

St. Alban's Episcopal Church The word

June 2018 Volume 17, Issue 5

From the Assistant Rector

While the shepherd is away...

Earlier this week, a St. Alban's parishioner pointed out that **Fr. Jeff's** sabbatical is about half over. That this is a fact took me a bit by surprise – it's gone by very quickly! I suppose for **Fr. Jeff** and **Kate**, it has gone by even faster, on their whirlwind travels in Europe. I have it on good authority that they are enjoying themselves immensely. I'm sure you, like me, are really looking forward to hearing all about it when they return...just about one month from now!

Not knowing exactly what to expect when **Fr. Jeff** left, and having some sabbatical funding set aside for interim clergy support in **Fr. Jeff's** absence, I asked some of the priests I respect the most to come and be with us for the first portion of the sabbatical season. While some of the sermons went a little longer than we're used to here at St. Alban's – six minutes is not necessarily the universally-accepted ideal length for a sermon – it's been a blessing to me, and I hope to the St. Alban's community as a whole, to have a diversity of voices from the pulpit.

A sabbatical is not merely a vacation; for a priest, it is both a time to experience refreshment, and to have space to discern where God might be leading. But as I walk this journey with all of you, I am more and more convinced that the sabbatical is not only for the one who goes away, but it can also be a time of refreshment and discernment for the people left behind. It might be easy to see these three months as a time of just treading water – of placeholding – until **Fr. Jeff** returns. But as we enter the third month, and begin to prepare for the shepherd's return, we can reflect on our own mission and our own call as a community as well.

No doubt that when **Fr. Jeff** returns, he will bring with him a renewed energy; perhaps also a new feeling of mission for St. Alban's, and quite likely new ideas and perspective on the future that God holds in store for us. I'm looking forward to hearing what he has to say – not only speaking of his adventures in this amazing world; but also relating the new ways the Holy Spirit may be speaking to him, and to St. Alban's. Who knows what great adventures may await us?



*Ginny Peters celebrated a very special birthday in May, here with **Fr. Paul** during the celebration.*

As you keep **Fr. Jeff** and **Kate** daily in your prayers, I invite you to add one item to that petition: for the People of St. Alban's, during this brief and precious season, that we will find refreshment and renewal here as well—that we might listen in a fresh way to the calling of God on us individually and as a community; and that the Holy Spirit would continue to work with great power in our midst, that we may show forth God's glory and love in our community in new, courageous, and ever-expanding ways.

Happy Birthday, Ginny Peters!

On May 13, our friend **Ginny** turned 100 years old. Not only is it a feat to make it to that age – and with such grace, intelligence and humor – but **Ginny** is a remarkable person. I am so glad that I'm her friend. **Ginny** is recovering from an illness but we hope to see a pink hat in the congregation again soon! St. Alban's is lucky to count such an amazing woman as a member – and I know **Ginny** has a special love for St. Alban's as well. Next time you see her in church – hopefully before too long! – make sure you take the time to greet her and wish her a happy birthday. And, if you take the time to talk to her and get to know her, I know you'll be very glad – she is a wonderful and funny person.

-Fr. Paul



Ginny on Christmas Eve 2017 during the singing of Silent Night.

The Warden's Pen

Get ready to say goodbye to your favorite potholes! Our parking lot will be replaced on July 16 - 20 (with a rain date of July 23 -27). The parking lot committee along with **Carlos** are doing a wonderful job of preparing for the install.

Unfortunately, with the replacement, our parking lot will be inaccessible to cars for those dates. All meetings and events will be cancelled. Even our regular Vestry meeting is being moved off site **Fr. Jeff** and **Kate** will have to park their cars on a side street until the project is complete. I'm contacting the people who use our facilities to let them know. Our regular Sunday services will not be affected. This is wonderful news!

Most everyone should have received their contact from their Vestry representative. It may have been in the form of an email, a phone call or a card in the mail. If you have not, please let me know. Please use your Vestry contact for any concerns or problems you may have. We also love compliments. Help us represent you at St. Alban's.

I also wanted to point out something I've discovered in our own Laylor Library. There is a scrapbook that was put together concerning the first ordinations of women in the Episcopal church. Allison Cheek, a deacon in our church, was one of the "Philadelphia Eleven." It is a fascinating read, including newspaper articles leading up to the ordination, the history of how it happened and St. Alban's own part in this most amazing time in our church history. If you have a moment, please check it out.
-Nancy Harrell

CLEAN UP DAY AT ST. ALBAN'S

June 9 at 9:00 am

You may have noticed we did not have our usual clean up day the week before Palm Sunday. We're trying something a little different this year.



Clean up day will be Saturday, June 9. We'll start at 9:00 am and clean the Nave, the classrooms, the kitchen, the foyer of Frizzell Hall and the grounds, including the Rectory front yard in preparation for the picnic.

There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Bring your rakes, gloves, clippers and energy.

Please come and help us spruce up for the **Bishop Johnston**. Coffee and doughnuts will be provided.

Welcome Village School!

I'm very excited about having The Village School make its home at St. Alban's. Here is some information I've compiled from the website:

The Village School is an independent school, part of an affiliate network that receives mentorship from the founding Action Academy in Austin, Texas. The school is accredited by the International Association of Learner-Driven Schools.

They are currently accepting students ages four to ten. They will be in two classrooms. The school runs eleven months a year, with five- to seven-week "sprints" followed by a week off. This means they will be here year round. They will provide care and enrichment classes after the normal school day.

The school is for the independent learner who can tackle challenging questions, follow instructions and solve problems. The school believes that "every child can change the world" by finding a passion, something they love and have a gift to do.

The Village School will measure student progress by setting up daily, weekly and session goals. They will track progress, identify areas of struggle and learning gaps. Having small class sizes, they'll be able to work one-on-one with students to let them succeed. There are standardized tests given twice a year, but they strive to never "teach to the test."

The school uses the best of the Montessori methods, but goes further. They will use eLearning tools and the Socratic method of instruction. They don't just memorize facts; they learn how to know, how to do, and how to be.

As you can see, The Village School is a very different type of school. I look forward to having them here.
-Nancy Harrell



Thank you Musicians!

As we wind down the season and move into summer vacation months, here is a huge round of applause in appreciation of our music minister **Fred Binkholder**, our organist **Jinsun Cho**, our every faithful choir, our children's choir, our bell choir, our Muldoon Concert series volunteers, our instrumental accompanists, our Sleepy Hollow ministry volunteers and the many others who make our music program at St. Alban's a standout success. Together, they gracefully enhance our services and make a most joyful noise unto the Lord.

First Friday Lunch Bunch

BlackFinn Merrifield
June 1 at 11:30 am

If you'd like to attend, please call or email **Martha Kelley**.



CHOIR NOTES



June 3. Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672), born in Saxony, is considered by many musicologists to be the most significant German composer before J.S. Bach. Schütz entered the University of Marburg in 1608 to study law but soon became attracted to a career in music. The following year he traveled to Venice, where he studied with Giovanni Gabrieli. In 1614 he assumed the first of a series of posts in Dresden, where he remained, with several absences (due, among other factors, to the Thirty Years War) for the rest of his life. These absences took him to Denmark and back to Venice, where he may have studied with Claudio Monteverdi. Many of his early works were madrigals and other secular pieces, but later his compositions were largely accompanied or unaccompanied choral settings of sacred texts. We will be singing *Praise to Thee, Lord Jesus*, the English translation of the final chorus of Schütz's *St. Matthew Passion*.

June 10. William H. Harris (1883-1973) was more widely known as an organist and choirmaster than as a composer, but his organ and choral compositions nevertheless occupy an important place in 20th century English church music. Harris became a fellow of the Royal College of Organists in his teens and taught organ and harmony at the Royal College of Music. *Behold, the Tabernacle of God* was written in celebration of the official opening of the new headquarters of the Royal School of Church Music at Addington Palace, Croydon, in 1954.

June 17. London-born Maurice Greene (1696-1755)—organist, composer, and teacher—was an important figure in the English musical circles of his time, but only a few of his works are now performed with any frequency. Greene was appointed organist at St. Paul's Cathedral in London in 1718, and he frequently invited Handel to perform on the Cathedral's organ. Later the two had a falling out, after which Handel had a hard time speaking Greene's name without adding an unkind word or two. Nevertheless, Greene went on to become Master of the King's Music in 1735, having previously been named Organist and Composer to the Chapel Royal. We will be singing Greene's anthem, *Thou Visitest the Earth*, the text of which is from Psalm 95.

June 24. Our anthem for St. Alban's Day is *Lo, Round the Throne a Glorious Band*, the tune of which was composed by one "N. Herman," who presumably is Nikolaus Herman (c1480-1561), a German organist and composer who specialized in writing hymn tunes and texts. Herman's tune was arranged by Henry G. Ley (1887-1962), an English organist, composer of choral works, and Professor of Organ at the Royal College of Music. Ley's arrangement was in turn edited by Lionel Dakers (1924-2003), editor of *The New Church Anthem Book*, first published by Oxford University Press in 1992. Dakers served as organist at Ripon and Exeter cathedrals and was the third director of the Royal School of Church Music. The text to our anthem is by Rowland Hill (1744-1833).
-Clarence Zuvekas

From the Deacon

Deacons are called to a special ministry of servanthood under the bishop. As part of our role, we work on Diocesan committees and at Diocesan liturgies. Deacons are often visible at public events to make the love of Christ and the presence of the Episcopal Church known to the world. When we return to our parishes, we share the hopes and needs of the world with you and, with you, discern what we are called to do.



On April 8, Deacon Theresa is with Fr. Jeff as he thanks the parish for its many kindnesses in support of his upcoming sabbatical.

The congregation laid hands on Kate and Fr. Jeff after the prayers at the altar rail on April 8 to bless them and to wish them traveling mercies.

On June 9, instead of being here for cleanup day, I will be the deacon for the ordination of nine transitional deacons at Epiphany Church in Herndon.

At St. Alban's, we'll pack the final weekend meals of the school year for the students at Belvedere. I'll preach one Sunday, lead the caregivers group one week, and hold the postponed session of the book discussion. We'll have a thank you and information dinner provided for the parish by Sleepy Hollow Nursing Home. The dinner, 6:00 pm on Wednesday, June 13, will provide us with updates on the changes made by the new owners, and serve as the nursing home's thank you to St. Alban's for our years of service to the residents.

Together we will welcome **Bishop Johnston** on June 24. I will serve as his deacon for the service. It'll be an exciting day on which we witness the confirmation, reaffirmation, and reception of our sisters and brothers and celebrate with the parish picnic.

It's through the power of the Holy Spirit that we act to show Christ's love to the world. As we celebrate the season after Pentecost, we have Jesus' assurance that we will be led and sustained by the Holy Spirit in our lives and our work together.

-Deacon Theresa

What We Do With What We Give: Poe Middle School After School Food Service Program



The May 17 Poe food service team was comprised of four student helpers including Caroline and Arianna and our parishioners Remy Jurenas, Sheila Massey and Linda Cummings. Many volunteers help make this possible, from those who buy, cook and deliver the food, set up the service, serve the food, clean up to those who provide overall management and scheduling.

Have you ever wondered what would happen if you had to go to bed hungry? What if you didn't receive a hot breakfast, lunch, or dinner? Fortunately, most of us don't have to worry about this. However, for many of the children of Poe Middle School – our local middle school here in Annandale – that is a daily reality.

Fairfax County Public School statistics show, for the 2016-2017 school year, that over 75 percent of the Poe Middle School kids (this number has risen slightly over the past 3 years) participated in free or reduced meals at school (breakfast and/or lunch). But what happens when they go home?

Before St. Alban's and the Annandale Methodist Church got involved, many went to bed hungry. Since spring of 2013, thanks to the generosity of our parishioners – through pledges and volunteering – we are now making a difference in the lives of many young members of our community! Based on parishioner pledges, the Budget Committee and the Vestry approves an annual budget for the Outreach Committee. The Outreach Committee apportions part of this budget to reimburse the volunteers who buy the food and supplies needed to prepare a hot meal every other week for Poe students during the school year. Some of the businesses that previously contributed food items have backed out, so financial contributions from parishioners are more important than ever. But hands-on contributions are also needed. Every other week, the Poe teams need 13 to 15 volunteers to help shop, cook and transport from the church to the school, serve and clean up. During the 2017-2018 school year, we fed an average of 300 students per week.

Would you like to get involved? No matter how big or small your involvement, even one hour can make a difference. We have two teams – spearheaded by **Remy Jurenas** and **Camille Stern**. We welcome you to join us! For more information, please contact Remy, Camille, or **Moira Skinner**.

-Moira Skinner

St. Alban's Child Care

Kim Tanner, our Sunday child care provider, **lovingly** watches over our babies in the nursery during services on May 6. The nursery is equipped with fun toys and games.

Although most of the children who go to child care are too young to sit through the entire Sunday service, many of them get retrieved by their parents to participate in the Eucharist part of the service.

Photos, clockwise:

*Jonquil Gwen & Evie playing together;
Carter entranced with a toy;
Kim with the girls.*



To all our wonderful Sunday School Teachers:



Thank you for your dedication to teaching our children Godly lessons and for helping our little ones to grow in love of Christ.

You are much appreciated for all you do to support and encourage our children to love and serve the Lord and to be good citizens and stewards of God's world!

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Next Edition July/August 2018
Articles/photos welcome!

Submit by June 15 to bhallman1@cox.net

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Hurricane Victims' Benefit Concert revived...Musicians wanted

St. Alban's has revived the benefit concert we had planned earlier this year in Frizzell Hall to raise money for victims of 2017's horrific hurricanes. 2017 was the fifth most active hurricane season since records were started in 1851.

The new date for the concert is Saturday, June 30. We'd like as many of St. Alban's talented musicians or their friends as possible to participate along with other musicians that organizers are contacting. Any kind of music from opera to bluegrass is welcome. We really need more musicians to participate since some of the original ones who agreed to perform on the earlier dates can't make it this time. Contact **Harry** and **Delores Baisden** if you're interested. -Delores Baisden



June Birthdays

Trish Huheey	
Barbara Cook	4
Dick Craig	4
Annette Dagg	5
Debbie Schrag	5
Audrey Shankles	5
Liz Clements	6
April Lieberthal	6
Fran Walinsky	6
Olivia Gamber	7
Laura DePasquale	8
Richard Grauel	9
Marcella Campbell	10
Lindsay Gelman	10
Brynn Farley	12
Walt Barbee	13
Aaron Chilton	14
Sarah Traum	14
Zachary Kilby	16
Kendall Huheey	17
Olivia DePasquale	18
Rex Pendley	18
Sam Kilby	20
Mona Duvall	21
Richard Froh	21
Darius Zorin	22
Daniele Albergottie	23
Liam Andrews	25
Jeanne Martinez	25
DeeDee Brinkema	26
Ros Deck	27
Sally Hanlein	27
Ivy Kilby	28
Sara Zimmerman	28
James Chilton	29
Brett Smith	29
Leneice Wu	29
Ethan Campbell	30
Thomas Ryder	30



Guess who was in town on May 18? The lovely **Beniste** family—**Monica, Jean, Annelise** and **Solange** came to visit and go out to lunch with **Sheila Massey, Annette Dagg, Dottie Ninde** and **Nancy Harrell**. So great to see you all!

Youth Group Mission Trip to Hurley July 8-13, 2018

Last year while **Henry** was still in youth group, I managed to make my first youth group mission trip to Hurley, VA. This year will be my second trip and **Maddie's** first. If you're thinking you need to have some kind of handy man skills – take it from me – you don't. I have none. I'm a very good gopher and laborer, but please don't ask me to be the main contractor. I share this background as context for anyone who thinks you have to be a superstar on one of the HGTV shows because you don't.

As for Hurley, VA, you should google "Demographics for Hurley, VA" and see what comes back. The population there, roughly 3,300, is less than the enrollment of Lake Braddock High School. The ratio of blue-collar to white-collar workers is 9:1. It's eye-opening on many levels.

Folks who go on the mission trip to southwestern VA with the St. Alban's Youth Group are in for a life-changing experience in their own state. Trust me, when someone in Hurley, VA, says the words, "Thank you," to you; the words don't just stop at your ears ... they travel to your heart and soul and touch you in a way that makes you happy to be a Christian giving back.

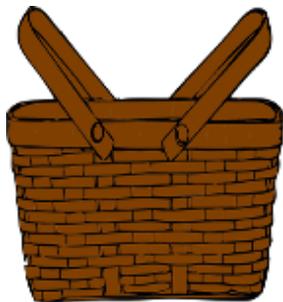
Please consider supporting the mission trip or making a donation to those in Hurley, VA. They have many year-round projects that are in need of financial aid. God Bless.
-Shawn Clune

*The deadline to sign up for the mission trip has passed; however, interested teenagers and adults may still be included as space permits. Please speak with **Fr. Paul** or email him at pmoberly@stalbandsva.org if you feel you may be called to participate. You may also support our missionaries through prayer, or through donations to support the costs associated with the trip.*

Confirmations, reaffirmations and reception by **Bishop Shannon Johnston** and Parish Picnic June 24

June 24

Bishop Shannon Johnston will confirm, reaffirm and receive candidates during his visitation
Parish Picnic follows 10:15 am service— Barbeque and drinks provided
Please bring chairs or blankets, suntan lotion and provide a side dish, salad or desert by last name:
A-L side dish or salad M-Z dessert



Youth Group Mission Trip
July 8-13

Vacation Bible School
August 6-10

Annual Parish Weekend
September 28-30 Shrine Mont

June Calendar Highlights

June 1 **Friday Lunch Bunch BlackFinn** 11:30 am

June 9 **Clean Up Day** 9:00 am

June 13 **Thank you dinner** for Sleepy Hollow Ministry volunteers

June 24 **Parish Picnic; confirmations, reaffirmations, reception**
by **Bishop Johnston**

June 30 **Hurricane Benefit Concert** Watch SAM for details