

The Disciple

The Newsletter of Saint John's Anglican Church of Americus

Volume 46: March 1, 2016

Welcome to the life and ministry of St. John's!

WELCOME THE REV. JAMES (JIM) PARKER - INTERIM SUPPLY PRIEST

Your Vestry has selected the Rev. Jim Parker to be St. John's Interim Supply Priest - based on the recommendation of Archbishop Foley Beach, conversations with Bishop Frank Lyons and discussions with Fr. Parker. Fr. Jim is a graduate of The School of Theology, Sewanee University of the South Seminary. He graduated with a Sacred Theological Masters Degree. Fr. Parker, over the years, served as priest in many churches throughout the Episcopal Dioceses of Georgia. Fr. Parker further worked in the Episcopal Dioceses of Florida when he made the decision to join the Anglican Church of North America as a priest. He served as an Assistant Priest at Trinity Anglican Church, Thomasville, Georgia and has for the past four years served as full time Hospice Chaplain in Moultrie, Georgia, where he is also the Priest in Residence at St. Mark's Anglican Church, Moultrie.

As Interim Supply Priest, Fr. Jim will play a pivotal role in the life of our congregation. This is a time to promote parish health by offering a safe bridge between challenging times in the selection of a new Rector. In addition, this interim period can be the most effective time in the life of the parish for prayerful refocusing on who we are and our mission, as well as solving problems. Among Fr. Jim's many duties will be to work with the Vestry and lay leaders to maintain the regular schedule of worship services and preaching, pastoral calling on the sick and shut ins, pastoral offices, weddings, funerals, baptisms and visiting newcomers. He will support the Vestry in its role and responsibilities. Fr. Jim will help our congregation deal with its grief and its other unresolved issues arising from our Rector's departure. He will deal with internal conflicts and help heal any divisions within the congregation, working with a Diocesan consultant as appropriate.

With God's help and that of Fr. Jim, may we make the most of this interim time to grow and strengthen our congregation

In welcoming Fr. Jim, please join in the following prayer:

*Dear Lord, the people of St. John's thank you for this time to examine our commitment and ourselves. We ask Your guidance during this time of discernment and searching. May our congregation be supportive of our Interim Priest, Fr. Jim. May our parish members have the courage to express their needs and hopes. Keep us ever mindful that it is our responsibility to continue to do Your work. In Jesus name we pray.
Amen*

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A MESSAGE FROM FR. JIM

Come unto Me all ye that travail and are heavy laden and I will refresh you. Matt. 11:28

I look forward to serving you as priest. It is a honor to share God's love and grace with each person in the congregation

My prayer for this congregation is that we grow in love for God and our fellow man. Lifting each other up as we share life's walk.

Building Update

Clyde Day, his carpenters as well as the subcontractors are making great progress, the Sunday School/Admin. building should be insulated next week and then dry wall will go up.

The Worship Center/Parish Hall have the Gothic windows installed. The HVAC team is installing their system in this building. The clapboard siding is going up and appears wonderful as an exterior finish, Clyde Day is taking bids on the chimney in this building and work should begin within a week. After the chimney is installed the shingle and metal roofing should be completed by months end.

Johnson construction is completing the underground sewer system. They anticipate that in two weeks gutter will be installed and the road way and parking lots will be graded for surfacing.

APRIL 2ND AND 3RD RETREAT AND WORSHIP WITH THE REV. CANON PHIL ASHEY

Mark your calendars for a weekend retreat with The Rev. Canon J. Phillip Ashy. Fr. Phil, with Bishop Frank's support, has graciously agreed to meet with all of the members of our congregation in a Saturday retreat and Sunday Eucharist to assist the St. John's family in healing and looking forward.

Many of you know Fr. Ashy for the wonderful assistance and support he gave St. John's in its transition from the Episcopal Church to the Anglican Church, as well as his preaching and celebrating the Eucharist and leading a one day seminar at South Georgia Tech for St. Mark's, Moultrie and St. John's congregation. Further information will be made available for this meeting and worship on Saturday, April 2 and Sunday, April 3. Again, please mark your calendars. We are so grateful that Fr. Ashy can find time in his busy schedule to support the people of St. John's.

Understanding Lent

The season of **Lent** is the time of preparation for the feast of the Resurrection of Christ. It is the living symbol of man's entire life which is to be fulfilled in his own resurrection from the dead with Christ. It is a time of renewed devotion: of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is a time of repentance, a real renewal of our minds, hearts and deeds in conformity with Christ and His teachings. It is the time, most of all, of our return to the great commandments of loving God and our neighbors.

In the Anglican Church, Lent is not a season of morbidity and gloominess. On the contrary, it is a time of joyfulness and purification. We are called to "anoint our faces" and to "cleanse our bodies as we cleanse our souls." It is our repentance that God desires, not our remorse. We sorrow for our sins, but we do so in the joy of God's mercy. We mortify our flesh, but we do so in the joy of our resurrection into life everlasting. We make ready for the resurrection during Lent, both Christ's Resurrection and our own.

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18th – Lanita Lynch
24th – Mary Marshall



9th – Russell & Andrea Thomas
13th – Matt & Mandy Latta



Men's Christian Fellowship

Monday, March 14 at 6:00 PM

Joiner Cabin

Bring a friend and a steak



March 12, 2016



As we travel our Lenten pilgrimage, repenting of our sins, reconciling with our brothers and sisters, reproducing followers of Jesus, and expressing relentless compassion to those in our communities, I would like to ask you to consider an important project for your community.

I would like to invite you to gather with members of our congregations on the steps of your county court house or city hall, and there pray together for your community, your neighborhoods, your country, and your leaders; asking God to pour out His Spirit to lead them to know and honor Jesus Christ. At a time of your own choosing between now and June 30, and I am asking that you take seriously the admonitions of our Lord and the Apostles in Scripture to pray together that "Thy Kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven." Don't make a big splash about it; just go and claim your neighborhoods and communities for the purposes of God in the Name of Jesus.

Your brother in Christ,
The Most Rev. Dr. Foley Beach, Archbishop and Primate

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March ROTA

DATE	SERVICE	LECTOR	LEM	Ushers	Acolyte
3/2	EP & Healing	Jeff Joiner			
3/6	Holy Communion	Andrea Thomas	Lou Chase	Jeff Joiner & Allen Curtis	Sydney Joiner
3/9	EP & Healing	Susan Curtis			
3/13	Holy Communion	Jeff Joiner	Garland Mears	Tony Chase & Pete Warlick	
3/16	EP & Healing	Garland Mears			
3/20	Palm Sunday Holy Communion	Susan Curtis	Everett Byrd	Jeff Joiner & Darrell Hobgood	Sydney Joiner
3/23	EP & Healing	Debbie Standridge			
3/24	Maunday Thursday Holy Communion &Foot Washing	Jeff Joiner	Andrea Thomas		
3/25	Good Friday Communion from Reserved Sacra- ment	Nancy Warlick	Pete Warlick		
3/26	Holy Saturday	George Peagler	Lou Chase		
3/27	Easter Holy Communion	George Bagley	George Peagler	Tony Chase & Allen Curtis	
3/30	EP & Healing	Andrea Thomas			



MARCH PARISH EVENTS

- 14th—Men's Christian Fellowship: Joiner's Cabin @6PM
- 18th—Altar Guild Workday @4PM
- 24th—Maundy Thursday Holy Communion & Foot Washing @6PM
- 25th—Good Friday: Communion from Reserved Sacrament @6pm
- 26th—Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil & Holy Communion @ 6pm