

AROUND THE PARISH

October 11, 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 – October 13

8:00 & 10:30am, In-person, Indoor Services. Masking is no longer required, but is strongly recommended.

9:30am, 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



For the **BEAUTY**
of the **EARTH**

The following is from Forward Movement publication, "For the Beauty of the Earth" (2018), a book of daily devotions that celebrate the wonders of creation and the beauty of the Creator.

Author Debbie Royals is Pascua Yaqui from Tucson, Arizona, an Episcopal priest, author, retreat leader and educator. She has served in numerous roles in Native American ministry throughout the Episcopal Church. She has published in several journals, as well as written for books on prayer and meditations. She lives out her passion as a Native American woman in her home community of Old Pascua.

We can learn a great deal about how to live from our relatives, the birds of the air. Birds gather food from insects and plants and the waters, but they also drop seeds and move pollen from one place to another. They have a constant and circular cycle of life.

Perhaps we can take a cue from the hummingbirds, going from blossom to blossom collecting sweetness and taking it with us as we touch every other blossom we encounter. In the process of collecting and sharing sweetness, hummingbirds are not only nourished, but they also spread pollen and contribute to the propagation of fruit and plants.

Stepping back and seeing ourselves in the image and likeness of God is to see ourselves as creators, not destroyers. Seeking an understanding of what it means to be a creative source of life can be as simple as discerning our words and actions as either life-giving or life-taking. Maybe this is our purpose: To give life with our words and actions as much as we are able. Our words and our actions might be the fruitfulness with which God intends to propagate new life.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

10/14 6:30pm, Vestry Meeting, Annex/Zoom
7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall

10/15 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall

10/16 6:00pm, Evening Prayer

6:30pm, Stew Fest & Program

10/17 7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary

10/18 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary

10/19 10:30am, Indigenous Circle, Parish Hall

10/21 6:30pm, Worship Committee Mtg, Zoom

10/23 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, YouTube

10/25 9:00am-dinner, Convention, Tacoma

10/25 6:30-8:30pm, CPR, Preschool, Parish Hall

10/26 8:00am-4:30pm, Convention, Tacoma

Reading God's Goodness in the Diversity of Life

Gracious God, you reveal your goodness
in the beauty of diversity of creation;
in the circle dance of earth and air and water;
in a universe rich in processes that support growth and
coherence, distinctiveness and community;
and above all in the gift of Jesus Christ,
who emptied himself to serve your world.

And so we offer thanks and praise to you, one God in
three persons:

The Author and Source of all,

Christ the Incarnate Word,

and the Holy Spirit,

One God, now and for ever. Amen

JOIN US FOR STEW FEST!

Our Annual Stew Fest is this next Wednesday, October 16. It starts in the Sanctuary with Evening Prayer at 6:00pm, with the Stew Fest dinner of yummy, homemade stews, salads, bread and desserts at 6:30pm. Beverages, including wine and beer, will also be served, as well as non-alcoholic options. The program with guest Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons as speaker is right after dinner.



In keeping with our theme for this year's Stewardship Campaign, Sabeth will help us explore how we "Walk in Love" as a community with our ministries as we share Jesus' redemptive love for the world.

Please join us for the evening of great fellowship, wonderful food, and Sabeth's visit with us.

CHALICE BEARER TRAINING Sunday, October 13, after 10:30am Service

If you are already a chalice bearer or are thinking about becoming one, this is the training for you! We will review the procedure for administering the consecrated wine and answer any questions you might have.



As a minority member of Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento, I am grateful for the opportunity to reflect on the stewardship theme and the call to "Walk in Love." My journey to this community began nearly 30 years ago when I immigrated from Sierra Leone in West Africa to pursue a better life for myself and my family.

Since then, I have been blessed to serve in various capacities within my church and broader community. My involvement as an usher, livestream volunteer, lector, vestry chaplain, and Eucharistic minister has been a source of great joy and fulfillment. These roles have allowed me to express my dedication to the Anglican Church, a commitment that has been a central part of my life since childhood.

My life's journey has provided me with a unique perspective on the concept of stewardship. As the African proverb goes "It Takes a Village" expresses the notion that success and overcoming obstacles frequently involve the assistance, collaboration, and group effort of others, which was deeply ingrained in my upbringing and highlighted the value of

community, cooperation, and teamwork in achieving long-term objectives.

This makes me aware of the value of community, the importance of supporting one another, and the power of love in transcending cultural boundaries. Stewardship, to me, is about more than just financial contributions—it is about giving of oneself, sharing one's talents, and fostering a spirit of love and inclusivity within the community. Matthew 25:14-30 is a parable that teaches about the importance of using one's talents or abilities wisely.

As I reflect on the phrase "Walk in Love," I am reminded of the profound impact that love can have when expressed through our actions.

Walking in love demonstrates care and concern for others, fosters a sense of belonging, and builds a community rooted in compassion and empathy. Through this lens of love, I approach my stewardship responsibilities, seeking to nurture a community where everyone feels seen, heard, and supported. Together, let us walk in love, embracing our differences and nurturing a community where everyone can thrive and contribute their unique gifts to the greater good. |

Questions for Reflection:

- What is an experience of collaboration you have had in your life that demonstrates how we combine our skills to create community?

Bismarck Maddy is a parishioner at Trinity Cathedral, Sacramento and walks in love with his beloved community of faith.



3rd QUARTER BASKET DONATIONS RESULTS

We are a very generous community!

Cocoon House donations were **\$315** from 3rd quarter, 3rd week basket donations.

World Central Kitchen received **\$330** from our 3rd quarter, 4th week International Relief basket donations.

In addition, we also donated **\$1,000** from 3rd quarter donations for our 5th Week basket recipient **Women's Spirit Coalition** supporting indigenous women.

Also, we are sending a total of **\$3,000** in **Food Bank donations** of \$1,000 each to Edmonds, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace Food Banks from donations received June through September.

Our **total Outreach Donations** year to date are over **\$18,000**. Thank you for your generosity.

BUDGET-PLANNING



HAVE A COMMENT OR QUESTION??

Jan Skidmore, People's Warden

BUDGET INPUT

Maryellen Young, Treasurer

Now is the time to start thinking about input for the 2025 St. Alban's budget. If you are responsible for an area of the church's budget, we need input about any potential changes for 2025.

Our budgets are already tight, and we will have limited ability to expand areas of spending, depending on the results from our pledge ingathering. However, it is still good to be aware of our needs and desires.

Please provide any changes along with an explanation for the reason for change to Maryellen Young, Treasurer, maryelleny@comcast.net or in writing to the Treasurer's inbox in the office by October 27th.

If you have questions, you can also call Maryellen on 425-776-2461.

A parishioner requested, "Can we please find a place to hang the stained-glass picture of Jesus with child and the dedication that goes with it? The dedication can't be seen, and, although the stain glass is beautiful, it is a distraction from the Altar."

Fr. Greg's response: The stained-glass picture was placed in front of the altar in response to, and a physical example of, the Gospel readings for the last three weeks. Jesus put a child in the middle of the disciples as an example of humility, and in a subsequent reading gathered the little children around him and blessed them. So, we put the child with Jesus in our midst.

Fear not, this was the last week we heard about Jesus and children, so the stained glass will be moved to somewhere else appropriate. We're looking for that spot. The dimensions of the picture don't work with our windows, so it's a bit of a challenge.

I wonder, though, from what about the altar is the picture distracting. If the altar is the place of sacrificial giving, then isn't that the perfect place for a picture depicting Jesus caring for a child, serving children, caring for the weakest, giving up prestige to serve? Wasn't that a sacrifice? Didn't he tell the disciples to do the same?

Anyway, I'd like to hear what the distraction is. Really, I'm interested in knowing.



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY MONDAY, OCTOBER 14

For many, "Columbus Day" has been replaced with Indigenous People's Day. In celebration of this holiday, we acknowledge and honor America's first inhabitants and the Tribal Nations that we live among today; we celebrate the vast richness of their cultures, communities, and history. "Indigenous" (with a capital I) refers to those peoples with pre-existing sovereignty who were living together as a community prior to contact with immigrant settler populations.

"Native American" and "First Nations" refer to peoples living within what is now the United States and Canada prior to European contact. The Indigenous population is divided into hundreds of "Tribal Nations" who live throughout the North American continent.

For a schedule of Indigenous People's Day events in Seattle, go to

<https://www.seattleurbannatives.org/events-calendar/2024-indigenous-peoples-day-citywide-celebration>



CELEBRATING & GIVING SUNDAY

Sunday, October 6, was a busy one at St. Alban's – it was a three-in-one service – The Feast of St. Francis, Blessing of the Animals, and Food Bank Sunday. In

honor of St. Francis, a total of six dogs were blessed, with photos of cats and figures placed on the altar.

Every day can be Food Bank Day, as we are encouraged to bring cans/packages of food for the gathering table at any time. A more definite “push” is initiated for the first Sunday of each month for donations of cash and food. We remember and offer prayers, particularly for those in our neighborhood, who need our assistance. Thank you for spreading Jesus’ love and caring to “feed my sheep.”

SAVE THE DATE!

On **Sunday, November 24, 2024**, our newly ordained Diocesan Bishop, Phil LaBelle, will be with us. Besides being a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other and to celebrate our common ministries, the visitation of a bishop is an occasion for baptisms, confirmations, receptions into the Episcopal Church, and the renewal of baptismal vows. Put this date on your calendar and look for more details as the day approaches.

MISSION TO SEAFARERS

We will be participating in the Mission to Seafarers October through November 17. We can contribute by sewing “ditty bags,” and by purchasing full-size bottles of shampoo/conditioner, full sized toothpaste, individually wrapped toothbrushes, deodorant, shaving cream and razors. For female Seafarers, sanitary pads, opaque bags for sanitary products, ibuprofen/Tylenol, face wash and facial care products are needed. Detailed lists of items needed are in the Parish Hall.

Please contact one of our co-chairs with questions: Averil Nicewarner – averil.personal@gmail.com, 301-310-3165, or Jane Niece – 206-949-7335 or liliasyetta@hotmail.com,



DAY BY DAY REFLECTIONS

The following reflection is by Joseph Yoo, the vicar of Mosaic Episcopal Church, a church plant in the Diocese of Texas. He is also the author of “When the Saints Go Flying In.”

Luke 5:13 – Then Jesus stretched out his hand, touched him, and said, “I do choose. Be made clean.” Immediately the leprosy left him.

Jesus did the little things so well.

What strikes me about this verse isn’t the actual healing but the fact that Jesus touched the man with the skin disease – something people were not supposed to do. I wonder when the last time this man was physically touched by another human being.

The thing about miracles no one talks about is that the miraculousness of them fades away. People who were healed got sick again; those who were raised from the dead died again. While the miracles were miraculous, I believe the true transformation was how Jesus treated those who needed healing as actual



Photographs from Jeannie Wells

human beings and not people to be avoided at all costs.

The poet Maya Angelou once said, "People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." Jesus made those in need of healing feel like actual children of God. We may not be able to perform miracles like Jesus did, but we all can remind people of how loved they are.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

OCTOBER 13 – PENTECOST 21

In Mark:10, we read "*How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God.*" All of us have much wealth, you know, especially by the standard of many in the rest of the world. We are so blessed. As stewards and disciples, are we willing to live our lives and use all our gifts to honor God and follow His teachings?

OCTOBER 20 – PENTECOST 22

Mark 10:45 puts it very succinctly: "*The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many.*" What gift can we ever give to thank Him for His incredible gift to us? Living life as a steward and disciple and following the Lord's examples and teachings is certainly a good place to start.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OCTOBER 13 – PENTECOST 21

Job 23:1-9, 16-17
Psalm 22:1-15
Hebrews 4:12-16
Mark 10:17-31

Collect for Pentecost 21

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen

OCTOBER 20 – PENTECOST 22

Job 38:1-7, (34-41)
Psalm 104:1-9, 25, 27b
Hebrews 5:1-10
Mark 10:35-45

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, 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.

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- or use pictured QR code

