

AROUND THE PARISH

July 14, 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 – July 16

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



Fr. Greg Peters

Thank you for such a wonderful celebration of my ordination anniversary. Those were some amazing pies! I set out to sample each and every one, and I'm pretty sure that I succeeded! I've always preferred pie to cake, but there was an extra helping of love in each of those pies!

Beyond my personal preference, I'd like to suggest that pie, like π , is symbolic of wholeness and wholesomeness, and, therefore, holiness. So thank you for bringing so much wholesomeness and holiness to that celebration. I was wholly stuffed!

And I really liked having coffee hour outside. It was so nice being under the eaves, in the shade, but close to sunniness.

I've put the icon up in the Sanctuary, but not in any kind of permanent place. Better decor-oriented minds than mine will have to determine the best place for it.

I haven't read all your notes in the "card," but let's just say the affection is mutual and my faith has been and is being deepened by being among you all.

I have not yet been blessed by the gift of the spirits, but I am quite sure that the Scottish Pentecost's outpouring will come soon. Although Luke doesn't list it among the languages proclaiming the great works of God, it seems reasonable to assume that a deep and rich Highland brogue will be the result of that blessed water of life's springing up, and that joy, bliss, and grace will abound!

I am so blessed by being in this community of the faithful!!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 7/15 10:00am, Indigenous Circle, Parish Hall
- 7/17 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall
- 7/19 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, Facebook
- 7/20 7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
- 7/21 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
- 7/22 6:00-9:00pm, Private Event, Sanctuary
- 7/23 5:00pm, BBQ at St. Hilda/St. Patrick
- 8/5 10:30am, ECW Coffee
- 8/6 8:00am, Breakfast Picnic following service
10:30am, Outdoor Picnic following service



A PRAYER FOR SUMMER

For more light in the day, we thank you,
For gentle mornings, we thank you,
For nighttime conversations, we thank you,
For friends and family, we thank you,
For gardens and all manner of creatures, we thank you.
Help us, Creator and lover of our souls.

Help us love this earth.
Help us dwell wholeheartedly in our lives this day.
Help us pray as we walk, work, play, rest, and create.
Amen

And now for something completely different.

Around our house, we've begun putting things up. Our raspberry patch was super productive this year, and although we mostly ate them right off the canes, we did manage to freeze a couple of quarts. Erika brought a box of beautiful, plump apricots home from the farmers' market recently, and we made the first batch of jam yesterday. The first blossoms are on the beans, so soon we'll be eating them five times a week and still have plenty to freeze for later in the year. And it looks like it will be a very good year for our Italian prune tree, so we'll be making jam and drying and freezing plums.

All this has brought to mind the gospel readings for the next couple of weeks; they are all about sowing, good seed (and bad), growth, and harvesting. We're in the 13th chapter of Matthew, one of his three great collections of Jesus' parables. You know these: "A sower went out to sow..." "A farmer sowed good seed, but in the night someone came and sowed bad among them," parables about the spiritual life and the Kingdom of God, the world, and the church.

So much of what we do at St. Alban's is about tending this patch of good earth that God has entrusted to us. We're always preparing the soil, building it up, sowing good seed, watering, weeding, rejoicing in new growth, pruning, training vines and branches.

We're praying, studying, preaching, singing praises, confessing our faith, confessing our sins, building each other up, ministering to the needs of the community and congregation, rejoicing in the ripening fruits of the Spirit.

In this season, with all its busyness, growth, extra opportunities, and sometimes breaks for the routines of the "program/academic" year, I hope you're finding time to reflect on all the blessings poured out on you. I hope there's time – Sabbath time – to enjoy the fruits of your labors, your studies, and your diligence. And I hope you're able to feast on (now), store up, and treasure (for later) the grace that abounds in your individual lives and in the life of this blessed and beloved community.

INDIGENOUS CIRCLE MEETING, Saturday, July 15, 10:00am

Jim Gilman

The Indigenous Circle meets on **Saturday, July 15, at 10:00am, in St. Alban's Parish Hall.** The focus is on "Seeing with a Native Eye." Our discussion will revolve around an article by that title, which is available from Jim Gilman (namlig74@gmail.com).

We will view and discuss an **award-winning film titled "Primal [Native] Mind"** by Jamake Highwater. He draws and portrays 7 or 8 contrasts between the native way of seeing the world and the Euro-American way of seeing.

Bring pen and notebook. Bring questions and comments. Enjoy coffee and snacks and fellowship divine.



SIX-MONTH FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Maryellen Young, Treasurer

Copies of financial statements including pledges and other contributions were mailed to parishioners on Saturday, July 8.

If you have questions, please contact Jeannie Burpee or Maryellen Young.



SUMMER IS PICNIC TIME!

St. Hilda/St. Patrick, July 23, 5:00pm

St. Alban's parishioners have been invited to join St. Hilda/St. Patrick for a joint BBQ and Evening Prayer at their church on **Sunday, July 23, at 5:00pm.** This event will be a potluck, so break out your best recipes for BBQ dishes including sides and desserts.

Fr. Greg and Fr. Joseph Peters-Matthews, Vicar of St. Hilda /St. Patrick have been exploring opportunities for joint activities between our two congregations.

This event is the first of what we hope to be more opportunities for us to gather together.

Stay tuned for more information.

St. Alban’s Annual Picnic, Sunday, August 6

Our annual picnic will be held on August 6. The 8:00am group will enjoy a breakfast barbeque between services. Following the 10:30am service, there will be hot dogs, hamburgers and non-meat alternatives. The menu will also include cold beverages and coffee. You are invited to contribute sides, salads and desserts.

There is always more than enough food, so you are encouraged to stay following the service or come just for the picnic.



ECW COFFEE COMING

Please join us for coffee on August 5 at 10:30am for fellowship and a great speaker. Our speaker will be our own Mona Carter, sharing her five-week trip to Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand. You won't want to miss this great presentation.

Light refreshments will be provided. All are welcome to join in the fun and fellowship!



WOMENSPIRIT COALITION
20th ANNIVERSARY

Jim Gilman

July 30 is the FIFTH Sunday of the month. Our offering plate collection is given to WOMENSPIRIT COALITION, which advocates against domestic violence and sexual assault, stalking and sex trafficking, on the one hand and, on the other hand, promotes policies and programs that protect indigenous women, providing services that establish and maintain their safety. WomenSpirit Coalition has just celebrated its 20th Anniversary and is eager to expand its services to local tribes.

FORWARD DAY BY DAY

The next quarterly issue of Forward Day by Day (August, September, October) is available, copies in the Parish Hall. If you are unable to pick one up, please contact the office, and one will be mailed to you.

Jesus does not wait for us to “get our act together.” He doesn’t wait for us to clean our noses or put on a clean shirt. He certainly does not wait for us to solve the mystery of human suffering, articulate an airtight personal theology, or establish an invariable routine of daily prayer. He does not wait for us to prove that we deserve his love.

Keith Nelson, SSJE

Move over, Phil.....



EPISCOPAL CHURCH FOUNDATION
Ministry Tip of the Week – July 10, 2023

This week’s tip: Get closer to God by learning to rest and “waste time.”

- Psalm 46:10 encourages us to "Be still and know that I am God." In our hectic lives, it is easy to

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

JULY 16 – 7 PENTECOST

What kind of seed are you? Are you being used up on the pathway of life, eaten by the birds? Do you spring up quickly and just as quickly fade away from responsibilities and resolutions? Are the thorns of life smothering and choking you? Or are you laboring to be a “good soil” seed, creating a life that blossoms with care and concern for others, offers glory to God, and brings holy satisfaction to you? Most of us will face all of the above in our life journeys, but we can pray that the final full one is that for which we will continue to strive.

JULY 23 – 8 PENTECOST

“Mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask...” If we truly believe God’s promises, and trust that, in his unfathomable love and desire to be in meaningful relationship with us, he will indeed hear us, and provide for, not our wants, but our real needs. God is eternally faithfully to those who love him.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

JULY 16 – 7 PENTECOST

Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 119:105-112
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Collect for 7 Pentecost

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen 2-23

JULY 23 – 8 PENTECOST

Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139:1-11, 23
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

become consumed by busyness, but taking the time to be still, to meditate on God’s word, and to pray is essential. In these moments of “wasted time,” we can gain clarity, find inspiration, and deepen our relationship with God.

- Slowing down invites us to invest in relationships, to “waste time” by engaging in meaningful conversations, and to be present for those we care about.
- One of the most well-known teachings about rest and “wasting time” comes from the Sabbath. In the book of Exodus, God instructed the Israelites to set aside one day a week for rest and worship. This sacred day was not meant for productivity but rather for rejuvenation, reflection, and restoration of our true selves. By “wasting time” and observing Sabbath, we remember that the world doesn’t revolve around us.

MORE EPISCOPAL HUMOR FROM GARRISON KEILLOR

It’s 100 degrees with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.

You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can.

Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee.

When you watch a Star Wars movie and they say, “May the Force be with you,” you respond, “and also with you.”

And lastly, it takes ten minutes to say goodbye.

FROM THE READER BOARD

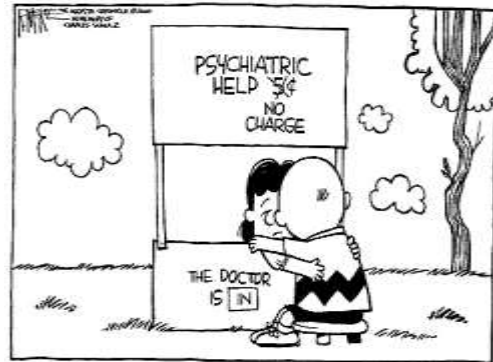
Jim Gilman



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 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
Cell: 206-778-1506

SUNDAYS--after church coffee hour until 2:00pm
(Available by appointment)

PRAYER MINISTRIES

Contact Sheilah Reidburn at 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.

CHURCH PLEDGES & DONATIONS

Please continue donations and pledges by:

- *Mail check - 21405 82nd 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 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
- 5th Week—Indigenous Women Support