

Dear people of St. Alban's,

What hymn makes your heart sing? Why? Does it convey a message that gets to the core of your faith? Does it bring tender or joyous memories from your past? Does it stir up feelings that bring you into the love of God? All of the above?

I would have a hard time picking one favorite hymn, because many move me in the ways described. And my favorites have changed over time. When I was a child, "Holy, holy, holy" was the hymn I most loved. It brought feelings of awe and wonder, with vivid images of

God's glory. Similarly, I learned to love "How great thou art" by hearing my great uncle Ned sing it in the little country church where my maternal grandmother grew up. He had a vibrant tenor voice that transmuted the profound devotion of his eyes into sound. When I was rocking my babies late at night, too tired to think of anything, an Easter hymn would well up in me, and that's what I would sing or hum, over and over.

Today, my choice would be "Come down O love divine," number 516 in our hymnal. The words pray for the Holy Spirit to live in me--or us together. Yet "this yearning strong, with which the soul will long, shall far outpass the power of human telling." That's where the tune by Ralph Vaughn Williams takes over, evoking feelings beyond what words alone can convey. The power of music to generate devotion is precisely why Martin Luther invented congregational hymn singing as part of the Reformation.

What hymn would you most like to sing this summer? There will be forms available in the

church for you to write down your request. As you do so, consider how this hymn speaks to you. What memories does it activate? What feelings does it generate? Where does it take you devotionally? How does it resonate with what's most meaningful to you about your faith? If someone were to ask you what matters to you about being a Christian, how might this hymn answer the question?

During the summer months, let's enjoy the hymns through which the Spirit makes our hearts sing. And let's learn from what we love!

Blessings, *Paula*+





SUNDAY SCHOOL GRADUATION AND PICNIC

Sunday, June 7, marks the end of the Sunday School year. To try something new, this celebration will occur on our church property, instead of at a park. The 8am service will continue as always. The 10:30 am service will include Sunday School graduation, followed by a picnic for all. Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided: please bring other dishes to share.



LAST CHANCE TO SIGN UP FOR SUMMER CAMPAT CLAGGETT

Grades 9-12 June 21-26
Grades 2-5 June 28-July 1
Grades 3-5 July 5-10
Grades 6-8 July 12-17

St. Alban's will help pay for our kids to be able to have this marvelous experience of Christian formation and fun.



Do You Have Any Used Tennis Balls? Baseball Bats, Balls or Mitts?

Six people from St. Alban's are joining other youth from the diocese on a mission trip in July to the Dominican Republic, where we'll help with crafts and outdoor activities for Vacation Bible School at Buen Pastor school. (Who's going? Victoria and Caitlin Murphy, Bryanne Adams, Joan Rumenap, Melinda McDaniel, and Rev. Paula.) The people of the Dominican

Republic are passionate about baseball (which is why many major league players come from there). Most kids have never had a ball, to say nothing of a bat or a mitt. As you can see in the picture, they find a stick and make a ball from trash. Children are THRILLED to receive a used tennis ball! So we'd like to take a duffle full of them to give away.

CREDO: 2nd TRY

You may remember that I was scheduled to participate in a CREDO conference in April, but had to cancel when my puppy was injured. Fortunately, the organizers were able to fit me in for a later date. So I will go, at last, during the last week of June to an Episcopal retreat center near Richmond, VA. CREDO conferences are offered by invitation to clergy in various age groups. It provides an occasion for us to pay attention to our personal, spiritual, vocational, and financial



well-being. The preparatory work has been very valuable to me, and I look forward to the conference itself, which will be like a guided retreat. Please pray for me while I'm gone.

Paula+

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GLEN BURNIE READING CAMP July 27 – 31, 2015 WE NEED YOUR HELP!

There are 2 months until reading camp and many things are going well. Funding is good thanks to St. Margaret's grant and the \$1000 Maija Denson raised from the Quarter Auction. We have figured out breakfast, lunch, and snacks for camp pretty easily.

We have a wonderful selection of books thanks to the many donations these last months. This past month Bonnie Taylor donated 2 boxes of books from one of her customers who is a teacher. Also, Jacob Weaver, JoAnn Cherrico's grandson, donated a huge box of books. Thank you Bonnie and Jacob!

The forms to apply to camp are being given to students' parents as this is being written. The teacher forms are ready to go.

We have a pretty good number of volunteers, but we will need more to run camp efficiently for 25 campers in 3rd through 5th grade. Our camp director, Maija, will have the teachers and aids organized and lesson plans ready for camp, so morning learning sessions will go smoothly when we get just a few more teachers and aids.

Can you help us in some way? Do you have an hour or two to spare the last week in July, or a morning or an afternoon? Would you be interested in helping with the food, organizing materials, being a bus monitor, being a chaperone on field trips, or working with the campers on crafts? Our biggest need right now is volunteers to help with crafts and field trips in the afternoons.

All volunteers who interact with the campers are required to take the Diocesan class on Safeguarding God's Children if you have not taken it within the last 3 years. It is a 3 hour course which will be given at St. Alban's during the month of June or can be taken on-line at your convenience. Most of the vestry and teachers at St. Alban's have taken the course, if you want to discuss it with someone.

What else do we need? We need guest speakers to talk to the campers for 20 minutes in the afternoons. If you cannot volunteer in some way, might you know a firefighter, police officer, military person, musician, or artist willing to speak to the campers? Do you have any connections in the community that might provide us with guest speakers for our camp?

Do you have a good field trip to suggest? Do you know someone with a local working farm the campers could visit? Or maybe a recording studio they could visit? We are looking for anything that would fascinate the campers and teach them the importance of reading.

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Please send your submissions for the May Beacon by June 20 to cedarpup@cablespeed.com or place them in the newsletter editor bin in the vestry room.

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If you would like to be part of this exciting first summer camp at St. Alban's, please contact Maija Denson, Louise Izat, or Mary Wilcox. It will be fun, interesting, and very rewarding to help children improve their reading skills and learn how important reading will be for the rest of their lives. Glen Burnie Reading Camp is an example of St. Alban's making a difference in our community. We invite you to be part of it.

Social Ministries

MASTER WATERSHED STEWARDS PROGRAM: Kim Cluney was a guest at the last meeting to present information about the Master Watershed Steward Program. Why would we care about this program? For a cost of \$250 our church could sponsor Kim to attend a year of training to become a Watershed Steward. As a Watershed Steward, Kim would work with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and Anne Arundel Watershed Stewards Academy to develop a storm water management plan for our church grounds. At the completion of Kim's training, St. Alban's would be eligible to receive grant money for projects which would benefit our church and protect our watershed, e.g. installing rain barrels or a rain garden. Kim has a master's degree in environmental management and a willingness to become a Watershed Steward.

The Social Ministries Committee agreed to sponsor Kim's year of training. As people of Faith, our church has done many things in the past to show that we want to protect our planet and care for all of God's creation. Having a parishioner who is a Watershed Steward will enable us to do even more. With our own Watershed Steward, St. Alban's would be considered a "RiverWise Congregation" and "faithful stewards of sacred waters". In the future, look for information from Kim as she begins her training.

OTHER DECISIONS MADE:

CAMP AMAZING GRACE: We will collect **beach towels and sunscreen for Camp Amazing Grace during the month of June**. We will donate \$500 to the Bishop's Appeal to sponsor one child to attend Camp Amazing Grace. Camp Amazing Grace is a one week summer camp run by the Diocese of Maryland at Claggett for children ages 8 – 12 having at least one parent incarcerated in prison.

RESURRECTION CHURCH: We will **visit Resurrection Church on June 14**th to attend a worship service led by Rev. Margarita Santana and hear music provided by our own Melinda McDaniel. We will take a gift of snacks for the children of Resurrection and donate \$500 to Rev. Margarita's discretionary fund.

CAMP SUCCESS: We will donate \$470 to sponsor a child to attend **Camp Success at the Church of St. Michael's and All Angels in Baltimore City**. Camp Success is a 6 week summer camp for disadvantaged youth ages 5 - 12. The camp focuses on enhancing reading skills, mathematics, social skills and cultural enrichment.

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Prayer Shawl and Stitching Ministry

The Prayer Shawl and Stitching Ministry is in need of more prayer shawls. If anyone who knits or crochets is willing to make a prayer shawl at their leisure at home, we will have yarn and patterns available.

Our supply of shawls is so low that we actually gave away our last prayer shawl recently. The ladies of our ministry spent a good bit of time planning and organizing our Fundraising Tea in April, which took time away from knitting and crocheting shawls. Fortunately, Irene Ross and JoAnn Cherrico are both busy making shawls for us to begin to replenish our supply.

We have been asked recently if monetary donations are accepted for the prayer shawls. All of our shawls are given away at no cost; however, if someone would like to donate to our ministry, all donations are gratefully accepted. We will use them to buy more yarn so we can continue to make prayer shawls and baptismal shawls to sustain this worthwhile ministry.

If you are fond of sewing and enjoyed making the dresses for orphans last summer, we will be making them again this summer. Our next Prayer Shawl and Stitching meeting will be the 2^{nd} Wednesday of the month, June 10^{th} at 2:00 pm.

WEDNESDAY
BIBLE STUDY AND EUCHARIST
WILL PAUSE FOR THE SUMMER
We will resume in September.

Youth Group Spring 2015

Not much happening lately with the Youth Group. Wait, did I say Happening?

Two young people from our church went to the Diocesan Happening at the Bishop Claggett Center in Buckeystown. If anybody want's to learn more about what a Happening is, ask Xanthia Strohl or Amelia Gish.

Friday, May 8th we got together for a game night and had, of course, pizza.

Finishing touches still need to made to the Youth Room. That will be an ongoing effort.

Coming up in June we'll have another Friday Night Meeting on June the 12th.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Sunday School Graduation and Picnic 8:00 am Holy Communion 10:30 am Holy Communion	8	9	2:00 pm Prayer shawl/ stitching ministry	11	12 Youth Group Night	13 Movie Night 8:00 pm - Paddington
8:00 am Holy Communion 10:30 am Holy Communion 12:15 pm Visit Resurrection Church	15	7:30 pm Ladies Guild Picnic and Bingo	17	18 7:00 pm Vestry Meeting	19	20
21 St. Alban's Day Ice Cream Social 8:00 am Holy Communion 10:30 am Holy Communion Discretionary Fund Offering	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:00 am Morning Prayer 10:30 am Morning Prayer	29	30	Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Monday & Friday at 7:00 pm Al-Anon meets every Friday at 7:00 pm Depression & Anxiety Support 1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 7:30 pm Eternal Quilters meets on the 2nd Thursday at 10:00 am Food Addictions meets every Monday at 7:00 pm Purple Heart meets on the 3rd Thursday at 6:30 pm			

Farewell from Amy

Dear People of St. Alban's,

I can't believe my nine months with you as in intern has come to an end! I am so grateful for the time that I have spent with you, and I am so grateful for your nurture, support and kindnesses along the way as I have learned more deeply what it means to be a priest in the church. You have shared Rev. Paula with me as she has so generously mentored me. You have taught me, you have inspired me, and I have been privileged to see and experience the Holy Spirit working through you as you live out your call as a community of disciples. Thank you for letting me and my family be a part of St. Alban's.

Many of you have asked what my next steps are. I have now completed my second year of priestly formation. After a few weeks of vacation, I will take my final two courses – Pastoral Theology and Ethics – and start Clinical Pastoral Education in the fall at Johns Hopkins Hospital where I will learn and practice pastoral care. I will have my final interviews with the Diocesan Commission on Ministry in late fall. At that time I will become a candidate, the final phase in the process toward ordination to the priesthood. I will be sure to keep in touch and I hope you all will do the same.

Until then - may grace and peace be yours in abundance in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. 2 Peter 1:2

Peace, Amy



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GROWING Grace

The amount we still owe on the loan from our Endowment dropped from six figures to five. At the latest meeting of the Finance Committee, our Treasurer, Jim Koblinsky, was able to report that, as of June 5, the amount still owed will be \$98,923. This is a significant milestone on our continuing journey into financial well-being. It was made possible through several recent gifts, including the memorials to honor Muriel Carter. Like a mortgage, we will continue to pay this loan down for as many years as it takes. Envelopes will be available in the pews, if you would like to add a gift of your own in thanksgiving for someone or something special.







FLEA MARKET IS A HUGE SUCCESS! The azaleas and dogwoods were beautiful! Lots of people attended! Bonnie Taylor sold a good number of tables! We had beautiful babies, cute puppies, and adorable children at our flea market!

Becky Lloyd and Frances Landry's bake table was almost sold out in 2 hours!

The 74 plants that Sandra Heinecke grew from cuttings were a big hit, earning over \$200!

The hot dogs cooked by Judy Smith, and sold by Diane and Jim Koblinsky, were delicious!

Mary Moran, Barbara Phillips, Irene Ross, and Betty Smith sold many, many flea market items!

Kevin Gish, Bob Hendrix, and Bob Laning were on hand for set up and clean up! Many people worked very hard, and for many hours, to make the day a success! The Guild made close to \$1100 from the flea market! Thank you to all who participated!



In the words of Cindy Johns..."WINNER WINNER CHICKEN DINNER!" A great time was had by all who attended the Quarter Auction to help fund our

Summer Reading Camp. We raised over \$1000 and many St. Alban's members and their friends won; sometimes more than once or twice! Thanks to Maija Denson for coordinating and to all of us who made baskets to

contribute. The camp is scheduled for July 20-24th and focuses on children who are in grades 3-5 and behind in their reading. By encouraging them to read over the summer they'll be set to start the new school year up to speed! Keep your eyes and ears open for more information on how you can help.



June 2015

The Beacon of St. Alban's

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www.st-albans.ang-md.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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