

SANCTUARY

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

Calendar

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

Sunday, May 14, SafeHouse Sunday,
Mother's Day

May 21, Vestry meeting, after
Eucharist

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

Tuesdays, 11 a.m., Bible Study
(except on May 9, when Fr. John visits
Magnolia Estates)

June 11, visit by Bishop Wimberly

May Birthdays

May 17, Carole Oglesby

Prayer List

Betty and Richard, Mary, Peyton, Ray
and Dolores, and others in our hearts

Rector's Reflection



We're living in a time of great change. The world we live in today is much different from the way things were ten or twenty years ago. We're faced with globalization, an explosion in access to information instant communication, an absence of privacy, a contentious political climate, and other changes, some too nebulous to fully define.

Our churches are older, fewer people attend, and we wring our hands and wonder what's happened and what we should do about it. We're in a time of change in our society and our church, but that doesn't mean we should despair or dig in our heels and refuse to acknowledge what's going on around us.

The church has always been in a time of change. Look at our history. We've lasted for 2,000 years without really changing our message: that God came into our world, lived, died, and rose again to reconcile us to God and to each other.

We might have to come up with new ways to present our message to the world as it is now. We should count on that. We might have to change some of the ways we do things to be in step with the place in which we find ourselves. That's okay; it might be we learn something.

We have good news for the world, good news the world needs to hear. Our Easter message hasn't changed since it was first heard: The Lord has risen. He has risen indeed!

Blessings, Fr. John Keeler+

From the Minutes of the April 10 Vestry Meeting

In his rector's report, Fr. John mentioned the funeral at St. Alban's on April 3 for Shelton Oliver Addyman. He expressed pleasure at the positive feedback from this year's Lenten soup suppers and talked about the various upcoming Holy Week services: an ecumenical Maundy Thursday service at St. Alban's at 6:30 p.m., an ecumenical Good Friday service at First Methodist at noon, a Good Friday service at St. Alban's at 6:30 p.m., an ecumenical Easter sunrise service at First Methodist at 7 a.m., and an Easter service at St. Alban's at 10:30 a.m.

Under new business, Mary Randall has given up the office of verger. Natasha and Tammy Clay have taken on the job of scheduling. Fr. John said that he did not know whether it was necessary for the vestry to approve Natasha as verger, but it would be a nice gesture. The vestry accepted Natasha as verger by acclamation. She and Tammy have also been learning the duties of altar guild chair so that they can be of assistance to Carole Coggins.

Under old business, the vestry set up a meeting schedule for the next few months. In May the vestry will meet on May 21 right after church (the third Sunday of the month since the second Sunday is Mother's Day); on June 11 Bishop Wimberly will be with us, so the meeting with him will take the place of the June vestry meeting (if any votes need to be taken, that will be done by email). There will be no meeting in July, and the August meeting was tentatively set for August 13.

In light of the success of the recent soup suppers, the vestry also discussed the value of social gatherings throughout the year to foster togetherness in a small congregation like ours. Meals after Eucharist on fifth Sundays were mentioned as a possibility, and Anne Jaudon offered her house as a meeting place for a get-together.

Louise Martin, Vestry secretary



(Above) Natasha Clay, our new verger. She is off to a great start, and we all appreciate her willingness to take on a difficult job. Thank you, Natasha!

Shelton Oliver Addyman (1937-2016)

The death of Shelton Oliver Addyman at her home in York, England, on November 25, 2016, brought to an end her long association with Elberton. Shelton was the only daughter of Stanley and Sue Oliver of Atlanta and niece of Eleanor Oliver of Elberton. From her earliest childhood Shelton spent the long summer break in the Oliver House on South McIntosh Street, which the family had owned since the 1870s, and she continued to spend part of the year there until last year.

Her Oliver ancestors were among the founders of Georgia and of Wilkes County. Shelton presided at the rededication some years ago of the graves in Stinchcomb Churchyard of her direct ancestor Dionysius Oliver, founder of the town of Petersburg, now submerged under the Clark Hill Reservoir, and of Peter Oliver, his brother. Both were at that time recognized as patriots for their roles in the War of Independence.

The Oliver family gave its name to South and North Oliver streets in Elberton. The family had substantial estates in the Dove Creek area, and her grandfather, Alfred Oliver, was a respected doctor in Elberton, the owner of Elberton's first car, and the introducer of many medical innovations—including the thermometer—to the area in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Shelton majored in chemistry at Emory University and became head of science at O'Keefe High School in Atlanta. She then studied for a higher degree in archaeology . . . at the University of Pennsylvania. She met her future husband, the British archaeologist Peter Addyman, while on an archaeological expedition to Britain. They married in 1965 and pursued their archaeological interest in Britain, where Peter had university appointments first in Belfast, Northern Ireland; then in Southampton, England; and finally in York, England. They had two children, Thomas Oliver, a historic buildings conservation specialist in Edinburgh, Scotland, and Sue, an officer with the Cobb County Fire Department in Atlanta who maintains the family's connection with Elberton. There are four grandchildren, Oscar, Oliver, Harry, and Tatiana.

Peter and Shelton were instrumental in developing the Jorvik Viking Centre, an immensely popular exposition of the story of Viking York. They constructed replicas of the Viking houses that their team had excavated on the site where they had been found, deep below modern York. The site was subsequently developed as a shopping mall, with the living Viking world visible below. Shelton, as hospitality officer for the project, had the job of welcoming distinguished visitors, including patrons the Prince of Wales, Queen Margrethe of Denmark, King Harald of Norway, and the president of Iceland. Later visitors included Lady Bird (Mrs. Lyndon B.) Johnson.

A funeral service for Shelton was held in the church of St. Olaf in York, England, in December 2016. Her remains were returned to the family plot in Elberton cemetery after a memorial service at St. Alban's Episcopal Church at 2:30 p.m. on Monday, April 3, 2017.

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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

Marilyn Slocumbe,
Jr. Warden

Natasha Clay
Anne Jaudon

Louise Martin, sec.
Suzanne Moore

Robyn Keeler and Anne
Jaudon, co-treasurers

Holy Week at St. Alban's

On Palm Sunday (April 9) there were twenty to process into the church and enjoy our traditional Palm Sunday service.

Attendance at the ecumenical Maundy Thursday service (April 13) was twenty-six (nine Episcopalians). There were seven of us for the 6:30 p.m. Good Friday service (April 14); others had attended the ecumenical noon service at First Methodist. And twenty-one of us rejoiced together at the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday morning (April 16). Our altar flowers were beautiful!



