



The Saint

All Saints Episcopal Church
Jackson, MS

December, 2009

A TRIP TO BETHLEHEM

We are again on the threshold of an event which has been called the greatest in human history since the creation of the world. I refer, of course, to the coming of another Christmas and its attending circumstances, to that overwhelming occurrence respecting which the shepherds were constrained to say: "Let us now go even to Bethlehem, and see this thing that is come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." Since then the entire Christian world has annually taken a pilgrimage to Bethlehem to gaze upon the child in the manger and to join in earthly cadence with the angelic host in the celestial harmonies. What day in the year has in it so much of hope and joy and gladness? What stirring history may be wrapped up in a few words! Only six brief words: "Unto us a child is born," and we are carried into the light and charm of the Christmas season. The prophet Isaiah reveals that "His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of peace" (Isaiah 9:6). Naturally in reviewing the whole story of Christmas, you and I and the entire world will turn our thoughts to the Manger in Bethle-

hem; we will read the Gospel account, perhaps, or hear it retold, or see it pictured to us in a mystery play, or listen to Christmas music. The charm of Christmas is not in pathos of the circumstances of the Birth, nor is it sentimentality, though, alas, all too much has been spread over the event, nor is it the appeal of the little, the helpless and the needy which



stirs them (Holding our vision by Gregory Mabry). The charm of Christmas is the same which lured the Old Testament great men on to righteousness, which exalted Simeon and won the adoration of Shepherds and Wise men. The charm of Christmas lies in the fact that human nature recognizes in the Divine infant the reward of obedience to man's highest aspirations, the perfect fruit of doing God's building. In no year in our lifetime, has the world needed the tidings of the great joy of a Savior's birth, more than we need it today. On no single Christmas since the world began have so many been suffering,

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All Saints Episcopal Church
147 Daniel Lake Boulevard
Jackson, MS 39212
601-372-5185

The Rev. William Ndishabandi
Rector

The Rev. Bill Hanna
Deacon

The Rev. Cathy Halford
Deacon

THE VESTRY

Ross Turner Senior Warden
Tim Ryan Junior Warden
Jolinda Charbonnet Treasurer
Therese Hanna Clerk

Kenny Hall Vanessa Kelly
Greta Lovell Shungu Nhema
Lissa Nelson Christine Nelson
Stephen Stuart Tori Myers

The Vestry meets after the 10:30 service on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

Our Mission

"We strive through prayer, worship, study, and fellowship to be a people, individually and corporately, in whom and through whom Christ lives and changes the world with his Love."

Sunday Services

8:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist
9:30 A.M. - Sunday School
10:30 A.M. - Holy Eucharist

Healing is offered on the 2nd Sunday of each month.

www.allsaintsjacksonms.com

Newsletter submissions:

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A TRIP TO BETHLEHEM (Continued from page 1)

hungry, bruised, joyless and sometimes murdered, as on this very day. And all this can happen in our human world after 2000 years of a religion intended to make the world happy! Who can come and make the bells ring again, the angels sing again, the shepherds rejoice again, the wise men searching for the child again, the mothers of the world glad again, the babies of the world to win out again, as the world bows before babyhood as the symbol of perfection, purity and divine redemption? The world needs a revival of the Christmas joys of that first Holy Night. In Isaiah 40:3-5 we hear the ringing tones of the Messiah's coming by the forerunner, John the Baptist, when he cries, "prepare ye the way of the Lord." We are also reminded of it again in Jesus' famous saying that "Except we become as little children we shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven." The modern way of saying the same thing is to insist on "the right inner Christmas attitude."

Christmas comes to us as a reminder that there lived on this earth a Man (Jesus) who made earnest with the life of love. He was not rich in this world's goods. The son of a carpenter, who labored for his living, and the people with whom he lived were for the most part plain folk like Himself. He made us his own friends and later offered Himself as a living sacrifice for us. Unfortunately, John tells us that His own people rejected him (John 1:10-12). His disciples forsook Him. One Friday afternoon He was led out to a hill called Golgotha and nailed to a cross. Yet even the bitter suffering of crucifixion could not swerve Him from the life of love. We read that: "Having loved His own, He loves them to the end."

Christmas comes to us as an invitation-the invitation to experiment with the life of love in our own lives. It not only invites us to make the experiment; it creates the conditions in which it is easiest for the experiment to succeed. For Christmas opens a window that lets us look into the hearts of men that are strangers to us and see that they, too, have a place in their lives where love makes its home. There is no other time of the year when we should try harder to be patient and thoughtful than before and at Christmas time. In his poem, Henry Van Dyke says, "Christmas is not Christmas unless an unselfish spirit comes with it." This Christmas season is a difficult one for many people. Some of us have gone through some tough times. However, what we are and what we shall be largely depends upon what is our attitude toward the present state of the world. We have lived in an affluence which was neither real nor wholesome. Nevertheless, we are often reminded that we are not alone. Some of us have been terribly hit with the global economic crisis. But this cannot hinder us from celebrating the gift of the incarnation and the blessing of love for us. Thank you for sharing much of your gift and talents with (The Church). It's my prayer that this Christmas (coming of a child) will be a gift to you. His (Jesus) light will shine and illumine you as long as time and eternity endure. May this Christmas help you understand the mystery of Christ's nativity? It is my hope that the Angel's proclamation of "peace on earth, good will to men," will be a reality to you. That your love will rise above hate, truth above falsehood, right above wrong. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
William+





Prayers of the People

Please remember to pray for Edward, Scott, Lissa, Marion, Vicki, Jennifer, Peggy, Adelaide, Barbara, Betty, Mary Jane, Janis, Mary Lane, Polly, Alexander, Stephen, Karen, Chase, Lela, Lori, Garth, and Dyanne;

For those who have died and their families;

For Adam Pastor and Marc Hines, serving in military duty in Iraq;

For some quiet time of preparation in this season of Advent;

Thanksgiving for the gift of Jesus.

Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday

January 10

After the 10:30 Service

Advent Lessons & Carols

Sunday

December 13

5 p.m.

All Saint's is always so generous for the needs of those incarcerated. Their needs are clear deodorant (clear container & clear gel), clear shampoo in a clear container, white athletic socks, hard candy and non-metallic hair ornaments for women.

I would appreciate it if you would bring these articles to the church by Dec. 13 in a clear zip lock bag and label either women or men.

Thank you.

Christ's Peace,

Cathy Halford





December Birthdays

Joy Patterson December 2

Haley Bradley December 3

Dyanne Sellers December 4

Alex Bradley December 11

Emma Magee December 13

Cindy Gavette December 18

Daphne Ndishabandi December 22

Sarah Weathersby December 27

Jason Kelly December 28

Betty Ely December 31

December Anniversaries

Jason & Vanessa Kelly December 27

GIFTS FOR LIFE

The children's Sunday School classes are accepting donations to buy Gifts for Life through the Episcopal Relief and Development Fund. The children have picked out the gift of water to a family, the gift of a pig, and the gift of 3 Nets for protection from disease carrying insects. Please help them to give the gifts they have picked out. The cost is around \$170. Any size contribution will help. We will have a special collection box in the narthex on Sundays.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to make a donation for poinsettias to be placed at the altar this Christmas, please fill out this form and return it to the church office by **Sunday, December 20.**

I would like to make a contribution for the Christmas Poinsettias for the altar in thanksgiving for _____.

OR

I would like to make a contribution for the Christmas Poinsettias for the altar in memory of _____.

Signed _____



Proposed Amendment to the All Saints By-Laws

At the Annual Parish Meeting on January 10th 2010, the vestry will ask the voting members of the parish to approve an amendment to the by-laws of the parish. The proposed change is a change to Article V, Section 4 of the by-laws which deals with the selection of the senior warden. You may recall that this portion of the by-laws was amended in 2005 to provide for the election of the senior warden by the vestry. This method of choosing a senior warden was recommended by the vestry because the by-laws did not provide a method for selecting a senior warden when the parish was without a resident rector. Since William has returned to All Saints as our rector, the vestry has deferred to William and allowed him to select a senior warden as needed. So our practice in the selection of a senior warden has not followed the guidelines established in the by-laws. For this reason, the vestry feels that it would be appropriate to recommend to you an amendment to this portion of the by-laws to make the by-laws consistent with our actual practice. After some discussion, it was agreed that the by-laws should allow the priest to select a senior warden but that we should retain a procedure for election of a senior warden in the event that the position of rector of the parish is vacant. Accordingly, the proposed text of Article V, Section 4 restores the original language of this section prior to the amendment of 2005, along with most of the language that was adopted in 2005.

For your consideration, here is the current language of Article V, Section 4 of the by-laws as it was adopted in 2005:

Section 4. In the years which the senior warden's term shall expire, the vestry will elect a senior warden at the regular September meeting. The senior warden shall serve a term of two years commencing at the conclusion of the annual parish meeting and may not serve more than two consecutive terms. In the event a vacancy shall occur in the office of senior warden, the junior warden will serve as senior warden until the next regular meeting of the vestry, at which time the vestry shall elect a senior warden to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. If the unexpired term consists of one year or less, the service shall not count against the restriction of consecutive service of two terms.

The proposed amendment to this section would read as follows (added language appears in bold):

Section 4. **The Senior Warden shall be appointed for a term of two years by the Rector at the annual meeting.** If the position of Rector of the Parish is vacant in the years in which the senior warden's term shall expire, the vestry will elect a senior warden at the regular September meeting. The senior warden shall serve a term of two years commencing at the conclusion of the annual parish meeting. In the event a vacancy shall occur in the



office of senior warden, the junior warden will serve as senior warden until the next regular meeting of the vestry, at which time the vestry shall elect a senior warden to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

As I noted earlier, the first sentence of the proposed amendment restores the original language of this section prior to the amendment of 2005. You will also notice that all language limiting the senior warden to two consecutive terms has been dropped from the proposed amendment. The vestry feels that it is not necessary to limit the senior warden to two consecutive terms since all vestry members are limited to six consecutive years of service on the vestry by canonical requirements of the diocese.

In accordance with the procedure for amending the by-laws of the parish as specified in the by-laws, this proposed amendment was approved by the vestry during the November vestry meeting on November 8th 2009. As required, this information is being published in the December Newsletter providing notice of the Annual Parish meeting on January 10th 2010, thirty days prior that meeting. A copy of this information is also being mailed to each household listed in the current church directory.

I hope that each of you will prayerfully consider how you will vote concerning this amendment. A two-thirds majority of voting members present is required to adopt the amendment. I strongly urge you to vote for this amendment so that we can bring the language of our by-laws in to conformity with our recent practice and we can agree to allow William his right as priest to select a senior warden as needed. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

On behalf of the Vestry,
Ross Turner
Senior Warden





Just in time for Christmas giving, the Mississippi Kairos Music Team has released a Live Performance CD from the Grand Opening of Studio 61 Recording in Leland. Guitarists Stephen Stuart, Mike Lewis, and Rusty Healy, harmonica/percussionist Mark Propst, along with vocalist "Uncle" Bob Neill, recorded a dozen Kairos songs in the well-known MS Karo style for a Mississippi Kairos Fundraiser.

CDs are available for \$12, DVDs are \$15, or you can purchase both for \$25. Please contact Stephen Stuart at 601-259-1882 to order. All proceeds go to Kairos of Mississippi!



Cursillo #118

March 11–14, 2010

Cursillo is a worldwide movement of the Christian Church which strives to penetrate and Christianize environments through Christian communities in action.

It begins with a three-day Cursillo weekend that provides a living experience - meeting Christ, meeting fellow Christians and experiencing how they live.

The Cursillo method described during the weekend provides a means to continue the Christian growth after the weekend. The resulting Christian community is a group of men and women who live the Christian life, linked together in Christ, and are supported in their environment.

If you wish to apply, please contact any person who has attended Cursillo or the church office.



All Saints Episcopal Church
 147 Daniel Lake Boulevard
 Jackson, Mississippi 39212

Expect a Miracle!



December 2009

Altar Guild for December: Vicki Miles & Lisa Saucier

	December 6 2nd Sunday of Advent	December 13 3rd Sunday of Advent	December 20 4th Sunday of Advent	Dec. 24 Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ	December 27 1st Sunday after Christmas Day	January 3 2nd Sunday after Christmas Day
Crucifer	Pam Turner	Tori Meyers	Emily Saucier	Alex Lovell	Emily Saucier	Pam Turner
Server	Ross Turner	Christine N.	Hank Holmes	Greta Lovell	Hank Holmes	Ross Turner
Layreader 8:00 10:30	Emma M. Jolinda C.	Jolinda C. Cindy G.	Emma M. Jolinda C.	5:30 Emma M. 10:30 Jolinda C.	Jolinda C. Cindy G.	Emma M. Jolinda C.
Chalice Bearer	Greta Lovell	Lissa Nelson	Lisa Saucier	Hank Holmes	Alec Valentine	Joy Patterson
Lectors	Kenny Hall Stephen S.	James E. Lissa Nelson	Hank Holmes Connie Taylor	Greta Lovell Vicki Miles	Lisa Saucier Alec Valentine	Ross Turner Joy Patterson
Host Family	Kenny & Lauran Hall	Polly Blakeney	Connie Taylor	Hanna Family	Saucier Family	Betty Sessums
Coffee Host	Ndishabandi Family	Scott Essex	Cindy G.	Pam Turner	Greta Lovell	Lisa Saucier
Nursery Worker	Dorothy N. Lissa N.	Dorothy N. Anna L.	Dorothy N. Naomi N.	TBA	Alex L. Cindy G.	Dorothy N. Naomi N.

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