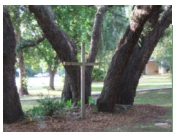


# Episcopal Chapel Center @ USF



FOOD FOR THE COLLEGE SOUL

Volume 1, Issue 1

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## Spring 2011 Mission Trip to Eastern Kentucky



Chapel Center Mission Team at St Timothy's Outreach Center, Irvine, KY

Mission team members from the University Chapel Center @ USF recently traveled to Irvine, Kentucky to assist the Episcopal diocese of Lexington with outreach efforts in eastern Kentucky.

St Timothy's Episcopal Outreach Center is located on Barnes Mountain in Estill County, southeast of Lexington. The center has existed since 1982 to serve the people of Barnes Mountain and

the surrounding areas and to help minister in the lives of residents in such a way that they improve physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

The opportunity to visit and work from the Outreach Center is open to those wanting to serve in eastern Kentucky, regardless of church affiliation. Activities at the Center include: home repair and improvements, day camps for local children and youth, community meals, food pantry, clothing bank, distribution of used appliances, and construction of wooden caskets.

The Chapel Center team worked under the supervision of St Timothy's director Fr Bryant Kibler on local home projects, which included re-

pairing floor boards, laying new flooring, and painting. On Tuesday night during their visit team members assisted with a community meal, helping with food preparation and visiting with local residents. The trip was a great opportunity not only to help in a tangible way but also to learn about the history and culture of Appalachia.

*(See inside this issue for student views of the mission trip.)*



## Chapel Center Again Open for USF Residents

The Chapel Center will once again be open for student residents in the coming school year. Applications are currently being accepted for USF students in good standing to rent rooms at the Center. Residents will be expected to help with the physical maintenance of the

Chapel Center and to be actively involved in the spiritual life of the Center, assisting with weekly meals, meetings, and services. The Chapel Center is indebted to volunteers from St Catherine's Episcopal Church, Temple Terrace, who have generously helped assemble

furniture and prepare the living quarters for new residents.



### Chapel Center News:

- MISSION TEAM TRAVELS TO EASTERN KENTUCKY
- CHAPEL CENTER ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR FALL RESIDENTS
- CHAPEL CENTER FACEBOOK FAN PAGE AND BLOG LAUNCHED

### Inside this issue:

- STUDENT VIEWS OF OUR MISSION TRIP **2**
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# Episcopal Chapel Center @ USF

## Mission Trip Perspectives:



Helping others isn't all about the skill level of the helper or about the level of need of the person being helped; it's about the amount of compassion and love put into the work being done. With this mindset, all of us as Saint Anselm's Chapel at USF were able to act as stewards of Christ. We painted rooms and fixed floors, but most importantly, we were humbled and given the opportunity to love others as

Christ loves us. Throughout the mini mission to Kentucky, I often thought about how often I take for granted every blessing God has bestowed on my life- those of health, family, and happiness. For the families living in Appalachia, many of these very basic necessities are lacking. Instead of complaining, however, these people put on a smile and fight through the storms of life. My perception of these people was narrow prior to

our trip. Now that perception is much wider and more accurate, and I am so thankful to have been given the opportunity to serve them. They may not realize it, but the people of Appalachia did more for me than I ever could have done for them. Please keep the people of Appalachia in your prayers, so that they may know God's love through missions like ours and others in the future.

—Samantha Stratton  
USF Jr, Psychology  
Miss USF 2011

“THEY MAY NOT REALIZE IT, BUT THE PEOPLE OF APPALACHIA DID MORE FOR ME THAN I EVER COULD HAVE DONE FOR THEM.” -



A few weeks ago, we spent some time at St. Timothy's Episcopal Outreach Center in Irvine, Kentucky. The five people in our group arrived late on Monday night and then spent three days learning about this part of the Appalachian region, meeting local people, and working. We worked on two houses, painting walls and ceilings and putting down flooring. Considering that we were a small group, I think we accomplished a decent amount of work in three

days. Of course, the years of experience of Father Bryant Kibler, who runs the outreach center, probably helped.

When I've gone on service trips before, I was usually with groups of about 25 people. A group of only five people was certainly different, but I thought it worked well. Though we only had a few days in Kentucky, I felt that I was able to really get to know everyone else, and we could all have good conversations about what

we were seeing and our reactions to the situation. Significant poverty exists here, and we found ourselves faced with questions concerning what might be done to help these people improve their circumstances. Perhaps the most important thing is to simply realize that members of this community probably know what is needed better than we do, and we should listen openly and intently to their unique perspective and their ideas.

—John Trimmer  
USF Sr, Engineering



## Life at the Chapel Center

Being twenty and almost twenty one is a hard age. An age full of discovery, curiosity, and quests for fulfillment. I was twenty going on twenty-one when I first stepped into the USF Episcopal Chapel on Sunday September 10th 2010. I was greeted enthusiastically by Father Jim and Alisa Carmichael. Their energy and support towards student ministry was obvi-

ous from the get go. I immediately felt welcomed and knew that the USF Episcopal ministry would be my new home away from home. I have watched young adults and adults alike leave the Episcopal chapel on Sunday night a little lighter, brighter and fuller (seeing how we do dinner every Sunday night) then they were when they came in. Yes, we have a

liturgical service every Sunday night but the psalms and prayers that are repeated over and over again are not what sustains the welcoming and peaceful spirit within the chapel. The warmth that is felt when entering into the chapel is a result of the people's commitment to God and each other. One of the biggest blessings, aside from delicious pot luck dinners, is the feeling of being supported and listened to. Along with leftovers, I have left the chapel

so thankful for the role that the USF Episcopal Chapel has played in my life.

—Cristin Cotton

USF Jr, Communications



“I IMMEDIATELY FELT WELCOMED AND KNEW THAT THE USF EPISCOPAL MINISTRY WOULD BE MY NEW HOME AWAY FROM HOME.”

## Get involved at the Chapel Center!

We welcome participation at the Chapel Center and we can use your support with our ministry.

As you might imagine, a lot of our activity revolves around food! If you would like to help us cook on Sun night or donate a frozen casserole which can be cooked later, you will truly

be helping us provide “food for the college soul”!

As we open the Chapel Center for residents again, we are finding many small home repair & maintenance projects for our “Honey Do” list. If you have skills in carpentry, plumbing, or any related area, we would welcome any volunteer

hours you can offer.

Most of all, we would appreciate your continued prayers for this important ministry on the USF campus and we invite you to stop by and join us on Sunday evenings for worship and fellowship!





## Food for the College Soul

EPISCOPAL UNIVERSITY CHAPEL CENTER @ USF

12959 N 50th St  
Tampa, FL

Chaplain: Rev Jim  
Williamson

*The Chapel Center @ USF is the Episcopal presence on the campus of the University of South Florida, serving the students, staff, faculty, and community of USF. The Eucharist is celebrated every Sunday night at 6:00 at St Anselm's Chapel and all attending are invited to stay after for a home-cooked meal at the Chapel Center.*

*For more information, please contact our university chaplain, Fr Jim Williamson ([jgwmsn@gmail.com](mailto:jgwmsn@gmail.com) or 941.465.8280).*

## Finding New Ways to Get the Word Out

There are many good things happening now at the Chapel Center and many ways to keep up with them!

An **email alert** is sent out weekly. If you would like to be added to this list, contact Alisa Carmichael at: [carmichael.alisa@gmail.com](mailto:carmichael.alisa@gmail.com).



Find us on **Facebook** at:

<http://www.hs.facebook.com/pages/Episcopal-Chapel-Center-USF/123042211070756>

“Like” our page and recommend us to others!

We have also launched our own **blog!** The Episco-Bulletin is a chronicle of our life at the Chapel Center, as well as an exploration of Episcopal campus ministry around the country.

Read our blog at: <http://stanselmschapel.wordpress.com/>.