



The Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee

Welcome Home!

Connections: *home... parish... diocese*

A Year of Living “Faithful & Focused” The Diocesan Annual Fund



All Saints' Church Smyrna



St. Augustine's Chapel Nashville



Members of the STEM churches

Vol. 5, No. 11 November/December 2011

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From the Field... page 8 • Around the Diocese... back cover



The Episcopal Church

In the Anglican Communion
A global communion of
77 million Anglicans in
25 member provinces

Archbishop of Canterbury

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon.
Rowan Williams
Anglican Consultative Council
Partnership House
157 Waterloo Road
London, England

Episcopal Seat:
Canterbury Cathedral

In the United States
A communion of 2.5 million
members in 112 dioceses
in the Americas and abroad
Established 1789

Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev.
Katharine Jefferts Schori
Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Avenue
New York NY 10017
800-334-7626

Episcopal Seat:
Washington National Cathedral
Mount St. Albans
Washington DC 20016

In the Diocese of Tennessee
A communion of 16,000
Episcopalians in
47 congregations
in Middle Tennessee
Established 1828

Bishop

The Rt. Rev. John C. Bauerschmidt
Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee
50 Vantage Way, Suite 107
Nashville TN 37228
615-251-3322

Episcopal Seat:
Christ Church Cathedral

The Mission of the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee
is to encourage and equip one another
as baptized people of God, to witness
to the transforming and reconciling power of Jesus Christ.

Welcome to the November/December 2011 issue of *Connections: home... parish... diocese*. We will accept submissions for *Connections* from throughout the diocese. **As space permits**, we will use as much content as possible, subject to editorial revision. Short announcements of 100 words or less may be sent via email to connections@episcopaldiocese-tn.org. For feature-length stories, contact us in the diocesan office at 615-251-3322.

Digital photos can be submitted as above and must include activity, date and identities of everyone in the photo.

Submissions are accepted until 12:00 Noon on the 15th of the month prior to the upcoming issue and will be given consideration on a first come/first served basis.



Safeguarding God's People*

Protecting children from sexual abuse.

Preventing adult sexual misconduct.

A diocesan workshop for vestries, nursery workers,
Sunday school teachers, volunteer youth leaders and
employees, part-time and full-time,
anywhere in the diocese.*



November 5 St. Paul's Church Murfreesboro 9:00 AM-12:30 PM
November 17 Christ Church Cathedral Nashville 6:00 PM-9:30 PM

**Please call the diocesan office at 615-251-3322 to sign up.
*Newly elected vestry members should attend.**

Safeguarding God's People is a curriculum provided by the Church Pension Group.

Receiving *Connections* - three ways, your choice.

Online Edition: *Connections* is posted on the diocesan website for viewing, reading or printing! Visit www.episcopaldiocese-tn.org for the Online Edition of *Connections*. Past issues are archived.

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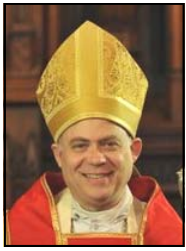
Connections: home... parish... diocese

Published by the Diocese of Tennessee.

Publisher: The Rt. Rev. John C. Bauerschmidt

Editor: Cathy Hendrix

Apostolic Succession



It's the fashion in modern ecumenical parlance to talk about the "historic episcopate" rather than "apostolic succession" when discussing the church's understanding of the vital connection between its present ministry and the ministry initiated by Jesus Christ.

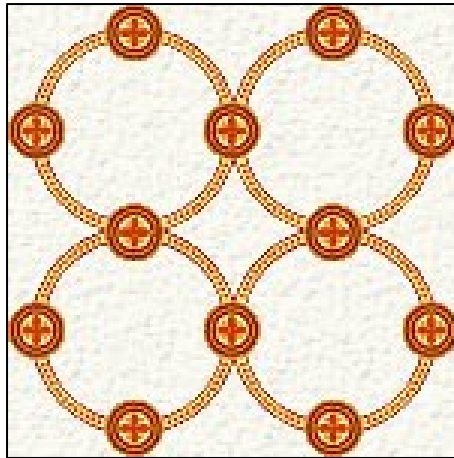
But to me the phrase "historic episcopate" has a rather fusty old smell to it, something carefully preserved under glass and only brought out on special occasions for an airing, while "apostolic succession" immediately conjures up something dynamic and growing, as fresh and as new as the ministry of the Twelve.

There's a "following on" quality to "apostolic succession," which points not just to the past but to the future. We use the newer phrase to get beyond some old controversies, so the change is well-meant; still, we ought not to lose sight of the dynamic quality of apostolic ministry and the way in which the old is present within the new.

Apostolic ministry is also personal.

This has been brought home to me in the last few days as our diocese has remembered and prayed for the soul of our Tenth Bishop, Bertram Herlong.

Apostolic ministry has a "hands on" quality: literally so, in the "laying-on-of-hands" that is such a big part of an ordination. It's built upon personal contact and relationship, and hearing the name read brought all that back.



Again, the model is Our Lord Jesus Christ, who gathered the Twelve around him, for fellowship and to share his ministry. Through the mystery of Divine Personality, human personality is shaped. God uses human personality to share the Good News, using the whole of who we are (inadequate as that is, except through grace) to move forward the mission. May God continue to do so.

Finally, apostolic ministry is not a gift given to one person, or even to a special group. It is a gift that is held within the context of community. Apostolic ministry is what we are called to in the Diocese of Tennessee, and it is what we are called to together. We are connected not only to the past and to the future, but also to each other.

Apostolic ministry is a gift that is shared. Jesus continues to touch us through the ministry that he has given to the Church, calling us into relationship with him through the relationships we share. We're in this together. I call upon your support. In apostolic succession we will follow on in the steps of Christ, journeying forward together in the mission to which we have been called. —
Bishop John

All Women Are Daughters

*Providing women of all ages
an opportunity to develop and nurture
intergenerational ties within the
Diocese of Tennessee*

November 11-13
Dubose Conference Center
Monteagle

*The Rev. Cynthia Seifert,
Keynote Speaker*

Details and Registration:
<http://www.duboseconf.org/awad>

Bishop Bertram Herlong Dies Following Illness

On October 21, 2011, the Right Reverend Bertram N. Herlong, Tenth Bishop of the Diocese of Tennessee, died after battling leukemia. His wife Vickie and daughter Angela were by his side.

Bishop Bauerschmidt sent out an announcement to the clergy in the diocese and asked for prayers for Bishop

Herlong and his family. The news spread to Florida, New York and Michigan, where Bishop Herlong also served.

The funeral service was held at St. George's Church Nashville on October 25.

A special issue of *Connections* dedicated to the life and service of Bishop Herlong is being prepared. If you would like to submit a short tribute, please email cathy@episcopaldiocese-tn.org.

A Year Of Living “Faithful & Focused”

Last year, Bishop Bauerschmidt announced that the Diocese of Tennessee was creating an Annual Fund to support the ongoing work of the Church in Middle Tennessee and beyond. In a tough economic climate, financial resources are pulled in many different directions. The Diocese remains dedicated to strengthening diocesan and congregational life, to continuing development and expansion of outreach ministries and new Christian communities, and in the past year, through your contributions to the Faithful & Focused Annual Fund, the work of the diocese has continued.

Bishop Bauerschmidt says “I am grateful for the positive and generous response of our parishioners to last year’s Faithful & Focused Annual Fund. I give thanks to God for working through us to advance the mission and ministry of the Church.”

The people of the Diocese of Tennessee are generous in spirit. When they see a need, they look to fill it. It is a challenge to support all the ministries that our people feel called to. The Annual Fund to which so many of you have contributed, supports the ongoing mission and ministry of the Church, remaining *faithful and focused*.

“Now is the time to step forward as we begin a second year of our Annual Fund,” continues the bishop. “I know that God will continue to bless our ‘work of faith, and labor of love, and steadfastness of hope.’”

The Diocese of Tennessee has long supported ministries, agencies and congregations of many kinds within its borders. Three of these, highlighted here as examples of the life-changing work being done throughout our region, are All Saints’ Church Smyrna

and their outreach to the Karen refugees, the chaplaincy of St. Augustine’s Chapel on Vanderbilt Campus and the work of STEM – Southeastern Tennessee Episcopal Ministry.

STEM - Southeastern Tennessee Episcopal Ministries

This collective of mountain churches was founded on October 21, 2000 and later named STEM. The regional ministry was received by the Diocese of Tennessee in January 2003 and was assigned its first missionary in May of that year.

Four churches - Christ Church Alto, Church of the Epiphany Sherwood, Church of the Holy Comforter Monteagle and Trinity Church Winchester - make up STEM.



The Rev. William Barton is the current vicar of STEM and has helped the churches learn to support each other while remaining autonomous.

In August, a joint STEM Eucharist was held at DuBose - the only time that all churches of STEM have come together for such an occasion.

Each church offers Sunday School and Adult Christian Formation. Each church has the presence of a field seminarian. Each church has an organist. But members from all four



churches are joining together to form a STEM chapter of Daughters of the King. All four churches will participate in music for Advent. All four churches will combine efforts in a STEM children’s program for Christmas.



While demographics at each church are different, the renewed enthusiasm is similar in all the congregations. People are joining the Altar Guilds; they are attending weeknight bible studies.

A ministry team of the Rev. Chris Bryan, the Rev. Jerrilee Lewallen and the Rev. Ellis Mayfield has been assembled. Fr. Bill serves at two of the churches each Sunday. Once a month, the team meets to work out a schedule of service.



Fr. Bill is encouraging each church to explore their vision for the future - who and what they want to be - and make it happen for themselves. He is also asking them to see that, as the diocese is reaching out to them, they can reach back and become part of the larger body. With the annual convention being held in nearby Sewanee, not only the delegates and alternates but guests and volunteers as well are urged to participate.

With the support of the Diocese of Tennessee and the leadership of Fr. Bill, STEM is on course to move forward while respecting tradition.

St. Augustine's Chapel Nashville

"While the needs of students haven't changed dramatically over the years, the way we organize to meet those needs, and the ways we minister to their needs have changed dramatically," says the Rev. Becca Stevens, chaplain of St. Augustine's Chapel, located at Vanderbilt University.

Established in 1946, growth of an Episcopal student presence through 1958 led to construction of the A-frame building which continues to serve today as a worship space and more. The space hosts meetings, celebrations and services, welcoming seven different religious groups who gather there weekly.

The Wesley / Canterbury Fellowship, the combined Methodist and Episcopal student ministry, hosts "Devo & Dinner" each week for devotion, fellowship and a home-cooked meal. "Faith and Literature" meets on Mondays to discuss written works relating to spiritual issues. Every spring, WCF students join other volunteers to provide service to people in need in the US and other countries.



The Wesley/Canterbury Fellowship will participate in the 2011 Vanderbilt University Alternative Gift Fair on Thursday, December 1 at St. Augustine's. The available gifts will benefit the Room In The Inn ministry: sack lunches, bath towels and toiletry kits. Other campus groups will be supporting St. Jude's, Ronald McDonald House and more.

The Presbyterian Student Fellowship meets in the A-frame on Tuesday evenings and in the past year, groups from



Wartburg College Iowa, Trinity Church in Menlo Park CA and the Urban Mission youth group from Christ Church Cathedral Nashville have visited.

The Rev. Lissa Smith has recently joined the staff as assisting priest and though the Sunday services have outgrown the A-frame and are now held in Benton Chapel, the dedication to fostering a strong Episcopal student community on campus remains.

"We offer students a chance to challenge faith beliefs, practice their ideals, and find their gifts for leadership," continues Becca. "At St. Augustine's, students are invited into a multigenerational community and find their place as full participants within that context."

All Saints' Church Smyrna

The story has been told often over the last few years: the struggling congregation, the building in disrepair, the priest feeling helpless, the strangers from another country looking for a church home.

It is a story worth telling but these days, it's a bit different: a thriving membership, a priest full of energy, a building receiving some much needed sprucing up and a community of Karen refugees refugees no more - they are home.

In the last year, under leadership of the Rev. Randy Hoover-Dempsey, great strides have been made in integrating American and Karen members.



With two morning prayer services, a Wednesday night Eucharist and a full slate of worship on Sundays, these folks spend a lot of time together. Baptisms are on the rise.



The farm continues to be a source of food and profit for the Karen and the community. In May, Siloam Family Health Center provided medical screenings for the members of the church.

Mission groups from Texas and New York have visited, helping to create a safe play area for the church's children. There was a summer program offered for the youth of the church and a Youth Choir has been formed.

Earlier this year, a much needed repair to the physical plant was finished: the floor in the sanctuary.

The Tennessean recently featured the church in an article. As anyone can see, All Saints' story continues... and it's a good one.

Bishop Bauerschmidt adds, "The exciting thing about these three stories is that they are only a few among many that are made possible through our work together as a diocese. We are moving ahead with the work before us."

By remaining *faithful and focused* we will continue to offer support throughout the Diocese. Now is the time to contribute to the Annual Fund for 2012. Contact the diocesan office at 615-251-3322 to find out how. **If you have not contributed yet for 2011 it is not too late.**

If you have made your contribution to the Diocesan Annual Fund for 2011, your generosity is greatly appreciated. With your support, our work goes on in 2012.

Clergy News -

The **Rev. Jason Ingalls** is currently working as a Development Associate at Ridley Hall, University of Cambridge, under the **Rev. Richard Kew** and will be serving a church once Permission to Officiate is granted. The **Rev. Dr. Benjamin King** and his wife Leyla, recently welcomed Wilfred (Fred) Antony John King to their family. Dr. King is the Assistant Professor of Church History and Director of the Advanced Degrees Program School of Theology University

of the South. The **Rev. Will Holt** has served as a regular supply priest in the Diocese of West Tennessee at Grace Church Paris from March through August and again in October. The church has now called a rector, the **Rev. Matt Greathouse**, formerly of St. Paul's Church Murfreesboro. The **Rev. William Dennler** will be installed as rector of Holy Trinity Church Nashville on December 17. The **Rev. William Hethcock** was recently hospitalized in Winchester for acute pain before being moved to Emerald Hodgson in Sewanee for extended stay and pain management.

Parish News -

Recent confirmations: Kaleb Murch, Kyle Motts, Stormy Baker, Morgan Hoover, Andrew Hoover, Kaitlyn Stout, Harold Stout Jr., Susanna Owens, **Church of the Messiah Pulaski**; Cynthia Lee, Douglas Murphy, Don Welch, Chad Young, Ben Whitehouse, Scott Revey, Lisa Preston, Andrew Suttter, David Berry, Emily Berry, Richard Harrison, Katherine Raulston, Curtis Bishop, Scott Owings, Luisa Lopez, Alice Bishop, Halle Froeb, Caney Hummon, Natalie Longo, Meredith Martineau, Hunter Renken, Mary Sawyer, Inge McWilliams, **St. Augustine's Chapel Nashville**; Jennifer O'Brien, Jonathan Scott, **St. Agnes' Church Cowan**; Susan Hammontree, **St. Mark's Church Antioch**.

Recent receptions: Mary Beth Stamps, Chris Roberts, Wendy Roberts, **St. Augustine's Chapel Nashville**; Stephanie Abbott, Judy Pelters, Paul Pelters, Andrea Young, **St. Mark's Church Antioch**.

Recent reaffirmations: Blair Bodine, **St. Augustine's Chapel Nashville**; Kevin McLemore, **St. Mark's Church Antioch**.

Recent baptisms: Amerina Shee Ko, Joshuaglory Win, Esther Lay Moo, Amanda Too, **All Saints' Church Nashville**; Annabelle Ditinno, **St. Mark's Church Antioch**; Allison Grace, **Church of the Advent Nashville**.

Many parishes in the Diocese of Tennessee are preparing for their annual meetings during which they will elect Vestry

Members. Those elected must attend a Safeguarding God's Children workshop (see inside front cover) if they have not done so in this diocese. On Sunday afternoon, 4:00 PM, November 6, the **Christ Church Cathedral Nashville** choir will lead an All Saints' Evensong to be followed by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome. **St. Philip's Church Nashville** hosted a reception for Bonnie McCrickard to show their encouragement as she enters the seminary. The vestry of **St. Mary Magdalene Church Fayetteville** has begun ushering on Sundays to help demonstrate hospitality to visitors and those in need of assistance. **St. George's Church Nashville** will hold their annual Advent Fair on Sunday, November 20 and are looking for volunteers. Sign up at children@stgeorgesnashville.org. "St. B.'s Family Christmas" will be held on December 18 at **St. Bartholomew's Church Nashville**. If holiday music is what you want to hear, this is the event for you. **Church of the Good Shepherd Brentwood** is offering their members the opportunity to order poinsettias which will be delivered the week after Thanksgiving. Email Bobbie Noreen at noreenb@realtracs.com for details. It's almost time for the Best Ever Holiday Bazaar at **St. David's Church Nashville**. On Saturday, November 19, stop by the church for Columbian crafts, jams, jellies and breads, and handmade items, just in time for Christmas gift giving. **Church of the Advent Nashville** is going digital with their newsletter, *The Announcer*. To be added to the distribution list, email adventoffice@comcast.net. **St. Paul's Church Franklin** will hold their annual English Tea on December 10. They have two seatings this year, 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM. Tickets are on sale now; call 615-790-0527 for details.

Youth News -

Steven Lefebvre, the youth minister at St. Paul's Church Murfreesboro, has put the call out for **Youth Ministry** volunteers. Parents or others interested in helping this ministry should call the church office at 615-893-3780. The **EYC** of St. Michael's Church Cookeville recently met at the House of Thai for a dinner at which attendees were asked to bring dog or cat food for AARF-TN, a pet rescue that is operated out of volunteers' homes in the Cookeville area. Visit www.aarf-tn.org for more info. **Fire On The Mountain** has had an active October, hosting groups from Christ Church Cathedral Nashville and

St. Paul's Church Murfreesboro, going on their F.O.T.M. Camp Out and throwing the annual Halloween Party for Blue Monarch. Now they have their sights set on hosting the youth of the diocese at the Annual Convention in January. St. Philip's Church Nashville held a U2charist in October which, by all accounts, was a moving service highlighted by pictures and the music of U2. Middle School **Youth** of St. George's Church Nashville will have their "Taco Bowl" on November 13 - first Taco Bell, then Strike and Spare. The **Youth** of St. Ann's Church Nashville joined the youth of Tulip Street United Methodist, Inglewood United Methodist and Dalewood United Methodist Churches for several recent activities and outings.

Notes From The Anglican Covenant Study Day

On October 1, 2011 at Christ Church Cathedral Nashville, clergy and lay leaders met to discuss and consider the proposed Anglican Covenant which seeks to preserve the unity of the Anglican Communion in light of recent issues. The General Convention of the Episcopal Church, meeting in July 2012, will be asked to vote on the adoption of the proposed Anglican Covenant.

Dr. Christopher Wells, executive director of the Living Church Foundation and editor of *The Living Church*, presented a program to help those attending understand what is being considered. His main points revolved around the call to unity – the rationale for the Covenant. He cited historical movements toward formalizing the relationship among the constituent churches of the Anglican world as an answer to the objection that the notion of Covenant itself is not “Anglican.”

Bishop Bauerschmidt says, “Christopher Wells did a fine job of bringing out the theological and ecumenical background of the proposed Covenant.”

The Rev. Vicki Burgess of St. Philip’s Church Nashville and President of the General Convention Deputation, offers these thoughts on the Anglican Covenant which she shared at the Study Day:

“We studied the Covenant over a six-week period at my church last year. We read the document and referred to the source documents. But as far as forming an opinion about what to do about Covenant goes, it comes down to a ‘Who’ question: *Who* is involved in advocating for the Covenant? *Who* are the framers? *Who* is responding to it? And then, *with whom* does the Covenant make me be in relationship... and *to whom* accountable? There was no ‘Why’ question asked as most folks in the pews join this story long after precipitating events; there is no perceived need. Folks on the extreme ends are the ones reacting:

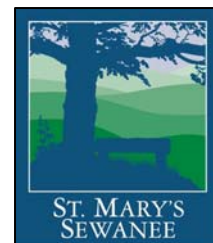
there’s a hostile or pugilistic right and there’s a skeptical left. The bell-curve middle are variously unaffected, they believe, or, at the least, this is far below their attention horizon to immediate needs such as attendance, giving, and who will teach Sunday School.”

One of the clergy made a remark regarding authority and the lack of acknowledgement of, for instance, the authority of women and their ordinations in many of the Anglican provinces around the world.

Vicki continues, “I believe our position must be that of standing as living reminders of Authority in the way Jesus uses it (contrary to the chief priests and elders – the power structure of the religious world). We heard it in the gospel reading from Sunday, September 25: the leaders ask Jesus ‘by what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?’ They’re worried about their authority and holding onto the power they have been able to wield and the benefits thereof. The authority of One who hands over healing and forgiveness and food, who empties himself, and washes feet – that’s the only real authority any of us can claim in the Church. I don’t know exactly how that’s going to work when it comes to trying to come to agreement and covenant in our world, but I know that any undertaking of this size amongst the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church has to spring from *letting go*.”

The panel, which along with Dr. Wells and Vicki included the Rev. Dr. Benjamin King and the Rev. Dr. Robert McSwain, engaged in further discussion with clergy in attendance.

Bishop Bauerschmidt concludes, “This is a serious proposal placed before the Churches of the Anglican Communion through our official Communion-wide bodies, and it deserves serious consideration. The question before us is how these Churches will continue to relate to one other, and how they will continue to seek a common life and grow into a common mind. This is, after all, the New Testament vision for the Church.”



St. Mary's Sewanee 2011-2012 Winter Programs & Retreats

November 11-13, 2011

*Recovery, the Sacred Art:
Twelve Steps as Spiritual Practice*
Presenter: Rabbi Rami Shapiro

November 13-14, 2011

*The Language of Loss:
Putting Grief into Words*
Presenter: Amy Lyles Wilson

December 2-4, 2011

*Holy Waiting, Holy Joy:
An Advent Experience*
Presenter: The Right Reverend
Henry Nutt Parsley

December 9-11, 2011

Advent Centering Prayer Retreat
Presenter: The Rev. Tom Ward

December 30, 2011-

January 1, 2012

*The Practice of Lovingkindness:
A New Year's Mindfulness Retreat*
Presenters: The Rev. Gordon
Peerman and Kathy Woods

January 7, 2012

*1 Day Introduction to
Centering Prayer*
Presenter: The Rev. Tom Ward

January 8-15, 2012

*8 Day Intensive and Post Intensive
Centering Prayer Retreat*
Presenter: The Rev. Tom Ward

For more information
please check our website:
www.StMarysSewanee.org
or telephone us at (931) 598-5342

St. James' Sewanee Honors Linda Hutton

On September 18, the Rev. Dr. Linda A. Hutton was surprised by the members of St. James' Church Sewanee with a celebration of her 25th year of ordination to the priesthood.



The choir did a special song to the tune of "Hey Big Spender" with the lyrics adjusted to her time there since 2001. The children offered a special laying on of hands and a blessing for her and the congregation presented her with a James Avery bracelet inscribed with Matt. 28:20, "Remember I am with you always!"

Following the service, there was an incredible feast.

Advent's Raffle Winners

By anyone's estimation, the Church of the Advent Nashville's recent raffle was a great success.

With only 1000 tickets made available, the odds were pretty favorable to win 2011 silver Honda Fit Sport



Hatchback, the iPad 2 or the \$250 Cash Prize.

The drawing was held on September 18 at the 9:30 AM service. Oliver and Pauline McIntyre were the winners of the car. They turned the keys over to their daughter, Paula.

Grace Church Hams It Up

There was a lot of church spirit when on October 1 and 2 Grace Church Spring Hill Spring Hill participated in the local annual Ham Fest. Friday started out with members pricing canned and baked goods all made and donated by members of the mission. The men put up the tents and tables then started cooking the BBQ on site.



Members from the mission worked all day Saturday and Sunday selling and telling visitors about Grace Church. The Rev. Doc Martin was out there "barking," drawing the people in to the booth. Some of the men spent Saturday night watching the booth as they continued cooking. All members, of all ages, worked and had a good time.

Blue Christmas At Church Of The Holy Cross

For those who find the holidays difficult for a number of reasons, the "Blue Christmas" service at Church of the Holy Cross Murfreesboro offers an opportunity to celebrate the birth of Light, Life and Love as told in the Christmas narrative.



On Thursday, December 22 at 7:00 PM, all are invited simply to come rest in God's presence in the midst of the busy-ness, loudness and sometimes forced joy of the Christmas season.

While this service is contemplative, it is neither somber nor sad. If you have questions, please call the Rev. Carolyn Coleman at 615-867-7116 or email her at revcarolyn@holycross-tn.org.

St. Mary's Quiet Day

The Community of St. Mary in Sewanee will have an Advent Quiet Day Saturday December 10 from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM.



Located at 110 St. Mary's Lane, the convent is the mother house of the Southern Province, established in 1888. Their mission states "we are called by God and united to God in holy baptism to offer our lives according to the rule of the community."

Their rule and way of life can be summarized in three words: prayer, community and service.

The quiet day is open to the public and all are invited. For more information call 931-598-0046. To learn more about the Community of St. Mary, visit their website, <http://www.caroa.net/sites/csms/>.

Men and women interested in becoming oblates or associates of the community may contact the sister-in-charge.

St. Bartholomew's Hosts Mark Scandrette

Mark Scandrette, author of *Soul Graffiti* and *Practicing the Way of Jesus* will facilitate a workshop at St. Bartholomew's Church Nashville on Thursday, November 10.



"Creating Shared Paths for Spiritual Formation" is a workshop for faith leaders, pastors and ministry volunteers looking for creative and practical tools to deepening Christian maturity, build community and quip their congregations for Christian mission.

Mark is the founding director of Re-Imagine, a spiritual formation center based in San Francisco. He speaks nationally and internationally, leads retreats and provides mentoring and coaching to leaders.

To register online for the St. Bartholomew's workshop, visit <http://sharedpath.eventbrite.com/> or call the church office at 615-377-4750 for more information.

'Tis The Giving Season Through St. Luke's

Each year at this time, St. Luke's Community House asks those who can to Adopt-A-Family for Christmas. They match donors with West Nashville families and seniors to provide gifts where there might otherwise be none.

The program serves 350 families and 75 seniors. December 11 is the

target date to drop off your family's or senior's gifts at St. Luke's Community House.

The other volunteer opportunity is a cooperative effort with the Marine Corps. They, with St. Luke's, host a Toys For Tots store. West Nashville parents can select toys and books for their children - last year, more than 940 children! Volunteers are needed

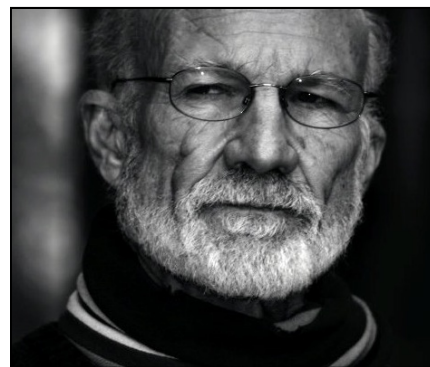


to organize toys, stock the Toy Store and help parents shop.

To participate in either of these efforts, contact St. Luke's at 615-350-7893 to be assigned your family or volunteer at the Toy Store.

Canon Theologian Returns To The Cathedral

The Rev. Canon Dr. Stanley Hauerwas, the Canon Theologian for Christ Church Cathedral Nashville, will visit the Cathedral on Sunday, December 4, to preach at the 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Liturgies. He will also teach at the 9:45 AM Sunday Forum.



Bishop Bauerschmidt will preside at the 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Liturgies that day.

Dr. Hauerwas was appointed by the Cathedral Chapter, on recommendation of the dean and bishop, to serve

as Canon Theologian. A resident of Durham NC, and a member of the faculty at the Duke Divinity School, he will preach and teach at the Cathedral a few times each year.

The Buzz on Bees



Roger Senechal, priest associate at St. George's Church Nashville was awarded the rank of Certified Beekeeper this spring after completing a course of studies at the University of Georgia's *Beekeeping Institute*. Roger has been keeping bees for almost 25 years; and was introduced to beekeeping by two of his parishioners while serving as rector of St. Thomas Church, Auburn MA. While there, Roger influenced a number of fellow clergy to become beekeepers as well.

"It's a wonderful hobby," Fr. Roger says. "It's easy to find God as a beekeeper. And it's neat that the Father of Modern Beekeeping, Lorenzo L. Langstroth, was himself a clergyman."

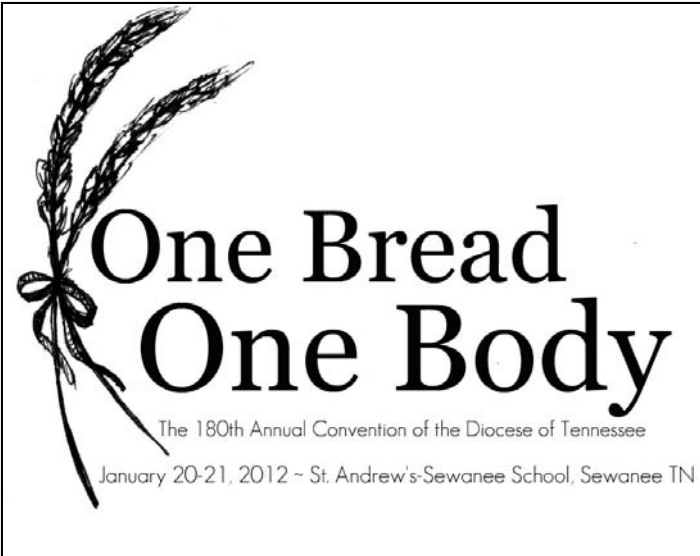
On May 4, at the invitation of the Rev. Becca Stevens, Fr. Roger gave a presentation on honeybees at St. Augustine's Chapel that was part of a three week series entitled "Bats, Bees, and Beer." He also has developed a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Finding God in Honey Bees."

Roger has an apiary in his back yard that currently contains 4 beehives. Next year he hopes to pass the exam for the rank of Journeyman Beekeeper, and eventually qualify as Master Beekeeper. "It's a pretty tough course," he continues. "You need to know a lot about bee behavior, their anatomy, bee diseases and botany. Most people who take these exams don't pass."

Fr. Roger currently serves as the president of the Cheatham County Beekeepers Association.

Diocesan Annual Convention

Update And News



Everyone planning the 180th Annual Convention of the Diocese of Tennessee has been working diligently to inform the clergy, officers and committees so they may share the details with parishioners and other interested parties.

As previously announced, the convention will be held January 20 and 21, 2012 on the campus of St. Andrew's-Sewanee School. Other sponsoring parishes and organizations are: Christ Church Tracy City, St. James' Church Sewanee, Church of the Holy Comforter Monteagle, Christ Church Alto, Otey Memorial Parish Sewanee, Trinity Church Winchester, Church of the Epiphany Sherwood, St. Agnes' Church Cowan, University of the South and St. Mary's Sewanee.

The first convention mailing was sent to clergy and senior wardens with information on electing delegates and alternates to represent the parishes at convention. Canon 1, Sec. 7(c) requires that "the certificate shall be sent to the Secretary of the Convention not less than six weeks prior to the assembling thereof," which would be December 9, 2011.

Mission congregations with fewer than 25 communicants may be represented by one lay delegate; mission congregations with 25 or more communicants may be represented by two lay delegates. Parish congregations with fewer than 500 communicants may be represented by 3 lay delegates; parish congregations with more than 500 but fewer than 1000 communicants may be represented by 4 lay delegates; and parish congregations with 1000 or more communicants may be represented by 5 lay delegates.

Canonically resident clergy, including non-parochial and retired, are eligible to attend as clergy delegates and should register prior to the December 9 deadline as well. Cost for clergy and lay is \$30 for each delegate registration received

prior to the December 9 deadline and \$40 after. Licensed to officiate clergy, seminarians and guests are also invited to attend convention at the same cost.

Canon 1, Sec. 9 provides for the submission of resolutions to the Annual Convention: "any lay or clergy delegate, Vestry, Mission Council, Missionary Convocation, and the Bishop and Council, may submit resolutions for consideration by the Annual Convention. Resolutions must be received by, or postmarked for delivery by mail, to the Secretary of Convention forty-five days preceding the first business day of Convention. No other resolutions may be considered by the Annual Convention without the approval of a simple majority of the Convention delegates in accordance with the Rules of Order." The forty-fifth day before Convention is December 6.

At this convention there will be elections for members of the Bishop and Council, the Standing Committee, the Dandridge Trust Board, and the Cathedral Chapter. If you are interested in serving on one of these entities, please see your clergy person for more details on the nominating process. All nominees should be prepared to participate in an open forum on the floor of convention.

Exhibit space is available but limited; official agencies of the Diocese of Tennessee as listed in the diocesan directory will be given first priority. Non-official organizations associated with the Episcopal Church may reserve space, according to availability. Contact the office of the Diocese of Tennessee at 615-251-3322 for more information on how to reserve space.

Forms for delegate registration, guest registration, exhibitors and nominations can be found at the diocesan website: www.episcopaldiocese-tn.org under Resources > Forms, Convention.

On Friday, January 20, Otey Memorial Parish Sewanee will host a wine reception from 5:30 to 7:00 PM, a short mixer for convention attendees to unwind after a long work day. At 7:00 PM, St. Mary's Sewanee will host a BBQ dinner and dance at Cravens Hall on the campus of the University of the South. Both events are open to all members of the parishes in the diocese, regardless of whether they are delegates or not. For ticket information, contact the office of the Diocese of Tennessee at 615-251-3322.

On Saturday at 9:00 AM, and also open to the public, is the convention's Holy Eucharist at All Saints' Chapel on the campus of University of the South. Representatives of all the churches in the diocese will process with their banners, all clergy will vest and the pageantry of the service will be wonderful to experience.

The January issue of *Connections* will be devoted solely to the Annual Convention and will include the complete schedule and special features.

St. Mary Magdalene Starts Parish Nurse Program

Since its founding in 1986, the Dandridge Trust (administered by the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee) has awarded grants totaling in excess of \$2,000,000. The Dandridge Trust gives preference to programs that address the needs of the aged and the poor.

St. Mary Magdalene Church Fayetteville was awarded a \$2,000 grant to support a new parish nurse program.

Nancy Rutledge, RN, completed the Faith Community Nurse Preparation Course on October 9 at St. Thomas Hospital. The 32-hour course resulted in Nancy being certified as a parish nurse.

The five primary functions of a parish nurse are:

- 1) health educator,
- 2) personal and group health counselor,
- 3) teacher and organizer of congregational and community volunteers,
- 4) a resource liaison with community health organizations for community collaboration and resource health referrals, and
- 5) building relationships that provide a bridge between spirituality and health.

Parish nurses are licensed, registered nurses who practice holistic health for self, individuals and the community using nursing knowledge combined with spiritual care. The focus of their work is on the intentional care of the spirit, assisting the members of the faith community to maintain and/or regain wholeness in body, mind, and spirit.

Riffi O'Brien, chair of the Dandridge Trust Board, says, "The Dandridge Trust unanimously approved St. Mary Magdalene's request for funding to start up their parish nurse program that will serve many members of their community. The program was well-conceived and will make excellent use of parish resources. They are blessed that Nancy Rutledge offered her nursing skills to this worthy effort."



The program at St. Mary Magdalene is in its beginning stages but Nancy and the Rev. Julie Anna Johnson are expecting it to benefit those within the parish struggling with medical needs and long term be a resource to the entire Lincoln County community. If you have any questions or are interested in more information,

please call the church office at 931-433-2911.

UTO In-Gathering Ongoing In The Diocese of Tennessee

The United Thank Offering 2011 Fall Ingathering has been scheduled for any Sunday between now and the beginning of Advent. Materials can be downloaded at www.episcopalchurch.org/uto as needed.

A spiritual and financial partner in the mission work of the Episcopal Church, the United Thank Offering meets mission needs around the world.

Since 1889, daily prayers, offerings and an awareness of the abundance of God's blessings have been asked for, expanding the circle of thankful people.

UTO in-gathering donations should be sent to Judy Hines, UTO Coordinator for the Diocese of Tennessee, 3589 Dog Branch Road, Prospect TN 38477.

Funds from the UTO in-gathering are used to continue good works through grants. The 2012 grant applications and guidelines are available online. Grant applications should be submitted to the address above by December 31 for review and signature by the bishop in order to meet the January 15, 2012 deadline.

Grant recipients will be announced during the General Convention/Triennial in July 2012.

In 2010, Church of the Messiah Pulaski was awarded a grant in the amount of \$11,000 to support their companion church and school, Virgen Maria in Guayaquil Ecuador. The funds were used to complete work on a courtyard where church and school events are held in a poor urban area of the city. No grants were submitted for consideration in 2011. If you are unsure if your church or program is eligible to apply for a grant, view the guidelines at www.episcopalchurch.org/uto.



St. George's Music For The Holidays

The outstanding musical offerings of the choirs of St. George's Church Nashville are never more glorious than during the holiday season.

Their *In Excelsis* Concert Series in its fifth season has thus far presented "Soldier's Tale," the story of a young man's encounter with the devil, and "Tudor Evensong," sung by St. George's Choir.

On December 11, the much-loved traditional service, "Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols," will feature the Choirs of St. George, St. Gregory, St. Cecilia, St. Alban and St. Dunstan, with Dr. Mark Ring, Gerry Senechal and Rachel Hansbury, conducting. The history of salvation will be recounted through scripture and the music of Advent and Christmas. 6:00 PM, Sanctuary.



The Christmas Eve Choral Concert, "Laud to the Nativity - Ottorino Respighi," will be presented by St. George's Choir and Wind Ensemble on December 24. Soloists and chorus evoke the mystery and wonder of the Nativity in

rustic, carol-like musical settings. Dr. Mark Ring will conduct. 10:30 PM, Sanctuary.

St. George's Choir is a collaboration of both professional and volunteer vocalists who sing to a world-class level in both worship and concert settings. The brochure for the *In Excelsis* Concert Series states:

"We value our richer artistic heritage and its power to still move people deeply, while championing fine music from many places and times, including music of today. We are inspired by how music changes lives. We engage our audiences through compelling and evocative music experiences."

Their youth and children's choirs learn about musicianship and liturgy through the Royal School of Church Music curriculum. St. Gregory's Choir is for youth in grades 8-12, St. Cecilia's Choir is for girls, grades 3-7, St. Alban's Choir, boys in grades 3-7 and St. Dunstan's Choir, grades 1-2, are led by Gerry Senechal and Rachel Hansbury.

The music department of St. George's Church also offers private lessons in voice, keyboard, strings, brass and winds for students of all ages.

The concerts are free and open to the public but donations are always appreciated. To make a larger commitment by becoming a part of Friends of St. George's Music, donations can be made by sending a check to St. George's Church, 4715 Harding Road, Nashville TN 37205. Contact the music department at the church for more details on how to make your gift in honor or memory of a loved one.

Visit http://www.stgeorgesnashville.org/Music/Concerts_and_Events for a full list of the 2012 concerts which include the Westminster Choir and Mass in B-Minor by J.S. Bach, performed by Music City Baroque and St. George's Choir.



God's Green Earth... for Thanksgiving



Thanksgiving: giving thanks for family, friends, the earth's bounty.

But does it often feel like it is a big rush to get the house ready and to shop for and prepare a meal? Or if you're not the host, are you spending a large part of the holiday weekend in the airport or on the interstate? If you answered yes to these questions, you might consider slowing down, taking a deep breath and re-thinking your Thanksgiving.

While family may be spread far and wide, stay close to home and start local traditions. Reconnect with family nearby, neighbors and friends in your town who have no other plans. Ask them to carpool. Reducing travel - and the stress of travel - is truly something to be thankful for.

Your carbon footprint will be considerably lower than if you choose highway or air travel.

Transition easily from home décor for autumn right into decorations for Thanksgiving by keeping it natural. Pinecones and pumpkins (or other gourds) can be arranged with organically grown flowers from your local florist or farmer's market. Use baskets or glassware you already own or visit a thrift store for some unusual finds that can be "re-used."

When setting your table, thrift or consignment stores are excellent sources to fill in the missing pieces. Go eclectic: mix and match your table settings. Build upon your china's color scheme and add pieces that complement. Find a unique platter for the turkey or select unusual serving dishes - the table will look festive and completely yours! However, if you're the type for which everything must match in a more sophisticated look, consider renting everything you need. It will cost less overall and you won't be left wondering where to store it afterwards. If you are expecting a very large crowd, the benefits of using "real" dishes might be lost when it comes time to wash them. In that case, disposable products can be used if they are biodegradable or made from bamboo.

Create atmosphere (and lower your use of electricity) by adding candles to your table setting. Beeswax and soy candles are the best choices; paraffin candles are petroleum based and can emit harmful fumes into the air.

When it comes to the meal, the tradition is to over-prepare and over-eat. Everyone is left full but miserable for the rest of the afternoon. It doesn't have to be that way. If you like the traditional dishes, think moderation. Instead of a large turkey, prepare a turkey breast - organic and free range from a local source. Make fewer side dishes or halve the portions of your favorites.

For the freshest ingredients, make one run to the farmer's market instead of driving all over town for fixings. Making a shopping list is key to reducing trips. Try to organize your cooking time to minimize electricity consumption and if possible, cook with gas.

If your family likes leftovers, only serve half of everything to the table, setting aside the other half for the freezer. Remember that most plastic wraps contain PVC which will end up in the landfill. Use (and re-use) aluminum foil, or better yet, select glass or ceramic containers for storage.

As you're preparing the meal, set aside vegetable cuttings for a tasty broth you can freeze and use throughout the year. If that seems like too much work, simply toss them into your compost.

A lot of people in a concentrated area might make the room feel too warm. Instead of turning on the air conditioner, open a window to take advantage of the cool November air. And after the meal, instead of piling up on the couch with the television on all afternoon, get the whole group together for a walk.

If you really want to get hard core about God's Green Earth for Thanksgiving, check this out: organizations are collecting turkey fat to turn into biofuel. The city of Plano TX, a high school in Chicago and others are taking the fat used in deep-frying turkeys and converting it into fuel for diesel engines. Now, that is green!

Becca Stevens Recognized By White House For Magdalene Work

In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the White House's Office of Public Engagement selected the Rev. Becca Stevens as one of the 15 "Champions of Change" recognized at an event on October 20 at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington DC.



Photo courtesy of the White House

Created as a part of President Obama's Winning the Future Initiative, the Champions of Change program highlights Americans who are influencing others, who have taken leadership in driving societal shifts and are making an impact in their communities and beyond.

As many in the Diocese of Tennessee know, Becca is the founder of Magdalene, a residential community serving women who have survived prostitution, addiction and alcohol abuse, and Thistle Farms, a business model to train the residents and support the work being done. Magdalene houses the women to two years at no cost to them and takes no government funding. The program has a success rate of 72% of women leading healthy, sober lives two and a half years after entering the program. Hundreds of individuals and groups from across the country have expressed interest in learning more about the model.

Becca, the chaplain at Vanderbilt University and St. Augustine's Chapel Nashville is also an author, speaker and social entrepreneur. She has been named "Nashvillian of the Year" by the Nashville Scene and "Tennessean of the Year" by The Tennessean and in 2010, became the youngest and the first female recipient of the University of the South's "Distinguished Alumnus" award.

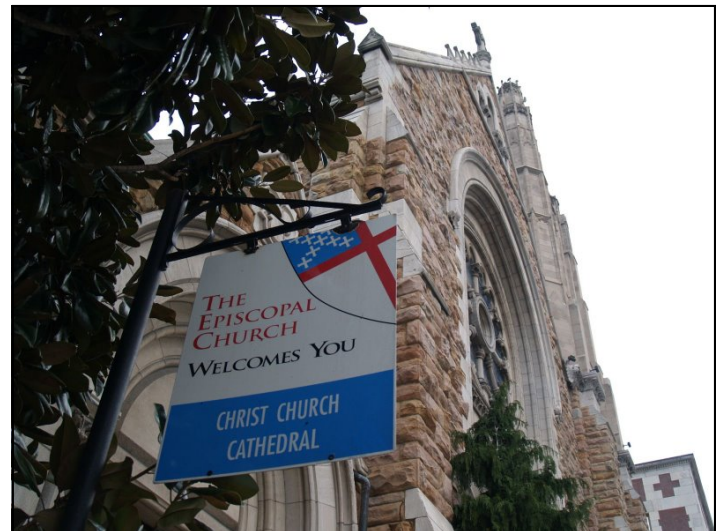
Of the honor from the White House, Becca says, "I believe this recognition is in honor of Magdalene's witness for the past 15 years to the truth that love is most powerful force for change in the world. I want to help change this culture that still buys and sells women and holds on to the worn-out notion that prostitution is a victimless crime. All of us at Magdalene stand in solidarity with women who are recovering from violence, prostitution and addiction and life on the streets."

Cathedral Tithes To Diocese

The Diocese of Tennessee is the grateful recipient of a generous offering from Christ Church Cathedral Nashville.

The Very Rev. Timothy Kimbrough, dean of the cathedral, says, "Over the last 18 months, the Cathedral was blessed with a generous bequest of one dear to many in the Christ Church congregation. As the ordained leadership of the Cathedral and Vestry prayed and deliberated about the use of the gracious gift, we were clear that a tithe of these monies needed to be dedicated to the building up of the Kingdom of God. This prayer and deliberation resulted in a significant gift to the Diocese of Tennessee for use in the mission and ministry of the diocese."

Bishop Bauerschmidt adds, "The extraordinary generosity of Christ Church Cathedral has helped the Diocese of Tennessee move forward in mission and ministry during a period when it would have been tempting to stand still. We give thanks to God for the leadership shown by the Cathedral congregation."



"It is my hope," continues Dean Kimbrough, "that these may be the first of many additional structured and occasional gifts that might flow to diocesan ministry from the Cathedral. I believe such unsolicited, free will offerings further the ties that bind us together, reinforce the sense of common mission, and encourage a corporate sense of gratitude for the great things that God in Jesus Christ is doing in our midst."

sabbath retreat

november 11-13

otey parish, sewanee, tn

practicing rest in a culture in motion.

open to 6-12 graders in the diocese of tennessee



come to me, all who labor and are heavy-laden, and i will give you rest. take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for i am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

-matthew 11:28-30

Contact the Rev. Dixon Kinser at dkinser@stbs.net for more information.

A RETREAT PRESENTED BY THE DIOCESE OF TENNESSEE YSC



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Around the diocese

November/December 20101

- 6 *Bishop's Visitation, All Saints' Church Smyrna*
- 6 All Saints Celebration, Church of the Resurrection Franklin
- 8-20 Holy Land Pilgrimage, St. George's Church Nashville
- 13 *Bishop's Visitation, St. Andrew's Church New Johnsonville*
- 14 Vestry Meeting, St. Bartholomew's Church Nashville
- 24 Thanksgiving Service and Lunch, St. Paul's Church Murfreesboro
- 27 *Bishop's Visitation, Church of the Advent Nashville*

- 4 *Bishop's Visitation, Christ Church Cathedral Nashville*
- 5 Messiah Sing-In, Christ Church Cathedral Nashville
- 9-11 Advent Centering Prayer Retreat, St. Mary's Sewanee
- 11 *Bishop's Visitation, St. Barnabas' Church Tullahoma*
- 18 *Bishop's Visitation, St. David's Church Nashville*
- 18 St. B's Family Christmas, St. Bartholomew's Church Nashville
- 24 *Bishop's Visitation, Christ Church Cathedral Nashville*

Italics denote Bishop Bauerschmidt's visitations

This is a sampling of events in the Diocese of Tennessee.

**For a complete listing of events throughout the diocese,
see the Calendar of Events at www.episcopaldiocese-tn.org**

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