

THE BANNER



**St. George's
Episcopal Church**

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

January 2018



Christmas • Epiphany

4301 North IH 35 • Austin, TX 78722
Phone: 512.454.2523 • Fax: 512.454.2524
Website: www.sgchurch.org
E-mail: stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com
Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Sunday Schedule

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:45 am Choir Rehearsal
10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II
with KidsWord & YouthWord

The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert
Rector

Anne Weaver
Music Minister

Jennifer Joslyn-Siemiatkoski
Office Administrator

Jerri Thompson
Day School Director

Ashley Carrera
Raul Carrera
Brad Dieringer
Denise Hope
Claire Irwin
Clayton Kelley
Mary Stewart Miller

Frances Rickard
David Savage
Vestry

Brad Dieringer
Senior Warden

Raul Carrera
Junior Warden

Sandra Villalaz
Financial Secretary

Frances Rickard
Treasurer

Claire Irwin
Clerk

Mark Your Calendars

Wed 1/3 Wednesday Weavings	Sun, 1/14 Comfort Bag Assembly
Sat, 1/6 Women's Book Group	Wed 1/17 Wednesday Weavings
Sat, 1/6 Epiphany Service	Sun, 1/28 Outreach Meeting
Sun, 1/7 Comfort Bag Sew-in	Sun, 1/28 Annual Parish Meeting / Potluck
Mon, 1/8 Vestry Meeting	

Click on the following links to find:

[January Lay Ministry Schedule](#)

[January Activities Calendar](#)

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Feast Days

1 The Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ	21 Agnes, Martyr at Rome, 304
6 The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ	22 Vincent, Deacon of Saragossa, and Martyr, 304
8 Harriet Bedell, Deaconess and Missionary, 1969	23 Phillips Brooks, Bishop of Massachusetts, 1893
9 Julia Chester Emery, Missionary, 1922	24 Ordination of Florence Li Tim-Oi, First Woman Priest in the Anglican Communion, 1944
10 William Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1645	25 The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle
12 Aelred, Abbot of Rievaulx, 1167	26 Timothy and Titus, Companions of Saint Paul
13 Hilary, Bishop of Poitiers, 367	27 John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, 407
17 Antony, Abbot in Egypt, 356	28 Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Theologian, 1274
18 The Confession of Saint Peter the Apostle	
19 Wulfstan, Bishop of Worcester, 1095	
20 Fabian, Bishop and Martyr of Rome, 250	

Rector's Corner

Dear St. George's Family:

Happy New Year! I hope that the dawn of a new year brings you blessings upon blessings. We are ramping up for exciting new developments at St. George's this upcoming year. I always look well in advance to all the activities the new year will bring; and I am excited about all of them! Diocesan Council in the month of February will be in Waco this year, Easter falls on April Fools' Day, and Austin hosts General Convention this summer!

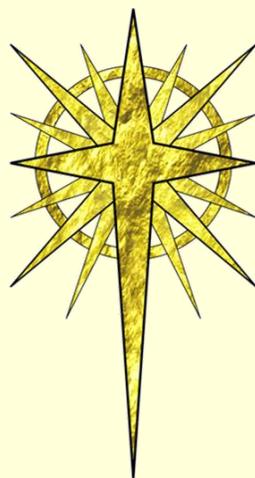


We have some exciting events happening closer to home and in the more immediate future as well. On, **Saturday, January 6th at 5:00 pm**, we will celebrate Epiphany along with the residents of Casa Marianella. This service has become a St. George's tradition, and an opportunity to reach out to vulnerable neighbors we don't always see. On the following day, **Sunday, January 7th**, the Sunday when celebrate the feast of the Epiphany, we have the joyful occasion of baptizing the newest member of our family in our recently consecrated new font. Maddie McGonigle will be welcomed into the fold of Christ; come join us to celebrate this new beginning. On the same day after church we continue our life-giving outreach initiative of fabricating the SAFE Alliance bags for victims of domestic violence.

This coming year brings new hope and joy, and I look forward to being with you throughout the year. May God continually bless you and your family.

Peace,

The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert



February *Banner* Deadline



The deadline for news for the February issue of *The Banner* is **Monday, January 29th**. Please email news and articles you would like included in the next issue to stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com.

Epiphany at Casa Marianella

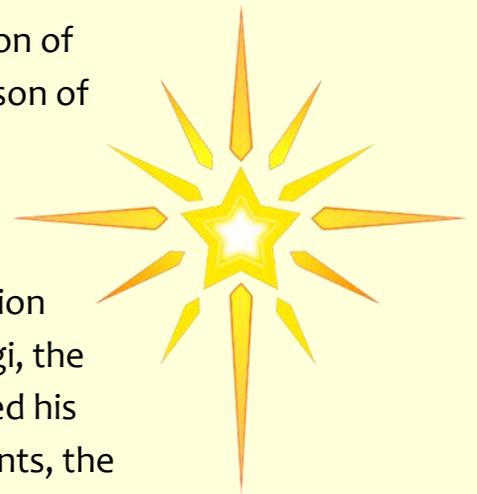
St. George's traditionally celebrates the Feast of the Epiphany with the residents of Casa Marianella. Please join us on **Saturday, January 6th, at 5:00 pm** (note the earlier time from that of previous years!), **at Casa Marianella** (821 Gunter Street) for the Epiphany service of Eucharist, and then for refreshments and fellowship afterwards.



Casa Marianella is a community that provides much-needed services to adult immigrants. If you are interested in finding out how to volunteer or donate, please contact their office at 512-385-5571 or info@casamarianella.org.

The Feast of the Epiphany

With the Feast of the Epiphany, on January 6th, the 12-day season of Christmas draws to a close, and the church moves into the season of Epiphany. The Word *epiphany* comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, which means “appearing” or “revealing.” The season of Epiphany focuses on God’s self-revelation in Christ. Christian tradition pays special attention to the gradual revelation of Christ’s nature as shown in three events: the visit of the Magi, the baptism of Jesus, and the Wedding at Cana where he performed his first miracle, changing water into wine. With each of these events, the circle of those who see and recognize Jesus for who he is – God with us –



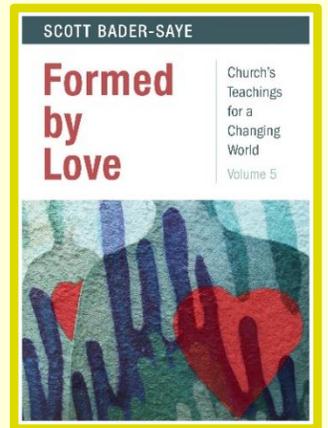
grows larger. And with this revelation, the promise of Christmas begins to be fulfilled, as the light of Christ enters the world: “Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you” (*Isaiah 60:1*). God is always making God’s-self known to us.

Epiphany is also a particularly appropriate time for baptism, and we are thrilled to be welcoming Madison Lee McGonigle, daughter of Anne and Josh McGonigle, as our newest sister in Christ at her baptism on Sunday, January 7th, at the 10:30 service.

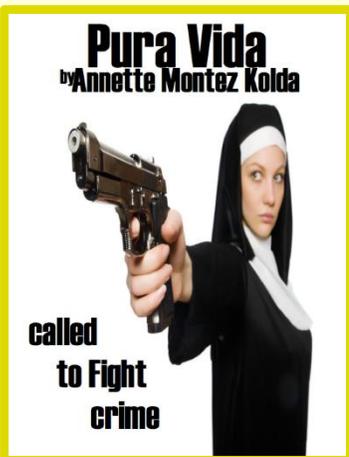


Wednesday Weavings

St. George's Wednesday night adult discussion group, Wednesday Weavings, continues in October with gatherings on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. All are welcome to join the group for a simple meal, a short time of centering prayer, and discussion on Scott Bader-Saye's book *Formed by Love*. This month we will meet on **January 3rd, at the home of Frances and John Rickard**, and on **January 17th, in Kleberg Hall, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm**. If you come, 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



Please join us for our next meeting on **Saturday, January 6th**, from **2:00 to 4:00 pm** (note the time change!), at the **home of Carolyn Moreau**, who will be treating us to the traditional *rosca de los reyes*, or king cake. And as a special treat, **Annette Kolda**, the author of *Pura Vida*, will be joining us for our meeting! All St. George's women are welcome to attend; this group is open and welcoming of all. We hope you can join us for interesting conversation, delicious snacks, and our book discussion. Please contact Sandra Villalaz at sandra.villalaz48@gmail.com or 512-762-8349 with any questions, or if you want to join the fun. Happy reading!

SAFE Alliance Comfort Bags

Three or four times a year, St. George's creates and gives hand-crafted bags filled with both necessities and luxuries to the SAFE Alliance (Stop Abuse for Everyone – formerly SafePlace), to be given to women and men who are undergoing clinical exams for and official reports of sexual assault.

- Our next sew-in to create the bags will be on **Sunday, January 7th**, after the 10:30 service. Lunch – and an Epiphany King's Cake! – will be provided. This is a wonderful community event and a lot of fun for all participants, even if we are working. Please join us – it's more fun if you're there!
- We will stuff and assemble bags on **Sunday, January 14th**, after the 10:30 service. Please contact Frances Rickard (fajrickard@gmail.com) to find out what items are still needed and sign up to donate some.
- During the 10:30 service on **Sunday, January 21st**, we will present the bags that we have created and filled to be blessed before we deliver them to the SAFE Alliance to distribute to survivors of sexual assault, and we hope to welcome visitors from SAFE for the blessing of the bags.



Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry! Please contact Sarah Campbell (cowmarket2@gmail.com) with any questions.

Annual Parish Meeting and Potluck



St. George's Annual Parish Meeting will take place on **Sunday, January 28th, in Kleberg Hall**, after the 10:30 service. We will share a potluck meal, so please bring something to share (but come anyway even if you can't bring something!). The annual parish meeting is our opportunity to elect members of the Vestry, hear reports on various parish activities, and discuss other church business.

If you lead a St. George's ministry of any kind, please submit a report outlining your ministry's activities throughout the past year, by **Monday, January 22nd**, to Jennifer in the church office (stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com). These reports will be compiled into a parish report to give us all a larger picture of the life of St. George's.

Outreach

Please join us on **Sunday, January 28th**, from **9:30-10:30 am** (between the services) in the **Wright-Giles House**, for an Outreach meeting. Coffee and donuts provided! Anyone interested in any of our church's many outreach projects is welcome. We will discuss our current projects and new ideas for ways to faithfully engage with and serve our larger community, as we are called to do as followers of Christ. Please contact Hollie Gordon at gordonhollie3@gmail.com with any questions.



Child Care at St. George's

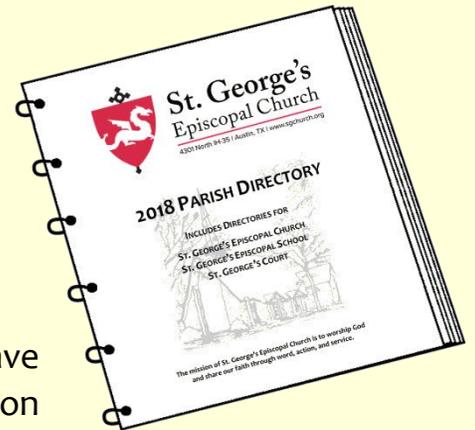
Beginning with the new year, we will have a new system for Sunday morning child care! Teachers from St. George's Episcopal School will be providing child care for us, and Mary Jane Faz will be our Lead Child Care Attendant. She will coordinate and schedule teachers to work with us on Sunday mornings, and we will always have two child care attendants, thus fulfilling our Safeguarding God's Children requirements, and providing the best possible care. Child care will now take place in the red classroom at the school (the fenced area immediately to the right of the school office), and drop-off and pick-up will happen there.



Mary Jane is the Lead Teacher in the Red Room (children 3 to 11 months old) and has been with the school since the fall of 2015. She has close to 10 years of experience in child care and has her CDA (Child Development Associate credential) from Austin Community College. She is a mentor with the Girl Scouts and loves being with children. She has two boys of her own, so she understands how important quality child care is!

2018 Parish Directory

It's time to prepare our 2018 Parish Directory! In order to make sure that you and your family are listed correctly, please do the following:



- If you were listed in last year's directory, **CAREFULLY** review your listing. The 2017 Directory can be found at this link: [St. George's 2017 Parish Directory](#).
- Complete a 2018 Directory Information Form – **EVEN** if you have no changes from last year's listing (the form includes the option to indicate “no changes”). This form is available in two formats:
 - online, available at this link: [2018 Directory Information Form](#)
 - paper, available on the tables at both entrances to the church

If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer in the church office, at 512-454-2523 or stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com. Please complete your form no later than **Sunday, January 21st**.

Volunteer at General Convention



We have a fabulous opportunity to get involved with Episcopalians from all over the country when the Diocese of Texas hosts General Convention right here in Austin next summer. The [General Convention of The Episcopal Church](#) meets every three years to conduct the business of The Episcopal Church. In 2018, it will gather at the Austin Convention Center from Thursday, July 5, through Friday, July 13. Lots of volunteers are needed to support the work of the convention and provide some big Texas hospitality.

To indicate your interest in volunteering, please do one of the following by **Saturday, January 6th**:

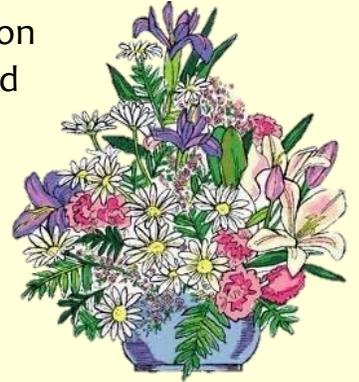
- (1) complete the form at bit.ly/GenCon18Volunteer
- (2) click the “Sign Up” button on the [General Convention 2018 Volunteers Facebook page](#) (and “like” the page while you’re at it!)
- (3) send an email expressing your interest to generalconvention2018@gmail.com
- (4) contact parish host Frances Rickard at fajrickard@gmail.com

Any of those options should ensure that you will receive an email on **Saturday, January 6th**, with a link to online volunteer registration. When you receive the email, just click on the link and choose the area and times you wish to volunteer. There are different areas for all types of abilities and skills, so you are sure to find the one that is right for you. The registration link will also be available in church on **Sunday, January 7th**, in case you don't get around to signing up before then! (You can still volunteer after the first weekend, but you might not get your first pick of times or jobs.)

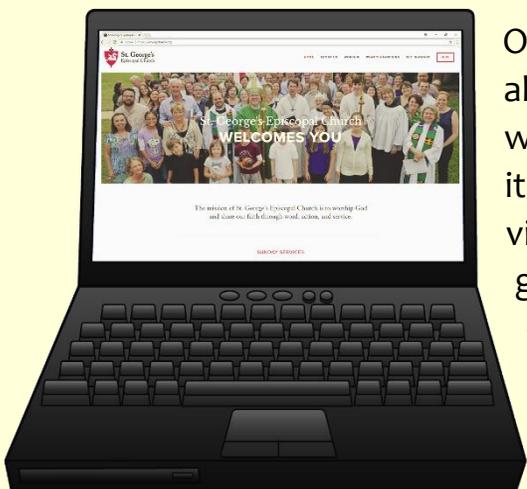
Don't miss out on a great chance to show some Texas hospitality to Episcopalians from all over the country! We would love for St. George's to be well represented in the volunteer cadre. For more information, please contact Frances.

2018 Flower/Candle Donation Calendar

A new calendar for donations for flowers and altar candles is hanging on the bulletin board inside the north entrance of the church. If you would like to give altar flowers for one or more Sundays next year, or altar candles for one or more months, please print your name clearly on the calendar so that you can be recognized in the Sunday bulletin. Be sure to note if you are giving the flowers or candles in memory of someone or in thanksgiving for some blessing in your life. **A donation of \$35** (for either flowers or candles) is requested. You can make your donation by check or electronically through our online giving program. Make checks made payable to St. George's and note on the memo line that the check is for altar flowers/candles. To give electronically, use the Give + Church app on your mobile device, or click the "DONATE" button on the home page of our website (www.sgchurch.org).



St. George's Website



Our new website is (finally) up and running! If you haven't already done so, please check it out at www.sgchurch.org when you get a chance. We're working on making sure that it's clear and easy to navigate and has all the information visitors will need to learn about St. George's and what's going on here. If you have any feedback about the website – information you'd like to see there, difficulties you encounter navigating – contact Jennifer in the church office at stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com, so we can keep making it better!

Angel Wreath Thank You

I offer my deepest appreciation to the many angels who responded so generously to the Advent Angel Wreath this year, becoming angels for the residents of Casa Marianella and St. George's Court. **Every** resident at Casa Marianella received a phone card with the **\$575.00** donated to the Advent Angel Wreath. **Every** stocking for St. George's Court was filled. The recipients were so grateful and sends their heartfelt thanks to the donors.



I especially want to acknowledge Father Kevin, Hollie Gordon, Jennifer Long, Sandra Villalaz-Dickson, and Frances Rickard who worked behind the scenes to make this happen. Without so much help this would be an impossible undertaking.

Our little church with the big heart continues to makes a difference in the world. Blessings to all in the New Year!

~ Gayle Wall

Thanks from El Buen Samaritano

Dear friends at St. George's Episcopal Church,

You did it!!! Thanks to your generosity, El Buen Samaritano raised \$47,607 for our annual Thanksgiving dinner drive and to fund our food pantry year-round. We couldn't have done it without you!



Your parish raised \$760, and we are so grateful for each and every single one of you. Whether you made a donation of cash, food, or helped spread the word, YOUR compassion and kindness made all the difference.

Some information about Hands for Hope:

Total families served	1,050
Average family size	4
Average annual household income	\$13,392

THANK YOU FOR MAKING HANDS FOR HOPE POSSIBLE!!

Discovery Retreat

The Episcopal Diocese of Texas will hold a Discovery Retreat at Camp Allen from 3:00 pm on Friday, February 23rd, through lunch on Sunday, February 25th. The Discovery Weekend Retreat is designed for people discerning a sense that God is calling them to a specialized ministry, either lay or ordained. The cost for the weekend is \$175.00 for double occupancy and \$200.00 for single occupancy, if available.



For more information on the Discovery Retreat, please contact the Rev. Victoria Mason at DeaconVic2007@gmail.com. For registration questions, please contact Suzi Bailey at suzib@campallen.org.

News from the School



On Tuesday, January 2nd, our teachers will spend time during Teacher In-Service reflecting on the year 2017 before embarking on 2018. During this time of reflection each teacher will look at their accomplishments and how it relates to our school and church community. We will then take a spiritual gifts inventory and examine how our gifts can be used during 2018 to continually support our school and church community. As a Professional Learning Community, we are always striving for ways to grow.

All of us here at the school wish all of you a blessed 2018!

January Birthdays & Anniversaries



We wish the following parishioners a happy birthday:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Ashley Carrera (Jan 2) | Jan Phillips (Jan 13) |
| Mark Corcoran (Jan 3) | Lisa Wagner (Jan 18) |
| Jenny Sahs (Jan 4) | Vanamala Manohar (Jan 22) |
| Claire Irwin (Jan 8) | Madison Smiser (Jan 22) |
| Andrea Sparks (Jan 8) | George Stuart (Jan 25) |
| Rebecca Brackin (Jan 11) | Mary Parker (Jan 29) |
| Randy Parker (Jan 11) | Bonita Snyder-Jones (Jan 30) |



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](#)