

## Meet Ben Hill, the Treasurer for the Episcopal Diocese of Florida

*"It is no use walking anywhere to preach unless our walking is our preaching."  
~ St. Francis of Assisi*

In 2001, Ben Hill retired as a Senior Vice President from CBS. He and his wife Dot left Washington D.C. and bought a home just outside Gainesville, Florida with the thought of enjoying a quiet life in the country. However, in 2010, the folks at CBS found Ben and asked him to go to the West Palm office and run their South Florida offices. Ben agreed to do that, and he and Dot kept their country oasis and commuted from office to home. A year after that, CBS asked him to also run the Tampa, Florida office.

In 2013, Ben was running businesses out of two offices in Florida for CBS when he had a sudden and unexpected life change - Ben learned that he had cancer. At that point, he knew that he had to **really** retire from CBS for the benefit of his health. Throughout his two-year fight with cancer, he and Dot strongly felt that they were growing closer to God. Sitting in a chemotherapy room with Dot, Ben looked around and saw many people who had no one to sit with, no one to drive them home or even help them through the often difficult days just after chemotherapy. Ben says, "It's times like these that you count your blessings and you truly believe in the power of prayer. Our entire church congregation at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, High Springs prayed for us and it meant so very much to us."

"I learned through that experience that I was 'right with God.' We learned that we absolutely love working with children at Camp Weed in Live Oak. We also had a life-changing experience during a Cursillo weekend. We learned that there is more to being a Christian than simply attending church," he continued.

Ben had held a variety of leadership positions at St. Bartholomew's until he became more active in Diocesan events. When he retired for the final time from CBS, Bishop Howard asked Ben to serve as Treasurer of the Diocese. Because his entire career had been in management in the broadcasting business, Ben was familiar with budgeting, acquisitions, sales, managing talent, marketing and more, so this position as Treasurer was a good fit for him and he agreed to serve.

Ben shares, "It's so challenging today to do more with so much need in the world. If there's anything that people need more of, it's God. The Episcopal Diocese of Florida is focused on sharing the word of God. It's our responsibility to keep our antennas up for new and exciting ways to expand the ministry of our Diocese. With Bishop Howard leading us, and his challenge to evangelize and grow, we will grow our Diocese and share the word of God with people who have dropped out of church and with people who have never been to church."