Listening, Praying, Reconciling—
The 12th Annual Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage

Update on the Bishop Search Process

Launching a Groundbreaking Certification Program
Bishop Search Committee Is Accepting Nominations and Applications

The Episcopal Diocese of Alabama has begun its search for a new bishop with a deadline of October 8 for nominations and applications. The 11th Bishop of Alabama will succeed the Rt. Rev. Henry N. Parsley Jr., who is retiring as bishop effective December 31, 2011.

To assist those interested in the nomination process, a profile of the diocese has been posted for viewing and downloading at www.dioala.org. Simply click on the link for “Diocesan Profile” in the navigation menu on the left side of this page. The profile will launch in a new window.

Guidelines for submitting names can be found in the profile under “How You Can Respond.” Forms for nominations, applications, and letters of recommendation are also provided. To be considered, all materials must be postmarked no later than October 8, 2010.

Launching a Groundbreaking Program

By Sarah Sartin, Diocesan Deputy for Christian Formation and Youth Ministry

A team of clergy and laity from large and small parishes began meeting shortly after our diocese initiated our ACTS 2 capital campaign to discern the direction of a Lay Certification Program for Children and Youth Ministries. Our diocese launched this groundbreaking program at an overnight retreat at Camp McDowell on August 28-29. The inaugural class includes 12 youth ministers and Christian education directors from parishes across our diocese in the inaugural class have committed to attend eight instructional sessions and complete a theological self-study program under the guidance of diocesan clergy mentors.

In “Loosening and Broadening,” Bishop Sloan invites us “to take a fresh look at our faith and Church” (page 4). He suggests that “love should be the primary value for those who follow Jesus Christ,” and he encourages us to consider new ideas about serving “the Lord of Creation” in today’s world.

Please send stories and photographs (color, if available) for The Alabama Episcopalian to Editor Norma McKittrick at apostlednt@aol.com or 2156 Kent Way, Birmingham, AL 35226. The submission deadline for each issue is the 1st of the month prior to publication.

For the Latest News

Keep up with the latest news from around our diocese between issues of The Alabama Episcopalian on our diocesan Web site, www.dioala.org. If you are not already receiving our “Web Site Update,” you can sign up to receive a weekly e-mail containing headlines with links to the latest news, photos, and videos about and from around our diocese. Simply send an e-mail with your name and e-mail address to ddrachlis@dioala.org and put “Headlines” on the subject line. You can “opt out” anytime.

According to the diocesan profile, “The 11th bishop of Alabama will be a visionary who can lead, teach, and inspire both laypersons and clergy to grow the church, to find creative ways to meet financial challenges, and to strengthen ties between parishes and the diocese.” A broadly representative committee has been charged by the Standing Committee to deliver a slate of nominees by April 25, 2011.

For more information please e-mail dioala.search@gmail.com or contact Dr. Drew Clark, Chairman, P.O. Box 3010, Auburn, AL 36831.

The 12th Annual Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage on August 14 in Hayneville, photo by the Rev. Deacon Dave Drachlis

More than 200 people gathered in Hayneville on August 14 to remember and honor Jonathan Myrick Daniels and 11 others who lost their lives in Alabama during civil rights movement (please see pages 8-11). “We were there for communion. We were there to listen, to hear, to learn, to remember, to reconcile. We were there to sing and to pray,” reports the Rev. Deacon Dave Drachlis. In her reflection on the very moving event, Sewanee student Kristen Hanson emphasizes, “What strikes me most about Jonathan Daniels is his incredible ability to fulfill the promises outlined in the Episcopal Baptismal Covenant. I hope to follow in [his] footsteps to exemplify Christ’s love through my own courage and activism.”

“In many ways our youth minister to us as they show us how Christian faith is lived in every new generation,” Bishop Parsley points out in his article, “In Praise of the Young” (page 3). He notes that one of the hallmarks of our diocese is “our commitment to young people,” and he encourages us to spend time with the youth in our parishes. “They can often show us the way forward.”

As part of our commitment to young people, our diocese has initiated a Lay Certification Program for Children and Youth Ministries (“Launching a Groundbreaking Program” on this page). The 12 youth ministers and Christian education directors from parishes across our diocese in the inaugural class have committed to attend eight instructional sessions and complete a theological self-study program under the guidance of diocesan clergy mentors.

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A team of clergy and laity from large and small parishes began meeting shortly after our diocese initiated our ACTS 2 capital campaign to discern the direction of a Lay Certification Program for Children and Youth Ministries. Our diocese launched this groundbreaking program at an overnight retreat at Camp McDowell on August 28-29. The inaugural class includes 12 youth ministers and Christian education directors from parishes across our diocese. The class of 2012 will finish their coursework in December 2011 and be commissioned at our 181st diocesan convention in Huntsville in 2012.

During the retreat Cookie Cantwell, the Province IV Youth Coordinator and 18-year veteran youth minister at St. James’ in Wilmington, North Carolina, along with Tom Poynor, a former youth minister in our diocese and now lay chaplain for campus ministry at the University of California in Berkeley, engaged the group in exercises that created a safe and open community. The participants were also presented with a broader definition of “Lifelong Christian Formation,” and they gained a deeper understanding of this spiritual process.

The participants have committed to attend seven additional sessions and complete a theological self-study program under the guidance of clergy mentors. The mentors include the Rev. John Coleman, the Rev. Catherine Collier, the Rev. Matt Doss, the Rev. Evan Garner, the Rev. Chris Girata, the Rev. Stephen Hood, the Rev. Thomas Joyner, the Rev. Eric Liles, the Rev. Jamie McAdams, the Rev. Jim Wallace, the Rev. Robert Wisnewski, and the Rev. John Wesley. We are grateful for these clergy, and we are excited about them guiding this first class of participants in this unique program.
In Praise of the Young

The lives they touched and the lives they were touched by will bear enduring fruit.

One of the hallmarks of the Diocese of Alabama is our commitment to young people. It is a top priority of our shared ministry budget and our staffing. This, I believe, is one reason we continue to be a growing diocese and a happy church for the most part. The youth department, talented lay youth ministers in many congregations, Happening and Vocare, and the dedicated leadership especially of Sarah Sartain and Leslie Manning, along with Mark Johnston at camp and many others—all make this possible. To them and to our young people across our diocese we offer great and hearty thanks.

I encourage you to spend time with the youth of your parish. They can often show us the way forward. Listen to their points of view and ask what they seek and need in the church. Be sure that your youth participate in worship in all the ways possible . . . I promise that what you receive from them will be as valuable as what you may give to them.

It is easy to think of the church's youth ministry as something we do "for them." There is a grain of truth in this, of course, though I always prefer to think of it as "with them." When I was a church teenager and active in EYC and camp activities, it was clear that the church worked very hard to extend itself for us. Thankfully so, for it made a real difference in my spiritual formation and values in the turbulent 1960s. I still remember the passionate adults who taught our Sunday classes and advised our EYCs and worked with our diocesan youth community as some of the saints in my life.

But let's turn it around a bit. In many ways our youth minister to us as they show us how Christian faith is lived in every new generation. The values they hold, the expressions of their faith in service to others, the ways they pray and search and question, witness to the ever-evolving life of the church. We need to listen and learn from them so that what they value we will also value, what they struggle with we struggle with too. Without such learning from the young the church grows old fast.

I encourage you to spend time with the youth of your parish. They can often show us the way forward. Listen to their points of view and ask what they seek and need in the church. Be sure that your youth participate in worship in all the ways possible. Have your vestry welcome youth representatives to participate in worship in all the ways possible, not just as acolytes and on youth Sundays, but as lay readers and choir and altar guild members. Have your vestry welcome youth representatives regularly and include them in planning and problem-solving. I promise that what you receive from them will be as valuable as what you may give to them.

Michel Quoist in one of his memorable meditation prayers concludes with God saying (slightly edited):

Alleluia! Alleluia! Open, all of you, little old people! It is I, your God, the Eternal risen from the dead, coming to bring back to life the child in you. Hurry! Now is the time. I am ready to give you again the beautiful face of a child, the beautiful eyes of a young person. For I love young people, and I want everyone to be like them.

By the way, our young people are also the future of the church, which gives us abundant reason to be hopeful.
Loosening and Broadening

Recently The Alabama Episcopalian has followed a theme for each issue: Youth, Outreach, the Environment, Stewardship, and so on, and my task has been to write something reasonably intelligent in line with the theme. This time around there is no theme, and I am invited to write about whatever is on my mind. I have been, you might say, “set loose.” What a wonderful, frightening thing to be set loose! So that’s what I want to write about.

What’s on my mind has to do with loosening and broadening. I invite you to disagree with me if you think I’m wrong. Just because I’m a bishop doesn’t mean I’ve got all this stuff figured out—I’m just trying to be faithful, hoping to live in the love and joy of God and by what we say we believe. You don’t all necessarily have to let me know that you disagree with me, although you can if you wish—I already know I have a lot to learn.

I want to offer you something to think about, something that may cause you to take a fresh look at our faith and Church. All too often the inclination of faithful people is to narrow, reduce, and tighten, and I wonder if we shouldn’t be trying to broaden, expand, and loosen. It seems like Church people spend a lot of time trying to define God, to control how God works in creation, to make lists of people whom God loves and doesn’t love, to reduce God to a larger version of ourselves, and to confine and control the thoughts and opinions of other faithful people, especially those with whom we disagree.

But the stories we tell about Jesus might take us in another direction: Stories about Jesus healing lepers and Gentiles, challenging the rigid legalism of the Sadducees and Pharisees, calling a tax collector to be his disciple, healing on the Sabbath, inviting those without their own sins to cast the first stone, eating with publicans and prostitutes. Stories Jesus told in which it wasn’t the priest or the scribe who did the will of God but a hated Samaritan, in which the prodigal father welcomed his boneheaded son back from profligacy with open arms, in which the greatest commandment is to love God with all your heart and love your neighbor as yourself.

Unless I’ve completely misunderstood Jesus and the Good News of the love of God, maybe we ought to at least consider loosening our grip on some of our assumptions about God and broadening our understanding to consider ideas we have yet to consider.

guests of the wedding feast included the crippled, the lame, and the blind. Stories about Jesus telling those who would listen to love not only their neighbor but also their enemy and to forgive not just 7 times but 70 times 7. Stories about Jesus who wondered why we are so intent on noticing the speck in someone else’s eye and ignoring the log in our own.

To test Jesus one day, a Pharisee asked him which of the commandments was the greatest. I imagine the Pharisee was expecting that it might be the commandment to keep the Sabbath, or the dietary restrictions, or the injunction against murder or adultery, or another of the hundreds of laws. But Jesus said it was to love: “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets” (Matthew 22:37-39).

The greatest commandment, according to Jesus, is to love: love God, love other people. Just love. It’s up to us to figure out how. It’s not a difficult concept, but it’s not always easy to do.

There are other stories and sayings about Jesus of course that could be used to argue against what I’m suggesting. Luke records that Jesus also said, “Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able,” and “Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.” I’m not suggesting that anything goes, that the Christian faith is only simply a matter of being nice to nice people, or that we don’t need rules and guidelines. I’m suggesting that love should be the primary value for those who follow Jesus Christ.

Unless I’ve completely misunderstood Jesus and the Good News of the love of God, maybe we ought to at least consider loosening our grip on some of our assumptions about God and broadening our understanding to consider ideas we have yet to consider. The Pharisees and Sadducees were faithful people, but they could not see God’s Messiah because their faith was limited to what they already knew. It may be that we don’t have it all figured out, that God is beyond our definitions, and that part of faith is to look for God in the present day, not discarding our heritage and history but not being confined by them either.

I might be wrong, but I think we all have a lot to learn. How should we serve the Lord of Creation at the dawning of the 21st century? Love God now; love the people around you now. How can we best do that? That is for us to decide. What a wonderful, frightening thing to be set loose!

The Rt. Rev. John McKee Sloan

Clergy Spouse Dream Stay-cation—November 19-21

By Maggie Wade Johnston

All of you who fit the job description of clergy spouse, do you sometimes catch yourself daydreaming of sitting on a quiet beach watching the sunset and the stars beginning to twinkle? Or maybe going to an exotic location where you can paddle a wild river and feel the exhilaration of exploration? Or just sitting on the porch and chatting with friends while sipping your favorite wine? Well ... the 2010 Clergy Spices Retreat on November 19-21 will be the “Dream Stay-cation” that you so richly deserve and can afford! (I call us the Clergy Spices because, as I tell Mark, we put the spice in the life of our spouses!)

The exotic location is our own wonderful, wonderful Camp McDowell! You will be able to sit on a beach (Tiller’s Beach on Clear Creek) and watch the sunset and marvel at the twinkling night sky. You can explore the waters of Camp McDowell from a canoe, or take a guided sensory hike into the incredible canyon lands, or join Big Dave, our senior naturalist, for one of his famous early morning bird-watching adventures. You will be graciously wined and dined all weekend, and you will have plenty of opportunities to lounge on a porch or beside a fireplace. You can participate in a mosaics class led by one of the talented Alabama Folk School teachers, and you can help create a beautiful mosaic bench to leave at Camp as a gift from our Clergy Spices group. Perhaps best of all, we will have a massage therapist to help you relax and kick back.

Whatever your daydream is, please join us for a “time for us” long weekend! For more information and a registration form, please contact me at Maggie@campmcdowell.com or 205/387-1806.
Years ago I heard a joke about a young seminarian’s first Sunday out in the mission field. He was assigned to preach and lead the worship service at a small, country chapel located miles down a dirt road. The night before it had rained and turned the road into an almost impassible river of mud. The seminarian was determined to reach the chapel and did so in time to conduct a full service with a fiery 45-minute sermon sure to convict and convert. However the congregation lacked the same sense of urgency, so only one member, a farmer, attended. At the conclusion of the service the seminarian greeted his congregation of one and inquired about the service, which by then had taken well over an hour. The farmer admitted to being poorly equipped to critique the service but did draw an analogy from his cows. He explained to the eager seminarian that when he goes to feed the cows, if only one shows up he does indeed feed it, but he was quick to point out that he doesn’t feed it the whole load! I still find that to be wise advice and appreciate it being shared early in my ministry.

The farmer admitted to being poorly equipped to critique the service but did draw an analogy from his cows. He explained to the eager seminarian that when he goes to feed the cows, if only one shows up he does indeed feed it, but he was quick to point out that he doesn’t feed it the whole load! I still find that to be wise advice and appreciate it being shared early in my ministry.

Points of Entry
For a starter list of points of entry please log on to our diocesan Web site, www.dioala.org, and click on “The Whole Load.” Use the comment button to share ideas from your own congregation.

The truth is that we sometimes, as congregations, deliver the whole load on Sunday morning to unprepared visitors who have finally exhausted all their excuses for not coming with us to church. . . . I suspect that we need to have other entry points, other points for connecting, if we are to fully reap the harvest delivered by our Lord. It is certainly not that we need to stop inviting, but we need to be sure there are more and different “church” experiences even in small congregations. Inviting someone to church needs to mean a lot of experiences other than the 10:30 Eucharist. Our visitors, many of whom are as infants spiritually, need to work their way up to the “beefsteak” of Sunday worship. This is increasingly true as we encounter more people who have had no formal exposure to Christianity.

I know of one small congregation (St. Wilfrid’s in Marion) that makes the one Sunday a month when they share a potluck meal after the service the Sunday they most often invite visitors. Their invitation does include worship, but the congregation understands that it is the spirit of fellowship and love during lunch that is often cited by visitors as the reason they return. The lunch becomes the point of entry.

This same idea is reflected in one model for planting new congregations that prescribes a year or more of developing in-home Bible study groups that include dinner before the congregation ever holds their first corporate worship. We need the milk of fellowship before the beefsteak of corporate worship.

This train of thought also turns some other things we do somewhat on their head rather inconveniently. I have been one who has supported printing the service and avoiding the Prayer Book because having the service booklet is “visitor friendly.” The problem is that the spiritual “adults” among us need exposure to the Biblical richness of the Prayer Book. In our efforts to make Sunday morning visitor friendly (because it is too often our only point of entry) are we starving the flock of committed, mature, faithful who are ready for and come to receive the “whole load”? The answer is not in forgetting basic hospitality and making those who do drop in on worship feel excluded. The answer is in developing additional points of entry that are more adaptable to the needs of the visitor while developing corporate worship to be as rich and fruitful as possible.

Martin Thornton makes the point that we never lose our need for milk or gravy (happily he wrote in a simpler age when the idea of what constituted a good meal was more widely shared, though perhaps wrong). Indeed, he argues that a balanced spiritual diet includes all four of his dietary items. I guess that is a little like what that farmer understood in measuring the load according to the needs of the herd. Sometimes, I suspect, our menu may be too limited to bring all those who might be interested to His table. Yet we have, even in a small congregation, the resources of fellowship, creativity, and service to gather in the sheaves.
**Showcasing God’s Gifts**

*By Leslie Manning, Our Diocesan Youth Ministries Coordinator*

It all came down to the L.A. Heat and the Swag Team. It was the last day of Sawyerville Day Camp and the many Upper Camp basketball games had led up to this final championship. The game was set to be held on this hot Friday afternoon at the Ireland Athletic Center at Marion Military Institute. The campers donned face paint, even body paint, and had makeshift cheerleader outfits and large signs and noise makers.

The L.A. Heat walked onto the court with their very own customized jerseys. Cleveland, a camper in Mitchell Parrish’s, Frederick Tabb’s, and Walker Cole’s small group, had been working hard on his teammates jerseys over the last two nights. Cleveland had taken home their X-Large Hanes white T-shirts and spent what looked like hours designing their jerseys and creating the “look” with red, orange, black, and yellow Sharpies. At the end of that camp day and after all the festivities during closing announcements, Mitchell Parrish asked Cleveland to stand up. When he announced that this young camper had been the brains and artist behind their jerseys, the entire camp erupted in applause and cheering.

He told me that after the first morning, he noticed a young camper, who was about 7 years old, who came over to the gym and hung around while he set up. By the third day he overheard her singing a song softly to herself. Fran asked her if she would sing it for him as he warmed up. When she started to sing, he heard: “Hold on, hold on, change is coming, change is coming. Hold on, hold on, everything’s gonna be alright.” Fran was so moved by LaShondra’s song that he asked if she would sing it that morning in front of her peers. She did and it soon became a favorite.

By the end of the week when it came time for the Family Worship Service and Potluck Supper, LaShondra shared her gift and prophetic voice with the entire community. As Fran and I were reflecting on this powerful moment and her strong words, he commented that even if it turned out that she did not write the song, it was truly her song and she owned it. She was using her God-given gifts. I choose to believe that the Holy Spirit moved her to those words. It was LaShondra’s song for the world.

The Sawyerville Day Camp is a lot of things. It’s hot, long, deeply moving, eye-opening, Christ-like, refreshing, uncomfortable, fun, tiring—the list goes on. But I think this summer I learned that more than anything, when we are doing it right, it is a place where God’s people can showcase their God-given gifts. It is a place where 150 people heartily clap for a young man for designing and coloring some homemade jerseys. It is a place where the talent show holds the silly and the serious, a place where staff members discover their gifts and decide to major in elementary education, a place where young people learn how to sing their own song.

Fran McKendree, nationally acclaimed Episcopal singer and songwriter from North Carolina, had served on the Sawyerville Day Camp staff for a few days last year and asked to participate in an entire session this year. He was assigned to be the Lower Camp (6 to 10 year-old campers) music director for the first session. The staff arrives at the school early each morning to eat breakfast and prep for the day. Fran would often finish eating his breakfast and then head to the Lower Camp gym to set up and warm up for the morning’s worship and singing.

The Sawyerville Day Camp is a gala of gifts and a beautiful picture of God’s kingdom on earth. So many people shared their gifts with us this summer. Thank you all to everyone who came and shared of themselves and the resources given that enabled this space to be created.

Oh—Cleveland and his team, L.A. Heat, won the championship game that Sawyerville Day Camp session. Not to say that the Swag Team didn’t hold their own, but perhaps it was the Heat’s mad basketball skills or the confidence they felt when they put on their “cool” made-special-for-them jerseys. Guess we will find out next year! Either way, Cleveland went home happy—and so did I.

We will publish a full list of supportive parishes soon. The Sawyerville Day Camp Commission and its coordinators give deep thanks for all the support given by participating parishes and the people of our diocese! For more about Sawyerville Day Camp, please visit www.sawyervilleproject.org.
What I Learned at Sawyerville

By Will Wilder, a member of St. Luke’s in Birmingham

This summer I spent 10 days in Greensboro working at Sawyerville Day Camp. I was honestly a little hesitant about going to Sawyerville—I had really wanted to go to Costa Rica on a service trip that week, but things didn’t work out, so I settled for Sawyerville instead. When I got in the van to drive down to Greensboro, I was still a little bit angry that I was heading to exotic Hale County instead of Costa Rica. Little did I know that the experience I would have at Sawyerville Day Camp would be 10 times more incredible than anything I could have done in Costa Rica.

Looking back on it, the week I spent at Sawyerville really changed my life and outlook on the world, and I wouldn’t trade the experience for anything else. I met so many incredible people who showed me what life was like outside my little Birmingham Bubble. I met a 13-year-old kid named Sean (pronounced See-YAN—and he will correct you) who told me to remember his name because he would eventually become president of the United States or CEO of Microsoft, he hasn’t decided yet. I met an 80-year-old woman who sheltered Martin Luther King, Jr. in her house on a night when the Ku Klux Klan was after him.

I met a 12-year-old boy who could do a standing back flip and a perfect moonwalk. I could go on for hours about all the incredible and interesting people I met at Sawyerville Day Camp. It was amazing how much all of these people appreciated the work we were doing together in Greensboro. I have never taken part in any other service activity that has had as big a direct impact on the community it serves as Sawyerville does.

I helped teach the kids who came to the Day Camp a lot of things. I helped teach some of them to swim. I helped teach them fun games to play to stay fit and active. I tried to help teach them about the Word of God, be it through small-group discussions or singing along with Infamous, our resident Christian rapper.

But I think the most important part of my experience wasn’t what I taught them, but what they taught me. The kids at Sawyerville Day Camp taught me that no matter where you are, be it Mountain Brook or Greensboro, kids are the same. I saw the same youthful energy, the same bursting exuberance, the same lofty ambitions in the kids at Sawyerville that I see in kids playing outside my house and that I saw in myself when I was their age. This has made me realize that no matter what background people are from, they really aren’t all that different. This fact has made me realize how easy it is for different people, different ethnic groups, and different communities to get along if they just take the initiative to try. I once thought I would have to go to the ends of the Earth to have a revelation like this, but all I had to do was hop on a bus and drive an hour and a half down the road to Greensboro, Alabama.

Upcoming Events

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Calling All 5th and 6th Graders!

By Susanna Whitsett, Summer Camp Coordinator

Calling all 5th and 6th graders to bring your friends with you to wonderful, wonderful Camp McDowell for lots of fun and Christian fellowship during Fall Fling, November 5-7. Hiking, canoeing, arts and crafts, storytelling, and a pasture party will all be part of this special weekend. Visit www.campmcdowell.com for full details and registrations forms. If you have questions, please contact me at susanna@campmcdowell.com or 205/281-1903. We’re looking forward to seeing you at Camp!
The 12th Annual Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage

Listening, Praying, Worshiping, and Reconciling

By the Rev. Deacon Dave Drachlis, Our Diocesan Communications Coordinator

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?" We Episcopalians are asked to answer this question each time we recite our Baptismal Covenant.

On August 20, 1965, Jonathan Myrick Daniels answered the question with his life. A 26-year-old Episcopal seminarian from New Hampshire, he was shot dead in Hayneville, Alabama, for his involvement with the civil rights movement.

Television coverage of the “Bloody Sunday” civil rights march and an appeal by Martin Luther King Jr. to come to Alabama to help secure for all citizens the right to vote had drawn Jonathan Daniels to where the raw nerves of a nation’s racism had been exposed. And he felt called to dedicate himself to the fight for human rights and human dignity. In doing so he paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Forty-five years later, on a sweltering Saturday (August 14, 2010), more than 200 of us from across Alabama and elsewhere gathered in the courthouse square of that rural, predominantly African American community where Jonathan died. Together, we were black and white, young and old, financially comfortable and financially challenged. Episcopalian and people of other faiths.
We were all there for the 12th Annual Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage to honor Jonathan and 11 others who lost their lives during the 1960s movement. We were each there for our own reasons.

Martha Jane Patton, a Birmingham attorney and member of St. Andrew’s, was there because Jonathan’s actions had changed her life. “Because of him, I left my job in Birmingham in the early ’70s and came to work for the Selma (Interreligious) Project,” which was continuing the work begun by Jonathan. “It had a profound impact on my life. In fact my oldest son is named Jonathan after this man.” Now Martha Jane brings young people to the annual pilgrimage. “We try to involve our youth,” she explains. “It is an important part of what we believe—social justice—and Jonathan Daniels is a great example of that.”

Eleven-year-old Clarissa Arrow had heard about the pilgrimage from a friend, and she came because she wanted to learn more.

For Kristin Hanson, a student at the University of the South in Sewanee, the pilgrimage caused her to reflect on her Baptismal Covenant. Pam Cochran, whose husband is in seminary at the School of Theology at Sewanee, was there to be part of the commemoration of the civil rights struggle and to honor those who had died in the struggle.

We were there for communion. We were there to listen, to hear, to learn, to remember, to reconcile. We were there to sing and to pray.

Our pilgrimage began in the park-square in front of the Lowndes County Courthouse. Escorted by local police we sang as we walked to the now-abandoned jail where Jonathan and several other young protesters were held after being arrested during a peaceful demonstration in the town of Fort Deposit. We learned of the inhumane conditions under which he and his companions were held for a week: the overcrowding—four or more to a small cell, the stifling heat and lack of fans or air conditioning, the inability to bathe or wash, and the inadequate plumb- ing that backed up and spilled sewage on their cell floors. And we prayed.

We walked the short distance to the former Varner’s Cash Grocery, reportedly one of the few that would serve African Americans. It was here that Daniels and a few others had gone to purchase soft drinks for the group after their unexpected and unexplained release on August 20.

We heard how—as 16-year old Ruby Sales and Jonathan approached the door—a shotgun wielding, unemployed highway worker named Tom Coleman confronted them. As Jonathan yanked Ruby out of the way, Tom Coleman, who was also a part-time deputy sheriff, pulled the trigger killing Jonathan instantly. And we prayed.
We stood for a time in silence, permeated only by the hauntingly soulful voice of Lowndes County resident Fannie Davis as she softly sang the Negro spiritual “Soona Will Be Done.” Many of us knelt and touched the hard concrete step—the holy ground—where Jonathan fell. And we prayed.

Our procession ended back in the courthouse square at a memorial erected in Jonathan’s memory.

Standing quietly among us, largely unnoticed, was civil rights icon Julian Bond, Chairman Emeritus of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He had helped found the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, known for its student sit-ins in the early 1960s, and he had served as the first president of the Southern Poverty Law Center as well as a member of both houses of the Georgia Legislature, totaling two decades in office. It was his first Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage.

Our pilgrimage concluded with a worship service and Holy Eucharist in the courtroom where Jonathan’s killer was tried and acquitted by an all-white jury of men.

Hayneville Mayor Helenor Bell welcomed us. The Rt. Rev. Todd Ousley, Bishop of Eastern Michigan, shared his personal journey, as he described it, “from the bastions of white flight to being the father of two African American sons.” He and his wife, Ann, after having their first child, adopted two African American babies who were born addicted to crack. The Rt. Rev. Kee Sloan, Bishop Suffragan of Alabama, celebrated Eucharist at the judge’s bench-turned altar.

During the service, the roll of the 12 Alabama martyrs was called. As each name was read and a candle was lit, a member of the congregation stood, lifted a large photo of the martyr and proclaimed, “Present.” The poster was carried to the front of the courtroom and reverently placed against the rail that separated the witness stand, judge’s bench, and jury box from the rest of the courtroom, as Fannie Davis softly sang the Negro spiritual “I’ll Go.”

“I’ll go, I’ll go. If the Lord needs somebody, here am I, send me. I’ll, I’ll go. I’ll go. I’ll go.”

And we prayed.

Jonathan Myrick Daniels resides at the top of my long list of heroes in the Christian faith. For me, as a young adult raised at St. Thomas’ Episcopal Church in Huntsville, Jonathan Daniels who was martyred at age 26, serves as a prime example of the loving and compassionate person I would like to become.

At Sewanee I have chosen to concentrate my studies in Religion and History. My focus on these topics as well as my childhood spent growing up in Alabama have made Jonathan’s life and work of particular interest to me. Additionally, my time at Sewanee has brought me into close contact with young men and women studying to become priests. Jonathan, who was a seminary student at the time he was murdered, was in the process of completing a program similar to that of Sewanee’s seminarians. It is impossible to imagine one of them being jailed or martyred for performing a heroic act of love. Because ordination is a path I may choose to pursue in the future, Daniels’ life as
a young seminarian and his actions that saved Ruby Sales in 1965 are exceptionally poignant.

What strikes me most about Jonathan Daniels is his incredible ability to fulfill the promises outlined in the Episcopal Baptismal Covenant. Daniels truly loved his neighbor as himself when he responded to Martin Luther King Jr.’s call to come to Selma to further civil rights activism. He strove for justice and peace among all people when he remained in Alabama to register African American voters. He persevered in resisting evil when he picketed whites-only stores in Fort Deposit until he was taken to jail. Most significantly, he revealed his respect for the dignity of every human being when he placed himself in the path of the bullet meant for Ruby Sales. Ultimately Daniels reveals to us not only the appropriate way to lead Christlike lives, but he also challenges us as human beings to rise to an ethical standard I believe we all desire to fulfill.

Attending the annual Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage in Hayneville held in honor of Alabama’s civil rights martyrs seems to me the least I can do to respect the memory of these heroes’ lives and activism. As I continue to mature in my faith, I hope to follow in the footsteps of Jonathan Daniels to exemplify Christ’s love through my own courage and activism.
From Gethryn S. Giles, ECW President

Fiona Watts, our ECW diocesan president elect, has created a great 2011 ECW Calendar/Handbook that everyone is sure to enjoy. The theme is “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands—Our Mission and Ministry in the World,” and it features mission projects outside our own parishes.

We distribute the new Calendar/Handbook at our annual ECW Fall Conference, which will be October 7-8 at St. Michael and All Angels’ in Anniston. Each parish will receive two copies, and you can purchase additional copies for $5 each. You can also view our Calendar/Handbook on our Web site, www.alabamaecw.org.

Sally Sinclair, our ECW Webmaster, does a wonderful job of making our online presence colorful, entertaining, and very informative. Our Web site includes information about ECW scholarships, UTO (United Thank Offering), CPC (Church Periodical Club), and other programs as well as parish ECW activities. We are striving to get the president’s name and/or other ECW contact information, including e-mail addresses, from every parish so our diocesan ECW board can keep in touch with all the women of our diocese. We want to keep you informed about parish ECW-sponsored activities and projects and also give you an opportunity to list your ECW events on our Web site. If you are not already receiving e-mail from our diocesan ECW board, please visit www.alabamaecw.org and add your e-mail address in the upper left-hand corner of the home page.

Fall is the time of the year for ECW convocation meetings, an ingathering for UTO, and planning your parish’s ECW activities for the year. Members of our diocesan ECW board are more than willing to help you in whatever way we can. Just contact one of the board members and ask for what you need.

You can find our names and contact information in the 2010 and 2011 ECW Calendar/Handbooks, online at www.alabamaecw.org, and in the 2010 diocesan directory.

Blessings to each of you.

St. Peter’s Receives a Gracious Gift

Peggy Horn Rupp has graciously given a beautiful silver coffee and tea service to St. Peter’s in Talladega. Peggy presented the gift to Father Ray Waldon and Evelyn McGeehee, a member of St. Peter’s memorial committee, on July 19 at a luncheon at the home of Marilyn and Stan Atkins.

Peggy, who is a lifetime parishioner at the Cathedral Church of the Advent in Birmingham, has served our diocese in many capacities. In 1964, after 12 years of service as our diocesan youth advisor, she received the silver service as a retirement/wedding gift from members of our diocesan Department of Christian Education. Following the death of her husband, Peggy began carefully considering how the silver service might have use somewhere in our diocese.

Alleen Cater, a fellow Adventor, suggested that a small parish might enjoy using it for special occasions and receptions. Marilyn Atkins, who is a member of our diocesan ECW Board, expressed an interest in having the service for her parish, and after prayerful and thoughtful discussion, Peggy decided that St. Peter’s would be a fine recipient. The parish is most appreciative of the lovely gift.

Responding to the Devastation on the Gulf Coast and in Pakistan

By Judy Quick, Our Diocesan Coordinator

So much devastation and so much need. Episcopal Relief & Development is present in 46 countries for the long haul, for development, to lift our brothers and sisters in Christ out of extreme poverty—and we are also there when immediate disaster strikes.

Close to home on the Gulf Coast, the Episcopal Relief & Development USA Disaster Response Program is working with our neighboring dioceses to assist communities who are struggling with the effects of the oil spill. We support local parishes and organizations working on the ground to provide relief where it is most needed including:

* Trinity Church in Pass Christian, in the Diocese of Mississippi, to help seafood factory and dock workers who have lost their jobs.

* Episcopal Community Services of Louisiana, in the Diocese of Louisiana, to provide food assistance, gas and grocery cards, information referrals, and pastoral care to coastal communities.

Far away in Pakistan, Episcopal Relief & Development is contributing through the ACT Alliance’s general appeal for those affected by the horrendous flooding, which covers over one third of the country. Disaster response activities are helping vulnerable people in Khyber Pakhtoonkhwa, Balochistan, and Sindh. ACT is working through local implementing partners to provide food and other critical items to more than 86,500 people, shelter kits for 25,500 persons, and healthcare to 36,500 individuals. In a place where food insecurity is already widespread and the celebration of Ramadan has led to price increases, food aid is especially important. The food kits include rations of wheat flour, rice, cooking oil, sugar, tea, and salt. In addition families receive jerry cans, plastic buckets, kitchen sets, mosquito nets, hygiene kits, and plastic floor mats and sheeting to protect them against the rain.

Episcopal Relief & Development is also in touch with the Diocese of Peshawar of the Church of Pakistan, where available funds are being redirected for flood assistance to 1,340 families in affected areas where the church has a presence and can deliver assistance.

Let us continually remember to pray for those suffering as well as for those serving the needs of the suffering. If you would like more information or a presentation on the work of Episcopal Relief & Development, please contact me at jgquick@bellsouth.net or 205/669-6862. Also visit www.er-d.org.

The Alabama Episcopalian • September/October 2010
Celebrating New Members and Participating in Service Projects

The Daughters of the King (DOK) chapter of St. Michael and All Angels’ in Millbrook received two new members during the morning worship service on August 22. Yolanda Seawright, our diocesan DOK president, presented Ginger Smith and Lynda Bice to the Rev. Mark Waldo Jr. and the church congregation. The Daughters meet weekly for prayer and bible study and are currently studying the book Reckless Faith, Living Passionately as Imperfect Christians by Jo Kadlecek.

The chapter began a new service project in March to provide help for people in the Millbrook community who run short of money, especially at the end of each month. After prayer and discussion, the Daughters decided to serve an evening meal on the last Tuesday of each month and to make this a community ministry by asking other churches to partner with them. The members of the DOK serve as the coordinators, and they have secured the use of the Senior Center for the dinners. They also provide the tickets for the meal, which are distributed through the WELCOME center, a food pantry for families in need. The Daughters call everyone who has received a ticket to remind them of the dinner and express a warm invitation. Christ Community Cafe is now serving between 70 and 90 people at each dinner, and they are also providing meals for shut-ins. The Daughters feel this is a wonderful opportunity to bring the Body of Christ together to feed and provide hospitality to those in need.

Members of the DOK chapters of our diocese presented 50 prayer books to the Rev. Mark Johnston in a service at the Chapel of St. Francis at Camp McDowell on July 31. The prayer books, which are gifts from Daughters throughout our diocese, will be used not only at the chapel, but also throughout camp as needed. Please save the date and check with your DOK chapter president or parish office for a registration form for this year’s Fall Assembly at the Epiphany in Guntersville on Saturday, November 6. For more information please contact either Bickie Raspilair at bickie@charter.net or Yolanda Seawright at ypseawright@gmail.com.

A Pilgrimage Report: Experiencing God Across Religious Boundaries

By the Rev. J. Barry Vaughan, Rector of St. Alban’s in Birmingham (Bluff Park)

The Rev. J. Barry Vaughan and several other Birmingham-area clergy are participating in an Institute of Clergy Excellence (ICE) program to enhance their ministries. The ICE, an independent, nondenominational organization that fosters excellence in pastoral leadership through peer-group learning, offers three-year grants, and Barry’s group is in the second year of their study of the experience of God in the world’s major faiths.

In July the group made a pilgrimage to Bangladesh and India. They traveled first to Dhaka, Bangladesh, where they were hosted by Archbishop Joseph Marino, a Birmingham native who serves as the Vatican’s nuncio (ambassador). The group also visited Calcutta, Benares, Agra, Dharamsala, Amritsar, and Delhi.

When Mark Twain visited India in 1896, he described it as “the land of dreams and romance, of fabulous wealth and fabulous poverty, of splendor and rags, of palaces and hovels, of famine and pestilence . . . of tigers and elephants, the cobra and the jungle, the country of a hundred nations and a hundred tongues, of a thousand religions and two million gods, cradle of the human race, birthplace of human speech, mother of history . . .”

The other members of my Institute for Clergy Excellence (ICE) study group and I followed Twain’s footsteps when we visited India and Bangladesh in July. My fellow pilgrims included Father Ray Dunmyer of St. Thomas’ Roman Catholic Church (Montevallo), the Rev. Ed Hurley of South Highlands Presbyterian Church (Birmingham), the Rev. Steve Jones of Southside Baptist Church (Birmingham), Rabbi Jonathan Miller of Temple Emanu-El (Birmingham), and the Rev. A. B. Sutton of Sixth Avenue Baptist Church (Birmingham). The Rev. Dennis Foust of Shades Crest Baptist Church (Birmingham) is also a member but was unable to travel, and the Rev. Bob Hurst of the United Church of Huntsville serves as my group’s facilitator.

We made this pilgrimage as part of our three-year study of how God is experienced across religious boundaries. Archbishop Joseph Marino hosted our group and arranged for us to meet with several of the country’s religious and political leaders, including the minister for information and former ambassador, Mohammad Zamir. A highlight of our visit to Bangladesh was a tour of schools operated by the Roman Catholic Church. The Roman Catholics have built schools not only in Dhaka but also far out into the countryside. Even though she is Muslim, the prime minister is a graduate of a Roman Catholic school and has encouraged the Catholic Church to build more schools.

While we were in Bangladesh we also met with the director and faculty of the Islamic Foundation, a government-supported organization that trains imams to serve in the country’s mosques. The director and his faculty have the authority to remove imams who endorse violence, and at our meeting they insistently told us that they can and do exercise that power.

From Bangladesh we traveled to Calcutta, where we visited the “mother house” of Mother Teresa’s Missionaries of Charity and spoke with Sister Gertrude, the second nun Mother Teresa recruited for her new religious order, Sister Gertrude, who is also a physician, cared for Mother Teresa during her last illness.

We also visited Varanasi (Benares), Dharamsala, Amritsar, Agra, and Delhi. Wherever possible we sought out Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Buddhists, and indigenous Christians and engaged them in conversation about their experience of God. We gave gifts to our partners in dialogue including copies of Harper Lee’s To Kill a Mockingbird. We wanted to leave our counterparts in Bangladesh and India with Lee’s timeless message of tolerance, compassion, and courage in the face of bigotry.
GRIEF RECOVERY MINISTRY
October 10 and November in Birmingham
The Rev. Canon Joe Warren, of the Cathedral Church of the Advent in Birmingham, and other facilitators will lead grief recovery sessions at the home of Laurie and Frank Jones in Birmingham from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday evenings October 5, 12, 19, and 26, and November 2 and 9. For more information please call Laurie Jones at 205/967-7401.

EVENSONG CELEBRATING SAMUEL SEBASTIAN WESLEY
October 17 at 5 p.m. at the Ascension in Birmingham
The choir of the Ascension in Birmingham (Vestavia Hills) and organist choirmaster Michael Sparks are presenting this special evening to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Samuel Sebastian Wesley. The service will follow the 1662 English Book of Common Prayer, with the Rev. Stephen Hood and the Rev. David Hall officiating.

ST. MARY’S SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES
October 17-24
October 17: 9 a.m. at St. Stephen’s in Birmingham, 10:30 a.m. St. Luke’s, Pelham, 1:30 p.m. St. Michael and All Angels, Anniston, and 6 p.m. St. Alban’s, Birmingham
October 18: 9 a.m. at St. Simon Peter, Huntsville, 1:30 p.m. St. Florence, Athens, and 6 p.m. St. Michael and All Angels, Anniston
October 19: 9 a.m. at St. Louis, Chelsea, 10:30 a.m. St. Michael and All Angels, Anniston, and 6 p.m. St. Alban’s, Birmingham
October 24: 9 a.m. at St. Luke’s, Pell City, 9:30 a.m. St. Michael and All Angels, Anniston, and 6 p.m. St. Alban’s, Birmingham
October 25: 9 a.m. at St. Luke’s, Pell City, 9:30 a.m. St. Michael and All Angels, Anniston, and 6 p.m. St. Alban’s, Birmingham

PARKER ON PILGRIMAGE
October 17
The Bishop is scheduled to visit Holy Cross, Wetumpka, at 10 a.m., St. Luke’s, Anniston, at 5 p.m., St. Gabriel’s, Hueytown, at 6:30 p.m., and Christ Church, Montgomery, at 7 p.m.

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES AT THE DIOCESAN CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT
October 17
9:30 a.m. at Grace, Mt. Meigs, 10:30 a.m. at St. Michael and All Angels, Anniston, and 6:30 p.m. at St. Alban’s, Birmingham

FORMED TOGETHER
October 17–19
This year’s annual conference will feature speaker the Very Rev. Dr. Samuel T. Lloyd III, dean of Washington University’s School of Divinity, and presenter, Dr. Amie E. MacPhail, professor of religious studies at DePaul University. For more information please call 828/692-9136, or visit www.kanuga.org.

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Advent Offers Free Music Performances
The Cathedral Church of the Advent in Birmingham recently released its calendar of music events for 2010-11. The parish’s former music associate Timothy Tuller performed at this year’s opening Midday Musical Menu performance on Friday, September 24. Upcoming events that are free and open to the public include Evensong at 4 p.m. on October 3, Midday Musical Menu performance at 12:30 p.m. October 22 featuring soprano Melanie Williams and guitarist Alan Goldsquiel, and Midday Musical Menu performance at 12:30 p.m. on November 19 featuring the Hilltop Singers of Birmingham-Southern College under the direction of Lester Seigel.

For more information please call the Cathedral Music Office at 205/443-8853 or 226-3505, e-mail Music Associate Charles Kennedy at kennedy@cathedraladvent.com, or visit www.adventbirmingham.org.

Bishops’ Visitation Schedule

October 10, Sunday
10:15 a.m. Bishop Parsley, St. Timothy’s, Athens
10:30 a.m. Bishop Sloan, St. Michael and All Angels’, Anniston

October 17, Sunday
10:45 a.m. Bishop Parsley, St. Francis’, Indian Springs
11:30 a.m. Bishop Sloan, St. Andrew’s, Prairieville
10:30 a.m. Bishop Sloan, Grace, Mt. Meigs

October 24, Sunday
10:30 a.m. Bishop Parsley, St. Catherine’s, Chelsea

October 27, Wednesday
6:30 p.m. Bishop Sloan, St. Andrew’s, Sylacauga

October 31, Sunday
9:30 a.m. Bishop Parsley, St. Simon Peter, Pell City
9:30 a.m. Bishop Sloan, St. Paul’s, Greensboro
5 p.m. Bishop Parsley, Trinity, Bessemer

November 7, Sunday
9 a.m. Bishop Parsley, Good Shepherd, Montgomery
9:30 a.m. Bishop Sloan, Grace, Cullman

November 10, Wednesday
6:30 p.m. Bishop Sloan, All Saints’, Birmingham

November 14, Sunday
10:30 a.m. Bishop Sloan, St. Thomas’, Birmingham

November 21, Sunday
9 and 11:15 a.m. Bishop Sloan, St. Stephen’s, Birmingham
10:15 a.m. Bishop Parsley, Trinity, Wetumpka
6 p.m. Bishop Sloan, St. Alban’s, Birmingham

November 28, Sunday
10:30 a.m. Bishop Sloan, Holy Cross, Trussville

December 5, Sunday
10:30 a.m. Bishop Parsley, St. Luke’s, Birmingham
10:30 a.m. Bishop Sloan, St. Luke’s, Jacksonville

THE ALABAMA EPISCOPALIAN • SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2010
**What’s New/Noteworthy at the Episcopal Book Store**

**Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy—A Righteous Gentile vs. the Third Reich by Eric Metaxas**

In this interesting and easily readable biography about the Christian martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Eric Metaxas does an excellent job in giving the facts of Bonhoeffer’s life in Nazi Germany, and more importantly he shows how he grew in faith and how that impacted his theological work.

**Prayer by Hans von Balthasar**

This deceptively small book is dense and brilliant like a diamond—a great book on prayer, but one to be read very slowly, about a page or two per day. This book is not so much for beginners in prayer as for those wanting to go deeper and to be more thoughtful. Readers who believe that in Christ the heart and the mind must interpenetrate each other will find this book deeply edifying.

**Original Sin—A Cultural History by Alan Jacobs**

Blane Pascal once said, “Without this particular belief [doctrine of Original Sin] we lack any possibility of understanding ourselves.” Even though this book was published a number of years ago, it is still a great read for any Christian who is serious about understanding the depths of the human condition and therefore the magnitude of our redemption.

**Jayber Crow by Wendell Berry**

In his latest book about the fictional town of Port William, Kentucky, Wendell Berry introduces readers to Jayber Crow, his love for his community, and his abiding and unrequited love for one special woman. This novel is quirky and earthy in the best possible way. Berry shares a Biblical connection to the land, but for him it is Kentucky. Jayber seeks and eventually finds that which Paul spoke of so powerfully in his letter to the Philippians—the secret of being content in any every condition, whether in plenty or in want. Anyone seeking that ever-elusive contentment will enjoy this book.

**Cursillo Weekends #174 September 16–19, #175 October 14–17**

**Diocesan Convention February 11–12 at St. Luke’s in Birmingham**

**Diocesan Cursillo Ulterra January 28–30**

**October 8 Black Sand, an ASL Film, at 7 p.m. at St. John’s Church for the Deaf in Birmingham; movie shown by Alabama Deaf Seniors. For more information please contact Joan Jordan at Jordan54@charter.net or Randy Vines at randyvines@gmail.com.**

**October 14 The Bishop’s Dinner at The Club in Birmingham to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Episcopal Place. For more information please call 205/939-0085, or e-mail Tim Blanton at blanton@episcopalplace.org.**

**October 16 13th Annual Angel Fest** from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Michael and All Angels’ in Millbrook; enjoy the entertainment while you browse the scores of vendors including unique arts and crafts and other distinctive treasures, but on amazing items for an unbeatable price at the silent auction, let the children enjoy the kid’s carnival, and do not miss out on all the great food; proceeds are put back into caring for the community. For more information please e-mail leslee.ekdahl@almore.k12.al.us or call 334/285-3905.

**NOTE:** The bookstore has a new location and new hours. Our address, phone, e-mail, and Web site are still the same, but we’ve moved up one floor into a new space that has been designed and built especially for us and for you—with more visibility and easier access. You can enter the bookstore down the small garden path on 6th Avenue North or from the Cathedral’s parking lot on the corner of 6th Avenue and Richard Arrington Boulevard or from the church through the parish hall. We are now open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

For information about these and other books, or to have us research and special order a particular book, please contact the Episcopal Book Store, 2015 Sixth Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203; 205/323-2959; ebsinfo@episcobooks.com; or visit the bookstore online at www.episcobooks.com.

**October 22 4th Annual Heart to Hand Craft and Gift Market from noon to 7 p.m. at St. Stephen’s in Birmingham; proceeds from this event benefit the parish’s 6th mission trip with Constructores Para Cristo to build a home for a family in Piedras Negras, Mexico. To reserve a space at the market, please contact Lisa Beatty at 205/967-8786 or lisajosephchurch.org.**

**October 24 “A Concert for Christ Church” at 4 p.m. at the Gadsden Cultural Arts Center (501 Broad Street) featuring pianist J. Barry Vaughn; the concert is free and open to the public, but a donation of $25 is requested to benefit the rebuilding of tornado-damaged Christ Church in Albertville. For more information please see the description on page 14 or call 256/878-3243.**

**November 6 Daughters of the King (DOK) Fall Assembly at the Epiphany in Guntersville. For more information please see the description on page 14 or contact either Bickie Rasplait at bickie@charter.net or Yolanda Seawright at ypcseawright@yahoo.com.**

**November 20 Live and Silent Auction sponsored by Holy Apostles’ in Birmingham (Hoover) at 6 p.m. at the Elks Lodge in Pelham. For more information please contact Pat Davis at padavis133@att.net or Holy Apostles’ 205/988-8000 or www.holyapostleshoover.org.**

**New Book Explores History of St. Mary’s School**

A new book by James Waring de Bernières McCrady, professor emeritus of French at the University of the South in Sewanee, examines the story of the Southern Province of the Community of St. Mary, the earliest Episcopal religious order to be founded in the United States. Published by the Sewanee Trust for Historic Preservation, *Saint Mary’s: The Sewanee Sisters and Their School* draws upon multiple archival collections to trace the evolution of St. Mary’s School in Sewanee, which was established in 1896 as a training school for local girls and later evolved into a preparatory school. St. Mary’s School operated continuously until its closing in 1968.

You can order this publication directly from the Sewanee Trust for Historic Preservation, PO Box 21, Sewanee, TN 37375, or through the Episcopal Book Store (2015 Sixth Avenue North, Birmingham, AL 35203; 205/323-2959; ebsinfo@episcobooks.com).

**PARISH BOOKSTORES**

**Crossroads at Grace Church in Anniston** is open Monday through Thursday when the parish office is open and on Sunday before and during the worship services. For more information please call the parish office at 256/236-4457.

**The Mustard Seed at the Nativity in Huntsville is open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information please call the parish office at 256/333-2455.**

**The Vineyard at the Ascension in Montgomery is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. For more information please call the parish office at 334/263-5529.**

**Mark Your Calendar**

**The Rev. John W. Wesley Jr. and the Parishioners of St. Andrew’s in Montevallo Cordially invite you to the 150th Anniversary Celebration of our Parish The Rt. Rev. Henry N. Parsley Jr., Officiating Saturday, October 10, 2010**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 a.m.</td>
<td>Canterbury House Campus Ministry Center Open House</td>
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<td>4 p.m.</td>
<td>Blessing of Canterbury House</td>
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<td>5 p.m.</td>
<td>150th Anniversary Celebration Eucharist</td>
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<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Support in the Parish Hall (suggested donation $15/person; please RSVP Judy Quick at <a href="mailto:jjquick@bellsouth.net">jjquick@bellsouth.net</a> or 205/669-6862)</td>
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St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church, 925 Plowman Street, Montevallo, Alabama
For more information please contact Judy Quick (jjquick@bellsouth.net; 205/669-6862).
Paint, Quilt, and Play a Pennywhistle at the Alabama Folk School

By Danielle Dunbar, Camp McDowell Staff Member

The Alabama Folk School strives to promote Camp McDowell, the Episcopal Church, and Alabama’s cultural traditions. The Folk School continues to draw participants from across the Southeast, and all of them are simply delighted with the beauty and wonder of Camp McDowell as well as the supportive community they find here. Camp McDowell provides excellent hospitality, and the Folk School assists them on their journey of lifelong learning.

In addition to offering a Christian environment, which is new to some participants, the Folk School is helping preserve Alabama’s unique culture and history. Our traditions in the various regions of the state are truly fascinating, and our classes help keep these particular traditions alive.

I hope you or someone you know will join us for our classes this fall and again next year. Bob and Rose Taunton and Deborah and Allen McCord will teach folk music classes in guitar, banjo, bowed psaltery, pennywhistle, autoharp, and dulcimer from October 17 to 21. Tora Johnson will host this year’s Watercolor Workshop, also from October 17 to 21, featuring artist Wayne Spradley, and Pauline Payne will teach classes in acrylics. The Old-Time Music and Crafts session from November 5 to 9 will feature classes by James Bryan, Joyce and Jim Cauthen, Jim Holland, Adam Hurt, Luke Richardson, Bettye Kimbrell, Tena Payne, and Chris Hale. For more information please visit www.campmcdowell.com/folkschool or contact me at danielle@campmcdowell.com or 205/387-1806.

For regular updates about Camp McDowell, please sign up for McDowell eNews. Send an e-mail, with “McDowell eNews” in the Subject line, to danielle@campmcdowell.com.

It’s Beginning To Look a Lot Like . . . Christmas?

By Danielle Dunbar, Camp McDowell Staff Member

Yes, we know it isn’t even Halloween yet, but we are beginning to think about Christmas here at Camp McDowell—or at least about Christmas cards!

Many of you have ordered Christmas cards from us in the past to honor a friend, coworker, family member, church group, or the children of your church family, and we thank you for your support. In honoring these individuals and groups, a significant number of children, who otherwise would not have been able to attend, came to summer camp, our residential environmental center, HIV+ camp, and special session this year. Former campers will tell you that Camp McDowell is a supportive Christian community where young people learn to be themselves and develop an abiding respect for the integrity and individuality of all living things.

We need your continued support to provide scholarships again in 2011. We award more than $80,000 annually to campers in need. Last year our Christmas Card Campaign raised $11,000. Our goal this year is $15,000 because the number of scholarships requested to attend our excellent camps has increased due to the slow economy.

Please consider sending Camp McDowell Christmas Cards this year. Please don’t wait! You can place your order online at www.campmcdowell or give us a call at camp and we will send you an order form. We will send a beautiful Christmas card (after Thanksgiving) to the people you would like to honor, informing them that a gift has been given in their name to the Camp McDowell Scholarship Fund. If you have any questions, please contact me at danielle@campmcdowell.com or 205/387-1806.

Bo Berry is making a drawing of the chapel at Camp McDowell for the 2010 Christmas cards.

The Alabama Episcopalian

The Alabama Episcopalian is published six times a year (January/February, March/April, May/June, July/August, September/October, and November/December). For the most current news about recent and upcoming events, please visit our diocesan Web site, www.dioala.org.

Please send stories and photographs (color, if available) to Editor Norma McKittrick at apostledit@aol.com or 2156 Kent Way, Birmingham, AL 35226; the submission deadline for each issue is the 1st of the month prior to publication. Postmaster, parishes, and individuals, please send all address changes or additions to Circulation Secretary Denise Servant at dservant@dioala.org or Carpenter House, 521 North 20th Street, Birmingham, AL 35203–2682.

Keep up with the latest news from around our diocese between issues of The Alabama Episcopalian on our diocesan Web site, www.dioala.org. If you are not already receiving our “Web Site Update,” you can sign up to receive a weekly e-mail containing headlines with links to the latest news, photos, and videos about and from around our diocese. Simply send an e-mail with your name and e-mail address to ddrachlis@dioala.org and put “Headlines” on the subject line. You can “opt out” anytime.