

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
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Emmanuel Episcopal Church
400 W. Yates Street
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The Rev. Julie E. Calhoun-Bryant,
Priest-in-Charge

March 15, 2022

Dear Friends,

Just for fun I looked back to see what I had written to you one year ago and it's as relevant today as it was then. Here is my letter from March 16, 2021.

Every Sunday I give a blessing which begins "Live without fear." We can live without the fear of being abandoned by God. We can live without fear of being unloved or living a life without meaning. Life as a Christian has great meaning. Created in God's image, redeemed by God's only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and adopted by God as children of light our lives are given profound meaning. Living in grace, abiding in love, being in relationship with God and one another - these make life more than worthwhile, they make life abundant. So, live without fear!

Well... that's not always so easy to do. We're in the middle of the 40 days in Lent, but we've almost reached 400 days [now over 700 days!] in pandemic life. The virus, rightfully regarded as a threat to our lives, has sent us all into hiding for all or for large parts of the past 400 days. For the first four months I only left the house once a week to tape the service at St. Alban's with David Houston. How do you let go of a fear that entrenched? I am hearing from more people than I expected that they will not venture back out into the world even after they've received the second vaccination and waited the two week period.

We cannot be afraid to live. As long as the vaccines prove effective against the coronavirus variants and COVID is not rampant once again in the community we need to stop living in fear. It's time to hope again. Be deliberate in your decisions. Stay informed as you make them. Take small steps at the beginning. If you've been sheltering at home what will be the first thing you'll do when you're fully vaccinated? Plan for it and wait in hope.

Life cannot go back to the way it was before. Things change permanently over the course of 400 days. A month after the neck brace came off I joyously threw it in the garbage can while my husband stood by laughing. I won't be throwing away the face masks. I've longed to embrace my church friends, especially those who are living alone or in crisis, but I won't be embracing everyone all at once when it's safe to hug again. Many of you have gone for a year without receiving communion. I hope that's near the top of your list when it's time for you to re-engage.

We have been given the opportunity to chart a new course for our lives and for our beloved parishes. As we emerge from pandemic life let us do so deliberately and faithfully. Let us be driven not by fear, but by hope and by joy. Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you like a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may God's blessing be with you always. (Saint Clare) And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you now and evermore. Amen.

Mother Julie+



Celebrating the Life of Charlie Chapman

Friday

Calling hours at DeLaney and Greabell, 4-7 p.m.
214 Kinne Street, East Syracuse

Saturday

Funeral at Emmanuel, 10:00 a.m.
Reception to follow. Food donations welcome!
Due to the presence of out of state family and friends
masks will be required during the service.



Crosses are handmade by
St. Alban's member
Bert Bookhout and are
available in
St. Alban's Boutique.

People at Emmanuel can
purchase them through
Mother Julie.

There is no set price. The
Boutique is a fundraiser
for the Mission Fund,
through which we
purchase food for
Martha's Kitchen
feeding ministry.

Confirmation Classes Continue Wednesdays at 5:45 p.m. on Zoom

They are open to anyone who is interested in attending!

March 9: English Reformation: Henry VIII and Edward VI

March 16: English Reformation: Mary and Elizabeth I

March 23: The Book of Common Prayer

March 30: Beginning of The Episcopal Church in America

Zoom codes: 878 5399 0472 and 014354

Thursday Evenings on Zoom in March - Lenten Book Study

6:00 p.m. Gather and share dinner from your home

6:30 p.m. Book Study: Jesus, by Marcus Borg

Zoom Codes: 861 7759 3272 and 295096

In Person Schedule

Saturday	Emmanuel	Charlie's Funeral and Reception: 10:00 a.m. Worship: 5:00 p.m. (no coffee hour at 4:15 p.m.)
Sunday	St. Alban's	Bible Study: 8:30 a.m. Worship: 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour: 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday	Emmanuel	Bible Study: 2:00 p.m.

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 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.

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

5:45 p.m. Confirmation Class: **878 5399 0472 and 014354**

Thursday

6:00 p.m. Eat and Chat: **861 7759 3272 and 295096**

6:30 p.m. Mother Julie's Class

Mother Julie's Schedule for March 17-23

<u>Emmanuel</u>	<u>St. Alban's</u>	<u>Days Off</u>
Saturday: 9-12:30, 4:30-6:30 p.m.	Sunday: 8 a.m.-12 p.m.	Monday
Wednesday: 11:00 a.m. -7:00 p.m.	Tuesday: 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	Friday
	Thursday: 12:00-8:00 p.m.	

Lenten Food Drive
Items to be given to InterFaith Works' 20+ pantries in underserved areas



Pasta
Canned Fruits
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Dried or Canned Beans
Canned Vegetables
Canned Soup
Boxed Macaroni &
Cheese

Canned Tuna or Chicken
Vegetable Oil
Oatmeal
Cereal
Walnuts/Almonds
Juice
Flour
Rice
Shelf Stable Milk

Emmanuel: Please place food items on the shelf just inside the door from the parking lot.
St. Alban's: Please leave food items in the Fellowship Room.

NEW COVID PROTOCOLS ADOPTED BY THE VESTRIES

St. Alban's

During Worship: No changes made at this time. The Vestry will re-evaluate monthly. Masks and social distancing are still required and we will continue to receive communion as we have been. Readers may continue to remove their masks while reading.

Outside of Worship: Masks and social distancing are optional as long as the CDC county map gives us a low rating. If the rating returns to medium masks will again be required at all times, with the exception of eating/drinking at coffee hour. Groups that use our building can make masking and social distancing optional, but we strongly recommend that they follow CDC guidelines, as will we.

Signing In: We will continue to ask people to sign in for contact tracing purposes.

Emmanuel

Masks: Wearing of masks will be optional unless Onondaga County's CDC rating returns to a high level. If you might have been exposed to COVID please wear a mask to church. If folks are wearing masks Mother Julie will wear one at the altar.

Social Distancing is optional unless the rating returns to high.

Use of the altar rail and drinking from the chalice: We will not change our current communion practice at this time. If Onondaga County's rating falls to low the Vestry will reevaluate.

Signing In: We will continue to ask people to sign in for contact tracing purposes.