

# THE MISSISSIPPI EPISCOPALIAN

The Official Magazine of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi



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2025



## Right at home

More than 40 years of outreach for the  
Honduras Medical Mission



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*More info to follow.*

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On the cover: Dr. George "Chippy" Leggett of Magnolia examines a patient in the dental clinic during the 2025 Honduras Medical Mission. Garrott and three other dentists on the trip saw 325 patients and performed 791 tooth extractions in five days. To read more about the work of this unique ministry, see page 3. Photo by Kathy Knight.







# Bishop's Journal

March 2025

- 1** Ministry Exploration Weekend—weekend retreat with persons discerning a call to ordained ministry
- 2** All Saints' Church, Grenada (Meeting with Vestry, tour of All Saints House)  
Preached, confirmed 5, reaffirmed 1



- 5** Ash Wednesday  
St. Andrew's Lower School  
Preached  
Church of the Holy Trinity, Crystal Springs  
Preached  
St. Mark's, Raymond  
Preached
- 6** Small Church Collaborative  
Met with Clergy person  
Met with Clergy Candidate  
Bishop's Lenten Bible Study
- 7** Bishop Coach  
Met with Staff Member  
Call with Bishop  
Met with Clergy Candidate

- 9** St. Mark's, Raymond  
Preached  
Church of the Holy Trinity, Vicksburg—service of healing prayers  
Spoke



- 11** Staff Meeting  
Perkins Foundation Luncheon  
Spoke  
Meetings with staff members
- 12** St. John's Day School, Laurel—visitation  
Spoke
- 13** Trustees' Meeting  
Bishop's Lenten Bible Study
- 14** Commission on Ministry
- 16** Christ Church, Holly Springs  
Preached  
Calvary Church, Michigan City  
Preached

- 18-25** House of Bishops Meeting, Camp McDowell
- 20** Bishop's Lenten Bible Study
- 25** Return to Jackson

- 26** Jackson Public Schools—Visit
- 26** Visitation—The Orchard Retirement Community  
Preached  
Visitation—St. Catherine's Retirement Community  
Preached
- 27** Title IV Reference Panel  
Bishop's Lenten Bible Study
- 28** Meeting with Staff Member  
Meeting with Clergy person  
Meeting with Postulant
- 29** DOK Spring Retreat, Chapel of the Cross, Madison  
Spoke



- 30** St. Luke's Church, Brandon  
Preached, confirmed 7, reaffirmed 5



- 31** Bishop's sabbath



# Right at home

## More than 40 years of outreach for the Honduras Medical Mission

by Wil Oakes, with reporting by Kathy and Scott Knight

For five days each year, one of the most ambitious and expansive outreach ministries of the Diocese of Mississippi takes place over 1,000 miles away from home. Flying across the Gulf of Mexico and the Yucatán Peninsula and landing in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, a team of doctors, nurses, physical therapists, pharmacists, dentists, optometrists, and even veterinarians makes its way to the tiny village of San Joaquin.

This is the Honduras Medical Mission.

During their short stay, these medical professionals, along with a team of support staff, will treat more than 3,000 people and nearly 1,400 animals from all over the region for a wide range of issues. They will give out upwards of 5,000 individual prescriptions in addition to providing families with packages of medicine for day-to-day ailments. They will provide prescription glasses to more than 500 people.

Given the scale of what this team does, it's amazing how few Episcopalians in the diocese ever see their work firsthand and hard to imagine how they pull it off.

When Drs. Scott and Kathy Knight of St. Peter's, Oxford, agreed to take on leadership of the Mission trip in 2023,

they were just as clueless as anyone. Optometrist William Strickland, also a member of St. Peter's and a Mission participant since 1997, did some persuading.

"We'd been asked to be involved for a long time, and we'd always put people off and put them off," says Scott. "And finally we thought, 'okay, she's retired. I'm half time.' Okay, fine. William talked us into it, but we didn't know anything at all."

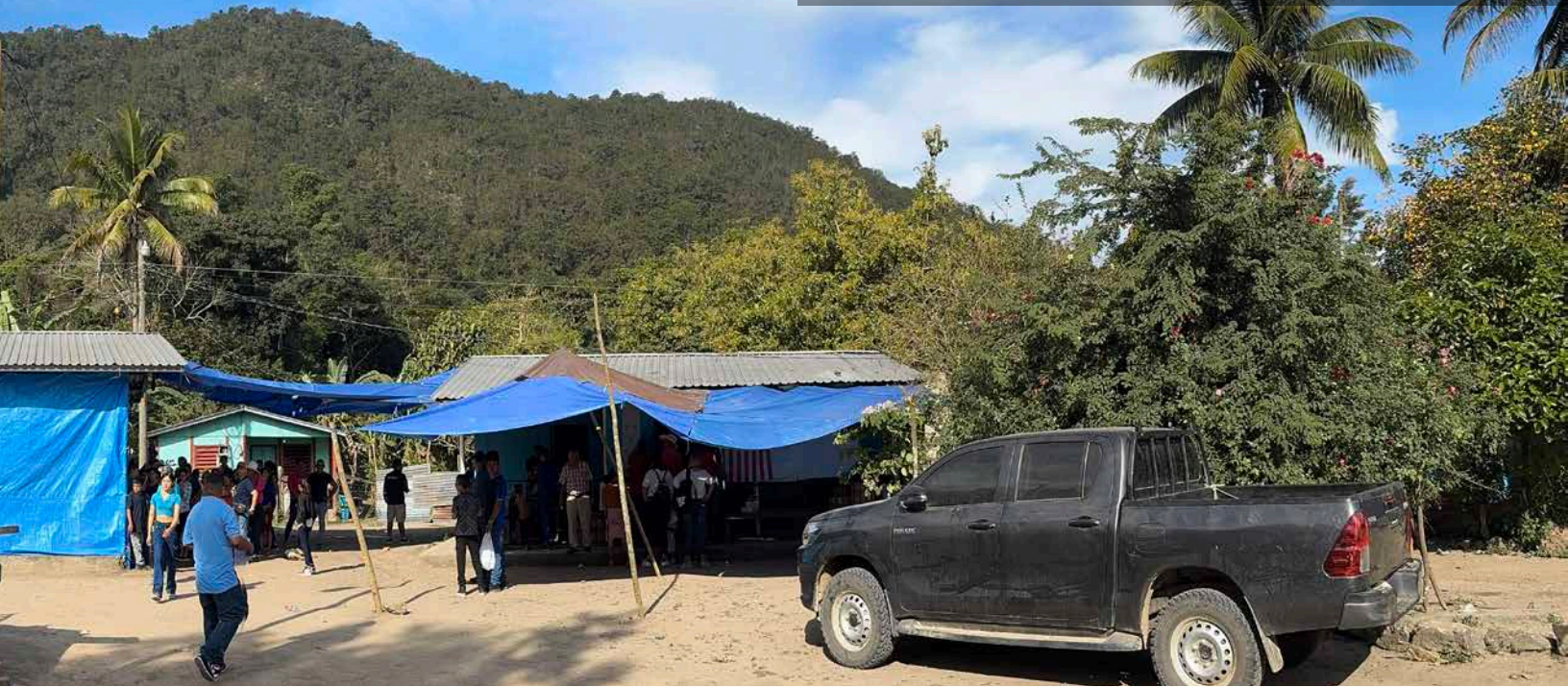
Since its inception as a project of a Sunday School class at St. John's, Pascagoula, in 1982, sponsorship of the Mission has shifted to a new church every two years. Typically, the leaders chosen from that parish go on the Mission as observers for one year before assuming responsibility for the following two. The Knights did their observation as new board members at the 2024 trip. They were blown away by what they saw.

"It's amazing what they deal with," says Kathy. "Yeah, it really was surprising, that it's not just, 'well, let me give you some high blood pressure pills.' I mean, they did procedures. They took a cyst out of a guy's back."

The Knights led their first trip in February, and are now well versed in all things Mission. Kathy is quick to point out the expansion that's taken place over the years,



*The village of San Joaquin sits high in the mountains of Honduras, a difficult two-and-a-half hour journey from the nearest large city. The population of the village is less than 1,000, but people come from all over the region to receive care at the clinics of the Honduras Medical Mission. Photo by Scott Knight.*



especially the fact that the services provided to the people of San Joaquin now go beyond the one-week-a-year visit.

"It's not just that week anymore," she says. "We provide services all throughout the year. The preschool, Kinder Mississippi, that we fund, we fund that throughout the year. That's pre-K kids, and now we're getting more involved with the one through six government school."

Medical offerings have expanded as well. The Mission began employing local nurse Keila Gonzalez in 2024. She operates the Mission's clinic year-round from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on weekdays. Gonzalez has also become a vital asset during the annual visit, serving as a liaison between the Mississippians and their Honduran patients.

"She was kind of learning her first year—the first year that I went," says Scott, "and she's just made this huge transition and this time she was right there with everybody else, saying 'oh, I know this patient, here's what their issues are.' I mean, she just facilitated everything, made everything run much smoother."

During the summer of 2024, there was a large outbreak of dengue fever in the village and surrounding

areas, and Gonzalez and her assistant Mirian Gutierrez were equipped with IVs to treat people for dehydration. They likely saved numerous lives, as the two-and-a-half-hour journey to San Pedro Sula is difficult even on the best of days due to poorly maintained roads.

While the primary focus of the Mission is to attend to patients' chronic health problems, acute situations also arise during the visit. During the 2025 Mission, doctors treated a child who suffered a fall and a woman who was brought in in a nearly catatonic state. The veterinary clinic may have halted a major outbreak of a transmissible cancer among the local dog population by treating tumors that had recently shown up in two dogs.





A lot of infrastructure is needed to provide these services, but with the bulk of the clinic staffed for only the one week of the year, the Mission has found creative ways to make its facilities do even more for the community. Kinder Mississippi is also the home of the Mission's pharmacy. The dentistry building doubles as a community center. There are aspirations to build an optometry clinic on the grounds of El Santo Episcopal Church, San Joaquin that will serve as a Sunday School the rest of the year and to replace the old veterinary clinic with a more modern one to allow visiting vets to spay and neuter.

If all of this sounds expensive, it's because it is. Even though all mission participants pay their own way, including airfare, food, and lodging, the costs of medicines, shipping, and maintenance are considerable. With the clinic now open all year, the expenses aren't limited to one annual project. All of it is funded by direct donations.

"It's really the people of the Diocese of Mississippi that do this," says Kathy. "It's their generosity."

Chairman of the diocesan Honduras Medical Mission board George Jackson echoes that sentiment and encourages Mississippi Episcopalians to get involved.

"Our love for these people is deep and long lived.," he says. "We are experiencing unusual cost increases related to the drugs and supplies we need to help these folks, we certainly need more donations to offset these higher costs."

As far away as Honduras may seem both geographically and culturally, people who go find similarities all around.

"The thing that surprised me the most is how at home I felt when I got to the village," says Kathy. "I grew up in a little town, in Myrtle, on a dirt road. Nobody was wealthy. You got water out of the well when it was working, otherwise the spring. After supper, people would just sit around on their front porch or in the street and talk. That just really hit me. That nostalgia and how at home I felt. I think a lot of folks from Mississippi would feel very, very at home in rural Honduras."

As the Mission looks forward to its 44th year in 2026, it continues to narrow the gulf between those two communities one act of care (or, in fact, several thousand acts of care) at a time. 🍌

*The continued service of the Honduras Medical Mission is dependent on donations, both of money and time. If you can make a donation, please do so by visiting [msepiscopalian.com/honduras](https://msepiscopalian.com/honduras). If interested in participating in the Mission either as a medical professional or support staff, visit [dioms.org/ministries/honduras.html](https://dioms.org/ministries/honduras.html).*



*From top: Pharmacist Tiffany Poole of McComb poses with local children in the Pharmacy, which serves as the Kinder MS school the rest of the year; veterinary clinic staff members Lisa Collins of Starkville and Lisa Ferman of Summit; patients queue up for treatment at the Gene Lee Medical Clinic. The Medical Clinic now stays open year round, staffed by nurse Keila Gonzalez and assistant Mirian Gutierrez.*





# Congregational thriving

Representatives of small churches gather  
in Canton for conference

by **The Rev. Elisabeth Malphurs**

Over 60 participants from over 25 small churches around the diocese gathered at Grace Episcopal Church, Canton, for the second annual Small Church Conference on March 21-22. Joined by the Canon to the Ordinary, the Rev. Gary Meade, we celebrated the gifts of small churches while also exploring current challenges and drawing from the riches of our tradition and community to find solutions. One topic of conversation during our plenary and small group sessions was how to strengthen our skills in offering Morning Prayer and other non-Eucharist services, recognizing that many of our small churches do not have access to a priest every Sunday. We explored a variety of musical and homiletical formats as we worshiped together during the weekend, demonstrating that engaging worship is a matter of intention and working with what we have. Thank you to our lay worship leaders, LaWanda Washington and Carolyn Burton, for leading our worship, our musicians James Anderson and Cecil Fox, and our lay preacher, Bobby

DeLaughter. During our workshop time, we explored topics such as music in the small church, creation care, stewardship of volunteers, and congregational thriving.

Thank you to all those who contributed their time and talent to making the Small Churches Conference a success, particularly Rev. Beth Foose and Grace Episcopal Church, Canton for their fabulous hospitality and beautiful space. Our Small Church Collaborative monthly Zoom meetings continue on the first Tuesday of each month at 2:00 PM. To be added to the email list to receive announcements about these meetings and other small church events, please email the Rev. Elisabeth Malphurs at [emalphurs@stalbandsbovina.org](mailto:emalphurs@stalbandsbovina.org). 





## All are one: Becoming Beloved Community in 2025

**T**he Easter season is one of my favorites—as we begin to explore in scripture the struggles of Jesus' disciples to understand and follow the last commandment which Jesus gives them in John 15:12: to love one another as Jesus loves them. Our scripture readings during each cycle of the Revised Common Lectionary take us into the Acts of the Apostles, and invite us into an in-depth look at those early days of the disciples' ministry following Jesus' death, resurrection and ascension. Left to carry on the mission and ministry they began with Jesus, they wrestle with what it means to welcome believers among their own Jewish faith, but also among Gentiles, the uncircumcised, women, Ethiopian eunuchs—all persons with whom they would have had little or no contact in their prior day-to-day existence. For this group of disciples who surely must have thought that the Messiah had come to redeem the House of Israel, there was a not-so-subtle lesson that God had always loved all of God's people, from the beginning of creation, and that the message of Jesus Christ was for all the world.

And, there it was, laid out for Peter in a dream: "What God has made clean, you must not call profane" (Acts 11:9); later, Peter acknowledged that "[t]he Spirit told me to go with them [Gentiles] and not to make a distinction between them and us." (Acts 11:12). Peter was able to see for himself the Holy Spirit being poured out upon Gentiles and persons whom he would not have imagined to be included within the grip of God's grace and the reach of God's love. And as he began baptizing these believers, we see how he and the other disciples are changed forever.

We are called as Christians to imagine the unimaginable: that God's love knows no boundaries, no limits, no measure. We are called to realize that in Christ Jesus, "there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28, and Colossians 3:11).

During Lent, I offered a Bible Study largely focused on the Book of Genesis, and the ways that God has always had plans and purposes for God's people fully understanding our humanity. From Cain's decision to kill his brother, Abel, to Abraham and Sarah's disobedient choices, to Jacob's deceitful trickery, to the decision of Joseph's brothers to sell him into slavery, we are aware that humankind can exhibit violence, greed, jealousy and anger. We're also aware that even when we have wounded those closest to us—or have been wounded by persons closest to us—we can be healed, forgiven, and forgiving, reconciled and reconciling, given a fresh start and a new name, and empowered to deliver God's message into the world, even if (like Moses) we feel that we don't speak well. We are God's people, created in God's image and likeness, and deeply loved by our God, in all of our human condition.

As we move through this year, we will expand our work in Becoming Beloved Community to intentionally share the message of God's unconditional love and grace, and welcome all of God's people to experience that love with us.

- In May, we will observe Mental Health Awareness Month—and make our best efforts to dismantle the stigma that comes with mental illness. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) reminds us that "in every story there is strength." My mother struggled with mental illness which was undiagnosed until the last years of her life. Our family struggled and suffered—and the relief of being able to give a name to her illness was more than I could ever have hoped or expected. As we seek to empower God's people to share their stories, we hope to break the stigma and encourage persons who are affected by mental illness (either themselves or loved ones) to continue to seek healing.
- On June 14, we will hold our first Diocesan symposium on welcoming God's people with differing abilities. Much of our focus will be on



ways in which we can make our worshipping spaces even more welcoming to persons of all abilities. (See [msepiscopalian.com/beloved](https://msepiscopalian.com/beloved)




for some thoughts about ways in which we can work with the spaces we have and be more welcoming!) And, here are two books to add to reading lists to help make us more mindful of being welcoming: *The Bible, Disability and the Church: A New Vision of the People of God*, by Amos Yong, and *Autism Out Loud* by Adrian Wood, Carrie Cariello, and Kate Swenson.

- We'll observe Pride Month during the month of June—with our renewed commitment to ensuring that our LGBTQ+ siblings are visible to us all and supported in our worshipping communities. As we reaffirm our Baptismal Covenant, we commit to seeking and serving Christ in all persons, respecting the dignity of every human being and loving our neighbors as ourselves. Our Pride Month commemorations remind us of our desire for justice for all of God's people, our mutual respect for each other, and our shared values and love for The Episcopal Church.
- On August 10, the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi will welcome Bishop Michael Curry. Fresh from his participation in the Jonathan Daniels Pilgrimage in the Diocese of Alabama, Bishop Curry and I will engage in thought-provoking conversation about the murder of Emmett Till in this year of the 70th anniversary of his death, perceptions that still persist about Mississippi, and how The Episcopal Church in Mississippi continues to be a fountain of healing. If you haven't read Wright Thompson's *The Barn*, you might add that to your reading list.
- We'll observe Recovery Awareness Month in September. We would love to identify some of our worshipping communities already hosting 12-Step groups who might

be interested in hosting 12-Step Eucharists in the month of September. And, we'd also like to add to our website a list of churches hosting 12-Step groups—so if your church is among them, please, please let us know so that we can help direct persons in need to places where they can receive support.

- In November, we'll celebrate our veterans. With now five veterans' homes in Mississippi (Oxford, Kosciusko, Jackson, Collins and Biloxi), and a number of veterans being served by VA here, we know our recognition of the persons who have served our country is important; we know that some of those veterans have returned home sick and injured in body, mind and spirit. We have churches in all of the areas in which veterans' homes are located—and we'll work with VA to determine ways in which we can offer our support to those homes and celebrate our veterans in all of our churches with prayer services and other touches to show our care.

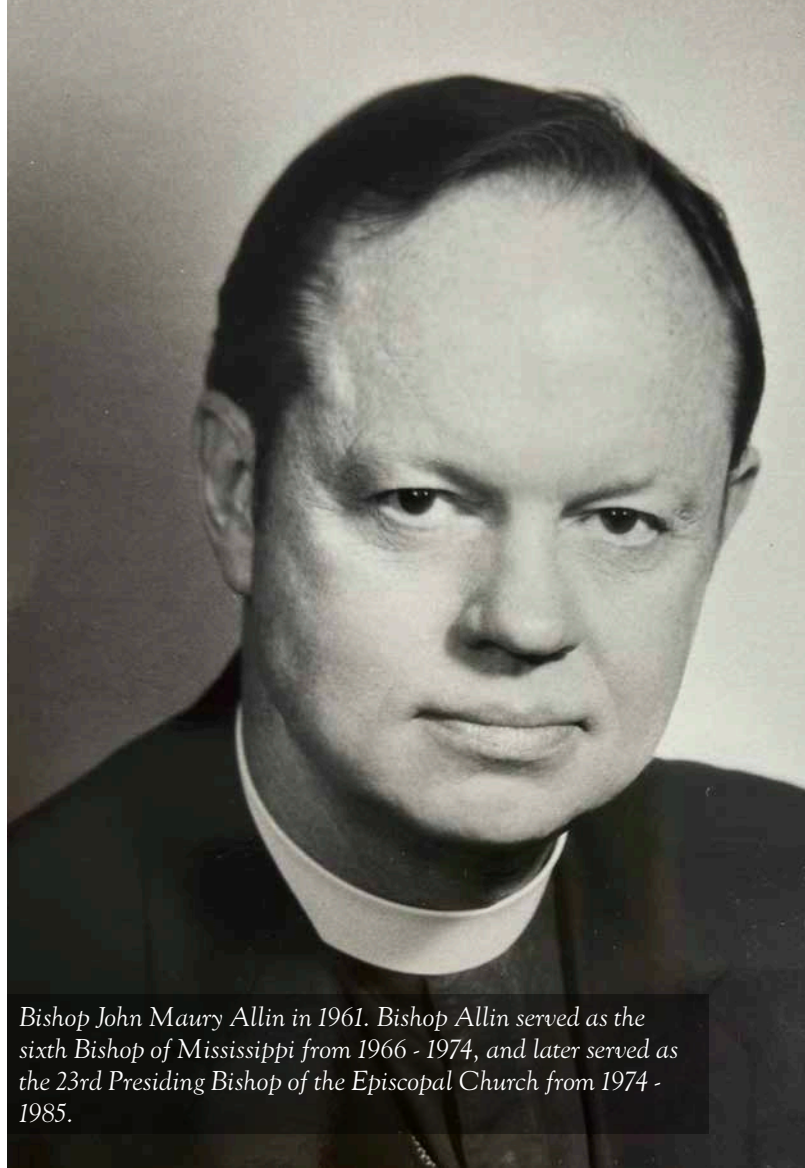
There are many ways to talk about loving neighbor, and becoming the beloved community in which we strive to love one another as we are loved by God—the community to which we are commended by Jesus in John 15:12. We invite everyone to find a place to engage in the work of Becoming Beloved Community—and meet a neighbor you've not yet grown to love. 





# An understated legacy

## Bishop John Maury Allin and the Committee of Concern



*Bishop John Maury Allin in 1961. Bishop Allin served as the sixth Bishop of Mississippi from 1966 - 1974, and later served as the 23rd Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church from 1974 - 1985.*

by The Rt. Rev. Dr. Dorothy Sanders Wells

To borrow words from William Shakespeare and John Steinbeck, the summer of 1964 was the summer of Mississippi's discontent.

The struggle for Civil Rights for black persons had escalated—and advocates and supporters from around the country had joined sympathetic Mississippians on the ground. Non-violent protests for access to places of public accommodation punctuated the hot summer of 1964—but the struggle for voting rights was at the forefront of the summer's work, in a state in which voter literacy tests that even white citizens could not pass without assistance were implemented to prevent black persons from exercising the right to vote.

It was a summer in which James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Michael Schwerner were killed near Philadelphia, Mississippi while working to dismantle those discriminatory voting practices.

It was a summer during which reportedly more than 50 black churches—targeted as seats of Civil Rights organizing—were burned and bombed.

The response to the destruction of these black churches was the unprecedented establishment of the Committee of Concern, on September 9, 1964. This interfaith body—comprised of 23 white and black Christian ministers and a Jewish rabbi—was formed for the purpose of helping to raise money for the rebuilding of the churches, and was reportedly the first desegregated meeting of clergy to take place in the Baptist denomination's state headquarters. Dr. William Penn Davis, President of the Mississippi Baptist Seminary, an institution founded by white Baptists for the education and formation of black Baptist ministers, was the first Chair of the Committee of Concern. Its goal, Davis said, was to allow persons of “goodwill” an opportunity to respond to the violence by cooperating to





*A photo of Bishop Allin (front row, third from left) printed in the June 1974 issue of The Church News (predecessor to The Mississippi Episcopalian). The original caption reads: "As a member of the Committee of Concern, [Bishop Allin] joined with others in dedicating the new Christian Union Baptist Church, rebuilt after being burned during the turbulent 1960s."*

rebuild the worship sites. Many of the churches that had been destroyed were Baptist.

The Rt. Rev. John Allin, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi, was present at that first meeting of the Committee of Concern. Bishop Coadjutor Allin became one of the members—and part of the executive committee. Bishop Allin was named Chair of the Committee of Concern in September 1966. His work with the Committee of Concern has largely been untold—and overshadowed by the work of the Baptist Church in Mississippi.

Bishop Allin's role on the executive committee of the Committee of Concern was reported to be much about fundraising. By early 1967, just 2 ½ years after its establishment, the Committee of Concern had contributed to the rebuilding of 42 of the churches. Oren Renick, biographer for Dr. William Penn Davis, reported that nearly \$129,000 had been raised for the

work. Despite the rebuilding effort having been criticized by segregationists, more than half of the funds raised reportedly came from Mississippians. In addition to the funds raised, teams of students from colleges, universities and seminaries around the country reportedly arrived to offer free labor for the rebuilding projects, working alongside teams from Mennonite Disaster Service and the Society of Friends (Quaker). A Jackson, Mississippi architectural firm contributed blueprints and designs for the churches, and a San Francisco landscape architect was said to have contributed landscape plans for all of the churches. The Baptist Program also reported that a number of Mississippi businesses contributed building materials and equipment. The contributions of labor and materials were estimated at more than \$375,000.

Bishop Allin's influence on the Committee of Concern is duly noted in the fact that he was invited to preach the dedicatory services for at least two of the rebuilt



churches—Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, in Philadelphia, Mississippi, and Central Union Baptist Church. Both invitations are noteworthy. Mt. Zion United Methodist Church was burned on June 16, 1964—shortly after those three Civil Rights workers—Chaney, Goodman and Schwerner—had visited the church, encouraging its members to try to register to vote in spite of the perceived futility and threats of violence in doing so; the three men returned to the burned-down church to see the damage and to meet with church members on June 21, 1964, just before they would be killed. A memorial to the men has been erected on the site. Central Union Baptist Church, originally situated in Madison County, was burned on July 17, 1964, and is said to have been the first church rebuilt with the Committee of Concern's assistance; it was rebuilt at a new site closer in Jackson. The Clarion Ledger reported that Bishop Allin preached the dedication of that new church site on January 24, 1965.

Bishop Allin's work with the Committee of Concern, and the participation of The Episcopal Church in the National Council of Churches (NCC), were not without controversy within the Diocese. Some parishes objected, claiming that attracting new communicants would be difficult given the publicity surrounding our denomination's role in the Civil Rights Movement. And, parishes threatened to withdraw financial support from the Diocese (See, *The Sixth Bishop of Mississippi: A Study of the Times of John Maury Allin and the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi*) because of desegregation efforts. Bishop Allin remained steadfastly focused on the need for improved race relations and a study of poverty and missions to address that work.

Bishop Allin remained committed to the work of the Committee of Concern in large part because of the fact that he believed it would allow for greater communication between black and white persons in Mississippi. He was quoted as saying that the concept of communication had been missing—and that communication was key. Indeed, Bishop Allin recognized that communication is a powerful instrument to diminish fear and the violence that fear often begets.

By 1967, Bishop Allin, together with Catholic Bishop Joseph Brunini and United Methodist Bishop Edward

Pendergrass, had called for the establishment of a biracial statewide commission “charged with the realization of a greater sense of unity and responsibility among all Mississippians.” And, by January 1968, 3½ years after that troubling summer of 1964, the Annual Council of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi passed a resolution denouncing the black church burnings and bombings, and calling for the establishment of a state Commission on Human Relations and investigation of law enforcement.

Although Bishop Allin would have claimed himself a traditionalist, many labeled him—because of his work in calling for improved race relations—as a liberal. Nonetheless, in spite of opposition, Bishop Allin went on, in 1973, to be elected the twenty-third Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church. He was elected to a Church that was already experiencing a decline in attendance: *The Living Church* reports (June 30, 2024 issue) that in the six years prior to his election, The Episcopal Church had “lost about 15 percent of its membership...after decades of steady growth.” And, during his tenure, the Church faced the controversial and divisive matters of women's ordination (which he did oppose) and the 1979 adoption of a revised *Book of Common Prayer*. While either of those matters might have been all-consuming, Presiding Bishop Allin continued a focus on justice. Keeping an eye on the need to seek and serve the welfare of all of God's people, Presiding Bishop Allin, according to The Episcopal Church archives, single handedly persuaded a reluctant Executive Council to launch a national fundraising initiative in support of programs to alleviate poverty and injustice, clergy education, and congregational development. “Venture in Mission” (VIM) was a major fundraising success that greatly expanded social justice programs and ministry during the 1970s. VIM was a tremendous success in the local dioceses, far outreaching its \$100 million goal and funding hundreds of still-active Church programs and community non-profits. ([msepiscopalian.com/allin](https://msepiscopalian.com/allin))



Bishop Allin is a rich part of the history of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi—and he proved himself willing to take strong and controversial stands that have continued to shape not only our Diocese and state, but all of The



Episcopal Church. Mark Duffy, former canonical archivist and director of the Archives of The Episcopal Church, comments, "John Allin's ministry was rooted in a generous understanding of mission in service to others as the central organizing force in the church's life, and that theme is worth revisiting as we embark on a new examination of our capacity for reconciliation." ([livingchurch.org/news/archival-upgrade](https://livingchurch.org/news/archival-upgrade)) As we lean more and more into what it means to love neighbor as ourselves and strive for becoming God's beloved community, we are thankful for Presiding Bishop Allin and his witness—in Mississippi, and beyond. 

*An invitation sent by Bishop Allin to a May 22, 1967 meeting of the Committee of Concern. In order to get some reluctant Mississippians on board with his goals in the realm of Civil Rights, Allin often had to use reassuring language to coax them along.*

*Another example of this can be seen in an archived entry from the bishop's journal at the Archives of the Episcopal Church. To see the handwritten entry and read a little bit about Allin's "Gradualist Approach," visit the entry at [msepiscopalian.com/allin-2](https://msepiscopalian.com/allin-2).*



## Diocese of Mississippi

JACKSON, MISS.  
ZIP CODE 39203  
P. O. BOX 933

May 11, 1967

Dear Friend:

The next meeting of the Committee of Concern is scheduled for Monday, May 22nd, at 2:00 p.m., in the parish hall of St. Andrew's Cathedral, at Capitol and West Streets. Through the good effort of the Rev. Henry McKay, Jr., we hope to view the film, "A Time for Burning", followed by a brief discussion. I do hope that you can be present or that you will send a representative.

May I say again, in appealing to each of you, that the purpose of this informal and unorganized group is to become acquainted with each other for the sake of communication and understanding. If you have not been to a meeting before, let me stress that you are not being invited to join a club. Rather, you are asked to share your friendship with a representative group of religious leaders.

I do hope you will make an effort to come.

Faithfully yours,

*John M. Allin*  
John M. Allin  
Bishop

JMA/mf



Sr. High DOY



[diomsyouth.org](https://diomsyouth.org)



May 2-4



**June 2 - 7: Elementary (ages 9-11)**  
**June 9 - 14: Special 1 (age 40 and up)**  
**June 16 - 21: Middler (ages 10-13)**  
**June 23 - 28: Junior High (ages 13-16)**  
**June 30 - July 3: Primary (ages 6-8)**  
**July 7 - 12: Mixed Ages (ages 8-14)**  
**July 14 - 19: Special 2 (ages 18-39)**

# Summer 2025



# THE MISSISSIPPI EPISCOPALIAN

The Official Publication of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi



## Faithful Departed

Please submit Faithful Departed notices to your church for submission.

**Edgar W. "Ed" Wilson, Sr.**, 97, communicant of Grace, Rosedale, died December 22, 2024.

**The Rev. Kathleen Kirkland Potts**, having served St. Thomas, Belzoni; Chapel of the Cross, Rolling Fork; St. Paul's, Picayune; and St. Mary's, Enterprise, died March 11, 2025.

**James "Mitch" Roberts**, 62, communicant of St. Mark's, Gulfport died February 19, 2025.

**Jane Shirley Aden Wade**, 98, communicant of Christ Church, Vicksburg, and previous long-time member of Chapel of the Cross, Rolling Fork, died February 21, 2025.

**Garland Williams Sullivan**, 89, communicant of Trinity, Hattiesburg, died March 11, 2025.

**Paul David Andersen**, 87, communicant of Trinity, Hattiesburg, died March 11, 2025.

**William Franklin "Frank" Holifield, Jr.**, 79, communicant of Christ Church, Vicksburg, died March 11, 2025.

**Ben Cole Carmichael**, 56, communicant of Trinity, Hattiesburg, died March 19, 2025.

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The Rev. Scott Lenoir, Liz Evans, & Julia Marks Young,  
copyeditors

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## Deployment Report

### Churches seeking rectors or interim rectors

Calvary, Cleveland  
St. James', Jackson  
St. Peter's, Oxford  
Trinity, Natchez  
Incarnation, West Point

### Churches Seeking Supply Clergy

Redeemer, Brookhaven  
Good Shepherd, Columbus  
Christ Church, Holly Springs  
St. Matthew's, Kosciusko  
Trinity, Vicksburg  
Nativity, Water Valley

### Available Chaplaincy (summer 2025)

Canterbury: Mississippi State University

Questions about deployment should be directed to  
**The Rev. Canon Gary Meade, Canon to the Ordinary,**  
[gmeade@dioms.org](mailto:gmeade@dioms.org); 601-948-5954.



# Diocesan Calendar

Diocesan Meetings continue by Zoom unless otherwise noted. Though the Diocesan Staff works in a hybrid model (office and home), the Allin House is staffed daily, M-F, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

## April

- 17** Bishop Wells visits St. Mark's, Raymond (Maundy Thursday), 6:00 pm
- 18** Allin House Closed for Good Friday
- 18** Bishop Wells visits Chapel of the Cross, Madison (Good Friday)
- 19** Bishop Wells visits St. Philip's, Jackson (Easter Vigil)
- 20** Bishop Wells visits St. Andrew's, Jackson (Easter Sunday), 8:30 – 11:30 am
- 21** Allin House Closed after Easter
- 22** Bishop Wells visits Canterbury, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg
- 23** Bishop Wells visits St. Andrew's Middle School, Jackson
- 27** Bishop Wells visits St. Peter's, Oxford, 7:30 & 10:00 am
- 30** Bishop Wells visits St. Peter's by the Sea, Gulfport

## May

- 1** Racial Reconciliation Task Force Meeting, 12 noon
- 2-4** Sr. High DOY, Gray Center
- 4** Bishop Wells visits St. James', Jackson
- 6** Small Churches Collaborative, 2:00 pm
- 8** Standing Committee, Allin House, 11:30 am – 3:30 pm
- 9-10** A. C. Marble School, Solomon Center
- 9** Trustees' Meeting, Allin House, 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 11** Bishop Wells visits St. Andrew's Jackson
- 15** *The Mississippi Episcopalian* June issue Deadline
- 17** Altar Guild Annual Meeting, St. Columb's, Ridgeland, 10:00 am
- 18** Bishop Wells visits Chapel of the Cross, Madison
- 26** Allin House Closed for Memorial Day
- 29** Bishop Wells visits Ascension, Hattiesburg

## June

- 1** Bishop Wells visits Chapel of the Cross, Rolling Fork
- 2-7** Elementary Camp, Ages 9-11, Camp Bratton-Green
- 3** Small Churches Collaborative, 2:00 pm
- 5** Racial Reconciliation Task Force Meeting, 12:00 noon

**Submission deadlines—next six months**  
(always available at  
[msepiscopalian.com/submissions](https://msepiscopalian.com/submissions))

**June 2025 issue**  
May 15th, 2025

**July 2025 issue**  
June 16th, 2025

**August 2025 issue**  
July 15th, 2025

**September 2025 issue**  
August 15th, 2025

**October 2025 issue**  
September 15th, 2025

**November 2025 issue**  
October 15th, 2025

## we want stories . . .

about your church, your ministry, your school... or whatever is on your Episcopal mind! Send us fully realized stories, photos, or just ideas at  
[msepiscopalian@dioms.org](mailto:msepiscopalian@dioms.org).





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*Dentistry is just one of many health services offered during the annual Honduras Medical Mission. Learn more about the incredible work of this diocesan ministry on page 3.*