

Volume 14, Number 10

December 2015

THE MESSENGER

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
MOBILE, ALABAMA



Christmas at Christ Church Cathedral

◆
ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, December 6
4:00 p.m.

◆
SUNDAYS OF THE ADVENT SEASON
HOLY EUCHARIST RITE II AT 10:00 A.M.

First Sunday of Advent November 29, 2015
Second Sunday of Advent December 6, 2015
Third Sunday of Advent December 13, 2015

◆
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
AND THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2015
10:00 a.m.

◆
CHRISTMAS EVE CONCERT PRELUDE
AND FESTIVAL EUCHARIST

Thursday, December 24
Prelude music begins at 4:15 p.m.
Holy Eucharist, Rite II at 5:00 p.m.

*Come early for our Christmas Eve service to hear beautiful Christmas carols, anthems, solos, and instrumental pieces.
This intimate yet grand Cathedral service for the Nativity of the Lord is a wonderful Christmas tradition.*

◆
CHRISTMAS DAY HOLY EUCHARIST

Friday, December 25
10:00 a.m.

A Message from the Dean

Dear Cathedral Family,

One of the strongest themes of the Advent season is the emergence of light out of darkness. During the short days of the year's closing, we wait for Christ's coming—for his birth as a baby in Bethlehem and for his coming again in the full glory of his Kingdom. We light candles on the Advent wreath during this season as a sign of the hope that sustains us in our waiting. We watch and pray.



This year we are experiencing the darkness more intensely, in the aftermath of the recent terror attacks in Paris. Our present darkness, the “wars and rumors of wars” of our time, can easily distract us from the truth revealed in scripture: that God will make, is making, all creation new and that God loves us and wants us to know the fullness of life and joy in Him. Under the onslaught of constant media coverage of world events, we can easily give way to fear, to anger, and to despair. We

can forget that the true narrative of our lives is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

For this reason, it is especially important for us to be faithful this season in our prayers and in our worship. An Advent devotional booklet was mailed to each household in the Cathedral Family in the November *Messenger*. Please use this as part of your personal time of prayer and reflection each day between now and Christmas. Special

materials for children and families will be available on the ministry table in the Chapter House, as well. We will worship with Advent Lessons and Carols at 4:00 p.m. on December 6; this is an especially powerful way to focus heart and mind on God's promises in scripture and the beauty and hope of their fulfillment. On the second and third Wednesdays of Advent (December 9 and 16), our

midday Eucharist in the Chapel moves to 11:30 a.m., followed by music in the Church at noon and then lunch in the Chapter House. This quiet time in the middle of the day in the middle of a hectic season is a good way to slow down and remember *why* we are preparing so fervently. You will not want to miss our annual Children's Christmas Pageant during our worship on Sunday, December 20; it will bring you great joy and bolster your hopes!

In our recent gospel lessons, Jesus has told us, in times like these, not to be alarmed, not to be led astray. We need to be persistent in prayer, to spend time with scripture, to be faithful in worship, and to concentrate on loving one another, loving others, and doing good deeds wherever we see an opportunity.

Our new Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, has reminded us that we are part of the “Jesus Movement.” That movement, Jesus has told us, should expect resentment and resistance, but we should not give in to anxiety or fear. The movement should expect hostility, but we should also expect to endure. The Jesus Movement will endure because the One who loved us, who came to live as one of us and gave himself for us, is faithful. We should be, too.

During Advent, we will look toward the “end times,” the coming-again of Jesus, even as we look toward his birth in Bethlehem. We should live in the light of hope for both of his comings. We can be confident in our hope that our present darkness will give way to his new day.

Faithfully,
Beverly F. Gibson
The Very Reverend
Beverly F. Gibson, Ph.D., Dean

A Message from the Canon

Dear Cathedral Family,

Advent is here, so now what? This is our season of expectation as Christians. It is our time to prepare our hearts as we celebrate Emanuel “God with us” as Jesus comes into the world to dwell with us. While in his earthly form, Jesus taught us so much. He taught us to love one another and to be one another’s servant, thus helping to echo in God’s kingdom here on earth.

In our part of God’s vineyard here at the Cathedral, we are ever trying to follow Jesus’ teachings and to live out our baptismal vows (p. 301-305 BCP). Resisting evil, turning to God and Jesus, seek and serving our neighbors are phrases that quickly come to mind. But putting these phrases into practice, well, that is always a challenge.

Our youth and Fun Clubbers have been learning about loving and serving their neighbors. In October, they worked very hard to help put on the Kappa League Brunch outreach project. In late November, our Fun Clubbers took Advent wreaths to Murray House and then visited with several of the residents. Later this month, our EYC will visit some shut-in parishioners and then enjoy a meal.


When our youth and children get out and interact with the residents of Murray House or our shut-in parishioners, there is this wonderful dynamic that happens. Both the adults and younger folk learn about the other and share with each other, with the love of Jesus is our common bond. There is a gentleness that happens when our youth and children go beyond themselves and spend time with those who are more seasoned. Whether they know it or not, our youth and children are practicing pastoral care (that is, emotional and spiritual support). I would also bet that those they visit are also giving some pastoral care in return.

An opportunity for service for all of us at the Cathedral is our Angel Tree ministry. Once again, we will have the tree in the Chapter House. The Angel Tree benefits the Family Intervention Team (City of Mobile Police Department), providing gifts for families in need here in Mobile. While those who give will not get to meet the recipients of their gifts, there still is a connection and there is a moment for God’s kingdom to break into this world. I would encourage you all to consider participating in this important ministry.

Finally, as we inch ever closer to the Holy Nativity, I know that our schedules and lives will be very full. It is my hope that all of us will be able to have some “Sabbath moments” where we can have some quiet time with God and reflect on our relationship with Him and what “And the Word became flesh and lived among us...” (John 1:14a) means in our lives.

Have a great Advent and December everyone, and I hope to see you at church!

Faithfully,



The Reverend Daniel A. Wagner,
Canon Pastor



WEDNESDAY HOLY EUCHARIST

December 2
Noon

December 9 & 16
11:30 a.m.
in the Chapel
followed by
Advent Music/Lunch

December 23 & 30
No Eucharist

January 6
Noon

*We will resume our regular
Wednesday Eucharist
schedule on The Epiphany,
January 6, 2016.*



THE CATHEDRAL OFFICE

will be **closed**
Thursday, December 24
through
Friday, January 1.

Dean Gibson
will be on call for
pastoral emergencies.

Financial Secretary
Brenda Stanton
will be checking
telephone messages and
emails for end of the year
financial needs.

Music Ministry



Dear Friends,

The month of December is always exciting here at Christ Church! Our journey through Advent continues and finally culminates with the most anticipated event of the season, our Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist. This year, our choir will be joined by two flautists and a harpist to enhance the beauty of our musical offering! Remember, the service is at 5:00 p. m. with a special “concert prelude” beginning at 4:15 p. m. The prelude will feature our Cathedral Choir, Handbell Choir, instrumentalists, and soloists in diverse selections celebrating Christmas and all of its many carols. Some selections may be new to you, and that is part of the fun, but rest assured that there will be plenty of familiar favorites to warm your hearts. Come early and bring some friends!

Of course, December is about more than Christmas. What good is the destination without the journey? Throughout Advent, the church has included several canticles in place of the normal Sunday psalmody. On Advent Two we hear the *The Song of Zechariah*, and on Advent Three, *The First Song of Isaiah*. Also unique to Advent and Christmas, our choir will begin singing choral introits, also known as the “call to worship” in some denominations. As I’ve written in previous articles, the church gives us special texts, known as the Propers, for specific services. These include texts for the introit, offertory, and communion. By now, you’ve probably become familiar with the communion psalms, but you have yet to hear an introit. These short pieces are of my own composition, and they set a paraphrase of the introit text sung to recognizable Advent hymn tunes. The choir will offer these introits from the back of the church after the prelude and before the processional hymn. These offer an additional opportunity for reflection on the themes of the day prior to the procession. Advent itself is often seen as a procession to the Nativity, and an appropriate text, sung from the back of the church, is a fitting beginning to our worship.

Probably the most anticipated event of Advent, aside from the Children’s Christmas Pageant

on the Fourth Sunday of Advent (see letter in this issue of *The Messenger*), is our Lessons and Carols service at 4:00 p. m. on December 6th. However, we also are hosting two *Advent Music at Noon* concerts this year. The first, on Wednesday, December 9th, features *The Mithril Duo*, a Celtic/World Music ensemble that has prepared a specifically Advent themed program for us. The second concert, on Wednesday, December 16th, features our own violinist, Gosia Leska, and soprano/Assistant Choirmaster, Katherine Powell. They will present a very interesting program of music for soprano and violin. I encourage you to attend these Advent events to aid you on your own journey to the Nativity.

Christmas is possibly my favorite holiday. We are certainly gearing up for a joyful and meaningful celebration at the Cathedral. Come for inspiration through our liturgy and music this year. If you can’t make it Christmas Eve, we will have a 10:00 a.m. Eucharist on Christmas Day with carols and a soloist. Either way, you can celebrate Christmas with us here. All of the music ministers of Christ Church Cathedral wish you a blessed, joyous, and peaceful Advent and Christmas!

In Christ,

Christopher W. Powell
Organist and Choir Master

Upcoming 2015-16 Music Season Events

LESSONS AND CAROLS

Sunday, December 6

4:00 p.m.

Come be part of a service rich with light as we celebrate the season of Advent. This service will contain Advent anthems, solos, and carols interspersed between readings illustrating the first and second comings of Christ.



ADVENT MUSIC AT NOON

Advent noon-day concerts last 30 minutes, followed by a luncheon in the Chapter House.

11:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II
in the Chapel

12:00 p.m. Meditation and Music

The Mithril Duo

Wednesday, December 9

The Mithril Duo will present a Celtic-inspired Advent themed concert not to be missed. Their repertoire combines Celtic and other World music with classically trained sensibility, combining intimacy, virtuosity, and an infinite variety of colors with their array of instruments including flutes, fiddle, harp, guitar, whistles, bouzouki, mandolin, smallpipes and nyckelharpa.

Gosia Leska & Katherine Powell

Wednesday, December 16

In this program of music for soprano and violin you will hear beautiful music appropriate for the Advent season.

This refreshing combination of artists will present music new and old.

EPIPHANY CONCERTS

Sundays in January at 4:00 p.m.



Sunday, January 10, 2016

Paris, 1690



Sunday, January 17, 2016

Choral Evensong:
Celebrating
Women Composers



Sunday, January 24, 2016

Cathedral Pops:
Sacred Favorites

GROWING IN MISSION: STEWARDSHIP 2016

STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE REPORT

Out of 225 households in the Cathedral family, we have received 2016 pledges from 116. Last year's total by year-end was 150. Based on last year's numbers, we expect 46 more pledges to come in before year's end. But we can do better! If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, please do so after prayerfully considering a 1% increase over the previous year's pledge. If you have never made a pledge, please make this the year you begin; the amount is not as important as the commitment. If 75% of our households pledged, that would be 170 pledges—an admirable goal, and one we can achieve.

The total dollar amount of pledges received so far is \$545,577. Last year's total was \$673,340. Increase in existing pledges to date is \$46,182. We have received 12 new pledges so far.

As we begin planning and preparation for 2016 ministries and the budget to support them, it would be helpful to have all pledges in hand. More importantly, however, it would be a powerful statement of our faith and hope for the future of Christ Church Cathedral if every household made a commitment to

support our life here together and our mission to our community.

2016 STEWARDSHIP ENVELOPES

For those who requested stewardship envelopes, they are available on the credenza in the vestibule. If you would like envelopes, please add your name to the list on the credenza.

Our annual stewardship supports our General Fund, or operating budget. The following are some other ways our life and mission are supported financially.

FOUNDATION

The Christ Church Cathedral Foundation was established by the Vestry on October 6, 2006. The purpose of the Foundation is to endow the continuance of the Cathedral, its fabric and its unique Christian ministries into the future including its service to the congregations and community within the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast.

No funds were to be distributed for Cathedral ministries until the net asset value of the Foundation exceeded \$250,000. The corpus reached that threshold in 2014. The Foundation bylaws are clear on how and when distributions can take



place. The Chapter shall determine the use of the amount available for distribution. The funds are intended for Diocesan events and capital improvements, but *NOT* primarily for day-to-day operating expenses.

The Board of Trustees of the Christ Church Cathedral Foundation is composed of 15 members elected by the Chapter. Of the three Trustees elected for each term, at least one must be a Florida resident and at least one must be an Alabama resident. The Bishop of the Diocese and the Dean and Senior Warden of the Cathedral shall serve as non-voting ex officio members. Each Trustee shall be a confirmed communicant in good standing of a parish or organized mission or a priest or deacon canonically resident in the Diocese of The Central Gulf Coast and not under 21 years of age. As of December 31, 2014 the balance in the Foundation was \$270,486.63.

ENDOWMENT

The Christ Church Cathedral Endowment Fund was established by the vestry on April 21, 2013. The purpose of the Endowment Fund is intended to provide a permanent source of supplemental funding in support of Christ Church Cathedral's ongoing mission and vision. The funding will provide a mechanism through which financial resources can be allocated for worthwhile programs and services that are consistent with Christ Church Cathedral's ministry, its strategic plan and other long-term initiatives.

The initial funds for the Endowment Fund were memorial funds given in memory of Katherine Hamilton Brinkley.

The Endowment Committee has five (5) members nominated by the Dean and elected by the Vestry, all of whom shall be members in good standing of the Cathedral.

Their sole job is to manage the Endowment Fund. The Dean and Senior Warden shall be ex-officio members of the Committee.

The Legacy Society was established at the same time as the Endowment Fund was established.

LEGACY SOCIETY

The Christ Church Cathedral Legacy Society was established by the vestry to assist in exercising stewardship for future generations by making provision for Christ Church in our estate plans. These funds will be maintained in the Christ Church Cathedral Endowment which is restricted to funding ministries beyond the annual operating budget.

Please prayerfully consider how you too can be part of the perpetual support of Christ Church Cathedral by making these provisions. Consult with your attorney and financial advisor about options available in estate planning. Our Chancellor Harwell Coale is available to consult with your professional.

CATHEDRAL MUSIC FUNDS

Two separate funds support Cathedral music. They are the Friends of Cathedral Music and the The Cathedral Organ Fund. The first helps underwrite the annual Cathedral Music Series, and the second provides additional funds for the care and upkeep of our great pipe organ.



Resolution to Establish the Legacy Society

Whereas God has bestowed upon Christ Church Cathedral, Mobile, Alabama many blessings throughout the years;

And whereas the Clergy, Wardens, Vestry and Officers recognize our responsibility in being good stewards of these blessings for future generations;

Now, therefore, be it resolved this day to establish the Legacy Society of Christ Church Cathedral, Mobile, Alabama for the benefit and security of those who have made provision for the same in their estate plans;

And be it further resolved that members of the Legacy Society will be recognized annually at a Cathedral celebration in order to encourage every member of the parish to do likewise.

Approved at Christ Church Cathedral Vestry Meeting, April 21, 2013

Legacy Society Members

- ◆ Mr. & Mrs. J. David Brady, Jr.
- ◆ Harwell Ellis Coale, Jr.
- ◆ Mary Elizabeth Coale
- ◆ The Very Reverend Johnny Walter Cook
- ◆ Mary Eileen Potchernick Cook
- ◆ Marion Conrad Gonzales
- ◆ Marion Frederickson Gonzales
- ◆ Holly Kaufmann Hall
- ◆ William Edward Hall
- ◆ Mr. & Mrs. Edward Bradford Ladd
- ◆ David Lindsey Sanders
- ◆ Ronald P. Snider
- ◆ Carolyn Bradford Stephenson

Please let us know if you have made provision for Christ Church Cathedral in your will.



Christian Formation

December Christian Formation

Sunday, December 6

Christmas pageant music practice for Elementary and Fun Club classes

Curriculum for Middle and High School classes

Sunday, December 13

Christmas pageant music practice for Elementary and Fun Club classes

Curriculum for Middle and High School classes

Sunday, December 20

Christmas pageant

Group Sunday School – Greening of the Cathedral

Sunday, November 22

Christmas Holiday – No Sunday School

December Episcopal Youth Community

The goal of EYC is to provide our youth with a safe, joyful environment where they can explore their faith and build friendships. Join the EYC this month for two great opportunities for fun, fellowship, and faith. For more information on EYC and Youth events, please contact Canon Wagner or Sarah Bolt.

Sunday, December 6 at 4:00 p.m.

All youth are encouraged to come and enjoy the Cathedral's Lessons and Carols service. This is a unique service and a great way to hear Scripture readings blended well with incredible music.

Sunday, December 13

Join our famous "Mystery Visits and Mexican" following Christian formation. The approximate cost is \$10.

Fun Club

Sunday, December 13 following Christian Formation

This month the Fun Club will go to Cooper Riverside Park (Water and Government Streets) to ice skate and have some lunch downtown! The approximate cost is \$18. For more information, please contact Canon Wagner or Banks Ladd.

Advent Materials

This year's Daily Advent Meditations and Prayers is *Unto us a Child is Born* by Henri J.M. Nouwen. The Advent season calls us to prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus. This booklet, which contains select excerpts from Nouwen's works by the same title, again shows us his ability to speak to the hearts of Christians with simplicity and sincerity.

Additional Nouwen booklets, plus Advent materials for our youth are on the credenza in the Chapter House.

For the younger children we have a booklet that is a companion to our Christmas Pageant: *Sing a Song of Christmas!, Daily Devotions for Children*. The book comes with a sheet for making a paper chain.

For our youth we have, *Slow Down, Quiet, Its Advent*, a gentle and fun-to-read calendar reminder of the true meaning of the season, illustrated by the Reverend Jay Sidebotham.

2015

Children's Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 20

The pageant takes place during 10:00 a.m. worship on the Sunday before Christmas.

We will be doing something a little differently this year which requires practice during Christian Formation time for our children in grades K through Grade 5.

Pageant Rehearsal Schedule

Sunday, November 29 in the Church

Sunday, December 6 in the Chapel

Sunday, December 13 in the Church

Outreach

This Advent season give to those who need your help.

AT THE PARISH LEVEL

We have 20 students who are involved with the *Mobile Police Department's Family Intervention Team (FIT)*. This will be our 7th year to support these specialists helping children in our community. Each child has chosen a gift they would like to receive, and we will give each a \$100 gift card to purchase clothing or gifts at the Tanger Outlet in Foley.

The FIT Angel Tree is up and ready in the Chapter House. You may send cash gifts to the Cathedral office marked *FIT Christmas Outreach* or you may choose items from the tree. Deadline—Monday, December 14.

IN THE MOBILE COMMUNITY

Make a donation to the

Home of Grace for Women.

The Home of Grace program serves females ages 18 and up who are addicted to alcohol and /or other drugs. They can always use laundry detergent, and paper products. Donations may be taken to the Home of Grace 394 Aldock Road in Eight Mile. Web address: homeofgraceforwomen.com.

Volunteer at The Salvation Army of Coastal Alabama 2014 Holiday Volunteer Opportunities

The Salvation Army of Coastal Alabama is gearing up for another busy holiday season, hoping to

make that time of year a little brighter for those in need. But we can't do it alone—we need an "Army" of volunteers to make it possible! Please consider helping. To learn more go to: salvationarmyalma.org/coastalalabama.

Christmas Nights of Lights at Hank Aaron



Stadium. It is one of the most amazing drive-thru

Christmas light shows you will ever experience! Through January 3, 2015. The cost is \$6 per person. Christmas Nights of Lights is partnered with BayBears Charities, Ronald McDonald House, USA Children's and Women's Hospital, Salvation Army and Bay Area Food Bank.

NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

Arpilleras



Beautiful Peruvian textiles that have transformed communities—through consignment shows there have been \$1.5M in sales benefiting over 700 artisans through monthly textile purchases & economic empowerment grants. Our sale is *December 6 through December 16*. We have a very special surprise ready to unveil during the sale! Your ECW, working

with graphic artist and parishioner Jennifer Grehan, will have new Christ Church Cathedral items ready for purchase. Quantities are limited.

If you would like to help staff the table, please contact Betty Reniewicz at betren@bellsouth.net

Episcopal Relief and Development Gifts for Life



Episcopal Relief & Development

Healing a hurting world

is celebrating their 75th year of giving. To become a part of the legacy go to:

www.episcopalrelief.org/gifts.

Gifts range from \$35 for Clean Water to \$80 for a goat. ERD Sunday is February 14, 2016.

Lillian Valley School

uses the season for its annual giving campaign. To give, please go to: [http://](http://www.lillianvalleyschool.com/HowToDonate.html)

[www.lillianvalleyschool.com/](http://www.lillianvalleyschool.com/HowToDonate.html)

[HowToDonate.html](http://www.lillianvalleyschool.com/HowToDonate.html)

The Lillian Valley School, a fully accredited, Episcopal elementary day school, serves Native American children who live on the Fort Hall Reservation in Southeastern Idaho.

This is also the time for the Annual Fund Drive for *Our Little Roses, Foreign Mission Society*, which supports girls in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. To make a gift directly to Our Little Roses Ministry go to: www.ourlittleroses.org



MORNING CIRCLE

Monday, December 14

10:30 a.m.

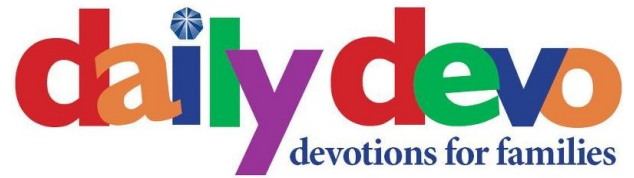
at the home of
Mary Cook
206 Fig Avenue
Fairhope

Leader: Mary Cook

For information or directions,
call Mary Cook
at 605-4795.

It's a Surprise!

We have hidden three clues to a surprise we will unveil on December 6. The clues are on page 9, 12, and 14. The surprise is the generous gift of a parish member, and funds raised from its sale will go toward ECW programs. Be here early, as quantities



Daily Devo: Devotions for Families is an online devotional to help families and individuals grow spiritually. You'll receive this meditational tool each day in your email. Share Daily Devo whenever it's convenient for you - at mealtime, on the way to school, in the waiting room at the dentist, at bedtime. Grow your family's faith in a few minutes each day.

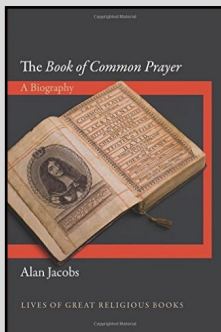
The daily devotion offers a brief meditation on the daily lectionary, a visual interaction, a call to action, a prayer, and additional resources. Email the Cathedral office at: office@christchurchcathedralmobile.org to join the free Cathedral subscription.

CATHEDRAL READ

The Book of Common Prayer:

A Biography

by Alan Jacobs



By popular demand the group will continue to meet Sundays, November 29 and December 13 at 11:15 a.m. in the library.

CHRISTMAS

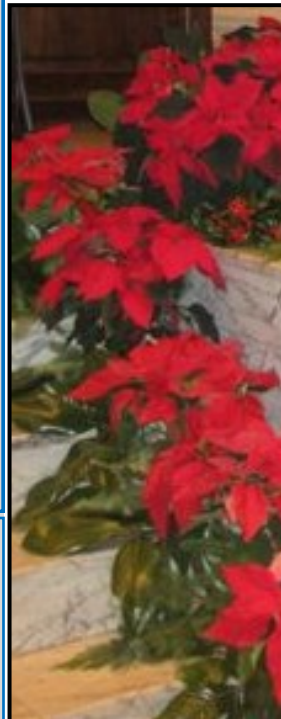
POINSETTIAS AND MUSIC OFFERING CARDS

are enclosed in this edition
of *The Messenger*.

Requests are \$15 each.

The deadline for names
in the bulletin is Monday,
December 14.

Additional cards available
on the Ministry Table



YOUNG ADULTS SUPPER CLUB

Wednesday, December 9

6:30 p.m.

at the home of
Lucy and Leland Moore
2509 Muir Woods Drive East
B.Y.O.B. and a small appetizer

RSVP to Lucy at
lucymoore1110@yahoo.com
or 661-7260, or text to 604-4068.

The Parish as a whole is asked to help after church on Sunday, December 20, to help bring the poinsettias into the Cathedral for Christmas. The Flower Guild will decorate on Tuesday, December 23 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Anyone who has access to small magnolia limbs, holly, smilax, or other holiday greenery, please cut and deliver it to the office parking lot by Monday, December 21.

Memorial poinsettias will be used to decorate the church through Sunday, December 27. Poinsettias may be taken following the service that day.

We wish to thank the members of the Nominating Committee: John D. Davidson, Mary Esther T. Elliott, Banks C. Ladd, Alison S. Mitchell, Lucy F. Moore, Henry R. Seawell IV, Lucy B. Brady, Ginny M. Behlen, W. Kennon Drew, Tom F. Garth, Lucy R. Lyons, Robby C. McClure, Jr. for their prayerful deliberations for our leadership.

✠
Sunday, December 6
Annual Parish Meeting
with Vestry and
Convention Delegate Elections
The meeting will take place
during Coffee Hour.

Floor Nomination Procedure for Vestry Members A name may be placed in nomination as follows:

- ✠ The nominee has agreed to be placed in nomination.
- ✠ Before a name is offered on the floor the nominator will approach the Parish Officers, Chancellor, and Treasurer, who will certify that the nominee meets the requirements outlined in the *Resolution of Christ Church Cathedral* titled “Requirements and Responsibilities of Vestry Members” approved on October 10, 2005.

Requirement of Vestry Members

- ✠ To be a confirmed communicant of Christ Church Cathedral, 18 years of age or older.
- ✠ To demonstrate meaningful and sacrificial financial support of the church, including making and fulfilling an annual pledge of support; to consider that Christ Church Cathedral Vestry upholds the tithe as the standard of giving; to encourage the parish to consider proportionate giving; and to work personally toward the tithe.

Responsibilities of Vestry Members

- ✠ To live a daily life reflecting the Christian faith; to strive to grow spiritually through worship, prayer, and educational opportunities.
- ✠ To participate faithfully in the worship of the church.
- ✠ To attend vestry and chapter meetings and retreats.
- ✠ To work for unity among the clergy, vestry and congregation through open communication; to accept the position of vestry member as an opportunity to serve our Lord.
- ✠ To demonstrate meaningful and sacrificial financial support of the church including making and fulfilling an annual pledge of support; to consider that the Christ Church Cathedral vestry upholds the tithe as the standard of giving and encourages the parish to consider proportionate giving; and to be working toward the tithe.
- ✠ To accept the role of leadership, work diligently and congenially at assigned tasks, and seek out ways to improve the Cathedral Church including:
 - To make new and regular members and visitors feel welcome through personal greetings, visits, and an invitation to participate in activities of interest to them, and
 - To encourage all members of the congregation to become a part of activities and ministries of the church and to attend parish meetings.

Requirements of Convention Delegates

- ✠ To be a confirmed communicant of Christ Church Cathedral, 18 years of age or older.
- ✠ To demonstrate meaningful and sacrificial financial support of the church, including making and fulfilling an annual pledge of support; to consider that Christ Church Cathedral Vestry upholds the tithe as the standard of giving; to encourage the parish to consider proportionate giving; and to work personally toward the tithe.

Resolution Concerning Convention Delegates

- ✠ Rather than electing a new slate of four (4) persons to serve in this capacity each year, the terms of service will be staggered among the delegates. One (1) person will be elected each year to rotate onto our delegation for a 4-year term. This will allow for both continuity of experience and service within the delegation, while allowing more people to participate in this important ministry.

Vestry Nominees (Proposed Class of 2017)

To be elected at the Annual Parish Meeting and Vestry Elections—Sunday, December 6 during Coffee Hour.

Jill Showers Chow

Jill Showers Chow, native Mobilian, is a graduate of McGill-Toolen High School and the University of South Alabama. She is married to Alan Chow, and they have two lovely young ladies as daughters, Janie and Jordan. She is currently employed at the University of South Alabama as a PC Application Specialist. She enjoys playing tennis, power walking, and traveling. She has served in various capacities in the churches she has attended: Stone Street Baptist Church; Church of the Good Shepard Episcopal; and Christ Church Cathedral where she is a hospitality team leader, acolyte parent, and assists with youth activities. Jill is a member of the Junior League of Mobile; serves as Chair of Outreach youth program at Strickland Center, is a 15 Place volunteer, served as Chair for the McKemie Place clothing drive, is a United Way volunteer, and an AIDS Alabama volunteer. Her vision is for all youth of Christ Church Cathedral to develop a firm foundation in Christian Education by attending church, Sunday School, acolyte training and participating in youth activities to strengthen their belief in faith, God, and Church.

Gretchen Van Brackle Cooper

Gretchen was reared in Richmond, Virginia where she attended Trinity Lutheran Church. She is graduated from the University of Alabama. In 1998 she married Angus Cooper III. She was received at All Saints', and the family moved to Christ Church in 2005. Gretchen and Angus have four children: Angus, Harris, Mary Lynn and Darden. She is looking forward to being a part of the growth of Christ Church Cathedral as a member of the downtown community. She is excited about the energy surrounding the next steps in our growth in mission.

Bernard Herbert (Bert) Eichold II

Dr. Bert Eichold is the Health Officer for Mobile County. He is responsible for safeguarding the public's health for all of Mobile County, a position he has held since May 1990. FYI: The Mobile County Health Department was established in 1816, six years prior to the start of Christ Church and three years before Alabama became a state.

Born and raised in Mobile, Alabama, Bert graduated from high school in Rome, Georgia, where he won the selective service lottery in 1970 and chased Russian nuclear submarines as an enlisted member of USNR. Dr. Eichold is married to Carolyn, is the father of three sons and has one daughter-in-law. He is a graduate of Tulane University, where he obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree, Master of Public Health Degree, Doctor of Medicine Degree, and Doctorate of Public Health Degree. He is an Alumnus of Leadership Mobile and Leadership Alabama and he has an academic appointment with the University of South Alabama as an Adjunct Professor. Dr. Eichold is a member of numerous local, state and national organizations and is a Retired Captain of the United States Navy. He looks forward to being a servant leader, preserving our Historic Structure and implementing the vision for Christ Church in a cost effective/timely manner. "Only through service one can make the world a better place."

Jennifer Simpson Grehan

Jennifer Simpson Grehan moved from New Orleans to Mobile in 2007 with her husband, Brooke, daughter Ellie, and son Yates. The Grehans attended Trinity Episcopal Church in New Orleans. She majored in graphic design at the University of Tennessee and has worked in London, New York and New Orleans in editorial, advertising and college/high school publications. Since moving to Mobile she has designed Mobile Toile and Mardi Gras Toile New Orleans. Brooke works for International Shipholding Corporation; Ellie is a freshman at Auburn University, and Yates is a freshman at St. Paul's. Jennifer serves on the Altar Guild; Brooke serves as an usher, and both Ellie and Yates have served as acolytes while at Christ Church. Jennifer has recently completed the Christ Church Toile.

Jex Ransom Luce, Jr.

Jex was born and raised in Mobile. He attended UMS, and graduated from Auburn University with a B.A. in Business Administration. He is a partner in Courtney & Morris Appraisals, Inc. In 1975 he married Ann Hawkins Luce, and they have two grown daughters, Emily Hayden Scott, and Harriet Herndon Alley, as well as three grandchildren, John Paul, Henry, and Charlie. Jex was raised in the Roman Catholic Church and served as a altar boy at St. Joseph's Chapel. He joined Christ Church in the early 1980's and serves as an usher. He is on the Board for the Senior Bowl, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and Learning Tree Center. He is a member of Rotary, and serves on the Board for Century Bank.

Vestry Nominees (Proposed Class of 2017)

William Christian Hines III

Christian grew up in Atlanta, Georgia, attending college at Wake Forest, followed by law school at the University of Alabama. Both of his parents were from small towns in Alabama, and he knew he wanted to live in Alabama. After practicing law for four years in the Birmingham office of Starnes Davis Florie, he moved to Mobile in 2001 to open the firm's Mobile office. He grew up Catholic, and his wife, Valerie, grew up Methodist. After their marriage in the summer of 2007, he and Valerie attended several churches. They say once they found Christ Church, however, they "never looked back." They were immediately drawn to the welcoming atmosphere of Christ Church, particularly the time spent as a church community after the service. As a vestry member, Christian wants to promote that welcoming atmosphere, as they truly felt a part of Christ Church from the moment they stepped through the door. Also, as a father of two young children, Christian wants to encourage other young families to join our community.

Convention Delegates

The Diocesan Convention will be held Thursday, February 18 to Saturday, February 20, 2016 at St. Paul's, Daphne.

Carolyn Delchamps Eichold

Carolyn served as a leader for events at Christ Church Cathedral for the Consecration last summer, and as Co-Chair of the 2012 Diocesan Convention. She served as a delegate to the diocesan conventions in 2012, 2013, 2014, and the electing convention in 2015. Carolyn was confirmed in 1989, and she and her family transferred to Christ Church in 2006. She served on the vestry from 2009-2011. She served as ECW Co-Chair in 2010-2011, and Chair in 2011-2012. Carolyn has served on the Gardens and Grounds and Columbarium committees. She is a chalice bearer and vested lay reader.

Jubal Lee Hamil (2019)

Robert Willis Israel (2018)

Bob was reared in Wedowee, Alabama. His undergraduate degree is from Vanderbilt University, and his MD is from the University of Alabama. Bob was baptized in the Presbyterian Church, reared in the Methodist Church and confirmed as an Episcopalian after having married the former Cammie Dunson, a cradle Episcopalian, in 1974. They attended Christ Church in the 1990s, exiled to All Saints', and returned to Christ Church in 2004. Bob served on the vestry from 2008 to 2011, and was elected for a second term of 2014-2017. He was a delegate to the electing convention in 2015. He is the Senior Warden, serves on the Finance Committee, and serves as a lay reader and chalice bearer.

Richard Mitchell

Rick moved letter his to Christ Church in 1979. He has served two terms on the vestry and one term as Senior Warden. He has served on the Finance Committee for the past seven years, and has attended the past four Diocesan Conventions, including the electing convention, as a delegate. He also serves as chalice bearer.

Harwell Ellis Coale, Jr. (Alternate)



THE CATHEDRAL CHAPTER 2015

Robert Willis Israel
Senior Warden

Hetty Cunningham Newell
Charles Stephen McKay
Junior Wardens

William Kennon Drew
Treasurer

Harwell Ellis Coale, Jr.
Chancellor

Ronald A. Snider
Clerk

Class of 2015

John D. Davidson
Mary Esther T. Elliott
Banks C. Ladd
Alison S. Mitchell
Lucy F. Moore
Henry R. Seawell IV

Class of 2016

Sage M. Bolt
Lewis H. Golden
George B. Inge
Robert W. Israel
Charles S. McKay
Hetty C. Newell

Class of 2017

V. Lyn Bennett
Cartledge W. Blackwell III
Steven B. Hall
Barbara L. Mitchell
Margaret M. Thigpen
Thomas B. Van Antwerp

Chapter Members

Mendy Henderson, 2016
St. Agatha's, deFuniak Springs

Gary Moore, 2017
St. Paul's, Daphne

The Rev. Aaron Smith, 2018
St. Paul's, Magnolia Springs

Correspondence

To my church family,

I can't thank you enough for your prayers, your cards, phone calls, and offers of help during my surgery and convalescence. You do not know how much each of you mean to me.

With Love,
Martha Middleton

Dear Christ Church Cathedral,

Thank you so much for letting us visit your beautiful and historic church. I was with the "Antiques with Dan Brooke" class from Sanford University. Knowing this building was begun in 1835-1842 is amazing! The windows were especially beautiful. We loved the window that has the "glowing" lantern. Thank you again for allowing us to visit your beautiful sanctuary.

Thanks again,
Doris Davis

The Young Adult Service Corps is a ministry for young adults interested in exploring their faith by living and serving in communities around the Anglican Communion. YASC brings young adults into the life of the Anglican Communion and into the daily work of a local community. YASC is open to Episcopalians between the ages of 21 and 30. Applicants must have a high degree of maturity, possess a faith commitment, the willingness to be a humble guest, and the ability to be an authentic companion. Applications are due January 8, 2016. <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/young-adult-service-corps>

Diocesan News

Winter Woods 2015 December 27-29

Winter Woods is our Diocesan Youth our winter camp for 6th to 8th graders held at Beckwith. After all of the excitement of Christmas, come to Beckwith to enjoy a great time away with friends new and old.

We will have all the fun camp activities including: field games, environmental education, arts and crafts, ropes course, s'mores, camp fires, spiritual program and praise and worship.

The cost for camp is \$135. Check-in is between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. on December 27. Check-out is between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. on December 29. Register now at: www.beckwithal.com.

St. Paul's Singers Perform Handel's *Messiah*

Sunday, December 20
4:00 p.m.

The newly formed St. Paul's Singers will present the Christmas portion of George Frederic Handel's "Messiah" in concert with orchestra, at St. Paul's, Mobile. A festive reception will follow in the parish hall. This is a community-based choral group. The concert is free and open to the public. A free will offering will be accepted to be donated to the St. Francis Fund to aid organizations in the community helping people in need and to help defray the costs of concerts at St. Paul's under the Music at St. Paul's series.

Check Out the Updated Diocesan Website At www.diocgc.org

Check out our new features:

- ❖ Bishop's page with calendar link, video from Russell, and soon to be featured audio sermons
- ❖ An expanded resource center for administration, clergy and congregations with content being built continuously as needs for each become known; plus printable clergy directories;
- ❖ Ability to update contact information for individuals and congregations
- ❖ Event registration page
- ❖ Episcopal Asset Map-*for* churches, *by* the churches-anyone can 'take the survey' to update the Asset Map with their churches ministries-a great how-to video will show you how

The congregations page gives information and direct links to contact information for our churches.

Please note that the new website is still a work in progress. You are encouraged to give your feedback. There is a place to do so directly from the home page of the website. Please check back often to see all the changes and updates!



Cathedral Prayer List

O God, the strength of the weak and the comfort of sufferers: Mercifully accept our prayers, and grant to your servants the help of your power, that their sickness may be turned into health, and our sorrow into joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE PRAY FOR:

Members:

Brink Brinkley, Butch Trawick, Alice Carwie, Katherine Deaton, Hank Cobb, Jordan Moore, Donna Moreé

Friends & Family:

Peggy Naughton, Gary Davis, Harrison Leff, Michael Cameron, Nancy & Don Cameron, Rob & Amy Archer Ellis, Joyce Lee, Davis Nelson, Michael Sumrall, Gwen Cook, Alfred Showers, Jim Elia, Anne Brown, Mark Brown, Harriett Lillich, Dave Carlyn Block, Rachel McClanahan, Tom Cunningham, Norma Beazley, Curtis Bullock, Valerie Boatman, Ann Jones, Hank Wozniak, Lisa Thompson, Stella Phillips, James Thomas, Ted Fraiche, Mark Miles, Tot Swanson, Art Swanson, Hayden Jenkins, Maggie Jenkins, Carolyn Pryor, Merle Findley, Louise Douglas, Shirley & Dunlap Peeples, Steve Harris, Marian Macpherson Currie, Kit & Roger Geil and the Geil family, Angel & Larry Torres, Kathy Boucvalt, Bill Stevens, Ginger Simpson, Karen Sentilles, Lila Fisk, Tracey Johnson, Joe Lowrey, Temple Webber, Betty Browder, Allan Tucker, Kathy Sanders, Clarise Waters, Glenn Hill, Leslie Ellis Sharbel, Marian Hall, Homer Kemp, Jane Behlen, Dan Jones, Betty Larison, Carolyn Graham, Ralph and Catherine Neal, Mark Mason, Anita Stead, Tim Fulton, Bennett Stenger, Gladys Crowson, Billy Yost, Noel Fell, the Ward Family, Sybil Willis Rodgers, Hap Myers, Jr., Paul Vickers, Sr., George Robison, Georgia Dominick, Robin Wade, Randy Moore, Rick Nichols, Kate Heddrich, Julie Brinson, Ceaser Bryant,

Moana Karstater, Icy Lee Neel, Frances Robison, Emily Hubbard, Mike Dowers, Jason Lockwood, Ainsely McNeely, Pat Fisher, Bubba Murray, Bernice Vickers, Jerry Collins, Grady McMillan, Bobby Moss, Kerry Goode, The Rev. John Rees, Dayton Lanford, Chris Schnieder, Liz Charbonnet Talmadge, John Day Peake, Jr., A. J. Villars, Billy May, Kay Koffler, Dorothy Fulton, Tay Morrissette, Robert L. Hatcher, Martha Collier, Bob Williams, Dino Frangos, Stacey Webb, Mary Katzman, Raymond Faircloth; Sara Phillips, Pastoral Leader, Mary's, Coden

Those Serving in the Military:

Brian Caselton, Louis Coggin, Jonathan Duralde, Tyler Gamble, Sam Garcia, Darrien Gibson, Parker Hollinghead, Kelley Hood, Brian Hudson, Abby Hutchins, Randy Johnson, Ron Lansong, Jean-Michael Lemieux, Chris Marslender, Zack Miller, Todd & Jordana Mouthaan, Keith Moss, Michael Nassar, Jerry Olin, Brian Pennell, Josh Power, Daniel White-Spunner Reed, Susan Reniewicz, Evan Sizemore, John Snyder, Conner Thigpen, Ryan Anthony Thomas, Ryan Walker, The Rev. Bowen Woodruff

Baptism: Wyatt Joseph, son of Brie and Grant Zarzour

Marriages: Heather Duffy and Matt Ruitter, she is granddaughter of Joy and Bob Dean, and Daughter of Lisa Mestas; Hallie Forster and Trent Dawson, she is daughter of Bradley and Bob Forster.

Souls Departed: James McPhillips, Jim Norman, Stacey Webb, Martha Collier

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 1	Elizabeth Bullock
December 3	Alec Armbrecht Richie Harris
December 4	Liz Ferguson Ed Stephens
December 6	David Broome Carter Drane Jr.
December 7	Jex Luce
December 8	Lucy Lyons Shannon Reeves
December 9	Chris Kelly
December 10	Nick Holmes Gary Kohler
December 11	Tiny Spottswood
December 12	Will Bjorklund
December 13	Jerry Coggin Monique Hawkins Jordan Moore Bill Skinner
December 14	Alison Mitchell
December 15	Perrin Drew Lewis Golden Sam McKay Sallie Merchant
December 16	Lisa Drew
December 17	John Owens McElhaney
December 18	Jubal Hamil Annabel McKay
December 19	Skip Archer
December 20	Susan Crowson Marion Donnelly Dylan Gibson Kim Harden Graham Reeves
December 24	Happy Henson
December 25	Elinor Gibson
December 26	Robert Mitchell
December 27	Lally Hamil Gene Moree
December 29	Carter Drane Jordan Ellis Judy Jones Kay Whiting
December 30	Robbie Lynn Irvine Alexander Raue
December 31	Lisa Cooper

Please contact the Cathedral Office to let us know if you would like to remove or keep the names of Friends and Family you have submitted on the prayer list. We will update this list regularly.

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
115 South Conception Street
Mobile, Alabama 36602

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CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

Corner of St. Emanuel and Church Streets
115 South Conception Street, Mobile, Alabama 36602

Established 1822

The Right Reverend J. Russell Kendrick, *Bishop*
The Very Reverend Beverly F. Gibson, Ph.D., *Dean*
The Reverend Canon Daniel A. Wagner, *Canon Pastor*
Carolyn S. Jeffers, *Provost*
Christopher W. Powell, *Organist and Choir Master*
Brenda J. Stanton, *Financial Secretary*
Michelle C. Wilson, *Assistant to the Provost*
Marla J. Reis, *Cathedral Secretary*
Sarah S. Bolt, *Youth Activities Coordinator*
Corrine R. Betbeze, *Children's Program Coordinator*
Judy J. Jones, *Housekeeping*



Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

Website: www.christchurchcathedralmobile.org

The Cathedral Mission Statement

The Cathedral is the spiritual center of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. The Cathedral is a dynamic and evolving church that serves as a liturgical, educational, and pastoral center for Diocesan life. It serves as a visible symbol of unity and promotes growth, hope, and a deepening trust in the Lord. The Cathedral is a place where the Gospel of Jesus Christ will be faithfully preached and responded to, and it will model new concepts and ideas for education, evangelism, and outreach to which the Gospel calls us.