

AROUND THE PARISH

Saturday, October 2, 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 – October 4, 2026

Pentecost 19

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

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83625063228?pwd=bcgNjSKTjQaV8OTcwoeaNgIbbx30Er.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 for their regular monthly meeting on Sunday, September 20, after our Congregational Meeting. Here are the action items that you should know about.

Phil McClelland presented an opportunity to enter into a joint venture with the Edmonds' American Legion and VFW organizations. Together we will work on Ingatherings for the Food Bank. Dan Mullene, who is very involved in all three of these groups, suggested it to Phil. Vestry members see this as a wonderful opportunity to build our community relationships with other diverse and locally active organizations, to further establish our congregation as a vital meeting place, to benefit our neighbors, and to be more effective at gathering food for the Food Bank.

On the recommendation of the Endowment Board, the Vestry appointed Dan Mullene to serve another three-year term on that board.

In other Endowment Board action, the Endowment Board has determined that there is \$19,000, from the increased value of our endowments, available for mission, ministry, and outreach. The Vestry authorized the transfer of those funds.

Treasurer Nick Sharpe reported that, as of the end of mid-September, the budget deficit, originally \$27,000, has been reduced to \$3,700. Vestry members expressed their thanks for the congregation's generosity and for the dedicated and innovative activities congregants have taken on to address the deficit.

The Budget building process for 2027 will begin soon. Ministry groups are asked to look ahead to the coming year and determine the needs of their ministries. The Vestry looks forward to seeing how ministry groups are planning for growth and/or improvement. Initially, we are not looking for cost cutting measures, but rather an accurate estimate of how much it costs to carry out our many ministries.

COMING EVENTS

10/3 12:00-2:00pm, Conflict Mediation Class, PH

10/4 Blessing of the Animals at both services

10/5 10:30am, Altar Guild Mtg, Parish Hall

10/10 9:00am-noon, LIVE, Annex

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

3:00-6:00pm, Game Night, Parish Hall

10/11 12:30pm, Vestry Meeting, Annex

10/15 1:00-3:00pm, Discussion Group, PH

10/17 11:00am, Indigenous Group, PH

10/21 6:00pm, Stew Fest, Parish Hall

10/23 & 24, Diocese Convention

10/24 1:00-4:00pm, Recital

RECURRING EVENTS

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

7:00pm, AA Meeting, Annex

Tues: 6:30pm, AA Serenity Seekers, Parish Hall

Wed: 6:00pm, Evening Prayer, YouTube

Thur: 4:00-6:00pm, Girl Scouts, Parish Hall

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, October 16

Article Deadline: Wednesday noon, October 14

One observation, as a congregation we are at a very interesting point of development. We have a lot of things going on – our ministries are diverse and vital – but we are often short on enough people to sustain them. The same is true of our pledged income. At the same time, we are increasingly active and involved in our immediate neighborhood and city. Because of this increased involvement, we are more aware of the needs of our neighbors. Those needs are growing. This is true of physical needs (for food, supplies, housing, transportation) and for spiritual needs (a place for solace and refuge, hope and encouragement). So, our challenge is to find the right balance between ministering to our neighbors (and ourselves) and not burning ourselves out. Loving our neighbors as ourselves means taking care of ourselves, too.

I find this challenge invigorating – most of the time!; sometimes I find it incredibly frustrating facing wonderful opportunities with inadequate resources. Our congregation is so faithful, so open to the guidance and leading of the Holy Spirit, so willing to roll up our sleeves and get to work, that, it seems to me, the tipping point must be near. God's impact on this community through us is evident and exhilarating. The Vestry and I wait, with eager longing, for what will unfold, for what God has in mind for us, for how we, Christ's body in the world, will grow, develop, and be transformed.

SERVICE DISCERNMENT VOTE

The votes are in!! St. Alban's will be continuing with two services. A total of 54 ballots were received with 37 (69%) in favor of maintaining our current schedule, and 17 (31%) in favor of one service.

Thank you for your thoughtful input and interest in participating in this process,

PRAYER FOR ANIMALS

Heavenly Father, Creator of all things, seen and unseen, we come before You with gratitude for the gift of animals. You have placed them in our lives as companions, helpers, and reminders of Your love and creativity. From the smallest creatures to the great beasts, all proclaim Your glory. Bless these animals with health, safety,

and well-being. Protect them from harm, hunger, and suffering, and grant them long and joyful lives under Your watchful eye. May we always care for them with love and compassion. Amen



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

At St. Alban's we bless our pets each year to commemorate the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. He is the most popular saint in the world. He would preach to the birds; bless fish that had been caught, releasing them back into the water, communicate with wolves, even brokering an agreement between one famous ferocious wolf and the citizens of a town that were terrified of it. St. Francis used real animals when he created the first, live, Christmas nativity scene.

Join us on Sunday, October 4, at both services as we honor and celebrate the Feast of St. Francis with a blessing of our pets. Pets (or pictures of pets) and their caregivers will receive a blessing; there will be treats at Coffee Hour for both pets and their devoted "parents." We will be accepting donations of nonperishable food items for humans as well as pet food and supplies for the Edmonds Food Bank.



STEW FEST WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 21

Join us for our annual Stew Fest on **Wednesday, October 21st starting at 6 p.m.** This evening is an opportunity for us to come together in gratitude for God's blessings to St. Alban's.

The evening begins with Evening Prayer in the Sanctuary. We then move to the Parish Hall for our dinner and program. Stews are provided by a few of our great cooks. The rest of the meal is provided by the church, consisting of salads, breads, desserts and beverages of beer, wine and non-alcoholic options.

For the program this year we are building on "Getting to Know Your Neighbor in the Pew." We will have three members sharing their stories of why they are generous to St. Alban's and what being a part

of St. Alban's means to them. We will then break into small groups for further discussion.

Come be a part of this opportunity for worship, food, fellowship and sharing.

JOIN A GARDEN PARTY

Jeannie Burpee

We are asking for volunteers to join us for a "Garden Party" on Tuesday, October 20, at 2:00pm. We will gather in front of the church to do some Fall seasonal work in front of the church – deadheading, weeding, pruning, etc. You don't have to be an expert to join in, just willing to join with others and do what we can to clean up before the weather changes to winter. Please bring gloves and tools.



DISCERNING LEADERSHIP: A CALL TO MINISTRY FOR OUR VESTRY

Debby Wilson, Vestry

As we look ahead to the life and ministry of our parish in 2027, our Nominating Committee is beginning the important work of identifying faithful, gifted individuals to serve on our Vestry.

Vestry is the elected governing board and legal representative of our community, partnering with our clergy to oversee our financial resources, care for our physical buildings, and guide our shared mission and spiritual vision. Serving on the Vestry is a vital ministry of leadership, stewardship, and listening—helping to shape how we walk together in faith.

Are You Called to Serve?

We are currently seeking three dedicated parishioners to step forward for new terms beginning after elections at our Annual Business Meeting in February 2027.

Being a member of the Vestry is a wonderful way to give back to our community, share with your communicants in good standing who are willing to attend monthly meetings, engage in collaborative decision-making, and help support various parish ministries.

Get Involved or Nominate a Fellow Parishioner

Do you feel called to offer your time and talents in this capacity? Or is there someone in our community whose wisdom, grace, and leadership you deeply

admire? We warmly welcome self-nominations as well as recommendations from fellow parishioners. Please ask the parishioner if they would be willing to serve before recommending them.

--Nomination Forms: Pick up a physical copy in the parish office or request one via email.

--Questions? Please reach out to any member of the current Vestry to learn more about what the role entails.

Please keep our Nominating Committee—and all those discerning a call to leadership—in your prayers during this season of transition and growth.



GAME NIGHT

If you like to play games, you are in luck. We are planning a St. Alban's "game night" on Saturday, October 10, from 3:00pm – 6:00 pm. This will be an informal gathering and hopefully the first of possibly more opportunities. This idea started with the Hansons' recent auction item when eight parishioners gathered for a night of games, fellowship and fun.

There will be some games available, but feel free to bring one of your favorites too. Also, bring your beverage of choice, and, if you want, a snack to share. Depending on how many come and what games are available, we will decide what to play.

Any questions, call Maryellen Young, 425-776-2461, or maryelleny@comcast.net.

ECW GATHERING

On Saturday, September 26, about 21 people were blessed to hear Debbie Dimitre's presentation about Minnie Pearl, born Sarah Ophelia Colley Cannon, a legendary American country comedian and entertainer. Debbie amused us by alternating between Sarah's biography and her Minnie Pearl persona.



Thanks to those who provided treats for this gathering: Connie Forsberg, Judy Kistner and Maryellen Young. Connie Forsberg started us off with a humorous story, and Judy Fleenor provided a theme appropriate reflection and prayer.



Our congregations thrive because the people who sit in the pews volunteer to learn new skills and share experiences of creating a vibrant community. We know the power of having a common purpose to deepen our faith.

When we open ourselves to volunteering, sharing our stories and skills, our ministry reaches far beyond what we can imagine or accomplish alone.

Will you join me in the adventure of trying something new? Meeting new people who share our core values, seeing our work build on itself and God's kingdom flourish? Would you commit to volunteer one hour a week (beyond worship time) for your church?

Yes, it's risky. It might require us to share our stories and find connections. The work we do might not be perfect by the world's standards (have you ever seen how many crooked nails are in a Habitat for Humanity house?). If we work together to create justice, make peace, spread joy to our neighbors, stand with the outcasts, the kingdom of God - where there is plenty good room for all people - will thrive. TENS.org

Questions for Reflection:

What is something risky that you have undertaken that has paid off in the long run?

The Rev. Sabeth Fitzgibbons is rector of Trinity Church, Seattle and serves as Treasurer on the board of TENS.



Photos from Debby Wilson



INVITATION TO THRIVE

It's 7:45am on a Saturday morning in May. I join 45 people gathered on a dirt lot around a table made of plywood laid over sawhorses. We sip from cups of hot coffee, and someone offers a prayer. I grab work gloves from a bin and follow the sheetrock team.

The sheetrock team includes: Amelia, the future homeowner who will live here with her three children; Charlie, a retired history professor; Cameron, a pastor from another denomination. Together, we learned a new skill that day - to hang and mud sheetrock.

I kept going back to that worksite one Saturday a month until the house was built. It was a testament to community, overlapping human stories, joy, generosity, building God's kingdom on South Holly St.



HELP SUPPORT MISSION FOR SEAFARERS

Averil Nicewarner

St. Alban's annually supports Mission to Seafarers by collecting needed items for men and women and by making and assembling individual ditty bags for distribution. **Items can be donated in the Parish Hall until November 10. Ditty bag stuffing will be November 14.** There are lists of donation items in the Parish Hall for you to contribute to this worthwhile and needed event.

The Mission to Seafarers has been providing compassion, care and support to Seafarers around the world for over 150 years. Collectively there are an estimated 1.89 million seafarers across the world operating on 74,000 ships. These men and women of all nationalities, spend up to nine months at sea, far from families, friends and loved ones.

With a history dating back to 1836, The Mission to Seafarers supports the men and women working at sea when they need us most, as they experience loneliness and mental health issues, combined with limited access to internet onboard ships.

PARISH DIRECTORY UPDATE

Change of address: (new apartment number)

Dee Thompson
19815 Scriber Lake Rd – Apt 160
Lynnwood, WA 98036

We welcome and add:

Angela Cordero
(Shirley Wilson's granddaughter)
1104 NW 87th St.
Seattle, WA 98117
206-886-6536
Email: alrightyangela@gmail.com



SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together.

The Feast of St. Michael and All Angels (September 29)

God of Word and Light, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of all creatures above and below. Mercifully grant that, as the disciples were granted to see Christ on earth, our eyes would be opened to the spiritual reality all around us today; through Jesus the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Feast of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4)

Most present, loving, good Creator, grant your people grace to renounce gladly the vanities of the human world; that, following the way of blessed Francis, we may delight in shared life with your whole Creation in perfectness of joy; through Jesus the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



BASKET DONATIONS FOR 4th QUARTER

1st week—Food Banks for Edmonds, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace Food Banks. At the end of September, we sent \$1,200 to each of the food banks we support from donations received since March.

2nd week—Discretionary Fund to help people who contact the church for assistance with gas cards, utility bills, rent and other emergency aid requests.

3rd week—Pathways for Women: YWCA Pathways for Women provides shelter, transitional housing and permanent housing for single mothers and children.

4th Week—Episcopal Relief and Development works with an extensive network of faith-based and secular partners to advance lasting change in communities affected by injustice, poverty, disaster and climate change. They work in Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East as well as in the US.

5th week—Indigenous Women: WomenSpirit Coalition. Our next 5th week is November 29th.

Donations can be made at any time by placing your donation in an envelope and designating category for your donation.

EDIBLE HOPE KITCHEN (A Program of St. Luke's Episcopal Church)

Edible Hope Kitchen has served hot meals and strengthened community in Ballard for 40 years. Join in celebrating this milestone – and look ahead to the next 40 years – at the annual fall fundraiser on **Wednesday, October 21, 6:00-8:00pm, at the warm and welcoming Old Stove Brewery in Ballard.**

Every dollar raised will go directly towards feeding neighbors in need. Over 50,000 nutritious, tasty meals are served a year, and it could not be done without the generous support of the community.

To learn more about the event and buy tickets, visit <https://ehk-2026.fundraiser.support>. In addition to ticket sales, there will be raffle items, a silent auction and a Raise-the-Paddle auction.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS

OCTOBER 4 – PENTECOST 19

And then there are the unfaithful and murderous tenants in the vineyard. Jesus's parable says in part that the vineyard will be given to new tenants who will produce a good harvest and be loyal to God, the landowner. Christ, rejected by the hierarchy, is the new cornerstone, and both the early Christians (and those of us who call ourselves Christians today) are called to be the new tenants and faithful servants. What are you doing in your life to be a good and faithful servant? How do you live and serve God and those around you?

OCTOBER 11 – PENTECOST 20

We pray that God's grace *"may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works."* We must not allow that grace to surround us like a protective bubble and insulate us from being *"mindful of the needs of others."* But the paradox is, the more we break out of the bubble to care for and about others, the more flexible and God-enriched the bubble becomes!

OCTOBER 18 – PENTECOST 21

Jesus talks about being a responsible citizen of the world, but balancing that with *"giving to God the things that are God's."* The government makes sure to tell us what we owe them, but how ever do good stewards begin to calculate how to faithfully return a share of their blessings to the gracious provider who has given us everything we have in life?

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OCTOBER 11 – PENTECOST 20

Isaiah 25:1-9
Psalm 23
Philippians 4:1-9
Matthew 22:1-14

Collect for Pentecost 20

O Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

OCTOBER 18 – PENTECOST 21

Isaiah 45:1-7
Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
Matthew 22:15-22

Collect for Pentecost 21

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have reveled your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

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.

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
SUNDAYS--after church coffee hour until 2:00pm
(Available by appointment)

WEEKLY SUNDAY BASKET OFFERINGS

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

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

