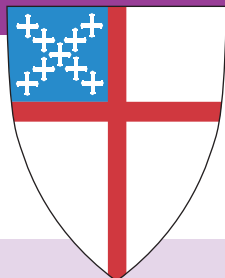


The Vineyard



Christ Episcopal Church - Valdosta, Georgia

January 2010



Mark Your Calendar

January 1

Feast of the Holy Name -
Eucharist - 6 p.m.

Annual Birdwatching
Trip to St. Mark's Wildlife
Refuge - 8 a.m.

January 3

No Youth Sunday School

January 6

Epiphany Service &
Pageant, followed by
Brunswick Stew Supper
6 p.m.

January 17

No Youth Sunday School

January 23

Bishop-elect Benhase
Consecration
Savannah

February 4 - 6

189th Convention
Savannah

June 12 - 19

Dominican Republic
Mission Trip

[www.christchurch
valdosta.org](http://www.christchurchvaldosta.org)

Strengthen Your Stakes

*Enlarge the site of your tent, and let
the curtains of your habitation be
stretched out; do not hold back,
lengthen your cords and strengthen
your stakes, for you will spread out
to the right and to the left.*

Isaiah 54:2-3

The excitement in the meeting room was almost tangible as members of the Capital Campaign Steering Committee met to set the plans in motion to organize the effort to gather the Christ Episcopal Church family to build new facilities. The excitement was a happy, expectant feeling that grew from the excellent work done by the Facilities Committee and presented to the church family on November 11 and 15, 2009.

Sandra Fletcher will serve as the campaign manager. The Steering Committee, made up of the Rev. Peter Ingeman, the Rev. Tar Drazdowski, Brad Burnette, Wade Coleman, Walter Hobgood, Tom Carroll, Clinton Beeland, Pepi Nelson, Sandra Fletcher, and Julia Ariail, will meet once a month to make decisions about the campaign.

Brad Burnette will serve as the campaign leader. The leadership gifts team is composed of Brad Burnette, Father Ingeman, and Wade Coleman. Gail and Walter Hobgood will serve as advance commitment leaders. Tammy Borders, as the prayer leader, will develop a prayer support team. Pepi Nelson will serve as event leader, coordinating all the scheduling of the campaign related events. Julia Ariail will design and print the presentation and information packets for the team.

Mark your calendars for the kickoff of the capital campaign on Shrove Tuesday, February 16, 2010, "A Night at the Mardi Gras," in the parish hall.

"One of the byproducts of a capital campaign is the energy and excitement it generates in the parish," said Sandra Fletcher. "While we need the money to build the buildings, the joy of coming together as a parish family to advance the mission of Christ Church will be with us for years to come."

Brad Burnette said, "Christ Church currently has a critical need for the new buildings to serve our children and teach them about our Lord."

"This is an exciting time for Christ Church, Valdosta, an exciting time to serve as Rector of such a dynamic parish," said Fr. Peter Ingeman. "Our project reflects the deep faith we have in the future of our mission and ministry. Christ Church has a long and exemplary history of witness to Christ through worship, Christian Education, and service outside itself. When we build, we show that the tradition carries us through the years to come."



Steering Committee members, l to r: Sandra Fletcher,
Wade Coleman, Julia Ariail, Clinton Beeland,
Pepi Nelson, and Tom Carroll

The Vineyard

The Vineyard On the Web

The Vineyard is posted to the Christ Church Valdosta Web site in color at www.christchurchvaldosta.org. Click The Vineyard tab to view this publication.

The Vineyard Deadline

The newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Send information to juliacaraiil@bellsouth.net or phone 229-559-7329.

Christ Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Henry I. Louttit,

Bishop of Georgia

The Rev. Peter Ingeman, Rector

The Rev. Tar Drazdowski, Assistant Rector

Stella Clark, Deacon

Jim Elliott, Deacon

Patricia Marks, Deacon

Molly Stevenson, Parish Secretary

Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper

Sue Ellen Rumstay, Organist

Ben Stroup, St. Gregory Choir Director

Maggie Roberts, St. Francis Choir Leader

Julia and Julius Ariail, Newsletter

Vestry

Mimi Allen

Susan Elliott

Julia Ariail

Philip Gunter

Charles Boatwright

John Hiers

Tammy Borders

Phyllis Holland

Dave Clark

Aaron Parten

Jerry DeMott

Joe Singletary

Carolyn Eager

Mike Tanner

Joe Tomberlin

Phone Numbers

Church Office 242-5115

The Rev. Ingeman 245-0799

The Rev. Drazdowski 249-0895

Deacon Stella Clark 559-6159

Deacon Patricia Marks 244-5159

Molly Stevenson 292-8215

www.christchurchvaldosta.org

Vestry Report from November 16, 2009

- Approved Walter Hobgood's candidacy as a transitional deacon.
- Received report from treasurer regarding the annual review of the procedures of the financial office and records. Pledges are lagging behind budget, but should improve as the fiscal year ends. Cash flow is being managed without difficulty.
- Received report on progress of the stewardship campaign. Finance Committee will meet in December to plan the budget for the year 2010.
- Announced the names of the new vestry members. New members will begin their term of service in January 2010.
- Received report from Junior Warden Tanner regarding the new alarm system, and new lighting in the courtyard and walkway. The need for additional lighting for the Miller House area and parking lots is being explored.



Pepi Nelson, Senior Warden and Mike Tanner, Junior Warden

- Received report from the Facilities Fund-Raising Steering committee. Accepted a motion to approve an increase to a 3-year campaign goal of 2.5 million dollars.
- Accepted a motion from Dave Clark to move \$25,000 from the Michael Clark fund to pay for the next level of detailed design plans from the architect.
- Reviewed November and December church activities, including youth programs and plans.

Correction and Even Better...

Jan Skinner, daughter of Sally and Bill Nunn, graduated *summa cum laude* at Florida Gulf Coast University in Ft. Myers, Florida on Saturday, December 12, 2009.



Christ Episcopal Church Cookbook

Manna and More

Our cookbook is now available for purchase online from the link on the church Website www.christchurchvaldosta.org at \$20 each.

The Christ Episcopal Church Directory is available to be picked up in the church office for those whose photographs are in the directory.



From the Rector



THE EPIPHANY

There are really two stories of the Incarnation, two stories of the Holy Nativity, the birth of Our Lord, Jesus. The Gospel of Luke tells us of a birth in a stable in Bethlehem, a birth proclaimed by angels to shepherds tending their sheep under the stars of a Judean night, and the travel of those shepherds to see the miraculous baby, the infant Messiah. The Gospel of Matthew speaks of Wise Men, Magi or Kings, to whom the birth is proclaimed by a star far away in the East, and of their travel to pay homage and bring gifts to the infant who will be King of the Jews; two very different stories which, in time and in our minds, have become compressed into one. On lawns and in shopping center malls across America, and in countless pageants, camels jostle with sheep and Magi and shepherds mingle at the door of crude stables to catch a glimpse of the infant. Two stories blend into one joyous, holy event. Of course, if we separate the two and observe two great feasts, The Feast of the Incarnation, Christmas, on December 25, and the Feast of the Epiphany, the revelation to the gentiles, on January 6, perhaps the weight and the magnitude of God's self-revelations comes home. The two feasts tell us that God excludes nobody from His love, rich or poor, Jew or gentile, shepherd or king, all receive the proclamation of the coming of the savior, and all are welcome in His presence. Come and take part in our celebration of The Epiphany this January 6.

In Christ,
Peter+

The 189th Convention of the Diocese of Georgia

Savannah, Georgia

February 4 - 6, 2010

Desoto Savannah Hilton Hotel - Reservations 800-426-8483 code EDG for group rate

Guests are welcome to register and attend the convention.



The Rev. Scott Benhase will be consecrated as the Tenth Bishop of Georgia on January 23 at the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center, 1 International Drive, Savannah, Georgia (Hutchinson Island). A reception will follow the liturgy.

The good thing is that, although not a church building proper, it will hold plenty of people!

The DeSoto Hilton is offering us a room rate of \$129 +tax. Call for reservations 800-426-8483.

Birdwatching At St. Marks

Make plans to join the bird watching group at St. Marks National Wildlife Preserve. Cars will leave the church parking lot at 8 a.m.

The group enjoys a picnic at noon at the Tower Pond picnic area. Several expert birders usually attend, including Bishop Henry and Jan Louttit. Call Phyllis Hiers for information at 244-5942 and view photos from last year's trip at: <http://picasaweb.google.com/christchurchvaldosta/20090101StMarks#>>.



This camera icon indicates that the photos are displayed on <http://picasaweb.google.com/christchurchvaldosta>

Words for Christmas & Epiphany
Expectation Salvation Incarnation

Diocese of Georgia thanks Bishop Henry and Jan Louttit



Members of the 72 congregations in the Diocese of Georgia gathered at the Jekyll Island Convention Center for a sell-out reception and dinner for Bishop Henry I. Louttit, Jr., and his wife Jan on December 4, 2009. Bishops of the surrounding states sent letters of congratulations which were read after dinner. Many speakers including Amy Louttit Johnson, Jim Louttit, A. L. Addington and others, thanked the Louttits for their service. Several gifts were presented to the Louttits including a framed Julius Ariail photograph of Bishop Louttit, a car, and an original watercolor painting of the Honey Creek Chapel by Savannah artist Sharon Saseen.



Honey Creek, the diocesan camp and recreation center, filled all available spaces for the weekend as events continued at the camp Saturday, December 5, with a 10:30 a.m. Eucharist followed by lunch in the dining hall.



Questions and Answers about the Capital Campaign

Q. Why does Christ Church need new buildings?

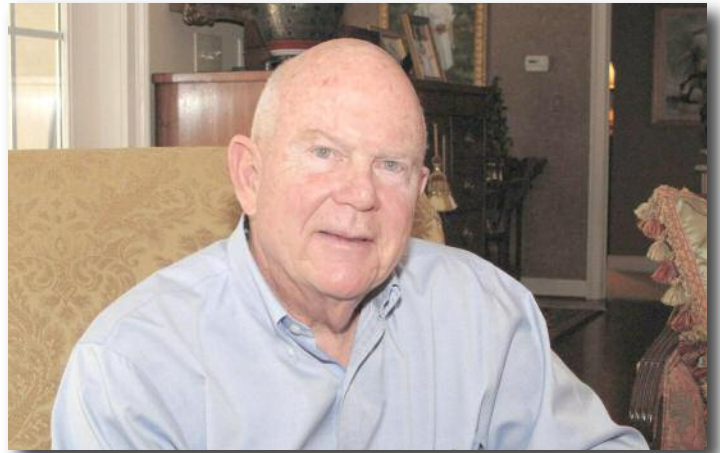
A. Christ Church has had no significant building addition or renovation to its facilities for over 30 years. If we expect to grow as we have in recent years, we must improve our facilities. The Christian Education space for our children and youth is housed in older buildings which were not designed for these activities. The nursery space is inadequate. There is no dedicated space for adult education. Events in the parish hall are increasingly crowded. The kitchen facilities are outdated.

Q. How much money do we need to raise to build the new parish hall, kitchen, nursery and education building?

A. The building costs are estimated to be approximately \$2 million. Additionally, we will need furnishings and technology for the new spaces. We will also need to redesign and pave the parking areas. These things may add an additional \$300,000 to \$500,000 to the costs. Our goal for the campaign is \$2,500,000.

Q. How can we come up with this amount of money?

A. Prayer, good planning, hard work, and everyone's participation! The Campaign Steering Committee has laid out a plan to begin by soliciting the largest gifts first, then move into a full campaign in early 2010. We want everyone to participate in the fundraising campaign to the best of their ability. There will be events for everyone. Our young people will be planning their fundraisers along with all of the other groups. It is important that everyone prayerfully consider what they can do for this very important step in the history of our Church.



Brad Burnette, Capital Campaign Chairman

Q. When will construction on the new buildings begin?

A. We expect to begin construction as soon as we have gifts and pledges for about half of the goal of \$2.5 million. It is difficult to say, at this point, when that will be. The architects are completing the plans for the buildings, and then we will need to hire a construction firm and arrange for interim financing.

Q. What can I do to help us succeed?

A. It is very important that all of us earnestly and sincerely pray, as individuals and as families, to discern what God wants you to do in this endeavor. Respond to His direction and guidance with your time, talents, and financial pledge to help Christ Church succeed with this much needed project. There will be many opportunities for you to participate in the events and other activities of the campaign. This is a very exciting time for Christ Church.

Five New Vestry Members for 2010-2013



Five new vestry members take office in January 2010 to serve three year terms. They are Julia Ariail, Susan Elliott, Philip Gunter, Aaron Parten, and Joe Tomberlin. Photographs of the entire 2010 Christ Episcopal Church Vestry appear on the Website at www.christchurchvaldosta.org.





Special Days Remembered in January



BIRTHDAYS

2 Pat Peaslee	16 Holly Querin
Ken Ricket	Anne Reid
David Sandbach, Jr.	Tim Teasley
3 Brooks Lovelace	17 Mimi Allen
Jennifer Powell	Tyler Johnson
4 Ethan Warrick	Brian Nelson
5 Sarah Parrish	18 Saber Simmons
6 Chase Adams	19 Laura Copeland
Claire Holland	20 Kate Hanson
7 Sparky Greneker	Rosa Hiromoto
9 Carmen Boatwright	Kimberly Waters
Laura Paine	21 Robert Church
Ann Sumner	22 Carolyn Eager
10 Henry Parrish	Emory Warrick, III
Linda Riggle	25 Madison Jackson
11 Emily Macheski-Preston	27 Ralph Jackson
12 Carol Roberts	Leigh Prine
13 Lauren Cloud	Stephanie Tillman
Joshua Hanson	28 Ann Burnette
14 Richard Coleman	29 Henrietta Barnes
Grif Griffin	Anna Coggins
15 Kathy Armstrong	Savannah-Jane Gilchrist
16 Cindy Foster	30 Clinton Beeland
Stephen Manning	John Hummel

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

5 Richard Coleman
Rick Coleman
6 Stephen Sandbach
9 Judy DeMott
Robin Guice
Danielle Pitts
11 Meg Hiers
12 Sandra Fletcher
Laura Sartin
13 Nathaniel Balanis
Michael Holt
Rosanne Rumstay
14 Lindsey Wisenbaker
15 Jack Warren
21 Phyllis Holland
22 Gnann Moser
25 Robert Tillman
26 Pat Armstrong
27 Andrew Hummel
Greg Hummel
Jodie Hummel
29 Lauren Sandbach

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

6 Trent & Anna Coggins
12 Larry & Elizabeth Wisenbaker
23 Ed Preston & Ginger Macheski
30 Walter & Gail Hobgood

If your special day is not included in our calendar, please call the church office at 242-5115 to let us know.

Two former Christ Church Priests Die in November

The Rev. Dr. Edward M. Berckman, 78, of Valdosta, died November 28, 2009 at Shand's Hospital in Gainesville, Florida, following a lengthy illness. He was born on February 7, 1931 in Hangzhou, China to missionary parents, the late James and Ruth Rice Berckman, and he grew up in China and Alabama. Fr. Berckman received his PhD from the University of Chicago and was a retired Episcopal minister and college English professor having taught in India and Valdosta State. He was a volunteer for the Alzheimer Caregiver Time Out (ACTO) association and was a member of the Tai Chi society. Fr. Berckman was a member of Christ Episcopal Church.

Survivors include his wife of 47 years, Katherine Berckman of Valdosta; a daughter and son-in-law, Rachel and Dennis Huntman of Dallas, Texas; son, Daniel Berckman of Savannah; daughter, Sarah Berckman of Valdosta; four grandchildren, a brother and sister-in-law, and several nieces and nephews.

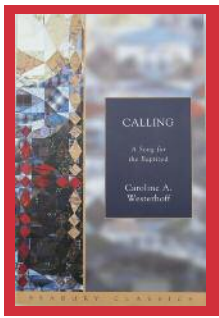
A memorial service for Edward M. Berckman was held December 3, 2009 at Christ Episcopal Church with The Rev. Peter Ingeman officiating.

The Vineyard, p. 6, January 2010

The Rev. William Cleghorn Pitner, Jr., 71, of St. Simons Island, GA, died November 30, 2009, at St. Vincent's Hospital in Jacksonville, FL. Memorial services were held December 3, 2009, at Holy Nativity Episcopal Church, St. Simons Island, with The Rt. Rev. Henry I. Louttit, celebrant, assisted by The Rev. Tony Powell, vicar, The Rev. Dee Shaffer, preacher, and The Rev. Chad Chaffee, deacon. Inurnment will follow at a later date in the columbarium at Holy Nativity.

Born October 12, 1938, in Chattanooga, TN, to the late William Cleghorn Pitner, Sr. and Edna Susan Gray, Father Bill was a retired Episcopal priest. He attended Baylor Military School in Chattanooga, TN, was a graduate of the University of the South at Sewanee, TN, University of Georgia at Athens, GA, and Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, VA. He has served parishes in Valdosta and Hinesville, GA.

Survivors include his wife of 36 years, Phyllis W. Pitner of St. Simons Island, a sister, Maria Gray Pitner of Tallahassee, FL, a nephew, Matthew Robert Gray Pitner of Atlanta and his beloved chocolate Lab companions, Samson and Ryder Pitner.



The Church Bookshelf

by Patricia Marks

Calling: A Song for the Baptized

By Caroline A. Westerhoff, Church Publishing: 2005



Deacon Patricia Marks

From a lovingly-rendered memory of her grandmother's front porch, where neighborhood women gathered and told stories through the long afternoons, to shattering encounters with the dispossessed and needy, *Calling* helps us ponder anew our baptismal call. Retired as Canon for Ministry in the Diocese of Atlanta, Westerhoff's thoughtful meditations on ministry, community, and responsibility, each prefaced with a phrase from the baptismal covenant, are richly embroidered with tales of personal struggles and

successes. We read, for instance, about her encounter with a homeless preacher man and a competitive colleague; and we empathize with her account of the daily overload of activities and promises—all good—that threaten to drown out the still, small voice of God. And we are there with her on Maundy Thursday at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin in New York, where, overwhelmed by the service, she feels "the fathomless truth of God's love" wrapping itself around her heart.

Thanksgiving

November 26, 2009



The Thanksgiving service featured a baptism and music by Sue Ellen Rumstay, accompanied by Jay Chadwick (French Horn) and Jim Connell (trumpet). Over 140 people attended the service and 118 stayed for the great Thanksgiving feast.

Christ Church Discipleship Guide



The new pamphlet, which should be available to the congregation soon, was created to list all our current educational, fellowship and mission opportunities. This comprehensive list has names, phone numbers, and a brief description of almost every outreach at Christ Church. After much brainstorming by the Friday Cursillo Reunion group, this idea was created to help newcomers as well as long standing parishioners "get in the loop." Phyllis Holland scoured the new building planning books to locate all the outreach groups at Christ Church and came up with descriptions. Julia Ariail, with her plethora of publishing skills, created the beautiful document that will be out soon. Be on the lookout! **Beth Baker**

St. Nicholas Visits

December 6, 2009



The Vineyard, p. 7, January 2010

Deacon Stella Clark Selects 75 Pairs of Shoes



Lake Park Elementary was the recipient of the *Shoes That Fit* program at Rack Room Shoes. *Shoes That Fit* provides shoes for underprivileged children, allowing them to attend school in comfort and dignity so they can focus on their studies and just be a kid, rather than their circumstances.

School Counselor Steve Trexler and Christ Episcopal Church Deacon Stella Clark went to Rack Room December 13 to pick out 75 pairs of really nice, name brand shoes in a variety of sizes for elementary school-age children.

"We had fun doing it and what a great ministry!" said Deacon Clark.

In addition to serving as one of the deacons for our church, Stella works for the Lowndes County School System as the school nurse at Lake Park Elementary. She also volunteers at the Partnership For Health Clinic.

The way the program works is that when someone purchases a pair of shoes at Rack Room Shoes, they are given the option of buying a lunch bag for \$5.00. This money goes to the *Shoes That Fit* program. Lake Park Elementary had \$1600.00 to spend for the 75 pairs of shoes.

Christ Church Ongoing Projects

Adopt a Haven Family - The Haven has a special need for new or like-new kitchen supplies (appliances, dishes, etc.) for mothers and children moving out of the shelter. Contact Patricia Marks (244-5159); [<spmarks@bellsouth.net>](mailto:spmarks@bellsouth.net).

Foster Kids Project - Phyllis Holland chairs this project to assist local foster kids with supplies, tutoring, and mentoring. (245-3821); [<pholland@valdosta.edu>](mailto:pholland@valdosta.edu)

Partnership for Health Clinic Project - Diane Halim chairs this project for donations for specific items to patients and family. [<dhollim@valdosta.edu>](mailto:dhollim@valdosta.edu)

Pop Tabs - Collect pop tabs to benefit the Atlanta Ronald McDonald Houses. Please add them to the container on the round table in the parish hall. Deacon Stella Clark chairs this project. [<sclark@lowndes.k12.ga.us>](mailto:sclark@lowndes.k12.ga.us)

Toiletries Project - Gail Hobgood chairs the project to collect unused hotel toiletries for families at LAMP. [<WPHOBG@aol.com>](mailto:WPHOBG@aol.com)

Thank You Notes

Dear Christ Church Family,

I want to express sincere thanks for all of your prayers, phone calls, and donations at the time of my mother's death. It was very comforting to know that you were with us every step of the journey. I am truly blessed to be a part of this loving and Christ filled community.

Blessings, Tar+



Dear Christ Church Family,

We are completely awed by the outpouring of love and support given to us with our wedding. The reception was unbelievable! Thank you for loving us and letting us be a part of such an incredible family!

Love, Molly and Paul Stevenson

Marc Rodgers New Licensed Lay Reader



Marc Rodgers completed the course to become Christ Episcopal Church's newest lay reader and chalice administrator. Father Peter Ingeman presented him with his license at the 11:30 Sunday service on December 6.



Hi! My Name is Buddy.

I really need a home to call my own. I have been neutered and have had

all my shots. I love people and other animals. If you want to come and see me, please call Karen Gunter at 794-8146 or (229) 560-4472. Thanks!

Episcopal College Ministries (Canterbury Club)

Where did the Fall Semester go?

Students participated in several types of College Ministry Activities this semester including the Young Adult Summit, sponsored by Province IV, hosted by the Diocese of Atlanta. Bishop Alexander was the keynote speaker.

Holy Fun was a weekend sponsored by the Diocese of GA. It was a time of reflection of how the essence of holy interfaces with our everyday lives

Annual Christmas Party and Gift Exchange was held at Pat and Ron Bezona's home. They hosted the party and provided the students with traditional comfort foods.

The First ECM Observance of Dead Day was a wonderful day of food, fellowship, and study held at Louttit Hall from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thanks to all who helped make this day worth repeating.

Thanks to all our family at Christ Church who make these events possible and thanks for feeding us on Sunday nights! We look forward to eating a meal together, sharing in Bible study, and singing to close out our evening activities. See you next semester! Tar+

Mills Exhibits Art



The Rev. Nancy Mills, vicar at Good Shepherd, Thomasville invites you to an exhibition of her art work. The exhibition "An Overview: Thirty-

five years of engagement with life in line, form and color" will be held in the main gallery of the Thomasville Cultural Center, Thomasville, GA, January 15 - February 28. There will be a reception and gallery talk by the artist on Friday, January 15th at 6:00 p.m. Rev. Nancy Mills is a nationally known artist who has exhibited in major cities across the country. Many of her works are present in both public and private collections. This exhibition will include pieces from her early career and more recent work which has yet to be shown. The later work is more symbolic and religious in nature. For more information you can call the artist at 229-226-2735.



Wreath Making on the First Sunday of Advent

Susan, Gus, Carter, and Alex Elliott cut and delivered greenery to the Christ Church parish hall so that parishioners could make Advent wreaths on Sunday, November 29. They also supplied Advent candles for sale to add to the wreaths or to take home for other candle holders.

**Save the date for the
2010 Mission Trip to
the Dominican Republic.
Mark your calendars,
June 12 -19, 2010.
More details forthcoming.
Call Tar+ at the office at
242-5115 to find out more.**

Super Bowl Sunday

Having A Party (or not)?

Either Way, Let Us Help!

Pork Ribs - \$20.00 per slab
Tenderloins - \$ 20.00 two loins
Chicken - \$ 4.00 (half)



2 easy ways
to place
your order:

1. email – eparten@windstream.net
2. Call – 229-794-8146

Pick up items between 3:00-5:00 on Sunday, **February 7th** behind
Christ Church Parish Hall
1521 North Patterson Street
Valdosta

Thank You for your support – **St. Francis Ministry for Animals**

Christ Church Looks Back

by Joseph A. Tomberlin



Reprinted From the *Valdosta Daily Times*, March, 1971

When communicants kneel at the altar of Christ Episcopal Church on Easter Sunday {April 11}, they'll be kneeling on two-and-a-half years of work and millions of stitches made by about a dozen women members.

It was the Rev. Henry I. Louttit Jr., pastor, who started the needles plying, according to Eloise Smith.

"Father Louttit heard about a French woman in Pasadena, Calif.," said Mrs. Smith, "who makes needlepoint designs for churches. He wrote to her, Miss Josephine Jardine, owner of the French School of Embroidery, and she made the original designs for our altar cushions."

There are six canvases, each four feet long, to cover the tops of the pillows, Mrs. Smith, chairman of the needlepoint project, explained. Each features shields of two apostles, with the name, date of birth and death and country where he spread the gospel.

"When the cushions are completed they are to cover an area 19 feet long," Mrs. Smith said. "There are also 12 side panels which feature a gold background and blue and gray designs centered with gold crosses. The only other color used is burgundy."

"We never dreamed it would take so long to complete," she said. "But Easter Sunday we are planning to place them on the altar. This is something that everyone in our church should be very proud of," she continued.

Not only did the women have to fill in the background on the canvas, but they had to do the designs as well.

"Someone without a lot of needlepoint experience would not have been able to do the work, because of the intricate designs," Mrs. Smith said.

The women have worked on the project at Guild meetings, in their spare time and while on trips. "It gave you something to do while traveling," Mrs. Smith said.

The canvases are nearing completion and are to be sewn together and finished prior to the morning service on Easter Sunday.

Women working on the project include: Mrs. Joe Stubbs, Mrs. Converse Ferrell, Mrs. Jack Sullivan, Mrs. Derek Pickup, Mrs. Lapp Holland, Mrs. Kenneth Ricket, Mrs. David Wainer, Mrs. Eleanor Grondahl, Mrs. Omer Franklin, Mrs. John Oliver, Mrs. Harrison Tillman and Mrs. Smith.

The designs and materials for the canvases were bought out of the church's memorial fund.

Mrs. Jane Ferrell contributed this article about the kneelers from her scrapbook.





Kneelers in original position



Eloise Smith and Electa Ricket

The rest of the story as I know it

by Julia Ariail

The kneelers pictured on the bottom of page 10 have been reconstructed after many years of storage. The story of the kneelers began with a suggestion to Fr. Louttit from Sissy Tillman in 1968. After 12 women worked for 2 ½ years to complete the needlepoint, the work was sewn together adding a welt for stability, padded, and placed on the twenty-four-foot-long step near the altar where the former altar rail stood. After the 1981 renovation, the altar rail moved to its current position, and the kneelers were used there until 1987. During the 16 years of their use, the kneelers warped to the right. Fr. Louttit asked Bobbie Warren to create hangings from the re-blocked parts in 1987.

"Even though we blocked the needlepoint tops, the hangings began to warp again," said Bobbie Warren.

When Fr. Peter Ingeman came to Christ Episcopal Church as rector in 2000, he found the needlepoint tops which had been taken apart from the hangings in the Miller House and moved them to a better climate-controlled spot in the closet in his office. The side pieces have not been seen for many years and are feared lost. In 2009, Fr. Peter and Happy contracted with Southland Upholstery to recondition the needlepoint into kneelers once again. They were placed at the altar rail once again in November 2009.

Since their reappearance, the kneelers have generated a lot of interest and many fond memories. Many people who worked on the original kneelers, the hangings, and moved the needlepoint from place to place as the church renovated various sections contributed parts of this story. Those include Jane Ferrell, Eloise Smith, Electa Ricket, Tilda Stubbs, Bobbie Warren, Pam Guice, Happy Ingeman, and Fr. Peter Ingeman. If you can expand on any details, please let me know.

The *Valdosta Times* article from 1971 stated that each kneeler featured an apostle. In actuality, they feature St. Boniface, St. Anscar, St. Columba, St. Aiden, St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Augustine, St. Hildegard, St. David, St. Patrick, St. Barnabas, and St. Martin.

Gnann Moser suggested that we form a group of those interested in making additional kneelers and begin work in 2010 to complement the kneelers that we have. Ideally, we would make enough to fit the entire altar rail. If you are interested in working with the group, contact Julia Ariail at 559-7329.

Youth News

by Beth Baker

High School Lock-In and Yard Sale

Christ Church members donated tons and tons of items for the High School Garage Sale! Although it rained all night and all morning, the kids still had a great time pricing and selling the donated items. The money will be split between the new building fund, Father Peter's Discretionary fund, and the Youth Fund.

Christmas Parade

This year, the Christ Church kids and friends had a fantastic time on the new and improved Christmas Float. After passing out hundreds and hundreds of packages of hot chocolate, the kids relaxed on the float and waved to the crowds of parade watchers! This year, special thanks go out to Paul Stevenson for building our new sign (which will also be used for the Relay For Life tent). A big, huge thanks goes out to Kip Nunn who secured a huge trailer and decorated the float! If you see either of these wonderful guys, please express your thanks and gratitude for their support of our youth programs!

continued on page 12



The Labyrinth



John David Greneker walks the labyrinth in the parish hall. Deacon Patricia Marks installs the meditation track several times a year. She plans to bring it back during Lent in 2010. Candles light the way and an information booklet suggests meditations.

Youth News

continued from page 11

The Epiphany Pageant

This year's Epiphany Pageant will be January 6th. Please make plans to be here to watch the sweet and joyous play. If you know of a newborn who would like to play the part of Baby Jesus, please let Beth Baker know. Email her at [<bethbaker@bellsouth.net>](mailto:bethbaker@bellsouth.net).

Undie Sunday

Undie Sunday will February 7th. Last year, Christ Church made the largest donation to the Haven that they had ever received! Yea! We rock! Let's do it again this year! If you are out shopping during the After Christmas sales, consider picking up undergarments and/or socks to be donated to the families at the Haven. Many times, these women and children leave their homes with absolutely nothing but the clothes on their backs, and your donation will really make a difference in their lives!

Philip Gunter Named Interim VPAA



VSU President Patrick J. Schloss announced that Dr. Philip Gunter, dean of the Dewar College of Education, has been selected to serve as the interim provost and vice president for Academic Affairs (VPAA) effective Jan. 1.

"Dr. Gunter has a distinguished record as a scholar and administrator," said Schloss. "The advancement of the Dewar College of Education throughout his time as dean is clear evidence of the value and leadership that he will bring to all areas of academic affairs."

Gunter, who came to Valdosta State in 1993, is a member of Christ Episcopal Church and newly elected Vestry member.

Join us for Regular Services

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion

11:30 a.m. Holy Communion*

Tuesday: 10:30 a.m. @ Langdale Place

Second Saturday of each month: 6:00 p.m. Holy Communion

9:30 a.m. Holy Communion*

6:00 p.m. Vespers

Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.*

10:45 a.m. Christian Education*

Thursday: 7:00 a.m.

***Nursery Available**

Christ Episcopal Church
1521 N. Patterson Street • Valdosta, GA 31602

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