

SANCTUARY

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Vol. 6 No. 2 - February/March 2009

Elberton, Georgia

RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Grace and peace, brothers and sisters.

Blessings upon you each of you, and may you have a holy Lent. We are getting ready to learn more about what Matthew's gospel calls "treasures in heaven".

Please join us for our Lenten Suppers each Monday evening. We will have Compline at 6:30 followed by our Lenten Soup Supper and a set of spirited speakers. Three will be telling us about their missions in Elberton while John will tell of his recent mission trip with the Honduras Agape Foundation. I will make a presentation focused on my trip last summer to Israel.

Mark your calendars and pray with us, even if you cannot be there.

Denni +

Prayers & Sympathy:

Prayers for health and healing:

- Marcia Jenkins continues to heal. She helped plan the Lenten Supper Series, lining up the speakers for us for "Missions Possible". Thank you!
- Prayers for our service people in the Military: including Andrew, Michael, and others in our hearts.

Transitions

- Lydia MarciaAnn Moon, Steve and Marcia Jenkins' granddaughter was baptized on February 22nd at First United Methodist in Elberton. Congratulations!
- Carole Oglesgy's mother-in-law died in early January. The family asked that flowers and donations go to St. Mary's Hospice Care in Athens.

TAKING NOTE

- Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 Worship at 9 am followed by Coffee Hour.

Lenten Series - Compline & Soup Supper:

- Mar. 2 at 6:30 pm, with Laura Evans & Kathi Lee of Community Partnership.
- Mar. 9 at 6:30 pm, with The Rev. Don and Sue Beitzel of Safehouse.
- Mar. 16 at 6:30 pm, with Dr. Jack Wheeler and Joe Johnson of Salvation Army.
- Mar. 23 at 6:30 pm, with The Rev. John Keeler of All Angels, Eatonton.
- Mar. 30 at 6:30 pm, with The Rev. Dr. Denni Moss on the Holy Land.

LENTEN SUPPERS

@ 6:30 PM: MONDAYS IN MARCH AT
ST. ALBAN'S



Lenten Services & Supper

Here is the MISSIONS POSSIBLE schedule: St. Alban's will host five free Lenten programs on Monday evenings beginning on March 2, 2009. The ladies of the church will prepare a weekly "souper supper" plus dessert, of course. Starting time each week will be 6:30 p.m.

Monday, March 2, 6:30 p.m.: Community Partnership of Elbert County, missions, purpose and resources, Laura Evans, Executive Director and Kathi Lee, staff member;

Monday, March 9, 6:30 p.m.: Safehouse Ministries, an overview presented by co-founders, The Rev. Don and Sue Beitzel;

Monday, March 16, 6:30 p.m.: Salvation Army plus mission trip experiences following devastating damage from natural disasters, Dr. Jack Wheeler and Joe Johnson, volunteers;

Monday, March 23, 6:30 p.m.: Honduras Agape Foundation, recent mission trip presented by The Rev. John D. Keeler,

rector of All Angels Episcopal Church, Eatonton, GA;

Monday, March 30, 6:30 p.m.: St. Alban's Episcopal Church, visit to the Holy Land providing awesome personal reflections, presented by The Rev. Dr. Denise Moss, rector, St. Alban's Church.

Mission work is always possible. Please call St. Alban's at 706-283-4563 for more information, directions or to ask that another potato or two be thrown into the pot. See you there, for fellowship, food and fantastic information.



Lenten Supper Sign-up

Soup, crackers/tea/ice, and dessert are being prepared for each night of the Lenten series. Now please come and bring friends! Barbara Nicas

Nativity Window

How many times have you left St. Alban's after worship and noticed how Mary, Joseph and the infant Jesus watched you pass by on your way to "love and serve the Lord"? What if Joseph had been much taller or the ray that illuminates Jesus been different? What if the columns of the stable were in front of the figures instead of behind?

Mary Minor Brown brought us some letters from her father, Albert Lee Hawes, from the time he was directing the design of the window. The process was "long distance" because the windows were under construction by the studios of George L. Payne, of Patterson, New Jersey, who were American representatives of J. Wippell & Company of England.

There was a full sized drawing, with sketches



and colored photos passed back and forth between Elberton and New Jersey during the design process over many months, July through October 1961. Imagine The Rev. Fortune measuring the window to send exact dimensions to the designers and then being told from afar they did not “add up”.

We hope to pass along such stories and details as we glean them. If you have a St. Alban's story, please do not hesitate to send along to Sara.

Summer Camp

For those who have youngsters ready for camp, registration is up on the Camp Mikell website.

<http://www.campmikell.com/Summer%20Camps.htm>



Feast of St. Brigid

On February 1st Sara Baldwin told about one of her favorite saints: St Brigid of Ireland. In the St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, in beautiful high stained glass windows, St Patrick is on one side of Jesus and Brigid on the other.

Brigid's symbols are:

- Light (fire)
- Refreshment (wells)
- Unity (weaving)

These are ancient skills of women but Brigid is also famous for fostering dialogue between women and men.

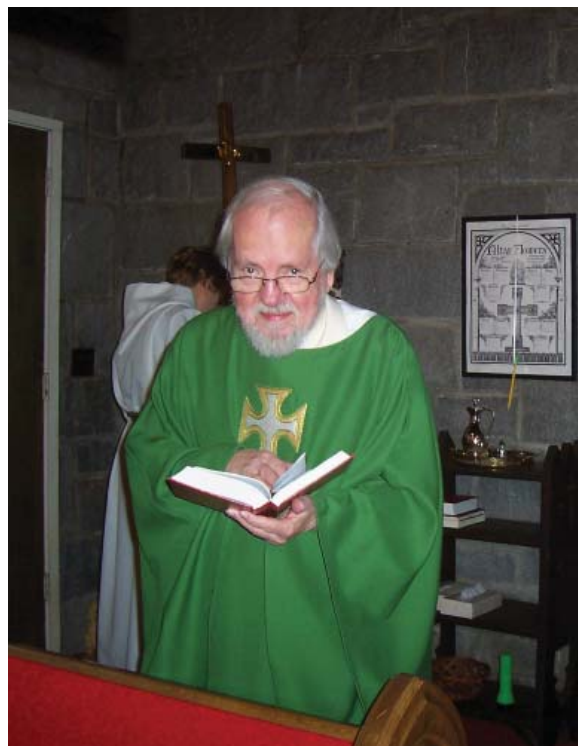
There are wells dedicated to Brigid all over England,

Wales and Ireland. There is one at St. Brides, another name for Brigid, in the middle of London. You cannot see it from the street, though; the church with its Sir Christopher Wren, wedding cake style, steeple is now surrounded by buildings.

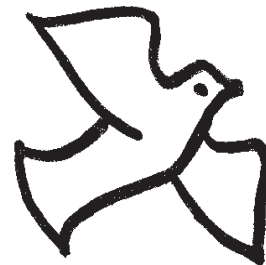
And the well is deep underground beneath the sanctuary, unknown to most people.

Our Episcopal/Anglican heritage is like that – A holy secret well in the middle of a city. We have two important qualities: the ability to change and a talent for launching a wealth of spiritual children.

Here is Fr. Gene Briton getting ready to serve Holy Eucharist on St. Brigid's Day.



*I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.
John 15:15*



Daughters of the King

On February 18th Daughters met for Evening Prayer. Sara presented "Dreams and Wisdom", a reflection on "dreamers" in the Bible and wisdom in the church today. We read the hymn in praise of

Wisdom from the Apocrypha's Wisdom of Solomon 7:21-8:1. Scholars think these verses were written close to the time of Jesus' birth. Jewish tradition excludes this book from scripture, considering it too heavily influenced by Greek culture. However, the passages on wisdom

can provide a kind of segue into Christian hope from Jewish struggles with God.

Consider all the means we allow God to speak to us. Is it too far fetched to think God speaks to us in our service? In our dreams?

Altar Angel Call

Sign up for 2009 service on the bulletin board. Girl and guy angels welcome.



Suzanne and grandson Marty at the Annual Parish Meeting in January

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
109 Brookside Drive
Elberton, GA 30625
Tel: 706 238 4563 stalbins@elberton.net
www.stalbans-elberton.org