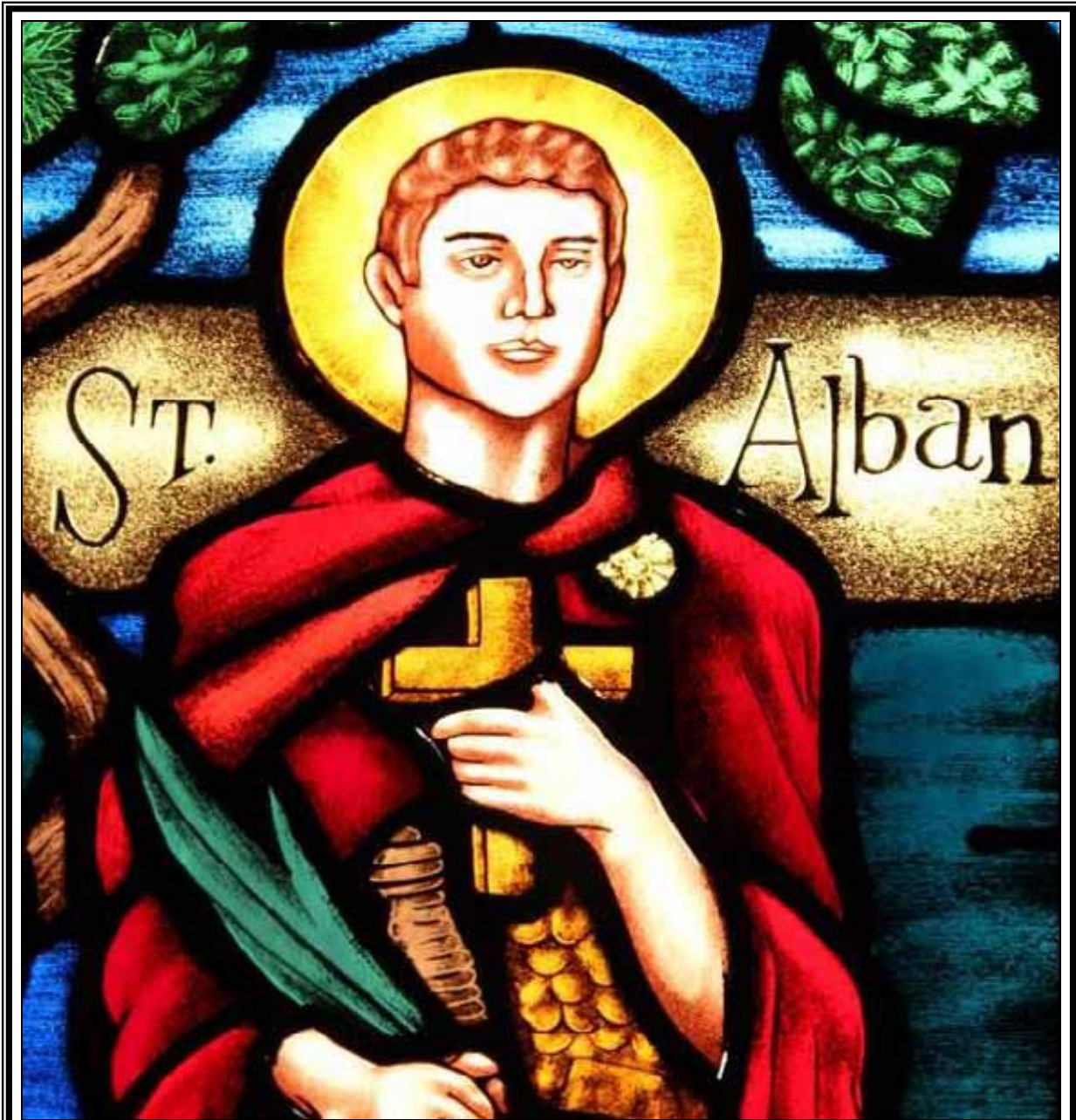




# The Albanac

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

**November 2018**



*The Power of Place — St. Alban's Church  
A Place for Giving & Receiving*

## The Month of October—Stewardship Kick-Off



Sunday, October 7, The Reverend Gates Elliott, *Director of Development and Planned Giving for the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi*, served as celebrant and preacher for St. Alban's 2019 stewardship drive. Services for the remainder of the month focused on the goal of being good managers of God's Creation: *The earth and everything in it, the world and its inhabitants, belong to the Lord.* (Psalm 24:1)

Each Sunday of the month, church members were invited to speak on stewardship and what St. Alban's has meant to their lives. Speakers were Stacy Weaver, Betsy Selby, Gray Weaver, Lance Stewart, Lawson Selby, David Pruett and Tommy Skinner. The *Ingathering of Pledge Cards* will take place on November 4.



Stacy Weaver: Stewardship through Missions



Gray Weaver: Environmental Stewardship



Betsy Selby: Love of St. Alban's Grounds



Lance Stewart: Ministry of Treasure



Lawson Selby: Love of St. Alban's



Betty Rushing & Gabby



David Pruett: Ministry of Time & Talent

# Blessing of the Animals



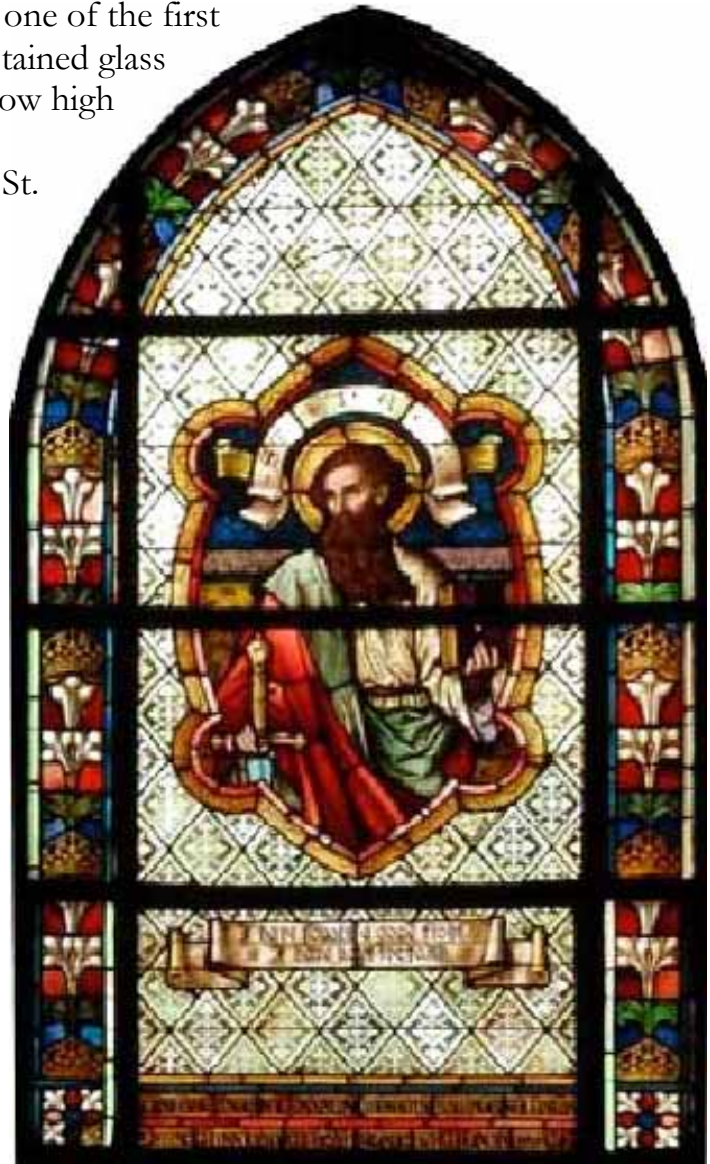




## St. Paul Window—A Memorial to Rev. James Angel Fox

When entering St. Alban's Church, one of the first things people notice are the memorial stained glass windows— especially the St. Paul window high above the altar. The window, given in memory of James Angel Fox, rector of St. Albans 1870–1881, has been an irreplaceable church treasure for over a century and a half—initially installed in St. Alban's 1870s church (now the Parish House) and reinstalled in the present church in 1929.

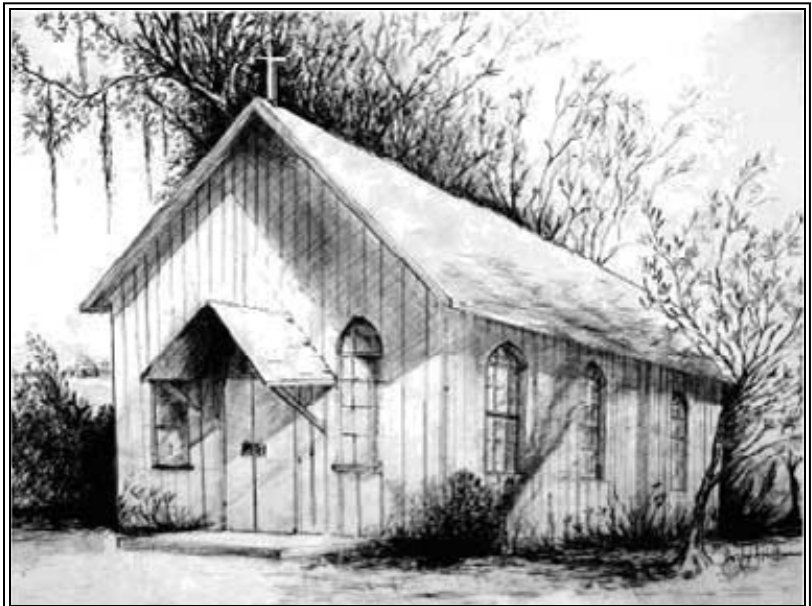
The first mention of the St. Paul window was found in an article published May 15, 1886, in *The Churchman*, a national periodical circulated by the Episcopal Church. The descriptive article was written by Adeline Hebron (daughter in law of Rev. Fox) after attending St. Alban's Easter service: "The building was tastefully adorned and the chancel, lovely in itself, was enriched by the tinted light from the new memorial window. This was imported from Munich. Exquisite in color and design, it entirely fills the east end of the chancel, commemorating a loving friend and faithful priest, The Rev. James Angel late rector of the parish."



Rev. Fox, a native of Connecticut and an 1816 graduate of Yale, is remembered as one of the first Episcopal priests in the state of Mississippi. He migrated to the Deep South with the idea of establishing a law practice. However, the lack of Episcopal churches in the state led him to make frequent trips north where he was ordained deacon in Cincinnati (1824) and priest in Hartford, Connecticut (1826). After returning to Mississippi, he engaged full-throttle in the organization of new churches, including St. Paul's Episcopal (Woodville), St. James (Port Gibson), and St. Alban's, (Bovina). As early as 1824, he purchased land in Warren County and moved his wife

and children to a site near Bovina and the Big Black River. It was inevitable that Rev. Fox would play a major role in helping to establish St. Alban's first church in 1858-1859.

After the church was destroyed by the Union soldiers in 1863, he refused to accept defeat. Thanks to his fund-raising efforts, a new church was built on the same site in 1870. His continued devotion to the church won the hearts of St. Alban's congregation and in



St. Alban's second church, built in 1870 and renovated in 1928, now serves as the Parish House. Jerry McWilliams, artist

September of 1870, at the age of 70, he was called to accept the position of rector. A paragraph of his acceptance letter read, "Information of my election as Rector of St. Alban's has been conveyed to me by our Secretary, Dr. Barr, and I hereby signify to you my acceptance of the office considering it rather as a mark of your affectionate regard, than as based upon the expectation that I shall render to the Church any great amount of Clerical service, which my age and infirmities would not warrant my undertaking. What I can, I will do, whether Rector or not."

Rev. Fox served St. Alban's for eleven years before passing away in 1881, age 87. The congregation, wishing to memorialize their beloved priest and his long-time devotion to the church, collected money to have a stained-glass window made in his memory. The window features a scroll with the famous quote by St. Paul: *I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.* The dedication at the base of the window reads: *To the Glory of God and in Memory of Reverend James Angel Fox, BA Yale, born 1794—died 1881.*

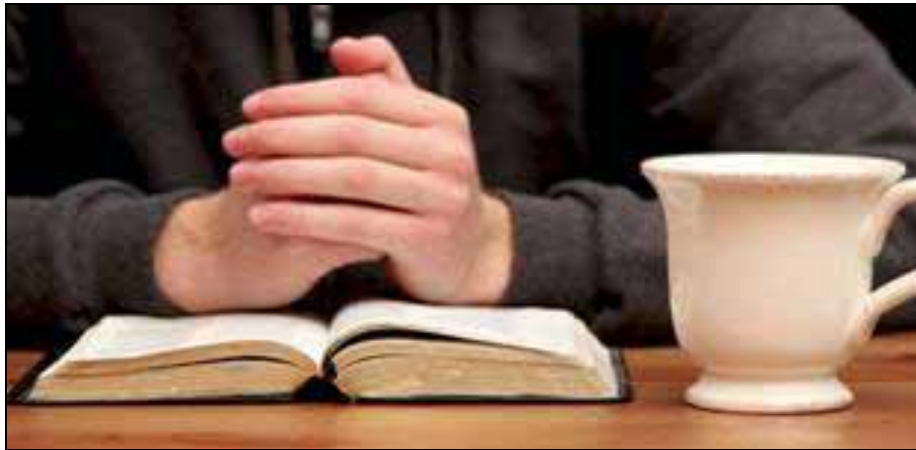
Today, we recognize Rev. Fox as a pioneer clergyman who worked to establish the Episcopal Church in Mississippi long before 1850 when Bishop William Mercer Green was elected first bishop of the Mississippi Diocese.

Rev. Fox was a good and faithful servant. He **fought** the good fight and in spite of all the difficulties of the time, he **finished** the race and **kept** the faith. Today, his dedication remains an inspiration to all and the lovely stained glass window in the nave continues to shine God's light on all who worship in that Sacred Space.

Rebecca Blackwell Drake



## † Billie's Corner

*The Daily Office*

What is the Daily Office? The Daily Office is an ancient prayer practice that frames each day in a rhythm of prayer—Morning Prayer, Noon Prayer, Evening Prayer and Compline. It is a way to be caught up in prayers that are being offered throughout the world. Somewhere, in some place, someone is praying the Daily Office and therefore the world is “*praying without ceasing.*”

Nuns and monks who live in a monastery practice the Daily Office—their days revolve around prayer. A bell rings four times a day to call the nuns and monks to stop what they are doing and come together to pray the Daily Office.

Do you have to live in a monastery to pray the Daily Office? No! The Daily Office can be a personal prayer practice—personal in the sense that those of us who do not live in a religious community usually pray the Daily Office alone in our homes or wherever we happen to be. The practice of the Daily Office has the power to create a spiritual community of which we are a part—it is what can be called the *monastery of the heart*.

A *monastery of the heart* does not require living under the same roof. Entering the *monastery of the heart* is a state of mind and is not confined to a physical structure. Everyone who prays the Daily Office is incorporated in a spiritual community that is boundless—a way of praying alone together.

I recently attended a one-day retreat led by Robert Benson during The Liturgical Arts Conference held at Gray Center. The retreat was based on his book entitled *Venite, a Book of Daily Prayer*. Robert Benson put together an all-in-one book of the Daily Office. Each day takes the same format as the Daily Office in *The Book of Common Prayer*, but it does not require more than one book—thus making it more

accessible for those who desire to pray the Daily Office. It is easy to be put off by the need to keep up with the two-volume set of daily Scripture and another book with prayers for lesser feasts and fasts, thus requiring a minimum of three, if not four books.

Robert prayerful compiled all the essentials of Daily Office into one volume—the *Versicle*, the opening calling to worship; the *Venite*, the invitation to prayer; the *Collects*, simple prayers that always begin with an invocation, then a petition, and then praise to God; the *Canticle*, meaning a “little song;” the *Lessons*, readings from Scripture; the *Prayers of the People*; the *Our Father*; and the final *Blessing*.

Robert began our retreat day with the question, “When were you introduced to the Daily Office?” Robert gave us time to write about how we became acquainted the Daily Office. That was no problem for me; I clearly remembered when I first met the Daily Office.

Over forty years ago, I was a practicing Roman Catholic; and I frequently attended daily Mass at the convent chapel for the retired Sisters of Mercy. I arrived early one day and stumbled into the Daily Office. I vaguely recognized that the prayers were from the Daily Office, and by the time the prayers ended, I knew I wanted to practice the Daily Office. Now that does not mean that I immediately incorporated it into my life. It means that a seed started to germinate within my soul and has been sprouting ever since.

Is a longing for a daily rhythm of prayer germinating in your soul? Test the waters—experiment with the Daily Office. Take your time—look over the Daily Office and the Daily Devotions for Individuals and Families in *The Book of Common Prayer*, or Robert Benson’s book, *Venite*, or Kathleen Deignan’s, *Thomas Merton, A Book of Hours*, or J. Philip Newell’s book, *Celtic Benediction*, or one of Phyllis Tickle’s *The Divine Hours*, based on the liturgical seasons throughout the year. There are many to select from.

There is no one and only Daily Office. Robert Benson said that he was certain when he arrived at the gates of heaven, God was not going to tell him, “*All those years you were praying the Daily Office; you were praying the wrong one!*”

In Peace,

Billie+

## November Birthdays

3 Bertha Kolb	19 Margaret Massey
8 Whitney Nieto	20 Kristin Selby
9 Margie Scott	22 Betty Rushing
10 Koury Collins	23 Charles Barton
12 Jonah Artman	24 Barbara Ramsay
12 David Pruett	26 Sherry Barton
17 Letty Biedenharn	27 Margharita Davis
Josie Huntley	Sam Hall
Kay McWilliams	29 Eva Panelo

## November Anniversaries

7 John Segrest & Bitsy Sloan	12 David & Bonnie Pruett
------------------------------	--------------------------

## Prayers for the People

Analiese Wasson Bryan	Dianne Carlton	Mark Herrington
Ann Hanks	Eugene Quarles	Martha Benson
Ann & Jimmy Jones	Evelyn Wallace	Megan Cook Vincent
Barbara Ramsay	Hollis Newman	Millie Gasaway
Bertha Kolb	Jackson Monti	Norma Jones
Betty Biedenharn	Jim Dantin	Parker Ramsay
Bradley Freeman	Joan Leese	Patsy & Kena Faulk
Bryan Brabston	Judy Pennington	Paula Lentz
Carol Green	Kristi Biedenharn	Peggy Lynn
Charles Haley	Laurie Concannon	Peter Meyers
Charlie Brantley & Family	Lessye Williams	Rachelle Ferris
Cynthia Strawn & Family	Linda & Jim Dooley	Richard Massey
Dalton Glatt	Linda Washington	Sherry Horan
Damion Hansford	Liz Curtis & Family	The Selby Family
Dan & Mary Carleton	Lucas Guynes	

Victims of Violence & Natural Disasters

## Weekly Activities & Services

### Church Office Hours

Monday–Wednesday: 9:00 AM–4:00 PM. Phone: (601) 636-6687

### Sunday

Eucharist, 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Choir Practice, 9:45 AM

Christian Education, 10:00 AM

Nursery, 10:00 AM

Children’s Chapel, 11:00 AM

### Tuesday

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

### Wednesday

12 Steps to Spiritual Wholeness Meeting, 7:30 AM

Healing Service & Eucharist, 6:00 PM

Quiet Day, First Wednesday of Each Month, 7 AM—7 PM

### Thursday

Cursillo Grouping, Parish House, 12:30 PM

## Events in November 2018

**Sunday, November 4—Celebration of the Feast Day of All Saints’** and  
Ingathering of Pledge Cards

**Sunday, November 11—Second Sundays at St. Mary’s,** 4:00 PM, featuring the  
Mississippi Boychoir

**Thursday, November 15—Vestry** 2019 budget meeting, 6 PM

**Thursday, November 22—Thanksgiving Day,** Liturgy of the Reserved Sacrament  
and Potluck Thanksgiving Feast



Photography credits for this issue of the Albanac:  
Rebecca Drake and Harvey Smith

## Liturgical Schedule—Sundays in November 2018

	<b>November 4</b> Pentecost 24 <i>All Saints' Feast Day</i> Stewardship Ingathering	<b>November 11</b> Pentecost 25	<b>November 18</b> Pentecost 26	<b>November 25</b> Pentecost 27 <i>Christ the King Sunday</i> Liturgy of Reserved Sacrament
<b>First Reading</b>	Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9	Ruth 3:1-5;4:13-17	1 Samuel 1:4-20	2 Samuel 23:1-7
<b>Psalm</b>	Psalm 24	Psalm 127	1 Samuel 2:1-10	Psalm 132:1-19
<b>Second Reading</b>	Revelation 21:1-6a	Hebrews 9:24-28	Hebrews 10:11-25	Revelation 1:4b-8
<b>Gospel Reading</b>	John 11:32-44	Mark 12:38-44	Mark 13:1-8	John 18:33-37
<b>LWL</b>				
8:30 am	Theo Williams	Harvey Smith	Tommy Skinner	Theo Williams
11:00 am	Herb Jones	Richard Price	Betsy Selby	Harvey Smith
<b>MC</b>	Ann Tompkins	Susan Price	Beth Guynes	Jennifer Normand
<b>OT Lector</b>				
8:30 am	Bitsy Sloan	Bitsy Sloan	Bitsy Sloan	Bitsy Sloan
11:00 am	Ed Shelnut	Sharon Hanks	Macy Weaver	Dawn Rickard
<b>Epistle Lector</b>			Betsy Selby	
<b>Psalm Leader</b>			Betsy & Lawson Selby	
<b>Crucifer &amp; Acolyte</b>	Koury Collins	Susan Price	Beth Guynes	Jennifer Normand
<b>Crucifer (Wooden)</b>			Harris Southall	
<b>Gospel Bearer</b>	Deacon Josie	Deacon Josie	Gabby Rushing	Deacon Josie
<b>Prayers of the People</b>	Deacon Josie	Deacon Josie	Peter Williams Kerri Williams	Deacon Josie
<b>Oblation Bearers</b>	Margaret Stewart Canada Stewart	Sara Margaret Dalton Thames	Sam Hall Gloria Hall	Betty Rushing Ann Tompkins
<b>Ushers &amp; Greeters</b>	Dale Gibson Lance Stewart	Dale Gibson Allan Leese	Josh Artman Jonah Artman	Dale Gibson Dawn Rickard
<b>Standing Communion Station</b>	Deacon Josie Ann Tompkins	Deacon Josie Susan Price	Deacon Josie David Pruet	Deacon Josie Herb Jones
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Ann Tompkins Beth Sojourner	Kerri Williams Judy Morrissey	Cassandra Price	Beth Guynes Liz Gent
<b>Coffee Host</b>	Everyone Bring "Saintly" Snacks - Pickup/Finger Food	Tommy Skinner Dawn Rickard	Kristi Hall Theo, Kerri Liz Gent	Bring Thanksgiving Leftovers
<b>Nursery Assistant</b>	April/Ashley	April/Ashley	April/Ashley	April/Ashley
<b>Children's Chapel</b>	Betsy Selby	Betsy Selby	Children Serve 11:00 a.m. Eucharist	Betsy Selby
<b>Offertory Counters</b>	Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks Theo Williams	Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks Herb Jones	Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks Lance Stewart	Ann Tompkins Sharon Hanks Beth Guynes
	<b>November 7</b>	<b>November 14</b>	<b>November 21</b>	<b>November 28</b>
<b>Healing Service</b>	Theo Williams	Tommy Skinner	David Pruet	Theo Williams