



By George!

Growing with You in God's Love and Service

FEBRUARY 2014

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 Message – “Epiphany Light”

Through February, we will be in the Epiphany Season. I really appreciate the major themes of this season: light and mission. In this season, we focus on the light of Christ which shines for all people – of all cultures, races, and backgrounds. The theme of light connects directly with the theme of mission. Since the light of Christ shines for all people, our mission is to be a part of sharing this light and love.

For us at St. George’s, this means being aware of the needs of the people of Carmichael and Sacramento. Another way to state this is: what is God doing in our region, and how are we called to be a part of it? One of the exciting things actions of God is through the congregation of St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church, Sacramento. St. Matthew’s is now a Family Resource Center for the Sacramento area. This means that they receive funding from the state for their food, clothing, medical, and family ministries. St. Matthew’s has also been approved as a Mission Enterprise Zone by the Episcopal Church. This is a grant of \$20,000, matched by our diocese, for creative mission in the Sacramento area. We support the ministry of St. Matthew’s through donations of food from our community garden, when crops are in season. During the Epiphany Season, we are also gathering gloves, socks, and toiletries for people in need in our area, to be distributed through St. Matthew’s. Please bring these things on Sundays or during the week to the church office.

Epiphany is a good season to invite friends or family to come visit us at worship. Think about people you know who do not have a church home, and who might find our community of St. George’s helpful. Then invite them to come with you to worship on a Sunday morning. This season is also a good time to be especially alert for those who visit us at worship – to be sure that we notice them and welcome them. The goal is to welcome visitors warmly, but not to overwhelm them. We want them to know that they are loved and welcomed by us at St. George’s, without feeling pressure to join or to become involved too quickly. I have found a good thing to say to someone on Sunday whom I think may be a visitor, is something like this:

“Hi, I’m Ray. I’m not sure if I’ve met you before.” If they are new, I can get to know them and welcome them. If they are already a member whom I did not recognize, I have not embarrassed them or me. Effective hospitality for guests is an art that we all can learn.

The light of Christ shines for all! I hope that we can continue to find ways to let that light shine through us at St. George’s.

In Christ,
† *Father Ray Hess*

Our Senior Warden

Leaders come and go, rectors come and go, vestry members come and go. And yes parishioners come and go. Change is a fact of life even at St. George's.

Like every other church, St. George's is a living member of God's body on earth. That is one thing I try to remember each day as I get ready to get the things done that I have promised or know, or think that I know, needs to be done at St. George's. I do this because of my love for our church!

Now that my term on the vestry and as Sr. Warden is ending, I'm refocusing my role at the church. I'm now not coming to St. George's to do paperwork, run meetings, fix the walls, or plant the plants. Although I probably will still be doing a lot of that.

Yes, as I just said, I'll still be doing a lot of the above stuff, but my focus will be more and more on prayer and my love for those whose friendship has helped me along my path, and even more my role as a follower of Jesus Christ. In the coming year I will be changing my focus on my spiritual life in the church.

I will be here to worship and praise Jesus Christ our Lord.

OK, Knowing myself, I'll still have a hammer at the ready if something needs fixed! Or I think it needs fixed!

Mel Rose, Senior Warden

-Br. David Allen

Society of Saint John the Evangelist

Faith

The essence of the gift of Jesus is that it comes to us through our faith as we observe the law of love, loving God with all our heart and all our soul and all our strength, and loving our neighbor as ourselves. All of us can respond to God with faith, and hope, and love.

WOMAN'S GUILD

Our January meeting had few more attendees than usual and I felt it was a productive start to the New Year.

To encourage more women to attend monthly meetings, a discussion about alternate days was held. It was agreed we will change the meeting to the third Wednesday of the month at 11 am. Mark your calendars for February 19 and plan on attending. Our meetings are short, usually an hour, we then take time to socialize while eating our lunch or snack. Coffee or tea is always available. We will be looking into having some special programs two or three times this year. Possibly a talk on a topic of special interest (a health issue or a religious topic) or perhaps a demonstration of someone's talent (artistic, musical or ??).

Financially our group has a nice balance in our account that will allow us to continue purchasing coffee hour and kitchen supplies and help the Vestry if any unexpected expensive situations were to arise. However, looking around our facilities (or asking our Senior Warden, Junior Warden or Deacon Bob) one can easily see maintenance that will be needed. Therefore we continue looking for fund raisers we can hold this year. Another yard sale is a possibility but if anyone has a suggestion please share with me, Barbara Girard, Janet Jenkins or Jan Mirrione or leave a message on the church answering machine.

Along that line of thought – we will

have our Mardi Gras Brunch on Sunday March 2. It seems too early to be thinking of Lent but given the timing of the St George newsletter and the date for Ash Wednesday this year, we want everyone to make plans on attending this year's event. Consider bringing a friend! Watch the Sunday Bulletins and the church website for further information about sign-up sheets and ticket purchasing.

Carol Adkins, President Elect



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

Anniversary
of Our
PICs
Ordination



February 27—Ray Hess



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 5—JoAnn Cookman
- 9—Michael Keats
- 17—Dave Allmuth, Sr.
- 17—Helen Hui
- 19—James Mahon
- 28—John Karsten

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



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 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



March 2nd
following 1030 service

lots of fun food and frolic!!!

Adults \$5
Under 12 \$3

February/March

FEBRUARY 2nd

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

Malachi 3:1-4
Hebrews 2: 14-18

Psalm 84
Luke 2: 22-40

CELEBRANT: Gini Hummel

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Marilyn Ditzen

LECTORS: †Bob Gould & JoAnn Cookman

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Cooper & JoAnn Cookman

USHER: Conrad Cookman & friend

FEBRUARY 9th

5th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]
1 Corinthians 2: 1-12 [13-16]

Psalm 112: 1-9 [10]
Matthew 5: 13-20

CELEBRANT: Gini Hummel

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Aaron Adkins

LECTORS: Carol Adkins & Anne Mangels

ALTAR GUILD: Angela Saunders & Cruz Siaz

USHER: Carol Adkins & friend

FEBRUARY 16th

6th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
1 Corinthians 3: 1-9

Psalm 119: 1-8
Matthew 5: 21-37

CELEBRANT: Fr. Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Diana Perparos

LECTORS: JoAnn Cookman & Aaron Adkins

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Cooper & JoAnn Cookman

USHER: Conrad Cookman & friend

FEBRUARY 23rd

7th SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18
1 Corinthians 2: 1-12 [13-16]

Psalm 119: 33-40
Matthew 5: 13-20

CELEBRANT: Fr. Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Ryan Saunders

LECTORS: †Bob Gould & Joan Tennis

ALTAR GUILD: Joy Allmuth & Vicki Karsten

USHER: Carol Adkins & friend

MARCH 2nd

LAST AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Exodus 24:12-18
2 Peter 1: 16-21

Psalm 2
Matthew 17: 1-9

CELEBRANT: Fr. Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Dave Allmuth

LECTORS: Becky Freie & Anne Mangels

ALTAR GUILD: Angela Saunders & Cruz Siaz

USHER: Carol Adkins & friend

MARCH 9th

1st SUNDAY IN LENT

Genesis 2:15-17; 3: 1-7
Romans 5: 12-19

Psalm 32
Matthew 4: 1-11

CELEBRANT: Fr. Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Aaron Adkins

LECTORS: Carol Adkins & Aaron Adkins

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Cooper & Joy Allmuth

USHER: Carol Adkins & friend



Wednesday
March 5th
7 p.m.

USE BEFORE EXPIRATION DATE



I write my articles around the 20th of the month, so had written my January article before Christmas, and way before the last of the Christmas Cards arrived from friends and family. In several of the letters the passing of friends or of serious medical conditions were mentioned. One friend commented on the passing of her husband that we all must have an expiration date, as he had successfully gone through a surgery and was seemingly doing well and then passed away in his sleep.

That thought of an expiration date got me to thinking again of the Advent message, of Christ's coming again at some unexpected hour. What the Advent Gospel's don't talk about is our departures from this earth at some unexpected hour. How prepared are we for either Christ's return or our departure? Now I don't want to sound morbid, but I find more and more I'm reading the obituaries and for the fellows who are described as having lived a good long life, they are close to my age – so it does give me pause to wonder about my expiration date.

And as I was reflecting on this business of expiration dates I noticed that food labels use the phrase "use before" or "best before". I got to thinking am I using my time best before my expiration date. Each day we get the chance to do things for others, some small, some large – how often do we pass up those chances, thinking "next time" I'll do that, but I'm busy right now.

The last couple of years of my Dad's life, I'd probably get a call from him every other day at the least, and my brother living in the same town, might get a couple of calls a day. Usually they weren't call about anything major, but he may have seen someone from our childhood who asked him to say hi, or ran across an article in the Bee that he thought might interest us. He didn't want to leave anything unsaid, and I gathered Ron and I weren't the only people he called. Since his passing I've realized the importance of not leaving anything unsaid and I'm trying to do better about not putting things off or passing up the chance to help someone.

Epiphany is a time of recognizing who Christ is in our lives, but beyond that what are we going to do day-by-day to live out that recognition? I pray that each of us lives our lives so that we've done all we can before our expiration date arrives.

Amen,
†Deacon Bob




During the Sunday's in Epiphany we are collecting socks, gloves and toiletries to be donated to St Matthew's Foodbank to be given to those they serve.





WOMENS GUILD
3rd Wednes @ 11 am



Bible STUDY
THURS @ 10:30



Round Table

Last Monday @ 11 a.m.



Sunday School
@ 9 a.m.



Vestry Meeting

Second Wednesday @ 6:45 pm



SUNDAY SERVICES
Family Service 9 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 e-mail: sandyolsen@surewest.net