

ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
WACO, TEXAS

2011 ANNUAL REPORT



*PRESENTED AT THE
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2012

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

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2012

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 2012 Vestry
6. Announcement of 2012 Senior Warden
7. Rector's Report
8. Senior Warden's Report
9. Treasurer's Report and Presentation of 2012 Budget
10. Closing Prayer & Doxology

PARISH STATISTICS

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Average Sunday Attendance	178 +12%	159 +9%	145 +6%	137 +2%
Easter Day Attendance	431	366	333	310
Sunday Eucharists	158	112	109	109
Weekday Eucharists	12	9	13	9
Private/Home Eucharists	101	62	32	30
Daily Office	45	53	52	40
Marriages	5	5	3	3
Burials	8	2	8	7
Baptisms	8	6	4	7
Confirmation/Reception /Reaffirm	43	9	26	12
Baptized Members	518	472	450	425
Transfers In	11	14	14	12
Transfers Out	5	4	3	12

CANDIDATES FOR VESTRY

Three Year Term



Jeff Raimondo

I have been a proud member of St. Alban's since 2006. It has been wonderful to grow in Christ along with this loving community. I have been blessed to serve as an usher, children's chapel leader, and Furaha ministry volunteer.

I look forward to St. Alban's flourishing in the coming years, as we welcome new members and find new ways to serve our community. It would be an honor to be part of St. Alban's exciting future as a vestry member.



Cathy Ratcliff

A native Wacoan, I have been married to my wonderful husband, Bob, for 40 years. We have two daughters, both married, and four terrific grandchildren. I enjoy gardening and sewing and travel. I have served as a board member for my homeowners association, worked as a secretary at Baylor, but mostly have taken care of my family and friends.

Bob and I have been members of St. Alban's for approximately 17 years. During that time, I have served on the Altar Guild, am a member of the St. Alban's Guild, and am currently a worship minister at the 7:30 service. My hope for St. Alban's future is that we continue to grow in both numbers and outreach to the community, but also continue to maintain the "smaller church" atmosphere. I believe that our welcoming and loving St. Alban's family continues to be one of our greatest assets in bringing God's Word to others.



Jeff Tanner

Our family joined St. Alban’s in 1988, and I served on the vestry twice in the 1990s. During that period, I served as treasurer, chaired the stewardship campaign, participated in search committees, and served as senior warden. Over the years, I have been active at various times in the Choir and Hands. Currently, I am on the Endowment Committee and am chairing a

lay committee preparing St. Alban’s for partnership with a parish in Malawi, Africa.

One hope is to see the partnership come to fruition with the church in Malawi. Another is to continue to develop and grow an active spiritual community among the St. Alban’s family through mission programs, and I hope to help develop opportunities for these mission activities. I’d also like to strengthen my own personal relationships with the many families that have joined our church in the past few years.



Sue Townsend

I grew up in Missouri, attended nursing school in Iowa, lived in Oklahoma and finally settled down in Texas. I have been a confirmed Episcopalian since my early 20s. In Beaumont, where my husband Norm and I raised our two children, I was a Sunday school teacher and Lector at St. Stephen’s Episcopal

Church.

We moved to Waco three years ago, and after exploring all Episcopal options, we chose St. Alban’s. It felt like home. This will be my first real involvement in the “inner workings” of the church. I look forward to the challenges this role will bring, whether attending the vestry retreat, sitting on an assigned committee, or making long term decisions for our church. My hope is that I will serve St. Alban’s and its parishioners well by continuing to support the ministry and programs that have been so successfully implemented.

+++++

THANK YOU TO OUR OUTGOING VESTRY MEMBERS

Sandy Atkins, Matthew Bachofen, Joe Bozarth & Rebecca Srygley

RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Rev. Jeff W. Fisher

I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision.

Acts 26: 19

In The Acts of the Apostle, toward the end of that orderly account by Luke about the earliest followers of Jesus, the Apostle Paul comes face to face with King Agrippa. In chains, Paul is brought before King Agrippa to make his defense for his Christian faith and works of evangelism.

Paul tells his story to the king, how he was a good Jew, how he persecuted the first Christians, how he was traveling to Damascus when he saw a heavenly vision of the risen Jesus, leading him to spread the Light to the Gentiles. Paul testifies: "After that, King Agrippa, *I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision.*"

At St. Alban's, I believe that we have not been disobedient to the heavenly vision that the Holy Spirit has given to us.

It is my belief that God has given me and you a vision of an unashamedly Episcopal parish in this city that reaches out to Jew and Gentile, slave and free, men and women, rich and poor, black, white and brown. We are not perfect; yet we are keeping the heavenly vision of Jesus in front of us. And because of this steadfast and single-minded obedience, we are growing: spiritually and physically. At St. Alban's, we are obedient to the heavenly vision, as evidenced in my more detailed report below:

Assistant Rector

Well, all of us know by now: Jimmy Abbott is a good priest. Jimmy's ministry and presence among us enriches worship life, Christian formation and the welcoming spirit of our parish. The Diocese of Texas placed Jimmy with us in 2010 not only so that he could minister here, but so that he could learn how to be a priest from me and from our congregation. In exchange for this mutually beneficial relationship, the diocese has granted us one-half of his compensation. That subsidy from the diocese will expire in June of this year when Jimmy will have served at St. Alban's for two years.

Jimmy is a very good priest. The "problem" is: other people have figured this out as well. Therefore, other parishes will begin to interview Jimmy this spring, to lead his own parish somewhere else. All along, I have been training Jimmy so that one day he could be a rector. He has embraced this formation process, leaping with enthusiasm into every ministry opportunity he has been given.

When Jimmy leaves us, there will be sadness because of our great affection and love for him and Maggie. Personally, he and I have become great friends; it will

be especially sad for me. Yet just as when he came, we learned how to welcome a new clergy person in a healthy way; in the Abbotts leave-taking in 2012, we will learn how to say good-bye to a clergy family in a healthy way.

In 2012, a hole will be left in those ministries that Jimmy has led and affected. Yet there will be opportunities for the growing ranks of laity to pick up the mantle of ministry leadership and to be obedient to the heavenly vision.

Stewardship

Christian stewardship was approached differently in 2011. Jim Sartwelle, our stewardship chair, attended a Stewardship Conference at Camp Allen in June, along with our clergy. From the many things learned at that conference, we envisioned a fall season that focused on a stewardship that flows from gratitude. Therefore, the wildly successful Gratitude Gatherings gave everyone a chance to reflect on their gratitude, without a financial pledge card in front of them. Then, financial stewardship could be viewed as an extension of that gratitude.

Pledges are up, most notably 22 brand new pledges. Yet I am not going to be satisfied with giving until everyone gives to their Christian family more than they pay for their cable TV or more than they pay to get their hair colored. I believe that when we give, up to or to the point of sacrifice, our hearts are changed more into the likeness of Christ. Giving comes from gratitude, yet it also goes hand in hand with spiritual maturity and formation. We will continue to work on these messages in 2012.

Many thanks to the Stewardship Task Force who worked this last fall on a different approach, centered on gratitude: Jim Sartwelle, Joe Bozarth, Wendy Callan, Cathy Ratcliff and Erin Skelton. As a task force and as a parish, we have been faithful to a heavenly vision of gratitude.

5:00 PM Weekly Sunday Eucharist

Our third weekly Sunday worship service is now one year old! Hurray! Yet I am still amazed to hear very active people at St. Alban's ask me: "Does the 5 o'clock service really happen every week?"

The answer is: Yes! For the last year, we have offered a 5:00 PM service, every single week, 52 weeks out of the year. The 5:00 PM service attracts a broad range of folks, of all ages. We now have a handful of people who only come to the 5 o'clock, never attending any of the morning services. This is great because it represents growth!

Beginning in February, Austin James, our Song Leader for the 5:00 PM service, will be away on an internship until May. This will give us an opportunity to

experiment with different types of music, including hymns on the piano or a spoken Eucharist with no music.

During Lent, we will have an excellent speaker series offered by spiritual leaders in the Waco area. The speakers will offer the sermon at the 5:00 PM service. We will advertise this series; a great way to invite people into our community on Sunday evenings.

Yet I am disappointed that many of you have not heard this word from me more clearly: *If you are not at a Sunday morning worship service, I expect for you to walk through the doors of the Mahan Commons to worship on Sunday evening.*

We promise, in our Baptismal Covenant, to worship on the Lord's Day, on Sundays. At St. Alban's, we have now made it easier for you to keep this promise by offering a variety of times for worship on Sundays. At St. Alban's, we recognize that it is in worship that we see, hear and feel the heavenly vision. It is in worship, at 7:30, 10:00 and 5:00 on the Lord's Day, that we are obedient to that heavenly vision.

Church and Organ Renovations

Last year, our vestry and senior warden focused heavily on the purchase of the adjacent property on Waco Drive. In 2012, our vestry will need to focus more on the renovation of our church and pipe organ.

The pipe organ is aging and will require extensive repairs. This is not unusual for a masterpiece instrument that is about 60 years old. A devoted parishioner, before her death in 2010, gave \$50,000 to start an Organ Renovation Fund. Therefore, we have a good start, yet will need another \$100,000+ to complete the needed repairs that will keep this exquisite instrument leading our worship for another 50 years.

When the pipe organ is renovated, this will also bring up issues of the acoustics in the church. The red carpet is aged and buckling. Carpet throughout a worship space muffles the sound, dampening the beauty of the pipe organ. We need to keep in mind that our church was built without carpet; therefore, a return to our roots might be in order and/or a mix of some carpet and some hard surfaces.

Please give our vestry and others who will serve on task forces (maybe you!) the room to explore the various options - and please give generously when the time comes. St. Alban's is a place of beauty that reflects the beauty of holiness of our God. For generation to generation, we want the church of St. Alban's to be here to inspire our worship as we are obedient to the heavenly vision.

Lay Leadership & Ministry Coordination

Our church is not the same as it was when I arrived in 2006. In 2006, we did not have the people needed to function as a church that offers programs for all ages. Now, however, we welcome almost twice as many worshippers on a Sunday than we did back then.

In order to welcome more people into our community and make sure they are integrated into our community, we hired Rebekah Hughes to work part-time as our Ministry Coordinator. We received a Strategic Mission Grant from the Diocese of Texas to cover her compensation because the diocese knows of our tremendous growth and needs. Rebekah meets with Jimmy and me each week to review the visitors from the previous Sunday and to brainstorm ways that current members can get plugged in. Let Rebekah help you in getting something new started - and form new ministries on your own!

In a parish our size, people find true spiritual friendships in small groups and programs, such as choir, Bible studies or Furaha Friday teams. People do not form lasting, deep relationships in all-parish events, but rather in smaller groups, in groups and programs initiated and led by you.

In 2012, our parish will need to become more program-centered and less clergy-centered. After we go back to one priest on staff, this move will be necessary as I will need the laity to pick up the slack and lead ministries. There is no reason why we cannot continue to flourish and attract more people to the heavenly vision we have received, but it will require more laity stepping up to the plate and assuming leadership roles.

+++++

I could not lead you to a heavenly vision if I did have a vision myself. In my life, I have received visions of our Lord Jesus Christ. I have experienced these visions through worship in his Church, through quiet prayer, through service to others. I have received visions of our Lord Jesus through your faces and through the faces of every congregation I have been a part of in my life. The heavenly vision that I have received is of a God who rises from the dead so that we will be loved each and every day. May we all have the courage, as individuals and as a congregation, to stand before King Agrippa and testify: "I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision."

RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Beginning Balance 1/1/11		\$3,757.38
Income		
Operating Budget	\$ 1,200.00	
Gifts	<u>21,400.00</u>	
Total Income	\$ 22,600.00	
Total Available		\$26,357.38
Expenses		
Outreach Assistance	\$ 15,595.00	
Activities/Programs	<u>4,450.45</u>	
Total Expenses	20,045.45	
Balance as of 12/31/11		\$6,311.93

+++++

ASSISTANT RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Rev. Jimmy Abbott

*"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds,
so that you may discern what is the will of God –
what is good and acceptable and perfect."
- Romans 12:2*

Over the course of the past year, I have spent many hours thinking, praying, and speaking about Christian formation at St. Alban's. A special Task Force for Children and Youth Formation met with me to discuss new ways for parents to pass on the Christian faith to their children. Jeff and I prayed and discerned creative avenues to expose the congregation to the wondrous mysteries of God's love.

I do not think my labors have been in vain. From our youngest children to our most senior members, 2011 witnessed the renewing of many minds. We had Bible studies that covered the Gospel of John, the Revelation to John, the Epistle of James, and the Psalms, as well as vigorous discussions on various theological topics. The St. Alban's & St. Catherine's Guild of women embarked on studies of women in the Bible. Our children and youth learned about the creeds of the Church and presented fresh expressions of their Christian faith.

St. Alban's is a congregation thirsting after knowledge of God. We are not washed to and fro by the vacillating currents of the world. We hold fast to the truth of God in Christ.

Children

Starting in the fall of 2011, the focus for children's Christian formation was shifted from Sunday School to the home. In this new model, I met with the parents of children twice to teach them and to share insights about the Apostles' Creed. Parents, empowered with this knowledge, passed on these insights and lessons to their children. On Sunday, November 6, the children presented offerings that articulated what they had learned about the Apostles' Creed. Everybody who participated in this Celebration Day, parents, children, and other adults, renewed their minds and experienced a deepening of their Christian faith.

Another important facet of children's Christian formation continues to take place on Sunday morning with Godly Play and Children's Chapel. In Godly Play, children are exposed to our sacred stories and are invited to ask questions about the meanings of these stories. In Children's Chapel, which takes place during the 10:00 AM worship service, our children sing songs, give offerings, hear the scripture readings, and offer prayers in a setting that is suitable for their age.

These ministries would not take place without the dedication of our Godly Play teachers, our Children's Chapel leaders, and all our parents who have devoted themselves to passing on their faith to their children.

Youth

In July of 2011, the youth of St. Alban's went to Ocean Springs, Mississippi on a mission trip full of service, prayer, and fellowship. Much of southern Mississippi is still suffering from the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina. Working with Lutheran Episcopal Service Ministries in Ocean Springs, our group of eight youth and three adults accomplished a variety of work projects for the people of southern Mississippi. During our week there we prayed, reflected on God's love, and enjoyed the warm beaches of the Gulf Coast. I cannot thank Jeff and Karen Tanner enough for their presence on this trip. Their wisdom, skills, and love for the youth of St. Alban's made this trip a success.

Apart from the mission trip, though, it has proven difficult to form a community of youth focused on the renewing of our minds in Christ. This is a work in progress, and one that will require the gifts and talents of parents, youth, and other adults at St. Alban's. If we are truly invested in what God calls good, acceptable, and perfect, then we cannot expect our minds to be renewed overnight or in a one week mission trip. This challenge is the very thing that excites me about the youth at St. Alban's. They are smart, intelligent, and above all, thirsty for the truth of God's love.

Young Adults - 20s & 30s

The young adults of St. Alban's are a vibrant and diverse group. In August 2011, over twenty of these creative and energetic young adults shared communion and dinner at our home. This creativity and energy has been channeled into many of the ministries and leadership responsibilities in our church. Young adults are serving on the Vestry, representing St. Alban's at Diocesan Council, leading Children's Chapel, taking communion to homebound members, and serving during our worship services. In many churches, the young adults are seen as the "future of the church." Here at St. Alban's, our young adults are an active and crucial part of our church right now!

Many of these young adults are renewing their minds through the Christian formation opportunities at Barnett's Pub. Through our Bible studies and discussions around those tables, many of our young adults have discerned the will of God and have dedicated themselves to a life of what is good, acceptable, and perfect. Witnessing the energy of these young adults serves as inspiration for me.

Seniors

Our continued ministry to the senior members of St. Alban's has also experienced the renewing of our minds as we discern God's will. Over the course of last fall, the St. Alban's & St. Catherine's Guild of women engaged in serious studies of the Virgin Mary, Mary Magdalene, and Ruth. The lessons that the women learned in these studies were turned into reflective questions about how they are called to serve God.

The Eucharistic Visiting ministry has nearly doubled in the past year. Many of our homebound members who have not received communion on a regular basis in years are now blessed by our team of loving Eucharistic Visitors. This ministry to our homebound members is also enriched by the online publication of all our sermons. Even those who cannot attend church are being transformed by the renewing of their minds as they continue to read the Holy Scriptures and our sermons.

+++++

Our transformation into the people of God is a long journey, one full of grace, healing, and love. The resolve to discern God's will - what is good, acceptable, and perfect - does not take place through one Bible study or even in one year. This is a lifelong transformational process. It has been a blessing, a blessing that words cannot describe, to work, serve, and minister with all of you throughout this year as we have all experienced the transformational love of God in Christ.

ASSISTANT RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY ACCOUNT SUMMARY

Beginning Balance 1/1/11 \$ 1,843.25

Income

Operating Budget \$ 0.00

Gifts 3,643.00

Total Income \$ 3,643.00

Total Available \$ 5,486.25

Expenses

Outreach Assistance \$ 3,764.29

Activities/Programs 536.00

Total Expenses 4,300.29

Balance as of 12/31/11 \$ 1,185.96

+++++

DELEGATES TO DIOCESAN COUNCIL

February 10-11, 2012 - Bryan, Texas

Delegates: Clint Capers, Jacqueline Frahm, Ric Peavy and Philip Price

Alternates: Joe Bozarth and Ryan Thompson

+++++

SENIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Joe Bozarth

The past year has just blown by. There have been major accomplishments and few setbacks. The majority of the time your leadership has looked for ways we can, as opposed to a reason we cannot. Our parishioners continue to contribute to the success this parish is enjoying. So let me first communicate a sincere "THANK YOU" to each of you for helping me.

We are bigger, more active, and more focused than ever. Few churches are experiencing the success that we are experiencing. This success is not going unnoticed.

Change is not always good. Growth often mandates change. As we grow our clergy demands need to sometimes be shared. Your vestry and other church leadership, as well as parish employees have been quick to volunteer and help when asked. The opportunity to reach out is strong here at St. Alban's. Our

outreach center and church facilities are being shared with our community. Consideration and investigation is ongoing regarding a relationship between our parish and the Church in Malawi.

I am proud of our church's direction. Thank you for what you have given to St. Alban's: treasure, time, and talent. I will challenge you, all of you, to look for new ways to make investments in your church. While we can always use more financial support, we also need each of you to help us continue to build this fantastic church we all call home. Help Jeff and Jimmy; if you know of a member that is not as active as they have been in the past, get in touch and let them know they are missed. Invite friends and neighbors to give our church a try, invite them to either come and worship or try our Bible studies.

KINDEST REGARDS!!!!!!!!!!

+++++

JUNIOR WARDEN'S REPORT

Stewart Kelly

The primary responsibility of the Junior Warden is to oversee the operations of the physical campus facility of St. Alban's Episcopal Church. Fortunately this past year, from a budget/operations perspective, we did well. Basically, the year-end operation numbers indicate we came in right on budget. Also, our prayers were answered in the fact we did not have any major expense items during the year. Even though we had a historically HOT summer, we did not experience any major breakdown in our HVAC system. The downside to all of this, as you will see when looking over the budget, we are not able to set up a reserve to take care of future major expense items like the air conditioning system, roof, painting or parking lot. So, if we do have an immediate larger expense item occur, then it will not be covered in our budget.

In the past, the Junior Warden... "did it all" as it pertained to the property. This year, we established a different structure within the vestry. The vestry was divided into two teams....Finance and Property. The Junior Warden's team is responsible for the property. Within this team, the St. Alban's campus was divided into the following areas: sanctuary, outreach center, parish hall/office and grounds. A vestry member was assigned a specific area to oversee. This new arrangement seemed to work well throughout the year. In delegating these responsibilities, it takes the burden off one person trying to cover everything. It also allowed vestry members a broader base knowledge of our property. This should make future Junior Wardens more ready to assume that role.

The Outreach Center continues to serve an important role in our community. At the end of 2011, we lost a partner (Avance) and Camp Fire downsized significantly. Both of these changes were due to budget cuts within those

organizations. However, our other partners are doing well....Central Texas String Academy and Waco Children's Theatre. We also gained another partner: Community Race Relations Coalition (CRRC). We continue to spread the word about the Outreach Center. With some space currently available, we look forward to working with two or three more organizations this coming year.

There were many "projects" accomplished this past year. To mention a few:

- 1) The playground received a sprucing up. Part of this endeavor was the Mulch Day. Through careful planning and an outstanding job of recruiting parishioners and outreach partners, an almost impossible task turned into a successful and rewarding experience. Plus, it kept us on budget.
- 2) The kitchen, pantry, and storage areas underwent a major cleanup. This project was underwritten and supervised by a vestry member and parishioner. Many thanks.
- 3) The Waco Drive property, next to the playground, was added to the St. Alban's campus.
- 4) The trees in the courtyard were removed by volunteer parishioners. Again, another project handled internally, saving the church's funds and solving an ongoing problem.

We are so blessed to have a wonderful church facility at St. Alban's. It is each one of our responsibilities to take ownership. As you are attending church or any of the many gatherings occurring on the St. Alban's campus, please take time to look around. This is your church HOME. Look at it that way. If you see something that needs addressing, let us know. Or, better yet, volunteer to head up a task force to get it done. As always, a special thanks to the church staff. They do an awesome job and their dedication is exceptional.

+++++

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Howard Thompson, Director of Music: Choirmaster

The music department of St. Alban's Parish had a busy and successful year in 2011. 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, joined with the St. Paul's choir for Good Friday and both services on Easter Day. In December, the Chancel Choir presented "Cantata 142" by Bach along with singers from MCC and accompanied by students from the Central Texas String Academy. Attendance was over 200 for this event. 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 Carillonneurs, Mary Ann and Howard Thompson. The carillon is played before and after the 10:00 AM service most weeks. The carillon and Mary Ann Thompson were highlighted in the December 24th edition of the *Waco Tribune-Herald*. There are also 6 choir scholarship singers who provide great assistance to the choir and the church. Mr. Austin James provides the 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. Some cleaning has already been done to the rear gallery organ where some of the worst problems have been. 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.

A new Zimblestern has been installed in memory of Maxine Gilbreath, mother of David Gilbreath, our organist. The Zimblestern provides the tinkling of light bells heard at times during the service.

Plans for 2012 include continued service leadership, special services and presentation of parts of the Christmas portion of "Messiah" by Handel next Advent.

+++++

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN (ECW)

Mary Fadal

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

We are the Women of the Episcopal Church: rooted in our past and growing into God's future. The purpose of this organization shall be 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.

Our big fundraiser for 2011 was a "Tea Time", which netted \$1,485. Thank you to all the parish women who contributed. The ECW bought a set of white, of red, and of green linen tablecloths for the parish hall tables. The ladies also purchased a nice 36 cup electric coffee pot. With money raised, we contributed to both priest's discretionary funds. The women made a generous donation toward the purchase of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Other donations were made to the St. Alban's/St. Catherine's Guild and to the Organ Fund.

We thank the officers for their leadership during 2011, and we thank all the women who gave generously of their time, talent, and money. Special appreciation goes to Jeff and Jimmy for their encouragement and support of our endeavors during 2011.

+++++

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

Jeanine Cobb

St. Alban's/St. Catherine's Guild meets at 10:00 AM on the third Thursday of each month in the Music Room. Officers for 2011 were: President: Ouida Hinsley, Vice President: Jackie Frahm, Secretary: Jeanine Cobb, Treasurer: Dorothy Jones, Corresponding Secretary: Rosemary Williams and Telephone Committee: Dixie Miller, Dorothy Jones and Martha Bancroft.

Our programs for the year included Jimmy Abbott, David Nealy, and David Gilbreath. Jimmy spoke to us about his early life, his role as assistant rector and the future. David Nealy told us about researching your roots and starting your family tree. David Gilbreath's talk was about the pipe organ and the maintenance of the organ, as it is 60 years old and the leather on each pipe is losing elasticity. Jimmy Abbott gave three different talks on three different women of the Bible - the Virgin Mary, Mary Magdalene, and Ruth.

Betty Gianella give beautiful devotionals including 'Angels', 'Encouragement', 'Positive Thinking,' and 'The Active Soul.'

President Ouida Hinsley resigned as President due to personal issues and Dorothy Jones has graciously stepped in for the rest of the year.

Ouida and Betty gave Christmas poinsettias to St. Alban's shut-ins during the Christmas season.

The year was concluded with the Christmas Luncheon at Waco Federation Clubhouse.

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

ALTAR GUILD

Jacqueline Frahm, Director

The Altar Guild had another busy year in 2011 making sure the church sanctuary and related venues were properly set up for the many regular and special services the clergy conducted for the parish.

The annual Altar Guild Conference was held at Camp Allen in March with approximately 70 representatives of Altar Guilds from churches throughout the convocation and diocese in attendance. The conference was very productive with priests from throughout the Convocation presenting programs to challenge each Altar Guild in its mission to serve its church. The information that is shared is always useful because the conference gives each person in attendance more resources in serving his or her home church.

Cathy Ratcliff again honored St. Alban's by making and donating to the Altar Guild beautiful hand stitched linens for use at the 5 o'clock service each Sunday. We sincerely appreciate and thank Cathy for her generous and useful gift to the Church.

The Altar Guild conducted a fund raising effort that raised over \$300 that was sent to the local Episcopal Church in Bastrop, Texas, to help members of that parish that suffered losses due to the wild fires that devastated the area during the summer months.

We added two new members to the Altar Guild in 2011 and, as always, extend our thanks to the many members of the Altar Guild for their silent service to the parish. We always welcome others who care to join this very important group of dedicated individuals.

+++++

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. Our Parish Hall and other facilities are opened up to the community, all under the direction of Elaine Karban, Outreach Coordinator.

For 2012, the Diocese of Texas asked for us to pay \$21,735 as our Missionary Asking for missionary/outreach work outside of St. Alban's. *For the first time in recent years, the Vestry agreed to pay 100% of our diocesan asking, to be allocated to the following outreach ministries:*

The Mission of the Episcopal Church	\$7,764
Episcopal Student Center - Baylor University	3,000
Episcopal Student Center - University of Texas	3,000
Camp Allen - At-Risk Children Scholarships	2,000
St. Mary Magdalene Mission - NE Austin	2,000
St. Julian of Norwich Mission - NW Austin	2,000
Calling & Moving New Clergy	771
Epiphany Community Health Outreach	700
St. Alban's Episcopal Mission, Houston	500

+++++

ST. ALBAN'S DEBT RETIREMENT FUND

Balance as of 1/1/11	\$ 41,664.49
Contributions	25,150.00
Debt Reduction - Interest Only	12,000.00
Loan Payments	(39,600.00)
Balance as of 12/31/11	\$ 39,214.49

+++++

DEBT / BUILDING LOAN

Balance as of 1/1/11	\$ 220,031.39
Principal Payments	(22,509.34)
Interest Payments (Church Budget)	(11,089.98)
Balance as of 12/31/11	\$ 186,432.07

+++++

ST. ALBAN'S MEMORIAL FUND

Balance as of 1/1/11	\$ 7,475.91
Gifts	1,795.86
Interest Earned	220.80
Expense: Church Sound System	(6,200.00)
Balance as of 12/31/11	\$ 3,294.57

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 12/31/10	\$ 402,870.27
Net Earnings	6,424.39
Net Capital Gains/Losses	(21,508.01)
Scholarship Distributions	(12,196.00)
Balance as of 12/31/11	\$ 375,590.65

+++++

ST. ALBAN'S ENDOWMENT FUND

Robert Frahm, Endowment Fund Committee Chair

The good news is, as a consequence primarily resulting from distributions to the Church, the value of the Endowment Fund declined in 2011. This is *good news* because the Endowment Fund has realized its potential as a viable force in the economic life of the Church.

The total amount distributed to the Church in 2011 was \$80,000, which accounts for the decline in value at the end of the year compared to the value at the beginning of the year. Were it not for the distributions to the Church in 2011 the Fund would have realized a net increase in value of \$9,685.

Accompanying this report is a Statement of Increases and Decreases in the Fund for the year ending December 31, 2011. The Fund continues to be fully invested in publically traded mutual funds.

In 2011 there were undesignated distributions to the Church totaling \$15,000 that were applied as determined by the Vestry, and a designated distribution to the Church in the amount of \$65,000 that was applied to the purchase price of the residential lots adjacent to the Outreach Center on Waco Drive. The lots were purchased from Stewart and Trammell Kelly after the buildings were razed and the property graded.

The Endowment Fund Committee has authorized undesignated distributions from the Fund in 2012 for the benefit of the Parish in the amount of \$17,100 to be applied as determined by the Vestry. This represents an increase of \$2,100 above the \$15,000 undesignated distributions to the Church in 2011.

Members of the Church are encouraged to consider remembering the

Endowment Fund when preparing a Will or estate plan, in addition to remembering the Fund when it is appropriate to honor a person or occasion with a charitable contribution. With Parish support and a healthy investment return, the Fund will continue to represent a meaningful economic contributor to the mission of the Church.

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

Endowment Fund Committee (2011)

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

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

Statement of Increases and Decreases
 December 31, 2011

Assets at Market Value 12-31-10			\$510,591.11
Increases			
Donations	7,726.82		
Dividends	<u>15,967.42</u>	23,694.24	
Decreases			
UBS Fee	150.00		
Distributions to Church	<u>80,000.00</u>	<u>80,150.00</u>	(56,455.76)
Unrealized gain (loss) in market value of assets			<u>(14,009.60)</u>
Assets at Market Value 12-31-11			\$440,125.75