

AROUND THE PARISH

April 26, 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 28

Easter 5

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

Well, this is my penultimate article before beginning sabbatical. It's going to be mostly newsy, mostly information about who to contact about different concerns, and what kinds of things to expect during the next three months.

First of all, I've changed the Eucharistic Prayer at the 10:30am service. It's the one that ends with the eschatological gathering of God's people "from every tribe and language and people and nation." It was a hard call to make. Both Eucharistic Prayer D, the one we've been using since Easter Day, and Eucharistic Prayer 2 from *Enriching Our Worship*, are my two favorites. The readings for the next several Sundays are pointing to Pentecost, which Prayer 2 envisions, and so the change seems timely.

Second, thanks to everyone who came out to church last Sunday to meet David Hahn, our sabbatical pastor. I appreciate how well he was welcomed. Several people remarked after meeting him, how comfortable and at ease they felt talking with him. One vestry member pointedly said, "Everything is going to be alright while you're gone. We'll be in good hands."

This is exactly how I felt when I first met him and in all the times we've talked since.

I'm sure, though, there will be some rumbly times ahead. Lutheran and Episcopalians pray similarly but some of the wording, phrasing, and cadences will be just a little different and slightly disorienting – not bad or shocking, but more like nudges to pay closer attention.

To ease some of this, we've designated people to serve as contact, translators, and advisors for Pastor David as he becomes familiar with our services, and later for the congregation as he

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 4/29 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall
- 5/1 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, Facebook
6:30-9:00pm, Bishop Meet & Greet, Parish Hall
- 5/2 1:00-3:00pm, Small Group, Parish Hall
7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel Sanctuary
- 5/3 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel Sanctuary
- 5/4 11:00am-1:00pm, Food Bank Collection
2:00-6:00pm, David Lange Celebration of Life, PH
- 5/7 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall
- 5/8 3:00-4:30pm, Food Distribution, Parking Lot
- 5/11 10:30am-12:00pm, ECW Fellowship Coffee
9:00am, Men's Circle, 3rd Place Commons, LF Park



As Greg embarks on his three-month sabbatical leave, our prayers, blessings, and thoughts go with him. We pray he finds the renewal, refreshment, and relaxation he seeks, as well as fulfillment and enlightenment from his study plans.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

May He show you His favor and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

introduces some Lutheran liturgies. That could start happening in June. These liturgies will be very similar to ours but will undoubtedly highlight slightly different ways of understanding God, Jesus' ministry, and the work of the Holy Spirit.

And so this **third** thing, those contact people are **Jim Gilman at the 8:00** service and **Eric Hanson at the 10:30**. **Sharon Joy** will also be David's primary contact with the Altar Guild. He will certainly speak with others about liturgical matters, but these three are the point people.

Pastor David will mainly be here on Sundays. So the **fourth** thing I'd like to cover is who you will want to contact for things you would normally come to me for.

Liz Bee, our Senior Warden, will handle Administrative and general business issues. She has oversight of the whole congregation.

Managing the Office remains in the very capable hands of Parish Administrator, Jeannie Wells.

Treasurer, Maryellen Young, along with the Finance Committee, with the final direction of the Vestry, have the finances well in hand.

Pastoral concerns will be handled by Jim Gilman. Jim has been coordinating pastoral care visits, making sure that people in need are being visited. If Jim determines that David is required to handle something like a funeral, he will contact Pastor David.

Almoner, Dan Mullene is the contact person for all things related to the Church's Discretionary Fund. Jim Gilman can also access the Discretionary Fund, but Dan is the point person. (Jim is already doing a lot, so we're trying to spread out the work.)

Wednesday night Evening Prayer services are being coordinated by our Team of Officiants: Shirley Clark, Debby Wilson, Eric Hanson, and Jim Gilman. If you would like to be more involved in this service (reading lessons or being an on-line participant), please contact one of them.

Under the leadership of John Palmer, the music has been planned out into the beginning of September.

Fifth, in general, Vestry members, particularly in their liaison roles to the many ministries of the congregation, are available to and well equipped to address concerns as they come up.

Lastly, please note, I will not be accessing my work email nor my work phone while on sabbatical. If there is something really important in the life of the congregation during that time, Liz Bee will contact me.

Honestly, I think you are in good, capable, and caring hands. Moreover, this sabbatical is a time for all of us to renew and refocus, reestablishing relationships, and making ourselves available to the leading and nudges to the Holy Spirit. I trust you will try new things, that the congregation will continue to grow, welcome new members, and strengthen long standing relationships. And, we will come back together in August a deeper, more faithful, and stronger people.

MEET & GREET BISHOP NOMINEES

On Monday, May 1, 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**

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 (7:00 pm-9:00 pm).

The candidates are:

- **The Rev. Philip N. LaBelle** (he/him) serves as rector of St. Mark's Church in Southborough, Massachusetts, since 2011
- **The Rev. Dr. Hillary D. Raining** serves as Rector of St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Gladwyne, PA. since 2014.
- **The Venerable Jordan Haynie Ware** (she/her) serves as Archdeacon for Justice in the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton, Canada, since 2020 and Rector of Good Shepherd Anglican Church, Edmonton, since 2017.
- **The Rev. Kate E. Wesch** serves as Rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Essex, Connecticut, since 2021.

The Diocesan website provides an introductory statement, 4-minute video, resume and answers to essay questions.

[Bishop Nominees – Bishop of Olympia Search \(ecww.org\)](http://ecww.org)



This will also be an opportunity to provide your input to our delegates.

You can also register to watch one of the Meet & Greet Livestreams by going to [Register for a Meet & Greet \(google.com\)](#)



HELP US HELP OUR NEIGHBORS AT MAY 4 FOOD DROP!!

An important event is taking place beside the church on **Saturday, May 4, from 11:00am-1:00pm**, when we host another food drive for Edmonds Food Bank. So many of our neighbors and Edmonds residents are in dire need of food assistance. There a lot of things in this world we can't do anything about, but donating food to those in need is a big thing we can do together!!

Any and all canned, packaged, or boxed items are so thankfully received. Additionally, there is need for baby food/items and pet food.

Donations can be made at any time on the table in the Parish Hall. Bringing a can or two each week really adds up! The first week outreach is for food banks, but those donations can also be made at any time.

Lee Forsberg and his volunteer team are ready to go, as is our four-footed friend Rennie, who brings his parents along too.



JOIN WOMEN'S GATHERING – MAY 11

It's time once again for chit-chat and sharing at an ECW Coffee on **Saturday, May 11, 10:30am-12:00pm**.

This ECW program features parishioner Pat Chandler and her daughter, Shannon Roedee, as they present a talk and share photos of their "From Prague to Budapest and Highlights of their Boat Cruise" adventure last year. Their visits included the Cech Republic, Germany, Austria and Hungary.

Light refreshments will be served.



GATHERING OF MEN'S CIRCLE

Jim Gilman

Join us for an informal gathering of St. Alban's men at Third Place Commons in Lake Forest Park Town Center on **Saturday, May 11, at 9:00am**. It's a great chance to get to know other members better and to meet someone new to you.

Coffee and goodies are available for purchase, or you may prefer to bring your own treats. Just come and enjoy conversation, support, and fellowship. You won't regret it!!

ROGATION SUNDAY, MAY 5

Eric Hanson

Rogation Sunday is May 5th. Rogationtide is an ancient church festival, celebrated since the Middle Ages. For three days there would be prayer and fasting and walking the boundaries of the Parish, blessing the newly-sown fields, asking God for a good harvest.

Nowadays, since we are no longer primarily an agrarian society, Rogationtide extends to all of our endeavors. We ask God to bless our work wherever it occurs, be it the store, the company, the factory, technology or in the home.

On Rogation Sunday, May 5th, please bring a symbol of your calling, your vocation, what you do in your career or did (for those of us retired folks). Lay your symbol on the altar, Thank you!

HOSTING RED DRESS PROJECT

Edmonds Lutheran Church will be hosting its third annual installation of the Red Dress Project — an international movement aimed at honoring and remembering the thousands of missing and murdered Indigenous people who have not been returned to their families and communities.

During the week of May 1-8, the church — located at 23525 84th Ave. W. in Edmonds — will display an outdoor Red Garment Project installation. This project



will include a **presentation at 11:00am, Thursday, May 2.** The public is invited to attend.



RED BOX SUGGESTION

Jan Skidmore, People's Warden

“When can we go back to singing Doxology with traditional tune.”

Answer: Greg and John Palmer said we would go back to the original tune after the Easter season.

ST. ALBAN'S FINANCIAL REVIEW COMPLETE

Susan Hanson, Cindi Jacobson and Jan Skidmore completed the audit of all the St Alban's 2023 financial records. The financial transactions, records and reports were well documented and supported with verifications. An excellent job by our Treasurer, Maryellen Young.



DAY BY DAY REFLECTIONS

This reflection is written by Lyn Fraser who is a teacher and retired hospice/palliative care chaplain. A life-long Episcopalian, she attends St. Matthew's in Grand Junction, Colorado, where she has facilitated classes on the psalms, the parables, civil discourse, and aging with grace.

John 10:14-15 – I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

For shepherds, shearing is an essential task, important for the animals' health, hygiene, and overall well-being. Growing up in sheep country, I observed this mesmerizing job many times. The shearer holds a sheep and begins working the legs, then the underside, with the animal continuously struggling against the clippers. The wool comes off in thick strips, exposing the sheep's tender skin. When all the wool is shorn, the animal is released, free of its heavy coat. The sheep may be wobbly and disoriented before regaining balance and heading for the pasture.

Jesus, as a good shepherd, takes care of His sheep, including in times of difficulty. We sometimes struggle against God's spirit. We may become wobbly and disoriented and need help regaining balance. We may expose tender vulnerability. But, like shearing, Jesus' work doesn't end there. Jesus gave his life for the sheep. He gave his life so he could take it up again. And, so we could take it up again. And again.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

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?

MAY 5 – EASTER 6

On a much more trivial scale, can you remember the child-like elation of being chosen for a team, for a part in a play, for a special class project? Shouldn't it be a natural and gladsome thing, then, to love and serve the Holy One, the Creator of the Universe, who first loved and chose you as special to Him?

SCRIPTURE READINGS

APRIL 28 – EASTER 5

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

Collect for Easter 5

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

MAY 5 – EASTER 6

Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98

1 John 5:1-6

John 15:9-17

NOTE: Fr. Greg is currently on Sabbatical Leave. For emergency or other inquiries, please contact:

Administrative/Business Issues: Liz Bee, Sr. Warden

Altar Guild: Sharon Joy

Treasurer: Maryellen Young

Pastoral Care: Jim Gilman

Discretionary Fund: Dan Mullene, Jim Gilman

Services: Jim Gilman (8:00am) Eric Hanson (10:30am)

Church Office: stalbansedmonds@gmail.com or
425-778-0371

Sabbatical Pastor: Pastor David Hahn

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.

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.