

Associate Rector Vestry Report
March 2017
JEQ+

**ATTACHMENT A to Minutes of
March 8, 2017 Vestry Meeting**

***It has been approximately two weeks since my last vestry report**

Outreach:

- GWW will meet on 3/2/17 prior to the creation of this report. Agenda items include the 2017 budget allocations for various ministry clusters (Global Mission, TLC & Sustaining Ministries); changes in Crossroads Housing Initiative methodology; Gala 2017; Mustard Seeds for March-June.
- The Opportunity Shop earned \$25,000 in the month of January. Grants in February were awarded to The Church of the Epiphany (\$7,500); Cornerstone (\$5,000); Loaves and Fishes (\$6,000).
- Sunday, February 19, 2017 St. Alban's delivered 52 casseroles to SOME. The J2A super bowl chili sales accounted for 15 of the 52 casseroles. The casseroles delivered to SOME in February provided healthy meals to 416 of our less fortunate neighbors.

Adult Formation

- The Adult formation Team held a fantastic three-part series on Morality and War – many thanks to Ed Roslof, Deborah Potter, Sandy Kolb, Sandy McCall, Marcus King, and Warren Clark.
- Lenten study information has been disseminated by e-mail, in printed Lenten study guides and with a QR code in the Yellow Pages. Reading groups are being formed for the four texts chosen for Lent in the parish this year
- The Rev'd Geoffrey Hoare will lead a five-week Lenten series on Worship

Pastoral Care

- Officiated at four funerals in the month of February. Received a \$5,000 gift to be used for Mission and Outreach from a niece of Elizabeth McElroy.

As indicated by demeanor in the service on February 26 and in the Daily Cup the following day, please accept my profound thanks for the Gospel book given in appreciation for my ministry with you.

Jim+

Children's Formation

We averaged 42 participants in Children's Chapel over the past month, up by 5 from the last few months. It continues to run smoothly, thanks to the faithfulness of our many volunteers.

In terms of intergenerational events, Global Mission is set to host our next First Wednesday on April 5. Our Family Ash Wednesday service on March 1 drew 60 people. This year, I created "Take Out Take Home Lent Boxes" for families and individuals to deepen their Lenten practices at home.

Sunday School continues to run well. In response to the expressed needs of our 4th to 6th Graders, I've met with their teachers and made some changes in their lesson schedule to help them better understand what is happening during "big church." We're visiting with the Altar Guild on March 12 to learn in a more hands-on way what we do at the altar. I also met with the 1st to 3rd Grade teachers this month to prepare them for the stories they'll be sharing in Lent and created a new lesson for the PreK-K class on the symbols of the Holy Eucharist.

Youth Formation

We held our annual Rite 13 Pancake Supper on February 28. Thanks to Noell Sottile and Dudley Winthrop for helping to organize the dinner – as well as to all the teens, lay leaders and parents who pitched in. About 40 students from the Paul Public Charter School joined us. Their French teacher found us on the web and asked if they could come. We fed at least 175 people total. Proceeds will benefit the Rite 13 Beach Weekend Retreat (April 28-30).

The J2A Spring Plant and Poncho Sale begins March 5. Due to a timing issue beyond our control, we won't be able to sell plants to individual parishioners this year. But we have made arrangements with the St. Alban's Garden Guild so that parishioners can purchase plants to help beautify our campus. Ponchos will be available for sale or donation to Grate Patrol as well. Delivery on April 2. On another front, we have reserved our flights for the Iceland pilgrimage this August.

Meanwhile, I continue working on the Sr. Youth curriculum to round out the year. On March 10 Sr. Youth will be joined for Grate Patrol by students from Canterbury Downtown (an Episcopal campus ministry for lower Manhattan) – who will be staying in our Rectory as part of their spring break service trip. This collaboration is another part of our larger effort to introduce our teens to campus ministry and to what church can look like in college.

Lay Ministry Support, Discernment, Newcomer Incorporation

I continue corresponding with newcomers as we receive their welcome cards and work with John Daniel Reaves and Katherine Schinasi to connect them with welcomers and ministries as appropriate. Met in person with 2 newcomers and connected them to parish ministries.

Liturgical/Pastoral/Other

Since February Report: Celebrant at 3 services (including Ash Wednesday); Deacon at 2 services; Preached 1 Sunday; Children's Chapel 1 Sunday

Officiate at 7:30am Tuesday Eucharist every other week (alternating with Jim Quigley)

Offered benediction at Matthew Farr's Eagle Scout Court of Honor on February 23

Met with Justin to select hymns for March and plan for February 26 Evensong

Led an Extended Introduction to Godly Play Training in Akron, OH March 2-4

Agreed to serve as Chair for Godly Play Foundation Sub-Committee to develop new training offerings in 2017-2018

Liturgy

Since the February 15, 2017, vestry meeting, I have celebrated and preached at three Sunday services, at the Ash Wednesday service, and participated in the Evensong to welcome Rev. Hoare.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care continues as an important and on-going component of our community. In the past three weeks, I made 11 extended pastoral visits in addition to extended telephone pastoral support (extended being more than 1 hour) as well as routine congregational support through email and text. Pastoral care in the culture of this community is preferably face-to-face or at least voice-to-voice as is congregational development. This period of time has been a particularly difficult one for many members of this community.

Christian Formation, Integration of “Hispanohablante y Angloparlante” Communities, Outreach, and Community Development

During this time of transition between rectors and pursuant to the negotiation of a new contract for my employment, I deferred to the Senior Warden and the vestry committee who determined the scope of my new contract to hold off on initiatives planned in these areas and other areas until the priest in charge arrived. The focus of the ministry until the arrival of the priest in charge was to be limited to worship and pastoral care according to the terms of the contract requested by the Senior Warden and contract negotiation committee. The community and I look forward to resuming our full participation in the parish and continue its growth pattern and community engagement now that Rev. Hoare is here.

Diocesan/National Church Participation

The community and I continue to participate in monthly Latino leaders meetings (lay and clergy), and I attend the regular clergy meetings for diocesan Latino missionaries.

Administration and Meetings

I attended 12 meetings within the St. Alban’s community, with Diocesan communities, and with outside organizations.

Respectfully submitted *con gozo y paz*, Debbie+

**Senior Warden Report to the Vestry
March 8, 2017**

Election Procedures – Walker Carter and I met with David Johnson and Ron Hicks to “download” their reserve of historical information about procedures for conducting parish elections for Vestry, Wardens, and Diocesan Delegates. Walker and I and Mary Kostel, along with Charles Porter – and subject to Vestry review and Geoffrey Hoare’s concurrence – are developing written procedures that won’t be dependent on personal memories, and that will ensure we maintain consistency, best practices, and transparency in our elections.

Earth Day and Shred Event – Those of us who actually participated in the first Earth Day, on April 22, 1970, are really happy to see St. Alban’s creep forward into better environmental stewardship practices. We’re ramping up our recycling efforts, and working with our hauling service to make sure our recyclables actually do get recycled. On this year’s April 22, a Saturday, St. Alban’s will again sponsor a pro-environment event. We’ll have a shred service truck (so gather your old paper records for disposal!) and several other opportunities for eco-action. Thanks to Alex Stavitsky and Deborah Potter for honcho-ing.

Gratitude from Bishop Mariann – Attached is a letter to us from Bishop Mariann, expressing gratitude for the St. Alban’s pledge of financial support for the Diocese. This past year our relationship with Church House has been particularly important, and our continuing support for the Diocese is a recognition of our mutual interdependence in ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Ingersoll



Episcopal Diocese of Washington

I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3: 16-19

February 22, 2017

Ms. Laura Ingersoll, Senior Warden
St. Alban's Church
3001 Wisconsin Ave NW
Washington, DC 20016-5095
Via email: Ingersoll.laura@yahoo.com

Dear Laura and Members of the Vestry at St. Alban's,

Thank you for your generous commitment to support the work and ministry we share throughout the Diocese of Washington. Your 2017 pledge of \$100,000, an increase of \$6,000, is a tremendous gesture of support and means more than words can convey. Given all that you have been through as a congregation this year, I am especially moved by your increased pledge. Your pledge now stands at 6.41% of normal operating income, well on the way to the 10% tithe I ask all congregations to strive toward. In return, I pledge to lead and steward the precious congregational resources entrusted to the diocese in ways that make you proud.

It's my dream and intention to have diocesan ministry funded primarily through congregational giving, thus ensuring the greatest level of ownership accountability. Doing so will also free the funds generated from the Soper Trust to go for congregational and regional initiatives, and to partner with congregations in placing those we sponsor for ordination in strategic leadership internships throughout the diocese.

Thank you for your leadership during St. Alban's rector transition. This is an important season in your ministry. I'm honored to serve as your bishop and stand ready to assist in any way I can.

Faithfully,

The Rt. Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde, D.Min.
Bishop of Washington