

**ALL SAINTS' BULLETIN**  
**The Monthly Newsletter of All Saints'**

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**October, 2019**  
**228-9242**

[www.allsaintsthomasville.org](http://www.allsaintsthomasville.org)

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Dear Friends,

I often have the feeling that we are living, in America, in 2019, in some kind of in-between time, the end of something old, or the beginning of something new. Or both. Life in such "spaces" can provoke a little anxiety, to make one feel as though one is subject to forces and socio-political shiftings much larger than oneself, and well beyond one's control.

Such thoughts and feelings befit this time of year. One of my leitmotifs is how the natural world has a sacramental character, manifesting psycho-spiritual realities because, in fact, the boundaries between the two worlds is much more porous than we like to imagine. (Scripture is insistent on this point, so forgive me for taking it seriously if it sounds strange.) We had a several-day-long spate of almost pleasant weather recently, early mornings one would almost be tempted to call "cool," and afternoons wherein, if one were sitting in the shade and there were a little breeze, the situation was right on the edge of being downright pleasant (gnats notwithstanding).

I am a casual monitor of bird activity, and I've noticed that patterns are shifting ever so slightly in that kingdom too. The pileated woodpeckers in Paradise Park, where I take Jeb for his daily romp, seem a little more agitated, vocalizing and flitting

between the pines, after having spent the last few months in a more staid frame of mind. Cardinals have returned to the backyard, and a pair of bluebirds, for reasons unknown, have been poking around the bluebird box again, which sat on its pole, forlorn in the baking sun, since spring.

Of course mourning doves are back on power lines, and a few have found their way into my stew-pot since September 7 (opening day this year). I even flushed a covey of quail out in the woods the other day. The last time I paid attention, or had the audacity to venture that far from air-conditioning, a few months ago, they were paired-up in fence rows or whistling singly somewhere in the pines.

And did I discern some sandhill cranes croaking south through the stratosphere a week or so ago?

On the other hand, the brown thrashers in our backyard act as though nothing's happening. There are two of them. They were ornery in the spring, ornery through the summer, and they're ornery now. Nothing seems to change for them. Apparently they have no intention of going anywhere. They poke around between a row of monkey grass along the property boundary and some native wildflowers we planted for pollinators beneath the bluebird box. One of them is usually scowling at me as I pull into the driveway, before it disappears, with an air of indignation, into the lower branches of a fig tree as I turn into the carport.

And the heat has returned, all but erasing the memory of that pleasant streak that raised my hopes a couple of weeks ago. The forecast is appalling: mid 90's at best, for as far as my smartphone's weather oracle can scry into the future.

Yet my intuition remains: something's up. The signs of change predominate among the conflicting signals. The natural world seems to be an icon of the news cycle, where all is as it was, even amid scattered chirps of revolution. If only the birds could speak!

Yet in a certain sense they do. Scripture insists on this point too. Consider Job (12:7-10):

"But ask the beasts, and they will teach you;  
the birds of the air, and they will tell you;  
or the plants of the earth, and they will teach you;  
and the fish of the sea will declare to you.  
Who among all these does not know  
that the hand of the LORD has done this?  
In his hand is the life of every living thing  
and the breath of all mankind.

He is the Lord of heaven AND earth. A merciful, albeit often inscrutable, wisdom and benevolence enfolds the entire expanse of creation, encompassing every corner at every scale, visible and invisible, from the subatomic to the intergalactic. "[B]efore him no creature is hidden, but all are open and laid bare to the eyes of him with whom we have to do," (Hebrews 4:13). Nothing is left out, neither flowers (Luke 12:27), nor birds (Luke 12:24), nor the vicissitudes of weather and climate (Job 37:1-13), nor the various departments of our dysfunctional government (1 Peter 2:12-17), nor you nor me (Luke 12:28).

It is a source of comfort - or it should be! - to the Christian, that he with whom we have to do sits on his throne with sovereign attention, and that the whole cosmic drama is resolving itself toward a grand reconciliation with its creator through the cross

of Jesus (cf. Colossians 1:19-20). And through it all our task remains the same: fidelity.

Pax,  
Will +

## **EDUCATION**

WELCOME BACK! All Saints has come alive again with the beginning of school, Children's Chapel, Choir, and Wednesdays' Body and Soul.

Children's Chapel takes place during the 10:30 a.m. service as an option for parents and children who are not yet ready to experience the full liturgy together, though children are always welcome in "big" church. Children three years old through third grade begin in church with their parents, follow the children's shepherds and leaders out at the place marked in the bulletin, then rejoin their parents for the blessing. The children participate in Godly Play while in Children's Church.

Wednesdays' Body and Soul classes are a great time for fellowship, art, and learning from the Bible. Lessons are provided by Episcopal Church Curriculum along with other sources to enhance learning. Two staff members supervise children younger than 5 by reading to them, helping them with arts and crafts that go along with the lesson the older children are learning, and playing with them on the playground. Middle and high school students have their own class. Many thanks to all our dedicated teachers, students, and parents!

There are lots of different volunteering opportunities for our Parish members to get to know our young people better. Even if

you do not have school age children, please consider becoming a part of our education program. Some ways you can volunteer: volunteer to teach, help with the flashlight tour of the church in the winter, write a note to a class saying you are praying for the children in the class, reading a Bible story to children, help with an art project, help with filling Easter eggs and hiding eggs.... The list goes on and on. Please call Libby 228-9242 or email lbrackenallsaintschurch@gmail.com

### **ALL SAINTS' BAZAAR**

The All Saints' Bazaar will be held on November 2nd. Please continue to drop off any donated items to the Parish Hall or Linda Gail's. Remember to place all clothes on hangers! This will help out the volunteers tremendously!

A volunteer sign up sheet will be located in the Parish Hall at the check-in table during Body and Soul's in October and First Sunday's Covered Dish. There are lots of ways to volunteer for this event: help with pricing, shelving books, organize clothes, help with check out.

### **VESTRY NOMINATIONS**

The vestry is seeking nominations for three-year terms beginning January 2020. If you are interested in serving or would like to nominate someone, please give their names to Fr. Paul, Vann Middleton or Philip Watt. Names must be submitted by October 13. The names that have been submitted will be reviewed by the vestry nominating committee and a slate will be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting on November 17.

Sincerely, The Vestry

## **EYC**

Happy Fall!

EYC had a great time at our first meeting! We played games, hung out, ate a ton of pizza, and ended the evening in prayer. EYC, Episcopal Youth Community, is open to all youth in 6th-12th grades. We meet twice a month from 5:00pm-6:30pm.

Upcoming EYC dates:

October 13 - What does it mean to serve others?

October 27 - GAME NIGHT! (hosted by Fr. Will and Kate Brown)

See you soon!

Liz Williams

(404)202-7284

## **ECW NEWS**

ECW 2019-2020 is off to great start. Sharon and Howell Ferguson hosted us at their lovely historic home, Box Hall. After some yummy snacks and a chance to visit, Sharon gave a short presentation on the Covey Film Festival. Very interesting. Amazing that our small town has such a chance to preview the latest in this year's films. Thank you Sharon and Howell.

Our next meeting will be October 22 at the home of Lee and Buck Mitchell. We will meet at the Mitchells about 12 noon for lunch and an "out of this world" talk!!!!!! As always guests and men are welcome. Mark your calendar and wait for details.

Lee Chubb

Lee Mitchell

## **BOOK CLUB NEWS**

In September the All Saints' Book Club discussed *The Feather Thief: Beauty, Obsession, and the Natural History Heist of the Century* by Kirk Wallace Johnson. Several said they did not finish this nonfiction work, but I found it to be a page turner that brought up many issues still relevant today.

We are excited to announce that our next two meetings both feature the privilege of having the author present to answer questions and add "behind the scene" details.

The first will be on Wednesday October 9th when we will meet to discuss *The Synagogue Savant* by Lance Randall. We hope that many will join us for this special event.

Likewise plan to attend on Wednesday, November 13th when our own Jack Coppedge will discuss his first novel, "What Happens Matters".

As usual we will meet at 11:50 am. in the social hall and invite you to bring your lunch. We will supply beverages and some sweets. So spread the word and plan to come on time to get a good seat!

Happy reading, Maureen

## **CHOIR NEWS**

ST. DAVID'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Members representing All Saints Episcopal Children's Choir 2019-2020: Elle and Palmer McCollum, William McCollum, Caroline Cobb, Robert Rollins, Kenji and Kami Sun, Bryce Rieck.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE! We hope more children will join these dedicated young people.

St. David's next service will be on October 27 at 10:30am service.

#### ADULT CHOIR

Members: Emily Funk, Elise, Julie and Doug McPherson, Will Sheftall, Denny Lewin, Patti Poppell, John Mirocha, Bobby Miller, Anna Miller, Joey Miller, Mariah Miller and Alan Elkins.

We would love 4 more parish members to join these devoted ladies and gentlemen. Rehearsal is at 9:00am on Sunday.

Piano Lessons available on Monday and Wednesday at 2:00pm. Ideal for home-schooled children and adults.

Organ Lessons available for ages 10 and up who are at level 2 and above with piano studies. Available on Sunday at noon.

Margit Miller

850-524-0176

#### VESTRY

The October meeting will be held Sunday, October 20 at 8:30 a.m. in the parish hall.

#### YOGA NEWS

Let's yoga! Two convenient times per week: Mondays at 5:15 p.m. and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. Bring a mat and a water bottle. All Levels. No previous experience necessary. We keep it easy and fun!

Madeline Rollins



## USHER SCHEDULE

October 6      Holy Communion                      10:30 a.m.

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Bill Ladson

Buck Mitchell

October 13                  Parish Picnic at Osceola Barn

Ben McCollum

Paul McCollum

October 20      Holy Communion                      10:30 a.m.

The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

David Middleton

Vann Middleton

October 27      Morning Prayer                                  10:30 a.m.

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Charles Olson

Al Park

## TRANSITIONS:

Happy Birthday in the month of October to:

Abigail Middleton                      10-11-02

Gabriel Buckley                        10-21-98

Elise McPherson                        10-31-03

Happy birthday in November to:

Harrison Jackson                        11-7-04

Reid Myers                                11-9-00

Wilson Young                             11-14-05

Camille Cook                             11-19-01

Ethan Myers                              11-20-02

Hardy Davis                               11-26-02

Bridger Middleton                       11-26-00

Georgia Syfan Real Rieck              11-29-10

<b>OCTOBER</b>		<b>MARK YOUR CALENDAR</b>	
Wednesday	October 2		St. David Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	October 6		Parish Covered Dish Lunch
Wednesday	October 9		Book Club/St. David Rehearsal
Wednesday	October 9		<i>Body &amp; Soul – Topic: Origen</i>
Sunday	October 13		St. David Choir Rehearsal Parish Picnic – Osceola EYC Meeting 5-6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	October 16		St. David Choir Rehearsal
Tuesday	October 22		ECW meets @ Lee Mitchell's
Wednesday	October 23		<i>Body &amp; Soul – Topic: Pontius Pilate</i>
Sunday	October 27		EYC Meeting 5-6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	October 30		St. David Choir Rehearsal 5:00-5:30pm Family Eucharist and Blessing of the Costumes
<b><u>NOVEMBER</u></b>			
Sunday	November	3	All Saints Sunday Parish Covered Dish
Wednesday	November	6	St. David Choir Rehearsal <i>Body &amp; Soul – Topic: St. Lucius of Britain</i>
Sunday	November	10	Bishop' Visitation/Confirmation
Wednesday	November	13	Book Club St. David Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	November	17	Annual Meeting/ EYC Mtg 5-6:30pm
Wednesday	November	20	No St. David Choir Rehearsal <i>Body &amp; Soul–Topic: Pope Leo the Great</i>
Wednesday	November	27	St. David Choir Rehearsal
<b><u>DECEMBER</u></b>			
Sunday	December	1	Advent I – Parish Covered Dish
Wednesday	December	4	<i>Body &amp; Soul – Topic: Charlemagne</i> St. David Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	December	8	Advent II EYC Meeting 5-6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	December	11	Book Club St. David Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	December	15	Advent III
Wednesday	December	18	St. David Choir Rehearsal
Sunday	December	22	Lessons & Carols/Pageant Rehearsal Greening of the Church No Evening Service
Tuesday	December	24	Christmas Eve—Evensong/Pageant Midnight Mass
Wednesday Service	December	25	Christmas—Holy Comm/No Evening
Sunday	December	29	Morning Prayer/No Evening Service

## KNITTERS' GUILD

During the Middle Ages, guilds played an important role in society. Aside from the protection they offered for craftsmen against excessive taxation and extortion by knights, barons and other members of nobility, they also provided a way for trade and artisan skills to be learned and passed down from generation to generation.

The All Saints' Knitters' Guild, comprised of both experienced and novice members, come together weekly to weave a love of knitting with friendship, fun and conversation. For 15 years, the members have knitted baby hats and blankets, helmet liners for the US Armed Forces, and Prayer Shawls as gifts of love and a warm embrace. Items are made with love, blessed by the priest, and presented to parish members and others on the occasions of illness, celebration, and hospitalization. The challenge is knowing who might appreciate a shawl or a blanket, or otherwise deserve special recognition. If you know of someone who would enjoy a handmade hug, please contact Fr. Paul, Fr. Will or Carol Singletary.

We also welcome newcomers! We meet every Wednesday from 4 to 6 p.m. in the library of the Parish Hall and experience is not necessary. We love to teach so that others may also find joy in this ministry and carry on the Knitters' Guild tradition at All Saints' for generations to come.

