

March 2020

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**LENT**



Celebrating and Sharing God's Love

# The Almanac



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From the Rector's Pen - Be Thankful For All Things

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. (Colossians 3:15 NIV)



The Lenten season of the church, Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Lent is a season of reflection and preparation before the celebrations of Easter. Lent is not just a time to prepare our hearts for Easter, but a time to be grateful for the coming of Easter, a time to reflect on the beauty of our relationship with Christ. It is a time to take spiritual inventory of our lives, but it is also a time to be thankful for everything, and I take that to mean everything.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. (Romans 8:28, NRSV) During Lent I want to keep my eyes and ears open to the Holy Spirit, to pay attention to what is going on around me, to be thankful for all things, and to share with others what I am grateful for.

As I ponder what I am grateful for, there are so many things, but today I choose to be grateful for the Christian traditions and the emphasis on the Bible that was in my home as a child. I'm grateful for learning the stories of the Bible in Sunday school and in church at a young age. I am also grateful for a bride now of 47 years that was also brought up in a good Christian home with wonderful parents that gave her a firm foundation of faith and respect for the church and for the Bible. I realize that we are fortunate, and many people do not have this kind of foundation to fall back on. That doesn't mean that you cannot recreate that foundation in your life, because you can, and it is evidenced by many of you that have created that Christian tradition and culture in your home.

I wish you all an insightful Lenten season! And, please remind one another to be thankful in all things. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you (! Thessalonians 5:18) O give thanks unto the LORD; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people. (Psalm 105:1).

Father Dave

## St Alban's Leadership

### Staff

Father Dave Madsen ~ Rector  
619-444-8212, padre david1@gmail.com  
Office hours: T-F, 9am-1pm, afternoons by appt. only  
Denise Cote~ Assistant to Rector/Office Manager; 619-444-8212 , dcote@stalbanschurch.info  
Office hours: T-F, 9am-1pm  
Naomi Madsen ~ Music Director  
Caroline Mahon-Hurd~ Sunday School Director  
Joanne Bishop—Teen Youth Ministry  
Brad Cook ~ Communication Director  
Victoria Mayor ~ Social Media Director  
Penny Park~ Prayer Chain Leader  
Judy Brown—Treasurer  
Betty Johnsen—Altar Guild; Food Pantry

### Wardens & Vestry

Sharon Hathaway ~ Sr. Warden  
Mike Park ~ Jr. Warden  
Joanne Bishop ~ Secretary  
Brad Cook ~ Vestry  
Victoria Mayor ~ Vestry  
Jane Schinske ~ Vestry Member  
David Ellis ~ Vestry Member  
Hsa Blu Moo ~ Vestry Member  
Judy Brown ~ Vestry Member  
Betty Johnsen ~ Vestry Member

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### Worship & Learn With Us:

Sunday 9:30 am  
Worship Service  
with Holy Eucharist & Sunday School

Tuesday Bilingual Mass with Eucharist is at 8:45 am on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, all are welcome!



~ continued from pg 9 ~

The bilateral agreement's signing took place during a special Eucharist held in the afternoon at St. John's Episcopal Church here in Chula Vista, a city just south of San Diego and slightly north of Tijuana and the U.S.-Mexico border. The site was chosen intentionally to call attention to the ongoing migration crisis unfolding along the border. The agreement's preamble recognizes that, despite the political difficulties facing the United States and Mexico, the two churches are called to "share a ministry of prayer and collaboration through the gifts and talents we have to help us in mutual growth where we reflect the kingdom with our actions of justice, peace and love through service, education and the expansion of ministry."

All along the U.S.-Mexico border, Episcopalians and Anglicans are providing humanitarian aid to migrants and asylum-seekers by providing shelter, food, medical care, legal aid and pastoral counseling. In the last two years, as migrants and asylum-seekers have continued to arrive at the border, the two churches have increasingly shared resources and information.

"Our two churches are tied together by a common history. We share a border. We basically live in the same land. The border was drawn by man, not by God. And so, while we are two peoples, we actually are all Americans, and therefore we are a common people," said Curry during an interview with ENS in St. John's courtyard. "It's important, I think, for Episcopalians and for others here in the United States to know that, whatever differences or issues our government may have, that in Christ there is no east nor west and in him no south, no north.

"And therefore, we join hands with our brothers and our sisters, our siblings, our friends in Christ, to do work of humanitarian concern, to do work that helps to right wrongs so far as we are able to do so, to join hands to follow in the way in the teachings of Jesus because his teachings and his way can overcome divisions of people. And if we can model that, then maybe our governments can, and that's a message that our people need and, I trust, the people of Mexico as well."

Though largely symbolic, the Eucharist and agreement's signing ceremony speak to the two Anglican Communion churches' ongoing commitment to shared ministry, the fight for justice and mirroring the presence of God in the world, said the Rev. Glenda McQueen, The Episcopal Church staff officer for Latin America and the Caribbean.

"The bilateral agreement speaks about our desire to be together as we bear witness in the world.

Borders don't divide us; borders don't separate us; walls do not separate us. The Christian commitment goes beyond that, and Christians have found ways throughout history to respond to the call for justice, the calling to work with human beings and to walk with them in the different stages of their lives," said McQueen in an interview with ENS. "As the agreement says in the preamble, 'Although these are times of difficulty and conflict between the United States and Mexico, that does not stop the church.' On the contrary, this is a time when the church is called together to work and to be the church."

## FROM THE TREASURER'S VAULT

### Treasurer's Report - January 31, 2020



#### GENERAL FUND

- Checking Balance as of December 31, 2019: \$5,228.48

- TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSES:

Offerings: \$ 6,269.00

Other Income: \$16,717.70

TOTAL Income: \$22,986.70

TOTAL Expenses \$22,773.93

- Checking Balance as of January 31, 2020: \$4,484.96

- Average attendance for 4 Sundays in January = 51

#### January Weekly Offering

- January 5, 2020
  - Attendance: 45
  - Pledge: \$2,021.00
  - Plate: \$1,250.00
- January 12, 2020
  - Attendance: 50
  - Pledge: \$1,803.00
  - Plate: \$ 35.00
- January 19, 2020
  - Attendance: 49
  - Pledge: \$504.00
  - Plate: \$ 71.00
- January 26, 2020
  - Attendance: 59
  - Pledge: \$515.00
  - Plate: \$ 70.00



### Community Men's Breakfast

Every **2nd Saturday of the month** in the Parish Hall of St Alban's Episcopal Church, 490 Farragut Circle, El Cajon, 92020. The breakfast is free, but donations can be accepted.

Call **(619)444-8212** if you have questions.

#### The Morning Schedule will go as follows:

**8:15 am** Come early for coffee, cold drinks, and chit-chat;

Breakfast from **8:30 - 9:30 AM** with an open discussion about Community Issues; finishing at 9:30 am with closing remarks and prayer.

Please join us, we look forward to seeing you!

# March 2020

## Primates of The Episcopal Church and Anglican Church of Mexico sign bilateral agreement

‘In Christ there is no border’

By Lynnette Wilson, 2/17/2020, Chula Vista, CA



On Sunday, Feb. 16, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and Archbishop Francisco Moreno, primates representing The Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Mexico, respectively, signed a bilateral agreement, effectively moving the two churches into a reciprocal relationship.

“This is a wonderful day and it may not make a splash in all the news media, but let the record note that peoples live together in the Americas, that people who share a common border, people who follow the way of Jesus – following in this Jesus – there is no border that divides us,” said Curry during a time for reflection in the service. “God created the land; human beings made the border. And so, as the old song says, ‘In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south, no north, but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide world.’”

“It is this fellowship of love following in the footsteps of Jesus that brings us together this day, and in Jesus Christ our friendship grows deep and it will last long. In Christ there is no border.”

The agreement marks a transition in the relationship between the two churches, which dates to 1875. At one time, the church in Mexico was part of Province IX, which encompasses The Episcopal Church’s dioceses in Latin America and the Caribbean. In 1994, the Anglican Church in Mexico entered into a covenant agreement with The Episcopal Church and became an autonomous province of the Anglican Communion. The covenant, which included a financial stipend as the church in Mexico worked toward financial independence, expired at the end of 2019.

The 25-year pact is coming to an end, but the friendship continues. It’s solid,” said Moreno in an interview with ENS. “This is a brand-new era in the Province of Mexico because we’re beginning a new chapter in our growth, as a culture, as our own idiosyncrasy in our own country. This [agreement] greatly benefits us because it helps us mature in our faith, and for the longest time, we’ve been friends across borders. The church right now is deeply committed to being autonomous. It’s looking for ways to provide for itself and to look for ways to continue programs with our own resources.” (cont next pg)

| Sun                                                                                                               | Mon | Tue                                                                  | Wed                                                                                            | Thu                    | Fri | Sat                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1<br>Worship 9:30                                                                                                 | 2   | 3 <b>MASS 8:45am</b><br>Followed by<br>Food Pantry<br>Ministry 10am  | 4 <b>Lenten Study &amp; Potluck 6:15-7:30pm</b><br>Troop 308<br>6:30-8pm                       | 5                      | 6   | 7                                                                                  |
| 8 Worship 9:30 <i>Daylight Savings</i><br><b>Vestry Meeting</b><br><b>Welcome Church 3pm</b><br><b>Wells Park</b> | 9   | 10                                                                   | 11 <b>Lenten Study &amp; Potluck 6:15-7:30pm</b><br><br>Troop 308<br>6:30-8pm                  | 12                     | 13  | 14 <b>Men's Community Breakfast 8:15-9:30am</b><br><i>Jack Pape Memorial 1-4pm</i> |
| 15<br>Worship 9:30                                                                                                | 16  | 17 <b>MASS 8:45am</b><br>Followed by<br>Food Pantry<br>Ministry 10am | 18 <b>Lenten Study &amp; Potluck 6:15-7:30pm</b><br><br>Troop 308<br>6:30-8pm                  | 19<br><i>St Joseph</i> | 20  | 21 <b>Lenten Quiet Day &amp; Lunch 9am-Noon</b><br><b>with Rev Andy Welch</b>      |
| 22<br>Worship 9:30<br><i>Guest Preacher</i><br><i>Rev Andy Welch</i>                                              | 23  | 24                                                                   | 25 <b>Lenten Study 6:15-7:30pm</b><br>Troop 308<br>6:30-8pm<br><i>Annunciation of our Lord</i> | 26                     | 27  | 28                                                                                 |
| 29<br>Worship 9:30                                                                                                | 30  | 31                                                                   |                                                                                                |                        |     |                                                                                    |

# Lenten



## Quiet Day

Come join us for a quiet morning

Saturday, March 21, 9am—Noon, with Rev Andy Welch, (UMC)

This year's theme is "Prayer in the Middle of Things"

There will be lunch provided at Noon, no charge, contributions accepted.



## Holy Week & Easter

### Schedule for Holy Week Services

**Palm Sunday**, April 5, 9:30 AM

**Maundy Thursday**, April 9, 6:15 PM, includes foot washing

**Good Friday Services**, April 10, 12 noon and 6:15 PM

with **Stations of the Cross at 5:30pm**, before the 6:15 service  
(Sunday School children's version will be inside the church,  
adults will meet in the Prayer Garden.)

**Easter Vigil**, April 11, 6:15 PM

**Easter Sunday**, April 12, 9:30 AM

## LENTEN POTLUCK AND TEACHING SERIES

Time: 6:15-7:30pm

Wednesdays: March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1

Please join us each night or for those nights you are able to attend.

We will be talking about types of prayer, and defining what is called a rule of life,, or better defined as "Discipleship". Our discussions will be based on the book "Sacred Rhythms", by Ruth Haley Barton.

The books are \$13 and will be available in the office. We can do scholarships if necessary.

Please sign up or let Father Dave know as soon as possible if you would like to attend.

We hope to see you there!!

*Father Dave*

RUTH HALEY BARTON

AUTHOR OF Invitation to Solitude and Silence

# SACRED RHYTHMS

*Arranging Our Lives for  
Spiritual Transformation*





### NEWS FROM TROOP 308

Sunday, February 9, Troop 308 celebrated "Scout Sunday" at St. Alban's. The entire troop came to church that day in full uniform accompanied by Troop Scoutmaster, Tina Ninteman and Gavin Bishop from Troop 3. The Scouts participated in the opening procession, then went over to the Sunday School room where Naomi taught them to sing "This Little Light of Mine". All of the children stood in front of the congregation at children's time and sang.

The troop is looking forward to growing as we have two more girls who will be joining scouts in March. Girls ages 11-17 are eligible to join the troop. Contact Joanne Bishop if you are interested or would like more information.



### The St. Alban's Teen Youth Group will kick off in 2020 with a Pizza Party!

**Friday March 6 starting at 6:15pm and ending at 7:45pm.**

Youth ages 12-19+ are invited to come and enjoy food, drinks, games and discussion.

Our theme will center around "The Sheep and Goats" parable from Matthew 25: 31-46.

All in attendance will receive a journal to record their thoughts, notes and ideas about our group ministry.

Discussion will include planning outings and projects we will do in 2020.

Please advise Joanne Bishop or Father Dave if you would like to attend but need a ride to and from the meeting.

