

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



ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

November 2020
Volume 27, No. 11

This is a free publication
for members and friends.

www.stgeorgesonline.org

CONTACT

5224 Minnetonka Blvd
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

952-926-1646

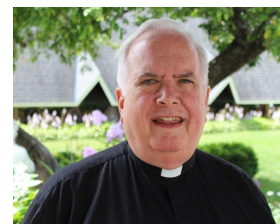
Office Hours: 8:30am -
1:30pm

Monday - Friday

info@stgeorgesonline.org

ECMN 2020 ANNUAL CONVENTION SEPTEMBER 25 - 27, 2020 DELIVERED VIRTUALLY

by Rev. Tom Gehlsen



Let me first say that of all the Diocesan Conventions where I have participated this Convention fulfilled beyond any expectation I held. There was no doubt that the gathering was filled with the Holy Spirit and the power of prayer filled the Convention with a deepening of faith, but most of all, in these peculiar times, there was a true sense of Hope across ECMN.

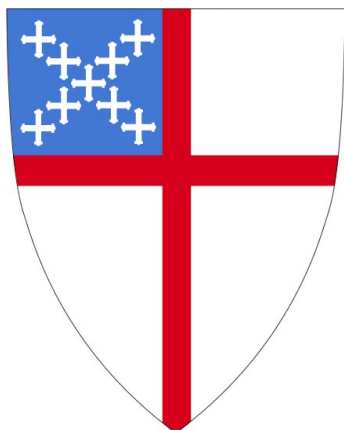
There is no doubt that the new leadership under Bishop Loya has yet to be fully felt. He is a man of deep spirituality, prayer, faith, and is offering his deeply refined skills to walk with us in a new time and in developing a new culture for the Church.

Bishop Loya focused his address and sermon during the Eucharist on four areas:

- Discipleship
- Justice
- Faithful innovation
- Vitality

He developed the foundation of moving forward by calling all of us to return to our "core" business of discipleship by developing faithful innovation, being witnesses to the spirit of justice and growing in vital congregations.

Bishop Loya invited each of us to join the Holy Spirit to bring in what is a new developing culture. As much as we may not like what's happening around us, we need to face the sad fact that the wonderful historical church we have been part of for centuries is now no more. We have been called to assist in developing the church in a new culture. He challenged ECMN, along with himself, to begin doing the smallest things well with love! We all are longing for SPIRITUAL depth! Our practice begins with Sacred Scripture, Prayer, Worship, and Serving the Poor and Marginalized. This is our challenge to be bold and courageous disciples to all those around us!





November Birthdays

8	Kendra McGill
	Connie Kotula
9	Preethy Goonetilleke
12	Nathan Harmon
14	Doug Gniot
15	Dorothy LeBakken
17	Colleen Monroe
19	Odessa Pamoncutt
23	Mary Weekes
	Maclain Herbers
28	Jina LeBakken

Adult Education

Are you craving more learning opportunities and thoughtful conversation with our church leaders and other parishioners? We are hoping to begin adult education as soon as possible. Father Tom is attempting to gain some insight into what the congregation would like to have presented for discussion and exchanging of ideas. If you have suggestions for topics, please let Father Tom know. We will move forward when we have a larger selection of topics.



Condolences:

We extend our sympathies to the families who have lost loved ones recently. We pray for strength, healing, and peace for those in mourning. Jessica Olson's grandmother, Connie Evans, passed away in September. Nancy Becker's brother, Norm, passed away in September. The funeral and burial service for Bonnie Jones was held Monday, October 26th at 11am at Fort Snelling National Cemetery for family and up to fifty guests designated by the family. The funeral service and burial for Nathalie Wilcox was held on Monday, October 19th at 11am at Washburn-McReavy Funeral Home in Edina and burial was in Lakewood Cemetery. The funeral, during COVID-19, was with family and invited guests.

"My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and behold the face of God?"
Psalms 42:2 RSV

EDUCATION UPDATE

by Heather Whitesell Education Coordinator

Though we live in trying times, it is important to be optimistic and remember all that your family has to be thankful for. However you choose to gather this year, take the opportunity to express your joys together.

Traditional Navajo Chant

Sun: May beauty be before me

(All: Extend hands in front while offering refrain below)

Mon: May beauty be behind me

(All: Extend hands behind while offering refrain below)

Tue: May beauty be below me

(All: Extend hands downward while offering refrain below)

Wed: May beauty be above me

(All: Extend hands towards sky while offering refrain below)

Thu: May beauty be all around me

(All: Extend hands in an arc/circle while offering refrain below)

Fri: In beauty it was begun.

(All: Hug yourself while offering refrain below)

Sat: In beauty it is finished.

(All: Hands outstretched while offering refrain below)

Refrain: We are grateful for the gift of life received from the food we eat. May we honor them in how we live our lives and share this food, may it be with great love.

All: Amen.



PARISHIONER PROFILE

This month we are pleased to feature Bruce Wachutka as our Parishioner Profile! Here he has shared a bit about his life. I grew up in St. Louis Park and thoroughly enjoyed school and sports through high school. Attended St. George's as a youth and have fond memories of church, Father Ernie, church league basketball and Mr. Whipple's confirmation classes. Drafted by the Twins after high school, I played minor league baseball for five years. Graduated from the University of Minnesota and spent 40 years in the property casualty industry insuring businesses in various underwriting capacities. Most of my career was with Zurich Insurance. Retired four years ago after my wife was diagnosed with cancer and she passed away in the summer of 2019. For many important reasons, I was drawn back to St. George's. I'm glad I did as everybody has been extremely welcoming and I very much look forward to church being open again and strengthening my faith. I'm blessed to have two wonderful daughters and four grandchildren. My favorite hobby is golf and I play twice a week during the season. We asked Bruce a few questions to learn more!

1. If you could choose any person from history to have dinner with, who would you choose and why? There are dozens of teachers, family friends, coaches and others who have passed away that had a significant impact on my life. I regret not completely sharing with them how much their relationship meant to me. I would have a banquet feast to honor and sincerely thank all of them.

2. What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given? The three most important priorities in life are your relationship with God, family and baseball. The grizzled old coach that told me that certainly got the first two correct but I have replaced number three with other things!!

3. What movie do you wish you could see again for the first time? Or, if you're a reader, what book do you wish you could read again for the first time? A tough one. Chevy Chase in National Lampoon's Vacation and Caddyshack is hilarious. Humor can be very comforting today.

4. What is your absolute favorite meal? A tie. Either salmon or beef tenderloin. Add a potato dish plus a salad and I'm in heaven.

5. What's one way that you nurture your faith? I try to treat everybody with kindness, understanding and respect. Also, I often attempt to find and understand messages from the Bible. I have a lot to learn!!

Do you have someone you would like 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..



OFFICE HOURS AT ST. GEORGE'S

From Memorial Day to Labor Day ----

Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

From Labor Day to Memorial Day

Monday - Friday 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

Heather Grieger's Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Tuesday 6 pm - 8 pm



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 and indicate if you would like your name included with the question. Don't be shy, all questions are welcome!

ASK THE RECTOR

Why does it say "Jesus descended to the dead" in the apostles creed? And in some churches, "Jesus descended into Hell" What was he doing there?

You have to start with creation and the Old Covenant that God was to save His people. When that first human choice was made of indicating that God wasn't needed, God indicated that in order to be forgiven a Savior was to be sent who was His son. The statement in question is about the event (death of Christ) and the Resurrection. This is known as the D&R event. It was the event to forgive all the indiscretions and renew a covenant now called the New Covenant or the promise that He would come again. The question refers to how humans in historical recording indicated that the "rescue" for the violation in the Old Covenant was fulfilled. The words "dead" & "hell" hold, in this instance, the same meaning, now we are free from spiritual "death" and "hell," which in this case mean the same thing.

STEWARDSHIP

by Kathleen Boe, Rector's Warden

Dear Parish,

We are in the midst of stewardship season. I welcomed the opportunity to hear our new Bishop Loya reflect on the importance of stewardship. I was touched by his words: "When I find ways to give myself away and see my life as part of God's bigger story, it fills me up and sets me free."

As I reflect on my own stewardship journey, it comes down to three things. For me, pledging is:
An act of faith
An act of community
An act of necessity

Faith - is an ongoing journey and exploration. Giving to that faith is a continuing reminder of the importance of simply trusting in God's bigger story.

Community - Tom and I have grown to love everything that is St. George's. Our pledge is one way of continuing to nurture this special community.

Necessity - Monies to run our church are just as critical in this time of distant worship as they ever are - worship, music and outreach and simply maintaining our physical structure remain essential.

By now, many of you may have sent in your pledge cards - thank you. For those that have not, I appreciate Fr. Tom's guidance to use this as a time of discernment to identify the gifts that God has bestowed upon us and what God is asking us to offer in continuation of His ministry.

We head into a year of much uncertainty. I have every reason to expect that sometime during 2021 we will be meeting together again. I can hardly wait for that to happen.

Thank you for all for the time, talent and treasure that each of you give to St. George's.

Your Rector's Warden,
Kathleen Boe

P.S. We now have an on-line pledge card! Simply click the attached link:
<https://stgeorgesonline.org/mt-content/uploads/2020/10/-stg-pledge-2021.pdf>
Fill out the form, save it and then email to St. George's.

P.P.S. If you need a form to have funds electronically withdrawn from your bank, send a request to Heather at office@stgeorgesonline.org.



Check out the events in November!

ALL EVENTS ARE ONLINE

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

GOSPEL BASED DISCIPLESHIP

11:00 am Every WEDNESDAY

<https://zoom.us/j/397934453>

Meeting ID: 397 934 453

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

Key:

GBD – Gospel Based Discipleship
LL – Library Lounge

HE – Holy Eucharist

CEB – Christian Education Building

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:
[Link for Sunday Worship](#)

Meeting ID: 141 788 041

Passcode: 205714

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



MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARISTIC ASSEMBLY

	November 1 All Saints Day	November 8 Holy Eucharist Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost	November 15 Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	November 22 Last Sunday after Pentecost	November 22 First Sunday of Advent
Readings	Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10, 22 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12	Joshua 24:1-3, 14-25 Psalm 78:1-7 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13	Judges 4:1-7 Psalm 123 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 100 Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46	Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37
Lectors	Lindsay Benjamin	Carole Leonard	John Rash	Kathie Brown	Mark Schulte



WINDOWS ON ST. GEORGE'S A Monthly Tour through the Stained Glass Windows of St. George's.



Continuing our tour of the stained windows of St George's, we approach the fourth window and find the theme of the watchful Eye of God.

Window 4

Basic design in this window indicates the hand of God guiding us and the eye of God watching over us. The stones at the top represent the wrist and the arm, extending God's hand from Heaven to earth. The fingers point to the eye encircled by twelve red stones which represent the 12 apostles. The 13th red stone placed under the fingers refers to our Lord Jesus who is set in the midst of the chosen twelve. This window is placed in the nave of the church, to signify that God is watching over us. Next month is our last window, and we end with the Blessed Trinity .

QUOTE

"Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you." - Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

The Pets of St. George's. Here are some of the faithful friends that have given love and support to our parishioners!



Lou Michelich with Sawyer. Sawyer is 10 years old and a well trained hunting dog and companion.

continued on next page

DEACON DIANE

by Mitch Pearlstein

As St. George's parishioners know, Deacon Diane had Deep Brain Stimulation surgery recently at University of Minnesota Hospital to alleviate symptoms of dystonia, a movement disorder.

DBS involves implanting electrodes in precise areas of the brain, with the amount of stimulation controlled by a pacemaker-like device placed under a patient's chest. In Diane's case, this entails three separate surgeries: A five-hour procedure to implant electrodes in one side of her brain (October 5); a two-hour procedure to place the Medtronic device (October 12); and an upcoming surgery to implant electrodes in the other side of her brain (November 9).

How is she doing? Save for several days of significant pain after the first surgery she's doing quite well. But what Diane most wants St. George's to know is how grateful she is for countless prayers, get-well cards that turn her misty-eyed, enough GrubHub and DoorDash to keep me piled for weeks – and Zooming every Sunday morning with dear friends.

FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT ST GEORGE'S

by Camille Schroeder

A little bit of history.

By 1950, St. George's had grown and had 505 baptized members and 235 children of Sunday School age. In order to accommodate this large Sunday School, in 1953, the church purchased a single family home that was at the east end of the lot that the church occupied (where the Christian Ed. building is now). For many years parents would take their children to Sunday School in the "white house" and then go to church in the next building. In 1956 a new Rector was called – Rev. Allen Whitman. As the church continued to grow, it became apparent that St. George's needed a new sanctuary to replace the temporary quonset hut church. Plans were drawn up and an A-frame church was designed and built at an estimated cost of \$127,000. It was dedicated on May 4, 1960. The garden area was included as part of the new plan, a memorial from the Kiewel family, which continues to be enjoyed by parishioners.

STEP

by Camille Schroeder

The St. Louis Park Emergency Program continues to support the community by offering food and social work help to clients. Because of the pandemic it is not possible to run the clothes closet. The Back to School project operated but in a modified way. Close to 500 students were provided with supplies. The next STEP project is the Holiday Toy Store. Again, this project has been modified.

What you can do.

FOOD STEP would prefer that you send money designated for food rather than donate food at this time. They will use your donations to purchase the foods that they need. Please write "Food" in the memo line of your checks. Also, please remember that food is a year-round need and you can donate year-round.

HOLIDAY TOY STORE

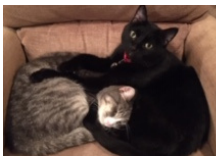
This year no toys will be given out. In place of the toys, each child will receive Target gift cards for a total of \$30.00. In order to support this program STEP is requesting donations of Target \$10.00 gift cards, the more the better. It would be helpful if you would write the value of the card on the back of the card. 500 or more children will be receiving gifts of \$30.00. You can see the need. You can deliver your donations to STEP – through the back door as the office is not open, or mail your donations to STEP, 6812 W. Lake Street, St. Louis Park, MN 55426. Many thanks for all of your donations.

MUSIC QUIZ

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Charles Wesley has the most original hymn texts (not translations) of any poet in The Hymnal 1982.
2. Charles Wesley was the oldest of 19 children.
3. Ralph Vaughan Williams, who composed the music for "For All the Saints" and "Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life," was an agnostic and edited the most influential hymnal of the 20th century.
4. Judy Collins's 1970 recording of "Amazing Grace" was on the US charts for 70 weeks.
5. When the Welsh National Team plays a rugby match the crowd sings "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah."
6. "Morning Has Broken" is a beloved English folk song.
7. The composers of "It Is Well with My Soul" and "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" wrote them in response to great personal tragedies.
8. "Holy, Holy, Holy" is a theological hymn about Communion.
9. "All Creatures of Our God and King" is a paraphrase of a poem written by Francis of Assisi in the 1200s.
10. When we sing hymns, we breathe as one and our minds and our souls unite.

Answers on the next page

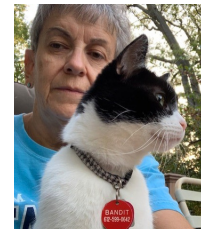


Leslie and Ed O'Donnell with their pets all adopted from the Animal Humane Society. Luna is a trained Therapy Dog and prior to COVID-19 visited a nursing home in their neighborhood. She now visits outside and connects with the residents through the window. Luna is 5 yrs old and is an Australian Cattle Dog and Jack Russell Terrier mix. Samsonite (Black kitty) is polydactyl, has extra toes on his front paws. He was surrendered to the AHS in a Samsonite suitcase! Loves lap sitting and giving you kisses. He will be 8 years old in Dec. Stanlee (grey tabby) loves to knock things off the counter when he's hungry and wants food. Acts like a kitten and loves wrestling with Sammie. He's 5 years old. We call them "The Bookend Boys" because they love to be together.

Fr. Tom with his new buddy Elsa! Both are still in training and Elsa's even temperament makes her a joyfully welcomed member of the family.



From the Schulte household: Lilly is holding AbrahAM Lincoln, Elena holds Agatha, the only egg-layer so far is Buttercup, and the black and white beauty is Cricket. Sarah and Mark with Shiloh, A five month old German Wirehaired Pointer. We're in the midst of training which he - and we- definitely need!



Kathie Brown and 6 year old Bandit. He loves attention. If he wants to sit on my lap, he does not take no for an answer!



Geri Alberg and Libby

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS PROJECTS UPDATES:

by Carole Leonard, Chair of Buildings & Grounds

Two more projects were completed in the month of October by St. George's volunteers. First, our thanks to Gregg Jacobson, Kris Kelley and Carole Leonard for power washing, scraping and painting the west side of the Quonset building with two coats of white paint. It took many man/woman hours and a lot of ladder climbing to complete the job. See "Before" and "After" photos below.



Before: West side of Quonset building after it was power washed and scraped, and before it was painted.



After: West side of Quonset building after it was painted with two coats of white paint.

Secondly, many thanks to Tom Zaun for his innovative idea to cover three of the Library Lounge exterior windows on the west side of the Quonset with painted plywood. The reason being was that one of the windows (fifth one from the left) had a large crack and a hole in it. Tom surmised that if we just boarded up the one window, it would look like a patch job. So, Tom came up with the idea to install plywood over the center three windows so there would be three clear, three painted white, and three clear which would give it a design element. Tom also installed insulation between the glass and the new wood on those three windows. The work of this project was done by Tom Zaun. See "Before" and "After" photos below.



Before: Library Lounge windows, west side of Quonset building.



After: Library Lounge windows after the middle three windows were boarded over to give it a more modern, up-to-date look.



Just a reminder that even though we have not been able to gather in person at St. George's church for several months due to the pandemic, the bills of the church still need to be paid. As of the end of September (the last month for which we have numbers), we were behind in year-to-date pledges by \$8,465. If you are able, please continue to mail your pledges to the church office. Thank you.

ANSWERS

1. True.
2. False. He was the youngest of 19.
3. True. He edited The English Hymnal with Percy Dearmer in 1906.
4. True. She first performed it in 1964, and has sung it in concert ever since.
5. True.
6. False. The tune is Scottish and the text was written by the English author Eleanor Farjeon in 1931.
7. True.
8. False. It expounds on the Holy Trinity.
9. True.
10. Absolutely true. And we'll sing together again!

WELCOME COMMITTEE

As we continue to reach out to St. George parishioners, we want to make sure all information is up to date. If you have a change in your contact information, please send your updated phone number, address, and/or email to Sarah Schulte at schulteMSB@yahoo.com or 612-201-5731. Thanks!

If you have a request for "thinking of you" cards and notes, Jane Sandsmark is writing the cards of support to our parishioners. Please email, call, or text any request for cards of support to Jane. mjsandsmark@gmail.com 952-221-4004 Thank you!

PARISH STAFF:

Rector: The Rev. Thomas J.
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

