

SANCTUARY

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

Calendar

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

Sunday June 10, SafeHouse Sunday

Sunday June 10, Cookout with
Mediator at Nancy and Joel Sey-
mour's lake house, 1071 Woodall
Crest, Tignall, 5 p.m.

No Vestry meeting in June

No Sunday School or Bible Study
June through August

June Birthdays

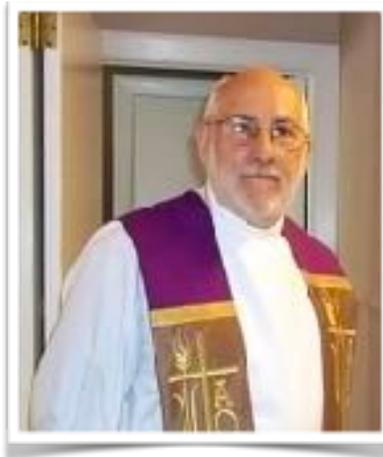
Robyn Keeler, June 12

Arlene Whitlow, June 14

Prayer List

Anna and the mission to Prague,
Betty & Richard, Carole O., Cathy,
Dennis, Herschel, Jack, Jackie, James,
Jason, Laura, Mary S., Natasha and
the members of the PCOM, Ray and
Dolores, and others in our hearts.

Rector's Reflection



We're entering the season after Pentecost, the long green season. It's the longest season in our church year. It runs from summer through fall. This year there are twenty-seven Sundays after Pentecost.

We begin with warm weather; then it gets hot and stays that way for a long time.

It begins to cool, then gets cold. The temperature changes dramatically during this season; the clothes we wear change. The colors in nature change: lighter shades of green turn into darker hues. Then the deep greens of late summer begin to change to reds and gold shades and then to bare branches.

The seeds planted with care in the spring grow during the long green season; they get stronger, larger, more healthy, and are harvested for our enjoyment and nourishment. The natural seasons have a rhythm as do the seasons of our church year. We're called on in this green season after Pentecost to grow, to change, to become stronger, more healthy, more nourishing as we sink our roots deeper into the scriptures and prepare ourselves for the seasons ahead.

Blessings, *Fr. John Keeler+*

From May 6 Vestry Minutes

Robyn Keeler gave the treasurer's report. Our reserves have been down because of market fluctuation, but they have rebounded a little. Our contributions have also dipped, but we still haven't had to draw on reserves. On a motion by Marilyn Slocumbe, seconded by Natasha Clay, the treasurer's report was accepted unanimously as submitted.

Charles Duke, senior warden, had no report. Fr. John complimented Charles on keeping the grounds looking really good.

Natasha Clay, Junior warden, read a thank-you card from Thomas Barclay for defraying part of the cost of his going to Camp Mikell this summer. Natasha asked if there is a mold problem we should be concerned with at St. Alban's. We could go back to running a dehumidifier (we would have to purchase one since the one we have leaks) or run the air conditioner more. Natasha will check on the possible expense of one alternative versus the other.

Fr. John Keeler gave the rector's report. Things are moving along with the lot on Lake Russell. Mr. Adams is sending the church a copy of the deed, and Steve Jenkins will see to the transfer of property.

Under Old Business, Fr. John said that, in regard to the interest the vestry had shown in April about a possible mission of helping school students, he has spoken with Mr. Bell, the school superintendent, about school volunteer needs. Mr. Bell said that three needs he knew of right away for next fall will be to read stories to children in elementary school, to help teachers who need assistance in various ways, and to be a mentor to middle-school or high-school age students.

Fr. John also feels that the new HOPE organization is another mission opportunity, and he will talk to Sue Beitzel about a possible tour of the new SafeHouse facility (the old Coca-Cola building) for a Saturday later in the summer.

The picnic at Nancy and Joel Seymour's lake house on June 10 will take the place of a vestry meeting in June.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m. on a motion by Allen, seconded by Marilyn.

Louise Martin, Vestry secretary

ALERT:

Thomas and Marty Barclay will be attending Camp Mikell this summer. Look for photos and a report on their experiences in a later summer issue.

Our Graduates 2018

(Right) Danielle Keeler, granddaughter of John and Robyn Keeler, graduated from Oglethorpe County High School and plans now to enter Athens Tech in the Fall for basic courses, then transfer to the University of North Georgia in Dahlonega to finish a degree in education that would qualify her to teach Special Ed. students.

(Below) Addison Barker, granddaughter of Anne Jaudon and daughter of Jimmy Barker (once a St. Alban's acolyte), graduated from Elbert County Comprehensive High School (with six scholarships) and will attend Georgia College at Milledgeville in the Fall. She is thinking seriously about nursing as a career.

Best wishes to both of these fine young women!



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

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

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

Love of the Outdoors



Jenifer Duke wanted to share a photo of her and Charles's grandson Zip. His favorite hobby now is hugging trees.

He must take after his grandfather in his love of living things. Shown below are two of Charles's projects that have turned out well: repairing the damage done by the play set in the side yard of the church and replacing the dead azaleas with hardier camellias.



Anna in Prague



We have been praying for Marilyn Slocumbe's granddaughter, Anna Whitlow, and her mission to Prague in the Czech Republic. Marilyn has shared a report that Anna sent home. Excerpts follow.

I am in love with Prague! We take public transportation everywhere and it is super easy to get around. . . . I feel like I'm learning my way around quickly.

The Czechs are much quieter than Americans, but they are very friendly once you start a conversation with them. . . . As expected, many of the Czechs we meet do not believe in God, mainly because they have not thought much about it before. When asked why they don't believe in God, the majority of them answer that

their parents never believed and it's just not something they care about. One main goal we are trying to get across is that you are not born into Christianity; it is a personal choice and pursuit.

Every day is a little bit subject to change, but we have a general schedule for the weeks we are here. We have breakfast at the Patanka [their hotel] at 8 and all meet at 8:45 for devotional, prayer, worship, meetings, which last until 11 or so. We then have some quiet time that we can have with the Word or in prayer by ourselves and the Lord. We get some lunch and then head out to university campus where we spark up spiritual conversations using surveys or other tools that we have been trained with. As weeks go on, we will also use these afternoons to meet with the students we have met to continue spiritual and gospel conversations. Mondays and Fridays we have social events that we host to love on the Czech people and show them the love of Christ. . . . On Wednesday nights we are hosting a Bible study.

On Tuesday and Thursday, we eat breakfast and head straight to high schools to have conversations with high school students. They take classes for English conversation so they want to practice. Public schools are a little different here, and we can talk about God more freely.

Saturday is for more touristy things and church and random stuff/free time on Sunday.

Prayer request: for my roommate Morgan and her continued healing [dislocated knee] and for me and my team to be bold in our faith, to have energy and motivation, and to build stronger relationships with the students we have met.

