

## AROUND THE PARISH

May 26, 2023

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.

### SUNDAY – May 28

**8:00 & 10:30am, In-person, Indoor Services for those fully vaccinated**

**9:15am, Adult Bible study, Annex & Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86545992628?pwd=d08vTmZNBmk1SW1PUXFybmdpMXNYdz09>

Meeting ID: 865 4599 2628      Passcode: SeekFirst

**2:00-5:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Parish Hall**

**NOTE:** No Facebook account? Watch the Sunday service on YouTube or later as a video on Facebook

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 5/29 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall
- 5/31 5:00-7:00pm, WECP Graduation, PH  
6:00pm, Evening Prayer, Facebook
- 6/1 7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sacristy
- 6/2 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Sacristy
- 6/5 6:30pm, Worship Committee Mtg, Zoom  
7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall
- 6/6 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall
- 6/8 1:00-3:30, Small Group, Parish Hall
- 6/9 6:00-8:00pm, Vestry Setup
- 6/10 10:00am, Mtg for Vestry Liaisons & Ministry  
Chairs and/or Ministry Contacts Individuals, PH
- 6/17 10:00am, Indigenous Circle, Parish Hall
- 6/24 All day, St. Alban's Celebration Set up and  
5:00-7:00, Celebration of St. Alban's Event

### Pentecost Prayer

*God of power,  
may the boldness of your Spirit transform us,  
may the gentleness of your Spirit lead us,  
may the gifts of your Spirit  
be our goal and our strength,  
now and always. Amen.*

(Presbyterian Book of Common Worship)

### “TO WHOM CAN WE GO?”

The following meditation is from Forward Movement's 2022 publication, "Easter Triumph, Easter Joy, Meditations for the Fifty Days of Eastertide," written by Scott Gunn, Executive Director of Forward Movement. He is an Episcopal priest and author of several books.

*So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life."*

*-John 6:67-68*

Whenever I waver in my faith, I think of Jesus' disciples and close followers. They heard Jesus teach and saw him perform miracles, and still they doubted. So maybe we should cut ourselves a bit of slack if, in our time, we sometimes struggle.

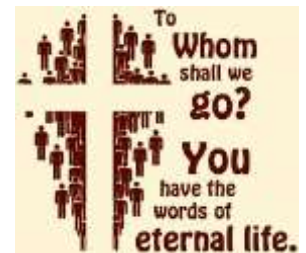
In John 6, Jesus is on a bit of a roll. He's offering some tough teaching. It's hard to get emotion from reading the scriptural text sometimes, but Jesus seems cranky in my opinion. It's not surprising he might be a bit testy. Verse 66 says, "many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him."

So, Jesus turns to his disciples, his companions and closest followers. You can hear the poignancy in his question: "Do you also wish to go away?" Good old Simon Peter, who sometimes gets it spectacularly wrong, is almost the one who gives the superstar answers at key moments. "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life."

It's a brilliant reminder for us as individuals and for the whole church: Jesus has the words of eternal life.

It might seem tempting for us to pay attention to things other than the scriptures. The ways of the world can be alluring. But to find eternal life, we must hear Jesus. That means we need to listen to him, to read the scriptures.

In many places, our churches are dwindling. Perhaps we've forgotten what we have to offer. If we think a church can thrive by offering good feelings, a few good works, or a cozy set of friendships, we will



discover that people can find all these things in other places much more attractively packaged than in the average church.

These days, when people turn up at our churches, they probably aren't looking for earthly things. Even if they can't articulate it, they might well be saying, "Church, where else can we go? You have the words of eternal life."

Let us who inhabit the church make sure that when people listen for Jesus' words of eternal life in our church, they hear an invitation to a transformed life. Let us make sure the sacraments are rightly offered and the word is rightly preached. Let us testify to the world that we have come to believe that Jesus is the Holy One of God.

Many thanks go out to all who participated. And to those of you who missed the dinner, be sure to put the next one on your calendar when details come out!



### **SECOND COOKBOOK DINNER ON MAY 6 WAS A VERY TASTY EVENING!!**

By Dan Mullene

St. Alban's Parish Hall may have been the most interesting place to eat in Edmonds on Saturday, May 6, when 17 church members and friends met to share dishes they had prepared from Yotam Ottolenghi's "Jerusalem" cookbook.

The table was filled with deliciousness that included Shawarma baked lamb, eggplant stuffed with ground lamb and spices, pasta dishes in yoghurt sauce, baked chicken, various rice dishes, salads, stuffed dates and many more treats from the book.

As was done previously at the first Cookbook Dinner, a drawing was held for the cookbook provided by Theresa Clark. The lucky winner this time was Maryellen Young.

Theresa and Clark Chase and their helpers for the event put on an evening to savor in this second dinner. Theresa hopes that we can continue to do this once a quarter.

### **CELEBRATE ST. ALBAN'S APPETIZER & WINE EVENT**

**Saturday June 24, 2023**, is the date for Celebration of St. Alban's. This annual Appetizer and Wine Party to celebrate St. Alban's will be held from **5:00 to 7:00pm**.

Appetizers, wine, beer and non-alcoholic beverages are being provided by the Endowment Board and the Vestry. You won't want to miss this evening of fun and fellowship.

### **ST ALBAN'S IN BLOOM**





**DAY BY DAY REFLECTION**

This reflection is written by Perry M. Pauley, associate priest at Trinity cathedral in Phoenix, AZ. Before becoming a priest, he worked as a professor and an entrepreneur.

*Day of Pentecost – Numbers 11:29. But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”*

The account of Pentecost in Acts 2 is full of miracles, but in my opinion, the greatest miracle is the willingness of the crowd to listen to the disciples’ message.

Try to imagine the apostles engaging a crowd of thousands, all from different cultures, all speaking different languages, in a sermon that probably lasted hours. These apostles were not linguists or trained in the rhetorical arts. Most were fishermen whose public speaking experience probably consisted of selling their catch in the marketplace. Yet, these are the people the Spirit used to captivate thousands.

In Numbers 22, Moses prayed that the Spirit would move all of God’s children to find their prophetic voices. We see the realization of that prayer on Pentecost. The disciples, filled with the Spirit’s power, uncovered the truth that Moses had learned long before: God doesn’t require prophetic perfection; instead, God desires open hearts and the willingness to speak.

**EPISCOPALIANS LIKE TO....**

...sing in four-part harmony, be the sort of people you could call up when you’re in deep distress. If you are dying, they will comfort you. If you are lonely, they will talk to you. And if you are hungry, they will give you tuna salad.

...believe in prayer, but would rather die if asked to pray out loud.

....sing, except when confronted with a new hymn or a hymn with more than four stanzas.

...carefully follow the official liturgy during the service and feel it is their way of suffering for their sins.

...believe in miracles and even expect miracles, especially during their stewardship visitation programs or when passing the plate.

Garrison Keller

*(Dan Mullene shared the above with ATP.)*

**FROM THE READER BOARD**

Jim Gilman



**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS**

**MAY 28 – FEAST OF PENTECOST**

*“Hail thee festival day, blessed day that is hallowed forever ... forth from the Father He comes with sevenfold mystical offering, pouring on all human souls the infinite riches of God.” (Hymn 225)* How can whatever offerings we make begin to compare with ‘the infinite riches of God’? He is our perfect model, and we need to remember that we can’t outgive Him – it’s the spirit and gratitude with which we give that are all important.



## JUNE 4 – TRINITY SUNDAY

Today's Epistle concludes: "... and remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Family and friends may fail us; life may be full of trials and temptations; other groups may not live up to our expectations. But God never fails – He remains the rock of our hope and salvation. He is always present and ready to undergird our lives and faith...all we have to do is ask. What at gift!!

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### MAY 28 – FEAST OF PENTECOST

Acts 2:1-21  
Psalm 104:25-35, 37  
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13  
John 20:19-23

### Collect for Feast of Pentecost

O God, who on this day taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: Grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgment in all things, and evermore to rejoice in His holy comfort; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

## JUNE 4 – TRINITY SUNDAY

Genesis 1:1-2:4a  
Psalm 8  
2 Corinthians 13:11-13  
Matthew 28:16-20

## CHURCH PLEDGES & DONATIONS

Please continue donations and pledges by:  
\*Mail check – 21405 82<sup>nd</sup> Pl W, Edmonds, WA 98926  
\*Drop off through slot in Fr. Greg's door.  
\*Bank Bill Pay – have bank send check to St. Alban's  
\*Online, go to [www.StAlbansEdmonds.org](http://www.StAlbansEdmonds.org) and click on "Donate Now."

## WEEKLY SUNDAY BASKET OFFERINGS

1st week—Food Bank  
2nd week—Discretionary Fund  
3rd week—Outreach  
4th week—Ukraine Refugee Offering  
5<sup>th</sup> Week—Indigenous Women Support

## ST. ALBAN'S CURRENT OFFICE HOURS

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

Please contact the Office, (425) 778-0371 or [stalbansedmonds@gmail.com](mailto:stalbansedmonds@gmail.com) to make an appointment.  
In case of something urgent or an emergency, please call Greg Peters on his cellphone at (206) 778-1506.

## GREG'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8:30am – 2:30 pm, Home  
Wednesday Church Office – 10:00am – 2:00 pm  
(Available by appointment)  
Via email: [gwpeters.stalbansedmonds@gmail.com](mailto:gwpeters.stalbansedmonds@gmail.com)  
Cell: 206-778-1506  
SUNDAYS--after church coffee hour until 2:00pm  
(Available by appointment)

## PRAYER MINISTRIES

Contact Sheilah Reidburn at [sheilahreidburn@comcast.net](mailto:sheilahreidburn@comcast.net) or 425-745-1390

### **Prayers of the People:**

Prayers of the People that are used during the Sunday worship.

### **Prayer Chain:**

About a dozen people pray regularly for members of the congregation or other friends and relatives as requested.

### **Prayer Shawls:**

Prayer shawls are available for those in need of comfort during challenging times.

