

St. Alban's Episcopal Church The word

September 2017 Volume 16, Issue 7

From the Rector

Our church-life and our worship-life are governed by the Calendar of the Church Year. Hopefully you all know that. And we all know that the date of Easter determines the start of the season of Lent, and the start of Lent (Ash Wednesday) determines the length of the season of Epiphany. Likewise, Christmas determines the start of the season of Advent, and the start of Advent determines the length of the season of Pentecost, or Ordinary Time. The First Sunday of Advent is the first day of the Liturgical year.

Reality does not reflect the Church Year, however. September marks the start of our church program year. Unofficially, I suppose, the Parish Life Committee's Ice Cream Social marks the end of summer, and Ministry Sunday marks the start of a variety of programs: Sunday School and Adult Forums, Kerygma Bible Study, Youth Group, any outreach programs connected to local schools, and a last-minute push for Shrine Mont weekend registrations. In September, our choir swings into high gear with weekly rehearsals and preparations for the Christmas Bazaar begin to ramp up.

Honestly, I hope no one ever says, "nothing happens at St. Alban's!" Continuing in the vein of things happening at St. Alban's, as I write this letter I hear the rumble of a large augur and a "ditch witch" digging deep into the ground around the parking lot as construction crews begin the long-awaited installation of new lights. The lights will go a long way to make our parking lot feel safer (it's really not a dangerous place...it's just dark). And while outdoor lighting is being installed, new lights for the parish hall have been ordered and plans are being made for their installation. (Like our parking lot, the parish hall isn't a dangerous place...it's just dark). Funding for the parking lot lights comes from our Capital Reserve, while most of the funding for parish hall lighting came from two generous bequests, one in memory of **Barbara Witzig** and one in memory of **Mary Ann Craft**.

Another exciting change at St. Alban's comes to us by way of Vermont! **The Rev. Paul Moberly**, our new Assistant Rector, joined us on August 1. Paul comes to us from the Diocese of Vermont, and his bishop, **The Rt. Rev. Thomas Ely**, tells me he very reluctantly released Paul to seek employment outside his diocese due to the lack of open positions in Vermont. Paul is a deeply spiritual man who has a passion for ministry and a great sense of humor - he's fitting in quite nicely here. I'm looking forward to a happy and fruitful ministry with Paul as he begins his work here with our Youth and Family Ministries.

As we welcome Paul, we also say goodbye to my good friend and former seminary classmate, **The Rev. Rosemary Beales**. Rosemary joined our staff on a part-time, Sunday-only basis to help out with preaching and to fill in if I needed to be away on a Sunday. Rosemary was a godsend during the two years that we were without an assistant rector. While Rosemary won't be with us on a regular basis, she has plans to conduct Godly Play training at St. Alban's, and will provide coverage, when she's available, on those rare Sundays when Paul and I are away.

As we bid farewell to summer and embrace the energy and activity of Fall, I wish you all God's blessings and the Peace of Christ.

-Fr. Jeff



Fr. Jeff with Paul Moberly on August 6

*All are invited to Paul's ordination to the Sacred Order of Priests at St. Alban's on September 6 at 7:30 pm and a reception in Paul's honor **prior to** the ordination at 6:30 pm in the parish hall.*

The Right Reverend Ely, the Tenth Bishop of Vermont, presiding.



The Warden's Pen

I'm writing this on what may be the most humid day of August as I prepare for a short get-away with family, and I imagine you'll read this on a comfortable September day with a hint of autumn crispness yet to come. School will be in session and vacations mostly a memory. To many of us, Labor Day marks the end of a more casual period and the time to get back to routine. Both schedules are important to our well-being.

This yearly pattern is reflected at St Alban's. Our choir and some of our committee work takes a break, and our worship services can have a more informal tone. But your church leadership maintains contact and continues to take necessary actions and plan for future programs. Below, please see an update from Betsy Anderson on physical improvement projects.

As I attended meetings this summer and participated in Vacation Bible School, it occurred to me how blessed we are as a community to have individuals with varied talents come forth and offer their particular skill to a project, a program, or a discussion group. Some of these skills include professional knowledge, but others are the result of personal interest and study, and still others are a product of years of hands-on effort. As we begin this new season of routines and discipline, I ask all of us to look at our personal skills and consider how we can share them with our St Alban's community to help us further our mission "to be a Christ-centered community that witnesses God's love for all people." By now, you have received a Fall 2017 Events Calendar – view it with the question of how you can be involved. You can get some answers at the Ministry Fair on September 17, and you can share in a unique sense of community fellowship at Shrine Mont September 29 to October 1.

I hope to see you at these events and others.

-Best wishes to you, Linda

Stewardship

Shine On!

Ministry Sunday at St. Alban's will be September 17, so mark your calendars and start thinking about how you are called to work with God. There are so many ways to serve God and our neighbors, and there is always room for more people in any given ministry. What can you do?

Are you a singer? You could join the choir and help enrich the worship experience at St. Alban's.

Do you want to feed the hungry? You could join one of the teams that works on the Poe Middle School Meals Program or help organize a Rise Against Hunger event.

How about the Intercessory Prayer Group? You can pray, right? Do you like to bake? Join the group that provides Coffee Hour goodies, or bring something to sell at the Bazaar.

Are you a people person? Maybe the Sleepy Hollow ministry is for you, or the Parish Life committee, or the Lay Eucharistic Ministry.

Do you like kids? Volunteer to help out with Sunday School or Youth Group or Vacation Bible School or the Epiphany Pageant.

Are you good with money? Look into serving on the Finance Committee, or the Stewardship Committee, or as a counter.

The point is this: God blessed you with skills, knowledge, talent, and time. How is He calling you to work with Him? (You know He's calling you, and He's persistent.) WE are God's church – His hands and heart in this world. WE need to be beacons of love and hope to our neighbors near and far. We are St. Alban's, and WE are the light of the world!

-Allison Blanchard, Stewardship Chair

Physical Improvement Projects

Let there be light!

Frizzell Hall —We expect the new lights to be installed by late October, in time to illuminate our annual bazaar! We can control the new fixtures remotely and adjust lights both up and down depending on the type of activity in the hall. For an idea of what the lights will look like, check the drawing on the Vestry Bulletin Board.

Parking Lot Perimeter —Stakes now mark the positions of the new light poles that will illuminate the dark areas of the parking lot with LED lights. Your parking lot committee has done a tremendous amount of research and chosen wattage and color that is consistent with a residential neighborhood while providing safe lighting in all areas of the lot. We expect the work to be completed during the month of September. -Betsy Anderson

Ministry Sunday September 17

one service only that day at 10:15 am;
Ministry Sunday follows.
Come learn about the ministries at St.
Alban's and find one (or more!) that
suits your skills and interests.

From the Assistant Rector

On a muggy early morning in mid-July, I arrived at St. Alban's to find a crowd of parents and teenagers hanging out in the parking lot. Some were carrying pillows and gym bags; some, like me, were still rubbing the sleep from their eyes, and blinking a bit at the shimmering light of dawn; some of the younger ones, not short on energy, were chasing each other at the far end of the parking lot. We were about to set out on the 400-mile drive to Hurley, Virginia.

I had accepted the call to St. Alban's just days before. **Fr Jeff** had extended me an invitation to come along, though I wouldn't start in an official capacity until August 1. I admit, even this far into adulthood, there are times like these when I feel like a kid again, on the first day of school, with many of the same curiosities and insecurities. *Will I say or do something stupid? Will I make a good impression? What should I wear?* I know a lot of our young people are experiencing some form of this right about now, with the start of the new school year.

I set out on that trip, nervous as a kid going to a new school in a new town on the first day of classes – and I came back feeling like a member of St. Alban's. "I love those kids," I told my spouse when I got home. "I can't wait to get to know them better."

I still have so many names to learn, and so many faces to attach to names; and I am grateful to the people of St. Alban's for being so kind, so welcoming to me over the past weeks. I'm eager to get to know all of you better. If you'd like to go for coffee or lunch, I'd be glad to take you. Email me at pmoberly@stalbandsva.org any time.

I look forward to settling in Annandale for the next few years, and to getting on with the business of learning how to be a priest here at St. Alban's. I'm grateful that all of you will teach me, and I'm grateful that we'll learn from each other.

-Paul



Blessing of Backpacks August 27

On August 27, blessings were given to students, teachers and backpacks for a successful new school year at both services by **Mother Rosemary Beales** on her last day of service to St. Alban's.

A reception for Mother Rosemary followed the 10:15 am service. **Deacon Theresa** said farewell and Godspeed to Mr. Rosemary on behalf of the congregation and parishioners wished her well. **Betsy Anderson** assisted in cutting of the cake.

We will miss you Mother. Rosemary!



Welcome to Paul Moberly to St. Alban's!

Paul's first day was August 1. Paul is a 2017 graduate of Virginia Theological Seminary.

Paul is about to become Fr. Paul. He will be ordained to the Priesthood on September 6 at St. Alban's.

All are invited to attend both the ordination at 7:30 pm and a reception that will be held prior to the ordination at 6:30 pm.

From the Deacon

The Gift of Scripture

I grew up in a tradition that did not encourage the laity to read scripture at home. Unlike many of my peers, I never memorized Bible verses. Although my regular spiritual disciplines include spending time with Scripture, I'm still not a Bible verse memorizer. I do find that Scripture has seeped into my being and comes into my consciousness in times of need.

August 12 was one of those times. I didn't know what to expect as I stood on the church steps across the street from Emancipation Park in Charlottesville. I frequently found myself silent, trying to take it all in. My inner voice was filled with verses from the Psalms mingled with the admonitions of Jesus to love our neighbor and not to be afraid. I stood as part of a community built on an understanding of the God as Love, light, and life as we alternated our silence with singing.

I've been changed by my experiences leading up to and since Charlottesville. I'm not likely to start memorizing Bible verses, but I have been reminded that studying Scripture is one of the key disciplines that gives us strength and courage to follow Jesus.

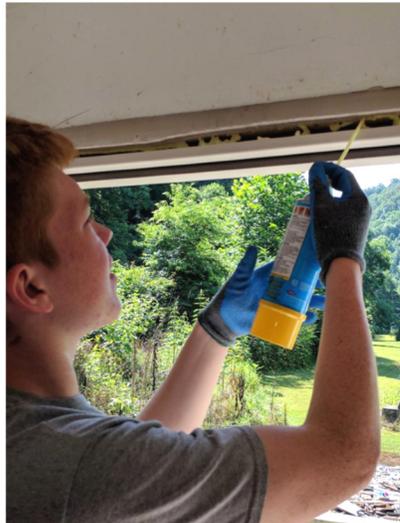
-Deacon Theresa

Youth Group Mission Trip to Hurley, VA July 9-14 and Debriefing to Parish July 16



Blessings to our wonderful youth and adult missionaries from Peace Lutheran Church* and St. Alban's for spreading love and hope to the people of Hurley:

- Ted Blanchard**
 - Henry Clune**
 - Olivia DePasquale**
 - Erin Dubas**
 - Olivia Findorff**
 - Landon Gates,**
 - Warner Gates**
 - Robby Larson-Ensinger**
 - Ronal Mitchell***
 - Maggie Rutherford**
 - Darius Zorin**
 - Victor Zorin**
 - Delores Baisden**
 - Harry Baisden**
 - Nadia Fitzcharles***
 - Shawn Clune**
 - The Rev. Paul Moberly**
 - The Rev. Jeff Shankles**
- *Peace Lutheran



Vacation Bible School

July 31-August 4

Many thanks to our wonderful coordinator **Molly Chilton** and all the volunteers who made VBS 2017 a positive and Godly summer experience for lots of children!



WHY YOU SHOULD VOLUNTEER FOR NEXT YEAR'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

When Fr. Jeff first announced after services this summer that Vacation Bible School (VBS) needed volunteers, I blew it off. After all, I still have a job—a demanding one at that. When he repeated his plea the next week, however, the Holy Spirit started nagging me. (Don't you hate That Guy sometimes?) So I wrote to Fr. Jeff and asked if he could he use me for one day, like Thursday. **Molly Chilton**, VBS Coordinator, replied, "Oh, that will be great because Miss Lisa, who teaches dance Monday through Wednesday, won't be here on Thursday, so you can fill in for her!" When I asked what kind of dance she taught, Fr. Jeff (who now knows me well enough to know how to sucker me in, big time) interrupted her and said "Oh, modern interpretive dance." With visions of having the children twirling and fluttering like birds, I replied "Yeah, I can do that." Suddenly, I had to explain to my Government contractor employer that I would be taking off one day because I had to attend VBS (and they are still talking about that to this day). I still don't understand why the soundtrack of my life didn't chime in with "Dum, dum, DUM!"



Cathy Casey and Linda Cummings with their students.



Kay Lusk leading music at a morning session of VBS; Delores Baisden accompanying on piano.

of water sitting unprotected among three-year-olds, because she immediately said, "The paint washes off of the kids, and it washes off of the floor; don't worry about it." Neither she nor I knew that she was saving my life at the time. THEN she said "You know Miss Lisa does a very fine job teaching the children a Bible dance." I thought, "Cripes! What Bible dances do I know?!?!?!?" The only one that I could think of was the Hava Nagila, and I didn't think that would go over very well. At that point, my first group came in—with Fr Jeff in tow.

With a maniacal smile on my face, I greeted the children and told them that I was going to teach them a dance that they would be able to do at every wedding they ever attended. While the adult volunteers cracked up, I began "You put your right foot in, you put your right foot out..." and taught the kids how to dance the Hokey Pokey. God bless Fr. Jeff; he danced with the best of them with a grin, so I had a pretty good idea that I wasn't going to Hell for what I was doing.

So far, so good - except the dance lasted all of five minutes. With 15 minutes to fill, I blithely crowed, "Now, let's paint!" Relying on Molly's advice, I rolled with whatever they wanted to do. If they wanted to paint their hands and then slap them on the paper, have at it. If a wee one was thrilled to dip a brush in the water and decorate the paper *sans* paint, so be it. Before end of the shift, we cleaned them up and had them do the Hokey Pokey one more time so that they could prove that they remembered it, and then sent them on their way. I did this two more times with the other classes. By noon, when the sessions were over, I was wiped out, and I re-evaluated my idea what a "demanding" job was. The people who volunteered the entire week are my heroes!

This all may sound harrowing and make you wonder why you should ever volunteer. Well, let me give you one reason among many why you should. In one of my sessions, a young, beautiful Asian boy, who obviously knew very little English, watched me teaching the Hokey Pokey and looked at me like I had eight heads. When we did it again at the end of the session, however, he caught on and threw himself into it with abandon. When it came time to 'throw your whole body in, throw your whole body out,' he did it with such force that he flew across the room. And when the dance was over, he ran up to me, laughing, and gave me a hug while he laughed with delight up into my face. It was a priceless gift to receive, believe me.

For that reason alone, you should volunteer next year, if only for one day (even if it will give Molly logistical nightmares).

—Margaret Pendley



VBS children in crafts session.



CHOIR NOTES



September 10. Harold Friedell (1905-1958) was born in the New York City Borough of Queens. Most of his musical output was written for the church. Friedell studied at Julliard and later taught there and at other New York institutions, notably the School of Sacred Music at Union Theological Seminary. He was also instrumental in the development of the American Guild of Organists. His organ compositions were influenced by his English contemporaries, Ralph Vaughan Williams and Herbert Howells. Large crowds attended the evensong services at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church in New York, where he served as organist-choirmaster from 1946 until his death. We will be singing his anthem, *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*, composed in 1945 as a communion hymn for Pentecost Sunday.

September 17. Johannes Chrystostomus Wolfgangus Theophilus Mozart (1756-1791), to use his full baptismal name, was born in Salzburg to a musical family that recognized his musical genius in his early childhood. His father, Leopold, nurtured and promoted his son's talent by seeing to his musical training and by exposing him to the musical culture of Vienna and many other cities in Western Europe. A gifted pianist, Wolfgang impressed audiences with his virtuosic playing, his improvisations, and the quality of his own compositions. In June 1791, six months before his death, Wolfgang took time out from work on his opera, *The Magic Flute*, to compose the short, beautiful motet, *Ave verum corpus* ("Hail, the True Body [of Christ]").

June 24. [*Jesus Christ*] *The Apple Tree*, is a poem written probably in the mid-18th century, perhaps by the Rev. Richard Hutchins, an English Baptist clergyman, or perhaps by an unknown New Englander. The biblical references are Song of Solomon 2:3 and Luke 13:18-19. The text has been set to music by a number of composers, including Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987), whose work we have sung on several occasions. This Sunday's setting is by Jeremiah Ingalls (1764-1838), an early American composer, deacon and sometimes tavern-keeper who was born in Massachusetts but spent most of his adult years in Vermont.
-Clarence Zuvekas

September Birthdays

Fay Froh	1	Mike McCaffree	28
Renee Martin	2	Amanda Walker	28
Jean Kaminski	3	Nancy Gamber	29
Zachary Dilworth	4	Arthur Deverill	30
Grace Gelman	5	Katilyn Mairena	30
Zack Russell	5	Sandy Trumbull	30
Declan Chilton	6		
Catherine Hilke	7		
Troy Ware	9		
Kathryn Zimmerman	9		
Shawn Clune	10		
Camille Stern	11		
Ron Vogel	12		
Lydia Talamante	13		
Claire Hudson	15		
John Lesko	15		
Mary Trice	15		
Betty Petersilia	16		
Allison Perina	17		
Derrick Deck	20		
Mackenzie Caceres	21		
Casey Cummings	21		
Emily Rutherford	21		
Robyn Leersnyder	24		
Owen Clark	26		
Macgregor Bickel	27		
Brian O'Connell	27		

Birthday Prayer

*Oh God, our times
are in your hand:
Look with favor, we pray, on
your servants as they begin
another year. Grant that they
may grow in wisdom an grace,
and strengthen their trust in
your goodness all the days of
their lives; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.*



Ice Cream Social

September 3

Following 10:15 service

Come say "goodbye.
summer" and "hello fall!"

Passages

Parishioner **Pete Howton** died on July 6. Pete is the father of **Elizabeth Howton**, father-in-law of **Nana Howton**, and grandfather of **Felix** and **Cecilia**. Funeral services were held on Wednesday, July 19 at St. Alban's.

Catherine Anderson, mother of parishioner **Matt Anderson**, died in July.

Elizabeth Buckingham, mother of **Carol Buckingham**, died in August.

Please hold the Howton, Anderson and Buckingham families in your prayers.

*"Receive, O Lord, your servants
Pete, Catherine and Elizabeth,
into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed
rest of everlasting peace,
and into the glorious company
of the saints in light."*





Adam, Caitrin and Edwin Keiper, Joyce Aument, Annette Dagg and Bari St. Cyr surround Weber Ivy to congratulate him on and thank him for his piano performance of his beautiful original composition, "Lorica," which he played at the Offertory during services on August 13. Weber was inspired by the text of Hymn 370, "St. Patrick's Breastplate" to write Lorica.



Sanctuary Paint Job

Our wonderful Sexton **Carlos Guzman** with helper **Jack Lesko**, started work in July on scraping the entire interior to ready it for painting with the winning paint chip number 6. It's a slightly brighter white than our current interior color. This is a huge job. Thank you for your service!

Annual Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont

September 29-October 1

Reserve your place for our Shrine Mont weekend!

Deposit is \$10 per person. Rates for this year's retreat (which includes two nights, three meals/day and t-shirt) are:

Single adult \$210.00 Double adult \$162.00 13-18 years old \$80.00
 8-12 years old \$20.00 4-7 years old \$10.00 Under 4 Free

Payments must be paid in full no later than September 11.

2nd Annual Trip to The National Cathedral

September 10
 (Virginia Day at the Cathedral)
 9:00 am-3:00 pm

For information please contact me at: debbiehr15@gmail.com. I love sharing this wonderful resource with everyone! Debbie Rosse

The best way to understand Godly Play is to Experience It!

Come to St. Alban's on Sept. 16, 8:30-3:30 (lunch included) to enjoy a full day of storytelling and training.

The day includes immersion in a full Godly Play session -- hearing a biblical story, wondering together about it, responding with art or other activities, and sharing a simple feast. We'll also enjoy a presentation about children's spirituality, hear two additional stories, and have time for Q&A. There is no charge. For more information, contact the **Rev. Dr. Rosemary Beales**, rbeales@sssas.org.



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Articles/photos welcome!
Submit by September 15 to
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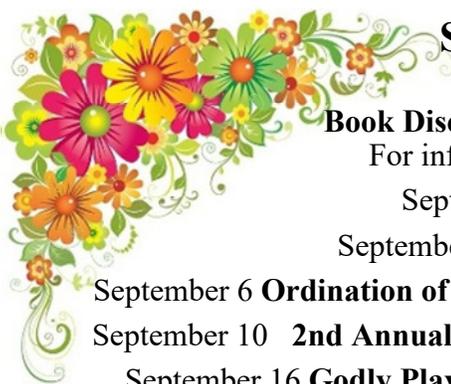
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2017
St. Alban's
Bazaar
Save the Date!
November 18



For more information, please contact bazaar chairs
 Nancy Calvert at
billandnancycalvert@verizon.net
 or Sue Mairena at
mairena75@verizon.net

We're looking forward to another great year of fun and fellowship and hope you can join in planning and helping with this year's event!



September Calendar Highlights

Book Discussion Group 8:30-9:30 am Room 11 held on 2nd Sunday of the month;
For information, please contact: **Kristi Potts**, email: pottsk123@gmail.com

September 1 **Lunch Bunch, Blackfinn**, 11:30 am

September 3 **Ice Cream Social** following 10:15 am service

September 6 **Ordination of Paul Benjamin Moberly** 6:30 reception; 7:30 pm service; at St. Alban's

September 10 **2nd Annual Trip to National Cathedral**; for information, please contact Debbie Rosse

September 16 **Godly Play Training** 8:30-3:30 (lunch included); see page 7 for information

September 17 **Ministry Sunday** following one service only that day at 10:15 am

September 24 **Sunday School Classes Begin** 9:15 am

September 29-October 1 **Annual Parish Weekend at Shrine Mont** (Final payment due September 11)

First Friday of the Month Lunch Bunch



Blackfinn
September 1 11:30 am

Please contact Lynne Schrag
if you'd like to come.

Ministry Sunday

Are you curious about some of the ministries at St. Alban's, and would you like to know a little bit about how you can become more active and involved? You can do exactly that at a fun and family-friendly event. Please mark your calendars for **Ministry Sunday, September 17** immediately following the 10:15 am Holy Eucharist (there will only be one service that day). For more information please contact **Karen** or **Rick Weinberg** at rweinberg1@cox.net.

Sunday School

If your child was enrolled in Sunday School last year, please email **Donna Archer** at dlta_99@yahoo.com to let her know whether he or she will attend again this coming year, and what grade he or she will be in. For children new to our Sunday School program, please contact Donna for an enrollment form, or register your child at the Sunday School table on Ministry Sunday on September 17.