

AROUND THE PARISH

August 15, 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

8/21 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH
8/22 7:00pm, Vestry Meeting, PH
8/24 6:30-9:00pm, Twilight Camp Mtg, PH
8/28 6:30-7:30pm, Girl Scouts, SS
7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH

PLANNING AHEAD

Sept 4, Labor Day, Office Closed
Sept 10, Welcome Back Brunch, 9:15am
Sept 30, ECW Coffee, PH
Oct 12, Celebration of New and
Mutual Ministry, 7:00pm



CELEBRATION OF NEW and MUTUAL MINISTRY

The Celebration of New and Mutual Ministry to officially install Fr. Greg as our Rector will be held on Thursday, October 12, at 7:00pm. Bishop Greg Rickel will be with us, along with many clergy of the Diocese and other special guests.

A committee is beginning to plan the reception following the service. If you are interested in being part of the committee or helping the night of the reception, contact Maryellen Young, 425-776-2461 or maryelleny@comcast.net

**You have not lived until you have done something
for someone who can never repay you.**

John Bunyan, English Puritan writer/teacher

MESSAGE FROM

FR. GREG

THE FIVE MARKS OF MISSION

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

As we begin our ministry together, I want to share with you these guiding principles. No doubt, some of you will have seen these before, and I have talked about them in a sermon or two, but I think it is good to have them in front of us as reminders and guides as we discern ministry and mission decisions.

The Episcopal Church adopted these as amplifications of the five pledges in the Baptistal Covenant some time ago. Those pledges are:

1. To continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of the bread, and in the prayers.
2. To preserve in resisting evil, and, whenever we fall, to repent and return to the Lord.
3. To proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ.
4. To seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves.

5. To strive for justice and peace among all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being.

While they don't correspond exactly with the Baptismal Pledges, the Five Marks of Mission provide a framework for putting the pledges into practice.

Like the Baptismal Pledges, the Five Marks of Mission build on one another, moving outward in ever widening circles of ministry, ever deepening fields of mission. Beginning with proclaiming the Good News, to ongoing teaching about this Good News, to acting upon it by addressing the immediate needs of individuals and the broader needs of society, until, in the end, the whole of creation is understood to be integrally part of the Kingdom. This inclusion of Creation in the mission field makes sense, of course, because of the love of the Creator and because of the recognition that human life is dependent on the rest of creation for our every physical need. We are, in fact, merely animated parts of the earth.

We here at St. Alban's are well grounded in the first three of the Marks of Mission. Taking stewardship of creation seriously is also part of our common life together. The fourth mark is perhaps the most difficult; and we are not alone in finding it so. Examining, critiquing, and confronting the social, political, economic, and cultural systems in which we live, and over which we have very little individual influence, is daunting. People pay with their lives for this kind of work; just look at Gandhi, King, and that carpenter from Nazareth. Even if life is not physically lost, it can be so fundamentally changed that it amounts to losing it, at least for some. This is hard, challenging, maybe even dangerous work. This is the work of the martyrs

Every one of the Marks of Mission is the work of martyrs - none is a truly safe endeavor. But being a martyr should not be equated with those with a suicidal death wish. As you no doubt know, to be a martyr means simply to be a witness. Being a witness requires

speaking out about what one has seen or heard, what one knows in the center of one's being. When we witness, either in word or in deed, we tell our own stories of the faith, of our own experiences with the Divine One, our own stories of change and transformation.

In the years to come, let us explore and discern the ministries that God is calling us into. Let us honor all the good work we have done before as we continue to look for new ways to share the faith, to proclaim in word and in deed the Good News of God as we know it in Christ, and to live the life of faithful witness.



CLOTHES FOR KIDS

We were pleased to have Joy Ingram from Clothes for Kids with us on August 6th at our 10:30am service to receive a \$500 check from our 2nd Quarter Outreach Donations.

Joy shared information with us about how Clothes for Kids provides clothing so children arrive at school ready to learn. Unfortunately how kids dress can be a source of bullying from other kids, so the opportunity to get new or gently-used clothing makes a huge difference to these families. Joy invited us to tour Clothes for Kids at an Open House on Wednesday, September 27, from 5:00-7:00pm, at 16525 52nd Ave W #B, Lynnwood. RSVP to 425-741-6500 if you are interested.

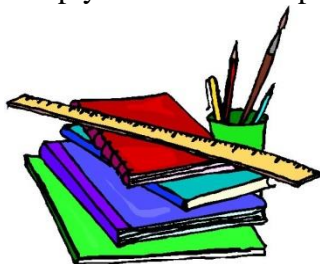
VESTRY MINI RETREAT

Vestry had its annual retreat in March, which was prior to Fr. Greg becoming our parish priest. A Mini Retreat was held on

Saturday, August 5, to give Fr. Greg and Vestry a time to discuss Vestry processes and current items for Vestry review. One of our tasks was to develop a St. Alban's Vestry Covenant to guide our interactions during discussions, times of discernment, and decisions.

Not all Vestry members were familiar with the full extent of church property and the maintenance involved. Junior Warden for Buildings and Grounds, Phil McClelland, led the group on a tour, inspecting fence lines, determining where clearing and trimming was needed, and identifying areas of potential safety or maintenance concern.

St. Alban's has been approached by a couple of churches and groups regarding possible rental. Vestry discussed the pros and cons of rental; it is desirable to make good use of our buildings and property, but we also need to be mindful of any potential difficulties. Parameters have been discussed; if they are agreeable to a potential renter, we are prepared to propose a three-month trial period. Vestry will keep you informed of progress.



BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUPPLIES

If you like to take advantage of the back-to-school sales, and would like to donate some school supplies for Chase Lake, there is a copy of the school's list in the Parish Hall. Watch for a container for your donations.

If you are not a "list shopper," items used by many students in different grades are:

8 or 24 box crayons

#12 pencils

Wide-rule spiral notebooks

Glue sticks

Pink erasers

Wide-rule composition notebooks



MINISTRY CELEBRATION – Outreach

St. Alban's is a very generous congregation with donations for outreach programs. For the first three weeks of each month, we have a special designated basket offering: 1st Week – Food Bank; 2nd Week – Discretionary Fund; 3rd Week – Outreach.

At Christmas time, money is collected to provide gift cards for Chase Lake families, and we sponsor a Celtic Christmas Concert for the benefit of Chase Lake Community School Safety Net Program. The Backpack Program also receives other donations from individuals.

Members of the congregation are provided an opportunity to recommend a charity of their choice to receive money collected on a quarterly basis. Special consideration is given to organizations supported with time or treasure by members of St. Alban's.

In addition to monetary donations, we also collect specific items for selected organizations. In the past, we have donated food items for Chase Lake Bottomless Backpack Program, personal products for Project Homeless, Ditty Bag items for Mission to Seafarers. Our Boy Scout Troop 300 has participated in helping pack Ditty Bags.

The Outreach Donation Committee members are Connie Forsberg, Mary Fowler, Carrie Cone and Maryellen Young.

You are encouraged to nominate a group or program to receive quarterly donations. Forms for nominations are found in the Parish Hall.

AN INSPIRATION READING

Forward Day by Day's daily readings are enlightening and inspirational. However, the article for Friday, August 4, was particularly

touching and an illustration of deep faith. It is one that needs to be shared.

It is written by Fr. Scott Claussen, whose ministry is “one of radical hospitality and deep love for Jesus and the world.” The bible reading is from Mark 7:24-37, verse 7:28, “... she answered him, ‘Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.’”

I recently watched a documentary called “Human,” featuring sweeping shots of landscapes, animals, and a variety of cultural practices from all over the world. “Human” is punctuated with interviews of all sorts of people, filmed in front of a black screen and divided into particular themes.

The segment about poverty features a Bangladeshi woman speaking with unfettered candor about her family’s struggle for nourishment. She says, “When we have no more food, we go gathering grains of rice from the rat holes. When we find some, we keep them in a basket. We go home when there is enough to fill a bag. The next morning, we cook the rice, and then we go and gather more. God is kind-hearted. God watches over us and gives us everything. When God watches me looking everywhere, I always find some rice. I search the rat holes, then go home.”

I forget what it truly means to struggle and take comfort for granted. But I follow Jesus who reminds me that those who hunger and thirst for God are blessed. And blessed are those who search the rat holes.

Forward Day by Day is provided for the congregation by ECW (Episcopal Church Women) and is available quarterly in the Parish Hall.

Father Greg he will be in the office on Monday and Wednesday from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Please note that the times may vary according to other meetings outside the church.



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

August 20 – Pentecost 15

In the Gospel which speaks of the pleas of the Canaanite women (the Canaanites and Israelites did not enjoy amicable relationships), Jesus reminded the Disciples that he had been sent to seek the “lost.” How reassuring to know that he still to this day seeks the “lost” among us, and that if we continue to have faith as the woman did, God has promised to guide and support our lives!

August 27 – Pentecost 16

Near the end of Psalm 138, it says: “*Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe...your right hand shall save me. The Lord will make good his purpose for me...O Lord, your love endures forever.*” As “stewards-in-training,” how can we strive to genuinely trust and believe these promises? Perhaps utilizing the Holy Habits (prayer, bible study, community worship and service, and thankful giving) can help. Why not covenant to give them a new or renewed try in the days ahead?

Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom. Marcel Proust

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

August 20 - Proper 15

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8, Psalm 67

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28

8:00 Lector: Shannon Duggan

EM: Howard Hayden

10:30 Lector: Eric Hanson

EM: Susan Hanson

August 28 – Proper 16

Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 138

Romans 12:1-8, Matthew 16:13-20

8:00 Lector: Karen Ford

EM: Jim Gilman

10:30 Lector: Cindy Goergen

EM: Dan Mullene

September 3 – Proper 17

Jeremiah 15:15-21, Psalm 26:1-8

Romans 12:9-21, Matthew 16:21-28

8:00 Lector: Howard Hayden

EM: Shannon Duggan

10:30 Lector: Barbara Lagozzino

EM: Mary Fowler

September 10 – Proper 18

Ezekiel 33:7-11, Psalm 119:33-40

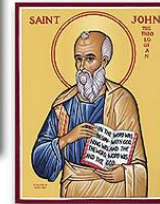
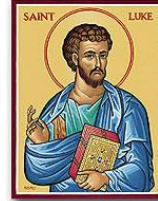
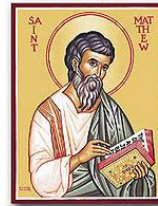
Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 18:15-20

8:00 Lector: Karen Ford

EM: Howard Hayden

10:30 Lector: Shirley Clark

EM: Dan Mullene



WHEN IS THE OFFICE OPEN?

The church office will be open Monday through Thursday, from 10:00am to noon and Friday from noon to 2:00pm. Jeannie Wells, our Parish Administrator, will be available Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

Monday and Thursday will be covered by volunteers, Judy Kistner and Sheilah Reidburn, respectively.

Who to Contact:

Bulletin notices should be emailed to church office: stalbansedmonds.org by Tuesday noon.

Around the Parish articles/info should be emailed to church office. ATP is issued at the middle and end of each month