

SANCTUARY

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

Calendar

Sunday, Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.
(Eucharistic Prayer Form B). Jan. 8,
SafeHouse Sunday.

Sunday, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School,
beginning Jan. 8.

Mondays, noon, beginning Jan. 9,
Bible Study.

Annual Parish Meeting, Jan. 29,
following Eucharist and catered
lunch.

January Birthdays

Jan. 4, Betty Edmunds

Jan. 11, Jenifer Duke

Prayer List

Amy, Anna, Belle, Betty & Richard, Bill,
Bob, Cindy, David, Diane, Dolores,
Don, Elijah, Fred, Jimmie, Millie,
Ozzie, Rebecca, Tonia, William, and
others in our hearts.

Rector's Reflection



This is my first Rector's Reflection for 2017. It's hard to believe that we are entering a new year when we'd barely gotten used to the old one.

Our church year follows a different pattern than the secular calendar. We begin in Advent to make preparation for an event that changed the world two thousand

years ago and is still changing it.

We just celebrated the birth of God in the form of a helpless, vulnerable human baby. In the miracle and mystery of the incarnation, God and humanity are bound so closely together that they can't be separated and it's impossible to tell where one begins and the other ends.

This is what God wants for us.

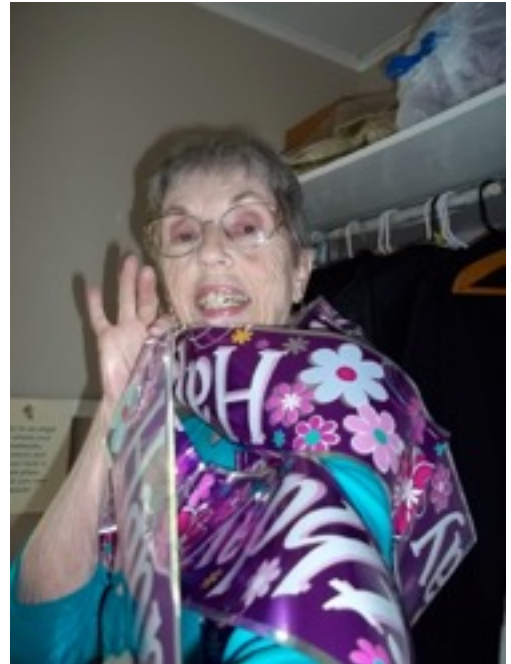
We're invited to enter into a new relationship with Jesus this year.

In the scriptures we hear Jesus saying, "Stick with me. Even though I might be difficult, confusing, or surprising, I've come with love, in an unexpected way, to bring peace on Earth."

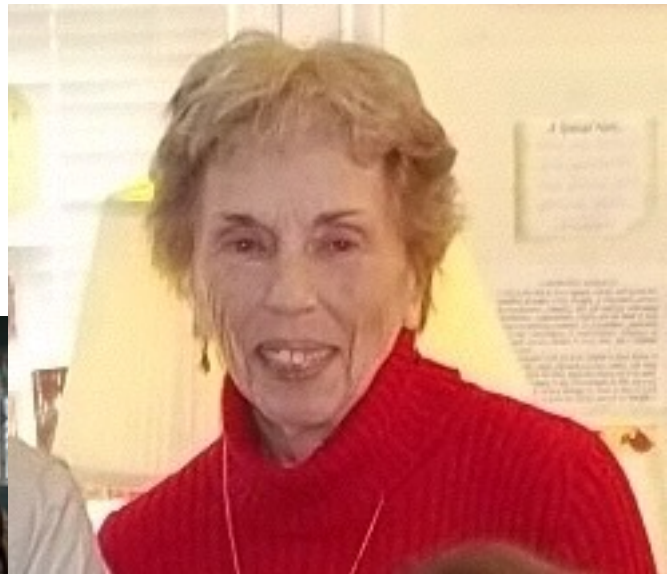
If we decide to give this a try, we're in for a year full of surprises and joy.

Blessings, *Fr. John Keeler+*

Thanks, Mary!



Thanks, Mary, for all your great work as St. Alban's office administrator over the years. And thank you for agreeing to continue as verger. We owe you big time!



Advent and Christmas 2016

Thanks to those who gave to the SafeHouse and Salvation Army collections for Christmas.

Eight turned out to help decorate the church on December 23. The church looked beautiful for the fifty-four who attended the Christmas Eve service, and there were ten at the brief spoken Eucharist on Christmas Day.

In service on Christmas Eve were Christian Coggins and Nancy Seymour, acolytes; Natasha Clay, chaliceist; Christian Moore, crucifer; Louise Martin, greeter; Robyn Keeler, lector and prayers; Robyn Keeler and Philip Keeler, oblation bearers and ushers. Brooke Davis sang *What Child Is This?* during the communion, and Steve Jenkins played the guitar as accompaniment to *Silent Night*. Carole Coggins performed altar guild duties, and Suzanne Moore played the organ. It was especially nice to have some members' grandchildren helping: Christian Coggins is Carole Coggins's grandson, Christian Moore is Suzanne Moore's grandson, and Philip Keeler is John and Robyn Keeler's grandson.

On Christmas Day the servers were Christine Colbert, greeter; Brooke Davis, lector; Mary Randall, acolyte; Carole Coggins, altar.

Annual Parish Meeting 2017

The annual parish meeting has been set for January 29, 2017, following the Eucharist and a catered lunch. The rector, the treasurer, and the wardens will give their yearly reports; and three members will be elected to the vestry. Right now there are only four vestry members, rather than the usual six, because of two resignations, and Steve Jenkins will be rotating off the vestry in January. Therefore, we will need to elect two vestry members to serve three-year terms and one vestry member to serve a one-year term. Qualifications to be a vestry member include the following: (1) to be more eighteen years of age; (2) to be a member of the Episcopal Church and of St. Alban's; (3) to be a regular attendee of services at St. Alban's; and (4) to be a regular financial contributor to St. Alban's.

New Office Information

After January 1, Andrea Martin will be responsible for the Bulletin, the prayer list, and other office duties of a routine nature. You can contact her by phone at 706-988-2214 or 706-283-5087 or by email at firesorcr@hotmail.com.

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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

Vestry
Steve Jenkins, Sr. Warden
Marilyn Slocumbe,
Jr. Warden
Louise Martin, sec.
Suzanne Moore
Robyn Keeler and Anne
Jaudon, co-treasurers

Photo Time



Zip gets cuter and cuter.



John holds his fortieth-
anniversary gift from
Robyn. Their anniver-
sary was on Dec 12.

