

## AROUND THE PARISH

April 30, 2019

St. Alban's seeks to be a welcoming, Christ-centered community,  
committed to sharing Christ's love, empowering people to grow spiritually,

### COMING EVENTS

- 5/5 8:00/10:30am, Cinco de Mayo/Mutual  
Ministry Agreement Review**  
5/6 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH  
**5/7 6:30pm, Prayer Beads, Annex**  
6:30pm, Girl Scouts, PH  
**5/9 6:00pm, Vestry Meeting, PH**  
**5/12 Mother's Day**  
5/13 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH  
**5/15 6:00pm, Evening Prayer**  
**6:30pm, Soup Supper**  
**7:00pm, Reflections**

### PLANNING AHEAD

- 5/20 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH  
5/21 6:30pm, Girl Scouts, PH  
5/23 6:00-9:00pm, Girl Scout Camp, PH  
5/27 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH  
6/3 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH  
6/4 **6:30pm, Prayer Beads, Annex**  
6:30pm, Girl Scouts, PH  
6/10 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, PH  
6/15 12:00-9:00pm, Private Event, PH  
**6/19 6:00pm, Evening Prayer**  
**6:30pm, Soup Supper**  
**7:00pm, Reflections**



### SOUP SUPPER COMING UP – MAY 15

The next Soup Supper is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15, beginning with Evening Prayer at 6:00pm, dinner at 6:30pm, followed at 7:00pm by a time of reflection and learning. Fr. Greg will be our leader for this evening.

Please bring soup, salad, bread or dessert for the supper. If you are not able to contribute, please come anyway. There is always plenty of food and fellowship!



### Holy Week & Easter

Fr. Greg Peters

It's a week after Easter Day, I'm looking back over Holy Week, and I'm still processing it. What went well? What could have been better? What was the most meaningful? What was the most unexpected? What could be changed, both a big change and the little fine tunings?

Here are some of the highlights for me:

- ❖ Being able to do so much outside. We started and ended several services in the Garden on the north side of the building. We blessed the palms there, went there at the end of the Maundy Thursday service to remember the arrest in Gethsemane, and started the New Fire and lit the Paschal Candle there for Vigil. We both gathered and departed from there. Each time I listened for the birds, felt the wind, and remembered Lila, and thought of Bill and the Wilson's daughter who are buried there.
- ❖ All the wonderful readers at the Vigil – we are truly blessed with both storytellers and proclaimers of God's Word!
- ❖ The gathering darkness of the Tenebrae service.
- ❖ The bulletin art that enhanced the services, drawing us deeper into their meaning and significance.
- ❖ Jacob building the New Fire.
- ❖ The Altar Guild's patience with me, their devotion to the work of making our worship, well, worshipful, and their creativity, thoughtfulness, and precision.
- ❖ Roma trumpeting us into the wonders of Easter Day and out to proclaim them.

- ❖ Jim Nichol exclaiming “What’s that?!” when we were going through the Exsultet before the Vigil.
- ❖ The way everyone worked to clean up after the Agape dinner. It was work for sure, but there was a palpable joy in it, too.
- ❖ Watching people, a few I knew, most I had never seen before, come to the Labyrinth steadily throughout Good Friday.
- ❖ The super abundance of food: all the amazing salads, dips, and side dishes at the Agape; fresh strawberries and chocolate after the Vigil; the Brunch, the Brunch, the Brunch! And in the midst of all that lavishness the Lopezes showing up with 4, count them 4, homemade quiches.
- ❖ Troup 300 cleaning up of the garden, the lawn, and parking lots.
- ❖ Maisy’s son, Jason, contributing to the sermon. It went a different way, he helped guided it in a better direction.
- ❖ The visitors from Portland, who, after the Easter Day service, said, “We have a friend who’s a pastor and he tells us that he is always working with his congregation to be more welcoming. You don’t have to do that! This congregation has really made us feel at home.”
- ❖ Phyllis Becker’s granddaughter approaching me two minutes later to tell me that she plays the flute in her school orchestra and asking if she could play during a service sometime. John, I immediately sent her to you to make arrangements!

I saved the best – those last three – for last.

Here’s why: they so exemplify how open and welcoming this congregation is – you all are. People sense that they have a place here, they fit right in. There is grace in that. There is life in that. There is holiness in that.

Thank you for these gifts!

Of course, there were disappointments, too. My inclination is to view these as learning experiences.

At our next meeting, the Worship Committee will be evaluating Holy Week. I encourage you to share with any member of that Committee or with me our insights, impressions

and critiques. We want always to improve our worship. By this I mean reducing the stuff that distracts us from the Presence of the Divine and increasing what enhances our perceptions – getting out of the way! For this we need your input.



### **APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE FOR BOY SCOUT TROOP 300**

What an amazing task was done by St. Alban’s Boy Scout Troop 300 on Saturday, April 20. They trimmed the front hedge (you can see the church!) and other bushes, swept debris and clippings and performed a general clean-up. As with most other yards, there was a bit of snow damage from this year’s “Snowmagden.”

We are always very grateful to Troop 300 for their semi-annual maintenance of our property. Saturday’s clean-up was above and beyond!! Thank you! Thank you!



### **CINCO DE MAYO and MUTUAL MINISTRY AGREEMENT REVIEW**

We will be celebrating Cinco de Mayo and reviewing our Mutual Ministry Agreement on Sunday, May 5, after both services.

The MMA is an agreement between Father Greg and our congregation, and is reviewed annually. The meeting is to provide updated information, and, more importantly, to seek input from the congregation. Your input is necessary to help us stay focused on our future goals.

As an enticement, special foods are being offered for both congregational groups. The 8:00-ers will be offered a Mexican style egg casserole. "Street tacos" (with meat and vegetarian filling choices), tortilla chips, and salsas will be prepared for the 10:30 group. Please feel free to bring your favorite salsa, guacamole or other items you would like to share.

Both meetings are expected to last about an hour, including time to enjoy your food.

### **SAVE THE DATE:**

#### **Celebrate St. Alban's with our Annual Appetizer and Wine Party**

Saturday, June 22, 2019, is the date for the annual Appetizer & Wine Party to celebrate St. Alban's. It will be held in the Parish Hall from 5:00-7:00pm. Again this year, the event will be combined with fund raising for our Capital Campaign to maintain and enhance the physical resources that God has entrusted to us. You won't want to miss the evening of fun and fellowship!

### **GOOD FRIDAY OFFERING**

A long-standing practice in the Anglican Communion is to have the offerings collected on Good Friday go to the churches of the Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. The funds are used to promote peace and mutual understanding through pastoral care, health care and educational programs in the region.

Thanks to everyone for their generous donations on Good Friday. We will be contribution \$95 to the churches of the Province of Jerusalem and Middle East.



### **TAIZE TRADITION CONTINUES**

Taizé style songs were sung along with a reading about faith, prayers, a musical medita-

tion 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 Jim Gilman 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.

Twelve people were present at this service, including one visitor. You won't want to miss our next Taizé Service which will be held in the Labyrinth on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **FAITH by Adrian Wait**

Faith is the light of the next step  
Illuminating a way ahead,  
Without revealing the direction.  
Faith will sustain, and comfort  
Through our darkest hours.  
Faith upholds the unseen hope,  
It is the seasoning that endures,  
The pain of life whilst revealing  
That misery can be optional.  
Faith is a light in the darkness,  
Surrounded, yet not consumed.  
In the storms of our lives,  
Faith is the stillness, seated at  
The rear of our boat.

### **4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RAMADAN IFTAR**

You are invited to join Edmonds Lutheran for an evening of making new friends, good food and lively discussion on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. This is their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Ramadan Iftar Celebration, which is in partnership with the Islamic Community of Bosniaks in Washington.

The evening begins with speakers and lively discussion about the basics of Islam and the spiritual practice and purpose of fasting. At 8:45pm participants will enjoy a wonderful meal together. Come and bring a guest. The evening is free and open to all. It's a time for questioning, learning and making new friends.

Edmonds Lutheran Church, 425-744-8090,  
[www.edmondslutheran.org](http://www.edmondslutheran.org).



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**CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ETHICS & CONTEMPORARY ISSUES**

A discussion group, coordinated by Jim Gilman, is forming around the topic “Christian Social Ethics and Contemporary Issues.” The first organizing meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 8, at 6:00pm, at The Red Twig (Coffee Café) in downtown Edmonds. If you cannot attend, but are interested, please contact Jim Gilman ([namlig74@gmail.com](mailto:namlig74@gmail.com)).

to take up The Way of Love, living as part of the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement. As you can see from the logo, there are seven practices. Over the next few editions of the ATP, we will be providing information about each of these practices. The fourth one is Worship:

**WORSHIP:** Gather in community weekly to thank, praise, and dwell with God

*When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. – Luke 24:30-31*

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.– Book of Common Prayer, 361. When we worship, we gather with others before God. We hear the Good News of Jesus Christ, give thanks, confess, and offer the brokenness of the world to God. As we break bread, our eyes are opened to the presence of Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we are made one body, the body of Christ sent forth to live the Way of Love.

**For Discernment and Reflection**

- What communal worship practices move you to encounter God and knit you into the body of Christ?
- How will (or do) you commit to regularly worship?
- With whom will you share the commitment to worship this week?

<https://ecww.org/the-way-of-love-pray/>

From Living the Way of Love by Mary Bea Sullivan, one of her reflections on Worship started with, The term ‘Eucharist’ comes from the Greek word *eucharistia* which means ‘thanksgiving.’ The reflection ends with a thought inspired by A General Thanksgiving in BCP pg. 836: “Here it is, God—me, my imperfect life—I give it all, in thanksgiving for it all. Thanks for the grace, love, forgiveness, challenges, and the disappointments that have called forth qualities before unknown. I give thanks for the reminder of dependence upon you alone. I give you thanks.” (pg. 47-48).



**The Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life**

Bishop Michael Curry invites the whole church

THE WAY OF LOVE  
Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

# FINANCIAL REPORT

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## MARCH FINANCIALS

We continue with our good start for 2019 with income ahead of budget and expenses close to budget. Income for March was \$11,696 compared to the budget of \$9,782. Expenses for March were \$12,002 compared to a budget of \$13,563. With a difference in timing for income and expenses, we anticipated total income being less than total expenses at this point of the year.

Total Income ( <u>actual</u> year to date)	\$35,803.96
Total Income ( <u>budget</u> year-to-date)	\$34,116.00
Total Actual Income minus Budget	\$ 1, 687.96
Total Expenses (actual year-to-date)	\$42,658.47
Total Expenses (budget year-to-date)	\$ 42,588.00
Total Actual Expenses minus Budget	\$ 70.47
Net Total Income minus Total Expenses	\$(6,854.51)

## CATHEDRAL DAY at ST. MARK'S Saturday, May 18, 11:00-3:00pm

Cathedral Day at St. Mark's invites parishes for a special liturgy of confirmations, receptions and reaffirmation. The service is followed by a fun afternoon of lunch, games and activities for all ages.

Churches are encouraged to bring their banners for the grand procession of choristers, confirmands and clergy.

Take a tour of the cathedral and diocesan house. Get your face painted, fold a paper airplane and launch it from the organ loft! There will be an inflatable bounce house, games on the lawn, plus Native American drums, flutes and traditional instruments from All Saints, Vancouver.

A complimentary lunch will be provided by food trucks parked right in front of the cathedral. All who attend will get a voucher for a tasty entrée. Please register today (it's free) at <https://cathedral-day-2019.eventbrite.com>.

*In All Things,  
Give Thanks*  
1 Thessalonians 5:18

Many parishioners wrote personal notes for our Gratitude Tree last fall. Several of them will be featured in each Around the Parish.

My cello

A job and home I earned and accepted

Love and for my wife's health



## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

### May 5 - Easter 3

Psalm 30 ends, *"Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; O Lord, my God, I will give you thanks forever."* And faithful Stewards know that giving thanks forever means more than singing. How are you doing with the Holy Habits – prayer, study, worship in community, and generous giving? Cultivating them may make your songs more joyful indeed.

### May 12 – Easter 4

Jesus outlines some promises for those who hear Him and believe. *"My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand."* How can our gratitude and corresponding generosity to God and others not be heightened if we trust those words? What blessed relief to know that our future with God is insured!

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

For a link to the weekly readings, click below: <http://www.lectionarypage.net>

### **May 5 –Easter 3, Cinco de Mayo**

**Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]; Psalm 30**

**Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19**

8:00 Lector: Gretchen Munsey

EM: Sharon Joy

10:30 Lector: Carol Gordon

EM: Reilly Mannery

### **May 12 –Easter 4**

**Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23**

**Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30**

8:00 Lector: Judy Kistner

EM: Jim Gilman

10:30 Lector: Herman Siqueland

EM: Eric Hanson

### **May 19 – Easter 5**

**Acts: 11:1-18; Psalm 148**

**Revelation 21:1-6; John 13:31-35**

8:00 Lector: Martha Philippoff

EM: Shannon Duggan

10:00 Lector: Susan Hanson

EM: Dan Mullene

### **May 26 – Easter 6**

**Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67**

**Revelation 21:10, 22-22.5; John 14:23-29**

8:00 Lector: Denise Robertson

EM: Sharon Joy

10:30 Lector: Shirley Clark

EM: Karen Ford