

AROUND THE PARISH

February 6, 2026

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 – February 8

Epiphany 5

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

February is our annual celebration of Black History. We remember the rich cultural, political, economic, artistic, and culinary contributions of people of African descent to our nation – to our national identity – to who we are as a people.

How impoverished we would be without the blues of Robert Johnson and Muddy Waters; the jazz of Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald, Winton Marsalis, and Christian McBride; the deliciousness and nutrition of peanut butter, Hoppin' John, and sweet potato pie; the beauty and civic pride of Jacob Lawrence's paintings; the leadership, vision, and righteousness of Frederick Douglas, Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King, Jr., Angela Davis, Shirley Chisholm, Colin Powel, Maxine Waters, and Cornel West; the contribution to the historical record of Henry Lewis Gates Jr.; or the eloquence of James Baldwin, Maya Angelou, Ta-Nehisi Coates, and Amanda Gorman.

And in our own Episcopal Church, how much poorer we would be without the hymns and worship music of David Hurd; the powerful, prophetic, springing-up-from-the-unlimited-well-of-divine-love leadership of Barbara Harris, Michael Curry, and Carla Robinson (our own Diocesan Canon for Multicultural Ministries and Community Transformation); or the vanguard service and faithfulness of Absalom Jones, the first person of African descent to be ordained in the Episcopal Church and whose feast day is February 13.

I know this is a very short, incomplete, and dated list (so many cultural trends, contributions to science, education, journalism, and the arts left out, so many artists unrecognized, so many leaders unacknowledged, so many behind-the-scenes, faith-filled organizers overlooked), but you get the point – we would not be who we are as a nation or as a church without the contributions of the African diaspora.

We cannot forget our legacy – the good or the bad. There are some who would like us to forget our history; as if slavery was not such a horrific thing, that

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 2/6 3:30-6:30pm, WECP Open House
- 2/7 9:00am-noon, WECP Open House
- 2/8 12:00pm, Vestry Meeting, Annex
- 2/10 1:30-3:00pm, Altar Guild Meeting, Parish Hall
- 2/11 4:00pm, Food Bank Distribution, Parking Lot
- 2:00pm, Endowment Board Meeting, Parish Hall
- 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, YouTube
- 2/14 10:30am, Men's Circle, Parish Hall
- 2/15 12:00pm, Vestry Orientation
- 2/16 Presidents Day, Office Closed
- 2/17 4:30-6:30pm, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- 2/18 12:00pm, Ash Wed Eucharist/Ashes Imposition
- 6:00pm, Ash Wed Eucharist/Ashes Imposition
- 2/19 1:00-3:00pm, Discussion Group, Parish Hall
- 2/21 10:30am, Indigenous Circle Mtg, Parish Hall
- 2/25 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, Sanctuary/YouTube
- 6:30pm, Lenten Soup Supper & Program

RECURRING EVENTS

- Mon: 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall
- Tues: 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall, (1st, 3rd)
- 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 20

Article Deadline: Wednesday Noon, February 18

racism is our nation's original sin, that discrimination flies in the face of our fundamental value of equality. Diminishing, distorting, and denying our history is, at best, an affront, at worst, a lie.

Declarations of superiority are often simply masks and shields protecting against feelings of deep inferiority.

So let us seek out and proclaim liberating truth. Let us honestly assess the conditions of our society. Let us pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance to amend our lives (both individual and national) to accord with our values. And let us celebrate our rich and diverse heritage.

Let us "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

Here's an apropos prayer from the Book of Common Prayer:

PRAYER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart (and especially the hearts of the people of this land), that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP 823)



GRATITUDE FOR GOD'S ABUNDANCE

Heavenly Father,

With a heart full of awe, I thank You for the overflowing blessings You pour into my life.

You provide not only what I need, but more than I could ever imagine — love that never runs dry, peace that steadies my soul, and opportunities that remind me of Your goodness.

Thank You for the beauty in each sunrise, the laughter of loved ones, the food on my table, and the shelter over my head. Even in seasons of uncertainty, Your abundance surrounds me — in grace, in mercy, and in hope.

Help me to never take Your generosity for granted.

Teach me to share freely, just as You have given freely to me, so that my life may reflect Your boundless love.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

FEBRUARY 14 MEN'S CIRCLE

Jim Gilman

The Men's Circle is meeting on **Saturday, February 14, 10:30am, in the Parish Hall.** Our presenter will be parishioner Martin Walters, who will relate his experience at 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.

All are welcome and encouraged to join this event.



ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 18

Join with us on **Ash Wednesday, February 18**, for Eucharist and the imposition of ashes. Services will be held at **12:00pm and 6:00pm**. The noon service will be live streamed for those who worship at home.

If you have palms from previous services, please bring them to church by Shrove Tuesday, February 17, so they can be rendered into ashes for Ash Wednesday. There is a basket in the Parish Hall for this collection.



SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Celebrate the start of Lent at our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on **February 17, 4:30 – 6:30pm**. This is a great fellowship opportunity to enjoy a meal with fellow parishioners. It's always a fun evening, but the pancakes are the star of the evening. Thank you to the Men's Circle who will prepare and provide the delicious pancake dinner.

The cost is \$5 per person with the proceeds going to the Edmonds Food Bank. As always, those over 90 and Scouts dressed in uniform are free. You are also asked to bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the food bank.



**Get the Pancake Batter and Syrup Out, Boys,
Shrove Tuesday is Coming February 17th!**
(More information about Shrove Tuesday)

-Dan Mullene

If Lent is on its way Wednesday, February 18th, it is that time when the Men’s Group of St. Alban’s starts making plans to plug in our massive grill, make large amounts of pancake batter, and get the syrup and fixings ready for yet another Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!

Get out your Sharpie, find your calendar, and mark **Tuesday, February 17, from 4:30 until 6:30pm**, for this annual event in our Parish Hall. In addition to pancakes, the dinner will feature ham, apple sauce, and fruit juice, served by the Men’s Group, and any other volunteers we can gather up.

The cost for the event is \$5.00 per person, and free for those over 90 years of age and all Scouts dressed in uniform. Guests are also encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item for donation to the Edmonds Food Bank. All profits from the dinner will be donated to the food bank.

Shrove Tuesday comes from the old middle English word 'Shriven' meaning to go to confession to say sorry for the wrong things you've done. Lent always starts on a Wednesday, so people went to confessions the day before. This became known as Shriven Tuesday and then Shrove Tuesday.

The other name for this day, Pancake Day, comes from the old English custom of using up all the fattening ingredients in the house before Lent, so that people were ready to fast during Lent. The fattening ingredients that most people had in their houses in those days were eggs and milk. A very simple recipe to use up these ingredients was to combine them with some flour and make pancakes.

If you’ve been there before, you know this is a great opportunity to splurge on your diet and enjoy a great meal along with some rewarding fellowship. If you haven’t, then be sure to make plans to join us!



LENTEN SOUP SUPPER DATES

Our St. Alban’s tradition is to hold Soup Suppers each Wednesday evening during Lent – February

25, March 4, March 11, March 18, and March 25.
Please note these dates on your calendar.

We gather for Evening Prayer in the Sacristy at 6:00pm and move to the Parish Hall at 6:30pm for dinner and the program. This is another fellowship opportunity for us to meet, learn and share together.

If you are able to contribute to the supper, please bring soup, salad, bread or dessert.



ECW COFFEE – SATURDAY, MARCH 7

Be sure to join in on **Saturday, March 7, 10:30am – noon**, for the next ECW Coffee.

Susan Hanson will be our featured speaker as she talks about her recent trip through southern France, the Basque and Northern Spain. She always gives us a great armchair trip!

Used Book Sale -- Also at this gathering, we will be offering for sale books that various members have read and enjoyed. Please go through your pile of books and bring some of them to donate to ECW for sale at “special, one-day-only” prices. These cold winter days are perfect for losing yourself in a good book!! Proceeds will be used by ECW for future events at our ECW social gatherings.

Coffee, tea and light refreshments will be offered.



Our Annual Parish Meeting was held on Sunday, February 1, following one combined service at 9:30am. Attendance was 51 including 7 participating via Zoom.

A sandwich/salad/dessert lunch was provided prior to the meeting giving the congregation the opportunity to break bread together and visit. There were several reports and papers on hand for parishioners to pick up – a summary of reports by Greg, Vestry officials, the treasurer and the various ministry and group leaders.

In addition to published reports, 2025 accomplishments and 2026 goals, there were brief discussions on two agenda items with parishioner input regarding the

placement of the American flag at St. Alban's and potential ways of saving money, one possible suggestion being to consider only one Sunday service. Following discussion, the flag issue went to a vote, and it has been returned to the altar area. The one-service suggestion will be taken up again at a later special meeting for congregational input.

Parishioners elected to Vestry were Shirley Clark, Jim Gilman and Debby Wilson. Elected as delegates to the convention were Ron Austin and Carrie Cone.

If you were unable to attend the meeting and would like to have a copy of the meeting materials, please contact the church office. Included in this information is a ballot for the next round of **Outreach** donations. Please be sure to pick up a copy and cast your vote!

ERIC HANSON RETIRES FROM ADULT ED

- Roger Andersen

After nearly 20 years teaching his drop-in Adult Christian Education class on Sunday mornings, Eric Hanson is finally saying "enough." Over that period, some 30-40 people found their way to the Annex between the two services to receive the benefit of his extensive and deep study of the Bible. No question was ever treated as too trivial, too complex, or too controversial, and he never betrayed the slightest impatience answering the same question he had recently answered. Questions where Christian scholarship has not reached complete agreement, which is to say most of them, were explored to leave us with an understanding of what the issues really are.

Eric organized his class the way he wanted, choosing the order of topics to suit his own interests, ultimately covering the entire Bible three separate times. The community that showed up each week responded with delight. He is simply irreplaceable!



NATIONAL BOY SCOUTS DAY

February 8 is recognized and celebrated as National Boy Scouts Day. Since 1910, boys across America have been doing good deeds, learning survival skills and developing moral foundations through Boy Scouts of America. Boy Scouts have had a profound impact on the United States. Many presidents and other dignitaries have been Boy Scouts. A total of 181

astronauts also have been a part of the Boy Scout program.

St. Alban's Troop 300 has had a profound and lasting impact on our church and its grounds over the years. We are blessed with spring and fall grounds cleanup and have benefited from many Eagle Scout projects. These projects are leadership tasks for Eagle Scout candidates. A candidate has a vision of helping, plans the project, seeks approval from the Eagle Scout Coordinator, and obtains approval/acceptance from the recipient. The candidate's job is one of supervision, raising funds/donations for project completion.

Thanks to various leaders, scouts and their families, St. Alban's has gained safety, appearance, repair and additions to our property. The following is a partial list; projects also can be performed at other sites.

The Gazebo; concrete path to Gazebo, reworked Reader Board, original Storage Shed, extending path to Preschool back door, front entrance Hand Railing, cement Prayer Pad in front garden area, Retaining Wall along back, Benches in play area, "Lee Forsberg" Storage Shed, WiFi to Annex, ADA Walkway and Stairs to Annex.

Thank you and blessings to those currently in Troop 300 and to all those who have been members and served in past years. We appreciate your dedication and assistance to our church and community.



Photo from JL Krilovich

CAMP JOY AND COMMUNITY GENEROSITY

In the above photo, you'll see a bright, joyous smile belonging to Hailey Lanum—a familiar face to many of us at St. Alban's. When Hailey visits her grandmother (aka JL Krilovich), she serves faithfully at the 8:00am service, carrying the Scriptures in our processional. Her sister, Raina Kille, also shares in that ministry, carrying the cross with quiet dignity and care.

Last summer, both Hailey and Raina attended Camp Huston through full scholarships made possible by the

loving generosity of St. Alban's parishioners. Their time at camp was filled with fun, faith and friendship -- a wonderful example of how our community helps young people grow in spirit and joy.

If your child or grandchild would like to attend Camp Huston this coming summer but needs financial assistance, please reach out to any Vestry representative. St. Alban's is blessed to have a parish family eager to make these meaningful experiences possible for our children.



OUTREACH BALLOT

It is time to vote for our outreach recipients for the next four quarters. The ballot will be available during February in the Parish Hall.

You can vote for up to four organizations. The top four vote-getters will be selected. Ballots are due by February 22nd. You can leave your ballot in the designated basket in the Parish Hall, mail your ballot to church, drop it through the mail slot in Greg's office door, or email your selections from the list below to maryelleny@comcast.net.

If you need a ballot, contact the church office. Copies are also available in the brown box by the Sacristy door.

For your convenience below are the organizations on the ballot: ChildStrive, Clothes For Kids, Compass Health, Everett Gospel Mission, HopeWorks, Housing Hope, YWCA Pathways for Women, PAWS, Washington Kids in Transition.

Note: The organizations who were recipients for the previous four quarters will be eligible again next year.



BASKET DONATIONS FOR 1st Quarter 2026

1st week—**Food Banks** for Edmonds, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace Food Banks

2nd week—**Discretionary Fund** to help people who contact the church for assistance with gas cards, utility bills, rent and other emergency aid requests

3rd week— **Homage**, providing of services for older adults and people with disabilities in Snohomish County

4th Week—**Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)** cares for people affected by conflict, disease outbreaks, natural and human-made disasters, and exclusion from health care in more than 70 countries

5th week— **Indigenous Women** for WomenSpirit Coalition. There is a 5th week in March

Donations can be made at any time by placing your donation in an envelope and designating category for your donation.

LGBTQ+ TASK FORCE INVITES SURVEY INPUT BY MARCH 15

From Episcopal Church Office of Public Affairs

Episcopalians are invited to complete a 15- to 20-minute survey offered by the Task Force on LGBTQ+ Inclusion to help the church better understand how it honors the dignity of all people and where work remains to be done.

The 80th General Convention established the task force in 2022, charging it with conducting an audit of how The Episcopal Church has lived into its public commitments affirming the inclusion of LGBTQ+ people. A survey report will be shared with the 82nd General Convention in 2027.

Members across the church—those who are LGBTQ+ and those who are not—are encouraged to share about their experiences with pastoral care, sacramental access, representation in leadership, and institutional accountability.

[Learn more and complete the survey](#), offered in English, French, and Spanish, by **March 15**.



DAY BY DAY REFLECTIONS

This reflection is written by David Sibley who is rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Walla Walla, where he lives with his wife and daughter.

John 4:26 – Jesus said to her, “I am he, the one who is speaking to you.”

Our culture is extremely skeptical of the idea of Revelation, doubly so if we think of the possibility that God would speak to us. Even among those who follow Jesus, we're content to believe that God is revealed to the prophets or the saints or people with a piety

surpassing our own. But the idea Jesus could speak to us? Preposterous!

When Jesus speaks to the woman at the well, any notion that God won't speak to us should go out the window. The woman at the well checks many boxes on the "not likely to be spoken to by God Incarnate" list in the time of John's Gospel. She's a she! She's had many marriages! She's a Samaritan! Even the fact that she goes to the well in the heat of the day points to someone who doesn't want to be seen by anyone, much less by God. Yet Jesus reveals himself to her using the same name God revealed to Moses in the Burning Bush. The woman at the well is the first in John's Gospel to hear Jesus reveal himself as "I am."

If she can hear God's voice, why not you?

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

FEBRUARY 8 – EPIPHANY 5

"give us the liberty of that abundant life you have made known to us in your Son our Savior, Jesus Christ..."

Try to imagine the joy in your life if you concentrate on its abundance and do not allow yourself to live in a mindset of scarcity. God does indeed provide for all our needs if we live in Him and for Him.

FEBRUARY 15 – LAST EPIPHANY

Ash Wednesday is quickly approaching. Why not take these next few days to pray about how we might strengthen our Holy Habits of prayer and study, community worship, care for others, and perhaps, even more generous responses to the least and the lost among us?

FEBRUARY 18 – ASH WEDNESDAY

There are two key stewards' reminders in today's lessons. Psalm 103 urges us to *"Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits,"* and the conclusion of Matthew's Gospel passage points out that we need to choose carefully what our life treasures are to be, and to whom or what they will be committed.

FEBRUARY 22 – 1ST LENT

Jesus responds to Satan's first temptation to take power unto himself (to be in control, as it were) by making bread from stones with the words, *"One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."* Does our own personal need for

power affect a loving and strengthening relationship with our Creator?

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FEBRUARY 8 – 5 EPIPHANY

Isaiah 58:1-9a, (9b-12)

Psalm 112:1-9, (10)

1 Corinthians 2:1-12, (13-16)

Matthew 5:13-20

Collect for 5 Epiphany

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

FEBRUARY 15 – LAST EPIPHANY

Exodus 23:12-18

Psalm 2 or Psalm 99

2 Peter 1:16-21

Matthew 17:1-9

Collect for Last Epiphany

O God, who before the passion of your only-begotten Son revealed His glory upon the holy mountain: Grant to us that we, beholding by faith the light of His countenance, may be strengthened to bear our cross, and be changed into his likeness from glory to glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

FEBRUARY 18 – ASH WEDNESDAY

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Psalm 103

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Collect for Ash Wednesday

Almighty and Everlasting God, you hate nothing you have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent: Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

FEBRUARY 22 – 1ST LENT

Genesis 2:15-17; 3;1-7

Psalms 32

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

Collect for 1st Lent

Almighty God whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

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.

