

The Messenger

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

May 22, 2020

In Our Prayers

Please pray for:

Edwina Johnson; Eddie Farmer; Don Lester; Janet Morris; Ryleigh Corcoran; Vivienne Blair; Linda; Bo Warren; Clark Rainwater; Jan Abernathy; Virginia Jones; Robin Harrison; Helen; Douglas Ogle; Donovan Honegan; Bill Fisher & Family; Jimmie Lopez & Family; Ellen Krautler; Family & Friends of Sandra Plock

Please pray for our Vestry:

Carole Bond; Stan Brassie; Sue Clayton; Bob Emmons; Chick Krautler; Nicole Richards; and Riley Tucker

Please pray for our priest: Fr. Rich Winters



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 Sunday**:

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 33-36
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

Readings for **Next Sunday**

Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:25-35, 37
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23

Special Update from Bishop Wright

May 7, 2020

Beloved in Christ,

I hope this finds you trusting God. In March, I directed that all meetings, pastoral care, and worship of the diocese be moved online until at least May 24th in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. After much consultation with our Presiding Bishop and a team of health care professionals from our diocese, I am now directing that all meetings, worship, and pastoral care remain online or by other remote means until further notice, effective [today](#).

In addition, Mikell Leaders, in consultation and agreement with the Bishop and Bishop's staff, have decided that the safest and best course of action is to cancel all summer programs at Camp Mikell for summer 2020. [Please read the additional statement from Camp Mikell's leadership here.](#)

Like you, this prolonged absence from one another in worship and the disruption of much of our good work causes me feelings of loss and grief. Still, our loss and grief in this regard is a small price to pay to keep one another healthy and safe. More than that, increasingly and marvelously, individuals and congregations in the diocese are "...hewing out of this mountain of despair a stone of hope." To them I say, thank you and well done.

As the weeks unfold, know that my team and I will continue to consult with a wide circle of advisers and health care professionals to determine when it is reasonably safe to begin to worship in person. We will continue to provide updates through our twice monthly zoom calls with clergy and wardens and more widely as circumstances evolve.

While I realize that phrases like "until further notice" can and will trigger intense feelings of uncertainty and disorientation in some, my prayer is that this time of uncertainty will produce new certainty about the gift of faith that we enjoy. "Do not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." *Galatians 6:9*

With all Christian affection,

The Right Rev. Robert C. Wright



**Special log on information to join the St. Alban's
Worship Services via Zoom or Conference call:**

Join URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/808677652>

You may be able to left click or touch the URL above (in green) and it will connect you directly or you may need to copy and paste the https: address into the web browser

(Chrome, Firefox, Edge, etc). If you do not wish to be seen on the meeting, just click on no video and you can just listen to the service. You may wish to join in with a smartphone or tablet and can download the Zoom app from the App store or Google Play depending the type of device you have. Enter the Meeting ID below when asked to join the meeting.

Meeting ID: **808-677-652** (if needed)

Some people have joined in for the audio only with their telephone by dialing one of the following numbers:

(253) 215-8782

(301) 715-8592

Meeting ID for the telephone call is: **808677652#**

We will again be worshipping from our homes **this Sunday** via Zoom. Our online attendance has been very good and we continue to encourage your participation.

Unfortunately, it was reported last Sunday, around noon that Zoom's servers had experienced a major glitch that morning and it affected many church services from 9 am to 12 noon. It has apparently been corrected and we trust much clearer connections will be available this Sunday, May 24th.

"Announcements"

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

May 22 - Marian Sweeney



Calling All Gardeners who are Walton Strong!

Walton Wellness needs your help in feeding our neighbors. St. Alban's is a co-founder of the Walton Wellness Mobile Farmacy Market. The Farmacy Market is a member based market for financially burdened in our community. This Year our market will be 100% locally grown for the first time ever! This can only be possible with your help. Walton Wellness is launching Walton Strong Grow A Row bucket donation campaign. Walton Wellness will supply participating gardeners with buckets for collecting their donations and provide a donation drop off location. If you wish to participate as a Walton Strong Gardener, please e-

mailwaltonwellnesshealthed@gmail.com for more information. To learn more about Walton Wellness visit www.waltonwellness.org.

Walton Wellness Inc.
DeDe Harris - Executive Director
[770-313-8107](tel:770-313-8107)
waltonwellness@gmail.com
<http://www.waltonwellness.org>

Pentecost Sunday!

With the Nave floor refinished and the pews, etc. reattached in their proper places, St. Alban's plans to conduct an Eucharistic Worship Service online from the Nave with the addition of Zoom on **May 31st**, Pentecost **Sunday**. Live music will be played along with participation of choir members. Less than 10 parishioners will be in the church on that day.

Although the congregation will be tuning in from home, you will be able to celebrate communion with consecrated elements in the single packets that were used on Easter Sunday. These Eucharistic elements will be available for pick up in the church's parking on Friday, **May 29th** and Saturday, **May 30th**. They will be individually bagged and left under the portico on a table for anyone who wishes to drive by and obtain them.

Hopefully, physical attendance for all parishioners at St. Alban's will be allowed in the very near future!

Wear something **RED** on Pentecost so the camera can share it with others as we celebrate the birthday of the **CHURCH**.



The Vestry has Created a St. Alban's Member Relief Fund

Purpose: To assist members of St. Alban's who are facing a difficult situation or crisis requiring financial relief.

Typical Reasons for Need Relief:

1. Unemployed and unable to meet basic needs such as food, lodging, utilities, gasoline, etc.
2. Death of a family member and unable to provide funeral expenses.
3. Transportation expense to meet a family emergency or death.
4. Illness or surgery requiring medical expenses which exceed those the member can cover.

Types of Relief:

The relief will be an outright gift with no expectation of repayment.

Administration of the Relief:

1. The relief grant may be made by the priest in consultation with the Senior Warden and Junior Warden, following an interview.
2. The relief grant may be made by the Senior Warden, in the absence of a priest, in consultation with the Junior Warden and a designated person following an interview.

(The intent is to protect the privacy of the member with only 3 grantors knowledgeable about the financial relief being provided.)

To apply for financial relief, call or e-mail Riley Tucker at [770-605-1962](tel:770-605-1962) or newmoon52@yahoo.com; Bob Emmons at [404-406-1228](tel:404-406-1228) or bobemmons210@gmail.com; or Rev. Rich Winters at [404-908-1489](tel:404-908-1489) or rich.winters86@gmail.com.

Source of Funding:

Contributions to support this fund are voluntary and may be donated by the members of the congregation. If the fund is insufficient to meet the relief needs at any given time, the congregation will be notified.

Text giving to St. Alban's is now available!

We recently established the ability to remit a pledge or make an offertory donation to the parish by way of a text message. This service is currently being used by 20,000 churches in the U.S. and 80% of the parishes in the Diocese of Atlanta. It will allow you to authorize your bank via a credit or debit card to transmit your specified amount to St. Alban's general fund upon completing the form opened by texting **SAE** (of course that stands for St. Alban's Episcopal) to **73256**. In the near future, we will launch an app for your phone along with an eGiving button on the website to allow parish contributions.

We hope this service will make it much easier for individuals that don't have stamps available and do not wish to leave home for the post office to continue to support St. Alban's during this quarantine period.

Also, a secure drop box has been attached to the parish hall wooden doors to make it convenient for dropping off donations and other correspondence to Shirley when she is not present in the office (as her schedule is very limited until future notice).

Hopefully, these additions will provide comforting conveniences to your connecting with St. Alban's.

Readers Needed! - Lay Readers are greatly needed during this time of Zoom online worship services. Please consider this ministries. Bob Emmons: [404-406-1228](tel:404-406-1228) or bobemmons210@gmail.com; Riley Tucker: [770-605-1962](tel:770-605-1962) or newmoon52@yahoo.com or Shirley at the parish office: saintalbansmonroe@windstream.net or [770-267-2893](tel:770-267-2893). Thank you.

