

SANCTUARY

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

Calendar

Sundays, Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.
Rite II: (Eucharistic Prayer Form C through November, then Form A for Advent and Form B for Christmas Eve and for Sundays of Christmas). Rite I: November 25.

Christmas Eve service, December 24, 6:30 p.m.. No Christmas Day service.

November 11 and December 9, SafeHouse Sunday

Vestry meeting, November 11; no Vestry meeting in December

Sunday School and Bible study, December schedule TBA

January 13, annual parish meeting

Nov.-Dec. Birthdays

Herschel Atkinson, Nov. 1

Anne Jaudon, Nov. 7

Mary Hawes, Nov. 27

Suzanne Moore, Nov. 28

Marty Barclay, Dec. 23

Carole Coggins, Dec. 24

Natasha Clay, Dec. 25

Prayer List

Arlene, Betty & Richard, Carole C., Carole O., Cathy, Herschel, Holman, Jackie, James, Jason, Kathy, Laura, Mark, Mary Minor Brown, Mary S., Michael, Ray and Dolores, and others in our hearts.

Rector's Reflection



I recently attended our diocesan annual council. I've been attending them for a number of years first as a lay delegate and for the last twelve years as a clergy delegate.

We get together to do the business of the church: to vote on resolutions, to elect

people to various positions, to hear presentations from organizations and ministries from around the Diocese, to worship. It's a messy process, but it works and the work of the church gets done.

Annual council moves around. It's held in a different place every year. We move around middle and north Georgia to get a sense of what God is doing in the large and small places throughout a large and diverse geographic area.

We connect with each other. We see old friends and make new ones. We see the diversity of our Diocese, by race, gender, ability, sexuality, politics, urban and rural, young and old. That's why it's messy, often contentious, but it gets done. There's give and take, but consensus is reached, at least, until next year.

The work of the church gets done. We're brought together through the love of Christ, and that's what makes it work.

Blessings, Fr. John Keeler+

From Minutes of November Vestry Meeting

Copies of the treasurer's report were passed out. Treasurer Robyn Keeler said that reserves had been drawn down by \$5,000 and that a donation of stock was not reflected in the report. On a motion by Allen Nicas, seconded by Natasha Clay, the treasurer's report was accepted unanimously as submitted.

There were no wardens' reports.

Fr. John Keeler gave the rector's report. The bishop has signed the new letter of agreement between Fr. John and the vestry; that will be good until the end of February 2020. This year's annual council (Nov. 9-10 at Holy Innocents School in Atlanta) was a good one. Next year's annual council will meet in Macon.

Under Old Business, Fr. John mentioned that St. Andrew's still has no interim. He reminded the vestry that we might want to have a social event with the St. Andrews members.

Marilyn reported that the yard sale for HOPE, undertaken by First Presbyterian and St. Alban's churches, made \$1,000.

Under New Business, the Christmas Eve service was set for 6:30 p.m. Fr. John is due a Sunday off and may take one before Christmas.

There will be no December vestry meeting. The annual parish meeting was set for January 13; Renee Hunt will be asked to cater a winter meal.



Marilyn Slocumbe, Jerri Rucker, and Charles Romine present a check for \$1,000 to Laura Patterson of HOPE (second from left). The \$1,000 was the profit of a yard sale undertaken jointly by First Presbyterian and St. Alban's churches.

Nancy in Iceland



You can tell Nancy Seymour had a good time in Iceland October 19-26. (Top left) Nancy stands next to an iceberg; her editorial comment is, "Yes, it does get cold in Iceland." (Top right) Glacier Lagoon, where icebergs break off from the glacier in the background. (Center) Nancy says she loved the Icelandic horses. (Bottom right) Nancy and Kathie Yearly Scott stand in front of a *tall* waterfall.

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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

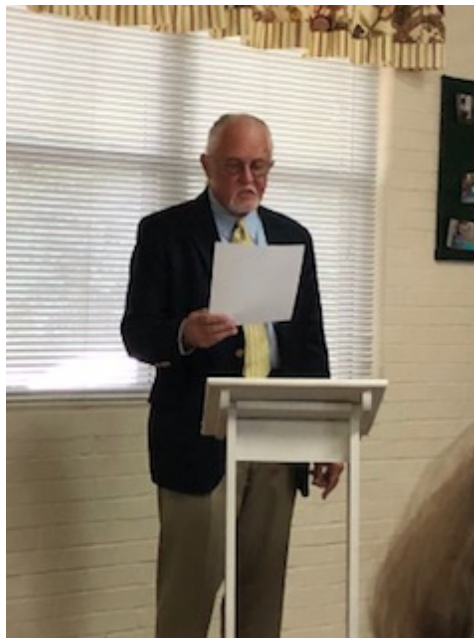
Charles Duke, Sr. Warden
Natasha Clay, Jr. Warden
Anne Jaudon
Louise Martin, sec.
Allen Nicas
Marilyn Slocumbe
Robyn Keeler and Anne
Jaudon, co-treasurers

A Wedding



Jeff Whitlow (Marilyn Slocumbe's son) with his bride, Ruthie. They were married in the chapel at historic Bethesda Orphanage, built in 1740, and reside in Savannah.

and an Anniversary



Skeet Willingham in the Church of the Mediator parish hall in Washington, Ga., reading the history of the church on the occasion of the church's 150th anniversary. We have received a copy of the history, which Fr. John has placed on the reading table in the back hall for the convenience of those interested. We were yoked with Mediator for several years.

