

## The Weekly Newsletter | May 2, 2024

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### SUNDAY'S SERMON

If you missed Deacon Valerie's sermon, you can watch it and the Fifth Sunday of Easter service [here](#).

### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Who is [celebrating](#)?

### IN OUR PRAYERS

We pray for these [people](#).

### SERVER SIGN UP

Want to serve as an acolyte, lay Eucharistic minister, lector, usher, or Stream Team member? Sign up [here](#).

### ONLINE SERVICES

Each Sunday, our 10:30 a.m. service is livestreamed to our [YouTube](#) channel. View the order of service [here](#).

### COME, SEE, GO, TELL

by: Deacon Valerie



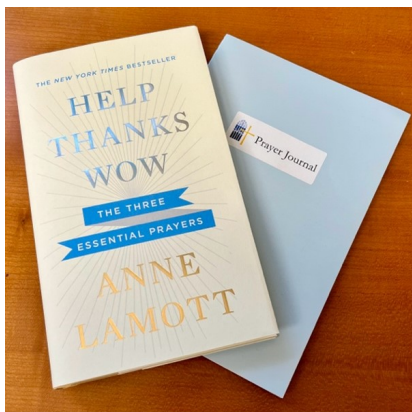
What we hear affects what we know.  
What we know influences what we believe.  
What we believe impacts what we do.

That's why it is so important to listen to God's truth.

"So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ."  
Romans 10:17 NLT

Throughout the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), we see Jesus inviting His...

READ  
MORE



### ***Help, Thanks, Wow Discussion Group***

We will gather on the first three Sunday mornings of May in the Reflection Room from 9:10 – 10:10 a.m. to discuss the book *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers* by Anne Lamott. Copies of the book were given out recently as part of Rev. Carmen's sabbatical grant.

**May 5:** Clergy will lead a conversation about the chapter "Help" as we explore asking for God's support and comfort.

**May 12:** Clergy will lead a conversation about the chapter "Thanks" as we explore offering our gratitude to God for the many blessings of our lives.

**May 19:** Clergy will lead a conversation about the chapter "Wow" as we explore expressions of awe in our prayers.

This will wrap up our Sunday morning Adult Formation program year. After our summer hiatus, watch for new Adult Formation opportunities coming in the fall!

## OFFICE CLOSURE DUE TO CONSTRUCTION

Due to construction of the Parish Hall impacting the church office, it will be closed temporarily the week of May 5, resuming regular office hours (Tuesday - Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.) on May 14. Regularly scheduled church events will take place as usual, but staff will be working from home, as needed.



## UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS



### **Moms Connect This Evening**

*Thursday, May 2 | 7:00 p.m. | Reflection Room*

Calling all moms! May's Moms Connect will be held on Thursday, May 2, at 7:00 p.m. We will be meeting at the church at 7:00 p.m. for a game night! Feel free to bring your favorite board game(s) and a snack/beverage to share, if able. If you can only bring yourself, that's okay, too! We look forward to seeing you!

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### **Men's Group Gathering**

*Monday, May 6 | 6:30 p.m. | Narthex*

Gentlemen of St. Alban's, please mark your calendars for our upcoming Men's Group Gathering on Monday, May 6th at 6:30 p.m. in the Narthex. Also, please feel free to bring your own

beverage for dinner – which will be provided. We are very fortunate to have our very own Kevin Lloyd talk to us about the global Anglican Communion, especially from the perspective of his experiences working for the Archbishop of Canterbury in London! This should be of great interest to all of us. We look forward to seeing you there.



### **Holy Happy Hour**

*Sunday, May 19 | 5:00-7:00 p.m. | St. Alban's Community Gardens*

The SEEDS gardeners announce that the much-anticipated annual Holy Happy Hour will be held on Sunday, May 19th, 5:00-7:00 p.m. (It follows the 3:00 p.m. Music at St Alban's performance). Everyone is warmly invited! Bring a snack to share, your beverage of choice, a chair if needed, and celebrate the beauty of the gardens. The gardeners' efforts, our land, and the creatures living therein, will be blessed by the The Rev. Leslie Steffensen!

### **Women's Group Gathering**

*Tuesday, May 28 | 6:00 p.m. | Home of Kathleen McMillan*

Ladies, please join us for our next Women's Group gathering! This will be hosted by Kathleen McMillan at 21800 Shearer Road, NC 28036 on Tuesday, May 28 at 6:00 p.m. (Her mailbox is on the other side of the road from a shared driveway.) For all interested, Farmer Mike is happy to introduce the group to their farm animals. You'll want to wear appropriate shoes that may get dirty.



We invite all attendees to bring a snack, an appetizer, or a bottle of wine if you like. However, the most important thing is to just bring yourself. We look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you so much to all the St. Alban's Women who have graciously volunteered to host one of our monthly get-togethers. New friendships have been fostered and established friendships have been strengthened. Most of our monthly meetings have been purely social and that is perfectly fine! But, if anyone would like to incorporate a short program or demonstration, that is fine, too. It is totally up to the hostess. Thank you all for your participation with this wonderful group of women.

## **OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Outreach Team Meeting**

*May 14 | 6:30 p.m. | Reflection Room*



The St. Alban's Outreach Team will meet on Tuesday, May 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the Reflection Room. All are welcome to attend the Outreach meetings to learn about organizations St. Alban's serves and funds locally and internationally. If you are not able to attend and have any inquiries regarding Outreach opportunities, please contact Adrienne Bacchus at [Adrienne.bacchus@yahoo.com](mailto:Adrienne.bacchus@yahoo.com) or 703-517-4290.

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### **Galilee Green Workday**

*May 18 | 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte*

Please join [Galilee Ministries of East Charlotte](#) in making the Galilee Green a place of welcome, beauty, and respite for their community on the upcoming workday on May 18 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. They have a large community garden, a peace garden, an outdoor labyrinth, and urban orchard, native plant beds and seating areas for neighbors to gather. You'll want to bring your garden tools along. You can contact [Alf Badgett](#) with any questions.



[Please let us know you are coming by signing up here.](#)

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### **Sneaker Recycling**

The Outreach team is joining a Davidson Town project that will ensure that sneakers don't wind up in area landfills. As important as it is to keep the sneakers out of landfills, the other big news is that 100% of proceeds from this effort will be donated to the Davidson Veterans Monument fund, currently being planned for Downtown Davidson.

So, dig through those closets. Do your spring cleaning now! Bring your sneakers to the church and put in the collection container during the month of May.

### **Things to Ponder**

Most people throw away their used sneakers every 125-200 days without ever thinking about recycling. Since sneakers are manufactured with materials that are not biodegradable, they remain in landfills or are incinerated, which leads to toxic chemicals in our air and soil.

The process of manufacturing sneakers produces large amounts of CO2 which contributes to the serious effects of climate change and global warming. Recycling and reusing sneakers keeps sneakers out of landfills, reduces the need for manufacturing new shoes and sneakers, and supports a growing circular economy.

A quick final note – **this is only for sneakers, not non-athletic shoes.**

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### **Lydia's Loft Needs Donations**

Lydia's Loft requests gently used donations to support their mission of providing free clothing to those in need. Most needed

items: men's clothing in small and medium sizes, towel sets, bedspreads/comforters, bed sheet sets, children's clothing sizes 7-18, children's shoes sizes 10 & up, sneakers for children. Drop donations off at **14835 N. Old Statesville Road in Huntersville** during the hours of Monday 9-Noon, Tuesday 9-4, Wednesday 9-Noon & 4-7, Thursday 9-4, Saturday 9-Noon.



## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS



The St. Alban's Flower Guild invites you to reserve a Sunday to dedicate the altar flowers. Doing so is a wonderful way to celebrate a birthday or anniversary, remember a loved one, or mark a special occasion. There is a suggested donation amount of \$50-\$100 which can be made by check to St. Alban's with "altar flowers" in the memo, or by visiting our [online giving page](#) and selecting "flower fund" from the drop down menu. Your generous donation to the flower fund helps to offset the cost of the flowers.

When altar flowers are dedicated, the names and messages are listed in our weekly service bulletins. The Flower Guild welcomes special flower/color requests and will accommodate them whenever possible. Please sign up at least a week in advance to allow for coordination with the office and the Flower Guild.

[Click here to reserve an upcoming Sunday.](#) *(The link to the sign up can be found at the bottom of this newsletter each week.)*

## MUSIC @ ST. ALBAN'S



To close out a wonderful season, Music at St. Alban's (M@SA) proudly presents Hank, Pattie and the Current on Sunday, May 19 at 3:00 p.m. These bluegrass pickers, who moonlight as symphonic classical musicians, create a blend of bluegrass, classical, Motown, jazz and pop, with added elements of Latin and Bach. Please join us as these artists bring bluegrass favorites to the stage, with fiddle, voice, guitar, and bass. This concert is preceded by a young artists'

performance at 2:20 p.m., featuring Janelle Davis' string students. The concert will be available via live streaming. For information about that option and tickets, visit [M@SA's website](#). This event is made possible, in part, with funding from the ASC and support from WDAV. News of Davidson is our media partner. M@SA is a 501[c]3 non-profit organization.

## ST. ALBAN'S WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

### Two and Three Year Old Spaces Available

St. Alban's Weekday Preschool is now enrolling for the 24/25 school year. We have a few remaining openings in our T/Th Twos and M/W/F or M-F Threes and would love to meet your family! We operate from Labor Day to Memorial Day, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. We have a highly experienced, loving group of teachers and a hands-on, play-based curriculum. Please call 704-892-8955 for more information or to set up a tour date.



Visit our [website](#) for additional information.

## CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES



### Nursery

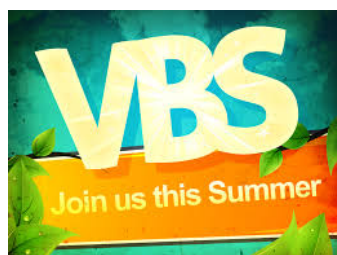
Nursery is offered **DOWNSTAIRS** in the **Preschool** area during the **10:30am** service for children up to **4 years old**. Four year olds and up are invited to join our Sunday School class.

### Sunday School for Children

Please make plans for your children to join us in **Sunday School at 10:15am downstairs**.



Our younger children, **Age 4 – 1st grade and 2nd-5th grade** meet in the **Preschool** area. All children need to be registered, please **register them [HERE!](#)**



### Save the Date - 2024 VBS

2024 Vacation Bible School (VBS) is coming! Please save the dates! 2024 VBS will be held Monday, July 29th to Thursday, August 1st from 9am-12pm. We have extended it an hour and are so excited to see all your children! Please register [HERE!](#)

## Sunday School for Middle/High School

Please make plans for your Middle/High Youth to join us at 10:15am on Sundays for Youth Sunday School **in the Blue Youth Room** next to the Choir room. All Youth need to be registered, **please register them [HERE!](#)**



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### Middle/High Youth Group Calendar

Youth Group is for 6th-12th graders. Mark your calendars for the next few events:

**May 5th** – Meet at Summit Creamery, formerly Ellie May's, 5:30-7:30pm

**May 12th** – Mother's Day Putt Putt, LKN Putt Putt, 5:30-7pm

**May 19th** – End of Year Party at Frankie's in Huntersville, 3-5pm

View the rest of our Winter/Spring schedule [here](#).

**Our new Instagram page is @st.albansyouthgroup1. We will be posting event updates and pictures!**

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### Please download the REMIND app!

Parents and Youth, **please download the REMIND app** by going to this [link](#) or text **@stalbansyo to 81010**. This app is essential for communication to our group about event reminders and last minute changes!

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## FROM THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NORTH CAROLINA



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### **HUGS Camp Camper Applications Now Open (Buddy Campers and Staff Still Needed)**

*HUGS Camp Dates: July 8-13, Haw River State Park*

**HUGS** is a unique camp for unique people, bringing together young people of diverse abilities. They overcome barriers of real and



imagined differences and build bridges of understanding. HUGS is about acknowledging the good creation in each of us and more fully knowing and loving our God through it. The great differences among campers and staff help all of us learn to appreciate and celebrate our diversity as we recognize our common ground.

[Camper applications](#) are now being accepted!

#### **STILL NEEDED:**

**Buddy campers** are rising 9th-12th graders who help campers with special needs enjoy all aspects of a typical summer camp experience. Buddy campers arrive on Saturday, July 6, to be trained to work with campers with special needs, who arrive on Monday, July 8.

#### [Buddy camper application](#)

**Staff** must have completed their first year of college and are expected to stay in cabins with campers, as well as serve on one of the following teams: camp life, worship, activities or program. Before camp, there is a mandatory Zoom meeting with the entire staff, as well as individual meetings with the team you have been assigned. Staff earn a stipend for their work.

#### [Staff application](#)

Camper applications will be available at a later date.

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#### **Upcoming Racial Equity Training Opportunities**

The [Racial Equity Institute \(REI\)](#)'s foundational Racial Equity Training workshop provides an analysis of race and racism from a systems perspective. That is, it addresses racism not only from the standpoint of individual bias but also by examining the historical roots of racism as it affects institutions—the church, education, health care, criminal justice, etc.—and what effect that has on the opportunities that white people and people of color have. Although this is a secular training, people of faith from multiple denominations are well-represented. To help defray the cost of the training, the diocese, through the Racial Justice and Reconciliation Committee (RJRC) offers funding.



Current [two-day workshop opportunity](#) (9 a.m.-5 p.m. each day):

- May 6-7 - In person in Durham

To request funding, please contact Lew Myers and Cathy Rimer-Surles, RJRC Co-Chairs at [rjrc@episdionc.org](mailto:rjrc@episdionc.org) or 919-606-4304.

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#### **2024 Dates for Introduction to Dismantling Racism**

The 2024 dates and registration links are now available for "[Introduction to Dismantling Racism: Reclaiming Our Baptismal Promise](#)." Dismantling Racism is an interactive workshop offered via Zoom. It is designed to deepen spiritual commitment to dismantling racism as participants in the Jesus Movement. Through presentations, prayer,



story sharing, videos and small group discussion, participants explore how the sin of racism impacts all lives.

**2024 training dates:**

- June 21, 5-8 p.m., and June 22, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#) (Presented by Deacon Valerie)
- July 26, 5-8 p.m., and July 27, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)
- September 27, 5-8 p.m., and September 28, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. [Register.](#)

**OFFICE HOURS**

The office is open and staffed from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday - Thursday.

**MORNING PRAYER**

Morning Prayer is offered in the chapel of our nave at 9:15 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Morning Prayer via [Zoom](#) is offered at 9:00 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

**ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS**

Dedicating the altar flowers is a wonderful way to celebrate a birthday or anniversary, remember a loved one who has passed, or mark a special occasion. Click [here](#) to learn more and reserve an upcoming Sunday.

**PRAYER LIST**

Would you like to add a friend or loved one to the St. Alban's prayer list? Please email [Jessica](#) either their first name or their full name, depending on their preference. The name will appear on the parish prayer list for three weeks. If after that time they still need to be on the prayer list, then reach out to Jessica to renew for another three weeks.

**PRAYER SHAWLS**

If you or someone you know is sick or grieving, support might come from a "hug" in the form of a prayer shawl that has been blessed by our clergy. If you would like to receive a prayer shawl for yourself or someone you know, please contact [Jessica](#).

[St. Alban's Episcopal Church](#)



St. Alban's Episcopal Church | 301 Caldwell Lane, Davidson, NC 28036

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