

April 2015



ST. ALBAN'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*servicing God by servicing others*

Lord, who createdst man in wealth and store,  
 Though foolishly he lost the same,  
 Decaying more and more,  
 Till he became  
 Most poore:  
 With thee  
 O let me rise  
 As larks, harmoniously,  
 And sing this day thy victories:  
 Then shall the fall further the flight in me.



Here is the first verse of the poem “Easter Wings,” by George Herbert, the great seventeenth-century poet and priest of the Church of England. It follows a form from ancient Greece in which the text displays its meaning visually. Can you see in the shape of the poem the wings of a bird soaring, or a butterfly? And that’s where the words of the poem take us also: from descent in decay to rising in victory with our Lord.

The second verse of Herbert’s poem mirrors this one in its shape and its emotional swoop. But in the second verse, Herbert speaks more personally, reflecting on the shape of his own life. From memories of failure and suffering, he prays to be grafted into the strong wings of Jesus rising.

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With thee  
 Let me combine,  
 And feel thy victorie:

That prayer is our truth as Christians. We don’t have to just believe it, we’ve seen it! In the lives of others and in our own, we’ve experienced the power of God raising new life from ashes. How is your life today, and the life of St. Alban’s community, taking the shape of Easter wings?

To God be the Glory!

Faithfully,  
Paula+

## HOLY WEEK

March 29 – April 5

The joy of Easter dawns most brightly in our hearts when we've accompanied Jesus through the decisive events of the week before.



### **PALM / PASSION SUNDAY 8:00 and 10:30 am**

Waving palm leaves high, we remember Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem followed soon after by the drama of his trial and crucifixion. The 10:30 service begins outdoors by the labyrinth for a procession into the church.

### **MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00 pm**

Our worship this evening commemorates Jesus' Last Supper. Following his example on that occasion, we will offer an opportunity to wash one another's feet. If you choose to participate in this rite, wear socks that you may remove easily. At the conclusion of this service, the altar area is stripped bare and all traces of Jesus' sacramental presence are removed.

### ***PRAYER VIGIL***

If you would like to "watch with him" in prayer for an hour at the church or at home during the time between the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services, please sign up on the vestry bulletin board or phone the church office.

### **GOOD FRIDAY 7:00 pm**

Through art and music and word, we will reflect prayerfully on the Seven Last Sayings of Jesus in his crucifixion. Stay with him from his plea, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" to his final utterance, "It is finished." How might these Seven Last Sayings of Jesus speak to your life?

### **EASTER SUNDAY 8:00 and 10:30 am**

Alleluias burst forth on this happy morning! Easter flowers, joyous music, and baptisms at both services help us celebrate the passage through death to new life that Jesus' resurrection opens for all of us. Festivities will include a breakfast between services and an egg hunt.



## Discover the Psalms

Find light for your path,  
Wisdom for your way,  
And inspiration for your days.

**Wednesday Bible Study** will begin a new series on April 29. Psalms are a beloved book of the Bible, and every kind of worship experience offered in the Book of Common Prayer includes at least one psalm.

See how deepening your understanding of the psalms will deepen your life of faith.

Bible Study at 11am, Eucharist at noon, followed by a light lunch. You are welcome to come for any portion.

### *CREDO Conference*



From April 13-21, I will be participating in a CREDO conference. These conferences are offered for clergy by invitation from Church Pension to promote wellness. Each participant prepares by completing inventories to assess our spiritual, financial, physical and emotional, and vocational well-being. At the conference, we will experience workshops, small group discussions, and one-on-one consultations. Interspersed with times of learning are quiet times for reflection, worship, and contemplation; space for physical activity; and opportunities for relaxed fun with other clergy at a similar stage of life. The goal is to help us replenish our spirits, discern our deepest dreams, and realign our lives to be congruent with our values, beliefs, and faith – to live with integrity a life that is whole and holy. Please pray for me. Paula+



A lot has happened in the past month! Our planning team met at St. Alban's with the planning teams from the 4 other reading camps to be held this summer in the Diocese. The other camps are located at St. Paul's in Prince Frederick, Calvert County; St. James in Lothian, south Anne Arundel County; St. Luke's and Guardian Angel, both in Baltimore City. It was

great to exchange ideas and share information.

A week later, our planning team was invited to St. Margaret's in Annapolis to be interviewed by their Grants Committee. We were the first of 16 finalist interviews to be conducted. It was a very interesting experience. The interview following ours was by Skype to a group in Africa! Later, we received a letter from the Grants Committee informing us we will know what we might be given by late April.

We have chosen a theme for our reading camp: "Every hero has a story", adopting the theme from the Anne Arundel Public Library summer reading program. We are looking for "heroes" as guest speakers to talk to our campers. Do you know a firefighter, police person, military person, forest ranger, doctor, etc., who would be willing to talk to our campers? Who would be a hero in the eyes of a 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grader? Who could inspire these children and emphasize the importance of reading in their jobs? If you know of anyone who might be willing to talk to our campers the week of July 27 - 31, please contact our planning team (Maija Denson, Mary Wilcox, Louise Izat, and Rev. Paula).

We are making great progress in collecting books for our campers. We were so delighted to receive a donation of many wonderful books from Amelia Gish. Thank you, Amelia!

Please don't forget to bring in your Lenten Box offerings after Easter because we will be using half of the offerings to buy more books for the campers. It takes a lot of books to have a reading camp for 25 campers!

This month, we will begin going out into the community, carrying our Glen Burnie Reading Camp flyers, to explain what our camp is all about. We hope that businesses and restaurants will donate money, items or gift cards to support our camp, especially for the gift baskets for the Quarter Auction on May 4<sup>th</sup> which benefits our summer reading camp. What a wonderful way to build relationships and make St. Alban's presence known in our community.

It is exciting to see all the parishioners, who love to read and love children, contributing in so many ways to help us provide a meaningful experience for our campers at Glen Burnie Reading Camp. We are blessed. Thank you.

## VOLUNTEER POSITIONS GLEN BURNIE READING CAMP, July 27 – 31, 2015

Teachers	Teaching Assistants
Morning non-teaching Staff Support	Afternoon non-teaching Staff Support
Youth Counselors	Bus Monitors
Story Readers	Fundraisers
Publicity	Food helpers/servers
Crafters to coordinate arts & crafts	Chaperones for field trips
Photographers, one for each day	Guest Speakers, one for each day

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Maija Denson, Mary Wilcox, or Louise Izat.

All volunteers will be asked to complete a simple volunteer application form. All Volunteers who have contact with children must have completed the Diocesan Safeguarding God's Children within the last 3 years. This course will be given at St. Alban's in the spring or can be taken on-line.

Volunteers can help for 1 hour or 40 hours or anywhere in between, morning or afternoon.

## SUMMER CAMP AT CLAGGETT

Just ask any of St. Alban's past campers: Claggett is **AMAZING!!!**  
Because of the quality of our diocesan camp as an opportunity for fun and formation in a Christian community, St. Alban's will help with scholarships to make it possible for any of our kids to go.

High School Week	Grades 9-12	June 21-26
Youth 1 Camp	Grades 2-5	June 28-July 1
Youth 2 Camp	Grades 3-5	July 5-10
Middle School Week	Grades 6-8	July 12-17

Register online at <http://www.claggettcenter.org/camps.php>

**Please send your submissions for the May Beacon by April 20 to [cedarpup@cablespeed.com](mailto:cedarpup@cablespeed.com) or place them in the newsletter editor bin in the vestry room.**

# April 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Alcoholics Anonymous</b> meets every Monday &amp; Friday at 7:00 pm  <b>Al-Anon</b> meets every Friday at 7:00 pm  <b>Eternal Quilters</b> meets on the 2nd Thursday at 10:00 am  <b>Food Addictions</b> meets every Monday at 7:00 pm</p>			<p><b>1</b>  6:30 pm Bell Choir  7:30 pm Voice Choir</p>	<p><b>2—MAUNDY THURSDAY</b>  7:00 pm - Commemorating  Jesus' Last Supper</p>	<p><b>3—GOOD FRIDAY</b>  7:00 pm - Seven Last  Sayings of Jesus   <i>office closed— Easter  holiday</i></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>
<p><b>5—EASTER SUNDAY</b>  8:00 am Holy Communion  10:30 am Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>6</b>   <i>office closed-Easter  holiday</i></p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b>  11:00 am Bible Study  Noon Eucharist  6:30 pm Bell Choir  7:30 pm Voice Choir</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b>  Vestry Retreat</p>
<p><b>12</b>  8:00 am Holy Communion  10:30 am Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b>  6:30 pm Bell Choir  7:30 pm Voice Choir</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b>  Ladies Tea  2-4 pm</p>
<p><b>19</b>  8:00 am Holy Communion  10:30 am Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b>  6:00 pm Social Ministries  7:30 pm Ladies Guild</p>	<p><b>22</b>  6:30 pm Bell Choir  7:30 pm Voice Choir</p>	<p><b>23</b>  7:00 pm Vestry Meeting</p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>
<p><b>26</b>  8:00 am Holy Communion  10:30 am Holy Communion</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b>  11:00 am Bible Study  Noon Eucharist  6:30 pm Bell Choir  7:30 pm Voice Choir</p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>Purple Heart</b> meets on the 3rd Thursday at  6:30 pm  <b>Vintage Tin</b> meets on the 2nd &amp; 4th Thursdays at  7:00 pm</p>	

## Youth Group

This February marked the third annual Youth Group Trip to New York City for Nightwatch at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. The February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting was spent talking about our upcoming trip.

At the request of the group, we planned early in the year that we would go on our own this time rather than with the diocese. So Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, we met at the BWI Amtrak Station in the early morning to head for Manhattan. Our traveling group included Reverend Paula, Xanthia Strohl, Victoria Murphy, Nick Lloyd, Bonnie Carter, and Bill Carter.

After some technical difficulties with the train and a train change, we arrived at New York Penn Station around 11 AM. We checked our sleeping bags and headed toward Rockefeller Center. The moment we got off the subway station we were interviewed by a camera crew for the Mario Lopez “infotainment” show, “Extra.” After a photo opp in front of the Ed Sullivan Theater we stopped for some lunch. Lunch was followed by a trip to the “Top of the Rock” and skating by some at the Rockefeller Center ice rink. We grabbed some pizza and headed back to Penn Station to get our things and get on our way to the cathedral.

Our program at St. John’s started with an explanation and demonstration of the Great Organ. That was followed by some group building activities. The group was then divided into subgroups that rotated between workshops. The workshops consisted of a cathedral scavenger hunt, a poetry workshop and a meditative labyrinth. After the workshops we enjoyed a short refreshment break in the undercroft and then returned for some time for personal meditation. After a period of reflective silence, the whole group of about 100 people reconvened for a Eucharist service. Eucharist was followed by sleep.

Saturday AM after breakfast and clean up, Reverend Paula led us on a tour of the cathedral grounds and the interior of the cathedral. From there we returned to Penn Station to store our luggage again. We went to Times Square and spent a lot of the time

## Updating our membership records

With the new picture directory, we all have information on how to contact each other. This directory, together with the spreadsheet used in the office to record the most current information, shows who our members are. In addition, the church is required to keep handwritten records in special books for archival purposes. We’ve found that not all of our active members are recorded in these official books. Margaret Hodor has taken on the arduous task of reconciling our membership records. You may receive a call ~~from her or someone else asking for information in connection with this process.~~



## Correspondence

Happy New Year 2015—TO ALL (X-MAS CAROLERS), as well. I would love to say THANK-YOU, for an overjoyed Holiday & hopefully New Year. I really, really appreciate the thoughtfulness & joy, your precious gifts of, clothes, & items, much needed for survival. I've been praying for a "Miracle" to be able to provide, everything that my 10 year grandson needs, to help him, become a productive young man & responsible adult. I have, since became a member of Calvary Chapel, in Severn, MD, in hopes of becoming a better person, adult, woman, mother, grandmother, student, & Christian. I've been meaning to write, this Than-You note, soon, after the holidays, yet wanted to wait, until my Spirit was just right. Those X-mas, carolers, really put joy in my heart & a chance to really notice; someone cares & loves me & my family. I will be graduating in May 2015, from Anne Arundel Community College, in Arnold, MD & persevered through many adversities. God Bless

Please thank everyone for me for their cards and prayers at this sad time. I really appreciate all the support. If they would like to call or send an email to me that would be fine. I'd enjoy hearing from them.

Thanks again,  
Lynne  
lynbingo2@verizon.net

Stan McFarland was recently hospitalized for a reoccurring condition. He is out and back to playing golf but on a very strict diet for life and I might add, not happy about t! Other than that they are loving NC! If you would like to send a "Cheer Up" card or just drop them a line they are at 104 Bobby Jones Ln. Hendersonville, NC. or [Lynnmcfarland@gmail.com](mailto:Lynnmcfarland@gmail.com)

## Spaghetti Dinner

Thanks to all who helped in the kitchen and those who came to eat. We had a great night of good food and fellowship. A special thanks goes to Steven Denson who, almost single-handedly served all our guests. The profits from the evening, \$378, will go to helping pay off our Endowment Loan. Considering we had the Pancake Supper during the same week I think we did pretty good.

Anyone interested in chairing another dinner, please see Mary Wilcox and let's get it on the calendar. I know there are lots of people who are willing to help you. If not a dinner, maybe you have an idea that others would enjoy doing.

Peg Davidson

## Tea Party

Come for afternoon tea, at St. Alban's Church, on Saturday **April 18th, from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm**. Tickets are \$15.00 and on sale until April 14th.

Seating is limited. Call church office at [410-766-1455](tel:410-766-1455) or Mary at [410-761-8723](tel:410-761-8723).

Tickets will be available from March 15 until April 14 from the church office or Barbara Phillips, Mary Moran or Sandy Heinecke.



## Caring Ministries

You have heard me talking about forming a Caring Ministry at St Alban's. Here are some of the things that would be done by this group...write a short note to people who are sick or shut-in, fix a meal for someone who is ill or unable to get out, call someone who has been ill, with special training you could bring communion to someone in need. Basically it's a way of supporting people within our St. Alban's family whenever there is a need. It only takes a few minutes to make someone feel better and your rewards are immeasurable. Please contact me at 410-360-6216 if you have an interest and we'll talk about what you might like to do.

Peg Davidson

**The Beacon of St. Alban's**

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

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[www.st-albans.ang-md.org](http://www.st-albans.ang-md.org)

*RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED*



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**Sunday Worship Services**

**8:00 am - Holy Communion, Rite I (no music)**

**10:30 am - Holy Communion, Rite II (with music)**

**Sunday School, K-8 and Nursery**

**Church Office Hours Monday-Friday 9am-12 pm**

**Rector Rev. Dr. Paula Datsko Barker**