

St. Alban's Episcopal Church The word

November 2019 Volume 18, Issue 9

From the Rector

All Christians are called to be a people of prayer. St. Paul said that prayer should permeate our lives and everything we do. As Christians we pray on behalf of others and for others; we pray for guidance; we pray for forgiveness; we pray for reconciliation; we pray for peace; we give thanks to God in our prayers. Sometimes we shout and rail against God in our anger and frustration, and sometimes we use prayer as a way of communing with God or feeling God's comforting presence.

I think a much misunderstood type of prayer is healing prayer – an important aspect of our faith that, perhaps, has been tainted by images of elaborate, over-the-top grandstanding televangelists. One statistic I've seen is that 70 percent of Jesus' ministry was healing. I didn't do research to verify that statistic, but it sounds good to me. Jesus passed that ministry on to us through the disciples when he commissioned them, in Luke's Gospel, to proclaim the kingdom of God and heal others, and in the Letter of James, the author writes that if anyone is sick, they should "call for the elders of the church and have them pray... anointing [the sick] with oil in the name of the Lord."

Our Sunday morning prayers after worship and announcements often include prayers for healing. The prayers are said publicly, and the public nature of those prayers means they can be somewhat generic and, to me, feel somewhat impersonal. I am creating a team of people who feel called to a ministry of prayer, and who feel called to pray with, and for, others and who desire to receive training. This team of lay people and clergy will be available for personal, one-on-one prayer during the administration of Holy Communion. Healing prayer isn't magic and isn't necessarily curative, but we're often healed in ways we never expect. Healing prayer is about listening and loving. If you would like more information, have questions or would like to be part of the healing team, please contact a member of the clergy.

An update on the search for permanent music staff: Many thanks to **Patrick Summers** who is serving as our interim musician. Patrick began his interim ministry with us at the beginning of September. In his interim role, Patrick is working with the choir to continue our St. Alban's tradition of fine music leadership. In the meantime, and after a short hiatus until the program year and Capital Campaign were well underway, the Music Search Advisory Committee has begun some of the work suggested to us by The Rev. Dr. Bill Roberts, former Professor of Church Music at Virginia Seminary. The search advisory committee is gathering their thoughts and ideas about the future of our music programming, not only for our 10:15 am adult choir, but for all aspects of our faith life together – children and youth programming, small choral ensembles, instrumental ensembles and music programming that will take St. Alban's beyond our walls and out into the community, engaging in outreach through music. I've asked the committee to make this a wish list, and to consult parishioners about your thoughts and ideas for the future of music at St. Alban's. This work will lay the foundation for creating job descriptions and position announcements as we move to do the work of finding, interviewing and, ultimately, hiring.

-Fr. Jeff



Fr. Jeff blesses Allison's furry pet.

The Warden's Pen

November Greetings! Autumn is truly here and we have several things going on at St. Alban's. Both the Stewardship and Capital Campaigns are going on. Please see the articles on both in this issue. And prayerfully consider what you can give financially to the ongoing work that we do. Your giving makes our work possible.

Our annual Bazaar is coming up quickly. Please consider volunteering for any little bit that you can. It's an awesome day. If you cannot volunteer, come for the day! Invite your friends!

Lastly, I want to shine a spotlight on our new website: wearestalbans.org. **Kevin Holland** and the Communications team have done an amazing job creating this. I find it beautiful and easy to navigate. We are using social media more and more, so if you have something that needs publicity, please let Kevin know so we can let the 'outside world' know what's coming up.

I hope everyone has a blessed and joyful Thanksgiving.

-Nancy Harrell

November 24 In Gathering Sunday and Stewardship Brunch
after both services in the parish hall. Please bring your pledges!

From the Associate Rector

If I carry mine, and you carry yours... we could really GO somewhere...

Last month, a group of us from St. Alban's attended the Acolyte Festival at the National Cathedral. More than 700 acolytes, mostly youth, traveled to Washington from 100 churches around the US. There was a long, festive procession, in which the acolytes carried the various liturgical items each church uses in their own worship services – including a mobile statuary of the Virgin of Guadalupe, Pentecost streamers, thuribles and bells. The Dean of the Cathedral prayed a blessing over the acolytes, and we prayed together a litany of rededication.

The Rev. Canon Jan Naylor Cope gave a very memorable sermon, and I haven't been able to stop thinking about it. She began with a story about her father, who was the head acolyte trainer at her church, growing up in a small town in Texas where he faithfully served, well into his eighties, as altar server in his small church.

"It impressed upon me, at a young age – which has only deepened over the years – what a role and responsibility each one of us has in helping to lead worship. We often talk about how it's a "team" that comes together to offer to the glory of God our praise and our worship...it reminds me of a spiritual symphony. And each one of us are members of the orchestra who have a part to play – each part is inextricably interconnected, as the service continues from movement to movement, each part is critical.

"...Over the years, I've come to appreciate that we carry much more in our hands when we are in worship than a cross, or a torch, or a streamer, or a banner, or a Prayer Book, or a song book or a missal. We are carrying the hopes and the dreams and the sorrow of everyone gathered who've come together as a community of faith...as we come together in prayer and in praise to our God...

"And I was reminded of that so powerfully, almost a year ago, at this Cathedral. In October, just about a year ago, this Cathedral had the opportunity to host a service of thanksgiving and remembrance of Matthew Shepard. As I was praying about this day, and what stories to share with you, I discovered that THIS very day, October 12, twenty-one years ago, was the day that Matthew Shepard died. It was all the confirmation that I needed from God that I was to share this story.

"Matthew Shepard was 21 years old when he was brutally beaten, and left on a fence to die, in an anti-gay hate crime. Twenty years later, his parents felt that this Cathedral, a "house of prayer for ALL people," was the place where we might come together as a nation to remember and to celebrate the life of that young man. "On that day, our acolytes had a lot of memorable experiences. But one acolyte in particular had something extraordinary happen, which he tried to capture in a poem that I want to read for you today... That acolyte is now a baseball player at Duke University. He was an athlete, a scholar, and an acolyte – and he wrote this:

Waiting for Matthew Shepard's funeral service at the National Cathedral to begin, I stood in place, holding my ground and my processional torch, and a woman came down to me. She cradled, half-empty, an unlocked Ziploc half-filled with dirt. She asked me, "Are you carrying the torch?"

I said yes, because I thought I was. And let me tell you, she looked at me dead in my eyes, and told me: "I can put some of this here dirt in your torch's collar. It's from his hometown in Wyoming." I said, okay.

Only right then and there, smack in that moment, I knew my torch couldn't be a torch anymore. It was something like a heaven. And she wasn't just a woman, cuz she hugged me so tight, she had to be an angel.

And the dust wasn't just dirt. It was Matthew Shepard. It was Wyoming. It was a little black boy in Mississippi, it was eleven Jews in Pittsburgh, it was Adam, it was Eve, it was you, it was me. So how the heck are you going to tell me that my torch's flame was just a flame? That's where my itch started.

I wasn't really carrying a torch, before right then and there. But if I carry mine, and you yours, we could really GO somewhere."

"My brothers and sisters, always remember that you are carrying much more in your hands than a cross or a torch...you are carrying, and bearing, the light and life and transformative love of Jesus Christ to a hurting world that desperately needs to receive all – ALL – you have to offer."
-Fr. Paul



*Adam Huston, Cole Lieberthal Nick Huskins,
Chris Peck, Will Peck and April Kreller
process at the Acolyte Festival.
More photos page 7.*

You can see The Rev. Canon Jan Naylor Cope's sermon if you search "2019 Acolyte Festival" on YouTube. Incidentally, you can also see the St. Alban's contingent in the Procession video at 33 minutes, 45 seconds.

Stewardship

In-Gathering Sunday is November 24. I repeat—In-Gathering Sunday is November 24. Please bring your pledge cards You can expect to receive one in the mail the week of November 11. If you forget your pledge card on the 24th, we'll have plenty at the Pledge Table that will be set up in the narthex.

Having gotten all that out of the way, I invite you and your family to present your pledge card at the altar rail during the Offertory on November 24. There will be a basket at the altar rail in which your pledge card can be deposited. After all, this is a gift you're making to our Lord. As such, presenting your gift before the altar recalls ancient Jewish traditions concerning offerings/sacrifices of devotion and thankfulness -- a kind of "Will the Circle Be Unbroken" sort of moment, if you will.

Nevertheless, you are not compelled to give in order to be a part of our inheritance as children of God, and your thankfulness need not include gifts and offerings. But should you choose to express your thankfulness, in part, with a "sacrificial offering," I can think of no better way to solemnize that gift than to present it in a manner that brings you before the altar of our Lord. In fact, consider coming to the altar rail during Offertory even if you cannot make a pledge—just come and offer a special prayer of thanksgiving for all that God has done in your life.

As **Fr. Paul** reminded us a few Sundays ago in his "The Lord Be With You" sermon, our worship service is primarily a service of thanksgiving:

"Indeed, that's what it's all about—giving thanks. The very word "Eucharist" means "thanksgiving"—we gather each week, sometimes more, to give thanks to God. It is the most important thing we do as a church...."

Well said, Fr. Paul—well said. Give thanks in any way you choose on November 24. And then come enjoy the fellowship of parishioners over a delectable stewardship celebration brunch after both services. -Ron Vogel



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**Next Edition: December 2019
Articles/photos welcome!
Submit by November 15 to
bhallman1@cox.net**

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From the Deacon

Since mid-September, I've traveled quite a bit. I've taken mostly short trips and, except for a brief work trip to Manhattan, I've been in rural places. In the mountains or other places when I'm surrounded by nature, it's very easy for me to see the wonders of God's creation. The dark night sky at Shrine Mont reveals the Milky Way that can't be seen from my window at home. Eagles, hawks and osprey flying over the James and Potomac Rivers evoke the words of the psalmists and remind me that each of God's unique creatures is made to live fully as God created it. I am in awe whenever I stop and realize this.

I decided to consider my time in Manhattan in the same way I experience "nature." Rather than paying attention to the amazing buildings or traffic, I looked for God's wonders around me. I found myself focusing on people. Each uniquely and marvelously made by the Creator. Each carrying the same breath and image of God within them. Again, I was reminded of the psalmists who gave thanks and praise to God for creating us and giving us life.

Sometimes I need a reminder not to take the wonders of God's world for granted. God's wonders are all around us, everywhere and in everything. For that, I give thanks.

-Deacon Theresa



Deacon Theresa with Ingrid Schwartz and Fr. Paul at Shrine Mont in September.



Choir Notes



November Birthdays

November 3 (10:15 am). Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924) was born in Dublin and attended Cambridge University, where he was named organist at the University's Trinity College during his undergraduate years. While his seven symphonies now receive little attention and his ten operas are largely forgotten, Stanford was a major force in the development of Anglican church music during his lifetime, and many of his choral works continue to be performed. As a professor at Cambridge and the Royal College of Music, Stanford was also influential as an educator: his students included noted composers Ralph Vaughan Williams, Gustav Holst, Herbert Howells and Arthur Bliss. We will be singing Stanford's anthem, *Jubilate Deo*, the text of which is from Psalm 100.

November 3 (7:00 pm). The choir will return for this Sunday evening's **Choral Evensong**, which as noted last month is a distinctive part of the Anglican choral tradition. Highlights of this service include two canticles, the *Magnificat* ("My soul doth magnify the Lord") and the *Nunc dimittis* ("Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace"). The music for the *Magnificat* will be S-188 in our Hymnal, composed by Sir Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941), another student of Stanford. Our musical setting of the *Nunc* is Hymn 499, the tune of which comes from the great English Renaissance composer, Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625). It was harmonized by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), whose arrangements and original tunes appear frequently in the Hymnal. Our anthem will be *O Saviour of the World*, the text of which is from the Ministration to the Sick Pastoral Office (pp. 453-461 in the Book of Common Prayer). The musical setting is by John Goss (1800-1880), organist and choirmaster at St. Paul's Cathedral in London and professor of harmony at the Royal Academy of Music (1827-1872), where his pupils included Arthur Sullivan, who presumably was the very model of a modern major composer.

Moe Fraunfelder	2
Ava Campbell	3
Nancy Harrell	4
Evangeline Clarke-Wiles	5
Patricia Smith	5
Vivian Byrley	7
Courtney Ebersohl	7
Nancy McSllarrow	7
Maggie Rutherford	8
Ann Gates	9
Evelyne Willis	9
Jeff Shankles	10
Mark Slacin	10
Marc Cheek	11
Mark Deal	12
Debbie Haggard-Rosse	13
Sophia DePasquale	15
Anne Walker	15
Nancy Calvert	16
Emily Gamber	19
Jessica Trollinger	19
Diana Albergottie	20
Heath Larson-Ensinger	23
Eli McCoy	23
Carleton Jillson	24
Lauren Savoy	24
Gail Allison	26
John Clements	26
Olivia Devereux	26
Nathan Krafft	27
David Mundy	27
Connor Delaney	28
Linda Fleming	28
Michael Archer	30
Jackson Cherry	30
Daniel Grady	30

We encourage everyone to attend this special Evensong service.

Our anthems for the rest of November are:

November 10. *God Is My Rock*, by Maryland/D.C. composer, organist and choral director John Horman (b. 1946).

November 17. *Steal Away*, a spiritual arranged by African-American composer, author and publisher Edward C. Deas (d. 1944).

November 24. *O King All Glorious*, by the dean of Canadian composers, Healey Willan (1880-1968).
-Clarence Zuvekas

Two for a Song + One Concert on October 13

The Muldoon Concert Series began this season with a rollicking ragtime performance extraordinaire by Alex Hassan, Doug Bowles and Jennifer Timberlake. Music from composers like George Gershwin, Harry Warren, Eubie Blake and others had our audience tapping toes, snapping fingers, and clapping hands. The "Golden Age" voice of Doug Bowles took us back to the 1920's. Jennifer Timberlake brought us into the Musical Theatre genre with her outstanding dramatic interpretations and vocal expertise. Alex Hassan has probably mastered all 50,000 collaborations in his library. The collection includes music of the 20's and 30's, and the recent addition of music from **Fran Walinsky's** mom Dorothy.

Many thanks to **Fran Walinsky Annette Dagg, Jane Cheek, Sheila Massey and Jo Hodgins** for setup and reception. **Larry** introduced "bathtub gin," which tasted awful.

Our next concert is on January 19 with the Jokubaviciute-Slack Duo on Cello and Piano.
-Larry Hodgins



Alex Hassan, Doug Bowles and Jennifer Timberlake performed solos, duets and trios featuring songs from "The Golden Age of Music"—1920's to 1940 at the first Muldoon concert of the season.

Blessing of the Animals October 6





**Shrine Mont Parish Weekend
September 27-29**





Acolyte Festival at National Cathedral on October 12 Washington, DC

St. Alban's Church, Annandale was well represented at the festival by (photo right) Will Peck, Cole Lieberthal, Donna Archer, Fr. Paul Moberly, April Kreller, Chris Peck, Debbie Rosse, Steve Peck, Nick Huskins and Adam Hutson.



Christmas Bazaar News

It is hard to believe – but the St. Alban's Christmas Bazaar is right around the corner!

Saturday, November 23 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

We hope that everyone is able to attend the Bazaar and join the fun!

Although publicity for the Bazaar is well underway, we think it's important to get the message out to as many folks as possible, **so we have included a copy of the Bazaar Flyer in this edition of The Word (page opposite).** Please cut out the enclosed flyer and share it with your friends, your neighborhood, your book club, your bridge group or anyone with whom you come in contact. The flyer is also available on the St. Alban's website, so you can share it via social media! Also, Trick-or-Treat cards will be available on Sunday, October 27 so please pick up a few to hand out on Halloween or give as cards to your friends and neighbors. Tell them to bring the card with them to the bazaar to receive \$1.00 off at the café!



Baked goods, homemade candy, household boutique, jewelry, books, raffle, pressed flower art, plants, toys and hand-made Items will once again be a big part of the Bazaar. The St. Alban's Café will be open for coffee and lunch, and there will be face painting, a moon bounce (weather permitting) and pictures with Santa for the kids along with a special boutique where children can buy a gift for a parent that will truly be a surprise!

If you able to volunteer – even for an hour - to help set up, tear down or work at one of our many booths, please contact **Nancy Calvert** billandnancycalvert@verizon.net or **Sue Mairena** at mairena75@verizon.net to volunteer!

-Nancy Calvert

Have a few hours to spare? Volunteer opportunities include:

- 11/16 (Saturday) 9:00 am -12:00 pm – Decorate parish hall (large Items / garland)
- 11/17 (Sunday) after 8:15 am service - Set up household goods, decorate Christmas trees, continue decorating parish hall
- 11/19 (Tuesday) 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm – Set up jewelry room
- 11/20 (Wednesday) 6:00 pm—8:30 pm – Put Christmas decorations and toys in parish hall. Decorate hall & set up café
- 11/21 (Thursday) 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm – Bring books and remaining items out of the attic. Full access to all rooms/stands
- 11/22 (Friday) Beginning at 9:00 am – Finalize all rooms (if not already complete)
- 11/23 (Saturday) from 9:00 am -2:00 pm – Bazaar (volunteers report at 8:00 am)
- 11/23 (Saturday) from 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm – Break down the bazaar!

Lockwood House Thanksgiving Dinner Thursday, November 28

Lockwood and Elmwood Houses in Arlington provide housing for low-income seniors. Our former Rector **Fr. John Frizzell** was responsible for their development, and our rectors have continued to be named to the board. **Vivian Byrley** and **Delores Baisden** joined me on the board this year. Our parish has served a wonderful Thanksgiving luncheon to approximately 100 residents for many, many years. Both our traditional holiday feast and the friendliness of parishioners who serve bring smiles and words of appreciation from the residents.

There are different ways to be a part of this annual event. Please review the list below, the sign-up board in the narthex and the weekly flyer in SAM to see what's needed. If you'll be out of town, how about donating butter or cans of cranberry jelly? If you're cooking and have room for an extra pan, you could bring hot green beans, stuffing, or mashed potatoes. On Thanksgiving Day deliveries can be made to St Alban's by 11:00 am or taken directly to Lockwood House by 11:30 am (600 N Madison St, Arlington). We need someone to transport donations from St Alban's to Lockwood House and, when the meal is done, to transport leftovers to an Arlington shelter. Volunteers to serve are needed at Lockwood House by 11:30 am to make sure all is ready for the noon meal. Families are welcome. We're done about 1:00 pm.

We need 10-12 **DEFROSTED** turkeys, each about 10-12 pounds, delivered to our St Alban's refrigerator no later than Wednesday, November 27 at 7:00 pm when we will clean and deliver them to Mike Magill of Magill's Pizza and Buffet on Wednesday night. Mike gets up early on Thanksgiving to deep-fry our turkeys (thus the turkey size limit), and he supplies the pans and utensils for our volunteers to carve the turkeys and bring them to Lockwood House time for dinner. We welcome returnees and newbies! Please sign up in the narthex, and if you have questions please contact me at LDCummings@msn.com or 703-283-7032. Thank you!

-Linda Cummings



Items Needed: (sign-up sheets in narthex)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 10 defrosted turkeys, each approximately 10-12 pounds | 12 dozen rolls, ready to serve |
| 4 pans of mashed potatoes, each ready to serve 20 people | 8 quarts of gravy, ready to serve |
| 4 pans of stuffing/dressing, each ready to serve 20 people | 8-10 pies; pumpkin, apple, cherry, etc. |
| 4 pans of sweet potatoes, each ready to serve 20 people | 10 cans of cranberry sauce, whole or jellied |
| 4 pans of green beans, each ready to serve 20 people | 4 pounds of stick butter or margarine |



St. Alban's



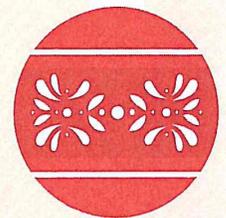
Annual Christmas Bazaar



Saturday, November 23, 2019

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

6800 Columbia Pike, Annandale



- *Cafe *Candy & Baked Goods *Books
- *Art *Children's Gift Shop
- *Toys & Games *Face Painting *Jewelry
- *Household Goods *Handmade Items
- *Moon Bounce *Caroling by the Choir
- *Raffle
- *Visit with Santa
and much more!

All Major Credit Cards Accepted!

Raffle Prizes Galore!

Including 2 tickets to Hamilton at the Kennedy Center and much more!

You do not have to be present to win!

Your purchases help support St. Alban's outreach programs at Poe Middle School, Bethany House, Belvedere Elementary, Lockwood House, Bailey's Crossroads Shelter, ACCA and other community organizations serving those in need. We also support outreach in Appalachia, Our Little Roses School in Honduras, Holy Trinity Church in Haiti and Episcopal Relief and Development. For more information, please contact the Church Office at (703) 256-2966.



Please help us publicize the bazaar. Please cut out this page and share the flyer on the back of this page with friends, family, neighbors and others who might have interest in attending our fun bazaar!

Capital Campaign Update—A Running Start for Our Capital Campaign

Please help us meet our goal!

On October 20, “The Campaign for St. Alban’s” officially launched -- and thanks to our committed fellow parishioners and several early gifts, we have a big head start toward meeting our goal! There’s still a way to go, and we need everyone’s support, and especially, prayers.

As we’re sure you’ve heard by now, the Vestry launched this campaign after years of prayer, discussion and discernment. At the heart of our project is a major renovation of our parish hall facilities -- including a new kitchen to help enhance and expand our food ministries, parish family events and rental revenue; new restrooms, required to comply with county codes and the Americans with Disabilities Act; and a new shower and laundry area to improve our hospitality offerings such as our hypothermia program.

In fact, you could say that “Hospitality” -- to our neighbors and community, as well as our parish family -- is the theme of this entire project.

The goal of the Campaign Committee is to ensure that **personal meetings are held with each and every one of our nearly 200 member families**. We want to discuss the goals of the campaign with each of you personally, hear your feedback and answer any questions you may have about it.

Since early September, an initial series of visits as part of a “soft launch” met with remarkable generosity. In fact, when we kicked off the campaign on October 20, we already had pledges **totaling 91 percent of our *minimum* goal of \$1.1 million**.

That minimum goal represents the least amount of capital that we believe we need to conduct the kitchen and adjoining facilities renovation. We will need everyone’s help in order to reach that goal -- and, hopefully, exceed it.

By exceeding our initial minimum goal, we will be able to replenish our capital reserve -- which will contribute to the church’s long-term stability and allow us to fund a number of expected capital replacements over the next few years. A full list of potential projects can be found on our campaign webpage.

Please visit that campaign webpage frequently, as we plan to update it at least weekly with new updated totals and donor names. You’ll also find an extensive list of questions we’ve received from parishioners, along with their answers and other background information. The webpage can be found at: <https://WeAreStAlbans.org/campaign>

When you are contacted by a fellow parishioner about setting up a personal visit to discuss the campaign, please say yes to the visit! And we hope that all of you will continue to pray for our parish and the success of our campaign.

-Bill Calvert and Linda Cummings

Oktoberfest October 26



Thank you Parish Life Committee and volunteers for fun and food and drink!





Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup

The final clean up of Sleepy Hollow Road for this year will be on Sunday, November 10 at 3:00 pm. To sign up, please contact **Elizabeth Howton**.



Meet in the church parking lot, and bring gloves, as well as grabbers and vests if you took them home from a previous cleanup. Some vests and grabbers will be available, along with our special official orange clean up bags.



In just two hours, we will package 10,000 meals for needy people at our Rise Against Hunger Meal packaging event on November 10 from 12:00 to 2:00 pm. See SAM for sign up directions.

November Calendar Highlights

- November 1 **First Friday Lunch Bunch** Glory Days Barcroft 11:30 am To reserve, please contact **Christine Cannon**
- November 2 **Acolyte and Lector Training Day** Lectors 9:00 am Acolytes 10:00 am
- November 3 **All Soul's Evensong** 7:00 pm Details page 4.
- November 10 **Rise Against Hunger Event** 12:00 to 2:00 pm
- November 10 **Adopt a Highway Cleanup** 3:00 pm
- November 14-16 **Diocesan Convention**, Crystal City
- November 16- 22 **Set up Christmas Bazaar** Details page 8.
- November 23 **Christmas Bazaar** 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
- November 24 **In Gathering Sunday and Stewardship Brunch**
- November 28 **Lockwood House Thanksgiving** Details page 8.
- December 7 **Advent Quiet Morning** 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

November 24 In Gathering Sunday and Stewardship Brunch after both services in the parish hall. Please bring your pledges!

