

The Good News!



St. Alban's

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Church office hours: Monday — Friday 8 am to 4 pm

August
2011

Rector's Reflections

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, August in Pentecost, 2011

In our Psalms class on a recent Wednesday morning, we were sharing lists of our ten favorite psalms. In the group that day, many of us had chosen Psalm 8 as one of our "Top 10." For all the writers of these 150 poems, to be human is necessarily to be placed in a theological context. The psalmists do not know of a humanity divorced from God. Humankind is never the measure of all things; God is. Psalm 8 is eloquent in describing how we "fit" into the grand scheme of God's provenance..

Psalm 8 places humankind a distant second to the majesty and creative power of God. As the poet contemplates God's work :“your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in your courses”, he asks “what is man, that you are mindful of him?” That is one pole of our existence.

At the same time, humankind is “but a little lower than the angels” because God has “adorned” us with “glory and honor.” Because of this exalted status that God showers upon us, we are called to have “dominion,” (“You put all things under his feet”). But dominion becomes a way for us to be God's servants. We are not to exercise dominion carelessly, but carefully. We are to take care of the world, **on God's behalf**, acting responsibly, faithfully, and above all, with the same kind of love with which God loves us.

In the world of Psalm 8, and the entire Biblical world view, we are defined as God's own beloved creations. This definition establishes not only who we are, but how we are to live. A Native American prayer invites us to “walk gently on the earth.” I'm sure the poet of Psalm 8 would agree.

The question of our time is—do we?

Yours in Christ's love, *Susan+*

Inside this issue:

The Rev. Susan Klein	1
Stair Chair	1
Weekly Activities And worship Services	2
Lunch Bunch	2
Book Club	2
Parish Community News	3
National Episcopal News	4

Stair Chair Project



Onward & Upward

We are thrilled that we have now raised well over half of the funds needed to install a Stair Chair between the 1st and 2nd floors. We thank the following donors: **Bisbee Goldfarb, Bill and Angela Matthews, Lee Reem, Lori Secor, Ruth Mickey, Nan Heard and Paul Krogstad, Susan Klein.**

We only have **\$2824** left to go to make our goal. If you can help, please let the Rector or Wardens know. Based on your generosity, we can do it!

Worship Services

Sundays:

8 am Holy Eucharist
10 am Holy Eucharist

Parish Staff

The Rev. Susan W. Klein, Rector
The Rev. Norm Ishizaki,
Rector Emeritus
The Rev. Warner Traynham,
Assisting Priest
Nancy John, Administrator
James Taulbee,
Minister of Music
Gordon Toler, Sexton

Church School
Sonya Nimri
Lisa Atmodjo

Vestry

Christine Mason, Sr. Warden
John Hirning, Jr. Warden
Rudy Marloth, Treasurer
Vivian Hay, Clerk

Weekly Study/Services

Small Groups

Kerygma: Study of the Psalms

Every Wednesday at 10:30 am! (*library*)

Mid-week Holy Eucharist

Take a mid-week moment and refresh yourself spiritually by joining us for our Noon-time Holy Eucharist.

On Wednesday in the Chapel
Every Wed. at noon in the Chapel.
Bring a friend!

Book Club

Book: *The Man from Beijing*,
by Henning Mankell

When: Sun., August 21, 7 pm

Host: Rudy Marloth

Where: At St Alban's

Please Give Rudy a call at
310 649 4164 if you can't come!

FRIDAY SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP Fridays, 1-2:30: brief reading concerned with spirituality and lots of discussion. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact: John Hirning: 310. 985. 5144/ jhirning@ucla.edu. We are reading: *Walking the Bible* by Bruce Feiler.

CENTERING PRAYER

Join the Centering Prayer group (on **Tuesdays** at 5:30 pm in the Church apse under the Resurrection windows.

Pool Party

All children and parent(s) are invited to the Rectory for a pizza and swim party on Sunday, August 28, after the 10:00 service. We hope as many of you as are in town will join us for a fun and cool, (but probably noisy) afternoon. Call the Church Office if you can join us, or sign up on Sunday. (*see Welcome Table*)

Lunch Bunch

The lunch is open to anyone in the congregation. We will have our next lunch (\$5 per person) on **Wed., AUGUST 17, starting with the Noon Eucharist and finishing with lunch from 12:30 —1:30 p.m.** A sign-up sheet will be on the patio for you to indicate whether you can join us.

Join us for These Weekly Services and Activities!

Sunday

8:00 am Holy Eucharist
(*Chapel*)

9:00 am Adult Forum
(*Library*)

10:00 am *Choral Eucharist
(*main Church*)

*Nursery and
Church school available

Tuesday

5:30 pm Centering Prayer
(*Church apse*)

Wednesday

10:30 am Study in Psalms

12:00 Noon Holy Eucharist
(*Chapel*)

Thursday

*Choir is on hiatus for
the summer!*

Friday

1:00 pm Pilgrim's Way
Small Group
(*Library*)

August Activities

AUG 18 Finance Meeting
Mon. 7 pm (*library*)

AUG 29 Vestry Meeting
Mon. 12:30 (*library*)

AUG 17 Lunch Bunch!
Wed. Noon Join us! (*library*)

AUG 28
Sun. POOL PARTY at the
11:30 am Rectory

Choir Rehearsals To Start In September

Positions Open: Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. No others need apply.

Physical Qualifications: Must be able to carry light musical notes part way across the Sanctuary. Must have sufficient vision to see director 20-feet away.

Experience: No application accepted from persons who have not sung, hummed or whistled in the tub or shower.

Wages: Satisfaction and Joy in God's service.

Fringe Benefits: Social Security—we promise you security of social fellowship with other members of the choir.

Hours: Sunday mornings, with occasional opportunities for overtime at above mentioned wages.

Vacation: Missed rehearsals and worship services are primarily a matter of conscience and ability to return the glares and pointed remarks of the director.

REHEARSAL: EVERY THURSDAY EVENING at 7:30– 9:00 pm, Sept.—June

APPLY: See James Taulbee, Music Minister, at the organ console after service or email: Jtaulbee@mednet.ucla.edu

Parish Community News Board

August Prayer List Betty Jones, Ann Shannon, Miranda Reem, Jack and Joan Hay, Carol Cummings, Doug Laidlaw, Kerstin Stempel, Ed



Gauld, Julie Jenkins, Jody Stump, Amy and Michael Val-larino, Phyliss Traynham, Edie Large, Sam Martin, Priscilla Walsh, Madison Smith, Pete

RenouDET, Roger Coven, John Elder, Norm Von Herzon, Kathy Bold, Betsy Sloane, Rachel Alls and Kim Pender-gast For those in the military, espe-cially Lt. Ryan Klint, Sgt. Jeremy Aldrich.

Minister of Music/Organist James Taulbee is on vacation for the month of August and will be back at the console on September 4. **Robert Gaylord will be our guest organist for the month.** Robert has per-formed on piano, organ, violin, caril-lon and voice. He has served a wide variety of churches throughout Southern California, the San Fran-

cisco Bay area, and the Santa Bar-barata area as organist, pianist or or-ganist/choir director.

Welcome Robert!

St. Alban's "Lunch Bunch" (pray and stay) The Lunch Bunch gathering continues to be a blessed time of fellowship. We will have our next lunch (\$5 per person) on **Wed., August 17, starting with the Noon Eucharist and finishing with lunch from 12:30 —1:30 p.m.** A sign-up sheet will be on the patio for you to indicate whether you can join us.

New Directions Outreach

Thanks to everyone who gave house-hold items and toiletries to New Directions! Many wonderful and nec-essary donations gave a great deal of kindness and hope to these women vets. They were thrilled with our generosity.

Centering Prayer

The Centering Prayer group meets every **Tuesday** from 5:30 p.m. to approximately 6:15 p.m. We meet in the Church Apse. The practice of centering prayer seeks to still the activity of the mind in order to ex-perience a loving awareness of God's presence.

Outside Groups Assisted by St. Alban's Campus

The Chil-dren's Musical Theater of Los Ange-les is well into their first session with two more sessions to go. Put-ting a show together with 5-15 yr-olds in one-weeks time is not daunt-ing to Amanda Baird, the Director. Our halls are filled with children's laughter and singing, it's great! We also are host to the Long Beach Uni-versity Reading program— who will be here in August!

The Good News

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
580 Hilgard Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90024

Phone: 310.208.6516
Fax: 310.208.6389

We celebrate the grace and love of God in worship and prayer, and seek to follow God's example in the fellowship we offer.

We're on the WEB!
www.stalbanswestwood.com

Non-profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Los Angeles, CA
Permit No. 13432

Return Service Requested

Welcome!

National News...

Tradition Trumps Rock and Roll with 20-somethings



The ongoing struggle to get young people in the pews at churches across Brooklyn is motivating some clergy in the [Diocese of Long Island](#) to develop new ministries that challenge the popular way of how churches reach out to 20-somethings.

Predominate tactics -- a rock band, projector screens and altars stripped of traditional decors -- **have failed to resonate with 20-somethings**. Instead, it's the traditional aspects of the Episcopal faith

and its liturgy that young people are now drawn to, clergy say.

The Rev. Robert Griffith, who has been working with [St. Paul's Church](#) in Carroll Gardens, has created an initiative called Imago Dei, or Image of God, that is working to understand the Millennial Generation -- those born after 1980 -- and its views of faith in hopes of devising new ways to bringing them closer to Jesus Christ.

"It's not that they aren't interested. What they are looking for is the traditional -- silence, reflection, candles,"