



Otey Parish

SEWANEE, TENNESSEE



Thank you, Betty Carpenter!

From 2013 through this past May, Betty Carpenter served with distinction as Director of Otey's Community Action Committee. There is so much to thank her for, including how she:

- Built a cadre of volunteers from the parish and community
- Oversaw the move into new and improved quarters in Claiborne Hall
- Fostered diverse board representation, including members from other churches, the University, and the community
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- Established CAC as a site for Bonner Leaders from the University, and mentored a number of students per semester
- Assisted with the founding of the Monteagle-Sewanee Rotary Club's annual Hunger Walk
- Attracted donations with great success, and left CAC in an excellent financial position
- Established relationships with Greek and other organizations at the University
- Launched a tutoring program for elementary school children
- Began once-a-month community meals bringing together people of different backgrounds
- Established the All Voices Choir for special needs adults
- Initiated multifaceted service in the Sherwood area, including



healthcare and meals

Fundamental to these accomplishments and more has been the culture of human relationship that Betty has fostered. Clients are not rushed through a system, but are invited to sit down for coffee and conversation. The goal is for each person who crosses the threshold to be treated as Christ.

We are very grateful to Betty for her service at CAC, and are blessed that she will continue to serve as Deacon of Otey Parish, offering her gifts in a separate capacity.

From Deacon Betty:

Last fall Rob and I discussed my thoughts about ending my time at CAC in order to spend more time with my family. The search process began, and now David Goodpaster is our new Director. I leave this position with a full and grateful heart, for the work of CAC has brought me more joy that I could have ever imagined. I am thankful for the opportunity to serve our parish and to receive so much more than I could ever give. We live in a wonderful community and the generosity of so many have kept CAC going for over 46 years. I had my turn, and now it's David's turn to continue the work and to shape the mission of doing God's work. I continue to serve as deacon for the parish and look forward to the day when we can all be back together.

From David Goodpaster:

Over the years, Deacon Betty Carpenter has directed CAC into a multifaceted outreach ministry that has helped and impacted too many people to count. Her leadership and service have been obvious to many of us, promoting and succeeding in CAC's mission of "seeking to present the love of Jesus Christ in our community." There is no doubt CAC is known throughout the area for the good work that it does. This will certainly continue, and CAC will build upon the solid foundation she has laid. Thank you, thank you, thank you, Deacon Betty, for all you have done in loving service!

Another Role for David Goodpaster

From Rob Lamborn:

I am pleased to announce that, in addition to his work as CAC Director, the Rev. David Goodpaster will serve as Curate of Otey Parish. Bishop Bauerschmidt has approved my appointing David to this part-time, non-stipendiary position. Serving as Curate will complement



David's work at CAC, and will express the pastoral and sacramental dimensions of his call to ministry that brought him to seminary here in Sewanee.

In addition to the normal liturgical and pastoral responsibilities of an ordained person, an emphasis of David's ministry will be families with children at home. As a parish we seek to be responsive to the needs of people in all categories, including as a partner in the raising of children in the faith. The challenges faced by school-age children and their families have significantly increased since the COVID-19 pandemic.

It gives me great joy to say again, "Please join me in welcoming David," this time into a second role, along with his wife Lauren and sons Sam and Max!

From the Rector



Continued changes in the COVID-19 pandemic make every update simply a snapshot of where things stand and what we plan based on the situation at the moment. That being said, let me offer a summary:

- The Diocese of Tennessee is allowing, but not requiring, churches to resume public in-person worship. Few have done so, and Otey is not yet among them. Both public health data and the expressed desires of parishioners will be considered in the decision when to resume in-person services. Significant restrictions will be necessary, and as long as restrictions on attendance remain, services will continue to be offered on video as well.
- Otey staff members are working on-campus (observing precautions) and remotely in the combination that best fits their duties. If you need to meet with a staff member in person, please contact them and they will arrange to meet you masked at a distance outside.
- Congratulations to the Rev. David Goodpaster, who was ordained to the transitional diaconate on Saturday, June 27. As CAC director, he continues to serve those in need while observing precautions 9:00 to 11:00am, Monday through Friday.
- Parish Administrator Frieda Hawkins, has seen sufficient recovery from her broken ankle that she plans to return to work July 13. Acting Parish Administrator Meghan Mazur will continue work until then and for a brief time after to ensure a smooth transition.
- V-B-Us, our intergenerational vacation Bible school, will not take place this summer.
- We are working on a significant upgrade of our parish website.

- Christian Formation planning is in progress for the fall, taking into account precautions and adaptations that are likely to be needed.
- Thurmond Library continues to serve the community one household at a time via a shelving unit set up on the front porch of Brooks Hall.
- Sewanee Children's Center is not holding summer camp this year, but plans to reopen school in August. We are in conversation with them about protocols to ensure the safety of both the SCC and Otey communities.

We will take into account an anticipated set of directives from new Vice-Chancellor Reuben Brigety, but it has not appeared as of this writing. Although there is much that cannot be predicted, there is also something I can say with 100% certainty. Worship, prayer, Bible reading, other learning, relationship-building, and safely helping others will continue to be ways to invest your time that are sure to yield great spiritual and societal dividends.

Times of great stress have the potential to drive us apart, or to draw us closer together. Your parish will continue to support you, and to count on you, carrying on the ministry of Jesus Christ together in church and community. Please be in touch about pastoral or other needs as you become aware of them.

Christian Formation Updates



From Jeannie Babb:

How I miss seeing each of your faces every week! What began as a few weeks of safer-at-home has morphed into a long and quiet summer with a great deal of uncertainty ahead. There will be no VB-Us this summer, as we focus instead on preparing for a safe and meaningful autumn restart. The Christian Formation Committee and Adult Forum Committee continue to work on these plans.

Please be looking for information from us soon about fall Christian Formation programs. And please be in touch with me about your ideas, your needs, and your concerns.

Do you have a new address or phone number? Please make sure we have your correct contact information in our system so we can reach you for special projects and events. For example, we have been sending out resources for parents of young children. Teens have had several special events using their cell phones or Zoom. Help us stay in touch so you don't miss out! Please contact me by text or call at any time.

Fire on the Mountain: Youth News

Congratulations and farewell to

our Youth Ministry Intern Andrea Vancil. Andrea graduated from the School of Theology and moved back to Memphis. We will miss her enthusiasm, her wealth of theological and scientific knowledge -- and of course, her dog Silas, who sometimes joined us for Sunday school! Godspeed, Andrea, and thank you for blessing us with your time.



What a fun year for Fire on the Mountain! We enjoyed played frisbee golf, painted faces at Oktoberfest and the Blue Monarch Halloween Party, roasted smores over a bonfire, visited the Naughty Cat Café in Chattanooga, narrated the Christmas pageant and the Creche service, made another excursion to Chattanooga for Clumpies ice cream, a book store visit and beat the Runaway Train escape room, and other shenanigans.

We also earned a lot in 2019-2020. First semester, the youth learned more about several Sunday ministries and helped with CAC, the nursery, and Godly Play. Second semester, Andrea Vancil and University student Joseph Brown taught Youth Sunday School in Brooks Hall using a curriculum called *In the Spirit of the Circle*. Developed by Forward Movement, *In the Spirit of the Circle* builds on the rich storytelling traditions of Native American and Indigenous peoples. "*In the Spirit of the Circle* bridges cultural divides and breakdown stereotypes, inviting each of us to walk the "Red Road" - to experience Indigenous ways of traditional spirituality and culture - with Jesus and with each other." This Christian formation resource produced in partnership with the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society's Office of Indigenous Ministries and the Office of Lifelong Formation.



Of course, we had to suspend in-person Sunday school in March, so we still have many stories to tell in the future! Youth Sunday school continued from home in April and May. Sunday school met weekly on Zoom. Students watched episodes of National Geographic's "The Story of God" by Morgan Freeman. Andrea led us in a discussion of each episode. Fire on the Mountain continued to meet remotely for fun activities like a scavenger hunt at home, and judging the Best Egg contest.

Youth Sunday school and Fire on the Mountain are now on summer break, but I know everyone is still thinking about the mysteries we learned, because the conversations continue. The memories continue, too. Christianna Taylor followed up on our visit to the cat café, and adopted young Rebel, who lives up to his name by making mischief as

we sleep.

This fall, Fire on the Mountain will continue to provide opportunities for learning, devotion, service, and fun. We may have to be creative. We will need “all hands on deck” as we leap the new hurdles of living in a region still overcoming Covid-19. Please contact Jeannie Babb if you’d like to host or help plan an event, or if you know a young person who might like to be involved.

Congratulations Graduates!

Though we are unable to gather in-person to celebrate these immense achievements, Otey invites you to pray for those who have graduated this year. Please read about our graduates (some not pictured) below.



JOSHUA ALVAREZ



WARD WITT CAMMACK



DAVID GOODPASTER



DANA LYNCH



TIM NELSON



ADEN GARNER RUNG



DONNY RUNG



JOHN SIMPSON



MARGARET WILSON

- Joshua Alvarez, grandson of Laurence Alvarez, graduated from the University of the South.
- Ward Witt Cammack (Wardie) is graduating *Cum Laude* from Episcopal High School in Alexandria, VA. She plans to attend The University of St. Andrews, Scotland, in the fall. Wardie is the daughter of Ward and Shelley Cammack.
- Kevin Cummings has completed his Master's degree in social work at Middle Tennessee State University. Kevin is close with the Sturgis family.
- David Goodpaster graduated from the School of Theology with a Master of Divinity and was ordained transitional deacon in June by the Bishop of Lexington. Otey is pleased to welcome David as the new director of Community Action Council (CAC.)
- Harrison Hartman graduated from St. Andrews-Sewanee School. Harrison is the son of Eric and Lisa Hartman.
- Bernadette Hartsough (Bernie) graduated from the School of Theology at the

interested in helping, CAC needs volunteers who can transport food from McClurg Dining Hall in Sewanee to Epiphany Mission in Sherwood. This will occur on Friday mornings in July from 9 to 11. Contact CAC for more information. Under COVID 19 precautions, the CAC food bank continues to be open Monday through Friday from 9 to 11. CAC is also actively continuing financial aid to many with utility, housing, and health needs during these distinctive times. For more information on what CAC is doing, please contact David Goodpaster at (931) 598-5927 or cacoteparish@gmail.com

David Goodpaster, CAC Director & Curate

Photos & Memorabilia Needed: Sesquicentennial Celebration

For our upcoming celebration of Otey's Sesquicentennial founding as St Paul's on the Mountain in 1870 - 71, we are planning to add to our archives with memorabilia, create a digital scrapbook, and perhaps a bound hardcover book, which looks back on 150 year's of Otey's ministries, celebrations, and families.

During this quiet time of staying at home, many parishioners have remarked that they are going through boxes of collectibles. This is a great opportunity to look through your scrapbooks and memorabilia to unearth your treasures that might tell part of Otey's story. When we are able to gather again on our church campus, we'll have ways for you to bring your items for us to scan and return back to you. We may ask you if the church can borrow some items to put on display this coming year, but certainly we want your prized possessions to come back to you.

We are looking for photos, pamphlets or flyers, programs, artwork, costumes, quilts, and the like. When we are gathered again we want to record your stories, spoken aloud to a video recorder or written in your hand. So please take these summer months to do a bit of family research on the ways that Otey was instrumental in your life through the years.

For questions or to report what you've found, contact Lisa Howick at lisa.m.howick@gmail.com; Greg Maynard at coachmaynard@gmail.com; or the Church Office at oteparish@gmail.com.

Music Notes

"What about this social distancing?"

This month I am going to depart just a little from my music hat and put on my healthcare hat. As soon of you may know I am also a health educator and RN. So, people's healthcare is very important to me. Studies have shown that increasing the measures to keep people apart to curtail the coronavirus comes with psychological costs.

Many states have banned all nonessential activities for months now. Schools have been online since March and restaurants only recently have opened in some areas for 50% capacity. Many have been

working from home or have been laid off or lost their jobs. This all done in an attempt to stop or at least slow the virus spread.

To some people, a lack of social connectedness feels as impactful as not eating. An article in March issue of LANCET showed that quarantined individuals experienced both short and long term mental health problems. These can include stress, insomnia, emotional exhaustion and substance or domestic abuse. Three years after the SARS outbreak in 2003 in Beijing, research reported higher levels of alcohol abuse than workers with less –intense exposure to the outbreak. Quarantines lasting longer than 10 days can result in Post-traumatic stress syndrome.

Neil Greenberg, psychiatrist at King's College, London states, "Although isolation can be unpleasant, it need not cause serious mental health difficulties." Walling people off from one another for months means the secondary effects of the pandemic, such as recession social unrest, and unemployment, could trigger unpredictable and widespread mental health challenges. Many of these, unfortunately, we have witnessed in recent days.

Especially the risk is the elderly, who both get more ill from the coronavirus and already experience high rates of social isolation. As people get older, they often lose the ability to get around and socialize, and their support systems are shrinking as well. The National Association of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine study reports that nearly a quarter of Americans age 65 and older are socially isolated and feel lonely. Such loneliness and isolation may harm overall health and increases the likelihood of dying by 26%.

Some people may actually see their social contact increase as families hunker down together. Many people stay connected thanks to living in this age of unprecedented communication capabilities. Tele health services work to alleviate loneliness and help those living alone or far from health centers. But modern technology is no substitute for human touch, such as holding hands, hugging or massage. Hospitals having to bar visits from loved ones which makes sense to prevent the virus' spread, also reduces touch when people need it the most. Even touch that comes from a hospital worker in PPE instead of a loved one is better than nothing. Touch is a vital part of the medical treatment program. I have been heart-sick for the families who lost a loved one to COVID-19 who couldn't be with them when they died.

Since we cannot attend public concerts or make music together many musicians have expressed actually going through a grief process. It has all but silenced the joys of making music. That can lead to psychological problems. Bottom line, do try and listen to music. Sing along!! It will help your mood, reduce depression, and lift your spirits to a healthy level. When you join us for "Zoom" service, sing out!! God loves to hear your voice raised in praise. Keep safe. I look forward to the day we can all be together again. Until then, "mask Up!"

By Kathleen Sturgis

Sewanee Mask Directive



Beginning Saturday, July 3, Vice Chancellor and Mayor Reuben E. Brigety, II is instituting a mandatory mask directive that will go into effect for all persons on the Sewanee Domain. This directive will apply to all residents, visitors, students, faculty, and staff, and will remain in force until further notice.

All residents of, and visitors to, Sewanee are required to wear face coverings over their nose and mouth when in public or inside buildings other than private residences, with five exceptions:

- When they are alone
- When they are asleep (such as in a residence hall room or hotel room)
- When they are eating or drinking
- When they are maintaining a social distance of six feet or more from any other person, and
- If they have a documented medical condition that precludes their wearing a face covering.

In situations that may be ambiguous with regard to the above exceptions, individuals are asked to exercise their best judgment with regard to their likelihood of spreading the virus to others. If in doubt, individuals should wear a mask. Everyone is asked to have a mask on their person at all times so that they may don it when circumstances require it as outlined above. The Vice Chancellor expresses his gratitude for your cooperation in helping to keep our community safe during this unprecedented health crisis.

Mental Health Resources

*If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
and the light around me become night,"
even the darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day,
for darkness is as light to you.*
Ps. 139:11-12

Christians are not exempt from feeling the effects of isolation, loneliness, and fear, especially during these months of social distancing and quarantine. There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic has taken a toll on mental health. While taking care to prevent physical complications of the disease, many neglect to safeguard their mental well-being in the process.

If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis, there is help available! You can call **855-CRISIS-1 (855-274-7471)**

to speak with the State Crisis Line, or **text HOME to 741741**. Just need someone to talk to? Call the Church Office at **931-598-5926** and let us know. We will be happy to lend a listening ear, pray with you, and help connect you with any additional services you might need.

Vestry Highlights

(met in St. Mark's Hall using masks and social distancing)

- Ratified actions from previous meetings via Zoom requiring in-person ratification.
- Learned that, after consultation with her surgeon, Parish Administrator Frieda Hawkins plans to return to work on July 13 after her broken ankle.
- Adopted a manual of financial policies and procedures, and a conflict of interest policy, both on recommendation from the Finance Committee.
- Noted results from the June survey about possibly returning to in-person worship. Overall results were 30% in favor, one factor in our not yet having resumed public in-person services. The Rector will keep a close watch on epidemiological data and will probably conduct another survey in July.
- Based on its earlier consensus to reflect on the name of the parish during our sesquicentennial year, heard from the Rector that he will be consulting them about establishing a committee to conduct research and report back in the fall.
- Plans to hold its July (if needed) and August meetings via Zoom, then meet again in person (with precautions) in September.

Statement from Bp. Bauerschmidt: Nashville Rally Against Police Violence May 31, 2020

Episcopalians in Middle Tennessee join with many others in decrying the ongoing incidents of violence in our nation over the past few weeks, directed against individual African-Americans. The expectation of safety for all is a foundation of civil society. In its absence, we acknowledge the anger generated, in members of the community and members of the church. We share a passionate commitment to change in our society, and to racial reconciliation.

As Christians, we believe that Jesus gathers around him a community drawn from every "tribe and language and people and nation" (Rev. 5:9). In this community racism has no place. We commit ourselves anew to this vision, in our church and in our community. We commend to you the work of the Beloved Community in our diocese. We pledge ourselves to live further into the call to respect the dignity of every human being. Peaceful assembly and protest are cherished rights of citizens, and can advance justice; but violence undermines them, and works against the

safety of all. The acts of vandalism and violent confrontation that took place following the recent rally in Nashville have been condemned by the leaders of the protest. We share their concern. Please continue to pray and advocate for justice and peace in our city, in our region, and in the world.

The Beloved Community: Commission for Racial Reconciliation of the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee strives to:
Work toward full inclusivity, both racially and ethnically, of the staff of the Diocese, elected lay and clergy leaders, clergy and bishops,
 Take the necessary steps in the healing of the wounds of our Church, it's members and our communities,
 Educate members about the effects of racism on people of color and white people and to convey the understanding that racism hurts everyone.

More information can be found at <https://edtn.org/programs/beloved-community-commission-racial-reconciliation/>

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Our new church management software has expanded capabilities to help parishioners get connected and stay that way. You can easily update your personal information, see the status of your giving, and set up online one-time or recurring electronic giving. As always, we are still able to receive gifts by check.

Interested or have questions?
Call the Church Office at 931-598-5926.

Prayer List

Abu-Ali Abdur'Rahman, Bonnie Babb, David Burnett, Ginny Capel, Corky Carlisle, Addie Cobbs, Gus Croom, Trudy Cunningham, Catherine Garcia, Frieda Hawkins, Ariel Jones, Houston King, Cheryl Lankhaar, Raymond McCoy, Dixon Myers, Mary Matlock Newman, Allen Peek, Russell Stubblefield, Elizabeth Taylor, Van Tucker, Jennifer, and those suffering from coronavirus.

July Birthdays

Allison Cahoon, Anne Davis, Elliott Fisher, Kris Gosling, Amy Lamborn,
Sue Moseley, Tilghman Myers, Ann Oliver, Marilyn Phelps, George
Ramseur, Claire Reishman, Clint Smith, Larry Wilson, Richard Winslow

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