

ST. ALBAN'S CHAPEL, BATON ROUGE, LA
REPORT TO DIOCESAN CONVENTION
October 2015

Now in our 87th year of ministry, the congregation of St. Alban's Chapel continues to pursue its mission to provide support, refuge, and encouragement to the students, faculty, and staff of Louisiana State University. That mission is enabled by the generous support of the diocese and the annual giving of non-students at St. Alban's Chapel. This congregation remains committed to paying the full diocesan request, to funding programs for students, as well as building a capital repairs fund and organ fund.

Our campus ministry continues to focus on the Sunday evening dinner and worship, the "Lunch with C. S. Lewis", our campus ministry intern program, and our scholarship music program. The Sunday evening service remains a largely student service drawing around fifty or so, and always followed by a dinner that is provided and served by teams from the congregation. Our campus ministry intern program continues to be a major factor in the growth of our ministry to students, currently led by Evan McMichael, Camille Young, Nicole Sergeant, Margaret Ann Zenther, and Olivia Casas. We also employ around twelve LSU undergraduates who serve as our weekly Sunday School teachers who support our growing Children's Education program. Our primary outreach to non-Episcopalian students is through the weekly *Lunch with C. S. Lewis*. We began the fall semester with a record attendance of 250 students from a wide variety of cultural and religious backgrounds. The meals are provided by generous donations from churches and some individuals throughout the diocese and are served by a loyal team of hosts from St. Alban's. Over the years, that program has served to strengthen the university's perception of St. Alban's as a place of generosity and support for students. Finally, we enjoy a strong music program at both the morning and evening services, largely due to the leadership of our Director of Music, Chris Barbee, and six paid singers from the LSU School of Music. We continue to cultivate our relationship with the LSU School of Music regularly hosting recitals in the sanctuary. Other ongoing programs at St. Alban's include a growing Children's Education ministry, a Sunday morning Bible study, several AA groups, the Julian Gathering (contemplative prayer), and an annual summer retreat at the SECC. This year also saw the addition of the "Dialogues at St. Alban's Chapel", a monthly gathering featuring a speaker from the LSU faculty or member of the congregation.

I continue to be grateful to the Rev. Skully Knight who serves here as a regular supply preacher and celebrant. We are also extremely thankful for the arrival of Deacon Camille Wood.

In keeping with longstanding tradition, the St. Alban's sanctuary remains open 24/7 and attracts all sorts of students seeking a place to reflect and pray. Following discussions with the Executive Board, we have now hired a consultant from the Episcopal Church Foundation to lead us through a season of discernment. We are considering a capital campaign with the main project of refurbishing our organ, and possibly other projects as well.

As I complete my 13th year as chaplain here, I thank the entire diocese for supporting me, my family, and the congregation of St. Alban's Chapel in the particular mission to which we have been called.

Faithfully yours and Geaux Tigers!

The Rev. Andrew S. Rollins
Chaplain