



By George!

Growing with You in God's Love and Service

AUGUST 2015

Rule of Life

for St George's

Based on our spiritual values and practices, this is our commitment to each other.

We:

- *Nurture ourselves with the Bible and spiritual books*
- *Care deeply about each other, including in prayer.*
- *Fellowship together and have fun.*
- *Are grateful, glad and giving stewards of God's creation.*
- *Reach out to the world, living and spreading the Word.*

St. George's Episcopal Church
5600 Winding Way
Carmichael, CA 95608
(916) 487-5600

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St. George's Episcopal Church
 5600 Winding Way
 Carmichael, CA 95608
 (916) 487-5600
 stgeorge@sgec.us
<http://www.saintgeorgeca.com>

The Very Rev. Ray Hess, III
 Priest in Charge
 916-753-9939
fatherray@frontiernet.net

Ryan Saunders
 916-696-0280
ryan.saunders@sbcglobal.net

Rev. Bob Gould, Assoc.
 916-488-5757
banjobog@yahoo.com

Rev. Robert Olsen, Deacon
 916-729-1019
rolsen8070@gmail.com

Timothy Mascarinas,
 Organist/Choir Director
tmascarinas@ucdavis.edu

Sandy Olsen, Editor
sandyolsen8070@gmail.com
 Dolores O'Brien, Deacon Bob and
 Carol Adkins, Circulation

In this issue

BIRTHDAYS	5
BISHOP'S VISIT	9
BOOK CORNER	6
BOUNTY BAG	9
DEACON BOB	3
HAPPENINGS	9
FROM OUR PIC	1
ROSTER	7
SERVICES	9
WOMEN'S GUILD	5

Thoughts from Our PIC

(Priest in Charge)

Shared Ministry

Recently, we had a pastoral need in our congregation. I was at home in Elk Grove at the time, and I received a phone message from Jan Mirrione at the church office, then from Marilyn Ditzen, and finally from Father Bob Gould. All the messages were informing me about the situation and letting me know that Marilyn and Father Bob were going to respond to the need. This is a wonderful example of how we work as a parish! People see needs and respond to them, and communicate about what they are doing.

I think that this reflects the New Testament model of ministry for the Church. As Paul said in his first letter to the Corinthians, “To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.” (I Corinthians 12:7) For many years, we have been developing shared ministries at St. George’s. The basis for this is the conviction that all of us are called to ministry by our baptism, according to our gifts, talents, and interests. The ministries are shared by all, instead of being focused on the work of the ordained clergy. The purpose the clergy person is to facilitate, coach, and support the ministries of everyone in the congregation. These ministries take place within the community of the congregation and in the world around us.

One expression of this kind of shared ministry is called Total Ministry. Total Ministry in our diocese was developed especially to provide for ministries in smaller congregations which do not have a paid clergy leader. In Total Ministry, a Ministry Development Team is formed which takes many of the roles often done by ordained clergy, such as pastoral care, worship planning, and administration. The Ministry Development Team does a thorough course of study together about scripture, ministry, and theology. In some cases, the congregation identifies a church member who they feel is called to be ordained. This person can be trained locally and through the diocese, instead of going to seminary for three years. If they are approved by the bishop and the Commission on Ministry, they are ordained and serve as priest at the Total Ministry congregation. There are several congregations in our diocese which have followed this path.

At St. George’s, we have been exploring the process of Total Ministry for several years. As I see it, we have embraced the practice of shared ministry. We have become a parish with a part-time Priest in Charge and vital shared ministries by the members of the congregation. I think that this is a sustainable and positive way of being a parish for us. Our leadership has not been as enthusiastic about forming a Ministry Development Team and doing a continuing course of study. We would need to do both of these things in order to become an official Total Ministry congregation of the diocese. At our annual Mutual Ministry Review with the

vestry and Kay Rohde from the Office of the Bishop in June, the vestry agreed that we should not continue to pursue becoming a Total Ministry congregation. Instead, we will keep on being what we are – a vibrant, healthy small congregation with all kinds of shared ministries.

The discernment by our vestry not to seek to be a Total Ministry church will not result in any changes in what we are doing. We will continue to do creative shared ministry. We will continue being a compassionate, vital small congregation. If you have any questions about this, please see me or contact me at 916-753-9939 or at FatherRay@frontiernet.net. Also please feel free to contact our Senior Warden Ryan Saunders at 916-696-0280 or at ryan.saunders@sbcglobal.net Let's keep on doing ministry together!

† Fr. Ray





A REVIEW

At the end of June I met with Bishop Beisner, rather than sending him my annual letter. Last year I missed the Diocesan Convention due to the opening of the retrospective of our son Robert's paintings at the Luckman Gallery, CSULA. As part of the "excused absence" I was to bring back a book of the show if the gallery published one. The gallery didn't, however a London based magazine *ArtReview* did a review of the show. Part of meeting with the Bishop was so I could give him a copy of the magazine. Now I'd read the review a couple of times, but hadn't taken away what +Barry saw in the closing sentence, commenting he could only hope someone might say the same about his sermons. The last sentence read: "At their modest, reserved best, Olsen's paintings connect to the deepest strains of history, while staying relevant to how we live right now." I'm not as hopeful that my sermons are up to that standard.

Over the last month or so since our meeting, it dawned on me that most of us don't get our lives or work reviewed in such a public way, which makes me kind of glad I didn't use my BA in art as my career choice. It also got me to thinking about that last sentence and a review of my life as a Christian. Replacing the beginning of the sentence with something like "how he lived his life as a Christian connects to the deepest..." Now that would be a nice eulogy. Of course eulogies are done by family or friends and tend to be a very kind reviews of our lives. But, do our lives reflect a connection with our history— Jesus the Apostles and Paul? Do our lives reflect at the same time relevance for the here and now? Do we live the lives of someone who loves God and their neighbor, not simply in words, but in our actions?

Following the vows we made in our baptism would be a good way to connect to our history and stay relevant in the world we live in now (BCP 304-305). The first three are a recitation of the Nicene Creed, but the last five, which all start with "Will you..." concern how we are to live as the followers of Jesus. The second of the "Will's" asks that we persevere in resisting evil, but then recognizes that isn't easy – adding that "whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?" Being a Christian is hard work, loving others with the same intensity and sincerity that Christ has for us can be daunting. It may be a small thing, but I've tried to become a kinder/gentler driver letting folks into traffic, not insisting on the right-of-way, not getting angry (well usually) when someone cuts me off. I'm hoping that if I can be more Christian as an anonymous driver, maybe it will help me to be more loving face to face.

During the next month, you might want to use this prayer from the Prayer Book (pg 832):

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to thee, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly thine, utterly dedicated unto thee; and then use us, we pray thee, as thou wilt, and always to thy glory and the welfare of thy people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

At the end of our days, when we get reviewed, may those who remember us not have to edit their words out of kindness.

† *Amen, Deacon Bob*



WOMAN'S GUILD

No meeting scheduled for August. Too warm and some of us will be traveling.

We do ask everyone to start thinking of helping with a Yard Sale in the Fall. Save those nice, quality odds and ends (that we all seem to accumulate) for the sale. A committee will be soon be choosing a date and finalizing arrangements. As this will be a one day event (no pre-sorting or pricing) participants are being asked to put a price on the items they donate. Tables will be set up in the church parking lot in the morning for participants to place their items.

Carol Adkins, President

Women's Guild St. George's Church



Senior
Warden
on Vacation

Senior Warden
article will return
next month!



Young at Heart

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

3—Roger Jenkins

3—Patty Gall

4—Joe Downing

7—Conrad Cookman

8—Terri Perparos

13—Tom Perparos

24—Brian Downing

25—Joan Tennis

27—Deb Hess

28—Haylee Keats (Turner)

31—Vicki Karsten

(If your name was not included, please let Sandy know so she can add your name.)





BOOK SALE

The women's Guild is happy to provide the book corner for your enjoyment. We appreciate the books you all donate. However, I would like to remind you to bring fiction, non-fiction, historical or humorous books. Please NO self-help or study books. Thanks for your attention to this matter.

CDs...\$1

BOOKS...\$1

PAPERBACKS...50¢

Happy reading!

Janet Jenkins



HOSPITALITY *Sunday*

Hospitality Sunday will be the 1st Sunday of each month, special offering envelopes are included in the bulletin. These are used by the Women's Guild to provide weekly coffee hours, special receptions and other events for parish members. Please make checks payable to St. George's Church with a memo note in the left corner for HOSPITALITY.

August/September

AUGUST 2nd

10th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Samuel 11: 26—12:13a

Psalms 51:1-13

Ephesians 4: 1-16

John 6: 24-35

CELEBRANT: † Fr. Ray Hess

PREACHER: Deacon Bob

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Ryan Saunders

LECTORS: Anne Mangels & Annelise Connell

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Cooper & Joy Allmuth

USHER: Cathy Crosbie & friend

AUGUST 9th

11th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Samuel 18: 5-9, 15, 31-33

Psalms 130

Ephesians 4:25—5:2

John 6:35, 41-51

CELEBRANT: † Gini Hummel

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Aaron Adkins

LECTORS: Carol Adkins & Joan Tennis

ALTAR GUILD: Vicki Karsten & JoAnn Cookman

USHER: Conrad Cookman & friend

AUGUST 16th

12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

1 Kings 2: 10-12,3: 3-14

Psalms 111

Ephesians 5: 15-20

John 6:51-58

CELEBRANT: † Susan Plucker

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Dave Allmuth

LECTORS: Aaron Adkins & Karen Lolmaugh

ALTAR GUILD: Angela Saunders & Joy Allmuth

USHER: Carol Adkins & friend

AUGUST 23rd

13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

1 Kings 8:[1, 6,10-11]22-30, 41-43

Psalms 84

Ephesians 6: 10-20

John 6: 56-69

WORSHIP LEADER: Deacon Bob

PREACHER: Mel Rose

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Ryan Saunders

LECTORS: JoAnn Cookman & Carol Adkins

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Cooper & Vicki Karsten

USHER: Conrad Cookman & friend

AUGUST 30th

14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Song of Solomon 2: 8-13

Psalms 45:1-2,7-10

James 1: 17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

CELEBRANT: † Susan Plucker

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Diana Perparos

LECTORS: Karen Lolmaugh & Becky Freie

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Cooper & Vicki Karsten

USHER: Cathy Crosbie & friend

SEPTEMBER 6th

15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23

Psalms 125

James 2:1-10 [11-13], 1-17

Mark 7:24-37

CELEBRANT: † Fr. Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Aaron Adkins

LECTORS: Anne Mangels & Carol Adkins

ALTAR GUILD: Joy Allmuth & Cruz Siaz

USHER: Carol Adkins & friend



Spiritual Gardening

First

Plant four rows of peas

Presence,

Promptness,

Preparedness,

Perseverance

Let us be faithful to duty

Let us be loyal and unselfish

Let us be true to our obligations

Let us obey rules and regulations

Let us love one another

Second

Plant three rows of squash

Squash gossip

Squash criticism

Squash indifference

**Finally, no garden is complete without
turnips**

Turn up at meetings

Turn up with a smile

Turn up with determination and
make

Third

Plant five rows of lettuce

everything count for
something

good and worthwhile

Bishop Barry Beisner will be visiting St. George's at both services on Sunday December 20th. His visit will provide an opportunity for youth or adults to be confirmed, received, or renew their baptismal vows. Youth should be in 7th grade or older to be confirmed. If any youth or adults are interested, please call the church office at 916-487-5600 or e-mail at stgeorge@sgec.us. You may also speak with Father Ray or Deacon Bob at any Sunday service, or contact Father Ray at 916-753-9939 or at FatherRay@frontiernet.net.





Vestry Meeting **Second Wednesday @ 6:45 pm**



Round Table

Last Monday @ 11 a.m.



Bible STUDY
THURS @ 10:30



SUNDAY SERVICES
Family Service 9 a.m.
Traditional Service 10:30 a.m.

BOUNTY BAG

We're collecting dry goods, canned goods, dried cereals, soaps, toothpaste tooth brushes or any non-perishables,

We collect Bags ANYTIME!!
NO TIME TO SHOP a check to St. Georges with memo to River city Food Bank (everything is welcome).

Articles are ways welcome...**BUT KEEP** it short! The best way to submit an article is via my new e-mail sandyolsen8070@gmail.com