

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

If you need to speak to someone immediately, we're here to help. Call the church office at 410-742-6595. Office hours (Monday - Thursday, 8 am -12 Noon). For after hours contact, please use the Emergency Pager: 410-380-7052. Leave a call back number and a Vestry member will contact you as soon as possible.

Bishop Santosh Marray has requested a pastoral visit at St. Alban's on Sunday, July 25. He will be with us during the service at 9:30 a.m. The choir will be singing and a fully sung liturgy so the service will be a bit longer. There will be a coffee hour after the service in the parish hall in order to talk with the bishop, and he will be available to bring greetings and answer questions.

Volunteers Needed August 5 and 10 for the Church Office from 9am-12 noon. Stephanie will be out of the office. If you can volunteer any of those dates please call the office: 410-742-6595 or Email: stalbanssalisbury@gmail.com. Thank you!

During July and August, if you need mini-chalices because you are viewing the service on Zoom or FaceBook, they will be available from Stephanie Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. - noon when the office is open. If you are unable to come into the office, please call Stephanie and she will bring them outside. If you need mini-chalices delivered to your home, let Stephanie know by 10 a.m. any Thursday and a Vestry member will deliver them to you.

St. Alban's Choir: The choir is rehearsing occasionally through the summer: July 22, August 20, and August 26. Rehearsals start at 7 pm, and take place in the sanctuary. The choir will sing during the following services: July 25 and August 29. Anyone interested in joining the choir - please contact Veronica.

Sacred Ground is coming to St. Alban's. The Sacred Ground program, created by the national Episcopal Church, will be led virtually by Julia Connelly Zahn of Camp Wright. Starting in September.

<https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2021/04/28/episcopalians-share-transformative-experiences-with-sacred-ground-racial-justice-curriculum/>

https://www.episcopalchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/02/BBC-Becoming-Beloved-Community-Where-You-Are_2020.pdf

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/>

For more info or questions contact Jim Cockey james.cockey@gmail.com

Quilts Display: A small sampling (six) of the 53 magnificent quilts made by members of the local Shorebird Quilters guild is now on display at St. Alban's in the classroom corridor. They are beautiful! Carrie Connelly is an active member of this guild that over the past two years created the quilts that are to be given to children as gifts at the annual Camp Agape Christmas party in December. All 53 quilts will be displayed and blessed by Bishop Santosh Marray during the Sunday worship service at his annual St. Alban's visitation on October 10, 2021. More information in the future.

JULY SCHEDULE**THURSDAY, JULY 22:****Choir Rehearsal****SUNDAY, JULY 25: Bishop's Pastoral Visit Holy Eucharist Rite II Service, 9:30am****LECTORS:** Megan Pomeroy, Mike Mathers**TECH TEAM:** Katherine West, Cristina Machin**VESTRY PERSON/USHER:** Mike Mathers**ALTAR GUILD:** Jim Cockey

On Sunday, July 18 we had 43 people attend in-person, we had 9 people join us via Zoom. And 3 on Facebook! Come and join us!

UPDATED RE-OPENING GUIDELINES

The St. Alban's Reopening Task Force and the Vestry have begun to look at the guidelines sent out by the Diocesan Reopening Task Force regarding post-pandemic protocols. These will be coming out in stages and may continue to be modified.

- we will no longer ask people to sign covenants, pre-register for services, or sign in when entering the building.
- we will no longer follow disinfectant protocols for cleaning.
- prayer books have been returned to pews and may be used, as well as kneelers / cushions.
- we will allow Eucharistic visits in homes if all parties are vaccinated and agree to the visit.

Social distancing - The front area of the nave from the breezeway doors forward, including all pews and 1 row of red chairs, is open with no restrictions regarding social distancing. You may sit wherever you choose, with whomever you choose. The back of the church, primarily with red chairs, will still have social distanced seating. People are asked to wear masks in that section and not sing. People will self-select where they wish to sit and feel the most comfortable and safe.

Masks – Masks are no longer required in general in church or on church property. People are free to continue wearing them if they choose to, except in the back of the church where they will continue to be required to provide a safer environment in that section of the nave.

Singing – We will resume congregational and choral singing softly for vaccinated people. We will maintain the current limits of verses (2-3 verses per hymn) and add one piece of service music to the service. We wish to maintain an overall time limit of 70 minutes for the service.

Happy Birthday**Vernon Rivers 7/25****Andrea Tanis Joseph 7/26****Happy Anniversary****Robert & Ali Grice 7/22**

Link to Vestry Minutes and Financials:
Please click **HERE** for the approved Vestry Meeting Minutes and approved Financial Statement.
(Minutes and Financial are posted once they are approved.)

The following was announced during church on Sunday, July 18, 2021.

Several weeks ago, the president of the Faith Lutheran Church Council approached St. Alban's with an interesting conversation starter. They had been asked by their synod leaders to start thinking "outside the box" to secure a more permanent pastor. They were looking for an individual who could preach, possibly on Saturday evenings and provide pastoral care totaling about 10 hours / week. They suggested that we might examine the possibility of sharing a clergy person.

Both the Vestry and the Search Committee discussed this request and found that it merited consideration. Our mission and beliefs are very similar to those of Faith's congregation of 30 members. They are interested in social justice and working in the community. We have a 10 year + tradition of working with Faith with Vacation Bible School, some Bible studies, and some Blessing of the Animals events. Members of Faith have sometimes worshiped with us for Christmas Eve services and recently participated in one of our racial justice vigils. Geographically, they are almost in our backyard . They are willing and able to assume a share of the financial responsibility for compensation and cover moving expenses.

As Faith had begun talking with their administrators, members of the Vestry and Search Committee recently met with Bishop San and Canon Patrick to discuss the feasibility of this option. Both men saw this as an opportunity for God to do something new in both congregations and encouraged us to continue to explore this ecumenical possibility. We still need to look at a variety of details as to how all of this might happen before we commit to this arrangement. We are announcing the study of this shared pastoral leadership to you today and will stay after the service to answer any questions that you might have at this time. We will have time again next Sunday during the Bishop's visit to answer additional questions.

As we have done throughout our search process, we want to hear your opinions, thoughts, concerns, and questions as we proceed.

St. Bartholomew's Church, Old Green Hill, on Sunday August 22nd at 10:00AM

Everyone is invited to attend the annual worship service at St. Bartholomew's Church, Old Green Hill, on Sunday August 22nd at 10:00AM, which will



feature live choral music. A Community Picnic by the river will follow. A big change this year is that all food and drink will be provided free of charge, including famous Red Roost fried chicken. Picnickers need only to bring a lawn chair. Offerings at the service help to fund the picnic.

Bishop Santosh Marray will preside at the service assisted by clergy from the five Episcopal churches in Wicomico County. Only consecrated wafers will be offered during communion. There will be no live streaming of the Green Hill service nor a worship service at St. Alban's that day. Check the Old Green Hill Facebook page for future updates and for the service bulletin/program to be posted the week of the service.



**Please be advised
that the post office
will no longer deliver OR
forward mail addressed to
our physical address i.e.**

302 St. Alban's Drive.

**That mail will be
returned to the sender.
Please be sure to use our
post office box i.e.**

**St. Alban's Episcopal
Church, P. O. Box 1511,
Salisbury, MD 21802.**