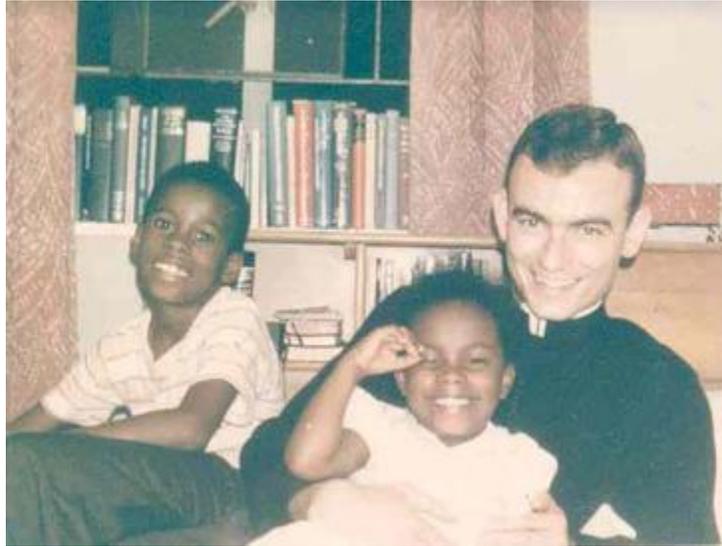




## The Episcopal Church of the Advent

August 12, 2025 Newsletter  
Ninth Sunday After Pentecost



August 14 is the feast day of [Jonathan Myrick Daniels](#) (d. 1965). He was an Episcopal seminarian and civil rights activist. He was killed while in the act of shielding 17-year-old Ruby Sales from a racist attack. He saved the life of the young Black civil rights activist. In 1991, Daniels was designated as a martyr in the Episcopal church. His feast day is one of nine in the Episcopal calendar designated for modern-day martyrs.

### Reflection: Fear Not, Live Faithfully (Luke 12:32-40)

Dear Friends in Christ,

This week's Gospel from Luke 12:32-40 invites us to hear Jesus' tender yet urgent call: "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." These words, like a gentle hand on the shoulder, reassure us of God's abundant love. Yet Jesus challenges us to live this gift with open hearts and ready hands, reflecting faith, stewardship, and vigilance. Father Powell's sermon this week inspired us that "Faith is the word of the day!"

The Gospel tells us that Jesus speaks to a crowd who are anxious about their daily needs—much like our own worries about finances, health, or an uncertain future. His call to "sell your possessions and give alms" isn't about emptying our lives but about loosening our grip on what weighs us down. It echoes Abraham's trust in God's promise, as we heard in Hebrews 11: "Do not be afraid... look toward heaven and count the stars!" By sharing generously, we store up "treasure in heaven," finding freedom in God's kingdom and the love we share with our neighbors.

Jesus then urges us to "be ready for action," like servants awaiting their master's return, lamps lit, and hearts alert. This isn't about fear but about living faithfully in each moment—through a kind word, a prayer, or an act

of justice. Father Powell, drawing from Marcus Borg's *The Heart of Christianity*, offered four ways to understand faith, each illuminating how we live out this Gospel:

1. Faith as Ascensus: An ascent, a climb toward trust in God's promises. Like Abraham, who believed despite being "as good as dead," we're called to trust without doubt, stepping boldly toward God's vision.
2. Faith as Fiducia: This is radical trust that casts out anxiety. Jesus says, "Do not be anxious... seek first God's kingdom." Trusting God transforms us, freeing us from worry.
3. Faith as Fidelitas: Faithfulness, not infidelity, to God's call. Jesus lived without sin, attentive to worship, prayer, and compassion. We're invited to do the same, staying true in every moment.
4. Faith as Visio: A way of seeing the world as gracious, not hostile or indifferent. Borg encourages us to see with gratitude—thanking God daily, expanding into continuous prayer, and appreciating others with a kind word each day.

Every act—getting up, attending church, receiving Communion—is an act of our faith. The Baptismal Covenant asks, "Do you believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit?" Each "I do" is a step of trust. Communion, the mystical banquet transcending time, is faith embodied. As Abraham believed and acted, we too are called to act as if the Master's return is near. Faithfulness is success.

Father Powell closed with a powerful image: "Hope is the ability to hear the melody of the future. Faith is the courage to dance to it today." When we fall, we rise and go on, trusting that our sins are redeemed by Christ's love.

As we prepare to welcome our new priest-in-charge, let us live as God's little flock, trusting in the kingdom and ready for Christ's presence in every moment.

In Christ's love,  
Kim

**Reflection Question: How can you "keep your lamp lit" this week through one small act of faith—perhaps a gesture of gratitude, compassion, or trust in God's provision?**

**Passing of Livy Scholly:** Elizabeth Branch updated the church that "Livy passed on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, a little after 4:00 A.M.. It was peaceful and painless. Abby Hospice provided calm and peace for her, and I think that Livy could always feel our love and support for her." There will be an announcement about a service for her as soon as we have the details. Please continue to pray for her family, especially her father, Bill Scholly.

**Priest recruitment:** The selection process for our new priest has concluded. The vestry and search committee unanimously selected a candidate, and their recommendation has been submitted to the Diocese for approval. After a brief review process, the Bishop will provide final approval. We anticipate welcoming our new priest-in-charge very soon.

**Supply Priest Update** – August 17; The Reverend Harold Lockett @ 8:00 and 10:30.

**Musical Performance – August 24:** The Lux Treble Choir, co-founded and co-directed by Ashley Conway and Emily Allison, will present a concert at Emmanuel Episcopal Church on **Sunday, August 24th at 4pm**. This auditioned choir is comprised of 40 women from across the state of Georgia, many of whom are music educators. Their program, titled "Moving Forward", explores our journey through life. The texts reflect life's highs and lows, honoring the resilience, growth, and hope that come from pressing onward. More information

about Lux can be found at luxsings.org. This concert is free. Emmanuel Episcopal Church is located in Athens at 498 Prince Avenue, just across the street from Birdies. Free parking is available in the lot behind the Golden Pantry/Shell gas station.

**Hospitality Forum – August 18:** Gracious, warm, inviting, and delicious are just a few of the many descriptive terms that recipients of hospitality at Advent use to describe their experience. We are doing an excellent job responding to whatever need requires Advent hospitality to activate. Advent is about to embark on some exciting changes of which hospitality will play a vital role. This presents an opportunity to refine and define with specifics how we engage in hospitality, If you would like to participate in a discussion on hospitality at Advent, **please come to a hospitality forum at 5:00 pm on Monday, August 18.** Please contact me at vicjacksonga@aol.com or (404) 735-0065, if you plan to attend. And of course, there will be refreshments!!!

**Rota for the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 17, 2025**

LEM: 8:00 A.M. / 10:30 A.M. Marrett  
Altar Guild: Jackson Lewis-Hawkins-Pike-Hilsman  
Flower Guild: Crown  
1st Reading: G Thompson  
2nd Reading: R Thompson  
Vestry of the Day: Horton  
Organ Tech: Jackson-Lewis

**Readings for the Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  
August 17, 2025**

[Link to Readings](#)

First Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7  
The Psalm: Psalm 80:1-2, 8-18  
Second Reading: 11:29-12:2  
The Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

**Parish Prayer List**

Jack Armistead, Dann Brown, Flossie Dodge, Jeanne Dufort, Kate Jackson, Mary Mack Jones, Kathy Lehman, Brian Lehman, Dutton Moorehouse, Jennie Newton, Annette Piazza, Lynne Roach, Dick Schmidt, Betty Thomas, Lynn Cupples, Bob Cupples, Mary Ann Edelman, Anita Hunt, Julie Hancock Jones, Jan Kozel, Jerry Maddoz, Dennis Reeder, Beth Tamplin Jones, Bill Kurtz, Susan Kurtz.

**August Birthdays:** **12** Betsy Quillin, **14** Kathie Schmidt, **18** Avery Jackson, Malin Dartnell, Gail Thompson, **24** Reese Freyer, IV, **26** Jamie Crotts

**Recurring weekly calendar**

Rite I Eucharist: Sunday, 8:00 AM  
Sunday school (adult): Sunday, 9:15 AM  
Rite II Eucharist: Sunday, 10:30 AM  
Morning Prayer service: Wednesday, 9:00 AM  
Off the Rails AA group: M, Tu, Th @ noon  
Madison AA group: Th, Su @7:30 PM, F @ 7:00 PM

**The Episcopal Church of the Advent**

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