



By George!

Growing with You in God's Love and Service

AUGUST 2016

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.*

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Thoughts From Our PIC

(Priest in Charge)

Go for the Gold!

August will be an exciting month for the world as athletes gather in Brazil for the Olympics. Deborah and I are especially interested since we visited Rio last year on our tour of South America. It makes a difference to have been at many of the famous sights and places in that beautiful city.

There is something important to learn from athletic competition for our spiritual lives. In his first letter to the Corinthians, Paul said, "Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one. So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified." (I Corinthians 9:25-27) I love sports, especially tennis, golf, and skiing. I like playing these sports and watching professionals compete in them. Even though I'll never get paid to play a sport, I have some idea of what it takes to be good. I can't play tennis one day a year and expect to do it well! Even to play for fun at a completely amateur level, it takes practice and effort to be any good at this.

I think that Paul was trying to say that it takes similar discipline and effort to grow in our spiritual lives. We don't do this to earn God's love but to be more open to the love which is always offered to us. Becoming a more loving person does not just happen all by itself! It takes focus and cultivation of positive habits to love God and other people more deeply. As Paul said, the prize for loving is much more important than any gold medal! This is where real love and joy and life are found. This prize is worth everything!

In addition to learning from the discipline and effort of the great Olympic athletes, it is important to keep the whole Olympic event in our prayers. Please pray that these games will truly be a time of unity for people around the world, and that all who gather will be protected from disease and any violence. Give thanks to God for the gift of athletic competition, for all the efforts of so many to make the games happen, and for this opportunity for cooperation and understanding among the nations. May these be wonderful, peaceful Olympic games!

In Jesus' love,
Father Ray

SENIOR WARDEN

On Saturday, July 30th, the Vestry will conduct our annual Mutual Ministry Review. This is an activity that our Vestry participates in each year to review our accomplishments and attempt to set goals for the coming year. This year, our MMR will be facilitated by Cannon Andrea McMillin. We will be hosting the meeting at St. George's, and have invited two other local congregations to participate as well. This will be a unique opportunity for our Vestry to review the previous year's work and set goals, but to also hear what accomplishments and goals some other congregations have that fit their mission and ministry.

I will provide an update as to how the MMR went, what we believed to be our accomplishments from last year, and what goals we set for our Vestry for the next 12 months or so. In the meantime, below you will see the goals we set in June of 2015.

- +Learn more about the Congregation Development models, particularly the Faith Formation model (Bulls eye).
- +Continue to develop the Community Garden; recommend hosting a Harvest Festival and invite the local community.
- +Team up with other local Episcopal churches who have children's ministries to look for opportunities to partner with them.
- +Explore how to do children's ministry.
- +Complete the capital improvement projects, both inside and outside.
- +Repave parking lot, replace parking lot light standards, replace trash enclosure fence.
- +Discern new Garden administrator so that Dcn Bob can pass the torch.
- +Complete the things we've started

While not all of them have been completed, I am quite proud of all of the progress and accomplishment our small but mighty congregation has made over the past 12 months. I hope you will agree!

*Ryan Saunders
Sr. Warden*

WOMAN'S GUILD

No Women's Guild events this month. Coffee etc. after Sunday services however continues to be happening and supplies continue to be available. While the coffee, tea, juice and other supplies are available, we continue to encourage everyone to take a turn providing coffee hour nibbles for either the 9 or the 10:30 services. Nothing fancy required, just something to go with the beverages. The sign-up page is on the board next to the church kitchen window.

Guild monthly meetings will resume on Wednesday, September 21. Mark you calendars. More information will be announced at a later date.

*Carol Adkins, President
St. George's Women's Guild*



Mel will be taking photos
for name tags
On:
September 9th and 16th
after both services!



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 3—Roger Jenkins
- 3—Patty Gall
- 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.)



Hospitality

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.



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



I think it is common knowledge that I have become seriously involved with the Parish Commission on Ministry, and have taken on the ministry of chairman. In connection with this ministry, I find myself asking folks whether they feel a real calling from the Holy Spirit toward their particular ministry. During the same time period, I found myself increasingly dissatisfied with the Treasurer's job. Certainly it's important. Certainly I can do it well. Unfortunately, it became increasingly obvious to me that this wasn't enough.

Then I listened to what I was saying to others about a calling from the Holy Spirit for this ministry. That's when months (seriously) of prayer and resistance to the obvious revealed that I no longer felt a real calling to be your Treasurer.

At this point, I should probably present a little history of my involvement with this ministry. I began it in 1975, as nearly as I can figure it. I have taken three sabbaticals for reasons that were mostly related to mental health. These totaled a little less than ten years. I can't really express my gratitude to Gavin Hamilton, Pauline Delander and Cathy Washington for giving me these breaks.

This brings us to our current problem. I have informed the Vestry that I will no longer be your Treasurer after my 75th birthday. That will occur on April 21, 2017. Having made this determination, I have been trying to have the status of the accounting records as clean they can be. I have concentrated on that this year. I have corrected some errors that existed previously and have established the account on the accounting program called Quickbooks. (For those of you who don't know, this is an accounting program designed to be simple enough for use by non-accountants.) It should be a clean record for the foreseeable future. We have needed for years to have a second person involved in this ministry in order to make sure there is a clean handoff when I am no longer involved.

I have talked to a number of folks about this over the last few years, and I have had the feeling they believed I wasn't serious. Perhaps they were right. Now I am serious. I would be willing to work with a replacement for as long as needed to get them comfortable, but I will not continue as at present after next April. If you believe you might have a calling, or know someone who might, talk to me, send me an e-mail, contact a medium, or send a smoke signal: any way you can, let me know.

Aaron

August/September

AUGUST 7th

12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Isaiah 1: 1, 10-20

Psalm 50:1-18, 23-24

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

CELEBRANT: Rev. Susan Plucker

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Dave Allmuth

LECTORS: Aaron Adkins & Carol Adkins

ALTAR GUILD: Angela Saunders & Cruz Siaz

USHER: Cathy Crosby & friend

AUGUST 14th

13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 80: 1-2, 8-18

Hebrews 11:29—12: 2

Luke 12: 49-56

CELEBRANT: Fr. Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Ryan Saunders

LECTORS: Karen Lolmaugh & Joan Tennis

ALTAR GUILD: JoAnn Cookman & Barbara

Cooper

USHER: Conrad Cookman & friend

AUGUST 21st

14th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jeremiah 1: 4-10

Psalm 71: 1-6

Hebrews 12: 18-29

Luke 13: 10-17

CELEBRANT: Fr. Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Aaron Adkins

LECTORS: Carol Adkins & Becky Freie

ALTAR GUILD: Vicki Karsten & Joy Allmuth

USHER: Carol Adkins & friend

AUGUST 28th

15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Psalm 81: 1, 10-16

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14: 1, 7-14

CELEBRANT: Fr Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Diana Perparos

LECTORS: JoAnn Cookman & Karen Lolmaugh

ALTAR GUILD: Joy Allmuth & JoAnn Cookman

USHER: Conrad Cookman & friend

SEPTEMBER 4th

16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jeremiah 18: 1-11

Psalm 139: 1-5, 12-17

Philemon 1: 1-21

Luke 14: 25-33

CELEBRANT: Rev. Anne McKeever

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Karen Lolmaugh

LECTORS: Aaron & Carol Adkins

ALTAR GUILD: JoAnn Conrad & Vicki Karsten

USHER: Cathy Crosby

SEPTEMBER 11th

16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Jeremiah 4: 11-12, 22-28

Psalm 14

1 Timothy 1: 12-17

Luke 15: 1-10

CELEBRANT: Fr. Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Ryan Saunders

LECTORS: Anne Mangels & Becky

freie

ALTAR GUILD: Angela Saunders & Joy Allmuth

USHER: Carol Adkins & friend

*Lessons can be found on our
website*

HTTP://www.stgeorgeca.org

The Gospel according to Sam

The title for my article this month is the title of a book by Fr Bill Miller, an Episcopal priest, and rector of Christ Episcopal Church, Covington, Louisiana. The Sam in the title of the book, being Fr Bill's dog and the center of many of the stories in his book. As Fr Bill describes Sam, he is the opposite of all that Airedale's are supposed to be – but still a healer of souls. For those who have had the fortune or misfortune to meeting our dog Iggy, much the same could be said for him – Iggy might beg while we are having dinner, but his real meal time is around 9:30 or so each night. Having slept most of the day and had his evening nap he is ready for dinner, so I get up and feed him and then go back to bed as Iggy settles in on our couch. But in the morning I'll find him lying on our bed. When I used to travel for work, he would spend his night looking out our front window. Sandy says he was looking for me but I contend he was protecting the house in my absence.

Sandy and I met Fr Bill last year when we were visiting Hawaii. Unlike most of our trips where we are driving from one town to the next each day, in Hawaii were staying at the same Hawaii we were staying at the same hotels for a few days, so I planned our trip to include going to Church on the Sunday's we were on Kauai and Maui. Looking for Episcopal churches on those islands I was please to find several, as St Michael's was in the same town as we were staying on Kauai, I checked out their website and learned that their priest was the author of "The Beer Drinkers Guide to God." A book I downloaded to my iPad to read while we sat in airports. A very enjoyable book, so we (I) looked forward to attending St Michael's – also from their website I knew they had a deacon and were involved in outreach to their community.

In his sermon that Sunday I finally understood the difference between faith and belief. Fr Bill had attended seminary in Chicago and became a Cub's fan. If memory serves, it has been over a 100 years since the Cubs have won the World Series and 50 some years since they made it to the World Series. At the start of every baseball season, Cub's fans have faith that this will be THE YEAR. Fr Bill used the Yankee's in his example of "belief"; saying Yankee fans believe that their team will once again be going to the World Series, based on past performance – there wasn't a musical called "Damn Yankees" for nothing. I would have used the Giants, given they have won the series three times in the previous six seasons and are leading their division this year.

This example of the difference between faith and belief seemed to make much more sense to me deep in my being rather than more academic explanation I'd heard before. Generally, something along the lines of faith is when there is no way to prove something and belief being based on some evidence to support that belief. Maybe using the baseball metaphor struck a note because my mom had been a diehard Giant's fan back in the day when they couldn't win a pennant, let alone a World Series. As I remember her rantings, they would only have needed to win one out of their last 10 games to get into the pennant race, but they would go into a slump, finishing the season out of the running, once again. But that didn't mean mom wouldn't be looking forward to the start of the next season and rooting for her Giants, because she had faith that it would be the year they went all the way.

As we follow the news, it may shake our belief that the Kingdom of God is near, but it shouldn't shake our faith. We just need to look around us rather than at the headlines. As I write this article, the Gospel for Sunday July 10th and Fr Ray's sermon are still fresh in my mind – Luke's story of Jesus telling the parable of the Good Samaritan and who was the real neighbor. That same Sunday Sandy

and I gave thanks for a good trip to Vancouver BC and for the three “neighbors” who helped Sandy up when she tripped stepping up onto a sidewalk, while I was getting gas and washing the windshield on our car.

I can hold the belief that terrible things happen in the world and at the same time maintaining my faith that the Kingdom of God is always near us. It is not such a stretch to hold what may sound like contradictory thoughts, just as I can mutter that Iggy is the world’s worst doggy as he “barks me” away from the TV and bed at 9:30 at night to feed him, because my faith assures the comfort I’ll feel finding him snoozing on our bed in the morning.

Amen, Deacon Bob





Church Picnic

Our Annual Church picnic will be on **August 28th** at the Allmuths...bring side dishes and or desserts ...and don't forget your swimsuits! The festivities start at **NOON!**



Vestry Meeting

The Vestry meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month



Sunday School resumes on Sept. 11th



Round Table

Round Table meets the last Monday @ 11



WOMENS GUILD

WOMENS GUILD MEETS 3RD WEDNESDAYS @ 11 A.M.



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