



February 2020
VOLUME 4 Number 1

The Witness

A PUBLICATION OF ST ALBAN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Witness — February 2020 Edition

Special dates in February

- African-American History Month
- Annual Meeting, *February 02, 2020*
- Valentine's Day, *February 14, 2020*
- **Share Your Heat Sundae**,
February 16, 2020
- **Presidents Day**, *February 17, 2020*
- Transfiguration of Our Lord,
February 23, 2020
- Shrove Tuesday, *February 25, 2020*
- Ash Wednesday, *February 26, 2020*
- Lent Soup Supper and Study
February 27, 2020
- Leap Day, *February 29, 2020*



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VISIT US ONLINE www.stalbanchurch.net



VOLUNTER SAFETY GUIDELINES

To all the volunteers who do so much work maintaining the church buildings and grounds - THANKS!

For your safety, please keep in mind the following guidelines:

- Use safety glasses when appropriate. (Safety glasses are in the tool closet.)
- Please use a team (buddy system) when lifting or moving heavy objects, climbing to the upper rungs of ladders, working on the roof, or cleaning gutters.
- For routine tasks such as mowing, weeding, spreading mulch, power washing, plumbing or painting (not *too high*), the buddy system is generally not necessary.

No set of rules can be all-encompassing, or replace your good sense. Before you begin, ask yourself: am I knowledgeable about the task, skilled with the tools, and physically capable? If any of the answers is not a definitive "yes," please solicit assistance. (It's more enjoyable to work with company, anyway!)

Fire and Evacuation -

Please look at the sketch of the church on the next page to see:

- the location of fire extinguishers
- the location of the new automated external defibrillator (AED)
- evacuation routes in case of fire

- evacuation guidance for violence

Also note:

- An additional extinguisher is now located in the Narthex, next to the new automated external defibrillator (AED).
- Although training on use of the AED will be provided to volunteers in the coming months, the AED can be used by anyone, because it includes a feature that will verbally guide the user through the process. (The Pennsylvania "Samaritan" law protects untrained users from any legal liability.)
- In case of a violent situation, if is not possible to evacuate, the fire extinguishers are a very effective means of self-defense. We have A-B-C extinguishers, which will incapacitate someone immediately, if the stream is directed at their face.

Mike Gallo
Junior Warden

Mission Statement for St. Alban's Anglican Church
"Committed to sharing Christ's Commandments: To love God and to love your neighbor as yourself, through worship, education and outreach."

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Staff & Officers

The Rev. Dr. David H. Grissom
Patti Hicks,
Administrative Assistant
Diane Kaufmann,
Sunday School Director
Fred Carlson,
Adult Education Chair
Deborah Silverstein,
Organist/Choir Director
Gloria Kuchcinski, Sexton
Ellen Cappelli Youth Ministry
Fred Carlson, Treasurer
Kevin Bice, Asst. Treasurer

Vestry

Patrick McCafferty, Senior Warden
Michael Gallo, Junior Warden
Andrea Bach, member
John Hofscher, member
Tim Lyon, member
Tim Sikora, member
Nancie Pajan, member and
Vestry Secretary

FENCE LINE

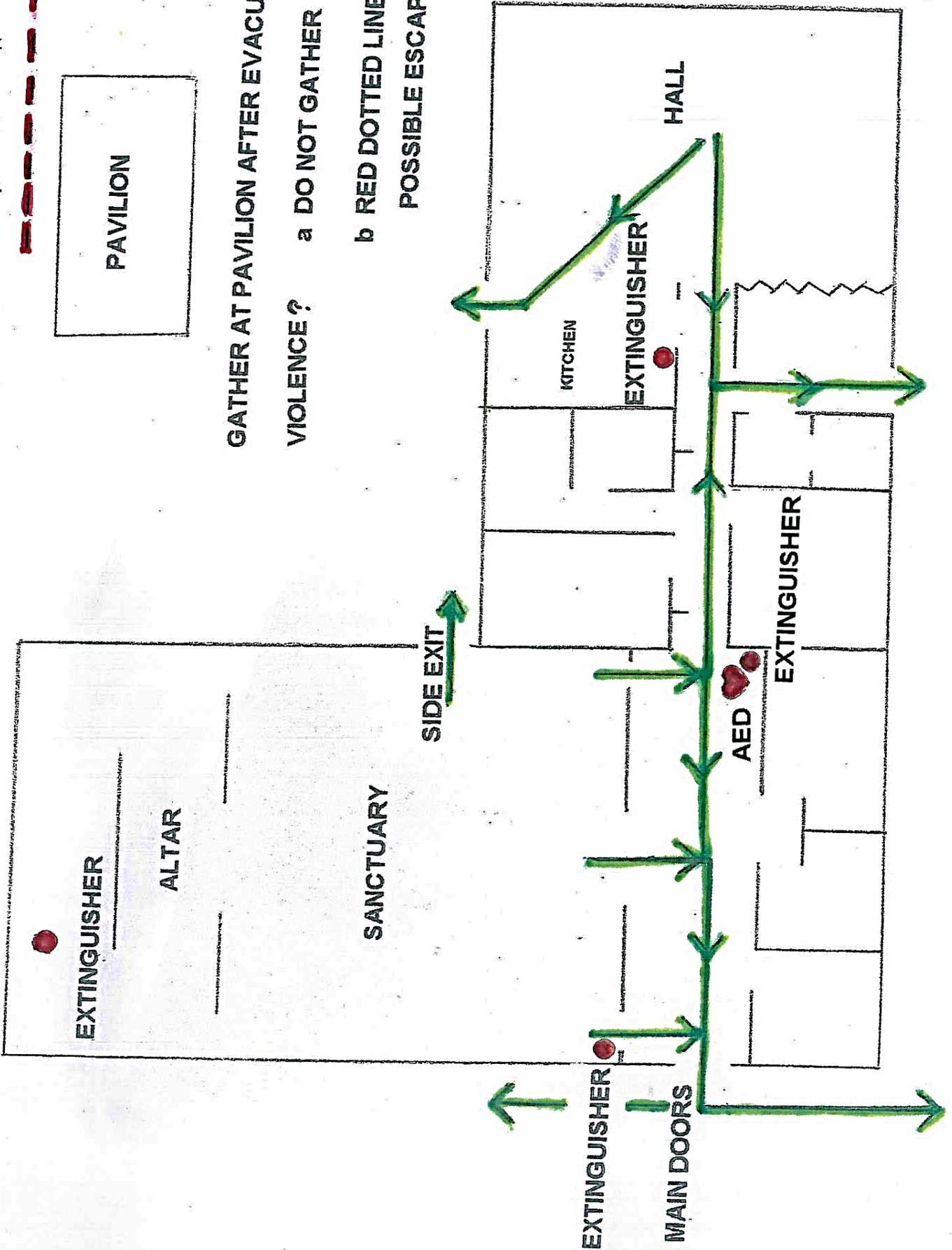


GATHER AT PAVILION AFTER EVACUATION

VIOLENCE? a DO NOT GATHER

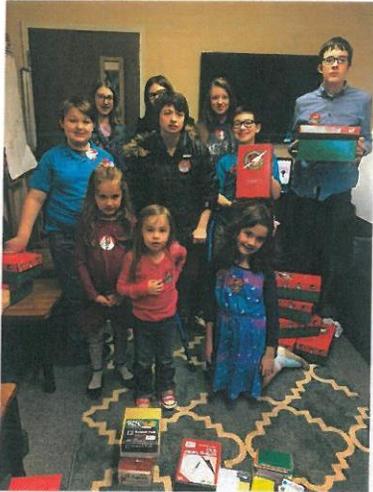
b RED DOTTED LINE IS

POSSIBLE ESCAPE ROUTE



Sunday School News

Sunday School News February 2020



Where did they go?

This year we gave 36 shoe boxes to Operation Christmas Child. Nine of those boxes were registered on line which allowed us to find where they were sent:

- 3 boxes to Honduras
- 2 boxes to Ukraine
- 2 boxes to Kenya
- 1 box to Panama
- and
- 1 box

to "a hard to reach place"



February 2, 2020

What's happening?

- Feb. 2 Annual Meeting and Pot Luck Lunch
- Feb. 9 Love to Veterans Project
- Feb. 16 Share-Your-Heart Sunday
- Feb. 23 The Sunday School prepares for Ash Wednesday
- Feb. 25 Shrove Tues. Pancake Dinner
- Feb. 26 Ash Wednesday Services
- Mar. 1 The First Sunday in Lent

The beginning of a new year always brings excitement! The Elementary Class in our Sunday School began January decorating the Sunday School Mitten Tree on Epiphany Sunday and then gathering with Father Grissom to bless the donated warm outer wear and white gifts before they were taken to the Blackburn Women's Shelter in Greensburg.

Epiphany lessons continued during the entire month, with a "treasure hunt" for Epiphany references in the sanctuary, lighting three special Epiphany candles (representing gold, frankincense, and myrrh) and lessons linking the Old and New Testaments. February lessons for the Elementary Class will emphasize the Gospels, the call of Saul, letters from Paul, and life in the early church.

The Teen Class gathered with Kathy Pierce to study the life of Jesus in five sessions focusing on the baptism of Jesus, the temptations, Jesus' call for disciples, the healing of the sick, and the casting out of demons. Fred Carlson will lead the Teen Class in February with a study prayer and its importance in Jesus' own life and ministry.

We are so grateful for parents, students, and teachers who make the effort to be in class on Sundays and for the congregation's enthusiastic support of children's ministries at St. Alban's

Diane Kaufmann, Sunday School Director

Tooty Schreiber hand-painted this nativity set and wise men.



Keira and Mikayla decorated the Mitten Tree.



Hope Huntington made a special snack – which Ada enjoyed!



*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart
and with all your soul and with all your might Deuteronomy 6:5*

Sunday School News

Continues

Valentine's for Veterans!

Please join the Sunday School in sending stationery sets and postage stamps for veterans seeking treatment at the local VA hospital and for their families staying at The Fisher House adjacent to the hospital.

We need approximately \$100 to fund this outreach project. Please look for the display on a table in the narthex and place your donation in one of the envelopes provided. If you are writing a check, please make it payable to St. Alban's with a note on the memo line that your donation is for the Valentine's Day project for Veterans. Thank you for your wonderful support of children's activities in our Sunday School!



Share-Your-Heart- Sunday is Feb. 16th!



Matthew Black & Buddy McCafferty

As friends gather for our annual inter-generational ice-cream social on Sunday, February 16th, they can do so without breaking their Lenten fast. This year the sweetest Sunday of the year falls before Lent – so do plan on coming to join the fun!

This special day, designed to help us get to know each other better, is a favorite with the children. They love matching their heart pieces to those of the adults in the congregation and then making a gooey sundae to enjoy while they socialize. What could be more better – new friends, fun, and sweet treats!

Please take a request card from the display in the narthex and bring your donation to the kitchen before the second service on the February 16th!

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

Adult Education Forum

The Faith of the Patriarchs and the Book of Hebrews

Led by Tim Lyon (2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23)

Join us in the pews between services 9:30am-10:20am every Sunday

The Adult Education team invites the entire Saint Alban's congregation to come together for a new set of lessons on the Faith of the Patriarchs and the Book of Hebrews led by Tim Lyon.

Join Tim in part 2 of his series that started in Advent. As we contemplated the 'cost of discipleship' that Jesus speaks of in Luke, and the saving faith that Paul often refers to in the life of Abraham-before the Laws of God revealed to Moses-Tim led us through a series of scriptures exhibiting the saving faith of the Patriarchs, some listed in the Hebrews 11 citation of the faithful righteous, some not mentioned.

Renew your understanding of such famed but not-so-documented giants of the faith as Enoch, Noah, Abraham, and so many others. We are grounded in Genesis for this series but use the Book of Hebrews as a road map for a lot of the broader knowledge of these giants.

Thanks to the Lord for our Gifts and Spirit of Sharing in Adult Education

Thanks to Tim Lyon for the leadership of the 3 Bible study sessions December 8, 15, 22. As

2020 begins I am joyous in asking all the church to attend the Annual Meeting on February 2 so you can hear about all the lay leaders who came together to present our adult education year together in our desire to fulfill our mission statement below!

Our Adult Ed teaching leadership has designed this Adult Education year (September 2019 to May 2020) to strengthen our body of Christ and our Gospel testimony. We are: Rev. Dr. David H. Grissom, Coordinator Fred Carlson, Craig Huntington, Tim Lyon, Larry Silverstein, Kathy Pierce (SAW Bible Study), and Elaine Griesheimer (Lenten Program Coordinator).

Thanks to all who attended our orientation series on the new AC-NA 2019 Books of Common Prayer in January. The new prayer books are in the pews graciously underwritten by an anonymous donor, and ready for use as the Morning and Evening Daily Office, serving your daily Bible reading, and offering our church more insight on the construction and history of the Eucharistic services, the collects, the other sacramental services, and the calendar of lessons.

**PLEASE
REMEMBER THESE FRIENDS
IN
PRAYER**



*Kevin Bice
Robert & Beverly Blickenderfer
Nancy Frost
Tiffanie Hicks
Judy Baker
Justin Banks
Rella Barch
Nancy Bitsura
Jane Brammel
Terry Cameron
Kari Carter
Wendy Cherby
Roger Corbin
Kristine C.
Nancy Davis
Betty Fitzgerald
Martin Flaherty
Betty Fitzgerald
Bill Ford
Stephen Gallo
Patsy Hall
Alyson Sharp Holt
Roger & Janice Huntington
Conor Jamison
Archbishop Lamido and the
Diocese of Wusasa
Michael Lawrence
Steve Lipiello
Gladys Hunt-Mason
Elias McMillan
Garrett Meier
Olivia Mendez
Asa Molek
Gloria Molek
Mary Lou M.
Katie Nelson
The Orr Family
Cheri Parco
Tom & Terry Pober
Craig Rowland and Family
Carl Sing
Cheryl Squire
John Swartz
Cindy Van Zant
Maggie Watson
Patricia Weeks
Evelyn White
Josh Zerfoss*

Adult Education Forum

Continues

LENTEN SERIES PLANS Simple Dinner Series and CS Lewis Study of “Mere Christianity”

Meeting Thursdays 6-8pm in
Lent February 27, March 5, 12,
19, 26, April 2

If you are interested in joining the church for the 2020 Lenten series, sign up in the narthex. Congregants will rotate the soup assignments over the course of the 6 weeks. We will be using the church fellowship hall for this since we already have 15 people signed up before the end of January. The church will be hosting this soup and bread dinner series 6-8pm on 6 Thursdays Feb 27, March 5, 12, 19, 26 and April 2, reading and discussing the classic Christian apologist C.S. Lewis’ “Mere Christianity” with a 6-week study guide provided. The church will be ordering the paperbacks shortly for those signed up so please get your name on the sign-up! Thanks to Elaine Griesheimer for spearheading the efforts this year!



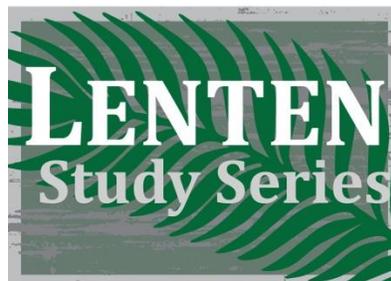
The Saint Alban's Anglican Adult Education Mission Statement

Ephesians 4:11-14a “And He gave...teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine...” (ESV)

Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher. (Galatians 6:6 NRSV)

Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and teaching. (1 Tim 4:13 NIV)

-F. Carlson for the adult ed commission



Our Lenten focus



Lent, the church-year season that begins on Ash Wednesday, is a time of penitence and spiritual renewal. Some people give up a luxury or vice during Lent as a form of self-denial; others undertake a project that benefits others.

The point isn't to denigrate ourselves or to see how much we can do without. Instead, Lent helps us reflect on Jesus' death. As Timothy Keller writes in *The Reason for God*: “The Christian Gospel is that I am so flawed that Jesus had to die for me, yet I am so loved and valued that Jesus was glad to die for me. This leads to deep humility and deep confidence at the same time. It undermines both swaggering and sniveling. I cannot feel superior to anyone, and yet I have nothing to prove to anyone. I do not think more of myself nor less of myself. Instead, I think of myself less.”

FEBRUARY 2020 WITNESS
Final 2020 Financial
Status Report
YEAR END 2019
FINAL FIGURES

Plate Income	\$ 3793
Pledge	\$ 200072
Fundraising	\$ 6019
Total Income	\$ 209884
Budgeted Income	\$ 192000
2019 Inc. v Budget	+ \$ 17884
Expenses	\$ 207428
Budgeted expenses	\$ 201804
2019 Exp. v. Budge	+ \$ 5624
Surplus	+ \$ 2456
Net positive v budget	+ \$ 12260

-Fred Carlson/Treasurer

Our final financials for 2020 were certainly blessed by the Lord Christ. This was a turnaround year in every aspect of that term. In 2018, our income had dropped from \$213,000 income in 2017 to \$170,000 income in 2018. What was to happen next? In many ways Saint Alban’s leadership stressed the work of the body of Christ to come together in stewardship as well as our other ministry disciplines. The Lord has blessed the effort and all your sacrificial giving. **The Treasurer wishes to thank everyone who had been praying for our stewardship at Saint Alban’s during 2019, and I urge committed prayer on this aspect of our life in Christ in the years ahead.** It was noted at the annual meeting back in February 2019 that if everyone up-ticked their pledge by 15%, or an average of \$80/month per pledge family or individual, we would be in positive territory and recharged for doing “...what the Lord has equipped us to do.” Saint Alban’s final income figure came in 9% over budget, not 15%, but it is a start, and I look for more growth in stewardship as our body of

Did You Know

That if you would like to listen to Father David’s Sunday sermon you can request a copy to be emailed to you. Please visit www.stalbanchurch.net to check the latest from your church!

St. Alban’s Anglican Church E-mail
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or
dg42828@gmail.com

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or
pmccafferty@databanque.com

Witness Article Submittals
secretary@stalchurch.net
or
Patti Hicks
secretary@stalchurch.net

believers is disciplined in this component of our overall ministry. The Lord is moving us past “maintenance” budgets where we pay our first \$200,000 in expense (staff, clergy, building needs, and education, worship and outreach) and can move into more “blue sky-the Kingdom of Heaven is Here!” community ministry where everyone in Murrysville and the surrounding towns knows about Saint Alban’s Anglican.)

Pray for God’s continued blessing on our stewardship front and a clarity of mind and heart for our mission for the Gospel.

SAMS Ministry

**Saint Alban's Men
ALL Men Invited for Breakfast
Fellowship, Prayer, and Bible
Study Discussion**

**Join us as we study
*The Book of Daniel***

**A Bible study from Crossways
edited by Anglican giant
J.I. Packer**

**4 Friday Mornings in February
(Feb 7, 14, 21, 28) from 7am to
8:30am at Dick's Diner**

***They devoted themselves to the
apostles' teaching and fellowship,
to the breaking of bread and the
prayers. (Acts 2:42 NRSV)***

Since October 2006, Saint Alban's Men (SAMs) has continued a weekly breakfast fellowship meeting at **7am Friday mornings in the Dick's Diner back room**. We have gathered as men uninterrupted this being our 13th year together. Dick's Diner provides a private setting for our fellowship, study and prayer. All men of the parish are invited to attend. Encourage your friends to come too!

The men are working through a Bible study of *The Book of Daniel*, from J.I. Packer's *Crossways Bible Study Guide* series. **Weekly emails update everyone about where we are in the workbook**. As February 2020 begins, Saint Alban's Men are solidly in the 6th chapter of Daniel.

We have an extra workbook to share with newcomers to the study breakfast fellowship. This is a great time to start up with the group

since has just started this new book. **Just come when you can! The breakfast meeting and fellowship starts at 7am and ends promptly at 8:30am so you can resume your workdays. You need not be present each week to participate-come and share when you are able!** Strengthening your walk with Christ and sharing your prayer needs is a great way to start your Friday!

A story of Gospel seeds growing: In the summer of 2012, SAMs was visited by Domi Malovic, the head of Campus Crusade ministry for both Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. Domi is the immediate overseer of Nolan and Sandra Sharp's Croatian ministries around Zagreb. Moved by Domi's desire to bring all men and women to faith in Jesus in the formally atheist and often Muslim populations under his oversight, our Saint Alban's men began collecting a free will offering once a month equal to one extra breakfast a month per man and send that amount to Domi's work in the Balkans. Our core group of men will drop a \$10, \$15 or \$20 gift into our account once a month and we send the proceeds to Domi.

SAMs wanted to share the work of this ministry with our church members. Since summer 2012, SAMs has collected \$11,490 to go toward mission support outreach- we have sent \$10,000 of these monies to Domi's ministry and the rest has gone to supporting other mission partners, and sharing our book resources with any visiting men. That's a lot of money for

pitching in one extra breakfast a month, and a true example of God's economy at work in our midst!

For more on Domi and wife Bibi's ministry in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina please see the section on the hallway bulletin board featuring all our mission partners!

SHROVE TUESDAY EVENING PRAYER SERVICE AND PANCAKE SUPPER

**Tuesday Evening February 25,
2020 with Prayer Service at 6pm
and Pancake Supper at 6:30pm**

Join the Saint Alban's Men's Group (SAMs) as we celebrate the end of Epiphany season with the traditional pancake supper offering to the congregation. The cost is the best deal in town: \$4 for individuals and \$10 for a family for an all-you-can-eat pancake supper with ham, applesauce, beverages, and coffee. Lent starts on Ash Wednesday, the next day, so let's focus on celebration on this evening and focus on repentance the next 40 days!

The Evening Prayer service begins at 6pm in the sanctuary, and the dinner starts lining up at the conclusion of the service at 6:30pm. Take a night out of your routine and join us at Saint Alban's for the pancake supper.

-F. Carlson for SAMs



February Serving Schedule

	February 02	February 09	February 16	February 23
Chalicians 8:30	Tim Lyon	John Hofschler	Tim Lyon	John Hofschler
Chalician 10:45	Nancy Pajan Larry Silverstein	Craig Huntington Kathy Pierce	Nancy Pajan Mike Gallo	Kathy Pierce Larry Silverstein
Lectors 8:30	Rosemary Lyon	Nancy Frost	Rosemary Lyon	Nancy Frost
Lectors 10:45	Linda Grissom John Kaufmann	Nancy Pajan Jeff Pilant	Larry Silverstein Andrea Bach	Lauren Bitsura Ellen Cappelli
Acolytes 10:45	Casey Bach Lauren Bitsura Brianna Bach	Vito Pisani Carmine Pisani Lauren Bitsura	Grace McCafferty Buddy McCafferty Matthew Black	Casey Bach Lauren Bitsura Brianna Bach
Ushers	Bob Birdseye Tracey Birdseye	Bob Birdseye Sanjar Birdseye	David Bitsura David Sharp	Bob Birdseye Tim Sikora
Fellowship	Sarah Bitsura Andrea Bach	Elaine Griesheimer Katheryn Ingerick	Deb & Larry Silverstein Guido Cappelli	Anita Little Kathy Pierce
Counters	Bob Birdseye Hope Huntington	Guido Cappelli David Sharp	Bo Pierce Jeff Pilant	Sarah Bitsura Andrea Bach
Altar Guild	Nancy Carlson Maggie Harris	Dottie Fleming Coleen Hofschler	Myra Mamo	Ellen Cappelli Pam Novak

Ash Wednesday **12:00 p.m.** **Chalician: John Hofschler** **Lector: Dottie Fleming**
February 26 **7:00 p.m.** **Chalician: Kathy Pierce** **Lector: John Kaufmann**



- | | |
|--|--|
| 4 – Daniel Birdseye
12 – Bob McMarlin
15 – Sanjar Birdseye
17 – Rosemary Lyon
24 – Amy Birdseye
25 – Ernestine (Ernie) Cappendyck
27 – John Kaufmann | 10 - Dick & Ellie Brendlinger
14 – Chris & Linda Wagner |
|--|--|

February 2020

February 2020

March 2020

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jan 26	27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Annual Parish Meeting Groundhog Day (Unite) 8:30am Holy Eucharist 9:30am Christian Education 10:45am Holy Eucharist	6:00pm Quilting Club	7:00pm St. Alban's Women's Bible Study	7:00pm Choir Practice	7:00am St. Alban's Men's Group meeting (@Dick's Diner) 10:15am Praise Moves with Shannon Hach	Valentine's Day 7:00am St. Alban's Men's Group meeting (@Dick's Diner) 10:15am Praise Moves with Shannon Hach	Dinner Group will be a 6:00pm Dinner Group
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Guest preacher from the 8:30am Holy Eucharist 9:30am Christian Education 10:45am Holy Eucharist	6:00pm Quilting Club	7:00pm St. Alban's Women's Bible Study	Lincoln's Birthday (Unite) 7:00pm Choir Practice	7:00pm Choir Practice	7:00am St. Alban's Men's Group meeting (@Dick's Diner) 10:15am Praise Moves with Shannon Hach	7:00am St. Alban's Men's Group meeting (@Dick's Diner) 10:15am Praise Moves with Shannon Hach
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Share-your-heart Sund 8:30am Holy Eucharist 9:30am Christian Education 10:45am Holy Eucharist	Church Office Closed Lenten Devotionals are Presidents' Day 7:30pm Vestry Meeting	7:00pm Choir Practice	7:00pm Choir Practice	11:00am Clergy Meetings	7:00am St. Alban's Men's Group meeting (@Dick's Diner) 10:15am Praise Moves with Shannon Hach	7:00am St. Alban's Men's Group meeting (@Dick's Diner) 10:15am Praise Moves with Shannon Hach
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:30am Holy Eucharist 9:30am Christian Education 10:45am Baptism of the Buff Baby 10:45am Holy Eucharist	10:00am Witness Deadline 6:00pm Quilting Club	Patti at a Retreat w/Shrove Tuesday 6:00pm Evening Prayer and Pancake Supper	Ash Wednesday 12:00pm Ash Wednesday Service 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	Patti at a Retreat w/Shrove Tuesday 6:00pm Lenten Study	7:00am St. Alban's Men's Group meeting (@Dick's Diner) 10:15am Praise Moves with Shannon Hach	7:00am St. Alban's Men's Group meeting (@Dick's Diner) 10:15am Praise Moves with Shannon Hach

Jan 26 - Feb 1

Feb 2 - 8

Feb 9 - 15

Feb 16 - 22

Feb 23 - 29

St. Alban's Secretary

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