07

Dear Friends,

I recently read in the Mississippi Episcopalian that the diocesan council will meet in Natchez in January, so I want to tell you that you have been ministering with kindness to an "Episcopalian antique", the descendent of the donor of Church Hill, the site of Christ Church.

Colonel James Wood was my great, great grandfather. He was buried in the small historic cemetery at Church Hill called the Wood Cemetery, but my grandparents Mathilda and James Payne were buried in the church yard. My mother, Belle Wade Payne was born at Church Hill; however, she grew up at Locust Plantation in Greenville as did I.

*I hope you have a Christmas holiday full of joy and peace. Bless you.
Belle Wade Bowen Frame*

This Holiday Season Make a Joyful Noise!



Spread Holiday Cheer with the Joyful Noise of Rebuilding!

**Two years after Katrina,
thousands of Mississippi families
are still not back in their homes.
Skilled volunteer plumbers,
electricians, carpenters, painters
and quick learners are still
desperately needed!**

**Here's your chance to be
God's Hands, Feet, Eyes and
Heart! Rebuilding the Mississippi
Gulf Coast, for Faithful People,
It's a Labor of Love-**



Camp Victor - Ocean Springs (228) 282-3754
Camp Biloxi - Biloxi (228) 594-0008
Camp Coast Care - Long Beach (228) 234-5193
www.campcoastcare.com
Mission on the Bay - Bay St. Louis (228) 466-6261
(601) 352-7125 • www.lesm.org

**Camps will be open throughout the season
and work projects will continue except on
Christmas Day and New Years Day.**

**Camp Coast Care provides dormitory-style
quarters and food costs are nominal. Give
us a week and we'll give new life to Gulf
Coast homes...and families.**

Camp Caritas

Camp Caritas is a camp for children with a parent(s) in prison. The curriculum is based on the principles of restorative justice and Montessori education. Activities are chosen and designed to foster seven qualities that research has shown tend to be present in successful youth and are often absent in at risk youth. The qualities are strong perceptions of personal capabilities, of personal significance, and of personal influence over life.

Additionally, the camp emphasizes interpersonal skills, intrapersonal skills, systemic skills, and judgmental skills

To help develop systemic skills, the camp schedule remains the same throughout the week. Each day begins and ends with worship. Campers choose from a list of activities that fill their mornings. After lunch there is swimming followed by art and games. Each afternoon there are skill building classes, supper, community building games and a night activity. There is a kind of peace when a camper knows what to expect and can control his or her response rather than simply reacting to what adults tell him or her to do.

This year the evening activities focused on healthy choices, an important topic/subject for the at-risk population participating in Camp Caritas. Governor Barbour's Chef, Louis Bruno, came out on Monday evening and talked with campers about his own personal struggles with obesity and the benefits of weight loss and exercise. Tuesday evening we had an "Iron Chef" style healthy snack competition. Teams of campers were given ingredients and challenged to create a healthy snack. Wednesday evening boys and girls were separated and were led in a discussion of healthy social choices. Thursday night our dress for success instruction ended in a fashion show.

To enhance the camper's sense of having influence over his/her life, there are choices built into the curriculum. The activities campers may choose include fishing, nature walks, horses, games, music and art. Campers also choose the skill area in which they would like to build competence. The skills we offered this year were Mr. Wizard (a fun look at science), canoeing, pet care and nature.

To increase the campers' sense of their personal capabilities and influence over life, we offer the challenging experience of both low and high ropes courses for all campers. We also teach a basic first-aid course that is required for all campers.

Interpersonal skills are enhanced through the use of guided small group talking circles. These circles are used in worship, discipline, at meals and in the cabins to encourage constructive communication.

Intrapersonal skills are the focus of our worship. Worship activities are designed to create opportunities for full participation (visual, auditory and kinesthetic) by the campers. Music is important in building community and celebrating.

Every activity included in camp is carefully chosen to offer joy, to teach, and to equip campers for a full life.

Camp Caritas has been a completely volunteer run camp. Funds have been raised, primarily, through contributions from individuals and church groups, along with small grants for specific items. This year a Women's Fund Grant was used to enhance racial and age diversity among camp staff. We hope to be able to offer more numerous and larger stipends in the future.

Camp Caritas meets a unique need in the state of Mississippi. There are numerous possibilities for expanding this ministry in terms of numbers and effectiveness. Expansion will require increased funding for both program and staff.

Episcopal Relief and Development

Thank you for supporting Episcopal Relief and Development! In 2006, ERD changed the lives of over one million individuals and transformed communities in 32 countries around the world. ERD focused on programs in three main areas: primary health, food security, and emergency relief and recovery. In its efforts to fight preventable diseases, eradicate poverty, and restore communities devastated by disasters, ERD uses the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as a benchmark to measure its progress. Each of ERD's international programs is structured to make the MDGs a reality for people in the developing world.

Three areas that ERD has worked extensively in through partnership with Episcopal, Anglican, and ecumenical partners are the following:

- 1) Comprehensive malaria prevention and control programs that have saved lives by providing long-lasting insecticide-treated nets, along with critical training and prevention workshops for communities
- 2) Providing equipment, training, and micro-loans that helped thousands of families increase their crop production, improve their diet, and start small businesses
- 3) Responding to 48 disasters and complex emergencies around the world through immediate relief and the long-term process of rebuilding to help communities recover.

The Gulf Coast of Mississippi continues to benefit from funds from ERD in its long-term rebuilding process. Especially targeted are the poor, marginalized, and distressed. If you need more information about ERD, please contact The Rev. Diane Livingston, Diocesan Coordinator (or 228-265-4794). "Just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

Registrar 2007

Ordained as Transitional Deacon:

Billie Patterson Abraham, 6/2/2007, by Duncan M. Gray, III at St. Andrew's, Jackson
Walton W. Jones, 6/2/2007, by Duncan M. Gray, III at St. Andrew's, Jackson

Ordained to Priesthood:

William White, 1/7/2007, by Duncan M. Gray, III for Diocese of Virginia at St. Thomas', Diamondhead
Patrick Sanders, 1/27/2007, by Duncan M. Gray, III at St. James', Greenville
Thomas Holder Fanning, 2/17/2007, by Duncan M. Gray, III at St. Luke's, Brandon

Dimissory Received:

William White, 1/23/2007, from the Diocese of Virginia
Bruce D. Cheney Sr., 5/14/2007, from the Diocese of Virginia
Laura Gettys, 8/1/2007, from the Diocese of North Carolina
James Lee Winter, 12/13/2007, from the Diocese of Louisiana

Dimissory Issued:

Aquilla B. Hanson, 9/4/2007 to the Diocese of Florida
Tim Jones, 11/01/2007, to the Diocese of York
Emma F. Connolly, 11/7/2007, to the Diocese of West Tennessee
Marcia King, 11/8/2007, to the Diocese of Tennessee
William Earl Andrews, III, 12/17/2007, to the Diocese of West Tennessee

Changes in the Diocese:

David Lemburg, 3/1/2007, to Holy Trinity, Crystal Springs and Mediator-Redeemer, McComb-Magnolia
Paul J. Stephens, 6/1/2007, to St. John's, Laurel, as interim rector
Margaret Ayers, 7/1/2007, to St. James, Port Gibson
Helen Tester, 8/1/2007, to Church of the Mediator, Meridian
Jennifer Deaton, 8/1/2007, to St. Andrew's School
Patrick Sanders, 8/1/2007, to Diocesan Office and St. James', Greenville
Edward O'Connor, 9/1/2007, to St. Andrew's Cathedral
Shannon Manning, 9/1/2007, to St. James, Jackson
Ann Whitaker, 9/1/2007, to Creator, Clinton
Cecil B. Jones, Jr., 12/1/2007, to St. Christopher's Church of the Ascension, Jackson as priest in charge
Larae Jordan Rutenbar, 12/11/2007, to All Saints', Tupelo, as interim rector

Retired:

Elizabeth Jones, 9/1/2007, to reside in Greenville
David Elliott, 9/1/2007, to reside in Jackson
David Langdon, 12/31/2007, to reside in Sumner

Licensed:

Jane Alexander
Jane Bearden
Arnold Bush
Susan Carney
Ted Dawson
Terrell Griffis
James Harlan
J. Bryan Hatchett
Edgar Ince
Johan Johnson
Michael Lippard
Richard Losch
Heather Parr
Margarita Swetman
Noble Walker

Catherine Johns
Registrar

The Center for Formation & Mission

The Center for Formation & Mission of The Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi has had excellent opportunities this year to provide clergy and lay workers throughout Province IV, a broad spectrum of conference offerings that have nurtured and empowered the spiritual development of Christian discipleship. I am reminded of Jesus' words to Peter in Matthew 16:18, "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church".

The Center for Formation & Mission is indeed building upon the "rock" of The Duncan M. Gray Camp & Conference Center by providing educational, formational, vocational, and spiritual program offerings. During 2007, conference attendees participated in events that included "The Trinity Institute National Theological Webcast: God's Unfinished Future," "New Vestry Members Retreat," "Behavior & Enneagrams" with The Rev. Charles Floyd, "Annual Wardens Conference," "Spring Dreams" with Karen Bonner, "Knitting and Centering Prayer" with Susan Nix, "Discovering the Divine Feminine" with The Rev. Rwth Ashton, "Deacons Spring Conference," "Annual Retired Clergy & Spouses," "Safe Churches," "Spiritual Renewal," "Episcopal Marriage Encounters," "Congregations of Vision," "Clergy Conference," "Hope Among the Fragments" with The Rev. Dr. Ephraim Radner, and "Seeing the Face of God in Each Other: Anti-Racism Training for Diocesan Leaders."

Program revenue at Gray Center exceeded 2007 budget projections in the amount of \$57,132.00, bringing in an actual income to Gray Center of \$69,592.68. Of this total revenue generated to Gray Center, \$37,624.18 was "new" program offerings developed by The Center for Formation & Mission.

Once again, 2007 has proven to be a successful year for the Center for Formation & Mission. Those who took the opportunity to participate in CffM programs have been nurtured and fed. I want to especially thank members of the CffM Program Committee for their guidance and support: The Rev. Ann Whitaker, Chairperson, The Rev. Alston Johnson, Mrs. Gay Yerger, The Rev. George Woodliff, The Rev. Brian Seage, The Rev. Becky Youngblood, The Rev. Minka Sprague, The Rev. Jennifer Deaton, and Ms. Sissie Wile.

The Center for Formation & Mission program offerings for 2008 are attached at the end of this report. Many of the 2008 conference offerings meet IACET guidelines for required clergy CEUs. The Diocese of Mississippi will require all clergy to complete at least 10 CEU contact hours over the next 2 year period. Providing programming that helps clergy comply with the national church's CEU requirements, as well as the Diocese of MS, is an additional objective of the Center for Formation & Mission.

The Center for Formation & Mission calendar of events for 2008 is replete with spiritual formational offerings. Come let us "rock you" in 2008!

Center for Formation & Mission Programs for 2008

"Religion & Violence": The 38th Trinity Institute National Theological Webcast Conference
January 21—23 (CEU available)\$245.00

New Vestry Members and Wardens Conference, The Episcopal Diocese of MS with Bishop Gray
February 22-23\$80.00

Planned Giving Retreat
The Rev. Kyle Seage
March 1 at St. James Episcopal Church in Jackson, MS\$50.00

Sacred Stitches: A Knitting & Needles Conference in Holy Week
with The Rev. Jennifer Deaton
March 17—19 (CEU available)\$220

Gathering Of Leaders
The Rt. Rev. Duncan M. Gray, III
April 7—9\$TBA

"Growing Our Ministry with God's People"
North American Association for the Diaconate
April 10—13 (CEU available)\$TBA

Sacred Vessels: behold the Feminine Face of God,
with The Rev. Rwth Ashton, Becky Williams, and The Rev. Jennifer Deaton
April 25—26\$120

Non-Violent Communication
with Lucy Perry, Berkley, California
May 2—4

Annual Retired Clergy & Spouses Conference
May 20—21 (Tues.—Wed.)\$TBA

Spiritual Renewal Retreat
Committee on Ministry with Gay and Lesbian Persons and
The Center for Formation & Mission
August 22—24\$175 (full fee)

**Christian Yoga & Magic Mandalas...or,
Knitting & Needles in Prayer and Meditation**
Sept. 26—28 (CEU available)\$225

Clergy Conference
The Episcopal Diocese of MS
October 13—16 (CEU available)

"Sabbath Time: lay leaders leading from their center" (finding rest, wisdom & delight) with Gay Yerger, Ellen Gabardi, and Jane Watts
October 17—18 (CEU available)\$125

Praying in Color
with author Sybil MacBeth, Memphis, TN
November 7—8 (CEU available)\$225

Seeing the Face of God in Each Other
Anti Racism / Part II
Dec. 5—6 (CEU available)\$195

Submitted by:
The Rev. Debo Dykes