

## AROUND THE PARISH

November 3, 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 – November 5

8:00 & 10:30am, In-person, Indoor Services.

**Rooted in Abundance Ingathering**

**Masking is no longer required, but is strongly recommended.**

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**

#### First some news from Diocesan Convention--

We gathered virtually last Saturday to conduct the business of the Diocese. Since we are in an interim period as the process of developing a Diocesan Profile, seeing and assessing Nominees, and electing our next Bishop unfolds, there weren't a lot of monumental resolutions, actions, or decisions. We did basic and important business, passed our 2024 Budget, had simple but deep times of worship, heard an engaging address from Bishop Provisional Melissa Skelton, and received reports from several committees and commissions.

But of particular note for us at St. Alban's, our own Parish Administrator, Jeannie Wells, was singled out for her service on the Diocesan Personnel Committee over the course of the last three years. Well done! Jeannie!

#### Second, a brief reminder that this Sunday is our In-gathering of Pledges for 2024--

Thanks to Liz Bee and Brad Goergen for their inspiring Stewardship Letters. Thanks to Jeannie Wells and her faithful Office Volunteers who did all those things necessary to get those letters out to the rest of us. And, looking ahead, thanks to Maryellen Young, our Treasurer, and the Finance Committee who will compile our pledges and then propose a budget for Vestry deliberation and approval.

It really takes so much – and so many – to empower the ministries God has called us to. We are in this mission together and every offering of treasure, time, and talent makes all these fruitful ministries possible. Our faith in God is deepened. Our personal relationships with Jesus, through loving and caring service to our neighbors, are strengthened. Our bonds of mutual affection are strengthened as the sanctifying influence of the Holy Spirit fills our lives.

I pray that each of us will pledge generously. Just look around at all the ways this congregation is building up the Beloved Community of Jesus; how else could we be but joyfully generous.

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 11/6 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall
- 11/7 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall
- 11/8 1:00pm, Finance Committee Meeting  
3:00-4:30pm, Food Distribution, Park Lot  
6:00pm, Evening Prayer, FaceBook
- 11/9 1:00-3:00pm, Small Group Mtg, PH  
7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
- 11/10 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
- 11/13 6:30pm, Vestry Meeting, Zoom
- 11/14 2:00pm, Altar Guild Meeting, Parish Hall
- 11/15 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, Soup Supper
- 11/18 10:00am-12:00pm, Indigenous Circle, PH  
10:00am-2:00pm, Drive by Food Drive
- 11/22 6:00pm, Evening Prayer & Hors d'oeuvres;  
Guests from St. Hilda/St. Patrick



#### Daylight Savings Time Ends -- Fall Back

All signs point to continued twice-yearly clock changes. No major legislative changes to daylight saving time (DST) have been enacted yet in 2023, **so clocks will fall back on Sunday, November 5.**

Third, a reflection on what our worship is all about--  
Twelve of us gathered in-person Wednesday Night to give thanks for all our Saints. Like those “numbered” at the Last Supper, twelve may be an underestimate. What I mean is that twelve living, breathing, flesh and blood people were gathered in our Sanctuary, but . . . (like that medieval theological debate about how many angels can stand on the head of a pin), really a great multitude was gathered then.

There were 12 of us in-person. It looks like about 40 people worshipped online. There were those who were ill or otherwise unavailable who we carried in our hearts. Mementoes and pictures of our beloved dead bedecked our altar; those folks were symbolically, at the very least, there. A plaque on the Paschal Candle states that it was given as a memorial to one of the Forsbergs, the whole Forsberg clan was there. The paten was engraved with “St. Albans supports Crop Walk”; all those people fed by or who participated in that great outreach ministry were somehow there. Icons and statues of beloved Saints declared their presence. Certainly Alban, our patron, was there.

“Where two or three are gathered” – oh, most assuredly our Lord and Savior was in our midst! Better put, we were in His!

Every Eucharist, every worship, is a kind of thin place, where the veil between heaven and earth or between time and eternity, is most transparent, most nebulous. And we are swept up into that mighty cloud of witnesses gathered into that great banquet, into that great festive hall.

I’m so thankful for each of you, for all the ways divine blessings are bestowed on this community – this gathering of saints, this gathering of sinners being redeemed, this gathering of the inspired and inspiring, this congregation of those called to serve in Christ’s name.



### AUDACITY

Today and tomorrow, as we remember the countless saints and souls, known and unknown, who have lived lives of faith, we proclaim boldly, brashly, and with incredible audacity, I believe in the resurrection of the body, and once more Lazarus emerges from his tomb, and we take from him the rags of death.

James Koester, SSJE



### **Dance**

*A conversation between the Very Rev. Matthew Woodward and Dr. Don Taylor*

**DEAN MATTHEW:** Don, so good to see you, I have really enjoyed moments with the Sierra Leonean community. Even the somber moments. Most recently I have participated in funerals, but I recall a remarkable baptism last year. These events have been full of food, full of community, and full of generosity. The Sierra Leonean community is so generous when their members are in need, is that always the way?

**DR. TAYLOR:** Yes, it is sad that you have experienced this recently around grief, but the same generosity takes place around weddings and baptisms also. The community gathers, supports one another, and gives what it can. This flows from a sense of communalism, that I believe is at the root of humanity. Many believe that civilization spread out from Africa, and this generosity is at the heart of African culture.

**DEAN MATTHEW:** I remember when I was introduced at that baptism. Everyone who had been introduced had danced to the front of the Hall. I looked at you, and realized I had to dance as well. But as I did, drawing on dance experiences from my youth, you and other elders of the community joined me and danced as well. I felt deeply supported.

**DR. TAYLOR:** Yes, I had to dance and support you, you are the priest of my church. Dancing is a manifestation of belonging. From this sense of belonging flows generosity. Everyone belongs, and everyone is supported, with food, with dancing, with fellowship and with financial support. To be rooted in abundance is to belong to a community who all want the best for you.

### ***Questions for Reflection***

How does your family of origin express abundance at milestone events?

*Dr. Don Taylor is the emeritus professor of Communication Studies at California State University, Sacramento. Dr. Taylor is also a Verger and Vestry member at Trinity Cathedral in Sacramento. Watch more of the conversation between Dean Matthew and Dr. Taylor at [drive.google.com/file/d/1oUchVd9Wwknv4T7x8idCMIuQ3FBgLLb/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oUchVd9Wwknv4T7x8idCMIuQ3FBgLLb/view)*

***Look for news of United Thank Offering in next week's ATP.***



**WE CAN HELP OTHERS WITH FOOD DRIVE**

**Saturday, November 18, from 10:00am – 2:00pm**, is our next and last food bank drive for this year. Please help our local food banks by contributing non-perishable foods to help our neighbors in need. Food Banks are being inundated with new and repeat clients – individuals and families. We’ve all seen and read the statistics of the increasing need for food assistance. It is a serious problem for many communities, ours included.

Please help by donating tuna fish, canned chicken, macaroni/spaghetti, various canned and packaged beans, canned vegetables and fruits, cereals, powdered milk, jams/jellies, etc. And, of course, peanut butter is a favorite of kids and adults alike.

Join Lee Forsberg and his volunteers who greet and assist donors during the food drive. It is very gratifying to experience the caring and sharing of parishioners and members of our community who also donate.



Join us for this year’s Thanksgiving Eve celebration which will include our guests from St. Hilda/St. Patrick on **Wednesday, November 22**. This event will begin with a simple Eucharist service at 6:00pm, followed by a meal of hearty hors d’oeuvres and various drinks. The only limitation is no Thanksgiving related foods!! You can contribute frozen snacks to be heated in the oven or other unheated snacking foods.

This is a chance for you to relax, join in fellowship with fellow parishioners and meet some new friends from St. Hilda/St. Patrick. Just come, praise, and thank God for the many blessings in our lives.

**“WE HEARD YOU!”**

Jan Skidmore, People’s Warden

A response to the contributor to our “We’re Listening” red box. Thank you to the parishioner who thoughtfully made specific hymn requests to be included in some of our services. You took the time

and effort to prepare a list of titles and page numbers instead of stating, “I would like different hymns.”

I am sending a copy of your list to Fr. Greg, the contact person for the Worship Music Committee and the Vestry Liaison for that committee.

**“UNANSWERED PRAYERS”**

Sometimes I thank God for unanswered prayers  
Remember when you're talkin' to the man upstairs  
That just because he doesn't answer doesn't mean  
he don't care  
Some of God's greatest gifts are unanswered  
prayers

Lyrics by Garth Brooks

**CHASE LAKE TUTORING**

Bob Chaffee

Chase Lake is instituting an after-school tutoring program on Wednesdays, 3:45-4:45pm. It will start in a couple of weeks. You would work with one or two students. If you are interested, call or text Bob Chaffee at 206-715-6610 (if I don’t answer, leave a message). I’ll put you in contact with Ms. Angi Currie who is heading up this program.



**CHASE LAKE CHRISTMAS  
GIFT CARD DONATIONS**

Our congregation is very generous in support of Chase Lake Community School.

Several years ago, Jim Nichols initiated our Chase Lake Christmas Card drive for the benefit of the school’s families. Holidays can be very difficult for families who live below the poverty line.

Gift cards from Fred Meyer or Winco enable families to purchase foods, clothes, gifts, etc. These gift cards will be included in Christmas baskets in December.

Please donate gift cards by **Sunday, December 3rd**. Gift cards received after that date will be used for families as needed.

Our preference is to receive gift cards that can be directly given to the school. You can also donate money. Designate your donation as “Chase Lake” on

the memo line of your check. You can also put cash in an envelope and label the envelope "Chase Lake." Place your name on the envelope so we can give you credit for your contribution.

**OPEN YOUR CALENDAR TO DECEMBER AND GET READY FOR A FUN EVENT!**

Dan Mullene

I know that we just wrapped up Halloween season (which may seem like it started in August!). And, of course, we are fast approaching Thanksgiving in just a few weeks.

But, by golly, we at the "Episcoplayers Club" wanted to talk to you about December.

Yes, you heard that right: December!

We are already hard at work with our secret elves planning an event for Saturday, December 23, at 1:00pm. Starting with a great suggestion from Fr. Greg, we are going to host a program featuring a reading from some seasonal works by Charles Dickens.



We hope to recreate an English Tea afterwards, so get those pinky fingers exercised so that you can hold them properly when we enjoy some tea, cocoa, and other seasonal treats after the presentation.

Get those pens and pencils out, find your calendar, and put a STAR on Saturday, December 23, for 1:00pm at the church. You don't want to miss this one!



**4<sup>th</sup> QUARTER BASKET DONATIONS – 3<sup>RD</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> WEEK**

**Outreach 3<sup>rd</sup> Week**

**Homage** is our 4th quarter recipient of our outreach donations from our 3<sup>rd</sup> Week Basket. Homage is the largest provider of services for older adults and people with disabilities in Snohomish County. The majority of people receiving their services live on limited incomes, are frail, and are in need of services that help them maintain their health, independence, and quality of life. Please designate your gift "Outreach."

**4<sup>th</sup> Week Ukraine**


**Episcopal Relief & Development** is our 4<sup>th</sup> quarter recipient for donations to support the crisis in Ukraine. ERD is partnering with the Convocation of Episcopal

Churches in Europe to help local congregations throughout Europe provide assistance to Ukrainian refugees. This assistance will vary depending on the needs but will likely include food, shelter, emergency supplies and trauma counseling. Please designate your gift "Ukraine."

**SUGGESTIONED FOOD BANK OPTIONS**

All non-perishable foods are more than welcome at the food banks. However, if you are puzzled by what purchases are "best" for your donation, the Food Bank offers these suggestions.

- Boxed milk as kids need it for cereal.
- Canned veggies, fruits, and soups with pull-top lids (easier to use if you don't have a can opener).
- Tea bags and coffee are great items.
- Sugar and flour are treats.
- Tuna and crackers make a good lunch.
- Cake mix and frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
- Oil is a luxury but needed for Rice-a-Roni which is frequently donated.
- Feminine hygiene products are a luxury that women will greatly appreciate.
- Stove Top Stuffing is a favorite.

			
Reminder for Flower Donors			
Nov 5	J. Kistner	Dec 10	P. Chandler
Nov 12	S. Reidburn	Dec 17	
Nov 19	H. Small	Dec 24	) Christmas
Nov 26	People of St. A.	Dec 25	)
Dec 3	P. McClelland	Dec 31	



**DAY BY DAY REFLECTIONS**

This week's reflection is by Scott Robinson, who has performed at Renaissance Faires, taught college music and written for newspapers. He worked as a hospice chaplain for five years and has been a professed member of the Third Order of St. Francis, a religious order within the Episcopal Church since 2001.

*1 John 3.2b - When He is revealed, we will be like Him, for we will see Him as He is.*



When we see the great multitude “from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb” and when all the angels fall on their faces before the throne, we shall be among the brothers and sisters: the poor in spirit, the mourners, the meek, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, the persecuted and reviled. And we shall all rejoice.

And when we see the risen Christ, we will not notice the differences among nations, tribes, people or languages. It was necessary that the historical Jesus be limited in these ways, or he could not have lived a human life and died a human death – for we human beings are likewise limited.

We will see the risen Christ as he is – and as we become more purely ourselves, we shall know that we are like him because he is like us. And we shall, as Psalm 34 says, “look upon him and be radiant, and let not (our) faces be ashamed.

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

### NOVEMBER 5 – PENTECOST 23

“...it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service...” If we want to live as faithful servants, we first need to gratefully accept God’s gifts – freely given. We need not, in fact cannot, “go it alone” and hope to live a life that reflects the grace and glory of our Creator.

### NOVEMBER 12 – PENTECOST 24

We are warned about being unprepared when the Lord calls. How can we best assure that we will be ready? Living a life under-girded by the Holy Habits of prayer, study, sacrificial giving and intentional involvement in a worshipping community, may help us to be ever responsive to God’s call – for whatever – and whenever He asks.

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### NOVEMBER 5 – PENTECOST 23

Joshua 3:7-17  
Psalm 107:1-7, 33-37  
1 Thessalonians 2:9-13  
Matthew 23:1-12

### Collect for Pentecost 23

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

### NOVEMBER 12 – PENTECOST 24

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25  
Psalm 78:1-7  
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
Matthew 25:1-13

## 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.”

## 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.

## PRAYER MINISTRIES

Contact Sheilah Reidburn at [sheilahreidburn@comcast.net](mailto:sheilahreidburn@comcast.net) or 206-427-1920.

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

Prayers of the People are used during 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.

**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)

**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

