



The St. Alban's Tidings (Mostly Good)

# St. Alban's Episcopal Church

VOLUME X ISSUE 5

ARCATA

MAY 2020

Dear People of St. Alban's,

Although it is not one of the gospel lessons assigned for Sunday worship in the current lectionary cycle (Year A) I have this sense that the resurrection story that most closely aligns with our current experience is that of the Easter breakfast in John 21. In recent Sundays we have had stories of the risen Lord being present to the disciples behind locked doors and in their homes. Those stories from the Gospel of John and Luke have taken on new meaning and power to comfort us in our current situation.

The story from John 21 also takes place in a familiar setting, for the disciples have returned home to Galilee and have taken up their former livelihood as fishermen. Or so they think. The key verses are 3 and 4: "They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus." Those verses describe a threshold moment. They cannot go back to the old life and they do not know how

to go forward. It is a liminal time, an in between time.

A few of you have noted that we observe Easter for a full 50 days because it takes time to let the reality of the resurrection sink in, it takes time to adjust our sight to perceive the risen Lord when he comes to us. That is true. It is also true that Eastertide is a time of immense change and transition—the first disciples let go of Christ as they first knew him, they learn to recognize him in his risen form and then, at Pentecost, they learn to take up his life as their own as they/as we become his body.

As I write we are nearing the end of our sixth week of statewide of shelter in place and a host of other restrictions aimed at reducing the spread of the Corona virus. To me it feels like I have just adjusted to a new normal, established a new routine and now we must begin the work of planning to reopen. It feels too much like the experience of the early disciples—life was one thing, now it is different and soon it will change again. What will it look like? It will not be a sim-



ple return to our former ways of being. And we only have the faintest idea of how to go forward.

For all of us, the remaining days of Easter give us a small pause to ask—what have we learned? What do we want to carry forward (including some of the wounds as I noted in my sermon on April 19)? What do we want to leave behind? What truths have we learned about ourselves? How have our eyes been opened to the world around us? How has the risen Lord been made known to us?

Easter Blessings,  
Sara+

*Saint Alban's is a community of disciples growing into the full maturity of Christ. Our mission as a community worshipping in the Episcopal tradition is to be devoted to God through prayer, study and action; faithful in welcoming the stranger and serving the needs of our parish and beyond.*

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**Your Vestry**

Rick Timmons  
Senior Warden  
(530) 228-5535  
timmonsrj@gmail.com

Garrett Purchio  
Junior Warden  
(510) 862-5386  
garrettpurchase@gmail.com

Emily Arents  
825-6711  
cnmily1@gmail.com

Elena Byrd  
(408) 398-0134  
wandelmultiverse@gmail.com

Jessica Harris  
(707) 845-5408  
jessjaime@rocketmail.com

Daniel Moyer  
(925) 207-4679  
danielmoyer24@gmail.com

Ralph Till  
840-4601  
ralphctill@gmail.com

The Very Rev. Sara Potter  
Rector  
822-4102  
revsara@stalbansarcata.org

Liz Finney  
Clerk  
845-4498  
finneyliz@gmail.com

Dan Scofield  
Treasurer  
616-1657  
d\_m\_scofield@yahoo.com

**April Vestry Highlights**

by Rick Timmons

**April Vestry Highlights**

The Vestry met on April 19th, the highlights of the meeting are:

Selection of a contractor to repair the parish hall roof from among three bids. Two of the proposals were full replacement only. The selected bid included a repair option at a modest cost.

Substantial discussion of the CARES Act, particularly the Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) Loan. St Albans qualifies for a loan of \$21,000 that can be converted to a grant depending on how the funds are used. The Vestry approved making application for the PPP Loan.

Postponement of the May workday to June or later given the restricted movement we all face. A few tasks will be undertaken by individuals as time permits.

Discussion of the request from Arcata House to allow two families to shelter in place on Church property. The Vestry voted to approve this subject to consultation with neighbors.

Approval to establish a Covid-19 Emergency Fund. This fund would be administered by the Clergy and would be used to meet the needs of congregants and others as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 17th.

**Health Ministry at St Alban's**

Here we are, in the midst of a lifestyle that none of us ever, in our wildest dreams, would have imagined. Are you tired of having to be flexible? I am. Like most of us I'm sure, I just wonder what our new normal might end up looking like months down the road.

The truth is though, that sheltering in place most of the time, only going out in the world for necessities and then socially distancing, rigorous hand hygiene, mask-wearing - all of this is helping protect us and our neighbors.

see HEALTH, page 3

## Good Book Club

Adult Forum in Eastertide 2020  
Mondays, 7:00 - 8:00 PM by Zoom  
The Good Book Club: Gospel of Matthew

Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with the Good Book Club and the Gospel of Matthew during Eastertide! Email Mother Nancy at [revnancysstreufert@gmail.com](mailto:revnancysstreufert@gmail.com) if you wish to join her and Deacon Cindy via Zoom on Mondays at 7 pm for a discussion of Matthew's compelling narrative of the life of Jesus, including the Sermon on the Mount, the Lord's Prayer, and the Great Commission.

The reading schedule – Easter Sunday, April 12 through the Feast of Pentecost, May 31 – is available at [goodbookclub.org/readings](http://goodbookclub.org/readings)

*"Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. (Matt 7:7-8)*

### HEALTH: continued from page 2

Please call one another, write notes, find ways to stay in touch. Take photos and share them, if you read a good book, talk about it. In general, encourage one another. Be kind, forgiving and compassionate.

Please remember to eat healthily – and yes, treats help at a time like this! – Get outside and exercise, and get enough rest.. At first, I was losing track of what day of the week it was! Nowadays, I get up at my regular time, by 6:15am Monday-Friday and do my normal routine first thing, eating at regular times and getting to bed before 10:30pm which seems to help with the sense of disorientation that sheltering in place felt like at first. On weekends, I don't get up as early and that helps define Saturday and Sunday along with the anchor of our Sunday morning St. Alban's service on YouTube.

We'll get through this, with God's grace.

Emily Arents, RN, Parish Nurse

## News and Notes

### Morning Prayer on Zoom

Join us for Morning Prayer 9 a.m. Monday through Friday via Zoom. If you wish to join us, please email the Rev. Nancy Streufert at [revnancysstreufert@gmail.com](mailto:revnancysstreufert@gmail.com) and she will invite you to join our worship.

### Coffee Hour

On Sunday, April 26 we had our first ever Coffee Hour via Zoom. It was great to "see" everyone and catch up. Our youth had their own break out room. Deacon Cindy is organizing this effort. Please email Cindy at [minitrees55@yahoo.com](mailto:minitrees55@yahoo.com) if you would like to join us. See you Sundays at 12 noon!

### COVID-19 Fund:

The Vestry has approved the establishment of a COVID-19 fund to assist parishioners who are experiencing financial hardship as a result of the pandemic. If you would like to contribute to the fund please send either a check to the office made out to Saint Alban's with "COVID-19 fund" in the memo or make a contribution online through our website [www.stalbansarcata.org](http://www.stalbansarcata.org). If you need assistance, please contact any of the parish clergy.

### Forward Day by Day

Copies of Forward Day by Day for May, June and July have arrived. This daily devotional includes a brief reflection on one of the assigned scriptures from the Daily Office lectionary, all the scripture citations and a diocese of the Anglican Communion to include in our daily prayers. If you would like a copy, please contact the office.

### Thank you from Ann McClary

Ann McClary recently contacted the church office and asked us to share this message with the congregation:

"Thank you to everyone for their thoughts, prayers, the lovely cards and texts. I am unable to answer email or regular mail. I can communicate via text or phone call. I want them to know how much I appreciate all they have done for me."

If you want to write to Ann please send notes or cards to her care of:  
Oak River Rehab  
3300 Franklin Street  
Anderson CA 96007



# St. Albans Episcopal Church

1675 Chester Avenue  
Arcata, CA 95521



## WEEKLY GATHERINGS

GROUP:	DAY:	TIME:	CONTACT:
Bible Study	Suspended until	further notice	Bob Webb
Choir Rehearsal	Suspended until	further notice	Nan Voss-Herlihy
Spiritual Forum	Monday (via Zoom)	7pm	Mtr Nancy Streufert Deacon Cindy Woods

## MONTHLY GATHERINGS

GROUP:	DAY & TIME:	TIME:	CONTACT:
Creation Care Ministry	2nd Tuesday (via Zoom)	6:30pm-8:00pm	Daniel Moyer
Vestry	3rd Sunday (via Zoom)	12:30pm-2:30pm	Rick Timmons
Wisdom Group	Suspended until	further notice	Emily Arents
Worship Committee	1st Saturday every other month (via Zoom)	10am	Mtr. Sara Potter