

# SANCTUARY

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

## Calendar

Sundays, Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m. (Eucharistic Prayer Form A [Lent], changes to B on Easter). Sunday, Mar. 11, SafeHouse Sunday

Sunday, Mar. 11, Vestry meeting after Eucharist

Lenten soup suppers, Mar. 7 and 14, 6 p.m., Parish Hall

Mar. 25, Palm Sunday

Mar. 29, Maundy Thursday. Ecumenical service at St. Alban's, 6 p.m. Preacher, Rev. Jim McCullough; Celebrant, Rev. John Keeler; Rev. Charles Romine

Mar. 30, Good Friday. Service at St. Alban's, noon. Contemporary ecumenical service, Eliam UMC, 6 p.m. (Rev. Laura Patterson, Rev. Jim McCullough, Rev. John Keeler, Rev. Charles Romine)

Apr. 1, Easter Sunday service at St. Alban's, 10:30 a.m. (Rev. John Keeler, Celebrant/Preacher). Sunrise service, First Methodist (Rev. John Keeler, Rev. Jim McCullough)

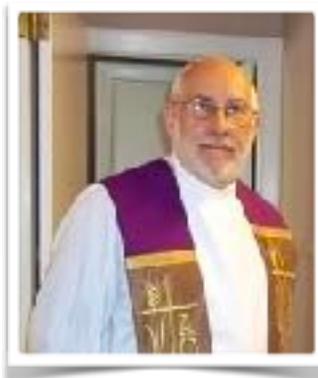
Sundays, 9:30 a.m., Sunday School (no Sunday School Mar. 25 or Apr. 1)

Mondays, noon, Bible study (no Bible study Mar. 26 or Apr. 2)

## March Birthdays

Mar. 1, Boots Oglesby; Mar. 4, Tammy Clay; Mar. 13, Nicola Britton; Mar. 26, Marilyn Slocumbe

## Rector's Reflection



There is a new organization in Elbert County I want to make you aware of. This organization is called HOPE, an acronym for Help Overcome Poverty in Elbert County.

The purpose of the organization is to bring together churches, schools, civic clubs, neighborhood groups, social service agencies, public and private, to be a clearinghouse for those in need and to match them with needed services and opportunities.

HOPE will try to provide needed services in the short run as well as look at long-term solutions to provide help so that a person can escape the cycle of poverty. These could be help with budgeting, resume writing, academics, employment, etc. The idea is that a person or family would come to the HOPE office and be interviewed; then a plan would be worked out with them.

HOPE is modeled on a similar organization in Hart County that has been very successful.

St. Alban's can be a part of this through individuals volunteering time and skills as well as money. The goal is to overcome poverty, not just to make a dent in it.

Blessings, *Fr. John Keeler+*

*Prayer List:* Betty and Richard, Carole O., Carolyn and family, Cathy, Dennis, Herschel, Jackie, James, Jason, Kirby, Laura, Mary, Mary S., Ray and Dolores, and others in our hearts.

## *From February Vestry Minutes*

Robyn Keeler gave the treasurer's report. The utilities are way up, partly because of the time of year, but Natasha Clay also mentioned a gap in the side door. Charles Duke will check on that.

In his senior warden's report, Charles Duke said that the large stained-glass window at the back of the church needs some attention. The molding on the outside is deteriorating and needs to be stripped, repainted, and caulked. Charles will determine whether that is something he can take care of with the aid of a spreader bar. A couple of the other windows need repainting. Charles also is concerned about the hot water heater. Since we don't use hot water through the week normally, after Lent we can cut off the hot water during the week.

Fr. John Keeler gave the rector's report. The bishop has approved Fr. John's staying another year at St. Alban's, until the beginning of March 2019. In the fall the vestry should discuss with him whether both parties want another extension. There is a new organization in Elberton called Hope, a sort of clearinghouse of places to go for various needs; it is complementary to SafeHouse, and Fr. John will go to a meeting about it soon. Natasha is going through a discernment process for ordination; a Parish Commission on Ministry (PCOM) will need to be formed to meet with her.

Under Old Business, Charles brought up that we still need to dispose of the old copier and the old computer. The city is accepting electronics that don't work any longer, and it is possible that someone might take the old computer, scrub it, refurbish it, and donate it to an organization.

Under New Business, Charles Duke was re-elected senior warden (on a motion by Anne Jaudon, seconded by Marilyn Slocumbe), and Natasha Clay was chosen as junior warden (on a motion by Allen Nicas, seconded by Charles Duke). Everyone agreed that the second Sunday of the month after the service is a suitable time for the vestry to meet.

Fr. John asked, Where do we go from here? He wants vestry members to think over the question, "What is my vision of St. Alban's for February 2019?" and come to the next vestry meeting prepared for a brief discussion on the question.

Louise Martin, Vestry secretary

## Ash Wednesday and Shrove Tuesday

On Ash Wednesday, Fr. John gave ashes to fifteen people at St. Alban's during the day; the evening ecumenical service at First Methodist Church was well attended.

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is always a favorite with St. Alban's members. Sixteen attended this year's pancake supper. Charles Duke cooked the pancakes, and Marilyn Slocumbe provided the sausage. (Below) Happy people. Note the cross on the top pancake.



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The Rev. John Keeler,  
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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

## Lenten Soup Suppers

Our first two Lenten soup suppers took place on February 21 and 28. On February 21 twelve people (ten members and two guests) attended. After a brief evening prayer, Nancy Seymour served up a delicious cabbage patch soup with cornbread on the side. One of the guests, Jean Little, provided German chocolate cake to end the meal.

February 28 was a particularly rainy day, so only the hardest souls (ten, all members) showed up and were rewarded with a satisfying white chicken chili and cornbread supplied by Robyn Keeler. Marilyn Slocumbe filled out the meal with homemade pound cake, strawberries, and whipped cream.



(Left) Nancy stirs up her cabbage patch soup. (Bottom) We have enjoyed the guests who have attended. Sitting next to Fr. John and Robyn Keeler is Charles Jones from Tignall, who attends church at Emanuel in Athens.





