

THE MESSENGER

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL
MOBILE, ALABAMA



Volume 10, Number 1

January 2011

Dear Cathedral Family,

The Dean's message for January 2011 is a copy of the Cathedral report that will be submitted for the 2011 Diocesan Convention

This makes the sixth anniversary of Christ Church, Mobile being named the cathedral of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. This ministry has been a joy for us, and we continue to learn how we can best serve the diocese.

Our first event in 2010 was a dinner and reception for the blessing of St. Mary's by the Sea in Coden. We traveled to Coden on the afternoon of January 10 with dinner and many Cathedral volunteers for a celebration of the new buildings. This event came about from an offer made after Hurricane Katrina to help out in any way that we could.

At the Diocesan Convention 2010, held February 26 at Christ Church, Pensacola, Christ Church Cathedral's invitation to host Diocesan Convention 2012 was accepted. Preparations for the convention to be held February 2 through February 4, 2012 have already begun.

On Sunday, April 25 we hosted the annual Cathedral Celebration in honor of the fifth anniversary of the seating on the Bishop. A luncheon followed in the garden.

On April 29 the Cathedral hosted a diocesan clergy meeting and luncheon.

The Cathedral hosted the retired clergy and their spouses with a luncheon on Friday, December 10.

Preparations began in December for the ordination to the diaconate of Glenn Edward Rohrer, to take place on January 8, 2011.

The Bishop was in residence in his apartment on nine occasions during the year. The apartment was also used by the Reverend Canon Neal Michell, Canon to the ordinary in the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, during his visit to the diocese.

The Very Reverend and Mrs. Johnny W. Cook represented the diocese at the annual Dean's Conference that was held this year at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

We began as a mustard seed cathedral in 2005. We are learning how best to become a cathedral for the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. We continue to grow and to serve. Your prayers are invited as we continue faithfully into this ministry.

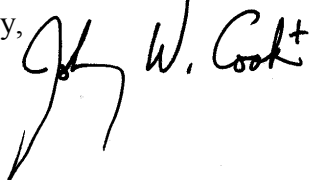
Faithfully,




Photo by Cindy McCroxy

Save the Date

**Parish Meeting
and Vestry
Installation**

Sunday,

January 30,

following the service.

There will be a report

on the state of the

parish.

**The Cathedral
Chapter
Class of 2010**

Jamie K. Davidson
Susan A. Clinton
Harry D. Henson
Robert W. Israel
Robison C. McClure, Jr.
Mark S. Weeks

Class of 2011

E. Burnley Davis
Carolyn D. Eichold
Mary Carol Ladd
Margaret M. McGovern
Richard Mitchell
Leland L. Moore, Jr.

Class of 2012

Virginia M. Behlen
Carter H. Drane
W. Kenneth McElhaney, Jr.
H. Winchester Thurber III
Laura B. Warren
Charles F. White

Class of 2014

as elected December 5, 2010

Alice Marie Kracke
Leslie Patrick Ladd
Gerry Madison Phillips
Leigh Johnson Rendfrey
William Earle Skinner
Ronald A. Snider

Chapter Members

The Rev. Ken Cumbie,
St. Luke's, Mobile
Magoo Hamilton,
St. Thomas', Greenville
Mendy Henderson,
St. Agatha's, deFuniak Springs
Joy Tway,
St. Andrew's, Destin

A Message from the Sub-Dean

Dear Cathedral Family,

One of the high points of our Christmas preparation and celebration was the annual children's Christmas Pageant on December 19 during our Sunday worship. I have heard from many of you, as well as our friends present that day, how touched you were by our children's telling about the Christmas story in their own words. Hearing their thoughts about angels, shepherds, Mary and Joseph, and the baby Jesus was an affirmation of our children's deep wisdom, of the solid certainty of their faith, and of their ability and readiness to share that faith with others. What we heard from them that day was a sample of what the children do each week during Children's Chapel.

Their words should assure us that our children have absorbed a great deal from our worship, our tradition and scripture, and our whole life together. We could all learn a great deal from them if we were to listen to them more closely more often. And I would encourage you to do so. They are a vital force in our Christian formation, and they lead us into the future God holds for us.

I give thanks for the ministry of Dunn Chandler, the Children's Chapel leaders, the Sunday School teachers and musicians Peggy Lyden and Teri Williams who do a wonderful job in working with our children.

Faithfully,

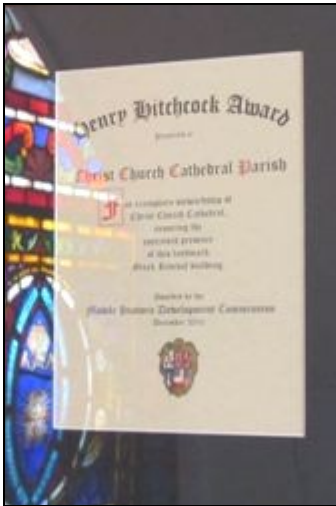
Beverly +



They Holy Family portrayed by Jordan Moore as Mary, Barton Elliott as Joseph and Sophie Ferguson as Baby Jesus with the heavenly host and some shepherds on the chancel steps during the Christmas pageant.

Where Doric Columns Mingle with Tiffany Windows: An Examination of the Aestheticized Grecian Interiors of

This article was written by Cartledge W. Blackwell III, Architectural Historian for the Mobile Historic Development Commission. It was written for the MHDC January 2011 newsletter in recognition of Christ Church Cathedral's being named the Hitchcock Award recipient. This article is reprinted by permission of the author.



Two gnarled Oaks frame one's first glimpse of Christ Church Cathedral. These two trees have stood the test of time. So has the church building. Though the Church's exterior is rightly praised as one of Mobile's greatest Greek Revival monuments, the interior constitutes an ideal marriage of classicism and aestheticism. Like the great cathedrals of Europe, the sanctuary's spectacular interior reflects evolving liturgical practices and changing aesthetic impulses, not to mention responses to natural disasters. At either a Sunday morning Holy Eucharist or a Saturday evening wedding, the restrained brilliance of Christ Church Cathedral's interior is a feast for the senses.

To understand Christ Church Cathedral one must understand the history of the building and the congregation. Both are steeped in history. The congregation is a descendant of the earliest Anglican assembly of worship in the state of Alabama. Christ Church is the oldest site of continuous religious worship in the City of

Mobile. It is even said that a Catholic chapel occupied the site in the early 18th Century. No images of this short-lived building survive. A "Gothick" church occupying the present site was constructed in 1822. Known as the Union Protestant Church, this wooden structure featured pointed arch windows and undulating crenellations. Utilized by Mobile's early Methodist, Presbyterian, and Episcopal congregations, the building soon fell into disrepair, the floor even collapsing in 1834. (By that time only the Episcopalians were worshipping in the building, the Presbyterians and Methodists having constructed their own churches on Government and Franklin Streets, respectively). At least two plans for a new sanctuary were submitted. One was Gothic and one classical. After discussions and alterations, the building committee selected the latter.

Construction of the present church began in 1838. Consecrated in 1840, the building featured distyle-in-antis portico and a graduated steeple. Unfortunately, a succession of calamities would beset the church building. The roof collapsed in 1883. Adding insult to injury, the 1906 hurricane toppled the steeple. These two disasters can be seen as blessing in disguise for they resulted in the creation of one of the port city's finest interior ensembles - a space informed by the old, but imbued in a new light, literally and figuratively.

A combined respect for the old interiors coupled with a simultaneous desire to improve upon them guided the "restoration" and decoration of Church's interiors. Work proceeded quickly for the sanctuary was reopened for worship in 1908. Color, lighting, acoustics, and performance were key concerns. The interior was described as "Grecian," though it is better understood as Grecian aestheticized and Anglicanized, as the design is rooted in contemporary Protestant Episcopal practice and lingering art-for-art's-sake notions. A pursuit of beauty and recognition of the divine went hand in hand.

The internal reconstructions extended from the entrance to the chancel and from floor to ceiling. Certain features were maintained, while others eliminated. The pew-defined center and side aisle arrangement was retained. The gallery was reconstructed, but only above the entra-

Continued on the next page.



The Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast will be held at St. James', Fairhope Thursday through Saturday, February 10 through 12.

2011 Diocesan Convention Delegates

as elected on Sunday, December 5, 2010

J. Daly Baumhauer III
Harwell E. Coale, Jr.
Carolyn S. Jeffers
James B. Ryall

Continued from page 3.

nce. A new organ was installed in vestry, with mechanical chambers flanking the elevated chancel. The eared and battered door surrounds (often called Egyptian doors) were either retained or replicated. Wooden floors were installed under the pews, but the aisles, chancel, and the unarticulated transept were paved with gold and ivory colored mosaics. The mosaic floor features a border in the form of a continuous Greek fret or meander. The Greek fret, an interlocking pattern of straight vertical and horizontal lines, is a classical motif commonly employed on Greek Revival buildings. Walnut wainscoting, stained to match the pews, was installed as a visual contrast to with newly repainted white walls.



Above: Mr. Happy and Lula Jane George misbehaving on the sofa.

Within less than a decade, the all white interior would be illuminated via the subdued light of stained glass. Though installed gradually as memorials to and by parishioners, a cycle of stained glass windows was envisioned from the time of the remodeling. Two are particularly noteworthy. The MaCartney and Middleton windows utilize not painted or English glass, but American Opalescent glass. Popularized and promoted by Tiffany Studios, Opalescent, or Tiffany glass as it is commonly known, has color embedded in the actual glass, not paint applied to the surface of the glass. The inherent and abstract

qualities of the individual pieces (their texture, thickness, color) were exploited so as to render realistic figural and landscape components. In some locations, such as in the tree canopy of the Middleton window, pieces of glass were “platted” or layered up to four layers in depth to achieve the perfect effect. Only the hands, feet, and inscriptions required the application of paint.

The interior’s eclectic combination of restored, informed, and invented classical motifs culminated in the chancel. Marble steps advance into the nave. Lecterns in the forms of an angel and an eagle flank one’s ascent into the elevated realm of the deep chancel. Representing the word of God, the lecterns are exceeded in their significance and treatment only by the altar whose fantastic mosaic angels are rivaled by few in the American South. Figural mosaics were employed in ancient villas and temples, but not until the late nineteenth Century were they employed in Protestant churches. The exuberant altar reflects not only lingering sentiments of art-for-art’s-sake, but also awareness and affirmation of the ongoing high church liturgical reforms then animating the Episcopal Church.

Best experienced at night, when the subdued light of the windows glisten upon the mosaics, Christ Church Cathedral must be seen in order to be truly appreciated. Candles light the altar and music emanates from the organ. In this phenomenal space, Greek Revival monumentality is nuanced by a decorative program animated by a spiritual indescribability informed by art, liturgy, and tradition.

FIT Christmas Project



The following is a letter from the FIT Team members as a thank you for the Christmas project.

We are pleased to report that this year’s 2010 Christmas Tree Angles Project was a complete success. The Mobile Police Department Family Intervention Team would like to thank Christ Church Cathedral Church for your kind generosity and thoughtfulness. This initiative would not have been possible had it not been for your support.

All of our Angel Tree recipients’ were overwhelmed with happiness and very appreciative for the gifts that they received. Our team would like to especially thank Mrs. Jamie Davidson, and Mrs. M. J. Ramo for all your hard work in organizing this year’s project. The mission of our team is to assist with improving the quality of life for youth and families, and building strong partnerships throughout the Great City of Mobile. On behalf of our team we want to you wish each of you very blessed holiday season. We look forward to continuing our partnership with you in the coming year.

Prayer List

WE PRAY FOR:

Members: Lisa Cooper, Hetty Cunningham, Brink Brinkley, Walter Moss, Dolores Drane, Nick Nichols, Alice Carwie, Bubber Carwie, Raymond Fields, David Sanders, Win Thurber.

Friends and Family: Glenn Foster, William Hicks, Lewis Tyner, Dolores Sullivan, Taylor Lee, Penny Johnson, Sharon McDonald, Enola Shields, Curtis Stone, Chris Brown, Rhett Boyd Leake, Bill Meyer, Gwen Cook, Dauren Hamilton, Katie Hamlin, Lois Anne King, Isabelle Smith, Chas Pierce, Bobby Clark, George Seymour, Jr., Kathryn Wessinger, Robert Bressett, David Key, Ted Middleton, Andrew Ewaskiewicz, Derry Hargett, Van Davies, Melody Williams, Dyson Deaton, Brenda Puckett, Marvin Williams, Clinton Taylor, Sally Boom, Steve Lauten, Peter Martin, Alice Crook, Gray Thorworth, Charlie Alexander, Betty Torbert, Jean Wentworth, Kate Granada, Jeffrey Ezell, Mary Ladd Turner, Blanche Hatter, Will Nichols, Janie Houser, Steve Zalopany, Rebecca Hatcher, Mary Thompson, Victor Leon, Helen Corley, Linda Logan, Amie Marks, Ann Tyner, Don Heaton, John Beltz, Edwin Stebbins, Marian Macpherson Currie, Jeff Sewell, Eric Sharpe Jr., Greg and Rita Wright, Sarah Sims Finnorn, Ed Dyas, Teddy Solomon, Doris Solomon, Brad Cox, Peter Gaillard, Bill Bramer, LaNelle Johnson, Ninya Ross, Sissie Outlaw, Norman Pharr, Michael McMaken, Lynn and Doug Ray, Charlie Mae Moree, Rosetta Garret, Sue Lyden, Devanie Ellison, Peter Walker, Sherry Stone, John Biel, Martha Mason, Harold Coles, Morgan Griffin, John Lyden.

For Those Serving in the Military: Brad Israel, Christopher Hume, Brandon Warren, Darrien Gibson, Kelley Hood, Jensen Basenberg, Andy McMillan, Evan Sizemore, Robert McNeil, The Rev. Bowen Woodruff, Thomas Key, Daniel White-Spunner Reed, Jonathan Duralde, Andrew Campbell, Ron Lansong, John Rogers, Jr., Patrick Little, Thomas Middleton, Dallas Carl, Brett Granger, Sam Garcia, Chris Marslender, Jerry Olin, Abby Hutchins, Thomas Clough, Tyler Gamble, The Rev. Martha Kester, Dwight Williams, James Pontius, Todd Mouthaan, Ben Zimlich, Jean-Michael Lemieux.

Repose of the Soul: Connie Gonzales.

*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.*



Above: Sadie and Virginia Ladd wait for the pageant to begin with their great uncle Bill Christian.

Advent Thank You

There were three lovely Advent Music concerts in December. Many thanks to Peggy Lyden for planning the music and to the artists for their beautiful music. As always, the able kitchen crews created wonderful Advent lunches. Many thanks to Lynne Davis and Carolyn Eichold and their teams, as well as the faithful Morning Circle crew. Lenten lunches will begin on Wednesday, March 16. Please contact Lynne or Carolyn if you would like to serve on a Lenten lunch team.

The Younger Women's Bible Study will be held at the home of Lucy Moore, 2309 Muir Woods Drive, East on Wednesday, January 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Morning Circle will be held on Monday, January 10, at 10:30 a.m. at the home of Marolyn Kruse 1052 Cross Gates Place. For directions call Marolyn at 342-2338.



Mary Cook hosted Morning Circle in December. Shown left to right are: Gladys Moss and Lynn Ryall.

January Birthdays

January 4	Margaret Lyons	January 19	Mac McCafferty
January 5	Catherine Sanders		Mike Bjorklund
January 6	Daly Baumhauer	January 20	Bonnie McDonald
January 7	Dolores Drane	January 21	Charlie Merchant
January 8	Lyn Bennett		Martha Ann Stafford
	Danz Heggeman		Fred Rendfrey
	Kenny McElhaney	January 22	Peggy Lyden
January 9	Kellye Blankenship	January 23	Annabelle Ramo
	Barton Elliott	January 24	Mac McGovern
	Megan Williams		Don Brutkiewicz
	Rachel Williams	January 25	Lynn Ryall
January 10	Kathy Duncan	January 26	Pat Patrick
January 12	Anna Frances Weeks		Tony Brown
January 13	Jamie Inge	January 27	Tres Eichold
January 14	Beth Adkins	January 28	Lanier Alves
	True McGowin	January 29	Julia Blankenship
January 16	Emily Booth	January 30	Burnley Davis
January 17	Adam Calder	January 31	Bill Hall
	Mabel Kinnard		Sam Jeffers
January 19	Bob Israel		
	Paige Suttles		

Correspondence

Dear Parish Family:

After almost four weeks of being out of the hospital and back home, it is far past the time I should have taken to express my overwhelming thanks to the huge number of parishioners who have expressed their amazing concern about my accident and recovery. Although Christmas and the New Year fell right in the middle of my time back at home, that hasn't stopped many of you from calls, cards, letters, flowers, food, visits and many other incredible acts of affection. Notes will follow! I never anticipated anything like this out-pouring and I cannot express adequately my feelings to the many of you who have been so incredible. Please know that everyone in my home feels amazingly blessed these days!

My family joins with me in sending our love,
David Sanders

EYC Calendar

Epiphany Cookout - Sunday, January 9 - 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

River home of Emily Ruth and John Owen McElhaney
2007 Riverview Avenue

EYC at the Cathedral - Sunday, January 23—4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Diocesan News

Please join us January 15 for a new women's ministry in the Diocese — **Quiet Day and Taize Eucharist at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Panama City.** Registration and hospitality at 9:00 a.m. followed by a Meditation and Quiet Time, Luncheon, Taize Eucharist with installation of chapters and members, ending with the Meeting of The Episcopal Community. Registration, Hospitality, and Luncheon \$15.

Spaghetti Supper and Bingo at St. Paul's, Daphne Friday, January 21st at 6 pm. Dinner is at 6, bingo at 6:30. Supper is \$5 and free babysitting is provided!

Celebration of Ministry for The Rev. Anthony MacWhinnie on Wednesday, January 25 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Augustine's, Navarre.

Christ Church, Pensacola will hold its 54th Antique Show on Friday, February 4th through Sunday, February 6, 2011. Twenty two vendors from as far away as Illinois and Kentucky and across the Southeast are expected to show wonderful antiques including silver, jewelry, rugs, china, English boxes, linens, art, collectibles, prints, and furniture. The show will be held in the Currin Center from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Friday and Saturday, and from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm on Sunday. Admission is \$5.00, and tickets are valid for all three days of the event. Tickets for all events may be purchased in advance at the church office or at the door of the event. Lunch will be served on Friday and Saturday from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. Luncheon tickets are \$ 10.00, and lunch includes a beverage and dessert. A special Preview Party is planned for Thursday, February 3, 2011, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, and will include music, wine and light hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$15.00 per person for this lovely evening event. Theme for this year's event: "God Bless America."

Cursillo will be held at Beckwith Camp and Conference Center February 23 through 27.

The Men's Conference will be held March 4 through 6 at the Beckwith Camp and Conference Center.



Pastoral Care

Team

for January:

Debbie Broome

Lynn Ross



Loaves and Fish

*Christ Church
Cathedral volunteers
will staff*

*Loaves and Fish on
Monday, January 17
at 11:15 a.m.*

*If you would like to
volunteer, please call*

*Sam Power at
653-1203.*

*Many thanks to our
December volunteers:*

*Mary Cook,
Millie Reasonover,
Clyde Reasonover,
Sam Power.*

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 Philip M. Duncan, II, *Bishop*
The Very Reverend Johnny W. Cook, *Dean*
The Reverend Canon Beverly F. Gibson, Ph.D., *Sub-Dean*
Carolyn S. Jeffers, *Provost*
Peggy L. Lyden, *Organist and Choir Master*
Teri Williams, *Assistant Choir Master*
Brenda Stanton, *Financial Secretary*
Dunn H. Chandler, *Director of Christian Education*
Candace Lister, *Administration*
Deidre and Joe Williamson, *Nursery*
Judy Jones, *Housekeeping*



Hours 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday
Telephone (251) 438-1822 E-mail to office@christchurchcathedralmobile.com