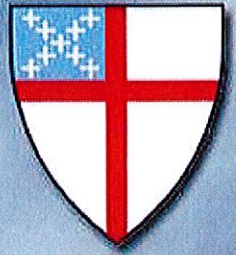


# St. George's Episcopal Church

## Uniting in Worship.

## Welcoming in Grace.



5224 Minnetonka Boulevard

St. George's Episcopal Church

This is a free publication for members and friends

Saint Louis Park, MN 55416

office@stgeorgesonline.org

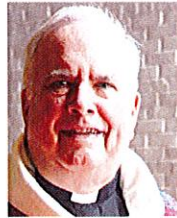
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March 2022

Volume 29, No. 3

### NOT ALREADY?! YES, LENT IS HERE AGAIN!!

*By The Rev. Tom Gehlsen*



As many of you know by me telling you or speaking publicly, Lent is not my favorite liturgical season. It seems to be too much emphasis on our imperfections. If we truly travel a journey in Lent, we will likely meet struggles and frustrations along the way. Haven't we had enough of those over the last two years? Yet, we are called to enter our "inner sanctums" to examine and be transformed. Tough work!!

We are created out of love and for love. We walk the same earth and breathe the same air, and yet ....

We proclaim that it is God's will that all people live in equity and peace, that all have a share in God's abundant life, that there is liberty and justice for all, and yet....

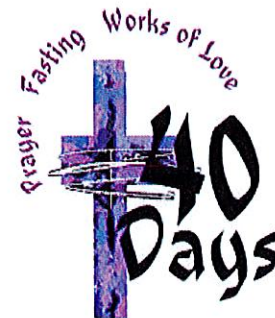
We have been claimed in baptism, buried with Christ in a death like his, to be raised with Christ in a resurrection like his. We have already died the only death that really matters, and yet....

We do not recognize the full humanity of others. There is not justice for all. In our fear we doubt the resurrection.

This Lent, let us enter into a time and space of honest and unflinching examination. We offer these devotions as a means, a starting point for prayer and reflection. The hard work of truth telling and truth hearing is set before us. The painful reality that racial equity does not

exist in our countries and our churches cannot be ignored. We must resist any rush to reconciliation before repentance. Return to the Lord!

In your love, compassionate God, keep us in this tension. In your severe mercy see this pain to bring action and change. We pray this in the name of Christ, in whom the dividing wall of hostility has already been broken down. Amen



### ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

March 2, 2022

- 12 noon: Ashes & scripture
- 7:00 pm: Ashes, choir, and Eucharist



# MARCH MINNESOTA FOODSHARE

By Camille Schroeder



The Minnesota Council of Churches is sponsoring the Minnesota Food Share project this year from February 28 through April 10. This is a time of increased need for food and monetary donations to food shelves in Minnesota. It is when food shelves hope to refresh their supply of food to help those who are experiencing food insecurity.

St. George's continues to support our local food shelf which is the St. Louis Park Emergency Program. And what can we do to help? There are a couple of ways that are key. The first is to donate food. Any kind of non-perishable food that you yourself would enjoy eating is appropriate. Think of a dinner meal, a lunch meal or even a breakfast meal. Then there are always baking ingredients, paper goods such as toilet paper, paper towels and napkins. And there are also personal items such as toothbrushes, tooth paste, deodorant and feminine products. Any and all of these are great donations.

The other option is to donate a cash gift. STEP can access food at a much greater bargain than we can and they do. A great amount of food is purchased from Second Harvest. And there's a good reason to donate money in that Citizens Bank will match up to \$5000 in those donated funds.

And so, it's up to you. What can you do? Food donations can be put in the red wagon in the narthex and they will be picked up and delivered to STEP. Monetary donations can be sent to STEP at 6812 W. Lake St., St. Louis Park, MN 55426, (please put MN FoodShare in the memo line), or can be given to Camille Schroeder at church and she will deliver them to STEP.

FYI----- St. George's has given 26 pounds of food to STEP in February. Thanks for your participation in this Minnesota FoodShare project.



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS ON  
SUNDAY, MARCH 13.** Turn your clocks ahead  
one hour on Saturday evening, March 12.

## EDUCATION CORNER

*Submitted by Heather Whitesell,  
Children & Youth Coordinator*

The children's learning has been following the liturgical cycle with the Gospel of Luke. So many important lessons and opportunities to reflect on decision making and how our actions affect our lives into the future.

The youth met in February and delved into the possible origins of Valentine's Day. It appears to have begun not so lovingly!

As March brings St. Patrick's Day, and the luck of the Irish, I offer these prayers for luck:

Dear God, bless me with strong will and patience  
and aid me with good fortune!

May God be with you in every step of your life  
and grace you with ravishing luck and prosperity.

Oh Benevolent! Grace me with a stroke of luck  
and grant me mercy for my sins!



Youth members Lilly Schulte, Nolyn Snyders  
and Sarah Rash made this "God is Love" poster for the  
bulletin board in the Narthex.

Check it out.





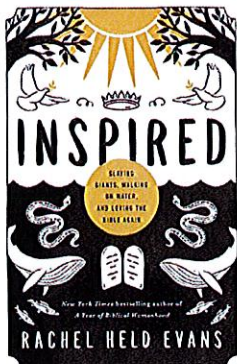


We extend our sympathies to the families who have lost loved ones recently, and we pray for strength, healing, and peace for those in mourning.

Deacon Diane's brother, Robert Plass, died on February 15 from a massive heart attack. He was 63 years old and had been through quadruple heart bypass surgery a few years ago. Please keep Diane and her family in your prayers as they grieve this loss.

James (Jim) Eastes, age 90, a former longtime member of St. George's passed away on January 23 at his home in Fountain Valley, California. Jim moved away a few years ago to be close to his sons.

[Revelation 21:4](#) - *He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.*



## LENTEN SERIES

*"Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again."*

Bring your doubts, bring your questions, and bring your laughter. Reading *Inspired* gives you new ways to approach the Bible, and we'll all bring our own perspectives.

Get your copy, read the Introduction, and join us March 9 and every Lenten Wednesday at 7 p.m., via Zoom.

— John Hoffacker

## Key-Call

By Marion Hunner, Parish Administrator



**Keys:** Do you have any St. George's keys? Maybe to the outside doors? Maybe a ring of many? We are trying to shore up who has what keys.

**Access Cards:** Do you have an access card to the Education Building? We will be deactivating all cards that are not identified as belonging to folks who need access.

Please call or email Marion if you have any of these so that she can create a list. If you no longer need the keys or card you have, please drop them off at the office. Contact Parish Administrator Marion Hunner at [office@stgeorgesonline.org](mailto:office@stgeorgesonline.org) or 952-926-1646.

## We're getting the bands back together

By John Hoffacker, Music Director



The Covid numbers are down, and as long as we're smart and safe, the Choir and Praise Band are going back to rehearsal and worship.

We all miss singing, so why not come sing with us? Rehearsals are after church on Sundays, in the choir room. No choral experience required, and you will be surrounded by friends.


**Do you play an instrument?** Let's find the right music for you to play in worship. [johnhoffacker@gmail.com](mailto:johnhoffacker@gmail.com)





**IMPORTANT:**  
**PLEASE COMPLETE THE  
GOOD FRIDAY SURVEY**

As we get closer to the Season of Lent, we have been discussing **Holy Week services**. Please check your weekly email from John Hoffacker to complete a survey about what time we should hold our Good Friday service.



The office will be closed the week of March 7-11, as Marion will be out of town. She will tend to emails and voicemails when she returns to the office on March 14.

**Welcome  
Committee**

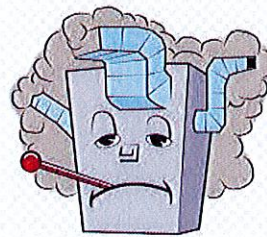


Welcome Committee continues to send birthday cards to parishioners and Jane Sandsmark sends cheer to those who are ill, recovering from surgery, or may just need a pick-me-up through her cards of support. We also now have a small group of parishioners who are making phone calls to St. George's members to check in and let people know we are thinking of them. Thank you to Kathie Brown, Jill Burns, and Ed O'Donnell for joining in this ministry.

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 at [ajsandsmark@gmail.com](mailto:ajsandsmark@gmail.com) or 952-221-4004 Thank you!

**A note a to St. George's Community  
from the office of Bishop Loya at ECMN**

*Dear St. George's Community,*  
*Bishop Loya told us about his recent visitation with you at our team meeting today. As is our custom, we took the opportunity to pray for St. George.*  
*Please know how thankful we all are for the ministry you do.*  
*Your Missioner for Networking,*  
*Santra Stevenson*



**ST. GEORGE'S  
FURNACE REPAIR**

**THANKS TO  
TOM & ART ZAUN**

In January, the furnace that heats the south side of the Sanctuary stopped working and the church became very cold. A repair person was called who explained that the motor on that one furnace was no longer working, but the part would not be available for perhaps months, and the part installed would cost \$1,945.

Tom Zaun was not only able to purchase a new motor, he purchased two just in case. Tom and his brother Art replaced the motor in time for the church to be warm when Bishop Loya visited. Turns out the motor in the furnace that heats the under-croft was also not working, so Tom and Art replaced that one, too.

So, instead of it costing St. George's more than \$3,800, the cost was more in the neighborhood of \$600.





## MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARISTIC ASSEMBLY

	Ash Wednesday March 2 12 noon & 7 p.m.	Sunday March 6	Sunday March 13	Sunday March 20	Sunday March 27
<b>Readings</b>	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Psalm 103 Matthew 6:1-6,16-21	Romans 10:8b-13 Psalm 91:1-2,9-16 Luke 4:1-13	Philippians 3:17-41 Psalm 27 Luke 13:31-35	1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Psalm 63:1-8 Luke 13:1-9	2 Corinthians 5:16-21 Psalm 32 Luke 15:1-3,11b-32
<b>Lectors</b>	Mary Weekes 7 pm only	Claudia Hoffacker	Jean Wayne	Devin Snyders	Carole Leonard
<b>Ushers</b>	N/A	Bill Stromberg Bruce Becker	Tom Zaun Lou Michelich	Bob Jones Bruce Wachutka	Tom Zaun Tom Harmon
<b>Altar Guild</b>	TBD	Bill Stromberg Kitty Reese	Nancy Becker Bruce Becker Kathie Brown	Kathleen Boe Katy Campbell Rachel Santos	Jane Jacobson Gregg Jacobson
<b>Coffee Servers</b>	N/A	Ron Holbach	Bob Jones	John Carlson Jane Carlson	Carole Leonard Geri Alberg

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS



March 2	William Stromberg
3	Molly Jacobson Henry
5	Anjela Swartwood
9	Deb Rash
9	Sarah Schulte
10	Loretta Herbers
13	Gage Monroe
14	Mark Kraabel
15	Cami Gysland
20	Darlynn Benjamin
22	Reid Gysland
27	Cherie Bodene
27	Emma Rousselow

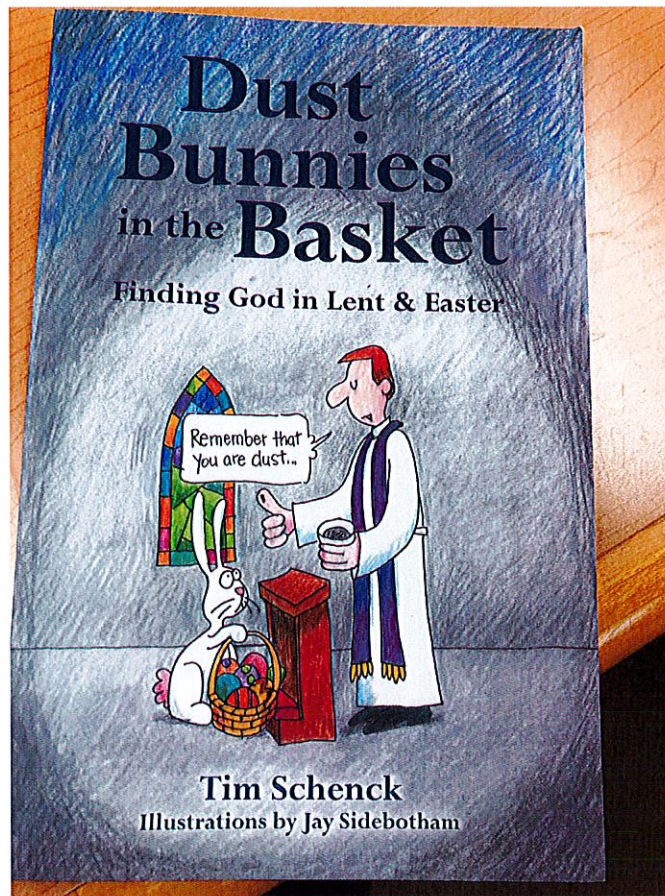


## Check out the events in March SOME EVENTS ARE ONLINE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 <b>Ash Wednesday Services</b> 12 noon & 7 pm 11 a.m.- GBD (Zoom)	3  6 p.m. AA	4	5
6  9:30 a.m. Worship Service	7	8	9  11 a.m.- GBD (Zoom)  7 pm – Peer Support Group–closed (PH)	10  6 p.m. AA	11	12  Turn your clocks one hour ahead tonight. Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday.
13  9:30 a.m. Worship Service  <b>Daylight Saving Time begins</b>	14  7 p.m Finance (Zoom)	15	16  11 a.m.- GBD (Zoom)	17  St. Patrick's Day  10:30 a.m. Welcoming Committee (Zoom)  6 p.m. AA	18	19
20  9:30 a.m. Worship Service	21  7 p.m. Vestry (Zoom)	22	23  11 a.m.- GBD (Zoom)  7 pm – Peer Support Group–closed (PH)	24  6 p.m. AA	25	26
27  9:30 a.m. Worship Service	28  12 noon Women of St. George's (Zoom)	29	30  11 a.m.- GBD (Zoom)	31  6 p.m. AA		

**GBD: GOSPEL-BASED DISCIPLESHIP – 11 A.M. EVERY WEDNESDAY – <https://zoom.us/j/397934453>**  
**Meeting ID: 397 934 453 – You may also join audio by phone: +1 312 626 6799**





*Dust Bunnies in the Basket*: Each member of the parish community will be receiving a short book for Lent, compliments of the parish. It will assist each of us in celebrating a thoughtful and in-depth look at our lives prior to celebrating the Resurrection of New Life!

We had a little trouble with shipping of the books, so they will not all arrive by the beginning of Lent.



## About St. George's

5224 Minnetonka Boulevard  
St. Louis Park, MN 55416  
952-926-1646

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

Office hours Monday-Thursday  
8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

### PARISH STAFF:

Rector: The Rev. Thomas J. Gehlsen, Ph.D.  
[tomg@stgeorgesonline.org](mailto:tomg@stgeorgesonline.org)

*(Fr. Tom's contact for emergencies when the office  
is closed – 651-319-3570)*

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

Parish Administrator, Marion Hunner  
[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)

### ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE:

Cristina Czaia, soprano  
Alexis Winters, mezzo-soprano  
Vanessa Vaughn, Bass

### VESTRY:

Bruce Wachutka, Rector's Warden; Sarah  
Schulte, Parish Warden; Bruce Becker, Jill  
Burns, Ellen Doering, Suzy Garland, Charles  
Hample, Gregg Jacobson, Rachel Santos, and  
Roxy Zaun.

### Clerk of the Vestry:

Laura Harmon

### Parish Treasurer:

Connie Kotula

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Sunday Worship at St. George's**  
**9:30 a.m.**

**Sunday Services**  
**are now in person**  
**and available on St. George's**  
**You Tube Channel**

**NOTE:** If you would like to receive  
a print copy of the church newsletter,  
please contact Marion in the office.