

AROUND THE PARISH

February 17, 2023

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 19

8:00 & 10:30am, In-person, Indoor Services for those fully vaccinated

9:15am, Adult Bible study, Annex & Zoom – Class is continuing the study of John

<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

NOTE: SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY IS CANCELLED FOR TODAY. WILL BE BACK NEXT WEEK.



Fr. Greg Peters

Our Vestry met last Monday, February 13, for our monthly meeting. It seemed a bit busier than a typical meeting incorporating newly elected members to the Vestry.

We welcomed our new elected members: Judy Fleenor and Harvey Smith.

Jeannie Wells, who after the Annual Meeting had offered to be considered for one of the three remaining vacant positions, was presented to the whole Vestry.

Before the vote, consideration was given to the potential challenges of clearly distinguishing between Jeannie's role as Parish Administrator and a potential Vestry role. In the end, the members all felt that this was not too great a challenge, and Jeannie was approved. She will serve until next year's Annual Meeting when she will be eligible to be elected by the congregation to serve the remainder of the position.

Allow me a little wonkiness for a minute. Article V, Section 5, of our Bylaws deals with vacant Vestry positions. It states, "Vacancies: The Vestry may, at a meeting duly called, fill a vacancy in its own membership until the next scheduled Parish Meeting, at which time the Parish shall elect a member for the remaining portion of the unexpired term."

So Jeannie is appointed to serve until next year's Annual Parish Meeting when she can stand for election to serve for the remainder of the term.

Get use to this because we have two other unfilled positions and those people who accept the call to serve will have to be voted on by the congregation next year.

Now, back to the meeting itself.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 2/19 11:45am, Pastoral Care/Eucharistic Visitors Mtg.
- 2/20 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall
- 2/21 4:00-6:45pm, Pancake Supper, Parish Hall
- 2/22 12:00 & 7:00pm, Ash Wednesday Eucharists
- 2/23 7:00-9:00pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
- 2/24 7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary
- 2/28 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall
6:30pm, Girl Scout Parent Mtg, Parish Hall

EPIPHANY PRAYER

Christine Sine

The Christmas star has not faded,
It has been implanted in us.
The light of the world is not dimmed,
It shines in you, in me,
and in all creation,
and the darkness cannot extinguish it.
Let us be God's revelation,
God's path of transformation,
Shining like stars in the heavens,
To give light to every weary pilgrim,
Every wanderer,
Every lost and rejected one.
Let us go forth, carrying God's light
Into our needy world.

After Jeannie was appointed, she jumped right in with the rest to elect the Junior Wardens, Clerk, and Treasurer. **Liz Bee** continues as Senior Warden (more wonkiness, Senior Wardens are chosen by the Rector, Junior Wardens, Clerk, and Treasurer by the Vestry); **Jan Skidmore** was elected Peoples' Warden; **Eric Hanson** Junior Warden for Buildings and Grounds; **Debby Wilson** as Clerk; and **Maryellen Young** as Treasurer. So these good folks are the Officers of our Vestry; I think you and the Vestry are in very good hands.

As I mentioned above, there are still two vacant positions on the Vestry. These came about with the resignations of People's Warden Maisy Hochstetler and Wendre Vaughan.

The Vestry discussed people to ask to fill these vacancies and came up with quite a good list. You'll hear more about this after people accept the invitation to join in the ministry of leading our congregation.

What we did not discuss were the reasons for Maisy's and Wendre's resignations or why it was so difficult to recruit nominees for our election proper at the Annual Meeting. That discussion would have required much more time than the regular meeting allowed. But it will take up a significant part of our Vestry Retreat.

We set a date for the retreat; Friday, March 10. Subsequent to the meeting, I talked with Alissa Newton, Canon for Congregational Development at the Diocese. With her help, we've secured a consultant for the Retreat to lead and guide us as we form this new Vestry and as we discern what ministries God is leading us into.

I'm enthusiastic to begin this important work. We will need your on-going prayers, support, suggestions, and observations. We know we are blessed!



Ash Wednesday, February 22, signals the beginning of Lent leading to Easter Sunday on April 9.

There will be two Eucharist services with the imposition of ashes on February 22:

- +12:00pm, in person and live stream
- +7:00pm, in person only

OH, THOSE PANCAKES ARE SO GOOD!!



SHROVE TUESDAY

You won't want to miss our famous Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on **Tuesday, February 21, from 4:00-6:45pm**. Covid has kept us from this evening of wonderful pancakes and fellowship for a couple of years, but we're back!

Feast on pancakes, ham, applesauce, coffee/tea – as much as you can eat! Cost is only \$5per person, with those 90 and above eating for free, as well as Scouts in uniform.

All proceeds from the dinner will be donated to the Edmonds Food Bank. We will welcome any non-perishable food items for donation to the food bank also.

Bring your family, friends and neighbors. It's a fun evening of good food and friendship.



FOOD DRIVE RESULTS

Our Food Drive leader Lee Forsberg reports that the collection on Saturday, February 11, was 671 pounds of food and \$440 in cash.

Quoting Lee, "It was one of our smaller days of collecting for the food bank, but I am sure it was great in the minds of those who knock on the door of the food bank weekly. And, I am sure in the eyes of the Lord, it was huge! Thanks to every one of you wonderful people who helped this to happen. Yes, it was wonderful!"

Thanks to all of you that stand outside to greet donors and those who donate! You are making a great difference in many lives, giving them hope and strengthening their faith.

PARISH DIRECTORY CORRECTION

Fr. Greg's **home phone number** is incorrect as listed in the Parish Directory. It should be **206-923-1342**.

His cell number, 206-778-1506, is still the preferred number to use.

CHANGE IN COMMITTEE SCHEDULING:
Pastoral Care/Eucharistic Visitors Committee

Jim Gilman

Please note this change -- Because of so many scheduling conflicts for committee members at the time between services, I am moving our meeting to the same **Sunday (February 19th) at 15 minutes after the 10:30am service, at about 11:45am.** More members will be able to attend at this time.

I know it's not the most convenient time for everyone, including a retired deacon. But anytime is a good time when it comes to the work of the Lord. I trust most can attend.



LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

Wednesday night Soup Suppers will be returning each week of Lent – March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. As is our custom, we will begin with Evening Prayer at 6:00pm, enjoy a meal together at 6:30pm, and finish with a special Lenten program.

You are invited to join in as we observe the weeks of Lent with prayer, food and fellowship. As you are able, please contribute soup, salad, bread and/or dessert.



A NOTE FROM SAN FRANCISCO

We received the following letter from John Lehrack last week with news about his latest venture.

Dear Church Family,

Just a few days ago, I launched my very own Patreon page. Patreon is a service that allows people like you to support the artists they love. For as little as \$5/month, you not only get sneak peaks and early releases of my music or event announcements, but you can also have the chance to make song requests, have

one-on-one chats with me and even get some fun John Lehrack Music swag.

Your support helps me continue to record songs, live as a working musician and to create new music like my upcoming original song about gun violence or more arrangements such as my Contemplative Spirituals Collection for solo piano.

You can find more information via the link below. Thanks so much for your support.

https://patreon.com/johnlehrackmusic?utm_medium=clipboard_copy&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=creatorshare_creator&utm_content=join_link

John



JANUARY FINANCIALS

Maryellen Young, Treasurer

Income for January was \$16,692 compared to a budget of \$16,464 or \$228 over budget. Expenses for January were \$17,123 compared to a budget of \$18,852 or (\$1,139) under budget.

We spent \$481 more than we received. Typically expenses exceeding income at the beginning of the year is normal. Also, income is greater at the end of the year.

Total Actual Income	\$16,692
Total Budget Income	\$16,464
Total Income minus Budget	\$ 228
Total Actual Expenses	\$17,173
Total Budget Expenses	\$18,852
Total Expenses minus Budget	(\$1,139)
Total Income minus Total Expense	(\$481)

“IS CHRISTIANITY WORTH SAVING?”

Friday, March 17, 9:30am – 4:00pm

At Saint Mark’s Cathedral

One-Day Interactive Event with Brian McLaren

Join renowned leader Brian McLaren for a dynamic interactive event exploring the future of Christian faith in the 21st century. Brian will engage in a series of civil and substantive exchanges with special guests,

subject matter experts, practitioners, advocates, critics and folks in the audience.

Brian is an author, speaker, activist, and public theologian. A former college English teacher and pastor, he is a passionate advocate for “a new kind of Christianity” – just, generous, and working with people of all faiths for the common good.

St. Alban’s will pay the cost for the class; please contact the church office if you wish to attend or for more information.

stalbansedmonds@gmail.com / 425-778-0371

Never, never be afraid to do what's right, especially if the well-being of a person or animal is at stake. Society's punishments are small compared to the wounds we inflict on our soul when we look the other way.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

FROM THE READER BOARD

Lee Forsberg



jokes

Our brother Dave left us with many stories from his vast collection, and we will continue to share them in gratitude and his memory.

From Dave Wilson

Two seniors, man and wife, went into a dentist’s office one day, and the lady said to the dentist: “I need a tooth pulled, but fast, and I don’t want any anesthetic because I am in a terribly hurry.”

“Oh, that’s no problem,” said the dentist. “So, tell me which tooth you want pulled.”

The lady turned around, looked at her husband and said, “Open wide, dear, and tell the nice dentist where it hurts.”

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

FEBRUARY 19 – 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 22 – 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 26 – LENT 1

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 19 – LAST EPIPHANY

Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm 2

2 Peter 1:1:16-21

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 and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

FEBRUARY 22 – ASH WEDNESDAY

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12
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 26 – LENT 1

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11

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—Ukraine Refugee Offering
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 425-745-1390

Prayers of the People:

Prayers of the People that are used during the 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.

*Ash
Wednesday*

Dear Lord, As we enter this Solemn and Holy Season, we pray that you would send your Holy Spirit upon us that we might prepare ourselves for these coming 40 days of Lent.

Even though we may no longer wear sackcloth and ashes, we do seek to humble ourselves so that we can understand the magnificence of Your Love for us as You humbled Yourself and gave Your Life on the Cross that we might receive the gift of Eternal Glory with You. AMEN.