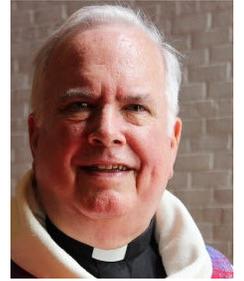




# Uniting in Worship. Welcoming in Grace.



## RECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

*by Fr. Tom Gehlsen*

# ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

February 2019

Volume 26, No. 2

This is a free publication  
for members and friends.

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## CONTACT

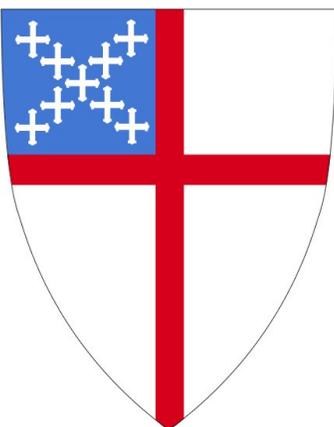
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First, I want to thank the community of St. George's for the willingness to accept and embrace change as an ongoing part of our community growth. All of us find, to some degree, that change can be challenging and "scary" as we continually evolve as God's creation in His mission and ministry to ourselves, our families, and our neighbors. It is truly a mystery.

Parish leadership, the Vestry, has prayed and studied with a focus on their ministry of leadership for the parish. Little by little they have been asking questions regarding their responsibilities as well as redefining the vision for the parish. To some members we will bid farewell and offer thanks as their terms have come to an end, and to others we welcome who will bring new talents, ideas, and commitment to the Vestry and the parish at large.

The staff is outstanding! Each is willing to attempt new designs for each of their areas. I believe many have seen and witnessed how the staff represents the best interest of each member of the parish. The staff is very aware of how community is developed and grown in a parish. Each staff area has been discussed with the individual directors and together we have moved in a positive direction in order to assist all members to grow in prayer, faith, and spirituality.

Over the course of the last year we have enhanced our process of communication. The service bulletins and the parish newsletter have taken on a new format. I believe they have taken on an exciting and colorful presentation. We have begun to examine the place of our community in social media in order to attract the attention of those who use social media as their main source of communication. Exciting details will be emerging as we move forward after some study, prayer, conversation, and decision making.

I have had the opportunity to visit with many members. We have shared stories with laughter as well as tears. Relationship building is so important in a parish community. This is the way we come to fulfill what Jesus has asked us: "Go forth and make disciples..." If we don't do this, we will struggle as a community as well wander and wonder where we are headed. Thanks so much for inviting me to walk with you in prayer, faith building, and as a part of a continuously growing community in spirituality and hope! I look forward to our ministry together in the message and name of Jesus Christ, crucified and risen in New Life!

God bless you all!!



## LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR (LEV) MINISTRY

by Laura Harmon

After a years hiatus, we will be resurrecting the Lay Eucharistic Visitor Ministry. This ministry is dedicated to bringing the Eucharist from the Sunday worship service to members of our parish family that through illness or injury are confined to either home, retirement community or a nursing home.

There will be an informational meeting on Sunday, February 10, following the 10:30 a.m. service in the Library Lounge. Please join us if you are interested in learning more about this ministry. If you have any questions prior to the meeting, please call Laura Harmon at 612-518-6399.



## February Birthdays

- 1 Tom Harmon
- Landon Rousselow
- 7 Julie Milligan
- 8 Betty Bauer
- Steve Monroe
- 9 Bob Jones
- 10 Kitty Reese
- 16 Donald Janke
- 18 Mike Oiler
- 20 Aaron Holbach
- 26 Jan Hagerman
- 27 Alissa Swartwood
- 29 Jane Jacobson



## KIDS CAFÉ MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

by Gregg Jacobson

Please come join us the fourth Monday of each month at Perspectives Kids Café, 3381 Gorham Ave. in St. Louis Park. We help elementary-aged children prepare an evening meal and set the tables. Then we help clean up afterwards.

We need two shifts of volunteers. The first shift is from 3:30-5 p.m. and then 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Please sign up in the Parish Hall, and feel free to reach out to Gregg Jacobson for further information, 952-938-4194.



# ST GEORGE'S PHOTO DIRECTORY



*by Carole Leonard*

Regarding the photos many of you had taken in October 2018, St. George's photo directory is now in the final stages of production. Due to the Christmas and New Year holidays, things got slowed up a bit.

By the end of January, we should have received the final proof and then it will be sent in for final production. We hope to be able to hand out the directories in February, so stay tuned. Parishioners who had their photos taken by Lifetouch will receive a free copy of the directory.

## Volunteers are needed!



myHealth is looking for volunteers to help fundraise at Twins Games from March 28 – May 15. Contact Laura at [laurah@myhealthmn.org](mailto:laurah@myhealthmn.org) for more information.

## ECMN UPDATE

*by Fr. Tom Gehlsen*

As we are aware ECMN will soon begin its search for the 10th Bishop of MN. There has been a change in the calendar for the process:

ECMN will hold its annual Convention on September 13-14, 2019 and a subsequent meeting of Convention on January 25, 2020 to call and elect the Tenth Bishop of MN. The same delegates certified to this year's Annual Convention in September 2019 will also be certified to vote at the meeting of Convention in January 2020 to elect a new Bishop.

## LENT ANNOUNCEMENT

*by Marilyn Clark*

Lenten Wednesday Soup Gatherings return beginning March 13 for 5 weeks. This year's theme is Prayer & Pilgrimage. Stay tuned for more info and for sign - up opportunities to provide soup, serve, or clean up. Any questions or suggestions, please contact Marilyn Clark at 763-354-4472 or [purlbuck@gmail.com](mailto:purlbuck@gmail.com).



## SEARCH COMMITTEE

*by Fr. Tom Gehlsen*

The Search Committee that will begin their work soon in searching for a new Director of Music are:

- Mike Sandsmark – Chair and Current Member of the Personnel Committee
- Heather Whitesell – Current Staff Member
- Roxy Zaun – Choir Member & Member of Praise Band
- Camille Schroeder – Choir Member
- Jan Tysk – New Parish Member
- Clark Duhrkopf – Consultant
- Fr. Tom Gehlsen – Rector & Ex Officio.

We ask you support & prayers for the guidance of the Spirit as the committee begins it's task.

## BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

*by Fr. Tom Gehlsen*

The National Episcopal Church has called for applications to fill positions for the new translation of the Book of Common Prayer. The finished product will be presented at the next Triennial Convention. More details can be found on the Episcopal Church's web site.





# MINISTERS OF THE EUCCHARISTIC ASSEMBLY

	<b>February 3</b> Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany	<b>February 10</b> Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany	<b>February 17</b> Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany ANNUAL MEETING 9AM Service	<b>February 24</b> Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany
<b>Readings</b>	Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 7:1-6 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30	Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 138 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11	Jeremiah 17:5-10 Psalm 1 1 Corinthians 15:12-20 Luke 6:17-26	Genesis 45:3-11, 15 Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Luke 6:27-38
<b>Lectors</b> 8 am	<b>Mary Kuhfeld</b>	<b>Carole Leonard</b> <b>Marilyn Clark</b>	<b>Jean Wayne</b>	<b>Tom Harmon</b>
10:30 am	Jessica Olson Lindsay Benjamin	Mary Weekes John Rash	Ron Ottsen	Caryl Eschweiler Cyprian Troyer
<b>Chalice</b> 8 am	<b>Mary Kuhfeld</b>	<b>Marilyn Clark</b>	<b>Jean Wayne</b>	<b>Laura Harmon</b>
10:30 am	Kathie Brown Jessica Olson	John Rash Amanda Turgeant	Mike Oiler	Cyprian Troyer Kris Kelley
<b>Ushers:</b> 8 am	Ron Holbach Ron Erickson	Mike & Jane Sandsmark	Tom Harmon Gregg Jacobson	Ron Holbach Ron Erickson
10:30 am	Bill Stromberg Sarah Schulte	Tom Zaun Lou Michelich	Bob Jones Mark Schulte	Deb Rash Tom Zaun
<b>Acolytes:</b> 10:30 am	<b>Ian Rash</b>	<b>Lilly Schulte, Sarah Rash</b>	<b>Ian Rash, Sarah Rash</b>	<b>Brendon Snyders</b> <b>Calista Snyders</b> <b>Nolyn Snyders</b>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>Kitty Reese/Bill Stromberg/Kris Kelley</b>	<b>Kathleen Boe,/ Katy Campbell/ Rachel Santos</b>	<b>Nancy Becker/ Bruce Becker/ Kristin Malone</b>	<b>Geri Alberg/ Barb Behrens</b>
<b>Coffee Hour:</b> 8 am	<b>Ron Holbach</b>	<b>Mary Kuhfeld, Mike &amp; Jane Sandsmark</b>	<b>Betty Bauer</b>	<b>Carole Leonard</b> <b>Geri Alberg</b>
10:30 am	Al & Mary Poulsen	Bob & Bonnie Jones	Don & Patricia Janke	John & Jane Carlson

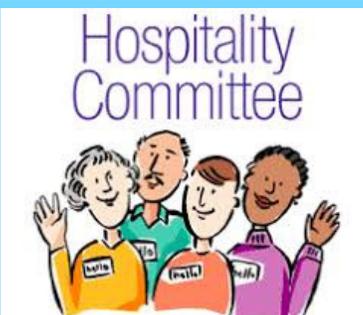
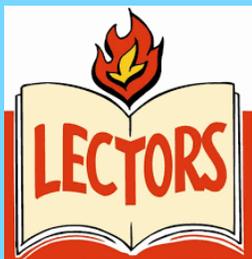




## Church Committees

**JOIN US**

Want to join a group or committee at St George's? Get in touch with the contact in the directory for more information



# CELEBRATION FOR RANDY EGAN

Join us after the 10:30 a.m. service on February 24th to celebrate Randy Egan's ministry leading the music program at St. George's.

Randy has announced that he will be retiring effective March 1, 2019. Over the last 15 years, Randy has made music an integral part of our ministry at St. George's from building a strong choir to using music as outreach through Evensong and other music events. He will be sorely missed by the members of St. George's.

If you wish to contribute to a farewell gift for Randy, please send it to the church office or put it in the collection plate with a note that it is for Randy.

The Personnel Committee will meet in the next week and begin planning the search process. We will let the church know how the process will proceed.

We wish Randy the best as he discerns his next steps in retirement. We will miss Randy's exuberant leadership of our music at St. George's.

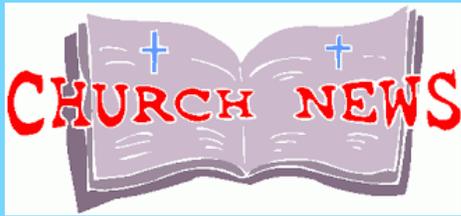
Father Tom Gehlsen  
Kathleen Boe, Rector's Warden  
Carole Leonard, Parish Warden



## EMPTY BOWLS

*by Camille Schroeder*

The 2019 Empty Bowls event will be held on Thursday, February 28, 2019, at Westwood Lutheran church at 9001 Cedar Lake Road in St. Louis Park. The event is sponsored by the St. Louis Park Emergency Program and is a fundraiser for STEP. It is an opportunity for you to support efforts to fill the empty bowls in St. Louis Park. Please join with your friends and neighbors to enjoy a simple meal of soup and bread provided by area restaurants. You can eat at lunch or at dinner. As an added bonus you can choose a hand-crafted bowl to take home which will serve to remind you of the need for food in our area. A free-will donation is appropriate. See you there.



**Annual meeting Save the Date: Sunday February 17 One Service at 9 a.m.**

St. George's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 17, 2019, with one service of Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m., followed by a potluck brunch and the meeting.

In addition to other agenda items, adult members of the parish will be asked to vote to approve a newly revised set of bylaws for St. George's. Copies of the revised bylaws were emailed to members who have email addresses, and will also be included in your Annual Meeting packets which will be made available to you prior to the meeting. For your reference, some copies of the current bylaws will be placed in the Parish Hall.

Signup sheets for items needed for the potluck brunch will be posted in the Parish Hall beginning Sunday, January 27. If you have questions, please see Carole Leonard.

Please mark your calendars. We hope you will plan to attend.

## PASSENGER LOADING ZONE

by Tom Boe

You might have noticed that the alley parking area closest to the building has diagonal lines, usually meaning "No Parking." This area serves a double purpose for those with mobility issues:

- Handicapped van clearance – There's a van-accessible handicapped spot to the left (East) of this no parking area. That van-accessible spot requires a six-foot handicapped

clearance (no parking) for a van lift and wheelchair access. This is usually on the passenger side of the van.

- The remaining lined-out space (closest to the building) is marked with this Passenger Loading Zone sign.

So, why a passenger loading zone?

St. George's has many more folks with mobility problems than we have handicapped spots. This is a problem almost every Sunday, but it's a serious problem for large events like funerals. As a result, every Sunday we have some people with mobility problems taking long walks (sometimes through ice and snow) to get into church. Or they're traveling uphill from a drop-off in an icy alleyway.

In many cases, though, someone is driving them to church. Many mobility-challenged folks can use this one nearby drop-off area for the same event. They'll get into the building more quickly, more easily, and more safely. Drivers can then park in any of the many standard parking spaces in the parking lots or streets around the church.

A final note: Although the diagonal lines generally mean "no parking," the passenger loading zone sign doesn't say that. Vehicles can park in this area for a few minutes, if needed, to help someone get safely into the building.

This one, simple change helps make our church more welcoming and accessible to all.



## PARISH STAFF:

Rector: The Rev. Thomas J. Gehlsen, Ph.D.

[tomg@stgeorgesonline.org](mailto:tomg@stgeorgesonline.org)

Deacon: The Rev. Diane McGowan [smarl@aol.com](mailto:smarl@aol.com)

Parish Administrator: Heather Grieger

[office@stgeorgesonline.org](mailto:office@stgeorgesonline.org)

Children and Youth Coordinator: Heather Whitesell

[heatherw@stgeorgesonline.org](mailto:heatherw@stgeorgesonline.org)

Organist/Choirmaster: Randy Egan

[randalleganmusic@gmail.com](mailto:randalleganmusic@gmail.com)

## ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

Elizabeth Woolner, mezzo-soprano; Darrius Jacob Morton, tenor; Don Moyer, bass

## VESTRY

Kathleen Boe, Rector's Warden; Carole Leonard, Parish Warden; Cathy Asgian, Lindsay Benjamin, Marilyn Clark, Caryl Eschweiler, Kristin Malone, Lou Michelich, and Jessica Olson.

## CLERK OF THE VESTRY

Laura Harmon

## PARISH TREASURER

Connie Kotula



## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## REMINDER: SAVE THE DATE - ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 17 AT 9AM

Service at 9am followed by a Brunch and the Meeting

