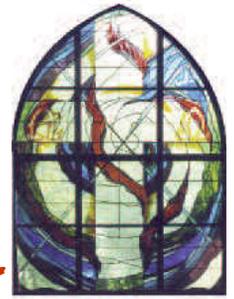


# CREATOR



# Chronicle



August 2018

*“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:**

## **The True Meaning of Friendship, Love, and Heartbreak**

Based on comments of David Whyte and others

Echoing Anne Lamott’s beautifully articulated conviction that friendship is above all *the art of allowing the soft light of love to fall upon even our darkest sides*, David Whyte writes:

In the course of the years a close friendship will always reveal the shadow in the other as much as ourselves, to remain friends we must know the other and their difficulties and even their sins and encourage the best in them, not through critique but through addressing the better part of them, the leading creative edge of their incarnation, thus subtly discouraging what makes them smaller, less generous, less of themselves.

And yet *friendship is a merited grace, one that requires of us the unrelenting commitment of showing up for and bearing witness to one another, over and over:*

The dynamic of friendship is almost always underestimated as a constant force in human life: a diminishing circle of friends is the first terrible diagnostic of a life in deep trouble: of overwork, of too much emphasis on a professional identity, of forgetting who will be there when our armored personalities run into the inevitable natural disasters and vulnerabilities found in even the most average existence.

But no matter the medicinal virtues of being a true friend or sustaining a long close relationship with another, *the ultimate touchstone of friendship is not improvement*, neither of the other nor of the self, *the ultimate touchstone is witness*, the privilege of having been seen by someone and the equal privilege of being granted the sight of the essence of another, to have walked with them and to have believed in them, and sometimes just to have accompanied them for however brief a span, on a journey impossible to accomplish alone.

David Whyte argues that friendship helps us “make sense of heartbreak and unrequited love” — two concepts to which he dedicates entire separate word-meditations. He writes of the former:

**HEARTBREAK** *is unpreventable; the natural outcome of caring for people and things over which we have no control ...*

*Continued on next page*

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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.

*Continued from page 1*

*Heartbreak begins the moment we are asked to let go but cannot, in other words, it colors and inhabits and magnifies each and every day; heartbreak is not a visitation, but a path that human beings follow through even the most average life. Heartbreak is an indication of our sincerity: in a love relationship, in a life's work, in trying to learn a musical instrument, in the attempt to shape a better more generous self. Heartbreak is the beautifully helpless side of love and affection and is [an] essence and emblem of care... Heartbreak has its own way of inhabiting time and its own beautiful and trying patience in coming and going.*

*And yet while heartbreak has this immense spiritual value, and even an evolutionarily adaptive one, we still treat it like a problem to be solved rather than like the psycho-emotional growth-spurt that it is. Whyte writes:*

Heartbreak is how we mature; yet we use the word heartbreak as if it only occurs when things have gone wrong: an unrequited love, a shattered dream... But heartbreak may be the very essence of being human, of being on the journey from here to there, and of coming to care deeply for what we find along the way.

There is almost no path a human being can follow that does not lead to heartbreak.

*Stripped of the unnecessary negative judgments we impose upon it, heartbreak is simply a fathometer for the depth of our desire —*

Realizing its inescapable nature, we can see heartbreak not as the end of the road or the cessation of hope but as the close embrace of the essence of what we have wanted or are about to lose.

Heartbreak asks us not to look for an alternative path, because there is no alternative path. It is an introduction to what we love and have loved, an inescapable and often beautiful question, something and someone that has been with us all along, asking us to be ready for the ultimate letting go.

One of the most common sources of heartbreak, of course, is unrequited love. But, once again, Whyte shines a sidewise gleam on the *obscured essence of another experience we mistake for a failure rather than a triumph of our humanity — for unrequited love is the only kind of love there is, in any real sense:*

**UNREQUITED** love is the love human beings experience most of the time. The very need to be fully requited may be to turn from the possibilities of love itself. Men and women have always had difficulty with the way a love returned hardly ever resembles a love given, but unrequited love may be the form that love mostly takes; for *what affection is ever returned over time in the same measure or quality with which it is given? ...* And whom could we know so well and so intimately through all the twists and turns of a given life that we could show them exactly, the continuous and appropriate form of affection they need?

*Continued from page 2*

*The great discipline seems to be to give up wanting to control the manner in which we are required, and to forgo the natural disappointment that flows from expecting an exact and measured reciprocation.*

Indeed, **most of our dissatisfaction with life stems from wishing for the present moment to be somehow different**, somehow better conforming to the rigid expectation we set for it at some point in the past. And yet nowhere is this rigidity of requirement more stifling than in love — that glorious “dynamic interaction” of souls responsive to one another, which requires a constant learning and relearning of a common language. Whyte considers what it is we really fear when we hide behind the merciless moniker of “unrequited” love:

We seem to have been born into a world where love, except for brilliant, exceptional moments, seems to exist from one side only, ours — and that may be the difficulty and the revelation and the gift — to see love as the ultimate letting go and through the doorway of that affection, make the most difficult sacrifice of all, giving away the very thing we want to hold forever.

Paradoxically, our notion of “unconditional love” is beset by the same self-defeating absolutism of expectation. Arguing that the very concept of it is a “beautiful hoped for impossibility,” Whyte writes:

Love may be sanctified and ennobled by its commitment to the unconditional horizon of perfection, but *what makes love real in the human world seems to be our moving, struggling conversation with that wanted horizon rather than any possibility of arrival*. The hope for, or the declaration of a purely spiritual, unconditional love is more often a coded desire for immunity and safety, an attempt to forgo the trials of vulnerability, powerlessness and the exquisite pain to which we apprentice ourselves in a relationship, a marriage, in raising children, in a work we love and desire.

***The hope for unconditional love is the hope for a different life than the one we have been given***. Love is the conversation between possible, searing disappointment and a profoundly imagined sense of arrival and fulfillment; how we shape that conversation is the touchstone of our ability to love in the real inhabited world. ***The true signature and perhaps even the miracle of human love is helplessness, and all the more miraculous because it is a helplessness which we wittingly or unwittingly choose; in our love of a child, a partner, a work, or a road we have to take against the odds.***

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bob



Prayer  
and Healing  
Service

## Healing Service and Prime Timers

Out for the summer. See you in  
September!



## Monthly Church Work Day

Saturday, August 18

Come and  
Join Us!

There is a lot going on and we could really use some extra hands!



## Back to School Blessing

It's that time again! Sunday, August 5 at the 10:30 Mass, we will be blessing all students as they return to school.



When you are grocery shopping, please remember to pick up some extra, non-perishable food goods and bring them to church the next time you come. We will be continuing this outreach ministry each month on the third Sunday of the month, so mark the dates on your calendar.



## **Sarah Brantley**

Sarah received the German Exchange Scholarship, a full scholarship for a year of study at Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany. The award is given annually to a student of intermediate German. She is pictured with Dr. Jonathan Randle, dean for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. — at Mississippi College.



## **John Fox**

John currently serves as a committee member for Cub Scout Pack 345 at Creator. John earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 1941 and told Cubmaster Mike Milone that he had lost his merit badges somewhere along life's way.

Mike contacted the Andrew Jackson Council office and they researched the merit badges needed at the time John earned his eagle. Some of the badges are no longer used however; Kameron, from the Scout Shop, found the missing badges on EBay. Mike presented John with his reconstructed Merit Badge sash on June 10, during the peace.

The Andrew Jackson Council office also believes that John is the oldest active Eagle Scout in Mississippi.



## Annual Bishop's Visit

During Bishop Seage's visit to Creator, he received Dianne Martin into The Episcopal Church. Molly & Austin Blakeney, from the Chapel of the Cross, were confirmed. They were presented by Rev. Will Compton.





## Pack 345

**Cubmaster:** Mike Milone  
**Assistant Cubmaster:** Tom Simpson  
**Pack Committee:** John Gardner, Chairman, Edie Hill,  
 John Fox



## Pack 345 Calendar - 2017 - 2018

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>September</b></p> <p>17 Pack Committee Meeting, 11:30 am<br/>         21 New Parent Orientation, 6:30 pm<br/>         28 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm</p> <p><b>October</b></p> <p>13-15 Akela Cub Weekend<br/>         20-22 Akela Cub Weekend<br/>         28 Brighton Park, 2:00 pm, Water Rockets</p> <p><b>November</b></p> <p>30 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm, Guest is AMR</p> <p><b>December</b> <i>No Pack Meeting</i>, Winter Pack Outing</p> <p><b>January</b></p> <p>25 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm, Guest is CPD</p> <p><b>February</b></p> <p>4 Scout Sunday (@ church @ 10:00 am)<br/>         9-11 Cub Scout Polar Weekend<br/>         22 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm (Pinewood Derby)</p> | <p><b>March</b></p> <p>1 Camp Card Sales Begin<br/>         3 District Pinewood Derby<br/>         22 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm</p> <p><b>April</b></p> <p>13-15 Cuboree Weekend<br/>         26 Pack Meeting, 6:00 pm<br/>         26 Camp Card Sales End (money due)</p> <p><b>May</b></p> <p>3 Year-end Parent &amp; Den Leader Meeting, 6:00 pm<br/>         31 Blue &amp; Gold Banquet, 6:00 pm<br/>         Graduation</p> <p><b>June - July</b></p> <p>TBD Cub / Webeles Summer Camp<br/>         TBD District Day Camp<br/>         TBD Pack Summer Outing</p> |
|---|--|



## VESTRY DIGEST

### The June 11 meeting of the Vestry of Creator:

**Present:** Bob Blanton, Priest in Charge, Joyce White, Senior Warden, John Lanford, Doug George, Dianne Martin, Treasurer, Bettye Sue Hennington, Clerk of the Vestry

**Absent:** Andrew Wilder, Richard McMullan

\* No items were voted on as there was not a quorum present.

### Old Business

- We are still waiting on the quotes for painting of the church. The quotes need to be uniform in what the charges are for.
- Bob Blanton has met with the Brick St. group regarding BBQ on the Blvd. Bob handed over the Sponsorship Form to Doug George. Doug will be team captain for the event. The event date is October 13, 2018. Creator will sell tickets at this event for the upcoming Creator Fall Festival.
- Tom Kany had said that Creator's obituaries were not reaching the Episcopalian. Bob Blanton will check on how these obits have been submitted.
- Bob Blanton reported that Safe Harbor had cleaned the playground equipment and was scheduled to pressure wash the wooden structures.
- Alan Black will be the new organist.
- Dianne Martin will work with Beth Braley during the upcoming week to study the budget information. A report will be given to the Vestry members.
- The Vestry is still in need of a Junior Warden and one more member.
- Confirmation classes will continue in the fall.
- Thacker Mountain radio Program, June 16, are on sale. Bob Blanton will act as President of the Arts Council for the upcoming year and will be working with them for the Creator Fall Festival.
- Bob Blanton suggested that the Fall Festival become an Octoberfest with craft beers being offered as well as the pulled pork sandwiches.

Vestry Minutes *continued on next page*

**New Business.**

- Chuck Runyan gave a report on the Creator's Boy Scout troop 345. John Gardner has resigned as Troop Committee Chair. John Lanford has agreed to take up the Troop Committee Chair position.
- Each of the members of the current troop will be reaching the age of 18 soon and the troop will be dissolved unless new members are recruited. Each of the three members left are up for Eagle Scout designation.
- Each of the three remaining scouts will go inactive at the age of 18 and Chuck Runyan will then step down as Scout Master.
- The troop trailer will need to be moved to the Creator parking lot. Doug George offered that the trailer be parked on his property.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

*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.*

## VESTRY DIGEST

### The July 17 meeting of the Vestry of Creator:

**Present:** Bob Blanton, Priest in Charge, Joyce White, Senior Warden, Chuck Runyan, Jr. Warden, Dianne Martin, Treasurer, John Lanford, Andrew Wilder, Deborah Runyan, Doug George, Jennifer Duncan, Bettye Sue Hennington, Clerk of the Vestry

**Absent:** John Lanford

### **Junior Warden's Report:**

The storage closet in the Parish Hall needs to be rearranged so that all tables and chairs will fit into the closet along with the paper supplies needed by the church.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Using a printout provided by Dianne, the Vestry members discussed the different accounts and their uses. The Church fiscal year is from January 1 to December 31.

### **Old Business:**

- Pastor Bob discussed the quotes obtained for painting the exterior of the church building. Ken Summerlin submitted a quote for \$1,900 to clean and paint trim around the exterior of the church building. The quote included paint. The second quote was for \$1,600 and did not include cleaning the trim and did not include paint. Deborah Runyan made a motion to use money from Account 8125 (Building and Property Fund) to pay for the improvement. Jennifer Duncan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Vestry agreed to take the money for the painting of the exterior of the church building from the Building and Property Fund.
- Bob Blanton gave an update on the Brick St. BBQ on the Blvd. Church of the Creator will pre-sell pork butts as part of Creator's Fall Festival. Creator will also sell BBQ sauce made by Robert Jordan. Robert will be cooking the butts for Creator's Fall Festival.

Vestry Minutes *continued on next page*

**New Business:**

- Andrew Wilder made a motion to accept the new members including Deborah Runyan to fill remainder of Linda Piazza's (1.5 years) vestry term, Bettye Sue Hennington, vestry clerk, Jennifer Duncan to fill remainder of Richard McMullen's terms (2.5 years) and Chuck Runyan to fill the remainder of Tom Kany's Junior Warden term (1.5 years). Joyce White seconded.
- Jennifer Duncan is the signee on Creator's Trustmark account that currently has the Deacon's discretionary funds and there is a request to close that account. Jennifer will close the account. Deborah Runyan suggested the money from the Trustmark account be moved to Outreach.
- Deborah Runyan volunteered to be the third person to sign checks for Creator's current bank account at Bank Plus. Currently, Dianne Martin and Mike Wright are the two current signees and a third person was needed for emergencies.
- Pastor Bob reported that he is getting quotes for the cost of developing a new website for Creator. Jennifer Duncan made the motion that Pastor Bob be given the go-ahead to spend up to \$1,500 for the cost of website development and up to \$300 for the cost of yearly maintenance of the website. Andrew Wilder seconded and the vote was unanimous 'Aye' for the motion.
- Pastor Bob reported that Safe Harbor is sponsoring a concert at Creator on November 4, 2018. Safe Harbor had asked if Creator would like to co-sponsor the entertainer Bobby Joe Valentine for this event. Joyce White requested that Vestry members take some time to view Valentine's work. The Vestry will have an email vote on whether to be co-sponsors for the event.
- Pastor Bob reported that John Maxwell has written a new play featuring the Ninth Chapter of John and would like to perform the play at Creator. The cost would be \$650. Andrew Wilder made a motion to accept John Maxwell's proposal and the motion was seconded by Jennifer Duncan. Discussion ensued regarding dates and cost of tickets.
- Joan Blanton gave a report of the Publicity Committee's progress. The Committee would like to re-visit Creator's mission in order to strengthen the mission statement. It was decided that the August Vestry meeting would be used to discuss the mission and that other church members and interested parties would be invited to the discussion.

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# CREATOR August Calendar



| Sunday   | Monday  | Tuesday                           | Wednesday   | Thursday                          | Friday    | Saturday  |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-----------|---|
|  |   |                                   | <b>1</b><br>6:30 pm: Safe Harbor<br>7:00 pm: Men's AA Group   | <b>2</b><br>12:00 pm: AA Meeting  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b><br>5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting                                |
| <b>5</b><br>8:00 am: Mass<br>10:30 am: Mass<br>6:30 pm: Safe Harbor<br><br><b>Back to school Blessing</b>                        | <b>6</b><br>7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group                     | <b>6</b><br>12:00 pm: AA Meeting  | <b>8</b><br>6:30 pm: Safe Harbor<br>7:00 pm: Men's AA Group<br><br><br><b>Clinton Schools Begin!</b> | <b>9</b><br>12:00 pm: AA Meeting  | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b><br>5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting                               |
| <b>12</b><br>8:00 am: Mass<br>10:30 am: Mass<br>6:30 pm: Safe Harbor<br><br><b>Worship Committee Meeting</b><br>After 10:30 Mass | <b>13</b><br>6:30 pm: Vestry<br>7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group | <b>14</b><br>12:00 pm: AA Meeting | <b>15</b><br>6:30 pm: Safe Harbor<br>7:00 pm: Men's AA Group  | <b>16</b><br>12:00 pm: AA Meeting | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b><br>5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting<br><br><b>Church Work Day</b> |
| <b>19</b><br>8:00 am: Mass<br>10:30 am: Mass<br>6:30 pm: Safe Harbor<br><br><b>FOOD PANTRY for the 4 C's</b>                     | <b>20</b><br>7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group                    | <b>21</b><br>12:00 pm: AA Meeting | <b>22</b><br>6:30 pm: Safe Harbor<br>7:00 pm: Men's AA Group  | <b>23</b><br>12:00 pm: AA Meeting | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b><br>5 pm: AA / Al-Anon Meeting                               |
| <b>26</b><br>8:00 am: Mass<br>10:30 am: Mass<br>6:30 pm: Safe Harbor   | <b>27</b><br>7:30 pm: DOA—Big Book Group                    | <b>28</b><br>12:00 pm: AA Meeting | <b>29</b><br>6:30 pm: Safe Harbor<br>7:00 pm: Men's AA Group  | <b>30</b><br>12:00 pm: AA Meeting | <b>31</b> |   |

# August Servers

|                             | 5                  | 12                 | 19           | 26                   |  |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------------|--|
| Chalice                     | Bob White          | Chuck Runyan       | Joyce White  | Tori Meyers          |  |
| Lectors                     | Maddie Gray Braley | Fred Shirley       | John Gardner | Chuck Runyan         |  |
|                             | Max Lanford        | Pennie Vanbrocklin | Joan Blanton | Deborah Runyan       |  |
| Prayers                     | Ruby Lanford       | Chuck Runyan       | Janie Fields | Wendy Brantley       |  |
| Acolytes                    | Maddie Gray Braley | Landon Daniel      | Rowan Braley | Ruby Lanford         |  |
|                             | Max Lanford        | Manny Diaz-Olarra  |              |                      |  |
| Ushers                      | Tori Meyers        | Doug George        | Beth Braley  | Betty Sue Hennington |  |
|                             | Landon Daniel      | Abby Donaho        | Stone Braley | Frank Hennington     |  |
| Altar                       | Sandra Randell     | Larry Estes        | Joyce White  | Rhey Estes           |  |
|                             | Tommye Kirksey     |                    |              |                      |  |
| Home<br>Communion           |                    |                    | Eddie Hill   |                      |  |
| Vestry Person<br>of the Day | Jennifer Duncan    | Doug George        | Joyce White  | Chuck Runyan         |  |



## Birthdays & Anniversaries



### Birthdays

- 2 Bettye Sue Hennington
- 17 Brent Stanley
- 18 Jobe Wilder
- 22 Michael Wright
- 27 Samuel McGahey

### Anniversaries

# Episcopal Church of the Creator

## Church Office Hours:

9:00 am—2 pm, Monday—Thursday

### *Presiding Bishop*

**The Most Reverend Michael Curry**

### *Bishop*

**The Very Reverend Brian Seage**

### *Priest-In-Charge*

**The Reverend Robert M. Blanton**

### *Administrator*

**Beth Braley**

theepiscopalchurchofthecreator@gmail.com

### *Choir Director*

**Ezra Wall**

ewallmedia@gmail.com

### *Senior Warden*

**Joyce White**, 601-924-3796

### *Junior Warden*

**Chuck Runyan**, 601-668-5362

### *Treasurer*

**Dianne Martin**, 601-906-5086

### *Vestry*

**Andrew Wilder**, 601-842-0058

**John Lanford**, 601-708-4374

**Doug George**, 601-502-5063

**Deborah Runyan**, 601-497-7947

**Jennifer Duncan**, 601-850-6353

## *Contacts*

### Church Office

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

Email: theepiscopalchurchofthecreator@gmail.com

### Pastoral Emergencies

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

Polly Marshall, Cell: 601-953-2980

### Acolytes

Mike Milone, Cell: 601-473-6305

### Adult Christian Education

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

### Altar Guild

Larry & Rhea Estes, Cell: 601-813-3859

### Choir

Ezra Wall, Cell: 601-454-4811

### Children's Christian Education

John Lanford, Cell: 601-966-3441

### Columbarium

Wendy Brantley, Cell: 601-954-3946

### Flower Guild

Becky Wright, Cell: 601-940-4861

Betty Sue Hennington, Cell: 601-955-9970

### Funeral Guild

Open

### Parish Lunches & Special Events

Andrew Wilder, 601-842-0058

Doug George, 601-502-5063

### Scoutmaster

Chuck Runyan, Cell: 601-668-5362

### Cubmaster

Mike Milone, Cell: 601-473-6305

### Wedding Coordinator

Betty Sue Hennington, Cell: 601-955-9970



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.”