



Information and Resources for Clergy and Lay Leaders
of the Diocese of Southwest Florida

CONNECTIONS

December 2001

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The Diocese of Southwest Florida

Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. John B. Lipscomb

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A complete list of diocesan staff, committees and ministries can be found on the diocesan web site:

www.dioceseswfla.org

Connections is a publication of the Diocese of Southwest Florida.

Questions, comments and submissions should be sent to Jim DeLa, director of communications, (941) 776-1018, ext 268; or by e-mail to: jdela@dioceseswfla.org.

The Mission of this Diocese is The Great Commission of our Lord:

"Make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you."

Matthew 28:19-20a

Murray is elected president of Standing Committee for 2002

The Very Rev. Robin G. Murray, rector of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Spring Hill, was elected president of the Standing Committee for 2002 at a meeting Nov. 19 at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center.

Fr. Murray, by virtue of the election, also becomes vice president of the Diocesan Council.

The Standing Committee, made up of five clergy and four lay persons, is a council of advice to the bishop.

"I think the Standing Committee, in the past three to five years, has developed a very close, intimate working relationship with the



Rev. Robin Murray

bishop, and I'm going to continue that," Fr. Murray said.

The committee also becomes the ecclesiastical authority of the diocese in case of the death, incapacity, or prolonged absence of the bishop.

In other matters taken up by the Standing Committee:

- Mr. Charles H. Scruggs III was elected secretary;
- Mr. Ted Tripp Jr., was elected president of the Diocesan Review Committee. This committee, created by a change in the national Church canons, replaces the Standing Committee's role in the Ecclesiastical Trial Court process.

A prayer for Christmas

O God, your passionate Word to our warring and divided world is Jesus who, arms stretched upon a cross, breaks down all walls of division and hostility and holds all people and all creation in a fierce embrace of unyielding and unconquerable love.

As we celebrate his birth in the shadow of September and all that has happened in its wake, give us eyes to see that the One who lies in the manger is more than a baby: he is our peace.

May Christ find room in our hearts anew to love the world through us "for the healing of the nations."

This we pray in the name of the One who reconciled all things to you and is source and ending of our life, Jesus, Emmanuel.

Amen

—The Most Rev. Frank T. Griswold, Presiding Bishop and Primate, Christmas, 2001

PEOPLE NOTES

Please pray for **Deacon Bonnie Fitzpatrick**, who was critically injured in an automobile accident on Nov. 8.

Please pray for **Cynthia McCard**, the wife of the Very Rev. John McCard, of St. Mark's, Marco Island, who is recovering from viral meningitis.

Please pray for **Deacon Barbara Martin**, who is recovering from surgery.

TRAINING/WORKSHOPS

Sexual Misconduct Awareness Education. (Child abuse prevention), Dec. 8, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center. Contact the Rev. Deb Blackwood at (941) 776-1018.

Sexual Misconduct Awareness Education. (Harassment/exploitation), Dec. 17, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center. Contact the Rev. Deb Blackwood at (941) 776-1018.

RETREATS/PRAYER

Advent Quiet Day. Saturday, Dec. 1, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Church of the Good Shepherd, 639 edgewater Dr., Dunedin. Bring your own lunch; drinks will be provided. RSVP are requested. Contact the Rev. Lee Jaster at (727) 733-4125.

Women Clergy Retreat. Jan. 10–12, 2002, at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center. Theme: "Sacred Images: Praying with Icons and Art." Contact the Rev. Kathy Schillreff at (941) 591-4550.

Pontifax Day of Prayer. Jan. 13, 2002, 3 p.m. at St. James' Episcopal Church, Port Charlotte. Contact Joy Johnson at (941) 426-1832.

Pontifax Day of Prayer. Jan. 21, 2002, 10 a.m. at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Clearwater. Contact Joy Johnson at (941) 426-1832.

Youth Explosion Saturday. Feb. 2, 2002, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center. For third-graders and up. Cost: \$10. Contact the Rev. Deb Blackwood at (941)776-1018.

Daughters of the King Annual Retreat. Feb. 8–9, 2002, at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center. Contact Carol Broden at (941) 794-0797.

Vocare Steering Committee Retreat. Feb. 15–16, 2002, at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center. Contact the diocesan office at (941) 776-1018; or by e-mail at dblackwood@dioceseswfla.org.

MEETINGS / SPECIAL EVENTS

Ordination to the Priesthood. Deacon James Hart Puryear will be ordained to the priesthood by the Rt. Rev. John B. Lipscomb on Sunday, Dec. 16, at 4 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Venice. Reception to follow in Gray Hall.

Ordination to the Diaconate. Richard Earle III, Donald Griscom, Sandra Jamieson and Dennis McManis will be ordained to the diaconate by the Rt. Rev. John B. Lipscomb on Jan. 18, 2002, at 7 p.m. at St. Peter's Cathedral, St. Petersburg.

Men's Ministry Summit. Jan. 27–29, 2002, at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center. Meeting of bishops and selected laypersons from Province IV. Contact Jay Crouse at (941) 957-1271.

"Brave New Church: What the Future Holds." Dinner and lecture Feb. 2, 2002, hosted by Church of the Resurrection, Naples. 6 p.m., at the Cedar Hammock Country Club in Naples. Episcopal priest and author the Rev. Richard Kew will speak about his latest book. Dinner cost is \$50. For information and reservations, call (941) 732-9442 before Jan. 15.

Reception to the Priesthood. The Rev. Raynaldo Ayerbe will be received as an Episcopal priest by the Rt. Rev. John B. Lipscomb on Feb. 9, 2002, at Church of the Redeemer, Sarasota.

IN BRIEF

Trinity Ministries unveils curriculum

Trinity Episcopal Extension Ministries has announced the Jan. 2002 term session. A variety of credit and noncredit courses are available for church leadership and lay persons.

Classes include topics such as church planting, evangelism, creating a parish-based healing ministry, worship, church history, global mission and biblical conflict management.

Visit the TEEM web site for a brochure at www.tesm.edu/teem or contact the office by e-mail at suzanneperkins@tesm.edu or call (800) 874-8754, ext. 226.

D.Min. program back for 28th year

The Doctor of Ministry program of the University of the South will hold its 28th summer session in 2002.

The program only operates in the summer, allowing clergy to participate without a major interruption in parish responsibilities. The D.Min. program requires 30 semester hours and usually takes several summers to complete.

Courses offered June 26 to July 17 include: "History and Theology of the Episcopal Church," with Dr. Donald Armentrout; "Sacred Stories, Sacramental Assemblies, Open Secrets, Saving Grace: Toward a New Paradigm for Pastoral and Congregational Leadership," with Dr. Joe Burnett; and "Paul the Apostle: Loaded Letters," with Dr. Gary Phillips.

For more information, call (800) 722-1974 or write Don Armentrout, Advanced Degrees Program, School of Theology, 335 Tennessee Ave., Sewanee, TN 37383-0001.

CPC offering aid for large-print publications

The Church Periodical Club is offering financial aid for computer software to produce large-print copies of the Book of Common Prayer and the Hymnal.

Since Church Publishing discon-

(Continued on page 4)

Thieves hit church in Indian Rocks Beach, but don't get far

Burglars broke into Calvary Episcopal Church in Indian Rocks Beach Nov. 17, taking about \$10,000 in computers and televisions, and generally making a mess of the library and office area, police and church officials said.

However, just 12 hours after the break-in, most of the stolen equipment had been recovered and was back in its place, while two suspects were sitting in the Pinellas County Jail.

The Rev. Bob Wagenseil, rector at Calvary, said the two suspects apparently entered through a construction area, where the church's offices and chapel area are being renovated.

Before leaving with the computers and a 36-inch television, the burglars emptied several fire extinguishers inside the building. "The place was totally trashed," Fr. Wagenseil said. "They got about seven computers, they got the laptops ... [and] generally made a huge mess. They got my briefcase too, which really kind of ticks me off."

Fortunately, none of the stolen computers contained parish records or financial data. "The blessing here, is nobody got hurt, and they did not, thank God, get into the parish hall or the main parish offices," Fr. Wagenseil said.

Shortly after the break-in, at about 4:30 a.m. Saturday, Pinellas County Sheriff's deputies arrested two men walking along Gulf Boulevard, carrying a 36-inch television. They were later charged with burglary, grand theft and criminal mischief.

After most of the stolen property was recovered, firefighters from Pinellas Suncoast Fire and Rescue Department, where Fr. Wagenseil is a chaplain, spent off-duty time cleaning up the church and reinstalling the computers. By Monday morning, the church was back to normal. "We're looking pretty good," Fr. Wagenseil said.

The only computers not recovered were Fr. Wagenseil's personal laptop and a laptop used by the parish nurse.

Diocesan Council names new committee chairs

The Diocesan Council approved a new committee structure and named chairs to those panels for 2002 at a recent weekend retreat.

Twenty-six people from the Council and the bishop's staff met Nov. 16-18 at DaySpring Episcopal Conference Center for organizational meetings, prayer and reflection.

In the first meeting of Council since elections at the Oct. 13 diocesan convention, part of the weekend was devoted to getting to know each other. The Rt. Rev. David Richards, retired bishop of Central America and Costa Rica, led a session analyzing results of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicators of each participant. The corporate type of the group was determined to be ENFJ (Extroverted/Intuitive/Feeling/Judging).

The Rev. Michael Durning, canon to the ordinary, led a session discussing seven strategic areas of diocesan life: Congregational Life, Ministry Development, DaySpring, Diocesan Community, and Spiritual, Material, and Human Resources.

David Pfaff led discussion of the committee structure plan and committee assignments. Committees were formed and chairs were appointed by the bishop. They are:

- Executive Committee:** Bishop John Lipscomb;
- Finance:** The Very Rev. Barry Kubler;
- Congregational Development:** The Rev. Robert Hennagin;
- Human Resources:** The Rev. Lester Durst;
- Horizon 20/20 (Vision):** Mr. Chuck Miller;
- Communications:** Mr. David Pfaff;
- Facilities:** Ms. Joan Kline.

Each chair will announce goals and members of their committees.

The retreat ended Sunday with Holy Eucharist and a question and answer session with Bishop Lipscomb.

Special thanks to Diana Tyson, who served as a spiritual resource at the retreat.

—Submitted by
the Rev. Canon Michael Durning



IN A TIME OF UNCERTAINTY, PEOPLE OF FAITH COME TOGETHER TO WELCOME THE

Prince of Peace

On Christmas Eve you and your loved ones are invited to a special holiday program and the first nationally televised joint worship service of the Episcopal Church in the USA and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, now in "full communion."

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, on the CBS Television Network, 11:35 p.m. Eastern From beautiful Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kansas City, Missouri (Contact your local CBS-TV station for exact airtime in your area.)

Conducting the service will be ECUSA Bishop William Smalley, Diocese of Kansas, ELCA Bishop Gerald Mansholt, Central States Synod, ECUSA Bishop Barry Howe, Diocese of West Missouri.

Produced for CBS by the ECUSA Dioceses of Kansas and West Missouri and the ELCA Central States Synod, in association with the Episcopal Church Office of Communications.




MAY THE PEACE OF CHRIST BE WITH YOU.

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Of the
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Church Foundation, Inc.**

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Please complete and return the following form:

- YES, please include me as a Founding Member. I have remembered one or more of the following in my will**
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Congregation _____

Please Return to: Glenn Schatzberg, Director of Development
P.O. Box 763,
Ellenton, FL 34222

In Brief

(Continued from page 2)

tinued large-print editions of the two books, finding copies for the sight-impaired can be difficult, according to the Episcopal Disabilities Network. The books are available in electronic format, which can be printed by any home computer in large type. However, the disks are expensive, costing from \$100 to \$300.

To help, the Church Periodical Club is offering grants for the software as well as other printed materials.

CPC has grant periods in early Spring and Fall. Applications may be obtained from the CPC, Episcopal Church Center, 815 Second Ave., New York, NY 10017.

**Floral seminar set
Jan 19 near Orlando**

Flower arranging experts from the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., will conduct a seminar Jan. 19 in Winter Park, Fla.

“Fresh Ideas with Flowers and Church and Home” will be presented at 9:30 a.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church, 338 E. Lyman Ave., in Winter Park. The experts, Louisa Rucker and Mary Sims, are instructors for the annual National Cathedral Floral Seminar.

The cost is \$15. For more information, call All Saints at (407) 647-3413.

**Web sites sought for
search engine project**

The volunteer editors for the Open Directory Project are looking for new web sites with Episcopalian content.

The ODP is a hierarchical Internet directory. Its structure and content are used by most of the major search engines, including Yahoo, Netscape and Google.

Editors are especially want to list any personal web pages detailing personal involvement in parish life, descriptions or photographs of local churches; spiritual reflections on Anglican themes, or links to other Anglican/Episcopal resources.

To visit the current ODP listings of Episcopal web sites, and to suggest additions to the directory, go to www.dmoz.org, and follow this path:

Society/Religion_and_Spirituality/Christianity/Denominations/Anglican/Episcopalian.

Youth Events 2002

In the Diocese of Southwest Florida

February

- 2** Youth Explosion
Saturday (YES)
- 15-16** Vocare Steering
Committee Retreat

March

- 8-10** Happening #47
- 23** Happening Reunion

April

- 6-7** Middle School Lock-In #2

May

- 3-5** New Beginnings #31

June

- 5-7** Summer Conference
Training
- 9-14** Senior Conference
Week (SYC)
- 16-21** Elementary Camp
Week (Nimbus)
- 23-28** Middler Conference
Week (MYC)

July

- TBA** Senior High
Mission Trip
- TBA** Middler
Mission Trip
- TBA** Choir Camp

August

- 23-25** Youth Ministry
Training

October

- 4-6** Vocare#1
- 18-20** Happening #48

November

- 2** Happening Reunion
- 15-17** New Beginnings #32

December

- 27-31** Illuminations #2

Demographic data about your area on-line

Useful demographic data about your community is available on-line to anyone in the diocese.

The diocese has a contract with Percept Corp. to provide current data for the years 2001–2003. Percept takes Census Bureau information and adds other survey data about the religious attitudes, preferences and behavior of the Americans in your specific community.

To gain access to Percept's demographic data for your area, go to www.link2lead.com. You will be asked to register, as a member one of the churches in the Diocese. This will provide you access to demographic and faith information in your area by ZIP code.

HELP WANTED

Interim Part-time Divinity Instructor (deacon or priest) for St. John's Episcopal Parish Day School, South Tampa. Starting immediately and extending throughout the extending absence of our current chaplain. Middle school classes are scheduled Mondays and Tuesdays; chapel services could also be included in the assignment. For further information, please call the headmaster (813) 849-5200; send letter by e-mail to afruhauf@stjohnseagles.org; or U.S. Mail to St. John's Episcopal Parish Day School, 906 S. Orleans Ave., Tampa, FL 33606.

Christian Formation Director. St. Thomas' Episcopal Church, St. Petersburg. Duties include planning, coordination and evaluation of Sunday/mid-week Christian Formation programs for all ages as well as Vacation Bible School and other seasonal events. This is a full-time salaried position with benefits including health insurance, paid vacation and sick days. Please send resume by fax to (727) 823-0084 or call (9727) 896-9641.

Diocese of Southwest Florida
P.O. Box 763
Ellenton, FL 34222

Bishop's Visitation Schedule

- Dec. 2** St. Dunstan's, Largo
Dec. 9 Retreat
Dec. 15 St. Margaret's of Scotland, Sarasota
Dec. 24 Cathedral, St. Petersburg
- Jan. 6** Epiphany, Cape Coral
*Venice Deanery Confirmation,
4 p.m., St. David's, Englewood*
- Jan. 13** Holy Spirit, Osprey
Jan. 20 St. Mary Magdelene, Bradenton
Jan. 27 St. Mark's, Venice
- Feb. 3** Resurrection, Naples
Feb. 6 Nativity, Sarasota
Feb. 10 St. Luke's, Fort Myers
Feb. 17 St. James House of Prayer, Tampa
Feb. 24 St. Mary's, Dade City
*Pasco-Hernando Deanery
Confirmation, 4 p.m.,
St. Mary's, Dade City.*

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