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SEPTEMBER 2023
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& Silence
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and more



#### **BISHOP**

THE RT. REV DR. BILL ATWOOD

#### RECTOR

THE REV. WES GRISTY

### **DEACON OF PARISH MINISTRIES**

THE REV. KEVIN VAILES

### **RECTOR EMERITUS**

THE REV. CHUCK FILIATREAU

### **DEACONS**

THE REV. BARBARA REED THE REV. TERRY BLAKLEY

### **DEACON OF SPIRITUAL FORMATION**

THE REV. NAN THOMAS

#### MUSIC DIRECTOR

DR. JORDAN TANG

#### PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

MATTHEW COOK

### LEAD CHILDREN'S CATECHIST

KATIE BEAVERS

### FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

DONNA TAYLOR

### **Common Prayer**

our common life together consists of our worship of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

### **Common Learing**

our common life together consists of teaching one another how to be obedient to Jesus in all things

### **Common Service**

our common life together consists of loving one another and the world as Jesus loves us

### New Sunday Schedule

8:45 AM

### Formation Hour

Nursery (infant to age 3) in the new nursery rooms

Atrium (age 4–11) in the Parish

Hall

Youth Formation (grades 6–12)

in the Parish Hall

Adult Formation begins in the

Hospitality Area

10:00 AM

### **Holy Eucharist**

Nursery (infant to age 3) in the new nursery rooms

Children's Liturgy of the Word (ages 4-6ish) after the Gospel Reading

### Ladies Koinonia

by Joyce Heffernan

The Eternal God is always with us. He talks to us specifically through the person of Immanuel who is God with us. Join the women of All Saints in a monthly study of a book endorsed by our Bishop Bill Atwood. *Joyful Journey-Listening to Immanuel* alerts readers to the countless ways our God communicates directly with us. Grow in joy and confidence with other women by reading this book and joining our discussion practice.

Facilitated by Joyce Heffernan: (731) 439-5196 Meeting Day/Time: The last Sunday of the each month from 6–8 pm.

Next Event: September 24

Location: The home of Sheila Williamson

(32 Country Club Lane)

Order your book today wherever books are sold and begin practicing your Joyful Journey.

# Our Common Rule of Life

by Fr. Wes Gristy

We believe that the Church is a community of practices—practices that allow us to "share in the life of God for the life of the world," practices that ultimately form us more and more into the likeness of Jesus. To be a part of All Saints is to participate in three sets of practices that we believe are central to the Christian life. These practices represent our common rule of life. We invite you to share in them with us.

### **Practices of Common Prayer**

our common life together consists of our worship of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

### **Practices of Common Learning**

our common life together consists of teaching one another how to be obedient to Jesus in all things

### **Practices of Common Service**

our common life together consists of loving one another and the world as Jesus loves us

### Sunday Worship

Morning & Evening Prayer Formation Hour Silent Retreats... and more

### Small Groups

Pastorates
Bible Studies
Catechism Class... and more

### **Ministry Teams**

Sunday Volunteers Committees Care Teams... and more

### Youth Retreat

by Dn. Kevin Vailes

I thas been a great start to a new year of youth experience. We have canoed/kayaked down the Piney River, had a pool party at the Abernathy's, and we have started having weekly Wednesday meetings from 5:45-7:45 pm, where we are studying Biblical Theology with Vaughn Roberts' God's Big Picture. While these have been in a number of locations, with our move to the new building, youth will be able to meet consistently in the Parish Hall. But we will still be mixing up locations from time to time for special events. We are also planning some bigger events. One of these is just around the corner. Through our partnership with Mission St. James, we have the opportunity to attend the ADOTS Fall Student Retreat. It is October 6–8 at Shocco Springs in Talladega, Alabama. There we will be able to fellowship and worship with youth from across the Diocese of the South. If you are interested, please contact Dn. Kevin Vailes by September 16. The cost is \$100 per person. We will leave Jackson at 12:00 pm on Friday, and we should return by 6:00 pm on Sunday. This is something that we should be able to continue to do for years to come.



Just One Thing

### Tim Keller

by Dr. David Thomas

Tim Keller died this year. I expect we've all heard of him. A founder of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City, author of excellent books and thousands of sermons (available online), and, most importantly, one who embodied what it is to "fix our eyes on Jesus" (Heb 12:2). There are memorials aplenty available for those who are interested. I have room for 'just one thing', though, so I want to take a different route.

One of the things that draws me to Keller is his willingness to tell us who his guides are. It's remarkable: every time I listen to Keller he offers multiple references to spiritual predecessors. Every time. From what I've heard and read, his favorites were C. S. Lewis and J.R. R. Tolkien. But he regularly mentions G. K. Chesterton, David Martyn-Lloyd Jones, Charles Spurgeon, Jonathan Edwards, John Owen, and more.

### "Footnotes of faithful leaders provide paths through an immense tangle of ideas and practices."

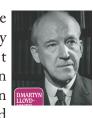
- Dr. David Thomas

### In reverse chronological order:



**Lewis and Tolkien**: the mid-century Anglican and Catholic professors.

Martyn Lloyd-Jones: the mid-twentieth century Congregationalist minister based in London, well known for his preaching and teaching of the Bible.





Chesterton: the acerbic, witty English journalist and lover of paradox. His most popular work is *Orthodoxy* (1908), written when he was an Anglican.

**Spurgeon**: a mid- to late-nineteenth-century Baptist preacher, also English and also renowned for his preaching.





Edwards: a mid-eighteenth-century preacher and arguably America's greatest theologian. (Remember though, as a colonial, he was a British subject.) Staunchly Reformed, but also conversant with modern eighteenth-century trends. (He died for his commitment to the new smallpox vaccine.) And – you'll never guess – remembered for his preaching as much as his theology.

**John Owen**: a seventeenth century pastor, also an English, non-conforming Calvinist, and a prolific writer. One of

the great Puritan theologians, he wrote for children, too, including sermons for teenage audiences.

Let's revisit that list. All are British evangelicals or Anglicans, with one Catholic, spread over almost four hundred years. All have deep theological roots, are renowned preachers, writers, and prayers. And they avoid specifically American divisions such as the Fundamentalist/Modernist controversy. Even this brief list helps us understand Keller and his attractiveness. It does more though, and this is my point: the list suggests valuable directions for our own reading. The authors that faithful leaders turn to can be guides for us, as well. Reading in the rich library of believers is crucial for at least a portion of the Church: it helps us to receive Christ's liberation and leading, and takes us to the Cross in ways distinct from our own age. Footnotes of faithful leaders provide paths through an immense tangle of ideas and practices.

More generally, though, familiarity with our predecessors at some level is essential for all of us. I'm not sure I can overstate the importance: this appears to be the way that Christ builds his Church. The faith once delivered to the saints is handed down from one generation to the next. These connections go back all the way to Jesus and the apostles. The gospel is offered by the Spirit through the Church in Scripture, sermons, prayers, books, songs, and more, the testimony of those whose love, commitment, and wisdom exceeds our own. Those who precede us become our mentors, if we let them. Keller understood this well. Every time he spoke he left behind his own trail of breadcrumbs inviting us, as Augustine does from the fifth century, to "pick up and read."

4 5

# Join in Our Common Life

### Instructed Eucharist & Newcomers Lunch

We will be having Instructed Eucharist services at 8:45 and 11:00 on Sunday, September 10. A Newcomers Lunch will be provided after the second service at 97 Wildwood Lane (the Prestons' house) for those interested in learning more about All Saints. Please email our parish administrator at matthew@allsaintsjackson. com to sign up.

### College Bible Study

All college students are invited to join the Thomas' every Monday at 7:00 pm at 70 Wellington Dr. for a study through the book of Acts.

### Youth Encounter

All students entering 6th-12th grade are invited to Youth Encounter each Wednesday evening from 5:45 to 7:45 pm for a time of teaching, fellowship, and food. Contact Dn. Kevin Vailes for more information.

### **Outdoor Baptism** Service

We invite you to celebrate the baptism of Eliza Crawford at an outdoor baptism service on Friday, September 15 at 6:30 pm in the backyard of Rob and Lynn Binkley's house at 99 Gracelyn Drive. Each time we offer a baptism service, it gives us an opportunity to reflect upon our own baptisms and renew our baptismal vows. So remember your baptism... and bring a lawn chair!

### Sunday Service Training

We ask all ushers, LEMs, acolytes, and sound techs to meet on Wednesday, September 20 at 6:00 pm to train for services in the new nave.

### Prayer & Fasting Day

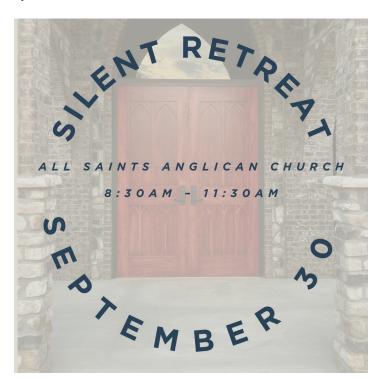
In response to our upcoming move into the new nave, we call everyone to set aside Wednesday, September 6 for prayer and fasting. Consider joining us that day for Noonday Eucharist.

### Register Your Child for the Atrium

Our children ages 4-11 have responded so well to our Catechesis of the Good Shepherd that we will now be offering this during our Formation Hour on Sundays between 8:45 and 9:45 am in the Atrium rooms in the Parish Hall. Please register your child for the upcoming fall semester so we can have a better idea of how many children to anticipate. Contact Katie Beavers at katie.a.beavers@gmail.com or the church office to register.

# Choosing Solitude & Silence

by Dn. Nan Thomas



As we move from summer into fall, a lot of things tend to pick back up; the academic calendar, church ministries, social events, new opportunities. Expectations and demands start to increase. The temptation is strong to push ourselves to take in everything, to miss no opportunity, to pack our schedules, filling our days with people and our hours with words. When this becomes too much we ask: What are we striving for? Or even this: What are we trying to avoid by staying busy? Is all this hurry useful, or does it distract from a deeper reality? What am I missing?

be alone with the Father, receiving his love and just bring your journal and a lawn chair.

surrendering his will. The same is true and good for us. Taking time apart calls us into a different frame of mind -- a different way of being with God. The Hebrew word shabath means "to stop" or "to desist," and so during Sabbath or time apart, we stop our work; we desist from our striving to get more done, to engage in everything, or to avoid our pain. We intentionally fix our eyes on Jesus to be with him. Father Thomas Keating, a Cistercian monk, elaborates: to allow ourselves to rest before God with the being he gave us, with no other intention, effort, or purpose, except to surrender that being back to him. This is the orientation... and the ultimate purpose of every spiritual exercise.

Over the next few days, consider making time to be with God in solitude and silence. A great way to begin is with:

### The Suspice

(Latin: receive)

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty, my memory, my understanding, and my entire will, All I have and call my own. You have given all to me. To you, Lord, I return it.

Everything is yours; do with it what you will. Give me only your love and your grace, that is enough for me.

-St. Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556)

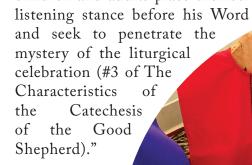
Jesus lived differently. In the gospels, he is relaxed Or you might choose solitude and silence on and attentive and never in a hurry. He often put Saturday, September 30, 8:30-11:30 am on the work entirely aside to choose solitude and silence grounds of the Mission Abbey or in our new nave. instead. His primary purpose for solitude was to A retreat guide and refreshments will be provided,

# All About the Atrium

by Katie Beavers

This month the children of All Saints will It was chosen because in the ancient church, the L enter a specially prepared environment called the Atrium. The Atrium is not a classroom, but can be likened to a retreat house for children. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd defines it like this:

"The Atrium is a community in which children and adults live together, a religious experience which facilitates participation in the wider community of the family, the church and other social spheres. The Atrium is a place of prayer, in which work and study spontaneously become meditation, contemplation and prayer. The Atrium is a place in which the only Teacher is Christ; both children and adults place themselves in a



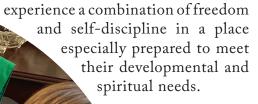
### Why is it called "Atrium" anyway?

The word "atrium" actually means "portico, or porch entrance large The house." Atrium was a term given to this space by Maria Montessori.

atrium was a gathering space between the Church Proper and the street. It was the place where the catechumens, those preparing for initiation to the Church, would receive instruction. The Atrium has a similar purpose for our children, as it is a place to help them enter into full, conscious and active participation in the liturgical and communal life of the Church.

### What is a "prepared environment"?

The prepared environment is a Montessori concept that the environment can be designed to facilitate independent learning by the child. In a prepared environment, children work with materials of their own choice and at their own pace. They



What exactly will the children do?

The life of the Atrium is tied to the liturgical calendar of the church. The Atrium year begins with an introduction or reintroduction to this special place of prayer and work, followed by a celebration called the

Enthronement of the Bible at the prayer table. This celebration helps to (1) prepare for the atrium year where we will meditate on the Word of God found in the Holy Bible, (2) link the Bible in the atrium to the Liturgy of the Word proclaimed at Eucharist, and (3) nurture the ability to listen and respond to God's Word.

### The remaining weeks leading up to Advent will focus on the following:

Level 1 (through Kindergarten) children will be oriented to the materials of practical life which aid in contemplation, and will spend time working with the liturgical colors/calendar, and the model altar to meditate on the Holy Eucharist celebrated every Sunday.

Level 2 (through 5th grade) children will explore the Bible and the books that comprise it, the history of the Kingdom of God, and the vestments and articles of Holy Eucharist.

Note: We encourage children to stay with their families and worship with the church body during the Eucharistic service at 10:00 am. Children ages 4-6(+) may choose to participate in a Children's Liturgy of the Word during the sermon and prayers, returning for the Liturgy of the Table.

## Time to Move into OurNewNave

by Fr. Wes Gristy

Praise the Lord! The time has finally come for us to move into our new nave! As you know, our new nave I will not only allow us to be together for one service, but it will also provide us time and space to slow down and prepare ourselves to encounter God through a restful hour of community, learning, and prayer. But before we move in, there are some key happenings leading up to the big day which are listed below.

And then, beginning on Sunday, September 24, we invite you and your family to participate in our new Sunday schedule, which can be found on page 2.

### Sunday

September 10

**Instructed Eucharist** 8:45 and 11:00 am Newcomers Lunch after the second service

### Sunday

September 17

Celebration of Current Nave 9:00 and 10:45 am

### Wednesday

September 20

**Sunday Service Trainings** 6:00 pm

-	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	Holy Eucharist 9:00am • 10:45am Ladies Koinonia 6:00pm - 8:00pm  Birthday's Anniversaries	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Healing Prayer 12:00pm - 2:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Youth Encounter 5:45pm An Evening with the Denkers 6:00pm	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8.45am Precepts Bible Study 9:00am	1	2
	Holy Eucharist 9:00am • 10:45am	Offices Closed Labor Day	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Healing Prayer 12:00pm - 2:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Noonday Eucharist 12:00pm Youth Encounter 5:45pm	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Precepts Bible Study 9:00am		
	Donna Taylor	Katie Beavers	Jordan Howerton	Marshall Box Annie Preston	Joe Davis III	8	Jeff Garrety Elizabeth Nordtvedt
	Instructed Eucharist 8:45am • 11:00am Newcomers Lunch 12:45pm (After 2nd Service)	<b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:15am - 8:45am	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Healing Prayer 12:00pm - 2:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Youth Encounter 5:45pm	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Precepts Bible Study 9:00am	Outdoor Baptist Service 6:30pm	
	10	11	Zach Creasy George Googe	13	14	Lawson Gristy Adam Pipkin	Tiffany Finney Katie Krebs
	Holy Eucharist 9:00am • 10:45am	<b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:15am - 8:45am	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Healing Prayer 12:00pm - 2:00pm Evening Prayer 5:30pm Vestry Meeting	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Sunday Service Training 6:00pm	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Precepts Bible Study 9:00am		
	Vicki & Bruce Burch	18	6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm	Lee Williamson	21	November Howerton Len Diffee	23
	Formation Hour 8:45am Holy Eucharist 10:00am Ladies Koinonia 6:00pm - 8:00pm	<b>Morning Prayer</b> 8:15am - 8:45am	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Healing Prayer 12:00pm - 2:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm - 8:30pm	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Youth Encounter 5:45pm	Morning Prayer 8:15am - 8:45am Precepts Bible Study 9:00am		Silent Retreat 8:30am - 11:30am
	24	Leslie Creasy Becky Googe Milles Pinson Mike Rowe	Jane Garrety	Katie Howerton	Natalie Gristy Anne Pipkin	Thad Priddy 29	30



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