

# THE MISSISSIPPI EPISCOPALIAN

The Official Publication of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi



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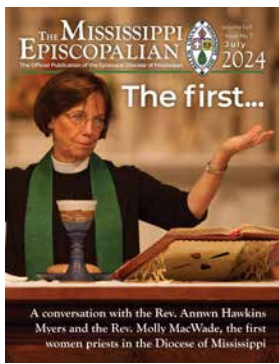
July

2024

## The first...



A conversation with the Rev. Annwn Hawkins  
Myers and the Rev. Molly MacWade, the first  
women priests in the Diocese of Mississippi



On the cover: *The Rev. Annwn Myers, the first woman ordained to the priesthood in the Diocese of Mississippi in 1985, celebrates the Eucharist at The University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee in 2011. Photo courtesy of The University of the South.*

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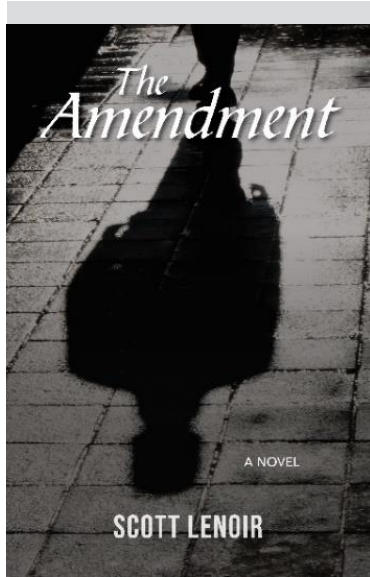
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# A beloved update

## The Beloved Community in Mississippi announces events for late summer and fall

by The Rev. Andy Andrews

### Advent Retreat 2024 planned

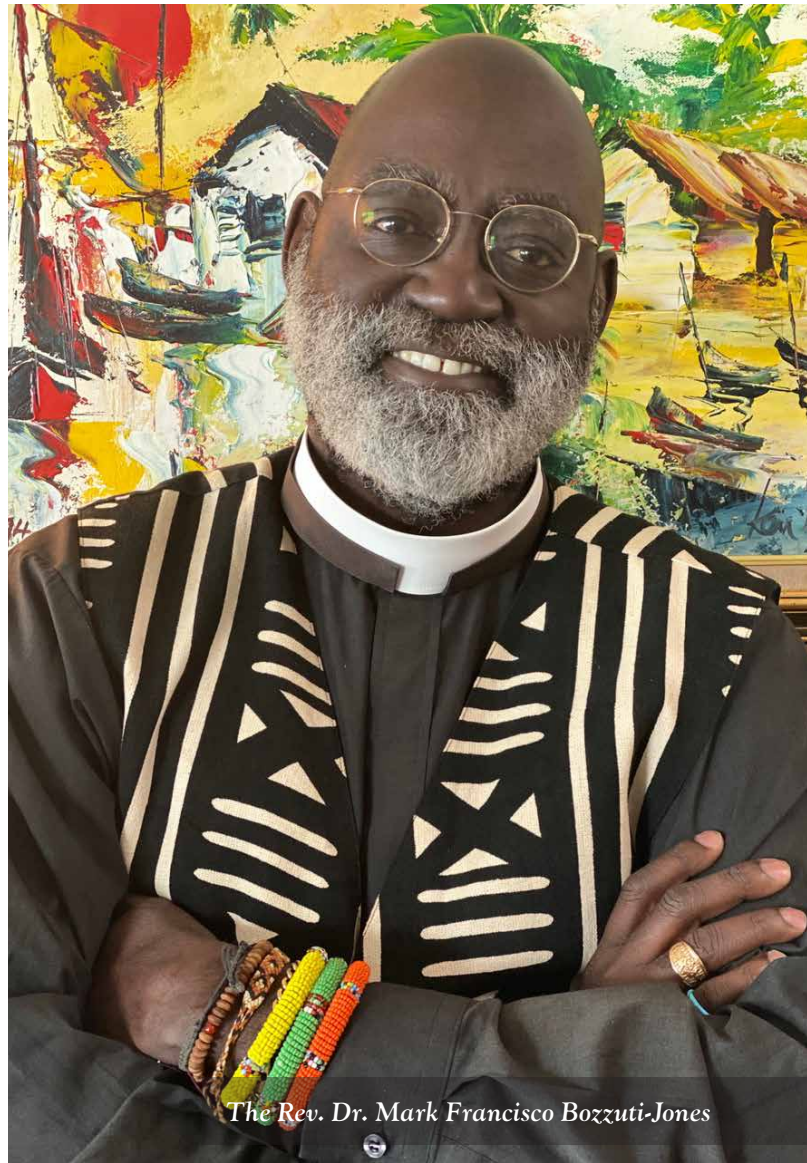
**T**he Beloved Community in Mississippi is excited to announce that Advent planning has begun! Please make plans to spend time with The Rev. Dr. Mark Francisco Bozzuti-Jones over the weekend of December 13-15. Fr. Mark is an Episcopal priest at Trinity Church Wall Street in New York City. Presently, he serves as the Director for Spiritual Formation at Trinity Retreat Center in West Cornwall, CT.

Fr. Mark will lead the Advent Retreat at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church of the Ascension in northwest Jackson on Saturday morning, December 14. He is Jamaican and a former Roman Catholic Jesuit priest. He has a wide range of experience, including 14 years of Jesuit training and work as a missionary in Belize, Brazil, and Guyana. Mark is fluent in Portuguese. He is an award-winning author; recent books include *God Created*, *Jesus the Word*, *The Gospel of Barack Hussein Obama According to Mark*, *The Rastafari Book of Common Prayer*, *Absalom Jones: America's First Black Priest* (2021) and *Face to the Rising Sun: Reflections on Spirituals and Justice* (2021).

### Emmett Till Commemoration is August 31


**A**s we become the Beloved Community in Mississippi, the spiritual discipline of memory work and truth-telling is empowering and strengthening. Hearing stories that break the heart can provide more room. In the Scriptures, God is constantly calling the faithful to remember. As Christians, we have faith and feel the risen Jesus with us.

Please consider joining the many to commemorate Emmett Till and his mother, Mamie, in the Mississippi Delta. The Emmett Till Interpretative Center is partnering



The Rev. Dr. Mark Francisco Bozzuti-Jones

with We2Gether Creating Change, the Emmett Till & Mamie Till-Mobley National Monument, and the Racial Reconciliation Taskforce for the Diocese of Mississippi to host this third annual memorial service. It is on Saturday, August 31.

For more information or a ride from Jackson, please email [andrews@dioms.org](mailto:andrews@dioms.org) 

**May 1** → Kyle and I had a quiet breakfast together before heading to the airport for her flight to San Francisco. I spent the afternoon doing laundry and getting ready for a Sunday visitation. Betsy arrived in the evening.

**June 2** → The morning visitation at Creator in Clinton was great! The congregation included members of St. Mark's in Raymond to celebrate the reception of a new member. During the service, I confirmed one, received one, and blessed the ministry of faithful parishioners who offer hospitality to a number of 12-step programs. After the service, I enjoyed lunch, fellowship, and musical offerings from Kate and Michael Onyia. In the afternoon Betsy, Sophie, and I started the long drive to California for their move to Tiburon. We spent the night in Texarkana.

**June 3** → We spent the day in the car driving through Texas and New Mexico. While Betsy drove, I made a variety of phone calls to Mississippi Clergy. We stopped and spent the night in Gallup.

**June 4** → It was another full day of driving but included a detour through Monument Valley. Betsy and I took a picture in the middle of the road in front of Forest Gump point. We drove a bit further and spent the night in Needles, CA.



**June 5** → We left Needles in the morning and arrived in Tiburon around 4 p.m. It was great to be with Kyle and have supper at home! I was amused watching our dog, Sophie, find her way around her new housemates, our two new cats, Tacy and Tibs.

**June 6** → We enjoyed a fairly calm day. Part of the morning was spent getting Betsy moved into her new space. In the evening, I had a Zoom call with a church.

**June 7** → I left the house at midday to catch the shuttle to the San Francisco airport. My flights were on time and I arrived back in Jackson around 11 p.m.

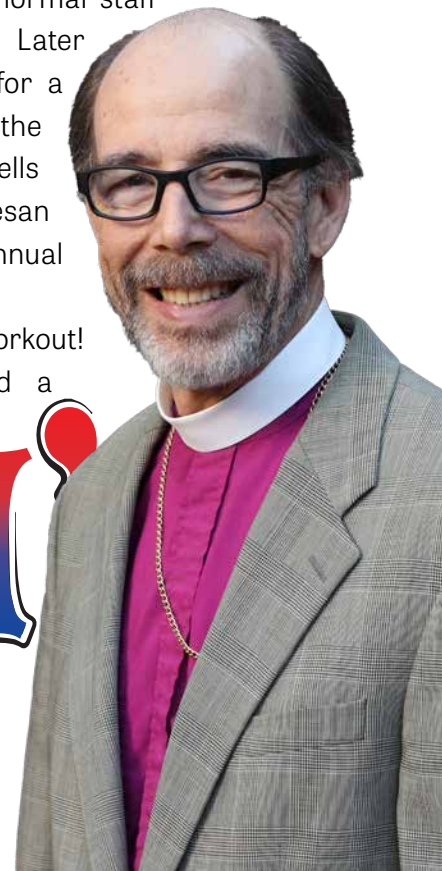
**June 8** → In the morning, I attended a field trip with St. Christopher's in Jackson to the home of Myrlie and Medgar Evers. The informative tour was really interesting and sobering. I worked out in the afternoon before driving to Columbus for my Sunday visitation at Good Shepherd.

**June 9** → My first official business at Good Shepherd was breakfast, fellowship and a vestry meeting. The service was well attended including guests from St. Bernard's in Okolona. Following the service, we enjoyed more fellowship before I started driving home to Jackson.

**June 10** → I woke up early and made it to the pool for an early workout. In spite of it being my normal sabbath day, I spent most of the morning on the phone.

**June 11** → We had our normal staff meetings in the morning. Later in the day, I did a video for a diocesan ministry. In the afternoon, Bishop-elect Wells and I met with a diocesan clergy person for their annual consultation.

**June 12** → Early morning workout! In the morning, I joined a



# TRUCKIN'

**The Journal of** The Rt. Rev. Brian R. Seage

consecration planning and walk-through of St. Andrew's School. The Rev. Canon Ann Hallisey represented the Presiding Bishop and took charge. After the walk through, we grabbed lunch at Aplos. I spent most of the afternoon prepping for the next day's Executive Committee meeting.

**June 13** → First thing in the office was phone calls! Around 11 a.m., I walked to the Cathedral for my final Executive Committee meeting. It was a good lunch and meeting. I'm grateful to have worked, through the years, with so many committed leaders. After work, I joined a pre-GenCon Zoom meeting with our deputation.

**June 14** → I woke up early and got in an early workout. In the office, I spent time preparing for a "pre GenCon" meeting with the Recovery Ministries of the Episcopal Church. Later in the morning, I met with an aspirant for Holy Orders. After that meeting, I met with a postulant for Holy Orders. Bishop-elect Wells and I met for an extended period of time over lunch and into the afternoon.

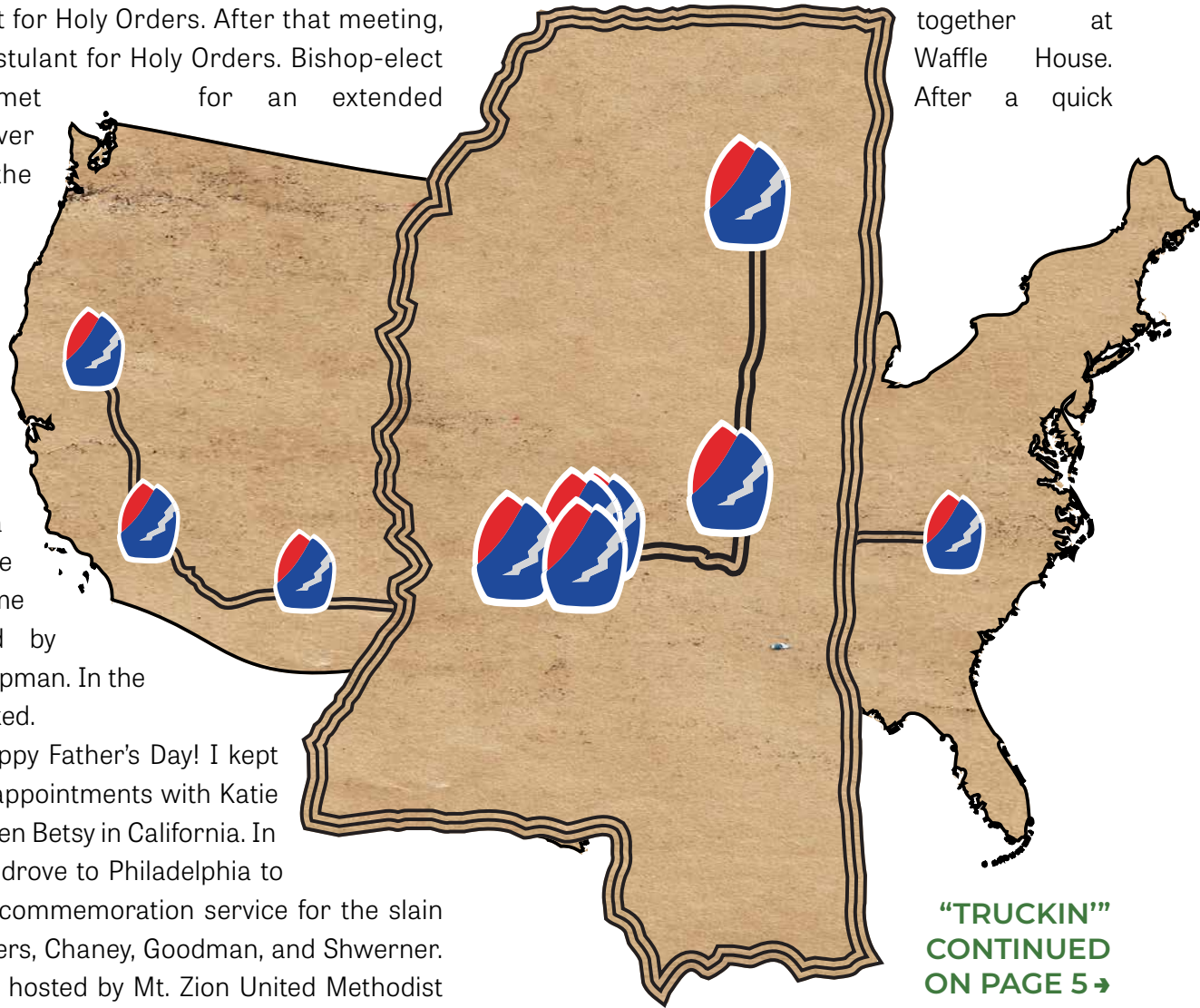
**June 15** → In the morning, I ordained the Rev. Mary Howard King to the Sacred Order of Priests. It was a beautiful service with an awesome sermon offered by the Rev. Josh Shipman. In the afternoon, I relaxed.

**June 16** → Happy Father's Day! I kept morning Zoom appointments with Katie in Europe and then Betsy in California. In the afternoon, I drove to Philadelphia to participate in a commemoration service for the slain civil rights workers, Chaney, Goodman, and Shwerner. The service was hosted by Mt. Zion United Methodist Church.



**June 17** → I worked out first thing in the morning. The rest of the morning and afternoon was spent getting my stuff together for General Convention.

**June 18** → Katie arrived home from Europe last night. We grabbed breakfast together at Waffle House. After a quick



**"TRUCKIN"  
CONTINUED  
ON PAGE 5 →**

## TRUCKIN' CONTINUED

check-in with the office, I started driving for Louisville, KY, and the board meeting for Recovery Ministry of the Episcopal Church followed by General Convention. I arrived around 8 p.m.

**June 19** → The board meeting for RMEC started at noon. In the afternoon, we switched gears and welcomed participants for our two-day retreat.

**June 20** → We spent the whole day at St. Peter's in Louisville with the RMEC retreat. Our speakers were really good. In the early evening, I celebrated the Eucharist for the community while one of my Bishop colleagues preached.

**June 21** → The retreat came to a close around lunch time and was followed by an open meeting. In the evening, I connected with Mississippi Deputies and grabbed supper at Hammerheads.

**June 22** → General Convention programs began today. We started with a joint session of both houses. Presiding Bishop Curry addressed the assembly along with President Ayala Harris.

**June 23** → General Convention officially began with a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. After worship, we took our places in our respective houses. It was awesome to be present when Bishop-elect Wells was welcomed to the House with a standing ovation. After our first business, I grabbed dinner with my classmates.

**June 24** → We had a busy legislative calendar in the House of Bishops. I was really impressed with how much work we got done! Kyle arrived on a late evening flight.

**June 25** → It was another very productive day in the House with lots of business being accomplished and sent to the Deputies for concurrence. In the evening, Kyle and I attended the House of Bishops banquet honoring Presiding Bishop Curry. I was more emotional than I expected to be! What an honor to work with him for the last nine years.

**June 26** → After a breakfast meeting, I walked to the conference center for worship. Following worship, the Bishops walked to the Cathedral in Louisville for the election of our next presiding bishop. After singing a couple hymns, we cast the first ballot. Following about 45 minutes of tabulation, it was announced that we had a first ballot election! Elected to serve as the 28th

Presiding Bishop was the Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe. Thunderous applause was heard throughout the cathedral nave. We were required to stay in place and not communicate with anyone until the news could be carried to House of Deputies for ratification. It took about two hours but at 2:30 we were notified of their consent. We made our way back to the conference center for the announcement of our new PB. Sean will be really good! I took a picture of the last three Presiding Bishops, Katharine Jefferts Schori, Michael Curry and Sean Rowe.

**June 27** → The last 2 days of General Convention can sometimes be very challenging. The legislative houses often find themselves waiting for business and communication on business. Today was no different! After business, Kyle and I had dinner with Rob and Sandy Skirving.

**June 28** → I rose early and drove Kyle to the airport for her flight back to San Francisco. I was back at the hotel in time to walk to the closing service of the convention. The preacher was the PB-elect. It was a great sermon with lots of inspiring words for the future of the church. House business took all the way until 6 p.m. After declaring "Sine die" and receiving a blessing, I said goodbye to friends and started driving home. I made it to Jackson, Tennessee, before stopping for sleep.

**June 29** → I finished my drive home and settled back into my apartment. The rest of the day was spent washing clothes, doing chores, and preparing a sermon!

**June 30** → Sunday visitation was with St. Christopher's in Jackson. I preached and presided at the Eucharist. After the service, we gave thanks for the life of the Rev. Cecil Jones and dedicated the parish hall in his memory. 🕊️



# Angels everywhere



## Church of the Redeemer, Brookhaven rededicates its thrift shop serving those in need

by **The Rev. Dr. Dorothy Sanders Wells**

In 2002, when Carole Bennett suggested to her late husband, the Rev. Gene Bennett, a former Rector of Church of the Redeemer/Brookhaven (2000-2010), that the church start a thrift shop, he encouraged her to pursue that dream.

Today, Angel's Attic continues to be a thriving ministry of Church of the Redeemer and of Brookhaven. On June 13, Church of the Redeemer celebrated the ministry's grand reopening in a newly renovated space, and Bishop-elect Dorothy Sanders Wells asked God's blessing on the space, its dedicated team and the neighbors it serves during her visit to the parish on June 9.

Parishioner Dorothy LeBlanc oversees the work of the ministry, and describes it as a labor of love. She is just one of the team of parishioners who give of their time and talent to make the ministry happen - not only helping to staff the shop, but also picking up items being shared by parishioners and others in the community, sorting those items and preparing the items for sale. A team of more than 25 dedicated persons, in addition to the staff, worked together to prepare for the shop's grand reopening. LeBlanc noted that the shop's manager, Anita Thomas, has been part of the Angel's Attic team for 14 years.

Parishioner Emily Rossie, another Angel's Attic team member, speaks to all of the ways that the ministry serves not only the Redeemer parish family, but the entire community. "First," says Rossie, "the shop offers a way for persons in the community to obtain clothing and items they need at an affordable price." Most items

sold at Angel's Attic cost no more than \$1 or \$2. The shop also allows persons in the community to "let go" of items they no longer need, knowing they can share those gently-used pieces with others. And, the proceeds from the shop's sales are returned to the community, in the form of gifts to community ministries and individuals who need support. In 2019, for example, Rossie says that Angel's Attic shared over \$30,000 with 59 community ministries and individuals.

*"Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it." (Hebrews 13:1-2)*

But Angel's Attic also employs neighbors from the community, giving them an opportunity to work and earn a wage while helping others.

Renovations on a building already existing on the Redeemer campus were completed by a parish friend, contractor Ryan Kowalski, who donated six months of his own labor to make the new space happen. The new space allows for more inventory, and a lovely shopping experience for neighbors.

Angel's Attic has a rich history of sharing with neighbors. Following a fire at a nearby apartment complex, Angel's Attic invited affected neighbors to come to the shop to pick up needed items for free.

"It never fails," Rossie says, "that someone will be a dollar or two short for a purchase, and someone in line behind them will offer to cover it."

Angels, everywhere. 



# The first...

A conversation with the Rev. Annwn Hawkins Myers and the Rev. Molly MacWade, the first women priests in the Diocese of Mississippi

by The Rev. Dr. Dorothy Sanders Wells

**T**he Rev. Annwn Hawkins Myers recalls hearing a male clergy colleague remark at her first clergy conference that “the only table she should be serving is the kitchen table.”

The response of the male colleague didn’t really faze her. Myers, the first woman to be ordained a priest in the Diocese of Mississippi, was ordained to the transitional diaconate on June 23, 1984, and to the priesthood on May 24, 1985. Myers was ordained at St. John’s Church, Pascagoula, where she served as a curate.

Myers was equally unfazed after her ordination and appointment at St. John’s when some parishioners chose to leave the church. Acknowledging her call to ordained ministry, Myers reasoned, was her “faithful response to gifts God has given me.” Myers chose to reach out in love, be filled with joy, and greet people with generosity, because “that’s what Jesus would do.” A male clergy colleague reminded her that “for everyone [who objected to her ordination], there are 15 of us who are glad you’re here.”

For the five years that she remained in the Diocese of Mississippi, Myers also served as an interim Chaplain at St. Andrew’s School and as interim Rector at Chapel of the Cross, Madison. Since 1989, she has served at The University of the South (Sewanee). Myers is grateful for the privilege of serving in ordained ministry. “It’s been an awesome vocation,” she says.

One of 11 women in her graduating class at Virginia Theological Seminary, Myers is particularly proud of the fact that her ministry may have helped other women articulate their own call to ordained ministry. She recalls that the Rt. Rev. Ruth Woodliff-Stanley, Bishop of South Carolina—and a Mississippi native—approached her one day while Woodliff-Stanley was helping at St. Andrew’s Cathedral’s bookstore, telling Myers she thought that she, too, might be called to ordained ministry. Bishop Woodliff-Stanley, who has served in South Carolina since 2021, was ordained in Mississippi as a transitional deacon on June 13, 1990, as a priest on June 28, 1991.

Myers was the first woman ordained in the Diocese of Mississippi, but she was actually the second woman priest to serve here. The Rev. Molly MacWade had been ordained in Boston at All Saints Church, Brookline, on May 16, 1980, and she remained there as a curate. MacWade noted that of the women in her seminary class at Episcopal Divinity School, she was the only one to graduate with a curacy placement.

MacWade followed her then-husband, a Mississippian, back to his home state, where he was ordained the following year and began serving. After she had moved to Mississippi, Bishop Duncan Gray, Jr. asked MacWade if she would be interested in serving in her new state. Gray told her, “we’ll do this together, but I can’t tell you what to expect.” MacWade served at St. Andrew’s Cathedral for



nearly 20 years, and recalls that the Cathedral welcomed her lovingly.

MacWade commented that she had experienced a great deal of encouragement through her discernment and ordination, and that her journey to the priesthood had not been a difficult one. She described clergy—male and female—who were openly negative as being few and far between. She also recalled a few negative newspaper articles that she ignored. One male clergy colleague in Mississippi who was particularly beloved in his own parish setting would speak to all of his male colleagues during clergy conferences but would never “look at, talk to or acknowledge” MacWade. But after a number of years, even he softened and began speaking to her.

MacWade reflected that “humility is the number one priority in my ministry and because of that I have remained close to ministry to those who are poor.” She noted that being a part of the founding of Stewpot Community Services, Mississippi Food Network, and Grace House Services “has brought, and continues to bring, the greatest joy, love, and understanding of Jesus and His people. I continue to be blessed by the opportunity to serve God by serving His most precious children.”

MacWade added that her advice to a woman who was discerning a call to ordained ministry today would be to remain open, and be as kind and Jesus-like as possible.

As we celebrate these trail-blazing women in the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi, we are reminded that it was not a scriptural accident that the first witnesses to and evangelists of the good news of the Resurrection were women. We give thanks that God values our voices, witness and testimony, as we give thanks for eleven women—Merrill Bitner, Alla Renee

Bozarth-Campbell, Alison Cheek, Marie Moorefield Fleischer, Emily Hewitt, Carter Heyward, Suzanne Hiatt, Jeannette Piccard, Betty Bone Schiess, Katrina Swanson, and Nancy Wittig—whose courage to persevere toward ordination on July 29, 1974 paved the way for women today who serve The Episcopal Church in the many capacities to which God has called us. 🙏



## In Celebration. . .

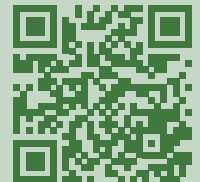
Two special July evenings are planned as St. John's Church, Pascagoula, invites everyone to join in celebrating the call of the Rev. Elizabeth Graham as Rector—and as the church's first woman Rector.

In celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the ordination of the first eleven women to the priesthood on July 29, 1974, St. John's Church (3507 Pine St., Pascagoula), will show the documentary, *The Philadelphia Eleven*, (by Margo Guernsey and Nikki Bramley) on July 29, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. Following the 90-minute documentary, the Rev. Annwn Hawkins Myers, the first woman ordained in the Diocese of Mississippi (and who was ordained at St. John's), will be interviewed by Bishop-elect Dorothy Sanders Wells.

On Tuesday, July 30, at 6:30 p.m., Bishop-elect Wells will officiate at the Celebration of New Ministry of the Rev. Graham, as she is officially installed as Rector.

All are invited to share in this time of celebration at St. John's.

To read Bishop Wells' review of the documentary, as it appeared in *The Living Church*, please see [msepiscopalian.com/philadelphia-11](https://msepiscopalian.com/philadelphia-11).



*From top left of spread, clockwise: The Rev. Annwn Myers with her ordaining bishop, Bishop Duncan M. Gray Jr.; The Rev. Elizabeth Graham; The Rev. Molly McWade with her son, Packer, taken nearly 40 years ago on the day of his baptism.*

# Red beans

Holy Trinity, Vicksburg supports families struggling with food insecurity

by **The Rev. Dr. Dorothy Sanders Wells**

**O**n the third Saturday of each month, neighbors in Vicksburg can likely find parish family from the Church of the Holy Trinity sharing bags of red beans and rice and packages of cornbread mix. For families struggling with food insecurity, these care bags represent extra days of nutrition in a household.

The Rev. Rick Roessler and his wife, the Rev. Deacon Tami Roessler, helped to introduce this food ministry in March 2024, and it has been embraced by enthusiastic Holy Trinity parishioners who have made it part of the church's mission. Initial plans were to distribute 100 of the care bags. Beginning on June 15, the number of households served increased to 150—and that day, the bags of red beans and rice were all distributed within 45 minutes.


The impetus for studying Vicksburg's need for this ministry came from a similar ministry offered by St. James Church, in Port Gibson. St. James had been inspired by similar ministry at Grace Church, Canton. St. James' communicant Debbie Salassi shared that the ministry has been very meaningful in Port Gibson; neighbors who receive food often feel the need to share some monetary gift in thanksgiving. "Someone handed me 62 cents one day. [Put into perspective,] that gift was surely one of the most generous we received," Salassi commented.

Holy Trinity Vestry member Ruth Ann Bottin became a point of contact with St. James Church, as Holy Trinity

began discerning how it could better serve Vicksburg's most vulnerable communities.

Within just three months, Holy Trinity's ministry has grown not only by the number of households served, but also by the number of those who feel called to serve. Parishioners Bottin, Vicki Abraham, Missy Broome, Alice Hebler, Jan Cooper, Beverly Rice, Ashley Schmitt, Nancy Gates, Caroline Fuhrman, and a newly baptized communicant, Jimmy Olivoe and his family all share this ministry, with the Roesslers taking turns serving alongside.

Hebler put the church in touch with a local supermarket, a partnership which not only supports the local economy in providing the food items but also helps to keep prices for the food items stable.

Especially during this bountiful season in which much local produce is grown and harvested, we are reminded of increasing food insecurity among our neighbors. As we prayerfully discern the ways in which God calls us all to serve, we hear again the words of Jesus in Matthew 25: "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink...[or] saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing...[or] saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." 

# WALKING THE MOURNER'S PATH

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# 'For the love of this church'

## Bishop Sean Rowe elected 28th presiding bishop



*Bishop Sean Rowe addresses the 81st General Convention in Louisville, Kentucky, after his election and confirmation as the 28th presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church. He takes office on Nov. 1. Photo: Scott Gunn, courtesy of Episcopal News Service*



*Bishop Sean Rowe participates with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry in a June 26 news conference after Rowe's election and confirmation as the 28th presiding bishop. Photo: Janet Kawamoto, courtesy of Episcopal News Service*

**By David Paulsen,**

**Courtesy of Episcopal News Service, edited by TME**

**T**he Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, bishop of Northwest Pennsylvania and bishop provisional of Western New York, was elected and confirmed June 26 at the 81st General Convention to serve as the 28th presiding bishop. His nine-year term as presiding bishop, the face and voice of The Episcopal Church and its chief pastor, begins Nov. 1.

The House of Bishops elected Rowe on their first ballot in a closed session at Christ Episcopal Church in downtown Louisville. The result later was announced publicly in the afternoon session of the House of Deputies, which greeted the news with cheers. The deputies proceeded to confirm him with a nearly unanimous majority, 95% in favor, and the standing-room-only crowd erupted in applause across the hall at the Kentucky International Convention Center.

Rowe was elected from a slate of five nominees chosen through a process led by the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop, which is made up of 20 bishops, clergy and lay leaders. The other presiding bishop nominees were Nebraska Bishop J. Scott Barker, Central New York Bishop DeDe Duncan-

Probe, Pennsylvania Bishop Daniel G.P. Gutiérrez and Atlanta Bishop Robert Wright.

After the confirmation vote in the House of Deputies, bishops began filing into the hall to join the deputies, and soon Rowe arrived to address the 81st General Convention. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry introduced his successor, and Rowe began by expressing humble gratitude to the four other bishops who had discerned candidacies for presiding bishop.

"I give thanks that the five of us together made this journey together, in solidarity, for the love of this church," Rowe said.

Curry, the former bishop of North Carolina, concludes his nine-year term on Oct. 31, and Rowe will take office the following day, with a Nov. 2 installation to take place at the denominational headquarters in New York City.

The bishops conducted their election in the morning June 26 after most of them processed to Christ Church Cathedral on foot. To win, Rowe needed at least 82 votes from the 158 bishops who cast handwritten ballots. He received 89 votes, while Barker received 24, Wright received 19, Gutiérrez received 17 and Duncan-Probe received 9.

Bishop Sean Rowe serves both the dioceses of Northwestern Pennsylvania and Western New York.

Rowe, 49, has led the Erie-based Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania since 2007, and also serves as bishop provisional of the Diocese of Western New York through a partnership the dioceses established in 2019. He previously served as bishop provisional of the Diocese of Bethlehem from 2014 to 2018. Originally from western Pennsylvania, Rowe is a Virginia Theological Seminary graduate and was ordained to the priesthood in 2000 in Northwestern Pennsylvania, where he served in congregational ministry until his election as bishop. He currently serves as parliamentarian of the House of Bishops and Executive Council.


Rowe becomes the youngest bishop ever elected to serve as the church's presiding bishop. He also was the youngest Episcopal priest in the U.S. when he was ordained, at age 24, and he was the youngest member of the House of Bishops when he was ordained and consecrated at age 32.

Rowe is married to Carly Rowe, a Christian educator; they have a daughter named Lauren.

At a news conference after the election and confirmation, Curry offered encouragement and praise for the bishop who soon will take his place.

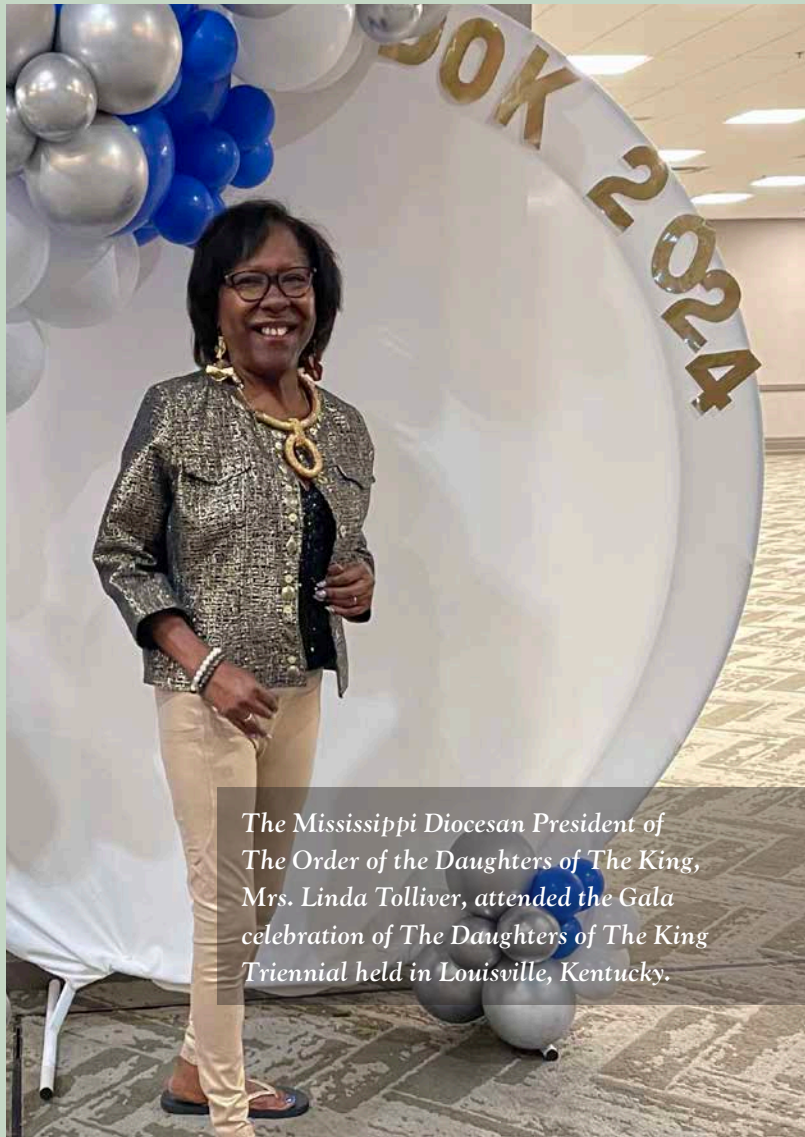
"I couldn't be happier to be able to present to the House of Deputies the 28th presiding bishop-elect," Curry said. "If you look at the history of the presiding bishop, they were all elected for a particular season and time and a particular vocation. ... My brother sitting to my right was called for, as it says in the book as Esther, 'for such a time as this.'"

Rowe said it was an honor to be elected to succeed Curry, "who has brought life to this church and a kind of energy and a focus on Jesus and the Gospel in a way that we've not seen in a generation." He continued that he looked forward to helping "usher this church into whatever it is being called into in this next phase and season of life."

"We don't exactly know what that is or what it looks like," Rowe said. "What we know is that God is in the midst of it and that love is the way, and if we continue to live and move ever more deeply into those ways that the world can be transformed around us in Jesus." 



*Members of the clergy gather to pose for a photo following the ordination of The Rev. Mary Howard King (bottom row, fourth from right) at St. Andrew's Episcopal Cathedral in downtown Jackson on Sunday, June 15.*



*The Mississippi Diocesan President of The Order of the Daughters of The King, Mrs. Linda Tolliver, attended the Gala celebration of The Daughters of The King Triennial held in Louisville, Kentucky.*

# Deployment Report

## New Calls and Transitions

**The Rev. Dr. Dorothy Sanders Wells** became canonically resident on May 1, 2024 and serves as Bishop-elect until her ordination-consecration on July 20 at which time she will become the eleventh Bishop of Mississippi.

**The Rev. Seth Martin Walley** became part-time priest-in-charge of St. Luke's, Brandon, effective May 31. He will continue to be available for supply but will have primary responsibilities with the St. Luke's congregation

**The Rev. Jody Burnett** has accepted the call of St. Paul's, Mobile, AL (Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast) to serve as rector, having now rounded his service at St. Peter's, Oxford and as dean of the Coldwater Convocation.

**The Rev. Christopher Powell** is interim rector of St. Peter's, Oxford. Having retired within the Diocese of Chicago, Christopher lives in Oxford and is canonically resident in this diocese.

**The Rev. Christopher McAbee** recently graduated from The School of Theology of The University of the South (Sewanee). Sponsored by the Diocese of Atlanta, he was ordained to the priesthood on June 22 in that diocese. Christopher has accepted the call to serve as Associate Rector for Parish Life at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson and will begin June 30.

**The Rev. Elizabeth Hartwell Wheatley-Jones** has accepted the call to serve Trinity Church, Bend, Oregon (Diocese of Eastern Oregon.) Her last Sunday as rector of St. James', Jackson will be July 28.

**The Rev. Ken Ritter** has accepted the call to serve as interim rector of All Saints', East Lansing, Michigan (Diocese of Michigan), and will begin duties on August 1. Ken will remain canonically resident in the Diocese of Mississippi.

**The Rev. Mary Howard King** was ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests on June 15, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson. She will be serving as curate/priest-in-charge of St. John's, Aberdeen and will also provide routine supply to All Saints', Inverness.

## Churches/Chaplaincies in Transition

**Redeemer, Brookhaven**

**Calvary, Cleveland**

**Good Shepherd, Columbus**

**St. Pierre's, Gautier**

**Christ Church, Holly Springs**

**St. James's, Jackson**

**St. Matthew's, Kosciusko**

**Mediator, Meridian – receiving names**

**Trinity, Natchez**

**Canterbury: Mississippi State University /**

**Resurrection, Starkville**

**Incarnation, West Point**

## THE MISSISSIPPI EPISCOPALIAN

The Official Publication of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi



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# Faithful Departed

Please submit Faithful Departed notices to your church for submission

**Gennel SeFrances Mosley**, 60, communicant of St. Mark's, Jackson, died March 29, 2024.

**Quinton Curtis "Curt" Lamar**, 82, communicant of Mediator/Redeemer, McComb/Magnolia, died April 20, 2024.

**Inez Horger Ehgott**, 80, communicant of Christ Church, Vicksburg, died April 17, 2024.

**Amanda Lavender Westmoreland**, 53, communicant of All Saints', Tupelo, died April 28, 2024.

**Alice Smith Young**, 76, communicant of St. Mary's, Vicksburg, died May 8, 2024.

**The Rev. Arthur Lenwood "Len" Williams, Jr.**, 83, having served St. Mary's, Lexington; Immanuel, Winona; Grace, Carrollton; Holy Cross, Olive Branch; St. Timothy's, Southaven; and St. Clement's, Vaiden, before returning to South Carolina, his place of birth to serve some 17 years as chaplain (later chaplain emeritus) to seafarers at the Port of Charleston, died May 13, 2024.

**Elizabeth Anne Riley**, 68, Communicant of Nativity, Greenwood, died May 31, 2024.

**Maggie Murray**, 80, communicant of Mediator/Redeemer, McComb/Magnolia died May 29, 2024.

**Henderson Strain Hall, Jr.**, 76, communicant of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson, died July 18, 2023.

**Dorothy "Dot" Hannah Kitchings**, 93, communicant of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson, died, July 18, 2023.

**Jonathan Baird Smith**, 47, communicant of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson, died September 23, 2023.

**William Thaddeus McLaurin, III**, 85, communicant of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson, died December 27, 2023.

**Anne Weathersby Robertson**, 64, communicant of St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson, died April 15, 2024.

**Allen E. Moton, Sr.**, 77, communicant of Redeemer, Greenville, died June 1, 2024.

**Howard Spencer Jackson**, 76, communicant of Redeemer Biloxi, died on June 2, 2024.

**Elliott Street**, 80, communicant of St. Paul's, Meridian, died June 13, 2024.

**Judy Dianne Zinn**, 70, communicant of All Saints', Tupelo, died June 13, 2024.

**Trinity Blake Duncan**, 25, communicant of All Saints', Tupelo, died June 26, 2024.

# Diocesan Calendar

Diocesan meetings continue by Zoom unless otherwise noted. Though the diocesan staff works in a hybrid model (office and home), the Allin House is staffed daily, M-F, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## August

- 1** *The Mississippi Episcopalian* deadline; 12:00 noon
- 1** Racial Reconciliation Task Force; 12:00 noon
- 6** Small Churches Collaborative, online
- 8-9** Commission on Ministry, location TBD
- 9** Standing Committee, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., location TBD
- 11** Bishop Wells visits St. Columb's, Ridgeland
- 16-17** A. C. Marble School, Solomon Center
- 17** A Day of Dialogue for Racial Healing and Relationship Building, St. Columb's, Ridgeland
- 18** Bishop Wells visits Advent, Sumner
- 25** Bishop Wells visits St. Thomas, Belzoni

## September

- 1** *The Mississippi Episcopalian* deadline; 12:00 noon
- 2** Labor Day
- 2** Allin House closed in observance of Labor Day
- 3** Small Churches Collaborative, online
- 5** Racial Reconciliation Task Force; 12:00 noon
- 8** Bishop Wells visits Incarnation, West Point
- 12** Finance Committee, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- 20-21** A. C. Marble School, Solomon Center
- 22** Bishop Wells visits St. Elizabeth's, Collins
- 26** Executive Committee, St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson; 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- 27-29** Cursillo Alumni event, Camp Bratton-Green
- 29** Bishop Wells visits St. James', Port Gibson

**CORRECTION: The print edition of this (July 2024) issue incorrectly identified several of the dates in the "Faithful Departed" entries from St. Andrew's Cathedral as occurring in 2024 that actually occurred in 2023.**



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*The Reverend Annwn Myers meets with students at The University of the South, Sewanee in 2011. Myers was the first woman ordained a priest in the Diocese of Mississippi. To learn more about her inspiring career in the church, turn to page 7. Photo courtesy of The University of the South.*