

All Saints Alive!

The Newsletter of All Saints Episcopal Church October 2022



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Mother Bonnie's Corner

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel; Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

Isaiah 43:1, 18-19, NRSV

Beloved in Christ,

At a recent clergy meeting, our Diocesan Bishop Rob Wright shared a reflection on this passage, reminding us that in times of weariness, there is also wonder; in times of malaise, there is also opportunity. God constantly reminds us to open our hearts and minds to see a new thing — to see both the truth of what is around us and develop within ourselves the ability to recognize our many blessings — for with that increased perception of gratitude, we can grow into a culture of thanksgiving, praise, and adoration.

This reflection reminded me of our recent time together, sharing our All Saints Gratitude Journal: all those photos submitted by so many of the things we're are indeed grateful for. And if you missed our recent September Covered Dish luncheon, check out our website, https://youtu.be/ByADuyEaPHo, so you too can enjoy this pictorial journal.

What a wonderful opportunity we all have to lean into a blessed culture of thanksgiving, praise, and adoration for all the many gifts we're given! Gratitude for family, friends, pets, and neighbors; for the fellowship and support of our church community; for the blessing of helping our neighbors; and the possibilities for the movement of the Spirit within our lives. What a blessed gift it can be to see that all we have is gift of God!

I encourage us all to take the time to see what's right in front of us and join me this month in this prayer for the gift of joy in God's creation:

O heavenly Father, who has filled the world with beauty: Open our eyes to behold your gracious hand in all your works; that, rejoicing in your whole creation, we may learn to serve you with gladness; for the sake of him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP pg 814)

October is a month that we seek with intentionally to have multiple opportunities together to recognize and celebrate God's many gifts.

On Sunday October 2nd, we'll be celebrating Eucharist in God's own magnificent creation, as we worship outdoors, giving us a chance to have our beloved pets beside us for the annual **Blessing of the Animals.** After worship, we will have plenty of time for the blessing of fellowship and fun in community, with our Fall picnic and activities for all ages.

October is also **Stewardship Month** at All Saints and we'll hear personal testimonies of God's blessings in our lives, as we're encouraged to discern how we can give back to God of all we've received. This year, **Consecration Sunday** is on October 23, followed by a celebratory catered meal and Town Hall.

And as this October does have five Sundays, you can also look forward to October 30 for both **5th Sunday Worship** and the **Blessing of the Costumes.** I've heard from many of you that it is a such a delight to have our children voices in our Sunday worship, another of our many blessings.

I give thanks to God for the blessing of this community of faith each and every day. May we continue together to grow in our love of God and our neighbor, as we strive daily to spread the joy of a life of Christ Jesus.

Peace, Mother Bonnie+

From our Deacon

I remember the first time I heard someone say, "There are no coincidences,"

The first thought that entered my mind was, "Well of course there are!" And I promptly said so.

The wise man smiled at me and gently said, "Think about it for a bit."

So I did. Thinking grew into pondering. I went into analysis mode -- for months. I reviewed those experiences that I had deemed coincidences and began to understand that maybe there really are no



coincidences. I also began to pay more attention to new experiences, noticing how these new experiences were connected. I came to the conclusion that there truly are no coincidences.

Those occurrences are signs that life is giving us an opportunity to make some changes that make a difference. I have a new name for the experiences – *mystery opportunities*. These are amazing events that start us on a path to a newness. It's not necessarily an easy path, but it is always exciting!

By now you are likely wondering why this is coming up in a newsletter article.

Because it happens here at All Saints all the time and I want you to share in *the glory of mystery*. Let me give you a few examples.

The Food Pantry went in Drive-Thru mode, very early in the pandemic. Adjustments to the flow of the work were constant opportunities to figure out how to make the Food Pantry work for everybody. As the time grew more intense, *mysterious opportunities* to be compassionate neighbors spontaneously presented themselves. New ministries took root. Our homeless brothers and sisters began to share more about their challenges and the consequences of not having photo ID and other vital records, which led to the ministry of Breaking Barriers. Folks were frightened and hurting and needed someone to just talk to and a sort of Drive-Thru chaplaincy worked its way into our ministry.

We began to have more interaction with our neighbors along Cherokee Street and came to the realization that we don't know our brothers and sisters across the street at all. As time went along, our neighbors began to ask for assistance: sometimes for utility assistance, or who they needed to contact in Warner Robins to help them with a concern, or just to talk a bit. *More mystery opportunities*. Now we are taking new steps to begin a dedicated effort to get to know our neighbors.

Closer to home, as we began to be able to gather together in person to worship there were more than a few challenges that led to opportunities. The people of All Saints came to a new understanding of who we are as a parish and as neighbors. Name tags became the first encounter we had with each other, newcomer packets were reworked, and new people started coming to worship with us. These led to other specific opportunities to share the depth of our hospitality and it is glorious to see how we help each other.

Some folk who come to All Saints the first time may have no experience with our worship traditions and liturgy. This particular mystery opportunity opened hearts to begin a yet to be named ministry, called *Friends* for now, to have folks familiar with All Saints to be available to newcomers and help them through those initial services. I encourage you to attend the next Rector's Forum to hear more about *Friends*.

This pondering about coincidences has, over time, has helped me to be much more sensitive to the gentle breeze that simply can't be ignored. And, over time, I have come to realize that we already know who this bringer of *mystery opportunities* is.

The Holy Spirit.

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Spirit! Deacon Barbara

From our Senior Warden

Fall is here and it is going to be a busy season at All Saints. There will be activity in both old and new programs. There are so many events coming in the months of October, November, and December. Be sure and check the Parish Calendar and mark these events in your personal calendar. After the last few years, it will be so special to get back to holiday activities as usual!

We are really excited about a new College of Congregational
Development (CCD) initiative, *The Friend Ministry*. For those who are not lifelong
Episcopalians, the memory of that first service is probably full of memories of confusion
following the service while juggling the Book of Common Prayer and a Hymnal. *The Friend Ministry* will endeavor to make that initial Episcopalian experience a positive one. Judy
Reynolds and Marsha Buzzell will be organizing this new program. Please contact them if you have any questions or might be interested in becoming a *Friend*.

I have about worn out my All Saints t-shirt, so I am very excited about the t-shirt sale. There is something for everyone. The many options include youth sizes, short and long sleeve, and V neck. You also have the option of red or gray.

It is almost time for the Parish Picnic on October the 2nd . We will have an outdoor worship service that Sunday. You may bring your own lawn chair or use one of the chairs at the church. There will be grilled hot dogs and hamburgers. Please sign up for side dishes and desserts. There will be activities for children and adults. In addition, we will be celebrating the Blessing of the Animals. This should be a wonderful event for our All Saints' family.

Hopefully, we are very close to closing on the Holly House. Many prayers have been said to help us take this project in a direction that will further our mission here at All Saints. Some suggestions for the future of Holly House have been proposed, but nothing has been decided. If you have a proposal, please share it with Mother Bonnie or a Vestry member.

I am so grateful for our Altar Guild members and the work they do. We help to support this important program through donations for flowers and candles. We still have several openings for October, November, and December. If you have someone you would like to honor, the sign-up chart is outside the church on Sundays and in the office during the week.

Finally, be sure and mark your calendar for Consecration Sunday on October 23, 2022. Please plan to join us for good food and fellowship.



Enhancing Our Worship: Flowers and Candles

Wondering how you can contribute to the beauty of our Worship?

Your gifts dedicated to flowers and candles offer an opportunity for to include your blessings, thanksgiving, and remembrances in our Sunday bulletins. Sign up for a particular Sunday at the Greeter table..

October at All Saints

- October 2: Outdoor Worship, Blessing of the Animals, and Fall Picnic.

 The Men's Group is barbecuing! Look for Signup Genius to bring a salad, sides, or dessert and join the fun!
- October 23: Consecration Sunday, Catered Luncheon, and Town Hall Make your reservations for this annual event to celebrate God's many blessings in our lives with marvelous food and fellowship.
- October 30: 5th Sunday! worship and Blessing of the Costumes!
 Enjoy our children, as they help Mother Bonnie with the Sermon, as well as receive a special blessing.
- October 31: We're Wondering . . . Are we ready to Trunk or Treat??
 We're looking for some volunteers to load up their trunk, perhaps wear a costume and maybe decorate your car! Sign up at the Greeter Table or let the Office know by 10/15, if you can participate!

Year Round Stewardship: How to be Ert

by Mary Christian

Every time I teach freshman writing, I assign my students early in the semester to write a "Persuasion Narrative" essay—a story about a time when they were persuaded to do, say, or believe something that they otherwise would not have done. Students respond to this prompt with a wide variety of stories, which may be loosely categorized as follows:

- 1. How I was persuaded to go to college.
- 2. How I was persuaded to attend college at Middle Georgia State University (MGA).
- 3. How I was persuaded to study aviation.
- 4. How I was persuaded to come to MGA to study aviation.
- 5. How I was persuaded to break the rules (play hooky from school, skip work, lie to my parents, etc.).
- 6. How I was persuaded to change my hairstyle.
- 7. How I was persuaded to start or change a relationship (ask a girl out, tell a boy I liked him, go on a blind date, break up with my boyfriend or girlfriend, etc.).
- 8. How I was persuaded to take up a new hobby (sport, music, Dungeons and Dragons, etc.).
- 9. How I was persuaded to buy something (usually a car or nerf gun).
- 10 How I was persuaded to go to an event (a party, concert, graduation, etc.).
- 11. Miscellaneous...

Occasionally I will have a student come to my office and say, "I don't have anything to write about—I've never been persuaded. I've never changed my mind." I usually manage not to say, "Oh, your poor parents." Sometimes I share with them a few of my persuasion experiences—the time I tried (and failed) to be vegan, the time I went to teach for a year in South Korea, the time I got skin cancer and decided that it really was time to start putting on sunscreen every day. Usually, if we throw ideas around long enough, the student can figure something out—an activity they took up or left off, a person they disliked but eventually came to like (or vice versa), some topic they came to care about, though they hadn't before.

I assign this essay partly because it helps me get to know my students better, to get a sense of what their interests and plans are, what is important to them. But the main goal is to push students to think about how they arrive at decisions, to pay attention to the factors that influence them, whether they be relationships, money or other material incentives, or emotional pressures. Some students regret the thing they were persuaded to do. Others are glad for it. In any case, my hope is that when they understand what motivates them, they will be better able to use those motivations effectively to encourage themselves and others in healthy and useful directions, both in their writing and in other areas of life.

In elementary school science class, children learn about the principle of inertia, the tendency of still objects to stay still and of moving objects to keep moving unless they are pushed, pulled, or otherwise acted on by some physical force. When there is a difficult task I have been putting off, I often joke: "It is time to shake off my inertia and be ert!" (The thing certainly exists, even if the word doesn't.) When we think about times when we have been persuaded, we are stewarding our "ertia," learning to understand the forces that motivate us and use them in ways that are most helpful to God, our neighbors, and ourselves.

Upcoming Events

October 2: Outdoor Worship, Blessing of the Animals, and Fall Picnic

Don't Forget!

Outdoor Sunday
worship with a chance to
bring your pets for
Blessing of the Animals,
plus a Fall Picnic!
Be sure to join us!!





October Luncheon/Meeting Monday, October 3, 2022: Noon until 1:30 P.M.

This luncheon will be IN-PERSON at Trinity United Methodist Church, 129 South Houston Road. Enter through the single door at the south end of the back parking lot.

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH AND A BEVERAGE, as we are working into our "new normal," and hope to be able to enjoy our much missed pot luck meals before too long.

Meeting Topic: We Are Our Stories - Milestones of our Faith Journeys

At this gathering, we will eat together and then spend time sharing significant stories from our faith journeys . . . What and who helped shape, inform, and possibly transform the nature of your beliefs and/or world view?

It's Coming!

Consecration Sunday 10/23/2022

Our Stewardship team proudly serves God through our work in this ministry. All Saints' members have been consistently faithful, all to God's glory, in giving their time, talent, and treasure. We see the fruits of these gifts in our many active ministries, our work within the community, and our buildings and grounds, as we seek to serve as Christ's own in the world.

October is our annual Stewardship month and you can expect to hear over several weeks from several parishioners, Mother Bonnie, and a guest speaker, as they share their personal experiences of a growing relationship with God. Then on October 23rd, Consecration Sunday, we will bless all the gifts presented in thanksgiving for all we've been given, as we continue together to serve the Lord by striving to minister to God's people.

We do hope you will join us on Consecration Sunday for worship and a special catered lunch, as we take the time to come together and celebrate our many gifts from God by enjoying fellowship with one another.

Ellen Strait, Vestry Stewardship Liaison



Trunk or Treat on 10/31?? Are we READY?

We're looking for a some All Saints adults, who are ready to support our kiddos with Trunks filled with Treats!!

Let us know by 10/15 or signup at the Greeter Table, if you're available, so we can plan on this special event!

Ministry Updates

Altar Guild

We are in need of a few more people on one team especially!

This is a commitment to a few hours on Friday or Saturday every third week and cleaning up the altar on that Sunday. If you think you have the time and interest in this ministry, please let me know. You can visit one of the teams to see what we do and decide if it is for you.

Linda Christie, 478-731-1341, lindaschristie@gmail.com

"Dead Headers": A New Ministry!

Bring your clippers and gloves and help dead head the roses and pull weeds. "Dead Headers" will meet at 10:00 in the church yard the 1st and 3rd Saturdays each month. Help keep our yard beautiful!

Linda Christie, 478-731-1341, lindaschristie@gmail.com

Digital Ministry

We're still looking for a few more volunteers to assist in the behind-the-scenes portion of our Sunday live-stream. "On-the-Job" trainings will take place during worship on Sunday mornings. **No previous experience required!**

This is a great way to learn a new skill while also giving back to your All Saints family. For more information, contact the church office or Pierce Christie.

ECW

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, Oct. 4th at 10:30 in the Parish Hall.

There are lots of ways to get involved with ECW even if you cannot come to the weekday meetings! Hope to see you on Fridays. And remember that we meet on Fridays at 12:30 for lunch at various places. All women are invited to attend. This is a great way to get to know other ladies in the church.

Remember that we have prayer shawls available for anyone in need. This does not have to be just church members.

Ushers

Join those who so regularly are the first to faces of welcome each Sunday morning! Our usher teams faithfully assists each week by greeting visitors and members alike, distributing bulletins, and helping make sure we're ready for worship. We could use a few new members to help fill out our teams. We welcome individuals and family teams!

Contact Bill Peters, peterswj@windstream.net, or the church office for more information.

FamilyPromise... An Update

Family Promise continues to settle in at their new facility in Perry. If you are interested in working with this program there will be a training session on Monday, October 3 d at the Perry facility from 6:30-7:30PM. Contact Shelley Strickland, shelleykstrickland@gmail.com, for more information.

All Saints will be providing dinner on November 6th and 8th. We will have sign up about a week or two before the event when we know how many people we will be feeding. Dinner on Sundays is being changed to 4:00 p.m.. Mondays and Tuesdays will continue to be at 7:00 p.m. to accommodate the working schedules of the residents.

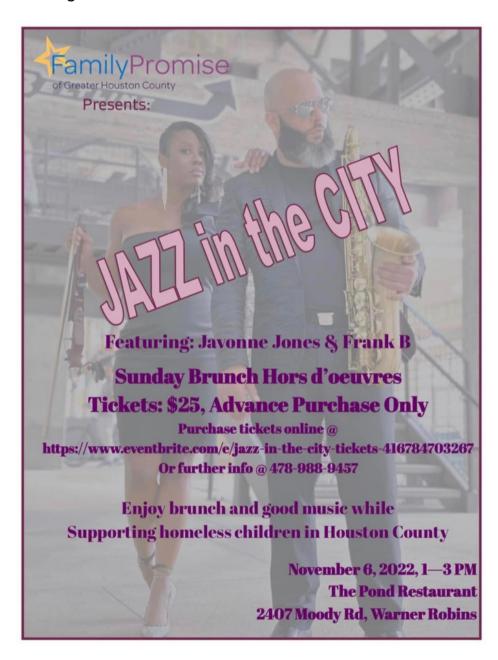
Family Promise is having their first fund raiser in two years. "Jazz in the City" will take place at The Pond on Sunday, November 6th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Javonne Jones and Frank B will be providing live entertainment, and The Pond will be providing brunch.

Tickets are \$25.00 and available through 478-988-9457.

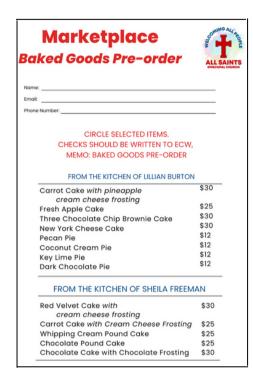
Also, Family Promise is asking each host church to help sponsor this event.

If you would like to contribute, please send your contribution to the office.

We hope some of you will decide to enjoy the brunch and good music while supporting homeless children in Houston County.



Something Old and Something New!



Baked Goods Pre-orders!

Don't wait for Marketplace!

Get your orders in now, by completing a form at the Greeter table.

Check payments should be made to ECW.

Proceeds from Marketplace support community outreach.

Calling All Bakers!

Marketplace needs you!

We count on parishioners to bake items for us to sell at the Marketplace. We'll need cakes, pies, breads, etc., as well as cookies, brownies, bars, and other goodies that we can package and sell as snacks.

Someone will be at the church on Friday, December 2, to receive baked donations. We'll be happy to package and price for sale items that are brought in.

For information, contact Mary Mantiply, mantiply123@cox.net.

Order your NEW All Saints T-Shirt

We have new styles and colors!

Short sleeves, long sleeves, crew and v-neck, plus a new gray color, in addition to red. Stop by the greeter tables to see diagrams and samples.

Place your order by 10/10, to help ensure delivery is made in time for our Feast of All Saints celebration and a new Parish photo opportunity on 11/6.

Check payments should be made to All Saints, with memo: *T-Shirts*

ALL SAINTS DEPOSIT CHARGE	irt Order
Name:	
Adult - Short Sleeve	
Short Sleeve Crew	Short Sleeve V-Neck
Red Unisex T-shirt. Short Sleve Crew Neck \$19 QTY QTY	Red Unisex T-shirt. Gray Unisex T-shirt. Short Sleve V-Neck Short Sleve V-Neck \$20 QTY QTY QTY
Red, Small Cray, Small Red, Medium Cray, Medium Red, Large Cray, Large	Red, Small Cray, Small Red, Medium Cray, Medium Red, Large Cray, Large
Red, XL Gray, XL Red, 2XL Gray, 2XL	Red, XL Gray, XL Red, 2XL Gray, 2XL
QTY Crew Neck SS t-shirts QTY x \$19 =	QTY V-Neck SS t-shirts QTY x \$20 =
Adult - Long Sleeve	Youth Short Sleeve
Red Unisex T-shirt. Gray Unisex T-shirt. Long Sleve Crew Neck \$22 \$22	Children's \$16 Childrens \$16
QTY QTY Red, Small Gray, Small	QTY QTY Red. Sm (6/8) Gray, Sm (6/8)
Red, Medium Gray, Medium	Red, Med (10/12) Gray, Med (10/12)
Red, Large Gray, Large	Red, Lg (14/16) Gray, Lg (14/16)
Red, XL Gray, XL Red, 2XL Gray, 2XL	Red, XL Gray, XL
QTY Crew Neck LS t-shirts	QTY Youth Crew SS t-shirts
QTY x \$22=	QTY x \$16 =
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Adult Short Sleeve Crew Neck \$	i
	PAID: CHECK CASH
Adult Short Sleeve Crew Neck \$	PAID: CHECK CASH TO BE PAID BY 10/10

Coming Soon!

In November

- November 1: Evensong at All Saints, 6:30 pm
 - Join us for beautiful sung Evensong, with candle lighting for those saints that have gone before us. And after worship, we'll gather for desserts and fellowship.
- November 6: The Feast of All Saints: Covered Dish and Town Hall Our children will be processing as saints and sharing a new song they've prepared. Then a new Parish photo after worship, (*T-shirts, anyone??*), food, and fellowship.
- November 10: Veteran's Day Service, Noon
 Don't miss our Join noon worship and patriotic music, as we recognize our many veterans.
- November 23: Thanksgiving Worship, Noon
 Join us for worship on Wednesday, before your Thanksgiving feasts!

And in December

12/3: All Saints ECW Marketplace

We have scheduled our Marketplace for December 3rd. Please put this on your calendars! Forms have been sent to our past vendors; if you have anyone else we need to send information too, please send me their email.

We will have inside and outside spots; hours are 9-3. Please be "looking for" your donations. We will have church items in the ECW room that day. This can be craft items, antique items, small furniture, nicer "white elephant" items, etc. We will work on some projects on Fridays when Shawl Ministry meets. If you have ideas, items we can make, etc., please bring them!

Linda Christie, 478-731-1341, lindaschristie@gmail.com

All Saints Calendar

Weekly

Sunday

Worship 10:15 am in-person and online Children's Choir: 1:30pm

Monday

Book Club: 5:15-7pm EfM: 6:30-8:30 pm

Tuesday

Food Pantry: 9:30 - 11am

Wednesday

Noonday Prayer: 12-12:30pm

Thursday

Choir Rehersal: 7:30pm

Friday

Shawl Ministry: 10-12:30pm ECW Luncheon: 12:30 pm

Monthly

1st Sunday

Covered Dish and Rector's Forum after Sunday Worship

1st Tuesday

ECW Meeting , 10-11:30am in the Parish Hall

4th Thursday

Men's Group Meeting, 6:30-8pm, Tap and Pour on Moody

> All Saints welcomes all to our Worship and Fellowship Events

And a Preview for Advent

This year, our All Saints Advent program
will be on Thursday evenings, rather than Wednesdays,
from 5:45 - 7:15 p.m. So mark your calendars
and join this year's program

Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy
beginning on Thursday 12/1.

September in Pictures



Annual Acolyte Recognition

Amelia Christie and Aaron Floyd receive their new crosses. Amaya Rice, Maddie Rice, Noah Rice, Adam Parks, and Preston Tidwell-Mial were also recognized for their Acolyte ministry.





A big **Thank You** to Mike Ginn for building a new Recycle Bin

for the All Saints Green Team, and
to Jess Underwood
for painting to help preserve it
for years to come



Mother Bonnie getting ready for our Inquirer's Class



Deacon Barbara leading us in Getting to Know our Neighbors

