

## AROUND THE PARISH

as of November 30, 2015

St. Alban's seeks to be a welcoming, Christ-centered community,  
committed to sharing Christ's love, empowering people to grow spiritually,  
deepening our relationship with Christ and living out our faith in the community and the world.

### COMING EVENTS

- 12/2 6:30pm, Bible Study, PH  
12/5 9:30am, Altar Guild, Sanctuary &  
Parish Hall  
12/7 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH  
12/8 7:00pm, Vestry, PH  
12/9 6:30pm, Bible Study, PH  
12/14 6:30-7:30pm, Girl Scouts, SS  
7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH

(PH = Parish Hall; SS = Sunday School)

### PLANNING AHEAD

+December 24, 7:30pm, *Christmas Eve Service*

+January 31, 2016, *Annual Meeting, PH.*  
One service at 9:30am; meeting 11:15-12:30pm



### MESSAGE FROM FR. BOB

It has been a good year at St. Alban's and I have enjoyed getting to know many of you. Thank you for your good wishes, prayers and blessings this past Sunday as we officially said goodbye. I am looking forward to the Celtic Concert on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, as a way to sit in the audience and remember the ways you have touched my life. I believe that God has a great future in mind for this church family, and I look forward to watching it unfold.

In God's Peace,  
Fr. Bob Dunn

### WELCOME TO FR. GREG PETERS

Fr. Greg Peters will be St. Alban's supply priest starting Sunday, November 29. Fr. Greg has been with us several times in the past.

Fr. Greg lives with his wife Erika Schreder, and two daughters, Hanni and Sarah, in West Seattle. He was born in Wisconsin, but has lived his entire adult life in the Puget Sound region. He enjoys bicycling, gardening, fishing, cooking, dinner parties, woodworking and travel.

Some of Fr. Greg's early formative experiences came as a camper at Diocese of Milwaukee's Camp Webb. His first sense of calling to ordained ministry came while working as a counselor at Camp Huston.



### REST IN PEACE, MORRIE TUGBY

Our brother in Christ, Morrie Tugby, passed away on Thursday morning, November 26. He was a long-time and active member of St. Alban's, serving on Vestry, the Finance Committee, Endowment Board and as a faithful usher at our 8:00am Sunday services. Morrie and his wife Dee, who passed away several years ago, have two children, Brent and Kristin.

One major project Morrie spearheaded was the replacement of the Parish Hall carpeting. He single-handedly collected samples for parishioners to review, got bids, checked pros and cons and arranged for installation. Thanks to Morrie's perseverance, we soon had a "new" Parish Hall.

Morrie and his ever-smiling face will be missed. Please keep Morrie, Brent, Kristen and their family in your prayers. Service arrangements are pending.

## **PRELIMINARY STEWARDSHIP INFO**

Since the Ingathering on November 8, we have received 46 pledges, of which six are new pledges from people who did not pledge last year. We still have not received pledges from 16 people who did pledge last year, so it's too soon to know our total results. However, of the pledges received, 52% of the pledgers increased over the amount pledged last year. These increased results will largely go towards helping us acquire our next priest. Thank you to everyone for your faithfulness. There is still time to submit your pledge before we finalize our 2016 budget.

The Budget Committee is meeting to work on the 2016 budget on December 2, so it would be helpful to receive your pledge before that date. If you are not going to be able to turn in your pledge or mail it before that date, you can always call me or email me. Every contribution, large or small, is appreciated as it helps us plan for our future.

Maryellen Young, Stewardship Chair  
[maryelleny@comcast.net/425-776-2461](mailto:maryelleny@comcast.net/425-776-2461)

## **THANK YOU FROM PHIL KONKEL**

*I want to thank all of you at St. Alban's for making me feel so welcome and for the kindness expressed and given on my last Sunday. I appreciate feeling so very much at home in just 12 short weeks. I am sure you will develop a great relationship with John Lehrack in as short a period of time. It is assignments like this one that make me so happy to be able to fill in as a substitute, either for a "one-Sunday stand" or for an interim position. Thanks again. I wish you all a Blessed Advent and a Joyous Christmas.*

## **4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER OUTREACH RECIPIENT**

On the third Sunday of each month, we pass a basket along with the Collection Plates for the purpose of outreach donations. Our fourth quarter recipient of these funds is the South

Snohomish County Emergency Cold Weather Shelter. This shelter has been operating since 2008 and is a collaboration of local churches and community volunteers working in partnership with the cities of Lynnwood and Edmonds. The shelter operates from November 15 through March 31 when temperatures fall below 34 degrees. In 2014 an average of 25 people were provided shelter per shelter night. Along with a place to stay, they also receive three meals and a welcoming environment. Please support this worthy cause. Although we collect in the basket on the third Sunday, all donations marked "Outreach" during the fourth quarter will go to this cause.



## **RECTORY INPUT**

In the last issue of ATP, we talked about the options for the future of the Rectory:

- Keep current Rectory (estimated value per tax assessment about \$550,000).
- Sell Rectory and buy another house in better shape.
- Sell Rectory, invest money and use earnings to pay 30% of rector's salary.
- Sell Rectory and use part of proceeds for equity sharing and part to augment salary
- Sell Rectory and use money for priest's salary.

The committee tasked by the Vestry to evaluate these options wants to provide the members of the congregation the opportunity to ask questions and give input. We will be available at coffee hour after church on Sunday, December 6. Watch for Dave Finnell, Phil McClelland and Maryellen Young, and sit down with us with a cup of coffee, and let's chat.

## **VESTRY & CONVENTION DELEGATES**

This month two ministries are being celebrated: The Church Vestry, and Delegates to Convention

### **The Role and Makeup of the Vestry**

The Vestry is a very important part of the life of St. Alban's Episcopal Church. The Vestry has three primary responsibilities. The first two are managerial: to take care of parish finances and the parish buildings. The third is to choose or facilitate the choice of individuals to fill various positions of leadership and representation: the choice of a rector, the choice of delegates to the diocesan convention, and the selection of others in accordance with the diocesan canons and church bylaws.

The Vestry also serves as an advisory council to the rector who by church law is the parish's chief liturgical and pastoral officer.

The Vestry consists of lay members of the church elected by the congregation at the annual parish meeting. The Vestry of St. Alban's has nine (9) elected members. Vestry members normally serve a three-year term and must be enrolled, confirmed adult (16+) communicants in good standing of the parish.

The officers of the Vestry consist of the Rector, Senior Warden, Junior Warden(s), Clerk and Treasurer. No two offices may be held by the same person.

Terms are rotated so that usually no more than three members are replaced each year. Vestry members cannot serve more than one three-year term without having taken one year off the Vestry. However, current Vestry members can be re-elected if they are fulfilling a term for a previous Vestry member.

At the first meeting of the Vestry after the Annual Parish Meeting, a Senior Warden and one or more Junior Wardens are chosen. The annual parish meeting is usually held in January each year at St. Alban's.

When the Parish is without a Rector, the Wardens are elected by the Vestry. In all other cases, the Rector appoints the Senior Warden

and the Vestry elects the Junior Warden(s). The Vestry also elects a Clerk and a Treasurer, in accordance with our bylaws.

At the end of 2015, current Junior Wardens Karen Ford and Phil McClelland, and Senior Warden Dan Mullene will conclude their terms.

The Vestry of St. Alban's usually meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 7:00pm until about 9:00pm in the Parish Hall. Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are open to members of the congregation.

If you have any questions about the Vestry, please ask wardens Dan, Karen, Phil, or any other Vestry members. More information is available from church bylaws at our web site on the following link:

<http://stalbansedmonds.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/Bylaws-adopted-6-February-20114.pdf>



### **DELEGATES TO THE DIOCESAN ANNUAL CONVENTION**

Every year, usually in early November, the Diocese of Olympia holds its annual convention. All churches in the diocese send representatives (delegates) to convention to represent our interests and participate in shaping the policies, rules and regulations of the diocese. Churches are entitled to send a number of delegates governed by their congregation's size.

St. Alban's currently sends two delegates, and also has two alternates available to fill in should the delegates be unable to do so. Dan Mullene and Carrie Cone are the delegates for 2015. Our alternate is Ken Hicks. (Carrie has graciously volunteered to step up from her po-

sition as an alternate to fill in for previously elected delegate Carol Hicks).

Delegates typically serve for two years, and then alternates assume those roles, and new alternates are chosen. Delegates and alternates are elected as needed at our Annual Parish Meeting, usually held in January.

The responsibilities of delegates include:

1. Attending convention, speaking to and voting on issues raised.
2. Attending regional ministry and pre-convention meetings.
3. Meeting together with other delegates from their congregation prior to convention to determine voting strategies and the congregation's position on issues.
4. Providing a major link between the congregation, the region and the diocese-at-large.
5. Participating in regional activities and programs – supporting the work of the larger church through the regions.
6. Providing input on the diocesan budget and budget priorities through online resources and pre-convention meetings.
7. Reporting back to the congregation after the convention.
8. Voting at convention on behalf of the parish or mission on resolutions that may affect the governance of the diocese and/or the congregation.
9. Electing members of the diocesan governing bodies & deputies to General Convention.

The responsibilities of alternate delegates include all of the above, with the exception of speaking and voting at the convention. Alternates should be ready to step in as a delegate at any time. For this reason, it is also often beneficial for alternates to attend the diocesan convention as observers.

If you have additional questions, please speak with Carrie Cone or Dan Mullene, or any Vestry

### **OFFERING ENVELOPES**

There was an option on the Pledge Card for people to request to receive Offering Envelopes for 2016. These envelopes are available for making an offering whether or not you pledge. They are especially useful if you prefer to give cash because the number on the envelope can be used to give you credit for your donation. If you would like Offering Envelopes or aren't sure if you checked the box on your pledge card, please contact Maryellen Young, Treasurer, 425-776-2461, or [maryelleny@comcast.net](mailto:maryelleny@comcast.net) and a set of envelopes will be assigned to you.

These envelopes will be available in the Parish Hall in mid-December. Also, please note that in previous years we would assign the same number each year. However, since many people do not use envelopes, we are now just utilizing our existing supply. This means each year you will be assigned a new number.



### **ELECTRONIC GIVING**

Today most people donate to St. Alban's via cash or check. A few use online bill pay where a check gets mailed to the church from your checking account. Are you interested in giving electronically? Some people today no longer write checks and are utilizing electronic forms of giving.

The Diocese does offer a method where churches can establish an electronic method of giving. There are charges involved with offering this service. If you would be interested in having electronic giving available as an option

here at St. Alban's, please contact Maryellen Young, Treasurer, [maryelleny@comcast.net](mailto:maryelleny@comcast.net) or 425-776-2461. If there is sufficient interest, we can explore the feasibility and costs associated with providing this option.



**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS**

**December 6 – Advent 2**

Paul talks about “*producing a harvest or righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.*” As disciples and stewards, how does our daily life and our gratitude to God for all His gifts reflect for others “the glory and praise of God”? How can we best work at being good “harvesters”?

**December 13 – Advent 3**

Zephaniah describes God’s love and joy in us. “*He will rejoice over you with gladness; he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.*” God yearns for us to respond to him in the same glorious and enthusiastic way he models for us. Caring stewards use the holy habits of prayer, study, worship in community and generous giving to respond to the Lord’s overwhelming, freely-given gifts.

**December 20 – Advent 4**

How blessed we are to hear again some of the phrases from Mary’s song of praise: “*He has mercy on those who fear him....he has lifted up the lowly....he has filled the hungry with good things....Phe has come to the help of his servant.*” The blessings outlined in the

*Magnificat* continue to be given to use in a multitude of ways. As this holy season begins, let us especially be grateful that God continues to be willing to uphold all of us in our daily lives.

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**December 6 – Second Sunday of Advent**

**Malachi 3:1-4; Canticle 16  
Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6**

8:00 Lector: Sharon Joy  
EM: Jeff Tobin  
10:30 Lector: Susie Nichols  
EM: Claudia Walker

**December 13 – Third Sunday of Advent**

**Zephaniah 3:14-20; Canticle 9  
Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18**

8:00 Lector: Shannon Duggan  
EM: Howard Hayden  
10:30 Lector: Susie Nichols  
EM: Reilly Mannery

**December 20 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Micah 5:2-5a; Canticle 15  
Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)**

8:00 Lector: Denise Robertson  
EM: Jeff Tobin  
10:30 Lector: Shirley Clark  
EM: Mary Fowler

**Also serving as Crucifer/Acolyte**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday at 10:30: Sam Wells  
Other Sundays at 10:30: Emily Goergen**

**REMEMBER THE FOOD BANK  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2015**

**Please donate canned or dry goods -  
or donate cash to the  
Food Bank basket.**