

## AROUND THE PARISH

April 12, 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 – April 14

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter

8:00 & 10:30am, In-person, Indoor Services. Masking is currently voluntary; those who prefer to continue wearing their masks are encouraged to do so.

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

Go to <https://stalbansedmonds.org/> and click on either YouTube for Facebook to watch service online.

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 April meeting. Among the things we discussed and decided on, here are the five most important.

#### First, The Sabbatical

We continue to prepare for our Sabbatical Time. It was pointed out that the last time St. Alban's had a priest go on sabbatical was 2004 when Dorsey McConnell was the Rector. For my part, I have not been on sabbatical before. In essence, this is all new to us. There are likely many questions and concerns.

One prime concern is about clergy coverage during this time. We have secured the services of Rev. David Hahn for the entire three months. David is a Lutheran Pastor and serves as the Synodical Staff Director of Formation and Learning/LiVE Project Manager of the NW WA Synod of the ELCA. I am really excited about the prospects for faith formation you all will have under his care, and about the relationships you will build together over those three months. We are currently working on scheduling a Sunday when David can join us for our services, experience our worship, and be introduced to you all.

To address questions and concerns, there will be a couple of times to discuss what I will be doing, what I will be studying, and what my hopes and plans are. Besides answering questions and concerns, I trust that these sessions will help me be better prepared and better focused during this time.

But the Vestry and I want to emphasize that the sabbatical is a mutual undertaking – time for renewal, focus, and rest for the congregation as well. The Episcopal Church offers a program using the “Congregational Vitality Assessment Tool” which will help us explore our strengths as a faith community and point out areas that could use more attention. The Vitality Assessment will compliment the work we are already doing with the Transforming Communities program.

### UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 4/15 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall
- 4/17 6:00pm Evening Prayer, In Person & Facebook  
6:30pm, Supper & Program
- 4/18 1:00-3:00pm, Small Group Mtg, Parish Hall  
7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sacristy
- 4/19 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Sacristy
- 4/20 10:30am-12:00pm, Indigenous Circle, Parish Hall  
1:00-3:00pm, Financial Review
- 4/22 6:30pm, Worship Committee Mtg, Zoom
- 4/24 1:00-3:00pm, Finance Committee Mtg
- 5/4 11:00am-1:00pm, Food Bank Drop
- 5/11 10:30am-12:00pm, ECW Fellowship Coffee

### A MORNING PRAYER

Almighty God, you fill all things with your presence. In your great love, keep us near you this day. Grant that in all our ways and doings we may remember that you see us, and may always have the grace to know and perceive what things you would have us do, and give us strength to do the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[www.christianity.com](http://www.christianity.com)

The first presentation and discussion time will be at our monthly third Wednesday Soup Supper, this coming Wednesday, April 17. The next will be coffee hour discussions on April 28.

### Second, Vestry Retreat

The Vestry Retreat will be held on Saturday, April 27. We'll be spending the day preparing for the sabbatical, planning a general overview for the year, and prayerfully discerning God's vision for us as a congregation. Please hold us all in your prayers.

### Third, Delegates for the Electing Convention

As you know, our diocese will be electing our next Diocesan Bishop on Saturday, May 18. Our delegates, Cyndi and Craig Jacobson are moving to Nevada and so have resigned. The Vestry, following the strict rules governing eligible voters, has elected Susan and Eric Hanson to replace them.

### Fourth, St. Alban's Celebration

Looking ahead, our annual Celebration of St. Alban is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, **June 22 and 23**. This is **our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary**. In 1954, St. Alban's was recognized at the Diocesan Convention as a Mission of the Diocese. Please mark your calendars as we celebrate 70 years of faithful witness and service in this community.

### And last, Celtic Christmas Concert Benefiting Chase Lake School

Looking even further ahead, please mark your calendars for Saturday, **December 21**, for the return of our Celtic Christmas Concert featuring Jeff Johnson and his ensemble. It has been several, long, Covid-interrupted years since we have been able to put this concert on, so we are delighted to again welcome the community for an evening of beautiful music, good fellowship, and support for Chase Lake School.



### SOUP SUPPER – APRIL 17

You are invited to share fellowship and a meal on **Wednesday evening, April 17**, beginning with Evening Prayer at 6:00pm live in the Sacristy or on Facebook. A soup supper follows, as well as a program, with the event ending with Compline at 8:00pm.

This month's program will feature Fr. Greg discussing his upcoming Sabbatical from May through July. He will review the purpose of a Sabbatical which is a time for renewal, study, reflection, and visioning.

As members of the congregation, we too are to engage in this Sabbatical opportunity. Fr. Greg will discuss the plans he and Vestry have for this study leave.

Supper consists of soup, salads, bread, and dessert. You are invited to bring a dish to share if you are able. There is always plenty of food!



### PODIUM RESTORED AND RETURNED

You may have noticed that our podium was missing for a while. Unfortunately, it was

damaged and unusable. However, we were blessed that former member, Verne Giddings, helped us out by making the needed repairs.

Verne is a very gifted artist and shared his talents with St. Alban's over his years with us. He is the creator of the beautiful wood processional crosses we use.



## Upcoming Events:

### FOOD BANK DROP – MAY 4

Lee Forsberg

There is a bit of change in the schedule for our next Food Bank Drop – **hours will be 11:00am – 1:00pm on Saturday, May 4.**

It is hoped that a great number of you will be able to come and be part of the day. It's a fun event!

Please encourage those who regularly bring items to the table in the Parish Hall to continue as that feature is a big part of our donation program, and we do not want to lose that. There will be an announcement on the reader board to keep the neighborhood well informed.

Let's get together in a big effort for this next food bank collection. Thanks to all of our donors from all those who are hungry and struggling to feed themselves and their families.

## ECW COFFEE EVENT

Please come and join us for fellowship on **Saturday, May 11, from 10:30am – 12:00pm**. Light refreshments will be served. Our guest will be Pat Chandler and her daughter Shannon Roedee who will present “From Prague to Budapest & Highlights of their River Boat Cruise.” Photos of the cities on their trip through the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, and Hungary will be shown.

You won't want to miss this event!



Photo from Jeannie Wells

Tartan Sunday on April 5 brought parishioners of many different clans together for a blessing from Fr. Greg, including one favorite four-footed Scottie.

## ELECTION OF NEXT PRESIDING BISHOP

The Episcopal Church's Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop has announced the names of the bishops it will nominate to succeed Presiding Bishop Michael Curry.

Its nominees are:

- The Rt. Rev. J. Scott Barker | Diocese of Nebraska ([Biography](#))
- The Rt. Rev. Daniel G. P. Gutiérrez | Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania ([Biography](#))
- The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe | Episcopal Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania, Episcopal Diocese of Western New York ([Biography](#))
- The Rt. Rev. Robert Wright | Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta ([Biography](#))

The [General Convention website](#) includes photos and links to each bishop's biography on their diocesan websites. The four names will be formally submitted to the General Convention during a joint session on June

25, a day before the House of Bishops is scheduled to elect the 28th presiding bishop. Curry's nine-year term concludes Oct. 31, 2024. The presiding bishop-elect's nine-year term officially begins Nov. 1, 2024.



## REPORT TO VESTRY ON APRIL LIAISON REPORTS

Jan Skidmore, People's Warden

**Staff & Volunteers** – Fr. Greg commends Jeannie Wells for all her hard work: Beautiful Holy Week and Easter Bulletins while experiencing changes and challenges, having baptisms at Vigil plus providing snacks for volunteers and visitors.

**Worship Music** -This was John Palmer's first Lent, Holy Week and Easter and, despite some difficulties, he provided music that really heightened the worship.

**ATP** – All is good. Would like to get info on anyone who is quietly volunteering in the background. Know they aren't looking for recognition, but also think it's nice for them to know their efforts are appreciated.

**Church Directory & Pictures** – Harvey Smith has names of new members; he will be coordinating taking their pictures. New members are given a copy of the picture portion of the directory. Harvey is also going to put information together again to let people know how they can get the directory on their phones to have access to the latest information.

**Press** - Recently promoted the Easter Egg Hunt, Holy Week/Easter service schedule, and Dan Mullene sent out info on the Philadelphia 11 event held on Saturday, April 6.

**Peace and Social Justice** - We have scheduled another Habitat for Humanity workday for Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. We already have a full crew.

**Indigenous Circle** - We have scheduled a fieldtrip to the Hibulb Cultural Center at Tulalip on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Outreach** – Generous donations from the congregation were made to a number of organizations. Chase Lake School has requested food for Pantry & Bus Snacks. They pack 23 bags a week for families and hand out 28 bus snacks per day.

**Parish Life** - Easter Egg Hunt went very smoothly with the help of many SA's parishioners. The wonderful Girl Scouts did a lovely job distributing all the stuffed eggs. There were pedestals for the walking impaired, special eggs for the visually impaired. We are brainstorming a way to thank them.



## **RED BOX SUGGESTION**

Jan Skidmore, People's Warden

A parishioner suggested: "Not so many new hymns please. We'd like to get to know the music." In response I contacted our Worship Music Committee and passed along your request. Thanks for your suggestion.



### **DIETRICH BONHOEFFER – d. April 9, 1945** **Pastor & Theologian** **German Christian Martyr of World War II**

This bright young Lutheran pastor was only twenty-four when he participated in his first public protest against Nazism and the complicity of the Christian churches in that regime's rise to power. He was one of the leaders of the "Confessing Church," a Protestant group that resisted Hitler and the Nazi party. In 1935 he was the founder and dean of a seminary at Finkenwald, Germany, which served that Church body. It was there that he wrote his two most famous published works: *Life Together* and *The Cost of Discipleship*.

As the Nazi ring closed in upon him and the "Confessing Church," he had an opportunity for asylum in the United States, which he declined. He was arrested and jailed in 1943 and from his cell he helped plan an assassination of Adolf Hitler. The assassination failed and Bonhoeffer's involvement was discovered, so he was whisked off to Buchenwald concentration camp.

But his life was spared, for reasons we do not know, and he was transferred to Schoenberg Prison. There he served as chaplain to fellow inmates and on a Sunday in 1945, immediately following divine services, he was summoned by the guards and taken by automobile to Flossenburg Prison where he was summarily hanged. That was on April 9. Dietrich was thirty-nine years

old. The crumbling German Reich formally surrendered twenty-eight days later.

(Forward Movement Publication, Calendar of Saints)

We are not to simply bandage the wounds of victims beneath the wheels of justice, we are to drive a spike in the wheel itself.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer



### **DAY BY DAY REFLECTIONS**

The author of this reflection is Lyn Fraser, a teacher, retired hospice/palliative care chaplain and avid recreational walker. A life-long Episcopalian, she attends St. Matthew's in Grand Junction, Colorado.

*John 14:27 -- Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled.*

The Episcopal Church commemorates German theologian and pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer for his courage in publicly standing against the powers of Nazism. Considered an enemy of the state, Bonhoeffer traveled to the U.S. in 1939, where he could have remained but instead chose to return to his homeland. The Gestapo arrested and imprisoned Bonhoeffer in 1943. He was executed with six other resisters on April 9, 1945, only 11 days before U.S. troops liberated the camp.

Bonhoeffer's voluminous writings include my own well-read copy of *Letters and Papers from Prison*. Of the many notes I've made, I especially appreciate his observation that time is the most precious gift we have. A man of profound faith, Bonhoeffer lived Jesus's teachings fearlessly leading services in prison and pastoring fellow prisoners as well as some of the prison guards. He continued preaching until his death, and his last words were, "This is the end – for me, the beginning of life."

### **"OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF. . . ."**

*The following answers are from children when asked about the Bible. They have not been retouched or corrected. Incorrect spelling has been left in.*

In the first book of the bible Guinness. God got tired of creating the world so he took the sabbath off.

Adam and eve were created from an apple tree.  
Noah's wife was Joan of ark. Noah built an ark and the animals came on in pairs.

Sampson was a strongman who let himself be led astray by a Jezebel like Delilah.

The Egyptians were all drowned in the desert. Afterwards, Moses went up to mount Sinai to get the ten commandments.

The greatest miracle in the bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.

Moses led the Jews to the red sea where they made unleavened bread, which is bread without any ingredients.

(Contributed by Jeannie Burpee from St. George Episcopal Church, Roseburg, OR, "The Dragon Scoop")



Contributed by Shirley Clark

## STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

### APRIL 14 – EASTER 3

Psalm 4:6 says, *Many are saying, "Oh, that we might see better times! Lift up the light of your countenance upon us, O Lord."* There is an old saying – "If God seems far away, guess who's moved?" As faithful stewards, we need to learn to stay close to God, and to worship and thank Him at all times for all things. Who knows what 'better times' that might bring – or how we might become much more aware of the 'light of his countenance' in our lives.

### APRIL 21 – EASTER 4

Hired hand or shepherd? Jesus says the hired hand runs away because he does not really care for the sheep. The shepherd, on the other hand, will lay down his own life for his flock. Do we run away from service to others, or are we willing to give of our own lives in the name of the God who loves us, and gave His all for us?

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

### APRIL 14 – 3 EASTER

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

### Collect for Easter 3

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread: Open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all His redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

### APRIL 21 – EASTER 4

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-34

John 10:11-18

## 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 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)

### ***An Easter Prayer***

*That you gave your one and only Son,  
that we might be called your children too.  
Lord, help us to live in the gladness and  
grace of Easter Sunday, everyday.  
Let us have hearts of thankfulness  
for your sacrifice.  
Let us have eyes that look upon  
your grace and rejoice in our salvation.  
Help us to walk in that mighty grace  
and tell your good news to the world.  
All for your glory do we pray, Lord.  
Amen.*



### **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.