

AUGUST 2023 ISSUE

The Banner

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
AUSTIN, TX





St. George's Episcopal Church

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

Office Hours

Mon. - Wed.: 11 am -4 pm

Thurs.: Noon - 5 pm

Rector

The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter

769-257-2377

matt@saintgeorgesAustin.org

Administrator

Jessie Morrone

512-454-2523

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Music Minister

Head of the School

Jerri Thompson

Financial Secretary

Samantha Stevens

Treasurer

Frances Rickard

Sr. Warden

Spencer Gordon

Jr. Warden

Hal Stevens

Vestry

Anne Bandholz

Mark Casstevens

Spencer Gordon

Belinda McGhee

John Rickard

Hal Stevens

Ramón Treviño

Sandra Villalaz

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Sunday Schedule

10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:45 am Coffee Hour

Sunday Bulletin

August Events

St. George's Pub Club

AUG. 7, AT B.D. RILEY'S
6-8 PM

BRING A FRIEND!

Jonah:

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
LED BY FATHER MATT

7:45-9:15 AM
AUG. 8 - ZOOM
AUG. 22 - KERBY LANE

Choir Practice

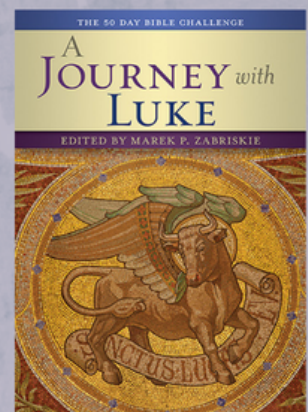
Every Tuesday
from 7-8:30 pm

Wednesday Weavings

6:30-8 pm

Aug. 2

Aug. 16



FR. MATT'S BOOK GROUP

6-7:30 pm

Aug. 3 - Batch

Aug. 17 - Zoom

Women's Book Group

3-5 pm

Aug. 12



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

JOIN US SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, DURING THE 10:30 SERVICE AS WE START OFF THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR WITH A SPECIAL BLESSING!

PLEASE BRING YOUR BACKPACK TO BE BLESSED AND STAY FOR A SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR IN KLEBERG HALL FOLLOWING THE SERVICE!



St. George's Nursery

*For crawlers through four's
from 10am - 12pm on Sundays.*

*Follow the signs on campus, and please
register children via the QR code!*



St. George's Event's Page



Feast Days

August 2023

- 1** - Joseph of Arimathea
- 4** - Cur d'Ars, 1859 Common of a Pastor I
- 7** - John Mason Neale, Priest, 1866
- 8** - Dominic, Priest and Friar, 1221
- 10** - Laurence, Deacon and Martyr at Rome, 258
- 11** - Clare, Abbess at Assisi, 1253
- 12** - Florence Nightingale, 1910
- 14** - Jonathan Myrick Daniels, 1965
- 15** - St. Mary the Virgin
- 18** - William Porcher DuBose, Priest, 1918
- 24** - St. Bartholomew the Apostle
- 25** - Louis, King of France, 1270
- 28** - Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, 430
- 29** - The beheading of St. John the Baptist
- 31** - Aidan, Bishop of Lindisfarne, 651



Letter from the Rector

REV. DR. MATT BOULTER

“Reweaving the Fabric” (Stewarding our Relationships)

Truly, I think that, for as long as I live, I will never forget what happened yesterday, Sunday, July 30, in Kleberg Hall at St. George’s Church.

After the “maiden voyage” of a new (interim) music minister and a beautiful and robustly attended service of Word and Sacrament, it was finally time to gather for our “Fifth Sunday Brunch,” spearheaded by the vestry and other key leaders in our church community. New St. George’s T-shirts were out for folks to pick up (and to record their T-shirt size for next year!).

Speaking of things laid out on tables, the quantity of food (let alone the quality) was truly shocking! (Based on one report I heard, folks may have forgotten about dessert not just because they were stuffed from the main meal but also because the dessert table had to be set up at a completely different station due to the large amount of dishes, both main and dessert!)

And now, after folks got their food and settled down at their tables, came the time to begin our discussion/presentation of “Reweaving the Fabric” (inspired not just by SAFE bags and Guatemalan textiles but also by the importance in our community of “Wednesday Weavings,” a regular gathering of folks in people’s homes during the week). Perhaps the Rector’s remarks were a bit underwhelming! After all, these saints have “been around the block” a few times and have “seen it all,”.... And so I’m confident in saying that the “real action” of the event was not the discussion of the stewardship 2023 theme, not the dates for the upcoming stewardship campaign, not the rector’s closing prayer ... but rather the stories.

But wait. Before I get to the stories, I should say that, of the fifty folks in the Hall, the vast majority filled out a “congregational gifts” worksheet and submitted it! What a great way to sift through, pray over, and organize people’s gifts, interests, and visions/desires for ministry and our life and mission together!

Letter from the Rector

Thanks be to God that I have not one, not two, but three wise leaders on our stewardship team this year, folks who will thrive at the task of stewardship that information with me. (After all, stewardship is about more than money; it is a year-round endeavor.)

OK, back to stories. After Sandra's thorough, vivid, and heartfelt rendition of the life and gifts of Ralph Hauser, it was time for the rank and file to speak. What encourages me so much is the source of these stories. These speakers, who stood up one after another and spoke about ways in which St. George's has blessed them, were prompted by the calls we made, following up on last year's pledge cards. Not the financial pledges but the pledges of time, talent, and prayer. Each leader—Jan Phillips and Hal Stevens (our stewardship team from last year) and Melissa Brackin, Tracy Cornelius, and Margaret Tipps (this year's leadership team)—had made calls (together with myself), following up and touching base with folks about these commitments made in the previous year. Out of this effort, this relational shepherding ministry, emerged the stories shared by the saints of St. George's, one after another, of God's faithfulness and love, in and through this church.

And so, by the grace of God (and the wisdom of gifted servant-leaders, including the Rev. Beth Fain, a canon with the Diocese who is leading a "Cohort" of parishes through "best practices" for stewardship), we are off to a good start in our 2024 stewardship campaign at St. George's. Ground zero, the first step, is not about money; it's about relationships.

Please join me in praying that "Reweaving the Fabric" would result in stronger foundations, new vigor, and fresh vision for this wonderful parish as we go forward together in mission, in justice, and in love.

Faithfully,

Matt+

The Rev. Dr. Matt Boulter



Parish Updates and Announcements

Altar Flowers and Candles

Have you noticed the beautiful arrangements of flowers that appear in the sanctuary each Sunday? The summer flowers have been extraordinary! Our St. George's Flower Guild members offer their time and talent to arrange the flowers to bring beauty into our worship space each week. If you are interested in trying your hand at the Flower Guild ministry, we would love to have you. Please contact Frances Rickard at [**fajrickard@gmail.com**](mailto:fajrickard@gmail.com) if you are interested or have questions.

Besides enhancing our worship, the Sunday altar flowers offer St. George's parishioners an opportunity to donate funds for the flowers, often in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving for a blessing in your life. The following Sundays are still open on our flower donation calendar: Aug. 20, Sept. 3, Sept. 17, Nov. 5, and Nov. 17. The following months are available to donate for the altar candles: August and September. You can sign up to donate funds for the altar flowers and candles either (1) on the paper flower chart that is hanging on the bulletin board inside the north entrance of the church; or (2) on the [**online calendar at this link**](#). A donation of \$35 is requested. You can make your payment with a check to St. George's (note "Altar Flowers" on the memo line) or online on our [**St. George's giving page**](#) (click on the "Altar Guild" tile).

Wednesday Weavings

After our midsummer break in July, Wednesday Weavings resumes in August. One of St. George's adult discussion groups, Wednesday Weavings meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in different locations. We share a simple meal, discuss a selected reading, and conclude with a short liturgy of Compline. This month, the gatherings are on August 2 at Frances and John Rickard's home and August 16 at Hollie and Spencer Gordon's home.

This month, we begin a new book: *A Journey with Luke*, another in the series of Forward Movement's 50-day Bible challenges. A masterful storyteller with the compassion of a physician, Luke paints a picture of Jesus as healer, full of mercy, forgiveness, and love. Come join Wednesday Weavings as we journey with Luke through scripture, reflection, and prayer. Each week's reading stands on its own, so you don't miss anything but the good company and conversation if you can't come one week. Please bring a contribution for the salad bar meal (for example, fruit, vegetable, or crunchy toppings). We hope to see you there! For more information or for a copy of the book, contact Frances Rickard at fajrickard@gmail.com.

Women's Book Group

The Women's Book Group will be on Aug. 12 from 3 to 5 pm, hosted by Frances Rickard and Anne McGonigle at Frances's home, 4107 Rockford Lane. The book is *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro. All women of the parish are invited to attend, even if you haven't finished the book. For more information, text Sarah Campbell at 512-560-3081 or Alice Nelson at 512-924-1143

KLARA AND
THE SUN

A NOVEL



KAZUO

From the Treasurer

Below is a statement of St. George's actual income and expenses for the first half (January - June) of 2023, 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 Outreach Committee projects, the Rector's Discretionary Fund, and the Memorial Fund.

The recent painting of the church was funded through the royalties received in the Gas Lease Fund. We will soon receive new chairs for Kleberg Hall (yay!), which were graciously funded through the gift of Ralph Hausser's annuity naming St. George's as the beneficiary. Gifts to the Capital Improvements Fund, Memorial Fund, Rector's Discretionary Fund, and Outreach Committee Fund are always welcome (in addition to your regular pledges, of course!).

If you have questions about this report, please contact me at stgtreasurer78722@gmail.com. If you have questions about your pledge, please contact parish financial secretary Samantha Stevens (samanthahstevens63@gmail.com).

Blessings,
-Frances Rickard

YEAR TO DATE FINANCIAL STATEMENT JANUARY - JUNE 2023

	Actual (6 mos.)	Budget (6 mos.)
Plate, pledge, & offering income	\$119,698	\$130,183
Other income*	\$38,237	\$34,775
Total Income	\$157,935	\$164,958
Total Expenses	\$153,394	\$171,032
Difference between Income and Expenses	\$ 4,541	\$(6,074)

*Other Income includes rector salary support from the diocese, donations for altar flowers, and other income for operations purposes, such as building rental fees, bank interest, and shared use payments from St. George's School.

St. George's Episcopal School

Back to School

This month we are gearing up for our Back-to-School onboarding events. Communication is so very important in a school, especially in a school setting with children under the age of 5. Since their ability to communicate is limited, we must pick up the mantle and keep the communication open and flowing.

The school puts a heavy emphasis on this by using a variety of communication avenues. With so much new technology out there, we strive to meet the families where they are and make reading vital information easy.

Here are the many ways we will be communicating this year:

- Email
- School's Database App for reporting on children's daily activities, nutrition, health, and safety
- Teacher's daily face-to-face communication
- Teacher's weekly and monthly newsletters
- Signs on classroom doors
- Signs on entrance gates
- Facebook groups
- Instagram
- Google Calendar
- School's website
- Head of School's monthly newsletter and video blog
- Telephone calls
- Text messaging via Database App
- Monthly PTF coffee and conversation gatherings

As you can see, we try hard to reach each person where they're at and how they prefer to communicate. Parents need to know about their child's day and school environment, so it's our job to ensure they have these answers.

Here's to another great year at St. G's.!

Jerri Thompson, M.Ed.

Head of School



Let's Celebrate

Birthdays

Rob Blech (Aug. 2)	Carole Wall (Aug. 13)
Henry Bandholz (Aug. 2)	Susan Highfield (Aug. 14)
Noah Savage (Aug. 3)	Eric Bandholz (Aug. 15)
David McGhee (Aug. 4)	Ronn Worcester (Aug. 17)
Trey Kerrigan (Aug. 6)	Royce Blech (Aug. 19)
John Rickard (Aug. 6)	Alma Vera (Aug. 19)
Elzy Cogswell (Aug. 9)	Sarah Campbell (Aug. 23)
Dewey Brackin (Aug. 12)	Sue Worcester (Aug. 27)
Ada Pewitt (Aug. 12)	Carroll Roberts (Aug. 28)
Loretta Wall (Aug. 13)	William Beckham (Aug. 31)

Anniversaries

Ronn and Sue Worcester (Aug. 18)

BANNER DEADLINE

The deadline for news and article submissions for the September issue of *The Banner* is

Thurs., Aug. 24

please email your submissions to admin@saintgeorgesAustin.org

LINKS

St. George's Episcopal Church

St. George's Episcopal School

St. George's Court

The Episcopal Diocese of Texas

The Episcopal Church, USA

The Lectionary

Camp Allen

Episcopal Relief and Development

Help Throw a Birthday Party at St. George's Court!

For the past few months, we've been hosting monthly birthday parties at St. George's Court, our church's affordable housing ministry for seniors. We meet at the Court at 11 am on the first Saturday of the month, serve sandwiches and veggie/fruit trays for lunch, have some table talk with residents, sing happy birthday, play bingo, and we're done by 1:30 pm. Church members are known to have just as much fun as the residents! If you'd like to put a team together to do this or help out on a team for September 2, please contact Andrea Sparks at andragalsparks@gmail.com.

*** In lieu of a party on July 1, please join us on Tuesday, July 4, to celebrate Independence Day, birthdays, and *houseaversaries*! Please email Pete Sebert at petesebert317@gmail.com to RSVP!**