

# St. Alban's Chronicle



St. Alban's Episcopal Church  
3001 Wisconsin Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20016

April 1, 2005

## Frank's Shoes

I've been looking at Frank's shoes. Sometimes he wears penny loafers (without the pennies). Sometimes he wears black wingtips (when he dresses up). Sometimes he wears old oxfords when he is being casual (on his day off). And, perhaps his favorite, golf shoes. I'm sure he has other shoes. These are the only ones I've seen.

I mention Frank's shoes not because I have a foot fetish but because I have been wondering who will fill them.

St. Paul said, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the Good News." He surely had Frank in mind. We also know that Paul's abiding theology was of Christians in community living together the Word of Jesus. All of his letters speak to this.

The interim time between our farewell to Frank and Mary and the blessing of a new rector is a time for us, the St. Alban's congregation, to discern where we are, what needs to be done, and where we want to go. It is a time when we must focus on Frank's legacy to us—a parish "sharing in the responsibilities of our faith by being the people of God outside as well as inside this church."

- ~ Who are we?
- ~ What kind of leadership are we willing to provide?
- ~ What responsibilities are we willing to continue?
- ~ What new ministry are we willing to step into?
- ~ What can we learn about ourselves during this time?
- ~ What kind of rector will we attract?

The focus will not be on me. As your Interim Rector, I will do my best, with God's help, to support you, to be as good a preacher as I know how to be, to provide loving pastoral care and spiritual direction, and to make sure that all of our St. Alban's ministries continue to be supported with all the resources and staff we have.

Frank has richly blessed us. We will miss him. We will walk on together with God's abundant grace into a new future.

— Carlyle Gill

## To note

For additional information on these events, contact the Parish Office at 202-363-8286, [Office@st-albans-parish.org](mailto:Office@st-albans-parish.org)

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, April 3. Set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.

Senior Choir Concert Friday, April 15 7:30 pm. Kodaly Missa Brevis and Harrison Hoc Templum. Details on Page 3.

Presiding Bishop's Visit Sunday, April 17, the Most Reverend Frank Griswold, preacher and celebrant at the 11:15 am service.

Save the Date Friday, April 22, 6:30-8:30 pm for a Farewell Party for Mary and Frank Wade ~ Celebration of 2000 Sundays.

Frank's Farewell Sunday at St. Alban's Sunday, April 24.

### Chronicle deadlines

Issue	Deadline
April 15 .....	April 1
May 1 .....	April 15
May 15 .....	May 1
June 15 .....	June 1
July 15 .....	July 1

The Chronicle is published twice-monthly, except in June, July & August when it is monthly. E-mail your articles to:

[JaneV@st-albans-parish.org](mailto:JaneV@st-albans-parish.org)



We welcome the faithful, the seeker, and the doubter, for God's embrace is wide and God's Good News is for all.

WORSHIP AND PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. ALBAN'S

SUNDAY

8:00 am . . . . . Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
9:15 am . . . . . Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
11:15 am . . . . . Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
5:30 pm . . . . . Holy Eucharist, Rite II

TUESDAY

7:30 am . . . . . Holy Eucharist  
10:30 am . . . . . Morning Prayer

WEDNESDAY

11:15 am . . . . . Healing Eucharist

THURSDAY

Noon . . . . . Centering Prayer

SATURDAY

9:00 am . . . . . Prayers for St. Alban's

CLERGY

The Rev. Dr. Francis H. Wade, Rector  
The Rev. J. Carlyle Gill, Senior Associate Rector  
The Rev. Margot D. Critchfield, Associate Rector  
The Rev. Loren B. Mead, Honorary Associate  
The Rev. Douglas A. Greenaway, Assistant Rector  
Charles Fels, Seminarian

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY CHAPLAIN  
Carolyn Seaton

DIRECTORS

Day Dodson, Director of Children's and Youth Ministries  
Ron Hicks, Director of Operations  
Norman Scribner, Director of Music  
Sonya Subbayya Sutton, Director for Parish Music Ministries  
Jane Volkema, Director of Communications and Evangelism

OFFICE STAFF

Bob Bascom, Maintenance  
Shirley Dickey, Receptionist  
David Johnson, Community Life  
Vilma Smith, Finance Administrator  
Marcia Welch, Communications Assistant

VESTRY OFFICERS

Gordon Avery, Senior Warden; Kate Bouvé, Junior Warden;  
Nathalie Bramson, Secretary; Christopher Holmes, Treasurer

VESTRY MEMBERS

Joe Beach, Paul Brewster, Bob Dunn, Diana Dykstra,  
Cay Hartley, Dennis Jones, Douglas Lapp, Chris Larsen,  
Tricia Pinkard, Mary Jane Shackelford, Jo Turner, Monica Welch;  
Duncan McKenna, Youth Representative,  
Russell Eckel, WSA Board

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Web site: www.AlbansDC.org

## Candlelight vigil marked second anniversary of Iraq War

People of faith from the Washington, D.C. area met on Saturday, March 19, at 7 pm for a candlelight vigil at St. Alban's Church to mark the second anniversary of the Iraq War.

Members of St. Alban's Ros Paterson, Gail Lewin, Barbara Manard, Derrick Crowe, Laurie Crowe, Susan Stribling, and Rev. Margot Critchfield organized and officiated the vigil. The vigil was part of a nationwide initiative sponsored by Sojourners to honor those who were killed or injured in the Iraq War and to advance the imperative for peace. Similar vigils were held nationwide during the weekend of March 19.

The event consisted of a non-denominational prayer service followed by the lighting of candles. The Gospel reading was Matthew 5:1-16, followed by a short homily which stated, in part, that "faithful people know that even if there is such a thing as just war, that it is at most a necessary evil, and that necessary evils are still evils."

Candles were lit during the reading of names of soldiers killed in Iraq. The congregation was led out of the church to walk a short distance on Wisconsin Avenue with candles while the names continued to be read in the sanctuary. The number of fallen soldiers became apparent when, after a 15-minute outdoor walk, the attendees returned to find that the readers had progressed only to the names beginning with "B" in an alphabetical list.

The service concluded with a chorus of John Lennon's "Give Peace a Chance" and an adapted Franciscan benediction: "May God bless you with discomfort: at easy answers, at half-truths, and superficial relationships-so that you may live deep within your heart. May God bless you with anger: at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace. May God bless you with tears to shed: for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain into joy. And may God bless you with enough faithfulness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done."

Since the Iraq War began on March 19, 2003, more than 1,500 U.S. soldiers and tens of thousands of Iraqis have been killed.

## Quoted

Dr. William Cline, a member of St. Alban's, was recently quoted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams.

In a lecture entitled Ecology and Economy, given at the University of Kent, Canterbury on Tuesday, March 8, Archbishop Williams referred to Dr. Cline's research detailing the impact of climate change and the measures necessary to control these changes. Dr. Cline is senior fellow at the Institute for International Economics and the Center for Global Development.

## Here's what you missed

If you did not attend the March 12 Newcomers' Dinner here is what you missed.

We began with a social time of wine and conversation, meeting the newest members of St. Alban's and getting re-acquainted with long-time members.

Willard Saunders received the prize as the newest St. Albanite. Willard has been attending here since February 2005. Cay Hartley, received recognition as the person in the room who has attended St. Alban's the longest, since 1976. They were each given a lovely St. Alban's refrigerator magnet.

The potluck was "a vast array" of entree's, salad and desserts. The most popular being Sara Thorn's lemon squares. And, if you want the recipe, you'll have to attend the June 11 Newcomers' Dinner, 6-8:15 pm in Nourse Hall.

Newcomers' Dinners are held four times a year on a Saturday evening. Parish members supply the potluck dinner, wine and welcome. Newcomers are our guests. Hope to see many more of you June 11th.

## Senior Choir Concert

Jubilee 150 Concert Series

Friday, April 15, 7:30 pm

St. Alban's Senior Choir, directed by Norman Scribner, will sing Zoltan Kodaly's *Missa Brevis* and the world premiere of *Hoc Templum* (This Temple) by Michael Harrison, a Jubilee 150 Commissioned piece. Michael Harrison, in addition to being a fine composer, is the director of the well-respected Palestrina Choir, which performs throughout the region. His wife, Leslie Bearden, has been a long-time member (alto) of the Senior Choir.

**JUBILEE**  
**150**

This is the closing event of the Jubilee Concert Series which

brought us a wide variety of concerts over the past year under the direction of Norman Scribner, Sonya Sutton and many parish musicians.

## St. Alban's welcomes the Presiding Bishop

Sunday, April 17

The Most Rev. Frank Griswold will be our preacher and celebrant at the 11:15 am service. He will also be the speaker at the Parish Forum at 10:30 am. The Presiding Bishop is here in celebration of our Sesquicentennial—Jubilee 150 Celebration.

## The Art of Faith: Celebrating Creativity at St. Alban's Church

April 17, 2005, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Calling all artists, amateur and professional, famous or undiscovered! We plan to showcase the work of our parishioners: writers, painters, crafters, photographers and artists of all kinds, including our children. If you are interested in having something of yours on display, be it a book you've written, a watercolor you've painted, a pillow you've needlepointed, a quilt you've sewn, some photographs you've taken, a sweater you've knit, etc., please contact a committee member immediately.

Painting, craft or photography: Lois Stratton 202-234-1228 lostratton@cs.com.

Books: Susan Niedenuhr 202-363-5196 sjnfnw@msn.com. Hospitality/food: Karen Strimple 202-333-7234 kstrimple@columba.org. We need volunteers to help set up on Saturday, April 16. Call Lois Stratton to help.

## Mustard Seed offering

Sunday April 17

Our offering will support continuing assistance to the last remaining Anglican church in Iraq—St. George's Memorial Church in Baghdad. (See Washington Window March 2005.)

St. George's, founded in 1936, was forced to close for 10 years under Saddam Hussein's regime. Before reopening, it was looted in 2003, with all its furniture stolen, including the church organ. The church was damaged by rocket fire, and still lacks plumbing, pews, a constant budget, and a full-time rector. An initial appeal last November has been able to purchase a power generator, and perimeter security barriers around the church, as St. George's faces security concerns that few Anglican parishes experience. A parish of 300 worshippers, St. George's serves the Iraqi Christian community in humanitarian needs. Deliveries of relief supplies arriving from the U.S. Army Chaplain's Office are distributed to Christians and Muslims in the area.

St. George's Senior Warden, General Georges Sada, recently spoke at All Saints, Chevy Chase. The March Washington Window details General Sada's visit and his extraordinary life.

Make direct donations to St. George's Baghdad Relief Fund, c/o St. John's Episcopal Church, Lafayette Square, 1525 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20005. For more information contact Betsy Heine [betsy.heine@stjohns-dc.org](mailto:betsy.heine@stjohns-dc.org)

## Faith, Work & Vocation

Virginia Theological Seminary offers a series of forums inviting speakers whose insights into Faith, Work & Vocation may help inform our own lives. This 10-forum series has featured three speakers who are members of St. Alban's: Senator John Danforth, Earl Strimple, DVM, and Vance Wilson, Headmaster, St. Albans School.

A fourth St. Alban's member, Dr. Richard Jung, Headmaster Emeritus, The Bullis

School Former Head of School, The SEED School Washington, DC, will be the featured speaker at the Tuesday April 19 breakfast meeting 8 -9:30 am. This program is held at The National Press Club, 14th and F Streets NW. To attend, RSVP Eliza Saunders 703-461-1715.

## Frank's farewell Sunday

Sunday, April 24

This will be the final Sunday our retiring rector, Frank Wade, will be at St. Alban's. The Rt. Rev. Jane Dixon will be our guest preacher for the morning services. The Rev. Loren Mead, Honorary Associate Rector, will preach at the 5:30 pm service. We will have our 4th Sunday Fellowship reception after services. Outside, weather permitting.

## Rector search news

The Search Committee continues to meet the first Monday of each month. The next meeting will be Monday, April 4.

The committee is finalizing the parish survey. There has been discussion on how this survey could best be distributed: in church on several Sundays, by mail, or, for those with internet connection, completing the survey on-line. If you have any suggestions on distribution, be sure to share your ideas with a committee member. There is the suggestion box in the Narthex to submit your questions or ideas regarding the search. Another project that is underway is developing a timeline so we all have an idea of what is happening with the search, and when. On March 22 the Profile Subcommittee had a successful meeting with Sandy Kolb, a consultant, who lead a rector search at St. Thomas, Dupont Circle. Sandy shared a variety of survey ideas, and diocesan requires for the printed Parish Profile Book.

Gordon Avery is Chairperson of the Search Committee. Members of the Profile Subcommittee are: Peter Albert, Fred Darr, Liz Leland, Bob Pinkard, Mary Snitch, and Lizzie Thorne, Jane Volkema (ex-officio), and Linda Bickford, Chair. Members of the Prospects Subcommittee are: Barbara Conyers, Rachael Freytag, Jeff Harwood, Dennis Johnson, Alex Netchvolodoff, Amy Slemmer, Jim Sottile, Linda Wilson, and John Daniel Reaves, Chair.

## Breakfast by the Sea of Tiberias

John 21:1-19

RISEN JESUS, you invite me to sit at your fire and eat the fresh fish  
That Nathaniel and Thomas have just hauled out of the sea.  
But I do not feel worthy to eat with you,  
So I find a rock away from the others and watch you cook.

Mary Magdalene walks up from the water's edge  
She has been collecting seashells to give you and her face is radiant  
With joy and adoration. You accept these fragile gifts and smile at her,  
And then, right at me.

My heart catches fire, yet I quickly look down  
I am afraid that you will realize who I am—one of the unfaithful ones  
Who ran away the moment trouble started in Gethsemane.  
But I can sense you know this. Ashamed, I get up and begin to walk away quietly.

Then, I hear you speaking to Simon Peter and it is clear in your voice  
That you love him deeply, in spite of his denials that dreadful night.  
You embrace him, just like the Father in your parable  
Who welcomes his wayward son home. Peter weeps in your arms.  
It occurs to me that all of us on the beach are broken in some way,  
And I realize that I am not alone.

Mary, who knows what it is like to be lost and then found by you,  
Has come over to me; her eyes are full of compassion.  
She puts her arm around my tired shoulders and gently leads me back to the fire.  
This strong and faithful woman carried shame as her yoke for years—  
Could she ever have imagined that she would be set free from that burden  
And be chosen as the first witness of your resurrection?

The full understanding of your grace and unconditional love  
Overwhelms me, and I break down like Simon Peter.  
I, too, want you to know how much I love you, Lord! I believe. Please help my unbelief.  
Slowly, my shame begins to wash away and is replaced with the calm of the sea.

My senses are awakened and I smell the saltwater, feel the warm sun on my face,  
And hear your voice calling my name: My beloved, come and eat with me!  
My heart fills with freedom and joy—my Lord is risen indeed!  
Lord Jesus, I will join your resurrection feast—ALLELUIA!

Rachel Hill Freytag  
26 April 2003

With thanksgiving for The Rev. Susan Burns

## “Low Sunday”?

Since about the year 1400, the Sunday after Easter has been known as “Low Sunday” in parts of the Church. After the joy and celebration of Easter, things calmed down again, and Low Sunday marked a return to regular worship services. Christ was risen, but life went on more or less normally.

**But not at St. Alban's! — On the Sunday after Easter, April 3, St. Alban's will offer two uplifting musical services...**

The Women's Voices of St. Alban's will present *Hope is the Thing: An Emily Dickinson Suite*, music of Emma Lou Diemer at the 9:15 and 11:15 am services. This is a musical sermon that explores spirituality from the point of view of a skeptic on “Doubting Thomas” Sunday.

Judith Farr, a member of St. Alban's and a highly acclaimed Dickinson scholar, will be the presenter at the Parish Forum at 10:30 am in Saterlee Hall.

At the 5:30 pm service, A Jazz Mass by William E. Smith.

Because jazz comes from the soul, yet is rooted in everyday life, it can delicately blend the sacred and the secular in ways that speak to the hearts of all people.

The W.E.S. Group will perform, under the direction of Dr. William E. Smith, an original composition based on the liturgy of the Episcopal and Catholic worship services that embodies this notion of jazz as a spiritual expression.

Dr. Smith is an assistant professor at American University's Department of Performing Arts.

These service will make it clear there is no letdown after Easter at St. Alban's.

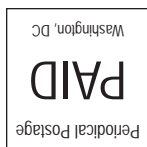
Submit articles for the Chronicle to: [JaneV@st-albans-parish.org](mailto:JaneV@st-albans-parish.org)

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St. Alban's Communications Team: The Rev. Carlyle Gill, The Rev. Margot Critchfield, Sonya Sutton, Jane Volkema and Marcia Welch

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