

AROUND THE PARISH

January 31, 2017

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

- 2/6 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH
2/7 10:00-11:30am, Bible Study, PH
7:00pm, Prayer Beads, Annex
2/12 7:00pm, Selah Service, PH
2/13 6:30pm, Girls Scouts, SS
7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH
2/14 10:00-11:30am, Bible Study, PH
7:00pm, Vestry, PH
2/15 6:30pm, Soup Supper, PH

PLANNING AHEAD

- February 28, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 5:00-7:00pm**
March 1, Ash Wednesday, Eucharist at 7:00pm
Lenten Soup Suppers, Wednesdays, Mar 8, 15, 22, 29, Apr 5, 6:30pm
Lenten Evening Prayer, prior to Soup Supper as above, 6:00pm

FEBRUARY 15 SOUP SUPPER

Come listen to our new Vestry member, Jim Gilman, and his discussion of "Islam for Beginners." Jim is a Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Religion, having taught at Mary Baldwin University in Virginia.

Dinner begins at 6:30pm, Please bring soup, salad or dessert as you are able.

SELAH SERVICE

Sunday, February 12, 7:00pm

Jeff Johnson, whose musical group performed a beautiful concert of Celtic music for St. Alban's and guests, also leads a Selah worship service, which combines silent prayer, simple choruses and hymns with readings from Scripture and prayers on the Christian Celtic tradition. The word "Selah" is likely a musical

term found in the Psalms meaning "to pause or rest."

You are invited to attend this unique service on Sunday, February 12, at 7:00pm. Please bring family and friends to share this unique service. Flyers are available in the Parish Hall. If you would like an electronic version to share, contact Maryellen at Maryelleny@comcast.net. Refreshments will be available following the service.

Funding for this event comes from St. Alban's Endowment Fund.



ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

St. Alban's Annual Parish Meeting was held on Sunday, January 29, following our 9:30am Eucharist service and a brunch provided by the Vestry. There were 45 parishioners attending the gathering. Our theme this year was "Celebrating our Church Family" and giving thanks to God for His many blessings and granting us a successful year.

The agenda included the recognition and celebration of the many parishioners who participate in a variety of ministries. Ministry reports were included in the handout packet and gave an overview of each group's accomplishments in 2016.

New Vestry members elected for three-year terms are Pat Chandler, Karen Ford and Jim Gilman. The departing members are Carrie Cone, Maryellen Young and Jeannie Wells, who was fulfilling a one-year vacancy.

Convention alternate delegates elected for two-year terms are Robin and Phil McClelland. A male delegate was not elected and will

need to be appointed by Vestry. Karen Ford is the female delegate through 2017.

Also needed is a Parish Clerk, who attends monthly Vestry meetings and take minutes. The clerk does not need to be a member of Vestry. Please consider this position and contact a Vestry member if interested.

Treasurer Maryellen Young presented the final 2016 finances and discussed the 2017 budget as accepted by the Vestry at its January meeting.

Dan Mullene, Chair of the Call Committee, reviewed the committee's progress to date. Their intent and hope is to have a priest recommendation for Vestry during the second quarter of 2017.

The recent roof repairs and current status of the roof were discussed by Phil McClelland, along with information of what needs to be done in the future.

A rectory status report was given by Phil McClelland and Maryellen Young. Vestry is continuing to explore options in conjunction with the calling of a new priest.

Copies of the financial report and ministries are available in the Parish Hall.

Future of the Rectory

At our annual meeting this past Sunday, there was a good discussion about the future of our Rectory. St. Alban's has had our current Rectory since the 1960's, serving the congregation well in providing a home for our priests, as well as covering part of their compensation. As we are in the process of calling a new priest, it's time to begin investigating our options.

We plan to hire a priest to work 67% time based on what we can afford. We have in our budget funds to cover 37% of the compensation. Providing a Rectory for our priest equates to 30% of his/her compensation, thus totally 67%. However, if the priest does not want to live in the rectory, we will need to sell it and invest the proceeds to produce an income stream to pay the remaining 30%.

If the decision is made to sell the Rectory, we will need to find a realtor with whom to work. If you know a realtor that you would like to recommend, please let us know. Joan Longstaff, with her long-time experience in the Edmonds real estate business, has generously offered to work with us in selecting the best realtor to work with us. We will ask at least three realtors to make market assessments as part of our investigation.

If you are interested in working on a committee to explore the options, also let us know. Please contact any member of the Vestry or Maryellen Young, Treasurer, with your suggestions. The Vestry will be forming plans with how to proceed.

HYMN SINGING 101

At a recent Worship Committee meeting, there was discussion regarding the difficulty, experienced by some of us, in trying to sing the Gloria and Sanctus and a few of our hymns. Not all of us can read music.

In this discussion, our music director John Lehrack offered to give "lessons" at 15 minutes before each service (7:45 and 10:15am) on the hymns for that particular Sunday. This is our chance to learn them, or at least not feel left behind. He is also open to and appreciates suggestions of alternatives. One of the challenges in choosing hymns is finding ones that also are appropriate for the scriptures of the day.

Remember our music director is a Professor of Music!!

PANCAKE SUPPER, FEBRUARY 28

Be sure to put a note on your calendar that starting at 5:00pm on Tuesday, February 28, we will have all the fixings for St. Alban's Annual Pancake Supper. Invite your friends, family and neighbors. More information will be coming.

DECEMBER FINANCIALS

Income for December is close to budget, and we finished the year only \$97 below budget. Thank you to everyone for your contributions this past year. Expenses for December are under budget. We ended the year with expenses within \$500 of budget for those items for which we have expenditures. Because we budgeted for a priest, comparing our current expenses to the total budget is misleading, so those numbers aren't listed. However, had we had a priest and office administrator, our income is within \$2,000 of our budgeted expenses. Our 2016 budget surplus will help with the ultimate expenses of calling a priest.

Income (actual year-to-date)	\$160,270
Budget year-to-date	\$160,327
Actual minus budget	(\$97)
Expense (actual year-to-date)	\$111,442

ISLAM, CHRISTIANITY & FRIENDSHIP

February 11, 5:30pm, Edmonds Lutheran

Edmonds Lutheran Church, in partnership with the Muslim Association of Puget Sound, will host the last of a three-part dinner and lecture series titled, "Islam, Christianity and Friendship," at Edmonds Lutheran Church on Saturday, February 11, at 5:30pm.

Suzy Baroud of Edmonds Lutheran explained her congregation's motivation for the series: *"Islamophobia has plagued our nation for too long, but the recent political climate has further empowered those who choose hate speech over building bridges. Hate crimes against Muslims have increased at a shocking rate, and as people of faith, we are offering another way. We are honored to partner with our Muslim brothers and sisters in this effort."*

The evening begins at 5:30pm with a panel of speakers who will share personal experiences of how they have faced and dealt with Islamophobia in their own lives and communities. There will be time for questions and discussion.

The evening concludes with a delicious and free Mediterranean dinner, lively discussion and potential for new and lasting friendships to be fostered. This event is free and open to all. Please come and bring your friends.

RSVP is appreciated but not required by emailing office@edmondslutheran.org.



KAIROS LETTER OF THANKS

St. Alban's received a letter of gratitude from Kairos Prison Ministry for our Outreach donation of \$411 last November. An excerpt from their letter follows:

"Thank you so much for your gifts to the Kairos Prison Ministry. Through your donations to Kairos of Western Washington, the ministry is able to pursue its mission of ministry to women who are impacted by incarceration. Through the grace of God, and enabled by your gifts, we are working to bring persons lost in shame, guilt, unforgiveness and hatred to know the healing and saving power of Jesus Christ, and a new way of life. So often our guests find themselves in situations of the greatest responsibilities and burdens with the most isolation. Your gift of time, money and prayer helps to create Christian community with those who thought no one cared...Lives are touched and new hope is born because God has put our work on your heart..."

*Leslie McDonald, Financial Secretary
Kairos of Western Washington*



For Joy in God's Creation

Book of Common Prayer

O heavenly Father, who has filled the world with beauty; Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

February 5 – 5 Epiphany

“...give us the liberty of that abundant life you have made known to us in your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ...” Try to imagine the joy in your life if you concentrate on its abundance and do not allow yourself to live in a mindset of scarcity. God does indeed provide for all our needs if we live in Him and for him.

February 12 – 6 Epiphany

Deuteronomy :30 says in part, “Chose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him and holding fast to him; for that means life to you...” These are words from the Hebrew scriptures which also speak clearly to those who seek to live a faithful life as Christian stewards.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

February 5 – 5 Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12); Psalm 112:1-9 (10)

1 Corinthians 2:1-12, (13-16); Matthew 5:13-20

8:00 Lector: Howard Hayden

EM: Shannon Duggan

10:30 Lector: Shirley Clark

EM: Mary Fowler

February 12 – 6 Epiphany

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 or Sirach 15:15-20

Psalm 119:1-8

1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Mathew 5:21-37

8:00 Lector: Shannon Duggan

EM: Howard Hayden

10:30 Lector: Roger Anderson

EM: Reilly Mannery

February 19 – 7 Epiphany

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18; Psalm 119:33-40

1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23; Matthew 5:38-48

8:00 Lector: Karen Ford

EM: Jim Gilman

10:30 Lector: Barbara Lagozzino

EM: Claudia Walker

February 26 – Last Sunday in Epiphany

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2 or Psalm 99

2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

8:00 Lector: Howard Hayden

EM: Phil McClelland

10:30 Lector: Susan Hanson

EM: Eric Hanson

Serving as Acolyte

Sundays at 10:30: Emily Goergen

PRAYER FOR OUR CALL COMMITTEE

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church and so guide with your Spirit the hearts and minds of those who shall choose a priest for this parish, that we may receive a faithful priest, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



WHO TO CONTACT:

The person(s) to contact about putting an article in the ATP or the bulletin are as follows:

Judy Kistner or Susie Nichols for ATP

John Lehrack for the bulletin.

Notices for the bulletin need to be emailed to the church office:

stalbansedmonds@gmail.com.

Articles/information for ATP should be sent to office.