

CREATOR

Chronicle



January 2016

"As a congregation named for our Creator, we are children of the Living God, beloved brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, selflessly living out our faith in worship, fellowship, giving, education and outreach."

Dear Friends: Happy New Year

As we begin another year, it is time to reflect on the way things have gone during 2015 and to consider how we might live out our calling as a church community in 2016. It is time for us to express gratitude for the past, to honor the legacy that has been left to us, and to think about how we will live into that legacy in the years to come.

2015 has been a good year; and, we are all grateful for that. We hope and pray that 2016 will be an even better year. The Vestry is excited about the service opportunities that have arisen as we have begun to program our new education spaces. ***Boy Scout Troup #345 of the Andrew Jackson Council of The Boy Scouts of America*** will be meeting in our Parish Hall every Monday evening beginning in January of 2016. This is a service to the community that provides us with the opportunity and encouragement to develop a ***Cub Scout Pack*** as well. As we are sure you have noticed the last remaining temporary building has been removed from our campus; and, the way has been cleared for the development of a ***Walking Trail with Stations of the Cross and Labyrinth***. In cooperation with the Arts Council of Clinton we have hosted the first ***Clinton Artist Showcase*** with our portion of the proceeds going to the ***Mississippi Methodist Children's Home***. And with your continuing encouragement, we will be able to retain the services of our two fine ***Mississippi College students*** in supporting rolls for our excellent choir.

With grateful hearts, it is time for us, as Creator communicants, to look at our personal commitments to support our congregational ministry for 2016. As we each prayerfully consider our level of participation, let's remember the many ways in which God has provided for us, individually and corporately. ***It is in giving ourselves and of ourselves that we share the love God has shown us.*** Your continued participation and generous sharing of yourselves in Christ will assist us in developing, and communicating, our ministries of hospitality, worship, faith formation, and outreach.

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Rev. Robert M. Blanton, Priest-In-Charge * office hours: Monday—Thursday, 9:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.
Please call the church office, 601-924-2261, to schedule an appointment.

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The Foundation of Our Faith Is Love

In the coming year of *Daily Meditations* Father Richard Rohr will be exploring a theme close to all of us . . . *Love*. The most powerful, most needed, and most essential Christian teaching is always about Love. *Love is our foundation and love is our destiny*. It is where we come from and where we're headed. As St. Paul has famously said, "So faith, hope, and love remain, but the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Father Rohr says that his hope, whenever he speaks or writes, is to help clear away the impediments to receiving, allowing, trusting, and participating in a foundational Love. God's love is planted inside each of us as the Holy Spirit who, according to Jesus, "will teach us everything and remind us of all that I told you"(John 14:26). *Love is who we are*.

He writes: "All I can do is remind you of what you already know deep within your True Self and invite you to live connected to this Source. John the Evangelist writes, '*God is love, and whoever remains in love, remains in God and God in him [and her]*' (1 John 4:16). The Judeo-Christian creation story says that we were created in the very 'image and likeness' of God--who is love (Genesis 1:26; see also Genesis 9:6). Out of the Trinity's generative, loving relationship, creation takes form, mirroring its Creator.

"We have heard this phrase so often that we don't get the existential [experiential] shock of what 'created in the image and likeness of God' is saying about us. If we could believe it, we would save ourselves ten thousand dollars in therapy! If this is true--and I believe it is--our family of origin is divine. It is saying that *we were created by a loving God to be love in the world*. Our core is original blessing, not original sin. Our starting point is positive and, as it is written in the first chapter of the Bible, it is "very good" (Genesis 1:31). We do have a good place to go home. If the beginning is right, the rest is made considerably easier, because we know and can trust the clear direction of our life's tangent.

"The great illusion we must all overcome is the illusion of separateness. It is the primary task of religion to communicate not worthiness but union, to reconnect people to their original identity 'hidden with Christ in God' (Colossians 3:3). The Bible calls this state of separateness 'sin.' God's job description is to draw us back into this primal and intimate relationship. 'My dear people, we are already children of God; what we will be in the future has not yet been fully revealed, and all I do know is that we shall be like God'" (1 John 3:2)."

I hope you will join me as an act of continuing spiritual stewardship for your own faith development by subscribing to and reading these cost-free daily email meditations of Father Rohr throughout the coming year (<https://cac.org/sign-up>) . There are several of us in the congregation who are already subscribed and have found the readings to be very rewarding.

On these pages, in the coming months and throughout the year, I hope to share some of the many conversations that will arise from our sharing of this common commitment to the growth and development of our faith, hope and love.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bob



2016 Annual Parish Meeting

This year's Annual Parish Meeting has been scheduled for **Sunday, January 24**, during the regular Sunday 10:30 service. It is important that everyone attend this meeting as we will be:

- Presenting the new budget for 2016
 - Electing two new Vestry members.
 - Celebrating our successes of 2015
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- * Frank Hennington has volunteered to serve a second term as Junior Warden.
 - * John Lanford submitted his name for consideration as a Vestry member.
 - * Jane Kany has asked to retire from the Vestry and the Vestry has appointed Mimi Bussell to serve Jane's remaining two-year term.
 - * At the conclusion of the Parish Meeting we will be having a Pot Luck lunch in the Parish Hall.
 - * Please bring your favorite casseroles, salads, deserts and bread.

See you there!



Yoga Reminder!!!

Beginner/Level 1 yoga class continues to meet on Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. A \$5.00 donation for the church is requested. I hope to see you there! Contact Lisa Chandler, (flowerchild13@hotmail.com , 601-540-4045) for more information.

VESTRY DIGEST

The December 21 meeting of the Vestry of Creator:

Present: Bob Blanton, Priest-in-Charge, Joyce White, Senior Warden, Vicky Donaho, Jane Kany, Chuck Runyan and Linda Waldbauer, Jennifer Wilson, Treasurer.

Absent: Mimi Bussell and Frank Hennington, Junior Warden. Deborah Runyan, Clerk of the Vestry, was present but could only stay a short time because of choir practice.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer submitted the Treasurer's Report for the period January through November, 2015, which included projected end of year numbers and a preliminary draft of a budget for the 2016 fiscal year. She reported that only fifteen pledge cards have been received so far. The report reflects that we have received more funds than we have spent. We will have to pay for our Administrator's health insurance starting in 2016. This will require that we reimburse her for the amount of money she pays her husband for her health insurance. We do not yet know what this costs. Details of the proposed budget were discussed. The Treasurer said that this is as far as we can go until more pledge cards are received.

Old Business:

- The Treasurer and Priest-in-Charge reported that we raised \$2,204 from the Fall Festival and Arts Sale.
- The Vestry voted not to make a pledge to Sewanee this year.
- The Vestry agreed that we will have the Valentine's Day dinner catered. Vicki Donaho estimated that this will cost about \$12.00 per person. Vicki said that she will call two caterers that she has used before and get prices.
- The Priest-in-Charge reported that the labyrinth is complete except for final stripping.
- Linda Waldbauer reported that her daughter Sara and Betty Sue Hennington have a plan for the walking trail. They expect to have it finalized in January or February so that we can have it build this spring.

New Business:

- The 2016 Annual Council will take place January 29, 30, and 31, in Biloxi.

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- Mimi Bussell, Jane Kany and Linda Waldbauer are slated to leave the Vestry. Jane's term ends 2017, but she has elected to resign at the end of this year. Mimi has agreed to serve the final two years of Jane's term. John Lanford has agreed to serve on the Vestry.
- Sunday School and two AA groups will meet in the Sunday School Building. The Boy Scouts will meet in the Parish Hall.
- Bob and Joan Blanton will host the New Year's Brunch this year, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM on New Year's Day.
- The regular January Vestry Meeting was moved to January 11, 2016.

Minutes of vestry meetings may be found on the bulletin board outside the administrator's office following their approval and correction if needed. If you would like a copy, please call the office and a copy will be provided to you via email.

New Year's Day Brunch



Pastor Bob and Joan have a tradition of inviting all of their friends, old and new to an annual New Year's Day Brunch. In order to have lots of room to cook and serve our guests, we will be holding this event at the Episcopal Church of the Creator, at 1445 Clinton-Raymond Rd., Clinton, MS 39056.

It will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on January 1st. We hope you will come and bring your family and or significant others. Please let us know if you plan on dropping by, just so we'll get an idea of how many dishes and goodies to



Prime Timers

Wednesday, January 6

12:00 - Healing Service

12:30 - Prime Timers' Pot Luck Lunch



CREATOR *January Calendar*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 New Years Day Brunch 11 am —1:00 pm OFFICE CLOSED	2 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting
3 8:00 am: Mass 9:00 am: Sunday school 10:30 am: Mass 6:30 pm: Bible Study	4 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group Deadline for receipt of 2015 Pledges	5 12:00 pm: AA Meeting Worship Committee Meeting 11:00 am	6 12:00 am: Healing Service 12:30 pm: Prime Timers 5:30 pm: Yoga 7 pm: Adult Choir 	7 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	8	9 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting
10 8:00 am: Mass 9:00 am: Sunday school 10:30 am: Mass Baptism of our Lord	11 6:30 pm: Vestry 7:00 pm: Boy Scouts 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	12 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	13 5:30 pm: Yoga 7 pm: Adult Choir	14 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	15	16 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting
17 8:00 am: Mass 9:00 am: Sunday school 10:30 am: Mass FOOD PANTRY for the 4 C's	18 7:00 pm: Boy Scouts 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group MLK Day OFFICE CLOSED	19 12:00 pm: AA Meeting 6:00 pm: La Leche League	20 5:30 pm: Yoga 7:00 pm: Adult Choir	21 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	22	23 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting
24 Annual Parish Meeting & Luncheon 8:00 am: No Service 9:00 am: Sunday school 10:30 am: Mass	25 7:00 pm: Boy Scouts 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	26 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	27 5:30 pm: Yoga 7 pm: Adult Choir	28 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	29	30 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting
31 8:00 am: Morning Prayer 10:30 am: Morning Prayer Annual Council	1 7:00 pm: Boy Scouts 7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group	2 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	3 5:30 pm: Yoga 7 pm: Adult Choir	4 12:00 pm: AA Meeting	5	6 5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting

January Servers

	3	10	17	24	31 Morning Prayer
Chalice	Mike Milone Chuck Runyan	Bob White Richard McMullan	Mike Milone Wendy Brantley	Bob White Joyce White	N/A N/A
Lectors	Deborah Runyan Wendy Brantley	John Richard John Lanford	Michael Piazza Fred Shirley	Chuck Runyan Joan Blanton	John Richard Richard McMullan
Prayers	Janie Fields	Stone Braley	Wendy Brantley	Deborah Runyan	Max Lanford
Acolytes	Landon Daniel Jonathan Dacus	Maddie Gray Braley Max Lanford	John Richard Ruby Lanford	Sara Waldbauer Maddie Gray Braley	N/A N/A
Ushers	Tony Chandler Tristan Rivers	Monty Braley Rowan Braley	Mimi Bussell Rivers McMullan	Doug George Abby Donaho	John Richard Max Lanford
Altar	Peggy Wilder	Beth Braley	Lisa Prestridge	Katy Lanford	N/A
Home Communion		Edie Hill			
Vestry Person of the Day	Mimi Bussell	Frank Hennington	Jane Kany	Linda Waldbauer	Chuck Runyan



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Birthdays

- 2 Lonnie Carlton
Jeremy Randall
- 3 Lisa Chandler
- 13 Bill Singletary
- 16 Ed Dacus
- 17 Doug George
- 20 Donna Corkern

- 21 Rivers McMullan
- 22 Elisabet McGahey
- 24 Edie Hill
- 27 Alexx Shirley

Anniversaries

- 11 Jim & Wendy Brantley

Episcopal Church of the Creator

Church Office Hours:

9:00 am—2 pm, Monday—Thursday

Presiding Bishop

The Most Reverend Katharine Jefferts-Schori

Bishop

The Right Reverend Duncan M. Gray, III

Priest-In-Charge

The Reverend Robert M. Blanton

Deacon

The Reverend Deacon Bill Hanna

Administrator

Beth Braley

ecreator@bellsouth.net

Choir Director / Organist

Dr. Edward Dacus

eddacus@gmail.com

Senior Warden

Wendy Brantley, 601-924-1695

Junior Warden

Frank Hennington, 601-924-3056

Treasurer

Jennifer Wilson, 601-925-6045

Vestry

Chuck Runyan, 601-925-0829

Jane Kany, 601-925-8087

Linda Waldbauer, 601-259-0626

Mimi Bussell, 601-924-7066

Vicky Donaho, 601-924-5107

Contacts

Church Office

Administrator—Beth Braley, 601-924-2261, Home: 601-924-7889

Email: ecreator@bellsouth.net

Pastoral Emergencies

Rev. Robert M. Blanton, Cell: 601-291-0652

Polly Marshall, Cell: 601-953-2980

Acolytes

Mike Milone, Cell: 601-473-6305, Home: 601-925-6009

Adult Christian Education

Rev. Robert M. Blanton, Cell: 601-291-0652

Altar Guild

Joyce White, Cell: 601-672-0842, Home: 601-924-3796

Adult / Youth Choirs

Dr. Edward Dacus, Home: 601-925-9304

Children's Christian Education

Rev. Robert M. Blanton, Cell: 601-291-0652

Columbarium

Wendy Brantley, Home: 601-924-1695

Flower Guild

Becky Wright, Cell: 601-940-4861

Betty Sue Hennington, Cell: 601-955-9970

Lisa Chandler, Cell: 601-540-4045

Funeral Guild

Mary Page, 601-924-1828

Martha's & Mary's

Marti Williams, Home: 601-924-7176 cell: 601-946-7554

Outreach

The Reverend Deacon Bill Hanna, 601-605-8523

Parish Lunches & Special Events

Janie Fields, Home: 601-922-2759, Cell: 601-624-8614

Sexton

Kelly Harvey, 601-573-7505

Wedding Coordinator

Kathy Milone, Home: 601-925-6009

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Episcopal Church of the Creator
1445 Clinton-Raymond Rd.
Clinton, MS 39056

*We are part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion and in communion with the
Archbishop of Canterbury.*

“We are a congregation of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi: One church in mission, inviting, transforming, and reconciling. We seek to serve Christ in all persons and to respect the dignity of every human being.”