

ALL SAINTS' BULLETIN  
The Monthly Newsletter of All Saints'  
August, 2019  
228-9242  
[www.allsaintsthamasville.org](http://www.allsaintsthamasville.org)

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Dear Friends,

I enjoyed the slower pace of summer, but now am enthused by the anticipation of the start of our program year. By the way, when I refer to the slower pace of summer, that has not been the case with attendance at Church on Sunday mornings. With the exception of a couple of sparse Sundays, it appears that most of you have remembered that God does not take vacations. He does not go to the beach or the mountains in the summer and he appreciates seeing you in Church when you are in Thomasville, as do I!

The thought of starting the program year has caused me to reflect again on what All Saints' is called to be. We cannot be all things to all people, so we must be true to our mission. At the heart of what All Saints' stands for is the belief that God, in his wisdom, entrusted to the Anglican tradition forms of liturgical worship that draw upon ancient and mediaeval Christianity and that we are twenty-first century stewards of that trust. We don't assume this responsibility to escape from the modern world but because we believe deeply that God continues to speak to hearts and transform lives by membership of a church which treasures what All Saints' treasures.

On August 7th the Episcopal Church remembers John Mason Neale. He was a sickly, Victorian clergyman who had to give up parish work because of his health, but he stood for exactly what I have just been writing about with regard to All Saints'. His three main contributions stand as lessons for us.

First and foremost, Neale was passionate about traditional worship and especially the role of music. He is not remembered particularly for his original compositions, though he did write *Good King Wenceslas*. Instead he worked with collaborators to translate and adapt more than four hundred ancient and mediaeval hymns, largely from the eastern church. You will recognize some of our favorites: *All Glory, Laud and Honor; Christ is Made the Sure Foundation; Come ye Faithful Raise the Anthem; The Day of Resurrection; Good Christian Men Rejoice; Jerusalem the Golden; O Come, O Come Emmanuel; O Thou who Through this Holy Week; O Trinity of Blessed Light; Of the Father's Love Begotten; Sing, My Tongue, the Glorious Battle*.

Second, John Mason Neale fully understood the impact of architecture on the quality of worship. Certainly, he would have said that you can and must say your prayers anywhere, but he believed spaces designed for worship really matter. Again, since its founding the members of All Saints' have understood this. I cannot tell you how many visitors tell me how special our church feels. It is because it has been cared for. John Mason Neale and some close friends formed what was known as the Cambridge Camden Society. They published a periodical which addressed the run-down appearance of many English Churches of the mid-nineteenth century. They goaded people into action which would restore Churches and build new ones. They made architectural recommendations. They were the force behind what is now known as 'Victorian Gothic'. And they insisted on good taste. Neale himself railed against the large pot-bellied stoves which had been installed in many churches. In one article he described just such a stove which had been placed in the middle of the chancel, with a flue that crossed in front of the priest when he was in his pulpit and then went out of a hole that had been cut in a window. He also hated the high-walled box pews which aristocratic families had installed in church to shut out the commoners. He referred to them as 'pens'.

Third, Neale understood that what God wants is that people's lives be transformed by what they encounter in Church. Along with his sister, he founded the Society of St. Margaret, one of the first Anglican sisterhoods. The sisters committed themselves to lives of service. They ran schools for disadvantaged children. They opened hospitals. They infiltrated villages that no-one else would visit because of repeated outbreaks of scarlet fever. Until his death he counselled and encouraged the sisters. Neale was himself limited in what he could do because of his health but he made sure that opportunities for ministry were created for others. The level of his commitment can be seen in one unfortunate and dramatic event. The sisterhood was perceived by some Victorians to be too 'catholic' and at one service in the chapel where the sisters worshipped Neale was dragged outside by an angry mob and severely beaten.

Traditional worship, in a space that inspires, and that leads to lives of service. Those were Neale's values. I believe it is the mission of All Saints'. Furthering that mission is what Will+ and I want to set our hearts and minds to at the start of our new program year.

See you in Church!

Paul+

CONFIRMATION, RECEPTION INTO THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, AND REAFFIRMATION OF BAPTISMAL VOWS

The Bishop will make his formal visitation to All Saints' on November 10. It will be the week in which we elect his successor.

During his visit he will baptize, confirm, receive into the Episcopal Church, and lay hands on those who are wishing to reaffirm their baptismal vows. I am inviting those of you who wish to benefit

from one of these ministries to let me know. Let me give you a few more details.

Baptism. Since I have been here only one adult has been baptized by the Bishop and no infants. I would rejoice to see baptisms this November. If you have not been baptized and you are regularly attending All Saints', this would be a perfect opportunity.

Confirmation. It is our local practice to prepare and present for confirmation young people who are in the sixth grade. But that does not mean that we will not confirm young people who may have joined All Saints' and have not yet been confirmed. Also, there may be adults who wish to be confirmed (but read the next paragraph about Reception).

Reception is designed for those who grew up in a different denomination and were either confirmed or made a mature public confession of faith, such as baptism as a teenager. The Bishop lays hands on those being received and "welcomes them into the fellowship of this communion." If you are now attending All Saints' but have never officially 'become an Episcopalian' reception is for you.

Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows. In the course of the service when the Bishop is here, we will all reaffirm our baptismal vows but there may be those who would like to make some more formal, public statement of intention. It may be, for instance, that you have been away from the Church for some time but have now found a spiritual home at All Saints' and it would be meaningful to you to make a statement to that effect. As at confirmation and reception the Bishop will lay his hands on you and pray that the Holy Spirit "who has begun a good work in you may direct and uphold you in the service of Christ and his kingdom."

Previously I said that we would prepare the young people for confirmation by a series of classes on Sunday mornings but that

conflicts with Good Shepherd for Will+ who will be teaching the classes with Liz Williams. Therefore, I have decided to hold the classes on Wednesday evenings when we have Body and Soul. They will start on September 18 and continue on Oct. 2, Oct. 16, Nov. 6. The Wednesday evening classes worked well in the past when Deacon Louise taught them.

For adults we will offer what we used to call Episcopal 101. It will be in the Parish Hall on Saturday, November 9 from 9:00-3:00 with a pizza lunch and will be open to everyone in the parish who would like a refresher on what our church believes and practices. Will+ and I will handle the coordination and teaching of that class.

#### VESTRY

The Vestry will meet on Sunday, August 18 at 8:30 a.m. in the Parish Hall Library.

#### USHERS NEEDED

Please consider joining others in the parish who serve as ushers. Training is available and there is no gender barrier to ushering! Please contact the office or John Glenn at 228-6868.

#### ALTAR GUILD

The All Saints' annual Ministry Fair will be held on September 4 to kick off our "new" church year. As always, the Altar Guild will have a table set up with info and party favors, so please stop by to say hello. The Altar Guild is a lay ministry that works behind the scenes, serving God and others by setting up the altar for our church services. We have four teams, one for each week in the month, and each team manages the set ups for that particular

week. Also, one Saturday morning per month we gather together at the church to polish brass, "spruce up" the altar and sacristy, and enjoy some fun fellowship. Sound interesting? Please let us know!

### BOOK CLUB NEWS

In July, Nancy led the discussion of *Educated*: a memoir by Tara Westover. Many felt that this was "an eye-opener" on several levels including: mental illness, religious beliefs, family relations and of course education.

Another opinion was that they probably would not have read it except that it was a book club selection, yet they were very glad they had.

On Wednesday, August 14th we will be discussing: *The Summer I Met Jack*, a novel by Michelle Gable. We will meet in the Parish Hall at 11:50 a.m. Please join us and bring your own brown bag lunch; we'll supply the beverages and some sweets. As always feel free to bring a friend.

If you want to get a head start here are our book selection plans for early fall:

September 11th: *The Feather Thief: beauty, obsession and the natural history heist of the century* by Kirk Wallace Johnson

October 9th: *The Synagogue Savant*, by Lance Randall (the author is scheduled to attend)

November 11th: *What Happens Matters* by Jack Coppedge (yes, our own Book Club member has been published and will lead the discussion! Congrats, Jack)

Hope you can join us! Maureen

## ACOLYTES NEEDED

If your Acolyte plans to attend Church on any particular Sunday in August, please have him/her check in with Fr. Hancock in the Sacristy by 10:10 a.m. Thanks so much for sharing your child with All Saints'.

If your child would like to join the Acolyte Guild and is 10 years of age or will be 10 before the end of this year; please contact Ram Singletary. The Acolyte Guild is open to boys and girls.

Ram Singletary

### **FALL POP-UP BAZAAR**

We are accepting items for an All Saints' Fall Pop-up Bazaar.  
(Date to be determined.)

As you perform your fall cleaning, please remember All Saints' and drop off these treasures to Linda Gail's or the Parish Hall. We would love your toys, baby items, sporting equipment, sheets, towels, china, kitchen items, holiday decorations, furniture, lamps.... Really anything that is clean and not broken. Please place all clothes on hangers!!!

USHERS FOR AUGUST

August 4      Holy Communion      10:30 a.m.

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Mike Tanner

James Tyson

August 11      Morning Prayer      10:30 a.m.

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost:

Ben Waddill

Charlie Whitney

August 18      Holy Communion      10:30 a.m.

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost:

Robert Balfour

Stephen Boltja

August 25      Morning Prayer      10:30 a.m.

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost:

Don Bruhn

Claud Davis

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

Ministry Fair/Low Country Boil  
Wednesday, September 4th



## TRANSITIONS

### Happy Birthday in August to:

Frannie Wetherbee	8-3-98
William "Cal" Calhoun Griffith	8-4-15
Parker Hayden McCollum	8-7-04
Berkeley Wetherbee	8-17-02
Lily Bradford Jackson	8-30-02

### Happy Birthday in September to:

Jack Saussy	9-3-03
Mary Eleanor Hand	9-5-95
William Banks McCollum	9-10-07
Preston Young	9-11-99
Luther Beachton Chastain	9-11-08
Parker Watt	9-13-00
William Bennett Faulk	9-15-09
Gibbs Bracken	9-18-14

### **AUGUST IS AMNESTY MONTH!**

If you have borrowed any item from All Saints' (clothes racks, kitchen equipment, etc.) Please return them to the parish hall – no questions asked.