



The Dragon's Tale

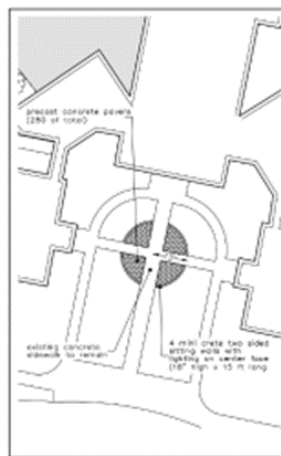
July 2022

"St. George's is a community of disciples joyfully reaching out in love to nurture, teach, and heal in Jesus' name"

***St. George's Episcopal Church
912 Route 146 · Clifton Park, NY 12065
(518) 371 - 6351***

View to the Future

Last week, a letter went out from Fr. Tom, Mtr. Elizabeth and our Vestry explaining the exciting changes that we are seeing in our courtyard! This project has been made possible through two significant memorial donations. The Vestry is asking members of the Parish to similarly consider giving memorial or thanksgiving donations to contribute the cost of completing the beautiful new courtyard as well as the updating to Room 9, a room used more and more frequently for meetings and classes at St. George's. Below are pictures of the courtyard in progress. Donations can be made by check, please signify "View to the Future Campaign" in your check memo or online following this [link](#).



St. George's Mission and Outreach **Ongoing Ministries**

From Jo Anne Robbins

And the King will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these, who are members of thy family, you did it to me.' Matthew 25:34-45

St. George's has supported the **Jonesville Helping Hands Food Pantry** for many years. As you know, the ongoing COVID pandemic and the increased cost of many grocery items has been especially difficult for many people living in our community who depend on the assistance of this wonderful ministry. Weekly, donations of shelf-stable food and non-food items such as paper goods, personal hygiene products and cleaning supplies – basically any item available from a grocery retailer or distributor – are collected in the metal shopping carts located in Hatlee Hall and inside the entrance to St. George's narthex. That cart has been moved into the church near the entrance from the parking lot due to our ongoing construction project.

It is especially important to help the food pantry restock their shelves with the items listed below that may not be purchased with SNAP benefits (food stamps). At our last Outreach Committee Meeting, we decided that once a month, we will do a special collection of one of these items in addition to our regular ongoing weekly collection of items listed in our weekly announcements. Items may be dropped off before services. Our volunteers will deliver your donations to Jonesville on a Monday or Tuesday.

These are items that cannot be purchased with SNAP.



Mission and Outreach Continued:

In July, we are asking for donations of size 5 and size 6 **disposable diapers** (they are totally out of these sizes).



In August, we will be collecting donations of **paper towels** – four packs.

In September, we will be asking for donations of **wipes** - both baby wipes and flushable wipes for adults.



In October, we will be collecting **feminine hygiene products** and **incontinence products**.

In November, we'll be looking for **cleaning products** - particularly bathroom, kitchen, and multipurpose cleaners.

Please mark these special donations on your calendar and when you see a BOGO on any of these items, try to buy ahead and deliver that item to our special collection the first Saturday or Sunday of the month. Since some of these items are large, we will be collecting them on tables in Hatlee Hall.



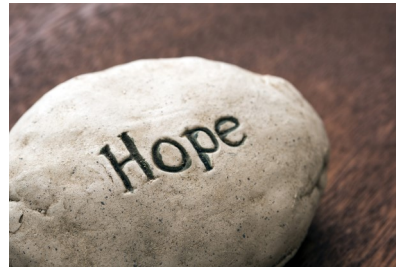
Greetings from St. George's Praise Band!

Our members have been busily at work preparing and leading music for the 4:30 service on Saturdays. As I have said so many times, we are all grateful for the privilege of leading the people of God in praise and worship through music. Our members are Tad Knight, Tom and Anne Bena, Abby Bee, Tom Lessard, Steve Summers, and Stephanie Mojallali. These folks give generously of their time and talent as we rehearse each Saturday at 3, then lead the music at the 4:30 liturgy. Please come and join us even if you usually go to the 8 or 9:30 service on Sunday.

The Saturday service has a special combination of reverence and informality; we do a combination of contemporary Christian music and traditional hymns. It is our vision and that of our priests and vestry that this service will attract new people to our church and to Jesus, so please pray that God will prosper the work we are doing for him.

In Jesus' love,

Father Darius+



COME, JOIN A SCHOOL FOR GOD'S SERVICE!

From Arlene Josef

Plans are underway to offer a Community of Hope International training class for pastoral caregivers at St. George's Episcopal Church. St. Paul tells us in Colossians that Christians are to work together to grow in faith that we might present everyone mature in Christ. The Community of Hope training, based on the Rule of Benedict spirituality provides a foundation to accomplish that goal. The clergy, vestry and lay leaders of St. George's feel this training is an important building block in preparing the leaders of our church in this rapidly changing world. This is a unique opportunity to grow in your faith as you learn to "listen with the ears of your heart" and learn the "skills and practices of spiritual life that prepares each of us to be open to one another...to believe and trust that the hospitality of the Christian faith is to look for Christ in the other person..." (Reverend Dr. Helen Appelberg, COHI founder).

The Community of Hope's mission is to create and sustain Christian Communities of volunteer lay pastoral caregivers united in prayer, shaped by Benedictine spirituality and equipped for service in pastoral care ministries. We plan to offer the opportunity to participate in the pastoral caregiving training in mid-September. The course includes modules in Benedictine spirituality, listening skills, spiritual gifts, pastoral visitation, coping with grief and loss, and understanding family systems.

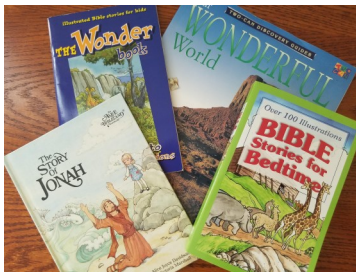
I hope you will consider joining us as we reach out to nurture, teach and heal in Jesus' name.

Please call Arlene Josef at 518-383-3835 for more information.

Collection of Children's Used and New Books

From Carol MacNaughton

Kids grown up? Grands grown up? Share those books with others. St. George's Mission and Outreach is collecting used (and new!) children's books for the Capital City Rescue Mission to pass out as part of their annual Backpack Giveaway in mid-August. They would like books for children in Pre-K through 6th grade. The books should be in good condition, no scribbling or torn pages.



July Anniversaries

Steven & Colleen Kinley, Tom & Mary Golden,
Mark & Lorraine Simpkins,
Diane & Albert Betzwieser,
Douglas & Kathy Chapman,
Jeffrey & Cortney Crannell,
Charles & Adrienne Day,

Happy Anniversary!



EFM Graduates

Jean Laura and Paul Gregg graduated from the 4 year Education for Ministry program. St George's has provided this distance learning program from the Sewanee School of Theology called Education for Ministry for 30 years. EFM is designed for laity who want to deepen their spiritual life through study of the Bible, church history and theology .

Property Update

From Tom Lessard

This is an Article from Smart Church solutions and we have experienced this with the porch project. I am looking for people who I will train to look for areas that need investigating. Tom Lessard facility@stgeorgescp.org

Preventative Maintenance

Preventive maintenance refers to a series of actions performed on either a time-based schedule or a schedule based on “run-time” or use. These actions detect, preclude, or mitigate the degradation of a system or facility.

The ultimate goal of a preventive maintenance process is to minimize deterioration and loss of use of a facility and its systems to sustain or extend their life. **This, in turn, saves dollars that can be used for other ministry initiatives.**

On the other hand, reactive maintenance (sometimes referred to as corrective maintenance) is just what its name implies. The method involves waiting until there is a problem and then reacting to correct the problem.

This would be like driving your car and not changing the oil until the engine seizes up. We would all agree doing that to our cars is unthinkable and a waste of money. The cost of replacing our car's engine far exceeds the cost of regular oil changes. Yet, when was the last time you had the motors of your HVAC system lubricated or the coils cleaned?

To keep it simple:

-Preventive maintenance is conducted to keep systems and facilities working and living longer.

-Reactive/corrective maintenance is conducted to get equipment working again once it stops functioning



Women's Bible Study

From Cindy Hoetzer

Women's Monday Evening Bible Study recently concluded a six week study called I Still Believe based on the movie about Christian songwriter and singer Jeremy Camp and his wife Melissa.

St. George's owns this movie and the accompanying videos and the study guide can be purchased on Amazon.com or Lifeway.com.

This particular Bible Study can be done alone if you wish; contact the church office if you are interested in borrowing it.

This coming September we will resume study with the Book of Exodus with author and Bible Scholar Jen Wilkin.

Watch the Dragon's Tale and weekly announcements for the beginning date. In the meantime, you can preview the upcoming Exodus Bible study by watching a video clip here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7JYpJ7sNWqA>



Christian Formation Party!



July Birthdays

Lisa Bullock, Bruce Bonacquist, Victor Knorowski, Bill Burns, Lydia Widenor, Lucia Crannell, Jeanne Nuss, Barbara Hartman, Allen Nuss, Carole Van Der Veer, Charles Bee, Gabriela Manning, Livia Manning, Capri Abramo, James Mussnug, Gene Gordon, Steven Kinley, Carolyn Martin, Tonya Manning, Mtr.Elizabeth Papazoglakis, Richard, Perry, Lisa O' Brien, Isabella Minehardt, Kimberly Robenson,

Happy Birthday

Prayer Shawl Ministry

From Cindy Hoetzer



Do you knit or crochet? We need more knitters and crocheters who are willing to make prayer shawls which are always greatly appreciated, especially at this time of year. If you are willing to knit or crochet a shawl, please make one and bring it to church where it will be blessed at a Wednesday Holy Eucharist with anointing for healing service and then prepared for distribution to someone in need. There are many free patterns on-line and we have a binder with patterns here at church as well as some yarn and needles/hooks. Check out these patterns or search the web for one you like - the possibilities are endless and your gift is priceless!

Knitting patterns - <https://blog.nobleknits.com/blog/prayer-shawl-knitting-patterns-free>

Crochet patterns - <https://lovelifeyarn.com/crochet-prayer-shawl-patterns/>

We will meet in the library on the 2nd Tuesday of every month 1:00 - 3:00 PM - please consider sharing your talents and join us for some fellowship and shawl creation.

Father's day homemade fudge with St. George's Cross boxes



Loaves and Fishes



Loaves and Fishes is a feeding ministry based in the kitchen and parish hall of the St. Francis Mission church in Arbor Hill area of Albany. The ministry provides a hot, healthy meal every Saturday from 11:30am to 1pm to the people from this very needy neighborhood.

It is 100% run by volunteers from various churches in the Albany Diocese. St George's is committed to cooking at St. Francis the 4th Saturday of each month. Volunteers arrive at the kitchen at 9:00AM - hours before feeding to prepare the food then distribute the meal and clean up. It is eye opening and rewarding.

Middle School and High School students are welcome to come help cook and serve but must have a parent accompany them. If you would like to volunteer, please use the link below and sign up for a day, or more!

To volunteer, please follow link to [Sign-Up Genius](#)

Any questions, please contact Kathryn Pellett at: kathrynpellett82@gmail.com or 518-429-9334.



Community Dinner Series

The First Friday of Every Month

Adult - \$19.99 | Child (12 & Under) - \$13.99 | (2 & under are free)

[\(Click Here for Reservation\)](#)

The Purpose Driven Life Update

From Heidi Bonacquist

We just completed our first Bible study of *The Purpose Driven Life: What on Earth am I Here for?* We had 19 people sign up for our first study! It was a wonderful journey as we explored God's five purposes for our lives - worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry and mission.

PDL Continued:

We will be offering the Bible study again in the fall, starting on September 15th. We will meet for 7 consecutive Thursday mornings from 9-11. If anyone is interested in attending, please contact me at parishlife@stgeorgescp.org. If there is any interest in an evening class, please let me know.

This fall, Jean Blinstrub will be joining me as the co-facilitator of the study! Jean completed the Bible study this spring and has this to share:

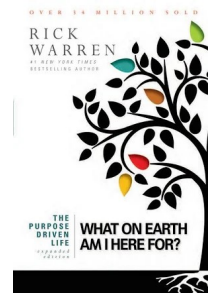
"I had the privilege of attending the class, The Purpose Driven Life. I thoroughly enjoyed the content, and the way Pastor Rick Warren presents it. It brought me back to the basics, and reaffirmed in my mind God's reason for my existence. And that my commitment to serve God is done so easily in our everyday lives. In my opinion, the many benefits I received from participating in this book study, FAR outweighed the commitment."

Sincerely, Jean Blinstrub

[The Purpose Driven Life Bible Study Brochure](#)

What's the Purpose of Life?

At one time or another we have all tried to find the answer to this question. Pastor Rick Warren has updated his famous book on The Purpose Driven Life. We are pleased to offer a study on the new book, *The Purpose Driven Life: What On Earth Am I Here for?* that helps participants explore and answer this age-old question. We will explore why we were created, why our purpose comes from our belief in God and how this will give us a life of meaning and joy! The next Bible study runs for 7 Thursday mornings starting on September 15 from 9:00-11:00. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Heidi Bonacquist at parishlife@stgeorgescp.org.



2022 Diocesan Convention at Silver Bay

St. George's was well represented at Diocesan Convention this year as we continue in our work to support the Diocese through this time of transition. Vestry members, Carol MacNaughton and Heidi Bonacquist served as convention tellers, and Abby Bee was quite busy as coordinator of the workshops for the convention.

In other convention business, Randy Demler was elected to serve on Diocesan Council, Mother Elizabeth was elected to the Standing Committee (where she will serve along with Jean Lauria), Arlene Joesph was appointed to serve on the Diocesan Development Fund, and Father Tom was re-appointed to serve as chair of the Art & Architecture Committee, the CTK Oversight Committee, and to serve as Interim Director of Deacons for the Diocese.



Abby was the crucifer for the Saturday evening Holy Eucharist.



Deacon Maureen and Mary Golden gave presentation on Catechesis of the Good Shepherd.



Father Darius lead the worship team with Stephanie and Steve assisting. Deacon Maureen served at the altar for the Saturday night Eucharist.



Deacon Maureen Demler and Mary Golden attended the annual Diocesan convention in Silver Bay, NY, where they presented a workshop on Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Many of the materials which the children work with in our Level 1 and Level 2 atria were displayed as the Catechesis curriculum was described. Particular emphasis was placed on modeling how the Eucharist and Baptism are introduced to children in the atrium. Our goal is to hold up various sacred objects or articles, gestures, seasonal colors and prayers of these sacraments so that the children are better able to participate in the liturgy. When they hear a particular prayer that has been isolated for them, and when they are able to touch and work with these materials, the children are drawn into the celebration of the sacraments. These materials are introduced slowly, at a pace which gives the children time to connect them with God, whom they know through Jesus, the Good Shepherd who gave us these sacraments.

The workshop was well attended, and 12 participants from 8 different parishes in the diocese were able to ask questions and examine the materials which the children use during Catechesis. They were invited to visit St. George's to explore the atria and learn more about the program.

Deacon Maureen spent a week in Columbus, Ohio, learning about the presentations for the Level III children, ages 9 to 12. The History of the Kingdom of God, the study of which is begun in Level II, is expanded with several different approaches, the parts of the Holy Eucharist celebration are studied and the Book of Genesis is introduced with several Bible studies. We look forward to sharing this learning with the children starting in September.

We are in need of a few volunteers to train as catechists, to assist in the Atria, and to help make materials, especially for the Level III children. Please speak to Deacon Maureen or Mary about how you can experience the joy of assisting children to fall in love with Jesus and to grow in faith. A Level 1 training is being held in New Paltz one Saturday a month through April 2023. For more information, contact us at deacon.maureen.demler@gmail.com or goldenmary73@gmail.com or see us at church.



In-Person Worship Services

Sunday:

7:30 am Morning Prayer in library

8:00 am Holy Eucharist Rite II

9:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II with organ and choir

10:45 am Christian Formation for all ages

Wednesday:

12:15 pm Holy Eucharist Rite II with anointing for healing, with COVID-19 precautions

Saturday:

4:30 pm Holy Eucharist Rite II, with Praise Band

Weekly Virtual Worship Schedule

Sunday:

7:30 am Morning Prayer Rite II virtually through Zoom via St. George's Online web page at https://stgeorgescp.org/st_georges_online

9:30 am Holy Eucharist Rite II virtually. Access via https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqGV25ahrgM9i8RQEOBjJmo2Fro8yRj_x

10:45 am Theological Reflection (TRs) on the Gospel reading for that day virtually through Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87182104399?>

Weekdays:

7:30 am Morning Prayer weekdays. On Zoom at https://stgeorgescp.org/st_georges_online

Reflection on the Bible Readings from the Daily Office lectionary via https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqGV25ahrgM_wqA08d_LU4zBnF4SVc-fN

See the St. George's Online web page at

https://stgeorgescp.org/st_georges_online for up to date information for online worship services and classes

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