



# Otey Notes



## From the Rector--Christ Caring for People through People

As I write this I am in St. Louis undergoing a week-long training that will equip me to join Lynn and Ken Taylor as leaders in the Stephen Ministry program. Although Otey has been a Stephen Ministry congregation for a number of years, the program became dormant during the clergy transition. For some of you, what I am writing will be a first introduction to Stephen Ministry, and for others it will be a re-introduction.

Stephen Ministry is the one-to-one lay caring ministry that takes place in congregations according to the Stephen Series system. Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. In operation since 1975, Stephen Ministry is now present in more than 12,000 congregations of more than 170 Christian denominations in the U.S., Canada, and 29 other countries. More than 600,000 people have trained to become Stephen Ministers, and more than 1.5 million people have received their care. Yet all of these large statistics come about via one-to-one relationships.

Stephen Ministers are often described as "After People," the ones who are with you:

- After the funeral when out-of-town family have gone home
- After the relationship falls apart and the bottom falls out of your life
- After the baby arrives, demanding more than you ever dreamed possible
- After friends and family have heard your story one too many times but you still need to talk it out.

The commitment to be a Stephen Minister is significant--50 hours of initial training plus preparatory readings, about an hour a week with your designated care receiver, and two meetings per month of 2 1/2 hours for continuing education and peer supervision. Yet the rewards are great.

Over the coming months, the Taylors and I will be making more information available to help you discern if you might benefit from receiving this kind of care, or you might be called to be a Stephen Minister. There is a lot of information at [www.stephenministries.org](http://www.stephenministries.org). We will be in touch with those who were involved with the program previously, and hope to offer a training course for new Stephen Ministers to begin in the fall. I ask your prayers as we work to reboot this important ministry at Otey.

*Rob Lamborn*

## TAKE NOTE

### CHRISTIAN FORMATION

SUNDAYS, 10 AM

Lectionary class each Sunday reviews that Sunday's Gospel lesson

- ✓ May 7 Rector's Forum—Teacher Recognition, Celebration and Assessment
- ✓ May 7 Youth Sunday  
(Last Adult Forum of Academic Year)

### MONTHLY EVENTS

- ✓ May 17 Otey Notes submissions due, 3pm
- ✓ May 19 Vestry Meeting, 5:30pm

### SPECIAL EVENTS

- ✓ May 6 Parish Work Day 9:00 am—2:00 pm

### OFFICE CLOSURES

- ✓ May 29 Memorial Day



Everyone enjoyed Holy Saturday's Easter Egg dying



May 29 is Memorial Day and Otey's offices will be closed.

**VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS**

**Retreat on April 8**

The Vestry gathered in prayer at the home of Ken & Lynn Taylor to;

- ◆ Build appreciation for the Gifts of God in one another- and how they will help our work as a vestry
- ◆ (Re-)connect to our foundational work of discernment and our spiritual base for discernment
- ◆ --Review the roles, responsibilities, and functioning of the vestry
- ◆ --Raise issues for our work this year

**Regular meeting on April 20**

--Elected Susan Holmes as Clerk for the balance of 2017 with deep appreciation to Ann Aitken for her years of service in that position.

--Accepted the recommendation of the Finance Committee to devote 90% of the net proceeds of the sale of Mary Sears's house to reducing the debt on Claiborne Parish House. In appreciation of Mary's generous gift, the kitchen in Claiborne Parish House will be dedicated in her memory. The use of the remaining 10% of the net proceeds is to be determined by the Vestry at a later date.

--Received an update regarding discernment to fill the position of (part-time, non-stipendiary) Curate created by the Vestry at its meeting in March.

**CONFIRMAND AND BAPTIZAND**

Congratulations!

Jenna Elizabeth Black, daughter of Kelley & Robert Black, was confirmed by Bishop Bauerschmidt on Sunday, April 23.



And congratulations to our newest baptizand, Andrew Korn.

**GODLY PLAY**

Godly Play is a contemplative, Montessori-based Sunday school program, founded on the premise that children already have connections with God that should be honored and developed. The program seeks to acquaint children with the stories and liturgy of our faith, without telling them how to interpret the stories in a didactic way. Questions are encouraged, and wondering is key!

Otey's Godly Play program provides a room for children ages 3 through 1st grade, and another for children 2nd – 5th grade. These classes will continue to meet throughout the month of May. During the summer, we will continue to gather most weeks with a combined class, as long as we have the teachers to do so.

We have had a wonderful year with the children! We have many fantastic, well-trained teachers at Otey. Unfortunately for us, several are seminarians who are now moving on to their next call. We give thanks for the ministry of Teresa and Nick Phares, Anna Thomas, and Michelle Calhoun. Thank you for helping our children enter into this place of grace and wonder.



Otey Memorial Parish is hosting a Godly Play teacher training

Michelle Calhoun and Anna Thomas with the children.

Wednesday, May 17 through Friday, May 19. We still have several spaces in this training, which is offered to Otey teachers at no cost, to seminarians at a deep discount, and to surrounding church members. If you or someone you know feels a calling to this ministry, please speak with Jeannie Babb or Rob Lamborn.



Many thanks to the seminary and to the Godly Play Foundation for teaming up to sponsor this event so that we can keep our costs very low! We will need to provide lunches each day for the trainers and trainees. Can you help? Please contact Jeannie Babb at oteyformation@gmail.com.

*Jeannie Babb*



Exploring the temple materials, a young child decides to place the figure of Christ on top

## EASTER EGG OUTREACH

Otey's annual collaboration with Mellon Globalization Forum and Sewanee dining produced hundreds of beautiful eggs, some wonderful teaching moments, and new or strengthened connections in the community. Thanks to front page, above-the-fold coverage in the Sewanee messenger, the event drew people from Monteagle and Cowan as well as church members and university students and professors.



Sue DeWalt, who splits her time between Pittsburgh, PA, and Sewanee, TN, saw the article promising instruction in Polish and Ukrainian decorating techniques. Sue brought her daughter Meredith to the event. "It seemed like the perfect way to spend the day," Sue said, "because Meredith is from Russia, and today is the

anniversary of her adoption."

Across the room, younger children rolled eggs in colored shaving cream to create soft tie-dye designs. Others dipped eggs donated by the Sewanee dining hall in cups of dye, or took turns petting and feeding a large rabbit named Cheerio.

Peter Trenchi brought raw eggs and a stash of colorful silk ties from Goodwill. A team of children and adults wrapped the eggs tightly in scraps of the silk, followed by a cotton wrap secured by a thread. Boiling the silk-bound eggs in vinegar produced a patterned dye transfer.

Dr. Justyna Beinek, the Mellon Globalization Forum Director and Visiting Associate Professor of International and Global Studies and Russian at the University of the South, helped organize and promote the inaugural event and this year's offering. She also offered instruction both years. In 2016, Justyna's table focused on Polish drapanki, which involves delicate patterns scratched from eggs dyed in onion skins, revealing the white of the egg. This year, the Polish table offered egg decorating techniques that utilize fabric, ribbon, and lace.

The Ukrainian batik table was also very popular, with every seat filled for the four hours of the event. Artists bent over the intricate task of scooping black beeswax into a stylus and carefully drawing designs on the egg. The process is somewhat apophatic, working in negatives. Whatever one draws with the thick black wax will appear in a lighter color once the un-waxed areas receive dye.

The full process involves many layers of batik dye in jewel colors ranging from yellow to black, with more wax work between. After the last and darkest layer of dye dries, the artist slowly removes the wax with a candle and a paper towel. To the new batik egg artist, this reveal is often surprising and dramatic.

"This art was taught by the grandmothers," said Dr. Yuliya V. Ladygina, Visiting Assistant Professor of Russian and Humanities at the University, who provided batik instruction. She carefully filled her stylus as she spoke. "It was something you did in remote rural locations,

because dying Easter eggs was against the law." As a child growing up in Kyev,



Ukraine, Yuliya was not fully aware of the religious significance of Easter eggs. Christianity was forbidden and the resurrection was a dangerous topic. Still, the older generation taught the children in secret the art of Ukrainian Easter eggs, the lesson of revelation, and how to mask that which will ultimately be revealed.

Stories like Sue and Meredith's are the reason we hold this event. Yuliya's reflection on learning batik in secret helped all us connect with one another and deepen our own traditions. We don't always think of dying an egg as a subversive act. We may forget the important messages our artistic traditions reveal, or perhaps hide and hold for later.

On April 16, 2017, Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox churches celebrated Easter on the same day, a coincidence that will not happen again until the year 2025. Otey Memorial Parish held its annual community Easter egg hunt here on the grounds between church services. Doz-



ens of children darted across the grass and reached into the bushes to retrieve over 500 eggs – some filled with chocolate or taffy, and some sporting the symbols and colors of another place and time.



*Jeannie Babb*

## FIRE ON THE MOUNTAIN

In April, we had a blast bowling at Tullahoma Lanes! The youth also helped hide Easter eggs for the younger children, and several participated in the Holy Saturday event. A huge thanks to Sophia Carlos, Ava Carlos, and Elizabeth Taylor for helping with set up, and to Christianna Taylor for helping clean St. Mark's Hall afterward.

On **May 7**, the youth will be leading both services and providing coffee hour. Would you prefer to be an oblationer, usher, reader, lead the Psalm, to offer a song or perhaps bear the chalice? Let's be in touch about this! On April 30, we will use the Sunday school hour for planning time as well as thinking together about the spiritual meaning behind these roles.

**July 26-30** Summer mission to Memphis! We will continue to build on the ministry connections we have made with St. Mary's Cathedral, Constance Abbey, Manna House, and Caritas Village. This time we plan to do more volunteer work than touring – but there will be a visit to the Stax Museum of American Soul Music and a visit to the House of Mews! Look for a FaceBook event and registration information in your inbox soon. Adults who want to chaperone should contact Jeannie Babb at [oteyformation@gmail.com](mailto:oteyformation@gmail.com).

*Jeannie Babb,*

*Christian Formation Director and  
Acting Fire on the Mountain Director*

**COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE**

**SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF ABRAHAM**



May 2017 CAC welcomes Elizabeth Koella and Olline Summers who join our board and bring their many gifts and talents to us. We are grateful that they said "yes"! A community garden, quilts, container gardens, after-school tutoring and community meals are just some of the ways that CAC continues to be responsive to those in need on this mountain. These outreach expressions are in addition to the tons of food that we distribute monthly and I think these are outward and visible signs of how we reach those who need our help. Not only do we provide weekly groceries, but CAC can offer assistance with utilities, housing, educational, medical and any other assistance that is requested. We are the go-to place. CAC can do this only because of generous giving and volunteers who joyfully share their gifts with us. It takes all of us to make it work and that is how communities are built and made stronger. I know that it is a privilege to be a part of this amazing ministry and am grateful for the opportunity.

*Betty Carpenter*



Tutoring Program



About 40 Christian, Jewish and Muslim teens will spend Saturday together observing one another's prayers, sharing meals and hiking.

They're coming together for the seventh annual [Peace Summit](#), an interfaith program being held this year at [Otey Memorial Parish Episcopal Church in Se-wanee](#), said [Sabina Mohyuddin](#), an organizer for the event and a volunteer at the Islamic Center of Nash-ville. The group is made up of middle school and high school students largely from Middle Tennessee.

The annual Peace Summit is the brain child of Elizabeth Carpenter, a deacon at Otey Parish, and Mohyuddin, who lives in Tullahoma and spoke about the event in a recent interview with The Tennessean.

**Why should youth participate in interfaith work? Mohyuddin:** We tell kids this is what you believe in, this is what you're supposed to do, and we don't really require them to think about why they believe in something. With interfaith, you suddenly have to explain your faith. It makes you stop and think about why you practice these rituals in your faith. Why do you believe what you believe? I believe the kids are more than capable of really looking deeper into them-selves and trying to understand the world around them. Sometimes you have parents who are uneasy about sending their kids to interfaith. They're like, "Well, I don't want my kid to get confused or con-vert." But it's never about that. I think those who come actually leave stronger in their own faith, but at the same time more respectful of other people.

**What happened in 2010 that prompted the first Peace Summit?** This is the year that you saw all the controversy on the "ground-zero mosque." In Murfreesboro, 2010 is when you started to see the opposition to the building of the Murfreesboro mosque. We found there was a need to get together and have people know each other face to face. We realized part of the problem is there's just a lot of people out there who've never met somebody who had a different faith background. This is the time more than ever with what was going on in the world — there was the fear of the other — that we should get together and have kids come together and really make those changes in soci-ety that they'll carry on through their lives.

**Why is it still relevant today?** Every year we feel like, "Yes, we need it now more than ever." It doesn't seem to be getting much better and then we have the 2016 presidential election. I think a lot of kids realized they cannot be in their own little bubble distracted with pop culture. What's going on in the greater society is coming back on them. You don't have to share the same faith, you don't have to share the same ethnic or racial background to care about issues in the commu-nity, to speak out against what is wrong or to find solu-tions to problems in the community. And that's what we want the kids to see.

*Article reprinted with permission of Duane Gang and Holly Meyer of the Tennessean*



**Sons and Daughters of Abraham**

**A GENEROUS LEGACY**



When **Mary Sears** succumbed to her long battle with cancer last fall, she left a final gift to Otey that will benefit the parish for decades to come. Mary willed Otey the equity in her house on Bud Pattie Road past Monteagle. This inspiring display of generosity called on a great deal of volunteer service to bring her gift to fruition. Vestry member Rachel Suarez represented Otey in dealing with the estate. Rachel was joined by Mickey Suarez, Claudia & Joe Porter, Bob Burns, and Diane Jones in many hours of work to prepare the house for sale. Lynn Stubblefield and Margaret

Donohue agreed for University Realty and Sewanee Realty to co-list the property and to forego the usual commission, with the help of Susan Holmes and Patsy Truslow, respectively. Diane Jones house-sat at a bargain rate. Parish Treasurer Kathy Solomon handled related financial matters. Bob Burns, attorney for the estate, kept the Vestry well-informed during the process of probating the will and selling the property according to terms the Vestry believed constituted good stewardship.



**Rob Lamborn**

**Otey Work Day**

Your Buildings and Grounds Committee invites you to come join us for our first parish workday in a while, at 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on May 6. This is a perfect time for parishioners and families to make new friends as we all work together to beautify our campus. Come share a bit of your time and enjoy fellowship with others.

A hot dog and chips lunch will be provided.

Some of the things we be doing will take some strong backs but there will be other projects that will not...so come one, come all and bring your gloves, wheelbarrows and energy!

A couple of the highlights will be getting the trash pile in the back of Claiborne cleaned out and organized. There will also be cleaning, sanding and repainting the railing in the front of the church.

In case of rain we will reschedule for another day.

Questions? Call Dorothy Gates at [662-392-4092](tel:662-392-4092) or [931-463-2093](tel:931-463-2093).

**DorothyGates, Junior Warden**



**Otey Memorial Parish**

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

**The Rev. Robert C. Lamborn, D. Min.**  
Rector  
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**The Rev. Elizabeth Carpenter, Deacon**  
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**STAFF**

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

**Neil Patterson, Youth Ministry, [fotmotey@gmail.com](mailto:fotmotey@gmail.com) (931) 5985997 (on leave)**

**Jeannie Babb, Christian Formation Director,**  
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**Brandy Garner—Custodian**

**VESTRY**

- Pamela Byerly, '17, U of S & Community**
- Shelley Cammack, '18, Christian Formation**
- Dorothy Gates, '17, Jr. Warden**
- Timothy Graham, '19, Finance**
- Claudia Porter, '19, Parish Life**
- Barbara Prunty, '18, Senior Warden**
- Gary Sturgis, '19, CAC**
- Rachel Suarez, '18, Stewardship**
- Ken Taylor, '17, Pastoral Care**
- Kathy Solomon, Treasurer**
- Susan Holmes, Clerk**

**PRAYER LIST**

**PRAYERS REQUESTED: HAVE ASKED OUR PRAYERS:** Kenny Alexander, Sr., Thad Andras, Caroline Baird, Suzanne Bekurs, Kenneth Bentley, Stephen Carter, Nancy Chase, Bill Dick, Pixie Dozier, Doris Ann Edwards, Sally Franklin, Patrick Irwin, Sylvia James, Mike Jones, Bob Keele, Elinor and Bob Lamborn, Flaget and Larry Nally, Doug Seiters, Virginia Sloan, Sam Williamson, Cal Winton, Liz Workman, George, Karen

**Don't Forget!**  
**The deadline for submissions for the June 2017 issue of Otey Notes is:**  
**3pm Wednesday, May 17**

Email submissions to:  
[oteyparish@gmail.com](mailto:oteyparish@gmail.com)



**ECW TO MEET MAY 1**

All women of the area are invited to attend the last spring meeting of the year of the Episcopal Church Women on May 1st. The luncheon-meeting will take place in St Mark's Hall of Otey Parish House.

Devotion presenter, Carol Sampson, will offer a prayer based on Jesus as our Devine Therapist.

Reservations for the luncheon meeting (\$10), catered by Jennefer Janeway, must be made by 6:00 p.m. Friday, April 28, by calling Connie Gibson at 598-5583 or e-mailing her at [lgibson@sewanee.edu](mailto:lgibson@sewanee.edu). A vegetarian meal is offered if requested at the time the reservation is made,

Business women are encouraged to come and stay as long as they can. The meeting will be over by or before 1:00 P.M.

**VB-US**

*Save the Date: VB-U's will be held the evenings of June 12-15. We will begin with a meal and engage in learning and growing together through a number of activities. Special music by Doug Cameron and friends!*

**MAY**

	2-May	Betty Carpenter	16-May	Bob Keele
	3-May	Donald Rung	16-May	Lisa Rung
	4-May	Reinhard Zachau	18-May	Bill Mauzy
	6-May	Cassie Meyer	19-May	Paul Lambert
	6-May	William Gilchrist	19-May	Randy Peterson
	7-May	Theresa Shackelford	21-May	Linda Lankewicz
	9-May	Pixie Dozier	23-May	Martha Keeble
	8-May	Millie Roberts	24-May	Bill Har[er]
	9-May	Kelly Kietzke	26-May	Richard O'Connor
	9-May	Robert Maynard	26-May	Peggy vB Lines
	10-May	Lee Howick	28-May	April Alvarez
	10-May	Phoebe Osborne	28-May	Connie Gibson
	11-May	Carolyn Bruce	28-May	Carly Westling
	12-May	Mary Smalley	28-May	Aaron Willis
	14-May	Steven Blount	29-May	Lizzie Duncan
14-May	Iris Hopwood-Meyer	30-May	Julie Elrod	
15-May	Hunter Craighill	31-May	Christine Asmussen	
		31-May	Ed Hawkins	