

The Beacon of St. Alban's

“Illuminating the Word of God in the World”

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for all that you have given to St. Alban's over the years, your time and your talents as well as your financial giving. With so many Episcopal Churches struggling, it gives me great joy to see that we are alive. We are a church and the ministry of this congregation changes lives both in our church and in the wider community.

There is much for which we as a church can be grateful and we continue to look forward to an exciting and challenging future as we continue to follow our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

It is important for all of us who give regularly to the church to review each year our financial commitment here and for those who do not give regularly to prayerfully consider it. As your priest and pastor I am inviting you to review the amount of money you give to God's work here so that together we can:

- Express our thanks to God for all he has blessed us with, in our homes and families.
- Give glory to God here in our worship.
- Sustain our activities for our children, our young people and the elderly; extend our care for the wider community, the bereaved and the sick and our welcome to those coming for baptisms, for those we meet in local outreach and help those in need, both home and abroad by giving to mission.
- Pay our bills, for salaries, for gas and electricity, insurance, and for diocesan apportionment. To do all of this, and more costs from \$3,000 to \$4,000 each week. To



meet this challenge I am asking each individual and household in the church to do just two things:

1. To review his or her financial commitment to our church.
2. To make that giving effective through filling out the pledge card you will receive in the next few weeks.

The Vestry and I will not ask you to do something that we would not do ourselves. I pledge generously to St. Alban's and then I give to the Diocese, the National Church, our mission to the Dominican Republic and of course special needs through Episcopal Relief and Development. Your leaders are committed to God's work and to this congregation. For your part, whatever amount of

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money you decide to give to Christ's work at St. Alban's each week or each month, I know you will make your giving decision after prayer and reflection, being realistic, thoughtful and generous. Thank you again for your continued participation in God's work through our church and for all you give in response to this request. This is the sum total of our stewardship program. I ask that you please give prayerfully and as generously as possible to the One who loved the world so much that He gave His only begotten Son. I am proud of what we have accomplished in the past and I hope you all know how much you are loved. I am ...

Your Servant and His,
Cindy+

Crop Walk for Hunger Relief

St. Alban's fielded its first substantial team of walkers for this important outreach activity for local and worldwide hunger relief through Church World Services. The Glen Burnie Crop Hunger Walk took place on Sunday September 30. This walk is supported by 10 local churches including St. Alban's. About 20 percent of the local pledges goes to the North County Emergency Outreach Network, the local food bank.. The walk is 2,4, or 6 miles on the B&A trail. If women in parts of the world walk all day to get water for their families every day, we can certainly do this walk to improve their lives!

Youth Group News

By Sandy Murphy

The Youth Group will begin their new year with a meeting during the 10:30 service on September 30 to plan activities for the upcoming year. In years past the Diocesan trips for junior and senior high youth have been popular as well as cooking, preparing and serving the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. One of our youth enjoyed attending the diocesan convention last year and several also enjoyed delivering holiday gifts and singing carols to the Angel tree families.

St. Alban's Provides Outstanding Support for Colegio Buen Pastor

Exciting News! St. Alban's has collected enough funds to send more than 24 children to school in the Dominican Republic-the most ever! Rev Cindy's faith in our giving is really working. We look forward to more updates from the Sisters and Cindy about the students at the Good Shepherd School in Barrio Las Flores. Thanks so much for your generosity!

Social Ministries

Helping Hungry Children—What is a Buddy Bag?

Again this year the Social Ministries Committee would like to collect food to make Buddy Bags for children who are given breakfast and lunch at school Monday through Friday but go hungry on the weekends.

St. Alban's has been privileged to partner with Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church to provide backpacks of food to children every Friday. We will be collecting food every Sunday. Maija Denson kindly has offered to transport the food. CELC has taken the lead in this ministry and asks for specific items.

Note there is emphasis this year on providing INDIVIDUAL SERVING SIZES for the children. Here is what we need:

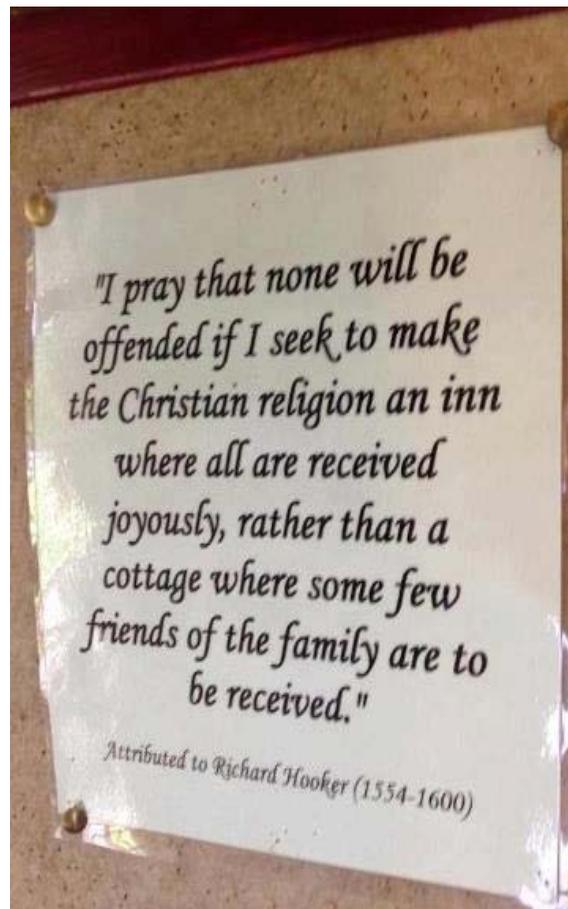
- Tuna kits (crackers and little cans of tuna)
- Macaroni and Cheese Single servings (those little bowls)
- Wrapped packages of crackers with cheese or peanut butter
- Peanut butter/jelly packets
- Chicken or vegetable soup (single serving bowls)
- Canned Spaghetti Os or Ravioli
- Canned Chili
- Granola, Breakfast , and Oatmeal bars
- Vegetable cups
- Apple sauce/Fruit Cups/Canned Fruit
- Individual containers of pudding (non-refrigerated)
- V-8 juice or 100% juice boxes
- Boxes of skim or 1% milk
- Oatmeal (individual packages)
- Cereal (individual servings-little bowls)
- Goldfish/Teddy Grahams/Animal Crackers
- Rice cakes
- Microwave popcorn

St. Alban's Lunch Bunch

St. Alban's lunch bunch had their monthly lunch at Romano's Restaurant. Mary Moran (410-761-8723) organizes these friendly lunch gatherings for those who just can't get enough time to socialize at Sunday coffee hours. Please contact her for the date and place for the October gathering.

St. Alban's Prayer Shawl Ministry

There are plenty of prayer shawls on hand so the group is considering expanding into providing lap robes for a local nursing home. The first meeting was on Tuesday September 11 at 1 PM in the vestry room. Contact Louise Izat for information on the next meeting of this warm and loving ministry that helps to heal those who receive these gifts.



Girl's Comment Saves "I am the Bread of Life" from the Trash bin

It was 1966 and Mercy Sr. Suzanne Toolan had been asked to write a song for an event in the San Francisco archdiocese. With the deadline looming, she worked on a song in an unoccupied room next to the infirmary in the Catholic girls' high school where she taught.

"I worked on it, and I tore it up. I thought, 'This will not do,' " Toolan said. "And this little girl came out of the infirmary and said, 'What was that? That was beautiful!' I went right back and Scotch-taped it up."

That schoolgirl saved "I Am the Bread of Life," one of the most popular hymns of the Second Vatican Council era.

Toolan credits "a very gifted Sulpician" named Fr. John Olivier at a seminary near her convent in Burlingame, Calif., with helping get the word out about her songs.

"He would come to our convent on Saturdays, so we'd have a decent homily every week," she said. "He began to hear some of my things and he took it back to the seminary. And that's how I think most of my things got out."

"I Am the Bread of Life" is in many Catholic hymnals, as well as in the official hymnbooks of the Episcopal, Lutheran and Methodist churches. "People keep giving me copies of it when they go to Europe or Asia, even," Toolan said. "It's in different languages. It's thrilling."

Toolan is aware that some don't care for the song, but she takes criticism in stride. She has wondered about its popularity. "It's a hymn that really shouldn't work for the congregation. It's too low. It's too high. I often ask myself: Why does it work so well, then? I think it's the scripture. The scripture is so strong."

Toolan, who turned 80 Oct. 24, recently published a memoir, titled *I Am the Bread of Life*, cowritten with Elizabeth Dossa, communications officer for the Mercy Sisters.

Doris Akers, Composer of "There's A Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place"

Doris Mae Akers (May 21, 1923 - July 26, 1995) was an American Gospel music composer, arranger and singer. Known for her work with the Sky Pilot Choir, she was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 2001. She learned to play the piano by ear at age six and wrote her first song, "Keep The Fire Burning In Me" when she was ten years old. Doris formed the "Simmons and Akers Music House" in 1948 to market and preserve some of her original religious compositions which grew out of her strong Christian faith. She was interviewed by Lindsay Terry for the book: "Stories Behind 50 Southern Gospel Favorites" and she explained how the hit song "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" was revealed to her during a prayer session with one of her choirs before a church service.

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:30 PM-Alcoholics Anonymous	2 7:30 pm—Food Addiction Anonymous	3	4 Feast of St. Francis 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir	5 7:30 pm—Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 pm—Alanon 7:30 pm—Alateen	6
7 8:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Holy Communion	8 7:30 PM-Alcoholics Anonymous	9 1 PM—Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:30 pm—Food Addiction Anonymous	10	11 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir	12 7:30 pm—Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 pm—Alanon 7:30 pm—Alateen	13
14 8:00 am—Holy Communion 10:30 am—Morning Prayer	15 7:30 pm—Alcoholics Anonymous	16 6:30 pm—Social Ministries 7:30 pm—Ladies Guild 7:30 pm—Food Addiction Anonymous	17 7:00 pm—Vestry Mtg	18 Feast of St. Luke 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir	19 7:30 pm—Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 pm—Alanon 7:30 pm—Alateen	20
21 8:00 am— Morning Prayer 10:30 am—Holy Communion	22 7:30 pm—Alcoholics Anonymous	23 7:30 pm—Food Addiction Anonymous	24	25 6:30 Bell Choir 7:30 Choir	26 7:30 pm—Alcoholics Anonymous 7:30 pm—Alanon 7:30 pm—Alateen	27
28 Feast of St. Simon and St. Jude 8:00 am—Holy Communion 10:30 am—Morning Prayer	29 7:30 pm—Alcoholics Anonymous	<u>Upcoming events</u>				



News & Happenings

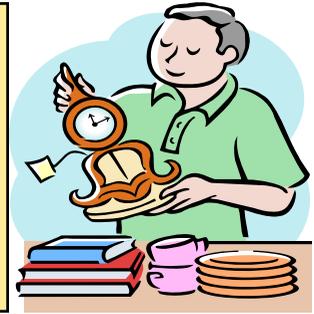


This space for rent! Want to alert the congregation to an outside activity they may enjoy? Anyone you would like to recognize for an achievement or thank for doing something nice? Send your note to lynnmcfarland@gmail.com

October Birthdays

Megan Henry.....	10/1
Charlotte Henry.....	10/5
Sandy Buxton.....	10/6
Bob Phillips.....	10/12
Mandy Barranger.....	10/15
Joseph Payne.....	10/23
Arlene Smith.....	10/24
Peg Davidson.....	10/29
Lynn McFarland.....	10/31
Sean McFarland.....	10/31

Thanks to all who helped tag items for sale, set up tables and provided baked goods for the Ladies Guild Fall Flea Market! It was a great success!



Parishioner of the Month:

Your editor: Lynn McFarland



Lynn was baptized Catholic because her mother was Boston Irish Catholic and had not yet been accepted into the Episcopal Church. Her father grew up singing with his father and brother in a Men and Boys choir in an Episcopal Church in NJ. She was confirmed and married Stan at St. George's Episcopal Church in Clifton Park, NY., where she sang in the choir and was in youth group. She works for the Department of Defense, sings in the choir and plays handbells. She is the proud Mom of two boys, Sean and Evan, who were baptized at St. Albans and confirmed at the Baltimore Cathedral. They are currently attending MD State colleges.

Deadline for November issue of the Beacon is October 17th. Send your submissions to lynnmcfarland@gmail.com, or place them in the church office.

St. Alban's handbell choir and voice choir need your time and talent! Please contact Michael Arrington or just come to the basement choir room on Thursday nights at 6:30 for handbells or 7:30 to sing!

A special thank-you to all who lent their time and talents to help paint the Sunday school rooms and get them ready for the new school year.

Thanks to all who provided school supplies and helped fill the backpacks provided by Social Ministries! We had more than enough school supplies to fill all the backpacks!

We thank Reverend Janet Johnson for helping us out when Rev. Cindy has been unable to join us the past month or so.

The Beacon has a new editor! Lynn McFarland has agreed to take over editing duties from Kevin Gish and thanks him for his guidance. Please send all your events and pictures to her at lynnmcfarland@gmail.com and bear with her as she learns how to use Microsoft Publisher.

Anniversaries



October 4

Dottie and Douglas Moore
42 Years

October 18

Alice and Mark Cook
14 Years

October 21

Brenda and Kevin Gish
17 Years

October 21

Sandy and Ed Buxton

October 25

Sylvia and Paul Day
66 Years

October 28

Lynn and Stan McFarland
24 Years

The Beacon's email address:
lynnmcfarland@gmail.com

2012-2013 Sunday School has started!

St. Alban's Sunday School and nursery has gotten off to a great start with a couple of new students this year and most of its teachers returning for a fresh year of teaching. Kevin Gish is leading the Sunday School and teaching the middle school age group. Alice Cook is heading up the nursery and looking for volunteers to help look after our littlest ones. Sharon Weaver is shepherding our pre-school and Maija Denson has our elementary school age group. We don't have a teacher for the senior high but those in that age group have the option of joining the middle school age group or staying in church until we build up a consistent group for that age and they will meet as part of the youth group on the 4th Sunday of the month during the 10:30 service.

St. Alban's Altar Guild Needs Fresh New Faces

Did you know that the sanctuary is taken care of by angels? It's true! Every member of St. Alban's Altar Guild is a loving angel who takes time from their busy mortal life to prepare the sanctuary for Sunday Service. Not only do we prepare for Holy Communion, we also make sure candles are filled and ready to send the light of God to every congregant. We also make sure the Holy Gospel is ready for Rev. Cindy to spread the word of God to every ear that can hear. Angels-that's who we are! Would you like to be an Altar Angel? It's easy and we do it in twos so you're never alone. Just call or email Brenda Gish (410-969-2756, cedar-pup@cablespeed.com). Please look within your heart and allow God to lift your eyes to heaven and see how fulfilling it is to help bring the Blood and Body of our Lord Jesus Christ to his flock

Episcopal Relief and Development

Episcopal Relief & Development is assisting local partners in the southeastern United States and the Caribbean as they respond to damage and other challenges caused by Hurricane Isaac. Isaac swept over Haiti and the Dominican Republic as a tropical storm on August 24 and 25 before gathering strength and hitting the US Gulf Coast as a hurricane on August 28. At least 41 people died as a result of the storm, including five in the Dominican Republic, 21 in Haiti and seven in the United States. Damage is estimated at approximately \$2 billion.

In response, the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana and its outreach arm, Episcopal Community Services of Louisiana (ECS), are working with Episcopal Relief & Development to provide food vouchers, gas cards, school supplies, medical care and other assistance to families who were affected by the storm. The existing relationships parishes have with food banks and other community organizations are enabling staff to quickly mobilize local resources to serve the most vulnerable members of impacted communities.

In particular, St. Anna's Episcopal Church in New Orleans has a mobile medical van that currently serves various locations in Orleans, St. Bernard and Jefferson Parishes, and can be deployed to the towns of LaPlace and Jean Lafitte. Relying on long-standing relationships with Tulane University Hospital and area medical providers, this mobile unit will be able to provide care to those in need.

Playing for the Yankees and a Church in NJ

As Episcopal Cafe' news-editor Ann Fontaine periodically reminds us, "baseball is a religion." Now we hear confirmation that the world of the church and of baseball are closer than ever. The Yankees' Stadium organist found an "off season" gig (via Craigslist!) for an New Jersey Episcopal Church in Morristown.

Organist inspires the faithful, from big ballpark in Bronx to church in Morristown

From the [Star-Ledger](#)

For six seasons, Ed Alstrom has performed regularly as organist for 50,000-plus baseball fans at weekend games in one of the nation's highest-profile venues-Yankee Stadium.

Now, he's got a second gig where crowds usually top out at about 200: the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Morristown.

It's a rare mix of the ethereal and the hardball worlds but, Alstrom said, there aren't that many jobs for organ for organists: You have to be flexible and you have to hustle, he says.

Acolyte Guild is in Great Need of New Members!

Acolyting is not just for kids! We need people of all ages. Traditionally at St. Alban's, members of the acolyte guild were our youth, grades 1-12. In recent years the number of youth have diminished and we are in danger of not having any acolytes in the sanctuary area to assist Rev. Cindy with Holy Communion. The future of St. Alban's Acolyte Guild rests in your hands. Won't you please consider being trained as an Acolyte? If you are interested in what goes on "behind the scenes" of a church service, please contact Brenda Gish (410-969-2756, cedar-pup@cablespeed.com). Scheduling is approximately once per month at the 10:30 service plus holiday services.

The Beacon of St. Alban's

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Sunday Worship Services

8:00 am - Holy Communion, Rite I on 2nd and 4th Sundays (no music); Others Morning Prayer

10:30 am - Holy Communion, Rite II (with music) on 1st and Third Sundays, Others

The Reverend Cindy Tipton-Zile, Rector

Church Office Hours Tuesday-Thursday 9-1

Rector's email address: tipmain@verizon.net