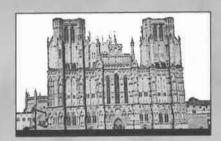
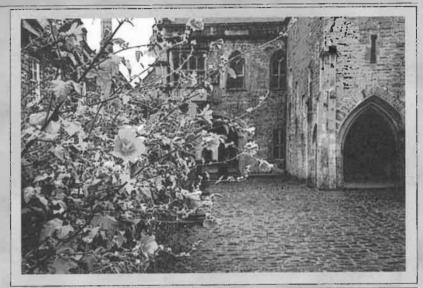
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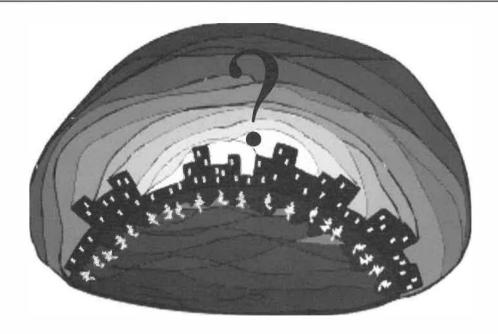


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The West Front of Wells Cathedral.

Lynne Atherton photo

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The Vicar's Close, home of the vicars choral, who have sung in Wells since 1140.

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TRAVELING? TAKE ALONG YOUR TLC FOR THE CHURCH DIRECTORY GUIDE. (SEE PAGE 31)

SUNDAY'S **READINGS**

The Throne of Grace

'Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness...' (Heb. 4:16)

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 24)

Isaiah 53:4-12; Psalm 91 (or Psalm 91:9-16); Heb. 4:12-16; Mark 10:35-45

The letter to the Hebrews presents us with wonderful biblical paradox, apparent opposites that are the source of grace. On the one hand, we learn that the word of God is "sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow" (Heb. 4:12a). God is the source of such power and strength. On the other hand, the word of God is subtle and gentle enough "to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (4:12b). God is the source of such intimacy. With the mixture of this strength and intimacy enters Jesus, the one who can sympathize with our weakness (4:15a), who has been tested as we have (4:15b).

Isaiah also emphasizes this association with us. "Surely he has born our infirmities and carried our diseases . ." (53:4). Isaiah goes on in detail to spell out the afflictions. Scholars debate the identity of this suffering servant. Nevertheless, Christian tradition has always seen a foreshadowing of Jesus in this person who knows first hand our condition. That is why we do not hesitate to come to Jesus. "Let us therefore approach the throne

of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need" (Heb. 4:16).

James and John also have their eyes on the throne. But they want to sit on either side of Jesus when he comes into his glory (Mark 10:37). They want thrones for themselves. They are self-serving.

Jesus is always turning our world upside down. Here he is at it again. He again speaks about not clinging. He tells James and John to give up ideas of position, fame, prestige, rank, titles and status. Jesus' upside-down world looks like this: You want to be first? Become last. You want to be great? Become a servant.

We should not look for thrones for ourselves, but rather approach the throne of grace. That's what Jesus is saying to James and John. Being a good servant does not mean doing spectacular things. It could be as simple as a glass of water given to a person in need. Is that not what we ask of Jesus knowing that he understands our needs? He has been there. Can we likewise understand the needs of others? Have we not been there?

Look It Up

In a few days we will be entering the voting booths to cast ballots for various offices and propositions. Let's do our research on the candidates to discover who knows the needs of the people and can therefore sympathize. Who is looking for thrones or the throne of grace?

Think About It

To serve is a gift from God. God wants to give this gift to everyone. Let's simply put it in God's hands. It may seem too hard for us. But it is God who can make it possible in our lives.

Next Sunday

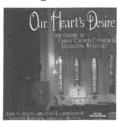
The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 25)

Isaiah 59:(1-4)9-19; Psalm 13; Heb. 5:12-6:1,9-12; Mark 10:46-52

Our Heart's Desire

The Choirs of Christ Church, Lexington, Ky. Pro Organo CD 7056

In celebration of the 200th anniversary of Christ Church Cathedral, organist and choirmaster John Cum-



mins, with choirs, organ and brass, has given us a wealth of musical riches. Several works specifically commissioned for the anniversary are featured, along

with many newer and older standards of the repertoire. Assistant organist Schuyler Robinson provides beautifully played accompaniments, the brass sound is elegant, stirring yet never overwhelming (credit for this certainly should be shared with the director), and the Choir of Men and Boys and the Girls Choir sing admirably. A variety of styles, voicing and textures keep the listener intrigued and entertained.

The first of the commissioned works presented. Missa Sancti Albini, composed by former Christ Church Cathedral organist/choirmaster Bruce Neswick, is a wonderful blend of excitement and mystery. The four movements, Kyrie, Gloria, Sanctus, Agnus Dei, are bound by a short motif (mi-do-so) but each sets its own course. The expectation of virtuoso organ writing is not disappointed, but is joined by a lovely blend of organ and brass which explores a fascinating palette of colors. The choral sound in the Angus Dei is particularly sublime.

The second part of the recording takes us through a kaleidoscope of compositions highlighting the excellence and versatility of the choirs. Such standards as Charles Wood's Hail Gladdening Light and Stanford's Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in C are juxtaposed with works by Maurice Duruflé, Kenneth Leighton and William H. Harris. The Girls Choir is featured on several pieces, including a lovely setting of Psalm 84 by Jeffrey Smith (another former organist/choirmaster of Christ Church Cathedral). The girls

display not only a beautiful tone, but a wonderful ability to master threeand four-part singing with great clarity and balance. This recording is bookended by two stirring hymns with descant, and Mr. Cummins cleverly adds a coda, an a capella performance of Psalm 150.

> Cynthia Brown DeDakis Gainesville, Ga.

Philippe Rogier

Missa Ego Sum Qui Sum Magnificat, Philip Cave, director Linn Records CKD 109

Philippe Rogier (c. 1561-1596) was one of a long line of Franco-Flemish composers who served in prestigious court and cathedral posts throughout Europe in the 15th and 16th cen-

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The Copyright Acknowlegements index has been updated with current information and corrections have been made to composer dates throughout.

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turies. Coming first to the Spanish court of Philip II as a boy soprano, Rogier later served the king as a chaplain, assistant musician and then, beginning in 1586, as director of music.

The central component of this marvelous recording is Rogier's Missa Ego sum qui sum, which is melodically based on the Easter motet of the same name by the great Flemish composer Nicolas Gombert. For comparison's sake, the Gombert motet is paired with its so-called "parody Mass," and the two works are bracketed by six of Rogier's motets intended for Matins in the Office of the Dead. These delectable offerings all give us a clear indication of Rogier's skill and make us regret deeply the destruction of most of his music by earthquake and fire.

Magnificat, a finely honed ensemble of voices founded in 1991 and directed by Philip Cave, is comprised of young singers from the worlds of Oxbridge and the London music conservatories. As one might expect, these singers demonstrate an admirable sense of cohesion and blend. They perform this unaccompanied Renaissance music with what one might identify as English restraint, an altogether pleasing style when presenting music, such as Rogier's, that stands exquisitely on its own.

Hymns of Heaven and Earth

Saint Clement's Choir
Peter Conte, director; Matthew Glandorf, organist
Dorian Recordings DOR-902259

This extraordinary recording comes from St. Clement's Church, Philadelphia, a parish renowned for its Anglo-Catholic liturgy and refined musical tradition. Under the direction of Peter Conte, the parish choir of men and women sings a varied repertoire that amounts to much more than a typical recording of hymns. Included among a variety of congregational hymns are anthem settings of hymn texts, all by pillars of the 20th-century English musical establishment, such as C.V. Stanford,

William H. Harris and Edward C. Bairstow. The term "hymn" is thus given an expanded and more musically elaborate definition.

The inclusion of three items by Herbert Howells is an added bonus for those who are partial to his music. One hymn-tune, Sancta civitas, is in The Hymnal 1982, while the other tune, Salisbury, for "Holy Spirit ever dwelling," should be. The third use of Howells is his anthem "A Hymn for St. Cecilia," a setting of evocative words by Ursula Vaughan Williams and a stunning opener to the CD. Howells' descant for the third stanza matches perfectly the Christian ecstasy of these words and may be as close as some of us ever come to visions of the beyond! The "choiring angels" of Vaughan Williams' poem have met their earthly match in the soprano section at St. Clement's.

Mathew Glandorf contributes a seamless organ accompaniment throughout and one that attests to the critical importance of the person on the organ bench and in the supportive role.

Bruce Neswick Silver Spring, Md.

Kindle Our Hearts

The Chancel Choir of the Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, Texas Pro Organo CD 7170

This exciting CD comes from one of the largest Episcopal parishes in the U.S., Church of the Incarnation in Dallas, with a strong and vibrant music program led by Kevin Clarke. It primarily features works sung by the Chancel Choir at Chichester Cathedral and Westminster Abbey during the summer of 1998. The confident, strong singing is indicative of the choir's familiarity and level of comfort with the music.

This CD presents a Mass setting commissioned by the parish for its 100th anniversary. Composer Joel Martinson uses the Christmas chant *Puer natus est* as a motif, creating work with lush harmonies and an organ accompaniment that complements beautifully. The Chancel Choir

is shown at its best here – displaying luminous sounds, superb intonation and full singing that never becomes edgy.

The music of Herbert Howells is a major portion of the CD, with the *Magnificat*, *Nunc Dimittis*, *Te*



Deum and Jubilate
Deo from the Collegium Regale Service.
The choir handles
these masterpieces
with assurance. Also
included are works by
Bainton, Ley, Stanford

and John Ireland's *Greater Love Hath No Man*. The organ, overhauled in the early '90s, is featured in a free improvisation by Mr. Clarke, and in his artistic playing of *Master Tallis' Testament* by Howells. It is unfortunate that at times the organ overpowers the choir and causes the singers to be more often at full throttle than one would wish. This is a small criticism greatly overbalanced by the excellent quality of this recording.

Cynthia Brown DeDakis Gainesville, Ga.

Gospels in Verse

A Text Resource for Musicians and Composers By Jabez L. Van Cleef Pp. 370. \$25, \$18 paper

Most of this book consists of renderings of the complete gospels of John and Luke into common meter (8686 iambic) verse. It's a wonderful idea which seems obvious now that it's been done, but I don't know of any other instance of it.

The book's flaw is that the verse is very rough hewn. Syntax is inverted for the sake of rhyme. Filler words pad the lines. Rhymes such as "chance" with "ignorance" attempted. Chiefly, rhythm is not well handled. Rhythmic flexibility is a good thing, especially in works of this length. But here, the beat of the poetic line gets lost time and again, as syllables are dropped and added, and word accents go against the poetic foot's. Poetic rhythm should move the reader along in a way that prose does not — this verse does not do that.

There is other work here besides the gospels. Two cantata texts put the gospel story in the mouths of various animals and other creatures. Much of the verse is as rough as that of the gospel treatments. Yet the invention is breathtaking. For example, the poet gives voice to a toad on whom the water from Pilate's handwashing basin has been thrown. And occasionally there is real poetry. such as this Dickinson parody describing Peter's denial: "Pride is the bird without feathers/Who rises on two feet;/Who stands above all others,/And sees the world complete." I wish more of this long book had been of that quality.

Some versified passages from the prophets, three versions of Psalm 104, and an odd play about a man who becomes a sphinx, complete the book.

Richard Leach Torrington, Conn.

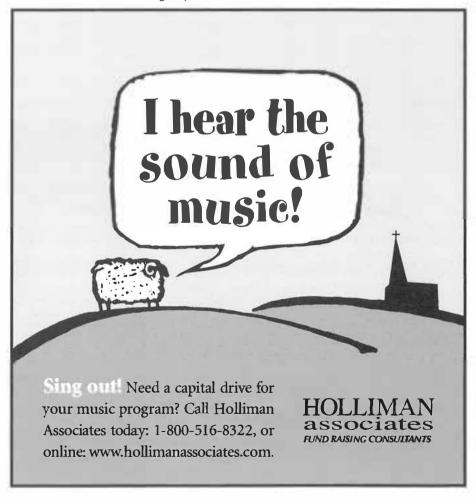
New Harmonies

Choosing Contemporary Music for Worship By Terri Bocklund McLean Alban Institute. \$17.95 paper

In this thought-provoking publication, the author, Terri McLean, gives the reader theories, systems, and practical steps for choosing contemporary worship music.

Ms. McLean quotes many notable artists, musicians and theologians, including Georgia O'Keefe, Gordon Lathrop, Robin Leaver, Abraham Heschel, Quentin Faulkner, Marva Dawn, Paul Westermeyer and Bernard of Clairvaux. Having these sources in such a context helped this writer, a fairly "traditional" musician, to more willingly enter into her book.

The text is aimed at those who are developing "seeker" services, and not for those already in the pew or those who have been in the



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church a long time. What became clear in this text is that the church is constantly exploring "new" ways to engage people in the gospel.

What many people forget regarding the selection of music is in what context the community is gathered. There is a chapter on the "appropri-

ateness" in worship, especially in "seeker services." While the music styles are far from "traditional," the process she offers is interesting and many facets are applicable to all styles of liturgical music and worship. As a teaching tool, she offers a CD with a variety of "contempo-

rary" Christian pop style songs, performed by singers and bands.

The book addresses topics of contemporary services, Gen Xers, King James English, choral Masses, guitars, pipe organs and percussion. Readers are reminded, in a somewhat dogmatic style, that the focus of liturgy hopefully is on the worship of Almighty God, and on respecting the dignity of every living being. This work offers many interesting concepts, ideas and systems to help remind all worship leaders of the role of worship and the purpose of the liturgy.

George Anton Emblom Berkeley, Calif.

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My Only Comfort

Death, Deliverance, and Discipleship in the Music of Bach
By Calvin R. Stapert
Eerdmans. Pp. 241. \$16 paper

This is a wonderful book! After giving readers a brief introduction to Bach's music, theology and historical context, Stapert proceeds to interpret, enliven and discuss specific pieces of Bach's music using questions and answers from the

Heidelberg Catechism to illuminate Bach's theological and musical purpose.

He uses both traditional scholarship and original analysis to show Bach as not only a masterful composer but also a



devoted Christian. This fusion of musical and theological insights will help bring readers and listeners to a deeper appreciation and understanding of Bach's music and religious convictions.

Written in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the composer's death, it is an excellent book for anyone who wants to become better acquainted with the music of Johann Sebastian Bach, or those who want inspiration for their own spiritual lives.

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Asheville Cathedral Will Offer Same-Sex Blessings

The Cathedral of All Souls, Asheville, N.C., seat of the Bishop of Western North Carolina, will offer blessing of same-sex relationships to committed gay couples who are members.

The cathedral announced its decision with permission of the Rt. Rev.

recognition for gay couples.

"Now is the time," Dean Donatelli said.

"We are a parish trying to be faithful to our beliefs," he said. "We see this as a matter of justice."

Junior warden Jeanne Cagle backed the dean. "These are people we see



I want to be supportive of whatever a congregation decides is the appropriate ministry for them to support their people pastorally.'

Bishop Johnson

Robert H. Johnson, Bishop of Western North Carolina.

"As bishop I want to be supportive of whatever a congregation decides is the appropriate ministry for them to support their people pastorally," Bishop Johnson told the Asheville *Citizen-Times*.

The dean of the cathedral, the Very Rev. Todd Donatelli, said cathedral members had studied the issue during the past two years, and that a longrange planning report revealed many parishioners were in favor of formal every Sunday, people we sit next to in church, and we see these folks having committed relationships. We want to bless and encourage them in that."

The church announced guidelines for the Blessing of a Covenanted Relationship, which states couples must be members of All Souls' for at least a year and must demonstrate their commitment to each other to the satisfaction of the clergy. Dean Donatelli told the *Citizen-Times* no couples have requested a blessing.

The American Anglican Council, an



All Souls' Cathedral, Asheville, N.C.

organization of traditionalists, denounced the cathedral's decision and said, "This deplorable action is further proof that the revisionists are willing and eager to split the Episcopal Church over their pro-homosexual agenda."

A Third Church Leaves Diocese of Central Gulf Coast

Christ Church, a 177-year-old parish in Mobile, Ala., became the third church to have most of its members leave the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast when members voted Oct. 1 by a 251-29 count, to become part of the Anglican Mission in America.

"We firmly believe God has led us to take this step of faith," said the Rev. Tim Smith, rector of Christ Church for the past eight years. "It is a much better fit for our conservative values."

Christ Church joins St. Andrew's by-the-Sea, Destin, Fla., and a sizable portion of St. Francis', Gulf Breeze, Fla., in leaving the Central Gulf Coast [TLC, Sept. 24].

Members of the parish were apprised of the possibility of leaving the diocese at meetings Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. The Bishop of the Central Gulf Coast, the Rt. Rev. Charles F. Duvall, attended the second meeting.

"We will miss them within the fellowship of the church," he told the *Mobile Register*. He said he was saddened by the decision and that he did not believe a move as drastic as leaving the Episcopal Church was necessary.

"There are some things in the Episcopal Church with which I do not agree," he said, "but I am still an Episcopalian."

Unlike the other two congrega-

tions which left the Central Gulf Coast, early indications were that Christ Church would try to keep its buildings.

In a statement from the parish, longtime member Rosemary Adams said, "Unlike many churches, we have had the title and deed to our own church property ever since it was established as a protestant — though not Episcopal — church," she said. "We began as a non-Episcopal church using the Book of Common Prayer and we shall now simply return to our original heritage and roots."

Christ Church's website lists 610 members and 582 communicants.

Church's Youngest Bishop Takes Charge in Lexington

The Rev. Stacy Fred Sauls, 44, became the youngest bishop in the Episcopal Church and the sixth Bishop of Lexington when he was consecrated Sept. 30 in the Roman Catholic Cathedral of Christ the King in Lexington, Ky.

Chief consecrator was the Rt. Rev. Robert H. Johnson, Bishop of Western North Carolina. The service was scheduled for the Roman cathedral because of its larger seating capacity and ceremonial space, but also emphasizes the long-standing covenant relationship between the two dioceses and cathedrals.

The Most Rev. Kendrick Williams, Roman Catholic Bishop of Lexington, and the Rev. Gregory Schuler, rector of the Cathedral of Christ the King, were both participants in the service.

Co-consecrators were the Rt. Rev. Edwin F. Gulick, Jr., Bishop of Kentucky; the Rt. Rev. John Rabb, Bishop Suffragan of Maryland; the Rt. Rev. Onell Soto, Assistant Bishop of Alabama; and the Rt. Rev.

Don A. Wimberly, Assisting Bishop of Texas and former Bishop of Lexington.

The Rev. Frank K. Allan, retired Bishop of Atlanta, was the preacher for the service. Bishop Allan served on Bishop Sauls' discernment committee, and ordained him to the diaconate and the priesthood in his native Diocese of Atlanta. Among the participants in the service were representatives from his former parishes: St. Bartholomew's, Atlanta, St. Thomas', Savannah, Ga., and St. George's, Griffin Ga.

The following day Bishop Sauls was seated at Christ Church Cathedral. In his first sermon in his new diocese, the new chief pastor spoke on a passage from St. Mark's gospel, "He who is not against me is for me," commenting that it is important for both a bishop and disciples to be aware that people's focus must be on whether they are following Jesus, not whether someone else is following them. *Kay Collier-Slone*



Kay Collier Slone photo Bishop Sauls



Bishop Apologizes

The convention of the **Diocese of Montana** opened Sept. 29 with a service of Evensong in St. James' Church, Bozeman, sung by a choir of college students.

During the service the Rt. Rev. C.I. Jones, Bishop of Montana, addressed those assembled, and apologized for his actions that had resulted in the ecclesiastical trial court for a bishop. He said that like one of Alan Paton's characters in *Cry*, the Beloved Country, he "was a weak and sinful man who had been touched by God," and that the call to be Bishop of Montana had blessed him.

Bishop Jones noted that whether he was asked to resign as a result of that trial, or whether he chooses to resign or stay as diocesan bishop, the diocese itself has a challenge ahead of it. He is charged with immorality and sexual exploitation for an alleged sexual affair he had with a woman in his congregation in the Diocese of Kentucky in the 1980s.

He mentioned that looking at scripture, people can see that God creates order out of chaos. Despite the strong presence of God and the positive atmosphere in the diocese—the youth program, the process to ordination, the growth of the large churches, the love felt in all churches—Bishop Jones reported a sense of chaos at some level in the diocese.

The bishop encouraged the diocese to choose order over chaos, for people to trust in God as they go through the Vision 2000 process before them at convention. The process, he said, is not dependent on his being bishop, but is focused on the diocese as a whole listening for

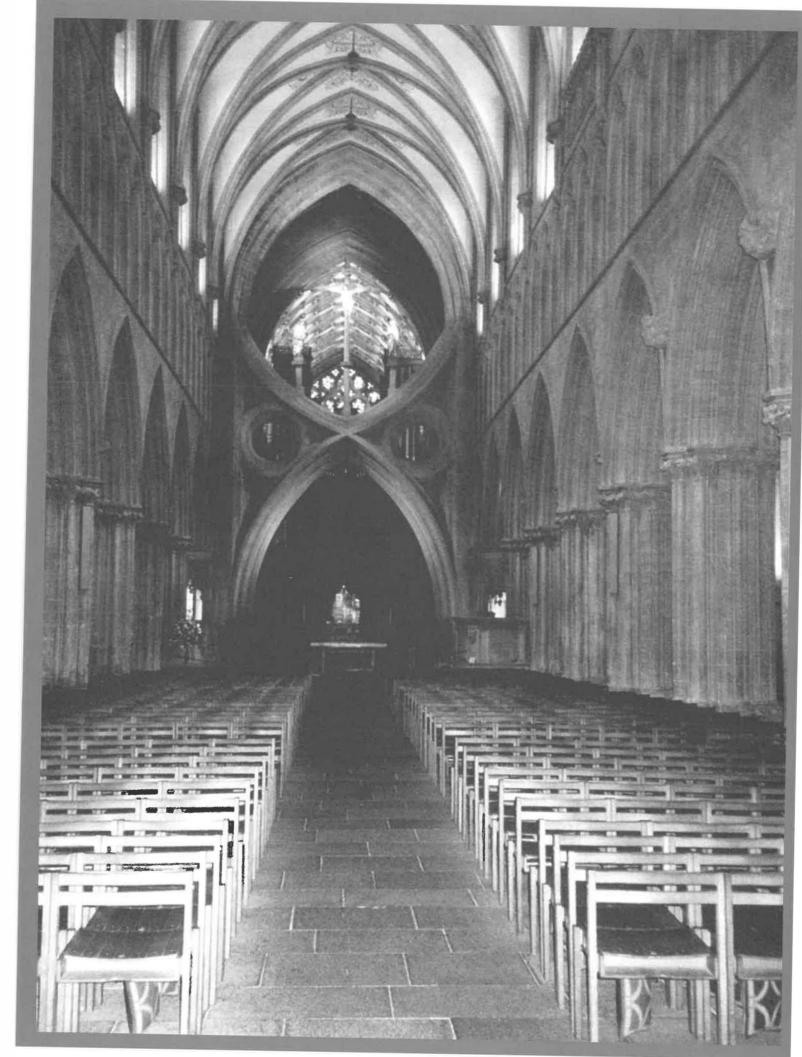
the expression of God's will for the diocese.

The majority of convention time was spent on the Vision 2000 process. The Rev. Michael Morrissey, priest-in-charge of the Yellowstone Ministry, presented statistical data on Sunday attendance and giving. He concluded that the diocese's seven largest churches are growing, that small churches (attendance of 35 and under) are holding their own, and that the intermediate-sized churches (36-95) are struggling.

Delegates worked in small groups to discuss the work of the Vision 2000 task force, to consider materials from the Diocese of Texas, and to discuss the strengths, challenges and hopes of their congregations.

Suzanne Hunger

• More News, page 28 •



In Residence at Wells Cathedral

By Lynne Atherton

"O Laud, open thow ow-ah lips..."

Our first views of Wells Cathedral were literally breathtaking, as Sunday evening's golden summer sun hit the broad 13th-century west front full face. It was huge. Beautiful. "Awesome" became a real word again.

We, the choir of Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Forest, Ill., were to be the choir in residence here in England's smallest city, 21 miles from Bath, for a week. I felt wide-eyed and an inch tall.

Don Horisberger, our organist/choirmaster, had worked indefatigably to eliminate our American Rs and to clarify our diction, especially final consonants (lest, I thought wryly, we get caught singing to "the Lore R Gaw").

The 40 of us learned six Evensong settings, a Sunday Mattins including Preces and Responses, and "Mag-n-Nuncs." For Sunday we also sang a full Eucharist. Each of these services had its own anthem. Of 10 hymns, eight were new to us – though one did sound remarkably like "Happy Birthday to You," not altogether inappropriate, as we'd arrived in England on the Queen Mum's 100th birthday.

Monday, our first rehearsal in the 15th-century music building with its splendid oaken acoustics. At 11 a.m. we met our guides outside the west front, under the stone gaze of 293 medieval statues. We had not yet set foot inside the cathedral.

Then – there it was! – that famous, serenely energetic "scissors-arch" of the nave, which rather resembles the 8 of Eternity. It soars.

Wells Cathedral is a vibrant, reverent place of worship, ancient, like the four springs, "wells," beside which it was hand-constructed starting in

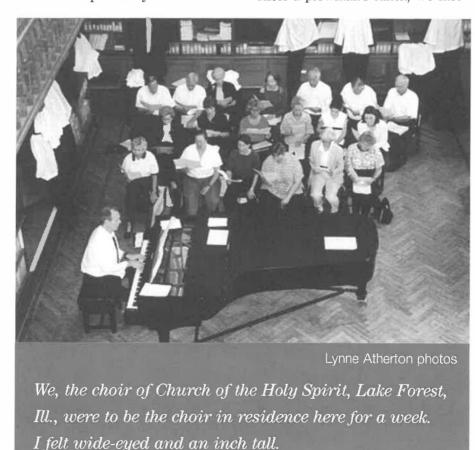
1180. Beautiful, fresh water still courses from those springs to fill the swanned moat of the Bishop's Palace, runs beneath the tri-cloistered south lawn of the cathedral and on under the cobblestoned Market Square at the base of which the water gushes from the public fountain.

In the north aisle was one of the oldest wooden doors I've ever seen. The choir door – our door! Using that door somehow epitomized to me that I belonged – belonged to Wells Cathedral, and belonged to all the choirs of the past 600 years.



Beyond the scissored transept another door led into the quire, with those charming lamps by old, old choir stalls. Here we were to sing all but one service. Intermixed with all the solemnity was a motif of humor and whimsy, and a multitude of birds and animals. A sweet stone bear head separated my stall from the next; carved stone capitals featured a man with a toothache, another with a splinter. There were starfish-like seraphim, and a medieval clock with jousting knights.

After a plowman's lunch, we met





Only as the week hastened by did I come to appreciate the depth of "Old Foundation" Wells' historical commitment to music.

with the verger, who marched us through our paces, over the time-worn gravestones: *Guido Clinton*, *d.* 1728...heare lyeth Margaret 1676...hic jacet William Powell 1613. At 4:00 our first rehearsal, black-robed, in situ. Evensong was at 5:15. As if in a dream, suddenly we were in solemn procession.

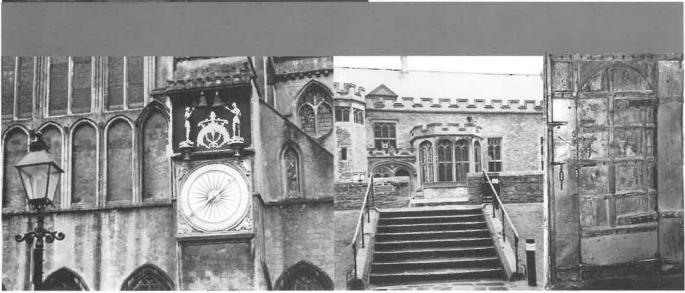
Only as the week hastened by did I come to appreciate the depth of "Old Foundation" Wells' historical commitment to music. Daily I would walk from "The Hutches" dormitory of the Choir School, down the Vicars' Close, a cobbled block of attached stone houses built mid-1300s for the vicars choral, the men of the full-time choir. One cloister gravestone marks John Beauchamp's resting place after 51 years as a vicar choral. A wall memorial proclaims Charles Lavington's 53 years as organist in the 1800s. Even in the 1450 "Penniless Porch," a roofed walk-through from cathedral green to town square, today's "beggars" are musicians.

The Ven. R.F. Acworth, archdeacon of Wells, has written to Don Horisberger saying we were a "splendid choir" and thanking us for our "marvelous contribution ... to the life of the cathedral."

We, in turn, are grateful to God:

Thankful for our every blessing/ Let us sing Christ the Spring/Never, never ceasing..." (Charles Wesley).

Lynne Atherton is a member of the choir at Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Forest, Ill.





By Patricia Nakamura

Let's say you're the organist/choirmaster in the only Episcopal church in your smallish town. Musical resources are slim. What can you do?

Or you are newly arrived from another tradition, perhaps a nonliturgical one, and mystified by what comes when and how to sing it all. Where can you turn?

Worst of all, you're having musicalstyle or hours vs. pay problems with the rector. Who can help you deal with this?

Church musicians, you are not alone.

Many organizations and programs exist to offer assistance, information, or camaraderie in the trenches. Since 1995, the Leadership Program for Musicians Serving Small Congre-

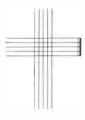


gations, usually called just LPM for brevity's sake, has sponsored twoyear programs of seven courses: Philosophy of Church Music, Leadership of Congregational Song, Hymnody, Liturgy and Music, Principles of Choral Leadership,

Teaching New Music to the Congregation, and Resources for an Effective Music Ministry. These originally were set up through dioceses; now, as the church works jointly with Lutheran synods, they are crossing synod and diocesan borders to serve geographic areas. Carol Doran, professor of music at Bexley Hall seminary, is one of the founders and course writers. "We want to create a network across the country, as well

as seeking additional funding" for prospective students, she said. Classes are held on weekends, with schedules tailored to needs and availability of participants.

Sister Carolyn Darr is president of the 850member Association of Anglican Musicians, founded 35 vears ago by luminaries Ray Glover, James



Lytton and Gerre Hancock. The organization's goals include the "elevation of music and allied arts," preserving a strong musical and liturgical tradition, and encouraging composers through commissions and anthem contests, especially for its annual conferences. The excellent Journal of the Association of Anglican Musicians is published monthly, and can be subscribed to through the communications office. Regional conferences take place yearly. AAM has a professional concerns committee to assist members. Sr. Carolyn said membership is not limited to paid musicians, but each person must be proposed by a current member with letters of recommendation from two additional members.

AMERICAN GUILD OF



The American Guild of Organ-ORGANISTS ists has some 21.000 members on several continents. President Philip Hahn writes, "The AGO is the national professional organization serving the organ and choral music fields. [It] is made up of people from all walks of life, at all levels of musical abilities, at all stages of musical achievement." The organization and its 350 local chapters sponsor workshops, conferences, competitions and conventions, as well as recitals by local and world-famous organists. "One of the ongoing educational programs of the Guild includes professional certification" in the areas of basic service playing, choral conducting and organ performance. "The Guild champions support and protection of its members through the AGO Code of Ethics, the Code of Professional Standards, the Discipline, and the AGO Grievance Procedures." The Guild's journal, The American Organist, is published monthly.



The **Hymn Society**, whose executive director is hymn writer Carl Daw (The Hymnal 1982 credits him with 11 texts), is made up of "people committed to congregational song, research, encouraging new hymn writing and scholarly work," said assistant administrative Mark Meyer. The book service carries hymnals and supplements, handbooks. The organization "keeps up



with each denomination's new hymnals," and current trends. It can often assist with copyright questions. It publishes *The Hymn* quarterly and a newsletter, *The Stanza*, semi-annually.

The Royal School of Church Music — America is "the only



organization
geared to stimulating and elevating the quality of
School of
Church
Music
Hutto, chair of
the training
courses commit-

tee. RSCM's incentive-based methods target children especially, but are expanding into work with adults. "We're avowedly counter-cultural, not at all PC," he said, slightly tongue-in-cheek, "and our programs are for amateur singers and choir directors. They allow for progression at the individual's own pace."

RSCM-America will offer 12 courses next summer, in various parts of the United States and Canada, for groups of girls, boys and adults. The guiding principle is "Every child counts."



The Association of Diocesan Liturgy and Music Commissions is in the process of redefining itself. ADLMC's yearly conference, said president-elect Patrick

Campbell, is "an opportunity for those with a passion for the church's liturgy and music to engage in dialogue and conversation." The association has expanded its focus, encouraging grassroots participation by musicians and informed listeners alike. A new name, Transforming Common Worship, has been proposed to reflect a larger purpose, and this, with the group's future and mission, will be on the table at the "open space conference" in Minnesota next month. Every meeting offers "tools and resources to take back to the local church, and a chance to gather for worship." ADLMC publishes a quarterly newsletter.

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RSCM America

(330) 836-1511 (Mary Ann Switz)

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ADLMC

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(Patrick Campbell)

www.transformingcommonworship.org



The Last Year

Johann Sebastian Bach

By Douglas Cowling

April 1750. Johann Sebastian Bach, half-conscious from heavy draughts of port, lies on a table in his bedroom. Servants stand around him, holding down his arms and legs. An English doctor, a touring specialist, bends over him and cuts into his eye with a scalpel — a last desperate attempt to arrest the cataracts which have virtually blinded the 64-year-composer. It will be the beginning of the end.

The last year of Sebastian's life has been a mix of achievement and failure. He has seen one daughter married, and his 18-year-old son, Johann Christoph, has been appointed a court musician in Bückeburg. With three other sons as composers, the musical tradition of the Bach family seems secure for another generation. Perhaps sensing the onset of health problems (he probably suffered from diabetes), Bach begins to put his musical house in order. He completes the final assembly of his Mass in B Minor, knowing he will never hear it performed. He also finishes his great contrapuntal collection, The Art of the Fugue. And he begins to engrave it for publication himself. Only eight works of the composer have been published in his lifetime, and he seems determined to leave a printed legacy.

But the decline has begun. His failing eyesight is increasingly keeping him from teaching at the choir school and directing the music for services in St. Thomas' Church. He is still playing the organ, but his assistants are carrying much of his workload.

Contemporary chroniclers will mark his passing indifferently.

The authorities are whispering about his successor. A discreet audition already has been held to examine a possible candidate.

The cataract operation promised to extend his working life. But the primitive surgery is a terrible failure. The same doctor would attempt the same operation on Handel with the same results. Infection sets in and Bach is now confined to a darkened room. His artistic creativity surges on unabated. His new son-in-law spends hours with him, helping him revise old works and write new ones. He begins to divide up his library for his sons. He leafs through a funeral motet by his cousin, Johann Christoph Bach — O Dear Lord, Awaken Us. He asks to have it copied. Was he preparing the music for his own funeral?

For years, friends have teased him about writing a piece based on the letters of his name (B-A-C-H is B flat-A-C-B natural in German notation). He has always retorted that it would be an act of vanity. Now he begins a fugue. The counterpoint piles up in ever-increasing complexity. And then the B-A-C-H theme appears. Bach continues for a few bars and then lays down his pen. We will never know if he left the fugue unfinished as a last testament. He makes his final communion on July 22.

On the morning of July 28, he wakes to discover that the curtains are open and he can see clearly for a short time. A stroke follows soon after. Death is approaching. His family and friends gather around his bed. He dies at a quarter to 9 that evening, "yielding up his blessed soul to his Saviour." The next day, the choir, made up of his students and friends, gathers outside his house and begins to sing the funeral chorales, perhaps including the German Nunc Dimittis which he had harmonized so many times before.

The oak coffin is carried the short distance to the churchyard. His wife, Anna Magdalena — for whom he wrote so many loving musical miniatures — is joined by the half-dozen children still

living in Leipzig, perhaps even by Bach's first grandchild, 5-year-old Johann August. His famous sons, Carl Philipp Emmanuel and Wilhelm Friedmann, are far away in Berlin and Halle.

There will be no church service that day. Lutheran avoidance of prayer for the dead is scrupulously observed. But on Sunday, there will be a commemoration at Vespers, the German Evensong. Before the sermon, the organ is heard playing one of his chorale-preludes. It must have been "Before Thy Throne, I Now Appear." Bach dictated it the day before his death. And then perhaps one of his great funeral motets, "Jesus My Joy" or "Come, Jesu, Come".

Contemporary chroniclers will mark his passing indifferently: He will be remembered as a brilliant organist who also composed. Two and a half centuries later, we experience his music, confident that he is the greatest composer who ever lived.

Douglas Cowling is the leader of a contemporary music group at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Toronto, Canada.



Music Among Us

Encouraging the Gift of Voice

By Linda Dzuris

Some congregations are blessed with choir lofts filled with singers each Sunday morning. Many churches make do with smaller numbers, hoping they all remain healthy and show up on Sunday. Regardless of which situation you find yourself a part of, those in music ministry must continue to seek out and encourage individuals who possess an untapped gift. Oftentimes, people do not participate because they have

not been asked. Extending the invitation is the simplest step to take.

The text below was written for our monthly church newsletter. Consider it a gentle nudge that you are free to adapt and use with your church family, as you endeavor to nurture your own garden of voices.

I would like to officially announce that Gloria Black has joined our adult choir. We are grateful that she has come to share her gift of voice with us. Still, if you glance back at

the choir loft, you will notice that there are many empty chairs. This is not another casual invitation. We honestly need your help. With small numbers, such as we are, one less on a particular Sunday is a significant loss. We pray for the one more who will make a tremendous impact! Rehearsals are held on Wednesday evenings from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The following Reality Checklist may help relieve your doubts:

Myth: I can't sing.

FACT: If you can speak, you can sing. You may need a little practice and a whole lot of encouragement. This is provided on Wednesday evenings at no charge.

Myth: I don't read music, so I can't

be in a choir.

FACT: Several of our present choir members do not read music. Music is selected well in advance. In addition to the repetition in rehearsal, each singer has access to a cassette tape which has his/her vocal part recorded onto it. You are then able to learn at your own pace in the privacy of your home.

Myth: I'm on the road during the



You may need just a little practice and a whole lot of encouragement.

week, so I won't be prepared to sing on Sundays.

FACT: You will have a choir cassette to listen to in the car as you travel. The time will fly by! Each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. the choir meets briefly to warm up. This involves going over the psalm and a runthrough(s) of the day's anthem.

Myth: I attend Sunday school. This conflicts with choir warm-up. I can't do both.

FACT: You don't have to choose between Sunday school and choir. A vocal warm-up can be as simple as humming on your drive over to the church. The hymns will have you singing before the anthem spot in the service and you will know your vocal

part because of the mid-week rehearsals. Don't forget the tape you will have, too. Your involvement in Sunday school does not prohibit you from singing in the choir.

Myth: I will have to commit to be at church every Wednesday and every Sunday.

FACT: We are human. We know that like the concepts of "always" and "never," "every" is flexible. You are

welcome on any Wednesday and any Sunday that you are able to be with us. We have a choir calendar to sign out on, just for planning purposes. If something comes up, you forget, or just aren't up to it, we will miss you and look forward to seeing your return.

Myth: It makes no sense to join a choir that sings music I don't like.

FACT: The anthems are chosen to fit the liturgical season. Appropriateness of text, level of difficulty, and the musical resources (voices and instruments) available are all considered. Input from choir members is of great importance, since they are the ones who must sing the anthems. As a choir member, you will help shape Redeemer's music ministry.

Myth: I don't think choir is for me.

FACT: You won't know until you try.

With gladness, Linda

Linda Dzuris is organist/choir director at Church of the Redeemer, Greenville, S.C., and university carillonneur at Clemson University.

A Conversation with Ray Glover



"Well, I'm 72 years old," said the lively voice on the phone, sounding decades younger. "I'm enjoying retirement. I'm a neophyte but I'm enjoying it."

But people like Raymond Glover – student of Healey Willan, chorister, later organist/choirmaster at St. Paul's Cathe-

dral, Buffalo, guide and general editor of *The Hymnal 1982* and its monumental *Companion*, co-founder of what is now the Association of Anglican Musicians, professor of music and chapel organist at Virginia Theological Seminary, co-founder, curriculum writer and lecturer for the Leadership Program for Musicians Serving Small Congregations – do not just curl up in the porch rocker with the cat.

To begin with, he and his wife, Joyce MacDonald Glover, have two daughters, one recently moved from Paris to Washington, D.C., and one in London; and four grand-children – two each. So they have beautiful



'Bringing them [young people] in is not enough. What do you bring them in to?'

excuses to travel. "We want to enjoy," he said.

Then "I have one commitment a month." In particular, he will teach a segment of the LPM at Virginia this fall. "I play the piano every day," something time did not previously allow; he gardens and reads. "I like history, theology, novels. Reading *The Wind in the Willows* as an adult – there's a lot of content. I read the first *Harry Potter*; I found it fascinating and well written. It's a morality tale: Harry rises above the persecution of his awful aunt and uncle, and that

cousin! Goodness wins out. She [J. K. Rowling] is able to maintain a high level of quality. It appeals to the child in all of us."

Does he expect a new hymnal anytime soon? "We'll have more supplements," he said, rather than an entire book. "We're still wrestling with liturgy, how we worship. Wonder, Love, and Praise is a rich collection."

In this time of traditional church musicians being politely asked to resign or abruptly booted out the door, it was impossible not to ask his opinion of the many types and styles of music competing for pride of place in our worship services. "Years ago," he said, "the first folk Mass was done in England. Some people said this is the answer, this is how you bring them in," the young people, the unchurched, the disaffected. "No. This was an indication of a need. Bringing them in is not enough. What do you bring them in to?" It is important to identify things, and then find the best of each. We need to be aware of diversity, but clergy are often wary of using unusual things, not knowing how and why. "For example, praise music can divide a congre-

gation. We have to ask, 'How does it fit?' and be careful how we use it."

A pause and a chuckle. "You're pushing all my buttons," said the retired professor. Then he continued, "The church needs to be proactive in education: What is Anglican theology, tradition, music?" We must teach our congregations, he said, how much good hymnody has to offer, and how to enter into it, words and music. "It is positive, strong – so much praise music repeats over and over. It's pabulum.

"Faith involves constant growth. To deny the riches of church literature is to do a disservice."

The past president of the Association of Anglican Musicians, the Rev. John Hooker, described Ray Glover as "a shining example of the gracious working of the Holy Spirit in the church and the world." The voice of the fledgling retiree is one we need to continue to hear, and heed.

Our guest columnist is Patricia Nakamura, music editor of The Living Church.

Did You Know...

St. Luke's Church, Georgetown, Pa., held its first services on a flatboat anchored on the Ohio River more than 200 years ago.

Quote of the Week

The Rt. Rev. John David Schofield, Bishop of San Joaquin, on the state of the church: "... gives me somewhat the same feeling as when an understudy steps onto the opera stage to take a tricky aria: I know where we are going to end up, but I don't know what will happen before we get there."



teaches us that
the tithe is the
expectation of God.
We are to trust
God that he will
provide for us.

Standards of Giving

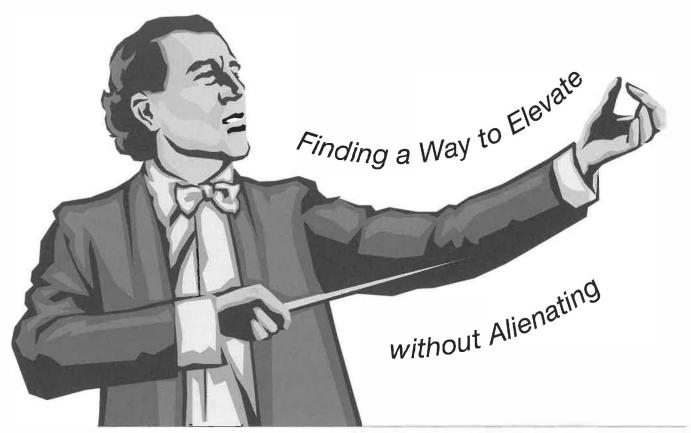
At this time of year many congregations are either preparing for stewardship campaigns or they already are involved in them. Rectors and committee chairs are involved in writing stewardship letters to members of their congregations, and clergy are preparing and delivering sermons on the importance of being good stewards. For many, the ideas of stewardship campaigns and every member canvasses are negative experiences. We don't like anyone telling us what we should be doing with our money. It doesn't have to be that way. In most cases, stewardship time is an opportunity for us to learn more about what it means to be a Christian.

Take the tithe, for example. Scripture teaches us in many references that the tithe, returning 10 percent of our income to God, is the expectation of God. We are to trust God that he will provide for us. The Episcopal Church has reaffirmed several times that the tithe is the minimum standard of giving for its members. For most of us, tithing represents a substantial increase in the amount we give. It takes time in order to reach that standard. Once persons commit themselves to tithing, the idea of proportionate giving may help them achieve that goal. Next year, we might give, for example, 4 percent of our income to our church, the following year 6 or 7 percent, moving toward the tithe. A disciplined pattern of giving can make an enormous difference in our churches and in our lives.

Many Tastes in Music

It is difficult to think of a topic that can stir the emotions of Episcopalians more than church music. Each of us has our preferences for music styles and most of us have strong opinions about church music. These facts are among the reasons why our semiannual Music Issues have proved to be popular with readers. This issue, like its predecessors, presents a variety of music-related articles along with advertisements aimed particularly at those involved with church music.

The ongoing argument over types of music is raised again in this issue. Traditional or contemporary? Hymns or renewal songs? Organ or praise band? Choir or soloists? As Scott Bennett points out in his Viewpoint article [p. 21], diversity of worship styles is a fact of life in the Episcopal Church. What is right for one congregation probably doesn't work in another. There are, for example, growing churches in which praise songs are the norm, and growing churches which stick to old favorites. For most of us, church music is simply a matter of personal preference. Like other elements of worship, there is a place in the church for various styles of music. The important thing is that the music glorifies God.



A Challenge for Church Musicians

By Scott Bennett

Earlier this summer a fairly controversial thread developed on the internet Anglican Music List. The subject was the role of the choir within corporate worship. Typically, divergent schools of thought were passionately espoused and some hostilities erupted; then the complaining: congregation bashing, clergy bashing, dialogues over clergy/musician discord, diatribes lamenting the rise of non-traditional types of music, etc. ... but no solutions. I am a frequent "lurker" and occasional contributor, and this thread and its tone really got my blood boiling. It brought to memory a commentary on church music written by C. S. Lewis in *The Joyful Christian*:

"There are two musical situations on which I think we can be confident that a blessing rests. One is where a priest or an organist, himself a man of trained and delicate taste, humbly and charitably sacrifices his own (esthetically right) desires and gives the people humbler and coarser fare than he would wish, in a belief (even, as it may be, the erroneous belief) that he can thus bring them to God. The other is where the stupid and unmusical layman humbly and

patiently, and above all silently, listens to music which he cannot, or cannot fully, appreciate, in the belief that it somehow glorifies God, and that if it does not edify him this must be his own defect. Neither such a High Brow nor such a Low Brow can be far out of the way. To both, Church Music will have been a means of grace; not the music they have liked, but the music they have disliked. They have both offered, sacrificed, their taste in the fullest sense.

But where the opposite situation arises, where the musician is filled with pride of skill or the virus of emulation and looks with contempt on the unappreciative congregation, or where the unmusical, complacently entrenched in their own ignorance and conservatism, look with the restless and resentful hostility of an inferiority complex on all who would try to improve their taste — there, we may be sure, all that both offer is unblessed and the spirit that moves them is not the Holy Ghost."

What concerns me as to the challenge of trained musicians working with congregations representing varied backgrounds, cultural propensities, etc., is hostile attitudes. Diversity in worship styles is a fact of life in the Episcopal

Church. Both contemporary as well as traditional musical formats are under attack from various camps, frequently in a fashion that makes the movie "Wall Street" seem tame. All this fighting among Christians! Screwtape is alive and well, and we church musicians are frequently incognizant cells in a slow-working, insidious cancer that eats away at the very fabric of what the church is meant to be, not only for Christians, but especially to those outside who observe us as proclaimed reflections of the love of Christ. "No thanks," they say. Can we be viewed as anything other than hypocrites?

I believe that we church musicians can often be our own worst enemy. If I were to perceive that I, as a member of a congregation, were being looked down upon and criticized for my inability or refusal to aspire to the "superior" level of the musician, the relationship would be seriously

I believe that we church musicians can often be our own worst enemy.

strained, perhaps terminated. The golden rule comes to mind. Is not the ultimate challenge in our profession to find a way to elevate without alienating? Who cares if you can do something better than anyone else? I will never forget Russell Saunders talking to me about his auditioning process and the types of people Eastman wanted in undergraduate and graduate programs. He said that awesome talent was everywhere, but they were looking for more. They wanted awesome talent coupled with affable personalities and

effective people skills, because they could not sell bad attitudes in the marketplace. A haughty attitude could get you "fired" at Eastman.

Perhaps this is harsh, and I apologize if it offends, but I believe that a great many people outside our small circle look at church musicians as some of the most arrogant, obnoxious, and high-maintenance people on the planet. I wonder whose fault that is. In the "real" world, none of this would be tolerated. Customers would be lost, revenues would decline, and businesses would cease to exist. Comparison is striking and frightening: In the church it is the effective work of the gospel that is lost when congregations wither, spirits decay, and churches die.

I'm fortunate in my situation. Grace Church enjoys traditional music exclusively. I do, too. Our members expect it. More importantly, they actually need it spiritually. We have a long and

rich tradition that, coupled with excellent preaching and beautiful liturgy, becomes a powerful magnet. We are attracting large numbers of new people from all sorts of backgrounds. We are growing not because we have sacrificed our heritage, standards and traditions, but precisely because we have not. Our rector is a man of immense talent, experience and spiritual depth. We spend a great deal of time finding ways to make all of this work effectively.

At a time when both church music and harmony within the church are at a crossroad, our profession might consider taking a long, in-depth look at itself, identifying those areas where we could be part of the problem. A serious and ongoing dialogue between clergy and church musicians should be established. Trust, mutual respect and honest communication must be

fundamental maxims between these two groups. Finally, we must find ways to keep the trust, support and affection of our congregations.

It is not difficult for people to find churches with all sorts of musical styles. I say, to each his own. Just don't let church music become an issue of divisiveness. People skills and attitude. That is the real challenge.

Scott Bennett is organist and choirmaster of Grace Church, Charleston, S.C.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Being Faithful

As a member of St. John's parish in Huntingdon Valley, Pa., I am disappointed by the portrayal of what occurred on Aug. 6 when Bishop Bennison dropped in on our two morning services [TLC, Sept. 3]. Holy Communion is an outward sign of an inward reality: a spiritually based reality that one is part of the mystical body of Christ and being faithful to the commands of holy scripture. It is not about just being warm and welcoming, like a social club. If a person denies that the scriptures are God's word and says that they are merely artifacts written by men and able to be "rewritten by men," and as a consequence goes on to deny the biblical revelation of who Jesus is ("the Way, the Truth and the Life" John 14:6), should that person be allowed to partake of Holy Communion?

On a personal note, my husband and I were among the "folks" who warmly greeted the bishop and made him feel welcome. I looked him right in the eye and said that "many, many prayers have consistently been offered up for your total healing, Bishop." I (and others at St. John's) have been praying for three years for our "situation" with Bishop Bennison. We have prayed, fasted and cried for this man to repent of his heterodox beliefs which are a denial of the "faith once received by the saints" and which is not in line with the vote taken at Lambeth '98 to uphold biblical morality in matters of human sexuality. We have prayed for him, sent flowers to him and his family when he was diagnosed with prostate cancer, have been cordial to him when he shows up when our rector is on vacation, and have suffered great anguish because of his actions.

If Bishop Bennison is truly concerned about having "unity" with St. John's, Huntingdon Valley, he should return to the scriptural teaching that unity is based on the truth of God's living revelation in the word written and the word incarnate in Jesus Christ.

Susan Wendling Wyndmoor, Pa.

I am bewildered by the letters regarding Bishop Bennison.

James A. Blauvelt quotes the Exhortation from the 1662 prayer book prescribing excommunication for blasphemers, hinderers and slanderers of God's word, adulturers, those in malice, envy, or other grievous crime, and makes that list synonymous with whatever he charges Charles Bennison with (which he does not name). Is it really? How so? Or does he just mean that those he disagrees with are hinderers and slanderers?

The Rev. Samuel Edwards says that to serve the bishop communion would be assisting him in "eating and drinking his own condemnation." St. Paul used this phrase to refer to those who were unable to discern the body of Christ as they practiced gluttony and drunkenness at the Lord's Supper, shutting out the poor. Is that what Fr. Edwards claims? Then Fr. David, OSF, quotes the

1979 rubric about someone "living a notoriously evil life." Does this refer directly to his disagreements with Bishop Bennison? He does not say how.

I hope someone will clarify what is meant by these twisting byways of language so the rest of us can judge the merits of the arguments. Meanwhile, we can only hope, as the Rev. Donne Puckle suggests, that St. John's follows the proper canonical procedures after an excommunication.

(The Rev.) Blaine R. Hammond St. Peter's Church Seaview, Wash.

In connection with the report of the repulsion from communion of the Bishop of Pennsylvania, I hasten to add a few words from an old school of thought and practice that is different from that of your correspondents.

I was coached in "the moral theology of the communion rail," as he called it, by

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sign of an
inward
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'The resolutions of Lambeth seem to have been largely grounded in love, but a love that

the late Loren Nichols Gavitt, known to many of your readers as the editor of *St. Augustine's Prayer Book*. His traditional orthodoxy has never been called into question.

The matter of the disciplinary rubrics was raised during a conference, and, speaking from decades of experience as a parish priest and one deeply read in the catholic tradition of the church, he advised in simple terms that one is bound to give communion to anyone who presents herself or himself at the rail. The reasons for this rule are obvious, and the second one is explicitly the avoidance of scandal, exactly what the action in Huntingdon Valley has provoked.

The disciplinary rubrics can apply only to persons in the lay order of the church, who are protected in the Canons from unwarranted and arbitrary repulsion. Such discipline, when it is a matter of a deacon, priest or bishop, is fully provided for in the canons. It is all a matter of order, and the priests in Huntingdon Valley were clearly out of order, whatever else may be said.

(The Rev.) Dennis Wienk St. Thomas' Church Bath, N.Y.

Out of Communion?

Regarding the article, "Anglican Mission in America Gaining Support" [TLC, Sept. 24], Bishop Charles Duvall of the Central Gulf Coast indicated in a pastoral letter to his diocese that he intended to recommend that the clergy of his diocese who had joined the Episcopal Church of Rwanda be inhibited "due to their abandonment of the communion of this church." Is not the Episcopal Church of Rwanda in communion with the Episcopal Church in the United States? These clergy have not resigned their orders nor joined another communion. I wonder, on what grounds does he conclude that they have abandoned the communion of this church? To my understanding, those clergy who affiliate with African churches do so precisely because they do not want to abandon the Anglican Communion.

(The Rev.) David M. Baumann, SSC Placentia, Calif.

By a fortuitous coincidence, I happened to read two items in the weekly news which helped me understand an issue which has also come up in my parish post-General Convention that I hadn't been able to fathom before. In TLC the item was about the defection

homosexual persons hasn't changed, these sincere and strictly pro-heterosexual folks cannot stand being in the same church with those who have not achieved the degree of closure on the subject that they have. And it is in this sense that they are comparable to the veteran who isn't content with simply not watching Lisa Ling's program but wants her to leave the show.

I too have agonized over the issue of gay sexuality for many years. The only conclusion I have reached with any theological certitude is this, however trite and/or simplistic it may sound: I

'Why is the Episcopal Church of Rwanda thought to have abandoned the communion?'

of several clergy with members of their congregations in the dioceses of the Central Gulf Coast and Colorado.

The other article about the possible racial profiling of Asian Americans, in the aftermath of the Wen Ho Lee affair, quoted from a letter to Lisa Ling, the youngest and arguably prettiest cohost of "The View" on TV every weekday: "I'm a Vietnam veteran, and I can't stand to look at your flat face every day."

With TLC's editor, I opined that because our church had survived another General Convention intact, we would experience three years of relative peace. Obviously we were wrong. There are those who apparently can't stand the fact that in some dioceses homosexual unions which conform to the marriage covenant and canons are being blessed by Episcopal clergy, and also some congregations are calling non-celibate gay priests to be their pastors. Even though it may not affect them directly, and the official position of our church concerning

believe neither the Old Testament nor the apostolic writers of the New Testament can help us resolve the issue. The only true and lasting answer will come when the Holy Spirit leads us to consensus if not perfect agreement on what Jesus would do. How would he respond to a homosexual couple's request for God's blessing? What conditions would he require for a gay person to respond to his call to "follow me," as a modern apostle?

(The Rev.) David Clemons Auburn, Calif.

I wonder if the attention your good magazine gives to the people and congregations intent on defecting from the Episcopal Church is wise.

Such people and groups, it seems to me, are interested more in issues of cultic purity than in imitating the life and works of Christ. Having served as a missionary in Central America, remembering the ministry of the Rev. Steven Malcom [TLC, Sept. 24], who was a contemporary of mine at iminates against faithful people who struggle to right the wrongs of generations past.'

Seabury-Western, and being the rector of the home parish of the martyr Jonathan Daniels, I'm mindful that energy spent on theological correctness is a selfish luxury and a diversion from dealing with people who live in our towns and cities who are hungry, homeless, sick or lonely. What if a church body gathered with the agenda of serving these people first and discussing theology second? Would we ever get around to defining with who is in and who is out, with who is right and who is wrong? I don't think so, and I believe our Lord would be greatly pleased.

Could you, therefore, please focus less on people and congregations which leave the church over theological issues and more on examples of ministries of compassion which I, and others, might emulate?

> (The Rev.) Peter R. Coffin St. James' Church Keene, N.H.

'Cast the First Stone'

I wish to comment on the article about the gathering of primates in Nassau [TLC, Sept. 17]. It surprises me that the article is classified as news when everyone would have known already what the Nassau Coalition was all about. The primary purpose of the meeting was to piously "cast the first stone" at the faithful deputies to General Convention who dared to love others.

I think the members of the Episcopal Church are due an explanation as to why the meeting was held in the rather expensive and exclusive Bahamian playground. Why not in Rwanda or Haiti or Sudan or another poor developing nation? Or have General Convention resolutions A045 and D039 replaced compassion and love as the primary focus for these people?

Time and again, the Nassau Coalition proclaims what it calls the Anglican view. Its members seek shelter in Lambeth as the authority. The resolu-

tions of Lambeth seem to have been largely grounded in love, but a love that discriminates against women, homosexuals, and those faithful people who struggle to right the wrongs

of generations past. Lambeth seems to have deliberately injured some whom God loves.

It seems to me, then, that there are two courses which we may choose to

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Thursday, 2 November 2000

7:00 p.m.

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Sunday. 5 November 2000

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

follow: the resolutions of Lambeth and the Nassau Coalition which clearly discriminate, or God's call to unlimited and undiscriminating love. Which, I ask you, will bring us into fellowship with God?

> (The Rev.) Gene Asbury Tupelo, Miss.

Scare Tactics

I have just re-read the cover article, "Walking the Labyrinth" [TLC, Aug. 27] as well as the responses [TLC, Sept. 24]. I am still shaking my head. I know it's old news, but I just can't let it go.

I appreciate Mr. Jordan's right to

his opinion. Walking prayer is not for everyone. However, I cannot get past the irresponsible editorial practice demonstrated by TLC in publishing a Viewpoint article as a cover feature. This practice implies agreement on the part of the editorial staff of the publication. And, if that is indeed the case, I would expect an article that cites facts rather than opinion, and religious precedence rather than hocus pocus pagan scare tactics.

TLC has reinforced its implied agreement by burying the responses in the letters to the editor column rather than giving them the same center stage as you allowed with Mr. Jordan's article. I am simply dumbfounded. All I can say is shame on you.

Karen Gann Knoxville, Tenn.

In reading Robin G. Jordan's article, "Walking the Labyrinth" [TLC, Aug. 27], I was reminded of Stanley Hauerwas's remark, at a Trinity Institute lecture in 1989, that we Episcopalians like to think of spirituality as "rubbing ourselves with Jung."

In warning of neo-pagan inroads upon Christian faith, however, Mr. Jordan curiously accepts and promulgates much of the propaganda pumped up around such trendy practices as the labyrinth. Although there is no disputing the evidence of cults and myths devoted to various goddesses in the ancient Mediterranean world, there's little evidence to support the idea of an archaic universal Mother Goddess cult, of which the various female deities are said to be local manifestations.

The seductive notion of the Goddess was bred by European romantic archaeologists of the 19th century, fostered by the romantic depth psychology of C. G. Jung and his archetypalist acolytes, and revived in the 1960s and 1970s by a romantic current among some second-wave feminists, who were looking for a matriarchal countermyth to the supposed patriarchal oppressions of biblical narrative and faith. Mr. Jordan ought not to accept at face value the accounts of the labyrinth and its ori-



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gins provided by sources of which he is rightly skeptical.

As someone who practices tai chi as a prayerful discipline, I'm not in principle opposed to Christianity's syncretistic adaptation and baptism of the practices of other traditions for the strengthening of our spirits in the service of God and his people. But we ought to recognize and develop first the powerful resources of our own tradition. For instance, instead of walking the labyrinth on Wednesday evenings during Lent, the members of Mr. Jordan's parish might well have considered walking the Stations of the Cross on Friday evenings. This is not an exercise in narcissism, but a profound circling inward, undertaken in fellowship with other disciples, with our Lord in his suffering glory at the very center of our search, and leading us every step of the way.

> William Shullenberger Professor of Literature Sarah Lawrence College Bronxville, N.Y.

What He Said

The Rev. Stan Runnels' letter [TLC, Sept. 10] missed the point of my letter [TLC, Aug. 13]. I offer this response in case my original plea has any merit. The issue is the procedure, in a vote by orders in General Convention, of announcing only negative and divided votes with the name of the diocese.

The occasion was the vote on the resolve to draw up a rite supporting relationships other than marriage. I wrote: "A preponderance of divided and negative votes, as it registered in my ears, came from dioceses in the old South."

"Preponderance" was not the right word. Although I had stopped counting halfway through, I meant to indicate that my ears gathered an impression from the litany of "no" and "divided," with the names of the dioceses announced. This method seemed to cast a negative pall over Southern dioceses. I checked the numbers before I wrote my letter. Out of 69 "no" announcements, 34

were from the South, including the Texas dioceses.

I think my plea still stands. Change this procedure on announcing votes by orders, at least on emotional, potentially divisive votes, to avoid isolating a segment of our church that takes a "no" stand. Whatever direction the proposal may be coming from, this would be a step forward in grace.

(The Rev.) Jim Workman All Saints of the Desert Church Sun City, Ariz.

From 10 to 9

If I correctly understand the action of General Convention in approving Resolution D-039, the Episcopal Church essentially has reduced the Commandments from 10 to nine. The seventh commandment, it seems, has been erased.

What does the seventh commandment say? "Do not commit adultery." What does that mean? It means to abstain from sexual relations outside of marriage. When does that occur? It occurs when we have intimate sexual contact before we are married. It occurs when we have intimate sexual contact with somebody other than our

wedded partner after we are married. It occurs when we have intimate sexual contact with a member of the same sex.

If I correctly understand D-039, the church no longer endorses the seventh commandment. Even more revolutionary, it approves breakage of that commandment. Not only does it approve, it welcomes and encourages people to continue in the breakage.

John W. Alexander Madison, Wis.

'Churchy Language'

OK, OK, so the Rev. Leo Maxwell Brown doesn't like the word "hired" creeping in where "called" used to be [TLC, Oct. 1]. Personally, I tend to think it's a good thing almost any time we divest ourselves of the churchy language we tend to hide behind, which still doesn't mean that I disrespect anyone's differing viewpoint. But to call the different terminology "a subtle and sinister movement that has recently assumed dangerous proportions" and to say that the use of one word "destroys trust and faith" ... Come on, Father. Get over yourself!

(The Rev.) John C. Fisher New York, N.Y.



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I begged for answers, but He did not speak, no cosmic roar came rumbling from the sky. My questions had no other way to seek the respite to be found in His reply.

I stifled need in stale alternatives, groping for noisy peace in ruins of trust, but all I did was dig in empty sieves until I learned, as every seeker must, the way to truth: God speaks to spirit first and only after, to the hungry mind.

Always, with ears attuned to love, immersed in silence, I had the power to unwind.

And then, oh joy, God's answers without toll came thundering through the doorways of my soul.

Donna Dickey Guyer

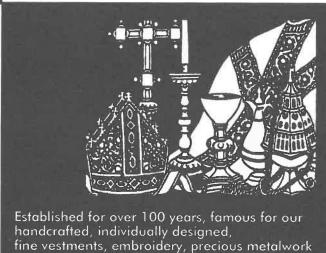


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Central Gulf Coast Nominees Announced

Five persons have been nominated for the election of a bishop in the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast.

All of those nominated by the search committee are from outside the diocese. They are: the Very Rev. Philip M. Duncan, dean of St. Matthew's Cathedral, Dallas; the Rev. Andrew MacBeth, rector of Eastern Shore Chapel, Virginia Beach, Va.; the Rev. Pierre W. Whalon, rector of St. Andrew's, Fort Pierce, Fla.; the Rev. Canon Donald L. Woodrum, rector of St. Luke's, Live Oak, Fla.; and the Rev. Steve Zimmerman, rector of St. Andrew's Chapel, Boca Raton, Fla.

The election will be held Jan. 6, 2001. The bishop-elect will succeed the Rt. Rev. Charles F. Duvall, who will retire as diocesan bishop.

BRIEFLY...

Three new officers were elected by the **Church Pension Group** board at its first meeting since General Convention. The Rt. Rev. Herbert Thompson, Jr., Bishop of Southern Ohio, is the chairman, and the Rev. Noreen P. Suriner, rector of Trinity Memorial Church, Binghamton, N.Y., and Vince Currie, Jr., chief financial officer of the Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast, are vice chairs.

Nurses at **Good Samaritan Hospital, Los Angeles**, elected not to decertify the California Nurses Association with a 64 percent vote Sept. 27-28 [TLC, Oct. 1]. "Now is the time for both sides to return to good-faith negotiations," said the Rt. Rev. Frederick Borsch, Bishop of Los Angeles, whose diocese continues a relationship with the hospital.

Australian Cardinal **Edward Cassidy** claimed that the document *Dominus Iesus* [TLC, Oct. 1], the declaration issued by the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, does not faithfully represent the Roman Catholic Church's current position on ecumenism and inter-religious dialogue.

PEOPLE & PLACES

Appointments

The Rev. **Keith Acker** is vicar of Christ the King, 1460 Midway Dr., Alpine, CA 91901.

The Rev. Susan Astarita is associate at Christ Church, 109 S Washington St., Rockville, MD 20850.

The Rev. Robert William Beauchamp is assistant at Grace, Box 1059, Kilmarnock, VA 22482.

The Rev. **Marjorle Bevans** is assistant at St. John's, Chester, VA, and vicar of Merchants Hope, Prince George, VA.

The Rev. **Donna Brown** is rector of St. Mark's, Fairland, 12621 Columbia Pike, Silver Spring, MD 20904.

The Rev. **Heath Civetta** is curate at Trinity Memorial, 44 Main St., Binghamton, NY 13905.

A BENCHES & LOFTS A D

Patrick Campbell is director of music at Emmanuel, Newport, RI.

Paul Cunningham is parish musician at All Saints', Morristown, TN, and director of music at All Saints' Day School.

Sue Ellen Echard is music director at Holy Spirit, Harleysville, PA.

Paul Emmons is organist at St. George's, Ardmore, PA.

Nathan B. Ensign is director of music at St. Paul-in-the-Desert, Palm Springs, CA.

Joseph T. Foxhood is organist/choirmaster at St. Andrew's, New Orleans, LA.

Ed Goerke is in music ministry at St. Margaret's, Lawrence, KS.

Rita Busse Gullickson is organist/choir director at Manakin, Midlothian, VA.

Robert Hawthorne is minister of music at Christ Church, Lake Oswego, OR.

Jake Hill is director of music at St. George's, San Antonio, TX.

Phillip Major has retired as organist and director of choirs at St. Andrew's, New London, NH.

Joel Gardner McKay is organist and director of choirs at St. Andrew's, New London, NH.

Taft Metcalf is director of music at Holy Comforter, Spring, TX.

Thomas Paviechko is organist/choirmaster at Calvary, Memphis, TN.

Betsy Schmitt is organist at St. Mary's, Waynesboro, PA.

Armen Shaomian is organist/choirmaster at Trinity Church, St. Clair Shores, MI.

Jeremy David Tarrant is organist/choirmaster at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Detroit, MI

Larry Tremsky is director of music at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, Garden City, Long Island, NY.

Zachary von Menchhofen is organist/choirmaster at Advent, Hatboro, PA.

E. Davis Wortman II is director of music at St. James', New York, NY.

John Richard Wright is organist/choirmaster at St. Margaret's, Palm Desert, CA.

Resignations

The Rev. **Stephen Craft**, as vicar of St. Patrick's, Zachary, and St. Andrew's, Clinton, LA.

The Rev. **Linda Kramer**, as assistant at Grace, Silver Spring, MD.

The Rev. **Ted Schroeder**, as rector of Christ Church, San Antonio, TX.

The Rev. **Kathleen Sturges**, as assistant at Our Savior, Charlottesville, VA.

The Rev. **Richard Wagner**, as rector of All Saints', Vista, CA.

The Rev. **Eric Williams**, as rector of St. Luke's, Baton Rouge, LA.

Retirements

The Rev. **Peter W. Bridgford**, as rector of St. John's Grace, Buffalo, NY.

The Rev. **Charles Cherry**, as priest-incharge of St. John's, Moorhead, MN.

The Rev. **Bill Dennis**, as rector of Christ Church, St. Joseph, LA.

The Rev. **Thomas Halbrook**, as rector of St. Andrew's, Aberdeen, WA.

The Rev. Canon **John A. Logan**, as canon to the ordinary of the Diocese of Texas.

Deaths

The Rev. **Phineas McCray Casady**, 93, who led congregations in four dioceses, died Sept. 22 at The Hearthstone in Seattle, WA.

Fr. Casady, a native of Oelwein, IA, received his education at the University of Oklahoma and the General Theological Seminary. He was ordained to the diaconate and priesthood by his father, the Rt. Rev. Thomas Casady, third Bishop of Oklahoma, in 1932. He was vicar of St. Stephen's, Alva, OK, 1932-34; vicar of St. Paul's, Clinton, OK, 1934-36; rector of All Souls', Berkeley, CA, 1936-42 and 1945-50; rector of St. Paul's, Des Moines, IA, 1950-64; and rector of St. Stephen's, Seattle, 1964-72. Fr. Casady entered the Army in 1942 and served as chaplain major until 1945. He retired from active ministry in 1972. He is survived by two daughters, Mary Grant Edson and Ellen McDavid, eight grandchildren and seven greatgrandchildren.

The Rev. **Barbara Pearson**, deacon of the Diocese of Olympia, died Sept. 26 in a hospital from lung cancer.

After retiring from secular work in 1989, she became active in the church and became a member at St. Hugh's, Allyn, WA. She was ordained to the diaconate in 1997 and had made application for ordination to the priesthood this year. At the time of her death she was part of the pastoral ministry team at St. Hugh's. Deacon Pearson was particularly interested in justice issues. She is survived by her husband, Bill, a daughter, Susan Hoover, a son, William, and six grandchildren.

Next week...

How the Saints Convert Us

CLASSIFIEDS

BOOKS

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ST. ANNE'S PARISH, in the Diocese of West Tennessee located in Millington, close to metropolitan Memphis, is seeking a priest who has a vision for growth with an emphasis on pastoral care and youth ministry. Team building skills and sense of humor essential. For profile send resume to: St. Anne's Episcopal Church, 4063 Sykes Rd., Millington, TN 38053, Att: Search Committee.

ASSOCIATE RECTOR: St. Matthew's, Louisville, is a dynamic, creative 950-member parish. We are looking for the right person for the clergy team, and specifics of job description will depend on the candidate's strengths as they mesh with other staff members' gifts. Duties will definitely include pastoral care, shared liturgical and preaching duties, teaching and work with small groups. Other strengths might include outreach, evangelism, spiritual direction and counseling. Excellent salary and benefits. Send resume to: The Rev. Lucinda Laird, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 330 N. Hubbards Lane, Louisville, KY 40207. FAX (502) 895-3486.

RECTOR NEEDED: Our spirit-filled parish in the heart of California's Central Valley is seeking a rector who has the gift of teaching and preaching the Word of God. We are a strong, fiscally sound parish with well-established programs in family and lay ministry, adult and children's Sunday school programs, and mission and ourreach. Our services are a blend of both contemporary and traditional worship. The candidate should be committed to our vision that Jesus is central in our lives, that we share his love through spirit-filled worship and caring fellowship, that we are called to bring people into his church, and that we reach out with the Good News to our city and beyond. For further information contact: Search Committee, All Saints Church, 3200 Gosford Rd., Bakersfield, CA 93309. (661) 832-8582 or startrek121440@cs.com

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR for Episcopal church in beautiful Salisbury, CT, with strong commitment to the music ministry. Please call: Fr. John Carter at (860) 435-9290. Resumes may be faxed to: (860) 435-3577 or e-mailed to stjohns@mohawk.net

GOD HAS ASSEMBLED a creative, energetic congregation in a beautiful, historic church on a wooded hillside in northwest Illinois. It now needs a 2/3-time vicar—one who thrives on making things happen—to lead it in growth, spiritual guidance and toward parish status. For details, send letter of interest and resume to: Grace Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 228, Galena, IL 61036-0228.

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RETIRED BUT NOT READY TO QUIT? Bi-vocational and looking for new opportunities? Live where others only dream of vacationing. The Diocese of Michigan has several part-time shared ministry and single congregation positions available in a variety of ministry settings. To inquire, send resume and CDO profile to: John Keydel, 4800 Woodward Ave. Detroit, MI 48201 or call (313) 833-4417.

RECTOR, Memphis, TN. Holy Communion is a thriving 2,000-plus member congregation. We share our facilities with St. Mary's Episcopal School for Girls and are located in the heart of Memphis. We have a growing commitment to Christian education for all. Our oureach programs continue to grow and evolve. To celebrate our 50th anniversary, we are building our first Habitat House. Holy Communion needs a passionate priest who will be chief preacher and leader of our Eucharist-centered worship. Our new rector must be able to work with and train lay leaders and be able to attract, recruit and lead clergy, professional and support staff. Interested candidates should send their resume and CDO profile to: Rector Search Committee, c/o Thomas J. McQuiston, 95 St. Andrews Fairway, Memphis, TN 38111.

RECTOR: Christ Episcopal Church, San Antonio, Texas, is conducting a nationwide search for a new rector. The prior rector has accepted a new position elsewhere, after 14 years in San Antonio. Christ Church is a large parish with average Sunday attendance of approximately 600. This Christ-centered congregation enjoys active ministries in the areas of children's education, adult education, music and youth. We have beautiful debt-free facilities. We are seeking a new rector who is a solid preacher and one who has good personal relationship skills. For further information, please contact. Michael N. Venson, 131 Interpark Blvd., San Antonio, TX 78216. (Chairman of Search Committee) (210) 249-2306.

A CHALLENGE FOR A CATHOLIC PRIEST. One of the first Anglo-Catholic parishes in America seeks a very special new rector. We seek a man who might have walked with Keble, Pusey, Froude and Lowder; a man who would have struggled to maintain the catholic faith in the hostile environment of the 19th century. We seek a man who will carry those same burdens today and stay the course—one who will never sacrifice the faith and dignity of the catholic faith to new-age religion. The challenges of today are no less than those of the past. We seek a man who will meet those challenges and triumph over them. Are you that very special man chosen for this very special mission? Call or write for Mount Calvary's parish profile to learn more about us. Mount Calvary Church, 816 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, MD 21201-4624. (410) 728-6140.

COCONUT GROVE, FL. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Coconut Grove, FL is seeking a new rector. We are a warm, diverse, all-inclusive congregation located in a beautiful urban setting near the bay. Great importance given to thoughtful, spiritual sermons, support of the arts in the liturgy, membership growth and maintaining the high standard of education already established at our day school. We have 115 pledging units. There are many outreach programs already established. The parish is Eucharist-centered and the Mass is our principal liturgy. A parish profile is posted at www.ststephens.addr.com. Please send a letter of interest with resume to: Simon Hornby, Search Committee Chairman, 155 Morningside Dr., Coral Gables, FL 33133.

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: Christ Episcopal Church, a dynamic, evangelical growing church of 2000+ in metro Kansas City, is seeking a special person for full-time ministry. Working with an exceptional support team, this person will direct and implement creative and innovative learning experiences for children through 6th grade. Committed Christians from any tradition with energy, vision and proven experience in children's ministry leadership are invited to send resume to: D. O. Smart, Christ Church, 5500 W. 91st St., Overland Park, KS 66207. FAX (913) 648-0854. E mail smart4455@aol.com

POSITIONS OFFERED

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CORPORATE SIZE, DYNAMIC Episcopal parish committed to worship, continuing education for all ages and out reach seeks an ordained priest strong in pastoral care, preaching, teaching and outreach. Responsible for leader ship of major ministry areas. Need initiative, follow-through team and administrative skills. Contact: The Rev. Dr. James A. Kowalski, Rector (203) 655-1456, St. Luke's Parish, P.O. Box 3128, Darien, CT 06820.

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