

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

October 19, 2021

Dear People of St. Alban's,

God has four answers to prayer: Yes, No, Not Yet, and I've got a better idea! Last week I shared that God's "Not yet" became a "Yes" to begin our search for a home that would be more suitable for two married couples, an adult son, and three dogs. On Sunday I joyfully announced that my family had found a new home in DeWitt just 5-10 minutes away from St. Alban's. On Monday we walked away from that home after the inspection showed multiple problems with the house. What a week it's been! We give thanks that we were spared from owning a home that would have become a nightmare and press onward. God is good.

This makes me think of Jesus' instructions to his disciples as he sent them out two by two. He told them if a town didn't receive them to leave by shaking the dust off their feet as they left as a sign against them. In other words, don't waste your time trying to convince them of the truth of the Gospel. It's not your job to force them to believe. It is your job to share the good news gladly. If they welcome you then stay; if they don't, press onward.

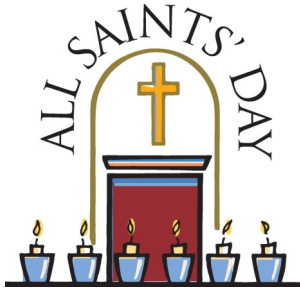
Episcopalians don't have it in our DNA to press onward. There's an old lightbulb joke about us that goes: How many Episcopalians does it take to change a light bulb? Answer: 500. One to change the bulb and 499 to remember how good the old light bulb was. That no longer works in a fast paced, always changing technological society. I remember the first time I walked into a coffee shop. The menu was so foreign to me that I turned around and walked back out. I remember thinking how cool the communicators were on Star Trek. Now nearly everyone has a cell phone. I had to learn how to text if I wanted to "speak" to my son and his wife when they lived in Florida. Now we have a family chat that all 5 of us use throughout the day to keep in touch. And I won't even get into Tik Tok. During the pandemic many of us learned to use Zoom and now most of our church meetings are held this way. I Zoom tonight with the Vestry and Thursday with the Music Team.

We press onward because we must. People are more likely to check out our website before they step foot in the building. Many thanks to David Houston for keeping it up to date. Like many of you I really miss seeing everyone in person on Sunday morning and hanging out during coffee hour catching up on everyone's news. We don't know how Sunday mornings will evolve, but we do know that Zoom is here to stay. Somehow I can't picture Jesus telling us to hold tight to the way things used to be. The good news is that we press onward together, with the Holy Spirit leading the way if we but ask. Look to the future with hope, for it is in God's hands.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit,

Mother Julie+

P. S. My rental car is a white Hyundai Elantra.



November 1 is All Saints' Day  
Spiritual Communion on Zoom at 5:30 p.m.  
Codes will be sent.

November 7 is All Saints' Sunday  
Festive Coffee Hour after the service.

### **Martha's Kitchen**

We cook on next on Saturday, November 6 at 10:00 a.m.

We'll be making spaghetti sauce and 36 sandwiches for the clients of the Women's Opportunity Center and their families.

We're all set for shallow, rectangular containers for now. Please keep bringing in takeout containers and larger ones for spaghetti sauce and pasta.

Thank you!

### **October 21-26 Calendar, with Zoom Codes where Needed**

Thursday 6:00 p.m. Music Team Meeting on Zoom

Saturday 11:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday 8:30 a.m. Bible Study: 835 9000 0245 & 562087

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist: 826 9515 6305 & 446765

Monday 6:30 p.m. Convention Delegates meet on Zoom

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

### **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.