

231ST ANNUAL DIOCESAN CONVENTION
REPORT OF INSTITUTIONS



Voorhees College prepares for 125th anniversary and achieving the Next Level of Excellence in 2021

Voorhees College has been on the path to the “Next Level of Excellence” in 2021. Dr. Ronnie Hopkins was named 10th president of the college and he named a new provost, Dr. Damara Hightower Mitchell. He also named academic deans: Dr. Katherine Whitaker, dean of the School of Business and Entrepreneurship; Dr. Tywana Hemby, dean of the School of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences; and Dr. Zhabiz Golkar, dean of School of Science, Technology, Health, and Human Services.

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 college’s development of its Quality Enhancement Plan (Strengthening Guided Career Pathways: The Next Level of Excellence) and hosting a successful SACSCOC On-site Peer Review Decennial Reaffirmation visit in October.

Our students were honored in 2021 by the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Joshua Gayle, SGA president and business administration major, and Quatasia Donaldson, a psychology major, were named 2021 HBCU scholars. Gayle is the first student selected to serve as a cadet battalion commander in the South Carolina State University ROTC program in more than 20 years. The program is a collaboration between SCSU, Voorhees and Claflin. Student Donald Lauer, IV, was the first member of the Phi Beta Fraternity, Inc. in the State of South Carolina to win the Alan Leroy Locke Academic Achievement Award.

The Voorhees Tigers won the 2021 Association of Independent Institutions men’s basketball title in March. It was the second title in three years for the team.

Once again, the college was ranked among the best Regional Colleges in the South in the U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges Rankings for 2022. Voorhees improved its overall standing by six points over the previous year, tying for 48 with the University of Arkansas, Fort Smith. The institution ranked 4th in top performers on Social Mobility, which measures how well schools’ graduate students who receive the federal Pell Grant.

Voorhees had more than \$81 million in grant funding with \$19.4 million actually acquired in 2021. This funding is being used to support enhanced teaching, improve academic performance and critical

thinking, provide educational leadership training and support, and prepare students at the middle school level for college.

The institution's fundraising totaled more than \$5,973,000. Much of the funding supported the institution through challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Not only did the college see a stellar fundraising year, it also retired debt on some of its facilities. All of its facilities are now debt free, which will allow the institution to focus on much-needed deferred maintenance issues.

In an effort to slow the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic on campus, in the fall of 2021, Voorhees implemented a mandatory testing program for students, faculty and staff. Weekly testing was required. Students, faculty and staff also were required to wear masks inside buildings, social distance and wash hands frequently. The institution initiated a program to award gift cards monthly for employees and student who were able to show they were fully vaccinated. A monthly drawing was also held where one student and one employee could win a \$500 gift card. More than 86 percent of employees were vaccinated in 2021 and nearly 50 percent of students were vaccinated.

Voorhees was excited to host the Right Reverend Ruth Woodliff-Stanley on campus in October. During her tour and visit, which included meeting with students, the bishop agreed to serve as an advocate for the institution and discussed other ways she could support Voorhees.

The Voorhees Board of Trustees approved a name change for the institution from college to university. The name change will be official in April 2022.



2021 Annual Report

Danny Sanford, Chief Executive Officer

If you drove onto the Still Hopes campus today, you would encounter huge banners that read “Still Hopes Strong”. There are few times in my life where I can say I’ve read words that ring as true as do these. Just as with many of you, Still Hopes has encountered unprecedented challenge, as well as opportunity, over these last 18 months. However, through the challenges, there has been great strength demonstrated by residents, family members, and staff alike. That strength is witnessed in our residents, who trust us every day to keep them safe, even when they have grown weary of all the “rules”. It is also found in our amazing staff who show up, day after day, with positive attitudes, to do their good work. I say with assurance, that you have reason to be proud of this Episcopal Community as it continues to thrive and works to achieve a very bright future.

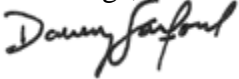
Last year I reported to you that our HopeWell apartment building was nearing completion. I can now say the building is complete, on time and on budget. Residents began moving into HopeWell in February of this year. At this writing there are only 2 of the 80 HopeWell apartments available and seeing this new family of residents move in and become a part of Still Hopes has been a real joy. We now embark on a

reinvention/expansion of our Bistro venue. Residents are excited for the future of that space, which will include both a re-invented dining venue and a pub. Along with my report this year, we are including a fly-over video of our campus so those who have not been here for a few years can see how we have continued to enlarge our mission. We have also had some exciting staffing changes, including the hiring of David Smart, who is now our Vice President of Operations. We also have called a new Chaplain, The Reverend Douglas Gray to fill the role vacated by Reverend Rich Crozier, who has retired.

Off campus, we see our efforts at York Place slowly but surely come to life. A definitive agreement for the York Place project has been drafted and is being finalized now, and the redrafted Bylaws are being considered for the continuing governance of York Place as an intergenerational retirement community campus with day programming for children and youth. It is exciting to see this project moving forward and very soon now it will begin to take shape as we develop the master land plan for the re-invention of the York Place campus in York, SC.

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. You can rest assured that we will continue to find ways to further brighten the journey of our residents and their families. 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,



Report to the Diocese of South Carolina

- October 2021 -

On Maundy Thursday the liturgy begins just like any other, but at the end, we know that something is different because there is no dismissal. We then return to church on Good Friday and pick up as if in mid-sentence, and again, no dismissal. Only when we attend the Great Vigil of Easter, proclaiming that Christ is Risen, do we once again hear those words, "go in peace to love and serve the Lord." In other words, the liturgy itself reminds us that as Christ moves toward the cross, he likewise moves toward resurrection. Nothing stops God's light from shining in the darkness. Nothing stops God's movement to new life.

We have concluded our first spring and summer seasons since 2019 and moved into autumn, and the transition from Maundy Thursday to Good Friday to Easter continues to speak to me. It sums up how I feel slowly emerging from the darkness, reconnecting with people, seeking new life, and of course, being tremendously grateful for all we have learned over the past year and a half. Kanuga's friends and supporters have joined us in confronting the challenges of the pandemic, our Good Friday of sorts, and their outpouring of love sustains Kanuga. We look forward to sharing an Easter moment filled with hope for the wonders to come.

Kanuga is in a much stronger position than we were a year ago. In spring—with health and safety protocols in place—we welcomed conferences back to Kanuga: some online, some in person, and some hybrid. These included Youth Week, Kanuga Christian Formation, Kanuga Renewal, and The Haden Institute. In early June, we were blessed with a visit from The Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers, who worked with our trustees, conference leaders, campers, and youth week participants to open hearts and minds to our role in developing Beloved Community. We hosted an outdoor concert and celebration of life for longtime Kanuga friend and musician Fran McKendree. It was a delight as well to be able to open Guest Period and Camp Kanuga this summer, and bookings are strong through the Thanksgiving season. In November, we will host the first-ever Kanuga Homecoming, inviting our friends and supporters to come together to celebrate community and offer their hands to the work of the Lord through service to Kanuga. Kanuga Lake Inn and Cottages are once again thriving with lively and grateful guests. Mountain Trail Outdoor School operated a daytime field trip series for local students in October, and is at near capacity for its spring 2022 overnight program. We have welcomed back with great joy a number of parishes and other Episcopal groups, including Daughters of the King and the planning team for *Nuevo Amanecer*, which (God willing) will be held at Kanuga in June 2022. As we greet the year 2022, our board and leadership will engage in a strategic planning process for Kanuga, to provide that critical navigation toward our North Star—our mission—to welcome all people to connect with each other, nature, and the Creator.

Certainly, we continue to navigate a difficult job market and ongoing challenges related to COVID-19, but these are not the existential threats we faced a year ago. We have taken the time during the pandemic to think strategically about how Kanuga should be rebuilt and reborn, and about what is needed for the life of this place to continue and to thrive. With this intentionality at the core of our work, we have incorporated much that has been learned over the last 20 months, and made operational changes that will ensure Kanuga's legacy. For example, we contracted with an experienced hospitality company to manage our lodging and food and beverage operations so that Kanuga staff can focus on mission and programming, where our strength lies.

Supporters and friends helped keep Kanuga's doors open when our camps, conferences, and programs were almost completely shut down. These generous gifts, combined with strategic operating decisions and federal relief funds, strengthened our fiscal position over the past year. If we meet our goals, we will be increasingly able to leverage donor support toward improving programming, upgrading facilities, and expanding access to this place we all love. We anticipate finishing the year with a modest surplus—with gratitude for federal relief funds and a PPP loan that was forgiven.

Uncertainty remains, of course, as we all keep a watchful eye on the virus—but I write this report with boundless gratitude and enthusiastic optimism. Above all, I write to thank all who have shared their fellowship, partnership, and commitment to Kanuga's bright future. Together, we can build and sustain Kanuga for generations to come, ensuring that the coming Easter moment is shared and celebrated among all who are lucky enough to stand on this holy ground.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael R. Sullivan President /CEO



DIOCESE OF SOUTH CAROLINA ANNUAL REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2021

FINANCES

(fiscal year ending June 30, 2021)

- Diocesan donations to Sewanee:
\$4,000
- Donations from parishes in the Diocese:
\$2,200
- Percentage of parishes making donations:
15.62%
- Financial aid to college students from the area:
\$779,809
- Financial Aid Awarded to Episcopal students (college and seminary):
\$148,704

ENGAGEMENT

- College students from the area: **34**
- Episcopal college students: **9**
- Residential seminarians: **0**
- Advanced Degree Students: **1**
- School of Theology alumni currently serving in the diocese: **18**

TRUSTEES

The Rev. Rob Donehue • Jane Hart Lewis • Thomas Miller

On average, constituent dioceses received \$37 for each dollar donated to Sewanee.

ALMANAC 2021 - 2022

COLLEGE

- Enrollment in the College: **1743**
- Class of 2025: **480**
- Number of applicants for Fall 2020: **5127**
- Percentage of entering first-year students who received a Sewanee scholarship or need-based funding for Fall of 2021: **97%**

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

- Residential Enrollment in the Seminary: **73**
- Advanced degree and non-degree enrollment: **84**
- Percentage of full-time, residential seminarians receiving a scholarship or need-based aid: **95%**
- Average number of Education for Ministry (EfM) groups per Diocese: **9**



A Message from the Dean | Greetings from the School of Theology!

The 2021-2022 academic year is off to a good start. Thanks to effective vaccines, we have been back in the classroom and chapel, grateful for the chance to return to a more normal seminary experience. We have been joined by two new colleagues on the faculty: our new assistant professor of liturgy, the Rev. Hilary Bogert-Winkler, Ph.D., our new director of contextual education, the Rev. Richard Cogill. We welcomed twenty-four new students in August, from 21 domestic dioceses and 3 foreign countries.

With your generous personal, parish, and diocesan giving, we were able to provide \$1,707,147 in total financial aid to students this academic year. The average award to this incoming class is \$24,764. Your support makes possible their studies and their future service to the church.

Education for Ministry, our program for lay theological formation, has seen increased interest this fall, with registrations well above last year's level. We are delighted that, thanks to generous donations over the past year to the 2021 EfM Scholarship Fund, we are able to provide a number of scholarships to our participating dioceses throughout the country. Support of this fund has helped extend EfM's reach and made it possible for more people to connect their faith to their daily lives through shared study, prayer, and reflection.

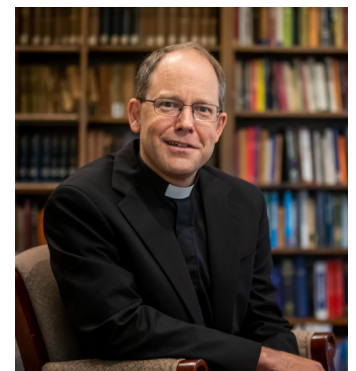
SEWANEE
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

STAFF CONTACT

Bess Turner
Director of Church Relations
931.598.1460
bessturner@sewanee.edu

We are proud of the work we do to form clergy and lay leaders for the Episcopal Church. Your generous financial help makes our work possible, and I hope that you will continue to invest in the church's future by supporting the School of Theology.

*In Christ,
The Very Rev. James F. Turrell, Ph.D.
Vice Provost and Dean of the School of Theology*



View the annual reports for all of our constituent dioceses and learn more about our programs at episcopal.sewanee.edu



Religious Life: Annual Report

The Episcopal Diocese of South Carolina The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina Porter-Gaud Board of Trustees November, 2021

LEADERSHIP

J. Walker Coleman '87 is the currently-elected Chair of the Board of Trustees. He began his first 3-year term in July 2019. Jim Buxton '91 has been elected as the next Board Chair and will take on that role 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. Mark Lawrence, The Rev. Canon Caleb J. Lee, and The Rev. Greg Snyder. Dr. John McCardell, Vice Chancellor of Sewanee, is also serving on the Board of Trustees. DuBose Egleston is in his 13th 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

Ms. Henrietta M. Rivers - Middle School Chaplain

The Rev. Palmer Kennedy - Head Chaplain, Upper School Chaplain, and Chair of the Religion Department

Mr. Nick Rindge - Upper School Religion 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 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. All three divisions mark Ash Wednesday in their respective chapels, and the Middle and Upper Schools 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

Porter-Gaud offers Godly Play and character education curricula in the Lower School that focus on the major stories of the Bible in tandem with selected virtues each month. In Middle School, the character education thread is developed curricularly in 5th and 6th grade in C. S. Lewis's *Narnia* novels, Bible stories, and through Advisory, Chapel, and other divisional programming. Eighth graders take a survey course of the Old Testament. The Upper School features a required course in the New Testament and Ethics and an elective on the writings of C. S. Lewis. The Upper School Department of History curriculum includes World Religions as an elective every other year.

SERVICE

Porter-Gaud has an active community service program through which students volunteer thousands of hours annually to assist various agencies throughout the Lowcountry. Service opportunities are available with agencies working with at-risk and special-needs children, environmental and animal welfare, health and senior-adult issues, and hunger and poverty needs.

RELIGIOUS LIFE SINCE MARCH 2020

The Covid-19 pandemic necessitated numerous changes for the school, including religious life. For much of the time, education was fully or partially virtual, and weekly teaching hours were reduced. Similarly, the inability to hold large gatherings necessitated a shift in conducting chapel services. Middle School chapels were run virtually. Lower School chapels were held by grade level in the gym, or, when weather permitted, outside. Upper School services were conducted virtually by grade level. At the outset of the pandemic, when the school operated entirely virtually, chaplains produced devotional videos for students that found appreciation by their families and even wider audiences. This Fall, as vaccination rates among eligible members of our community continued to rise and student/faculty case numbers remained at a reasonable level, we have been able to resume our programming that preceded the pandemic with only minor alterations. Chapels are - at all levels - once again in-person in the auditorium. Vestry and Bible study gatherings have resumed and are picking up momentum, and religious education courses are operating as normal with proper masking and social distancing. While the pandemic is clearly challenging, it has brought opportunities for chaplains to offer significant ministry to students, their families, staff, administration, and faculty.

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. Because the school community is inclusive and diverse, we cultivate a climate of respectful dialog in matters of faith. The School respects different faith traditions while simultaneously emphasizing its Episcopal core. We uphold the principles of honesty and integrity and the pursuit of moral and ethical character. Inherent in the Porter-Gaud mission is the belief that we possess certain distinctive gifts and talents given to us by a loving God. The school community reflects this belief, and our teachers are committed to helping each student discover his or her gifts and talents.

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.