

XXXIV OCTOBER 2025 ISSUE #10

CLERGY NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS to **Salem Saloom,** who was called to be the Clergy-in-Charge of St. Anna's, Poarch [Atmore], effective September 1, and will transition to Priest-in-Charge upon ordination on October 22, 2025.

UPDATE BILL PAYMENT CHANGES BY CHURCH PENSION GROUP (CPG)

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 but was postponed until October 1, 2025. **Starting in October 1, 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 electronically (no checks) when they launch. Please contact Kim Weinstein (kim@diocgc.org) to sign up for the bill pay portal if your church has not done so already.

DUE 2024 CHURCH AUDITS

Reminder that annual church audits for the year ending 2024 are due to the Diocese in September.. This is one of the very few canonical requirements that all Episcopal churches need to complete. An updated audit checklist and directions can be found on the Diocesan website at:

https://www.diocgc.org/administrative-resources An audit checklist was developed to assist and guide any church with an Audit Committee and to help identify and track those processes that may need strengthening. Any questions, please contact Kim or Dwight at: kim@diocgc.org or dwight@diocgc.org or call the office at 850-434-7337.

NEW 2025 ANNUAL ENROLLMENT (MEDICAL/DENTAL)

Annual Enrollment will soon be underway (Oct. 15- Nov. 7). Employees will receive information from both CPG and the Diocese about health plan choices available and premium costs later in September. We will update our website with this new information shortly once CPG has provided this guidance. Quantum Health will be available (at 866-871-0629) to help members review existing benefits, understand plan options, and choose the right plans for themselves and their dependents. We plan on a Zoom session in October before enrollment opens, so stay tuned.

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!

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)

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.

CONGREGATIONS IN TRANSITION (as of 10/1/2025)

Brewton, St. Stephen's	In process; starting transition	
Destin, St. Andrew's	Very beginning of process	
<u>Eufaula, St. James</u>	Search committee formed; building profile	
Monroeville, St. John's	In process; starting transition	
Panama City, St. Andrew's	Accepting applications	
Pensacola, St. Christopher's	In process; search committee	

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

formed

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.

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.

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
Clergy Conference	Oct 1-3	Beckwith <u>Details & Registration</u>
Speaker Series: "Racial Battle Fatigue" with William A. Smith, PhD. Sponsored by the Commission on Racial Justice & Reconciliation	Oct 14	Zoom <u>Details</u>
Ordination to the Priesthood: Salem Saloom	Oct 22; 6 p.m.	Wind Creek Casino, Atmore <u>Details</u>
Ordination to the Priesthood: Mark Waddell	Oct 29; 6 p.m.	St. Augustine's, Navarre
Ordination to the Priesthood: Antwon Lewis	Nov 5; 6 p.m.	St. Mary's, Andalusia
Ordination to the Priesthood: Drew Downey	Nov 19	Christ Church, Glen Allen VA

BISHOP RUSSELL'S SCHEDULE

WHAT	WHEN	
Fall Clergy Conference	Oct 1 - 3	Beckwith
Visitation	Oct 5	St. Luke's, Mobile
College for Bishops Fall Board meeting	Oct 7 - 9	New York City
Lay Worship Leader class	Oct 11	Duvall Center
Visitation	Oct 12	St. Christopher's, Pensacola
VTS Convocation	Oct 13 - 15	Alexandria, VA
Visitation	Oct 19	St. Mark's, Troy
Priesthood Ordination - Salem Saloom	Oct 22	Wind Creek, Atmore, AL
Visitation	Oct 26 am	St. Jude's, Niceville
Visitation	Oct 26 pm	St. Agatha's, DeFuniak Springs
Priesthood Ordination - Mark Waddell	Oct 29	St. Augustine, Navarre
Visitation	Nov 2	All Saints, Mobile
Priesthood Ordination - Antwon Lewis	Nov 5	St. Mary's, Andalusia
Center for Clergy Care conf	Nov 6	First United Methodist, Pensacola, FL
Lay Worship Leader class	Nov 8	St. Cyprian's, Pensacola
Visitation	Nov 9	Holy Spirit, Gulf Shores
Wilmer Hall Board & Dedications	Nov 11	Mobile, AL

Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast Green Sheet 2025

Treasurer's Report - September 2025

(Please Note: Report reflects funds received as of 9/30/25)

Congregational Pledges Pledges	MTD Actual (2025)	YTD Rec'd (2025)	YTD Budget Variance	Annual Pledge (2025)
Andalusia, St. Mary's	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	(\$3,000)	\$12,000.00
Apalachicola, Trinity	\$1,833.00	\$16,497.00	\$0	\$22,000.00
Atmore, St. Anna's	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0 \$0	\$0.00
Atmore, Trinity	\$100.00	\$200.00	(\$700)	\$1,200.00
Bay Minette, Immanuel	\$361.60	\$5,313.59	\$1,391	\$5,230.00
Bon Secour,St. Peter's	\$1,142.20	\$6,587.48	(\$671)	\$9,678.00
Brewton, St. Stephen's	\$539.40	\$14,988.38	(\$236)	\$20,299.00
Cantonment,St. Monica's	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	(\$230) \$0	\$10,000.00
Chickasaw,St.Michael's	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0 \$0	\$10,000.00
Chipley, St. Matthew's	\$476.00	\$4,284.00	\$0 \$0	\$5,710.00
Citronelle, St. Thomas	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0 \$0	\$3,710.00
Coden, St. Mary's	\$0.00	\$5,470.00	\$0 \$0	\$5,470.00
Crestview, Epiphany	\$250.00	\$2,250.00		\$3,470.00
Daphne, St. Paul's	\$2,500.00	\$2,250.00	\$0 \$0	\$30,000.00
·				
Dauphin Isld, St. Francis	\$0.00	\$8,550.00	\$0 \$222	\$11,400.00
DeFnk Spgs, St. Agatha's	\$600.80	\$4,170.85	\$233	\$5,250.00
Destin, St. Andrew's	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	(\$4,000)	\$8,000.00
Dothan, Nativity	\$0.00	\$38,000.00	(\$4,750)	\$57,000.00
Enterprise, Epiphany	\$1,086.00	\$8,240.00	(\$30)	\$11,026.00
Eufaula, St. James'	\$1,275.00	\$11,475.00	\$0	\$15,300.00
Fairhope, St. James'	\$6,666.64	\$53,333.30	(\$6,667)	\$80,000.00
Foley, St. Paul's	\$2,399.42	\$21,594.78	\$0 \$0	\$28,793.00
Ft.Wltn Bch,St. Simon	\$4,234.00	\$38,106.00	\$0	\$50,808.00
Greenville, St. Thomas	\$4,012.98	\$19,097.12	\$3,868	\$20,305.00
Gulf Breeze, St. Francis	\$1,366.00	\$9,317.00	\$806	\$11,347.50
Gulf Shores, Holy Spirit	\$5,625.00	\$25,312.50	\$0	\$33,750.00
Jackson, St. Peter's	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$375	\$1,500.00
Laguna Beach, St.Thomas	\$0.00	\$1,971.70	(\$2,369)	\$5,787.00
Lillian, Advent	\$795.00	\$7,155.00	\$216	\$9,252.00
Magnolia Spgs, St. Pauls	\$0.00	\$18,750.00	\$0 (\$2.520)	\$25,000.00
Marianna, St. Luke's	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	(\$2,500)	\$10,000.00
Milton, St. Mary's	\$1,953.75	\$3,907.50	(\$1,954)	\$7,815.00
Mobile, All Saints'	\$1,666.67	\$15,000.03	\$0	\$20,000.00
Mobile, Christ	\$3,483.33	\$31,449.97	\$100	\$41,800.00
Mobile, Good Shepherd	\$1,300.00	\$11,700.00	\$0 \$0	\$15,600.00
Mobile, Redeemer	\$1,002.00	\$9,018.00	\$0	\$12,024.00
Mobile, St. Andrew's	\$528.00	\$5,704.00	\$2,791	\$3,884.00
Mobile, St. John's	\$1,291.30	\$10,074.04	(\$576)	\$14,200.00
Mobile, St. Luke's	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$4,500)	\$6,000.00
Mobile, St. Paul's	\$16,576.00	\$149,184.00	\$0	\$198,912.00
Mobile, Trinity	\$1,041.67	\$9,375.03	\$0	\$12,500.00
Monroeville, St. John's	\$223.88	\$2,545.87	(\$7,455)	\$13,334.00
Navarre, St. Augustine's	\$0.00	\$3,200.00	(\$550)	\$5,000.00
Niceville, St. Jude's	\$6,529.66	\$29,383.47	\$0	\$39,178.00
Ozark, St. Michael's	\$0.00	\$1,460.00	\$0	\$1,460.00
Pnma City, Holy Nativity	\$3,634.50	\$32,096.50	(\$154)	\$43,000.00
Panama City, St. Andrew's	\$1,216.81	\$13,109.81	(\$2,941)	\$21,401.00
Panama City, St. Patrick's	\$361.66	\$2,982.11	\$732	\$3,000.00
Panama City Beach, Grace	\$1,079.92	\$9,719.20	\$0	\$12,959.00
Pensacola, Christ	\$11,275.00	\$89,765.00	(\$11,860)	\$135,500.00
Pensacola, Holy Cross	\$2,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$0	\$24,000.00
Pensacola, Holy Trinity	\$1,178.78	\$10,609.02	\$0	\$14,145.00
Pcola, St. Christopher's	\$6,333.50	\$57,001.50	\$0	\$76,000.00
Pensacola, St. Cyprian's	\$0.00	\$1,550.00	(\$915)	\$3,286.00
Pensacola, St. John's	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	(\$10,250)	\$17,000.00
Pt St. Joe, St. James'	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$1,125)	\$1,500.00
Robertsdale, St. John	\$135.00	\$1,080.00	(\$135)	\$1,620.00
SRB, Christ King	\$4,583.33	\$41,447.93	\$198	\$55,000.00
Troy, St. Mark's	\$833.00	\$7,501.00	\$0	\$10,000.00
Wewahitchka, St. John's	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$0	\$2,000.00
Total Pledges	\$103,491	\$939,028	(\$56,623)	\$1,321,224