

The Rev. Emily Griffin
Associate Rector Report
May 2017

Children's Formation

We averaged 41 participants in Children's Chapel over the past month. On Easter Day we had 101. I met with the Children's Chapel music leaders on 5/7 and introduced them to parishioner Samantha Glosch. Starting in June, Sam will work over several weeks to teach the kids a song that they will then be able to sing in church. She won't be replacing the regular leaders; she'll simply take one of the song "slots" consistently until the kids are ready. This is a way to seed the ground so that we'll have more interested participants once the right Children's Choir leadership and resources are found.

Thanks to Megan King and Emily Oliphant for helping to make the Easter Egg Hunt a success.

Sunday School is ending well. I taught 1st to 3rd Grade on May 7 and will teach 4th to 6th Grade on May 21. Following our last class for the program year on 5/21, I'm hosting a brief gathering for all of our children's and youth leaders in Nourse Hall – with a small gift for each and snacks and beverages provided by parents. I'm also touching base with the teachers and youth leaders about returning next year and hope to have a sense of the "holes" by June 1.

Youth Formation

Thanks to Noell Sottile and Amie Vandersluis for co-leading the Rite 13 Beach Weekend with me from April 28-30. 9 teens participated. We played on the beach, navigated the Rehoboth Beach boardwalk, played mini-golf, ate youth-organized meals and explored our varying images of God.

The Sr. Youth class made finals care packages for last year's Sr. Sr. Youth/this year's college freshmen and sent them out May 1. The feedback we've gotten so far has been lovely.

Youth Sunday on 5/14 went well. Thanks to Katie Farr, Emma Morrison and Colleen Morrison for preaching at all of our English speaking services. Thanks also to Tricia Pinkard for organizing the reception for our graduating seniors. We purchased hardcover copies of Dante's Divine Comedy for each of them.

Rite 13 went on Grate Patrol May 12. Our last Grate Patrol on June 9 will draw from all 3 youth groups.

Thanks to the WSA for supporting this year's Diocesan-led ASP trip (June 18-24). 8 teens and 4 adults from St. Alban's are participating. Other parishes have not been able to provide enough adult chaperones; any St. Alban's adults who want to participate are most welcome to fill in some of these holes. See www.edow.org for details.

Finally, Emma Morrison and I are working on identifying our next Youth Representative to the Vestry. We hope to have him or her in place by the summer.

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 ministries as appropriate. Met in person with 2 newcomers in May so far.

Liturgical/Pastoral/Other

Since April Report: Celebrant at 4 services (including Spanish service on 5/14); Deacon at 1 service; Preached 1 Sunday; Children's Chapel 0 Sundays (but back on 5/21)

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

Coordinating with Ushers, Lay Readers, Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Vergers, Children's Chapel and Acolyte Leaders re: summer schedule changes

Attended OWLs Luncheon and Parish Gala

Attended Diocesan Clergy Conference and conversation with Bp. Mariann re: St. Alban's future/finances

Assistant Rector Report
Vestry Meeting May 17, 2017
Rev. Debbie Kirk

Attachment B to Minutes of
May 17, 2017 Vestry Meeting

Liturgy

Since the April 19, 2017, vestry meeting, I have celebrated and preached at three Sunday services and a quinceañera church service. This community includes regular fellowship lunches and celebrations following the Sunday worship services.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral care continues as an important and on-going component of our community. Since the last vestry meeting, I made 15 extended pastoral visits in addition to many 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.

Outreach, Community Development, and Christian Formation,

The community and I have participated in ecumenical humanitarian support and outreach through Puente de Amistad (Bridge of Friendship) serving populations historically devalued in Cuba—elderly, handicapped, abused women and children, and education outside the sciences and math. I am following up on contacts with the Vatican embassy and those faith groups assisting in these efforts.

We are hosting a meeting of the interfaith Northwest cluster for faith groups concerned about the vulnerable populations of immigrants, refugees, Muslims and Jews who face threats to their safety and family integrity.

We are supporting the efforts to the Global Mission committee in the area of sanctuary. Several members of our community are already involved in community education in the area of immigration reform and understanding rights. We will emphasize community engagement in a educational meeting aimed at people in our geographical area, not necessarily in our parish, who seek information on immigration policies and rights. The Adult Forum sessions were designed for our parish, especially those who attend services other than the 11 am now 11:30 service, where education on rights and laws has been a component in the last year through written information, pastoral care, and small group informational sessions.

We appreciated and participated in the Adult Formation series on immigration. We want to thank the committee's initiative in scheduling these three sessions and Sandy Kolb's leadership for this educational programming.

In the community, we are publicizing St. Alban's multiculturalism through working with the external communications efforts of the parish through community engagement in meetings and through the Spanish language print and internet media. And we are exploring new ways of developing our "tourist" ministry—a project that the Dean of the Cathedral supports including the Cathedral's having our flyers and inclusion of our service in their website.

Christian formation included education for confirmation, baptism, and marriage this month for members of our community—one member was confirmed at the Cathedral on May 13.

Diocesan/National Church Participation/Administration

The community and I continue to participate in regular monthly Diocesan Latino leaders discussions (lay and clergy.) I attended the Clergy Conference and the monthly Genesis formation group, both sponsored by the Diocese, as well as having input into national conferences such as Nuevo Amanecer (New Dawn) and Nuevos Horizontes (New Horizons.) in addition to regular parish clergy and committee meetings.

Respectfully submitted *con gozo y paz*, Debbie+

**Attachment C to Minutes of
May 17, 2017 Vestry Meeting**

Senior Warden Report to the Vestry
May 17, 2017

Organ Repair/Refurbishment Allocation from Reserve Fund – On May 10, 2017, the Executive Committee authorized a supplemental draw of \$1,844 to cover the actual total contract price (\$46,844 *vice* the already-authorized draw of \$45,000) for phases 1 and 2 of the Organ repair/refurbishment project previously authorized by the Vestry.

Gala Gratuities – The theme was “Lift Up the Children” but the evening was uplifting for everyone who participated. The auction – silent and live (so lively, thanks to Ken!) – and sales of raffle tix, wine and floral arrangements raised over \$20,000. The auction receipts alone topped last year’s . . . thanks to our brilliant artist-in-residence JimQ and one of his many fans (that would be the wonderful TriciaP). Ticket sales net proceeds are still being finalized. Great gratitude is due co-chairs Abby Davis and Julie Clements, dinner chair Emily DiBari, Auction co-chairs Dudley Winthrop and Brett Cloninger-West, with a strong supporting cast including logo-creator Colleen Morrison, and our own Vestry members Sandy Kolb, Ken Patterson, and bartender Geoffrey Hoare . . . and others too numerous to mention. It was especially gratifying to have so many new faces attending – including new parishioners and representatives of our three beneficiary schools. (A full report from the Gala Committee will be provided separately.)

Elections Upcoming – Elections for Vestry and Diocesan Delegate vacancies will begin at 8:30 am on Pentecost Sunday, June 4, and run continuously until the earlier of either noon or the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, which will convene at 11:30 am. Ballots will be counted in the afternoon and the results announced to the parish electronically on Monday morning. The process will be supervised by the elections working group – me, Mary Kostel, and Walker Carter. **IMPORTANT NOTE:** We’ll have begun our Summer worship schedule the prior weekend, so services will be at 8:00 and 10:00 am, with the Spanish-language worship community moving into the church for its regular 11:30 am service.

St. Alban’s Earth Day Event – The April 22 Earth Day event was soggy but successful, in that we collected a score of bicycles for refurbishment and re-cycling (so to speak), and a fascinatingly high-tech shredding truck was kept humming with paper brought by parishioners and neighbors. And milkweed seeds were handed out! The Green Team (anchored by Alex Stavitsky and Deborah Potter) has bigger plans for next year’s Earth Day and for other projects between now and then.

Speaking of Gratitude – I cannot say too often, or with sufficient depth of feeling, how grateful I am for the devoted service of this Vestry on behalf of our beloved faith-community, throughout this past challenging year. Nobody can fully appreciate how difficult and solemn your work has been. I feel we all will be forever bound together in this shared experience. I am humbled by the thoughtfulness, care, sincerity and wisdom with which you have each approached our work, and pray that you each find comfort and satisfaction in a job very well done. And I hope you join me in looking to our future with joy and enthusiasm . . . because there are great things we can do in God’s name in this world!

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Ingersoll