



Otey Notes



From the Rector--Bishop Otey in Context

I am in the process of seeking a more complete understanding of the person for whom the parish is named. Many are familiar with the Rt. Rev. James Hervey Otey's role in the founding of the University of the South, particularly portions of his 1857 address on Lookout Mountain. Others know about his tireless efforts to build up the Episcopal Church in Tennessee and elsewhere in the South. That Otey opposed southern states seceding from the Union, even though he supported slavery and held slaves himself, is not as widely known. Still less information has been available about context: How common was it for southern Episcopal bishops to hold slaves during this time period? How does the number of slaves Bp. Otey held compare with his peers?

The Sewanee Project on Slavery, Race, and Reconciliation has been sharing its valuable research into the history of the University's founding and founders. Some of the products of their work can be seen at the blog, "Meridiana," including Tanner Potts's recent annotated interactive map, "'Within the Pale of the Plantation States': Slavery and the Governance of the University of the South 1860." <http://meridiana.sewanee.edu/2018/11/26/1860trusteemap/>

From census information linked to the map we learn that Bp. Otey held 7 slaves in 1850 and 6 slaves in 1860. All of the bishops of owning dioceses¹ of the University held slaves, in numbers from 1 to 225. Of the 11 bishops listed, census records show that 5 held more slaves than Otey and 2 held slightly fewer than he did. Information is incomplete about the other 3 bishops, but it appears that 2 of those held significantly fewer slaves than Otey and 1 held a similar number.

There is no "magic number" at which we can be comfortable with the first Bishop of Tennessee having been a slaveholder. Context, however, is important. Bishop Otey was raised, and led his life, in a context where the overwhelming view of white people was that people of African ancestry were inferior and that it was acceptable to enslave them. Not all people in the South held this view, but it was exceptional, and it came at great cost, for someone to oppose it openly.

I continue to pursue other questions. How do Bp. Otey's public statements on slavery compare with those of his fellow Episcopal bishops (in the South and throughout the U.S.), and among members of the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee? What does Bp. Otey's support (shared by Presidents Jefferson, Madison, and Lincoln) for the American Colonization Society's efforts for free African Americans to emigrate to Africa say about his stance on race compared to others in his time? Is there evidence of Otey's personal views on slavery and his treatment of slaves?

It need not compromise our appreciation of what the Gospel requires to acknowledge that prevailing understandings differed in the past. Nor does renouncing what we believe to be sins of any of our predecessors allow us to ignore our own. In dealing with a complex legacy, it is important to proceed thoroughly and carefully. "The truth," Jesus said, "will make you free." (John 8:32b) Discovering more fully who Bp. Otey was will help us honor the Lord among whose fallen servants both he and we are numbered.

¹ At that time North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

TAKE NOTE

CHRISTIAN FORMATION SUNDAYS, 9:45 AM

Lectionary class each Sunday reviews that Sunday's Gospel

Godly Play for ages 3-11

Adult Forum—9:45

- ✓ Dec. 2 Rector's Forum
- ✓ Dec. 9 "Church Music for Advent" Kenneth Miller
- ✓ Dec. 16 "Isaiah 40: The Biblical World in 41 Verses" Rebecca Wright
- ✓ Dec. 23 No Adult Forum
- ✓ Dec. 30 No Adult Forum

SPECIAL SERVICES

- ✓ Dec. 24 4:30 pm—Creche Service
- ✓ Dec. 24 9:30 pm—Musical Prelude followed by Festive Eve Holy Eucharist
- ✓ Dec. 25 10:00 Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

MONTHLY EVENTS

- ✓ Dec. 19 Otey Notes submissions due, 3:00 pm
- ✓ Dec. 13 Vestry Meeting, 5:30 pm Cammack Home

SPECIAL EVENTS

- ✓ Dec. 16 4:00 pm Children's Pageant followed by refreshments

OFFICE CLOSURES

- ✓ Dec. 24, 25, 26 Otey Office closed for Christmas Holidays
- ✓ Dec 24 returning January 2—CAC Closed

Ephiphany Planning



On Epiphany (January 6) there is a custom of chalk "20+C+M+B+19" (or whatever year it is) above the threshold and blessing the home. Otey parishioners revived this tradition along with a progressive dinner that moved down Tennessee Ave. The dinner included Eucharist and finished with king cake at the last home. We hope to do it again in 2020, perhaps on a

different street. Please contact Jeannie Babb at oteyformation@gmail.com if you would like to be one of 2020's hosts.

Ephiphany Luncheon

This year Epiphany is on Sunday, January 6. Following our 11:00 am Holy Eucharist there will be a festive luncheon for all to come and enjoy. Parish Life will provide all the entrees and sides. We ask parishioners to bring desserts. Please join in on the festivities.



Registration Open for Tuesday Mornings

Registration open for Tuesday morning Godly Play / Parents' Morning Out

Quick Facts:

For children ages 18 months to 4 years

8:00-10:30am on Tuesdays

This semester runs Jan 8-May 7

Directed by Jeannie Babb

Co-op with parent volunteers

Register: <https://tuesdaygodlyplay.eventbrite.com>

We have openings for more children in January! Please use the registration link above. If your child is currently enrolled, there is no need to register again for this semester; just look for a Parent Volunteer scheduling email to arrive in your inbox.



This is a wonderful, fun-filled weekly event. The emphasis on Godly Play distinguishes the program from other playgroups or co-ops. Godly Play is an imaginative, Montessori-based approach to nurturing the Christian faith. Using symbols and objects as well as words, Godly Play stories value openness and discovery rather than rewarding correct answers. The culture of the Godly Play room encourages generosity and calm. We also spend time outdoors on the playground, engaged in art and other work, and playing cooperative games like Red Light, Green Light and Ring-around-the-Rosies that help children learn cooperation, listening, and following instructions.

Thanks to the generosity of Otey's pledging members, Tuesday morning Godly Play / Parents' Morning Out is offered at no cost to families. Parents take turns volunteering, usually just 3 times per semester. Parents who wish to enroll a child in the program should register here: <https://tuesdaygodlyplay.eventbrite.com>

If you have questions, please contact Jeannie by email oteyformation@gmail.com or 423-255-6479.

Jeannie Babb, Christian Formation Director



Sign up for the pageant now



Otey's annual children's pageant, Good News of Great Joy!, will be held at 4:00 pm on Sunday, December 16, 2018, followed by a light reception. There is only one rehearsal, the day before. Please plan to join us for this time of wonder and celebration.

It's not too late to register children. We especially need 2 narrators (usually middle school or high school students).

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4BA4AB2DA4FC1-childrens>

We also need teen and adult volunteers. Some of the roles are as simple as bringing a 2-liter drink to the dress rehearsal.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090A4BA4AB2DA4FC1-pageant>

Jeannie Babb, Christian Formation Director

What Can I Do?

As I have been busy preparing for Christmas, I have been passing my cross stitch of the Serenity Prayer that is outside my office. I did it for my son-in-law as a gift. It is a very special prayer to anyone who has experienced a twelve step program. It has become very meaningful to me this year. I think all of us tend to labor over what could be. Unfortunately, that makes us not appreciate what is. I have been considering perhaps but not appreciating what God is sending us. We can always hope to do better, but we can't feel less by what we have. I know I have thought that about music. I wanted the program to be like my programs of the past instead of accepting with joy what the program is. What a waste of my time. And how does that look to God?

How much time we tend to spend laboring over something that is not really worth the effort. How much better could we spend that time bettering the ministry we have. A former priest I know loved golf. He used it frequently as a metaphor in his sermons. He used to say, "It isn't the preparation of the shot, but the follow through that matters." Sometimes people will want to step up for a project and sometimes they do. However, do they follow through. As a parish each one of us comes with gifts and talents to give. As we approach the New Year, if you have considered being a part of a group here at church and haven't acted on it, I challenge you to consider following through with it. Whether it is altar guild, acolyte, lay reading, music, teaching or folding bulletins, your service is important to God and to your church family. Children are not the only ones who can carry a torch or the cross in procession. I hope you feel encouraged to step up and try something new here at church this year. Maybe you have perceived a need that you feel you could address. Don't be afraid to come forward. Let's work to change all we can and accept those things we can't – at least not yet.

Let us be always thankful for all we have as a member of the family of Otey Parish. My best wishes for a blessed Christmas and safe holiday season. And may we shine with hope and love in 2019.

***Kathleen Sturgis,
Music Director***

- December 16:** 4:00 pm, Children's Pageant with refreshments to follow
- December 24:** 4:30 pm Creche Service
- December 24:** 9:30 pm Musical Prelude
- December 24:** 10:00 pm Festive Holy Eucharist
- December 25:** 10:00 am Holy Eucharist with Carols



Otey Office will be closed December 24, 25, and 26 for Christmas Holidays and January 1, 2019 for New Years.

Community Action Committee will be closed from December 24 returning January 2 for the holidays.



Community Action Committee

Annual Parish Meeting



Holiday joy does not always seem so joyous to those who struggle in their daily lives. This year CAC will partner with Project Noel and University students to make sure that toys and gifts will be under the tree and food will be on the table. All Saints' Chapel has an Angel Tree for CAC and applications for Project Noel are available at the CAC office. Working together we can do more and for that we can all rejoice! Anyone interested in the Angel Tree please check in with the CAC office .



I think we broke an attendance record with the Thanksgiving Feast.. The meal was provided by Chef Rick and Sewanee Dining and 127 of our community enjoyed a wonderful meal with limitless take-outs .Forty -three families received turkeys. Thank you to everyone who made this all possible.



Susan Holmes, Karen Meridith, and Sue Moseley were elected to 3-year terms on the Vestry to begin January 1, 2019. Thank you to all of the candidates, and to the Vestry members completing their terms at the end of the year: Shelley Cammack, Barbara Prunty, and Rachel Suarez. We remembered those who have died since the 2017 Annual Meeting: Trink Beasley, Elvie Biddle, Ann Brewster, Ed Camp, Joan Carter, Bill Hethcock, Bob Keele, Jean Patterson, and Louis Rice. We gave thanks for the ministry of seminarian Brad Bates, and heard about new diocesan requirements regarding background checks and building use. Rob announced that Youth Ministry Director Neil Patterson has announced his resignation as of the end of the year. Please join in thanking him for his five years of service in this position. Christian Formation Director Jeannie Babb will serve as Acting Youth Director the first half of next year. Diocesan Convention is January 25-26 next year at Trinity Church, Clarksville. Those interested in serving as delegates should contact Rob Lamborn in order to receive Vestry consideration



Same Sex Marriage

In accordance with the action this past summer of the Episcopal Church's General Convention, rites of marriage for same-sex couples are now available churchwide. Bp. Bauerschmidt will soon make known any specifics of procedure in the Diocese of Tennessee. In all marriages in the Episcopal Church, at least one of the parties must be baptized, and thorough premarital counseling is required. To be married at Otey, at least one of the parties must have a substantial relationship with the parish (or another Episcopal church, if that priest is to officiate).

Stewardship Update

With three-fourths of the anticipated regular pledges in, responses to the stewardship campaign are showing a healthy increase consistent with continuing to fund our varied and important ministries. If you have yet to return your pledge, please do so as soon as possible.

A number of people have added special pledges this year to retire the debt on St. Mark's Hall and Claiborne Parish House. Based on debt retirement pledges received so far, the unfunded portion of the balloon payment due June 1, 2019 has now dropped below \$27,000. Many thanks for your generosity!

Now the Work of Christmas Begins

The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled,
 when the star in the sky is gone,
 when the kings and princes are home,
 when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
 the work of Christmas begins:
 to find the lost,
 to heal the broken,
 to feed the hungry,
 to release the prisoner,
 to rebuild the nations,
 to bring peace among the people,
 to make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman, African-American theologian, educator,
 and civil rights leader.

Vestry Highlights

At its November meeting, the Vestry

--heard an extensive report from Joseph Sumpter on the condition of the bell tower and the significant work needed to stop it from leaking and keep it in good repair for future decades.

--approved a request from the Parish Life Committee to purchase a warming oven for the Mary Sears memorial kitchen in Claiborne Parish House.

--did a first review of the draft 2019 budget.

--received copies of the 2017 audit.

Inclement Weather Policy



It will be Otey Parish's policy to follow the Franklin County School system's closures and delays for inclement weather. If Franklin County schools are closed, Otey Parish will be closed. The Community Action Committee will also be going by this policy. The Sewanee Children's Center will decide and announce its own cancellations.

Otey Memorial Parish

The Rt. Rev. John Bauerschmidt
Bishop of the Diocese of Tennessee

The Rev. Robert C. Lamborn, D. Min.
Rector
oteyparishrector@gmail.com

The Rev. Elizabeth Carpenter, Deacon
CAC Director
 (931) 598-5927
cacoteyparish@gmail.com

Frieda Hawkins Gipson
Parish Administrator, Newsletter Editor,
Webmaster, Calendar Coordinator
oteyparish@gmail.com

Church Office Hours
 Monday–Friday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Telephone and Fax
 (931) 598-5926, (931) 598-9537 (F)

Website
www.oteyparish.org

Diane Fielding, Financial Adm. Assistant
oteyfinance@gmail.com , (931) 598-5926

Diane's office hours—Wednesdays 1:30p—2:30p and by appt.

Neil Patterson, Youth Ministry, fotmotey@gmail.com
 (931) 598-5997

Jeannie Babb, Christian Formation Director,
oteyformation@gmail.com
 (931)598-5926

Kathy Sturgis, Organist musicotey@gmail.com
 (931) 598-5997

Brandy Garner—Custodian

VESTRY

- David Burnett, Stewardship, '20**
- Shelley Cammack, Christian Formation, '18**
- Timothy Graham, Finance, '19**
- Lisa Howick, Univ./Community Relations, '20**
- Claudia Porter, Parish Life, '19**
- Barbara Prunty, Senior Warden, '18**
- Gary Sturgis, CAC, 19**
- Lee Stapleton, Pastoral Care, '20**
- Rachel Suarez, Junior Warden, '18**
- Kathy Solomon, Treasurer**
- Julie Elrod, Clerk**

PRAYER LIST

Pamela Byerly, Henry Capel, Matthew Collins, Joyce Crouse, Jackie Faircloth, Nate Garner, Peter Hutton, Patrick Irwin, Sandy King, Amy Lamborn, Erika Lewis, Jacob Lollis, Meta Shackelford, Liz Workman.



Greening of the church will happen December 23, 2 pm Everyone is encouraged to come and help out.

CHANGE

There has been a change in the deadline for submissions for the January 2019 issue of *Otey Notes* is: 3pm Wednesday, December 12

Email submissions to: oteyparish@gmail.com

Poinsettia Memorials

Anyone wishing to donate memorial/thanksgiving poinsettias for our Christmas altar flowers please contact Diane Jones at djones.sewanee@gmail.com or 615-594-4805 by December 18. The cost is \$40.00. It will be listed in a separate insert for the Christmas Eve and Christmas services.



December



Shelley Cammack	12	1	Rachel Lynch	12	15
Susan Holmes	12	1	Megan Roberts	12	15
Sarah Ward	12	2	Ramona Rose-Crossley	12	18
John Grammer	12	6	Kathy Solomon	12	18
Frank Lankewicz	12	6	Robert Black	12	24
Eric Naylor	12	6	Addison Willis	12	24
Maddie Howard	12	8	Bill Davis	12	25
Paul Schutz	12	8	Jennie Murray	12	27
Diane Getty	12	10	Mary Gatta	12	29
Laurie Ramsey	12	11	Jim Jackson	12	29
Libby Neubauer	12	13	Luwin Lewis	12	30
Carolyn Fitz	12	14	Matthew Mollica	12	30
			Annwn Myers	12	31

December 2018

Position	December 2 Advent 1	December 9 Advent 2	December 16 Advent 3	December 23 Advent 4	December 30 1 st Sunday after Advent
	8:30	8:30	8:30	8:30	8:30
Vestry of the Day	Barbara Prunty	Lisa Howick	Claudia Porter	Shelley Cammack	Gary Sturgis
Crucifer/Server	Louise Irwin	Lisa Howick	Robin Bates	Louise Irwin	Robin Bates
Torchbearers					
Reader	Anne Griffin	Leah Rhys	Alec Moseley	Louise Irwin	Karen Keele
Lesson 1	Jeremiah 33:14-16	Baruch 5:1-9	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Micah 5:2-5a	Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Reader	Louise Irwin	Karen Keele	Sue Moseley	Lee Stapleton	Robin Bates
Lesson 2	1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13	Philippians 1:3-11	Philippians 4:4-7	Hebrews 10:5-10	Galatians 3:23-25 4:4-7
Intercessor	Lee Stapleton	Dorothy Gates	Robin Bates	Shelley Cammack	Freddie Tucker
Oblationers					
Chalice Bearers	Lee Stapleton Louise Irwin	Karen Keele Leah Rhys	Bill Mauzy Sue Moseley	Louise Irwin Lee Stapleton	Karen Keele Gary Sturgis
Ushers	Freddie Tucker Barbara Prunty	Dorothy Gates Larry Prince	Jerry White Claudia Porter	Tom Howick Bruce Baird	Freddie Tucker Larry Prince
Godly Play	Mark Hopwood Barbara Prunty	Scott Lee Mark Hopwood	Rebecca Van de Ven Andrea Vancil	Rebecca Van de Ven Andrea Vancil	
	11:00	11:00	11:00		11:00
Crucifer/Server	Beth Wiley	Betty Barton Blythe	Karen Meridith	Sophia Patterson	Julia Bates
Torchbearers		Alex Thurman		Mary Ming Lynch	
Reader	Beth Wiley	Russell Fielding	Karen Meridith	Amy Patterson	Julia Bates
Lesson 1	Jeremiah 33:14-16	Baruch 5:1-9	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Micah 5:2-5a	Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Reader	Jay Fisher	Phebe Hethcock	Lauryl Tucker	Lisa Howick	Lynn Stubblefield
Lesson 2	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Philippians 1:3-11	Philippians 4:4-7	Hebrews 10:5-10	Galatians 3:23-25 4:4-7
Intercessor	George Dick	Susan Holmes	Adam Tucker	Neil Patterson	George Dick
Oblationers					
Chalice Bearers	Beth Wiley Jay Fisher	Susan Holmes Betty Barton Blythe	Karen Meridith Jay Fisher		Julia Bates Gary Sturgis
Ushers	Linda Lankewicz Frank Lankewicz	Lisa Howick Jimmy Blythe	Lauryl Tucker Adam Tucker	Ann Seiters Doug Seiters	Lynn Stubblefield John Solomon
Altar Guild	George Dick	George Dick	George Dick	George Dick	George Dick
Flowers	Claudia Porter	Betty Barton Blythe	Betty Barton Blythe	Betty Barton Blythe	
Bread Baker	Isabel Patterson	Isabel Patterson	Julia Bates	Julia Bates	TBD
Coffee Hour	Dorothy Gates	Frieda Hawkins	Julia Bates	Susan Holmes/Greg Maynard	
Tellers	Barbara Prunty Beth Wiley	Lisa Howick Phebe Hethcock	Claudia Porter Tim Graham	Shelley Cammack Beth Wiley	Gary Sturgis David Burnett

** Schedule subject to change per Rector's discretion

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist No Christian Formation	31 9-11 CAC Open 5:00P / Women's Recovery – Brooks Hall 7:00P / Centering Prayer St. St. Paul's Chapel of Claiborne Parish	7:30 a.m., Mon-Fri, Morning Prayer (Church) 4:30 p.m., Mon-Fri, Evening Prayer (Church)	SCC – Sewanee Children's Center FOM – Fire on the Mountain ECW – Episcopal Church Women EfM – Education for Ministry CAC – Community Action Committee			1 7:30P / AA
2 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist CAC Pantry Sunday 9:45A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectionary Class-Adult Ed. Godly Play – Claiborne Middle School/High School Sunday Sch. (Brooks) Adult Forum – Rector's Forum 	3 9-11 CAC Open 5:00P / Women's Rec. Brooks 7:00P / Centering Prayer St. Paul's Chapel of Claiborne Parish House	4 7:30A / Godly Play Preschool 9-11 CAC Open 7:30P / AA	5 9-11 CAC Open 3:30P / Staff Meeting	6 9-11 CAC Open 1:00P / F@H Support Group Claiborne	7 9-11 CAC Open	8 7:30P / AA
9 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist 9:45A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectionary Class-Adult Ed. Godly Play – Claiborne Middle School/High School Sunday Sch. (Brooks) Adult Forum: "Church Music for Advent" Kenneth Miller	10 9-11 CAC Open 5:00P / Women's Recovery – Brooks Hall 7:00P / Centering Prayer St. Paul's Chapel of Claiborne Parish	11 7:30A / Godly Play Preschool 9-11 CAC Open 7:30P / AA	12 9-11 CAC Open 1:30P / Buildings & Grounds	13 9-11 CAC Open 1:00P / F@H Support Group Claiborne 5:30 / Vestry Meeting – Cammack's home	14 9-11 CAC Open	15 7:30P / AA
16 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist 9:45A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectionary Class-Adult Ed. Godly Play – Claiborne Middle School/High School Sunday Sch. (Brooks) Adult Forum: "Isaiah 40: The Biblical World in 41 Verses" Rebecca Wright 4:30P / Children's Pageant with refreshments to follow	17 9-11 CAC Open 5:00P / Women's Recovery – Brooks Hall 7:00P / Centering Prayer St. St. Paul's Chapel of Claiborne Parish	18 7:30A / Godly Play Preschool 9-11 CAC Open 7:30P / AA	19 <u>Otey Notes due by 3pm</u> 9-11 CAC Open 9:30A / Parish Life 3:30P / Staff Meeting	20 9-11 CAC Open 9:00A / CAC Board 1:30P / F@H Support Group Claiborne	21 Saint Thomas the Apostle 9-11 CAC Open 9:00A / CAC Board	22 7:30P / AA
23 8:30 & 11:00 Holy Eucharist 9:45A No Christian Formation	24  Otey and CAC offices closed 4:30P / Creche Service 9:30P / Musical Prelude 10:00P Festival Holy Eucharist	25  Otey and CAC offices closed 10:00A / Holy Eucharist with Carols 7:30P / AA	26 Saint Stephen, Deacon and Martyr CAC Closed	27 St John, Apostle and Evangelist CAC closed 1:30P / F@H Support Group Claiborne	28 The Holy Innocents CAC closed	29