

SANCTUARY

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

Calendar

Sundays, Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.
(Eucharistic Prayer Form B).

Sunday, Feb. 12, SafeHouse Sunday.

Sundays, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School

Tuesdays, 11 a.m., Bible Study

Monday, Feb. 13, Vestry meeting,
6 p.m.

February Birthdays

Feb. 7, Louise Martin

Feb. 15, Nancy Seymour

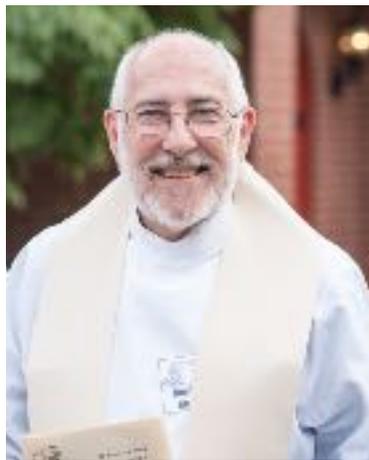
Feb. 19, Fr. John Keeler

Prayer List

Amy, Belle, Beth, Betty & Richard, Bill,
Brooke, David, Diane, Dolores, Don,
Elijah, Ellen, James, Millie, Neil,
Peyton, William, and others in our
hearts.

Prayers for the Departed: David, Fred.

Rector's Reflection



It might be hard at this time of the year to think about Lent and Easter, but Ash Wednesday is the first of March. It will be here before we know it.

We're still in the Epiphany season, the season of surprises, of revelations, the time when we begin to see who Jesus really is, what He plans to do, and how we fit into those plans.

This should be kept in mind as we think about preparing for Lent and Easter, especially how we fit in with what Jesus plans to do.

Lent and Easter are bookends. On Ash Wednesday we are reminded that we are dust. On Easter we see God's power to transform the world through unconditional love. It's not an easy journey. Following Jesus never has been easy.

Our epiphany as we prepare for the journey should be simply that God came into the world as one of us to show us that there's a better way to be human, that there's a better way to be with each other. There's a better way to just be.

Our epiphany is that we are God's own creation and because of that, we're loved, unconditionally.

Blessings, *Fr. John Keeler+*

Treasurer's Report for 2016

Balance Sheet 2016	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Yearly Total
INCOME													
Contributions	2,866.00	3,497.89	4,001.10	3,132.00	4,488.45	3,368.00	3,737.00	4,047.00	3,884.00	3,868.00	3,888.00	3,888.00	42,083.44
Concave 2015	2,162.00	2,082.00	4,223.20	4,211.00	4,159.00	2,923.00	3,419.00	4,221.00	3,458.00	4,548.00	4,558.00	4,558.00	45,330.54
Reserves					10,000.00			10,000.00					25,000.00
INCOME TOTALS	2,965.00	3,497.89	4,001.10	3,132.00	14,488.45	3,368.00	3,737.00	14,047.00	3,884.00	3,868.00	3,888.00	3,888.00	77,083.44
EXPENSES													
Alter Expenses							118.62						239.13
Altar Fronts	114.00	80.80		157.79		87.50	92.67	155.45		155.80	80.90	39.00	1,066.81
Building Expenses	39.00	39.00	39.00	38.00	39.00	84.00		282.00	39.00	667.00			1,925.00
Chamber of Commerce							95.00						95.00
Church Insurance	673.00		128.00	673.00			678.00			673.00			3,126.00
Corporation Registration	85.00												85.00
Council & Conf. Expenses									125.00	360.00			485.00
Dioceesan Pledge	600.42	600.42	600.42	600.42	600.42	600.42	600.42	600.42	600.42	600.42	600.42	600.42	7,205.04
Lawn		37.50		250.00		212.50	125.00	125.00	250.00	156.97	125.00	125.00	1,556.97
Office Supplies	355.00	220.38	255.10	304.81	82.90	117.68	40.00	181.13	181.83	117.68	70.62	87.32	2,034.44
Safelhouse	150.00	255.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	125.00	125.00	100.00	125.00	125.00	350.00	150.00	1,815.00
City Taxes S/S				335.07			335.07						670.14
Postage/Box Fee			98.30	94.00				98.00					280.00
Rector Expense	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	700.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	2,800.00
Rector Housing Allowance	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	225.00	2,700.00
Church Outreach	365.20	28.80				100.00		375.00					912.00
Church's G's													0.00
Rector's Pension Fund	1,474.74			1,474.74									5,898.96
Rector's Rotary Dues								190.50					190.50
Supply Priest/Congestil	350.53	598.81	512.54	361.98	283.42	232.25	374.77	464.05	380.10	297.72	242.10	370.11	4,400.53
Utilities	2,306.50	2,306.50	2,306.00	2,306.00	2,306.50	2,306.00	2,306.00	2,306.00	2,306.50	2,306.00	2,306.50	2,306.50	27,672.50
Rector	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	350.00	4,200.00
Secretary	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	1,360.00
Organist	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	250.00	3,000.00
Semion	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	600.00
Website Expense	7,757.88	5,387.82	6,484.10	7,666.82	4,859.24	6,508.65	7,861.47	5,467.55	4,952.35	8,238.40	4,618.63	4,708.57	73,822.59
EXPENSE TOTALS	8,459.82	6,391.04	6,747.38	7,184.58	6,429.37	8,560.09	7,446.45	5,176.41	5,155.29	7,110.61	6,763.87	6,260.15	77,956.15
FUND BALANCES													
MEMORIAL FUND	6,750.89	6,750.89	6,821.04	6,821.10	6,821.15	6,821.16		6,821.39					6,821.55
ME RILL LYNCH G'F	153,715.55	152,749.31	158,563.57	158,715.52	159,456.17	159,036.27	159,129.33	162,674.05	163,043.63	162,111.29	161,255.75	178,420.81	1,784,208.1
DOCESE COMMON FUND	28,679.28	28,687.28	29,378.44			28,918.18			30,989.69				30,924.32
D SORITIONARY FUND	753.98	753.98	753.98	753.98	753.98	753.98	753.98	753.98	753.98	753.98	753.98	753.98	9,048.00
Checking Balance	11,285.18	8,370.13	7,636.32	3,807.90	13,146.21	10,008.56	6,881.08	14,480.54	13,192.19	8,622.79	7,882.16	18,588.59	18,588.59

Annual Parish Meeting 2017

On Sunday February 29, twenty-one attended Eucharist, and nineteen stayed for the lunch and annual meeting in the Parish Hall after the service. Following a delicious soup and salad meal catered by Renee Hunt, Fr. John called the meeting to order.

First, he presented Mary Randall with a card and monetary gift from the parishioners of St. Alban's in grateful appreciation for her dedicated service as Parish Administrator (see photo at right).

Next he called on Treasurer Robyn Keeler for the yearly treasurer's report. She passed out a balance sheet for 2016 and called attention to the yearly contributions total of \$52,083.44 and the expense total of \$73,822.59. The amount taken from reserves was \$25,000, leaving \$178,420.91

in the Merrill Lynch Fund and \$30,924.32 in the Diocese Common Fund. Allen Nicas moved that Robyn be named treasurer for this next year, Tammy Elliott seconded the nomination, and the motion passed by acclamation.

In a move to update the parish records, Fr. John passed around a list for those present to write down their phone numbers and email addresses.

Junior Warden Marilyn Slocumbe said that a few necessary repairs had been taken care of in 2016 and that Charles Duke has taken over care of the yard and building. Nancy Seymour was thanked for her donation toward grass.

Fr. John reported that the bishop has now officially approved his remaining with St. Alban's a year beyond his retirement in February. He asked that we think about who we are today. We are older and smaller than previously, but things do get done. Also, we should think about what we want to have done by next year at this time. We have been giving active support for SafeHouse and for the Rotary Club coat project, among other ministries.

In the vote for three new members for the vestry, Charles Duke and Anne Jaudon were elected to three-year terms and Natasha Clay to a one-year term. The next vestry meeting will be on February 13 at 6 p.m. Steve Jenkins, who is going off the vestry, was thanked for his services.



Sanctuary is produced
monthly by

St. Alban's Episcopal
Church
109 Brookside Drive
Elberton, GA 30635

Website: [www.stalbans-
elberton.org](http://www.stalbans-elberton.org)

Tel.: 706-283-4563

Email:
stalbans@elberton.net

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

SafeHouse Letter (Excerpts)

Things are in full swing at SafeHouse as January is officially here. We are working hard at closing out our books for 2016 and packing up our office for a much-anticipated move. We are working vigorously to get into our new office building by March 1. This is a projected date, but we are hopeful to move forward and expand this ministry. We are still under construction at the new office building, but are thankful for monies coming in to help us during this move. Please continue supporting this ministry through prayer, monthly support, volunteering, and donations. We depend on God first, but also this community to help keep us moving forward. It is our desire to continue blessing more and more people.

We would like to thank three important contributors for their support to SafeHouse Ministries this last quarter. First, we would like to thank the Hart EMC Foundation funded by the members of Hart EMC through the Operation Round-Up Program. We received funding to help us in completion of construction of our new building through this program. We would also like to thank Coggins Industries for donations of numerous office supplies that will be vital to organization and function in the new building. They have gone above and beyond to bless us during this transition. Lastly, Golden Harvest Food Bank in Augusta, Georgia, awarded SafeHouse Ministries with new commercial refrigerators and freezers, as well as new shelving. God is continuing to supply all our needs and it is so neat to watch His hand at work. We pray he blesses those who bless us!

2016 End of the Year Report

Individuals serviced: 3,908; bags of food given out: 3,210; how many people sheltered times nights housed: 1,287; number of children serviced (under 18): 1,057; number of seniors serviced (over 61): 510; SafeHouse was OPEN 365 days last year., housing was provided EVERY night.

Sue Beitzel, Director

Photos from Annual Meeting



(Clockwise from top left) Lining up for lunch: Nancy Seymour, Ray Jefferson, and Robyn Keeler; new vestry member Natasha Clay; Fr. John giving his report; retiring vestry member Steve Jenkins and Dolores Jefferson



