

# CENTRAL FLORIDA EPISCOPALIAN

NEWS FOR THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA WWW.CFDIOCESE.ORG VOLUME 117, No. 3 APRIL 2015

**CAMP WINGMANN**  
DIOCESAN YOUTH GROWING IN FAITH

● P. 11

**YOUR WORK & GODS WORK**  
The Bishop's Conference on  
Faith & Work

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## THE CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION, OVIEDO: AN ENCOURAGING EXAMPLE FOR MISSIONS

By Fr. Rory Harris and Roseddy Montgomery

**A** vision for ministry starts in the heart of our Lord! It is His dream fulfilled to His glory! The Lord instilled that dream into Bishop John Howe and Father Jon Davis' hearts to begin a Mission church in the Oviedo, Winter Springs area some ten years ago. Funds were gathered, people caught the vision and responded, and The Church of the Incarnation was born, and birthed at Canterbury Retreat Center.

The vision expanded, property was purchased, and the Mission church found a new home in facilities of its own. The Holy Spirit led others to join, the Mission church moved to RTS, Reformed Theological Seminary where it flourished in numbers and community involvement. Then, a new calling by Fr. Jon Davis to be the Executive Director of Canterbury Retreat Center and Incarnation's Vicar brought the Mission congregation back to where it was born.

The Incarnation Mission church adapted, broadened its ministry and dimensions, like assisting The Hope Team in ministering to the homeless of eastern Seminole Country. A partnership between Canterbury Retreat Center and Incarnation was forged that helped each to grow and expand their offerings to the community and diocese. Improvements to the facilities enhanced Canterbury's vitality.

The vision deepened as Fr. Jon Davis felt a call to serve as full time Executive Director of CRC, and the Rev. Robin Morical served for a season as Interim Priest in Charge until the need for a full time Vicar brought the Rev. Rory Harris to be the new Vicar with a mandate to further Incarnation's growth.

Incarnation's history and journey is ultimately about its wonderful and diverse parishioners. The Mission church was well served by the clergy it raised up, like the Rev. Sara Bronos, ● STORY ON P. 4

## Crystal River Church Builds Youth Presence One Door-Knock at a Time

**O**ne of the highlights of Bishop Gregory Brewer's visit to St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Crystal River on Feb. 1 was the strong attendance by young people. "This Sunday, there were 30 little kids in cassocks and cottas coming down the aisle," Bishop Greg said after the event. "I confirmed 17 people, baptized three and almost all of them were family members or kids who had come through the acolyte program developed by St. Anne's."

Fr. Kevin Holsapple, rector at St. Anne's, and Fr. Stephen Dass, vicar of Coventry Episcopal Church, Ocala, from 2009 through 2012, helped develop the acolyte training program, with the eager participation of the parish. "It was truly an effort of the church," said Fr. Dass, who now runs the Sao Paulo Mercy Ministry in Brazil, with his wife, Mary (<http://spmercyministry.com>). ● STORY ON P. 31



# The Episcopal Church



## IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

Based in the 15-county heart of our booming, diverse Sunshine State.

Companion to  
the Diocese of Honduras.

**Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Gregory O. Brewer**



## IN THE UNITED STATES

A community of 2.5 million members in 118 dioceses in the Americas & elsewhere. Established in 1789.

**Presiding Bishop:  
The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori**



## IN THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION

A global community of 70 million Anglicans in 500 dioceses. Covers 164 countries in 38 member provinces.

**Archbishop of Canterbury:  
The Most Rev. Justin Welby**

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## Central Florida Episcopalian

Continuing The Palm Branch (1894),  
diocese (1971)

**The Rt. Rev. Gregory Brewer**  
Bishop

**The Rt. Rev. John W. Howe**  
**The Rt. Rev. Dorsey F. Henderson**  
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*Please submit notices two months before event to:*

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# *Easter:* HE IS RISEN!



A Composition of Easter photos?

**F**rom Archdeacon Kristi Alday: I was at St. Francis Bushnell for Palm Sunday. Fr. Larry Recla has a fun twist on Distribution of the Palms. He waits until the end of the service and has all the palms on the altar. He calls up all the children in the congregation. He blesses the palms and then tosses them in the air. The children then pick them up and distribute them to the other parishioners. There was so much joy!

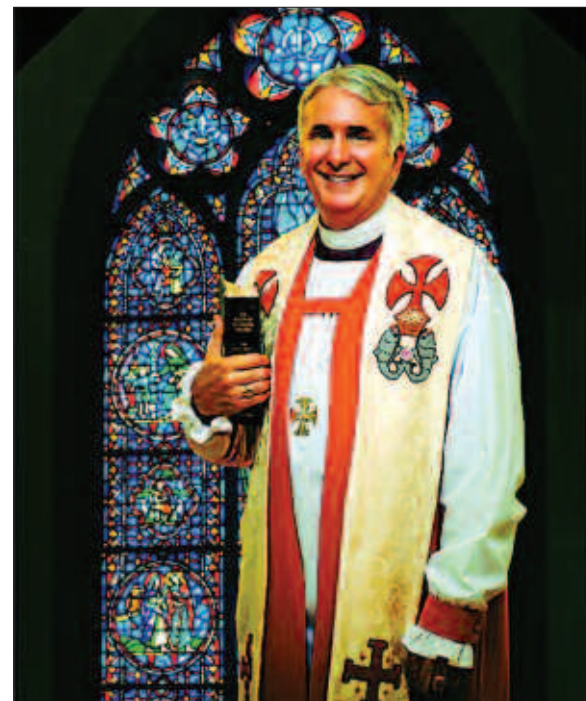
*From Bishop Gregory Brewer, Easter 2014, Cathedral Church of St. Luke, Orlando:*

No one who can say your name the way Jesus can, filled with intimate knowing. When God breaks into your life, you know all the games are over. No more pretense. Many of us when we come to the presence of God, we put on the right kind of clothes and look solemn or do the thing that is asked of us, hoping we will impress God. Do you think God actually cares about any of that? I think what is far more important to God, the one before whom all hearts are open, is that we put forth all that is in us.

There are some here who are like Peter, flabbergasted by the evidence. Faith for people like that is actually confusing and kind of disturbing because they know it is probably more than what they know. They are asking a lot of questions.

There are some here like John. They love him. They have known Jesus most of their lives, and they see the empty tomb in their mind's eye as they hear the story. They love Him, but they do not know what to do either. They are just normal people, but they believe they can go back home to a normal life. They are still trying to get Jesus to help them become better at what they do, when in fact Jesus wants to give them an entirely new life. Like Mary Magdalene, it will take a personal encounter with the words of Jesus to redirect Peter, John, and many of us to becoming his followers as opposed to his admirers.

I warn you, if you say yes to Jesus, it will cost you. You cannot do it from an armchair. C.S. Lewis famously put it this way, "Our temptation is to look eagerly for the minimum that will be accept-



ed." Jesus is not that kind of savior. As Brennan Manning says, "It takes courage to say yes to the present risenness of Jesus," not history but actually right here in front of us as we gather together in his name. We cannot fit him into the regular life. That is a part of what Jesus says in the parable about putting new wine into old wine skins. It never works, the skin bursts. Try to fit Jesus into your iPhone Day-timer. He will not be content to stay there. He is bigger, much, much bigger.

If Jesus is, in fact, resurrected from the dead, then that asks everything of us. We filled the cathedral this morning, but there are plenty of people on the planet, including maybe your neighbor, who think what we believe here is really quite foolish, if not outright dangerous. To make the willing commitment to say, "I will be His follower regardless of what Jesus asks of me, regardless of what the cost is, regardless of what he will tell me to do, regardless of what he has to say about things, about career, about how I spend my time," is an extraordinary thing to ask of anyone.

Are you up for that? That is what we are here to celebrate. That is the resurrection of Jesus, changing us and using us for a world that He is changing. Today is an invitation, not just to let go of the sins you know, but also to let go of boredom, cynicism, and a hum-drum life. Say to Him, "Okay, God, I feel entirely unprepared, but if you're calling me, I'm going to come. I will do this." See what it is that He will do, both in you and through you. ■



## AROUND THE DIOCESE

● CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT COVER

Fr Thomas Buchan, Fr. Gary Jackson, the Rev. Robin Morical, Fr. Jose Rodriguez, the Rev. Jada Kearns, deacons Dick Costin and Dave Aycock, and lay leaders well known to and involved in our diocese.

With Diocesan Convention's recent approval, the Church of the Incarnation became a Parish, an example of encouragement to all Missions to persevere, flourish and grow. The vision became a reality!

The vision continues to grow as Incarnation operates, as Fr. Rory Harris describes it, in a "symbiotic" or "mutually beneficial" relationship and partnership with Canterbury. Operating under some church growth principles of the late Rev. Robert Schuller of the Crystal Cathedral, Orange, CA, a "find a need, and fill it" principle has been applied to creating "platforms for church growth" that groups, families and individuals can "land on" creating parish programs.

A new Hispanic ministry and service is in the works with Fr. José Rodríguez and entertainment persona and ordination candidate, Gladys Rodríguez. A youth group is a

reality with Kevin Bartle leading it. A mission to UCF students and faculty is fully launched. A Bereavement group is planned. A St. Valentine's Eve Dinner, Show, Dance drew 130 attendees to help raise funds to instal two modular classroom units near St. Augustine's Chapel for program use.

The Church of the Incarnation is a church on the move! And, we hope a symbol of encouragement in our missional diocese to "think outside the box" to create ministries of service that enrich the communities we serve, as we further The Kingdom of our wonderful Lord in His heart's dream for us. ■





# Faith & Fellowship Pictures





# Life at Incarnation Pictures







## Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida WOMEN'S RETREAT

Canterbury Retreat & Conference Center  
1601 Alafaya Trail, Oviedo, FL 32765  
April 11, 2015 @ 9:00AM - 4:00PM

Sponsored by

*The Order of the Daughters of the King*

Guest Speaker: *The Rev. Martha Horn, Province IV Asst. Chaplain*  
"The Incarnational Identity of a Disciple of Jesus Christ....Say What???"



Reverend Martha Horn, a 2010 graduate of Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, PA was ordained to the diaconate in the Diocese of South Carolina in November and is presently at St. Luke's Church, Hilton Head, SC for a season of discernment for priestly orders.

In 2012, she was installed as the assistant chaplain to Bishop William Skilton for the Province IV, Daughters of the King; an international order of prayer, service and evangelism within liturgical churches.

She also serves as a staff trainer and teacher for Victorious Ministry through Christ ([www.vmtc.org](http://www.vmtc.org)), an international healing ministry for over twenty-five years.

Her desire is to disciple the hearers, not merely teach, through theological insight as discovered by biblical knowledge. Martha is a Charleston, SC native, married to the Rev. Robert Horn, the mother of two Children and grandmother of one.

### **WORSHIP LEADER: THE REV. CANON NELSON PINDER, DIOCESAN CHAPLAIN**

The fee for this one day conference including registration, materials and lunch is \$40.00. Contact Canterbury Retreat Center for rates & information regarding overnight arrangements.

*Please print a copy of the Registration form here*

The registration fee of \$45.00 or a non refundable deposit of \$25.00 is due by mail no later than April 1st.  
(The \$20.00 balance for registration may be paid at the door.)

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### **Daughters of the King Women's Spring Retreat - April 11, 2015**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Church and City \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail application and check payable to The Order of the Daughters of the King to:  
Agnes Wichmann, 420 Cinnamon Drive, Satellite Beach 32937-3125  
Telephone: 321-773-7266 / Email: [agneswich@aol.com](mailto:agneswich@aol.com) (home)

## UBE-CFL Absalom Jones Celebration draws Central Floridians to Cathedral



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**O**n Feb. 21, The Union of Black Episcopalians-Central Florida Chapter and the Diocese of Central Florida Anti-Racism Committee and Minority Ministries Committee, helped the Diocese of Central Florida hold “A Celebration of the Life and Ministry of the Reverend Absalom Jones: Working Towards Social Justice and Reconciliation.”

The celebration was at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke, 130 North Magnolia Ave, Orlando.

The event raised funds to benefit Historically Black Colleges and Universities members Vorhees College and St. Augustine University.

The guest speaker for the event was the Reverend Dr. Martini Shaw, 17th Rector of African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas (AEST), Philadelphia, PA, the church founded by Jones in 1792 for persons of African descent to foster personal and religious freedoms and self-determination.

Fr. Jones was the first African American priest in the Episcopal Church.

Born a slave in Sussex County, Delaware, in 1746, Absalom Jones taught himself to read and write. In 1762, he was sent to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to work in his master's store; however, in the evenings, Jones attended school. In 1786, Jones met Richard Allen. They were among the first African Americans licensed to preach by the Methodist Church and served the Black members of the interracial congregation of Saint George's



Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1787 Jones and Allen, together with other black members, left St. George's, as they were tired of being segregated to a gallery and given second-class status in the congregation. They founded the Free African Society (FAS), first conceived as a non-denominational mutual aid society, to help newly freed slaves in Philadelphia.

Although they remained lifelong friends and collaborators, Jones and Allen separated over their different directions in religion. Jones and his followers desired a complete break from the Methodist. He subsequently founded African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas. On the other hand, Allen formed a new denomination, the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Jones is significant because he was a leader in the establishment of religious, educational, and social institutions for people of African descent. According to Fr. Shaw, "One cannot fully celebrate the life and ministry of the Rev. Absalom Jones, without focusing on issues of Social Justice and Reconciliation within our society. May the spirit of 'Absalom' continue to breathe within our hearts and souls".

The Reverend Dr. Martini Shaw, a native of Detroit, MI, earned the Doctorate of Ministry degree in Liturgy from the Graduate Theological Foundation, with coursework at the University of Oxford (Oxford –England), the Masters of Divinity Degree from McCormick Theological Seminary in Hyde Park (Chicago, IL) and undergraduate degrees in Psychology and Biology from Wayne State University (Detroit).

Before assuming the leadership of AEST, Fr. Shaw served as pastoral associate at St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church,



Flossmoor, IL, and then rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Chicago.

In addition to his pastoral duties, Fr. Shaw was actively involved in key Chicago community organizations and was appointed by Mayor Richard Daley to the Community Development Advisory Commission, where city planners and policy makers consulted with him on the distribution of millions of federal dollars awarded to Chicago through the Community Development Block Grants Program. Fr. Shaw also served as the Chairman of the Monitoring Commission for Desegregation Implementation for the Chicago Board of Education.

In Philadelphia, he serves on numerous boards and organizations including the Cathedral Chapter of the Philadelphia Cathedral, African American Museum of Philadelphia; Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; Union League Club of Philadelphia as well as Board of Trustees of the Episcopal Church Building Fund; Advisory Board for Black Ministries of the Episcopal Church; Advisory Board for Recruitment, Training and Deployment.

# THINGS WHICH HAD GROWN OLD ... MADE NEW

By The Rev. Reggie Kidd

I have become less impressed with my own prayers, and more reliant on the Church's. One that is sustaining me now is a prayer that is at least 1,500 years old but which seems to me fresher than tomorrow. It is a prayer that my church prays every Good Friday and at every ordination service:

*O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever, Amen.*

## SACRED MYSTERY

Sometime during the middle of the first millennium, this prayer appeared. After only 500 or so years of existence, the Church had been through a lot - and must have seemed to many people to be tired, enfeebled, old, and ready to fade away. There were early persecutions by hostile Roman emperors, the almost fatal befriending of the Church by a converted emperor, the battle over defining the oneness and threeness of deity and ditto the humanness and deity of Jesus, the disappointment that the adoption of the faith as "civil religion" failed to protect Roman society from invading armies, the emergence of a rift between Western and Eastern theological and liturgical sensibilities that was as much about "turf" as anything.

Even so, through this anonymous prayer, our forebears acknowledged that the Church wasn't their invention, but God's. That she was a Bride beloved of a Divine Groom. She is what the apostle Paul described as "a mystery" (Eph. 5:32) planted in the world as a picture of Divine Love. Because she is God's creation, not ours, our heresies haven't killed her, nor have our schisms. Yes, it's our responsibility to respond well to Jesus' question

*"The human story is that God is working to make all things new."*

"When the Son of Man appears, will he find faith on the earth?" Nonetheless, He is so much at work among us that, one way or another, He will make sure the question is answered in the affirmative.

## GOD'S GOT THIS

The human story is that God is working to make all things new. If history seems to be going the wrong way, we don't have to worry that God has either forgotten or lost his punch. The resurrection of his Son is his promise that all will one day rise - it can't not happen. If we don't see the Church rising to the task to which she is called, it's because we're not looking hard enough. If the candle goes out here (say, Turkey after the rise of Islam, or Europe since the so-called Enlightenment), the light will get lit elsewhere (say, Russia way back when, or Africa more recently). If the gospel becomes just another "product" in the U.S., it will become a transformative engine in Korea or China.

## REVERSING THE OUTCOME

At the very moment demons howled at Jesus on the cross, the earth shook with what the ancient Church took to be the breaking of the power of death and hell and Satan himself. At the Cross, Divine Justice and Mercy embraced - and the beginning of the renewal of all things set in. As Paul would write: "He brought life and immortality to light" (2 Tim 1:10). "Christianity has died many times and risen again; for it had [has] a God who knew the way out of the grave," borrowing from G. K. Chesterton.



When turmoil reigned in the ancient Church, God raised up Augustine to articulate a philosophy of the City of God, a Gregory to teach the Church a "new song," a Cyril to contribute liturgical coherence. When medieval Christendom was sliding into decadence and either indifference or moralism, God called a Francis to rebuild a broken-down countryside church building- and Francis realized God meant to rebuild his whole Church through repentance and love and care for the poor. While the 20th century American church was selling its soul for "relevance" and market share and while the European church was shuttering cathedrals or selling them as skate parks or shopping malls, God was sending a nun to find Jesus in the slums of India.

We have yet to see what miracles God will do through other Augustines, Gregories, Francises, and Therasas. Meanwhile, I'm grateful for words bigger than my own to ask God what I know he wants to - and surely will do: raise up "things which were cast down" and renew "things which had become old." This article was originally published in the March/April issue of Worship Leader magazine. Visit [worshipleader.com](http://worshipleader.com) for more information.

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*Camp Wingmann:*  
**YOUNG FAITH GROWING IN  
CENTRAL FLORIDA**



# Greetings IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!

**G**od continues to bless many members of our diocesan family at Camp Wingmann, “a fun place for kids to come and know and grow in Christ”. I have seen the faith of children and teenagers blossom after just one week together, as a rector encouraging children and teenagers to attend, as chaplain at Camp St. Francis, serving two of those summers with my colleague and current Camp Director Deke Miller, and as a father, rejoicing in the growing faith of my own adult children, who served as counselors and kitchen staff during Camp Wingmann’s re-birth, made possible through the vision and faith of Bill and Joanie Yates, their family and friends, and people and parishes like yours who have restored life to one cabin after another.

I am honored to serve as the new president of the board as we begin to discern God’s call to renovate the original mess hall, recently christened Yates Hall, enabling us to serve more young people, even as we consider ways of adding adult programming throughout the year that will be consistent with our rural setting in a small, more adult-friendly Lodge, as I did with my own vestry last month and the late-summer ‘Rally Sunday’ services and picnics our parish enjoyed several years ago, just two examples of the ways Camp Wingmann is available to groups, complimenting, but not competing, with what Canterbury Retreat and Conference Center contributes to adult formation in our diocese.

I heard the call to ordained ministry at a diocesan camp similar to Camp Wingmann. Returning summer after summer to that Christian community of children, teenagers and adults, both lay and ordained, I discovered the wonders of God’s grace and the reality of the Body of Christ. May Camp Wingmann always be a fun place for the identification, nurture and development of leaders who will be able to help brothers and sisters in the faith stand up under the storms of life when they strike, no less than Camp Wingmann has withstood the natural storms, like Hurricane Charlie, that have assaulted it from time to time, built as it is on the sure foundation of Christ.

With a grateful heart for the past and a hopeful spirit for Camp Wingmann’s future, I am

Sincerely,  
The Rev. Thomas C. Seitz, Jr.,  
President of the Board ■



## CAMP WINGMANN, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2015

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# What is **CAMP WINGMANN** all About?

**T**he ministry of Camp Wingman is simply to provide programs, activities and a place that bring people, especially kids, closer to Christ. We like to say that we provide a safe and fun place where kids of all ages can come to meet and grow in Christ. From the sunrise over Trout Lake to the majestic oak trees that provide the shade our beautiful campus is a constant reminder of the beauty of God's creation. The camp itself sits on forty-two acres on Trout Lake and has six cabins, an activity Hall (Yates Hall), All Angel's Chapel, a Lake House, and a lodge, which is used as our kitchen. Louttit Lodge is unique in that it was designed by a student of Frank Loyd Wright.

Our vision for the future is to expand our offerings to the Diocese through our own Camp programs and events, but also through the youth programs that we host. Our Summer Camp program is, by far, the largest of our programs with six weeks of camps and a staff week. Last year (2014) we hosted close to four hundred kids from all over the Diocese and from South Florida. We also provide two other camps during the year, our Family Camp in April and our Winter Camp in January. Family camp provides an opportunity for families to come and experience what we do in the summer. Parents are invited to come and stay with their children during this time. Our Winter Camp is a time when kids come to get a spiritual boost in the middle of the year.

Camp Wingmann is also a place where Diocesan youth events can occur. We are a part of the Diocese of Central Florida and I like to think that our

programs and offerings enhance ministries already going on in the Churches. So, Diocesan youth events are very important for us. As of now, we host two middle school renewal weekends called New Beginnings, one in March and one in September. We are also very excited about the opportunity to host a high school weekend in November called 'Happening'. If you are curious about these events please visit our website [www.campwingmann.org](http://www.campwingmann.org) or the Diocese of Central Florida website under the youth section.

Last but not least, Camp Wingmann is a place where churches and non-profit groups can come and hold their own events. We have hosted vestry retreats, high school education programs, men's retreats, and youth group retreats. If you would like for us to host your Church or your group please contact us at 863-453-4800 for details.

How are we able to do all of this while being affordable? We do this as a ministry and as with most ministries, we need people who are willing to give of their time, treasure, and talent. We survive and thrive on the support of donors. Over seventy percent of our income comes from church and individual donors. I encourage you to come and check out all we do and offer. Camp Wingmann is more than just a beautiful place in an 'old Florida' setting. It is a safe and fun place for kids (yes, kids young and old) to come and meet and grow in Christ.■

*Train children in the right way, and when they are old, they will not stray.*

*Proverbs 22:6*





# A History of Camp Wingmann

By The Rev. Bill Yates



The Rt. Rev. John D. Wing

*“Since the beginning of Camp Wingmann, it has had a special place in the hearts of those who went there. There was always lots of fun and crazy times.”*



The Rt. Rev. Cameron Mann

**T**he first Camp Wing-Mann was a weeklong retreat for high school age Episcopalians held in 1928 at Moccasin Island, a few miles west of Davie, Florida in the Everglades. The place was primitive with little shade. There was a pool filled with black water and lots of mosquitoes. There was singing and chapel time, Christian education, and lots of fun and games and in spite of the primitive setting, bugs and heat, everyone had a great time! The adult leaders included a layman from Tampa, Morton Nace, and a young priest from Ft. Lauderdale, the Rev. Henry Louttit. The teens called them “Uncle Morty” and “Pop Louttit”. The camp was named after two bishops of the Episcopal Diocese of South Florida: Cameron Mann, who was bishop from 1914 to 1932 and John Wing, who was assistant bishop (coadjutor) from 1925 to 1932, and then became diocesan bishop in 1932 until 1950.

The next two or three years, Camp Wing-Mann was held at Crystal River on the Gulf coast. Enthusiasm was high among the young people who attended and more came each summer. In 1932, the camp was held at a hotel in Avon Park, Florida, and then for the next four summers they rented Lake Byrd Lodge on the outskirts of Avon Park. The lodge was a rustic, three-story log structure reminiscent of the Old Faithful Inn in Yellowstone National Park. During the years the camp was at Lake Byrd Lodge, two other sessions were added: Camp Perry for young boys and Camp St. Mary for young girls. The high school camp continued to be called Camp Wing-Mann.

In 1937, Lake Byrd Lodge was not available for the summer camp, so it was moved to the Florida Military Institute in Haines City for one year. In the meantime, the Diocese of South Florida, at the request of Bishop Wing, was looking for a permanent location. The search was fulfilled when

John Sears Francis, senior warden at the Church of the Redeemer in Avon Park, and his wife gave the diocese some property outside the little town on Trout Lake.

Now the diocese began a fund raising campaign to provide money for building a permanent facility. However, times were hard. Florida was still in the grips of the depression and giving was slow. Lacking a suitable location, there was no summer camp in 1938. Finally by the spring of 1939, the large sum of \$16,000 had been raised. Construction commenced and soon rustic buildings with yellow pine framework and cypress board and batten exteriors were erected. Serving on the building committee were Pop Louttit, Uncle Morty and the rector of Redeemer, Avon Park, the Rev. Richard I. Brown. The new camp now had a Mess Hall with kitchen, five cabins, a caretaker cottage and a pump house. With great joy youngsters flooded to the camp that summer which was now called



# HISTORY OF CAMP WINGMANN



Camp Wingmann 1939 Camp St. Mark



Camp St. Mary 1939

Camp Wingmann. In 1939, the camp settled into its permanent new home.

As the population of Florida grew in the coming years, so did the attendance at Camp Wingmann and the number of camp sessions. By 1960, there were seven sessions, each named after a saint: Camp St. Mark was for 11th and 12th graders, Camp St. Barnabas was for students entering 9th and 10th grades, Camp St. Ann for 7th and 8th grade girls, Camp St. Paul had 7th and 8th grade boys, Camp St. Mary campers were 4th through 6th grade girls, and camp St. Andrew had 4th through 6th grade boys as campers. There was also a camp for underprivileged high school boys and girls who were not Episcopalians. It was called Camp St. Francis and every young person who came received a scholarship by a local Episcopal Church. Camps at the time ran either 8 or 12 days in length and cost \$26 and \$39 respectively.

During the 1950's, a chapel called All Angels' Chapel was built as a memorial to the service men and women from South Florida who had given their lives in World War II and Korea, and a house for the director was constructed.

In 1959, the Diocese under its new bishop, the Rt. Rev. Henry Louttit, now called "Super Pop" by the kids, began another fund raising drive which produced four new buildings in 1960. A gym called the "Rec Hall", another cabin, and a new house for the camp director (since the previous director's house was now a small monastery for Franciscan Friars) were all built. In addition, a large conference center with a small kitchen, chapel and rooms for 60 adults was built. The conference center has unique architecture and was designed by Mr. Howell, a student of Frank Lloyd Wright. It was named for Bishop Henry Louttit.

In September of that year, Hurricane Donna ripped through Florida passing right over the

*"Starting in 2000, the summer camp program was restarted and has earned the reputation as being 'the best summer church camp anywhere!' Children and youth"*

camp. The old buildings weathered the storm but the new ones were not so lucky. The new director's house lost half its roof and the side walls and windows of the rec hall were blown out. Luckily, the steel frame and roof of the rec hall remained intact and the damaged buildings were quickly repaired. In spite of the hurricane, the decade of the '60's was probably the heyday of Camp Wingmann. All sessions were at capacity and many kids not only had lots of fun, but they learned to love the Lord Jesus, too!

However, as time moved along, attendance began to shrink. In the 1970's, church camps were not as popular. By the late '70's, Camp Wingmann and the Louttit Conference Center were losing money. The Episcopal Diocese of South Florida had split into three dioceses and now Camp Wingmann was located on the south end of the new Diocese of Central Florida. Previously the camp had been supported by the old diocese which had stretched from Ocala to Key West. But with the division of the diocese in 1970, not as many kids came because the new dioceses of Southeast and Southwest Florida had their own programs. Nineteen seventy-eight was a particularly bad year financially and the Diocese had to pay the large deficit. Diocesan convention in the spring of 1979 decided to sell the property and use the proceeds to build a new conference center and youth camp near the center of the diocese (Orlando). So the old property was sold to the Christian Missionary Alliance denomination. After a few years, it was resold to David Wilkerson's organization, Teen Challenge, and then was again quickly sold to Tri County Rehabilitation Services who used the old camp as a drug rehab facility serving teens and adults. They called the place Trout Lake Camp. Meanwhile, the summer church camp program of the diocese went dormant.

Then in the spring of 1998, a small group of former campers heard that the old Camp Wingmann property was for sale. The Rev. Canon Bill Yates, Canon to the Ordinary in the Diocese of Florida, his brother, Dr. Davis Yates, and a good friend, architect John White, and with the concurrence of their wives, felt inspired by God to get the camp back for the children of Central Florida. With the help of the Bishop of Central Florida, The Rt. Rev. John Howe, his Canon to the Ordinary, the Rev. Canon Ernie Bennett, and his Youth





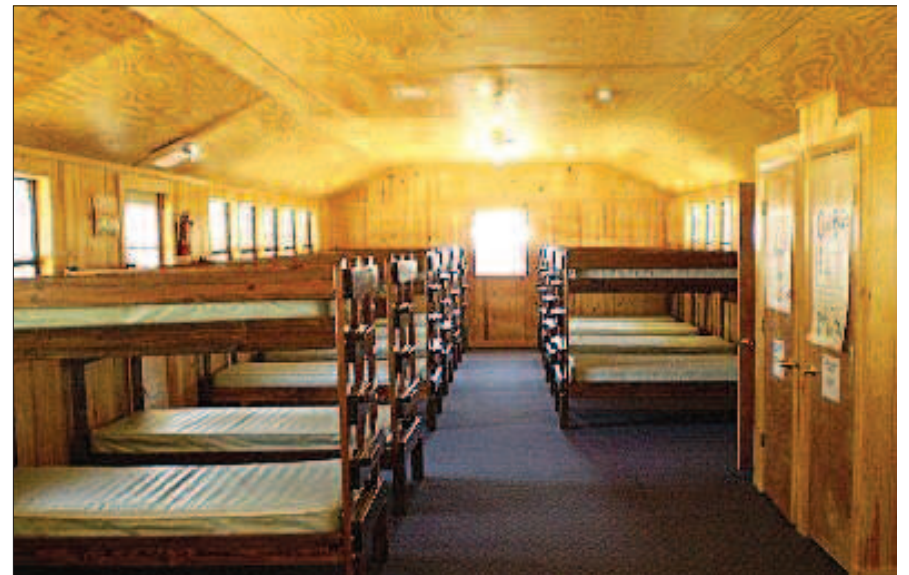


# Restoring Campus Pictures





# Pictures of Campus Today





## MUSIC FEST

By Erick Perez

On Saturday March 7th, Camp Wingmann held its first annual **MUSIC FEST EVENT**. Hosted by Fr. Deke Miller and CampWingmann, an eclectic collection of performers from all over the Diocese showed up to play instruments, sing, and entertain the audience present.

**THE MUSIC FESTIVAL** is another fun way for us to raise money. Come and enjoy praise bands, gospel music, choirs, soloists and more. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and relax and enjoy some great music, fellowship, and of course our beautiful campus.

Those groups were:

1. Kevin Bartle and Co., composed of members of Church of the Incarnation and St. Jude's
2. The Camp Wingmann Band
3. David Leonard and the Youth Group from Church of Our Savior, Palm Bay
4. Acoustic duo – Frank and Rick
5. The Steel Drum Orchestra of St. John's in Kissimmee■

**KEVIN  
BARTLE  
AND CO.**



**THE CAMP  
WINGMANN  
BAND**



**DAVID  
LEONARD  
& THE  
YOUTH  
GROUP**



**ACOUSTIC  
DUO**



**THE STEELE  
DRUM  
ORCHESTRA**





# CAMP WINGMAN ELEMENTARY PICTURES









FAMILY CAMP is a time where kids and their parents can come and check out what we do during the summer. More importantly, it is a time where families can bond together in a safe, fun, and Christian environment. Families have a great time playing games and sports, kayaking, doing arts and crafts, making sand sculptures on the beach, and having s'mores around a campfire while gazing at the stars. They have a great time worshiping the Lord with lots of singing in the chapel. They also enjoy delicious home cooked meals and families don't have to cook or wash the dishes! It is a time to relish being a family together while seeing what kids do at camp. ■





## CAMP WINGMANN GOLF TOURNAMENT

# GOLF TOURNAMENT

Our annual Camp Wingmann Golf Tournament is a fun way for us to raise funds for programs. In this event we have golf players of all levels come out for a day of fun and fellowship. We offer hole-in-one prizes such as \$10,000 cash, airfare for two to great vacation destinations, golf clubs, and even televisions. We also host a post tournament dinner at the lodge where we give door prizes and reflect on the day. There are several levels of sponsorships you can choose from that include a sign with your business or your personal name and complimentary rounds of golf.

The tournament is held on River Greens Golf Course next door to the camp. It is a par-72, 18-hole golf course that can measure 6,400 yards from the back tees. It was designed by Jack Kidwell and opened for play in 1969. The finish is outstanding with 3 par 5's out of the last 4 holes, they are a long hitters dream finish. ■





# SUMMER CAMP WINGMAN



## Camp Wingmann Summer Camp 2015

Camp St. Mark: June 7-12, 2015  
Senior High Age Campers entering grades 9-12

Camp St. Barnabas: June 14-19, 2015  
Middle School Campers entering grades 6-8

Camp Trinity: June 21-26, 2015  
Elementary Age Campers entering grades 3-5

Camp St. Peter: July 5-10, 2015  
Senior High School Age Campers entering grades 9-12

Camp St. Francis: July 12-17, 2015  
Middle School Age Campers entering grades 6-8

Camp St. Mary: July 19-24, 2015  
Elementary Age Campers entering grades 3-5

### REGULAR CAMP FEES

Each session costs \$330 per camper, which includes a T-shirt. A non-refundable deposit of \$75 is due with your registration form. The balance of \$255 will be due upon arrival.

**FAMILY DISCOUNT:** Second campers from the same family may attend for \$305.

**REPEAT DISCOUNT:** Campers are welcome to come to both sessions for their age group. Attend the second session for only \$305.

### REGISTRATION

You may register and pay online at [www.campwingmann.org](http://www.campwingmann.org) or mail in your registration. Both methods require a nonrefundable deposit of \$75.00. Registration opens on Jan. 12, 2015.

### REGISTRATION DEADLINE

Registrations are due 1 week prior to each camp session.

CAMP WINGMANN is located on forty-two beautiful acres wrapping around Trout Lake about four miles north of Avon Park. Our cabins have that "old Florida" feel but are air conditioned and very clean. Our Summer Camp program is our claim to fame. Here kids come and enjoy good food, great fellowship, and a time of knowing and growing in Christ.

We believe that being a Christian is fun. Therefore, every session has lots of games and camp activities as well as daily chapel and times of Bible study and lively worship. Our

activities include swimming, kayaking, sailing, basketball, archery, ropes course and more.

Safety is a major concern and all camp sessions are staffed with Christian college-aged counselors, adult program directors, Episcopal priests as chaplains, and an on campus nurse. We follow the 'two counselors' per cabin rule and our campers are never without their group. Our counselors are trained in basic first-aid, Safe Guarding God's Children and go through a thorough background check through the Diocese. ■

### What is Camp Wingmann in the Summer?

- It is young people having fun and learning how much Jesus loves them
- It is children splashing in Trout Lake while sailboats drift by looking like giant, colorful butterflies
- It is the sound of young voices loudly singing God's praises during worship in All Angel's Chapel
- It is the sound of basketballs being dribbled and shot in the gym
- It is boisterous conversations as campers stuff their faces with candy and ice cream during canteen
- It is cheering and screaming as cabins compete in silly games and olympic competitions
- It is smiling faces sitting down to home cooked, all-you-can-eat meals
- It is clergy in shorts playing dodge ball with the kids
- It is gorgeous sunsets of red and pink and blue
- It is waking up and looking bleary eyed at a colorful sunrise over the lake as you lie in a top bunk
- It is going down the zip line screaming your head off!
- It is sharing your heart with cabin mates during devotions before bed









# 2015 Annual Camp Wingmann Events

## **January – Winter Camp**

A chance for middle school and high school students to get together for a spiritual boost.

## **February – Camp Wingmann Golf Tournament**

This is a fund-raiser for the camp filled with fun and golf players of all levels.

## **March – Music Festival**

Spend the day with us on our beautiful campus enjoying praise bands, gospel music, choirs, soloists and more.

## **New Beginnings**

This is a weekend designed to respond to issues, concerns and the spiritual needs of middle school students, it is for kids ages approx. 12-15 years old.

## **April – Family Camp, April 10-11, 2015**

Spend a weekend bonding with your family at a fun, Christian camp.

## **June & July – Summer Camp, June 7- July 24, 2015**

This is a fun and safe place for kids to come and know and grow in Christ.

## **September – New Beginnings – Fall, September 25-27, 2015**

This is a weekend designed to respond to issues, concerns and the spiritual needs of middle school students, it is for kids ages approx. 12-15 years old.

## **November – Happenings, November 13-15, 2015**

This is a spiritual renewal weekend for high school students. Here they have the opportunity to work with their peers on their walk with Christ in a fun, safe, Christian environment.

## **Men's Retreat, November 6-8, 2015**

This is a time when men come together to explore the masculine side of God while hanging out with the guys. It is a time for men to seek God call on their lives, pray for healing for themselves or others, and seek God's guidance. ■



## CAMP WINGMANN MENS RETREAT

# ANNUAL MEN'S RETREAT

A few years ago several clergymen in the Diocese of Central Florida came together and started our annual men's retreat. The idea was to provide a place and an event where men could have a time of spiritual renewal with other men. During this weekend we provide an opportunity for them to explore the masculine side of God and to learn about what it means to be a man biblically.

Last year, for example, the theme of the weekend was 'David: Forgotten Son/Anointed One'. During this retreat we explored the good, the bad, and the ugly of David's life with God. In this time we learned that even David had failings and that God loved him and loves us even in the darkest of times.

This event is held usually in November and is for men young and old. Information about our 2015 retreat will be coming out in the fall. For more information please contact Fr. Deke at [campwingmann@gmail.com](mailto:campwingmann@gmail.com). ■





# CAMP WINGMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL PICTURES



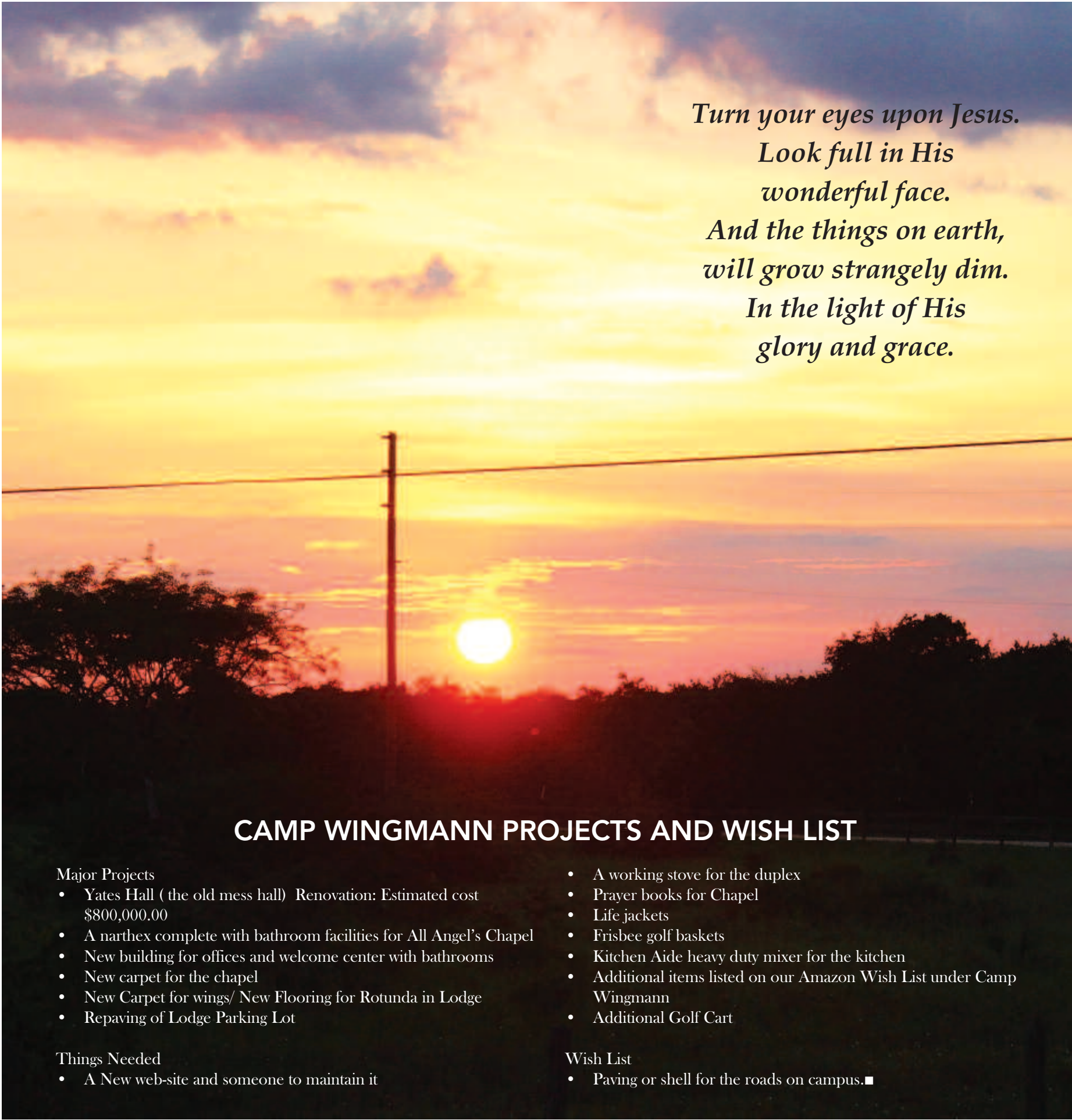


# WINTER CAMP

This is a chance for middle school and high school students to get together for a spiritual boost. Most of the campers are past summer camp attendees. They come together in January for singing, ropes, sports, line dancing, star gazing and building their relationship with Christ. This past January is the third time we have held winter camp and we had 47 campers attend. It's all the fun of summer camp but in cooler weather!■







*Turn your eyes upon Jesus.  
Look full in His  
wonderful face.  
And the things on earth,  
will grow strangely dim.  
In the light of His  
glory and grace.*

## CAMP WINGMANN PROJECTS AND WISH LIST

### Major Projects

- Yates Hall ( the old mess hall) Renovation: Estimated cost \$800,000.00
- A narthex complete with bathroom facilities for All Angel's Chapel
- New building for offices and welcome center with bathrooms
- New carpet for the chapel
- New Carpet for wings/ New Flooring for Rotunda in Lodge
- Repaving of Lodge Parking Lot

### Things Needed

- A New web-site and someone to maintain it

- A working stove for the duplex
- Prayer books for Chapel
- Life jackets
- Frisbee golf baskets
- Kitchen Aide heavy duty mixer for the kitchen
- Additional items listed on our Amazon Wish List under Camp Wingmann
- Additional Golf Cart

### Wish List

- Paving or shell for the roads on campus.■



## AROUND THE DIOCESE



● CONTINUED FROM THE FRONT COVER

“When we started with this work and the church had only one child and hardly any teenagers, Fr. Kevin received an anonymous donation, and together with the vestry they decided on investing this money into hiring us to help start a youth program with the children living in a government-assisted housing project one block away from St Anne’s.” “Our youth ministry is in every sense an effort of the Church,” Fr. Holsapple said. “It is very churchy in its approach, content, and objectives: teaching young people the faith, training them to be acolytes.”

“It’s also an effort of the church, in the sense that there is no one member of one group doing all the work,” he said. This is a ministry involving every group in the parish, Fr. Holsapple said. In the early years, while the youth group was still small, each member of Vestry “adopted” a youth group member, taking that young person to a shop to buy an Easter outfit.

“Now the group is grown so large, our vestry couldn’t afford to do that!” Fr. Holsapple said. The Daughters of the King stuff Christmas stockings for every child. Members from the Episcopal Church Women spent last summer teaching some of the girls how to sew. A retired teacher comes to the youth meetings to coach the kids in reading lessons at the Sunday mass. Of course, buying cassocks for all these acolytes takes lots of money, so hats get passed on a regular basis.

Above all, a core group of dedicated youth leaders, men and women, devote many hours to the kids and to their families. This devoted lay leadership is the key, Fr. Holsapple said. “Really, EVERYBODY here is a part of youth ministry,” he said. “People at St. Anne’s love these kids, and the kids can feel it.” St. Anne’s strategy was to use the gifts of the church and its liturgical identity to reach out to the unchurched, Fr. Dass said.

St. Anne’s is a traditional Anglo-Catholic parish, and at that time, the median age of members was 60 and above.

“We started off going around the neighborhood in order to know its dynamics,” Fr. Dass said. “The housing complex looked abandoned and isolated. Most people were locked up in their tiny apartments. We went door-to-door letting people know about the community meals held at St. Anne’s on a weekly basis. The purpose was to make our presence visible in this community. We were also looking for ministerial opportunities. We found bedridden people and many children who were left alone most of the time. We brought Communion to the sick and prayed with some people at their invitation and request. Then the children started appearing at the meals. Interestingly, they were from the neighborhood where most of the people slammed their doors on us. We got to know the children by name and sat and ate with them at every meal. They went to these meals without their parents.”

“Mary was actively involved as well,” Fr. Dass said. “We knocked on doors together. Today, after five years, they have 40 children.

Bishop Brewer said the program could be a model to others. St. Anne’s was “getting a pretty good stream of new retirees; they had no children whatsoever,” Bishop Brewer said. “It began with pizza nights and things like that, and it emerged into this huge feeding program because kids would show up and say, ‘this is my meal for the day.’”

“Most of these children had never, ever been inside a church in their whole life,” Bishop Brewer said. As acolytes, “They knew their stuff. It was phenomenal. How does a high Anglo-Catholic evangelize their poor neighbors?” Clearly, St. Anne’s has the right answer!



The Bishop's Conference on *Faith & Work*  
*Connecting Your Work to God's Work*

May 29 - 30, 2015

*Keynote Speaker*

**Katherine Leary Alsdorf**, Founder and Director Emeritus of the Center for Faith & Work at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City



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*The Rt. Rev.*  
**Gregory O. Brewer**  
Bishop of Central Florida

*The Rev. Canon*  
**Dr. Justin S. Holcomb**  
Canon for Vocations  
Diocese of Central Florida



**Katherine Leary Alsdorf**  
Contributor to the book  
*Every Good Endeavor* and leader in  
the *Theology of Work*.

Having founded CFW in 2002, Katherine served as its Executive Director until December 2012. In this role, she set the vision and strategy of the Center's core programs, developed lay and staff leadership, and guided strategic partnerships. Prior to this ministry role, Katherine spent twenty years in the high tech industry in California and New York. She was CEO of Pensare, an online management education company; CEO of One Touch Systems, a hardware/software products company; and President of Private Satellite Network, a satellite services company. She also worked in various consulting, sales and marketing roles, primarily in the technology sector.



“

*“And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”*

Colossians 3:17

*“One of the greatest disconnects for this generation is how life and work fit together. There is a need to talk about purpose in life, and calling. We need to provide a stronger theology of work to help them make integrate connections to their daily lives.”*

David Kinnaman

”

## Registration

Commuter \$100  
Double Occupancy \$150  
Single Occupancy \$175

Name as you would like it to appear on your name tag:

First: \_\_\_\_\_

Last: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

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You can register online with a credit card [www.canterburyretreat.org](http://www.canterburyretreat.org) OR complete this registration form and mail payment to:

1601 Alafaya Trail (SR434)  
Oviedo, FL 32765

For multiple registrations, please copy this form & complete one for each attendee.



# the RESURRECTED LIFE

## MAKING ALL THINGS NEW

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ changes everything – once and for all.

In an instant, a cosmic metamorphosis takes place transforming our future from bondage to freedom, darkness to light, sin to righteousness, and death to life. God the Father would bind us to His Son in His death so that we might be united with Him in His Resurrection.

Each of the 7 sessions covers a different aspect of our new life in Christ:

- *All Things New*
- *New Life*
- *New Temple*
- *New Body*
- *New Covenant*
- *New Creation*
- *New Day*



“*The Resurrected Life: Making All Things New* invites us into a short-term but intentional journey with others. And this journey is an adventure well worth taking... The miracle is that God uses these activities to reveal His Son and help us, amazingly, to see where and how His Son is at work in us.”

– The Rt. Rev. Gregory O. Brewer  
Excerpted from the Foreword  
of *The Resurrected Life*



The perfect small-group study  
to follow Easter. For more  
information and to order  
your materials visit:  
[ChristianLifeTrilogy.com](http://ChristianLifeTrilogy.com)



# The Resurrected Life: Making All Things New

## A small-group study for the season of Easter

**N**ew Life! It's something we all want. But how do we find it? Jesus promised, "I have come that you might have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10).

The Bible promises that those who are in Christ are "new creatures." But how does that transformation take place? This unique Easter-season curriculum provides a space in which we can discover what it truly means to live a new life. In *The Resurrected Life*, we'll learn how the resurrection of Jesus Christ changes everything—for us.

"Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15)

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ changes everything—once and for all. In an instant, a cosmic metamorphosis took place transforming our future from bondage to freedom, darkness to light, sin to righteousness, and death to life. God the Father would bind us to His Son in His death so that we might be united with Him in His Resurrection. Where Jesus went, we will go.

*The Resurrected Life* is the second study in *The Christian Life Trilogy*, which includes *The Crucified Life*, *The Resurrected Life* and the *Spirit-Filled Life*. Each study includes a teaching DVD, small-group study guide and individual Devotional book. *The Christian Life Trilogy* was conceived and written by The Rev. Charlie Holt, pastor of St. Peter's in Lake Mary, Florida. The idea grew from a longing of Charlie's to create a teaching on "the Seven Words from the Cross" to use during Lent. It was originally presented as a Lent sermon series at St. Peter's in 2014. The response was so powerful, Charlie expanded it, adding *The Resurrected Life* and *The Spirit-Filled Life*, based around the liturgical calendar of the church. The filming was done at The Cathedral Church of St. Luke in Orlando, and features testimonies and commentary from area pastors and lay people.

During Lent, 40 congregations around the world took up the cross in *The Crucified Life* small-group study. *The Crucified Life* is about dying to self and

picking up our cross daily. *The Resurrected Life* is about how we walk in the light of our future Resurrection now.

*The Resurrected Life* series is an invitation to begin an exciting journey of seeking more life and more abundance from God by walking in all that is new in Jesus. The theme of this devotional journey into the "Resurrected Life" is "Making All Things New." Whether your congregation participated in *The Crucified Life* during Lent – or not – *The Resurrected Life* is the perfect small-group study for the season of Easter, leading up to Pentecost. *The Resurrected Life* is written to coincide with the liturgical calendar; it will bring your congregation into alignment and unity, making sense of the relationship of Jesus' Crucifixion to our new life in His Resurrection.

Each week, we will think about the new reality that was unsealed and opened to us by the empty tomb that leads to:

### • All Things New

Session 1 explores how Christ revealed His presence to His disciples and how He reveals Himself to us today. It also talks about ways to address—honestly and with compassion—the doubts we or others may have, and the blessings Christ has promised to those who believe.

### • New Life

Session 2 delves into why we cling to old patterns and sins, even after receiving the Light of Christ. What will it mean to us to live as people who have been healed? What might an abundant life in Christ look like for us?

### • New Temple

Most of us have heard the mysterious teaching that our bodies are "temples of the Lord." Session 3 of *The Resurrected Life*, explores the idea of Christ as cornerstone, and how we as a church were created to be a new, unified temple that brings living water to a parched world.

### • New Body

In session 4 of *The Resurrected Life*, we will explore the truth that Christ not only cares about our spiritual selves, but about our physical bodies too. Our physical bodies might seem like a mundane topic, given the deeper nature of more traditional spiritual matters in previous sessions, such as the Holy Spirit's ongoing work in and through us. But Jesus deeply cares about the way we care for our bodies; when we use them well, we glorify God.

### • New Covenant

Throughout the Bible, God makes covenants with His people. After the flood, He promised Noah that He would never again destroy the earth with a flood. To Abraham, God made a covenant that His descendants would outnumber the stars.

The "new covenant" that we explore in session 5 of *The Resurrected Life* is not made between God and an individual, but between God and all believers. God promises forgiveness and a restored relationship with Himself through Christ's sacrifice and resurrection.

### • New Creation

We will examine God's original design for creation, how our sin has distorted that plan, and how, together, we can work to renew and restore the communities and world in which we live in session 6.

### • New Day

The final session of *The Resurrected Life* gives us glimpse Christ's ascension—both from the point of view of the eleven Apostles who were present to witness it, as well as from that of the Old Testament prophet Daniel who, amazingly, was given a "sneak preview" of the event.

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then He said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." —(Revelation 21:5)

We invite you to engage in *The Resurrected Life* this Easter Season. For more information and to order small-group study materials, visit: [christianlifetriology.com](http://christianlifetriology.com).

## WANTED: Executive Assistant to the Bishop of Central Florida

The Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida seeks an energetic, detail-oriented person who has a passion for excellence to support the Bishop in an Executive Assistant capacity. The Diocese of Central Florida is in a vibrant and growing region of the country and presents many opportunities to serve church members, prospective members and the wider community.

FOR DETAILS, SEE:  
[tinyurl.com/dcfadmin](http://tinyurl.com/dcfadmin)



# The Rev. F. John Kelly: New Ministry in The Villages

In October, Bishop Greg and Laura Lee Brewer visited St. George Episcopal Church, the Villages, to celebrate the new ministry of the Rev. John Kelly, his wife, Tish, and the people of St. George.

The Rev. F. John Kelly began service as Rector of St. George Episcopal Church in September, 2014. Before that, he served at Trinity Church, Troy, New York for 10 years. Fr. John has also served in other parishes in Troy, Newark, NY, Watertown, NY., and in Pennsylvania.

While serving at the Church of the Epiphany in Clarks Summit, PA, Fr. Kelly helped establish a school and health clinic for the Batwa Pygmies in Uganda. At St. John's Church in Troy, NY, he raised funds for a school in Lascahobas, Haiti. He has been Chaplain for several Youth Mission trips to Ireland during his time in the Diocese of Albany.

A native of Syracuse, NY, Fr. John attended Houghton College where he studied Creative Writing and Journalism. Prior to seminary, he worked as a sales rep in the pharmaceutical industry. He graduated with a Masters in Divinity from Virginia Theological Seminary in 1986. Fr. Kelly did further study in Spiritual Formation at Asbury Seminary in Wilmore, KY. Fr. John has been ordained a priest for 27 years.

Fr. John has served as faculty member of the Diocesan Deacon Formation program in the Diocese of Albany. He has served as a member of the Commission on Ministry in the dioceses of Albany and Bethlehem. He has been a member of the Albany Diocesan Healing Team and has led various workshops to teach others to serve as Healing ministers in the Church. He enjoys the opportunity to serve on Cursillo weekends.

Fr. John and his wife Tish have been married for 36 years. They have four grown children: Matt (married to Nicole), Brian, Chris, and Colleen. He will be happy to show you pictures of his grandson, Joshua. He enjoys reading American history, genealogy, cooking, playing Irish Whistle, and cheering on the Syracuse Orangemen.

At the St. George Annual Meeting, Fr. John shared some little-known facts about himself and Tish, including the fact that they are fans of the Canadian singer Gordon Lightfoot.



Bishop Brewer with Fr. John and Tish Kelly





Fr. John said feels a real call to the healing ministry at St. George. He and staff are in the hospital five days a week. This will continue to be a focus. Since taking the helm, he has met with all the ministries and is active with OSL, wanting to increase their visibility with the healing ministry at St. George.

The Brotherhood of St. Andrew is another focus and ways to enhance that ministry will be explored by lay and clergy leaders.

The church is responding to Bishop Brewer's call for Central Florida Episcopalians to move out into the community with more outreach programs. St. George has a number of such programs, including The Women's Guild, whose semiannual fund raisers provide assistance to several area organizations. The Daughters of the King provide funeral receptions as requested. Bishop Brewer also supports the church's renewal of its outreach to Haiti.



# Middle East Primate Asks Prayers for Persecuted Christians

**T**he Most Rev. Dr. Mouneer Hannah Anis, Archbishop of the Episcopal / Anglican Diocese of Egypt with North Africa and the Horn of Africa, and Primate of the Episcopal / Anglican Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East, was in Central Florida the week of Feb. 22, visiting with friends Laura Lee and Bishop Greg Brewer, and attending a meeting of international bishops at Canterbury Retreat, Oviedo.

Archbishop Anis asked Central Florida Episcopalians to pray for Christians who are dying for their faith in the Middle East, as extremists escalate their attacks on groups and individuals. He also commented on a pastoral letter he wrote in Mid-February.

“My main interest is in the killings that are going on with our Christians,” Archbishop Anis said after services at Holy Faith Episcopal Church, Port St. Lucie. “I would say, please pray for the families of these people who have been lost in such a brutal way, and pray that Egypt will be able to rise above this inhumanity. Pray for Egypt in its fight against terrorism. Pray for the church, because this massacre has devastated the lives of many people.”

## ARCHBISHOP MOUNEER ANIS ISSUES LETTER ON EGYPT'S MURDERED CHRISTIANS POSTED FEB. 16

*Dear friends,*

*It is with great sadness I write you today about the heinous murder of 21 Egyptian Christians at the hand of the so-called Islamic State branch in Libya.*

*These men from the Upper Egyptian city of Samalout are no different from thousands of other Muslim and Christian Egyptians in Libya, seeking employment to support their families back home. Except that these 21 were specifically chosen for their Christian faith.*

*The video of their beheading expressed the Islamic State's intention to increasingly target the Copts of Egypt.*

*This morning the Egyptian government launched airstrikes on Islamic State positions, declared a week of mourning, banned further travel to Libya, and will work to facilitate the return of all Egyptian citizens.*

*The foreign minister has been dispatched to the United Nations to discuss the necessary international response.*

*The Anglican Church in Egypt and the world expresses its deep condolences to the families of these men, and also*

*to his Holiness Pope Tawadros II, patriarch of the Coptic Orthodox Church.*

*Please join me in praying for peace in Libya, Egypt, and the entire Middle East. Please international community will act in wisdom, correctly and efficiently, and support Egypt in its war on terror.*

*Please pray the churches of Egypt will comfort their sons and daughters, encouraging them to resist fear and hatred. And please pray for the perpetrators of this terrible crime, that God would be merciful to them and change their hearts.*

*Jesus tells us in John 16:33, “In the world you shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” Such cheer may seem impossible, but it is God's promise. Please pray for us, that we may live lives worthy of his name, and hold to the testimony exhibited by the brave Egyptians in Libya.*

## BACKGROUND ON EGYPT FROM VOICE OF THE MARTYRS ([HTTP://WWW.PERSECUTION.COM](http://www.persecution.com))

Egypt had a majority Christian population for 1,000 years before Islam became the dominant religion. In the May 2012 elections, the Islamist Muslim Brotherhood Party gained control of both the legislature and the presidency. As the influence of the Muslim Brotherhood grew, killings, church attacks and abductions of women also increased. However, on July 3, 2013, the elected president, Muhammad Morsi, who was backed by the Muslim Brotherhood, was removed from power by the Egyptian military after more than 33 million protesters took to the streets. Egypt has been designated a Country of Particular Concern by the US-CIRF for the last four years.

- Category: Restricted Nation
- Religion: Muslim 86.7%, Christian 12.8%
- Ideology: Islam
- Head of State: President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi

While the number above reflects official government statistics, Christian leaders in Egypt believe that, including converts from Islam, the number of Christians in Egypt is closer to 20 percent. The persecution of Christians is most prevalent in Upper Egypt. The country has the largest population of Copts (Orthodox Christians) in the Middle



The Most Rev. Anis with Bishop Brewer

East. Attacks on Coptic Christians have increased since Morsi's removal from office in July 2013.

In August 2013, authorities raided two pro-Morsi protest camps in Cairo, which incited a wave of attacks in which at least seven Copts were killed and more than 80 churches and over 1,000 Christian-owned businesses, homes and cars were destroyed. In October 2013, gunmen on a motorcycle opened fire at a wedding party, killing four Copts, including two sisters, ages 8 and 12. Radical Muslims have painted marks on Christian-owned businesses to indicate potential targets during attacks, and they have warned people not to purchase from Christians. Many Christian shop owners have been forced to close their shops.

Sharia became the principal source of legislation in 1980. Since 2011, there has been an increase in blasphemy charges, in which the majority of those sentenced to prison terms are Christians. With a surge in kidnapping Christian women for marriage and forced conversion, Christian females of all ages have been forced to stay inside. VOM provides a safe house for teenage Christian girls who are at risk. VOM's other work in Egypt includes radio broadcasting, sponsoring a Christian bookstore, and providing job training and support to persecuted Muslim converts. VOM is also distributing Bibles in response to a renewed hunger for Christ in the hearts of many Muslims. ■



## AROUND THE DIOCESE

# Paying Attention to God and Centering Prayer

By Fr. Rob Lord  
Rector, All Saints, Winter Park

Meditation Garden, Encinitas, CA.  
January 27, 2015

What has been the most significant catalyst of growth and change in my Christian journey? How would you answer that question? As Fr. Henri Nouwen said so well: "Without silence it is virtually impossible to grow spiritually." Silence, and the practice of centering prayer meditation, is for me the most reliable spiritual practice that helps me pay attention to God,

and to fight the incessant distractions of life in this world. And science continues to discover the emotionally healthy benefits of a meditation practice: it literally changes our brains.

Research with Buddhists and Christian monks has demonstrated conclusively how the practice of silence transforms the neurochemistry of the brain. Why? Silence was always meant to be part of God's plan for transformation of our lives.

As the Psalmist says: For God alone my soul in silence waits; from him comes my wholeness, my salvation. Ps 62:1

Studies of people doing meditation showed that after only eight weeks, a 12 minute a day practice changed the brain pretty significantly. But the more you keep working on that change, probably the more change you will see. It is like a muscle, the more you work out, the bigger it becomes.

Consider these findings from – Newberg M.D., Andrew; Mark Robert Waldman. How God Changes Your Brain: Breakthrough Findings from a Leading Neuroscientist.

- If you contemplate God long enough, something surprising happens in the brain. Neural functioning begins to change.
- Different circuits become activated, while others become deactivated. New dendrites are formed, new synaptic connections are made, and the brain becomes more sensitive to subtle realms of experience. Perceptions alter, beliefs begin to change, and if God has meaning for you, then God becomes neurologically real.

• Spiritual practices, even when stripped of religious beliefs, enhance the neural functioning of the brain in ways that improve physical and emotional health. Contemplative practices strengthen a specific neurological circuit that generates peacefulness, social awareness, and compassion for others.

Conclusion: we have to strengthen the muscle of attentiveness or it will atrophy. Paying attention to God is what centering prayer, silence, meditation is all about. I am convinced it leads to "below the surface" growth, healing, and Christ-like love.

With you on the Journey,  
Rob+



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# CENTRAL FLORIDA EPISCOPALIAN

NEWS FROM THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA  
WWW.CFDIOCESE.ORG      APRIL 2015      VOLUME 117, No. 3

## *St. Luke's, Merritt Island, Makes "Top 10 Historic Sites" in Brevard Co.*

**Kudos to St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
and Cemetery, Merritt Island**

<http://spacecoastdaily.com/2015/02/top-10-historic-sites-in-brevard-county/>



Citrus plantation owners and many of the earliest inhabitants of Brevard County were buried at this historic church on the north end of Merritt Island, just a few miles south of NASA's Kennedy Space Center.

From St. Luke's Episcopal Church's official site: [StLukesMI.org](http://StLukesMI.org):

*"In the 1870s, our founding families, the LaRoche, Porcher and Sams, settled in Courtenay, a community in Merritt Island. They were Episcopalians from the Charleston and John's Island area of South Carolina. They worshipped together using the Book of Common Prayer in the home of John Sams. The Diocese of Florida established St. Luke's Mission in 1886, and the first church building was built in 1888 with funds provided by Mrs. Lucy A. Boardman of Connecticut on land given by Mr. Edward Porcher. The men of the congregation did the construction. Lay members were responsible for Morning and Evening Prayer two Sundays a month, while Clergy from neighboring parishes, especially St. Mark's in Cocoa and St. Gabriel's."* ■

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