

ALL SAINTS' BULLETIN
The Monthly Newsletter of All Saints'
May, 2018
228-9242
www.allsaintsthamasville.org

Dear Friends,

This month, on May 20, the Church celebrates the Feast of Pentecost.

For Episcopalians, Pentecost is one of seven "Principal Feasts". The others are, Christmas Day, the Epiphany, Easter Sunday, the Ascension, Trinity Sunday, and All Saints' Day.

Roman Catholics call these days, along with others, "Days of Holy Obligation". The 'obligation' is to attend Mass. Our Book of Common Prayer does not specify obligatory attendance for these days, but I wonder how many of you have seen the statement on page 291 of the 1928 BCP? There the question is asked, "What is your bounden duty as a member of the Church?" The answer given is, "My bounden duty is to follow Christ, to worship God every Sunday in his Church; and to work and pray and give for the spread of his Kingdom." Since it is our 'bounden duty' to worship every Sunday, the only one of the feasts to which we are not obligated is the Ascension, which falls on a Thursday. So, no getting around it for Episcopalians! We are as obligated as Catholics! Can't you tell how I love playing the Pharisee!

(If you are interested to see what the 1928 BCP has to say about the obligation to receive Communion look at the Exhortation on pages 88-89. Especially note, "It is an easy matter for a man to say, I will not communicate, because I am otherwise hindered with worldly

business. But such excuses are not so easily accepted or allowed before God ... Consider earnestly with yourselves how little such feigned excuses will avail before God." Ninety years ago, it was clearly easier for clergy to demand church attendance!)

Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival. Since no work was permitted, the disciples took advantage of a day off to meet again in the Upper Room. It was seven weeks to the day since the resurrection. Acts describes what took place. Suddenly there was a noise like a strong, driving wind and then flames which looked like tongues of fire rested on each one of them. All of them started speaking in other languages and they must have made quite a commotion because they could be heard in the street outside. A crowd gathered, presumably driven by curiosity, and people who had come from all over the Jewish dispersion were amazed to hear Galileans speaking foreign languages. They concluded that they had been drinking!

But then, St. Peter, totally transformed from a frightened denier of Christ into a gifted, confident preacher, lead the disciples out into the street and preached a powerful sermon. We are told three thousand people were added to the number of the disciples as a result of what he had to say.

In the days that follow, the other disciples and apostles show that they like Peter have received gifts as a result of the Holy Spirit and they perform 'marvels and signs'.

It becomes clear that the encounter with the Holy Spirit is essential for the growth of the Church. The Holy Spirit bestows gifts on individual Christians and then empowers them to use those gifts for spreading the Kingdom of God. There are, as St Paul would later say, different gifts, but it is the same Spirit that bestows them.

And that brings me back to talking about Pentecost and our obligations. The same Holy Spirit who gave gifts to the first Christians

gives all of us gifts. I am really not that concerned about obligations to attend Church on particular days, though, of course, it is always wonderful to see you in Church. What I am far more concerned about is that each of us discerns the gifts that the Holy Spirit has given us and then feels obligated to put them to use in serving God. The church is just as weakened by people who have gifts and don't use them as it is by people who don't attend. To waste a talent is not just a shame. It is a deep betrayal of the one who gave it to us.

Perhaps we could, as a Parish, look upon Pentecost as a "Day of Holy Obligation" – a holy obligation to ask ourselves "What are the talents that God has given me? And, am I using them to the fullest to help God make the world the place he wants it to be?"

Every Blessing,

Paul+

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY CLASSES IN THE FALL

As all of you know I was trained last summer to mentor an Education for Ministry (EfM) class. It is a program of adult Christian formation that has been developed by the divinity school at Sewanee.

A group of nine parishioners expressed an interest in taking the class and we have been meeting weekly on Tuesday evenings. We start with Evening Prayer, share a snack, and then dive into our discussions. There is a significant amount of reading to do each week and we are challenged to be open and honest with one another. When a member cannot be present for our meeting they usually call in.

For me personally it has been a highlight of my ministry at All Saints' and I believe all the members of the class would say how worthwhile it has been. The members of the class have been Claud and Pam

Davis, Putt and Margaret Wetherbee, Nadia Watts, Roy Lilly, Doug McPherson, Howell Ferguson and Will Sheftall.

A number of you have said that you would also like to be part of the program. The current class is planning to continue, and I have committed to them that I will stay with them for another year. For that reason, I have asked Will Brown+ to be trained as a mentor and start a second class. We will need at least six people and cannot take more than eleven. If you think you might be interested now is the time to speak to me about it. I can give you more information as can the current members of my class.

The meeting time on a Tuesday evening came about because it was mutually convenient for this year's class. When the second class will meet will be dependent on its members and Fr. Brown.

Paul+

OFFICE CLOSING

The parish office will be closed on Monday, May 28 in observance of Memorial Day.

VESTRY MEETING

The Vestry will hold its meeting this month on Sunday, May 20 at 8:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall Library.

POP UP BAZAAR UPDATE

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the Pop Up Bazaar and to all the parishioners who donated items to the bazaar. We were able to raise more than \$3400 to donate to various Thomasville charities.

Libby Bracken

ECW NEWS

The ECW enjoyed a wonderful social in a lovely setting at the home of Chip and Kim Bragg. A big thank you to Kim, Debbie Wright and Andrea Hancock for hosting. Our final meeting of the year will be held at the home of Nancy McCollum on Thursday, May 10, from 5:00 until 6:30 pm. The address is 345 Rountree Road, which is off Springhill Road.

I have enjoyed serving as leader of ECW for the past year and it's now time to find a new leader. It is not a hard or time consuming job and I hope there is someone who will consider serving in this role. Please contact me if you have any questions or wish to volunteer. Also, be thinking about which month you would like to host the ECW next year. This can be done in your home, the parish hall, or an offsite venue. In the past we have had interesting programs at the church on bee keeping and Lives without Limits, a meeting at Studio 109, an opportunity to watch a ballet class, and gathered at Vashti to learn about the work being done there. There will be a sign-up sheet at the May meeting.

Pat Glenn
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ALTAR GUILD NEWS

The Altar Guild is particularly grateful to everyone who helped strip the altar (and then put it all back together!) during Holy Week. Special thanks goes to: Suzanne Alexander, Kim Bragg, Melissa Bruhn, Julie Carico, Janie Deal, Eleanor Lilly, Connie Middleton, Bob and Jinanne Parrish, Lisa Penhallegon, Patti Poppell, Lisa Scott, and Mary Katherine Sibley. Meanwhile, as we continue to celebrate the

Easter season, the liturgical color used for the altar and paraments will be white. For Pentecost we will change to red (symbolic of the fire of the Holy Spirit).

Patti Poppell

BOOK CLUB NEWS

On April 11th, the All Saints Book Club hosted a special luncheon honoring parishioner, Nadia R. Watts, on the occasion of the recent publishing of her book, "Thomasville In Concert" a history of the Thomasville Entertainment Foundation. Nadia herself and members of the TEF board were present to answer questions and share with us some of the behind the scenes work that went into the birth of this book. Many attendees were pleased to leave with personally signed copies of this unique piece of Thomasville history!

Our next meeting will be on May 9th in the Parish Hall at 11:50 a.m. Maureen Monsalvatge will lead the discussion of national bestselling author, Lisa Wingate's novel, "The Prayer Box". Please join us. Bring a bagged lunch; beverages and sweets will be served.

Looking further ahead, our June selection is Kent Haruf's final novel, Our Souls at Night. Our Souls is described as a "little book" — short, sparely and beautifully written. In this story, Kent Haruf explores the need all of us have for acceptance and love. When two 70- year-old neighbors form a friendship, then a deeper relationship. Complications arise with neighbors, adult children, and grandchildren. Please plan to join us to discuss.

CHOIR NEWS

St. David's Choir

The Children's Choir will sing on Mother's Day (May 13th). They will receive award recognition for their Service Ministry on this day. Parents will be recognized and praised for getting children to rehearsals and services as well. It definitely takes team effort to have this children's choir. Most churches don't or can't offer this option like All Saints Episcopal.

Trivia: Which composer learned to play piano before he could read?
Answer: Unscramble "TMARZO"

Adult Choir

Our last service with the Adult Choir is May 27 which is Memorial Weekend. Some of the hired singers will have finished their semester before then. Hopefully a couple of our hired singers will continue to help support the congregational singing throughout the summer. Many thanks to all of the parish choir members for their Service Ministry. We all know that getting up at 8AM on a Sunday to get to church by 9AM is not easy. It's a sacrifice for some and a privilege for others. Either way, we appreciate all you do.

Organ News

The organ was finally tuned in March. Why not sooner? The organ company somehow forgot to come in November. It's in good shape now.

Note: If you happen to be in the loft for any reason (funerals, weddings, meetings, rehearsals, cleaning, decorating...) please be careful. When the pipes are touched with warm hands, they fall out

of tune. This may sound odd but warm body heat can do this as well. The pipes are very sensitive.

Trivia: The organ didn't begin making its way into churches until approximately 900 AD. Many people today associate organs with a church setting; however, during the 1100 years before the organ was used in church, it was played at banquets, games and circuses. The organ was the most complex machine invented before the Industrial Revolution.

"Music expresses that which cannot be put into words and that which cannot remain silent" ― Victor Hugo
Margit Miller - Organist and Choir Master

USHER SCHEDULE

May 6 Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.
The Sixth Sunday of Easter
T.M. Falcey
Raleigh Rollins

May 13 Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m.
The Seventh Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day
Ed Davis
Walker Davis

May 20 Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.
Day of Pentecost/Whitsunday
Paul Gurley
John Hand

May 27 Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.
The First Sunday after Pentecost
Trinity Sunday
Bob Jackson
Gates Kirkham

SENIOR AWARD AND COURTYARD CELEBRATION

Congratulations to our graduating Seniors:

Brookwood School:

Curry Mullen Brinson (Tufts)

Preston McDowell Young (University of Georgia)

Deerfield Academy:

Elizabeth Arthur Robinson

(Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rankin)

Kimball Union Academy:

Frannie Wetherbee (Texas Christian University)

College of Charleston:

Mary Eleanor Hand

Washington University, St. Louis:

Alex Carico

Wofford University:

Caroline Sewell

University of Virginia:

Annalee Jackson

Please join us on Sunday, May 13th for a special service of Morning Prayer honoring mothers and graduating seniors and choristers. The service will be followed by a courtyard reception.

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE

May 6 Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

Raleigh Rollins
Simms Ladson
Harrison Jackson
Sam Bruhn
Parker McCollum

May 13 Morning Prayer 10:30 a.m.

Preston Young
Taylor Middleton
Elise McPherson
Jack Boltja
Curry Brinson

May 20 Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

Raleigh Rollins
Sam Bruhn
Simms Ladson
Olivia Enright
Bridger Middleton

May 27 Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

Reid Myers
Ethan Myers
Ben Watts
Sam Watts
Harrison Jackson

TRANSITIONS:

Happy Birthday in May to:

Ford Faulk	5-2-98
Samuel Harrison Watts	5-8-04
Taylor Hill Middleton	5-10-04
Natalie Paige Moreton	5-11-99
Eliza Fontaine Miller	5-15-03
Ella Simmons	5-18-01
Ella Claire Thomas	5-19-08
Christopher C. Watt	5-27-99
Samuel Bruhn	5-28-01

Happy Birthday in June to:

John Brigham Daniel	6-1-07
Robert Amos Rollins	6-11-11
Emmett Clark Overton Griffith	6-6-12
Will Bracken	6-18-10
Jack Anthony Hodges	6-19-03
Claire Louise Hodges	6-23-01

Episcopal Youth and Children's Services (EYCS)



College Scholarships

College-bound students (ages 17-22) are encouraged to apply online: eycs.georgiaepiscopal.org,

click on Education Scholarships

Application Requirements

1. Fill out the online application
2. Current grades
3. Priest's recommendation
4. Parents' W-2 for the current year

Did you know...the Episcopal Diocese of Georgia's Episcopal Youth and Children's Services has awarded more than \$300,000 in college scholarships to 197 students in the Diocese of Georgia in the past five years!

Deadline to Apply: May 31, 2018