

St. Alban's Episcopal Church The word

October 2021 Vol.19, Issue 8

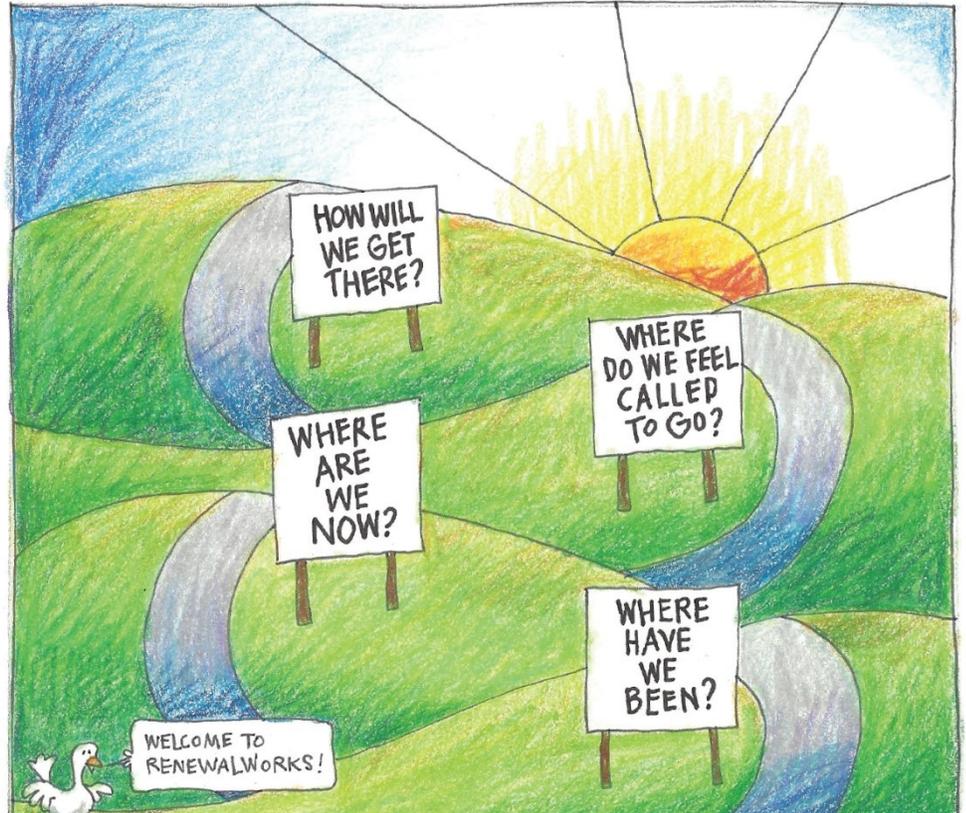
RenewalWorks

What Do We Mean By "Spiritual Growth," Anyway?

*Reminder: Please complete the
"Spiritual Life Inventory"
if You Haven't Already!*

At the time this issue of *The Word* is being published, there are **less than two weeks remaining** to complete the Spiritual Life Inventory! You should have received the link (probably more than once) by email. If you've already completed it, thank you. **If not -- please do so as soon as possible.**

The Spiritual Life Inventory is part of a major project we have undertaken with RenewalWorks, a ministry of The Episcopal Church. Please remember that **not only is the survey completely anonymous, we don't even see individual responses at all.** The data is collected by RenewalWorks staff, who will provide a report to us using only aggregated data.



St. Alban's has always been a parish with a heart for the community, made up of "doers" who give of themselves in service through outreach and missions far and wide.

The RenewalWorks Workshop Team

**Donna Archer
Harry Baisden
Monique Clark
Linda Cummings
Fay Froh
Kevin Holland
Debbe Hughes
Remy Jurenas
Peter Larson
Kay Lusk
Chris Martin
Pam Matthes
Fr Paul Moberly
Elissa Rosasco
Fr Jeff Shankles
Moira Skinner
Fran Walinsky**

Our vestry and clergy have resolved to move ahead with RenewalWorks because they believe we also need to pay attention to deepening our relationship with God and our neighbors. When we say "spiritual growth," as Christians, that's really what we mean: continually learning to love, more deeply, God and our neighbor, in our daily lives.

RenewalWorks is much more than just the Spiritual Life Inventory. That's a starting point in a conversation that continues this month as a series of committed parishioners and our clergy will be discerning potential paths forward through a series of intense workshops.

In a few months, we'll be coming back to the whole parish to listen some more, make adjustments, and implement some plans for our future. The purpose of it all is to build a stronger Church, with our roots planted more deeply in Jesus and the Gospel.

Thanks to each of you for all that you do. Please remember to complete your Spiritual Life Inventory as soon as possible, and please hold all of the members of the RenewalWorks Workshop Team in your prayers as we begin our work together.

-Kevin Holland

Mark your calendars! St. Alban's Bazaar is November 20!

From the Rector

Our Annual Giving campaign has begun, and I did a little bit of research on our pledging statistics. We currently have 114 households that pledge in support of the work and ministry of St. Alban's. An interesting fact I found while writing this article is that in 2002 we had 185 pledging households. It is my hope that we can increase the number of households that pledge by 10 percent. Why? Because a pledge is a visible, tangible mark of our commitment to Jesus and to his Church. Right now, a 10 percent increase in pledges isn't very much. Our membership roles haven't been reduced by all that much since 2002, so I wondered what holds someone back from pledging beyond the simple, "I forgot to pledge..." (and I do hear that... a lot).

Is it worth pledging to St. Alban's?

I'd say take a look at the photos on pages 13 and 14 in this edition of our newsletter. We couldn't do that kind of work without your support, which includes not only your time, but your talent *and* your treasure. And we do more than support 35 families with a regular grocery distribution. St. Alban's also sponsors 12 children from food-insecure families at Belvedere Elementary by providing food every Friday afternoon that will help sustain them over the weekend. Prior to the pandemic volunteers gathered at the Annandale Healthcare Center to bring Anglican worship and music to as many as 30 or more residents of that residential nursing facility, and our hope is to continue that ministry when the pandemic situation allows.

St. Alban's is here to help teach your children about Jesus and to share with them the stories of their faith. St. Alban's is a place where your teenagers can come meet other like-minded youth in a safe, positive, life-affirming way and provides them a hands-on opportunity to help others through an annual summer mission trip. St. Alban's is here to help you grow in your relationship with God and to become a disciple of Jesus – to learn what it means to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." (Matthew 22:37)

St. Alban's is a community that walks the path of life with you. Through the joys of birth and baptism to the sorrows of the death of a loved one, St. Alban's is a supportive community of believers who care for each other.

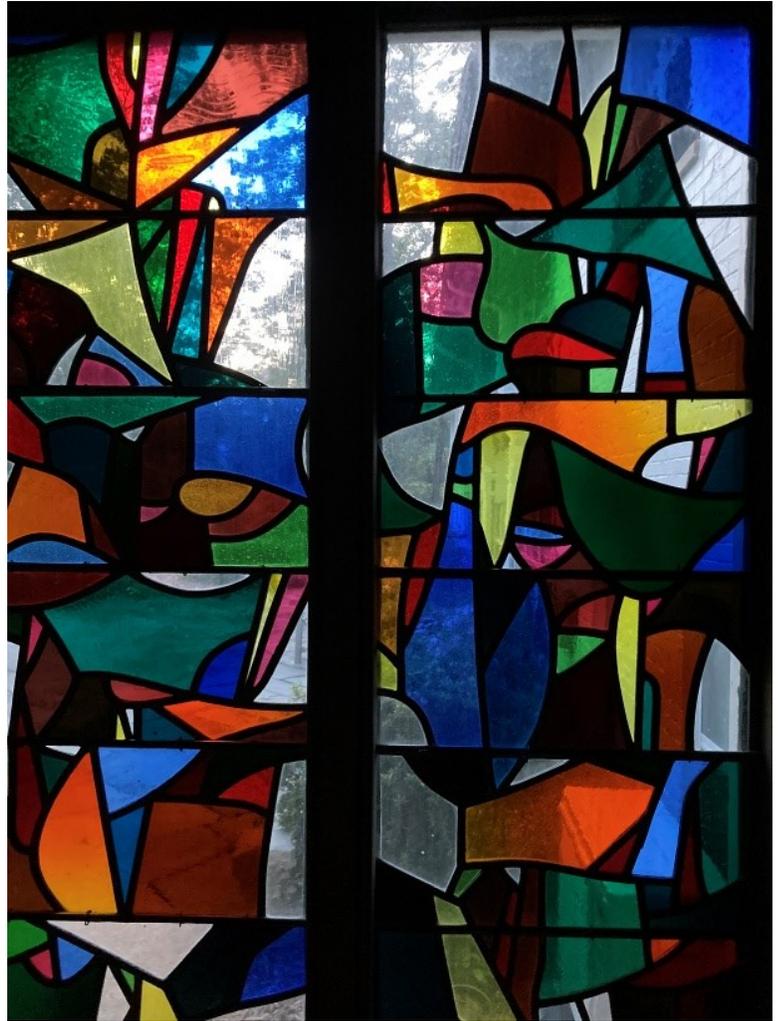
But does the church really need my pledge?

It is your pledge of financial support that allows our parish leadership to build a budget for the coming year's ministries and other activities.

Your pledge is not only a reflection of your priorities, but your pledge allows St. Alban's to dream big and to make bold plans that touch our lives, and the lives of our friends and neighbors and beyond. It is with your pledges that we are able to do the many and varied ministries that God has called us to do.

The pledge we each make is our response to God's abundance in our lives. Our pledge is both a statement of thanksgiving and an outward and visible sign of our commitment to follow in the way of Jesus, by giving as God gives to us. When you pledge to St. Alban's, you won't get a t-shirt, or a latte mug or an umbrella as a thank you gift, but you will have pledged to a community of faith that lives out Jesus' command to feed the poor, for when we do that, we are blessed. (Luke 14:13-14)

-Fr. Jeff



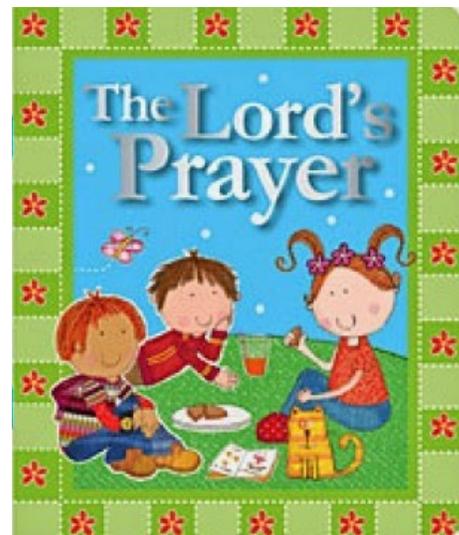
From the Associate Rector

Online Sunday School: The Lord's Prayer begins October 16

Beginning Saturday, October 16, we invite you and your family to join us for this six-week study of The Lord's Prayer. Together, we will discover its meaning through art, reflection, and song.

Expect fun video lessons, 5-7 minutes each, released to St. Alban's YouTube page on Saturday Mornings:

- 10/16: The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)
- 10/23: Praying to Whom? (Matthew 6:9)
- 10/30: Praying for What? (Matthew 6:10)
- 11/6: Praying for Today (Matthew 6:11)
- 11/13: Praying You, Me, Us, We (Matthew 6:12)
- 11/20: Praying When It is Difficult (Matthew 6:13)



Companion activities will be available in the narthex every Sunday, including:

A **Reflection Activity** that strives to inspire deeper reflection of the Lord's Prayer.

A **Family Page** supplement so you may reflect on the week's lesson together as a family.

A **Prayer Booklet with Stickers** so your child may personalize a prayer booklet of their own!

The lesson materials are designed to supplement each week's video lesson. Each activity is designed to help your child explore their belongingness and connectedness with one another, the world, and God. If you need materials sent to you electronically or by mail, contact **Fr. Paul:** pmoberly@stalbandsva.org.

During this season of disruption and uncertainty, scripture reminds us that through uncertain times, God's presence is constant in our lives. In challenging moments like these, as Christians, we rely on God to guide us through so that we gain peace and reassurance through Christ.

-Adam Hutson, Sunday School Coordinator

Youth Ministry: Back in Business!

Our Youth Ministry hosted a fun "kickoff" party on Sunday, September 26. Twelve of our amazing youth ministry members, and their families, enjoyed a tasty meal from Liberty Barbecue, and played games. We had a discussion with parents, too, about possibilities for Youth Ministry activities this autumn.

Most of our youth are in the twelve-years-of-age-and-up category, so most of them have been vaccinated. The parents were largely supportive of holding regular meetings through the autumn, wearing masks and distancing (as appropriate) when gathering indoors. We will gather for once-monthly meetings through December, and reassess the situation then.

We'll meet the third Sunday of the month, here at St. Alban's, from 11:45 am to 1:30 pm. Lunch served!

October 17 - 11:45 am – 1:30 pm

November 21 - 11:45 am – 1:30 pm

December 19 - 11:45 am – 1:30 pm (Christmas Party)

While we will miss some of our older youth who graduated and went off to college in 2020 and 2021, a great cohort is beginning to form. If you'd like more information, or to be involved in our Youth Ministry, please get in touch with me by email at pmoberly@stalbandsva.org.

-Fr. Paul

Nursery Update

In consultation with the parish leadership – **Fr. Jeff**, Senior Warden **Moira Skinner** and **Kim Tanner** (Nursery Coordinator) – I have determined that it is not yet safe to reorganize childcare for worship services at Saint Alban's. This is due to continued high spread of the Delta variant in our area, and the danger to our youngest parishioners who are unable to be vaccinated. We continue to keep an eye on ever-changing conditions, and hope to be able to offer childcare once again (perhaps!) early in 2022.

-Fr. Paul

From the Deacon

Discerning Our Call-Annandale Healthcare Center

Discernment is a word many people associate with vocation or path to ordination. However, discernment is a prayerful process that can be applied to all important decisions. In *Discernment: Reading the Signs of Daily Life* (HarperOne: 2013, p. 17), Henri Nouwen describes the difference between decision-making and discernment. “Reaching a decision can be straightforward: we consider our goals and options; maybe we list the pros and cons of each possible choice; and then we choose the action that meets our goal most effectively. Discernment, on the other hand, is about listening and responding to that place within us where our deepest desires align with God’s desire. As discerning people, we sift through our impulses, motives and options to discover which ones lead us closer to divine love and compassion for ourselves and other people and which ones lead us further away.” Nouwen reminds us that discernment is rooted in the core principles of Christian life: prayer, community, worship and ministry.

As we consider where God is calling St. Alban’s to be in the community, I often engage in the practice of discernment with those who are interested in the ministry or those in the parish who will be impacted by it. We look at the logistics, of course. We also consider where the Spirit is energizing people to be and what people are excited and energized to do. Over the next month, we will engage in discernment about what St. Alban’s role will be at Annandale Healthcare Center (AHC). **Delores Baisden** and I have begun conversation about the changes at the facility. We’ll engage in prayerful listening with those who have been offering worship there, including **Fr. Jeff** and **Fr. Paul**, and listen to the AHC staff. At this time when it is not safe for us to offer in-person worship, we will take the time to listen for what the Spirit is calling us to do as a community for those who are in need of spiritual care and presence in our midst.

Please pray with us, share your thoughts with us, and continue to keep Annandale Healthcare residents and staff in your prayers.
-Deacon Theresa

Warden’s Pen

Dear fellow Parishioners,

Welcome to our new Vestry members-- **Bill Calvert**, **Alison Dilworth**, **Bob Ensinger**, and **Chris Peck**! We look forward to your help and guidance in governing our parish over the next two-and-a-half years. Again, many thanks to our outgoing Vestry members who extended their tenure by an additional six months. Many, many thanks to **Nancy Harrell**, **Jim Kilby**, **Margaret Pendley** and **Rick Weinberg**.

I hope you are exploring our ministries through their weekly presentations. There are so many areas where you can help. Take a look at the featured ministries throughout this edition of *The Word*. Most do not require a long-term commitment, and just a little help can go a long way. Near and dear to my heart are the feeding programs. Please consider how you can help out, whether by shopping, packing, transporting or serving.

Thank you for your love of your neighbor and helping those in need. In gratitude,

-Moira Skinner

Meet and Congratulate Our New Vestry Members:

Bill Calvert, **Alison Dilworth** (shown with her family), **Bob Ensinger** and **Christine Peck** and were elected by parishioners on September 26 to service on the Vestry. Congratulations! And many thanks to all who ran for office, and to those outgoing members of the vestry: **Nancy Harrell**, **Jim Kilby**, **Margaret Pendley** and **Rick Weinberg**,





From the Music Minister



It is hard to believe that I've been at St. Alban's for almost two months! Time flies when you're having fun. This is such a warm and welcoming parish, and I'm so thrilled to be here. Thank you again for bringing me into the St. A's family!

Our choir is back to work, rehearsing Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 pm in Frizzell Hall, masked and distanced. The choir gathers at 9:30 am on Sunday mornings, masked and vested in the choir loft, ready to rehearse for the 10:15 am service of Holy Eucharist. It's been a pleasure getting to know the fine musicians in our choir and leading them in rehearsal and worship. This is a very responsive, disciplined and joyful group – all the more impressive given that for the time being (and, it seems, for the foreseeable future), they are required to sing through masks. Still, their endlessly positive attitude and good humor make our Thursday evening rehearsals one of the highlights of my week. **Won't you join us? Any singer who is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 is welcome in our group.**

The bell choir gathered to polish our five octaves of Schulmerich handbells, and by the time you read this, we'll have had our first rehearsals, distanced and masked in the rear of the nave, from 6:30 to 7:15 pm on Thursdays. **Anyone with some musical experience is welcome to join the bell choir.** Ringing is a challenging activity, both physically and mentally. You have to count carefully, and unlike in a vocal choir, if you miss a note, there's no one else to cover for you! But it's an exciting and thrilling experience, especially when things go "just right." Join us!

With the help of the inimitable **Fran Walinsky** and **Jo** and **Larry Hodgin**, we've finalized the **Muldoon line-up for the 2021-2022 program year.** You can read about these exciting performances here in The Word (see below—cut it out and save so you don't miss a performance!) and on the [Muldoon web page](#). On this page, there is also a letter from me soliciting your donations to support our concert fund. You can also find copies of this letter in the narthex. If you would like to contribute to this series, please fill out this letter and include it with your check when you deposit it in the offering plate. You can also give electronically if that is more convenient for you. **Mark your calendars for the first concert, coming up soon: on Sunday, November 7, at 4:00 pm.** The **Washington Saxophone Quartet** will perform in Frizzell Hall. (This performance is partially supported by funding from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.)

Our amazing sexton **Carlos** repainted some of the walls in my office, and he and I installed hanging shelves, setting me up to begin the process of organizing and cataloging our massive choral library. You might not realize that this library is likely one of St. Alban's most valuable assets, both spiritually and financially. Choral music is costly, and our stewardship of this material is important. This reorganization is a big project, but it's fun for a choir nerd like me – I'm getting to know what we have in our library, piece by piece. If you have the chance on Sunday, peek into my office or grab me and ask to see my progress. The shelves are beautiful!

As always, I invite you to be in touch with me with any questions, comments, concerns, suggestions or for any other reason. Especially as I'm settling in, your feedback is invaluable for the success of our music ministries. Don't be shy!

Sincerely yours, Adam Detzner, Minister of Music and Organist



Muldoon Concert 2021-2022 Series Sundays at 4:00 pm Free and Open to the Public

Spend a nice Sunday afternoon with music—Bring friends and neighbors!
Concerts followed by informal receptions, Covid permitting.

The Washington Saxophone Quartet November 7, 2021

Bach Birthday Marathon March 13, 2022

Local organists play works of J. S. Bach on St. Alban's tracker organ (Leek Op. 1).
Audience members can drop in at will.

At 6:00 pm, concertgoers and musicians will continue to celebrate Bach
in the parish hall, where beer and German fare will be served (Covid permitting).

Dr. Caroline Robinson, Concert Organist April 3, 2022

Dr. Robinson is the Associate Organist-Choirmaster at the Cathedra of St. Philip (Episcopal) in Atlanta. She holds degrees from the Curtis Institute of Music and the Eastman School of Music. She also studied in France as a Fulbright fellow. She has performed in venues such as St. Thomas Church in New York and The Memorial Church at Harvard. She also won second prize in National Young Artist Competition in Organ Performance in 2018.



Choir Notes



October 10 – We will be singing a setting of *The Eyes of All Wait Upon Thee, O Lord* (Psalm 145:15-20) by William H. Harris (1883-1973). In his lifetime London-born Harris was better known as an organist and choir-master (his admiring choristers called him “Doc H”) than as a composer; but his organ and choral compositions are significant contributions to 20th century English church music. Harris became a fellow of the Royal College of Organists in his teens and during 1946-48 served as its president. He also directed the Oxford Bach Choir (1926-33) and taught organ and harmony at the Royal College of Music (1923-53).

October 17 – The text of *Crux Fidelis* is attributed to the Italian poet Venantius Fortunatus (c. 530/540-c. 600/609). The music we will be singing is thought to have been composed by King João (John) IV of Portugal (1604-1656). When not busy seeking alliances (especially with France) to preserve Portuguese independence from Spain, John IV busied himself with hunting, music and other artistic pursuits. Our musical setting was edited by the English conductor and composer of church music, John Rutter (b. 1945).

October 24 – Sir John Goss (1800-1880) was organist at St. Paul’s Cathedral in London (1838-72) and professor of harmony at the Royal Academy of Music (1827-1872), where his pupils included Arthur Sullivan, who sought to become the very model of a modern major composer. Goss specialized in vocal music, both religious and secular, and wrote relatively little for orchestra. He composed the tune for *Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven* (#410 in our Hymnal). We will be singing his anthem, *O Saviour of the World*, the text of which is from the Collect for the Visitation of the Sick.

October 31 – Thomas Tallis (c1505-1585) was the premier English composer of the 16th century. We will be singing his anthem, *If You Love Me*, the text of which comes from John 14:15-17. Tallis lived through much political and religious turmoil, including Henry VIII’s break with Rome, the revival of Catholicism under Mary Tudor, and the resurgence of Anglicanism under Elizabeth I. He served all these monarchs as a Gentleman of the Chapel Royal, writing music to both English and Latin texts, according to the preferences of the reigning monarch.

- Clarence Zuvekas



Thomas Tallis



On September 12, the full choir was back in service after a long hiatus due to Covid 19.

Also, the **Dilworths** are back too after diplomatic assignments in Poland and United Arab Emirates. Shown to the left are **Jake, Alison and Owen**.

Muldoon Concert Series Sundays at 4:00 pm



Free and Open to the Public

The Washington Saxophone Quartet
November 7, 2021

If you wish to be a financial supporter of the Muldoon Concert Series, please fill out a donor form which can be found on the table in the narthex. You can make the check payable to St. Alban’s Episcopal Church. Please clearly print Muldoon Concert Fund 2021-2022 on the memo line.

Friend \$25-\$50
Patron \$76-\$100

Sponsor: \$51-\$75
Partner \$101 and above

From the Seminarian

Some of you have noticed I always wear a peculiar cross, even when I am in “street clothes.” This is my profession cross, a cross I was given the day I made my vows to God in the Community of Francis and Clare. Furthermore, the cross I wear is the San Damiano Cross. This was the cross that was hanging from the ceiling over the Altar at the old church of San Damiano, where Francis had a special experience of God. Francis was praying before this crucifix when he heard a voice telling him “Rebuild my church, for it is in ruins.” The original cross presently hangs in the Basilica of St. Clare Church in Assisi, Italy. All Franciscans cherish this cross as the symbol of their mission from God. Let’s take a closer look at this old and interesting cross, full of meaning.

Christ Crucified: The cross is called an icon cross, a cross that has a story inside. Jesus Christ is represented both as wounded and strong. He stands upright and resolute. His halo already includes the pictures of the glorified cross.

Major Witnesses: The next largest figures are the five witnesses of the crucifixion and witnesses of Jesus as Lord. On the left side are Mary, Mother of Jesus, and St. John the Beloved, to whom Jesus gave his mother. On the right side are Mary Magdalene, Mary, Mother of James, and the centurion who in Mark's gospel proclaims, "Truly this is the Son of God."

Minor Witnesses: The three smaller figures are represented as witnessing the crucifixion. On the lower left is Longinus the Roman soldier who pierced the side of Jesus with a lance. In the lower right is Stephaton who is identified as the soldier who offered Jesus the sponge soaked in vinegar wine.

The Angels: Six angels are represented as marveling over the event of the crucifixion. They are positioned at both ends of the crossbar.

The Heavenly Welcome: On the top of the cross, we see Jesus now fully clothed in his regal garments and carrying the cross as a triumphant scepter. He is climbing out of the tomb and into the heavenly courts. Ten angels are crowded around.

The Right Hand of God: At the very top of the cross is the right hand of the Father with two fingers extended. Jesus is being raised from the dead by the right hand of God the Father. This can also be understood as the blessing of God the Father on all that Jesus has done.

-Luis Hernandez Rivas



A Heartfelt Thank You

I wanted to send a public thank you to all who helped with my recent hip replacement. Surgery went perfectly and I am healing well. The hardest part is being patient with myself and the healing process. Not my strong suit, I know. I'm learning.

For those who prayed for and with me, your prayers were appreciated. To the battalion of cooks who supplied us with wonderful dinners (and desserts!), you kept us fed and nourished. To those who have driven me to doctors appointments, your sacrifice of time has not been overlooked. Again, I thank you all for being part of my church family.

-Nancy (and Jack) Harrell

Walking on Sacred Ground: I Was Blind But Now I See

Sacred Ground made us all look deeply into the history of racism in our country, with love for our fellow citizens and a desire to become Beloved Community, reflecting God's vision for humanity. Sacred Ground Circle members spent time engaged in one of the highest expressions of love: paying attention. We have been listening and reading carefully and prayerfully to the experiences and feelings of others.

Recently, Sacred Ground Circle members agreed to take a 20-Minute Challenge. Each person took 20 minutes to give their most immediate response to questions about their reaction to the experience.

In the coming months, we will share some of our insights. Here are two of the responses:

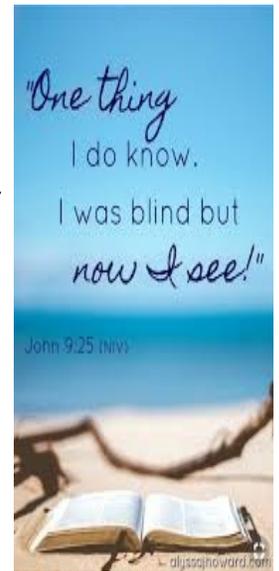
"Sacred Ground. What surprised me about it. Why do I feel uneasy with Sacred Ground? Do I think I am going to uncover some ugliness in me? Yes, that's part of it. I look at my past and wonder how I didn't notice certain things. For instance, why didn't I notice that there were no black children in my grade school in southern Missouri, but when I lived in Colorado, I played with a little black boy during recess. I now realize we were two outsiders banding together. Why didn't I notice that disconnect?"

Later, at my college black women were only allowed to be in the dorm during the summer. And they didn't room with white women, only with other black women. Why didn't I notice their absence during the other times? I guess that's what surprises me and makes me ashamed. How could I have been so ignorant? I was so self-absorbed I didn't notice that black people weren't there."

-Anonymous

"What is sticking with me are the ways, of which I was unaware, that subtle laws (beyond the popularly known Jim Crow laws) prevented land ownership, wealth aggregation and inherited cultural practices for non-White societies. As a specific example, my brother and I were recipients of generational wealth. The rental property we inherited from my mother in Virginia Beach was bought by my great grandparents and grandparents together in 1919. The original deed specified "land in that area could not be sold to Negroes." So my brother and I are beneficiaries of property our Black contemporaries had no chance to inherit."

-Fran Walinsky



Annual Meeting September 25

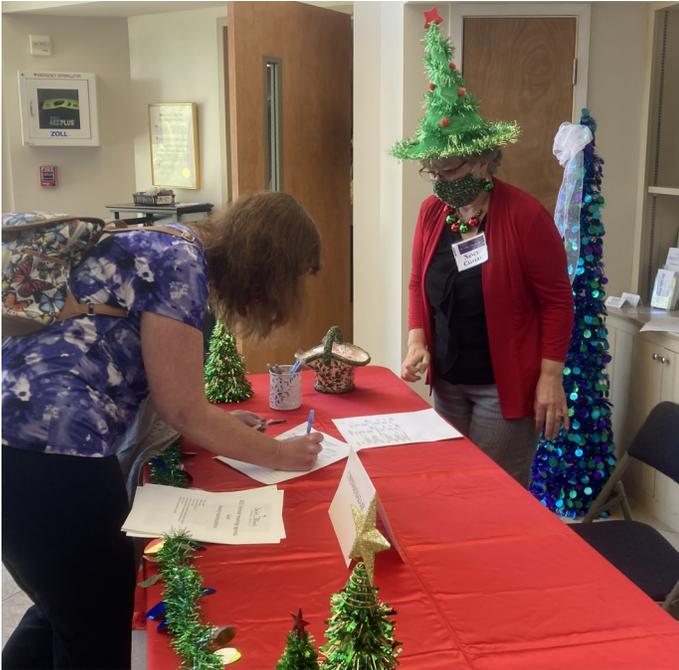
Fr. Jeff, the vestry and key members briefed the congregation on the state of affairs at St. Alban's after the 10:15 am service on September 26. The year was recapped and much good news was shared. We elected 4 new vestry members. Please see page 4 for more information on vestry membership **Fr. Jeff** and **Fr. Paul** commissioned the members of the RenewalWorks Workshop Team.

Photos clockwise: the commissioning; church members seeking ballots to cast vestry votes; **Bill Calvert** with key staff and vestry briefing the congregation on the state of the Capital Campaign.



Christmas Bazaar News

St. Alban's Christmas Bazaar is right around the corner on Saturday, November 20!



Alison Dilworth signs up to volunteer at the Bazaar at the featured ministry table in the narthex on September 26, while Nancy Calvert looks on..

The bazaar is an excellent place to meet new friends, reconnect with neighbors and friends you haven't seen in a while and, most importantly, it gets our neighbors in the door and allows them to see that we are a vibrant Christ-centered community and hopefully, we can encourage visitors to come and worship with us on Sunday mornings. In addition, the more people who attend the Bazaar – the more support we can provide to ACCA, Poe Middle School, Bethany House, Lockwood House, Bailey's Crossroads Community Shelter, Our Little Roses School in Honduras, Holy Trinity Church in Haiti and other community organizations serving those in need!

Volunteer Opportunities - Volunteers are needed the week before the bazaar (Friday, November 12 – Thursday November 18) to help set up (moving furniture, setting up tables, taking boxes out of the attic, decorating, etc.).

If you're interested in helping with set-up, contact **Tom Tycz** tstycz70@gmail.com. Tom will be sending out a schedule in the coming weeks. Every volunteer hour helps. It takes lots of elves to make the bazaar possible!

The parish hall closet is open for your donations! This year, we are in special need of tools, jewelry and toy donations. Please place items in boxes or sturdy bags marked with

what's inside. All items should be clean and in good condition. As you consider your donations, please ask yourself if you would buy the item in its current condition. Please make sure any battery-operated items have a battery so the customer can see that they work.

-Nancy Calvert, Sue Mairena and Nick Huskins

Bazaar Flyer

Along with this October Word is a full page Bazaar Flyer presented as a separate file.

This file will be presented again with the November Word, updated to include more wonderful raffle prizes and late breaking developments.

Please download the flyer file, print it off and post it or hand it to your friends!

Thank you for your help in spreading the word about our 2021 Bazaar.



St. Alban's Annual Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, November 20, 2021
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
6800 Columbia Pike, Annandale

*Cafe *Candy & Baked Goods *Books
*Art *Children's Gift Shop
*Toys & Games *Jewelry *Household Goods
*Handmade Items *Caroling by the Choir
*Raffle
and much more!

**MASKS will be required indoors,
regardless of vaccination status**

All Major Credit Cards Accepted!
Raffle Prizes Galore!

Kennedy Center Theater Tickets * \$200 Theater Gift & \$50 Dinner *
Amazon Gift Bundle w/TV * Pressed Flower Art * Hand-crafted Quilts *
Lego Sets * Hand-crafted beaded necklace from Designs by Gilda
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.

Parishioners Share What They Like About our Bazaars

I initially came to St Alban's as a customer at the Christmas bazaar. I can't wait to browse the booths, enjoy a yummy Scotch egg, have a sweet or three and welcome our visitors!! I'm so glad I dropped by!
-Nancy Calvert



I like jumping up on the festively arranged booth tables and making myself right at home, curling up and looking cute among the wares for sale.
-Clark



I love our old fashioned bazaar. It's been an Annandale tradition since the 1950's. So many interesting and unique offerings from the heart. Home cooked candies, baked goods and delicious café foods, arts and crafts made by loving hands and lots of amazing wares to purchase at great prices. Just a fun festive affair.
-Barbara Hallman



The bazaar is a great place to get gifts for loved ones and to help fund all of St. Alban's outreach programs.
-Margaret Pendley

The Bazaar is a time of church community, with many people contributing various levels of time and talent to create a successful event. It is also a time of the neighborhood community coming into our home, seeing us work together and enjoying the fruits of our labor. It is a blessing to be part of both communities.
-Fran Walinsky

*My favorite parts of our bazaar include **John Clements** decked out as a Dickens-like town crier and **Harris Andrews** looking very much like a 19th century version of Kris Kringle. I also can't forget the offerings of the Café and **Gina Clune's** remarkable Scotch eggs. Finally, I remain in awe of **Tom Tycz's** ability to organize and implement the incredible logistics of set up and take down necessary to make our bazaars so successful.*
-Ron Vogel

What do I like about the bazaar? It's heartwarming to see the St Alban's family come together to raise funds for our outreach programs! It's been a pleasure being the co-chair for the past 5 years.
-Sue Mairena



The bazaar and volunteering during bazaar week allows me to share time and catch up with many friends who go to different services. I love seeing the joy we all express to each other and our community as we share God's love together.
-Bill Calvert

There's so much I love about our bazaar, but the thing I am proudest of is that it is unique in our community. It is entirely dependent on the skills, contributions and efforts of our members. It involves our whole church family in some way or another and it shows in the popularity of our bazaar in our community.
-Delores Baisden



*I was recruited a 'few' years ago to help in the kitchen to serve lunch to the bazaar attendees by **Marie Laprade**. I enjoyed working with her and then I took it over when she moved out of the area! I come back to do this year after year as I enjoy providing food for others and love the camaraderie of working together with other parishioners. It's also fun to have neighbors come to the bazaar and to be able to tell them to find me in the kitchen. I think serving lunch to our community is a great honor and I hope to continue doing so for a 'few' more years. I can't wait to see what changes having a truly functioning kitchen brings to the bazaar.*
-Debbie Rosse

Participating in the St. Alban's Bazaar really kicks off the Christmas season for me. Between the decorations, the ornaments, the food and the smiling faces of other volunteers and attendees, the bazaar is a great way to get into the spirit of the season!
-Stephanie Lightner



I love that St. Alban's Christmas Bazaar always has activities for all of the family members in the parish!
-Alison Dilworth
 (Photo: Alison in 2014 with her nephew, now in 3rd grade!)

Thanksgiving Dinner at Lockwood House

Groucho Turkey is back! After a hiatus last year due to the pandemic, St Albanites will once again serve a traditional Thanksgiving luncheon at noon to the elderly residents of Lockwood and Elmwood Houses located near Seven Corners. As with many things, there are some changes.

Residents have a high vaccination rate and they will wear masks through the serving line, until they are seated and ready to eat. Mike Magill who deep-fried our turkeys for many years, closed his business. To keep this tradition going, Quantum Management, who provides staff and management services for the two houses, contracted with Smokey Bones Catering to supply cooked turkeys. Pans of cut up turkey will be delivered to our St Alban's kitchen on Wednesday, and I need a co-captain who will warm the meat in our new kitchen on Thanksgiving morning. As usual we will need donations of mashed potatoes, green beans, stuffing, rolls, gravy, cranberry sauce and PIES! Sign-up sheets will come out in early November.

I hope you will be able to include this act of service in your Thanksgiving plans. Your active time commitment on Thanksgiving Day will run from about 11:45 am to 12:45 pm. Please contact me at ldcummings@msn.com if you have any questions. Thank you!

-Linda Cummings



Kira Louis Peritz Baptism September 12

Fran Walinsky's granddaughter Kira Peritz, born January 24, was baptized on September 12 by **Fr. Jeff** and **Fr. Paul**. Kira is the daughter of Sarah (Walinsky) Peritz and Seth Peritz. She is the niece of Lauren (Walinsky) Savoy and Tyler Savoy and Edward and Tyler Walinsky. She is cousin of their daughter Margaret. Kira's Godmother is Deborah Brown. Her Godfather is Nicholas Eisner.

Little cousins Margaret and Kira are Fran's first grandchildren. They are a double blessing born within a matter of weeks! Photos: Kira's baptism closeup; Kira's baptism group photo; and Aunt Lauren (Walingsky) Savoy doing a baptismal reading.



Where is God Calling Me to Serve?



Due to Covid, Ministry Sunday is a bit different this year. For everyone's safety we are highlighting one or two ministries in the narthex on Sundays starting after Labor Day and going into the new year. Ministries will have a table set up after and plan to stop by to visit.

When you do, ask yourself, "Where is God calling me to serve?" We can help find the "right fit" for you and your lifestyle.

Whether you have one hour of time to donate or can chair an entire committee, there is a place for everyone at St. Alban's. Representatives from each ministry will be available to discuss how our combined effort serves the mission of St. Alban's.

For more information, please contact **Karen** or **Rick Weinberg**, at rweinberg1@cox.net.

Featured Ministry: Samaritan Ministry



Samaritan Ministry empowers participants to address the barriers they face in order to live sustainable, purpose-driven lives. From there, it's a collaborative effort. Participants are guided, supported and encouraged to set goals and develop the capacities required to meet those goals. Ultimately, the participants do the heavy lifting and their successes, no matter how small, are celebrated!

Part of Samaritan Ministry's mission is to engage partner churches and schools to share in this ministry by offering their time, talent and treasure. We're excited to let you know some of the upcoming opportunities available for you to support Samaritan Ministry! Read more about Samaritan Ministry at <https://samaritanministry.org/>

- **Stuff the trunk!** October 16 from 10:00 to 11:00 am. Meet Kristi and Nancy in the church parking lot. We need of full-size toiletries (soap, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, shaving cream and razors) and dish detergent.

- **35th Annual Gala!** November 6 from 7:00 to 8:00 pm. We'll be hosting a live "Watch Party" at St. Alban's. Join us and bid on one or two of the many gift baskets available at the Silent Auction! If you're interested in donating a basket, please let us know. Minimum value is \$100.

- **Thanksgiving Gift Card Drive!** Keep an eye on SAM for more information.

If you're interested in serving as a volunteer at Samaritan Ministry, please speak with **Deacon Theresa** or **Nancy Calvert** (front office volunteer at the Arlington Office).

Thank you for your continued support of Samaritan Ministry!

-Kristi, Nancy and Deacon Theresa

Featured Ministry: St. Alban's Intercessory Prayer Group

Each day, St. Alban's Intercessory Prayer Group prays for over 100 individuals, that they may know God's strength and protection and that we love them. Although our parishioners request the prayers, about two-thirds of those for whom we pray are not members of St. Alban's themselves. Thus the efforts of the Group are part of St. Alban's outreach.



Those who are feeling isolated by their failing health or limitations, those undergoing difficult transitions or those with daunting challenges such as caregiver responsibilities are all on our list. The Group also sends cards to about 30 people each month. The list is kept confidential, and no members of the Group talk about its contents--except, of course, to God.

If interested, please contact **Jo Hodgkin, Margaret Pendley** or **Moira Skinner**. -Margaret Pendley

Featured Ministry: Poe Middle School Food Ministry Grocery Distribution Program

Thanks to a \$2,000 grant from the Mustard Seed Grant Fund of the Diocese of Virginia and an anonymous donation of \$5,000 that was supplemented with funds from the Outreach Committee, St. Alban's initiated a grocery distribution program in 2021 to provide groceries to food insecure families at Poe Middle School and their feeder elementary schools. We serve from 25 to 35 families who are identified by family resource teachers at Poe and Braddock Elementary Schools. The recipients are very appreciative of the food assistance as food prices rise. We started distributing food every other week in September. The foods are purchased by **Nell Dillard** and helpers and bagged at St. Alban's parish hall and then driven to the HMart on Heritage Drive in Annandale for distribution.

How can you help?

Help pack the grocery bags: This task involves setting up work tables in the parish hall, organizing the goods and filling the bags and carrying them out to the drivers. We pack the day of delivery because the foods are frequently perishable.

Help deliver and distribute the bags: This task involves carrying the bags out to the cars, driving them to the HMart parking lot and, if possible, staying to hand them out, checking recipients against a register.

How can I sign up? There is a sign up genius on our website at <https://wearestalbans.org/summer-changes-to-the-poe-middle-school-food-distribution-program/> or look for links in SAM. –Nell Dillard

Packing takes place in the parish hall followed by delivery every other Wednesday from 2:15 pm to 3:15 pm on the following dates:

October 6
October 20
November 3
November 17
December 1
December 15

*Parishioners bagged up and delivered fresh produce for the September 22 food distribution program led by Nell Dillard. Group photo below: **Barbara Hallman, Melinda Patterson, Fran Walinsky, Donna Archer, Linda Cummings, Sally Hanlein, Nell and Gail Everson.** Also assisting this day were **Fr. Paul and Ron Vogel, not shown.***



September 22 Distribution (continued)



September 2 Distribution Photo below: Nell and Debbie Rosse at the September 2 distribution at Fairmont Gardens. Group photo is of people from the community, FACETS, Fairfax Community Church and Fairfax County Public Schools.



Back to Coffee House on September 19!

Using our new service console at our first coffee hour back.



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 submitted bazaar memories.

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Articles/photos welcome!
Submit by October 15 to
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Shrine Mont Photos Requested for The Word, November

Please send any photos of Shrine Mont you'd like to share
to **Barbara Hallman** at bhallman1@cox.net
by October 15
for inclusion in the November Word.



It is only out of your generosity that we can do the good work that we do. If you normally place an offering in the plate, please consider using our electronic giving platform: **[myEoffering](#)**

Coffee Hour is Back!

Sunday, September 19 was the first day of Coffee Hour starting up after pandemic closures.



Please join us for a time of fellowship and refreshments after both services in the parish hall and in the courtyard.

We need Coffee Hour Hosts to make this work. We are asking parishioners to sign up for Coffee Hour on the Sundays of their choice. The Coffee Hour sign ups are on the same sign up web page as our lector/intercessor/usher sign ups. **[Click here to sign up to be a Coffee Hour Host.](#)**