

THE COMMUNICATOR

NEW ASSOCIATE RECTOR WILL JOIN US IN OCTOBER

The Reverend Jonathan Chesney, Holy Communion's new associate rector, will arrive in October as both a newlywed and a member of the clergy with four times the required credentials in clinical pastoral care training.

This summer, he's wrapping a year of intense training as a resident at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital in Chicago, where he is the chaplain for the emergency room and orthopedic care.

When he arrives in Memphis, Chesney, 35, will be one of tiny percent of Episcopal priests with enough background in clinical pastoral education to pursue board certification, which requires four units of training.

Ordination usually requires one.

"Jonathan has a sweetness and depth of spirit that put me instantly at ease," said Father Sandy. "He gave me the confidence he would serve well at Holy Communion. His exceptional training in pastoral care brings the resources we need to take our large and tenured pastoral care ministry to the next level."

The volunteer-driven program at CHC is at least 15 years old and was revamped under the Reverend Benjamin Badgett.

"Jonathan's training will bring extensive resources as we keep the best of what we have and add new components," Sandy said.

Chesney says in-depth training in pastoral care "has radically changed" the trajectory of his ability to be a pastor, noting that he noticed the power of skilled pastoral care while he was associate rector under the Reverend Geoffrey Evans at Holy Trinity in Auburn, Alabama. (Evans and Father Sandy were seminary classmates.)

"I could see him building relationships and his initiative

in making connections. It's not rocket science, but it is time spent and intention. Through it, I could see how much Holy Trinity as a parish grew in strength and relationships," Chesney said.

"The connections become like a spiderweb that crisscrosses the whole church. Strong pastoral care becomes the glue that helps bind the church together and helps it stick together in the midst of challenges,"

Chesney said. "The more we know each other, we more we are able to share experiences of faith and see it through someone else's eyes."

"It can be hard to maintain a sense of God's love for us in dark times. The more relationships there are, while it doesn't make it easier, it spreads the weight out a little."

As a hospital chaplain resident, his example is two patients with identical diagnoses.

"The one that has a supportive family, friends - church or community - it's night and day in their ability to cope."

Chesney left Auburn a year ago to pursue three additional units of clinical pastoral care education at Elmhurst.

He will fill the associate rector's opening left when Benjamin Badgett and his family left in late January.

Chesney will spend half of his time on pastoral care, including heading the teams of volunteers who do much of the work. The rest of workweek will be equally

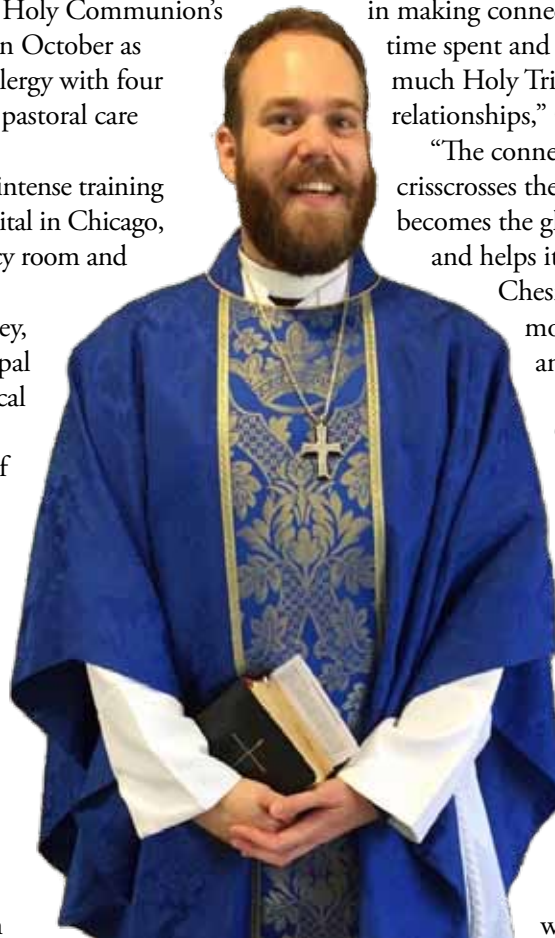
divided between preaching, leading liturgy and being the clergy connection to the youth ministry team.

He was born in Virginia and lived in several places on the East Coast before his family moved to Birmingham, Alabama, when he was in middle school.

"It is the place that feels like home," Chesney said.

Chesney graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary in

(Jonathan Chesney continued on page 11)



Submitted photo

This summer, the Reverend Jonathan Chesney is finishing a yearlong study in pastoral care education at Elmhurst Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

VESTRY ADVANCES PLANS FOR NAVE

After nearly three years and a variety of discussions, the Vestry has directed architect Scott Fleming to create schematic design plans for large-scale improvements to the nave, starting with replacing the decades-old overhead heating and cooling system and upgrading the ceiling, lighting, floor, narthex and accessibility to the chancel for people with mobility issues.

“We have a window of opportunity coming up after we move back into Blaisdell and Greenwood but before the construction crews leave campus,” said Father Sandy. “There will never be a more efficient time to do work than when we already have the contractors on site, and are we already used to the inconvenience of construction.”

In May, the Vestry prioritized six Nave projects and voted to order schematic designs for the first three, which also include adding natural light in the narthex and upgrading the restrooms near the front door, among other changes. Priorities No. 4-6 will be pursued if funds become available.

Priority No. 4 is the issue that members of the Vestry and the Nave Design Committee

have the most difference of opinion. The recommendation by worship space designer Terry Byrd Eason calls for redesigning the space by moving the altar closer to the people and taking the communion rail to the floor. The Vestry has asked Fleming to continue work

on possibilities for the chancel.

“Schematic design requires much more work on the part of architect and is therefore more expensive to do than design concept,” said Senior Warden John Lewis. “Given that there was not agreement on all parts of the project, the Vestry felt that we should limit the schematic design work to only those areas where there was strong consensus.”

Improving the nave has been the subject of many formal conversations, both with the Vestry and congregation, for years. After extensive work with the Nave Design Committee, led by Ann Duncan, the Vestry asked Eason to design a project to address the needs. The congregation



Photo by Cindy McMillion

This photo shows the beauty of the nave during the Easter Vigil worship. The Vestry has asked architect Scott Fleming to design plans for the first three priorities.

Priorities for nave renovation, in order of importance:

1. HVAC
2. Floor and ceiling (acoustics, lighting, pews and handicapped accessibility to chancel)
3. Narthex and bathrooms
4. Chancel redesign
5. Choir loft expansion and organ enhancement
6. Quilling Chapel and glass dividing wall

commented in listening sessions last spring.

Eason updated the plan to reflect major themes in the feedback. The revised plan was presented to the Vestry last December.

Since then, the Vestry has had three full and frank discussions.

“We recognize the importance to all parishioners of any changes to the space in which we worship. Our decision process has been thoughtful, thorough, open and respectful,” said Mike Murphy, junior warden. “The opportunity has been given and everyone has been encouraged to express fully their thoughts and feelings regarding the proposed changes to the nave.”

Much of the work is driven by the need to improve acoustics and replace an HVAC system which, under the current configuration, is difficult to maintain and frequently fails.

“It will help with maintenance but also reduce unwanted sound in the worship space,” Sandy said. “It is noticed anytime we trying to have a moment of silence.”

This fall, the Vestry will begin discussing financial opportunities to support the work. The remaining projects will be designed and estimated when the Vestry knows it has the

(Nave continued on page 10)

MEMORIES INDELIBLE IN BLAISDELL, GREENWOOD

For more than three generations, Blaisdell and Greenwood have been not so much buildings as places of passage for the people of Holy Communion.

When the congregation walked through the halls and offices in mid-May, stripped of every bit of furniture, it was the memories that called out. Based on the notes jotted in the walls of what had been offices, classrooms and small nooks quiet enough for job interviews, these buildings — among the earliest pieces of Church of the Holy Communion's presence — tell the story both of the congregation's dreams and its role in the larger community.

Blaisdell was dedicated in the spring of 1953. By fall, St. Mary's Episcopal School had transferred to the corner and was holding classes in the rooms that doubled on Sundays as Sunday school rooms.

Greenwood, named for the congregation's first rector, Eric Greenwood, was dedicated in 1958.

Hundreds of children received their spiritual footing in Blaisdell and Greenwood, not to mention the hundreds of others through the years who started or finished school at St. Mary's in rooms that took on new memories with each transformation.

Katharine Phillips, longtime head of school at St. Mary's, hired Carmine Vaughan to teach second grade in the office that most recently belonged to Children's Minister Alice Hollis.

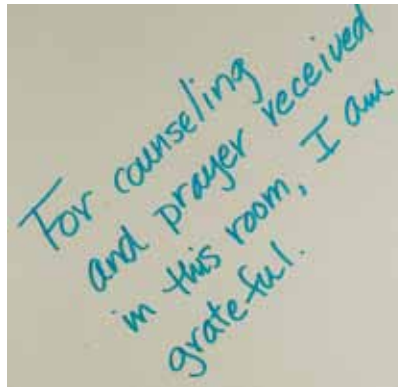
"My Jean was going into second grade," Vaughan remembers. "Irene McDonnell, Bickie and Mike's daughter, was in my first class. Jean was in the classroom next door, close enough that I could hear her voice during the day."

Vaughan ended up teaching 22 years at St. Mary's, moving back and forth over the years



Photos by Cindy McMillion

Mary Henry Thompson leaves a tribute to Camp Kanuga in North Carolina where she grew up. Parishioners left messages on the walls throughout Blaisdell and Greenwood.



"Walking through those buildings as we said goodbye gave me great comfort."

—CARMINE VAUGHAN

between Moss Hall on the lower school campus and Greenwood and Blaisdell, where it's hard to find a room that she didn't occupy.

"Walking through those buildings as we said goodbye gave me great comfort," Vaughan says. That's where I grew as a person and a teacher.

"I was with Reynolds Cheney. I saw him every day. This was my life," she says, describing a seamless church and work community that shaped her more than any other single force.

"I got to be in my church and go to chapel every day. To us and to me, it was

Camelot," Vaughan said.

Neel Gammill remembered milestones in his children's lives as he walked through the emptied wings.

"These buildings have housed many activities over the 30 years we have been members. They range from my first leadership responsibilities at CHC as a part of a group then known as the Kingsmen.

"We handed our toddler, Kneeland, over the half-door in the nursery. We saw Emma's joy in being part of the Little Lambs group of the Catechesis program. Kay and I remember the children's first rehearsals for the children's choir and the fun both had in the youth room during EYC," Gammill said.

The Reverend Robin Teasley pursued the priesthood partly due to the experiences she had as a member of Holy Communion. She saw the farewell posts on the church's social media platforms and posted her own memories:

"And from an Episcopal priest in Virginia — my time in confirmation class in Blaisdell with Reynolds Cheney and teaching the 5-year-olds upstairs, coordinating the nursery and attending Lenten services and potlucks. So many great memories in that blessed space!"

Teasley is rector at Grace Episcopal Church in Petersburg, Virginia.



Photos by Cindy McMillion

Members of the youth leadership team are: Nikolai Brown, David and Kendall Visinsky, Zeke Smith, Jean Arehart and Matthew Arehart

MATTHEW LEAVES US WITH WARM HEART

As a teenager, Matthew Arehart felt the redeeming power of Holy Communion’s youth program. He intuitively understood its strength when he realized the most meaningful interactions he had with his peer group happened at church.

A few years later, when he was in charge, he built on what he knew all middle and high school students need: A place to fit in, no matter how odd they believe they are.

As he prepares to leave the program he has run for more than six years to be the full-time director of camps and event manager at St. Columbia Conference and Retreat Center, he’s grateful and reflective.

“One thing that I loved about being a part of the youth program growing up was knowing that I had a loving community that accepted me for who I was,” Arehart said. “I was not one of the cool kids at school and I didn’t really fit into any of the standard cliques. I was an AP art student who played soccer, was on the bowling team and was a member of the German Club. I did these things at school, but I did not fit in with those groups.

“But when I went to church, I felt right at home. I was able to relax and be me. But at the same time, I was always challenged, pushed to think about things differently, have conversations that were uncomfortable — but important —

and practice being inclusive.

“Those were the same exact things that I wanted to bring to CHC. I wanted every person to know that this church was a safe place where they did not have to worry about fitting into a certain stereotype. They could have the conversations here that it may not be so easy to have at school.

I wanted to challenge them too, but you can’t challenge anyone who doesn’t feel safe,” Arehart said.

“I felt as if I spent most of my high school years trying to figure out things about myself and searching for who I was and what social group to fit in with, when the real group I belonged to was the one at church. And that group was a mix of all types. I didn’t have to hang out with the art kids or the soccer kids only, the church group had all of it.”

“He also helped me learn how to be spiritual when I’m not in church. When I’m on my own.”

—JOHN MONAGHAN, 14

The kids Arehart has touched, many of them now adults, say his consistency and faithfulness changed their lives.

John Monaghan, 14, now active in youth events, didn't participate until this year, when his confirmation was on the horizon.

"Matthew's been a form of a friend to me," John said. "He's very trustworthy. You can talk to him about anything. He will always cheer you up and make the mood of the group better."

Beyond that, John says Matthew is the person who taught him to pray.

"He also helped me learn how to be spiritual when I'm not in church. When I'm on my own."

He expects those skills will be with him the rest of his life.

Amelia Dowling, a rising freshman, says similar things, including that Arehart is someone "who listens and actually cares."

But she's experienced him as reassuring presence, including last summer when she had to return to a place that caused her emotional pain.

"He stayed with me, and he reassured me that this time it would be different," she says.

Besides being personally comforting, Arehart gave her a pattern for facing frightening things. She won't forget it.

Neeley Mathes, 15, remembers Arehart was the person who introduced her to members of the youth group when she knew no one.

"It made me want to come back," she says. "That gesture made the difference for me."

She also says the Wednesday night events Matthew orchestrated "helps me get through the week. It's something to look forward to."

Kendall Visinsky says it's natural to think of Arehart's impact on kids. The circle, she said, is much larger.

"Matthew has brought families to church because their kids wanted to be part of what he put together. People like to be around him. He's the Pied Piper."

And he was serious about building a place of diverse thought in the youth rooms, says Visinsky, who Matthew recruited to teach middle school formation with her husband, David.

"He's meticulous about mixing up the groups so the youth can cultivate new friends and perspectives."

For instance, on Arehart-led pilgrimages, every kid has a different roommate every night.

"This is part of the journey of the pilgrimage," she said.

CHC hired Arehart in the spring of 2011 as a youth department intern. He taught middle school formation, chaperoned trips and was a "presence" at youth events. In March 2012, he was promoted to part-time interim youth director. A few months later, he was named full-time youth minister.

Since then, he has rewritten the Sunday formation curriculum for middle and senior high, basing it and the youth trips on his observation that kids do better when they learn the faith of their ancestors chronologically, (Old Testament, then the New Testament) and experience outreach first in their hometown before branching out to consider need in the larger world.

He has taken students on three international pilgrimages. He's led five rafting trips and nearly an equal number of diocesan ski trips after he and other youth leaders revived the trip in 2013. He's a valuable adult to teens, their parents and extended families. And to his colleagues on the church staff, he's an indispensable, can-do guy with a plan, a hammer, saw and mythic skills.

"The first time Matthew was ever described to me, it was as that guy that builds things," said Father

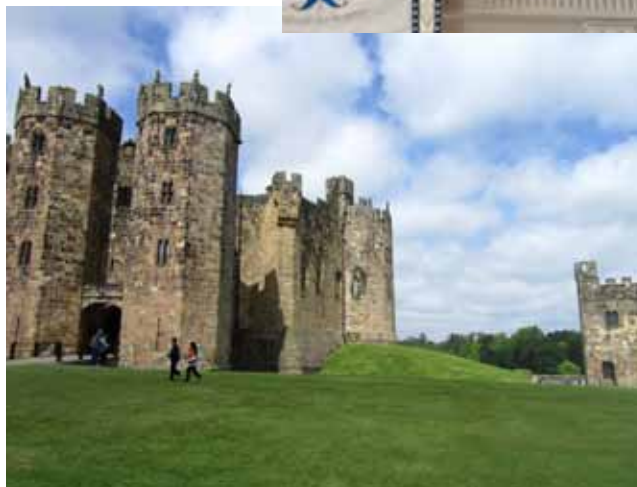
Sandy. "If you need a ten-foot-tall board-game spinner or a life-size foosball set, Matthew is your guy.

"His creativity knows no bounds. It's also a beautiful thing to watch him be in relationship with the youth. He leaves with all my blessing and encouragement. This is a wonderful opportunity for him. I am proud of him for pursuing it."

The average youth minister stays with a congregation about two years. Arehart is by far the most senior youth minister in the Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee and among the most senior in the state.

"It means that I have spent a lot of time helping new youth ministers," Arehart said. "In the diocese, I think I have worked with 20 people who have come and gone since I started."

Charlie Evans, longtime member of the youth group, delivered the sermon on Youth Recognition Sunday this spring. Below, the castles symbolize the youth pilgrimage to England and Scotland in 2016.



Submitted photo

(Matthew Arehart continued on page 11)

SUMMERTIME AT CHC

SUNDAY MORNING RECTOR'S FORUM

The Sacraments are outward and visible signs of inward and spiritual grace, given by Christ as sure and certain means by which we receive that grace. Sacraments sustain our present hope and anticipate its future fulfillment.



June 3 – Holy Eucharist

Holy Eucharist is the sacrament commanded by Christ for the

continual remembrance of his life, death, and resurrection, until his coming again.



June 10 – Holy Baptism

Holy Baptism is the sacrament by which God adopts us as his children and makes us members of Christ's body, the church, and inheritors of the kingdom of God.



June 17 – Confirmation

Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop.

June 24 – Marriage

In Holy Matrimony two people enter into a life-long union, make their vows before God and the church, and receive grace and blessing to help fulfill them.

July 1 – No Class

July 8 – Ordination

In Ordination, God gives authority and the grace of the Holy Spirit to those being made bishops, priests and deacons.



July 15 – Anointing the Sick (or Unction)

Unction is the rite of anointing the sick with oil — or the laying on of hands — for the healing of spirit, mind and body.

July 22 – Confession

Reconciliation of a penitent — or penance — is the rite in which those who repent of their sins may confess them to God in the presence of a priest and receive the assurance of pardon.

July 29 – Burial

In Burial, we give thanks to God for the life of someone who has died and remind ourselves of the promise of resurrection offered in Jesus Christ.



Dessert and a Novel Conversation: St. Peter Iscariot

June 6 and 13 - 6:30 p.m.
at *Novel in Laurelwood*

Why do Christians despise Judas and love Peter? Both betray Jesus when it counts. Over dessert, Father Sandy will explore the backgrounds of two disciples whose fortunes rise and fall, inviting all of us to think again about each.



... & For Children

Games of Grace and Glory is an outdoor series of biblically themed games patterned after childhood favorites. Kids will meet by the reception door and go to the field together. On rainy days, meet in Room 308.

Come in play clothes.

OUTREACH Opportunities This Summer!

June 3-8

Houston Mission Trip for all ages. Working with Harvey recovery. Contact marehart@holychurch.org

June 12

Cooking and serving lunch for campers and counselors at Camp Able. Contact bib72015@gmail.com

June 3, July 1, August 5

More Than A Meal Cook, serve meal for homeless at Grace-St. Luke's. Contact bib72015@gmail.com

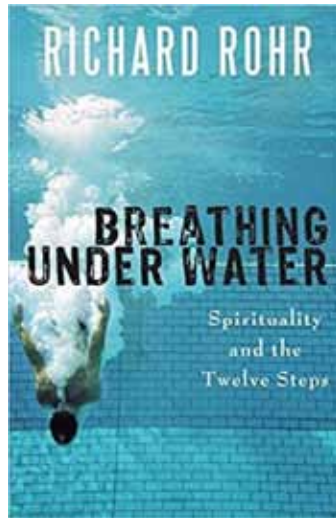
Summer Book Study

Breathing Underwater

by Richard Rohr

The Diocesan Recovery Commission invites you to study Richard Rohr's book, *Breathing Underwater, Spirituality and the Twelve Steps* on June 25, July 23 and August 27, from 6-7:30 at Church of the Holy Communion. The book is a practical guide for bringing 12-step spirituality to the world and strives to help us further connect in a deeper relationship with God.

Contact Shannon Tucker at shannon.tucker@gmail.com or 281-0785, or Laura White at psychle768@gmail.com or 210-1833.



GROUPS & GUILDS THIS SUMMER

All Saints' Guild
Second Tuesday
10:30 a.m., Carrick Room

Brotherhood of St. Andrew
Second and fourth Saturday
8 a.m., Chapel

Centering Prayer
First Saturday
9 a.m., Chapel

Knitting Ministry
Third Tuesday
11 a.m., 4569 Sequoia Rd.

Men's Bible Study
Friday
7 a.m., Room 214

More Than a Meal
First Sunday
after 10:30 service at
Grace-St. Luke's

Words³
(Words, Cubed)
Third Wednesday
5:00 p.m., 115 Grove Park Lane

Words³

Words³ writers are copying

another's style for the June meeting. Here's your chance to copy Hemingway or Capote! All are welcome, including listeners. | June 20 at 5 p.m., 115 Grove Park Lane. Free snacks!



2018 FALL SPORTS REGISTRATION

Register today for Fall Soccer or Co-Ed Kickball! Teams may fill up quickly before the registration deadline, so please sign up as soon as you can.

In soccer we have teams for kinds under 5 to 12, separate divisions for boys and girls. Our co-ed kickball has divisions for middle and high school. Online registration is available at holychommunion.org.

If you can coach, please volunteer on the registration form.



Registration deadline is August 3.

Exercise Schedule at Holy Communion

Beginner's Gentle Yoga	Intermediate Yoga	Tai Chi	Zumba
Mondays and Wednesdays 4:15-5:15 p.m. Room 308	Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:15-5:15 p.m. Room 308	Mondays and Wednesdays 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Room 308	Mondays 6:15-7:15 p.m. Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 p.m. Saturdays 9:30-10:30 a.m.

THANK YOU

Big shout-out to Designer Delivery Solutions, the specialty moving company that moved expensive things for us and didn't charge.

SEMINARY INTERN MARGIE BAKER BACK IN MEMPHIS FOR JUNE, JULY

By Margie Baker

Knowledge is knowing that a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting a tomato in a fruit salad. Many of us, myself included, pile up knowledge like so much treasure in a dragon's lair, collecting facts and numbers, names and dates. So much knowledge, but where is the wisdom?

This is no less true on a seminary campus. In two years at Virginia Theological Seminary, I have gained so much knowledge. I can read Paul's letters in the original Greek. I can (rather slowly) read Hebrew. I have learned about church history and how the Bible in its current form was compiled. I can trace the development of baptism from biblical sources to our current Prayer Book. So much knowledge. Wisdom sneaks in as well, at the margins and in the connections between class and life. I need both wisdom and knowledge for a life of ordained ministry.

The apostle Paul describes Jesus as "wisdom from God — that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption" (1



Photo by Cindy McMillion

Cor 1:30 NIV). For a Christian, wisdom comes from the lived experience of following Christ, of living out our baptismal promises to share the Good News, to seek and serve Christ in all persons, and to strive for justice and peace. As a future priest, I need to live into this path of wisdom and be able to guide others along the way.

I have been blessed with the opportunity to serve at Church of the Holy Communion this summer, and above all I hope to gain wisdom. I seek the wisdom that comes from living out my vocation in a church community. I seek the wisdom that comes from applying knowledge I have gained in seminary to the specifics of worship, teaching and pastoral care.

Wisdom is hard-earned, as often the result of failure as of success. The clergy and staff will be my teachers, as will the entire community. Each of you has wisdom to share that comes out of your experience of following and serving Christ. I look forward to learning from you.



Photos by Jane Roberts

Here we go!

The day after Memorial Day, earth-moving crews tore up the front driveway and laid a new gas line between the school and the church.





Photo by Cindy McMillion

Kirsti Carroll, fourth from left, is moving to Arkansas this summer, leaving a class at CHC that is one of the closest she's ever taught. The new teacher is Kat Sage, lying in front, a longtime member of the class.

YOGA TEACHER BUILT CORE OF STRENGTH, LOVE

Outreach is a little like people in that it represents all personalities and styles. And though Kirsti Carroll probably doesn't see herself as a spiritual leader, what has happened in her yoga class over the last 12 years has been a soulful awakening for her students.

Carroll is leaving Memphis in mid-June, ending a chapter in the church's yoga practice.

"This is the class I am most sad about leaving," Carroll said as the class rolled up their mats and late May rain peppered the windows of Cheney Parish Hall. "They were my first job. They are so sweet. It's like we grew together."

Carroll, who teaches 11 other yoga classes in Memphis, is moving to Hot Springs, Arkansas, part of her decision to intentionally slow down, she says.

A significant part of the mindfulness of yoga, she says, is achieved through the cohesiveness of group.

"I really feel like we have that here. They're friends," said Carroll, who recruited her replacement, Kat Sage, a member of the class.

Dianne Lyons has been taking Carroll's class since nearly the beginning,

"Kirsti is passionate about what she does. And she has compassion for the students she teaches. If someone has an issue or an injury, she modifies the poses or gives alternatives so everyone can participate," Lyons said.

"She gives lots of individual attention. She's a kind and gentle person."

Carroll started with one class at CHC.

"We added the gentle yoga later so we could reach others," she said.

Ruth Ellen McQuiston says yoga with Kirsti was how she adjusted to being an empty-nester when her youngest left for college.

"It has been a huge source of support of and a way to find inner peace with the events that come with life – the death of both of my parents, job changes and family issues. Kirsti does wonderful readings as part of class. She is a wonderful yoga teacher, but also is a best friend and a counselor, all in one."

At Holy Communion, Carroll is able to offer the class for less than many studios.

"It allows me to make the class available for \$7 for the drop-in students. There's a studio two blocks away that charges \$20. To me, that is not affordable," Carroll said.

"I know there are people in this class that could not afford that," she says.

Julie Fike, director of recreation and wellness, intentionally keeps the prices low.

"Yoga used to cost more. We dropped the price so we could offer the class to more people. It's part of our outreach."

The yoga room, Room 308, is Carroll's favorite teaching space.

"I've taught in one, two, three studios. I love this place. The staff is so good. Jamie's awesome. He takes such good care of us. And so does Jim on Wednesdays.

"The room is always clean. It has just the right padding on the knees. The staff turn the temperature down if we need it," Carroll says.

"I'm going to miss this place and group."

"She is a wonderful yoga teacher, but also is a best friend and a counselor, all in one."

—Ruth Ellen McQuiston



Photo by Cara Modisett

Carpeting or other floor finishes are covered under the Vestry's Priority No. 2 for the nave.

money to proceed.

The Vestry has contracted CCS Fundraising, the same firm the coordinated the \$7 million capital campaign for the renovation and the church's portion of the new gym, to help raise money for the nave improvements.

"It will not be another full campaign but a coordinated opportunity for those who want to make an additional gift to support the nave," Sandy said.

"We also need to ensure strong support for our annual stewardship campaign, which will be going on at the same time."

Sandy and Lewis gave the Vestry the option of delaying the chancel discussion until the Vestry knew what funds would be available.

"The Vestry chose instead to face

the issue head-on and to continue this important conversation in a very thoughtful and logical way," Lewis said.

"They made the choice to continue the conversation and to work with the architect to find a solution that everyone can agree on and that we can reasonably pay for should we have the funding to do so," he said.

Fleming will lead the conversations about the chancel with the Vestry this summer.

"The Vestry could have delayed conversations about the chancel until we had the money," Sandy said.

"I am very proud of them. It would have been easier to just back off. The Vestry is committed to doing the work and the members are not afraid to have hard conversations with each other. These are good people."

TEAM READ CELEBRATES BIG YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT

By Charlton Lyons

Throughout the school year, a dedicated group of Holy Communion volunteers provides weekly literacy coaching to second-graders at Emmanuel Center, an inner-city after-school facility. CHC volunteers use the Team Read program to help the children become proficient readers by the end of the year, a determinant of later academic success.

In May, the Emmanuel Center Team Read coaches held a terrific end of year celebration for their Team Read class. Their children beamed as their names were called to receive their Certificate of Accomplishment. Really big smiles followed when they received a Grizzlies lunchbox full of Grizzlies swag (compliments of the Grizzlies and Carly Lyons), sidewalk chalk (provided by Carol Paterson) and a special book for summer reading (provided by Emily Woodside). After the ceremony, coaches and students alike enjoyed a pizza party.



Photo by Carol Paterson

Pat Pate and Charlton Lyons with Jayden Hardin at the year-end party at Emmanuel Center.

Then the children went to work creating their own Thank You cards for the coaches and the Grizzlies. It was a wonderful occasion and the children felt so special, as did the coaches.

Over the years, the Reverend Colenzo Hubbard has watched the camaraderie between the Holy Communion mentors and the students grow.

"The relationship they are building with children creates a greater level of trust. Whenever that happens, not only

do you see friendships develop but it encourages the child to increase their academic performance," he said.

"Overall, 79 percent of the children in our reading program in the last year increased in reading proficiency.

"The Holy Communion volunteers are a welcome group of people. They are part of us now. They are so caring and committed to what they are doing, we see them as part of the Emmanuel team," he said.

Because studies show that reading skills regress without intentional efforts to involve children with books in the summer, Team Read will coach at Emmanuel Center during its Camp Hope summer program. Reading sessions will be on Mondays through Wednesdays, 12:30 to 2 p.m., June 11 to July 12.

We have openings for new coaches. If you like making a real difference in the life of a child, email Charlton Lyons at clyons3rd@hotmail.com for details of this important ministry.

Matthew Arehart *cont'd from page 5*

In his new job, he will oversee Mud Camp, Camp Able and all events and retreats at the retreat center, which includes supervising hospitality, food service and housekeeping staff.

The congregation will say goodbye in a reception at the church on Sunday, June 10.

For Arehart, one of the most rewarding parts of his time is working with young adults he remembers as teenagers or younger.

“Words cannot describe how it feels when you taught someone Sunday school when they were in sixth grade and now you work side by side with them putting on programs for sixth-graders.”

“Matthew’s influential presence in my life has helped shape the man I am today,” said Adam Cruthirds, who was under the care of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital most of his junior and senior years in high school. He is heading to his junior year at Rhodes College this fall and is studying Spanish in Ecuador this summer.

“He has been with there through the best times and worst times with open arms. It is hard to put into words just how selfless and caring he is, and I want to thank him for simply everything.”

Jim House and Cruthirds were both sixth-graders when Arehart arrived.

“It was always interesting to walk through the door of his office because you never knew what you were going to be



Matthew’s classes with youth often looked like this with kids gathered in a circle around him on Sunday mornings, evenings and Wednesday nights.

Photos by Cindy McMillion

doing that day,” said House, adding that Arehart was one of the men on which he tried to pattern himself.

“He changed the youth program at Holy Communion for the better in so many ways.”

Blair Evans is chairperson of the group that is advising Hester in the search for Matthew’s successor.

“We have some excellent candidates. The committee is working to hire the most qualified person who we believe will be the best fit with our youth. We welcome the parish’s input and prayer as we work through this important process.”

Members of the committee are Kendall Visinsky, Cliff Sulcer and Steven Quach. Youth members are Becket Monaghan, Davis McGhee and Libby Prince.



Photo by Tess McGhee

Jonathan Chesney *cont'd from page 1*

2014. He came to ministry through youth ministry. He served four years as head of youth ministries at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Montgomery, Alabama.

He earned his undergraduate degree at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

He and Alison Marie Papp will marry this fall and move to Memphis soon after.

Papp’s background is in secondary education, social services and environmental/agricultural education. In Alabama, she directed the Farm School at Camp McDowell, promoting agriculture and sustainable food practices.



Jonathan and Alison Papp will be married this fall and then will move to Memphis.

Submitted photo

THE COMMUNICATOR



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WORSHIP TIMES

Sundays: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m.

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The Reverend Hester Mathes, *Senior Associate Rector*

The Reverend Dr. Randy McCloy, *Deacon*

Margie Baker, *Seminarian Intern*

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Sexton

Sexton

Memorials & Honoraria

Received April 16, 2018 – May 15, 2018

In celebration of and

thanksgiving for

the marriage of

Jessica Johnson and the

Reverend Sandy Webb

Peggy Veaser

In memory of

Jackson Roberts

Kelly & Sharon Truitt

Happening for the Episcopal

Diocese of West TN

Ainslie Pryor Todd

Harris & Virginia White

Lucia Outlan

Betsy & Ed Kelly

Jim & Beth Breazeale

In honor of Ruth Dando

for her gift of Palm Crosses

Immanuel Episcopal Church

LaGrange, Tennessee

In memory of

Kay Palmer Williamson

To the Children's Ministry

James C. Oliphant

Bob & Evelyn Coleman Family

Jane & Robert Williamson

To Friends of Music

Children's Choir

Jeanie & Jimmy Hill

Bob & Evelyn Coleman Family

Jane & Robert Williamson

Vivian Williamson Gerlach

In memory of Frank Jones

Julie & George Ellis

In honor of

Jeanne Sutherland

Peggy Veaser

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