

# *The Hallowed Word*

All Hallows Episcopal Church

May 2014

## ***Feeding many...***

Did you eat in a cafeteria at school? I did; some schools offered a hot lunch, but others had us bring lunch from home and eat in our classrooms. As a child of an Army officer, I changed schools rather frequently so I had a variety of options depending on where we were living.

Schools in the south often prepared vegetables with seasonings. In Delaware I was introduced to “Subs”—Italian, with onions and peppers. In New England there were many small schools so we always ate in our classrooms and often traded parts of our lunches for something our neighbor had. I don’t recall my days in the far west except that in Southern California we ate outdoors at picnic tables. I do recall a cafeteria in that school, but I don’t recall what we ate there.

As an adult, I have eaten in many hospital cafeterias as well as airport, train station, and bus station ones. Cafeterias are challenged by the difficulties in preparing foods that meet the criteria of nutrition, rising costs of food, appetizing appearance, and the diets of a diverse community. Often cafeterias are places of gatherings of diversity, and sometimes places that need to offer “comfort food” as well as food with nutritional value.

I’m sure many of you have noticed how often Jesus ate with his disciples and followers. Indeed, remember the loaves and fishes miracle? After the Resurrection, Jesus met with his disciples many times, and meals were part of the routine. He even joined them for breakfast on the beach one day. It was not what they ate that mattered—it was sharing of the meal. It was coming together to pray and have conversation about the future of the people of God—the vision our God has for us until the Kingdom of Heaven brings us all together.

In today's world we are living during a time when our culture is experiencing great diversity. As a community of believers—a parish church—we are also feeding others. Certainly the Bread and Wine is the way we “communicate” with Our Lord, but the style and needs of our congregation are as diverse as every other place we gather. Some love and miss the “old ways,” the 1928 Book of Common Prayer. Some want quiet—silence, even—as they sit and pray. They want the silence to be broken only by prayers and readings. On the other hand, some people desire community worship—they need to be included in the worship by knowing what page they should be on (even though it is printed every week in our leaflet), they want to reach out and touch during the Passing of the Peace, they want to be included in the prayers and announcements because they connect with parishioners in that way.

When people join in a prayer—say it together—they “own” it. It becomes their prayer—they hear the words not only with their ears, but in their hearts and minds also—it becomes “our prayer.” But silent prayer is important also. When the Rector (or any priest/Bishop for that matter) says the Prayer of Consecration, it recalls Jesus' actions and words to his disciples at the Last Supper. Each one of us hears those words and feels the power of God in his or her own heart. That becomes the time of absolute clarity and understanding of who we are and why we are there. We become One Body at that time. We become The Church.

Easter will merge into Pentecost on Sunday, June 8. That is the day when the Holy Spirit met with a great gathering in an Upper Room—coming with a great wind and flames like tongues of fire. That, too, was a very diverse group of people, yet with that rush of Holy Spirit, all the languages were understood by everyone! The coming of the Holy Spirit was not just a local event—it was intended as a message that all people, of all languages and cultures, belonged to God. We are all God's children and our community is welcoming. We are God's beloved—each and every one!

Remember: we are feeding many. We are inviting others from outside our walls to join us in this Body—the Church. Jesus does not belong to us—Jesus came into the World. We are a small part of the

world, but we are trying our best to be a welcoming and valued presence in the lives of all.

May the Peace of Our Lord be with you during these Easter and Pentecost Seasons.

Nanese+

**As many of you have heard, Sue Haile suffered a serious fall** last week and broke her hip. On Saturday, May 10, she underwent surgery at PRMC, which was very successful. At this time, Sue remains in the hospital as she recovers from surgery, until her transfer to Health South. Ed is holding everything together very well and will keep us informed as things progress. Please keep Sue and Ed in your prayers.

**All our love to Hettie Gordon,** who was confirmed by Bishop Shand as a member of All Hallows and The Episcopal Church on Sunday, May 11 at St. Alban's Church. The service also included folk from St. Mary's in Pocomoke. This arrangement was made since our



remaining time with Bishop Bud is very short, and a visit to Snow Hill could not be arranged. Hettie has been preparing for confirmation over the past several months and is very pleased to now be one of our family.

## **Snow Hill ASP Team**

### **2014 Theme: Apostello....Life on Purpose (John 20:21)**

“As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

Every summer for over three decades, the Snow Hill community has sent a group of about thirty youth and adult leaders to Southern Appalachia for a week of service. We are one group of many that volunteer under the **Appalachia Service Project (ASP)**, a Christian service ministry founded in 1969. Each year, volunteers repair hundreds of homes for families living in poverty, poor health, or other difficult situations.

This past winter has been particularly harsh for all of us. But for many living in Appalachia, it has been devastating. Often families are living in poorly insulated and inadequately heated homes. Cold air seeps in for lack of weatherproofing. Damage from leaking roofs results in collapsed ceilings and sagging floors. While ASP volunteers served 650 families last summer, over 3000 other applicants had to be turned down. There is still a tremendous need.

Five of the Dittrich family (Pat, Barb, Brad, Lee, and Mariah) will be going again this summer. We hope you will consider becoming a “stockholder” by making a tax-deductible donation to Snow Hill ASP Team, or if you prefer, you can make your donation online by following the link at <http://sites.google.com/site/snowhillasp/>. We are thankful for your support as we prepare to travel to Tennessee this June.

### **To the All Hallows Community,**

It is with sadness that I share the passing of Robert King, husband of Melissa and son of Miriam and Doug King, on March 26 in Texas. He has been very ill the last few months. His ashes were scattered at his ranch near Austin, Texas, but there will be a service at All Hallows on Saturday, June 21, at 2 pm. I have spoken with Melissa—she is coping well, but would like to see his friends gathered here at All Hallows for an opportunity to say goodbye.

Nanese+

## Happenings in Our Church Family

**Austin Dittrich** will begin a new job as a Youth Activities Counselor aboard the Disney cruise ship *Dream*. He embarks May 29<sup>th</sup>. In December, Austin completed a degree at Frostburg University in Parks and Recreation Management. His five years as a camp counselor at Camp Wright and his internship there last summer as an administrative supervisor with the Day Camp program have prepared him for this new adventure in the Caribbean!

**Dorothy Garrett** relays good news concerning her granddaughter Kristin. Her daughter Kari Haldeman reports that “Kristin has been diagnosed with a gene mutation called EEF1A2. They think this may explain all her neurologic issues. She is the 5<sup>th</sup> child to ever be diagnosed with this, thanks to new technology. There is a lot left to discover but at least we have somewhat of an answer after 8 years!” Join us in praying for Kristin.

**Bill Gordy** is campaigning to be a member of Worcester County Board of Education in the coming election.

**Rev. Nanese Hawthorne** is celebrating a birthday on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Best wishes to her! Here is a nice photo of her with her Easter bouquet.



**Bishop Provisional Candidate Announced:** please see the last three pages of this newsletter for this late-breaking news.

**Share with us** what is happening in your family so that we can celebrate with you or join in praying for the painful things. Pass your notes to Bonnie or email to [bonniesnowhill@intercom.net](mailto:bonniesnowhill@intercom.net).

**We are collecting gently used children's books for Camp Agape** (for interests of younger children up through teens). We will have a tub in the parish hall to receive them.

**Check out the Bazaar Corner!** We try to keep it stocked, and Bea Adkins has been sewing some beautiful and delightful items. (From September through April, your purchases have amounted to \$430, all of which is used by ECW for ministries in our community.)

**Coffee hour** can be very simple. The idea is to get us together. (If you want to volunteer to host it, please do, but that is not an obligation.) We just want to enjoy your presence.

**Proceeds from our Pancake Supper netted \$2,730.03.** There were 257 carry outs and 149 folk ate in. Thanks to everyone for your help! Are you interested in chairing next year's Supper? Explore what's involved with Dorothy Garrett or Ann Gibb. A comprehensive guide book has been compiled to ease the burden. **Thank you to Dorothy Garrett for serving us well!**

**New Officers for the ECW will begin service in August:** Betty West, President; Katherine Gordon, Vice President; Judi Menavich, Treasurer; Connie West, Secretary.

**Join us as we gather for a farewell celebration for Bud and Lynne** and to celebrate Bishop Shand's Episcopate on Saturday, June 14, 2014, at 1:00 pm for Holy Eucharist followed by a Reception and Program at Christ Church, Kent Island Parish, 830 Romancoke Road, Stevensville. They ask that we r.s.v.p. to [dioceseofeaston.org/shand-celebration](http://dioceseofeaston.org/shand-celebration) so they can make plans to include us all.

**There are spaces on the Flower Chart and the Ambry Candle Chart.** The cost of the ambry candle remains \$5. Flowers are \$44. If you wish to provide the flowers yourself, please make a notation on the chart.

**Biography of our Church Photographer** [*Oops. Like the cobbler's children, we seem to have no photos of our photographer! --Editor*].

Harry E. Deitch, Jr. was born in 1948 in Guantanamo (Gitmo), Cuba. Like President Harry S. Truman, he prefers to go by plain ole "Harry." He was named after his Dad, a colorful Navy Chief, known worldwide as "Shanghai." His "Mum" Roma was from Perth, West Australia. In 1946, she and 600 Aussie War-brides and their children came to the U.S. by ship. She traveled by train to Martins Ferry, Ohio, his Dad's home town. After a brief stay his mother arrived at Chincoteague Island, since his Navy Dad was assigned to Chincoteague Naval Air Auxiliary Station (now NASA Wallops). In 1947 they departed for a 4 year tour in Gitmo, Cuba. Harry was born in February 1948; his brother Ross was born in October 1949. They were both baptized Catholic in 1952 by a military chaplain. When his parents were married in Australia, because his "Mum" was Catholic, they agreed that any children would be raised Catholic.

Harry moved to Chincoteague in 1952. "Chief Shanghai" received orders back to the Chincoteague Naval Air Station. As a child, Harry attended the Methodist Church on Chincoteague. There was no Catholic Church on the island at the time; the nearest one was in Pocomoke, MD. At age 10 or 11, Harry almost attended catechism classes when the owner of the Hotel Russell (where Bill's Restaurant is now located) offered to provide transportation on Saturdays. When the 1<sup>st</sup> class was to begin, he discovered that it coincided with Little League Baseball games. So Harry politely declined the invitation, telling Mrs. Ora Wolf, the Hotel owner, that "I was very sorry, but I just couldn't give up baseball for church." His Dad, always a baseball fan, interjected, "You know, Ora, the boy has a point!" She exclaimed, "Oh Shanghai, you're no help!" (Harry became a "decent shortstop!")

Harry met his wife, Mary, at University of Virginia. They were married in Lynchburg, Virginia in 1972. Their daughter, Heather, was born in 1976 at the Naval Hospital at Camp Pendleton, California. Their son, Christopher, was born in 1977 at the Naval Hospital in Yokosuka, Japan. They all are graduates of UVA (Wahoo-Wa!)

In 1990, Harry attended confirmation classes with his daughter, Heather, and son, Christopher. He could not locate his Baptismal records from Cuba, so he contacted the Archdiocese for Military Services. Amazingly, they located the records, providing “proof of baptism.” In August 1990, Bishop C. Charles Vache confirmed them at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Jenkins Bridge, Virginia. (“Here ends the lesson” on how he became an Episcopalian!)

Harry lived in Snow Hill during his children’s school years. He began attending All Hallows some time in 1989. He has volunteered in the past to serve twice on the Vestry, on committees (long-range planning, search committee); currently serving as lector, greeter and photographer.

Harry is serving in his 4<sup>th</sup> year on the Board of Directors for Eastern Shore Rural Health, a Community Health Center serving Accomack and Northampton counties in Virginia. (<http://www.esrh.org>).

Harry retired in 2008 after 37 years of U.S. government service with the U.S. Navy. In his spare time, he enjoys fishing, gardening, home renovation projects, photography, and most of all, being a grandparent to Noah, Emma & Grace. Bucket list priority: he hopes to travel to Australia soon to meet his 9 cousins and learn about his “Aussie Roots.”

### **Thanksgiving ... Generosity ... Mission ... Ministry**

Ingathering for the United Thank Offering will be June 1, 2014. If you are unable to be present, please forward gifts to All Hallows, 109 W. Market Street – ATTN: ECW Treasurer Mary Deitch. Please make check payable to UTO. Need a blue box? Pick one up in the back of the church! Through the years, the custom has been to keep a blue box at home. Then whenever we feel grateful, we put in some cash (change or bills; they add up.) Then we add it up and bring the sum for the offering.

**Your giving to the Church Periodical Club is amazing!** Nelson Payne, our CPC chairman, gets great joy from counting and reporting your giving for this fund which helps seminary students purchase their books. In 2012, CPC totaled \$168.37. In 2013, gifts totaled \$320.92. In 2014, from January through April, your gifts already total \$153.87. Thank you.

### **Musings by Jim, May 2014**

February 28, 1903 – Mrs. Marion T. Hargis entertained the Euchre Club last Saturday afternoon. Also,

I hereby announce to my friends throughout the county that I am a candidate for the office of State Attorney. William G. Kerbin

March 21, 1903 – Passed into the rest of Paradise on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> inst. Virginia Lee, infant daughter of James J. and Lilly Collins, of Snow Hill, MD. (January 27, 1902 to March 16, 1903, Lot # 167) “A member of Christ, the Child of God, and an inheritor of the Kingdom of Heaven.”

April 18, 1903 – Misses Eleanor and Frances Butler are visiting their parents at All Hallows Rectory.

May 2, 1903 – O. D. Collins, Esq. moved into his handsome new home on Market Street this week. This house, which has just been completed is one of the most imposing in Snow Hill, while for convenience, comfort and attractiveness, it is surpassed by none. (Note: This is the brick house at the corner of East Market Street and Green Street.)

Did you know that Snow Hill was having a Butter Dish and Basket Company being built? May 9, 1903

June 27, 1903 – Mr. Louis Covington Boehm has just finished the law course of Columbia College and is now at home taking a short vacation before returning to New York and opening an office there for the practice of his profession. (Run-on sentence???) Dr. Dashiell is making

preparations to build himself a handsome home on the Franklin House lot.

November 28, 1903 – The Reverend William C. Butler has just received a letter from the Rev. C. H. B. Turner, Rector of the church at Lewes, Del., stating that the heirs of John Collier, who went from Worcester County, Maryland to Texas, about 1839, may hear something to their advantage by communicating with the above mentioned clergyman at Lewes, Delaware. (I wonder what that was all about?)

February 6, 1904 – An Ad – We have just received a fresh line of breakfast cereals – Cream of Wheat, Grape Nuts and Force. We will be pleased to take orders for your breakfast. W. E. Cluff & Co.

Hon. Wm. G. Kerbin made a short but strong and forcible speech in the House of Delegates last week in favor of the candidacy of Ex-Governor John Walter Smith for the United States Senate.

Messers William G. Kerbin and Samuel K. Dennis. Two of Worcester County's able representatives in the Maryland Legislature, spent Saturday and Sunday in Snow Hill.

February 20, 1904 – The ladies of All Hallows Church have greatly improved the ancient edifice by having the ceilings and walls tinted, and newly carpeting the entire floor.

April 16, 1904 – A. D. Irwin, Jr., of Altoona, Pa. spent Saturday and Sunday with his parents in Snow Hill. Mr. Irwin is a Civil Engineer, having taken his degree at Pennsylvania Military College, Chester, and is now employed in the Construction Department of the Pennsylvania Railroad. At present, he is aiding in the construction near Altoona, of one of the largest Round Houses in the world.

The Rev. Mr. Butler, at the advice of his physician, will be absent for some days in the Church Home in Baltimore.

Follow-up: April 23, 1904 – Rev. William C. Butler, who returned from Baltimore on Tuesday, is advised by his physician to take a complete rest for a time. There will be no services at All Hallows Church on next Sunday.

May 7, 1904 – Rev. Wm. C. and Mrs. Butler were the recipients on Wednesday evening of this week, of a bountiful supply of groceries and other provisions, also a sum of money from the congregation of All Hallows Church. Such gifts from people to Pastor have a double value. The one, intrinsic, the other which is beyond price, consists in the kindness and sympathy which prompts them.

The Rector of All Hallows Church, in accordance with the advice of his Physician, has been urged to take such entire rest as may lead to complete recuperation.

June 25, 1904 – Work on the handsome new house of Dr. E. S. Dashiell on the corner of Market and Bank Streets is progressing rapidly. The building is a two-storey brick structure and will be equipped with every modern convenience and comfort. W. P. Pusey and Son are the builders and contractors.

Mr. Bowdoin Robins, eldest son of Mrs. Ellen Robins, of Snow Hill, died in Baltimore County last Friday, of tuberculosis, after an illness of several years. (Grave site #862). He was 37 years of age and besides his mother, leaves one brother, Dr. William L. Robins, of Washington. His remains were interred in the Episcopal Churchyard Monday afternoon. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. William C. Butler and were attended by a large number of relatives and friends.

July 2, 1904 – Harry F. Covington, professor in English at Princeton University, is home on a visit to his parents, Hon. & Mrs. Geo. W. Covington.

August 27, 1904 – While climbing over the fence of the Episcopal Churchyard Tuesday afternoon, James Townsend, the nine year old son of Mr. & Mrs. James P. Townsend, caught his forearm on one of the sharp spikes of the fence. Instead of raising his arm from the spike on which he was impaled, the little fellow tore his arm loose, lacerating the flesh in a horrible manner. The wound was dressed and sewed up by Dr. Paul Jones, and the patient is doing as well as can be expected.

Sept. 3, 1904 – Mr. James B. Robins entertained a large number of his friends Monday evening at the home of his parents, Mr. & Mrs. John L. Robins, near Snow Hill. The evening was spent very merrily playing games on the moon-lit lawn, in quiet chatting on the verandah, and in singing in the cool reception room. Refreshments consisted of ice cream and cake were served at eleven o'clock.

Who would like to join a “whist party?” Let me know. Jim

### **Easter Photos**

All Hallows' Easter service was well-attended last month, with many children enjoying the Easter Egg hunt in the cemetery, and eating jelly beans afterward.



## **Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,**

By now you will have heard the wonderful news of Heather Cook's election to be the Bishop Suffragan on the other side of the Bay in the Diocese of Maryland. How blessed will be the thousands of Christian men, women, and children for whom she will be a shepherd.

Canon Cook has been my trusted colleague for the last eight years, serving as my assistant, my counselor, and my outlet in times of stress. We have shared with each other the highs and the lows of ministry in a bishop's office, and I cannot begin to imagine a priest who is better qualified than she to step into the episcopate. I tell you in all sincerity Maryland's gain is Easton's loss.

But clearly this is God's will for her lifelong walk with the Almighty. She is the daughter of a priest and we can only begin to know how proud he would be of Heather, the little girl he taught to love Jesus and to serve the Lord's people as deacon, priest, and now bishop.

I ask you to join me and give God thanks for Heather's ministry among us on the eastern side of the Chesapeake Bay and to hold her before God as she moves to the Western Shore in an exciting new position as disciple of Christ and servant to his people.

Faithfully yours,  
+James J. Shand

## **What's a Mite or a Talent, and Who Cares Anyway?**

(by Ron Abler in *The Messenger* of Emmanuel Church, Chestertown)

Two of the most popular of Jesus' teaching stories are the Parable of the Widow's Mite and the Parable of the Talents. As a boy in Bible History class, I had visions of a woman infested with tiny itchy insects and servants who ranged from very talented to downright untalented. I don't remember when I first understood that the widow had two small coins and not a flock of fleas, but I remember exactly when I first learned the definition of a talent. It was just a couple of months ago when I looked it up on the Internet. Who knew?

As it turns out, talents and mites have a lot in common, but at opposite ends of the scale. In biblical times, a talent was both a unit of weight as well as a monetary unit. As a unit of weight, a talent

approximated the mass of the water required to fill an amphora (such as the jugs holding the water that Jesus turned into wine in his first miracle). As money, a talent became standardized at 75 troy pounds (980 Troy ounces) of either silver or gold. Jesus didn't specify silver or gold in His parable, but at today's rates, one silver talent would be worth almost \$20,000, while a gold talent would sell for over \$1.2 million! No wonder the servant with one talent was too nervous to invest it. And who can blame his master for being upset with him, considering that the other two servants returned a clear profit of \$140,000 if silver or \$8.4 million if gold!

Now, what about those pesky mites? It turns out that were no coins called mites in Jesus' day, but in 1611, when the King James Version of the Bible was published, a mite was the very smallest copper coin in circulation. Instead, the widow's mite in Jesus' time was most likely a Greek lepton, the smallest and least valuable coin in circulation in first-century Palestine. To put this into some context, consider this:

1 silver talent = 60 minas = 750 uncia = 13,000 shekels = 39,000 denarii = 570,000 prutahs = 1,140,000 leptons!

Since a silver talent would be worth about \$20,000 today, the widow's two leptons would be worth a mere 3.5 cents. In 2013, the average price of a loaf of bread was \$1.42, or about 7 cents a slice. The widow contributed two lepta, worth only a half slice of bread, but it was all she had! Talk about giving until it hurts! No wonder Jesus was impressed.

What have I learned? Well, two things are sure. I probably can't lift a talent without help, and if McDonald's had a Lepton Menu it would have to include the Mitey Mac, with missing meat, invisible sauce, and a picture of a pickle on half of a tiny, tiny bun. Mmmmm!

**God has blessed us with a Technicolor world.** Several times each day I thank Him for the love which is displayed in this beauty.

**The Vestry approved obtaining an Audio System** and microphones to amplify the speaking voices from the lectern and pulpit. Ken Thom and Ed are working to select the appropriate vendor and to define the details.

**A Reminder:** We hired a part-time priest, contracted for 26 hours per week. Nanese seeks to be available whenever you need her, and she is available by phone. However, you will not always see her car at church or at the rectory. Vestry members feel she is doing a great job, but if you have a problem, please talk to her or to any vestry member to sort out any issue.

**Vacation Bible School** will be held July 7 – 11. The Theme is **Weird Animals – Where Jesus’ Love is One of a Kind.**

***The Hallowed Word comes together*** because of some very special helpers. Kemp Wills arranges things, adds pictures and uses his great skills with the computer to make the whole more attractive. Katherine Gordon is our roving reporter who gathers biographies and interesting stories. Harry Deitch stays ready with his camera to “shoot” church happenings. Thank you to each of them for your dedicated help!

**Rev. Nanese is planning for a Blessing of the Animals** on October 11 (the Saturday after St. Francis Day). She is looking for helpers to assist the planning and to facilitate the details on that day.

### **The Agape Ministry of the Diocese of Easton**

“Give me your unconditional love, the kind of love I deserve, the kind I want to return.” (From a song sung by the children in the Agape program at Camp Wright)

Dear Wardens and Clergy Colleagues:

If you were present at our Diocesan Convention, you heard that the ministry that has been known for many years as Camp Agape has a new name – the Agape Ministry of the Diocese of Easton. The words of the song quoted at the top of this letter really speak to those of us who serve the children through this ministry of our Diocese. We seek to provide unconditional love, the kind of love that all of the children of God deserve and will return to others in so many different ways.

Our mission statement says that “The mission of the Agape Ministry is to love, support, and encourage children of incarcerated

parents, and to help them recognize their own value as God's children and build meaningful lives on the foundation of God's love." We have known for many years that this mission cannot be accomplished merely in a camp setting during one week of the year, but that it can only begin to be realized through continuing relationships with the children throughout the year. This is why we have always had other events at Christmas and the Spring. Now this ministry is striving to expand these relationships even further.

We are excited about the events we have planned for different age groups this spring, including an afternoon at the YMCA in Cambridge for the youngest campers, a day at Assateague for others, a leadership camp weekend for older campers, and a day in Washington, D.C. for the oldest campers.

But at the center of the ministry is still the week of camp. Last year we moved the camp experience to our new home at Camp Wright. We were all excited as we learned new ways of doing things and enjoying the beautiful setting of our Diocesan camp.

The generosity of our Diocesan Community has been so wonderful each and every year. I am writing you to consider joining us again this year in providing this much-needed ministry to these children of incarcerated parents. All of the activities of the Agape Ministry—the Christmas party, the field trips, the weekend retreats, and the week at Camp Wright—are funded by donations from our Community. Your support makes these events possible. I would like to encourage each church in our Diocesan Community to consider making a contribution to the Agape Ministry. Of course, any financial support, regardless of the amount, will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time in reading this letter and for your consideration of the request. Please send any sponsorships and/or contributions to the attention of Art Kendall, Administrator of Finances, Diocese of Easton, 314 North Street, Easton, MD 21601-3684. Please designate on the contribution that it is for a sponsorship and/or financial support of the Agape Ministry.

In Christ, The Rev'd Michael D. Moyer OGS, Agape Chaplain



# Diocese of Easton

*The Episcopal Church in Eastern Maryland*

The Rt. Rev. James J. Shand  
Bishop of Easton  
bishopshand@dioceseofeaston.org

May 13, 2014

My Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Last Thursday evening, on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May, The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Easton presented its candidate for the position of Bishop Provisional for our diocese. The Diocesan Council unanimously approved the nomination of The Right Reverend Henry Nutt Parsley, Jr., resigned diocesan Bishop of Alabama, as the Bishop Provisional of The Diocese of Easton. The election of Bishop Parsley will be held on Wednesday evening, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in Trinity Cathedral, Easton.

There are two documents included in this mailing. The first is a Call for a Special Convention in accordance with the Constitution of the Diocese of Easton, Article V, Election of a Bishop, Sec.1, Special Convention –Time and Place and sec.2, Notice of Meeting- Calling for the bishop with the advice and consent of the Standing Committee to send written notice of the time, place, and purpose of the special convention at least sixty (60) days before the said meeting to all persons entitled to vote.

Those entitled to vote are the clergy and delegates who attended the 146<sup>th</sup> Convention of our diocese held in February 2014.

The second document is a biography on Bishop Parsley.

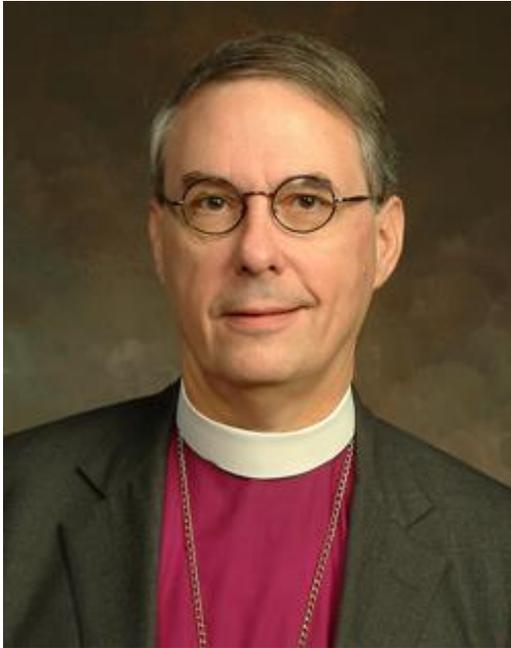
The election held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of July will be in the context of a celebration of the Holy Eucharist with Bishop Parsley preaching, and Bishops Parsley and Shand as con-celebrants. At the conclusion of the Eucharist, Bishop Shand will give Bishop Parsley the Diocesan Crosier symbolizing the transference of jurisdiction to Bishop Parsley.

Following the service there will be a reception to welcome Bishop and Mrs. Parsley to our diocese.

Sincerely, yours in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. James J. Shand  
Tenth Bishop of Easton

Howard Snyder  
President, Standing Committee  
Diocese of Easton



## **The Rt. Rev. Henry Nutt Parsley, Jr., DD -- A Biography**

Henry Nutt Parsley, Jr. is the 10th Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Alabama, Retired. He was born in Memphis, Tennessee on October 29, 1948, son of the Rev. Henry Nutt Parsley, and his wife Barbara. He attended the Porter-Gaud School, an Episcopal college preparatory school in Charleston, South Carolina. He received his undergraduate education in English

literature at the University of the South (BA, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, 1970), and his Master of Divinity from The General Theological Seminary (1973). He has studied at Oxford University in the areas of spirituality and soteriology, and received honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees from both the University of the South (1998) and The General Theological Seminary (1998).

Bishop Parsley was ordained in 1973 in the Diocese of South Carolina and began his ordained ministry as Assistant Rector in Trinity Church, Myrtle Beach and St. Philip's Church, Charleston. He then served as Rector of All Saints Church, Florence and St. Paul's Church, Summerville in South Carolina and was for five years headmaster of a parochial school. In 1986 he was called to be Rector of Christ Church, Charlotte, North Carolina (1986-1996) during which time the parish undertook multi-million dollar outreach programs and a major building expansion. He served his dioceses on the Standing Committee, the Diocesan Council, as an Examining Chaplain, and in youth ministry, stewardship and Cursillo leadership, and AIDS ministry.

Bishop Parsley was elected Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Alabama in 1996, in which office he served until becoming the Diocesan Bishop in January 1999. He served as the 10th Bishop of Alabama from 1999-2012, during which time he oversaw a diocese encompassing the northern two-thirds of the state, comprising 92 parishes, eight campus ministries, and several institutions, including some 35,000 Episcopalians. During these years the diocese focused on the planting of new parishes, spiritual growth, the renewal of the diaconate, youth and campus ministry, outreach, and a successful capital campaign. In January 2006, he was nominated for Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church.

Bishop Parsley served his undergraduate alma mater as Chancellor of the University of the South, the titular head of the institution, 2003 – 2008, also serving on the Board of Trustees and on the Board of Regents. He has been a preacher on the Protestant Hour (now Day 1) and active in many outreach ministries of the Episcopal Church including serving on the Board of the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief (now Episcopal Relief & Development). He was a clerical deputy to General Convention in 1982, 1985, 2001, and 1994. He is married to the former Rebecca Knox Allison (Becky). He and Becky are the parents of Henry Nutt Parsley III, who is married to the former Libba Pollitt, making their home in North Carolina.

Known for his reconciling leadership in the wider Church, Bishop Parsley served as Chair of the Theology Committee of the House of Bishops for over a decade and was a member of the House's Planning Committee. He was a member of the Board of the College for Bishops, chaired the Standing Commission on Stewardship and Development for six years, and served on the Church Pension Fund's Abundance Committee.

Bishop Parsley remains active serving on the Board of the Colleges and Universities of the Anglican Communion, as Bishop-in-Residence at St. Mary's Sewanee, and on the American Friends Board of the Anglican Centre in Rome. He enjoys leading retreats, teaching on faith and literature, traveling and fishing.