



XXXIV

AUGUST 2025

ISSUE #8

CLERGY NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS to **Kenneth White-Spunner** [Rector, St. John's, Monroeville] and **Carrie Wright** [Rector, St. Stephen's, Brewton], who have accepted calls to the Diocese of Louisiana. Ken will be the Priest-in-Charge of Christ Church in Slidell, and Carrie will be the Chaplain at St. Paul's Episcopal School in New Orleans. Their last Sunday with us will be August 17. We wish both Kenneth and Carrie all the best in their new ministries.

REMINDER TO REGISTER: ACOLYTE FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

Gather your acolytes and join us for our **Acolyte Festival on Saturday, August 23, at Christ Church Cathedral** in Mobile. All churches are encouraged to send their acolytes, crucifers, thurifers, etc., for this interactive day of learning about the liturgical arts from the experts. Please share the date with your acolytes and anyone interested in becoming one. Registration is free, but please let us know you are coming! Donations accepted.

[MORE DETAILS AND REGISTRATION](#)

CURSILLO #173 WEEKEND IS SEPTEMBER 11-14

The purpose of the Cursillo Movement in the Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast is to assist people in understanding and responding to their calling to Christian leadership in their parishes, social lives and workplaces by enriching and deepening their existing faith.

We invite you to explore a wonderful Cursillo getaway at God's Front Yard/Camp Beckwith. If you would like to know more, please reach out to the Cursillo #173 Lay Rector, Tonye Frith. 334-791-0831 OR visit www.coastalpilgrims.com.

BILL PAYMENT CHANGES BY CHURCH PENSION GROUP (CPG)

The Church Pension Group (CPG) announced the upcoming launch of the Online Billing and Payment platform through a new vendor partner, Paymentus. It was originally supposed to be effective August 2025. However, it has now been **postponed until October 1, 2025**. Starting in October, all billing and payments of CPG benefits and products will be done electronically only. Any church institution that receives a bill (pension, group health/life/disability, and property/liability) will need a designated church administrator to access and pay their bills when they launch. Please stay tuned for additional information the Diocese will send on identifying and adding a bill-paying administrator to the CPG system.

SUPPLY CLERGY AND LAY LEADER RATES

Supply Clergy Rates

The following are the standard rates for supply clergy (unless negotiated otherwise by the parties) and are effective beginning January 1, 2025:

- \$200 for one service + travel
- \$250 for two services on the same Sunday (at the same location) + travel
- Travel expense: The 2025 IRS standard mileage rate for the business use of a vehicle is currently \$0.70 per mile. These rates are updated annually; mileage rates are published and updated by the IRS at year-end.

Lay Worship Leader and Lay Preacher Rates

The following are the standard rates for certified* lay leaders and are effective beginning **August 1, 2025**:

- Lay Worship Leader: \$50 for one service + travel
- Lay Preacher: \$50 for one service + travel
- For both, \$100 for one service + travel
- Travel expense: The 2025 IRS standard mileage rate for the business use of a vehicle is currently \$0.70 per mile. These rates are updated annually; mileage rates are published and updated by the IRS at year-end.

* Certification is required and is attained by completion of the appropriate program [Lay Worship Leader or Lay Preacher] in the diocesan School for Ministry. A [list of certified leaders](#) is kept on the diocesan website. If you have any questions or need additional information about minimum compensation or supply rates, please do not hesitate to contact the Diocesan Office at 850-434-7337.

STEWARDSHIP MATERIALS AVAILABLE FROM TENS

2025 password: **Luke1:46** (Note: a username is no longer required)

Annual pledge campaign materials are available on the TENS website. This year's theme is "Tell Out My Soul: Annual Pledge Campaign." Resources include graphics and logos in many standard formats, customizable letters from clergy, the Stewardship Committee, and wardens, and customizable pledge/promise cards. All churches have access to TENS materials as they are included in our diocesan membership. The login credentials change each year for members. LOGIN at: <https://www.tens.org/>.

RESOURCE: LAY LEADERS DIRECTORY

The list of Lay Leaders who have been canonically certified as Lay Worship Leaders and Lay Preachers is available on the diocesan website. We have provided this list for many of our smaller parishes that have occasional need of assistance when supply clergy are not available. Bishop Kendrick and Dean Joy Blaylock work in conjunction with those who are invited to lead worship or preach at a church different than their own. This has been found to be a joyful fruit of the Lay School as it deepens the bonds of relationship and ministry across our diocese.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Dean Joy Blaylock at joyblaylock@diocgc.org. You can find the Lay Leader list here: <https://www.diocgc.org/lay-ministry>.

CLERGY REMINDER: NEW ASSIGNMENT FORM

Remember that clergy/employers need to submit updated employment/compensation changes with CPG. Clergy/employers need to submit this form to CPG when:

- A cleric's employment status has changed, including retirement, beginning a new assignment, changing employers, etc.
- A cleric's or lay employee's compensation changes, including when a one-time payment is made (such as an end-of-year bonus or "love" offering).

You can find the CPG form at: <https://www.diocgc.org/administrative-resources> or call Kim at the diocesan office.

ONLINE SAFEGUARDING / RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Our Safeguarding system uses a program from Presidium Academy. You can find links and guidelines on the diocesan website at: <https://www.diocgc.org/administrative-resources>. Each church must identify church Administrators; Admins can be added to the system by contacting the Diocesan Office. These Admins will add their church members to the Academy system and generate "invitations" to those needing to take Safeguarding modules.

1. **To Sign Up for the Safeguarding system:**
E-mail the Safeguarding Online Administrator assigned to your parish.
2. Your designated church Administrator will facilitate your access to Praesidium Academy by generating an "invitation email" which will be sent to you from donotreply@praesidiuminc.com.
3. Fill in the required information (including your desired password).
4. Click Accept Invite.
5. You will be redirected to the login screen - please log in with your email address and the password you just created.
6. You can now proceed to find and complete the required modules.

If your coursework is over 4 years old, it will be considered dated/expired and may not have been moved over into your new account. If you have any questions, please contact Dwight Babcock or Mary Poss at 850-434-7337.

INSURANCE UPDATES

Please visit our website for additional insurance info:

- o [Congregational Resources](#)
- o [Risk Management & Insurance Basics for Religious Organizations \(recommended\)](#)
- o [Safety and Insurance Handbook for Churches \(recommended\)](#)

CONGREGATIONS IN TRANSITION (as of 8/1/2025)

Destin, St. Andrew’s	Very beginning of process
Dothan, Nativity	Call made
Mobile, Trinity	Call made
Panama City, St. Andrew’s	Accepting applications
Pensacola, St. Christopher’s	In process; search committee formed

Please do not contact the openings directly. For information, please contact the Rev. Ashley Freeman, Canon to the Ordinary, at ashley@diocgc.org.

SUPPLY CLERGY LIST

[Here is the link to the supply clergy list.](#) Should you need help securing a supply priest for church services, please contact the Rev. Lydia Johnson at lydia@diocgc.org.

LINK TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE DIOCESAN EMAIL LIST

We would be so grateful if you would consider adding the link below to your regular church communications and on your websites so that members can subscribe and stay connected to news from around the diocese. Thank you! [SUBSCRIBE TO DIOCESAN COMMUNICATIONS.](#)

MUSIC LICENSING

If your church offers music during services, it is important to follow all copyright guidelines, which include maintaining a license to perform, broadcast, or print copyrighted music. Review your church’s licensing agreements, and be sure to add the streaming option if you are broadcasting services online. Recommended licensing companies include [One License](#), [Christian Copyright Licensing International](#)(CCLI), [Christian Copyright Solutions](#).

CYCLES OF PRAYER FOR DIOCESE AND PRISON MINISTRY

Congregations are invited to include both our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer and our Prison Ministry Cycle of Prayer in their Prayers of the People, newsletters, and/or bulletins, www.diocgc.org/cycle-of-prayer.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY - SUBMIT UPDATES

Annually, we request that churches update their leadership directory for the diocesan database. The update is especially important to report changes in vestry membership. Please submit your completed form, linked below, as soon as possible. Thank you! Direct questions to jenn@diocgc.org. [CHURCH LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY FORM](#)

UPCOMING DIOCESAN EVENTS Stay up-to-date on diocesan events by bookmarking our calendar: <https://www.diocgc.org/calendar-of-events>.

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
Jonathan Daniels and the Martyrs of Alabama Pilgrimage	Aug 9	Hayneville, AL Details & Registration
Diocesan Acolyte Festival	Aug 23	Christ Church Cathedral Details & Registration
Labor Day Holiday	Sep 1	Duvall Center closed
Becoming Beloved Community Workshop	Sep 6	St. Christopher's, Pensacola Details & Registration
Cursillo #173	Sep 11-14	Beckwith, Fairhope Details & Registration

BISHOP RUSSELL’S SCHEDULE

WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
Visitations	Aug 3	St. Michael's, Ozark; Epiphany, Enterprise
Clergy Chats	Aug 4-8	Various locations
Jonathan Daniels and the Martyrs of AL Pilgrimage	Aug 9	Hayneville, AL
Visitations	Aug 10	St. Mary's, Coden; St. Andrew's, Mobile
Celebrating Eucharist	Aug 13	Westminster Village, Mobile
Clergy Zoom Meeting	Aug 14	Zoom
Candidacy Interviews w/COM and Standing Cmte	Aug 16	Duvall Center
Visitation	Aug 17	Holy Trinity, Pensacola
Alabama Arise Clergy Luncheon	Aug 19	All Saints, Mobile
Clergy Chats	Aug 19-21	Various locations
Acolyte Festival	Aug 23	Christ Church Cathedral, Mobile
Visitation	Aug 24	St. Stephen's, Brewton
Visitation	Aug 29	St. Cyprian's, Pensacola

SAVE-THE-DATE FOR 2026 DIOCESAN CONVENTION

Please ensure that you add our next diocesan convention to your planning calendars. **The 55th Annual Diocesan Convention will be held February 27 and 28, 2026, at the Pensacola Beach Hilton and hosted by St. Francis of Assisi, Gulf Breeze.**

An essential part of our convention is electing delegates from your congregation. According to our diocesan canons, elections must be made and reported to the diocesan office no later than 60 days prior to the start of convention. Please plan accordingly!

Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast
Green Sheet 2025
Treasurer's Report - July 2025
(Please Note: Report reflects funds received as of 7/31/25)

Congregational Pledges	MTD Actual (2025)	YTD Rec'd (2025)	YTD Budget Variance	Annual Pledge (2025)
Pledges				
Andalusia, St. Mary's	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	(\$1,000)	\$12,000.00
Apalachicola,Trinity	\$1,833.00	\$12,831.00	\$0	\$22,000.00
Atmore, St. Anna's	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00
Atmore, Trinity	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$700)	\$1,200.00
Bay Minette, Immanuel	\$405.20	\$4,639.89	\$1,589	\$5,230.00
Bon Secour,St. Peter's	\$1,476.91	\$4,613.88	(\$1,032)	\$9,678.00
Brewton, St. Stephen's	\$593.40	\$12,837.78	\$997	\$20,299.00
Cantonment,St. Monica's	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$0	\$10,000.00
Chickasaw,St.Michael's	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00
Chipley, St. Matthew's	\$476.00	\$3,332.00	\$0	\$5,710.00
Citronelle, St. Thomas	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0	\$0.00
Coden, St. Mary's	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$3,191)	\$5,470.00
Crestview, Epiphany	\$250.00	\$1,750.00	\$0	\$3,000.00
Daphne, St. Paul's	\$2,500.00	\$17,500.00	\$0	\$30,000.00
Dauphin Isld, St. Francis	\$0.00	\$5,700.00	(\$950)	\$11,400.00
DeFnk Spgs, St. Agatha's	\$476.50	\$3,033.25	(\$29)	\$5,250.00
Destin, St. Andrew's	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	(\$2,667)	\$8,000.00
Dothan, Nativity	\$4,750.00	\$33,250.00	\$0	\$57,000.00
Enterprise, Epiphany	\$1,838.00	\$6,235.00	(\$197)	\$11,026.00
Eufaula, St. James'	\$1,275.00	\$8,925.00	\$0	\$15,300.00
Fairhope, St. James'	\$6,666.67	\$40,000.02	(\$6,667)	\$80,000.00
Foley, St. Paul's	\$2,399.42	\$16,795.94	\$0	\$28,793.00
Ft.Wltn Bch,St. Simon	\$4,234.00	\$29,638.00	\$0	\$50,808.00
Greenville, St. Thomas	\$1,722.90	\$13,881.24	\$2,037	\$20,305.00
Gulf Breeze, St. Francis	\$864.00	\$7,346.00	\$727	\$11,347.50
Gulf Shores, Holy Spirit	\$2,812.50	\$19,687.50	\$0	\$33,750.00
Jackson, St. Peter's	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$625	\$1,500.00
Laguna Beach, St.Thomas	\$0.00	\$1,971.70	(\$1,404)	\$5,787.00
Lillian, Advent	\$795.00	\$5,565.00	\$168	\$9,252.00
Magnolia Spgs, St. Pauls	\$0.00	\$18,750.00	\$4,167	\$25,000.00
Marianna, St. Luke's	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	(\$833)	\$10,000.00
Milton, St. Mary's	\$0.00	\$1,953.75	(\$2,605)	\$7,815.00
Mobile, All Saints'	\$1,666.67	\$11,666.69	\$0	\$20,000.00
Mobile, Christ	\$3,483.33	\$24,483.31	\$100	\$41,800.00
Mobile, Good Shepherd	\$1,300.00	\$9,100.00	\$0	\$15,600.00
Mobile, Redeemer	\$1,002.00	\$7,014.00	\$0	\$12,024.00
Mobile, St. Andrew's	\$240.00	\$4,759.00	\$2,493	\$3,884.00
Mobile, St. John's	\$1,492.27	\$7,313.04	(\$970)	\$14,200.00
Mobile, St. Luke's	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$3,500)	\$6,000.00
Mobile, St. Paul's	\$16,576.00	\$116,032.00	\$0	\$198,912.00
Mobile, Trinity	\$1,041.67	\$7,291.69	\$0	\$12,500.00
Monroeville, St. John's	\$305.12	\$1,936.99	(\$5,841)	\$13,334.00
Navarre, St. Augustine's	\$400.00	\$2,400.00	(\$517)	\$5,000.00
Niceville, St. Jude's	\$3,264.83	\$22,853.81	\$0	\$39,178.00
Ozark, St. Michael's	\$0.00	\$1,460.00	\$0	\$1,460.00
Pnma City, Holy Nativity	\$3,634.50	\$24,827.50	(\$256)	\$43,000.00
Panama City, St. Andrew's	\$1,470.00	\$10,954.00	(\$1,530)	\$21,401.00
Panama City, St. Patrick's	\$436.80	\$2,267.65	\$518	\$3,000.00
Panama City Beach, Grace	\$1,079.92	\$7,559.36	\$0	\$12,959.00
Pensacola, Christ	\$11,200.00	\$67,290.00	(\$11,752)	\$135,500.00
Pensacola, Holy Cross	\$2,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$0	\$24,000.00
Pensacola,Holy Trinity	\$1,178.78	\$8,251.46	\$0	\$14,145.00
Pcola, St. Christopher's	\$6,333.50	\$44,334.50	\$0	\$76,000.00
Pensacola, St. Cyprian's	\$0.00	\$750.00	(\$1,167)	\$3,286.00
Pensacola, St. John's	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	(\$7,417)	\$17,000.00
Pt St. Joe, St. James'	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$875)	\$1,500.00
Robertsdale, St. John	\$0.00	\$810.00	(\$135)	\$1,620.00
SRB, Christ King	\$4,583.33	\$32,281.27	\$198	\$55,000.00
Troy, St. Mark's	\$833.00	\$5,835.00	\$0	\$10,000.00
Wewahitchka, St. John's	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0	\$2,000.00
Total Pledges	\$101,390	\$734,708	(\$41,615)	\$1,321,224