

AROUND THE PARISH

April 30, 2018

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

- 5/1 10:00-11:30am, Bible Study, PH
7:00pm, Prayer Beads, Annex
- 5/3 6:00-9:30pm, Girl Scout Mtg, PH
- 5/5 **5:00-7:00pm, Cinco de Mayo, PH**
- 5/6 **9:15am, Spiritual Gifts, PH**
- 5/7 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH
- 5/8 10:00-11:30, Bible Study, PH
- 5/12 8:00am-4:00pm, Private Event, PH
- 5/13 **9:15am, Spiritual Gifts, PH**
- 5/14 6:30pm, Girl Scouts, Annex
7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH
- 5/15 **7:00pm, Vestry, PH**

PLANNING AHEAD

- 5/20 **Guest Preacher, Chuck Hamilton,
Diocesan Rep, Episcopal Relief &
Development**
- 5/23 **6:30pm, Soup Supper**
- 6/3 **Capital Campaign Meetings, after
both 8:00/10:30am services**
- 6/9 **1:00pm, ECW Tea**
- 6/23 **St. Alban's Day Celebration**
- 6/24 **Legacy Sunday**



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**God has given us two hands – one to receive
with and the other to give with. We are not
cisterns made for hoarding, we are channels
made for sharing.**

Billy Graham



SPIRITUAL GIFTS ASSESSMENT – IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Fr. Greg Peters

The Gospel for last Sunday ended with Jesus saying to the disciples, “My Father is glorified in this, that you bear much fruit, and become my disciples.”

The idea of becoming my disciples strikes me as somewhat odd, since he was speaking to the people who have already been his disciples for up to three years. His point is, I think, that the process of becoming a disciple of the Christ is a lifelong endeavor. It is always a growing process, it is always a learning process; there are always more chances to serve, to heal, to deny one's self for the sake of God and of the neighbor; always more opportunities to make one's self available to the guidance; direction, motivation, and implementation of the Holy Spirit.

The Spiritual Gifts Discernment Process, in which we have been engaged for the last several weeks, is one way that we, as a congregation, are actively engaged in becoming disciples. Throughout, we are praying for guidance and insight about the particular aspects of the work of the Holy Spirit we are entrusted with. Currently, we are examining how these Gifts can be used in ministries inside and outside the church. We are praying for awareness of our own gifts and the gifts we see in each other. As we go forward, we will continue to pray for how best to utilize these functions of the Spirit; to discern the direction of the Holy Spirit; how best to make ourselves available to her; how to let her

live and move and minister through us individually and as a congregation.

Please know that the process, as we have developed it, is an open one; you can enter it at any time or any point. If you haven't been able to attend all the sessions or haven't yet taken the evaluation, please know that you can still come to any, or all, of the remaining sessions or take the evaluation without coming to any of the sessions. Like becoming a disciple, this process is ongoing.

If you would like to take the Spiritual Gifts Assessment, simply ask for one. They are available in the Office. Or if you'd like to take it on-line, go the website below. It's quick, easy, and the website processes the results for you immediately.

<https://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Faith-Practices/Spiritual-Renewal/Assessment-Tools>

We are growing in the faith. We know that we are called here to this specific place in this specific time by God to bring the Gospel to those who have not yet heard it, not yet experienced its grace. We ask the Almighty One to continue to equip us for ministry, to be able to adapt to the chances and changes of life in this neighborhood, to have our house of praise, worship, and service prepared to welcome and minister to those who come to us, and to reach out to those in our community. We, who are stewards of all the riches of Christ, have so much to share, so much to give away, so much fruit to bear.

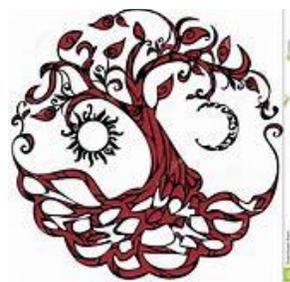
TAIZE TRADITION CONTINUES

In the evening of Sunday, April 22, Taize style songs were sung along with lessons, prayers, a musical meditation and silence making this service special. People had the opportunity to light a candle and offer a private prayer. John led the gathering with his great voice and piano accompaniment with Dan Mullene as Leader.

Many thanks go to John Lehrack for organizing this service and for sharing his gift of music. We are truly blessed to have such a talented musician who shares his spirituality through his music.

Fifteen people attended this service, including two visitors from this Sunday and three people who learned about our Taize services at the Celtic Christmas Concert and followed up on our website—thank you, Roger. Refreshments were available following the service, providing fellowship with many people staying.

You won't want to miss our next Taize Service this summer—watch for the date!!



VESTRY HAPPENINGS – APRIL 22, 2018, MEETING

Three agenda items Vestry reviewed at their recent meeting are as follows:

1. Building and Grounds: The Good News is that the furnace heat distribution has been repaired and is working well. One of the hot water tanks has also been replaced.

Thanks to Phil McClelland, Junior Warden for B&G, for all his work on our behalf.

2. Goal One of our Mutual Ministry Agreement is to deepen our spiritual lives and relationship with Christ. A four-week program focused on learning about Spiritual Gifts will begin this coming week. There are sign-up sheets in the Parish Hall. So far, we are offering a Wednesday evening and a Sunday morning session.

3. On Cinco de Mayo: On May 5th, (which happens to be a Saturday), everyone is invited to gather at 5:00pm for delicious tacos and

wonderful fellowship. Those attending are asked to bring their favorite salsa to share at their table. The suggested \$5.00 donation will be used to cover costs. If contributions exceed the dinner cost, they will be donated to the Food Bank Fund.



TAIZE READING

At the April 22 Taize service, the following poem by Joy Harjo was selected by Music Director John Lehrack and included in the program.

Joy Harjo is a poet, musician and author. Born in Oklahoma, she took her paternal grandmother's surname when she enrolled in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. She is an important figure in the second wave of the literary Native American Renaissance of the late 20th century. In addition to writing books and other publications, Harjo has taught in numerous U.S. universities, has performed at poetry readings and music events.

Remember, by Joy Harjo

Remember the sky that you were born under,
know each of the star's stories.
Remember the moon, know who she is.
Remember the sun's birth at dawn, that is the
strongest point of time.
Remember sundown and the giving away to night.
Remember your birth, how your mother
struggled
to give you form and breath. You are evidence of
her life, and her mother's, and hers.
Remember your father. He is your life also.
Remember the earth whose skin you are:

red earth, black earth, yellow earth, white earth
brown earth, we are earth.
Remember the plants, trees, animal life who all
have their
tribes, their families, their histories, too. Talk
to them,
listen to them. They are alive poems.
Remember the wind. Remember her voice. She
knows the
origin of this universe.
Remember you are all people and all people
are you.
Remember you are this universe and this
universe is you.
Remember all is in motion, is growing, is you.
Remember language comes from this.
Remember the dance language is, that life is.
Remember.

FINANCIAL REVIEW EXCERPTS

The Financial Review of St. Alban's financial records was done by Page Eney, a bookkeeper and expert in Church Windows, and was approved by the Vestry at its April meeting. Here are some excerpts from her report:

"This is the 4th year I have reviewed the books for this church. They continue to improve their methods of accounting procedures and include lots of transaction notations explaining the journal entries. One suggestion is that since the Rectory was sold in 2017, the Balance Sheet Fixed Assets need to be reduced. (NOTE: This action has now been taken). All other bank accounts were reconciled and in proper order each month. The payroll records were examined and all 941 reports total with the W 2's issued.

"You are fortunate to have both a treasurer and bookkeeper working together to keep these things working so well. The donations are counted by teams of counters and a designated person enters them in the computer. Yet another person (the bookkeeper) enters expenses working along with the treasurer. This is a perfect scenario. It is always a pleasure to do this review as they are so well organized and documented."

**Remember
Food Bank Sunday
is May 6.**

APPLAUSE FOR OUR BOY SCOUTS!

They did it again!! Despite wind and lots of rain pouring down on them, our Boy Scout Troop 300 did an amazing job of cleaning up the church grounds on Saturday, April 14. For three hours, approximately 18 Scouts and lots of parents weeded the planting beds, raked and hauled off debris. One parent always climbs up on the roof and blows off the rubbish.

Our heartfelt thanks to Troop 300 and their parents! We value you, and your faithful contributions to St. Alban's.



PLEA FOR COFFEE HOUR DONORS!

The times we gather over coffee after church are precious gifts of fellowship. They give us the opportunity to catch up with each other, discuss future activities and meet with those who are new to our midst.

The shared time is what is most important -- coffee hour is the vehicle and things to nibble on are the "dessert." What is needed are donors to bring the nibbles.

One of Evie Arneson's ministries is presenting coffee hours for our congregation after the 10:30am service; she provides coffee, tea, juice, etc. Over the past months, Evie has been the sole provider by purchasing and preparing plates of treats for us to enjoy. Wendre Vaughan also has taken on the coffee hour ministry by cleaning up after coffee with a few volunteer helpers.

You are encouraged to sign up for a Sunday coffee hour – it is not necessary to provide a

"meal." Crackers/cheese, cookies, fruit, donuts or Costco muffins are examples of what you can contribute. We have a deserved reputation of devouring all treats! Please sign up on the calendar by the kitchen door to let Evie know your plans.

Everyone will appreciate your contribution.

MARCH FINANCIALS

Income for March was below budget by a little more than \$3,000.

Expenses for March were close to budget.

Although there is a shortfall in year-to-date income minus expenses, with Easter in April, we expect to see improvement next month.

Income (actual year to date)	\$41,060.83
Income (budget year-to-date)	\$43,039.00
Actual income minus budget	(\$1,978.17)
Expenses (actual year-to-date)	\$44,748.32
Expenses (budget year-to-date)	\$41,986.00
Actual expenses minus budget	\$2,763.32
Net income minus expenses	(\$4,687.49)



ECW HAPPENINGS!
"ALL ABOUT TEA".

Connie Forsberg

You don't want to miss this exciting presentation about Tea and Etiquette! Certified Tea & Etiquette Consultant, Cyrilla Gleason, is going to show us tips on how to make tea and table etiquette in her humorous way! Everything you will want to know about how to make and drink tea, as well as to set a table and use your napkin properly will be shared.

Date is June 9th, 1:00pm. A light dessert will be available along with beverages! Bring your friends and enjoy an afternoon of fun and fellowship. Save the date!

FROM THE TRACK RACK:

Keeping SABBATH

Among the many pamphlets in our track rack next to the door to the church is a pamphlet: Keeping Sabbath. "Keeping Sabbath is about choosing to live and not just exist."

This pamphlet can help us "discover some new ways of keeping the Sabbath." Sections of the pamphlet are The Biblical Understanding; The Essence of Sabbath; and Sabbath Observance Today. If we can't keep Sabbath the way our ancestors did, this pamphlet has some suggestions to help us figure out something new. "Sabbath keeping is a way for us to live more deeply, within the constraints that are clear in our lives."

Check out this pamphlet and other options that are available to help us grow spiritually.



CASCADE YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA RECITAL

On Sunday, April 29, Cascade Youth Symphony Orchestra's annual Chamber Music Recital was held at St. Alban's. There were about 45 people in the audience (6 from St. Alban's) with 16 musicians, in various small groups, performing a selection of pieces. The student musicians came from a wide variety of schools around the region. Our sanctuary provides wonderful acoustics for this type of recital and it's great to be able to share our facility with the community.

Thank you, Gaylord, for being present to welcome the director and find an additional music stand for them to borrow during the recital.

THANKS FROM DRIFTWOOD PLAYERS

Part of the funds raised from our evening of Dorothy's Piano Bar were donated to Edmond's

Driftwood Players. We have received a Thank You letter for our \$418.86 contribution.

"Your generosity to our theater is a huge blessing for all of us. As a community theater, we depend on the kindness of our loyal patrons and friends, and this support is greatly valued.....On behalf of the Board of Directors, the members and our faithful volunteers, I would like to say thanks for helping us keep the curtain up and the lights on at The Wade James Theater!"

Kim Smith
Managing Director

ST. PETER'S "BIG TAKE OUT"

St. Peter's Episcopal Parish is holding its 45th Annual Community Event on Saturday, May 5, 2018, from noon until 5:00pm at 1610 S. King Street, Seattle.

This year The Big Take Out features BBQ Country Spare Ribs or Teriyaki Salmon, both served plate lunch style with rice and salad. Although meals will be packaged to go, seating will be available in the Parish Hall. Complimentary beverages will be provided. Also offered is Sushi and Japanese Sweets, and crafts and bake sale.

The donation for either the rib or salmon is \$15, and all proceeds from the dinner are used to support St. Peter's ministry programs. Tickets are available at the door or can be purchased ahead of time by calling the Parish Office at 206-323-5250.



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Parishioner's Gratitude

Thank you for our health, home, our work,
our friends, and even our challenges.



May 6 - Easter 6

"You did not choose me, but I chose you." On a much more trivial scale, can you remember the child-like elation of being chosen for a team, for a part in a play, for a special class project? Shouldn't it be a natural and gladsome thing, then, to love and serve the Holy One, the Creator of the Universe, who first loved and chose you as special to him?

May 13 – Easter 7

Part of Acts: 1 talks about the naming of a new apostle to replace Judas. The Disciples named two men who *"went in and out among us,"* and asked God, who knows all hearts, to assist them in their choice. Suppose you were in that situation today. What in your heart would tell God about your love and giving and service to him?

SCHEDULE

May 6 -- 6 Easter

Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17

8:00 Lector: Howard Hayden
EM: Shannon Dugan

10:30 Lector: Judy Kistner
EM: Reilly Mannery

May 13 -- 7 Easter

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1

1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19

8:00 Lector: Shannon Duggan
EM: Jim Gilman

10:30 Lector: Shirley Clark
EM: Dan Mullene

May 20 – Day of Pentecost

Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 104:25-35, 37

Acts 2:1-21, John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

8:00 Lector: Sharon Joy
EM: Howard Hayden

10:30 Lector: Carol Gordon
EM: Reilly Mannery

May 27 – Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8, Psalm 29

Romans 8:12-17, John 3:1-17

8:00 Lector: Shannon Duggan
EM: Jim Gilman

10:30 Lector: Susan Hanson
EM: Eric Hanson