

OCTOBER 2023 ISSUE

The Banner

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





St. George's Episcopal Church

Office Hours

Mon. - Wed.: 11 am - 4 pm

Thurs.: Noon - 5 pm

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Belinda McGhee

John Rickard

Hal Stevens

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Sandra Villalaz

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Sunday Schedule

10:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

11:45 am Coffee Hour

Sunday Bulletin

October Events

St. George's Pub Club

OCT. 2, AT B.D. RILEY'S
6-8 PM

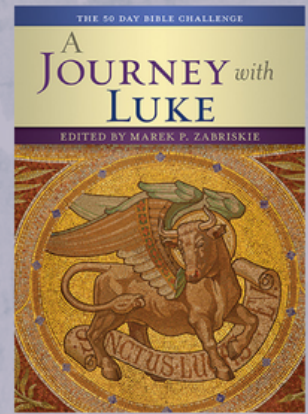
BRING A FRIEND!

Wednesday Weavings

6:30-8 pm

Wed. Oct. 4

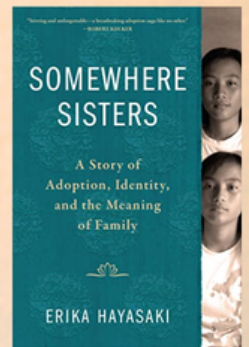
Wed. Oct. 18



Women's Book Group

3-5 pm

Sat. Oct. 14



Men's Coffee Hour

7:45-9:15 am at Kerbey Lane in Mueller

Tues. Oct. 10

Tues. Oct. 24



Choir Practice

Every Tuesday
7-8:30 pm



St. George's Nursery

*For crawlers through fours
from 10 am - noon on Sundays.
Follow the signs on campus, and please
register children via the QR code!*



St. George's
Episcopal Church

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, Oct. 15, at 3:30 pm,
on the east lawn.

All animals, real or stuffed, are welcome!



El Buen cordially invites you

Grand
**MOBILE PANTRY
VAN INAUGURATION**

OCTOBER 4TH, 2023 FROM 9-11AM
UT SOCIAL RESOURCE CENTER
5301 ROSS RD DEL VALLE, TX 78716

RSVP HERE



St. George's has been invited to share in the Inauguration of the El Buen Mobile Food Pantry Van!

Wed., Oct. 4, from 9-11 am,
at the
UT Social Resource Center
5301 Ross Rd.
Dell Valle, TX, 78716

Come and support St. George's Episcopal School. Bring your little ones to enjoy a day of not-so-scary tricks and treats!

Sat., Oct. 28, from 4-7 pm
at the Wright House.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN
OCTOBER 28, 4-7 PM
Free for church members
PTF PRESENTS "A NOT SO SPOOKY" HAUNTED HOUSE
Activities include:
Trunk or Treat
Haunted House
Pumpkin Patch
Live Acoustical Music
Food Truck (taquitos)



Feast Days

October 2023

- 1 - Remigius, Bishop of Rheims, c. 530
- 4 - Francis of Assisi, Friar, 1226
- 6 - William Tyndale, Priest, 1536
- 9 - Robert Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln, 1253
- 10 - Vida Dutton Scudder, Educator & Witness for Peace, 1954
- 11 - Philip, Deacon & Evangelist,
- 14 - Samuel Issac Joseph Schereschewsky, Bishop of Shanghai, 1906
- 15 - Teresa of Avila, Nun, 1582
- 16 - Latimer, Ridley & Cranmer, 1555, 1556, R or W
- 17 - Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch & Martyr, c. 115
- 18 - St. Luke the Evangelist
- 19 - Henry Martyn, Priest & Missionary to India & Persia, 1812
- 23 - St. James of Jerusalem, Brother of our Lord Jesus Christ & Martyr, c. 62
- 26 - Alfred the Great, King of the West Saxons, 899
- 28 - St. Simon & St. Jude, Apostles
- 29 - James Harrington, Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa & his Companions, Martyrs, 1885



Letter from the Rector

REV. DR. MATT BOULTER

All Saints' Eve (& the historical origins of Halloween)

Do I believe in a "literal devil?"

I don't know. Frankly, I'm not even sure what the question means. If you gave me truth serum, though, I might actually say "yes."

Here's what I do know: evil is real, and the earliest Christians, following on the heels of their Hebrew-speaking forbears before them, knew that evil is real, and somehow focused this energy on a nebulous figure named (in Greek) Ponêros, "the evil one." In other words, the "devil."

Real, yes ... but invincible, no.

Do you know how the Christian festival of Halloween (or All Hallows' Eve, or Halloween) historically began?

I'm not exactly an expert here, but what I do know is that, reminiscent of a medieval gargoyle, the early Christians at some point began to make fun of ... you guessed it ... the devil! (Hence, the tail and pitchfork.)

Here's how one creative content provider online puts it:

Cntd. on next page

Just how did our fair festive forbears conceive
Of this primaeval practice called All Hallows' Eve?
The answer, if anyone cares to research
Surprises. It rises from old mother Church.
On the cusp of the customary All Saints' Day
The Christian kinsfolk made mocking display.
These children of light both to tease and deride
Don darkness, doll down as the sinister side.
In preposterous pageants and dress diabolic
They hand to the damned just one final frolic.
You see, with the light of the dawn on the morrow,
The sunrise will swallow such darkness and sorrow.
The future is futile for forces of evil,
And so they did scorn them in times medieval.
For this is the nature of shadow and gloom
In the gleaming of glory there can be no room.
What force is resourced by the echoing black?
When the brightness ignites can the shadows push back?
The "forces" of darkness, if such can be called,
Are banished by brilliance, by blazing enthralled.
So the Bible begins with this fore-resolved fight
For a moment the darkness, then "Let there be light."
First grief in the gloom, then light from the East.
First valley of shadow, then mountain top feast.
First wait for Messiah, then long-promised dawn.
First desolate Friday, and then Easter morn.
The armies of darkness while doing their worst
Can never extinguish this Dazzling Sunburst.

Happy Halloween!



Parish Updates and Announcements

St. George's Court - Birthday Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteer teams to host a birthday party on Nov. 4 and/or Dec. 2 for the residents of St. George's Court, our affordable housing program for the elderly and disabled. Parties are at the Court from 11:30 am-1:30 pm and include a light lunch, a cake, and bingo! For more information or to volunteer please email Adrea Sparks at andreagalsparks@gmail.com.

Women's Book Group

SOMEWHERE SISTERS

A Story of
Adoption, Identity,
and the Meaning
of Family



The Women's Book Group will meet Sat., Oct. 14 from 3-5 pm. The book is *Somewhere Sisters: A Story of Adoption, Identity, and the Meaning of Family* by Erika Hayasaki. All women of St. George's are welcome at this event, even if you haven't finished the book.

For more information, contact Alice Nelson at mzlsnlsn@gmail.com or Sarah Campbell at cowmarket2@gmail.com

SAFE Bags

Here is the schedule of events for the next SAFE bag delivery:

Jan. 7: Sew-in - During Coffee Hour in Kleberg Hall. Lunch will be served!

Jan. 14: Bag filling - During Coffee Hour in Kleberg Hall

Jan. 21: Blessing of the bags and time with friends from SAFE

Visit to SAFE Campus

We are thrilled to share with you that our entire congregation has been invited to visit the SAFE campus after church on **Jan. 21, 2024**. This is an honor and a sign of trust to be invited to their gated community. We're hoping you plan now since this will take at least a couple of hours with travel and presentation. We will carpool over and have a light lunch while hearing a presentation and overview. Then, we will have a tour of the impressive campus. So mark those calendars now! Address and directions will be provided in a timely manner.

Wednesday Weavings

Wednesday Weavings is an adult discussion group of St. George's parishioners that meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month for a shared meal, conversation on a selected reading, and evening worship. In October, we will **meet from 6:30 to 8 pm on Oct. 4 at Sandra Villalaz and Herb Dickson's home and on Oct. 18 at Bridgette Beinecke's home**. Come join us if you can!

Our discussion focuses on a selection from *A Journey with Luke*, part of the series of Forward Movement's 50-day Bible challenges. 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. Everyone is asked to contribute to the simple salad bar meal (for example, cheese, veggies, or crunchy toppings). For more information or for a copy of the book, contact Frances Rickard at fajrickard@gmail.com.

Hands4Hope

St. George's will participate again this year in El Buen Samaritano's seasonal drive to alleviate food insecurity and provide holiday meals for underserved families. EBS is accepting donations starting now, and giving is easier than ever. Use the QR code below or in the announcement section of the pew sheet to make an online donation. Scroll down and click on St. George's on the "affiliated entity" tab. Paper slips will be available in the narthex and in pews for those who prefer not to give online. We look forward to celebrating generously together! If you have questions, contact Carolyn Moreau at moreaucarolyn@gmail.com.

El Buen Mobile Food Pantry Inauguration Invitation

The Mobile Food Pantry Van Inauguration represents a significant step forward in furthering El Buen's commitment to creating access to food for thousands of Central Texan families in Austin's Eastern Crescent (North and Southeastern Austin). These communities have the longest average distances to food retail, the lowest household incomes, and the fewest transportation options, making it increasingly difficult for individuals and families to access food. El Buen's new Mobile Food Pantry Van will play a pivotal role in this endeavor, equipping the organization to triple the amount of food that can be secured and distributed in these communities. As supporters of our Food Access initiatives, we hope to have you all join us! (See Events Section for more information)





"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." 2 Cor 9-11

El Buen Samaritano will **provide food to over 2,500 families through holiday meal distribution events and help over 20,000 individuals** through our year-round food access programs.

How You Can Make a Difference

Donate Today: Your grateful heart can deliver hope and dignity to provide a meal for a family to prepare, serve and gather together.

Spread the Word: Share our campaign with your friends, family, and social networks. Your voice can amplify our impact.

Volunteer: If you're looking for a hands-on way to make a difference, consider volunteering with us at our Holiday Meal Distribution events in November and December.

To learn more, visit www.elbuen.org/donate or contact our Development team at development@elbuen.org

Thank you for choosing to love and nourish our neighbors this holiday season!



Prayer Shawls: Another Way to Weave the Threads

A Prayer Shawl is a handmade gift of love, compassion, and prayer given to people suffering from grief, trauma, bereavement, or serious illness. The shawls can be knitted or crocheted in a pattern and from yarn of the maker's choosing. They are a tangible gift of love, prayer, and hope, and this gift of comfort to the recipient is powerful.

If you knit or crochet (or would like to learn), would you consider joining this new ministry at St. George's? We plan to have an informal thread-craft table at coffee hour in Kleberg beginning **September 24**. You can work at home when time allows, or you are welcome at an in-person group that meets on **Wednesday mornings at 10 am at St. Matthew's (8134 Mesa Dr.) in basement room 116**. This group can also supply you with yarn, needles, and patterns as needed.

We will have an experienced teacher on hand, which reminds me that men can knit or crochet, too!

For more information or to express interest, reach out to **Sarah Campbell in person, by email at cowmarket2@gmail.com, or by text at 512-569-3081**.



St. George's Episcopal School

Welcome Grandparents!

September 11 was Grandparent's Day at the school. We love celebrating our grandparents by inviting them to the first hour of our day, so they can see how learning happens here at St. George's. We end the hour with a jaunt outside where we showcased our outdoor learning environment. Many compliments were had and lots of smiling faces.

It's so sweet to see the generations enjoying themselves. The younger ones grinned from ear to ear as they showed their grandparents what makes the school special for them. Some immediately went to the block area, while others wanted Grandma to read a book. Grandparents came from as far as Dallas to Houston to enjoy some time with their grandchildren.



Grandparent's Day @ St. G's

More Great News!

Mass Verde's article about the playground is currently the featured story on the homepage of Landscape Business! <https://landscape-business.com/building-a-nature-playground-for-curious-young-learners/> This recognition generated a visit from AISD's Outdoor Learning Program and the City of Austin Watershed Protect Department. They were here to pick Jerri's brain on Natural Learning Environments and get inspiration from our playground to implement on AISD campuses and public spaces.

Jerri Thompson, M.Ed.
Head of School
St. George's Episcopal School
4301 N. IH 35
[Instagram](#) [Facebook](#)



Let's Celebrate

Birthdays

Matthew Jones (Oct. 5)
Bouquet Boulter (Oct. 10)
Carolyn Moreau (Oct. 12)
Sandra Villalaz-Dickson (Oct. 14)
Mikail McIntosh-Doty (Oct. 16)
Nella Ibsen (Oct. 17)
Maddie McGonigle (Oct. 22)
Mark Casstevens (Oct. 24)
Leo Maki (Oct. 26)
Samantha Stevens (Oct. 27)
Myrtle Roberts (Oct. 28)

Anniversaries

Terry O'Donnell & Ramón Treviño (Oct. 12)
Jeff Maki & Jen Spencer (Oct. 15)
Margaret & Bailey Tipps (Oct. 18)
Susan & August Dolan-Henderson (Oct. 27)

BANNER DEADLINE

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

Thursday, Oct. 26

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