

St. Alban's Episcopal Church  
1308 Meadowbrook Drive  
Syracuse, NY 13224-1718  
Website: [stalbansyracuse.org](http://stalbansyracuse.org)

The Rev. Julie E. Calhoun-Bryant, Rector  
Email: [julieatalban@gmail.com](mailto:julieatalban@gmail.com)  
Cell: 315-416-7133

August 24, 2021

Dear People of St. Alban's,

I have important news to share. At the end of the year Father Gerry Beritela, Vicar of Emmanuel Church, East Syracuse, is retiring. On Sunday I announced that their Vestry has approached me and asked if I would serve them as Priest-In-Charge for 10 hours/week, beginning January 1. At the recommendation of Canon Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, I have agreed to serve with them for a four month trial period from January 1 to April 30. This is, of course, in addition to being Rector half-time at St. Alban's. On September 12 I will have been here for 15 wonderful years and look forward to many more!

Currently Emmanuel's services are at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday on Zoom (in person before COVID) and 9:30 a.m. on Sunday in person. (There is no internet reception inside the church, only in the office.) Since I am at St. Alban's at 9:30 on Sunday, and quarter-time only allows for one service, Emmanuel's congregation will choose between 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and 11:30 a.m. on Sunday morning. St. Alban's Sunday morning schedule will not change.

I am excited about the possibilities my serving both parishes will allow. Already we join with them and St. David's, DeWitt for East Side Episcopal events and several of Emmanuel's members have participated in the Thursday evening book study. Speaking in the spirit of East Side Episcopalians, while our three parishes maintain separate identities, it enriches us all when we do things together.

We have four months to plan for the four month trial period, which includes Lent and Easter. At the end of April both Vestries and I will evaluate how it went. Your input is most welcome. Several of you have expressed concern about my health. Part of the planning process is to take a close look at how my time is spent at St. Alban's. When the COVID shutdown began in March 2020 my time at St. Alban's increased and I have been working more than half-time for quite a while now. Some things will need to change. For example, I don't need to be the one to deliver the food from Martha's Kitchen to the Women's Opportunity Center. Unless we shut down again, my weekly letter may go to every other week. Also, the same sermon, bible study, and book study will be used for both parishes. The time to prepare one of the three can be put toward my time at Emmanuel. So, when all is said and done, what I'm really doing is going from 2/3 time to 3/4 time.

God be with and bless both our parishes in this time of leave-taking and transition.

Mother Julie+

## Interested in Spiritual Direction: An Opportunity

Erica Olsen-Bang is a candidate for ordination to the priesthood in the diocese who lives on Crawford Avenue. She has a PhD in Theology and is embarking on a two year spiritual direction training program at the Spiritual Renewal Center. She needs a site from which to work and St. Alban's is the logical choice since she lives one block from the church.

Erica received her PhD from Fordham University and taught for five years at the College of New Rochelle, a small Roman Catholic College that is now closed. She is married and the mother of two daughters, ages 6 and 3. They are members of St. James', Skaneateles.

Using St. Alban's as the site for her training program requires that 3 people from St. Alban's volunteer to meet with her once a month from fall to June for spiritual direction. If we don't have 3 people here she can broaden the search to our two East Side Episcopal partners.

So, what is spiritual direction? Spiritual direction involves a process through which one person helps another person understand what God is doing and saying in his or her life. The Christian life often entails times of spiritual uncertainty - situations in which we are unsure of God's will, confused about what God is doing in our circumstances, or generally dry in our relationship with God. Spiritual direction is a safe place to explore your questions and concerns about your life with God. A Christian spiritual director is a trained listener who will accompany you as you share about your spiritual journey, helping you to notice God's presence and activity along the way, as well as your personal reactions and responses. Hospitable, confidential, and grounded in biblical truth, spiritual direction is a ministry that helps you grow in prayer and live into your calling as a follower of Christ.

If this is something you would like to try with Erica please let Mother Julie know.

Your financial gift is needed in Haiti following the earthquake and tropical storm that dumped up to 17" of rain in some spots.

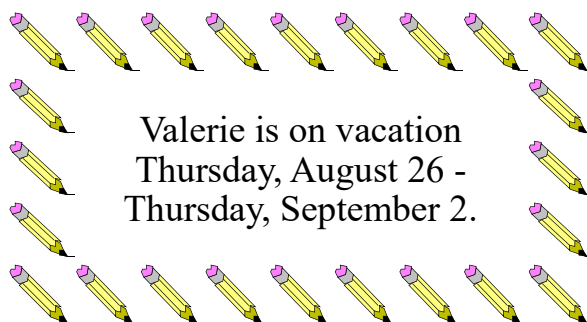


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Or give online to the Haiti Fund at  
[episcopalrelief.org](http://episcopalrelief.org)



Valerie is on vacation  
Thursday, August 26 -  
Thursday, September 2.

**East Side Episcopalians**  
**Annual Holy Eucharist & Picnic**  
Ryder Park Pavilion by DeWitt Town Hall  
Sunday, September 19 at 11:00 a.m.

Let Mother Julie know if you can attend! We need to make a decision whether or not to proceed if most people are staying away due to COVID.

## Zoom Calendar

Sunday 8:30 a.m. Bible Study: 835 9000 0245 & 562087  
9:30 a.m. Worship: 826 9515 6305 & 446765

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. Morning Prayer: 868 3084 1089 & 114552

Thursday 6:30 p.m. Book Study: 885 9819 2410 & 103147

### In Person Weekend Worship

Saturday at 11:30 a.m.  
Recorded for our website

Sunday at 9:30 a.m.  
with organ and hymns,  
also on Zoom

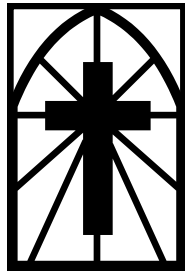
### Use your telephone for Zoom Sunday at 9:30 am

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  
and you will be let in.

### Jane Talbot's Memorial Service

Friday, Sept. 10  
11:00 a.m.

In Person  
and on Zoom



### Heartful Condolences to

Valerie Warfield,  
whose sister, Darlene Hicks,  
died on August 14.

Tendai,  
whose mother died on August 16.

### Donate New and Gently Used Bras

Women in Africa and Central and South  
America sell them. One bra can feed a family  
for a week!

We will add our bras to those collected at the  
Women's Opportunity Center.  
Please put donations in the metal box in the  
Fellowship Room by the fireplace.

