

FROM THE DESK OF SARAH . . .

The Diocesan Altar Guild held their annual meeting at the Cathedral Church of St. Peter on February 23, 2019. This year we offered something completely original and unique. Due to a double booking at the Cathedral, we had two events on the calendar the same day and serendipity stepped in allowing us to combine the meetings and everyone benefited greatly.

The Rev. Canon Katie Churchwell invited a colleague, **The Rev. Callie E. Swanlund** to present an original creation called the **How2charist: Digital Instructed Eucharist**. Callie herself was with us and we were her premiere audience.



She has made a video, which is available at no charge via the internet, that can be used at a teaching tool for anyone interested in experiencing and learning more about our Episcopal liturgy. It is beautifully created and everyone was happy to learn more about our worship. Any Altar Guild would enjoy watching this! It is a new concept for us to combine the riches of our history and take advantage of the digital age at the same time. You can access this video and discussion materials by going to: <http://how2charist.com>. The morning session, also led by Callie, was full of spiritual renewal based on **Dr. Brene` Brown's** "Daring Way." It was, indeed, a day of "Wholehearted Worship" for both Altar Guild members and others who were curious.

The Cathedral is about to celebrate having completely new sacristy space. We have actually survived the complete clearing out of two rooms, finding temporary storage, and still having church every day. We have gone through Lent, Holy Week and Easter, the Chrism Mass and hosting the North American Deans Conference. We just began moving in the first of May. Plan to come and see it soon!

Be sure to consider going to Kanuga for the Province IV annual meeting June 2-5. You will enjoy the field trip to All Saint's Cathedral in Asheville. This meeting is a wonderful way to begin the summer. (See Page 3.)

Once again, I challenge you to try going digital with this new video!

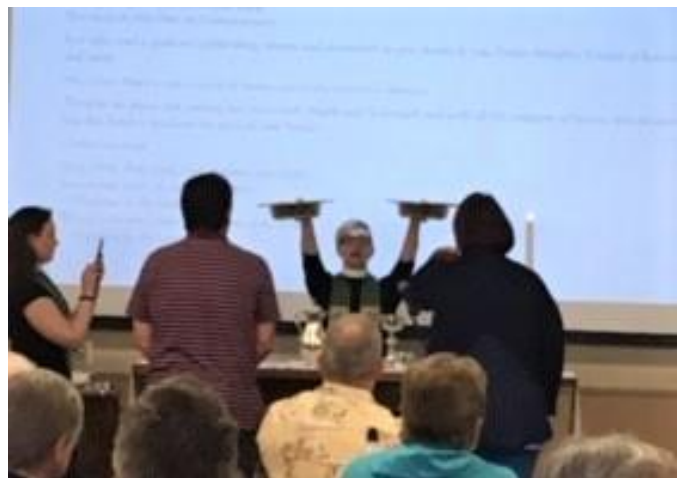
Sarah Hill

Diocesan Directress

sarahhill.fl@gmail.com (727) 525-8340

PICTURES FROM ANNUAL MEETING

Many thanks to *Cindy Davidson* and *Paige Hanks* for these photos from the annual meeting.



P-IV ALTAR GUILD ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

SUNDAY JUNE 2 - WEDNESDAY JUNE 5, 2019

Kanuga Conference Center - Hendersonville, North Carolina

“A TIME FOR ALL”

Ecclesiastes 3:1: “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” [NRSV]

This year’s conference offers a time to “get back to basics” and dive into the seasons of the church. Whether you are a long-time altar guild member or a “newbie” this is your opportunity to learn new information, renew old friendships and make new ones, and refresh your soul in the mountains.

The keynote speaker and chaplain is **The Rev. Carl Saxton**, Rector of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Comforter in Gadsden, Alabama. Born in Bristol, Pennsylvania, Carl grew up in Lakeland, Florida. He received his BA from the University of South Florida, Tampa, with a major in History and Minor in Religious Studies. Carl received his M.Div. from the University of the South, School of Theology, Sewanee, TN.



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION – To register for the Conference, reserve accommodations at Kanuga, and pay your P-IV dues (if not already paid directly to Treasurer), go to <https://registration.kanuga.org/5293>

- To pay dues and register for the Annual Conference -- On P. 2 of the online process, select desired type of room (Double or Single). On P. 3 of the online process, select type of membership (individual or household).
- To just register for the Annual Conference (dues already paid) -- On P. 2 of the online process, select desired type of room (Double or Single). On P. 3 DO NOT select type of membership.
- Double room & meals for 3 days is \$397.22. Single room & meals for 3 days is \$518.92. If cost is an issue, perhaps your parish or Diocese can help!
- If you don't have internet access or need help, try to get a friend to help you. If this is not feasible, Kanuga contact is Allie Pfeffer at 828-233-2826 or by apfeffer@kanuga.org. Registrations closes on Friday May 19, 2019. If you miss the deadline, contact Allie Pfeffer to see if Kanuga can accommodate a late registration.

CHURCHES AROUND THE DIOCESE . . . in the Clearwater Deanery . . .

All Saints Episcopal Church
1700 Keystone Road, Tarpon Springs, FL 34688-8928
(727) 937-3881

www.allsaints.dioswfl.org/

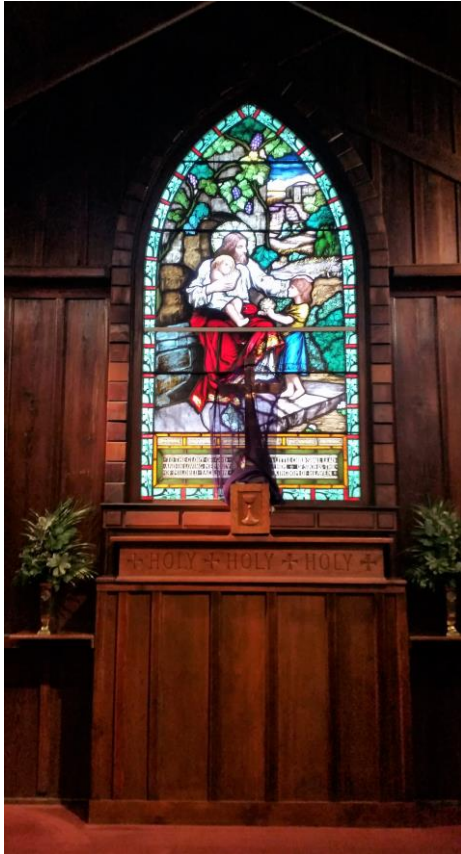


In 1892 the Episcopal Diocese of Florida was split into two sections: the Diocese of Florida to the north and the Missionary District of Southern Florida. The first mention of All Saints Episcopal mission with 10 communicants was in that year. As there was no church building, services were held in parishioners' homes.

By 1905, with 24 communicants, plans were made for erecting a church building. A choice block of property near the center of the town of Tarpon Springs was offered by a business man from Philadelphia. Without anticipating further growth, a small plot of only 85 feet x 185 feet was selected at the corner of Tarpon and Grosse Avenues.

The little church, begun in 1906, was constructed of locally cut native Florida pine, to which aging imparted an almost indestructible hardness. The church was built in the Florida Gothic style with a seating capacity of 48. Consecration of the church building by Bishop Gray was held on February 23, 1907. The first Parish meeting was held in the church in 1908. Mrs. John Cheyney served as organist at the dedication and also founded the women's organization now known as Episcopal Church Women.

The ECW provided all of the original pews and altar linens, while donations from other parishioners and friends paid for the building and interior fittings. The first memorial is the high altar stained glass window depicting Christ receiving and blessing children, which was installed when the church was built in 1906. Over the years many other memorial stained glass windows were added.



Christ receiving little children



Andrew and Peter being called

Over the years the congregation fluctuated due to both the Depression and World Wars. By 1958 the congregation had grown to 82 communicants and in the 1960's a Sunday School was formed. As the congregation continued to grow it became necessary to expand the Church in 1966. The seating capacity now became 130. The church had a bell tower, but a proper bell was lacking. A bell was chosen but as it weighed nearly 300 pounds it meant the belfry would have to be reinforced. Fifty-eight years after the erection of All Saints Church, the bell pealed in the belfry for the first time.

In November of 1970, All Saints was admitted to Parish status and **Rev. Willis Doyle** became the first Rector. As All Saints continued to expand it soon reached the limits of its facilities and a successful stewardship program soon led to the purchase of a heavily wooded four acre building site overlooking Lake Tarpon on Keystone Road. The plans called for the relocation of the beloved church building to the new site, the erection of a new parish hall, and sufficient parking areas.

At midnight on June 20, 1979 a procession of church members moved onto Tarpon Ave to proceed to the site on Keystone Road. The church and bell tower were moved separately with the church placed on a large flatbed truck. Coordinated efforts were made by the utility companies to raise and lower telephone and power lines along the route, along with the dexterity of the movers who took such special care of the beloved church through the long night. The police department, aware of the historic value of the little building, escorted the move.

Shortly after 7am the church and its procession of believers, some on foot, some in cars, some on bicycles, arrived at the large bluff-like piece of property at the edge of Lake Tarpon. A decision had been made to leave the priceless stained glass windows in place, as well as the antique chandeliers that had been installed in 1966. All survived without incident. The fine craftsmanship showed its fortitude. After prayers of thanksgiving, all present enjoyed a champagne reception as a toast to the success of the journey.

By 1982 the number of parishioners had increased and the need for more pews in the church was evident. The decision was made to expand the west (Gospel) side of the church to alleviate the overcrowding. This was completed in 1984. In 1989 expansion of the east side was completed and a nine rank Reuter pipe organ was installed. These additions brought All Saints Church to its present size.

All Saints Episcopal Church exists today because of the faith and devotion of its ten original founders, who gathered for worship and fellowship, as well as those who followed with the same faith and devotion. We continue in our Mission of the Church to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.

---- Thanks to **Carol Eaton, AG Director**, and to **Connie Rux**, for this article and pictures.

DAG OFFICERS & BOARD

Sarah Hill, Diocesan Directress
sarahhill.fl@gmail.com
727-525-8340

Susan Regan, Treasurer
sfrcpa23@gmail.com
727-804-6255

Secretary, VACANT

Editor of AltarGram, VACANT
altargram@gmail.com

Evelyn Fudge, St. Thomas Chapel Coordinator
rfudge1@tampabay.rr.com
941-531-3662

DEANERY DIRECTORS:

Clearwater - Carol Eaton
Caroleaton90@yahoo.co.uk
(727) 841-8104

Fort Myers – Jo Lane
jobenlane@comcast.net
239-433-7778

Manasota - Lois Fjeld-Torrey
loistorreyvtf@gmail.com
941-756-8984

Naples – Barbara Johnson
Barb1Johnson2@gmail.com
239- 354-1587

St. Petersburg – VACANT

Tampa – Cindy Davidson
ced1906@reagan.com
813-478-2444

Venice - VACANT

HELP WANTED: Secretary; Deanery Directors for the St. Petersburg, and Venice areas; Editor of AltarGram.
If you love Altar Guild and enjoy sharing ideas, there are plenty of (unpaid) opportunities for you!
Secretary keeps minutes of Board meetings and Annual meeting.
Deanery Directors are members of the DAG Board and are encouraged to attend the quarterly Board meetings at DaySpring. Primary responsibility is to maintain phone or email contact with the altar guilds of the churches in your Deanery to let each other know what is going on.
Editor of AltarGram collects news from around the Diocese and shares it in newsletter – basic computer skills very helpful!
If interested, contact Sarah at 727-525-8340.

IMPORTANT DATE

Sunday June 2 – Wednesday, June 5, 2019
Province IV Annual Conference Retreat
Kanuga Conference Center
Hendersonville NC