

Herald

St. Alban's Mission:
"Christ-Centered, Radically Embracing People and Creation"

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS
OF SAINT ALBAN'S PARISH, SALISBURY, MARYLAND

Welcome in 2022

I am the New Year.

I am an unspoiled page in your book of time.
I am your next chance at the art of living.

I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last twelve months.

All that you sought and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it but with more determination.

All the good that you tried for and didn't achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All that you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have—these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him who said, "Behold, I make all things new."



Published monthly: Send articles & photos by the 3rd Sunday of the month.

Physical Address
302 St. Albans Drive
Salisbury, MD 21804

Office Hours: Monday -Thursday
8:00 am - 12 Noon

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 1511
Salisbury, MD 21802

Phone 410-742-6595
Emergency Pager 410-380-7052

stalbanssalisbury@gmail.com

www.stalbanssalisbury.com

[facebook.com/stalbanssalisbury](https://www.facebook.com/stalbanssalisbury)

JOIN US FOR Sunday Worship 9:30 AM



JANUARY 2022

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2:
Deacon Mass, Rite I Service, 9:30am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9:
Holy Eucharist Rite II Service, 9:30am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 16:
Holy Eucharist Rite I Service, 9:30am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23:
Deacon Mass, Rite II Service, 9:30am

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30:
Morning Prayer Service, 9:30am

St. Alban's: Christ-Centered, Radically Embracing People and Creation



This is our identity as a parish, which we articulated with these words. We endeavor to follow Christ in welcoming "all sorts and conditions of [humanity]." We offer baptism and eucharist to all, and the pastoral offices of reconciliation, ministry to the sick, and Christian burial to those who ask. We do not discriminate with regard to gender, ethnicity, or sexual orientation or identity, or mental capacity. With regard to marriage, our policy is to meet all couples desiring a Christian wedding. The legal requirements, both civil and church, must be met. We do not discriminate on the basis of gender. However, the clergy may decline to officiate for other reasons.

Angels' Corner

May You Always Jave an Angel by Your Side
- Douglas Pagels

May you always have an angel by your side
Watching out for you in all the things you do
Reminding you to keep believing in brighter days
Finding ways for your wishes and dreams to come true
Giving you hope that is as certain as the sun
Giving you the strength of serenity as your guide
May you always have love and comfort and courage.

SENIOR WARDEN'S CORNER

Jim Cockey



At the December Vestry meeting, I was elected Senior Warden for 2022. As Junior Warden for the past year, I have seen up close the extraordinary talents and tireless work that Arlene brought to the job, under very difficult conditions. I am humbled to follow in her footsteps. I know that I don't possess Arlene's gifts and energy, but with God's help, the 2022 Vestry will live out our call.

St. Alban's has survived the last two difficult years despite the pandemic and the absence of a rector. We have been blessed with Deacon Alisha King's ministry, as well as our supply priests, the Rev. Laura Dorsey and Pastor Gary Stiegler. We have also been blessed with the strong leadership of the Vestry and the many devoted parishioners who serve on committees and work groups in the search for a new rector, the altar guild, the choir, care of our property, creation care, fellowship, Christian formation, worship, care of neighbor, reopening, finance, communications, endowment fund, and all the other ways our community serves.

We have developed a close relationship with Faith Lutheran, and are making plans for an even closer shared ministry for the future. We came close to calling a new rector, and are hopeful we can find a pastor by expanding our search to include Lutheran (ELCA) candidates.

I ask for your prayers for me in my new role, for the Vestry and Search committee, and all who make St. Alban's the wonderful place it is.

Let us all give thanks for our departing Vestry servants, Arlene White, Kim O'Grady, and Becca Hochmuth-Jones.

Jim Cockey

VESTRY UPDATE

VESTRY UPDATE FROM THE **DECEMBER 2021** VESTRY MEETING

Here are some highlights from our meeting in December:

SEARCH COMMITTEE

> The Vestry reaffirmed its commitment to a shared ministry with Faith Lutheran and will request the Search Committee to include that information in the updated OTM file on which they are working. The Vestry reaffirmed its commitment to a search for a full time rector, with the possibility of including ELCA Lutheran applicants.

EXTERNAL PROPERTY

> Boundary fence project - On a warm weekday early this month, Walt West and Vic Evans installed 150 linear feet of fabric screening (double layer) on the Church's west boundary fence opposite the parking lot as the initial phase of visual screening from the adjacent Twilley Centre service alley. When the warm weather returns in spring, an additional 75 linear feet of double layer screening on the fence will be added to the north of the completed work to screen the view of the alley from the breezeway

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

> *The Living Compass* virtual class will have completed the third of 4 sessions as of Sunday, 12/12. There has been a small group of Faith Lutheran and St. Alban's members attending.

> There are as of yet no plans for the next Formation class in 2022.

> Children's Bible story books have been bought for distribution to the children of St. Alban's as Christmas gifts.

WORSHIP

> Mary and Joseph Advent Photos - The tradition started last year of Mary and Joseph traveling around Salisbury to homes of church members was well received again. This seems like a fairly easy tradition to continue, though in future years it may conflict with a narrative of moving Mary and Joseph figurines throughout the church on Sundays as Barbara Anne did two years ago. Input is welcome.

> Epiphany/ Blessed Chalk - The blessed chalk that we did at the beginning of this year was also well received and Mike plans to do it again for the Epiphany service on January 9th, 2021. Although we successfully delivered chalk to almost the entire congregation unsolicited, it might be easier to just ask congregation members if they would like chalk delivered and also have it available for pick up the Saturday before à la mini-chalices. Mike Mathers will begin advertising this in the E-Pistle beginning this week.

> There are only 4 members on the tech team now and none are available for 12/26. There will be no live streaming of Lessons and Carols. Veronica may try to record it and if it turns out ok, it could be posted at a later date.

> We will continue to recommend that anyone seated in the congregation wear masks during every service. Individuals who are fully vaccinated and asymptomatic may remove their masks when speaking or singing.

FINANCES

> The 2020 Audit was done by Sarah Hooper, Senior Warden, St. Paul's Berlin. Recommendations for some procedures were made. The audit was accepted by the Vestry and sent to the diocese.

> Stewardship campaign update as of 12/8/21:

	# of pledges	Pledge amount
2021	59	\$135,980
2022	53	\$143,884

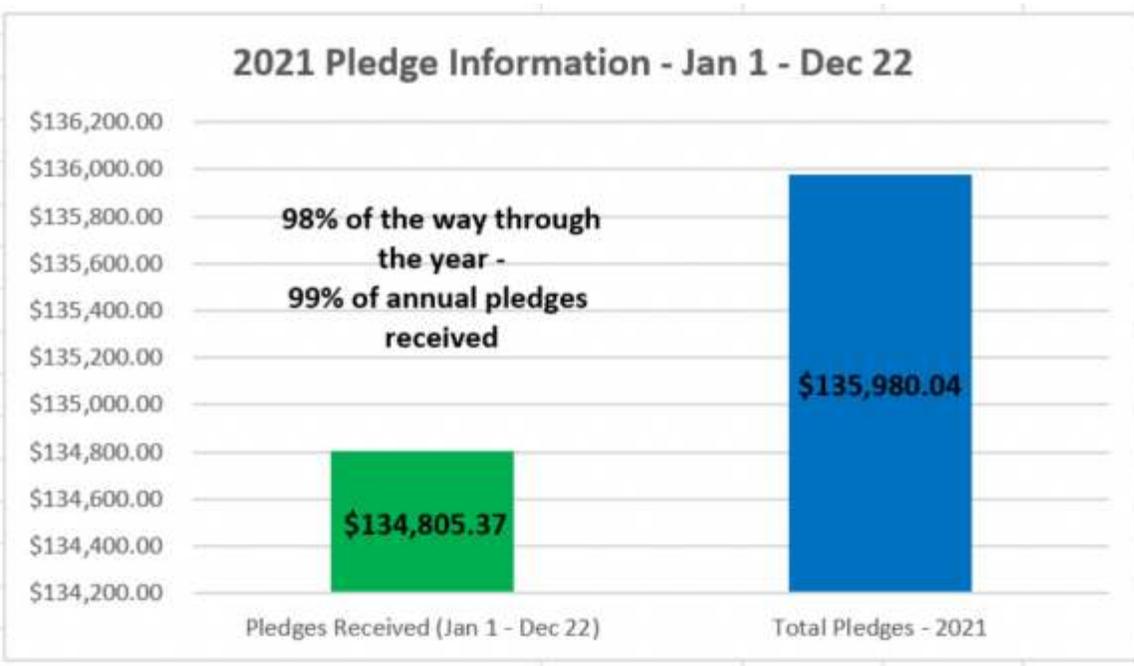
GENERAL INFORMATION

- > The diocese is seeking a new process to train individuals for *Safeguarding God's Children*.
- > 2022 Vestry members were welcomed to observe: Mary Doak, Steve Crabill, Cristina Machin (completing the 1 year term of Becca Jones-Hochmuth). Vic Evans was elected for his second term. They will be installed in January.
- > Church officers were elected for 2022: Greg Glass, Treasurer; Judy Gracey, Registrar; Shelly Madsen, Pledge Secretary; Kelly Neuharth, Recording Secretary.
- > Jim Cockey was elected Senior Warden and Vic Evans was elected Junior Warden for 2022. Cristina Machin was elected as Vestry Liaison with the Search Committee.
- > All 2022 Vestry members were asked to submit their portfolio preferences by the end of the month to the wardens.

If you have any questions, please contact a Vestry member listed in the bulletin each Sunday. Our meetings are open to everyone.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

By: Shelly Madsen, Pledge Secretary



\$22,078 received year to date in plate income (vs \$10,552 received 2020 YTD).

Thank you to everyone who submitted a pledge in 2021. Annual giving statements will be available for pick up on Sunday, January 23 and 30. If you have not picked your statement up by mid-day on January 30, the statement will be mailed to your home address.

Before you go

The new year is a perfect time for new beginnings.

Think about what's important to you and how you want that reflected in the year ahead.

What are you hoping to make time for?



BOUNDARY FENCE PROJECT



Walt West and Vic Evans installed 150 linear feet of fabric screening (double layer) on the Church's west boundary fence opposite the parking lot as the initial phase of visual screening from the adjacent Twilley Center service alley. When the warm weather returns in spring, an additional 75 linear feet of double layer screening on the fence will be added to the north of the completed work to screen the view of the alley from the breezeway.



SOUP SALE SUMMARY

By: Katherine West & Shelly Madsen

Thank you to everyone who supported our December Soup Sale. We raised over \$650 for Joseph House! We hope you enjoyed your purchases.

Julie and Jim (bread bakers), Katherine and Shelly (soup makers), Shelly (cookie maker), Sona (dishwasher extraordinaire)

Shelly Madsen preparing soup for the December soup sale to benefit Joseph house. (butternut squash, Thai chicken noodle, chili, chocolate chip cookies and bread.)



HOLIDAY SHOP - WICOMICO COUNTY

Katherine West

Many thanks to the Saint Alban's family for generously supporting the Salisbury Middle holiday shop. This was the first time in two years we were able to have the holiday shop, and with almost 900 students, it was a terrific occasion for students to be able to "purchase" gifts for their family members and friends. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to have two days of holiday shop, ensuring that all students were able to get gifts for their families. Special thanks to Cindy Hartigan and Arlene White for helping to wrap students' gifts.

I am so grateful for your support for our students in Wicomico county

- Katherine





Faithful Green Leaders Training

Build, Inspire, and Transform Your Community



**We heard you.
You need strong Green Teams
at your congregations.
We're here to help.**

Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake is pleased to offer *Faithful Green Leaders Training*, a free online workshop, followed by a series of monthly Learning Lab webinars.

You Will Learn How To:

- Establish/grow a Green Team
- Engage your congregation with fresh environmental programming
- Develop an action plan
- Build your grant writing skills (see June 2020 webinar)
- Enhance your communications skills to help spread the word
- Help your congregation use fewer single-use water bottles, less styrofoam, save on energy use, and create less waste (see April 2020 webinar)

All webinars are recorded and available on our website.

Get Your Team Together!

Green Teams work best with at least three people, so you must have at least three from your congregation in order to attend. Any congregation based in Maryland; Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Virginia; or the District of Columbia is eligible. Green Teams will attend one core 3-part workshop and monthly webinars. Don't have a team of 3 yet? Contact us for tips on how to get your core group together in time to attend a training.

Why Should Your Congregation Participate?

It's free, it's fun, and it will help you lead your congregation to take meaningful action! Learn and network with other congregational Green Teams. Attendance qualifies congregations in some regions to receive \$500 in seed funding to grow your team.

Full Training is 3 Online Sections - Each From 4pm - 5:30pm (Registration closes on February 16)

February 2022 Training

Section 1: Sunday, February 20

Section 2: Sunday, February 27

Section 3: Sunday, March 6

To sign up for the training see: www.InterfaithChesapeake.org/GreenTeams



For more information:
GreenTeams@InterfaithChesapeake.org
or call 410-609-6852

Stormwater Solutions

at Saint Alban's Episcopal Church and beyond

The Stormwater Challenge:

Did you know?

In a one inch rain, a 1000 square foot rooftop generates about 750 gallons of runoff or ~38,000 gallons in one year!

Stormwater Runoff can be a big problem in cities and towns with lots of impervious surface, like pavement or rooftops, that replace trees and grass that originally would suck up much of the rainfall. Water running off rooftops, streets, and sidewalks can cause flash floods, erosion, and pollution of rivers and streams and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay before it reaches our oceans. Locally, we can protect our lands and water if we can slow down this rush of stormwater and give it a chance to soak into the ground before running off into the Wicomico River.

What's in Runoff?

- Fertilizer
- Pet Waste
- Motor Oil
- Litter
- Chemicals
- Detergents

Local Solutions:

One Water Partnership and Creation Care

The One Water Partnership builds regionally based collaborations of faith communities, environmental organizations and government agencies throughout Maryland's Chesapeake Bay Watershed. These collaborations work together to restore the waterways in their own communities, which in turn improves water quality in the Chesapeake Bay.

Saint Alban's commitment to care for the earth, and the Chesapeake Bay in particular, comes from an understanding that loving our neighbor isn't only about human neighbors, but includes all of creation -- creatures, plants, earth, water and air.

Transitioning Traditional Lawn to Conservation Landscaping

Conservation Landscapes are installations of native plants (trees, shrubs, grasses, and flowers) that provide:

- wildlife habitat,
- increase stormwater infiltration,
- and beautiful spaces.

The meadow at Saint Alban's converts what was once traditional lawn into beautiful pollinator habitat.

Directing Rainwater

Even simple things like extending downspouts away from buildings and landscapes and into lawns, rain gardens, or conservation landscaping, can make a big difference in reduction and treatment of stormwater runoff.

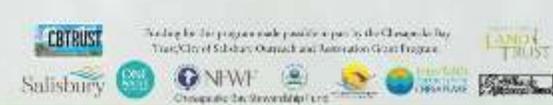


Rainwater Harvesting

- Rain gutters and downspouts direct water to a Rain Barrel or Cistern (both similar in design, with cisterns being larger in size and sometimes below ground) to temporarily capture rainwater from rooftops.
- Here at Saint Alban's this cistern and gutter installation captures and slows rainwater, keeps water away from the building foundation, and can be used to water plants or simply be released slowly after a rain event.

Bringing it Home

- All of these practices - and more - can work well in residential settings, from tiny urban lots to sprawling properties.
- Many members of Saint Alban's attended a rain barrel workshop and were able to take a discounted rain barrel home.



Creating Pollinator Paradise at Saint Alban's Episcopal Church

Most people are familiar with the bumble or Honey Bee, but did you know that over 400 species of native bees can be found in Maryland? You can also find over 130 butterfly species and other important pollinators like ants, beetles, flies, moths, wasps or the ruby-throated hummingbird.



A Life Without Pollinators

Without pollinators, we would lose many flowering plants and delicious crops like dieties and blueberries. Nearly two-thirds of agricultural crops in the world are pollinated by pollinators.

Pollinator populations are seeing a rapid decline. Researchers believe that a combination of pesticides, disease, malnutrition from loss of flowering plants, and loss of habitat including nesting sites are the leading causes.

What You Can Do To Help

By planning or working with native wildflowers, you can ensure that native species will have the plants present that will ensure their survival. When you plant, these natives, expect to enjoy many new visitors to your property. Environmental stewardship is our shared duty on this planet, and the actions taken by faith-based organizations like Saint Alban's provide pollinator services, pest control, promote soil health and keep carbon in our soils, and keep rainwater in the bank and attract a rich diversity of butterflies, birds and more that create a place that is both tranquil and buzzing with life!



Go Native

Plant a variety of perennials that will provide blooms throughout the spring, summer and fall. Better yet, become a Pollinator Certified garden with the Lower Shore Land Trust!

Avoid Pesticides

Even without direct spray contact, pollinators are harmed. Pesticides are absorbed by plant tissue and become present in all parts of the plant, including its nectar and pollen.

Leave the Leaves

Leave bare ground, dead trees, and untidy corners of lawns - these are all important nesting sites for pollinators. Consider designating a section of your yard for this habitat.

Spread the love right in your own back yard. Use native plants to attract and support native bees and butterflies. (Left)

When you see bees, provide the nectar on lower parts of their favorite plants. The leaf water has a sugar it's messy but it's worth it.

Without adequate nesting facilities (left) monarch butterflies are unable to lay eggs and reproduce.

Bees like the carpenter bee (left) and mason bee (right) are cavity nesters.

Check for bare spots or take shelter in a hot place for a good nesting site. Monarchs (left) like to lay their eggs on milkweed and provide their care.



GREENING OF THE CHURCH

Photos by Shelly Madsen and Pat Layton



CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Photos by Shelly Madsen and Arlene White



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Photos by: Sam Hotton



ALTAR GUILD - FLOWERS

Photos by Sandy Grim and Stephanie Conway



Happy
New
Year

St. Alban's and Community News

A GRATEFUL PERSON

A grateful person is a happy person. Psychologists have found that simply asking people to identify specific aspects of their lives for which they are thankful, alters their perspective in a powerful way. A grateful perspective impacts our mood and stops us from allowing negative thoughts, such as resentment, envy, and regret, to take over. There are many ways to cultivate gratitude: writing, praying, singing, drawing, and more.

When we take a moment to appreciate the good things in life, such as a job, home, friends, an family, we feel good about the present and hopeful for the future. The list of what makes an individual feel appreciative varies from person to person. The key is to prevent the bad things from getting in the way of good things. Even in tough times, if we look hard enough, we can find the good.

Gratitude Prayer

Lord, thank you for the joy that fills my heart when I think of all the good in my life. Help me learn to make gratitude a daily practice.

From: The Guidepost - Someone Cares Newsletter #189, 2021



The Passing of the Most Reverend Desmond Tutu:

In this Christmas season, the world and global Anglican Communion were informed of the sad news of the passing of one of our noble spiritual sons, the Most Reverend Desmond Tutu, Noble Peace Laureate, retired Archbishop of Southern Africa and Cape Town, South Africa, as well as a global peace and reconciliation icon. Archbishop Desmond was a beloved friend of many and moral compass of the world. He was spiritual mentor, advisor, and voice for many most especially the voiceless masses living in the periphery and struggling under the oppression of injustice.

Archbishop Desmond lived the dream of all of us who grew up under hostile and uncompassionate political regimes that work vigorously to enslave, thereby, suppressing the God-given freedom and dignity of all humanity. His most notable contribution was in the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa, a classic 20th century slavery phenomenon. However, and equally important, he was well respected and revered for living and promoting the Christian values of love, peace, truth and reconciliation in the aftermath of freedom. He was credited for the peaceful transition of power and influencing societal cultural norms in an otherwise fragile political and spiritual environment.

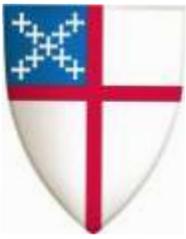
When I served my episcopate in the Africa Region as Bishop of Seychelles in the Province of the Indian, Archbishop Desmond's presence and influence was instrumental in shaping the response bishops offered their dioceses. This was true for Seychelles recovering from a political coupe and living under a challenging and fragile political climate.

Here is a quotation from Presiding Bishop, the Most Reverend Michael B. Curry, in paying tribute to Archbishop Tutu: "While on this earth, he sought to follow Jesus of Nazareth in God's way of love and life. In so doing, he showed us how to live God's dream as children of the one God and creator of all.

So, even in our sorrow that he is no longer walking among us, we can thank God that he did. Perhaps we best give thanks by honoring his legacy—not merely with lip service to racial justice and reconciliation, but with lives dedicated to this work. We do this by learning to live together as the children and family of God, no longer hurting each other or God's creation, but together living the dream God intended. For in God's dream, as the Hebrew prophet Isaiah said, "they will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

May the soul of this good human being, servant of God, dedicated and committed soldier of the church, live on in the hearts of all and may the Christian principles that guided his life and witness be our guiding principles as well. May his soul rest in peace and rise in glory! Amen.

Together in Christ's Service,
Bishop San



Saint Alban's Herald

P.O. Box 1511
Salisbury, MD 21802



Professional Asphalt Maintenance

Christopher Filippelli

Office 410-749-5630 Cell 443-944-2218

Chris@peninsulasealcoating.com