N.S. Vol. 5 No. 9 September 2018

SANCTUARY

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

Calendar

Sundays, Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m. Rite II: September 9, 23, 30 (Eucharistic Prayer Form C). Rite I: September 16.

Morning Prayer, September 2

September 9, SafeHouse Sunday

September 9, Vestry meeting after church

September 16, Sunday School starts back at 9:30 a.m.

September 17, Bible study resumes at noon.

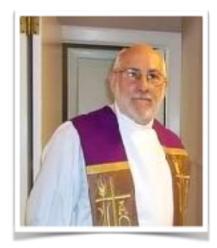
September Birthdays

Charles Duke, September 2 Joel Seymour, September 15 Bob Slocumbe, September 28

Prayer List

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

Rector's Reflection



School has started for the year. Labor Day is almost here; the summer of 2018 is over.

We're beginning to look forward to the Fall and beyond: football, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and a new year.

Before we look forward to all that is before us, it might be

interesting to look back at the season we've almost completed. What did we plan for the summer of 2018? What were the goals we set for ourselves around Memorial Day? Did we have reading projects, garden/lawn projects, travel, or things more spiritual?

Now, on the cusp of moving from one season to another is a good time to look back and take stock of the plans we made for ourselves and what we did. It's also a good time to think ahead to the last third of the year, to plan for what it might hold for us.

Do we have plans for our spiritual journey? Do we want a deeper, richer relationship with God, with the church, with each other? Do we want to grow or just stay the same? We have the choice, as individuals and as a church. Who will we be? What will we accomplish?

Blessings, Fr. John Keeler+

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From the Vestry Minutes of August 5

Fr. John Keeler gave the rector's report. We have started using Rite I every third Sunday. Also, an education subcommittee chaired by Laura Evans of Community Partnership has begun meeting at St. Alban's once a month.

Under New Business, Charles Duke, the PCOM chair, presented the recommendation of the group that Natasha continue on the PCOM path. He presented a paper for Natasha and Fr. John to sign. Fr. John thanked the committee members for their service.

In regard to HOPE, the new charitable organization in Elbert County, Marilyn Slocumbe said that she had been asked if St. Alban's would join with First Presbyterian Church in a yard sale to benefit HOPE. The vestry was favorable. Marilyn also moved that St. Alban's give \$50 per month to HOPE. Anne seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Fr. John reminded the vestry that two delegates are needed to attend the annual Diocesan Council on November 9 and 10 at Holy Innocents School in Atlanta.

We now own the lot on Lake Russell. With Steve Jenkins's legal help, the change of ownership was completed in June. We should think and pray about what we should do with it.

On a motion by Allen Nicas, seconded by Marilyn Slocumbe, the vestry voted unanimously to pay our yearly Diocesan pledge, which is \$618.66.

Fr. John and Robyn will be away in Alaska for two Sundays, August 26 and September 2. Natasha will conduct a spoken Morning Prayer on September 2, and Fr. John will try to secure a supply priest for August 26. [In the end we had two Morning Prayer services.] Andrea Martin will check the church's P.O. box twice a week while they are gone.

Fr. John has spoken with members of St. Andrew's in Hartwell, and they have expressed interest in a social gathering with St. Alban's.

Fr. John said that it is time to think about a new letter of agreement for next year. He would like vestry members to think about it, pray, and talk to members of the congregation; at the September meeting we will reach a decision.

There will be a tour of the new SafeHouse facility on a Saturday in the Fall, possibly in October.

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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

Ansley Marie Lyon



Ansley is the daughter of Cody Lyon and Mersadees Keeler and the second great-grandchild of Fr. John and Robyn Keeler. She is shown wearing her homecoming outfit.

Fall Again!

Now that Fall is at hand, it is time to resume Sunday School and Bible Study. Sunday School will start back on Sunday, September 16, at 9:30 a.m. in the vestry room. As we've done previously, we will talk about current topics: how they affect us as Christians and how, as Christians, we affect them.

We will begin Bible Study on Monday, September 17, at noon. Our subject will be St. Luke's Gospel. September 2018 Sanctuary, p. 5

Natasha's Summer Adventure

On July 15 Natasha Clay, her parents, and her sister departed the United States for a two-week walking tour of Ireland. Here is her account of her trip, along with great photos they took.

The journey started in the city of Dublin with a walking tour of the area followed by much needed jet lag recovery time. The following day we visited Trinity College, where we had the opportunity to see the Book of Kells, and then on to St. Patrick's Cathedral.

After Dublin, we went to Galway and to the Aran Islands at the mouth of Galway Bay (where my sister and I bought some nice wool sweaters). We also saw the Cliffs of Moher, toured the ruins of a monastery founded by St. Kieran (Ciarán of Clonmacnoise), and had the chance to visit Kylemore Abbey with its Gothic church and Victorian gardens.

Killarney was our next stop. There we saw numerous castles, monasteries, and abbeys. We traveled the Ring of Kerry stopping for lots of picture-taking moments. We also had the opportunity to see a sheep herding demonstration.

Kilkenny was a shorter stop. We saw Kilkenny Castle, then had free time to wander or go to one of the local breweries.

Finally, back to our starting point, County Dublin, for a trip to the National Stud Farm and Gardens, and then a farewell dinner.



(Above) The ruins of Kieran's monastery.

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We might have known Natasha would find some animals in Ireland. Here she is petting horses at a stud farm.

She did take time away from the horses to admire the lovely gardens at the stud farm.



Three bold Irish sheep seem to think they have the right of way.