



# **Report of Institutions**

**The Diocese of South Carolina**  
The 232<sup>nd</sup> Annual Diocesan Convention

## **Bishop Gadsden Episcopal Retirement Community**

### **A Mission Lived Every Day**

Founded in 1850, Bishop Gadsden is a Life Plan Retirement Community that embraces God's call to ministry. We affirm positive living for all who live and work here. We serve with integrity. We exercise wise stewardship. We reach out with a generous spirit. These words guide our actions and decisions. Our mission calls us to respect the diverse members of our community while also working to ensure that Bishop Gadsden provides exceptional care and service. As the Southeast's leading life plan retirement community, Bishop Gadsden has more than 500 residents and 500 employee team members who shape its vibrant character. This is who we are and what makes our community extraordinary.

This past year has been an exciting year for Bishop Gadsden. As we closed the doors to Read Cloister and Arcadia Close, which served Bishop Gadsden for over 30 years, we opened The Gadsden Glen, a 150,000 square-foot center for health and rehab, which boasts a state-of-the-art short-term rehab center as well as a new home for our skilled nursing and memory care residents. Before we moved our residents into this extraordinary new facility, we paused in prayer to give thanks to God and to remember the legacy of those who have gone before us who faithfully believed in and financially provided for the mission of Bishop Gadsden.

We had a joyous and spirit filled dedication where Bishop Ruth Woodliff-Stanley blessed our new facility and prayed that it would continue to enable us live faithfully into God's call to ministry. While the building is absolutely beautiful inside and out, we were honored to remember not only our own history in the design, but also the legacy of the land and those who have called it home from generations past. We were able to have a replica of the altar that was in the Bee Street Home for Widows and Orphans constructed and placed in the Edwards Family Chapel in the Glen, and there are several large pieces of wall art that are replicas of the original wallpaper in the Episcopal Church Home on Laurens Street.

While being faithful to its Episcopal identity, Bishop Gadsden boasts a warm sense of ecumenicalism. This past year, we welcomed all of the sisters of Our Lady of Mercy into our community as residents, thus becoming an integral part of our already strong Roman Catholic community. Along with our Catholic friends, many other denominations and faiths are represented and come together within our community, each being warm and welcoming to all. Perhaps one of the most beautiful ecumenical examples on our campus is our resident led compline service which takes place on Sunday evenings. Residents from

all different denominations come together and participate in this ancient form of prayer at the end of the day.

Bishop Gadsden is proud to have The Reverend Charles Jenkins serving full-time as the Director of Pastoral Care and Chaplain. Assisting him, The Rev. Dow Sanderson provides pastoral care and celebrates weekly Eucharists for our residents over in The Gadsden Glen. Starting in December, Bishop Gadsden will also welcome The Rev. Courtney Davis-Shoemaker who will provide pastoral care to residents and their family members, as well as our employees over in the Glen.



## Report to the Diocese of South Carolina - November 2022 -

If 2021 was an intentional but careful step toward welcoming guests to return “home” to Kanuga as we began to emerge from the darkness of the pandemic, 2022 was a sinking into a renewed rhythm of worship and healing—made possible by the Kanuga community’s support and a much stronger financial position.

Kanuga is indeed continuing along a path toward financial health, and has made progress again in 2022. We were fortunate that our fundraising efforts in 2022 resulted in strong annual giving, a trend that has been on the increase since 2020. These funds are now being utilized to move Kanuga forward in programming, rather than to prop up our operations. Operations are now close to a break-even scenario in which expenses are covered, staff are compensated well, and improvements to many areas, including food and beverage, are well underway.

With this renewed focus on excellence in programming, in 2022 we were pleased to host and sponsor myriad events and programs, including Nuevo Amanecer, Winterlight and Youth Week, Camp Kanuga, Awakening Soul, Daughters of the King, dozens of parishes, Kanuga Christian Formation, Renewal, Iconography, Mountain Trail Outdoor School, and many more. We have introduced twice-annual service weekends to the calendar, and developed a new concert series of outdoor performances. We are thankful for these successes, but this list doesn’t begin to describe the depth of spirit that exists on campus as we re-gather to worship in person.

In 2022, as a community grounded in appreciation and empathy, we prayed for each other and the world in a visible way through a new prayer ribbon ministry that began as a response to the invasion of Ukraine. Within days, dozens of ribbons were inscribed with personal prayers and hung in The Chapel of The Transfiguration. And then, one day, we were asked if a prayer could be added for a loved one. Soon, an entire system was developed using ribbon colors to denote specific types of prayer, and a growing rainbow of gently swaying ribbons was suspended from the ceiling.

Indeed, thousands of campers, youth conference teens, adult conference participants, staff members, lodging guests, mountain bikers, clergy and lay leaders, and people from all walks have written prayers on these ribbons. The meditations themselves include everything from prayers for the ill to those who are victims of war, violence, and poverty, to those who govern, those who sin, and those who bring us joy.

In effect, Kanuga’s prayer ribbon ministry has evolved to serve as a visible form of the *Prayers of the People*. When I walk into the Chapel now, underneath these prayers that are lifted high toward the Spirit, thousands of ribbons dancing in the sunlight, I sense the strength of the Kanuga mission in a real and tangible way, and feel the Holy Spirit at work.

I feel hope. I feel gratitude. And I hope you will join me in praying:

“For the good earth which God has given us, and for the

wisdom and will to conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.” —from *Prayers for the People*

Thanks to all who have shared their wisdom, voice, financial resources, friendship, partnership, and commitment to Kanuga. Our community demonstrates every blessed day the wisdom and the will to keep Kanuga intact and thriving for many generations to come.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael".

Michael R. Sullivan  
President / CEO



## **Religious Life: Annual Report**

### **The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina**

#### **LEADERSHIP**

Jim Buxton '91 is the currently-elected Chair of the Board of Trustees. He began his first 3-year term in July 2022. Richard Star is chair of the Porter-Gaud Foundation, which oversees the philanthropic efforts for the school including the current capital campaign for a new performing arts center and auditorium as well as a chapel. There are three clergy representatives on the board in addition to eighteen other members: The Rt. Rev. Chip Edgar, The Rt. Rev. Ruth Woodliff-stanley, and The Rev. Dr. Anthony Kowbeidu. DuBose Egleston is in his 14<sup>th</sup> year as Head of School. DuBose currently serves on the Governing Board for the National Association of Episcopal Schools and the Board of Trustees for the Southern Association of Independent Schools.

#### **CHAPLAINCY FACULTY AND STAFF**

Mr. David Rowe - Lower School Chaplain

The Rev. Henrietta M. Rivers - Middle School Chaplain

The Rev. Palmer B. Kennedy - Head Chaplain, Upper School Chaplain, and Religion & Philosophy Chair

Ms. Allison Swiger - Upper School History / Religion & Philosophy Faculty and Student Ministry Leader

Ms. Jen Locklair - Middle School History Faculty and Student Ministry Leader

#### **HISTORY**

Porter-Gaud has a long history of living out its spiritual identity as an independent Episcopal school rooted in the rich heritage of Anglicanism. For much of its history, Porter-Gaud had one chaplain who taught all the religion classes, conducted chapel services, and provided pastoral care for the school community. As the School has grown and the needs for ministry have increased, the Board of Trustees has bolstered the chaplaincy so that there are now three full-time chaplains on campus in addition to a faculty member teaching Religion classes and supporting student ministry.

#### **WORSHIP AND DISCIPLESHIP**

In addition to the traditional celebration of Holy Communion each Thursday morning in St. Timothy's Chapel, there is a weekly chapel service on a divisional basis for the Lower, Middle, and Upper School students and faculty. The School observes the major festivals of the church calendar. Advent chapel services are held in all three divisions. The Lower School holds a Christmas chapel and the Middle and Upper Schools have a Christmas Eucharist. The School's service of Lessons and Carols, held at the Church of the Holy Communion, is a tradition that dates back over 30 years and is a highlight of the Christmas season for the school community. The Middle and Upper Schools mark All Saints and Ash Wednesday in their respective chapels, and they each celebrate the Eucharist during Holy Week. The Middle and Upper Schools have, furthermore, developed a vibrant ministry of student groups. Vestry and Bible study groups meet weekly with strong attendance. Vestry members hold significant leadership roles on campus and assist in leading worship in chapel, planning and leading retreats, leading small groups, and helping the chaplain plan and refine weekly chapel services. The chaplains continue to develop this ministry and are discussing service opportunities, and how to develop a sequential curriculum for student spiritual growth.

## **ACADEMICS**

In the Lower School, Porter-Gaud offers creative and thought-provoking lessons using biblical stories and themes and dovetails with the wider virtues and DEI program. In Middle School, our fifth grade students study the character of God as revealed in the Old and New Testaments. In sixth grade, they take a survey course on the New Testament, focusing on the Gospels and the life of Jesus, and our eighth graders take a survey course on the Old Testament. The Upper School features a required course on the New Testament and Ethics, an elective on the Problem of Evil, and interdisciplinary seminars. The Upper School Department of History curriculum also includes World Religions as an elective every other year.

## **SERVICE**

Porter-Gaud believes in loving others as we ourselves have been loved, and that it is more blessed to give than to receive. We thus have an active and robust community service program through which students volunteer thousands of hours annually to assist various agencies throughout the Lowcountry. Service opportunities are available with numerous agencies including those working with at-risk and special-needs children, environmental and animal welfare, health and senior-adult issues, and hunger and poverty needs. For a more detailed and comprehensive list of our programs please contact Rev. Palmer B. Kennedy ([pkennedy@portergaud.edu](mailto:pkennedy@portergaud.edu)) who will connect you with our Director of Community Service, Gretchen Tate.

## **PORTER-GAUD MISSION STATEMENT**

Porter-Gaud is an Episcopal, coeducational, independent, college preparatory day school. We acknowledge the sovereignty of God, recognize the worth of the individual, and seek to cultivate a school community that endows its citizens with a foundation of moral and ethical character and intellect. Porter-Gaud fosters a challenging academic environment that honors excellence in teaching and learning, respects differences, expects honesty, and applauds achievement. The school strives to create an environment that nurtures and protects what we value most in our children: their faith, their curiosity, their talents, their integrity, their humanity, and their dreams.

## **EPISCOPAL IDENTITY AT PORTER-GAUD**

As an Episcopal school, Porter-Gaud stands on the foundation of Anglican theology rooted in the Scriptures and expressed in the Book of Common Prayer. True to our Episcopal identity, we trust in the love of God revealed to us in Jesus Christ, believe in the dignity of every human being, and uphold the principles of honesty and integrity and the pursuit of moral and ethical character. This identity has an integrity that enables us to be an inclusive community grounded in love and respect for each of our members. The religious diversity of the school community does not create silos or ignore differences. Rather, it provides a magnificent opportunity to foster thoughtful dialogue, humility, empathy, and respect for one another as we seek to support the spiritual formation of individuals and families from a variety of religious and non-religious backgrounds. Together, we seek to nurture a community that embodies the unconditional and indiscriminate love of God and cultivates the hearts and minds of young people such that they seek to love and serve all.

## **THE WATCH PRAYER**

*O Lord, may our words be full of truth and kindness, our actions gracious and honorable, our thoughts unselfish and charitable, our character noble and upright, and our habits virtuous, that our school family may grow in faith, honor, and knowledge, as we watch together in all things. AMEN.*

The University of the South is the only institute of higher education founded and governed by dioceses of the Episcopal Church. The bishops, clergy, and laity of more than two-dozen dioceses form the core of the University's Board of Trustees. These connections foster mutually beneficial relationships that make Sewanee a truly unique and special place.

*For more information or to view this report online, visit [episcopal.sewanee.edu](http://episcopal.sewanee.edu)*

### 2022-2023 SEWANEE ALMANAC

#### College of Arts & Sciences:

- Total enrollment in the College: **1,735**
- Total aid awarded to College students from Constituent Dioceses: **\$41,311,493**
- Total number of Episcopal College students from all 27 Constituent Dioceses: **240**

#### School of Theology:

- Enrollment in the seminary: **73**
- Percentage of full-time, residential seminarians receiving a scholarship or need-based aid: **95%**
- Dioceses represented by current seminary student body: **37**

### HOW YOUR DIOCESE SUPPORTS SEWANEE FINANCIALLY

*(Includes Sewanee Fund and capital project gifts for the fiscal year 7/1/2021 - 6/30/2022)*

- Diocesan support in FY22: **\$2,000**
- Support from parishes in the diocese: **\$5,000**
- Percentage of parishes in the diocese made a gift to Sewanee: **19%**

*Sewanee is committed to meeting our students' full financial need. Your support helps us meet this goal.*

### HOW YOUR DIOCESE ENGAGES WITH SEWANEE

- College students from the diocesan area: **29**
- Seminarians from the diocese: **1**
- School of Theology alumni currently serving in the diocese: **16**
- EfM groups in the diocese: **5**

### YOUR TRUSTEES

- The Rt. Rev. Ruth M. Woodliff-Stanley, bishop
- The Rev. Rob Donehue (2022)
- The Rev. Ryan Currie (2025)
- Michael Kirk Battle (2024)
- Jane Hart Lewis (2023)

### YOUR SEMINARIANS

- Eric Bash, T'24 - Grace Church Cathedral, Charleston

#### Staff Contacts:

Casey Perkins, T'22, Director of Trustee & Church Relations • 931.598.1316 | [casey.perkins@sewanee.edu](mailto:casey.perkins@sewanee.edu)

Jesse Bornemann, Assistant Director of Trustee & Church Relations • 931.598.1237 | [jabornem@sewanee.edu](mailto:jabornem@sewanee.edu)



# ST. CHRISTOPHER

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## Camp and Conference Center

### **A Brief History**

St. Christopher comprises just over 300 acres on Seabrook Island. The history of this property precedes colonization, with the first known inhabitants likely being the Stono Native Americans. We are hoping to explore the subsequent colonial and antebellum history of the property by working with a professional historian. Our history as an institution began in 1938, when the Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina sponsored a summer camp for underprivileged children. This summer camping tradition has continued, with brief interruptions for a polio outbreak and WWII, for the past 84 years. In 1951, a larger portion of Seabrook Island was donated to the Diocese, including the current St. Christopher property. Though there were subsequent sales of some of this property, the camp and conference center itself continued to expand its physical infrastructure, including the construction of facilities like the conference halls, dining hall, and staff housing. In 1981, St. Christopher founded the Barrier Island Environmental Education Program, a wildly successful program which now serves over 7000 students during the school year.

### **A Season of Transition**

Immediately following the schism in 2012, the ACNA Diocese of South Carolina continued to operate St. Christopher under its purview. The recent Supreme Court decision of 2022, and final settlement with ACNA, returned St. Christopher to the Episcopal Diocese. The official transfer happened on October 1, 2022. We are fortunate to have two highly experienced interim executive directors, Rick and Helen Hargreaves, who are at the helm during this transition. We are working with an architect, Simons Young, and two consultants from Episcopal Camp and Conference Centers, who are providing counsel on various aspects of the physical plant, operations, and strategic planning. As we move through this transition, this work is being supported by our Steering Committee, including the Rev. Jennie Olbrych, Brian Monroe, the Rev. Laura Rezac (chair), and Bishop Ruth Woodliff-Stanley. There are challenges facing St. Christopher in this season, including addressing deferred maintenance that accumulated during the Covid-19 pandemic, and repairing the dining hall, which was

damaged in a major fire in December 2021. Despite these challenges, St. Christopher has many strengths, including a dedicated staff, excellent and well-attended educational and camping programs, and a conference center that continues to be heavily booked.

## **Opportunities**

In this season of transition, there are many ways to connect with St. Christopher!

- Most importantly, please pray for St. Christopher, including all staff and guests.
- Consider booking your next vestry or parish retreat at St. Christopher, and advertising its availability for personal spiritual retreats.
- Encourage children and youth to sign up for camp this summer!
- Encourage high school students to consider becoming counselors (volunteer leadership positions).
- If you know a college student who would make a great summer staff member, encourage them to apply to work at St. Christopher this upcoming camp season.
- Clergy and lay youth leaders, consider signing up to be a camp chaplain for a week this summer.
- Do you enjoy painting, maintenance work, or have other handy skills and could volunteer your time? Are you interested in forming a team to come out to St. Christopher for a mission workday? The facilities staff are interested in working with folks who could potentially assist with small projects on the grounds.
- Do you own a John Deere dealership and can give us a deal on a tractor? Are you a small business owner who might have other ways to assist with various aspects of our camp and conference center operations? Please contact Rick and Helen Hargreaves if you have creative ideas in this area.
- There are limited opportunities to serve as volunteer weekend hosts at St. Christopher. Please contact Rick and Helen Hargreaves to learn more.

## **Contact Information**

Interim Executive Directors: Rick and the Rev. Deacon Helen Hargreaves  
([hhargreaves@stchristopher.org](mailto:hhargreaves@stchristopher.org))

Director of Reservations: Sue Mahaffee ([smahaffee@stchristopher.org](mailto:smahaffee@stchristopher.org))

Summer Camp Registration:

<https://stchristopher.org/home-5/summer-camp/2022-camp-schedule/> (Early registration for Episcopalians begins January 9, 2023)

Chair of Steering Committee: Rev. Laura Rezac ([lrezac@ststephenschs.com](mailto:lrezac@ststephenschs.com))

## **2022 Annual Report**

### **Danny Sanford, Chief Executive Officer**

Thinking back over 2022, thus far, it is almost hard to think of a word to describe our present state. While much has changed, our mission and commitment to seniors remains the same. However, a word that quietly comes to mind repeatedly is “steadfast”. Though many large projects are yet to be completed, active steps are being taken every day, moving us steadily forward, hence the word steadfast. Still Hopes is dutifully pushing forward, achieving our goals and we are excited to see forward movement through our efforts.

One such project is the reinvention/expansion of our Bistro venue. While COVID has certainly caused many delays, we will be re-opening the doors of this beloved dining space at the end of this month, October. Residents will enjoy not only updates to the features of the Bistro they previously loved, but also a completely new pub area where they can congregate with friends and family for hours of socialization and relaxation.

When you look off our campus, the efforts in York, SC are continuing to take shape. Our architects will present the master land plan within a week from now. We conducted very successful focus group sessions with potential York Place residents in April. These helped to shape the master land plan design. We continue to work with Winthrop University to determine how the child development program will best fit into this community, all designed to truly make York Place an “intergenerational” middle-market residential community for its residents.

Closer to home, we have purchased a ten-acre site to create a second middle market community. This additional site literally borders our current campus. Access to the property will occur in early 2024. We will be able to serve an entirely new group of seniors right here in Columbia, and we are so thankful for the opportunity. This will broaden the ministry of Still Hopes to a larger group of seniors and we look forward to having this expansion of mission come to life.

One more effort certainly worth mentioning is our own child development center here at Still Hopes. Again, COVID paused our plans, but we are now, again, actively planning to launch a capital fund campaign in 2023. This center will benefit countless staff members when they are given the opportunity to have quality childcare right alongside the place where they work.

Still Hopes’ Mission is to provide a faith-based community where life will be rich and full as God intends it to be, holding to our values, serving one another with dedication, and promoting health and wellness for all. As always, we pledge to honor this Mission through our good work at Still Hopes. Your support is vital to our success, and we thank you for your kindnesses, both with your monetary support and your prayers. It is my pleasure to bring you this report and to continue to serve this great ministry organization.

Blessings,





# VOORHEES COLLEGE

## **Voorhees University Achieves New Levels of Excellence**

Voorhees University has remained steadfast on the path to the “Next Level of Excellence” in 2022. University President, Dr. Ronnie Hopkins named the founding Director for the Rural Community Development Institute, Cathy L. Scarborough. He also named deans: Mary M. Hill, dean of Students; and Mr. Corey V. Smith, dean of Chapel and Spiritual Engagement. Mr. Eddie Ellis was named Director of the Tiger Pep Band

In accordance with the mission of Voorhees, the new president’s goal and mantra is “Next Level of Excellence,” which is to be demonstrated in every aspect of the college’s operations. One example of that excellence was the university’s collaboration with IBM to create a Cybersecurity Leadership Center and hosting another successful SACSCOC On-site Peer Review Reaffirmation visit in October. In September, sixteen youth at the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice began taking classes through Voorhees’ Second Chance program.

Voorhees’ student body continues to reach the Next Level of Excellence. Our students were honored in 2022 by the United Negro College Fund; Zay’Aunnna Beard, Kyneisha Graham, Simya Levine, Zykevia Mitchell, and Keyana Yeoman were recognized as UNCF scholars. Two scholars of the W. Franklin Evans Honors College, Derina Webber and Joshua Duncan, represented Voorhees in the prestigious University of South Carolina Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Program.

The spiritual development of our community remains vital to our pursuit of excellence; we are pleased to announce that in-person chapel services have resumed. We are grateful for the opportunity to listen to a diverse group of preachers, as well as the culmination of theological “table talks” and vocational discernment for our students. The institution has been and continues to be in collaboration with Saint Augustine’s University on projects that edify our students while also fortifying our relationship within the Episcopal Church.

Our commitment to partnerships also extended to our relationship with Denmark Technical College. Together, we initiated Operation Olive Branch to enhance the post-secondary experience for new and transfer students.

The Voorhees University Athletic department continues to make tremendous strides, as Mr. Cabral Huff, men's basketball coach, was selected as a 2022 Impact Award Winner by Rising Coaches.

Voorhees welcomed 500 students for the academic year, achieving a 25 percent increase in enrollment. Once again, the university was ranked among the best Regional Colleges in the South in the U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges Rankings for 2022. Voorhees was ranked as the Best Value amongst regional colleges in the south. The university improved its overall standing by twenty points from the previous year, advancing from 46<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> amongst Historically Black Colleges and Universities. The institution advanced to 3<sup>rd</sup> in top performers on Social Mobility, which measures how well schools’ graduate students who receive the federal Pell Grant and 33<sup>rd</sup> amongst regional colleges in the south.



We continued to develop ideas and projects, which were supported by external grant sources. The Voorhees University Partnership received \$18.9 million in grant funding in 2022. This funding is being used to prepare teachers to improve learning outcomes from students, awarded under the Supporting Effective Educator Development program.

Begin. Believe. Become.

Voorhees was excited to host the Reverend Ramelle McCall, Canon of Leadership on campus in October. During his visit, Canon McCall agreed to serve as Eucharist for Saint Philip's Cathedral.