

AROUND THE PARISH

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.



MAY 6, 2022

SUNDAY – May 8, 2022

10:30am, Sunday Eucharist on Facebook/YouTube

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

9:00am, Adult Bible study, Annex & Zoom – Class is currently studying Acts

<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

About half an hour ago our power went out. I was listening to the radio as I ate my lunch; suddenly the prattle stopped and there was quiet. I wondered what happened at the radio station; a maintenance issue, a power outage on their end, maybe KUOW hadn't raised enough money at Give Big Day, hadn't been able to pay their bills, and the power was cut off. Anyway, I didn't give it much thought.

Only after I'd finished my lunch and taken the dishes to the kitchen did I realize that it was *our* power that was out.

Now, I'm remembering that January 15 years ago or so when, in the midst of a snowstorm, the power went out. We thought that it would be a couple of hours before they got the lines reconnected. It was probably a localized event, a tree down somewhere nearby. We live in a major metropolitan area, after all, and surely, they'd have it back up and running in no time. Five days later, we finally got our power back.

We were fine. We had plenty of fuel for our camping stove. We had plenty of wood for the fireplace (even though it sucked more heat out than it gave, the fire was a great comfort). We had very warm sleeping bags. The water never gave out, so we had plenty of that for cooking, washing, and most importantly flushing. We were so frugal with the hot water that we didn't run out of that, even after five days. We had plenty of candles, too.

All these things have come back to mind. Oh, that was an adventure, pleasantly remembered.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

5/9 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall

5/10 6:30pm, Vestry Meeting

5/11 6:00pm, Evening Prayer

6:30pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall

5/12 7:00-9:00pm Templo Emanuel, Sanctuary

5/13 4:30-5:30pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall

7:00-8:30pm, Templo Emanuel, Annex

WHAT'S COMING DOWN THE ROAD.....

5/18 5:00-6:30pm, Parish Directory Photos

6:00pm, Evening Prayer

7:00pm, "Soup Supper" Program

5/22 9:00-12:30pm, Parish Directory Photos

5/29 9:00-12:30pm, Parish Directory Photos

**6/4 10:30am, ECW Coffee, with guest speaker
Judy Fleenor**

10:00am-2:00pm, Drive By Food Drive

7:00pm, John Lehrack Farewell Tour

6/18 5:00-7:00pm, St. Alban's Celebration

6/19 St. Alban's Legacy Sunday

WELCOME BACK, FR. GREG!!

Right now, habits and things taken for granted are disrupted. I was going to have a cup of coffee after lunch, but not now. I was going to start dinner but can't right now. I thought I'd make something else to eat. Right, the stove is still electric. I could throw the laundry in the dryer; ah, if only it worked. No tea either, the tea kettle does not respond no matter how often I absentmindedly push its button. That Zoom meeting begins in a few minutes, I would get on it, but the Wi-Fi is, well, you know, doesn't work without electricity.

I see no lights in our neighbors' houses, so I know I'm not alone, it's not just us or our house.

Now, too, new thoughts and concerns are creeping into my head. Remember, keep the fridge door closed, who knows how long this will be. Wait, what if this is a cyberattack? Is Russia behind this? My cellphone is running low; I should have charged it earlier. Oh, wait, I can charge it in the car when I go get Sarah. Phew, I'll be alright, even if the landline stops working. I will need gas later though; I hope the Russians haven't also hacked the ATMs and gas pumps. When Vladimir Putin gets desperate, because the sanctions are working or when the Russian Army is bogged down and won't crush Ukraine in time for the Annual May 7 Soviet Union's victory over Germany in WWII Holiday, will he resort to the stupidly brutal insanity of using nuclear weapons just to save face? Will no one say no to this order?

It's funny how fragile life can be. A simple tree falling on a power line and our whole life is topsy-turvied. We see how much electricity has become an existential issue, how dependent we all are on its reliable, dependable, and constant availability. With the radio off I hear the birds singing and the cars going by and a ringing in my ears.

Oh, wait, I just heard the fridge kick back on. Wow, who knew it was so loud? Crisis over. The world order is restored, hackers thwarted, we're brought back from the brink of the Return of the Dark Ages. Although, it's now too late for that cup of Joe, there's still time for tea.

Gotta go, back to the life electric.



PICTURE DIRECTORY

Harvey Smith, a new member at St. Alban's, has volunteered to help create a new picture directory for us. He has experience with an easy-to-use software that will make this possible and is willing to take the pictures.

Harvey will be at church to take pictures in May:

- Wednesday May 18th from 5:00 - 6:30pm
- Sunday, May 22nd from 9:00am - 12:30pm
- Sunday, May 29th from 9:00am - 12:30pm

Please note above – On Wednesday, May 18, at the Soup Supper event, Harvey will be taking pictures from 5:00 - 6:30pm prior to supper.

On Sundays, May 22 and 29, pictures will be taken between services and after the 10:30am service.

Pictures will be taken on a first come, first serve basis, as time is available. Individuals can also submit their own photos taken with a cell phone. For more information, contact Harvey at 425-248-0518 or charveys722@gmail.com



SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITY—

EVENING SESSION

We have been asked if there is any interest for an **evening session** of the ChurchNext course **With Gladness: 5 Weeks of Holy Practices for Disciples** based on the book *With Gladness: Answering God's Call in Our Everyday Lives* by Christopher Martin. The ChurchNext course consists of some video presentations along with questions for discussion a Participants' Guide and Leaders' Guide.

The author introduces spiritual practices, all relatively small, that build up to help us shift our approach to receiving God's call. These practices build up to change our approach to everyday life and our understanding of how to move our lives in the direction to which God calls us.

If you are interested in participating in an evening session, please contact Maryellen Young at

(maryelleny@comcast.net or 425-776-2461). Feel free to call with questions as well. If there is enough interest, we will try to find a day of the week and time that works best for those interested.



SOUP SUPPER & PHOTOGRAPHS – MAY 18

After a long absence, our in-person St. Alban's **Third Wednesday Soup Supper will begin again on Wednesday, May 18!** We'll start at 6:00pm with Evening Prayer, enjoy our soup supper at 6:30pm and continue with Harvey Smith as our guest speaker for "Getting to Know Your Neighbor in the Pew" at 7:00pm.

Harvey is new to our parish family and will tell us a bit about himself, his spiritual journey and why he is taking pictures for a photo directory – something we have not had for many years.

Photographs will be taken from 5:00-6:30pm on a first-come, first-serve basis.

SUPPER: Please bring soup, salad, bread and/or dessert to share as you are able. We will distance ourselves for dinner and the program, but it will be a joy to share this time and program together.



JUNE 4 ECW COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP

St. Alban's Episcopal Church Women will be greeting summer with a Coffee and Fellowship event on **Saturday, June 4, from 10:30am-12:00pm**, in the Parish Hall.

As with so many other activities, we've had to hold off on many gatherings, so getting together for a while to chat and catch up will be a treat! Coffee, tea and refreshments will be served, and Judy Fleenor will be our guest speaker. Judy is a great speaker with a wonderful sense of humor. She has selected "Remembering Erma and What Would She Have to Say Now" as her topic.

Join us for this fun event!



UKRAINE DONATIONS – APRIL 4TH WEEK BASKET

World Vision was our April 4th Week Basket recipient to support the crisis with Ukraine. This week we donated \$350 from our contributions.

World Vision is on the ground in Eastern Europe preparing to meet the needs of vulnerable children and families who have been forcibly displaced due to the escalating crisis in Ukraine. Our donation will help World Vision provide children and families searching for a safe haven with protection and psychosocial support including Child-Friendly Spaces in neighboring countries in the Middle East and Eastern European region.

World Central Kitchen will be our recipient for donations in May. Designate your donations "Ukraine".



As you can see from this photo from Maryellen Young, Spring is blooming in St. Alban's yard. And, the grounds had a thorough work-over just prior to Easter from our Boy Scout Troop 300. What a big change and improvement happens when all those Scouts and their families gather with tools in hand.

The planter beds were raked and mulch applied. All the grounds were raked, weeds removed and piles of branches, twigs and trimmings hauled away.

Some of the Scouts assisted with getting the Easter Egg Hunt ready. Several helped carry in flower plants donated by parishioners to help beautify our Sanctuary for the Vigil that night and the Feast of the Resurrection services on Easter Day.

Our heartfelt thanks to Troop 300 and parents for their continuing service to St. Alban's. We are proud to have you as part of our family!!



FOOD DRIVE IS COMING – JUNE 4

Hopefully you will add “Food Drive” to your family grocery shopping list, especially in the next few weeks. There will be various non-perishable food items on sale between now and the end of May. As we all know, our neighbors continue to be in great need of assistance with food for their family tables.

Our first 2022 **Drive By Food Drive is scheduled for Saturday, June 4, 10:00am-2:00pm.** Lee Forsberg and his ever-helpful crew will be present to greet donors.



CHASE LAKE BACKPACKS

A car trunk full of shopping for the Chase Lake Backpack program was delivered recently. Items purchased were canned chicken, Spam, tuna, Mac & Cheese, assorted cereal, a couple kinds of fruit cups, green beans, corn, black beans, refried beans, Chili and some nutri-grain breakfast bars. As a treat we added Oreo cookies.

We still have funds available so we can continue shopping. The families and staff at Chase Lake are so appreciative of our support.



John Lehrack’s “Farewell (Seattle) Tour” includes performance dates as follows:

- Saturday, June 4, 7:00pm, at St. Alban’s
- Sunday, June 5, 4:00pm, at Seattle First Baptist Church (official Going Away Party follows)

Performance tickets are \$20 and available online at www.johnlehrackmusic.com/shop. Tickets will also be sold at the door.

DAY-BY-DAY REFLECTIONS

The following reflection was written by Rex Peterson, an architect who is married to a rancher’s daughter. They live on Plum Thicket Farms near Gordon, Nebraska.

Psalm 28:11 – Save your people and bless your inheritance; shepherd them and carry them forever.

We had 50 ewes. In the summer, we kept them in electric fenced paddocks and moved them several times a week to fresh pasture. They learned the sound of my voice and would come to the gate to go to bed or to feed. In the winter, they would come to the hay I fed them from a horse-drawn sleigh.

During lambing season, we checked on them every few hours and moved new lambs and their ewes to little pens so that they would not get claimed by the wrong mom. We made sure they were nursing, and sometimes we had to warm lambs in hot water baths in the sink. Despite all this care, if I needed to get my hands on a sheep, I had to force it into a confined area and snatch it with a crook.

It seems to me that we sometimes behave the same way with our Shepherd, happy to oblige when we’re having all our needs met but scampering out of arm’s reach when it’s time for a course correction. Thanks be to God, who with mercy and grace, carries and loves us – even when we need a shepherd’s crook.

STARTING OVER IN PRAYER

With FR. MARTIN L. SMITH

**Wednesday, June 1, 9:39am – 2:30pm
Saint Mark’s Cathedral & Online via Zoom**

These difficult Covid years have left many of us in need of a “reboot” in our prayer. Join us for a time of reflection, prayer, and discussion, about being emotionally honest with God just now, and open again to more real intimacy with God.

Fr. Martin L. Smith is well known throughout the Episcopal Church and beyond for his roving ministry of spiritual formation in retreats and workshops, and as the author of widely read books exploring contemporary spirituality including *The Word is Very*

Near You, A Season for the Spirit, Reconciliation, Compass and Stars, Love Set Free. He is based in Washington DC.

Free, Registration Required (lunch provided for those attending in-person)

Register: <https://startingoverinprayer.eventbrite.com>



Cathedral Day is a celebration of the community of the Diocese of Olympia – type of “family reunion” for Episcopalians from across Western Washington. After two years of cancellations due to Covid, **Cathedral Day returns on Saturday, May 7.**

A liturgy of Holy Eucharist with the rites of conformation, reception and reaffirmation for candidates for parishes near and far begin at 10:30am, opening with a grand, colorful procession of parish banners. Following the service, all are invited to have lunch from food trucks and participate in activities for all ages. This year’s festivities will include Jerusalem Greer from the office of the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church, who will lead a workshop and prayer walk.

Food truck lunch is free with advance registration. For more information, contact Tonja May at tmay@ecww.org or Canon Wendy Claire Barrie, wbarrie@saintmarks.org.



PRESCHOOL COMMUNITY YARD SALE

Our resident preschool, West Edmonds Co-op, is having their first Yard Sale on Friday, May 12, 2:00-4:00pm and on Saturday, May 14, 9:00-3:00pm, in St. Alban’s parking lot....whatever the weather. Their goal is to raise \$1,000 for the preschool’s outdoor toys, field trips, enrichments and curriculum.

Donations of clothing, household items, kitchenware, tools, books, toys, etc. are needed. It is requested that items be in good working order, and small enough to be carried to a person’s car. (No furniture, please.) Items may be dropped off outside

the preschool door between May 1 and 10 (morning hours preferred). Questions? Contact Christy at 253-298-5280.

They are also looking for shoppers! So, come buy!



From Dave Wilson

These test answers should have earned 100%. Each answer is absolutely grammatically correct and funny too. Teacher had no sense of humor!

- Q. In which battle did Napoleon die?
A. **his last battle**
- Q. Where was the Declaration of Independence signed?
A. **at the bottom of the page**
- Q. River Ravi flows in which state?
A. **liquid**
- Q. What is the main reason for divorce?
A. **marriage**
- Q. What is the main reason for failure?
A. **exams**
- Q. What can you never eat for breakfast?
A. **lunch and dinner**

FROM THE READER BOARD

Lee Forsberg



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

MAY 8 – EASTER 4

Jesus outlines some promises for those who hear Him and believe. *“My sheep hear my voice. I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish.* How can our gratitude and

corresponding generosity to God and others not be heightened if we trust those words? What blessed relief to know that our future with God is insured!

MAY 15 – EASTER 5

Jesus gives us a new commandment – “*Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you should also love one another...everyone will know you are my disciples if you love one another.*” How better can we affirm that we are stewards and disciples than by loving God in return, and by using our gratitude and generosity to serve the needs of others?

SCRIPTURE READINGS

MAY 8 – EASTER 4

Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

Collect for Easter 4

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

MAY 15 – EASTER 5

Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

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—Clothes for Kids
4th week—Ukraine Refugee Offering
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 – 4:00 pm

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.
- Wear a mask.

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 kiwicat1@gmail.com 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.



