

St. George's Episcopal Church

Uniting in Worship.

Welcoming in Grace.



5224 Minnetonka Blvd. • Saint Louis Park, MN 55416 • 952.926.1646 • info@stgeorgesonline.org

St. George's Episcopal Church

www.StGeorgesonline.org

April 2011

This is a free publication for members and friends

Volume 17, No. 4

SHOWERS AND FLOWERS

By Fr. Paul Allick



It occurred to me this morning that the saying, "April showers bring May flowers" is a good analogy for explaining Lent, Holy Week and Easter. I was driving in this morning looking at all of that gray dingy snow. Life looks that way on some days. Things aren't going well in our relationships, we are sick, maybe we are grieving or we are worried about our future. Life can look pretty ugly sometimes.

Yet, we know from experience that there is always something good underneath all of that dirty melting snow. Soon and very soon we are going to see the grass. Then the trees will seem as if they are coming back from the dead. (Some of this may be happening as you read this column.) All that appears dead and gone comes back.

This has happened in my spiritual life repeatedly ever since I came to know Christ as my Savior. I go through difficult spots in life with my health, with my soul or with my heart and the only thing that keeps me going is that I know Christ. I know that if I just keep putting myself in his hands he is going to show me how to walk through the slush and muddy water. I know that with Christ once I get through that sludge of hurt and confusion a whole new vantage point is going to open up for me. I will walk on, yes, with some wounds that will take some time to heal, but also with some strengthening of my spiritual muscles.

April Showers bring May flowers.

During Lent we remember how Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness facing his temptations. He faced his human life in all its complexity. He hungered and thirsted. He was tempted to turn from God toward Evil and get his own way...for a time. In Holy Week we remember how Jesus faced his arrest and execution. How his closest disciples and apostles waited among the tombs, among the dead, grieving his apparent death. We remember all those horrible showers of pain and grief that hit Jesus and his friends.

But then it comes: The Day of Resurrection. The angels tell us to quit looking for Jesus among the dead. He seems dead but now is resurrected. He is always living.

And after we go through that whole long journey with Jesus and his disciples and apostles we remember the ironic truth of our own lives once again: without the struggle and strife, the life and healing do not make as much sense.

Please join us for the journey of Holy Week and Easter and watch the dingy grayness of our lives be transformed into the bright colors of spring.

EDUCATION CORNER

By Heather Whitesell



Sunday School News:

The children have really been focusing on our contributions for the Nets for Life campaign. We read a book about Africa, learned some facts about malaria and practiced our mosquito song which we

then shared with the congregation. They also created a very unique-looking “mosquito” box to be used for monetary contributions.

Youth News

Youth have also been preparing for the Nets for Life campaign. They created the informational poster in the parish hall and helped to design the pledge cards. They are gearing up for the Rock-a-thon coming up on April 8th. Many thanks to Eileen Harvala who was instrumental in providing knowledge and support!!

Confirmation Update

Last month, St. George’s was host to a dinner with the bishop. It was a fun time to get to know him and have some meaningful worship as well. Reverend Peters from St. Alban’s led us in a palm-burning ceremony. Youth were encouraged to bring their palms from Easter past to be burned for ashes to be used on Ash Wednesday. Next month we will continue our discussion on the history of the church.

A LENTEN OFFERING FOR WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

By Fr. Paul Allick



This year for Wednesday evenings in Lent we will be offering a repeat Adult Education program. I know that many of you want to attend the courses offered on Sunday mornings but cannot for various reasons. Therefore we will offer the class *Discovering the Patristics*. This class has been well received and I really want to share it with more of you! We will end each evening with the service of Compline (Night Prayer) from the Book of Common Prayer. Anyone is welcome to join us around 8 p.m. for Compline. And anyone who already attended this class is welcome to come if they want to dig deeper into the subject.

All classes are on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. with Compline at 8 p.m.

Here is the schedule:

Discovering the Patristics

Come and explore how our early Church Mothers and Fathers understood the Gospel, the Scriptures and our traditions.

April 6: The Fathers after the Nicene Creed

April 13: Later Church Fathers and a Review of the Church Mothers

PALM SUNDAY CANTATA, VOICES FROM THE PAS- SION Sunday, April 17th, 4:00

p.m.

By Randall Egan



Guile, betrayal, cunning, duplicity, hypocrisy, greed, envy, dirty politics, lies, slander.....Just another day at the office, you say? We jest—yet the dark side of our human nature remains pretty constant throughout history. As we enter Holy Week, the dark side of our nature stands in stark contrast to the Light and Love of Jesus Christ.

On Palm Sunday, our St. George's Choir will perform the startlingly dramatic, highly colored *Voices From The Passion*, which musically portrays the persecution and crucifixion of Jesus Christ, through whose sacrificial death our human nature was redeemed and restored once and for all. *Voices From The Passion* was composed by esteemed St. Louis Park composer, Ronald A. Nelson and has rapidly become an American Lenten classic. It is deeply moving; our own singers have thoroughly engaged in the piece. It promises to be a stellar performance.

Do mark your calendars! This Evensong Cantata event is a perfect opportunity to reach out and invite in. We all have a neighbor, friend or relative who would enjoy this musical hospitality. But we must take the initiative and extend a welcome hand to them. Let's fill the Sanctuary!

A short organ recital at 3:35 p.m. will precede the Evensong. Refreshments will be served following.

**Remember that you are dust
and to dust you shall return.**

Laura Noel Anderson, daughter of Dawn Bacon and Ryan Anderson, looked a little puzzled when receiving her ashes on Ash Wednesday.



SECOND SUNDAY/ SECOND OFFERING

April 10 - Juice Sunday/ 2nd Offering,
all-in-one.



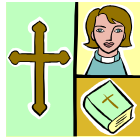
**ST. GEORGE'S
ADULT EDUCATION**

April 2011

Sundays 9:15-10:00 AM (Parish Hall)

THE FOUR GOSPELS

By Father Paul Allick



Each Gospel writer takes a different approach to the story of Jesus. In this class we will look closely at each Gospel not only for its historical context but also for its spiritual meaning for us today.

**April 3: The Gospel According to Luke
April 10: The Gospel According to John**

**A BENEFIT FOR STEP
SUNDAY, APRIL 10,
3:00 p.m.**



WHO: CARITAS, a local vocal ensemble
WHAT: A benefit concert for STEP's
Capital Fund Drive
WHEN: Sunday, April 10th at 3:00 P.M.
WHERE: Aldersgate United Methodist Church
3801 Wooddale Avenue, St. Louis Park

Come and enjoy a program of a cappella vocal music while helping raise money to complete the Capital Campaign Drive for the ST. LOUIS PARK EMERGENCY PROGRAM'S new building. Last May, STEP moved into its new building after a very successful beginning to its \$1,300,000 fund drive. Donations for the building have ranged from \$5 to \$300,000. The goal is to have everyone have a part in this project and each donation is very significant in helping to reach that goal. The remaining amount to be raised is \$230,000. Your attendance at this concert will help in decreasing this amount. Tickets for the concert are \$15.00. You will be treated to a program of a cappella choral music from sacred to classical to pop and to jazz. It's bound to be an enjoyable afternoon. As an added bonus, all proceeds from this concert will be matched dollar for dollar by Thrivent. It's a win, win. Hope you can be there.

**THE OVARIAN LOTTERY
(A Newsletter "For Thought")**

Submitted by Randall Egan



It is truly commendable when people pull themselves up by their bootstraps. But what about those who have no boots to begin with?

Here is what Warren Buffett, the financial genius from Omaha, said to an after-dinner business audience recently: "Congratulations! You have all won the Ovarian Lottery! What, you ask, is the Ovarian Lottery?"

Buffett went on to explain. He said, "You were born white. You were born in America. You were born healthy. You were born with a reasonably high IQ. You were born into a home that placed some value on education. And, you were born into a home that promoted some kind of work ethic.

"Now," Buffett went on to say, "don't you dare take credit for any of that! It was all a gift from God. You were granted six gifts of great worth. Change any one or two of these factors and your life could be a polar opposite of what it is now. After all, it was these gifts that most likely enabled you to get whatever wealth you now possess.

"Some folks are dealt high cards, some low cards, and some no cards at all. At the very least we should all be more thankful, more generous, more empathetic, and a lot less critical of those around us." -Rev. Paul L. Harrington, Apple Valley, MN

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

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

Income	\$19,051.07	101% of budget
Expenses	\$22,621.12	98% of budget
Total for month	(\$3,570.05)	
Year to Date	(\$4,257.29)	

WEDDING BELLS



Congratulations to Tara Gay and Tim Cruz who were married at St. George's on March 26.

ST. GEORGE'S PARTICIPATES IN MISSION PROJECT 2011— NetsforLife®

By Eileen Harvala



St. George's is participating in the Episcopal Church in Minnesota's Mission Project 2011—NetsforLife® — with a goal of purchasing anti-malarial bed nets for people in Sub-Saharan Africa. Minnesota's goal is to purchase one net for each Episcopalian in the state—that's nearly 20,000 nets that will help eliminate malaria.

St. George's goal

Please join us in this NetsforLife® Lenten Mission Project. Our goal for St. George's is one net for each member of our parish—220 nets. Each net costs \$12, so our total fund-raising goal between now and Easter, when the project ends, is \$2,640.

How you can participate

You can help by supporting our youth in their *Rock 4 Nets* (rocking chair marathon), which will be conducted from **7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Friday, April 8**. Support the youth by filling out a pledge card and dropping it into the mosquito net on the display board in the Parish Hall. We are asking you to pledge donations of \$12 for each net that you wish to purchase. Take extra pledge cards, and ask your family and friends to make a pledge/purchase a net as well. Pledges will be collected the Sunday after Easter. Donations are being accepted now. Please make your check out to St. George's Episcopal Church with "Nets for Life" noted in the memo line, and place it in the Sunday collection plate.

The youth also need support for their *Rock 4 Nets* marathon. Please help by:

- Bringing a rocking chair that they can use during the marathon;
- Bringing food for them to eat during the marathon;
- Serving as a chaperone during the marathon; or
- Joining them by rocking yourself.

Rocking chairs need to be dropped off in the Parish Hall any time before the start of the marathon. Food can be dropped off by 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 8. Please contact Heather Whitesell, if you can serve as a chaperone, provide assistance during the marathon, or wish to rock yourself.

Our younger children are participating in this project as well. You can support them by placing donations of change in their uniquely designed mosquito collection box that will be in the Parish Hall every Sunday.

The need is great

Please, purchase a net and help protect the people of Sub-Saharan Africa from the devastating effects of malaria. Just a few facts:

- One child dies of malaria every 30 seconds in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Mothers can transfer malaria to their unborn children.
- Children in heavy malaria areas battle malaria fevers several times each year.
- Human carriers, even if asymptomatic, infect mosquitoes when they are bitten. When the mosquitoes get their next blood meal (a week later), they infect their next hosts.
- Malaria can cause permanent cognitive dysfunction and even severe brain damage, especially in children. These children will be negatively affected in school and in work for their entire lives.
- Infected blood donors, who are not yet symptomatic, transfer malaria with their blood donations.

Additional information

For additional information about NetsforLife®, visit <http://episcopalmission.org/about/>. For additional information about St. George's participation, please contact Laura Harmon, Eileen Harvala, or Heather Whitesell.



NEWSLETTER MAILINGS

**Tell us how you want
to receive your newsletter.**



Due to the post office closing the distribution center in north Minneapolis at the end of April, beginning with the June newsletter we will do different methods of

distribution. To continue to mail at bulk rate, we would have to take our newsletters down to Eagan, which is not a good use of our resources. So, there are two options for receiving your newsletter:

1. **E-mail:** Those who have e-mail and would prefer to receive newsletters that way, beginning with the June issue, should send their email address to patty-d@stgeorgesonline.org,
2. **First class postage:** Those who wish to continue to receive the newsletter via mail, have to do nothing.

Beginning with the June newsletter, we will be mailing the newsletters with first-class postage, so the shorter we can make that list, the more money we will be saving for St. George's. We will save money in time, postage and paper.

I know this will take time for all of us to get used to. If you do not receive a newsletter by the second week of June, please call the parish office, 952-926-1646. If you have any questions, feel free to talk to Patty and she will be able to answer your questions.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



2	Gregg Jacobson	19	Kristin Hauser
5	Ron Zaltz	20	Myrt Monroe
6	Ed Altmeyer		Dawn Bacon
	Ryan Anderson		Jack Voorhees
7	John Carlson	21	Gerri Alberg
8	Nancy Gysland		Myrrhene Crawford
10	Bob Wheelock	22	Maurine Bernier
12	Alex Kotula	24	Gordy Justus
13	Jane Gratton	27	Pat Sturcken
17	Cindy Bloomquist		Ev Mejia
18	Nicholas Jones		

**ST. GEORGE'S SUPPER CLUB
FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 2010**



Calendar of Events –April 2011

Rosie and Lou Michelich will be hosting Supper Club on Friday, April 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Participants must RSVP to the host by Sunday, April 3, 2011. Please RSVP to rosalie@michelich.com or call 763-553-1506.

FARE FOR ALL EXPRESS

FARE FOR ALL EXPRESS is on Tuesday, April 5, 2011, at Lenox Community Center at 6715 Minnetonka Blvd. in St. Louis Park. This is an opportunity for you to purchase quality food at a savings of up to 40%. The site is open to everyone. While the food changes each month there are packages of fruit, vegetables, and frozen meat which can be purchased for prices ranging from \$10.00 to \$30.00. The distribution time is from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Have you tried it yet? Maybe this is the time.

URGENT NEED FOR VOLUNTEERS



Store To Door is a non-profit grocery shopping and delivery service for homebound seniors ages 60 and up. Bad weather this winter has swelled new client registration, and we are busier than ever before! Volunteer Order Takers are urgently needed to call clients for their grocery order during the day or on nights or weekends.

Volunteer Order Takers work from their own homes or offices and the time commitment is just one hour per week. We also have an urgent need for Volunteer Shoppers on Friday mornings (between 6-10am) at our St. Anthony Cub Foods location.

This is the perfect opportunity for those that love grocery shopping and enjoy working with a team of other volunteers. Training is provided for both the Volunteer Order Taker and the Volunteer Shopper roles. Contact Kristen at 651-642-1892 ext 131 or kristen@storetodoor.org for more information on how to get started today.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Fr. Allick's day off	2
3 – Lent 4 8:00 am – HE, Rite 1 8:30 am - Choir 9:15 am – Education for all ages 10:15 am – HE, Rite II	4 7 p.m. Education Committee	5	6 11:00 a.m. Gospel Based Discipleship (CEB) 7:00 pm Lenten Class 8:00 pm Service of Compline	7 6:30 pm – AA(LL)	8 Fr. Allick's day off	9
10 – Lent 5 8:00 am – HE, Rite 1 8:30 a.m. – Choir 9:15 am – Education for all ages 10:15 am – HE, Rite II 11:30 a.m. Alzheimer's Memory Group 2 nd Sunday/ 2 nd offering	11	12	13 11:00 a.m. Gospel Based Discipleship (CEB) 7:00 pm Lenten Class 8:00 pm Service of Compline	14 6:30 pm – AA (LL) 7:00-8:30 p.m. Confirmation class at St. Alban's	15 Fr. Allick's day off Newsletter deadline	16
17 Palm Sunday 8:00 am – HE, Rite 1 8:30 am - Choir 9:15 am – Sunday School and Youth 10:15 am – HE, Rite II 4:00 pm - Evensong	18 12 noon – St. Mary's Circle 7 pm - Vestry	19	20 11:00 a.m. Gospel Based Discipleship (CEB)	21 Maundy Thurs. 6:30 pm – AA (LL) 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday service	22 Good Friday 12 noon - Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m. – Good Friday Service	23 9:00 am - Altar Guild decorating the church Sunday school Easter event 7:00 p.m. - Easter Vigil
24 Easter Sunday 8:00 am – HE, Rite 1 10:15 am – HE, Rite II	25 7 p.m. Buildings & Grounds	26	27 11:00 a.m. Gospel Based Discipleship (CEB)	28 6:30 pm – AA (LL)	29 Fr. Allick's day off	30

Key: HE – Holy Eucharist
CEB – Christian Education Building
LL – Library Lounge

MINNETONKA CHORAL SOCIETY presents Vibrant Voices – Brilliant Brass on Sunday, April 10 at 3:00 p.m. at Hopkins High School Auditorium. See Marion Miller for tickets and more information.



Ministers of the Eucharistic Assembly

April 2011

	Lent 4 Sunday April 3	Lent 5 Sunday April 10	Palm Sunday April 17	Maundy Thursday April 21 7 pm	Good Friday April 22 12 noon & 7 pm	Easter Vigil Saturday April 23 7 pm	Easter Sunday April 24 8 am & 10:15 am
Readings	1 Samuel 16:1-13 Psalm 23 Ephesians 5:8-14 John 9:1-41	Ezekiel; 37:1-14 Psalm 130 Romans 8:6-11 John 11:1-45	Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 22:1-11 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 21:1-11	Exodus 12:1-4 Psalm 116:1, 10-17 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35	Isaiah 52:13-53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 John 18:1-19:42	Romans 6:3-11 Luke 24:1-12	Jeremiah 31:1-6 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Acts 10:34-43 John 20:1-18
Chalice	Maraline Keeling Chip Whitacre Laura Harmon	Chip Whitacre Alan Poulsen Leslie O'Donnell	Steve Harvala Eileen Harvala John Hagerman	 Cyprian Troyer Chip Whitacre		 Kathie Brown Chip Whitacre	 Karen Hurlbert Laura Harmon Chip Whitacre
Lectors	Mary Kuhfeld Maraline Keeling Caryl Eschweiler Chip Whitacre	Carole Leonard Chip Whitacre Paul Schroeder Marion Miller	Steve Harvala Mary Poulsen John Hagerman	 Cyprian Troyer Chip Whitacre	Carole Leonard Leon Vann	 Kathie Brown Chip Whitacre	 Karen Hurlbert Nathan Harmon Chip Whitacre
Greeters							
Ushers 8 a.m.	Bob Miller Bruce Becker	Ron Holbach Ron Erickson	Bob Miller Bruce Becker				Ron Holbach Ron Erickson
10:15 a.m. Acolyte:	Kitty Reese Bill Stromberg Nathan Harmon	Tom Zaun Leon Vann Jade Carlson	Jane Jacobson Bob Jones TBA	Holden Hagerman		TBA	Tom Zaun Leon Vann TBA
Crucifer:							
Lay Eucharistic Visitors	Eileen Harvala Steve Harvala	Laura Harmon Mary Poulsen	Alan Poulsen Chip Whitacre				NO LEV VISITS
Coffee Hour: 8:00 a.m.	Ron Holbach Karen Hurlbert	Holbach family	Betty Bauer				Carole Leonard Geri Alberg
10:15 a.m.	Bob & Bonnie Jones	John & Nancy Taylor	Gloria Monroe- Johnson & Iris Alexander				Milt Hill Gladys Williamson

OUR THANKS TO:

- Bill Stromberg for always making sure the sidewalks are clear on Sunday mornings and for coming over to help on Ash Wednesday.
- Glennis Williams and Patti Wales for stepping forward and helping with cleanup after the Ash Wednesday noon service.
- Jeffrey Evans for doing such a marvelous organizational job at the Annual Meeting.
- The wonderful cooks of St. George's who prepared such delicious food for the potluck – there was lots of food and all of it was really tasty.
- Brad Heil and Carole Leonard for taking down the old ceiling tiles in the Sunday school room.
- Bill Stromberg for taking down the Christmas lights on Minnetonka Blvd. and in the courtyard. Also, for pointing out the missing shingles on the front of the building. Hopefully the shingles will be repaired soon.
- Everyone who visited, sent cards or called Ron Zaltz when he was in the nursing home recovering from his surgery.

About St. George's

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

www.StGeorgesOnline.org

Uniting in Worship, Welcoming in Grace

Parish staff:

Paul Allick, Rector
Patty Dittrich, Parish Administrator
Heather Whitesell, Children and Youth Coordinator
Randy Egan, Organist/Choirmaster

Priests in Residence:

Mildred Cox
Anne Scheible

Deacon in Training

Chip Whitacre

Wardens and Vestry:

Rector's Warden: Jane Jacobson
Parish Warden: Mary Weekes
Vestry: Ryan Anderson, John Carlson, Jeffrey Evans,
Gwen Gysland, Jan Hagerman, Laura Harmon, Mark
Kraabel, and Tom Zaun



HOLY WEEK:

We are approaching the most important three days in the Christian Calendar. Beginning with Jesus arriving on a donkey, with palms spread out and continuing on to celebrate the Last Supper with his Disciples and the day of his crucifixion, and then the glorious celebration of the Easter Vigil, the first light – beginning the celebration of his resurrection. At some point, every Christian should celebrate the “Great Three Days.” Plan this year to join your parish family in this great celebration.

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HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

Palm Sunday, April 17

8:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Maundy Thursday, April 21

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist, Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, April 22

12:00 noon – Good Friday Liturgy
7:00 p.m. – Good Friday Liturgy

Easter Vigil, April 23

7:00 p.m. – First Eucharist of Easter

Easter Sunday, April 24

8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I, with choir
10:15 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite II, with choir