

AROUND THE PARISH

June 26, 2020

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.



VIDEO SERVICE INFO

Sunday Bible Study is on Zoom at 9:30am

Sunday Eucharist is on Facebook, 10:30am

Sunday Zoom Coffee is on Zoom at 11:30am

Wednesday Evening Prayer on Facebook, 6:00pm

Join Zoom Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark led by Eric Hanson, Link through July:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84765370758?pwd=OEFMd20xL0NjNkZQ0xJbHdaRGJ1Zz09>

Meeting ID: 847 6537 0758

Meeting Password: SeekFirst

Join Zoom Coffee Hour, Link through July:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85174822634?pwd=aW0vdTYrNGtZTGVBQmdzbEJQYm9BZz09>

Meeting ID: 851-7482-2634 Password: 657057

NOTES If you don't have a Facebook account, you can watch the Sunday service later as a video on the Facebook link.

All other events and activities have been cancelled or postponed until further notice.



Fr. Greg Peters

Welcome the Osengas!

If you come by the church anytime in the next two months, you'll find a travel trailer and maybe a truck and sedan. The Vestry and I don't want you to be surprised or concerned. We've offered space in our south parking lot to Jeremy and Amanda Osenga and their nine-year old son Jonathon as they save up for and look for permanent housing.

As you will remember from the recent ATP article, we were approached by the Osengas at the beginning of the month requesting assistance in finding a place to temporarily stay in their trailer. This request came to us just before the regularly scheduled Vestry meeting, so we didn't really have time to process the request at the meeting.

After deliberating over the request, the Vestry decided to follow a two-pronged approach to finding a solution. First, we would ask parishioners to consider hosting the Osengas, and second, we appointed our Deacon Jim Gilman and Building and Grounds Jr. Warden Phil McClelland to meet with the family, examine their resources and needs, check out their background, and to help them explore other hosting options. We also held onto the possibility of providing a place for them if no other options were found.

It was a real team effort. Jim and Phil met with the family. Phil, himself a travel trailer aficionado, was particularly impressed with how they manage theirs and that they have a Thousand Trails membership, which provided other short-term options for them. Maryellen Young checked in with clergy from St. Mark's Cathedral, where the Osengas attend. Kären Ford checked with our insurance company and did background checks.

So when there weren't any other offers to host them, we proceeded with putting together a plan to allow the Osengas to stay on church property. We checked with the City of Edmonds, drew up a detailed and specific letter of agreement, and after



ZOOM COFFEE HOUR

Zoom Coffee will begin at 11:30am.

There are two ways to join, click on Zoom link above. OR go to "zoom.us" on Internet, click on "Join A Meeting" in upper right hand side, at the prompt enter meeting code and then password (noted above). Next prompt is "Enter Meeting." Click on "Join with audio" so you can chime in.

Hope to see you there!

CHURCH PLEDGES & DONATIONS

Please continue donations and pledges by:

Mail check to church

21405-82nd Pl W, Edmonds, WA 98026

Drop off through the slot in Greg's door.

Bank Bill Pay – ask bank to send check to St. Alban's

Online donation, go to

www.StAlbansEdmonds.org and click on "Giving" and then "Donate Now."

sharing all this information, addressing questions and concerns, and poling Vestry members, the Wardens and I met this week to make a final decision. Obviously, that decision was to host the Osengas for a maximum of 60 days, July 6 – September 8.

So please help me in welcoming the Osengas to our community for the next two months. As I said above, Jeremy, Amanda, and Jonathon are saving up to afford a permanent home. Jeremy holds two jobs, one in Lynnwood, the other in Seattle. We hope that this little time with us will help them in getting even more established.

I am proud of our Vestry for the good stewardship they are demonstrating in allowing the Osengas to stay on our property. As we have emphasized many times, we see ourselves as ministering in and to our neighborhood. As our mission statement implies, we seek ways of being more welcoming, more hospitable, and thereby deepening our own faith through acts of love, mercy, and justice while growing spiritually as imitators of Christ.

Benedict, in his Rule, advised the brothers to welcome everyone as if they were welcoming Christ himself. Paul said to welcome everyone because we never know when we might be “entertaining angels unaware.” Our Lord said that when we welcome strangers, we welcome him.

This relatively small act, well thought out, well considered, and well vetted, demonstrates the authenticity and accuracy of our mission statement, and how deeply we have internalized what we have learned from our forebearers in the faith. It reveals our well-considered generosity. We know that this wealth is not ours alone, but rather these treasures have been entrusted to us as stewards - we share much because we have been entrusted with much.



O Father of light, shine upon my path, that the way before me may be illumined by your brightness. Lift from my heart all anxiety and fear, and teach me to trust you both for what I see and for what is hidden from me. So evermore lead me in your way and keep me in your peace.

Prayers for All Occasion



SATURDAY IS THE DAY!!

DRIVE UP FOOD DRIVE, 9:00am-2:00pm

Tomorrow, **Saturday, June 27, from 9:00am – 2:00pm**, is the date for our second Drive Up Food Drive. We can help our neighbors and community by contributing food to help families in this difficult time with unemployment and reduced work hours.

Any and all non-perishable foods are needed – soups, vegetables, fruit, canned tuna, spaghetti, rice, peanut butter, etc. If it is in a can, box or sealed bag, it’s needed.

Please check with neighbors, family and friends and add their donations to our drive on June 27.



Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Due to changing circumstances we are moving back to Oklahoma at the end of August.

We would like to express our appreciation for your welcoming attitude, closely followed by fellowship, friendship, and fun we have had at St. Alban’s. We will miss you and think of you often; please know you are welcome in Tulsa anytime.

God Bless You All,
Maureen and Steve Forsythe

Editor’s Note: The Forsythes will certainly be missed. They quickly became very active members of our congregation with both of them serving on Vestry, Steve has been involved with the Buildings & Grounds Committee and Capital Campaign, including helping with both the roof and paving projects. They both helped with Capital Campaign fund raising activities. Maureen was involved as a lector and member of the Outreach Committee. They have always been front and center in the volunteer department.

GLITCHE OR GRINCH?

Some of us non-professional computer users have periodically believed that Mr. Grinch lives behind the screen. Things happen without prompting, usually unneeded and unwanted things. How?? Why?? What did I do??

On Sunday, June 21, the church's Facebook service was not available due to a couple of factors. A different operator was on duty and a different iPhone was used, perhaps one not as "new tech" as needed. There are also a few "tricks" and important steps in the process of recording and broadcasting the service that come with operating experience.

Upward and onward!! We are in the process of training new Facebook operators. Having only one so far is not practical. And Vestry is in the process of searching for a new camera which will simplify the process and make it more operator friendly.

The June 21 and previous services, including Wednesday Evening Prayer, are available through the Video option on St. Alban's Facebook page.

Also available on Facebook are John Lehrack's Taizé presentations of prayer, music, and meditation time.



FACEBOOK DONATIONS

This week we received our first check of \$570 for donations made via Facebook. When we watch our services live on Facebook, there is a "donate" button. And each week 1-5 people take advantage of this option.

However, we weren't sure how these donations worked until now. With this check, we received donations made during April, so it takes about six weeks after the end of the month for us to receive the check.

We also learned because of Facebook privacy policies, donor information is not shared with us so all donations appear as anonymous. This means that although St. Alban's does receive your donation, it will not be credited to your name. Donors do receive an email from Facebook, documenting the donation to St. Alban's. If you keep track of your donations for tax purposes, you will want to save these emails as receipts.

We appreciate your donations by whatever means is most convenient to you. If you want to

have your donations recorded in your name, you can use our online giving link on our website or send a check to the church either directly or by your bank. When we are able to meet again in person, cash donations can also be made using offering envelopes.

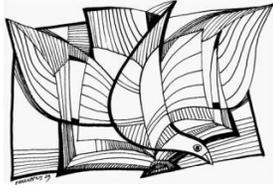


The following poem was written during the first week of the pandemic by Katy Lyons, a student at Hilton Head High School. Thanks to John Lehrack for sharing it with his June 21 Taizé presentation.

THE VIRUS

Here I sit
In complete isolation.
All of us separated by the invisible.
I would reach out to you,
But a simple elbow touch wouldn't do.
Lysol spray has become perfume,
Hand sanitizer has become hand lotion,
The news has become the bible.
A simple virus,
Whose name resembles royalty,
Has done the unthinkable.
Destroyed businesses,
And has ruined relationships.
The death toll rises,
And hope decreases.
What to do?
Everyone scrambles to find a solution.
Maybe it is found in the empty grocery shelves,
Or maybe in the fear of going outside.
Online assignments plague the uninfected.
But I believe,
We will all get through this together.
We will all get through this,
Just not with each other.

~~~~~  
If you could only sense how important you are to the lives of those you meet; how important you can be to the people you may never even dream of. There is something of yourself that you leave at every meeting with another person.  
~~~~~  
Fred Rogers



DAY BY DAY REFLECTIONS

The following is a meditation from a previous issue of Forward Day by Day. The date and author are not known.

Luke 17:20-37—Those who try to make their life secure will lose it, but those who lose their life will keep it.

I have a friend who talks about people running two hours every day just so they can die healthy.

I laugh with him, but that doesn't keep me from buying insurance, having a savings account or putting locks on my doors. Whatever form it takes, those of us with the resources to do so make security a priority. Psychologists have even identified it as a basic human need. Jesus has bad news for every one of us trying to calm our psyches through security – and it is news we already know – we are going to die.

Now the good news; we will keep our life. Trying to keep our lives secure, we will lose them, and in losing them, we will keep them. God will force our hand, taking away the human comfort of security, making us rely on God alone, who can give us real security. Jesus has wonderful news for us if we stop struggling and look at things from His perspective. Like a parent watching a toddler fall, He knows all is going to be well, but like that toddler in a tantrum, we are too stuck in our desires to see it. But God has patience and will be there when we stop trying.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

JUNE 28 – 4TH SUNDAY aft PENTECOST

“...that we may be made a temple acceptable to you...” When we think of temples, we tend to think mostly of special, consecrated buildings. Perhaps we need to focus more on the “special and consecrated,” and not be trapped in the actual building image. Why not think outside the box, and work at seeing yourself as a very particular temple – full of thankful love and praise for your Creator?

JULY 5 – 5TH SUNDAY aft PENTECOST

One of our national holidays [is today, approaches, or has just passed]. Each week in our prayers we remember those who lead our country. Take some time this week to read some of the other Prayer Book offerings for our nation, its people, and its concerns. (See pp. 816, 820-828 and pp. 838-40). Part of a faithful steward's life is built upon prayer for self and others. Here is a special opportunity to concentrate on the “others” part.

LESSON READINGS

JUNE 28 – 4th SUNDAY aft PENTECOST

- Genesis 22:1-14
- Psalm 13
- Romans 6:12-23
- Matthew 10:40-42

JULY 5 – 5TH SUNDAY aft PENTECOST

- Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67
- Psalm 45:11-18
- Canticle: Song of Solomon 2:8-13
- Romans 7:15-25a
- Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

ST. ALBAN'S CURRENT OFFICE HOURS

Monday	10:30 - 12:30pm
Tuesday	10:00 - 12:00pm
Wednesday	2:00 - 4:00pm
Friday	10:30 -12:30pm; 2:00 – 4:00pm

The office isn't open on Sundays, but there are people around from 9:00am - 1:00pm. Before and after services, people are available for quick business activities.

In order to maintain social distancing and minimize any possible exposures to the Coronavirus, please observe the following protocol:

- Please contact the Office, (425) 778-0371 or stalbansedmonds@gmail.com to make an appointment.
- Call the Office to inform them that you have arrived.
- Wait in your car or outside in the garden or under the eaves.
- Wait for further instructions – to be let in, to meet your party, to pick up or make a delivery.
- Wear a mask.

In case of something urgent or an emergency, please call Greg Peters on his cellphone at (206) 778-1506.

