

St. Alban's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

welcomes you

Weekly Newsletter November 30, 2017

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In our prayers:

Anne
Brandon
Chris
Colette
Dick
Hayden
Holly
James & family
Karyl
Lamar
Miranda and family
Mina
Pam
Paul
Peter
Sandy
Sarah
Skyler
Wendy

A Message from

Deacon Rebecca

Grace and peace to you in the name of Our
Lord Jesus Christ!

This coming Sunday we are blessed with a visit from our new Bishop, Sam Rodman. I'm excited for St. Alban's-those of us who've had a chance to work with him (remember, deacons work for the bishop!) are thrilled that the Holy Spirit has brought him to North Carolina. And it will be great for the congregation to get to meet and hear from him!

Bishop Sam is coming to administer the sacrament of Confirmation. It's one of those, "well, you have to do it to be able to vote or be on vestry" things...but it's SO MUCH MORE than that. There's actually a REASON it's a sacrament! And that reason is, it's a special grace to publicly confirm and promise to uphold the promises made at our baptisms, on our behalf, by parents and godparents. It's a special grace and growth in spiritual maturity to take them on ourselves, as young adults or adults-to, as the Catechism says, "express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and laying on of hands by a bishop."

This is no small thing. A "commitment to Christ" is a commitment to renounce those things that tempt us to put our faith and trust and energy into anything that is not uplifting, and love- and life-giving. It's a commitment to put all our trust in Christ, to proclaim the Good News of God's love in Christ, to seek and serve Christ in everyone. It's work-it's "striving for justice and peace," and "persevering in resisting evil," and "respecting the dignity of EVERY human being," even if we

We pray for the departed, especially for **Lee Charles Colbert**, Valerie Colbert's Father in Law, **Terry Reid**, Norm Reid's brother & **Yolanda Halbert**, Alex Slawson's friend. May their souls and the souls of all others, by the mercy of God, rest in eternal peace.

In our **Diocesan Cycle of Prayer** we pray for the Anglican Communion.

In our **Anglican Cycle of Prayer** we pray for The Right Revd. Henry Katumba-Tamale in Uganda.

Military Prayer List:

Anatoliy Givens
Ryan Leinberger

Birthdays:

December 3

Andrew McIntyre

December 4

Renee Vesci

December 5

Susie Keller

December 6

Rich Jacoby

Jon Langford

Dylan Cannon

December 7

Becky Neal

Paul Atkison

Ryan Whittington

December 8

Erin Taaffe

December 9

Holly Richter

Elena Jacoby

Sam Laken

Dean Ruthstrom

Anniversaries

December 6

Maurice & Felicity Meunier

Red Wagon Sunday

The first Sunday of each month is the time for us to stock the Red Wagon for Ada Jenkins. They are in need of feminine products, diapers, wipes and cleaning supplies.

are tempted to think the absolute worst of them. And it's a commitment to be faithful in worship and prayer, in learning and fellowship, because the support of community and connection to God are the only things that make our faithfulness to these other commitments possible.

When we talked about this on the day I taught the Youth Confirmation Class, in light of our commitment to service and justice-seeking, one of the young people (all of whom were great!) said that that was a big commitment, a big responsibility. It is-and it is also a great joy! That is why this Sunday is such a celebration! We honor and celebrate those who are taking on this commitment, and we support and pray with them trusting that God will-and does-give us all the strength to carry out the joyful work we take on as followers of Jesus. See you at this great celebration this Sunday!

God's peace,
Rebecca+

Volunteer Sign Up Genius Link

We always need volunteers for reading, greeting and Eucharistic Ministers. Please [click here](#) to sign up to volunteer for the church services.

10:30 SUNDAY SERVERS

Altar Guild:

Susan Beaumont, Ruth Coyner, Alice Mietz

Flower Guild: Suzanne Sadler

Eucharistic Ministers:

Lewis Barber, Mary Kennedy

Crucifer:

Henry Harp, Sally Harp

Torchbearers:

Mickie Colven, Molly Harp

Lectors:

Rosalind Seneca

Ushers:

Bob Beckham, Stephen Wacker

Vestry Person of the Day:

Pamela Breeckner

This Week's Service Times

9:15 T/Th: Morning Prayer

8:00 Sunday: Holy Eucharist

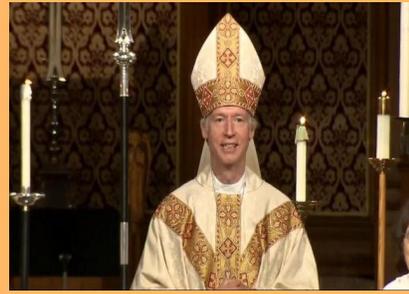
9:00 Sunday: Adult Forum

10:30 Sunday: PreK-5th grade Sunday school

10:30 Sunday: Holy Eucharist & Choir

Bishop Visit

St. Alban's joyously welcomes The Right Reverend Samuel Rodman this Sunday to the 10:30am service. There will be a reception following the 10:30 service. All loose plate offerings will go to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.



Lectionary Study

The Rector's Lectionary Study will begin **December 6th**. Father Jim will be offering a weekly study at 3:00 pm and 6:00 pm on Wednesdays in his office. Email jim@saintalbansdavidson.org with any questions.

Financial Update

Stewardship 2018

As of November 29th, we have received 158 pledges totaling \$482,722. We are still approximately \$77,000 short of being able to fund our 2018 projected operating costs of \$560,000. If you have not turned in your 2018 pledge, please do so as soon as possible - either [online](#) or using a [paper pledge card](#) found in the narthex. We greatly appreciate each pledge, as it enables us to appropriately plan for the coming year. We would love to have a pledge from each of our members! If you have any questions regarding the pledging process, please contact any of the clergy or our Finance Director, Erin Garrett.

2017 Offerings

We have currently collected \$443,430 (83%) of our 2017 pledge offerings. Please help us get to 100% by submitting the remaining balance of your 2017 pledge in December!

Children's Christmas Pageant



St. Alban's Annual Christmas pageant will be held on Sunday, December 24th at 4:00pm. Forms were sent home last Sunday, but you can also sign your child up with the **ONLINE FORM**. All forms are due this Sunday, December 3rd, in order to fill the speaking roles of the pageant. Brie Johnson and Amy Fitchett are the pageant co-chairs this year in case you have any questions.

Church Plumbing Issues

This church congregation has spent thousands of dollars over the last year in plumbing repairs due to the flushing of non-proper items. We can not stress enough the importance of **ONLY flushing toilet paper** down the toilets. This is an expense that the church can easily avoid in the upcoming year, if we all remember to be mindful of only flushing toilet paper down the drains.



Choir Robe Fundraiser

Our Craft Fair was very successful, \$2000 is available to purchase adult choir robes. The sale of hand-made gifts, vintage items, 15 Episcopal Holy Bears, and a quilt raffle generated a lot of interest. This amount includes \$150 in prior donations.

St. Alban's Gift Wrapping Service

Let us wrap your Christmas packages this year! Fast, affordable, customized work by talented & experienced "wrappers". We provide boxes, paper, ribbons, decorations, gift tags - everything. Beautiful packages, great prices! Just drop off your gifts at church & pick them up the very same day. Drop off options: Tuesday Dec.5th,12:00 noon OR Thursday Dec.15th,12:00 noon. All proceeds benefit St. Alban's Outreach ministries. More info: Melissa McClure, mmcclure@pnca.edu



Coat Drive Distribution



Thanks to St. Alban's for the MANY coats, hats, gloves, scarves and socks that were collected for our drive with Gethsemane Baptist Church! If you would like to be part of the group distributing these items, please meet at Gethsemane (565 Jetton Street, across from the Teeter) at **10:30 this Saturday morning**, December 2nd - distribution will take about 2 hours and will be a wonderful

way to start your Advent!

End of the Year Giving

If you are planning to make a securities contribution to fulfill your 2017 pledge commitment to Saint Alban's, please initiate the transfer no later than Friday, December 15th and please let the church office know that it is coming. All other gifts must be postmarked or received by Sunday, December 31st. Please contact our Finance Director, Erin Garrett, if you have any questions.



Episcopal Holy Bears

Dana Phillips generously donated 100 Episcopal Holy Bears to benefit the purchase of



new adult choir robes. These appealing Bears can be a gesture of caring, reaching out to loved ones when they are ill or experiencing a low point in their lives. An Episcopal HolyBear can also be a sweet gift, especially for a god-child. Bears are \$10 each. Please contact Dana directly at 704-664-2706 to purchase your Bears.



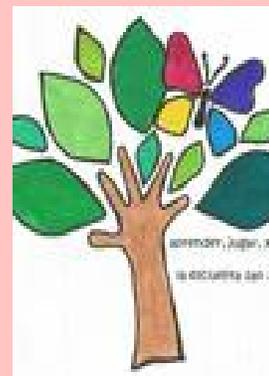
St. Alban's Preschool News

The Preschool Book Fair starts this Monday. Families may visit the Book Fair December 4th-7th during preschool hours.

Our annual fundraising campaign kicked off during the month of November. Thank you to all of the families that have contributed so far. Please visit our website, www.saintalbanspreschool.org/donate, for more information about this year's campaign.

The preschool is in need of a volunteer to assemble a new Little Tikes playhouse for the playground. This could be a great opportunity for a high school student or two needing volunteer hours.

Please call (704)892-8955 or email



La Escuelita San Alban

The families of La Escuelita San Alban Bilingual Preschool will host **Las Posadas for St. Alban's**. It is a lovely event and so meaningful. In costume, the children re-enact the story of Jesus' birth and the adults are the remaining "cast" as they make their way through stations. Dads are the "innkeepers" and have a wonderful time turning "Mary and Joseph" away!

We'll sing the traditional songs at each station and end in the sanctuary with one of the moms reading the Christmas story in Spanish. At the end, we'll have a big fiesta in the narthex with a piñata and the children will get small gift bags from donors. IT IS HEART WARMING and church at its best!

Please consider joining this wonderful celebration of Jesus' birthday. **December 10, 4:00 PM-6:30 PM** (including a fun dinner), CHILDREN especially welcome!

More information to come soon, including RSVP.

<http://escuelitasanalan.org>

MORNING PRAYER

Every Tuesday & Thursday
from 9:15 to 9:30.

NEWCOMERS

The Newcomers meeting is held the first Sunday of each month following the 10:30 service. The meeting will be held in the front office. Please email [Jessica](#) for more information.

NURSERY

Do you have a young child who uses our nursery services? I hope you do because our paid nursery staff is wonderful! We are in need of volunteers each Sunday at 10:30. [Daniel Johnson](#) is the nursery coordinator and you can [Click here](#) to sign up.

THE PINES

Every 2nd & 4th Thursday at 11:00am, the Holy Eucharist is celebrated at The Pines.

PASTORAL CARE

Are you or someone you know in need of pastoral care? Please contact [Becky Mohlere](#).

ECW

The Episcopal Church Women meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 10:30 in the church. ECW meetings follow the school year calendar.

PRAYER LIST

Would you like to add your family or friend to our prayer list? Please email [Jessica](#) the name. The name will remain on the prayer list for 2 weeks. If you would like to "renew" the name for another two weeks, please email Jessica this request too.

MEMBER DATABASE

Need to update personal info with St. Alban's? Check your pledge balance? Maybe look up another church member? ACS is our church database and it allows you to do all of this and more. Login with your church email and then follow this link for more info. [Read More](#)

[Church Website](#) | [St. Alban's Preschool](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Children & Youth Facebook](#) | [Youth Instagram](#)

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