

**Uniting in Worship.
Welcoming in Grace.**



ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

July 2020

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This is a free publication
for members and friends.

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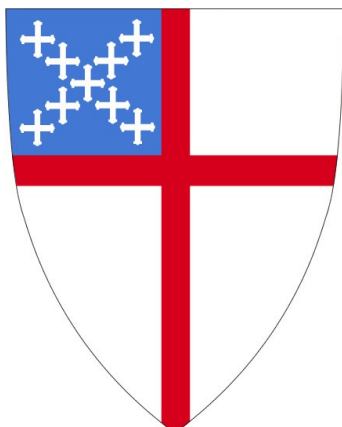
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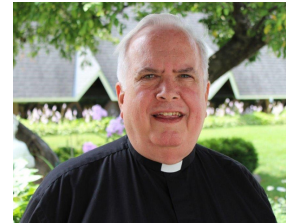
Monday - Friday

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WELCOME BISHOP CRAIG LOYA!!

by Rev. Tom Gehlsen



On Saturday, June 6th, 2020 the Church of Minnesota welcomed our new Bishop – Craig Loya! On that day the ordination and consecration were celebrated in the chapel at St. Mark's Cathedral. I hope many had the opportunity to view the livestream of the ceremony. Yes, the ceremony wasn't the huge celebration we all had hoped for given that we are in the midst of a pandemic. Truly the focus needed to be on the celebration and the meaning for all of us as disciples of ECMN!

Even without the fanfare, the ceremony carried a huge message not only to Bishop Loya as he comes to walk with us in ministry, but for us to again and renew our creed as Episcopalians in the Church of Minnesota. Walking with the ordained spiritual leader of our church. As we bid farewell to Bishop Brian Prior, we wish him well and hope the new avenues in his life will bring him further growth as a leader in the Episcopal Church. He has walked in love and peace the last 10 years with the ECMN. He has loved the servanthood that has brought the church to new heights and created new dimensions within the church. Let us offer our continued prayers for Brian and his family.

As we welcome Bishop Loya, we offer not only our hearty welcome but a pledge to walk with him in ministry. As I have listened to Bishop Loya, I have heard a man who has the gift of love for every human being he meets and ministers. I sense he knows and loves to cross lines in all directions of diversity of race, ethnicity, class or condition with a constant passion to proclaim how very deeply we all are beloved of God in the person of Jesus!

Let each of us commit ourselves in this transition to express how each and all are beloved of God as we express that love to each other. We continue our journey of becoming the church of the future with constant reliance on God and His beloved Son, Jesus Christ.



EDUCATION UPDATE

by Heather Whitesell Education Coordinator

Children's Corner

What a world we are living in! Though we have not been in the physical building, kids have adapted to virtual learning and continue on their faith journey. The children learned about Ascension and Pentecost and were able to do reflection and create posters with no technical difficulties!

Youth News

The youth have had to forego their fundraising due to pandemic. However, the prayer squares are in process and will be distributed to those members of St. George's who would like one once we can convene again.



I would like you all to keep the Rosebud Episcopal Mission in your thoughts and prayers. I am thinking about them as this is the scheduled week for our annual trip which was cancelled. In this time of crisis, remember those whose suffering is greater than our own.

PARISHIONER PROFILE

Profile: Tom Boe

We gave Tom a few questions, to help reveal some of his personality and passions. Here are his answers.



Favorite word: When

someone asked my Dad (an artist) which was his favorite color, he would say "All of them!" I'm like that with words. But as with his colors, each word has to fit my purpose. It should be as precise, common, and economical as possible. (The same goes for sentences, paragraphs, and newsletter articles.) The few useless words I know always have a more precise, common, or economical alternative. I don't see the value of the verb "utilize" over the simpler, clearer, and shorter verb "use." And it's monstrous child, the noun "utilization," has no advantage over the short noun "use." ("Utilization" is use-less.)

Favorite sound: I love being outside and active. When I'm out for a walk, a bike ride, or a paddle, I leave music behind. I'd rather hear a splash in the water, wind in the trees, and the chatter of insects, frogs, and birds. Music is miraculous on its own, but I don't need a soundtrack to enhance my visit in God's creation.

Different profession:

Before retiring in February, I'd been in education for almost 50 years and in educational technology for 40. Designing engaging learning experiences for students all over the country scratched two important itches for me: being creative and being socially constructive. But given the chance for a redo, architecture might scratch the same itches in a whole different way. Maybe in my next life.

Reading or watching: I spend too much time these days reading, hearing, and watching news, analysis, and opinion. I pray for relief soon. In the meantime, I recommend a novel, *Milkman* (Graywolf Press), and two streaming series: *Shtisel* (Netflix) and *Scott & Bailey* (Amazon Prime Video). All have good storylines, but the value I see is in the messy lives of believable people that you can really care about.

July Birthdays

- 2 Rachel Santos
- 3 Tyler Williams
Melissa Monroe
- 4 Jan Whipple
- 6 Katy Campbell
- 7 Karl Sell
- 8 Nancy Becker
- 9 Julie Rousselow*
- 10 Elena Schulte
- 11 Paul Santos
- 15 Jasyn Rousselow*
- 16 Sam Hoffacker
Kate Hoffacker
- 17 Amanda Turgeant,
Phillip Eschweiler
- 18 Jane Carlson
- 19 ISherryl Hutton
- 23 Tracy Keeling
Nolyn Snyders
- 25 Sue Gehlsen
- 30 Emma Eschweiler
- 31 Jane Sandsmark



Car Parade and Birthday Wishes for Marion

Marion Dwyer-Miller celebrated her 90th birthday in style on Sunday June 21st. She was surprised and stunned when she heard loud honking of horns and saw a parade of cars of people from St. George's pull up to her house with balloons and banners. 19 people weathered the rain with some protection from trees and a few umbrellas, and gathered in her driveway to sing "Happy Birthday". As she watched from her deck with family, the smile on her face was priceless! We had gathered at Faith Presbyterian Church a few blocks away, and Camille Schroeder lead the parade to Marion's house. Others in attendance were Diane and Mitch, Sonja, John and Claudia, Mary, Kitty and Bill, Jean, Jane and Gregg, Arlan, Sarah and Stew, Carole, Kathie, Leslie and Ed. Here are a couple of pictures of the group and a very happy Birthday Girl!

Remember Marion, those who celebrate the most birthdays live the longest! We wish you good health, happiness and God's blessings in the years to come.



MUSIC MINISTRY

by John Hoffacker, Music Director

When this is all over will we be stronger? That's what our music program is working toward. Tina Christensen and Billy Vaughn every week lift our online worship with their thoughtful, passionate chanting of the Psalm. Each month our choir members produce a video, singing alone in their homes — we've never done that before! We're learning new ways of making music together.

Look for treats in your weekly email from St George's. Our Artists in Residence occasionally drop links to videos they've created. Tina did "Raindrops keep falling on my head" with her ukelele last week!

With each Sunday's Hymn of the Day, I'm exploring the background of some of our favorite hymns and showing new ways of singing them. When we can finally sing together again, oh my, but we'll raise the roof!

The music program was asked to help the church restrain expenses, so sadly we had to let Christina Czaia and Ben Jeitz go as Artists in Residence. They were wonderful, wonderful people who sang beautifully and brought incredible grace to our worship and to all of us in the music program. We'll miss them! Cristina has another position at the church she grew up in, and Ben is taking new piano and voice students, so if you want to contact them, please let me know and I'll hook you up.

I hope you have a hymnal at home. Get it out and spend a few minutes with these treasures. Songs you grew up with and songs that might not be familiar. You'll find inspiration, comfort, and wisdom there. Soon, I hope, we can sing them together again.

Be well and happy. Blessings!

WELCOME COMMITTEE UPDATE

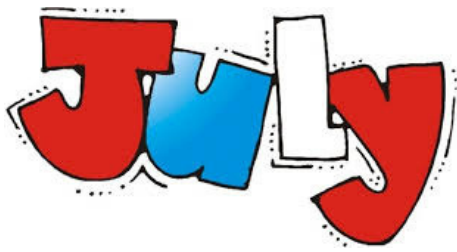
by Sarah Schulte

There has been a distinct change in the focus of the Welcome Committee during this time of COVID-19. While in the past we worked to reach out to potential new members through the website and by welcoming visitors to St. George's, we are currently putting our energy into outreach and communication with current parishioners of St. George's.

Our goal is to make sure people continue to feel that they are part of a strong and engaged church community. We decided that because St. George's has always made a point of recognizing birthdays during Sunday services, we will send birthday cards through the mail as a way of staying connected. Please let us know if we have inadvertently missed your special day! We also have an ongoing support card project. Jane Sandsmark has taken on this project and is a card-writing wonder, bringing cheer and comfort during difficult times. Lastly, we have been making phone calls to check in with our parishioners, focusing on those who are isolated, during this uncertain and often lonely time of COVID-19. It has been so nice to connect with people during this time.

Thanks to Laura Harmon, Jane Sandsmark, Rachel Santos, and Sarah Schulte for being callers.

If you would like to suggest a card of support be sent to someone in the church, please contact Jane Sandsmark by phone or text at 952-221-4004 or by email: mjsandsmark@gmail.com



MINISTERS OF THE EUCCHARISTIC ASSEMBLY

	July 5 Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	July 12 Sixth Sunday after Pentecost	July 19 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost	July 26 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
Readings	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Psalm 45:11-18 Romans 7:15-25 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Genesis 25:19-34 Psalm 119:105-112 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Genesis 28:10-19 Psalm 139:1-11, 22-23 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	Genesis 29:15-28 Psalm 105:1-11, 45 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
Lectors	Mary Weekes	Caryl Eschweiler	Jean Wayne	Carole Leonard

Sunday Worship AND Hymn of the Day

Join Sunday worship service a bit early to participate in Hymn of the Day.

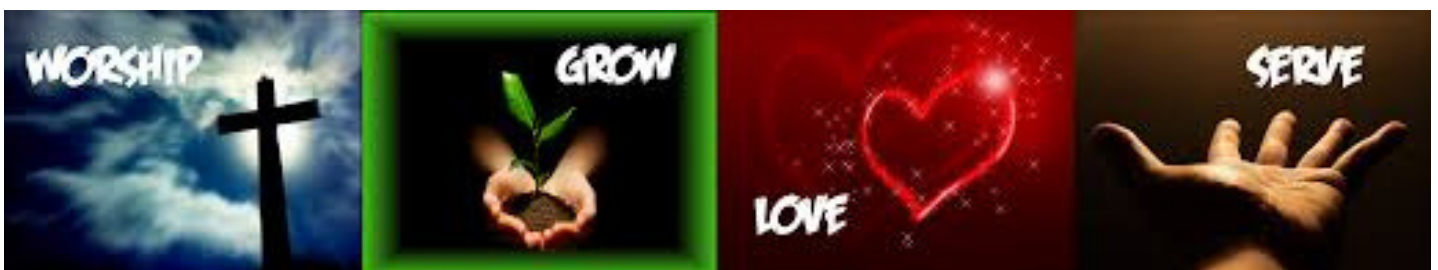
9:00am Hymn of the Day

9:30am Sunday Worship Zoom Meeting for both:

<https://zoom.us/j/141788041>

Meeting ID: 141-788-041

You may also join audio by phone: +1 312 626 6799



BOOK SHARE



by Rachel Santos

God's Other Children: Personal Encounters with Faith, Love and Holiness in Sacred India

Bradley Malkovsky – Associate Professor at University of Notre Dame. Has studied Sanskrit and Hindu thought at the University of Poona, in Pune, India. Editor of the Journal of Hindu-Christian Studies and the winner of the Huston Smith Publishing Prize.

When he was a student of Sanskrit and Hindu studies, Catholic Christian Bradley Malkovsky moved to India to deepen his knowledge of the ancient language of India and the practice of yoga while living on a Christian run ashram. As he discovers, the spiritual life in India extends to include Buddhism, Islam and Portuguese influenced Christianity. A combination travel writing and religious studies review, "God's Other Children" is filled with small stories of the personal, the tragic and the funny that make it an engaging read, in spite of a particularly long and detailed chapter on Yoga. Accounts of the author's time spent in an Indian hospital for the poor, his visit to an Ayurvedic doctor, attending both a Muslim wedding and funeral, a disastrous trip to the barber, and almost committing a major intercultural faux pas right before his marriage to a local Muslim woman are some of the too human experiences that fill the book. Witnessing first-hand the beliefs and practices of other faiths led to an appreciation of the holy that lives within other religions and the holiness that lives within the Christian faith. Malkovsky doesn't whitewash it and show only the good, but it he does show what is good, and that makes it worthwhile food for thought.

Do you have a recent read or watched something that you'd like to review and share with the church? Send it to Rachel Santos by the second Sunday of the month for inclusion in the following monthly newsletter. All subjects are welcome!

COVID 19 RESPONSE TEAM

by Kathleen Boe

The COVID 19 Response Team was formed in March to address issues arising at St. George's due to the pandemic. Fr. Tom, Tom Boe, Carole Leonard, Sarah Schulte and I have been meeting weekly. We cover the plans for Sunday services, property issues, needs of our parish community and communications.

We are getting better and better with Zoom, thanks to Tom Boe. Thanks to John Hoffacker, we now have the Hymn of the Day and active involvement of our musicians in the service. We've had very few property issues in the last few months.

Carole continues to make sure the yard and garden are up to snuff. Thanks to a memorial for Paul Schroeder we now have a new maple tree in the garden.

Sarah has led an effort with Jane Sandsmark to make sure we are connecting with all of our community in this strange time. With the help of Laura Harmon, Rachel Santos and Deacon Diane, they are calling and sending cards to many of our parishioners. And with this newsletter, our new newsletter team is launching their first "edition", Rachel Santos, Jill Burns and Sarah worked with Heather to put this together. Thank you.

We are working to pare our weekly email back to just one. That will only include service information and happenings relevant to the current week.

The Covid team plans to continue to meet for the next few months. If you have comments or suggestions, please let one of us know.



Thank you to Geri Alberg and Carole Leonard for their ongoing weekly work on the gardens and flower beds at St. George's. The weeding, pruning, and planting has kept the gardens in good shape and brought eye-catching color to the front of the church where parishioners and community members can enjoy it as they drive by.

Thanks to Tom Boe for tackling the challenge and joy that is Zoom. For making it possible for us to meet every Sunday plus, and to stay together as a community. Your efforts are appreciated!

Thank you to Jane and Mike Sandsmark for their generous donation of the cards, stamps, and address labels for the Welcome Committee's birthday card and support card projects. We're so glad to be able to be able to send cards of celebration and of support when we cannot be physically together.

If you have noticed someone going above and beyond at St. George's who deserves a word of thanks, please let Heather Grieger know so that she can include it in the upcoming newsletter.



Joys, Condolences, & Changes

Please add Ellen Doering and Dan Manion to your at-home St. George's directory. We are so glad to have them as parishioners.

Address: 4501 Park Glen Rd #251

St. Louis Park, MN 55416 Email: edoering8@gmail.com (Ellen)

Home Phone: 612-865-6412

Please add Bruce Wachutka's contact information to your at-home church directory. We're so glad to have him at St. George's!

Address: 8426 Burlwood Drive, Chanhassen, MN 55317

Email: wachutka@q.com

Home Phone: 952-934-4370

Cell Phone: 952-836-8703

Farewell

We'd like to wish a fond farewell to Barb Behrens as she begins a new chapter in her life. After retiring this month, she will be moving to Little Falls, MN where her two sisters already live. Barb has a quiet demeanor but is always ready to help a friend. She has visited homebound parishioners, provided rides to doctor's appointments, church, and our women's outings, and has been a support to families who have lost loved ones. Barb has been a dedicated volunteer at St. George's and served on the funeral committee, spent years as a member of the Altar Guild, and helped with planting the garden each spring. She also pitched in to help clean the church whenever it was needed. Barb is a wonderful baker, and she has provided yummy desserts for the Supper Club, St. Mary's Circle and church events. Barb does all these things quietly and humbly. We will miss Barb, but we know that Little Falls will benefit from having her in their community.

Barb's new address:

505 2nd Ave SE

Apt 212

Little Falls, MN 56345

We'd like to wish a fond farewell to Jan Whipple as she moves to Massachusettes to live with her daughter and her family. Jan is a long-time member of St. George's – she started attending in 1960 (that's 50 years ago!) and raised her family in the church. She remembers fondly the years when there were choirs at multiple services, a large children's choir, and so many people in the church that they had to set up folding chairs for Christmas services. Jan herself has lifted her voice in song with the St. George's choir for many of her years in the church and has sung with at least four different music directors. When she was raising her children, Jan participated in weekly prayer groups at the church. Of St. George's, Jan says, "I liked it so well in every way. I just liked everything." She is very happy about moving in with her daughter and family but says that she'll miss everyone here. In the same bittersweet way, we will miss her gentle smile and the twinkle in her eyes but are so glad that she'll be surrounded by her loving family.

Jan's new address:

4 Deer Haven Rd.

Beverly, MA 01915

NEWLY UPDATED MEMORIAL GARDEN AT ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH

by Carole Leonard, Chair of Buildings & Grounds

The memorial garden at St. George's has been recently re-landscaped which included the planting of a new tree – a Korean Northwinds Maple. You may recall that last fall the very old crab apple tree and its stump were removed from the garden. The funding for this project came through donations in memory of Paul Schroeder, husband of Camille Schroeder.

Bachman's drew up a plan last fall and this spring we were finally able to begin the process. Camille and I made a trip to Bachman's tree farm in Farmington a few weeks ago to pick out a tree. Camille commented that her husband Paul loved trees, and so she felt that this was a fitting memorial in his honor.

We hope St. George's parishioners will enjoy the beauty of this garden.

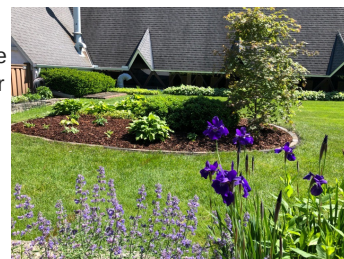


St. George's memorial garden prior to the new landscaping and tree.

This photo shows the rounded pile of woodchips where the old crab apple tree had been. The woodchips were left over after we had the tree stump drilled out last fall. Bachman's removed all of the woodchips and extended the border of variegated hostas to continue around that part of the circle.

St. George's memorial garden after the new landscaping and tree were completed.

The tree is a Korean Northwinds Maple. The leaves start out reddish in the spring, then turn green, then turn orange in the fall. (If you Google the name of the tree, you will see the fall color.) Note that the concrete border has been extended further to the west to make room for the new tree. It is hard to see in this photo, but there are three Little Lime Hydrangea bushes planted among the mulched areas. These are tiny now, but later in the summer will be much larger and will be blooming. Little Lime Hydrangea flowers start out a light green, then turn creamy white and then shades of pink in the fall. (Google the name if you want to see the colors they turn.) The blooming hydrangea bushes will give additional beauty, height and interest to the garden.



This is the side of the memorial garden that faces the church.

You can see that the concrete border has been increased from a circle to more of an egg shape to accommodate the new tree. The Little Lime Hydrangea bushes will be to the right of the bench.

PARISH STAFF:

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Gehlsen, Ph.D.

tomg@stgeorgesonline.org

Deacon: The Rev. Diane
McGowan smarl@aol.com

Parish Administrator: Heather
Grieger

office@stgeorgesonline.org

Music Director: John Hoffacker,
D.M.A

johnh@stgeorgesonline.org

Children and Youth Coordinator:
Heather Whitesell

heatherw@stgeorgesonline.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

Christina Christensen, mezzo
Soprano

William Vaughn, Bass

VESTRY

Kathleen Boe, Rector's
Warden; TBD, Parish Warden; :

Lindsay Benjamin, Jane
Sandmark, Sarah Schulte,
Cyprian Troyer, Jill Burns, Gregg
Jacobson, Bruce Becker and
Rachel Santos

CLERK OF THE VESTRY

Laura Harmon

PARISH TREASURER

Connie Kotula

SUNDAY SERVICES ARE NOW ONLINE WITH ZOOM

