

THE BANNER



St. George's Episcopal Church

4301 North IH-35 | Austin, TX | www.sgchurch.org

August 2021



Season after Pentecost

4301 North IH 35 • Austin, TX 78722

512.454.2523 • stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com

www.sgchurch.org

Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:30 am – 2:30 pm

Sunday Schedule

10:30 am **Holy Eucharist Rite II**
Online/In-person
11:30 am Coffee Hour

The Rev. Ann McLemore
Interim Rector

Mi-Young Kim
Music Minister

Jennifer Joslyn-Siemiatkoski
Office Administrator

Jerri Thompson
Day School Director

Josh Beckham
Rob Blech
Ed Crawford
Dale Curry
Brad Dieringer
Hye Na Lucy
Belinda McGhee
Samantha Stevens
Vestry

Brad Dieringer
Senior Warden

Ed Crawford
Junior Warden

Samantha Stevens
Financial Secretary

Ashley Carrera
Treasurer

Belinda McGhee
Clerk

Bridgette Beinecke
School Board Liaison

Mark Your Calendars

Mon 8/9 Vestry Meeting

Wed 8/11 Wednesday Weavings

Sat 8/14 Women's Book Group

Sun 8/15 Blessing of the Backpacks

Mon 8/16 School Board Meeting

Wed 8/25 Wednesday Weavings

Sun 8/29 Outreach Meeting

Sun 8/29 Farewell to Mi-Young

St. George's Events Calendar

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Feast Days

3 Joanna, Mary, and Salome, Myrrh-bearing Women
6 **The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
7 John Mason Neale, Priest and Hymnographer, 1866
8 Dominic, Priest and Friar, 1221
9 Edith Stein (Teresa Benedicta of the Cross), Philosopher, Monastic, and Martyr, 1942
10 Laurence of Rome, Deacon and Martyr, 258
11 Clare of Assisi, Monastic, 1253
13 Jeremy Taylor, Bishop and Theologian, 1667
14 Jonathan Myrick Daniels, Martyr, 1965

15 **Saint Mary the Virgin, Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
20 Bernard of Clairvaux, Monastic and Theologian, 1153
24 **Saint Bartholomew the Apostle**
26 Thomas Gallaudet and Henry Winter Syle, Priests, 1902 and 1890
27 Monica, Mother of Augustine of Hippo, 387
28 Augustine of Hippo, Bishop and Theologian, 430
29 **The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist**
30 Margaret Ward, Margaret Clitherow, and Anne Line, Martyrs, 1588, 1586, and 1601
31 David Pendleton Oakerhater, Deacon, 1931

Interim Rector's Corner

Dear St. George's Family:

As the summer begins to wind down, vacations come to an end, and plans for a new school year are launched, it is hard to believe how much progress we have made in some areas and how other parts of our lives seem to be on hold, or even moving backwards!



First of all, an update on our progress towards calling a new rector: The Profile Team is finishing up their work, and we hope for the Parish Profile to be presented and approved at the August vestry meeting, after which we will pass it along to the diocese. Once the diocese gives the green light, the position will be advertised, and we will receive applications for four to eight weeks. When that time period is completed, the Search Committee will begin reviewing the applications and making arrangements for visits, interviews, listening to sermons, etc. When the Search Committee settles on one or two candidates, those names will be passed on to the Vestry. At that point, the vestry will decide on making a call to a candidate. With an acceptance, we will work out a timetable for the arrival of the new rector and a start date. We will then create a Transition Team to help the newly called rector and their family settle in. This may be in the form of suggesting realtors, helping with the move itself, making introductions to people at the church, meeting with different committees, and help them get to know Austin.

We still have some slots on the Search Committee and on the Transition Team. If you are interested in learning more or serving on one of these teams, please contact Brad Dieringer, our Senior Warden (at 512-992-6461 or bradd77tx@gmail.com), or me (at 769-257-2377 or mclemore.a@gmail.com).

In campus news, ground has been broken for the construction site of the new building for the St. George's School! This has been a long time coming, and we hope to have construction and assembly completed by late September or early October. At that point, everything being temporarily stored in the POD in the parking lot will be unpacked and arranged in the new building.

We are waiting for the new estimates for replacing and reframing the damaged stained glass windows. We also have glass work that needs to be done in the Wright House, and the Wright House's back door needs to be replaced. Altar items that were stolen or damaged have been inventoried, we have gotten replacement costs, and we have begun the replacement process with an order for a new set of altar candlesticks. In order to prevent further damage to our buildings, access to electricity on the outside of campus buildings was completely removed, but we are still making water accessible outside the fence around the church. Unfortunately, we have found that the availability of the water has at times been abused; on more than one occasion, it's been left running in the street for extended periods of time. I want us to be able to keep this water available to our neighbors, particularly in this hot season, but we may have to revisit this issue if it continues to be abused.

The city has been doing some work near our campus and parking heavy equipment under I-35 across from the church. Access to Ardenwood and Crestwood Streets has at times been restricted. This, too, is impacting the homeless encampment directly across from the church, and the number of people there has decreased.

Thank you for your patience each Sunday as we try our best to keep everyone as safe and healthy as possible. This sometimes means last-minute decisions. Singing is one part of our liturgy that we all enjoy, but it is a major spreader of COVID. For the time being, as COVID numbers rise, we will decide week-to-week if we will include singing in the service. We are also still social distancing during services, which affects where worshipers can sit. When you pick a pew to sit in, please ONLY sit in pews with bulletins – we are using bulletins to indicate which pews are available and which should be left empty to maintain social distancing, including space around the choir, the tech team, and the worship leaders. As we find ourselves once again in Stage Five, we are again requiring that all worshipers wear masks. If you are not vaccinated, I ask that you pray about this decision and the impact that it has on others.

Special thanks to Alice for setting up the coffee hour on Sunday, August 1st, on the Wright House front porch, with cold, refreshing drinks! We will continue to enjoy our coffee hour refreshments and fellowship outside for the time being.

Faithfully,

Ann +

The Rev. Ann McLemore

September *Banner* Deadline

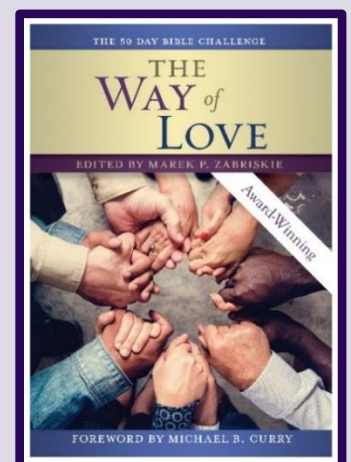


The deadline for news for the September issue of *The Banner* is Thursday, August 26th. Please email news and articles you would like included in the next issue to stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com.

Wednesday Weavings

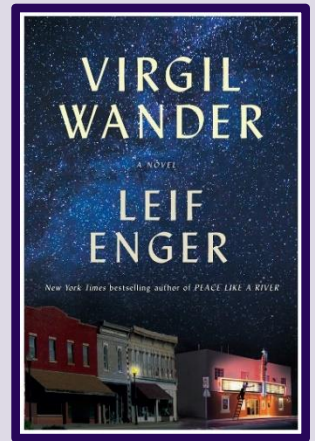
St. George's adult discussion group continues to meet every other Wednesday. In August, we will go back to having both meetings via Zoom, due to rising COVID numbers. We will meet from **7:00 to 8:00 pm** on **August 11th** and **August 25th**, for a discussion on the selected reading for the evening and closing service of Compline service.

We are continuing our study of *The Way of Love*, a Forward Movement publication edited by Marek Zabriskie. The book offers 50 meditations, each consisting of a Scripture reading, reflection, discussion questions, and prayer. The meditations are divided into seven sections based on seven spiritual practices for a Jesus-centered life: Turn, Learn Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, and Rest. Frances Rickard will send out the reading and Zoom invitation to the group's email list before each meeting. If you are not on the list and would like to receive the email, or if you have any questions, please contact Frances at fajrickard@gmail.com.



Women's Book Group

Please join us for our next meeting on **Saturday, August 14th**, from **3:00 to 5:00 pm, via Zoom**. We will discuss *Virgil Wander*, by **Leif Enger**. (Due to rising COVID numbers and updated advice from the CDC and the Austin Public Health Department, we have decided to go back to an online meeting format at least for August.) All St. George's women are welcome to attend – even if you haven't read the book! We hope you can join us for interesting conversation and our book discussion. The Zoom invitation will be sent out to the group's email list prior to the meeting. To be added to the list, or with any questions, please contact Sandra Villalaz at 512-762-8349 or sandra.villalaz48@gmail.com.



Blessing of the Backpacks



On **Sunday, August 15th**, bring your backpacks (or lunchboxes, pencil cases, or anything else you or your child takes to school!) to the **10:30 service**, and we'll have the opportunity to bless them (and their owners) as a way of starting off the new school year. (Please note that this will be a simple blessing during the service, not the back-to-school event involving St. George's Episcopal School which we have held in previous years.)

Farewell to Mi-Young Kim

After a little over two years with us, our Music Minister, Mi-Young Kim, will be leaving St. George's at the end of August, to further pursue her music studies in California. She has been a blessing to our music program and choir, and we will miss her! Please join us at Coffee Hour on **Sunday, August 29th**, her final Sunday with us, to say goodbye and wish her well in her next endeavors.

A message from Mi-Young:

Dear St. George's Community,

I am glad to share that I will start my DMA (Doctor of Musical Arts) degree at UC Santa Barbara this September. So I will be leaving St. George's at the end of August to move out to Santa Barbara after my last service on August 29.

It was really a blessing for me to find St. George's when I came to Austin to study at UT. When I had sought a place to get a rest, the chance to be part of a family suddenly came to me, which was God's hand in my life. St. George's has been a light and a considerable nest for me, and I get consolation from all the people in this great church. I strongly believe that God blessed me by guiding me to this church; it was the right time to meet all people at this place! I know I have gotten incredible love from so many people here; I really appreciate all the love and understanding for everything. The great experience I've had during the last two years will be a root that I can build on for the future.

Thank you for giving me the chance to be part of the family of St. George's!

Blessings,

Mi-Young Kim



Outreach Update

Earlier in the summer, we began planning for an in-person Outreach meeting in August. Unfortunately, due to rising COVID numbers, we no longer feel that holding such a meeting is wise. We hope to be able to do so soon, so please watch for more information as our plans evolve. In the meantime, our ongoing initiatives continue, and we appreciate all the work that so many parishioners have put in to keep our parish programs running! For more information about our Outreach work, please contact Alice Nelson (mzlsnlsn@gmail.com) or Sarah Campbell (cowmarket2@gmail.com).



In-Person Worship



Our Sunday morning services continue to grow as we enjoy gathering in-person and re-connecting with our community as we emerge from the pandemic. We hope that you can join us! We are continuing to take measures to be safe, and our policies evolve as the situation changes. We continue to practice social distancing, including ONLY sitting where bulletins have been distributed. We are once again requiring masks due to the increase in local COVID cases. We are making assessments week to week about how to receive communion and whether or not to include singing in each service.

The 10:30 service continues to be accessible via both Zoom and Facebook Live, so if you don't feel safe coming back to in-person church just yet or can't make it every Sunday, you can still worship with us!

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour is back! Due to rising COVID numbers, we will be holding coffee hour outside for the time being, rather than in Kleberg Hall. But please join us after the 10:30 service each Sunday outside the Wright House for coffee, refreshments, and fellowship.



Regardless of whether Coffee Hour is inside or outside, we need hosts! We're asking that two or three households make a commitment to host Coffee Hour each week. That responsibility will include set-up and clean-up, as well as providing bottled/canned drinks (while we're outside) or finger-food snacks (once we're back inside). A sign-up sheet will be available each week at coffee hour, so please be generous with your time and find a Sunday on which you can help out. Complete instructions for coffee hour hosting are available on the Kleberg refrigerator or upon request.

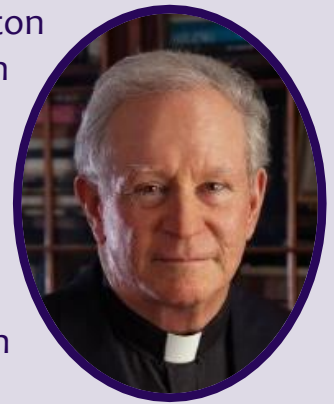
Outreach Ministry Highlight: St. George's Episcopal School



St. George's Episcopal School, an outreach ministry of St. George's Church, strives to provide a well-rounded program for the children of the church and its surrounding diverse community. Our programs help each child grow and develop spiritually, cognitively, physically, emotionally, and socially, all within a Christian atmosphere. We believe each child is a gift of God, a unique person valued for his/her own worth, growing and learning independently. For more information about the school, visit their website at www.stgeorges-austin.com.

Former Rector

The Rev. John W. Price, former rector of St. George's, has died in Houston following a long illness. He was rector from 1968 to 1988, during which time he oversaw significant growth in the parish and school and led the church into broad participation in the renewal movement. He is survived by his wife Arlene and their three children Rob, Rick, and Catherine, all of whom grew up at St. George's. His funeral will be on August 21st, at Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church in Houston, and his ashes will be interred here at St. George's on September 19th, when Bishop Jeff Fisher is with us.



*Father of all, we pray to you for John, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.*

Christopher House ~~Baskets~~ Bags



We are continuing St. George's long-standing ministry of delivering hospitality baskets (except now they are bags with handles), to the families of patients at Christopher House, and we need more delivery people! To be a part of this ministry, sign up for one or more weeks between now and December on the [Online Christopher House Basket Calendar](#). A \$10 donation is requested per basket, and you can also add a note and other goodies (nothing perishable).

You can make the donation online via the [St. George's Donation Page](#) under Outreach, or by placing a check in the offertory basket (or mailing it to the church office) made out to "St. George's Episcopal Church," with "Christopher House Baskets" in the memo line. Contact Alice Nelson at mzlsnlsn@gmail.com to make arrangements to get a basket before your delivery week. Delivery includes no patient contact, and only brief outdoor and masked contact with a staff member.

The Bishop Is Coming!

The Right Reverend Jeff Fisher, Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Texas, will be with us at St. George's on **Sunday, September 19th**. All four bishops in our diocese spend much of their time with congregations throughout the diocese in order to provide whatever support and guidance the parishioners and clergy need, and to maintain connections between the various parishes of our far-flung diocese. While here, the bishop will preside and preach at the Eucharist, as well as (if needed) administer the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation and preside at the rites of Reception and Reaffirmation of Faith (BCP, pages 412-419). Please contact the Rev. Ann McLemore at mclemore.a@gmail.com or 769-257-2377 if you are interested in participating in any of these rites.



The sacrament of **Confirmation** is a mature, public reaffirmation of the Christian faith and of the promises made at one's baptism. It is administered by a bishop because bishops serve as symbols of the wider Church and its continuity throughout the centuries. Confirmations performed in most other Christian traditions are considered valid in the Episcopal Church, so those confirmed in such a tradition who now wish to join the Episcopal Church do not need to be confirmed again. They may participate in the rite of **Reception**, in which an Episcopal Bishop receives them into the Episcopal Church. At times, adult members of the Episcopal Church wish to publicly reaffirm their faith, either because they've returned to the church after a period of absence, or because they've come to a new understanding of their faith which they wish to acknowledge liturgically. The rite of **Reaffirmation** provides an opportunity to do so with the blessing of a bishop, and may be repeated as many times as one feels called to do so.

Ministry Leadership Teams

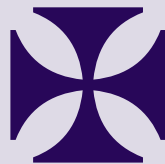


Most of our lay worship leaders were on hiatus for over a year. As part of returning to church in person, we are taking the opportunity to implement a new system for scheduling and coordinating those ministries. The members of the Altar Guild, Ushers, and Readers/Intercessors have been assigned to one of three teams – Teams A, B, and C – each of which is scheduled to serve every third Sunday. Each team includes three or four members of each of the ministries, so not everyone on the team is expected to serve each time the team is scheduled. When a team is scheduled, its members communicate amongst themselves to determine which members will be serving on that particular Sunday. By having a simple, repeating schedule, this new system takes the burden of scheduling off the handful of individual people who've been doing it, in many cases for years, and redistributes it among all the members of these ministries. Each team makes its own decisions about how to divide up its responsibilities and can figure out the system that works best for them.

The team members are asked to let Jennifer know by noon on Thursday who will be serving on the upcoming Sunday, so that she can list them correctly in the "Those Who Serve" section of the bulletin. If you have any questions about the new team system or if you'd like more information about serving in any of these ministries, please contact Jennifer in the church office at stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com or 512-454-2523.

2021 Altar Flowers/Candles Calendar

If you'd like to donate altar flowers or altar candles in 2021, it's not too late! Visit the [2021 Altar Flowers/Candles Calendar](#) and enter your name and dedication next to the week or month of your choice. **A donation of \$35** is requested. You can make your donation online or by check. To give electronically, visit the [St. George's Donation page](#), scroll down to "Designated Gifts" / "Altar Guild," and enter the amount of your donation. Make checks payable to St. George's, with "Altar Flowers/Candles" in the memo line, and place them in the offertory basket or mail them to the church office.



News from the School



Greetings from the school! Our building project was flowing nicely, until... Austin Energy mistakenly approved an application in late April for a new meter pole and then realized they needed more information, so this could cause a two- to three-month delay. The information has been given to them, but they said it puts us at the end of the line now. Needless to say, this is very frustrating. The groundwork is still moving forward, and the building is in production. It just might sit without power for a while when it arrives. I'll keep you posted on how that is going.

Otherwise, the school is full, 93 children enrolled, and we have 78 children on the waitlist – our largest waiting list to date. When the building opens, we will be able to enroll an additional 24 students. Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we limp to the finish line of the project.

The school's summer camp program is in its final 3 weeks. We will be closed to children during the week of August 23rd, but the staff will be here for a teacher in-service week. I hope you are all having a great summer and are gearing up for a peaceful school year.

Respectfully,

Jerri Thompson

Head of School



August Birthdays & Anniversaries

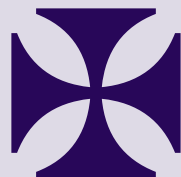
We wish the following parishioners a happy birthday:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Rob Blech (Aug 2) | Carole Wall (Aug 13) |
| Noah Savage (Aug 3) | Susan Highfield (Aug 14) |
| James Cormier (Aug 4) | Eric Bandholz (Aug 15) |
| David McGhee (Aug 4) | Ronn Worcester (Aug 17) |
| Trey Kerrigan (Aug 6) | Royce Blech (Aug 19) |
| John Rickard (Aug 6) | Max McAlister (Aug 19) |
| David Stuart (Aug 7) | Alma Vera (Aug 19) |
| Rachel Vernon (Aug 7) | Sarah Campbell (Aug 23) |
| Brad Barcus (Aug 8) | Polly Littrell (Aug 24) |
| Elzy Cogswell (Aug 9) | Sue Worcester (Aug 27) |
| Dewey Brackin (Aug 12) | Dale Curry (Aug 29) |
| Ada Pewitt (Aug 12) | William Beckham (Aug 31) |
| Loretta Wall (Aug 13) | |

And a happy anniversary to:

Ronn & Sue Worcester (Aug 18)

Congratulations and Best Wishes!



Links for Further Information

[St. George's Church website](#)
[St. George's Episcopal School](#)
[The Episcopal Diocese of Texas](#)
[The Episcopal Church, USA](#)

[The Lectionary](#)
[Camp Allen](#)
[St. George's Court](#)
[Episcopal Relief and Development](#)