



The Albanac

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
5930 Warriors Trail, Bovina, Mississippi
www.stalbansbovina.org

November 2019



*Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi
Blessing of the Animals*

Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi

Blessing of the Animals, October 6th

The *Blessing of the Animals*, also known as the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, is a treasured time in the liturgical year when we bring our beloved pets to be blessed. The happiness they bring to our lives is immeasurable. The Rev. Canon Paul Stephens celebrated the Eucharist in the Outdoor Chapel and blessed the pets. It is a worship setting that reminds us of the responsibilities we have in caring for the animal kingdom and the role they play in our lives. Church members brought donations of dry dog food, clumping only Tidy Cat litter, and dog and cat treats for *Paws Rescue of Vicksburg*.





Dinner on the Grounds—A St. Alban's Tradition

Dinner on the Grounds will take place Sunday, November 3rd from 12:00-2:00 PM. The event will feature the ECW Country Market, a Silent Art Auction, and live music provided by Ralph Miller. There will be plenty of fun to be had by all. A golf cart will be available for those needing assistance to and from the parking area. The menu of the day will feature Smoked Chicken, Baked Beans, St. Alban's Special Coleslaw, Roll and Brownies for dessert. Tickets will be \$12 a plate and may be picked up from Ann Tompkins.

The tradition of holding dinner on the grounds began as early as May 5, 1859, when William Mercer Green, first bishop of Mississippi, consecrated St. Alban's first church. After the service, the women of the church provided a delicious light dinner served under the trees in the grove. Bishop Green wrote of the consecration of the church in his daily journal and mentioned having dinner afterwards with the congregation: "St. Alban's, May 5, 1859—At the close of the protracted services, a plentiful collation (light lunch) was enjoyed under the beautiful and wide-spreading beech-trees adjoining the church."



Classic sepia photograph of church members enjoying *Dinner on the Grounds* taken in the 1940s. Note the ladder-back chairs and the old oak tree—a St. Alban's landmark.

"Sower of the Seed Classrooms" to be Dedicated in Memory of William (Billy) & Carolyn Kitchens

*Who Sowed the Seed of Christian Faith, Knowledge, Hope, and Love
for Generations of Children at St. Alban's Episcopal Church*

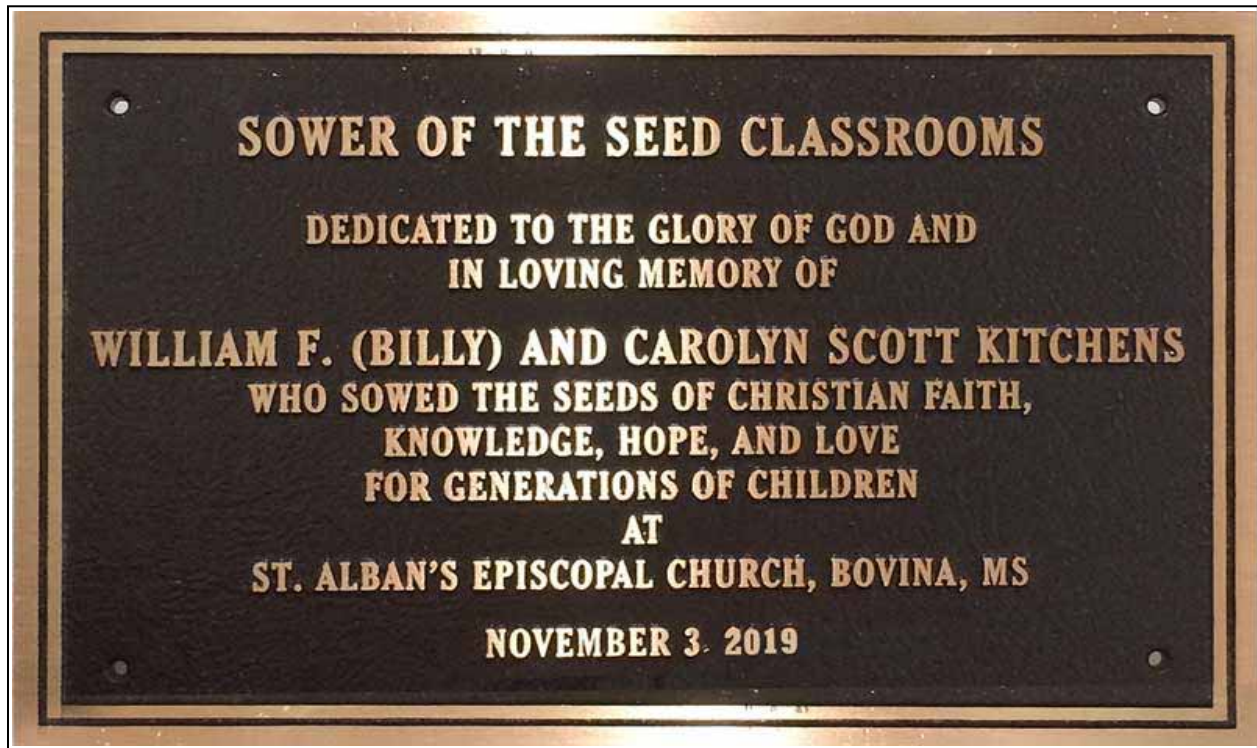
On November 3rd, the "kick-off" for *Dinner on the Grounds* will begin at 10:45 AM with the dedication of St. Alban's new Sunday school classrooms honoring the memory of Billy & Carolyn Scott Kitchens. As early as the 1950s, Carolyn served as *Director of Christian Education* at St. Albans. The energetic, project-driven group was recognized as one of the most active youth organizations in the Mississippi Diocese. Carolyn was popularly known as the group's sponsor and advisor. Not only did Carolyn spearhead the group but also served as Sunday school pianist and substitute organist when needed.

As St. Alban's youth of yesterday moved into adulthood, they went forth for Christ in "thought, word and deed." The Right Reverend Duncan M. Gray, Jr. (7th bishop of Mississippi) commented on Carolyn's dedication to the youth group of St. Alban's: "As long as I have known anything about St. Alban's, I have associated your name with the Christian Education program there." Carolyn's co-director of Christian Education was her husband, William (Billy) Kitchens. He understood her dedication to the youth programs and actively assisted in every way possible. He also served St. Alban's as a vestry member and senior warden.

Today, many of the families in St. Alban's Church still remember the early years when Carolyn & Billy commitment to lead young people to Christ. Together, they had the foresight to realize that the youth they had so lovingly guided would become the Christian leaders of tomorrow.



Billy & Carolyn Kitchens, Christian Education sponsors, led the youth group of St. Alban's to become one of the most active in the diocese.



Building Project Completed

Extensive repairs and improvements to the *Sessions Hall* Sunday school building are complete. The 1960s-era building was in desperate need of repair due to termite and water damage. In addition to the multitude of structural repairs, the project included improved classroom space, new hospitality space, energy efficient windows, a clean and modern kitchen, a new bathrooms and expanded storage.



Stewardship Campaign

"The Power of Praise and Thanksgiving"



This year the theme for our stewardship campaign is “The Power of Praise and Thanksgiving.” The only sacrifice that God requests from us is our praise and thanksgiving. God is the source of all goodness and love in our world. When you become the beneficiary of an act of kindness, you become a witness of God in action. Our stewardship team started thinking about how we could express this in an action, and the idea of the “thanks” stones was born.

If you haven't done so already, please pick up a “thanks” stone at the church. When you witness an act of kindness, toward yourself or other people, pass along your thanksgiving in the form of the stone. You might be surprised at the reaction you get! When passed along to someone else the “thanks” stone becomes a material reminder of the thanksgiving and praise given for such God-like acts. Just like the “Thanks” stone, your stewardship pledge becomes your material response of praise and thanksgiving to God for the many gifts and blessing that you have received.

E lisabeth's E pistle

Membership has been on my mind lately! This is in part because of the season we're in—as we celebrate All Saints' and All Souls' Days, we remember the lives of all the faithful departed who make up the great communion of saints. I love walking through our cemetery and hearing stories about our members there who have helped build up St. Alban's. Walking around our church, I feel surrounded by that “great cloud of witnesses” who have gone before us. This communion of saints supports us and prays with us as we continue our earthly pilgrimage. We are bound together, our loved ones who have died and ourselves, through our baptism in the body of Christ. Ultimately, this is what membership in the church is, becoming members of the body of Christ through baptism, and feeling that membership strengthened through our weekly feasting at the Eucharist.

We become members of the body of Christ at our baptism, and there is absolutely nothing that can ever take that away. This is the theological reality of membership. Of course, there is a practical side of membership as well. We express our membership in the body of Christ through our participation in a local church, and I've been learning more about the ins and outs of our record keeping at St. Alban's. Did you know that we have parish membership records going back to the church's founding in 1857? In our parish register, we record everyone who has become a member at St. Alban's, as well as everyone who has been baptized, confirmed, married or buried at the church. And as we prepare for a visit from Bishop Seage in January, it is worth taking stock of the ways in which you can affirm your membership at St. Alban's.

- If you have been visiting St. Alban's and want to become a member of the parish, let me know. We can request what's called a “letter of transfer” from the last church you attended and record your membership in our parish register.
- If you or a member of your family are considering baptism, the Bishop's visit in January takes place on the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord and would be a very appropriate time for baptism.
- In addition to baptism, the Bishop will also offer confirmation, reaffirmation, and reception. Confirmation is a rite of adult affirmation of faith, making a mature commitment to Christ. Reaffirmation is a recommitment to the Christian faith, appropriate for people who have already been confirmed and who have had a spiritual renewal or reengagement with their faith after a time away. Reception is designed for those people coming into the Episcopal Church from other denominations in which they have been confirmed.
- If you are interested in exploring the Episcopal Church's theology and history further, we will be offering a four-week Inquirers' Class in December on Sunday mornings from 9:30–10:30 am. The class is open to everyone, but will be designed for those considering confirmation, reaffirmation or reception.

November Birthdays

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 3 Bertha Kolb | 19 Margaret Massey |
| 8 Whitney Nieto | 20 Kristin Selby |
| 9 Margie Scott | 22 Betty Rushing |
| 10 Koury Collins | 23 Charles Barton |
| 12 Jonah Artman | 24 Barbara Ramsay |
| 12 David Pruett | 26 Sherry Barton |
| 17 Letty Biedenharn | 27 Margharita Davis |
| Josie Huntley | Sam Hall |
| Kay McWilliams | 29 Eva Panelo |

November Anniversaries

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 7 John Segrest & Bitsy Sloan | 12 David & Bonnie Pruett |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|

Prayers for the People

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Andy Katzenmeyer | Clarence Lentz | Joan Leese |
| Ann & Jimmy Jones | Cynthia Strawn | Laurie Reece |
| Barbara Ramsay | Cutler Lynn | Linda & Jim Dooley |
| Bertha Kolb | Dalton Glatt | Newell Graham |
| Betty Biedenharn | Dan & Mary Carleton | Nita Tassin |
| Bill Longfellow | David Wright | Norma Jones |
| Blair Harris | Diane Bailey | Paul Quarles |
| Bob & Sue Schyberg | Dianne Carlton | Rachelle Ferris |
| Bobbie Carlisle | Eugene Quarles | Randy Wright |
| Brabston Cook | Glenda Ferguson | Rebecca Drake |
| Brandi Tony | Herb Jones | Sarah Rickard |
| Carolyn Sullins | Irv Jones | Scott |
| Charlie Brantley & Family | Jackson Monti | Sheila Rosser |
| Charlie Lutz | Jim Farrell | Steve Webster |

Victims of Violence & Natural Disasters

Schedule of Events for November

Weekly Activities & Services

Church Office Hours

Monday–Wednesday: 9:00 AM–4:00 PM. Phone: (601) 636-6687

Sunday

Eucharist, 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Christian Education, 10:00 AM

Nursery, 10:00 AM

Children's Chapel, 11:00 AM

Tuesday

Bible & More Discussion Group, Parish House, 6:00–8:00 PM

Wednesday

12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness Meeting, 7:30 AM

Healing Service & Eucharist, 6:00 PM

Thursday

Cursillo Grouping, Parish House, 12:30 PM

Saturday, November 2—All Souls Evening Prayer Service with luminaries, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday November 3—*Feast of All Saints*. Holy Eucharist 8:30 & 11:00, Rev. Brian Ponder, Celebrant; Penny Freund, Organist. “Carolyn & Billy Kitchen” Sunday School classrooms dedication, 10:45 a.m. and *Dinner on the Grounds*, noon-2 p.m.

Sunday, November 10—*Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost* –Morning Prayer, 8:30, Rev. Deacon Elisabeth Malphurs, Officiant; Holy Eucharist, 11:00 a.m., Rev. Beth Palmer, Celebrant; Lance Stewart, Guitarist.

Sunday, November 17—*Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost* – Reserved Sacrament, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m., Rev. Deacon Elisabeth Malphurs, Presider; Shirleen Gill, Organist. Youth Sunday. Everyone invited to stay after church for lunch and horseback riding for children, noon–1:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 21—Vestry Meeting, Parish Hall, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 24—*Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost* –Liturgy of the Reserved Sacrament, 8:30 & 11:00 a.m., Rev. Deacon Elisabeth Malphurs, Presider; Penny Freund, Organist

Thursday, November 28—Liturgy of the Reserved Sacrament, Rev. Josie Williams, 11:00 a.m., Thanksgiving Day meal to follow.

Liturgical Schedule

| | November 3 <i>The Feast of All Saints</i> | November 10 <i>Pentecost 22</i> | November 17 <i>Pentecost 23</i> YOUTH SUNDAY | November 24 <i>Pentecost 24</i> |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
| First Reading | Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4 | Haggai 1:15b-2:9 | Isaiah 65:17-25 | Jeremiah 23:1-6 |
| Psalm | Psalm 119:137-144 | Psalm 145:1-5, 18-22 | Canticle 9 | Canticle 16 |
| Second Reading | 2 Thes. 1:1-4, 11-12 | 2 Thes. 2:1-5, 13-17 | 2 Thes. 3:6-13 | Colossians 1:11-20 |
| Gospel | Luke 19:1-10 | Luke 20:27-38 | Luke 21:5-19 | Luke 23:33-43 |
| LWL | | | | |
| 8:30 am | David Pruett | Tommy Skinner | Harvey Smith | Tommy Skinner |
| 11:00 am | Harvey Smith | Richard Price | Betsy Selby | Ann Tompkins |
| MC | Beth Guynes | Ann Tompkins | Beth Guynes | Ann Tompkins |
| OT Lector | | | | |
| 8:30 am | Bitsy Sloan | Bitsy Sloan | Bitsy Sloan | Bitsy Sloan |
| 11:00 am | Mary Ruth Jones | Buck Cooper | Gloria Hall | Ed Shelnut |
| Psalm | | | Betsy Selby | |
| Epistle | | | Andrew Cooper | |
| Crucifer & Acolyte | Josh Artman | Susan Price Dawn Rickard | Jennifer Normand Henry Cooper Harris Southall | Koury Collins |
| Wooden Cross | | | | |
| Torch Bearers | Jonah Artman Sam Hall | | | |
| Thurifer | Henry Cooper | | | |
| Banner Bearer | Peter Williams | | | |
| Boat Bearer | Andrew Cooper | | | |
| Gospel Bearer | Harvey Smith | Richard Price | Gabby Rushing | Ann Tompkins |
| Prayers of the People | TBD | Sharon Hanks | Kerri Williams Peter Williams | Wilma Mitchell |
| Oblation Bearers | Dawn Rickard Wilma Mitchell | Dalton Thames Sara Margaret Porter | | |
| Ushers & Greeters | Lance Stewart Andy Hall | Allan Leese Dale Gibson | Josh Artman Jonah Artman | Dalton Thames Sara Margaret Porter |
| Standing Communion Station | Rev. Elisabeth Ann Tompkins | Rev. Elisabeth Susan Price | Harvey Smith Ann Tompkins | David Pruett Ed Shelnut |
| Altar Guild | Sharon Hanks Betty Rushing | Mary Ann Wright Susan Price | Ann Tompkins Beth Sojourner | Kerri Williams Judy Morrissey |
| Coffee Host | | Ann Tompkins | Tommy Skinner | Dawn Rickard |
| Nursery | April & Ashley | April & Ashley | April & Ashley | April & Ashley |
| Offertory Counters | Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks John Bonar | Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks Theo Williams | Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks Mike Southall | Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks Lance Stewart |
| | November 6 | November 13 | November 20 | November 27 |
| Healing Service | Theo Williams | David Pruett | Tommy Skinner | Theo Williams |