

# THE BANNER



**St. George's  
Episcopal Church**

4301 North IH-35 | Austin, TX | [www.sgchurch.org](http://www.sgchurch.org)

September 2022



Season after Pentecost

4301 North IH 35 • Austin, TX 78722

512.454.2523 • [stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com)

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

Father Matt's cell 737 600 2579

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 Fellowship at  
Kleberg Hall

**The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter**  
Rector

**Dia Park**  
Music Minister

**Mikail McIntosh-Doty**  
Office Administrator

**Jerri Thompson**  
Day School Director

**Josh Beckham**  
**Mark Casstevens**  
**Ramón Treviño**  
**Sandra Villalaz**  
**Dale Curry**  
**Brad Dieringer**  
**Spencer Gordon**  
**Belinda McGhee**  
**Brad Barcus**  
Vestry

**Brad Dieringer**  
Senior Warden

**Dale Curry**  
Junior Warden

**Samantha Stevens**  
Financial Secretary

**Frances Rickard**  
Treasurer

**Bridgette Beinecke**  
School Board Liaison

## Mark Your Calendars

<b>Mon 9/5</b>	Labor Day (Office Closed)	<b>Tue 9/13</b>	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Tues 9/6</b>	Choir Rehearsal	<b>Mon 9/19</b>	School Board Meeting
<b>Wed 9/7</b>	Wednesday Weavings	<b>Tue 9/20</b>	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Sat 9/10</b>	Women's Book Group	<b>Wed 9/21</b>	Wednesday Weavings
<b>Sun 9/11</b>	<b>Reception for New Rector</b>	<b>Tue 9/27</b>	Choir Rehearsal
<b>Mon 9/12</b>	Vestry Meeting		

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

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## Feast Days

1 David Pendleton Oakerhater, Deacon, 1931	17 Hildegard of Bingen, Mystic and Scholar, 1179
2 The Martyrs of New Guinea, 1942	19 Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, 690
3 Phoebe, Deacon	20 John Coleridge Patteson, Bishop, and his Companions, Martyrs, 1871
5 Katharina Zell, Church Reformer and Writer, 1562	21 <b>Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</b>
6 Hannah More, Religious Writer and Philanthropist, 1833	22 Philander Chase, Bishop, 1852
7 Kassiani, Poet and Hymnographer, 865	23 Thecla of Iconium, Proto-Martyr among Women, c.70
8 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	24 Anna Ellison Butler Alexander, Deaconess and Teacher, 1947
9 Constance, Thecla, Ruth, Frances, Charles Parsons, and Louis Schuyler, Martyrs, 1878	26 Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop, 1626
10 Alexander Crummell, Priest, 1898	27 Euphrosyne/Smaragdus of Alexandria, Monastic, 5th century
12 John Henry Hobart, Bishop, 1830	28 Paula and Eustochium of Rome, Monastics and Scholars, 404 and c.419
13 Cyprian of Carthage, Bishop and Martyr, 258	29 <b>Saint Michael and All Angels</b>
14 <b>Holy Cross Day</b>	30 Jerome, Priest and Scholar, 420
15 Catherine of Genoa, Mystic and Nurse, 1510	
16 Ninian, Bishop, c. 430	

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## The Rector's Corner

### *Beginning Together, with Courage*

For many reasons (some of which might be sort of subconscious) I've had courage on the mind/heart lately. In fact, I had a wonderful 12-mile run this morning from my little "temp home" to Town Lake (AKA Lady Bird Lake) via the Shoal Creek Greenbelt. I was mindful, on that run, that it takes a good deal of courage to set out on a 12-mile run. For some people, it takes unbelievable courage just to get out of bed in the morning. For us here at St. George's it will require great courage to face the challenges and opportunities before us.

Courage. It's the first of the seven cardinal virtues, in many ways. I call it the "baseline virtue." It's way simpler (note: not easier!) than the other three cardinal virtues of moderation, prudence, and justice. Historically, it is connected to the relatively straightforward life/work/vocation/task of a soldier on the battlefield in ancient Greece. The soldier's job is not to promote justice or to cultivate a prudential approach to some goal. No: his job is to stick to his post, to resist the temptation to abandon his post. It's not complicated: he either succeeds or fails.

Courage. Did you know that the church—the eucharistic community—is called to be a "school of virtue"? We have the great honor and privilege of forming one another in the ways of goodness and beauty. In the ways of courage, moderation, prudence, justice, faith, hope, and love.

And yet, as Augustine reminds us, the cultivation of virtue must be lubricated by the Gospel if it is to really "work," to really and truly bear fruit and promote shalom. "Aristotle's virtues," he thought, "are glittering vices." What does that mean? It means that without the grace of God, without the Holy Spirit, without the kind of humility that puts neighbor first, virtue can become a "clanging gong," as Paul teaches in 1 Cor 13.

So, you see, we do need courage. But not some kind of secular or worldly courage. The courage that we need must be oiled and greased with love, with grace, with the Gospel. Otherwise, those challenges I alluded to (but did not name)—homeless folks under IH-35, financial scarcity (real or perceived), ideological differences, personality turbulence, and much more—will eat our lunch. But guess what, dear friends of St. George's: Christ is really and truly with us. Christ is in our midst! I cannot wait to live into that truth/reality with you, starting, well, in about 48 hours from now as I write this blog!

Allow me to close this little piece like this: Eli and I have successfully moved in to our "temp home," thanks be to God. It is about a mile and a half west of the church, a 15-minute bike ride. Eli's first day of school in the magnet program at Lively Middle School was really and truly a blessing for him. Thanks be to God, again! As he and I have been discussing, our transition (which includes the physical absence of his big sister as well as the hole in our little home left by Bouquet, now back in Tyler, soon to visit again) is pretty much complete.

Now, the period of adjustment will begin. Begin, it has.

We are so thankful. Truly, "God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind!" (2 Tim 1:7). Oh, and courage!

Faithfully,

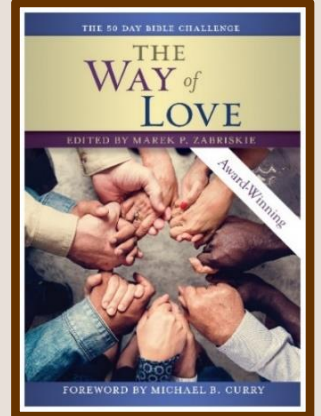
*Fr. Matt*

The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter



## Wednesday Weavings

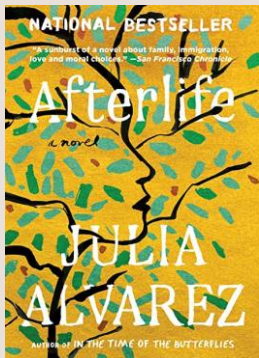
St. George's adult discussion group, known as Wednesday Weavings, will meet the first and third Wednesdays in September from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Hope you can join us! The dates and locations are **September 7 at Jan Phillips's home, and September 21 at Frances and John Rickard's home.** We share a simple 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 her at [fajrickard@gmail.com](mailto:fajrickard@gmail.com).

## Women's Book Group

Please join us for our next meeting on **Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**, from **3:00 to 5:00 pm** at the home of Stephanie Savage (4105 Idlewild Rd--78731). We will discuss *Afterlife*, by **Julia Alvarez**. We hope to see many of you there.



If you have a book to recommend to the group, use our new [Book Recommendation Form](#). Check out the books we've recommended at [Compiled Book Recommendations](#). **All St. George's women are welcome to attend all Book Group meetings** – even if you haven't read the book! We hope you can join us for interesting conversation and our book discussion. An email 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 Sarah Campbell at [mailto:cowmarket2@gmail.com](mailto:mailto:cowmarket2@gmail.com). Happy reading!

## Outreach

We are planning on a meeting with everyone for new ideas and direction after our new rector gets settled. But we continue to make Christopher House Bag runs and work on our "big" project this fall of making new SAFE bags for survivors of sexual assault. See details below. Meanwhile, if you have any questions or would like to volunteer for any Outreach projects, please contact Alice Nelson at [mzlsnlsn@gmail.com](mailto:mzlsnlsn@gmail.com) or Sarah Campbell at [cowmarket2@gmail.com](mailto:cowmarket2@gmail.com). Thank you for your commitment to and support of Outreach! See below some updates on what we're currently doing with our outreach at St. George's. It is pretty amazing for a little church like ours.



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## OUTREACH Project One: Christopher House Bags

**Delivery people needed!** St. George's has a long-standing ministry of delivering hospitality baskets to the families of patients at Christopher House. As with everything else, the logistics of this have changed with the pandemic, but we continue to deliver baskets (except now they are bags with handles), 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 [bit.ly/CHbagsfromSGEC](https://bit.ly/CHbagsfromSGEC) link. \$10 donation is requested per basket/bag (we currently do two bags a visit), 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 (look for the CH Basket tile), 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. Then, contact Alice Nelson at [mzlsnlsn@gmail.com](mailto:mzlsnlsn@gmail.com) to make arrangements to get a basket/bag before your delivery week.

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## OUTREACH Project Two: SAFE Bags Project

Our friends at the SAFE Alliance have asked for us to do another round of our lovely handmade SAFE bags with lots of comfort items for their survivors of sexual assault. See the interview with Patsy Chandler (below) for why this work is so fulfilling as a ministry of St. George's. It takes three Sundays of effort (not including the work of those sewing bags from home or the gathering supplies) to make 200 or so handmade bags for our friends at SAFE:

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday:** The **sew-in** will be after the 10:30 service for about 2-3 hours on **September 11** (remember there are lots of tasks that do not require any special skills – *many hands make light work*; and lunch is always provided; Father Matt will join us for this Sew-in!).

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday:** We will **fill the bags** during the Coffee Hour after the 10:30 service on **September 18<sup>th</sup>**. *Again, lots of folks make this go quickly!*

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday:** And the **blessing, visit from our SAFE coordinators, and delivery** will be part of the service on **September 25<sup>th</sup>**.

Please contact Alice Nelson ([mzlsnlsn@gmail.com](mailto:mzlsnlsn@gmail.com)) or Sarah Campbell ([cowmarket2@gmail.com](mailto:cowmarket2@gmail.com)) if you have any questions.

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## OUTREACH HIGHLIGHT:

### Read about Patsy's Interview with HHS:

July 18, 2022

*"Team Texas HHS Off the Clock" showcases the dynamic the Health and Human Services workforce across Texas and the importance of work-life balance through personal profiles of employees and their hobbies...*

### ***Off the Clock: Patsy Chandler Sews Bags to Provide Comfort, Compassion***

When she isn't working as an administrative assistant at Austin State Supported Living Center, Patsy Chandler is sewing comfort bags for families

in the SAFE (Stop Abuse For Everyone) program. She has been sewing since she was in her early teens. While she enjoys sewing a variety of items, including baby blankets and quilts for friends and co-workers, her top priority is giving back to SAFE families.

### **How did you start sewing?**

My grandmother had an old Singer sewing machine that she taught me on. I just kept up with it over the years, especially in high school when a lot of us made our own clothes. I kept on making different things, sewing for my kids when they came along and for other people's babies.

### **Why did you start sewing comfort bags for SAFE?**

Our church has had a relationship with SAFE since 2015 or 2016. At first, we were gathering toiletries that the patients would need. We really wanted to do something more personal than just going out, buying something and giving it to them.

We asked SAFE what else we could do. They said it would be nice if they had a basket or bag to put the items in. My friend Sarah and one of her friends sewed 27 bags and filled them with the items. SAFE was so impressed with them that when those 27 went out, which was quickly, they asked if we could do more.

It has grown over the last few years. We will pick a Sunday and have a sew-in after church. We bring our machines, scissors, yardsticks and whatever we need. When I first started participating in 2017, we were making maybe 40-50 bags each time. Since then, the need, unfortunately, has grown so much that we are making around 200 bags three times a year. A few of us will make 40-60 bags at home just to get us going. During the sew-in, we can make maybe 65-70 bags. The Sunday after the sew-in, we'll have an assembly line where we fill the bags with the comfort items. The Sunday after that, we'll have a blessing for the bags with members from SAFE in attendance. The bags are then loaded in cars for transport to their office.

This ministry is so needed. We get wonderful thank-you notes from the SAFE staff and the patients saying how appreciative they are that someone who doesn't even know them would do this. It is a very difficult time in a person's life which makes us want to do more for them. We're sorry this ministry is needed, but we are so thankful that, even in our small parish, we have the community of families that want to participate. People who don't sew will come in and string the ribbon through the bags, iron them or make lunch for us. The children are runners, taking things from one station to the next.

### **What's your favorite thing to sew?**

I love making the SAFE bags, but also love making baby blankets and quilts. I've always liked babies and did a lot of babysitting when I was younger, including volunteer work in a newborn nursery in my 20s. I did foster care for infants from 1980-1990. During that time, our family had around 85 newborn babies begin their life with us. I just love new life coming into the world and being able to give them something I've created. I also sew for Threads of Love, which is a ministry for neonatal intensive care unit babies.



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### Why do you continue to sew and make comfort bags for SAFE?

I've been very blessed in my life, not necessarily with material things, but with people and friends that care for me. I've known people who have been in the same situation as the SAFE patients. Knowing that I can do something for them that can make them feel better at that time is my motivation.

You've probably heard the expression, "Blessed to be a Blessing." That's how I feel about this. I still enjoy sewing all kinds of other things, but this is the most meaningful thing I do — being a part of something that's a great deal bigger than me and giving some encouragement and comfort to the people who are affected by sexual or domestic violence. End.

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## News from the School

The school year is off to a great start. We are completely staffed up - - -



Hallelujah! Now comes the real work of training and establishing the continuity the school is known for. Please pray for us as we work with so many new staff members that everyone receives the positive guidance and training with an open heart and open mind. I am confident that this is the year we can regain our footing and proceed with our mission of being an inclusive community, inspiring children to love learning by nurturing each child's mind, body, and spirit.

I am also excited and look forward to working with Father Matt. My meeting with him back in June was inspiring and I can't wait to see what the church and school can accomplish together.

Respectfully,

*Jerri*

Ms. Jerri Thompson, MEd  
Head of School

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## Opening for new St. George's Parish Administrator

**Speaking of new beginnings**, we're looking for someone who wants a part-time, salaried position to work Mon-Thu 9:30-2:30 supporting the new rector and preparing the materials needed both online and in print for Sunday services and outreach support. See the [position description at this link](#) for more details. If you know anyone who might be interested, please contact Mikail at the church office. The position would start sometime in September.

**BTW**, this position may be very appealing to someone with small children. The school has agreed to let the administrator have a substantial discount on tuition at SGES. 😊



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## Excerpts from *Front Porch Views*:

### News from the Court edited by church member Pete Sebert

September 2022

#### **New Manager at St. George's Court, LaTara Monroe!**

By Pete Sebert

LaTara Monroe grew up, went to college, worked serving others and started her family in Bryan, Texas. A mother of 5 children, she now lives in Cedar Park. She came to the Court manager position in the middle of a heat wave and a major clean-up/inspection of the Court, with over 60 residents, most 60 or over.

LaTara Monroe, a young woman on the move, said a "strong yes" when regional supervisor, Koren of Asset Living, asked her to become our manager. When asked her first impressions of the Court, she responded, "Quiet." When asked what could the members do to help her? She smiled, looked over her desk and said: "Get along."

Sometime she hears the laughter of peaceful happy neighbors having coffee from her desk. The ringing phone or pinging of emails and texts call her to exercise her voice. Other times, it's not so quiet complaints or calls to "fix this please." Already we know she speaks straight talk when giving information or reminding us to "Get along!"

Her smile lights up a room as she enters, to encourage us and she watches out for those who would take advantage of vulnerable seniors and others living here. Recently she has invited us to join her in a Meet & Greet Barbeque. (Look for the invitation on your door if you live at the Court.) Gabriel will be barbeque chef. Make sure you signup, so we have enough food and tables. We will all officially welcome LaTara to St. George's Court on September 2nd at Noon. [Note this is primarily a Court event. St. George's Church members should reach out to David McGhee or Pete Sebert if they want to join the festivities.

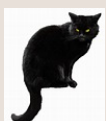


#### **A Surprise Visitor – A Turkey Vulture**

By Deanne Quarrie, D. Min.

The turkey vulture uses its sense of smell to locate carrion. Its heightened ability to detect odors allows it to find dead animals below a forest canopy. The Turkey Vulture maintains stability and lift at low altitudes by holding its wings up in a slight V-shape and teetering from side to side while flying. It flies low to the ground to pick up the scent of dead animals. The turkey vulture's stomach acid is extremely acidic, so they can digest just about anything. By taking care of the carrion, vultures provide an essential service for the health of our ecosystems. Without them, carcasses would accumulate, and diseases would spread from rotting flesh.

This turkey vulture came seeking chicken quarters, tossed in the culvert for the feral cats. I frightened him away when I saw Mama Kitty stalking him, fearless against this bird, three times her size!



## Events around the Diocese of Texas

### St. James in Austin:

# ONE HUMAN RACE

Learn with us this fall at St. James' Austin or on Zoom.

### Slavery by Another Name Watch Party

**Wed. Sept. 21st 6:30-8 PM**

Prepare for the Oct. 1st book study by watching the documentary with your friends at St. James! Pizza will be provided. In person only.

### **The One Human Race Workshop**

**Sat. Sept. 24th 9 AM - 5 PM**

We'll watch Race: The Power of an Illusion for a historical overview of racism in the U.S., examine concepts from the works of Robin DiAngelo and Ibram X. Kendi, and share our experiences, thoughts, and feelings.



### Slavery by Another Name Book Study

**Sat. Oct. 1, 3-5:30 PM**

Join us as we reflect on this definitive account of how defacto slavery continued after the Emancipation Proclamation.

Events are free.

Register at [onehumanraceaustin.org](http://onehumanraceaustin.org).

### Camp Allen in East Texas:

Lots of fun events for individuals, families, and couples in the Fall and Winter. They have programs on spirituality, bird watching, and flora and fauna discussions, as well as annual events such as the Thanksgiving dinner at the camp. Check them out at : [campallen.org](http://campallen.org).



## September Birthdays & Anniversaries



We wish the following parishioners a happy birthday:

Michele Blood (Sep 6)  
 Spencer Gordon (Sep 6)  
 Kosmos Ibsen (Sep 6)  
 Jennifer Long (Sep 15)  
 Anna Rae Rozell (Sep 15)  
 Suzette Puckett (Sep 16)  
 Divesh Manohar (Sep 20)

Colin O'Donnell (Sep 23)  
 Ramón Treviño (Sep 24)  
 Kent Ibsen (Sep 25)  
 Pia Ibsen (Sep 26)  
 Kirk Hoffman (Sep 28)  
 Hollie Gordon (Sep 30)

And a happy anniversary to:

Jennifer & Walter Long (Sep 21)  
 David & Stephanie Savage (Sep 23)

**Congratulations and Best Wishes!**



## October *Banner* Deadline



The deadline for news for the October issue of *The Banner* is Tuesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Please email news and articles you would like included in the next issue to [stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com](mailto:stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com).

## 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](#)

Contact Information for Father Matt:  
 737 -600-2579 (cell)