



THE MISSISSIPPI EPISCOPALIAN

July, 2013 • Volume 138, Issue No. 7

Nominating Committee hosts listening sessions

By Patrick Skutch

As reported in the June issue of *the Mississippi Episcopalian*, the Nominating Committee will be hosting listening sessions across the diocese beginning July 24th. These sessions will allow the committee to hear from members of our diocese about what is important to them and the qualities they look for in future leadership. All Episcopalians in the diocese are welcome to attend whichever session they choose.

See the updated chart on this page of *the Mississippi Episcopalian* containing the locations, times and the names of the committee members leading the sessions. Please review the chart and pick the one you plan to attend.

Consider things like car pooling or going as groups as a way to encourage participation in your parish or mission. Again, these listening sessions, along with the surveys which have been turned in, are vital to our work, and we are asking for your help in encouraging and facilitating participation in them.

On behalf of the Nominating Committee for the 10th Bishop of Mississippi and its chair, Lee Davis Thames, I thank you for helping us in this important work. As always, we appreciate your prayers.

The Rev. Patrick Skutch is the rector of Christ Church/Bay St. Louis and a member of the Bishop's Nominating Committee.

LISTENERS FOR "LISTENING SESSIONS" JULY 2013

DATE	LOCATION	LEADER(S)	TIME	CONTACTS
Wed., July 24	Southaven	St. Timothy's	6:00 p.m.	Richard Jones • Teresa Moore • Jude Givich
Wed., July 24	Engle	St. James	6:00 p.m.	John Hallgren • Scott White • Robert Stewart
Thurs., July 25	Yakaburg	Holy Trinity	6:00 p.m.	David Ott • Chris Smith-Trotter • Pamela Robinson
Thurs., July 25	Collierville	St. Peter's	6:00 p.m.	Patrick Skutch • Scott Williams • Jude Givich
Sat., July 27	Jackson	St. Christopher's	10:00 a.m.	William Dean • Bill Corcoran • Jude Givich • James Ott
Wed., July 31	Columbus	St. Paul's	6:00 p.m.	John Hallgren • Scott White • Robert Stewart
Wed., July 31	Shiloh-Jasper	St. Andrew	6:00 p.m.	Maggy Williams • Brenda Zimmerman • Patrick Skutch

Bishop reflects on Supreme Court decision

By Scott Lenoir

The U.S. Supreme Court recently struck down a pivotal part of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 regarding states which are mandated to receive federal approval before changing their voting laws. Mississippi is one of nine states affected by the court decision.

Bishop Duncan Gray, III recently commented on the court's decision after being questioned by the Rev. Pat McCaughlan of the Episcopal News Service.

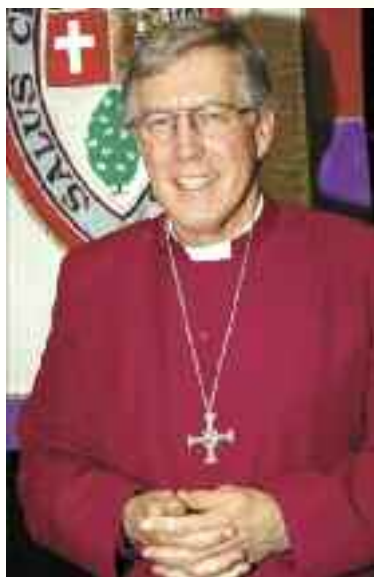
"I believe that the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was the singularly most significant Civil Rights legislation to pass the U.S. Congress. Its impact has been widespread and is the reason that there are more African-American elected officials in Mississippi than in any other state," said Bishop Gray.

"The Court has said that the data used to justify the preclearance of any change in voting procedures in certain states is based on out-dated data. I sincerely hope this is true, but the rush to institute voter ID and other measures that will, at the very least, impose some hardship on the poor in this and every state does offer me some cause for concern."

Bishop Gray then lamented the media's obsession on the culture of celebrity rather than focusing the public's attention with the landmark decision of the Supreme Court: "I also think that the contrast between the lack of media coverage and in-depth conversation on the Supreme Court's decision on the Voting Rights Act and its obsession with Paula Deen and her admittedly offensive language in an earlier era is very troubling, but consistent in a celebrity-obsessed culture. I so wish it were otherwise."

The states affected by the decision of the nation's highest court are Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

The Rev. Scott Lenoir is the editor of the Mississippi Episcopalian.



Time to remember: be prepared

By Cathy Halford

As you are reading this article, the 2013 hurricane season has officially been on the calendar for a little over a month. So far, so good. However, Mississippi has been hit by several tornadoes. Not only Mississippi but other parts of the country already have been affected with mass destruction as a result of tornadoes, forest fires, and flooding. When a disaster occurs, the initial group of people who arrive at the site are first responders. After rescue comes relief, which is when the community works together to help meet immediate basic needs such as emergency shelter, food, clothing, medical care, and emotional/spiritual care. Many groups are equipped to reach out immediately and help fill these needs by traveling to the affected area. For long-term support, communities help survivors find permanent housing as well lead those affected to network with groups which provide continuing economic and emotional support.

Many people automatically donate to the National Red Cross and/or the Salvation Army to help monetarily. However, Episcopal Relief & Development, an agency of the Episcopal Church, not only focuses on disasters in other countries but also in the United States. Episcopal Relief & Development is still present in the areas hit by Hurricane Sandy (Nov., 2012) and is in the initial stages of providing churches with the resources, training, and technical assistance to meet the needs of their congregants and their neighbors in tornado-ravished Oklahoma.

If you would like to help those in need, you may donate to the MS Disaster Relief Fund, P.O. Box 23107, Jackson, MS 39225-3107, for in-state assistance or Episcopal Relief & Development, P. O. Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058. ERD also accepts online donations at www.episcopalrelief.org for assistance anywhere in the United States. If you are mailing a contribution, please use the memo line on your check to make your wishes known.

Episcopal Relief & Development is also building a database of those people who are willing to share their skills in the United States. If you are interested in volunteering, whether in your own community or another part of the country, please complete the Ready to Serve sign-up form using this link: <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/what-you-can-do/act/volunteer/ready-to-serve>.

Also, the diocesan Disaster Response and Relief Team needs your input to update its database so the diocese may respond well when disaster strikes.

No one is immune to disaster. Please be ready to reach out to others with your time, talents, treasures, and prayers as they will be ready to reach out to you.

The Rev. Deacon Cathy Halford serves on the Disaster Response and Relief Team in the diocese and the Mississippi contact for Episcopal Relief and Development.

Notes & “Quotes”

by Suzanne Cox

Greetings to all from the Gulf Coast! I wonder what I’m getting myself into (and question my sanity) as I begin my attempt to follow in Jim Carrington’s footsteps as editor of this column. It has been truly interesting over the past few weeks to learn about all the different activities and ministries of the various churches. There’s a lot going on across the state, so let’s get started.

St. Paul’s/Columbus has scheduled a summer mission trip to Copperhill, TN (July 7-13) as its next youth event. Contact the church office if you would like to contribute to this event.

The vestry of **St. Mark’s/Gulfport** has organized a series of small group gatherings to take place over the next few months to give their new priest, The Rev. Stephen Kidd, and members of the congregation an opportunity to become better acquainted. Everyone is encouraged to participate in one of these gatherings.

The outreach group at **St. John’s/Pascagoula** is expanding their ministry to include a small clothes closet and comfort baskets. The focus is on work clothes for the closet and personal toiletry items, diapers, and baby food for the baskets.

The **Gulf Coast EYC** members have been very active in the past few weeks. They’ve participated in a 30-hour famine, gone to Lazer Craze, attended BBQ by the Sea at **St. Peter’s/Gulfport**, put on a carnival at **St. Patrick’s/Long Beach**, and wrapped up the school year with a crawfish boil at **Christ Church/Bay St. Louis**.

St. Peter’s/Gulfport is having 4th Sunday

Sundaes this summer! On the fourth Sundays of the month, they’re serving ice cream sundaes at hospitality after the 10:30am service.

Trinity/Yazoo City is reaching out in support of the local Boys and Girls Club financially. Donations are welcome.

There’s a new opportunity for gardeners at **St. John’s/Ocean Springs** to show pride in their church. They can now “Adopt a Section” of any size of the church’s flowerbeds or shrubs to keep neat and free of weeds.

Resurrection/Starkville has new playground equipment in place and has begun the next phase of the renovation of their education building.

The Disaster Relief Committee of **Trinity/Hattiesburg** is providing financial assistance and building materials to families through the disaster grant received from Episcopal Relief and Development. Representatives of Trinity also serve on the R3SM Tornado Unmet Needs Committee that meets weekly to review applications for assistance.

Mediator/Meridian has a new garden on the grounds. The raised-bed flats — planted in tomatoes, squash, peppers, spinach, herbs, and beans — have understandably generated a lot of excitement.

St. Matthew’s/Kosciusko has begun a study on the book of Acts. The group meets in the parish hall on Wednesday evenings.

St. Philip’s/Jackson is having their annual rummage sale on Saturday, August 3. Proceeds will go to their altar guild fund. They remind us

that “One man’s trash is another man’s treasure.”

Kids Serve for 2nd through 5th graders is starting up at **St. Peter’s/Oxford**. This service-oriented group will meet three Thursday evenings beginning July 11th for dinner followed by a service project. Parents are welcome to join the fun.

The youth group of **St. John’s/Laurel** recently made a trip to North Carolina where they had a great time rafting, zip-lining, and enjoying the Appalachian Mountains.

The ECW of **St. Pierre’s/Gautier** held a yard sale to raise funds for their various projects. Most recently the group purchased and installed new blinds for all the windows in both church halls.

Although most Vacation Bible Schools occurred during June, a few churches have sessions coming up in July, including the ones listed below:

Redeemer/Brookhaven — July 15-17

St. Columb’s/Ridgeland — July 22-26

St. Mark’s/Gulfport — July 22-26

Creator/Clinton has their Children’s Summer Theatre scheduled for July 29-August 3. This event began several years ago as Vacation Bible School and has evolved through the years to include adults as well. This year they are returning to the Children’s Summer Musical setting and the players will again be children.

Creator/Clinton also has a rummage sale set for August 10 to support their outreach ministries.

Reporter Jacob Kittilstad — from WJTV Channel 12 — featured the Eucharist and baptisms that took place at **St. Alban’s/Bovina** on Father’s Day. He interviewed the fathers of the babies who were baptized and taped the activities going on in the parish hall and the worship service. The report can be viewed on the WJTV website by searching for Focus on Faith.

St. Philip’s/Jackson has formed a new

group, appropriately called “Soltero,” for their single adults of any age. The group meets monthly at various local sites for food and fellowship.

In June, **St. Stephen’s/Columbia** celebrated and blessed five new windows installed in the church.

The Rev. Paul. Stephens and the Rev. Stanford Adams, **All Saints’/Tupelo**, are offering three sessions in July to discuss Marcus Borg’s film, “Embracing an Adult Faith.” The gathering will take place in the parish hall with a light meal provided (donations accepted to offset the cost). Nursery services will also be provided.

Quotes this month:

The Rev. Anne Harris, **St. Paul’s/Columbus** offered this thought in the June issue of their newsletter. “Faith is like a plant; it needs to be fed, watered, and nurtured in order to grow. Prayer, bible study, worship, and service — these things help our spirituality to thrive.”

The Rev. Jeff Reich, **St. John’s/Laurel**, shared this bit of information regarding his new headwear. “A zucchetto is a ‘skull cap’ that was originally designed to cover the tonsure of priests (tonsure means the circular shaved part of the head that many religious orders at one time wore) in cold climates and has nothing in common with the similar looking yarmulke worn by Jewish faithful. The name zucchetto is Italian and loosely translated means ‘half a pumpkin.’ The zucchetto has 7 panels in its construction and they symbolize the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit. So there is both a practical and theological significance to the headgear.”

That’s it for my inaugural column. I look forward to sharing and celebrating your achievements and ask for your prayers and patience as I strive to make this fun for all of us. Until next month, I hope you’re enjoying a restful, rejuvenating summer.

Continually published for 138 years in the Diocese of Mississippi



The Mississippi
Episcopalian

Official news organ of the Bishop and the Diocese of Mississippi
118 N. Congress Street - P.O. Box 23107
Jackson, Mississippi 39225-3107

The Rt. Rev. Duncan M. Gray, III
Ninth Bishop of Mississippi

The Rev. Scott Lenoir
Editor

The Mississippi Episcopalian (USPS 024755) is published monthly by the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi, 118 N. Congress St., Jackson, MS 39201. Periodical postage paid at Jackson, MS. POSTMASTER: Send change of address to the Mississippi Episcopalian, P.O. Box 23107, Jackson, MS 39225-3107. In giving changes of address send the old address as well as the new. We cannot be responsible for the return of manuscripts or photographs.

68. After Worship

Grant, we beseech thee, Almighty God, that the words which we have heard this day with our outward ears, may, through thy grace, be so grafted inwardly in our hearts, that they may bring forth in us the fruit of good living, to the honor and praise of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.


MADISON CELLARS
10% over cost for weddings,
fundraisers, and altar wine.
(601) 856-0931
Madison, MS

The Bishop's Journal

May 29 - Canons McCormick and Johnson and I spend the day at Gray Center on our quarterly work retreat. Beautiful day at a beautiful place.

May 30 - Meeting with Executive Committee of the diocese through much of the day. Leave Jackson midafternoon to drive to the coast for a meeting with the vestry and clergy of St. Thomas in Diamondhead.

Return as far as Hattiesburg where I spend the night.

May 31 - Return to Jackson in the morning in time to take Kathy to the airport to fly to Maryland where she will be for several weeks taking care of personal family matters following the death of her father.

In office through the afternoon, then take my father to Gray Center to see the finished renovation of the nurse's cabin. Known as "Ruthie's Cabin," this new facility for the camp nurse is made possible by memorial gifts that were received following my mother's death. Peter, Giulianianna and Joseph join us for the tour. It is a very special family moment.

June 1 - At St. Andrew's Cathedral, I ordain C.J. Meaders, Lynn Ronaldi and Lyn Stabler Tippet as transitional deacons. There is a good crowd from sponsoring congregations and congregations where these newly ordained will be placed. These ordinations are always a very special time for me.

Spend the afternoon at home.

June 2 - Up early to drive into the Delta. In the morning, I preach, celebrate and lead the congregation of Advent/Sumner in a renewal of their baptismal vows. Meet with the vestry of the Church of the Advent who express their pleasure at the placement of the Rev. Lynn Ronaldi in Sumner as deacon-in-charge. I, too, am delighted that this has worked out so well. Wonderful lunch following the service with good time for the visiting and unhurried conversation.

After a brief stopover in Greenwood, I drive to Inverness where I preach, celebrate and renew baptismal vows with the people of All Saints'. The relationship with this small, but very faithful, congregation has been one of my great pleasures during my tenure as bishop. Reception and conversation follow the service.

Return to Jackson in the evening.

June 3 - Day off.

June 4 - Staff meetings throughout the morning. Lunch with Steve Sinquefield, chair of the Gray Center Executive Director Search Committee. Conference calls through the afternoon. Late afternoon appointment with an aspirant for holy

orders. Later, I have a good conversation with Ms. Molly Meeks, newly appointed representative from Mississippi to the board of the Bishop Masereka Christian Foundation.

June 5 - Morning appointment with Harvey Thompson, senior warden at St. Mark's in Jackson. Later I meet with the Rev. Jamie McElroy, newly called rector of St. James', Jackson.

Early afternoon appointment with Ms. Ella Tardy, then leave for Philadelphia for a meeting with the vestry and others of St. Francis' Church. Good and positive conversation as they assess options for clergy leadership following the departure of their priest.

Home to Jackson late.

June 6 - Travel to Vicksburg to participate in the graduation ceremonies of the first FEMA Corps class in this country. These young men and women were some of the first responders to Super Storm Sunday and have provided enormous hours of public service in disaster-stricken communities over the past year of their volunteer service.

I am delighted that our All Saints' School campus continues to be alive with a growing number of dedicated and idealistic young people being trained to serve in communities of great need.

National executives of both AmeriCorps and the Federal Emergency Management Agency are present for the ceremony and continue to sing the praises of this campus as the "crown jewel" of the AmeriCorps and FEMA Corps program. Lovely brunch hosted by the caretakers of the property, Susan and Richard Price, makes this another very special day at All Saints.

June 7 - Morning appointments with the Rev. David Knight and Ms. Betty Melton. Meet with the Deacons Council through much of midday. Late afternoon session with the newly called priest-in-charge at St. John's in Ocean Springs, the Rev. Charles Hawkins.

June 8 - Up early to drive to the coast for the first round of golf I've played in several months. I am hosted by the Rev. Scott Lenoir and the Rev. Harold Roberts at a course in Gautier.

Overnight with Scott and Harriet Lenoir. Dinner with members of St. John's in Ocean Springs.

June 9 - Visitation to St. John's in Ocean Springs. At the early service, I preach, celebrate and lead the congregation in a renewal of their baptismal covenant.

At the later service, I preach, celebrate, confirm ten and receive six. The announcement of

the call of their new rector, Fr. Charles Hawkins, also takes place, so it is a very special day. Wonderful music abounds.

Visit briefly with the congregation at a reception but have to leave early in order to get back to Jackson for the celebration of the life and legacy of Medgar Evers, a liturgy hosted by St. Mark's, St. Christopher's Church of the Ascension, All Saints', and St. Alexis' and held at St. Andrew's Cathedral. It is a powerful service - liturgy, music, sermon by Mrs. Myrlie Evers - all wrapped within the Paschal Mystery of death and resurrection.

Medgar Evers' death was a major turning point in the struggle for civil rights. Life and freedmen flowed from his death in marvelous and mysteriously redemptive ways that no one could have foreseen in 1963.

June 10 - Day off.

June 11 - Staff meetings through the morning. Meet with the Clergy Conference Task Force to plan this fall's conference. Afternoon appointment with Mr. Bill Love, then Canon Johnson and I leave for Greenville to meet with the vestry of St. James' to begin their search for a new rector. Very good and productive session.

Return home late to Jackson.

June 12 - In office all day. Sad to hear of the death of Mr. Joe Maury, Sr., long-time warden and anchor to the congregation of Nativity, Macon. "May he go from strength to strength in the life of perfect service."

Afternoon appointment with Mr. Richard Shaw. In the evening, my father and I attend the closing gala that climaxes a week of remembrance of the life and legacy of Medgar Wiley Evers.

June 13 - Work at home in the morning. Afternoon session with Canon McCormick, Ms. Ella Tardy and Ms. Tammie Stephens. Conference call later with group planning a part of the Presiding Bishop's visit in November. Participate in a filmed interview concerning the decline of historically black business areas. Annual consultation with the Rev. Marian Fortner.

June 14 - Annual consultation with the Very Rev. Susan Bear. Later in the morning, meet with Mr. Sam Burcham and his wife, Holly.

Late afternoon meeting with the Diocesan Sudanese Committee to think through their priorities in the coming months. We are also saying goodbye to Dr. Greg Miller, who has served as "godfather and guide" to the Sudanese community since their arrival in Jackson in 2000. He has

been an extraordinary gift to these refugees who are now putting down their roots, building families and making their way into the ongoing life of this city.

June 15 - Drive to Columbus to officiate at the wedding of the Rev. Don Chancellor and Ms. Marian Montgomery at St. Paul's. Following the reception, I drive south toward the coast. Get as far as Wiggins where I spend the night.

June 16 - Up early to drive to Pascagoula for a visitation at St. John's. I preach, celebrate, baptize two and confirm nine at the late service. I also formally install the parish search committee and commission them for their work to find a new rector for the congregation. The Rev. Dennis Ryan has served this congregation faithfully as both associate rector and rector and now begins his formal retirement July 1.

After a reception in the parish hall, I drive to Ocean Springs for an annual consultation with the Rev. Deacon James Lancaster.

Return to Jackson in the early evening.

June 17 - Catch an early flight to Richmond, Virginia, to serve on staff of the week-long residential education and training program for new bishops in the Episcopal Church. This program, called the College for Bishops, is the only such program in the entire Anglican Communion. In addition to training bishops for the Episcopal Church, we are also used by bishops in Canada, New Zealand, Ireland, Scotland and Tanzania.

It is one area of my responsibilities that will continue after my retirement as diocesan bishop.

June 18 - College for Bishops - Richmond, VA

June 19 - College for Bishops - Richmond, VA

June 20 - College for Bishops - Richmond, VA

June 21 - College for Bishops concludes. Fly home to Jackson in time to welcome participants in the third annual Bishop's Annual Stewardship Summit (BASS). Our speaker is the Rt. Rev. Greg Rickle, bishop of Spokane, and one of the most significant stewardship leaders in our church.



Summer brings new
worship schedules to
some parishes

St. Peter's by-the-Lake, Brandon
Holy Eucharist at 10:00 p.m.

St. Peter's by-the-Sea, Gulfport
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Visit Episcopal parishes when you travel.
Worship times may vary during the
summer—safe travels to all!

De Colores
Gift Items

Beemon Drugs
Maywood Mart, Jackson
601-366-9431

DAVENPORT WATTS & DRAKE
INVESTMENT ADVISORS, LLC

A REGISTERED INVESTMENT ADVISORY FIRM OFFERING
Financial Planning, Asset Management
and Retirement Plan Services

Sonny Davenport

234 West School Street • Ridgeland MS
www.DavenportWattsDrake.com
601-898-8069

OUR DIOCESE

St. John's welcomes the Rev. Charles Hawkins

By Scott Lenoir

The Rev. Dr. Charles Hawkins has accepted the call to become St. John's/Ocean Spring's priest-in-charge effective July 1st. His first Sunday will be July 7th. Charles' wife, Katherine, is an attorney and plans to practice law in Mississippi. The Hawkins have two children: daughter, Elisabeth, enters Depaw University in Greenville, Indiana, this year on a lacrosse scholarship; and their son William will be a freshman at Ocean Springs High School.

Charles spent most of his childhood in Oneonta, Alabama. At the age of sixteen he was licensed to preach the Gospel in the Baptist church. He attended Samford University; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky; Duke University in Durham, North Carolina; and Oxford University in Oxford, England. Hawkins earned a Ph.D. from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. His areas of academic interests were philosophy of religion, philosophical theology, ethics and comparative religion.

In 1996 he resigned from Cove Hill Baptist Church in Carrollton, Kentucky, to enter the process for Holy Orders in the Episcopal Church. He attended the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, and was ordained a deacon in the Episcopal Church in 1996 and six months later was ordained a priest.

Charles spent two years at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Louisville, Kentucky, before accepting a call to become the rector of St. Mark's in Louisville. After 12 years at St. Mark's, we are pleased to welcome Charles to St. John's and the Diocese of Mississippi.



The Rev. Charles Hawkins visits with St. John's parishioners Justin and Katrina Godsey at a recent dinner in Ocean Springs. Hawkins was called as priest-in-charge.
Josh McFarland/Photo



Bishop Scott Benbase ordained four deacons in Savannah, Georgia, in June including Michael Chaney, Jr. (left), son of Mike and Mary Chaney who are communicants of Christ Church/Vicksburg. The Rev. Chaney was ordained to the transitional diaconate and will serve St. Paul the Apostle in Savannah. Michael will serve as bi-vocational priest. He is an artist and a professor of film and television at SCAD in Savannah.

2013 Annual Spring Diocesan Altar Guild Meeting at Mediator Celebrating Our Gifts: Theme

By Laurie George

Keynote Speaker, the Reverend Dr. Helen Tester, rector of Church of the Mediator/Meridian, expressed to members of the Diocesan Altar Guild that we should be celebrating, not hoarding, the gifts that God has entrusted us with. She said that in the church and in the world, the altar guild's gift is to make a sacred place, an intense place in the midst of the day.

She talked of the Lourdes Grotto replica, on the A-B Tech campus in NC and on the verge of being torn down, as a place where nuns, students, teachers, and those just passing by could go to meditate and pray and become refreshed. We all need our sacred places. (Perhaps you have one in your home, your yard...or maybe you can make an additional place in your parish for your sacred landscape, which could include a labyrinth!

Three workshops:

"Sew," You think Your Church Could use Some New Banners: speakers Gayle Gray, Betty Hayes, and Sally Scaggs. Gayle, Betty, and Sally spoke of choosing your designs, choosing your colors, finding your fabric and doing your basic construction...all a delightful and thought-provoking, hands on meeting. Marvelous hand-outs were provided by the experts; then a question and answer period impressed and enlightened even the novice.

You "Knead" to Know: Instructions on Making Communion Bread with Robert Covington. Bread is memory, said the speaker: never throw any of the dough away for God uses all things and you can use the pieces of dough in other ways. A massage therapist, Robert showed the best way to do the kneading and reminded us that God finds ways to use even the smallest parts of us as a sacred gift.

Churchware Care and Restoration with Bruce Cohen of Mississippi Metalsmiths. If you ever get an opportunity to hear Bruce Cohen, take it, for his work as a metalsmith is fascinating. This workshop was full and many people attending were second timers. He explained what and how a metalsmith works and showed samples. Because so many churches have metal problems but little money, he showed simple ways to restore our metals as well as the complex methods which requires a professional, such as re-silvering. A brochure was distributed that contained a list of products available. Bruce shared valuable cleaning and polishing tips in his workshop. Did you know how good Dawn detergent is for cleaning brass? After cleaning brass, polish it with Metal Luster. Use that silver cloth for your silver, get smudges off with 90 percent denatured alcohol (Turtle Wax sometimes works); then polish with Haggerty's Silver Polish.

Bishop Duncan Gray, III celebrated Holy Eucharist and installed the DAG officers, executive council and convocation representative. Installed were Anne Heidelberg, president, George Abbot, Treasurer, Harvey Smith, Old River representative, and Denise Brown, Northern Convocation representative.

The plate offering from the DAG spring meeting was sent to St. Elisabeth's in New Jersey which was affected by Hurricane Sandy. A beautiful luncheon was served by the Mediator Altar Guild.

Laurie George is the newsletter editor for the Diocesan Altar Guild.



A reception was held in honor of Bishop Gray, III, and the class of confirmands at St. John's/Ocean Springs last month. Sixteen people were presented to the bishop for confirmation or reception at the service held on June 9th.



Christopher C. Turner
Owner/Agent
chris@turnerinsuranceofmiss.com

TURNER INSURANCE

Est. 1995

For the best rates on insurance including:
Medicare Supplements • Disability
Long-term Care • Final Expense
Health • Life • Auto

Call Today

(800) 541-8196 office
(662) 456-6528 cell

www.turnerinsuranceofmiss.com

BEST FRIENDS 
A PET CREMATORIUM
(601) 922-5554
www.bestfrnds.com
Gibson Sims

St. Alban's featured in TV news report, Focus in Faith

By Jacob Kittilstad, WJTV News

Father's Day is not on the liturgical calendar but many churches do see a boost in attendance simply because of the holiday's message: family is important.

And this year at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Bovina the family is growing.

"I have a crazy quilt that my great grandmother made — just a little sampler," the Very Rev. Billie Abraham said.

"And I said, 'The church is like this crazy quilt. It's just rags and scraps and random shapes and colors and textures that are stitched together,'" Rev. Abraham said.

"And at our little church there's always room for more," Rev. Abraham said.

Two fathers — one new and one with his third child — stand before the larger than normal group at St. Alban's with their sons.

Baby Dominic McCarthy is not normally this fussy, his dad Joshua says, but it is a long day for the little guy whose parents were recently married and confirmed in Bovina.

"His eyebrows when he raises them. He just kind of has that deep stare. He's just kind of like 'what are you doing?'," Joshua McCarthy said, explaining his son's characteristics.

On the other side of the church the Guynes family with baby Lucas have about a century of family history at the church.

"So we've got both," Rev. Abraham said.

"We've got the people who have come in and been welcomed and then we've got the people who have formed the roots and made it possible for them to come into this church," Rev. Abraham said.



The Very Rev. Billie Abraham baptized Lucas Scott Guynes on Father's Day in June at St. Alban's Bovina. Pictured also are mother and father Lauren and Matt Guynes. Beth Guynes/Photo



Dominick Jax McCarty also was baptized at St. Alban's. Josh and Maggie McCarty are the parents.

they're beginning it with the support of the entire community," Rev. Abraham said.

Rev. Abraham goes on to say that it's the people (yes, even the little people) that make up the heart of the church.

Matthew Guynes looks to the future with his son Lucas. The infant has Down's syndrome — but also a loving dad.

"It is going to be a challenge but we have the family background and support from the family, not only with the friends and neighbors we have in Hernando but definitely here in my hometown with my church family as well," Guynes said.

"Looking for the Christ in others and serving Christ in others..." Rev. Abraham said, "...we are looking into what this baptism's all about."

"Because it's about living a gospel way of life. And that's not necessarily the way of the world but it is the way to peace," Rev. Abraham said.

St. Alban's Episcopal Church was founded before the Civil War. It's named after the martyr St. Alban whose feast is actually this weekend!

And if you would like the viewers of News Channel 12 to learn more about your church send Jacob Kittilstad an email at jkittilstad@wjtv.com or call him at 601-664-8839.

Because St. Alban's Episcopal church is not growing as quickly as it has in the past this christening is especially exciting. Right now small church community includes only about only 50 families.

"Today these babies are beginning their life in Christ. And

School chaplaincy is the call for St. Andrew's priest

By Kirk LaFon

It is a spring day on the beach and I'm listening to the waves from the Gulf of Mexico as they arrive gently on the shore. I stand next to a makeshift table... a camp chair loaded down with a bottle of wine, some pizza crust baked at a local pizzeria the night before especially for this occasion, a bottle of water, a hotel towel, and a Book of Common Prayer. In front of me stand 22 high school boys in their lacrosse uniforms along with many of their parents, all holding palm branches. Two boys come forward and lead us in the singing of Amazing Grace. It is Palm Sunday and the St. Andrew's boys' lacrosse team has gathered for worship before the start of their tournament game.

As I shared with my players and parents on the beach that morning, I'm not sure those disciples whom Jesus asked to go fetch a donkey for him on the way into Jerusalem had thought that was the mission Jesus would have for them that day. I could envision the disciples hoping for a more "respectable" assignment. But here they were retrieving a donkey. And here I was experiencing Palm Sunday in a way beyond what I could have imagined...singing, praying, and breaking bread together with my team on a beach on the Mississippi coast. So goes the life of a school chaplain.

Despite advice from many throughout my discernment process for the priesthood to perhaps "tone down" my interest in school ministry and consider parish ministry instead, and having endured strange looks from seminary classmates (and some professors!) when sharing with them my desire to become a school chaplain, it is in fact school chaplaincy to which I have been called. Maybe seen by some as the minor league as compared to the major league of parish ministry, I cannot think of a more exciting and challenging environment in which to practice ministry, an environment full of opportunities to represent the Episcopal Church.

Having spent two wonderful years at the Episcopal School of Knoxville, I am now fortunate to be at another institution — St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Jackson, Mississippi — that embraces the "Episcopal" in the school's name. The importance of



our Episcopal identity is featured prominently in the most recent strategic plan and is evident in the St. Andrew's mission statement: "To nurture a diverse community in the Episcopal tradition, fostering spiritual growth, moral responsibility, academic excellence, and artistic and athletic pursuits, while preparing for a life of service to our community and the world." However, Episcopal identity is not an aspect of school life that is simply placed on promotional materials and referenced in materials for perspective families or donors, but is instead at the core of our life together.

Our Episcopal tradition is most prominently expressed through our chapel services, religion curriculum, and service program. Weekly chapel services are held for all lower, middle, and upper school students and faculty, and many parents also attend. All upper and middle School students and 4th grade students in the lower school are given the opportunity to serve as acolytes and participate in other ways, such as sharing their musical talents. St. Andrew's commitment to being an Episcopal School is also evident in the curriculum. Religion classes are taught at the Pre-K3 through 4th grades based on the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, and for the first time this year at the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade level as well, focusing on biblical studies, world religions, and ethics respectively. In addition, upper school electives, such as a service learning course entitled Faith, Service, & Social Justice, will be offered beginning next school year. The school's emphasis

on service can be found through classroom service projects, grade-level service days, as well as a mandatory service requirement for upper school students.

Yet despite these important, but somewhat obvious ways in which a school may live out its Episcopal identity, there are countless other opportunities that as a school chaplain I find exciting. From faculty meetings devoted to Episcopal Church history, theology, and liturgical practices, to parent luncheon presentations on what makes an Episcopal school different from other schools, to praying before a sporting event or school trip...these are all significant opportunities to represent what the Episcopal Church stands for to an audience consisting of a minority of Episcopalians.

But by far, the main reason school ministry is so exciting is the reason we exist in the first place, the students...students from a variety of backgrounds and faith traditions who are curious, inquisitive, and who are seriously considering their faith and its role in their lives...students who are willing to get their hands dirty serving others and who are willing to ask a wide range of questions, from why a loving God would send people to hell to whether or not the collar I wear hurts. And while we who work in Episcopal schools are not in the business of converting young people to the Episcopal Church, our mission to represent our faith tradition and share the love of Christ is significant nonetheless.

It is my hope that maybe in college or even later in life, former students who are searching for a religious community will remember a chapel service, a conversation with the chaplain, or a service project and decide to visit an Episcopal Church. It is my hope that former students will remember their Episcopal school as a place where they were loved and encouraged to discover and share their gifts, a place where they could be the people God intended them to be, a place where they were reminded of how special they are. Who knows, perhaps they might even remember a Eucharist on the beach.

The Rev. Kirk LaFon is the chaplain at St. Andrew's Episcopal School in Ridgeland

Everyday Sacred: A Women's Retreat

With Ellen Gabardi, September 20-22 at the Gray Center

The Center for Formation and Mission is excited to announce that Ellen Gabardi, a much-loved small group and retreat leader, will be leading our women's retreat this year. We have asked Ellen to share with us about the retreat.

Q. Ellen, please briefly describe the theme for the retreat.

A. We will consider the ways that the church invites us to see our mundane, common, everyday lives as sacred. We will ponder the ways that the church uses sacrament and ritual, creeds and language, even the liturgical calendar to bring us into awareness of the sacred — both inside the church walls and outside of the church walls.

Q. What is the top thing you hope participants will gain from attending?

A. I feel sometimes as if there is a disconnect for people between the church service and "the rest of our lives." My hope is that the experiences during this retreat will reveal that the church service reflects and informs our lives outside of the church walls. Perhaps we will come to see baptism in the bath time of a young child — or even in our own bathing. Perhaps we will come to see Eucharist in the preparing and serving of a meal to family and friends. Perhaps we will come to see confession of sin as an apology we offer to a friend. We often tend to see church as holy and



sacred and the rest of our lives as common and mundane, but I hope that this retreat will open our eyes to the sacredness of our everyday lives.

Q. What inspires you about the topic for the retreat?

A. I tend to want everything in my life to be special, rich, deep, meaningful, so I've been drawn for most of my adult life to naming the everyday as holy. Much of everyday life seems anything but holy - everyday life can be messy and loud and painful,

even numbing and repetitive; however, beginning simply by naming the everyday as holy offers the opportunity for a new way to see and to behold and to live into. The church service invites us to do this.

Q. What excites you most about leading a retreat like this?

A. Stories. I love hearing the stories which women share, particularly about their awareness of the holiness of their everyday lives. Additionally, I've heard it said that we teach what we most desire to learn - this is certainly true for me.

For more information about this retreat and other CfFM offerings, please visit our web site cfft.dioms.org.

A Day Apart: Peace, Be Still

With Rev. Jennifer Deaton, August 9 at the Gray Center

The Center for Formation and Mission and Journey Partners invites you to join Rev. Jennifer Deaton for our next "Day Apart" on Friday, August 9, from 9am-2pm.

Our guides for each of our scheduled Days Apart prepare short homilies or meditations for the day, usually around a theme, which participants are invited to reflect on during the day.

Jennifer describes the theme for this day below:

"If you have time, you could note that life can get stormy with wave after wave of obligations, errands, and endless activities. 'Peace, be still' Jesus speaks through the storm. Perhaps he means not for the storm to mind him, but rather us. Come away for a day set in the peace of Christ...."

To register or for more information about this Day Apart and other CfFM offerings please visit our website cfft.dioms.org, or contact Caelin Slevin at 601-397-4273.

The Center for Formation and Mission 2013 Offerings: Be Transformed...

August 9

A Day Apart: Day of Silence and Prayer

*Co-sponsored with Journey Partners, a ministry of the Center for Ministry
The Rev. Jennifer Deaton, St. Andrew's Cathedral*

September 21-23

Everyday Sacred: a Women's Retreat

We will consider the ways that the church invites us to see our mundane, common, everyday lives as sacred. For surely, every day is sacred.
Ellen Gabardi, Spiritual Director and retreat and small group leader

September 27

A Day Apart: Day of Silence and Prayer

*Co-sponsored with Journey Partners, a ministry of the Center for Ministry
Diane Braman, LCSW*

September 27-29

Silent Retreat

Spend a weekend in silence, reflection, prayer and community.
*Co-sponsored with Journey Partners, a ministry of the Center for Ministry
Diane Braman, LCSW*

November 1

A Day Apart: Day of Silence and Prayer

*Co-sponsored with Journey Partners, a ministry of the Center for Ministry
The Rt. Rev. Duncan M. Gray, III*

November 14-16

Open the Eyes of My Heart: Photography as a Spiritual Practice

Join Brad Berglund, popular retreat leader, and train your eye for prayerful vision. All who enjoy making or looking at photos and who long to see the world more imaginatively are welcome.
Co-sponsored with Journey Partners, a ministry of the Center for Ministry

December 6-8

Knitting and Needlework in Advent: Be Still and Know...

Bring your needles and thread and take time to be still as we move through the busy season of Advent.
*Mrs. Susan Nix, St. Andrew's Cathedral
The Rev. Jennifer Deaton, St. Andrew's Cathedral*

*All events are held at Gray Center. For more information
or to register for events, please go to <http://cfft.dioms.org>*

*...But be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may
discern what is the will of God – what is good and
acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2*

A date to remember:

Friday, August 9, 2013

A Day Apart — Gray Center — 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



WRIGHT &
FERGUSON
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

HIGH AT NORTH WEST STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 408
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

OFFICE (601) 362-0832
FAX (601) 362-1818



Episcopal Church of the Mediator Bookstore

3825 35th Avenue • Meridian, MS 39305

www.mediatormeridian.dioms.org (click on Bookstore)

email: www.mediatorbooks@comcast.net

Phone: 601-483-3959, ext. 25, manager's cell: 601-527-6095

Hours: Wed. 3:30-5:30 PM and Sun. 9:00 AM-10:15 & after 10:30 service

Prayerbooks, Anglican rosaries, Sara Rubin Pottery, crosses, jewelry,
Episcopal items (T-shirts, sweatshirts, pins, hats, stickers, note cards)
baby gifts, baptism & confirmation gifts, seasonal cards & gifts

Shipping available

DIOCESAN CALENDAR

- JULY
- 11: Gray Center Executive Committee Conference Call — 5:00 p.m.
 - 11 - 14: Cursillo #124 — Gray Center
 - 12: Allin House closed at noon
 - 19: Allin House closed at noon
 - 22 - 28: Mississippi Conference on Church Music & Liturgy — Gray Center
 - 24: Celebration of a New Ministry — St. Paul's, Columbus — 6:00 p.m.
 - 25: Trustees Meeting — Allin House — 2:00 p.m.
 - 26: Allin House closed at noon
 - 27: Gray Center Board Meeting — Gray Center — 9:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.
 - 28: Bishop Gray at Closing of MS Conference on Church Music & Liturgy — St. Andrew's — 11:00 a.m.

- AUGUST
- 4: Bishop Gray visits Chapel of the Cross, Rolling Fork — 10:30 a.m.
Bishop Gray visits Grace Church, Carrollton — 4:00 p.m.
 - 6: Deadline for *The Mississippi Episcopalian*
 - 6: Bishop Gray visits St. Paul's, Corinth — 6:00 p.m.
 - 9: A Day Apart — Gray Center — 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
 - 10: Fourth Day Workshop for Cursillo #124 — Location TBA (Jackson Area)
 - 11: Bishop Gray visits St. Francis', Philadelphia — 10:30 a.m.
Bishop Gray visits St. Mary's, Enterprise — 4:00 p.m.
 - 14: Convocational Deans' Meeting — Allin House — 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
 - 14: Celebration of a New Ministry — St. James', Jackson — 6:30 p.m.
 - 15: Clergy Gathering at Gray Center
 - 18: Bishop Gray visits Christ Church & St. Mary's, Vicksburg — 10:30 a.m.
 - 20: Finance Committee Meeting — St. Andrew's — 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 - 21 - 23: Commission on Ministry — Gray Center
 - 23: Standing Committee Meeting — Gray Center — 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 - 24: Cursillo Leadership Training — Location TBA (Jackson Area)
 - 25: Bishop Gray visits St. John's, Laurel — 10:30 a.m.
 - 29: Executive Committee Meeting — St. Andrew's — 11:30 - 3:30 p.m.

- SEPTEMBER
- 2: Allin House closed for Labor Day holiday
 - 3: Deadline for *The Mississippi Episcopalian*
 - 6 - 8: IONA School — Gray Center
 - 6 - 8: Adults Working with Youth (New Youth Ministers) — Gray Center
 - 6 - 8: Sr. High DOY — Gray Center
 - 8: Bishop Gray visits St. Alban's, Bovina — 10:30 a.m.
Bishop Gray visits St. Mary's, Bolton — 4:00 p.m.
 - 10: Fresh Start — Trinity Church, Hattiesburg — 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 - 11: FEMA Corp Induction — All Saints', Vicksburg
 - 12: Fresh Start — All Saints', Grenada — 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 - 15: Bishop Gray visits Resurrection & MSU, Starkville — 10:30 a.m.
 - 15 - 17: Presbyter POC — Gray Center
 - 20 - 22: Everyday Sacred: A Women's Retreat — Gray Center
 - 27: A Day Apart — Gray Center — 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
 - 27 - 29: Silent Retreat — Gray Center
 - 28: Day on the Diaconate — All Saints', Jackson
 - 29: Bishop Gray visits St. Matthew's, Kosciusko — 10:30 a.m.

FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Ben “Kit” Glenn III, 55, communicant of St. Peter’s by-the-Sea, died August 22, 2012.
Katherine Graham Townes, 74, communicant of All Saint’s, Grenada, died September 5, 2012.
Estelle Hawkins Maxwell, 85, communicant of St. Peter’s by-the-Sea, died January 4, 2013.
Martha Lee Henderson Ruble, 81, communicant of St. Peter’s by-the-Sea, died February 3, 2013.
Shirley DeMattie Pate, 93, communicant of St. Peter’s by-the-Sea, died April 14, 2013.
David Franklin Milsted, 87, communicant of St. Peter’s by-the-Sea, died May 10, 2013.
Andrew “Drew” Roane Townes, 82, communicant of All Saints’, Grenada, died May 28, 2013.
Ben Puckett, 83, communicant of St. James’, Jackson, died June 2, 2013..
Marguerite (Peggie) H. Martin, 89, communicant of Mediator-Redeemer, died on June 5, 2013.
Ruth Helms Nunnery Crowe, 81, communicant of St. James’, Greenville, died June 12, 2013.
Stanford Lee “Chip” Bowman, 70, communicant of St. James’, Jackson, died June 20, 2013.
Mary Gardiner Tims, 30, communicant of All Saints’, Tupelo, died June 23, 2013.
Michael Bruce Evans, 44, communicant of St. James’, Jackson, died June 24, 2013.
Mary Jane Hamm, 80, communicant of St. Paul’s, Corinth, died June 26, 2013.
Joseph Shelton Maury, Sr., 93, communicant of Nativity-Macon, died July 12, 2013.

Diocese invited to Catechesis of Good Shepherd training at St. James’/Jackson

By Jo G. Prichard

Congregations across the diocese who now offer The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd church school program are invited to send their adults to St. James’/Jackson for Level II Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Formation for Adults Working with 6 to 9 Year Old Children. This formation course, led by Mary Nell Prichard and a team of regional catechists, will take place from August 2013-May 2014 during the upcoming school year. Prichard has led diocesan and regional trainings in the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for over two decades.

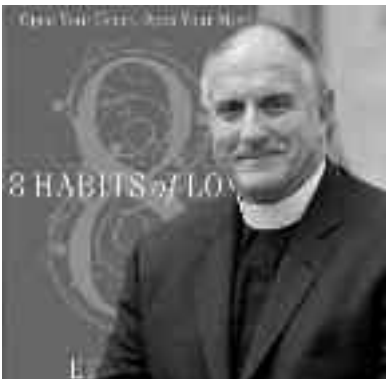
The 90-hour Level II formation program will meet all day Saturday, one Saturday each month, beginning on August 10th and ending in May 2014. This course will meet requirements for national certification.

“We are excited to offer this comprehensive Level II course for congregations across the diocese and urge churches desiring to expand or strengthen their Good Shepherd programs to take advantage of this opportunity,” said Prichard. “Many in our diocese have had to travel out of state to get this essential training, and we are pleased to make it accessible and more affordable to so many across the diocese.”

Tuition for the comprehensive Level II course is \$650 per participant. Those wishing to register for the course or get more information should contact Mary Nell Prichard at St. James’, 3921 Oak Ridge Drive, Jackson, MS 39216, telephone 601-982-4880, or email at mprichard@stjjax.org by July 30th.

Jo G. Prichard is a communicant of St. James’/Jackson.

Bacon to lead August retreat at Gray Center



[MSE] The Rev. Ed Bacon is this year’s presenter at the eighth annual spiritual renewal retreat. Bacon is the rector of All Saints Church in Pasadena, California, and former dean of St. Andrew’s Cathedral in Jackson.

The retreat will be held August 23-25 at Gray Center and is open to all who wish to attend. Registrations may be made at www.dioms.org/digital_faith/events/3155723#. One may also call the diocesan office at 601-948-5954.

Bacon will speak on the theme “Moving from a script of fear to a script of love.”

The annual retreat is sponsored by the Committee on Ministry with LGBT Persons and the Diocese of Mississippi.

WHY SHOULD YOU PAY MORE?

COMPLETE TRADITIONAL FUNERAL \$4,540.00
Includes: Professional and Personal Service of Our Staff to Your Family, Visitation and Complete Funeral Service in Our Chapel or Your Church and Committal Service at the Cemetery of Your Choice.
A Gasketed Steel Casket in a variety of colors or a wood casket. Outer Burial Container Available at Affordable Prices, Keepsake Memorial Tribute Video.

COMPLETE PRAYER SERVICE \$3,840.00
Includes: Professional and Personal Service of Our Staff to Your Family, Visitation and Prayer Service at Funeral Home, Committal Service at a Cemetery of Your Choice.
A Gasketed Steel Casket in a variety of colors or a wood casket.

COMPLETE GRAVESIDE SERVICE \$2,895.00
Includes: Professional and Personal Service of Our Staff to Your Family Visitation and Graveside Service at a Cemetery of Your choice.
A Gasketed Steel Casket in a variety of colors or a wood casket.

COMPLETE TRADITIONAL CREMATION SERVICE \$2,595.00
Includes: Professional and Personal Service of Our Staff to Your Family Funeral Service at Our Chapel or Church.
Rental Casket, Urn & All Fees at Crematorium

SIMPLE CREMATION SERVICE \$1,195.00
Includes: Professional Services to Your Family. All Fees at Crematorium.



425 Northpark Drive
Ridgeland, MS 39157
(601) 957-6946

Affordable Funeral & Cremation Services
Locally Owned and Operated
Honoring all Prearrangements and Insurance

Reflections from the Road

For much of its history the Episcopal Church has elected well-trained and competent (for the most part) parish clergy to be bishops — something that they were never trained to do, nor ever seriously thought about until one day someone asked, “May I nominate you for bishop in the diocese of fill in the blank?”

Again, for much of its history the Episcopal Church then asked this bishop to function effectively from day one in a job that they were never trained for or, in many cases, never sought. A wise older bishop once told me shortly after I was elected that about 30% of what I did in the parish was transferable to the office of bishop. 70% would have to be on the job training. Truth be told, there was even less that was transferrable than he had suggested.

Is there any wonder then that there have been problems associated with the effectiveness of the episcopacy through the years, particularly as the church and culture began to shift so dramatically in the middle of the last century?

All of this began to change at about the time I was elected bishop. Research was done, using me and some of my newly elected colleagues, to determine what was needed for a bishop to make an effective transition from parish priest to bishop, and what training/education could be offered to new bishops making this transition that is far different than anyone imagines.

Today, this training resource for our church’s ecclesiastical leadership has taken the form of the College for Bishops. The College for Bishops, now a canonically required training experience for new bishops, includes a week-long residency program over three years combined with a mentoring/coaching relationship with an experienced bishop.

I serve on both the board for the College for Bishops and function as a faculty member for the residency program. I have just returned from my stint as a faculty member in the residency program.

I sure wish the College for Bishops had been a part of my life thirteen years ago.

I am delighted to make it a gift to my successor.

Faithfully,
+Duncan



Retired Bishop Jack Biggers celebrated 50th priesthood anniversary in Malawai

By Scott Lenoir

The Rt. Rev. Jackson Biggers, Bishop Emeritus of the Diocese of Northern Malawi, Africa and a native son of Mississippi, celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination in the Cathedral Church of Saint Peter on Likoma Island on Lake Malawi. The anniversary celebration took place on June 23rd. Beginning at 8:00 a.m., the service of celebration lasted until 2:30 p.m.

“The Jubilee is over and . . . there were five days of drumming, dancing and slaughtering of cattle, visiting and enjoying the presence of chiefs with their wise men and our own bishops,” wrote Bishop Biggers to his friend, the Rev. Michael Bedford, assisting priest at St. John’s in Detroit, Michigan.

Biggers said “Choirs came from everywhere, including our next door neighbor, Tanzania. The steamer to Likoma Island was packed and we had a stormy nine hour crossing.”

The anniversary celebration was also coordinated with efforts to help fund a new education initiative in which Bishop Biggers plays a major part. A secondary school, recently named Bishop Biggers Secondary School, is seeking assistance to increase its ministry through the establishment of a Jubilee Fund.

The Rev. Michael J. Bedford, mentioned above, is the Commissary for Anglican Education in Malawi and said that “a good part of the money will be used to give grants to help students or their parents to pay their way into the school.” Bedford said other uses of the Jubilee Fund will go toward the school’s continuing development.

Biggers was ordained in 1963 by the Rt. Rev. John M. Allin. He served at St. James’/ Jackson, St. Stephen’s/Indianola, and for 18 years at Redeemer/Biloxi. He also served a missionary post in the West Indies. Biggers was elected as the first bishop of the newly established Diocese of Northern Malawi in 1983 and still lives in Malawai, calling the country his home.

Gifts of appreciation for the Jubilee Fund supporting the education initiative in Zombia, Malawai may be sent to St. John’s Episcopal Church, 2326 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, MI 48201.



Bishop Biggers leads the Jubilee Mass.



The Rt. Rev. Jack Biggers, pictured praying in the red zucchetto, celebrated his 50th ordination at the Cathedral Church of Saint Peter on Likoma Island, Malawai. At the Jubilee Mass, Bishop Biggers ordained ten candidates to the diaconate.






Fostering Independence

Bridgeway Apartments in Picayune, Mississippi, provide supervised living and supported-employment services for 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: John Hoskins, Senior Philanthropic Advisor, at 888-439-5116 or via e-mail at john.hoskins@st-francis.org



Saint Francis Community Services®
Strengthening Families Since 1945



503 Seal Street #7 • Picayune, MS 39166 • 601-749-1815
www.st-francis.org

A date to remember:

Tuesday, August 6, 2013

Deadline for The Mississippi Episcopalian