

The Disciple



St. John's Anglican Church, 230 Southland Rd., Americus GA 31709

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Since November is the final month of the church year, (the church calendar begins with the First Sunday of Advent, which falls on November 28th this year) I thought it would be fitting to begin reflecting over the past eleven months, and in doing so the main thing that stands out to me about this first year is the immense power of prayer.

Each Wednesday night, a small group has gathered in the nave of our church for our regular service of evening prayer and healing. Near the end of the service, any who desire prayer for healing are invited to the chancel rail. They'll state their request, often for a family member or a friend, and the officiant will pray for them and then anoint their forehead with oil.

It's a beautiful moment in the service; it puts people at their most vulnerable, but also often at their most expectant. And though not every prayer has been answered as we had wished this year, I have been amazed by how many of our requests have been granted to us.

We've seen people delivered from enormous trials. We've seen people healed of serious illnesses including COVID, cancer, stroke, and heart attack, and pull through complex surgeries successfully. It has amazed me how many times people have improved after our congregation has started praying for them.

Others have been given strength to endure and been comforted by God's pervasive peace even in the midst of great loss and deep pain. Their persistence in the face of long-suffering is admirable evidence of a stubborn faith.

We've also seen God bless our church, allowing us to be fruitful in his mission. He's sent us key people we've needed at just the right time. For example, none of the three musicians leading the music at the contemporary evening service had been in our church before this year, but God has provided people with the exact skills that we needed to get the service up and running.

God cares deeply about our little church, and our prayers matter. With the psalmist, let us rejoice that "The Lord has heard my petition; the Lord will receive my prayer." (Psalm 6:9) Surely Paul wrote truly when he exhorted the Romans "Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer." (Romans 12:12) Let us, brothers and sisters, heed his words and continue to apply them, for "the effective prayer of a righteous person has great power." (James 5:16)



Rev. Jim Barton

Fall Festival was a Success!

Things got festive at St. John's last Saturday—the Fall Festival was a great success! Lots of folks stopped by, and lots of kids. There was food for all (although we did run low on hotdogs), music, bouncy houses and slides, hay rides, snow cones and a very popular dunking booth—young Jacob dunked his very own Father Jim at least three times, retaliation, Jim said, for the triple dunking he got at his baptism! And there were pumpkins, lots and lots of pumpkins. It was a great day. Special thanks to Jeff Joiner, David Wingard, Sid & Beth Cameron, Stuart Perry, George & Ann Peagler, Lou Chase, Brady Fowler, and all those who helped make this a special day.



David Snell



The Blessing of Animals



The Blessing of Law Enforcement



Vestry Nominations

Vestry nominations are now being accepted for the upcoming year. Please have prior consent to submit someone for nomination to the Vestry. All nominations may be submitted to the Church office on or before December 7, 2021.



Upcoming Visit

November 14, 2021, Canon Mark Eldredge will be visiting and preaching at St. John's. Following the evening service, we will have a covered dish supper. The Church will provide the meat. Please bring a side or dessert and invite a friend. Make Canon Mark welcome!



Mark is the Director of Church Revitalization for the American Anglican Council serving the Anglican Church in North America by helping local congregations better fulfill the Great Commission in our times. He also serves a similar role as the Canon for Congregational Health for the Gulf Atlantic Diocese based in Jacksonville, FL.



**There will be no services on Wednesday,
November 24, 2021.**





Coffee & Conversation

We welcome everyone to coffee and conversation each Sunday in the Parish Hall from 9:30-10:00 AM. This will give us an opportunity to visit before Church and at the same time give people a quiet time to pray in the sanctuary before Church.



Men's Christian Fellowship

Tuesday, November 9, 2021
6:00 PM

Join us for a BBQ meal!!



Vestry Meeting

November 16, 2021
6:00 pm



November

None This Month



November

4-Sheilla Snell
13-Charles Pryor
19-Susan Curtis
22-Russell Thomas

NOVEMBER ROTA

DATE	SERVICE	LEM	LECTOR	USHER	ACOLYTE
11/1	All Saints Day	Lou Chase	Jeff Joiner	Jeff Joiner	
11/3	Evening Prayer & Healing		Everett Byrd		
11/7	Holy Communion	Beth Cameron	Susan Curtis	Jeff Joiner	
11/10	Evening Prayer & Healing		Jeff Joiner		
11/14	Holy Communion	Lou Chase	Peter Banse	Darrell Hobgood	
11/17	Evening Prayer & Healing		Susan Curtis		
11/21	Holy Communion	Jeff Joiner	Everett Byrd	Sid Cameron	
11/24	NO SERVICE				
11/28	Holy Communion	David Snell	Everett Byrd	Jeff Joiner	
11/28	Contemporary Service	Everett Byrd	Eli Barrera	Jeff Joiner	