



# All Saints Alive!

The Newsletter of All Saints Episcopal Church  
March 2023



## Mother Bonnie's Corner

I'm always grateful for the Lenten season, that annual invitation to renew our commitment as Christ-followers. We have an opportunity to remember what's most important, as well as practice redirecting our lives toward Jesus and away from those things which can distract us from following him.

But before Lent begins, we celebrate the Feast of the Transfiguration, that momentous day on the Holy Mountain when the disciples witness the impossible. Jesus is speaking with Moses and Elijah when he is suddenly changed, shining with a never-before-seen heavenly light. And if all that wasn't enough to grab the disciples' attention, God's voice is then heard, telling the disciples to listen to Jesus.

That's the message that I'll be holding on to this Lenten season: *Listen to Jesus*. Listen, as he teaches us to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Listen, as he tells us how to love our neighbors as ourselves. Listen, as he leads us into new life - not because we're gifted or talented or deserving - but simply because we are fully and completely loved. Listen, for in Jesus we will find our strength to bear our cross and be changed in him.

During Lent, we're all invited to humbly examine our whole lives through Christ's eyes. We're invited to read and meditate on God's Holy Word, recognizing that God is God and we are not, for it is only through God's gracious gift of love that we are given the precious gift of everlasting life.

Take the time to lean into a Holy Lent, knowing all are invited. We will begin with Ash Wednesday services, remembering both our mortality and God's gracious gift of eternal life. Participate in a meditative Taizé Service. Join in our Thursday evening video Lenten Series, *Jesus Makes the Difference*. Experience Stations of the Cross, either in the Sanctuary Wednesdays at noon or at our upcoming Outdoor Stations during Holy Week

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Contact us: 478-923-1791  
office@allsaintswr.org  
allsaintswr.org

And if you have a desire for a personal confession with your priest, please do contact me. While the Episcopal Church offers a general confession of sin during the liturgy, the church also provides for confessions of sin by individual penitents, and for their absolution, pronounced priest.

Jesus longs to accomplish in us the work of salvation, that we all may live lives that show God's glory to the world. May this Lenten season draw us ever closer to Christ Jesus and his way of love.

Blessings,

Mother Bonnie

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## From our Deacon

I remember the first Lent I observed as an Episcopalian wanna-be. My daughter, Sarah, and I were sitting at a fairly open table for the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Others began to join us at the table and the last two to sit down were the Rector and his wife. As everyone was reaching the exploding point fueled by pancakes and sausage, someone started that goofy game of "What are you giving up for Lent?"



I really hadn't settled on anything and was quite relieved when the Rector looked at me and said, "Don't forget folks. One can also take on something as a Lenten discipline."

That I could easily do! In fact, I already had two possibilities simmering on front burners.

Therefore, when it came my turn to share I said, "I'm either going to find a food pantry to engage or start a short prayer service with my colleagues at work." (For the record, I did both.)

When it came for Sarah's turn, unsurprising to me, she looked at the Rector and said, "I-I-I-I-I have a question." Since the beginning of her time on earth, whenever Sarah extended her first person personal pronoun in that particular way, there was absolutely no telling what was coming.

"Sarah, you have my attention," the Rector replied.

"OK. Is fish meat?"

"By definition, yes, fish is meat," was his answer.

"Humph! Well, there's always eggs. I need my protein."

To which the Rector's wife responded, "Sarah, some people consider eggs meat."

Sarah looked at her with an intensity I recognized immediately. I was more than a bit concerned when her this-is-not-up-for-further-discussion look took aim at the rector's wife, as Sarah said firmly, "Not until it CHEEPS!"

Nobody said anything. We didn't even look at each other.

Then the Rector very calmly replied, "Sarah, I'm happy to hear that you have given your Lenten discipline such thought. It is wise to critically analyze your options. Sounds to me like you have chosen your discipline."

Since that first episode, I've given Lenten discipline much prayer, thought, and consideration. Sometimes I give something up. Sometimes I take something on. Sometimes I do both.

I know you already know how Lent works and you don't need suggestions from me. But it is important to give some considerable thought to our disciplines and why discipline is a good thing.

I think Lent reminds us to be purposeful. For these 40 days we put extra effort into working diligently on whatever we have identified as a way for us to focus on both growth and repentance. I believe this extra focus gives us an opportunity to see the world in a different way, for a purpose-filled openness can help us notice what is not right in the world and allow those thoughts to soak into our prayers. We may even begin to imagine how we too can strive to help right the inequity and inequality that weakens the world.

This kind of focused Lenten discipline gives us the opportunity to be truly honest with ourselves. And if we are particularly brave and begin honest, compassionate conversations with those close to us, we just might discover a ministry we never imagined.

Go in peace to love and serve the world,  
Deacon Barbara

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## From the Senior Warden

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February was another busy month here at All Saints. A very special event occurred on Sunday the 12th when Bishop Wright joined us for a Confirmation Service. The service began with a beautiful duet by Mary Christian and Kipp Gill that was arranged by Mary. Following the duet, our Children's Choir performed Behold, Behold, I stand at the door and knock. Candidates were confirmed and welcomed

to the Church. Congratulations to Cody and Rachael Heidler and Emma and Grayson Mullis. We are so blessed to have them join our congregation. If you were not able to attend or view the service, you can still watch it. On Facebook, look for the Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany at All Saints' Episcopal Church. It is also available on YouTube at Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany, All Saints Episcopal Church.



During March, we will have many Lenten activities. Please join us for the Lenten Programs and Suppers throughout the month. The programs/suppers will be every Thursday evening starting at 5:45 PM. Please watch for a SignUp Genius and join us on March 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30. Suppers will be a soup and sandwich buffet. In addition, we will have Lenten Evensong at 7:00 PM on March 24, 2023. Stations of the Cross will be every Wednesday at noon.

On Sunday, March 19, 2023, we will be celebrating the Annual English Tea. This event is loved not only by our congregation but by the community as well. It has been a favorite event at All Saints for over 20 years. There are many opportunities to volunteer. Please check the sign-up sheets to see if there is something you would like to do. A big thanks to Anne Sanders along with ECW for sponsoring this event.

March is a month full of meaningful and important events. Please mark your calendar. We are so blessed to have so many opportunities to gather together this month as we prepare for Holy Week and Easter in April.

Shelley Strickland

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## Lent at All Saints

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### **Stations of the Cross**

Wednesdays at Noon

*We meet in the Sanctuary each week.*

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### **Lenten Program**

Thursday evenings in March: 5:45 - 7:15 pm

Simple Potluck and Video Discussion series

*Watch for a weekly SignUp Genius*

***Jesus Makes the Difference***

***Bishop's Lenten Series 2023***

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### **Lenten Choral Evensong**

March 24th, 7:00 pm,  
with reception to follow

*Join us for this traditional Anglican  
worship, with beloved  
Guest Musicians  
Maggie and Kristen Gill.*



# Year Round Stewardship:

## *Altar Guild: It Doesn't Just Happen*

In the Middle Ages, a guild was an organization of artisans or merchants who controlled the practice of their trade within a given city or territory. Master craftsmen—carpenters, shoemakers, locksmiths, etc.—upheld the quality standards and taught the skills and secrets of their work to the apprentices who hoped eventually to become master craftsmen themselves.

In the Altar Guild at All Saints, the apprentices and longtime masters set up before every service, handing down from generation to generation the knowledge that keeps the altar space both beautiful and liturgically correct. They make sure the collection basins are in place and ready for the ushers at offering time, vacuum the rug and comb out the fringe at the edges, keep the silver polished and locked up, check to see if there are enough wafers (and remind the parish administrator to order more if they're running low). They tend to the details that, for those of us who only come for services and have never seen the work behind the scenes, seem to "just happen." But of course, within the communion rails, as in other areas in life, things don't "just happen."

Linda Christie began her apprenticeship under her mother's supervision while still in high school, in 1968, learning to which vessel holds the wine and which the water, ironing the altar linens until the "cat faces" disappeared. Now, as Altar Guild head, she still occasionally has anxiety dreams in which she's setting up for communion and can't remember what goes where. While awake, though, she has compiled a thick notebook of directions, which guild members regularly consult. "Something I really enjoy," she says, "is learning about the symbolism in the church—the meaning behind the different vessels, the stories behind the different colors for the different liturgical seasons, the names of all the things." She also enjoys the most creative aspect of AG's role, arranging the flower display above the altar.

Judy Reynolds recalls that in her early days on AG, after her mother recruited her, she had questions every week her team was on: "Mama, do we need all the candles? Do we need to get the silver out of the safe?" And now, over a decade later—well, she still has questions just about every time. But she appreciates the sense of community. Each AG member serves on a team of three or four members, and the teams rotate on the three-week schedule. "You're always working as part of a team," she says. "One person will be at the hymn board, setting up the numbers, and another person will be down below with a bulletin, reading the numbers out."

When asked what advice she had for new people interested in serving on AG, or just trying it out, Judy answers, "Just come and be a puppy, soak it all in. Come a few times, and if you don't like it, it's not your thing."

Linda adds, "One great thing about it is, you never have to do anything by yourself until you're comfortable with it. Just come on a Saturday and watch."

Mary Christian

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# March at a Glance

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**Wednesdays at Noon:** Stations of the Cross

*Meet in the Sanctuary for this sacred time walking the Way of the Cross.*

**Thursday Evenings at 5:45 pm:** Lenten Supper and Program

*Watch for a SignUp Genius each week.*

**March 2nd:** Noon Healing Eucharist *(Something New!)*

**March 4th:** Fish Fry fundraiser by Stephanie Johnson, to support the Hunger Walk.

**March 5th:** Monthly Covered Dish and Rector's Forum

*With a Guest Speaker from Georgia Interfaith Power and Light*

**March 6th, 12:00 – 1:30 pm:** Women's Interfaith Alliance

*Trinity United Methodist Church, Warner Robins*

**March 11th, 9:00 am:** Hunger Walk

**March 12th, after worship:** Possibilities in Lay Ministry *(Something New!)*

*A discussion led by Mother Bonnie*

**March 19th:** Annual English Tea, beginning with a piano and flute recital at 2pm

*Buy your tickets now for this wonderful annual event.*

**March 24th at 7 pm:** Traditional Lenten Evensong

*We welcome back two beloved guest musicians, Maggie and Kristin Gill!*

Reception to follow in the Parish Hall.

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*All are welcome  
to Worship  
and  
Fellowship Events*

*Do Join Us!*

## All Saints Calendar

### Weekly

#### Sunday

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

#### Monday

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

#### Tuesday

Food Pantry: 9:30 – 11am

#### Wednesday

Noonday Prayer: 12-12:30pm

#### Thursday

Choir Rehearsal: 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, at O'Charley's  
on Watson Blvd

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## *And Something New at All Saints*

### **Weekday Healing Eucharist**

Thursday, March 2nd at Noon

*Join us for this time of quiet prayer and strengthening in the Word and Sacrament, with an opportunity for personal prayers of healing.*



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### **Wondering about Lay Ministry Opportunities?**

Sunday, March 12th, after worship

*Join Mother Bonnie in a talk about possibilities*

The new FAB (Formation for All the Baptized) School for Ministry in the Diocese of Atlanta supports the formation and licensure process for several lay ministries. Formation involves participation in a discernment process, endorsement of clergy and vestry, classes, meeting with the Commission on Ministry, and a commissioning service.

The next discernment cohort for licensed lay ministry will start on April 26th and is 6 weeks long. Join Mother Bonnie to learn more about potential opportunities.

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## **A Reflection Moment . . .**



*Don't let yourself forget that God's grace rewards not only those who never slip, but those who bend and fall.*

Hildegard of Bingen

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# CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

## *Outdoor Stations of the Cross*

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This year All Saints will offer an outdoor Stations of the Cross pilgrimage during Holy Week. The stations will be spaced throughout the grounds of the church, providing an opportunity to connect and engage each station in a new and personal way.



***We still have a few stations that need artists***, so if you're interested in leaning into your artistic gifts by creating your personal vision for one of our stations, please contact us! We are requesting that all Stations art be delivered to the office no later than Monday, March 27, in preparation for use during Holy Week.

**If you are interested or have questions, contact Deacon Barbara at [deacon@allsaintswr.org](mailto:deacon@allsaintswr.org) or 478-719-6458.**

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## And Coming in April . . . Save the Dates

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### *Holy Week and Easter Sunday*

**April 1st:** Palm Cross workshop and Parish Workday, 9 am

**April 2nd:** Palm Sunday Worship, 10:15 am

**April 6th:** Maundy Thursday Worship, 7 pm

**April 7th:** Good Friday Services

Stations of the Cross, Noon

Good Friday service, 7 pm

**April 8th:** Holy Saturday Service, 10 am

**April 9th:** Easter Day

Easter Vigil, 6:30 am

Breakfast, 9 am

Easter Egg Hunt, 9:30 am

Easter Sunday Worship, 10:15 am

### *And later in the Easter Season*

**April 16th:** Sunday Worship includes Blessings of the Brains

**April 22nd:** Yoga on the Courtyard, led by Stephanie Johnson

**April 23rd:** Parish Picnic

**April 30th:** 5th Sunday! with Children's Sermon

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# Parish Life

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## Fellowship

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Did you know? The Fellowship committee is just that, we are responsible for coordinating various social events in coordination with other groups, but you can think of us as the “hospitality team.” We love to see smiling faces as you enjoy your pancakes, lemonade & cookies, or a sandwich and an English scone! We really would like a few more members to join our group. Our next big event will be the Parish Picnic. Interested in helping to plan this event? We would love you to come and join us so that together we can make this year’s picnic one of the “best ever.”

Our Fellowship Team: Marcia Fussell; Joy Norman; Anne Sanders; Sandy Scammell; Shelley Strickland; JoAnn Tarnoff; Susan Wimsett; Susan Wynn.

Anne Sanders, 478-335-1487, asanders@cox.net

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## Annual English Tea

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This year’s English Tea is on March 19, a little earlier than in the past. Some of you may remember that about 8 years ago, it snowed on the afternoon of the Tea! Although it looked very pretty, with snow dusting the bushes in our All Saints garden, we hope it doesn’t do that this year!

To start the afternoon’s delights, from 2:00-2:30, there will be a wonderful recital in the parish hall with our very own Kipp Gill and the Middle Georgia Flute Choir. Then ticketed guests to the Tea will be piped in by Shirley Blunk in full Scottish costume. (Shirley will be familiar to anyone who has attended a previous Tea as she has kindly played for the majority of our 23 Teas!)

Guests to the tea will enjoy the traditional English sandwiches everyone loves, plus some new items to try. Grateful thanks to all who have signed up to make some of the sweets we will serve. We do still need some slots filled. Please watch for a SignUp Genius to see where help is needed. There is something for everyone who would like to help or just contact me for more information.

Tickets are on sale in the office, from members of the committee, and also at the British Pantry in Centerville. Please help to make this one of our most successful Teas by spreading the word about the recital and the Tea amongst your friends and in the community.

Anne Sanders, 478-335-1487, asanders@cox.net

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# All Saints in Pictures

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Our children's choir sang during 5th Sunday! worship, then all helped Mother Bonnie with the children's sermon



*Our recently Commissioned Saints of All Saints*

Paul Davison:  
lay preacher, worship leader, pastoral leader  
and  
Debra Bruner-Smith: lay pastoral leader



The Bishop among us  
Confirming the Heidler and Mullis families



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*And have you seen our new children's corner  
in the Parish Hall?*

