

VOLUME

52

ISSUE

2

February
2011

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FOR ST. GEORGE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Orbit

St. George's Annual Meeting

THIS ISSUE

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Saturday

5:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of St. George's Episcopal Church is to foster a diverse, loving and faithful community, founded on scripture, tradition and reason.

We encourage everyone, through fellowship with one another and the Holy Spirit, to share time, talent and treasure in the worship of God, development of faith in Jesus Christ, and service to our community and the world.

Sunday, February 13, 2011 following the 10:30 a.m. service in the Undercroft

The current slate of nominees for elections:

Senior Warden

Rob Johnson

Junior Warden

Max Heintz

Four 3-year Vestry terms

Samuel Adebajo; Jane McGee-Rafal;

Judith Gaines; Kate Rodriguez

One 1-year Vestry term

Thelma Best

Two Lay Alternates to Diocesan Convention

Jeff Wehmeyer

Two Representatives to the Dayton Deanery

Eric Schryver; Jean Tarr

Nominations are still open for all positions. If you have someone you would like to nominate, please obtain the consent of that person and then contact the church office at 433-1781 or email@stgeorgeohio.org

St George's
Episcopal Church

STAFF:

The Rev. Benjamin Phillips, Rector
 rector@stgeorgeohio.org
 434-1781 x 102 or 545-5508

The Rev. Dave Cottrill
 The Rev. John Fredenburgh
 The Rev. Joanne Stearns
 Affiliate Priests

Linda Mench
 Director of Music
 linda.mench@me.com
 434-1781 x 105

Becky Grushon
 Minister for Christian
 Formation
 formation@stgeorgeohio.org
 434-1781 x 108

Jan Gimbrone
 Parish Administrator
 email@stgeorgeohio.org
 434-1781 x 100

Mitzi Stoner
 Business Manager
 business@stgeorgeohio.org
 434-1781 x 115

Brittany King
 Nursery Caregiver
 sasypeach@yahoo.com

MONTHLY ORBIT INFORMATION:

Deadline is the 15th of each month for the upcoming month. Please send to Diane Gentner at dtgentner@gmail.com

SUNDAY ORBIT INFORMATION:

Must be submitted by noon each Tuesday for the following Sunday to Jan Gimbrone, administrator@stgeorgeohio.org.

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Thursday
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



In this season of Epiphany, I am teaching and preaching on St. Paul's letter of 1 Corinthians. One of the key elements this letter reveals is the disparity between the ideal nature and behavior of Christians and the way the Church actually acts.

What exactly is the Church? This a simple question with a lot of good material to supply in the answer. For today, here is my answer. The Church is first and foremost a worshipping community. Yes, we serve the wider community (the nation and even the world), and yes, we fulfill our callings in our families and jobs as Christians who are teachers, doctors, mechanics, and more. But when the Faithful gather together, what we are, first and foremost, is a community of worshippers. Jesus said that the Father is looking for those who will worship in Spirit and Truth (John 4:23), and this is a distinct mark and privilege of those who are in Christ and make up the "blessed company of all faithful people."

To that end, much (and ideally all) of what we do on Sunday mornings is intended to demonstrate these two basic and integrated aspects of our Christian lives: Worship and Community. Let me say a bit about each.

Our worship is first and primarily vertical. The object of our worship is the risen and reigning Lord Jesus Christ, thus we "lift up our hearts... we lift them up unto the Lord." What you and I need most on Sunday morning is to be drawn upward and refreshed, restored and reminded of the reality of our presence in Christ in the heavenly places (Ephesians 1:3). It is there that we join with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven to proclaim the glory of His Name. It is also there that the Lord ministers to us. He hears our prayers, he pours his grace and love on us who are weary, weak and wounded. He assures us through His own Spirit, that we are indeed members of His body.

The result of all this is a profound re-orienting of our horizontal reality. God ministers to us during worship so that we might go out and do "the work that he has prepared for us to do." But we also must recognize that, in our worship, we are not at it alone. Yes, we are individuals, and yes, God meets us and abides in us as individual persons. Unlike iTunes, iPods, and iPhones, this is not iWorship, where we show up and praise and pray in our own little holy bubble! We are a Community. As a community it is important that in worship we doing things together.

Our liturgy enables this "togetherness" of worship to happen. This is why when we stand to sing hymns, we stand together. When we kneel to pray, we kneel to pray together. When we sit to listen, we listen together. While on the one hand, it really doesn't matter whether we stand at the Prayers of the People and kneel at the

Prayer of Consecration, or vice versa. But on the other hand, it does matter that we do it together. As a Community of Worshippers we are all priests serving under the one true High Priest, Jesus Christ. This is often called "the priesthood of all believers."

So, when we stand at the Prayer of Consecration, one of the things we display in standing is that we celebrate the Eucharist together as a community of worshippers. When we kneel at the Prayers of the People, we are interceding for those in need, for our country, family, and the world, as a community of worshippers. I know that these things are perhaps a bit different from the way they have been done before. I know that there are some in our community for whom kneeling or standing might be physically difficult, and I believe they should certainly do as they are able with all grace and love. I know that there are some who just prefer to do it the previous way. That is fine, too. My intent is not to judge, but rather my hope in all this is two-fold: first: that we do things together to strengthen our bonds of community, and second, that our worship and experience of Jesus Christ will be enriched, both as individuals and as a community.

Yours in Christ,

Ben



Senior Warden Report

Dear People of St. George's

Well, this is it – my last column. We formed the Visions 2000 Implementation Commission in 2001. Shortly thereafter, as co-chair, I took over this update column. As I moved from Co-Chair of ImpCom and Vestry Member to Co-Chair of ImpCom and Junior Warden to Co-Chair of ImpCom and Senior Warden, I was able to keep you posted on my churchly endeavors.

You may recall a number of my inspirational experiences. How could an update on the installation of the stained-glass windows be complete without a story about my kids growing up? No article on church affairs would be complete without a paragraph or two about a son's film-making exploits or a daughter's gymnastic achievements. Other church improvements were embellished by tales concerning Pepper-the-Cat (may she rest in peace) and Phoebe-the-Dog (who, at 13, is still managing pretty well for a Labrador Retriever). I always felt, too, that it was important to mix church information with

travelogues on vacations and mini-trips that Mary Ann and I took. Occasionally, one of you would talk to me about an article and express concern that I was somewhat henpecked. Mary Ann has told me to tell you that nothing could be further from the truth.

Over the years the sanctuary was refurbished; a nursery was added; the new lighting and air handling systems were installed; the Memorial Garden was improved; 41 Manor Lane was bought, flooded and rejuvenated --and other important events were chronicled. I've written about church outings and picnics, camping trips with church families, rafting trips down the New River and "out of boat" experiences. Episcopalians are great fishers of fish! I've related extraordinary fishing expeditions with Steve Hansell, Glenn Rodgers and my other angling church friends.

I've had the privilege, not only of overseeing improvements to the church, but also of being the Master of Ceremonies at Annual Spaghetti Suppers

and the 50th Anniversary Celebration of St. George's Church. That event took place at Yankee Trace, and that reminds me of another important topic I have covered along the years. Golf! What summer would have been complete without participating in the St. George's-Ralph Stahl organized-Golf Scramble? St. George's and golf provided me with stories about my kids, my perennial golf partner, Charlie Roup, and others like Steve Gustafson, Bob Hard, Andy Knowles and Barry Greene.

This has been a great decade for Mary Ann and me. It has been a pleasure being a part of a great family and helping to nurture our church. God has provided me with a lot of fun and interesting experiences as I have taken on leadership roles over the years. To be provided with a forum in the monthly Orbit for sharing my experiences, both church and slice-of-life related, has been a real bonus. I hope that I have informed and amused you.

As I complete my tenure of service on the vestry and as Senior Warden, I leave us in

good hands. We have a new, smart, prayerful and forward-thinking rector, a new and gifted choir director and a top-notch vestry. The Nominees for the 2011 vestry will only make this group better. In addition, Rob Johnson and Max Heintz will be super as Senior and Junior Wardens. This will be my last Orbit article as Senior Warden. It has been a pleasure to serve you in this capacity. Thank you so much!

Uh, oh!!!...Mary Ann will be home soon from babysitting our grand daughter, Mina. I promised to get supper ready and I haven't cut one carrot... Gotta go!!!

Peace be with you,
Patrick MacKenzie



Save the Date
Celebration of New Ministry and
Installation of The Reverend Benjamin Phillips
Rector of St. George's Episcopal Church
Friday, March 4, 2011
6:00 p.m.

For more information, check our website at www.stgeorgeohio.org

Music at St. George's



As we continue our Epiphany journey this month, I am reminded of a story. We celebrate the presence of God with us; shining in our hearts, minds, words, and actions all year. My story begins with the children's choir this past December and how they learned with much enthusiasm the refrain, "Ideo, Gloria in excelsis Deo" (therefore, glory to God!) from the 16th century hymn "Personent Hodie". As I was taking communion on Christmas Eve and the adult choir was singing that particular hymn, a young chorister whispered to me he recognized that "Ideo" song, but liked it much better when the children were singing it! So, there we were, in the presence of God: That light was shining brighter than ever in this young person's mind and heart -- those words

shaping his faith -- and I was humbled again in the awesomeness of our Lord.

Singing with the children and teaching them about the glory of God through music is a great place for us to begin choral groups within our Christian Formation. Creating an opportunity for the children at St George's to learn about music and our rich heritage of hymnody is my challenge this winter. My goal as an educator and church musician is to provide everyone an opportunity to experience the teachings of Jesus through song, learn about our rich liturgical tradition, gain music reading/singing technique and mostly enjoy creating music for the glory of God.

If you are interested in having your child join a

children's choir, please let me know. The process of developing a curriculum and creating a rehearsal schedule depends on the age group and availability of the children involved.

Adults interested in exploring their musical gifts are more than welcome to join the choir. We meet every Thursday evening from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and sing at the 10:30 a.m. service each Sunday. Or join our Festival Choir which will have a limited number of rehearsals to prepare for special services (i.e., Easter and Holy Week).

Linda Mench



For more information, check our website at www.stgeorgeohio.org

Christian Formation Corner

Looking out at the cold February weather, I can hardly imagine the plants and bulbs under the snow and ice. I look at the pictures of our youngsters planting pansies and playing outside during VBS and remember how God is always renewing everything around us. We are truly blessed.

We had such a great turnout for the Communion Preparation class that The Reverend Ben is planning to hold more of these classes for all who wish to come. Keep an eye on your Sunday Orbit for future dates.

Calling all 3rd – 5th graders!

Saturday, February 5th, at 2:00 p.m. – We will be making the ever popular St. George's Pizza Rolls for sale on February 6th (Super Bowl Sunday). We will follow this FUNdraiser with a trip to the grocery for a shopping contest to will fill the red wagons to overflowing for the food pantry. Sign up is in the lounge.

Save the Date for our next Yeck Adventure:

Sunday, March 13th following the 10:30 a.m. service, we will travel to the Dayton Art Institute for a delicious buffet lunch followed by a dragon hunt. Please call 434-1781 ext. 108 or e-mail formation@stgeorgeohio.org, or sign up in the lounge.

Becky Grushon



PHOTO CREDITS
Photos in this issue of the Orbit were submitted by, Joan McGannon, Eric Schryver and Susan Wehmeyer. We invite photos of parish activities and interesting events in the lives of our parishioners. Please submit your images to Eric Schryver at Leric-sue@sbcglobal.net.

Welcome Our New Affiliate Priest



We are please to welcome Dave Cottrill as a new Affiliate Priest. Dave is originally from the Diocese of Southern Ohio. He is a retired Air Force Chaplain and has served at various bases around the world. His last assignment before retiring in 1993, was Wright Patterson Air Force Base. Since then he has served as an Assistant at Christ Church, Dayton, and was Chaplain at

Marjorie Lee Retirement Community in Cincinnati for ten years before retiring from that position in 2007. Since then he has enjoyed assisting in parishes around the diocese as he is needed. And he and Marty enjoy spoiling their granddaughters, who live in the Dayton area.

Dave and his wife, Marty have been attending St. George's since October. They helped with the Greening of the Church for Christmas and support MVERN.

We welcome Dave and Marty Cottrill and look forward to their continued minstry among us.

For more information, check our website at www.stgeorgeohio.org

Missionary Annual Report



Anita and Michael Dohn, SAMS missionaries working with la Iglesia Episcopal Dominicana Health Ministry at Clínica Esperanza y Caridad, San Pedro de Macorís, Dominican Republic

Community Health

More than ten years ago, we arrived here as missionaries with two basic premises about health missions:

1. Health missions have to actually improve people's health.
 2. The process is as important as the health results.
- At the end of 2010, we evaluated a three-year community health promotion project in about a dozen communities (mostly funded by Episcopal Relief and Development with a little help from the William Cooper Procter Fund and others).

Surveys showed that people were healthier and acting healthier (more hand washing, more use of potable water, more children vaccinated, for example). Evaluations of the process indicated that mothers had more confidence in their abilities to care for their families; that the volunteer health promoters had higher levels of self-respect; that many health promoters had developed their previously

unrecognized skills, such as management abilities that let them join neighborhood councils in leadership positions; and that some communities have grown into new visions of what they might accomplish for themselves.

There are more results (the final evaluation runs 18 pages without the appendices), but the point is that we have tried to stay faithful to those initial premises ... and it is apparently working. As far as community health, the partnership with ERD continues with expanded programs in domestic and gender violence, nutrition (especially early childhood nutrition), and the area of alcohol misuse.

The Clinic in General

The HIV/AIDS unit continued on shaky economic ground in 2010. Actually, the finances were steady except for the actual salaries of the key professional personnel (physician, nurse, psychologist, and laboratory technician). Without them, the whole thing would fall apart, of course. Maybe 2011 will be the year when the salaries get covered.

While the dismal world economy has produced some cutbacks in services and staff at the Clinic during the past two years, the basic program remains strong with medical care, rehabilitation and physical medicine, and community health all doing well.

Financial Positions

Overall, the Clinic had its largest operating budget ever in 2010 (about US\$ 400,000) and finished with almost no outstanding debt – the strongest financial position since it opened in 1998. Coincidentally, our mission account at SAMS that pays our salaries was at its lowest level since we left the USA in 1999 – our weakest financial position ever.

Visitors

Visitors this year included a short-term Southern Baptist mission team that worked with the community health promoters; two medical students from UNC-Chapel Hill who worked with patients and helped with a quality improvement project; two students from the National Cathedral School in Washington, DC, who worked on a project documenting discrimination and stigma related to HIV/AIDS; and a graduate from Westmont College going to medical school next year who did a little bit of everything while she was here.

Plans

Our plans are to stay here. We have work plans for several years into the future. Elizabeth (five when she arrived here and in tenth grade now) wants to finish high school here. And we haven't felt called to anywhere else ... so, here we are.

For more information, check our website at www.stgeorgeohio.org

SPECIAL MINISTRIES

USHERS

Men, women and couples are welcome. To volunteer to serve approximately once a month as a 10:30 a.m. usher contact: Don Smith at 433-3759, or church office. To usher for the 5:00 p.m. services, contact Dan Strawn at 312-1256, or email him at dstrawn@hotmail.com.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry supports the pastoral care efforts of the clergy. If you or anyone you know would benefit from a confidential relationship with a Stephen Minister, contact Fay Layden at 433-3867, or Jean Case at 434-4260. Supervision meetings are on the third Tuesdays of the month.

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

If you would like to have communion brought to you, on a one-time, temporary, or long-term basis, please call the church office at 434-1781.

THE SOCIAL OUTREACH COMMISSION

New participants are always welcome. The Commission meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at St. George's. Contact John Weiler, Chair, at 748-9958.

HOSPITALITY HOUR

Do you enjoy visiting with your friends after the 10:30 a.m. service with coffee and a snack? Please sign up in the Parish Hall for coffee hour to continue this tradition. Contact: Sue Schryver at 433-1252 or email her at Lericsue@sbcglobal.net

GREETERS

Greeters are people who make sure there is a friendly face to greet all who come to worship at St. George's by being at the entrance to the church on Sunday to greet visitors and make them feel welcome. Contact Linda and Jeremy Curtoys at 312-1041.

ALTAR GUILD

The members of St. George's Altar Guild work behind the scenes to prepare the church for worship and to care for the vestments and liturgical objects. Contact Sara Rich at 293-6669.

AUDIO CDs FOR THE HOMEBOUND

You can listen to the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Call the church office to be put on the list to receive audio CDs. Audio recordings of the Rev. Phillips' sermons are available on the St. George website.

PRAYER MINISTRY

The Prayer Ministry has two prayer ministers in the Chapel of the Holy Spirit following Communion at the 10:30 a.m. service on the first and third Sundays of each month. We anoint, lay on hands and pray for healing of body, spirit, emotions, relationships, memories. We also offer intercessory prayer as we pray to be conduits of God's healing love to His glory, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.



Gratitude for Outgoing Vestry Members



Elizabeth Gustafson



Patrick MacKenzie



Eric Schryver

For more information, check our website at www.stgeorgeohio.org



Return Service Requested

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<p>1 Staff Meeting 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>Social Issues 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>C.S. Lewis Reading Group 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>2 Bible Study 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>3 Education for Ministry 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>4 Office Closed</p> <p>AA Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>5 Healing Service with Holy Eucharist 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>NA (Closed) 8:00 p.m.</p>
<p>6 Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rector's Bible Study and Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayer Ministry 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>7 Membership Commission 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>8 Knights of the Roundtable 11:45 am</p> <p>Staff Meeting 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>C.S. Lewis 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>9 Bible Study 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Salvation Army Preparation 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>Healing Ministry 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>10 Education for Ministry 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>11 Office Closed</p> <p>AA Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>12 Holy Eucharist 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>NA (Closed) 8:00 p.m.</p>
<p>13 Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rector's Bible Study and Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. ANNUAL MEETING Noon</p>	<p>14 Reading Group 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>15 Stephen Ministry 9:30 A.M. Staff Meeting 1:00 p.m. C.S. Lewis Reading Group 7:30 p.m. Monthly Orbit Deadline</p>	<p>16 Bible Study 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>17 Education for Ministry 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>18 Office Closed</p> <p>AA Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>19 Holy Eucharist 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>NA (Closed) 8:00 p.m.</p>
<p>20 Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rector's Bible Study and Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayer Ministry 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>21 Vestry Meeting 7:15 p.m.</p>	<p>22 Staff Meeting 1:00 p.m.</p> <p>C.S. Lewis Reading Group 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>23 Bible Study 9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>24 Education for Ministry 6:30 P.M.</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>25 Office Closed</p> <p>AA Meeting 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>26 Holy Eucharist 5:00 p.m.</p> <p>NA (Closed) 8:00 p.m.</p>
<p>27 Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m. Rector's Bible Study and Adult Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m.</p>	<p>28</p>					