



XXXV

JULY 2026

ISSUE #7

CLERGY NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS to **the Rev. Pam Christian** (previously served as curate at Nativity, Dothan), who will begin her call as associate rector at St. Paul's, Mobile; **the Rev. Christie Hord**, who served her last Sunday at St. John's, Pensacola on July 5, and will serve as the interim-rector at St. Simon's, Ft Walton Beach, beginning August 1; **the Rev. David Knight**, who recently retired from St. Simon's, Ft Walton Beach, and will be assisting at Christ Church Parish, Pensacola, starting in August; and **the Rev. Jamie McElroy**, who will be serving his last Sunday at St. Luke's, Mobile, on July 26, to begin a position in mental health counseling. Join us in wishing them all well in their new ministries!

NEW RESOURCES FOR PROMOTING "CLAIMING" 5-WEEK SERIES

Claiming is a five-week journey into faith, purpose, belonging, and what it means to follow Jesus in the Episcopal tradition. **Designed for teens and adults considering confirmation, reception into the Episcopal Church, or simply exploring, this series offers a welcoming space to learn, ask questions, and discover why the Episcopal Church has become a spiritual home for so many.** The series includes four sessions on Zoom and a final in-person gathering. Come explore what the Episcopal tradition offers—and whether this way of faith might become your own. Visit www.diocgc.org/claiming to learn more.

To help your congregation share Claiming well, we've gathered a set of ready-to-use resources for clergy, staff, and lay leaders. Whether you're making announcements, answering questions, or inviting someone personally, these tools are designed to make promotion simple, clear, and welcoming.

Printables

- [Session Flyer](#)
- [FAQ Sheet](#)
- [Bulletin Insert](#)

NEW WILMER HALL SUNDAY ON JULY 26

Join us in honoring the long-standing mission and ministry of Wilmer Hall Children's Home, an agency of the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast. Each year on the last Sunday of July, we take this opportunity to celebrate this organization that has served the Church and its communities since 1864.

Wilmer Hall was founded in 1864 by Bishop Richard Hooker Wilmer, the second bishop of Alabama, as a home for orphans and widows. More than 160 years later, they continue to carry out their mission to serve young people in need. They serve children and young adults through residential and educational programs, all aiming to provide each individual with the skills needed to be successful, contributing members of the community. They serve up to 150 children in their education programs and up to 36 young people in their residential programs at any given time. The residential programs serve young men and women, as well as young women with children. Wilmer Hall also operates a delivery-based food pantry.

To learn more about the mission and ministry of Wilmer Hall, to schedule a tour and/or lunch, please contact Executive Director Pratt Paterson at ppaterson@wilmerhall.org or Director of Development Mindy Inge at minge@wilmerhall.org.

Please consider offering the following Wilmer Hall prayer, written in 2018 by Fr. Albert Kennington, in your Prayers of the People on July 26.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, whose Son Jesus welcomed and blessed children with love: We give you thanks and praise for this Children's Home, for the founders, for all who have served and supported this Home through the years, and for all who have found love and family in this Home. In the faith of our founders, we spread before you our prayers for all who live within the care of Wilmer Hall and for those who will do so in years beyond us. Raise up, we pray, in every generation, faithful people to support and sustain this Home following the way of our Savior Jesus Christ with whom we are bound in the best of bonds. Amen.

Additionally, Wilmer Hall would be appreciative if churches would consider donating a portion of the loose plate offering to support their programs. Donations can be made online at www.wilmerhall.org or sent to Wilmer Hall Children's Home, 3811 Old Shell Rd, Mobile, AL 36608. Thank you.

CONGREGATIONS IN TRANSITION (as of 7/1/2026)

Brewton, St. Stephen's	In process
Destin, St. Andrew's	In process
Eufaula, St. James	Accepting applications
Monroeville, St. John's	In process
Pensacola, St. Christopher's	Interviewing candidates
Santa Rosa Beach, Christ the King	Search committee formed; building profile; interim in place

Please do not contact the openings directly. For information, please contact the Rev. Ashley Freeman, Canon to the Ordinary, at ashley@diocgc.org.

CHURCH COMMUNICATORS TABLE - MONTHLY ZOOM MEETING

Join Missioner for Communications Jenn Roberts and church communicators of all skill levels, lay or ordained, from across the diocese for a monthly Zoom gathering to share ideas, support one another in the challenges and successes of communications ministry, develop skills, and strengthen the ways we tell the story of our churches. Contact jenn@diocgc.org with any questions. **Communicators will meet on the last Thursday of each month at 1 p.m CT on Zoom. [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)**

CLERGY REMINDER: NEW ASSIGNMENT FORM

Remember that clergy/employers need to submit updated employment/compensation changes with CPG. Clergy/employers need to submit this form to CPG when:

- A cleric's employment status has changed, including retirement, beginning a new assignment, changing employers, etc.
- A cleric's or lay employee's compensation changes, including when a one-time payment is made (such as an end-of-year bonus or "love" offering).

You can find the CPG form at: <https://www.diocgc.org/administrative-resources> or call Kim at the diocesan office.

STEWARDSHIP MATERIALS AVAILABLE FROM TENS

2026 password: **Matthew22:4** (Note: a username is no longer required)

Annual pledge campaign materials are available on the TENS (The Episcopal Network for Stewardship) website. This year's theme is "Plenty Good Room." Resources include graphics and logos in various standard formats, customizable letters from clergy, the Stewardship Committee, and wardens, and customizable

pledge/promise cards. All churches have access to TENS materials as they are included in our diocesan membership. Members' login credentials are changed annually. LOGIN at: <https://www.tens.org/>.

2027 CONVENTION NECROLOGY

We invite congregations to help us honor the faithful who have gone before us. Each year at Convention, we remember by name those who have served as delegates to Convention or deputies to General Convention and have died since our last gathering. When sharing notices of a member's passing, please also let the Diocese know if they served in either role. Sharing this information throughout the year helps us prepare a more complete and prayerful necrology in thanksgiving for their ministry and service.

ONLINE SAFEGUARDING / RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Our Safeguarding system uses a program from Presidium Academy. You can find links and guidelines on the diocesan website at: <https://www.diocgc.org/administrative-resources>. Each church must identify church Administrators; Admins can be added to the system by contacting the Diocesan Office. These Admins will add their church members to the Academy system and generate "invitations" to those needing to take Safeguarding modules.

1. **To Sign Up for the Safeguarding System:**

E-mail the Safeguarding Online Administrator assigned to your parish.

2. Your designated church Administrator will facilitate your access to Praesidium Academy by generating an "invitation email" which will be sent to you from donotreply@praesidiuminc.com.
3. Fill in the required information (including your desired password).
4. Click Accept Invite.
5. You will be redirected to the login screen - please log in with your email address and the password you just created.
6. You can now proceed to find and complete the required modules.

If your coursework is over 4 years old, it will be considered dated/expired and may not have been transferred to your new account. If you have any questions, please contact Dwight Babcock or Mary Poss at 850-434-7337.

RESOURCE: LAY LEADERS DIRECTORY

A list of canonically certified Lay Worship Leaders and Lay Preachers is available on the diocesan website to assist parishes, especially smaller congregations, when supply clergy are unavailable. Bishop Kendrick and Dean Joy Blaylock coordinate with lay leaders invited to serve outside their home churches. This ministry has become a joyful fruit of the Lay School, strengthening relationships and shared ministry across the diocese. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dean Joy Blaylock at joyblaylock@diocgc.org. You can find the Lay Leader list here: <https://www.diocgc.org/lay-ministry>.

SUPPLY CLERGY LIST

[Here is the link to the supply clergy list.](#) Should you need help securing a supply priest for church services, please contact the Rev. Lydia Johnson at lydia@diocgc.org.

LINK TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE DIOCESAN EMAIL LIST

Please consider adding the link below to your regular church communications and website so that members can subscribe and stay connected to news from around the diocese. Thank you! [SUBSCRIBE TO DIOCESAN COMMUNICATIONS](#).

MUSIC LICENSING

If your church offers music during services, it is important to follow all copyright guidelines, which include maintaining a license to perform, broadcast, or print copyrighted music. Review your church's licensing agreements, and be sure to add the streaming option if you are broadcasting services online. Recommended licensing companies include [One License](#), [Christian Copyright Licensing International](#)(CCLI), and [Christian Copyright Solutions](#).

CHURCH LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY - SUBMIT UPDATES

We request that churches update their leadership directory for the diocesan database. The update is especially important to report changes in vestry membership. Please submit your completed form linked below as soon as possible. Thank you! Direct questions to jenn@diocgc.org. [CHURCH LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY FORM](#)

CYCLES OF PRAYER FOR DIOCESE AND PRISON MINISTRY

Congregations are invited to include both our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer and our Prison Ministry Cycle of Prayer in their Prayers of the People, newsletters, and/or bulletins, www.diocgc.org/cycle-of-prayer.

UPCOMING DIOCESAN EVENTS Stay up-to-date on diocesan events by bookmarking our calendar: <https://www.diocgc.org/calendar-of-events>.

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
Wilmer Hall Sunday	Jul 26	Across the diocese
Jonathan Daniels & the Martyrs of Alabama Pilgrimage	Aug 15	Hayneville, AL Details & Registration

The **56th Annual Diocesan Convention will be held February 19-20, 2027**, at the Embassy Suites in Gulf Shores. Our hosts will be Holy Spirit, Gulf Shores, and St. Paul's, Foley. Please add this event to your church calendars!

BISHOP RUSSELL’S SCHEDULE

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
Visitation	Jul 5	St. Simon’s, Fort Walton Beach
Vacation	Jul 5-19	
Visitation	Jul 26	St. John’s, Mobile

Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast
Green Sheet 2026
Treasurer's Report - June 2026
(Please Note: Report reflects funds received as of 6/30/26)

Congregational Pledges	MTD Actual (2026)	YTD Rec'd (2026)	YTD Budget Variance	Annual Pledge (2026)
Pledges				
Andalusia, St. Mary's	\$0.00	\$7,000.00	\$0	\$14,000.00
Apalachicola,Trinity	\$2,250.00	\$13,500.00	\$0	\$27,000.00
Atmore, St. Anna's	\$0.00	\$4,640.00	\$0	\$4,640.00
Atmore, Trinity	\$0.00	\$500.00	(\$100)	\$1,200.00
Bay Minette, Immanuel	\$357.50	\$4,338.60	\$1,214	\$6,250.00
Bon Secour,St. Peter's	\$577.80	\$4,662.00	\$552	\$8,221.00
Brewton, St. Stephen's	\$326.80	\$8,936.80	\$437	\$17,000.00
Cantonment,St. Monica's	\$1,000.00	\$4,000.00	(\$250)	\$8,500.00
Chickasaw,St.Michael's	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00
Chipley, St. Matthew's	\$488.00	\$2,928.00	\$25	\$5,806.00
Citronelle, St. Thomas	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00
Coden, St. Mary's	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$264)	\$528.00
Crestview, Epiphany	\$250.00	\$1,500.00	\$0	\$3,000.00
Daphne, St. Paul's	\$2,500.00	\$15,000.00	\$0	\$30,000.00
Dauphin Isld, St. Francis	\$0.00	\$9,955.00	\$761	\$18,389.00
DeFnk Spgs, St. Agatha's	\$696.50	\$3,577.15	\$827	\$5,500.00
Destin, St. Andrew's	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$1,000)	\$2,000.00
Dothan, Nativity	\$4,883.33	\$29,299.98	\$0	\$58,600.00
Enterprise, Epiphany	\$875.00	\$5,250.00	\$0	\$10,511.00
Eufaula, St. James'	\$1,320.00	\$7,880.00	\$230	\$15,300.00
Fairhope, St. James'	\$7,500.00	\$45,000.00	\$0	\$90,000.00
Foley, St. Paul's	\$2,450.75	\$14,704.50	\$0	\$29,409.00
Ft.Wltn Bch,St. Simon	\$4,209.67	\$25,257.98	\$0	\$50,516.00
Greenville, St. Thomas	\$1,416.50	\$13,052.08	\$4,217	\$17,670.00
Gulf Breeze, St. Francis	\$1,198.00	\$10,058.00	\$2,558	\$15,000.00
Gulf Shores, Holy Spirit	\$5,625.00	\$16,875.00	\$0	\$33,750.00
Jackson, St. Peter's	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$700)	\$1,400.00
Laguna Beach, St.Thomas	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$3,035)	\$6,069.00
Lillian, Advent	\$875.00	\$5,250.00	\$0	\$10,500.00
Magnolia Spgs, St. Pauls	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$2,500	\$15,000.00
Marianna, St. Luke's	\$3,606.50	\$10,819.50	\$3,607	\$14,426.00
Milton, St. Mary's	\$0.00	\$2,422.05	(\$2,422)	\$9,688.00
Mobile, All Saints'	\$1,666.67	\$10,000.02	\$0	\$20,000.00
Mobile, Christ	\$5,150.00	\$30,900.00	\$0	\$61,800.00
Mobile, Good Shepherd	\$2,635.00	\$7,905.00	\$0	\$15,810.00
Mobile, Redeemer	\$1,090.42	\$6,545.10	\$0	\$13,117.00
Mobile, St. Andrew's	\$504.00	\$1,444.00	(\$796)	\$4,480.00
Mobile, St. John's	\$825.15	\$825.15	(\$4,609)	\$10,868.00
Mobile, St. Luke's	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00
Mobile, St. Paul's	\$0.00	\$78,961.34	(\$14,551)	\$187,024.00
Mobile, Trinity	\$1,041.66	\$6,249.96	\$0	\$12,500.00
Monroeville, St. John's	\$192.75	\$1,373.98	(\$991)	\$4,730.00
Navarre, St. Augustine's	\$500.00	\$3,500.00	\$500	\$6,000.00
Niceville, St. Jude's	\$3,329.00	\$19,974.00	\$0	\$39,958.00
Ozark, St. Michael's	\$0.00	\$1,631.00	\$0	\$1,631.00
Pnma City, Holy Nativity	\$3,774.25	\$22,645.50	\$0	\$45,290.00
Panama City, St. Andrew's	\$1,404.00	\$8,437.00	(\$1,563)	\$20,000.00
Panama City, St. Patrick's	\$389.13	\$1,731.03	\$231	\$3,000.00
Panama City Beach, Grace	\$1,225.25	\$7,351.50	\$0	\$14,703.00
Pensacola, Christ	\$11,950.00	\$59,758.00	(\$11,992)	\$143,500.00
Pensacola, Holy Cross	\$4,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$2,000	\$24,000.00
Pensacola,Holy Trinity	\$1,281.13	\$7,686.78	\$0	\$15,370.00
Pcola, St. Christopher's	\$5,933.00	\$35,598.00	\$0	\$71,200.00
Pensacola, St. Cyprian's	\$0.00	\$750.00	(\$1,000)	\$3,500.00
Pensacola, St. John's	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$9,350)	\$18,700.00
Pt St. Joe, St. James'	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$750)	\$1,500.00
Robertsdale, St. John	\$135.00	\$675.00	(\$135)	\$1,620.00
SRB, Christ King	\$4,583.33	\$27,499.65	\$0	\$55,000.00
Troy, St. Mark's	\$833.00	\$5,002.00	\$0	\$10,000.00
Wewahitchka, St. John's	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0	\$2,000.00
Total Pledges	\$94,849	\$638,851	(\$33,850)	\$1,337,174