



The Albanac

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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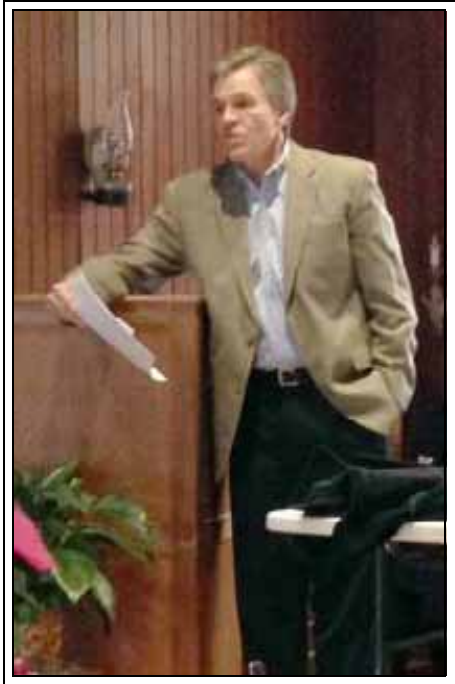
February 2017



"Behold, I Stand At The Door And Knock..."

Revelations 3:20

January 8th Annual Parish Meeting





Photography by Jennifer Normand

† Billie's Corner



The prospects of the necessary repair work at the church due to the termite and water damage stunned me. The proposal to add a kitchen to our church was overwhelming. I never pictured myself in the position of being the clergy leadership in a major building project. Some clergy dream of the opportunity to build or expand a church—the bigger the better. I didn't!

I didn't relish the idea of a sizable building project until I had time to listen to some of my clergy friends who talked about the prospects of a building project in terms of community investment—as a way to continue to grow into the one Body of Christ. They reminded me about the excitement and enthusiasm that working together on a substantial task can generate and spill over into all areas of ministry. Gradually, my focus began to shift from seeing obstacles to seeing possibilities!

My understanding of stewardship continues to evolve. A part of me was still stuck in the idea that stewardship was limited to the annual church pledge drive. For me, letting go of a long established idea is difficult—even when I know it is outdated.

The true spirit of stewardship originates from love—God's unconditional love for us. God is the source for our sense of stewardship. God loves and cares for us and the incentive to be good and faithful stewards comes from His good and faithful stewardship of us. God loves us with no strings attached. Our stewardship opens us to a peace beyond understanding when we give with no strings attached—when we give out of love and care for the gifts that God gives us.

Evangelism isn't something to be afraid of—it is *invitation and hospitality*. We live in the Deep South where invitation and hospitality are a part of our culture. Evangelism is the invitation to get to know Jesus better. The Episcopal Church is all about *Getting to Know Jesus* and striving to live a *Jesus Way of Life*. Together, we worship with each other, we encourage each other, we offer each other peace, we work with each other, we pray with and for each other, and we forgive each other. We don't just listen to Holy Scripture; we bring God's word to life by living it. The communal worship at the Eucharist is the place where we start.

I know energy and enthusiasm are contagious and I sense an epidemic growing in our community. It is not limited to the challenges of repair and construction work to

the physical building, but it is fueled by our commitment to something far bigger than ourselves—to our mission to live with open hearts and open hands the *Jesus Way of Life*— **“Love one another as I have loved you.”**

In Peace Billie+



Church Members Comment on Building Project



Herb Jones

“I am looking forward to serving as Junior Warden. The vestry has a challenging year ahead to accomplish the repairs and construction to our church. I’m glad to be a part of this.”

Herb Jones

also want to help create a building which promotes growth, while maintaining the historical integrity of St. Alban’s.”

Michael Southall



Michael Southall



Easy Biedenbarn

“As a lifelong member of St. Alban’s, I’m excited for the opportunity we have in front of us. The prospect of making repairs and upgrades to our Church seems very comforting to me. I feel like it’s our obligation to expand and improve what we have so that future generations will have the same experiences at St. Alban’s that we’ve been privileged to enjoy.”

Easy Biedenbarn

“St. Alban’s is a special place. As the community of St. Alban’s, we pour our hearts into one another and care for the building and grounds. I feel blessed that St. Alban’s is my home and that I can be a steward to nurture the deep roots of this special place.”

Christopher Price



Chris Price

“The Master Planning Committee was formed to help sort out priorities for the needs for St. Alban’s, and has developed some options to address those needs. Unfortunately, termite damage, water leaks and rot have been discovered which should take first priority. Since there will be work going on to make these repairs, it is a good idea to try to incorporate any building or additions along with this work as it will save some money. At the parish meeting, a motion was made to pursue estimates for the repairs and incorporate some renovation of the kitchen that would help meet two other priorities of the Master Plan. I think these are very much needed and look forward to development of a final plan.”



Richard Price

Richard Price



Jennifer Normand

“This is an exciting time at St. Albans! We are continually growing and currently serve as the spiritual home for many families! While we have accomplished a lot and have been extremely resourceful with our ever-limited physical space at St. Albans, our need for more space to serve our community is evident. My request is that each parishioner take time to learn about this preliminary building/repair project. We want to do MORE serving, MORE educating, MORE praying and MORE celebrating to bring MORE people closer to God.”

Jennifer Normand

“The structural problems with our Sunday School building have reached a critical point. If left unaddressed, the moisture problems could lead to additional costs, such as remediation of mold. The proposed improvements to widen the hallway and build a new kitchen will add so much to our church home. I’m very excited about this work.”

Beth Guynes



Beth Guynes



Betsy Selby

“We’ve been given an opportunity to make sure St. Alban’s is not only physically sound now and for the future but also has the flexibility to accommodate both large and small groups and activities without incurring huge debt. I’m grateful to be part of this process.”

Betsy Selby



Sharon Hanks

“I have been a member of St. Alban’s since 1965 and consider the members to be “family” and the church my church “home.” As in our personal homes and family, we are always in need of some “tender loving care” and repairs, and this extends to our church family and church home as well. As with expanding families and functions, we run out of room (especially in our kitchen), and with the repair work that has to be done to ensure our structure remains sound, it does not seem out of the question to include the expansion of our kitchen to allow for growth. We are a welcoming congregation, and the expansion will allow us to accommodate large groups without being so

crowded in the Parish House and the kitchen, which should give us more storage area and workable space without changing the look of our “Church in the Country.” I hope we can prayerfully come together to make this happen. It may take a little bit of sacrifice on our part, but it can be done.” *Sharon Hanks*

“I myself seem to be remembering that old adage—build it and they will come.” *Mary Ruth Jones*



Mary Ruth Jones



Koury Collins

“I know the needs for a new kitchen having worked in the kitchen during parish events. The floor space, counter space and storage space are crowded. Getting through the hallway is crowded too. As a vestry member I support the addition of a kitchen. The termite and water damage must be repaired.” *Koury Collins*



Lenten Arts Programs

The Arts Come to St. Alban's Church

Wednesday, March 8

Patrick Smith Band, Some Blues, Soul, Jazz & Heart-Wrenching Gospel

Wednesday, March 15

John Paul, Organ and Harpsichord Concert

Wednesday, March 22

Full Circle, Vicksburg's Own Nicholas & Julia Blake & Joanne Ryan, Voices & Stringed Instruments, Bluegrass, Spiritual---showing of Phyllis Blakes' Paintings

Wednesday, March 29

Mandy Spivak, Soprano, Songs Celebrating Mary, the Mother of Jesus

Wednesday, April 5

Madrigal Singers, Vicksburg High School, Directed by Angela Chapin



Patrick Smith Band

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

Children’s Chapel during 11:00 AM Eucharist

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness Meeting, 7:00 AM

Healing Service & Eucharist, 6:00 PM

Thursday

Cursillo Grouping, 12:30 PM

Wednesday, February 1—Quiet Day, *Come In, Light a Candle, Say a Prayer, Be Still, Leave in Peace*, 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Friday 3–Sunday, February 5—190th Annual Council, Jackson Convention Center

Saturday, February 11—ECW Meeting, Parish House, 9:30 AM. Please bring suggestions for our annual “fun” trip

Sunday, February 12—*Second Sundays at St. Mary’s*, Bolton, 4:00 PM, Sharon Miles, Soprano to perform sacred and secular numbers

Coming to St. Mary’s in March

Sunday, March 12—*Second Sundays at St. Mary’s*, Bolton, 4:00 PM, Hymns of Praise by a small informal group of church musicians will perform music from the Episcopal hymnbook. The group includes James Anderson, tenor; Marie Cunningham, flute and soprano; Penny Freund, alto; Kip Gill, pianist and baritone; Laurie Johnson, soprano; and Mary Ruth Jones, reader.

February Birthdays

1	Charlie Brantley	18	Janice Herrington
4	Georgia Turnage	19	Linda Kitchens
5	Sharon Hanks	20	Christine Nelson
6	Michael Abraham	21	David Selby
	Lucas Guynes	22	Mary Margaret Brabston
11	Bonnie Pruett		Jane Hanks
14	Beth Guynes	24	Ian Ulmer
	Charles Langford	25	Walker Biedenharn
16	Joyce Butler	27	Barbara Torrey
	Joey Gerache		

February Anniversaries

11 Josh & Maggi McCarthy

Prayers for the People

For those Sick or in Need:

Alan Kolodny	Dan & Mary Carleton	Lucas Guynes
Angie Standish	Dr. Peter Boelens	Marcia Jordan
Ann Hanks	Elizabeth Senter	Mary Ann Seage
Aryana Strawn	Glenda Ferguson	Mary Ruth Jones
Barbara Ramsay	Hallie Jo Ragsdale	Martha Benson
Bertha Kolb	Jackson Monti	Meredith Brumfield
Betty Biedenharn	Jim & Sherry Horan	Norma Jones
Brian Buchanan	Jim Dantin	Parker Ramsay
Carol Simmons	Jimmy Jones & Family	Rachelle Ferris
Charlie Brantley & Family	Josie Williams	Richard & Margo Massey
Dale Gibson	Kristi Biedenharn	Shirley Lowery Powers
Dalton Glatt	Linda & Jim Dooley	The Anita Collins Family
Damion Hansford	Linda Walker	The Selby Family
	Liz Curtis & Family	

Lurgical Schedule—Sundays in February

	February 5 Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	February 12 Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany	February 19 Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany	February 26 Last Sunday after the Epiphany
First Reading	Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12]	Deuteronomy 30:15-20	Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18	Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm	Psalm 112:1-9, [10]	Psalm 119:1-8	Psalm 119:33-40	Psalm 2
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 2:1-12, [13-16]	1 Corinthians 3:1-9	1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23	2 Peter 1:16-21
Gospel	Matthew 5:13-20 Annual Council Morning Prayer	Matthew 5:21-37	Matthew 5:38-48 Baptism of Wyatt Monti	Matthew 17:1-9 Communion Deacon Josie
LWL 8:30 a.m.	Bitsy Sloan	Tommy Skinner	Harvey Smith	Tommy Skinner
11:00 a.m.	Ann Tompkins	Herb Jones	Betsy Selby	David Pruett
Master Ceremonies		Ann Tompkins	Beth Guynes	Jennifer Normand
Violin Music				
OT Lector				
8:30 a.m.		Bitsy Sloan	Bitsy Sloan	Bitsy Sloan
11:00 a.m.		Ed Shelnut	Mary Ruth Jones	Rymn Parsons
Epistle Lector			Betsy Selby	
Psalm Leader			Lawson Selby	
Crucifer & Acolyte		Koury Collins	Beth Guynes Lawson Selby Peter Williams	Jennifer Normand
Banner Bearer			Heaven Leigh Sunny Faith	
Crucifer (Wooden)			Harris Southall Michael Southall	
Gospel Bearer		Deacon Josie	Gabby Rushing	Ann Tompkins
Torch Bearers			Gloria & Sam Hall	
Prayers of People		Harvey Smith	Bruce Carleton	Sharon Hanks
Oblation Bearers		Michael & Sally Southall	Gloria & Sam Hall	
Ushers & Greeters		Bruce Carleton Michelle Wardlaw	Jonah Artman Josh Artman	David Normand Allan Leese
Communion Station		Deacon Josie Herb Jones	Deacon Josie Herb Jones	Herb Jones Ann Tompkins
Altar Guild	Mary Ann Wright Margo Massey	Ann Tompkins Beth Sojourner	Kerri Williams Judy Morrissey	Cassandra Price Beth Guynes
Coffee Host	Ann Tompkins	Courtney Taylor Betsy Selby Rev. Billie	Baptism Reception	Dalton Thames Sara Margaret Porter
Nursery Assistant		Courtney Taylor	Ann Tompkins	Bonnie Pruett
Children's Chapel	No Children's Chapel	Betsy Selby		Betsy Selby
Offertory Counters	Ann Tompkins Jennifer Normand Betsy Selby	Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks Janice Herrington	Rymn Parsons Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks	Rymn Parsons Ann Tompkins Jennifer Normand
Healing Service	February 1 Ann Tompkins	February 8 Tommy Skinner	February 15 David Pruett	February 22 Tommy Skinner