**The Alabama Episcopalian**

**September/October 2014**

The Rev. Francis Walter kneels to pray at the former Varner’s Cash Store during the 2014 Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage. Daniel, a civil rights advocate and Episcopal Seminarian, was killed while on the mission of Selma Inter-religious Project, a coalition of 10 nationwide religious denominations serving as a spiritual presence in Selma in the aftermath of the “Bloody Sunday” civil rights march. He visited Daniels while he was in jail in Hayneville. Read more about this year’s annual pilgrimage and the Young Pilgrims lock-in on Pages 6 & 7.

**IN THIS ISSUE**

Camp Day weekend, the annual diocesan family gathering at Camp McDowell is scheduled for Oct. 24 – 26. Join the fun for a day or the entire weekend. Get the details and find out how to sign up on Page 24.

This summer parishes across the diocese offered creative Vacation Bible School programs. Read about two of them in “Faith Builders” and “St. John’s VBS Hits the Nail on the Head” on Page 18, and check out one parish’s alternative to Vacation Bible School in “Summer Fun at Trinity Florence” on Page 21.

Sawyerville Day Camp Director Leslie Manning, recaps this year’s program, thanks staff and volunteers, and looks toward next year in “Sawyerville: Who’s it all for? It’s All for the Kids!” on Pages 16 & 15.

With the exception of team leader Aston and physician assistant Waltz, this is the first medical mission to Haiti for all team members. Waltz grew up in a family dedicated to global mission and has been to Haiti with another group.

All of the parishes sending team members are gathering and donating the supplies they will take with them to stock the pharmacy and provide the tool they will need.

A fun evening of Italian food and operetta songs will be held Oct. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Andrew’s in Birmingham. Tickets for a minimum donation of $25 will help fund the medicine that will be purchased in Haiti and salary for the Haitian staff. Please come and meet members of the team. Visit http://bit.ly/1rgHzo6 for details on the evening event.

**Alabama Medical Mission Team Prepares to Head for Haiti in November**

**Red Door Arts Event Fundraiser Oct. 12 to Support Mission**

Volunteers from five Episcopal Diocese of Alabama parishes and one Roman Catholic church will bring medical care to Haiti Nov. 8.

The mission team led by the Rev. Deacon Gerri Aston, St. Andrew’s Birmingham, includes Dr. Michael Barnett, also a member of St. Andrew’s, physician assistant Lauren Waltz, Grace Annist, nurses Jennie DeLoach, Trinity Clanton, Debra Peoples, St. Luke’s Mountain Brook, Pam Trull, Our Lady of Sorrows Homewood, and non-medical team member Deb Ross, St. Francis of Assisi.

The group will be based at Lespwa Timoun (Hope for Children) clinic in Croix des Bouquets Haiti. The team will work with the Diocese of Alabama’s partners in the Diocese of Haiti, the Rev. Pierre Fritz Valdema and his wife Carmel. The Rev. Deacon Gerri Aston will bring medical care to Haiti and salary for the Haitian staff. Please come and meet members of the team. Visit http://bit.ly/1rgHzo6 for details on the evening event.

**THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

The Anglican Communion is an 80-million-member worldwide community of 38 provinces.


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) for The Alabama Episcopalian to Editor Dave Drachlis at communications@dioala.org or 521 North 20th Street, Birmingham, AL 35203–2682. The submission deadline for each issue is the first day of the month of publication.

**POSTMASTER:** Please send address corrections to Denise Servant, Circulation Secretary, The Alabama Episcopalian, 521 North 20th Street, Birmingham, AL 35203–2682.
Hello friends,

As I write this the Sloans and the Marrays are getting ready to go to a meeting of the House of Bishops next week. This in itself is not extraordinary, except for the fact that the meeting is in Taiwan. You may know that the Episcopal Church is not only in the United States, but also in countries throughout the world. You may not know that once every three years the bishops of the Episcopal Church meet in a country outside of the United States. Three years ago we met in Ecuador; next week we’re going to Taiwan. The bishop of Taiwan is a sweet and gentle man whose name is David Li—he’s come to all the meetings of the House since he became the bishop there, and he assures us that it’s not so far. He also tells us that they have the best Chinese food in the world! But as much as I love some good fried rice and egg rolls, that’s not why we’re going. We’re going because that diocese is just as much a part of God’s Church as we are. We’re going because it will do us some good to see the work of the Church in another part of the world. “It will be,” as I keep telling Miss Tina and myself, “an adventure.”

Actually I have to admit that sometimes I sort of assume adventures are better suited to other people, or that I like them in theory a little more than in actuality. They can be, as Bilbo says, disturbing and uncomfortable, and who wants that? We’re happy to read books or watch movies about adventures, but on the whole we’re glad they happen to other people. It’s easier to stay home, less complicated to be in familiar settings, more comfortable to sleep in my own bed. That way we can keep things under some semblance of control.

Recently I heard our friend Doug Carpenter talking about the early days at Camp McDowell, when he was a young man clearing the land where the Diocese built the Camp. He remembered that the man working with the Work Boys back then would call to them and say, “Step over here, boys.” He said that became part of his personal theology: he considered that to be like our call to ministry, to step away from where we were so that we can go where our Lord is calling us. And in truth, Jesus really never says, “Okay, y’all just stay where you are;” it’s always “Step over here.”

I wonder what Jesus would’ve said if the disciples had suggested that they ought to do something The Way We’ve Always Done It? Can you imagine: at the changing of water into wine—“Oh, no, Jesus—we’ve never done it that way!; at the feeding of the five thousand—“Oh, no, Jesus—that’s not how our parents did it; at the Resurrection—“This can’t be—it’s never been done before!” But sometimes, as Mr. Scott told young Doug Carpenter, we have to step away from where we are, so we can go where Jesus wants us to be. I’m proud of our diocesan family for the support that’s been given to new projects and ministries, like the Sawyerville Day Camp, the Foothills Camp in Anniston, the Special Session at Camp McDowell, the Abbey in Birmingham, and Bethany Village. It would have been easier, cheaper and more comfortable to do none of those things. Any of them could have fallen flat, but so far by God’s grace each of those things is making a difference in the lives of people—God’s people. I am grateful that we are on this adventure together.

Life, and faith, is meant to be an adventure.
Dr. Kortright Davis, author of *Serving with Power: Reviving the Spirit of Christian Ministry*, is a renowned Caribbean theologian, and was also my Systematic Theology Professor at Codrington College, Barbados (1977-1981). He is currently an Episcopal priest and professor at Howard University School of Divinity. In his book, he wrestles with the question of the servant model and its implications on ministry for Christian leaders, clergy and laity, in light of our calling as God’s servants. He believes in recognizing that the public church is also the community of gifts, the charismatic community. An integral part of this complex characterization is that it remains the community of the Spirit — the Spirit of God leading those willing to respond to the call to become faithful children of God. This same Spirit bestows gifts to whomsoever the Spirit wills, and these spiritual gifts are translated into practical gifts, particularly as they promote and proclaim the gospel in practical living faith in Jesus.

God’s ministers, contends Davis, are people endowed with the Spirit to confess faith and lead others to confess God as Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. This confession does not exclude the confession of faith in God’s Church, because the Church comes out of the bosom of God through God’s personal involvement and creative character in Jesus. Davis’ work sees the marks of ministry in light of four critical acknowledgments: (1) sacrament, (2) stewardship, (3) servanthood, and (4) sign. The Church’s oneness — as a reflection of God’s oneness, being called out of God as the body of Christ — constitutes its nature as sacrament; holy and sacred.

Sacramentality of the ministry, in Davis’ view, “is not just proclaimed in ordination, it actually begins with our baptism, and we are called to a level of spiritual response that is always in keeping with our capacity to respond.” This finds actualization in what he refers to, “a spirituality that is communal, open to God’s many surprises… and capable of drawing ourselves and others closer to the throne of God’s grace”. However, this sharing is not restricted to within the body, but finds efficacy in both spheres of communal life, “within and without that body”. The practice of evangelism, which he distinguishes from evangelization, is characterized by sharing of one’s faith. Every Christian, he states, is expected to be an evangelist. Beloved, whether we realize it or not we often do so without even knowing it. Maybe just a simple, hello or thank you or even opening the door for someone or words of encouragement. Any number of gestures that may make a difference in someone’s life maybe be seen as living out your evangelistic call.

Stewardship is a mark of the faithful residing within the household of God. Accountability in every sphere of Christian life is an important rule in Christian witnessing. It anticipates that ministers of Christ follow the pattern of stewards in God’s household. This understanding will interpret the ministry of stewardship to mean that there should be a constant updating of the catalog of gifts with which one has been entrusted. This becomes necessary because gifts can change its nature, withdrawn without notice, or grow into something new and different. Furthermore, stewardship moves the church into responsible areas of ministry. Another important piece to consider is integration which happens to be a critical corollary, that is, integration of the gospel story with the human story… the sacred with the secular. The gospel has deeper meaning when I see myself and my life’s story breathing through the scriptures. All my struggles, frustrations, lamentations, joys and hopes are also embodied in the lives of the characters we love and revere in the bible. My personal and most revered biblical character is our friend Job. He is a prototype of each of us. Each of us has at some time experienced a “job type experience”;

Davis’ presentation shows that servanthood draws its badge from the New Testament image of the Church as the community of believers, or as the people of God informed by the words of Jesus; “The Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve, and give his life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10:45). The scope of ministry is worked out at the level of imitating Jesus; “We imitate Christ by serving others as Christ so served”. Discerning ministry from this perspective goes beyond doing good works. It includes service to others as our contribution in ushering the realm of God. The main thrust of this servanthood formula finds concrete manifestation in a ministry that moves away from myopic and self-centered practices to the service of God in and through the neighbor, and points to the power of “God’s word through the gospel”. Ministry has all kinds of ramifications that test the mettle of our Christian experience. Faith in the call breaks through all challenges as we answer the call of ministry to become faithful stewards. The ministry we perform is God’s ministry. I strongly believe that the quality of its administration is enhanced by faithfully and dutifully honoring these four marks: sacrament, stewardship; servanthood and sign. It is the conviction of Davis that it is “our most fervent and earnest duty to let these four marks of ministry . . . help to strengthen our witness and, by the grace of God, increase our faith”. The ordained and non-ordained are respectfully challenged to participate in this vocation of mutual and collaborative ministry.

I take this opportunity to invite each and every Episcopalians to share in the gift of our call to be ministers by being part of any exercise to grow and nurture our relationship with Jesus and his church.

Together in His service,
The seventeenth annual Faith, Art and Creative Expression (FACE) Conference was held Aug. 17 – 22 at Kanuga Conferences in Hendersonville, NC. The conference, co-coordinated by the Diocese of Alabama’s own Lark Howell, drew more than 90 participants from all over the United States including seven from Alabama. Melanie Rodgers of the Cathedral Church of the Advent served as conference musician.

Well-known experts in different art forms shared their talents. In a spiritual container of Christianity the Kanuga sponsored conference, formally named the Liturgical Arts Conference, provided a week of spiritual expression and renewal through such art forms as photography, embroidery, weaving, canvas work, flower arranging, painting, choral and more, according to Howell.

Other participants from Alabama included, Joe Howell, Christina Dorn, Ed Dorn, Brenda Roberts and Tom Roberts all from Grace Church in Anniston.

Next year’s conference will be held August 16 -21, 2015. More about next year’s conference will be available soon on the Kanuga website at: www.kanuga.org. Or those interested can email Lark Howell at: jlblhowell@bellsouth.net.

A featured class at this year’s conference was, Painting: A Way to Talk to God, taught by Roger Hutchison, acclaimed author of The Painting Table. Hutchison will be in the Diocese of Alabama this fall to lead a day-long spirituality retreat at St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church in Birmingham. The event is sponsored by the Commission on Spirituality. For more information visit: http://www.dioala.org/digital_faith/events/3161245.

Nine Postulants Begin Formation for Ordination to the Diaconate in the Diocese of Alabama

Nine women and men from the Diocese of Alabama have begun a two-year formation program leading to ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacons in the fall of 2016. They are Dave Lambert, St. Francis Assisi, Indian Springs; Judy Neil, St. Alban’s Church, Birmingham; Andrea Peacock, St. James, Alexander City; Jennie Randall, St. Thomas, Huntsville; Bob Serio, Church of the Nativity, Huntsville; Pearl Slay, Trinity, Demopolis; Susan Southwick, Holy Cross, Trussville; John Stewart, St. Matthias, Tuscaloosa; and Charlie Venable, St. Mary’s on-the-Highlands, Birmingham.

Their formal formation program began with a two-day retreat at Camp McDowell on Aug. 22 and 23. It will include 10 monthly class sessions and an extensive theological and scriptural reading program. Students will also explore a variety of community ministries during their formation.

Completion of the four year Education For Ministry curriculum of the School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn., is required before ordination.

There are presently 38 vocational deacons in the diocese. They provide a leadership role in a variety of ministry areas including: disaster relief, prison ministry, mission work in Honduras and Haiti, race relations, ministries to the homeless and the hungry, Jubilee Ministries, and other outreach ministries.

Deacons are non-stipendiary. They have a role both in the liturgy of the word and the liturgy of the table during Eucharist, and have special ministries both within and outside their parish.

This is the final class to attend the Diocese of Alabama’s Deacons School for Ministry. The diocese is initiating a new program — the Alabama Iona Ministry School (AIMS) — to train vocational deacons, bi-vocational/non-stipendiary priests, and lay people wanting to do further training for ministry. Additional information about the program is available online at http://bit.ly/1jTPw6L.
Pilgrims from across the country gathered Saturday in the town of Hayneville to honor Alabama civil rights martyr Jonathan Myrick Daniels.

They assembled on the Lowndes County Courthouse Square, near where 49 years ago Daniels, an Episcopal seminarian, was shot and killed for no reason other than encouraging his brothers and sisters and supporting their struggle for equality.

The pilgrims come from all walks of life — men, women and children, African Americans, Caucasians, Asians and Hispanics, toddlers to great-grandparents, locals and travelers far from home — but have one thing in common. They come to recognize, remember and reflect on Daniels’ sacrifice and that of others who died during the civil rights movement.

So they gather under the shadow of the courthouse, seeking shelter and shade from the scorching sun under stately oaks, themselves silent witnesses to what transpired here in the summer of 1965.

The square and the heat, oppressive and constant, are practically unchanged from that faithful Friday that Daniels died, according to former Catholic priest Richard F. Morrisroe, who was shot alongside the martyr. “It’s still as hot and humid, you don’t forget that,” said Morrisroe, who came down from his home in Indiana for this weekend’s pilgrimage.

In March 1965, Daniels, a 26-year-old from New Hampshire, answered the call from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for students and clergy to come to Selma to finish the voting rights march to Montgomery that had been brutally stopped by law enforcement at the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma on what has become known as Bloody Sunday — March 7, 1965.

After returning to seminary for final exams, Daniels came back to Alabama in July, where he worked to register voters, tutor students and help the poor. He also met Morrisroe back to Alabama in July, where he worked to register voters.

So they assembled on the Lowndes County Courthouse Square, near where 49 years ago Daniels, an Episcopal seminarian, was shot and killed for no reason other than encouraging his brothers and sisters and supporting their struggle for equality.

The square and the heat, oppressive and constant, are practically unchanged from that faithful Friday that Daniels died, according to former Catholic priest Richard F. Morrisroe, who was shot alongside the martyr. “It’s still as hot and humid, you don’t forget that,” said Morrisroe, who came down from his home in Indiana for this weekend’s pilgrimage.

On Aug. 20, 1965, Daniels and Morrisroe as well as 20 other protesters had just been released from a six-day stay in the deplorable Lowndes County Jail after picketing a whites-only store in Fort Deposit. Daniels and Morrisroe walked with two black teenage girls to nearby Varner’s Cash Store, one of the few places that would serve nonwhites, to buy cold drinks for the group.

The four were met at the store’s entrance by shotgun wielding volunteer sheriff’s deputy Tom L. Coleman. He threatened the group and pointed his shotgun at 16-year-old Ruby Sales. Daniels pushed Ruby to the ground, taking a full shotgun blast to the chest and stomach. Morrisroe grabbed the other girl, Joyce Bailey, and ran, but he too was gunned down, shot in the lower back. Morrisroe survived after an 11-hour surgery in Montgomery; Daniels died instantly on the store’s front stoop.

“I lived and Jonathan died,” Morrisroe explained to a group of students Saturday morning.

Morrisroe decided to leave the priesthood six to eight years after what happened in Hayneville. He went into law and city planning and married wife, Sylvia, and they have two children, Jonathan and Siobhan, and several grandchildren.

Morrisroe said the events of 1965 seem like a lifetime ago. “I’m probably more philosophical about what happened now than I have ever been in my life,” he said. Still he said it warms his heart to see people honor Daniels, and he hopes the pilgrimage grows and becomes even more ecumenical. “I think it’s beautiful to see young people exploring this,” he said.

Saturday began with pilgrims gathering outside the courthouse. From there, they walked the few blocks to the old Lowndes County Jail and what used to be Varner’s Cash Store.

Along the way, they sang Spirituals and carried signs depicting civil rights martyrs. At both stops, excerpts from a Daniels’ biography “Outside Agitator” by Charles Eagles, and Scripture were read and prayers given.

Outside the store, many pilgrims, some in tears, took a moment to reflect and kneel at the spot where Daniels’ blood was shed. It was one of the most emotional moments of the day, underscored by the Rev. Fannie Davis, a Lowndes County resident, singing in historical dialect, “Soon-ah will be done with the troubles of the world… I am going home to live with God.”

The group then walked back to the courthouse square where they stopped at a monument erected by Virginia Military Institute, where Daniels graduated valedictorian in 1961.

From there, the pilgrims went to the courthouse, inside the very room where Coleman was tried for Daniels’ death and acquitted. There they heard a homily from the Rt. Rev. Robert C. Wright, bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta.

Wright was born in a Pittsburgh, Pa. orphanage but was adopted at nine months old. He would go on to serve in the Navy and led St. Paul’s parish in Atlanta, the largest predominately African American Episcopal church in the
country. He was ordained the first African American bishop in Georgia’s history in October 2012.

Wright challenged pilgrims to remember Daniels and other martyrs by trying to make a difference. “Jonathan Daniels’ behavior is consistent with belief in Jesus Christ. Start acting on behalf of those suffering from the woes of this world,” Wright said. “What will you be prepared to do next?”

Christians should be ready to be sent into harm’s way for the church’s sake, he said. “People want a magic answer from church. The only answer from the Gospel is you’ve got to believe, to walk, to die, to struggle on for something,” Wright said. “God working through this feeble frame — that makes the difference.”

He ended his remarks with a challenge: “If you want to honor the martyrs of Alabama — Do something.”

After Wright’s homily, all 15 Alabama civil rights martyrs were recognized from Emmore Bolling in 1947 to Samuel Leamon Young Jr. in 1966.

Johnny Robinson was added this year — the 16-year-old Birmingham boy was shot and killed by a police officer after two groups of youth, one black and one white, exchanged taunts, rocks and bottles following unrest after the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church bombing.

Asstant Bishop of Alabama Santosh Marray acknowledged the work to preserve the old jail, and reported that conversations about the future of the former Varner’s Cash Store are moving in a positive direction. He said he hopes the diocese and local leaders can share plans for future preservation at the 50th anniversary of Daniels’ martyrdom in 2015.

“We should not underestimate the power and impact of this commemoration,” Marray said. “The Jonathan Daniels’ pilgrimage isn’t going away. If anything, it will just get more popular.”

The pilgrimage concluded with the celebration of Holy Eucharist at the judge’s bench-turned-altar, by the Rt. Rev. Allen Shin, Bishop Suffragan in the Diocese of New York.

Daniels was added to the Episcopal Church Calendar of Saints and Martyrs in 1994 to be remembered each Aug. 14.

This year’s pilgrimage was webcast live and high definition video of the pilgrimage can be viewed at: http://bit.ly/VluyO

Kids and Counselors Learn From Each Other at Foothills Day Camp

By Elizabeth Manning, The Anniston Star

For a week each year, a group of Anniston-area children experience summer camp for free, thanks to Grace Episcopal Church.

Now in its third year, Foothills Day Camp provides a week of swimming, canoeing, arts and crafts and other activities for local kids who might not get the opportunity otherwise.

Adult volunteers from Grace Episcopal Church and high school-age youth counselors staff the camp each year. The camp is funded by donations from the community and fundraisers.

“We are growing, though, so we will have to figure out more fundraising routes to take for next year,” said Lee Shafer, the priest at Grace Episcopal Church.

Foothills Day Camp is hosted at Camp Lee in Anniston. This week, the camp welcomed 53 day campers from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The day campers, ages 6-10, are from the Anniston-Oxford area. The 43 youth counselors, however, came from all over.

Jon Auman, from Arab, Ala., has been a counselor at Foothills for two years now. Auman said the camp is one small step to changing the world for the better.

“My favorite thing is interacting with the kids: spending time with them and watching them grow,” Auman said at camp this week.

Thomas Taylor, 10, has been attending the camp since it was started. Taylor’s only complaint about Foothills was the summer heat.

“But we go swimming and kayaking, so that helps,” Taylor said.

Taylor said the best thing about Foothills has nothing to do with the activities, though.

“Everyone likes me here,” Taylor said. “There is so much excitement and energy, and I have so many friends.”

That’s the mission of the camp, according to Shafer. “We want to bring people together from all different backgrounds, people who wouldn’t normally come together otherwise,” she said.

While Grace Episcopal Church sponsors the camp, Shafer said the church’s goal is not to convert anyone from a different denomination or even to bring the masses to Christ. It is most important that the kids feel comfortable and accepted in an environment that fosters spiritual growth, Shafer said.

Youth counselor Jamia Jackson is an Anniston resident who volunteers at the camp year after year because she wants local kids to have an experience that she didn’t.

“Seeing the different cultures come together and learn from each other is something that we don’t do enough outside of camp,” Jackson said.

Foothills was started after Shafer noticed a need for it in the northeastern Alabama area. “I had been to a similar camp and realized a lot of kids in this area will never have the chance to experience camp,” Shafer said.

The camp Shafer was talking about is Sawyerville Day Camp in Greensboro, Ala., sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama.

At Foothills this week, Aynaiia Stone, 10, said learning about the many activities keeps things from getting boring.

“My favorite is the zipline. I’m not afraid of heights, but I’m proud of myself for doing that still,” Stone said.

Many campers at Foothills come from the church’s Preschool Friends program, but more campers are let in by referral. Shafer said the church is currently in the process of figuring out how to grow for the next year. Each camper receives a bathing suit, beach towel, backpack and water bottle, all of which are donated by members of the community.

“It’s amazing how much help we have, not to mention that every adult here is volunteering their time,” Shafer said. “And Camp Lee has been so good to us by giving us a discounted rate and offering their grounds to us.”

Kerry Aleccia, an adult staff member and a Grace church member, is a nurse on site for the camp. Aleccia works at UAB and switched shifts with co-workers to be at the camp.

“I just really wanted to be a part of it,” Aleccia said. “Everyone grows from it – the kids have a great time, and the staff grows so much from being able to provide this for them.”

For Aleccia, Shafer, and the rest of the staff at Foothills, the kids offer a new perspective on spirituality, life and just enjoying themselves.

“Learning the kids’ take on things is as enlightening as what I’m trying to teach them,” Aleccia said.

Reprinted by permission from The Anniston Star (www.annistonstar.com).
Judy Hall Joins Carpenter House Staff Replacing Peggy Turner Who Retired

Judy Hall has joined the staff of the Diocese of Alabama at Carpenter House as the administrative assistant to the Rt. Rev. Kee Sloan, diocesan bishop. She replaces Peggy Turner who has retired.

Judy comes to the diocese from BBVA Compass Bank in Birmingham where she has served since 2007 in several capacities, most recently as an executive assistant. Judy is a former Spanish teacher from Dekalb County. Judy has two children Jonathan and Jennifer.

Peggy joined the staff of Carpenter House in 2008 as administrative assistant to then diocesan bishop, the Rt. Rev, Henry Parsley. Prior to joining the diocesan staff, she worked as a legal secretary for several law firms in the Birmingham area and as office manager for a law firm in Homewood.

Peggy is looking forward to spending time visiting with her two daughters and two grand daughters, and with her new grandson who was born the middle of September. She is also looking forward to renewing old acquaintances and developing new friendships.

“We’re grateful to Peggy Turner for her good spirit and work among us; she has really added a lot to the ministry of this office and our diocese,” said Bishop Sloan. “She will certainly be missed. And we’re glad to welcome Judy Hall to her new position among us, and as part of the Carpenter House community.”

Prayer and Perseverance

By Rob Radtke, President, Episcopal Relief & Development

Lately, it’s been hard to watch the news. We are bombarded with images of devastation — people affected by an Ebola outbreak in West Africa, the plight of Syrian refugees and internally displaced people in Iraq and those in need of food and shelter in Gaza. At home, we are facing complex problems around the unaccompanied minors traveling into the US and issues of justice after recent unrest in Ferguson, Missouri.

Witnessing these events can be overwhelming. For those of us who work in international relief and development, whether faith-based or secular, this is par for the course. My program colleagues deal with complex issues everyday as they accompany our partners in the important work of healing a hurting world.

Yet, for most people, the 24-hour news cycle and endless flood of updates on social media feeds can cause information overload. In looking at recent events, we are all experiencing some level of anxiety, fear as well as feelings of helplessness.

At times like this, I turn to prayer. I am deeply grateful for my community of faith. Scripture calls us to care for those in need and “love our neighbors as ourselves.” Please join me in praying for all who are hurting in the world, and the caregivers who serve compassionately and faithfully.

On World Humanitarian Day, I am reminded of the Prayer for the Human Family.

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son: Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred which infects our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in the bonds of love; and work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on the earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

- The Book of Common Prayer, p.815

May God’s abundant grace offer peace and healing in these challenging times.

Let us walk in love.

Editor’s Note: The Diocese of Alabama’s coordinator for Episcopal Relief & Development is the Rev. Deacon Judy Quick. For additional information about the work of this ministry contact her at jjgquick@bellsouth.net, 205-669-6862 or visit the Episcopal Relief & Development website at http://www.episcopalrelief.org.

Holy Comforter Montgomery Hosts Summer Youth Mission Trip From St. Mark’s Venice, Florida

For many Youth Ministry Programs, a summer mission trip has become a tradition most teenagers and leaders look forward to every year. At our church, St. Mark’s Episcopal Church in Venice, FL, we have adopted a tradition of doing two different kinds of trips, one year we do what we call a “driving trip” and our mission area is limited to a place we can drive to within a day and the alternating year we do a “flying trip” a trip that requires airfare and/or more extensive travel. Our young people are on charge of choosing their location every fall and we work hard all year to do fundraising and planning to make these trips a reality.

Having done full time Youth Ministry for seven years, I can attest that the benefits of a summer mission trip are tremendous. Our goal in our summer mission trip programs is to provide young people the opportunity to give back to a community while fully engaging culturally, educationally, socially, and spiritually in the local community.

By Kari Hennagin, St. Mark’s Venice

Short term missions allows our young people to look at the world around them in a different light and helps them come up with ideas of how they can reach out in their own communities. It also helps to provide a team building and bonding opportunity for both teenagers and adults as well.

This year our young people choose to go to Alabama for their summer mission experience. We were blessed to be welcomed by The Episcopal Church of the Holy Comforter in Montgomery and were welcomed with open arms by their rector, church staff, and parishioners, who helped to house us, teach us, entertain us and pray us through our week.

During our time in Alabama our young people volunteered with the Edmunite Ministry in Selma and Moses doing various projects that included painting, packing boxes of food for those in need, serving at a soup kitchen, and volunteering at Senior Citizens Center. This was a huge opportunity for our young people to learn about the history of the Civil Rights movement first hand from men and women who lived through it. They were able to give back to the community volunteering at various locations while hearing first hand accounts of a history that seems so distant to youth who only read about it in textbooks.

Our young people and their adult chaperones are still talking about the positive impact that their trip had on their lives both personally and spiritually. We are extremely thankful for the Diocese of Alabama, the staff of the Edmunite Ministry, and especially for the staff and parishioners of Holy Comforter Episcopal Church for welcoming us with open arms, sharing your time and talents with us, and making us feel like home during our stay in Alabama. We hope to be back in the future to continuing learning and continuing serving in your wonderful community!
Church of the Nativity Works to Address Domestic Poverty as a Jubilee Ministry Center

The Church of the Nativity in Huntsville is one of more than 600 Jubilee Ministry Centers throughout the Episcopal Church working to address domestic poverty.

These centers strive to empower the poor and oppressed in their communities by providing direct services, such as food, shelter, and healthcare, and also by advocating for human rights.

Designated a Jubilee Ministry Center in 2007, Nativity is working through a number of ministries to do just that.

The parish is involved with First Stop, a Huntsville-based ministry to the homeless of the city and Madison County who “survive” on the street, often scavenging the necessities from dumpsters and garbage cans. Supported by Nativity parishioners, First Stop works to provide a point of contact, outreach, care and case management support to street homeless with the objective of empowering the homeless persons to enable them to achieve self-sufficiency and permanent housing.

Nativity volunteers accompany agency staff into the field providing for their clients’ most basic needs — a blanket, food, clothing or a hygiene kit. Sometimes they are able to be convinced to try a shelter, sometimes they aren’t. Either way, they come to know the love and presence of God through presence and work of Nativity volunteers. The church also collects non-perishable food items and gently-used clothing for First Stop.

Nativity’s Russel Erskine Ministries offer compassion, camaraderie and activities to seniors who reside in the subsidized apartments in the historic Russel Erskine Hotel building in downtown Huntsville.

Residents, many of whom are lonely and some forgotten by their families, are provided a delicious meal, live entertainment and gifts by parish volunteers at the annual brunch. They receive fresh produce delivered weekly by Nativity volunteers from May to October. The produce is purchased from vendors who participate in Nativity’s Greene Street Market, one of Huntsville’s producer-only, open-air markets for fresh, locally grown vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers. Church volunteers work to build friendships with the residents, bringing joy to both the parishioners and the residents.

Another parish ministry, Hands of Francis, focuses on school-aged children who reside in the housing authority-operated Oscar Mason Court, one of the poorest areas in North Alabama. Through end of the month food assistance, much needed school supplies and after school snacks, Nativity works to improve the lives of these children and their families.

Through its participation with a group of Christian congregations that comprise the Huntsville Assistance Program (HAP), Nativity helps provide a ministry of assistance and referrals to needy individuals and families of Madison County. The parish hall of the church has large barrels that members fill the first Sunday of each month with various food items, toiletries and other supplies that HAP might need. Then, volunteers take those barrels to the agency and stock their shelves for them. Church members are also involved as volunteer clerical help and even serve on the HAP board.

These are but a few of the ways Nativity is living into Jubilee Ministry and beyond. The parish is engaged in more than two-dozen local state and international outreach and mission projects.

Holding a belief in hands-on ministry, Nativity parishioners are getting involved. They are becoming personally invested, and through their involvement, parishioners are spreading the love of God and supporting those in need.

The Diocese of Alabama presently has nine Jubilee Ministry Centers. The others are Timothy’s, Athens; Church of the Holy Trinity, Auburn; St. Andrew’s, Birmingham; Christ Episcopal, Birmingham; Grace Episcopal, Birmingham; Grace Episcopal, Cullman; St. John’s, Decatur, and The Jubilee Community Center, Montgomery. For information about becoming a Jubilee Ministry Center contact the Rev. Deacon Jerry Jacob, diocesan Jubilee Ministry officer, at denjaacob@gmail.com

Shoals-Area Churches Revive The Great Episcopal Picnic

The Great Episcopal Picnic, a Muscle Shoals-area tradition originally begun in the late 1980s, was revived in August after a hiatus of several years.

On August 24, parishioners and clergy from the three area Episcopal Churches -- Grace Church in Sheffield, St. Bartholomew’s Church in Florence, and Trinity Church in Florence -- gathered at St. Bartholomew’s for a special joint service and picnic celebrating the Feast of St. Bartholomew.

The Rev. Dr. Callie Plunket-Brewton, Trinity’s associate rector, was the Celebrant of the Word, while the Rev. Andrew C. Keyse, Trinity’s rector, was the Eucharistic Celebrant. The Rev. Catherine M. Schiesz, Trinity’s deacon, proclaimed the Gospel, the Rev. Dr. Anna Brawley, St. Bartholomew’s rector, preached, and the Rev. Dr. Tom Osborne, deacon at Grace, assisted at the table. Communion was served at stations by teams of three, comprised of one person from each of the three churches.

“Aafter the service, everyone feasted on grilled pork tenderloin provided by St. Bart’s, a yummy array of side dishes brought by Trinity and copious desserts shared by Grace,” said Brawley. “Due to hot weather, the service for the day was moved inside, and some folks opted to have their picnic inside, as well. Many of the kids—and a few adults, as well—took fair advantage of the giant water slide, while others relaxed in the shade of the large tent or trees in the yard.”
Kee and I have been friends for over 30 years. We were in seminary together. I was a year ahead of him and he likes to remind me that “I am a lot older.” On September 10th, I was with Kee and I could tell he was at home. You know what it feels like to be at home. Kee was feeling that way and it was obvious.

We were at St. Thomas’ Church in Huntsville for a very special occasion. We were celebrating with our friend Paul Pradat the occasion of his becoming the new rector. The evening had a wonderful feeling as Kee walked to the pulpit in front of a packed building. He was comfortable and smiling because he was home. Kee was where he had been the rector before being elected Bishop of Alabama.

The celebration was for Paul, but there was a wonderful surprise for Kee. The St. Thomas’ parish family had completed a very successful fund raising campaign for Bethany at Camp McDowell, exceeding a very ambitious goal. They chose to surprise and honor their friend and family member, Kee, by naming the new lake at Bethany for him, Sloan Lake. The St. Thomas’ Campaign had been led by Gail Perna and she announced the naming. It was a magical, spiritual moment experienced by the family. As we had planned Bethany it seemed that Kee was most excited about having a new lake. Now it was named in his honor, and the announcement was by his friend Gail who had been a nurse at Special Session since its inception at Camp McDowell.

We all know that Kee has a fun and silly personality that he loves to share. As happens in families, members often adopt each other’s traits. Consequently, the members of St. Thomas’ love to be silly with their Bishop and friend. As the decision was made to name the lake, Sloan Lake, another name was considered, “The Sea of Kee.” For a moment on September 10th, we were the Sea of Kee. For a moment on September 10th, we were the Sea of Kee. We were awash with love and affection for a man we love and trust. Surely at that moment the presence of the Lord was in that place. Sloan Lake will be an outward and visible sign of that love and trust, as well as an expression of all of our appreciation for Kee’s vision and work that is helping the dream of Bethany become a reality.

Sloan Lake is a beautiful 5.2 acre impoundment. The porches of the new lodges and Phifer Hall at Bethany will have a view of the lake. There will be a level walking trail around it which was given by my friends Joe and June Mays. There is a boat dock and fishing pier which was built by the men of St. James’, Alexander City, and paid for by that congregation. The Deacons of our Diocese are planning a quiet location for reflection at the lake in memory of Adele Stockham. Guests will enjoy fishing and boating in Sloan Lake. Solar powered pumps carry water from Sloan Lake to our teaching farm where it is used for irrigation. Students at the McDowell Farm School and McDowell Environmental Center will study lake ecology there and the connections between watersheds and farming. There are coils of pipes in the bottom of the lake so we can heat and cool our larger buildings most efficiently with a geothermal system. The same system will heat our pool as well. Bull frogs, wood ducks, predacious diving beetles, fish, turtles, great blue herons, and many other species will find a new home at Sloan Lake. What a wonderful addition Sloan Lake, the Sea of Kee is for God’s Backyard, Camp McDowell.
More and more I realize that one of the essential roles of faithful people is to be good stewards of God’s Creation, with the grateful recognition that all we see around us is a gift from our Creator. Good stewardship of Creation is not only recycling, conserving water, turning off the lights and such (although I hope you will continue to do these things) but also encouraging those around us to be stewards as well, by inviting our neighbors to join us in “the gift of joy and wonder” in all God’s works.

One of the most exciting parts of our Bethany Village project is a determination to be as responsible as we can to be good stewards of Creation, in many ways you’ll see elsewhere in this issue of Diggin’ Bethany. Rev. Tom Brown details how we can utilize hydro power on Clear Creek to sustain some of our energy needs. Danielle Dunbar writes about how Bethany is being “green” in other aspects. All of that is very exciting to me, and I hope for you as well – but it’s also exciting to think that at Bethany Village we will provide a place for Episcopalians and the rest of the world to see how things ought to be, not just in the new technologies but also in the willingness to go a little out of our way to be faithful stewards.

Always, always I want to thank you for your very generous support for this project shared among our family of parishes. If you or your parish have not yet made a gift or a pledge, I hope you will consider it now – I’d hate for you to feel left out in the years to come!

JABBOK BOOK SIGNING EVENT WITH RT. REV. KEE SLOAN

Cathedral Church of the Advent
November 10th from 6:30-7:30pm
Register at www.episcobooks.com. All proceeds go to Bethany.
In wet seasons and dry, Clear Creek flows across Camp McDowell coursing through a small canyon before spilling over a dam and into Lewis Smith Lake. Just below the dining hall named for Scott Eppes, Camp Work Boys built the first dam in the early 1950’s. It formed a small lake used for swimming and canoeing by summer campers. Later when Smith Lake was being built, Alabama Power added five feet to the height of the dam, completing the present structure which is 11 feet tall. In keeping with the vision of Bethany Village becoming a part of the world as it could be, a quest has been underway to see if the energy present in the flowing water can be harnessed for use throughout the Camp.

Certainly, damming a stream is harmful to the environment. However, since the dam is already present and useful in other ways, the Clear Creek Project will, if it comes to pass, produce enough electricity to supply about 50% or more of what is needed by Camp McDowell. It will all be from a resource that falls from the heavens on God’s Back Yard and the neighboring land upstream. We will have electricity with no toxic emissions, no carbon dioxide and no radioactive waste. Our plans also include putting a fish ladder on the dam which will mitigate some of the environmental problems caused by the dam itself.

A small committee, headed by Mark Johnston, has been exploring feasible, small hydro generators and is close to making a recommendation to the Department of Camp McDowell. The likely choice is an Archimedes Screw generator. An ancient technology, this screw has been used for a century or more in places like Holland to pump water from low lying coastland. In reverse it is being successfully used to generate electricity in “low head, high flow” conditions like those at Clear Creek. This equipment will require only minor modification of the dam and will not make any additional impact on the environment.

With continued support and blessings for Wonderful, Wonderful Camp McDowell, Clear Creek electric power could be a reality by the fall of 2016.

“Thou makest springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills….From thy lofty abode thou waterest the mountains; the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy work.”

Psalm 104, vs. 10 & 13.
Many Thanks to our Village of Saints

By Danielle Dunbar

Bethany is growing. The first school group attended the McDowell Farm School in August and a teacher workshop, funded by Legacy, followed. The cabins are being utilized by campers and chaperones. Grace House, the beautiful staff house being built by many of our Grace churches, has seen several of our new staff members move in. Doug Carpenter Hall is going up and it is easy to imagine holding Diocesan Convention in this excellent space. The parish and family lodges are being constructed and the lake is looking good. We are so grateful to all who have participated in this big family project so far!

For more information, please contact Development Director Danielle Dunbar at danielle@campmcdowell.com, 205/358-9234, the Rev. Mark Johnston at mark@campmcdowell.com, or the camp office at 205/387-1806. [www.BethanyAtCamp.com, Instagram account, CampMcDowell, or Facebook page, Camp McDowell (official)]

Our Village of Saints has an exceptional leader in the Rev. Mark Johnston. Like other saints we have featured, he is tireless in his efforts to build Bethany and grow the spirit of Camp McDowell. The spirit of camp is, of course, the spirit of God. 20 years ago, Mark began exercising his leadership at camp and founded the McDowell Environmental Center (MEC). Over the years, 150,000 students, teachers, and chaperones have learned more about watersheds, biological diversity, and our impact on the earth as they have experienced MEC. Over the years, Mark has grown as a teacher and advocate about God’s natural world. His work to conserve the Creation continues at Bethany.

When talking with Mark about the expansion, he says, “Small acts during construction are helping us support the local economy, keep construction costs low, reduce our use of fossil fuels, and minimize environmental impact to our land and water.”

I asked him for examples and this is how he responded:

One simple act is that we have done a minimal amount of grading and clearing for roads and building sites.

Many of our trees at Bethany are small. Instead of piling and burning them, we have chipped them and used the mulch for soil stabilization, making new soil, and compost and mulch for the farm. Not burning all of the cleared trees has reduced our CO2 emissions. Minimal grading has reduced our fuel use, reduced the size of areas which might erode, and saved trees and other flora. Saving trees and flora has reduced the amount of landscaping which will need to be done and will provide shade at Bethany. Shade will help with future energy needs, and reduce the amount of grass that will need to be cut; thus saving money as well as reducing our CO2 once again.

During construction and after, we will work to slow the run-off of rain water from our site. This will help retain soil, keep silt out of streams, and recharge our groundwater. We are using best management practices during construction and developing ways to use and slow storm water once our facilities are completed.

Another simple act is to use or recycle most of our construction waste. Scrap wood has been repurposed or used for fuel or mulch. Metal, cardboard, and some plastics are being recycled. It is expensive to carry construction waste to landfills. We can make money on our recycled products. The combination can help pay the wages of a person to do the work.

Whenever feasible we have hired local labor and used local materials. Camp McDowell is located in an area with poverty and the recession has affected the economy greatly. Using local materials and labor reduces the amount of energy used to move materials and people, and it is helping the economy of our locale.

Mark has been visionary in trying to include as many teaching opportunities about the environment at Bethany as possible. Guests will see examples of and learn about solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal technologies. They will hear about our construction practices and zero landfill efforts. I hope they will feel the spirit of God and learn from the example of the Rev. Mark Johnston. We are grateful for his leadership.
Two St. Mary’s Teens Instrumental in Creation of New Parish Playground

St. Mary’s Episcopal Church in Jasper has a new playground thanks in large measure to two teenage members of the congregation -- Dottie Higgs and Brooke Davis.

Observing that St. Mary’s playground was in disrepair, was surrounded by prickly bushes, had no protection from the sun, and was built on landscaping rocks, they circulated a petition in the church outlining the problems and a plan for a new playground.

They suggested the back woods could be cleared for a new up-to-date play area for St. Mary’s and community youth. Over the past several months, funds were raised, the underbrush was cleared, and new equipment was bought and installed.

On Aug. 24, 2014, the new playground was blessed and dedicated, thanks to Higgs, Davis and the many others who contributed to, and worked on, the project.

Holy Comforter Montgomery Ministers in Guatemala

by Michael Paul

Eleven members of Holy Comforter in Montgomery boarded a plane July 17 for Guatemala to spend a week working with Safe Passage, a non-profit organization working in Guatemala City to “bring hope, education and opportunity to the children and families living in extreme poverty around the city’s garbage dump.” The group included the Rev. Bob Hennagin and his wife Kari; five adult church members, Carley Bailey, Harrison Black, Billy McLemore, Andrew Monroe, and Missy Via; and four youth, Aiken Via-Hamlett, William, Charles, and Thomas Speaks.

Asked why the team members wanted to go, several said they had always wanted to go on a mission trip, others wished to help children all over the world. “It was a new experience,” said Aiken Via-Hamlet. Thomas Speaks felt it was a perfect opportunity to make a difference “by teaching them (the children) English and numbers and colors and spreading God’s love.”

Most of the trip was spent interacting with the children. The initial expression on the children’s faces was somewhat of a surprise to the team. Carley Bailey summed it up. “It seemed like what we would classify as simple gestures such as a smile, hug or handshake are things these kids are desperate for; they just want attention and to be loved.”

Not every day was spent with the kids. Fr. Bob described their “Friday Free Day” as, leaving at 6:00 a.m. to climb 6,000 feet up and down the main lava flow of Pucaya, a volcano located an hour from Antigua where the group stayed during the trip. Horses were available for “the less able,” Fr. Bob said. “After 50 feet up, I decided to show the rest of the team it was okay to admit that riding wasn’t so bad after all.”

The last adventure with the kids was Saturday at the water park. The children spent the day sliding down big slides and playing in the wave pool. Meant as a fun play day, many of the children did not forget what was -- or was not -- at home. Some didn’t eat their lunch. Instead, they wrapped it up to take home, not knowing when they would eat again. Others spent a long time in the showers, knowing it might be a year before they got another hot shower.

The team was asked to describe the moment that stood out them most while working at Safe Passage and the moment that touched them -- positive or negative -- about Guatemala. Many members had specific special events, but the one theme throughout all of their answers was the paradox of Guatemala.

Charles Speaks summed it up best, “The irony of the beauty of everything around it, and the horrific site of all the people in the dump digging through the trash; it really impacted me.”

The group, under the guidance of Kari Hennagin, wrote a daily blog during the trip. Different members of the team would send each day’s activities along with photos back to Montgomery, which were then posted on the Holy Comforter website. By sharing their day, the members allowed readers to take this journey with them. Read the blog and see additional photos at: http://www.holycomfort.org/guatemala-trip-blog.html. For more information on Safe Passage, go to http://www.safepassage.org/about_us.
Year after year we have amazing staff volunteers that come together to make a camp happen based solely on loving God’s children and showing them Christ’s love!

This year we were also blessed with several paid and unpaid interns as well as summer-long coordinators. We called this group the SDC Summer Staff. This group worked alongside the 300 plus staff volunteers to create a strong and consistent leadership base for camp.

Like the new Guest Relations Coordinator and the Literacy Coordinator, camp was able to bring on more summer-long interns to add manpower and continuity to the summer, some of which were new positions. There were 7 total paid interns (made possible by a generous donation from a dedicated family!) and they served as Camper Registrars, Communications, Camp Coordinators, Assistant Staff Coordinator, and Supply Coordinator. They worked in the weeks leading up to camp, facilitated local staff training, helped serve as leaders during Pre-Camp and throughout, and brought invaluable skills and energy into making the summer run smoothly. We were in awe of their humble and life-giving leadership styles. These interns were Doss Cleveland, Murray Stuart, Emma Kingsley, Parker Turner, Sarah Reeves, Austin Osborn and Will Wilder. We also had a couple summer-long & experienced coordinators who included

Crystal Jones as Staff Coordinator (diocesan staff), Worth Stuart, Guest Relations Coordinator (diocesan staff), Corey Jones, Staff Chaplain (Current seminarian, former Youth Minister at All Saints’, Homewood) and Evelyn Pritchard overseeing meals and food. Jackie Paige, and a slew of volunteers was our Camp Cook, and her nephew, Keon Paige, served as our drummer and one of our summer-long musicians, Jessica Lingle, now a student at Appalachian State, was our photographer for the summer. Leslie Taylor, from Florence and a student at UNA, served as our Head Lifeguard. The bus drivers were also integral in this year’s success and Yolanda Watkins stepped into the big shoes left by Debbie Tabb beautifully. We are grateful to the drivers’ spirit and leadership.

Though mostly unpaid, local staff leadership was also incredibly helpful and evident this year, as many of these staff were able to be at either two or all three sessions. We could not do this without the local community! Thanks to all the coordinators, staff volunteers, day volunteers & the Sawyerville Commission. Special thanks to St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, Birmingham and the Hillhouse family for providing wonderful housing for our interns!

Throughout the year, we have lots of support from various volunteers as well as the Sawyerville Commission and their subcommittees. This year, we also have the help of Claire Cotten, St. Luke’s Director of Youth Logistics, working for Sawyerville part-time. It is part of her weekly rhythm to assist in the fundraising efforts through parish and donor relations. We are thrilled to have her help in a more focused way this year! In addition to Claire, Crystal Jones, will continue to serve as the Staff Coordinator and the Assistant Director while at camp. She has been the Staff Registrar/Coordinator for the last five years and now will focus on these duties part-time as part of her job with the diocese. Sawyerville Day Camp thinks this is an incredible gift and a wonderful way to spend our resources. With a Director working at 30 hours per week, and endless hours in the summer, it is a fantastic way to round out the staffing needs and best serve our donors and volunteers and ultimately the kids!

Look for Internship Applications and Staff Applications in January on our website. For staff-related questions, please email Crystal Jones, cjones@dioala.org.

The Numbers

Our numbers speak louder than words. It was hard to choose which numbers to share but this gives you a sense of how far-reaching and complex this incredible ministry is! It has become a vital part of both our diocese and the local community. Thank you making this free day camp and youth leadership program happen year after year!

God is good all the time and all the time God is good. AMEN.

Registered Campers: 779
Meals Served: 6,232
Total staff: 354
Total local staff: 110
Total staff that volunteered at multiple sessions: 64
Staff that did all three sessions: 33
Total bathing suits collected: 825
Total beach towels collected: 800
Prayer Partners: 340
Total sessions: 3, plus 1 new after-camp literacy program, Yellowhammer Literacy Project
Literacy participants (campers): 56
More than 50 parishes significantly involved

TOTAL MONEY RAISED: $121, 624.27
Supporting Sawyerville Financially

Designate a portion of your Church’s Outreach budget for the camp. $135,000 is needed for the 2015 camp sessions & new after-camp literacy program.

- $25 – Help offset a staff members’ meals
- $150 – Sponsor a camper for the week
- $500 – Pay for 50 camper breakfasts or for 1,000 camper snacks
- $6,000 – sponsors meals for a week for campers and staff
- $850 – Sponsor a Drumming Workshop
- $1,200 – sponsor a young adult internship
- $10,000 to sponsor the Yellowhammer Literacy Project
- Please send checks made out to the Sawyerville Day Camp to, Sawyerville Day Camp 521 20th Street North Birmingham AL 35203 or donate online using the button
- Gifts made to the Sawyerville Day Camp, a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama, are tax-deductible. Email Leslie Manning, lmannng@dioala.org, for tax receipts or www.sawyervilledaycamp.org for more info.

A Special Thanks to Sawyerville Prayer Partners

The 21st year of the Sawyerville Day Camp was a huge success. There are so many ways that people help each year—supply drives, meals, donations, serving on staff. To all of you, thanks! We could not do this wonderful ministry without you.

There is one special group that we want to especially thank. They are not as visible as some of our other volunteers but their dedication and willingness to show God’s love to our staff each day of camp is invaluable. This special group is our prayer partners.

We had more than 300 prayer partners this year. By their willingness to share their love through the letters they write, they keep our staffers focused on God’s mission and they exhibit His love. Every year, when the letters are all in, the boxes are all packed for each camp, and taped up for delivery to Sawyerville, I realize how much this special group does to remind our staff that they are part of a circle of prayer. We are grateful for each and every one of you.

Thanks again. God bless and keep you all.

Linda Kennedy Prayer Partner Coordinator

WE’RE UPDATING OUR DATABASE

Please fill out our quick form online so we can best know how to communicate with you. It takes 1 minute or less and does not ask anything too personal! We would love to hear from you.

www.sawyervilledaycamp.org & click CONTACT

LEARN MORE ABOUT SAWYERVILLE

To schedule a presentation at your parish to raise awareness about the camp, please contact Claire Cotten, CCotten@saint-lukes.com. Please contact Claire if you also want to be a part of our fundraising efforts!
“Faith Builders” Building Faith with Legos – Grace Church VBS 2014

Children who attended Vacation Bible School (VBS) at Grace Episcopal Church in Anniston this summer spent five days building for the Kingdom of God – with Legos. Each day the children gathered for worship and music and heard Bible stories told by a member of the staff. They watched YouTube videos that brought the Bible stories to life through the animation of Legos.

“It gave them something to think about and they were asked the question, ‘what will you build for the kingdom of God,’ said Christina Dorn, Grace’s director of Christian Formation and Communications.

Then, with video tips from Lego master builders, the children had the opportunity to actually build something with Legos based on the Bible stories they had heard. Creativity abounded as the students built impressive structures ranging from the Tower of Babel to the Last Supper.

The use of multimedia was integral to the curriculum. The staff created a VBS website and integrated other multimedia tools throughout the week. Each day the children were treated to a portion of “The LEGO Movie.” Based on the Lego line of construction toys, the film tells the story of Emmet, an ordinary Lego minifigure prophesied to save the universe from the tyrannical Lord Business.

“We were excited that we had found a story that would appeal to a varied audience – children ages 3 through 12 – while giving examples of Bible themes,” said Dorn. “It is a story about an ordinary guy chosen to be the ‘Special’ – a story where all the characters are affected by ‘The Man Upstairs’ – a story about the ‘Master Builder’ – a story where the thing to do when times get tough is to believe.”

The children also had the opportunity to participate in Kingdom-building outreach projects. They assembled care packs for the area homeless with items they brought from home including tissues, bottled water and non-perishable food items. They placed a laminated card with contact information for local social service agencies, and a Flat Jesus, they had hand colored, in each care pack.

The use of media was a perfect fit for this year’s VBS, according to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it. No one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid, that foundation is Jesus Christ.” 1 Corinthians 3:10-11

They also built and paint butterfly houses to provide these winged creatures of God with respite and protection from predators. The colorful houses will be placed around Camp McDowell and at the Interfaith Ministries Community Garden in Anniston. The butterfly has long been a Christian symbol of the resurrection and new life in Jesus.

During the week, the children had the opportunity to learn about how other young people were working to make a difference in the world. They used iPads to view inspiring videos from other children who had built something useful in their community or in the world. One video featured a seventh grade boy who built a working Braille Printer from a $350.00 Lego set! The young boy went on to explain that a Braille Printer can cost more than $2,000.00 and he was inspired to build a Braille Printer that would be affordable for more people.

But there was also time for just plain fun. Trying their hands – literally – at arts and crafts, they got creative and messy with finger paints made from shaving cream tinted with food coloring, and they spent time outdoors playing T-ball and other games.

In the end, though, it was all about building the faith, and Lego played a big part.

“Legos, Bible stories, and outreach, combined with the use of multi-media was a perfect fit for this year’s VBS at Grace,” said Dorn. “We are inspired to continue using Legos as one component of being inspired to continue building for God’s kingdom.”

Visit Grace VBS Photo Gallery at: http://tinyurl.com/qh37nkz
Watch an example of a Lego bible story at: http://tinyurl.com/le26ku

For additional information on Grace’s Lego curriculum, email Christina Dorn at: cedirector@aol.com

St. John’s VBS “Hits the Nail on the Head”

By Ann Stewart, St. John’s Director of Communications

St. John’s Decatur sponsored “Under Construction—A Habitat for Humanity Vacation Bible School,” for children ages 4 to rising fifth graders this past summer. The material used a construction metaphor to help children learn about community and introduced them to the ministry of Habitat for Humanity.

Each day began with a briefing where the Bible verse and word for the day was introduced. The children rotated among “construction sites” – from the Hard Hat Area (crafts), to Scales and Measures (music), to Blueprints (Bible stories), to Break Time and Recreation. In addition to the “sites,” each day the children listened to a guest speaker from a local organization. The organizations included the Neighborhood Christian Center, Parents & Children Together (PACT), the Boys & Girls Clubs of North Alabama, and Habitat for Humanity.

The Habitat for Humanity curriculum helped our children (and volunteers) see the needs of others. Students put their faith into action by giving an offering for the purchase of a new front door for the next Habitat home in Morgan County. The Rev. Evan D. Garner, St. John’s rector, offered the children a chance to throw water balloons at him if they collected $175 for the new front door. The goal was exceeded with a total collection of $220.92.

Future Habitat homeowners were also in attendance to help the children write their names and place handprints on two by fours to be used in their home. By combining biblical teaching with Christian service, the children and the adults engaged in a truly unique VBS experience.

More VBS Photos are online available at: http://on.fb.me/1woKdhr.
The Episcopal Diocese of Alabama is forming a television and video ministry and is seeking volunteers to serve as members of the production team.

“We have assembled a professional capability to share significant events in the life of the Church with parishioners in our diocese, throughout the church, and beyond,” said the Rev. Deacon Dave Drachlis, Diocese of Alabama communications coordinator. With this capability we can webcast live, high definition coverage of special services and other significant events, sharing them with people who might otherwise not be able to attend.”

So far this year, the diocese has webcast and recorded the installation of the new dean of the Cathedral Church of the Advent, the annual diocesan convention, and the 2014 Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage.

The equipment also enables simultaneous large-screen in-room projection of big venue events like convention and the Special Session Talent Show. And it can be used for production of videos about diocesan and parish ministries.

The diocese is seeking volunteers who are interested in serving as camera operators, producers, directors, grips, and reporters.

“While we welcome volunteers with experience, prior experience is not a requirement,” said Drachlis. We will be conducting a variety of training for our crews.

Individuals interested in additional information about this ministry are encouraged to contact Deacon Drachlis by email at: ddrachlis@diala.org or by telephone at 205-358-9233.

Coverage of the Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage can be viewed at: http://bit.ly/VluyO

Coverage of the installation of the dean of the Cathedral Church of the Advent can be viewed at: http://bit.ly/1v9j3pZ
Diocesan Youth Experience EYE and “3 Days of Urban Mission”

The Diocese of Alabama youth representatives to the Episcopal Youth Event (EYE14) this summer, spent an extra three days working in the inner city of Philadelphia as part of “3 Days of Urban Mission.” The follow-on mission activity was designed to give delegates an opportunity to engage mission in an urban environment.

The Alabamians were among 130 members of Province IV who spent their three days at The George W. South Memorial Church of the Advocate and Tree of Life Campus Ministry at Temple University. Divided into small groups, participants rotated assignments throughout the three days. These included working in the “Advocate Café” (formally a soup kitchen), assisting in the remodeling of the church’s auditorium, painting the fence surrounding the church, and teaching Vacation Bible School.

When the group arrived at the Advocate on their last day, they learned the church’s offertory jar was stolen. Estimated to have contained approximately $30, the youth set out to replace the jar and its contents. By the end of the day they collected more than $200.

Members of the group reflect below on their EYE and Urban Mission experience:

At EYE 14 I learned many thing about the Episcopal Church and myself. I got to meet people from all over the world, from Taiwan to Southeast Florida. I enjoyed learning how different dioceses worship. One diocese that I became close with was the Diocese of Missouri. We quizzed each other about how we live and what we wear. We ended up having lots in common, like our love for baseball, selfies, and movies. We had our differences too, the biggest one being Alabama’s love of Chacos. We sat together during worship and whispered about the things our services and the ones we experienced at EYE had in common. One of the most powerful sermons we heard while at Villanova was Bishop Curry’s at the last service. He challenged us to “go” out into the world and serve. We took his words to heart when Province 4 started working at the Church of the Advocate. All of the volunteers worked hard to complete the task in front of them. I saw passion for Christ from everyone involved.

Mary Frances Segars from St. Stephen’s, Birmingham

Through this experience I was able to get a better sense of how Episcopalians around the world worship. It was a life changing experience in that I was able to meet people from all over the country and learn about how the youth of their diocese are present in the church. In the diocese of Alabama the youth are given a lot of freedom and opportunities that youth in other dioceses are not given and I have become more thankful for that. God was present throughout this whole experience, he worshipped and played learning more about our faith and the call for mission.

Sally Fargason, Holy Trinity, Auburn

After EYE, we and several other dioceses in our province spent three more days in Philly for Urban Mission. During these three days we worked in the Church of the Advocate. Everyone was assigned to a different area of the church to work in -- Vacation Bible School, soup kitchen, painting a fence, restoring an auditorium, and even writing Stations of the Cross. This church was probably one of the most beautiful churches I’ve ever seen, it’s filled with stunning stained glass windows and murals. Being able to work in that church was a truly amazing experience.

Andrew McDowell from St. Stephen’s, Birmingham

Working at The Church of the Advocate let me meet many new people and get to know them better. I experienced the different cultures of people that I wouldn’t have gotten the chance to experience otherwise.

Kendall Alby, St. Luke’s, Birmingham

Michael Paul, Holy Comforter, Montgomery, contributed to this article

Christmas Conference

Christmas Conference 2014 is Dec. 28 – 30 at Camp McDowell. Registration is open to youth in grades nine through 12. Youth applications and adult staff applications are being accepted through Dec. 5 at http://dioala.org/ministries/youth_upcoming_events.html

This year’s theme is “Here Comes the Son”. It will focus on preparing for the Savior’s birth. It will also focus on accepting it. It’s going to be an awesome Christmas-based program brought to you by the Youth Department and Rev. Paul Pradat as our program director, with music by Fran McKendree! Get excited! –Mary Margaret Murdock, YD Chairlady

Christmas Conference is one of the diocesan youth’s favorite events. It is so popular because in this time, new friends are made and old friends are reconnected. It is very similar to summer camp and fills up very fast. Make sure to register ASAP! Hope to see you there! –Kennedy Schwefler, Central District Rep
What is Happening?

By Ben Williams

People often ask me what Happening is, and when this occurs, I often find myself at a lack of words.

The main reason for this is that there are so many things about this mysterious weekend that are just better if you don’t know about them beforehand. As a result of this, my answer to the aforementioned question usually comes out as a mumbled couple of words, attempting to describe it without giving anything away, and then a lapse into my usual argument: “It’s going to be great. Just trust me, you’ll love it.”

So to set the record straight, I’ll attempt one more time to describe what Happening really is. It’s a weekend long spiritual retreat that is centered around a series of talks given by youth. There will be lots of small group time and lots of love shared. And most of all, I promise this: it really will be great, and you really will love it.

There are two Happening weekends coming up in this school year:

Happening #65: Nov. 7-9, 2014, will be held at St. Mary’s on-the-Highlands in Birmingham

Happening #66: Feb. 27-March 1, 2015, will be held at the Church of the Nativity in Huntsville

Happener applications for the November date will be accepted until Oct. 24 at our diocesan website: http://www.dioala.org/ministries/senior-high-events.htm. All youth grades 10-12 are welcome to apply.

Ben is a high school senior from St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Huntsville and will be the peer leader of Happening 65.

Diocesan Youth Ministers

Meeting Location & Dates

St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church
Carpenter Hall, top floor youth room
3775 Crosshaven Drive
Birmingham, AL 35223

All youth workers and volunteers are invited and encouraged to join this community for leadership development, networking, and spiritual growth. These meetings are designed to help you become better at what you do in your parish ministry, become more involved in the diocese, and provide much needed support, encouragement, and renewal. We gather at St. Stephen’s in Birmingham. Below is a list of our meeting schedule. Meetings begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 2:00 p.m. except where noted.

For more information or to be added to our group, please e-mail Susan Oakes, Diocesan Youth Ministries Coordinator soakes@dioala.org

2014 MEETINGS:
   Oct. 16
   Nov. 20
   Dec. 11, Advent Celebration (Time TBD)

2015 MEETINGS:
   No Meeting in January
   Feb. 12
   March 12
   April 16
   May 14, Sabbath Day (Time TBD)

Summer Fun at Trinity Florence

By Jessie Stracener, Children’s Ministry Director, Trinity Episcopal Church

Our Children’s ministry at Trinity, Florence decided to mix things up a little this summer. Instead of focusing most of our energies on our Vacation Bible School, we decided to expand our summer offerings for children to include a Children’s Summer Series, which met on Mondays from June 9 to Aug. 2.

We invited children throughout our community from Kindergarten through fifth grade to join us from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for fun activities, crafts, a little bit of learning, delicious lunches, singing, and our not to be missed dance parties.

Our volunteers were so generous with their time and talents. Every week someone from our parish or local community came in and shared their knowledge and skills with our children. We learned about recycling, gardening, the creatures of Africa, basic sewing, and the magic of chemistry. It was so much fun and a wonderful way to stay in touch with our children over the summer. Perhaps the most exciting part of the summer series was the number of children from outside our parish who participated. We had more than 80 children sign up for this free series of events.
IT’S ANGEL FEST TIME IN MILLBROOK
Oct. 18 at St. Michael & All Angels
A bake sale, silent auction, entertainment and concessions, children’s carnival with games and rides, vendors selling unique wares and the best Boston Butts in Millbrook will highlight the annual St. Michael and All Angels’ Angel Fest. Come and visit us Oct. 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 5941 Main Street, Millbrook. All proceeds go to the outreach fund as we serve Millbrook and western Elmore County.

LOBSTERFEST IN ANNISTON
Oct. 18 at Grace Church in Anniston
The 18th Annual LobsterFest is a festival-type benefit in support of Habitat for Humanity of Calhoun County. Hosted by Grace Episcopal Church in Anniston, the event brings people together for a day of fun, food, art, entertainment, and children’s activities, all for a great cause! The ECW hosts a fabulous Bake Sale while the Habitat Homeowners Association sells hot dogs, popcorn, pizza, and soft drinks. There truly is something for everyone at this event. Come spend the day in Anniston, buy a lobster, and support a very worthy cause.

WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP
Oct. 19 – 24 at Camp McDowell
Choose from one of three highly skilled instructors in the watercolor medium during this week long workshop at the Alabama Folk School. Ken Austin (artwork pictured), Deb Hill and Wayne Spadley each offer their unique talents as instructors during our 17th annual Watercolor Workshop.

CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE ADVENT MUSIC SERIES
October/December 2014 at the Cathedral Church of the Advent, Birmingham
Friday, Oct. 24, 12:30 p.m. - Mid-Day Music: Bruce Ludwick, organ, will perform a 30-minute concert on the 100-rank Gibert-Wiliams Organ.

Thursday, Oct. 30, 7:30 p.m. - The Cathedral Choir in Concert: The Cathedral Choir is an entirely auditioned, semi-professional ensemble whose primary purpose is to provide music for worship at the Cathedral Church of the Advent. The Choir, under the direction of Dr. Frederick Teardo, will perform Gabriel Faure’s Requiem and other chooral works, with orchestra.

Friday, Nov. 21, 12:30 p.m. - Mid-Day Music: Paul Mosteller, baritone, and Frederick Teardo, organ, will perform a free, 30-minute concert. Mosteller is Associate Professor of Voice at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Friday, Dec. 19, 12:30 p.m. - Mid-Day Music: The Cathedral Ringers Handbell Ensemble, under the direction of Frederick Teardo, will perform a free, 30-minute concert.

OLD TIME MUSIC & CRAFTS
Oct. 30 – Nov. 2 at Camp McDowell
Come to the Alabama Folk School for a long weekend this fall and choose from banjo, fiddle, guitar, mandolin or blacksmithing. On Halloween, our blacksmith, Lee McKee, will perform a metal pour, too. This is a great opportunity to relax and rejuvenate!

THE PAINTING TABLE, A SPIRITUALITY RETREAT
Nov. 1 at St. Stephen’s in Birmingham
The Commission on Spirituality invites you to the “Painting Table” with Roger Hutchinson on Nov. 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church in Birmingham. Participants will experience what it’s like to use their hands and their own creative expression to reflect, pray, and deepen their relationship with God. Hutchinson is the Canon for Children’s Ministries at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Columbia, SC. When he felt the need to express his relationship with God, he turned to painting. He has shared his beautiful collections in numerous exhibits around the world. He offers his Painting Table workshop for all ages in various settings across the country. His book titled The Painting Table – A Journal of Loss and Joy is published by Morehouse Publishing and will be available for purchase at the event. For more information about Roger and his book visit http://churchpublishing.org/paintingtable. Register online at http://dioala.org/spirit.html

ANGLICAN CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL CHAIR TO VISIT
Nov. 2 at St. Mary’s on-the-Highlands in Birmingham
The Rt. Rev. James Tengatenga will be teaching and preaching at St. Mary’s-on-the-Highlands on Sunday, Nov. 2. He will preach at the 8:45 a.m. service. Adult Education will begin at 10:00 a.m. Bishop Tengatenga has been a clergyman in the Anglican Church since 1985. He has been a member of the Anglican Consultative Council since 2002 and currently serves as its chair. In 2014 Bishop Tengatenga moved to Sewanee, TN where he teaches Global Anglicanism at the School of Theology.

LOBSTERFEST 21 IN HUNTSVILLE
Nov. 8 at St. Thomas in Huntsville
The 21st Annual Lobsterfest celebration is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Nov. 8, at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Huntsville. The annual community event raises money for Habitat for Humanity; First Stop (a nonprofit serving the needs of Huntsville’s homeless) and global outreach in Honduras and Haiti providing much needed medical care as well as construction projects. 100% of the proceeds go to outreach. The lobster pots will be full of fresh Maine lobster. We will also be smoking over 700 pounds of BBQ and 500 half slabs of ribs. We have children’s activities, local musicians, crafters, artisans, a silent auction and a bake sale. Please visit www.Lobstersrock.com to place your order.

ENNEAGRAM CONFERENCE
Dec. 4-7 at Kanuga Conference Center
The Institute for Conscious Being Enneagram Conference, led by Dr. Joe Howell, returns for another enlightening experience revealing to the children of God this ancient process of raising consciousness. The three day conference will focus on explicating the wisdom of this spiritual system to those who want to develop their awareness of the complex nature of human behavior and relationships. Two tracks will be offered, one for beginners and one for those who want to be certified teachers of the Enneagram and/or earn CEUs. Visit http://www.kanuga.org for details.

DIOCESAN OUTREACH SUMMIT
Jan. 24 at St. Stephen’s in Birmingham
“Mutual Ministry, Partnering in God’s Kingdom” is the theme of the upcoming summit hosted by the Department of Mission and Outreach. The summit will explore how our parish and diocesan outreach efforts can work in communion with other churches, organizations and agencies to live out the Gospel and make lives better for all in God’s Kingdom. Participants will engage in conversations addressing broad and provocative questions dealing with our theme. After lunch, participants will stuff food bags for “Stop Hunger Now.” We expect to prepare 30,000 meals. Save the date, and stay tuned for additional details and registration information.

Clergy News

The Rev. Bayse Holland Shuey has begun serving as priest, pastor and teacher at Church of the Nativity in Huntsville.

The Rev. Mary Catherine Akamatsu left Christ Church in Albertville the end of August. The Rev. Ben Alford began serving as part time interim rector there Sept. 1.

The Rev. Van Foreman, retired priest has begun serving at Church of the Nativity in Huntsville.

The Rev. Matthew Schneider from All Saints in Hinton Head, SC, has accepted a call to serve as canon for parish life and evangelism at the Cathedral Church of the Advent. He began his ministry there in mid August.

The Rev. Diane Hill has accepted a call to serve as part time priest in charge of Holy Cross-St. Christopher’s parish in Huntsville. She began her ministry with the parish on Aug. 10.

The Rev. Aaron Raulerson, rector of Holy Cross in Trussville, accepted a call to serve as rector of Epiphany Church in Guntersville. His ministry there began Sept. 1.


The Rev. Charles Youngson has resigned as rector of St. Thomas Church in Birmingham and has accepted the position as associate rector at All Saints’ Church in Birmingham. His ministry with the people and clergy of All Saints’ will begin in mid October.


The Reverend Andrew Thayer from the Diocese of West Texas has been called to serve as rector of the Church of the Ascension in Montgomery. He will begin his ministry there on Nov. 2.
Autographed copies of *Jabbok* by Kee Sloan (Peake Road Press, paperback) covered in the July/August issue of The Alabama Episcopalian are now available in the bookstore.

**The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers & Devotions** by Arthur Bennett (Banner of Truth Trust, hardback)

"The soul learns to pray by praying; for prayer is communion with a transcendent and immanent God who on the ground of his nature and attributes calls forth all the powers of the redeemed soul in acts of total adoration and dedication." (Preface) The strength of Puritan character and life lay in prayer and meditation. In the Puritan tradition there are many written prayers and meditations which constitute an important corpus of inspiring devotional literature. Each prayer is about one page long, has a brief title given by the book’s editor, and is presented anonymously. The prayers are grouped into sections such as “Redemption and Reconciliation,” “Holy Aspirations,” and “Approach to God.” A brief preface is the only background given, all the rest of the book is simply the prayers themselves.

**Weakness Is the Way: Life with Christ Our Strength by J.I. Packer** (Crossway Books, hardback)

For Christians, weakness should be a way of life. Yet most of us try desperately to be sufficient on our own, and we resent our limitations and our needs. Renowned theologian and Bible teacher J.I. Packer reflects on his experience of weakness — having been hit by a bread truck at a young age and now facing the realities of aging — in order to teach us the importance of embracing our own frailty, and also to help us look to Christ for strength, affirmation, and contentment. Find here a path from discouragement to freedom in light of our all-sufficient God.

**This Little Light of Mine by Dubravka Kolvanovic, illustrator** (Tiger Tales, board book)

This large-sized board book contains an inspirational collection of favorite songs and poems including “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands,” “The Animals Went in Two by Two,” and many more! Full color.

**I Love You Just the Way You Are** by Tammi Salzano with Ada Grey, illustrator (Tiger Tales, hardback)

I love you when you’re messy - sticky fingers, face, and hair, with papers scattered all around and paint splashed everywhere! Snuggle with your little one to share this sweet celebration of the unconditional love between parent and child.

The Bookstore is open Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) and Sunday from 8:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. For information about these and other books, or to have the staff 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
**FRIDAY**
- 5-7 pm: Registration at camp entrance
- 6:30 pm: Dinner at Stough Dining Hall
- 7:30 pm: Compline in Chapel of St. Francis
- 7:45 pm: Evening Hospitality at Pradat Hall

**SATURDAY**
- 8 am: Breakfast
- 10 am: Bethany Village work projects
- 10-12 & 1-5: Games, activities, tours, Football room (Randall Commons)
- Noon: Pasture party lunch, hayrides, ropes & more
- 6 pm: Dinner Stough Lodge Dining Hall
- 7-9 pm: Contra Dancing/Concert in Stough Lodge

**SUNDAY**
- 8 am: Breakfast Stough Dining Hall
- 10 am: Eucharist Chapel of St. Francis
- Noon: Lunch
- 1 pm: Free time

---

Camp Day Weekend 2014 is scheduled Oct. 24 – 26. An Episcopal Diocese of Alabama family reunion, the event is in its third year. Everyone is invited to come for the day on Saturday, or for the entire weekend.

“Camp Day is a casual weekend in which the whole diocese is invited to come up and experience Camp McDowell,” said Georganne Perrine, diocesan special events coordinator. “It is designed to showcase the wonderful things camp has to offer–especially to those who have never been before or haven’t been in years and also to those who come up often but love any excuse to spend time in God’s backyard.”

The weekend will include tours of the new Bethany Village, including the new lodges being constructed for our Diocesan family. “The lodges will expand our space at camp and provide adequate space for adults and children with special needs,” said Perrine. “There will be guided hikes led by our Environmental Center staff, and planting of new fruit trees in the orchard to enhance the Farm School. Enjoy games and a cookout on the pasture, an art show featuring McDowell Folk School artists and a whole lot more!”

Register online at http://conta.cc/1m9T1CI, or go to www.CampMcdowell.com. You can also call camp at 205-387-1806 to register.