



Otey Notes



From the Rector— Decisions, decisions!

As I write this, my family and I have been unpacking from our move for about a week and a half, and it's been daunting. No matter how carefully you are able to plan, one of the hardest things is making so many decisions. From a floor plan and measurements you can see where you think most of the furniture will go, although there is no substitute for seeing how things actually fit in the new space. Beyond the larger pieces of furniture, it takes plenty of mental energy to make the tedious decisions—where to put which linens for which beds . . . whether to cram all the things from your old entry closet into the new one, and if not, where to put the overflow . . . where the cats' food and water should be . . . and on and on and on!

Recently I was setting up an oak bookcase that I'd made years ago in Indiana. This one is double-wide, with holes all the way up and down each side for shelf pins, so that you can adjust the shelves to fit different sizes of books. The flexibility is great and I'm glad I planned it that way for whatever books I might want to put in it in the future. But I was on mental overload from moving in, so the last thing I wanted was yet another set of decisions to make—how to space the 5 adjustable shelves on each side.



Once I got the moving damage repaired, the bookcase set up and shimmed tight to the wall, I could go no farther without taking that step. With resignation I counted up what I thought was a reasonable number of holes from the bottom of the bookcase and started to insert a pin, but it was kind of difficult, and I just happened to try the hole above.

The pin slid in like it'd been there before—*which it had!* When the second pin on that same level fit just as easily, I was thrilled! All I had to do was find the holes it was easy to insert the pins into, and I could put the shelves back where they'd been before. My immediate problem was solved and the 40 shelf pins went in quickly and without a problem. If the old spacing of the shelves doesn't fit the books I want to put in the bookcase now, I can tend to that later.

I tell this story because aspects of getting started at Otey are like that. There is a limit to how many well-considered decisions I can make at the very beginning, so in some cases I'm sticking with where the shelf pins already fit easily. However, if down the road it turns out that arrangements aren't suiting our current ministries or giving space to grow into the future God is calling us into, together we'll navigate the changes we need.

Indeed, constant love is best expressed in changing ways best adapted to current circumstances. Otey Parish is approaching 150 years of bearing witness to the love of God, responding to changing needs in the parish and community with commitments like the new Claiborne Parish House and St. Mark's Hall. Although I don't yet know what particular shelves will need to be adjusted in our life as a parish, my goal will be to respond most fully to the deep and abiding love of God.

(The Rev.) Rob Lamborn

TAKE NOTE

CHRISTIAN FORMATION SUNDAYS, 10 AM

Lectionary class each Sunday reviews that Sunday's Gospel lesson

- ✓ Sep. 6 Rector's Forum
- ✓ Sep. 13 "Jesus of Nazareth and the Roman Superpower" - Christopher Bryan
- ✓ Sep. 20 "Paul in Ecstasy: The Mystical Roots of Paul's Religion" - Paul Holloway
- ✓ Sep. 27 "Imitatio Christi: Paul and the Way of Early Christian Heroism" - Eric Thurman

SPECIAL HOLY EUCHARIST SERVICES,

- ✓ Sep. 14 Holy Cross Day, 12:15 pm
- ✓ Sep. 21 St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

MONTHLY EVENTS

- ✓ Sep. 16 Otey Notes submissions due, 3pm
- ✓ Sep. 17 Vestry Meeting

FOR FOTM SCHEDULE, SEE PAGE 4

THANK YOU NOTE

Betty,

Thank you and Otey Parish for your hospitality and including our St. Thomas, Cincinnati group as part of your worship on Sunday, July 19th. We had a great week at Mt TOP and a safe journey home. Julie got a chuckle out of your gift of the Book of Common Prayer. I think she does read it and refer to it.

Attached is our group photo in front of your church.

Godspeed,

John Tiffany



St. Thomas, Cincinnati Group

ADULT FORUM BEGINS AUGUST 30

The theme for Adult Forum for the year is "Witnesses to the Faith."

- ◆ August 30: "William Claiborne and the Mission of Otey Parish" (John Bratton and Nathan Stewart)
- ◆ September 6: Rector's Forum (first Sunday of each month)
- ◆ September 13: "Jesus of Nazareth and the Roman Superpower" (Christopher Bryan)
- ◆ September 20: "Paul in Ecstasy: The Mystical Roots of Paul's Religion" (Paul Holloway)
- ◆ September 27: "Imitatio Christi: Paul and the Way of Early Christian Heroism" (Eric Thurman)

EFM BEGINS SEPTEMBER 1

Have you thought about taking EfM but one thing or the other has gotten in the way? Maybe this fall is the time for you! Education for Ministry is an adult Christian education program where a community of 6-12 participants meet once a week for two and one half hours. For four years we study the Scripture, both Old and New Testaments, as well as Church History. The last year you are challenged to read about, pray and reflect upon your own theology. At our gatherings, this Christian community shares their spiritual journeys and learns how to reflect theologically together. It's time-consuming and intense and something you'll never regret doing and sharing.

We have a large group that meets 9:30 am every Tuesday morning at the Beecken Center. Or, if there is enough interest, we can start a new group in the evening. Do you want more information? Ask anyone who has taken EfM or call/email me. 931-636-6733 email joann.barker@gmail.com.

JoAnn Barker

ECW Begins Fall Meetings, October 5



It seems early, but it's time to put on your calendar the first fall meeting of ECW on Monday, Oct. 5. The luncheon meeting will take place at noon in St. Mark's Hall of Otey Claiborne Parish House.

The theme for the year is continuing last year's popular monologues on interesting women of the Bible.

Please check the church bulletins and the Messenger about making reservations for lunch catered by Jennifer Jane-way.

All interested women of the area are cordially invited to join in the spiritual inspiration and fellowship of ECW!

The Sewanee Children's Center thanks Mickey Suarez, Bob Burns, Doug Seiters and Joe Porter for fixing the gaps in the fence on the playground. You have made our playground safe and secure for the first day of school. We so appreciate your support of and care for our children.

FOTM MISSION TRIP, 2015

Description of and Reflections On Monday, July 27, two adult chaperones and 8 youth (ages 16, 15, 14, 13, 13, 12, 12, and 12) left Otey Parish on a Mission trip to Kentucky. 7 hours later, at 3 PM, we arrived at St. Timothy’s Episcopal Outreach Center on Barnes Mountain, a 15 mile, 30 minute drive from Irvine, Kentucky (45 minutes southeast of Lexington). We unpacked our stuff and went into Irvine to shop for groceries for the week. Monday was our first meal cooked together and we had burritos.

Work started the next day, when we started work on a ramp for an elderly couple down the road. We were led in our work by Rev. Bryant Kibler, who runs the outreach center as well as performing various administrative duties for the Diocese of Lexington. He has been at St. Timothy’s since 1980. Rain started around noon, so we spent the afternoon working on finishing a casket (yes, that kind of casket) and prepping a pew to be primed and painted.

The next day we worked through the morning, coming close to finishing the ramp. That afternoon we went to Natural Bridge State Park, where we hiked to the top of the Natural Bridge followed by a swim at the pool at the state park resort hotel.

Thursday morning we finished the work on the ramp (probably 40 feet in length) and headed back to St. Timothy’s where we worked some more on the caskets and pews. That evening Rev. Kibler prepared a meal for members of the community. We played some basketball and 4-square and had a nice meal and visit. That evening, some people came by for one of the caskets. A local woman had died the night before. They said that she had held on until 1 AM, by which time everyone had had time to come say goodbye.

Friday we finished another casket, cut the wood for two more caskets, and finished priming and painting the pews. We had a hamburger cookout followed by s’mores.

We then had a time of reflection where the youth answered the following questions. These are the questions with a few of the answers.

1. Given this definition of "mercy": a kind, sympathetic manner; A willingness to forgive or help, where did you see mercy this week.

I saw mercy this week when everyone was working and having a good time

This week I saw mercy in Mr. Kibler. He gave so much of his time and energy to help people in the area, and he genuinely cared about them and their well being. I also saw mercy in my fellow FOTMers and other people who had volunteered at St. Timothy’s.

2. What is one thing that you will think about differently after this mission trip?

When I’m ” having “big” trouble I will think about less fortunate people and realize how good my life is.

I will think about how difficult it is for people from Appalachia to escape poverty. Even if they can go to college, and if they return to Appalachia, they will not get paid as much as they would in cities.

I will be more sensitive about what I say around people less fortunate than me.

3. Describe something that you learned about Appalachia.

I learned that 4 of the 5 poorest counties in America are in Appalachia.

Early settlers settled in the “hollers”.

One I will think about how difficult it is for people from Appalachia to escape poverty. Even if they can go to college, and if they return to Appalachia, they will not get paid as much as they would in cities.

4. What are 3 things that you can do in Sewanee (or Kotka) to help people that really need help?

In Sewanee I could donate food to shelters, give money in the church for more outreach programs, and sign up for volunteering projects.

I can send stuff I don’t need to poor areas. I can help people more in building things.

5. What kinds of things keep us from helping people who ask for help?

Sometimes inconvenience keeps us from helping people who need help. We don’t have time, or tell ourselves we don’t have time. Another thing that keeps us from helping people is laziness. Also, pride/not wanting to associate ourselves with poor/lower class people can keep us from helping out. Finally, a lack of knowledge about opportunities to help can prevent people from knowing how to help.

People can be busy and caught up in their own things so they always tell themselves “another time”. People may not realize that they can or that they are needed and people may not know how/where to help.

6. Why is it hard to ask for help when we need it?

Depending on what it is, it can be extremely awkward or embarrassing, and sometimes you don’t know how to ask for help or who to ask.

Asking for help can be hard because you can’t admit that you need help.

People can have a lot of pride and be too embarrassed, but they also may not think help is available, so it is important to offer when you can. People can also be afraid to inconvenience someone else.

7. My favorite thing this week was....

My favorite thing about this week was playing foosball with everyone and getting to know them better. Another favorite thing this week was hanging out with my friends.

Things I liked most include: foosball, all the people here, and the natural bridge trip.

My favorite thing this week was hanging out with my friends.

8. My least favorite thing this week was.....

My least favorite thing that happened this week was when everyone was having arguments and were yelling it was really

Cont. Page 4

FOTM CONTINUED

FOTM SCHEDULE

sad to watch and it made me feel sad that we weren't getting along.

My least favorite thing this week was dish duty.

9. Where would you like to go on a mission trip next year? What would you like to do?

I would love to go to a city for our next mission trip. Poverty in cities is different from poverty in rural areas, and it is really eye opening to see that. I would also like to do a little bit more construction, but what I really enjoy is working food pantries, soup kitchens, and other things of that sort. I think those kinds of things really help you to get to know the people and see what their lives are like. I really like being able to go far away for a Mission Trip because you get to see things that are totally different.

Next year I would like to do a mission trip in another country.

Next year for the mission trip I would like to go basically anywhere and build a house.

The week was especially rich because Reverend Kibler held daily sessions where he told us a lot about Appalachia and the surrounding community. He told us about the ministries of St. Timothy's, which include house repair and improvement, building caskets for those who can't afford an expensive casket, and allowing families to use St. Timothy's for wakes/funeral visitations.

Evenings and free time were spent playing foosball, board games, 4-square, or reading or hanging out talking. We started most days with a short devotion.

Saturday morning we cleaned up the Outreach Center, said goodbye to Rev. Kibler and drove back to Sewanee.

Neil Patterson

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Amy Patterson will lead meetings of the High School FOTM group approximately every month

Youth Sunday School

Middle School (MS): Larry Barker will be teaching a 4-week series titled "Saints in Your Backyard" in September.

We hope to recruit more MS Sunday School teachers to teach either short series of lessons or to teach as part of a team intermittently through the year.

High School (HS): Kathy Solomon and Amy Patterson will be teaching the HS Sunday School group. They are looking for other co-teachers.

Neil Patterson

On Sunday, August 16 the Youth Ministry Committee (Neil Patterson, Stephanie Hiers, Andrew Farrer, Pete Trenchi, Reagan Schutz attending) met to plan FOTM events for the fall. Below is a tentative schedule for FOTM for the fall.

First FOTM event: FOTM has been asked to organize games for children during August 30 picnic and job fair. Neil Patterson will bring some things for games in the front yard of Brooks Hall and we will have a couple of youth supervising in the playground. Please let Neil know if you can come.

Our second event this fall will be a canoe trip on Sunday, September 6. This is a joint HS/MS event. We will leave Otey/Brooks Hall at 12:15 and return by 5:30. We will be doing a 2 hour (paddling) trip on the Elk River downstream from Tim's Ford Lake. Bring your own lunch and something to drink/water. An email with attachments has been sent out to current FOTM members and other Otey youth. **If you did not receive this email, but wish to come on this and other FOTM events, please contact Neil Patterson at fotmotey@gmail.com or call at the numbers listed below to have them emailed to you.** You can return the forms to the Youth Director mail box in Brooks Hall, mail them to Neil Patterson, Youth Director, Otey Parish, PO Box 267, Sewanee, TN 37375. You can also scan them and email them to Neil.

Our third FOTM event will be for high school students. We will meet at the Patterson's house (64 John Allin Drive, Sewanee) from 4:00 to 5:30 on Sunday, September 13. We will make pizzas and watch and discuss a movie clip or TV show. Amy Patterson will lead this meeting.

Our fourth FOTM event is a joint HS/MS event. It is a Sons and Daughters of Abraham (SADOA) event in Nashville on Sunday, September 20. Exact times and places are yet to be determined, but we are looking at about a 5-6 hour commitment to travel to/from Nashville and to have fellowship and a meal with students from Muslim and Jewish youth groups. Ask Betty Carpenter or Neil Patterson (or any FOTM youth who has gone to a previous SADOA event) if you want to know more.

Our final FOTM event for September is on the 27th and is food and fun at St. James church. This is open to all FOTM HS and MS members, their families, and FOTM supporters. Time is yet to be determined, but we are currently looking at 12:30 to 3:00PM. Come and eat and have outdoor fun at St. James' great new playground and picnic area.

Neil Patterson

FOTM PICTURES FROM MISSION TRIP



Given this definition of "mercy": a kind, sympathetic manner; A willingness to forgive or help, where did you see mercy this week?

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WELCOME LAMBORN'S

PHOTOS, ADULT VBS



Otey Parish enjoyed the long awaited welcoming of its new Rector this past Sunday (August 23). The church services and reception were overflowing with members of our congregation joyously greeting and meeting Rob, Amy and Caroline Lamborn. Welcome to our Parish family Lamborns!



St. John's EYC from Decatur Alabama spent several days on the mountain working with Deacon Betty Carpenter doing several outreach projects. The youth staffed Vacation Bible School for special needs adults, stocked shelves and packed groceries for CAC and did some clean-up work for the outdoor chapel. The future of the church is very bright indeed!



COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE

September is the month when we hit the ground running. Everyone is rested up from the summer, students are returning to campus with all of their youthful enthusiasm and ideas. It is a wonderful time to get involved with the many facets of CAC. We plan to have Community Meals monthly and will need volunteers. Also there are volunteer opportunities with our community garden project, and several fund raisers which are on the 2015-16 calendar. Pack groceries? Help raise funds? Assist with events? Office volunteer? We have a place waiting. The time you give helps those in our community who live in poverty. It is doing the work that Jesus calls us to do. A gift of time goes a long way to assist those in need in the greater Sewanee Community.

Betty Carpenter, Director

Otey's office will be closed Monday, September 7 in honor of Labor Day. Normal hours will resume on Tuesday, September 8.

**GROUNDS UPDATE**

Landscaping update: we now have enough donations, for which we are very grateful, to continue implementing Margaret Woods' beautiful landscape design. The Allee of American Hornbeams is covered, as is the area between Brooks Hall and the Parish House, which includes three Witch Hazels and one Foster Holly. We will still lack the small triangular area behind the church, the area along the side of Claiborne Parish House as well as the quadrangle. The plan calls for a meandering walkway through the quadrangle that will connect the church to St. Mark's Hall. It will be bordered on one side by the Allee of American Hornbeams on the right and three Foster Hollies on the left. Two Sweetbay Magnolias will be offset in the center on either side of the walk. Eventually, benches will be added around the center of the walkway. The landscape design with an attached list of the designated plants and their cost can be found in the vestibule at the entrance to the Sunday School. Donations have been made as an honorarium, but could also be made as a memorial gift. We will resume planting around the end of October or the first of November. The Otey campus has come a long way over the years and continues to become more and more pleasing to the eye as we move forward. Many thanks to those of you who have helped us realize our dream of beautifully landscaped grounds that enhance the physical structures of the church, parish house, and Brooks Hall.

Betty Barton Blythe

Otey Memorial Parish

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

The Rev. Robert C. Lamborn, D. Min.,
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Neil Patterson, Youth Ministry fotmotey@gmail.com
Kathy Sturgis, Organist musicotey@gmail.com

VESTRY and Assignments

Steve Ford, Senior Warden, '16
Doug Seiters, Junior Warden '15, Buildings & Grounds
Alexander Bruce, '15, Christian Formation
Carol Sampson, '15, Pastoral Care
Larry Barker, '16, CAC
Laura Willis, '16, Stewardship
Pamela Byerly, '17, Administration, Univ. Coord.
Dorothy Gates, '17, Diocesan Liaison
Ken Taylor, '17, Parish Life
Beth Wiley, Treasurer
Ann Aitken, Clerk

PRAYER LIST

Pray for the sick and suffering and those who have asked our prayers: Gay Alvarez, Elvie Biddle, Jonathan Burnett, Robby Capel, Stuart Cook, Jackie Faircloth, Linda Hutton, Patrick Irwin, Bob Keele, Howell Lynch, Kathleen O' Connor, Mary Sears, Chris Singer, Scott Sloan, Clifford Tomes, Reid Ward, and Suzanne.

We pray for those serving in our armed forces and for their families.

We pray for Christians oppressed and persecuted for their faith, and for those who minister to them.

Don't Forget!

The deadline for submissions for the October 2015 issue of Otey Notes is:

3pm Wednesday, September 16

Email submissions to:
oteyparish@gmail.com

Please include "Otey Notes" in the subject.

PARISH LIFE

COFFEE HOUR

Weekly Coffee Hour is offered every Sunday following the 11am service in St. Mark's Hall. Please join us for fellowship, refreshments, and fun. Without our wonderful volunteer hosts this would not be possible. Please sign up to host a simple coffee hour by contacting Julie Elrod at julieelrod30@gmail.com.



September



1-Sep	Sophia Patterson	20-Sep	Dave Spaulding
1-Sep	Patchett Wilson	23-Sep	Ron Goodman
4-Sep	Ann Millar	23-Sep	Bruce Baird
5-Sep	Haynes Roberts	23-Sep	Ken Taylor
6-Sep	Sandy Baird	25-Sep	Alison Asmussen
7-Sep	Jane Mauzy	25-Sep	Jeff Heitzenrater
8-Sep	John Benson	25-Sep	Phoebe Bates
8-Sep	Allison Paterson	27-Sep	Larry Barker
8-Sep	Sally Hubbard	27-Sep	Lynn Stubblefield
8-Sep	Peggy Peterson	27-Sep	Laurence Alvarez
8-Sep	Mary Ming Lynch	27-Sep	Neil Patterson
9-Sep	Michael Asmussen	27-Sep	Kate Wile
10-Sep	Reid Ward	28-Sep	Haynes Burnett
12-Sep	Mary Davis	30-Sep	Grace Harvey
12-Sep	Joshua Alvarez	30-Sep	Abi Adamson
14-Sep	Matthew Baird	30-Sep	Judah Thomas
15-Sep	Diane Jones	30-Sep	Solie Thomas
16-Sep	J.C. Allen		