



The Albanac

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

September 2015



All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children
Isaiah 54:13

Children's Sunday School Kick-off

Serving in the Holy Eucharist

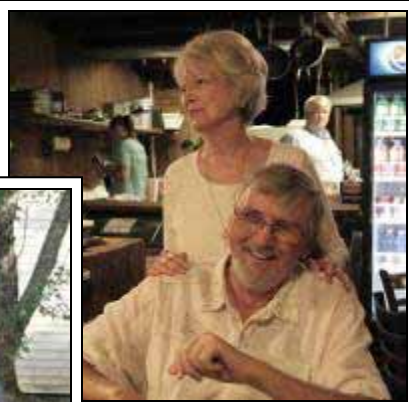


Playtime and Picnic



Dinner at Gibbs Grocery





† Billie's Corner

Stewardship—All is Grace

I see a broad spectrum as I reflect on what stewardship has meant to me throughout my lifetime. For years, stewardship meant one thing - a monetary pledge to the church. I dreaded the visit from a member of the Pledge Drive Committee who would come to my home, make small talk, then pull out the pledge card and ask me to sign it. The moment was

always awkward. Other than committing to pledge to the church, neither of us had any real understanding of what it meant to be a *steward* of God's gifts to us.

Slowly, as the meaning of stewardship began to unfold, I came to the realization that God calls us to take care of His gifts to us and to share the gifts with others. My notion of stewardship as an annual bill collecting time began to fade. For me, identifying and taking care of God's gifts is a way of saying thank you to God. I desire to take care of relationships with others by loving and serving. I can love and serve by sharing my gifts of time, talent and treasure. When I love and serve others, I am loving and serving God. The possibilities are endless and the possibilities are all grace.

God gives me the gifts and God gives me the grace to develop my gifts and share them with others. Left to my own resources I am limited within the bounds of my humanity. But, God's grace is fathomless. Ultimately, stewardship is grace as well. To be a good steward is to live with a sense of sheer abundance and not with a sense of fearful scarcity.

In Branning Manning's book, *All is Grace*, he writes, *I am not measured by the good that I do but by the grace I accept.* God longs to give us *grace upon grace*. Can we open ourselves to accept God's grace so that we can be good and faithful stewards of all His gifts to us?

*Amazing grace!
How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now am found,
was blind but now can see.*

grace /grās/ noun:
1. The exercise of love, kindness, compassion, mercy, favor; disposition to benefit or serve another.

In Peace

Billie+

† Josie's Journal

"Suffer Little Children, and Forbid Them Not, to Come unto Me"

Stewardship for me is bringing the hopes, needs and concerns of the world to St. Alban's, especially when it comes to the lives of children. Often, we live in a bubble and are immune to the lives of children who are in need. I say that because my experience as a guardian ad litem for the Warren County Youth Court has given me a perspective from the view of the child, the parent and the court.

Each impression is true in and of itself—but the truth lies beneath the layers. To discover the truth, I use my time and talent to investigate the home, school and church life of each child. Jesus said, *Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me.* To see these little ones abused and mistreated creates the opportunity for me to become involved—to help provide a safe life for each child.

All things that we have come from God and children are the greatest gift of all. They deserve to be loved and cared for. Parents may not have effective parenting or communication skills so we provide classes for those who need help.

As a counselor, I can succeed if I have the tools to work with. Most of us who council neglected or abused children know our limitations and, we also know how to receive assistance. However, often the parents I work with do not realize they need help and when they do they don't know which way to turn. As a parent and grandmother, I share my knowledge with other parents - not as an expert but as one parent to another.

This volunteer position brings joy as well as sadness but it has its rewards. Mainly, I do it for the glory of God and the safety of the children. I am thankful for the support that I receive from my St. Alban's community.



Christ's Peace+

Josie

Stewardship for Children



The blessing of the Little Red Wagon filled with school supplies for students in need

The Sunday School Class at St. Albans, directed by Marci Turner with the help of adult volunteers, is actively engaged in teaching stewardship to the children. Often, especially on Children's Sunday, they assume a role in the Eucharist by serving as crucifer, acolyte, choir member, Gospel bearer, usher/greeter and lector. The children are always encouraged to participate for as they grow in their understanding of God, they grow in their faith.

One of the best gifts that a parent can give their children is to bring them up in the church. Here they learn: *God is love; It is better to give than to receive; Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world; and Jesus wants them for a Sunbeam to shine for Him each day.* During the Eucharist, Reverend Billie reminds the children of God's love when she whispers to each of them, *God loves you so much.* No matter where life takes the children, they will always remember the power of Reverend Billie's words.

Stewardship—One Dollar Evangelism

Norma Jones was shopping at Walmart when something unusual happened. After receiving her change, she noticed a collection of Bible verses had been printed, back and front, around the edges of a one dollar bill. Whoever took the time to share the biblical messages was definitely using their *treasure* as an evangelism tool. How is that for stewardship?!



Vestry Stewardship – Time, Talent and Treasure



Janet Herrington

Garnered from our local church and discussions at my parents Sunday table, these passages have been my guide, support, and blessing through life. For me the Episcopal community most closely embodies the precepts of my faith.

- Luke 10:27 Love the Lord your God with all your heart ... and love your neighbor as yourself.
- Ephesians 3:19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the

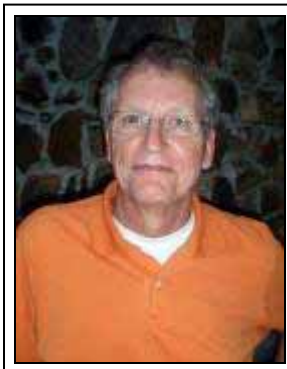
fullness of God.

- Micah 6:8 ... and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God.
- Matthew 22:21 Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's.
- 2 Timothy 2:15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.



Ann Tompkins

I am proud to be a part of the St. Alban's community and to share my life with you. At St. Alban's, I have met people who have challenged my thinking, been a support system, and helped me to grow in my faith. I have been blessed in so many ways by a generous God. I feel blessed to be here, and this is the reason that I pledge my time and talents and financial support to St. Alban's.



Richard Price

Stewardship means taking care of the gifts and environment in which we live. In an ecological sense, we are responsible for this part of the world and its assets, which not only includes buildings and things but also our money, time and talents. As a life-long member of St. Alban's, I am grateful for the stewardship of generations past that built and sustained the church and to the current congregation that keeps it growing today.

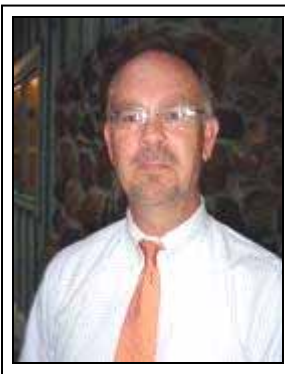


Theo Williams

St. Alban's is my Church home and Community. I love the people that make up this community. This is very easy to do. When you give love you receive love, it's easy to say, "Yes." Jesus calls us to do more. More is to love enemies. More is to love those who are marginalized by our society. More is to see Christ in others and to love all God's creation. This call is harder.

To answer Jesus' call, you have to journey with the right fuel. St. Alban's fuel contains 12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness and contemplative prayer Wednesday mornings and the Healing Eucharist in the evening. On Thursday at noon the Cursillo group or short course in Christianity meets. It is all about make a friend, be a friend, bring a friend to Christ. Thursday evening it is "Bible and more" a Bible study group with some of the great students of the Bible such as Amy Jill Levine, Walter Brueggemann, Marcus Borg, Richard Rohr and others. I also attend a Lectionary study with Sam Godfrey at Christ Church Tuesdays at noon.

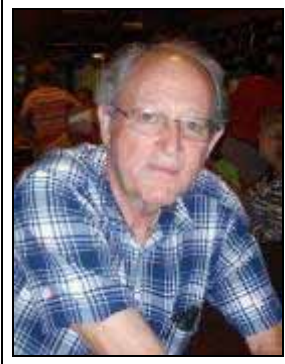
I love my priest, Billie, who welcomes me home with the Eucharist on Sundays. Receiving the Eucharist/Receiving the Body of Christ allows me to say, "Yes". Yes to singing in the choir, yes to Cursillo, yes to being a lay worship leader; yes to serving on the Vestry, yes to being a Junior Warden, yes to EFM (Education for Ministry). Yes Lord, with many limitations, your thankful and hopeful sinner reporting for duty.



Rymn Parsons

Among many wonderful things St. Alban's connects me to the little country church outside the very small village where my extended family farmed for over two centuries. In that church's bell tower are recorded the many Parsons events, happy and sad, for which the church bell was rung. It is a special, grace-filled place where families make themselves to home in their pews, especially in winter, when quilts and comforters abound!

Every time I turn into the driveway at St. Alban's I am transported to a place in my heart of endearing connection to family and community, where generosity of spirit and of hospitality combine to sustain and enrich all, where care and concern are genuine and abundant. For Joan and me, being welcomed into the St. Alban's family has been a true blessing. And now, for us, St. Alban's is that little country church.



Charlie Brantley

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” (1 Peter: 4:10) For me, stewardship is sharing my God given gifts of time, treasure and talent with St. Alban’s as well as St. Mary’s, Bolton, where I serve as junior warden. One of the things I enjoy most is my interaction with the congregations of both churches and listening to the voices of the people. Also, I enjoy the role of caretaker —building and repairing things. In 2010, Terry and I instigated the idea of reopening St. Mary’s, a mission church in Bolton that had been closed for almost two decades. Our dream became reality on September 12, 2010, when Rev. Billie officiated the Holy Eucharist to a standing room only congregation. I love giving of my time and talent—it’s the gift that keeps on giving.



Herb Jones

As stewards of Christ, we are caretakers of all God’s gifts. Gratitude for these gifts is expressed in prayer, worship, offering and action by eagerly sharing our gifts out of love for God and one another.



Kristi Hall

Stewardship to me means taking care of the place and the people who take care of my family and me.

Schedule of Events

Weekly Activities & Services

Church Office Hours

Monday–Wednesday: 9:00 AM–4:00 PM

Sunday

Eucharist, 8:30 & 11:00 AM

Adult Sunday School, 10:00 AM

Choir Practice, Nave, 10:00 AM

Tuesday

Create & Carry, Parish House, 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Wednesday

12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness Meeting, 7:00 AM

Centering Prayer Support Group, 8:30 AM

Healing Service & Eucharist, 6:00 PM

Choir Practice following the Healing Service

Thursday

Cursillo Grouping, Noon

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

Wednesday, September 2—*First Wednesday Quiet Day*, 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

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

Morning Prayer, 9:00 AM—Noon Prayer, 12:00 AM—Evening Prayer, 4:00 PM

Sunday, September 6—Stewardship Kick-off, Children and Choir will sing

Offertory Anthem

Sunday, September 13—*Time and Talent Fair* in the Parish House

Sunday, September 13—*Second Sundays at St. Mary's*, 4:00 PM,

“Fifth Anniversary Homecoming,” Holy Eucharist, *The Jubilee Singers & Daughters of Bobby Cooper* in Concert

Saturday, September 19—ECW Meeting, Parish House, 9:30 AM

Saturday, September 19—ECW Brunch & Bridal Shower honoring Colby Hopkins, fiancé of Joel Langford hosted by St. Alban's ECW, 10:00 AM

Sunday, September 20—Children’s Sunday, John Maxwell will perform a monologue sermon, *Giving, & the Son of Joy! The Story of Barnabas*. **PLEASE NOTE: ONE Celebration of the Eucharist, 10:00 AM**, Open House & Reception at the Rectory following the service

Tuesday, September 22—Vestry Meeting at the rectory, 6:00 PM

Sunday, September 27—*Time, Talent, & Treasure* Ingathering, Potluck Luncheon following the 11:00 AM Eucharist, meat entrée will be provided, potluck salads, side dishes, & desserts

Sunday, October 4—Eucharist & Animal Blessing, Outside Chapel

Sunday, October 11— *Second Sundays at St. Mary’s*, 4:00 PM, featuring *The Capital Brass*

Saturday, October 19—Workday in Preparation for *Dinner on the Grounds*

Sunday, October 25—*Dinner on the Grounds*



GIVING, & THE SON OF JOY!
THE STORY OF BARNABAS

Please Join Us for a Bridal Shower/Brunch

Honoring

Colby Hopkins (Fiancé of Joel Langford)

Saturday, September 19, 2015

Ten o'clock in the morning

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Hosted by St. Alban's ECW

RSVP to Sharon Hanks at 601-529-6315

By September 16, 2015

*Colby is registered at Willingham's, Belk,
and Bed, Bath, and Beyond*

September Birthdays

4 Thomas L. Skinner	21 Lance Stewart
5 Riley Kitchens	23 Clark Huntley
7 Josie Williams	Rymn Parsons
8 Richard Price	24 Jerry McWilliams
12 Jim Horan	28 Genevieve Walker
14 Linda K. Walker	29 Terry Brantley
18 Margarette Swett	Keith Upchurch
19 A. W. (Del) Price	

September Anniversaries

4 Bobby & Mickey Barlow	18 Payton & Lanore Fulgham
16 Jim & Jennifer Harper	25 John & Amanda Price Monti

Prayers for the People

For those Sick or in Need:



Betty Biedenharn	Dalton Glatt	Rachelle Ferris
Kathy Gergo	Lawrence Fields	Oscar Jones
Bertha Kolb	Lucas Guynes	Jim & Sherry Horan
Bill Curtis	Parker Ramsay	Jimmy Bright
Linda & Jim Dooley	Barbara Ramsay	Jackson Monti
Glenda Ferguson	Mary Ruth Jones	Jim Dantin
Terry & Charlie Brantley	Helen Emrick	Ann Hanks
Joel and Colby	Tori Meyers	Millie Gassaway
Walker Biedenharn	Richard & Margo Massey	Howard Benson
Larry Lambiotte	Don Whittenburg	Damion Hansford
Cecile Jordan	John Tompkins	Harry Sutton
Dan & Mary Carleton	Karen Bates	Bare Ahner
Matt Mitchell	Suzanne Harpole	Harris Anthony
Fred Blackburn	Jimmy Carter	

Liturgical Schedule—Sundays in September

	September 6	September 13	September 20	September 27
	<i>Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<i>Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<i>Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<i>Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
First Reading	Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23	Proverbs 1:20-33	Proverbs 31:10-31	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
Psalm	Psalm 125	Psalm 19	Psalm 1	Psalm 124
Second Reading	James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17	James 3:1-12	James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a	James 5:13-20
Gospel	Mark 7:24-37 Children & Adult Choirs	Mark 8:27-38 Time and Talent Fair	Mark 9:30-37 One Eucharist—10 AM Children's Eucharist John Maxwell Monologue	Mark 9:38-50 Stewardship Ingathering
Lay Worship Leader				
8:30 a.m.	Theo Williams	Tommy Skinner		Ann Tompkins
11:00 a.m.	Harvey Smith	Richard Price	Betsy Selby	David Pruett
Master of Ceremony	Ann Tompkins	Susan Price	Beth Guynes	Jennifer Normand
Crucifer & Acolyte	Ann Tompkins	Susan Price Canada Stewart	Gloria Hall Lawson Selby Beth Guynes	Koury Collins Canada Stewart
Gospel Bearer	Josie Williams	Josie Williams	Gabby Rushing	Josie Williams
Lector	Kerri Williams	Herb Jones	Sam Hall	Ed Shelnut
Torch Bearers			Heaven Leigh Sunny Faith	
Prayers of People	Josie Williams	Josie Williams	Josie Williams	Mary Carlton
Banner Bearer			Peter Williams	
Lord's Prayer		Canada Stewart	Peter Williams	Canada Stewart
Oblation Bearers	Kristi Hall Andy Hall	Richard Massey Margo Massey	Heaven Leigh Sunny Faith	Sara Margaret Porter Dalton Thames
Ushers & Greeters	Allan Leese Richard Massey	Lance Stewart Herb Jones	Josh Artman Jonah Artman	David Normand Dan Carlton
Eucharistic Minister		Susan Price		Ed Shelnut
Altar Guild	Ann Tompkins Beth Sojourner	Kerri Williams Judy Morrissey	Cassandra Price Beth Guynes	Sharon Hanks Betty Rushing
Coffee Host	Betty Rushing Josie Williams Rev. Billie	Susan Price Ann Tompkins Bitsy Segrest	Rectory Open House Joan & Rymn Parsons Sara Margaret & Dalton Bonnie Pruett	Ingathering Luncheon Betsy Selby Jennifer Normand
Children's Chapel	Penny Freund, Marci Turner, Betsy Selby	Betsy Selby Betty Rushing	No Children's Chapel	Betsy Selby Betty Rushing
Offertory Counters	Rymn Parsons Ann Tompkins Kristi Hall	Rymn Parsons Ann Tompkins Herb Jones	Rymn Parsons Ann Tompkins Theo Williams	Rymn Parsons Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks
	September 9	September 16	September 23	September 30
Healing Service	Theo Williams	Tommy Skinner	David Pruett	Ann Tompkins