



The Albanac

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

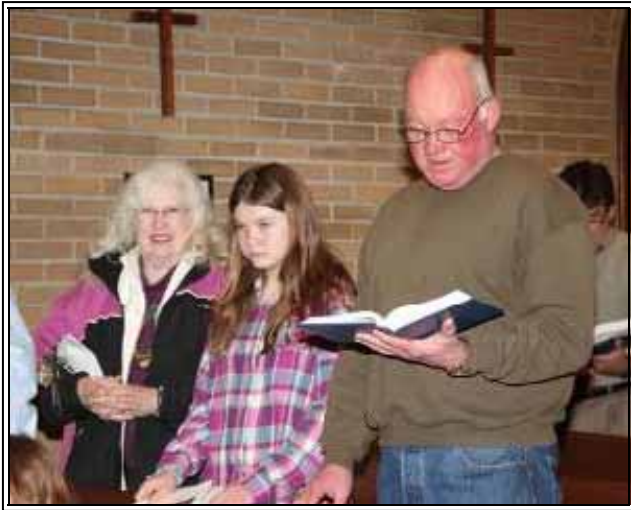
January 2018



St. Alban's Christmas Pageant

O Come Let Us Adore Him, Christ the Lord





ECW Christmas Luncheon





† Billie's Corner

Recover Our Original Unity



The deepest level of communication is not communication, but COMMUNION. It is beyond words, and it is beyond speech, and it is beyond concept. Not that we discover a new unity. We discover an older unity. We are already one. But we imagine that we are not. What we have to recover is our original unity. What we have to be is what we are.

Thomas Merton

It's that time of year when we give thought to "ringing out the Old Year and ringing in the New Year." But as I read *Dancing in the Water* by Thomas Merton, I was struck by his insight that **what we are** does not need to be discarded. Instead, **what we are** needs to be discovered once again.

We are one people who are in communion with each other. God created us that way. We may have diverse perspectives - we may disagree - but within our beings we are unified by the *Divine Spark* that dwells within us and connects us to each other.

Each year I seem to stumble upon a word that takes on significance throughout the New Year. I don't have to look for the word – it finds me! Thomas Merton has given me my word for 2018—*COMMUNION*. In our fractured world, I am going to look for communion with others.

Perhaps, instead of my typical New Year's resolution that usually has something to do with losing weight, this year's resolution will be to recover unity—each day, in each relationship, to seek to recover our original unity.

Holy Oneness—Holy Unity—Holy Communion

Happy New Year!

In Peace,

Billie

† Josie's Journal

The Light of the World is Jesus



"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

Jesus uses the word **light** to symbolize *truth* and that which is *good*. Scripture encourages us to be more intentional as we make room for Him in our lives. Everyone has gifts from God that are unique. As Christians, we are to use these gifts to nourish our minds, bodies and souls to the glory of God.

We nourish our souls when we help others through acts of kindness—visiting shut-ins and those in nursing homes, gifts of money, providing food for the hungry, and sending cards or making phone calls to express love and support. This week I was reminded of the saying, "One man's trash is another man's treasure?" How true! The *Lost and Found* at the elementary school where I have been substituting was overflowing with thrown out clothes. So, I loaded the dirty, smelly discards into a garbage bag and took them to the local cleaners to be recycled for the children in need. The owner, out of the goodness of her heart, not only cleaned the items at no cost but also placed them on hangers—all sparkling like new. The happiness I felt was sublime.

I want to thank St. Alban's community for the gifts you have given to the *River City Rescue Mission* and *Backpack Ministry*. Your love and support have provided school supplies, food and uniforms to the less fortunate. Even more importantly, your gifts have made a difference in the self-esteem of the second grade students that I taught during the month of December.

My prayer is that St. Alban's Church will continue to be a *light* in the community of Bovina— and that *our light* will shine to all corners of the earth for years to come.

Happy New Year,

Josie

January Birthdays

1 Canada Stewart	19 Kenon Ruska
3 Lynda Hubbard	20 Austin Sumrall
4 Richard Selby	26 Anna Selby
8 Mary Carleton	27 Betsy Selby
12 Hannah Huntley	29 Heaven Leigh Merritt Susan Price
16 Joy Brabston Sadie Williamson	30 David McLaughlin
17 Sergio Panelo	31 Robert Ulmer

January Anniversaries

27 Bo & Kristen Gayle	27 Stanley & Deborah Lee
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Prayers for the People

Allen & Nancy Teeter	Hallie Jo Ragsdale	Marlene McLaurin Family
AmeriCorps Youth	Hollis Newman	Mary Jo Wright
Analiese Wasson Bryan	Jackson Monti	Martha Benson
Ann Hanks	Jean Inman	Mary Ann Seage
Ann & Jimmy Jones	Jim & Sherry Horan	Michael Morrissey
Barbara Ramsay	Jim Dantin	Mike Bieser
Bertha Kolb	Jim Jones	Milli Gasaway
Betty Biedenharn	Jimmy & Mamie Bright	Norma Jones
Bo Whittenberg	John Hardy	Parker Ramsay
Bradley Freeman	Kristi Biedenharn	Paula Bandy
Bryan Brabston	Larry Sanders	Payton Price
Carol Green	Landrieu Townsend	Peggy Lynn
Charlie Brantley Family	Linda & Jim Dooley	Philip Summerlin
Christine Nelson Family	Linda Washington	Rachelle Ferris
Dalton Glatt	Liz Curtis & Family	Selby Parker & Family
Damion Hansford	Lucas Guynes	Lance Tompkins Family
Dan & Mary Carleton	Lynette Smith	The Selby Family
Glenda & Lee Ferguson	Margarette Swett	

Victims of Southern California Wildfires

Schedule of Events

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

Choir Practice, 10:00 AM

Adult Sunday School, 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

Wednesday, January 3—First Wednesday Quiet Day, 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

Come In, Light a Candle, Say a Prayer, Be Still, Leave in Peace

Sunday, January 14—**Eucharist at 10:00 AM only**

Annual Parish Meeting and Potluck Lunch in Parish House following Eucharist

Sunday, January 14—**Second Sundays at St. Mary’s Bolton**, 4:00 PM

Choral Evensong presented by the St. Philip’s Choir with reception following in the Terry Brantley Parish Hall

Friday, January 26–Sunday, January 28—Annual Council, Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi, Southaven, Mississippi

Monday, January 29–Tuesday, February 6—Rev. Billie will be making a silent retreat at the Monastery of St. John the Evangelist, Cambridge, Massachusetts

Liturgical Schedule—Sundays in January 2018

	January 7 Epiphany 1	January 14 Epiphany 2	January 21 Epiphany 3	January 28 Epiphany 4
		10:00 AM Eucharist Only Annual Parish Meeting		Morning Prayer
First Reading	Genesis 1:1-5	1 Samuel 3:1-20	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Deuteronomy 18:15-20
Psalm	Psalm 29	Psalm 139:1-5, 12-17	Psalm 62:6-14	Psalm 111
Second Reading	Acts 19:1-7	1 Corinthians 6:12-20	1 Corinthians 7:29-31	1 Corinthians 8:1-13
Gospel	Mark 1:4-11	John 1:43-51	Mark 1:14-20	Mark 1:21-28
LWL 8:30	Tommy Skinner		Harvey Smith	Penny Freund
11:00	Herb Jones	David Pruett	Betsy Selby	Richard Price
MC	Ann Tompkins	Deacon Josie	Beth Guynes	
OT Lector 8:30	Bitsy Sloan	Bitsy Sloan	Bitsy Sloan	Bitsy Sloan
11:00	Elisabeth Gent	Ed Shelnut	Betsy Selby	
Psalm			Canada Stewart	
Epistle			Macy Weaver	
Crucifer & Acolyte	Jennifer Normand	Koury Collins	Beth Guynes Gray Weaver Peter Williams	
Wooden Cross			Gloria Hall Sam Hall	
Torch Bearers & Choir			Gabby Rushing	
Gospel Bearer	Jenny Newman	Deacon Josie	Kerri Williams Peter Williams	
Prayers of the People	Jenny Newman	Deacon Josie	Gloria Hall Sam Hall	N/A
Oblation Bearers	Sara Margaret Porter Dalton Thames	Betty Rushing Cynthia Strawn	Jonah Artman Josh Artman	Dale Gibson Dawn Rickard
Ushers & Greeters	Allan Leese Dale Gibson	Lance Stewart Canada Stewart	Deacon Josie Ann Tompkins	N/A
Standing Communion Station	Jenny Newman Ann Tompkins	Deacon Josie David Pruett	Kerri Williams Judy Morrissey	Cassandra Price Dawn Rickard
Altar Guild	Mary Ann Wright Susan Price	Ann Tompkins Beth Sojourner	Theo Williams Cynthia Strawn April & Ashley	Wilma Mitchell Dawn Rickard April & Ashley Betsy Selby
Coffee Host	Mary Ruth Jones Stacy Weaver April & Ashley	Potluck Lunch following 10:00 AM Eucharist April & Ashley		
Nursery	Betsy Selby	Betsy Selby		
Children's Chapel	Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks Herb Jones	Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks Jennifer Normand	Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks Betsy Selby	
Offertory Counters				
Healing Service	January 3 Theo Williams	January 10 Tommy Skinner	January 17 David Pruett	January 24 Theo Williams