

THE BANNER



St. George's Episcopal Church

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

August 2022



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

Brad Dieringer
Senior Warden

Dia Park
Music Minister

Mikail McIntosh-Doty
Office Administrator

Jerri Thompson
Day School Director

Josh Beckham
Brad Barcus
Sandra Villalaz-Dickson
Dale Curry
Brad Dieringer
Spencer Gordon
Belinda McGhee
Ramón Treviño
Vestry

Brad Dieringer
Senior Warden

Dale Curry
Junior Warden

Samantha Stevens
Financial Secretary

Frances Rickard
Treasurer

Bridgette Beinecke
School Board Liaison

Mark Your Calendars

Mon 8/8 Vestry Meeting (Wright House)
Wed 8/10 Wednesday Weavings
Sat 8/13 Church Clean up; Women's Book Group
Mon 8/15 School Board Meeting (Wright House)

Sat 8/20 Hoster-Renehan Wedding @ 2 PM
Wed 8/24 Wednesday Weavings
Sun 8/29 Bishop Kai's Visit
Thu 9/1 Father Matt's first official day

[St. George's Events Calendar](#)

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Feast Days

1 Joseph of Arimathea
3 Joanna, Mary, and Salome, Myrrh-bearing Women
6 **The Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
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
12 Florence Nightingale, Nurse, 1910
13 Jeremy Taylor, Bishop and Theologian, 1667

14 Jonathan Myrick Daniels, Martyr, 1965
15 **Mary the Mother of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
18 William Porcher DuBose, Priest, 1918
20 Bernard of Clairvaux, Monastic and Theologian, 1153
24 **Saint Bartholomew the Apostle**
25 Louis, King, 1270
27 Thomas Gallaudet and Henry Winter Syle, Priests, 1902 and 1890
29 **The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist**
30 Margaret Ward, Margaret Clitherow, and Anne Line, Martyrs, 1588, 1586, and 1601
31 Aidan of Lindisfarne, Bishop, 651

Our “incoming” Rector’s Corner

*Tyler Behind Me, Austin Before Me.
Christ Behind Me, Christ Before Me.*



With that second line of the above title intended to evoke the great hymn St. Patrick’s Breastplate (sung at my ordination to the diaconate about twelve years ago, with my friend Kevin Schubert on jimbe), I am mindful these days that with Tyler behind me, Christ is behind me... and with Austin before me, Christ is before me.

In that spirit, I thought I’d share my answer to a frequent question I’ve been getting here in Tyler: “Father Matt, what is it that draws you to St. George’s in Austin?” My stock answer has evolved to include the deep affection I experienced with the search committee and the vestry, the commitment that the church has to serving others with the love of Christ, and finally the huge opportunity for St. George’s to thrive in the future.

Regarding this last point, I have spoken about St. George’s School and the Mueller neighborhood, St. George’s Court and the local vibe/environs of the area around the church, often summarizing things in the following way: “Literally twenty yards to the west we have homeless folks sleeping under I-35, and ten miles to the east is Elon Musk’s Tesla “Giga” world headquarters. So, we have the poorest of the poor, and the richest of the rich, and everyone in between.” Sounds like the Body of Christ to me!

I sometimes add that the search committee “high fived” me when I said that I plan to be 60% rector and 40% evangelist. Huge opportunities, indeed. This comprises what you might call my “elevator speech.”

For those who want to go a bit deeper, perhaps over coffee or a beer, I share about HeartEdge. HeartEdge, you see, is a community of church practitioners founded by the Rev. Dr. Samuel Wells, vicar of St. Paul’s Church in London (right across from Trafalgar Square, for those familiar with the city). HeartEdge is a network that “embraces those shaped by habits of pastoral ministry, fostering in them an aptitude and appetite for translating these interests into compassionate, cultural and commercial opportunities.” Those last three adjectives are related to the “Four C’s” of HeartEdge: *Commerce, Compassion, Culture, and Congregation*. I lack the space here to develop these four areas; suffice it to say that I’m beginning to dream of them in the context of St. George’s & its social & geographic situation in Austin. (Two more quickies: if you’d like to discuss Wells’ book with me, check out Sam Well’s *A Future that’s Bigger than the Past*; or, check out his youtube videos. Just google “youtube Sam Wells Being With” and you will find my faves!)

Finally, I often share one final piece in my response to the question my Tyler friends ask about St. George’s. I mention the challenges. Challenges like the cumulative exhaustion due to the lack of a rector, challenges like boarded up stained glass windows & a security fence surrounding the church. (Man oh man: you should see the facial expressions in response to these last two!) But then I remind them: when a challenge presents itself, an opportunity lies right around the corner. That’s no cliché, and in fact I’d put it even more strongly: the greater the challenge, the greater the opportunity.

What beautiful story is emerging with these challenges? I cannot wait to find out, and to help write that narrative!

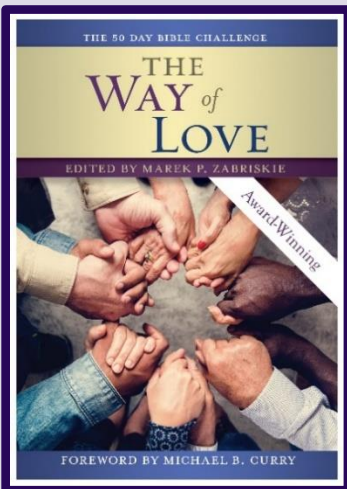
Faithfully,

Father Matt

The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter

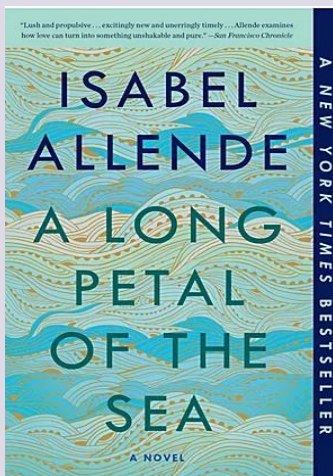
Wednesday Weavings

St. George's adult discussion group, known as Wednesday Weavings, will meet the first and third Wednesdays in August from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Hope you can join us! The dates and locations are **August 3 at Sarah Campbell's home, and August 17 at Bridgette Beinecke's home.** We share a simple meal, discuss a selected reading for the evening, and close with a brief Compline service. We are currently reading from *The Way of Love*, a Forward Movement publication, which 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.



Because we discuss a different reading each time, feel free to come any Wednesday you can. Please bring a contribution for the salad bar meal (for example, fruit, vegetable, or crunchy toppings). Frances Rickard emails an RSVP spreadsheet and a copy of the reading before each gathering. 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 13th**, from **3:00 to 5:00 pm**, hosted by Frances Rickard and Anne Rickard, location to be shared via email. The book will be ***A Long Petal of the Sea* by Isabel Allende.** We hope to see many of you there.

Speaking of Frances and books...remember to use the spreadsheet she created for us to use to make book recommendations all year long. This may help eliminate or minimize the crush for book suggestions in the fall. Thank you, Frances, for this helpful work. We're looking forward to seeing the sheet fill up!

If you have a book to recommend to the group, use our [Book Recommendation Form](#). Check out the books we've recommended at [Compiled Book Recommendations](#).

Stay strong, and read on, love, *Alice and Sarah*

Outreach Update

We are waiting for a formal outreach meeting after our new rector, Father Matt, arrives in September. We hope to be able to do so early in the fall, 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).



SAFE Alliance Comfort Bags



Thank you again to everyone who made possible our last gift of 200 bags to the SAFE Alliance this past spring. The bags represent many gifts and much commitment by the people of St. George's. The bags were described as a tangible gift of love. We're doing it again! More details will be coming in the *Sunday Banner*, including what we need from you to fill the bags, but we have the dates now. We will have the **sew-in September 11, filling on the 18th and blessing and delivery on the 25th**. So mark your calendars so that you don't miss out on the fun.

~ Love, Alice and Sarah

Christopher House 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 bag (we are asking that you deliver two (2) bags each time) 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 contact with a staff member.

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.

News from the School

The Summer Camp program is coming to a close, and it was a great success - - hot, but successful. The children enjoyed splash days, Kona Ice, The Hot Dog King food truck, science shows, a foam party, and so much more.

My focus is now on starting up another school year. We are comfortably in the Beinecke Building and the fence is up and secure. With the help of volunteers from the parish, we are moving the library books and toys into the new resource rooms. The school will now have 9 classrooms (all of which are full, except for a couple of T/Th spots). Now it's time to finish the hiring and train the staff. The school will have 28 employees with half being brand new, so I'm embarking on an extensive training program.

The additional grant money the school received is helping to train the new teachers, increase salaries, and offer gas stipends. Here are some of the exciting training opportunities the staff has had so far:

- 2 teachers went to the JW Marriott Hill Country Resort in San Antonio and spent 2 nights and 2 days receiving excellent training and pampering.
- 2 teachers spent a week in Houston at Rice University's Glasscock School of Continuing Studies Storytelling and Culture Project. It's a wonderful program that will strengthen our literacy curriculum.
- 3 teachers are scheduled to go to the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children's Annual Conference in San Antonio on the riverwalk. There they will spend 3 nights and 3 days receiving excellent training.
- And for team building, I have a motivational speaker set to kick off our teacher in-service week.

I will continue to seek out high quality trainings and conduct many myself in order to bring the new staff up to the standards St. George's Episcopal School is known for. The tenured staff is also eager to help train, mentor and coach as we kick off another new year.

The school has a lot to be thankful for, so here's to another great year!

Respectfully,

Jerri Thompson

Head of School



2022 Altar Flowers/Candles Calendar

If you'd like to donate altar flowers or altar candles in 2022, it's not too late! Visit the [2022 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.



Coffee Hour Hosts

We need hosts, especially July 31st and August 21st! 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 some sweet and savory munchies. A sign-up sheet is available each week during coffee hour, so please be generous with your time and find a Sunday on which you can help out. Instructions about Coffee Hour hosting duties can be found on the inside the cupboard door where the coffee is stored, or by contacting Alice Nelson or the church office.



The Bishop Is Coming!



The Right Reverend Kathryn "Kai" Ryan, Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Texas, will be with us at St. George's on **Sunday, August 28th**. 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 (which, with the addition of the folks from the former Diocese of Fort Worth, is getting even bigger). While here, the bishop will preside and preach at the Eucharist, as well as administer the sacraments of Baptism and preside at the rite of Reaffirmation of Faith (BCP, pages 412-419) for two of our members. Please contact Senior Warden Brad Dieringer at bradd77tx@gmail.com or the church office if you are interested in participating in any of these rites. Listed below are all the rites, beyond baptism, that the bishop presides over:

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.

Fixing up the Wright-Giles House

Here are some images of the work being done to fix the damage from the 2021 break-ins at the Wright-Giles House and fix some other ongoing structural issues. As you can see, we're better than we've been since the break-ins but not quite ready for prime time. Keep our leadership and the repairs in your prayers this summer. She's a lovely old house, but she does need some TLC. The



week of August 22nd we'll be doing more clean up – watch the Sunday bulletins for details.

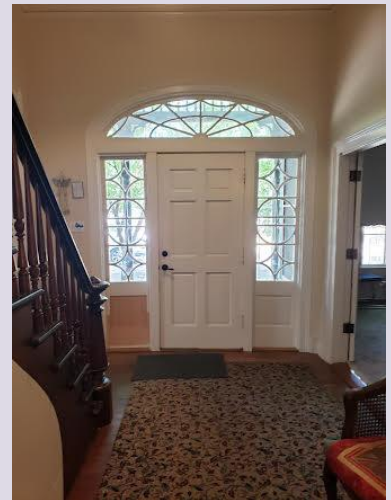
Removed back glass door.



Replaced side glass panel for front door.



Replaced solid wood back door and kick panel to right.



Inside view of front door, notice all the natural light streaming in!

Work on SGEK New Signs

Raul and his son-in-law Joe are working on refurbishing the stone sign in the field on the west side of our campus. They are beginning by cleaning the sign, fixing the stonework, and putting in a pole to which they'll attach a new shield that Raul and Joe made from our current logo. Here are pictures of Raul and Dale Curry, Junior Warden, digging the hole for the pole.



And the new shield! Hot, dry work in the July sunshine. Keep an eye on more changes coming, like cleaned up lettering on the sign. Dale is also working on letter signage (A-H) for all the buildings on campus to help first responders get to the right building in emergencies.



From the Treasurer

After a blessed five-year break from serving as parish treasurer, I'm b-a-a-ck! When our wonderful treasurer Ashley Carrera needed to step down mid-year to prepare for her and Joe's new life on the road, I offered to reprise my treasurer role for a few years to help ease the transition to a new rector. We all owe Ashley a deep debt of gratitude for her excellent work, particularly shepherding our treasury through the pandemic, which came with its own challenges and extra reporting from a treasurer's standpoint. Please give Ashley your thanks the next time you see her!

Speaking of our new rector, if you are interested in contributing to the Rector's Discretionary Fund (RDF), I have set up a way for you to do that on our [online giving](https://sgchurch.org/stewardship) page (sgchurch.org/stewardship; then click "Donate" and select the "Rector's Discretionary Fund tile). Checks may be made payable to St. George's Episcopal Church, with "Clergy Discretionary Fund" in the memo line.

Below is a statement of St. George's actual income and expenses for the first six months of 2022 compared to the income and expenses budgeted by the Vestry. This statement does not include income or expenses from funds outside the general operating fund, such as donations to Outreach Committee projects, the Music Fund, or the Memorial Fund. We have recently received two generous bequests from former parishioners: one from the estate of Ruth Crawford, which will go primarily toward completing the interior and exterior paneling on the sanctuary; and the other from Mary Parker, who designated the St. George's Music Program as the beneficiary of an annuity. Those gifts are not represented in the statement below.

If you have questions about this report, please contact me at stgtreasurer78722@gmail.com. If you

have questions about your pledge, including how much might remain to be paid on your 2022 pledge, please contact parish financial secretary Samantha Stevens (samanthahstevens63@gmail.com).

Blessings,

Frances

Frances Rickard

YEAR TO DATE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

YEAR TO DATE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

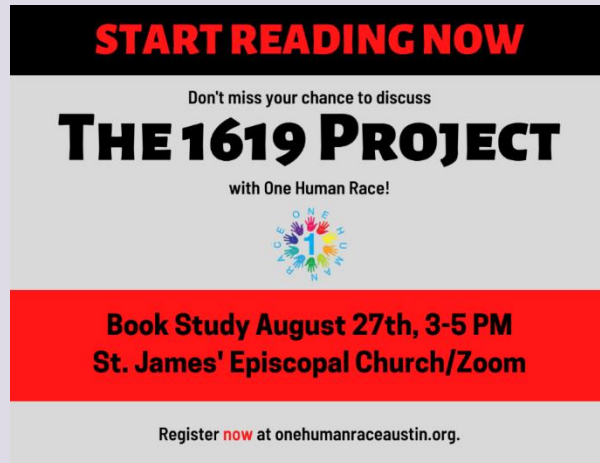
JANUARY – JUNE 2022

	Actual	Budgeted
Plate, pledge, & offering income	\$82,677.88	\$93,459
Other income*	\$54,396	\$57,568
Total Income	\$137,073.88	\$151,027
Total Expenses	\$110,119.36	\$122,595
Difference between Income and Expenses	\$26,954.52	\$28,432.00

*Includes a \$40,000 COVID grant from the diocese, donations for altar flowers, and other income for operations purposes, such as building rental fees, bank interest, and building use payments from St. George's School.

OTHER EVENTS AROUND THE DIOCESE

Discussion of 1619 Project at St. James Episcopal Church



Register now at <https://onehumanraceaustin.org/>. Note the workshop is available online or in church at St. James' Austin.



August Birthdays & Anniversaries

We wish the following parishioners a happy birthday:

Rob Blech (Aug 2)
Noah Savage (Aug 3)
James Cormier (Aug 4)
David McGhee (Aug 4)
Trey Kerrigan (Aug 6)
John Rickard (Aug 6)

David Stuart (Aug 7)
Rachel Vernon (Aug 7)
Brad Barcus (Aug 8)
Elzy Cogswell (Aug 9)
Dewey Brackin (Aug 12)
Ada Pewitt (Aug 12)

Loretta Wall (Aug 13)
Carole Wall (Aug 13)
Susan Highfield (Aug 14)
Eric Bandholz (Aug 15)
Ronn Worcester (Aug 17)
Royce Blech (Aug 19)
Alma Vera (Aug 19)

Sarah Campbell (Aug 23)
Polly Littrell (Aug 24)
Sue Worcester (Aug 27)
Dale Curry (Aug 29)
William Beckham (Aug 31)

And a happy anniversary to:
Ronn & Sue Worcester (Aug 18)

Congratulations and Best Wishes!



Links for Further Information

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

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

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

September *Banner* Deadline



The deadline for news for the September issue of *The Banner* is Thursday, August 25th. Please email news and articles you would like included in the next issue to stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com.