

THE COMMUNITY OF ST. MARY SOUTHERN PROVINCE

THE MESSENGER





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"How long, O Lord, must I call for help? But you do not listen! 'Violence is everywhere!' I cry, but you do not come to save. Must I forever see these evil deeds? Why must I watch all this misery? Wherever I look, I see destruction and violence. I am surrounded by people who love to argue and fight. The law has become paralyzed, and there is no justice in the courts. The wicked far outnumber the righteous, so that justice has become perverted." These words sound like they were written specifically for our world today. They do not come from a politician. They don't even originate from a famous religious speaker. They are the words from the opening verses from an obscure minor prophet named Habakkuk.

He is thought to have lived in the 6th century BCE. Habakkuk was a contemporary of the prophets Ieremiah and Ezekiel. He is considered to be one of the twelve minor prophets. But his life did not follow the usual prophetic form of receiving a divine message from God to speak to the people of his time. Rather, Habakkuk was the one who initiated the conversation. This wasn't a pleasant chat. His world was one of injustice and idolatry. He saw the threat of the Babylonian empire with its vengeful practices of violence and exploitation. He boldly shared his anger and frustration with God.

In the second chapter of Habakkuk, he sets himself up at his watchpost and stations himself to keep watch and wait for the Lord to respond to his complaint (2:1-2). This is an act of faith. He is actively and expectantly waiting on God. Although Habakkuk angrily vents his concerns about his world, he will come to realize that his emotions do not even come close to the divine outrage that God has for the marginalized and how they

are being treated. He learns that God does plan on bringing judgment and justice to evildoers, but not in the time Habakkuk had hoped. He is informed that one day in the future, "As the waters cover the sea, the earth will be filled with an awareness of the glory of the Lord" (2:14), but not yet.

For how to live in the meantime, God responds with advice for Habakkuk. The text says "the righteous will live *by faith"* (2:4). The righteous person is the one who is invested within the community, particularly attuned to the needs of the poor and needy. To be righteous also means to fulfill the demands of a relationship. To "live by faith" means both Habakkuk's faithfulness to God and trusting in God's faithfulness to him. This faith is not just a belief, but a way of life. From this faith, right actions follow. God sustains us not by giving us answers, but by giving us himself. In doing so, we are empowered to act with love, mercy, and justice, and reveal glimpses of the inbreaking of God's kingdom

Each day we are called to live within this tension of the already and not yet. Each day we are called to not pull back or despair of God's presence or hidden work, but live with our questions. Habakkuk shows us that this ongoing, raw, and vulnerable conversation with God is something that we are continually being invited to participate in as well. In doing so we, like Habakkuk, can be changed and transformed into living countercultural lives of protest against the powers and principalities of our time.

God's words to Habakkuk changed him. He went from a state of desolation to consolation. He learned that, despite all appearances, God was still in control. The closing chapter of Habakkuk reveals this change of heart: "Though the fig tree does not blossom, and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails, and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold, and there is no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength." (3:17-19). His words reveal to us what resilient confidence in God looks like. He shows us what it looks like to have a deep faith and trust in God even when the world is falling apart.

These words demonstrate Habakkuk's choice to have faith in God even in the face of unfathomable difficulties. His joy became something so deep and ingrained in his soul that nothing in life could rob him of it. Even though his world had not changed, he had. He became more aligned with God's will and purposes to bring about the future kingdom. May we pray, with Habakkuk, "In the midst of the years, renew thy work, O Lord; in the midst of our years, make it known." (3:2).

- Sister Hannah, CSM

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Associate News



Sr. Madeleine Mary, CSM

Dear Associates,

This has been quite a year of transition since I was given the care of the Associates; I ask your patience as

I try to connect with all of you. I've discovered that a few Associates have died, some I have known about and others I did not — I found them by internet searches. Others have moved, gotten married, changed their addresses, etc. I have learned that Mailchimp helps some Associates, but is too difficult for others. Also, some Associates' life circumstances and health have changed. Some communicate with us every year; others we have not heard from in some years.

As we go forward, I hope that we will become better connected and that you will also become more aware of other Associates, especially in your region. If you have no other Associates in your area, you might try to invite others to undertake a Rule of Life and an Associate relationship with the Community, so that a group may develop there.

For my part, I am using the Mailchimp e-Newsletters to introduce Associates to you, but I am still not sure how many of you are receiving these newsletters. (The Mailchimp statistics say that 101-107 people are receiving them, but the "opens" have only been 50-70%). So far, these newsletters have celebrated the lives of Associates who have died as well as the lives of present and new Associates. It would be very helpful if you would confirm that you are receiving these emails. If you are unaware of them, please check your spam mail and be sure that

your security settings are not blocking them. A number of Associates have said that they want more connection with other Associates; this newsletter is just one way to build that relationship. If you can manage it, I also encourage everyone to get at least an Amazon Fire or another tablet and an email address, so that you can receive the newsletters directly and promptly and won't miss anything. (The black and white copies that I have sent out to some are not as nice, and postage costs, of course, have risen.)

So far, I have reached out to 83 Associates that I have addresses for on their anniversaries. I've also met 47 Associates here, telephoned a few other Associates, and answered emails. Thanks to all of you who have visited, emailed, or written me with updates about your Rule and your life. I would love to hear from everyone on those topics. (Perhaps you might consider celebrating your commitment by such an annual update.) Thanks also to all those who have filled out the Contact Information Form, and for those who haven't, there is still time to prepare for the next newsletter. Don't miss it; I hope to introduce at least two new Associates.



Carol Snowden Morris

We had three Associates die this year, the Rev. Edwin Lovelady, Carol Snowden Morris, and Dee Eichler, and two died in previous years without our knowing, the Rev. Carl and Jacqueline Hayden. We also celebrated the life of the Rev. Dr. Robert Hughes as we interred his body this year. Four more Associates joined us: Will Root, the Rev. Eva Bogino, the Rev. Adam Conley, and the Rev. Nolan McBride.

Soon, we also hope to receive two more Associates in the next two months.



The Rev. Sara Ardrey-Graves, our new Associate Will Root, and Sr. Madeleine Mary



Sr. Madeleine Mary with our new Associate, the Rev. Eva Bogino



Sr. Madeleine Mary, our new Associates the Rev. Adam Conley and the Rev. Nolan McBride, and Sr. Hannah

We also have welcomed back two Associates, Glyn and Will Melnyk and two more who have transferred from the Associates of the Western Province of St. Mary's which no longer exists: Sue Benjamin and the Rev. Lawrence Crumb.

If you do the math, you will realize that we are growing, in spite of

attrition. That is good news. Another bit of good news is that we had the largest number of Associates attend the annual retreat that we have seen in quite a number of years. Long may that trend grow; it is one of the primary ways Associates and Oblates can meet each other. I encourage you to put the Annual Retreat on your calendar now and plan to attend June 18-21, 2026. Later this Fall, I will also send you an invitation to join our Advent Evening Prayer and meditation by Zoom. Gradually, I hope to connect with all of you and hope that you will better connect with each other.

I would like to continue this growth and expand upon growth. So, if your church can host one of us to speak about a Rule of Life, especially Associate Rules, please get in touch with us. I believe people are yearning for connection and undertaking a Rule of Life is a wonderful way they can both ground themselves in their faith and become part of a group such as the Associates. Please help us provide a way towards that relationship.

Thank you for all that you do in your own ministries, through your own observance of your Associates' Rule, your prayers, and other forms of support. Together, this group can be an amazing force for good in a time that desperately needs it.

Blessings, Sr. Madeleine Mary, CSM

RIP: The Rev. Edwin Lovelady, Carol Snowden Morris, and the Rev. Carlton and Mrs. Jacqueline Hayden

New Associates: Will Root, the Rev. Eva Bogino, the Rev. Adam B. Conley, the Rev. Nolan McBride

New Associates by Transfer: Mrs. Susan Benjamin and the Rev. Lawrence Crumb

Renewed Commitment: The Rev. Glyn and Will Melnyk

Continuing Service

Since our last newsletter, Sister Ines has been concentrating more on her Bible translation work. She is a member of the Kankanaev Bible Translators.



Sister Ines, CSM

She regularly meets with other members from Bontoc at the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin in Sagada as they work on their individual drafts. Her assignment is to translate a portion of 1st Samuel. This has been keeping her very busy.

Sister Ines continues to be active in her work at the Church of Saint Mary the Virgin. She attends choir practice three times a week and sings in the choir on Sundays and for special church services. She also goes to the monthly Mass there for the Associates.



April gathering of Associates

We are grateful for Sr. Ines and her ministry of prayer, service, and witness to the monastic life in the Philippines.

Reflections on the Organic Prayer Program Internship By: Sydney Dudley

As a religion major in undergrad, I loved studying monasticism and found myself writing about it



Sydney Dudley

whenever I was given a choice of topic for assigned papers. In one of my courses about Christianity, I decided to write an essay on how monastic

communities are increasingly using social media as a way to reach people. My paper focused on the nuanced relationship between a life of contemplation and prayer and the hurried, scattered nature of social media algorithms. While the paper was one of many written at the end of a chaotic semester, this one holds a special place in my heart because it led me to the Community of St. Mary.

The initial research for my paper involved scouring the internet for monastic social media accounts, and I encountered the Community of St. Mary first through their @thatconventcat page. Fascinated by how this convent pet had her own Instagram page, I focused my essay on CSM, and part of my research involved a deep dive into its website and social media accounts. On the community's website I read about the Organic Prayer Program and was drawn to the idea of living alongside the community for a year.

Less than a year later, I found myself headed up the mountain toward what would become a second home to me. Before meeting Sister Hannah over Zoom for my application interviews, I had never actually spoken to a monastic, and the internship was my first time visiting a religious community. I knew no one on the mountain other than Sister Hannah and was a bit nervous about finding my place in a new state and setting. However, my fears quickly diminished as I was welcomed with open arms by the Sisters, the groundskeeper, and the rest of the Sewanee community.

The Organic Prayer Program transformed my life in so many ways, reshaping how I engage with creation. Before arriving in Sewanee, I was in no way an "outdoorsy" person. I exercised in gymnasiums and spent my free time in libraries and cafes. I still adore libraries, but working in the garden and exploring Sewanee's many hiking trails allowed me to develop a love of the outdoors and an appreciation of the complexity and intricacy of creation. Hiking is now one of my favorite hobbies, and I find myself often going outside to pray and study.



Sydney at Foster Falls in Tennessee

I also had a wonderful time engaging with the Sewanee community. The internship involves hard work outside and in the chapel, but there is also quite a bit of free time to explore personal interests. While in Sewanee, I attended Catechumenate, a weekly gathering at the University of the South; and I also tried to support local events including a Zine Festival, Lessons and Carols, a school production of The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical, and the National Cornbread Festival.



Sydney with our former summer intern, Abby Cronan, at the National Cornbread Festival

A common thread among all of the

events and gatherings I attended was the sense of openness. Wherever I found myself in Sewanee or the surrounding areas, whether I knew one person or twenty, I was quickly welcomed and embraced as part of the community.

One of my favorite parts of the internship was participating in the Sisters' daily rhythm of prayer. In college, I prayed the Morning Office, but I was often alone while doing so and craved opportunities to pray it communally. Getting to pray several times a day alongside the community was such a gift and strengthened my love of the structured prayers that connect Christians around the world. Reshaping my schedule to prioritize prayer above all other things was transformative, and I loved starting and ending my days in conversation with God.

Taking a

year after

work, and

rest with

God was

decision at

first. I had

felt a lot of

pressure

to go

a scary

undergrad to

pray, discern,



in our organic garden

Sydney holding kale grown

immediately to graduate school, and it felt strange to step back intentionally from the hustle of academia when I thought I had thrived in that system. However, taking the time to focus entirely on my relationship with God was the best choice I could have made, and I encourage anyone considering this program to apply.

Have you considered a planned gift or leaving a bequest to the Community of St. Mary?

You can make a tax-deductible gift by check or by an online donation

"Reflection on St. Mary's" By: The Rev. Adam Conley

I am writing this article on a significant day in the liturgical calendar. Today is Friday, July 11th, the Feast of St. Benedict of Nursia. There



The Rev. Adam Conley

is serendipity in this. The Community of St. Mary, Southern Province (CSM) has shown me what it looks like for Sisters to live together as members of a Benedictine monastic community while also extending Benedictine values to their neighbors. By praying with the Sisters, worshiping with them, eating with them, retreating with them, and simply befriending and witnessing them live with intention in community, I have begun to learn what it means to embody the Benedictine values of hospitality, stability, obedience, and conversion of life.



The Rev. Adam Conley being received as an Associate by Sister Hannah

For three years, I had the pleasure – the privilege – of living virtually next door to the convent as a Sewanee seminarian. Now that I've graduated and have returned to my hometown of Seattle, my neighborly connection to CSM takes on new meaning. At their Sunday morning Eucharist on May 18, shortly after graduation,

the Sisters made me a new Associate of their community. This happened almost two years to the day since I first worshipped with the Sisters at a weekday Evening Prayer in May 2023. I knew that what we colloquially call "the convent" was just down the road from Sewanee, but I didn't visit until the summer after my Junior year of seminary. A fellow seminarian took me to pray the Office there after a long day of CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education).

I was one of three Sewanee seminarians who completed CPE at Erlanger Hospital, a Level 1 trauma center in Chattanooga. It was often difficult to shake off the trauma and tragedy of what we bore witness to as chaplains. I needed a way to process what I encountered in the Pediatric ER or Intensive Care Unit in community. Returning to the Mountain in time for Evening Prayer or Evensong with the Sisters was healing, a steadying gift, and a quiet yet sure reminder of our Christian hope.



The Rev. Adam Conley serving as deacon alongside Sister Egeria Mark

I continued to pray with the Sisters as I could during summer breaks, but also on weekends during the academic year when there weren't services in our seminary chapel. My prayer and worship with the Sisters took on several forms these past two years. This included an invitation to chant one of the readings at the last two Tenebrae services held in Holy Week, an opportunity to chant the Exsultet at this year's Easter Vigil (my bucketlist dream as a deacon), and several

opportunities to serve as a deacon on Sunday mornings.

My prayer life at the convent also came in the form of several quiet retreats, including a one-day stay in the Hermitage after the grueling process of taking the GOEs (General Ordination Exams) in January this year. My sabbath rest on that retreat was stoked by the warmth and comfort of the Hermitage's roaring wood stove, a holy furnace to which the winter cold was no match.



The Rev. Adam Conley enjoying the Hermitage

I'll never forget the first time I made my retreat at the Hermitage in the summer of 2023. One of the Sisters left a little welcome card that said, "Pray, Eat, Sleep, and not necessarily in that order." I glued a cutout of that into my spiritual journal. The Sisters offer grounded spiritual and practical wisdom that helps me return to my center in Christ. Their lives bear witness to what it looks like to be guided by a Rule of Life. For this reason, the Sisters are the spiritual companions to whom I've entrusted my own Rule of Life. This commitment of mutual trust, support, and shared accountability is at the heart of what it means to be an Associate of CSM.

I was ordained an Episcopal priest at Saint Mark's Cathedral in Seattle on June 14, only a couple of days after I last stayed at the convent and prayed with the Sisters in their chapel. On Monday, July 14, I will begin my first call at Saint Mark's Cathedral as a curate. As my priestly vocation begins to take shape, I pray it will always be informed by the Benedictine values so faithfully lived and modeled by the Sisters of the Community of St. Mary, Southern Province. This is the gift of what it means for me to be a CSM Associate, particularly as a priest. I am connected to a community that prays for me as I pray for them, and our ministries are grounded by our shared values of hospitality, stability, obedience, and conversion of life.

"Staying Put"

By: The Rev. Sister Egeria Mark, Novice



The Rev. Sister Egeria Mark

Soon after my clothing as a novice on March 25th, a little sign appeared above the desk in the convent office. It said

something to the effect of:

eh-jeer-ee-ah + Mark

This phonetic guide was posted by Sister Elizabeth, whose kind desire to warmly welcome me as a novice included the very real challenge of pronouncing my new name!

Despite it not being familiar or easy to pronounce, I was so drawn to the backstory of the name "Egeria" that I went for it anyway, pairing it with "Mark", the name of both my favorite gospel and my father.

For those not familiar, Egeria was a fourth century Christian woman known for chronicling the three-year pilgrimage she made around the Holy Land. The adventurous journey she undertook, as well as the authorship of her still-in-print book, were groundbreaking accomplishments for

a woman of her time. Most notably for us today, the detailed descriptions of the liturgies she witnessed in Jerusalem contributed to the Holy Week liturgies of the 1979 Book of Common Prayer.



Sr. Egeria Mark surrounded by friends at her Clothing as a Novice

Now, it's quite possible that I am projecting my own beliefs onto Egeria, but I suspect that underlying Egeria's intent to author a practical and instructive resource for folks back home was a bit of a mystical understanding of scripture — a belief that holy places and holy scripture have the power to transcend time, and that through prayer and liturgy, geographical and temporal distances can be bridged. Internal, spiritual pilgrimages, Egeria seems to say, are possible without actual travel.



Sr. Madeleine Mary, Sr. Hannah, Sr. Egeria Mark, Sr. Elizabeth, and Sr. Felicity at Sr. Egeria Mark's ordination to the priesthood at the Chapel of the Apostles

This has certainly proven true in my life since moving into the convent in September 2024! These past nine months have encompassed my six-month monastic postulancy, ordination to the priesthood, and clothing as a novice, as well as new

ministries and much learning.

Subjects I studied this year as part of my formation included The Rule of Benedict, CSM's Customary and Constitution, Benedictine practices as taught by our Roman Catholic Sisters, classic primary texts from early desert monastics, as well as spiritual formation in the Medieval church.

My first year has also been shaped for the better by CSM's involvement in the new EfM curriculum. EfM, or Education for Ministry, is a laityfocused curriculum created by the School of Theology here in Sewanee. As an EfM graduate and former mentor, the invitation to contribute an essay to be published within the new curriculum was a special honor. Attending both the January Curriculum Revision Task Force in January and the 50th Anniversary Celebration in June as a representative of CSM was a fruitful opportunity to introduce the convent to faithful leaders and educators from across the Episcopal Church.

Serving as sacristan these past few months has been an enjoyable combination of my organizational skills and my seminary education. As sacristan, my ministry has been focused on thoughtful and seasonally appropriate liturgy, a tidy and wellstocked chapel, clear communication of service times (especially as outreach to seminarians), and assembling a diverse range of celebrants. We will always cherish the opportunity to welcome community members and visitors into the chapel life that is so central to our way of life.

In addition to formation and ministry, spiritual companions outside of the convent have played an important role in my journey. Colleagues, friends, and loved ones have strengthened me with their steadfast and faithful support, be that in the form of letters, care packages, prayers, sabbath day outings, traveling to my ordination, or welcoming me to sit in on a class at the seminary. I am most grateful for

their many generous acts of kindness.

Something I knew going in back in September was that one does not travel during the six-month monastic postulancy. This gives the postulant the time and mental capacity to test out this first step of vocation, and also gives one a taste of the Benedictine vow of stability. Now a few months into my novitiate, I am starting to make some travel plans, both social and ministry-based. As much as I am looking forward to getting on the road to visit dear friends and their parishes, I am also grateful for this fruitful period of stillness. In staying put, I have come far.

Sr. Hannah Shares News from CSM

A lot has happened since our last newsletter! In December we got the word out about our community to both Missouri



Sr. Hannah, CSM

and Mississippi. I spoke at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Missouri via Zoom on December 7th, the same day that Sister Madeleine Mary spoke in-person at St. Andrew's Episcopal Cathedral in Mississippi.

In January, we welcomed Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe to our convent for Evening Prayer, a tour, and time for informal conversation.



Back row: Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe, Sr. Hannah and Sr. Felicity

Front row: Sr. Madeleine Mary, Sr. Elizabeth, and Sr. Egeria Mark January was also a very exciting month because that was when our postulant, AJ Boots, was ordained to the priesthood. Her bishop, Rob Hirschfeld, came from New Hampshire to ordain her at the Chapel of Apostles in Sewanee. Soon afterwards, AJ went with Sister Elizabeth to represent us at the Diocese of Tennessee convention.

February and March were times for growth in our community. In February our former intern Eva Bogino was admitted as an Associate and Cam Norman made her lifetime commitment as an Oblate. In March, Will Root was admitted as an Associate. Our postulant, AJ Boots, made her novice committment on March 25th with a chapel full of people, and took the name Sister Egeria Mark.



Back row: Sr. Egeria Mark, Sr. Hannah, the Rev. Eva Bogino, Sr. Elizabeth

Front row: Sr. Felicity, Cam Norman, and Sr. Madeleine Mary

We were also able to make new friends in March. Both Bishop Peter Eaton of the Episcopal Church in Southeast Florida and the President of the House of Deputies of the Episcopal Church, Julia Ayala Harris, joined us at different times for Evening Prayer and fellowship afterwards.

March was a time to connect with many churches in Tennessee including: St. James the Less Episcopal Church in Madison, St. James Episcopal Church in Sewanee, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Nashville, and St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Chattanooga.

Near the end of March and April I was invited to connect with two different campus ministries. I first went to Nashville to speak at Belmont University during a weekly chapel service on March 24th and then went to speak at Canterbury Fellowship at the University of Wyoming on April 23rd and 26th.

May was a month of transitions. We said farewell to our long-term intern Sydney Dudley on May 2nd and welcomed our summer intern Jenny Etheridge on May 29th.



Our summer intern Jenny Etheridge

Our summer intern Jenny Etheridge with the Rev. Richard Cogill



We also had more people join our extended community in May. On May 18th we admitted the Rev. Nolan McBride and the Rev. Adam Conley as Associates. Then, on May 31st, identical twins Will and Robert Mosteller made their lifetime commitments as Oblates.



Robert Mosteller, Sr. Hannah, and Will Mosteller

May was also the time when I got to visit another Episcopal religious order, the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE) in Cambridge, Massachusetts. I was invited to lead their Community Education Day as well as have informal time with the brothers.



Sr. Hannah surrounded by the SSJE monks

During June 5th through the 8th we participated in the 50th anniversary celebration of Education for Ministry (EfM). Four of our Sisters were writers of the new EfM cirriculum and spoke at a panel about their essays.

Later on in June, it was great to see so many faces, both familiar and new, at our annual silent June retreat from the June 19th until June 22nd. It was fun to have both Sister Felicity's father and grandfather with us for that retreat.

Sr. Felicity surrounded by her dad, Cy Parks (on left) and her grandfather, Jere Stone (on right)



Sister Egeria Mark is already using her priestly gifts both out in the community and further away. She's served at St. Andrew's Sewanee's chapel, St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church in Fayetteville, TN, and Christ Episcopal Church in Springfield, MO.

We look forward to the many ways God will continue to use all of us in our community for a variety of ministries.



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St. Mary's Chronicles 2025

December 7 - Sr. Hannah was invited by Kelsey Leftwich-Yazell to speak via Zoom at the Daughters of the King discernment retreat at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kansas City, Missouri.

December 7 - Sr. Madeleine Mary was invited by the Rev. Christopher McAbee to speak at St. Andrew's Episcopal Cathedral in Jackson, Mississippi.

December 14 - Deacon Casey Perkins led an Advent Quiet Morning here both in-person and on Zoom.

January 15 - Our postulant, AJ Boots, was ordained to the priesthood at the Chapel of the Apostles in Sewanee.

January 26 - Sr. Hannah was invited by the Rev. Sean McEwen to be the guest preacher at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Maryville, Tennessee.

Feburary 2 - We admitted Eva Bogino as an Associate and Cam Norman made her life commitment as an Oblate of CSM.

March 16 - We admitted Will Root as an Associate

March 22-23 - Sr. Elizabeth led a retreat at St. Mary's Sewanee for the Daughters of the King groups of both St. James the Less Episcopal

Church in Madison, TN and St. James Episcopal Church in Sewanee, TN.

March 24 - Sr. Hannah was invited by Tim Wildsmith at Belmont University to be their guest speaker for their weekly chapel service.

March 25 – AJ Boots made her commitment as a novice and took the name Sister Egeria Mark

March 29 - Sr. Hannah was invited by the Rev. Josh Condon to lead a quiet morning at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in Nashville.

March 29-30 - Sr. Madeleine Mary was invited by Jaime McDaniel-Porter of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Chattanooga to lead their annual Women's Retreat in our convent chapel.

April 6 - Sr. Madeleine Mary was invited by the Rev. Sinclair Ender to preach and give a presentation about the community at Christ Episcopal Church in Conway, New Hampshire.

April 22-27 - Sr. Hannah was invited by the Rev. Allen Doyle to speak at the Canterbury Fellowship Club at the University of Wyoming and to preach at by St. Matthew's Cathedral in Laramie, Wyoming.

May 7 - Sr. Egeria Mark was invited by the Rev. Molly Short to be the celebrant at St. Andrew's Sewanee School.

May 5-11 - Sr. Hannah was invited by Br. Keith Nelson to speak at the Society of St. John the Evangelist and to spend time with the brothers.

May 18 - We admitted two new Associates to our community, the Rev. Nolan McBride and the Rev. Adam Conley.

May 29 - We celebrated the commissioning of our new summer intern, Jenny Etheridge.

May 31 - We observed the life commitment of identical twins, Will and Robert Mosteller, as Oblates of our community.

June 5-8 - We participated in the EfM 50th anniversary celebration at the School of Theology at Sewanee. Sr. Hannah co-led a presentation on "The Daily Office as a Spiritual Practice."

June 15 - The Rev. Jim Pappas invited Sister Egeria Mark to celebrate and preach at St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church in Fayetteville, Tennessee.

June 19-22 - We had our annual June silent retreat at St. Mary's Sewanee. Sr. Hannah led the meditations.

June 28 - Sr. Madeleine Mary was invited to speak at the "Rooted in Peace" workshop at Grace Episcopal Church in Chattanooga, Tennessee.