



# Otey Notes



## ON SHOWING UP ON SUNDAYS!

Every now and then we hear about a parish in our Church that begins, when a clerical vacancy occurs, to suffer from lack of support. Some members decide that they will just take a sabbatical and return when a new rector is in place. Attendance drops off and giving diminishes so that, by the time the new rector arrives and celebrating a new ministry is in order, the life of the congregation isn't going well. It's a shame, but it happens.

It seems to me a good idea to mention this right now when our rector Father Joe has had to retire for health reasons and before parishioners begin to decide to let their worship on Sundays slip a little. It occurs to me that there are at least three reasons for all of us to keep on showing up on Sunday mornings during this interim.

First, wise observers have noticed that the way a congregation continues after the rector has left is a reflection on that priest's ministry among them. When we members of Otey Parish continue to show our energy for our Sunday services and our ministry in the Sewanee Community, we will be honoring the good work of our departing pastor. The strength and faith Joe has led us to express among ourselves and outwardly toward others will be shown from

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## TAKE NOTE



- ✓ SEPTEMBER 27 – Faith and Film, 6:30 PM, Brooks Hall
- ✓ OCTOBER 7 – ECW Luncheon Noon, St. James

## SUNDAY FORMATION

- ✓ SEPTEMBER 29 – Discussion: Finding God in a Bag of Groceries
- ✓ OCTOBER 6 – Hunger, Poverty & AIDS
- ✓ OCTOBER 13 – Folks At Home: The Time Bank
- ✓ OCTOBER 20 – Coordinating Local Efforts To Address Hunger
- ✓ OCTOBER 27 – Intergenerational Program Preparing For All Saints' Day:

## FIRE ON THE MOUNTAIN

- ✓ OCTOBER 4 – Movie Nite 6:30
- ✓ OCTOBER 13 – Meeting 4:15-5:30 With Speakers (University Students)
- ✓ OCTOBER 27 – Halloween Party For Blue Monarch 2:00



**N**EW INTERNS AND NEW ENERGY started Fire on the Mountain's fall semester off with a bang. It was fun to host the youth of the Diocese for our kick off celebration. 130 kids came from around the diocese for the Youth Eucharist at All Saints and then walked to Brooks for an ice cream social. 130 kids can eat a lot of ice cream. As each new beginning unfolds there are endless possibilities for spiritual growth and opportunities for new friendships and outreach experiences. Mary Ottley and Jimmy Szewczyk are outstanding young adult students at the colleges and wonderful role models. We have a full schedule planned and are set to go. Please continue to offer prayers for all who come to us.

*The Ministry Team*

*Mary Ottley, Jimmy Szewczyk, Pete Trenchi, and Betty Carpenter*



*New Interns Mary Ottley and Jimmy Szewczyk*

- October 4-Movie Nite 6:30
- October 13-Meeting 4:15-5:30 With Speakers (University Students)
- October 27-Halloween Party For Blue Monarch 2:00
- November 9-Bon Fire And S'mores
- November 17-Cookie Delivery To Senior Citizens And Shut-Ins
- December 8-Lessons And Carols
- December 15-Christmas Caroling



## ON SHOWING UP ON SUNDAYS!

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now on in the way we continue to be loyal and strong. We honor him by carrying on the good things he brought about among us.

The second reason for showing up during this interim is so that we might continue to be the kind of congregation a new priest would like to serve. Eventually, we will have a search committee who will invite certain ones of the candidates they interview to visit Sewanee, to look around, and to see whether they would like to carry out their ministry here. The person we would like to have as our rector is more likely to choose us if we show him or her that the people of Otey Parish are excited and faithful about our worship and ministry.

The third reason for our continuing to show up on Sundays during this interim is that all of us need to continue to take care of our souls' health. We do that by coming together in community on the Lord's Day, saying our prayers, passing the Peace with each other, and making Eucharist. Some of us with gray hair remember the 1928 Prayer Book's words that reminded us every Sunday that being there is "our bounden duty." It's still true.

Let's each of us make sure we keep showing up every Sunday.

*Bill Hethcock*

**D**uring this time of transition, The Rev. Bill Hethcock has graciously offered to coordinate pastoral care for us. Please contact him with pastoral emergencies, sicknesses and other concerns of a pastoral nature. He can be reached at 598-5225 or by email at [whethcock@bellsouth.net](mailto:whethcock@bellsouth.net).



### FIRST EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN MEETING OF THE FALL TO FEATURE PHEBE HETHCOCK AS SPEAKER

Phebe Hethcock, longtime resident, church leader and community volunteer in the community, will be the speaker for the luncheon meeting of ECW on October 7. Continuing the study of "Notable Women of Faith", she will talk about Hilda of Whitby, circa 614-680, an important figure in the conversion of England to Christianity. "Hild" the Peacemaker, as she was called in her time, was Abbess in several monasteries and recognized for the wisdom that drew kings to her for advice.

Mrs. Hethcock, a long time active member of ECW, has been a trainer of EFM and has worked for many years in Christian Education at Otey Parish. She has served terms on the Vestry, including her time as Senior Warden. She has also been a delegate to the General Conventions of the diocese and was chairwoman of the Dandridge Trust Board of the diocese.

All interested women of the area are invited to join in the fellowship and learning experience of the 12:00 noon meeting at St. James Parish in Midway (temporary location while the new Otey Parish House is being built). Please note a change in the time that reservations must be made for the \$10 catered luncheon. This year they must be made by 6:00 p.m. on FRIDAY before the meeting on Monday, Oct. 7. This is to accommodate the caterer who must do her grocery shopping on Saturday. Make reservations by calling Peggy Lines at 598-5863 or e-mailing her at [plines@sewanee.edu](mailto:plines@sewanee.edu). A vegetarian meal will be provided if requested at the time of reservation.

HUNGER: FAITH IN ACTION

God calls us to minister to our brothers and sisters who are hungry, thirsty, sick, and in need.

This year at Otey Parish, we are learning about human needs and where, in our community and beyond, human needs are not being met.

Our “Hunger: Faith in Action” series kicked off on a beautiful August day with Amy Patterson and her family orchestrating a Hunger Meal: over 30 adults and youth experienced first hand that life isn’t fair. What we learned that day was where we sat and what we ate that morning was based upon our luck of drawing a card. The Hunger Meal reminded us that some of us are born into relative prosperity and others into poverty. The next week, Chris Bryan spoke brilliantly to another overflowing conference room about Jesus and his temptations in the desert from Luke’s Gospel. He shared how he felt that the temptations Jesus faced were related to fasting, prayer, and alms-giving which were Jewish disciplines in Jesus’ time.

Our last several weeks have focused on the documentary, “A Place at the Table.” Thanks to the efforts of Alex and Kathryn Bruce and Jim Peterman from the University, Otey Parish has been able to show this documentary both at Brooks Hall and the Sewanee Union Theatre. Over 100 people viewed the film and 50 people met in the church to discuss their reactions to the film.

*Then the king will say ... “I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” .... “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.*

(Matthew 25: 34-36; 40)

Jim Peterman shared his understanding of how hunger is linked to poverty and socio-political issues. Betty Carpenter shared what is happening at the Community Action Committee (CAC), as well as her ideas and visions for the future.

What we have learned is that one in six Americans do not have enough food to sustain a healthy lifestyle. Of

these families, about 36% have a working adult in the family. Even though food banks have grown from 200,000 in the late 1970’s to over 40 million in 2013, and school lunch programs have been instituted, over 17 million children remain hungry. And, over 14.5 households are food insecure-- they lack sustainable physical or economic access to enough safe, nutritious, and socially acceptable food for a healthy and productive life. Food insecurity is higher in rural areas like the Cumberland Plateau.

We realized we have been called to continue to support the CAC and local farming/ businesses, as well as to consider being more actively on socio-political fronts.

Last week, a large crowd of over 35 people gathered to share their thoughts about what we can DO about hunger and poverty in Sewanee.

Small groups met and shared their ideas to empower our local agency, CAC, to provide more fresh and healthy food and fruits and vegetables. Ideas were



shared about the need to assess local needs for food/education/transportation, as well as ideas on how to work on a state and national level to influence public policy.

In the weeks ahead, we will continue to talk about what we at Otey Parish can do to network in our community and empower the CAC to be a center where our brothers and sisters can come for sustenance, support, and referral for other much needed services.

As the year moves forward, please join us as we learn about the human needs and partner with friends from the University, School of Theology, business community, and the area to **help** our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

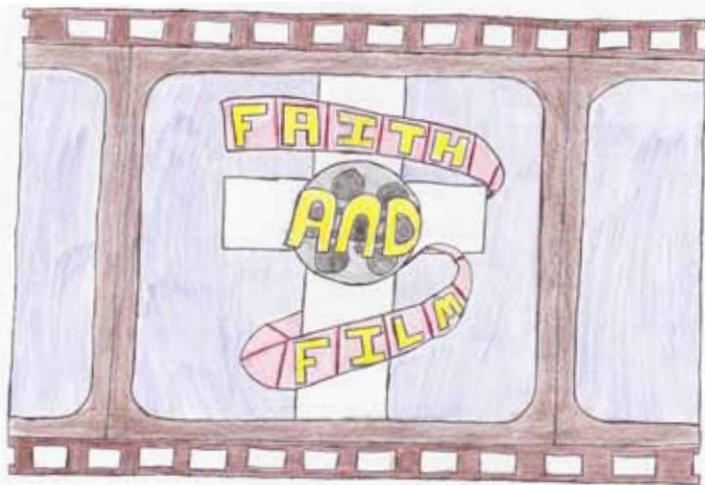
Here is what we will be doing this month:

- Sept 29 Discussion: Finding God in a Bag of Groceries, by Laura Willis, led by Brown Patterson
- Oct 6 Hunger, poverty & AIDS globally led by Amy Patterson & Canon Gideon Byamugisha
- Oct 13 Folks at Home: The Time Bank led by Susan Holmes
- Oct 20 Coordinating local efforts to address hunger, the CAC, led by Betty Carpenter
- Oct 27 Intergenerational program preparing for All-Saints Day: Coloring Crosses, packing groceries, and making cards for CAC Clients

Come join us as we are called to share Christ's love with our Sewanee Community...

---Robin Reed---





The Otey Parish “FAITH AND FILM” series returns the final Friday night of the month, September 27th, with the showing of “Babette’s Feast.” “Babette’s Feast” is a story set in 19th century Denmark where two adult sisters live in an isolated village with their father who is the minister at a small Protestant church. The film uses a flashback style to reflect upon the sisters’ lives and choices they have made to stay and serve their father and the church. After their father dies, the women welcome a French refugee, Babette, who begs them to take her in and commits herself to work for them as a housekeeper, maid, and cook. When

the sisters decide to hold a dinner to honor what would have been their father’s 100th birthday, Babette convinces them to let her prepare the meal. While concurrently worrying about what Babette, who is both a Catholic and foreigner might do, the sisters agree to let her proceed. The story is then about the power of grace and mercy which is shown at the banquet table.

Mark your calendars for 6:30 PM, Friday, September 27th, Brooks Hall.

Light refreshments will be served. Neil and Amy Patterson, hosts.

## HYMN “WITHOUT A NAME”

By now you know that most hymn tunes have a name. They may have many texts set to that tune, but the tune stays the same. This month we salute the work of Ralph Vaughn Williams. He was an English composer of symphonies, chamber music, opera, choral music, and film scores. He was born October 12, 1872 in Down Ampney, Gloucestershire. His father was a parish priest. From Welsh heritage who died in 1875 when Ralph was a child.

Ralph Vaughn Williams was an unknown composer when he was appointed editor of the English Hymnal in 1906. He was committed to finding the finest hymn tunes for the new hymnal and introduced many new ideas and tunes. One of the tunes he wrote for this new hymnal was the hymn tune SINE NOMINE which means “without a name”. He didn’t put his name on any of the new hymns he wrote for the new hymnal. He selected the text from the writing of Bishop William Walsham How (1823 - 1897). The text depicts “singing our way to heaven”. The walking bass gives the strong marching feel to

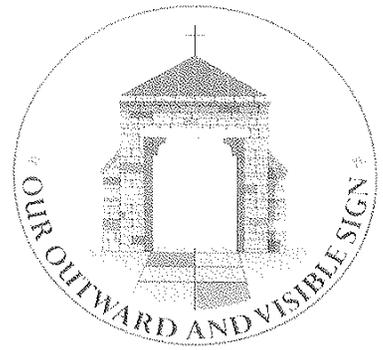
the piece. He is remembered for his frequent use of Alleluias in his work.

In our own Hymnal 1982, twenty of the hymns were arranged by Vaughn-Williams and eight of the hymns were written by him. Bishop Walsham How was a celebrated clergyman. He was especially noted for his work with the London poor. He is buried in Whittington where he served 28 years. His memorial plaque reads, “Sweet is the calm of Paradise the blest” from SINE NOMINE (For all the Saints).

We could write volumes about the work of Ralph Vaughn Williams. He was a prolific composer until his death on August 26, 1958. It is probably the best known All Saints Day hymn in existence. Vaughn Williams is considered the finest English composer since Henry Purcell and has won every honor the British can bestow. His ashes are interred in Westminster Abbey.

*Kathy Sturgis*

# Otey Memorial Parish Church



September 11, 2013  
The Feast of Harry Thacker Burleigh, Composer

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As many of you know, I suffer from an illness called Confusional Migraines. Technically called Basilar Artery Migraines, one of my medical caregivers advised Bobbye, Bishop Bauerschmidt and me that they "come on suddenly, can result in lack of balance, double vision, unsteadiness, blacking out.... often these patients are thought to be intoxicated, suffering from other conditions"---- in a phrase, they are bad. They're exacerbated by stress. Mine are getting worse. Since April, my family doctors and neurologist (excellent doctors, some good friends) have been running tests, trying new medications and adjusting doses, with mixed or little success.

And so I am advising you today of my intention to resign as Rector of Otey Parish. I am not doing this in a "willy-nilly" way, but with the encouragement of my doctors --- they do not believe I can 'slow the slide' in my health while working here as parish priest and rector. I will continue to work with these doctors towards a means of controlling these confusional migraines.

Bobbye and I were advised this morning by a Vice-President of the Church Pension Group Office of the National Episcopal Church in New York that they have approved me for Medical Disability (they met as a board and voted last night.) I am applying for Social Security Medical Disability as well. At my request, your Vestry has agreed to pay for Health Insurance for Bobbye and me for an extra year. For this, I am extremely grateful. And for the other courtesies.

Now a couple of requests to you. Please be good to my staff, the Otey Parish Staff. They are good to you. And, I pray for all of you by name one day a week as I do the Daily Office--- perhaps you could pray for Bobbye and me?

God's peace,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "JHB", written in a cursive style.

The Rev'd J. H. Ballard, Jr.



# Otey Memorial Parish Church

214 University Avenue  
P.O. Box 267  
Sewanee, Tennessee 37375  
Telephone (931) 598-5926

Dear Friends and Members of Otey Parish,

Our priest and friend the Reverend Joe Ballard, has announced his intention to resign as rector of Otey Parish. The vestry has received this announcement with regret and sadness, understanding the difficulty of this decision for Fr. Joe.

Fr. Joe has faced grave challenges to his health over the last number of months, and with the support and encouragement of his doctors and other friends and counselors, he has decided at this time to seek total and continuing disability retirement under the terms of the Church Pension Fund. He has not made this decision lightly, but with much prayer and with the knowledge of the serious nature of the health challenges that are before him. Total and continuing disability retirement is available to clergy in the Episcopal Church who face personal health situations that make it impossible for them to continue in their ministries. We are fully supportive of him in this difficult decision.

Out of respect for Fr. Joe's privacy, the vestry agreed to follow his wishes in sharing this information. It was important for everyone to receive the same correct information at the same time, and we regret if any misunderstandings have arisen concerning his decision. Please know that the entire vestry is fully supportive of Fr. Joe in this difficult time.

We are grateful to Fr. Joe and Bobbye for their presence with us and their ministry among us. Under Fr. Joe's leadership, the last five years have seen a renewal of our ministry in the community at Otey Parish. We will continue the outreach ministries Otey is known for; we will continue our dynamic educational programs such as our Hunger: Faith in Action series; we will continue building our new parish house that stands as a symbol of Otey's commitment to the future. We are thankful to God for the leadership of Fr. Ballard, and for all that has been accomplished: Otey is and will remain a vibrant, living faith community.

We are saddened that Fr. Joe's last Sunday with us as rector will be September 15 and we look forward to the opportunity to worship with the Ballards and to express our appreciation for them.

Our ministry as a parish continues, as does the vital role of each member of Otey Parish. The Vestry has begun to meet to determine the next steps in this time of transition. We have met these challenges before, and are confident that God will provide for this parish.

Please continue to pray for Fr. Joe and Bobbye and for our parish in this time of difficult decision and transition.

Faithfully,

The Vestry of Otey Parish

Ann Millar, Senior Warden

Dave Spaulding

Alex Bruce

Amy Burns, Junior Warden

Karen Keele

Carol Sampson

Steve Blount

Pratt Paterson

Doug Seiters

## COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

The ministry of CAC is nothing short of amazing and vital to the health of our parish and the Sewanee Community. Those who come to us know that we will offer help whether it be with a bag of groceries, help with utilities, gas to get to a doctor's appointment or job interview or an ear to listen with compassionate concern. When the doors are open our clients know that our volunteers will do whatever they can to help. Recent emphasis has been on hunger and we as a parish can do our part to address the growing number who live with food insecurity. Nation-wide, state-wide, county-wide and community-wide it is with us. It is not a question of what to do but ask yourself what can I do and will I do it?



Here are some suggestions:

- Volunteer your time with CAC-the office number is 598-5927
- Donate items not bought with food stamps like paper products, cleaning supplies, detergent
- Donate money to buy food
- Offer your vehicle to go pick up free perishable food from the Second Harvest Food Drops
- Organize a food drive at your school and/or classroom
- Sell tickets for the upcoming Fund Raiser for CAC in November
- Use your grant writing skills to assist in obtaining future funding
- Pray daily for this ministry

Since our last Otey Notes CAC has:

- Distributed over 2000 pounds of food
- Spent \$1242 in utility assistance
- Distributed 85 bags of groceries
- Worked with 28 volunteers

## Otey Memorial Parish

**The Rt. Rev. John Bauerschmidt**

Bishop of the Diocese of Tennessee

**Frieda Hawkins Gipson**

Parish Administrator

[oteparish@gmail.com](mailto:oteparish@gmail.com)

### Church Office Hours

Monday – Friday

8:00 am – 12:00 pm

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

### Telephone and Fax

(931) 598-5926

(931) 598-9537

### STAFF

**Kathy Sturgis, Organist**

**Gary Sturgis, Choir Director**

**Betty Carpenter, Youth Ministry**

[campc2@msn.com](mailto:campc2@msn.com)

**Robin Reed, Christian Formation**

[DrRobinAReed@gmail.com](mailto:DrRobinAReed@gmail.com)

**Betty Carpenter, CAC Director**

[cacoteparish@gmail.com](mailto:cacoteparish@gmail.com)

**Sheila Layne, Nursery Director**

**Amy Spicer, Newsletter / Website**

[spicergang@gmail.com](mailto:spicergang@gmail.com)

### VESTRY

**Ann Millar, Senior Warden**

**Roy Millar, Treasurer**

**Henry Chase, Assistant Treasurer**

**Amy Burns, Junior Warden**

**Steve Blount**

**Alexander Bruce**

**Doug Seiters**

**Carol Sampson**

**Karen Keele**

**Pratt Paterson**

**David Spaulding**

**Beth Wiley, Clerk**

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING AND THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED OUR PRAYERS:

J.C. Allen, Lloyd Apirian, Linda Bachand, Amanda Bailey, Elvie Biddle, Carl Bloeser, Rob Boatner, John Bratton, Ann Brewster, Frankye Bright, Jonathan Burnett, Stuart Cook, Meta Crane, Sally and Jim Franklin, Brooks Gunn, Dennis Hastings, Nelda Hastings, Patricia Hawkins, Patrick Irwin, Robert Jones, Marion Kearley, Lisa Keele, Howell Lynch, Mary Farris Lynch, Julie Marsman, Ruth Matlock, Ray Meeks, Lucy Morgan, Cheri Peters, Jennifer Roberts, Marion Rectenwald, Dessie Taylor, Lethia Watson, Kathy Woods, and Harry Yeatman.

We pray for those serving in Afghanistan and for their families, especially Chris Wilkerson, Cole Adams, and Dan Chiriboga.

## Don't Forget!

The deadline for submissions for the November 2013 issue of Otey Notes is:

**Wednesday, October 16**

Email submissions to:  
spicergang@gmail.com

*Please include "Otey Notes" in the subject.*



## ★ October Birthdays

10/1	Rowan Jones	10/9	Aden Rung	10/24	Stephen Carter
10/3	John Goodson	10/12	Sam Thomas	10/24	Sam McNair
10/5	Phebe Hethcock	10/13	Dessie Taylor	10/26	Lea Colvill
10/6	Sharon Zachau	10/14	Barbara White	10/26	Kathryn Bruce
10/6	Will Evans	10/14	Sam Howick	10/26	Henry Fisher
10/6	Julia Cammack	10/15	Marion Kearley	10/26	Louis Rice
10/6	Ellie Jenkins	10/15	Donny Rung	10/29	Peggy Solomon
10/7	Rebecca Van de Ven	10/17	Sam Frazier	10/29	Doug Cameron
10/7	Zachary Blount	10/19	Suzanne Cahoon	10/31	Leigh Anne Couch
10/8	Jo Ann Barker	10/20	Craig Gates		
10/8	Mason Goodson	10/20	Larry Prince		
10/8	Jenna Black	10/20	Beth Pride Ford		
10/9	Jim Pappas	10/22	Jackson Frazier		