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SUMMER 2021

CHURCHWORK



***"True** Community is based upon equality, mutuality, and reciprocity. It affirms the richness of individual diversity as well as the common human ties that bind us together. The marks of a community of faith are communion, participation, mutual trust, sharing and fellowship."*

The Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray

A twentieth-century human rights activist, legal scholar, feminist, poet, Episcopal priest, labor organizer, and multiracial Black, LGBTQ+ community member of



CHURCHWORK

The Magazine of the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana

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On the Cover

[Photograph by Karen Mackey, Diocese of Louisiana] The Rev. Lindsey Ardrey (center), with by the Rev. Allison Reid (left) and the Rev. Lynn Hooks (right), gives the blessing at the conclusion of the ordination service on July 1, 2021. This was a historic night in the Diocese of Louisiana. This was the first time multiple women have been ordained at the same time when a man has not been part of the group. The service was at St. Paul's, New Orleans, where 29 years ago the Rev. Peggy Walker became the first woman to be ordained to the priesthood in the Diocese of Louisiana. The service was held on the feast of Pauli Murray, a civil and woman's rights activist and the first African-American woman to be ordained as an Episcopal priest in 1977.

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Our Vision

The Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana is one church, faithful to our Lord Jesus, united in mission, reaching out through service and proclamation to all for whom Christ died. We live in joyous expectation of God's transforming power, compassion, and mercy in our lives.

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Submissions

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Wind in the Pines

*Is it true that the wind
streaming especially in fall
through the pines
is saying nothing, nothing at all,
or is it just that I don't yet know the language?*

This poem by Mary Oliver is speaking to me these days. Coming out of the great quarantine so much has happened. Babies were born, yet, touched only by parents. Teenagers graduated from high school in drive-by processions, waving to Headmasters. Churches, Synagogues, and Mosques were shut down only to be viewed via Facebook Live or another electronic means. Even our diocesan office lay dormant with only one person at a time entering to retrieve mail.

Riots, shootings, storming of the nation's capital demonstrated our pent-up frustrations fed by lies and unjust systems. Even though we watched much of the unrest on live TV, some of our leaders lead us to believe those actions were not really that bad. "It seemed peaceful to me..." they said. Truth has been replaced with spin tactics. Politicians are masters of spin and trickery. One day they want to save the world and the next day they laugh at the possibilities. This year has been a tough one for me, but not for the reason some might assume.

The other day I was reading the story of the man born blind (John 9). Jesus healed him on a Sabbath and thus upset the religious leaders. It didn't matter that the man could see for the first time. Jesus broke the law. When the blind man told the truth about being born blind and that Jesus healed him, he was thrown out of the temple, excommunicated for telling the truth. Sound familiar? It is a dangerous thing to follow Jesus and to tell the truth, especially if the truth doesn't align with powerful people.

Oliver asks the question if the wind is speaking as it moves in and out of the pines. I believe it is but we haven't found the courage or maybe the language to speak the truth. Loud voices often drown out silence where mystery is speaking, where the Divine is whispering to our souls. People of the Word were given the courage at Pentecost to trust the words of God dwelling within them. We just need to trust the Spirit, to trust the new language. The world needs to hear the truth that dwells within. God is calling the people of the way to listen and learn a new language that gives life, not take it away.

Brave Journey

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Morris K. Thompson, Jr." with a cross symbol to the left.

The Rt. Rev. Morris K. Thompson, Jr.
Bishop of Louisiana



Search for the 12th Bishop of Louisiana

Bishop Thompson Announces Retirement in November 2022

March 14, 2021

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sisters and Brothers, I write to you in the 11th year of my consecration to the Bishop of the Diocese of Louisiana to inform you of my intention to retire in November 2022. You may wonder why I am stating this so far in advance. In order for a smooth transition, the office of Orderly Transitions of the Presiding Bishop asks that an appropriate time be given to the process of election and seating of a new bishop. The suggested time is 18-20 months. This time frame will allow for Diocesan-wide discernment for your next bishop. Information regarding this process will be forthcoming.

This is not a goodbye notice, rather one of preparation. I am still your Bishop and have many more months to continue our walk in ministry. Work goes on as usual until my last day. I look forward to the days ahead with you.

Over the past year, Rebecca and I have spoken frequently about retirement and what that looks like for us. We look forward to being active grandparents and staying close to the service in which God leads us. We love the good people of Louisiana with all the diversity from every corner of the Diocese and we look forward to seeing what is next for you.

The Diocese of Louisiana is filled with exceptional lay and clerical leadership. Your devotion to service and your love of the Lord is your strength. The Diocese of Louisiana will be attractive to any candidate. May God continue to bless us and give us the strength to follow God's will.

I am as always
Your servant in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Morris K. Thompson, Jr.
Bishop of Louisiana

Standing Committee Announces Members of the Search and Transition Committee, Timeline

On May 26, the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Louisiana announced the approved timeline (found on page 12), appointed Rev. Ralph Howe to serve as Chaplain to the Committees during the search and election process, and made selections for the Search and Transition Committees.

Search Committee:

- Lay Co-Chair: Carolyn Douglas, Grace Church, St. Francisville
- Clergy Co-Chair: Rev. Rob Courtney, Rector of St. Paul's, New Orleans
- Pat Lindsey Brown, Christ Church, Covington
- Ed Wallace, St. Martin's, Metairie
- Rev. JoAnn Garma, retired Deacon of the Diocese
- Alan Brackett, Christ Church Cathedral
- Rev. Robert Beazley, Rector of St. Michael's, Mandeville
- Drew Boatner, St. Patrick's, Zachary
- Rev. Lindsey Ardrey, Chaplain at St. Martin's School, Metairie
- Lauren Anderson, New Orleans
- Helen Campbell, St. James, Baton Rouge
- Rev. John Craft, Chaplain at Chapel of the Holy Comforter, New Orleans
- Rev. Andrew Harmon, Sr., Associate at St. James, Baton Rouge
- Rev. Jay Albert, Deacon at Trinity Church, New Orleans
- Michael Gaudet, St. Luke's, Baton Rouge

Transition Committee:

- Clergy Co-Chair, Rev. Michael Hackett, retired Deacon of the Diocese
- Lay Co-Chair, Philip James, Christ Church, Covington
- Heath Boddie, Trinity Church, Baton Rouge
- Carolyn Harris, St. Luke's, New Orleans
- Rebecca Sadler, St. Martin's, Metairie
- Thomas Branton, Christ Church and School, Covington
- Miles Higgins, Grace Church, St. Francisville
- Rev. Jane-Allison Wiggins, Associate Rector, Trinity Church, New Orleans and Youth Minister for the Diocese
- Rev. Ashley Freeman, Rector, St. Patrick's, Zachary
- Trey Roberts, St. James, Baton Rouge
- Rev. Christopher Duncan, Rector, St. James, Baton Rouge
- Gary Stuard, Jr., St. Stephen's, Innis
- Bill Soileau, Christ Church Cathedral
- Brother Todd van Alstyne, Christ Church Cathedral and St. Andrew's School, New Orleans

Timeline for the Search and Election of the 12th Bishop of Louisiana

March 14, 2021

Bishop Thompson announces intention to resign on or around November 1, 2022. Note, bishops do not “retire”; they officially resign.

April 26, 2021

Standing Committee hires Search Consultant, Rev. Diane Vie.

May 22, 2021

Standing Committee meets and discerns the following: 1. Selection of Search and Transition Committees 2. Approval of a timeline 3. Selects a chaplain: Rev. Ralph Howe Summer 2021: Orientation led by Search Consultant Rev. Diane Vie and attended by Search Committee and Transition Committee.

Summer/Fall 2021

Search Committee gathers information that will inform the Diocesan Profile. Accomplished through polling and listening events and other means as needed.

November 5 and 6, 2021

Diocesan Convention: Profile presented to Convention by Search Committee. Following week, Profile is published/advertised and names accepted by Search Committee. Search Committee does not reveal names of nominees; this information remains confidential.

December 31, 2021

Search closes and no more names are accepted for consideration. Thereafter the committee continues its confidential work of reviewing names, interviewing, etc.

Monday, March 28, 2022

Search Committee offers slate of candidates to the Standing Committee.

Friday, April 1, 2022

Standing Committee announces slate and opens one week Petition Process. Petition Process: a week in which names may be received by the Standing Committee through a previously published process (i.e. Two clergy and two laity needed to nominate someone via petition) to allow for names to be added to the slate that were not added by the Search Committee.

Friday, April 8, 2022

Petition Process closes.

April 17, 2022

Easter

Monday, April 25-Saturday, April 30

Walkabouts

Saturday, May 14, 2022

Electing Convention at Christ Church Cathedral.

Consent Process

120-day period for the rest of the church through Consents from Standing Committees of each diocese and Bishops to consent to the election.

July 7-14, 2022

General Convention of the Episcopal Church. Date is significant because an election cannot happen within 30 days of GC.

TBD

Farewell event to recognize and thank Bishop and Mrs. Thompson

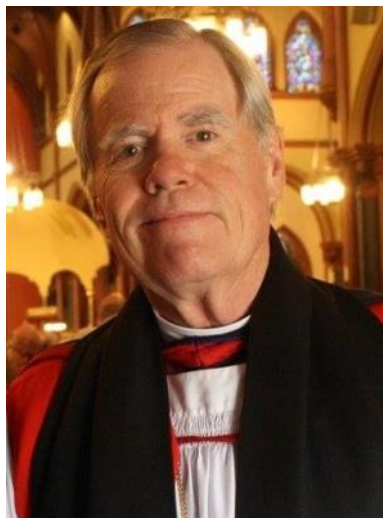
November 19, 2022

Consecration of the 12th Bishop

Prayer for the Selection of Our Next Bishop

Heavenly Father, you oversee all that we say and do. Guide the people of the Diocese of Louisiana in the selection of our next bishop, that we may be led by your Holy Spirit. Direct us toward the person you desire to fill this role. Lead us to a person of integrity, a person of prayer, and a person of faith, who is capable of carrying out your wishes for our future. Above all, may our new leader be one who is willing to receive your unconditional love, and pass it on to those near and far. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. AMEN.

In Memoriam: The Rt. Rev. Charles E. Jenkins, III, Tenth Bishop of Louisiana



"I realized even before Katrina, before my change and my metamorphosis that if the Church was going to have a future, it was not going to be the same as its past, that the Church of the future was going to resemble much more what I used to talk of as the rich culture, the 'gumbo' of Louisiana. So I consciously set about trying to change things. It was not only an engagement with the diocese, but more importantly an engagement with the life situation of the community."

—The Rt. Rev. Charles E. Jenkins on the goal of his episcopate
in an interview with Margaret Lawhon Schott in the August 2014 issue of *Churchwork*.

The Rt. Rev. Charles Edward Jenkins, III, tenth bishop of the Diocese of Louisiana died on Friday, April 9, 2021, surrounded by his family. He was 69 years old.

Bishop Jenkins was a native of Shreveport, Louisiana and grew up in Mansfield, Louisiana. He graduated from Louisiana Tech University in 1973 and Nashotah House Seminary in 1976. He married Louise Hazel in 1975.

Bishop Jenkins was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop James Brown in 1977. He served as assistant chaplain at St. Alban's Chapel, Baton Rouge from 1976-1977. He next served as assistant rector at Grace, Monroe. He was called next to be rector of St. Mark's, Arlington, Texas. He served there from 1979-1985. In 1985, he was called as rector of St. Luke's, Baton Rouge where he served until his election as bishop coadjutor in 1997. He was invested as diocesan bishop on January 31, 1998, and served as bishop until 2009.

Following his retirement, Bishop Jenkins served as bishop-in-residence of Grace Church, St. Francisville. He often presided over services at St. John's, Laurel Hill, the chapel of Grace Church.

Bishop Jenkins will be remembered most for his leadership and community rebuilding efforts following hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the fall of 2005. Among many of his efforts was partnering with Episcopal Relief and Development to form the diocesan Office of Disaster Response, being involved in long-range community rebuilding plans, including Jericho Road Episcopal Housing Initiative, and forging relationships with the numerous communities of color throughout Louisiana.

He is survived by this wife, Louise Hazel Jenkins, sons Benjamin and Edward (Beth), and granddaughters Claire and Eleanor.

A funeral service was held on May 8, 2021, at Grace Church, St. Francisville, LA. Memorial gifts for the Rt. Reverend Charles E. Jenkins, III can be made to Episcopal Relief and Development, PO Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058 and to the Solomon Episcopal Conference Center, 54296 Louisiana 445, Loranger, LA 70446.

Photo Essay: The Ministry of the 10th Bishop of Louisiana



Right and middle: Charles Jenkins was consecrated bishop coadjutor by Presiding Bishop Frank T. Groszold, III on January 31, 1998, at St. Dominic Roman Catholic Church in New Orleans. (Photos by Grevy Photography) *Left:* Bishop Jenkins was invested as the diocesan bishop on March 28, 1998, at Christ Church Cathedral, New Orleans. (Churchwork editor photo)



Right and middle: Episcopalians gathered at St. Martin's Episcopal School for the "Grow the Vision Rally" on January 15, 2000. It was a day for the diocese to unite together in prayer and worship and to kick-off the 10-year vision for the Diocese of Louisiana. *Left:* In 2002, Bishop Jenkins speaks to the youth of the diocese during the "Light the Fire" Youth Rally, a rally to kick off a capital campaign to build a youth center adjacent to the adult center at the Solomon Episcopal Conference Center. (Churchwork editor photo)

Mission Stories



Left: In 2002, the congregation of Holy Comforter moved into a new building and was designated a chaplaincy for UNO and SUNO. *Middle:* Shortly after Hurricane Katrina, Bishop Jenkins met often with Rob Radtke, president of Episcopal Relief & Development, and Canon to the Ordinary Mark Stevenson. Through these meetings the Office of Disaster Response was formed and the numerous post-Katrina ministries were launched. *Right:* Bishop Jenkins, Peter Guidates of Episcopal Relief and Development and the Rev. Dan Krutz called a meeting with interfaith leaders in Baton Rouge to discuss ministry standards in the shelters housing Hurricane Katrina evacuees. They were successful in increasing privacy and safety for the evacuees. (Churchwork editor photos)



Left: Bishop Jenkins assisting with donations following Hurricane Rita. *Middle:* Blessing of the Mobile Loaves and Fishes van at Trinity Church, New Orleans. *Right:* Bishop Jenkins often met with pastors of the Central City neighborhood to talk about issues that impact the community. (Churchwork editor photo)



Left: In 2006, ECW president Sharon Edmunds presented Bishop Jenkins with the ECW Honoree of the Year award. *Middle:* In 2007, The Archbishop of Canterbury joined Bishop Jenkins to consecrate the former Walgreens that would be the home of All Souls, the Episcopal mission formed in the Lower Ninth Ward after Hurricane Katrina. *Right:* Bishop Jenkins speaking at an ecumenical service at the Morial Convention Center when the House of Bishops meet in New Orleans in September 2007. Thousands of people attended the service. (Churchwork editor photos)



Left: (Photo by Kenn Elder) In January 2007, Bishop Jenkins with Central City pastors joined together in a march on New Orleans City Hall to rally against violent crime. *Middle:* (Photo by the Rev. Rich Clark) "Fish with the Bishop:" Bishop Jenkins enjoyed joining kids for a day of fishing at the Solomon Episcopal Conference Center. On this day, he was with children from the Tremé neighborhood of New Orleans. *Right:* (Photograph by Jacob Croft Botter) On the Feast of the Epiphany 2010, Bishop Jenkins celebrated his last Holy Eucharist as diocesan bishop of Louisiana. In this photo, the clergy of the diocese and Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold gather around the altar for the Prayer of Consecration.

Building Community in Central City: The 15th Anniversary of the Jericho Road Episcopal Housing Initiative



[Photograph provided by Jericho Road Episcopal Housing Initiative] Jericho Road expanded into the Gentilly neighborhood of New Orleans after acquiring Project Homecoming. Executive Director Nicole Barnes (third from the left) and Dean David duPlantier (second from the right) at the ribbon cutting ceremony on September 25, 2021.

The Formation of the Jericho Road Episcopal Housing Initiative After Hurricane Katrina

A week after Hurricane Katrina, the Very Rev. David duPlantier, dean of Christ Church Cathedral, was listening to an NPR's All Things Considered segment speculating on the chances of developers swooping in and purchasing land in the Central City neighborhood of New Orleans. "There was the likelihood that a lot of the area they referred to as Central City that didn't flood but was not prosperous, developers would swoop in and expand the Garden District and turn it into a Disneyland with drinks," said duPlantier. "That phrase went into my soul and I thought we would lose one the most important predominantly black historic neighborhoods in the city. It scared me to death."

The cathedral, since the late 19th century, straddles the line between the wealthy Garden District neighborhood and the poor Central City neighborhood. duPlantier was determined that there was something the cathedral could do to help save Central City so its residents could return home.

duPlantier was on his way to dinner with Rob Radtke, president of Episcopal Relief & Development, when he heard the NPR report. Radtke was in Louisiana on behalf of Episcopal Relief & Development assisting with the formation of post-Hurricane Katrina relief projects. duPlantier mentioned the report to Radtke and asked if there were any funds available to help purchase property to help save Central City from the developers.

While this was not within the usual scope of Episcopal Relief & Development projects, Radtke brought the idea back to their vice-president, Abigail Nelson who had experience

rebuilding in Honduras after Hurricane Mitch. She began working closely with duPlantier. In March 2006, a partnership was formed between Episcopal Relief & Development, the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana, and Christ Church Cathedral to build affordable housing in the Central City neighborhood. Episcopal Relief & Development provided the initial \$2.3 million investment from donations received following Hurricane Katrina.

Brad Powers, a New Orleans area lawyer, was hired to be the founding executive director. He did all the initial research and exploration of all that was possible and all that was in risk in the Central City.

The Rt. Rev. Charles Jenkins, bishop of the Diocese of Louisiana, served as the Jericho Road Episcopal Housing Initiative's first board chair. It was by his insistence that the board would be made up of a healthy mixture of Episcopalians and African American pastors from the Central City neighborhood. He also traveled across the Episcopal Church to fundraise for the ministry.

The name of the Jericho Road Episcopal Housing Initiative was derived from a line in the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr's "Beyond Vietnam" speech: "One day we must come to see that the whole Jericho Road must be transformed so that men and women will not be constantly beaten and robbed as they make their journey on life's highway. True compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar. It comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring."

It was at a diocesan clergy retreat in early 2006 the name of the housing initiative came into being. "On the second day

at the mass at the retreat, Bishop Jenkins preached and he quoted for the first time ever in my hearing, the Martin Luther King speech 'Beyond Vietnam' that talked about rebuilding the Jericho Road," duPlantier said. "I just sat there and had this electric shock. I guess it going to be called Jericho."

In the initial pilot program, the Diocese of Louisiana purchased three lots in Central City that would be developed and sold as affordable housing to low-income residents. The purpose of the pilot program was to initiate and critique all aspects of Jericho Road including site selection, client identification and training, cost of mortgage products, availability of homeowners insurance, and an understanding of the building process.

One thing became clear. It was not enough to just build houses. In order to have the fullest impact revitalizing Central City, Jericho Road must build community. The only way to build community was to engage with the residents of Central City and have them become vital partners in the decisions that impact them and in what programs they wanted to see in their neighborhood.

At the February 2007 celebration of the first houses built, Jenkins said: "The initiative is about community. It could be an act of those who have means, but that is not what Jericho Road is about. We don't want it to be seen as a sense of power over those who have no power. We want this to be a community offering. We are not simply building homes for people but transforming lives and changing neighborhoods."

Building Community for 15 years

Since its founding, Jericho Road has continued to provide a holistic approach to community development. Not only do they provide affordable housing development, but they are also involved in workforce development, community engagement, vacant land management, and pre and post-purchase homeownership classes.

Jericho Road is now solely in partnership with Christ Church Cathedral and its offices are located on the second floor of the cathedral's administration building. In 2019, they acquired another affordable housing non-profit, Project Homecoming, effectively expanding their reach throughout the New Orleans area.

Nicole Barnes is the current and second executive director of Jericho Road. She has 25 years of experience in addressing the needs of public and affordable housing through her work with the Housing Authority of New Orleans (HUD) and Builders of Hope (BOH). A number of staff members also have extensive experience with community development, community engagement, and housing.

Since 2006, Jericho Road has developed 106 single-family homes, co-developed 263 mixed-income rentals, and rehabilitated 272 homes in not only Central City but throughout the New Orleans area. They have invested more than \$40 million in the Greater New Orleans area.

"Jericho Road is a pillar in this work," Barnes said "We started out with some very basic plans that were built by volunteers. We evolved over time. We focus now on what it means for



[Photograph provided by Jericho Road Episcopal Housing Initiative] Houses built by Jericho Road Episcopal Housing Initiative on Saratoga Square in the Central City neighborhood.

Mission Stories

someone to retain their house. We build homes that look like the homes in the neighborhood. We want to respect the architectural integrity. That's huge in New Orleans. The houses we build in Gentilly look like the houses in Gentilly. The houses we build Uptown look like the houses Uptown. We are very conscious and intentional about that."

Jericho Road homes feature metal railings, PermaCast columns, and composite decking. "The construction costs may be more but in the long run, we know it is going to save our family in maintenance costs that they may not be able to handle," said Barnes.

Over time, Jericho Road homes have evolved to include stormwater management, energy efficient, and aging-in-place features. "For the majority of our clients, this is going to be their forever home," Barnes said. "As we age and become mobility impaired, the cost to retrofit your house to accommodate that can be prohibitive. If you are on a fixed income at a senior age, you may have to give your house. We have evolved in terms of thinking of all of those things as we build."

"In 2018, Jericho Road was designated a HUD-approved non-profit. What that allows us to do is buy homes off the HUD website at a discounted price," Barnes said "It took us about 18 months to obtain that status." During periods where construction prices are high, rehabilitating homes is often the best method for providing affordable housing.

Jericho Road continues to uphold their commitment to community engagement. Over the past 15 years, a number of programs were formed that encourages healthy, local-level growth throughout the neighborhoods they serve. Jericho Road has assisted in the formation of neighborhood associations, works with neighbors to reduce blight, and publishes neighborhood resource and program guides.

Jericho Road helps residents repair their homes through their Owner Occupied Rehab program. They also hold "Bling Your Block" days where community members and volunteers gather to participate in home beautification projects.

A healthy living program was formed to help combat the issues associated with lack of access to healthy foods. In Central City, a community garden was established, a fruit tree orchard was planted, and healthy cooking lessons were offered.

The Central Circle program offers a method for all stakeholders in Central City (residents, developers, government officials, non-profit organizations, and neighborhood groups, schools, churches, and businesses) to engage in dialogue. The meetings provide for an exchange of ideas, mobilize resources, and to generate calls of action to develop a healthy, living, workable neighborhood.

Jericho Road provides the knowledge and skills to assist people in purchasing a home. They also provide the same care through post-home purchase workshops to provide the knowledge and skills to help people thrive in homeownership. "We take for granted that everyone knows all that is entailed in homeownership," said Barnes. "When you rent a home, you just call the landlord to make repairs. When you own a home, it's on you. We bring in experts and programming that is relevant to new homeowners. For example, we have workshops on getting you're A/C ready for summer, on termite control, and weatherization in the wintertime. We have workshops on how to avoid foreclosures."

In 2019, before the acquisition of Project Homecoming, Jericho Road brought in financial consultants to conduct a feasibility study. It was determined they could save 25% in overall costs by having their own in-house construction crew. The goal is to have three in-house crews. Two crews will build Jericho Road projects. The third will be available to loan out to other non-profits who need reliable construction contractors. They can also provide construction crews to community members who need low costs construction for repairs and renovation.

Jericho Road has started a workforce development program that has trained 21 people in the construction industry. They partner with Delgado Community College and HUD to provide the training. They are in year two of a three-year program. The next step is to train the crew members to become master plasterers and ironworkers. "If in New Orleans you can become a master plasterer, you can write your own ticket," said Barnes.

Jericho Road's work is fundamental in helping to close the racial wealth divide. "The number one way to build assets, to build wealth in this country through real estate. Owning your own home is the basis for economic uplift in America," said Barnes. "There is a huge racial wealth divide when it comes to that. We don't only sell houses to minorities but the overwhelming majority of our buyers are single African



[Photograph provided by Jericho Road] A demonstration of the Jericho Road's Vacant Land Management program on a lot in Central City depicting how fencing and landscaping can be used to address the issue of blight.



[Photograph provided by Jericho Road] New home buyers attending workshops offered by Jericho Road.

American mothers. That demographic is a demographic that has subsisted in lower economic income brackets forever because of the nature of having to take care of kids."

In 2014, Jericho Road started working with Prosperity Now taking part in a pilot program called "Bridging the Racial Wealth Divide." Since 1979, Prosperity Now has helped make it possible for millions of low- and moderate-income families and people of color to achieve financial security, stability, and, ultimately, prosperity. Collaborating with non-profits, like Jericho Road, is what makes their work possible.

Jericho Road has become a leader among other nonprofit affordable housing organizations in the State of Louisiana. Jericho Road has received state certification as a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) from the Louisiana Housing Corporation. Barnes stated, "We are asked to partner with smaller, less experienced CHDOs on projects so they can learn."

Barnes stated, "Only a handful of affordable housing and building nonprofits that started after Hurricane Katrina are still in operation. Jericho Road has survived and is thriving. This is a testament to all of the dedication of the Episcopal Church, our staff, and our board."

Jericho Road has internship programs in community engagement, green space management, housing sustainability, and urban planning. It is not uncommon for the former interns to move elsewhere in the country taking with them the skills and practices obtained through their time at Jericho Road. "We are making a lasting impact not just on the City of New Orleans but moving outward," said Barnes. "It is much farther than just about the individuals we have helped buy a home."

Navigating Through the COVID-19 Pandemic

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Jericho Road had to make the abrupt change to an all-virtual format for their programs. "So much of our work is front-facing we were concerned about the transition to a virtual format," Barnes said. "We were pleasantly surprised that we had more participation in our virtual workshops and virtual financial coaching than we did previously. Accessibility has not been an issue."

Jericho Road received a grant through the United Thank Offering to upgrade the technology to meet the challenges of staff teleworking from home and providing their programs virtually. They were able to upgrade computers and subscribe to Zoom and Microsoft Teams.

Some of their community engagement programs, like the community garden and orchard, are on a temporary break. Others lent itself well to a more creative virtual format.

Bling Your Block is coming back this year as Bling Your Block in a Box. Homeowners received all the materials and tools they needed for projects in a box delivered to their homes. Instructional sessions will be offered via Zoom. All the individual households will work on their houses on the same day. "This was one of the things that people just loved," said Barnes. "We try to focus on doing four of these per year. We didn't do any last year."

The rise in costs of construction materials has been an issue this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, trade wars, and landfalling hurricanes. "We have been doing more renovations. Our workforce development construction crew does the renovation and it looks like a new house. That allows us to provide affordable housing during these times when the prices are at an elevated level," said Barnes.

Jericho Road is working closely with their homeowners, especially those who work in the hospitality sector, who may be adversely affected post-pandemic. "We did an initial survey of everyone to see where they were and if they were taking advantage of all the forbearance and deferment and loan modification products out there," said Barnes. "We are doing a follow up survey now."

Celebrating Jericho Road's 15th Anniversary

In the fall of 2021, Jericho Road will have a public celebration of their 15th anniversary. More information will be announced soon.

"Jericho Road is highly identified with the Episcopal community," said Barnes. "It never fails, when I am out in the community talking about Jericho Road, somebody comes up to me and tells me they are Episcopalian. It elicits a pride of ownership. My church, we did this. We are doing this. It is a testament to Bishop Jenkins, Dean duPlantier, and Abigail Nelson and to all the people who said we can do this."

Diocesis de Louisiana Ministerio Hispano (Hispanic Ministry)



*[Screenshot from a video on the St. Augustine's, Metairie, Facebook Page]
The Rev. Benjamín Sánchez leads a service at St. Augustine's, Metairie, for the Hispanic community.*

Bienvenidos al Ministerio Hispano

La Diócesis Episcopal de Louisiana, invita cordialmente a las personas de habla hispana a hacer parte del nuevo Ministerio Hispano en nuestra Diócesis. Este Ministerio nace bajo la inspiración y la guía del Espíritu Santo. Después de orar con fe e insistencia, nuestro Obispo Morris y la Convención Diocesana anual del 2020 aprobó este Ministerio para nuestra Diócesis. Por eso, en nombre de toda la Diócesis, clérigos y laicos los invitamos a integrarse activamente, para celebrar la fe, la vida y la familia en comunidad, con la guía espiritual y el liderazgo del Rev. Padre Benjamín Sánchez.

La Oficina está ubicada en 3412 Haring Rd, Metairie, LA 70006, segundo piso. Para mayor información, por favor escribir a bsanchez@edola.org o llamar (504) 887-4801.

The Rev. Benjamín Sánchez

Welcome to the Hispanic Ministry

The Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana cordially invites Spanish-speaking people to be part of the new Hispanic ministry in our diocese. This ministry is born under the inspiration and guidance of the Holy Spirit. After praying with faith and insistence, our Bishop Morris and the 2020 Annual Diocesan Convention approved this ministry for our diocese. Therefore, on behalf of the entire diocese, clergy and laity, we invite you to actively become a part of, to celebrate faith, life and family in community, with the spiritual guidance and leadership of Rev. Father Benjamin Sánchez.

The office is located at 3412 Haring Rd, Metairie, LA 70006, second floor. For more information, please write bsanchez@edola.org or call (504) 887-4801.

The Rev. Benjamín Sánchez

Over the years, the seeds were sown for a diocesan Hispanic ministry. Most recently, St. Augustine's, Metairie, saw the need to minister to a growing Hispanic population in their community. They began finding ways to incorporate their new neighbors into the life of the church and in 2019, they added a Spanish language service.

The Rev. Benjamín Sánchez, a former Roman Catholic priest from Colombia, found his way to St. Augustine's and soon began assisting St. Augustine's rector, the Rev. AJ Heine, in the church's Hispanic ministry. It wasn't long before he heard the call to become an Episcopal priest and met with Bishop Morris Thompson. In 2020, he entered the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest to earn his Diploma in Anglican Studies.

Since Hurricane Katrina, the need for a ministry to Spanish speakers in the Diocese of Louisiana has become increasingly important. According to the Data Research Center: "The number of Hispanics in New Orleans metro has grown every year since 2006. Indeed while the overall metro population has grown 7 percent since 2010, the Hispanic population has grown 24 percent such that Hispanics account for 28 percent of the metro's population growth since 2010."^[1] The majority of this growth has been in Jefferson Parish (Metairie, Kenner, and the Westbank communities).

The 183rd Convention voted in October 2020 to add a Hispanic ministry to the diocesan budget. In May 2021, Father Sánchez graduated from the seminary and was received into the Episcopal Church on June 5. Diocesis de Louisiana Ministerio Hispano (Diocese of Louisiana Hispanic Ministry) was officially launched the next week.

Initially, the Diocesan Hispanic Ministry will have an office located at St. Augustine's, Metairie, to serve the needs of the Hispanic population in the Metairie area. The purpose of the ministry will be to bring the message of God and the culture and context of the Episcopal Church to the Hispanic community who doesn't have access yet to any Christian celebration and who does not know the Episcopal Church. A Spanish language service will be held at St. Augustine's every Sunday at 12:30.

As the ministry progresses, Father Sánchez will reach out to Episcopal churches in areas of the Diocese of Louisiana seeing growth in the Hispanic population.

You can follow the work of the Hispanic Ministry on their Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/EDOLAMinisterioHispano

[1] Who Lives in New Orleans and Metro Parishes Now? (2020, October 9). Retrieved June 16, 2021, from <https://www.datacenterresearch.org/data-resources/who-lives-in-new-orleans-now/>

Frances Joseph-Gaudet Fund Awards \$81,100 in Community Grants

On April 6, the Gaudet Committee announced the awarding of 13 community grants for the 2021 program year. The Gaudet Community Grant provides funding for not-for-profit agencies that create, manage, and expand educational opportunities for African-American children within the Diocese of Louisiana. The total amount awarded this year is \$81,110.

Anna's Place NOLA

The goal of Anna's Place NOLA After School and Saturday Arts Academic Program is to integrate academics with art enrichment and healthy lifestyle choices drawing together the education, arts and medical aspects of their work for children of Tremè and the Seventh Ward. Funding will be used to support tutoring, social-emotional classes, and art classes in the aftermath of Covid. (Award amount \$10,000).

The second grant awarded to Anna's Place NOLA is for the summer camp program. Gaudet funds will be used to support full-time staff who coordinate all aspects of the program, local artist instructors and transportation costs. (Award amount \$12,000)

Arts Council of Point Coupee

The Arts Council of Point Coupee provides visual arts instruction for the students at the STEM Magnet Academy of Pointe Coupee through the Learning Life Lessons Through Arts Program. Grant funds will be used for the Art on the Go summer camp to provide art materials and compensation for the workshop facilitator. (Award amount: \$2,000)

Educare

Educare New Orleans (ENO) provides high-quality, evidence-based early childhood education to economically disadvantaged students. Gaudet funds will be used to support implementing the Educare model, particularly early education staffing. (Award amount: \$8,000)

Gardere Community Christian School

The Gardere Community Christian School's mission is to provide a firm Christian foundation in the educational and spiritual life of children in the Gardere neighborhood (Baton Rouge). Gaudet funds will be used to support tuition gaps for the three-year-old program. (Award amount: \$9,000)

Grow Dat Youth Farm

The Grow Dat Youth Farm's mission is to nurture a diverse group of young leaders through the meaningful work of growing food. Gaudet funds will be used for youth stipends, transportation costs, and educational supplies for leadership programs. (Award amount \$7,000)

Kid's Orchestra

The Kid's Orchestra brings quality and affordable afterschool music and academic enrichment programs for all K-5 students across all socio-economic backgrounds from 24 partner schools in Baton Rouge. Gaudet funds will be used to provide children with educational opportunities, to assist in funding live virtual private lessons with Virtual Social Emotional Learning lessons. (Award amount \$5,000)



[Photograph from the Anna's Place NOLA Facebook Page] The youth of Anna's Place NOLA Summer Camp practicing for the summer concert with the assistance of the LPO.

Louisiana Center for Children's Rights

The Louisiana Center for Children's Rights (LCCR) connects New Orleans most vulnerable children- young people who fall into the juvenile justice system with an educational opportunity. Gaudet funds will partially support two education advocate staff positions working with the LCCR's Right to Learn Project. (Award amount: \$5,000)

Rooted Ones

Rooted Ones' Mentoring program is dedicated to restoring hope among young men as an action-based mentoring organization. Gaudet funds will be used to recruit and train mentors. (Award amount: \$5,000)

Son of a Saint

Son of a Saint exists to transform the lives of fatherless boys through mentorship, emotional support, development of life skills, exposure to constructive experiences and formation of positive, lasting peer-to-peer relationships. Gaudet funds will be used for the mentor program expenses related to mentoring, such as salaries, materials, etc. (Award amount: \$3,000)

Teaching Responsible Earth Education (T.R.E.E.)

T.R.E.E.'s mission is to educate children and adults about the life science processes that govern our planet, to inspire them to appreciate the natural world, and to motivate them to protect it. Gaudet funds will be used on materials, printing, and part-time educator time. (Award amount \$2,000)

Trinity Educational Enrichment Program (TEEP)

The Trinity Educational Enrichment Program (TEEP) is a summer educational program for 5th and 6th graders, as well as pre-K children, from at-risk, and/or economically vulnerable homes. Gaudet funds will be used for program expenses. (Award amount \$3,000)

Ubuntu Village NOLA

Ubuntu Village NOLA works to deliver transformational justice to youth and families impacted by the juvenile justice system. Gaudet funds will be used to develop curricula, purchase supplies, and pay Ubuntu teachers and mentors. (Award amount \$10,000)

The 25th Presentation of Honored Women by the ECW



[Photograph by Karen Mackey, Diocese of Louisiana] Marilyn Hines is one of the 2021 Honored Women of the Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Louisiana. The two other honorees are Alice Strausser and Cecile Torbergson, not pictured.

For 25 years the Episcopal Church Women have recognized three women each year for their ministry and service to the Church. The recipients of the Honored Women Award were announced at the 134th Annual Gathering of the ECW at Trinity Church, New Orleans, on June 19, 2021.

Marilyn Hines

"But now bring me a musician. And when the musician played the hand of the Lord came upon him." 2 Kings 3:15

Marilyn Hines of Church of the Holy Communion in Plaquemine is blessed by God with the grace of beautiful music: singing, playing, and dancing. "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

A cradle Episcopalian, Marilyn grew up in Little Rock, Arkansas, and later married Rodney Gascon becoming a member of Holy Communion. Both leadership and servanthood are two qualities Marilyn exemplifies while working as a full-time educator and raising three children. Her involvement in the church is varied, like her talents. When women began serving on the vestry, she served as clerk; continuing over the years performing vestry duties and responsibilities of senior warden even in the absence of a priest. She is the church organist and choir director, and plays the guitar, praising our Lord with inspirational music. She

received a diploma from the Presiding Bishop's Program on Church Liturgy and Music; additionally, she participated in Cursillo and diocesan choir for ordinations. Marilyn gives of her time at Holy Communion by serving as a member of the clergy search committee, Sunday school teacher, and Vacation Bible School director. She teaches the Children's Moment at church every Sunday as well as provides children's coloring kits for pew art during Sunday services. She has led an ecumenical Bible study with the Methodist Church, and continues with the Leadership Program for small church musicians. She led music at the local nursing home including displaced nursing home residents from New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina. Marilyn played on the team for the Iberville Parish Community Prayer Walk for three years. She carries meal kits in her car that she puts together to distribute to homeless people. She readily gives them when she sees someone in need. Her heart is huge, but her strength is tremendous.

Marilyn has helped build a house for Habitat for Humanity with Holy Communion church members and two other local churches. Also following hurricanes, Marilyn organized a relief center for local people suffering from lack of supplies and air conditioning, fed. She also housed Red Cross mental health workers following Katrina, helped with rebuilding, and delivered and prepared food and supplies.

As an Episcopal Church Woman, she has been president,

vice president, and secretary at Holy Communion, all the while serving on the diocesan ECW Board as recording secretary, musician, and historian.

She is a master rummage sale organizer, has been a faithful Gumbo volunteer serving the local community during Lent, and has prepared and served innumerable Sunday refreshments. All of this has been done with a servant's heart. Working quietly in the background to accomplish these many ministries, in such a way many have never even realized how much she has been accomplishing, Marilyn is a person that loves the Lord and never seeks reward for her service to the church, family, and community.

An educator for over fifty years, Marilyn is retired, but continues to tutor children and work with those in need. She is a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and one could not ask for a better friend.

Fr. Chris Capaldo, former rector of Church of the Holy Communion, names Marilyn an ambassador of Christ who at Holy Communion was always the first to arrive and the last to leave. He added, "She is the core, the heart of Holy Communion".

When you discover and use your gifts for the good of those you love and have chosen to serve, your life takes on beauty. It inspires others. It points toward our Creator.

"I will sing to the Lord as long as I live, and I will sing praise to my God while I have being." Psalm 104:33

Alice Strausser

Alice Strausser is and has been a vital member of St. John's Episcopal Church of Thibodaux and the ECW for many years. Growing up in the Catholic Church, the middle of five children, she credits her mother with introducing her to the joys of volunteering. She worked at Camp Onward in Bay St. Louis as a counselor-in-training and taught swimming where she met her future husband, Mike, who passed away in 2017. They have two sons and two grandchildren.

After earning a BA in Math Education and MS in Mathematics from the University of New Orleans and teaching for a year, she switched gears and worked at Cameco/John Deere for thirty-seven years doing a variety of work, retiring in 2012.

She will do just about anything that needs to be done for St. John's and the ECW., and will do it well. Often Alice does things we did not even realize needed doing until she made it happen. She works with the altar guild; English Tea; Lenten Gumbo; Sights, Sounds, and Smells of Christmas; and the Cemetery Association; has served on the vestry; and does just about any other worker bee job that comes up.

In a recent bio for the church newsletter, Alice stated that she truly cannot imagine getting along without her church family. I think I speak for her church family when I say we cannot imagine getting along without her either. She is truly a servant of God, and we are all blessed to know her.

Cecile Costley Torbergson

Cecile certainly displays the talent of getting people involved in the church, according to nominator Sudee Campbell, who met Cecile the very first time when she walked into Christ Church, Slidell, to get her letter transferred from The Falls Church. Cecile introduced herself, asked Sudee's name and how could she help her. Cecile said that the office was just down the hall pointing. Instead, she guided her toward Comfort Hall and asked if she would climb a ladder to hang balloons from the Parish Hall's ceiling to decorate for the Fall Garage/Christmas/White Elephant Sale. After many balloons were tucked and hung from the drop ceiling, Cecile introduced her to the women of Slidell's ECW, who became her church family. Oh, she made it to the office and as she was leaving Cecile walked her out thanking her for the help and, said to her that she "was going to be her little sister." A sister in Christ is an extraordinary person.

Cecile has a leadership quality and style that lets people grow and develop their cause, skill or ideas with solid guidance and gentle advocacy. She has served her community through Slidell Junior Achievement, at various leadership levels including president. Cecile and husband Butch taught adult Sunday school for years and were the first EFM mentors in the Diocese. She is that mentor helping others grow exponentially in thought and knowledge through the EFM process. She has joyfully taught, sung, and played during a lifetime of Vacation Bible Schools and EYC activities. Her signature character for years was being the angel who taught the morning "Welcome". Cecile's service includes the ECW in her parish from worker bee to being President of the ECW of the Diocese of Louisiana 1983-1986 and continues to serve on board committees since.

Cecile loves music sharing her joy by singing in the choir at Christ Church Slidell, since the mid-seventies. She served on the Vestry numerous times as Secretary, as well as performing duties of a LEM, VEM and Lector. Cecile served the Altar Guild and has been its director. She is the best tour guide in the city of New Orleans! She loves her hometown, its history, museums, art galleries, and restaurants like no other.

When she really wanted to take time off and focus on business and family, Cecile helped the underserved of her community by volunteering and doing advocacy work on the board of Sunshine Village and was a founding member of the local NAMI Board, all the while running her travel agency with a personal touch that gave countless moments of joy and pleasure to people in their travels throughout the world. She shares the travelogues at ECW meetings describing special moments that made you feel like you were there with her.

Cecile has had her share of personal heartbreaks and has always met these times with a spirit of God's grace, unshakable faith, and good humor. She is a steadfast servant to all whether family or friend. And thankfully she has been that "big sister" she promised so many years ago.

Faith Through Direct Trade: Philippines' Episcopal Coffee



[Photographs provided by Kellan Lyman] Left: Coffee grower Shirley Palao-ay. Right: Kellan Lyman presents project plan to members after church.

by Kellan Lyman, former Episcopal Young Adult Service Corps serving the Philippines (2016-2019); Parishioner of Trinity Church, New Orleans; Founder of the New Orleans Coffee Import Co.

Purposeful coffee purchasing is one way we can love one another in our daily routine by supporting smallholder farmers. New Orleans Coffee Import Co. is partnering with the Episcopal Church in the Philippines to source excellent coffee and transform the traditional way of coffee trading to one which is more fair and profitable for farmers. Our mission is to exemplify Christ's love through fair trade practice.

NOCI facilitates a connection between coffee farmers and drinkers. We're buying directly from farmers and delivering their beans to churches, offices, events and coffee lovers in order to support our fellow community's development via our shared coffee ritual.

NOCI evolved from friendships developed by EDOLA's missionary to the Philippines, Kellan Lyman (2016-2019). As a Young Adult Service Corps volunteer, she was charged to witness God through community in foreign land. Now back in New Orleans, she is furthering these relationships and economic development mission through direct-trade coffee.

Filipino farmers are eager to share their coffee through church connection, as they already collaborate through church co-ops in their farming projects. Their coffee is the fruit of their asset-based community development projects, under guidance of ECP development program. One asset these farmers have is the Episcopal Church network -- we drink coffee every week, at Sunday coffee hour and at home.

120 years after the first American missionaries arrived, to be "in mission" with each other may be to trade together and explore how business can be done in the Kingdom of God. We hope that you will join us in developing this partnership.

Green & roasted coffees will be available in September

NOCI is born of friendship & community relations between New Orleans and the Philippines, by way of The Episcopal Church. Working together to promote community-based asset development, NOCI leverages God-given gifts to create direct trade relationships between farmers and coffee buyers seeking to 'do good'.

We partner with smallholder farmer cooperative organizations where farmers collaborate to produce the best quality coffee. A portion of NOCI's profits are returned to the farmer organizations for their livelihood projects.

Join NOCI's mission to connect Episcopalians and empower communities near and far through great coffee.

Pre-Order Coffee. Pre-order your roasted coffee for home, office or events at www.neworleanscoffeeimports.com.

Invest. If you are looking for a socially beneficial investment, please contact Kellan at Kellan@neworleanscoffeeimports.com or (678) 849-8131 for more info.

Pray. Please join NOCI in praying for success in this mission to build a Christ-centered community which empowers the marginalized through coffee.



[Photograph by Karen Mackey, Diocese of Louisiana] The clergy of the Diocese of Louisiana pose for their annual group photograph following the Chrism Mass on March 29, 2021.

New Clergy in the Diocese

The Rev. Benjamín Sánchez was received as a priest in the Episcopal Church on June 5, 2021, at St. Augustine's, Metairie. He will serve as the missionary for Hispanic ministries in the Diocese of Louisiana.

The Rev. Luigi Mandile was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons on June 16, 2021, at St. Anna's, New Orleans. He will serve as deacon at St. Anna's, New Orleans.

The Rev. Georgene "GiGi" Conner has been licensed to serve in the Diocese of Louisiana. She is a retired priest from the Diocese of Southwest Florida. She is available to serve as a supply priest.

The Rev. David P. Casey, O.P. has been called to be the priest-in-charge of Church of the Annunciation and of Mount Olivet, New Orleans, effective July 11, 2021. He previously served as chaplain missionary for campus & young adult ministry in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

The Rev. Holly Burris was called to serve as rector of St. John's, Thibodaux, effective July 19, 2021. She comes to our diocese from the Diocese of Mississippi where she served as priest-in-charge of Church of the Epiphany in Tunica.

Transitions in the Diocese

The Rev. Brad St. Romain was called to serve as interim rector of St. Augustine's, Metairie, effective February 1, 2021.

The Rev. Reese Wiggins retired from St. Luke's, Baton Rouge, effective April 25. He has served as a deacon at the church since 2003.

The Rev. John Miller was called as rector of Church of the Holy Communion, Plaquemine, effective July 4. His last Sunday serving as priest-in-charge of St. Stephen's, Innis, was May 30, 2021.

The Rev. Peggy Scott retired as priest-in-charge of St. Paul's Holy Trinity, New Roads; St. Mary's, Morganza; and head of the diocesan prison ministry at the Louisiana State Penitentiary, effective July 1, 2021. She has served these churches for 11 years.

The Rev. Lindsey Ardrey was called to serve as the lower and middle school religion teacher and chaplain at St. Martin's Episcopal School, Metairie, effective July 5, 2021. She was ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests on July 1, 2021, at St Paul's, New Orleans.

The Rev. Lynn Hooks was called to serve as priest-in-charge of St. Paul's Holy Trinity, New Roads, and St. Mary's, Morganza, effective July 1, 2021. She was ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests on July 1, 2021, at St Paul's, New Orleans.

The Rev. Allison Reid was called to serve on Bishop Thompson's staff as the diocesan missionary for congregation development, effective June 1, 2021, and as the priest-in-charge of St. Mark's, Harvey, effective July 4, 2021. She was ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests on July 1, 2021, at St Paul's, New Orleans.

The Very Rev. Craig Dalferes was called as rector of Grace Church, St. Francisville, effective September 1, 2021. He has served as rector of St. Matthew's, Houma, since 2004 and the dean of the Southwest Deanery since 2013. He will serve his last Sunday at St. Matthew's on July 25, 2021.

The Rev. Joey Clavijo is now serving as a non-parochial deacon focusing on his role as chair of the diocesan environmental commission. His last Sunday serving as deacon at St. George's, New Orleans was July 4, 2021.

Transitions Out of the Diocese

The Rev. Chris Golding accepted a call to serve as chaplain of Seabury Hall, Maui, Hawai'i, effective August 2021.

The Rev. Bill Miller was called to plant a new Episcopal church in Round Top, Texas, in the Diocese of Texas, effective April 18, 2021. He has served as rector of Christ Church, Covington, since 2015.

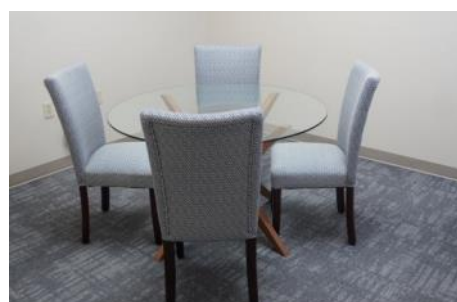
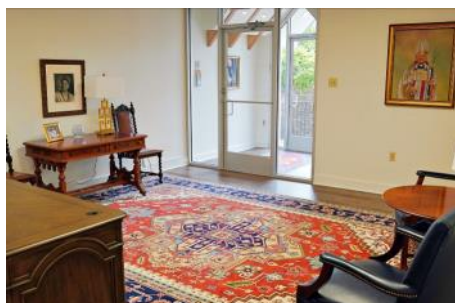
Clergy Deaths

The Rev. Roy Mellish died on March 4, 2021, at the age of 79. A memorial service was held at Trinity Church, Morgan City on March 17.

The Rev Ed Robertson died on March 17, 2021, at the age of 75. A funeral mass was held at St. Paul's on Saturday, April 17.

The Rt. Rev. Charles E. Jenkins died on April 10, 2021, at the age of 69. A funeral service was held at Grace Church, St. Francisville, on May 8.

The Rt. Rev. Robert Witcher died on June 14, 2021, at the age of 94. A private family service was held at St. James, Baton Rouge, on June 18.



Renovation of the Noland Center

The Noland Center, home of the offices of Bishop Thompson and his staff, was recently renovated. New flooring and window blinds and shutters were installed, walls painted, and necessary repair work was done. Bishop Thompson is in the process of cultivating a collection of art that reflects the many aspects of the life, nature, and culture of south east Louisiana. We give thanks to Deacon Jay Albert and the crew from JayMar Construction for their work in renovating the Noland Center, the Rev. Ashely Freeman for coordinating the donation of office furniture and Rebecca Thompson and Sarah Martzolf for their interior design services.

First row: (left) The building exterior was washed and painted and the parking lot was repaved. (center and right) The lobby has new furniture and a beautiful new rug. The portraits of Bishop Noland, the 8th bishop of Louisiana and the building's namesake, and Blessed Frances Joseph-Gaudet were given prominent spots in the room. Second row: (center) The bishop's assistant's office has new furniture and new shutters for the windows. (right) A new mat featuring the diocesan shield for the vestibule. Third row: (left) The bishop's office has new window shutters and new guest chairs. (center) The canon to the ordinary's office has new window shutters and new guest chairs. (right) An office on the second floor was converted to a small-meeting conference room. Fourth row: (left) A former file storage room is in the process of being converted into a media and filming room. (center) New vinyl wood flooring throughout the building. (right) The attic was cleaned out and a portion of it was converted to a climate-controlled archive room.



Mardi Gras During a Pandemic (left)

[Photograph from the St. George's, New Orleans, Facebook Page] The parades were canceled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but there were still plenty of ways to celebrate Mardi Gras. The youth groups of St. George's, New Orleans, and St. Andrew's, New Orleans, partnered to create handmade beads to distribute in a safe way in front of St. George's on St. Charles Avenue.



Burning of the Palms at St. James, Baton Rouge (middle)

[Screenshot from a video on the St. James, Baton Rouge, Facebook Page] The Rev. Drew Harmon (left) and the Rev. Chris Duncan (right) burn palms for Ash Wednesday at St. James, Baton Rouge.



Making Ashes at St. Patrick's, Zachary (right)

[Photograph from the St. Patrick's, Zachary, Facebook Page] Photograph caption from St. Patrick's: "COVID has made us adapt in many ways, including burning the paper cups we have been using for communion, instead of the palms from Palm Sunday. This has been good preparation for Lent. During Lent we are called specifically to adapt our lives in response to God's unfailing love and grace found in Christ."



Fr. Bill's Bobblehead Demonstrates Ash Distribution (left)

[Photograph by the Very Rev. Bill Terry] The Fr. Bill bobblehead demonstrates using a cotton swab for a contactless way to distribute ashes on Ash Wednesday during the COVID pandemic.



Ashes to Go (middle)

[Photograph from the St. Anna's, New Orleans, Facebook page] The Very Rev. Bill Terry, rector of St. Anna's, New Orleans, distributes ashes on Ash Wednesday to people working in the service industry in the Tremé neighborhood of New Orleans.



Ready for Ash Wednesday at Christ Church Cathedral (right)

[Photograph by the Very Rev. David duPlantier] Christ Church Cathedral set up for Ash Wednesday services. Many churches used cotton swabs to distribute ashes in a safe and contactless way during the COVID-19 pandemic. Several churches also mailed ashes to those unable to attend services.

Out and About in the Diocese (February 1–July 4, 2021)



Lenten Contemplative Prayer at St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge (left)

[Photograph from the St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge, Facebook Page] On Sunday afternoons in Lent, St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge, held a contemplative prayer service in their meditation garden.



The Rev. Canon Brad St. Romain (middle)

[Screenshot from a video on the St. Augustine's, Metairie, Facebook page] The Rev. Canon Brad St. Romain, celebrated his first Sunday as interim rector of St. Augustine's, Metairie on February 7, 2021.



Fish Fry at St. Patrick's, Zachary (right)

[Photograph from the St. Patrick's, Zachary, Facebook page] Throughout Lent, St. Patrick's, Zachary, held a drive-through fish fry fundraiser to raise money for mission and outreach projects.



Outdoor Stations of the Cross (left)

[Photograph from the Trinity Church, New Orleans, Facebook Page] During Lent, Trinity Church installed a twelve-panel art installation called Stations in the Street by artist Scott Erikson on the fence along Jackson Avenue. On Sunday evenings, the clergy of Trinity led a guided meditation.



Statue from My Father's Garden Finds a New Home (middle)

[Photograph from the St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge, Facebook Page] A statue of Jesus from the grounds of the former Our Father's Garden of Holy Spirit, Baton Rouge, has found a new home in the meditation garden of St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge.



Bishop's Visitation to Christ Church Cathedral (right)

[Photograph from the Christ Church Cathedral, New Orleans, Facebook Page] Bishop Thompson made his annual visitation to Christ Church Cathedral on February 21, 2021.

Out and About in the Diocese (February 1–July 4, 2021)



Bishop Visitation to St. Paul's, New Orleans (left)

[Screenshot from a video on the St. Paul's Facebook Page] Bishop Thompson made his annual visitation to St. Paul's, New Orleans, on February 28, 2021.



St. Michael's, Mandeville Fish Fry (middle)

[Photograph from the St. Michael's, Mandeville, Facebook Page] Throughout Lent, St. Michael's, Mandeville, held a fish fry fundraiser with proceeds to benefit their children and youth ministries.



Tailgating to Meet Their New Priest-in-Charge (right)

[Photograph from the Trinity Church, Baton Rouge, Facebook Page] Trinity Church, Baton Rouge, held a series of tailgating events in the church parking lot as a way for parishioners to meet and greet their new priest-in-charge, the Rev. Peter Wong, and his family.



Celebrating St. Patrick at St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge (left)

[Photograph from the St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge, Facebook Page] The Children's Ministry of St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge, kicked off their spring outdoor COVID safe events by celebrating St. Patrick's Day. The day included Irish dancing, crafts, and games.



Trinity Loaves and Fishes (middle)

[Photograph from the Trinity Loaves and Fishes Facebook Page] In March 2021, the Trinity Loaves and Fishes truck returned to Central City after a year to partner with Peoples United Methodist Church to serve 60 meals a week.



Bishop Visitation to Chapel of the Holy Spirit, New Orleans (right)

[Photograph from the Chapel of the Holy Spirit, New Orleans, Facebook Page] Bishop Thompson made his annual visitation to Chapel of the Holy Spirit, New Orleans, on March 18, 2021.

Out and About in the Diocese (February 1-July 4, 2021)



Holy Week and Easter Around the Diocese of Louisiana

[Photographs and video screenshots from various Facebook Pages] Top row left to right: Palm Sunday at Trinity Church, Baton Rouge; St. Andrew's, New Orleans; St. Matthew's, Bogalusa; St. Anna's, New Orleans. Second row left to right: Palm Sunday at St. Patrick's, Zachary; Chrism Mass at Christ Church Cathedral, New Orleans; Maundy Thursday at Chapel of the Holy Spirit, New Orleans; Maundy Thursday at Christ Church, Covington. Third row from left to right: Maundy Thursday at Church of the Annunciation, New Orleans; Good Friday at Christ Church, Slidell; Good Friday at Church of the Nativity, Rosedale; Good Friday at St. John's, Thibodaux. Fourth row from left to right: Good Friday at All Saints, Ponchatoula; Good Friday at Mount Olivet, New Orleans; Easter Vigil at Church of the Annunciation, New Orleans; Easter Vigil at St. Philips, New Orleans; Fifth row from left to right: Easter Vigil at St. Paul's, New Orleans; Easter Vigil at Church of the Nativity, Rosedale; Easter at All Saints, River Ridge; Easter at Christ Church Cathedral; Sixth row from left to right: Easter at Church of the Holy Communion, Plaquemine; Easter at St. Andrew's, Paradis; Easter at St. James, Baton Rouge; Easter at St. Francis, Denham Springs.



Bishop's Visitation to St. Luke's, Baton Rouge (left)

[Photograph from the St. Luke's, Baton Rouge, Facebook Page] Bishop Thompson's visitation to St. Luke's, Baton Rouge, on April 11, 2021.

Last Sunday for the Rev. Bill Miller (middle)

[Screenshot from a video on of video on Christ Church, Covington, Facebook Page] The Rev. Bill Miller celebrated his last Sunday as rector of Christ Church, Covington, on April 18, 2021.

Earth Day Service at St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge (right)

[Photograph from St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge, Facebook Page] On Sunday, April 18, 2021, St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge, celebrated Earth Day with an outdoor mass followed by Earth Day crafts and planting a redbud tree.



Bishop Visitation to Holy Communion, Plaquemine (left)

[Photograph from video on Church of the Holy Communion, Plaquemine, Facebook Page] Bishop Thompson made his annual visitation to Church of the Holy Communion, Plaquemine, on April 18, 2021.

Caring for Creation—Youth on the Avenue (middle)

[Photograph from the St. George's, New Orleans, Facebook Page] On April 18, 2021, families from St. George's, New Orleans, joined with families from the Academy of the Sacred Heart, New Orleans, for a day to celebrate creation. They made banners, learned about native plants, picked up trash, sang, and prayed.

Great American Pie Contest (right)

[Photograph from the St. Andrew's, New Orleans, Facebook Page] On April 24, parishioners of St. Andrew's, New Orleans, competed in the Great American Pie Contest as part of a fundraiser for Camp Able NOLA. The winning entry for the adult category was a blueberry cheesecake pie. The winning entry for the junior category was an Atlantic Beach pie. The winners walked away with a trophy, a ribbon, and bragging rights.

Out and About in the Diocese (February 1–July 4, 2021)



Retirement of Deacon Reese Wiggins (left)

[Screenshot from a video on the St. Luke's, Baton Rouge, Facebook Page] Deacon Reese Wiggins retired as deacon of St. Luke's, Baton Rouge, on April 25, 2021.



St. John's, Thibodaux, Food Drive for the Good Samaritan Food Bank (middle)

[Photograph from the St. John's, Thibodaux, Facebook Page] In May, parishioners of St. John's, Thibodaux, donated 209 pounds of canned goods and supplies to the Good Samaritan Food Bank.



Bishop's Visitation to St. James, Baton Rouge (right)

[Screenshot from a video on the St. James, Baton Rouge, Facebook Page] Bishop Thompson's annual visitation to St. James, Baton Rouge, on May 2, 2021.



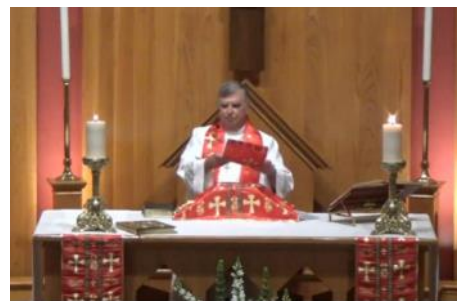
Icon for the Environment (left and middle)

[Photographs by Kristen Wheeler] Deacon Joe Clavijo, chair of the Diocesan Environmental Commission, commissioned artist Kristen Wheeler to create an icon of Creation. On May 5, 2021, Bishop Thompson blessed the icon.

Bishop's Visitation to Trinity Church, New Orleans (right)

[Screenshot from a video on the Trinity Church, New Orleans, Facebook Page] Bishop Thompson's annual visitation to Trinity Church, New Orleans, on May 16, 2021.

Out and About in the Diocese (February 1-July 4, 2021)



Pentecost Around the Diocese of Louisiana

[Photographs from various Facebook Pages and screenshots of videos] Pentecost Sunday around the Diocese of Louisiana. *First row:* St. George's, New Orleans; Fr. Ron and Friends sing-along at Church of the Nativity, Rosedale; Trinity Church, Baton Rouge. *Second row:* Fr. Ron and Friends sing-along at St. Paul's, New Orleans; Trinity Church, New Orleans' Mount Olivet, New Orleans. *Third row:* St. John's, Thibodaux; St. Mark's, Harvey; St. Anna's, New Orleans. *Fourth row:* St. Alban's Chapel, Baton Rouge; St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge; St. Augustine's, Metairie

Out and About in the Diocese (February 1-July 4, 2021)



Mask Mandate is Lifted for Those Vaccinated Against COVID-19

[Photographs from various Facebook Pages and screenshots of videos] In May 2021, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) issued a statement that individuals who are fully vaccinated can resume activities without wearing a mask or physical distancing. Individuals who are not vaccinated, including children under the age of 12, or who are immunocompromised should continue taking all precautions to protect themselves from COVID-19. On May 18, Bishop Thompson updated the diocesan COVID-19 guidelines lifting the mask mandate for vaccinated individuals, allowing congregational singing, and distribution of communion.

The photographs above are screenshots of Sunday service videos from churches around the Diocese of Louisiana after the mask mandate was lifted.

July 2021 update: The Delta variant of COVID19 has caused a surge of new cases. Bishop Thompson suggested wearing of masks in church, especially by those who are over the age of 65, under the age of 12, and the unvaccinated.

Out and About in the Diocese (February 1–July 4, 2021)



Cemetery Cleanup in Zachary (left)

[Photograph from the St. Patrick's, Zachary, Facebook Page] On May 29, 2021, the parishioners of St. Patrick's, Zachary, participated in the cleanup of Zachary Public Cemetery. A coalition of churches in Zachary led the cleanup efforts.



The Rev. John Miller's Last Sunday at St. Stephen's, Innis (left)

[Photograph provided by the Rev. Canon Shannon Duckworth] On May 30, 2021, the Rev. John Miller celebrated his last Sunday as priest-in-charge of St. Stephen's, Innis. He was called as the rector of Church of the Holy Communion, Plaquemine, effective July 4, 2021.

Movie Night at St. Andrew's, Paradis (right)

[Photograph from the St. Andrew's, Paradis, Facebook Page] It was movie night and games on the grounds of St. Andrew's, Paradis, on June 4, 2021.



The Rev. Benjamin Sanchez Received into the Episcopal Church (left)

[Photograph by Karen Mackey] On June 5, 2021, the Rev. Benjamin Sanchez was received into the Episcopal Church at St. Augustine's, Metairie. He will serve as the diocesan Hispanic Missioner. His office is located at St. Augustine's.



Bishop's Visitation St. Philip's, New Orleans (middle)

[Photograph from the St. Philip's, New Orleans, Facebook Page] Bishop Thompson's annual visitation to St. Philip's, New Orleans, on June 6, 2021.

St. Michael's Enjoying the Summer Outdoors (left)

[Photograph from the St. Michael's, Mandeville, Facebook Page] On National Get Outside Day, June 12, 2021, the youth and adults from St. Michael's, Mandeville, kayaked down Bayou Cane.



Out and About in the Diocese (February 1–July 4, 2021)



134th Annual Gathering of the Episcopal Church Women

[Photographs by Karen Mackey] The 134th Annual Gathering of the Episcopal Church Women was held at Trinity Episcopal Church on June 18 and 19. *First row: (left)* Welcome sign from the Women of Trinity Church. *(middle group of photos)* Presentations on the ministries of Trinity Church and a reflection by Trinity rector, the Rev. Andy Thayer, and artist, Tim Trapolin. Art painted by Tim Trapolin during the reflection. *(Right group of photos)* ECW business meeting. *Second row: (left group of photos)* Keynote speaker, the Rev. Sandy Casey-Martus, Assistant Dean to the Cathedral in Easton, Maryland. *(middle group of photos)* Vendors and volunteers. *(right group of photos)* Bishop Thompson and other speakers and presenters. *Third row: (left group of photos)* Eucharist with the procession of the church banners. *(middle group of photos)* Workshops *(right group of photos)* Scenes from the 134th Annual Gathering.

Out and About in the Diocese (February 1–July 4, 2021)



Luigi Mandile Ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons (left)

[Photograph by Karen Mackey, Diocese of Louisiana] The Rev. Luigi Mandile was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons on June 16, 2021, at St. Anna's, New Orleans. Bishop Thompson assigned him to serve as deacon at St. Anna's.

The Very Rev. Tommy Dillon Goes on Sabbatical (middle and right)

[Photographs by the Very Rev. Tommy Dillon] In 2019, St. Margaret's received \$50,000 from Lilli Endowment, Inc. to enable their rector, the Rev. Tommy Dillon to participate in the National Clergy Renewal program. The three-month sabbatical was delayed due to COVID-19, but he was able to start it in June 2021. While on sabbatical, he will travel to Mexico, San Francisco and Spain for relaxation, study and prayer. He will visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City, the magnificent ruins of the civilization of Teotihuacá, Grace Cathedral and natural wonders in San Francisco, sites in and around Barcelona and finishing at the famous statue of the "Black Madonna" on the sacred mount of Montserrat. During his travels, he will be joined by clergy colleagues, friends and family and will pursue spiritual direction, Spanish enrichment and discernment.



Mount Olivet Recycling Efforts (left)

[Photograph from the Mount Olivet, New Orleans, Facebook Page] Mount Olivet parishioner, Chris Pomfret, has started a glass recycling program at Mount Olivet. He delivers the bottles to Glass Half Full NOLA, a grassroots recycling program to prevent glass from filling up the New Orleans landfills.

VBS at St. Luke's, Baton Rouge (middle)

[Photograph from the St. Luke's, Baton Rouge, Facebook Page] St. Luke's Vacation Bible School went back to the year 31 AD. It was a fun week of living in the times of Christ. Children experienced tribes and tents, shekels and sandals, music and crafts, art and animals, stories, bread baking, and candlestick making.

New Organ at St. James (right)

[Photograph from the St. James, Facebook Page] St. James has installed their new organ and façade pipes from organ builder Goulding and Wood. Over the next few months, St. James will celebrate their new organ with a series of recitals, hymn-sings, organ demonstrations, and so much more.



Saying Farewell to the Rev. Kit McLean and Welcome to the Rev. Allison Reid (left)

[Photograph from the St. Mark's, Harvey, Facebook Page] On June 25, 2021, the parishioners of St. Mark's, Harvey, said farewell and thank you to the Rev. Kit McLean as their priest-in-charge, and welcomed their new priest-in-charge, the Rev. Allison Reid.

The Rev. Peggy Scott's Retirement (middle)

[Photograph by Karen Mackey, Diocese of Louisiana] The Rev. Peggy Scott has retired as priest-in-charge of St. Paul's Holy Trinity, New Roads; St. Mary's, Morganza; and the head of the prison ministry of the Diocese of Louisiana, effective July 1, 2021. She celebrated her last Sunday at St. Paul's Holy Trinity on June 25, 2021.

Preparing for General Convention (right)

[Photograph by Karen Mackey, Diocese of Louisiana] The deputies and alternates from the Diocese of Louisiana had their first in-person meeting to prepare for General Convention. The 80th General Convention was postponed one year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In this photo from left to right: The Very Rev. Tommy Dillon, clerical deputy; Carolyn Harris, lay deputy; The Rev. Gina Jenkins, clerical alternate; Dotty Suthon, lay deputy; the Rev. Canon Shannon Duckworth, clerical deputy; (On the Zoom screen) David Warrington, lay deputy; John Musser, lay alternate; Bailey Alexander, lay deputy; the Rev. Liz Emblar-Beazley, clerical deputy; the Rev. Joey Clavijo, clerical alternate; the Rev. Fred Devall, clerical deputy; and John Sikes, lay alternate.



Ordination of the Rev. Lindsey Ardrey, the Rev. Lynn Hooks, and the Rev. Allison Reid to the Sacred Order of Priests (left)

[Photograph by Karen Mackey, Diocese of Louisiana] The Rev. Lindsey Ardrey, the Rev. Alison Reid, and the Rev. Lynn Hooks with Bishop Thompson after their ordination to the Sacred Order of Priests. This was a historic evening in the Diocese of Louisiana. This is the first time multiple women were ordained to the priesthood when a man was not part of the group. The Rev. Lindsey Ardrey will serve as the upper and middle school chaplain at St. Martin's Episcopal School. The Rev. Allison Reid will serve as the diocesan missionary for congregational development and priest-in-charge of St. Mark's, Harvey. The Rev. Lynn Hooks will serve as priest-in-charge of St. Paul's Holy Trinity, New Roads, and St. Mary's, Morganza. She will also teach Christian education at St. James Episcopal Day School, Baton Rouge.

First Sunday for the Rev. Lynn Hooks at St. Paul's Holy Trinity, New Roads (middle)

[Photograph by the Rev. Canon Shannon Duckworth] On July 4, the Rev. Lynn Hooks celebrated her first Sunday at St. Paul's Holy Trinity, New Roads.

First Sunday for the Rev. John Miller at Church of the Holy Communion, Plaquemine (right)

Screenshot from a video on the Church of the Holy Communion, Plaquemine, Facebook Page] On July 4, the Rev. John Miller celebrated his first Sunday as rector of Church of the Holy Communion, Plaquemine.

Upcoming Bishop Visitations August—December 2021

Sunday, August 1 at 10:30 a.m.
Christ Church, Slidell

Sunday, August 8 at 10 a.m.
Trinity Church, Baton Rouge

Sunday, August 15 at 9:00 a.m.
St. Stephen's, Innis

Sunday, August 22 at 10:00 a.m.
St. Mark's (Harvey)

Sunday, August 29 at 10:30 a.m.
St. Augustine's, Metairie

Sunday, September 12 at 10:30 a.m.
St. Francis, Denham Springs

Sunday, September 19 at 10:00 a.m.
St. Matthew's, Houma

Sunday, September 26 at 10:00 a.m.
St. Margaret's, Baton Rouge

Sunday, October 03 at 10:30 a.m.
St. John's, Thibodaux

Sunday, October 17 at 10:00 a.m.
St. Luke's, New Orleans

Sunday, October 24 at 9:00 a.m.
Christ Church, Covington

Sunday, October 31 at 10:00 a.m.
All Saints', River Ridge

Sunday, November 14 at 11:00 a.m.
St. Michael & All Angels, Baton Rouge

Sunday, November 21 at 10:00 a.m.
Grace Church, St. Francisville

Sunday, December 05 at 10:30 a.m.
St. Mary's, Franklin

Sunday, December 12 at 10:30 a.m.
St. Anna's, New Orleans

Sunday, December 19 at 10:00 a.m.
St. Andrew's, New Orleans

Christmas Eve at 5:00 p.m.
Christ Church Cathedral, New Orleans

Christmas Eve at 9:00 p.m.
Christ Church Cathedral, New Orleans

Looking for God in Messy Places by Jake Owensby

by the Rt. Rev. Morris K. Thompson, Jr.

Several months ago Bishop Jake Owensby told me he was working on a book. I asked him what it was about and he said, "It's about finding God in the messes of our lives." I think I said something like, "I need that book." Well, after receiving a copy, indeed, I did need to read it.

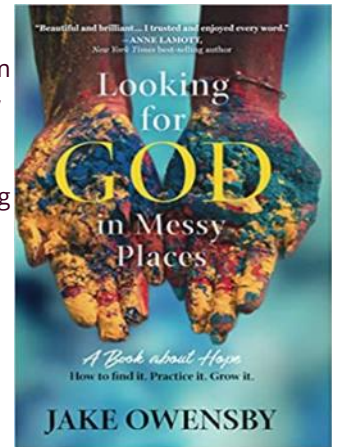
Looking for God in Messy Places brings forth honest life experiences in which we often find ourselves and wonder, where in the world is God. Stories that are familiar to us, divorce, sickness, drug abuse or suicide may be filled with God, but often we don't clearly see or understand how to interpret the spiritual moments.

Throughout reading Owensby's book I reflected on the times in my life when I wondered where God was. Where was God in the suicide death of my brother? And what about the time I spent working in an adolescent girls' psychiatric hospital unit where many of the teenage girls had been prostituted by their parents for drug money. Where was God in those girls' lives?

Bishop Owensby takes the reader on a journey of hard moments in his life and the life of others. The book will cause the readers to reflect upon their own life and hopefully, to recall that God was never far away, but always present.

In the back of the book are questions for each chapter which are great for individual or group reflection. I encourage you to pick up a copy of *Looking for God in Messy Places*. Owensby reminds us that God is nearer than we might imagine. God is with us.

In the end *Looking for God in Messy Places* is about hope. "Hope...is the sense that life is worth living because love dwells within us and pours out from us—a love that has the power to make life worth living."



Upcoming Events at the Solomon Episcopal Conference Center

More information: seccla.org/secc_events



REST & RESURRECTION WEEKEND
Young Adults and Young Professionals Retreat
For 20somethings, 30somethings, Millennials and Gen Xers,
searchers for an affirming Christian community

July 23-25, 2021
Solomon Episcopal Conference Center

Sip and Paint | Swimming | Yoga | Hiking | Campfire Karaoke | Rest

GUEST ARTIST AND SPEAKER: SCOTT ERIKSON WWW.SCOTTERICKSONART.COM

Co-Ed Recovery Retreat

A Journey Through the 12 Steps & the Isms That Keep Us Stuck

August 6-8, 2021

Solomon Episcopal Conference Center



YOUTH EVENTS


2021-2022 @ SOLOMON EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE CENTER

KICK OFF
August 13-15, 2021
Grades 6-8 and 9-12.
First overnight retreat of the year

HAPPENING
#85 on September 10-12, 2021
#86 on January 7-9, 2022

NEW BEGINNINGS #1
March 23-24, 2022
Brand new retreat in our diocese
for middle schoolers grades 6-8
High school staffers grades 9-12

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF LOUISIANA WELCOMES YOU!
Contact the Diocesan Youth Coordinator, Mother Jane-Allison Wiggin at jwiggin@edola.org



Clergy Conference at the Solomon Episcopal Conference Center
August 19, 2021 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



25th Annual Women's Creative Process Retreat: CPR for the Soul
Theme: A Light Unto My Path
October 14-17, 2021 at the Solomon Episcopal Conference Center