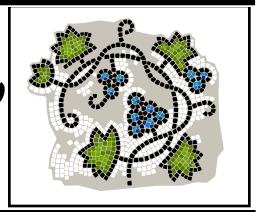




# Gospel Grapevine



## January 2011

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**St. Alban's  
Episcopal Church**  
21405 82<sup>nd</sup> Place W  
Edmonds, WA 98026  
Phone: 425-778-0371  
Fax: 425-778-1583

Email: [stalbansedmonds@gmail.com](mailto:stalbansedmonds@gmail.com)  
[www.stalbansedmonds.org](http://www.stalbansedmonds.org)

### Worship Schedule Sundays

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
9:15 a.m. Adult Education  
10:00 a.m. Nursery Open  
10:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
Children are welcome at all services;  
childcare is available during the 10:30  
service.

### Jesus shows up *By The Rev. John Leech*

Epiphanies are showings, revelations, appearances, times God showed up - notably, in the person of Jesus. These are times the Holy Spirit revealed that God is present in Christ.

These are the 'God sightings', the times God shows up and transforms lives among us.

The season of Epiphany, or Epiphanies if you will, begins with a visit from *magi* - wise people from the East. Three wise men, generally, are what we see in pictures: and they are visiting three ordinary-looking people, a father, a mother, and a tiny infant.

Around them may be shepherds and angels - at least in the manger scenes. The essence is three beholding three, and finding in that beholding a revelation of the mystery of Christ: that God has come down to us and become one of us, in order to bring us salvation.

The season of Epiphany ends with three beholding three again. On a mountaintop Peter, John, and James witness the meeting of Moses, Elijah, and Jesus. The disciples see Jesus' face shine: he is clothed in white, radiant, transfigured; bathed in the light of the glory of God. A voice proclaims: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I take delight: listen to him." (Matthew 17:5) These words hearken back to the beginning of life - and call us forward to the fulfillment of time.

The next Sunday we remember and celebrate the Baptism of our Lord. When Jesus came up out of the water a voice from heaven was saying, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I take delight." (Matthew 3:17) Soon Jesus himself proclaims the words of the prophet, come true: "The people that lived in darkness have seen a great light." (Cf. Isaiah 9:1-2) It is then that he begins to call disciples to follow him. (Matthew 4:19)

In the middle of the Epiphany season there is a special celebration, which recalls our Christmas festivities. It is the feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple (Candlemas or Candelaria). As the Christ Child is dedicated, Anna and Simeon look on and praise God for sending salvation to his people.

In the first few weeks of Epiphany the focus of the gospel is on Jesus, and discoveries of who he is. In his sermon on the mount, Jesus himself begins to turn the camera around. He shows the people God is at work in the world around them - and, as they begin to live as citizens of the kingdom of heaven, they begin to see Jesus at work in their own lives.

Somehow in the very struggle, the pain, even the persecution, that believers endure in this life, God is present - he is there, he is here, God is with us. In the middle of darkness there is a light shining that it cannot smother; in the middle of despair there is hope; in the middle of doubt,

**Continued on page 2**

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Continued from page 1

## St. Alban's Vestry

Karen Cresse, People's Warden  
Kären Ford, Rector's Warden  
Eric Hanson  
Barbara Hatt  
Keith Oles  
Sarah Sweeney  
Patty Timonen  
Maury Tugby  
Shirley Wilson, *People's Warden*  
Susie Nichols, *Treasurer*

*Delegate to Convention 2010-11*  
Emily Bee

*Alternate 2011-2012*  
Kären Ford

### Staff

The Rev. John Leech, *Rector*  
Lisa Coale, *Parish Administrator*  
JoAn Andenes, *Music Director*  
& *Organist*  
Shannon Duggan & Jeannie Wells  
*Sunday School Directors*  
Ben Johnson, *Youth Leader* &  
*Webmaster*  
Mona Carter, *Newsletter Editor*

### Office Hours

Monday through Thursday  
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon;  
1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

faith; in the middle of sorrow, joy. How can this be - unless God reigns?

At the last, the season of the Epiphanies comes to another mountaintop and the experience we have related above: the Transfiguration. It's a strange, strange moment. It's a moment when a man they thought they knew becomes, before his friend's eyes, a living, visible revelation of God's glory. Moses saw it; Elijah proclaimed it; Jesus - is it!

He is changed - but still their friend, he is awesome and intimate in one. No wonder they are astonished, no wonder they are afraid, no wonder they are for a moment demobilized: but Jesus comes to them, gently calling: "Stand up; do not be afraid." (Matthew 17:7) And together they descend the mountain, to the world's ordinary time.

Jesus exhorts us: *Be* that light; be the presence of God. Be the Good News of Jesus Christ - in your neighborhood, your city, and your school; in the desert or on the mountain; in your solitude and in the community. You cannot hide a city set upon a hill; let your light shine before people. Rejoice and be glad! "You are light for all the world." (Matthew 5:14)

Let that light shine in all you do - as Jesus shone on the mountain. Don't be afraid: God will turn fear into courage. All you can do is this: "Put first in your mind God's kingdom and his justice; the rest will come." (Matthew 6:33)

So we, showing Jesus in our lives, are sharing in these moments of Epiphany, these God-sightings in troubled times when God is mostly likely to show up, and come to us, gently calling, "do not be afraid", and helping us get onto our feet again and walk with him.

Christ extends his hands to us as he did to those frightened men - and bids us rise. Let us, then, come to know and share God's love with all people.



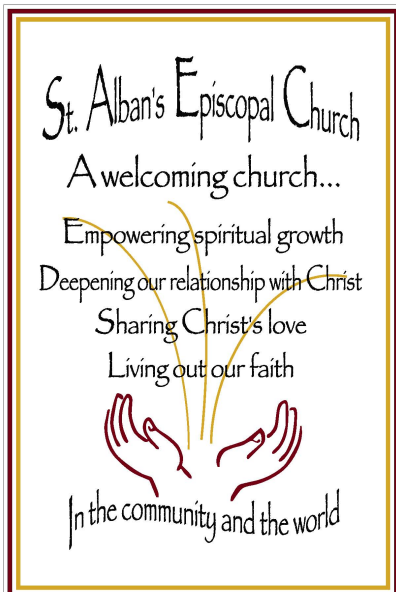
### Treasurer's Report *By Susie Nichols*

*(As of December 8, 2010)*

**Year to Date Balance:** (\$7,829.15)

Thanks to many of you who have worked to bring your pledges up to date.

*Note:* Some of you indicate on your taxes an amount that is donated to the church but is not tracked because it is cash placed in the plate offering. We have been informed the IRS will be looking closely at that number. It would be wise to have a record of whatever amount you place in the plate offering. As an example, making a pledge of \$5 per week will give you a way to prove to the IRS that you gave a certain amount and you have an annual receipt as proof. Think about it.



## Holden Village 2011

By Maryellen Young

For the past two years Barbara Lagozzino, Reilly Mannery and Maryellen have joined a group from Ascension at Holden Village. This past year Carrie Cone and her husband Dave and Elizabeth Eknes also joined us and there was a total of 29 Episcopalians as part of our group. Plans are beginning to be made to go again next year during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of August. It's not too soon to save the date and join us. For more information go to [www.holdenvillage.org](http://www.holdenvillage.org) or ask one of us.

Holden Village, located at the north end of Lake Chelan, is a center for renewal, a Lutheran ministry welcoming all people into the wilderness to be called, equipped and sent by God. While at Holden, you are invited to find your own pace and pursue your own unique renewal and interests. Each week notable presenters lead sessions in an array of disciplines.

Last summer there was a wonderful Bible study about the Sabbath led by a retired professor as well as a variety of other classes. There are looms to use, a potter's wheel, wonderful food and ice cream, an old fashioned bowling alley where pins are set manually, hikes, a wonderful library, interesting people and much more. Holden also offers programs for children and is a great place for families. Our time at Holden is a celebration of life together in the Light of God's love.



## A Touch of Inner Healing - A Good Way to Start the

**New Year: Forming a Parish Care Team** By Shirley Wilson

The first meeting of the new Parish Care Team was set for December 9<sup>th</sup>. Lorrie Pruitt, Fr. John, and I had met previously to discuss what could be done to meet the needs of our shut-in's, and those needing some TLC at St. Alban's. We knew there was a need, but we had no idea how many people would respond to that need and show up at the meeting. It's not exactly pleasant going out on a cold and wet December evening, but I am happy to report that we had twelve hardy souls in attendance that night. They quickly filled one of the small round tables in the Parish Hall and then, as more trickled in we realized, gratefully, that we needed to move to the rectangular tables we use for large meetings.

As we munched on cookies and grapes, each person shared their own personal experience of serving in different ways within the Parish. They also shared their ideas about how we can do a better job of communicating and coordinating the work that's already being done. The areas of need for discussion were: Visiting shut-In's; Making phone calls; Sending cards; Donating food where needed; and Transportation. People easily signed up to help in all these different areas.

Mary Ellen Gardiner and I agreed to be point persons to coordinate who does what. The plan we came up with is as follows: When someone in the Parish learns of a need, they are to call one of us. We, in turn, will have a list of people we can call on to fulfill the request. If we have enough people volunteering to be available for different jobs, it won't be a huge burden on anyone. Like Fr. John said, "Many hands make light work."

Noni Swaim came up with a great idea. She suggested we visit shut-in's during the week before Christmas and give them each a small token gift. We decided to make that adventure our first act of the new Parish Care Team. If that venture proves successful, we will be raring to go forward in January of 2011. I think that's a good way to start the New Year.

Those who came to the meeting and are now part of the Team are: Lorrie Pruitt, Sheilah Reidburn, Keith Oles, Nonie Swaim, Jim and Susie Nichols, Eric Hanson, Jackie Leake, Mary Ellen Gardiner, Marjorie Garrard, Shirley Wilson, and (ex officio) Fr. John Leech. If you have a heart for helping those in our Parish family who are in need, there is still opportunity for you to join us. Our next meeting is set for January 27<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) at 7 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Or you can speak to Mary Ellen (425-778-1970) or Shirley (206-542-2944) and let us know that you would like to be part of the Team.

Another goal that we discussed at the meeting was to strive for better communication so that the right information gets to the right people in a timely manner. We don't want anyone to feel like they have fallen through the cracks. To accomplish this, we are asking for everyone at St. Alban's to help. If you know of someone who would like a visit, a card, or a phone call please let Mary Ellen or me (Shirley) know. We will take it from there.

I hope you are as excited about this plan as we are. Let's all work together to make St. Alban's an even stronger and more compassionate place to be in the New Year.

## Summary of Annual Parish Meeting - December 5, 2010

(Detailed meeting minutes can be viewed on the website at [www.stalbandsedmonds.org](http://www.stalbandsedmonds.org))

Senior Warden Eric Hanson gave an introduction of the Vestry members and also the convention delegates for 2010.

Eric reviewed the goals set during the previous Mutual Ministry Review and gave us a progress report on what has been accomplished by the Vestry this past year.

### **Mutual Ministry Goals for 2009\***

By the end of 2009, the By-laws committee will have presented By-laws for ratification and approval.

Rector will name a Warden for care and maintenance of the buildings and grounds of both the rectory and the church to serve for a period of one year. This person will be the primary contact for the Rector for any issues that arise at either church property, and will then delegate the work to the appropriate person(s).

The Rector and Vestry will appoint a Finance Committee to assist the Treasurer. This committee will be accountable to the Vestry and the Rector.

The Rector and Vestry will move forward with the incorporation of technological updates and administrative changes, including the use of a parish administrator to assist our Rector.

Eric gave heartfelt words of recognition and gratitude to outgoing Vestry members Carrie Cone and Phil McClelland. Gifts of appreciation were given for their time and commitment to the Vestry.

Eric stated that the voting of approval for St. Alban's Episcopal Church By-Laws will be postponed until possibly early 2011 in another parish meeting. It was felt that the parish members needed more time to review the proposed By-Laws before voting.

**Election of Vestry Members:** The following individuals were nominated and elected to the Vestry: Patty Timonen, Eric Hanson, Maurice Tugby, and Keith Oles.

**Election of Convention Delegates:** Eric opened the floor to nominations of Diocesan Convention Delegates for 2011 and 2012. Emily Bee is the current female delegate for 2011. A nomination was made, seconded and passed, by acclamation, for Kären Ford as the female alternate convention delegate for 2011 and 2012. Nominees for male delegate and male alternate delegate tabled for a future meeting.

### **Annual Committee Reports given verbally:**

Boy Scout Troop 300 report given by Scout Master John Bee

Sunday School report given by Shannon Duggan

Parish Care report given by Fr. John Leech

Youth and Young Adult Committee report given by Ben Johnson

Stewardship Committee and Pledge Drive report given by Carrie Cone

Endowment Board Committee report given by Dan Mullene

Treasurer's report given by Susie Nichols

Budget report given by Carrie Cone and Sarah Sweeney

### **Annual Committee Reports given in written form:** (see attached documents)

Junior Warden's report by Shirley Wilson

Adult Education report by Eric Hanson, Sarah Leech and Fr. John Leech

Altar Guild report by Kären Ford

St. Alban's Episcopal Church Women's report by Connie Forsberg

Inner Healing report by Shirley Wilson

Newcomer's Committee report by Sarah Leech and Barbara Hatt

Hand's On Outreach report

St. Alban's Endowment Fund report by Maryellen Young

Fr. John Leech set a special parish meeting for Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at 9:15am, in the parish hall to vote on proposed by-laws, and to elect a male delegate and a male alternate delegate to diocesan conventions in 2011 and 2012.

\*The vestry is required to conduct a yearly mutual ministry review yearly with the rector. The goals listed are from the review two years ago; a committee of the vestry is now at work on a new review.



## Join Us in Launching the Mustard Seed Village *By Christine and Tom Sine*

We are in an exciting time in Mustard Seed Associates as we prepare for the launch the Mustard Seed Village, a residential education and learning facility that Mustard Seed Associates is planning for land on Camano Island.

This sustainable eco-village will enable us to create a Celtic monastic community that models an alternative way of living and provides a place for people of faith to imagine whole new ways to live and serve God in these challenging times. We will launch a residentially based semester away program on Sustainability Studies for Christian college students January 2012. This involves developing a unique curriculum that enables students to create sustainable lifestyles and sustainable spiritual practices for life in our volatile future.

On October 17th we held our first ever fundraiser to help us launch this important project. One of the attendees was our friend, TV cooking personality Graham Kerr, once known as the Galloping Gourmet. Graham was so excited about what we are doing that he has given us 1,000 copies of his book [The Gathering Place](#), to help us launch the Mustard Seed Village. This book is an exciting collection of menus from around the world designed to bring all of us back to the dining table to share delicious food and warm companionship.



Graham invited all of us to host Gathering Place dinners at which we share food and companionship while learning about the Mustard Seed Village of the future. Each host will receive a copy of *The Gathering Place* to assist them in planning the dinner. Graham suggests you invite each guest to contribute a dish prepared from one of the menus in the book then discuss the launch of the Mustard Seed Village during the meal, ending with an invitation to contribute a gift to help us launch this important venture.

This type of small hospitality gathering is very much in keeping with our approach at Mustard Seed Associates. We already have enthusiastic supporters planning meals throughout the the U.S and Canada. We would love it if friends at St Albans would consider hosting one of these gatherings. Please email me today, at [seasickdoctor@gmail.com](mailto:seasickdoctor@gmail.com) or call Tom and I at 206 524 2111 for your Gathering Place host resource kit..

For more information on Mustard Seed Associates go to <http://msainfo.org>.

We covet your prayers for this project and for the ongoing work of MSA in 2011.

Many Blessings for this Christmas and the coming year

## Turning Points

### For this much thanks:

Those who donated food for the Food Bank baskets.

Those who donated toiletries for the Seafarer's ditty bags.

Those who volunteer to host coffee hour after both services.

Those who participate in our worship as acolytes, ushers, readers and chalice bearers.

*Lisa Coale*, our parish administrator extraordinaire.

*JoAn Andenes*, music director and organist.

Thank you for Christmas:

*Thanks to all who supported our Christmas celebrations in so many and various ways:*

- All who gave money to buy the poinsettias, Christmas flowers and other decorations.
- All who decorated the Christmas tree and Parish Hall.
- The children and their families who took part in the pageant.
- All who baked goods for the Christmas eve coffee hour.

### We ask God's protection:

For those living or serving in areas torn by war, civil strife, or natural disaster.

### For those serving in the military

including: David Benson, Joshua Berger, Shane Braten, Robert Burnett, Zachary Conklin, Andrew Embury, Trevor Hawes, Thomas Lee, Sok Li, Adam Matuska, Christopher Mazzeroll, Monica McCreery, Derek Napier, Ian Papworth, Brian Perkins, Jonathan Springstead, Rachel Teall, and Drew Wilson.

### May they know God's healing

**power:** Thelma DeLong, Barbara & Abe Garcia, John Kistner, Bill & Lila MacDonald, Jeff Munsey, Chris Perry, and Sid Rathburn.

## Newsletter Articles for

### Next Issue-Due Jan. 15

Send articles and photos via email to Mona Carter at [mikenmona2@comcast.net](mailto:mikenmona2@comcast.net). Be sure they have a .doc or PDF extension on the file for text files. Or, place hard copy items in the plastic holder marked "Grapevine" on the wall next to the front door in the Narthex. All articles and announcements are subject to editing. Please include name and contact information.



## Hands on Activities *By Maryellen Young*

St. Alban's Hands On activities have once again provided us an opportunity to be good stewards of the gifts God has given us by sharing our time, our money, our food and cooking with others in need.

**Compass Center Dinner:** Watch the bulletin for our next date for a Compass Center dinner.

**Food Bank:** Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup> will be our next opportunity to help at the Food Bank in Lake City. Please note this date and consider joining us. It's always fun to offer food options to those going through the line, giving them a smile and a hello. The Food Bank also thanks us for our monetary donations to support their mission.

**Local cold weather shelters:** When temperatures are below-freezing, the South Snohomish County Emergency Cold Weather Shelters open. The Shelter Network includes several Edmonds and Lynnwood churches including the Jeremiah Center. They are looking for donations for the "extras" to round out the substantial sack lunch meal that shelter residents receive when they leave in the morning.

### *Individual Serving Size Lunch Supplies (non-refrigerated)*

- Fruit (peaches, applesauce, etc)
- Chips & Crackers
- Pudding
- Granola and Nutri-Grain Bars
- Nuts and Trail Mix
- Cookies

Place any donations in a container in the parish hall. Financial donations are accepted through Trinity Lutheran Church – mail to 6215 196th St. S.W., Lynnwood, WA 98036. If someone wants more information, please call Sue and Mark Waldin at 425-338-7932 or email [mwaldin@flycatcherinc.com](mailto:mwaldin@flycatcherinc.com)

**Christmas/New Year Donations:** Instead of sponsoring families this year, schools have requested gift cards. The Vestry authorized a donation to Chase Lake. The Hands On committee is also donating some cards to support Cedar Valley Community School. If you would like to participate, please make a donation designated to Hands On Gift Cards.

**Hands On Meeting:** The next Hands On meeting will be **7 p.m. Thursday, January 13<sup>th</sup>** at Barbara Lagozzino's. We would love to have you join us and bring your ideas or just come and participate in our fellowship.

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## Boy Scout Troop 300 *By Fr. John Leech (Eagle Scout)*

The court of honor on Monday, Dec. 13 was a successful and happy occasion. Two new Scouts were welcomed: Brandon Green and Erick Ratchford. Ben Asher advanced to Star rank. The troop has grown from one to three patrols under Scoutmaster John Bee's leadership. Many adult leaders are involved in the growth of the troop and committed to the development of the boys.

# Thank You

## Episcopal Church Women (ECW) *By Connie Forsberg*

The ECW Christmas potluck was a great success! The parish hall was festively decorated. Evie Arneson made her special punch and more than 40 women were in attendance. Becky Dawson read a humorous story followed by the invocation. Kären Ford and her guest, Adrienne McGruder sang a beautiful Christmas duet and were accompanied by JoAn Andenes. Next the entire group had fun singing 'Jingle Bells' while shaking car keys for sound effects. Adrienne and Kären then led multiple groups in singing 'The Twelve Days of Christmas.' After dinner and dessert, a gift exchange game, organized by Lorrie Pruitt, was played.

As always, please keep the food baskets full of donations. People are very needy this time of year! Thank you to Gaylord for delivering the food to the Edmonds Food bank every week. Our group is open to all women and friends. Any questions, call me or e-mail at [leandforsbe@aol.com](mailto:leandforsbe@aol.com).

Dear St. Alban's,  
Thank you for your generous contribution of \$200 to The Little Red School House. It is good to hear that our organization is having an impact on the community. Being a parent of a special needs child myself and already having been on this amazing journey for 14 years with my daughter, I am very passionate about our work and am thrilled when others share our passion. Thanks again for your Parish's support.

Diane Gillings  
Development Assistant  
Little Red School House

Dear Mary,  
Thank you for inviting me to the Welcome Newcomer's Brunch. The food and company were great. I really like the idea of a brunch to bring people together in Christ and feel at home.

In Him with Christmas Blessings,  
Monica Martin

### ECW January Birthdays

- 06 Evie Arneson
- 16 Carrie Cone
- 18 Christine Sine
- 19 Barbara Campbell
- 24 Sarah Leech
- 24 Karan Stephens
- 28 Sheilah Reidburn
- 29 Lorrie Pruitt



Group singing 'Twelve Days of Christmas'



Adrienne and Kären singing duet

### Announcements

**Prayer Beads** will meet Tuesday, Jan. 4th in the Parish Hall at 7pm. If you've ever wondered about what praying with prayer beads is like, come join us. Prayer beads are available for you to try.

**New St. Alban's Web Site** - Our web site has been updated at [stalbansedmonds.org](http://stalbansedmonds.org). Congregational web sites are the new front door for parishes in this day and age.

**Quiet Day for the Church** on Saturday, January 29th, 9am-1pm in the church.

**Vestry meetings** for 2011 will be held mostly on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Parish Hall: January 11, February 8, March 1, April 12, May 10, June 14, July 19, No meeting in August, September 13, October 11, November 8, December 13.

**The Annual Meeting** is set for the first Sunday in December, December 4, 2011.

Remember, **no coffee cups or food in the church proper.**

Don't forget to **wear name tags** to make it easier for guests and new members to remember your name.

**St. Alban's Episcopal Church**  
21405 82<sup>nd</sup> Place West  
Edmonds, WA 98026



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## ***Special Parish Meeting***

*A special meeting of the parish will be held Sunday, February 6, 2011  
at 9:15 am in the parish hall, to vote on proposed by-laws, and  
to elect a male delegate and a male alternate delegate to diocesan  
conventions in 2011 and 2010.*

*See you there!*

