

# SANCTUARY

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Vol. 6 No. 1 - January/February 2009

Elberton, Georgia

## RECTOR'S MESSAGE

*Grace and peace, brothers and sisters.*

The new year is well on its way. We had our annual meeting January 25th and there were many thanks to spread around for 2008. As always, we had a bountiful feast.

Be on the lookout for new things. This is the season of recognizing what God is doing among us.

We hear of so many in distress: in our parish, in the nation and in the world. Now is the time for taking our Good News to those badly in need of it.

Before long it will be Lent and we have plans for a set of speakers with a missions theme. Mark your calendars and pray with us, even if you cannot be there.

**Denni +**

### *Prayers & Sympathy:*

Prayers for health and healing:

- Marcia Jenkins went on her "first date" in mid-January. She is increasingly able to share in parish life. Yay!
- Walter Thomas <http://www.walterthomas.org/>
- Betty Edmunds has moved from the nursing home in Washington GA to Nancy Hart in Elberton, closer to home.
- Frank Coggins is home from his hospital stay in Atlanta.
- Prayers for our service people in the Military: including Andrew, Michael, and others in our hearts.

### *Transitions*

- Martin Hilton Fortson (Marty) was born to Ashley Fortson on December 23rd. Congratulations!

## TAKING NOTE

- Feb. 8, 15, and 22  
Worship at 9 am followed by Coffee Hour.
- Feb. 8 Joint Vestry Meeting at Mediator in Washington GA.
- Feb 13-15 Natural Spirituality Retreat, Camp Mikell, Toccoa GA.
- Feb. 18 Daughters of the King 6pm Theme: Dreams and Wisdom.
- Feb. 24th Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper at Mediator 6 pm.
- Feb 25 Ash Wednesday services: Noon at St Alban's.
- March 1 Worship Service at 10 am will be followed by coffee and luncheon.

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
**@ NOON: FEBRU-**  
**ARY 25<sup>TH</sup> AT ST.**  
**ALBAN'S**



## *Annual Meeting & Brunch*

St. Alban's held its annual parish meeting on January 25th after worship.

As usual we had delicious and beautiful food (see photo). Sr. Warden Allen Nicas praised each one individually for their different gifts shared with the parish.

In particular, outgoing Vestry members, Ray Jefferson and Charles Duke, received thanks of the community. In the election of new Vestry members, Steve Jenkins and Sara Baldwin were chosen in serve for the next three years.

## *Crèche Night @ St. Alban's*

On December 17th members of the parish and friends met at 6 pm for



Compline followed by sharing of the nativity of Jesus.

Seven different nativity scenes (crèches) were set up in the area before the altar. Some were very old and all had sentiment attached. One had a hippo!

Here is Denni explaining the history of nativity



scenes. St. Francis of Assisi was the first to emphasize the poverty of Jesus' birth in a manger by using a life-sized model at Christmas in 1223.

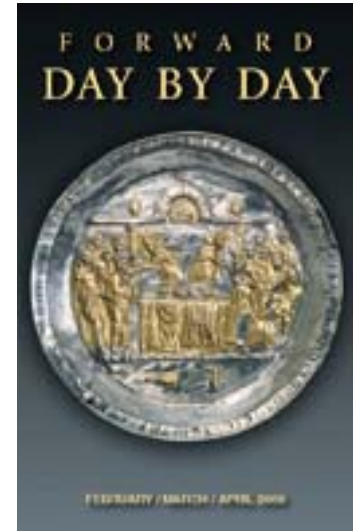
We gathered around while each one told the story of their offering. Here is Hershel telling about his treasure from Germany. And here is a big smile

from Thomas. Behind him are two treasures Marilyn brought to share.

### *Stewardship 2009*

Watch your mailbox for a letter from the Treasurer plus Pledge Cards for 2009.

Thank you all for your support of St. Alban's ministry in Elberton.



### *Daily Readings*

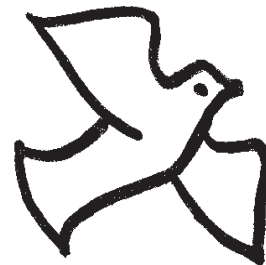
The new Forward Day by Day devotional books are in. Pick one up and pray with us. Using the Daily Office lectionary, we can share the same inspirational readings and scripture in our daily quiet time.

### *Altar Angel Call*

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



*For God alone my soul in silence waits; truly, my hope is in him.  
Psalm 62:6*



## *Lenten Supper Sign-up*

Dates for Lenten Suppers are as follows: March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30.

Suppers are on Monday evenings, 6:30-7:30. Watch the Bulletin for Speakers.

We need someone to bring either soup, crackers/tea/ice, or dessert each night; therefore, 3 people will need to help each night. Please check your calendars and pick two (2) nights to bring something, and let me know soon.

We want to keep it simple, and it's always good! To RSVP, call 706-283-0366, or email: [anicas@elberton.com](mailto:anicas@elberton.com) My sincere thanks to you all! Barbara Nicas

## *Daughters of the King*

DOK attended Crèche Night in December. (See photos on pages 2 and 3). Sharing our favorite "nativities" evoked sweet memories and devotion.

On January 22nd we met for Evening Prayer. Sara presented Lincoln's second

inaugural address and we discussed what its biblical themes meant to Dr. ML King as well as to us today.

The "theologian-in-chief" encouraged us: "with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work...to bind up the nation's wounds."



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