

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

January 5, 2021

Dear Friends,

Next week I am taking off Monday-Saturday (Jan. 11-16) to deal with ongoing problems with my neck. On Valentine's Day it will be four years since my neck was broken in a car accident and I need to receive PT treatments several times a year to maintain mobility and reduce pain. Due to COVID-19 I waited too long and my neck has felt like it's encased in cement. So, I will receive treatments Monday through Thursday next week to jumpstart the process. Nothing will be canceled. The January 17 service for the website will be recorded on January 7 and I will Zoom from home the morning of Sunday, January 17. There will be no letter next week, but the bulletin will be sent to our non-computer members. I appreciate your prayers!

In this 12 day season of Christmas I have been contemplating the enormity of Jesus' love for us. The Son of God emptied himself of his divinity to become a helpless baby, to live and die as one of us. Jesus was one of us. Christmas celebrates the Incarnation, God made human. Several of our members are confined to their rooms in nursing homes because of the pandemic, their social interactions and movements severely limited. Our God made human understands your diminished life. He lived it. When God chose to do this it was not for his benefit, but for ours and ours alone. This was a choice made out of pure, incomprehensible love. God chooses to love us, not from afar, but in the very details of our day to day lives. The God of the universe is intimately acquainted with each and every one of us and the joys, struggles, and sorrows of our lives. God chooses to engage with us on a personal level and is always near, waiting for us to turn to him. Why bother with us, we who fail to worship God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength? Incomprehensible love! Why bother with our fallen world? Incomprehensible love. Why be born human, knowing that the Son of God would ultimately be rejected and crucified? Incomprehensible love. At any moment, 24/7, we can call out to God and through the power of the Holy Spirit that dwells within us God is with us. Every tear is noted, every prayer answered. That's incomprehensible love. And it's for everyone.

I had hoped to start making sandwiches at the beginning of the month but don't have enough volunteers yet. Can you find the resolve to feed the hungry by meeting with one other person once a month to make and deliver 3 dozen sandwiches? This long, dark winter is a scary time in our history, but the need is great. Can you share the love of God in this concrete way?

Unto us a child is born, Unto us a Son is given. Alleluia!

Mother Julie+

Mid-January Calendar

January 9	10:00 a.m.	Final book study on Zoom: 812 6262 9237 & 706768
	11:30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist taped for the website
January 10	8:30 a.m.	Bible Study on Zoom: 835 9000 0245 & 562087
	9:30 a.m.	Worship on Zoom: 826 9515 6305 & 446765
January 12	10:00 a.m.	Morning Prayer on Zoom: 868 3084 1089 & 114552
January 17	8:30 a.m.	Bible Study on Zoom: 835 9000 0245 & 562087
	9:30 a.m.	Worship on Zoom: 826 9515 6305 & 446765
January 18	7:00 p.m.	St. David's Celebration of New Ministry on Zoom
January 19	7:00 p.m.	Vestry on Zoom: 826 5398 9240 & 159531

Special Events

January 18 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom - St. David's Celebration of New Ministry

Zoom codes will be made available by St. David's shortly before the event.

Father Dan Handschy, St. David's Priest-in-Charge, has been called by the parish to become the Rector. Bishop DeDe Duncan-Probe will lead the service celebrating this new step in St. David's journey.

Our diocese uses three designations for priests.

Rector: Priest of an incorporated parish that receives no financial support from the diocese toward its operational expenses. There is no set term for a Rector.

Vicar: Priest who serves a parish at the pleasure of the Bishop. Usually a vicar serves in a parish that is unincorporated or financially dependent on the diocese. The Bishop is also the Rector when a parish has a vicar.

Priest-in-Charge: This title covers several circumstances. It can be a short term appointment by the Bishop for a parish where the Rector has retired or resigned. It can be a longer term appointment for a part time priest in a small parish. Retired clergy often serve smaller parishes this way. It also can be a short term appointment for a parish in conflict needing help from a priest trained to lead them through. Again, the Bishop is the Rector in this situation.

St. Alban's Annual Meeting: January 31 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom
Codes provided closer to the event.

**Annual Meeting of St. Alban's Episcopal Church
January 31 at 9:30 a.m. on Zoom**

Our bylaws state that the meeting be held within the first 45 days of the year, so it can't be postponed until we can meet in person.

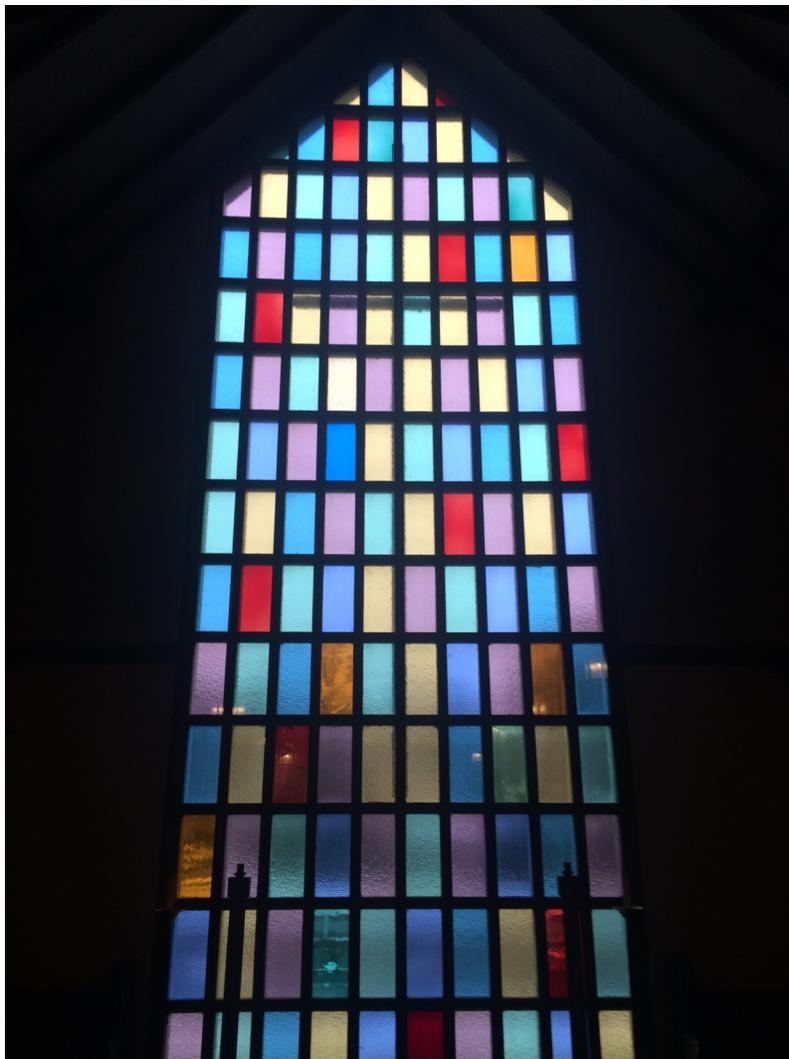
Nominations

Warden, 2 year term Margo Kowalczyk
Vestry, 3 year term Gina Odell
Vestry, 3 year term Mary (Kiki) White

Any additional nominations must be submitted to a Warden in writing no later than 7 days before the Annual Meeting.

Schedule

At 9:30 a.m. we will start the meeting, nominate our candidates, and open the polls, which must be open for at least one hour. The worship service will then begin. After a short break the meeting will continue. Zoom codes will be sent out closer to the date.



Send Christmas Greetings to

Mr. Stephen Terry
(We know him as Frank Terry, Carolyn Bashaw's brother,
who moved into a group home last summer.)

22 Lakehurst Drive
Auburn, NY 13021

Mr. Herb Wickenden
Elderwood at Wheatfield, Room 213
2600 Niagara Blvd.
Wheatfield, NY 14304

