

# The Messenger



Winter 2026

A Publication of The Assembly Board of Province IV

## From our President

My dear sisters-in Christ,

I pray this Holy Lenten season finds each of you preparing your hearts and spirits for the greatest celebration of the Christian faith ---Easter.

Lent is a gift and a discipline for each of us. Not so much a restriction, the discipline asks us to give Christ our time with Him alone. Our busyness is the secular distraction pulling us away from Him. What a gift that comes from the discipline of focused moments in His presence.

The Lenten discipline asks us to reflect on our sins and errors, face our faults and repent, always knowing that we are forgiven in Christ. What a gift that comes from the discipline of examination.

The Lenten discipline of quiet is a gift to us and God. The invitation to “Be still and know” (Ps 46:10) invites us to come, listen and absorb His presence. Then we are in Him and He is in us. What a gift that comes from quiet time with our Savior.

With prayer and practice these few Lenten disciplines become so much a part of us that they are not even a discipline, but a new natural reality like breathing. Let us take these weeks to meditate and pray so we are transformed by love into His likeness.

Even with helpful disciplines, how do we ever grasp the love and gift of God in Christ’s passion, sacrifice, resurrection and eternal life with Him? It is truly overwhelming for failed humans to understand. After Lent, our only response at Easter is “Alleluia, He is risen indeed,” then lead lives expressing God’s love in servanthood for all He died to save.

Blessings and joy in His calling,

## Ruth

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## From our Chaplain



### *THE JOURNEY MAY BE LONG...*

Dear Friends,

In his book “*A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*,” Eugene Peterson teaches that the psalms were the “traveling songs” of the faithful pilgrims as they traveled to Jerusalem to the Temple. In the Temple, they received God’s forgiveness and were reminded of God’s mercy. I can picture those pilgrims singing the words of Psalm 105, recalling Jacob, Joseph, Abraham, and Moses. I imagine sharing those words lifted their spirits and gave them energy for the hard miles and dusty roads.

The story of the Exodus and God’s acts that freed His people sustains me when my spirit flags. We remember these same mighty acts of God in our prayers over the bread and wine on Sunday. Psalm 105 reminds us that even before Jesus, God was working to bring about our salvation using flawed and frail people who grew into God’s leaders and servants.

We are midway through Lent already. I am rereading Eugene’s book as part of my prayer and preparation for Easter. My plan is ambitious because I usually resist this discipline. Lent typically teaches me how my best-laid plans often fall short. But long obedience in the same direction can’t help but get me closer to God, even if I take breaks on the way. The thought of pilgrims putting one foot in front of the other to get to Jerusalem and God’s mercy encourages me to try it, too.

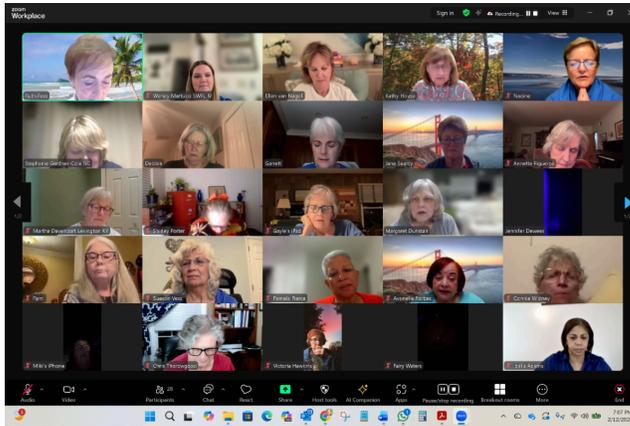
This past Sunday I confirmed thirteen new members of a church that struggled during Covid. They are being reborn now and as I watched the choir gather to sing the psalm for the day, I noticed two of the seven members were wearing a Daughter’s cross. I immediately remembered our motto: “I am but one, but I am one. What I can do, I ought to do. Lord, what will you have me do?” I knew those two DOK choir members were doing more than one thing for His sake. I am honored to be among them as pilgrims on this journey of prayer and service, praising Jesus as we travel.

During this Lenten season, we are called to sing our songs of praise, too, remembering in the wilderness that the journey may be long and the road uneven, but following the example of our forefathers and mothers, our obedience to God’s call will lead us to freedom, hope, and peace. Following, “we give thanks to the Lord and call on his holy name,” and we trust because God is “mindful of his covenant forever.” So, let’s keep walking, and I hope to see you at church!

Blessings,  
+Glenda

*The Rt. Rev. Glenda Curry, Chaplain to Province IV  
Daughters of the King and Bishop of Alabama*

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**Our January Assembly Board was forced to postpone and move to a zoom meeting because of harsh weather conditions in Alabama**  
But that did not stop the fellowship and flourishing!

The Province IV Assembly Board business meeting was re-scheduled to a Zoom meeting on February 12, 2026. Our original in-person meeting, was cancelled due to severe winter weather in the southeastern U.S. The Board appreciates your understanding, cooperation and flexibility in responding to this quick change in plans. No matter the circumstances, as Daughters we are called to continually pray, serve and evangelize. As leaders, we let our “light shine before people to glorify our Father who is in heaven” encouraging all other Daughters to do the same in Spirit and example.

The Province IV Assembly Board business meeting was re-scheduled



*Departed Daughters*

The link is OPEN and available for you to report a Departed Daughter for our 2026 Assembly. No need to wait!

*The names of our departed Daughters come from you, our Diocesan Assembly Presidents and Chapter Presidents.*

**Deadline for 2026 Submissions is September 4, 2026**

[CLICK HERE TO REPORT A DEPARTED DAUGHTER](#)



### **Mission & Outreach Fund**

The Province IV Mission & Outreach fund has begun for 2026. This fund provides financial support to both global and local mission and outreach projects to share God's love with ALL people

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The St. Phoebe chapter at St. Paul's, Macon, GA has been hosting a series on Spirituality and the Arts. Our December 3 event included supper and a Christmas paint-along attended by fourteen people including chapter members and guests.

December's event included a paint-along led by Elizabeth Hilliard of Truth Be Told Art. Fourteen attendees enjoyed supper and made paintings to take home.

*Pictured:* St. Phoebe chapter officers Nidia Svare, Margaret Rodeheaver, and Billie Abbott display their paintings.



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## ***Central Florida***

*We are the second largest Diocesan Assembly in the US with over 1000 members!*



January 31, 2026

The Diocesan Assembly of Central Florida held their New Year Meeting at the Cathedral Church of St Luke's in Orlando, FL. It was joyous for all 120 attendees! Praise God!!!

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## ***East Tennessee***

### ***Admission of five new Daughters at The Church of the Ascension in Knoxville, Tennessee***

September 21, 2025,

The Church of the Ascension chapter in Knoxville, Tennessee, welcomed five new Daughters during the church service on September 21, 2025. Elaine Conger, East Tennessee Diocesan Assembly President, shared her love for the Order with everyone at a cookies and tea reception after the service. Six members of the chapter led the twelve study sessions held from February through May with other members attending as able.



*New daughters on front row: Brenda Pemberton, Kala Handagama, Pat Rutenberg, Linda Tisue, and Kay Ray*

*Back row: Donna Riggs (chapter Secretary/Treasurer), Ellen Lovett (chapter President), Kathy Ambrose, Terry MacKerer, Pam Douglass, Elaine Conger (East Tennessee Diocesan Assembly President), Ann Lamb, and Judy Thompson*

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## ***Florida***



### **I Am The Bread Of Life, Buen Pastor Parish**

In the Prayers of the People during our church service, we pray for our companion church Buen Pastor in Esmeralda, in the Camaguey province of Cuba and the ministry of Fr. Santiago. I began taking notice of this parish in October of 2024 when one of our church members asked if anyone would like to help make Chrismon ornaments in cross-stitch to send to them, Several of our members, including me, made some. Later, in the Spring we made custom pillowcases for their summer camp. This past Fall we made a Christmas quilt that was sent to them. Soon, I will be making more pillowcases. I also began corresponding with Fr. Santiago's wife, Neris, after their

church started a new Daughters of the King Chapter “Missionaries of Light” in their community in the Summer of 2025. This grew our relationship between my church’s DOK chapter, St. Clare, at Church of the Redeemer in Jacksonville and theirs. We support each other through prayer and sharing ideas for ministry and support in the community. From this grew a greater awareness in our church of the needs of their communities Esmeralda, Tabor and Jiqui and the generous donations monetary, OTC medical supplies, nonperishable foods and gently-used clothing given by our parishioners. There is also significant cost involved in shipping these items to them. The living conditions there are very challenging. They only have electricity 50% of the time, they have to deal with mosquito-borne viruses, clean water is very limited, OTC counter medical supplies and food staples are limited. They are so thrilled and grateful when they get packages from Florida! We pray that our church and others will be able to continue to support them and try to provide for their needs. If you, dear reader, would like to have more information about how you or your ministry can give support, please contact me, Mary Kay Brannen at [angelpal3@yahoo.com](mailto:angelpal3@yahoo.com). This relationship has been a blessing to them as well as to us. For them because some of their needs are being met, they know that others care about them and are praying for them. For us, because we are inspired by their joy and gratitude to God despite their challenging circumstances. There but for the grace of God, go we!

Daughters of the King, St. Clare Chapter  
Church of the Redeemer  
Jacksonville, Florida

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INSPIRING PHOTOS](#)

## Looking Ahead!!

***Daughters of the King Triennial***  
***July 7-11, 2027***  
***Phoenix, Arizona***

*"Be Thou My Vision"*

*Time to mark your calendars now!!!*

[CLICK HERE for Video Announcement of upcoming Triennial](#)

## From the Editor

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**[CLICK HERE To submit an article for the Messenger! We want to know what is happening in your Diocese! Submit an article about upcoming or past events, or special moments](#)**

Deadlines are March 15, June 15, September 15 and December 15

For questions regarding this email please contact:

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