

St. Alban's Chronicle

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

May 1, 2006

Invite a friend, Bring a neighbor, Welcome a stranger

The 11:15 service was about to begin, the choir and clergy rustled about in the narthex, candles were lit and the growing congregation were easing in after an informative hour at another informative forum. The tranquil sanctuary was filled with the soft sounds of Mozart beautifully performed by four parishioners. A parish church in transition.

As I sat, eyes closed, enjoying all the sights and sounds of St. Alban's, I felt a tap on my shoulder and opened my eyes to the very happy smile of a coworker from my real estate office. My friend Caroline, a life long Episcopalian, is one of our churches newest members—very happy and thankful to have found, or re-found, a church to call home. None of us has to look far in our secular life to find someone we know who longs for things that we almost take for granted.

Whether this friend is disappointed with their current Episcopal church, disenfranchised from another faith, obsessed with Russert, Stephanopolis, and Scheafer or just generally skeptical about church, St. Alban's could be what is missing in their lives. People long for what we have in abundance – for community, for spiritual support, for knowledge about church and the world. They want a place where their children can grow in safety and their parents can age with dignity. A place where God's beauty comes alive in the beauty of the many voices of our talented choirs. A place where God's wisdom is exalted from the pulpit and where God's spirit lives in the pews and in our lives.

It was a little over a year ago, that we began our journey in the wilderness of uncertainty and unknown. Clergy coming — Clergy going. The face of our future is yet unknown. This summer our beloved Interim Rector, Carlyle Gill will take her much deserved retirement and her successor has yet to be chosen. Her leadership has been instrumental in keeping our ship on a steady course.

The new Rector is still unknown as I write these words. What we do know, however, is even in transition St. Alban's has thrived. St. Alban's has lost and will lose more extraordinary clergy than most churches could ever have hoped to attract. Carlyle and Frank and those that came before them are not only our spiritual leaders, but a reflection of the parish they have served so wonderfully. Not worries. So invite a friend to our church and welcome them home.

Chris Larsen, Vestry Member

To note

Sunday Parish Forum Schedule

- May 7 Annual Parish Meeting at 12:30 pm *No forum.*
- May 14 Youth Sunday reception. *No forum.*
- May 21 TBA
- May 28 Fellowship Sunday. *No forum.*

St. Alban's Weekend

St. Alban's Weekend, June 17-18, to celebrate our history, our stories, ourselves, our patron – and to have lots of fun!

Vacation Bible School

"Holy Land Adventure" begins on Monday, July 17 through Friday, July 21, meeting each day from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.



Cat Foster-Parent needed

While parishioner Gwen Kelso continues her recovery from surgery and chemotherapy, a foster parent is needed for her 17-year-old cat Ami. If you can foster Ami for about four weeks, contact Sandi O'Neil 202-244-6139 or Pat Petrash 202-244-2171.



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, Associate 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 Subbayya 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;
Bill Bond, 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,
Mary Jane Shackelford, 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

Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) voter education campaign seeks your participation

Members of the St. Alban's Washington Interfaith Network (WIN) Team continue their commitment to the goals of creating educational, economic and social opportunities for the less advantaged in DC neighborhoods, so that fewer people in our communities end up in prison or abandoned on the street.

At a recent WIN meeting, we heard about WIN's success in: undertaking local actions to prevent evictions of low-income tenants during condominium conversions in Wards 1 and 4; addressing housing code violations, the lack of school crossing guards, and necessary repairs to libraries and recreation centers in Wards 7 and 8; and pressing for the reform of DC's Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs' housing code inspection program.

On April 4, WIN participants attended a hearing of the DC City Council, that unanimously appropriated the first \$20 million of the \$100 million Neighborhood Investment Fund that WIN persuaded the Council to create to revitalize 12 DC neighborhoods where WIN-member congregations are central institutions. With the important Mayoral and City Council elections in September and November, WIN is now preparing for its "Get out the Voters Campaign" in designated precincts throughout the city. This campaign will be inaugurated with a Candidate Accountability Night on Monday May 22. All mayoral and possibly Council Chair candidates will be invited to attend and tell us about their platforms for making DC a better place to live for all its citizens.

In June, July and September St. Alban's WIN team members will join with members of our partner churches in Anacostia, St. Teresa de Avila and Anacostia Bible Church, in going door to door to encourage citizens to register to vote and then vote on Election Day. WIN does not endorse any particular candidate. Rather it helps identify common public needs and concerns in disadvantaged DC neighborhoods and enables citizens to evaluate the candidates' responsiveness to those needs and concerns.

St. Alban's WIN team carpools to all WIN meetings leaving from St. Alban's, all are invited to join us at our next meeting on May 22. If you are interested or would like more information, call Clem Dinsmore, Elinor Constable, Helma Lanyi, Lacey Gude, Barbara Conyers, or Ginny Bergen.

We invite St. Albanites to join the WIN team.

Healing in Community

A study series of discernment for a call to the Healing Ministry

St. Alban's Healing Ministry will offer a study group for anyone interested in investigating a call to participate in the St. Alban's Healing Ministry as it exists today or as it may be led to grow and change. The seven-session study group will use *Stretch Out Your Hand: Exploring Healing Prayer*, by Tilda Norberg and Robert D. Webber and will be facilitated by Elizabeth Fisher and Margaret Whilden. Meetings will last about two hours, from 12:45-2:30 pm, to begin on Sunday, April 30, and conclude on Sunday, June 11. The first meeting will be an introduction and orientation, as well as an opportunity for those who do not have the book to purchase it; the next six meetings will cover the six chapters of the book.

For further information call or email Elizabeth Fisher 202-223-3493, eaf@gwu.edu or Margaret Whilden 202-237-5679, mx2whilden@earthlink.net

Women's Voices of St. Alban's at the Cathedral

Women's Voices of St. Alban's will sing the choral prelude to Evensong on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14 at Washington National Cathedral, 3:30 pm. This six voice a cappella group will sing music from the 13th century to the present, including arrangements of Shaker and Sacred Harp traditional tunes. All are welcome—Bring your mom. Evensong, sung by the Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys will follow.

Easter flowers

This year's Easter flowers were spectacular thanks to the Flower Guild, Flower Memorial Coordinator Adelaide Brown, and to you—all of you who contributed in memorium or thanksgiving of loved ones. If you made a contribution but have not yet send in your check, please be sure you mail your payment, made out to St. Alban's Parish, to :

Carl Ackerman
4000 Cathedral Ave. NW, #654B
Washington, DC 20016

Summer *Chronicle* schedule

During the summer, the *Chronicle* will be published once each month, on June 15, July 15 and August 15. The deadline for articles is the 1st of each month. E-mail articles to JaneV@st-albans-parish.org

Save the date

June 17-18, St. Alban's Weekend

Instead of St. Alban's Day we are doing St. Alban's Weekend to celebrate our history, our stories, ourselves, our patron – and to have lots of fun!

On Saturday, June 17 we will gather to tell our stories – to hear from those who were here when Dr. Warner was Rector and when Dr. Klomen was

Rector and when Bishop Eastman was Rector and when Dr. Wade was Rector. Who were we when we came to St. Alban's? Why did we come? Why did we stay? What has happened to us here? This is a special place to all of us. We will gather to hear why.

On Saturday, June 17 we will have a BIG party. We are due a party after over a year of searching for a new rector and planning for building renovation among everything else.

On Sunday, June 18 we will have a combined service at 10:30 a.m. and a picnic following.

So, SAVE THE DATE!

Celebrating our Youth

Every Sunday is Youth Sunday at St. Alban's, but May 14th is set apart especially to celebrate their gifts. No matter which service you attend on Sunday, you will be treated to an insider's view of their hearts and souls. A graduating senior will preach at all services. Our youth groups will write the Collect of the Day, the Prayers of the People, and select the hymns. Our Church School will bake the communion bread and prepare a bulletin cover. Children's Chapel participants will sing at the 9:15 am service. And our experienced youth ushers and acolytes will lead those parts of our worship.

Then, after the 9:15 service, you will have the opportunity to greet our seniors in Trenbath Assembly and experience some of the more innovative teaching techniques we use in our Church School. Don't worry, you won't need a smock, but come see how our children and youth are growing into the full stature of Christ.

Actors Needed...

...and carpenters, basket weavers, and cooks for Holy Land Adventure, our Vacation Bible School. Set for the evenings of July 17 through 21, VBS will create a first-century village and marketplace. Participants will gather in tribal families to explore Jewish family prayer, and then enter the Marketplace. There, shopkeepers will offer a variety of activities, and participants may move between shops, games and the storyteller's tent.

The drama will emerge from the marketplace. For example, there might be a blind beggar one day, who is pleading for help from passersby. His attention will turn to Jesus when he enters with his followers. Jesus will, of course, heal the man, and then tell a story to the crowd. Haven't you always wanted to be a stern Roman soldier? Or perhaps a prophet? How about a disciple? There are roles for all ages, for as many nights as you're available, dinner included!

Holy Land Adventure

Special events will include a petting zoo, a visit to a nearby temple, and Jewish folk dancing. It is our hope that we will be better able to imagine the settings for the



Gospels, and to experience them from a fresh perspective. VBS has a tradition of outrageous fellowship at St. Alban's, and we hope that this year will be no exception. All ages are welcome, as the line between participants and helpers in a fine one. We're saving you a spot!

For more information, to volunteer, or to register, please contact Kristie Hassett at krhassett@starpower.net or 202-338-3375, Maria Bowles at mgbowles@starpower.net or 202-537-0718 and Day Dodson at DayD@st-albans-parish.org or 202-363-8286.

St. Alban's Parish Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 7 at 12:30 pm, Satterlee Hall

Agenda

Lunch ~ Provided by the friends of the Africa Round Table.

Call to Order/Voting for Vestry and Diocesan Delegates closes

Opening Prayer

State of the Parish: The Rev. J. Carlyle Gill, Interim Rector

State of the Parish: Gordon Avery, Senior Warden

Q&A with Rector and Leaders

Election Results

Closing Prayer

Organizational meeting for continuing and newly-elected Vestry members

This meeting will be brief, gather near the podium immediately following the closing prayer.

This year's annual meeting and election is significant in that the new Vestry will be in place when the Search Committee presents to Vestry members the candidate or slate of candidates from which the Vestry will select our new rector. In addition, our historic record will note this as the last annual meeting for our Interim Rector, the Rev. J. Carlyle Gill. Carlyle will retire just prior to the new Rector's arrival.

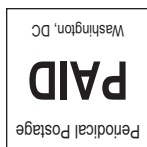
Submit articles for the *Chronicle* to: JaneV@st-albans-parish.org

Articles for the May 15, 2006 *Chronicle* must be received by May 1, 2006

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



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The logo for St. Alban's Chronicle, featuring the word "Chronicle" in a large, stylized, serif font. To its right, "St. Alban's" is written in a smaller, simpler font.