

THE RED DOOR MESSENGER

OCTOBER 2014

SHARING CHRIST'S INCLUSIVE LOVE THROUGH
WORSHIP, HEALING PRAYER, BEAUTY AND
HOSPITALITY



From our New Interim Rector

Reflections on Christ Church, Albertville, Alabama

What a joy and a pleasure to be the Interim Rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Albertville. Christ Church has a long tradition of Ministry and Service to our community dating back to 1978. Christ Church today is a place of exciting worship, good fellowship and a commitment to help build the Kingdom of God on Earth, beginning in Albertville and Marshall County.

I am excited to "come home" to minister with the people of Christ Church. For the last year or more I have had a desire to spend more time in Parish Ministry. I felt I had gifts to share and a few more sermons to preach that might be worth hearing. A few possibilities came along but they either involved too much time (i.e. full time) or the place or the situation just did not feel quite right. When I met with the Vestry of Christ Church, all the pieces came together: my home town, a church I have worshiped in for over thirty years on visits, my 91 year old mother still living and in good health, many people I have known for years, and a chance to do what I love which is to work with a parish to grow a congregation by introducing people to the Gospel of Jesus "Episcopalian Style." It is like this opportunity was designed just for me.

The Church, the Body of Christ has many variations. The Episcopal Church is just one of those. For some people the Episcopal Church is the right fit. It is a place and a community in which they can feel comfortable, grow in their faith, ask questions, have doubts and fears as well as faith and assurance. The Episcopal Church is both safe and challenging, and that is a blessing. Many of those for whom the Episcopal Church can be a home don't know much about us yet. To be part of a church that wants to share this good news is a blessing indeed.

I am in the church office Monday and Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 Noon. Drop by for a visit. Oh yes, and bring a friend to Church!

Blessings and Peace,

Ben



Calendar of Events:

October 5: Feast of St. Francis of Assisi and Blessing of the Animals

October 12: Adult Sunday School 11:00 am to 11:50 am

October 8: ECW Meeting in Founders Hall at 5:30 PM

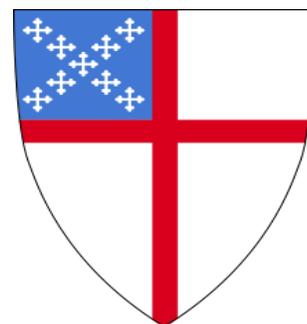
October 18: ECW Bazaar and ECM Smoked Butt Sale

October 23: Beans and Rice Ministry Bagging at 1:00 PM

October 25: Beans and Rice Distribution 9:00 AM

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Jackie Holcomb	6th
Pat Potts	6th
Al Clanton	18th
Mel Potts	28th
Clara Brewer	30th



ST. FRANCIS DAY AND BLESSING OF THE ANIMAL



St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animal

On Sunday, October 5, our 9:30 a.m. worship will take place in the Garden as we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis with the blessing of the animals. Bring your Pets, Bring your friends and your friend's pets as we celebrate the Holiness of all Creation along with the Holy Eucharist.

We celebrate our being joined together with Christ and with one another as well as with All God's creatures.

This will be a great time to bring friends to Christ Church. This can be a time of blessing for pets and owners alike.



*Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 to 3:00 PM.*

Adult Sunday school at Christ Church

God and Conflict in the Holy Land, from Genesis and Exodus to Israel and Palestine

From 11:00 a.m. till 11:50 for seven Sundays beginning October 12 adults and teens at Christ Church are invited to join Jackie Holcomb, Ben Cummins and Fr. Ben Alford to look at and discuss the History of the Holy Land and how human beings and God have figured into both the conflicts and the solutions to those conflicts. The goal of the series is not to decide who is right and who is wrong, but to understand not only past conflicts, but to try to get a better understanding of what is happening in Israel and Palestine today.

If you have any questions or ideas, please contact Jackie, Ben Cumming or Fr. Ben Alford

PARISH WISH LIST

New or gently used microwave for Kitchen

8 1/2 x 14 colored paper for Announcements

8 1/2 x 14 ivory copy paper

Donations for ECM Smoker

Sharing Christ's inclusive love through worship, healing prayer, beauty, and hospitality.



UPCOMING ECW EVENTS

The next few weeks will be busy for ECW. Our first event the 125th Annual Episcopal Women's Fall Conference will be October 2-3 at St. JAMES Episcopal Church, Alexander City. The featured speaker will be the Reverend Becca Stevens an Episcopal priest from Nashville, Tennessee and founder of Magdalene, residential communities of women who have survived prostitution, trafficking and addiction. She founded Thistle Farms in 2001 which currently employs nearly 50 residents and graduated, and housing a natural body care line, a paper and sewing studio and the Thistle Stop Café.

Hope to see you at Fall Conference.

The second event is our monthly meeting on October 8 at 5:30 p.m. in Founders Hall. Hostesses will be Susan Cummings and Pat Potts. This will be our last planning meeting before the bazaar.

Our third event will be our annual ECW Bazaar on October 18. Please share with your friends about all the soups, canned goods, baked good, craft items, and sides to go with the Boston Butts, we will be selling. This year we have a beautiful handmade quilt by Phyllis Thompson as a silent auction item.

The bidding will start at \$250 and is on display by the church office. Many of you have started making your items and have brought them to the church. If you are unable to make anything you can supply the ingredients and there are others willing to do the cooking. It takes us all to make this a success.

REMEMBER ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH ARE MEMBER OF ECW.



MONTHLY PRAYER LIST

Pray for Millie, Clara, Al, Moya, Ann, Bill, Betty, Sam, Sandi, Delaine, Lorenzo, Myra, Debbie. Continue to pray for those in service to our country including Ross, Sid, Joseph and Richie. In September, pray for the following members of Christ Church: Al and Pat Clanton, Jean Liche Cornely, Ben and Susan Cumming, Cynthia Denham.

BEANS AND RICE MINISTRY

WE NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION IN OCTOBER WITH BEANS AND RICE MINISTRY

Hello friends,

Beans and rice time is upon us once again. I appreciate your egg cartons, and ask you to keep them coming. It's a blessing to have eggs that are donated by the Franklins. It is also a blessing, how people are dedicated to this ministry!!!

The next couple of months, there is a need for people that can lift. On September fifth, my front door step broke and I fell. Now I have a torn rotator cuff in my right shoulder. This October is when I will have surgery, hopefully in the middle of the month. The month of October I will not be able to do anything, with the beans and rice ministry. I am asking for anyone who is able to do this next month, to let me or Mel Potts know as soon as possible. I thank you. Also I thank Mel Potts for getting the orders in for the beans and rice!!

There is not enough words to express the appreciation, and joy how each month this ministry touches those in need. Also touches all who is working it. Together we can show the love of Christ.

With Christ all things are made possible!

God bless you all!
Peace, Prayers,
Love, Jackie Brewster

From the Office:

Father Ben and I have a space to left of the office door where you can leave us correspondence. We have envelopes and a pen for your convenience. We are interested in any ideas and news that you have for us.

Lot Development Committee Report by Myra Southerland

The Lot Development Committee consists of the following: Meredith Battle, Pat Clanton, Teddy LaMunyon, Mel Potts, Ron Scruggs and Myra Southerland, Chair of the committee.

This committee hopes that you have taken notice of the new iron fence that is being installed on the lot next door. The committee voted on all aspects of the fence and all agreed that adding the iron fence and gate across the front and down the side distinguishes that lot as part of Christ Episcopal Church. The distinction of the lot as part of the church property is an important marketing tool for our church. The new fence with a gate and brick steps will run across the front of the lot parallel to East Main Street. Then it will turn and go in the direction of the back of the lot running parallel to the Courington House. The entire lot will not be fenced in for several reasons at this time, mainly because we are carefully watching the funds received from the Estate of Freddie D. Richardson in order to work on other projects as part of the lot development.

Since the beginning of the fence installation, one parishioner reports that noticed the fence going up and were highly complementary, saying it was so beautiful. This is what we want to hear so please pass on any other positive comments that you may hear.

As was reported earlier, The Lot Development Committee seeded the Alan Battles, Jr. Eagle Scout labyrinth rebuilding project with \$500 from the Richardson Estate Funds. This money is being used to pay for labor for brick laying and supplies. Of course, little Alan is seeking additional donations and working to earn money for this project also. The sidewalk

to the labyrinth is completed and pouring of concrete and sinking crosses into the first "chalice" part of the labyrinth will be done soon. Donations continue to be needed to complete the labyrinth project. Please see me, Meredith or Mel if you want to make a donation or have any questions on the labyrinth project.

Finally, the lot development committee is looking at the cost of adding a wooden Jungle Gym to hopefully attract families with children to our church. This play area could also be used by children during special events at our church. Additionally, the committee is looking at the feasibility of building a covered pavilion patterned after the porte cochére for the parish to use for special events. (*Please think bread and fishes!*)

This pavilion could be used for outside wedding receptions, events such as ECW Bake/Soup Sale, selling sides for smoked butts and for the ECM smoked butts pickups. Church picnics and other events could be held there. Sunday school classes could be held outside during pleasant weather for a change of scenery. We could have our Free Tomato Sandwich Day under the pavilion plus other exciting events!

Please continue to pray for the Lot Development Committee as we continue our work on the lot project and for God to continue to guide us to fulfill the wishes of our dear departed friend Freddie D. Richardson. We feel God's presence as we work together on this project. To God be the glory!

Please direct any comments or questions to me and I will be glad to get with the committee and provide answers. Cell: 256-506-1126; Home: 256-878-0696; email: myrasoutherland@bellsouth.net.

Submitted by Fran Mayo:

Remembering the 40th anniversary of the first ordination of women priests in the Episcopal Church in Philadelphia in 1974, the rector of the church I grew up in wrote the following in the church paper - The Apostle - for the Church of the Holy Apostles in Wynnewood, PA. I thought it was worthwhile to reprint it in our Red Door Messenger. We certainly have benefitted from women priests in the Episcopal Church.

FROM THE REV. DENNIS LLOYD

When I informed last year's confirmation class that the first ordination of women to the priesthood of the Episcopal Church took place in 1974, they were aghast. How could this be??? While it was certainly before they were born, it was well within the lifetimes of their parents! It was then that I realized that I was indeed born in the Dark Ages.

I remember it well. The ordinations of the Philadelphia 11 were declared "irregular", which somehow put a bandaid on a lot of injured male egos. Then General Convention changed the canons to specifically authorize the ordination of women. That was 1976, and I was in the process of applying for seminary. My rector and the assistant clergy (all male, of course) gathered in the church office with sad and somber faces. There was a lot of head shaking and heavy sighs as they considered the folly of what Convention had done; but, my rector said, we're just going to have to find a way to get used to it.

I came across a reminder of what the then popular comedian Mark Russell (Remember him? He sat at a piano to deliver his monologues.) had to say about the ordination of women, "While the Roman Catholics cannot conceive of married priests, the Episcopal Church now has married priests who can conceive! Can you imagine anything more ridiculous than what the Episcopal Church is doing by ordaining women to the priesthood? Can you imagine a woman baptizing babies, teaching and nurturing teenagers, guiding young adults through all they go through, feeding a family, healing the sick, supporting the troubled, and consoling the dying? Can you imagine anything more ridiculous than that?"

Well not only can we imagine it, we experience it almost every day of our lives. It took the Church a while to figure that out – and not all branches of the Church have done so – but at least today we have a generation who cannot imagine that anyone could ever be so foolish as to think that women should not be ordained. I find great joy in that.

At the last gathering of the Welcome Church there were four Episcopal priests, two Presbyterian ministers, one Lutheran pastor, and a Seventh Day Adventist. Only two of us were male. We were men and women, black and white, young and old – in short, we were a cross section of the very people who were gathered for worship. And that is exactly how it should be. In the end, ordination isn't about gender, or orientation, or anything else we use to distinguish one person from the next. It is about calling – God's call to serve, certainly; but ordination is also about the Church calling a person to be a pastor and priest. And as God calls all people, each to her or his particular ministry, so the Church needs the ministries of all people in all capacities in order to reflect not just the fullness of Christ, but also the full range of human life and experience.

The Church and the world have been unimaginably enriched by the presence of women at the altar. I give thanks for my female colleagues of so many different traditions, for the voices they bring and the witnesses they bear. And I would remind the younger women (and men!) of Holy Apostles, to listen for the call of God in their own lives. The Church needs your gifts and skills, too, both today and tomorrow.

Fr. Dennis †

Red Door Article

Junior Warden Report

Myra Southerland

As your Junior Warden it was with mixed emotions that we bid sad farewells to Mother Mary Catherine and Jeff but it was an exciting and happy celebration in welcoming Father Ben and Lynn to our parish. I discussed several issues with Mother Mary Catherine concerning the needs of the parish including building and grounds prior to her leaving. I have had conversations with Father Ben and have brought him up to date on parish issues and projects as far as your Junior Warden's responsibilities are concerned. Father Ben and I plan a meeting soon to discuss these projects in further detail.

In addition to handling the "nuts and bolts" of the church, my duties as the Junior Warden include listening to the heartbeat of the parish and bringing forth to our Interim Rector or Vestry any concerns or issues of the parish. In the past I advised that any parishioner with concerns about the building or grounds or other matters that affect Christ Episcopal is welcome to contact me at home at 256-878-0696; my cell phone 256-506-1126; email at myrasoutherland@bellsouth.net, speak to me after church services on Sundays or at other church events. This remains my thoughts today as much as it did when I first became your Junior Warden two years ago. This does not mean that you should report only negative issues but you should let me know about things of joy that you witness at Christ Episcopal Church. Please count our many blessings and share your thoughts with me about those. It would be wonderful to give a positive feedback to Father Ben and the vestry at our next meeting. Even with the work to be done we still should be joyous and thankful for what God has provided us and for the ways we are using those gifts! So let me hear some good thoughts also! Write me a note on the things you are thankful for at Christ Episcopal Church. For example, I am thankful for Father Ben, for all Sunday Servants, for beautiful flowers and lovely music on Sundays. I am thankful for Julie Spivey, our church's administrative assistant. What are you thankful for?

The following are a list of items that are to be done or are in the works:

- Light in Ladies Restroom/repair or replace
- Sand, prime and paint exterior door to nursery
- Replace locking mechanism for French doors leading to garden
- Obtain quote for adding guttering to left side of church where it was never added
- Remove dead boxwood from front, remove and relocate the boxwood that is currently located across from the dead one. Treat and fertilize soil.
- Add Mulch and Pine Straw to trees and beds for winter protection
- Continue to weed flower beds until first frost

As a reminder, please do not prune any plants, shrubs or trees without first discussing with the junior warden. We must prune correctly in order to maintain our beautiful landscaping.

If you know of something that needs to be added to the above list then please let me hear from you. Also if you are willing to help financially, provide labor or otherwise with any of the above projects then please let me know.

Thank you!

OCTOBER 2014

28 9:30 AM <u>Worship (HE Rite II)</u> 11:00 AM <u>Sunday School</u>	29	30 12:00 PM <u>Worship (HE Rite II)</u>	1 <u>Office Closed</u>	2	3 <u>Office Closed</u>	4
5 9:30 AM <u>Worship (HE Rite II)</u> 11:00 AM <u>Sunday School</u>	6	7 12:00 PM <u>Worship (HE Rite II)</u>	8 <u>Office Closed</u> 5:30 PM <u>Church Men (ECM) Meeting</u> 5:30 PM <u>Church Women (ECW)</u>	9	10 <u>Office Closed</u>	11
12 9:30 AM <u>Worship (HE Rite II)</u> 11:00 AM <u>Sunday School</u>	13	14 12:00 PM <u>Worship (HE Rite II)</u>	15 <u>Office Closed</u>	16	17 <u>Office Closed</u>	18
19 9:30 AM <u>Worship (HE Rite II)</u> 11:00 AM <u>Sunday School</u> 11:45 AM <u>Vestry Meeting</u>	20	21 12:00 PM <u>Worship (HE Rite II)</u>	22 <u>Office Closed</u>	23 1:00 PM <u>Bagging Beans and Rice</u>	24 <u>Office Closed</u>	25 9:00 AM <u>Beans and Rice</u>
26 9:30 AM <u>Worship (HE Rite II)</u> 11:00 AM <u>Sunday School</u>	27	28 12:00 PM <u>Worship (HE Rite II)</u>	29 <u>Office Closed</u>	30	31 <u>Office Closed</u>	1

	October 5	October 12	October 19	October 26
LEM 1/ Server		Teddy LaMunyon LaMunyon	Brenda Mayhall	Pat Clanton
LEM 2/ Gospel Bearer	Kathy Wilemon		Bob Terrell	
Lector	Alan Battle, JR.	Brenda Mayhall	Annette Cederholm	Fran Mayo
Crucifer	Brenda Mayhall		Kathy Wilemon	
POP	Odes Wilemon	Mel Potts	Phylis Thompson	Myra Southerland
Ushers	Odes Wilemon/ Tommy Thompson	Randy Southerland/ Joe Thomas	Terry Mayhall/ Joe Thomas	Brenda Mayhall/ Tommy Thompson
Greeter	Maryetta Terrell	Ann Baldwin	Tommy Thompson	Joe Thomas
Altar Guild		Phylis Thompson	Susan Cumming	Pat Clanton
Flower Guild	Brenda Mayhall	Ron Scruggs	Brenda Mayhall	Ron Scruggs
Coffee Hosts	Chase & Sara Watwood	The Thompsons	The Southerlands	Cederholm/Denham
Vestry Person of The Day	Pat Clanton	Odes Wilemon	Fran Mayo	Ron Scruggs
Alms Counter with VPOD	Ron Scruggs	Myra Southerland	Brenda Mayhall	Mel Potts

OCTOBER 2014

SERVANTS LISTING

If you cannot serve on your scheduled day, it is your responsibility to find a replacement and to notify the office of those changes at office@christchurchatbertville.org

For those of you, who vest for the worship service, please be vested at least 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. If you are not present at 9:20 AM, then someone else will be recruited to fill your place. This policy will allow the hearts and minds of worship leaders to prepare for a Christ centered worship service.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS SERVANTS LIST IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. I WILL DO MY BEST TO KEEP EVERYTHING UPDATED. IF YOU SHOULD HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT JULIE AT THE OFFICE.

If you would like to Volunteer or train in a specific area to serve, Please submit your name and what area of worship you would like to be involved in.

Server, LEM 1/ Gospel Bearer, Crucifer, Altar Guild and Flower Guild

If a substitute is not found by the Wednesday before printing of Order of Worship, the information on the Order of Worship will be incorrect. Printing is done on Thursday's for Sunday's Services.