

SANCTUARY

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

Calendar

Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m. (Eucharistic prayer Form B for Christmas and Epiphany)

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., vestry room (Sunday School resumes on Jan. 17)

Bible Study, Monday noon, vestry room (Bible Study resumes on Jan. 11)

Jan. 10, after Eucharist, annual church meeting and election of two vestry members to replace Charles Duke and Nancy Seymour. There will be a lunch catered by Renee Hunt.

Jan. 1, *The Holy Name*

Jan. 6, *The Epiphany*

Jan. 10, *Baptism of Our Lord*

January Birthdays

Betty Edmunds, 4
Debra Romine, 6
Jenifer Duke, 11
Carolyn Hagins, 18

Prayer List

Ann, Ben, Betty & Richard, Brian, Debra, Dolores, Gail, Jackie, Kim, Pat, Patricia, and others in our hearts. *Pray for the departed:* Henry Jaudon, Warren Widener, and others in our hearts

Rector's Reflection



A new year has begun, and many of us have made resolutions for 2016, new things we plan to do in this new year. Some we might have tried before and have decided to go back to; others we haven't yet tried.

The new year is a good time for us as a church to think about resolutions. What new things would we like to try for 2016?

We're part of the world-wide body of Christ. We're the Episcopal presence here. What can we do that's new, that's exciting, that's better?

We've done a couple of different services out of necessity. We did one without power one Sunday when the power was out in our part of town. We used only candles and natural light. We spoke all the words. We moved a service down to our parish hall when the heat was off in our sanctuary. Our service was the same, just in a different place, a new place.

This was done out of necessity, but we saw our service, our church, ourselves in a different way, from a different angle, and maybe we learned something. There could be a resolution there for us as we move into a new year.

We could resolve to challenge ourselves as we state in our Diocesan Mission Statement—challenge ourselves to love like Jesus, worship joyfully, serve compassionately, grow spiritually. All it takes is a look at things differently, to look at them from a new angle. It's the new year; we can make a resolution.

Blessings, Fr. John+

End of the Year Woes

Granite Marker Makes Unscheduled Move

Early in the week starting Dec. 13, the granite marker for St. Alban's near the corner of Church Street and Brookside Drive was knocked off its blocks, probably by a driver taking the corner at too high speed. The marker was not damaged luckily. Fr. John filed a police report and insurance claim, and Terry Fortson has kindly offered to replace the marker on its blocks for free; he will be paid \$100 for repainting it. In the photo below left you can see how far the marker was moved from its blocks, and on the photo below right you can see the marks the vehicle made.



Heating?

For several months, heating in the Sanctuary has been iffy—sometimes working, sometimes not. Repairmen from McGee came and thought they had it fixed, but the problem cropped up again on Friday Dec. 18 and a repair could not be scheduled until Tuesday Dec. 22, so Fr. John and Mary Randall decided that in view of low temperature forecasts the Sunday Dec. 20 service should be moved downstairs to the parish meeting room (the heat was still working there).

Members were notified, and a small number enjoyed the novelty of what Fr. John described as a throwback to the home services parishioners enjoyed before the construction of St. Alban's. (Right) Fr. John is shown at the improvised altar; also in the photo are visitors Dan and Barbara Smith, who reside part time near Carlton.

Note: On Dec. 22 McGee put in new roll-out switches and a new ignition board. That should definitely solve the heating problem.



Advent and Christmas 2015

Lessons and Carols

On Sunday December 6, St. Alban's Episcopal Church and the First Methodist Church of Elberton cooperated in presenting a Lessons and Carols service at the First Methodist Church. About 175 to 200 people attended and enjoyed the music and readings. Fr. John opened the service with a bidding prayer, and the Rev. Joe Watson, pastor of First Methodist, gave the benediction. Readers from St. Alban's were Fr. John, Nancy Seymour, Marilyn Slocumbe, Steve Jenkins, and Suzanne Moore. Andrea Martin sang with the First Methodist choir, which performed arrangements of carols by Joseph M. Martin. Brenda Cann was choir director and Angela Fleischer played the organ. A reception in the Fellowship Hall followed the service.

Rotary Coat Drive

For the second year St. Alban's supported the Elberton Rotary Club's Christmas drive to provide coats to all the schoolchildren in Elbert County who need them. Fr. John reports that this year's coat drive was again successful in providing warm clothing for all those reported to be in need.

Greening of Church

At 10 a.m. on Dec. 23, while it rained hard outside, the greening of the church was accomplished. Those helping Carole Coggins and Mary Randall were Fr. John, Andrea Martin, and Louise Martin. Chris Coggins put the wreaths up for his mother later. In addition to our usual small poinsettias, Carole secured a giant poinsettia (see right) at no cost.



Christmas Services

Twenty-nine attended the Christmas Eve Eucharist at 6 p.m. Servers were Nancy Seymour, acolyte; Christian Coggins, crucifer; Natasha Clay and Christian Moore, torch bearers; and Louise Martin, chalice. Robyn Keeler read the lessons and led the prayers of the people. She and Carole Coggins acted as ushers; Carole Oglesby served as greeter. Graced by white lilies and red poinsettias, the church was a beautiful setting for the candlelit service.

There was a Christmas Day spoken Eucharist at 9:30 a.m. Six members attended; Mary Randall assisted Fr. John.

Sanctuary is produced
monthly by

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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

Vestry

Steve Jenkins, Sr. Warden

Charles Duke, Jr. Warden

Suzanne Moore

Allen Nicas

Debra Romine

Nancy Seymour

Robyn Keeler, vestry
secretary

Charles Romine,
treasurer

SafeHouse Christmas Letter

MERRY CHRISTMAS! For some, it is the most wonderful time of the year. However, for others, it is the exact opposite. Christmas is often filled with sorrow of loved ones past and struggles of not having "enough." As we enter into our twentieth Christmas season at SafeHouse Ministries, we are overwhelmed with how God has truly blessed us this year and throughout years past. We have struggled at times, but the reason for the season is Jesus, and he has met our need over and over again.

This holiday season we hope to help as many families as possible to have a Merry Christmas. . . . We are so thankful to have a loving community to support us and to help us help others. . . .

We pray that you have a wonderful holiday season and remember the true meaning of why we celebrate. "May the God of Hope fill you with all Joy and Peace as you Trust in Him" (Romans 15:13).

Merry Christmas! *Sue Beitzel-Director*



Sara Haley with
Santa at Magnolia
Estates. Is the
paper she is
holding her
Christmas wish
list?

Obituary: *Mr. Henry Jaudon*

Mr. Henry Scudder Jaudon, 81, passed away Sunday, December 20, 2014. He was born on November 23, 1934, in Elberton, Georgia, son of the late Mayson (Buck) and Betsy Grogan Jaudon.

Mr. Jaudon graduated from Elberton High School and Clemson University. After a tour of duty in the United States Army, Mr. Jaudon was a senior patent agent with the U.S. Patent Office in Washington, D.C. After a thirty-year career with the Patent Office, he was associated with the McNair Law Firm in Greenville, South Carolina.

Mr. Jaudon attended St. Alban's Episcopal Church, was a member of the Elbert County Fish & Game Club and the Elberton Elks Lodge, and was past president of the Elberton Country Club. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed playing Bridge.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Jaudon was preceded in death by his first wife, Patricia C. Jaudon, and his son, Henry Scudder (Buddy) Jaudon III.

Mr. Jaudon is survived by his wife, Anne Marie Dixon Jaudon of Elberton; his daughter, Debbie Jaudon, and her husband, Tom Michaud, and two grandchildren, Mayson and Camden Michaud, all of Atlanta. He also leaves behind a step-son, James M. (Jimmy) Barker III; two step-grandchildren, Miles and Addison Barker; and a brother, Starke (Brenda) Jaudon, all of Elberton.

A graveside service was held at Elmhurst Cemetery on Wednesday, December 23, 2015, at 1 p.m.; Fr. John Keeler officiated. Visitation and a Celebration of Life reception took place on Tuesday December 29, 2015, at the family residence from 2 to 4 p.m.

Donations to SafeHouse Ministries at P.O. Box 6336, Elberton, GA 30635, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38101-9908 in Henry's memory will be appreciated.

The photo at the right was taken on the occasion of Henry and Anne's wedding at St. Alban's.



