



The Saint

All Saints Episcopal Church
Jackson, MS

August, 2011

WHAT DOES THE CHURCH MEAN TO ME?

I recently received an email from one of my old friends urging me to read the attached document and reflect on it. The first paragraph in the document was probably a catch phrase he wanted me to read: *"Why I don't go to Church."* This guy is a delightful and respected person in the community. He loves church but it is not one of his priorities. Thus, from the tone of his email I detected a sort of attitude of superior self-defense, as if to say: *"Well, what do you think of this?"* Recently, while on the train from San Francisco Airport to Berkeley, CA, a group of people sitting next to me engaged in an argument about *"their relationship with the Church."* The first one said, *"I have given up going to church. There are too many hypocrites there."* To which the second replied: *"Oh, don't let that prevent you, there's room for one more."* I was eager to hear their final conclusion but their argument went on and on till we parted. While listening to these people, I thought of Peter MacDonald's remarks on church critics: *"Criticism of the church is one of the cheap and easy pastimes of the day in which we live. Besides those who speak lightly of it, there are also many who refer bitterly to this or that hypocrite of a church member."* MacDonald says that there are a great many people who, outside of their professions, concern themselves

about nothing else. They read the daily newspapers, the headlines, the local gossip and perhaps a few outstanding events, and that is as far as their reading goes. But as to something higher, something spiritual, about that they remain unconcerned. They are merely concerned about the things of this world (MacDonald, p. 321).

Most of us are acquainted, of course, with many people who are not church members. If you will go over your list of such people you will find that generally speaking they are not antagonistic toward the church, but that they are at best decidedly indifferent toward it. The average unchurched person may vaguely admit that the church is a good thing as a moral institution, but he has never been able to persuade himself that the church is important enough for his own moral and spiritual life. He thinks church people have a strange morbid tendency and regards their religiousness as a personal peculiarity. He knows some people who are passionate gardeners, others who are deeply interested in music, and so he figures that there are some folks who devote themselves to religion. He has among his acquaintances some church people and some people who are not interested in church, and as far as he is concerned it seems to him that there is no difference. As a matter of fact

(Continued on page 2)

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

The Rev. William Ndishabandi
Rector

The Rev. Cathy Halford
Deacon

THE VESTRY

Greta Lovell Senior Warden
Tim Ryan Junior Warden
Jolinda Charbonnet Treasurer
Lisa Saucier Clerk

Kenny Hall Elizabeth Mitchell
Tori Meyers Anna Langaford
Lissa Nelson Christine Nelson
Danielle Gallagher Jason Kelly
Alec Valentine

**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:

allsaintsjxnnewsletter@gmail.com

he has some religious acquaintance whose general attitude toward life does not harmonize with what they profess to be. A. B. Bonzin in his Article on the church membership has this to say, "*The worth of the member depends on the value he/she places on the church [in other words, a man's pocketbook is always found where his heart is]*". It may be nothing more than a symbol of respectability. It may mean only the occasional acknowledgment of God. It may exist, so far as he/she is concerned, only for certain conventional ceremonies: marriage, baptism, death, and other church events. Or it may mean for him/her peace of mind, growth of soul, and a sense of eternity" (A. B. Bonzin, *Christian Magazine*, March 1943, p. 14).

So what does it mean for one to be a church member? The church is the body of Christ; through her ministry the life of Christ is made known and dispensed throughout the world. She is the keeper of the divine oracle, and in her and through her gracious ministries and sacraments God makes himself known unto the world. Neglect her, pass her doors by on her sacred Sabbaths, withhold yourself from her, and you do so to your own undoing. Thus by being a church member one becomes the cohesive body of Christian believers, committed to their faith, loyal and faithful to Him even unto death. In short, our church membership is truly our most important connection in life. Binney S. Black, in his sermon on Heb. 10:25, argues that "*Man is a social creature, and he must bring his social feelings unto religion or it cannot answer all the benevolent ends for which it has been given by God to the human family... There's nothing wrong of being still, or having time for yourself, but this is not always either right or profitable or pleasant.*" Hebrews 10 indicates how often believers are called to associate with others in the worship of God and in seeking the benefit of our souls. Paul, in Romans 12:1-5, beseeches us to offer ourselves as living sacrifice to God. He speaks of this as a "*service.*" But the word *latreia* really means "*worship.*" He calls this sort of worship "*reasonable.*" The Greek word is *logike*, which means "*rational;*" some would translate it "*spiritual.*" Let us confess that there are plenty of things about the church which deserve censure and where the proper sort of analysis and criticism perform a real service. There are causes where we Christians devoid of a vital faith in the very things which we preach. There are those of us who resolve Christian character into the matter of subscription to a creed, forgetting the weightier matters of business honesty, social integrity and relief of the distressed. There are some who lower ethical standards until it cannot be perceived whether there is any difference between the insider and the outsider. There are church members who know almost nothing of the spirit of daring and the virtue of sacrifice Jesus gave for this church we love. Hence, they're many of you who honestly speaking confess that they go to church because they feel deeply in need of the guidance and comfort of a spirit that is wiser and stronger than their own - a divine spirit.

The first duty of every member of the church is to do *the will of God*. No matter how much we know about religion, if we are not doers of God's will at the same time we are not living in harmony with the principles of Christ. It is not enough for a citizen merely to know the laws of his country, he must also live up to them; he must conduct himself according to those laws. The greatest hindrance to the progress of the church is the half-hearted attitude of so many of its members. Many a church member would be at a loss what to say if he were suddenly confronted with the question, "*what does your church membership mean to you?*" When unchurched people see how evasive and half apologetic professing Christian are when the conversation touches upon religious matters, surely they cannot help but form a very poor opinion of the value and meaning of church membership in the lives of such people. In a nutshell Jesus said, "*You shall be witnesses unto me.*" This is what church membership must come to mean in the lives of Christian people. The true Christian takes his Christianity everywhere he goes. May God help us to be true and faithful witnesses of Christ in our callings!

William+





Prayers of the People

Please remember to pray for Mac, Bettye, Hollan, Edward, Scott, Lissa, Marion, Vicki, Jennifer, Adelaide, Betty, Janis, Mary Lane, Stephen, Lela, Betty, Betsy, Word, Ruthie, Maureen, Ed, Lauran, Joan & Glenda;

For Adam Pastor, Marc Hines, Kerry Walker, Joe, & Andrew Wheatley serving in the active military;

For Danielle, and Shungu during their pregnancy;

For our ongoing stewardship of our time, gifts, and monies;

For all teachers and administrators and students as they return to their classrooms for a new year.

Junior Warden Report

I have had some neck and back difficulty since early summer and thus not been able to devote as much attention as necessary to our property. As of this writing I am recovering from surgery which hopefully will alleviate the discomfort and allow me to return to my normal routine. We've had lots of rain lately and I've not been able to get to the yard in a matter of several weeks. Any assistance with yard work and such would be appreciated.

I thank the many folks in this congregation who responded to my request for assistance to the AA/NA groups in regards to the A/C problems in that building. I mentioned in an email a while back that the Southside Sobriety group managed to fix (or replace "?") their unit with used parts and thus what was a bit of a financial crisis for them turned out to be not so bad after all. (They seem to be a resourceful group.) After some email correspondence and a number of in person discussions with Robert Sessums (Southside treasurer) I firmly believe they now have a full understanding of their responsibilities in regards to the maintenance of that building and they should have no future expectations of any financial involvement from All Saints. Still I believe our assistance in this regard will be greatly appreciated by them and will be seen as a sign of cooperation and goodwill.

The work on a new "All Saints" sign for our front lawn got off to a great start back in early May, but has since slowed down to substantially due to aforementioned physical difficulty of mine, not to mention also because of some projects going on around my own home. I do hope to have the job completed by the end of this summer.

Tim Ryan





OUTREACH NEWS

Dear Friends,

Having come to live in a retirement apartment, the past few years of my life have been a real awakening for me. However, it has caused me to learn more about myself and about others in my situation.

Let me say, don't let the word "retirement" fool you. Retire doesn't mean to retire from life itself. I believe our "getting older" years can be our greatest years. The word "outreach" can reach its deepest meaning when you live in such a facility.

You would be surprised at how many have little to no family or friends to call them on the phone, to check on them and see what needs they might have or even visit them. This can be a major cause for them to become depressed, isolated and even hopeless. Just a friendly smile, hello, a gentle touch or hug could mean the world to them. Out reach means just that. Give of yourself even a little bit is none other than God's work. Remember, God works through us.

In Christ's love
Jeanne Shannon

Ultreya News

A Reunion of Reunions - Saturday August 20th @ 6:30pm in the Parish Hall. Bring food & a friend! If you are not regularly meeting in a small group this is a good time to find or start one. If you have not attended Cursillo this is a fun time to learn what it's all about.

On the 4th Sunday of the month, August 28, Ultreya will meet at 12:30 after church in the adult Christian Ed room of the parish hall for info, a song, floating group reunion, and prayer requests. Please come together to help keep the light of the love of God you received on your weekend glowing.

Things to know when you prayerfully consider your Time & Talent:

Host Family - Any two people to meet, greet and hand out bulletins,
Offer bread and wine for communion,
Pass the collection plate.

Coffee Host - provide and serve snacks after the service

Lector - read either of the two lessons

Side Person - tidy up after the service and count attendance





From Erin McKewen of Habitat for Humanity:

PLEASE BE A PART OF THE CELEBRATION!

Habitat for Humanity/Metro Jackson (HFH/MJ) is celebrating our 25th anniversary, an incredible milestone, with a gala event, Tuesday, October 4, 2011 at the Old Capitol Inn.

The evening will also honor founding and lifetime board member Elise Winter for her vision and tireless support of the work of HFH/MJ.

The entire community is invited to be a part of HFH/MJ “25 Years of Changing Lives” celebration! On September 13th, there will be a ground breaking event celebrating our 500th house. This home is sponsored by Watkins Ludlam Winter & Stennis law firm and is being built in Elise Winter’s honor as HFH/MJ founding member. Please join us that day at 812 Stonewall Street (directly across from the HFH/MJ office) at 12:30 p.m. to witness this great event.

But that’s not all! On Saturday, October 1st, we will hold a family picnic to recognize the commitment and progress of the HFH/MJ partner families and our many fabulous volunteers throughout the years. Please put these events on your fall calendar.

Of course as supporters of Habitat for Humanity/Metro Jackson we want to ask you to please consider an event sponsorship. There are a variety of levels available. Please contact Merrill McKewen at 601.940.4950 or mmckewen@comcast.net with any questions or for additional information regarding support of these wonderful events.

And if you can’t join us for one or all of these events, remember, a donation will jumpstart our 26th year and our 501st home.

We look forward to seeing you,

Habitat for Humanity Board and Staff



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From the Senior Warden:

Labor Day weekend is set for Friday September 2 through Monday September 5. Our Principal service that weekend will be Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. with pot luck dinner following at 6:30. Chef Scott Essex has agreed to prepare the meats for this meal. Please bring a side dish or dessert to accompany the meats provided.

The rates for Labor Day weekend are the same as last year.

Single \$15.00 per night

Couple \$20.00 per night

Family \$25.00 per night (up to 6 persons, immediate family)

Day visit \$5.00 per person

All Saints will not have access to the Big House this year. If you have special needs and cannot stay in a cabin, please contact Rev. William Ndishabandi.

Sunday, September 4 All Saints will have Morning Prayer at 8:00 a.m. at the church.

A fundraiser for Stewpot Community will be held August 21 after the 10:30 service. Chef Scott Essex has agreed to prepare his "Billy Brumfield" spaghetti dinner with all the trimmings to help raise money for Stewpot's capital campaign. Dinner includes spaghetti with meat sauce, green beans, garlic bread, banana pudding and sweat tea. The per plate cost is \$5.00, but additional donations will be welcomed also. You will be able to get you plate and eat in the parish hall or take it to go. Please join us in supporting Stewpot!

The Worship Committee will meet Wednesday, October 5 at 6:00 p.m. to set the worship calendar for Advent 2011 through Common time 2012.

Thanks,

Greta Lovell

[\(601\) 372-6085](tel:6013726085) (home)

[\(601\) 973-5530](tel:6019735530) (work)

ALL SAINTS WISH LIST

Nursery Monitor

A Sunday School Teacher
for ages 12 and up

TASTE and SEE

Part II

Saturday, September 17th
at
6:30 pm in the Parish Hall





Items for the Troops

If you would like to contribute a few dollars towards buying some of the items requested for the troops, someone is willing to go buy them and get them packaged up and mailed. You may give your contribution to Jolinda designated for this purpose.

Honduras Medical Mission

The Episcopal Diocese of MS, The Honduras Medical Mission and St Peter's Oxford are planning for the next two years. They depend entirely on donations and volunteers. They have asked for our help. Visit their web site www.hondurasmedicalmission.com or call St Peter's @ [662-234-1269](tel:662-234-1269) for more information. If you feel called to join them let William know (we can help). If you have any other ideas about how to help, let Lissa

If you were baptized as infant and looking for reaffirmation, joined the Episcopal Church from another Christian denomination and have a desire to know more about the Episcopal/Anglican faith, or you want to be Christened, or received into the Episcopal Church, please call the church ([601-372-5185](tel:601-372-5185)) for registration. If you have time conflict for classes call the Rector ([601-519-7334](tel:601-519-7334)) for special arrangement. Classes will commence in the second week of August. Time and Day shall be posted in the Sunday Service Bulletins.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Kay King Valentine - August 6
Vanessa Kelly - August 10
Stan Saucier - August 10
Vicki Stuart - August 15

Noel Didla - August 17
Mary Lane Wheatley - August 20
Orin Gallagher - August 22
Elizabeth Mitchell - August 24

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Stephen & Vicki Stuart - August 8
Tim & Lynda Ryan - August 15



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

Expect a Miracle!

August 2011
 Altar Guild for August: Pam and Ross Turner



	Aug 7 8th Sunday After Pentecost	Aug 14 9th Sunday After Pentecost	Aug 21 10th Sunday After Pentecost	Aug 28 11th Sunday After Pentecost	Sep 3 (Sat) 5:00 p.m. Bratton Green	Sep 4 12th Sunday After Pentecost
Crucifer	Pam Turner	Tori Meyers	Emily Saucier	Alex Lovell		
Server	Ross Turner	Christine Nelson	Vicki Stuart	Hank Holmes		
Layreader: 8:00 10:30	Jolinda C. Cindy G.	Emma M. Jolinda C.	Jolinda C. Cindy G.	Emma M. Jolinda C.	Cindy G.	Morning Prayer
Chalice Bearer	Ross Turner	Tori Meyers	Greta Lovell	Hank Holmes		
Lectors	Vicki Miles James E.	Alec Valentine Lissa Nelson	Stephen S. Lisa Saucier	Connie Taylor Joy Patterson		
Host Family	Betty Sessums	Saucier Family	Nancy Henderson	Lissa Nelson		
Coffee Host	Dish & Donation	Lisa Saucier	Stewpot Fundraiser	Naomi N.		
Nursery Worker	Naomi N.	Kinsey N. Cindy G.	Kinsey N. Naomi N.	Kinsey N. Cindy G.		

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