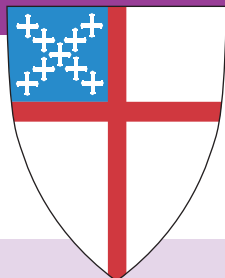


The Vineyard



Christ Episcopal Church - Valdosta, Georgia

March 2013



2013 Diocesan Convention in Tifton

Mark Your Calendar

March 6, 13, 20, 27 -
Lenten Bible study at
11 a.m. followed by
12 noon Eucharist

March 9

Vestry Retreat
9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

March 10 - 16th

Hosting Collegiate
Challenge Group

March 16th

DOK Meeting, 10:40 a.m.
in Kim's office

March 17

Agape Lunch - 12:30 p.m.

March 18

Vestry Meets - 5:30 p.m.

March 23

Church Work Day
Hot Dog Lunch

March 24

Palm Sunday - 8:00, 9:30,
11:30 a.m.

March 25

Seder - 7:00 p.m.

March 28

Maundy Thursday

March 29

Good Friday

March 31

Easter Sunday
8:00, 9:30, 11:30
Full Holy Week and
Easter Schedule
to be announced



A Challenge to Re-Imagine Our Church reprint of "From the Field" Feb. 12, 2013

"What must we look like to those outside the Church for them to recognize us as truly 'a dwelling-place for God?'" Bishop Benhase challenged the 192nd Convention to take a hard look at our church practices so that we move beyond simply trying to do what we have always done, to something better.

Bishop Benhase was clear in his sermon about what must remain the same, saying, "Of course, any dwelling has to have a basic structure or it cannot stand. So, what must we have to be a

dwelling-place for God? Our classic Anglican "must have" is this: the Scriptures, Creeds, Sacraments, and Holy Orders, the so-called four pillars of the faith. Everything else, I believe, needs to be *adiaphora* - not essential."

This look at how we might be transformed to live into the mission of God was woven throughout the convention. From the Rev. Bill Stewart's sermon at Evening Prayer on Thursday, through the opening presentation by Canon Logue, to the Bishop's address, and then the sermon for the Convention Eucharist, clergy and delegates were

continued on pages 6 and 7

The Vineyard Changing Format

The Vineyard, monthly newsletter of Christ Episcopal Church, is going online in a web log, or "blog" format. This will be the last edition formatted primarily for printing. Those parishioners who do not have computer access can request a paper printout of the blog by calling Parish Administrator Kim Dudley at 242-5115. Those needing a paper copy can pick them up in the church entrance on the first Sunday of the month. The copies will be printouts of the blog. The Ariails will continue to edit *The Vineyard*, but contributing writers and photographers can also post to the new blog. Keep reading!



The Vineyard On the Web

The Vineyard is posted to the Christ Church Web site in color at www.christchurchvaldosta.org. Look in the "Publications" area to see this newsletter.

The Vineyard Deadline

The newsletter deadline is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Send information to juliacaraiail@bellsouth.net.

Christ Episcopal Church

The Rt. Rev. Scott A. Benhase,
Bishop of Georgia
The Rev. Joye Cantrell, Interim Rector
The Rev. Tar Drazdowski, Assistant Rector
The Rev. Jim Elliott, Assisting Priest
The Rev. Deacon Stella Clark
The Rev. Deacon Patricia Marks
Kim Dudley, Parish Administrator
Stefani Carroll, Youth Director
Amy Creasy, Bookkeeper
Sue Ellen Rumstay, Organist
Kathy Armstrong, St. Gregory Choir Dir.
Maggie Roberts, St. Francis Choir Leader
Julia and Julius Ariail, Newsletter Editors

Vestry Members

Clinton Beeland - '13	Jeff Hanson - '14
Stefani Carroll - '13	Will Hanson - '15
Robin Coleman - '14	Phyllis Hiers - '14
Sparky Greneker - '13	Steve Roberts - '13
Frances Guice - '15	Sandy Sandbach - '14
Karen Gunter - '15	Jeani Synyard - '14
Nancy Lutsko - '15	Lucy Tomberlin - '13
Larry Wisenbaker - '15	

Telephone Numbers

Church Office	229-242-5115
The Rev. Cantrell	H-229-253-1003, C-803-873-1995
The Rev. Drazdowski	H-229-249-0895 C-229-630-1832
The Rev. Elliott	229-242-3333
The Rev. Dcn. Clark	229-559-6159
The Rev. Dcn. Marks	H-229-244-5159 C-229-630-8644
Kim Dudley	229-242-5115

Vestry Report from January 21, 2013

- Welcomed new vestry members and held swearing-in ceremony for all 2013 Vestry members.



Sandy Sandbach
2013 Senior Warden



Steve Roberts
2013 Junior Warden

- Elected officers for 2013: Sandy Sandbach, Senior Warden; Steve Roberts, Junior Warden; Lucy Tomberlin, Secretary; Carolyn Eager, Treasurer; Bonnie Hanson, Assistant Treasurer

- Approved taking *The Vineyard* online in a blog format.

- Approved starting an online weekly newsletter.

- Approved the membership of the search committee.

- Discussed proposed improvements to the insulation and air conditioning in the church and parish hall.

- Discussed the need for more social/food and mission activities.

- Considered vestry members rotating each Sunday to make sure tasks such as locking/unlocking doors and turning out lights are performed.

- Acknowledged receipt of a thank-you note for our donation to the Sister-to-Sister Summit.

Search Committee Update

Words of wisdom from the Center for Congregational Health:

Healthy search processes start with intense self-study that produces clarity and focus for the search. If you think this is a step you cannot afford to take the time to do well, please think again. You must come to terms with your past, your present, and your honest hopes for the future...Expectations that are fuzzy or filled with archaic language trip up many a process. Integrating your search with your congregation's vision and dream for its future is a must.

The Search Committee is meeting regularly and working to bring "clarity and focus" to the feedback from the listening sessions. We will be consulting further with groups in the parish as a whole as part of this effort. We thank you for your prayers.

Dr. Phyllis Holland, Search Committee Chair

Email: christchurchvaldostasearch@gmail.com

Prayer for the Search Committee

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

From the Interim Rector

Spring Fever



The Reverend Joye Cantrell

It may only be February, but it feels as though Christ Church has gotten a burst of spring fever. There are so many things going on around the church and so much happening.

If you have not walked through the Camellia Garden beside the rectory, please take time to look at the work in progress. There are new paths, an irrigation system, and a good pruning and cleaning that was done by the Camellia Society. There are plans to put in benches, and it will be a showplace.

Dave Clark and the Men in Blue are back in action. The Wednesday night fish fry was so popular that we literally ran out of chairs. Our prayers are with the Clark family as Dave goes for back surgery in Gainesville.

On Sundays, there will now be an assigned Vestry Member of the Day. This vestry member will be greeting and meeting, helping to count the offerings, unlocking and locking doors and available to talk to members of the parish. As your rector, I can say that the vestry is a very positive and enthusiastic group. They are taking time out from busy schedules to have a Saturday vestry retreat in March.

The same positive enthusiasm is evident in the Search Committee. The process of putting together a profile is one that should not be rushed. Let them meet with the parish and go through the transition in a timely but deliberate pace.

On March 23rd there is a parish work day scheduled. There are numerous things to be done; some as easy as planting some flowers. Please let the office know if you can join in the fun and the work and if you can stay for lunch.

My two classes that began this week will continue through Holy Week. I love teaching and have intentionally tried to make these classes for all levels of study. Please join me at 11 a.m. on Wednesdays to study the Book of Job and at 7 p.m. to talk about what it means to be an Episcopalian.

Personally, I can feel the spirit of the Lord moving at Christ Church. Change is hard but inevitable. Peter and Happy brought so much to the church that it was natural to have a period of grieving. They will always be loved, but now it is time to begin a new chapter of the life of this parish. I am blessed to be with you in this transition time.

Joye+

A Learning Experience



The Reverend Tar Drazdowski

In January, I was given the opportunity to take a class offered by the bishop in conflict management. It was one of the best learning experiences I have had since becoming a priest. It was not offered because there is a considerable amount of conflict in the churches in the Diocese of Georgia, but it was offered because conflict is such a large part of our everyday lives. It is better to know how we respond to conflict in advance rather than finding out how we will react in the middle of a crisis situation, and then failing miserably while trying to find a resolution.

What I learned in this course that was of great value is that it matters greatly how we approach the people with whom we are in conflict. If we approach a conflict situation with respect for all parties concerned and with listening hearts, then the outcomes have a tendency to be more amiable for all.

In trying to reach resolutions, if we are all working for the building of the Body of Christ and not striving to have our individual needs answered or met, then we resolve the situation in a manner that glorifies God.

Tar+

Senior Warden's Corner



In the last month, we assembled a search committee chaired by Dr. Phyllis Holland. They met and began the process of discernment to determine the identity of Christ Church and its future rector. Public forums were held. They

were well attended and provided good information for the committee. Your Vestry will meet in retreat in early March to plan the next year for Christ Church. A work day is planned. Please plan to come and help us spruce up the Church and grounds. Commencing February 24, a Vestry member will be present following each service to hear your concerns, questions or suggestions.

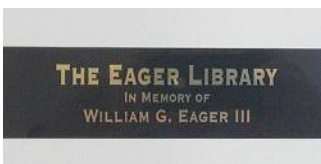
As we transition through this Holy Lent, I would ask your prayers for the Church, the Search Committee and the Vestry. Pray for guidance from God to direct us both individually and as a Church. Pray for direction to determine how we may better convey Christ's love to each other and to our community. Pray that each of your spiritual gifts may serve to further Christ's kingdom in Valdosta, Georgia.

God's peace, Sandy Sandbach

email - davidsandbach@gmail.com
cell phone - 229-630-5385



Have you seen the new furniture in the Eager Library in the Gabard building? There are two new chairs, a butch, a bench, a new rug and a very interesting painting above one of the chairs. There are verses from the Bible in the painting. Can you read them? The first person to turn in a full quote of the text wins a loaf of homemade bread.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper a Huge Success!

by Susan Elliott

Thank you to all of our hungry parishioners who joined us on Fat Tuesday to empty the pantry and prepare for Lent. We especially want to thank Tom Carroll and Sunset Farms for the 15 pounds of bacon they donated (of which we ate all!), Kim Dudley for getting all of our supplies, Elizabeth Wisenbaker for helping organize and cook, and our awesome youth - Katie Wisenbaker, Andrew Diamond, Andrew Greneker, John David Greneker, David Schert, Hudson Tanner and Carter Elliott for cooking and cleaning. This is truly a group effort which we enjoy doing for our Church family. We raised over \$200 to go towards Youth Scholarships for Diocesan events. Leftover pancakes were given to the Soup Kitchen. As always, we appreciate your support!

SENIOR HIGH NEWS

Our high schoolers continue to work hard and play hard with all of their responsibilities and activities finding respite with each other in Sunday School and Wednesday nights. In Sunday School they are focusing on the day's scriptures and exploring ways to answer God's call in their busy lives. On Wednesday nights they are continuing to add to their Spiritual Toolboxes, encouraging each other through the daily trials of teenage life and discovering along the way some of their strengths and weaknesses and how those can be used to build up God's Kingdom.

Those who have been to Happening (which is the majority) encourage all 7th - 9th graders to attend

NEW BEGINNINGS

March 1 - 3 at Honey Creek

Holly Querin, Lead Teen

That weekend is still very special to them, and they want to share the experience with the younger group!

March - 6 - Elliotts; 13 - Church
20 - Querins; 27 - Church
April - 3 - Church; High School Spring Break
10 - Elliotts; 17 - Querins 24 - Church
May - 1 - Elliotts; 8 - Church
15 - Querins; 22 - Church; High Schools Final Exams



Youth

by Stefani Carroll

Sunday School:

Reminder: On Easter Sunday, there will be no Sunday School, as we will be holding our annual EASTER EGG HUNT during the Sunday School Hour.

We need filled plastic eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. Please drop them off in the church office.

Please keep bringing your children to Sunday School! We have an awesome team of dedicated teachers ready and excited to share the Good News with your children!

March's Sunday School overview:

March 3 - Jesus tells the parable of the unfruitful fig tree (Focus: Holy Ground)

March 10 - Jesus tells the parable of the lost son and the forgiving father (Focus: Safety in God's Arms)

March 17 - Jesus' death and resurrection call us to compassion, forgiveness and new life (Focus: Freedom from Condemnation)

March 24 - Jesus triumphantly enters Jerusalem but is soon arrested and crucified (Focus: Holy Week Journey)

Youth Movie Night coming soon - April 19 (time TBA)

Honey Creek

Summer Camp information:

June 16 - 22, 2013 / High School Camp (completed grades 9-12, not yet started college)

June 23 - 29, 2013 / Camp St. Joseph & Mary I (completed grades 3-5)

July 7 - 13, 2013 / Camp St. Peter I (completed grades 6-8)

July 14 - 20, 2013 / Camp St. Joseph & Mary II (completed grades 3-5)

July 21 - 27, 2013 / Camp St. Peter II (completed grades 6-8)

Go to www.honeycreek.org and click on "Summer Camps" for more information. Scholarships are available.

Vacation Bible School dates have been tentatively set for June 2 - 5.

Photographs by Phyllis Hiers and Fr. Jim Elliott

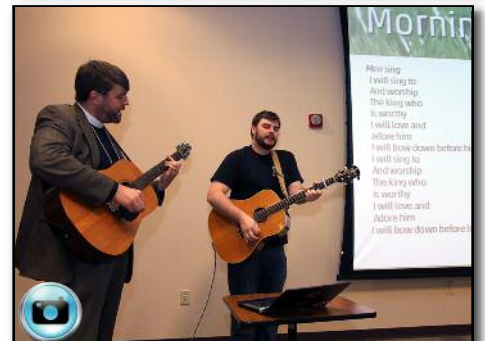
2013 Convention



challenged to re-imagine "the entire model of ministry where the clergy perform the faith on Sundays to audience members."

The full text of the Bishop's address and sermon are archived online at the diocesan convention website: http://convention.georgiaepiscopal.org/?page_id=586. The resolutions page contains those items of business that were voted in by the delegates: http://convention.georgiaepiscopal.org/?page_id=464.

The next convention will be held in November 2014, on Jekyll Island.



Christ Church Delegates at the 2013 *Diocesan Convention*



Frances Guice

Attending the 2013 Diocesan Convention as one of your delegates was such a positive experience. The Rev. Lonnie Lacy and the parishioners of St. Anne's Church, welcomed us with open arms. They fed us, entertained us, and were an example of Christ's love to us throughout the

convention. They graciously and beautifully opened their church doors to unforgettable worship over the three days. God's grace and presence were palpable.

An excellent review of all convention speeches and business is available on the Diocesan website. Here, I would like to share with you the ideas/convictions that I bring back to Christ Church Valdosta from the convention.

1. MISSION! Christ Church Valdosta needs to become more involved in our community through mission supported by the labor of all our members. Writing checks and individual ministries are important, but we need to pull together as a church, find a need, roll up our sleeves and go out into the community as Christ did when he walked the earth.

2. I received wise advice from the Rev. Lonnie Lacy. Before he became the rector at St. Anne's, the Rev. Hurst had been there for a very long time. The search committee spent THREE YEARS looking for a rector. Those three years were not easy, and they even lost parishioners; however, when they called Rev. Lacy, the church was ready. They have seen phenomenal growth not only in membership, but in mission work in their community. Maybe we don't need three years for our search process, but patience can bring huge blessings.

3. The Legacy Society is working to encourage all of us to remember our parishes and our diocese in many ways. One way is through our wills. When Merrill and I married, we made out our wills leaving a portion of our assets to the church and the rest to be divided by our children. We are a middle class family, so the church won't be receiving a huge amount. However, think of the possibilities if all of us remember our church in our wills! Each of our legacies added together can make a tremendous difference in the future work of the church. Please go to the Diocesan website and join the Legacy Society. They can guide you and answer questions.

4. Our diocese is in good hands. The Diocesan Office

is running in the black. Their goal is to serve the diocese, not for us to serve them. Praise God, Honey Creek is thriving!!! Our diocesan youth programs are strong. A new camp may be added due to the increase in campers. Cursillos in Christianity has been strengthened and will begin again.

5. At a time when there is much turmoil in the church over many difficult issues, I witnessed a convention room filled with laity and clergy who prayed together, laughed together, and even respectfully disagreed on few issues. The Holy Spirit was in that room.

6. The world has changed dramatically, and so must our churches change. As the Bishop asked of us, we need to look at what we truly need in our "backpacks" to be disciples of Christ. Our backpacks won't hold much and don't need much. A lot must be left behind and that is hard for me and for most people. But, if we want to carry out our Baptismal Covenant, we must shake off some of that which we hold dear in order to make our churches more hospitable to new Christians and in order to be better disciples in the community and in the world.

Frances Guice

Since this was my first Diocesan Convention and of course my first time to be a delegate, I had no idea what to expect. I was very pleasantly surprised. It was a wonderful experience. The weather may have been rainy outside, but it sure didn't dampen what went on inside. I attended the vestry workshop, and I recommend the information to everyone who sits on a vestry. The next day was our "long day" with various reports on activities, revisals and nominations to consider. The time went by before I knew it. I sat at a table with people I didn't know, but at the end of the day, they were new friends. We had an opportunity to talk among ourselves on challenges and achievements in our churches, and that was very interesting. They all knew Tar+ and the role our church plays in the Dominican Republic mission. The service that night at St. Anne's was something I'll never forget. The next day the young adults spoke about how youth programs have affected their lives. It was an eye opener to hear what an impact the programs have made. We can



Nancy Lutsko

continued on page 9

SPECIAL DAYS

MARCH

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 2 Charles Adams | 17 Sara Canup |
| Joan Bailey | Carter Coleman |
| 4 Helen McClure | 18 Walton Carter |
| 5 Marilyn Kemper | Olivia Nunn |
| Harrison Tillman, Jr. | Pat Tudor |
| 6 Mitchell Beeland | 19 Duke Guthrie |
| 9 Hanae Kanno | Richard Saeger |
| Phoebe Singleton | 20 Anne Reid |
| 10 Malcolm Weston | 21 Regan Adams |
| 11 Kelly Lambert | Steven Taylor |
| 12 Jane Teasley | 23 Sarah Bartholomew |
| 14 Merrill Guice | 25 Blake Yarbrough |
| Dennis Savoie | 27 Ken Rumstay |
| 15 Julia Ariail | 29 Jacob Diamond |
| Kitty Bauer | Bill Roberts |
| Jeani Synyard | 30 Bill Tucker |
| 16 Gloria Boyette | 31 Janet Dickman |
| Kathy Failor | Edith Shepherd |
| Julie Jackson | Amber Tanner |



BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 5 Marilyn Kemper | 26 Cindy Waters |
| 14 Mackenzie Clark | 27 Dylan Phillips |
| Larry Wisenbaker | Ethan Warrick |
| 20 Margaret Weston | 28 Mike Holland |
| 21 Helen McClure | 30 Dave Armstrong |
| 23 Willa Valencia | Robbie Beeland |
| 25 Stephanie Tillman | 31 Emma Claire Campbell |
| 26 Aldine Carter | Natalie Gjertsen |

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Terry & Kathleen Parsons | 18 Searcy & Helen McClure |
| 8 Duane & Jennifer Carter | 23 Allan & Joan Dear |
| 17 John & Helen Bennett | Stephen & Georgianna Manning |
| Bob & Sue Ann Johnston | Mike & Julie Savoie |

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

Find Out What's Happening at Christ Church

Website:
www.christchurchvaldosta.org
The Vineyard, monthly newsletter:
christchurchvaldosta.wordpress.com
Online Photos Albums:
picasaweb.google.com/christchurchvaldosta.org
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/ChristEpiscopalChurchValdostaGA
Twitter:
twitter.com/christchurchga
Sign-up for church email! The form is on every page of the church website.

New Pew Cards

Have you noticed the new pew cards? If you sit beside a visitor, please offer this little communication tool for them to take with them. On it is information to get them connected to our online information - the web address, how to sign up for the weekly email newsletter, the clergy information and much more.

Lenten Programs

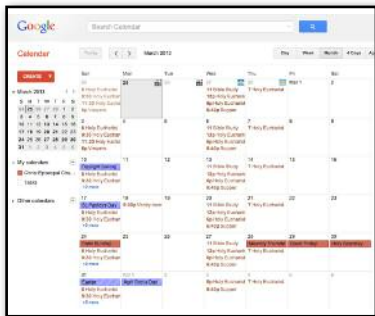
Wednesdays through Holy Week

11 a.m. - The Book of Job - Parish Hall

12 noon - Holy Eucharist - Church

7 p.m. - (after supper) What it means to be an Episcopalian.
in the church transept

Online discussion of Romans 12 on a Facebook group. Join by going to this address: www.facebook.com/groups/ChristChurchRomans12. Then click join.



Online Calendar

We are working to implement an online calendar for our church. It is available on the front page of our website: www.christchurchvaldosta.org.

It may not have all church events listed now, but it will soon. Please email Kim at office@christchurchvaldosta.org to place a church-related event on the calendar.

The Vineyard, p. 8, March 2013

Men's Prayer Breakfast

The men's prayer breakfast and special speaker has been set up for Sunday, April 14th in the high school room of the education building. Breakfast will be provided [gratis] and served from 8:30 a.m. to 8:55 a.m. The speaker is Nick Gast, assistant basketball coach at VSU, who will speak from 9 - 9:25 a.m. His subject is the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and its rule of life for young men. There is a sign-up form in the parish hall but come either way. Starbucks coffee will be served with homemade egg/sausage casserole.

Contact person Allan Dear; 229-630-5682 cell

Convention Delegates

continued from page 7 - Nancy Lutsko

certainly be proud of our young adults. They are so positive and have so much energy for God I learned so much during the 3-day sessions, but the one thing that really impressed me was what Bishop Benhase said. It has always been that the different churches and vestries supported the Diocese. He wants to turn that upside down and feels the Diocese is there to support the churches and their clergy and vestries. I think we are entering into a new and exciting era.

Nancy Lutsko

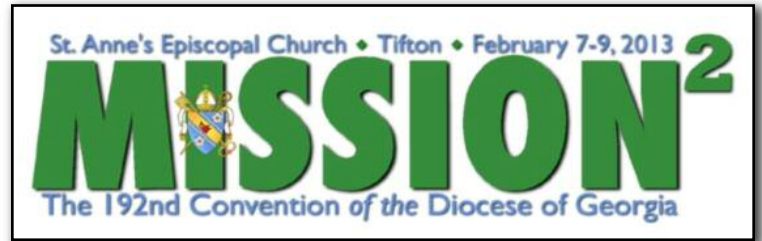


Phyllis Hiers

What's it like to put 300+ Episcopalians in a room? If you've helped with the diocesan conventions Valdosta has hosted, you know it's not just a series of boring reports or an occasional controversy. Joyful Episcopalians young and older from

congregations big and small gather to worship, sing and learn what is happening in other parts of the diocese. And, oh, yes, eat and party!

Diocesan Convention 2013 was no different in that sense. But times are changing. There was a workshop on using social media to communicate with members and to reach out to invite the unchurched to join us in worship and learning. And our host church, St. Anne's in Tifton, made this the greenest convention yet. Everything --- office paper, cans, bottles, cups, lunch containers, napkins, plastic wear, and food scraps (the last 5 items were compostable)---was recycled in cooperation with Tifton-Tift County Recycling Division. Even empty chip bags were sent off to a company that recycles and pays the church for each item. Well almost everything: a basket of food waste were the only items sent to the landfill from a lunch for 300 Episcopalians.



See the photo at: <<http://bit.ly/YijSvU>>.

Certainly, there were reports. But more and more these reports include videos that show progress visually such as what Honey Creek (now operating in the black) is doing to renovate the facilities and bring up occupancy and use, or how other churches reach out to those in need in their communities.

And a sense of humor is alive and well in the diocese — from creative reporting by Honey Creek director Dade Brantley, comments by Bishop Benhase to fun videos by “Cecil B. DeLogue” (our canon to the ordinary) and Jay Lacy. See this acolyte video:

(<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AWnJM07PIRY>)

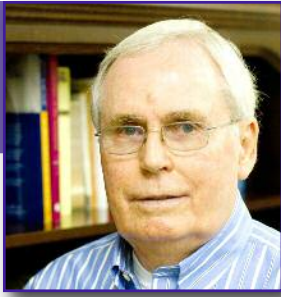
And business: with the leadership of Bishop Benhase and the diocesan staff, each congregation is asked to support the work of the diocese with a tithe of their income. Ten percent of our congregational budget is half what Christ Church, Valdosta, has been asked to give in many previous years. The bishop's desire is for local congregations to increase their own outreach programs and to have a signature outreach program by which we are known and valued in our communities while the diocese works to do more with less.

A motion passed in convention will ask the national church to tighten its spending and follow the tithe standard.

The convention ended with a Legacy Society video (<http://georgia.anglican.org/?s=legacy>) showing a way Christians can use their funds to ensure the ongoing work of the church.

Phyllis Hiers





Christ Church Looks Back

by Joseph A. Tomberlin

Beginning in 1945 the people of Christ Church made a series of significant decisions about the Sunday School program. On October 9, 1945, Vestry discussed the lack of Sunday School rooms and heard suggestions for such solutions as using tents or constructing "cinder- block classrooms." From this debate over Sunday School space emerged the Vestry recommendation to "investigate a new site for the Church itself. . . ." The outcome was the purchase in 1946 of the lot on North Patterson Street where Christ Church presently stands. This led also to the sale of the old church on East Central Avenue and its deconsecration in 1947.

In 1953, Vestry decided to borrow \$7,000.00 from the American Church Building Fund Commission [ACBFC] to erect Sunday School rooms where the kitchen now is located at the rear of the Parish Hall. ACBFC reacted favorably to Christ Church's inquiries, so Vestry chose "to proceed at once with our plans for the Sunday School addition." Valdosta architect Joe Bright developed drawings for a 1,504 square foot Parish Hall annex containing six classrooms and a heater room. Vestry actually borrowed \$9,000.00 from ACBFC, and E.W. "Bill" Tullis, a Valdosta contractor, built the annex for which Christ Church paid \$9,168.37 in June 1954. The addition, named Barnwell Hall in honor of Bishop Middleton S. Barnwell, was used until major renovations in 1980-1981 turned it into the "new kitchen" that continues in use.

The Vineyard, p. 10, March 2013

The foregoing narrative is a preface to the revival in 1958 of concern about Sunday School space. In Vestry on April 7, 1958, Roy Newham reported that "we . . . [have] 8 rooms for Sunday School and . . . [have] 11 classes. Mrs. [Emma] Wainer had her class in a station wagon recently. Our facilities are very inadequate." Blake Ellis suggested that "our best solution to this is to acquire the house in [the] rear," meaning the house at 103 East College Street owned by Mac Odom. The Minutes note that Fr. Kippenbrock and vestrymen Jamie Carroll, Marion Tucker, and Glen Robinson would approach Mr. Odom about selling his house to Christ Church. Mr. Ellis also stated that the best alternative to acquiring 103 East College was to construct an "L' shaped addition to the rear of the church. His "third choice" was an "addition in front of the Parish House even with the nave of the church which would yield 2 small and 1 large room." Also mentioned was the possibility of purchasing a vacant lot near the church, exact location unspecified.

The immediate sequel was a Tot Amon motion, seconded by Louis Kafoure, in the Vestry on May 12, 1958: "MOVED that permission of the Bishop of Georgia and the Standing Committee of the Diocese be sought for this Vestry to incur an indebtedness not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) for the purpose of providing space for our growing Sunday School." Approved unanimously by Vestry, this request went to the Bishop and the Standing Committee in a letter signed by

George S. Twigg, Secretary of the Vestry.

The first response came via a letter of May 27, 1958, from Bishop Albert Rhett Stuart, successor to Middleton S. Barnwell. Bishop Stuart wrote to Fr. Kippenbrock, that because Christ Church was "meeting . . . [its] indebtedness to the American Church Building Fund Commission regularly and on time and . . . [is] within reach of liquidation of this indebtedness, I hereby consent to the Vestry of Christ Church incurring . . . [an] additional indebtedness for this expansion not to exceed \$15,000.00." On May 28, 1958, a letter from Fr. F. Bland Tucker, President of the Standing Committee, followed. Fr. Tucker informed the Rector that the Standing Committee, in a meeting on May 14, 1958, at Christ Church Frederica, had approved Christ Church Valdosta's request to borrow no more than \$15,000.00 "for the purpose of providing space for the church school."

Vestry sought a range of possibilities for creating or buying additional space for the Sunday School program. In a called Vestry meeting on September 29, 1958, Jamie Carroll reported that he and Marion Tucker had met with Valdosta's zoning "committee to discuss the proposed building for Sunday School rooms." Both said that they doubted "we could get permission to erect a two story building which would have to be a minimum of 25 feet from the [property] line." But Mr. Carroll and Mr. Tucker believed there was "a reasonable chance that we may get a permit to erect a one story building 8 feet from the [property] line."

More in the April *Vineyard*.

Transfiguration

A Meditation

by Deacon Patricia Marks



Deacon Patricia Marks

In my study window, I have a transparent memento, a cross made of glass. When the morning sun shines through it, colors dance across my desk, making a festival out of an ordinary day. The cross transfigures everything in shines on. It casts jewels on my computer keyboard; it turns the stacks of books and all the flotsam and jetsam of an undisciplined desk into a rainbow of order, a promise of letters answered, lists checked off, and projects completed.

The cross you see through
is what it is
no more, no less
transparent
without guile.

Its purpose is to be.
And in that honesty,
that self-full-ness,
it gathers up light,
focuses it,
and shines with a piercing fire.

It is a transparent place
like the hill on Iona
where Colum Cille,
where St. Columba, the Dove of the Church
alit
and drew heaven to earth.
It illumines the dust
and casts its glowing colors
into the sky,
into our lives,
into our hearts.

So suppose, just suppose,
in this Holy Lent
in this season of fasting from our faults
of thought, word, and deed –
suppose, just suppose,
we became true to the mind of Christ.

Suppose we gave up asking
Who are we
to face the Pontius Pilates of this world?
And why should we?

Who are we
to feed the hungry,
take in the stranger,
clothe the poor?

Suppose we carried our cross and walked the Way,
becoming the selves we were meant to be –
transfigured by transparency
our infirmities healed,
our life redeemed
by God's grace
ablaze in our hearts
burning away
our cares our griefs
and all things done and left undone.

We might *become* the cross
our purpose
to carry God's presence
and simply be,
be what we are –
no more, no less
transparent
without guile.
+

New Wi-Fi Network in the Gabard Building



Wi-fi service is now available in the Gabard building. This service uses the same network, CECPRIVATE, that previously has only been available in the church's office area. The password for this expanded network is the same as the password for the existing office network. If you don't have that password, check with Kim in the church office. Questions? Contact Julius Ariail at jariail@bellsouth.net



Grace Notes

As we continue in the penitential season of Lent, I am reminded that it is only through a broken and contrite heart that we make a living sacrifice to God. Through our brokenness, we approach God with emptiness that allows God to move into the depths of our being. As our Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer, God awaits our turning back toward the grace which will restore us into relationship with Him. Our penitential Lenten practices should help us to remember that Jesus is the perfect sacrifice for our sin and for the sin of the whole world.

Thanks be to God.

Tar+

Companion Diocese DDG Meeting & Trip Planning in the DR

The Rev. Tar Drazdowski, along with her husband, Jim, and Julia and Julius Ariail, were in the Dominican Republic from February 10-16, 2013, to attend a meeting of the board of the Dominican Development Group and to spend a few days exploring work options for the Christ Church mission team June 15-22, 2013, in El Pedregal.

Information about previous trips and the upcoming mission opportunity is online at: http://www.christchurchvaldosta.org/?page_id=729.



Above, Tar+ greets the children at the Episcopal School in El Pedregal on Valentine's day. Most of the children wore red shirts on this occasion.

Below, Tar+ administers ashes to the school children in the Episcopal Church on the grounds of the camp and conference center in El Pedregal.



Join us for Regular Services

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. Holy Communion

11:30 a.m. Holy Communion*

9:30 a.m. Holy Communion*

6:00 p.m. Vespers

***Nursery Available**

10:45 a.m. Christian Education*

Wednesday: 6:00 p.m.*

Thursday: 7:00 a.m.

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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 8
Valdosta, GA

Return Service Requested