

St. Alban's Chronicle

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

March 2008

Holy Week—Easter

Palm Sunday (Passion Sunday)—March 16

- 7:30 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

Maundy Thursday—March 20

- 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Dinner
- 7:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with music

Good Friday—March 21

- 11 am Stations of the Cross (on grounds)
- Noon–3 pm The Way of the Cross: Liturgy of Good Friday with Holy Eucharist
- 4 pm Stations of the Cross (on grounds)
- 6:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Holy Saturday—March 22

- 10 am Liturgy of Holy Saturday
- 8 pm Great Vigil of Easter: Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Holy Baptism
The Easter Vigil retells the story of salvation from creation to resurrection. In the early church, Easter marked a time of baptisms, and we will be faithful to that tradition. The service will begin outside with the lighting of the Paschal Candle and procession into the church. This is the first Eucharist of Easter, so bring a bell to welcome the return of the glad Alleluias.

Easter Sunday—March 23

Festival Celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord

- 7:30 am* Holy Eucharist, Rite I, with music
- 9:15 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
- 11:15 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
- 5:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with music

* Note the earlier time of this service.

Are you missing out?

Beginning February 6 we began emailing to the parish membership a new offering entitled *A Daily Cup of Good News from the St. Alban's Café*. *A Daily Cup* contains a brief personal reflection for the day composed by one of our clergy or the music director. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. Each daily message provides a special insight into the interests and needs of both the St. Alban's community and the Episcopal community at large. If you do not already receive *A Daily Cup* and would like to, send an email to ronh@st-albans-parish.org with "subscribe" in the subject line and we will be happy to add you to the list.



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 SCHEDULE AT ST. ALBAN'S

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 9:15 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
 9:15 am Children's Chapel
 9:15 am Teen Service / Holy Eucharist
 11:15 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
 5:30 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II

MONDAY

12:05 pm Noonday Prayer

TUESDAY

7:30 am Holy Eucharist
 12:05 pm Noonday Prayer

WEDNESDAY

12:05 pm Healing Eucharist

THURSDAY

12:05 pm Noonday Prayer

FRIDAY

12:05 pm Noonday Prayer

CLERGY

The Reverend Scott A. Benhase, Rector
 The Reverend Erin Hensley, Assistant Rector for Youth & Young Adult Ministries
 The Reverend Timothy A. Boggs, Assistant Rector for Stewardship & Outreach Ministries
 The Reverend Harriette Sturges, Deacon, Coordinator of Children's Ministries
 The Reverend Lukas Ketenda
 The Reverend Loren B. Mead, Honorary Associate

EPISCOPAL CAMPUS MINISTRIES

Carolyn Seaton, Chaplain, American University

PARISH STAFF

Shirley Dickey, Receptionist
 Eric Gustafson, Parish Administrator
 Ron Hicks, Parish Verger
 Vilma Smith, Director of Financial Affairs
 Sonya Subbayya Sutton, Director of Music
 Marcia Welch, Communications Coordinator
 Dr. Norman Scribner, Director of Music Emeritus

VESTRY OFFICERS

Kate Bouvé, Senior Warden; Jim Sotile, Junior Warden; Andrea Farr, Secretary; Christopher Holmes, Treasurer

VESTRY MEMBERS

Nathalie Bramson; Bill Edgar; Marc Fetterman; Kammie Hedges; Keith Jones; Dani Kauffman; Sam Lewis; Susan Morris; Jon Sawyer; Mark Shima; Bob Witten; Bob Woolfolk
 Chase Felker and Colin Mahaffey, Youth Representatives
 Mary Jane Shackelford, WSA Board Representative

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
 Web site: www.AlbansDC.org

Pastoral Care at St. Alban's

Pastoral care is how the Christian community cares for one another. At St. Alban's Parish we have an interconnected web of pastoral care for one another. This web includes: the parish clergy, Stephen Ministers, Healing Ministers, Eucharistic Visitors, and our Prayer Chain. In times of medical or other crisis, please contact the parish office as soon as possible. One of the parish clergy will come to the hospital or meet with you where you are to listen to your concerns and pray with you.

The clergy will also offer you the ministry of one of our trained Stephen Ministers who are skilled, confidential caregivers. Stephen Ministers can walk with you through your time of trial and provide a deep spiritual friendship while you are in need. If you or a loved cannot be present for the Eucharist on Sunday,

please contact the Reverend Harriette Sturges in the parish office. Harriette will make sure that a Eucharistic Visitor comes to your hospital room or your home so that you can receive the sacrament. We also have a network of prayer through our Prayer Chain. Members of the Prayer Chain will pray for you or your loved one's needs in time of crisis.

Our parish pastoral care is greatly dependent on our communication with one another. We cannot care for one another unless we know who is in need of care. Please never assume that the parish clergy know of particular pastoral needs in our parish family. St Alban's is a diverse parish spread across two states and the District of Columbia. Our Pastoral leaders can only know when you make them aware of the need. Feel free to call on them anytime.

Café St. Alban's

- WHO** St. Alban's J2A
- WHAT** waffles, hash browns, applesauce, coffee, juice, and more
- WHEN** Palm Sunday, March 16, after morning services
- WHERE** Satterlee Hall
- WHY** Proceeds will support the J2A's Celtic pilgrimage in the summer of 2009
- COST** No cost for the meal; donations are most welcome

The J2A group thanks you for your generosity during the chili fundraiser and hopes that you will join them for breakfast on Palm Sunday.

Celebrating Manhood & Womanhood: Preparing for the Rite 13 Liturgy

Every year St. Alban's Parish celebrates the *Rite 13 Liturgy: A Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood*. This year we will celebrate the Rite 13 liturgy on Sunday, April 27, during the 9:15 am Holy Eucharist. This liturgy celebrates the gift of manhood and womanhood as a gift from God. We also charge the congregation and the teens' peers to faithfully support these young people. And we pray for parents that "they may support their sons and daughters as they begin the journey toward adulthood" and acknowledge that the parents "can neither walk their road for them nor shield them from pain."

This liturgy marks an important rite of passage as teens begin their Journey to Adulthood.

A Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood is part of the larger goals of Rite 13, which are to:

- ◆ affirm their creative energy,
- ◆ explore the thoughts and disciplines that allow them to effect change, and
- ◆ teach the principles of freedom, responsibility, and friendship.

These goals are critical for equipping our youth with what they need to live out their faith as future adults. These young people, like everyone else, are invaluable parts of our life together.

In support of our young people's upcoming Rite 13, please pray for the group and their parents. Also, mark your calendars for the Sunday, April 27, celebration. Last but definitely not least, send a sentence or two containing words of wisdom for the teens who will celebrate this important rite of passage to the Reverend Erin Hensley (erinh@st-albans-parish.org, or via snail mail to the parish office at 3001 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20016) by April 1. Erin will gather the words and cite their authors in a booklet to present to the teens at the liturgy.

Claiming Your Ministry: A Commitment to Christian Ministry

This year on April 6 during the 9:15 am Eucharist, our Senior Youth will participate in the *Claiming Your Ministry* rite. This liturgy is part of the Journey to Adulthood curriculum, but has not yet been practiced at St. Alban's Parish. During their Rite 13 years, these teens worked on understanding and building Christian community. In the second two-year section, they focused on adulthood skills and a pilgrimage. Now in their final two years as Senior Youth, they are focusing on mission, ministry and beliefs. In this rite, the teens name the ministries they feel called to explore with the help of a ministry mentor, a wise adult who will serve with them and help them reflect on their service. In this liturgy the celebrant receives the Senior Youth "as

young adults, ready to represent Christ and his Church, to bear witness to him, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world and to take [their] place in the life, worship and governance of the church." Then their mentors' name the ministries to which the teens feel called. The teens themselves then offer symbols of their pledge of time, talent, and treasure in their chosen ministry. Finally, the congregation bears witness to the youth's commitment and vows to support them in their service.

With the help of Senior Youth leaders Emma Wilson and Emily Cherry, the youth have been preparing for this liturgy in numerous ways. They have studied our church's understanding of ministry and vocation. They are cur-

rently working on discernment for their particular ministries as well as their mission trip in 2009. Teens used the 2007 Time and Talent Pledge to help them review all the ministry opportunities that are available at St. Alban's. Earlier this year, Helma Lanyi joined the class to talk about her ministry of peacemaking, George Keys shared his experience on the Overseas Mission Committee, and Liz Leland reflected with them on her altar guild and flower guild service. Emma and Emily will continue to arrange visits with other adult ministry leaders. Please join the Youth Ministry Committee in praying for our youth as they discern and explore their ministries in the church and the world.

St. Alban's Vestry Nominations

Information on the Process – and the Job

At the annual meeting this May the parish will elect four new members of the Vestry and two new delegates to the Diocese of Washington. We hope you will give serious and prayerful consideration to standing for one of these vital positions.

The Vestry is the governing body elected to represent the people of St. Alban's. Our Vestry is made up of 12 parish members, the Senior and Junior Warden and the Rector. The Wardens and Vestry members serve three-year terms of office. Diocesan delegates represent our parish at all Diocesan Conventions, advise the Vestry and parish of all resolutions to be taken up at each Convention, seek advice from the Vestry and parish as to positions that might be taken, and report back to us after the Convention.

A nominating committee led by outgoing Vestry members is conducting the search for candidates. Candidacy is open to all eligible (baptized and at least 21 years of age) members of the parish. Solicitation of potential candidates will take place in early March.

Those who have served in the past have found the experience extremely rewarding. To find out more or to explore your interest, contact any member of the Nominating Committee:

Susan Morris 301-718-9379 srm3108@aol.com
Jon Sawyer 202-362-4924 jonsawyer@comcast.net
Mark Shima 202-966-0464 mshima@csc.com
Bob Smith 703-734-1978 didiandbob@aol.com
Bob Witten 301-652-6066 potterwitten@comcast.net

As you think about the blessing of new opportunities for service – and about the skills, talent and energy needed for this important work – the following guidance may be helpful:

What you can expect of the Vestry:

- At least one meeting each month. The usual meeting time is the third Tuesday of each month, starting with dinner at 6 pm. Most meetings end before 9 pm.
- Prompt notification of additional meetings or requirements

- Pertinent materials provided ahead of meetings – by email and by the Vestry packets in the narthex on the Sunday before meetings
- Respect for different points of view
- The opportunity to learn and serve
- A lot of hard work
- Your very own Vestry member badge!

What the Vestry expects of members:

- Your presence at the Parish Planning Retreat on May 30 – June 1
- Adjusting priorities to ensure regular meeting attendance for three years
- Preparation for meetings through reading materials
- Respect for group process: While expressing differing opinions, Vestry members must listen and work together to find common ground.
- Service on standing or ad hoc committees, using your skills and experience
- Serving as a liaison to designated parish ministries and programs
- Participation in St. Alban's hospitality via welcoming telephone calls and attendance at newcomer dinners
- Pledging
- Active participation in the annual pledge campaign
- Promoting visibility of the Vestry through your increased attendance at a broad spectrum of St. Alban's events – and occasional attendance at different worship services than you normally attend
- Serving informally as greeter before and after worship services
- In all public discussions, presenting St. Alban's, its leadership and processes with confidence and faith

Martin Luther King Forum: A Prophets' Challenge To Christians

by John Buchanan

The Reverend Dr. Robert Edgar, former Executive Secretary of the National Council of Churches and present President of Common Cause, began by sharing the impact of Martin Luther King upon his own life. As a young student in 1967 he was invited to attend an event at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church to hear about the Vietnam war and the problems of human poverty. Outside the church, pro-war protestors were picketing, one carrying a sign "Kill a Commie for Christ's Sake."

The keynote speaker was Martin Luther King, Jr., his topic: "Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community." Dr. King challenged his hearers to become the faithful remnant that dares to act, even attempting that which seems impossible toward peace on earth and the elimination of injustice and human poverty. "Today is the time," he said, "Later will be too late. We must choose between chaos and community."

With humor, eloquence and passion King raised the questions Why war? Why poverty and human hunger? Why injustice? Edgar added: Why children without health care, even in the wealthiest country on earth, here and now?

Young Edgar became one of the millions of people who responded to God's call through the lips and the life of His 20th century prophet, Martin Luther King, Jr. Bob went on to become a community organizer, chaplain, church pastor, six-term Member of Congress, Seminary President and national religious leader. His life is making a difference in his time as each of ours can if we hear God's call and answer it.

Bob Edgar reminded us of the revolutionary way of life Jesus laid before his followers of every age in the Beatitudes listed in His sermon on the mount. He asked his hearers what we would add as Beatitudes for our time. Some of the answers in response: "Blessed are:

The protestors; the honest; those who stand against torture; those who open doors and receive strangers; those who are color blind; children, for they are our future."

Bob also added his own suggestions:

1. Blessed are the faithful risk-takers.
2. Blessed are the courageous remnant.
3. Blessed are those who love the stranger.
4. Blessed are those who read the whole Bible.
5. Blessed are the faithful voters.
6. Blessed are those who challenge us to work for justice.
7. Blessed are those with a sense of humor and a sense of hope.

As in his book, *Middle Church [Reclaiming the Moral Values of the Faithful Majority from the Religious Right.]*, Edgar noted that vast majority of American believers who are not represented by the "moral" or "Christian" political agenda of the far right in its defining such positions as opposition to homosexuality, stem cell research and abortion as the central spiritual and moral issues for true believers. He called for believers to turn instead to the central issues stressed in the Bible itself, where, for example, a handful of words from Leviticus and the Apostle Paul mention homosexuality, while there are hundreds of words admonishing us to show compassion for the poor, and to act to end human hunger. He called for Christians, Jews and Muslims, as they did in the Civil Rights movement of the 20th century to join hands and strive together for peace and justice and toward meeting the human need all around us here and now.

Edgar's message, echoing King, who was echoing Jesus, is simple, strong and clear: This is our time. God is calling. We, too, can make a difference, if we will.

Hope for Recovery 12 Step Eucharist

This month's 12 Step Eucharist will be held Wednesday, March 5 at 7:30 pm. The sermon will focus on the Sixth Step of Alcoholics Anonymous as it relates to the Gospel reading:

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

The key to Step 6 is acceptance—accepting character defects exactly as they are and the willingness to let them go. We hope you'll join us.—Hope for Recovery Team

Contact: Sally Craig
202-362-7192

Easter memorial flowers

Remember a loved one with an Easter flower memorial. To contribute, contact Adelaide Brown at 703-845-7975 by Monday, March 10.

St. Alban's Parish Planning Retreat

What do we want St. Alban's to look like and be like in five years? What will it take to achieve that vision?

A group of parishioners will work to answer those questions at a weekend long event where they will create a 5-year plan for St. Alban's. It's an opportunity to pool our creativity, share our hopes and dreams for the future of St. Alban's, and set clear, measurable goals.

The event will take place at St. Alban's:

Friday, May 30 from 7–10 pm

Saturday, May 31 from 9 am–5 pm

Sunday, June 1 from noon–5 pm

This is a significant time commitment and participants need to be present for the entire event. Participants will include wardens, vestry and diocesan delegates; leaders of parish ministries; and other parishioners representing all aspects of our diverse community. Approximately 60 parishioners will be invited with the expectation that only about 40 will be able to participate. In addition, clergy and some lay staff will be present. The retreat will be guided by a facilitator, Royster Hedgepeth. He has extensive experience in strategic planning and turning plans into action.

By the end of the weekend, the objective is to have consensus goals for the next five years that every participant can fully support and communicate to the rest of the parish with enthusiasm. To accomplish this, participants will have to do their homework before the retreat. They'll need to become more familiar with the challenges that face St. Alban's. They'll need to gather ideas and aspirations from the parishioners they will represent. They'll need to prayerfully prepare to create the way forward for our parish.

The Parish Planning Retreat is being planned by Vestry members Jon Sawyer, Sam Lewis, Dani Kauffman, and Nathalie Bramson and Senior Warden Kate Bouvé. Please contact them to share your vision for St. Alban's future. Stay tuned for more information about the Parish Planning Retreat including the Forum on March 30.

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Sam sixtymeter@aol.com, 703-448-1997

Dani danette_kauffman@fanniema.com, 202-362-8381

Nathalie nathaliehb@mac.com, 301-657-3324

Kate kgsbouve@starpower.net, 301-654-0424

Holy Week & Easter Music: March 16–23

With a raucous beginning—tambourines and tuba, voices and bells—we become the “dizzy, cheering, chanting crowd” that welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. Following the reading of the Passion, we are sent back into the world, part of the angry crowd that called for Jesus’ crucifixion.

The story continues to unfold on Maundy Thursday, when we become disciples, joining together for a meal, footwashing, eucharist and vigil in the garden. Congregational singing of simple Taizé chants provides moments of meditation, and a cantor leads psalms and service music.

On Good Friday, the Three Hours service begins at noon with anthems sung by the Alban Singers and congregational hymns appropriate for the day. In the second hour, Pergolesi’s exquisite setting of the 14th century poem *Stabat Mater* paints for us Mary’s suffering as she stands at the foot of the cross. Mary Shaffran and Sarah Frook are joined by a small instrumental ensemble for this intimate

and ultimately glorious work. In the third hour, a men’s chorus will sing the world premiere of a setting of the three Good Friday Anthems from the Good Friday Liturgy by our own David Caleb.

The evening service at 6:30 pm will also be the Liturgy for Good Friday. A cantor will lead us in meditative music as we hear again the Passion narrative and have Holy Communion from the reserved Sacrament.

The Easter Vigil on Saturday begins in darkness, and as the Book of Common Prayer states, the Exsultet (or “Easter Proclamation”) is sung by a deacon. Canticles and hymns are sung to reflect further on the readings, and following baptisms we begin the first Eucharist of Easter with traditional hymns and celebratory anthems sung by the Canterbury Choir.

We’ll celebrate Easter Sunday in full form, with brass quartet and timpani. The Canterbury Choir at 9:15 and Alban Singers and Salisbury Choir at 11:15 will sing music of Gabrieli, Willan and Victoria, among others.

St. Alban’s Hosts Event on the Importance of Early Childhood Education in DC *Annual Meeting Hosts National Première Specialists*

At the end of January the St. Alban’s Early Childhood Center (SAECC) hosted their annual meeting and proved to be a testament to the program’s quality through its speakers and its participants. In addition to reporting the state of the center and announcing slate elections of the directors, the event hosted two of the most well-regarded early childhood advocates in all of Washington and was attended by anxious parents, media outlets, educational experts and authors, and parishioners and community at large.

St. Alban’s Board President and Parishioner, Eve Zartman-Ball, proudly stated that “DC is really starting to take education seriously, realizing it is an essential element of a viable city. We were here long before the term ‘early childhood education’ was mainstream and a great deal can be learned from DC survivor programs like SAECC who have quietly and consistently produced a solid starting ground for thousands of children across the city for generations.”

The first speaker at the event was Craig Ramey, PhD, who is the Director of the Center for Health and Education at Georgetown University. Over the past 30 years he and his wife have conducted research involving 14,000 children and families in over 40 states. He has authored more than 225 publications (including 5 books) and is a consultant with governmental and private organizations as well as news agencies. They currently oversee multi-million dollar research portfolios and work on grants from NIH and have earned many prestigious awards.

Following Dr. Ramsey’s presentation was the recently appointed Deborah Gist, the State Superintendent of Education for the District of Columbia. Ms. Gist has evolved her career from school teacher, designer of service programs for city and national levels to (most recently) Serve DC, where she was Executive Director. All of the local DC Board of Superintendents and their staffs who were present engaged in active Q&A discussions during and after the presentations, which helped parents navigate the intricacies of deadlines, borders and choosing the right schools for their children.

see SAECC page 9

Forgiveness: Three Thursday Evenings in Lent

A Parish Program for All Ages

February 28, March 6 & March 13, 6-8 pm

On three Thursday evenings in Lent you and yours of all ages are invited to a special time of fellowship, conversation and focus on *Forgiveness*, that gift of God that restores, rebuilds and joyfully brings God and God's people into relationship.

The plan is for all ages to gather in Satterlee Hall for a simple, common supper of soup and salad at six o'clock. Following our meal, adults will remain for their conversation, while children will explore forgiveness with The Reverend Harriette Sturges in a focused and stimulating time together. Similarly, The Reverend Erin Hensley will gather with youth in the Rectory for their program. Also, nursery care for infants and toddlers will be provided if requested. We will all return for a closing prayer together and conclude at eight o'clock each Thursday evening.

We offer this Lenten program understanding that forgiveness is not some virtue we are to add to our to-do list. Forgiveness is not to be seen as a further burden we should take on to be good Christians. No, we offer this Lenten program from an understanding that forgiveness is a gift from God. Forgiveness is good news and an essential basis of the dynamic relationships we are invited into with God and each other. There can be no such healthy or faithful relationships without the active seeking, acceptance and giving of forgiveness.

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive?"—Matthew 18:21

Forgiveness is the accepting of God's vision of the other and ourselves. When we forgive someone, we see the person as God sees. We realize that we are all flawed people capable of hurting others, and that we are all invited home to be the people Christ calls us to be. When we understand the forgiveness that is so vitally active in God's love of us, we can learn to give the forgiveness Christ asks of us and to accept the forgiveness given to us by God and God's people.

The three sessions of the adult program will be divided as follows:

Forgiveness we receive from God—February 28. Led by The Reverend Scott Benhase, Rector, this session will look at the Hebrew tradition of forgiveness by God of the people of Israel, and the events in the life, death and resurrection of Christ that point us to knowing ourselves as gifted and loved and forgiven by God.

Forgiveness we learn to give—March 6. Led by The Reverend Tim Boggs, this session will focus on how and why we forgive. We will draw on some traditions and fresh models of forgiveness and the practice of prayerful forgiving. Some contemporary examples of community forgiveness will be discussed. This time will include a short instructive and experiential session on the value of the tradition of forgiving prayer aided by prayer beads, led by Didi Smith.

Forgiveness we learn to accept—March 13. Led by The Reverend Erin Hensley, this session will conclude our program with a focus on the Christian understanding of accepting forgiveness, from God, each other and ourselves.

YOUTH PROGRAM

The three sessions of the youth program will be based on the companion study guide to the chapter on forgiveness in *Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens*, edited by Dorothy C. Bass and Don C. Richter. This book was co-written by 18 teenagers and 18 adults. The sessions will be divided as follows:

What is forgiveness like?—February 28. We will consider what forgiveness is and isn't by looking at the parable of the unforgiving servant and participating in some impromptu drama.

Forgiveness in real life—March 6. We will look at real life case studies of broken relationships, "specks" and "logs" that cloud our vision, and what a real life apology might look like. Stories from the teen authors', Matthew 7:1-5, and a clip from the play *A Thousand Clowns* will help us on our way.

Going deeper: Loving enemies and choosing forgiveness—March 13. We will have some miming of revenge and forgiveness, use lectio divina for Matthew 5:43-48, and consider strategies that can block or help us pursue forgiveness. We'll conclude the time with a forgiveness walk on the grounds.

Please mark your calendars and consider whether these sessions (or one or two of them) could be a valuable addition to your Lent this season. So that we can provide the proper number of meals, email our parish administrator, Eric Gustafson, at EricG@St-Albans-Parish.org today and let us know that you will be with us on February 28th, March 6th and March 13th. Please note the number of infants/toddlers, children and youth attending.

Stephen Ministers Begin Serving

Nine Stephen Ministers were commissioned in December to support clergy in the important work of pastoral care. Some have been carefully matched with those needing one-on-one faithful care and

have begun their ministry. We are in the process of matching the others, and by the time you read this, all of these fine servants may well be fully engaged in this work.



seated: Susan Stern, Diane Adams, Ada Kugajevsky; standing: Lindsay Blaser, Libby Dirksen, Polly Mead, Katherine Krile, Dee Dykstra. (not pictured: Jean McNelis)

Stephen Ministers have regular contact, through home visits and phone calls, with parishioners facing difficult transitions in their lives. St. Alban's Stephen Ministers—after their intensive training last fall, ongoing supervision and continuing education, and under clergy guidance—are well prepared to listen, support, enlist appropriate outside resources, pray, and bear witness to God's presence in the name of this parish.

If you think you might be helped by the faith-filled support of a Stephen Minister, contact any member of the clergy or Stephen Leaders David Johnson and Jo Turner. They all can be reached through the church office. We will train additional Stephen Ministers this fall, and David or Jo would be happy to tell you more.

SAECC continued from page 8

"I really felt like they were listening and maybe someone could help us," said one mother of a toddler new to the area and already dismayed with the competition and confusion the area had to offer. In addition to the parents, the local media of the Georgetown Northwest Current arrived for photos and articles, which have already run and we hope to see stories continue to percolate about in the months to come.

The Board was elected by the membership at this meeting and serving on the Board from the parish are Harriette Sturges, Jeff Harwood, Jane Karas, Nick Karas and Eve Zartman-Ball. The accomplishments over the past year have included ensuring fiduciary health through investments and development; beginning to develop Long-Range Planning; and most importantly, the hiring of a new Executive Director Donna Mason. Donna comes to the center with over 20 years of early childhood teaching and management experi-

ence and has already helped the center to accomplish a rivaled position of being one of the first re-accredited NAEYC Centers in the country, which is an accomplishment years in the making and achieved by few.

The speakers this year reflected the quality of center that SAECC now is. The center would not be what it is without the dedication of parishioners like you, who have supported the Center for the past 35 years and helped thousands of children begin their educational career's ready to learn. St. Alban's parishioners were clearly ahead of their time in knowing the need in the evolving home/work place for full-time & year-round quality daycare services that does not distinguish between full-pay or DHS and >200% below the poverty line, but rather focuses on equal treatment of all the children to encourage them to be the best they can be. What better place to start life than the supported environment we all know and love as St. Alban's.

Don't Forget: Daylight Savings Time

Be sure to set your clocks **AHEAD** before going to bed on March 8 for Daylight Savings Time.

Please note:

The following programs will **NOT** meet on Palm Sunday (March 16), nor on Easter Sunday (March 23). Each will resume on Sunday, March 30.

Children:*

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Youth:

Journey to Adulthood
Teen Service

Adults:

The Alban Course I & II

*Children's Chapel will meet both Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

HELP WANTED—NEW LISTINGS!

If you are looking to contribute a few extra hours of your time to St. Alban's, Lent may be a great time to begin volunteering. There are a number of great opportunities open, including:

- ✚ ***Workers in the Opportunity Shop***—One of the great ministries at St. Alban's is The Op-Shop, our thrift store, which not only serves those on a thrifty budget with clothes, books and housewares, but also provides essential earned income for the outreach ministries of St. Alban's. Volunteers are needed for stocking shelves and serving customers. Time commitments are very flexible for this very rewarding work. Please contact: Ms. Russell Eckel at arie3eare@aol.com, Bob Gemmill at fgemmill@juno.com, or The Reverend Tim Boggs at TimB@st-albans-parish.org.
- ✚ ***Volunteer assistants for Sunday morning children's classes and/or Vacation Bible School***—If you like working with kids, The Reverend Harriette Sturges can always use extra help with these programs. Time commitment is flexible. Contact: The Reverend Harriette Sturges, Hsturges@St-Albans-Parish.org
- ✚ ***Graphics helper***—Do you have graphic design skills? Periodically, St. Alban's Parish can use help in designing graphic materials such as posters, invitations and announcements. If you have this skill and interest and some free time to be of occasional help, please contact Eric Gustafson, Parish Administrator, at EricG@st-albans-parish.org.

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

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