



**Episcopal Church of  
All Saints and Ascension**

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**Priest-in-Charge**  
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**Administrative Asst. Office Hours:**  
9am-3pm Monday thru Wednesday  
**Priest In Charge Office Hours:**  
8:30am-4pm Monday thru Wednesday

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### Guess Who?

Photo  
taken as  
an infant.

Answer  
page 4.



Visit us online at:

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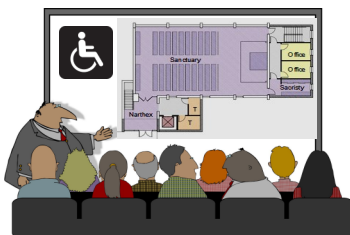


April 2018

2nd Quarter Edition

## BUILDING IMPROVEMENT PLANS PRESENTED TO CONGREGATION!

On March 4<sup>th</sup> our architect, Jim Riddle, presented a concept design and cost estimate to the congregation. The design emphasizes **ACCESSIBILITY** for the physically challenged by expanding the narthex. This includes adding restrooms on the sanctuary level, and an elevator to link both building levels. Other improvements proposed include a building expansion in the rear of the



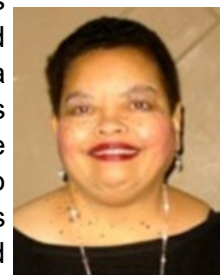
church to allow more floorspace for the fellowship hall, kitchen, office, and food pantry. The plan appears achievable. But it will likely take up to a year to obtain church approvals, and to complete detailed planning and construction. Floorplans and presentation documents are available for review on our website, or by contacting the parish office.

## Getting To Know You

**Adrienne (Lemmons) Dillon** is a lifelong Episcopalian who was baptized and confirmed at an early age at All Saints. She has been known for her exceptional singing talent as a soprano in the parish choir. However, she has been very active in other facets of church life including the Vestry (2 terms), St. Margaret's Guild (treasurer), General Convention (alternate), and the Diocese's Commission on Dismantling Racism.

Whereas being a sales rep for Avon and making jewelry are activities that Adrienne enjoys in her spare time, music is her passion. She enjoys teaching piano and voice, and has her own studio. She especially likes helping our youth, and feels that getting younger people involved is the key to our future. She has been

active with the All Saints Music and Arts Village, and is currently involved with organizing a community children's choir. Yet, she seems to find time to sing in the Women's HOPE Chorale, and the Legend Singers Choral Ensemble.



Adrienne is the daughter of Milton and Dorothy Lemmons. Graduating from Soldan H.S. in 1964, she later earned degrees from Grinnell College (BA) and Boston University (MBA). Currently, she is in her 2<sup>nd</sup> year of study at the Episcopal School of Ministry. She was married to fellow parishioner, David, who passed away last year only a few weeks before their 48<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Together they have one son, Mike, who lives in Portland, Oregon. Adrienne, we "sing" your praises!



## A Message from the Priest In Charge



Rev Michael  
Dunnington

*Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
The Lord is risen indeed!  
Alleluia!*

It's hard to believe that, since our last newsletter, we've moved from the Christmas-Epiphany season, through Lent, and into the glorious season of Easter. And here, for the Great Fifty Days of Easter, we encounter the most important doctrine in our Christian faith—the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. As St. Paul says, in his First Letter to the Corinthians, "...if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. If for this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be

pitied." (v. 14, 19) But, thanks be to God, Christ HAS been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died, and we have hope for our own eternal life with Christ.

Our parish has also experienced a lot of resurrection these past months. Since the beginning of 2018, we've begun work with Fr. Daniel Pearson, our merger consultant, we've seen a congenial Annual Parish Meeting of All Saints and Ascension, approved new combined Bylaws, had those Bylaws approved by Standing Committee, rededicated the Altar and Communion Rail from All Saints with Bishop Smith, celebrated Black History Month, and have applied to

the State for an official name change. And the real resurrection of our congregation is evidenced by architectural plans for building improvements and expansion.

Of course, all of this will mean nothing if we don't translate our faith into good works. More than ever, in the coming months, we need to shift our focus outside the church walls, and discern where God is calling us to share in God's MISSION.

As we said in our first Newsletter message: There's lots of work to be done, so let's get busy!

## Bishop Smith Visits on Unification Sunday

February 4th was Super Bowl Sunday. But we had an even bigger reason to celebrate. **The Right Rev. George Wayne Smith** of the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri honored us by celebrating Holy Eucharist at our church.

The visit was even more special to us. This Sunday was dedicated as Unification Sunday whereby the

Church officially recognized the merger of both parishes into a unified Episcopal Church of All Saints and Ascension.

The Bishop delivered a positive message of hope for our parish as we move forward in our new venture. The Children's Community Choir performed "Jacobs Ladder". Go online to see photos and videos.



During repast, the Bishop conducted an open forum and allowed us to ask questions. Those that attended received an Episcopal lapel pin to wear and show their pride in our Church.

## Black History Month Celebration

On Sunday, February 28th, the parish held a special liturgy and ceremony in honor of Black History Month. During the Eucharist, the sermon was replaced with an address delivered by our very own **Alexia Dukes**.

Her speech was actually a very informative lecture on famous African American Episcopalians. She began telling the story of a former slave, Absalom Jones, that became the first African American priest ordained in the Episcopal Church in 1804. In contrast, she spoke of The Most Reverend **Michael Curry** who is currently the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church USA.

She also recognized local Episcopal leaders like The Rev. Dr. **Joseph Nicholson**, The Rev. **Bernardo Tomas**, and The Rev. **Emery Washington**. These men have worked hard in representing Blacks in the Episcopal Church.

She also pointed out that Black women have played an important role in our church. Locally, we have The Rev. **Renee Fenner** who is rector at St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church. And on a national level, she noted that The Right Rev. **Barbara Clementine Harris** was the first women to be ordained in the Anglican Communion.

After worship service, the celebration



Alexia Dukes



Georgia Harrell

Reads *The Dark Thirty* - slaves proclaim "We Are Organized!"

continued in the fellowship hall. After enjoying a bountiful soul food feast, we were treated with a host of inspirational readings from parishioners, and musical selections by the Children's Community Choir. Go to [allsaintsascension.com](http://allsaintsascension.com) for photos.



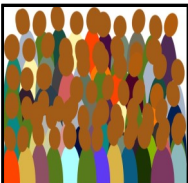
## Event Schedule (visit [allsaintsascension.com](http://allsaintsascension.com) for detailed event calendar)

April 1	10:00 am	Easter Sunday Service (Children's Easter Egg Hunt following service)
May 13	10:00 am	Mother's Day at All Saint and Ascension
June 17	10:00 am	Father's Day at All Saint and Ascension
June 17	10:00 am	Deadline to submit articles for the 3rd quarter newsletter



### RECURRING SCHEDULE:

Holy Eucharist Service	10:00 am	Every Sunday
Sunday Morning Prayer	8:00 am	On April 15; May 6 & 20; June 3 & 17; July 1 & 15
Daily Morning Prayer	8:30 am	Every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
Healing Service	11:15 am	Every 4th Sunday (Immediately following Eucharist)
Food Pantry	10am-1pm	Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of Each Month
ECW Meeting	11:30 am	Every 4th Sunday (following Eucharist)



### Annual Meeting

The first annual meeting of the combined parishes of the Episcopal Church of All Saints and Ascension was called to order on Sunday, January 28, 2018 by **Father Dunnington** in his sermon during the Holy Eucharist. His message was that our new parish is answering the call of God for resurrection...and that God will be with us during this challenging time.

After the Eucharist, the meeting was called back to order. During this business part of the meeting, reports were given by the Senior Warden, Episcopal Church Women (ECW), Architectural Committee, and our merger counselor, Fr. Daniel Pearson. A financial report was given and revised bylaws were voted on and approved.

All 10 members of the old Vestry and Bishop's Committee were re-elected to form the new joint vestry which will serve until 2019 to work on final details of the merger. **Pat Heeter** was elected as Lay Delegate to the Diocesan Convention. **Machelle West** was elected as the alternate. Questions were addressed and the meeting concluded with a closing prayer.

### ECW Pancake Breakfast

In lieu of Shrove Tuesday, ECW hosted a special pancake breakfast following the Holy Eucharist on February 18th. The pancakes were delicious and the cost was only \$5.00. The breakfast had been postponed from the previous week because services were cancelled due to icy weather. ECW, thanks for all you do!



### Fish Fry Sold Out!

**Stanley Johnson** and the Men's Club would like to thank everyone who supported the fish fry on February 23rd. They sold out of dinners by 4 p.m. for walk-in customers. Servings were generous and delicious. This is the first time this event was attempted as a joint parish. Ten men from both former churches really delivered! Thankfully, many preparation practices from past years worked out well at the new location. Now that they know things still work, the Men's Club looks forward to making this event even bigger and better next year.



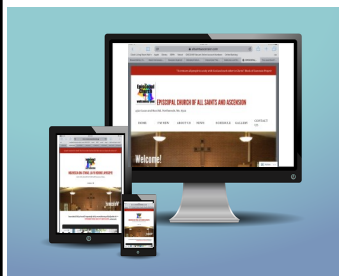
C. Hughes & S. Johnson

### Communications Committee

Before both of our parishes merged into our unified church in January of 2018, the leadership of both churches appointed a single task force to improve communications for the new parish....the Communications Committee. So far the committee has introduced a new newsletter, website, email blast, and visitor packet. If you have any suggestions, please contact **Sanford Hamilton**, or contact the office.

### Now online! [allsaintsascension.com](http://allsaintsascension.com)

On February 22, 2018, we launch our brand new website on the world wide web. Our goal is to introduce a quick and easy way for everyone to find out what's going on at our church. You are encouraged to browse and explore.



The site is constantly being updated with new announcements, dates, news, Vestry activities, order forms, and weather closings. So we urge you to bookmark the site so that you can easily return for fresh info. Your feedback and suggestions are welcomed!



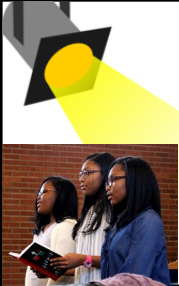
## Announcements



### Food Pantry Ministry

Our Food Pantry, which services clients from 10am until 1pm on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, needs our help. This is one of several outreach ministries of our combined congregations which needs your financial assistance to enable it to perform this ministry. If you are interested in volunteering, please speak with **Prince Thomas** or **Louise Trudo** (Food Pantry Chairperson). When contributing, please designate that your contribution is for the food pantry.

### Spotlight On Youth



We are proud of our "Sister Act": **Cayleigh, Camryn, and Camille Moore**. And we are thankful to have these young ladies bless us with song during recent celebrations. Seen here, they are performing "Jacob's Ladder" on Unification Sunday (Bishop's visit).

### Caring Reminders



Cleo Anderson  
Kimberley Baker  
Harriett Barrett  
Erma Brasfield  
Juanita Carroll  
Suzanne Harris  
Crystal Hubbard-Lopolito  
Jack Ingram  
Jay Lucas Johnson  
Virgil Lucas  
Louise McElroy  
Alice Okrafosmart  
Mary Stafford  
Thelma Stephens

(Note: Listing as of 3/25/18 Check the weekly bulletin for updates)

### In Memoriam (1st Quarter 2018)



Booker T. Baker III  
Dr. Alphonza Harper  
Callie Hartsfield  
Georgia Rusan



We have a van and driver, **Wilbur Lowman**, who will pick up members and guests who need a ride to church on Sunday. To arrange a ride, please call Karen in the church office, or phone Wilbur at 314-383-0850.

### Thank You!

In December, All Saints received a generous donation from the trust fund of former member **Henry B. Wallace**. He is the sister of **Suzanne Harris** and uncle to **Sanford Hamilton**. A graduate of St. Louis University, he was one of the first Black engineers to serve on the US space program. He passed away in 2014.

### Did You Know?

**Schnucks** will donate **CASH** to our parish every time you make a purchase there!

Here's how:

1. Stop at a Schnucks supermarket and pick up a My Schnucks eScript Card.
2. Register your eScript card online or by phone and select "All Saints" as the beneficiary per the instructions provided. (NOTE: This account name will be changed to our new joint parish name when accounting is merged)
3. Show your card each time you check out. And each month, the store will donate 1% to 3% of your purchases to our parish!



### CHOIR



The All Saints and Ascension choir is looking to increase its membership. Additional voices in the ensemble will allow us the flexibility to plan more musical performances and increase our involvement as we move into the future together. It is not necessary to have a great voice. Joy and enthusiasm are the only requirements! If you love to sing, we would love to have you regardless of your musical background. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact our music director **Andrea Hunter** at 702-201-3793 or at [aleachhuntermusic@gmail.com](mailto:aleachhuntermusic@gmail.com)

### Community Children's Choir



Rehearsals are held on Thursdays at 6 pm at the church. We are looking for more boys and girls, ages 8 to 14. Great voices are not needed, only enthusiasm. See **Adrienne Dillon** or contact the parish office with any questions or concerns.

### Notice to Parishioners:

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There are still many more details to work out to achieve *complete* consolidation of All Saints and Ascension into one parish. So when writing checks or money orders for your contributions, you are asked to continue to follow the same procedure you have in the past until advised otherwise. Contact the office if you have any questions.

### Merger Process Continues

Our leadership is currently engaging **Fr. Daniel Pearson** as a facilitator in our ongoing merger process. He will be helping us with the merging of cultures, roles, and expectations with having one mission, one image, and one identity. Expect further reports as we progress.



Answer to "Guess Who?" on page 1. Gaylard Williams (Vestry)