

Gospel Grapevine

The newsletter of St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Edmonds, WA

January 2009

Safeguarding our Children—

In January, St. Alban's will host "Safeguarding Our Children," a diocesan training required for everyone who works with children in our congregation. Attending the first training, which was offered to the clergy of the diocese, were Sallie Shippen, George Wilson, and John Leech.

This one-day workshop provides an eye-opener to basic safety issues that everyone who works with kids – from nursery to youth – will need to know. This training is now required by the Diocese for all staff and every person in the parish working with children in any capacity.

We are in the process of determining an exact date for the trainers from the Diocese to conduct the training. You are encouraged to call the church office and register early once the date is known. The training will be on a Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. and all of the churches in the area have been invited to attend.

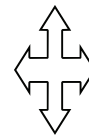
If you work with children in any capacity at St. Alban's, you will be required to take this training.

— Fr. John, & Kären Ford, senior warden.



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South County Churches Working Together To Offer Cold Weather Shelter This Winter

In a program first introduced by Trinity Lutheran Church, several South Snohomish County churches are working together to offer overnight shelter to those in need during extreme cold weather conditions in our area.

Called the South Snohomish County Emergency Shelter Network, the program is made up of volunteers from Edmonds Unitarian Universalist Church, Edmonds United Methodist Church, Good Shepherd Baptist Church, Maplewood Presbyterian Church, the NEST Korean Coalition of Churches, St. Thomas More Catholic Church and Trinity Lutheran Church. St. Alban's is also represented by Dan Mullene, and there are opportunities for others from our congregation to participate.

According to its brochure, the Emergency Shelter Network was created by the local churches to provide warm and safe shelter at night for the most vulnerable people in our neighborhoods. The criteria for an emergency cold weather event will be whenever the temperature is anticipated to fall below 33 degrees for four hours or more overnight.

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St. Alban's Episcopal Church

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Edmonds, WA 98026

Phone: 425-778-0371
Fax: 425-778-1583
Email: staedmonds@aol.com
Website: www.stalbansedmonds.org
Newsletter: nancykitty@comcast.net

Worship Schedule

Sundays:

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion, Rite I
10:00 a.m. Nursery Open
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Holy Communion, Rite II

Wednesdays:

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

From the Rector's Study



Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.

(Matthew 6:33)

The people
God led
through the
desert,
the people
who in
darkness
were

acceptance,
love,
grace,
providence,
blessing.

We are the people who experience God
as creator, savior, sustainer;
who experience God as JOY.

Who better than the bringer of life, to
be our fount of blessing?

Blessed one, bless us,
in the breaking of the Bread,
remind us who you are—
Bread of Life,
and remind us who we are—
those who do not live by manna alone,
not even in the wilderness of
wandering souls,
but by the WORD that proceeds from
God's mouth.

We are the people
who seek God the Father.

We are the people
who know God in Christ.

We are the people
who live in God the Spirit.

*
He is the Way.
Follow Him through the Land of
Unlikeness;
You will see rare beasts, and have
unique adventures.

He is the Truth.
Seek Him in the Kingdom of Anxiety;
You will come to a great city that has
expected your return for years.

He is the Life.
Love Him in the World of the Flesh;
And at your marriage all its occasions
shall dance for joy.

—W. H. Auden, *From the Time Being:
A Christmas Oratorio*, (October 1941-
July 1942).
The Hymnal 1982, #463, 464.

JRL+



shown a great light,
the people whom the Lord redeemed
and called forth from bondage,
not once but again and again:
we are those people.

The people who call others forth out of
bondage,
out of darkness into light,
out of poverty into abundance,
out of grief into joy,
out of despair into hope,
out of death into life:
we are those people.

The people God showered with manna,
bread in the wilderness,
bread for the journey,
the people God gave an abundant land,
an abundant life,
and a spirit of thankfulness:
we are those people.

Fisher- men and women by the
lakeshore,
gathering in and mending our nets;
Seated by the tax-tables;
Thirsting by a well;
Stumbling blindly along a road;
or carrying a cross:
we are those people too.

God's abundance is not the surfeit of
this world's pleasures,
not the largest or loudest or tallest or
richest,
but the wealthiest in other ways:
in the redeeming hand when all is lost,
the recovered sight when all is blind,
the touch of kindness when all is cold.

We are the people of
forgiveness,

All this summer and into the fall we've
heard the story of Moses,
from the bulrushes to a glance across
the mountains,

a glimpse of the promised land.

And this unlikely child would lead
them,

the people of God,
from bondage to freedom,
from sufferance of Pharaoh to
open hand of God—

and he would teach them the ways of
God,

as surely as he taught them the
ways of the desert.

Seek God's reign first— put things in
their right order of priority—
and live in accordance with the
covenant God has made with you.

Do not forget— we did not earn this
blessing, this abundance—
he gave it to you, as a loving parent
cares for her child.

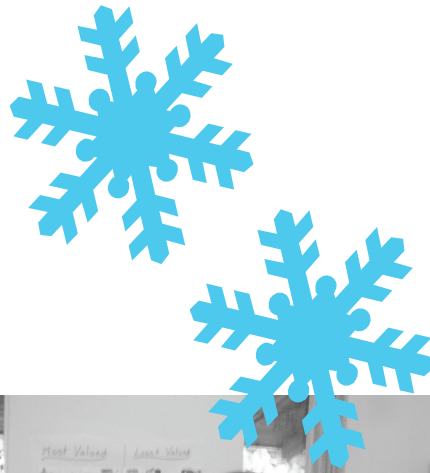
Remember, and be glad, and thank
God.

Throughout the stories of Jesus, he is
leading the people on the way—
picking up like Joshua where Moses
left off—
guiding the people to the land of
promise.

Who better than the Child of Promise
to do this for us?

Who better than God's Son to lead us
to his Father's house?

Who better than God's revelation to
show the way to us?



Stir Up Sunday—

November 30th the Sunday School children were preparing for the birth of Jesus!

Photos were taken by our own Melissa Hicks.



Wills Awareness Seminar

Save the Date—

February 8, 2009

12:00—1:00 p.m.

Carl Knirk and attorney Tim Burkart with Garvey Schubert Barer law firm in Seattle will be our guests to present a Wills Awareness Seminar.

Tim is an expert on wills and estate planning. He'll share information about the benefits of making a will and legal aspects of wills. If you have any questions about wills, this is a great opportunity to ask it. If

you have a question that you want to be sure is answered, get it to Maryellen in advance.

Refreshments will be provided. The program should complete by 1 p.m. This opportunity is provided by the St. Alban's Planned Giving Committee and Diocese of Olympia. Watch for a signup sheet after Christmas. Any questions, contact Maryellen Young, 425-776-2461.

Wanted: Attorney Recommendations

As part of the Wills Awareness Seminar, the Planned Giving Committee would like to compile a list of attorneys and the cost of preparing a will and related documents. If you have an attorney you would like to recommend, please contact Maryellen Young by telephone 425-776-2461 or email maryelleny@comcast.net with the name. Recommendations are the best way to find an attorney.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

WASHINGTON, D.C., JANUARY 15, 1980. A light, dry snow was falling gently on the Washington Mall as a friend and I walked across it to an open gathering area west of the Washington Monument. The Lincoln Memorial was in the near distance, at the far end of the Reflecting Pool. Towards the bottom of the slope on a temporary platform – the Beach Boys played there on July 4th – were gathered the members of the Congressional Black Caucus, a fairly small group sponsoring this big event. Thirty thousand people were gathered in the snow. There was a chant: "We want a holiday, Martin Luther King Day" – and a song: "Happy Birthday, Dear Martin." It had been written for this occasion, and its composer, Stevie Wonder, sang it, and taught us to sing along. It was the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., an American pastor who had led efforts to gain civil rights for Black Americans in the segregated South – and questioned the system that sustained such inequity in the world's greatest democracy. Where one is bound, none are free. It was not a holiday, not yet, so we walked back to work. But now we have a holiday: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. (Observed this year on January 19th). –Fr. John

News From Your Vestry

from Kären Ford, Senior Warden

The meeting opened with the Call to Order and prayers lead by Fr John. He used a litany prepared by Christine Sine. The Senior Warden led a Bible Study, meditation, and discussion based on the format used at Diocesan Convention, on the responsibilities of leadership.

The first order of business was to establish that the monthly meetings of Vestry will be the second Thursday of the month from 7:00-9:00 p.m. The two exceptions will be in April when the second Thursday is Maundy Thursday and August when the Rector is on vacation.

After the Commission Reports, the majority of the meeting was spent on the 2009 Budget. As John and Chris Greenlaw were unable to attend the meeting, Carrie Cone did a commendable job explaining the budget, especially to the new members of the Vestry. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to table approval of the budget until the January meeting when all of the 2008 receipts have been received.

The Diocese has requested that St Alban's host the next "Safeguarding Our Children" training in January. This is required training for all members of the parish working with children in any activity sponsored by the parish. All of the Episcopal Churches in the area will be invited to attend this training. In addition, we will host training sessions for Eucharistic ministers and visitors in the coming months.

The Vestry voted to send the remaining monies set aside for a "Celebration of a New Ministry" to the "Nets for Life" program in the Diocese. The monies received on "Food Bank Sundays" will be divided between the Edmonds Food Bank, the Lake City Food Bank, and the Mountlake Terrace Food Bank. Gaylord Sisk continues to deliver food received at the church to the Edmonds Food Bank every two weeks.

The next Vestry meeting will be January 8th at 7:00 p.m.

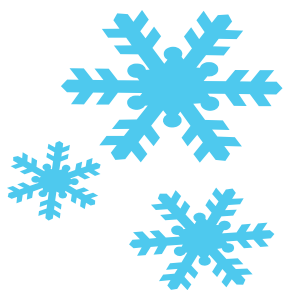
Grapevine Newsletter Articles for the

February 2009 Issue:

Due January 15

Whenever possible, please send articles for the next issue via email to Nancy Boor at nancykitty@comcast.net. Send email messages, pictures, photos and Word and Publisher documents only. Be sure they have a .doc or .pub extension on the file for text files. Or, you may place items in the plastic holder marked "Grapevine" on the wall in the Narthex.

All articles and announcements are subject to editing for brevity, space and content and require name and contact number.



Bits & Pieces—

▼ *Super Bowl XLIII*

Sunday! Sunday!! SUNDAY!!! Did you know it is less than 50 days until Super Bowl XLIII? Come and watch the game at St. Alban's. The Sunday School wing will be turned into football central. The nursery is where we will watch the game. Besides the game there will be activities for all ages in the classrooms. If you would like to come or help, please call John Bee at 206-546-1105 or e-mail at kb7rsu@juno.com.

▼ *Sacrament of Baptism*

Please contact the church office if you are interested in the sacrament of baptism for yourself or your child on the First Sunday after Epiphany: Baptism of Our Lord, Easter Vigil or Pentecost.

▼ *Prayer Beads*

Prayer Beads is scheduled for January 7th and February 4th at 7:15 p.m. in the Annex. Anyone is welcome to come experience this style of meditative prayer. Prayer beads are available for you to use.

▼ *Hands On Ministry*

The next **Hands On Committee meeting** is set for Thursday, January 8th at Barbara Lagozzino's home. Potluck appetizers are welcomed. Anyone interested in helping to plan upcoming activities is welcome to come.

The **Compass Center Dinner** is next planned for January 18th. Watch the bulletin for opportunities to donate food items. Chef Dan is still working on the menu. You can always donate money to help purchase food. Be sure to note on your donation that it is for the Hands On Committee.

And, our next opportunity to volunteer at the **food bank** will be the morning of February 28th. Note your calendar and watch for a sign-up sheet in February.

▼ *Sunday School Helpers*

If you would like to participate as a **Sunday School helper**, please contact Maryellen Young at 425-776-2461. Openings are available starting in February. Thanks to everyone who has participated in this rewarding ministry so far!

*Come unto me, ye who are weary and overburdened,
and I will give you rest. —Matthew 11:28*



St. Alban's Financial Update *from Chris Greenlaw*

Monthly Contributions and Expenditures

	November Actuals	Budget	Act - Bud Difference	
Total Contributions	\$15,298	\$13,073	\$2,225	17%
Total Expenses	\$13,548	\$13,301	\$246	2%
Net Contrib - Expenses	\$1,750.			

For the month of November our contributions were \$15,298 and expenses were \$13,548. Our net contributions exceeded expenses by \$1,750.

Year to Date Contributions and Expenditures

	Year To Date Actuals	Budget	Act - Bud Difference	
Total Contributions	\$163,564	\$155,315	\$8,248	5%
Total Expenses	\$164,509	\$161,233	\$3,276	2%
Net Contrib - Expenses	(\$945)			

However, year-to-date our contributions were \$163,564 and expenses were \$164,509. Our expenses are exceeding contributions by \$945.

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.



Emergency Shelters *(cont. from page 1)*

The Lynnwood Fire Department will declare and publicize this weather event throughout the city, and the volunteer shelter network will be activated. At that time many of the churches will begin to prepare to house guests in their various facilities, as organized by Trinity Lutheran.

Those in need of shelter will assemble at the Lynnwood Library—where notice of the cold weather will be posted—and will be taken by van to the various churches. The shelter will provide the following for the guests:

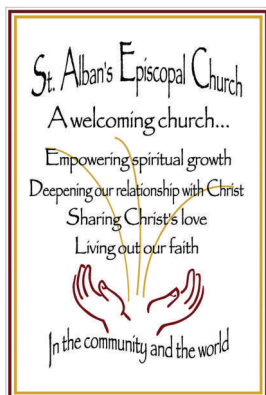
- A safe and warm place to stay and sleep from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.
- Transportation from the Lynnwood Library to the shelter and back
- A sleeping pad and blanket
- A nutritious dinner and breakfast
- Welcoming hosts

Pastor Eileen Hanson of Trinity Lutheran notes that there are several opportunities for other concerned members of our faith communities to volunteer in this effort. If you are interested in assisting in the following areas, please contact network representative Marilyn Nadeau at 206-546-3160 or at e-mail address washingtonmrn@yahoo.com. You can also contact Dan Mullene at 425-776-8258 or at dmullene@msn.com.

Here are some areas where you can volunteer to help:

- Transporting people from the Lynnwood Library or Fire Station to the churches: 2 hour shift at 6:30pm & 2 hour shift at 6:30am
- Providing security at the respective churches: 2 hour shift at 6:30pm & 2 hour shift at 6:30am. Military experience is welcomed!
- Pick up and distribution of evening meal to the churches: 2 hour shift at 6pm (Area restaurants are donating dinners which need to be picked up and served) & 2 hour shift at 5:30am to prepare a continental breakfast
- Light cleaning at the churches: 1 hour shift at 7:00am & Light cleaning of sleeping pads, mattresses, floors, bathrooms, and kitchen area.
- Night Host at each church: 6 hour shift from 6pm-midnight & 7 hour shift from midnight-7am
- Communications Coordinator: Coordination with partnering churches and volunteers. 3 hour shift from 1pm-4pm
- Team Captain: 12.5 hour shift from 6:30pm – 7:00am. Each night will have a Team Captain to be a resource for all of the specialized shifts and to assume general responsibility for the shelter that night. Team Captains will be supported by off-site resources including church staff and shelter leadership.

A brochure on this program is available in the parish hall with more details on the Emergency Shelter Network and the policies for participation in the program by its guests. At this time St. Alban's is not planning to house any guests, and the closest Emergency Shelter Network church is Edmonds Unitarian Universalist on 224th Street.



Living Our Parish Vision Statement

Start the new year off with a special course on how to truly live our church vision. Eric Hanson will be offering a guided mediation on the various aspects of St. Alban's vision statement.

This is a four week course with sessions Jan. 4, 11, 18, and 25th between services from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Know our church vision statement and be prepared to live it! Please contact Eric with any questions 425-743-3538.

A Touch of Inner Healing— *Lesson From a Great Artist* from Shirley Wilson

Somewhere along the line in my counseling work, I realized that God had given me a heart for hard cases; that is, people who are very wounded and need a lot of extra TLC. As a result there have been times when doubt has crept in and discouragement has raised its ugly head. Luckily, those episodes have been brief and infrequent. Recently I read an article by counselor John Trent, PhD, on this subject that I found encouraging. The article talked about Michelangelo and how he overcame a huge disappointment.

In the winter of 1498, the great artist, Michelangelo, was in a slump in his career. His mentor had died and as a result there was little work for a struggling young sculptor. After waiting for some time, it seemed like an answer to prayer when he was summoned to the palace of the Grand Duke of Florence, Italy.

Michelangelo must have been thrilled to find out that he was at last being commissioned to carve a great statue. But we can only imagine that his excitement was short-lived when he found out the Duke was actually asking him, the greatest sculpture of all time, to create a snow sculpture in the garden for a royal dinner party; a sculpture that would melt as soon as the sun came out.

I think most people would have been furious at a situation like that, but he decided to go ahead with the assignment if it

would make Florence a more beautiful place for a few hours. He put his heart and soul into his carving and when it was unveiled at the party, the Duke and his guests were staring in amazement at the figure that seemed to breathe and walk; the figure that Michelangelo created to represent David in the Bible. In the days ahead the Duke furnished the precious marble so that the same figure could be replicated into the priceless work that still draws millions to Florence today.

Dr. Trent asks, “Why try so hard to help a couple when things are just going to heat up again and melt away the relationship like a statue in the snow?” The answer is, of course - as Michelangelo knew well - God rewards faithfulness and effort on His behalf. The exciting thing is that when we obey His leading, even in seemingly impossible situations, healing **does** happen allowing God to get all the glory.



If you would like to learn more about the Inner Healing Ministry please call Shirley Wilson at 206-542-2944 or email wilsaw@hotmail.com.

Book Club

Book Club meets **Monday, January 12th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Annex and **Wednesday, January 14th at 10:00 a.m.** in the Parish Hall. Assignment: Read the first 100 pages of *Amazing Grace* by Eric Metaxas.

Amazing Grace

from Publisher's Weekly

Amazing Grace tells the story of the remarkable life of the British abolitionist William Wilberforce (1759-1833). This accessible biography chronicles Wilberforce's extraordinary role as a human rights activist, cultural reformer, and member of Parliament. At the center of this heroic life was a passionate twenty-year fight to abolish the British slave trade, a battle Wilberforce won in 1807, as well as efforts to abolish slavery itself in the British colonies, a victory achieved just three days before his death in 1833.

Liturgically Speaking. . .

What are the Sevenfold Gifts of the Holy Spirit?

The Sevenfold Gifts of the Holy Spirit are part of the traditional teaching of the Church, embodied in the hymnal in what is sung at all ordinations (Vini Sancte Spiritus). These sevenfold gifts are: **wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and the fear of the Lord.** (The word fear is understood as awe.) The imparting of these gifts is associated with **baptism, confirmation, and ordination.** As with all gifts, they need be graciously accepted as our own!

—courtesy of Canon Grant S. Carey,
The Cathedral Cross,
Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento, CA

When People Decide to Leave the Episcopal Church over Issues

December 4, 2008

By Grant S. Carey, D.D., Canon Residentiary

When the Prayer Book of 1549 was made official, so many people in Yorkshire reacted against it that it was necessary to quell the riots with the army.

During the English Civil War in the 16th century, the Prayer Book was outlawed and the bishops expelled.

At the time of the organization of the American Episcopal Church in the 18th century, some left for the Presbyterians because of the wording of the introduction to the Lord's Prayer ("we are bold to say..." which they defined as "that naughty phrase...")

During the Civil War, some people left because the Northern Episcopal Church was abolitionist. During the Civil War there were two Episcopal Churches. They reunited following the war. One Southern Bishop became a Confederate General and was killed in battle.

Following the Civil War there was disagreement over the wording and understanding of the Baptismal Service leading to the formation of "The Reformed Episcopal Church" which still exists in the East Coast. ...

There was a major division during and following the First World War over the concept of A Just War. The debate, which reached General Convention, was whether or not war was Christian. The National Episcopal Church stated that war was just, and Bishop Jones of the Missionary District of Utah was removed from office because of his pacifist views. Others left the Church over the issue.

"High and Low" reared its head during the debate over the 1929 Prayer Book. The original draft was scrapped because it was "too Anglo Catholic..."

Most things were somewhat quiet in the 50s and early 60's until the issue of civil rights. Many Episcopalians believed the Church should not take part in this controversy. When

priests and bishops as well as laypeople marched in protest, some left because of the Presiding Bishop's and the National Church's liberal position.

The "New Prayer Book" (1976) and "The Ordination of Women" proved controversial during the Seventies and many left the Episcopal Church refusing to surrender the 1928 Book of Common Prayer. Many objected because they considered the new prayer book liturgy to be too Catholic, maintaining that Jesus had chosen only men to represent him in the ordained ministry—recalling that the Apostle Paul had written that women should keep silence in church as well as keep their heads covered.

When women were officially recognized as priests, some people left to found a Continuing Episcopal (Anglican) Church. This schism seems to have died out over the years—however its ghost lingers on in those dioceses that have chosen to leave the Episcopal Church and to become associated with The Anglican Province Southern Cone in South America. The issues today include those of the past as well as the ordination of an openly homosexual person as the Bishop of New Hampshire.

Oliver Wendell Holmes is reported to have remarked regarding the Episcopal Church: "If you leave them alone, they will leave you alone." That may have been the case in the Nineteenth Century, but today it seems no longer to hold true. Issues confronting the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion will have far reaching consequences, and our ability to come to terms with our differences is sure to have a profound effect on (and in) the world in which we "live and move and have our being."

From the Trinity Cathedral Sacramento blog, Cross Talk

<http://trinitycathedralsacramento.wordpress.com/2008/12/04/when-people-decide-to-leave-the-episcopal-church-over-issues/>

A Prayer by Mother Teresa of Calcutta:

Lord, open our eyes, that we may see you in our brothers and sisters.

Lord, open our ears, that we may hear the cries of the hungry, the cold, the frightened, the oppressed.

Lord, open our hearts, that we may love each other as you love us.

Renew in us your spirit, Lord, free us and make us one. Amen.

Calendar—January 2009

<i>Day</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
Sundays	1/4, 11, 18 & 25	Living our Parish Vision Statement @ 9:15 a.m.
Wednesday	1/7	Prayer Beads/Annex @ 7:15 p.m.
Thursday	1/8	Hands On Committee @ 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	1/8	Vestry @ 7:00 p.m.
Monday	1/11	Covenant Group @ 2:00 p.m./Marjorie's home
Thursday	1/15	Worship Committee/Annex @ 2:00 p.m.
Sunday	1/18	Compass Center Dinner
Tuesday	1/20	ECW Christmas Party @ 6:30 p.m.



St. Alban's Vestry

Kären Ford, *Rector's Warden*
Phil McClelland, *People's Warden*
Phyllis Becker, *People's Warden*
 Carrie Cone
 John Greenlaw
 Mark Gregory
 Barbara Hatt
 Barbara McLain
 Erin Munday
 Gaylord Sisk
 Sarah Sweeney
 Jeannie Wells
 Shirley Wilson, *Clerk*
 Chris Greenlaw, *Treasurer*

Staff

The Rev. John Leech, *Rector*
 Doris Eaker, *Parish Secretary*
 JoAn Andenes,
Music Director & Organist
 Joyce Carver, *Director of Children
& Youth Education*
 Ben Johnson, *Youth Leader*
 Nancy Boor, *Editor, The Grapevine*
 Phil McClelland, *Webmaster*

Office Hours

Monday & Wednesday
 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
 Tuesday & Thursday
 8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

* Upcoming Events

February 8 Wills Awareness Seminar
 February 28 North Helpline Food Bank

Recurring Events:

Music Rehearsal
 Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

Boy Scouts:
 Mondays at 7:00 p.m.
 at St. Alban's

Annie's Kitchen:
 Wednesdays at 5-6:30 p.m.
 at Edmonds Lutheran Church



The Lessons Appointed for:

January 4

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12

January 11

Genesis 1:1-5

Psalms 29

Acts 19:1-7

Mark 1:4-11

January 18

1 Samuel 3:1-10(11-20)

Psalms 139:1-5, 12-17

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

John 1:43-51

January 25

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalms 62:6-14

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20



Giggle Box:

A little boy opened the big and old family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible; he picked it up and looked at it closely.

It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed between the pages. "Momma, look what I found," the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" his mother asked. With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered: "I think it's Adam's suit!"



St. Alban's Episcopal Church
21405 82nd Place West
Edmonds, Washington 98026

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