



By George!

Growing with You in God's Love and Service

JULY 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.*

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Thoughts from Our PIC

(Priest in Charge)

American Roots

In June, Deborah and I went to my prep school reunion at The Hill School in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, near Philadelphia. We were able to visit some of the wonderful historic sights around Philadelphia – the Liberty Bell, Christ Episcopal Church, Betsy Ross' home, the Ben Franklin museum, Independence Hall, and Valley Forge. Visiting these places was a great preparation for celebrating July 4th this year.

Some contrasts struck me as we visited the historic sights of our nation. We had not been to Philadelphia for a long time, and there is a new entrance way to see the Liberty Bell. The entrance has displays about the famous bell and describes the struggle for freedom in our nation, a struggle that continues in our day. The displays especially emphasized the irony that many of the founders of our nation fought for freedom, yet kept African-American slaves in their homes. Many have been left out of our freedom and democracy – blacks and other people of color, women (who could not vote), native Americans, and more recently gays and lesbians. The hope of the Liberty Bell is that freedom will ring for *all* in our nation.

When we visited Independence Hall, the guide told us about the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the creation of the Constitution that happened in that place. He also said that Independence Hall was one of the important sites where people could see the body of President Lincoln after his assassination. This hall has been a place of freedom and a sign of our struggle in civil war and violence.

Deb and I also were able to take a tour of Valley Forge. I was impressed by the description of the sacrifice by the soldiers who fought for our liberty – their struggle through the harsh winter in Valley Forge and bravery in battle. They also struggled with the great threats of disease and infections. Many of them never were paid for their service and had a hard time after the war making a living; they did not get to reap the rewards of forming the new nation. The guide also told us that many of the farmers of the area around Valley Forge were ruined by the war because of the destruction of their farmland by the fighting. Our nation was founded through the sacrifices of many little-known and non-famous people.

We were moved to visit Christ Church, Philadelphia again on our recent visit. This beautiful church building reminded us that our Episcopal Church played a central role in the forming of our nation. Many of those who formed our new nation were members of the Episcopal Church. These people were guided by their faith in creating our nation, and the Episcopal Church itself was organized as a representative democracy, just like our country.

What do I take away from our visit to our American roots? My hope is that as followers of Jesus, we will continue to be people of compassion and non-violence in our nation. I hope that we will press on to make our country a place of freedom for all people. In a time of contentious divisions in our nation, I hope that we will practice understanding, respect, and civil dialogue.

I wish us all a wonderful celebration of our freedom and democracy this Independence Day!

† Fr. Ray



Our Senior Warden

What are the characteristics of a “healthy” church? Before answering that question, I think it is important to define the word “healthy” in this particular context. When one thinks of something being healthy, it is usually with the connotation of vibrancy, strength, and vitality. If something is healthy, it is often full of life and full of love.

Recently, during the Vestry’s annual Mutual Ministry Review, we were asked this very question: “What are the characteristics of a healthy church?” Below are some of the responses.

- Willingness to change, open to new ideas, flexible, try to improve.
- People are very in tune to one another and supportive
- Welcoming.
- Attendance is measured by more than who attends on Sundays.
- Letting people participate and demonstrate leadership in their own ways.
- Inclusive in all activities, no one is left out.
- Ability to disagree with each other without rancor.
- Caring for the larger community and the world around them.
- Not a church for ourselves, but a church for our community and the world.
- Love for one another.

I think this truly sums up why St. George’s is such a special church and such a special congregation. Love is at the essence of what we do and how we serve God, how we serve Jesus, how we serve one another, and how we serve our community. It seems to me that we are able to not only define a “healthy church,” but we were also able to demonstrate how healthy our church really is.

Additionally, during our Mutual Ministry Review, the Vestry established some goals for the coming year. Hopefully you will all agree that these are worthy goals and reflective of our larger mission and ministry in the Carmichael community and the Sacramento region.

Learn more about the Congregation Development models, particularly the Faith Formation model.

- Continue to develop the Community Garden; Host a Harvest Festival and invite the local community.
- Team up with other local Episcopal churches who have children’s ministries and investigate opportunities to partner with them.
- Complete the capital improvement projects, both inside and outside.
- Repave parking lot, replace parking lot light standards, replace trash enclosure fence.
- Discern new Community Garden administrator.
- Continue emphasis and success of our existing Ministries.

Ryan Saunders, Senior Warden

WOMAN'S GUILD

To mark the beginning of summer the ladies of St. George's (and a number of men) enjoyed luncheon at a local restaurant. Good food and good company made for a good time.

The Guild has no meetings scheduled for the next two months but we will continue making sure coffee hour supplies and refreshments are available. If you have not signed-up recently to help with Sunday refreshments, please consider doing so. What you provide does not need be fancy, just something to nibble on while visiting with others after Sunday services.

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



Celebrate
the Fourth



Young at Heart

JULY BIRTHDAYS

5—Bill Kaler

7—Mae Pedersen

6—Andrew Jeske '07

11—Richard Roy

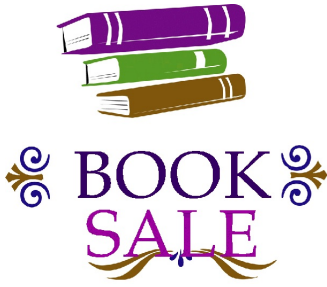
12—Pauline Delander

12—Robert Olsen

26—Mare Evans-Smith

(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 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.

July/August

JULY 5th

6th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Samuel 5: 1-5, 9-10

Psalm 48

2 Corinthians 12: 2-10

Mark 6:1-13

CELEBRANT: † Gini Hummel

PREACHER: Mel Rose

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Dave Allmuth

LECTORS: Aaron Adkins & Annelise Connell

ALTAR GUILD: Barbara Cooper & JoAnn Cookman

USHER: Carol Adkins & friend

JULY 12th

7th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Samuel 6: 1-5, 12b-19

Psalm 24

Ephesians 1: 3-14

Mark 6: 14-29

CELEBRANT: † Fr. Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Ryan Saunders

LECTORS: JoAnn Cookman & Carol Adkins

ALTAR GUILD: Angela Saunders & Cruz Siaz

USHER: Conrad Cookman & friend

JULY 19th

8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Psalm 89: 20-37

Ephesians 2: 11-22

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

CELEBRANT: † Fr. Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Diana Perparos

LECTORS: Carol Adkins & Becky Freie

ALTAR GUILD: Vicki Karsten & JoAnn Cookman

USHER: Cathy Crosbie & friend

JULY 26th

9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Samuel 11: 1-15

Psalm 14

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21

CELEBRANT: † Fr. Ray Hess

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER: Aaron Adkins

LECTORS: Annelise Connell & Carol Adkins

ALTAR GUILD: Joy Allmuth & Cruz Siaz

USHER: Carol Adkins & friend

AUGUST 2nd

10th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

2 Samuel 11: 26—12:13a

Psalm 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

Psalm 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



At a deacon's gathering a while back, the question was asked of each of us – how long have you been a deacon. Now most of us figured out how many years since our ordination date and gave that number, in my case 14 years. But one of the fellows replied, I've always been a deacon, but only ordained X number of years. That reply reminded me of something Bishop Lamb had said to me around the time of my ordination – I was already a deacon, the church was just getting around to ordaining me. As I traveled with Bishop Lamb and Bishop Beisner when they have visited congregations without deacons, they have usually mentioned their desire that there be at least one deacon in every congregation and that they know they are already there, they just haven't been called.

All of this made me realize that we probably have many deacons in our congregation, folks who just haven't been ordained. As the anniversary of my ordination comes up, I'm hoping that others might be called by the congregation to become deacons, but also realize there are many reasons why some may never follow the path to ordination. But that doesn't mean they aren't doing diaconal work. Cause truth be told, diaconal work is everyone's work – the work of caring for others. Now that caring might take many forms: visiting or phoning shut-ins; it could be giving someone a ride to church, the store or a doctor's appointments; service inside and outside of St George's - working with one of the food banks, or growing veggies to share with our neighbors; volunteering at one of the shelters or kitchens that serve the poor and homeless; or it could be knitting helmet liners or reaching out to vets and their families. When we serve others we are the hands and feet of Jesus doing his work of love among those we live.

We are all called to serve – in Matthew (20:28), Mark (10:45) and Luke (22:27) we hear Jesus tell us that he didn't come to be served but to serve. While deacons “serve” it is to model service so that others recognize their own call to serve. I won't embarrass folks by naming names, but I feel St George's is blessed with the number of deacons in our congregation, me being the least of them.

† *Amen, Deacon Bob*



Stained Glass – here are two pictures of the stained glass that Mel is working on to go on either side of the Altar. The one with just the three panels is an actual photo of the finished panels for the left hand side behind the Altar. The other is a mock-up to give folks an idea of what the windows will look like and approximate location, it does not include what the actual window framing will look like.



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 7—Roger & Janet Jenkins
- 9—Darren & Rose Clark
- 25—Dave & Joy Allmuth (ˆ54)
- 26—Fr. John & Anne Mangels
- 26—Jim & Genie Schavey



Our music director is looking for members who are interested in sharing their musical talents to St. George for our 10:30am choir. If you or someone you know in the area loves to sing and might be interested, please have them contact our music director. The choir leads us in worship every Sunday from September through May, and has practice every Thursday evening.



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.

United Thank Offering



The June Ingathering of UTO ‘coins’ at St. George’s was quite successful. Approximately \$150 was ‘gathered in’ and will be forwarded to be added to the national collection.

UTO started in the late 1800’s to assist in missionary work. The program has grown over the years and now helps not only overseas but also allows many grants to be awarded throughout the United States to build churches and schools, make needed renovations, feed the hungry, clothe the poor, provide shelter for the homeless, and provide care and support for those with physical, mental and emotional challenges.

Our coins dropped in the ‘blue boxes’ whenever we give thanks to our Lord for our blessings help add up to many thousands of dollars each year. If you do not already have a ‘Blue Box’, you are invited pick one up from the table at the back of the church and take part in this practice. You will also find more information about UTO in the same place.

Carol Adkins

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