

The Disciple



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

Since Easter slides in right at the end of March this year, we've got a rich and full month coming up! It will be a meaningful month as we walk through the final three Sunday's of Lent together before turning to Holy Week during the last week of March.

One of my favorite things about my office at the church is the large oakleaf hydrangea just outside my east window. Each spring, the hydrangea transforms from a dormant bundle of sticks to a leafy, flowery shrub that attracts pollinators and birds. It goes from as good as dead to full of life. Right now, the hydrangea is just starting to push out new leaves. The light green contrasts markedly with the old brown.

For me, observing the transformation of this one shrub is a great reminder of the transformation God works in us as we follow Jesus. When we turn to Christ, we go from death to life. We go from dormant to growing. God changes our hearts, and God changes our lives.

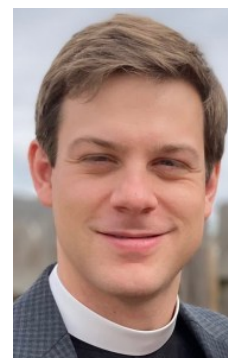
At first the changes seem small: they can even be easy to overlook. But over time, as the Spirit shapes and forms our hearts and minds, the new growth becomes

easier to spot. This is how discipleship works. As we believe in Christ and belong to Christ--as we abide in him--we also become like Christ.

Worship this time of year is a great way to dig into the grand narrative of the amazing work Christ has finished on our behalf. It's a great way for us to center our hearts on the mercy and love of God. Knowing Jesus and all that he has done for us is the key to following him well.

This month, I want to invite you to participate in this beautiful story yourself. Experience it during worship, and live it all week. As the collect for endurance so memorably phrases it, "Mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the Cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen."

In Christ,
Jim

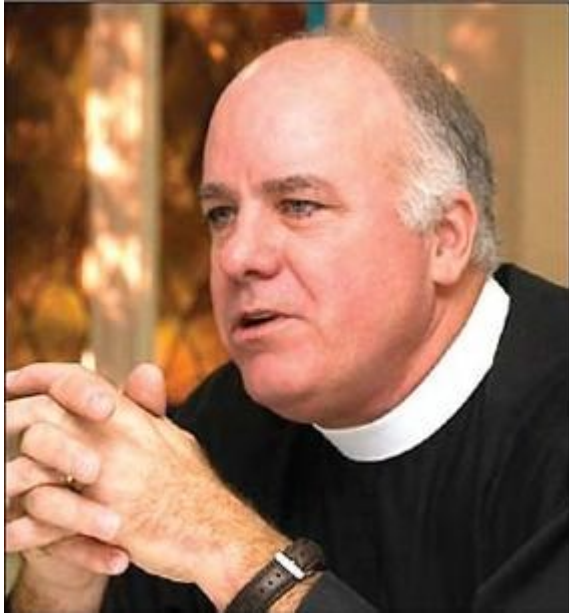


Jim Barton

The Reverend Alan Hansen

The Reverend Alan Hansen will be celebrating and preaching at St John's this St Patrick's Day!

Fr. Alan Hansen currently serves as an Associate Priest at All Saints Anglican Church in Peachtree City where his work focuses in the areas of Christian Discipleship and Spiritual Growth.



Fr. Alan and his wife, Teresa, have been married for 36 years and have three children and three grandchildren.

Fr. Alan was ordained in 1982 and served congregations in Florida and Kentucky. In 2002, Fr. Alan was elected President and CEO of ACTS 29 Ministries in Atlanta where he developed over 50 hours of materials regarding congregational development including: leadership training, healing, lay ministry, stewardship, evangelism, the Holy Spirit and strategic planning. He traveled extensively for over 10 years bringing these teachings to the church through weekends, retreats, clergy continuing education, and teaching at two seminaries.

We're excited to welcome Fr. Alan to St John's on March 17!

Holy Week Schedule

March 28, 2024

Maundy Thursday-6:00 PM

March 29, 2024

Stations of the Cross-Noon

Good Friday Service-6:00 PM

March 30, 2024

Holy Saturday-10:00 AM

March 31, 2024

Easter Sunday-10:00 AM

Shrove Tuesday

St. John's celebrated Shrove Tuesday in style with an outstanding pancake dinner. Special thanks to the Men's Fellowship for hosting and to Sid Cameron for manning the grill and sous chef David Snell for mixing the batter (and making quite the mess!)



GSW Teddy Bear Toss

St. John's made quite a splash at the annual GSW Teddy Bear Toss, littering the arena with cute little bears wearing a St. John's t-shirt! Tip of Barrington Bear's hat to Lou Chase, who pulled the event together, and special thanks to all of the donors who gave and the tossers who tossed!



RECTOR SEARCH UPDATE

We now have five viable candidates for the Rector position. The committee is holding ZOOM meetings with them in order to get to know them better. It's looking like this will be a difficult decision as the candidates all bring special gifts. Please be praying for the committee as they seek the Lord's guidance.

EASTER EGG HUNT

We will have our Children's Easter Egg Hunt again this year directly following the Easter service. We have plenty of leftover eggs and in the spirit of not filling the world with more plastic we just need candy!

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to bring candy that will fit in the eggs!





<div><div>Men's Christian Fellowship</div><div>Tuesday, March 12, 2024 6:00 PM in Parish Hall</div><div>Bring a steak and a friend and join us. Sides provided.</div></div>
<div><div>Vestry Meeting</div><div>March 19, 2024 6:00 PM</div></div>
<div>March</div>
<div>None This Month</div>
<div>March</div>
<div>11-Kailey Taylor Hale 17-Angie Trollinger 24-Mary Marshall 25-Chris Hall</div>

MARCH ROTA

DATE	SERVICE	LEM	LECTOR	USHER	CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL
3/3	Holy Communion	Beth Cameron	Jeff Joiner	Jeff Joiner	Kelsey Barton
3/6	Evening Prayer & Healing		Everett Byrd		
3/10	Holy Communion	David Snell	George Peagler	Hunter Trollinger	Beth Cameron
3/13	Ash Wednesday		Jeff Joiner		
3/17	Holy Communion	Lou Chase	Peter Banse	Hunter Peak	Lou Chase
3/20	Evening Prayer & Healing		Susan Curtis		
3/24	Holy Communion	Jeff Joiner	France Pierce	Brady Fowler	Angie Trollinger
3/27	Evening Prayer & Healing		Beth Cameron		
3/28	Maundy Thursday	Lou Chase	Everett Byrd		
3/29	Stations of the Cross				
3/29	Good Friday	Beth Cameron	Jeff Joiner		
3/30	Holy Saturday		David Snell		
3/31	Easter Sunday	Lou Chase	Susan Curtis	Sid Cameron	Selby Fowler