



# THE GREEN SHEET

A newsletter for clergy and lay church leadership

XXX

FEBRUARY 2021

ISSUE #2

## CLERGY NEWS

**Congratulations** to **Greg Hein**, retired clergy who will serve as Interim-Rector of St. Mary's, Andalusia, eff Feb 1; **Handlee Vige**, retired ELCA Pastor who will serve as Priest-in-Charge of St. Jude's, Niceville, eff Feb 1. We wish them both the best serving in their new ministries.

## PRIESTHOOD ORDINATIONS

**Congratulations to our diocesan School for Ministry ordinands who have or will be ordained to the Priesthood:**

**David Chatel**, ordained January 16 at St. Stephen's, Brewton; called as Rector of St. Stephen's, Brewton.

**David Clothier**, ordained January 27 at St. John's, Pensacola; appointed as Vicar of Epiphany, Crestview.

**Lydia Johnson**, ordained January 30 at Trinity, Mobile; appointed as new Diocesan Missioner for Development.

**John Talbert**, ordained February 2 at St. Paul's, Daphne; called as Curate of St. Paul's, Daphne.

**Mike Ballard**, to be ordained February 13 at St. Paul's, Mobile; appointed as Priest-in-Charge of St. Peter's, Jackson

**Bob Donnell**, to be ordained April 17 at All Saints, Mobile; called as Curate of All Saints, Mobile.

## 2021 DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Registration for convention members (clergy and lay) with seat, voice, and vote has closed. Registration for *clergy with seat and voice only* may register [HERE](#). All registered convention members will attend the Feb. 27 session via Zoom.

Both days of Diocesan Convention will be livestreamed online for anyone wishing to watch convention proceedings.

Visit our convention webpage for up-to-date details, forms, etc. at [www.diocgc.org/2021-diocesan-convention](http://www.diocgc.org/2021-diocesan-convention)

### Important Dates to Remember

January 31 (updated) - past due	Congregational pledge request due	Email to <a href="mailto:dwright@diocgc.org">dwright@diocgc.org</a>
January 31	Pre-Convention Meeting (online)	Recoding available <a href="#">HERE</a>
January 12 - <b>Extended to Feb. 15</b>	General resolutions due	<a href="#">Link</a>
January 15 - <b>Extended to Feb. 15</b>	Nominations for Standing Committee Members due	<a href="#">Link</a>
February 26	Diocesan Convention - Opening Service and Bishop's Address	Everyone will watch the livestream on Facebook, YouTube, or diocesan website (No Zoom)
February 27	Diocesan Convention - Business Session	Registered clergy and delegates will participate via Zoom. All others can watch livestream on Facebook, YouTube, or diocesan website

## SPECIAL 2020 PAROCHIAL REPORT FORM

Following the October 9-12, 2020 meeting of Executive Council, the Rev. Canon Michael Barlowe, Executive Officer of the General Convention, announced that the form for the 2020 Parochial Report is now viewable on the General Convention website in English: <https://www.generalconvention.org/forms-and-instructions>.

**Parochial Reports will be due to dioceses on March 1, 2021.**

Here is the link to The Episcopal Church's press release regarding the special form: <https://episcopalchurch.org/posts/publicaffairs/special-2020-parochial-report-form>.

## NEW INITIATIVE FROM EPISCOPAL CHURCH FOUNDATION: ECF360

The Episcopal Church Foundation has a newest initiative, ECF360, a new single online source for raising financial resources for your Episcopal parish or organization. ECF360 begins with three main areas to assist your efforts: Annual Stewardship & Giving, Capita Campaigns & Special Appeals, and ECF Financial Resources. [LEARN MORE HERE](#).

## REMINDER: SAFEGUARDING TRAINING (ONLINE)

Over the course of last year, churches with youth programs may have created new opportunities to engage with their youth through online video conferencing apps like Zoom. While there are no current Safeguarding modules specifically addressing online interaction with video conferencing apps, there is a module on social media safety. We recommend to anyone who works with children and young people to please review such guidelines to help protect everyone involved. Additionally, here is a video that addresses some best practices: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4G26I08D40>.

Our ministries to children and youth are a vital part of the mission of our church; training in the prevention, detection, and reporting of sexual abuse helps us to provide a safe environment. Safeguarding is primarily about *abuse prevention training* and is **mandatory** for those working with and around children and youth. Anyone can take these online modules at any time and at your own pace. Enrolling is simple; just follow the few steps in our short guideline document available on the diocesan website: [https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/ca270f\\_efa8f4dca14f48a3ada58d6efc090309.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/ca270f_efa8f4dca14f48a3ada58d6efc090309.pdf)

## 2020 LOGIN CREDENTIALS FOR TENS STEWARDSHIP MATERIALS

**NOTE:** *As soon as we have the new login credentials for 2021, we will make them available to you; continue using 2020's.*

We are a diocesan member of TENS, [The Episcopal Network for Stewardship](#). With our membership comes the ability for all of our churches to use the materials advertised by TENS. They include all the printable materials and resources for an eight week giving campaign. This year's materials combined with the ZOOM workshops in July and August will help you and your congregation navigate these new times, using technical and pastoral best practices. Please download the tools through the members portal and invite your stewardship teams to sign up for workshops.

The login credentials change each year for members. Website: <https://www.tens.org/resources/member-resources/>  
Please note the login credentials for 2020: **Username:** 1PETER **Password:** FOUR:10

## INSURANCE UPDATES

- Clergy Imputed Income letters were sent to churches last month; this amount needs to be included as part of their taxable income for 2020. It should be reported on the church's final 941 quarterly report, and included as total wages on W-2 form with a notation in Box 12 (Code C.). If you need this info to be resent, please let Kim or Dwight know.
- All 2021 medical/dental information and supporting documents are available on our website. This includes our premium rates, plan / benefit summaries, and other helpful information. Please visit: [www.diocgc.org/benefits](http://www.diocgc.org/benefits) for this information.
- Please visit our website for additional insurance info:
  - <https://www.diocgc.org/congregational-resources>
  - [Risk Management & Insurance Basics for Religious Organizations \(recommended\)](#)
  - [Safety and Insurance Handbook for Churches \(recommended\)](#)

## MUSIC LICENSING

If your church offers music during services, it is important to follow all copyright guidelines, which includes 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\(CCLI\)](#), [Christian Copyright Solutions](#).

## CONGREGATIONS IN TRANSITION (as of 2/1/2021)

Dothan, Nativity	Supply
Foley, St. Paul's	Interim in place and profile now online
Milton, St. Mary's	Interim in place
Panama City Beach, Episcopal Churches of (Grace and St. Thomas)	Receiving names
St. Luke's, Marianna	Call issued and accepted
St. Mark's, Troy	Interviewing
St. Mary's, Andalusia	Interim in place
St. James, Eufaula	Beginning process
St. Jude's, Niceville	Interim in place

For information, please contact:

The Rev. Massey Gentry, Canon to the Ordinary, at [mgfairhope@gmail.com](mailto:mgfairhope@gmail.com) or (251) 459-4169.

**Please do not contact the openings directly.**

### REMINDERS:

- Your annual church financial audit is due to the diocesan office by September 1 (per Canons). We fully understand if you are delayed due to COVID closure / distancing difficulties. We ask that you notify Kim or Dwight to provide a status of when you plan to complete your audit. Thank you to those churches that have completed your audit or checked in with us!
- Note that the 2021 Tax Guides will be released shortly (for 2020 tax year). It will be posted at: <https://www.cpg.org/active-clergy/retirement/tax-resources/>  
Clergy income tax return info from the previous tax year are below:  
[2020 Clergy Tax Return Preparation Guide for 2019 Returns](#)  
[CPG Supplement to the 2020 Clergy Tax Return Preparation Guide](#)

### LEARN - PRAY - ACT RESOURCES AVAILABLE

Bishop Russell recently called out for a recommitment to our work of Becoming Beloved Community. The Commission on Racial Justice & Reconciliation gathered resources for us to do this work. You can find the resources at [www.diocgc.org/learn-pray-act](http://www.diocgc.org/learn-pray-act).

### COVID-19 RESOURCES

Please visit [www.diocgc.org/concerning-covid19](http://www.diocgc.org/concerning-covid19) for all updates pertaining to diocesan recommended resources during the COVID-19 pandemic. PPP loan forgiveness rules are still changing so stay tuned!

### JOB POSTINGS [Submit a job posting](#)

No postings at this time.

### FACEBOOK GROUP FOR CHURCH COMMUNICATORS

Jenn Johnson, diocesan missionary for communications, moderates a closed Facebook Group for anyone who is involved in church communications within our diocese. It is a way to share ideas and resources, or pose questions and concerns. To join, contact Jenn at [jenn@diocgc.org](mailto:jenn@diocgc.org).

### COMMUNICATIONS QUICK LINKS

[Submit an article for publication](#)

[Submit a church/community event](#)

[Submit a job posting](#)

### CYCLES OF PRAYER FOR DIOCESE AND PRISON MINISTRY

Congregations are asked 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. Both are available at [www.diocgc.org/cycle-of-prayer](http://www.diocgc.org/cycle-of-prayer).

## BOOKMARK THE DIOCESAN CALENDAR

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

## UPCOMING DIOCESAN EVENTS

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
Diocesan Convention	Feb 26-27	Online

## BISHOP RUSSELL'S SCHEDULE

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
Standing Committee mtg	Feb 2 am	ZOOM
Priesthood Ordination - John Talbert	Feb 2 pm	St. Paul's, Daphne
DART Clergy mtg	Feb 4	ZOOM
Visitation	Feb 7	St. Mary's, Andalusia
House of Bishops' mtg	Feb 10	ZOOM
General Convention Task Force on Ministry	Feb 11	ZOOM
Priesthood Ordination - Mike Ballard	Feb 13	St. Paul's, Mobile
Visitation	Feb 14	St. Paul's, Daphne
COM meeting with Nominees	Feb 20	St. Cyprian's, Pensacola
Visitation	Feb 21 am	St. Anna's, Atmore
Visitation	Feb 21 pm	Trinity, Atmore
Province IV Bishops mtg	Feb 23	ZOOM
50th Annual Diocesan Convention	Feb 26 - 27	Virtual
Visitation	Feb 28	St. Francis, Dauphin Island

\*Financial data for churches is still being finalized. Financial report will return in March.\*