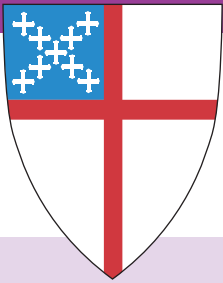


# The Vineyard



Christ Episcopal Church - Valdosta, Georgia

September 2010



## Jim Elliott Ordained to the Priesthood

### Mark Your Calendar

#### September 6

Labor Day - Office Closed

#### September 7

Preschool classes begin

#### September 10 - 11

Diocesan Council  
at Christ Church

#### September 11

Nancy Sartin's Diaconal  
Ordination, 5 p.m.

#### September 12

Bishop Benhase's Visitation  
10 a.m. service followed by  
parish luncheon

#### September 18

Inquirers' Class

#### September 19

Third Sunday lunch  
Episcopal College  
Ministries Kick-off, 6 p.m.  
Sunday Evening  
Eucharist services begin  
8 p.m.

#### September 22

Haven Work Night

#### September 25

Inquirers' Class

#### September 26

Acolyte Training Class

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



Bishop Benhase (center) ordained four new priests August 21, the Reverends Prather, Dolen, Elliott, and Yawn (l to r).

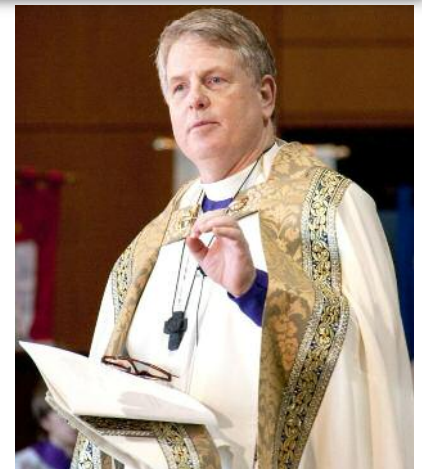
In December 2005 James Lawrence Elliott began the process that led him to his ordination as a priest in Savannah on August 21, 2010, at 11 a.m. in St. Peter's Episcopal Church. During those five years Jim had many meetings with Fr. Peter Ingeman, Bishop Henry Louttit, Bishop Scott Benhase, the Discernment Committee, the Diocesan examining chaplains, the Commission on Ministry and the Standing Committee. He spent three summers at the University of the South at Suwanee, Tennessee studying theology, philosophy, church history, liturgy, homiletics and more with many tests and exams along the way.

"Throughout the process my wife, Susan, and our three sons - Gus, 20; Alex, 18; and Carter, 14 - have been extremely supportive and given me the freedom to pursue this path," said Jim.

He has continued to practice law in partnership with his brother Walter during this process and serves as chancellor to the Diocese of Georgia

*continued on page 8*

View the photographs of the ordination on our Picasa Website <<http://picasaweb.google.com/christchurchvaldosta>



**Bishop Scott Benhase  
will be at Christ Church  
September 10 - 12**

**Sept. 10 - 11 - Diocesan  
Council**

**Sept. 11, 5 p.m., Ordination  
of Nancy Sartin to the  
Sacred Order of Deacons**

**Sept. 12, 10 a.m.,  
combined service followed  
by dinner on the grounds**



## The Vineyard On the Web

The Vineyard is posted to the Christ Church Web site in color at [www.christchurchvaldosta.org](http://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 [<juliacaraiail@bellsouth.net>](mailto:juliacaraiail@bellsouth.net) or phone 229-559-7329.

### Christ Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Scott A. Benhase,  
Bishop of Georgia  
The Rev. Peter Ingeman, Rector  
The Rev. Tar Drazdowski, Assistant Rector  
The Rev. Jim Elliott, Priest Associate  
The Rev. Deacon Stella Clark  
The Rev. Deacon Patricia Marks  
Beth Baker, Youth Coordinator  
Molly Stevenson, Parish Administrator  
Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper  
Sue Ellen Rumstay, Organist  
Kathy Armstrong, St. Gregory Choir Dir.  
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
The Rev. Elliott	242-3333
The Rev. Dcn. Clark	559-6159
The Rev. Dcn. Marks	244-5159
Molly Stevenson	292-8215

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

## Vestry Report from July 19, 2010

- Received approval from Valdosta Historic Preservation Commission to demolish garage damaged by falling limbs behind the rectory.

- Announced new campaign pledge total of \$1,200,700 and the printing of a thank you list in the upcoming Vineyard.

- Announced the upcoming visitation by Bishop Scott Benhase from September 10 - 12 which will include the ordination of Nancy Sartin to the Diaconate at 5 p.m. on September 11.

- Reminded members of the August 21 ordination of Jim Elliott to the priesthood to be held at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Savannah at 11 a.m.

- Outlined upcoming kick-off dates for children and adult Sunday School, EYC, College Ministry and Preschool.

- Announced the beginning of another regular Eucharistic service on Sunday evenings at 8 p.m., beginning September 19.



Dave Clark,  
Senior Warden



Mike Tanner,  
Junior Warden

- Welcomed Deacon Stella Clark home from her pilgrimage in Spain and received a report from her that our church donated 120 pounds of pop tabs to the Ronald McDonald House.

- Received report on a successful campaign to donate diapers to the Haven and our support of their upcoming silent auction, Aug. 14.

- Reported the progress of the Facilities Committee to adjust plans for the Education Building and Parish Hall to bring estimates in line with campaign goal.



The camera symbol indicates that a series of photos on this subject is available at [<http://picasaweb.google.com/christchurchvaldosta>](http://picasaweb.google.com/christchurchvaldosta).

### THANK YOU!

*To all at Christ Church, but especially those who bring meals,*

*It's easy to say "thank you." What's difficult to do is express the many special thoughts behind our thanks to you. Your ministry and good wishes have meant so much to my mother and me. All the meals were delicious and much appreciated.*

*Thank You*

*Nancy Smyrl and Cindy Foster*

### ONCE AGAIN, THANK YOU!

*Dear brothers and sisters at Christ Church,*

*Thank you once again for your love and support through prayers, visits, phone calls, gifts, and meals during my recent surgery. I am doing well and truly appreciate being showered with such TLC! I love you all in Christ Jesus.*

*Maria Taylor*



# From the Rector



## Welcome Home

To everyone who traveled this summer, welcome home. Thank you to all who brought orders of worship from churches visited in their travels. September is a month of resuming activities and beginning new programs. Our Preschool resumes classes on the 7th. Our Bishop Scott Anson Benhase will be here to meet with Diocesan Council on the 10th and 11th. On the 11th he will ordain Nancy Sartin Richardson to the Sacred Order of Deacons. With Jim Elliott, ordained priest on August 21st in Savannah, Christ Church will have two new members in its clergy staff.

The Bishop will celebrate one service on Sunday, September 12 at 10 a.m., a combined service of our 9:30 and 11:30 congregations. A parish lunch on the grounds is being planned following the service. Actually, the Bishop is a member of all the parishes and missions in the Diocese of Georgia, so please come, introduce yourself and say you are happy to meet him. On the 19th Tar+ is planning a kick-off for our Episcopal Campus Ministry and will celebrate the first of our new, weekly 8 p.m. Sunday eucharists. Beth Baker is planning a work night for all ages to assist The Haven on the 22nd. In addition we are planning to have an acolyte training program as well as Inquirers' classes for those seeking to learn more about the faith and the Episcopal Church on the mornings of the 18th and 25th. Much continues and much is new; all these events help us to realize that God's presence is to be seen and felt in a myriad of ways and that His Word and our mission are ever new. Come and take part.

Peter+

### Dominican Republic Mission Trip Presentation - August 18



The 13 Dominican Mission Team members from Christ Church presented photos and talked briefly about the experience on Wednesday, August 18, following a meal of Dominican food prepared by Josie and Aaron Parten. The concluding photograph of the presentation (above) featured a voice capture of Anny, one of our Dominican teenage translators, reading a thank you note to our congregation on the last day of our visit.

*To the people in the United States who are members of your church we don't know, say hello to them and tell them that this is their home, too. We love you all. God bless you a lot, and thank you for everything.*



### Canterbury Club Participates in VSU Prayer Blast

The Rev. Tar Drazdowski (center of photo, back to camera) and the members of the Canterbury Club were part of the "VSU Prayer Blast" event on the evening of August 15th. Several hundred VSU students, faculty and friends formed a human chain on the sidewalks surrounding the main campus to pray for the success of the 2010-2011 academic year.

Photo courtesy of VSU Fellowship of Christian Athletes

**Words for the Season After Pentecost**  
**Commandments Discipleship**  
**Grace**

## Capital Campaign Pledge Update

Many thanks to all those who have stepped forward and made pledges and gifts to the *Strengthen Our Stakes* Capital Campaign for Christ Church Valdosta. The list below shows pledges made between July 18 and August 15. A complete list of pledgers will be posted next to the painted stake in the parish hall. Let's make the list reflect 100% participation. Add your name today by calling the church office at 242-5115.

Hugh and Joan Bailey  
Leslie Hiers Chadwick  
Jim and Susan Elliott  
Jane Ferrell  
Phil and Karen Gunter

Kevin Hiers  
Margaret E. Hiers  
Aaron and Josie Parten  
Dick and Debi Saeger

If your name should appear on this list and does not, please notify the church office at 242-5115.

The second phase of the campaign will begin with the Unity Dinner following the September 12, 10 a.m. service with the Bishop. The Youth will have an envelope fundraiser.

Sandra Fletcher,  
Capital Campaign Manager

Campaign Pledge  
Total to date

**\$1,334,500**

**Campaign Goal \$2,500,000**

### St. Francis Yard Sale a Success

The Parten and Gunter families organized the yard sale on Saturday, August 14 on the lawn of Louttit Hall and made over \$800 which will be used to pay for veterinary bills for animals whose owners can't afford emergency treatment.

"I want to thank everyone who donated items and those who purchased the treasures," said Karen Gunter, "Now we can pay part of our vet bill."

### Ronald McDonald House Sends Thanks

Manya Stone, the House Manager of the Ronald McDonald House in Jacksonville, Florida, sent a thank you letter July 16 to the "friends at Christ Episcopal Church." Dave and Stella Clark delivered 120 pounds of pop tabs saved over the past year by our parishioners to the group. They sell the recycled metal and use the money to help families with sick children stay in facilities near a hospital. Our money was used to help the son of a Valdosta firefighter.



Photos by Susan Elliott

### Elliotts host Luau for High School EYC

Jim and Susan Elliott held the first meeting of the high school EYC at their home, Wednesday, August 15 starting the year off with a little sparkle and colorful leis to welcome new and old members to the class. Dan and David Schert team teach with the Elliotts. September meeting schedule: 09/01, Querins' house; 09/08, Church; 09/15, Querins' house; 09/22, work night at The Haven; 09/28, Elliotts' house.

### The Haven Diaper Project

The Director of the Haven thanked Christ Church for their continued support particularly for the diapers and wipes which were so desperately needed recently. Parishioners wishing to help should contact Deacon Patricia Marks.





## Walk With the Good Shepherd Bible Camp - August 4



**by Beth Baker**

Walking With the Good Shepherd was a total success! The children had a great time singing, cleaning, learning a Bible verse, crafts and slip-n-sliding with Marylee Pendelton, Mitchell and Robbie Beeland. Helen Bennett, Phyllis Hiers, and Stefani Carroll were in charge of the Anglican Rosary bead station. Judy Demott did an outstanding job teaching the children about the altar and what it takes to prepare for our many worship services. The children learned all about being a good shepherd in their own church and community. They also visited the Labyrinth and took home several neat things to help them with their prayers at home!



photograph by Pauline Brown

Father Peter Ingeman and Happy celebrated his birthday at the Wednesday night church supper in the parish hall on July 22.

### **NEW SERVICE - 8 p.m. Sunday Evening Eucharist**

Starting on September 19, Christ Church will add an additional Sunday service. The service will be held at 8:00 p.m. We are adding this service to incorporate the college community as they return to the campus after the weekend. The entire college community is invited as well as the Christ Church family. We are looking for servers and musicians. If you are interested in signing up to help with this service, please contact Molly. She will be preparing a schedule. We will discontinue the second Saturday service.

The Rev. Tar Drazdowski



### **Kneeler Project**

Alice Vantrease, right, of the Twiggs of Savannah needlepoint shop, delivered yarn to Julia Ariail in Waycross and shipped the canvas so that our kneeler committee can begin designing and stitching the new kneelers. Bill Nunn will paint the canvas to feature the four evangelists, the apostles, and four female saints: Cecilia, Clare, Mary, and Martha.

*The Vineyard*, p. 5, September 2010



## Special Days Remembered in September



### BIRTHDAYS

2 Jim Drazdowski	13 Frances Hatcher	22 Mandy White
3 Trent Coggins	14 Kymberly Parsons	23 Monique Bajalia
5 Norma Barnidge	15 Will Armstrong	Paul Leake
Robin Coleman	Caitlin Kirk	Jacquie Thigpen
Beth Curtis	Jake Mims	24 Rick Coleman
6 Margaret Anderson	16 Ellie Copeland	Christopher Hanson
Tamara Dennis	Stephen Sandbach	Chris May
Elonda Holcomb	17 Nicky Balanis	26 Andrew Flemer
Brandi Parsons	Tim Pitts	27 Jerry Puckett
Randi Parsons	19 Lucile Griffin	28 Jeana Beeland
Steve Roberts	20 John Bennett	29 Jim Nelson
7 Ron Borders	Charles Boatwright	30 Bill Armstrong
Karen Gunter	Judy DeMott	Wade Coleman
Eliza Jane May	Gus Elliott	Danny Mansukhani
8 Paul Stevenson	Will Hanson	Dale Marshall
9 Sylvia Warrick	21 Betty Chason	Molly Stevenson
10 Jo Church	Gnann Moser	
11 Jim Zager	Dylan Phillips	
12 Alex Lind		

### BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

4 Julie Jackson
6 Pat Bradley
12 Alex Elliott
17 Holly Querin
Katie Querin
20 Brooks Lovelace
22 Tyler Johnson
Katie Wisenbaker
24 Peter Ingeman
Adair Pizer
27 Jerry Byrd

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

2 Jerry & Mollee Puckett
3 Richard & Debi Saeger
7 Jeff & Mandy White
Danny Mansukhani & Karen Rainey
8 Merrill & Frances Guice
David & Caitlin Kirk
10 Russell & Mary Lou McRae
11 Jim & Tar Drazdowski
12 Wilby & Gloria Coleman
Charles & Tamara Dennis
19 Grif & Lucile Griffin
22 Frank & Diane Corker
23 Chip & Allison Curington
24 Jeff & Cathy Hanson

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



## The Church Bookshelf

by Patricia Marks

### *The Practice of the Presence of God*

by Brother Lawrence. 1692

Christian Classics Ethereal Library



Deacon Patricia Marks

For book lovers, an "Ethereal Library" sounds like the new Eden. Here indeed, free for the reading, are Christian Classics of all kinds, including Brother Lawrence's wonderful reminder that God is with us in all walks. A former soldier and footman who joined the discalced (barefoot) Carmelites to atone for his sins, Brother Lawrence, consigned to the kitchen and later to mending sandals, found the joy of God's presence in his most commonplace acts. As he says, "We can do little things for God; I turn the cake that is frying on the pan for love of him." His profound faith—and joy in it—was anchored in a "habitual, silent, and secret conversation

of the soul with God." Not that it was easy, given the common lot of daily cares, pain, and illness. And perhaps, in this noisy age of ours, it seems impossibly idealistic—after all, Brother Lawrence lived in a monastery where he was expected to be prayerful. But as he observes, the will to develop a "holy habit" of thinking of God allows us to be with Him; and being with Him means praying; and in praying we have withdrawn to that "oratory of the heart" where we offer every daily trifle, from washing dishes to making board-room decisions, to Him out of love. That indeed is the practice of the presence of God.



# Ordinations

by Julius Ariail



There is only one way for a lay person to be ordained as a deacon or a priest within the Diocese of Georgia and the Episcopal Church: to be ordained as such by our diocesan bishop, the Rt. Reverend Scott Anson Benhase, or another bishop specifically designated for this purpose by Bishop Benhase, following a rigorous process detailed in both the Canons of the Episcopal Church and the Canons of the Diocese of Georgia. There is no other way. As previous articles in this series have described, a large portion of the work of the organizational structure within the Diocese of Georgia involves several committees who assist candidates for ordination in the years of their discernment and education processes, culminating in the formal approval of candidates for ordination by the Standing Committee, the Bishop's Council of Advice. After the Standing Committee's approval is received, only then may Bishop

Benhase proceed to ordain the candidate in a public worship service that includes this dramatic action as specified in the Book of Common Prayer, page 533:

*Here the Bishop lays hands upon the head of the ordinand....*

The Book of Common Prayer, page 524, also contains the following instruction for an ordination that insures that everyone present can participate in the service:

*From the beginning of the service until the Offertory, the bishop presides from a chair placed close to the people, and facing them, so that all may see and hear what is done.*

So although only a bishop of a diocese can ordain a person, the people of the individual churches may participate in that person's ordination, much as we do in all other aspects of the common life and work of the Diocese of Georgia.

**There is only  
one way  
for a lay person  
to be ordained  
as a deacon  
or a priest . . .  
by our  
diocesan bishop.**



## New Photo Albums on the Diocesan Website

Christ Church photographer Julius Ariail is working with Fr. Frank Logue to establish photo albums of Honey Creek, churches in the diocese, and other events. View the albums at: [http://georgia.anglican.org/?page\\_id=119](http://georgia.anglican.org/?page_id=119).

## 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).

**Kneelers Project** - Julia Ariail chairs this project to create 10 additional kneelers for our altar rail. (559-7329); [juliacariail@bellsouth.net](mailto:juliacariail@bellsouth.net).

**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. [stellaclarkcamino@gmail.com](mailto:stellaclarkcamino@gmail.com).

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





*continued from page 1*



assisting the Bishop in legal matters.

Ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons at Christ Church on November 7, 2009 by Bishop Henry Louttit, Jim became part of the clergy staff of Christ Church preaching, serving at the altar, and visiting the sick.



"I am really thankful beyond words for the manner in which Christ Church has loved and supported me in this process. I pray that I will do honor to all they have done for me," he said.

Jim intends to continue his law practice as well as serving at the church. Bishop Benhase has not given him an assignment as yet, but it is Jim's expectation that he will serve at Christ Church in addition to doing some supply work in other churches, substituting for priests on vacation perhaps once a month.



"Preaching is an important part of my ministry, but just one piece of the puzzle. I know that God is in charge," Jim said.

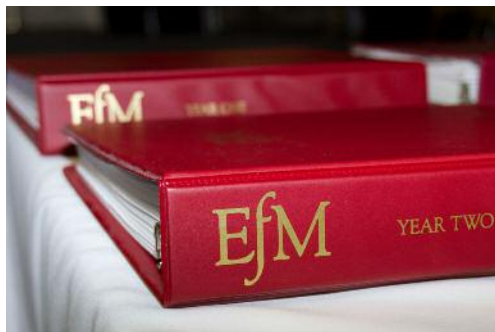
"This stepping stone will open doors for me to do ministry I haven't done before like the administration of sacraments and the liturgy. I am humbled, awed, and very excited about the gift God has given me."



The two photos above are of former Christ Church parishioner, Marcia McRae, who was ordained as Deacon, August 20.



## Sunday School Blast-off August 15



Since the academic school year begins in early August, the Sunday School year begins then too. This year's kick-off for the children featured a bounce house, a climbing wall and a giant slip-and-slide. Ice cream was the favorite treat. Inside the parish hall the adults learned about the three upcoming classes as well as EFM.

**Books of the Bible** - a survey class taught by Nancy Sartin in the 1st room of the parish hall.

**Spirituality in Action** - a social issues class taught by several people. Dr. Phyllis Holland will begin by teaching time management in the middle part of the parish hall.

**The Covenant of Marriage** - taught by Sandy and Elise Sandbach in the choir room.

All classes begin at 10:35 a.m.



## Christ Church Youth Events 2010-2011

### September

- 12th - Bishop's Visit - Youth Envelope Fundraiser
- 22nd - All ages - Haven Work Night, 7 - 8 p.m.
- 26th Acolyte class with Fr. Peter

### October

- Middle School/High School Retreat, Time, place, date to be announced
- 17th Food Drive Kick-off
- 20th Corn Maze visit

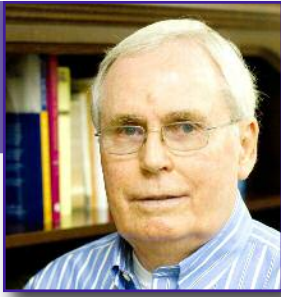
### November

- 3rd Messy Olympics, after service
- 14th Youth Sunday
- 17th Christ Church Creek Clean-up
- 19th New Beginnings, 7-9th graders
- 28th Advent Wreath making and first day of Las Posadas

*Complete year's schedule posted in the parish hall on the bulletin board.*

*The Vineyard, p. 9, September 2010*





# Christ Church Looks Back

by Joseph A. Tomberlin

As reported in the August *Vineyard*, Vicar Clifton H. White informed Vestry on February 1, 1953, that he had submitted his resignation to Bishop Middleton S. Barnwell on January 1. He intended to leave Christ Church on March 21, 1953. Immediately afterward, Senior Warden Jamie Carroll read aloud a letter from the Bishop that focused on replacing Fr. White. Barnwell suggested that Vestry be prepared to pay the new Vicar, whoever he was, a monthly salary of \$400. Thereupon, Vestry passed a motion for Mr. Carroll to warn the Bishop in writing that Christ Church's 1953 budget was already in effect and could not support a salary of more than \$200 a month "at the most" for the remainder of the year. The parish might be able to increase the amount to \$400 monthly in 1954, depending "very heavily on the ability of the replacement sent to this Church."

Bishop Barnwell attended the next regular Vestry meeting on Sunday, March 1, 1953, as did Fr. White. Barnwell opened the session and led a discussion "covering possible replacement for Mr. White." Mr. Carroll reported that vestrymen had seen all the candidates the Bishop had suggested, and vestrymen then made comments about each. One of the possibilities, the Rev. Vernon Quigley of Tallahassee, had written to Mr. Carroll removing himself from consideration, and the others obviously aroused little more than

feeble interest among vestrymen. Therefore, the group asked for specific instructions from the Bishop about how to proceed. Barnwell responded by urging vestrymen "not to be in great haste." He said "that he had us very much in mind, and would see that we were taken care of." The Bishop put forward a few names as potential temporary replacements to be used after Fr. White's departure on Saturday, March 21. He assured vestrymen that he would "see that we have a temporary man at any rate" and urged the members "not to worry." At that point, Barnwell left the meeting.

After the Bishop's withdrawal, the group dealt with some practical matters related to the Vicar's impending exit. Fr. White recommended a Vestry committee to "oversee the care of the rectory and grounds . . . pending the arrival of [the] new vicar." Robert G. Macks and Roy Newham agreed to accept that responsibility. Vestry also stipulated that the Parish Register was "to be in custody of [the] Senior Warden [Mr. Carroll] who will make any necessary . . . entries." The Vestry Clerk, Mr. Macks, in addition, received directions to write two candidates who had previously visited Christ Church to thank them for coming and to enclose in each letter a check for \$15.00 to cover expenses.

Having advised Christ Church's Vestry on Sunday, March 1, 1953, "not to be in great haste" to hire a new Vicar, Bishop Barnwell hastily located a promising contender in the

person of the Rev. Michael J. Kippenbrock of St. Thaddeus Episcopal Church in Aiken, South Carolina. He informed Vestry of his discovery by letter on Wednesday, March 4, 1953, and a committee of vestrymen visited St. Thaddeus Church on Sunday March 7, 1953. Vestry subsequently convened in a called meeting on Thursday, March 12, 1953, and heard the visiting committee's report, the essence of which was that the committee "was much impressed by Mr. Kippenbrock." On the basis of a Dawson-Tucker motion, which passed unanimously, Vestry agreed that Mr. Carroll should telephone Bishop Barnwell immediately with the request that he "proceed to call Mr. Kippenbrock, in line with his letter to us of March fourth." Mr. Carroll quickly made contact with Barnwell by telephone and afterward returned to the session to report that the Bishop had promised to "contact Mr. Kippenbrock tomorrow." He stated that Barnwell had pledged as well to "assume the extra for the new vicar's salary for the balance of this calendar year, but after that 'we are on our own.'" This meant that the Diocese would be responsible for \$200 of the \$400 monthly salary to be paid Fr. Kippenbrock from the date he began work, which turned out to be May 1, 1953, through December 31. Beginning January 1, 1954, Christ Church would have to pay the full amount without any help from Savannah.

More to come in the October *Vineyard* and in the following months, so stay tuned.



## Phyllis Hiers and Mimi Allen Teach St. Francis Nature Camp at Honey Creek



For the last 19 years Phyllis Hiers and Mimi Allen, both long-time members of Christ Church as well as educators in the Valdosta City School system, have taught the children of our diocese about nature at Honey Creek at a one-week camp in July. During the camp, the teens in grades 7 - 9 learned about the ecology of the marsh, identified birds native to the area, constructed marshes-in-a-tub which were attacked by oil spills and "Hurricane Mimi" with a fan, walked through the forest and swung on vines, played predator-prey games, discussed alternative energy sources, went on night walks to see the critters and talked about the stars.

Other events at the camp incorporated the nature theme. The chapel was decorated with sea shells, sand, and palmettos. The religion class focused on the theme of stewardship of our environment. The art class painted outside scenes of the marsh.

"It is a privilege to be outdoors at Honey Creek every summer, even in the heat," said Phyllis.



### Pilgrimage Presentation by Deacon Stella Clark

At the Sunday School hour between the 9:30 and 11:30 services on July 25 Deacon Stella Clark treated the parish to a homemade ginger cake dusted with confectioner's sugar in the shape of the cross of St. James. She also gave each person who attended a shell like the one that pointed the "Way of St. James" for her 500-mile pilgrimage across Spain in May and June. With photographs on a DVD show running behind her, Stella described the experience of the walk, the spiritual growth, the beautiful landscape, the sometimes cold, hot, rainy, windy, and then perfect weather, the people she met along the way.

Stella visited small churches and large cathedrals lighting candles for people who had asked her to pray for them. At the end of the journey Stella and her companions arrived in the square at the Cathedral of Compostela just as the church bells began to peal. At the service she was recognized as a pilgrim from Georgia. She received an official Certificate of Compostela shown above.



## Happening is more than a "weekend"

by Thomas Greneker



Thomas Greneker  
Happening is more than a "weekend"...it's an experience. The most recent one, Happening #85, was held July 30 - Aug. 1 and was lead by Elizabeth Hanson. The weekend was filled with a sense of renewed faith and commitment, inspired by music, activities and creative worship. I had the extreme pleasure of serving with Elizabeth as her observing rector, which meant I was in a position to stand back and watch as the Holy Spirit moved through the staff and 29 candidates as they worked, worshipped and built a community together. I will have the honor of serving as the rector for Happening #86 which will be held January 28 - 30, 2011, and anyone in grades 10 - 12 is encouraged to attend. Speak to anyone who has attended for more information or visit <http://www.georgiahappening.com/GeorgiaHappening.com/Home.html>.



Happeners from Christ Church included: Elizabeth Hanson, Rector; Thomas Greneker, Observing Rector; David Holland, Matthew Barnes, Holly Querin, Mitchell Beeland, Marylee Pendleton, Branford Hanson, Sparky Greneker, Lauren Sandbach, and Beth Baker. Below: Valdosta Happeners at closing.



### Join us for Regular Services

**Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion**

**11:30 a.m. Holy Communion\***

**8:00 p.m. Holy Communion beginning September 19**

**9:30 a.m. Holy Communion\***

**6:00 p.m. Vespers**

**10:45 a.m. Christian Education\***

**\*Nursery Available**

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

**Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.\***

**Thursday: 7:00 a.m.**

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

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