

ALIVE!

Maundy Thursday Eucharist, foot washing and lunch held in Holy Cross' Undercroft



by Mother Mary Richard

Two years ago Bishop Jake presented Holy Cross in Shreveport with the idea of inviting their neighbors for a Maundy Thursday service of Eucharist and foot washing. The first one was held in the parking lot in front of Holy Cross' Hope House; the services last year and this year were in the church Undercroft. It was a wonderful day, a

beautiful time of gathering with our neighbors.

St. Mark's provided lunch, and the other churches of our Convocation collected socks and money for shoes so that each person who came to the event, left with a new pair of socks and a new pair of shoes.

St. Luke's Episcopal Mobile Medical Ministry was the sponsor, and their nurses were on site to do foot exams. Deacon Lois Maberry did a remarkable deacon's job of organizing the day, and the biggest treat was the presence of our bishop to celebrate, preach and mingle. This year his wife, Joy Owensby, was with us too!

Thank you to everyone who brought socks during Lent and provided donations to fund seventy pairs of shoes! And thank you to the clergy and people of our Convocation who came and shared Communion, visited at tables, served lunch, passed out shoes and socks, and were the ministers who shared the love of the Gospel! Our neighbors are so appreciative, but as always, we are the real recipients of joy and grace.

—Mother Mary Richard is rector of Church of the Holy Cross, Shreveport, and dean of the Shreveport Convocation.



For my birthday my wife Joy surprised me with a framed picture of my twenty-year-old mother Trudy. Someone had taken the photo aboard the ship that brought her to America. Doing some genealogical work while we were visiting Salt Lake City, Joy had come across that photograph and the passenger's manifest of the Vulcania.



Bishop Jake

Traveling completely alone, my mother took the seventeen-hour train trip from Linz, Austria, to the port in Genoa, Italy. There, she boarded the Vulcania for a roughly three-week ocean crossing. Trudy's possessions fit into a single flimsy suitcase. She arrived in New York City on October 29, 1949.

The word "cruise" suggests luxury. This trip was anything but that. The ship's manifest lists my mother among those in Alien Tourist Class. Read that as steerage.

The photo captures her dining among dozens of other passengers in an unadorned, cramped compartment seemingly built to store cargo. The simple tables and the small chairs reminded me of lunch rooms from my middle school days. Plainly dressed diners sat elbow to elbow with their backs nearly touching the person at the table behind them.



My mother sits in the background. Even though people in the foreground may have been the photographer's intended subject, Trudy's determined profile and wavy brunette hair are unmistakable.

When I was twenty, going away to college seemed like a big move. Spring-break trips with friends and study-abroad programs felt like adventures. Traveling all alone to a distant country with no job, no facility with the language, and no local support system would have been out of the question for me.

Then again, I had not survived daily Allied bombing and internment in a Nazi concentration camp. These experiences had forged my mother into sterner stuff than I was at the same age.

War's indiscriminate slaughter and the Nazi state's systematic violence against what it viewed as undesirable elements had bruised and battered Trudy's soul and body. And yet her child-like humor refused to be extinguished. We would watch cartoons together and laugh out loud at episodes of "The Three Stooges."

During my teen and young adult years, her insistence that other people were doing

Diocesan News

IN MEMORIAM: The Reverend Susan Wright Bell

St. James has had a number of priests come through our portals, but none were more beloved and appreciated than Sue Bell, the first woman priest at St. James in Shreveport.

Sue died on February 15, 2017, after a courageous eleven-year battle with Alzheimer's disease. In 2002, our rector left just before advent, but Sue came to the rescue and was to remain with us until late 2003.

Sue returned to St. James from 2005 until the latter part of 2006, serving as assistant priest and coordinator of Christian Education during the tenure of Father Bill Bryant.

Sue was born on February 23, 1932, in New Haven, CT, the daughter of the Rt. Rev. and Mrs. Godsell Wright. She was a graduate of the Univ. of Texas, El Paso, and received her master's + 30 from LSU-Shreveport.

A devoted teacher for thirty years, Sue retired from the Caddo Parish School System in 1999. She loved her students and teaching, which included English, fine arts, and Spanish. Her students knew her expectations were high, and she wanted them to do well.

At a very young age, Sue knew she wanted to become a priest, following in her father's footsteps, but priesthood for women was not acceptable at that time. So, after retir-



The Rev. Susan Wright Bell

ing from teaching (at the age of 67), she attended the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest and was ordained to the priesthood in 2002.

Besides serving at St. James, she served at the CORE treatment center, Holy Cross Villas, and countless other charitable organizations.

Sue was a wonderful priest: dedicated, conscientious and loving. She loved the English language and wanted us all to use it correctly; she would even underline and circle misspellings and poor grammar in the newspaper.

She also loved "plays on words" and puns, but most of all, she loved bringing Christ into the lives of people. She inspired us to be true Christians.

Sue is survived by three daughters: Nancy Bell McAllister, Margaret Bell Badgley and Marian Wright Bell, six grandchildren and a brother, Daniel Wright and his family.

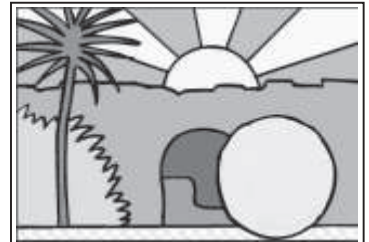
A memorial service was held for Sue at St. James with Bishop Jake Owensby as celebrant and a number of her fellow priests in the diocese participating.

The ECW of St. James prepared a bountiful reception following the service.. Sue accomplished so much in her lifetime despite her long years of suffering at the end.

"Neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Mattie Mosley, Parishioner

St. James, Shreveport



The Season of Easter

The Season of Easter, the oldest and greatest feast in the church year, celebrates the feast of Christ's resurrection and is the central day in the liturgical year. Easter Day begins the Easter season, which lasts for fifty days, until the Feast of Pentecost. The readings for this season center on the events of the resurrection and the appearance of Jesus to his disciples.



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Gospel Memories
The Future Can Rewrite Our Past
by the Rt. Rev. Jake Owensby

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Around the Diocese

Chicken Salad makes consistent outreach possible at St. Paul's, Abbeville

by Jenny Milligan

The Women of the Church at St. Paul's, in beautiful downtown Abbeville, have once again held their annual fundraiser. The Abbeville Women make and sell chicken salad sandwiches. This event is in its 50th+ year.



It's remarkable how methods and the actual product have remained consistent, and yet there have been great changes in the method of preparation.

In the beginning this annual fundraiser entailed boiling, deboning and chopping chickens, plus chopping celery, eggs, etc. The change is that today the chicken and celery used are purchased already cubed/chopped.

The longevity of this project has afforded a consistent clientele that looks forward every year to the "Famous" St. Paul's, Abbeville chicken salad sandwiches. We have a "secret" sauce recipe that has been guarded for the past 50+ years and will continue to be protected.

The entire congregation of the church participates by donating the boiled eggs. The Women of the Church (and help) begin the sandwich-making process by gathering the day before the sale to assemble the sauce, portion out the chicken, celery and chopped eggs.

The next morning the process begins at 5:30 a.m. with many batches of the salad being mixed. Some of the salad is sold in pint containers, but much of it becomes sandwiches.

This successful fundraiser has made it possible for the Women of St. Paul's to consistently fund outreach donations and offer help to many organizations and to St. Paul's where assistance is needed.



Methods change but the results speak for themselves

The Women of St. Paul's, in Beautiful Downtown Abbeville, have once again held their chicken salad sandwich fundraiser, in which they have 50+ years of investment. Methods for making the product have changed, but it still provides funds needed to fund ministry efforts of the church.



Church of the Redeemer ECW holds Spring Taster's Luncheon

The Episcopal Church Women of the Church of the Redeemer in Ruston held a Spring Taster's Luncheon on Thursday, May 11 from 11 to 1 in the church parish hall. Tickets were \$10 and were available from any member of the Redeemer ECW and were also available at the door.

For more than 15 years the Ruston community has been able to enjoy the delicious dishes prepared by the women (and even some men) of Redeemer in Ruston. This "fun" fundraiser allows the women to be able to help various charitable organizations in the community, the diocese, and beyond. It's a lot of hard work, but provides a way of letting people know that the Episcopal Church in Ruston is alive and well.



St Luke's Sporting Clay Shoot, June 10, 2017

St Luke's Mobile Medical Ministry Fund Raiser is getting closer. We will host a Sporting Clay Shoot on Saturday, June 10, 2017, at Los Paloma, 900 Seven Pines Road in Benton, LA.

Registration starts at 8:00 AM and the Shoot starts at 9:00.

The cost is \$400 for each 4 man team.

There are also Station Sponsor Opportunities for \$100. We hope you will join us at the shoot or support us with a donation.

Raffle Tickets are available for a chance to win one of ten great prizes for \$5 apiece and a shotgun raffle ticket is available for \$10.

Contact: Stacey Marks, 318-366-5116, smarks801@aol.co

Around the Diocese



Bishop Jake's Confirmation visit to St. Mark's, Shreveport

Sunday, April 23rd was Bishop Jake's day to confirm, and receive at St. Mark's Cathedral in Shreveport. Those made a part of the flock that day included: William Thomas Bartle, Ean William Burch, David Shelby Drummond, Sarah Elizabeth Watts Drummond, Jon Hadden Gilder, Ariane Virginia Graves, Anna Pryce Hardtner, Seth Charles Harrison, Julie Claire Foster Hernandez, Holly Noelle Bryant Hood, Jeffrey Allan Hood, Woodus Kellum Humphrey, III, Mae Margaret Horn, Hector Thomas Lawrence Negron, Nicholas George Pavlick, Holland Elizabeth Peterson, Stuart Landry Reeks, Jr., Michael James Rogers, Jr., Merritt Gaffney Shemwell, Chandler Jordan Stari, Mary Elise Stari, Rachel Diesi Stari, Caroline Grace Zimmer



Taking time to smell the roses

The occasion was a reception following a Sunday Choral Evensong at Church of the Good Shepherd in Lake Charles. Taking time to enjoy the lovely blossoms that were a part of each centerpiece were Good Shepherd rector, Father Jack Myers, Caroline Hollins, Joan Myers and in the second row, Carolane Citizen.



The Choral Institute of the University of the South

June 4-11, 2017

The Choral Institute of the University of the South will hold a summer choir camp for high school juniors and seniors. The dates of the camp are June 4-11, 2017.

The current University Choir has about 50 undergraduate students that are the main music ensemble at the university responsible for liturgical and academic services. By starting our choir camp this summer we hope to encourage and recruit young adults who have a love for music and a passion for singing.

Students who attend the choir camp will be on campus during the first week of the summer school session. The focus of the week will be choral singing and music education. Participants will live in residence on the campus for the week and have access to all of the amenities of the University. Our goal to recruit students for the University who have music as their passion.

For more information, contact Geoffrey Ward, University Organist and Choirmaster: 901-351-8540 or <https://www.sewanee.edu/university-choir/choral-institute/>

CVI 2017

Appreciative Inquiry for Vital Congregations

by The Rev'd Rob Voyle

Saturday, July 15, 2017, 10 a.m.–2 p.m., St. James Episcopal Church, Alexandria



The Rev'd Dr. Rob Voyle is an Episcopal priest, executive coach, and a licensed psychologist. In addition to a doctorate in psychology he has degrees in mechanical engineering and theology. He is a recognized leader in the use of appreciative inquiry in church-related settings.

As the founder and director of the Clergy Leadership Institute, he is committed to providing advanced training in clergy leadership to enhance ministry effectiveness.

His work history includes twenty years of ordained

ministry, interposed with episodes of research and development engineering, behavioral medicine, clinical psychology, and organizational consulting.

Rob's personal mission is to be "helpful, humorous, and healing," which is manifested in a passion for conducting training and consultation. He is a gifted storyteller and has a penchant for mischievously confronting listeners with new insights that are both affirming and liberating.

Over 95% of the participants in Rob's workshop consistently rate Rob's presentations as "one of the best training programs I have attended in years."

Please note: CVI programs are on a "pay as you go" basis. Each event costs \$15 payable in advance (check or credit card) or at the door (credit card, check, or cash). Questions: contact Canon Bill Bryant (rectory@shreve.net).



ARN goes bowling

Administrative support personnel from across Western Louisiana were treated to a morning of bowling at the Four Seasons Bowling Center in Alexandria on May 4 as part of this year's Administrator Resource Network (ARN) celebration. Bishop Jake and his administrative team (Holly Davis, Joy Owensby, and Kathy Richey) came up with the idea for ARN during a staff meeting in 2015, and this year's event was the third of its kind.

When asked about the purpose of ARN, the bishop replied, "So often the work of administrative support staff goes unrecognized. Not only do I want to let these people know how much we value them, but I would also like to foster community among them so that they might look to one another for support and the exchange of ideas and resources."

Twenty participants enjoyed bowling, prizes, food, and lots of laughter. Many expressed appreciation for the opportunity to put faces with the names of people they have dealt with over the phone while on the job. They also welcomed the opportunity to engage in conversations about common issues that arise in their congregations.





2393 Camp Hardtner Rd, Pollock, LA 71467

2017 Summer Camp Registration

For nearly seven decades the Camp Hardtner Summer Camping Program has created an atmosphere of love and acceptance for more than 500 young people each summer as they experience a tradition unlike any other. We are a Christian community that comes together for one week every year to play, laugh, cry, sing, and worship in the eyes of God.

✕ 2017 Summer Camp Registration Is Now Open!

Please consider Camp Hardtner as a place for your children to spend one week this summer, and it just might be the best week of their lives. Space is limited for each session, so get your children registered as soon as you can!

First Camp, June 2 - 4 Grades 2 and 3, with parent*	\$200
Primary Camp, June 8 - 13 Grades 4 and 5*	\$460
Sr. High Camp, June 17 - 24 Grades 11, 12, and recent graduates*	\$690
Jr. High Camp 1, June 28 - July 4 Grades 6 and 7*	\$575
Jr. High Camp 2, July 11 - 17 Grades 7 and 8*	\$575
Mid High Camp, July 21 - 27 Grades 9 and 10*	\$575
Camp Able, August 2 - 6 Ages 9 and up with special needs	\$400



*Grade based on 2017-2018 school year.

✕ www.camphardtner.org

office@camphardtner.org

318.765.3794 ✕

News from Camp Hardtner:

Camp Able sold out!

Adult and Youth Volunteers needed to enhance the experiences of the Campers.

2017 summer camp registration is in full swing and we are very excited to report that Camp Able is the first session to sell out! With this in mind, we are putting out the call for youth volunteers and adult staff to help make this session come to life. If you are at least 16 years old, and would like to serve in this very special ministry, visit www.camphardtner.org or check out our Facebook page for more information and the online application.

Other summer sessions are filling up quickly, parents should register their children soon to get the session they want!

Parents, don't forget; the other summer sessions still have room, but are filling up quickly. Be sure to register your child before it's too late! Their summer just won't be the same without a regular dose of stargazing, four square, pav field games and more. Visit www.camphardtner.org or check out our Facebook page for more information and online registration.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Camp Hardtner this summer!

If you have any questions about the sessions, registration, volunteering or more, please don't hesitate to email Mandy at office@camphardtner.org or call 318-765-3794.

Bishop Jake

continued from page one

the best they could simply drove me crazy. By contrast, I did appreciate her ability to find reason to celebrate with sweets at the least provocation.

You might think that my mother was escaping the rubble of bombed-out Austria and fleeing the Soviet threat poised just across the Danube in her then-occupied hometown of Linz. And such thoughts must surely have played some part in her decision to make such a risky journey.

But I believe that it would be more accurate to say that my mother was inspired. Inspired by a dream of greater life.

When Trudy talked about immigrating to America, she never talked about getting rich or famous. She talked about being free.

As I look back on it, I realize that she wasn't talking about civil rights. She was getting at something deeper and more abiding. In America she perceived a New World, a world redolent with the promise that she—and everyone in it—could become a fully human person.

I believe that my mother was swept along by a dream and a longing analogous to what the disciples experienced when the newly risen Jesus visited them in that locked room.

Here's what John tells us.

The disciples are huddled in a locked room, hiding for fear of violence. Jesus appears. He sends them into the world and then breathes on them. The breathing thing is a little weird, but it's crucial.

Jesus, you see, inspires them. They are moved not by the force of a command but by the excitement of inspiration. Look at the word "inspire." Its roots mean to breathe in. To fill with breath.

Remember that God brought a heap of dust to life by breathing into it. Genesis calls that dust-man Adam.

Jesus breathes new life into his disciples. His resurrection animates them with the dream of a New World. A world where love dissolves hatred. Where compassion displaces fear of strangers. Where generosity eliminates deprivation and respect guards the dignity of all.

This is of course not the world we inhabit. At least not yet. And that is why Jesus sends them. He doesn't tell them to wait around until he waves a magic wand. He inspires them to take the risky journey from the Old World they still inhabit toward the New World they long for.

That journey involves immense risk. Jesus puts it this way. "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (John 20:23)

In other words, the peace and reconciliation we dream of starts with us. It's God's dream, alright. We can't get there without God. But God will only make this New World a reality through us.

We will get to a mended world only by stepping out toward it ourselves. Even in the midst of the pain and sorrow and violence that makes headlines every day. If we don't forgive, forgiveness won't happen. If we don't seek reconciliation, reconciliation will never exist.

If we wait for others to be ready for forgiveness or we wait until it's safe to offer reconciliation, they will never come to pass. In the crucifixion, Jesus himself showed us that getting to the New World is not for sissies. And yet, the promise of his resurrection is that our risks—though costly—will not be in vain.

My mother was not a theologian. She was an immigrant. An immigrant inspired to set sail for a new world. And strictly speaking, that's what Jesus is inspiring us to be.

Life is messy. And you'll find God right in the middle of it. That's the Jesus message. I write this blog to help you see how Jesus brings healing and recovery and peace. Reconciliation and forgiveness and justice.

LOOKING FOR GOD IN MESSY PLACES

Bishop Jake's New Blog

<https://jakeowensby.com/>

DIOCESAN DATES OF NOTE

Planning an event in the diocese? **CONTACT JOY FIRST!**

After a great deal of planning and hard work, the Diocese has established and will maintain a central diocesan calendar of events to be held in the diocese.

The creation and maintenance of that calendar is the responsibility of Missioner for Children, Youth, and Young Adults, Joy Owensby. (JOwensby@diocesewla.org)

SO, if you are planning an event to be held in the diocese, your first move is to CONTACT JOY! This central calendar is designed to help avoid overlapping events.

Remember, your first move is to CONTACT JOY! jowensby@diocesewla.org

May 2017

- 21 — Bishop's Visitation, *Good Shepherd, Lake Charles*
- 23 — Commission on Ministry, *Diocesan House, starts at 10:00 a.m.*
- 28 — Bishop's Visitation, *Ascension, Lafayette*

June 2017

- 2-4 — First Camp, *Camp Hardtner*
- 4 — Bishop's Visitation, *St. Barnabas, Lafayette*
- 8-13 — Primary Camp, *Camp Hardtner*
- 11 — Bishop's Visitation, *Trinity, Natchitoches*
- 17-24 — Senior High Camp, *Camp Hardtner*
- 18 — Bishop's Visitation, *St. Alban's, Monroe*
- 25 — Bishop's Visitation, *St. Paul's, Abbeville*
- 28- July 4 — Junior High I Camp, *Camp Hardtner*

July 2017

- 15 — CVI presentation on *Vital Congregations, St. James, Alexandria, starts at 10:00 a.m.*
- 11-17 — Junior High II Camp, *Camp Hardtner*
- 21-27 — Middle High Camp, *Camp Hardtner*
- 29 — Daughters of the King Annual Assembly, *hosted by the Lake Charles Convocation*

August 2017

- 2-6 — Camp Able, *Camp Hardtner*
- 6 — Bishop's Visitation, *Christ Church, St. Joseph*
- 13 — Bishop's Visitation, *St. Luke's, Jennings*
- 20 — Bishop's Visitation, *St. Andrew's, Mer Rouge*
- 21-27 — Middle High Camp, *Camp Hardtner*
- 22 — Commission on Ministry, *Diocesan House, starts at 10:00 a.m.*
- 27 — Bishop's Visitation, *St. Columba's, Winnboro; St. David's, Rayville*

September 2017

- 3 — Bishop's Visitation, *Holy Cross, Shreveport*
- 9 — Musicfest/Diocesan Ultreya, *Camp Hardtner, starts at 8:00 a.m.*
- 15/16 — Celebration of Women's Ministries, *Camp Hardtner, starts at 6:00 p.m.*
- 26 — Bishop's Visitation, *St. Paul's, Winnfield*
- 29 — Joy in the Journey Retreat, *Camp Hardtner*

October 2017

- 1 — Bishop's Visitation, *St. Michael & All Angels, Lake Charles*
- 8 — Bishop's Visitation, *St. Michael's, Pineville*
- 10 — Meeting of the Diocese Council, *St. James, Alexandria, starts at 10:00 a.m.*
- 15 — Bishop's Visitation, *Trinity, Tallulah; Grace, Lake Providence*
- 22 — Bishop's Visitation, *Trinity, Crowley*
- 29 — CVI presentation, *St. James, Alexandria, starts at 10:00 a.m.*

November 2017

- 3-4 — 2017 Diocesan Convention, *hosted by the Alexandria Convocation*
- 12 — Bishop's Visitation, *Epiphany, Opelousas*
- 19 — Bishop's Visitation, *Holy Trinity, Sulphur*
- 21 — Commission on Ministry, *Diocesan House, starts at 10:00 a.m.*

Last Look!



We have put on another fabulous Time For Joy retreat! There were countless laughs; an abundance of sharing, flowing of tears, and a bit of healing with spiritual direction.

Our guests enjoyed the comfort of Holy Day Inn's newly remodeled rooms, foot massaging, making Anglican Prayer Beads that were blessed by the Rev. Rowena White, stitching crosses, and making basket flowers.

Women came to Camp Hardtner from far and near to relax and fellowship with other women in this great diocese. Before leaving, each lady received a big beautiful gift basket. It truly was a Time For Joy for our guests!

Bishop Jake confirms at St. George's, Bossier City, Sunday, May 7

Bishop Jacob Owensby's visit to St. George's, Bossier City was certainly a highlight for these four who were confirmed as members of Christ's own. Front row, left to right: Aaron McPhearson, Taylor McPhearson, Isaiah Williams and Donald Williams. Back row, left to right: St. George's rector, the Rev. Jaime Flowers, Bishop Jake Owensby and assisting at St. George's, Father Guido Verbeck, III.

