

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
1308 Meadowbrook Drive
Syracuse, NY 13224-1718
Website: stalbansyracuse.org

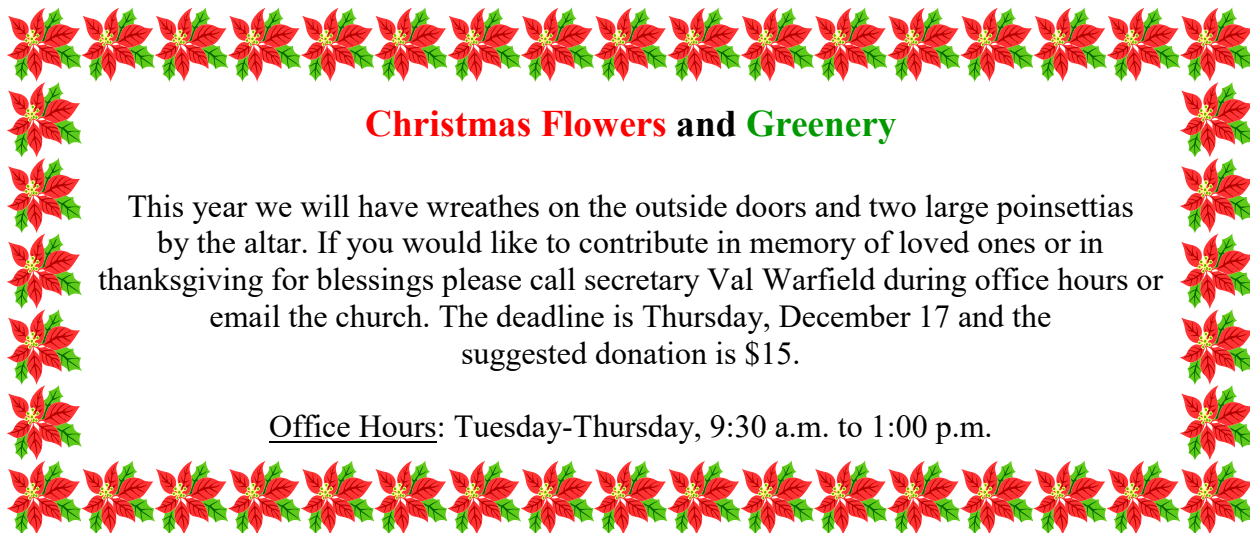
The Rev. Julie E. Calhoun-Bryant, Rector
Email: julieatalban@gmail.com
Cell: 315-416-7133

Jan's Christmas Boutique

Jan Bookhout has been busy creating stuffed animals, shawls, lap blankets, aprons, and Christmas masks for people to use as Christmas gifts. Take what you need and leave a donation to the church if you can. Bert and Bobbi Lombardo have volunteered to deliver items to those who are isolating at home.

The boutique will be set up in the Fellowship Room. Val is here during office hours and Mother Julie is here from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday mornings.





Christmas Flowers and Greenery

This year we will have wreathes on the outside doors and two large poinsettias by the altar. If you would like to contribute in memory of loved ones or in thanksgiving for blessings please call secretary Val Warfield during office hours or email the church. The deadline is Thursday, December 17 and the suggested donation is \$15.

Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday Abbreviated Morning Prayer at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Zoom: 868 3084 1089 and 114552

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Advent Book Study on Zoom

**Saturdays December 5, 12, 19 from 10:00-11:00 a.m.
(Read four chapters for each session.)**

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's acclaimed book,
Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times

Zoom: 812 6262 9237 and 706768

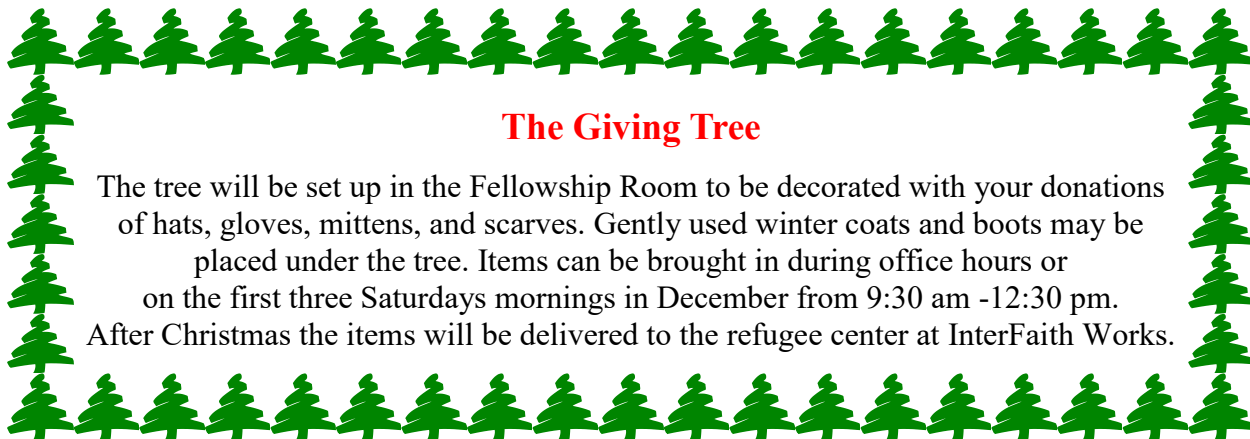


**Episcopal
Relief & Development**

Healing a hurting world

Gifts Double in December!

- 1) Check to St. Alban's with "ER&D" on the memo line
- 2) Go online and make a donation
at episcopalrelief.org



The Giving Tree

The tree will be set up in the Fellowship Room to be decorated with your donations of hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves. Gently used winter coats and boots may be placed under the tree. Items can be brought in during office hours or on the first three Saturdays mornings in December from 9:30 am -12:30 pm. After Christmas the items will be delivered to the refugee center at InterFaith Works.

December 1, 2020

Dear Friends,

Advent has come at the perfect time in all our lives this terrible year of 2020. COVID cases are on the rise and likely will soar 2-3 weeks after Thanksgiving. Our president refuses to concede defeat in the election, causing chaos in the land. Black and Brown people are still stopped and beaten. This terrifying trifecta has us all on edge. Hard as we try to be at peace and to find joy, it's an uphill battle.

Now comes Advent, with its message of hope. Life without hope is barely life at all. In his letter to the member of the church in Rome Paul writes, "For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience." (8:24-25) We mere mortals don't get to see the future of humankind, but God does. And we hope in God's future, for God is good and desires good for us. Many times in human history has the world seemed to be spinning out of control. Today is just another moment in time. The powers of darkness will have their effect on humanity, but not forever. The forces of evil will run lose in our world, but not for all eternity. The future belongs to God, in whom there is no darkness at all.

And yet, we live in the present, not the future. What is our hope for today? We never walk alone; in God we live, and move, and have our being. We follow an incarnate Lord, God made human. Jesus, the Son of God, who lived this mortal life of ours, cares deeply about the details and designs of our day to day living, and actively protects us from hidden dangers that we will never know. Always near, Jesus is just a prayer away. So keep close to Jesus and let your hope run wild and your heart soar, for God is with you now and already is in our future.

Mother Julie+

Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30 a.m. Bible Study on Zoom

9:30 a.m. Spiritual Communion on Zoom

Zoom Code/Password for Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. - 835 9000 0245 & 562087

Zoom Code/Password for Worship at 9:30 a.m. - 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 and I will let you in.

To mute or unmute yourself on the phone press *6
