



The Albanac

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

August 2015



Evensong at St. Philip's Episcopal

St. Alban's Choir Members Participate in Evensong





✠ Josie's Journal

Sing a New Song to the Lord

On Tuesday, July 21, Wilma “Butch” Mitchell, Clarissa Walker, Marci Turner, Kerri and I attended the 40th Mississippi Conference on Church Music and Liturgy. The event was held at Gray Center in Canton where, upon arrival, the participants joined together singing, *Everywhere I Go Somebody Talkin’ Bout Jesus*. We were literally lifted from our seats with the energy generated from this song. I knew then that we were in for a wonderful week of surprises.

During the conference we sang from morning until night with breaks inbetween. The theme for the conference was *Vital Worship: Food for the Journey*. Rev. Susan Anderson-Smith, a Vicksburg native now residing in Tucson, wowed us daily with her presentations related to food and worship. Dr. William Bradley Roberts and Dent Davidson were the music and liturgy clinicians.

Conference members were amazed that St. Alban’s, a little church in the countryside of Bovina, sent five members to be a part of the music and liturgy experience. We explained that St. Alban’s participants were so *infectious* after last year’s conference that others wanted to catch what we had! We have a supportive community who continually encourages us. Music is such a vital part of the Eucharist that we want to learn all that we can to enrich the service.

We enjoyed learning to sing, *Blest are the Pure in Heart*, *The Storm is Passing Over* and *Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* in unison, then as a drone, and finally as a canon. My favorite song of the week was *The Storm is Passing Over*. The new music had a totally different sound and one that we can adapt for use at St. Alban’s.

The conference was held at Gray Center near Canton but on Thursday Evening we went to St. Philip’s to perform in *Evensong*. Then, on Sunday, we performed a variety of numbers at St. Andrew’s Cathedral: *Gloria Susanni* (a new arrangement of the *Gloria*) and the *Apostles’ Creed* set to Beethoven’s *Ode to Joy*. The experience of singing in the cathedral was exhilarating.



It was a great week and I left exhausted but re-energized. Now, I'm ready to share new ideas with other members of St. Alban's choir as we participate in the Eucharist. The beauty of the music will prepare us to feast on the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation.

Finally, I am thankful to the donors who make it possible for us to attend the conference and the encouragement and support of our phenomenal rector, the Very Rev. Billie P. Abraham.

Christ's Peace+

Josie

St. Alban's Participants Comment on Conference

"I felt privileged to participate in the beautiful music; hi-lites of the week were Evensong at St. Philip's Church and Holy Eucharist at Saint Andrew's Cathedral. I developed new friendships among both faculty and other participants. There was such a sense of family and community. It was like being on an island or a mountaintop---isolated for several days in music and worship. The professional musicians inspired me to reactivate my piano and vocal skills. My biggest surprise: The people were a lot of fun too." Butch Mitchell

"I really enjoyed the atmosphere that the instructors provided for not only the professional singers and musicians, but also for a regular person like me who just wants to sing on Sunday in the choir. We sang several different types of music during this year's conference such as Negro spirituals, gospel, West Indian spirituals, Japanese songs, and Spanish songs along with understanding and learning how to sing Anglican chant. We also had the opportunity to go to workshops and network with other people who attended from all over the United States. I plan to go next year." Marci Turner

"The conference was a wonderful, renewing experience through which we were able to lose ourselves in the music and the Word. It was a privilege to be able to sing with such talented musicians." Clarissa Walker

"The conference was a wonderful break and gave me the opportunity to sing, make new friends, and experience community. I enjoyed learning about the music's history and I also learned a lot about Episcopal Church history and where the church is heading in the future." Kerri Williams

ECW and Friends Enjoy Road Trip

St. Alban's ECW and guests met at the church at 7:30 AM on Saturday, June 13 to go on an excursion to Wister Gardens and the Sky Lake Wildlife Area (both in or near Belzoni) followed by dinner at the Crown Restaurant in Indianola. Members participating were Sharon Hanks, Judy Morrissey, Lisa Langford, Susan, Cassandra and Eleanor Price, Beth Guynes, and Margie Scott. Guests were Linda Hadala and Bo Whittenburg. The men who accompanied the group were Frank and Tommy Skinner, Charlie Langford, and Terry Guynes.



The day was very warm, but beautiful. When we arrived at Wister Gardens, people were setting up for a wedding. We teased the parents of the groom saying we would be back at 6:00 PM for the reception! The manicured grounds were stunning with all kinds of flowers and shrubbery.

After leaving Wister Gardens, we drove a few miles north to the Boardwalk at Sky Lake Wildlife Area to see the cypress trees and stumps. This was a highlight of the trip. The beauty of the area is a hidden secret in Mississippi. The Boardwalk was 1.3 miles long that meandered through the swamps where we viewed cypress stumps and trees that dated back over 1,000 years. We did not see any alligators, but did see a snake crawling up a tree and a very small frog in the middle of a flower.

After enjoying time at Sky Lake, we traveled to Indianola to eat at the Crown Restaurant. The food was excellent and inexpensive. For \$2.00 extra, we could sample any and all desserts. The waitress visited with us and suggested a trip to the Boardwalk in the fall since the cypress swamp is so colorful that time of year. Sounds like a good idea. The fellowship was great and everyone seemed to have a wonderful time.

We did not have a meeting in July. The next ECW meeting will be Saturday, August 15, 2015, at 9:30 AM in the Parish House. All women of the church are members and welcome to join our group.

Sharon Hanks,
ECW President

A New & Different Vacation Bible School & Fish Fry



✝ Billie's Corner

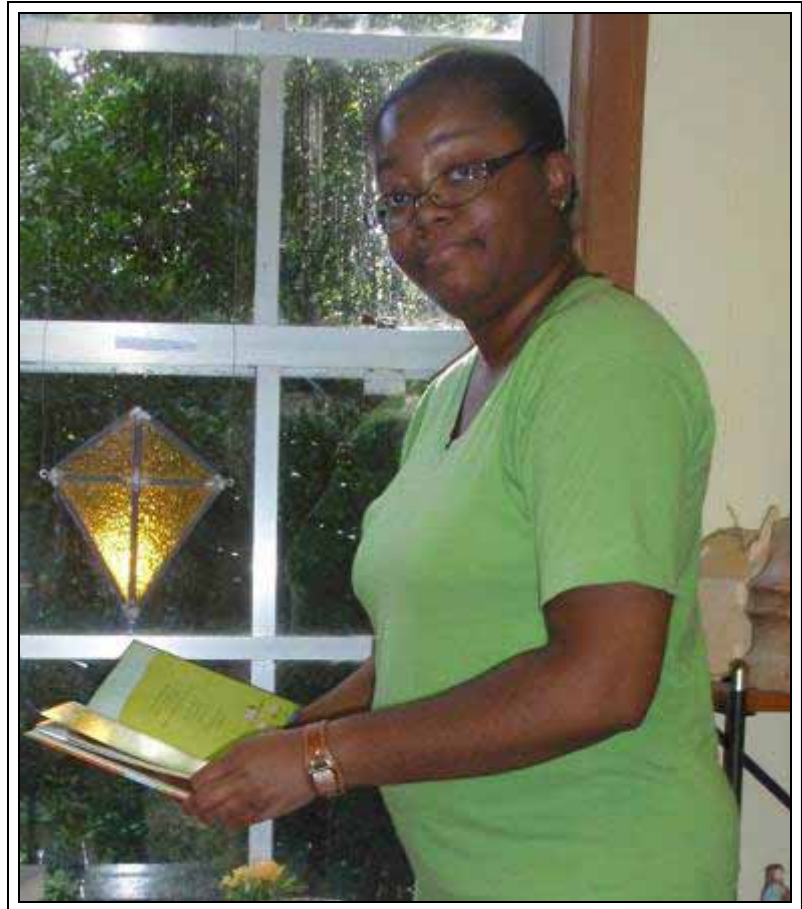
“Everywhere I Go, Somebody Talkin’ ‘Bout Jesus”

Everywhere I Go, Somebody Talkin’ ‘Bout Jesus are the lyrics of a simple repetitive song that describes Marci Turner’s upbringing. Marci grew up in a household where ‘talk about Jesus’ was part of her daily life. Her grandmother talked about Jesus. Her mother talked about Jesus. Talking about Jesus is simply the language Marci grew-up hearing and speaking.

Marci is relatively new to the Episcopal Church; she was confirmed by Bishop Duncan Gray, III, in 2013 and since that time has gradually taken on the identity of a long time Episcopalian. She is eager to learn all about the Episcopal Church—the history and its practices.

Marci’s journey is fascinating. In 2012, she read an article in the *Vicksburg Post* regarding a program—*The Disciples of Christ in Community*—to take place at All Saints’ School. The program was sponsored by four local Episcopal churches. Marci sensed a call to lay ministry; she thought the program might help to identify where God was leading her. She described herself as taking “baby steps” but, I think having the courage to walk into a group of strangers and being vulnerable enough to ask questions and share her story was anything but baby steps.

Disciples of Christ in Community was just the beginning. Marci wanted to know more as to what makes someone an Episcopalian. Seeking answers, she began visiting St. Alban’s Church. The first thing that grabbed her attention was the Eucharist. What happened next? She started attending Inquirer’s Class and singing in the choir. Marci



told me, *I liked the people and the atmosphere of St. Alban's Church. I was thirsting to sing hymns with a choir.*

Marci is a *seeker*. She has read books, attended classes and retreats, and regularly meets with a spiritual director. She is completing a two-year training course for spiritual directors through the Center of Ministry at Millsaps College and beginning her third year of Education for Ministry, a four year course of study through Sewanee University. The course at Sewanee covers scripture, church history and theology. Over the past two years, Marci has participated in the *Music and Liturgy Conference* at Gray Center. She is also an innovated and dedicated teacher for the Children's Chapel program at St. Alban's. Recently, Marci received a full scholarship to the Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas, where she plans to obtain a Master of Theological Studies with emphasis on *Christian Education and Mysticism*. She will begin the program in the fall of 2016.

Marci is a *contemplative*. All of her active ministry and study is balanced with the daily practice of Centering Prayer. She has taken a major step toward fulfilling her vocation as a contemplative in the world—someone who does not live in a religious community, but is in relationship with a religious community. She is an aspirant to *The Order of Julian of Norwich*, an Episcopal religious order of monks and nuns headquartered in Wisconsin. Marci is seeking to become an Oblate—someone who is in a committed relationship with a religious community without taking full monastic religious vows; living outside the monastery anywhere in the world. For the next twelve to eighteen months, Marci will prayerfully discern the *Rule of Life* (guidelines and commitments directing one's life), *Oblate Vows*, praying *Morning and Evening Prayer* daily and 3 hours of silent prayer a week.

The late Rev. Craig Gates, long time Episcopal priest in the Diocese of Mississippi, described himself as a *Cradle Episcopalian* who just didn't know it until he was twenty-two years old when he joined the Episcopal Church. Marci, you too are a *Cradle Episcopalian* who just didn't know it until your mid-thirties.

Welcome to the Episcopal Church!

In Peace
Billie+

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

Events in August

Wednesday, August 5—Quiet Day, 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

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

Sunday, August 9—Blessing of School Supplies, 11:00 AM Eucharist

Sunday, August 9—*Second Sundays at St. Mary's*, 4:00 PM,

Holy Eucharist, *Feast Day of Blessed Mary, Mother of Jesus*, Dr. Mandy Spivak, Soprano. Program of Songs Celebrating Mary. Reception Following

Monday, August 10—Cursillo Welcome Home, Summer Salad Potluck Dinner, Parish House, 6:00 PM

Saturday, August 15—ECW Meeting, Parish House, 9:30 AM

Sunday, August 16—Sunday School Kickoff

- Adult Sunday School, Parish House, 10:00 AM
- Children's Sunday, 11:00 AM Eucharist
- Introduction to Children's Chapel for Parents following the 11:00 AM Eucharist
- Water Slide & Picnic for Children following the 11:00 AM Eucharist

Tuesday, August 18—Vestry meeting, Rectory, 6:00 PM

Tuesday, August 25—Gibbs Grocery Dinner, Learned, 5:30 PM

August Events: Mark Your Calendar



Sunday, August 9
Second Sundays at St. Mary's, 4:00 PM
Dr. Mandy Spivak, Soprano



Sunday School Kickoff, August 16
Children's Sunday
11:00 AM Eucharist



Sunday School Kickoff, August 16
Following the 11:00 Eucharist
Water Slide & Picnic



Tuesday, August 25
Gibbs Grocery Dinner, 5:30 PM

August Birthdays

1 Beth Sojourner	19 David Wright
1 Terri Ulmer	21 Kate Abraham
4 Woody Hanks	21 Norma Jones
6 David Normand	23 Carter Guynes
15 Greg Williamson	23 Edward Shelnut
17 Jake Artman	24 Julia Lee
17 Josh Artman	26 Bobby Barlow
17 Bill Curtis	27 Jean Ethridge
18 Beth Williamson	27 Terry Guynes
19 Bo Gayle	27 James Price

August Anniversaries

3 Russell & Stacey Sumrall	21 Allan & Joan Leese
13 Rymn & Joan Parsons	21 Robert & Terri Ulmer
20 Herb & Mary Ruth Jones	27 Bryan & Joy Brabston, Jr.

Prayers for the People

For those Sick or in Need:

Betty Biedenharn	Dalton Glatt	Rachelle Ferris
AnaLei Caron Graves	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	Millie Gassaway
Walker Biedenharn	Richard & Margo Massey	Howard Benson
Angelo	Don Whittenburg	Damion Hansford
Cecile Jordan	John Tompkins	Harry Sutton
Dan Carleton	Karen Bates	Bare Ahner

Liturgical Schedule—Sundays in August

	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
	<i>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<i>Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<i>Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<i>Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>	<i>Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
First Reading	2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a	2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33	1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14	1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30	Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Psalm	Psalm 51:1-13	Psalm 130	Psalm 111	Psalm 84	Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10
Second Reading	Ephesians 4:1-16	Ephesians 4:25-5:2	Ephesians 5:15-20	Ephesians 6:10-20	James 1:17-27
Gospel	John 6:24-35	John 6:35, 41-51	John 6:51-58	John 6:56-69	Mark 7:1-8, 14-15
			Children's Sunday		
Lay Worship Leader					
8:30 a.m.	Ann Tompkins Beth Sojourner	Tommy Skinner	Harvey Smith	Theo Williams	Tommy Skinner
11:00 a.m.	Harvey Smith	Theo Williams	Betsy Selby	David Pruett	Richard Price
Master of Ceremonies	Ann Tompkins	Josie Williams	Beth Guynes	Jennifer Normand	Susan Price
Crucifer & Acolyte	Beth Sojourner Betsy Selby	Koury Collins	Beth Guynes Lawson Selby Canada Stewart Sunny Faith	Jennifer Normand	Susan Price
Gospel Bearer	Josie Williams	Josie Williams	Gabby Rushing	Josie Williams	Josie Williams
Lector	David Pruett	Ed Shelnut	Peter Williams	Kerri Williams	Susan Price
Torch Bearers			Gloria Hall Sam Hall		
Prayers of the People	Ann Tompkins	Josie Williams	Beth Guynes	Josie Williams	Mary Carleton
Banner Bearer			Heaven Leigh		
Lord's Prayer			Canada Stewart		
Oblation Bearers	Rymn Parsons Joan Parsons	Bonnie Pruett David Pruett	Gloria Hall Sam Hall	Janice Herrington Betty Rushing	Sara Margaret Dalton Thames
Ushers & Greeters	Allen Leese Richard Massey	Ann Jones Ann Tompkins	Josh Artman Jonah Artman	David Normand Richard Massey	Dan Carleton Lance Stewart
Eucharistic Minister		Ed Shelnut			Susan Price
Altar Guild	Ann Tompkins Beth Sojourner	Kerri Williams Judy Morrissey	Cassandra Price Beth Guynes	Sharon Hanks Betty Rushing	Mary Ann Wright Margo Massey
Coffee Host	Margo Massey Ann Jones Betsy Selby	Rymn & Joan Parsons Ann Tompkins Penny Freund	Wilma Mitchell Bonnie Pruett Betty Rushing	Jennifer Normand Sara Margaret Dalton Thames	Susan Price Janice Herrington Rev. Billie
Children's Chapel	Summer Break	Summer Break	Children's Sunday	Marci Turner Ann Tompkins	Marci Turner Ann Tompkins
Offertory Counters	Ann Tompkins Lance Stewart Rymn Parsons	Ann Tompkins Theo Williams Rymn Parsons	Ann Tompkins Kristi Hall Rymn Parsons	Ann Tompkins Jennifer Normand Rymn Parsons	Ann Tompkins Janice Harrington Rymn Parsons
	August 5	August 12	August 19	August 26	September 2
Healing Service	Ann Tompkins	Tommy Skinner	Harvey Smith	Theo Williams	Tommy Skinner