

Thanks

When a relationship goes bad, one of the first things to go is gratitude, the simple act of recognizing each other and acknowledging their gifts.

I therefore want to take a moment and recognize some people who have taken leadership and who are stepping down or who have stepped down from their leadership roles this year. I ask that, if you are present you stand when I call your name and allow us to express our appreciation for the gifts you have shared with us.

Pamela Welby has led our altar guild for the past five years and plans to continue as a member of the guild she has served for much longer than that. She will be succeeded by **Michele Bond**.

Susan Morris is, I am told, making another attempt to step down from leadership of the Workers of St. Alban's, --a role she has undertaken for the past seven years. That transition takes place later in the year.

Andrew and Ann Ramsey-Moor led our Adult Formation work for at least eight years. They have now departed for another parish but gave graciously of their time to arrange any number of excellent classes, forums and lectures.

Kristie Hassett and **Noel Sotille** have worked with Emily Griffin to administer our youth program in the year past.

Amie Vandersluis has stepped in to lead some of our youngest members in choral music.

Our Annual Canvass was led by **Alex Johns** and **Joe McLean** who were unfailingly gracious in a most challenging year for this work. **Joe** was also kind enough to help marshal the troops for a second canvass of connection and gratitude. They will be succeeded by Dominic and Ashley Bianchi beginning in the fall.

You have heard from **Abby Davis** about the results of the parish GALA which she chaired alongside **Julie Clements**. We are all most grateful that Abby has agreed to a second year

As we call and elect new members of our Vestry and a new Diocesan Delegate we must also give grateful thanks for those stepping down this year, particularly mindful of what has happened during their three years of service: **Adrienne Wilson** (filling an unfinished term and standing for her own full term today), **Marcus King**, **Sandy Kolb** and **Marty Welch**. **Emma Morrison**, one of our preachers a few weeks ago, has been our Youth Vestry Representative. **Sandy Loether** is finishing her term as a Diocesan Delegate today as well.

Have I missed anyone who is stepping down from leadership this year (and I'd prefer you not take this opportunity to surprise me!)

We have a long list of those of you who give so generously of yourselves in any number of ministries and I am not going to call you all by name. Your turn will come, but please know that we notice and are grateful to you. I am however going to recognize our extraordinary staff: my clergy colleagues **Jim**, **Emily**

and **Debbie; Justin** –on keyboards; **Doug**, from whence cometh our help; the incomparable **Charles** who does more than we can ask or imagine; **Jo** and **David** who labor in the vineyards unsung and unremunerated and without whom we would not be the community we are; Armando and Virginia who often arrive before me and just as often are still here when I leave. Will you join me in thanking them?

Finally, I'd like to express my personal thanks as well as the thanks of a grateful parish to our Senior Warden, **Laura Ingersoll** and say how very grateful I am that in this Diocese the wardens serve for three years and that I and we will continue to benefit from her wise counsel and gracious leadership for a while to come.