

AROUND THE PARISH

August 21, 2020

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



VIDEO SERVICE INFO

Sunday Eucharist is on Facebook, 10:30am

Sunday Zoom Coffee is on Zoom at 12:00pm

Wednesday Evening Prayer on Facebook, 6:00pm

Bible Study Zoom on the Gospel of Mark led by Eric Hanson is taking the month of August off because of the outdoor worship services at the church.

NOTE TIME CHANGE: ZOOM COFFEE HOUR STARTS AT 12:00pm

Join Zoom Coffee Hour, Link through August
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85174822634?pwd=aW0vdTYrNGtZTGVBQmdzbEJQYm9BZz09>

Meeting ID: 851-7482-2634 Password: 657057

NOTES If you don't have a Facebook account, you can watch the Sunday service later as a video on the Facebook link. All other events and activities have been cancelled or postponed until further notice.



ZOOM COFFEE HOUR

Zoom Coffee will begin at 12:00pm.

There are two ways to join, click on Zoom link above. OR go to "zoom.us" on Internet, click on "Join A Meeting" in upper right hand side, at the prompt enter meeting code and then password (noted above). Next prompt is "Enter Meeting." Click on "Join with audio" so you can chime in. Hope to see you there!

CHURCH PLEDGES & DONATIONS

Please continue donations and pledges by:

Mail check to church

21405-82nd Pl W, Edmonds, WA 98026

Drop off through the slot in Greg's door.

Bank Bill Pay – ask bank to send check to St. Alban's

Online donation, go to

www.StAlbansEdmonds.org and click on "Donate Now."

NOTE: Fr. Greg will be on vacation from August 17 to August 28. However, he will be at church for Sunday services.

We Remember

FUNERAL SERVICE FOR AL WALKER

There will be a funeral service for Al Walker on **Sunday, August 30, at 2:00pm**. It will be held on the north lawn and will be live streamed. The in-person service is only intended for Al's family – less than 30 people.

EVIE ARNESON

Evie Arneson's son Glen has contacted St. Alban's from his home in Troy, Ohio: "I wanted to pass along my appreciation for all of the cards and letters from the people of St. Alban's. It is very nice to know that mom was loved by so many. Please pass along my thoughts and appreciation to those people."

Glen also wrote there will be a service at Purdy and Walters funeral home in Lynnwood at some future date, and he will let us know when that date is set. Evie already has been placed alongside her husband.



PERIODS OF 'HARDENING OFF'

Author: Douglas Knight, grew up in Arkansas and loved the woods and all life there. At one time, he and his wife worked on an organic farm in Japan on a program called the Young Adult Service Corps. He and his wife serve at Camp Mitchell in Arkansas.

There's a period most nursery plants go through between departing the comfy conditions of a greenhouse where moisture, temperature and sunlight are finely calibrated for ideal growing conditions and being planted in the bare earth with nothing to protect them from the wind, frost and strong sunlight. This period is called hardening off. The tender plants are moved into a cold frame to be

gradually exposed to increases in both “bad” and “good” conditions. The plant needs to learn to withstand great adverse conditions as well as positive conditions of increased sunlight.

During this period, plants stop growing upward and focus their energy on putting down deeper roots. The roots then signal the leaves to prepare for rapid expansion. The seedlings need these deeper roots to withstand harsher conditions and vigorous growth ahead.

When we go through our own periods of hardening off, they don't feel pleasant. We have moved into a more challenging situation, and we're out of our comfort zone. During these periods, we don't see growth – we can't see progress, and our efforts can feel futile. But what we know from the spiritual life is that our roots are being strengthened, and we are being prepared to withstand difficulties as well as to flourish in the future. God desires this for us. If we only grow upward and outward, we might topple over at the first strong wind and ray of light.

For the Beauty of the Earth, FM Publication



Vestry Notes

Vestry met on Tuesday, August 11, and has the following items to report back to the congregation:

- We have filled two recently vacated Vestry positions. Ceilidh Countryman and Shannon Duggan will be serving out the remaining five months of the terms of Steve Forsythe and Martha Philippoff, who are both relocating to be near their children and grandchildren. Welcome Ceilidh and Shannon.
- Judy Fleenor has agreed to serve as Vestry Clerk. Judy replaces Jan Skidmore, who had to relinquish the position because of some personal issues. Welcome Judy.
- Phil McClelland is making good progress upgrading our live-streaming equipment.
- We are continuing to evaluate the outdoor, in-person worship services.
- The Faith Formation Committee is preparing our Fall program focusing on the Episcopal Church's work on forming the Beloved Community. Alongside this was a good discussion about how our congregation might better engage in Social Justice work.



GETTING TOGETHER + SOUP!

Susan Hanson, Vestry Liaison

Get your soup pots out! Wednesday Soup Suppers will return in a virtual form on Wednesday, September 16th. Just because we can't meet in person, it doesn't mean we can't enjoy worship, delicious soup, fellowship and interesting topics for discussion.

The format is still in the works, so get ready to update your tech skills. No one wants to miss the Bishop's visit in October! While we're anticipating getting together, we can be perfecting our soup recipes. Send me your favorite recipe (Susie) and I'll pass it along as the weeks fly by. Included in this ATP is the recipe for this week -- Gazpacho (it's 90° today).

GAZPACHO – Great Hot Weather Soup

- 2 lbs ripe red tomatoes roughly cut into chunks
- 1 Italian frying pepper or another long, light green pepper, cored, seeded and cut into chunks
- 1 cucumber, about 8 inches long, peeled and roughly cut into chunks
- 1 small mild onion peeled and roughly cut into chunks
- 1 clove garlic
- 2 teaspoons sherry vinegar
- Salt
- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil, more to taste, plus more for drizzling

Step 1 - Combine tomatoes, pepper, cucumber, onion and garlic in a blender. Blend at high speed until very smooth, at least two minutes, pausing occasionally to scrape down sides.

Step 2 - With the motor running, add the vinegar and two teaspoons salt. Slowly drizzle in the olive oil. The mixture will turn bright orange or dark pink and become emulsified, like a salad dressing. If it's still watery, drizzle in more olive oil until texture is creamy.

Step 3 - Strain the mixture through a strainer pushing all the liquid through. Transfer to a large pitcher and chill until very cold, at least 6 hours or overnight.

Step 4 - Before serving, adjust the seasonings with

salt and vinegar. If soup is very thick, stir in a few tablespoons of ice water. Serve in glasses over ice if desired or in a bowl. A few drops of oil on top are a nice touch.

From NYT Best Recipes



FOOD DRIVE + HELP NEEDED

Building on past success, another Drive By Food Drive is being planned for **Saturday, September 12, from 10:00am – 2:00pm**. Our parishioners and some neighbors as well have contributed a lot of food in the past few months. And we know from the Thank You notes received, our donations have been greatly needed and are greatly appreciated.

We are losing several of our faithful volunteers who are relocating, and it is important to have volunteers at the food drives to greet donors and assist with donations. Ideally five volunteers are needed for the four-hour shift. Phil McClelland and his trailer are standing by and ready to go. Please contact Lee Forsberg to volunteer:

leandforsbe@gmail.com
or 425-774-4571.

Now is the time to start adding a few items each week to your shopping list and cart. Any and all non-perishable foods are needed – boxed, canned, in jars, etc.



GRATITUDE FOR FOOD DONATIONS

Dear St. Alban’s Episcopal Church,

Our profound thanks are being extended to you and to all who participated in your recent Food Drive. Many caring hearts and generous souls gave of their time and effort to make this such a successful project. The funds and food will go very far to help the hungry among us.

As you have always been in the past, you continue to be among our most stalwart supporters in the mission of aiding our friends and neighbors who are in distress. This task has involved many like-

minded organizations and individuals, and you’ve been among them for so very many years.

Thank you all so very much for all you’ve helped us to accomplish. On being a blessing to so many, we hope you also feel blessed in return.

We wish each of you to remain safe and strong, and to find special joy in every day.

Your friends at Edmonds Food Bank



QUESTIONS – HOW MANY FOLKS HELPED GET ST. ALBAN’S PARKING LOT DONE- ANSWER – A Lot to complete the Lot

Steve Forsythe

As I work on packing for our move I often think about the above Q&A. So, I will take a risk and try to include everyone that helped, in no particular order:

Everyone that contributed funds through pledges, or at a fund raiser, or by any other means.

Phil McClelland who worked tirelessly with me and A&M Construction to get “credits” for their using our property for storage of things for the nearby street resurfacing project. Otherwise, we would still be raising funds.

Herman Siqueland for asking the simple question of “Why not consider resurfacing the lot rather than all new base underlay and so forth?” This approach not only saved considerable construction funds, but allowed me to figure out ways to avoid all of the studies and costs of City permits required with new surfacing. Trust me, we would still be raising funds for those expenses also!

Just as an example, when you get back to the church, you will note an expanse of gravel on the north side of the newly paved lot. If we had paved that area, one of our original objectives, we would have had more expenses, plus the City would have required we put a fence along the east end and do landscaping—no kidding.

Wendre Vaughn for keeping after me to find out what the substrate was like under the old pavement and to be mindful of the slope of the new pavement. We spent some funds for a geotechnical study that told us answers about the substrate. I think the slope of the new overlay is good.

Jim Nichols and Lee Forsberg for helping me estimate the life of the old pavement and find information in the church files about original construction.

Maryellen Young for working with me to pay consultants and the contractor in a fair and timely manner. She, as you might guess, also asked questions and helped me figure out problems that came up.

The Vestry for patiently reading my many parking lot updates and approving expenditures of funds.

Father Greg for his great support and encouragement and the wonderful blessing of the parking lot.

Mike Williamson and the crew of A&M Construction who went beyond what I would have expected to make sure their work was top notch and acceptable to us.



ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE

“One Thousand Days of Love” is a grassroots, church-wide fund raising campaign dedicated to improving the lives of children up to age six. This project is a global outreach program sponsored by Episcopal Relief & Development.

August 30 is the 5th Sunday of the month and is our Outreach Basket Offering. Although we are not meeting together, you can contribute to this outreach by mailing or dropping off a check designated “ERD.” You can also donate on line by using the “Special Donation” option and entering “ERD” as the purpose in the text box.



YOUR QUESTIONS; OUR ANSWERS

Dan Mullene, Senior Warden, has created a new occasional column for the Around the Parish Newsletter called, “Ask the Wardens,” an opportunity for parish members to ask the wardens questions and hopefully get informative answers.

Your wardens, Senior Warden Dan Mullene and Junior Wardens Carrie Cone and Phil McClelland, look forward to hearing from you with any questions you might have. You can email them to us at askthewardens@gmail.com

Don’t have an email account? You can call the wardens (we are in your church directory), and we will be happy to take your questions over the phone. We look forward to hearing from you!



ENDOWMENT FUND DISTRIBUTION

The Endowment Board met on August 5 and made a recommendation to the Vestry to transfer \$5,000 in earnings from the Fisher and Permanent Endowment Funds to the Distribution Fund according to guidelines governing the Endowment Funds.

According to the bylaws governing our Endowment Funds, we use a 3-year rolling average to determine the amount of earnings available for distribution. Although the year ending June 30, 2020, had negative earnings of minus 2.8%, the 3-year average was a positive 2.9%, resulting in earnings of \$5,000. This amount will be transferred to our Distribution Fund, and remain invested in the Diocesan Investment Fund until Vestry identifies a use for these funds as governed by our guidelines.

Our earnings in the Endowment Funds provided \$75,000 towards the cost of our recently replaced roof and repaving of our parking lot. If you would like more information about how you can donate to our Endowment Funds, please contact any members of our Endowment Board: Jon Burpee, Mona Carter, Mary Fowler, David Hoffman, or Keith LaBelle and Maryellen Young—co-Treasurers.



JULY FINANCIALS

Maryellen Young, Treasurer

Income for July was \$13,564 compared to a budget of \$13,711 or (\$147)—basically on budget. Year to date we are (\$2,926) under budget. This figure is comparable to where we were last month

relating to income. Almost \$1,900 of this shortfall comes from loss of income for facilities use.

Expenses for July were \$13,160 compared to a budget of \$15,708 or (\$2,548) under budget. Our year-to-date expense totals are (\$8,925) under budget. The primary areas where we are under-running the budget continue to be: utilities by about (\$1,100); maintenance by about (\$1,700); and fellowship by about (\$1,000)—primarily because of less kitchen supplies and coffee hour expenses.

Other comments:

- In July we received \$1,615 in Capital Campaign donations. We have \$4,371 in pledges pending.
- We have decided to go down to one garbage container starting in August, instead of two for a savings of \$31.44 a month.
- In July we received \$975 Outreach donations.

Year to date we continue in a positive position based on expenses below budget.

Total Actual Income (year-to-date)	\$102,026
Total Budget Income (year-to-date)	\$104,952
Total Actual Income minus Budget	(\$ 2,926)
Total Actual Expenses (year-to-date)	\$99,704
Total Budget Expenses (year-to-date)	\$108,628
Total Actual Expenses minus Budget	(\$ 8,925)
Net Total Income minus Total Expenses	\$ 2,322
Actuals Minus Budget	\$ 5,998

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

AUGUST 23 – 12TH SUNDAY aft PENTECOST

Near the end of Psalm 138, it says: *“Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe...your right hand shall save me. The Lord will make good his purpose for me... O Lord, your love endures forever.”* As “stewards in training,” how can we strive to genuinely trust and believe these promises? Perhaps utilizing the Holy Habits (prayer, bible study, community worship and service, and thankful giving) can help. Why not covenant to give them a new or renewed try in the days ahead?

AUGUST 30 – 13TH SUNDAY aft PENTECOST

Now here’s a very vivid vision. How can we live in God’s love and power so it will seem to us and to others that we’ve had some radical surgery – and that the love of His name (and all that that implies) is truly *“grafted in our hearts”*? It’s probably easier for us to consider the challenges of physical heart surgery than to pray for the blessed addition to our

bodies and minds the true Healer can make if called upon.

LESSON READINGS

AUGUST 23 – 12TH SUNDAY aft PENTECOST

Exodus 1:8-2:10
 Psalm 124
 Romans 12:1-8
 Matthew 16:13-20

AUGUST 30 – 13TH SUNDAY aft PENTECOST

Exodus 3:1-15
 Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c
 Romans 12:9-12
 Matthew 16:21-28



ST. ALBAN'S CURRENT OFFICE HOURS

Monday	10:30 - 12:30pm
Tuesday	10:00 - 12:00pm
Wednesday	2:00 - 4:00pm
Friday	1 0:30 -12:30pm; 2:00 – 4:00pm

The office isn't open on Sundays, but there are people around from 9:00am - 1:00pm. Before and after services, people are available for quick business activities.

In order to maintain social distancing and minimize any possible exposures to the Coronavirus, please observe the following protocol:

- Please contact the Office, (425) 778-0371 or stalbansedmonds@gmail.com to make appointment.
- Call the Office to inform them that you have arrived.
- Wait car, outside in the garden or under the eaves.
- Wait for further instructions – to be let in, to meet your party, to pick up or make a delivery.
- Wear a mask.

In case of something urgent or an emergency, please call Greg Peters on his cellphone at (206) 778-1506

Questions From You; Answers From Us
AskTheWardens@gmail.com