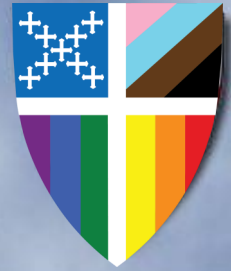


# St. George's Episcopal Church

## Uniting in Worship.

## Welcoming in Grace.



5224 Minnetonka Boulevard

Saint Louis Park, MN 55416

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St. George's Episcopal Church

office@stgeorgesonline.org

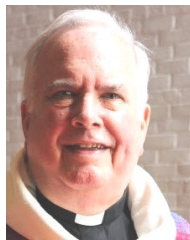
November 2024

This is a free publication for members and friends

Volume 31, No. 11

## Autumn Meditation

By Fr. Tom Gehlsen



This is the perfect time for inviting the crisp, warm, cozy feeling of autumn into your life. With a focus on letting go and making room for new growth, it will help all of us to slow down and consider which direction you want to go with your life.

Autumn is a season of opposites. As the weather begins to cool down outside, we bring the warmth inside with the warm scents of cinnamon, apple, pumpkin, and cozy wood fires. You can feel both the warmth of the sun and the whisper of frost in the air.

Before and after you practice this autumn meditation, you may find it helpful to consider some of the opposites in your own life; places of tension and of relaxation that exist in harmony. You might also find it helpful to ponder on how letting go of some things gives you more room to grow.

Autumn is not about letting go of everything, and neither is this meditation. Rather, it is about allowing the world to move forward in continual progression, about accepting the way our lives move forward and change.

Let's try this meditation for autumn to help you move towards acceptance, rather than pushing against it. Life brings change, just like time brings new seasons. The more we accept forward movement, the further we can go.



## Adult Forum

Following the 10:00 am service

- ♦ *End of Life Planning for People of Faith* presented by The Rev. Maryellen Garnier, **November 3 & 10**
- ♦ *Advent and the Liturgical Year* presented by Fr. Tom Gehlsen, **December 1 & 8.**

## From the Office

By *Marion Hunner*,  
Parish Administrator



**Links in the Newsletter** - To follow links in the electronic copy of the newsletter, hold down the Ctrl key and click on the link. If you are reading a paper copy, look at the bottom of page 8 for instructions on how to find the links.

**Stewardship** - Stewardship packets have been mailed. Here's a heads-up for the questions on your pledge card.

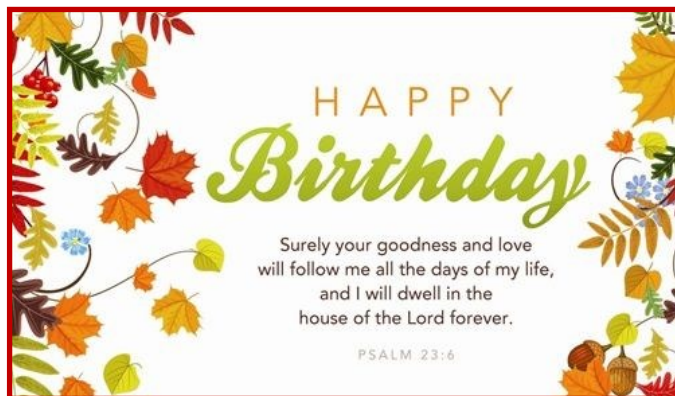
- Do you want pledge envelopes?
- Would you like your pledge automatically withdrawn from your bank account?
- Statements - everyone will receive their quarterly statements via email. Would you also like a paper statement? These will be placed in the parish hall for pickup each quarter.

**Special Donations** - As we head into the holiday season, donations are made for Advent, Christmas, Memorials and Thanksgivings, etc. Please help the office by writing a separate check for these donations and not including it in your pledge check.



### Vestry Meeting Update

Vestry meetings have been moved to the 3rd Sunday of the month at 11:15 am. The Vestry will meet in the conference room in the Christian Education Building.



## November Birthdays

8 - Connie Kotula      18 - Josh Turgeant  
14 - Doug Gnoit      23 - Mary Weekes  
15 - Dorothy LeBakken



## Financial Updates

By *Kathie Brown*, Treasurer



The following financial information is through September. When October information is approved at the November Vestry meeting, we will post it in the December monthly newsletter.

Net Income = Income minus expenses  
YTD = Year to date  
Numbers in parentheses are negative

Pledges Received in September	\$10,076
Percent of the Monthly Budget	85.5 %
Total Pledges Received YTD	\$102,157
Percent of the Annual Budget	72.2%

Net Income for September	\$1,922
Net Income YTD	\$ (21,781)
Budget Net Income YTD	\$ (34,116)
Actual Net Income compared to Budgeted Net Income YTD	\$ 12,335*

\*Reflects \$5,000 taken from the General Investment Fund in income

## Tech Help

By Sarah Schulte



We are looking for some extra hands to cover the YouTube online service so that Tom Harmon and Cyprian Troyer have a couple back-ups to share the work. The online service has become a valuable option for parishioners that are ill, homebound, traveling, or working on Sundays. It is also an important way for people to discover St. George's and learn what we're all about. We average over 15 views per week. You do not need to be a "techie" to learn how to run the online service, as there is a program that makes it fairly simple. Please let Marion know if you are able to assist in this ministry and we will teach you all you need to know.



### Forward Day by Day

Booklets for November - January  
are available on the table  
in the Narthex.

## Christmas Memorials and Thanksgivings

By Marion Hunner, Parish Administrator

Would you like to recognize loved ones in the Christmas Eve bulletin? Watch for forms in the regular Sunday bulletin starting Sunday, December 1st. An electronic copy of the form will be linked in the December newsletter as well as the weekly emails in December.



## Stewardship

By Laura Harmon,  
Stewardship Chair

Hopefully by now you have received an envelope from St. George's with information on the pledge drive. If you have not received a letter or have questions, please contact Laura Harmon, 612-518-6399, or the church office.



*Stewardship*  
a way of life

The Vestry will be working in November and December on putting together a budget for 2025, which will depend in large part on the pledges received from you. We would ask that as you consider your pledge for 2025, to keep in mind the many areas your pledges are at work at St. George's—from worship to fellowship to music to outreach.

If possible, please return your pledge card no later than 11/10/23. You can either return the pledge by mail or drop it in the collection plate on Sunday.

If you would like your pledge to be automatically deducted from your bank account each month, the forms are available in the Parish Hall. These forms need to be submitted each year. There are also extra pledge cards and envelopes available in the same space.

# Parish Calendar



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<b>Turn your clocks back 1 hour</b> 10 am Holy Eucharist  Adult Forum: End of Life Planning for People of Faith			9 am Staff Liturgy Meeting			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10 am Holy Eucharist  Adult Forum: End of Life Planning for People of Faith						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
10 am Holy Eucharist  11:15 am Vestry			<b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10 am Holy Eucharist	11:30am Women of St. George's			  Office Closed		

# Sunday Ministries



	<b>Sunday November 3</b>  <b>All Saints</b>	<b>Sunday November 10</b>  <b>25th Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Sunday November 17</b>  <b>26th Sunday after Pentecost</b>	<b>Sunday November 24</b>  <b>27th Sunday after Pentecost</b>
<b>Lectionary Readings</b>	Wisdom of Solomon 3:1-9 Psalm 24 Revelation 21:1-6a John 11:32-44	1 Kings 17:8-16 Psalm 146 Hebrews 9:24-28 Mark 12:38-44	Daniel 12:1-3 Psalm 16 Hebrews 10:11-25 Mark 13:1-8	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Psalm 93 Revelation 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37
<b>Lectors</b>	Fran Bly Tom Harmon	Cyprian Troyer Kathie Brown	Carole Leonard Leslie O'Donnell	Claudia Hoffacker Camille Schroeder
<b>Chalice Bearers</b>	Kathie Brown Cyprian Troyer	Jane Jacobson Laura Harmon	Rachel Santos Leslie O'Donnell	Adele Cormier Kris Kelley
<b>Acolytes</b>	Jayden Odihiambo	None	None	Lilly Schulte Elena Schulte
<b>Ushers</b>	Jane Jacobson	Tom Harmon	Tom Zaun	Bob Jones
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Kris Kelley Rachel Santos	Jane Jacobson	Heather Whitesell Laura Harmon	Jane and Gregg Jacobson
<b>Coffee Servers</b>	Bob Jones	Bruce & Iris Alexander	John & Jane Carlson	Betty Bauer Carole Leonard

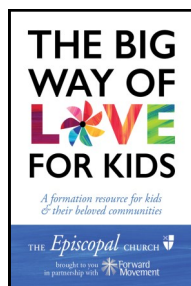


## Big Way of Love for Kids

By Heather Whitesell

St. George's has invested in a new resource for children ages 6-12 called the Big Way of Love for Kids designed by Rachel Jones, an Episcopal leader. The Big Way of Love for Kids comes from the Way of Love, a rule of life with seven spiritual practices. The curriculum Includes a deck of cards designed to be child-centered and child-led. Each card in the deck relates to one of the practices of the Way of Love:

TURN to Jesus  
LEARN about Jesus  
PRAY to God  
WORSHIP God  
BLESS people close to us  
GO out to people who are different  
REST in God's grace



On each card is the name and color for one of the seven practices, plus a story from the Bible (SAY IT), a prayer (PRAY IT) or an activity to try in real life (LIVE IT).

Families will find the cards in a basket at the back of the sanctuary. Please feel free to peruse and explore no matter your age!

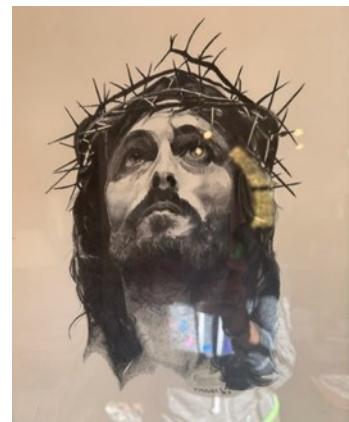
### Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 19, 2025. The Annual Meeting will take place in the Parish Hall following the regular Sunday Service.

## Missing Picture

By Leslie O'Donnell

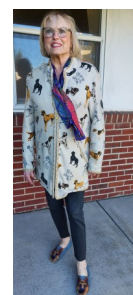
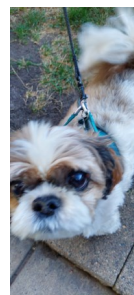
Ed loaned a framed picture of Jesus to the choir, and it has been hanging in the choir room for the last several years. It is now missing. A friend of ours did the drawing. Ed checked with Fr Tom, Diane, John, and Camille, and none of them knew what happened to it. If anyone in the parish knows where it might be, please contact Ed or return it to the choir room.



## Blessing of Our Animal Companions

By John Hoffacker

Celebrating the community of creation, we invited the world to our garden on October 6 for the annual Blessing of Our Animal Companions. There was joy in the faces of humans and animals (especially the dogs) as we shared the love we have for our furry friends. The words of Francis of Assisi rang true: "Let all things their creator bless! Alleluia!"



## Join Election Night Virtual Prayers

Tuesday, November 5 | 8-10pm

Everyone is invited [to join Election Night Virtual Prayers hosted by The Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations](#) from 8 to 10 p.m. Nov. 5.

Bishop Sean Rowe, who will become presiding bishop on Nov. 1, will offer an opening reflection and prayer. Episcopalians from around the church will hold silence and lead participants in prayers together for peace, the nation, and all people and countries.

Join the event via [Zoom](#) by registering here, or watch a livestream on The Episcopal Public Policy Network's [Facebook page](#). (Note: If you would like simultaneous Spanish interpretation, please register for Zoom.)

In addition, explore these election engagement resources [online](#) from the Office of Government Relations:

- "Vote Faithfully" toolkit: Instructions and resources for local "get out the vote" strategies
- Church bulletin inserts and graphics
- Episcopal Election Activators: Volunteer program to promote nonpartisan election engagement
- "Episco-pols" podcast
- Resources on addressing political violence
- Civil discourse training
- "Misinformation, Disinformation, Fake News: Why Do We Care?"



Episcopal Church  
In Minnesota

**ECMN is offering three upcoming events which feature Anglican and Episcopal clergy and lay leaders who have been learning how to participate more deeply in God's life, and to join up with neighbors who don't go to church.**

Below is a brief overview of those events. [Click here](#) for more details. Everyone is invited to join in these opportunities!

**Convention Workshop Saturday, November 9,  
9 am – Noon** "Your Next Faithful Step: Mission-Shaped and Rural." Offered in person at the Sanford Center in Bemidji or free via livestream link

**Innovation Summit Saturday, November 16,  
10 am – 2:30 pm** at St. Mark's Cathedral in Minneapolis. Episcopalians will have the opportunity to hear more about the green shoots God is bringing forth all over our diocese! Following the Holy Spirit's leading into new ventures to join up with neighbors Jesus loves who don't go to church.

**Godsend Gathering Saturday, January 25,  
10 am to 2:30 pm** at St. Mark's Cathedral in Minneapolis. Learn how Anglican Christians in the U.K. have been joining up with neighbors who don't go to church in lifegiving ways, and to share Jesus with them when invited. Participants will also experience and process "Soul Space," a worship experience designed for people outside the institutional church.

## About St. George's

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

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

Office hours Tuesday-Thursday  
8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

### 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, Marion Hunner

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

Music Director, John Hoffacker, D.M.A.

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

### ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE:

Monica Murray, soprano

Alexis Winters, mezzo-soprano

Luke Slivinski, tenor

Vanessa Vaughn, bass

### INTERIM WARDEN:

Jane Jacobson

### VESTRY:

Members at Large: Iris Alexander, Suzy Garland,  
Charles Hample, Camille Schroeder, and Roxy  
Zaun

### PARISH TREASURER:

Kathie Brown

#### LINKS IN THIS NEWSLETTER

There are many links in this newsletter. If you would like to follow them, please begin by going to our website, [www.stgeorgesonline.org](http://www.stgeorgesonline.org) and then clicking on News and Docs at the top. There you will find the online version of this publication. Press the Ctrl key as you click on the links, and that should take you where you need to be.

**Sunday Worship at  
St. George's 10:00 am**

**Sunday Services  
are offered in person  
and available on St. George's  
YouTube Channel**

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