

# The Epistle

August, 2002

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## RECTOR SABBATICAL BEGINS THIS FALL

The Vestry has approved a nine-month sabbatical, beginning in September and continuing through May, for the Reverend Lisa Hunt to pursue doctoral studies at Peabody College in general administration in the department of Leadership, Policy and Organizations. The rector will still be regularly present on Sundays to preach and celebrate the Eucharist, but will have reduced responsibilities in the areas of administration, pastoral care, and teaching. She will maintain office hours, but her primary focus will be on her education and renewal.

A team of persons will be working to continue our ministry together. Having learned from maternity leaves the value of our staff, capable lay leaders, and the gifts of divinity students, the Vestry, in conjunction with the Rector, is fashioning a team to continue our important work together. This fall we will be graced with three divinity students: Terry Pannell, Leigh Pittenger, and Dawn Riley.

Terry is a seminarian at Sewanee and is planning to be ordained in the diocese of Southwestern Louisiana. He will be with us this fall to participate in a variety of ministries, in order to get an overall feel for parish life. Prior to coming to seminary he worked as a financial officer in a

healthcare network. He will be teaching an adult class on heterosexism and the church (more on that later).

Leigh is a second year student at Vanderbilt Divinity School. She is newly confirmed and interested in spiritual formation and direction. She comes from a Church of Christ background and taught school for a year in Eastern Europe, after graduating from college. Her focus will be on learning the Episcopal tradition as it is lived out in parish life--acolyting, serving as a lector, working on the altar guild, helping with the catechumenal process. She will also be leading our second Companions in Christ group to develop her skills in spiritual direction. This fall Leigh will teach an adult class on Anglicanism and globalization. She will be with us this academic year.

Dawn Riley is preparing to become an ordained minister in the AME church and she will be working as a pastoral associate for St. Ann's 15 hours a week as part of her field education requirement at Vanderbilt Divinity School. Dawn was one of the directors of the Freedom School. Dawn ran track professionally for Nike and has a masters in journalism, having interned at the Rocky Mountain News in Denver. Her ministry

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at St. Ann's will include coordinating children's Church School, serving as the adult leader from St. Ann's for our youth group, visiting the sick, newcomers and the shut-ins, preaching, and assisting in administration. Dawn, like Terry, wants to be exposed to the variety of tasks ordained persons assume in the life of the local church.

Jackie Harris, our parish administrator, and Charlsie Holmes will continue to be present on a daily basis to assist members of the parish in their ministries and to aid in communication. Jackie will continue to manage the building and master calendar, handling our financial information, and parish publications. Charlsie will continue to serve  
*(continued on page 2)*

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## RECTOR'S NOTE

Dear People of God,

This month marks my 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary as rector of St. Ann's. This is an unusual feat in the Episcopal Church, since the average tenure of a rector is 5 years. I am thankful for the riches of our shared experience. Together we have met challenges both within the congregation and in our community seeking to be both imaginative and faithful.

But as in any long-term commitment, what we've always done in the past may not meet the needs of the future. In marriage there is always the need to grow and accommodate and nurture the growth in one's partner to keep the relationship alive and vibrant. Folks sometimes bail out of relationships because they cannot take responsibility for their own growth or can't tolerate it in their partner.

At St. Ann's the time has come to change the form and the rhythm of our leadership. We have been in our current flow for a long time. If we are to grow in spiritual depth, service, and evangelism, lay leadership is going to be required to be front and center and pastoral leadership needs to facilitate that change.. Leadership, which is centered on the pastor, leads to a community bound to be small. Our vision is to be broader. I realize that I need to learn new ways of exercising my pastoral role in order to contribute my part to make that happen.

Since the tornado, I have been involved in many new ventures on behalf of St. Ann's. From the tornado recovery board of the city, to Rediscover East!, to the Chamber of Commerce's Citizen's Report Card on public education, my experience has drawn me into the wider public realm. What I have found both interests and disturbs me. Efforts to create change require leadership and articulated values so that change is for the good. People can make a difference in the quality of life in their communities. So few people offer their talents. There is a great need for Christian witness and ministry in areas of economic development, education, and relationship building.

I have been praying for a long time to discern where and how God would open a way for this change. In preparation for our Vestry retreat, I met with Brad Gray, who served as our facilitator. He told me of a program at Peabody College at Vanderbilt in Leadership, Policy and Organization which takes mid-career people and exposes them to organizational theory and practice to develop their own leadership skills and to aid their work settings to become more fertile learning environments. I have pursued his suggestion and have been admitted to study beginning in the fall of 2002

The Vestry has graciously given me some sabbatical time to pursue this education. "Sabbatical" comes from the same root as "sabbath," a time set apart for rest, study and reflection. I will still be present regularly at St. Ann's on Sundays, but my responsibilities here will be shared by others for this nine-month period. I will thus be freed to begin to get equipped with new skills and vision for our ministry together.

I give thanks to God for a congregation and lay leaders who really are seeking to live their mission. By giving me this time, you are indeed embracing the risks of ministry and opening yourselves to the transforming power of the Spirit. I am deeply grateful.

Peace,  
Lisa

### **RECTOR SABBATICAL BEGINS THIS FALL** *(Continued from page 1)*

as a volunteer receptionist. The bulk of the ministry will flow from the gifts of our lay ministers. We will rely on them to continue teaching, assisting with the administration of the sacraments, staffing our outreach efforts, serving as stewards of our building and grounds and God's money. The Vestry and the Rector are still finalizing the duties and expectations of various leaders and will be modifying as the year unfolds. New updates will be reported in upcoming Epistle articles.

# BE A TITAN FOR THE LORD!

Christians are once again thronging to the Coliseum, but not for martyrdom. No, it's Titans football time again. We need you to come to a Titans game as a Titan for the Lord, helping us to raise money to retire the debt on our new property.

Ask a couple of your friends to help you staff parking for one game this season. For the gift of four hours of your time, you can enjoy the game in air conditioned, or heated comfort, in the company of friends. If we can cover all these games ourselves, we will receive 100% of the sale price of our season parking tickets. If we have to contract with a commercial firm they will take 45% of the gross.

St. Ann's is selling season parking passes for \$165. Holders of the passes will be able to have a secured, guaranteed place, two blocks from the stadium. They will be able to tailgate and will have easy access to the interstates once the game is over.

We need you to spread the word. Pick up a flyer today and post it at your work or favorite coffee emporium.

We have taken out a \$350,000 mortgage to purchase the adjacent property and the proceeds from the sale of these seats will enable us to meet our note more comfortably.

## Financial Highlights as of June 30, 2002

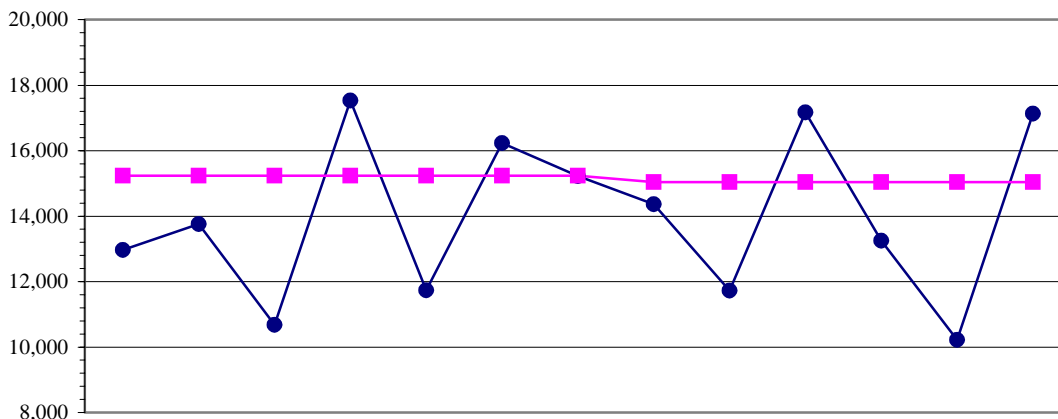
### Operating Budget Year to Date

	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Actual</u>
Income	\$88,948	\$80,464
Expenses	88,102	83,980

### Combined Balance Sheet

Assets	\$3,375,763
Liabilities	380,283
Equity	2,995,480

Operating Pledges vs Collected Funds  
June, 2001 - June, 2002



	06/01	07/01	08/01	09/01	10/01	11/01	12/01	01/02	02/02	03/02	04/02	05/02	06/02
● Collected	12,966	13,765	10,679	17,538	11,740	16,238	15,230	14,364	11,726	17,171	13,252	10,220	17,131
■ Pledges	15,237	15,237	15,237	15,237	15,237	15,237	15,237	15,044	15,044	15,044	15,044	15,044	15,044

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## **EASTWOOD, EAST END PARTNERSHIP ENHANCES OUR OFFERINGS FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND ADULTS**

This fall we will be expanding our Christian formation offerings by joining forces with Eastwood Christian Church and East End United Methodist. Joint endeavors are being planned in children and youth ministry, adult education, and outreach.

Kids in sixth grade and older are invited to participate in our joint youth group beginning

The group just returned from a fun and fruitful trip to the Heifer

Project farm in Arkansas. In September, Christians and Jews throughout the city will be studying Constantine's Sword, a study of Christian/Jewish relations throughout the centuries. This is a joint effort between the Covenant Association and the Interdenominational Ministers Fellowship to foster greater awareness and dialogue throughout Nashville. We will participate in this effort with our partner congregations.

We will also be exploring outreach and evangelism efforts that we can

jointly undertake. The first of these will be assisting in the Rehab! Program of Rediscover East! This is a housing rehab effort to assist senior and disabled homeowners in East Nashville with repairs to ensure their safety in their homes.

We are also exploring doing a joint liturgical arts workshop -- a sort of Vacation Bible School for artists in our midst. Our choirs may also do a joint offering at some point during the year.

### **FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR**

One of the pieces of art that hangs in my office is a calligraphy of those famous words of Martin Luther, "Next to theology, I give to music the highest place of honor." While music in the church is informed by one's theology, I offer that music and theology are equal partners in God's epiphany of God's self to humanity. Music is a great and glorious gift from God and a powerful means for prayer, praise, devotion and evangelism. Therefore, music study, preparation and presentation by our children and adults at St. Ann's are offered to build and develop faith as individuals and a community.

The Adult Choir will begin the 2002-03 season on Wednesday night, August 14, with a cookout, rehearsal and orientation to the choir year. It will be held at my home, 1701 Ashwood Avenue, and will begin at 6:00 pm. Further details will follow at a later date.

We will be rehearsing on Wednesday evenings this year and our first full rehearsal is scheduled for Wednesday, August 21. While this is two weeks earlier than past years, it will give us an opportunity to get started before the Labor Day break occurs. I hope you will mark these dates on your calendars and make plans to be a part of this important and vital ministry.

All interested singers and musicians are invited to contact me with questions and inquiries at 298-2132 or [krc12860@aol.com](mailto:krc12860@aol.com). I look forward to August and to making music together.

Peace and Grace,  
Keith

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## MINISTRY SCHEDULES FOR AUGUST

	<u>8/4/2002</u>	<u>8/11/2002</u>	<u>8/18/2002</u>	<u>8/25/2002</u>
Acolyte	Keith Hime Mary Kantanie	Louis Claus Terry Lawrence	Max Farrar Thomas Greer	Androlic Brooks Lyn Bingham
Altar Guild	Chip Boykin Sue Carpenter Donna George Cathy Sanford	Meg Sherrill Sandra Bennett Thomas Greer	Terry Lawrence Gayle Bradley Laura Weems	Chip Boykin Sue Carpenter Donna George Cathy Sanford
Bread Guild	Meg Sherrill	Sue Carpenter		Jane Thompson Roberta Thomas
Chalice	Charles Jones	Peggy Hardin	Rosemary Burdeshaw	Sue Ross
Counters	Lee Perry Ned Overton	Sandy Bennett Pat Campbell	Bruce Farrar Jeff Swoner	Jim Hughson Joe Taylor
Ushers	Anita Bugg Debra Henricks	Deanna Dunn Patty Harman	Gayle Bradley style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px;">	Jeff Swoner Lee Russell
Greeters				
Lector	Tom Hardin	Shelia Reynolds	Sue Ross	Lyn Bingham
Prayers	Sue Ross	Tom Hardin	Alvin Burt	Anita Bugg
Hospitality	Martha Ramsey		Vicki Brown Chris Klein	
Flowers	William Taylor			

## DAVID WILLIAMS TAKES NEW POSITION

David Williams, who has served as the accompanist at St. Ann's for the last two years, is resigning at the end of August to assume an accompanist position at First Presbyterian Church on Franklin Road.

"I will really miss the people of St. Ann's. They have been wonderful and I know that they have appreciated my work. It was a very difficult decision," said David. David joined the staff after the tornado and

has set a high standard for musical accompaniment. His solo concert here in the winter was dynamic. He has been beloved by the choir. The rector and the music director will begin the difficult task of finding a musician to fill David's position.

The congregation will have a chance to honor David for his ministry on August 25<sup>th</sup>, his last Sunday at St. Ann's.

# AUGUST, 2002

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
				5:30 Choir Camp	5:30 Choir Camp	10:00 Choir Camp 3:00 Titans Scrimmage
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
8:00 Eucharist 9:30 Eucharist 10:30 Hospitality 6:00 Stonewall Ch	6:00 Re! East		11:30 Women's Pr Grp			7:00 Titans Pre-Season Game
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
8:00 Eucharist 9:30 Eucharist 10:30 Hospitality 10:45 Strategic Chairs & Vestry Meeting 6:00 Stonewall Ch			11:30 Women's Pr Grp 7:00 Stewardship	7:00 Titans Pre-Season Game		4:00 Parents Grp
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
8:00 Eucharist 9:30 Eucharist 10:30 Hospitality 5:00 Integrity 6:00 Stonewall Ch	5:00 Re! East 6:00 MW Board	7:00 Vestry	11:30 Women's Pr Grp 7:00 Choir Practice			
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>
8:00 Eucharist 9:30 Eucharist 10:30 Hospitality 6:00 Stonewall Ch			11:30 Women's Pr Grp 7:00 Choir Practice			