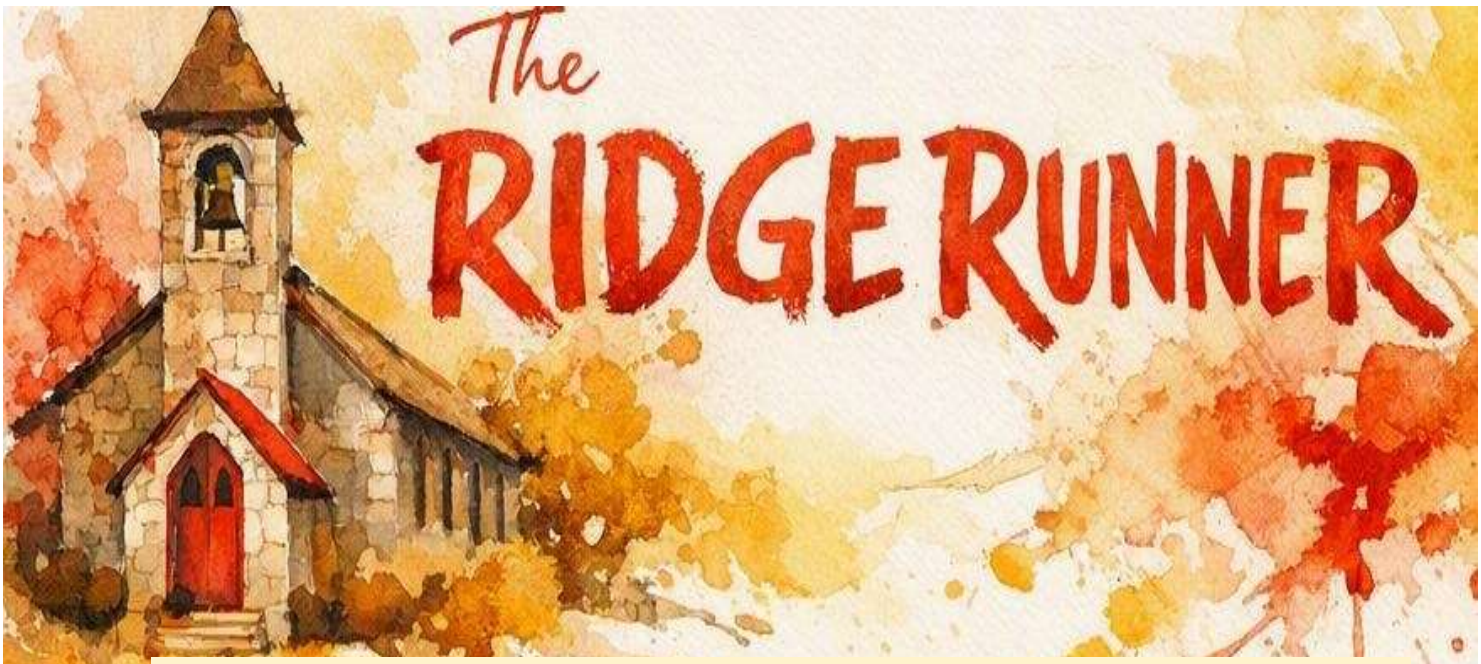


Episcopal Church of the Ridge

September / October 2026 Issue

Rectors Corner

Prayers of the People

One of the things we do as part of our Sunday worship is the Prayers of the People. It gives us an opportunity as the Rite I form of the prayers says to "pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world." (BCP 328). We always pray for the Universal Church, its members, and its

Rectors Corner continued

"As the leaves turn and the air cools, may every ridge remind you that change is beautiful, strength is quiet, and forward is always possible."

mission; the Nation and all in authority; the welfare of the world; the concerns of the local community; those who suffer and those in trouble; and the departed. Some of our Rite II forms, such as Form I (BCP 383) and Form V (BCP 389) include optional prayers that go beyond the scope of the six categories. Sometimes, we have a form of prayer that fits the occasion, like the Prayers for the Candidates during Holy Baptism or if we use a special form for a feast day. In addition to the prayers that are said, our intercessors always give an opportunity for the congregation to add their own intercessors, either silently or aloud. You may have also noticed when we pray special prayers like on Mother's Day or Father's Day.

This time is truly meant to be the prayers of all of us, so in the pauses the intercessor makes, I invite you if you are already not doing so, to pray what's on your heart. I also invite you to pray for specific things in those categories as the prayers are being read. The intercessor leads us in the prayers, and we respond, but our personal prayers are meant to be included. You may have also noticed, beyond special days, I have added prayers of intercession and thanksgiving at the end on behalf of all of us. If you ever have something for yourself, a family member, or a friend, like the birth of a child, an engagement, or very specific prayer request that you would like me to include, please let me know.

Blessings,

Lathrop+

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 2026

DATE	SEPTEMBER 6	SEPTEMBER 13	SEPTEMBER 20	SEPTEMBER 27
LOCATION	GRACE	TRINITY	OUR SAVIOUR	GRACE
SPECIAL NOTES	—	—	—	—
ACOLYTE	Connor Smith	Addie Long	Anna Hagan	Ryals Connor
LECTOR	Jerrold Watson	Scotty Scott	Jerrold Watson	Greg Sander
INTERCES-SOR	Muffy Sander	Peggy Moss	Kelly Vann	Muffy Sander
EUCHARIS-TIC MINIS-	Ray Melton	Liz Wilson	Ric Vann	Liz Wilson
GREETERS	Caleb Connor Bailey Pendarvis	Andy Whitfield Muffy Sander	Bill Kotti Annette Quinby	Caleb Connor Bailey Pendarvis
ALTAR	Muffy Sander	Lynn Melton Helen Mims	Leisa Long Jamie Long	Jean Covar
USHER	Caleb Connor	David Long	Greg Hagan	Greg Sander
HOSPITALI-TY	Muffy Sander	JoAnn Amos	Kelly Vann	Jean Covar
VIDEOGRA-PHER	Liz Wilson	Annette Quinby	Scotty Scott	Luke Kindred
READINGS	Exodus 12:1-14 Psalm 149 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20	Exodus 14:19-31 Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21 Romans 14:1-12	Exodus 16:2-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16	Exodus 17:1-7 Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 2026

Thank you for serving.

DATE	OCTOBER 4	OCTOBER 11	OCTOBER 18	OCTOBER 25
LOCATION	TRINITY	OUR SAVIOUR	GRACE	TRINITY
SPECIAL NOTES	TRINITY BIRTHDAY ANIMAL BLESSING Our Saviour • 3:00 PM	—	—	HALLOWEEN PARTY
ACOLYTE	Clark Connor	Ric Vann	Addie Long	Anna Hagan
LECTOR	Scotty Scott	Larry Vann	Lydia Wherry	Greg Sander
INTERCESSOR	Peggy Moss	Kelly Vann	Peggy Moss	Scotty Scott
EUCHARISTIC MINISTER	Ray Melton	Ric Vann	Larry Vann	Liz Wilson
GREETERS	Andy Whitfield Muffy Sander	Annette Quinby Bill Kotti	Andy Whitfield Muffy Sander	Caleb Connor Bailey Pendarvis
ALTAR	Jean Covar Lady Nicholson	Mary Derrick Cindy Vann	Sarah Schwarz	Jean Covar Betsy Willis
USHER	Chris Covar	Scott Derrick	Jack Schwarz	Andrew Driver
HOSPITALITY	Beth Thornton Animal Blessing: Liz P., C. Vann & C. Brice	Catherine Brice	Sarah Schwarz	Caro C., Meredith H. & H. Mims
VIDEOGRAPHER	Scotty Scott	Luke Kindred	Sarah Schwarz	Annette Quinby
READINGS	Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Psalm 19 Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46	Exodus 32:1-14 Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-14	Exodus 33:12-23 Psalm 99 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22	Deuteronomy 34:1-12 Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

CHURCH OF THE RIDGE

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Website: .www.churchoftheridge.org

Monday–Thursday, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. The office is open for administrative needs, scheduling, and general inquiries.

The Rector is available for pastoral needs at any time. She maintains on-site hours for administrative work and keeps afternoons reserved for visitations, pastoral care, and community ministry. Appointments may be scheduled directly with the Rector.

Rector / Priest: Reverend Lathrop Mosley

Senior Warden: Bill Kotti Junior Warden: Muffy Sander

Bailey Pendarvis / Endowment,

Annette Quinby / Women's Formation

Andy Whitfield / Grants, Safety, Caleb Connor / Men's Formation

Scotty Scott / Treasurer, Joann Amos / Recording Secretary

We are a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina.

"The Right Reverend Daniel P. Richards is our Bishop."



When the Kitchen Becomes a Classroom

By Muffy Sander

Let me take you back to Florida, Greg and I used to live in Cape Coral, where I came home from work one day with a simple, innocent plan:

“We’re having Mexican food tonight. I’ll make guacamole.”

I had all the ingredients in the bowl — avocado, lime, garlic, cilantro — feeling proud, capable, domestic. I pulled out my immersion blender, which should honestly come with a warning label that says:

“Do not anger. Do not provoke. Do not touch the top.”

I noticed some guacamole stuck on the blender head, so I wiped it off with my left index finger. No problem. Then I tilted the blender back to wipe the other side…

…and my right hand tapped the button.

That blender came alive like it had been waiting its whole life for this moment.

It caught the tip of my finger and I said:

“Oooooh.”

Not a scream. Not a yell. Just that polite sound you make when your body hasn’t felt the pain yet but your spirit knows something very bad has happened.

I pulled my hand back FAST — and that motion became Exhibit A.

I looked down and my fingertip was covered in guacamole and bleeding like I’d been attacked by a very small, very determined avocado. I tried a paper towel. It bled straight through. So I called Greg.

He said, “Get a washcloth, I’ll be right there.”

Now listen… The dishrags — the PERFECT solution — were in the drawer **right next to the sink**. I could've just reached over and grabbed one. They were practically glowing with usefulness.

But no. Greg said "washcloth," and my brain locked onto that word like it was a military command.

Washcloth = bathroom. Bathroom = go. Logic = cancelled.

So I marched myself across the house, bleeding the whole way, leaving a dotted trail of DNA across the tile floor like Hansel and Gretel but make it forensic. By the time Greg walked in, I was on my hands and knees trying to clean up the mess like a suspect who panicked.

We went to the ER, got me stitched up, and came home. Greg started looking around and then his eyes went up to the ceiling and then he started tracing the trail of spatters with his eyes and started to snicker when he said " it looks like a CSI crime scene in here,!

Apparently when I pulled my arm back from the initial cut, I flung a perfect arc of blood up the wall, across the ceiling, and down the other side. It looked like CSI: Guacamole Unit had filmed a reenactment.

And Then Came the Beets

So yesterday morning, when I was canning pickled beets and Greg asked why does the light switch look like a CSI crime scene? I just looked at him. Because compared to the Great Guacamole Incident of 2007, a little beet juice is practically a revival. I've lived through worse. I've *cleaned* worse. I've *bled* worse.

And honestly? After Florida, beet juice feels like spiritual growth.

Love to you all!

Now let me tell you why I shared this.

Because our hands — these ordinary, clumsy, miraculous hands — they tell our stories. They carry our triumphs and our accidents. They hold our memories, our scars, our work, our worship, and our love.

These hands have:

- cooked meals
- cleaned messes
- stitched quilts
- planted gardens
- held babies
- comforted friends
- canned beets
- and occasionally created crime scenes
- An d so much more

These hands that tremble, these hands that steady, these hands that bleed, these hands that heal, these hands that try their best, even when their brains send them to the bathroom instead of the dishrag drawer.

May the work of your hands be blessed this week. May they bring kindness into the world. May they create good things. May they offer comfort where it's needed. And may they remind you — in every small thing you touch — that God is present, patient, and smiling at your story.

Amen.

Studying the Saints

Our Monday Night Zoom Study Group starts again on September 14th. We will study the saints, focusing on American saints, although we will explore other saints as well. During the month, we will focus on the saints who are on the calendar for that month.

Mother Lathrop will begin each night with some information from Lesser Feasts and Fasts and other resources. She encourages you to take the time and do some research on your own and bring an interesting fact, something you didn't know about the person, a fascinating story or anything else you find out about the saint.

The most up to date list of all the Lesser Feast and Fasts is found at Lesser Feasts and Fasts. All the major Saints, such as the disciples as well as major feast days, are listed in the monthly calendar: Liturgical Calendar for 2026. The beginning of the Book of Common Prayer in the Calendar of the Church Year section is also a good resource.

September 14: Intro to saints in the Episcopal Church; Holy Cross Day

September 21: St. Matthew; David Pendleton Oakerhater (Deacon, 1931)

September 28: The Martyrs of Memphis – Constance and her companions (Episcopal Nuns, Episcopal Priests, 1878)

October 12: John Raleigh Mott (Ecumenist and Missionary, 1955)

Calendar of Events

September 6, Holy Eucharist 2- Rev. Canon Doug Reneger celebrating
September 7: Church Office Closed – Labor Day
September 13: Afternoon Service at Trinity
September 14: Monday Night Zoom Study starts back
September 27: Healing Prayers after communion
October 4: Trinity's Birthday Celebration; Blessing of the Animals – 4:00 at Our Saviour
October 11: Afternoon Service at Our Saviour
October 12: Office Closed: Columbus Day(officially observed)

October 17: Chili Cookoff at Annette Quinby's home more details to follow but mark your calendar for the competition , Great food, Games, and a whole lot of Fun
October 25: Healing Prayers after communion, Halloween Party