

January 2013 + Christmas into Epiphany

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Austin, TX 78722

Church office: 512.454.2523

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Church office hours: Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.



+ THE RECTOR'S CORNER

Welcome to the new year! I pray that each and every one of you had a very worthwhile and meaningful holiday. December was an eventful month in the life of St. George's, as we ventured through Advent and celebrated the birth of Jesus at Christmas. I offer my deepest gratitude to all those who had a part in organizing and creating such a wonderful experience for St. George's!

A new year brings about new expectations and new insights for the upcoming year. And, this January I pray that each of you will participate in the many great scheduled church events. This coming Sunday is the celebration of Epiphany, offering a great opportunity to celebrate the new season with an interesting liturgy. The following Sunday, January 13, is an opportunity for baptism and the annual parish meeting following the 10:30 service. I encourage everyone to come and hear about the great things that have occurred in 2012 and the eventful future in store for St. George's in 2013.

As you can imagine, Heather and I are busily preparing for the birth of our first child in February. We are looking forward to new beginnings and challenges with his birth. I am very thankful for the support and love that we have felt from our church family as we venture down this new path in our lives. You are, and will continue to be, a true blessing to our family.

-The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert

+ NEWS FROM THE EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Some exciting developments have come St. George's way in the last month! St. George's has been awarded a Strategic Mission Grant; a 3 year \$50,000 grant for newcomer and evangelism ministries. Over the course of the next three years St. George's is committed to growing these ministries in order for the church to continue to be a viable healthy community. If you are interested in helping with the implementation of these programs in the life of St. George's, please contact the chair of the committee, Trevor Thompson at trt@trevoray.com

The Evangelism Committee has decided to postpone this month's Hallelujah Hour gatherings to re-evaluate its offerings in the new year. More information regarding Evangelism gatherings will be available soon.

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6TH

This year the celebration of Epiphany falls on a Sunday. The Epiphany service is a church festival celebrating the revelation of Jesus Christ to the entire world as represented by the coming of the Magi to worship the Christ child. The **10:30am** service will include a special liturgy with children & youth participation.

The word "Epiphany" comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, which means, "appearing" or "revealing." The themes of the Epiphany season focus on God's self-revelation in Christ. Christian traditions continue to pay special attention to the visit of the Magi and on the baptism of Jesus, especially the voice from heaven that identifies Jesus as God's Son. During the Epiphany season, the predominant theme is upon God making God known to the world through Jesus, the divine Son. Please join us as St. George's family continues this Christian tradition.

+ A NEW ALTAR FLOWER CHART



A new flower calendar for 2013 is now hanging in the narthex of the church. If you would like to give altar flowers on any given Sunday, or candles for any given month, please print clearly on the calendar so 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 \$25 (for either flowers or candles) is requested; checks may be made payable to St. George's and placed in the alms basin on Sundays or mailed to the church office. Be sure to note "Altar Flowers" or "Altar Candles" on the memo line.

+ WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH, 3-5:00 PM

The Women's Book Group will be discussing "**Home**" by **Marilynne Robinson** for our next book group meeting on **Saturday, January 5, 2013, from 3 - 5 p.m.** at Carolyn Moreau's house. We will be sharing a Rosca de Reyes, Ring of the Kings cake in honor of Day of the Kings. Please contact carolynmoreau@austin.rr.com for more information and directions.

+ OPPORTUNITY FOR BAPTISM - SUNDAY, JANUARY 13TH

The next opportunity for baptism at St. George's will be Sunday, January 13, at the 10:30 a.m. service. If you, your child, or someone you know desires to be baptized, please contact Fr. Kevin as soon as possible (kevinlschubert@gmail.com or 454-2523). January 13th is the First Sunday after the Epiphany, also known as the Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and as such is a very appropriate day for baptisms. **Please note this date is a correction to the date that was printed in the December Banner.**

+ THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY - THURSDAY, JANUARY 17TH, 10:00 AM

The Thursday Morning Bible Study will meet on Thursday, January 17, at Gayle Wall's house (9407 Dallum Dr., 78753) at 10:00am. Please join us!

+ ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - SUNDAY, JANUARY 13th, AFTER 10:30AM SERVICE

St. George's annual parish meeting will take place **Sunday, January 13th**. On this Sunday we will have lunch together and take care of some church business. The annual parish meeting is the time we elect members of the Vestry, select Diocesan Council delegates, hear reports on various parish activities, and discuss other church business. Please bring a food dish to share with your church family.

+ VESTRY NOMINEES

As mentioned above in this issue of *The Banner*, the annual parish meeting will take place Sunday, January 13th, in Kleberg Hall, following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. At that meeting, three new members of the vestry will be elected, each for a three-year term. The nominating committee, composed of the outgoing vestry members, presented a slate of nominees to the vestry for approval at its December meeting. The vestry approved the slate and presents the following parishioners for election: Melissa Eason Brackin, Alice Nelson, and John Rickard. More information about each nominee is available on the parish website at <http://www.sgchurch.org/events2.asp> and will be provided in the meeting packet as well.

+ LAY MINISTRY TRAININGS

We will have a series of trainings for the different ministries you can participate in as a lay person here at St. George's. If you already participate in one of these ministries or are interested in participating in a new ministry, please be sure to attend the training. All trainings will take place after the 10:30am service on the Sunday listed.

- January 20th - Lay Eucharistic Ministers
- January 27th - Acolytes
- February 10th - Lectors and Intercessors
- February 17th - Ushers

+ BABY SHOWER! - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3RD

To celebrate Kevin and Heather's imminent parenthood, St. George's will hold a baby shower on **Sunday, February 3rd**, in Kleberg Hall, following the 10:30 am worship service. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend! More details and ways you can participate will be provided soon. Contact Frances Rickard or Susan Dolan-Henderson if you have questions.

+ ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13th, 12:15 PM & 7:00 PM

On **Wednesday, February 13** at **12:15 pm & 7:00 pm** the St. George's community gathers for Ash Wednesday services. This service initiates the season of Lent in the church calendar, which is a season of penitence and fasting. The observance of a holy Lent includes self-examination and repentance by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and reading and meditating on God's holy Word (BCP p. 265).

+ GRACE SERIES - WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 20TH, FEBRUARY 27TH, MARCH 6TH, MARCH 20TH

Mark your calendars for our Lenten Grace Series! We will meet for four weeks, beginning February 20th and skipping the Wednesday during Spring Break. Check out our February edition of *The Banner* for more details!

+ WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO ST. GEORGE'S!

We welcome our newest members, Bill & Meera Manahan, to St. George's! Bill and Meera recently moved to Austin from the Houston area where they attended St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Cypress, TX.

+ 2013 PARISH DIRECTORY

It's time to prepare our 2013 directory! So we can update your contact information, please complete the Information Request form. This form can be found on the tables at each entrance to the church or a link to the on-line version can be found here: [Contact Request Form](#). If you have any questions, please contact the church office (stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com or 512.454.2523). Please complete this information as soon as possible! Thank you!

+ A THANK YOU

To Our St. George's Family,

Thank you all for your help and support during James' lengthy illness this past year. He seems to be on the mend finally and we are looking forward to joining you in church soon. We could not have gotten through this last year without your love and prayers. May God bless each of you in this New Year!

Love and Peace, The James Wall Family

+ *Hildegard's Illumination: Growing Circles*

Happy New Year! We hope your holidays have brought joy and peace and pray you'll experience God's blessings in the coming year, personally and as a parish. St. Hildegard's Community is reaching out in various ways this month and finding connections with others.

The Radical Christian Life Conference has been reconfigured after the postponement due to Hurricane Sandy. We are offering it Friday, January 25 and all day Saturday, January 26th. By video we'll see/hear Joan Chittister and Richard Rohr, the speakers from Trinity Institute's New York conference, and experience the specially designed group work as well. We've recruited inspiring ecumenical, multicultural group leaders from within and outside our own community so the conversations will be stimulating. The word 'radical' comes from Sister Joan's book by the same title. She brings the inspiration of St. Benedict to teach us about living our faith in a bold way. Father Richard Rohr draws on his Franciscan roots – who could be more radical than St. Francis? The groups will give us the space to reflect on their talks and have conversation in smaller circles about living out our faith in deeply committed ways. The plenary speakers are beloved spiritual teachers and the wisdom arising within the groups will make this a unique experience. Please register before January 15th so we'll know how many to expect. More people are attending now than had previously signed up in November. We would love to have some of you join us to bring your experience and wisdom and to be stretched by the offerings of others.

Friends of St. Hildegard 2012 Annual Fund: We have dreamed of widening our circle of friends so that those who aren't members can offer support and we can bring our gifts to a wider circle. Our goal this first year is to have 20 gifts of \$50 and under as well as some larger gifts. Along with widening our financial base, the strength of prayers and personal support is also an important part of the picture. So far we've received a few larger gifts for which we are very grateful. We are still hoping to meet our goal for smaller gifts and a larger circle. Please consider becoming a friend in a sacramental way. Even a small donation is an outward and visible sign. Some of us find joy in giving to St. George's School Annual Fund to share in their work and vision. And we hope some of you will find joy in being part of our circle

of Friends. A tangible show of support from our parish family offers special encouragement. We hope to finish our appeal by the end of January but it's never too late to add your name and donation.

Servant Leadership School: We continue to reach out to other faith communities and to seekers-at large. We find that new participants bring their own uniqueness, fresh questions and a greater vitality to the classes. Check out the 2 classes being offered this winter. This is the first time we've offered a class on Hildegard of Bingen and the gifts she brings to our own time. We are also offering our Core Class that allows you to explore various spiritual practices and create a Rule of Life for your own spiritual growth. Classes start January 10th!

More information about the Conference, the Annual Fund, and the Servant Leadership School is available on our website www.hildegard-austin.org and in this Banner.

Blessings, Judith



St. Hildegard's Community

Radically Compassionate

2012 Annual Fund

Be a Friend: Make a Gift www.hildegard-austin.org

St. Hildegard's Community has been like the Celtic monks who cast off from shore in a coracle, a small round wicker boat, dependent upon the winds and abundance of creation. For the last sixteen years our own pledges have been supplemented by a few generous friends and by two grants—one from Trinity Wall Street in 2006 and the second from the Diocese of Texas in 2010. Now in 2012 we are reaching out for wider support. Our life is full of vitality and yet it's clear that even with a modest budget, we need the financial help of a larger circle of friends as we continue our work. This is our first Annual Fund appeal. We welcome your prayers and participation in our life through gifts of any amount. This year our members have increased giving by significant amounts. Now we feel the Spirit's leading to reach out more intentionally for those who wish to become Friends of St. Hildegard's Community and participate in our Vision through loving generosity and prayer.

The Journey Continues

Our first grant supported us in developing the *Viriditas* Project, a 3-year spiritual formation program that reaches beyond our community and is offered in our Servant Leadership School. The second one helped us launch a vibrant new website. In October 2011 chapters about us appeared in two different books, acknowledging the value of our work for the wider church. Our focus now is continuing to deepen internally as well as to share the fruits of our creativity with others. In 2013 we are exploring next steps in our life together including creating a book of what has been most transformative, offering resources from our lives and archives. We welcome your participation as the Spirit blows fresh winds and amazing abundance.

Levels of Giving

We appreciate all gifts. Small gifts of \$30-\$50 are both tangible and symbolic. We also need larger gifts of \$1,000 or more as well as \$500, \$250 or \$100. As a Community we value and honor each gift of any amount. If you are able, please prayerfully consider an annual commitment of \$500 or more. **Please fill out the Form in the second attachment. Gifts can be made annually, monthly or quarterly by check or PayPal on our website www.hildegard-austin.org. Checks should be made to "St. Hildegard's" and sent to St. Hildegard's Community, 4301 North I-35, Austin, Texas 78722.**

Blessings and peace,

Judith

Pat

The Rev. Judith Liro Ms. Patricia Fatter Black 2012 Annual Fund co-chairs

ALL GIFTS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE



St. Hildegard's Community
Radically Compassionate

Friend of St. Hildegard's Community 2012 Annual Fund

Please print this form and mail with your check or email form to viriditas@hildegard-austin.org

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

email _____

List me as a Friend _____ I prefer to remain anonymous _____

Total Amount of gift for 2012 Annual Fund ___\$35 ___\$50 ___\$100 ___\$250 ___\$500
___\$1,000 ___Other \$ _____

___In memory of ___In honor of _____

Portion paid in 2012 _____

Portion paid in 2013 _____

_____ I prefer to pay part or all in 2013

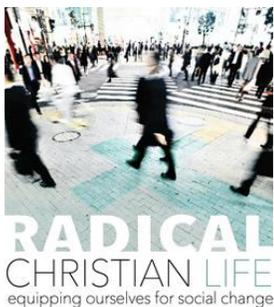
 ___by Check ___PayPal

 ___monthly ___quarterly ___other _____

_____ Check is enclosed. Checks should be made to "St. Hildegard's" and sent to St. Hildegard's Community, 4301 North I-35, Austin, Texas 78722.

_____ I have made this gift with PayPal Click on PayPal on our website [www,hildegard-austin.org](http://www.hildegard-austin.org).

+ RADICAL CHRISTIAN LIFE EVENT



RESCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 25-26, 2013

The Radical Christian Life Event with Joan Chittister, Darren Levine, and Richard Rohr was postponed due to the effects of Hurricane Sandy on Trinity Wall Street where the conference was to take place. The actual conference was held Dec 7-9.

St. Hildegard's Community could not accommodate that change in dates and instead is offering it **January 25-26, 2013**. We will have recordings of the talks and the sermon and the creative work sessions will continue as originally planned.

Because the conference will no longer be a live webcast but a recorded one, we are lowering the cost at a sliding scale of \$35 - \$75. CEU Credits and Some Scholarships are available. Please register by Jan. 15.

For more information and to register:

www.hildegard-austin.org

512-524-5145

Classes at the Servant Leadership School

Winter 2013

January 10 - March 14

Classes meet on Thursday evenings, 6:00 to 9:15

Classes this semester

The Inner Journey: Opening to the Beloved

The journey inward may begin in times when we are broken by life, gradually or suddenly. With our souls cracked open like seeds, to show a tender shoot now free to grow, the Beloved invites us to embrace our vulnerability and to open ourselves to the depths. We find our whole body-mind-spirit called to be open to the Beloved.

This class is based on the premise that we journey in unique ways, finding our paths by listening to our hearts. We'll be offered experiences to sample here and to expand further on our own, understanding that opening to the Beloved involves the totality of who we truly are. Some practices we will explore are: silence, self-knowledge, dreams, prayer, service and creativity. In the class we will support each other in growing strong roots and in authentic seeking no matter where we are in our journeys.

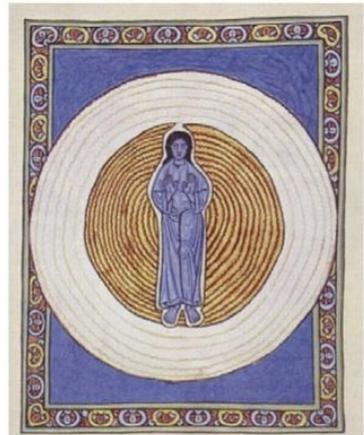
Teacher: Daphne Levey



Hildegard of Bingen: Waking Up!

Is it not a miracle that, when her voice is so sorely needed, Hildegard speaks to us afresh despite almost nine centuries of virtual obscurity? In this book we will go much deeper than mere facts, to where Hildegard wants to take us: deep places in our own hearts and souls, the "cave of our hearts" as Bede Griffiths put it, the "house of Wisdom" that Hildegard teaches dwells in us all.

-from the Introduction,
Hildegard of Bingen: A Saint for Our Times by
Matthew Fox



In this class we'll engage with the teachings of this remarkable Twelfth Century nun, recently declared a Doctor of the Church, using Matthew Fox's new book, *Hildegard of Bingen: A Saint for Our Times*. Hildegard will bring fresh wisdom as we consider science, healing, care for creation, creativity, and church reform in our own times. Matthew Fox brings in contemporary voices as well--Mary Oliver, Howard Thurman, Einstein and Clarissa Pinkola Estes—for an amazing conversation across centuries. And of course, we'll include her music and mandalas to awaken our own creative spirits.

Teachers: Judith Liro and Francesca Wigle

Enroll by email or phone:

Contact the registrar by email at SLS.of.Austin@gmail.com

or by phone at 512-524-5145.

Cost is based on a sliding scale of \$40 - \$100 per semester.

For more information: www.hildegard-austin.org/

+ NEWS FROM ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

A huge thank you to all of the wonderfully generous parishioners who have contributed to this year's annual fund. As of the end of December, the total amount donated was over \$11,500! These funds help make capital improvements to the campus as well as providing for a secure future for our school.

Advent chapel was an exciting addition to our weekly schedule in December. Every Monday and Tuesday, the entire school gathered in the library to decorate a tree, light an advent wreath, say prayers, sing songs, and open a gift representing one of the gifts of the season. We talked about gifts such as hope, patience, love, joy, and light - gifts that aren't wrapped up and put under the tree, but are more important than anything you can ask Santa to bring.

We ended our fall semester with a pageant extraordinaire in the church. It was as chaotic and fun as usual, with standing room only in the church to watch Mary, Joseph, the Angel with the star, the kings, angels, shepherds, and many toddler animals form the nativity tableau. This may have been the first year ever in the 46 year history of the pageant that no child cried during the performance! It was such a special time to share with parents, grandparents and all of the St. George's community.



+ SPONSOR A DIOCESAN COLLEGE STUDENT

This February college students from across the state of Texas will gather for our annual College Retreat – a time of worship, spiritual growth, and fellowship. One of the things we are working to drive home with the students is their sense of connectedness to the larger Diocese and church. We will provide encouragement and preparation for the next step of their journey after college in *your parish*. We are striving to empower them to remember that [College Students Have a Seat](#) too! You can become a supporter of the College Retreat by sponsoring a college student! Sponsor a college student by paying for their "seat" at the retreat for \$25. Each participant will receive a [Crazy Creek original chair](#) as a gift. You may also purchase one of the chairs for yourself for an additional \$25. Each chair is screen printed with the Diocese of Texas logo. This gift will be greatly appreciated, and will make an incredibly strong statement of pre-emptive “welcome” to the next phase of their journey in the church!

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 – Ashley Carrera

8 – Sarah Kerver

11 – Randy Parker

18 – Paul Paschall

22 – Evan Sayer

25 – Francesca Wigle

3 – Betsy Wilbur

8 – Andrea Sparks

13 – Jan Phillips

18 – Lisa Wagner

22 – Vanamala Manohar

30 – Rick Price

4 – Jenny Sahs

11 – Rebecca Brackin

17 – David Boston

21 – Tom Hayes

25 – David Steven Cowick

30 – Bonita Snyder-Jones



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS



January 6 – Vestry

January 20 – Women’s Book Group

January 13 – Annual Parish Meeting Potluck

January 27 – Ushers

February 3 – Outreach

CHRISTOPHER HOUSE BASKET DELIVERY

December 30 – January 5: Ruth Crawford

January 6 – 12: Chuck Webb

January 13 – 19: Carolyn Moreau

January 20 – 26: Holly Thompson

January 27 – February 2: Mikail McIntosh-Doty

Deadline for news for the next issue of **THE BANNER** is **Monday, January 28th**. Please e-mail information you would like included in next month’s edition to our office administrator, Becca Meaders, at stgeorgeaustin@gmail.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

January 5	Women's Book Group, 3-5:00pm (Home of Carolyn Moreau)
January 6	Epiphany Services, 8:00am and 10:30am
January 13	Annual Parish Meeting, after 10:30am service
January 14	Vestry Meeting, 7:00pm (Kleberg Hall)
January 17	Thursday Morning Bible Study, 10:00am (Home of Gayle Wall)
January 20	Lay Eucharistic Minister Training, after 10:30am service
January 21	School Board Meeting, 6:00pm (Kleberg Hall)
January 25-26	<i>Radical Christian Life</i> Conference hosted by St. Hildegard's
January 27	Acolyte Training, after 10:30am service
January 28	Deadline to submit <i>Banner</i> news
February 10	Lector and Intercessor Training, after 10:30am service
February 13	Ash Wednesday Services, 12:15pm & 7:00pm
February 17	Usher Training, after 10:30am service
February 20	Lenten Grace Series begins

The Rev. Kevin LJ Schubert
Rector

The Rev. Judith Liro
*Associate Rector and Minister to
St. Hildegard's Community*

Susanna Brosseau
Seth Olson

Laurence Wainwright-Maks
Seminarians

Paul Pew *Music Minister*
Becca Meaders *Office Administrator*
Laura Colangelo *Day School Director*

Vestry

Patsy Chandler
Herb Dickson
Ralph Hausser
Scott Hoffman
David McGhee
Mary Stewart Miller
Trevor Thompson
Ramón Treviño

Frances Rickard *Senior Warden*
Herb Dickson *Junior Warden*
Patsy Chandler *Financial Secretary*
Stephen Linam *Treasurer*
Ramón Treviño *Clerk*

**The Church Office will be closed
Monday, January 21st in observance of
Martin Luther King Jr. Day.**

Sunday Schedule

8:00am - Holy Eucharist Rite I
9:00am - Contemplative prayer
9:45am - Choir rehearsal
10:30am - Holy Eucharist Rite II with Kids Word (Nursery available)
4:00pm - St. Hildegard's Worship

Worshiping God and sharing our faith through word, action and service.

LINKS

<http://www.sgchurch.org/worship4.asp> Lay Ministry Schedule
<http://www.sgchurch.org/events3.asp> The Banner (including past electronic issues)
www.stgeorges-austin.org St. George's Day School
<http://www.lectionarypage.net/> The Lectionary - a calendar of current scripture readings
<http://www.episcopalchurch.org/> The Episcopal Church
<http://www.epicenter.org> Episcopal Diocese of Texas
<http://www.campallen.org/> Camp Allen
<http://www.stgeorgescourt.org/> St. George's Court
www.hildegard-austin.org St. Hildegard's Community
www.ctcinternational.org Comfort the Children International