

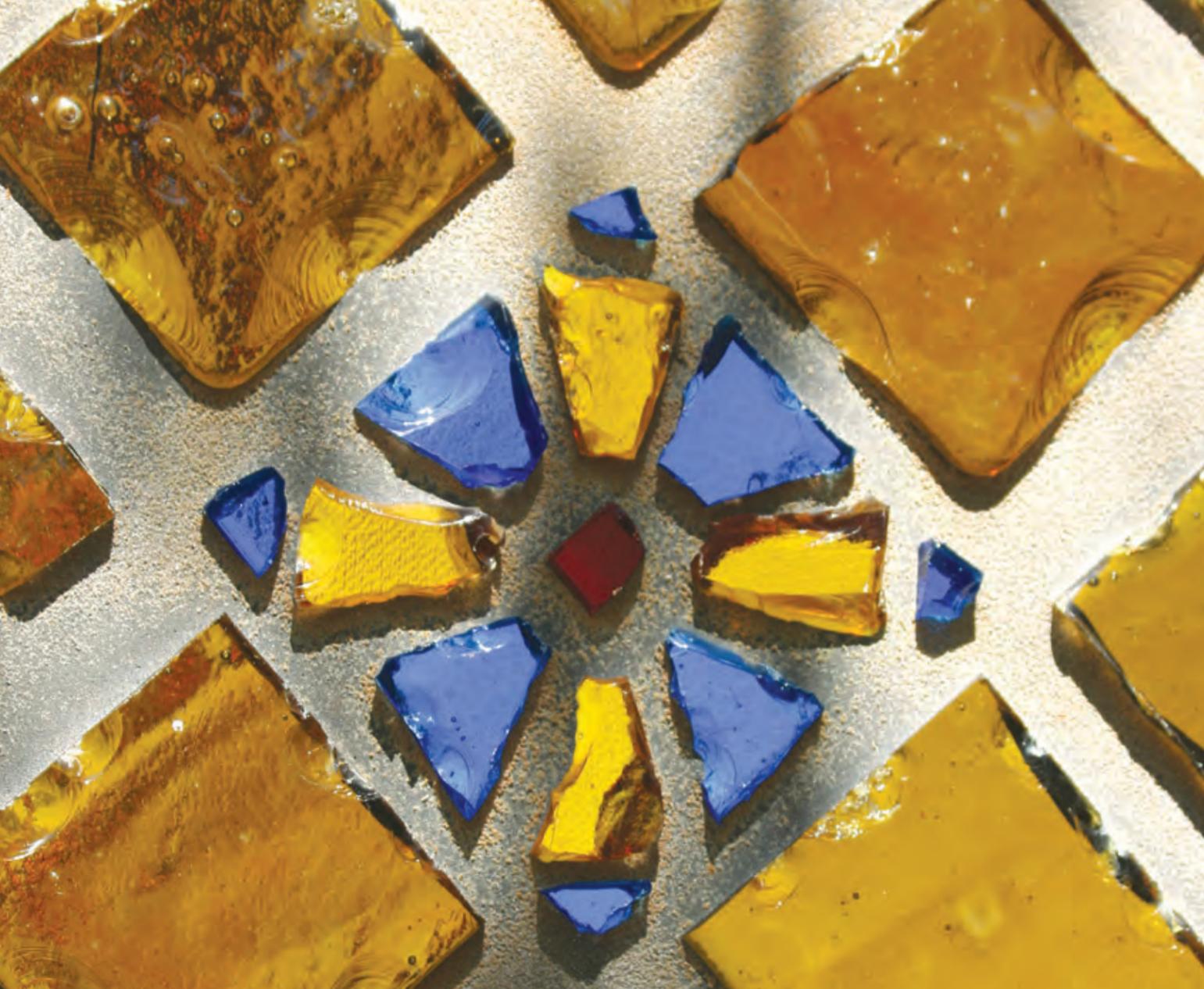


DaySpring

EPISCOPAL CENTER

God's Word, Your Light, Our Legacy





"Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path."

— Psalm 119:105





JESUS SAID, "YOU ARE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD." This statement to his followers is both a test and a truth. The truth is that God's will and purpose is revealed in our lives. The test is illuminated by what our lives show. DaySpring is a place that encourages spiritual testing to help us live in the light of God's truth.

The people of the Diocese of Southwest Florida have long enjoyed the charm and beauty of what was imagined as "a spiritual resource conference center" when it was first created. DaySpring began and has been maintained through the abiding generosity of God's people who have determined to allow their personal giving to enlighten the lives of others. DaySpring has continuously been a preserved environment where its buildings exist for the building of God's people.

Five essential purposes consistently evolve at DaySpring in its mission of serving God through Jesus Christ. DaySpring provides both place and program for the Episcopal Church, other faith communities and non-profit organizations in these ways: **CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY, LEADERSHIP, TRANSFORMATION,** nurturing **SPIRITUAL STRENGTH,** and being **A SACRED PLACE.**

You are prayerfully and joyfully invited and encouraged to be a faithful benefactor of this necessary spiritual resource for God's mission in the world. DaySpring is necessary due to the powerful sources of darkness that desire to extinguish the light of God's love. The same God who said, "Let there be light" and created our world said through Jesus "You are the light of the world." DaySpring is a place where God's light shines. You are needed to keep it brilliant.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert T. Smith".

Fifth Bishop of The Diocese of Southwest Florida



WELCOME

DAYSPRING'S MISSION

is to be a sacred place in the heart of our diocesan community that exists to enrich and empower all people in Christ.

Guests come to relax and reflect, and they leave feeling renewed. They find peace in the natural beauty and tranquility of this sacred place, and they discover kinship with fellow travelers on their own spiritual journeys. Each year, thousands of visitors choose DaySpring as their wellspring of strength and faith. It is common for guests to return annually, bringing their growing families and communities, adding

their own traditions to our continuing legacy.

Our guests include congregations, schools, families, and a wide array of non-profit organizations throughout Florida. They come to soak in and engage with our natural resources; to separate from the busy routines of normal life. They leave, transformed by their experience and become a part of the supporting community.

DaySpring is more than a special place we love. DaySpring transforms us so we can transform the world.



Through the tender mercy of our God,
With which the DaySpring from on high has visited us.

— Luke 1:78



For the same God who said, "out of darkness let light shine,"
has caused his light to shine within us.

— 2 Corinthians 4:6





THE CORNERSTONES OF DaySpring



A SACRED PLACE God's presence shines through the natural beauty of these revered grounds.

SPIRITUAL STRENGTH Guests encounter the holy through both community worship and individual renewal, and their faith is made stronger.

TRANSFORMATION Lives change at DaySpring, in many ways, beginning from the moment you cross the threshold.

LEADERSHIP Leaders interact and are mutually strengthened as they gather to hear the voices of a changing world.

CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY Parishes find new possibilities in their stewardship of a vital parish life.



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"We receive this as a gift from our forebearers, and see it as a gift that we offer for generations to come."

— The Rt. Rev. Dabney Smith
Diocesan House Groundbreaking Nov. 8, 2011



ILLUMINATING A NEW DAY

IN 1979 the Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida recognized the need for a place where guests from all over the world could congregate and worship in a tranquil, transformative environment. DaySpring found an idyllic home in 76 acres of "Old Florida" property along the north bank of the Manatee River, donated by the Hall family. Even then we knew that it would be the people of DaySpring who gave meaning and purpose to this sacred space.

Today, a large number of the users of DaySpring are community organizations or groups not affiliated with the Diocese. This provides a solid, sustainable financial base and is one of the reasons DaySpring is uniquely successful as a diocesan camp and conference center.

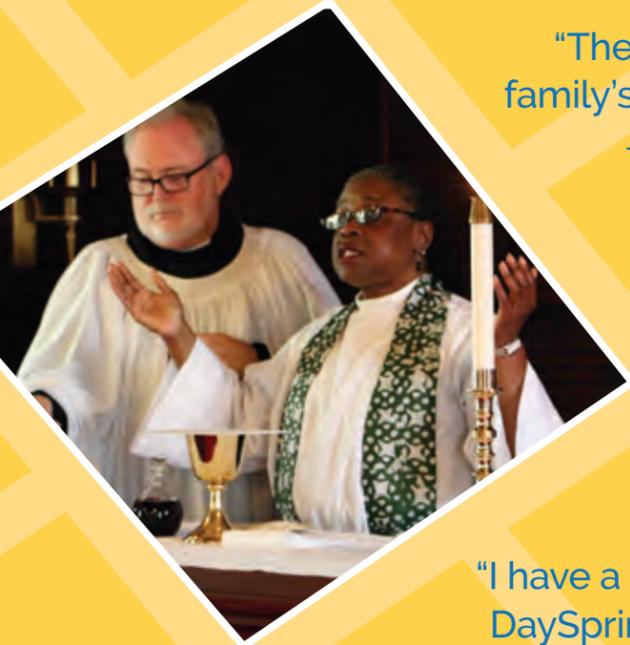


The new vision for the Diocese to expand intentional programming at DaySpring Episcopal Center holistically impacts all areas of the diocese. This new programming includes: congregation development, leadership training, personal retreats, youth camps, art workshops and conferences. The commitment of our congregations to set the Diocesan House (Office of the Bishop) on the campus in 2011 was met with an immediate rise in participation and initiative for parish events and new forms of diocesan gatherings. The new programming, along with the Master Plan facilities expansion, enable the missions and ministry of our vital congregations to unite and excel to greater heights together. We rejoice in consistent feedback from congregations whose members leave DaySpring with a smile - informed, renewed, inspired.

Now as we enter a new era for DaySpring, we celebrate and invite your commitment and voice to our ongoing legacy at DaySpring.

"There is a place in our family's heart for DaySpring."

— Stephen Fluharty



"I have a love for DaySpring and a respect for what it means to the Diocese. Our congregation is very close to DaySpring."

—The Very Rev. Fred Robinson



"In my children's formation from youth program participant to priest and in key church lay leadership roles, I've seen a future for the church that extends beyond my life."

—Rusty Whitley



When life gives you problems, GOD gives you Dayspring! We ♥ you!





THE MASTER PLAN

To build upon the legacy of DaySpring and expand its gift of hospitality, we recognize that a renovation is imperative.

The ministry of DaySpring Episcopal Center bustles through the year, with programming for school groups and adult organizations each week, accentuated with the special energy of summer camps. Temporary buildings must give way to useful spaces customized for our

varied programming needs at DaySpring, while optimizing the ratio of beds to meeting spaces. This will ensure that groups are not turned away due to lack of meeting spaces or age-appropriate lodging options.

The latest audio-visual technology for world-class presentations, a dynamic swimming pool for Florida summer camp activities, a worship space to accommodate

adult large gatherings and lodging accommodations that please seasoned travelers. These are the goals of our master plan, split into three phases.

This transformation comes at a pivotal time when our aging structures, which have served us well for many years, are reconfigured to serve our diocesan vision for the future of DaySpring Episcopal Center. We are delighted to share our Master Plan, with the hope that you will see how this fits into our legacy already well in progress.



Phase 1: Program Center & Pool

(Projected to be complete by December 2016)

Designed by Fawley Bryant Architects and constructed by Willis Smith Construction, the new 12,500 square-foot Program Center will be our most flexible space, anchoring the most active area of the campus with amenities such as the pool, sports courts, open green space, fire pits, and youth cabins. It will serve as our primary facility for youth and adult programs, recreation activities, retreats, teaching, and worship. The new 2,000 square-foot pool and refurbished activity courts will be optimized for youth programming. This new sector will sit prominently but non-disruptively amid the nearly untouched wildlife that defines our campus. The Program Center is at the heart of DaySpring, where lives are visibly transformed with the inward spiritual grace of God's presence.

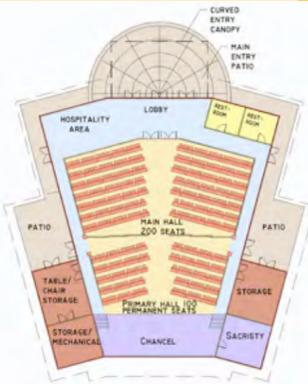


LEGEND

- EXISTING BUILDING
- PROPOSED BUILDING
- EXISTING DRIVEWAY
- PROPOSED DRIVEWAY/PARKING
- PROPERTY BOUNDARY
- TRAILS
- PAVED WALKWAY

Phase 2: Meeting/Worship Center

The Meeting Center will immediately be recognized as the jewel of our property. A 15,000 square-foot facility with a total table seating capacity of 300 people. A large chancel area will overlook the wooded forest and river with south-facing windows to provide great light. The Meeting Center will be the worship space for our largest diocesan events and the most state-of-the-art building on campus. Its flexibility will better optimize the use of the overall conference center and significantly increase our ability to host multiple large groups at one time.



Phase 3: Adult Lodges

The Adult Lodges will replace Cabins 1-4. Today, those cabins offer only twin beds with no private restrooms, hampering the ability to attract many groups seeking more accommodating and comfortable facilities. These two buildings will be two-story structures, tucked back against the wooded backdrop. Each building will have 18 bedrooms, increasing the number of potential sleeping spots by nearly 60 percent and providing a more comfortable experience. These upgraded lodges will enable DaySpring to host expanded overnight offerings for adults and engage national leaders and teachers. Our learning community will be a beacon of health and hope in the Church and beyond.



1979 The Diocese acquires the original 76 acres of DaySpring property along the Manatee River generously donated by the Hall Family.

1982 Official Groundbreaking Ceremony. *DaySpring Groundbreaking - Dec. 11, 1982*

1983 Curry Hall built in honor of Mac and Chris Curry.

1984 DaySpring welcomes its first guests.

1984 Curry Hall and Cabins 1-6 dedicated.

1985-1994 DaySpring purchases 17 acres, bringing our total to 92 acres.

1986 Pavilion A ("The Old Pavilion") constructed.

1988 The St. Thomas Chapel transported to Dayspring from Safety Harbor. *Dedication of St. Thomas Chapel - June 12, 1988*

1989 Executive Director Mike Rivera bulds The Outdoor Chapel.

1990 Additional Meeting Rooms and Dorms built at Bishop Haynes Lodge.

1990-1994 The Director's House, Retreat House, Pool House and Dome House are added.

2000 Completion and dedication of The Youth Cabins.

2001 The "New Pavilion" modular building is assembled as a temporary solution for the need to handle large groups.

2010 The Labyrinth built by DaySpring staff, thanks to a gift by the Episcopal Church Women. *Dedication of the Diocesan House - September 12, 2012*

2012 The Office of the Bishop moves to the renamed DaySpring Episcopal Center.

2014 The DaySpring Development Committee produces 10-year Strategic Master Plan, facilitated by Kaleidoscope, Inc.

2015 The 10-year Master Plan Special Use Permit approved by Manatee County. Phase 1 design and construction plans implemented. *Phase 1 Groundbreaking - March 1, 2016*



A place for the faithful to seek reprieve in nature and unite with a common passion and purpose that will echo beyond our lifetimes.

GOD IS CALLING US

GOD'S WORD commands us to "let **YOUR LIGHT** shine before men."

OUR LEGACY in this lifetime is the time-honored response of the Prophet Isaiah: "Here I am, Lord: Send me." It is the transformational spirit of God's light through DaySpring that calls us to this important time. The ministry of DaySpring is too vital to our people, congregations, and community to hide under a basket.



This new day for DaySpring provides growing opportunity for outreach, programs, and changed lives by ensuring our facilities provide the necessary lampstand for this ministry to shine even brighter for all to experience.

We need your prayers. We enthusiastically invite your participation at our retreats, camps, and conferences. Today we are also requesting your partnership and philanthropy. Your gift to DaySpring and the **GOD'S WORD, YOUR LIGHT, OUR LEGACY** Master Plan will be a living memorial that will brighten the path for others on their walk with the Lord now, and for generations to follow.





"DaySpring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear."
— Hymn 6 Charles Wesley





CAMPAIGN PRAYER

Lord God, we thank you for giving us the many precious memories of DaySpring, which we know is holy ground. We are mindful that dayspring means the beginning of day. As we venture boldly into this new beginning, we pray that those of us who are blessed will open our hearts and recognize how we can be a blessing for generations to come. As we discern our direction we beseech you to always be in our midst. We ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen



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