

St. Alban's Episcopal Church  
1308 Meadowbrook Drive  
Syracuse, NY 13224-1718  
Website: stalbansyracuse.org  
Church email: stalbans.syr@gmail.com

The Rev. Julie E. Calhoun-Bryant, Rector  
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Emmanuel Episcopal Church  
400 W. Yates Street  
East Syracuse, NY 13057  
Find the Sunday Service on Facebook  
**NEW** church email:  
emmanuel13057@gmail.com

The Rev. Julie E. Calhoun-Bryant,  
Priest-in-Charge

January 4, 2022

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year and Happy 11th Day of Christmas. Tomorrow night, long ago, three wise men following a star discovered the Christ child in Bethlehem and worshipped him with great joy. The star that brought them likely was a rare planet conjunction that occurred in the constellation of Pisces, which only happens once every 805 years. These three non-Jewish astronomers would have read the heavens like this: Pisces was associated with the last days and the Hebrew people. Jupiter was associated with a world ruler, and Saturn with the Syria-Palestine region. They would have concluded that there would appear in Palestine among the Hebrews a world ruler for the last days. God's timing always amazes us.

The Gentiles needed to know that God had acted powerfully and decisively because, as the angel told the shepherds, this is good news of great joy for all people - not just the small nation of Israel. After his conversion to Christianity Paul believed that God was calling him to spread the good news among the Gentiles (non-Jews), while Peter was called to spread the word primarily among his fellow Jews. Paul writes that in Christ there is neither Jew or Greek, male or female, slave or free, for all are one in Christ Jesus. Today he might say that there is no longer black, brown or white, there is no longer LGBTQ or "straight", there is no longer Republican or Democrat, for all are one in Christ Jesus. Just before the pandemic began Brian and I were at the aquarium in Atlanta, Georgia. A 100' by 40' window displayed the dazzling array of fish and whale sharks swimming in a tank as large as a football field. Dozens of people sat rapt as they watched. After a time I noticed that the people watching the fish were just as dazzling as the fish. Every age, every color, and many languages were represented in the crowd. Why is it, I wondered, that we can marvel at the beautiful variety of fish species that God has created and not marvel at the variety in humankind?

There's a Collect for Mission in Morning Prayer that reads: "O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

The three wise men would have rejoiced at the inclusion of this prayer. St. Paul would have heartily endorsed it. Jesus' birth was good news for all people and he died for us all. May you share the joy of the wise men as they, after a long journey, finally gazed upon Christ the Lord.

Mother Julie+

## In Person Schedule

Saturday	St. Alban's Emmanuel	Martha's Kitchen: 10 a.m. Coffee Hour: 4:15 pm	Worship: 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	St. Alban's	Bible Study: 8:30 a.m. Coffee Hour: 10:30 a.m.	Worship: 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday	Emmanuel	Bible Study: 2:00 p.m.	

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## Zoom Schedule & Codes

### Sunday

8:30 a.m. Bible Study: **835 9000 0245 & 562087**  
 9:30 a.m. St. Alban's Holy Eucharist: **826 9515 6305 & 446765**

### Use your telephone for Zoom on Sunday at 9:30 a.m.

Dial 1-646-558-8656  
 When prompted Enter **826 9515 6305#**  
 When prompted Enter **#**  
 When prompted Enter **446765#**  
 That will put you in Zoom's waiting room.

To mute or  
unmute yourself  
on the phone  
press \*6

### Tuesday

10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer: **824 6993 1403 & 680299**

### Wednesday

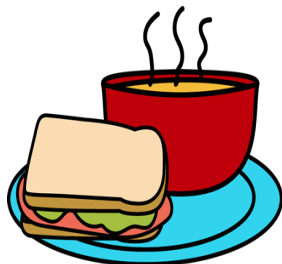
2:00 p.m. Bible Study: **840 0349 8213 & 586548**

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## Mother Julie's Schedule

<u>Emmanuel</u>	<u>St. Alban's</u>	<u>Days Off</u>
Saturday: 3:30-6:30 p.m.	Sunday: 8:10-11:30 a.m.	Monday
Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.	Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Friday
	Thursday: 9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	

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Martha's Kitchen is cooking spaghetti sauce and making 36 sandwiches on Saturday, January 8 at 10:00 a.m. at St. Alban's. The food is taken to the Women's Opportunity Center in Liverpool, which trains women to enter or re-enter the workforce.



## **Mother Julie's House News**



January 27 the moving van arrives to move us from the Village of Marcellus to the Village of North Syracuse. We are currently painting 7 rooms in the new house and when finished will turn to packing the old. Many thanks to Margo Kowalczyk and Barbara Crane for helping me paint! Thank you also to the many people who are holding us in prayer during this busy time. This new year brings with it the excitement of a new church and a new home, and another year with my beloved St. Alban's. God has been so good to us.



New Address  
104 Single Drive  
North Syracuse, NY 13212-2132



## **Annual Meetings**

### St. Alban's Date Correction

In the January newsletter I typed the wrong date. St. Alban's Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 30.

### Emmanuel

The date of the Annual Meeting will be determined at the Vestry meeting on January 5.



### **St. Alban's Giving Tree Volunteers Needed**

We need two people to deliver the items  
to InterFaith Works'  
Center for New Americans.

1010 James Street  
Syracuse, NY 13202