

# SANCTUARY

Newsletter of St. Alban's Episcopal Church, Elberton, Georgia

## Calendar

Sundays, Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.  
(Eucharistic Prayer Form A until Easter  
Sunday, when Form B resumes).  
Sunday, Apr. 9, SafeHouse Sunday.

April 9, Palm Sunday service

April 10, Vestry meeting, 6 p.m.

April 13, Maundy Thursday service  
with First Methodist, at St. Alban's,  
6:30 p.m.

April 14, Ecumenical Good Friday  
service, at First Methodist, starts at  
noon. St. Alban's traditional service,  
6:30 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 16. Ecumenical  
service, First Methodist lawn, 7 a.m.  
St. Alban's, regular service 10:30 a.m.

Sundays, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School  
(no Sunday school on Palm Sunday  
and Easter Day)

Tuesdays, 11 a.m., Bible Study  
(except on April 11, when Fr. John  
visits Magnolia Estates)

June 11, visit by Bishop Wimberley

## April Birthdays

April 14, Ray Jefferson

## Prayer List

Amy, Belle, Beth, Betty & Richard, Bill,  
Brooke, David, Diane, Don, Elijah,  
Ellen, Geraldine, J. J., Mary, Megan,  
Millie, Neil, Peyton, Ray & Dolores,  
Travis, William, and others in our  
hearts.

## Rector's Reflection



We are approaching the end of Lent. It is a season that may be described as bookends.

We begin with Ash Wednesday and end with Easter. We go from being reminded on Ash Wednesday that we are dust, we shall return to dust, but God loves us in spite of the fact that, or because, we are dust. We end

on Easter morning with the glorious resurrection: though we're dust, God's power and love can transform us and the world.

Lent is a journey we take together each year from one bookend to the other. It's not always an easy one, but we make it as a group, a family, a church, and we make it with Easter always in sight.

We walk with God and each other as we deny ourselves, fast, pray, and meditate on the scriptures. We walk with the goal not of just arriving at Easter, but of being transformed along the way so that the dust that began the journey on Ash Wednesday is not the same as the dust that arrives on Easter morning.

How has the journey transformed you?

*Blessings, Fr. John Keeler+*

## *From the Minutes of the March 13 Vestry Meeting*

Charles Duke and Marilyn Slocumbe were thanked for the success of the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper.

The treasurer's report for February was presented and reviewed. Discussion took place about the amount of the diocesan pledge and how it is assessed. Fr. John noted the difficulty of getting the assessment reduced by the diocese. Motion was made and seconded to accept as presented; motion passed unanimously.

There was no senior warden's report. Marilyn Slocumbe, junior warden, reported that Danny Bessinger at First Methodist has volunteered to help find a wireless sound amplification system for Fr. John to use.

Fr. John presented the rector's report. He stated that ten people had come by to receive "ashes to go" on Ash Wednesday and that the joint service with First Methodist went well, as did the first Lenten soup supper. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunrise services will be done jointly with First Methodist.

Bishop Wimberley will be here on June 11. The vestry agreed they would like for the whole congregation to have the opportunity to meet with him and for the meal after the service to be catered by Renee Hunt. Fr. John also pointed out there will be two confirmations at Bishop Wimberley's visit, Katherine Berg and Christine Colbert.

Fr. John also stated that annual council will be in Gainesville November 10-11 and will be hosted by the Northeast Georgia Convocation for the first time since 2004. St. Alban's will be asked for volunteers for some of the hosting tasks. We will also need to provide delegates as usual; Marilyn Slocumbe and Suzanne Moore expressed willingness to act as delegates if others do not volunteer to do so.

Also under new business, Charles Duke asked that vestry meeting time be changed to a Sunday after church, noting that Sunday afternoons would be especially better for Natasha Clay, who has a long drive between home and St. Alban's and her workplace. After some discussion, the vestry agreed to try this out, but to meet at 6 on Monday evening as usual on April 10, then decide at that time which Sunday afternoon would be suitable for a May meeting.

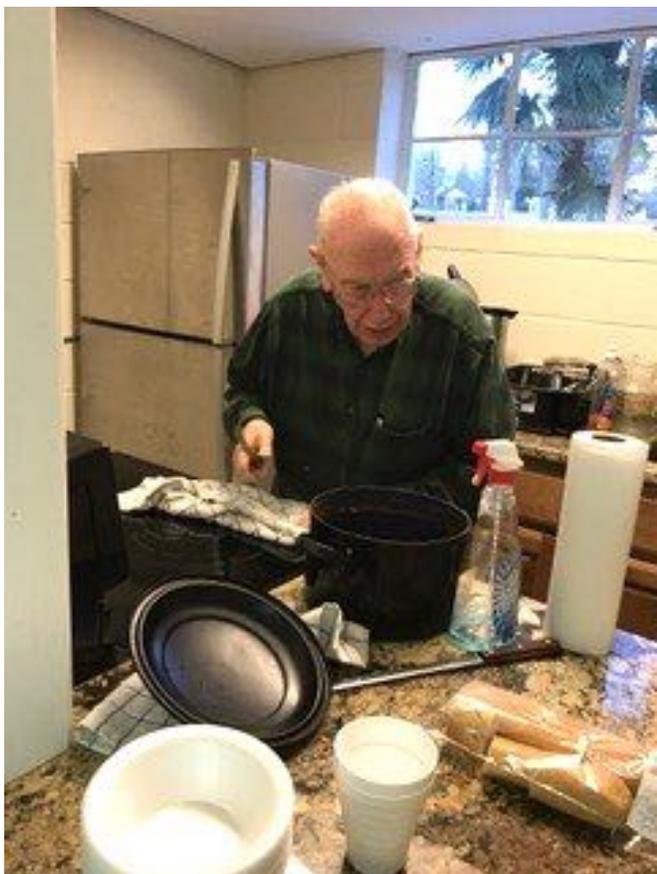
*Robyn Keeler*

## *Lenten Soup Suppers 2017*

All four of our Lenten Soup Suppers came in March this year: March 8, 14, 22, and 29. Our soups were delicious (chili by Anne Jaudon, Irish beef stew by Marilyn Slocumbe, pasta fazool by Herschel Atkinson, and corn chowder by Suzanne Moore). Charles Duke showed off his bread-making skills at the first two suppers; Nancy Seymour and Allen Nicas also helped with bread. Marilyn Slocumbe, Robyn Keeler, and Louise Martin provided desserts; their efforts were supplemented by sweets from two of our guests, Charlotte Carter and Jean Little. Andrea Martin kept us supplied with tea and ice. Marilyn Slocumbe was responsible for the lovely table flowers.

This year, rather than having programs after the meals, we had a brief service (evening prayer, compline, a Celtic evening prayer, and a New Zealand night service) before each meal. Everyone seemed to enjoy this arrangement, and fellowship flowed freely.

Attendance ranged from ten to seventeen; average attendance was 13.5 (this was an improvement from last year). We were blessed with ten guests over the course of the suppers.



(Left) Herschel cooking up pasta fazool. (Right) Suzanne Moore prepared corn chowder for the final soup supper.

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The Rev. John Keeler,  
Rector  
The Rev. Herschel  
Atkinson,  
Rector Emeritus

Carole Coggins,  
Altar Guild Chair  
Suzanne Moore,  
Organist  
Mary Randall, Verger  
Charles Duke, Sexton  
Andrea Martin, Parish  
Secretary

Vestry  
Charles Duke, Sr. Warden  
Marilyn Slocumbe,  
Jr. Warden  
Natasha Clay  
Anne Jaudon  
Louise Martin, sec.  
Suzanne Moore  
Robyn Keeler and Anne  
Jaudon, co-treasurers

## *Soup Suppers (cont'd)*



(Left) Anne Jaudon, with a gathering of the men of the church behind her. (Right) Three guests who made our suppers more enjoyable: Jean Little, Jerri Rucker, and Charlotte Carter.



Fr. John and Robyn with friends Sarah Craig, her son Zack, and his wife Darcy Ray. Sarah Craig used to babysit Owen Keeler.

## *Palm Sunday to Easter*

Palm Sunday is on April 9 this year. We always enjoy the procession into the church with palm branches and the dramatic reading of the gospel by the congregation.

St. Alban's will have its own Good Friday service at 6 p.m., and Ecumenical Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be held jointly with First Methodist Church. The Maundy Thursday service will be at St. Alban's at 6:30 p.m. on April 13, and the Good Friday service will be at First Methodist beginning at noon on April 14.

On Easter Sunday, April 16, in addition to the 10:30 a.m. service at St. Alban's, for early risers there will be an Ecumenical Sunrise Service on the lawn of First Methodist at 7 a.m. followed by breakfast.



Our Palm Sunday service on April 1, 2012: (from left to right) Ray and Dolores Jefferson, John Coggins, Arlene Whitlow, Steve Jenkins, Nancy Seymour, Fr. Peter Courtney, and Andrea Martin.



