

AROUND THE PARISH

July 17, 2026

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 – July 19

Pentecost 8

8:00 & 10:30am, Eucharist Services in Sanctuary

9:30-10:15am, Adult Bible Study, Annex & Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83625063228?pwd=bcgNjSKTjQaV8OTcwoeNgIbbx30Er.1>

Meeting ID: 836 2506 3228 Pass Code: SeekFirst

2:00-5:00pm, Rental, Church

NOTE: Watch the Sunday service on YouTube either
live or later.

[St. Alban's Episcopal Church Edmonds - YouTube](#)



Fr. Greg Peters

The Vestry met last Sunday, July 12, for their regular monthly meeting.

The first thing we want to convey is our great thanks and appreciation for your generosity, diligence, and faithfulness in addressing the Budget Deficit. As you know, we started the year with a Deficit of \$30,000. Nick Sharpe, our Treasurer, was delighted to inform us that we have brought in \$18,000. Our Deficit is currently \$12,000. And, although that is still a significant amount, there are still a number of fundraising projects scheduled for the near future. Again, Vestry thanks you all for being proactive and supportive of our financial stewardship.

The second thing is to update you all on the work of the Team leading our congregational discernment about going to one Sunday service. The Team has conducted a preliminary survey and will soon release a follow-up survey gathering more detailed information that will help us all in this discernment process. Alongside this, the Worship Committee meets this coming Monday with part of the agenda given to clarify what worship would be if we discern going to one service. This, we hope, will relieve the many questions about worship.

The third thing is that we accepted a proposition from a neighbor to have three trees along our west property line felled at his expense. The trees were judged by two arborists to be at high risk of falling, and the concern is that they would fall on the neighbor's home. The trees will be felled and cut up into wood stove length pieces with the intent of making the wood available to those in need of wood for heating.

Fourth, as we look ahead to our long-term future, we are gathering a team to attend the College for Congregational Development this Fall. We last sent a team to the College several years ago, the first year I became your rector. Considering all the changes and growth in our congregation since then, we are taking

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

7/18 10:00am-2:00pm, Drive by Food Drive

7/20 1:00pm, Worship Committee Mtg, Parish Hall

7/31 1:30pm, Yard Sale Planning Mtg, PH

8/3-8/26 Greg on Vacation

8/4 4:00-8:00pm, National Night Out

8/5 3:00pm, Endowment Board Mtg, PH

8/8 10:30am, Men's Circle, Parish Hall

8/12 3:00pm, Food Distribution, Parking Lot

8/15 10:30am, Indigenous Circle, PH

8/22 St. Alban's Yard Sale

NO SOUP SUPPER DURING AUGUST

RECURRING EVENTS

Mon: 7:00pm, Boy Scouts, Parish Hall

7:00pm, AA Meeting, Annex

Tues 4:00-6:00pm, 1st/3rd Girl Scouts, PH(summer off)

6:30pm, AA Serenity Seekers, Parish Hall

Wed: 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, YouTube

Thur: 7:00-9:00pm, Rental, Sanctuary

Fri: 7:00-8:30pm, Rental, Sanctuary/Parish Hall

Sun: 6:30pm, AA Meeting, Parish Hall

Next ATP Issue: Friday, August 7

Article Deadline: Wednesday, August 5

Wednesday Evening Prayer is taking a summer break with the month of August off. July 29 will be the last Evening Prayer, and it will resume again on Wednesday, September 2.

this opportunity for developing and broadening our congregational leaders and working toward better organization, greater resourcefulness, and deepening our abilities to serve our congregation and neighboring community.

Someone dubbed August Project Month at St. Alban's. Here's why:

- Tuesday, August 4, The National Night Out. Like last year, this is a wonderful opportunity to welcome the neighborhood to our grounds, enjoy picnic food, and to build community – to minister to the community.
- Saturday, August 22, Yard Sale. The Assets and Archives Committee has spent the Spring going through our attic, storerooms, shelves, and cupboards – no small task! Together they've determined what is useful, what is essential, and what needs to be let go. Join in the fun of passing these things on.
- Painting the Parish Hall Doors. This project, began a few months ago, is scheduled to be completed in August. Get ready for those welcoming and inviting Red Sanctuary Doors!
- Sunday, August 30, we welcome the Very Rev. Steven Thomason, Dean of St. Mark's Cathedral. Dean Thomason will be here to preach, to inform us about the Cathedral's Living Stones Project (a major capital campaign to renovate the Cathedral's heating system), and to seek financial support of that project. Dean Thomason is a gifted preacher, a visionary leader, and warm pastor. Come get to know the Dean of our Cathedral!
- Also, during the month, the Chinese Art Show and Fundraiser and Welcome Back Sunday Teams will continue preparing for these September events.

VACATION

Erika, Sarah, and I will be on vacation in August; leaving after services on August 2, returning to the office Wednesday, August 26.

Two priests will preside and preach on the Sundays that I am away: the Rev. Allen Hicks on August 9 and 23 and the Rev. Danae Ashley on August 16. Danae has been with us before, is well known by several people in the congregation, and, among many other things, recently published a book about Hildegard von Bingen. Allen has served at Trinity Parish in Everett and at St. Dunstan's in Shoreline. He is a member of our Diocese's Indigenous Circle. As ever, I am both delighted that these fine priests will lead our worship and sorry to miss their sermons!

While I'm away, Jim Gilman will meet any pastoral issues or concerns, and those with financial needs (ones that can be met by the Discretionary Fund) should contact our Almoners, Dan Mullene and Jim Gilman.

Prayer for Kindness and Compassion

Loving Creator,

Fill my heart with the warmth of kindness,
that my words may heal and my actions may
lift.

Teach me to see the beauty in every soul,
and to listen with patience and understanding.
When I am tempted to judge,
remind me to choose empathy.

When I am weary,
renew my spirit so I may still offer love.

Let my presence be a safe place for others,
and my life a reflection of Your gentle grace.
May kindness flow from me freely,
and compassion guide my every step.

Amen



DRIVE BY FOOD DRIVE – JULY 18

Saturday, July 18, from 10:00am to 2:00pm, is the date for our next St. Alban's food drive. We can't pick up a newspaper or tune in the radio or TV without "news" about the great number of people in our state, city and neighborhood who are in great need of groceries to supplement their families' food needs. We are the "someones" who can help!!

We all know the drill – non-perishable foods of all kinds – soup, canned chicken, tuna, canned vegetables and fruits, pasta, canned or dried beans, peanut butter, jam, etc.

Please help us help our friends and neighbors in need. In addition to our important Drive by Food Drives, you can bring items for the food table to the Parish Hall. It welcomes any and all donations at any and all times!!



DISCERN WORK GROUP UPDATE **REPORT ON SURVEY 1**

The results from our initial congregational survey are in! We want to extend a heartfelt thank-you to everyone who took the time to share their thoughts. We had an excellent response, with 56 out of approximately 100 parishioners participating. When we factor in that our average Sunday attendance is about 50, this is a high level of engagement. It shows how deeply we all care about the future, sustainability, and community life of St. Alban's.

Here's a brief look at the survey results:

- 22 (39%) prefer to continue with two services.
- 18 (32%) are willing to consider one service.
- 12 (22%) are in favor of moving to one service.
- 4 (7%) would like more information.

What comes next? We have prepared a second survey to gather more detailed information. Please begin looking for this survey in the mail the week of July 23. We will also hand it out during both services on August 9 and August 16. Results will be published in the ATP on August 21.

The Worship Committee is developing a working document describing what our worship would look like if we were to move to one service.

Please mark your calendar for September 20. We will hold a Town Hall between the 8:00 and 10:30 services at 9:30am. During this session, we will answer questions and discuss the pros and cons of going to one service. We look forward to continuing this discernment with you.



2nd QUARTER BASKET DONATIONS RESULTS

3rd Week Outreach

We donated \$375 to Washington Kids in Transition from donations received during the 2nd quarter for the 3rd week Outreach basket. Washington Kids in Transition is committed to providing basic needs to homeless children residing in Washington State, including food, emergency closets, motel vouchers, transportation vouchers.

4th Week International Relief

We donated \$300 to World Vision from donations received during the 2nd quarter for the 4th week International Relief basket. World Vision responds quickly to humanitarian crises worldwide, ensuring access to critical necessities like food, clean water, hygiene and cooking kits, cash vouchers, child protection services, and more. They are committed to protecting children and other vulnerable people, even in the most challenging environments.



CHASE LAKE SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Once again during August we will be collecting school supplies to support Chase Lake Elementary School.

Now is the time to take advantage of Back-to-School sales and also support Chase Lake School. If you would like to donate money, just designate "Chase Lake" on your donation.

Supplies can be placed in Parish Hall container

Below is a list of supplies that the school identified would be of greatest need (note, please pay attention to brand names where identified):

- #2 HB Ticonderoga pencils
- Expo dry erase markers, fine tip (Black, Green, Blue)
- Black Sharpies (Fine Tips and regular)
- Elmers Disappearing Purple Glue Sticks
- Boxes of 10 Crayola Broad or Fine Line markers
- Baby wipes, unscented
- One-subject spiral notebooks
- 3-prong pocket folders solid color (paper and plastic)



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – AUGUST 4TH

On Tuesday, August 4 from 4:00 to 8:00pm, our church community will come together with our Five Corners neighbors for an evening of fellowship, fun, food, and unity during our second National Night Out celebration. Last year's event was a whopping success!

Help us create a warm welcome for our neighbors that join us from our 5 Corners neighborhood. This special event will bring together neighbors, families,

local law enforcement, and church members to strengthen the bonds that hold our community together.

We can use help: starting at 3:00pm with setting up; greeting neighbors; helping with games for children; food; clean up. You don't have to be present for the entire time either.

To volunteer, please contact Anna Sharpe: 425-221 9154; anna.carskad@gmail.com, Event Chair or Debby Wilson: 206-683-4251; dgzrus@gmail.com, Day of Event chair.

Wanted: Parish Picnic Coordinator--

Friends in Christ, our Annual Picnic is coming up in September, and we need someone - or ideally a team! - to organize the grand, annual event. Welcome Back Sunday and the Picnic are scheduled for September 13. Interested parties should speak to a Vestry Member or Greg Peters.



INDIGENOUS CIRCLE RESUMES SEPT 18

Jim Gilman

St. Alban's Indigenous Circle resumes its monthly meetings this Fall. The next meeting is **Saturday, September 19, at 11:00am**, in the Parish Hall.

NOTE: this is a new time: 11:00am (not 10:30).

The Circle is inviting new members to join them in this adventure into the world – past, present, and future – of our Native American Elders. Curiously, in September we are showing an award-winning, provocative film "The Primal Mind" by Jamake Highwater. It is a film the Circle began with three years ago. It's a good way to initiate new members into the Circle and an occasion for regular members to reflect and review where we've been.

If you would like to join us, please email Jim Gilman at namlig74@gamil.com. Welcome.



**REFLECTION FOR THE SEASON
AFTER PENTECOST**

After the fire of Pentecost, the Church enters its longest season – marked by green, the color of growth.

This ordinary time is anything but ordinary: it is the season when discipleship takes root and deepens, when the daily work of following Christ becomes our steady rhythm.

The spiritual Plenty Good Room echoes the call of this season. God's kingdom is not only revealed in mountaintop moments or holy days, but in the steady unfolding of daily life – plenty good room for us to grow in love, service, and generosity. Each ordinary day becomes a chance to choose our seat at God's table and to make space for others.

Ordinary Time reminds us that stewardship is not seasonal; it is a way of life. Our choices about how to use our time, our resources, and our energy are all acts of discipleship. We are called to see that God's abundance is present in the regular, even mundane, moments – when we teach a child, share a meal, volunteer in our community, or support the ongoing mission of the church.

Scarcity whispers that the everyday does not matter, that only the grand gestures or the extraordinary count. But God reveals that holiness is woven into the fabric of daily living. The parables of Jesus are full of seeds, bread, lamps, and coins, ordinary things that reveal extraordinary truths. In this long season of green growth, we are invited to trust that our daily generosity – whether in prayer, presence, or financial support – nurtures a flourishing Heavenly Kingdom.

The long green season is where faith matures. Just as plants deepen their roots and stretch toward the sun, so too do we grow when we practice steady generosity, gratitude, and hospitality. By tending the ordinary with extraordinary love, we join the Spirit in making plenty of good room for all. This season after Pentecost, let us continue to sow seeds of generosity, trusting that God will bring the growth. There is plenty good room – for steady discipleship, for flourishing communities, for a harvest of grace.

"Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up." — Galatians 6:9

Questions for Reflection:

Planned Gifts (legacy gifts) are a way of planting seeds that mature over a long time. Have you considered making a gift from your estate to support the mission of your congregation?

J. Davey Gerhard is the Executive Director of TENS and believes in God's all-inclusive invitation to find Love when we are gathered together. He lives, works, and worships in San Francisco, California.



CONFLICT RESOLUTION WORKSHOP

Jim Gilman

Learn skills that help you avoid and/or resolve conflicts – with family, co-workers, friends, neighbors, clergy. Jim Gilman will be teaching a workshop this fall at St. Alban's on "How to Avoid/Resolve Conflict?" There are three sessions scheduled – **Saturday, October 3, Saturday, November 7 and Saturday, December 5 – each from 12:00-2:00pm.**

The course book "How to Resolve Conflict: A Practical Mediation Manual" (by James Gilman) will be provided to those who register. There will be a signup sheet in the Parish Hall until September 1st. We hope to provide live streaming for those who are remote. For those who register there is an expectation that they will attend and participate in all three sessions. Questions? Email Jim at namlig74@gmail.com.



JUNE 2026 FINANCIAL REPORT

Nick Sharpe, Treasurer

June income of \$15,477.54 came in ahead of the \$14,126.00 budget, and year-to-date income of \$114,866.43 continues to run well above the \$95,990.00 budgeted through this point in the year.

Expenses for the month totaled \$18,087.18, slightly under the \$18,697.00 budget. As a result, the expenses fund balance stands at \$115,384.50, ahead of the \$111,726.00 budgeted year-to-date.

Due to very generous donations from parishioners, the budget deficit has been significantly reduced. Thank you all for your generosity and support.

BLESSING PANTRY REQUESTS

Jim Gilman

When asked, clients of St. Alban's Food Ministry request the following foods for our Blessing Pantry: almond milk, soy milk, yogurt, fresh green beans and other fruits/veggies, canned fruit, cabbage, zucchini, ground chicken. Thank you all for your willing hearts and eager generosity.

2026 EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY CLASSES

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Seattle again this year is offering an Education for Ministry (EFM) course. EFM comes out of the school of theology at the University of the South and is designed to help create a more educated laity.

First year is the Old Testament, the second year is the New Testament, third year is church history, and fourth year is ethics and theology. You only commit to one school year worth of sessions at a time. There is also a one-year stand-alone EFM seminar called Wide Angle that can give you a taste of what EFM is all about.

All members of each year (and anyone taking Wide Angle) meet as a group weekly and spend time in prayer, study, theological reflection, and being present with one another on our spiritual journeys. Education for Ministry groups meet in person or online. Admission requires a solid commitment to attend the weekly seminars and spend 2-4 hours in study and preparation during the academic year (September-June). We meet Mondays at 6:30 at St Andrew's Episcopal Church in the Greenlake neighborhood.

NOTE: Both parishioners Anne Richardson and Maryellen Young have attended this series of seminars and will be willing to answer any questions.

For more information on Education for Ministry: <https://theology.sewanee.edu/education-for-ministry/> For registration information and questions please contact EFM mentor Susan Chloupek at: susanchloupek@gmail.com.



Thanks to our parishioner with the green thumb – Heather Small - we are greeted with a pair of beautiful flowerpots at the entry to church.

**WEBINAR: Welcoming a Feast of the
Creation in Christ and
Keeping a New Season of Creation**

Join in on Monday, August 3, at 1:00pm (Pacific) for this webinar co-sponsored by the Bishop's Commission on Liturgy and the Arts and Associated Parishes for Liturgy and Mission. Amy McCreath, Dean of St Paul's Cathedral Boston, and Samuel Torvend, Priest Associate for Adult Formation at St Paul's Seattle, will lead this discussion.

To register, [send an email](#) with FEAST in the subject line - no later than Wednesday, July 29.

FORWARD DAY BY DAY

The latest version of Day by Day is available in the Parish Hall. It covers August/September/October 2026. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please contact the church office.



DAY BY DAY REFLECTIONS

Forward Day by Day's July reflections are written by Tina Francis, a writer, photographer and seminarian pursuing the priesthood in the Episcopal Church. Born to South Indian parents, raised in Dubai and shaped in Canada and Seattle, she carries many homes in her bones – an atlas of memory and migration.

Matthew 23:11 – The greatest among you will be your servant.

This is one of those verses I wish Jesus had kept to himself. Servants, really? I'd like to be helpful in a charming, non-sweaty way. But God loves the interruption. The ask always comes when you're in pajamas or feeling antisocial. "Can you drive me to the doctor?" "Do you think I'm a terrible person?" And you – poor sap – oblige the awkward request. Not because you're a saint. But because no one else did.

Servanthood, Jesus-style, smells like bleach and hospital coffee cooling in its styrofoam cup. It shows up unshaven, sitting on hard plastic chairs in a hospital waiting room, holding a hand you'd rather avoid. It's saying, "I'll come," when your calendar groans in protest.

In the middle of the grumpiness, joy sidles in – quiet as a cat, curling in your lap. Then, it's there in

the way your own shoulders drop, your own breath slows, and you remember – oh, this is the whole point.

And God? God takes the awkward, exhausted, halfway kind gesture and grows it into something holy. Probably while you're still holding the dish rag.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

JULY 19 – PENTECOST 7

"mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask..." If we truly believe God's promises, and trust that, in His unfathomable love and desire to be in meaningful relationship with us, He will indeed hear us, and provide for, not our wants, but our real needs. God is eternally faithful to those who love Him.

JULY 26 – PENTECOST 8

"For I am convinced that neither death, not life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord." The big "but" here is that we need to accept that offer of eternal grace with loving and thankful hearts, and respond to His awesome promise by, in turn, living lives dedicated to serving Him and those in the world around us in His name.

AUGUST 2 – PENTECOST 9

There is an old table Grace which says *"Christ in the wilderness five thousand fed, with two small fishes and five loaves of bread. May the God above who made that division, descent upon us and our provision. Amen"* Perhaps you can use it this week as you thank God for the great variety of gifts He gives us.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

JULY 19 – PENTECOST 8

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Psalms 86:11-17

Romans 8:12-25

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Collect for Pentecost 8

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and

mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

JULY 26 – PENTECOST 9

1 Kings 3:5-12
Psalm 119: 129-136
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Collect for Pentecost 9

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

AUGUST 2 – PENTECOST 19

Isaiah 55:1-5
Psalm 145:8-9 15-22
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:13-21

Collect for Pentecost 10

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

ST. ALBAN'S CURRENT OFFICE HOURS

Monday	2:00 – 4:00 pm
Wednesday	2:00 - 4:00pm
Friday	2:00 – 4:00pm

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.

PRAYER MINISTRIES

Contact Sheilah Reidburn at sheilahreidburn@comcast.net or 206-427-1920.

Prayers of the People:

Prayers of the People are used during 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.

CHURCH PLEDGES & DONATIONS

Please continue donations and pledges by:

- *Collection plates and baskets on Sunday.
- *Mail check – 21405 82nd Pl W, Edmonds, WA 98026
- *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- or use pictured QR code



GREG'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Church Office 10:00am – 3:00pm
Wednesday, Church Office 10:00am – 3:00pm
Thursday Home 10:00am – 2:00pm
(Available by appointment)

Via email: gwpeters.stalbansedmonds@gmail.com
Cell: 206-778-1506

WEEKLY SUNDAY BASKET OFFERINGS

1st week—Food Bank
2nd week—Discretionary Fund
3rd week—Outreach
4th week—International Relief
5th Week—Indigenous Women Support

