

The Messenger

The Weekly E-Newsletter of St. Alban's Episcopal Church

August 9, 2019

In Our Prayers

Please pray for:

Edwina Johnson (Cancer); Eddie Farmer; Don Lester (Cancer); Karen McGraw (Cancer); Janet Morris (Cancer); Ryleigh Corcoran; Vivienne Blair (Cancer); Linda (Pre-Leukemia); Bo Warren (Cancer); Clark Rainwater (Cancer); Lenora Smith (Broken Leg); the Roth Family; Glenda Yarbrough & Family; Judy Hannah; Family & Friends of Fred Rider; the John Nunnally Family; Marian Sweeney & Family; Family & Friends of Bill Pardue; Jennifer Goodman & Family

Please pray for our Vestry:

Stan Brassie; Bob Emmons; Marvin Gray; Chick Krautler; June Reid; Nicole Richards; and Riley Tucker



St. Alban's Intercessory Prayer Group-
Every **Tuesday** morning at 11 a.m., you are invited to join in and pray for the needs of your love ones, people of the community, our church, our nation and the world. The prayer session normally concludes by 11:30.

If you wish for us to pray for someone or something special, please fill out a prayer card, which are located in the pew racks in the sanctuary. You can place it in the offering plate, give it to an usher or leave it in the church office daily between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Bible Readings

Readings for this Week:

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

Psalms 50:1-8, 23-24

Hebrews 11:1-3, 3-16

Luke 12:32-40

Readings for Next Week:

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalms 80:1-2, 8-18

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Luke 12:49-56

Bishop's Blurb

Statement

In response to recent mass shootings in Brooklyn, New York; Southaven, Mississippi; Gilroy, California; El Paso, Texas; and Dayton, Ohio, political and religious leaders have released statements. Of course, statements are fine, even necessary. "Thoughts and Prayers and our hearts are with the grieving..." is what we commonly hear. But words aren't enough. As of [August 5](#), which was the 217th day of the year,

there have been 255 mass shootings in the U.S. Just in the last past two weeks, more than 100 people have been shot!**

Words alone can't address this epidemic overwhelmingly perpetrated by young white male American citizens mobilized by anti-immigrant and white nationalist rhetoric. The Bible tells us that "the word became flesh and dwelt among us." Words alone were not enough for God. God pressed God's self into flesh to make change in the world. And so must we. [John 1:14](#), [Proverbs 18:21](#), [2 Chronicles 7:14](#)

If we support those who proclaim hate and xenophobia, or are silent in the face of this kind of speech, then we are complicit in the acts that those words produce. You cannot be entertained by hate or say "amen" to hate, and then be surprised when hate produces death.

Again, the Bible tells us that "the power of life and death are in the tongue." We have been warned. Still, we are not abandoned. There is a way forward. Redemption is possible. "If my people, which are called by my name, will humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Let me also say, personally, that it grieves me to think, especially in these politically fractious times, that some will read my words and dismiss them as merely a partisan tirade rather than the words of someone who endeavors to care for the souls of ALL the faithful in Christ Jesus.

***According to data from the nonprofit Gun Violence Archive (GVA), which tracks every mass shooting in the country. The GVA defines a mass shooting as any incident in which at least four people were shot, excluding the shooter.*

"Celebrations"

Happy Anniversary!

August 15 - Mary Ann & Robert Lindsey

Happy Birthday!

August 14 - Jeanne Aycock

"Announcements"

Passing of a Friend - As everyone knows, we lost our good friend and long-time parishioner, Jim Sweeney, on July 22. His passing is greatly felt. We will remember Jim on [Saturday, August 10](#), at 11:00 a.m. Please keep Marian and his family in your prayers.

We request that everyone please bring a hors d'oeuvre or finger food for the reception following the memorial service. Please let us know what you can provide by signing the sheet provided on the round table in the Narthex [this Sunday](#).

Southern Gospel at Innovation Amphitheater - Every third Saturday a gospel concert is held at the Innovation Amphitheater in Winder. The next shows are August 17 and September 14 at 6:00 p.m.

The tickets are \$20 each or buy 4, get one free, \$16 each. If you are interested in attending a show as a group, please contact Bob Emmons at [404-406-1228](tel:404-406-1228) or bobemmons210@gmail.com.

Holy Smokes! Lighthouse World Outreach Center is having a BBQ Church Challenge on **September 21** at their church campus, 609 Gene Bell Road, Monroe. They are inviting anyone who wants to participate to show off their "best 'que" to contact them at [770-267-4365](tel:770-267-4365) or go to their website at lwoc.org. There will also be music, a car and bike show, and games.

Supply Priests Schedule - August

August 4: Rev. John Bancroft
August 11: Rev. Dave Tonge
August 18: Rev. Dave Tonge
August 25: Rev. Patricia Merchant

We are diligently working to find a priest for our church, but in the meantime, please welcome our supply priest each Sunday and let him/her know how thankful we are to have him/her with us.

LEMs & Ushers Needed! - Lay Eucharistic Ministers and Ushers are greatly needed. Please consider one of these ministries. Contact Bob Emmons (at [404-406-1228](tel:404-406-1228) or bobemmons210@gmail.com.)

St. Alban's Youth Ministry Facebook Page

The new Facebook page for the youth ministry at St. Alban's is now active.
It can be found at: www.facebook.com/325480141440118

Alban's Artists meet every other **Friday** at 10:30 am in the parish hall. We make many handmade items including cards and bookmarks. Some of our creations go into the visitor bags, which are handed out by a team of greeters. Other items will soon be reproduced and packaged for sale. Proceeds for any items sold will go into the Priest's Discretionary Fund.

Please join us as we cut, glue, stamp, stencil, paint and learn many new techniques. All are welcome...artistic talent is NOT necessary nearly as much as an enthusiastic willingness to learn and share. For questions contact Riley Tucker by text or phone at [770-605-1962](tel:770-605-1962).
