



The Saint

All Saints Episcopal Church
Jackson, MS

November, 2009

MY GRATITUDE TO GOD!

The Psalmist says, "I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call on the name of the Lord" (Psalm 116:17). It has been said that every generation discovers some new truth or emphasis of an old truth in God's word. Surely stewardship seems to be the word for this generation. The whole enterprise of the Kingdom limps and lags because God's money has gotten locked up under the control of hearts that have not been awakened and stirred by a sense of stewardship. If the worlds of Malachi 3:7-12 are true, our present generation of Christians stands under a most heavy indictment. The word is very clear and the promise is extremely plain. A man who does not conscientiously and systematically set aside one-tenth of his income for the advance of God's Kingdom is shutting out his own life of rich blessings. The observance of this ancient law of God is the way to church independence and success. If there is one thing lacking in the realm of religion it is the spirit of gratitude. On every hand some of us grumble about our fortunes; our business, our health, about the present, about the future, about a dozen or a hundred

things. Some of us complain that we have nothing to be thankful for. There must be something radically wrong with us; for if the truth were only known there are few of us, if any, who could not find something to be thankful for if we would stop and think. Many of us eat and drink, enjoy good health, much wealth and pleasure, we often boast of our possessions; revel in our liberty, glory in our land, but never stop a moment to render thanks to the giver of all these good and perfect gifts. But how long has it been since we counted our blessings? How long since we did the things suggested in the verse of the old Baptist hymn # 231: "Count your blessings, name them one by one. Count your many blessings, see what God has done." Counting our blessings is like counting the stars. Once we start counting them we learn that they are beyond our reckoning.

Harry W. Staver, suggests that "Counting our blessings is a surprising experience and the surprise lies in two directions: (1) in the discovery that we have more blessings than we thought, and

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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.

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MY GRATITUDE TO GOD (Continued from page 1)

(2) in the discovery that our blessings are more than we can number.” A story is told of an eight years old boy who was never thankful to his mother and didn’t know how blessed he was. At breakfast one morning this boy put a note under his mother’s plate. The note read like this: “mother owes me for running errands, 35¢; for being, 10¢; for taking music lesson, 25¢; extra, 10¢; total 90¢” Mother read the note, smiled, but said nothing. At lunch the young boy found under his plate ninety cents; also a note, neatly folded. The note read: “Son owes mother for nursing through scarlet fever, nothing; for taking care of his clothes, nothing; for keeping shoes and playthings in their right places, nothing; for providing meals, nothing, total nothing.” I wonder if young boy is telling the story of any of us; willing to take everything and forgetting what we owe God and mother. Psalm 92:1 says “It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord.” I like Dr. Moffats’ commentary on this Psalm. He says, “It is a joy to give thanks to the Eternal.” According to Moffats, “the greatest joy is only found in the thankful heart.” Campbell Morgan tells of a poverty-stricken fishwife who was found on Christmas day eating a Christmas dinner which consisted of a piece of bread and a toasted herring. Her visitor said something to her about the poverty of her fare, and the dear old woman with face aglow, replied: “Poor fare! Dear heart, don’t you see that the lord has laid tribute on sea and land to feed me this blessed Christmas day?”

With the annual return of our stewardship campaign and national Thanksgiving Day we should try to cultivate the spirit of contentment with our own lot, love for our fellowmen, and gratitude to God for the mercies that we enjoy. Someone has said “when we bless God for his mercies, we prolong them, and when we bless him for miseries we usually end them.” Our wills are ours to make them His, as Augustine said long ago “...we have been bought “Not with silver and gold but by a tremendous cost, the price of Calvary.” In St. Paul’s second Epistle to the Corinthians 8:9, he says, “...Our Lord Jesus Christ, though He was rich, for [our] sakes, He became poor in order that [we] might be made rich through His poverty.” Giving is a gratitude for what God has given us. Doing nothing on giving is like withdrawing on the bank account that is dormant. Continuing to draw on the bank account depletes or empties it. Sooner or later, checks may return marked “No funds” or “Insufficient Funds?” Let me ask a simple question: “Is our Church accumulating spiritual capital?” A church lives by the personal contributions which the lives of its members make to the common faith and experience. Your (spiritual) pledge of allegiance to Christ and your (financial) pledge to All Saints church are both very important for advancing God’s Kingdom. We must make deposits if we are to continue drawing. Giving is a gratitude for what God has given us. Someone said, “Gratitude cannot grow, it cannot even live, in any life that shuts it up and hems it in. We are blessed that we may be a blessing to others.” Every good gift, says James, “and every perfect gift is from above and comes down from the Father.” Matthew 10:8 says “Freely you have received, freely give.” It is great foolishness to talk about stewardship and to stress only the stewardship of life and leave out of consideration a frank assessment of our money matters and our obligations to God in connection with them.

William+





Prayers of the People

Please remember to pray for Stevie, Edward, Scott, Lissa, Marion, Vicki, Jennifer, Peggy, Adelaide, Barbara, Stephen, Betty, Mary Jane, Janis, Mary Lane, Polly, Melissa, Alexander, Stephen, Mike, Soloman, Karen, Chase, Donald, and Lela;

For those who have died and their families—especially the families of Mary McCraw and Bill Wheatley;

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

For a spirit of thankfulness for all of our gifts and blessings,
For our vestry and our parish's stewardship.

Adult Sunday School

Calling all adults for Sunday School! We would love for any and all adults to meet together for Sunday school beginning at 9:30. We will use the method of lectio divina for discussing the Gospel appointed for that day. When interpreting something read or heard, it may be the same as others or very different. As William pointed out in one of his sermons, the style and vocabulary in which the Bible was written is not quite the same as today. How very worthwhile to hear and discuss the beautiful words of the Gospel! There may be a word, a phrase, or a sentence that has a special meaning or effect on you. Not only will we be able to share our thoughts with one another but, hopefully, we will have a better understanding of what Christ wants us to hear.

From the Junior Warden

The painting of the big room in the Parish Hall is essentially complete. There just remains at this point a bit of touch up work to do. I thank all those who assisted in this project and thanks to Cathy for coordinating the project.

Thanks also to everyone for their donations of food items to benefit the Good Samaritan Center, during the month of September. These items were delivered to Good Samaritan and they were greatly appreciated.

Tim Ryan





November Birthdays

Ian Stuart - November 1

Cole McCullough - November 6

Joel Ndishabandi - November 15

Betty Hines - November 16

Melissa Earls - November 17

Pam Turner - November 21

Nancy Henderson - November 23

Ian Lovell - November 23

November Anniversaries

Bill & Therese Hanna - November 26

CHOIR NEWS

Now that we are ready for the Bishop's visit on All Saints' Day, your faithful choir is beginning to rehearse music for Advent and Christmas.

We would love to add new voices to all sections.

Come join us on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary!

Come make a joyful noise and sing to God's glory!

THANK YOU!!!

Here's a big shout-out to all who helped paint, donated money, encouraged, and prayed for the mini-renovation in the Parish Hall! I hope that you are pleased and that we continue to use this facility in reaching out to others as well as enjoying Scott's wonderful, mouth-watering cuisine. A big thanks goes to Tim Ryan who kept things running so smoothly. Although we still have to replace the vinyl molding around the floor, it should be finished in time for the Bishop's visit. If for some reason that doesn't happen, just keep your eyes focused about shoulder level!

Cathy Halford

Food Donations

Please remember our food collection for those in need during this month when you are buying extra food for Thanksgiving

Clothing Donations

As you change from summer to winter clothing, please remember to bring those clothes you are not saving to the church for the clothing closet at Stewpot Ministries (especially children's clothing).





Billy Brumfield Meal

There are 5 Sundays in this month, so we will be providing a meal at the Homeless Men's Shelter on the 4th Sunday of the month, November 22. The food and those who will help serve the meal leave the church at 5 p.m. to go to the shelter.

CHURCH
Verb—not a noun

Christine Nelson

The Shepherd Song

Oh God is my Shepherd
Oh God is my Shepherd
Oh God is my Shepherd for days and weeks

Oh God is my helper
Oh God is my helper
Oh God is my helper and he loves me very much

Oh God is my Lord
Oh God is my Lord
Oh God is my Lord and He takes good care of me

Written by Ryan and Mary Saucier



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

Expect a Miracle!



November 2009

Altar Guild for November: Hank Holmes & Pam Turner

	November 1 All Saints Day (5:30 pm)	November 8 23rd Sunday After Pentecost	November 15 24th Sunday After Pentecost	November 22 Christ The King	November 29 1st Sunday Of Advent	December 6 2nd Sunday of Advent
Crucifer	Greta Lovell	Christine Nelson	Emily Saucier	Christine Nelson	Emily Saucier	Pam Turner
Server	Hank Holmes	Tori Meyers	Greta Lovell	Alex Lovell	Hank Holmes	Ross Turner
Layreader 8:00 10:30	5:30: J. Charbonnet	Emma Magee J. Charbonnet	J. Charbonnet C. Gavette	Emma Magee J. Charbonnet	J. Charbonnet C. Gavette	Emma Magee J. Charbonnet
Chalice Bearer	Tori Meyers	Alec Valentine	Joy Patterson	Lisa Saucier	Ross Turner	Greta Lovell
Lectors	Hank Holmes Joy Patterson	James E. Connie Taylor	Lissa Nelson Greta Lovell	Vicki Miles Ross Turner	Lisa Saucier Alec V.	Kenny Hall Stephen S.
Host Family	Betty Sessums	Connie Taylor	Nancy Henderson	Polly Blakeney	Saucier Family	Kenny & Lauran Hall
Coffee Host	Reception	Scott Essex	Greta Lovell	Cindy Gavette	Kenny & Lauran Hall	Ndishabandi Family
Nursery Worker	Doreen N. Lissa N.	Doreen N. Naomi N.	Doreen N. Anna Langafor	Doreen N. Cindy G.	Doreen N. Naomi N.	Doreen N. Lissa N.

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