



The Albanac

SEPTEMBER 2012

KICK-OFF SUNDAY! Sunday, September 9th 10 a.m.

The celebration continues after the service with
fun & games on the playground!

Waterslide



Hot Dogs!



Ice Cream

Games



Obstacle Course

Face-painting

*“Outragehiss...Pets”
Live Animal Show*



Featuring creatures from all over the world!



New website ready for viewing! We are thrilled to announce that our newly redesigned website is live and ready for viewing. Our new address is www.stalbansflow.org. The new website could not have been possible without all the contents of the 'old' site and John Murphy's tireless attention to it for all these years. Much of what is on the new site was imported directly from the old site. THANK YOU JOHN!

Our new site was developed by Mary Echevarria, a web design artist in California with whom Kathryn connected. Mary has graciously designed the site for free and is going to host it for as well. The Vestry has been reviewing the site since late June and making suggestions.

Mary had a phone session with Kathryn, Diane and John in mid-August to discuss the site, how we would make changes, and how we would be updating and keeping current the calendar and photo albums. This is a wonderful gift for us that will help us in continuing to get St. Alban's and our ministries more fully known in the community.

Still under construction is the preschool page which will have lots of new, information and pictures of this program of which we are so proud. Teresa is excited to be able to have this resource available for prospective families as well as for forms and notices to those enrolled.

We will continue to make edits and tweak things on the site over the next couple months but we are excited to have it up and running. Be sure to check out the Ministries tab with the pull-down menu. All the ministry descriptions have been redone and photos have been added.

Thanks to everyone who has worked to bring this into being!

Two Important Events

On Sunday, September 9th we will celebrate Kick-Off / Welcome Back Sunday. We will have a wonderful service followed by a church picnic and carnival. It will be a day to reconnect, share stories of the summer months, and remember the joy we share together in worship, prayer and service at St. Alban's.

The next Sunday, September 16th, our Vestry is hosting a Ministry Fair. Each ministry area will have displays and information about all that we do in our worship, prayer and service. It is an opportunity for you to see what strikes your heart and peaks your interest. What will bring you joy as you participate or attend. What are you looking for that will help you to meet your need to serve but be able to do it in such a way that you are 'more' when you do it. The saying goes that 'it is ministry if it makes more of you'. What will make more of you?

These two events will frame the first days of our new program year and give us the opportunity to celebrate each other and then make decisions to serve with each other. I commend both these events to you and your calendar and hope that you will find in them a place in this faith community that is just right for you.

EXCITING NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR WILL INCLUDE
EVERYTHING BIBLE
REACHING FOR CHANGE
SACRAMENTS for LIFE



REACHING FOR CHANGE

Reaching for Change will be a unit of the 2012 / 13 program that will connect the ministry of serving others with our daily life and core values. Using portions of the curriculum *Living Well: Christian Practices for Everyday Life* developed for congregational use we will incorporate learning about some of the Outreach ministries that St. Alban's participates in as well as learning about things going on around the world. Each lesson has a Biblical theme and is tied to a verse in scripture. There will be discussion and activities that challenge the children to make connections with how they can make a positive difference in the lives of others. Another aspect of this program that led us to select it to use is that it has workbook exercises that reinforce the content and allow the children to bring the learning home for further discussion with parents.

During this unit of the program the classes will also prepare a dish that will be part of the meal taken to St. Paul's Men's Shelter and we will make a special point of inviting and encouraging your family to come to St. Paul's with our regular team and experience firsthand the joy of serving others. By actually going and participating we all learn that 'they' really are 'us' and that our common identity as children of God is our strongest identity of all.

EVERYTHING BIBLE

How many of you are reluctant to come to a Bible study because you don't know the first thing about opening the Bible and how to find books and chapters? How many of us think we don't know enough about the Bible to come to a Bible class? How many of us would like something different for our children?

Well, your dedicated Sunday School teachers and clergy are going to help to remedy that situation with our children this fall in Sunday School classes. This fall in Sunday school we will be offering a 6 week segment called **"Everything Bible"**.

We are going to put age appropriate Bibles in the hands of our children. And we will help you select one to purchase for your child(ren) if you would like. Through games and interactive lessons they will learn the difference between the Old and New Testaments and how to find the stories they know and the ones they are curious about ... the ones YOU are curious about! The Bible is more than a book ... it is a library of 88 books. There are story books and history books and poetry books. There are adventure stories and mysteries ... do you know there is even a story of a witch? There are stories about children and animals and invisible writing on walls. The Bible has it all and it is fun and important to know what a treasure it is.

All clergy in the church make a declaration before they are ordained part of which says "I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation". We ALL believe that ...and in a fun, interactive, hands-on and engaging way we are going to guide our kids to discover it for themselves.

There will be a Sunday School table at Kick-Off Sunday on September 9th and classes start on September 16th. Make sure you and your kids are here to be part of this wonderful unit. The

materials will be available for you to see and age appropriate Bibles available for you to consider for your child(ren). They've probably read Harry Potter and, 39 clues, or the Hunger Games cover to cover ... let's get them excited about OUR library. The stories are timeless!

SACRAMENTS for LIFE

We have seven Sacraments that follow the paths of our lives. They are Baptism, Holy Communion, Confirmation, Marriage, Reconciliation, Anointing of the sick and Ordination. Did you know that Baptism is full entry into the Church and that only Baptism is required for any of the others? Our children are full and complete members of the Body of Christ and therefore have access to all the other Sacraments of our faith. Last year we did an intentional unit on Holy Eucharist to continue the understanding around this sacrament that the children participate in every week. This year we will offer a unit that will cover, week by week, each of the other six. Reverend Kathryn commented that when she was young she remembered thinking that there were two major differences between Episcopalians and Roman Catholics; one was that we didn't have a Pope and the second was that we didn't have 'confession boxes'. The truth is that we do have 'confession boxes' and we have much more in common than we do different. We want our children to know 'Who they are and Whose they are' and a unit on the Sacraments that mark the paths of our lives is one way to ground them in being a Christian in the Episcopal Church.

All this is to say that we are working intentionally and prayerfully to plan and offer a strong program of faith formation for your children ... for our children. This is a gift to all of us... to all of our children. The tree that is next to the elevator says simply what we seek to live into "Rooted in Christ, growing in grace". Make a commitment to bring your children to Sunday school consistently this year. Make this a year that it is a priority to let them explore the faith tradition that you have chosen for yourself and for them. They want to know and they need to know what is important to you and what you know is important for them. The clergy and teachers are laying it out like a banquet ... come and share the nourishment!

A NOTE FROM LOU

Dear Friends,

It is with mixed emotions that I write this note to you. I am feeling joy, expectation, excitement, yet also a bit of sadness as I let you know it is time for me to move on and leave St. Alban's as your Director of Music. My last Sunday with you will be Sunday September 30th.

My feelings of joy and expectation are most real as I offer a shout of celebration for my ministry with you. It has been a wonderful, yet sometimes challenging, spirit-filled journey and I will treasure the time we have had together. The friendships I have formed over my two years with you will always be a part of who I am and who we are.

Two years ago, after 29 years with Oxford University Press Music Department, my job "went back" to England. With the close of the department, I made the decision to take an early retirement and keep my second "career" as church musician going. In March, my partner, Joe, retired as a priest in the Diocese, and we made the decision that as retired people, we couldn't afford to live in Bergen County any longer. Neither of us is fond of cold weather and snow, so we made the decision to relocate to warmer climes. We both like Florida and what it has to offer, so we have been searching for a home there for about 5 years.

Things fell very quickly into place and it just feels to us that it's the right time to make this move. We are relocating to Ormond Beach, FL (just North of Daytona Beach), to a beach house.

The expectation of growing and developing a music program for St. Alban's has been fun and your warmth and kindness in accepting me has been quite special. I'm hoping the adult choir and children's choir will continue to grow. With the District 10 Summer Music Camp in place, we've also been able to acquire three octaves of handchimes and I hope that a multigenerational Choir Chime Choir will get started up. For all of you non-singers out there, it's a great way to Praise the Lord with music. My hope for you is that you will continue to grow in many ways, but especially musically. The potential in this faith community is a great one.

There are also feelings of sadness that go along with this. Leaving friends will not be easy. Your presence in my life has shown me what it's like to be in a safe haven of worship and I thank you for that.

Part of the process of leave-taking will be a celebration of my ministry with you on September 30. I am hoping that it will not just be a celebration of what I have offered, but also recognition of all that have made the music program a vital and spirit-filled part of our life in Oakland/Franklin Lakes.

God be with us all as we continue on the many segments of our life journey. You are the best!

Lou Fifer



We have extended our offerings to meet your needs!

Beginning in September we will offer **Care Club**, our new extended care options with the same high quality staff and program that is synonymous with St. Alban's Pre-School. Our morning and afternoon excellent preschool program will remain the same and will now be available to those families who also need extended hours of care for their children!

CARE CLUB

Whether you need full time care for five days a week, three days a week, or just occasionally to get caught up on errands, our new **Care Club** has been designed to meet the needs of your family. **Care Club** will enhance our current flexibility and offerings to our half day students as well as provide wrap-around care for families who need extended days on a regular basis.

Staff: The staff for **Care Club** is a team of our regular preschool teachers who will serve on a rotating basis. Your children will always be under the primary supervision of a certified or credentialed St. Alban's preschool teacher.

Program: **Care Club** will include a variety of age appropriate socialization activities in our beautiful facility and park-like playground as well as special projects planned by our creative teachers. This is not babysitting by high school teens; this is an extension of our excellent program.

How it works

Care Club is available from 7-9am and 4-6pm each day the school is open (We follow the Oakland School calendar). All children are welcome for those additional hours at any time. The lowest rates are available to those who register for between three and five days of **Care Club**. To receive the reduced package rates for school day and **Care Club** you must *register* for a minimum of three days of regular extended care. Additional days may be added at any time.

Care Club is also available on an hourly as-needed basis for all enrolled students for only \$8.00 per hour.



Number of months Don and Paula were in your face
– 3

Number of team members who walked the Relay – 44

Number of meals served at Fish and Chips Dinner – 92

Number of Cancer Awareness Bracelets sold – 300

Amount of donations – \$5,492

Love and support from St. Alban's – PRICELESS!!

What a fantastic year for the Saints of St. Alban's and Relay for Life! Our wonderful church family joined together to share this life-changing event to help create a world with less cancer. A total of 33 members of the church celebrated the night along with 11 additional friends and family (12 were the youth!).

The youth spent a Saturday at ShopRite selling bracelets, soliciting donations and putting flyers on cars to advertise our Fish and Chips dinner in May. This year we served 92 dinners and sold over 300 Cancer Awareness bracelets throughout the community. **Donations totaled \$5,492, putting the "Saints" at Gold Team level and in 3rd place out of 56 teams.** What a banner year!

Relay for Life reminds us that those lost to cancer will never be forgotten and that those who face cancer will always be supported. More than anything, it makes us hopeful that one day, cancer will be eliminated for good.

Thank you all for your wonderful support. We are looking forward to walking with you again next year.

Don and Paula

MINISTRY FAIR
Sunday, September 16th
(during Coffee Hour)

Meet the leaders of various St. Alban's ministries during coffee hour on Sunday, September 16th, and find out about the exciting opportunities available where you can use your time and talents to serve God and the people of St. Alban's. The ministries work to maintain the life of the church and the mission work done beyond its walls.

Being involved with committees such as Finance, Outreach, Worship and Parish Life, Christian Education, and Evangelism is a rewarding commitment, and will take only as much time as your schedule allows. Serving on a ministry can mean a dedication of as little as twice a year, once every month, or every week, whatever fits your schedule.

We're especially looking for parishioners to be ushers, hospitality (coffee hour) hosts, Sunday School teachers and helpers, and to get involved with pastoral care.

Please take some time to consider this commitment, and don't be afraid to ask God for guidance and support. "For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:10



FRANKLIN LAKES DAY FAIR
Saturday, September 23rd
(raindate: Sept. 24th)

11AM - 8 PM at De Korte Drive

Bring your friends to the St. Alban's Booth!

THANK YOU, SANDY & WALLY WEISS

Anyone who has been around St. Alban's for any length of time know Sandy and Wally Weiss. Sandy grew up in this congregation and since their marriage Wally has been a regular participant in outreach and social events. For all of their life together Sandy and Wally have been faithful in worship every Sunday and often during the week as well ... but they did not often worship together. Sandy and Wally each have deep roots in the churches where they were raised: Sandy here at St. Alban's and Wally at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in Rochelle Park. Both have been leader in their respective churches as well as sharing ministries in each others churches. The way that they order their common life in the service of

others is inspirational.

Sandy and Wally live in West Milford and earlier this year decided that they would like to worship together rather than separately on Sundays. Rather than one leaving their home church they decided that they would both, together, seek a faith community closer to their home where they could begin as a couple and worship side-by-side. They have found that in West Milford and while it will be their primary place of worship they will remain connected and active in ministries through both St. Alban's and Sacred Heart.

It is hard for us not to see Sandy in her accustomed place each Sunday but we also give thanks with her that she and Wally are able to be together in worship as they always have been in life and service.

So it isn't good-bye at all ... and it is a new time for them. So we will continue to be very thankful when their joyful presence is present with us and enjoy their company as we all seek and serve Christ together through the many ministries which will continue to fill their lives.

Kathryn+

WHAT IS DIACONAL MINISTRY?

There are 3 orders of ordained ministry in the Anglican Church...Bishop, Priest, Deacon. All are called to serve in different arenas of life. A deacon works for the Bishop and at the Bishop's pleasure. Our Bishop in the Newark Diocese is The Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith.

First Timothy 3:8-10. Deacons, likewise, are to be men worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine and not pursuing dishonest gain. They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience. They must first be tested: and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.

Historically, the work of the church is to address social problems in the world. This is the primary work of a deacon. Church going people were some of the first folks to campaign for the abolition of the slave trade in this country and later, the church was prompted by human sympathy to care for the individuals that were affected. I offer these two places (you can surely think of more) where the people of the church made a difference in the world...the claim of the church to make a difference, to have a voice in causing change, is not a new force.

There are problems in our own time which the Christian conscience cannot ignore. The social, economic and educational problems that I have encountered in the past 12 years of prison ministry cannot be ignored. I hoped to do more over the years and have failed in some respects. What I hope I have brought to the men and women I serve at the Essex County Jail is a strong sense that someone, somewhere out there, cares for them. I bring them a message only of love and forgiveness and watching out for each other...no theology. I remind each of them, regularly, that they are "God's Beloved Child". They have not heard that much in their lives.

In the face of so many social problems, the work of the church is to help to produce and inspire good Christian men and women who want to make a difference, people who are inspired by their faith. We need more of them. We must all keep our Baptismal Covenant in mind. We

must remember our promises made. We are asked to believe, to continue, to persevere and, if need be, to repent. We are asked to proclaim and seek Christ in all persons and to strive for justice and peace. It's all about service. There is something for every Christian to do. Churches that have deacons have learned to reach out beyond their own congregation and to live into that covenant.

Paul puts it beautifully as he writes to the people of Ephesus: As a prisoner, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love...there is one body and one spirit – just as you were called to one hope when you were called – one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all.

Deacon Barbara

MISSION TRIP THANK YOU

Dear Vestry Members,

It's summer, but along with forgetting all I learned in school, I have been able to participate in this wonderful experience that you all have helped us to achieve. The money you graciously funded us with was not only for our own benefit, but went towards deep, important causes. In the course of this week, my fellow adventurers and I have been to St. James' Church to help restore the building, and we learned about a food program that recently fed 157 children in the Hackettstown area. We also assisted with Haven of Hope, a program to take families with ill children out of the stresses of daily life. What I'm really saying is, we thank you so much for helping us help others, and giving all of us a truly profound experience. The way we all look at life has been drastically improved and opened. So thank you. Thank you so very much.

Love, Olivia Nazare



Dear Vestry Members,

Thank you so much for your generous donation that helped fund the Mission trip. Your donation money gave us the opportunity to help paint a church, garden at Haven of Hope and host a barbeque for a family in need. Painting the church helped me understand that the work of God is out there – you just need to find it.

From, Bryce Dugan

Youth Participants: Julia Miles, Julia Hansen, Christian Nazare, Olivia Nazare and Bryce Dugan



MYSTERY BUS TRIP – SEPTEMBER 26th MARK YOUR CALENDARS

For years in my early ministry I ran Mystery Bus Adventures for elementary aged kids on weekdays when schools were closed. Barbara Harriman and I are bringing the tradition to St. Alban's. Here's some info to whet your

curiosity ...

On September 26th schools are closed. Children in 1st grade and up will meet in the church parking lot in the morning and board a bus for this day long adventure. During the course of the day they will open clues and decipher puzzles to unfold the next stop on our adventure. Volunteer parents and teens will lead groups of 6 -8 children. Parents will be given the full itinerary in advance but it must not be shared with the kids! The cost will likely be between \$20 and 40 for the whole trip depending on how many seats on the bus we fill. Children will be welcome to bring friends so pass the word. Details will follow over the summer but save the date now!!!



The Return of Parent's Night Out!! Mark your calendars now for September 28 Kindergarten and up; 6:30 – 9pm

Kathryn will host PNO in the Youth Center and needs ONE ADDITIONAL ADULT to volunteer each night. The evening will include simple supper, hanging out and games in the Youth Center, and finishing up with a movie. Kids from kindergarten and up are welcome!

Details and themes for each night will follow. So mark your calendar and stayed tuned!

BLOOD DRIVE

September 30th



The Outreach Committee is sponsoring a blood drive on Sunday, September 30th right here at St. Alban's. You can come to church to receive and share the gift of life! Please mark your calendar, sign-up at Kick-Off Sunday or at the Outreach table at the Ministry Fair, and we'll provide the juice and cookie when you're done!

St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals
Sunday, October 7th at 10AM
Outdoor Service followed by treats for all God's critters!
Collection for RBARI Animal Shelter



We would LOVE to have some larger and more unusual animals with us on the day so if you have any or know of anyone who would be willing to bring their special creature please invite them and let us know what to expect! Special arrangements can be made if necessary. Let's make this a real tail wagging success!



CROP Walk

Sunday, October 14th

Registration begins at 1:15pm at Messiah Lutheran Church, 228 Ramapo Valley Rd. The walk starts at 2pm, goes down Route 202 to the TDC bank, and loops back to Oak St. Then cross at the light and returns to Messiah.

If your church is interested in participating please reply or call to set up a time to get the sponsorship materials.

If you have any questions, please call Nancy Krause or Pastor Julie Haspel at 201-337-4900.

Thank you!

SACRED SOUNDS MUSIC CAMP
CELEBRATION CONCERT
Thursday, July 12th





SEPTEMBER MILESTONES

Birthdays

1st Joseph Mahonchak 3rd Luciano Felici 7th Barry Beyda 8th Dawn Berliner
9th Ryan Mellifont 12th Adam Mahonchak, Lizzie Kordonsky 13th Andy Polk 15th Erik
Helleren, Don LaCass 20th Evelyn Walker, Ed Lange

Anniversaries

7th Janice & Raymond Zarichak, 20th Cindy & Luciano Felici, 23rd Heidi & Jim McCallum
25th Phyllis & Charles Alsdorf, 26th Barbara & Al Harriman, 28th Diane & Frank Van
Dyke

HEADS UP!!

9/16 10 AM Ministry Fair, Confirmand Enrollment

9/26 Mystery Bus Trip

9/30 Blood Drive

10/7 10 AM Blessing of the Animals and outdoor service

10/21 6 PM Oktoberfest

10/14 2 PM CROP Walk

10/28 10 AM Halloween Party and blessing of costume



- Kathy Miles for coordinating the Vacation Bible School for St. Alban's
- Everyone who so generously donated food and school supplies
- Diane Rees for her continued help in the office
- All Service Participants for continuing your work through the summer
- Sandy Weiss and all her faithful crew who continue to provide the much-loved summer barbecues at St. Paul's Men's Shelter
- Barbara Harriman for covering for Kathryn while she was on vacation
- Ron Potash and Don LaCass who have fixed toilets, painted and dealt with a broken refrigerator
- John Murphy for his help with the new website and for his tech support in the office
- Leigh Lydecker for fixing the folding machine – again
- Bruce Ercan for replacing zillion light bulbs

Thanks to all the saints of St. Alban's who give generously of their time, talent and treasure.

BIBLE READINGS



Sunday, September 2
Song of Solomon 2:8-13
Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10
James 1:17-27
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sunday, September 9
Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23
Psalm 125
James 2:1-10, 14-17
Mark 7:24-37

Sunday, September 16
Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

Sunday, September 23
Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Matthew 9:30-37

Sunday, September 30
Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22
Psalm 124
James 5:13-20
Mark 9:38-50

Prayers of the People - September

Our thanksgivings and intercessions:

We continue to pray for all who are affected by war, hunger and other calamities and ask for God's grace upon those who work for peace and restoration.

We give thanks for all the blessings of life. We pray for our companions in Paterson.

We pray for those who are unemployed and under-employed.

We pray for those who are ill: Brenden, Louise, Judy, Brian, Cathy, Rosemary, Fran, Bill, Tom, Jan, Margaret, Kathy



We pray for those who have died, especially Patti Lester, Joan Massey and Claire Ludwig. May their souls, and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

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www.stalbansflowl.org

The Most Rev. Katharine J. Schori, Presiding Bishop
The Rt. Rev. Mark Beckwith, Bishop, Newark Diocese
The Rev. Kathryn L. King, *Rector*
The Rev. Barbara Harriman, *Deacon*
Cathie Studwell, *Seminarian*
Diane Firkins, *Parish Administrator*
Lou Fifer, *Minister of Music*

Don La Cass, Cindy Ludwig, Ron Potash, *Wardens*
Pam Hellen, *Clerk* Kathy Miles, *Treasurer*

Vestry: Gary Friedman, Carol Guzzo, Paula Hoffman,
Jim McCallum, Linda Nazare, Jeanne Sylvester

St. Alban's Pre-School

Teresa Ercan, *Pre-School Director*

Teachers:

Cathy Connolly, Elisa Farhi, Dawn Ferraro, Cathy Mazzola,
Christy Macagne, Rosa Mignogni, Beth Schall, Freida Scillieri

“Welcoming All To Share God's Love”