

# THE MISSISSIPPI EPISCOPALIAN

The Official Magazine of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi



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March

# 2025

## The Winter Solstice Infinite Playlist

Reflections on  
Bratton-Green's  
winter camp for  
high schoolers as  
it approaches a  
30th anniversary

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**Gray Center-Camp Bratton  
Green & the Alumni  
Association present the**

*2nd Annual*  
**CULPEPPER  
COOKOUT**

**MAY 24TH, 2025**

Join us for a fun-filled day with delicious food,  
music, water activities, arts & crafts, aerial four  
square, Silent Auction, and more!!

**INDIVIDUAL TICKET \$40  
FAMILY TICKET \$120**

FOLLOW @CULPEPPER.COOKOUT ON INSTAGRAM OR THE FACEBOOK PAGE  
TO PURCHASE TICKETS AND LEARN MORE.

## TEAM SIGN UP IS LIVE!

BBQ TEAM ENTRY FEE \$150

BANANA PUDDING TEAM ENTRY FEE \$50

Teams must be formed through a church or  
diocesan organization.

Complete the Team Registration Form in our bio  
to secure your spot as a competing team.



On the cover: High school students write together on the boat dock at Camp Bratton-Green during Winter Solstice, the camp that has taken place between Christmas and New Years' annually since 1996.





# Bishop's Journal

## February 2025

- 2** 198th Annual Council – Closing Eucharist Preached



- 3** Bishop's sabbath
- 4** Meeting with Coast Musicians
- 4** Meeting with Clergy person
- 4** Meeting with Vestry
- 4** St. John's Church, Pascagoula Preached, confirmed 5, baptized 1, reaffirmed 1, and received 1
- 5** Meeting with Clergy person
- 5** Meeting with Clergy person
- 5** Meeting with Clergy person
- 5** St. Mark's Church, Gulfport Preached, confirmed 6, reaffirmed 1
- 5** Visit, Coast Episcopal School Spoke



- 6** Travel to Jackson

- 7** Meeting with Bishop Coach Meeting with Staff Member
- 9** Church of the Redeemer, Brookhaven Preached, baptized 1, reaffirmed 1



- 10** College for Bishops
- 11** College for Bishops
- 12** College for Bishops
- 13** College for Bishops
- 14** Meeting with Staff Member Meeting with Clergy person Meeting with CPAs Meeting with ERD Meeting with Uganda ministry person
- 16** Church of the Holy Innocents, Como Preached
- 17** Bishop's sabbath
- 18** Staff meeting Meeting with staff persons Meeting with clergy person
- 19** Visit to Civil Rights Center at Jackson State University Meeting with Clergy person Reference Panel
- 20** Travel to Okolona; site visit at St. Bernard's Church with Mississippi Department of Archives and History

- 21** Meeting with Staff Member Meeting with Clergy person Meeting with Clergy person Fellowship with Nadia Bolz-Weber Worship with Nadia Bolz-Weber
- 22** Youth Confirmation Retreat Spoke
- 22** Travel to Parchman Penitentiary Preached and celebrated
- 22** Travel to Water Valley Dinner with Mission Committee, Church of the Nativity, Water Valley
- 23** Church of the Nativity, Water Valley Preached, confirmed 2, reaffirmed 1
- 23** Travel to Jackson Meeting with Clergy person
- 24** Bishop's sabbath
- 25** Staff Meeting Meeting with Staff Members
- 26** Travel to Yazoo City; site visit at Trinity Church with Mississippi Department of Archives and History
- 27** Executive Committee Meeting
- 28** Meeting with Staff Member Meeting with Clergy person Ministry Exploration Weekend – meeting with persons discerning a call to ordained ministry



# ‘Look over here!’



Bratton-Green’s inaugural Culpepper Cookout draws a crowd; looks ahead to next event in May

by Wil Oakes

On a Saturday in May 2024, just a week or so before campers were to arrive for another summer of fun at Camp Bratton-Green, a very different clientele descended on the property. They were young and old, camp kids and newbies, from every corner of the diocese and beyond. A suspicious number of them arrived with barbecue smokers latched to their trailer hitches.

This was the inaugural Culpepper Cookout, an event conceived as part family reunion, part fundraiser, part outreach event to bring new folks to camp. And, of course, an opportunity to do some seriously good eating. A barbecue competition was the centerpiece of the day, and five teams participated in a rib cookoff to be judged by the crowd.

When the (quite literal) smoke cleared and the ballots were tallied, Chapel of the Cross, Madison, took home the grand prize, but not without having to overcome some excellent competition from teams representing St. Mark’s, Gulfport; St. Paul’s, Columbus; Trinity, Natchez; and St. Columb’s, Ridgeland.

Brothers Keating and Kennedy Helms founded Cook Shak BBQ in 2022 to compete in barbecue competitions. They brought their talents out to the cookout to represent St. Mark’s. Obviously, they love barbecue. They also love camp.



Official BBQ judges the Rev. Gabbie Munn (prior to ordination), Graham Ford, and John Jordan Proctor sample ribs from each of the teams in the Culpepper Cookout competition.

“Bratton-Green holds a special place in our hearts,” says Keating Helms. “We grew up attending Family Weekends and can’t wait for our children to experience summer camp there one day! The Culpepper Cookout has reignited our love for CBG. In 30 years of attending, we’ve never had as much fun as we did this past year—great food, great friends, and great worship!”

Adam Gwin and Trinity, Natchez, put a team together just for the cookout and bonded by staying together in a cabin.

“We were able to catch up with old friends on other teams from around the diocese as well as make new ones,” says Gwin. “The weekend was definitely warm but the pool was open so people could cool off and the atmosphere at Gray Center is always so calming that it was a wonderful weekend. We look forward to participating again this year!”

The Rev. Andrew “Pitpastor” McLarty, who represented St. Paul’s, agrees.

“There is a lot of down time cooking BBQ,” he says, “so making friends with the neighbors you are competing with is important. Plus, when BBQ people gather they are going to talk about their previous cooks regardless of whether there is competition afoot or not. It’s in our nature.”

The whole event was a huge success, far surpassing the wildest dreams of its organizers.

“We really set our expectations low,” says event organizer and former CBG permanent staffer Audrey Feeney Ford. “We were trying not to go too big, too hard at the beginning. We set ourselves a goal to raise \$5,000 and maybe have 100 people there, and we ended up with over 200 people and raising \$15,000.”

Despite having a background in event planning, Ford was anxious in the lead-up to the cookout because of how important camp is to her. When the day finally arrived, she was able to breathe a sigh of relief.

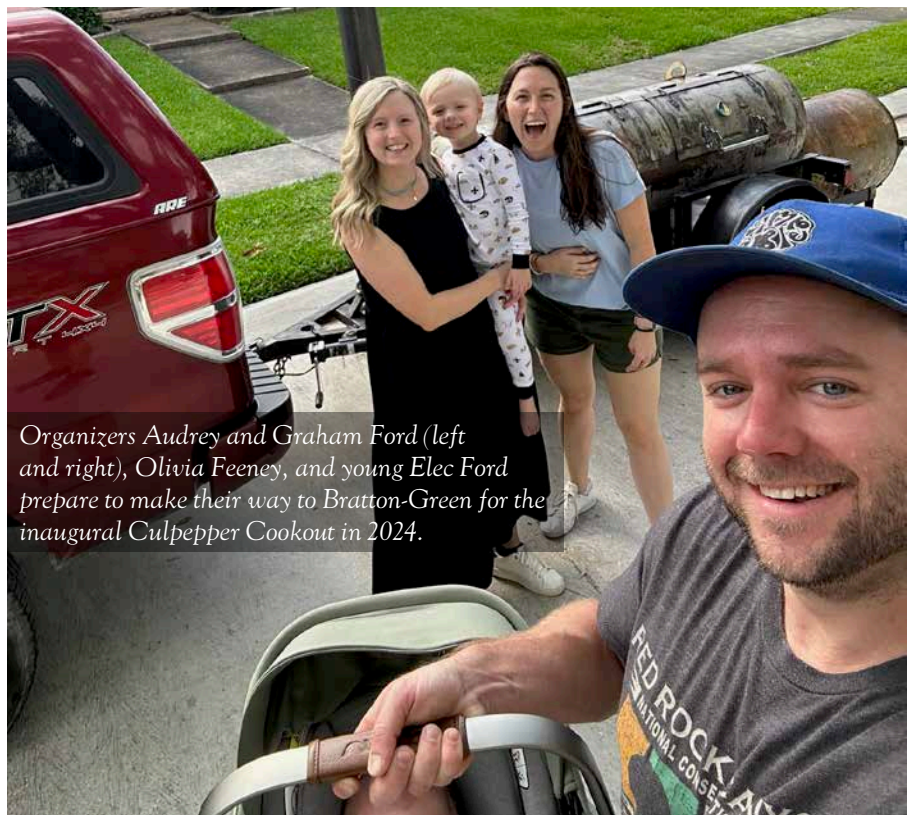
“I was nervous heading up to the event—I thought, oh my gosh, are we

going to pull this off? This is crazy. But I was almost emotional the day of, when we saw what money we were making. I thought, ‘this is so exciting.’”

Ford’s husband Graham, whom she met at camp, helped cook pulled pork to supplement the competition ribs and make sure everyone had plenty to eat. The couple, who have two young children, feel an obligation to make sure camp is around for generations to come.

“I grew up at camp,” says Ford, “and now that I’m having kids, I feel like it’s my duty to become involved and give back to that space so that I can bring my children there. And while I personally don’t have \$15,000 to give, I can give my time and energy to this function to help with that. I just felt very proud and almost emotional, because I felt like we’re building this for the future.”

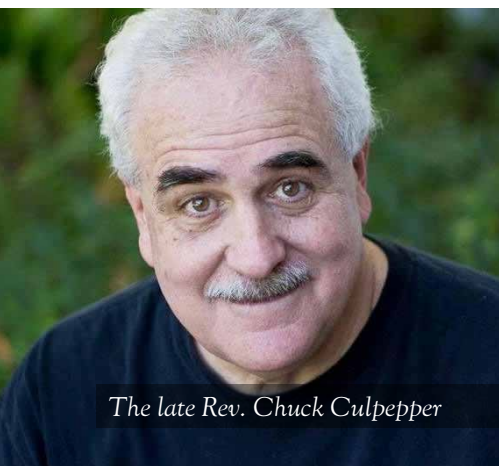
The genesis of the Culpepper Cookout was a conversation in summer 2023 between the Fords; the Rev. Chris Robinson of Redeemer, Biloxi; and John Jordan and Mary Langford Proctor (another camp-born marriage). Recalling the fun of the long-defunct Bishop’s Barbecue, they started dreaming of a similar event that would encourage new people to visit camp and help bring in extra money to fund programs and improvements to the facilities. This felt especially salient given that, just



*Organizers Audrey and Graham Ford (left and right), Olivia Feeney, and young Elec Ford prepare to make their way to Bratton-Green for the inaugural Culpepper Cookout in 2024.*



*The Rev. Chris, Whitney, and Caroline Robinson at the 2024 cookout.*



*The late Rev. Chuck Culpepper*

the year before, a mad dash had taken place to get camp ready for occupancy again after neglect during the COVID pandemic.

Robinson had the idea to name the event for the Rev. Chuck Culpepper. Culpepper died unexpectedly in the summer of 2019 at the age of 69, just days after returning home from co-directing Middled camp (for kids in roughly 5th & 6th grades). When his co-director from that summer, Clinton Junior High School teacher and former

permanent staffer Jason Woodcock, heard the name idea, he thought it was perfect.

“Chuck’s love for and impact on Bratton-Green was unbelievable,” says Woodcock. “Most ‘camp people’ consider him the very embodiment of what camp at its best is all about. Even at 69, he was the most youthful person in any room he walked into.”

Culpepper’s ashes were scattered in camp’s Rose Hill Lake at his memorial service, and his spirit was certainly felt at the gathering bearing his name last summer. Children

## Get involved with this year’s cookout

- Buy tickets to attend (\$40 / individual; \$120 / family) and / or make a donation at [msepiscopalian.com/culpepper](https://msepiscopalian.com/culpepper)
- Sign up your barbecue team to compete (\$150 / team) (contact Chris Robinson at [chrisrobinson84@gmail.com](mailto:chrisrobinson84@gmail.com))
- Sign up a banana pudding team to compete (\$50 / team) (contact Chris Robinson)
- Donate for the silent auction (contact Anna Arnold at [anna.w.arnold@gmail.com](mailto:anna.w.arnold@gmail.com))

ran around through the covered walkways of the campus while their parents and grandparents swapped stories about camp as it was a decade ago... or five decades ago.

Ford and her team have already been hard at work for a couple of months organizing the second edition of the cookout, to be held Saturday, May 24th. They plan to add more activities, increase the field of barbecue teams, and continue to grow the event (already, the cooking area has been moved from the smaller kitchen parking lot to camp’s main, much larger, parking lot to accommodate growth). For this group of camp veterans, it’s a project well worth the effort.

“We’ve got this whole generation of camp folks in our 30s and 40s that are really trying here,” says Ford. “We’re also trying to have our own jobs and families and lives, but we really want this place to survive, so we’re saying to everyone, ‘hey, look over here!’ Because camp is really, really special.” 🏡



*The Rev. Stephen Kidd of St. Mark's, Gulfport, celebrates the Eucharist at the 2024 cookout with some help from some ad hoc acolytes.*



# Rolling along

A quick look at progress on Chapel of the Cross, Rolling Fork



*The first occupant of the new church took up residence in one of the newly-constructed rafters.*



**Q Who are the ministers of the Church?**

**A The ministers of the Church are lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons.** *(From the Catechism, An Outline of the Faith, found in the Book of Common Prayer)*

**O**n the weekend of February 28-March 1, the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi held its first Ministry Exploration Gathering at Camp Bratton-Green. The purpose of the gathering was to allow all persons in the Diocese who perceive a call to ordained ministry to gather, meet and hear from clergy and lay persons from within the Diocese who have lived out their calls in a variety of ways, and learn information about the discernment process as a group.

Together with some spouses and sponsoring clergy, 19 persons came together for a time of prayer, reflection and fellowship from Friday evening through Saturday afternoon. As they are led by the Holy Spirit, these

**Q What is the ministry of the laity?**

**A The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and his Church; to bear witness to him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church.** *(From the Catechism, An Outline of the Faith, found in the Book of Common Prayer)*

## Discernment for Ordained Ministry: New Process Unveiled for Discerning a Call

persons are invited to make application to enter the discernment process.

Joining me and the Rev. Gary Meade, Canon to the Ordinary, was a panel representing varying orders and types of ministry, who shared the wealth of their experience: Rev. Jill Buckley (Stewpot Ministries); Cindy Hudnall (Saints Brew Ministry, All Saints Church, Tupelo); the Rev. Deacon Sarah Stripp (Springboard to Opportunities, and ministry of deacons); the Rev. Elisabeth Malphurs (St. Alban's Church, Bovina, and Smaller Churches Initiative); the Rev. Jenny Newman (Church of the Ascension, Hattiesburg, and Canterbury College Ministry); the Rev. Hailey Allin and the Rev. Clelie McCandless (the priesthood and school chaplaincy); the Rev. Deacon Cathy Halford (ministry of deacons, and Episcopal Relief and Development).

**Q What is the ministry of a deacon?**

**A The ministry of a deacon is to represent Christ and his Church, particularly as a servant of those in need; and to assist bishops and priests in the proclamation of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments.**

These Ministry Exploration Gatherings have been important to me, for a number of reasons. First, I am clearly committed to the formation of persons who believe that they are called to ordained ministry. As we read from the Catechism, all persons are called to ministry. The vast majority of us in churches are called to lay ministry – and to bearing the light and love of Christ into the world. Those among us who are called to express our gifts for



## What is the ministry of a priest or presbyter?

**The ministry of a priest is to represent Christ and his Church, particularly as pastor to the people; to share with the bishop in the overseeing of the Church; to proclaim the Gospel; to administer the sacraments; and to bless and declare pardon in the name of God.**


*(From the Catechism, An Outline of the Faith, found in the Book of Common Prayer)*

ministry as ordained persons are called into roles which require discernment, prayer and holy preparation. The goal of the Ministry Exploration Gatherings is to allow a solid foundation for that discernment. I believe that the proper Diocesan pastoral response for all persons who are discerning a call to ordained ministry is to allow an opportunity to understand the ways that ministry is expressed in this Diocese and the expectations of all

persons discerning a call. All discerners should have access to the same information and be on a level playing field. Accordingly, attendance at a Ministry Exploration Gathering will be required for anyone entering the discernment process.

We will plan to offer two Ministry Exploration Gatherings each year – in the spring, and again in the fall. Persons now discerning a call should expect added diocesan-level discernment, including more meetings with the Commission on Ministry and Diocesan Discernment Committees.

Included in our first Ministry Exploration Weekend was a discussion of theological formation – and options of residential, hybrid and local education available. All persons discerning a call to ordained ministry will be expected to complete appropriate theological formation for the order of ministry to which they are believe they are called. The A.C. Marble School, part of the Iona Collaborative, will continue to be an option, with appropriate levels of study for the diaconate and for the priesthood.

Dates will be set and publicized soon for upcoming Gatherings. Questions should be referred to Bishop Wells ([dwells@dioms.org](mailto:dwells@dioms.org)) or Canon Meade ([gmeade@dioms.org](mailto:gmeade@dioms.org)). 

## An Easter to remember April 20th at Christ Church, Church Hill

The Easter portion of Handel's acclaimed "Messiah" is one of the highlights of a free, 45-minute concert on Easter Day, April 20, at Christ Church.

The concert, entitled "Resurrection Sunday! A Celebration of Eternal Life," begins at 2 p.m. in the historic church. It is located 20 minutes north of Natchez on Mississippi Highway 553.

Five acclaimed musicians will present Easter-related selections by Handel, Bach and others.

The concert will primarily celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, but it will also celebrate the completion of a two-year resurrection and restoration of the 1858 church building.

At 3 p.m. an Easter worship service will be led by the

Rev. Sam Godfrey. "We invite all to come for the music and stay to worship with us," he said.

The musicians are cast members of Mozart's "The Magic Flute," which will be presented May 2 by the Natchez Festival of Music at the Natchez City Auditorium.



# THE WINTER SOLSTICE INFINITE PLAYLIST



The Rev. Deacon Gabbie Munn leads a camp service in the Chapel of the Holy Family at Camp Bratton-Green

## Reflections on Bratton-Green's winter camp for high schoolers as it approaches a 30th anniversary

by the Rev. Deacon Gabbie Munn

I could not even begin to guess how many times I've turned off Way Road and into Camp Bratton-Green for a week at camp. At different times in my life, the frequency of this holy turn has increased or decreased, but the anticipation of what the next week holds has always remained the same. Each week spent at Camp Bratton-Green brings new faces, new ideas, and new chances to experience something holy. Winter Solstice, the winter session between Christmas and New Year's Day for 9th–12th graders, is no exception. While you might notice a

few “classic camp” activities like the zip line, nature hikes around the lake, and even a dip in the pool, Solstice puts a twist on the familiar.

The incredible minds and hands of the Solstice staff transform the dining hall into the “Fireplace Lounge.” Lined with couches and comfy carpet, draped in more Christmas lights than are probably safe to plug in, the



# A CBG Homecoming

by Forrest Philpot

In a sort of long-winded whim of kismet, I found myself back at Camp Bratton-Green for the first time in 15 years, as part of the music staff. While it had been some time, I've always felt intimately tied to camp because of how much time I spent there as a staff brat, and later as a camper. There's nothing like seeing someone you know from back then, and there's really nothing like finding out a new or old friend also has ties to camp. This is precisely what brought me back there for 2024's Winter Solstice Infinite Playlist. To explain it as briefly as humanly possible, I began dating someone a year ago whose roommates grew up at camp, and who still goes back to staff when they can. The instant kinship with those people and finding out they're close with Gabbie Munn, our Director at Solstice and an old friend of mine (quite possibly my longest friendship!), made me realize how badly I wanted to go back to that old place. I quickly joined in on my partner's and her friends' plan to staff Solstice that winter. The message of Winter Solstice this year was "You're not missing it: this IS it." As a newly-thirty Mississippi boy who just moved to New York City, it's hard to fully emphasize the weight of this reflection; moreover, the "this is it" of being at Camp, singing songs I hadn't heard in 15 years, meeting new friends and reconnecting

with old ones, matched that weight so evenly that I found myself stopping each day to take it all in, breathe that moment, and tell someone, anyone, how good it felt to be back. Another staff member, Sauny Sewell, said at one point, "Welcome to the beginning of your adult life at camp." From the never-ending rounds of aerial 4-square



to the Polar Plunge; from the community of mealtimes to the quiet stillness of Compline, I felt the love of friends and the love of the Lord so closely and so fully, no matter what was going on. The relief and the release, the clarity and the calm, the Being There has been an amazing thing to carry into the new year. Knowing I'll go back feels huge.

Fireplace Lounge hosts small group discussions, rowdy board games, jam circles, Compline, and Coffeehouse performances throughout the week.

Our theme this year was The Winter Solstice Infinite Playlist, and our skits followed a group of new friends who embark on a one-night ultimate adventure to find their favorite band, Where's Fluffy?, on New Year's Eve in 2007. Equipped with mix CDs, flip phones, and a trail of sheep-shaped clues, the friends faced the challenges that come with making new connections and being in fellowship with one another. Over and over, they had to choose: friends or Fluffy? I hate to spoil the ending for you, but... they found Where's Fluffy? by loving one another, repairing relationships when they were broken, and working together as one.

Every night during Compline, the entire camp gathered to pray, sing, and reflect on the day in the Chapel. Each night, we wondered together: Where was God today? Where did you see God in a new friend? In someone else's gifts? In the land that we gather on? Every year, a new theme serves as a vehicle for us to recognize where God is at work in our lives. With so many variables in our lives—campers and staff alike—Solstice gives us a chance to come together and notice God's presence among us.

Here are some of the answers that came to my mind when we asked ourselves, "Where was God today?"

I saw God in...

- The face of every staff member who showed up the day after Christmas ready to rearrange tables,

practice skits, and prepare camp to welcome campers the next day.

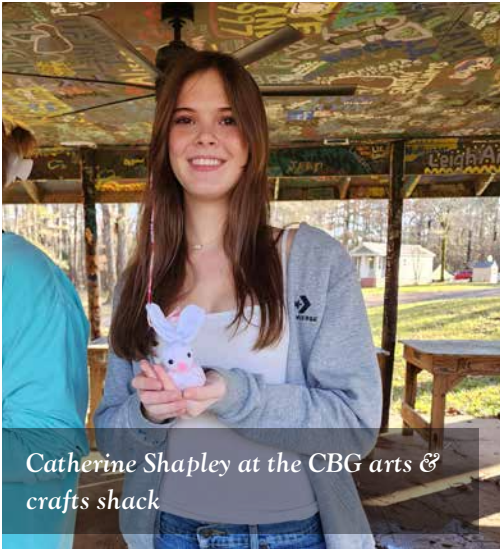
- The questions asked over breakfast that led to a 2.5-hour conversation about God, faith, and scripture in the Fireplace Lounge with 20+ campers and Rev. Chris Robinson.
- The safety and comfort we experienced amidst scary weather and in the staff who were responsible and responsive when the winds picked up.
- The new friends I made.
- The new camp song written by campers and staff and performed at Coffeehouse (Yes, I cried).

- Stella's baptism on Dec. 28!

We wrapped up our week together with a Eucharist, followed by a New Year's Eve dance with fireworks, sparklers, and, of course—Prince's "Purple Rain." Our final reflection can be summed up like this: When we come together in love and experience one another as God created us to be, we aren't missing out. The world would like to tell us that there is an item or experience that will solve our problems and give us the right answers, but God's desire is for us to experience Him through relationship and community.

We aren't missing "it"—this IS it! 🌍





Catherine Shapley at the CBG arts & crafts shack

## WHAT THE YOUTH ARE SAYING

I had never been to CBG before attending Solstice two years ago, but I am so grateful that I did. Even though many people already knew each other, I never once felt like an outsider. I met so many incredible people, many of whom I still talk to today, and the experience also inspired me to become more active in my church. Camp is not only a place full of fun and excitement, but it is also a space where you can truly feel close to God.

—Catherine Shapley

Winter Solstice at Camp Bratton-Green is a great way to spend part of your holiday season. There are so many fun games and activities, as well as meaningful worship moments. Two of the most memorable moments in the week for me were witnessing one of my fellow participant's baptism and an activity period hosted by some of our faith leaders to answer any questions we had about the Christian faith.

—Grant Duncan

I personally love have all of my friends, new and old, around me when I start off the new year. Solstice has made me feel close to God by being in nature. The beauty of Camp Bratton-Green is overwhelmingly beautiful. One night during a night game, all of the lights at camp were out and i saw the most stars I have ever seen in my entire life. Solstice is a way to experience the beauty of nature during the busy-ness of the holidays.

—Brenna Alexander

Compline at the end of the night offered a chance for me to reflect on my day and what I wanted for myself in the future. The brief meditation accompanied by the ambiance of a guitar and those I love most allowed me to have a very cathartic experience where I believe I felt God's presence the most. Overall, the spiritual aspect of the week helped me grow into a better and stronger person and is something I believe all can benefit from.

—Harper Gray

At Solstice, each and every one of the people there is the mouth of God. They are my people, my friends. I live by them, with them and through them. I was able to talk about God and the Episcopal church with my friends under the guidance of the Rev. Gabbie Munn, and we realized that even though we had differences in belief, we are all still one in the spirit.

—August Duncan



Please submit Faithful Departed notices to your church for submission

### The Official Magazine of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi

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## Deployment Report

### Churches seeking rectors or interim rectors

Calvary, Cleveland  
St. James, Jackson  
St. Peter's, Oxford  
Trinity, Natchez  
Incarnation, West Point

### Churches Seeking Supply Clergy

Redeemer, Brookhaven  
Good Shepherd, Columbus  
Christ Church, Holly Springs  
St. Matthew's, Kosciusko  
Trinity, Vicksburg

### Available Chaplaincy (summer 2025)

Canterbury: Mississippi State University

**The Rev. Dr. George Stennis Watson**, 70, having served Holy Trinity, Vicksburg, Good Shepherd, Columbus, as Chaplain at Methodist University Hospital, Memphis, and assistant professor and researcher at the University of Washington Medical School, died January 13, 2024.

**Robert Lee "Bob" Everett**, 79, communicant of St. Philip's, Jackson, died March 21, 2024.

**Imogene Clower**, 91, communicant of St. Philip's, Jackson, died June 13, 2024.

**Joseph Julius Jackson**, 81, communicant of St. Philip's, Jackson, died August 6, 2024.

**Kirk Rabb Hill**, 79, communicant of St. Philip's, Jackson, died November 4, 2024.

**Dorothy Lynn Crosby Gammill**, 88, communicant of Trinity, Hattiesburg, died December 6, 2024. September 13, 1936 – December 6, 2024.

**Jean G. Jones**, 85, communicant of St. James', Jackson, died January 16, 2025.

**Noel Phillip Workman, Sr.**, 84, communicant of St. James, Greenville, died January 20, 2025.

**Elizabeth Randolph Corey Miller**, 92, communicant of Incarnation, West Point, died January 26, 2025.

**Sherman Hong**, 83, communicant of Trinity, Hattiesburg, died January 27, 2025.

**Sally Ann Strickler Sullivan**, 89, communicant of Trinity, Hattiesburg, died February 2, 2025.

**Benjamin Howard Nelson, Jr.**, 73, communicant of All Saints', Tupelo, died February 4, 2025.

**Adanne Cain "Candy" Golden**, 74, communicant of All Saints', Tupelo, died February 10, 2025.

**Joy Gardner Reeves**, 76, communicant of Mediator/Redeemer, McComb/Magnolia, died February 14, 2025.

Questions about deployment should be directed to  
The Rev. Canon Gary Meade, Canon to the Ordinary,  
[gmeade@dioms.org](mailto:gmeade@dioms.org); 601-948-5954.

# 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..

## April

- 1** Small Church Collaborative, online, 2:00 pm
- 3** Racial Reconciliation Task Force, online, noon
- 3** Diocesan Bible Study, each Thursday during Lent
- 3-5** Cursillo, Gray Center
- 6** Bishop visits St. George's, Clarksdale
- 10** Diocesan Bible Study, each Thursday during Lent
- 11-12** A.C.Marble School, Solomon Center
- 11-12** Interpersonal Mediation Training, St. Philip's
- 12** Spiritual Formation for Racial Healing & Relationship
- 12** Building, St. Mark's, Gulfport
- 13** Bishop visits St. Mary's, Lexington
- 15** *The Mississippi Episcopalian* deadline
- 17** Maundy Thursday
- 17** Bishop visits St. Mark's, Raymond
- 17** Diocesan Bible Study, each Thursday during Lent
- 18** Good Friday
- 18** Bishop visits Chapel of the Cross, Madison
- 19** Easter Vigil
- 19** Bishop visits St. Philip's, Jackson
- 20** Easter Sunday
- 20** Bishop visits St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson
- 22** Bishop visits USM, Hattiesburg
- 23** Bishop visits St. Andrew's Upper and Middle School
- 27** Bishop visits St. Peter's, Oxford
- 30** Bishop visits St. Peter's, Gulfport

## May

- 1** Racial Reconciliation Task Force, online, noon
- 2-4** Sr. High DOY, Gray Center
- 4** Bishop visits St. James', Jackson
- 6** Small Church Collaborative, online, 2:00 pm
- 8** Standing Committee, Allin House, 11:30 am - 3:30 pm
- 9-10** A.C.Marble School, Solomon Center
- 9** Trustee Meeting, Allin House
- 11** Bishop visits St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson
- 15** *The Mississippi Episcopalian* deadline
- 17** Diocesan Altar Guild Meeting
- 18** Bishop visits Chapel of the Cross, Madison
- 23** St. Andrew's School Graduation
- 26** Allin House closed in observance of Memorial Day
- 29** Bishop visits Ascension, Hattiesburg

**Submission deadlines—next six months**  
(always available at  
[msepiscopalian.com/submissions](https://msepiscopalian.com/submissions))

### May 2025 issue

April 15th, 2025

### June 2025 issue

May 15th, 2025

### July 2025 issue

June 16th, 2025

### August 2025 issue

July 15th, 2025

### September 2025 issue

August 15th, 2025

### October 2025 issue

September 15th, 2025

## we want stories . . .

**about your church, your ministry, your school... or whatever is on your Episcopal mind! Send us fully realized stories, photos, or just ideas at [msepiscopalian@dioms.org](mailto:msepiscopalian@dioms.org).**



The Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi  
118 N. Congress Street  
P.O. Box 23107  
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## Super Bowls of soup

St. Philip's Episcopal Church in Jackson scored 166 cans of soup for Stewpot Ministries on Super Bowl Sunday. The Chunky Soup drive encouraged donors to add their soup cans to their team box, and a \$25 Chick-fil-A gift card went to the person who came the closest to the Super Bowl score without going over. From left are Susan Slaughter, who led the effort, and Lee and Betty Smithson. The card went to Danny Blanton, who guessed an Eagles win of 35-21.



## Special Stations in Bay St. Louis

Nestled under centuries old live oak trees that adorn the grounds of Christ Episcopal Church, are beautiful images of the Passion of Christ. Friday afternoons during Lent, faithful followers of Jesus walk the outdoor circuit of the fourteen stations of the cross to pray and reflect on Jesus' sacrifice for our sins.

Priest in Charge Rev. J. Lee Winter reminds us that when thinking about Lenten practices, instead of giving up something for Lent, "take on a project that involves our time, talents, giving, and study. I don't believe God wants repentance, that's just feeling guilty. The word actually has the meaning of "turning around" and heading—read that as an action verb—in a different direction." Christ Episcopal Church, located at 912 S Beach Blvd., Bay St. Louis, welcomes you to pray with us under the loving arms of our live oak trees, each Friday during Lent at 12:05 pm, weather permitting.

*"We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you." "Because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world." Amen*

