



SANCTUARY

St. Alban's Episcopal Church

Vol. 8 No. 1 (Jan.–Feb. 2011)

Elberton, Georgia

RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Peace & grace to you, sisters and brothers.

Where has the year gone? Too many things have happened to keep count—and some we don't want to count anyway. Someone was saying to me today that the older we get the more things go wrong with our bodies. This seems so unfair. Finally when we've become wise and competent our knees and hearts and other fairly important crucial parts give out. Unfortunately there's not too much we can do about this. I suppose we all have to deal with it sooner or later—some of us sooner and some later.

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Prayers & Sympathy:

Prayers for health and healing:

- Marcia Jenkins and her family
- Betty and Richard Edmunds
- Tommy Warren (1111 Williams Dr., Elberton). Notes and cards would be appreciated.
- Wright Payne Morris (Wright Cousins). She has recovered from her stroke but continues to require supervision and assistance. Cards would be appreciated (address: Brandon Wilde Retirement Community, 4275 Owens Rd., Evans, GA 30809).
- Those serving in the military

Transitions:

- Andrew Spencer is out of the military and back in civilian life once more.
- Barbara and Allen Nicas have a new great-granddaughter, Haylee Anne Foster, born November 28, 2010.

TAKING NOTE

- January and February worship at 9 a.m. followed by coffee hour (but see Jan. 9 below). Morning Prayer on Jan. 2; other Sundays Eucharist.
- Bible study will resume on Jan. 10 and continue on Mondays at noon with a discussion of Matthew.
- Jan. 9 Annual meeting (three vestry members to be chosen) after 9 a.m. service; expanded coffee hour. This meeting will also be the vestry meeting for January.
- Jan. 19 Lunch with Denni at noon.
- Feb. 14 Vestry meeting at 6 p.m.
- Feb. 16 Lunch with Denni at noon.

ANNUAL MEETING
JANUARY 9



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Maybe this is the time to sit back and reflect on some things we really want to do. I would like to paint—not houses but beautiful pictures. Thus far in my life I haven't shown much talent for art, but I would like to be able to take the time and try.

I wonder why many of us don't take the time to do things we'd really like to do and just do what nags us to be done. We spend so much time doing things that don't give us a lot of happiness. I wonder what would happen if we challenged each other to do some wonderful creative things. What could possibly happen if we just tried? I probably won't be a good painter—but I might!

I don't like the sound of "bucket lists" because that sounds like we are finished with life and are just trying to pile more things on top of every other thing we do. I like the idea of looking for some passion in life—this sounds to me like we're living life to its fullest.

What do you think you'd like to do that has nothing to do with what has to be done? Can you imagine the possibilities of beauty and creativity and just plain fun our lives could have.

Have to close—going to buy some paint brushes.

Love and blessings,

Denni +

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If anyone has news or photos for Sanctuary please contact Louise Martin (706-283-5087; lfmartin@elberton.net).

New Crucifer

St. Alban's newest crucifer, Christian Moore, the grandson of Suzanne Moore. His younger brother Zachary and cousin Thomas Fortson have also helped around the church, giving out bulletins and greeting arrivals before the Sunday service. Their interest and assistance are greatly appreciated.



Outreach

SafeHouse Ministries and the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia are both local area outreach opportunities that St. Alban's elected to participate in during 2010.

The annual SafeHouse Walkathon was held on November 6. St. Alban's was a sponsor, and Bill Jenkins represented the church at the walk.

On December 11 Nancy Seymour made the last delivery of goods donated by St. Alban's members to the Northeast Georgia Food Bank. Church members also worked that morning at the Food Bank Athens location (see page 3).

A February date to keep in mind: Magi Griffin, of the diocese, will give a talk on Carpenter's Kids at Church of the Mediator on February 26. There will be a wine and cheese party for her at 6:30 p.m.



(Right) Marilyn Slocumbe and Nancy and Joel Seymour fill bags for two Food Bank activities, a Brown Bag program for the elderly and a Food for Kids program to provide children with weekend food. (Below) Andrea and Louise Martin take flats of food to the scales for weighing.



ADVENT 2010 AT ST. ALBAN'S

On December 4 the Church of the Mediator in Washington held its annual Christmas bazaar and lunch. Shown are some of the attendees: (from left to right) Marilyn Slocumbe, Nancy Seymour, Rector Denni Moss, Lucy Heil, and Beth Thornton. They have just finished a delicious lunch prepared by Mediator cooks.



"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." Matthew 7:7



Church Visitations

Nancy's travels have again taken her to fascinating Episcopal churches. On the left she stands at the sign for the Old North Church in Boston, famous for its Revolutionary War associations. Below she is in the children's alcove of St. Andrew's Church on Martha's Vineyard. Note the exquisite needlework!



Nancy urges you all to provide photographs or bulletins from your visits to other churches. Share your experiences with readers of the Sanctuary.



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