



Episcopal Church
of the Holy Family
Jasper, GA 770-893-4525

September 17, 2021

Creating Christian Community: Serving and Engaging People in Vibrant Ministries

This week at Holy Family Episcopal Church

Touchstone

A Sabbatical for Katharine: Did you know that the concept of a sabbatical, a period of leave from work, comes to us through the Old Testament? There, in the Book of Leviticus, Chapter 25: 2, is the directive that the faithful are to take a year- long break, a sabbath, from working the fields every seven years:

When you enter the land that I am giving you, the land shall observe a sabbath for the Lord. ³Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard, and gather in their yield; ⁴but in the seventh year there shall be a sabbath of complete rest for the land, a sabbath for the Lord: you shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard. ⁵

Why? Because to let land lie fallow, untilled, for a period helps restore its fruitfulness. From this biblical directive has derived the "sabbatical" – an intentional break from a career or work designed for spiritual and physical refreshment of the person, whether through study, travel, spiritual retreat or just being fallow for a period. The Church has been fairly faithful to that concept.

Eight years ago I took a sabbatical just about this time of year. If the "lockdown" had not occurred, I would have sought a sabbatical last year, but now I will take that leave. Sunday, September 26th will be my last Sunday until Christmastide. My hope is that this time will include some online study, a time away with Scott, and a time of retreat and spiritual direction. Then a return to all that I love at Holy Family.

*A prayer: Lord you make all things new, the Creator who nurtures and renews all of creation. Let us rest in Your arms and dwell in the hope of renewal. Come to touch and heal, mend and restore and release all that may hinder us from true joy in You and your people. And then use us, we pray, and always to Your service. Amen. **Deacon Katharine Armentrout***

Sunday Worship Service Online Options: The Broadcast Team realizes that many of us don't understand the ways we can view our services online. The live broadcasts are on FaceBook and YouTube only, and the broadcast on our website is recorded and put up after the service. Here are the links:

Facebook (live broadcast): <https://www.facebook.com/Episcopal-Church-of-the-Holy-Family-334909503359712>

YouTube (live broadcast):

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmBfqFLmRBYzfRfSNnnFb7A>

Website - <https://holyfamilyepiscopalchurch.net/worshipping/sermons/> (not live, but uploaded shortly after): <https://holyfamilyepiscopalchurch.net/worshipping/sermons/>

Sunday Adult Education:

Starting this Sunday 9/19/2021, our Adult Education Group will start a new study of Carl McColman's *An Invitation to Celtic Wisdom*. Mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Zoom Meeting ID: 833 8671 2826

Click for Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83386712826>

Firewood for Sale: The Holy Family Grounds Crew is once again offering seasoned firewood for sale. The load will be all hardwood, well-seasoned, and split to a size of 16-19 inches. The grounds crew will deliver and stack in a location of your choice.

Cost this year will be \$195.00. Please contact the church office and reserve your load as soon as possible as quantities are limited. Thanks in advance. *Bruce Elliott*

Gifts Via Stocks or Wired Assets: Holy Family is blessed and thankful for all the support and gifts we receive. You may contribute by check, cash or by transferring stock electronically or wired assets. You need to send those transfers through Kiker Wealth Management. When we receive such gifts from Kiker, there is no gifter name or fund specified; contacting the office ensures we enter things properly in our bookkeeping system. If you have recently made such a contribution and have not spoken with our Parish Administrator, Christie Beiring, please give her a call as we have recently received a gift with no identifying name. *G. Yandell*

Memorial Garden: We have established a cemetery page at the Find a Grave website for the Holy Family Episcopal Church Memorial Garden

<https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2735684/holy-family-episcopal-church-memorial-garden>). But there is still work to be done. Find a Grave allows memorials to be linked to those of other family members: parents, siblings, spouses, and children. The information is best when it comes from individuals...like you!

Links are established by adding the memorial ID of a family member to the memorial.

An example of a memorial may be found at:

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/183524183/lillian-b-sterling>

This project is a joint effort of Parish Administrator Christie Beiring, and parishioner Jim Reid. Anyone who has or wishes to acquire a free account with Find a Grave may assume responsibility for a memorial. Please contact Jim Reid or the office for more information.

Updated Covid Guidance from the Diocese of Atlanta: The diocese's guidance gives full authority to individual parishes to decide what's best as long as we comply with CDC protocols and not offer a common cup. We call your attention to the following sentences from the guidance: "Diocesan COVID protocols are strongly advised but are no longer mandatory. Clergy and lay leaders will now have full authority to conduct worship, formation events, and meetings in compliance with CDC protocols as they are updated."

Here are the latest CDC protocols:

Updated information for fully vaccinated people given new evidence on the B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant currently circulating in the United States.

- Added a recommendation for fully vaccinated people to wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas of **substantial or high transmission**.
- Added information that fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask regardless of the level of transmission, particularly if they are immunocompromised or at **increased risk for severe disease** from COVID-19, or if they have someone in their household who is immunocompromised, at increased risk of severe disease or not fully vaccinated.
- Added a recommendation for fully vaccinated people who have a known exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 to be tested 3-5 days after exposure, and to wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.
- CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to schools, regardless of vaccination status.

Given this CDC update, and the fact that over 4,900 of Pickens County (16% of residents) have been infected (population @ 31,000), with a low vaccination rate, all parishioners attending indoor meetings and worship services are required to wear masks, regardless of your vaccination status. Masks will be available at Sunday services for those who forget their own.

George Yandell, Rector, Phil Anderson, Allan DeNiro, Roger Schultz, Executive Committee



Episcopal Church of the Holy Family

100 Griffith Road, Jasper, Georgia

Mailing Address: 202 Griffith Road, Jasper, GA 30143

Church Office: 770-893-4525 **Fax:** 770-893-4567

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm



The Rev. George S. Yandell, Rector

The Rev. Dr. Ted Hackett, Priest Associate - The Rev. Byron Tindall, Priest Associate The Rev. Katharine Armentrout, Deacon
John King Carter, Organist/Choirmaster - Jacques LeBlanc, Sexton

Ric Sanchez, Chief Verger - Jim Braley, Verger - Amelia Broussard, Verger Christie Beiring, Parish Administrator

Vision: *Revealing Jesus through our actions by extending his love for us through our service to others*

Mission: *Creating Christian community: serving and engaging people in vibrant ministries*