



THE FOURTH EPISTLE

SAINT JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

MOBILE, ALABAMA

The Reverend Thomas Heard, Rector
The Protestant Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast
The Right Reverend Philip Duncan, Bishop
The Reverend James Russell Kendrick, Bishop-Elect

Vol. XXV, Issue 7

July 2015

FROM THE RECTOR:

Dear Ones,

As I write this, the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church (TEC) is preparing to convene. Officially, the convention opens on Thursday, 25 July and runs through Friday, 3 July. It is a grueling schedule for our Deputies and Bishop.

The General Convention is our legislative governing body. It is made up of the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies; the parallel to the structure of the U.S. Congress is not accidental. As you might imagine, the House of Bishops is made up of the bishops of The Episcopal Church. The House of Deputies comprises 4 clergy and 4 laypersons from each diocese. Our deputies and alternates are: Vince Currie, Scott Remington, David Quittmeyer, Gary Moore, Lynn Ferrin, Joe McDaniel, Steve Pankey, Peter Wong, Martha Kreamer, Walt Kindergeran, and Thack Dyson.

Each house has a president; in the House of Bishops, that person is called "The Presiding Bishop" (PB). From the beginning of TEC, the presiding bishop was the "senior member of the House of Bishops." William White was presiding bishop for over 40 years(!). Daniel Sylvester Tuttle, elected first as Bishop of Montana (which included Utah and Idaho) and later as Bishop of Missouri, held the office for over 20 years. (Tuttle was the youngest ever elected bishop in our church.) I think it not a coincidence that Tuttle was the last long-term PB; we changed to the current process at the next General Convention. Now the House of Bishops elects one of its own to be Presiding Bishop.

As you might guess, TEC has a process for selecting the candidates for PB: the Joint Nominating Committee for Presiding Bishop (JNCPB). This group of bishops, clergy, and laity receive nominations, interview the nominees, and ultimately submit a slate of candidates to the General Convention.

The following are the qualities the JNCPB was seeking:

- An authentic spiritual life deeply grounded in prayer.
- An evangelist's heart, proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through preaching and teaching.
- Love of the people, with vibrant relational skills
- Personal health and self-awareness
- Collaborative leadership skills
- Knowledge of, and experience in, the Episcopal Church.
- Ability to nurture dioceses and congregations in their development.
- Ability to inspire growth and lead through change.
- Ability to balance roles and responsibilities in complex governance structures

The JNCPB nominated these four bishops:

The Rt. Rev. Thomas Breidenthal, Southern Ohio
The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry, North Carolina
The Rt. Rev. Ian Douglas, Connecticut
The Rt. Rev. Dabney Smith, Southwest Florida

These days, the term of office for the PB is nine years. The bishop that is elected resigns his/her see to take the office. In the old days, the PB would remain bishop of his diocese (yes, then it was "he").

In a process similar to that used for the election of a bishop in a diocese. It is a spirit-led process; the bishops are sequestered and cast ballots until a new PB is elected. The final step in the process is for the House of Deputies to concur in the election.

The PB has a big job. I think it takes a really special person to do it. I ask your prayers for the General Convention and for our new Presiding Bishop.

-- Thomas

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE JULY LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Saint Mary Magdalene

We will celebrate the feast of Saint Mary of Magdala on Wednesday, 22 July at our 10:00AM Said Mass. Surnames were not a feature of Palestine in the first century, so it was customary to use genealogical and geographical annotations to differentiate between people of the same name. Saint Mary Magdalene features prominently in the Gospels of Luke and John. In Luke, she was healed by Our Lord who cast out seven demons from her. She became a follower immediately. In John's Gospel, Mary Magdalene is the "Mary" at the tomb who recognizes the resurrected Jesus and tells the disciples, "I have seen the Lord." In the Eastern tradition, Mary is held as equal to the apostles.

Saint James the Apostle

James is sometimes called "the Greater", to keep him straight from James the brother of our Lord, and the other apostle named James. With his brother John, the sons of Zebedee were also known as the "Sons of Thunder", due to their dispositions. James is accorded the honor of being the first of the apostles to be martyred for Our Lord. a Said Mass will be offered on Saturday, 25 July at 5:30PM

Mary and Martha of Bethany

With their brother, Lazarus, Mary and Martha of Bethany figure prominently in the Gospels of Luke and John. Luke recounts Martha's complaint that her sister lets her do all the work. Jesus recognizes the different vocations of the sisters: one active and busy; the other contemplative. John's Gospel brings us Martha's confession of Jesus as Messiah in the story of Lazarus' death. Also, John identifies Mary as the woman who anointed Jesus at the supper in Bethany. We will celebrate Martha and Mary of Bethany, two very different women, passionately devoted to Our Lord at our Wednesday Said Mass on 29 July.



MARJORIE MAE (BOOTH) MATTOON 13 OCTOBER 1929 – 8 JUNE 2015

Our sister entered new life on 8 June. "Margie", as most of us knew her, may well have succumbed to a broken heart. Matt had died less than two months before. Even though they did see much of each other, she said that knowing Matt was in the other room "made her not feel all alone." I just learned that she and Matt weren't married at Saint John's. There was some problem with the church (at Dearborn and Monroe), so they were married at Saint Michael's in Chickasaw.



Saint John's wishes to extend a sincere thank you to those who made donations in memory of the following:

In Honor of Butch & Irene Yeager
Stephen Foster

In Memory of Matt Mattoon
Eugene & Emily Johnston

In Memory of Marjorie Mattoon

Sandra Lowell	Margaret & Bill Finegan
Kay Meador	Robert & Betty Foster
Lella Lowe	Ben Schmerbauch
Sandra Wilson	Barbara & Chuck Vann
Cieutat Family	Bob & Connie Anderson
James Christiansen	Butch & Irene Yeager



Vestry

The Vestry & Wardens of Saint John's met on 14 June 2015 in the Parlor. Fr. Heard called the meeting to order at 11:30AM.

The minutes of the 10 May meeting were approved as distributed.

Administration:

Connie McLean reviewed our financial statements and noted that we had a \$6,900 deficit for May. We are still expecting additional pledges that should bring in an additional \$8,500.

Outreach:

Janet Buckley reported that we will be putting stickers in books again this year and that the books have already arrived.

Facilities:

James Christiansen and Howard Yeager reported that the Great Hall Roof needs to be added to the Wish List. Several tiles were replaced that had been water damaged; there are still minor leaks present. Fr. Heard reported that the church HVAC unit is almost complete. Howard Yeager reported that Tony Seymour is working on the landscape plan for the church and should have something to present next month.

The Building Use Committee made its report and recommendation. The Vestry will consider the proposal at the July meeting.

Howard Yeager will be using the church van to pick up our members from Murray House beginning next Sunday.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 PM.



Our luncheon was enjoyed by all. Thanks to the cook and bakers for the chicken salad and dessert selections. They were delicious. Look for more fun this fall.

We have several cook books on hand. If you are interested, see Irene Yeager or Bootsie Cieutat.

If you know someone who needs a little cheer, call Tina Cieutat. She is our Sunshine Committee and will mail a card.

The ECW is always looking for new projects and ideas. If you have one, please pass it on.

We are taking a summer sabbatical. Monthly meetings will resume in September. Business will be handled as needed until then.

Stay safe and enjoy your summer!



Please make the following change to your 2015 St. John's directory:

Leslie and Jeremy Lundberg
10014 Cumbria Drive
Daphne, AL 36526

Don't have a new directory? Pick one up next Sunday in the Great Hall or call the church and we will drop one in the mail to you.



THE BOXES ARE BACK...

You've probably noticed the boxes lining the west wall of the great hall and asked yourself, "Are those books for the children in Head Start?" The answer is YES!



Once again, St. John's Outreach committee has used some of its funds to access books for children from *FirstBook*, *National Book Bank*. Firstbook gets the books free from publishers, bookstores and other distributors but organizations pay for the shipping to get the books to where they can be given to children.

"Our" books will be given to 3 and 4 year-old children who attend the Head Start program in Mobile and Washington counties. Head Start is a federally funded, comprehensive school readiness program that serves low income three and four year old children. Head Start's purpose is to get the children ready for kindergarten. There are 1463 Head Start children in Mobile and Washington Counties. These books will be given to the children to take home and keep.

We will be putting a label in each book that says, "*A gift from St. John's Episcopal Church with hopes you will become a lifelong reader.*" The Outreach Committee will need lots of help getting those stickers into the 1000 books; it will probably take two Sundays to get them all done. We'll start on the first Sunday in July and see how far we get.



PARISH LIFE

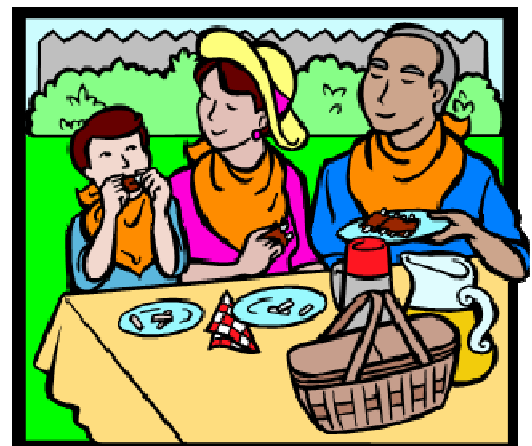
PARISH PICNIC SUNDAY, JULY 26TH

Once again, we're not out at the park or at the beach; this year the annual **parish picnic** will be at St. John's after Sunday service on the 26th of July (which is also the fourth Sunday).

Weather be willing: we'll use the courtyard and the patio, bring the tables and chairs outside, fire up the grill, eat, fellowship, and maybe have some games. (Croquet on the side lawn, anyone?) Or maybe we'll be inside avoiding the heat and the bugs...anyway, wear your picnic clothes!

We'll have some volunteer chefs grilling hot dogs and hamburgers. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board – so it's time to volunteer to bring the rest of the picnic goodies.

Questions, ideas, or volunteers with some ideas for festive activities... see Janet Buckley.



THE GUILD OF ST. MARTHA



An introductory meeting was held in early June for the purpose of planning the activities and volunteer opportunities of the hospitality and service organization known as the “Guild of St. Martha”. This group is open to all, to women and to men, to grown-ups and not-so grown-ups.

Janet Buckley, Bootsie Cieutat, Tina Cieutat, Lee Dorsey, Connie McLean, Mary Sheffield, Cheryl Winters-Heard and Irene Yeager attended, and are represented on the schedule as coordinators for the next couple of months. We also decided to re-introduce our parish breakfast one Sunday per month, and we will begin this on the first Sunday in September.

Our primary role will be to organize food and volunteers for receptions, baptisms, funerals, and other special events, to coordinate clean-up of these activities, and to ensure a continued supply of clean linens and tableware. So how do we work? Listed below are coordinators for the remainder of the summer. These coordinators are called by Fr. Thomas or by the person requesting a reception. The coordinators then call others to assist with food preparation or clean-up activities. Some months there may be nothing that needs to be done except for routine laundry of potluck and breakfast linens; other months may see multiple memorial services.

We would love to hear from more folks who don’t mind making phone calls and coordinating food, clean-up, and laundry! Call any one of us to volunteer.

-Cheryl Winters-Heard

GUILD OF ST. MARTHA	
Month	Coordinators
June	Cheryl Winters-Heard 314-650-5697 Bootsie Cieutat 251-438-1302
July	Mary Sheffield 251-402-0680 Connie McLean 251-751-1012
August	Janet Buckley 270-991-8016 Lee Dorsey 251-422-6689
September	Irene Yeager 251-554-0491 Cheryl Winters-Heard 314-650-5697

Elsewhere in the Diocese

God willing and the people consenting

The Reverend James Russell Kendrick

will be ordained and consecrated a Bishop in the
One, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church,
and
Fourth Bishop of the
Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

Saturday, the twenty-fifth day of July
in the year of our Lord two thousand and fifteen
at two o'clock in the afternoon

Mobile Civic Center Expo Hall
401 Civic Center Drive
Mobile, Alabama

CHIEF CONSECRATOR

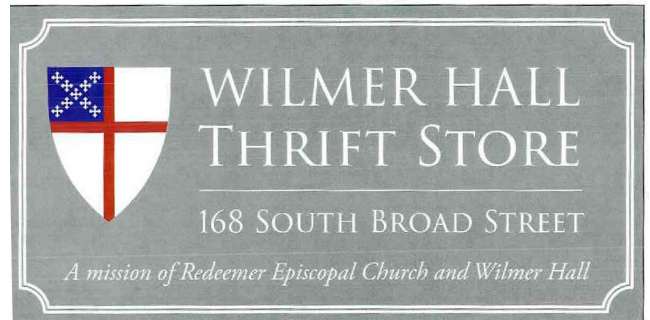
The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts Schori
Presiding Bishop and Primate of the Episcopal Church

The Bishop and Standing Committee of the
Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast
request your prayers and the honor of your presence.

Clergy: cassock, surplice, red stole
Bishops: rochet, chimere, tippet

Reception following at
Christ Church Cathedral

Additional information:
www.bishopsearch.diocgc.com



Store Hours: Monday—Friday 10AM-6PM;
Saturday 10AM—2PM

Pick up and delivery available for furniture!

Drop off donations at three locations:

- Wilmer Hall Children’s Home
3811 Old Shell Rd.
- Wilmer Hall Thrift Store
168 Broad St.
- Redeemer Episcopal Church
7125 Hitt Rd.



LOOKING BACK: WHAT'S IN A NAME

For its first 60 years of existence, Episcopal Relief & Development was known as the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief. But as the Millennium approached, and with it the 2000 General Convention, change was in the air.

The Convention's theme was Jubilee, the ancient call to care for the poor, hungry, the oppressed and all those in need.

The Church's instrument to heed this call - the Presiding Bishop's Fund - was expanding rapidly as its focus evolved beyond disaster and crisis relief with new programs emphasizing long-term development and rehabilitation.

For this reason, delegates passed a resolution stating:

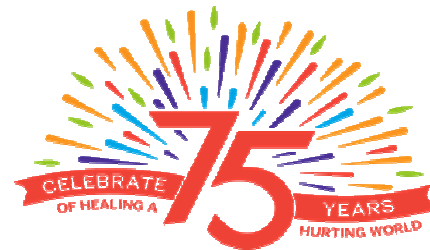
That this General Convention, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary, rejoice in the adoption of the new name of "Episcopal Relief and Development" under which this great work will continue and grow in response to human need in the service of Jesus Christ.

While symbolic, the name change presented a much clearer statement about the organization's mission. It also set the stage for Episcopal Relief & Development's establishment the following year as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization technically separate from - though still just as closely affiliated with - The Episcopal Church.

This decision enabled Episcopal Relief & Development to raise funds from individuals, corporations and foundations prevented from supporting agencies directly tied to churches, to strengthen its accountability mechanisms, to ensure proper Board oversight and to build its capacity to run projects internally.

With the new name and new status, Episcopal Relief & Development shifted from administering relatively small grants to implementing long-term development partnerships worldwide. We then adopted an integrated community development model, based on taking a holistic approach - rather than just tackling one specific need in a vacuum - and driven by the priorities of the community being served, rather than being imposed from high.

In short, this pivotal moment in our history made it possible for Episcopal Relief & Development to be the world class development agency it is today.



EUGENE JOHNSTON WINS JOYCE HOGG AWARD

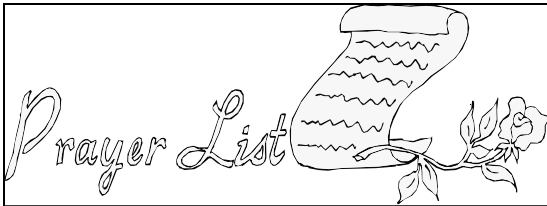
Please join the Diocese in congratulating our very own Eugene Johnston, of St. John's, Mobile, who recently received the award in recognition for his outstanding service to Episcopal Relief and Development. Eugene was nominated by his peers and affirmed by the staff and President of ERD. The award is named for the Canon Joyce Hogg who served as the Director of the ERD Network for almost a decade and died from a long fight with cancer. Thank you, Eugene, for exemplifying the values of ERD and representing our diocese in such a humanitarian way!



Billy Owen	07/07	Regina Harvey-Molyneux	07/20
Caroline Chestang	07/08	Cheryl Winters-Heard	07/21
Catherine Warren	07/08	Carolyn Pearce	07/26
Max Stiber	07/10	Makayla Yeager	07/28
Tina Cieutat	07/13	Jennifer Yeager	07/31
Isabella Dennis	07/16		



Bob & Paula Ross	07/12
Darren & LaNeisha Anderson	07/15
Lavelle & Debbie Ollhoft	07/20



For healing grace and continued strength, we pray for our members:

Cookie Rich, Budd McLean, Emily Johnston, Leah Betts, Caitlyn Brown, Jan Joseph, Joyce Lee, Donna Waites, Ben Schmerbauch.

For our Homebound:

Mae Dunn, Corinne Faust, Nell Kirk, Lorraine Murray, Alice Schablinski, Bessie Southall, Mary Lou Varnes, Catherine Warren, Chick Wohlert.

For victims of war and their families, and members of our Armed Forces and their families:

Ellis Garner, Eric Mattoon.

For our Friends and Family:

Bob Sheffield, Blake Bennett, Cliff Federle, Michael Blankenship, Jacqui Hill, Krystal Hiatt, Justin Runyan, Donny Chestang, Zeb Morgan, Midge Harden, Connie Bryan, Irene Barrow, Rocky Rockwell, Mike Davis, Jean Cochran, Marsha Gilmore, David Pearce, Connor Crist, Frances Bridges, Erica Long, Bill Jones, Evia Daniel, Dennis McCants, Angela White, Sandy & Ray Michel, Preston Stevens, Carol Hubbard, Emily Steiner, Larry Kent, Warren Bishop, Robby Shelton, John & Pat Cranton, Dot Trehern, William & Barbara Dorsey, Mark Stiber, Anna Marie Brown, Mary Joan *[religious]*.

Contact Us

Staff:

The Reverend Thomas Heard, *rector*
rector@stjohnsmobile.org

Louis Daniel
Organist & Choir Director
music@stjohnsmobile.org

Lella Lowe
Financial Secretary
finance@stjohnsmobile.org

Jack Ruppe
Sexton

Vestry:

Connie Anderson, *clerk*

Ron Brown

Janet Buckley

James Christiansen, *senior warden*

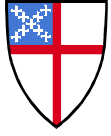
Eugene Johnston

David Jones

Connie McLean, *treasurer*

Geri Moulton

Butch Yeager, *junior warden*



Saint John's Episcopal Church
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Come Worship With Us!

Monday—Friday:

8:30AM Morning Prayer

Sunday:

9:00AM Adult and Youth Christian
Formation

10:00AM Holy Eucharist

Wednesday:

10:00AM Holy Eucharist;
Healing on the 1st
Wednesday of the month.

Other Feasts and Holy Days are
observed throughout the year; please
see our website for the latest schedule.

Parish Office

Monday-Thursday

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Telephone: 251-479-5474

Fax: 251-473-1230

www.stjohnsmobile.org

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and by appointment

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SAINT JOHN'S: THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN MIDTOWN MOBILE
Grounded in shared sacramental life and moving into the world
to be the hands of Our Lord.