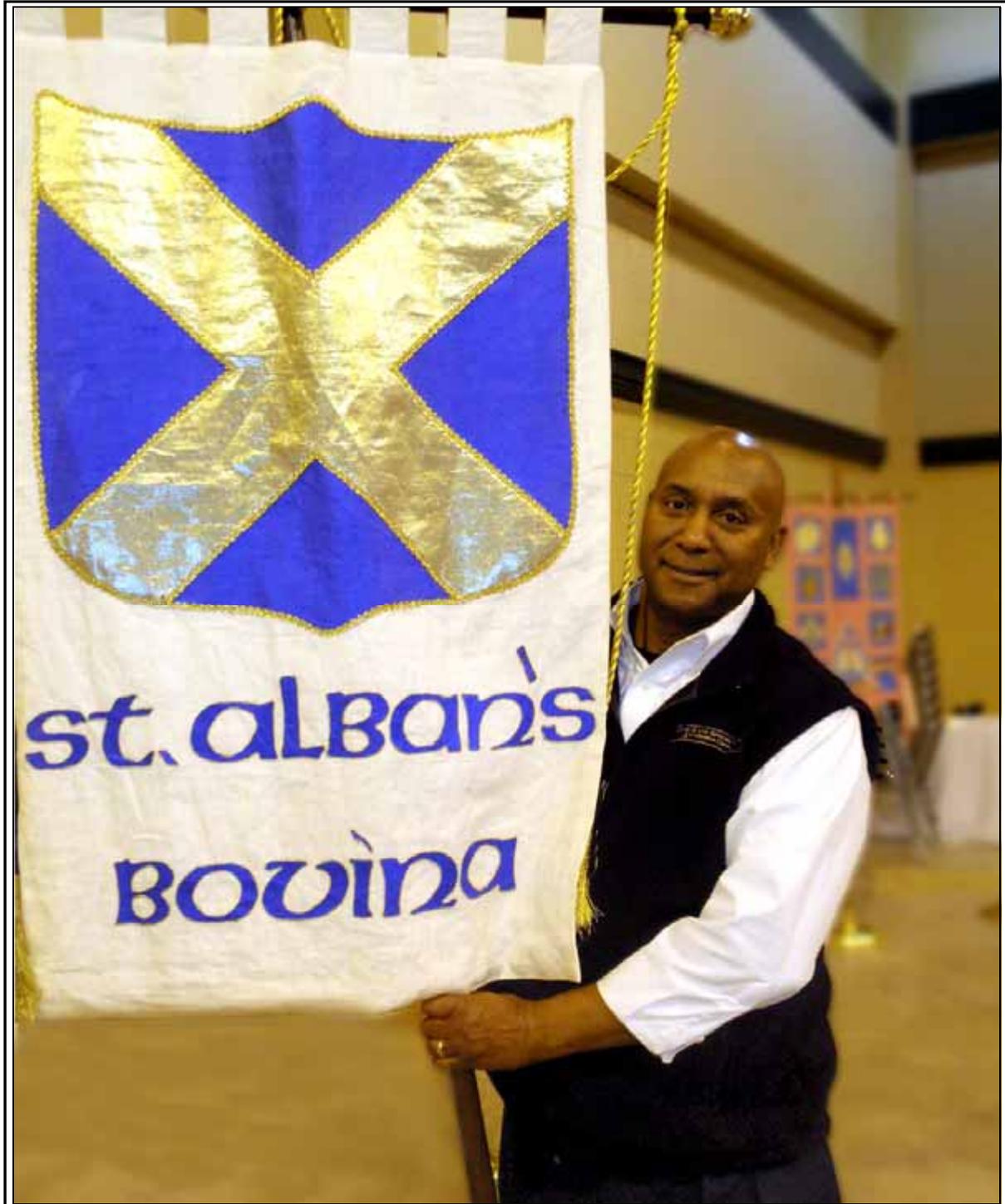




The Albanac

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

April 2022



St. Alban's Banners

St. Alban's colorful banners play a significant role during church services, especially when celebrating feast days. All seven of the banners are individually designed and made by church members, the majority being the work of Linda Walker, talented seamstress. The banners are on display in the Parish House.

The cover page shows Theo Williams, St. Alban's flag bearer, at the 2014 Annual Council meeting in Jackson.



Processional Banner
"St. Alban's Bovina"
To the Glory of God and
In memory of A. W. (Jack) Price

The St. Alban's processional banner was created by Susan Price and given by Richard and Susan Price in memory of Jack, who, along with his wife Eleanor spent their lives in service to St. Alban's. The banner was presented to St. Alban's on June 12, 1991. It was used in the procession at the ordination of Chip Marble as Bishop of Mississippi, representing Chip's home church. The banner is also used in the processional at annual council and other occasions.

Easter Banner
"He is Risen"
To the Glory of God and
In Thanksgiving for Clarissa and Genevieve
Walker

The St. Alban's Easter banner was crafted and given by Linda Walker for her daughters. It is used from Easter Vigil through the great fifty days of Easter.





**Advent Banner
"Emanuel"
To the Glory of God and
In Memory of James Andrew Wallace**

Linda Walker created the Advent banner and, she and her daughters dedicated it to her father and the girls' grandfather. This banner is used throughout Advent, until Christmas Eve.

**Pentecost Banner
"Tongues of Fire"
To the Glory of God**

The ECW donated the materials and Linda Walker created the Pentecost Banner. The ECW dedicated it to the church. The Pentecost Banner is used throughout the season of Pentecost.



**Christmas Banner
"Manger"
To the Glory of God and
In Memory of Dorothy Leichenauer Wallace**

Linda Walker created the Christmas banner and dedicated it to her mother and the girls' grandmother. This banner is used from Christmas Eve until Epiphany, although it can be used through Epiphany until Ash Wednesday.



**Epiphany Banner
“Go Forth”
To the Glory of God and
In Memory of Randolph Paul Scott**

John and Margie Scott donated the materials and Linda Walker crafted the banner. John and Margie dedicated it to their son. This banner is used from Epiphany until Ash Wednesday.



**Children’s Easter Day Banner
“Alleluia”**

The “Alleluia” banner was designed and made by Linda Walker when her children, Genevieve and Clarissa were children. At the time Rev. Ann Whitaker was rector. The banner was displayed on Easter Sunday when the children joined the Easter processional.



**Wooden Crucifix
“Jesus on the Cross”
The Glory of God and in Memory of Bryan
Brabston, Sr.**

The crucifix was given by Bryan Brabston, Jr. dedicated to his father. This crucifix is used from Ash Wednesday through Good Friday



Faith & Science Lenten Series



On Wednesday evenings during Lent, we have been having wonderful, wide-ranging conversations at the church about the intersection of faith and science. Over soup and bread, we've pondered questions like:

- Within a framework of six explanations for the origins of life on earth with lots of nuance and shades of gray, where do our views fit?
- How far is too far when it comes to gene editing, and how does our perspective on the image of God influence what we think about this?
- What does it mean to die a “good death”? How as Christians should we “number our days” so we can gain wisdom?
- What is our Christian responsibility to care for creation?

Our goal during these evenings has not been to figure everything out, or even to all agree on a particular subject. Rather, it is to model respectful conversation between the disciplines of faith and science. As Bishop Nicholas Knisely points out in our Lenten devotional, “Lent is Not Rocket Science,” it used to be that there was no divide between “natural philosophy” (or science) and theology: the same scholars were immersed in both, regarding both Scripture and nature as sources of divine revelation. But as science and religion diverged, it became more difficult for them to speak to each other. We have been trying in our conversations to embrace the perspective that science and faith should not just be in dialogue with each other, but that collaboration between the two is necessary for us as we grow in our understanding of the world, God, and God’s will for us.

Thanks to all of our volunteers who have provided soup and bread and who have been involved in setting up and cleaning up each week: Thank you to everyone who has participated for wonderful conversations!

“Be still, and know that I am God..”

— God, Psalm 46:10

Approximately two years ago, during the Lenten season, St. Alban’s, along with the rest of the world, learned that we were in the midst of a terrible pandemic. The lengthy course of the virus has been trying but it appears that we have finally broken out of the period of fear and uncertainty. Now, as we “peek behind the curtain” to see if all is clear, we find ourselves once again in the midst of Lent while awaiting Easter Day.

Lent is a season of self-examination, reflection and contemplation. It is also a time to pray quietly and listen to what God is telling us. Whether we hear Him in the songs of the birds, the wind blowing through the trees, or thoughts within our deepest selves, He is most assuredly speaking to us and guiding us in the ways we should go. He is leading us from the dark days of the pandemic into the light of a new day.

A number of years ago, after having dealt with a bout of multiple sclerosis, I received a plaque from my pastor in Texas. He wanted me to try and keep my mind focused on what really matters and to hear what God has in store for me. The plaque featured the verse, “Be still and know that I am God.” Such a simple verse yet so powerful. We all need silence to be alone with God – to speak to Him and to listen to him – to contemplate the needs of our hearts.

With Easter just around the corner, we have much to look forward to. Easter is a season of hope and we are already seeing new life budding all around us. The birds have returned to their daily singing, flowers are blooming and the grass and trees are turning green. As we celebrate nature and perhaps the newness of life within us, we know that God can take what seems to be the direst situation and turn it into a blessing for us.

So, during this time of Lent, as we approach the joyous Easter season, let us take time to contemplate and reflect on what the seasons mean in relation to God and how to move forward serving him with happy hearts.

We really can’t ask for anything better than that.

Dawn Rickard

From the Senior Warden

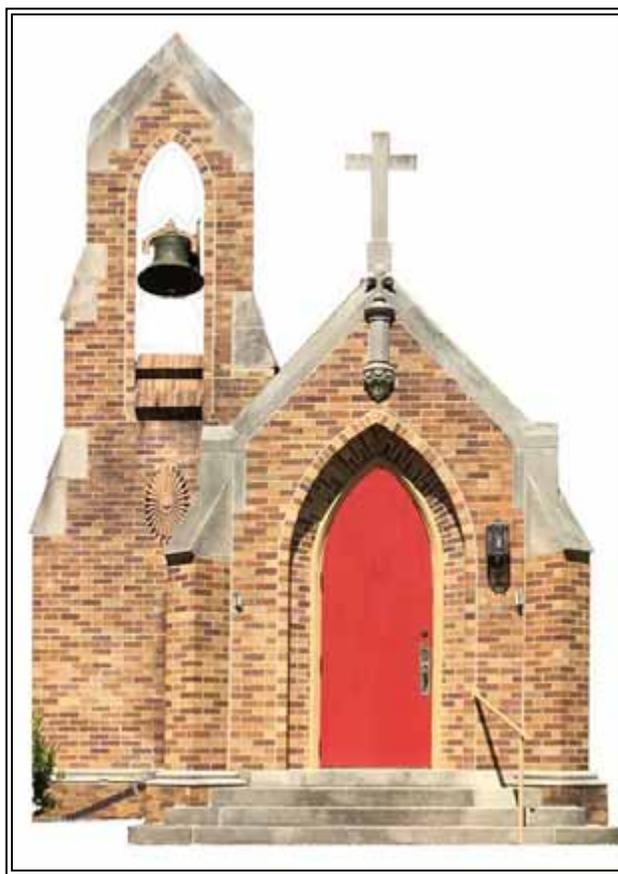
“Plan for an Abundant Yield of God’s Love”

As I thought about what I would say here, I considered the church, its care, and the responsibility of Christian commitment. I began to think about how its seasonal changes and various responsibilities are somewhat like a kind of garden.

Successful gardens that produce abundant fruit, flowers and vegetables require good soil, sunshine, rain, and weeding. The church’s wellbeing requires much the same. We have to have a solid soil underpinning of faith, hope and love. We have the sunshine of joyful and diverse celebrations remembering God’s many blessings. Sadly there are the inevitable stormy times of conflict, confusion, and personal crisis. And with maddening regularity there are days when things must be weeded from our habits and schedules to ensure that the message of God’s love doesn’t get choked out. And of course we don’t forget that a garden must be fed with rich compost and fertilizers to promote growth and reduce sickness or disease.

This brings us to remember that Christian commitment to time, talent and tithing is the food we give throughout the seasons to guarantee that our services continue, the building is sound, and we are able to carry on a ministry of outreach that helps us take God’s message outside the church walls.

We are in the spring of a newly elected vestry. The former vestries that have gone before have demonstrated that we can accomplish all the tasks required of a good gardener with a focused plan for success and prosperity. May we continue that focus and energy in the coming year as we support our priest and her family, maintain our buildings and facilities and plan for an abundant yield of God’s love throughout our St. Albans community.



Penny Freund

Rev. Elisabeth's Epistle

Death and resurrection. Agony and redemption. Grief and joy. Holy Week is the most intense time of our liturgical year. It is a week filled with highs and lows—the exuberance of Palm Sunday and the promise of salvation; the intimacy of the last supper on Maundy Thursday; the pain of those gathered at the cross, when all hope seems to be lost; and the fragile, unexpected joy of Easter morning.

We have been through our own intense, turbulent times these last couple years. We have each experienced losses and deaths along the way, some smaller, and some overwhelming. We arrive at Holy Week with the same question that people throughout the centuries have asked: how does this good news apply to me? Where do I find resurrection in my own life?

If these are questions that matter to you, join St. Alban's for the fullness of Holy Week. This year, we have a couple new offerings to help each of us enter the depth and mystery of Christ's Passion and Resurrection:

- With our sister Episcopal churches in Vicksburg, we will hold a joint service of Tenebrae on Wednesday, April 13 at 6:00 PM at Christ Church. Tenebrae is a service of light and shadows, an extended meditation on Christ's Passion using Psalms and readings from Lamentations.
- For Maundy Thursday, this year we will gather "at table" at 6:00 PM in the Parish Hall, as Jesus did with his disciples as they celebrated the Last Supper. We will remember Jesus' great commandment as we eat an agape meal of Mediterranean food before moving into the sanctuary for the stripping of the altar. This service is family-friendly and children are welcome. RSVPs are appreciated to help with meal planning, but not required.

Please join us for the fullness of Holy Week—the highs and the lows. And on Easter Sunday, come rejoice! We will be baptizing Allison, granddaughter of Betty Rushing at the 11:00 service. If you are looking for a quieter, less crowded way to celebrate Easter, join us at 8:30 AM for a not-quite-sunrise service at the outdoor chapel. My hope is that the early service will be a comfortable fit for those who are still taking precautions with regard to their health. My hope is that you will find resurrection in your own life as we gather to hear these sacred stories again.

St. Alban's Easter Egg Hunt

April 17, 10:00 AM

Bring your basket and join the fun as we help our community with an egg hunt benefiting local nonprofits.

**Easter Sunday services at 8:30 AM (outdoors)
& 11:00 AM (nursery provided)**



April Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 7 Ruth Green | 23 John Thomas Monti |
| 8 Dawn Rickard | 27 Ford Biedenharn |
| 10 Hayden Guynes | Sarah Jane Selby |
| Chad Toups | 29 Liz Curtis |
| 14 Laurie Reece | 30 Allison Nieto |

April Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 16 Jim & Linda Dooley | 18 Gene & Wanda Warren |
| Charles & Lisa Langford | |

Prayers for the People

- | | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------------|---------|
| Allan & Joan | Dantin Family | Jeff H. | Marcia |
| Amanda | David | Jimmy | Mike |
| Ann & Jimmy | Ed | Jimmy P. | Nita |
| Bill & Karen | Elba | John & Lynn | Norma |
| Bob | Estella | Judy | Pat |
| Carroll | Freda | Keegan | Ria |
| Charlene H. | Fritz | Kelley | Rickard |
| Charlene P. | Gary | Lee | Ruth |
| Charlie & Family | Isabel, MK & Ted | L.J. | Sharon |
| Cora Lee | Irv | Leigh Ann | Sid |
| Dan & Mary | Jackson | Loretta | Steve |
| Cynthia | Jeff & Darlene | Mack | Theresa |



Photography credits for this issue of the Albanac:
Rebecca Drake & Rev. Elisabeth

Weekly Events

Sunday

Holy Eucharist Rite I, 8:30 am
Holy Eucharist Rite II, 11:00 am*
Sunday School, 10.00 am

Tuesday

Bibles & More. This group will be joining the Wednesday Lenten series and will resume Tuesday meetings in Easter

Wednesday

Spiritual 12 Steps Group, 7:30-8:30 am
Faith & Science over Supper during Lent, 6:00-7:30 pm.

Thursday

Ultreya, 12:00-1:00 pm

* Indicates: Livestreamed on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StAlbansBovina/>

Event Calendar

Wednesdays in Lent—Faith & Science over supper, 6:00-7:30 pm.

Sunday, April 10—Palm Sunday Services, 8:30 & 11:00 am*

Wednesday, April 13—Tenebrae Service, 6:00 PM at Christ Church

Thursday, April 14—Maundy Thursday Service with Agape dinner, 6:00 pm

Friday, April 15—Good Friday Services, 12:00 & 6:00 pm*

Saturday, April 16—The Great Vigil of Easter, 7:30 pm*

Sunday, April 17—Easter Sunday. Outdoor service, 8:30 am. Easter Egg Hunt, 10:00 am. Festive Service in the Church, 11:00 am*

* Indicates: Livestreamed on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/StAlbansBovina/>

Server Schedule

Date		Lay Worship Leader	Lector	Ushers	Chalice	A/V System
Sunday						
4/3/2022	8:30 AM	Tommy Skinner	Sharon Cummins	Jim Price		
	11:00 AM	Ann Tompkins	Lance Stewart	The Coopers	Lance Stewart	Harvey Smith
Wednesday						
4/6/2022	6:00PM	Faith & Science				
Sunday						
4/10/2022	8:30 AM	Ann Tompkins	Betsy Selby	Jim Price		
	11:00 AM	Tommy Skinner	Penny Freund	Kerri Williams Peter Williams	Penny Freund	Jim Drake
Wednesday						
4/13/2022	Tenebrae Service at Christ Church					
Thursday						
4/14/2022	6:00 PM	Maundy Thursday				
Friday						
4/15/2022	Noon	Good Friday				
	6:00 PM	Ann Tompkins Richard Price			Lance Stewart	Harvey Smith
Saturday						
4/16/2022	7:30 PM	The Great Easter Vigil				
		Clarissa Horner			Harvey Smith	Harvey Smith
Sunday						
4/17/2022	8:30 AM	Tommy Skinner	Ann Tompkins	Jim Price		
	11:00 AM	Harvey Smith	Beth Guynes	The Halls	Lance Stewart	Buck Cooper
Wednesday						
4/20/2022	No Healing Service					
Sunday						
4/24/2022	8:30 AM	Ann Tompkins	Tommy Skinner	Jim Price		
	11:00 AM	Richard Price	Dawn Rickard	The Artmans	Harvey Smith	Jim Drake
Wednesday						
4/27/2022	6:00 PM	Tommy Skinner				Harvey Smith