

MINISTRIES OF ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH

We believe all (lay and clergy) are called to be ministers of God's love.

WORSHIP (Dagi Murphy/The Rev. Prince Singh)

ACOLYTES (Wayne Berliner)

Acolytes assist the priest in our worship service. They join the priest in sharing God's word and sacraments among everyone. An Acolyte enhances the worship service. To be able to do this, an Acolyte has to be present, both physically and spiritually, when called upon. Acolytes are robed and ready 15 minutes before the service.

ALTAR GUILD (Louise Gilliard/Diane Van Dyke)

The ministry of the Altar Guild is serving God by preparing the Altar and Church for worship. It is a wonderful opportunity to pursue a unique journey in piety. Our work is done quietly behind the scenes. Four rotating teams set the altar for Sunday and mid-week services, baptisms, weddings and all special services. We welcome men, women and young people to join us in this very rewarding ministry. A commitment would mean one weekend a month. Saturday set-up (an hour or so) and Sunday re-set for the 10 o'clock service and take down and put away after the 10 o'clock service. We also polish, etc. for Christmas, Easter and special events. We need you!! Come join us!!

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS (Bob White)

Eucharistic Ministers are licensed lay ministers of the Chalice at the Eucharist. They assist and enhance the worship service by administering the chalice and leading the congregation in the Prayers of the People. Two Eucharistic Ministers are scheduled for the 10 o'clock services on a rotation basis. Training is available to help prepare for this ministry. They are robed and ready 15 minutes before the service. We encourage young people who are confirmed to discern a call to this ministry.

LECTORS (Claire Mingalone)

Two lectors are assigned to read the scripture lessons on Sundays, at the 10 AM service. Lectors are scheduled on a rotational basis and serve approximately once every 8 weeks. Lectors are also scheduled to serve at special services. Training is available to prepare for this ministry.

GREETERS (Dagi Murphy)

Greeters welcome visitors as they enter the church Sunday morning; show visitors where things are (restroom, etc.) and answer questions about the service. If visitors are interested, greeters introduce parents/children to the nursery monitor/teacher. During the Peace, visitors are invited to coffee hour at which time greeters introduce visitors to church members. Greeters make sure that no one stands alone during coffee hour.

USHERS

(Diane Rees)

Ushers play a key part in our life at St. Alban's. They are the first representatives of the congregation who greet people when they come to a worship service. They are in the narthex to

joyfully welcome people and give them a bulletin. They coordinate elements of the service, including gathering the offering and directing members to the altar for communion. After the service, they count the offering and fill out a report for the Treasurer. Ushers are ready in their posts 30 minutes before the service. Being an usher is a vital and enjoyable way to participate in making the worship experience meaningful for all.

CHOIR

Adult Choir (Qing Li) Music is such an important part of church experience that a service would be incomplete without it. Church hymns and songs of praise to Our Lord add spiritual joy to the church experience. At St. Alban's, our choir is dedicated to the fulfillment of such spiritual joy. We now need more music-loving people to sing with us on Sundays.

If you enjoy singing, come and meet our friendly and fun-loving choir.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION

(Claire Mingalone/Colleen Wurster/Christine Beck)

CHURCH SCHOOL (Erika Murphy)

Teachers are invited to commit to teach for 4 consecutive weeks for one of two different age groups: pre-K & 1st grade and 2nd through 4th grade. Each classroom teacher has a Teacher Guide with ideas for classes detailing the scope of the lesson for the day. There are ideas for storytelling, crafts, games and other activities for the lesson. The class usually lasts 30-35 minutes (from the beginning of the 10 o'clock service up until the Peace). There are other resources available for each teacher based on which age group they are teaching such as: puzzle pages, booklets for reading with the children, "Bible newspapers", and arts and crafts materials. You can be a teacher or a substitute teacher who covers for a teacher who needs to miss a week during his/her 4 week session.

ADULT EDUCATION (Cindy Felici/Erika Murphy)

The ministry of adult education is to grow in our knowledge and understanding of the Bible, the Church and the world; to learn more about God and our relationship with God; and to increase awareness of our spiritual journeys, both as individuals and as a Christian community. We do this through Adult Education Forums (seven Sundays a year), Studies 9-9:50 AM on Sundays in Advent, Lenten midweek studies and other opportunities to expand our understanding of God's word and world. We have started a St. Francis Group which meets at 7:30 PM on the third Wednesday of each month with an intention to pursue environmental, spiritual and simplicity issues.

YOUTH GROUP (Tim Shotmeyer)

Youth Group offers a mix of fun activities and a commitment to Christian values for young people in grades 6 through college. Our Youth are a vital part of the various ministries of the Church.

OUTREACH (Sandy Weiss)

Food and Clothing Ministry (Sue Lister) Food is collected year round with a presentation at the altar the 4th Sunday of the month. Where does it go? To the Ramapo Indians in Mahwah, West Milford and Ringwood and the Center for Food Action in Mahwah.

Gently used clothing for children and adults is also taken to the above sites. Men's clothing is taken to St. Paul's, Paterson. "Dress for Success" clothing goes to Shelter Our Sisters, West Milford. Lightly used children's toys, along with infant and toddler clothing are needed at North Porch in Paterson. Drivers are always welcome.

St. Paul's Men's Shelter (Wally Weiss) St. Alban's members go to the Men's Shelter at St. Paul's Church in Paterson on the first Thursday of every month. We prepare dinner for the men and share some fellowship with them. We meet at 5 PM and take all the food to the shelter to serve dinner at 6:30 PM. After eating and conversing with them, we leave them to a peaceful evening. We leave the shelter at approximately 7:30 PM. We take home with us all the good feelings of having shared a home cooked meal with our friends. A simple home cooked meal brings God's love and peace into their world.

School Supplies Drive The Parish is asked to donate schools supplies in the late summer, early fall which are given to children through the St. Paul's CDC.

Meals on Wheels (Carolyn O'Neill/Lorraine Murray) This dedicated group of volunteers delivers a hot nutritious meal to all who need this service which is a county-wide program to assist the elderly by maintaining them in their homes. Our volunteers deliver the meals for one full week every five weeks.

St. Alban's Pre-School (Megan Kordonsky/Teresa Ercan) The pre-school is committed to excellence in non-sectarian early childhood education and care for children ages 2 to 6. It is our goal to provide a program that allows every child to grow socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually. The chairperson of the pre-school committee schedules and facilitates committee meetings and reports to the Vestry.

Campus Ministry (Erika Murphy) The Ramapo College ministry is exploring ways to connect with students. We do this to also support the ministry of District 10-Episcopal Campus Ministry at Ramapo.

Prison Ministry (Barbara Harriman) This ministry is centered at the Essex County Correctional Facility primarily serving the needs of children whose mothers are incarcerated. Our District is exploring ways to build this ministry in Bergen and Passaic counties.

Parents' Night Out (Ivan Nedds/Duff Nedds/Will Nedds) On the third Friday of the month, from 6:30-9:30 PM, volunteers from St. Alban's provide childcare in the Parish Hall so that parents of young children can have a night out.

Companionship (Erika Murphy) St. Alban's companionship with the Kothapallimitta pastorate in South India offers parishioners an opportunity to build bridges across cultural, historical and linguistic differences. There is much we can learn from people who have a deep faith in the face of oppression, social degradation and poverty.

Crop Walk (Duff Nedds)
Community response to others' poverty is sponsored by the Interfaith Council of Oakland/Franklin Lakes and is held in Oakland in October.

The Lisbeth Linley Foundation (Nedds et al.) The overall aim of this ministry is to support and empower families, especially women and children.

The Women's Interactive Network (Roja Singh/Lorraine Knox) WIN is a supportive network for women looking for a meaningful engagement with their community.

IN-REACH/HOSPITALITY (Pam Hellen)

Coffee Hour This is the real time to meet and catch up after the service (the Peace is primarily the time to greet each other in the name of Christ). Coffee hour hosts provide simple refreshments thus helping the fellowship around the Lord's Table to continue.

Fellowship Events Other events that fall under this heading are: Parents Night Out, lay pastoral visitor, office volunteer, altar flower deliverer as well as organizer/helper for events such as the Oktoberfest, Epiphany Event, Pancake Supper, Mothers & Others Brunch, Parish picnic, Franklin Lakes Day and other events that provide opportunities for fellowship and fun!

Lay Pastoral Care Team (Lois Mahonchak) It is a group of dedicated lay people who help meet the pastoral care needs of the parish in collaboration with the Rector.

FACILITIES AND BUILDINGS (Leigh Lydecker)

This group is responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the buildings and grounds in order to comply with building inspections and the safety and comfort of the pre-school and congregation. If you are handy with tools, you may find this to be a rewarding ministry.

Nave & Facilities Beautification (Dolores & Bob Barker) This group creates ways to enhance the appearance of the church and other buildings.

EVANGELISM/COMMUNICATION/DIOCESAN

REPRESENTATION (Dave Ludwig)

ALBAN'S ARMS (Dagi Murphy/Greg Miles/Victoria Kirby)

The goal of this ministry is to: attract new members; help visitors feel comfortable; connect new people with other church members and with church activities. Members of Alban's Arms maintain the Website; participate in community events (CROP Walk, Association with Ramapo College, etc); maintain pew cards/St. Alban's brochure; celebrate New Member Sunday; track new members making sure that we are responsive to their needs.

ST. ALBAN'S QUILTERS (Diane Van Dyke/Louise Gilliard)

A new group formed for needle crafters to join together for fellowship, fundraising and creative ministry.

EVANGELISM (Dave Ludwig)

The aim of Evangelism is to help develop relevant strategies to spread the "Good News" to the community. They meet to plan on first Tuesdays at 7:30 PM.

COMMUNICATION (John Murphy/Phyllis Alsdorf/Diane Firkins)

Write articles for "The ALBANAC" (our monthly newsletter), take photographs of special events, assist with the Pictorial Parish Directory, organize the phone chain and help organize and keep Church archives.

DISTRICT 10 REPRESENTATION (John Murphy)

District participation is a wonderful way to help in the larger world of activities and life in the Diocese of Newark. Each District has a clergy and lay representative on the Diocesan Council. District 10 meetings are about 2 hours long and are held on weekday evenings, every other month, at the various churches in the District. These meetings include speakers, reports and discussions about the activities and plans to enhance our Episcopal life in the District. To find out more, please speak to one of our current representatives: John Murphy, Phyllis Alsdorf or Susan Lister.

ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE

ADMINISTRATION (Diane Firkins/Teresa Ercan/The Rev. Prince Singh)

With the assistance of Office Angels and a host of others skilled in various facets of administrative areas, St. Alban's administrative needs are managed by an efficient and approachable staff.

FINANCE COMMITTEE (Ken Beck/Bob Barker/Lorraine Murray)

The Finance Committee is responsible for monitoring the fiscal health of the Church. Tasks include preparing the budget, arranging for a church audit, and pro-actively updating our financial methods of record keeping. The Treasurer reports on a monthly basis to the Vestry of the church.

STEWARDSHIP (Diane Van Dyke/Bob Wurster)

Stewardship is viewed as a year-round invitation to all to bring their best to the glory of God. It is what we do after we say “we believe”. Every member is encouraged to share their time, talent and treasure to spread the Good News of God’s love within these walls and in the world.

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