



The Albanac

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

January 2025

The Living Nativity



Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.



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The Living Nativity

On Sunday, Dec. 15, under the direction of Clarissa Horner, we held the Living Nativity. Adults and children alike delighted in dressing up as angels, shepherds, wise men, and the holy family. Returning this year was Dolly the mini-cow, who brought along her precious one-week old calf, Annabelle. Thank you to our neighbor Tanya McCain for sharing Dolly & Annabelle! And thank you to all those who helped set up, brought soup, passed out hot chocolate, and dressed up!



Shepherds with Dolly & Annabelle



The Holy Family



Angels & Shepherds



Clarissa setting up

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ECW Christmas Luncheon



The ECW Christmas Luncheon was held at Main Street Market Cafe



Lisa and Ruth



Penny, Barbara, Becky, Beth, and Cassandra

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ECW Christmas Luncheon



Judy, Liz, Dawn, Beth, Ann, Sharon, Judy & Mary Ann



Ellen, Liz, Elisabeth & Mary John



Dawn, Elisabeth & Peyton

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St. Nicholas Visits



St. Nicholas & Sallie Mae



Charlie, Rev. Elisabeth, AJ & St. Nicholas



Rodney, Manny, St. Nicholas & Rev. Elisabeth

Annual Meeting & Vestry Nominees

The Vestry has scheduled our Annual Parish Meeting for Sunday, January 26, following one service at 10:00 AM. The meeting will be in person at the church, although if requested at least one week in advance, we will also provide an option to join by Zoom. Please bring a side dish to share for a potluck to follow the meeting--meat will be provided!

At that meeting, we have three members rotating off the Vestry: our Junior Warden, Jeff Artman, and members Carolyn Gent Burton (also serving as Clerk) and Betty Rushing. The Vestry Nominating Committee has nominated Bobby Barlow for Junior Warden (2-year term), and Mary Ann Wright for member of the Vestry (3-year term). We are still seeking another nominee for a 3-year term as vestry member.

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else (with their permission) to serve on the Vestry, please contact Senior Warden Sharon Hanks or Rev. Elisabeth. Vestry nominees must be confirmed communicants of St. Alban's. Nominations are also allowed from the floor at the Annual Meeting. However, in order to give the congregation a chance to prayerfully discern our next vestry members, we strongly encourage nominations to be made ahead of the meeting so they can be circulated to the congregation.

Nominee for Junior Warden



Bobby Barlow

I am a long time communicant at St. Alban's. I love St. Alban's church and the people who attend. I consider it an honor to be nominated to serve the church as Junior Warden.

Nominee for Vestry



Mary Ann Wright

I am a long time member of St. Alban's and attend the early service. I am also a member of the Altar Guild and Episcopal Church Women. I am dedicated to the mission of the church and would consider it a privilege to serve on the vestry.



Painting by Linda Hall

Elisabeth's Epistle

I spend a lot of time alone at the church. Despite rumors of ghosts, I've never encountered any. But that doesn't mean I don't feel the presence of those who have preceded us. You don't have to look far at St. Alban's to see a plaque dedicated to the gifts of generations past that have helped to build and beautify our church. We may not remember all of these people personally, but we all benefit from their sacrifices and commitment to this church.

One of the things I am proudest of this past year is that the Vestry has established an endowment fund that provides a way for our generation of the church to support those who come after us. This has been the work of a dedicated team of folks including Easy Biedenbarn, Richard Price, Tommy Skinner, and Ann Tompkins, who have looked closely at other churches' endowments and consulted with the Episcopal Church Foundation, which provides guidance on endowments. Our endowment team and the Vestry are clear that the people in the pews should always be the ones to fund the operating budget. However, maintaining an historic property like ours is expensive. An endowment is a vehicle for helping to cover some of the costs of the preservation of our beautiful church and grounds, rather than paying the price of deferred maintenance.

The new endowment is also a way for each of us to leave a legacy, to be part of the generations of members who have invested in the future of St. Alban's. We will be talking more about the endowment and options for contributing to it at the Annual Meeting on Jan. 26. In the meantime, I hope you will consider the role of St. Alban's in your life. If St. Alban's has been part of your walk of faith, please consider helping support the future of the church through a current or deferred gift to the endowment. My hope is that generations yet to come might look back with the same gratitude I feel for the generations who have gone before us.

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Advent & Christmas Snapshots



Dropping off Christmas Toys & Donations at Lifting Lives Family Shelter



Tommy organizes donations



Sallie Mae enjoyed making Advent wreaths



Rev. Elisabeth, Andrew, Lucy & Julie

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Prayers of the People

For those sick or in need:

Allan & Joan	David & Melissa	Kathy	Norma
Anita	Ed	Kristin	Richard
Billie	Eva	Lawson N.	Ricky
Butch	Harold	Lillie	Ron
Charlie & Sue	Jackson	Linda	Ruth
Clarence	James A.	Mary Lou	Sarah
Dan G.	James W.	Melissa R.	Selinda
Dan H.	Jane	Mike D.	Steve
Danny	Jimmy	Mike & Nancy	

For the departed: Betty Whitaker, Cecil Grisham, J. Max Kilpatrick, John Switzer, and Shannen Lane

Liturgical Schedule

	Jan. 5	Jan. 12	Jan. 19	Jan. 26
Rite I - 8:30 AM				
Lay Worship Leader	Tommy Skinner	Ann Tompkins	Tommy Skinner	One Service at 10:00 AM
Lector	Ann Tompkins	Nancy Montague	Sharon Cummins	
Healing Minister	Ann Tompkins	Tommy Skinner	Ann Tompkins	
Rite II - 11:00 AM				
Lay Worship Leader	Dawn Rickard	Betsy Selby	Harvey Smith	Carolyn Burton
Greeters/ Ushers	Betty Rushing	Judy Gavin	Judy Gavin	Bobby Barlow
Lector	Carolyn Burton	Sharon Hanks	Dawn Rickard	Buck Cooper
Prayers of the People	Harvey Smith	Sharon Hanks	Dawn Rickard	Ann Tompkins
Chalice Bearer	Barnie Gavin	Dawn Richard	Barnie Gavin	Barnie Gavin
A/V System	Harvey Smith	Justin Burton	Jim Drake	Buck Cooper
Acolyte				
Healing Minister	Harvey Smith	Carolyn Burton	Betsy Selby	Dawn Rickard
Vestry Person of the Day	Harvey Smith	Sharon Hanks	Judy Gavin	Judy Morrissey
Altar Guild	Tommy Skinner Susan Price	Mary Ann Wright Harvey Smith Judy Morrissey	Ann Tompkins Samantha Mahloch	Beth Sojourner Buck Cooper

Wednesday Healing Service

The Healing Eucharist will be at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, January 8th,
followed by a simple supper

Photography by Carolyn Gent Burton, Rebecca Drake, Beth Guynes & Elisabeth Malphurs