

ILLUMINARE

Volume 29, Number 8

April 19, 2011

RECOVERING OUR ALLELUIAS

from the Rector

A parish I served in seminary, Good Shepherd, Newton, Mass., had a wonderful custom to help children (and the child in all of us) make sense of Lent. During Sunday school each year, in preparation for Lent, the children drew and decorated pictures depicting “ALLELUIA!” in bright colors, lots of glitter, and much creative imagination. Then, as Ash Wednesday approached, the children would go down into a very spooky-sounding church basement (the residence of many strange items, including an almost life-sized set of headless Magi from long-ago pageants!), and there carefully *buried* their “Alleluias!”

“Alleluia!” is the quintessential Hebrew expression of liturgical praise found in many of the Psalms. It means, literally, *Praise ye Yab!*, which makes sense when we know that *Yab* is the abbreviation of the sacred name of God, “Yahweh.” “Praise God!” or “Praise the Lord!” are two modern attempts to translate it, but the original Hebrew “Alleluia!” still seems to work best. It expresses an almost inexpressible adoration of our living and loving God from deep in the heart and soul. It has become a vital part of the Christian liturgy...except during the penitential season of Lent.

For the last several years here at Christ Church, our kids have been burying our “Alleluias” on Ash Wednesday, digging them up on Easter morning, and processing them down the center aisle as we sing “Jesus Christ is Risen Today!” Not just *their* Alleluias, but ours as well. You might say that our children act for the whole congregation in this acted parable of prayer. They are our “Alleluia” intercessors..

As you may suspect, a much-anticipated part of the Easter celebration for the children in both Newton and Covington, is digging up and “resurrecting” their precious “Alleluias!” The point is that when we *give up something* for Lent, an essential part of the process is the *anticipation of getting it back*...much like seeing an old and dear friend again after a long time apart. In the same way, our discipline in Lent is not intended to make us feel the *loss* as the major emphasis. We have many of those over a lifetime, and we are right to grieve them when they are especially close to our hearts. But the real emphasis is to anticipate with great joy the restoration.

As we come to the last weeks of Lent. I hope we can all profit from this insight into our own experience. There are no doubt many things we could live without that perhaps *ought* to be “buried” during Lent...or even at other times. To be responsible in this way is a plus in any season!

This Easter, let’s all think about a look forward to those things – and even more, people-we can rejoice at restoring to our lives. Some have gotten out of the habit of regular attendance at worship. Others have let private prayer “slip” because they can’t see that it does any tangible good. Still others have let valued relationships go hungry because they were too much trouble, but now feel an emptiness in that area of their life. The Feast of the Resurrection is an appropriate time to recover those once-bright and joyful parts of our lives that have been buried. Then our “Alleluias!” will truly be shouted from the heart!

EASTER AT CHRIST CHURCH

SATURDAY, APRIL 23 — HOLY SATURDAY

9:00 a.m. NO EUCHARIST in the Chapel

7:00 p.m. Easter Vigil & Baptism in the Chapel Garden & Church—
reception follows in the Commons

SUNDAY, APRIL 24 — EASTER SUNDAY

7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Church

9:00 a. m. *Holy Eucharist in the Church (*childcare provided*)

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist in the Church (*childcare provided*)

6:00 p.m. **NO EUCHARIST**

MONDAY, APRIL 25

Church office closed



NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Christ Church will be held on Sunday, May 1, 2011. Four new members of the Vestry will be elected at the Annual Meeting. The meeting will open for voting purposes during the 7:30 a.m. Eucharist service, and again during the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. The business portion of the meeting will take place at the conclusion of the 11:00 a.m. service, during which the results of the voting will be announced.

Communicant members in good standing of Christ Church, aged 16 or older, who are contributors of record for the last six months, and members of the congregation for at least six months prior to the annual meeting are qualified to vote.

Holy Week at Christ Church

Wednesday, April 20

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Noon Holy Eucharist in the Chapel
5:15 p.m. Evening Prayer
6:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist in the Chapel

Thursday, April 21 – Maundy Thursday

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist at Christwood
No Noon Eucharist
No Evening Prayer
6:00 p.m. Reconciliation of a Penitent in small Chapel
7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist, Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar in the Church

Friday, April 22 – Good Friday

8:00 a.m. Morning Prayer
10:30 a.m. Reconciliation of a Penitent in small Chapel
Noon Stations of the Cross – in the Church
1:00 p.m. The Solemn Liturgy of the Passion & Death of the Lord Holy Eucharist from the Reserved Sacrament
4:00 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy at Christwood
5:15 p.m. Evening Prayer

VESTRY NOMINEES ANNOUNCED

The nominating committee of Christ Church presents the following nominees for your consideration for election to the Vestry: Mary Thomas Coady, Patter-son Conner, Jay Geiger, Gray Mitchell, Alison Pelegrin, Michelle Prather, Jason Reina, Judy Shopf. Additional nominations may be made by petition of five or more qualified voters, one of whom must be the nominee. For more information and a copy of the petition call the office. Petitions are due by Thursday, April 28.

RECEPTION FOLLOWING EASTER VIGIL



Following the Easter Vigil service at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 23, we will celebrate Easter with a champagne reception! We will also be serving coffee, white wine and homemade cakes. If you would like to contribute a home-made cake, cookies, petitfours, or strawberries, please contact Mary Anne Reidy at 985-789-6315 or email reidyma@netscape.com Come feed your sweet tooth — just in time for the Easter bunny!

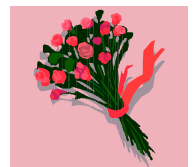
PANORAMIC EGGS ADD TO YOUR COLLECTION

It's not too late. Panoramic eggs are still available! These delicate, hand made eggs are constructed from sugar and icing and feature tiny spring scenes. They make wonderful Easter gifts and are priced competitively at \$12 for the small eggs and \$15 for the large eggs. Call or come by the church office to purchase. 892-3177.



MOTHER'S DAY FLOWER

Mother's Day is May 8! Donations are now being accepted for Mother's Day flowers. Time is short — please get your donations in now!





MARY THOMAS COADY

Hello, my name is Mary Thomas Coady and I have been a communicant at Christ Church since 2003. I am a generational Episcopalian and my family has been deeply involved at St. James in Greenville MS. I spent most of my adulthood in New York City and was a member of Grace Church. There I was a member of a team of mentors that worked with at risk youth twice a week. Through Grace Church, I also volunteered at City Meals on Wheels and Elder Care. At Christ Church, I have volunteered for the Christmas Gift Tree, Lenten Wednesday night dinners, and provided lunches for Caritas. For the past year it has been my great pleasure to work with Georgie Myrtle as the co-chair of the 174th Diocesan Convention. We worked closely with the Diocesan Office and they were incredibly supportive at every turn. I am still amazed by the talent and spirit of all of the volunteers. This project showed me what a vibrant and caring community we are.

In 2003 I moved to Covington when I married Marty Coady. He serves as a State Judge and has two wonderful children, Meg and Matt. I still have the same job as I did in NYC; I work for the television journalist, Forrest Sawyer. Forrest and I have a small production company and we have made several documentaries for MSNBC and the Discovery Channel.

I am honored and humbled to be nominated for Vestry. I would serve with reverence to our commitment to all of Christ's ministries.



PATTERSON CONNER

My name is Patterson Conner and I am honored to be nominated for a position on the Christ Church Vestry. Chrissy and I have been married for seven years and have two boys, James who is 3 and Charlie who is 1. I have been attending Christ Church since moving to Covington in 1989 from New Orleans where I attended Trinity Episcopal Church and School. I attended 6th & 7th grades at Christ Episcopal School before moving on to St. Paul's High School and eventually Auburn University. I was baptized an Episcopalian as a young child and am proud that our two sons have both been baptized Episcopalian at Christ Church. As a teenager while attending Christ Episcopal School, I was an acolyte at Christ Church while Rev. Steve Holzhalb was presiding, my wife and I were married at Christ Church in 2004 by Father John Bauersmidt and over the last few years, I have been an Usher at the 10am service. Outside of Christ Church, I am a Vice President at Hancock Bank where I have worked for 10 years. As a member of the Vestry, I would dutifully work to maintain and improve all facets of the Church in part based on my treasured experiences and memories of the over 20 years I have been a part of Christ Episcopal Church.



JAY GEIGER

It is an honor to be nominated for the Vestry at Christ Church. I feel this calling is a perfect way to give back to a parish that has already done so much for my family. I have been an Episcopalian my entire life. I was baptized and confirmed at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Metairie, LA. This is also the church where I married my wife Ann and baptized my first child, Greta. 12 years ago, my family and I relocated to Madisonville from Metairie. We joined St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Mandeville where my son Jamie was baptized. After a few years as members of St. Michaels, my grandparents, Jim and Dottie Bowers, asked us to attend Christ Church with them. After witnessing the flourishing Episcopal spirit at Christ, we quickly realized we had found our permanent spiritual home. I currently serve as a Visiting Eucharistic Minister, have attended many adult formation classes and have recently signed up to serve as an usher. After serving in the U.S. Navy for five years, I graduated from the University of New Orleans with a degree in accounting and subsequently earned my Certified Public Accounting license. After a number of years working in public accounting, I am currently employed by Peter A. Mayer Advertising as its Controller and Director of Finance. My children attend Kehoe France and enjoy "Kids on a Mission" events. We continue to live in Madisonville with our dog Daisy. We enjoy outdoor activities and spending time together.



JAMES GRAY MITCHELL

I am truly honored to be nominated to serve our church as a 2011 Vestry Candidate. In many ways, I feel that God has been preparing me for this very moment. Three years ago, I was offered a promotion to move from Nashville, TN. to Covington, LA. to manage the IT Security for a group of hospitals in the area. It was a hard decision, but ultimately my wife (Kelsey) and three daughters (Emma - 9, Eleanor - 7, and Marian - 5) felt drawn to the area. The parish family of Christ Church warmly welcomed us when we arrived. And since then, the Church has provided a supportive and loving environment for both me and my family.

I have a deep desire to serve our church and give back to our community. We at Christ Church are blessed, and just as Paul made clear to the Church at Corinth, "To whom much is given, much is expected." If we embrace that challenge, while living Christ's message of reconciliation, our parish will continue to flourish. Since transferring my membership from St. George's Episcopal Church in Nashville in 2008, I have led Adult Formation classes, become a Eucharistic Minister, organized and facilitated weekend Marriage retreats, was a member of a Men's Christian Leadership Concepts group in Nashville and regularly attend the Men's group here. I believe church life should provide opportunities for true community and relationship building to each and every person who steps foot through the doors of the Sanctuary. I feel called to bring a small group social ministry to Christ Church. I know firsthand that when small groups form to participate on a regular basis in spiritual practices, they frequently develop a deep bond. This bond is built, not as a result of simple group building practices, but solely on the trust that develops when people share the profound movement of God's work in their lives. Being called to embody Christ's life, in my opinion, is being part of an extended family of loving, caring Christians who seek to give of themselves in many ways. The mission of Christ Church is to be Christ's heart, hands, and feet in today's world, and I look forward to serving that mission in any capacity that I am asked.



MICHELLE PRATHER

I am a native of New Orleans and graduated from UNO in 1986 with a B.A. in elementary education and a M.Ed. in 1990. I have lived in Covington for 14 years with my husband James and my two children, Amélie 16 and Sarah 14. I was a teacher for 24 years.

I have attended Christ Episcopal Church since 2002. In 2005, I participated in the Journey in Christ Program and was received into the Episcopal Church in April of that year. I am currently the chair of the Outreach Committee. For the past four years I have been the co-director of the Caritas Summer Experience for Girls. The Summer Experience is an outreach program of Christ Church in conjunction with Caritas, a lay ministry of the Roman Catholic Church. In the community, I have volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, the Children's Museum of St. Tammany, and the Falaya Fling.

I am blessed to be part of such a vibrant, welcoming church. I look forward to being an instrument of Christ is serving to carry out the mission of Christ Church. There is something for everyone at Christ Church. My wish is to continue to provide opportunities for involvement in outreach and church activities to all members.



ALISON PELEGRIN

I have been a member of the Episcopal Church all my life. In my youth I was a member of St. Philips in Algiers, and I attended Trinity Episcopal School. I loved my church and my school, and it brings me joy to see the same sense of church community and emerging in my sons. I teach English at Southeastern, and I am a poet with two published books and one on the way.

I have been a member of Christ Church since 2001 when I moved to the North Shore with my husband, Bryan Davidson. Our sons Ben and Sam were baptized at Christ Church, and they attend Christ Episcopal—Ben is in third grade, and Sam is in second. I have been active in recent years as the leader of the Women Speak, a Christian formation class that meets on Sundays at ten in the parlor. I also worked with Mother Anne and others on the Adult Christian Formation ‘Dream Team.’ I taught poetry one year at the CEEP program, and I plan to do so again this year. My newest role in the church is Eucharistic minister.

What I love the most about Christ Church is how it anchors me, especially during times when I feel like life is a blur. At the very least I know I can be present in the community of the church and receive support from the friends and mentors that have come into my life, especially in recent years. I treasure the line in the post communion prayer which reads, “send us out into the world in peace.”

The first time I saw Christ Church was on a Sunday afternoon nearly twenty years ago. I had spent the weekend at a Happening retreat, and the closing service took place at Christ Church. I fell in love with the church buildings and grounds immediately. I knew then and there that I wanted myself and my future children to flourish in that church and school environment. I am honored by the nomination and the opportunity to serve on the vestry.



JASON REINA

My name is Jason Reina. I have been a member of Christ Church since 2005. My wife, Rachel, and I were confirmed at Trinity Church in New Orleans shortly before the birth of our eldest son. While not confirmed until adulthood, I attended Episcopal schools throughout my childhood and adolescence. I have three children. I have two boys, aged seven and five, that attend Christ School, and I also have a two-year-old daughter. I work as a gastroenterologist here on the Northshore.

Since moving to the Northshore, I have experienced at Christ a sense of community and fellowship that I'd never encountered before. I've enjoyed the caring nature of the parishioners for one another and their community. As a father, I feel being a member of Christ will instill in my children a sense of Christian love, duty, and morality.

I would like to see Christ continue its outreach into our community. I also think it's important to provide opportunities for young adults to become more involved in the Church, while also supporting those steadfast members who have created our foundation. Educating our children is equally important for the future of our faith. Also, without stewardship our Church will never reach its potential. My wife and I have found a home here at Christ. We will always remain committed to Christ.



JUDY SHOPF

My name is Judy Shopf. Our family (me, Jere, and our five daughters) arrived in Covington in 1966 and, as a cradle Episcopalian, I headed for the local church—Christ Episcopal Church. What followed has been a wonderful, loving and spiritual 45 years during which I have enjoyed serving in various capacities. Currently I am active as a Lay Eucharistic minister, a Eucharistic visitor taking communion to nursing homes, and a team leader for the Caring Ministry. In the past I have served as a Greeter, a member of the Newcomers committee and a member of the ECW. I enjoyed serving on the Vestry 15 years ago and so was very excited and honored to be asked to run at this time. Through the ups and downs of life — births, weddings and burials — the Church has held my family up and sustained us. I do not think I could have made it without Christ Church and its supportive clergy and family. I have been blessed by the Christ Church vision of love and service to the Lord and would be honored to serve again on the Vestry. Thank you God.

KUDOS



The participants of Mission Beyond 2011 sold Panoramic Eggs on Palm Sunday to raise funds for the trip. Thank you to the following for their work and dedication making the eggs: Skippy Poitevent, Rosalind Rhodes, Barbara McGee, Eleanor Batson, Laura Robert, McKenzie Elliott, William Willis, Madeleine Boyd, Christoffer Friend, Lucy Smart, Olivia Hocevar, Satchie Snellings, Emily Sherar and Elizabeth Clark. And, thanks to everyone who purchased the eggs and helped sell them as well.

CCY CAR WASH



Sunday May 1 from 7:30 a. m.—noon the CCY will be washing cars. Park your car, tell us where it is, and we'll wash it while you are in church. Proceeds go towards Mission Beyond 2011.



CAMP HARDTNER

Camp Hardtner is an Episcopal Summer Camp located in Pollock, Louisiana. It is designed to give the youth of the church the experience of living in a Christian community that encourages individual expressions of abilities, attitudes and faith, through regular participation in worship, music, sports, games, canoeing, fishing, swimming, drama, group discussions, and other enriching activities. Sessions are available for children and youth from grade 2 through 12. Registration forms are available online at www.camphardtner.org.

DO YOU KNOW A GRADUATE?



If you have a child, grandchild or great grandchild who is graduating from high school, college, graduate school, or trade school this spring, please call the church office at 892-3177 so that his/her achievement can be recognized in the *Illuminare*.

CEEP CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE—

Your gift will help to change a child's life and better our community:

CEEP provides:

- § an academic bridge between school terms
- § daily education in language arts, math, and science
- § lessons in character development, conflict resolution, and goal setting
- § daily transportation
- § educational field trips
- § supervised sports and recreation
- § art and music
- § daily breakfast and lunch



YOU CAN HELP!

- a gift of **\$25** provides a child with one day of education, breakfast, and lunch
- a gift of **\$100** provides 10 children with transportation and admission for an educational field trip
- a gift of **\$125** sponsors a child for 1 week of CEEP
- a gift of **\$625** sponsors a child for 5 full weeks of CEEP
- a gift of **\$1875** sponsors 3 children for 5 full weeks of CEEP

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Amount of Gift _____
 Signature _____

Make checks payable to:
 Christ Church
 120 S. New Hampshire St.
 Covington, Louisiana 70433
For: CEEP

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

I would be interested in volunteering for **CEEP** (H) _____
 (W) _____ (Email) _____

Christ Church, Covington

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Christwood Blvd. Campus - (985) 871-9902
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Max Welch, *Pianist*
Buddy Anderson *Nursery Coordinator*
Chuck Aversa, *Facilities Coordinator*

VESTRY

2008-2011— Suzanne Duggan, Lisa Geary,
Kim Scoggin, Charlie Stahr
2009-2012—Jeff Bell, Mark Berry,
Michelle Gallagher, Lucie Thornton

Scheduled to Serve April 24, 2011			
	7:30	9:00	11:00
MC		Barbara Magee	Fred Bruce
EMs	Ralph Menetre	Mel Elliott Richard Cryar	Kenn Nolan Lucie Thornton
Acolytes		Cove Geary Benjamin Davidson Jack Nunez	Evan Baham Max Peragine Collin Jacks
Lectors		Bill Rhodes Liz Taurman	Fran Phares Elizabeth Higgs
Ushers	Don Kieffer Charlie Stahr	Tim Wolfe Jason Reina Mark Mercante Andrew Mercante Michael Willis Bert Duvic Dylan Langdon James Richardson	Matt Holzhalb Jim Conner Patterson Conner Clave Gill
Greeters		Lisa Geary	Judy Shopf Kerry Yeates
Altar Guild Team II			
Caring Ministry Leader Nancy Sandidge 892-3119			
LESSONS FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2011 Acts 2:14a, 22-32, Psalm 16, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31			