



# SHOWING

SHOWING GOD'S LOVE TO ALL PEOPLE. COME SEE.

**A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**



## For Sale!

### RECTOR'S COLUMN

#### The Rev. Walter Sherman

As I was looking through the classifieds the other day, I just happened to see an advertisement for a church building that was for sale.

"Downtown Indianapolis, 12,400 sq. ft, seats 350, baptismal pool." [hmmm.... Think of the splash I could make with THAT! I could just THROW the person in!] Pastor's study and church office. Access to interstate."

I never thought about churches being for sale, actually, though I often see former churches that have been redesigned as office space, or a restaurant, or (in downtown Indy) loft apartments. In New York City, one was made into a theatre—a *propos*, I thought, since liturgy is drama and the space would be acoustically sensitive.

The advertisement didn't list the price for the buildings listed. I pondered would buy a church. Did it think that a congregation would relocate to (what I presumed is close to the 'hood from our facility "in the heart of northeast Indianapolis"? Relocate to the inner city? (An interesting thought, I must admit, when so many churches located AWAY from downtown Indy, when ST. Alban's was one of those churches on the north

fringe of the city 50 years ago and when people were moving to these new "suburbs" to escape integration.) I laughed about all this a friend who isn't a church go-er. While I knew that churches occasionally needed to sell a building when they moved, I never thought of seeing a *advertisement* of a church building for sale, like other businesses or hunks of property.

"What do you think a good church goes for these days?" my friend asked.

I flipped into a MasterCard commercial. You know, that ones that show you a scene and say something like, "New swimsuit, \$40. Time at the hotel, \$150 per night. Time together..... priceless."

What is a good church worth? It's priceless. I mean, beyond the religious stuff (which I happen to think is pretty good too... how does one put a price on eternal life?). To be surrounded by a group of people who accept you unconditionally, where you can be vulnerable without repercussion, where there is a community to pray with you and for you when you're ill or mourning or conflicted or whatever. There's nothing that can replace that or pay for it.

I often wonder just what people do when they're diagnosed with something life-threatening, or when the bottom

*(Continued on page 2)*

Inside this issue:

RECTOR'S COLUMN	1
RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND	2
ALTAR GUILD DONATIONS	
RECENT PASSINGS	
CHRISTMAS SERVICES	
STEWARDSHIP LUNCHEON	3
WORLD AIDS DAY RECYCLING OPPORTUNITY	
GIVING TREE BOOK CLUB	4
FEEDING THE HUNGRY VESTRY ELECTIONS	
BAPTISMAL DATES	5
WHITE ELEPHANT PARTY CHURCH GREENING HOME COMMUNIONS	
PARISH LIFE	6
CALENDAR	7
LAY MINISTRY	8

THE SHOWING IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY ST. ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH. PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES, PHOTOS AND NOTICES BY THE 15TH OF THE MONTH. EMAIL SUBMISSIONS TO mariannscott@sbcglobal.net OR MAIL OR FAX THEM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE



Sunday December 28th



There will be one service on Sunday, December 28, at 10AM as we join to sing Christmas carols, hear the several strands of the Christmas story, and share with joy in the Holy Eucharist.

## Rector's Discretionary Fund

Many of you have made contributions to the Rector's Discretionary Fund through the year—and some of you may not know that you have this option. Your contributions to the RDF create a pool of money that is used at the discretion of the Rector for pastoral emergencies (usually when someone stops at the church requesting money for bills or gasoline or food). Father Sherman also contributes money to this fund from the honoraria that people offer him for performing funerals or weddings or other services, and he uses that money for other things around the church which aren't budgeted (a copyright license, for instance, that allows us to print and perform the *Holden Evening Prayer* or to purchase the frames for the icons hanging in the narthex). In helping people in the community, Father Sherman almost always refers people to the Forest Manor Multi-Service Center (FMMSC) on 38<sup>th</sup> Street. FMMSC is a social service agency of the city which offers programs and social work help to people in our neighborhood. Father Sherman asks that they do an evaluation of the needs of those requesting assistance and then report back to him how we can best assist those in distress (since he isn't a trained or licensed social worker). St. Alban's helps (in coordination with FMMSC) with utility bills and rent payments and fees for programs and bus passes, as well as with food vouchers from the contributions that you make on the first Sunday of the month to our food ministry outreach program. The usual guidelines are help in the amount of \$100 once every twelve months. In addition, Father Sherman helps people in our parish in times of distress and need, and he also purchases food and fuel gift cards and bus passes which he offers to people who present at our doorstep. And he reports back to the parish at the Annual Meeting in January how he has spent that money.

If you care to donate to the RDF, simply put your check or money in the offering (or send to the church office) and mark it "Discretionary Fund." Your quarterly and year-end statements will show you contribution (which is tax deductible).

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to speak with Father Sherman.

## Altar Guild Donations

The Altar Guild will gladly receive your donations for our decorating at Christmas. Please use one of the envelopes in the pews, and clearly mark whether this is a gift in memory of someone, to celebrate an event, or to the glory of God. Any donations will be accepted!

## Recent Passings

Those outside the parish who receive this newsletter may not know about the deaths of two parishioners in the last 6 weeks. Jim Calhoun and Bill Silcox both died of complications of their hearts. Jim was buried at Crown Hill and Bill is interred in the Columbarium at St. Alban's. +May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

*(Continued from page 1)*

drops out of their lives, or when they experience something tragic or traumatic and they have no support system or family or church at all to be with them. And isn't it wonderful also to have a whole group of persons celebrate with you the birth of your child or your wedding or some anniversary or when you get a new puppy? I can't imagine how, in the midst of all that happens in this world and in our lives, people outside of this (or any) community of faith make sense of it all.

Well, I guess the answer is that many of them don't. They just drop off the radar screen or, worse yet, sink into untreatable depression or psychopathy, or commit suicide. We're lucky that we have a group whom we call "family" to surround us at times like those (or like these, when our world seems to get a little scarier every day). It's just that life is such a rat race--- that I'm sure glad I have St. Alban's as a refuge and source of comfort and reliability!

*-Walter +*

## Christmas Services



Christmas services this year are on December 24 at 11 PM and on Christmas Day at 10

AM. Midnight Mass will include some incense and special orchestral music which begins at 10:30 PM. The service on Christmas Day will include singing.

The Service of a New Year and Holy Eucharist will be celebrated at 5 PM on December 31 in the chapel.

### Stewardship luncheon a big success

Many thanks to all those who helped make our Stewardship luncheon held on October 19th a success. Our guest speaker was Larry Waynick, Bishop Cate Waynick's husband. All that attended enjoyed hearing his talk with us and we are pleased that he was able to attend.



Mark and Sue Wyatt



Father Walter Sherman and Embree Tinkel

To the members of the Stewardship Committee: Garnet Finn, Deana McGivern, Beth Nellist, Father Sherman, and Whitney Smith, thank you to them for their commitment and cooperation. Thank you also to Carole Lively and Mary Tobey who prepared the Pledge Card Packets. Finally, thank you to Garnet and Whitney for their beautiful decorating of the Parish Hall for the Stewardship luncheon, to all who brought goodies, and to Rebecca Lewis and her kitchen helpers Deana McGivern, Beth Nellist, Roger Stephen, and Karen Sullivan for making this a big success.

-submitted by Sarah Archer, Stewardship Committee Chair



Cecilia Dickinson Loney & Tom Dearsch



Larry Waynick

### World AIDS Day



World AIDS Day is December 1, a day designated to pray for those who have HIV/AIDS, for those who have died, for compassion in the face of this epidemic, and for research and a cure of vaccine. In commemoration of that day, we will have a panel of the AIDS quilt hanging at St. Alban's throughout the week beginning November 26 through Sunday, December 7.



### Recycling opportunity



Bring your old phone books to St. Alban's for recycling at Trinity! Please drop off your old phone books at

St. Alban's. We will transport them all to Trinity for recycling by the Trinity/St. Richard's School Green Team.

## IPS 83 Giving Tree celebration

It is that time of the year again - time for the annual IPS 83 Giving Tree celebration. St Albans's is once again collecting gifts (toys, books, art supplies, etc) for the children of five families from IPS 83. We are also collecting monetary donations that will be converted to gift cards. You can drop off your gifts in the narthex. These items will be distributed to the families during the Giving Tree celebration on Saturday morning, December 13<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to volunteer on the 13<sup>th</sup> or have any other questions, please contact Jeff Cichy ([cichy0612@yahoo.com](mailto:cichy0612@yahoo.com)).

Below is a list of the people we are helping this year:

- 1 One-year-old (male)
- 3 Six-year-olds (2 female, 1 male)
- 5 Seven-year-olds (1 female, 4 male)
- 1 Eight-year-old (male)
- 1 Ten-year-old (male)
- 2 Eleven-year-olds (male)
- 2 Twelve-year-olds (1 female, 1 male)
- 6 Adult females (the parents)



## 36,000,000 Struggled Against Hunger in '07

As per an article in the Indianapolis Star on November 18<sup>th</sup> - "the Agriculture Department's annual survey of food security shows that more than 36 million adults and children struggled against hunger in 2007. These are people who either didn't have enough money for food or access to food to maintain active healthy lives." We at St Albans can help alleviate these statistics by contributing to the four food ministries we support (Dayspring, Damien Center, Horizon House, Forest Manor). You can make a monetary donation during our monthly Outreach collection, which is on the first Sunday of each month. Or you can drop off non-perishable foods in the collection baskets in the narthex. You can also volunteer at any of these organizations. Please contact Jeff Cichy for details.

## Vestry elections coming up

We're still looking for eligible and willing members of St. Alban's to serve a three-year term on Vestry. Elections will be held at the Annual Meeting in January, and those who stand for election: 1) need to have been attending St. Alban's for twelve months; 2) need to be registered as a member of the parish (which means that your membership at another church needs to be transferred to this church or that you present your baptismal information for registration or that you simply submit your signed intention to be considered a member of this parish); 3) need to be person who pledges to this church; 4) need to attend regularly our worship services. The Vestry usually meets monthly at a time convenient to all the members, and members chair or serve as liaison to a committee of the parish and write monthly reports to be read before the monthly meeting. The Vestry is the Board of Directors of a parish—which means that they have financial oversight as well as spiritual investment in the happenings of this community of faith.

And what are the benefits, you may ask? The joy of serving God's people and this church. Learning how the inside of St. Alban's works. The fellowship of new friends. Prayerful consideration of how to best serve our church. An opportunity to grow spiritually as well as in the exercise of leadership. The prayers of this community as you perform your work faithfully.

## Book Club

In honor of the Christmas Holiday, the Book Club has decided to change their December selection. The new selection is:

December 7<sup>th</sup>: *Skipping Christmas* by John Grisham



"In a charming fable, John Grisham tells the story of one couple's hilarious attempt to escape Christmas, only to be forced by friends and family to rediscover the true

meaning of the season...."

-Barnes & Noble Review

Our January book will be:

January 25<sup>th</sup>: *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson



"Readers interested in a fresh perspective on the cultures and development efforts of Central Asia will love this incredible story of a humanitarian endeavor."

-Booklist Review

## Baptismal Dates 2009

Sunday, January 11, 2009	The Feast of the Baptism of Jesus
Saturday, April 11, 2009	The Great Vigil of Easter
Sunday, May 31, 2009	The Feast of Pentecost
Sunday, November 1, 2009	All Saint's Day

One Summer Sunday will also be designated as a baptismal day if requested; the Bishop's visit is also an appropriate time for baptism.



## White Elephant gift exchange and pitch-in

I will admit to never having been to or hosted a White Elephant party. However, I am going to host my first White Elephant gift exchange at St. Alban's on December 21st and the whole congregation is invited! The gift exchange will take place after the 10:30 am service in the parish hall. This is also an invitation to bring all the wonderful foods that St. Alban's is known for to the pitch-in that will take place before the exchange. A sign-up sheet will be out on the table in the Narthex for everyone that is going to participate to sign-up for the party and indicate what you will be bringing to the pitch-in.

For those like me that have never attended a White Elephant gift exchange, here is a brief description from my all time source, wikipedia.org. "Gifts are typically inexpensive, humorous items or used items from home; the term 'white elephant' refers to a gift whose cost exceeds its usefulness. All participants bring their gift to "the pile." Gifts are wrapped, but are not labeled to reflect a sender or recipient. All participants draw a number (from a hat, perhaps) to determine their order. The participant with #1 unwraps any gift from the pile and then shows it to everyone. Each successive participant, in the order determined from the drawing, can either 1) "steal" an already opened gift (if there's one they really like) or 2) be adventurous and go for a wrapped gift from the pile. If the participant chooses to steal, the person whose gift is stolen now repeats their turn and either 1) steals another person's gift (they cannot immediately steal back the gift that was just stolen from them) or 2) unwraps a new gift. This cycle of stealing can sometimes continue for a long time, until a new gift is chosen, at which point the turn is passed to the participant with the next number from the drawing"

So please empty out your closet of those really bad gifts that you know you will never use. Or, if you buy a really bad gift, please keep it under \$20. Come and fellowship with us!

-Submitted by Mariann Scott

## Greening of the Church

The greening of the church will take place immediately after the gift exchange and pitch-in on December 21st. and you are invited to stay and participate. We spend time getting all in order, placing poinsettias, setting up trees, hanging garland and wreaths, put out the baby Jesus, Joseph and Mary statues. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those that will be able to help out so that we know how many helpers we will have.

## Home Communions

If you or a family member need to have Walter bring Communion to your home before or after Christmas, please call the parish office (546-8037) so that Mary can add you to the schedule for his visit.

## Our Parish Life Together

*During the Prayers of the People we pray for family and friends who are in crisis. Our continuing prayers are asked for those who are living with debilitating illness of body, mind or spirit and their caregivers; those suffering from addictions and their families; and those seeking employment. Please also hold in your thoughts and prayers those in our immediate family who are in nursing homes or are home bound.*



### Our Prayer List

#### *Members of Our Parish Community*

Dottie Soule; Jack Rickert, Ann White, Garnet Finn,  
Janice Croomes and Lena Thompson.

*and Those Serving in the Armed Forces*

***Chris Wyatt; Gayle Johnson and Lucas Cavazos***

### Friends and Family of Our Parish Community

Mike McConnell - *grandson of Howard and Eddie Patterson*

Cathy Kennedy - *daughter of Jeanne Atkins*

Ruth Sprenger - *aunt of Susan Cooper*

Stephanie Kilm - *granddaughter of Marty Roman*

Karl Samples - *son-in-law of Edith Campbell*

Jason - *son of Deana McGivern*

Natalie Shepherd and Jeff—*requested by Jeanne Atkins*

Ellen Ashcraft - *friend of Beth Nellist*

Bud Pitzer - *husband of Lynn Pitzer*

Steve Kirby - *brother-in-law of Karen Sullivan*

Angela & Jered Branham - *niece and great nephew of Garnet Finn*

Florence - *aunt of Jim Long*

June Gomer—*friend of Terry Heise*

Donna Sims—*sister of Jim Bandy*

Tom James—*uncle of Susan Cooper*

Sylvianne—*friend of Susan Cooper*

Dennis Gavaghan—*friend of Whitney Smith*

### Birthdays

1st Jim Mellor

7th Sarah Archer

11th Anne Auberry

17th Drew Boggs

27th Sandy Edwards

### Anniversaries

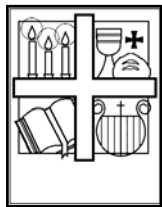
30th Susan & Robin  
Cooper

*Please make sure the Church Office has special dates in your life so we may include them on our calendar.*


December 2008


Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

	<b>1</b>  10a L.Coufal Mtg	<b>2</b>  6:30p Devington Community Association	<b>3</b>  9:30a HE/Morning Prayer 10:15 Discussion & Fellowship	<b>4</b>  7p AA	<b>5</b>  8p AA	<b>6</b>  9:30 Comm. On Ministry
<b>7</b> 8/10:30 HE 9:00 Choir 9:15a Adult Ed 10:30a Church School Noon Book Club 1p Czech—Slovak 3p EFM 7p AA	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  6:30p Vestry	<b>10</b>  9:30a HE/Morning Prayer 10:15 Discussion & Fellowship 6:40p Finance Comm	<b>11</b>  7p AA	<b>12</b>  8p AA	<b>13</b>  Giving Tree Party  
<b>14</b> 8/10:30 HE Trinity Bookstore 9:00 Choir 9:15a Adult Ed 10:30a Church School 1p Windridge 3p EFM 7p AA	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>  6p Freetown Singers	<b>17</b>  9:30a HE/Morning Prayer 10:15 Discussion & Fellowship	<b>18</b>  7p AA	<b>19</b>  8p AA	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 8/10:30 HE 9:15a Adult Ed 10:30a Church School Greening/ White Elephant 3p EFM 7p AA	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>  6p Freetown Singers	<b>24</b>  9:30a HE/Morning Prayer 11am Healing	<b>25</b>  11am Pitchin 7p AA  	<b>26</b>  8p AA	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>  10a Lessons & Carols  9:00 Choir 9:15a Adult Ed 10:30a Church School 7p AA	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>  6p Freetown Singers 7p Outreach	<b>31</b>  9:30a HE/Morning Prayer 5p HE & NY Service			



# Lay Ministry Schedule

<b>Sundays</b>	<b>December 7</b>	<b>December 14</b>	<b>December 21</b>	<b>December 28</b> ONE SERVICE
<b>ACOLYTES</b>	8:00 P. Krause	H. Patterson	E. Stotts	
<b>CRUCIFERS</b>	10:30 M. Wagers	J. Long	D. Henry	J. Bandy
<b>TORCHES</b>	10:30			
<b>LECTORS</b>	10:30 G. Celimele J. Kozlowski	W. Smith B. Nellist	H. Patterson E. Patterson	J. Trendell R. Vaughan
<b>CHALICE BEARERS</b>	10:30 M. Wyatt R. Vaughan	M. Wyatt B. Nellist	H. Patterson E. Patterson	R. Vaughan J. Trendell
<b>USHERS &amp; GREETER</b>	8:00 T. Heise 10:30 K. Sullivan M. Carter	P. Krause M. Wagers B. Boehmer	T. Heise S. Edwards R. Edwards	R. Lewis M. Scott
<b>OFFERING MANAGERS</b>	8:00 T. Heise 10:30 M. Wyatt	P Krause B. Nellist	T. Heise J. Long	M. Wagers
<b>COUNTERS</b>	J. Mellor R. Stutzman	B. Nellist M. Wyatt	L. Northrup B. Nellist	J. Bandy R. Lewis
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	J. Trendell G. Ladd	J. Trendell G. Ladd	J. Trendell G. Ladd	J. Trendell G. Ladd
<b>COFFEE HOUR HOSTS AFTER 10:30 SERVICE</b>	J. Harmon J. Hocking	J. Atkins S. Cooper	Ben Cash Barb. Cash	S. Edwards R. Edwards
<b>CHURCH SCH. AST.</b>	M. Boggs	Barb. Cash	J. Trendell	

*If you are unable to fulfill your obligation please find a substitute.*



*St. Alban's Episcopal Church*  
 4601 North Emerson Avenue  
 Indianapolis, IN 46226

Office Phone (317)546-8037  
 Fax (317)546-6109  
 Email stalbansindy@att.net  
 www.saintalbansindy.org

**DECEMBER 2008**

**SPIRITUALITY†HUMOR†OUTREACH†WORSHIP†INCLUSIVITY†NURTURE†GROWTH IN GOD**

**WORSHIP TIMES**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
 (without music)  
 9:15 a.m. Adult Education  
 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
 (with music)  
 10:30 a.m. Church School  
 \*Childcare Available\*

**WEDNESDAY WORSHIP**

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist



**ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH STAFF**

The Rev. Walter Sherman, Rector  
 Tom Dearchs, Organist, Choir Director  
 Mary Tobey, Church Secretary  
 Mariann Scott, Editor *Showing*  
 Robin Edwards, Treasurer

**ST. ALBAN'S 2008 VESTRY**

Joan Trendell, Senior Warden, *Worship* (2009)  
 Mark Wyatt, Junior Warden (2010)  
 Ella Stotts, *Education* (2011)  
 Whitney Smith, *Stewardship* (2010)  
 Terry Heise, *Finance* (2009)  
 Deanna McGivern, (2009)  
 Jeff Cichy, *Outreach*, (2011)  
 McCoy Wagers, *Evangelism*, (2010)  
 Rebecca Lewis, *Community Life*, (2011)  
 Vestry Clerk, Deanna McGivern