

# 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

**Fast › Pray › Give**

**Ash Wednesday**

**March**

**2nd**



March 1, 2022  
Mardi Gras

First Day of Women's  
History Month

March 2, 2022  
Ash Wednesday

March 13, 2022  
Daylight Saving

March 17, 2022  
St. Patrick's Day 



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# Sunday Worship

9:30 AM

**MARCH 2022**

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2:

Ash Wednesday Ashes to go 7:00am-8:00am

Ash Wednesday Service 8:00am

*(in-person only - No Livestream)*

## SUNDAY, MARCH 6:

Holy Eucharist Rite I Service, 9:30am

## SUNDAY, MARCH 13:

Holy Eucharist Rite II Service, 9:30am

## SUNDAY, MARCH 20:

Holy Eucharist Rite I Service, 9:30am

## SUNDAY, MARCH 27:

Deacon Mass, Rite II 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.

“One of the best things about being part of a church community is that, through the love of God, we can bless one another. How can you offer a blessing today?”

From: Forward day by day



# VESTRY UPDATE



*St. Alban's: Christ-centered, radically embracing people and creation*

## VESTRY MEETING – Feb. 22, 2022

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **General information:**

Fellowship: We are planning a “Mardi-Gras Cupcake to Go” for Feb. 27th. This will be a fun fellowship event that includes those that are not able to attend church that day. The thought behind this event is to show love and care even if we are not having large get-togethers.

#### **Property:**

Labyrinth -R&R Coatings reports that they still have some touch ups to do on the Labyrinth. They have to wait for several days of good weather.

#### **Care of Neighbor:**

**Fenix Youth Project** - The Vestry approved a \$300 donation to the Fenix Youth Project in the January meeting.

**Hearts and Hands Ending Homelessness** - Kim O'Grady, Debbie Rossi, and Jim Cockey continue to volunteer their time at the shelter.

**The Rector's/Deacon's Discretionary Fund**- Proceeds from the soup sale in March will go to support these funds.

**Wi-Hi Faith Partner** - Mary Doak reached out to a member of staff at Wi-Hi to ask if there is any help St. Alban's can give them and is waiting for their response.

#### **Formation**

St. Alban's and Faith Lutheran will conduct a Sunday evening virtual Lenten study on the Psalms, using a book called Pilgrim's Path. Copies are available in the office. Details to follow.

# Senior Warden's Corner

Jim Cockey - March 2022



After Black History Month, what next?

February was Black History Month. Since September, a group of St. Alban's members: Nancy Linck, Jim and Amy Isaacs, Pat Layton, Katherine West, Alisha King, Beth Jones and I, participated in an online study group created by the National Episcopal Church, called Sacred Ground. It was led by Julia Connelly Zahn, director of the Diocesan summer camp, Camp Wright, who grew up at St. Alban's, and is the daughter of Bob and Carrie Connelly.

We were all shaken by the godless cruelty our nation and our church inflicted on African Americans and other minorities.

We now wonder what we can do to work toward God's purpose of justice and healing.

The following is from the Episcopal Church website, addressing the notion of the Beloved Community. Whatever comes next from our group's Sacred Ground experience, and our nation's grappling with race, I think this is a good expression of the goal.

## BECOMING BELOVED COMMUNITY

### THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH'S LONG TERM COMMITMENT TO RACIAL HEALING, RECONCILIATION AND JUSTICE

#### The Context

- Rooted in The Jesus Movement: The ongoing community of people centered on following Jesus into loving, liberating, life-giving relationship with God (evangelism), with each other (reconciliation), and with creation (environmental stewardship).
- Called forth by General Convention [Resolution C019 \(Establish Response to Systemic Injustice\)](#)
- Crafted by the leaders of the House of Bishops and House of Deputies – Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, House of Deputies President Gay Clark Jennings, House of Bishops Vice President Mary Gray-Reeves and (now former Vice President) Dean Wolfe, and House of Deputies Vice President Byron Rushing and Secretary Michael Barlowe – with staff and many partners
  - Frames a multi-year journey as part of a long-term, multi-generation commitment
- Moves beyond the United States and beyond black and white, to consider racism in many nations, among many races, ethnicities and cultures
  - Deploys \$2 million allocated by General Convention, along with other resources
- Designed to support, complement, and amplify local, diocesan, provincial and network efforts

#### The Long-term Commitment

*Becoming Beloved Community* represents not so much a set of programs as a journey, a set of interrelated commitments around which Episcopalians may organize our many efforts to respond to racial injustice and grow a community of reconcilers, justice-makers, and healers. The labyrinth may be an even more useful image for engaging the vision.<sup>[1]</sup> On the road toward reconciliation and healing, we move around corners and double back into quadrants we have visited before, each time discovering

[1] We borrow the labyrinth image gratefully from Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Rev. Mpho Tutu's work in *The Book of Forgiving*, although we have surrounded this labyrinth with The Episcopal Church's long-term commitments.



*Telling the Truth*  
Who are we? What things have we done and left undone regarding racial justice and healing?

*Repairing the Breach*  
What institutions and systems are broken? How will we participate in repair, restoration, and healing of people, institutions, and systems?

*Proclaiming the Dream*  
How can we publicly acknowledge things done and left undone? What does Beloved Community look like in this place? What behaviors and commitments will foster reconciliation, justice, and healing?

*Practicing the Way of Love*  
How will we grow as reconcilers, healers, and justice-bearers? How will we actively grow relationship across dividing walls and seek Christ in the other?

There is no single path for every person or even every Episcopalian. People will draw on different resources and experiences and come to diverse answers to similar questions. At the same time, we hope you find it energizing to take up this common spiritual practice of walking and reflection. Transformation may run deeper and broader if/when we pool our wisdom and resources as the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement.

For this reason, we have also identified concrete, church-wide initiatives that we hope will 1) root our commitments in the Baptismal Covenant, 2) make real the general practices and questions that encircle the labyrinth, and 3) complement and advance work in dioceses, networks, provinces, and congregations.

The commitment outlined here is intentionally focused on church-wide efforts that support and complement local, diocesan, provincial, and network efforts. It seeks to nourish multiple venues for engaging in the work of justice, healing, and reconciliation, understanding the complexity and specific structural and historical challenges facing a multinational and multilingual church like ours.

Some of the concrete initiatives are already part of the Church's life and will only grow. New initiatives will launch (between now and December 2018), in an iterative, flexible process that responds to realities on the ground and the wisdom of partners who share the work. Timelines notwithstanding, the Church's Officers recognize that structural racism is centuries old, which means our commitment must last for generations, not triennia. We will always be committed to tell the truth, proclaim the dream, practice the way of love, and repair the breach. The only question is how.

In presenting this long-term commitment, we are dedicated to growing circles of engagement, partnership, and prayer across and beyond the Church, understanding that we are participating in a multistage journey toward transformation, justice, and healing. While General Convention tasked us with providing leadership and casting a vision, it never said that vision would be the only one, nor did it say all the work of racial reconciliation, justice, and healing should be organized at the church-wide level. We have sought to fulfill our charge, drawing Episcopalians and neighbors across many lands, languages, and cultures to share stories, practices, and transformative action. Together, we can share the journey and become instruments of the healing and reconciling love of Jesus, whose loving, liberating, and life-giving way we follow.



# Search Committee

Dee Rinehart - Committee Chairperson



Epiphany gives way to Lent, the Lenten Roses are blooming in our garden, and our search for a rector is active again. Your Search Committee is meeting regularly. The Office of Transition Document that contains the narrative describing our congregation is now revised to reflect our parish identity during the pandemic and our plan for a shared ministry with Faith Lutheran. This document was submitted to the Vestry in February for approval before it was sent to Canon Collins, who uploaded it to the National Church site. The approved document was also submitted to Faith's ELCA Synod, as candidates also will be coming from that denomination.

Next on the agenda for Search is review of our Parish Profile, available on the parish webpage, to determine what revisions may be appropriate to that document. Cannon Collins will attend a national conference for diocesan Transition Officers late in March, where he will present our open position as a shared ministry. Our goal is to have the webpage information updated by that time. Faith Lutheran currently is seeking to update their web presence. Once that is complete, information about our joint search will be available on their webpage as well as ours.

Although our work remains "behind the scenes," we will answer any questions that we can for you.

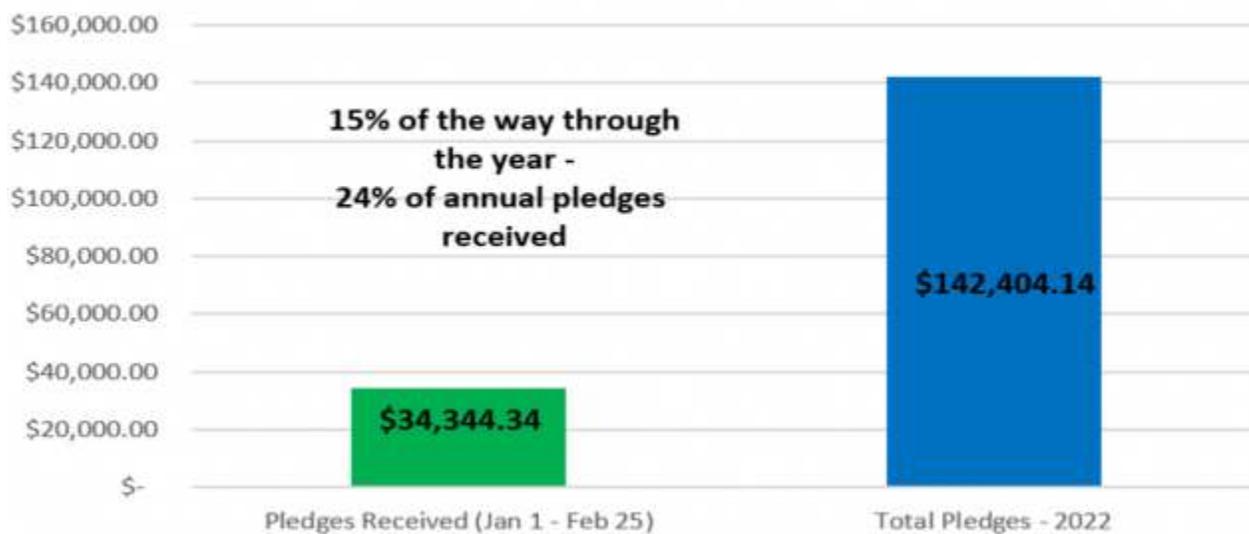
Dee Rinehart

# MONTHLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

By: Shelly Madsen, Pledge Secretary



2022 Pledge Information - Jan 1 - Feb 25



\$3,3942.53 received year to date in plate income

# Pilgrim's Path study of the Psalms By: Arlene White

This Lenten season, we will use the Pilgrim's Path study of the Psalms. We will meet on Sundays, from 4:30 to 5:30 PM via zoom on March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3 and 10. Each session psalm will explore the theme of the week, with a focus on 1 particular psalm during our discussion time together. Additional psalms each week will allow for more in-depth and / or varied perspectives of this theme. They can be done daily, on your own schedule, with or without materials from the book and can provide opportunities for personal reflection. Books are available in the office for \$20 each.

This will be another opportunity for shared ministry with Faith Lutheran. Also consider inviting your family, friends and colleagues to join us!

Session dates and topics:

March 6 – Psalm 8 - Son of Man

March 13 – Psalm 24 – King of Glory

March 20 – Psalm 137 – Threads of Faith

March 27 – Psalm 32 – Gracious Forgiveness

April 3 – Psalm 98 – Thy Kingdom Come

April 10 – Psalm 150 – Unending Praise

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85060437588?pwd=VWwXlajkyqzvpjdrzvptoxrnmhprqt09>

**Meeting ID: 850 6043 7588 Passcode: 938593**

**One of our longstanding community outreach projects has been working with JOSEPH HOUSE. Here are some excerpts from their February 2022 Newsletter.**

These are the Corporal Works of Mercy, the basic acts of charity and kindness found principally in the Parable of the Last Judgment (Matthew 25:31-46) and elsewhere in the Bible (Isaiah 58:6-14 and Tobit 1:17). They describe very accurately what we do day after day at the Joseph House. It's a short list, but the permutations go far and wide. For example, sometimes people don't need clothes but they have been stripped of their dignity. They may not be in a jail cell but they are imprisoned by addiction or mental illness. They may not be starving for food but they are hungry for justice. Our mission calls us to respond in whatever way we can, and thanks to your support, we have the freedom to do so.

Last month we gave a mission report on the Joseph House Workshop. Here is a look at the Joseph House Crisis Center with a few statistics from 2021: 1,038 checks and payments were issued to help individuals and families pay for housing, utilities, health care, transportation, and other critical needs. 2,863 bags of groceries were given out from our Food Pantry. An average of 196 households, representing 581 people, received food each month. 4,899 requests for help were responded to at our Hospitality Room for the Homeless. We provided showers, laundry service, food, coats, blankets, and personal care products. 5,209 bagged lunches were given to the homeless and other Crisis Center clients. Since our Soup Kitchen is closed because of the pandemic, our church partners prepared these lunches instead. 287 new winter coats for children were distributed. 440 gift bags for children were given out at Christmas. Each bag included a large toy, a smaller one, a book, a puzzle or activity book, assorted stocking stuffers, plus a hat, scarf, or mittens.

But not everything can be measured with a number. We always keep in mind what our founder, Sr. Mary Elizabeth, said: "When someone needs help, it's not just the material aid, but the love that goes with it that gives healing and self-worth and a renewed hope for tomorrow."

Love changes people, more than anything else. It's very important to us that our mission sites be places of warmth and welcome for all people. Along with our volunteers, we listen to and treat everyone with compassion and respect. Love is what inspires you to support our work, and it is the precious gift we share with people in need.



Friends in Christian churches,

Lent, which begins on Wednesday March 2nd, is a time when Christian communities repent, reflect, sacrifice, and listen for God. This year, I am glad to have the Lenten Creation Care Calendar to share with my church, Calvary Baptist, and with all of you.

I didn't grow up observing Lent. As an adult, I've come to enjoy this reflective season as a time to be reminded of our interconnectedness to all living beings. As someone who grows weary from the ever-present political turmoil, remembering that our bodies are made of the same carbon found in both the soil and the stars is awe-inspiring and keeps me grounded in the call of this work.

It's in that spirit that I invite you to join us this Lent. Each day on the calendar calls on us to take a different action, and each of these actions will help us preserve God's great gift of Creation. May this season serve as a reminder of our interdependence and our call to care for our common home.

This year's calendar is produced in partnership with our friends at Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake, and we invite you to put one up on the fridge at home, and to photocopy it double-sided and share it with your community as a bulletin insert at an upcoming Sunday service or Ash Wednesday. (See calendar next page)

(To download or print or share the calendars via email and on social media with those beyond our email list, please use this link: [ipldmv.org/lent](http://ipldmv.org/lent).)

In hope,

Madison Mayhew  
Congregational Organizer  
Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVa)

Maryland *Because our world can change a lot in 40 days.*

# Lenten Creation Care 2022

Lent is a time for prayer, fasting, and more intentional sharing. This year, our church is joining with many others in heeding the call to be stewards of God's Creation throughout this season.

May this calendar remind us to be more mindful of the ways that our daily habits impact both our common home and all those with whom we share it.

On behalf of future generations and all living in poverty — those most harmed by our damaged climate — may we answer God's call to be faithful stewards, speaking out for Creation care.



Our religious response to climate change.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
A prayer from Psalm 51:  <i>Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Creator God, we begin this Lenten season asking for Your renewal. Through prayer, fasting, and sharing over these 40 days, we ask that our eyes be opened to the ways we can do better; in our relationships with You, Your Creation, and all those with whom we share this, our common home. Lord, help us to restore what has been damaged through our sinful overconsumption and the systemic injustices that surround us, returning to You with renewed spirits.</i>			<b>MARCH 2</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b> "All are from the dust, and to dust all return." - Ecclesiastes 3:20  Reflect with gratitude on the reality that we all are made of and fed by the earth.	<b>3</b> "Make me to know your ways, Lord; teach me your paths." - Psalm 25:4 The path to climate justice passes through every other struggle. Listen to Chisholm Legacy Project's Jacqui Patterson: <a href="http://bit.ly/chisolmlegacy">bit.ly/chisolmlegacy</a>	<b>4</b> Turn down your thermostat by at least 1 degree. In cold weather, aim for 68° during the day and 60° at night. Buy a programmable thermostat if you can. Always turn the heat off when you leave home.	<b>5</b> Talk with your church about ordering "eco palms" for Palm Sunday. They help improve workers' living standards and protect forests in Mexico and Guatemala. Order by 3/18: <a href="http://EcoPalms.org">EcoPalms.org</a>
<b>6</b> Worship outdoors today, either on your own or with the Wild Earth Spiritual Community gathering, 3 pm at the Dayspring Retreat Center in Germantown: <a href="http://bit.ly/wildearthspiritual">bit.ly/wildearthspiritual</a>	<b>7</b> Join the Center for Spirituality in Nature online for nature-based meditation and reflection every Monday morning 8 am during Lent: <a href="http://bit.ly/lentenmondays">bit.ly/lentenmondays</a>	<b>8</b> Too often, women aren't part of critical climate decisions. On this International Women's Day, reflect on the necessity of gender equity to solving the climate crisis: <a href="http://bit.ly/womenclimateequality">bit.ly/womenclimateequality</a>	<b>9</b> Buildings are responsible for nearly 40% of climate pollution. We must turn away from burning fossil fuels to power our lives. Speak out for clean and healthy buildings in Maryland: <a href="http://bit.ly/climateplatformmd">bit.ly/climateplatformmd</a>	<b>10</b> Every person has a right to a healthful environment. Let's make that right real in Maryland this spring by putting an Environmental Human Rights Amendment to our state constitution on the ballot: <a href="http://bit.ly/ehramendment">bit.ly/ehramendment</a>	<b>11</b> Christians have fasted from meat during Lent for generations. Try eating vegetarian today and check out Oxfam's Eat for Good online for other ways to use your fast to bless others: <a href="http://bit.ly/eat4good">bit.ly/eat4good</a>	<b>12</b> Learn about the Indigenous peoples of the land where you live, work, and pray ( <a href="http://native-land.ca">native-land.ca</a> ) and practice acknowledging whose land you're on: <a href="http://creationjustice.org/indigenous">creationjustice.org/indigenous</a>
<b>13</b> IPC is gathering youth in Lancaster this afternoon for a climate storytelling workshop: <a href="http://bit.ly/ipcyouth">bit.ly/ipcyouth</a> . What's your climate story? Tell someone you love yours today, and ask theirs: <a href="http://my-climate-story.org">my-climate-story.org</a>	<b>14</b> How can your church community help repair our climate? Join with other communities called by many traditions to this sacred work, and flock together with other "green sheep" through IPL-DMV: <a href="http://bit.ly/IPLsignup">bit.ly/IPLsignup</a>	<b>15</b> Reduce your food waste by planning well and eating leftovers. Consider composting what's left at home or get table scraps picked up: <a href="http://CompostCrew.com">CompostCrew.com</a> , <a href="http://VeteranCompost.com">VeteranCompost.com</a> , <a href="http://KeyCompost.com">KeyCompost.com</a>	<b>16</b> Restoring Maryland's forests manifests "the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations" (Rev. 22:2).  Speak out for the Maryland the Beautiful Act: <a href="http://bit.ly/mdthebeautiful">bit.ly/mdthebeautiful</a>	<b>17</b> "Do unto those downstream," teaches Wendell Berry, "as you'd have those upstream do unto you."  Affirm your church's watershed stewardship by signing IPC's Partner Congregation Pledge: <a href="http://bit.ly/ipcpledge">bit.ly/ipcpledge</a>	<b>18</b> Nourish birds, butterflies, and other wildlife in your backyard with IPC's Faithful Lawn Care guide: <a href="http://bit.ly/faithfullawn">bit.ly/faithfullawn</a>	<b>19</b> Purchase locally-grown food this weekend. Walk to a farmers' market or join a community-supported agriculture group: <a href="http://LocalHarvest.org">LocalHarvest.org</a> , or sign up to receive rescued produce weekly: <a href="http://HungryHarvest.net">HungryHarvest.net</a>

URLs that begin with bitly are case-sensitive; all other links are not.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>20</b> Notice the biggest, oldest trees in your neighborhood today. From 2-4 pm, Harford County One Water Partnership has organized a tour of area churches' "Champion trees," starting at Bel Air UMC.	<b>21</b> Does your church yard welcome other species? Learn how to cultivate grounds that are good for people, plants, and creatures: <a href="http://bit.ly/sacredchurchgrounds">bit.ly/sacredchurchgrounds</a>	<b>22</b> "God took the human and put them in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it." - Gen. 2:15  Plan a garden today and start some seeds to germinate indoors: <a href="http://bit.ly/gavictorygardens">bit.ly/gavictorygardens</a>	<b>23</b> Care for Creation and support clean energy by divesting from fossil fuels: <a href="http://GreenAmerica.org/divest-reinvest">GreenAmerica.org/divest-reinvest</a> and choosing a bank that aligns with your values: <a href="http://GreenAmerica.org/better-banking">GreenAmerica.org/better-banking</a>	<b>24</b> Take local climate action with groups like Montgomery County Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions (MCFACS), MACS of Frederick County, or Wicomico Interfaith Partners for Creation Stewardship ... or start one!	<b>25</b> Over a hundred local faith communities are getting their energy from above! Check out this map of solar congregations across our region, and find resources to help your church join them: <a href="http://ipldmv.org/solar">ipldmv.org/solar</a>	<b>26</b> At 8:30 pm, join hundreds of millions of people around the world who will be switching off all lights for one hour to commit to global climate action and more mindful energy use: <a href="http://EarthHour.org">EarthHour.org</a>
<b>27</b> "There is a new creation!" - 2 Corinthians 5:17  Look outside for signs of regeneration in the natural world today. We too can be made new.	<b>28</b> What can you do about climate change? Talk about it. Listen to Dr. Katharine Hayhoe's talk to New York Ave Presbyterian Church about the power of opening climate conversations: <a href="http://bit.ly/HayhoeInterview">bit.ly/HayhoeInterview</a>	<b>29</b> Shift to clean energy at home! See if you can install solar panels: <a href="http://ipldmv.org/solarcoops">ipldmv.org/solarcoops</a> , or subscribe to a community solar project: <a href="http://nunsolar.com/ipl">nunsolar.com/ipl</a>	<b>30</b> "They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream." - Jeremiah 17:8  Plant a native tree this spring! Use this coupon: <a href="http://bit.ly/mdtreecoupon">bit.ly/mdtreecoupon</a>	<b>31</b> How will your church celebrate Earth Day? Invite a guest speaker: <a href="http://IPLdmv.org/speakers">IPLdmv.org/speakers</a> and find worship resources: <a href="http://InterfaithChesapeake.org/resources">InterfaithChesapeake.org/resources</a> , <a href="http://bit.ly/cjmeearthSunday">bit.ly/cjmeearthSunday</a>	<b>1</b> As you fast from meat today, consider celebrating Easter and beyond with plant-based meals: <a href="http://StFrancisAlliance.com/recipes">StFrancisAlliance.com/recipes</a> , <a href="http://BeCreatureKind.org">BeCreatureKind.org</a>  <b>APRIL</b>	<b>2</b> God's children are coming together to care for Creation. As our Muslim neighbors begin the holy month of Ramadan tonight, learn how Muslim communities are taking action for our common home: <a href="http://greenmuslims.org">greenmuslims.org</a>
<b>3</b> "God of grace and salvation, today we open our hearts to the pain of our planet."  Reflect on the role the church has played in the degradation of Creation; consider reciting this litany: <a href="http://bit.ly/envconfession">bit.ly/envconfession</a>	<b>4</b> Organize a congregation and community stream cleanup for Earth Month in April. Participate in Project Clean Stream: <a href="http://bit.ly/projectcleanstream">bit.ly/projectcleanstream</a>	<b>5</b> No community is disposable. Learn about how environmental racism has enabled "sacrifice zones," and how we can stand with communities fighting for their rights: <a href="http://bit.ly/sacrificezones">bit.ly/sacrificezones</a>	<b>6</b> IPC's trainings can help strengthen your church green team. Sign up here for the next training: <a href="http://interfaithchesapeake.org/greenteams">interfaithchesapeake.org/greenteams</a>	<b>7</b> How can our churches cultivate resilience as we anticipate higher sea levels and stronger storms? Join IPC's watch party to reflect on how we might plan for flooding: <a href="http://bit.ly/ipcwatch">bit.ly/ipcwatch</a>	<b>8</b> All are called to repair our climate. A week from tonight, our Jewish neighbors will gather for Passover seders to retell their story. Listen to these new Jewish climate songs for the journey: <a href="http://dayenu.org/songs">dayenu.org/songs</a>	<b>9</b> Is your stove burning methane gas? With more evidence that gas stoves pollute our air and climate, it's time to turn away from burning. Learn more, and explore an electric induction cooktop: <a href="http://bit.ly/gasstoves">bit.ly/gasstoves</a>
<b>10</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> <i>God of wilderness and water, guide us through this season, that we may not avoid struggle, but open ourselves to blessing, through the cleansing depths of repentance ...</i> - Revised Common Lectionary	<b>11</b> Caring for Creation includes responsibly disposing of electronics. Organize "E-cycling" for your congregation to dispose of old phones, tablets, computers, and TVs responsibly: <a href="http://e-stewards.org/find-a-recycler">e-stewards.org/find-a-recycler</a>	<b>12</b> Consider the gifts given to you. Pray about how you are called to use your time, talent, passion, and treasure to care for our common home.	<b>13</b> Talk with your family and community members about your Lenten Creation care journey. What ideas do you have to continue your stewardship into the Easter season?	<b>14</b> <b>Maundy Thursday</b> Today we remember Jesus's last supper with his disciples and his prayers in the garden of Gethsemane. Following Jesus' example, take time today to pray outdoors, remembering all who suffer.	<b>15</b> <b>Good Friday</b> "At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two ... the earth shook, and the rocks were split." - Matt 27:51 Contemplate the destruction already caused by climate change through wildfires, floods, and stronger storms.	<b>16</b> <b>Holy Saturday</b> "Certainly the faithful love of the Lord hasn't ended; certainly God's compassion isn't through! They are renewed every morning." - Lam 3:22-23a Take a walk and notice signs of new life and resurrection in your neighborhood.

**17 Easter Sunday** "For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to Godself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace by the blood of his cross." - Colossians 1:19-20  
"The New Testament does not only tell us of the earthly Jesus and his tangible and loving relationship with the world. It also shows him risen and glorious, present throughout Creation by his universal Lordship." - Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*  
Trusting in the words of Philippians 1:6, "that the One who began a good work in you will bring it to completion," take time to give thanks for the changes of heart and habit you have taken on since Lent began, and continue to live out your call to Creation stewardship with the hope of the resurrection always in your heart!



Take some time today to reflect on all of the activities that you have performed during Lent, and how they have brought you into greater harmony with the earth and with all life. Conclude your Lenten Creation care practice by making a personal pledge to serve God and serve others by pursuing a more sustainable way of life.

# GOODBYE WINTER



Image used on cover

Photos Submitted by:  
Katherine West





Photos Submitted by:  
Dee Rinehart

# HELLO SPRING



Photo  
Submitted by:  
Jim Cockey



Photos  
Submitted by:  
Pat Layton





## *Arlene's Surprise* By: Katherine West

On Sunday, January 30, we surprised Arlene with a relaxation gift basket and thank you cards from the congregation to thank her for four years of service as senior warden.

Arlene greeted us at the door. Shelly built Arlene a snowman and a sign that reads, "Hello! St. Alban's Loves U!" Cristina presented Arlene with flowers. Katherine presented Arlene with a St. Alban's box filled with cards and letters from the congregation.

Shelly presented Arlene with a relaxation gift basket featuring chocolates, a bottle of wine, bath salts, and gift cards from Dumser's Dairyland, Fratelli's, Ruby Tuesday's, and Designer's Edge. We hope Arlene will be able to enjoy some well-deserved pampering. Jim Cockey sent a loaf of his delicious bread and the Mitchell's sent a special present as well. In addition, thanks to the generosity of the congregation, a large donation to the St. Alban's organ fund in honor of Arlene was made.

Thank you, Arlene, for your faithful service to St. Alban's. We admire your leadership skills and appreciate all you have done to keep the church running the past four years. We love you! - The Congregation of St. Alban's



*Snowman Photo by Cristina Machin*



### **Groundhog Day, February 2, 2022 was celebrated at my house with a delicious chili dinner & fun friends!**

At the auction of 2021, I purchased a chili dinner to be cooked by Greg Glass! Guests were Rachael and Stan Shedaker & Amy and Jim Isaacs. Greg made a delicious "groundhog" chili, complete with toppings of cheese, sour cream & freshly chopped onions. He went a step further and baked beautiful cornbread muffins! Yours truly, made a flan (custard) accompanied by dried Turkish figs and whip cream for dessert.

It was a fun evening for all of us! Thank you, Greg!!

Donna Parks

*\*There were no groundhogs involved in the preparation of this dinner! The ground "hog" was actually ground pork!! Yummy!*



Wouldn't it be nice if we could find a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow? If this was the case, we could have a committee at St. Alban's take turns searching for it. The money would go to our **Endowment Fund**, which is a permanent fund, separate from the operating budget (where all the bills go). This fund secures the financial future of our church and, from its investments, we could fund some worthy causes as a result. We could call it "**At The End Of The Rainbow Endowment Fund.**"

*Meanwhile, in the REAL world.... This is how you can help:*

If you have a question or want to discuss an Endowment please contact the church office and you will be directed to a committee member.

stalbanssalisbury@gmail.com  
410-742-6595



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FUND**



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simplest way to  
leave a legacy



**Give Money -**  
it's easy and quick



**Give from Your 401K or  
Retirement Plan -**  
relieve tax burden  
for your beneficiaries



**Give Your  
Life Insurance -**  
make a large gift with less cash

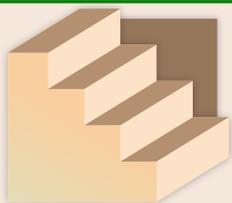
# Save the Dates! Upcoming Fellowship Events

March 6– celebrate Lent delicious homemade soup, bread, and cookies. (Must have been pre-ordered) All proceeds benefit the rector's and deacon's discretionary funds.

April 5– Calling all Jeopardy fans! Test your trivia knowledge with a fun trivia evening on Zoom hosted by Brian Raygor.

May 20– Rollin' on the River - Enjoy an early evening cruise on the new paddleboat, The Black Eyed Susan! Set sail from Snow Hill at 4 pm, travel down the Pokomoke, returning to Snow Hill at 6. Cost: \$38 per person, including appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages. To reserve your spot, go to <https://bes-snowhill.com> and choose Friday, May 20 at 4 pm. Boarding starts at 3:30.

June 12– Let's celebrate summer! Picnic on the lawn at St. Alban's immediately following the service



## CARE OF NEIGHBOR



By: Mary Doak

Being the Vestry Care Of Neighbor representative this year, I thought I would bring you up to date on various projects and issues that have to come to my attention. This is not a comprehensive list of all the Care of Neighbor ministries St. Alban's contributes to. As always, if you have a question or concern, please do not hesitate to contact me to talk. My email is [marydoak@gmail.com](mailto:marydoak@gmail.com) and my cell number is 410-603-7679.

### Hearts and Hands Ending Homelessness-formally CESP:

This ministry, formerly known as the Community Emergency Shelter Project, gives men a secure place to stay during the winter months. They have expanded their services after receiving their 501c-3 status (non-profit). They hope to run a year round facility and also to help men getting out of incarceration. Right now, the shelter is located at the community center at Park Seventh-day Adventist Church, with a bus to transport the men from downtown Salisbury to the church. They are currently seeking volunteers for the shelter. Please contact Walter Davidson at 410-251-4890 if you would like to volunteer or need additional information. St. Alban's has, in the past, done a food /personal items drive to help Hearts and Hands Ending Homelessness. Stay tuned for details related to this!

**Fenix Youth Project:** In 2014, poet and activist, Amber Green, founded Fenix Youth Project Inc. in Salisbury. The mission was simple: To empower youth to use their creative talents to impact social change. In November 2020, they opened the only Drop-In Center for homeless youth on the Lower Shore. Today, young people seek support at FYP for many reasons, including physical and mental health issues, LGBTQ issues, employment issues, and issues with the criminal legal system. Early intervention and help are critical to helping youth succeed. The Vestry has voted to support FYP with a monetary donation. However, anyone can help! For example, you can become a recurring donor;

there are various ways to become a volunteer; you can participate in their "adulting" dinners; there are items you can purchase on Amazon to furnish their youth housing project.... for more information go to [fenixyouthproject.org](http://fenixyouthproject.org)

**Altar Flowers:** As in the past, after the Sunday service, the altar flowers can be delivered to a parishioner who is homebound, who is having a medical emergency, or who is unable to come to church for any reason. I am happy to deliver the flowers. Please let me know of any parishioner who would appreciate some cheerful flowers! I will add their name to a list and contact them about delivery.

**Joseph House:** is a non-profit charitable organization that helps the poor and homeless of southern Delaware and the Lower Shore counties of Maryland and Virginia. It is administered by the Little Sisters of Jesus and Mary, a community of Catholic women religious based in Salisbury, Maryland. The Soup Kitchen at the Joseph House Crisis Center remains closed. All other services are available, including Financial Assistance, Food Pantry, and the Hospitality Room. Kathy Hayne is the coordinator for Joseph House at St. Alban's. She has a dedicated team who gather each month to make sandwiches and lunch bags to deliver to The Joseph House. Formerly they did a hot meal each month and served it but since the pandemic this is not possible. Donations to this ministry are always appreciated.

**The Rector's Discretionary Fund:** is a monetary fund used to help parishioners and the community in times of emergency financial need. Since we do not have a current Rector, Kim O'Grady oversees this fund. Donations are always welcome. Please clearly state that your donation is for this ministry.




# St. Alban's and Community News



## Health protection measures at St. Alban's

Every month the Vestry discusses whether we should change our current pandemic protocols in light of changing COVID19 data, government directives and Diocesan guidelines. Last summer we loosened the protocols, and then had to tighten them up again when the Delta and then the Omicron waves came.

At our February meeting, with Omicron fading, we agreed that it was not yet time to loosen our health protection measures. The idea of having some metric that would allow us to safely 'return to normal' was raised.

Such metrics do exist.. The most often cited metric is the CDC's Community Transmission Levels  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/aboutcovidcountycheck/>

It might be reasonable to loosen our health protection protocols when Wicomico County's COVID transmission level falls below the Substantial or High level, into the Moderate or Low level. Like most of Maryland, we are currently at the Substantial level. Like the rest of Maryland, our rates are rapidly falling.

[https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view?list\\_select\\_state=Maryland&data-type=Risk&list\\_select\\_county=24045](https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view?list_select_state=Maryland&data-type=Risk&list_select_county=24045)

In addition to following the data, your Vestry needs to hear from you. Please continue to share how you want your church to handle health protection measures.

Jim Cockey / Senior Warden

Since writing this, the CDC has put out a new metric called COVID-19 Community Levels. More information can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/community-levels.html>

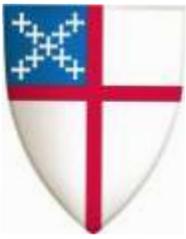
*Dear St. Alban's family,*

*I miss you all very much! It has been so very long since I have seen you. Beginning in January with a mild breakthrough Covid case, through recently being diagnosed with an auto immune disease called ocular myasthenia gravis, it has not been possible for me to be in a large group.*

*January 30 was a very special day when Katherine, Cristina and Shelly stopped by after church to shovel a path to my house, to build a snowman in front of my window and to deliver many lovely gifts, thoughtful hand written notes and cards, flowers and other treats. Your ongoing offers of help, your refilling of my pantry and refrigerator are all precious examples of the love and care that exists here at Saint Alban's, love and care that I am particularly grateful for during this challenging time. I am taking medicine which I hope in time will allow me to see better and hopefully to return to Church by Easter, at least that is my hope and prayer. The yard sign that you gave me is still in place to remind me of each of you. Thank you all again from the bottom of my heart!*

*- Arlene*





*Saint Alban's Herald*

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