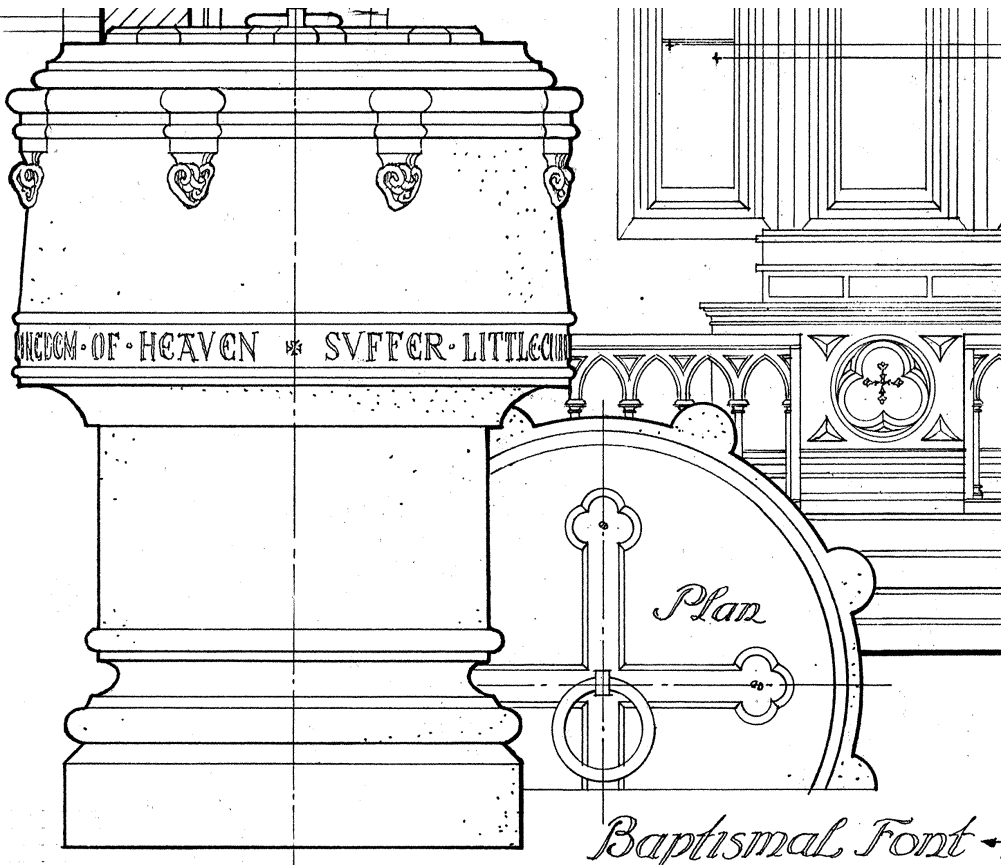


CHAPEL of
the CROSS

ANNUAL MEETING 2022

WISDOM OF HEAVEN
SUFFER LITTLE CHILDREN

HARRY WEIR
A. H. TOWN



3 EPIPHANY

CELEBRATION OF HOLY EUCHARIST & PARISH ANNUAL MEETING
23 JANUARY 2022 10 O'CLOCK

PRELUDE *Andante cantabile, from Sonate Pathétique, op. 13* Ludwig van Beethoven

HYMN *Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty* The Hymnal 1982 (H82), 362

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

SONG OF PRAISE *Canticle 11*

*Young people age 3 through 1st grade may follow the processional cross to Children's Chapel.
They will return at the Peace.*

1 *Arise, shine, for your ' light has ' come, **
and the glory of the ' Lord has ' dawned up'on you.

2 *For behold, darkness ' covers the ' land; **
deep ' gloom en'shrouds the ' peoples.

3 *But over you the ' Lord will ' rise, **
and his 'glory will ap'pear up'on you.

4 *Nations will ' stream to your ' light, **
and kings to the ' brightness ' of your ' dawning.

5 *Your gates will ' always be ' open; **
by day or ' night they will ' never be ' shut.

6 *They will call you, The ' City of the ' Lord, **
The Zion of the ' Holy ' One of ' Israel.

7 *Violence will no more be ' heard in your ' land, **
ruin or de'struction with'in your ' borders.



- 8 *You will call your ' walls, Sal'vation,*
and ' all your ' portals, ' Praise.*
- 9 *The sun will no more by your ' light by ' day;*
by night you will not ' need the ' brightness of the ' moon.*
- 10 *The Lord will be your ever'lasting ' light,*
and your ' God will ' be your ' glory.*

COLLECT FOR A CHURCH MEETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever living God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with those who take counsel at the Chapel of the Cross for the renewal and mission of your Church. Teach us in all things to seek first your honor and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NOMINEE INTRODUCTIONS (*p. 11-14*) & FIRST VESTRY BALLOT

A READING FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

All the people of Israel gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the Lord had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our Lord; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 *The heavens declare the glory of / God,
and the firmament shows his / handiwork.*

2 *One day tells its tale to a/nother,
and one night imparts knowledge to a/nother.*

3 *Although they have no words or / language
and their voices are not / heard,*

4 *Their sound has gone out into all / lands,
and their message to the ends of the / world.*

5 *In the deep has he set a pavilion for the / sun;
it comes forth like a bridgroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its /
course.*

6 *It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens, and runs about to the end of it a/gain;
nothing is hidden from its burning / heat.*

7 *The law of the LORD is perfect and revives the / soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the / innocent.*

8 *The statues of the LORD are just and rejoice the / heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the / eyes.*

9 *The fear of the LORD is clean and endures for / ever;
the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous alto/gether.*

10 *More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine / gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey in the / comb.*

11 *By them also is your servant en/lightened,
and in keeping them there is great re/ward.*

12 *Who can tell how often he of/fends?
cleanse me from my secret / faults.*

13 *Above all, keep your servant from presumptions sins; let them not get dominion / over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great of/fense.*

14 *Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in your / sight,
O LORD, my strength and my re/deemer.*

Jerome Webster Meachen
(b. 1930)



A READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN *O Christ, the Word Incarnate*

H82, 632

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Luke 4:14-21

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

ANNUAL REPORTS

*Bob Williams, Senior Warden
Marvin Koury, Junior Warden
The Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work;
For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;
For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;
For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; and Brian and Duncan, our Bishops; and all bishops and other ministers;
For all who serve God in his Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

The People may add their own petitions.

Hear us, Lord;
For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

The People may add their own thanksgivings.

We will exalt you, O God our King;
And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

The People may add their own petitions.

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
Who put their trust in you.

The Presider will add a concluding prayer.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & SECOND VESTRY BALLOT (IF NEEDED)

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Sicut cervus

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

HYMN

I want to walk as a child of the light

H82, 490, st. 1

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our great High Priest; in whom we are built up as living stones of a holy temple, that we might offer before you a sacrifice of praise and prayer which is holy and pleasing in your sight. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS *Holy, holy, holy*

H82, S-125

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread, and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

FRACTION *Christ our Passover*

H82, S-154

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

HYMNS *Alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord*
God is love, and where true love is

H82, 178

H82, 576

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THIRD VESTRY BALLOT (IF NEEDED)

THANKSGIVINGS FOR OUTGOING VESTRY OFFICERS & MEMBERS

COMMISSIONING OF A NEW VESTRY

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. Our purpose is to commission these persons in the Name of God and of this congregation to a special ministry to which they are called.

Are these persons you are to present prepared by a commitment to Christ as Lord, by regular attendance at worship, and by the knowledge of their duties, to exercise their ministry to the honor of God, and the well-being of his Church?

Senior Warden I believe they are.

You have been called to a ministry in this congregation. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with diligence?

Vestry Members I will.

Will you faithfully and reverently execute the duties of your ministry to the honor of God, and the benefit of the members of this congregation?

Vestry Members I will.

O Eternal God, the foundation of all wisdom and the source of all courage: Enlighten with your grace the Wardens and Vestry of this congregation, and so rule their minds, and guide their counsels, that in all things they may seek your glory and promote the mission of your Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

In the Name of God and of this congregation. I commission you Members of the Vestry in this Parish. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING

HYMN *The Church's one foundation*

H82, 525

DISMISSAL

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE *Fantasia*

Johann Kreiger

2022 VESTRY NOMINEES

Anna Arnold



My name is Anna Wilds Arnold, and my family and I have been an active part of the Chapel family since late 2015 when we moved to Madison. I grew up as a member of Grace Episcopal Church in Canton where I was active during childhood and early adulthood. Since joining Chapel of the Cross, I have found my community with the children's ministry as well as C'YA. I am currently taking Toddler and Level One Catechesis formation courses to become certified in our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program. I have also volunteered my time with DITC & CITC and various other activities since we have been at Chapel.

Outside of the Chapel, I stay active by spending time with family & friends, traveling, and volunteering my time & talents to Camp Bratton Green & Junior League of Jackson. I have served as adult staff at multiple CBG sessions, including Will's special session in 2019. It was there that I met both Ro and Cedric (who frequently attends Sunday service), and my love of service was reignited.

During the week I am a Senior Sales Representative for Eli Lilly. Les and I are both extremely busy being parents to our three girls Ada (6), Nora (4), and Lissa (2). As a parent to 3 young children, naturally my vision for the church is to see the children's ministry continue to grow with the addition of new families. I would also love to see a bridge created to connect new members with members who have been such a large part of Chapel's rich traditions and ministries. With the rapid growth over the last few years and the impact of COVID, I see a great opportunity to connect our members. Chapel is so unique and special, and I hope to see more and more people experience the deep connection and that the church gives our family.

Ray Balentine



My name is Ray Balentine, and I am very humbled and excited to be nominated to serve our Chapel of the Cross on the Vestry. My wife, Cindy and I joined the Chapel in 2011. In searching for the place God wanted us to be, we immediately felt that we were at that place once we visited the Chapel. We felt so welcomed by this church family. After our first visit here, we never left. Both of us were raised as Southern Baptists, so we were thrilled to be able to be confirmed in October 2011.

I am a civil engineer and head the Mississippi and Alabama offices of Michael Baker International, a consulting engineering firm. After graduating from Mississippi State University with a B.S. in Civil Engineering, I did additional engineering education at Northwestern University. Cindy and I have lived in Madison County for 25 years. I am involved with a number of organizations within the county such as the Madison County Business League & Foundation, the Ridgeland Chamber of Commerce, as well as serving on the Jackson State University Advisory Board for the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department.

Since we came to the Chapel, I was licensed as a Lay Worship Leader and serve in the 8:00 service. Cindy is a member of the Altar Guild. Our children, Carrie and Will were confirmed along with us in 2011. They were both married this past year, but the impact of this community of faith has been and continues to be a blessing in our lives. I would truly be humbled to have the chance to serve the Chapel of the Cross on the Vestry.

Bill Buhner



Bill and his wife Margaret, married for 52 years, have two grown daughters and two grandchildren. Bill has previously served as Junior Warden and on the Vestry of the Chapel, and at other parishes as Senior Warden (three times), Junion Warden (four times), and on the Vestry. He is an active member of the Chapel Grille, the Friday Men's Bible Study, and the Cemetery Committee, of which he is a co-chair and is completing a tour as the Chair of the Chapel of the Resurrection Punch List Committee. Bill serves us as a Licensed Lay Reader and a Lay Eucharistic Minister, and he would very much like to help guide our Parish as we begin a new chapter in our history with the completion of our new worship space. Bill will continue to bring a wealth of talent and experience to the Vestry and, perhaps most importantly, the time that this position requires.

Russ Markle



My name is Russ Markle, and I became a confirmed Episcopalian in the fall of 2016 after my family and I began attending the Chapel earlier that year. I was raised Baptist, in Vicksburg and attended First Baptist Church. Julie, my wife of 16 years was raised Episcopalian in Columbus and attended St Paul's, where we were married. Our children, Johnston (7) and George (3), were baptized and are now being raised at the Chapel. We couldn't be more thrilled with the love and support our family has received during our time here. We are especially appreciative of the Christian example the dedicated young people in the church provide our children and are inspired by the many opportunities the church provides to serve and grow together in faith.

I am an architect and partner with WBA Architecture in Jackson. Not long after my confirmation, I was asked to join the New Sanctuary Building Committee, where I enjoyed having the unique privilege to use my special talents in the service of the Chapel. Until the opening of the new sanctuary, our family attended the 8:45 service, but have recently joined the larger congregation at the 10 service. It has been a blessing to participate in the eucharist in the new facility and share the fruits of our efforts with a larger congregation.

My profession has given me great experience in bringing a variety of people together to solve complex problems and reach common goals. I think this makes me uniquely qualified to assist the church as a member of the Vestry. I am honored by this nomination and look forward to continuing to provide my time and talents to the church in many ways yet to be determined.

Will Morton



Will Morton was born and raised in Clinton, Mississippi. He attended the University of Mississippi and Mississippi College School of law. Will has been practicing law for over fourteen years in the Jackson, Mississippi area. Will is married to Mindy McKay Morton. Will and Mindy reside in Madison, Mississippi with their thirteen year old daughter McClara and their seven year old son Lock. Will and his family have been attending the Chapel of the Cross for over eight years. Will is currently serving on the Vestry and serves as an Usher on Sunday mornings.

Kenny O'Neal



I started coming to the Chapel of the Cross with my wife, Ellen, and my daughter, Molly, over 20 years ago. I have seen us grow - not just in numbers of parishioners, but in outreach efforts to the community, and of course physically too, with the new worship space. It's been great seeing all of the new faces young families that are coming in droves to the Chapel with their children. With this growth comes new responsibilities and challenges. I believe the blessings of our recent growth should be nurtured and carefully tended to avoid growing pains, when possible. I believe we should be good stewards of the blessings growth brings. I have been pleased and so grateful to all of the young adults who have stepped up in leadership positions in the Chapel. I think it is equally important though, at least for a while, that some of us "old-timers" continue to share our institutional knowledge and past experience to assist in guiding this growth.

In my years here, I have served as a Sunday school teacher to young teens (if that doesn't challenge you, nothing will!), as a vestry member, stewardship chairman, DITC food booth co-chair for 10 years, Chair of the Gravediggers Guild, and for several years now as the usher coordinator. I was a practicing attorney and I have owned my own small business. I believe that my experience and history with the Chapel could be of benefit to the vestry as we navigate the exciting future of the Chapel, assuring that it continues to be a vibrant force in the community – "welcoming the stranger and nurturing one another."

Lisa Stutzman-Graves



I have been a member of the Chapel over 10 years and have served as a member of the finance board, flower guild, servant ministry, helping with Day in the Country and have enjoyed many foyer groups over the years.

To me, the Chapel family is the most loving, non-judgmental people around and I want to grow this spirit in our community. My son, Ryan Skelly, grew up in the Chapel and as a former single parent I can tell you, it truly takes a village. I am grateful for the Chapel family and Camp Bratton-Green. Ryan and his fiancée now live in Santa Monica, CA where he is a Tax Attorney. My husband, Randy Graves and I live in Madison along with many 4-legged friends.

After many years in corporate media advertising, I have branched out to do publicity for authors and advertising for Stages Mississippi Magazine. I am a certified John Maxwell leadership coach and enjoyed volunteering over the years to empower others to reach their full potential while making a difference in their communities. I have served on St. Dominic's Advisory Board, Louisiana Advertising Federation, and elected to Top 50 Business Women in Mississippi.

Protecting and preserving our Chapels history and rich traditions while growing our faith community are two areas you will find me to be passionate about. I also have a big heart for those who are suffering be it from the winds of life or depression from being holed up during coronavirus. Richard Rohr, a Franciscan priest and spirituality writer says it best:

If you stay in the mainstream of life, in other words, you let in the suffering of the world that invariably enters all of our lives by the time we're in our middle years, when we've experienced a few deaths and read a few headlines. Famine, poverty, abuse, you can't keep that all blocked out. If you let those things teach you, influence you, change you, those are the events that transition you without you even knowing it to become more compassionate. In other words, you hold onto your values, but you do it much more inclusively, humbly and in an open-ended way. Suffering takes you there.

I am honored to be asked to stand for vestry and utilize any God given talents to best help the Chapel.

Lynn Thompson



I have loved the Chapel of the Cross since my first husband, Grant, brought me to it as a surprise on our first Christmas Eve after moving to Madison. What a magnificent introduction! About a year later, I lost Grant, and when I eventually picked up the pieces of my spiritual life, I found them here. First, the elegant simplicity of the Chapel itself captivated me and then, its people. When I married Hays and we began our family (Paxton and Olivia), I became an official member here and began to dig into the richness of its offering of services, mainly by serving on the Hospitality Guild and Flower Guild. Professionally, I am a lawyer and have practiced for 30 years. My best offerings for the vestry are energy and ideas, and I am rarely without a reasoned opinion. I can lead and listen.

2021 FINANCIAL REPORT

First off, all finances, including detailed budgets, statements, financial reports, audits, etc. are always available in the Parish Administrator's office. If you have any specific questions, please ask the Treasurer, Senior Warden, Rector, or Administrator anytime.

For the sake of this report, and using round numbers, in 2021 we expected to receive \$923,000 in income, but actually received \$1,014,000, \$91,000 over budget. Expenses were expected to be \$1,041,000, but were actually \$992,000, \$49,000 under budget. The Chapel has \$462,500 in our operating account, \$212,000 of which are restricted funds.

The Capital Campaign will officially end in 2022. We have raised \$2,760,000, and have outstanding pledges of \$589,000. This year we will convert the balance of the construction loan to a 20-year mortgage. It's critical that we continue to receive payments on those pledges, as well as non-pledged gifts, so we can have the smallest possible mortgage when the time comes. For the organ, there are still \$75,700 in outstanding pledges. The organ will be installed in late February or early March.

Capital Campaign

Total Pledges 122

Amount Pledged \$3,289,527

Amount Applied \$2,757,114

Pledge Balance \$589,550

Non-Pledge Gifts \$240,094

Organ Campaign

Total Pledges 55

Amount Pledged \$345,700

Amount Applied \$272,650

Pledge Balance \$75,700

Non-Pledge Gifts \$166,563

The 2022 budget includes \$1,136,000 in income and \$1,130,000 in expenses, and was built on 158 pledges totaling \$833,809 (in 2021 we received 130 pledges totaling \$716,540), as well as non-pledge and plate estimates based on past performance and suppositions about the coming year. Expenses were forecasted using the same methodology except in cases where specific budgets were received. The largest expense change in 2022 will be our debt service obligation of \$50,000 as well as our mortgage for the second half of the year of \$90,000. The vestry has also budgeted \$50,000 to replace aging air conditioners (in 2021, we spent \$25,000 over budget to repair 3 units that were failing). The Chapel still has 7 units that are end of life expectancy and will have to be replaced in the next 3-5 years. It is the hope of the vestry to keep that account at \$50,000 annually until all units have been replaced.

23 January 2022

Dear Friend:

As per Canon 23, Section 4, of our Diocese of Mississippi, “before the annual Parish meeting, the vestry shall cause to be written and delivered to the Rector, or if there be none, to the Wardens, a full, accurate and faithful statement of the number of meetings held by the Vestry during the year, and the number of such meetings attended by each Warden and Member of the Vestry. At the annual Parish meeting, said statement shall be presented and read to the parishioners there assembled and the statement duly filed and recorded in the Minutes and Records of the Parish. The statement shall also declare what money, lands or other property had been received during the preceding year, and from what source; what money has been expended, and for what objects; and what property has been purchased, exchanged, or mortgaged, and for what purposes,” I share the following information:

Vestry Meetings in 2021

• **January 10, 2021 (virtual)**

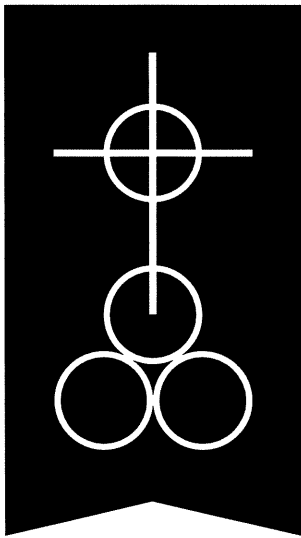
- Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Ralph Stillions, Junior Warden, Bill Buhner, Sarabeth Clark, Rebecca Haas, Stan Herren, Steve Middleton, Will Morton, Ellen O’Neal, Reggie Sims
- Also in Attendance: Ashley Herden, Clerk, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector
- Absent: Brock Haas, Treasurer, Tommy Roberson

• **January 20, 2021 (at the Chapel)**

- Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Ralph Stillions, Junior Warden, Bill Buhner, Sarabeth Clark, Rebecca Haas, Stan Herren, Steve Middleton, Will Morton, Tommy Roberson, Reggie Sims
- Also in Attendance: Brock Haas, Treasurer, Ashley Herden, Clerk
- Absent: Ellen O’Neal, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector

• **February 24, 2021 (at the Chapel)**

- Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Ralph Stillions, Junior Warden, Bill Buhner, Sarabeth Clark, Stan Herren, Steve Middleton, Will Morton, Tommy Roberson, Reggie Sims
- Also in Attendance: Brock Haas, Treasurer, Ashley Herden, Clerk, Michael Barker, Treasurer-Elect, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector
- Absent: Rebecca Haas, Ellen O’Neal



**CHAPEL of
the CROSS**

an historic Episcopal Church

674 Mannsdale Road
Madison, MS
39110-7991

601.856.2593
chapelofthecrossms.org

Clergy

The Rev^d Ben G.
Robertson, IV
Rector

The Rev^d William H.
Compton
Associate Rector

*Welcoming the stranger,
nurturing one another, and
guided by the Holy Spirit,
the Chapel of the Cross
strives to live the mission
of Jesus Christ through
prayer, traditional liturgy,
Christian education, active
outreach, and love of all
God's creation.*

- **March 24, 2021 (at the Chapel)**
 - Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Ralph Stillions, Junior Warden, Bill Buhner, Sarabeth Clark, Rebecca Haas, Stan Herren, Steve Middleton, Ellen O'Neal, Tommy Roberson, Reggie Sims
 - Also in Attendance: Brock Haas, Treasurer, Ashley Herden, Clerk, Michael Barker, Treasurer-Elect, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector, Amy Barker, Rev. Paul Stephens, Canon to the Ordinary
 - Absent: Will Morton

- **April 21, 2021 (at the Chapel)**
 - Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Ralph Stillions, Junior Warden, Bill Buhner, Rebecca Haas, Stan Herren, Steve Middleton, Ellen O'Neal, Tommy Roberson, Reggie Sims
 - Also in Attendance: Brock Haas, Treasurer, Ashley Herden, Clerk, Michael Barker, Treasurer-Elect, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector
 - Absent: Will Morton, Sarabeth Clark

- **May 19, 2021 (at the Chapel)**
 - Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Marvin Koury, Junior Warden, Cliff Agnew, Bill Buhner, Brock Haas, Ashley Herden, Stan Herren, Will Morton, Ellen O'Neal, Tommy Roberson
 - Also in Attendance: Michael Barker, Treasurer, Grace Simmons, Clerk, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector
 - Absent: Sarabeth Clark

- **June 12, 2021 (during the Vestry Retreat at Eagle Ridge Conference Center, Raymond)**
 - Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Marvin Koury, Junior Warden, Cliff Agnew, Bill Buhner, Sarabeth Clark, Brock Haas, Ashley Herden, Stan Herren, Ellen O'Neal, Tommy Roberson
 - Also in Attendance: Michael Barker, Treasurer
 - Absent: Will Morton, Grace Simmons, Clerk, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector

- **July 28, 2021 (at the Chapel)**
 - Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Marvin Koury, Junior Warden, Cliff Agnew, Bill Buhner, Sarabeth Clark, Brock Haas, Ashley Herden, Stan Herren, Ellen O'Neal, Tommy Roberson
 - Also in Attendance: Michael Barker, Treasurer, Grace Simmons, Clerk, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector, Laney Crampton, Keith Obert (phone)
 - Absent: Will Morton

- **August 18, 2021 (virtual)**
 - Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Cliff Agnew, Bill Buhner, Sarabeth Clark, Brock Haas, Ashley Herden, Stan Herren, Will Morton, Ellen O'Neal, Tommy Roberson

- Also in Attendance: Michael Barker, Treasurer, Grace Simmons, Clerk, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector
 - Absent: Marvin Koury, Junior Warden
- **September 15, 2021 (at the Chapel)**
 - Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Cliff Agnew, Bill Buhner, Sarabeth Clark, Ashley Herden, Stan Herren, Ellen O'Neal, Tommy Roberson
 - Also in Attendance: Michael Barker, Treasurer, Grace Simmons, Clerk, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector
 - Absent: Marvin Koury, Junior Warden, Will Morton, and Brock Haas
- **October 20, 2021 (at the Chapel)**
 - Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Marvin Koury, Junior Warden, Cliff Agnew, Bill Buhner, Sarabeth Clark, Brock Haas, Ashley Herden, Stan Herren, Will Morton, Ellen O'Neal, Tommy Roberson
 - Also in Attendance: Michael Barker, Treasurer, Grace Simmons, Clerk, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector
- **November 17, 2021 (at the Chapel)**
 - Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Marvin Koury, Junior Warden, Cliff Agnew, Bill Buhner, Sarabeth Clark, Brock Haas, Ashley Herden, Stan Herren, Will Morton, Ellen O'Neal, Tommy Roberson
 - Also in Attendance: Michael Barker, Treasurer, Grace Simmons, Clerk, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector
- **December 15, 2021 (at the Chapel)**
 - Vestry Members in Attendance: Rev. Ben Robertson, Rector and Chair, Bob Williams, Senior Warden, Marvin Koury, Junior Warden, Cliff Agnew, Bill Buhner, Sarabeth Clark, Brock Haas, Ashley Herden, Stan Herren, Will Morton (virtual), Ellen O'Neal, Tommy Roberson
 - Also in Attendance: Michael Barker, Treasurer (virtual), Grace Simmons, Clerk, Rev. Will Compton, Associate Rector

Financial Statement

- Money
 - The Chapel received \$923,635.47 in total Operational income last year. The sources included Wednesday night supper, Interest Income, Non-Pledge, Plate – Cash, Pledges, Prior Year Pledges, Wills Estate Contributions, Rental Income, Chapel of the Cross Preschool (Formerly Parents Day Out) and Wedding Fees. The Chapel received \$592,110.46 in designated or restricted income (non-operational). The sources were from parishioners and donors and the majority of these were capital campaign contributions. The 2021 financial audit is currently underway by MC&L Accountants (formerly LeFoldt & Co.)

- Lands
 - The Chapel did not receive any land.
- Other property
 - Nothing material
- Expenditures
 - The total operational expenses for 2021 were \$1,041,782.41. These expenses were for operation of the church.
- Property
 - No new property was purchased, exchanged, or mortgaged in 2021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Bob Williams
Senior Warden

COMMITTEE & GUILD LEADERS

Formation & Fellowship: Ellen O'Neal, Ben Robertson

Adult Formation: Ben Robertson
Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Pam Manor, Ruby Medlin
Chapel Brotherhood: Ralph Stillions
Children & Family Ministries: Stephania Jackson
Cherub Choir: Dana Tiffin, Stephania Jackson
Cursillo: Suzie Webb
Daughters of the King: Nancy Bowering
Day in the Country: Lauren & Russ Bain (20 & 21), Katy & Cliff Agnew (22)
Foyers: Ralph & Lynne Stillions
Hospitality (Funerals): Michael Barker & Pam Manor, Ellen O'Neal & Laney Crampton,
and Susan Case & Cy Williams
Hospitality (Receptions): Leigh Russell, Jill Pennebaker, and/or Kyle Ward
Hospitality (Maundy Thursday): Sloan McKellar, Teresa Watts, and Lynn Stillions
Hospitality (Potlucks & Picnics): Katy & Nick Breaux, Ashley & Ian Herden,
and Amanda Camp
Kairos: Laney Crampton
Music: Ed Dacus
Nativity Pageant: Ashley Herden
Chapel Preschool: Stephania Jackson, Haylee Nix
St. Clare's Guild (Knitters): Becky Mercier
St. Cecilia's Choir: Ed Dacus
Vacation Bible School: Stephania Jackson, Ashley Herden
Wednesday Night Supper: Dana Tiffin
Wedding Guild: Suzannah Silva, Lauren Bain

Administration: Bob Williams, Ben Robertson

Buildings & Grounds: Marvin Koury
Cemetery: Guy & Nancy Bowering, Bill Buhner
Cookbook: Shirley Abney
Communications: Ben Robertson
Finance: Michael Barker
Garden Guild: Cheryl Welch, Brenda Fortenberry
New Building Punch List: Bill Buhner
Stewardship: Stan Herren, Tommy Roberson, Ben Robertson
United Thank Offering: Rebecca Haas

Ministry: Sarabeth Clark, Will Compton

Acolytes: Will Compton
Altar Guild: Mary Margaret Buchannan, Laurie Williams
Chapel Grille: Will Compton, Keith Obert

C'YA (Young Adults): Will Compton
Flower Guild: Laney Crampton
Funeral Guild: Louanne Latham
Gravediggers Guild: Jon Woodward, Ross Harjes
Lay Readers: Will Compton
Ministry of Smoke: Keith Obert
Newcomers: Will Compton, Ben Robertson
Servant Ministry: Michael Barker
St. Honoré's Guild (Bread): Dan Robertson, Cullam Pope
St. Margaret's Guild (Pastoral Care): Nelwyn Madison, Adair Cunningham, Will Compton
Ushers: Kenny O'Neal
Vergers: Will Compton
Youth Ministries: Doug Goodin, Will Compton

2021 ANNUAL REPORTS

Adult Formation

The Chapel continues to offer several opportunities for adults to grow stronger in the faith and learn more about our Episcopal and Chapel traditions.

On Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour, we offer five adult classes: the Middle Path, led by Davis Frye and Ben, the Covington Room, C'YA (Young Adults), led by Will, St. Claire's Guild, and, beginning on 30 January, Fearless Conversations (Gen X) led by Sloan McKellar. In 2021, the Middle Path concluded a study of the Beatitudes, studied the Outline of the Faith (commonly called the Catechism), enjoyed a special summer series on loving difficult people, and began a study of Embraced, Empowered, Equipped by Hilde Lundgaard Grimstad. The Covington Book Group continued their study of scripture using the Weekly Bible Study Guide published by St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Richmond, VA. CY'A just finished the Animate: Bible DVD series and has begun studying the gospel lesson each week and applying it to our everyday lives. CY'A's discussions are rich and insightful, but also laid back and full of laughter.

The Wednesday Bible Study is, "a wonderful group of people studying God's word and anyone is welcome to come join."

If you are new to the Chapel and/or the Episcopal Church, Confirmation Class is an excellent way to learn more about our, as the Presiding Bishop calls it, "branch of the Jesus movement." Confirmation Class meets weekly, includes with supper, and offers separate sections for youth and adults. Childcare is available. The first class is Tuesday, 22 March, class will not occur on 12 April (Holy Week), and will conclude with the Bishop's Visitation on Sunday, 15 May.

Separate reports from the St. Claire's Guild and Chapel Brotherhood are below.

Altar Guild

Altar Guild hosted a brunch to plan for services in the Chapel of the Resurrection and Chapel of the Cross. All service teams are working efficiently, and we hope to organize special teams to handle baptisms, special services and act as substitutes when needed. These teams will not have yearly altar guild duties. Also, we welcome any families who are interested in making altar guild their ministry. Anyone interested, please contact Mary Margaret Buchanan or Laurie Williams.

Chapel Brotherhood

The Friday Morning Men's Study Group currently meets every meets every Friday morning at 7:00 a.m. at C.C.'s Coffee House in Ridgeland. The time is, of course, very early, but it was designed so that those who work may participate and still make it to work on time. The group gathered via Zoom for most of 2020 but were pleased to say we meet again in-person in for most of 2021, until recently anyway. Omicron has put things on hold recently. Hopefully Omicron will ease up and we can begin meeting again in-person very soon.

We have finished our most recent study, The Case for Christ by Lee Strobel. When we crank back up again, our study will be the book, The Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion: A Devotional Guide by Robert G. W. Langmaid.

This group has been gathering in fellowship, prayer and study for over 15 years. It is open to all men of the Chapel. The group is structured so that each week does not necessarily build on the previous week. Participants can therefore join at any time and not miss out if some meetings are missed.

The group studies a particular book and usually covers and discusses one chapter at a time at each meeting. Examples of the books studied include: Praying the Lord's Prayer With A New Understanding; Spiritual Disciplines; What Think Ye of Jesus; The True Measure of a Man; The Screwtape Letters; Conversations with Scripture: Romans; Spiritual Classics; Hunger of the Heart; Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times; to name just a few.

A typical gathering normally consists of a short period of sharing one's previous week with the group, what is colloquially call a "weather report" (i.e: sunny, cloudy, stormy, etc.); an informal discussion of our study chapter for the week; and ending with a devotional, which includes prayer requests and intercessions.

Chapel Grille

The Chapel Grille men's group met on again and off again due to the pandemic. In many ways we adapted and were able to still meet even with the pandemic. In the fall, we met outdoors in the picnic table area, setting up Monday Night Football on a projection screen. Though we had to adapt some months and not meet others, the Chapel Grille still boasted good food and great company. Many thanks goes out to Head Grillmaster Reed Wilcox for putting up with all of us. If you have never been to the Chapel Grille then come join us. We meat (pun intended) on the last Monday of the month at 6p in the parish hall. It is a great opportunity to meet new people while grilling out and raising money. All you have to do is bring a piece of meat to cook on the grill, a beverage of your choice (leaded or unleaded), and \$10 for mission work in our area. Delicious sides and wonderful company are provided for you. Talk to Will Compton if you are interested and come join the fun!

Chapel Young Adults (C'YA)

Our Chapel Young Adults continues to be involved in many aspects of Chapel life including chairing Day in the Country, helping with Christmas in the Country, singing in the choir, serving in worship, digging graves, and serving on the vestry just to name a few. This group is ever growing at the Chapel of the Cross and is a great way to meet people and get involved. We were able to do some of our most popular events this year once again such as our annual crawfish boil in May and our tacky sweater party in December. At each of these events, we had over 50 people in attendance. If you are a young adult or a young family talk to Will Compton and come join us.

Children's Ministries

The highlight of 2021 is the glorious Children's Chapel. The Children's Cross processional drew more children in who wanted to be part of the service. We had as many as 21 children, on a given Sunday, follow the Cross to Children's Chapel to hear the children's homily. We welcomed many new young families and their children.

Formation educational courses for the catechists continued for the Toddler Level, Level 1 (ages 3-5) and for Level III (4th -6th grade). We carved more than 48 pumpkins for Trunk or Treat. The Level III children took a field trip to see the Living Museum of the Traveling Tabernacle. We had a great VBS with more than 60 children participants. Thanks to all of the volunteers. We carved 48 pumpkins for Trick or Trunk. The Nativity Pageant had 50 children sign up to participate. The Chapel of the Resurrection allowed us to have 102 in attendance to watch the Nativity Pageant and hear the debut of the children's choirs on Christmas Eve. A big thank you to Dr. Ed Dacus who started these choirs.

Haylee Nix was promoted from Assistant Director to Director of the Preschool.

Communications

Communications at the Chapel include worship bulletins, two weekly email newsletters (ideally sent at noon on Wednesday and 6 a.m. on Sunday), our website (chapelofthecrossms.org), the sermon podcast on Soundcloud, our social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, other various publications, and Chapel swag. But one of the key components of our communications strategy is our live streams on Facebook and Vimeo, ably and generously led by the excellent Ian Herden. We would be sunk without Ian. In this period of variant surges, in addition to the business of “normal” life, many folks are worshipping with us online and offering an online component to our worship will continue, even when the pandemic is a memory.

You can assist and amplify the Chapel's online efforts by liking and sharing the Chapel's offerings on social media. If you are on Facebook, Instagram, Soundcloud, or Twitter, please like and share our pages and posts. Thank you!!

Daughters of the King

In 2021, the Daughters of the King (DOK), for the most part, continued Zoom meetings due to Covid. Notwithstanding, the DOK took food to those members and neighbors affected by illness. We continued to send cards and/or prayer boxes to those in need. We continued our email communications, praying for many requests sent. We had a wonderful turnout to honor Constance and her Companions at The Chapel of The Resurrection in September. Once again, DOK collected socks from the parish in partnership with Mission: Socks, for the homeless. At Christmas, several DOK members gathered to pack Christmas bags for Kairos Women's Prison Ministry. We had a very high turnout for our DOK Christmas dinner at Strawberry Café and enjoyed fellowship in-person.

Flower Guild

The prime goal of the Flower Guild is to provide flower arrangements for all events held at the Chapel. That includes weddings, funeral, funeral visitations and diocesan conferences. There are presently 39 guild members in nine teams that rotate in this ministry throughout the year to meet this goal. Since the last report, four new members have joined the Guild.

Since our last Annual Meeting, the Flower Guild has received a wonderful response from parishioners who wish to honor loved ones with flowers given in their names for Sunday services and for Christmas and Easter. Notices of these offerings appear in the Sunday bulletin and in Cross Currents.

Our Chapel family has been very kind with donations to the Flower Guild this past year. The Guild appreciates this since it operates solely on donations. These funds are not only used to purchase flowers but to purchase needed supplies as well. If you are interested in honoring a loved one with flowers or joining the Guild, please contact Laney Crampton at laneycad@aol.com or text 601.573.6120.

Foyer Groups

Foyer Groups are groups made up of 5-6 Chapel couples, or individuals, who gather approximately every other month for dinner, socializing and Christian fellowship. The groups gather on a rotating basis in the home of one of the group members. Foyer Groups have been a Chapel tradition for many years.

These small groups have a wonderful history of deepening our relationships with one another and strengthening those bonds that truly make us a family in Christ at the Chapel. Many have said that some of their best Chapel friendships have come out of the Foyer Groups.

Regretfully, Covid prevented Foyer Groups from gathering in 2020 and 2021. Consideration is being given to cranking them back up once this Omicron strain reverses course. Further on this idea will be forthcoming.

Funeral Guild

2021's Pandemic saw the Chapel handling five funerals and utilizing our new worship space The Chapel of the Resurrection for several of these. What a blessing it was to have this space in use this past year.

The Funeral Guild diligently tries to ensure each bereaved family feels the Chapel's sense of community and care for them and their dearly departed during this stressful time.

Please consider becoming a part of this Ministry. All you need are willing hands, a caring heart and a flexible schedule.

Contact LouEllen Latham, Chair, or Rev Will Hewlett Compton for additional information on how you can join this special ministry.

Garden Guild

The Garden Guild was created in 2012 to help maintain the grounds of the Chapel property. Faithful members "adopt" an area and maintain that area. Planting areas, pots, and patios are kept in good condition thanks to these volunteers. If you want to help or adopt an area, please let us know. There is one area that needs an "adoptee."

Landscaping around the new church building is ongoing. A plan is being developed. Donations of plan specific plants and trees are welcomed anytime. In the field behind the building oak, cedar and magnolia trees are being planted. The goal is to use the plant species that are on the original Chapel property. Magnolia grandiflora trees will be planted on the east end of the building. Realize that it will take years for them to be of great size! Magnolia donations would be appreciated. A designed irrigation system will need to be installed to maintain any plantings done. Resurrection building plans specify the area on the south side of the building with the hour glass shaped crushed stone walkway as a memory garden. Plans are not

yet finalized for this as research and information is being gathered. Again, help is needed in all these areas and projects - please volunteer!

Gravediggers Guild

During the year 2021 we interred seven souls, four of which were cremations. The Scotch is usually donated by Madison Cellars.

Kairos

Kairos is a non-denominational, international Christian prison ministry. It is a continuing ministry with volunteers meeting with inmates for two annual retreats and two monthly gatherings. The Chapel continues to sponsor four women inmates at Central Mississippi Correctional Facility (CMCF) in Pearl to attend a four day retreat. Because of Covid, the prison remains closed to volunteers until it is safe to re-enter the prison.

The funds usually allocated by the Chapel for Kairos retreats were used this past year for the inmates to continue their Kairos gatherings with internal leadership from the prison Chapel staff. Presently one Chapel member participates as a Kairos volunteer, but recently, two members of our Chapel family have vested an interest in being trained as Kairos volunteers to enter the prison to minister to the inmates. If you are interested in becoming a Kairos volunteer, contact Laney Crampton at laneycad@aol.com, or text her 601.573.6120.

Ministry of Smoke

The Ministry of Smoke at the Chapel of the Cross is an organization made up of men from the Chapel who gather at least three times each year, at Thanksgiving, at Christmas, and at Easter, to prepare and sell delicious smoked meat products, including smoked turkeys, smoked Boston butt pork shoulders, and smoked spiral cut, honey glazed hams, for members of the Chapel of the Cross and the community at large. The Ministry of Smoke has been active at the Chapel for more than fifteen (15) years and the proceeds from the various meat sales have been used to benefit members of the Chapel in need, address various community needs and projects, and to assist other philanthropic endeavors at the Chapel of the Cross and the community. For instance, over the last few years, the Ministry of Smoke has donated approximately \$8,500.00 for Christmas meals for needy families through Our Daily Bread in Madison County.

If you have never joined us for a night of meat preparation, it is a wonderful opportunity for Chapel men to get involved in activities at the Chapel and get to know other men at the Chapel. Our group of participants in the Ministry of Smoke range in age from high school boys to young professionals, to retired men in their 70s plus. If you would like to join us in the preparation and sale of smoked meats through the Ministry of Smoke, please keep an eye on the weekly announcements, or contact Keith Obert at 601-209-2862, to get involved. If you have never sampled any of our delectable smoked meats from the Ministry of Smoke, at a mere \$40.00-\$50.00 each, you are certainly missing out and need to try our smoked meats at the next holiday season and you will become a loyal patron from then on, and will make these smoked meat entrees a regular part of your holiday season tradition, while helping benefit the Chapel of the Cross, its ministry and the community at large.

Music

We joyously commenced regular morning observance of Eucharist this past February in the Chapel of the Resurrection, which possesses outstanding acoustics for music. While piano was used for most music in the services, various instrumental ensembles enhanced a number of our services, including Easter, the Chapel of the Resurrection dedication, and Christmas Eve, as well as individual instrumentalists interspersed throughout the year.

In November, we initiated two children's choirs, the Cherub Choir and St. Cecilia Choir, both singing for the 4:00 Christmas Eve service. While we are currently suspending rehearsals for both groups, those will hopefully be allowed to resume in the near future. We are projecting employing the Royal School of Church Music curriculum for the St. Cecilia Choir at some point this year, a curriculum that offers instruction in reading music as well as good vocal production.

Our adult choir is an extraordinary group of highly skilled singers routinely providing music leadership during the 10:00 Sunday Eucharist, rendering offertory anthems with exceptionally high quality and musical nuance. The choir began singing again, a few at a time, when we began worshipping in the new Nave in February, then the entire choir by the May 16th dedication of that space. After the summer sabbatical, the choir resumed singing in August. We presented a Choral Evensong to commemorate Holy Cross Day on September 19th, and offered a well-attended performance of Antonio Vivaldi's Gloria December 5th, with members of the Mississippi Symphony Orchestra. The choir fortunately was able to continue in full force through Christmas Eve. Currently we are singing with reduced numbers for the safety of choir members in the wake of elevated cases of the coronavirus, but hope to add more singers when the crisis passes.

Our new Noack organ, currently being assembled in entirety at the company's workshop in Georgetown, Massachusetts, is scheduled to be dismantled and shipped to the church for installation in late February or early March, and is projected to be completed for Easter Sunday, April 17th!

Newcomers

We continue to welcome newcomers to the Chapel of the Cross each Sunday and we are continually excited about the growth we've experienced at the Chapel of the Cross, even during a pandemic. With the Chapel of the Resurrection completed, we are now able to welcome more folks into our worship. If you see someone new, introduce yourself to them. If you know someone who will be visiting, let the clergy know. Each visitor receives a loaf of fresh bread, hand delivered by the rector to their front door. It takes all of us at the Chapel, who were once welcomed here ourselves, to extend that welcome and hospitality to others. And don't forget...invite a friend to church!

St. Claire's Guild (the Knitters)

Despite Covid, we are still knitting. In early December, took several tubs of hats and scarves to Smith Park and distributed them directly to the homeless and at-risk population. We shared washcloths with Shower Power, also.

Servant Ministry

This year was more a hybrid year as we started with outdoor services and ended the year with the Omicron variant and back in masks and social distancing. We did the best we could with our resources, below is a summary of where the servant ministry used our resources for the year.

Salt and Light: We provide a scholarship for a student in Honduras annually for just over \$300. It provides uniforms and books and school fees. We have been supporting salt and light for over a decade.

Women's Prison Ministry (Comfort bags for the holidays): the Chapel created 100 comfort bags for the central MS women's prison for Christmas. Servant ministry partners with DOK who acquires the products and then makes the actual bag. A big thank you to Lanie Crampton for all she does for this endeavor.

Stewpot: We fed stewpot 4 separate times in 2021. For each of those we did grab and go lunches. For the first 2, while we were still locked down, families from the Chapel would come get supplies from the loading dock at the church and bring back completed lunch bags the next day for delivery to stewpot. The second half of the year we used the C'YA group to actually come into the Parish Hall and create the bags. We then delivered the bags to Stewpot.

We are hoping that for 2022 we will get back to actually cooking, transporting and serving the meals in person.

School Supplies: School supplies have been a little different in the last 2 years. The agency we support with the Madison County foster kids has desired a touchless environment. We gave gift cards for purchase of school supplies to support 42 kids in various grades and schools.

Angel Tree: As with School supplies, the Angel Tree this year was touchless, so we gave gifts cards for 23 of Madison Counties foster kids.

Christmas Food Boxes: For 6 of the past 7 years, the Chapel delivered 700 food boxes to the clients of Our Daily Bread. Each food box contained enough nonperishables to feed a family of 6 as well as a gift card for them to buy a turkey or other items to go with the actual food boxes. While the first year we only delivered 100 boxes our total count since we began the program we have delivered a total of 4,300 boxes and have fed over 25,000 people Christmas dinner in Madison County. We had help this year from Word of Life church building the boxes and filling them with food. I also want to call out our youth group led by our youth Director Doug Goodin. Also a special thanks to Reed Wilcox for all of his help this year.

Other Grants: Though out the year we give to other organizations. These include Stewpot of Jackson, Madcaap, Wyngaard house and Caring and Sharing.

United Thank Offering (UTO)

The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, men, women, and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. The Chapel of the Cross contributed \$100.00 to UTO for 2021.

Ushers

In 2021, the team of ushers served at all services, including several funerals.

It was a year of transition as we moved into a new worship space, with 4 ushers serving at each service in Chapel of the Resurrection. We are still working out a few kinks with that, particularly with communion.

We've had some new ushers come on board in 2021 and encourage more to join, as it's a great way to become involved. And for those that have trouble sitting still during church, this could be the perfect fit!

Worship Volunteers

We are still getting acclimated to the way things are being done in our new building. This past September we had 8 new, young acolytes trained and they have done very well. Now that we are down to just one primary service at 10a, it affords us the opportunity to pool all of our worship volunteers into one service which helps with scheduling. A big thanks to all of our worship volunteers that make worship happen at the Chapel of the Cross. If you are interested in reading, ushering, acolyting, etc. talk with Will Compton.

Youth Ministries

The Chapel Youth come to you this year with glad tidings. We have survived the induction of new leader Kerman Douglas Goodin II, and the program has been fairly consistent in the three months since his arrival. Numbers have remained fairly constant at 6-8 students each week, and Goodin is confident that this number will continue to grow in the coming months. Speaking of which, the Chapel Youth are looking at a stacked calendar this semester with various recreational outings, service opportunities for both the Chapel and the community, and of course several spiritually-enriching events. On a personal note, Goodin would like to extend the greatest thanks possible to the parishioners, especially the parents and students for being as supportive and helpful as they have been the past several months. 2022 is stacking up to be an incredible year for the Chapel Youth with fun, fellowship, and growth in faith!

The Vestry

Officers

The Rev. Ben G. Robertson, IV, Chair
Bob Williams, Senior Warden
Marvin Koury, Junior Warden
Michael Barker, Treasurer
Grace Simmons, Clerk

Class of 2022

Ellen O'Neal
Bill Buhner
Will Morton

Class of 2023

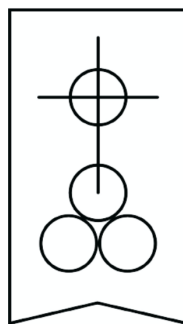
Sarabeth Clark
Stan Herren
Tommy Roberson

Class of 2024

Cliff Agnew
Brock Haas
Ashley Herden

The Staff

The Rev. Will Hewlett Compton, Associate Rector
Dr. Edward Dacus, Organist and Choirmaster
Doug Goodin, Director of Youth Ministries
Carleen Hix, Sexton
Stephania Jackson, Director of Children's Ministries
Samantha Leard, Administrative Assistant
Haylee Nix, Chapel Preschool Director
The Rev. Ben G. Robertson, IV, Rector
Dana Tiffin, Parish Administrator



CHAPEL *of*
the CROSS
an historic Episcopal Church