

CHURCHWORK

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The Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana

January 2014



“FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU,”
DECLARES THE LORD,
“PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU,
PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.”

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR BISHOP

2013 has been an incredible year. So much has been learned. Dreams began to take hold and visions of what could be have been entertained. 2013 has been a good year, but it has been challenging.

The committee for Racial Reconciliation had hoped to invite the Presiding Bishop to our diocese last January but we were not ready. The work in the diocese had not yet come to fruition. However, this November a gathering of over one hundred and seventy people gathered at St. James' in Baton Rouge for an honest conversation of the state of racism in our diocese and in our state. I could have not been more proud of the way we discussed issues that were painful, naïve, and inquisitive. It was a beginning, which is what we wanted it to be. A beginning of being aware of one another, of what it means to be black, or white or brown. To see the other as neighbor. On January 18, 2014 the Presiding Bishop will be with us at the Cathedral to witness a service of reconciliation and a commitment to continue the conversation of building relationships. The whole diocese is encouraged to participate.

In October the Rev'd Canon Mark Stevenson was called to work for the larger church as Domestic Poverty Missioner on the staff of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society. On the fifteenth the Rev'd Canon Shannon Manning was called to serve as Canon to the Ordinary. Shannon brings different eyes and experiences that have already borne fruit. It didn't take long for her to get her feet wet and I for one was very grateful. I had been without a Canon since June.

There were some other changes in the office as well. At the end of October, Diocesan Financial Administrator, Billie Barbier retired. Chris Speed joined our staff and he, too, jumped right in.



There is nothing like learning on the job. After only two months, Chris is leading us through the new budget for 2014. How's that for a welcome?

Several months ago Episcopal Community Services went through a modification due to funding. ECS still exists but in a different format. At the end of this year all employees who were supported by grants will depart as funding ends. Also leaving the staff at the end of 2013 is Kenn Elder. Kenn's position will be combined with another position that will better aid our parishes in communication and other supporting ways. Karen Mackey will be in charge of our electronic communications, special events and assisting our parishes with their web sites. Karen will be in the main Diocesan office in New Orleans.

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continued from previous page

You can see there has been a great deal of change in the office of the Diocese. The goal is to be more efficient in supporting you, the parishioner of the diocese so that you may fully engage your calling as a servant of Christ.

We enter a new year with new possibilities. Have you decided how you will serve? What will your ministry in your community be?

Happy New Year!

Brave journey,

+ Mo's

Bishop's Visitation Schedule

1/17: Church of the Transfiguration, Angola

1/12: St. Andrew's, Bayou du Large

1/18: Christ Church Cathedral, New Orleans

1/19: Mt. Olivet, New Orleans

1/26: St. Matthew's, Houma

2/2: St. Philip's, New Orleans

2/9: St. Mary's, Franklin

2/16: Annunciation, New Orleans

2/23: Grace, Hammond



BISHOP'S JOURNAL: OCTOBER 24TH TO DECEMBER 18TH

October 24-25: I spend a couple of days on a personal retreat.

October 26: Drove to Baton Rouge Saturday evening and spent the night at St. James' Place.

October 27: Drive to St. Paul's/Holy Trinity, New Roads for a wonderful service and a lunch. After the lunch I meet with Mother Peggy Scott and the vestry. Good work is going on in New Roads. I returned to New Orleans later that afternoon.

October 28-30: Early morning meeting with a parishioner and then off to the Solomon Conference Center for the College of Presbyters. This is one of the best retreats we've had. We instituted the Rev'd Shannon Manning as the Canon to the Ordinary at the noon Eucharist. Later that night we were entertained by Fathers Ralph Howe and Ron Clingenpeel. We laughed a lot tonight. Good energy being around these folk. Following the Presbyters retreat I drive to Thibodaux to meet with the search committees for Trinity, Morgan City and St. John's. Enjoyed a fabulous meal and then drive back late to New Orleans.

October 31: Catch up work with Agatha and then a meeting with Duane Nettles regarding Living with Purpose. The staff and I take Billie Barbier out to lunch for her last day of employment. She and her husband have decided to retire and travel. We will miss her presence.

November 1: Work on sermon in the morning and then pick up the Rt. Rev'd Rob Wright, bishop of the Diocese of Atlanta from the airport. Bishop Wright is our keynote speaker for the racial reconciliation workshop Saturday.

November 2: Bishop Wright and I drive to Baton Rouge where St. James has graciously agreed to host the racial reconciliation workshop. The turn out is wonderful — over 170 people come to listen, speak and learn. I am very proud of the work being done and of our parishioners. Bishop Wright and I leave a bit early to get him back to the New Orleans airport.

November 3: My annual visitation is at All Saints', River Ridge. I teach Sunday School and celebrate at the service. Fr. Angerer introduces me to something I've never experienced, a litany for All Saints. It is very powerful. All week I will keep going back to the words of the congregation calling the saints to "stand here beside us."

November 4: My new hearing aids are here and they work beautifully. I have to work today because of some pressing matters. I spend a good bit of time working with Canon Manning going over Executive Board material.

November 5: I catch an early flight to New York where I will meet with Canon Benjamin at Trinity Wall Street. Trinity has been so generous with this Diocese and it is good to connect with them throughout the year. I meet with several people throughout the day and get to my hotel room late in the evening. The day has been long because of the time change.

November 6-8: Up early and fly to Cincinnati, Ohio to meet with the Sisters of Transfiguration. This was the Order that cared for my spiritual needs while living in Kentucky. I haven't seen them since 2010.

November 9: The Executive Board meeting in the morning. We are in transition and the energy is very strong. That afternoon I attend the annual Bowl with the Bishop youth and young adult groups. There are many new faces and a growing number of bowlers. After I visit with the participants, I drive to Baton Rouge for the evening.

November 10: My annual visit to St. Michael and All Angels in Baton Rouge. It is a good visit. Mother Denis is leading with vigor. I drive back to New Orleans where Rebecca and I are invited to watch the Saints/Cowboys game. Seeing the game in person is spectacular.

November 11: My day off.

November 12: A full day of back-to-back meetings. The day begins with a meeting with Canon Manning followed by our weekly staff meeting. Next is Mtr. Sharon Alexander's annual consultation. She is doing a fine job at St. Michael's, Mandeville. Next is Harriet Murrell regarding some of her projects. Canon Manning and I meet over lunch with a prospective interim priest. Later that afternoon Fr. Rob Courtney comes in for his annual consultation. I am very proud of the work he is doing at St. Paul's. I meet with a parishioner regarding discernment and the day ends with a phone conference call.

November 13: I'm up early to drive to Baton Rouge for a meeting with Bob Furlow. Bob has volunteered to lead the men's retreat in the spring. That meeting is followed by another meeting with two women to talk about the Document for End of Life. This is a program that helps individuals who are terminally ill deal with all the decisions that need to be made while mentally able. I next meet with Canon David Seger, the interim at Trinity, Baton Rouge. I know David well, he has been helping us for quite some time. I have a late lunch with Fr. Holland before I return to New Orleans. I swing by the office for some catch up

FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

work and actually get home before Rebecca.

November 14: Early morning meeting with Amelia Arthur followed by a phone conference with Mary Brennan, our Diocesan Partnership Rep with the Missionary Society staff. Fr. Thompson from All Souls swings by for a visit and then I travel to Jackson, MS for a racism conference. I like this. I get to have dinner with my daughter, Virginia.

November 15: I'm in Jackson for "Fifty Years Later: The State of Racism in America" held at St. Andrew's Cathedral. The panel is stacked with noteworthy individuals including my dear friend, former Gov. William Winter. I am very proud of the Episcopal Church that continues to call us to look at racism and its affect upon our society. After the discussion I return to New Orleans late that evening.

November 16: Rebecca and I drive to Morgan City to spend the night. We enjoy a nice meal at a local restaurant.

November 17: My annual visit to Trinity Morgan City is a joy. They are always supportive and welcoming. I drive back to New Orleans to drop Rebecca off and then drive to Christ Church, Covington for a special worship service. After the service I drive back to New Orleans where the fog on the Causeway is frightening.

November 18: Rebecca and I host a gathering of Advent House board members to meet Mother Bridget Tierney, who is the new director. After the party we are taken out to dinner by Bishop Duncan Gray of MS and his wife Cathy who are actually staying at Advent House.

November 19: The day begins with our weekly staff meeting followed by Fr. Nelson Tennison's annual consultation. I prep for the noon worship service at the Cathedral followed by our staff lun-

cheon. Later in the day I meet with Fr. John Craft for his annual consultation that is followed by Fr. Jeff Millican's annual consultation. Phone calls to return and then I head home.

November 20: This is a catch up day. I have three meetings and dedicate the rest of the day to tackle whatever Agatha wants me to tackle.

November 21: I meet with a couple of parishioners who are interested in the discernment process. Next a meeting with a staff member regarding their status as an employee. Much of the afternoon is set aside to work with Canon Manning and Agatha. Canon Manning and I drive to Bogalusa to meet with their vestry and rector. We drive home late.

November 22: We have some Title IV issues that need to be resolved. I have an interview with an architect for possible work. Sermon work in the afternoon.

November 23: Home resting.

November 24: My annual visit to St. Andrew's in New Orleans. Baptisms and confirmations. The day is glorious. This is my last visitation with Mother Susan Gaumer who has announced her retirement in April of 2014. Susan is a faithful servant.

November 25: I drive to Baton Rouge to meet with another architect followed by lunch with Nanette Noland. In the afternoon I have a board meeting with Spiritas. I drive home that evening.

November 26: I have lunch with David Musser, one of our seminarians, who is home for Thanksgiving. I enjoy hearing how things are going and what they are learning.

November 27-December 1: Wednesday through Sunday I spend the holiday in Jackson, MS.

December 2: Conference call and then spend time studying.

December 3: Staff meeting and then a meeting with Deacon Quinn Bates. Four Bishops from the ELCA come to meet with me. We share so much in common. After about an hour of meeting they treat me to lunch at Commanders. After work, Rebecca and I travel to Jackson to spend the night with our daughter. We are on our way to Oxford, MS for the IV Province Bishop's meeting.

December 4-6: We are in Oxford, MS for our meeting. This is one of my favorite bishop's meeting. The meeting is cut short because of an ice storm projected towards Memphis. Rebecca and I drive to the Solomon Center for my retreat with potential aspirants.

December 7: The retreat ends by noon and Rebecca and I drive to Baton Rouge for my visitation Sunday.

December 8: We have a lovely visitation with St. Augustine's where I confirm and received several new members. It was a great day for this congregation. We drive back to New Orleans where I have my annual visit with the Chapel of the Holy Spirit. Lessons and Carols followed by a delicious meal. It was a fantastic way to end the day.

December 9: Visit with my spiritual director.

December 10: In the office early to sign papers. Staff meeting and then spend time with the Fresh Start group. In the afternoon I have two annual consultations, Fr. Michael Kuhn and Deacon Charmaine Kathmann. Spend time calendaring with Agatha.

December 11: Conference call with other bishops who have formed the group, Bishops Against Gun Violence. In the afternoon I meet with Fr. Henry Hudson for his annual consultation followed by

Lee Crean and Canon Manning regarding our service for reconciliation in January.

December 12: Meet with Tronn Moller who led the Presbyters retreat. We are working on a plan for the whole diocese. I meet with Dean duPlantier regarding the service on reconciliation. Next, catch up work with Agatha and Canon Manning.

December 13: I am spending the day resting so I wouldn't get sick.

December 14: Drive to Morganza for my annual visitation then on to Baton Rouge for the night. The roads are filled with sugar cane trucks. I hope it's a good year for the sugar cane farmers.

December 15: I drive to Grace, St. Francisville for my annual visitation where I confirm and receive several parishioners. Grace is a thriving congregation. They have prepared a very nice meal. I have to leave a bit early to get back to New Orleans to participate in the Cathedral's lessons and carols. The music is absolutely beautiful. The Dean and his wife host a lovely reception for the choir following the service.

December 16: A meeting with Cove Geary and Canon Manning that lasts most of morning. Then home to cook for the staff Christmas party tomorrow.

December 17: Staff meeting and then beautiful Christmas luncheon at Harriet Murrell's before we break for the holidays.

December 18: Awaken with no voice and many cold symptoms. The doctor gives me prescriptions and sends me to bed. I will have to miss tonight's Executive Board meeting.

Let's Go Fishing



By the Rev'd Canon Shannon R. Manning, Canon to the Ordinary

I love this photograph of our elder son. From the time that he was 5 years old and the worry was more about him falling into the river than actually catching anything, Nicholas has fished in the White River in northern Arkansas. This

love of fishing has been a part of his world since the time that he could stand on the shore of any body of water with a fishing rod in his hand. We have visited every Bass Pro Shop in a 4-state radius and his rod and tackle collection can rival that of even the most serious fishermen. Fresh water, salt water, trout, catfish, bass, carp, or even salmon fishing...it truly doesn't matter as long as the day concludes with the aroma of fish on his hands.

What I love about this photograph is that it captures his unbridled, unabridged, unapologetic love of fishing. The look on his face...it would almost seem as if this was the very first fish that he ever caught. How wonderful to enter an activity with not only the hope but also the expectation that something extraordinary will occur.

Hopeful expectation. When I am at my best, when I am most open to the spirit moving through me, I enter into each day with the hopeful expectation that I will not only have eyes to see the wonder of God's work in the world, but that I will be equipped to share that wonder with others. How many times I have been surprised by those moments...and then find myself wondering why I am ever surprised at all. As Nicholas so wisely taught me, even though our routines may be the same, casting and reeling...casting and reeling...the results of our routines are never the same because we have God, active, working, present in our midst. The kingdom of God is surely here and I don't want to miss any of it. I pray that along the way, I allow myself to revel in all the joy that it brings.

The season of Advent was a perfect time for us to stop for a moment and consider those things for which we are hopefully expectant. "Hopeful" and "expectant" summarize not only my feelings about being a part of the Diocese of Louisiana, but also how I view our shared ministry in this church we love. I love being a priest and I love that we get to do this work together. I am so grateful to the Bishop, the Diocesan staff and for so many of you for your welcome to this Diocese. It is so good to be here.



Changes with the Times



By Harriet Murrell, Diocesan Archivist

*Editor's Note: This is the last of a current series on the life of the Gaudet School. This article covers the years from the early days of the ownership of the school by the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana until the change of focus of the institution to that of foster care of young black persons in the New Orleans area. The first appeared in the **August 2013 issue**.*

Times they do change — depending on so many factors and Gaudet School is a perfect example of changing times, changing needs and changing resources. The changes began to be noticeable shortly after the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana assumed financial and administrative management of the school. The original contract with the diocese stipulated that no part of the property could be sold without written permission at a diocesan convention and that the school was to remain named the founder and was to continue to be “maintained and operated as an industrial home and a school for colored boys and girls”. Mrs. Gaudet’s relatives were to have preferential admission privileges. More specifically the admission policy was to reflect a strong emphasis on trades that offered livelihood opportunities such as blacksmithery and needle work. By the end of the nineteen thirties, financial support was being solicited from community agencies and Bishop Morris was making frequent reminders to congregations about their obligation for financial support of Gaudet School with limited success. In 1936, there were 89 students including 65 boarders and by 1940 when the school was accredited by the state the school was operating at full capacity with “practical education” still the focus. At that time, Gaudet was one of eight Negro high schools in New Orleans with an A rating.

Within ten years, changes were accelerating. Students were being prepared for college admission. Tuition was \$72 a year and more student were day student. Gilbert Academy (a school for black students on St. Charles Ave. uptown) was closed with many of its students transferring to Gaudet increasing the enrollment to 147. However the increase was short lived. The prevailing attitude with New Orleans educators was beginning to reflect a doubt that the community needed to support private sectarian education. For the first time there was talk about closing the school. Building were worn out, families were choosing public education especially as black parents were buying into the concept of higher education as a requirement for better employment . There was immediate very vocal opposition to closure but again the support did not last long and sources of income were more difficult to come by. The Gaudet Board was tenacious about maintaining Mrs. Gaudet’s dream. A chink was made in the resolve to maintain all the property when the Board agreed to sell the city school board about ninety two acres “across the railroad tracks”, giving the institution its first endowment of \$300,000. The city planned to construct a public school for the area on the purchased property.

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FROM THE BISHOP'S OFFICE

At the 1954 diocesan convention, a decisive decision on the part of the Gaudet School was made. They withdrew from the Community Chest and no longer accepted placement directly from families. Based on what were described as "urgent social needs", contemporary care of Negro boys and girls was assumed by Gaudet with 23 students and 8 staff persons. Improvements were made to the buildings and the new facility opened in October, 1955. Gaudet High School ceased to exist. All of the Gaudet academic records were given by Bishop Jones to the Okalona, MS school system, also a member of the American Church Institute so that the Gaudet students could have evidence of graduation from an accredited school. Currently we are following leads to locate those records and return them to the Diocese of Louisiana.

In eight years, the diocese was notified that a large portion of the remaining Gaudet property would be expropriated for the right of way for the I 10 highway system in Gentilly. The die was cast. Gaudet had offered its best in changing times. The diocese was paid about \$800,000 for the remaining property and became the principal for the annual grants that are administered through Episcopal Community Services.

What a story this has been. A multi-cultural post Civil War, divorced woman imbued with the missionary zeal to create a less dismal life for African American children and youth through housing and practical education to keep them out of prison. May we remember her tenacious spirit and her legacy.

Opera Trio in Covington



The Third Sunday Concert Series at Christ Church in Covington will feature a performance by Bon Opera-tit on Sunday, January 19th at 5 pm.

The trio, which was formed in 2009, is comprised of soprano Lauren Mouney Gisclair, mezzo-soprano Mary Penick Akin and tenor Jesse Nolan. They will perform familiar opera and musical theatre hits.

The Third Sunday Concert Series is an outreach of Christ Church but is also supported in large part by memberships. All concerts begin at 5 p.m., are free and open to the public, and followed by a reception where the audience can meet the performers. Christ Church is located at 120 S. New Hampshire Street, Covington, at the entrance to Bogue Falaya Park.

For more information call 985.892.3177.

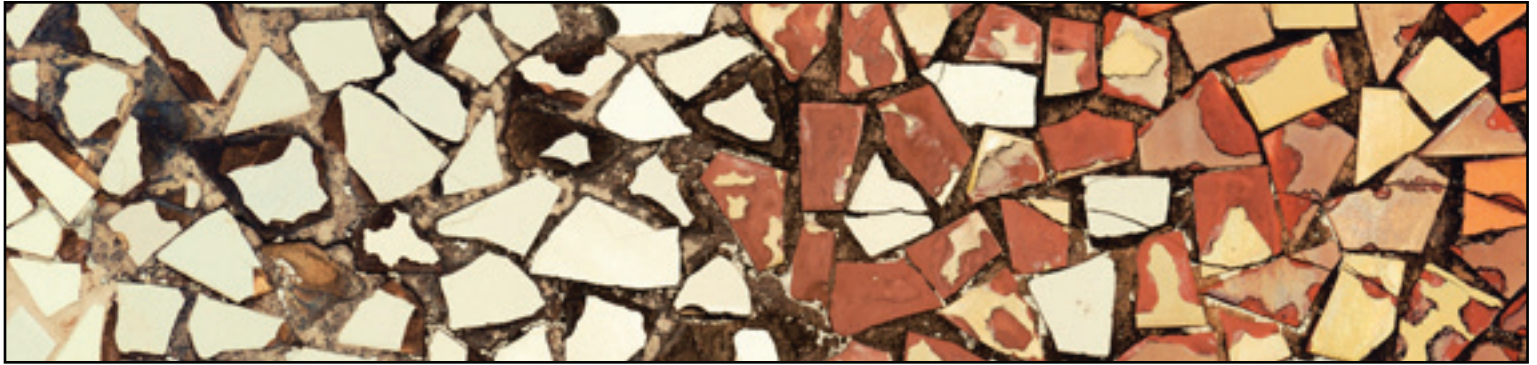


ST. MARTIN'S
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

ALL SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE
Thursday, January 30, 2014
at 9:30 am

225 Green Acres Road
Metairie, LA 70003
504.733.0353

Healing the Past: Committing to a Different Future



The Committee for Racial Reconciliation of the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana is pleased to announce a special service called Seeking Christ in all People: A Service of Commitment to Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation. It will occur at Christ Church Cathedral (2919 St. Charles Avenue) in New Orleans on Saturday, January 18th at 11 a.m. The Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church Katharine Jefferts Schori, will join Bishop Thompson in leading the service that Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend. All are welcome.

When the sin of racism comes up in church or other settings, many of us protest that we love all persons and therefore could not be racist and do not participate in the sin of racism. Nevertheless, Bishop Thompson is asking Episcopalians to look at their parish or congregation with these questions in mind: What is the racial makeup of the leaders and members? How do you respond to and welcome members of a minority group? How do you invite ALL people not going to a particular church to join your church? Is your congregation ready to incorporate them into its life and leadership? Are you engaged in community initiatives that promote racial harmony?

How do we Episcopalians – many of us beneficiaries of the trans-generational affirmative action on our behalf by our forebears – acknowledge the shameful part of our history and ask for forgiveness

– not in order to induce guilt but in order to move forward in a completely different way?

Nell Bolton, former director of Episcopal Community Ministries, reflects: “The charity we could do in our lifetimes would never be adequate to rectify hundreds of years of imbalances. Therefore, our starting point cannot be one of charity, but rather one that seeks to restore relationships. We need to extend ourselves beyond the ‘club’ of privileged people that our church has always been, even when those relationships take us to uncomfortable places.”

The upcoming Service of Reconciliation is a culmination of Bishop Thompson’s declared 2013 Year of Reconciliation in our diocese, a planning year in response to Resolution 17 of the 168th Convention of our diocese. In that resolution we pledged to work to end institutional and other forms of racism through dialogue and training. The January service will also inaugurate a period of increased activism which, with God’s help, will lead to personal and institutional transformation to be the new people we are baptized to be.

For more information about the service or about the Diocesan Committee for Racial Reconciliation contact Lee Crean at leecrean@yahoo.com.

Christmas Presents of All Kinds

By Mr. Darryl Durham and the Rev'd Bill Terry, St. Anna's, New Orleans

Christmas comes to us in many ways. Christmas gifts, gifts of the incarnation, come in many forms. Not long ago St. Anna's was 'gifted' in a profound and special way. This story is rooted in Anna's Arts for Kids, which is now an after school program struggling to stay open. Here is our gift to you as the Director, Mr. Darryl Durham, tells it:

Many of you know him as the young man Father Bill often speaks about during the service as an example of the fine work we do at Anna's Arts. His name is Roderick and he's a typical kid who's growing up in a community that struggles with raising its children. Yet Roderick is managing to break the cycle that too many others have not been able to overcome. If you don't know the story, then here it is in a nutshell. Roderick started at St. Anna's four years ago a D/F student at best. He had failed the state mandated LEAP test and had given up on education.



It was a struggle to get him to do any work and he constantly told us that he had no homework from school. We all found this hard to believe. In a fit of frustration, I reached out to his classroom teacher and found out that he had been misleading us about his homework. She and I exchanged numbers and when he told me he had no homework I called her in front of him. She contradicted his story and he had to come face-to-face with the fact that school day and after-school staff was communicating with one another. He was embarrassed, angry and busted, but more importantly he learned what tough love really meant.

Over the course of the next few months we all clamped down on Roderick. Some days were ok while others were a struggle for both student and tutor. Nevertheless, everyone worked hard and within a few months the progress became evident. Since that day we have seen an incredible change take place in Roderick. This change occurred incrementally over a two year period, but it happened! And now as Father loves to proclaim, Roderick is an A/B student, was student of the month in November at his school and wants to become a Priest. The power of the Holy Spirit is undeniable and our putting faith into action is manifesting itself in the academic, social and cultural development of our youth. There are too many kids like Roderick who don't have a village to support them. But Roderick is one who, thanks to the support of this community, has a chance to make it through. His journey is not complete, but now he knows it's a journey he will not make alone.

Soon we will be reaching out for our sponsor a child program for the Spring semester. Perhaps a Christmas gift of support in January or even now might be worth considering.

Fr. Howe Receives Chaplain Award

The Rev'd Ralph F. Howe, Jr., Senior Chaplain at EHS, was awarded The Reverend Dean Calcote Award by the Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools (SAES) on November 15, 2013, during the SAES Biennial Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Reverend Calcote was an early chaplain at EHS and his wife Mary taught English here as well. When he left EHS, he dedicated his life to Episcopal Schools, and this award was created to honor the important role Father Calcote has played in the formation of SAES as an association of Episcopal schools and particularly in the SAES accreditation process. "It was an honor to receive the award, but even more special to receive the award from Dean himself," said Father Howe.



Recipients of this award are Episcopal clergymen or clergywomen who recognize the valuable ministry of Episcopal schools and who have provided extraordinary support for SAES schools. Ralph's first contact with SAES came as rector of Trinity Episcopal Church and School in Baton Rouge, and has continued throughout his tenure as Senior Chaplain at Episcopal. Ralph recently completed a six-year term as a member of the SAES Board of Directors and as the Chaplain of SAES.

Congratulations, Fr. Howe!

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS

**Breakfast & Worship
with the
Presiding Bishop
January 18 @
Christ Church Cathedral
Breakfast at 9am
Worship at 11pm**



**Happening #72
February 7-9
@ Solomon Center
Register @
solomoncenter.org
\$150 per person
Grades 9-12**

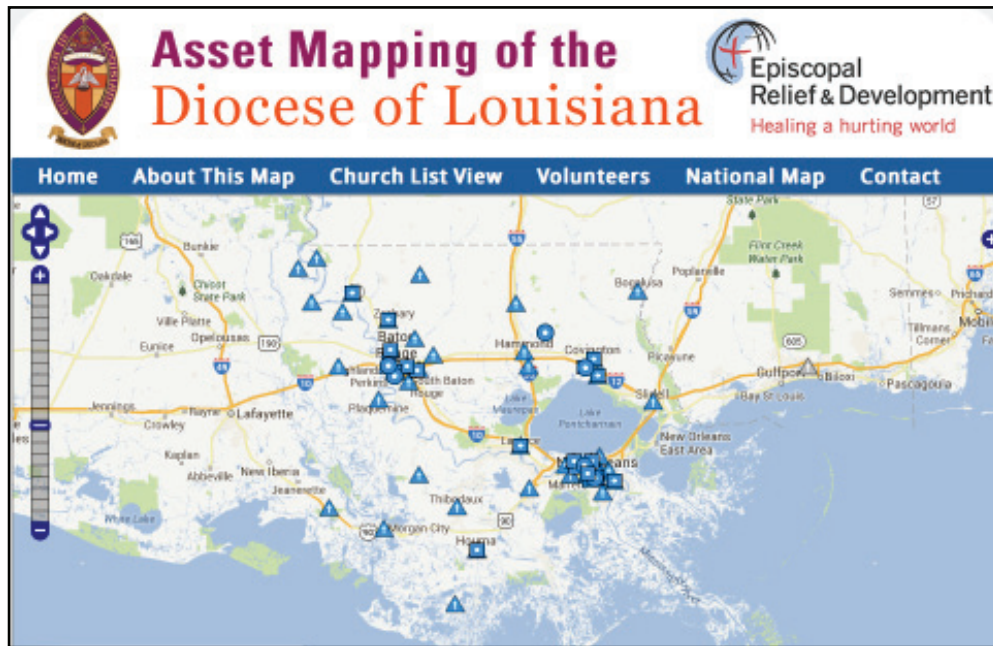
**For more information and a complete
list of youth events click [here](#) or
visit edola.org/ministries/youth**

**Jr & Sr High Rally
March 21-23
@ Solomon Center
Register @
solomoncenter.org
\$150 per person
Grades 6-12**



Diocesan Asset Map Now Available

By **Karen Mackey**, Program Manager at Episcopal Community Services



For years people have imagined a tool that allows our parishes to see at a glance an online map showing the outreach ministries and physical assets held by the Episcopal Church. We are excited to announce this dream has become a reality. Episcopal Relief and Development's U.S. Disaster Program developed this invaluable tool that can be used for outreach ministry development as well as disaster preparation and response efforts. The Diocese of Louisiana was chosen by Episcopal Relief and Development to pilot the Asset Map Program. Over the past two years all the clergy and church staff of the Diocese, led by Episcopal Community Services, have worked together in making the map a dynamic and content rich site.

Some of the features you will find when you visit the Asset Map:

- Map on the homepage showing the location of the churches, schools, and other diocesan facilities
- Filters that allow the user to search for a specific ministry type
- Each church / school has a designated page with a listing of their outreach ministries
- A page dedicated for churches seeking volunteer assistance for their ministries
- If a disaster should strike, the map would display information about the status of the churches and other facilities and post disaster relief details such as volunteer opportunities.

In the future, other Episcopal Diocese across the country will join the map and as they do, the opportunities for sharing and learning will increase beyond what we imagined. This tool is unlike anything ever seen before. We should be proud that we in the Diocese of Louisiana helped develop it.

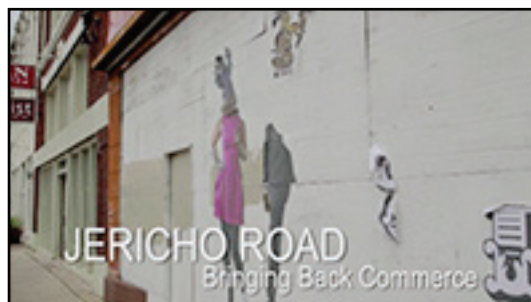
See the asset map [here](#), or click [here](#) to see a short introductory video.



The Episcopal Church produces videos featuring stories of people, possibilities and action for an iPad app called **Wayfarer**.

Jericho Road has been fortunate enough to have been chosen for three short feature videos about the transformation happening in Central City, New Orleans through the work of the Episcopal Church's efforts. Check out the videos and get an even better grasp on the work happening in our Diocese — you won't be disappointed!

Click on the thumbnails below or visit jerichohousing.org/aboutus/videos.php



LAST LOOK

HAPPY NEW YEAR



FROM EVERYONE IN THE DIOCESAN OFFICES,
WE WISH YOU AND YOURS
A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND BLESSED NEW YEAR!