

City of Albany
Proclamation

IN RECOGNITION OF JULIE WAKELEE-LYNCH

WHEREAS, Julie Wakelee-Lynch joined the Albany Community as Pastor of St. Alban's Church in 2009; and

WHEREAS, Julie created a vibrant community hub at St. Alban's; and

WHEREAS, Julie was a respected and visible community leader on issues concerning the community, including separation of church and state and diversity and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, Julie provided care to many in the area who although not religious, needed a listening, non-judgmental ear; and

WHEREAS, Julie was a founding members of the Diverse Housing Working Group and a strong public advocate for affordable housing and for providing services for those experiencing homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Julie was an advocate for youth experiencing homelessness as demonstrated through her work with the Youth Engagement Advocacy Housing (YEAH!) shelter in Berkeley and Youth Spirit Artworks; and

WHEREAS, Julie supported and comforted all segments of our community during times of trauma and grief including Albany High School students and families suffering from the effects of hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, Julie welcomed Albany High School students to St. Alban's for a student-led open-mic event during a walkout to protest gun violence; and

WHEREAS, Julie celebrated the joys and successes of life with many members of our community: performing weddings, baptisms, and recognizing other happy occasions; and

WHEREAS, Julie grew support of the arts through the founding of Calliope: East Bay Music and Arts, a nonprofit dedicated to building community and advancing social justice through the arts; and

WHEREAS, Julie helped to form and support the popular Third Sunday Concert Series, guaranteeing fair pay to highly skilled musicians; and

WHEREAS, Julie provided space for HOOT! the monthly curated open-mic musical community; and

WHEREAS, Julie supported young musicians from Albany and Berkeley High Schools by providing a space for fundraising and opportunities for gigs at services and events; and

WHEREAS, Julie supported a robust Tai Chi program at St. Alban's; and

WHEREAS, Julie opened the doors of St. Alban's to a wide variety of community organizations, allowing them a safe and welcoming space for meeting; and

WHEREAS, Julie was an active participant of a local business organization; and

WHEREAS, Julie was an enthusiastic community volunteer including at the annual Bike to Work Days; and

WHEREAS, Julie and her dog, Fawn, welcomed a variety of animals to St. Alban's for the yearly non-denominational blessing of the animals; and

WHEREAS, Julie was prepared to assist Albany in the event of disaster as a nationally certified disaster chaplain and has encouraged disaster preparedness for all members of her community; and

WHEREAS, Julie celebrated the joys and successes of life with many members of our community: performing weddings, baptisms, and recognizing other happy occasions; and

WHEREAS, Julie is a wonderful mother to her amazing daughter, Grace.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, the Albany City Council wishes to express its appreciation to Julie Wakelee-Lynch for her 10 years of service to our community and wish her well in all of her future endeavors.

Dated: December 16, 2019

NICK PILCH, MAYOR