

## AROUND THE PARISH

January 19, 2024

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 – January 21

#### Epiphany 3

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

The Vestry met last Monday for our monthly meeting. Here's some of the work we did.

**Business.** We approved several business-oriented motions at this meeting, most of which were in preparation for the new Vestry coming in after the Annual Meeting. These include reappointing Dan Mullene and Jim Gilman as our parish Almoners (those who have access to the Discretionary Funds and assist in helping those in need); approving a Vestry Liaison Job Description; approving a By-law amendment to present at the Annual Meeting; and lastly reviewing the Christmas Eve service, *A Christmas Carol*, radio play, and Kay McLellan's Retirement Celebration.

**Annual Meeting, February 4.** We discussed our Annual Meeting, which is scheduled for February 4. There will be one worship service that day, at 9:30am. As part of the service we will formally welcome our new members into the congregation. And there will be a short **pre-worship Coffee Hour at 9:00am.**

Immediately after the service, we will have lunch and the meeting will begin at 11:15am. You can expect to hear some reports, learn about new programs, be presented with our 2024 Budget, and vote for our next Vestry. We will be done by 1:00pm.

**2024 Budget.** We approved next year's Budget. This is the culmination of a process that has taken several months. As mentioned above, the budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

**Discernment Meeting.** We decided to reintroduce a Discernment Meeting for those considering running for Vestry and for Diocesan Convention Delegates. The meeting will be held this Sunday, January 21, in the Annex, after the 10:30am service, from 12:30 – 2:30pm.

See you at the Annual Meeting.

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 1/22 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall
- 1/23 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall
- 1/24 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, Facebook
- 1/25 12:30-3:00pm, Small Group, Parish Hall  
7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
- 1/26 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
- 2/4 9:30am, One Service, Eucharist  
followed by Annual Meeting



O God,  
you spoke your word  
and revealed your good news in Jesus, the Christ.  
Fill all creation with that word again,  
so that by proclaiming your joyful promises to all  
nations  
and singing of your glorious hope to all peoples,  
we may become one living body,  
your incarnate presence on the earth. Amen.



### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Our Annual Meeting is coming up – **Sunday, February 4, following one service at 9:30am.**

Want to know where we are today, where we have been, our financial status, the success of our ministries and projects? Join with other parishioners at the annual meeting to hear answers to these questions and look into our future in the coming year.

There is one Eucharist service at 9:30am – some come early, some come late. Following the service, there will be a lunch and then the meeting.

Your support and your votes are needed as we elect new Vestry members and delegates to the Diocese convention.

### FORWARD MOVEMENT BOOKLET



The latest copy of Forward Day by Day is available in the Parish Hall. It covers February, March, and April 2024.

Forward Day by Day is a booklet of daily inspirational meditations reflecting on a specific Bible passage, chosen from the daily lectionary readings as listed in the Revised Common Lectionary or the Daily Office from the Episcopal Church's Book of Common Prayer.

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### FELLOWSHIP

The season of Epiphany taps into our own desire to know and be in relationship with God and how God is manifest in our lives in the here and now. Our founder Richard Meux Benson poetically articulated this: "It is strange how many there are who look forward to being with Him in another world, but never think of living fellowship with him here."

Jim Woodrum  
Society of Saint John the Evangelist

### 4<sup>th</sup> WEEK BASKET FOR INTERNATIONAL RELIEF

Since the start of the war in Ukraine, our 4<sup>th</sup> Week Basket has been designated on a quarterly basis to four organizations: Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter), World Vision (2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter), World Central Kitchen (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter) and Episcopal Relief and Development (4<sup>th</sup> Quarter). All of these recipients are worthwhile organizations, supporting communities impacted by natural disasters and during humanitarian crises.

For 2024 our 4<sup>th</sup> Week Basket is dedicated to international relief around the world, which also includes Ukraine. Designate your donations "4<sup>th</sup> Week Basket."

Our first recipient will be **Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)**. Doctors Without Borders provides emergency aid and medical care around the globe.

### 4<sup>TH</sup> WEEK BASKET 2023 UKRAINE

We donated \$614 to **Episcopal Relief & Development** from our 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2023 donations. ERD is partnering with the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe to help local congregations throughout Europe provide assistance to Ukrainian refugees.



### Vestry Notes

### SUMMARY OF JANUARY LIAISON REPORTS

Jan Skidmore, People's Warden

- \* Finance Committee completed the proposed 2024 budget.
- \* Buildings & Grounds - Bill Morgan will be working on the lights over the altar area next week. The furnace and thermostat in the Sunday School wing have been repaired. The damaged board on the play equipment still is not fixed. We're looking into a solution.
- \* Great articles by Dan Mullene in My Edmonds News regarding "Christmas Carol" event and weekly food distribution being provided from our parking lot.

\* Purpose Statements for Website and Social Media have been written. Roger Andersen continues to urge all to use Constant Contact as a valuable resource for parish communications.

\* The Outreach Committee will begin having members vote on their choices of recipients for the new year at the Annual Meeting on February 4, 2024.

\* Sunday Bible Study will be determining a new area of study.

\* Thursday afternoon discussion group will begin the *Book of Genesis*.

\* Debby Wilson will speak at the Soup Supper January 17<sup>th</sup> as we continue *Getting to Know our Neighbors in the Pew*.

\* Coffee Hour - Members are encouraged to sign up to provide treats and/or assist with Coffee Hour.

\* Connie Forsberg organized the festive, annual Christmas party held on December 9.

\* Greeters/Ushers - People who are willing to be greeters and/or collection ushers are still needed.

\* Judy Kistner reported the Worship Committee would be meeting in February to plan for Lent and Easter.

\* Episcoplayers - The reading of the December 23rd "A Christmas Carol," by the Episcoplayers, received enthusiastic accolades and requests they do the performance again in 2024.



**NATIONAL LEVEL ONE RESTORE  
WHOLENESS SEMINAR & RETREAT**  
**Led by CEO Diana Ingle**  
**March 1-3, 2024**

Shirley Wilson

Thanks to Rita Bennett, and her passion for the Inner Healing Ministry, this opportunity is available to all St. Alban's people at no cost. In this three-day Restore Wholeness Seminar and Retreat, you will learn how to pray effectively for in-depth healing for yourself and others. The site for this workshop is peaceful as well as beautiful.

The retreat will be held at Seabeck Retreat Center, 13395 Lagoon Dr NW, Seabeck, WA 98380.

There are flyers in the Parish Hall containing more information about this retreat.

If you would like to register or learn more about this amazing opportunity, please call Shirley Wilson at 206-542-2944 or email [wilsaw@comcast.net](mailto:wilsaw@comcast.net).

There are flyers available in the Parish hall with additional information. Or you can go to the website for more information:

<https://cra.international/restore-wholeness>



**DAY BY DAY REFLECTIONS**

The following reflection is from Forward Movements' 2016 publication, "Forward Through the Years," a collection of the timeless wisdom offered over the years from various clergy and non-clergy. This writing is from 1996, author unknown.

*Ephesians 5:2 – Live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.*

When people meet you, God longs for them also to meet Christ. It sounds like a very high expectation, and quite beyond us, beyond even our best imaginings on our best days. Nevertheless, it is what God longs to see happen. God longs for us to live so that in us others will recognize and be touched by the love of Christ.

When the writer of the letter to the Ephesians tells his readers to "live in love" he is really talking about that divine hope. To live in love is to be an advertisement for God. To act with decisive selflessness, even in a small way, is to reflect nothing less than the brilliant reality of the God who meets us in Christ.

Every step you take in love represents the purposes of God. It may be a small step—a minor kindness, a tiny sacrifice, a spontaneous act of mercy—but every step walked in love is evidence of the presence of God in the world. Moreover, it is a step along the road toward your truest self, the self made in the image of Christ, the self God made and means for you to be.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS**

**JANUARY 21– EPIPHANY 3**

In the calling of the fishermen, what word is repeated to indicate their enthusiasm? Immediately! Are we in the habit of responding to God's call to us immediately or is our answer "maybe some time I can become your diligent and faithful follower, but right now \_\_\_\_ (you fill in the blank) is much more important." Where

would the Church be today if the disciples and the many faithful who came after, had made such a response.

### **JANUARY 28 – EPIPHANY 4**

*Psalm 11:1 says, "I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart..."* Our Catechism (see Prayer Book, p. 856) has at least one set of suggestions about how to do this. We are to follow Christ, to come together week by week for corporate worship, and to work, pray, and give for the spread of his kingdom. What a concise list for a "steward-in-training"!

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **JANUARY 21 – EPIPHANY 3**

Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
Psalm 62:6-14  
1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
Mark 1:14-20

### **Collect for Epiphany 3**

Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

### **JANUARY 28 – EPIPHANY 4**

Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
Psalm 111  
1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
Mark 1:21-28

## **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—International Relief  
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 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.



