

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



**ST.  
GEORGE'S  
EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH**

August 2020  
Volume 27, No. 8

This is a free publication  
for members and friends.

[www.stgeorgesonline.org](http://www.stgeorgesonline.org)

**CONTACT**

5224 Minnetonka Blvd  
St. Louis Park, MN 55416  
952-926-1646  
Office Hours: 9am - 2pm  
Monday - Thursday  
[info@stgeorgesonline.org](mailto:info@stgeorgesonline.org)

**HOPE CANNOT BE ABANDONED**

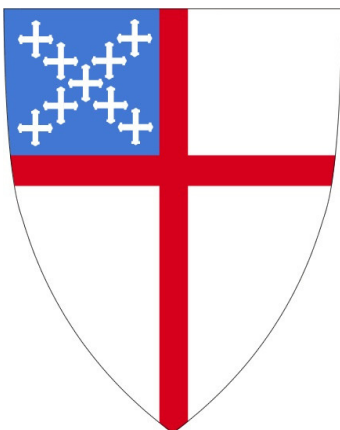
*by Rev. Tom Gehlsen*



\*\*\*\*\*

In the past months, the Coronavirus has gone global affecting all countries, societies, and health systems. It has disrupted varying spheres of our social, political, economic, and spiritual lives. In our spiritual domain which happens to be the foundation of human existence and getting more attention in Global Health recently. Spirituality is that aspect of humanity that refers to the way individuals seek and express meaning and purpose and experience their connectedness to the moment, to self, to others, to nature, and to the significant or sacred.

Despite the lingering uncertainty, COVID-19 silently offers us an opportunity to reflect on the spiritual impact it has on the world and our communities. This broad sense, the spiritual impact is currently not unequivocally positive, however, we need to be convinced that in the end, humanity, as a whole, can take a spiritual leap forward. In other words, do not under any circumstances separate yourself for our Spiritual Hope!





## August Birthdays

- 1 Harry Kelley
- 4 Jean Hurlbert
- 7 Ted Eckstrom
- 9 Neal Gysland
- 11 Patrick Kelley  
Ian Rash
- 14 Kristin Malone
- 15 Caryl Eschweiler
- 18 David Wayne
- 19 Holden Hagerman
- 22 Jacob Carlson  
Brendon Snyders
- 28 Jean Wayne
- 29 Jessica Olson  
ANDrew Sell  
Kelly Snyders
- 30 Jill Peterson



# EDUCATION UPDATE

*by Heather Whitesell Education Coordinator*

As we slowly make progress towards a “new normalcy” the youth of our parish have managed to maintain an active summer! We have not connected physically but hope to do that soon as our numbers are small enough to comply with safety measures. I would like to include here a couple prayers aimed at youth and families for you to pray together in your homes.

### A PRAYER FOR YOUTH

We pray for the new generation, the young men and women of today. Shine your truth into their hearts. May they hear you in music, see you in art and experience you through the love and care of family, friends and teachers . Build your hope into their lives. May they sense this hope rise in their hearts as they encounter the power of nature, the majesty of the oceans and the beauty in creation. Come sow your wisdom into their minds. May they discover wisdom as they read their bibles, discuss deeper issues of life or encounter hardships or difficulties. Come weave your love into their dreams. May they find vision in their interests, opportunities for their talents and aspirations for their abilities. May this new generation of men and women know you.

### CELTIC BLESSING

My Fortress  
The Sacred Three  
My fortress be  
Encircling me  
Come and be round  
My hearth and home.



## PARISHIONER PROFILE

This month's profile is on Paul Santos. Paul has been a member of St. George's since 2012. He is a musician as part of a musical duo called The Recliners. Born and raised in Fairhaven Ma of Portuguese descent, he has been married to the lovely and talented Rachel since 1989. We gave Paul a few fun questions, to help reveal some of his personality and passions. Here are his answers!

**What is your favorite word?** My favorite WORDS are periwinkle and Ishkabibble! Come on, they sound great!

**What would you love to hear God say to you when you arrive at the Pearly Gates?** You were good peeps!

**What profession (other than what you do now) would you like to have gone into?** Storm chaser or NHL Goaltender...or a musician who works MORE now than I do!

**What is your favorite sandwich?** Lobster roll, and Corned Beef & Pastrami on marble rye (mustard only - Do NOT add mayo!!)

**What language would you love to be fluent in?** Portuguese! It's the language of my people...a beautiful language and it would be a lot easier to visit Portugal (if that ever happens again) having a good command of the language.

*Do you have someone you would liked to see covered in a parishioner profile? Or would you yourself like to give it a go? Contact either Sarah Schulte, Rachel Santos, or Jill Burns..*

# POEM

Praying

It doesn't have to be the blue iris, it could be weeds in a vacant lot, or a few small stones; just pay attention, then patch a few words together and don't try to make them elaborate, this isn't a contest but the doorway into thanks, and a silence in which another voice may speak.

-Mary Oliver, Thirst

<https://becomingflame.com/2018/01/19/praying-by-mary-oliver/>

# INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE

The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched - they must be felt with the heart.

Helen Keller



## Ask the Rector!

This is your opportunity to ask all those questions you may have about the church, faith, religion or whatever is on your mind. Questions and their answers will be posted in the next newsletter.

Send questions to Sarah Schulte [schultemsb@yahoo.com](mailto:schultemsb@yahoo.com) and indicate if you would like your name included with the question. Don't be shy, all questions are welcome!

# MUSIC MINISTRY

by John Hoffacker, Music Director

## Choir Videos: Behind the Scenes

**Step 1** John finds a good song. One that we know or can learn easily, with a good beat that we can sing to.

**Step 2** John sends out an Accompaniment track. This is the piano or organ music under the voices. It gives the beat.

**Step 3** Tina and Billy record Lead tracks for sopranos, altos, and basses, and send them out. Those singers practice with the videos of Billy and Tina singing their parts. Yes, Tina does both soprano and alto videos!

**Step 4** Singers record their own videos. While listening to the Accompaniment or Lead track, the singers film themselves singing their own parts. They send their videos to John.

**Step 5** John compiles all the videos using iMovie. All the audio is balanced, the sizes of the singers' heads is equalized, and the title is added.

**Step 6** The video is added to the slides for Sunday morning. Tom Boe makes sure the audio matches the rest of the worship service — not too loud or too soft. When that slide appears, the audio starts.

## WHAT'S THE "SCOOP"?

by Rev. Tom Gehlsen

Questions have been asked regarding why do we do what we do on Sunday morning? Months ago as we began this very strange journey regarding Covid – 19 I had mentioned our plan of services based on the guidelines of ECMN and the State of Minnesota which essentially shut down all churches. We had discussions amongst the staff and members of the Vestry as to what was available and how do we deliver a service. As you know, ZOOM is the vehicle we have been using to deliver our services on Sundays as well as other meetings. Here at St. George's we have attempted to offer two venues of services: Morning Prayer and Eucharist. There are reasons we have chosen these two forms of prayer during this time. The highest form of prayer is the Eucharist. We have and will continue to offer it once a month. I'm sure all of us would like to celebrate the Eucharist more often. Given the fact that the Eucharist is a community celebration with the distribution of communion to all, it really should not be celebrated outside the presence of the community. If you pay close attention to the celebration and the prayers you will see the directness to the attending community. Also, historically the Eucharist had always been celebrated in the presence of multiple people. All we have to do is begin at the Last Supper and move forward to see the purpose and function of a Eucharistic celebration.

The remaining Sundays we celebrate Morning Prayer. First and foremost Morning and Evening Prayer have always been seen as the "hinges" holding the Prayers of the Hours together. Intentionally they are set up to assist us as begin our day and conclude our day in early evening. Not sure if we remember, but Morning Prayer was the weekly celebration in the Episcopal Church years ago and the Eucharist celebrated once a month. So, we have some history to look at as well.

Another inquiry was centered around changes in prayer and format, specifically the Creed in the celebrations. The Episcopal Church, as a whole, offers numerous options in prayer format for all official celebrations. For example, we have been using the Affirmation of Faith from the New Zealand Prayer Book in place of the Nicene Creed. The Affirmation of Faith is a clearer presentation of the Triune God, whereas the Nicene Creed from our Prayer Book isn't presented in a way that meets the description of the Triune God as clearly. We do not just replace prayers and forms. We use official options in prayers in order to give everyone an opportunity to see, pray, and celebrate in ways that may assist one in their spiritual journey. It is very similar to the statement: "One form doesn't fit all!" So, we attempt to bring forth the best of what the church has to offer.



# Check out the events in August!

**ALL EVENTS ARE ONLINE**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 9 am - Hymn of the Day (Zoom) 9:30am - Morning Prayer (Zoom)	3	4	5 11am - GBD (Zoom)	6 6:30 pm - AA (G)	7 Office Closed	8
9 9 am - Hymn of the Day (Zoom) 9:30am - HE, Rite II (Zoom)	10 7 pm - Finance (ZOOM)	11	12 11am - GBD (Zoom) 7pm - Peer Support	13 6:30 pm - AA (G)	14 Office Closed	15
16 9 am - Hymn of the Day (Zoom) 9:30am - Morning Prayer (Zoom)	17 7 pm - Vestry (ZOOM)	18	19 11am - GBD (Zoom)	20 6:30 pm - AA (G)	21 Office Closed	22
23 9 am - Hymn of the Day (Zoom) 9:30am - Morning Prayer (Zoom)	24	25	26 11am - GBD (Zoom) 7pm - Peer Support	27 6:30 pm - AA (G)	28 Office Closed	29
30 9 am - Hymn of the Day (Zoom) 9:30am - Morning Prayer (Zoom)	31					

## GOSPEL BASED DISCIPLESHIP

**11:00 am Every WEDNESDAY**

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

**Meeting ID: 141-788-041**

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

*Key:* GBD - Gospel Based Discipleship    HE - Holy Eucharist    CEB - Christian Education Building  
LL - Library Lounge    G - Garden



# 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>

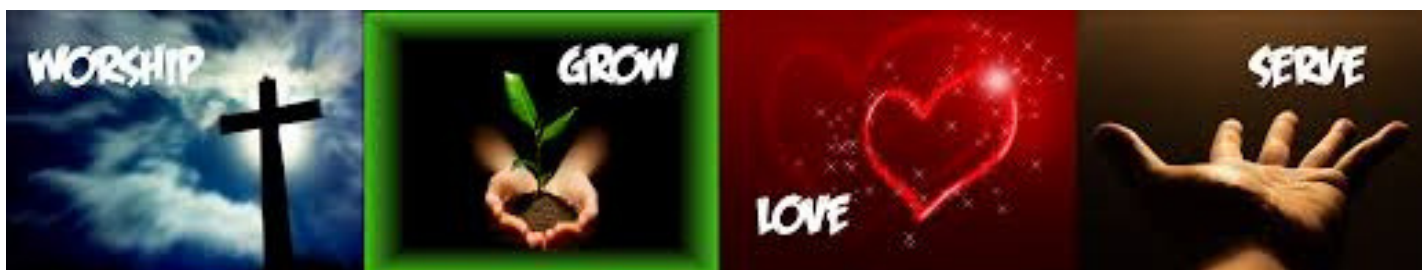
Meeting ID: 141-788-041

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



## MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARISTIC ASSEMBLY

	<b>August 2</b> Ninth Sunday after Pentecost	<b>August 9</b> Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	<b>August 16</b> Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost	<b>August 23</b> Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost	<b>August 30</b> Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
<b>Readings</b>	Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 17:1-7, 16 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45 Romans 10:5-15 Matthew 14:22-33	Genesis 45:1-15 Psalm 133 Romans 11:1-2, 29-32 Matthew 15:21-28	Exodus 1:8-2:10 Psalm 124 Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20	Exodus 3:1-15 Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45 Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28
<b>Lectors</b>	John Rash	Darlynn Benjamin	Mark Schulte	Kathie Brown	Sarah Schulte



## WINDOWS ON ST.

### GEORGE'S

#### A Monthly Tour

through the Stained Glass  
Windows of St. George's.



#### Stained glass windows have special meaning

The five windows located on the south side of the church nave were designed by Ludwig Schermer, a St. Paul artist who received his training in West Germany. Symbols used in the windows were sketched on paper, transferred to heavy cardboard and then sent to West Germany where the glass was cut and the windows were fabricated. Completed windows were shipped to Minneapolis for installation in the new church.

#### Window 1

The design is based on the miracle of the loaves and the fishes but is also representative of the Sacrament of Holy Communion, which is the reason this window is located in the sanctuary area. Yellow colors spring from a brown basket containing bread. Beneath the basket is a large green fish in a field of blue.

The fish is a symbol of Christianity which was often used by early Christians and can be found to this day in the catacombs of Rome, where many of them worshiped in secret. The yellow colors that surround the basket are the same as the three small objects on top of the basket which represent the loaves of bread. These have been blessed and multiplied so that all people may share in them.

*We'll continue the tour to the second window in next month's newsletter!*

## BOOK SHARE

by Kathleen Boe

The Library Book By Susan Orlean



Okay everyone, this is not a book about spiritual practices. But in this time of COVID, I am finding that reading is more important than ever. A book I read recently, that I found fascinating, was *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean. The book starts as a bit of a "whodunnit". The Los Angeles Central Library suffered a devastating fire in 1986, damaging or destroying more than one million books and causing massive damage to an architectural treasure. How the fire happened, and if the fire was caused by arson, has never been fully determined. Orlean weaves her personal passion for libraries, the story of the evolution of libraries in our society, the detective work to determine how the fire happened, and the story of the design of the Los Angeles library into one book that I had a hard time putting down. The history of the Los Angeles library is the history of libraries in our lives – from places where books were simply available to the civic centers that they are today providing books, computer access, educational programs and social services. The library was designed by architect Bertram Grosvenor Goodhue with influences of ancient Egyptian and Mediterranean Revival styles. The central tower is topped with a tiled mosaic pyramid with suns on the sides with a hand holding a torch representing the "Light of Learning" at the apex. The interior of the library is equally ornate, decorated with various figures, statues, chandeliers, and grilles. The building was completed in 1933 and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970. Orlean writes about how outdated the library infrastructure had become. Was the fire caused by arson? Or was it caused by old wiring that sparked in the perfect tinder of thousands of books? Orlean loves libraries – and spent many hours in the Los Angeles library talking to librarians throughout the building. We learn about the library and its clients through their eyes. This brings a personal aspect to the story that I found quite compelling. So – enjoy. Let me know if you read it and what you think. Do you have a book, program, podcast or other you would like to share with your friends? Please contact Rachel Santos to have it included in an upcoming parish newsletter. All topics are welcome!

## ST. LOUIS PARK EMERGENCY PROGRAM

by Camille Schroeder

First, a bit of history. STEP came into existence in 1975. It was a project of the faith communities in St. Louis Park who were seeing a need for help for the people in the park. Originally the STEP Board was comprised of representatives of the faith communities. The first director of STEP was Sue Nelson, a member of St. George's.

Fast forward to 2009. STEP was looking for a place to hold their Back to School (BTS) project and St. George's stepped up. This meant that students and their parents/guardians would pick up their school supplies at the church. It also meant that St. George's would provide storage places for the leftover school supplies from year to year.

Fast forward again but to 2020. And we all know that this year there are many changes. STEP has made a decision that no volunteers over the age of 65 can work at STEP because of the pandemic. As a result, because many of the BTS workers are over that age, it would be hard to do the project in the way it has been done in the past. In addition, the registering of students has had to change greatly. So, although students will still be getting their supplies, the project will be held at another location. In addition, the school supplies have been moved to the new location and will not be returning to St. George's.

While many of STEP's services are on hold during this time, two remain very much alive. One is the food shelf. Clients can call STEP and register for food, make some choices and then pick up their requests at STEP. While they don't get to shop directly they do get to make requests. Milk, eggs, butter and a meat choice are included. The other service that is very much available is housing assistance. STEP has an amount of money designated just for rent or mortgage payment. While STEP helps people who live in St. Louis Park, the social workers can make recommendations for people who live in other areas. ICA, VEAP, and Prism are other Programs that can provide rental assistance. Social workers are available by phone to help with problem solving and to provide resources.

Hopefully there will be a coat drive in September. So check your winter wear and see if you have some good used winter clothing to pass on to someone in need. More information on this later. And that's the up-to-date STEP news. Thanks so much for continuing to support STEP. The big needs at this time are food and money. Do what you can.



### Farewell

Marilyn Clark has joined Scott as a member at St. David's Episcopal Church. Marilyn was very active at St. George's as a Lay Reader, Eucharistic Minister, Vestry Member, Education/Adult Forum Committee member, and was always willing to volunteer for many other activities as needed. We will miss Marilyn at St. George's and wish her well!



## OH, NO! A SINKHOLE IN ST. GEORGE'S ALLEY PARKING LOT

*by Carole Leonard, Chair of Buildings & Grounds*

Recently it came to my attention that there was an area of the asphalt in the alley parking lot at St. George's that was sinking. It is located where the asphalt meets the sidewalk just outside of the playground area. There is a drain pipe that brings the runoff water from the roofs in the area under the playground, and empties through a drain in the alley parking lot.

A company met with me last week who used a camera to go through the pipe to check where the leak or crack might be, and discovered that the drain pipe located under the sinkhole had been crushed causing the water to go under the asphalt which caused the sinking (see photo).



We are currently in the process of getting three quotes to repair this problem, so stay tuned to hear how this turns out.

## ST. GEORGE'S WILL FINALLY HAVE A CROSS ON THE BUILDING!

*by Leslie O'Donnell*

I'm excited to let our church family know that we will finally have a cross on the church this fall. We have placed the order and the cross should arrive within 12 weeks. We will attach the backlighting and have the cross mounted on the south facing Quonset Hut wall outside. The wall will be painted white to show off the cross and since it will be backlit and on a photo cell it will be easily visible at night. That should turn some heads in our community when they finally realize our building is a church!





## 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)

Music Director: John Hoffacker, D.M.A

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

Children and Youth Coordinator: Heather Whitesell

[heatherw@stgeorgesonline.org](mailto: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

