

# DIOCESAN

# DIGEST

DIOCESE OF EAST CAROLINA



SPRING 2024

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# DIOCESAN DIGEST

SPRING 2024

SHARING OUR STORIES, SHARING OUR LIFE IN CHRIST



# A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to our Spring issue of the *Digest*! This issue focuses on communities and partnerships creating traditions and forging ways forward in our diocese and beyond. Inside this issue, you'll see stories from congregations all around the diocese, as well as a primer on the 81st General Convention and how East Carolina is participating. May God bless the communities here in the Diocese of East Carolina and continue to help them flourish. I hope you will enjoy this edition of the Diocesan Digest and wish you happy reading!

In Christ,  
Sara



*Sharing our stories,  
Sharing our life in Christ.*

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## *St. Cyprian's Church Takes on New Life*

---

Learn the history of St. Cyprian's, New Bern and their exciting new partnership

## *Avoid the Noise*

---

See how ECCO mixed chaos and calm with labyrinth walks

## *Looking Towards the 81st General Convention*

---

Learn about General Convention and how our diocese is participating in GC81

## *The Wade H. Chestnut Chapel and its Community*

---

Discover the background of the Chestnut Chapel and its ties to the Ocean City Community

## *Celtic Services at St. Andrew's, Columbia*

---

Encounter the origins and practice of the Celtic service tradition at St. Andrew's



# ST. CYPRIAN'S CHURCH TAKES ON NEW LIFE

*By Carrie Gallagher, Shirley Guion, Harry Gormley,  
& Rev. Margaret Pollock  
Photo Credit: Mike Williams*



St. Cyprian's is a remarkable church in a city of churches. Born out of Christ Episcopal Church in New Bern NC, St. Cyprian's is now one of five historically Black churches in the Diocese of East Carolina.

## **St. Cyprian's Story**

Founding: As early as 1826, residents of color in New Bern received instruction in catechism and lectures on scriptures. By 1845 a congregation of people of color had been formed, becoming continuous by 1866. Following the Civil War, St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church was recognized. The leadership of The Reverend Edward E. Forbes was an early driving force for St. Cyprian's.

St. Cyprian's was originally a wood framed building.

In 1910, construction of a new brick church started. In January 1912, the members of St. Cyprian's were worshipping in their new church at 604 Johnson Street, in what became the Historic District of New Bern. Beautiful stained glass windows are the pride of the new church building.



**The Great Fire:** On December 1, 1922 New Bern experienced a disastrous fire, the worst in the history of North Carolina. It burned over 40 blocks, consumed 1,000 buildings and left 3,200 residents homeless, 90% of whom were Black. St. Cyprian's survived. Under the direction of Dr. Joseph Latham, a New Bern physician and with the assistance of nurse Charlotte Rhone, St. Cyprian's served as an emergency hospital for Black victims who were not allowed care at the local hospital.

Subsequently, the Good Shepherd Hospital was opened in 1938 to serve the Black people of the community – it was the only hospital serving Black people in an eighty-mile radius. St. Cyprian's rector, The Reverend R. I. Johnson served as the hospital's manager and chief organizer.

With an impeccable reputation for service in the community and the diocese he led special community programs to address the high level of racial tension during this time.

**Growth and leadership in the community:** In the mid-century decades, men of the congregation reactivated the Brotherhood of St. Andrews. Church leadership sponsored a scouting movement with Cub Packs, Boy Scouts and Explorer Scouts. The parishioners and church leadership became active participants in a variety of community, diocesan and ecumenical programs. These included the launch of Religious Community Services (RCS) to support those in need, and engagement in the Coalition of Black Episcopalians. St. Cyprian's was the first church serving the Black community to be included in historical tours of New Bern.

**Evolving membership:** The early 2000's were times of change for St. Cyprian's. Its younger generation moved from the area when their new families were formed. Aging parishioners were less able to participate in services and activities in the greater community.



With fewer parishioners, reduced income negatively effected the operation and maintenance of St. Cyprian's. This continues to be the case.

**Hurricane Florence:** St. Cyprian's was greatly impacted by Hurricane Florence in September 2018. Precious things were taken to Christ Church for safe keeping. Insurance, FEMA disaster assistance, and contributed support covered repair of the roof and repointing the exterior brick and more. Water damage effected the worship space and the undercroft. Plaster walls were removed, replaced, and repainted. Wood floors were repaired and refinished. Damaged carpet was replaced. A new HVAC system was installed, with financial assistance from the Diocese.



**Significant Repair and Restoration Remain:** Chief among these is a \$500,000 addition to the front of the church, to make the building ADA-compliant: access to the nave and to the undercroft is by steep steps, and the single bathroom is not suited for those with disabilities. This is a severe hindrance to the building welcoming the community to its premises. In addition, the church's historically-valuable tracker organ is worth being restored, at an estimated cost of \$200,000.

**Lingering Effects:** The impact of Hurricane Florence and the small size of the parish together have lingering effects. Opportunities for St. Cyprian's to continue as a center for community events and celebrations have been narrowed. Opportunity for St. Cyprian's to engage the greater, diverse community has also been affected.

## **A New Way Forward**

St. Cyprian's has partnered with the New Bern African American Heritage and Culture Center (Partnership), to move toward a new, shared vision of the life of St. Cyprian's: AAHC at St. Cyprian's will become a memorial and haven for the diverse legacy of New Bern's African American history. For its mission, the Partnership will actively present the historic impact and progression of African American heritage and culture in our region.

And its goals are to: (a) be the premier storyteller to articulate what has been hidden or forgotten, (b) attract new membership, (c) express African American heritage through the arts, (d) educate the public through consistent community engagement, (e) maintain and expand St. Cyprian's building, and (f) become financially sustainable.

## **First Steps**

The AAHCC now holds its meetings and conducts office work in the St. Cyprian's undercroft and helps cover ordinary church expenses. Special services, such as one in December 2023 commemorating the 1922 Great Fire, are being held in the nave. We are planning to host a community dinner during Juneteenth. As well, the Partnership is excited to participate in New Bern-wide Arts in April festivities:

On April 13th, St. Cyprian's featured African American artists in an art gallery event, whose canvases and other works were displayed in the main worship space of the church, as sunlight streamed through the beautiful stained-glass windows. Artists were present to discuss their works with visitors, and local artist Lee Hood did a demonstration of his painting. Outdoors on the church grounds there was "Sip and Paint" for kids, with easels and paints set up and kid-sipping drinks for young ones to paint their original work.

The Art Show pleased those who attended and showed, which included artist Ben Watford, known for his traditional North Carolina face jugs, as well as for his books and other ceramics; and hat maker Vals Crowns, whose "aim is to attire all with a sense of integrity, resilience and elegance."

Then, on April 26th, an evening of gospel and spirituals by the Williston Alumni Community Choir from Wilmington was held at St. Cyprian's. The Williston School was founded in 1866 by the abolitionist American Missionary Association after the Union army occupied Wilmington during the civil war. It served freed slaves. The institution was closed as a high school in 1968 as part of desegregation. This caused disturbances, resulting in the wrongly-convicted and imprisoned Wilmington Ten, who became internationally known as freedom-fighters.







The choir brings the heart and soul of the school's history and the alumni experience to its rendition of songs of triumph and hope that uplift our community.

The Williston Alumni Community Choir from Wilmington brought in a wildly appreciative crowd that packed St. Cyprian's, including a couple who heard the music from the street and wandered in! The choir consisted of 27 members, whose average age was a sprightly 75. They presented a program of spirituals and songs, which was the heartfelt epitome of East Carolina choral expression of the Black experience. They raised the roof!

Presently, Holy Eucharist is celebrated at St. Cyprian's one Sunday a month, and Morning Prayer is read one Sunday a month.



A family of four has recently been worshipping at the Eucharist, and we pray and work for more to come. We give thanks for God's sustaining and leading presence with St. Cyprian's Church, all during its history, and in these exciting times.









# Avoid the Noise

By Alfreda Gee

What happens when you mix chaos and calm? We didn't know either, so Episcopal Campus Christian Organization (ECCO) decided to try it.

By definition, university students have hundreds of options each semester to explore, research, question and expand their gifts, interests and social contacts. Life can feel chaotic and unmanaged. So, adding another option may sound unrealistic, but we offered an alternative: a quiet journey for their own healing. No evaluation, no judgements.

Backing up a bit, ECCO meets every week during the college term in the sanctuary of Church of the Servant (COS), Wilmington. Many may know that the church has a labyrinth etched into the floor. It is a replica of one found in the Cathedral in Chartres, France and has been open to the public for walking two times each month for years. ECCO walks it each Holy Week together as a meditation practice. We noticed that we were keeping a quiet resource too quiet.

In fall 2023, Ginny Lundeen of the COS labyrinth guild and ECCO collaborated to open late (8:30-10:00 PM) two Fridays per semester and host students and staff from the university. The students put "Avoid the Noise" notices on the virtual and physical bulletin boards and gave flyers to friends. They chalked announcements around campus a few days before the events. The Campus Minister sent word through the network of other campus ministers. Students wrote a meditation as an option for guests and prepared ways to explain the experience to first-time travelers.

Impacts can't be measured in numbers for this sort of experiment, so we decided to share a few stories instead:

A couple connected to the university who moved to Wilmington in the midst of the pandemic joined our walk in order to worship together.

One spouse's medical condition keeps them from attending any corporate worship, and this provides the couple with a chance to connect with God in a sanctuary in safety.

Matt van Arsdale, a young adult with ECCO, describes the practice as "a great resource to refocus and recenter after a busy week.

McKenna Spencer, a freshman Environmental Studies major from Greensboro expresses her experience this way:

"The labyrinth is the perfect place to come after a busy day. I like choosing the way you experience the path without the worry of getting lost.



Focusing on setting aside worries and becoming alert but calm on the way in, spending time in prayer in the middle, and leaving focusing on my gratitude and hopes leaves me more grounded than before. This interactive meditation and prayer always reduces my stress."

Kennedy Cole is a senior in Creative Writing. She shares:

"Labyrinth nights with ECCO have been a time of both deep self-reflection and for peace with God. My first labyrinth opened up new and positive doors for me, as I've not had such a meditative experience before. Honestly, it was as if God was walking with me."







Josie Miller graduated in December 2023 with a degree in Environmental Studies. Josie had just joined ECCO in her last semester of school. After walking with us in early fall, she asked her whole family to attend with her and walk the labyrinth together the night before her commencement. She offers these thoughts:

“Before joining ECCO, I was not aware what a labyrinth was nor the practice surrounding it. Walking the labyrinth has been such a beautiful additive in my spiritual and personal journey. It is a great space to find peace and connection. I thank everyone who introduced me to it.”

ECCO has offered the late walk three times this school year reaching a handful of new folks. The experience provided us with the unexpected benefit of really good questions we want to address ourselves and share with you. Maybe you and your parish or other group can use them.

- Who have we missed in our outreach and how can we reach them next fall?
- What other beautiful resources do we already have that we can share with others who are looking for ways to connect to God and maybe with our community?
- What are people seeking in plain sight that we can address?



Here are some things we learned. The flyers and posts piqued interest, but people attended because we asked them individually: we invited. We followed up on the invitations, and we were there to greet our guests when they came. After they walked, we sat around and chatted about the experience, about faith and about the tools we use to connect. We learned that, in slowing down, our faith can lead us in relationships with others. We laughed with one student who managed to get turned around on the labyrinth somehow, so we learned to give better directions. We thanked that student for helping us see a gap. We'll use these lessons and others as we plan opportunities for this fall for more new friends to Avoid the Noise.

For more information on labyrinths, their history and use in many settings, both religious and secular, read more at [veriditas.org](http://veriditas.org). Walk each month with Church of the Servant. The schedule is at the website: [cosepiscopal.com](http://cosepiscopal.com) under "worship" and on the calendar under "contact us". To find a labyrinth in your area or as you travel, try World-Wide Labyrinth Locator at [labyrinthlocator.com](http://labyrinthlocator.com).

***ECCO, or Episcopal Campus Christian Organization is a ministry of the Diocese of East Carolina and is one of our best ideas. It is the Campus Ministry at UNCW and Cape Fear Community College and serves students from a variety of religious backgrounds. Students explore their faith in open, honest discussions, study, worship and activities and all in a nonjudgmental, safe space.***









# LOOKING TOWARDS THE 81ST GENERAL CONVENTION

## **General Convention Overview**

General Convention is the national legislative body of The Episcopal Church. The General Convention sets policy for our denomination, including in worship, discipline, mission, finance, and vision. It consists of a House of Bishops (HoB), which includes all active and retired bishops, and a House of

Deputies (HoD), which includes four lay persons and four clergy from each diocese, each area mission, and the Convocation of the American Churches in Europe. General Convention operates as a senatorial system, hence each diocese and area mission has the same number of delegates regardless of size and membership.

The Convention typically meets every three years, though due to a postponement of the 2021 General Convention to 2022, there was only a two-year period before this meeting. The Houses meet and act separately, and both must concur to adopt legislation. The General Convention alone has authority to amend the Prayer Book and the

## Deputation of the Diocese of East Carolina to the 81st General Convention

The deputation from our diocese consists of lay and clergy delegates who were elected at our 140th Annual Diocesan Convention in February 2023. As representatives of our diocese, they will work in the House of Deputies at the legislation and governance business on the schedule. Bishop Skirving represents our diocese in the House of Bishops. The 81st General Convention will take place June 23 - 28, 2024 in Louisville, Kentucky. Most delegates will arrive one or two days prior, as the Presiding Bishop nominees will be presented, and legislative committees and hearings will take place prior to the official start of General Convention.

church's Constitution, to amend the canons (laws) of the church, and to determine the program and budget of the General Convention and the programs it authorizes. The General Convention also elects twenty of the forty members of the Executive Council, which administers policy and program between General Conventions.





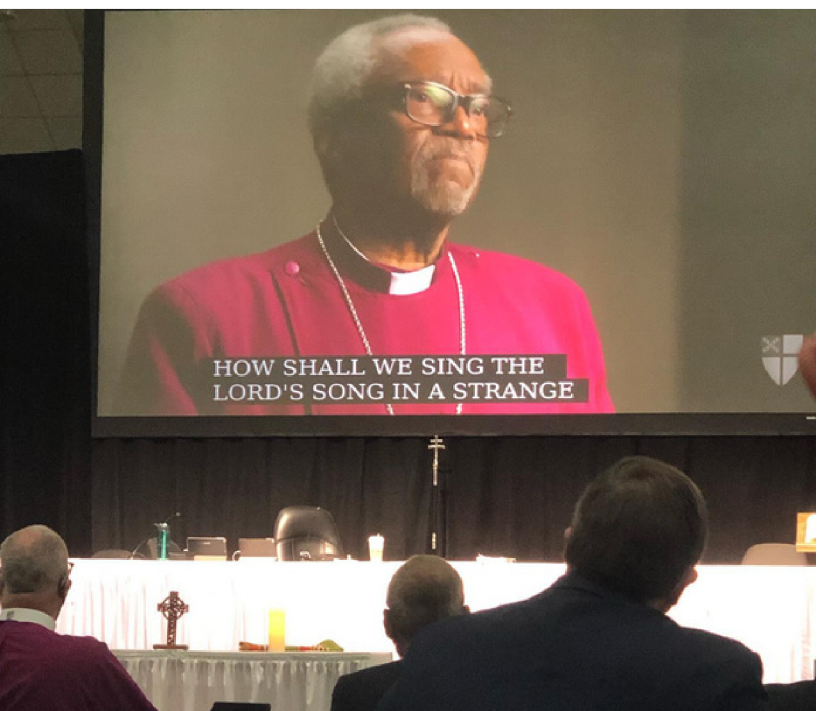
Our deputation is as follows:

**Clergy Delegates:** Paul Canady (Christ Church, New Bern); Tammy Lee (St. Paul's, Beaufort); Robert M. Alves (St. John's, Fayetteville); Caleb Lee (St. Paul's, Wilmington)

**Clergy Delegate Alternates:** Richard G. Elliott (St. Andrew's on the Sound, Wilmington) and Anne Abdy (Holy Cross, Wilmington)

**Lay Delegates:** Tess Judge (All Saints, Southern Shores); Hannah Hutchens (St. Paul's, Greenville); Joan Geiszler-Ludlum (Church of the Servant, Wilmington); Tom Tully (St. James, Wilmington)

**Lay Delegate Alternates:** Barbara Crumbacker (St. Mary's, Kinston) and Karen Phillips Smith (St. Paul's, Wilmington)







# MEET OUR DELEGATES

Below our clergy and lay delegates are pictured, with the bottom row of delegates being our alternates. East Carolina's deputation was voted in at our 140th Annual Diocesan Convention in February 2023, and we are grateful to them all for serving as representatives of our diocese in the House of Deputies!

## Clergy Delegates



Paul Canady



Tambria Lee



Robert Alves



Caleb Lee

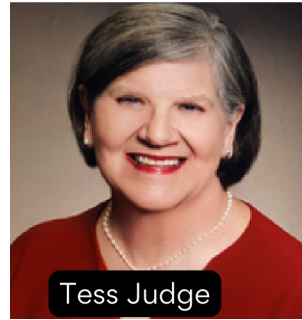


Richard Elliot



Anne Abdy

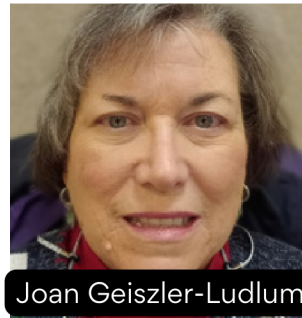
## Lay Delegates



Tess Judge



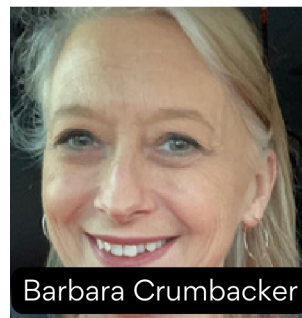
Hannah Hutchens



Joan Geiszler-Ludlum



Tom Tully



Barbara Crumbacker



Karen Phillips Smith





## Preparing for General Convention

Leading up to the General Convention, dioceses and provinces within the Episcopal Church submit resolutions and proposals for consideration. These resolutions address various topics such as theology, governance, social justice, and mission. Committees are formed to review and refine these resolutions, ensuring they are well-informed and align with the church's principles and values.

For East Carolina, a number of deputies and our bishop are serving on committees:

- Bishop Skirving is Chair of Legislative Committee 11 - Formation & Discipleship (HoB) (pictured above is a meeting of this committee)
- The Rev. Paul Canady is Assistant Secretary for Legislative Committee 20 - Confirmation of the Election of the Presiding Bishop (HoD)
- Tess Judge is Chair of Legislative Committee 20 - Confirmation of the Election of the Presiding Bishop (HoD)

- The Rev. Tambria Lee is serving as a member of Legislative Committee 18 - Title IV: Disciplinary Canons (HoD)
- The Rev. Robert Alves is serving as a member of Legislative Committee 12 - Agencies & Boards (HoD)

Descriptions of each committee's responsibilities can be found on the House of Deputies website.

## Legislative Process

During the General Convention, both houses meet separately to discuss and vote on proposed resolutions. Each resolution undergoes a process of debate, amendment, and voting. In the House of Deputies, decisions are made by a simple majority vote. In the House of Bishops, each bishop has one vote, and decisions are also made by a simple majority.

For a resolution to become an official act of the General Convention, it must pass in both the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies. If a resolution passes in one house but not the other, it may be sent back for further discussion or amendments. Once a resolution is approved by both houses, it becomes part of the official record of the General Convention and is implemented as church law or policy.



## HOW RESOLUTIONS MOVE THROUGH GENERAL CONVENTION

When our bishops and deputies (elected lay persons, priests, and deacons) gather at General Convention they pray, worship, and take counsel together through a legislative process. The legislative process begins when resolutions are proposed by authorized committees, commissions, and task forces that meet between sessions of General Convention, and by Deputies, Bishops, Provinces, or Dioceses of The Episcopal Church.







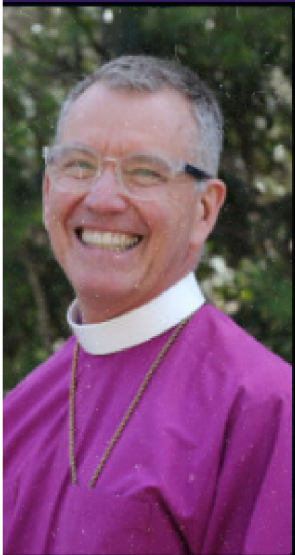
# ***East Carolina at General Convention (2022)***

*Our deputies and bishop enjoyed a meal together during the 80th General Convention in Baltimore in 2022.*





# 28th Presiding Bishop Nominees



**SCOTT  
BARKER**



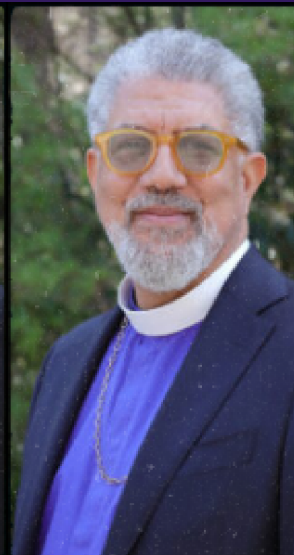
**DEDE  
DUNCAN-PROBE**



**DANIEL  
GUTIEREZ**



**SEAN  
ROWE**



**ROB  
WRIGHT**

## What to Watch for at GC81

The 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church promises to be a significant event. The Presiding Bishop election is likely the most momentous act that will take place at GC81. Current Presiding Bishop Michael Curry will serve until the incumbent 28th Presiding Bishop succeeds him on November 1st. There are five nominated candidates: The Rt. Rev. Scott Barker (Diocese of Nebraska), The Rt. Rev. Dede Duncan-Probe (Diocese of Central New York),

The Rt. Rev. Daniel G. P. Gutiérrez (Diocese of Pennsylvania), The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe (Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania and Diocese of Western New York), and The Rt. Rev. Rob Wright (Diocese of Atlanta).

All of the nominees' bios, video messages, and information from the Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop can be found on the General Convention's website.



**TOGETHER  
IN LOVE**

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH



**LOUIS  
VILLE  
KY '24**





# Candidates for President of the House of Deputies



JULIA AYALA HARRIS



RACHEL TABER-HAMILTON

Another election of note will be the election for the President of the House of Deputies (PHoD), which is a position that is voted on at each General Convention, as the position's term runs from the adjournment of the General Convention at which they were elected and continuing until the adjournment of the following General Convention. This year, there is a first in recent history: the election of the President of the House of Deputies is contested. The Rev. Rachel Taber-Hamilton, current Vice President of the House of Deputies will be running against the current PHoD, Julia Ayala-Harris. You can read more about this contested election via the Episcopal News Service (ENS).

We'll be sharing reporting and highlights from GC81, and you will find all of this reporting on our Reporting from General Convention 81 (2024) page on our website. We'll also share highlights via our social media and our newsletter News & Notes, so stay tuned for more!

## **Impact of General Convention**

The decisions made at General Convention have a significant impact on the life and mission of The Episcopal Church and reflect the diverse voices within the Church. General Convention is a vital gathering that brings together clergy and lay leaders to discern and enact the church's



mission and ministry. Through a collaborative and democratic legislative process, the convention addresses important issues facing the church and guides its actions in service to God and the world.

***Please keep all of our deputies and Bishop Skirving in prayer during this time of preparing for General Convention and during their work at GC81 this June.***







By Kenneth Chestnut, Sr.

The Wade H. Chestnut Memorial Chapel, formally the St. Mark's Episcopal Chapel, held its first service on June 30, 1957. The first celebration of Holy Communion was a highlight of the 1957 Camp Session at Camp Oceanside on Topsail Island, NC. Many Ocean City Beach residents attended the first service. Some of the participants who attended were The Rev. Richard Horsley, Celebrant; The Rev. Francis G. Johnson, Preacher; The Rev. Edwin E. Kirton, Master of Ceremonies; and Wade H. Chestnut III, Server.





The dream of this Chapel began in 1952 when The Rev. Edwin E. Kirton, during his vacation, would conduct services in the living room of Wade and Caronell Chestnut's home at Ocean City Beach. These services were so well attended that the Rt. Rev. Thomas H. Wright, Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina, welcomed the opportunity to build a Chapel to the Glory of God and serve the spiritual need of both campers and residents.

The land on which the Chapel and Camp Oceanside were built was donated to the Diocese of East Carolina by Ocean City Developers, Inc. upon the recommendation of Wade H. Chestnut II, the Secretary and a major stockholder of the corporation.

Designated as a summer chapel here in East Carolina, the Chestnut Chapel operates with its own Vestry and budget, responsible for facilities, operations, and scheduling, like any other church Vestry. The first Vestry members were: Mr. Jacob Hayes, Senior Warden, Raleigh; Dr. J. F. Cowan, Junior Warden, Wilson; Dr. E. P. Norris, Sr., Treasurer, Durham; Mrs. Lucile Williams, Clerk, Wilmington; Mrs. Dorothy Wilkins, Historian, Charlotte; Mrs. Callie Upperman, and Mrs. Caronell Chestnut, Wilmington, Members of the Vestry.

The Rev. Edwin E. Kirton continued to serve as Priest-in-Charge until his retirement in 1975. He was ably assisted in his efforts by Priests from many Dioceses who conducted Sunday Services and who were urged to live in residence at the cottage next door.





Notably among those who served this Chapel in its early days was: The Rev. Daniel W. Allen, Retired Executive Secretary of the Diocese of East Carolina; The Rev. Francis G. Johnson, Rector of St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, Fayetteville; and The Rev. Joseph Banks, Rector of St. Augustine's, Kinston and St. Andrew's, Goldsboro. The Chapel has a rotational schedule of priests who serve each summer, whether from the wider church or from the priests serving in East Carolina.

Among those who have served more recently are: Bishop Rob Wright, Diocese of Atlanta; The Rev. Skip Walker, St. Joseph's, Fayetteville and St. Mark's, Wilmington; The Rev. Hershey Mallette Stephens, Dean of the Chapel at Saint Augustine's University, Raleigh; The Rev. Reginald "Reggie" Payne-Wiens, Chapel of Christ the King, Charlotte; The Rev. Robert Jemonde Taylor, Rector of Saint Ambrose Episcopal Church, Raleigh; The Rev. Thelma "Nikki" Mathis, St. Gregory the Great Episcopal Church, Athens, GA; and The Rev. Charles L. Fischer III, Vice President for Seminary Advancement at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, PA.

The Chapel was initially named after St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Wilmington, of which Fr. Kirton was Rector. After the death of Wade H. Chestnut in 1961 at the age of 53, Fr. Kirton recommended to the Bishop that the name be changed to the Wade H. Chestnut Memorial Chapel to honor the memory of Mr. Wade Chestnut for the services and support rendered to the Diocese, the Camp, and the Chapel through the years. The request was granted, and the Chapel was rededicated and renamed.





As part of the Ocean City community, the Chapel coordinates through the Ocean City Beach Citizens Council, a non-profit organization, which sponsors the Ocean City Jazz Festival, a three-day extravaganza that showcases talent from across the country. Though distinct, these entities serve and support each other, and individuals often wear hats in both organizations, illustrating the deep interconnection between the Chapel, the Ocean City community, and the Jazz Festival.

One example of this unity is the church service closest to the Fourth of July, held beneath the Jazz Festival tent. Throughout the year, the Chapel's facilities are utilized by the Jazz Festival and community for various meetings and events, reinforcing the shared mission of enriching the lives of residents and visitors alike.

In July 2022, the NC African American Heritage Commission honored Ocean City by including it in the NC Civil Rights Trail, recognizing its pivotal role in the state's history. The Jazz Festival, the Chapel, and their community come together to support and participate in the festival.

Thanks to its dedicated vestry and support from the community, the Chapel remains open today during the summer months, with services conducted by many Episcopal bishops and priests from various dioceses, serving beach residents and visitors.















## CELTIC SERVICES AT ST. ANDREW'S, COLUMBIA

BY BOB WATERS

For as long as I can remember, I've enjoyed listening to and performing Celtic music. Along with that, I believe the story and legend of St. Patrick is one of the most inspiring examples of steadfast faith and commitment to fulfilling The Great Commission in all of Christianity. How those things came together prompting me to consider the idea of holding a Celtic service at St. Andrew's still remains a mystery. Perhaps it was a nudge given by an earthly Angel, or maybe it was from a thought that occurred to me while sitting quietly during my morning devotions.

Regardless, the notion of having a Celtic Evensong at St. Andrew's seemed very appealing. A quick internet search revealed that a number of regional churches have been offering these unique services to parishioners for quite some time. One of those churches, St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Richmond, VA, holds a weekly candlelight Celtic Evensong, which is one of their most attended services.







Prior to undertaking the task of designing our first service in 2019, I had the good fortune of making contact with the Reverend Penny Nash from St. Stephen's. To say she was helpful would be understating the nature of her invaluable assistance. Reverend Nash provided much needed guidance, helpful suggestions, and a clear road map for me to proceed.

Much to my delight (but not surprise), the Vestry at St. Andrew's enthusiastically embraced the proposal and offered their full support. This included, but was not limited to: providing publicity, arranging the church and parish house for this special service, and preparing a sumptuous meal of Irish cuisine to be served afterwards. In short, everybody pulled together to make our first Celtic Evensong, held on March 17th, 2019, St. Patrick's Day, a very memorable, enjoyable, and spiritually uplifting event.



To be honest, community support for our Celtic Evensong from churches of other denominations has been tepid. On the other hand, a good number of Episcopalians from parishes throughout the diocese have attended our services, most having never attended a Celtic Evensong. Additionally, we've welcomed folks from the community who don't have a church family. All of us at St. Andrew's have been very pleased with the favorable comments and encouragement we've received for our efforts. We intend, with God's help, to continue our tradition.

COMMIT THY WORKS  
UNTO THE LORD,  
AND THY THOUGHTS  
SHALL BE ESTABLISHED.

**PROVERBS 16:3**







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# UPCOMING DIOCESAN EVENTS

[HTTPS://WWW.DIOCESE-EASTCAROLINA.ORG/EVENTS/](https://www.diocese-eastcarolina.org/events/)

JOIN US FOR THE

# ORDINATION

OF

Jon Sargeant  
Matthew Overturf

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2024

10:30 AM

ST. JOHN'S, FAYETTEVILLE

CLERGY - CASSOCK, SURPLICE, AND RED STOLE





## **ECCO:**

### **Episcopal Christian Campus Organization**

#### **Campus Ministry at UNCW**



**Alfreda Gee** - serves as the Campus Minister for ECCO. Students meet regularly at Church of the Servant and on Campus during fall and spring semesters. During the summer this group meets for dinner at local restaurants.

**Scan Here to Contact Alfreda**



**Have other plans after graduation? Going somewhere else?**

**Contact:**  
Emily Gowdy  
Canady  
Missioner for  
Lifelong  
Christian  
Formation



**Make an Episcopal connection where ever God is calling you!**

## **The Well:**

### **Episcopal Lutheran Campus Ministry**

#### **Campus Ministry at ECU**



**Hannah Hutchens** - serves at the Interim Campus Minister for The Well:ELCM Hannah can often be found on campus sharing food, supplies, and prayers. In addition, this ministry meets regularly during the fall and spring semesters.

**Scan Here to Contact Hannah**






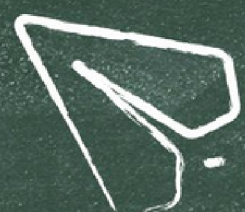



# Trinity Center Sunday: May 26, 2024

For the second annual Trinity Center Sunday on May 26th, Trinity Center is sharing bulletin inserts, the Camp Trinity prayer, an activity sheet for young people, and more for sharing throughout the Diocese of East Carolina. Visit their website to learn more!








**EFWM**  
**BACK**  
**SCHOOL** **TO**  
**DRIVE!**

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We are collecting backpacks during the month of June.  
Filled backpacks can be brought to EFWM (2989 Easy Street, Dunn, NC)  
on Tuesday-Friday from 10am-4pm.

If you or your parish would like a list of individual children,  
please contact Patti at: 919-805-1607

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Want to help, but can't get supplies to EFWM?  
Send us a check with "backpacks" in the memo line,  
and we'll go shopping for you!



**BACKPACKS SHOULD BE DROPPED OFF BY**  
**JUNE 28TH**



**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE CHILDREN WE SERVE!**

919-805-1607

[www.EpiscopalFarmworker.org](http://www.EpiscopalFarmworker.org)





SHARING OUR STORIES, SHARING  
OUR LIFE IN CHRIST.



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