

The
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH
in Western Louisiana



**ANNUAL
REPORTS TO
CONVENTION
2018**

ADDICTION AND RECOVERY

Joy in the Journey, a three day retreat, was held at September 29-October 1, 2017 at Camp Hardtner. The retreat, entitled The JOY of Living, was directed by John McAndrew, M.A., M. Div. of Sensible Spirituality Associates in California. These retreats welcome anyone with 12-Step affiliations, such as AA, Alanon, GA, NA, or people interested in learning more about addiction and recovery. The 2018 retreat, "Are These Extravagant Promises?" took place October 5-7, 2018, again led by John McAndrew.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Shaw, Chair

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees meets four times a year. We endeavor to meet twice in person at the Diocesan House in Pineville. When not meeting in person, we meet via Zoom Video Communications. The canonical responsibility of the Board of Trustees is to invest and reinvest the funds and securities of the Diocese for its benefit.

The professional advisors of the Board of Trustees are Bo Smithwick, Jr. of Merrill Lynch and Greg Dvorocsik of Black Rock Private Investors. Bo and Greg have done a commendable job for the Board.

Particularly at our meetings in Pineville, Bishop Owensby relates to us his vision of the future of the Diocese and how the Board of Trustees may best assist him to accomplish his goals. We are always mindful of the numerous restrictions placed on many of the investments which the Board of Trustees has under its custody and control along with the significant accounts managed for parishes, missions, and schools of the Diocese.

We are particularly thankful for Kathy Richey, Missioner for Administration and Finance, and for the invaluable assistance of Bishop Owensby hosting us at the Diocesan House and for providing his articulate guidance.

The members of the Board of Trustees are Gray Easterling (Diocesan Treasurer), Judge David Painter, Steve Skrivanos, Foster Walker, Barbara Lambert, Ginger Paul, and Patrick Caraway. We continue to be grateful for the valuable time and advice these members give for the good of the Diocese.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen R. Yancey, Chair

THE BELOVED COMMUNITY

The Beloved Community Commission's major achievement this past year was hosting the canonically mandated anti-racism training conference "Seeing the Face of God in Each Other" at Camp Hardtner. Many's thanks go to all the Commission's members who aided in planning and facilitating the conference. It was a wonderful success, with Western Louisiana Episcopalians, as well as clergy from other denominations present. The Commission is currently discussing ideas and plans for another training weekend in early 2019, continuing how to reincorporating this canonically required training conference within our Diocese.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Brandt Montgomery, Chair

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

It was another quiet year in the Chancellor's office. Other than a single real estate transaction, there was no legal activity involving the Diocese this year. Nor is the Diocese involved in any ongoing litigation. I hope next year is as quiet.

Respectfully submitted,
Kyle McInnis, Diocesan Chancellor

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

No report submitted.

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

The website, www.episcopalchurch.org says, "The functions of Commissions on Ministry specified in the canon (III.1) are to assist the bishop 'in determining present and future needs for ministry in the diocese' and to assist 'in enlisting and selecting persons for Holy Orders.' ... They interview candidates prior to their ordination as deacons and may interview candidates prior to their ordination as priests, if requested by the bishop, reporting to the bishop in each case...."

In the Diocese of Western Louisiana, the Commission, made up of: Susie Drell, Marybeth McVie, Nancy Wade, the Rev. Deacon Lois Mayberry, the Very Rev. Mary Richard, the Rev. Canon Bill Bryant, the Very Rev. Rich Snow, the Rev. Richard Norman, the Rev. Suzanne Wolfenbarger, and the Rev. Whit Stodghill, performs those functions with faithful dedication and professionalism.

Your current members are: Mary Richard, Lois Maberry, Rich Snow, Nancy Wade, Suzanne Wolfenbarger, Marybeth McVie, and Will Harp.

Over the course of the last year, the Commission has met with and recommended Postulancy for: Michael Parham. The Commission also recommended that the following people be granted Candidacy for Holy Orders: Brooks Boylan, Garrett Boyte, and Meg Lovejoy.

The Diocese now has people involved in preparation for the diaconate or priesthood, at traditional seminaries, commuter seminaries, and local formation programs. In addition, there are several Congregational Discernment Groups at work around the Diocese, with 9 additional people potentially being added to our pool of postulants in the coming year.

We also give thanks to God that this year, Bishop Jake ordained Andre Bordelon+, Madge McLain+, and Drew Christiensen+ to the priesthood. And on November 24, 2018, the Bishop will ordain Brooks Boylan, Garrett Boyte, Lee Jefferson, and Meg Lovejoy to the transitional diaconate, on their way to becoming priests of the Church.

Anyone interested in the discernment process should discuss their interest with their rector/vicar/priest-in-charge and review the Discernment Process Manual, which may be downloaded from the diocesan website. If you have any questions regarding the work of the Commission on Ministry, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the members of the COM.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Suzanne Wolfenbarger, Chair

COMMISSION ON SCHOOLS

The Episcopal Schools in our diocese are listed below. The Episcopal School of Acadiana is the only diocesan school.

Ascension Episcopal School, Lafayette

Enrollment at the end of last year 750
Current year enrollment 818
Current Faculty
Full time 108
Part time 3
Total Faculty and Staff 147
Total Budget for this year \$ 11,790,000
Grades Served PK3 – 12th
Head of School: Paul Quick
Head of School Email: Pquick@ascensionbluegators.org
Web address: www.ascensionbluegators.org

Bishop Noland Episcopal Day School, Lake Charles

Enrollment at the end of last year 347
Current year enrollment 360
Current Faculty
Full time 34
Part time 5
Total Faculty and Staff 63
Total Budget for this year \$ 3,394,914
Grades Served PK2 – 8th
Head of School: The Rev. Frances “Boo” Kay
Head of School Email: bkay@episcopaldayschool.org
Web Address: www.episcopaldayschool.org

Epiphany Day School, New Iberia

Enrollment at the end of last year 68
Current year enrollment 89
Current Faculty
Full time 9
Part time 10
Total Faculty and Staff 26
Total Budget for this year \$832,000
Grades Served PK3 – 5th
Interim Head of School: Dr. Cheryl Boutte
Head of School Email: Cboutte@eds-ni.com
Web Address: www.eds-ni.com

Grace Episcopal School, Monroe

Enrollment at the end of last year 286
Current year enrollment 247
Current Faculty
Full time teachers 27
Part time teachers 6
Total Faculty and Staff 44
Total Budget for this year \$ 1,750,951.00
Grades Served PK3 – 8th
Head of School: Dr. Beth Ricks
Head of School Email: bricks@graceepiscopal.org
Web Address: www.graceepiscopal.org

St. Mark's Cathedral School, Shreveport

Enrollment at the end of last year 339
Current year enrollment 338
Current Faculty
Full time 59
Part time 7
Total Faculty and Staff 66
Total Budget for this year \$3,737,603
Grades Served PK3 – 8th
Head of School: Dr. Christopher R. Carter, D. Min.
Email of School Head: ccarter@stmarksschool.com
Web Address: www.stmarksschool.com

Trinity Episcopal Preschool, Natchitoches

Enrollment at the end of last year 50
Current year enrollment 49
Current Faculty
Full time
Part time 8
Total Faculty and Staff 8
Total Budget for this year \$ 196,000.00
Grades Served PK3 – PK4
Head of School: The Rev. Suzanne Wolfenbarger+
Head of School Email: wolfems0@sewanee.edu
Web Address: trinityparish.info

Episcopal School of Acadiana, Cade and Lafayette

Enrollment at the end of last year 621
Current year enrollment 620
Current Faculty
Full-time 89
Part-time 2
Total Faculty and Staff 128
Total Budget for this year \$9,259,112
Grades Served PreK3-12
Head of the School: Dr. Paul Baker, PhD
Head of School Email: pbaker@esacadiana.com
Web Address: www.esacadiana.com

St. James Day School, Alexandria

Enrollment at the end of last year 105
Current year enrollment 94
Current Faculty
Full time 19
Part time 9
Total Faculty and Staff 31
Total Budget for this year \$ 488,500
Grades Served 6 weeks – 4 years
Head of School: Annelise Eaglin
Head of School Email: sjedsdirector@saintjamesonline.org
Web Address: www.saintjamesonline.org

St. Paul's Day School, Shreveport

Enrollment at the end of last year 180
Current year enrollment 175
Current Faculty
Full time 0
Part time 19
Total Faculty and Staff 19
Total Budget for this year \$ 475,000
Grades Served PK3 – PK4+
Head of School: Ms. Jo Ann Rose
Head of School Email: joann@stpauls-shreveport.org
Web Address: www.stpaulsepis.org

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Frances "Boo" Kay+

COMMUNICATIONS

The Diocesan Communications and Public Relations Commission was re-launched in 2018 to focus on improving our efforts to tell the “story” of Episcopalians in Western Louisiana. How can we best share who we are, what we believe and how we live out the Christian faith in our communities?

Through a series of online Zoom meetings, we worked together to define our purpose and message, assess our audience(s), analyze our existing communications methods and devise strategies going forward that fit our purpose and budget. Early on our committee consulted with an officer of the church’s P.R. staff to help us clarify and organize our mission. We set our goal to improve both our internal and external communications strategies.

Among our activities this year, we....

- ~Reviewed existing demographic data relative to Western Louisiana and our Diocese
- ~Helped publicize a special Good Friday stations of the cross event at Mt. Olivet
- ~Developed a new catchphrase, “Love God, Love Your Neighbor,” and new logo design
- ~Conducted an online Diocesan survey of laity, clergy and staff to gain information about communication preferences and image
- ~Developed a communications tip sheet for congregations; there are tentative plans to develop a communications “toolkit” to help churches share stories within their communities
- ~Began reviewing/discussing improvements to current social media tools, including Diocesan website and Facebook page, as well as use of other methods, with or without outside vendors.

A lively new weekly e-newsletter was inaugurated in August by Diocesan staff member Holly Davis. It includes announcements, news items from our churches (including ministry activities and photos), links to the Bishop’s blog and other resources.

The long-time Diocesan newsletter, “ALIVE!,” ceased publication after the June issue, with the untimely death of editor Robert Harwell in August. Bishop Jake Owensby, staff and the Communications Commission are engaged in a discernment process to determine whether a future replacement for that publication is warranted.

Members of the Commission are Melanie Torbett, chair, Will Harp, the Rev. Michael Bordelon, the Rev. Annie Etheredge, Bess Maxwell, Tricia Grayson and Holly Davis, Diocesan Missioner for Communications and Administration.

Respectfully submitted,
Melanie Torbett, Chair

CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY

No report submitted.

CONSTITUTION AND CANONS

No report submitted.

CURSILLO

The Cursillo Movement is in a rebuilding mode for the 2018 year. We have looked at many other diocese Cursillo weekends, and decided to adopt a 3 day 2 night weekend format instead of the traditional 4 day 3 night format. We will be kicking it off this October 19 - 21 at Camp Hardtner. Mrs. Shetwan Roberison is the Lay Rector for Cursillo 152 with Fr. George Gennuso as Head Spiritual Director.

Respectfully submitted,
Mack Golden

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Thank you for allowing me to be your DOK Assembly President for the past six years. It has truly been an honor and a privilege! Allow me to share with you what your Board has accomplished in the past six years. Our goals were to improve communications throughout the diocese.

Increase involvement of the daughters on the diocesan, provincial and national level. Encourage attendance at assemblies by providing scholarships to daughters. Increase our asking from the Diocese of WLA for money to be able to give out more scholarships. Develop new Diocesan Bylaws. Create a diocesan DOK banner to bring to Triennial. Establish new senior DOK Chapters and establish a DOK Junior Chapter (JDOK).

Over the past six years your diocesan board develop new bylaws for the diocese. We created a banner that was paraded in the past two triennials. We developed a FaceBook page to assist with communication among the daughters. The chapter presidents received monthly email with information from the province and national to keep them up to date with the goings on of The Order. We started an annual presidents meeting to provide an opportunity for networking and education on the tools available from the national DOK website to assist in chapter development. We have three daughters from this diocese on the provincial board and this coming triennium we will have two daughters sitting on the national board.

We increased our asking from \$1000 to \$2000 from the diocese. We have gradually increased the number of daughters attending provincial assemblies and triennial all due to the availability of these scholarships. The attendance at triennial went from 4 daughters in 2012 to 7 in 2015 and 16 in 2018. 2021 will be in Baltimore...lets see what we can do! Your board also approved the giving of \$1000 to assist international daughters to attend this past triennial in Austin.

We established three new senior Daughter Chapters and have another one in the works. This summer we had a Junior Daughter Tea to determine interest in the start of a JDOK in the Lake Charles area.

My theme for the past three years was Psalm 46:10 "Be still and know that I am God". I continue to struggle with being still and listen for God, but despite my inadequacy, God has allowed me to work with some remarkable ladies to accomplish most of our goals over these past six year.

Again thank you for allowing me to serve you! I leave the Daughters in good hands with your new board that was installed this September.

They are:

President: Debbie Langlois, Lake Charles

Vice President: Marybeth Edwards, Minden

Secretery: Dara Antee, Alexandria

Treasurer: Debbie Fitzpatrick, Bossier

Blessings to all!

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Bordelon, Past Diocese WLA Assembly President

DIOCESAN COUNCIL

The Diocesan Council of the Episcopal Diocese of Western Louisiana meets on a quarterly basis on the third Tuesday of that month, unless there is not enough business to warrant a meeting. The Council has met three times since the 39th Annual Convention of the Diocese in November 3-4, 2017. The Council reviews the financial status of the diocese and prepares the annual budget to present at Diocesan Convention. The annual budget is approved by the Diocesan Council following the Convention. A verbal report from each of the Council departments and a report on the activities of various ministries of the diocese are given at every meeting. Representatives from each of the five convocations updates the Council on activities taking place in their convocation.

The following items were passed October 17, 2017, at the final 2016-17 Diocesan Council meeting. They were not included in the previous report due to an early report timeline.

1. The Proposed 2018 Budget was accepted as presented.
2. The Council voted to allow the Finance Committee to make Cost of Living changes for the diocesan staff, as needed.
3. MAP Grant missional money disbursement was changed so that it can be applied to capital improvements, as needed.
4. The proposed sale of Trinity Episcopal Church and its property in Crowley was approved.
5. The final sale of St. John's, Oakdale, and its property was approved.
6. The sale of the Trinity, DeRidder, church-owned house, which is not connected to church property, was approved.

During the 2017 - 2018 Term, the Diocesan Council acted on the following matters:

1. Daniel Chapman, Director of Camp Hardtner, along with Gray Easterling, Kathy Richey, and the Bishop, were empowered to find solutions to repair the camp for the summer, with the estimated cost of \$190,000.
2. The Council gave permission to explore the possible purchase and renovation of the building and property located on Main Street, across from the Diocesan Office, up to \$200,000. (Note: After exploration, no action was taken.)
3. The loan amount for repairs to St. Timothy's, Alexandria, was increased to \$18,000.
4. The proposed 2019 Budget was approved but is subject to modification due to changes in condition or as proposed at the Spring Diocesan Convention in 2019.
7. The final sale of the property of Trinity, Crowley, for \$70,000, was accepted with authorization to close on the sale.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Barnes Shaw, Secretary

DISASTER RELIEF

Procrastination calls for more work than immediate response. As I look back to 2017 and if I had written this response when asked I would have little to write. After two significant flooding situations in the Diocese of Western Louisiana in 2015 and 2016, there was little to report for 2017. We were asked to assist with the post flooding problems of unmet needs from the initial funding sources and able to provide rental support and replace furniture in these situations. That would be the end of the report until Hurricane Harvey hit in August 2017 and then quickly Hurricane Irma is going to damage areas possible close also. The worries of these would not have been mentioned if I had written my report in a timely manner. Because of the devastation from both storms, we will have lots of post damage to anticipate and direct our efforts in the coming years.

I do have a plan for meeting these needs and would like you who read this report to consider helping. I would like to improve the disaster preparedness and participation in disaster relief by forming a team of representatives from each of the convocations. By identifying a contact person in each convocation, when a disaster is anticipated, that person can contact clergy and leaders in the churches close to them and report the needs and efforts in their area. This will make response time quicker and more thorough.

We also need to better utilize the Episcopal Relief and Development Asset Mapping program. This program works with churches to identify what assets they have that could be utilized in a disaster to better reach people. It is a simple task, it just needs someone designated to put the information on the site.

Please prayerfully consider participating in this group effort. We will not be bogged down with numerous meetings, I hope to do most of the communication by phone, email and possible a few electronic meetings. If you are interested, contact me or come by the Disaster Relief table to convention and sign up. I look forward to meeting with you or talking about your ideas.

Respectfully submitted,
Deacon Lois Maberry, Disaster Relief Officer

DISCIPLINARY BOARD

No report submitted.

ECUMENICAL REPORT

Ecumenical Officers Fr. Wayne Carter and Madre Annie Etheredge serve as representatives of the Bishop and the Diocese in Ecumenical Dialogues and events throughout Louisiana and across the country. At the local level they are members of the Louisiana Interchurch Conference (LIC) and both are members of the Board of Directors and are directors of their regions. At the national level, they participate in the Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers (EDEIO) and the National Workshop on Christian Unity (NWCU) and Fr. Carter is a member of the EDEIO Executive Committee as Region VII Representative.

The Louisiana Interchurch Conference (LIC) is a cooperative fellowship of Christian judicatories in the State of Louisiana whose purpose is to work for the betterment of the people of Louisiana and to explore and respond to ecumenical concerns that involve the larger Church. Fr. Dan Krutz, a priest of the Diocese of Louisiana is its Executive Director, and presents his report to Diocesan Convention each year.

The National Workshop on Christian Unity is a national ecumenical group made up of Roman Catholics, Orthodox, Episcopalians, Lutherans, Methodists and other mainline Protestants and holds meetings each year in venues throughout the United States. Both Fr. Carter and Madre Etheredge attend these meetings whenever possible.

Both Madre Etheredge and Fr. Carter attended the Annual Meeting of the LIC on March 5-6 in Monroe and Board of Directors meeting of the LIC in Lake Charles, LA on September 24-25, 2018, as well as other meetings throughout the year. In addition, as a member of the LIC's Bread or Stones Task Force, Madre Etheredge attends other meetings across the state, working to increase efficacy the network of churches acting on behalf of children through their ministries.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Dr. Wayne Carter

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

In January, we had an instillation service at St. Michael's in Pineville. Father was John Bedingfield in attendance for an encouraging talk, Eucharist and lunch. The new priest of St Micheal's and his wife were our guests, Father Wayne and Dawn Fletcher.

Our Time for Joy retreat was held in April 20 - 21 and led by Shetwan Roberison and Megan Rowzie as chair and co-chair.

Shetwan Roberison, Sherl Picchioni and Roxanne Meyers attended the forty-ninth National ECW Triennial Meeting in Austin Texas from July 5-13, 2018.

The annual Celebration of Women's Ministries will be held at Camp Hardtner on September 21—22, 2018. Our guest speaker was Reverend Christie Fleming, Rector at Christ Church, (Bastrop) and her theme was, "Your Life Is Your Prayer".

Respectfully submitted, S
Shetwan Roberison



EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY (EFM)

Education for Ministry is active and growing! Thanks be to God.

The Education for Ministry program is a four-year course in theological education course offered through Sewanee - The University of the South in the United States and around the world! The course is not simply a Bible study, but a community that fosters Adult Christian Formation and Theological Reflection.

Active and growing groups continue in all our convocations - Efm meets in Monroe, Natchitoches, Lake Charles, Lafayette, and Alexandria. Most of these groups include people from multiple congregations. The programs are mentored by both clergy and lay folk.

Five students will complete the program this year and graduate. This is a significant achievement. Our goal is to help Efm become more active and available to all in the Diocese of Western Louisiana. If you are interested in participating in or mentoring an Efm group in your area, please contact me.

To find out more about Efm visit their website at efm.sewanee.edu, contact me, or speak to anyone who has participated in Education for Ministry or any current participant.

Two 2018 ESA graduates will participate in their sports at the college level this year.

The Performing and Visual Art Departments continue to flourish. The Performing Arts Department produced *Spamalot* as its spring musical. Seventy middle and upper school students, from actors to crew to band members, entertained the community. Students in both divisions performed a music and drama showcase in the fall, including some Shakespeare, and musicians in both divisions played a variety of genres from jazz to rock in music chapels and Coffee House, as well as providing music for our monthly Eucharist services. Musical Theatre classes showcased Broadway hits from *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Hairspray*, *Les Miserables* and *Frozen* for the school. Drama students placed fourth at district rally, including awards of Best Supporting Actor and All-Star Cast. Musicians recorded music at Dockside Studios, performed a Christmas concert at Acadian Village, put on two shows at Artmosphere, and played on one of the stages for Festival International. The Lower School choir performed with Chorale Acadienne at their Christmas concert, studied in their new piano lab, and produced *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* in the spring to much acclaim as well. The Visual Arts Department held exhibitions on both campuses in 2017-2018, as well as participating in District Rally. The Lower School's Arts Showcase was held in the Enrichment Center. ESA's Annual Senior Art Exhibition was held in Bishop Henton Chapel; works on view included drawing, painting, photography, glass bead and metal-worked jewelry, hand-built ceramics, pottery, 3D mixed media, video, and an installation. Works by ESA artists in ceramics, painting, and photography were chosen for Louisiana State University's 4th Annual Statewide High School Juried Exhibition. ESA artists earned both first and second places in this highly selective exhibition: pop culture portraits by an entire ceramics class placed first overall, and a watercolor painting placed second. Visual Arts Department Co-Chair Jennifer Graycheck traveled to Atlanta to present at the NAIS Conference about her innovative ExLabs program, taught in conjunction with ESA alumnus and video professional Brett Landry. Students in this program screened their productions at the Paul and Lulu Hilliard Gallery. Their work has been recognized internationally, placing third at the Film Now Festival in Philadelphia and "Best on a Budget" at the Johns Hopkins High School Film Festival. A visual arts showcase exhibition was held at the Kelli Kaufman Gallery, which was on view for the monthly art walk as well as during Festival International. Music, theatre, and visual arts upper school students traveled to Dallas to attend the ISAS Arts Festival for the third year. The students received excellent feedback and accolades on their work, and the teachers learned about other independent schools' Art Departments.

On our Cade campus, ESA's chapel program and religious studies courses are led by our lay Chaplain, Dr. Andrew Armond. Dr. Armond teaches several religion courses at ESA, including a required, academically rigorous "Introduction to Religion" class for 8th graders. The course approaches religious education from a comparative religions standpoint, focusing not only on "who believes what," but on the complexities of the historical, social, and geographical interactions that fuel religious ideas and practices. This semester-long course gives Dr. Armond the opportunity to present extended units on Judaism and Christianity that focus on how to read the sacred stories of the Bible and how to interpret the narrative arc of God's covenant with God's people.

Dr. Armond also teaches an upper-school course in World Religions that uses film, literature, and other media to help students understand contemporary geopolitical and social issues through a religious lens. In recent years, he has taught an elective on Dante's *Divine Comedy* for the upper school, as well as a Philosophy elective.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev'd T. Whitfield Stodghill, III
St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Monroe

EPISCOPAL SCHOOL OF ACADIANA

The Episcopal School of Acadiana celebrates its 39th year as the Diocesan School for the Episcopal Diocese of Western Louisiana. ESA serves 621 students in the 2018-19 school year. The Lafayette campus has 268 students in PreK-3 to grade 5, and the Cade campus has 353 students in grades 6 to 12. Forty-two seniors will graduate in May 2019, and begin their college journey. The school's mission of academic excellence, honor education, and spiritual growth attracts families from seven different parishes in the region, while the engaging program and a strong sense of community successfully retain both students and faculty.

On Saturday, June 1, we closed the 2017-2018 academic year, with the celebration of ESA's thirty-sixth commencement as fifty-two seniors received their diplomas under the oaks on the Cade campus. ESA seniors continue to attract the attention of colleges and universities across the nation. The seniors in the Class of 2018 submitted 281 applications for admission and were admitted to 104 different colleges and universities. Forty-four members of the class (85%) were offered merit aid totaling just over \$7.5 million. The graduates are attending 29 different schools this fall including American University, Amherst College, Baylor University, Belmont University, Berry College, Boston College, Coastal Carolina University, Elon University, George Washington University, Hanover College, Harvard College, Louisiana State University, Louisiana Tech, New York University, Purdue University, Samford University, Savannah College of Art & Design, South Louisiana Community College, Spring Hill College, St. Edward's University, Stanford University, Tufts University, Tulane University, University of Alabama, University of Alabama - Birmingham, University of Arkansas, University of Louisiana - Lafayette, Wofford College, and Yale University.

Nine members of the Class of 2018 were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship program for exceptional performance on the PSAT administered in October 2016. Two were National Merit Commended Students and seven were named National Merit Scholars.

ESA students continue to lead in Acadiana and are among the top in the state on standardized test performance. With a class median ACT composite score of 29 and the mid 50% scoring between 26 and 31, ESA ranks well above local, state, and national averages. This past May, 82 upper school students took 186 Advanced Placement Exams in 15 different subjects with 78% of the students scoring 3 or higher on at least one AP exam. The College Board recognized 11 of these students as AP Scholars, 9 as AP Scholars with Honors, 16 as AP Scholars with Distinction, and 7 as National AP Scholars.

ESA students excelled in athletics as well. The Falcons captured four state championships in the 2017-2018 school year (boys and girls Cross-Country, boys soccer and girls Track and Field), bringing our total to 83 State Championships! ESA was State Runner-up in girls' Soccer, boys Swimming and boys Golf. Boys Basketball finished as State semi-finalists.

In addition, Dr. Armond is stressing ESA's motto, "excellence from within," in ensuring that Chapels are educational, meaningful, and professional programs that bring students, faculty, and administrators together to celebrate the life of the school. He remains active as a scholar and layperson in the Episcopal tradition and is now a Postulant for Holy Orders in the Episcopal Church and a low-residency seminarian at Church Divinity School of the Pacific. The Cade campus Chapel service now incorporates an abbreviated form of Morning Prayer, as well as time for intentional prayer and meditation.

The lay chaplain on the Lower School Campus is Dr. John Campbell. "Doc," as he is called by most at ESA, provides leadership and encourages spiritual exploration among the school's faculty, students, and parents. He maintains a visible and accessible presence in the life of the school and seeks opportunities for meaningful interaction. Doc engages the faculty and broader community by writing a morning devotional three times a week which encourages them to consider spiritual ideas and to embrace a call to serve in love. He provides pastoral care and guidance during times of crisis within the community.

Doc leads the school in planning, preparation, coordination, and execution of engaging and appropriate daily Chapels, monthly Eucharist, and other worship services. He provides relevant messages which challenge the community to be the Body of Christ and promotes faculty leadership. Lower school students are encouraged to lead meaningful Chapel messages under the guidance and tutelage of the chaplain.

Dr. Campbell helps develop, integrate, and lead service learning in the life of the school community. He has established a service team that screens ideas from students and helps equip them for service. Ultimately, he hopes to mesh service learning into the lower school curriculum.

Eucharist services at both campuses are being celebrated by Fr. Matt Woollett of the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany in New Iberia and Fr. Michael Bordelon of St. Barnabas in Lafayette.

The 2017-2018 Annual Fund campaign was a success, raising more than \$310,000, with 72% parent giving, 100% Trustee and faculty giving, and support from past parents, alumni, grandparents, former faculty and friends. The ESA Falcon Club, ESA's Booster Club for Athletics and the Arts, raised funds through memberships and a dinner, and provided a new concession stand for the soccer field, volleyball carts, a jumping pit extension, a pitch count scoreboard for baseball, weight room equipment, additional pianos and headphones for the Lower School piano lab, sponsorship of singing classes on the Cade Campus, easels, kilns, cameras, and more. The ESA Parent Group held a very successful raffle and fun community events, and provided funds to outfit the idea lab in the Lafayette Campus Enrichment Center and for professional development for ESA teachers. We continue to appeal to our alumni for support of the Tates/Tutwiler Endowment Fund for financial aid. In 2018-2019, 32% of ESA students will receive financial assistance that is supported by this \$1 million+ endowment. Communications efforts are focused on keeping parents and the wider ESA community informed about school happenings, and those efforts increasingly rely on digital communication, both through the ESA website and through various social media channels.

Videos developed by students in the ExLabs creative communications class, which was originally funded by a gift from past grandparents, have been featured on the ESA website, on social media and at various events.

I am blessed to work in a school that lives out its mission of scholarship, honor and service to others.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul Baker, PhD
Headmaster, Episcopal School of Acadiana

EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT

No report submitted.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

See Treasurer's Report below.

HARDTNER BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Until mid-year, Fr. Richard Norman capably served as Chair of the Hardtner Board of Trustees. Upon his departure to another diocese, I was appointed by the Bishop to serve in the role. Robert Ratcliff graciously agreed to serve as Vice-Chair upon my move. Our Board began the new year with an overnight retreat whereby we formulated new Committees with visions to enable us to spread the good news of Camp Hardtner and further the Kingdom of God.

As we worked in these new Committees of Property & Grounds, Personnel, Marketing, Development, Program, and Finance, we were tasked to rewrite our bylaws to incorporate the changes. One exciting change we incorporated resulted from our awareness of the deep involvement of the Diocese of Louisiana in our Summer Camping Program. After a conversation with Bishop Jake, we changed our bylaws to include a representative from the Diocese of

Louisiana on the Board of Trustees and we are proud to say that Susan Walpole is now serving in that capacity. Along with her enthusiasm and energy, Susan brings valuable experience from serving previously as the interim Summer Camp Director.

Out of this new structure came a newly created program called "Dinner with the Director." It is an exciting opportunity to have dinner with Daniel Chapman and learn more about Camp Hardtner in an inviting atmosphere. Sessions are scheduled for Metairie, Lafayette and a final one available after Convention will be in Monroe on November 17. Everyone is welcome to attend this event.

The Board continues to make short and long range plans to keep Camp Hardtner safe and up to date with buildings and grounds. Our communications project has been a work in progress, but we have begun to make great strides in this area and hope to have improvements in place soon.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. André Bordelon, Chair

HARDTNER CAMP & CONF. CENTER

Camp Hardtner is about creating and giving space for the processes that form people to go out into the world as disciples to bring about the Kingdom of God.

To that end, this year saw 1700 guests and campers directly served on Camp Hardtner's sacred grounds. Think of the ripple this ministry is having through the Diocese, the state, and beyond.

Summer camp is what we were built on, and continues to be the major concentration of our efforts. The program this year was amazing!

405 campers served

6 sessions

268 Episcopalians; 137 other

189 from the Diocese of WLA area; 194 from the Diocese of LA area; 22 from other states

\$9,562 in scholarships awarded to 38 individuals

21 young adults served as counselors

32 lay persons and clergy served as adult spiritual leaders

5 nurses

58 Camp Able volunteers

Additionally, this year has seen almost 1100 guests served through the youth and adult retreats, Diocesan trainings, school groups, weddings, and many other types of groups and events for which Camp Hardtner has served as host.

In an effort to best serve all of our guests, this year we continued the cycle of "assessing and addressing" that comes with maintaining a facility like ours. Particularly we have put energy towards our food service and maintenance.

A surprise came when working on the facilities last winter. We began to make repairs to the cabin bathroom floors. and the damage was much more extensive than anticipated. Through the help of the Bishop, the Diocesan Council, and the people of the Diocese we were able to complete major repairs to those floors. The new floors are solid and the top layer is now seamless which will prevent future water damage!

We hope to continue making repairs and improvements to the facilities and grounds including updated Wi-Fi coverage, road signage, and TLC here-and-there.

On a personal note, I have really loved my first year as director. It is a blessing to be "home" in the Diocese of Western Louisiana and to serve alongside the many wonderful people here.

Faithfully submitted,
Daniel Chapman, Director

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

I come with nothing to report from the World Mission of the Diocese of Western Louisiana because of the Chair's lack of organization and effort. I know there are many parishes who have sent groups to various areas to support ministries worldwide. I did have the privilege of serving on the World Mission Committee at General Convention and it has inspired me to activate a committee in our diocese to discuss and promote World Mission activity. I will use this form to ask that those participating in mission projects and those interested in participating in mission projects, please contact me. My email is Lrhma@bellsouth.net and my cell phone is 318-286-5414. My goal is for this to be a reformation year of a World Mission Committee. Let me know your thoughts and ideas.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Deacon Lois Maberry, Chair

LITURGY AND MUSIC

During the last year, the Commission on Liturgy and Music continued its usual work of assisting the Bishop in the crafting and execution of Convention Liturgies; as well as several Ordinations to the Diaconate and Priesthood.

Several Commission members also attended the General Convention of The Episcopal Church held this Summer in Austin; participating in various ways in the work of the Legislative Committees on Prayer Book, Liturgy and Music, and the Special Committee on Liturgical Revision. Resources relating to Supplemental Liturgical Materials, and the use of music in small congregations, will be digitally available after December 1st.

Mid-term, we bade farewell to our able Chair, Father Richard Norman, as he transitioned to the position of Canon for Mission and Ministry for the Diocese of Southwest Florida.

Respectfully submitted,
John Robert

REGISTRAR REPORT

BISHOP'S OFFICIAL ACTS
August 1, 2017 - July 31, 2018

The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby PhD, DD

Consecrate and ordain other bishops	0
Ordain deacons	2
Ordain priests	4
Received priests	0
Impose sentences of Suspension, Depositions	0
Remove sentences of Suspension, Depositions	0
Receive Renunciation of Orders	0
Consent to elections, consecrations and resignations of bishops	6
Did not consent to elections, consecrations and resignations of bishops	0
Confirm	63
Receive	20
Reaffirm	14
Baptisms	0
Receive Letters <u>Dimissory</u>	2
Issue Letters <u>Dimissory</u>	1
Give permission for remarriages	12
Weddings	0
Approve retirement applications for clergy	2
License clergy to officiate in diocese	1
License Eucharistic Ministers	121
License Eucharistic Visitors	46
License Worship Leaders	18
Sign death notice for clergy from Church Pension Fund	1
Sermons	53
Holy <u>Eucharists</u>	47
Funerals - members of the clergy	1
Blessing and Dedication of Structures and Appointments	3
<u>Deconsecration</u> and secularization of churches	1

Respectfully submitted,
Holly Davis, Registrar

SAFE CHURCH

On November 1, 2017, the Episcopal Diocese of Western Louisiana released its updated Policies for the Protection of Children and Youth from Abuse. Major procedural changes that were introduced include the addition of Safe Church Ministers at each church, school, and Camp Hardtner; stronger emphasis on mandatory reporting of child abuse and neglect; more stringent background screening for paid and volunteer staff; and closer alignment with the Safeguarding policies of our sister Louisiana diocese (Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana).

To facilitate a smooth transition to the new policies, Holly Davis (Background Screening Coordinator) and Joy Owensby (Safe Church Coordinator) conducted three regional training sessions for Safe Church Ministers in March and April 2018. Additional online training has been offered on demand, and both Holly and Joy are available for email or phone consultation as needed.

When the new policies were introduced, the Diocese established a one-year timeline for implementation. All churches, schools, and Camp Hardtner are expected to be in full compliance with the policies by October 31, 2018. As of October 1, 2018, 32 Safe Church Ministers have been appointed at diocesan churches (74%), 2 at Camp Hardtner (100%), and 10 at diocesan schools (100%). A list of current Safe Church Ministers is included in this report. Seventeen organizations (churches, schools, and Camp Hardtner) have initiated their background screening process. Currently, in the Diocese of Western Louisiana there are 2,872 registered users of Safeguarding Online.

All information pertaining to Safeguarding Online can be found on the Safe Church page of the diocesan website, www.epiwla.org/safe-church/.

Respectfully submitted,
Joy Owensby, Safe Church Coordinator

**EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF WESTERN LOUISIANA
SAFE CHURCH MINISTERS AS OF 10-1-18**

CHURCHES	
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Abbeville	Madge McLain
St. James Episcopal Church, Alexandria	Rita Klock
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Alexandria	Jacob Cutler
Christ Episcopal Church, Bastrop	Andrea Gladney
St. George's Episcopal Church, Bossier City	Kelly Williams
Calvary Episcopal Church, Bunkie	Debra Bubenzer
Trinity Episcopal Church, Cheneyville	Janet Moriarty
Trinity Episcopal Church, DeRidder	--
St. Luke's Chapel, Grambling	--
St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Jennings	Phyllis Clark
Church of the Ascension, Lafayette	Brandt Montgomery
St. Barnabas Episcopal Church, Lafayette	Sabrina Beach
Church of the Good Shepherd, Lake Charles	Marjorie Collins
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Lake Charles	Boo Kay
St. Michael & All Angel's, Lake Charles	DeAnna Chamberlain
Grace Episcopal Church, Lake Providence	--
Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, Lecompte	--
Leonidas Polk Memorial, Leesville	--
Christ Episcopal Church, Mansfield	--
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Mer Rouge	--
St. John's Episcopal Church, Minden	Gillian Brown
Grace Episcopal Church, Monroe	Angie Ford
Iglesia Episcopal La Esperanza de Familias Unidas, Monroe	Ivania Vallejo
St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Monroe	Rita Jefferson
St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Monroe	Janis Babb
Trinity Episcopal Church, Monroe	--
Trinity Episcopal Church, Natchitoches	Caroline Abreu
Church of the Epiphany, New Iberia	Margaret Matthews
Redeemer Church, Oakridge	--
Church of the Epiphany, Opelousas	Jessie M. Davis
St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Pineville	Virginia Warner

St. David's Episcopal Church, Rayville	Larry Lashley
Redeemer Church, Ruston	Stephanie Thompson
Holy Cross, Shreveport	Melissa Fowle
St. James Episcopal Church, Shreveport	David Scott
St. Mark's Cathedral, Shreveport	Cynthia Anderson
St. Mathias Episcopal Church, Shreveport	Steve Snow
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Shreveport	--
Christ Church, St. Joseph	Sam Corson
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, Sulphur	Pete Lund
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church, West Monroe	--
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Winnfield	Frank Fuller
St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Winnsboro	Wink Alison

CAMP HARDTNER	
Hardtner Camp and Conference Center	Mandy Holden, Daniel Chapman
SCHOOLS	
Episcopal School of Acadiana	Sharlene Dubois
St. James Day School Preschool	Annelise Eaglin
Ascension Episcopal School	Brandt Montgomery, Caitlin Neal-Jones
Bishop Noland Episcopal Day School	Kelly Davis
Grace Episcopal School	Becky Dillard, Susan DeHart
Trinity Episcopal Preschool	Jamie Carnline
Epiphany Day School	Sabrina Beach
St. Mark's Cathedral School	Robin Jennings

STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee met a total of six times from November 4th 2017 through October 2nd 2018. Members of the Standing Committee in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Louisiana during this time were The Very Rev. Rich Snow, President, The Rev. Mary Richard, The Rev. Annie Etheredge, Roxanne Myers, Jeffrey Thompson, Nancy Shaw, Secretary, and Holly Davis as Staff Support.

The Standing Committee's responsibilities include: Consenting to elections of Bishops in the greater Episcopal Church, consenting to the ordination of clergy within the Diocese and consenting to the purchase or sale of church property within the Diocese. The Standing Committee also acts as the "Bishop's Council of Advice," and in the absence of a Bishop is the ecclesiastical authority in the diocese. Following is a breakdown of the past year's work.

Consent to the Commission on Ministry's recommendation for Candidacy:

- Meg Lovejoy

Consents to elect:

- The Rev. Kevin D. Nichols, Bishop Diocesan for the Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem.
- The Rev. Carlye J. Hughes, Bishop Diocesan for the Episcopal Diocese of Newark.
- The Rev. Canon Michael Buerkel Hunn, Bishop Diocesan for Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande.
- The Rev. Mark Andrew Cowell, Bishop Diocesan for the Diocese of Western Kansas.
- A bishop suffragan in the Diocese of Texas.

Non-consent:

- Joseph Kerwin Delicat as Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of Haiti.

The Standing Committee also voted to alienate the Trinity, Crowley property so that it may be sold.

Respectfully submitted,

The Very Rev. Rich Snow, President

SUMMER CAMPING COMMITTEE

No report submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's Report

Article 5 of the Diocesan Canons requires, in part, that the Treasurer render an annual accounting of the Diocesan receipts and disbursements provided in the budget and a statement of each parish and mission with regard to its pledge. Below is a recap from the independent accountant's review report for the period ending December 31, 2017. The review includes assets, revenues and expenses, and the Diocesan Trustees Funds. The year-to-date report of revenue and expense is not audited or reviewed by the accountants. The pledge report for our parishes and missions is included in a separate section of the Alive.

From the review for the period ending December 31, 2017:

Total Assets	\$41,263,085	
Less Liabilities	1,590,126	

Total Net Assets	\$39,672,959	
Revenues, Gains (Losses), Other Support and Reclassifications		\$8,593,094
Less Expenses		2,807,681

Change in Net Assets		\$5,785,403

From the unaudited financial report for the period ending August 31, 2018:

	Budget	Actual
Revenue	\$1,131,528	\$ 902,997
Expense	1,571,852	1,501,001
	-----	-----
Year to date deficit	\$ 440,324	\$ 598,003

Respectively submitted,

Gray Easterling

Treasurer

UNITED THANK OFFERING

No report submitted.

UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH
2017-2018 REPORT TO THE DIOCESE OF WESTERN LOUISIANA

College of Arts & Sciences

Enrollment from the Diocese of Western Louisiana: 5 students total (3 report Episcopal heritage)

Financial aid awarded to all college students from the Diocese of Western Louisiana: \$43,650

The School of Theology

Seminary

Enrollment from the Diocese of Western Louisiana: 2 students total (1 from the summer Advanced Degrees Program)

The Beecken Center

Education for Ministry (EfM) Groups: 2

EfM Diocesan Coordinator: Thomas Whitfield Stodghill III

Support Received from the Diocese of Western Louisiana: \$16,000

Support Received from Diocese of Western Louisiana churches: \$9,713

2017-2018 Statistics for the University of the South

College of Arts and Sciences total students: 1,778

Class of 2021: 448

SAT combined: 1210-1380 ACT: 27-30

High School GPA: 3.73

College tuition and fees: \$ 58,000

College faculty: Full-Time: 164 Part-Time: 78

Student/faculty ratio: 10:1

School of Theology students: 169 (includes summer and non-degree students)

School of Theology full-time tuition and fees: \$ 17,568

School of Theology faculty: Full-Time: 11 Part-Time: 6

Student/faculty ratio: 6:1

University Fiscal Year July 1, 2017–June 30, 2018 (unaudited)

Endowment: \$395 million

About the University of the South

The University of the South is home to an outstanding liberal arts College of Arts and Sciences, a School of Letters, and a School of Theology. Located atop the Cumberland Plateau between Nashville and Chattanooga, Tennessee, Sewanee's 13,000-acre campus, the second largest campus in the United States, provides students with vast opportunities for research, recreation, and reflection. Within the traditionally strong curriculum of humanities, sciences, and graduate theological studies, Sewanee faculty members promote intellectual growth, critical thinking, and hands-on research.

The University's Board of Trustees is composed of the bishops of the 28 owning dioceses, together with clergy and lay representatives elected by each diocese and representatives of other University constituencies. The Board of Regents, to which the Board of Trustees delegates some of its responsibilities for governance, is composed of Episcopal bishops, priests, and lay people, and may include a limited number of members of other Christian bodies. The chancellor of the University, elected by the Board of Trustees, is a bishop from one of the 28 owning dioceses.

An Episcopal Center of Learning

The University of the South is an institution of The Episcopal Church dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge, understanding, and wisdom in close community and in full freedom of inquiry, and enlightened by Christian faith in the Anglican tradition, welcoming individuals from all backgrounds, to the end that students be prepared to search for truth, seek justice, preserve liberty under law, and serve God and humanity.

The University was founded by church leaders from the southeastern United States in 1857 and is the only university in the nation that is owned and governed by dioceses of The Episcopal Church, specifically the 28 dioceses that are successors to the original founding dioceses. The historic ownership and governance of the University by these Episcopal dioceses has produced a living synergy of leadership, resource, and mutual support, enriching the Church and advancing the University's role in American higher education.

New and Events from the University of the South

Details may be found by visiting the College's website: sewanee.edu/newstoday/
and the School of Theology's website: theology.sewanee.edu/seminary/media/news/

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

No report submitted.