



# The Albanac

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
5930 Warriors Trail, Bovina, Mississippi  
[www.stalbansbovina.org](http://www.stalbansbovina.org)

**February 2014**

---

## Diocese of Mississippi Annual Council 2014

Natchez Convention Center, January 31–February 2



Kelsey Artman, Marci Turner, Penny Freund, and Deacon Josie





Christine Nelson and Ann Jones



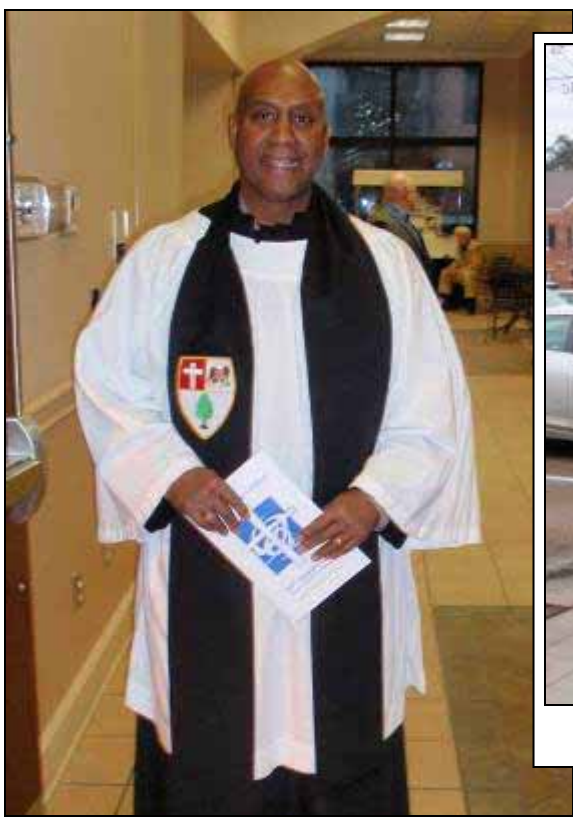
Deacon Josie and Rev Billie



Frank Skinner, Sharon Hanks and Harvey Smith



Tommy Skinner and Janice Herrington



Theo Williams, New Lay Leader



Harvey Smith, Tommy Skinner and Janice Herrington



Kelsey Artman, Betsy Selby and Tori Myers



David and Bonnie Pruett

## ECW Elects New Officers

The St. Alban's ECW met at the church at 9:30 A. M. on Saturday, January 18, 2014. The first order of business was to elect officers for 2014. The group confirmed the election of Sharon Hanks as president, consistent with an informal vote at the ECW luncheon in December. Other officers elected were Beth Guynes, vice-president, and Betsy Selby, secretary. Judy Morrissey will continue as treasurer until someone can be found to take her place. Judy has faithfully served for over 9 years as our treasurer and is stepping down. We need one of our women to prayerfully consider taking over the duties of treasurer. It is not a hard job, and Judy has excellent records.

Cassandra Price is making final adjustments to the recipes for the St. Alban's Cookbook, and Ann Jones will be working on the cover art. After discussing yearly monetary obligations, outreach donations were discussed, such as Meals on Wheels, which we increased from \$225 to \$300, the Little Light House, where Lucas Guynes has recently been enrolled, and other possible outreach programs, such as items for profound special needs students. Fund raising means were also discussed and will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Wanda Warren has offered her home for a salad luncheon on March 8. We hope many women will join us for this fun event, and we thank Wanda for her generous invitation. Other possible fun trip ideas mentioned were another trek to Natchez, one to Yazoo City for the cemetery tour, "The Witch of Yazoo," led by Charlie Carlisle, and a visit to Marigold for a pottery tour. Other suggestions are welcome.

The next ECW meeting is set for Saturday, February 15, at 9:30, and Joan Leese has graciously volunteered to contact the women of the church to remind them of our meetings. All women of the church are members of the ECW and are encouraged to attend. Membership dues are \$36 a year to help pay for diocesan dues, Meals on Wheels, and other outreach projects. See you next month.

Sharon Hanks  
ECW President

## The Offertory

Have you noticed that something new is happening at the time of the Offertory during the Eucharist? At the suggestion of Bishop Greg Rickel, keynote speaker at our Diocesan Stewardship Conference, the altar party and the choir are placing a monetary gift in the offering plate. Bishop Rickel promoted the physical action of placing an offering in the plate each time it is passed at a worship service. He told us that he reaches through his vestments and fishes out his change or his wallet at every service over which he provides.

Most of us write a monthly check or have an automatic withdrawal from our bank account. We have lost the habit of the physical act of placing money in the offertory plate. I suspect we can recall as a child putting change in the plate when it was passed or giving money to a Sunday School offering.

We are sensory people who experience life from sight, sound, touch, taste, scent. The act of physically giving money each Sunday incorporates our senses. It is a sacramental act---an outward sign of inward grace.

Let's try it! Let's see what happens as we establish the practice of physically offering money each Sunday. In addition to your pledge, reach in your pocket or purse---grab your change and put it in the offering plate as it passes you each Sunday. The amount is not important, it is the sacramental practice of giving that will have an influence on us.



In Peace,

Billie

## ✝ Billie's Corner

Dear Saint Alban's Community,

Something special happens at Saint Alban's Church every Wednesday evening. A faithful group of people gather for the celebration of the Eucharist that includes the Healing Service. What is the Healing Service all about? Is there a difference between healing and curing?

When someone is sick, we pray for a cure. We pray that the sick person will



regain their good health and return to physical wellness. The word cure means, "Relieve a person of the symptoms of a disease." Intercessory prayer for our sick loved ones, friends, strangers and ourselves are a part of the Healing Service. Our prayers for a cure may or may not be answered with a total

recovery of good health.

Healing can occur even when a cure does not. Healing is the wellness of our spirit. Healing has more to do with an awareness of God's unconditional love for us. Healing has to do with a deepening of the intimate relationship God invites us to share. Healing has to do with an awakening of God being at one with us in the joys and trials of our lives.

During the Healing Service we pray for the sick—we pray for those who are physically, spiritually or emotionally ill—we pray for broken relationships—we pray

for the people who care for the sick—we pray for ourselves—we pray for a cure and we pray for healing.

The Healing Service includes the laying-on-of-hands, anointing and prayers. The laying-on-of-hands and anointing are sacramental acts—physical acts that are tangible signs of spiritual gifts from God.

Laying-on-of-hands reminds us of the enormous significance of human touch. Jesus' hands touched people and they were changed forever. We have all experienced the power of being touched or touching someone in an act of love. Touching can be a sacred act of compassion and reconciliation. A touch can say something far more profound than any words we can say.

Anointing in the Healing Service consists of the smearing of blessed ointment in the shape of a cross on the forehead. The cross is a central symbol of the Christian faith. It represents Jesus' offering of his life in love for us and for our salvation. It is an outward sign of the healing power of love, generosity and sacrifice that Jesus continues to offer us.

Our prayers are always a response from God who is Prayer. God initiates prayer, we respond. When we pray for wellness and healing and wholeness, we are swept up in the holy relationship that exists between God and ourselves and others. We become instruments of healing for God in this world.

The Healing Service and Eucharist makes for a perfect mid-week pause in our busy lives. Come, be a part of the community that gathers for the Healing Service and Eucharist—every Wednesday at 6:00 PM.

*To be cured is grace.*

*To be healed is grace.*

*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!*

*I once was lost but now I am found,*

*Was blind but now I see.*

In peace

Billie+

## Josie's Journal

### Our Father

I am currently reading *The Lord's Prayer: Jesus Teaches Us How To Pray*. The book is divided into six weeks with questions at the end of each week. The reader is encouraged to journal and to practice *Examen*.



Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556)

*Examen* is a spiritual practice introduced by Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556), a Spanish priest who founded the *Society of Jesus*. The practice asks us to spend time reflecting on how we have responded (or not) to God's call in our actions and attitudes for that day.

*The Lord's Prayer* is familiar to us. We pray *The Lord's Prayer* before sporting events, meetings, church services and at the conclusion of Twelve Step meetings. Sometimes we pray it automatically without thinking.

Reading this book has given me new insight into *The Lord's Prayer* and its meaning to me. Prayer is a gift that forms the cornerstone of our relationship with God. Living in a relationship with God allows us to be in community with each other. There is a line in a hymn "He's my wheel in the middle of the field." God centers us and this allows us to connect with each other. Whatever name we use when we pray becomes holy and is meant to be hallowed. (Hallowed be your name).

My actions and reactions allow me to see God's holy nature (or lack of) in myself and others. Praying for God's kingdom can be difficult when I forget who is in charge. All of the earth is going to bend toward what God wants without my approval. I must ask that God will allow me to let my kingdom end so that His kingdom can come. If I am to live in God's kingdom, He must be allowed access to all aspects of my life: my work, play, friends, enemies, health, how I treat clerks in the store and even how I drive!

I must give up my disagreements with institutions and people to God and rely on Him to do what needs to be done. There is a time for everything. I must realize that my time is not God's time. I have learned to retreat for quiet time and prayer as



Jesus did. My mentoring and guardian ad litem work energizes me because God has called me to this work and has given me the tools I need to work with.

Each day I choose whether to answer (or not) the call of God's will for that day. Various opportunities will arise during the course of the day for me to offer prayer: before meals; during the prayer list; before, during and after court; and at bedtime. I am called to respond to the world's needs in the midst of my daily routine. I must remember to look for God during these daily events and listen for His guidance.

**God calls everyone to do something,  
but God does not call on anyone to do everything.**

Christ's Peace

Josie+

## Looking A head

### 2014 Lenten Arts Series Program

**Wednesday, March 12**

Sandra Melsheimer & *The Dirty Rice Burners*, French Cajun Music

**Wednesday, March 19**

Sam Puckett and *The HIM Singers*

**Wednesday, March 26**

Amanda Morato & Marcelo Vieira, *Celloscapes*

(The musical group that played at Dinner on the Grounds)

**Wednesday, April 2**

The Lewis Family and *The Champion Hill Missionary Baptist Church Gospel Choir*

**Wednesday, April 9**

John Maxwell, *Judas* monologue

## February Schedule

### Weekly Schedule

#### Sunday

Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:30 AM  
 Adult Sunday School, 10:00 AM  
 Children's Chapel, 11:00 AM  
 Holy Eucharist, Rite II, 11:00 AM

#### Wednesday

Twelve Steps to Spiritual Wholeness, 7:00 AM  
 Healing Service & Eucharist, 6:00 PM

#### Thursday

Cursillo Grouping, Noon

### Wednesday, February 5

First Wednesday Quiet Day, 7:00 AM—7:00 PM  
*Come-In—Be Still—Light a Candle—Say a Prayer—Leave in Peace*

### Saturday, February 8

Vestry Retreat, Easy Biedenham's Farm House, 8:30 AM—1:30 PM

### Sunday, February 9

Second Sunday at St. Mary's, Evening Prayer, 4:00 PM  
 Performing Artists—Thulani Mnisi, tenor & Kill Gill, keyboard

### Thursday, February 13

Cursillo Reunion and Welcome Home, 6:00 PM  
 Church of the Holy Trinity

### Saturday, February 15

ECW Meeting, Parish House, 9:30 AM

### Tuesday, February 18

Vestry Meeting, Rectory, 6:00 PM

### Wednesday, February 19

Annual Pancake Supper, Bovina United Methodist, 6:30 PM  
 Cursillo, Gray Conference Center

### Friday, February 21—Sunday, February 23

Senior High DOY, Camp Bratton-Green

### Monday, March 3

Mardi Gras Dinner, Gibbs Grocery, 5:30 PM

### Wednesday, March 5

Ash Wednesday, Imposition of Ashes, Noon & 6:00 PM

### February Birthdays

- |                    |                           |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Charlie Brantley | 16 Joyce Butler           |
| 4 Georgia Turnage  | Joey Gerache              |
| 5 Sharon Hanks     | 19 Linda Kitchens         |
| 6 Michael Abraham  | 21 David Selby            |
| 11 Bonnie Pruett   | 22 Mary Margaret Brabston |
| 14 Beth Guynes     | Jane Hanks                |
| Charles Langford   | 24 Ian Ulmer              |
|                    | 25 Walker Biedenarn       |

### February Anniversaries

- 11 Josh & Maggi McCarthy

### Prayers for the People

**For those Sick or in Need:**

- |                  |                |                          |
|------------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Anna             | Sandra Price   | Richard Massey           |
| Sherry Barton    | Jay            | Fran Ross                |
| Jackson Monti    | Lucas Guynes   | Sherry Horan             |
| Edel Mangum      | Carol Langford | Terry & Charlie Brantley |
| Denise Gellespie | Joshua Hampton | Jessie Ross              |
| Damien Hansford  | Amanda Warren  | Junette Tomlin           |
| Margaret Lowry   | Scott Phipps   | Warren Doiron            |
| Kevin Hicks      | Kim Stribling  | Ethan Claburn            |
| Alicia Sharp     | Alice Pronger  | Joyce Atkins             |
| Larry Lambioette | Jeannie McVoy  | Dr. John McCall          |
|                  | Jessica        |                          |

## Liturgical Schedule—Sundays in February

	<b>February 2</b> <i>Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	<b>February 9</b> <i>Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	<b>February 16</b> <i>Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany</i>	<b>February 23</b> <i>Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany</i>
<b>First Reading</b>	Malachi 3:1-4	Isaiah 58:1-9a, (9b-12)	Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20	Leviticus 19:1-2,9-18
<b>Second Reading</b>	Hebrews 2:14-18	1 Corinthians 2: 1-12, (13-16)	1 Corinthians 3: 1-9	1 Corinthians 3: 10-11,16-23
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 2:22-40	Matthew 5:13-20	Matthew 5:21-37	Matthew 5:38-48
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 84	Psalm 112:1-9, (10)	Psalm 119:1-8	Psalm 119:33-40
<b>Lay Worship Leader</b>				
<b>8:30 a.m.</b>	Richard Price	Tommy Skinner	Harvey Smith	Richard Price
<b>11:00 a.m.</b>	Richard Price	Theo Williams	Betsy Selby	Ann Tompkins
<b>Master of Ceremonies</b>		Beth Guynes	Betsy Selby	Jennifer Normand
<b>Acolytes</b>				
<b>Crucifer</b>		Beth Guynes	Koury Collins	Jennifer Normand
<b>Gospel Bearer</b>		Deacon Josie	Genevieve & Children	Deacon Josie
<b>Lector</b>		Penny Freund	Ed Shelnut	Mary Carleton
<b>Prayers of the People</b>		Deacon Josie	Sharon Hanks	Penny Freund
<b>Oblation Bearers</b>		Linda Gerache, Caroline & Jenni Sciro	Karen McCraw Rodney Ham	Betty Rushing Janice Herrington
<b>Ushers &amp; Greeters</b>		Joey Gerache, Jay Sciro	Allan Leese, Richard Massey	Dan Carleton, Charlie Brantley
<b>Children's Chapel</b>		Ann Tompkins	Jennifer Normand	Marci Turner
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Cassandra Price Margie Scott	Sharon Hanks Terry Brantley	Mary Ann Wright Margo Massey	Ann Tompkins Beth Sojourner
<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>			Ed Shelnut	Theo Williams
<b>Coffee Host</b>		Dalton Thames & Sara Margaret Porter	Betsy Selby & Ann Jones	Charlie & Terry Brantley
<b>Wednesday Healing</b>	<b>February 5, 2013</b> Theo Williams	<b>February 12, 2013</b> Tommy Skinner	<b>February 19, 2013</b> Harvey Smith	<b>February 26, 2013</b> Ann Tompkins