



# THE COMMUNICATOR

## CHILD OF HOLY COMMUNION, LEADING CELEBRATION SUNDAY

*Great-grandfather, grandfather and father were all bishops*

All through harvest season in the Mississippi Delta, the Reverend Peter Gray has been pondering the extremes between the Pharisee, who is technically correct in how much he gives, and the poor tax collector so mired in guilt, he cannot even raise his eyes to the heavens.

“One comes out looking good and the other comes out looking bad,” said Gray, from Episcopal Church of the Nativity in Greenwood and a child of Holy Communion. “The person who comes out looking bad makes it known that he gives a tenth of his income. That gives us an opportunity to dig into what that means for us, for our own growth and sense of stewardship.”

The missing piece, is tucked away in the giver’s heart. The Pharisee has no “conversion of soul,” Gray says, “no wish to look inside and grow.”

Gray will deliver the sermon on Celebration Sunday (October 23), the culmination of stewardship season and the day of our Festive Stewardship Luncheon.



Peter Gray

“I do think that any time we have guest preacher in a church, it offers the congregation an opportunity to come into a text in a hopefully new and different way,” Gray said. “I’ve heard old preachers say that preachers have one sermon in them, and in one way or another, we keep on going back to it.”

Gray will preach at all three services, and began his work with the stewardship committee in September when he came to study the gospel lesson from Luke 18.

“We all tried to take a look at what part of that resonated with us,” said Emily Woodside, senior warden. “We came up the phrases that hit home with us. It was interesting that everyone came at that with a different nugget for themselves.”

Gray is weaving the tidbits into his sermon, including the repentance of the sinner - a tax collector - and the lack of conversion in the rich man - a Pharisee.

*(story continued on page 2)*

## FAITH OF OUR FATHERS (AND MOTHERS!) BLESSES CONGREGATION

*Two centenarians leave indelible mark*

Every congregation has continuity in the pews, the silver-haired sitting next to wiggly grandchildren, showing them how to live and love in the faith of their fathers.

The lives of our oldest two members, Eleanor Vaughan and Helen Carey, touch this congregation in ways that are hard to explain. In the season when they both celebrate birthdays, it seems fitting to think about what their lives and their years of faithful living mean to this church.

Eleanor was 103 on Sept. 16. Helen Carey turned 102 on Sept. 29.

Every day, Helen, who still has her hair done, must elevate her feet for an hour, which gives her time to think.

“What else is there to do but think,” she says, with the laugh

that has characterized her sunny determination through all the roles she has served in her 55 years in this congregation including teaching Sunday school and serving as secretary of the women’s ministries for the newly formed West Tennessee diocese. And before that, her name is written in history as one of five who convinced the bishop of Kentucky that tiny Hazard, KY, needed an Episcopal church.

“There were five Episcopalians in the whole town of about 3,000,” Helen says. “One of the five got enough energy to go to the bishop in Lexington and ask the vicar to establish one.”

He did, and confirmation that year happened in Helen’s living room around the sideboard that if not exactly blessed, did serve as the focal point of the service.

*(story continued on page 3)*

## A REFLECTION

We arrived in Memphis in 2003, young, newly married and looking for a church where we could combine our Roman Catholic and Jewish/Protestant upbringings to create a new faith tradition for our fledgling family. We visited several churches on our journey but when we arrived at Holy Communion, we knew we had found our home.

Now 13 years, 2 beautiful daughters and countless baptisms, shrimp dinners, and Book It 5k's later, we look back on our first experiences and know with even more certainty why we were guided to choose Holy Communion as the place to form and grow our faith. We give thanks for this special place, the friends we have made, the opportunity to grow spiritually, intellectually and emotionally, and for the church itself, the clergy and staff who practice and model empathy, social justice and inclusion.

When we started attending Holy Communion, we first made the commitment to contribute to the church through weekly donations during services. Over the years, we have

*WE GIVE  
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gone through a process of discernment and decided that, as a family, it was important for us to contribute to the life of the church on a more significant level. So we have chosen to pledge an annual offering to Holy Communion. It's just what feels right to us.

We give in gratitude for all that we have received as members of this particular body of Christ. We give to strengthen the programs that have strengthened us as individuals, as a couple and as a family. We give to build the legacy of a strong community of believers; one that we can be proud to pass on to our children and to the children of the friends we have come to know and love. We give with joy and hope and because it is our privilege to share our good fortune in service to God.

We are blessed to be a part of this vibrant, devoted congregation. Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, to those of you who opened your arms to us all those years ago. We're so glad to be here.

*Jeffrey & Christina Block*  
STEWARDSHIP CO-CHAIRS

## *The Holy Trinity, and the Holy Communion, continued from page 1*

For a handful of years, starting when Kelly Truitt was head of the stewardship campaign, Holy Communion has asked a guest preacher to shape the stewardship drive and preach the final sermon, part of a model developed by the Methodist Church and since adopted by other denominations.

"You're not reinventing the wheel every time. The model states clearly what to do, when and why," said Truitt.

"You need to have someone different than your own staff handling this. The key person should be preaching that day at all three services."

Father Sandy, who will give his own reflection on stewardship the week before, looks to the lay stewardship leaders to shape the campaign.

"I have followed their lead. I am always pleased when lay leaders say, 'This is how we do our ministry and how we want to carry this forward.'"

For Father Gray, great-grandson, grandson and child of the three Duncan Grays who served as bishops of Mississippi, the affiliation with Holy Communion is also a homecoming. He was baptized here in November 1982, shortly after his father took a

job as associate rector.

That means he will stand in the same pulpit his father stood in as a young man.

Gray comes with other connections too. He and Sandy have known each other about ten years, starting at Virginia Theological Seminary.

"It is the largest Episcopal seminary but it is still pretty small. There are probably 50 or 60 students who live on campus or at least there were then. If you live on campus at VTS, that means you see everyone for class and for chapel and you are also eating 15-20 meals a week together," Gray said.

Gray's wife, the Reverend Giulianna Gray, also a graduate of VTS, is rector of St. Stephens in Indianola. Sandy succeeded her as seminarian in training at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C.

"I will be my duty to on October 23 to preach the gospel and talk about the importance of giving for the sake of our spiritual lives," Gray said.

"I think I will have my stewardship chairman with me. This model is not something we have done at Nativity. He is interested in seeing another church in action that does something differently."



*Helen Carey, member of Holy Communion for 55 years, celebrated her 102nd birthday in September.*



*Eleanor Vaughan with great-granddaughters Carmen and Ellie McGhee on her 103rd birthday.*

“There were Roman Catholics, Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, Church of Christ, and they had snake handlers too. I didn’t invite them but I invited the others,” she said, ticking off the list of people who had some links to the Episcopal Church in their background and came to the service, if not to join.

The sideboard has been handed down to two more generations, who know the story, said Helen’s daughter, Helen Watson.

“Mother’s eminent reality is ‘I have God with me, in me and all around,’” she says. “That sums her up. She just never complains. She is very outspoken and more so now. It doesn’t matter. Everybody who knows my mother loves her. Things have not been easy for her, but she would never say she has had a hard life.”

In the building next to Helen’s at Trezevant, Carmine Vaughan is such a steady presence, the staff in the bistro doesn’t charge her for coffee.

“She was my rock for a long time,” Carmine says of her mother-in-law.

What that means is hard to explain. Carmine has known Eleanor Vaughan since she met her son, Bill, at White Station High School when she was 16.

“I watched everything she did. She trained me,” Carmine says, in what it took to be a wife, a mother and the eventual matriarch of the generations of family that gather at Holy Communion every Sunday.

For Eleanor’s birthday lunch, Carmine ordered stuffed baked potatoes, caramel cake, coffee ice cream and Coke, Eleanor’s idea of a perfect meal.

For Jean McGhee, Eleanor’s granddaughter, her grandmother has not only been the example of how to live but a sterling pattern of faith.

“Communion to her is everything. She lives it. One of the

most special moments I can remember in recent time with her was sharing communion in her room. The feeling was so unexpected because I had just had communion with 300 people at church and I didn’t expect to have communion again. It was such an intimate gathering. It was a holy moment, just the three of us in her room.”

“She is one of the most passionate and one of the best-to-be-around people I have ever met,” said Davis McGhee, Eleanor Vaughan’s great-grandson. “She just loves life. She has taught me that no matter what you come from, you always have God. If she has something to give, she gives all of it away. She is a role model for me.”

When the whole family, all four generations, is seated together in one pew, “it feels like this is how it is meant to be,” Jean said. “To see the generations. I think that is how we were meant to worship. It’s generations of faithfulness and knowing that in hard times in their lives, this is where they would come to find support. This is where they continue to come to be supported.”

Charlton Lyons has known both women for years, and is particularly close to Helen Carey.

“Helen Carey would sit near the front on the righthand side. There is a loss there now, a diminishment and loss, even though she still comes occasionally.

“I think the strength is the awareness of the generations; awareness of those who have gone before us and their contribution. And that we have something to give to them. It’s not just what they have given to us,” Lyons said.

“You can do that by calling or dropping a little note to say I think of you and miss you. It’s one of those small acts that makes a tremendous amount of difference.”

# OCTOBER 2016 AT HOLY COMMUNION...



## SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 9:15

### CONTEMPORARY THEOLOGICAL ISSUES

*This long-running class at Holy Communion continues discussing timely topics through the lens of theology.*

### OCTOBER

#### Caregivers and Caregiving

October 9 and 16

A two-part program from Samaritan Counseling, which has counselors based at Holy Communion.

#### 14th-Century English Mystics

October 9 and 16

The Reverend Dr. Gillian Klee

### NOVEMBER

#### Guest Speaker: Sir Roger Scruton

November 6

The Continuing Importance of the Anglican Church



## SPECIAL SUNDAYS

### STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY and Parish Luncheon OCTOBER 23



#### Annual Shrimp Dinner

Nov. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

This sell-out event raises money for the youth pilgrimages. Purchase your tickets early and plan to enjoy shrimp, gumbo and fun, fun, fun!

*(Tickets on sale October 16)*



## SPORTS & RECREATION

### Church of the Holy Communion 2016-2017 BASKETBALL

*Registration is open for the 2016/2017 basketball season! Teams may fill up before the registration deadline so please register today!*

Age Groups offered for Kindergarten through Age 18

*(Age groups are based on the player's age as of June 1, 2016)*

Practices will begin mid-November and games will begin in December for grades 7th through 12th. For kindergarten through age 11, games will begin in January.

**Coaches:** If you are interested in coaching a team or being an assistant coach, please volunteer on the registration form or contact [juliefike@holycommunion.org](mailto:juliefike@holycommunion.org).

#### Sign up online at [holycommunion.org](http://holycommunion.org).

Download a form or pick up one up from the church. Contact Julie Fike if you have any questions.

## GROUPS A

All Saints' Guild Second Tuesday 10:30 a.m., October 11 meeting and lunch at St. Columba	Brotherhood of St. Andrew Second and fourth Saturday 8 a.m., Chapel	Centering Prayer First Saturday 9 a.m., Chapel	Daughters of the King Second Sunday noon Carrick Room	Knitting Ministry Third Tuesday 11 a.m. Room 308	Men's Bi Fri 7 a Room
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# Tell Your Story | Take a Journey | Make a Difference



## Here@HolyC...in October

Gather on Wednesday nights – make your midweek here at Holy Communion!

Nursery available from 6:30-8 p.m.

**5:15** St. Cecilia Choir (*senior kindergarten and first grade*)

**5:30-7:00** Bring It Food Hub Pick Up\*

**5:45** Dinner

**6:30** Holy Communion Choristers (grades two through six)

**6:30** Classes and Zumba for adults, youth group, children's activities, nursery

**7:30** Youth-led Compline service, open to everyone

**October 5, 12** | Fall Break (*choir, but no dinner or Here@HolyC*)

**October 19** | Benton Stokes Concert at 6:30 p.m.; flu shots available by Ruth Ellen McQuiston

**October 26, November 2** | Sticky Faith Series - *practical ideas for nurturing faith in our children*

\*If you have not signed up for the weekly bag of produce, give it a try! Cost is \$20 per week for locally grown produce. Subscribe at: [bringitfoodhub.com](http://bringitfoodhub.com).

## PARISH LIFE

### Healing & Wholeness

#### CAREGIVING AND CAREGIVERS:

On October 9 and 16, we are focusing on the ministry of caregiving in a two-part Sunday morning forum led by a psychologist from Samaritan Counseling Center. The Center has an office in the church.

In another aspect of our healing ministry in healing, we are recruiting healing ministers for our Sunday services and also enhancing our Eucharist service at 12:15 on Wednesdays with holy unction.

Contact Joan Biddle for details, [joan\\_biddle@yahoo.com](mailto:joan_biddle@yahoo.com).

Also this fall, we are training Lay Eucharistic Visitors to take communion to those unable to attend church. Training follows the 10:30 service on October 16 and November 20 in Room 308.

**PLEASE NOTE:** *The parish office will be closed for Thanksgiving Friday, November 25; and the Monday after Christmas, December 26.*

## ECW Annual Meeting Nov. 12th

### West Tennessee ECW Gathering November 12th.

All women are invited to the Annual Gathering of the Episcopal Church Women of West Tennessee on Saturday November 12th at 10:45 a.m. at Emmanuel Episcopal Church. Our speakers will be the Right Reverend Don Johnson and the Reverend Dr. Mitzi Minor.

Registration information is at [ecwwtn.org](http://ecwwtn.org). *Join us!*

## AND GUILDS

<p>able Study day m. n 214</p>	<p>More Than a Meal <i>First Sunday</i> after 10:30 service at Grace-St. Luke's</p>	<p>Poetry and Conversation <i>First Tuesday</i> 5:45 p.m. Carrick Room</p>	<p>The Reading Life <i>First Tuesday</i> 11 a.m. Carrick Room</p>	<p>Sandy and Mimsy's Biblical Adventure <i>Thursday</i> 10 a.m. Room 308</p>	<p>Words<sup>3</sup> (Words, Cubed) <i>Third Tuesday</i> 6:30-8 p.m. Cheney Parish Hall</p>
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# Gailor's legacy is power of women at work

The women of the Gailor Guild set themselves apart essentially by being themselves – busy working women who carved time out in the evenings for church work and fellowship.

More than four decades after they started (naming themselves for Tennessee Bishop Thomas Gailor), they ended their formal association in September with a worship service and lunch, both which turned into memory feasts.

“We brought up the things we had done and the people who made the group so special,” said Milton Rogers, a longtime member. “One of the most precious, outgoing and giving people in the world is Alicia Puckett. I could have done a sermon on all that she has done.”

Sallie Watson and Barbara Turley started Gailor in the late 1970s. Almost from the beginning, the women’s biggest fundraiser was the gallons of homemade soup they packaged and sold on Super Bowl Sunday.

“One year, David (Ouzts) asked for carrot soup, so we had to dig up a recipe for that,” said Sarah Doyle with a laugh.

“We always had a lot of very interesting soups,” Rogers said. “There would be the standard vegetable and every kind of chili, but people like Jeanne Crawford would make African peanut soup.”

The sales started in the hallway by the elevator.

“When it got to be too big, we moved into the parish hall,” Doyle said. “Some ladies would get there early for the 8 a.m. service. The biggest was between Sunday school and church and afterward. Some would come back for the 5:30 p.m. service.”

Father Reynolds Cheney, who served Holy Communion for 20 years, presided over Gailor’s glory days - when it was nothing for the members to turn out 40 gallons of soup for what quickly became known as Souper Bowl Sunday.

“What made them different is the fact that they worked when women were not working,” said the former rector. “To some degree, they brought a little more responsibility. They were very effective and one of the bigger guilds.”

For years Gailor met on the second Monday of the month. “It was the only time they could have fellowship,” Doyle said. “We met in homes. And we would always have a program.”

For at least four years, Gailor used its soup proceeds to support a young woman at Little Rose’s Home for Girls in Pedro Sula, Honduras.

“We did that because of Stephanie and Reynolds,” Rogers said. “When they got married, they took this up as their project and

approached us about supporting it also.

When the young woman graduated from high school, the members turned their prodigious energy to other charities, sometimes splitting \$2,000 in soup proceeds between four or five charities, plus the Rector’s Discretionary Fund.

“We’d all name groups we wanted to help, and then we would vote on who was going to get the money. It was very democratic,” said another longtime member, Connie Pittman, who like a dozen others, rotated through Gailor’s leadership positions.

For years, the members also performed “The Women of the Passion,” a selection of Scripture readings about the women significant in each of the 14 Stations of the Cross.

“It made you stop and think,” Pittman said. “The priest would give the opening and closing prayer. We would rotate through the verses, getting up to read and then sitting down to silence.”

The service lasted about 45 minutes. What echoed over Quilling Chapel and across the centuries was the contributions of women on the Road to Golgotha, at the cross and on third day at the empty tomb.

“It was always very moving,” said Susan Carlsson. “We started off doing it among ourselves. Then we thought we would do it as a gift to the church.”

Because many of the women traveled for work, Pittman one day suggested they save the toiletries they got in hotels to make care packages back in Memphis.

“I would take buckets of the items. I would fill up garbage bags,” Pittman said. “We even had husbands bringing them back. We’d say, ‘Don’t use that stuff; use your own and bring those back to me.’”

The toiletries went to the shelters for abused women and MIFA. At one time, Holy Communion had seven women’s guilds. Today, All Saints’ is the only one left.

The Gailor Guild group survived in part, Cheney said, because its members saw church work as another of their responsibilities. “Their fellowship contributed to their survival. There were some very strong women in that group.”

By 2015, there were not enough women to make the soup. “We decided we were giving ourselves a gift,” Doyle said. “We couldn’t do it. We simply couldn’t do it. We all agreed it was time to disband.”

The spirit of Gailor lives on in the ministries its members support. “We are not quitting,” Rogers said. “We are refocusing to support other women’s ministries.”



*Gailor Guild members - from the archives: front row – Molly Lockwood, Sallie Watson, Sarah Doyle; back row, – Peggy Frazer, Jeanne Crawford, Shirley Pouncey, Milton Rogers*



## Book It 5K - THANK YOU!

THANK YOU SO MUCH to our Book It 5K Sponsorship Committee and our Book It 5K Race Committee for a fantastic job in making this year's race such a successful event!

The Race Committee and Sponsorship Committee members are: **Stephen Maury** (Sponsorship Chair), **Marie Dowling**, **Angie Johnson**, **Tricia Dewey**, **Robert Propst**, **Kenyetta Thompson**, **Dena Mesler**, **Sarah Cowens**, **Andra DeVincenzo**, **Nat Johnson**, **Matthew Arehart**, **Lisa Holt**, **Amanda Goetze**, **Cindy Bennett**, **Mary Braddock**, **Alan Bolton**, **Elizabeth Coldiron**, **David Visinsky** and **Bill Widdop**. Thank you for your work in the months leading up to the 5K and for all of your work on race day!

Thank you so much to all of our volunteers and to the Holy Communion staff for the phenomenal job you did to help the race come together. Many people volunteered for more than one job throughout the year and worked several hours the week of the race and

on race day. Thank you also to everyone that signed up for the race, sponsored the race, made donations or sponsored children from the Emmanuel Center.

Father Colenzo Hubbard arranged good weather on race day morning. More than 480 people registered for the 5K, 60 kids and youth signed up the 200-meter dash, and 26 signed up as spirit runners. Additionally, donations were made to sponsor 106 Emmanuel Center children for the race. We had 72 volunteers and staff, 38 race sponsors and eight in-kind race sponsors.

This event would not be possible without the enthusiasm, participation, support and work of so many people pitching in to make it happen! We will announce the amount of the fundraising proceeds as soon as the remaining race expenses are received, and we will present checks to our beneficiaries, Books from Birth and the Emmanuel Center in November.

*Julie Fike*

## Thank you Sponsors!



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# THE COMMUNICATOR



Church of the Holy Communion

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## CLERGY

The Reverend Sandy Webb, *Rector*

The Reverend Ben Badgett, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Hester Mathes, *Associate Rector*

The Reverend Dr. Randy McCloy, *Deacon*

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Jamie Shaw	<i>Sexton</i>

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## Memorials & Honoraria

*Received August 16 - September 15, 2016*

### **In memory of Bob Puckett**

Connie & Lou Adams

Kathy & Ben Adams

Margaret & Charles Hubbert

Emily Ruch

Lassiter Properties, Inc. c/o Ann Lassiter

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### **In memory of James Lee Cook III**

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Anonymous

### **In memory of Jerry Read**

Margaret & Tommy Roberson

### **In memory of Jane Yarbrough**

All Saints' Guild

### **In honor of the baptism of Ian Francis Badgett**

The Reverend & Mrs. William McMillen II

Church of the Holy Communion, an Episcopal Church in the center of Memphis, seeks to be a sacred presence, grounded in the servant ministry of Jesus, offering spiritual growth opportunities for all.