

**ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
WACO, TEXAS

**2010 ANNUAL REPORT**



*PRESENTED AT THE  
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING*

*SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2011*

ST. ALBAN'S IS A FAMILY OF GOD WELCOMING EVERYONE HOME.

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**  
**JANUARY 23, 2011**

1. Welcome and Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Appointment of Clerk for the Meeting
4. Recognition of Outgoing Vestry Members & Senior Warden
5. Election of 2011 Vestry
6. Announcement of 2011 Senior Warden
7. Rector's Report
8. Senior Warden's Report
9. Treasurer's Report and Presentation of 2011 Budget
10. Closing Prayer & Doxology

## PARISH STATISTICS

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Average Sunday Attendance	159 +9%	145 +6%	137 +2%	134 +14%
Easter Day Attendance	366	333	310	212
Sunday Eucharists	112	109	109	107
Weekday Eucharists	9	13	9	11
Private / Home Eucharists	62	32	30	36
Daily Office	53	52	40	39
Marriages	5	3	3	3
Burials	2	8	7	11
Baptisms	6	4	7	9
Confirmation/Reception /Reaffirm	9	26	12	17
Baptized Members	472	450	425	418
Transfers In	14	14	12	17
Transfers Out	4	3	12	13

# CANDIDATES FOR VESTRY

## Three Year Term



### **Paula Campbell**

I have been a member of St. Alban's Episcopal Church since childhood, and it continues to be a very special and important part of my life. I attended St. Alban's School and was confirmed here. Jerry and I were married at St. Alban's 38 years ago. Our two children (now grown and married) were baptized and confirmed at St. Alban's and attended our school. I have been on the Vestry in the past, serving as clerk and Senior Warden; have sung in the choir; and been on various committees. Currently I am a member of the Altar Guild, an usher, and serve on the Rev.

Jimmy Abbott's Mentoring Committee.

I am proud and excited about the worship, education, new programs, and outreach that are happening at St. Alban's. These programs are enriching the lives of our current congregation and are attracting new members to our church family. As a vestry member, I would hope to work toward continuing growth and new opportunities in all areas of our worship, while fulfilling the responsibility to celebrate our history and be good stewards of our beautiful, but aging, facilities.



### **Jim Sartwelle**

I grew up in St. John's Episcopal Church in Sealy and attended several Episcopal churches while attending, and then following, college. After marriage, we settled in St. Andrew's in Bryan where I served on the Vestry. We consider ourselves blessed to have found St. Alban's after spending three years in Maryland. Beth, JD, Brock, and I are at home in this church and have felt so since our first Sunday here.

As a relative newcomer to St. Alban's, I am humbled to be asked to stand for Vestry. It was obvious very early on in our attendance that the Lord is at work here. Everyone in the religious community wants to measure success by growth, but there is more to St. Alban's growth than just Sunday attendance. The breadth of ministries at work on our campus and the depth of involvement by so many in the congregation are impressive. The opportunity we have here to grow even more—outward, upward, and inward—is truly awesome and our family is blessed to be a part of this church's future.



### **Erin Skelton**

I grew up in Hillsboro, Texas and was baptized and confirmed at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. For the most part, the "youth" of St. Mary's was my two older sisters, younger brother and me. While attending Texas A&M University, I was active at the Canterbury House Episcopal Student Center and St. Andrew's in Bryan.

I graduated in 2002 and accepted a job at Community Bank & Trust. I attended services at several churches, but St. Alban's was the obvious choice. It is wonderful to be part of such an active and thriving congregation. I hope to see St. Alban's continue to nourish and support the people of this community... be an example of Christian love... and "a family of God welcoming everyone home."



### **JoAnn Stringer**

My husband, Paul, and daughters Stephanie and Rachel have been members of St. Alban's since 2008, when we moved to Waco from Austin. I've been a member of the Episcopal Church since I was about five. I've served on vestries at Trinity Cathedral and St. Francis, both in San Jose, California, as well as the search committee at Trinity.

At St. Alban's, I've headed the drive for school supplies and backpacks for our "Adopt-A-School" partners, and coordinated the Advent Conspiracy Market to raise funds for Living Water which provides fresh water wells for third world countries.

I would like to see St. Alban's increase its outreach ministry to the needy and disadvantaged of our community. I think St. Alban's does a good job of

providing a variety of programs and activities for all ages and interests and it's exciting to see that continue to grow. I'd like our congregation to dedicate a Director of Religious Education to grow our Christian Education program.

## One Year Term



### **Sandy Atkins**

Growing up in different church communities, it was important for me and Pat to find a church that we could both become a part of. We joined St. Alban's in 1993. At the time, we called it the Church of Compromise. Today we simply call it home.

In the years since, I have been involved in small, yet meaningful ways. The Angel Choir was very special to me. It gave me an opportunity to share my musical background with the children of St. Alban's - something that I continue to share on occasion. I took care of many babies in the nursery. My children have participated in the youth group mission trips. Benjamin went to the Appalachians and to Mexico City. Alex has been to Houston and to the Mississippi Coast after Katrina. Nick is looking forward to going to Houston this summer.

I hope St. Alban's continues to have worship opportunities that appeal to different parts of our parish family and the community at large. I also hope that St. Alban's continues in its efforts to increase outreach opportunities that help to improve the lives of others in our surrounding community.

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### **THANK YOU TO OUR OUTGOING VESTRY MEMBERS**

Laura Burton, Wendy Callan, Craig Collins, Dixie Miller and Tom Smith

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### **DELEGATES TO DIOCESAN COUNCIL**

February 11-12, 2011 - The Woodlands, Texas

*Delegates:* Joe Bozarth, Clint Capers, Jacqueline Frahm and Ryan Thompson

*Alternates:* Ric Peavy and Philip Price

## RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

*The Rev. Jeff W. Fisher*

*From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.  
John 1: 16*

At Clergy Conference for the Diocese of Texas that was held last October at Camp Allen, Jimmy and I heard a presentation by Dr. Jaime Clark-Soles of Perkins School of Theology in Dallas. Dr. Clark-Soles is an "expert" in the Gospel of John and she excited all of the clergy to dig into John's Gospel deeper. Flowing from this energy and excitement, Jimmy and I decided to focus our parish on the Gospel of John during the seasons of Epiphany and Lent in 2011.

In the Prologue (the Introduction to John's Gospel), the writer uses absolutely beautiful language to describe the Mystery of the Word made flesh. Then John tells us signs, testifying that Jesus is the Son of God, the Word who is full of grace and truth. And we have our own experience of this Mystery validated in John's Gospel in these words: *From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.*

At St. Alban's, we are a Christian community, a community who has seen the Word made flesh. We have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. At St. Alban's, from his fullness, we have all received grace upon grace.

And for more evidence of God's fullness, I testify to you, giving the following signs as evidence that grace upon grace does come gushing from the springs of eternal life:

### **Assistant Rector**

For over three years, we prayed that God would lead us to the right person to be our assistant rector. And boy was it worth the wait! A year ago, I did some sleuthing to discover the top candidate (in my opinion) who was coming out of seminary from the Diocese of Texas. Then, I went after him!

Jimmy Abbott, as you know, is smart, gifted, and kind. He has a great work ethic; I have no qualms about assigning him tasks because I know that he will do his very best. I hope that you can also tell that he and I have a lot of fun working together (he has quite a powerful golf swing, by the way!).

For many years, I felt that I would make a good mentor to a brand-new clergy person. I will tell you the truth; it does take a lot of my time to mentor Jimmy and to monitor his formation as a priest. Yet we at St. Alban's are giving a huge gift to Jimmy and to the wider Church. What he learns and absorbs about parish ministry, he is learning from you and me. Jimmy has many decades ahead of him in ordained ministry, and our goal is to give him a good foundation.

I want to say a word of thanks to those on the Assistant Rector Interviewing Committee who, over the years, interviewed *many* candidates with me until we found just the right fit: Matthew Bachofen, Wendy Callan and Tracy Kelly.

I am also so proud of all of you, for the many ways in which you have welcomed the Abbotts into our midst. From bringing 32 (wow!) people to Houston for his ordination as a deacon, to “pounding” the Abbotts with wonderful gifts, to allowing him to become the priest that God has called him to be, to supporting him at his ordination to the priesthood in December: you have been a sign of God’s fullness. Through your welcoming and careful treatment of clergy (both Jimmy and me), we are changing the culture of this parish into a place of generosity and growth in this Diocese.

The Diocese will continue to assist St. Alban’s by granting us one-half of his compensation through June of 2012. My intention and his intention is that he will stay with us past that time.

We take joy and pride in watching Jimmy grow and flourish. Jimmy and Maggie Abbott are signs of the fullness of God, from which we have all received grace upon grace.

### **2914 West Waco Drive**

Last year, I reported that the Kelly Realty building, located at 2914 West Waco Drive just behind the Outreach Center, had become available. Stewart Kelly, and his brother, Trammell, have offered for us to purchase the property. The Endowment Fund Committee has agreed to invest in the property, with the parish being responsible for the maintenance of the property.

However, it has taken much longer than Stewart and Trammell first anticipated to empty the house on the property of its many items. Therefore, it will be in the first part of 2011 when the Vestry will be making decisions about the ultimate disposition of this property, keeping in mind that the Diocese must also approve any real estate purchase.

We do not know yet how that this addition to our campus could be used for God’s service. However, you can be assured that such a purchase would be made as an investment, not with short-term goals in mind, but with an eye toward the long-term, as we anticipate the fullness of the ministry and grace on this land for 10, 20, 50 or possibly 100 years in the future.

### **Valda McWhirter Scholarship Fund**

St. George’s Episcopal Church in Gatesville had a faithful member, Valda McWhirter, who established, in her will, a Scholarship Fund to benefit the children and youth of that parish. Ms. McWhirter’s will specified that only

confirmed and active members in the parish, *or the successor parish*, be eligible for these funds. After the closure of St. George's, Bishop Doyle named St. Alban's as the successor parish in 2009.

Every confirmed child and young person in this parish is now eligible for \$1,000 a year (for a maximum of \$5,000) as a scholarship gift for secondary (post-high school) education expenses. Applications are due on April 1 of each year.

The fund is administered by a Scholarship Fund Committee consisting of 3 people (who do not have children who are eligible), one of whom is on the Vestry. Thank you to Joe Bozarth, Jesse Davis and Lynn Wisely who graciously served on this committee in 2010 with diligence and care.

In 2010, the first year of distributions, we made 11 scholarship grants! How wonderful that 11 people from our parish have received an amazing gift! The McWhirter Scholarship Fund is a wonderful gift to our parish, and another sign of God's fullness to us, as we receive grace upon grace.

### **Endowment Fund**

Last year, the St. Alban's Endowment Fund made the first distribution ever in the 34 year history of this fund. The \$6,500 distribution in 2010 was partially used for long overdue maintenance and repairs to the carillon bells in our bell tower.

The Endowment Fund Committee also resolved to make a distribution of \$15,000 to the parish in 2011, to enable us to continue our growth.

I hope that these distributions will encourage others to give to the Endowment Fund. The generosity of those in prior generations, as well as in our own generation, enable us to experience God's fullness and generosity, grace upon grace.

### **Stewardship**

For 2011, we have 126 pledges. This is up substantially from 109 pledges the previous year. The statistic, however, that most warms my heart is this: 24 of our pledges are new pledges! Many thanks to the Stewardship Task Force who worked this last fall on a creative and informative campaign: Stewart Kelly, Jim Sartwelle and David Tekell.

However, I am still not pleased with the stewardship message that you receive and take to heart. Too many of you think that stewardship is about funding St. Alban's annual budget. *Stewardship is not a financial strategy, but a spiritual response.* Stewardship is all about responding to the generous God who gives us life and light out of his abundance. In response, we are to give out of our fullness, out of our abundance, grace upon grace. Please help me in 2011 to communicate this message more effectively and fully.

### **5:00 PM Weekly Sunday Eucharist**

Studies show this finding: those churches that focus their worship opportunities only on Sunday mornings do so at their own peril. We no longer live in a society where the Sunday morning hours are sacrosanct. People do many things on Sunday morning, many of which are quite noble: caring for sick relatives, visiting family, working at their jobs.

Therefore, I have been planning for the last three years to work toward offering a weekly Sunday evening Eucharist in the Mahan Commons. For the last two years, we dipped our toe in the waters, by offering monthly worship opportunities on Sunday evenings. I have also known that I needed to wait for a second priest, an assistant with whom I could share the work that 3 Eucharists each Sunday would demand.

Last Sunday, an historic day dawned at St. Alban's. We began our first ever weekly Sunday evening Eucharist at 5:00 PM in the Mahan Commons. And we were all blown away by 55 people in attendance!

Austin James, an Episcopalian student at Baylor, has been hired to be the 5:00 PM Song Leader. A guitar player and singer, Austin is well-seeped in the Episcopal worship tradition, having led the music at Camp Capers, the camp for the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas. Claudia Bachofen, with the help of parishioners, made the quilted banners that now hang in the Commons, depicting scriptural scenes. These banners make this space more worshipful. I can already tell that these quilts will become St. Alban's treasures.

My intention is that the 5:00 PM Sunday Eucharist will draw a whole new crowd of folks to come and see and to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. My intention is also that those who might regularly come to the 7:30 or 10:00 AM services will come in the evening when they have been out of town for the weekend or when the morning options are just not possible. *I am going to say this as clearly as I can: by offering the 5:00 PM service, we are taking away reasons for not attending Sunday worship.* In our Baptism, we promise, with God's help, that we will be faithful in weekly worship. This is our joy to worship in this place, not a chore. Thank God we now have three opportunities in which we can respond in worship to the fullness of grace that we have received from God.

### **Laity Integration**

The biggest challenge that I see for 2011 is this: how are we going to integrate all these new faces that you see in the pews? How are we going to give everyone a ministry, a job to do around here, a feeling of belonging, a place where we can make friends and grow together?

We are known as a church that is welcoming. Yet after you have been welcomed, then what?

Please help me to answer these questions; Jimmy and I cannot do this alone. We need your help to make sure that everyone feels a part of the Body of Christ here and to experience the fullness of God's grace.

### **Our Unique Witness**

A question was asked recently at a Vestry meeting: "What are other parishes like us doing?" The answer, my friends, is that there are, sadly, very few parishes like us. St. Alban's is now very unique in this Diocese of Texas and across the Episcopal Church.

Very, very few churches have grown their average Sunday attendance by 64% in just five years. Very, very few churches have almost doubled their pledged income in five years. Very, very few churches of our size have baptized, confirmed and received 79 people in the last four years.

Because of our uniqueness, we are being called upon to be a witness to God's fullness throughout the wider Church. During 2010, I was invited to give three presentations to other clergy, across the country, to tell our story. In December, I was invited to write an article for "Vestry Papers," published by the Episcopal Church, to give voice to vital practices, as the story of St. Alban's Outreach Center gives hope to other congregations.

As other parishes and missions are shrinking and dying, we are being asked to help and to be a voice of hope. Naturally, with gladness, we share our story of the fullness we have received, grace upon grace.

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This May, I will have been your rector for 5 years. Can you believe it? I can't. Many of you say very, very nice things to me, complimenting my ministry and leadership among you. However, leaders cannot lead unless people are willing to follow. And you have followed me and our Lord, with amazing faith and trust. I am more energized to lead and to experience the amazing grace of God in this place than I was five years ago. I firmly believe that I have the best job in the world. Thank you, thank you, for showing me, from God's fullness - and from your fullness - grace upon grace.

## RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Beginning Balance 1/1/10		\$6,999.79
<b>Income</b>		
Operating Budget	\$ 1,300.00	
Gifts	<u>26,150.50</u>	
Total Income	\$ 27,450.50	
Total Available		\$34,450.29
<b>Expenses</b>		
Outreach Assistance	\$ 24,214.06	
Activities/Programs	<u>6,478.85</u>	
Total Expenses	30,692.91	
Balance as of 12/31/10		\$3,757.38

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### ASSISTANT RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

*The Rev. Jimmy Abbott*

*The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.  
Ephesians 4:11-12*

St. Alban's is an honest place. We call ourselves "a family of God welcoming everyone home." St. Alban's is an honest place because you have lived up to this statement as you welcomed Maggie and me into this church family. Over the last six months, I have been blessed to worship, pray, and work with all of you. I am honored to serve among you.

For me, St. Alban's is also an educational place. Jeff has given me the freedom to try out new things, to work with different people, and to grow into my new ministry. Even though you witnessed my ordination and the bishop announced that I am now a priest in the church, I continue to learn and grow into this role. Whether you know it or not, each and every one of you is playing a part in my formation as a priest. You are helping me to understand how I can best lead and serve.

The letter to the Ephesians has a grand vision of the church. In this community of Christians, we are called to particular roles and ministries. God calls some to "be apostles, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers." The funny thing about being a priest is that I need to be all of these in different settings. As your Assistant Rector, I oversee a number of ministries and perform a variety of roles for each of them.

### **Children's Ministry**

Our Godly Play, Godly Kids, and Children's Chapel leaders are great assets to St. Alban's. Their hard work means that our children are given the opportunities to learn about God and their faith through the creativity of Godly Play and Godly Kids. Laura Burton especially has worked very hard to lead and coordinate this dedicated group of teachers.

As Godly Play and Godly Kids gives our children the opportunity to learn, Children's Chapel is an opportunity for them to worship. The Children's Chapel leaders discuss the appointed gospel passage for that day and lead them in an age appropriate liturgy. What is more, God is calling new people to this ministry. I have been so delighted to see members of St. Alban's, even those without children, discern a call to lead these children in worship.

In December, all of the Godly Play, Godly Kids, and Children's Chapel leaders came together for a Christmas celebration. Maggie and I were so happy to have over twenty-five leaders and children in our home!

### **Youth**

The St. Alban's youth group has been busy these past six months. In July, five members of the youth group traveled to downtown Houston for a weeklong urban mission trip. Together, we served breakfast to the homeless, made sandwiches for recovering addicts, worked in the Houston Food Bank, and even managed to have some fun along the way!

On Sunday mornings, directly after the 10:00 AM service the youth group met for "Teen Theologians." We discussed the "big questions" that many of us encounter in our spiritual lives: "Who is God? Why do good things happen to good people? Does everybody go to heaven?" Time and again, I was astonished by the questions asked and answers given by our youth. I know that the Holy Spirit works in these meetings as each one of the youth discerns their call from God and as I carry out my call to be a teacher.

### **Young Adults**

The St. Awesome's community of young adults has witnessed some real growth in the past six months. This group of 20s and 30s has met at Cricket's Grill & Draffhouse for Bible study, shared meals together, and studied the stories of Jesus' birth from the gospels. On top of all that, this group of young adults has grown into a community of friends.

Through St. Awesome's, the Holy Spirit has called us to be evangelists. I have been blessed to see how many people in this group have brought their friends to St. Alban's to experience our worship and sense of community. It is wonderful to see how many young people feel called by God to come to St. Alban's!

**Seniors**

As I said before, St. Alban’s is an honest place. Therefore, I am going to be honest in saying that I have had some difficulty overseeing and growing our ministry to seniors. This is not to say that we do not give any pastoral care to our elderly members. The work of our Lay Eucharistic Visitors and others has touched the lives of many. Plus, both Jeff and I have visited numerous homes and hospitals as we reach out to our older members.

Unfortunately, there are still many people who have fallen through the cracks and have not received the care they deserve. I have spent some time praying and discerning ways that we can creatively grow our ministry to seniors. God is calling me to be a pastor, and I ask for your grace as I continue to grow into this work.

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By virtue of our baptism, God calls all of us to various forms of ministry. It is a blessing for me to see all of you live into your ministries as I continue to grow into mine. I said before that St. Alban’s is both an honest and educational place. Thanks be to God that it is more than that. St. Alban’s is a flourishing, creative, and loving place of worship that welcomes everybody to follow God’s call to ministry.

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**ASSISTANT RECTOR’S DISCRETIONARY ACCOUNT SUMMARY**

Beginning Balance 7/1/10		<b>\$ 0.00</b>
<b>Income</b>		
Operating Budget	\$ 0.00	
Gifts	<u>2,243.39</u>	
Total Income	\$ 2,243.39	
Total Available		\$ 2,243.39
<b>Expenses</b>		
Outreach Assistance	\$ 270.60	
Activities/Programs	<u>129.54</u>	
Total Expenses	400.14	
Balance as of 12/31/10		<b>\$ 1,843.25</b>

**SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT**

*Wendy Callan*

Over the past year, when asked about St. Alban's by you or by others outside of our Parish, I have used the word 'vibrant' in my description. According to Webster, *vibrant* is defined as: pulsating with energy; vital; exciting; stimulating; lively.

The reason I think the word 'vibrant' is so fitting to describe what is going on in the world of St. Alban's Episcopal Church is:

- On any given Sunday (morning or evening) our magnificent worship services are filled with beautiful liturgy, thought-provoking sermons, and majestic music.
- EVERY day of the week is filled with the busy activities of our Outreach Partners with whom we are continuing to work together to provide a meaningful difference in our community.
- Our St. Alban's staff is constantly working to raise the bar-and they work tirelessly to make that happen. Our staff has grown! We are pushing the limits as to what is possible and are now able to do new and exciting things.
- Our Vestry is diligent to ensure proper care and security of our property and finances. It is a truly a body of Christ at work for you.

Our St. Alban's community IS vibrant. There is a tangible, almost audible hum of energy when you walk through the doors of our church. The energy is contagious. It reaches out and grabs you. I believe it has touched each of you in a different way, and my hope is that it moves each of you to come forward with your own gifts that add to this beautiful symphony of worship and fellowship. It is your actions that continue to be amaze, humble and inspire me. And my prayer for St. Alban's, is that this vibrant place continues to inspire, enrich and bless us all.

Peace, Love, and Grace,

Wendy

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**JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT**

*Laura Burton*

What rich resources we have at St. Alban's! Many good things are happening among us.

Your Vestry, as good stewards of our facilities and resources, adopted new lease terms and space arrangements with our ministry partners, Central Texas Strings Academy, Avance, Waco Children's Theatre, and Camp Fire. Several other organizations also meet in our building regularly. We improved relationships with all these groups by increasing communication and redefining expectations. Vestry members now act as hosts for events held on our property, and a process is in place to ensure the facility is left in good order.

A new security system has added safety and peace of mind for our church staff, members, and ministry partners. Many thanks to our staff for their excellent preparations in the smooth implementation of the system. Our ministry partners express appreciation that we allocated funds toward keeping everyone safe when they come to our facility.

Some reorganization of storage spaces has occurred and still continues. The Commons is undergoing a transformation as it is redecorated for use as a worship space. Floors throughout the facility have been cleaned. Outdoor lighting has been improved to increase safety when folks come and go after dark. Porch columns near the office entrance have been replaced. A number of plumbing and carpentry repairs and maintenance tasks have been accomplished economically using handyman labor. We are purchasing many supplies through a co-op, which greatly decreases our costs.

Thanks to so many who joined in the fun and satisfaction of participating in our Parish Workdays. We put a shine on the Parish Hall and parking lot in August, then lovingly polished our sanctuary during Advent. Working side by side strengthens our fellowship and enhances our facility. Lynn Woodward has kept our courtyard and other plantings in spectacular condition. Equal thanks to so many of you who quietly give of yourselves to care for our church home. Special thanks go to our church staff: Karen Tanner, Leti Deaver, and Janet Madera, whose dedication is exceptional. Vestry and clergy guide the work on big projects, but these folks carry out that work and keep our church and Outreach Center humming along.

Plans are in place to proceed, as resources allow, with installing programmable thermostats to curtail energy use, revitalizing the courtyard and playground, painting the church offices, and repairing a roof leak in the sacristy.

Thank you for any way you may choose to give your time, talent, and other resources to accomplish the work of our parish! I have been honored to serve St. Alban's.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Burton  
Junior Warden

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

*Howard Thompson, Director of Music: Choirmaster*

The music department of St. Alban's Parish had a busy and successful year in 2010. The Chancel Choir provided musical leadership for service music and anthems or solos for all 10:00 AM services throughout the year. The choir also participated in special services on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and both services on Easter Day. Our children joined with the Chancel Choir to sing the anthem for the confirmation service in October. In December the Chancel Choir presented "Magnificat" by Vivaldi along with singers from MCC and accompanied by students from the Central Texas String Academy. Attendance was over 210 for this event. The choir also sang for the ordination service of Jimmy Abbott in December. The annual concert of Christmas music was presented at 10:30 PM on Christmas Eve prior to the 11:00 PM service.

The music program is lead by the Choirmaster, the Organist, Mr. David Gilbreath and our Carillonners, Mary Ann and Howard Thompson. Our carillon had a complete servicing last spring which had not been done in over 15 years. This included regulating of the bells and clappers as well as greasing all moving parts. The carillon is played before and after the 10:00 service most weeks. There are also 6 choir scholarship singers who provide great assistance to the choir and the church. Mr. Austin James has been added to the music staff to provide music for the new 5:00 PM service on Sundays.

We have a tuner/technician for our organ who does maintenance as well as tuning. We are working with a representative from the Reuter Organ Company, which built our organ, to determine the work which must be done to maintain our fine instrument. After almost 60 years, parts of the organ are beginning to fail because of cracking leather pouches under the pipes which open and close the air flow to the pipe. This will continue to worsen as the leather pouches age. We have already begun disabling pipes where the pouches have failed. This will continue until parts of the organ are no longer usable. A complete renovation of the organ should put it in good working condition for another 60-70 years. Consideration is also being given to relocating some pipes to improve the aesthetics of the instrument as well as improve the sound in the Sanctuary.

The pianos in the Sanctuary, Mahan Commons and music rehearsal room are now being tuned twice a year to keep them in good working condition. The grand piano has been relocated to the music rehearsal room where it will receive much more use and a smaller studio piano placed in the Sanctuary where it can be more easily moved in or out as needs dictate.

Plans for 2011 include continued service leadership, special services and another major work next Advent.

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

*Mary Fadal*

We are the Women of the Episcopal Church: rooted in our past and growing into God's future. The purpose of this organization is to relate the women of the parish to the whole task of the Church, through a program of Worship, Study, Service, Gifts and Fellowship in the five fields of service; the Parish, the Community, the Diocese, the Nation and the World.

The Episcopal Church Women is an organization whose membership consists of every woman who is a member of St. Alban's Church.

Our big fundraiser for 2010 was a "Tea Time", which netted \$1,160. Thank you to all the women who contributed. The ECW was blessed with a generous gift of \$1,000 from the Lucille Saunders' estate. We honored our clergy wives by having a "St. Alban's Ladies Wine & Cheese Night" in August, and hosted the reception for the Rt. Rev. Dena Harrison, our Suffragan Bishop, when she came in October. The ECW presented the graduating seniors with St. Alban's silver crosses for their graduation in May. One special activity was hosting the reception for Jimmy's ordination in December.

We thank all the women who gave generously of their time, talent, and money; and we are especially grateful to Jeff and Jimmy for their encouragement and support of our endeavors during 2010.

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### **ST. ALBAN'S/ST. CATHERINE'S GUILD**

*Jeanine Cobb*

St. Alban's/St. Catherine's Guild meets at 10:00 AM at St. Alban's Church, the third Thursday, September through May for regular meetings, and during the summer months for a luncheon, celebrating members' birthdays at a restaurant of their choice.

Officers for 2010 were: Ouida Hinsley-President; Jacqueline Frahm-Vice President; Dorothy Jones-Treasurer; Jeanine Cobb-Secretary.

The guild keeps up with all events in the church. Cards are sent to the ill and poinsettias are taken to our shut-in members at Christmastime. Memorials are donated upon the death of members and spouses.

Speakers during the 2010 meetings included members of St. Alban's from Maxine Kennon to Clint Capers, who showed us how Episcopal prayer beads are another tool for spiritual truth, like a candle or an icon. We were entertained by the talents of David Gilbreath on the pipe organ, to violin and piano from June

Shipper and Doris Scott.

Meetings open and close with a special prayer and are dismissed to go to lunch as a group. All women of St. Alban's are welcome to join us!

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**DAUGHTERS OF THE KING**

The Order of the Daughters of the King is for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church and feel called to undertake a Rule of Life, which requires a spiritual discipline of daily prayer, service and evangelism. We find the Order of the Daughters of the King to be a safe place, in a busy world, where we can be together to pray together and be a support for one another in Christ's love.

Our Bishop's Chapter has members from all three Waco Episcopal Churches. We meet the first Sunday of every month at 1:00 PM, rotating between St. Alban's and Holy Spirit. A preparation course of eight weeks is required to become a member. This year we trained and inducted two new Daughters. They were Emily Moore and Rebecca Srygley. The officers for this year were: Deborah Vlam, President; Dorothy Alexander, Vice President; Treasurer, Jan Duello; Mary Hearn, Secretary.

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**HANDS - MEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP**

HANDS was formed many years ago as a St. Alban's men's group. Currently, the group meets at Lolita's Restaurant, 1911 Franklin Avenue, each Wednesday morning at 6:30am for prayer and a short Bible study on the Gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday.

We invite all men to join us on Wednesday mornings for fellowship and study.

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**ALTAR GUILD**

*Jacqueline Frahm, Director*

The Altar Guild had another very active year in 2010. As the Rector develops new programs and services for the parish, the Altar Guild is given new opportunities for growth and service.

A mid-year Altar Guild Conference was held at St. Alban's in March. Approximately 60 representatives of Altar Guilds from churches throughout the Northwest Convocation of the Diocese of Texas were in attendance. The meeting was very productive with information being shared and a great opportunity to meet others vitally interested in bringing new ideas to the group.

Cathy Ratcliff hand made beautiful linens for use during Lent and gave them to the Altar Guild. These Lenten linens will adorn the altar for services during this special time in our church calendar. We sincerely appreciate and thank Cathy for her generous and useful gift to the church.

The parish witnessed the ordination of the Reverend Jimmy Abbott into the priesthood with the Right Reverend Andy Doyle, Bishop of Texas, celebrating the ordination. It was a great honor to have Bishop Doyle at St. Alban's, and for the Altar Guild to be able to provide the needed support for the service in addition to its busy schedule in December during Advent.

The Altar Guild had the four brass alms basins, the receiving basin, and the missal stand refinished and polished. In addition, antique brass candelabras were acquired for the communion altar. They are taller than the ones previously used and are very beautiful on that altar. We want to thank three Altar Guild members that made all of this possible.

We extend our hand of thanks to the many members of the Altar Guild for their silent service and will always welcome others who care to join this very important group of dedicated individuals.

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### OUTREACH

St. Alban's is serious in our commitment to Outreach. We operate the St. Alban's Outreach Center, which is open to our Outreach Partners, as well as other neighborhood and community groups.

For 2011, the Diocese of Texas asked for us to pay \$25,364 as our Missionary Asking to the Diocese for missionary/outreach work outside of St. Alban's, as well as \$15,194 on outreach originating from our parish. The Vestry agreed to \$20,000, as our missionary response for 2011, to be allocated to the following outreach ministries:

The Mission of the Episcopal Church USA	\$7,000
Episcopal Student Center - Baylor University	3,000
St. Alban's Episcopal Mission, Houston	2,000
Camp Allen - At-Risk Children Scholarships	2,000
St. Mary Magdalene Mission - NE Austin	1,800
St. Julian of Norwich Mission - NW Austin	1,800
Episcopal Student Center - Univ. of Texas	1,000
Seafarer's Ministry at the Port of Houston	700
Commission for Hispanic Ministries	700

**ST. ALBAN'S DEBT RETIREMENT FUND**

Balance as of 1/1/10	\$ 40,545.00
Contributions	40,719.49
Debt Service Paid	(39,600.00)
<b>Balance as of 12/31/10</b>	<b>\$ 41,664.49</b>

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**DEBT / BUILDING LOAN**

Balance as of 1/1/10	\$ 256,535.92
Principal Payments	( 36,503.93)
<b>Balance as of 12/31/10</b>	<b>\$ 220,031.39</b>

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**ST. ALBAN'S MEMORIAL FUND**

Balance as of 1/1/10	\$ 8,160.25
Gifts	420.00
Interest Earned	2.25
Disbursements (Parish Hall Chairs)	(7,347.90)
<b>Balance as of 12/31/10</b>	<b>\$ 1,234.60</b>

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**VALDA MCWHIRTER SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

MANAGED BY THE DIOCESE OF TEXAS

*St. Alban's is the Named Successor to St. George's, Gatesville*

Balance as of 1/1/10	\$ 387,624.94
Net Earnings	10,925.94
Net Capital Gains/Losses	15,319.39
Scholarship Distributions	(11,000.00)
<b>Balance as of 12/31/10</b>	<b>\$ 402,870.27</b>

## ST. ALBAN'S ENDOWMENT FUND

*Robert Frahm, Endowment Fund Committee Chair*

The Endowment Fund increased in value in 2010 resulting from donations, earnings, and increases in the market value of investments. Accompanying this report is a Statement of Assets, and Statement of Increases and Decreases for the year ending December 31, 2010. The Fund continues to be fully invested in publically traded mutual funds.

The Endowment Fund Committee authorized an undesignated distribution from the Fund in year 2011 for the benefit of the Parish in the amount of \$15,000 to be applied as determined by the Vestry. This represents an increase of \$8,500 above the \$6,500 that was distributed to the Church in 2010.

It is important to note that the market value of the Fund increased by over \$40,000 due to donations, earnings, and market value increases, in addition to having made the \$6,500 distribution to the Church.

In 2009, the Endowment Fund Committee agreed to fund the purchase of the residential property adjoining to the Outreach Center on Waco Drive. That acquisition is pending and may be accomplished within the first few months of 2011. The Vestry will determine how the property will be utilized.

Thanks to the Committee members for their service in the administration of the Endowment Fund and to Joe Bozarth, the Fund's portfolio manager, for his service in managing the investment program.

Although we rely upon investment return to sustain the Fund, we also hope to see the Fund grow through generous donations of members of the Parish, and we encourage all to donate what you can and to consider remembering the Endowment Fund in your estate planning. The Fund is finally attaining its potential as a viable economic force in the life of the Church.

### Endowment Fund Committee (2010)

Robert Frahm, Chair  
The Rev. Jeff W. Fisher  
John Burton  
Hugh Henson  
Stewart Kelly  
Kay Olson  
Jeff Tanner

**ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND**  
**UBS Investment Account**

Statement of Increases and Decreases  
 DECEMBER 31, 2010

Assets at Market Value 12-31-2009			\$470,049.10
Increases			
Donations	1,580.00		
Dividends	<u>17,465.88</u>	19,045.88	
Decreases			
UBS Fee	150.00		
Distribution to Church	<u>6,500.00</u>	<u>6,650.00</u>	12,395.88
Unrealized gain in market value of assets			<u>28,146.13</u>
<b>Assets at Market Value 12-31-2010</b>			<b>\$510,591.11</b>