

AROUND THE PARISH

January 16, 2025

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 18

Epiphany 2

8:00 & 10:30am, Eucharist Services in Sanctuary
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



Fr. Greg Peters

The Vestry met on Wednesday, January 14, for our monthly meeting. Besides addressing several business matters, we spent a good deal of time discussing and approving the 2026 Budget and the Annual Meeting. Here's a short rundown:

2026 Budget

The most important topic was approving the 2026 Budget. Please be aware that the budget has a \$30K deficit. We have adequate funds in reserve to cover this deficit. Several years ago, we established a Budget Reserve Fund of \$60K for this kind of situation. In previous years, you all have been both extra generous and fiscally disciplined enough to avoid using that fund, but even so we ended 2025 with a \$23K deficit. The expenses in the 2026 Budget are not excessive; there is very little room for reductions; it is our income that falls short. This is a predicament faced by many organizations. The Vestry approved the 2026 Budget with the stipulation that during the year, we will lead the congregation in assessing ways of moving back to a balance budget and then doing what is necessary to achieve it.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

1/17 9:00am-1200pm, LMF, Annex
10:00am-2:00pm, Food Bank Collection
10:30am, Indigenous Circle, Parish Hall
1/19 OFFICE Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
1/21 6:00pm, Evening Prayer/Soup Supper
1/22 1:00-3:00pm, Discussion Group, Parish Hall
1/28 4:00pm, Worship Committee Mtg, Parish Hall
6:00pm, Evening Prayer, YouTube
2/1 9:30am, One Service followed by lunch and
Annual Parish Meeting
2/5 1:00-3:00pm, Discussion Group, Parish Hall

RECURRING EVENTS

Mon: 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall
Tues: 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall, (1st, 3rd)
7:00pm, Cub Scouts, Sunday Sch. Wing-Pending
Wed: 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, YouTube
Thur: 7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
Fri: 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
Sun: 6:30pm, AA Meeting, Parish Hall

Next ATP Issue: Friday, February 6

Article Deadline: Wednesday Noon, February 4

Planning Ahead:

Saturday, March 7, is the date for our next ECW Coffee.
Be sure to put the date on your calendar now so you won't miss this fun event. It will also be another book sale event, so go through your stacks and bring some to share. Where else can you get a good read for 50 cents? Profit goes to future ECW functions.

Planned Annual Meeting

We then set an agenda for the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 1. As is our custom, we will have one service that day, at 9:30am, with lunch and the Annual Meeting immediately afterward. The Annual Meeting Reports with the Agenda are forthcoming.

Reconfirmed Almoners

We reconfirmed Dan Mullene and Jim Gilman as our parish Almoners. One of the joys of Anglicanism is the use of fancy and arcane terminology. Almoners are parish officers who administer the Discretionary Funds of the congregation. Dan and Jim are extraordinarily helpful in making sure that those who come to us for financial assistance have their needs met.

Cart for Griddle

We approved \$100 for the procurement of a metal cart for the griddle. The cart will improve accessibility, provide proper storage, and reduce the potential for injury (at 150 pounds, it's a 2- or 3-man piece of kitchen equipment) in setting it up. And all this in time for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.

Shrove Tuesday

Looking ahead, Shrove Tuesday is February 17. Look for announcements and notices as the day approaches.

Ash Wednesday and Lenten Program

Ash Wednesday is February 18. Services are being planned by the Worship Committee and our Lenten Program by our Faith Formation team.

Holy Week with Sts. Hilda and Patrick

As we've done for the past several years, we will observe Holy Week with our neighboring congregation, St. Hilda/St. Patrick. This year they will host us for Good Friday, April 3, and we will host the Easter Vigil, April 4.

Prayer for Grace

Heavenly Father,
In moments when my strength feels small
and my heart feels heavy,
cover me with Your unending grace.
Let Your mercy wash over my mistakes,
and Your love guide my steps toward what
is good and true.
Teach me to walk in patience,
to speak with kindness,
and to forgive as freely as You forgive me.
When I stumble, lift me gently;
when I doubt, remind me of Your promises.
May Your grace not only sustain me,
but overflow from me—
touching the lives of those I meet today.
Amen.



FOOD DRIVE SATURDAY, January 17

Tomorrow, Saturday, January 17, is the first Drop by Food Drive of 2026, from 10:00am-2:00pm.

Phil McClelland and various volunteers will be

on hand to meet and assist those dropping off items for the Edmonds Food Bank.

Please be generous with your contributions and money donations, for the need is great in our community. This is our opportunity to help ease the burden on our neighbors who find it increasingly difficult to put food on the table for themselves and their families.

Non-perishable items can also be brought to church for the food table in the Parish Hall. It all goes to help those in need. Our Blessing Pantry is also a God send for many in our local area. You are encouraged to donate what you can, when you can and help us in our mission to feed God's children.



MEN'S CIRCLE ANNOUNCEMENT

Jim Gilman

REMEMBER the **Standing Rock Protests of 2016** on the Sioux Nation Reservation in North and South Dakota? The major issue was opposition to the construction and operation of the "Dakota Access Oil Pipeline" that would risk contaminating Indigenous lands, water, and sacred burial sites.

Included among the protesters was St. Alban's own Martin Walters. Sponsored by the Men's Circle, Martin will give a presentation of his experience at the Standing Rock Protests. **ALL (female, male, et al.) are WELCOME.** Save the date of **Saturday, February 14 at 10:30am**, in the Parish Hall. Coffee and Snacks are included. My God, It's FREE!



INDIGENOUS CIRCLE – JANUARY 17

Jim Gilman

The next Indigenous Circle meeting is scheduled for **SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 10:30am**, in the Parish Hall. The agenda will include:

- +Religion among the nations of the Salish Sea presented by Jim Gilman.
- +Discussion of the "Introduction" to *Ladder to the Light* by Steven Charleston.



JOIN IN SOUP SUPPER ON JANUARY 21

Dine, chat and learn! The next Soup Supper is **Wednesday, January 21**, beginning with Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary at 6:00pm. Dinner is at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall. Please bring soup, salad, bread and/or dessert as you are able.



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

Martin Luther King Jr. Day is a federal holiday in the United States observed on the third Monday of January each year — January 19, 2026. King was the chief spokesperson for nonviolent activism in the Civil Rights Movement, which protested racial discrimination in federal and state law and civil society. The movement led to several groundbreaking legislative reforms in the United States.

The campaign for a federal holiday in King's honor began soon after his assassination in 1968. President Ronald Reagan signed the holiday into law in 1983, and it was first observed three years later on January 20, 1986.

The Edmonds Waterfront Center will host an MLK Celebration on January 19, 2026, from 9:30am to noon. This event will feature dancing, games, children's book readings, youth performances, and arts and crafts. It is a free event and is part of the broader celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day in Snohomish County, which includes various community service activities and events across the region.

FREE INNER HEALING RETREAT, Seabeck Retreat Center, Olympic Peninsula March 20, 21, 22, 2026

This is an opportunity to learn about the Inner Healing Ministry and receive prayer or learn how to pray for others. This retreat is held at Seabeck Retreat Center on the scenic Olympic Peninsula with spectacular water views. It includes two nights, six meals, and all

rooms have private bathrooms with deluxe accommodation.

The seminar consists of an 8-part course with small groups and individual prayer. You will receive soul healing and training to facilitate healing in others. Because of the generosity of Rita Bennett and her legacy, there is no charge to you.

If you would like to take advantage of this tremendous opportunity or have more information, please contact Shirley Wilson, 206-542-2944 or wilsaw@comcast.net.

The deadline for early-bird registration is **January 31, 2026**.

2026 FLOWER CHART

Sharon Joy, Altar Guild Directress

The 2026 Flower Chart is posted in the Parish Hall above the shelf to the left of the front door. Please feel free to sign up to donate altar flowers. There are several slots open between now and the beginning of Lent on February 22, after which we do not have flowers again until Easter.

We are aware that the cost of flowers has risen along with everything else! A single plant or a single arrangement is sufficient for our altar area. Also, one or two people can share a Sunday with both doing their own dedication while splitting the cost of the flowers.

Please sign up and indicate on the form provided your flower preferences. All dedications for flowers are to be sent to Parish Administrator Jeannie Wells (Jeannie.stalbansedmonds@gmail.com) at least ten days prior to your chosen Sunday.

If you have questions, please contact Sharon Joy by phone at 425-478-6844.



UPDATE OF PARISH DIRECTORY

Please be sure to check on your church directory listing. Have you dropped/changed your landline telephone number, changed your cell phone number, or have any changes to home address or email? If so,

please be sure to notify the church office at stalbansedmonds@gmail.com or 425-778-0371. A copy is also available in the Parish Hall for you to check.

We will be publishing a new directory after the annual meeting and election of new Vestry members.

PARISH DIRECTORY UPDATES

We welcome:

Anne and Donald Richardson
4405 221st Pl SW
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043
Don: 757-477-0612
Anne: 757-323-6847
Email: Annetrichardson@mac.com

New Email Address:

DeeDee Meyer: dx2meyer@gmail.com



FINANCIAL REPORT – DECEMBER 2025

Nick Sharpe, Treasurer

December 2025 income totaled **\$15,032.51**, which was **\$6,952.49 below budget**. Year-to-date income was **\$191,896.91**, finishing **\$1,123.09 under budget** and within approximately one percent of the annual projection.

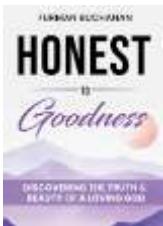
December expenses were **\$22,549.84, \$191.84 over budget**. Year-to-date expenses totaled **\$214,948.49**, which is **\$5,577.51 under budget** for the year.

Expenses exceeded income for the year as anticipated in the approved 2025 budget.

LENTEN DEVOTION: HONEST TO GOODNESS

Thanks to the Rita Bennett bequest, we can once again offer a devotion for Lent.

This devotional book invites readers to spend time each day examining God's own words in the Old and New Testaments so that we might better understand who we are, who God is, what God expects from us, and—likewise—what we can expect from God.



The common denominator in all these words and deeds is honesty. And listening to God's honesty leads us to experience God's goodness. In other words, as we discover more of the truth and beauty of a loving God, we can move from honest to goodness. God wants us to think, speak, and act in response.

If you would like a copy, please contact the church office, 425-778-0371; stalbansedmonds@gmail.com or Maryellen Young, 425-776-2461; maryelleny@comcast.com.

HUMMINGBIRDS

A few of us recently joined St. Alban's member Kathy Glassburn at the launch of her book of short stories. A review states: "Kathleen Glassburn's *Hummingbirds* is a quietly powerful and deeply humane collection that celebrates the emotional richness of everyday life.

"With her signature blend of warmth, insight, and gentle humor, Glassburn crafts stories that illuminate the inner worlds of ordinary people navigating the complexities of aging, relationships, memory, and identity. The result is a collection that feels both intimate and universal — a reminder that the smallest moments often carry the greatest meaning." The book is available on Amazon.



LiVE PROJECT SATURDAY RETREAT

Practicing Faith in an Age of Radicalization

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

10021 NE 124th St, Kirkland, WA

Join the LiVE Project for a timely Saturday Retreat on **Saturday, February 7, 9:00am-3:00pm**, examining how radicalization and Christian Nationalism are shaping our common life. With author and pastor Angela Denker, we will explore how Scripture is used to advance ideology, why certain communities are especially targeted, and how people of faith might respond together with wisdom and hope.

LiVE is a lay ministry of the NW WA synod – ELCA, forming Christian leaders able to make sense of our place in God's world. It offers a flexible, hybrid-style of learning with various levels of engagement, including multi-week Zoom courses, one-day, in-person retreats, interactive cohorts, and the Lay Ministry two-year formation program.

Retreat 3: Practicing Faith in an Age of Radicalization

THE SERVICEBERRY: A LENTEN BOOK GROUP WITH UTO

Looking for a way to connect with others as a part of your Lenten Discipline this year? Look no further! UTO is offering a 5-session book club on The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World by Robin Wall Kimmerer, author of Braiding Sweetgrass.

This is a perfect book to explore during Lent because it can encourage us to think more deeply about gift, reciprocity, and gratitude. We'll explore this book together and see what we can learn about gratitude as a way to give thanks by word and deed for the gifts given by the world around us. While reading the text prior to the meeting will enhance your experience, it is not required.

You are also welcome to attend all five sessions or just the ones when you're available or where a topic interests you. The book club starts **Tuesday, February 24 at Noon Eastern time**. Learn MORE at <https://unitedthankoffering.com/wp-content/uploads/2026-Lenten-Webinar.pdf> and REGISTER at <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/GO18KZnrT9e49NfKd5jp2w#/registration>

STEWARSHIP REFLECTIONS

JANUARY 18 – EPIPHANY 2

“Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine...that He may be known, worshipped and obeyed to the ends of the earth...”
Quite a tall order! But even if we just start where we are and share with those around us the wondrous blessings and gifts we have been given, the intentions of this prayer will be fulfilled.

JANUARY 25 – EPIPHANY 3

Psalm 27 begins: *“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom then shall I be afraid?”* The world may fail us; our families and friends may even fail us, but God's promise stands – He is always there to help us through. We cannot earn His love and care; it has been given to us freely and without reservation. All we have to do is ask with true willingness to have God come into our hearts and lives as our guardian and guide.

FEBRUARY 2 – EPIPHANY 4

Here is an admonition that can undergird a steward's daily life and govern our relationship with God and our neighbors: *“...and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?* How would our world look if more people engraved that saying on their hearts...and acted accordingly?

SCRIPTURE READINGS

JANUARY 18 – EPIPHANY 2

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-12
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

Collect for Epiphany 2

Almighty God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ is the light of the world: Grant that your people illumined by your Word and Sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that He may be known, worshiped and obeyed to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen

JANUARY 25 – EPIPHANY 3

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 5-13
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

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

FEBRUARY 1 – EPIPHANY 4

Micah 6:1-8
Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

Collect for February 1

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

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 2:00 – 4:00 pm
- Wednesday 2:00 - 4:00pm
- Friday 2:00 – 4:00pm

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

- Tuesday Church Office 10:00am – 2:30 pm
- Wednesday Church Office 10:00am – 2:30pm
- Thursday Home 10:00am – 2:00pm
(Available by appointment)

Via email: gwpeters.stalbansedmonds@gmail.com
Cell: 206-778-1506
SUNDAYS--after church coffee hour until 2:00pm
(Available by appointment)

CHURCH PLEDGES & DONATIONS

Please continue donations and pledges by:

- *Collection plates and baskets on Sunday.
- *Mail check – 21405 82nd Pl W, Edmonds, WA 98026
- *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



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.

