



The Messenger

The Weekly E-Newsletter of St. Alban's Episcopal Church **December 21, 2018**

In Our Prayers

Please pray for:

Blane; Savannah Benton; Edwina Johnson; Jeanne Aycock; Bobby Thomas; Eddie Farmer; Don Lester; Ryleigh Corcoran; Jim Pair; Lisa; Richard Owings Emmons; Mrs. Valentine; Family & Friends of Edward Leon Graham; Family & Friends of Lorena Gray; Family & Friends of James Powers; Jim and Marian Sweeney; Jackie Reddick

Please pray for our Vestry and Clergy:

Marty Atkinson; Libby Martin; Marvin Gray; Judy Terry; Stan Brassie; Bob Emmons; Nicole Richards; and Rev. Pat Merchant



St. Alban's Intercessory Prayer

Group - Every **Tuesday** morning at 11:00 a.m. you are invited to come and pray for the needs of our church, our people, our community and nation.

If you would like for us to pray for someone or something special, please fill out a prayer card, which is found on back of the pews. You can place the card in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

Bible Readings

Readings for This Week:

Micah 5:2-5a
Canticle 15: The Song of Mary
(Luke 1:46-55)
Hebrews 10:5-10
Luke 1:39-55

Readings for Next Week:

Isaiah 61:10-62:3
Psalm 147
Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7
John 1:1-18

Bishop's Blurb

Favorites

Jesus' mother, Mary, believed God has favorites. Listen to the lyrics of her hit song: God gives favor to those on the bottom. God shows mercy to those who reverence God and organize their lives accordingly. God's strength is in preserving people through humility and overthrowing the proud with their delusions of grandeur. The lowly are rising and the powerful are on their way down. The starving will get full and the full will learn about emptiness. God has an extraordinary memory, God never forgets the promises God has made, even though we often forget ours. *Luke 1: 39-56*

Looking Forward to Upcoming Events: Advent and Christmas

December 23, we will have a **Christmas** Pageant at the morning service.

December 24, we will have our **Christmas Eve** Candlelight Service at 5:30 pm

"Celebrations"

Happy Anniversary!

December 21 - Jody & Bob Emmons
December 22 - Fay & Stan Brassie
December 22 - Libby & Ken Martin
December 25 - Vida & Pat Broach
December 26 - Marian & Jim Sweeney

"Announcements"

Altar Guild - The Altar Guild will meet **this Sunday, December 23rd**, at 2:00 p.m. to decorate the church for **Christmas**.

Please Note - The church office will be closed **December 25th** through 28th.
The office will also be closed **January 1st, New Year's Day**.



We wish to thank Fay and Stan Brassie for the gift of renting the McDaniel-Tichenor House for our **Christmas** Party. Also, thanks to Judy and Mallory Sanders and Lynn Laird for planning the party. Appreciation goes out to Jim Laird and Bob Hay for preparing and cleaning the facility the evening of the event. It was a wonderful party. **Thank you!!!**

The staff wishes to express our appreciation for the generous **Christmas** gifts given to us this year. Our work here is extremely rewarding and we are very proud to be a part of St. Alban's. **Thank you!!!**

A reminder, if you have not made a pledge for 2019, please do so. It does not have to be a large amount of money. Each pledge counts as a member who supports our life and work together. If after you make your pledge, you need to revise the amount or details, you may do so at any time by contacting the office via email or USPS mail and the pledge will be modified according to your request...*Pat*

NEW ST. ALBAN'S DIRECTORY

Pick up your copy **this Sunday!**
(Round Table in the Narthex)

VESTRY ELECTION 2019

At the end of 2018, two Vestry members, Marty Atkinson and Libby Martin, will rotate off the Vestry. We are asking for nominations of people to fill these two positions.

Qualifications are as follows:

- 1) Confirmed communicant in good standing of the Parish.
- 2) Not less than eighteen (18) years of age.
- 3) Regular attendant upon the services in the year preceding election.
- 4) Known by the treasurer to have made and maintained a stated financial commitment for church support in the year preceding election.

Please submit your nominations in writing to one of the Vestry members or to the church office. Nomination forms are available on the round table in the Narthex. Please return forms by **January 1, 2019**. The election will be held at the Annual Parish Meeting in January.



Tai Chi Classes

Thursdays - 6:30 p.m.
Instructor - Bill Carter
\$2.00 per Class

Please Note: There will be no classes on **Thursday, December 27,** and **Thursday, January 31.**



Women's Bible Study

The St. Alban's Women's Bible Study meets every **Tuesday** at 1:30 p.m. Please join Pat and this enthusiastic ladies group as the holy scripture is discussed using many references from the CEB Women's Bible. The weekly study will reconvene after the holiday season.

December 2018 & January 2019 Calendars

Lay Liturgical Schedule Fourth Quarter 2018