

# St. Alban's Chronicle

St. Alban's Episcopal Church  
3001 Wisconsin Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20016  
November 1, 2005



September 22, 2005  
*Letitia Rollins stands at the back door of her house on Shady Lane in Slidell, Louisiana.*



*September 21, 2005. Biloxi, Mississippi, resident Qui Kinard exemplifies the survivor experience of Hurricane Katrina. She held out in her home until the rising water level reached the ceiling of the one-story structure, at which point she said "...I decided to swim for it!" I swam for the raft out in front..." which turned out to be three other survivors clinging to a piece of debris. She says she clung to the raft for about 4 hours before the water receded.*

Photo Credit: All photos on this page courtesy of The American Red Cross

## Gulf Coast Revival Group

The Gulf Coast Revival Group has been formed to organize St. Alban's response to the disasters in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast region. Barbara Manard and Derrick Crowe are co-chairs, and Rev. Louis Wheeler serves as the clergy representative.

The formation of the Gulf Coast Revival Group coincides with a wider effort in the Washington area known as Washington Episcopalians Respond to Katrina (WERK). WERK includes representatives from the National Cathedral and at least eight other parishes, including St. Alban's, St. Columba's, and St. John's Lafayette Square. Barbara Manard also serves as our representative at WERK meetings.

The Gulf Coast Revival Group and WERK assess the needs of affected churches to determine how to respond on the Washington community and parish levels.

Both groups' efforts focus on building long-term relationships with specific affected churches to target resources and deepen fellowship with all our recovering neighbors. WERK also hopes to deepen working relationships among parishes in the Episcopal Diocese of Washington.

The Gulf Coast Revival Group currently includes ten members of St. Alban's and is open to anyone who wishes to join the effort to help revive the devastated communities. Future meeting times and locations will be in the *Sunday Announcements*. Contact Derrick Crowe at [derrickcrowe@hotmail.com](mailto:derrickcrowe@hotmail.com) for more information.

## To note

**The Kristallnacht Service**  
Wednesday, November 9  
at St. Alban's

**Help the Homeless Walkathon**  
Saturday, November 19

**Mustard Seed Offering**  
Sunday, November 20

**Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner**  
Thursday, November 24, noon  
at St. Alban's

**Advent Wreath Making**  
Sunday, November 27, 4 pm  
Satterlee Hall

**Advent Silent Retreat**  
December 2, 3 and 4, 2005



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

**WEDNESDAY**

11:15 am . . . . . Healing Eucharist

**THURSDAY**

Noon . . . . . Centering Prayer

**SATURDAY**

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

**CLERGY**

The Rev. J. Carlyle Gill, Interim Rector  
The Rev. Margot D. Critchfield, Senior Associate Rector  
The Rev. Louis T. Wheeler, Jr, Assistant Rector  
The Rev. Douglas A. Greenaway, Assistant Rector  
The Rev. Loren B. Mead, Honorary Associate

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  
Wilma Smith, Director of Financial Affairs  
Sonya Subbaya Sutton, Director for Parish Music Ministries  
Jane Volkema, Director of Communications and Evangelism

**OFFICE STAFF**

Shirley Dickey, Receptionist  
David Johnson, Community Life  
Marcia Welch, Communications Assistant

**VESTRY OFFICERS**

Gordon Avery, Senior Warden; Kate Bouvé, Junior Warden;  
Margery Dunn, Secretary; Christopher Holmes, Treasurer

**VESTRY MEMBERS**

Paul Brewster, Bob Dunn, Diana Dykstra,  
Cay Hartley, Douglas Lapp, Chris Larsen,  
Susan Morris, Jim Nix, Tricia Pinkard,  
Jon Sawyer, Jo Turner, Bob Witten  
Duncan McKenna, Youth Representative,  
Russell Eckel, WSA Board

**ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

3001 Wisconsin Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20016  
Tel.: 202-363-8286 Fax: 202-363-6828  
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
E-mail: First nameLast initial@st-albans-parish.org  
Web site: www.AlbansDC.org

# Happy (Church) New Year!

The Rev. Dr. Kathy Grieb Teaching Special Advent Program

*"The Gospel of Mark: Parable Unlimited, Challenge Extraordinary!"*

-Tuesday evenings, Nov 29 - Dec 20, 6:30 - 8:30pm-

With the first Sunday of Advent on November 27th, the church calendar begins a new year during which our Sunday gospel readings will come from the Gospel of Mark. We will celebrate this change of season with a special program on Tuesday evenings during Advent. The program begins with a light supper, features a presentation by the Rev. Dr. Kathy Grieb, a biblical scholar on the Gospel of Mark, and we close the evening with St. Alban's Handbell Choir leading us in sung Compline.

In the Church's calendar, the Sunday gospel readings rotate through a three-year cycle of passages from the "synoptic" gospels of Matthew (Year A) Mark (Year B) and Luke (Year C). The word "synoptic" means, "to see or view together" and refers to the fact that the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke are very similar, while John's gospel—which is peppered throughout the three years—is quite different.

Dr. Grieb will be here to teach us about Mark's gospel so we can hear it read in church with new, informed ears this year. Her program, *The Gospel of Mark: Parable Unlimited, Challenge Extraordinary!* will feature four sessions:

November 29

*The Beginning of the Good News: Gospel as Apocalypse and Parable*

December 6

*Insiders and Outsiders: Discipleship as Dispossession*

December 13

*From Transfiguration to Temple Ruins: Conflict and Costly Obedience*

December 20

*My End is My Beginning: The Predictable Passion and the Resurrection Shock*

Dr. Grieb is Professor of New Testament and Biblical Greek at Virginia Theological Seminary, a distinguished author, teacher, preacher, and scholar on the Gospel of Mark.

## Three-year out review

*Congregations asked to respond to Bishop Chane's first three years*

A review of three diocesan ministries is under way and your views are requested! The Diocesan Council has agreed on a plan to implement Bishop John Bryson Chane's proposal for a review of the first three years of his episcopate. The review will focus on: Clergy Deployment and Search Process, Congregational Development, Youth Ministry and Campus (Academic & Episcopal School) Ministry. Feedback sessions have been held around the Diocese and, at the Region 2 Meeting, there was a special plea to congregations to respond. This is a great opportunity to "state your view" to the Bishop! To share your ideas, visit [www.edow.org/tyo/survey/index.html](http://www.edow.org/tyo/survey/index.html).

## Prayer requests

*How to submit prayer requests for Sunday liturgies*

Prayers for those in need remain on the Sunday prayer list for two weeks. Prayers for all other purposes are listed for one week. To make a prayer request, contact Marcia Welch at 202-363-8286 ext. 208, or [MarciaW@st-albans-parish.org](mailto:MarciaW@st-albans-parish.org).



# Children's Stewardship Programs

*submitted by Kristie Hassett*

Children and Stewardship. Is this a concept that even makes any sense? What real contribution can our children's allowance money make in our annual pledge campaign, "All for One"? How can the sacrifice of a candybar or a new toy make any real difference in the life of our parish? The answer, of course, is that our children's pennies, nickels and dimes will not go very far toward St. Alban's 2006 budget or erasing our current deficit; that is a task for us adults. In the long term, however, our children's stewardship – their willingness to support our parish with their time, talent and treasure – is critical to St. Alban's continued life as a vibrant Christian community.

While we frequently recognize that youth are the lifeblood of any parish, the concept of stewardship is frequently overlooked. This year, Day Dodson, Director of Children's and Youth Ministries, is planning to incorporate the concept of stewardship into Children's Chapel, Church School and the Journey to Adulthood youth groups to help our children understand both the responsibility and joy of giving.

To educate our children about stewardship, Day plans to begin at the beginning – the very beginning. Even our youngest Church School children know the story of how God made the world. What they need to learn is that God gave us the world to take care of and that *everything* we have is a gift. When we pledge, we are simply giving back to God that which came from God. Lessons on stewardship – why should we give to the church – will be explored throughout the year. One of the most visible aspects of this focus on stewardship will be mite boxes the children (through 7th Grade) will bring home throughout the year. (*See end of article for mite box definition*)

The first round of mite boxes will focus on St. Alban's mission to the needy and poor. This is a concept that the children can readily grasp, particularly given the recent fund-raising efforts for hurricane victims. These mite boxes will be returned to church and included with the presentation of pledges on December 4. In the season of Epiphany, the children will again receive mite boxes as they explore St. Alban's mission as our spiritual home. Finally, in the Lent and Easter Seasons, children will use

mite boxes and consider the mission of St. Alban's in the world, including our diocese and the Anglican communion.

Day envisions the mite boxes as a tangible reminder of our obligation to support God's church and as a starting point for dinnertime conversations, prayers and thoughtful giving. Older youth will not receive mite boxes, but will be invited to make a pledge to the "All for One" campaign. As a parent of two boys, ages 10 and 3, I am very excited about this program and the opportunity to discuss stewardship with them.

The youth of our church are compassionate, generous souls. In September, Children's Chapel participants made donations week after week to support relief efforts for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Profits from lemonade stands and substantial contributions from meager allowances ultimately funded a collection of over \$85. Our children still have a lot to learn about fiscal responsibility and money management, but they also have a lot to teach us about sacrifice and generosity.

*"Mite" means "a very small amount" and references Jesus' blessing of the poor widow in Luke 21:1-3. "Jesus looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on." The small copper coin was called a mite. Hence the expression "widow's mite."*

## Review:

Parish Forums are held on Sundays at 10:30 in Satterlee Hall. If there is a forum you missed, contact Kitty Bayh at [KittyB@st-albans-parish.org](mailto:KittyB@st-albans-parish.org) for a cassette tape (\$3.00).

### "In the Footsteps of Paul: The J2A Pilgrimage to Greece"

St. Alban's sophomores and juniors went on a third annual pilgrimage, this time to Greece. The group included Lindsay Brewster, McKenzie Cato, Grace Critchfield, Sydney Dubois, John Durkee, Matt Edwards, Julian Eid, Chase Felker, Kathleen Hall, Lily Ickow, Colin Mahaffey, Cynthia Slemmer, Jimmie Sottile, Anna Thorson, Tor Travis, and Evan Witten. Leaders were Robin Boineau, Jay Connell, the Rev. Douglas Greenaway, and Kim Trenbath. The leaders commended the students for earning a third of the cost, thanked the parents for providing a third, and the Vestry and the people of St. Alban's for contributing another third.

In the presentation on Sunday October 2nd, they described the different parts of their expedition and answered questions. They followed the steps of Saint Paul. They visited Thessalonika, Phillippi and Corinth, where their focus in the Eucharist was on their spiritual faith in their own lives and how others see them. They visited where Lydia, the first person in Eastern Europe was baptized. They also stepped inside the cave where tradition has it that Saint Paul was imprisoned. One participant said that the most spiritual part of the pilgrimage was reading Saint Paul's words where he wrote them.

They did not neglect the sites of ancient Greece; their hotel was across from the Temple of Zeus in Athens! They also spent the day in the theater, the Parthenon, and the Areopagos. Nor did they miss the pleasures of contemporary Greece, the great views from the bus, Greek Doritos, motor bikes (a mixed blessing) and the Agia Triada beach where the first evening they celebrated Compline in the ocean with the pitch black sky above – a "very cool" way to

start their time together. So they took home memories of "the wine dark sea" of Homer.

In their descriptions, the pilgrims said how when presented with all this richness they came to think about "the differences of original Christianity and how it has developed in America" and how it is in Greece – "It is a whole other religion over there." How religion in modern Greece (mostly Orthodox) is everywhere: the crosses, in conversation, in ways that in America with its multitudes of religion "it just wouldn't happen." There were shrines with icons by the roads not so much where a traffic death had happened but in thanksgiving for the aversion of danger and death, in thanksgiving for the accident that didn't happen. They took the stiff climbs up the stone steps to the monasteries that in central Greece almost hang onto the high hills and mountains. One day they went to an Icon "manufactory" and observed the monks paint the traditional holy paintings that are seen in the orthodox tradition as a window to God's grace. They brought a Madonna and Child Icon dedicated to St Alban's to be placed somewhere in the Church as a memento for all of us of their pilgrim experience together.

— Ginny Bergen

### "Unity or Schism and the Shape of the Anglican Communion"

At the October 9 Sunday Forum, Timothy Sedgwick, professor at Virginia Theological Seminary, noted that the issue of how the Church will address homosexuality has been ongoing since it first officially surfaced at our General Convention in 1979. He stated that this issue is symptomatic of an even broader issue: "What does it mean to be the Church when the Church disagrees about a matter?" Dr. Sedgwick pointed out that disagreements within the Church are not new – they have existed from the beginnings of Christianity. Different approaches to important issues like divorce and the place of the Gentiles in the Church were not resolved in the Gospels and the rest of the New Testament (See Acts 10 and 11) but

resulted in including those who disagreed within the Church.

The issue of disagreement within the Church is surfacing even more strongly in the Anglican Communion today because it is emerging from colonialism. With the exception of the bishops in the churches in such now-independent former colonies as the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, the Church of England had until fairly recently appointed bishops to missionary dioceses and so ensured some centralized authority in that church. With churches now selecting their own bishops in a post-colonial era, disagreements within the Communion surface and pose the question of how indigenous churches of the Anglican Communion can relate to each other given differences among them. The issues surrounding homosexuality are only one of many issues that have and will arise in these circumstances. Women's ordination has posed the threat of serious division in the past and lay Eucharistic presidency or differences in Books of Common Prayer may well pose such threats in the near future.

Dr. Sedgwick stated that the real question before us is "How will we be a communion after colonialism? How much unity is achievable and how much diversity is tolerable?" Will we be a communion that respects diversity within a communion of churches or will we be a communion with a more centralized authority that ensures a greater degree of uniformity among the churches? In the Windsor Report, the Anglican Communion sought to put the brakes on the furor arising over the consecration of a gay bishop in a committed relationship to allow time before actions were taken by any particular person or church. In that report, it interpreted the principle of subsidiarity – that matters should be decided as close to the local level as possible – to mean that while local units of the Communion should make decisions, such decisions should only be about matters on which the Communion as a whole is indifferent (paragraph 38). While this view has its proponents, the response offered to the request from the Windsor Report for a contribution from the Episcopal Church (paragraph 135)

*Continued on Page 5*

Continued from Page 4

questioned whether Communion-wide agreement is the basis for unity. Rather, it argued that from the time of the early Church there is ample evidence that local units of the Church made decisions about key issues and reached out to those who were viewed by some within the Church as unacceptable. (For the contribution made by the Episcopal Church see "To Set Our Hope in Christ" at [www.anglicanlistening.org](http://www.anglicanlistening.org).)

— Maria Estefania

## Islam and Christianity Dr. Ayman El-Mohandes

On October 18, 2005, Professor Ayman El-Mohandes discussed the theology of Islam and its relationship to Christianity. Dr. El-Mohandes was raised in Egypt and had his medical training in Cairo, Lyon, and Washington, DC. He is a neonatologist and perinatal epidemiologist who is Director of the Prevention Research Center and Interim Chair of the Department of Prevention and Community Health at the George Washington University School of Public Health.

Dr. El-Mohandes described the Prophet Mohammed as a quiet rebel against the Arabian culture of his day, which included idolatry, slavery, materialism, abuse of women and infanticide of female newborns. After years of solitary meditation, he was inspired by God, through the Archangel Gabriel, to write the Koran, though he was not himself an educated man. The Koran affirms a single, beneficent, all-powerful God, and recognizes both the Abrahamic and Christian writings of the Bible. In fact, Jesus Christ is considered to be the Messiah and is the subject of a whole chapter in the Koran. Dr. El-Mohandes said that Muslims could be described as Jews who believe in Christ as the Word of God on earth. The Koran also sets out rules of life and religious observance. Its teachings require peace, justice, compassion and

generosity. As such, there is much basis for understanding between Islam and Christianity.

Dr. El-Mohandes described the persecution of Mohammed's initial followers, who barely survived attacks on their lives and families. At one point the early Muslims fled to Ethiopia and were given refuge by the Christian king there, after he came to understand the principles of their faith. He described Christianity and Islam as two beams of light, emanating from the same lantern. The early persecutions led to warlike encounters with Islam's neighbors. But there were also periods of tolerance and peace. The history of Andalusia in Spain was one where Christians, Jews and Muslims lived side by side and created a high culture together. A reference describing this period is the book "The Ornament of the World: How Muslims, Jews, and Christians Created a Culture of Tolerance in Medieval Spain" by Maria Rosa Menocal.

Dr. El-Mohandes held up to the audience that same ideal of peace, understanding and trust. When we go out to work, he said, our work is the same. We work for justice and service and tolerance and peace. What is different is the way we have received our faith and how we celebrate our religious exercises. But these are merely externals, like the clothes we wear. Our faith should be a force which brings us together, not a series of boundaries which set us apart. There was great interest from those who attended the forum, and questions and discussion continued for 30 minutes after the Forum formally closed.

—Gordon B Avery

## Mustard Seed Offering

*Sunday, November 20*

The November 20 Mustard Seed offering will go to Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) to assist those affected by the earthquake in South Asia and the floods in Central America.

The October 8 earthquake in Pakistan and India killed more than 35,000 people. ERD is partnering with the

Dioceses of Peshawar and Lahore in the Church of Pakistan to provide assistance such as food, shelter, bedding, basic medicines, and clothing. ERD is also helping the Church's Mission Hospital in Peshawar field four medical teams and establish a field hospital.

Flooding and mudslides caused by Hurricane Stan have devastated areas of Guatemala and El Salvador. ERD is partnering with both the Diocese of Guatemala and the Anglican Diocese of El Salvador to provide aid.

More information about the relief efforts can be obtained on ERD's website: [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org). Contributions can also be made online, by calling 1-800-334-7626 or by sending a donation at Episcopal Relief and Development, Emergency Relief Fund, PO Box 12043, Newark, N.J. 07101.

Please be prayerfully generous during the offertory on November 20.



## Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office is open 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, with the exception of being closed from 1-2 pm for the lunch hour. When no one is available to take your telephone call, you may press 2 to leave a message in the general mailbox, or follow the prompts to ring other staff members.

Note: Every Tuesday, between 1-3 pm, clergy and staff attend various staff meetings, and may not be available during that time.

# Search enters new phase

*John Daniel Reaves*

*Prospects Committee Chair*

The next Search Committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 7. At that meeting, the Profile Subcommittee review with the Prospects Subcommittee how the Parish Profile was put together and written and what it contains. This discussion is in response to (Search Committee member) Linda Wilson's request and, will help the Prospects Subcommittee screen the candidates more carefully.

Search Consultant, the Reverend Richard Kirk will also attend the November 7th meeting so to assist the Prospects Subcommittee in formulating questions for the candidate interview process. The Reverend Kirk has worked for 30 years on rector searches, including large parishes such as Dallas and Trinity, Wall Street.

There is no way to know how many candidates will be on the Bishop's approved list of candidates that comes to us from Diocesan Church House. Currently, as of October 20, the Bishop has sent to us 18 official candidates who have said they would like to be considered. We know also that Church House has not finished screening another 20 names that you submitted. Estimates, coming from Church House and others who work in the field vary substantially-anywhere from 15 to 50 or more.

It looks as if the number is going to be significantly about the estimate of 15. Therefore the work of the Prospects Subcommittee will carry into the new year. Note: The Advent and Christmas season is a busy time for candidates, the Search Committee will not be interviewing from about December 10 until after the new year.

The Search Committee will receive names until December 1st. If you have someone in mind you would like to be considered, contact John Daniel Reaves [jdreaves@usa.net](mailto:jdreaves@usa.net) before the end of the month.

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## Parish Profile

Beginning October 30, you can get a copy of the Parish Profile from the Narthex or download a copy from our web site at [www.AlbansDC.org](http://www.AlbansDC.org). There will be a limited number of copies in the Narthex—one per family.

[Download as many copies as your like from the web.](#)

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## Disciples of Christ in Community (DOCC)

*St. Alban's combines with Cathedral for DOCC Program*

*Tuesdays, January 10 through May 9, 2006, 7:00 – 9:00 pm, box suppers optional at 6:00 The Pilgrim Observation Gallery, 7th floor*

DOCC is a Christian formation program designed (in Abraham Lincoln's words) to "bring out the better angels of our nature." At the same time, DOCC builds a strong

community among its participants while developing an ever-expanding core of lay leadership.

Dean Lloyd is giving this program a high priority, as he and the other clergy and staff build a cathedral congregation that thinks of itself as a caring community for the Washington area that is connected to other churches in the diocese and one that supports all of our journeys inward, together, outward and far beyond. Sam Lloyd will be doing most of the DOCC teaching, and of course he is the best! But what will make DOCC really work are the well-facilitated small groups that will meet each week after the presentation. Each group will become a mini-church or, as we say in DOCC, "the church in minuscule."

At Trinity Episcopal Church, Boston (the dean's former parish), about 900 people have taken part in DOCC since 1997. Perhaps more than anything else,

the program has transformed the parish from a place where people experienced grand worship on Sunday to a place they could call home, while continuing to experience grand worship.

While we have no fee for DOCC, we are required to charge each participant \$75, which goes to the sponsor, St. Luke's Seminary at Sewanee. Let me know if you need financial assistance.

St. Alban's is limited to two groups that can take part in the 2006 Cathedral DOCC program and the groups are limited to 10 people each. This means we will only be able to include the first 20 who sign-up for DOCC and send in their money.

If you would like to learn more, contact Sandra Barker, at 202-362-2404, or at [SBarker948@aol.com](mailto:SBarker948@aol.com) or Margot Critchfield 202-363-8286, ext 202 [margotc@st-albans-parish.org](mailto:margotc@st-albans-parish.org)

# “You will deploy in 12 to 24 hours”

*Becky Parks, parishioner*

“You will deploy in 12 to 24 hours. If you do not have travel orders by 8 o’clock tomorrow morning, call this number.” The e-mail messages went on like this for more than a week after Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, to the point that I was lulled into believing that I wouldn’t be going anywhere.

When I got up at 4:30 on the morning of September 6 (eight days post-Katrina), I quickly checked my e-mail. There it was. I was to leave on a flight from Reagan National at 10 a.m. that day. I was grateful for having stayed more or less packed for the nine days since I was first alerted, so I only needed to add in a few last-minute items. I was on my way.

As a member of the 10-person FEMA Mental Health Team, I was deployed by the Public Health Service for nearly two weeks to Gulfport, Mississippi. We were to come together as a team of health professionals from as far away as Anchorage and Portland. Our missions involved helping to address the mental health needs of first responders, caregivers, and other professionals who carried the double burden of functioning in their daily roles while having sustained personal losses themselves during the storm.

The American Red Cross says in its disaster mental health training that the purpose of psychological support is to “help clients, workers and/or their family members manage their emotional responding during the course of the disaster and its aftermath.” The emphasis is on helping people to normalize their reactions and educating them so as to help them build on their own coping strategies (American Red

Cross Disaster Mental Health Practice Training Course).

Our days were filled with one-on-one conversations, one story after another of everything lost, family displaced. People again and again were more concerned about the losses of others than about their own: I often heard, “I am grateful I only lost my house. I still have my job.” Or, “My family is fine; seven of our relatives are sleeping on the floor of our living room, since the back bedroom was flooded when the roof was damaged.” Many said, “I feel guilty worrying about what I lost, since my coworkers lost much more.”

On September 11, our team was fortunate to have an opportunity to do an aerial survey of the area by helicopter. We went eastward from Gulfport to Ocean Springs, Mississippi, then back westward all the way to New Orleans. Along the way, we passed over many places whose names you’ve heard on the news: Biloxi, Bay St. Louis, Waveland, Pass Christian. For mile after mile we were stunned and then numbed by the sight of bare concrete foundations where there previously had been houses of all types. Foundations of small houses, large grand genteel family mansions, some concrete foundations with nothing left but swimming pools at their backs. The breadth and sheer repetitiveness of devastation was beyond what could be taken in, comprehended; I was physically exhausted by the end of the two-hour flight. Thirteen days after Katrina we witnessed flood water still up to the eaves of entire neighborhoods in New Orleans. Unnaturally quiet streets and highways made impassable by the flood.

I still think about one particular conversation almost every day, certainly

at least once a week. I was sitting in a quiet room at the administrative headquarters of a community mental health center in southeastern Mississippi. The director of a major part of their program was talking to me about his situation. “The clothes I have on today and one other outfit are all the clothes I have now. I am responsible for my 85-year-old mother, and during the storm I had to choose between an electric scooter I have and my mother’s wheelchair. I couldn’t manage moving both of them in those conditions.” I wanted badly to cry then, but he was doing that very openly for both of us.

In my life, I have often said, “There but for the grace of God go I.” I thought that many times in Gulfport. I also know that it was by God’s grace that I was given this opportunity to serve those affected by the storm. Before I deployed, I donated money to Episcopal Relief and Development; I gave a bit more to American Red Cross when I returned, because I was so impressed by the volume of good work

they were doing right before my eyes in the Gulfport area. Everywhere I went before I left Washington, I met people who wanted to help, who wanted to know how they, too, could have the chance I was getting to contribute to the lives of those so devastated by nature. I am very grateful to have been offered this moment to be present with the many people who trusted

me with their feelings, their losses. Many said that they, too, were grateful for someone outside their professional and family circles with whom to talk, as they dared not burden those close to them at work or home with the weight of their exhaustion and sadness.

*Thirteen days after Katrina we witnessed flood water still up to the eaves of entire neighborhoods in New Orleans.*

CAPT Rebecca A. Parks,  
MS, OTR/L, FAOTA  
Board Certified Pediatrics  
Board Certified Neurorehabilitation  
National Institutes of Health

# November Parish Forums

10:30 am Sundays, Satterlee Hall

## November 6th ~ John Peterson

“The Anglican Communion and Islam”

The Rev. Canon John Peterson, the first Canon for Global Justice and Reconciliation at Washington National Cathedral, will present the final talk in our series on Islam, addressing the question of how the Anglican Communion fits into the conversation between Christianity and Islam. Canon Peterson spent a decade as secretary general of the Communion, providing support and counsel to the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC), the Primates Meeting, the Lambeth Conference and the Archbishop of Canterbury. The secretary general also functions as one of the Communion's chief diplomats. Peterson accepted the position after 12 years as dean of St. George's College in Jerusalem.

## November 13th ~ Delegates to Diocesan Convention

“St. Alban’s at the Diocesan Convention”

This Q & A forum will be led by St. Alban's Diocesan Delegates Jane G. Schubert, Katie Wilson, Sandra Barker, and Bill Hall. They will explain their role as delegates, report on issues that have arisen at the Diocesan regional meetings, elicit input from the congregation about matters to be raised at the Convention, and answer questions. This is an especially

important Diocesan Convention, as it is the last before the General Convention of the whole Episcopal Church in 2006. It provides a good opportunity for our diocese to send word to the national Church about significant questions that we face.

## November 20th ~ Peter Cohen and Margot Critchfield

“Addiction and Recovery – Science and Spirituality”

Substance abuse affects millions of people in the United States without regard to age, gender, ethnicity, profession, or religion. The consensus of workers in the field is that it is a disease with associated, often pathologic, behavior. That behavior may be changed significantly by engaging in the 12 Step Program of Alcoholics Anonymous, which assists those who are dependent on drugs or alcohol to enter into recovery and to lead meaningful, transformed lives. This forum will discuss the scientific basis of addiction, stress that attaining recovery is possible, and describe the spiritual program that can bring the substance abusing individual into recovery. It will also consider what family members and friends can do to retain their own health and to assist the addicted person. Our speakers will be Peter J. Cohen, M.D., J.D., chair of the Physicians’ Health Committee of the D.C. Medical Society and member of the Lawyers’ Assistance Program of the D.C. Bar, and the Rev. Margot Critchfield, our associate rector.

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

The Statement of Ownership is published here only as a requirement of the U.S. Postal Service.

| 13. Publication Title<br>St. Alban's Chronicle                                                                                                                                                             |      | 14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below<br>September 1, 2005 |                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| 15. Extent and Nature of Circulation                                                                                                                                                                       |      | Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months       | No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date |
| a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)                                                                                                                                                                  |      | 2100                                                           | 2100                                                        |
| b. Paid and/or Requested Circulation                                                                                                                                                                       |      |                                                                |                                                             |
| (1) Paid (Include Paid Outside-County Mail Subscriptions Based on Form 3841. Exclude advertiser's proof and exchange copies)                                                                               | 1048 | 1048                                                           |                                                             |
| (2) Paid in-County Subscriptions Based on Form 3841 (Include advertiser's proof and exchange copies)                                                                                                       | 883  | 883                                                            |                                                             |
| (3) Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Non-USPS Paid Distribution                                                                                                | 0    | 0                                                              |                                                             |
| (4) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS                                                                                                                                                                  | 0    | 0                                                              |                                                             |
| c. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))                                                                                                                             |      | 1931                                                           | 1931                                                        |
| d. Free Distribution by Mail                                                                                                                                                                               |      |                                                                |                                                             |
| (1) Outside-County as Second-Class Matter (254)                                                                                                                                                            | 0    | 0                                                              |                                                             |
| (2) In-County as Second-Class Matter (254)                                                                                                                                                                 | 0    | 0                                                              |                                                             |
| (3) Other Classes Mailed Through the USPS                                                                                                                                                                  | 0    | 0                                                              |                                                             |
| e. Free Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)                                                                                                                                            |      | 199                                                            | 238                                                         |
| f. Total Free Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3), and (4))                                                                                                                                             |      | 199                                                            | 238                                                         |
| g. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15f)                                                                                                                                                                 |      | 2130                                                           | 2169                                                        |
| h. Copies not Distributed                                                                                                                                                                                  |      | 0                                                              | 0                                                           |
| i. Total (Sum of 15g and 15h)                                                                                                                                                                              |      | 2130                                                           | 2169                                                        |
| j. Percent Paid and/or Requested Circulation (15c divided by 15g times 100)                                                                                                                                |      | 100%                                                           | 100%                                                        |
| 16. Publication of Statement of Ownership<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Publication required. Notice printed in the issue of this publication. <input type="checkbox"/> Publication not required. |      |                                                                |                                                             |
| 17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner<br>_____<br>Director of Communications & Evangelism 09/01/05                                                                      |      |                                                                |                                                             |

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

### Instructions to Publishers

- Complete and file one copy of this form with your postmaster annually on or before October 1. Keep a copy of the completed form for your records.
- If owned wholly by the stockholder or security holder is a trustee, include in items 15 and 16 the name of the person or corporation for whom the trustee is acting. Also include the names and addresses of individuals who are stockholders who own or hold 1 percent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities of the publishing corporation. In item 17, if more, check the box. Use item sheets if more space is required.
- Be sure to furnish all circulation information called for in item 15. Free circulation must be shown in items 15d, e, and f.
- Item 15b, Copies not Distributed, must include (1) newspaper copies originally placed on Form 3841, and returned to the publisher; (2) estimated returns from news agents; and (3), copies for office use, leftovers, spoiled, and all other copies not distributed.
- If the publication had Periodicals authorization as a general or requester publication, this Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation must be published. It must be printed in any issue in October or, if the publication is not published during October, the first issue printed after October.
- In item 16, indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.
- Item 17 must be signed.  
Failure to file or publish a statement of ownership may lead to suspension of Periodicals authorization.

PS Form 3526, October 1999 (Revised)

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# The Kristallnacht Service

*Wednesday, November 9*

This year's Kristallnacht Commemoration service will be held at St. Alban's, on Wednesday, November 9th, at 7:30 pm

At last year's Kristallnacht service, the participants included both a survivor of the Holocaust and a survivor of the Rwandan genocide. This year, we will incorporate civilians from Darfur, who are currently experiencing their own horrific genocide.

The Interreligious Council will pay tribute to the memory of the victims of Kristallnacht, the Holocaust and Rwanda by considering the meaning of "Never again." Even though the tragedy of Darfur is occurring now, we have the opportunity to reflect upon and give meaning to the pledge of "Never again." In this light, the Kristallnacht Service will serve as a special guide for our prayers and remembrances, combining the music and litanies of various religious traditions into one liturgy. The service strives to be moving and joyful, as we keep alive the faith and hope that is so integral to being human.

Please join the Interreligious Council for this year's special service. We look forward to having you there.

# Help the Homeless Walkathon

*Saturday, November 19*

Thanks to everyone who participated in the annual Help the Homeless mini-walk at St. Alban's on October 16. If you couldn't join in or if you thought the walk was just too short, how about taking part

in the upcoming Help the Homeless walkathon on the National Mall?

The "big walk" is set for Saturday, November 19 beginning at 9:00 am. It starts in front of the National History Museum, goes around the Tidal Basin and back to the mall. Hundreds of people walk every year to help the thousands of people in our area who are homeless. Bishop Chane is one of them, and the walkathon is on his schedule again this year.

If you'd like to walk with others from St. Alban's or if you can help organize a Parish team, contact our parish representatives to Samaritan Ministry, Dee Dykstra 703-971-5795, [d2b2dc@msn.com](mailto:d2b2dc@msn.com) or Deborah Potter [potterwitten@comcast.net](mailto:potterwitten@comcast.net), 301-652-6066. More information about the walkathon is available online at: [www.helpthehomelessdc.org](http://www.helpthehomelessdc.org)

# Thanksgiving Day Community Dinner

*Thursday, November 24, noon*

Once again St. Albans Parish, the Church of the Annunciation, and the Washington Hebrew Congregation will sponsor a Thanksgiving dinner for residents of the neighborhood who otherwise might be alone. This year the dinner is at the Church of the Annunciation, on Massachusetts Avenue a few hundred yards northwest of Wisconsin Avenue. There will be a reception at noon, and the dinner will be at 12:30. If you would like to be a guest at the dinner, call the Parish Office 202-363-8286, and ask that your name be put on the list.

We need volunteers to provide food and to help with the dinner on November 24. Sign up to bring a

turkey, pie, vegetables, or whatever. Also sign up to cook, to serve, or to help with cleanup. Sign up sheets will be in the narthex after Sunday services until the Sundays before Thanksgiving.

This has always been a very enjoyable event, both for the guests and for the members of the three congregations that cooperate in putting it on. Please help us make it a success again this year. If you have questions, call Bob Dunn at 301-654-2184.

*Advent begins  
Sunday, November 27th*

# Advent Wreath-Making

*Sunday, November 27, 4 pm*

On the first Sunday of Advent, November 27, join fellow wreath-makers to create your own Advent wreath and to sing songs of the season. This is a special opportunity for lively fellowship and preparation for Advent. There are many opportunities to help plan the event or to assist with set up or clean up. Contact: Kathy Fox 202-337-4445 (h), 202-637-5453 (w), [kafox@hhlaw.com](mailto:kafox@hhlaw.com)

# Advent Silent Retreat

*December 2, 3 and 4, 2005*

This retreat offers the opportunity for spiritual renewal and grounding for the season of Advent, in the serenity of the beach in winter. Led by the Rev. Margot Critchfield at the Felix Dupont Memorial House in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. Contact: the Rev. Margot Critchfield 202-363-8286 ext 202, [MargotC@st-albans-parish.org](mailto:MargotC@st-albans-parish.org)

# Vestry approves building plan

Jon Sawyer, Vestry member

On October 9, the Vestry approved the building plans that were presented at the Parish Forum on September 25. One vote was cast in opposition, acknowledging the concerns of parishioners about changes from the initial plans for Nourse Hall and the Narthex approved several years ago.

Vestry members reported that response from the Parish overall had been strongly positive to the new plans, presented by Building Committee Chair Doug Lapp and architect Michael Foster of MTFA. Noted, in particular, was the architects' success in meeting the challenge of improved circulation between the Narthex and Nourse Hall, and better use of downstairs meeting space—all within the constraints of a smaller overall budget than originally envisioned and the demands of replacing the building's heating and ventilation systems.

The Vestry acknowledged the work not only of the current Building Committee but also the West End Committee. The West End Committee developed the long-range plan to make St. Alban's a more welcoming place. All of us who worship at St. Alban's are grateful for their work as we now begin to *build* on their vision.

We also appreciate the many creative suggestions we have received for improvements in the plan. The suggestions that have come in so far will be considered by the architects and the Building Committee. We hope parishioners keep the ideas coming, by e-mail or in conversation with members of the Vestry or Building Committee.

The building project now moves to the stage of detailed drawings and permitting, with construction scheduled to begin after Easter. The building plans, with detailed drawings and financial data, are available for viewing on the Parish web site, [www.AlbansDC.org](http://www.AlbansDC.org). Copies of the plans can also be obtained from church staff or from members of the Vestry.

## Special Music on All Souls' Day

There will be special music at both the 9:15 and 11:15 services on Sunday, November 13, in commemoration of All Souls' Day. Following the reading of the necrology at the 9:15 am service, the Parish Choir will sing the *Small Requiem* by the contemporary American composer Daniel Pinkham, with string quartet accompaniment. Pinkham took inspiration for his work from the *Requiem* of Gabriel Fauré, though casting it in a newer harmonic language.

At the 11:15 am service, the Senior Choir will sing a portion of Elgar's *Dream of Gerontius* as an extended anthem at the Offertory.

You just may want to attend both the 9:15 and 11:15 am services.

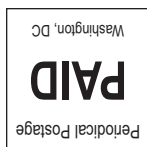
Submit articles for the *Chronicle* to: [JaneV@st-albans-parish.org](mailto:JaneV@st-albans-parish.org)

Articles for the November 15, 2005 *Chronicle* must be received by November 1, 2005

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

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