

AROUND THE PARISH

April 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 – April 21

Easter 4

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

Transforming Communities Update

Our Transforming Communities Team is in the midst of conducting interviews of parishioners. The Team (Clark and Theresa Chase, Dan Mullene, Anna and Nick Sharpe, and I) have interviewed most of the people on our list. We couldn't interview everyone, but we have made sure to interview a great cross section of our congregation (both services, long-time members, as well as newer and not so new members, women, men, youth, very involved and not so much).

And we're having a blast doing it! It's simply great to be able to spend concentrated and focused time with our fellow parishioners.

Besides some basic questions (How long have you been part of St. Alban's? How have you been involved? What ministries have you been part of?), the open-ended questions invite interviewees to tell their stories.

Here are some examples.

What is an important story that you can share about the congregation and what does this story suggest to you about who we are as a congregation?

What is a story about how our congregation has affected your or someone else's spiritual life?

Tell us a story about how our congregation has changed the lives of people in the neighborhood.

What is a story about an important watershed moment in the life of our congregation?

What, in your view, are we particularly good at as a congregation? What are our "gifts"?

You get the idea: We are storied people; we thrive on stories; we learn, grow, and gain insights from stories. Every week, we hear the stories of our faith (the holy stories of Holy Scripture). Our stories reveal important insights into our faith life.

Just like in Holy Writ, some of the stories have been joyous, some daunting, some cautionary. I have appreciated how honest people have been. Even the

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**4/20 10:30am-12:00pm, Indigenous Circle, Parish Hall
1:00-3:00pm, Financial Review**

**4/22 6:30pm, Worship Committee Mtg, Zoom
7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall**

4/23 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall

**4/24 1:00-3:00pm, Finance Committee Mtg
6:00pm, Evening Prayer, Sanctuary & Facebook**

4/25 7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary

4/26 7:30-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary

5/1 7:00-9:00pm, Bishop Meet & Greet, Parish Hall

**5/4 11:00am-1:00pm, Food Bank Drop
2:00-6:00pm, Private Event, Parish Hall**

**5/11 10:30am-12:00pm, ECW Fellowship Coffee
9:00am, Men's Circle, 3rd Place Commons, LF Park**

Thank You, Father

These times are frightening, Lord, Headlines daily deliver troubling news. If we dwell there, Father, we will lose all hope. Thank You for Your protection and the promises we have in Your word. Nothing can separate us from Your love and the victory achieved by Christ at the cross. He is our hope and ever present help in trouble. Thank you, Father. We have no need to fear. You will never leave nor forsake your own. Judy Fussell, Woman's Day

more difficult stories have been transformative. God has somehow been present in all of them.

Again and again, Emanuel, God has been with us – is and will be with us.

Ultimately, our personal stories become interwoven with the larger, older stories of the faith.

After we reflect on what we have heard, the Team reports back to you the themes we have distilled from what you have learned.

After this phase, we'll be interviewing people in the community. This will happen over the course of the summer and early fall. We'll be trying to discern the community's needs and then how we as a congregation might meet some of those needs. We'll be listening to their stories and trying to discern how our stories might intertwine. That interweaving sounds like the work of the Holy Spirit to me.



DO IT ANYWAY

People are often unreasonable, irrational and self-centered.

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.

Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and sincere, people may deceive you.

Be honest and sincere anyway.

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.

Create anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today will often be forgotten.

Do good anyway.

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough.

Give your best anyway.

In the final analysis, it's between you and God.

It was never between you and them anyway.

Mother Theresa

(contributed by Jeannie Wells)



FOOD DROP DRIVE – MAY 4

We haven't had a food drive for the Edmonds Food Bank in months, and the need for food assistance keeps growing in our community and everywhere! Those in need are families, singles, young, old, and in-between! Let's make the next food drive on **Saturday, May 4, 11:00-1:00pm**, a whopper!

Many of us have been contributing regularly to the Food Bank table in the Parish Hall. In addition, there is peanut butter available from the December Episcoplayers' event. That food has been helping supplement the monthly food distribution on the second Wednesday of each month and will be delivered to the Food Bank in May. Every can, jar, or box is gratefully received by those in need!! Wherever and whenever there is a need for food, we can help!

Lee Forsberg and his faithful volunteers are ready to greet donors who come by. Let's keep them busy!!

Food donations of cans, packaged, and boxed food are welcome – canned tuna and chicken, canned fruits and vegetables, spaghetti and sauce, mac and cheese, soup, pasta, Spam, etc.

“Feed my sheep.”



MEN'S CIRCLE FELLOWSHIP

Jim Gilman

St. Alban's **Men's Circle** meets **Saturday, May 11, 9:00am**, at Third Place Commons in Lake Forest Park Town Center. Bring or purchase coffee and a snack if you would like.

This is a casual, informal gathering of men. No need for pretension, portfolio, privilege, or prestige; just good, ol' fashion conversation, mutual support, and fellowship. Your spouse/partner will thank you.

Fellowship is not just about being in the same room with others; it is about sharing life with them and supporting one another. Unknown



SAVE DATE OF MAY 11 FOR ECW COFFEE

Join in the fellowship and gathering in the Parish Hall on **Saturday, May 11, 10:30am-12:00pm**. This is a great social time for us to catch up with each other and enjoy some armchair travels.

Pat Chandler and her daughter Shannon Roedee will be presenting "From Prague to Budapest and Highlights of their Boat Cruise." They have photos of the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria and Hungary.

Light refreshments will be served.

- Canned vegetables
- Cereal
- Graham crackers
- Individual fish cracker bags or a large bag
- Individual pretzel bags or a large bag
- Mac 'n Cheese
- Pasta
- Ritz crackers
- Soft & chewy granola bars (NO Peanut Butter)
- Soup
- Spaghetti sauce
- Spam
- Tuna helper

MEET & GREET BISHOP NOMINEES

On May 1st there will be an opportunity to participate in Meet & Greets with the four nominees for Bishop of the Diocese of Olympia via Livestream.

Come to the Parish Hall **about 6:30pm on Wednesday, May 1**, to gather with those who will be voting for the next Bishop: Eric Hanson, Delegate, and Pat Chandler, Alternate Delegate. We will watch the livestream session that will be occurring at Grace, Bainbridge (7:00pm-9:00pm). *If you want to read the profiles in advance, [Bishop Nominees – Bishop of Olympia Search \(ecww.org\)](#).* This will also be an opportunity to provide your input to our delegates.

CHASE LAKE REQUEST



Thanks for your quick response to the request for help from Chase Lake Community School. They pack 23 bags a week for families in need and hand out 28 bus snacks per day.

Pictured above is just one trunk load of food that we received and delivered.

Below is the list of items they are requesting. There will be a crate in the Parish Hall for "Chase Lake." We'll collect your contributions during April.

Or, if you want someone else to do the shopping, you can make a donation designated "Chase Lake."

Needed items:

- Applesauce squeezables
- Canned chicken
- Canned fruit



LABYRINTH RENEWAL

Dan Niven created our labyrinth in 2006. This year, the path was no longer clear. Dan willingly agreed to create our labyrinth again. He was enthused that people still use our labyrinth and that it is found by the public both from the World-Wide Labyrinth Locator and articles in MyEdmondsNews. We also use it each year for Stations of the Cross on Good Friday.

We have been blessed with people who have been willing to maintain our labyrinth: Lee Forsberg, Jim Nichols, Phil McClelland and Jake Jacobson. In the future, Phil's grandson, Colyn LaVergne, has agreed to do the mowing, continuing the tradition.

Thank you to all who have made our labyrinth ministry possible. With warmer weather coming, please check our reconfigured labyrinth.



MARCH FINANCIALS

Maryellen Young, Treasurer

Income for March was \$17,922 compared to a budget of \$15,837 or \$2,085 over budget. The April payment for Facilities Use Contracted was posted on March 31st, accounting for \$1,825 of our overage this month. The Easter offering was \$965 compared to a budget of \$800. Year-to-date income was \$49,158 compared to a budget of \$42,545 or \$6,613 over budget. All categories are ahead of budget.

Expenses for March were \$16,306 compared to a budget of \$14,970 or \$1,336 over budget. Year-to-date expenses were \$48,996 compared to a budget of \$49,242 or (\$246) under budget. We paid both February and March copier bills in March, but with billing starting in February we did save one month's anticipated expenses. Utilities are running about \$1,000 under budget, primarily because of delays in approval of new, higher rates. Diocesan Assessment is about \$1,000 greater than anticipated, reflecting our income being ahead of budget. Overall expenses are almost right on budget.

We have received \$162 more than spent.

Total Income	\$49,158
Total Budget	\$42,545
Income minus Budget	\$6,613
Total Expenses	\$48,996
Total Budget	\$49,242
Expenses minus Budget	(\$246)



MINISTRY FOCUS
(What and How We Operate)

Jan Skidmore, People's Warden

Altar Guild is responsible for ensuring the sanctuary is prepared for all services, the altar with seasonal colors, communion elements, clean linens and upkeep of all items.

Liturgical Ministries are centered around the Eucharist: Eucharistic Ministers, Crucifers who process with the cross, Acolytes assist the communion setup, Lectors who read the lesson, and Worship Leaders who lead special events.

Worship Committee is representatives from each area of worship, music, lay readers, Adult Formation, Altar Guild, and Administration. Fr. Greg and members review and plan for upcoming services and seasonal events.



1st QUARTER BASKET DONATION RESULTS

Thank you for your generosity:

Washington Kids in Transition received \$340 from 1st quarter 3rd week basket donations.

Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) received \$600 from 1st quarter 4th week International Relief basket donations.

Good Shepherd

The good news is that we don't need to be perfect. We only need to be found. We give thanks that the Good Shepherd continues to search for us, so that one day we will be found, gathered into his arms, and brought home.
Br. James Koester, [SSJE](#)



LATEST DAY BY DAY
AVAILABLE

The newest issue of Forward Movement's publication "Day by Day" is available in the Parish Hall. It covers the months of May, June, and July 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.

If you are unable to pick up a copy, please contact the church office. We can either mail you a copy or put one in the brown box located by the back door to the Sacristy.

For some unknown reason, we received a double shipment of this quarter's issue. If you have a family

member or friend who might appreciate having a copy of this meditation guide, please feel free to take an extra copy.

“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.

The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.

Moses died before he ever reached Canada then Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol.

Sampson slayed the philistines with the axe of the apostles.

The seventh commandment is thou shalt not admit adultery.

David was a Hebrew king who was skilled at playing the liar. He fought the Finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in biblical times.

(From Roseburg, OR, St. George Episcopal Church, “The Dragon Scoop”)

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

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?

APRIL 28 – EASTER 5

When Philip hastens to the Ethiopian’s chariot, it is to help him understand his unfamiliar reading – and to interpret it in the light of Jesus as the Good News. As “stewards in training,” what part does the intentional study of Scripture play in our search to know and serve God – and to then proclaim the Good News to others?

SCRIPTURE READINGS

APRIL 21 – EASTER 4

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-34
John 10:11-18

Collect for Easter 4

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice, we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

APRIL 28 – EASTER 5

Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:24-30
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8

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—International Relief
- 5th 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
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 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.

