



# St. George's Episcopal Church

Where everyone has a place at Christ's table



St. George's Episcopal Church  
This is a free publication for members and friends

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

April, 2009  
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## The Solid Life

Some of you may remember the 1950's, 60's or 70's when our mainline congregations were thriving. They were full of young families and it seemed that we would just keep growing in members with no end. I don't remember times like that; the Church I have lived in as an adult has been one that is shrinking in membership. In my experience, the question has been about where the bottom is.

Our parish, like countless others, is looking at shrinking membership and, now, a shrinking budget. We begin to ask ourselves where the bottom is.

The good news is that our problems are not about money; our problems are about solid membership. In the Episcopal Church, a communicant in good standing is someone who for the past year has been faithful in attending worship and praying, working and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God. So solid membership in the body is four pronged: we come to liturgy regularly to fill up the building *and* the hearts of other worshippers; We have a personal prayer life and in that discipline we pray daily for the Church, we sign up to work in one of the many ministries we offer, and we make a financial commitment to the body.

With all four areas of membership it is about learning and growing. We don't start by pledging more than we think we can afford. We start out slow and build on it year by year. I really believe that it isn't necessarily how much is coming in through pledges as it is to see how many folks are making some kind of commitment. We don't start out by attending absolutely every worship

service offered; we build up. We might even decide to commit to being in Church twice a month rather than wrestling with ourselves each and every week to see if we will go. We don't develop a consistent prayer life over night. It has taken me years to get into a daily rhythm of prayer that is comfortable as well as life giving. We don't volunteer for everything going on in the Church all at once. We take time to discern which ministries match our gifts.

The Episcopal Church, St. George's Parish, and the whole Mainline Church will be fine if we relearn how to be solid members of the body. In the days that we were growing we didn't have to pay too much attention to incorporating new members; now we do. And this is a good thing. After all we are gathered in this place, around this altar, to each live out our discipleship.

As I write this we are preparing four teen-agers for Confirmation in November, eight adults for Confirmation/Reception in May, two adults and up to six children for Baptism at our Easter Vigil (7pm on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup>). Long time members are called to incorporate these new folks into the body. New members are called to ask questions and discern how best to serve within the body. We are all called to discipleship by worshipping, giving, working and praying.

In the Solid, Life Giving Love of Christ,

Fr. Paul Allick.

## WARDENS' CORNER

**Rector's Warden**-represents the priest's concerns to the Vestry and the parish. This Warden works with the priest on areas of pastoral care, liturgy and education.

**Parish Warden**-represents the concerns of the parish to the Vestry and the priest. This Warden works on financial matters and matters concerning property and building management.

The Vestry meets the third Monday of each month, and the intent of this column is to keep you informed about the work of the Vestry. Please feel free to contact any member of the Vestry with concerns, questions or suggestions.

There were several significant pieces of business discussed at the March meeting. First, the Finance & Personnel Committee (F&P) asked the Vestry to consider withdrawing all funds (approximately \$235,000) that are currently invested in the Pooled Investment Fund (PIF) with the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota. The reason for this request is the significant decrease in the value of these funds over the past 14 months. After much discussion, the vestry voted to withdraw half the funds as soon as possible and leave the balance with the PIF for now. The amount withdrawn will be placed in a savings account for the time being and F&P will seek professional advice in regard to what to do with the money.

Second, the Vestry discussed the parish meeting that will be held between services on April 19. This is the first of quarterly meetings that will take place to keep you informed about the status of the budgeted deficit. During that meeting, facts will be shared and there will be time for discussion. These meetings are very important to the future of St. George's and we strongly encourage you to attend.

Last, the Vestry discussed the Transition Committee. As a reminder, the work of this committee will be as follows: With the help of search consultant, Sharon Garland, the committee will look back and reflect on where we have been and celebrate our past, our history and our heritage. A parish profile will be developed. It is a time to consider what we want to affirm and

strengthen, what we want to change and renew, recognize our issues and confess our problems. It will be a vital time of searching for new directions, new ministries, new goals and new hopes. Ultimately, the committee will determine the qualities it is looking for in its next priest. If it is decided to initiate a search process once the Transition Committee completes its work, Transition Committee members may or may not continue on the search committee. The Vestry agreed on a list of people to be contacted to serve on the Transition Committee. We feel the people being asked to serve represent a good cross section of the congregation. As of this writing, the committee is almost complete (names will be announced as soon as the committee is finalized). They will have their first meeting soon, will select a chairperson or chairpersons, and will begin their work.

The Vestry also approved proceeding with replacement of the north entrance door to the Christian Education Building.

Faithfully,  
Kathie Brown  
Parish Warden

## Christian Education

*by Heather Whitesell*

### Sunday School News

The Children are continuing work on their baptism books. They have added their names, and we talked about how Jesus calls us by name. They also created a path that they will following order to become closer to Jesus.

### Youth News

This month the youth had an opportunity to experience what it was like to walk with Jesus. We learned about the Stations of the Cross. Not only did we walk the stations but they each had a turn to carry a large wooden cross. It was a symbolic and meaningful adventure.

### Confirmation

The older youth traveled to St. Nicholas for the second confirmation class. We learned about the Old

Testament and had a very lively discussion around creation and the Ten Commandments.

### Intergenerational Activity

People of all ages gathered in the Library Lounge to learn about the Stations of the Cross. Everyone was encouraged to make their own cross and then carry it with them to travel the Stations for a time of reflection. Plan to join us on Palm Sunday where we will learn about the significance of the Palms from Father Paul.

**Summer Opportunity** – A few Episcopal Parishes are joining together to do a summer service project. It is called “Summer in the City” for grades 6-8. Older youth who are interested can go along as guides and helpers.

Youth will stay at Gethsemane Episcopal Church in downtown Minneapolis where they will work on various outreach projects in small groups of 6-8 young people. Each group also includes an adult and senior high leader.

Each night, following a day of hard and meaningful work, we will participate in a fun activity such as going to a water park. Youth are encouraged to invite their friends to participate.

Cost is \$150, but there is scholarship money available. Registration is due by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

See Heather for more information on this fun experience.

### Adult Forum Sessions

- April 5 – What is Holy Week? – Fr. Paul Allick  
All ages- an intergenerational discussion.
- April 12 – Easter – no class
- April 19– Parish Meeting
- April 26 - Faith and Real Life -The Rev. Ann Scheible  
The story of a Total Ministry Team.
- May 3 Intergenerational
- May 10 Faith and Real Life – “When Bad Things Happen to Good People” – discuss the

philosophy from sections of this book – Kathie Brown.

- May 17 Faith and Real Life – Environmental Stewardship – Lisa Leonard Banwell.
- May 24 Faith and Real Life – Little Known Facts about Cultural Icons from a Gay Perspective –Randy Egan

### Quarterly Parish Meeting, Sunday, April 19, 9:00 am

*By Laura*

*Harmon*

It was discussed at the last annual meeting that we would be having quarterly meetings to keep the Parish updated on important issues happening at St. George’s. The first of these quarterly meetings is scheduled for 9:00 am on Sunday April 19. We have a lot going on at St. George’s, so mark your calendar to be there. Newcomers are especially welcome.

### Financial Update

In February the recent month for which we have completed records as of press time) we had:

<b>Income</b>	\$17,997.78	87% of budget
<b>Expenses</b>	\$21,307.62	94% of budget
<b>Total for month (\$3,309.84)</b>		
<b>Year to Date (\$8,894.92)</b>		

If you want to give funds towards the deficit reduction, please do so, and mark the memo “budget deficit”. If we all could give an extra few dollars a month, we could go a long way towards reducing the deficit. Thank you!



**JUICE SUNDAY is still the first Sunday in the month.**

## Adult Confirmation Schedule

The remaining classes will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.. The dates are:

Weds., April 29 – Church History I  
Weds., May 6 – Church History II  
Weds., May 13 – The Book of Common Prayer.

Each person wishing to be confirmed or received is asked to attend 5 of the 7 sessions. Certainly, it is preferable to attend all 7 but we know that life happens. For those sessions that you cannot attend please speak to Fr. Allick about what you missed.

The Right Reverent James L. Jelinek, 8<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Minnesota, will visit St. George's Parish on Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the 10 am Holy Eucharist. We would like to confirm/receive as many as possible on that date. Others will have to wait until Regional Confirmations at St. Mark's Cathedral on Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 11 am.

## Notices:



### April Birthdays:

- 2 Gregg Jacobs
- 6 Ed Altmeyer  
Ryan Anderson
- 7 John Carlson
- 8 Nancy Gysland
- 9 Noah Friesen
- 10 Bob Wheelock
- 12 Alex Kotula
- 13 Jane Gratton
- 15 Geoff Eckenrode
- 17 Cindy Bloomquist
- 18 Nicholas Jones
- 19 Kay Sarjeant  
Kristin Hauser
- 20 Myrtle Monroe

- Dawn Bacon
- Jack Voorhees
- 21 Geri Alberg  
Lee Swearingen  
Brynne Swearingen
- 22 Maurine Bernier
- 24 Mike A. Johnson  
LaMara Floyd  
Gordy Justus
- 27 Pat Sturcken
- 28 Ev Mejia

## Thank you to:

- ◆ Bill Stromberg for doing numerous things around St. George's.
- ◆ Tom Zaun for replacing an exit sign in the Christian Education Building – 1 down and about 8 more to go.
- ◆ Dave Dittrich for replacing light bulbs in Darchei Noam and the Parish office.
- ◆ Camille Schroeder for once again organizing a wonderful FoodShare month here at St. George's.
- ◆ Betty Bauer and Glennis Williams for continuing to do the ironing of the linens used each Sunday.
- ◆ Laura Harmon for organizing the Lay Eucharistic Visitors and making sure all of our homebound members are receiving visits, if that is what they want.



## St. Louis Park Emergency Program Update

*By Camille Schroeder*

St. George's has contributed a total of 666 pounds and dollars so far during the 2009 Minnesota FoodShare Campaign. This amount was collected during the first four Sundays of the month. Amounts collected the last Sunday of the month were unavailable for this article. They will be reported in the May Newsletter. Thanks to all of you who contributed.

A special thank you is given to Betty Bauer and her son, Steve Bauer, who helped out with STEP's move to their new temporary location. Betty said that the move went very smoothly and they couldn't believe that it took so little time. Many hands make light work! The new location is at 2239 Edgewood Avenue South and the new offices are great. Both the clothes closet and the food shelf are well organized and functioning well. The social workers are pleased with their new offices which are newly decorated. Even the clients are remarking on how great the new space is. Stop by and visit sometime. You're always welcome.

A special thank you should also be given to those from St. George's who volunteer on a regular basis at STEP. They are Betty Bauer, Jill Burns and Betsy Furber. Betty and Betsy work in the food shelf area and Jill answers the phone. As you probably know STEP could not operate without its volunteers. We thank them all.

We will continue to donate juice on the first Sunday of each month. It is a much needed and desired item. With STEP distributing approximately 1700 pounds of food a day, you can understand how great the need is. Thanks so much for your continuing donations.

### To the Members of St. George's

Our heartfelt thanks for your prayers, cards, and presence at the mortuary and our Dad's funeral. We feel blessed to have such a supportive faith community; you are all very special people. Fr. Paul and Patty did a wonderful job helping us prepare for the service, and many of you served as Pallbearers. It meant so much to have Mildred Cox and Mary Phelps assist Fr. Paul, in making the funeral a real celebration of his life. We know he has been reunited with our mom again in heaven.

Special thanks to Maraline Keeling and Patti Wales for helping serve the lunch and to St. Mary's Circle for making bars. At times like this your friendship and shared love in Christ lift our spirits and help us through our grief. We appreciate all your kindness and sympathy.

The family of Cy Brown  
Kathie, Leslie and Curtis

### Supper Club

*By Rosalie Michelich*

Supper Club will be at Lou and Rosalie Michelich's home on Saturday, April 18th at 7 pm. For more information call them at 763-553-1506.

**Minnetonka Choral Society** is sponsoring a pancake breakfast at the Ridgedale Applebees on Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> from 8 am – 10 am. Marion Miller has been a member of this group for a long time and will be "dishing up" breakfast. Tickets are \$6 and include pancakes, eggs, sausage and choice of beverage (coffee, soda or juice) See Marion for more information.

Members of St. George's  
We invite you to share in our joy and  
love,

as  
Leslie Karyl Olufson  
&  
Edward Thomas O' Donnell

Are united in the sacrament  
Holy Matrimony  
on  
Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
At 2:00 in the afternoon

Reception to follow at the Church

**Feast of St. George  
Thursday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**6:00 p.m. – Potluck Dinner**

**7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist**

**Please plan to join us to celebrate the Feast of  
St. George!**

**A sign up sheet will be available in the Parish  
Hall after Easter. Come, join the fun!**



# Calendar of Events April, 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 9:00 am – Gospel Based Discipleship 7:00 pm – Gospel Based Discipleship L/L	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Fr. Allick's Day off	<b>4</b> 9am- 12 noon – spring clean up day at St. George's
<b>5</b> 8:00 am – HE, Rite I 8:30 am – Choir 9:00 am – Intergenerational Event  10:00am – HE, Rite II	<b>6</b> 7:00 pm – Education Committee	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9 Maundy Thursday</b> 6:30 pm – AA(LL) <b>6:00 pm</b> – Potluck in Parish Hall <b>7:00 pm</b> Service in Church	<b>10</b> 12:00 noon – Good Friday Service 7:00 pm – Good Friday Service	<b>11</b> 7:00 pm – Easter Vigil
<b>12 Easter</b>  8:00 am – HE, Rite I  10:00am – HE, Rite II	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  7:00 pm - Finance & Personnel (CEB)  7:00 pm- Mothers & More (L/L)	<b>15</b> 9:00 am – Gospel Based Discipleship CEB  7:00 pm – Gospel Based Discipleship L/L  <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>16</b> 6:30 pm – AA(LL)	<b>17</b> Fr. Allick's Day off  6:30 pm – Youth Group	<b>18</b>  7:00 pm – Supper Club at Michelichs'
<b>19</b> 8:00 am – HE, Rite I 8:30 am – Choir 9:00 am- Parish Meeting 10:00am – HE, Rite II	<b>20</b>  Noon – St. Mary's Circle  7:00 pm - Vestry	<b>21</b> 2:15-3:15 pm – Staff Meeting	<b>22</b> 9:00 am – Gospel Based Discipleship (CEB)  7:00 pm – Gospel Based Discipleship L/L  7:00 pm – Youth Confirmation – St. Alban's	<b>23</b> 6:30 pm – AA 6:00 pm – Potluck(details to follow) 7:00 pm – Service for the Feast of St. George	<b>24</b> Fr. Allick's day off	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8:00 am – HE, Rite I 8:30 am – Choir 9:00 am – Sunday School for all ages 10:00am – HE, Rite II	<b>27</b> 7:00 pm Buildings & Grounds Mtg.	<b>28</b> 7:00 pm – Vestry Meeting with Bishop Jelinek	<b>29</b> 9:00 am – Gospel Based Discipleship (CEB)  7:00 pm Adult Confirmation – Parish Hall	<b>30</b> 6:30 pm - AA	Fr. Allick's day off	
				<b>PH-</b> Parish Hall <b>L/L</b> – Library Lounge	<b>CEB</b> – Christian Education Building	

# Ministers of the Eucharistic Assembly

## April, 2009

	April 5 Palm Sunday	April 12 Easter	April 19 Second Sunday of Easter	April 23 Feast of St. George	April 26 Third Sunday of Easter
<b>Readings</b>	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 11:1-11	Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2,14-24 I Corinthians 15:1-11 John 20:1-18	Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133 I John 1:2-2:2 John 20:19-31	2 Timothy 2:8-10; 3:10-12 John 15:1-7	Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4 I John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36b-48
<b>Chalice</b>	Steve Harvala  Eileen Harvala Alan Poulsen	Karen Hurlbert  Cyprian Troyer Leslie Olfuson	Maraline Keeling  Laura Harmon Alan Poulsen	Kathie Brown	Steve Harvala  John Hagerman Eileen Harvala
<b>Lectors</b>	Steve Harvala  John Stonhouse Eileen Harvala	Mary Kuhfeld Karen Hurlbert  Caryl Eschweiler Cyprian Troyer	Maraline Keeling  Gale Winikoff Julian Mejia	Kathie Brown	Carole Leonard Steve Harvala  Holden Hagerman Mary Weekes
<b>Lay Eucharist Visitors</b>	Carol Peterson Laura Harmon	No LEV Visits Easter Sunday	Heather Whitesell Mary Kuhfeld		Alan Poulsen Mary Poulsen
<b>Greeters</b>	Lou & Rosie Michelich	Alan and Mary Poulsen	John & Nancy Taylor		Maurine Bernier
<b>Ushers</b>	Bruce Becker Bob Miller  Bill Stromberg Kitty Reese	Ron Holbach Ron Erickson  Tom Zaun Bob Jones	Chuck Murphy Bruce Becker  Jane Jacobson Leon Vann		Bob Miller Ron Holbach  Tom Zaun Bob Jones
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Ron Holbach Karen Hurlbert  Jane and John Carlson	No Coffee –  Happy Easter	Betty Bauer  Barb Behrens	Potluck supper – sign up sheet available after Easter.	Carole Leonard  Alan and Mary Poulsen

## About St. George's

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

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

or

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

### Parish staff:

Paul Allick, Priest-in-Charge  
Mildred Cox, Associate Priest  
Patty Dittrich, Parish Administrator  
Heather Whitesell, Children and Youth Coordinator  
Randy Egan, Organist/Choirmaster

### Wardens and Vestry:

Rector's Warden: Laura Harmon  
Parish Warden: Kathie Brown  
John Carlson, John Hagerman, Harry Kelley, Mary  
Poulsen, Cyprian Troyer, Mary Weekes, Tom Zaun

### Our Mission is to:

Listen, Proclaim, Serve, Celebrate!

## HOLY WEEK AT ST. GEORGE'S

### **Palm Sunday** - Sunday, April 5

8:00 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
8:30 am – Choir  
9:00 am – Intergenerational Event  
10:00 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite II

### **Maundy Thursday** – Thursday, April 9

6:00 pm – Potluck Supper in Parish Hall  
(Sign up sheet in Parish Hall)  
7:00 pm – Service and Stripping of Altar in  
Nave.



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### **Good Friday** – Friday, April 10

12:00 noon – Good Friday Liturgy  
7:00 pm – Good Friday Liturgy

### **Saturday** – Saturday, April 11

7:00 pm – Easter Vigil

### **Sunday** – Sunday, April 12

8:00 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
10:00 am – Holy Eucharist, Rite II

