

AROUND THE PARISH

May 14, 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; Romans led by Eric
Hanson. Link through June

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

Meeting ID: 847 6537 0758 Password: SeekFirst

Zoom Coffee Hour, Link through June

<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



By Father Greg

GOOD NEWS!! There will be a live outdoor service at noon this Sunday. Please wear your mask, bring a chair, and we'll continue social distancing.

Looking forward to **Pentecost: the (Re)Birthday of the Church**

Well, it's been a busy week – committee-wise – at good ol' St. Alban's. Here's what you need to know as we head toward Pentecost next Sunday and beyond.

The Big News

We will begin holding indoor, in-person worship beginning next Sunday, May 23 at 10:30am! That is Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost is often referred to as the birthday of the church, for us this year it will be the Rebirth of the Church.

The Vestry approved this plan and the Worship Committee is busy preparing for it. Good work and many thanks to all those involved! I ask all of you to be patient, we are going to resume regular worship in a cautious and systematic manner.

I will be sending out a letter early next week with the details. There are still precautions we will be observing until we know more about how the pandemic is abating.

Potential Pentecost Service Participants

Pentecost is one of those services where we really rejoice in the gifts of all our members. This Pentecost will be no different. If you can speak another language, even if only marginally, and would like to share that in the service, please contact Eric Hanson, who is helping organize that part of the service. If you would like to be a reader or intercessor, contact Reilly Mannery. If you would like to sing (we are unfortunately currently only able to have a few designated singers), please contact John Lehrack.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

5/15 ECW, 10:30am, Zoom link in article

5/16 Taizé, 7:00pm, Facebook and YouTube

5/18 Becoming Beloved Community, 6:30pm,
Zoom link through June

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84587330526?pwd=amo2Y0dldlUxUmXUb2pGcUNuMGFpdz09>

Meeting ID: 845 8733 0526 Passcode: BBC

5/19 Evening Prayer 6:00pm, Facebook
Soup Supper, 6:30pm, Zoom link thru June

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86376914554?pwd=Zm02Y0xkMmFjVGZRaVc0bFVBL1htdz09>

Meeting ID: 863 7691 4554 Passcode: Soup

5/13 Ascension Day

5/23 Day of Pentecost

5/31 Office Closed

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. 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.

We're going to need Ushers, too, please contact Lee Forsberg.

A word to 8:00'ers

I would like to say to those who usually attend the 8:00 service that we will be resuming this service, but not immediately. I know that earlier hour and that Rite One better fit your spirituality, and that you all have gotten the short end of the liturgical stick this whole year. Forgive me that. I want to assure you, though, that the Worship Committee deliberated long and hard over how to make it possible to include the 8:00 service with our initial reopening, but ultimately decided to wait a few weeks to make sure all the reopening bugs were worked out.

Altar Guild Members Needed!

The chief concern about resuming all the services was the far fewer members of the Altar Guild. The pandemic and members getting older have contributed to the decrease in active members of the Guild. This has made it a real challenge to physically produce all the worship services. This is, therefore, a really good opportunity for rebuilding and recruiting new members to the Altar Guild. Even if you can only give a little time or offer a portion of tasks necessary for the Guild to make our worship possible, you can make a significant contribution to this vital ministry. Please contact Sharon Joy or Judy Kistner for more information.

I know that the CDC has just revised the guidelines for meeting in public and that these new recommendations are very unrestrictive, but please be patient, we are going to proceed cautiously and systematically.

Report from the Vestry

Your Vestry met for their monthly meeting on Tuesday evening. As has been our practice, there are four things that they would like to report back to you. The first was the reopening procedure that I talked about above. Then there were two from Phil McClelland, our Buildings and Grounds Warden, and one from Maisy Hochstetler, People's Warden. Your Wardens are movers and shakers, that's for sure! (We celebrate the movement of the Holy Spirit not only on Pentecost, but whenever and wherever she blows her life-giving wind!)

Phil continues his work at addressing maintenance projects, keeping the physical plant in tiptop

shape for serving the community, and taking care of little things before they become catastrophic and more costly. The first project is the repair of the exterior wall on the south side of the education building. That wall is one of the least visible of our buildings, gets the brunt of the weather, and has the greatest exposure to the sun. After years (decades?) of weather abuse, the wood on that wall needs to be replaced.

Phil solicited bids and presented the best one (including negotiating a lower price!) to the Vestry for funding. In response, the Vestry approved \$15,445, which, thanks to John Kistner's generous bequest and good financial stewardship, we have on hand, to completely replace the siding and door. We've included contingency funding in the case that there are repairs beyond the surface of the wall. The project is scheduled for this summer.

Phil's second project upgrades our heating system to include infrared "scrubbers" which kill viruses in the recirculated air. This will make our facility environment healthier. Again, Phil researched, requested bids, and proffered the best one to the Vestry for approval and funding. The allocation for this was \$14,313.

Many Thanks to Phil for good stewardship of our facilities and our health!

Maisy presented us with a detailed and comprehensive plan from the Fellowship Committee to build the bonds of love between and among us. The plan addresses rebuilding existing relationships within the congregation, developing relationships with WECP preschool, the Girl and Boy Scout troops and, perhaps, most exciting, nurturing relationships with neighbors and reaching out to the community. Maisy says it's time to reclaim evangelism as an integral ministry!

O God of peace, who has taught us that in returning and rest we shall be saved, in quietness and in confidence shall be our strength: By the might of your Spirit lift us, we pray, to your presence, where we may be still and know that you are God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Book of Common Prayer, p. 832



ECW FELLOWSHIP ON MAY 15

Meet and Greet your friends tomorrow, **Saturday, May 15, 10:30am, via Zoom**, for an ECW Gathering.

Get a cup of coffee/tea and a snack, sit back and enjoy and/or chime in on what you've been doing the past couple of months – reading good books, favorite TV program, getting the garden ready for summer flowers or vegetables, walks around town or by the beach, future travel plans, etc.

Zoom is hardly the same thing as greeting each other in person, but under the circumstances, it gives us a chance to see friendly faces. Join us!
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88340149726?pwd=M01RU25LVUVGL3pBcTd6b3dOMDRmQT09>

Meeting ID: 883 4014 9726 Passcode: ECW



NEW TAIZÉ SERVICE - SUNDAY, MAY 16

Join in on Facebook or YouTube for the latest Taizé service this **Sunday, May 16, at 7:00pm**. Our exceptionally talented Music Director, John Lehrack, prepares original programs on the first and third Sunday evening of each month. All previous programs are available for viewing also.

It's a peaceful time of John's great gifts of piano and voice, prayers, chanting and quiet time for meditation and reflection. You can choose to participate at will or just relax and listen.

John's poem for Sunday, May 16:

My Mask

Holy God, you see me and you hear me.
 Through my mask, you see if I smile or if I
 scowl.
 Through my mask, you hear me if I whisper a

brief prayer or mutter a muffled curse.
 My friends don't see or hear or know; nor do
 my family; nor my colleagues.
 But you do.

This mask takes away power – the power of
 clear communication but also the possibility
 to infect. But it also grants a freedom to be
 with.

My smiles, my thoughts, my mumbles, though
 – these I know, but they are a greater
 mystery to others now.

But not to you, Lord. You see past my mask,
 you hear through it, you know.

But your mask, Lord, what about your mask?
 Who can see through your mask? Hear
 through it?

I cannot.

I cannot see if you smile or if you scowl.

I cannot hear if you whisper an answer to my
 prayer or brush off my curse.

I cannot sense if you are pleased with me or if
 you are waiting for me to do much better.

Can we all take off our masks, Lord? Put them
 away?

When the disease that moves us to mask our
 faces for safety fades away, will our eyes
 and our ears be stronger, better able to see,
 to hear the smiles and the frowns, the cries
 and the whispers of those who fill our lives?
 Who make our lives worth living?

Will we see, Lord, that what we think of as
 your mask is really also our own, our
 inability to find you in the rush of our lives,
 our failure to see you in all the wonders you
 show us, our incapacity to hear your gentle
 voice in the tumult that surrounds us.

Can we know, Lord, that we put on many
 masks so we can cope, avoid, pretend, be
 acceptable? (What scar did the Phantom's
 mask hide? "Who was that masked man?")

Help us, Lord, to move beyond our masks. You
 are here for us to see and to hear. Help us.
 Let us take off our masks.

- By Fr. Edward Schmidt S.J.





“GETTING TO KNOW YOU” FELLOWSHIP

Next **Wednesday, May 19th**, the **Getting to Know Our Neighbors in the Pews** program will feature Cyndi Jacobson, a Vestry member who is usually in the pews of St. Alban's on Sundays at 8:00am. That is, when she and her husband Craig are not traveling.

During the **6:30 - 7:30 fellowship time following Evening Prayer at 6:00**, Cindi will be telling us about the various Anglican and Episcopal churches they visit when they're on the road. (Learn more about Cyndi as the Vestry member profiled in an upcoming issue of the ATP.)

Look forward to meeting other Neighbors in the Pews on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. These programs of fifteen to twenty minutes will cover hobbies, family, travel, profession, or other aspects which will allow us to know our neighbors better.

The Zoom link for the Soup Supper programs this spring is:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86376914554?pwd=Zm02Y0xkMmFjVGZRaVc0bFVBL1hhdz09>
Meeting ID: 863 7691 4554 Passcode: Soup

In Loving Memory

REST IN PEACE RITA BENNETT

Our Sister in Christ Rita Bennett died on Saturday, May 8, at her home in Edmonds. Rita and her husband Dennis attended St. Alban's for many years and had many friends and admirers over the years. There are no service plans at this time. Future information will be included in Around the Parish.

The following is written by Shirley Wilson, long-time friend of Rita.

I met Rita thirty-four years ago when a friend and I were having lunch at a sandwich shop in Edmonds. I recognized her and her husband, Dennis, from watching them on TV and hearing about their ministry at St. Luke's in Ballard. We

were excited to see them in person, so I bravely walked over to their table and introduced myself. Rita was so gracious in spite of my intrusion and with her warm smile invited me to attend their Inner Healing Class they were having soon at St. Alban's. She explained that she and Dennis were retired from St. Luke's and were now attending St. Alban's.

That chance meeting started a relationship and ministry that changed my life. Rita and I became fast friends, traveling together, appearing on TV together, and doing Inner Healing seminars together. Wherever we went, she was fondly recognized. She was always available to pray with people, even at a chance meeting at the airport, and people sought her out for healing of their soul.

Her Soul Healing Ministry will live on with God's help because it is of God and so needed in our hurting world today. Her many books are a treasure of healing tools and readily available. I am grateful to have learned so much from Rita over these past thirty-four years at St. Alban's, yet on a personal level, I miss her greatly as a wonderful and loving friend in the Lord.

*By Christian Renewal Association:
Rita's ministry will live on under new leadership, including healing seminars and the sale of the Bennett's books. If you would like inner healing, the Bennett books or to be part of a book study, please contact Diana Ingle at 425-470-8199. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Christian Renewal Association via the website, emotionallyfree.org.*



ASCENSION OF CHRIST, OR ASCENSION DAY

The occasion on which the risen Christ is taken into heaven after appearing to his followers for forty days (Acts 1:1-11, Mk 16:19). The Ascension marks the conclusion of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances. It is the final elevation of his human nature to divine glory and the near presence of God. The Ascension is affirmed by the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds. The Ascension is celebrated on Ascension Day, the Thursday that is the fortieth day of the Easter season. It is a principal feast of the church year in the Episcopal Church.



Edmonds Waterfront Center and Bloodworks NW Join Forces

In partnership with Bloodworks Northwest, the brand new **Edmonds Waterfront Center** will be serving as a Pop-Up Donor Center this June!

Please join us **June 3rd, 4th, 7th or 8th** to show your support for our local community.

Did you know, shortages of all blood types typically occur during the summer months? If all blood donors gave 2 to 4 times a year, it would help prevent blood shortages.

Appointments and masks required. No guests or people under age 16 are permitted onsite. There is no deferral from donating if you receive the Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson/Janssen, Novavax or AstraZeneca COVID vaccine. For more information, visit bloodworksnw.org/coronavirus

Schedule A Donation



ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE

Sunday, May 30 is the 5th Sunday of the month. **ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE** is a grass-roots, Church-wide fundraising campaign dedicated to improving the lives of children up to age six through Episcopal Relief and Development’s global outreach programs. We have added this outreach opportunity as our 5th Sunday Basket Offering.

Although, we aren’t at church to pass the basket, you can still make donations by mailing or dropping off a check, designating “ERD” on the memo line. You can also donate online by using the “Special Donation” option and entering “ERD” as the purpose in the text box.

The campaign will run for 1,000 days, ending **May 31, 2022**. *“Episcopal Relief & Development is committed to building a world where all children are loved and cared for and have the opportunity to reach their God-given potential.”*

Bishop Michael B. Curry

The Episcopal Church is holding a church wide "Pentecost Way of Love Revival Weekend" May 21-23

Washington National Cathedral’s Vigil of Hope
May 21; 5:00pm

Concerts for the Human Family & Conversations Across Difference
May 22; 3:00pm

Revival Worship Service
May 23; 1:00pm

All are invited to a virtual Pentecost Way of Love Revival Worship Service on Sunday, May 23, at 1:00pm PST. The spirit-filled celebration will draw on the gifts, testimonies, songs and voices of Episcopalians in cathedrals and communities across the church including St. Mark’s Cathedral in Seattle, indigenous churches in Navajoland and South Dakota, Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral, Washington National Cathedral, and Christ Church Cathedral in St. Louis, Mo.

[You can find out more here.](#)



DAY BY DAY REFLECTIONS

As noted in the meditation below, Forward Movement is a ministry of the Episcopal Church. It publishes books, daily reflections, studies for small groups and online resources. Forward Day by Day has featured diverse authors’ reflections and wisdom for eight decades. Copies are available in Spanish, Braille, online and as apps for smart phones and tablets. Copies are mailed to 50 countries and nearly 30,000 copies are donated each quarter to prisons, hospitals and nursing homes. Many Forward Movement articles appear in Around the Parish.

The following article was published in 1991 from “Forward Through the Years.” The author unknown today.

Mark 16:15 – Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. ”

When Forward Movement began in 1935, it was not a publishing house, but a renewal movement in

the Episcopal Church, established by General Convention to counter the spiritual malaise of the Depression. Volunteers went from diocese to diocese, calling on people to commit themselves afresh to the basic principles of discipleship.

They organized conferences and workshops on mission, on Bible study and on the leadership of prayer groups. It was a great success. Enthusiasm developed very rapidly, and the morale of the church was much improved. The publishing program grew from this as a means to provide resources for evangelism, education and spiritual growth.

When the gospel was first preached by the disciples it too, was a movement of the spirit, depending on the testimony of eyewitnesses and people's memory of what Jesus taught, passed on by word of mouth. Mark was one of the first to see the need for writing things down in a permanent and organized form so people everywhere might know the basic facts about Jesus and what he said and did. His brief account is still the best starting point for new Christians. Give thanks for Mark and Paul, the first Christian authors.



Contributed by
Dave Wilson

Moses and the Red Sea

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School.

"Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you? His mother asked.

"Well, no, Mom. But if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it."

Unanswered Prayer

The preacher's five-year-old daughter noticed that her father always paused and bowed his head for a moment before starting his sermon. One day, she asked him why.

"Well, Honey," he began, proud that his daughter was so observant of his messages.

"I'm asking the Lord to help me preach a good sermon."

"How come He doesn't answer it?" she asked.

Being Thankful

A Rabbi said to a precocious six-year-old boy, "So, your mother says your prayers for you each night. That's very commendable. What does she say?"

The little boy replied, "Thank God he's in bed!"



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

MAY 16 – EASTER 7

Part of Acts 1 talks about the naming of a new apostle to replace Judas. The Disciples named two men who "*went in and out among us,*" and asked God, who knows all hearts, to assist them in their choice. Suppose you were in that situation today. What in your heart would tell God about your love and giving and service to Him?

May 16 – Easter 7 Collect

O God, the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: So not leave us comfortless, but send us your Holy Spirit to strengthen us, and exalt us to that place where our Saviour Christ has gone before; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

MAY 23 – DAY OF PENTECOST:
WHITSUNDAY

Psalm 104 says in part, “*All of them look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it to them...you open your hand and they are filled with good things.*” How’s that for a faithful steward’s reason to always and everywhere give thanks? God gives us everything we have – how can we thank Him adequately except by returning a faithful share of all those gifts to Him and to others in His name?

READINGS

MAY 16 – EASTER 7 and SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION (May 13)

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

MAY 23 – DAY OF PENTECOST

Acts 2:1-21 or Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalm 104:25-35, 37

Romans 8:22-27 or Acts 2:1-21

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15



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.

WEEKLY SUNDAY BASKET OFFERINGS

1st week—Food Bank

2nd week—Discretionary Fund

3rd week—Outreach – Washington Kids in Transition

4th week—Capital Improvements

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

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 – 4:00pm

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 Covid-19, please observe the following:

- 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.

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.