

# The Disciple



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

On Sunday's this summer, we are working our way through one section of Paul's letter to the Romans. We began at the end of chapter 4, and we'll be proceeding through the end of chapter 8.

In these chapters, Paul is teaching his readers about what life is like for those who are justified by their faith in God. Once we have entrusted ourselves to God's righteousness through faith in Christ, we live by the abounding grace of the Spirit.

We no longer belong to the powers of sin and darkness; we belong to Jesus, and that new identity begins to lead to a new life--new values, practices, and habits.

So much of the gospel message is summed up in its opening slogan, "Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand" (Matthew 3:2; 4:17). This section of Romans is particularly valuable to the church because it shows us what it looks like to work out that repentance in our whole lives.

Repentance means to turn. It is not *just* a one time turn from not believing in Jesus as Lord and Savior to believing in Jesus as Lord and Savior (though it certainly is not less than that either!), rather it is a daily turn of heart, mind, soul, and strength from entanglement in sinful desire and passion to pursuit of the holiness of Christ.

As Jesus himself advises his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take

up his cross and follow me" (Matt 16:24).

In Romans 5-8, Paul is giving us a detailed analysis of the why and how of this command of Christ.

The consistent refrain of the Collects of the Day throughout this part of the liturgical year is an ever-green call to the faithful to put on and practice the holiness that is ours in Christ Jesus.

This is the very pursuit Paul is exhorting his readers to sally forth on in Romans 5-8. As we bask in the long days of summer this July, let us also seek with whole hearts the things that are above--and are rightfully ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In Christ,  
Jim

P.S.--For most of this July, our contemporary ensemble will be leading worship on Sunday morning's. Big thanks to the team of Caleb Cripe, Courtney Wingfield, and Bryton Hawkins for their cheerful dedication to learning new music and helping out! Also thanks are due to Bobbie Banse who has graciously agreed to cover Preludes and Offertories during July. It's a real treat to see so many willing and able to help!



Jim Barton



Each month our ministry spotlight highlights a ministry our church partners with and supports. This month we are highlighting The American Anglican Council (AAC). Our church has partnered with the American Anglican Council from our very beginning, and our congregation supports their work with a quarterly donation.

## THE AMERICAN ANGLICAN COUNCIL

### BRINGING CLARITY OUT OF CONFUSION

#### SO WHAT DOES CLARITY LOOK LIKE?

We see leaders of local, regional, and national Anglican churches equipped to remaining faithful, courageous, and resilient to their biblical and apostolic roots and together fulfilling Christ’s Great Commission in the world.



#### WHAT DO WE DO?

We build Great Commission Anglican churches in North America and worldwide through

- Developing Faithful Leaders
- Equipping Local Congregations
- and Always Reforming the Church!



#### WHAT'S ESSENTIAL TO US?

- Biblical Faithfulness
- Prophetic Voice
- Catalytic Leadership
- Apostolic Action
- Contagious Courage
- Holy Integrity

#### A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The American Anglican Council (AAC) is a network of individuals, parishes, and ministries who affirm biblical authority and Christian orthodoxy within the Anglican Communion. For 20 years the AAC has promoted and defended Biblical Anglicanism in North America and around the world. The Anglican Communion is among the world’s largest Christian denominations with over 55 million active participants. Sadly, this great church is threatened by false, un-Christian teachings, with the authority of Holy Scripture, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and the doctrine of marriage all under attack. In North America, many Anglican churches are in need of revitalization. While some parishes are thriving, others are losing members.

We want these churches to be fully functioning outposts of God’s Kingdom and are committed to partnering with local, diocesan, and provincial churches to meet these challenges by developing faithful leaders, equipping local congregations, and always reforming the Church!

In Christ’s Service,

The Rev. Canon Phil Ashey  
*President & CEO, American Anglican Council*



# HOLY CHOW!

Holy Chow came to St. John's again, and a great event it was. The Hobgood's prepared ham—one honey roasted, the other with herbs, both outstanding. The members all kicked in with sides and desserts. Quite the feast! If there's anything we shine at, it's keeping ourselves well fed. Thanks to all who joined us for a lovely time of fellowship.





### Another successful diaper drive for Hands of Hope!



There will be NO Evening Prayer and Healing on Wednesday evening, July 5.



Vestry Meeting will be on July 11, 2023



Bishop Frank Lyons will be visiting on December 10, 2023.

### The Rev. Dr. Bill Stanford

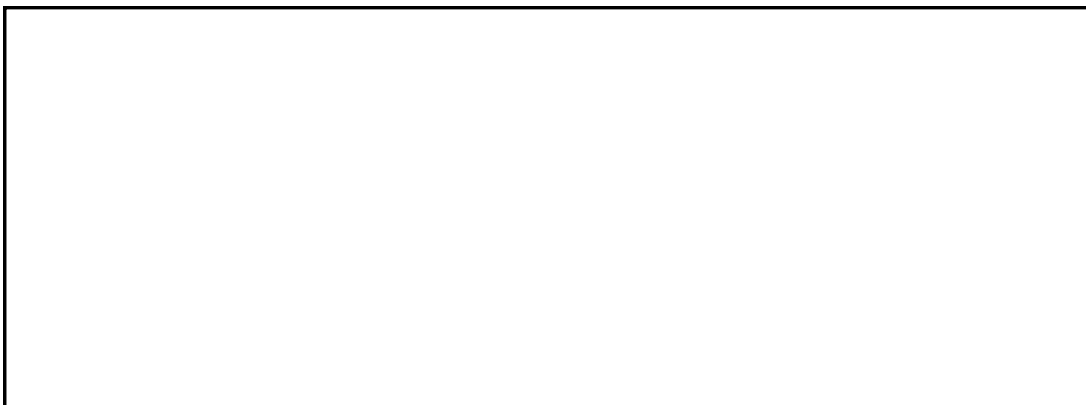
Please give Fr. Bill a warm welcome to St. John's as he preaches and presides on July 23.



Bill currently serves as the Associate Priest for Marriage & Family Ministry at St. Thomas Anglican Church in Athens, GA.

Bill, his wife, Mei-Lyn, and their children moved to Athens in 2017 so that he could pursue doctoral studies at the University of Georgia, which he finished in Spring 2022. Prior to that, the Stanford's lived in Arkansas where Bill worked as a therapist for families and individuals.

In addition to his work for St. Thomas, Bill is the founder of The Inner Room, where he provides counseling services for the broader Athens community. He is also an occasional instructor in Abrahamic Faiths at the University of Georgia's Department of Religion.



**Men's Christian Fellowship**

**None in July  
Will resume in August.**



**MEETING  
NOTICE!**

**Vestry Meeting**

July 11, 2023  
6:00 PM

**July**

- 18-Stuart & Pam Perry
- 19-Reggie & Phyllis Daniel
- 29-David & Sheilla Snell

**July**

- 1-Denise Deuel
- 6-Morgan Cripe
- 8-Ric Brenner
- 8-David Snell
- 9-Brady Fowler
- 15-Nikki Jones
- 20-Lou Chase
- 29-Nancy Warlick
- 29-Cooper Trollinger



happy anniversary



# JULY ROTA

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SERVICE</b>	<b>LEM</b>	<b>LECTOR</b>	<b>USHER</b>	<b>CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL</b>
7/2	Holy Communion	Lou Chase	Peter Banse	Jeff Joiner	
7/5	No Evening Prayer & Healing				
7/9	Holy Communion	Beth Cameron	Susan Curtis	Hunter Trollinger	
7/12	Evening Prayer & Healing		Jeff Joiner		
7/16	Holy Communion	George Peagler	Courtney Wingfield	Brady Fowler	
7/19	Evening Prayer & Healing		Susan Curtis		
7/23	Holy Communion	Lou Chase	France Pierce	Sid Cameron	
7/26	Evening Prayer & Healing		George Peagler		
7/30	Holy Communion	David Snell	Jeff Joiner	Jeff Joiner	