

AROUND THE PARISH

February 26, 2021

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 ACTIVITIES

Sunday Eucharist on Facebook or YouTube, 10:30am

Adult Bible Study, 9:30am; Ecclesiastes led by Eric Hanson. Link through March

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84765370758?pwd=OEFMd20xL0NjNkzQ0xJbHdaRGJlZz09>

Meeting ID: 847 6537 0758 Password: SeekFirst

Zoom Coffee Hour, Link through March

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85174822634?pwd=aW0vdTYrNGtZTGVBQmdzbEJQYm9BZz09>

Meeting ID: 851-7482-2634 Password: 657057

NOTE: If you don't have a Facebook account, you can watch the Sunday service on YouTube or later as a video on the Facebook link



Fr. Greg Peters

Becoming Beloved Community

Our next Becoming Beloved Community discussion is this coming Tuesday, March 2, from 6:30 – 7:30pm.

If you haven't joined in one of these discussions, I hope you'll give it a try. Our ongoing discussion centers around making our congregation and community whole, healthy, and life-giving; e.g., what God longs for it to be. We are striving to discern what it will mean to live into promoting God's Peaceable Kingdom.

I admit that it often feels more like the Exodus wanderings in the wastelands and that we may never see the Promised Land. But somehow, even that wandering is life-giving. There's that old saying, Tolkien used in *The Lord of the Rings*, "All who wander are not lost." We may be wandering, but we know where we're going and that the wanderings themselves are on God's holy path.

So what are we about in these discussions? Yes, we talk about racism, institutional racism, and systemic racism. We haven't yet talked about white nationalism or Christian nationalism, but I'm sure we'll cover those, too. We talk about these things to examine how they are at work in our lives, in our communities, and in our nation and world.

If we don't talk about them, then we can't even begin to be healed from them. It's like having an ailment and not going to the doctor; denying that there is an ailment, that there is something wrong. Or, one step further along the way of healing, going to the doctor for something minor or unrelated to a bigger underlying ailment, but then not talking about

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Wednesdays--Evening Prayer at 6:00pm: Facebook

3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24 - Soup Suppers during Lent 6:00pm, Evening Prayer; 6:45pm, Fellowship

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86467078774?pwd=L08vdmdVVGtMRzNqVTRRczVjOEpldz09>

Meeting ID: 864 6707 8774 Passcode: Lent

3/20 Spring Food Bank Drop, 10:00am-2:00pm

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

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR

Zoom Coffee begins at 12:00pm. 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."

The lavender cover page of the updated parish directory did not include Susan Hanson as the Senior Warden. Please add Susan to your copy:

Cell No: 206-755-4896

Email: Hansonsj2001@gmail.com

the ailment, “nope, other than this, I’m just fine.”

For the doctors to do any good, they need to know how the ailment is affecting you or is manifest in you. In the faith life, we call this confession.

Of course, talk is cheap if it isn’t followed with action. If the doctor prescribes a medication and you don’t take it or a therapy and you don’t follow it, not much healing can really be expected. Like denial, magical healing isn’t really that effective. No, actions need to be taken. This we would call amendment of life.

So yes, we talk about racism, but our goal is not self-abasement or worse self-righteousness or in contemporary parlance “wokeness.” We do not beat each other up, but at the same time, we do speak forthrightly from our own experiences about our own perspectives in order that we can do something to change and grow.

Our goal is health, wholeness, and righteousness. In the Bible you hear that referred to as Shalom, Peace, the Peace of God that passes all understanding. The peace in which all are cared for, all are honored, respected, and delighted in, where all have a seat at the table, where all are included, seen, and heard. It’s about right relationship – with God, with neighbor, and with one’s self.

Like Lent, this is a time of self and communal examination, understanding, and repentance; confession that will hopefully lead to amendment of individual and communal life. More to the point, I hope that this time and this work will lead us all into a more diverse and inclusive community; a community marked by abundance, freedom, deeper faithfulness, and trust.

As I look back at this article, I realize how closely it aligns with our first Mutual Ministry Agreement – to deepen our spiritual lives and relationship with Christ – to be more faith-filled followers of Jesus.

Join us, won’t you. Add your voice. Add your insights. Add from the wealth of the gifts you have been blessed with.



A PRAYER FOR ENTERING LENT

Author Kimberly Knowle-Zeller is an ordained ELA pastor, mother of two and the spouse of an ECLA pastor. She lives with her family in Cole Camp, MO.

God of mystery and wisdom,
be with us this Lenten season.
It’s been a long way, already
sickness, worry, isolation, fear, waiting
our hearts are heavy
our souls are weary
our bodies are hurting
our hope is wavering
yet, you are with us.

God of mystery and wisdom,
be with us this Lenten season.
Show us your grace
in the small moments of silence
the prayers offered in person or virtually
the kindness of a stranger
the lighting of a candle
the listening to a friend
the care of neighbors,
you are with us.

God of mystery and wisdom,
be with us this Lenten season.
Settle our hearts
revive our spirits
increase our faith
spread our love.

God of mystery and wisdom,
be with us this Lenten season.
In ashes and dust
reading and listening
wandering and walking
praying and singing
eating and fasting
show us the way forward.

(continued next page)

God of mystery and wisdom,
be with us this Lenten season.
As we walk to the cross
keep our eyes fixed
on you and your love –
caring for others
crossing boundaries
reaching out to the poor
taking our pain
transforming death into life
over and over again.

God of mystery and wisdom,
be with us this Lenten season.



On Wednesday, March 3, our Lenten Evening Series continues with Evening Prayer on Facebook Live at 6:00pm. Next, go to Zoom for some fellowship, and Reflections will start at 6:45pm.

We are using Episcopal Relief and Development's Lenten Meditations as the basis for this year's series. "Rest" is the topic of our March 3 gathering and will be led by Fr. Greg. Reflection, Repentance and Restoration/Restitution are future topics.

The ERD reflections are online so you can receive one daily directly to your email. Also, you can print the daily meditations for your use.

<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/>

If you aren't able to get online for information, please contact the Church Office, and we will get a hard copy printed for you. This program series will continue on Wednesday evenings through March 24.

The Zoom link for all Wednesday evening programs is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86467078774?pwd=L08vdmldVVGtMRzNqVTRRczVjOEpldz09>

Meeting ID: 864 6707 8774 Passcode: Lent

Lent is the autumn of the spiritual life during which we gather fruit to keep us going for the rest of the year.

St. Francis de Sales



SHOP NOW FOR SPRING FOOD BANK

Lee Forsberg

Here is the first word about a great, fun-filled day with lots of things we can do to help others whose need for food assistance is huge at this time. We are going to pair this day on **Saturday, March 20, from 10:00am to 2:00pm**, with a Food Bank Drop and celebrate the longer days of spring by helping fill the needs of our friends and neighbors.

Starting now will give us time to get the word out to our church family and to the neighborhood so we can all plan ahead and give of the abundance God has given us.

Help us spread the word and plan on March 20 being a day of helping others and enjoying the coming Spring. Some of our folks have committed to helping out at the Food Drive already, but more assistance is needed. Please let me know if you will be on our power team to collect donations and greet donors for the Edmonds Food Bank.

Let's add the Food Drive to our shopping lists so we can catch the sales between now and March 20! We can make this a really great event with God's help and yours!!



CHASE LAKE BACKPACKS

Maryellen Young

Thanks to continuing donations to Chase Lake including a \$200 anonymous donation from another stimulus check, Reilly Mannery and Maryellen Young have continued shopping each week for the Chase Lake Backpack program.

Last week we spent about \$200, purchasing among other things, Spam, canned chicken, spa-

ghetti sauce and noodles, chili and SpaghettiOs. And this week's shopping included more peanut butter, canned chicken, pork and beans, refried beans, tortillas, and for a treat, pancake mix and syrup.

We have enough funds left for one or possibly two more weeks of shopping. If you want to support this effort, Maryellen and Reilly are happy to keep shopping. Just designate "Chase Lake" on any monetary donations and we will continue to fill these backpacks. The families are so grateful to receive this support.

"YOU ARE EXCEPTIONAL"

The following is written by The Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston's Facebook, January 12, 2021. He is a retired American Episcopal bishop and academic. The article was published in The Dragon Scoop, St. George Episcopal Church, Roseburg, OR, and contributed by Jeannie Burpee.

An Anointing from Bishop Charleston

I want to say something to you that you may find too simple to be of substance, but I believe it is crucial.

I want to say that I think you are an exceptional person. Please hear me out before you start to shake your head. You are exceptional!

You have come through months of historic meltdown.

You have faced a global pandemic that continues to claim countless lives.

You have confronted the breakdown in our society, witnessing unbelievable events like the death of George Floyd and the desecration of our national Capitol.

You have gone through quarantine and economic turmoil.

And now you are doing all you can to restore and rebuild for the future.

You are an exceptional person. Not perfect, but exceptional, exceptional in faith, in commitment, in the quiet courage it has taken to bring you this far.

Please do not feel the need to diminish this word to you by saying it is not so or to return it to me with a compliment about myself. Just let it rest in your heart. This word is for you. It is an anointing. An anointing that you not only deserve, but one that will empower you for the days to come.

SERVICES ON YOUTUBE

The following computer actions with YouTube will help support the church's YouTube channel. If you watch our services on YouTube:

- +Go to church web page and click on red box for YouTube.
- +On the church's YouTube page, click on "Subscribe."
- +Next click on outline of bell and chose "All." YouTube will notify you when additional videos are added.



OUTREACH BALLOT

There is still time to vote for our outreach recipient for the next 4 quarters. We have received 23 ballots as of February 24th, but we need more votes to clearly identify the organizations to be selected.

You can vote for up to four organizations. The top four vote getters will be selected. Ballots are due by March 15. You can mail your ballot to church or email your selections either to the church or to maryelleny@comcast.net If you need another ballot, contact the church office.

For your convenience below are the organizations on the ballot:

Chaplains on the Harbor's Harbor Roots Farm; Clothes for Kids; Diocese of Olympia Refugee Resettlement; Domestic Violence Services; Early Life Speech & Language; Edmonds Waterfront Center; Everett Gospel Mission; Faith Action Network; Habitat for Humanity; Hopelink; Hope Works; Kairos of Washington; Ladybug House; Literacy Source; Matthew House; Pathways for Women; PAWS; South Snohomish County Emergency Cold Weather Shelter; Washington Kids in Transition; World Vision.



VACCINE LINK ON WEBSITE

There is a link on St. Alban's website to the WA Covid Vaccine Finder. This vaccine finder takes no personal information, and it is free.

On the link, you will get a long list of all the locations in the state that have vaccine available

with their links. Your search can be refined so you don't have to drive to the furthest corner of the state.

There may not be much available currently; weather across the country has complicated delivery. Check the website out; it isn't perfect but hopefully will help locate vaccine sites. Patience is still required!

The link is <https://www.covidwa.com>

REV. RACHEL ENDICOTT ACCEPTS CALL

The Rev. Rachel Endicott has accepted a call as Interim Priest of St. Paul's, Bellingham. She served as an Interim Priest at St. Alban's after Fr. Dorsey McConnel's departure.

Rachel attended Virginia Theological Seminary, graduating in 1997, then moving to the Pacific Northwest in response to the call to her first parish after seminary. With specialized training in Interim Ministry, Rachel has served a variety of parishes in the Diocese of Olympia. Most recently, Rachel was Priest-in-Charge at Christ Church in Puyallup.



FORWARD BY DAY REFLECTIONS

Julie Bowers, a special education teacher and member of Christ the King Episcopal Church in Tucson wrote the following meditation. She loves spending time with family and exploring the deserts and mountains of the southwest.

Psalm 19.1 – The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament shows his handiwork.

In our small, high-desert town, my siblings and I often spent whole nights in the backyard under deep, dark skies filled with unimaginably brilliant stars.

At fifteen, while attending a revival service, I suddenly felt God's presence overtake me. No words can adequately describe the feeling. I simply felt more alive than I ever had before. Afterward, I wanted to pray and draw close to God. I began to love reading the Bible. It spoke directly to my heart.

One night, as I stretched out on the cool grass in the backyard, I wondered if my revival experience

was real, if God was real. With eyes wide open, I felt as if I were falling into the stars. I remembered Psalm 19. The evidence for God was right there and always had been. Doubt made no sense to me.

Though I have questioned many things since that night, I have never wondered again about God's existence. I have seen God's signature in the night sky.



Contributed by Dave Wilson

Please join me in remembering a great icon of the entertainment community. The Pillsbury Doughboy died yesterday of a yeast infection and trauma complications from repeated pokes in the belly. He was 71.

Doughboy was buried in a lightly greased coffin. Dozens of celebrities turned out to pay their respects, including Mrs. Butterworth, Hungry Jack, the California Raisins, Betty Crocker, the Hostess Twinkies and Captain Crunch. The grave site was piled high with flours.

Aunt Jemima delivered the eulogy and lovingly described Doughboy as a man who never knew how much he was kneaded. Born and bread in Minnesota, Doughboy rose quickly in show business, but his later life was filled with turnovers. He was not considered a very smart cookie, wasting much of his dough on half-baked schemes.

Despite being a little flaky at times, he still was a crusty old man, and was considered a positive roll model for millions. Doughboy is survived by his wife Play Dough, three children: John Dough, Jane Dough and Dozy Dough, plus they had one in the oven. He is also survived by his elderly father, Pop Tart.

The funeral was held at 3:50 for about 20 minutes.



Heavenly Father, during this Lenten season, give me a new and expanded vision for my life. Help me to live full of faith. Teach me to find hope in the face of adversity. Author Unknown

MARCH 7 – 3 LENT

Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

FEBRUARY 28 – 2 LENT

“No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of god...(he was) fully convinced that God was able to do what he promised.” Are we striving to bring the same faith to our spiritual and stewardship lives? The idea of absolute trust in our Creator can be an elusive idea to wrap our hearts and minds around!

MARCH 7 – 3 LENT

Not only as part of the Penitential Order, used often during Lent, but in Sunday’s Old Testament lesson, are the Ten Commandments outlined. Even as we remember and honor those mandates, we look toward Maundy Thursday and Jesus’ offering not only of Himself, but of a new Covenant – that we should *love one another as He has loved us*. If we seriously commit to making this love and respect an integral part of our daily lives, we have our spiritual stewardship work cut out for us indeed!

COLLECT FOR 2 LENT

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

LESSON READINGS

FEBRUARY 28 – 2 LENT

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalm 22:22-30

Romans 4:13-25

Mark 9:31-38

ST. ALBAN’S CURRENT OFFICE HOURS

Monday 10:30 - 12:30pm; 2:00 – 4:00 pm

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.

To maintain social distancing and minimize any possible exposures to the Covid-19, 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 in 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.

WEEKLY SUNDAY BASKET OFFERINGS

1st week—Food Bank

2nd week—Discretionary Fund

3rd week—Outreach – Compass Health

4th week—Capital Improvements

5th Week—One Thousand Days of Light (ERD)



ST. ALBAN’S YouTube CHANNEL

There is an alternative option for viewing our Worship services, and you now have two options for your viewing: Facebook or YouTube. In the center of our website front page, there is a link to YouTube, pictured above. If you have problems with Facebook, try YouTube.

GREG’S HOME OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Thursday 8:30am – 2:30 pm

Via email: gwpeters.stalbansedmonds@gmail.com

Cell: 206-778-1506

WEDNESDAY in CHURCH OFFICE—discontinued for now due to increase in Covid cases.

SUNDAYS--after church coffee hour until 2:00pm

Available by appointment