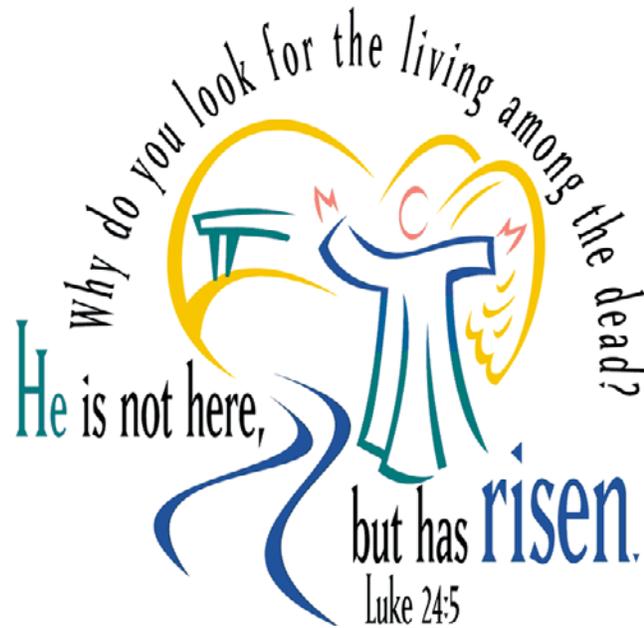


# *The Cross & the Sword*

The monthly newsletter of Saint Alban's Parish  
Family

Vol. XXXVI No. 4

April, 2019





Spring has finally arrived; the season is all about new beginnings and acknowledging the wonders around us. Sometimes we get so caught up in the negative all over the world when what we should be doing is focusing on the gifts that God has given us. Here at Saint Alban's we are blessed to have many people with amazing talents who are willing to give their time so willingly. After all stewardship is not only about tithing; it's also about donating of one's

time and talent. With all that in mind the vestry has decided to dedicate the bulletin board in the parish hall to recognizing those people and the various ways that they share their gifts. We would like to highlight different individuals and/or groups that give so generously in this way to our church and community. We will be featuring someone or a group every month to show our appreciation of blessings that we have here. Along with posting the different areas that we may still need help with for anyone that would like to aid in all of our efforts. Please help by checking this board on Sunday's and thanking those around us for all that they do.

I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 1:4

Cindy Spice  
Senior Warden

## April Activities

### BIBLE STUDY GROUPS



**Women's Bible Study and Fellowship** meets at **2:00 – 4:00 p.m.** on **Thursday, April 25th**, at the home of Marilyn Rafter.

**Wednesday Bible Group** meets on **Wednesday mornings at 10:30** to study the weekly lessons.

**Bible Study & Fellowship Group** will meet on **Tuesday, April 2 (rescheduled from March)**, at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Jack Rademaker.



**THE LUNCH BUNCH** will meet Tuesday, April 9th at **Alberto's Mexican Grill**, 2529 S. Calhoun Street. The time is 12 Noon.

A flyer is on the bulletin board in the narthex where you can sign up and indicate whether you would like to meet at the church to carpool or drive directly to the restaurant. **We especially invite new people to join us, too!** Please see Anita Grams at church with any questions, or you may call her at 449-9682.

**DAUGHTERS OF THE KING** meet at **10:00 a.m.** on **Tuesday, April 16.**



**MEN'S NIGHT OUT** is at **6:30 p.m.** on **April 4** at the **Fish House** located at **4910 Clinton Avenue.**

A sign up list will be on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**YOUTH GROUP** meets at **noon** on **Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup>** and **6:30 p.m.** on **Sunday April 28.**



**HEART AND HANDS** group meets at **10:00 a.m.** on **Fridays** excluding **Good Friday.**

## **THE FIRST PROVINCE V YOUTH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

was a memorable success, focusing on developing new relationships and enlightening youth with creative, religious experiences. As a youth selected, I approached this event with utter blindness. I had no idea of anything I'd be doing, where it was, or if I would know anyone. Despite this lack of knowledge, I'd describe this weekend as one of the most impactful experiences I've had with the diocese. I departed only knowing two adults, vaguely knowing one youth, and just meeting a new youth on the car ride. After about a five hour drive, we arrived at the leadership conference.

We were instantly immersed with different dioceses such as: Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin, Indianapolis, Indiana, Eastern and Western Michigan, Missouri, and Southern Ohio. I remember feeling absolutely overwhelmed at the sight of about fifty strangers, but the leaders introduced many different icebreaker games to get to know everyone, making me feel more at ease.

Another feature unique to this weekend was that the youth were encouraged to help create the rules. The other 2 Northern Indiana youth and I found this to be a really strong aspect in making this feel like a true youth led gathering.

Furthermore, we had a great say in what activities we wanted to participate in and topics to discuss as well. Our Northern Indiana youth often chose to spend time playing board games and active games. We facilitated our own game of spoons and taught the other dioceses how to play, having a blast of diving for spoons. In addition, we played an original game, blind dodgeball with stuffed animals. This game was a very collaborative experience in which we separated in groups, blindfolded one another, and directed the blind player to stuffed animals to throw. Although this may seem like a random game, this was an entertaining time in which the various dioceses got a chance to bond and work together. Moreover, this gathering allowed a chance for the youth discuss topics of importance to them. The dioceses chose to focus in on progressive bible interpretation. Many adolescents shared their views with all different opinions. We discussed red letter, literal, and looser forms of interpretation, letting all volunteers speak their thoughts on how they understand teachings and stories in the bible. Specifically, the group did a skit on The Good Samaritan story and delved into the meaning behind it. We concluded that The Good Samaritan is a great example for all of us. The man gave up his time, money, and possibly even his reputation to do what is right, and we are called to act as this man did in caring for our neighbor.

Personally, two of my favorite parts of the weekend were karaoke night and an awareness circle. During karaoke night, not only did the adolescents muster up the courage to go and sing, but even our own Bishop Doug Sparks sang Country Roads, getting almost the whole room to cheer. This was an amazing and fun night in which I was impressed that so many youth felt comfortable to put themselves out there. I even participated in three trio songs with two girls, one from Fond Du Lac and the other Michigan. Singing Party in the USA, What Makes You Beautiful, and Love Story, the whole group joined in to sing along with us, making the night one of the best experiences I've had in a while. Secondly, the awareness circle proved to be one of the most powerful events of the gathering. Led by Michigan youth, this activity consisted of them making a statement, and if this statement applied to you, one was encouraged to take a step forward into the circle. Advancing was not required, so it was an entirely eye-opening experience to witness people feel able to be vulnerable with the group. These statements ranged from serious to simple subjects. For instance, some statements said were "I am a student," "my parents are divorced," or "I've been discriminated against for my race." Two very meaningful parts to the exercise were being welcomed to give those who stepped in the "I love you" sign and having an opportunity to add our own statements at the end. This exercise was very beneficial, allowing an outlet for youth to express their experiences and not feel alone but instead loved and supported. Overall, this Province V Gathering meant a lot to my new friends and I, giving us a chance to escape our hectic lives and spend time with people of the dioceses in prayer and excitement. It was very special to have our own Northern Indiana Bishop Sparks spend an entire weekend from celebrating the mass to doing rejuvenating yoga with us. Most of all, I am thankful to have went and developed lasting friendships with the other youth, especially from other dioceses.

**Written by Abbie Gillig**



Worship Schedule

### **WORSHIP COMMISSION**

Lenten services continue to be observed at St. Alban's as well as at our sister Episcopal churches in Fort Wayne. We have the Stations of the Cross each Friday evening at 6:00 p.m. Please note that our Stations of the Cross observance on Good Friday that was initially scheduled for noon has been moved to 6:00 p.m. to better accommodate those who

may have to work on that day.

On Wednesday evenings Trinity is offering a Lenten Eucharist followed by a soup and bread supper at 6:10 p.m. Grace offers a 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper followed by a Holden Prayer service at 7:00 p.m. Trinity will offer a Holy Eucharist with Foot Washing at 7:00 p.m. on Maundy Thursday. St. Alban's members are encouraged to attend one or more of these services this year.

Please note that there are now flower offering envelopes in our pews. If everyone will put just a few dollars in these envelopes and put them in the offering plate it will enable us to make our sanctuary more beautiful on Easter Sunday.

The Altar Guild will be meeting at 10:00 a.m. on the Saturday, April 13 to polish silver and prepare the church for Palm Sunday. The tasks to be done are simple, but if some of us who are not regularly members of the Altar Guild will pitch in to help, many hands will make light work.

We are still in need of youth and adults who would like to assist as servers, crucifers, and Altar Guild members.

Using whatever time and talents we have to make the worship of Our Lord glorious week by week, as He deserves, is our most important offering to the One who gave Himself for us. Wishing you all a Holy Lent and a Joyous Easter. Elaine Fazzaro

### **Palm Sunday - April 14 - 8:00 & 10:15 a.m.**



On Palm Sunday we remember the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. At the 10:15 service we assemble at the outdoor crucifix and process into the church carrying palm branches

At our **8:00** and **10:15 a.m. services on April 21** we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, which assures the forgiveness of sins and life eternal to all who believe in Him as their Savior.

**HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED!**

**ALLELUIA!**



**EASTER EGG HUNT** to follow the 10:15 a.m. service for ages newborn until 5th grade. Everyone interested should meet at the double doors in the narthex immediately after the service.



**John 3:16** - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Excited to be working with Deacon Sandy, the Worship Commission, and the Daughters of the King on expanding St. Alban's Eucharistic Visitation Program for the home bound (nursing/residential).

On the bulletin board in the narthex, you will find a list with the names of St. Alban's home bound (nursing/residential) members who are being remembered via cards/visits. To add a church member's name to the list please contact Judy Wall at 485-1049.

### STEWARDSHIP

In February we topped \$11,800 in donations. Adding in the savings from no snow to remove and factoring out bills paid early pushed us into the black so far for 2019! Hooray for us! Did you know we budgeted over \$400 for snow removal for the month of February alone? We have an awfully big parking lot and we are grateful for the service but it is nice to save that money!

We want to recognize the talents of Judith Palmer and Pat Stath for keeping our music going strong every Sunday. Let's also thank Kenny White and Norm Grams for all the time and effort in keeping up on our landscaping and building maintenance. Our church could not function without Judith's, Pat's, Kenny's, and Norm's help.



**Church Cleanup**  
**SPRING CLEAN UP** is Saturday, April 6 at 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. We need some eager helpers to make our church look beautiful on the outside, not just the inside. Any gardening tools are in short supply so if you have extra rakes, shovels, etc., please bring them, would be greatly appreciated

# Vestry Stewardship

## Operating Fund

Operating income for Feb	\$12,108.83	Operating income for 2019	\$21,035.46
Operating expense for Feb	11,059.65	Operating expense for 2019	22,046.80
Net gain for February	\$ 1,049.18	Net loss for 2019	(\$1,011.34)

## Vestry Highlights

At the meeting of the Vestry on March 18, **it was moved to**

- a. change giving envelope numbers ordered to reduce number of envelopes not needed.

**It was noted that:**

- a. the vestry will be advertising for Acolytes/Crucifers with training in April.
- b. LEV Training set for March 31<sup>st</sup>
- c. need church groups and individuals to sign up for coffee hour.
- d. Yard clean-up scheduled for April 6 at 9 a.m.
- e. that cards have been sent to shut-ins.
- f. Deacon Sandy is following up with hospital visits.

### Church Records

Death *Dick Donnelly* – March 20, 2019

*Memorial service on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m.*

## FOOD BANK

**In February** we served (33 individuals) 10 family units  
Approximately 495 meals.

The deadline for the May Cross & Sword is Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>

## April Birthdays

10 Erin Layden  
20 Megan Spice



23 John J. Diver  
28 Ray Brandes, Jr.

## and Anniversaries

6 Larry & Edie Dearing  
19 George & Joan Shamp  
23 Norm & Anita Grams  
24 Paul & Betty Wiseheart  
28 Gary & Andrea Pink  
29 James & Cheryl Parker

*If your birthday or anniversary has not been listed,  
please notify Debbie at 485-8022, so that we may add your date to our records.*

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**Paul Barker  
Ray Brandes  
Dick & Bonnie Camp  
John L. Diver, Sr.  
Anne Donnelly & family  
Denise Frede  
Abbie Gillig  
Greg Gillig  
Tammy Gillig**



**Vicki Irvine  
Mary Lansford  
Gene Pettibone  
Jack Radamaker  
Rick Spice  
Les Stath  
AltaLee Stellhorn  
Carlen Trujillo  
Bill Townsend**

### **For those unable to worship with us:**

John Diver, Sr., LuAnn Kleinschmidt, Frances Krauskopf, Tom Kurtz,  
Gene Pettibonee, and Paul Wiseheart.

**ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**Sunday Services**

8:00 a.m. Holy Communion  
10:15 a.m. Holy Communion  
Sunday School (Sept-May)

**Wednesday**

10:30 a.m. Bible Study  
12:00 noon Holy Communion

**Vestry**

Cindy Spice	Senior Warden
Jordan Trendelman	Junior Warden
Norm Grams	Property
Tammy Gillig	Fellowship
Elaine Fazzaro	Worship
Josh Miller	Finance
Jordan Trendelman	Membership
David Birchfield	Stewardship
Phil Mayer	Outreach
Megan Spice-Frede	Christian Formation
Judy Wall	Care Connection
Christina Connelly	Communication Director

**Church Staff**

Interim Priest	The Rev. Paul Collins
Office Administrator	Debbie Grosjean
Organist(s)	Judith Palmer & Pat Stath

**Office Hours**

9:00 - 1:00  
Monday through Friday  
Office phone 485-8022