

# THE MISSISSIPPI EPISCOPALIAN

The Official Magazine of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi



Volume 151  
Issue No. 1  
January  
2026

## Rededicated, rejuvenated

Christ Church, Church Hill and Chapel of the  
Cross, Rolling Fork celebrate rededications



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# diocesan youth events

## 2025-2026

### HAPPENING #100

St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson

February 20-22 Staff Training

March 6-8 Happening #100

### SPRING DOY WEEKENDS (GRAY CENTER)

March 27-29 Jr. High DOY (Gray Center)

April 24-26 Sr. High DOY (Gray Center)

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## Bishop's Journal

December 2025

## Rededicated, rejuvenated

Christ Church, Church Hill and Chapel of the Cross, Rolling Fork celebrate rededications

### BISHOP'S CORNER

## Commemorating Absalom Jones

...in The Episcopal Church AND in the Methodist Church

## A busy bishop

Former Presiding Bishop Michael Curry keeps full travel schedule in first year of retirement

## Joy to the World

Christmas and Epiphany from around the diocese

## Deployment Report Faithful Departed

## Diocesan Calendar

**On the cover:** Bishop Wells celebrates at the rededication of Christ Church, Church Hill. The church, the oldest in the diocese, recently underwent a massive renovation process as the parish marks over 200 years and the current, now refurbished building, built in 1857-1858, closes in on 170. To see more photos from the rededication service, and to take a peek at another important rededication at Chapel of the Cross, Rolling Fork, see page 5. Photo by Ben Hillyer.







# Bishop's Journal

December 2025

- 2** Staff Meeting  
Meetings with Staff Members  
Small Church Collaborative  
Virtual Meeting  
Becoming Beloved Community  
Steering Committee Virtual  
Meeting
- 3-5** Travel to Camp McDowell,  
Alabama for the Province IV  
Bishops and Canons  
Meeting  
A productive meeting with  
the Canons and Bishops  
of Province IV at Camp  
McDowell.
- 5** Travel to Jackson/Camp  
Bratton Green for our  
Ministry Exploration  
Gathering
- 5-6** Ministry Exploration Gathering  
with the chance to meet the  
discerners
- 6** We celebrate St. Nicholas of  
Myra today - and we  
recall the accounts of  
his generosity and care  
for neighbors, especially  
the most vulnerable. The  
accounts of his ministry  
teach us how to see the  
need around us, to respond  
to the need, and to help  
neighbors understand  
their own role in caring for  
one another. Some of the  
most revered accounts  
of his ministry involve him  
caring for

children in harm's way - and  
admonishing those who  
would harm the children  
while inviting them to see  
another way. Grateful to be  
sharing this day and the  
example of St. Nicholas with  
discerners in our diocese.

- 7** My visitation was at Grace  
Church, Carrollton - where  
a lovely gathering of  
worshippers greeted me.  
The delicious brunch was  
hosted by the Carrolls,  
and the day was delightful!  
#sograteful

- 8** Bishop's sabbath
- 9** Staff Meeting  
Meetings with staff members
- 10** Budget meeting  
Meeting with Millsaps  
College re: Absalom Jones  
commemoration  
Travel to Vicksburg

What a fabulous evening with  
the parish family of Church  
of the Holy Trinity, Vicksburg,  
as we shared a wonderful  
meal (breakfast for dinner!)  
and asked God's blessing on  
the new youth activity room  
and the renovated  
Conservatory of the Fine  
Arts - a ministry of the  
parish!



What a gift this Conservatory  
is to Vicksburg, with music  
instruction in piano, voice,  
strings and percussion -  
and upcoming learning  
in pottery!!! So thankful  
for this parish's vision  
and commitment, and  
the leadership of Cody  
Nelson, Holy Trinity's  
Organist/Choirmaster  
and the Director of the  
Conservatory!

- 11** Finance Committee Meeting  
Meeting with CPAs
- 12** Bishop Coach  
Meetings with Clergy persons
- 13** Travel to Rolling Fork;  
rededication of Chapel of  
the Cross



The above photo is from March  
2023 - after an EF-4 tornado  
swept through Mississippi.  
Twenty-five precious lives  
were lost in Mississippi to  
that devastating tornado.  
The community of Rolling  
Fork was devastated; Chapel  
of the Cross, our church at  
Rolling Fork, was destroyed.

continued on next page →





This photo is Chapel of the Cross, Rolling Fork, today - rebuilt, and restored. It was my humble privilege today to ask God's blessing on this rebuilt church and rededicate this space. I wish we had photos of the packed church today, as communicants, former clergy and friends all gathered for this holy time. We are so very grateful for God's providence - and for the faithful witness of these worshippers in Rolling Fork.

Travel to Meridian

- 14** My Sunday visitation was with the Episcopal Church of the Mediator. Beautiful worship, confirmations and a reaffirmation, and a fun breakfast with two bishops, Bishop Nicholas and Bishop Dorothy (Yes, jolly ol' St. Nicholas stopped in while I shared with the children the kind deeds for which he is remembered!) between services. After worship, I joined the Rev. Ezgi Saribay Perkins, the Rev. Patrick Perkins and the Vestry for lunch. So grateful to the Church of the Mediator for a wonderful day!



Preached 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services, confirmed 6, reaffirmed 1

Travel to Jackson

- 15** Bishop's sabbath
- 16** Bishop has laryngitis!
- 17** Meeting with Postulant  
Telephone conference with clergy person  
Staff Christmas Lunch  
Iona Collaborative Microgrant meeting
- 18** Meetings with Staff Members
- 19** Clergy Advent gathering at Bishop's home
- 20** Travel to Church Hill:



Rededication of Christ Church

So very grateful to Ben Hillyer for capturing such wonderful photos at the rededication of Christ Church, Church Hill today! What a glorious day, as the community came together to share in our celebration of the faithful restoration of this church - at the site of our oldest worshipping community!!

Travel to Jackson

## **21** Travel to Meridian



Today, I joined the parish family of St. Paul's Church, Meridian, for Lessons and Carols -



and for the prayers of leave-taking, as the Rev. Katie Sorey ends her pastoral relationship with St. Paul's.



From Meridian, it was back to Ridgeland and the celebration of the 100th birthday of Trinity Church, Yazoo City communicant Mary Ann Holmes Cortright - who now has met 9 of Mississippi's 11 bishops and was feted with a proclamation and prayers!

- 22** Bishop's sabbath
- 23** Staff Meeting  
Meetings with Staff Members  
Friends, if you subscribe to

The Mississippi Episcopalian, please, please check out this month's (December) cover. And, please, please check out this month's Bishop's Corner - Pathways to Accessibility ([msepiscopalian.com/pathways](http://msepiscopalian.com/pathways)). There are so many ways that we can include all of God's people in all aspects of our worship and life together in community. We just have to be prayerful and creative - and open to the work of the Holy Spirit!

- 24** Christmas Eve began with worship at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Philadelphia. Lovely worship and beautiful music as we celebrated our Savior's birth, and delightful fellowship following.

Preached

Then it was on the road again, headed back to St. Andrew's Cathedral for two beautiful services this afternoon.

#grateful

Preached 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. services

**25** Christmas Day

**26-29** Office closed

**30** Staff Meeting

Meetings with Staff Members

**31** Meetings with Staff Members

Friends, as we approach

2026, I wish for you a year in which you write many more wonderful pages in your life story. I wish and pray for you a 2026 in which you are wrapped in the love of family and friends, filled with joy and fulfillment in all that you do, and experience awe and wonder in all the world around you!

I offer again this prayer

attributed to the Rev. Dr. Vienna Cobb Anderson, to inspire us all to love and serve God's people in all the ways that we can in the coming year - and to open ourselves to God's new possibilities:

*O God, you call us from our settled ways,  
out of old habits and rutted traditions.*

*You call us into the land of promise,  
to new life and new possibilities.  
Make us strong to travel the road ahead.*

*Deliver us from false security and comfort,*

*desire for ease and uninvolved days.  
Let your Word and Spirit dwell in us  
that your will may be fulfilled in us  
for the well-being and shalom of all.*

Amen. 



*An aerial view of the Burning of the Greens at St. Andrew's Cathedral in downtown Jackson. for more photos from Burnings of the Greens, Epiphany, and Christmas services, see page 13.*



# Rededicated rejuvenated

Christ Church, Church Hill celebrated a rededication on December 20th after a long process of renovating their sanctuary. Bishop Wells was on hand for a joyous celebration at the diocese's oldest church, now over 200 years old. *Photos by Ben Hillyer.*







## Rolling along

*Chapel of the Cross, Rolling Fork, also celebrated a rededication on December 13th, capping a long and difficult, but ultimately uplifting, recovery from the devastating tornado that destroyed much of the church in 2023.*



## Commemorating the history of Absalom Jones— in The Episcopal Church AND in the Methodist Church

**B**efore Absalom Jones made history as the first black man to be ordained in the newly organized Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States, he had made history in the Methodist Church: He and Richard Allen had been the first black men to be granted preaching licenses in the Methodist Episcopal Church, licensed in 1784 to serve the historic St. George's Church in Philadelphia – a church still active today, and the oldest house of Methodist worship in continuous use in America.

Jones was born an enslaved person in Delaware in 1746. He was sold to a slaveowner in Philadelphia, sometime near the time that Pennsylvania began the gradual abolition of slavery in 1780 — ending the importation of enslaved persons into the state and declaring that all future-born children born in the state to enslaved persons were emancipated. Over the years, Pennsylvania had an increasingly free population of formerly enslaved persons who were operating with some autonomy. Jones worked first to secure his wife's freedom, and then to secure his own, all the while learning to read, write and become a contributing member of this newly-free society.

Jones and other black worshippers had begun worshipping at St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia; the black persons apparently grew in number and were faithful in worship and in offerings. Jones and Allen preached and ministered to these black worshippers, and it is speculated that white worshippers may have heard these two preachers, as well. On a fateful Sunday in 1791 or 1792, the black worshippers arrived at St. George's and were asked to sit in a newly-constructed balcony (which it seems the black worshippers may have helped to fund through their offerings). In his writings,

Richard Allen later described the encounter in this way:

A number of us usually attended St. George's Church in Fourth street; and when the coloured people began to get numerous in attending the church, they moved us from the seats we usually sat on and placed us around the wall, and on Sabbath morning we went to church and the sexton stood at the door, and told us to go in the gallery. He told us to go, and we would see where to sit. We expected to take the seats over the ones we formerly occupied below, not knowing any better. We took those seats. Meeting had begun and they were nearly done singing, and just as we got to the seats, the elder said, "let us pray." We had not been long upon our knees before I heard considerable scuffling and low talking. I raised my head up and saw one of the trustees, H— M—, having hold of the Rev. Absalom Jones, pulling him up off of his knees and saying, "You must get up — you must not kneel here." Mr. Jones replied, "wait until prayer is over." Mr. H— M— said "no, you must get up now, or I will call for aid and I force you away." Mr. Jones said, "wait until prayer is over, and I will get up and trouble you no more." With that he beckoned to one of the other trustees, Mr. L— S— to come to his assistance...to pull him up. By this time prayer was over, and we all went out of the church in a body, and they were no more plagued with us in the church.

The black worshippers walked out, never to return.

Jones and Allen worked together to raise money to build an edifice for the black worshippers. When the



worshippers voted to determine the denomination with which they wished to affiliate, the majority wished to move to the Church of England – by this time, the fledgling new Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States which had separated from the Church of England following the Revolutionary War. Allen says this in his writings:

We then held an election to know what religious denomination we should unite with. At the election it was determined — there were two in favour of the Methodist, the Rev. Absalom Jones and myself, and a large majority in favour of the Church of England. The majority carried. Notwithstanding we had been so violently persecuted by the elder, we were in favour of being attached to the Methodist connection; for I was confident that there was no religious sect or denomination would suit the capacity of the coloured people as well as the Methodist; for the plain and simple gospel suits best for any people, for the unlearned can understand, and the learned are sure to understand; and the reason that the Methodist is so successful in the awakening and conversion of the coloured people, the plain doctrine and having a good discipline. . . .

History might have emerged entirely differently had the worshippers voted another way. It is unclear how Jones may have first sought audience with Bishop William White – the first and fourth Presiding Bishop of this new Episcopal Church, and in-between, Bishop of Pennsylvania. White was, for his time, deeply involved in supporting the vulnerable in society: A supporter of education, he would go on to serve as President of the University of Pennsylvania. As an advocate for the marginalized and outcast, White was credited with having founded a Philadelphia ministry which helped young women begin again after leaving prostitution. White's reputation for ministry among the marginalized may have preceded him among the black worshippers



from St. George's Church. Jones had one request of White, and that was for a place of worship in which Jones and the black worshippers who had left St. George's Church could worship and have autonomy over their church affairs. White ordained Jones as a deacon in 1795, and ordained him to the priesthood in 1802.

Allen, with his profound belief in the Methodist Church, chose to remain with that denomination, forming Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Church in 1794. Ultimately, Allen sued in Pennsylvania courts for the right to establish the A.M.E. Church as a new and independent denomination within the Methodist Church.

Reading Allen's accounts of the separation (You can find the excerpts at [msepiscopalian.com/allen](https://msepiscopalian.com/allen)) seems to leave us with even more

questions about the Church universal's relationship to racial separation and segregation. We'll tackle those topics on Saturday, February 21, as the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi and the Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church come together to commemorate the life of Absalom Jones – history-maker in both denominations. We'll gather on February 21, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the Selby and Richard McRae Christian Center on the campus of Millsaps College, where we'll talk about this shared history, how it has shaped both our denominations, and the lessons we continue to learn. Registration will be required, and information will be forthcoming soon; a modest fee will cover lunch.

Please save the date on your calendar and look for registration info! We look forward to seeing you there! 🌍

## Absalom Jones Commemoration

**February 21, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the Selby and Richard McRae Christian Center on the campus of Millsaps College**

# A busy bishop

Former Presiding Bishop Michael Curry keeps full travel schedule in first year of retirement

by David Paulsen, courtesy of *Episcopal News Service*, photos by Sharon Jones

**T**ravel. It typically ranks high on lists of retirement goals, offering an adventurous or relaxing break from the retiree's former professional routine.

The Rt. Rev. Michael Curry is no typical retiree. Travel dominated his professional routine, and retirement clearly hasn't slowed him down.

During his nine-year term as presiding bishop, Curry visited nearly all of The Episcopal Church's more than 100 dioceses. Since stepping down in October 2024, rather than spend his first year of retirement resting back home in Raleigh, North Carolina, the former presiding bishop has scheduled a wide range of engagements almost as adventurous as before.

Episcopal News Service tracked Curry's 2025 trips based on church announcements and social media posts and counted visits to nearly 20 Episcopal and Anglican dioceses in three countries, two university visits to accept honorary degrees, one civil rights pilgrimage in Alabama and numerous appearances at Episcopal churches within his own Diocese of North Carolina. He also participated in confirmations, conferences, panel discussions, funeral eulogies and more than a half dozen anniversary celebrations for churches, schools and dioceses.

And, of course, he preached. A lot.

"I'm still kind of in discernment, to be honest, trying to think through long-term, how do I make a contribution?" Curry, who turned 72 in March, said in a recent Zoom interview with ENS from his home.

If Curry has spent the past year in discernment, it is



*Former Presiding Bishop Michael Curry speaks in August during a visit to St. James Episcopal Church in Jackson, Mississippi.*



safe to say he has done much of that discerning while on the move. Take the month of November, for example. The variety of Curry's activities is evident in his several public appearances.

On Nov. 2, he officiated at an Evensong close to home at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Raleigh. On Nov. 13, he made headlines at the Texas Tribune Festival in Austin for saying he prays for President Donald Trump. On Nov. 18, he appeared alongside his former Canadian counterpart, the Most. Rev. Linda Nicholls, at Trinity College in Toronto, where both received honorary degrees. Then on Nov. 22 and 23, he visited Episcopal churches in Charleston, South Carolina, and preached there in celebration of a local partnership known as Three Churches United.

Curry told ENS his plan had been to average about two trips a month in the first year after handing the primatial staff to Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe. His intent was to support Rowe's leadership, not to undercut it, and Rowe thanked Curry for keeping up such an active post-primacy schedule.

"I am grateful for Bishop Curry's willingness to continue using his extraordinary gifts as a preacher and speaker to spread the gospel," Rowe told ENS in a written statement for this story. "He is undoubtedly a tremendous blessing and encouragement to everyone he meets in his travels, and his evangelism is a light to the church in these uncertain times."

#### Curry in Jamaica

Former Presiding Bishop Michael Curry processes during a worship service in February in Kingston, Jamaica. Photo: Sharon Jones, via Facebook

Curry expects his travel schedule to slow down a bit in 2026, and he clarified that, even with all that activity this year, the routine still was far less strenuous than his time as a sitting presiding bishop, which comes with a full list of church responsibilities.

"It's been a mix of things in a variety of places," Curry told ENS. "I remember I talked with Sean and basically said I didn't want to do anything that was 'presiding bishop-like.'" Instead, he now sees himself as like the biblical Barnabas, serving as the "son of encouragement" for the church.

His described his trip to Trinity College, the seminary at the University of Toronto, as "an opportunity to talk

about, in the context of the Anglican Communion, how do we live out what Jesus really taught us about each other and about how we care for each other and for this world?"

He also thanked the Anglican Church of Canada "for the way they and their leadership supported us in The Episcopal Church in the years that I was presiding bishop."

A completely different scene awaited him in South Carolina, where three historically Black churches in Charleston have "come together" to do "some remarkable stuff," Curry said. He couldn't refuse the bishop's and rectors' invitation to join them and preach about racial reconciliation to a packed church.

"I didn't expect that many people," he said. "And when I looked out on the congregation, it was the mix of Black and white that was absolutely remarkable, to just stand there and see it."

Other trips this year included a visit to Yale University in Connecticut to receive an honorary degree in May, the July funeral of the Very Rev. Sandye Wilson in Baltimore, Maryland, the Diocese of Alabama's Jonathan Myrick Daniels pilgrimage in August, a September homecoming celebration at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Atlanta, Georgia, and the diocesan convention in Colorado in October.

Such frequent travel was common during Curry's time as presiding bishop from 2015 to 2024, even after recovering from serious medical emergencies late in his tenure. Even so, these trips since stepping down have been different, in some ways more personal, and some of his favorite trips have been just a short drive across town or down the highway, to visit churches in the Diocese of North Carolina, which he led for 15 years as diocesan bishop.

In February, Curry spoke at Christ Church in Raleigh at an event honoring Black scholar Anna Julia Haywood Cooper. In April, he celebrated Holy Week in Greensboro. In June, he joined St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Hillsborough for its 200th anniversary celebration. And in October, he traveled to Charlotte to visit with Christ Episcopal Church and tour a new church building under construction. Other diocesan travels included Oxford, Burlington and Winston-Salem.

Curry isn't officially an assisting bishop and doesn't have a formal role with the diocese, but he has let North Carolina Bishop Samuel Rodman know he is available to help as needed. One example this year was a confirmation ceremony in the diocese. Rodman asked if Curry could assist with the ceremonial laying of hands on the heads of the confirmands.

"I was free that Sunday, and so I said, 'I still have the hands. I can still do that,'" Curry said.

#### Curry in Hillsborough

Former Presiding Bishop Michael Curry poses for a photo with members of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Hillsborough, North Carolina, during a visit to the congregation in June 2025. Photo: Sharon Jones

At other times, he has enjoyed going to Sunday services in the diocese with no bishop responsibilities — just a back-pew worshipper enjoying Holy Eucharist before the day's football games.

"I've actually been able to follow the Buffalo Bills through wins and losses," Curry said, something that hasn't been possible since before he was a parish priest.

He also has had time to read and think more deeply. "I kind of jokingly say I haven't been to any meetings

— well, I really haven't. I don't have those kinds of responsibilities," he said. "I've got a little bit more time for reflection."


In particular, the parable in Luke 18 of the "persistent widow" has been weighing on his mind, "in the context of an unjust society."

"It speaks to this moment," he said. He may do some writing on the subject. "To be patiently impatient, that is the Advent message."

Being a retired presiding bishop also means Curry can spend more time at home in Raleigh with his wife, Sharon Curry, and their two adult daughters. Often that time is spent watching TV soap operas, which Curry has found no less addictive in retirement.

And the Currys are preparing to welcome a new member to the family: a pet dog. They are working with a breeder in the region, though Curry wasn't sure which breed they settled on. He only knows the family's consensus was to go small.

"Little nerd dogs," he called them. His family insisted.

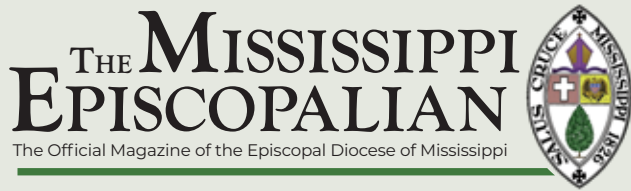
"They said, 'You don't need a German Shepherd.'" With retirement has come acceptance of life's compromises, at least regarding the dog. "I've given in," he said. 



*Former Presiding Bishop Michael Curry poses for a photo with members of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Hillsborough, North Carolina, during a visit to the congregation in June 2025.*



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## 199<sup>th</sup> Annual Council

of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi

January 30-31, 2026

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL  
RIDGELAND, MISSISSIPPI

### WINTER 2025

WINTER SOLSTICE (GRADES 9-12) DEC. 27-JAN. 1

### SUMMER 2026

ELEMENTARY (AGES 9-11) JUNE 1-6

SPECIAL 1 (AGES 40+) JUNE 8-13

MIDDLER (AGES 10-13) JUNE 15-20

JUNIOR HIGH (AGES 13-15) JUNE 22-27

PRIMARY (AGES 6-8) JUNE 29-JULY 2

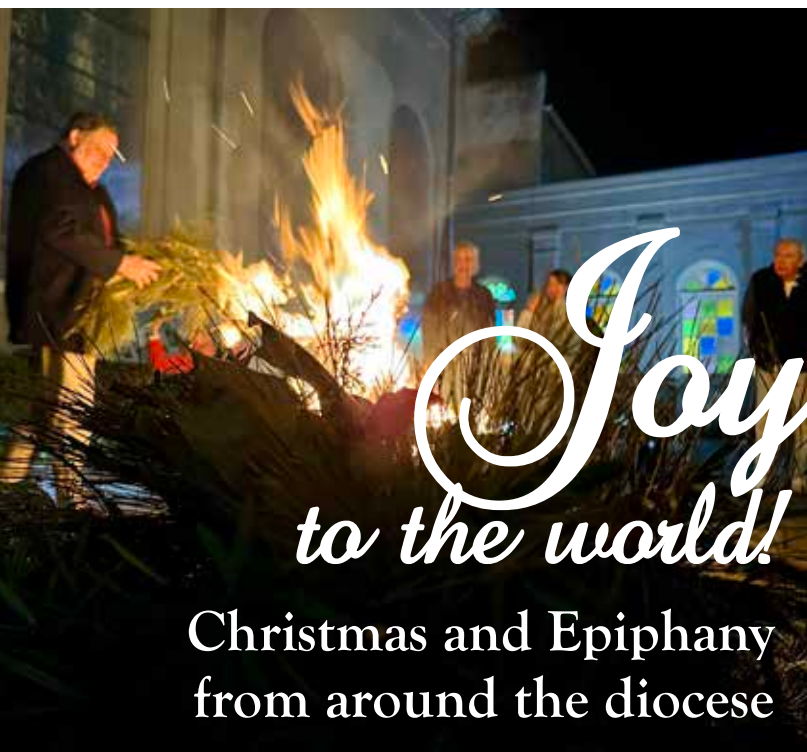
MIXED AGES (AGES 8-14) JULY 6-11

SPECIAL 2 (AGES 18-39) JULY 13-18



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**Redeemer,  
Biloxi**

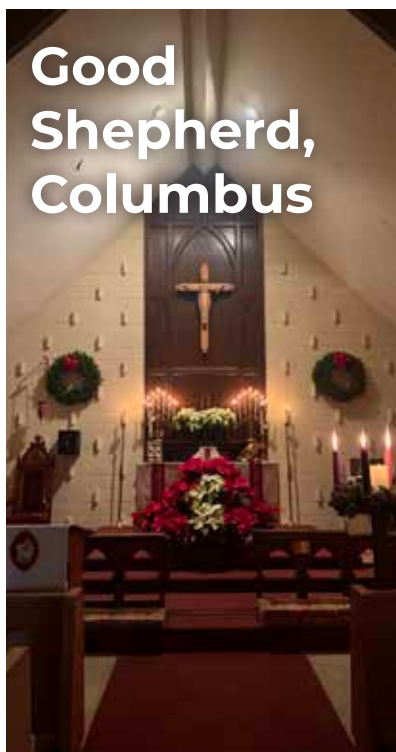


**Nativity, Water Valley**





**Holy Trinity,  
Vicksburg**



**Good  
Shepherd,  
Columbus**



**Calvary,  
Cleveland**



**All Saints',  
Tupelo**





# THE MISSISSIPPI EPISCOPALIAN

The Official Magazine of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi



## Faithful Departed

Please submit Faithful Departed notices to your church for submission.

### The Official Magazine of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi

118 N. Congress Street | P.O. Box 23107  
Jackson, Mississippi 39225-3107

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Bishop of Mississippi, Publisher

Wil Oakes, Oakes Creative Agency, Editor & Art Director

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

The Mississippi Episcopalian (USPS 024755) is published  
monthly by the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi, 118 N.  
Congress Street, Jackson, MS 39201.

**Rivers Yerger Lurate**, 88, communicant of St. James',  
Jackson, died October 26, 2025.

**Morris Johnson "Johnny" Keesee, III**, 81, former  
member of St. George's, Clarksdale, and Interim  
Director of Gray Center, died November 14, 2025.

**Ann Gayden Newton**, 88, communicant of St. James',  
Jackson, died November 20, 2025.

**Benjamin "Ben" Allen Thornton**, 82, communicant of St.  
Pierre's, Gautier, died December 12, 2025.

**Forrest Travis Tutor**, 98, communicant of All Saints',  
Tupelo, died December 13, 2025.

**Steven Ralph Boone**, 84, communicant of St. James',  
Jackson, died December 17, 2025.

**Janet Edgerton Chalk**, 95, communicant of St. Paul's  
Meridian, died December 23, 2025.

**Robert Abide Malouf, Sr.**, 74, communicant of St. James',  
Jackson, died December 26, 2025.

## Deployment Report

### Churches seeking full or part-time clergy

Redeemer, Biloxi

Redeemer, Brookhaven

Calvary, Cleveland

Ascension, Hattiesburg

Trinity, Natchez

St. Paul's, Meridian

Resurrection, Starkville

Holy Trinity, Vicksburg

Church of the Nativity, Water Valley

### Churches seeking supply clergy

Good Shepherd, Columbus

Christ Church, Holly Springs

All Saints, Jackson

St. Christopher's, Jackson

St. Mark's, Jackson

St. Matthew's, Kosciusko

Calvary, Michigan City

Church of the Good Shepherd, Terry

Holy Trinity, Vicksburg

Church of the Nativity, Water Valley

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 x114.

### Available Chaplaincies

Canterbury: Mississippi State University

Oxford: Ole Miss



# Diocesan Calendar

## January

- 18** Bishop Wells visits Redeemer, Greenville
- 19** Allin House closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- 25** Bishop Wells visits St. Paul's, Columbus
- 25** Bishop Wells visits Mississippi State, Starkville
- 30-31** 199th Annual Council, St. Andrew's Episcopal School, Ridgeland
- 31** Standing Committee (Saturday At Council)

## February

- 3** Small Churches Collaborative, Zoom, 2:00-3:00pm
- 5** Beloved Community Monthly Gathering, 12:00 noon
- 8** Bishop Wells visits Christ Church, Vicksburg
- 13-14** A. C. Marble School, Solomon Center
- 14-26** Honduras Medical Mission
- 15** Bishop Wells visits Nativity, Greenwood
- 16** *The Mississippi Episcopalian* March Deadline
- 18** Ash Wednesday
- 18** Bishop Wells visits Holy Trinity, Crystal Springs
- 18** Bishop Wells visits St. Mark's, Raymond
- 20-22** Staff Training for Happening #100,  
St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson
- 22** Bishop Wells visits St. Stephen's, Indianola
- 27-1** Young Adult Retreat, Camp Bratton-Green
- 31** Standing Committee (Saturday At Council)

## March

- 1** Annual Parochial Report Due
- 1** Credentials of Delegates/Alternates to Annual Council Due
- 1** Diocesan Undergraduate Scholarship Applications Due
- 1** Bishop Wells visits St. Pierre's, Gautier
- 3** Small Churches Collaborative, Zoom, 2:00-3:00pm
- 5** Beloved Community Monthly Gathering, 12:00 noon
- 5** Finance Committee, Allin House, 11:30am-2:30pm
- 6-8** Happening #100, St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson
- 8** Bishop Wells visits St. Peter's, Brandon
- 12** Executive Committee & Cathedral Chapter,  
St. Andrew's Cathedral, Jackson, 10:30am – 3:30pm
- 13-14** Ministry Exploration Gathering (MEG), Gray Center
- 15** Bishop Wells visits St. Patrick's, Long Beach
- 16** *The Mississippi Episcopalian* April Deadline
- 17-24** Spring House of Bishops Meeting, Camp Allen, Navasota, TX
- 20-21** A. C. Marble School, Solomon Center
- 26** Trustees, Allin House, 1:00-4:00pm

- 27-29** Jr. High DOY, Gray Center
- 27-28** Commission on Ministry (COM)
- 28** Standing Committee, 9:30am-3:30pm
- 29** Palm Sunday
- 29** Bishop Wells visits St. Mary's, Lexington

## April

- 2** Beloved Community Monthly Gathering, 12:00 noon
- 3** Good Friday
- 3** Bishop Wells visits Chapel of the Cross, Madison
- 4** Holy Saturday
- 4** St. Philip's, Jackson
- 5** Easter Sunday
- 5** Bishop Wells visits St. Andrew's, Jackson
- 7** Small Churches Collaborative, Zoom 2:00-3:00pm
- 8** Bishop Wells visits St. Andrew's Upper School, Ridgeland
- 10-11** A. C. Marble School, Online
- 10** St. Andrew's Lower School, Jackson
- 12** Trinity, Pass Christian
- 15** *The Mississippi Episcopalian* Deadline
- 17-18** Small Church Conference
- 19** Bishop Wells visits St. Peter's Oxford
- 21** Bishop Wells visits Canterbury  
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg
- 24-26** Sr. High DOY, Gray Center
- 25** Spiritual Renewal Retreat, St. James', Jackson
- 26** Bishop Wells visits St. Stephen's, Batesville
- 26** Bishop Wells visits St. Timothy's, Southaven
- 30** Trustees, Allin House, 1:00-4:00pm

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

### March 2026 issue

February 16, 2026

### April 2026 issue

March 16, 2026

### May 2026 issue

April 15, 2026

### June 2026 issue

May 15, 2026

### July 2026 issue

June 15, 2026

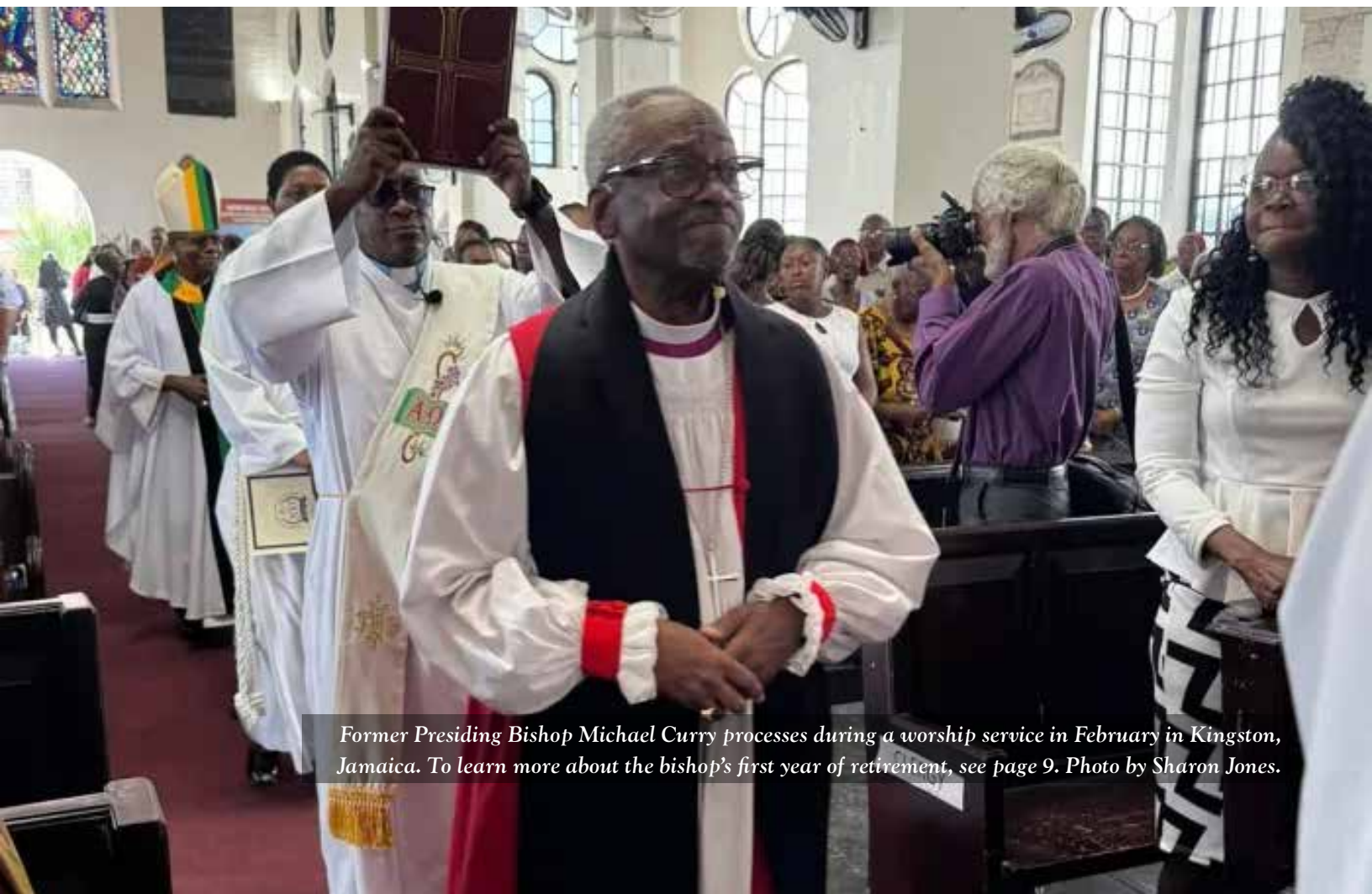
### August 2026 issue

July 15, 2026



The Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi  
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*The Mississippi Episcopalian* is published at [msepiscopalian.org](http://msepiscopalian.org) monthly, and in print annually in February of each year. For more information, visit the website or email the editor at [msepiscopalian@dioms.org](mailto:msepiscopalian@dioms.org).



*Former Presiding Bishop Michael Curry processes during a worship service in February in Kingston, Jamaica. To learn more about the bishop's first year of retirement, see page 9. Photo by Sharon Jones.*