



## A Message from the Dean

Dear Cathedral Family,

The new year moves quickly into an early Lent in 2016, with Easter coming almost as early as possible. Mardi Gras thus follows quickly on the heels of Christmas, and we might well feel as though we've taken a running jump into the future. We have.

Lent 2016 will be for the Cathedral Family a time of reflection and discernment. The stage for this was set at our annual parish meeting on Sunday, January 31. There we reviewed the events and finances of 2015 and looked forward to plans and budget for 2016. Reports presented by Canon Dan Wagner, Organist/Choirmaster Christopher Powell, and me are reprinted in this *Messenger*, along with the overview of 2015 year-end finances and the 2016 budget.

Also at that meeting, the parish was presented with the exciting and challenging news of a generous capital gift that has been made to Christ Church Cathedral over the span of the next ten years. Two requests accompanied that gift: that we should restore the steeple destroyed in the hurricane of 1906, and that we should enhance the exterior lighting of the campus. This would illuminate our stained glass windows more vividly on the

interior at night and highlight our campus as an architectural treasure in the urban landscape. The effect of these improvements will be to make Christ Church more visible as a presence in downtown Mobile—and to lead us outward to embrace our mission in the growth of our city.

At their meeting on January 24, your Vestry approved plans for the steeple restoration. Drawings and further information about this project appear in this *Messenger*. Following approval of the requisite city authorities, work on this project will proceed in the spring of this year.

Meanwhile, your Vestry will begin work in February studying the completion of our master plan. This process will involve not only taking up the opportunity presented by the capital gift; it will mean asking vital questions about our ministry within the wider Mobile community and our diocese. Progress underway on Mardi Gras Park directly in front of Christ Church presents us with an unprecedented “front yard” connecting us to downtown developments. This space invites us to look outward and forward, and to ask where and how God is calling us to take the Good News of his love and care into our part of His Kingdom.

These exciting restoration and enhancement projects remind us of the unfolding of Christ Church's mission in downtown Mobile over the last 200 years. We have a long, deep history as the Church in Mobile and as a leader in two dioceses. We have a present fairly bursting with opportunities. We have a future that God is calling us to imagine with Him. Please reflect on these things and pray about them during this Lent. Come worship in our beautiful sacred space, listen to glorious music, and look at the art in our stained glass and architecture. Give thanks for these things, and ask God how best to use them for His glory.

Faithfully,

The Very Reverend

Beverly F. Gibson, Ph.D., Dean

**ASH WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 10  
HOLY EUCHARIST,  
RITE II  
& IMPOSITION  
OF ASHES**

12:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.  
in the Church  
The Right Rev. Russell Kendrick  
Celebrant and Preacher

## THE CATHEDRAL CHAPTER 2016

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 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

### Class of 2018

Jill S. Chow  
Gretchen V. Cooper  
B. Herbert (Bert) Eichold II  
Jennifer S. Grehan  
W. Christian Hines III  
Jex R. Luce

### 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*

## A Message from the Canon Pastor

Dear Cathedral Family,

We have found ourselves in the season of Lent. Gone are our celebrations of the Nativity, Epiphany, and the revelry of Mardi Gras. Now, we are hearing familiar hymns and prayers that call us into a time self-reflection and a season of asking for God's forgiveness. Undoubtedly, we will ask ourselves, and others, what we are "giving up" like candy, soft drinks, or meat. Others might say that they are "taking on" a spiritual discipline such as doing Morning or Evening Prayer. A few days into Lent and I believe that all of us ask the question, "Am I doing this right?"

Lent is more than just giving up our favorite food or drink. It is a time of repentance, but it is also a time of renewal. The season affords us an opportunity to take a spiritual inventory to ask those pointed questions about our relationships with God, friends, spouses, children, co-workers, etc. While we are sorry for our wrongdoings and want to strive to do better, this season offers us renewal and hope in Christ. The renewal can happen through prayer, receiving the word and Sacraments, and joyfully responding to God through works of mercy to others. Our renewal of faith helps us in our daily lives and prepares us "with joy for the Paschal feast" with Christ in heaven. (BCP, p. 379)

This Lent, I want to invite people into conversation, within families and among friends, about what Lent is and how we can do more than just "get through" this season. I want to encourage us all to slow down and gather with our families and friends and with God. These can be short moments, but they can be holy times with loved ones. To help with the conversation about Lent we have some study materials available for parishioners of all ages. We have *Upon this Tree* (for our young), *Faithful Facts for Lent* (for our youth and adults), and the *Journey Through Lent* poster (for all ages). These are great tools to get us thinking about the season, the people in the story of Jesus, and ways in which we can become more faithful Christians in word and deed.

These are great tools for families to use in your worship time at home.

Again this Lent, our Sunday morning worship will change to Rite I. This is an opportunity to hear the rich language that harkens back to The Episcopal Church's 1928 Prayer Book liturgy and back to the English Reformation. Sunday afternoons, we will have worship in the chapel. These services are designed to be more quiet and contemplative. The chapel is a beautiful and intimate space where we can focus on God and worship Him. On Wednesdays, we will have Holy Eucharist in the chapel at 11:30 a.m., noon concerts, and then a great lunch. All of these opportunities are great ways to work on our repentance and renewal this season and to prepare us for Easter and beyond.

So here we are in the season of Lent, in a time of repentance and renewal for individuals, families, and our Cathedral family. It is my prayer for all of us, that we use this gift of Lent, and God's grace, to learn more about God and ourselves and to ready ourselves for Easter and beyond.

Have a great February and Lent, and I hope to see you at church!

Blessings,



The Reverend Canon Daniel A. Wagner

## ERD SUNDAY

### FEBRUARY 14



## Episcopal Relief & Development

### Healing a hurting world

The first Sunday in Lent is the day officially designated to encourage all Episcopalians to remember and support Episcopal Relief & Development's (ERD) life-saving mission. We have ERD boxes and envelopes available for you or your children to use for a Lenten offering.

## 2015: CELEBRATING TEN YEARS AS THE CATHEDRAL

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

This was yet another year of significant transition in the life of Christ Church Cathedral. By far the most consuming and far-reaching change was the retirement of The Rt. Rev. Philip M. Duncan as third bishop of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast and the election, consecration, and seating of The Rt. Rev. J. Russell Kendrick as our fourth bishop. Changes in staff continued in 2015, along with the development of programs as newer staff members continued to grow into their positions. Finally, significant change was begun late in the year with the challenge to growth attending a significant capital gift.

My service on the Bishop Search Committee for the diocese was completed in December 2014 with the naming of a slate of nominees for election as our next bishop. At that time, the work of Provost Carolyn Jeffers as chair of the Transition Committee intensified, leading up to the episcopal election in February and then preparations for the consecration in July. The role of Christ Church Cathedral in the whole search and transition process was extensive. The profile of the diocese for the search process, as well as the walk-about information publication and numerous other documents were produced in-house at the Cathedral. Planning for the consecration and celebration was centered here, as well. This was one of the largest and most complex series of events that Christ Church has ever undertaken to produce, and I can never fully express my thankfulness for the generosity

and hard work of the Cathedral Family. Every member of the Cathedral staff worked above and beyond their duties, as well. The Cathedral Report to the Diocese contains more details concerning our work in preparing for and executing the Consecration Celebration, the consecration itself at Expo Hall, the reception following at the Cathedral, and the seating of the fourth bishop.

Since his consecration, Bishop Russell Kendrick has been regularly in residence in the Bishop's apartment here at the Cathedral, often for as long as a week at a time, and members of the staff and the parish have provided hospitality and support for various meetings he has hosted here.

Sarah Bolt joined the Cathedral staff in January as part-time coordinator for youth activities, and she has been instrumental in the growth of that program over the past year, increasing the number of opportunities for fellowship and fun for our youth and building a sense of community among them. Corinne Betbeze also joined the staff last January as coordinator of children's ministries. She is a regular presence overseeing the nursery on Sunday's, as well as directing Children's Chapel and other activities as they arise during the year. She has brought much needed oversight to the safety of our children and has been invaluable in bringing our children's programs to new life in the new nursery. Joe and Deirdre Williamson retired in the summer, after ten years of faithful service in our nursery. Since that time, we have been fortunate to have the loving presence

of Rose Blount, her mother and her daughter, Jennifer Palmer in the nursery. In the fall, Michelle Wilson joined the Cathedral Staff as administrative assistant to the provost, replacing Polly Garner. Michelle continues to advance the quality of our publications, and she has ably taken on the coordination of our lay ministers.

In January, The Reverend Dan Wagner was ordained to the priesthood here at Christ Church Cathedral, by Bishop Duncan on behalf of Bishop Waldo of Upper South Carolina. At the same time, Bishop Duncan named him Canon Pastor to the Cathedral. Soon after, the Bishop received Canon Wagner's dimmissorial letter, making him canonically resident in the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. In other words, he now belongs here. Canon Wagner has continued to oversee the growth and development of our Christian Education and youth programs, as well as working diligently in pastoral care and in other duties as assigned. Organist and Choirmaster Christopher Powell also worked hard in his first year here at the Cathedral to grow our concert series, to enhance the musical dimension of our worship, and to oversee the improvement and care of the Cathedral organ. He has composed a considerable amount of music for our worship, and he has done wonderful work in planning and executing new liturgies. His wife Katie, working as his assistant and as Choir Director, has helped us all to grow in our musical expressions of praise in the psalms, and she has led the choir in developing a unified and focused musical identity. Both Dan

## 2015 Annual Reports (continued)

and Christopher have submitted detailed reports on their work this year.

In addition to Sunday afternoon concerts in the Epiphany season and summer, this year also saw the introduction of a less formal and more contemporary worship service on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. These services made a trial appearance in October and were well enough received that they will return for the Sundays in Lent 2016. The annual Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols moved with success to Sunday evening in 2014 and continued in 2015. We plan to continue developing and experimenting with other liturgies from the Book of Occasional Services and Enriching Our Worship in 2016.

Also in 2015, Christ Church Cathedral was informed of the intention of an anonymous donor to make a significant capital gift over ten years, from 2016 to 2026. The intent of this gift is to enhance the visibility of Christ Church in downtown Mobile and to help pursue the completion of the master plan for our facilities—all with an eye to the bicentennial of Christ Church in 2022. The restoration of the original steeple and the installation of enhanced exterior lighting were the two specific requests accompanying the gift. Jim Bargaineer, of Bargaineer Davis Sims Architects and the designer of our master plan, undertook the design and planning for the steeple restoration project. His work, in collaboration with Paul Frenkel of Ben Radcliff Construction, was completed in late 2015 and presented to and accepted by the Vestry in January of 2016.

Christ Church Cathedral continues to grow into the mission to which God has called us in downtown Mobile and in our diocese. I believe that 2015 was a watershed in our development and that we will use the momentum created in this year to begin a period of reflection on and reclaiming of our great history in order to prepare for exciting ministry in our future. It is my great privilege to serve the Cathedral during this time, and I give thanks for all the blessings God has given us in this place.

### **The Reverend Canon Daniel A. Wagner, Canon Pastor**

It has been my honor to begin my ordained ministry here at Christ Church Cathedral. On January 10, 2015, I was ordained a priest by the Rt. Rev. Philip Duncan and was also named Canon Pastor. I came to the Cathedral, having recently graduated from the School of Theology at the University of the South (Sewanee, TN) in May of 2014 and was ordained a Transitional Deacon in June of 2014. I began my tenure at the Cathedral on July 1, 2014.

My job at the Cathedral is to assist the Dean and Provost, in an appropriate manner. My areas of work include pastoral care, Christian formation, and youth. I also assist the Dean with the worship, preaching once a month, and attend Vestry meetings, presenting requested reports. Concerning pastoral care, in 2015, I made fifty visits to parishioners who are either in the hospital or are homebound. I have visited parishioners in all four local hospitals. Concerning Christian formation, I worked with the Dean and Provost to identify the Christian

formation materials used for our Sunday school program. Additionally, I worked to recruit and retain teachers, teach the senior high class, and oversee the Safe Guarding training for the teachers. Along with the Provost, I worked with the confirmation class and its outreach project (spring 2015 – pancake breakfast to benefit Fuse Project; fall 2015 – brunch to benefit the young men of the Kappa League of Mobile). I also have assisted with the planning and implementation for Vacation Bible School.

Concerning the youth (EYC), this year we have shifted to meeting twice a month and have developed a schedule of activities that include “fun” and “religious” activities. Some of the events the group has done this year include: paintball, Bay Bears baseball game, an instructed Eucharist, and visiting homebound parishioners. Our youth have done events for just our youth, have partnered with other local EYC groups, and have participated in diocesan-sponsored events at Beckwith. Our youth had limited participation at the Jonathan Myrick Daniels Pilgrimage in August. The Cathedral hosted a Mardi Gras party for all diocesan youth in January 2016. In the spring, I attended the “adults who work with youth” conference put on by our diocese. In addition to the youth, the Cathedral has the Fun Club (grades 3-5) and I have assisted in the planning of activities for this group.

For the consecration of our new bishop, I assisted the Dean and Provost in a variety of ways. I was co-chair of the acolytes, along with Mr. Mike Harding (Holy Nativity, Panama City), working to ready the

## 2015 Annual Reports (continued)

twenty plus acolytes and the four youth litanists from throughout our diocese for the service.

In an effort to extend Cathedral assistance to local churches, I have filled in as celebrant and preacher at St. John's, Mobile (once) and Good Shepherd, Mobile (twice), and have assisted at a funeral at St. Paul's (Mobile). In August, I served as a chaplain at the final camp session at Beckwith (family weekend).

### Christopher W. Powell, Organist/Choirmaster Report

2015 was an extremely productive year for the music ministry. January saw a great success in our first Epiphany Music Series on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 p.m., and our Lenten Noon Concert Series was successful as always. Ash Wednesday saw the addition of the full choir to the evening service, and Maundy Thursday featured an a cappella chamber choir in the Chapel. Good Friday featured full choir for the first time in many years. We maintained our relationship with guest musicians from the Mobile Symphony Orchestra, and they were featured in numerous services throughout the year. Sunday afternoon Eucharist, during October, in the Chapel with Taizé-style music were well received.

Continuing with Mr. Jack Bethards' master plan developed in 2014, we enlisted the services of the Milnar Organ Company of Nashville to assume maintenance responsibilities on the Cathedral organ. In May of 2015, major repair and maintenance was accomplished by the Milnar company. This included the re-finishing of decaying wooden pipes and the fitting of tuning sleeves on

our metal pipes (to eliminate the need for cone tuning). Other improvements included re-fitting of swell shades, a complete tuning of the organ, addition of "tuning perches" to make tuning easier, and repair and a more ergonomic top for the organ bench.

This summer saw the establishment of the Cathedral Organ Fund, an ongoing fund for maintenance and care of our pipe organ. Along with this, an annual summer organ concert series was initiated to raise awareness of our organ, its history, value, and its repertoire. A comprehensive booklet was published with information about the organ and an appeal for donors to the fund. The organ's condition is stable and will continue to benefit from this fund and summer series.

July featured the Consecration of our fourth bishop. Cathedral musicians, along with other diocesan musicians, served on the Liturgy Committee and the Planning Committee for this service and surrounding events. The Cathedral Organist and Choirmaster served as chair of the Music Committee, organist for the Clergy Eucharist with the Presiding Bishop, and principal musician for the Consecration. The Cathedral's Assistant Choirmaster conducted the combined Diocesan Choir in rehearsal and service. We are indebted to the nearly 200 choir members, staff singers, and three organists who gave of their time and talent for this great event. We are also grateful for the local rehearsals held by organists and choirmasters across the diocese at local parishes.

This year saw the addition of one new staff singer (replacement of a vacant position) and the creation of a staff violinist position, filled by Dr. Gosia Leska. Our 2015/16 Music Season

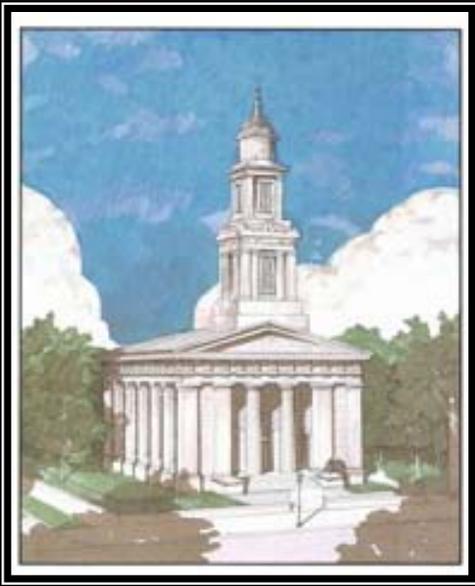


### Birmingham-Southern College Concert Choir Thursday, March 17 6:30 p.m.

The Birmingham-Southern College Concert Choir will present choral works by Josquin Desprez, Johannes Brahms, Heitor Villa-Lobos, Ola Gjeilo, arrangements of spirituals and more. The 45-member group's conductor is Lester Seigel.

has also expanded to include 25 concerts and featured services compared with 18 in the previous year. The Cathedral Choir is healthy with 17 people officially registered, but we intend to start a campaign to increase attendance at service and rehearsal with a goal of having 25 in the choir. The Handbell Choir has retained all its members, numbering seven. Our Children's Choir development program is in planning stages and continues to progress. A project to re-file the choral library is in process, and a complete cataloging of all anthems has been accomplished. Our choral library contains 706 titles and 11,904 individual copies with an estimated replacement cost of between \$35,000 and \$40,000 (library data dates from August, 2015).

## Steeple Restoration for Christ Church Cathedral



Architectural drawings from the 1937 Historical American Buildings Survey recreated the original Christ Church steeple, which once appeared prominently in the Mobile skyline until its destruction in the hurricane of 1906. Early photographs and drawings demonstrate the great height and massive structure of that steeple, which was already in disrepair and posed some danger prior to its collapse. Working with these sources, and with the assistance of our own architectural historian and Vestry member Cart Blackwell, Jim Bargaineer (of Bargaineer Davis Sims Architects) has produced a facsimile of the steeple that once graced Christ Church and announced its presence in Mobile.

Twenty-first century technology makes it possible to construct a steeple of the same design and dimensions from materials of considerably less weight, with much greater wind resistance, and without significant maintenance requirements. The original bell, now

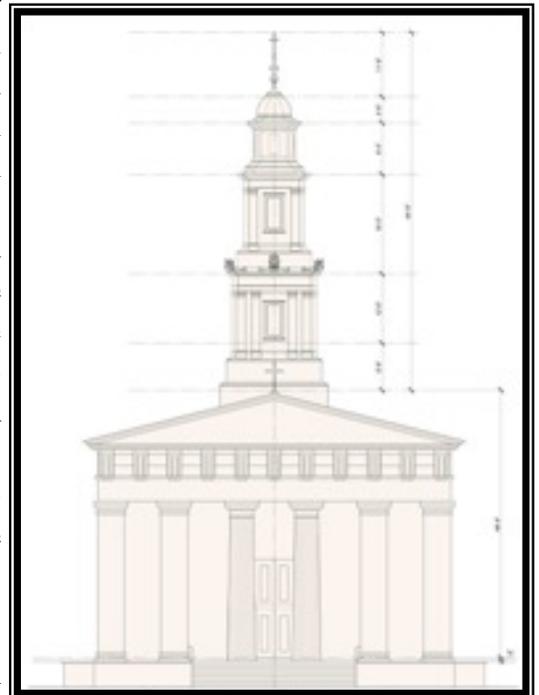
located on the north side of the front steps to the church, was one of the largest of its kind in the United States. It will remain in its present location, where we can continue to enjoy its voice in relative safety.

The steeple will be manufactured and installed by Campbellsville Industries, Inc. of Campbellsville, Kentucky (the “Steeple People”). The cupola will have an inner structural steel tube framework, with a secondary aluminum angle framework. It will be clad in .032” aluminum with a Kynar finish in a color to match that of the church. It will be topped with a copper-clad dome, atop which will rest an 11’8” cross mounted on a spun aluminum ball on an octagonal base. The total height of the finished steeple, including the base support and lower level pilasters will be 64’8”. The steeple will be equipped with a digital carillon, which will be equipped with programmed hymn tunes, as well as a keyboard for additional recordings and a remote control.

The plan for the steeple restoration was presented to and approved by the Vestry on January 24, 2016. The presentation was made by architect Jim Bargaineer, the designer of the master plan for the Cathedral campus completed and approved by the Vestry in 2009, who has worked with us since that time as we have made incremental progress in its implementation. Paul Frenkel, of

Ben M. Radcliff Construction, also participated in the presentation. Paul managed the restoration of the church and chapter house by BMR in 2006-07 and has assisted us in other projects since that time. He will coordinate the construction and installation of the steeple with Campbellsville Industries.

Before necessary construction permits can be obtained, the project must first be reviewed and approved by the Consolidated Review Committee of the Downtown Development District of the City of Mobile and by the Architectural Review Board for proposed work



in Mobile’s historic districts. Once this is accomplished, site preparation can begin and a schedule for construction will be established. The steeple will be fabricated in Campbellsville, Kentucky and then shipped in sections to Mobile. These sections will then be lifted and fitted atop the church.

# Calendar



## February

### Wednesday, February 3

Noon HE, Rite II  
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir  
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, February 4

11:00 a.m. Fields Memorial

### Sunday, February 7—Joe Cain

10:00 a.m. HE, Rite II

### Monday, February 8

10:30 a.m. Fun Club Parade  
Party

### Ash Wednesday, January 10

Noon HE, Rite II, Church  
5:30 p.m. HE, Rite II, Church

### ERD Sunday, February 14

10:00 a.m. HE, Rite I  
11:00 a.m. Christian Formation  
Noon EYC  
4:00 p.m. HE, EOW, Chapel

### Monday, February 15

9:30 a.m. Morning Circle  
5:15 p.m. Finance Committee

### Tuesday, February 16

5:15 p.m. Vestry Workshop

### Wednesday, February 17

11:30 a.m. HE, Rite II  
Noon Lenten Music  
12:30 p.m. Lenten Lunch  
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir  
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, February 18-20

Diocesan Convention

### Sunday, February 21

10:00 a.m. HE, Rite I  
11:00 a.m. Christian Formation  
4:00 p.m. HE, EOW—Chapel

### Wednesday, February 24

11:30 a.m. HE, Rite II  
Noon Lenten Music  
12:30 p.m. Lenten Lunch  
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir  
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### Friday, February 26

5:30 p.m. EYC Lock-In

### Sunday, February 28

10:00 a.m. HE, Rite I  
11:00 a.m. Group Sunday School  
4:00 p.m. HE, EOW—Chapel

## March

### Wednesday, March 2

11:30 a.m. HE, Rite II  
Noon Lenten Music  
12:30 p.m. Lenten Lunch  
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir  
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday, March 6

10:00 a.m. HE, Rite I  
11:00 a.m. Christian Formation  
4:00 p.m. HE, EOW—Chapel

### Tuesday, March 8

5:15 p.m. Adult Inquirer's  
Class

### Wednesday, March 9

11:30 a.m. HE, Rite II  
Noon Lenten Music  
12:30 p.m. Lenten Lunch  
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir  
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### Saturday, March 12

9:00 a.m. Altar Guild 101

### Sunday, March 13

#### Daylight Saving Time Begins

10:00 a.m. HE, Rite I  
4:00 p.m. HE, EOW—Chapel  
4:00 p.m. EYC—Ashland Place

### Monday, March 14

10:30 a.m. Morning Circle

### Tuesday, March 15

9:00 a.m. School tour  
5:15 p.m. Adult Inquirer's  
Class

### Wednesday, March 16

11:30 a.m. HE, Rite II  
Noon Lenten Music  
12:30 p.m. Lenten Lunch  
1:00 p.m. Make Palm Crosses  
5:15 p.m. Finance Committee  
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir  
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, March 17

6:30 p.m. Concert: Birmingham  
Southern Concert  
Choir

### Palm Sunday, March 20

10:00 a.m. HE, Rite II  
11:00 a.m. Parish Photo  
11:15 a.m. Vestry

### Monday in Holy Week, March 21

Noon HE, Rite II

### Tuesday in Holy Week, March 22

Noon HE, Rite II

### Wednesday in Holy Week,

#### March 23

Noon HE, Rite II  
5:30 p.m. Tenebrae

### Maundy Thursday, March 24

5:30 p.m. HE, Rite II

### Good Friday, March 25

Noon Liturgy

### Holy Saturday, March 26

9:30 a.m. Prepare for Easter

### Easter Day, March 27

10:00 a.m. Festival Eucharist  
11:30 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

### Wednesday, March 30

Noon HE, Rite II  
5:30 p.m. Handbell Choir  
6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

## Music Ministry

Dear Friends in Christ,

*“Perhaps all the dragons in our lives are princesses who are only waiting to see us act, just once, with beauty and courage. Perhaps everything that frightens us is, in its deepest essence, something helpless that wants our love.”*

– Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926)

*Letters to a Young Poet*

Liturgically speaking, February always brings thoughts of Lent, but perhaps never more so than this year, when Ash Wednesday falls on February 10<sup>th</sup>. From a musical perspective, our Epiphany season has been quite busy and fruitful. Our Epiphany Sunday afternoon musical events went very well, and we are grateful to all who participated and attended. However, the liturgical year does not leave us much time to reflect on things passed, it beckons us forward into the season of Lent, a time of repentance and introspection.

Whether you are a traditionalist or a moderate when it comes to your Lenten observance, Lent is the most solemn season of the year. This season is expressed well in the seldom heard original second verse of, *Abide with me*.

*Swift to its close ebbs out  
life's little day;*

*Earth's joys grow dim,  
its glories pass away;*

*Change and decay in all  
around I see—*

*O Thou who changest not,  
abide with me.*

Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

From a musical perspective, our services will take on a different nature – a more solemn, older quality that is conducive to thinking of “hard teachings.” We sing older texts, speak the psalms, and delve into hymn lyrics that help us reflect. All the theological reasons for this liturgical change are best left to those more educated than I in these matters, but I would like to focus on their musical implications.

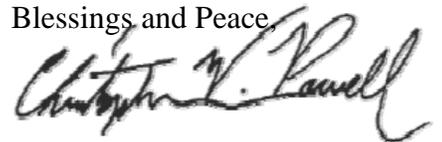
Music is beautiful and uplifting, correct? Yes, but without getting into a heady philosophical discussion of what makes beauty, suffice to say that Lenten beauty is different from Christmas, Easter, or even Advent beauty. Lenten beauty tests us. Lenten music tends to be austere at times, but is almost always very serious in its portrayal of the ideas of temptation, wickedness, sacrifice, and death. Many church musicians (and worshipers) seem not to know what to do with Lent. If one presents “sad” pieces, how will the congregation still feel uplifted? Some of these questions stem from a disconnection as to the nature of musical beauty. Would one say Michelangelo’s *Pieta*, a depiction of Mary holding the deceased Christ in her arms at the foot of the cross, lacked beauty? I would go so far as to say it is uplifting to the mind and spirit. Compositions that feature elements of “sad music” have the ability to gather up our “negative/sad” feelings into themselves, giving us release. To me, Lent stands out as the one season devoted to the darker side

of beauty, in an effort to help us truly understand and experience Holy Week and Easter – the ultimate joy.

Musically, we will certainly still have familiar, uplifting hymns and anthems featured this Lent, and we also have a great concert series lined up for Wednesdays at noon (and a Thursday “bonus” concert). However, when you hear works that focus on the sadder side of things, like Mozart’s *Ave Verum* or Stainer’s *God So Loved the World*, I hope you will allow them to aid in your Lenten reflection through “change and decay” toward Easter joy.

Finally, I wish to address the quote at the beginning of this month’s article. Rilke likens our adversities and demons, if you will, to princesses in disguise. He implies that those things which pain us are, at their core, hurting and in need of love. I think this is an excellent analogy to describe how we hope our music will aid us in worship this Lenten season. By being unafraid of solemnity or even a little sadness, maybe our dragons can finally begin to rest. Lent is right around the corner, and perhaps it is, “[...] only waiting to see us act, just once, with beauty and courage.”

Blessings and Peace



Christopher W. Powell

# Lenten Music at Noon

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

12:00 p.m. Music in the Church;

12:30 p.m. Lunch in the Chapter House

Wednesday, February 17

## PIANO AND ORGAN DUETS

*Featuring Lynne A. Lauderdale, organ professor at the University of West Florida, and Christopher W. Powell, Organist and Choirmaster of Christ Church Cathedral.*

Wednesday, February 24

## THE ARCHDUKE TRIO

*We are pleased to welcome again Mobile's own chamber ensemble, The Archduke Trio, featuring masterful artists from the Mobile Symphony Orchestra, Enen Yu, violinist, Guo-Sheng Huang, violoncellist, and Bob Holm, pianist.*



Wednesday, March 2

## MONIKA COSSON, MEZZO-SOPRANO

*Monika Cosson will offer a program of music for mezzo-soprano that will highlight the rich and expressive quality of her voice. Cosson has performed with such ensembles as the Pensacola Choral Society, the New Orleans Opera, Santa Fe Opera, and Opera Southwest.*



Wednesday, March 9

## BELLA VOCE WOMEN'S CHORUS

*Again this season, we welcome Bella Voce, the ever-popular "premier" women's chorus of Mobile. Engaging innovative, this group of ladies is sure to delight and inspire.*



Wednesday, March 16

## A CLASSIC COMBINATION

*This program features beautiful compositions for violin and piano. Hear violinist, Gosia Leska, and pianist, Christopher W. Powell.*

## Episcopal Youth Community

The EYC had two fun events in January.



On January 10 they went to Cooper Riverside Park to ice skate. Pictured above from the left: Sarah Bolt, Charlie Ramo, Brenda Ellis, Gracie Platt, Maria Napier, Canon Dan, Julianna Ramo, William Russell.



On January 31, our EYC hosted youth from around the diocese for the Neptune's Daughter's Parade.



The evening ended with Compline in the Chapter House. Many thanks to Al Chow for cooking and our EYC parents for their help.

## Nursery News

Over the last few months, the Cathedral staff has reviewed ways in which we can enhance the nursery experience for our young and for their parents and grandparents. We contacted other Episcopal Cathedrals in the southeast to find some “best practices” being used. We concentrated on personnel training and site safety. Making these improvements is a natural outgrowth from our recent nursery facility improvements.

Our goal is to provide friendly and competent personnel along with a clean, welcoming, and safe environment for our children to spend time while their adult family members can participate in our worship activities.

The Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast requires at its churches that those who work with children or other vulnerable populations have training regarding child abuse awareness and prevention education. The program for children and youth is entitled, “Safe Guarding God’s Children”. The training offers insight to protecting children and youth through being aware of any warning signs of abuse, how to contact the appropriate authorities should that be necessary, and

how to improve operations on site. Our Sunday school teachers and clergy have undergone this training.

Our nursery workers have begun this training and should have it completed by the end of the month. Periodically, there is follow-up training to complete. Any new nursery workers or Sunday school teachers will need to complete this training.

Concerning safety, we are working to keep the area secure and help our nursery workers be in touch with our usher team, should there be a security incident. We are working to limit campus access points once the church services start. Thankfully, there have not been any security incidents here at the Cathedral. However, it is never a bad thing to periodically review how we operate, so we can improve things.

To meet our goal of providing great people and a great environment for our children, we want to be prepared and have a plan in place just in case. If you have any questions about the personnel training or security improvements, please contact Canon Wagner.

## Christian Formation

### February

#### Sunday, February 7

Joe Cain Day – No Sunday School

#### Sunday, February 14

Curriculum for all children and youth classes

Confirmation: Session V

#### Sunday, February 21

Curriculum for all children and youth classes

#### Sunday, February 28

Group Sunday School—Instructed Eucharist

Our children in grades 3 through 12 will meet during Christian Formation for an Instructed Eucharist in the Chapel. This will be a great opportunity for our youth to learn more about “the principal act of Christian worship on the Lord’s Day...” (p. 13 of the BCP) and participate in the service. **Members of the Confirmation Class are required to attend this event.** For more information, please contact Canon Wagner.

## Fun Club

### Monday, February 8—10:30 a.m. until

Join our Fun Club for some Mardi Gras fun! Our Floral Parade Party starts at 10:30 a.m. We are in need of parental support/ chaperones. Please contact Banks Ladd or Canon Wagner, if you can assist.

## Episcopal Church Q and A’s

### What does it mean to be a Church?

The word church comes from the Latin word ecclesia, which means a gathering, and eventually came to mean the gathered people of God, as well as the place where they gather. The church is the place where the people of God worship, pray, sing, and celebrate sacraments together, and it is also the people themselves, participating in worship, praying, singing, and celebrating. All baptized persons are members of the Christian Church.

~The Rev. Catherine Anne Caimano

## February 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, February 14—noon to 3:00 p.m.

The Youth will play paintball at Xtreme Paintball. The cost per person is \$30 and covers rental equipment, goggles, CO2, and 500 rounds. The Youth will leave right after Christian Formation and should bring some money for a snack. You must complete a waiver to participate, please see Canon Wagner to complete the form.

### Friday, February 26 starting at 5:30 p.m.

Our second event is a lock-in to be held at the Cathedral. We will have some food, fellowship, and fun as we endeavor to spend an evening at Christ Church Cathedral.

What to expect:

- Youth will be on campus from 5:30 p.m. Friday, February 26 until 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning
- Parents will need to sign youth in and out
- There will be a Youth and Parent Covenant with behavior expectations to be signed
- We will have plenty of food
- And, movies
- And, games
- The event will feature Evening and Morning Worship
- Look for more information via email and in the Sunday bulletin.



## MORNING CIRCLE

**Monday, February 15**

9:30 a.m. at the Church

We will cook for the

Lenten Lunch

**Wednesday, February 17**

We will cook/serve the

Lenten Lunch

*For information, call Carolyn*

*Stephenson at 342-5637.*



## WEDNESDAY

## HOLY

## EUCCHARIST

**February 17, 24**

**March 2, 9, 16**

**11:30 a.m.**

in the Chapel

followed by

Lenten music/lunch.



## ALTAR GUILD 101

**Saturday, March 12**

Time TBA

A training for Altar Guild mem-  
bers

And those who want to learn.

## Sunday Afternoon Lenten Eucharist

**Sunday in Lent: February 14, 21, 28 and March 6, 13**

**4:00 p.m. in the Chapel**

Come experience a quiet afternoon liturgy at the Cathedral.

The meditations and music will be beautiful and thought-provoking.

These services will feature scripture, poetry, musical reflections, and prayers.

## Lenten Devotional Materials

This year's Lenten meditations booklet enclosed in this issue of the *Messenger* is entitled *Faithful Facts for Lent*. The daily meditations allow the reader to go back to the time of Christ with expert historian and theologian Paul L. Maier as he explores the personalities of the Passion in these daily devotions for the season of Lent. Drawing upon archaeological findings, empirical data and writing of the ancient world, Maier makes the events of Christ's Passion more real for us and reveals the effect the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord had on the faith of people then and on our faith today.

The children's activities include *Upon this Tree* devotions and stickers and *The Journey through Lent* calendar, to be used as a guide to a daily family reflection. Both are available on the sideboard in the Chapter House.

## Litany of Penitence

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others, as we have been forgiven.

We have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness:

the pride, hypocrisy, and impatience of our lives,

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways,  
and our exploitation of other people,

Our anger at our own frustration,  
and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

Our intemperate love of worldly goods and comforts,  
and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

Our negligence in prayer and worship,  
and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,

Accept our repentance, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors,  
and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us,

For our waste and pollution of your creation,

and our lack of concern for those who come after us.

~taken from the "Litany of Penitence" BCP 267

## How to Join Episcopal Church *(paraphrased from The Episcopal Handbook)*

By far, the most important requirement for joining the Episcopal Church is showing up.

Many Episcopal parishes are intentionally vague about assigning membership. We don't want to be known as places where weekly attendance is taken, annual contributions are tabulated, and your membership is assigned only if you pass muster. We're much less concerned about counting the people who are in, than we are about leaving someone out.

To serve as a lay minister you should be baptized in this or any

Christian church, confirmed or received by a bishop of the Episcopal Church, attend services, receive Holy Communion, and make a financial commitment. Of course, some people claim membership to our churches because a long-lost relative once attended, and this is fine by us. We believe the church should reflect the open and accepting arms of Jesus.

If one is baptized in a parish, he or she automatically becomes a member. If one is already a member of an Episcopal parish and moves to another, a Letter of

Transfer is typically requested. However, the paperwork generally plays second fiddle to the importance of a feeling of belonging to a parish family.

A Youth Confirmation Class is currently underway. There will be an Adult Inquirer's Class on Tuesdays, March 8, and 15 at 5:15 p.m. in the Cathedral library. Please contact Dean Gibson or Canon Wagner, if you would like to attend.

Confirmation and Reception by the Bishop will be on Sunday, April 24 at the 11th Annual Cathedral Celebration.

## Parish Meeting: Sunday, January 31, 2016

### 2015 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

#### Operating Budget

	Budget	Actual
Revenue:	\$ 778,772	\$ 724,953
Expenses:	\$ 778,772	\$ 783,214
Deficit:		(\$ 58,261)

**Endowment Fund** \$ 816,445

**Cathedral Foundation** \$ 281,188

**Capital Fund** \$ 105,715

Debt SBA Loan

\$ 246,042 to SBA (30-year at 4%)

- CCC pays \$ 30,564 annually
- Original loan amount \$ 486,200

### 2016 FINANCIAL PLAN *approved by the Vestry January 17, 2016*

Projected revenue \$ 781,662

Projected expenses \$ 781,662

This increase is based on:

Increased pledges for 2016, totaling \$ 697,762

Investment income of \$ 41,000

Plate and income based on last year's totals, plus payments from previous years, \$ 42,900

## ADULT INQUIRER'S CLASS

**Tuesday, March 8 and  
March 15**

5:15 p.m.

in the Cathedral library

Please contact Dean Gibson or Canon Wagner if you would like to attend.

## CHRIST CHURCH CELEBRATES COOKBOOK

Copies of the 175th Anniversary Cookbook may not be available in hard copy, but it is now on-line at the Cathedral website. Go to the bottom of the About tab to take a look.

## Diocesan News



45TH ANNUAL  
DIOCESAN CONVENTION  
FEBRUARY 18 - 20, 2016  
ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
DAPHNE, ALABAMA

*"HOPE"*

**Happening** is a spiritual retreat weekend, led by teenagers for teenagers in 10-12th grades. Happening is February 26-28th at St. James, Fairhope. Register to participate in the weekend online: <https://goo.gl/aY10WJ>.

### Eight-Day Centering Prayer Retreat at Beckwith March 12-19

“Come by yourself to an out-of-the-way place and rest,” Jesus said. In response to Jesus’ directive, **Contemplative Outreach of Pensacola will offer an eight-day retreat at Beckwith.** The \$780.00 tuition includes all meals and seven nights lodging. Centering Prayer is a prayer without words. It is an ancient form of prayer that is based on the teaching of Jesus, “When you pray, go to your inner room, close the door and pray to your Father in secret” (Matt 6:6). For information call Carol Lewis at (850) 572-0967.

### BECKWITH SUMMER CAMP APPLICATIONS

Join as Beckwith begins their 44th year of offering a tradition of recreation, spiritual growth, and memory-filled summers through Summer Camp.

Now available online at [www.BeckwithAL.com](http://www.BeckwithAL.com).

Early Registration discount applies through March 31.

### Enneagram Retreat at Beckwith Friday, March 18 and Saturday, March 19 *Sponsored by The Commission on Cursillo*



**BECOMING CONSCIOUS**  
*Rebirth of Soul Through the Wisdom of the Enneagram*

Are you seeking a deeper relationship with Jesus the Christ? How can we come to a deeper understanding of each other as individuals and yet collectively continue together as followers of Christ? To explore answers to these and other questions and to provide tools for our collective spiritual growth, **the Commission on Cursillo is offering a workshop on The Wisdom of the Enneagram on March 18-19, 2016.** This in-depth conference will afford you the opportunity to come in touch with an enlightening and ancient system that serves as an illuminating means of personal awareness, self-realization, spiritual growth.

### ECW Invitational Luncheon

featuring Bishop Russell Kendrick

**Tuesday, March 1**

**Christ Church, Pensacola**

Reservation forms are available by emailing:  
[junelinke52@yahoo.com](mailto:junelinke52@yahoo.com)

### *Thirty-fifth* Men's Conference

*and Retreat*

March 4, 5, & 6

Beckwith Camp and Conference Center

*The Alsolife*

*Life beyond the Life We Know*

*Presented by*

Reverend Barbara Crafton  
*Priest, Author, and Spiritual Director*

## 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, The Reveverend Ellis Wilkins.

#### 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, 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, Carolyn Graham, Ralph Neal, Mark Mason, Anita Stead, Tim Fulton, Bennett Stenger, Gladys Crowson, Billy Yost, Noel Fell, 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, Pat Fisher, Bubba Murray, Bernice Vickers, Jerry Collins, Grady McMillan, Bobby Moss, Kerry Goode, The Rev. John Rees, Chris Schnieder, Liz Charbonnet Talmadge, John Day Peake, Jr., A. J. Villars, Kay Koffler, Tay Morrisette, Robert L. Hatcher, Bob Williams, Mary Katzman, Jennifer Strong, David Keniston, Zaidee Galloney, Maggie Behlen, Evelyn and Bill McGeHee, Chrissie Irby, Adele Stuardi Gwatkin, Lydia Moore, Bill Betbeze, B. F. Paty Daves, Ralph Boudreaux, Tommy Roberson, Billy Bailey, Henry Trice, Pete and B.J. Cobb, Carolyn Shores Wright, Cathlene Quizon, Rip Nance, Shelley Carr Nightingale, Charlie Mae Moreé

#### For 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, Tom Pearce, Colton Ulmer, Margie Hall Malloy

#### Rest of the Soul:

Brenda Seymour Boney, sister of George Seymour; Betty Ruth Patek

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 1	Patsy Seymour Alex Hoffmeyer Page Hoffmeyer Tommy Taylor
February 2	Jamie Cooper T. K. Jackson Anna McClure Jason McKenzie
February 3	Gracie Armbrrecht Stephanie Hopper
February 4	Darden Cooper Joel Daves Keller Reeves
February 5	Bill Stafford
February 6	Jane Adams
February 7	Winnie Nichols
February 8	Henry Seawell John Connor Peebles
February 9	Louise McClelland
February 10	Sadie Leland
February 11	Cart Blackwell
February 13	Josh Hopper
February 14	Corinne Betbeze Kimberlie Gaillard
February 15	Trinity Gaillard Phillip Harris
February 16	Abbie Carwie Kate Watkins
February 17	Erin McDougald Bill Rodgers
February 18	Lucy Wright John Wade Thurber Emory Van Antwerp
February 19	Joy Dean Nance Stephens
February 20	Hamp Eichold William Russell
February 21	Christopher Powell
February 22	Ryan Patton
February 23	Marianne Hall
February 25	Grant Zarzour
February 27	John McClelland III
February 28	Greg Phillips

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL  
115 South Conception Street  
Mobile, Alabama 36602

NONPROFIT ORG  
U S POSTAGE  
PAID  
MOBILE AL  
PERMIT #673

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

# 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*  
Marla J. Reis, *Cathedral Secretary*  
Michelle C. Wilson, *Assistant to the Provost*  
Sarah S. Bolt, *Youth Activities Coordinator*  
Corinne R. Betbeze, *Children's Program Director*  
Judy J. Jones, *Housekeeping*



Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday  
Phone 251.438.1822 Fax: 251.433.3403

Website: [www.christchurchcathedralsmobile.org](http://www.christchurchcathedralsmobile.org)  
E-mail: [office@christchurchcathedralsmobile.org](mailto:office@christchurchcathedralsmobile.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.*