

VOLUME

52

ISSUE

9

October
2011

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FOR ST. GEORGE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Orbit

MVERN Borscht Bash II

THIS ISSUE

FROM THE RECTOR	P.2
SENIOR WARDEN / SECOND SUNDAY SUPPERS	P.3
MUSIC AT ST. GEORGE'S	P.4
CHRISTIAN FORMATION / RE-KEYING PROJECT	P.5
CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS / CONFERENCE / FINANCES	P.6
READING GROUP / LUNCH AT THE CASTLE	P.7
CALENDAR	P.8

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Sunday

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
 5:00 p.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.

A Fundraiser for our Youth Exchange

Enjoy borscht, music and a video presentation of
The Russian Pilgrimage of 2011



- Russian Borscht Supper
- Sale of Russian Crafts
- Silent Auctions include:
 - *Gift baskets
 - *Vacation Get-a-Way to summer home near Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore, Glen Arbor, Michigan

Sunday, October 16, 2011

5:45 pm

St. George's Episcopal Church
 5520 Far Hills Avenue
 Dayton, OH

Fundraiser Tickets - \$25

\$50 for a patron ticket (To give additional support)



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
 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

Lori Constantine
 Nursery Caregiver
 formation@stgeorgeohio.org

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.



Our new baby girl is doing wonderfully well, and Amy and I would both like to thank the people of St. George's for their kindness and generosity in helping us welcome Catherine. We would especially like to thank those who put together the fabulous (and very well attended!) reception on September 18th, particularly Bob and Beth Hard. There were many hands who worked to make the reception such a lively and well provisioned event. Many thanks to you all!

In last month's article I wrote about two of the key goals of our parish, namely the formation of a youth ministry and the overall growth of St. George's, and how these two goals are very closely linked. In fact, our youth ministry will feature very centrally in this year's Season of Stewardship (so stay tuned for more on that). For now, I'd like to present some ideas about understanding church growth, in a general perspective.

Churches can be a lot

like houseplants. A plant can grow only as big as the pot that holds it will allow. As a plant grows, it needs to be put in a bigger pot to facilitate its growth. For a church, the 'pot' is the overall system of how the church functions (not simply the size of the building!). In other words, how do members perceive their church: are we small, close-knit but intimate, versus large, program-oriented but disparate? How are decisions made and authority organized, and what are member's expectations of the leadership/clergy. The answers to these questions form the system, or 'pot' in which a church grows. The size of the "plant", i.e. the overall number of people in the church, is affected by the systems of the church, the "pot."

A number of church leaders who study church size dynamics give five general categories based on average Sunday attendance: Family size (less than 75 per Sunday); Pastoral size (76 – 140); Transitional size (141 – 225); Program size (226-400); and Resource size (401 and up). While these are not hard and fast numbers, they help to give a basis for understanding how various sized church operate. St. George's falls very solidly in the Transitional size, so named because a church our size car-

ries qualities of both a Pastoral and a Program sized church.

In his book *How to Hit the Ground Running* (which the Vestry and I have been reading together), veteran church leader Neill Michell describes the chief characteristic of the transitional sized church as a tension between a desire for more and better programs, and the desire to maintain intimacy. A larger church can certainly be a warm and welcoming place, but not necessarily be like Cheers, where "everybody knows your name." Larger churches have more resources to impact their community and the world, but give up a lot of the personal contact with clergy and a more intimate "feel" among members.

Perhaps some of these ideas resonate with you as you think about where St. George's has been and what we're like now. My hope is that by beginning to think about these ideas we can begin to have discussion on our future and what ministry and worship and community life at St. George's will be like in the year's to come. Next month, I'll focus on some ideas surrounding youth ministry, and in December wrap up with some potential goals.

Yours in Christ

Ben

Senior Warden Report

We recently went back to Connecticut as my sister was getting married. My mother still lives in the house we grew up in, though she is trying to sell it right now (and actually signed a contract the day before we left). The house suffered some damage during Hurricane Irene—a 75 foot tall tree fell on my old bedroom, smashing the roof and chimney. It was strange to go back home and see my old bedroom gutted (as well as a good portion of the rest of the house). Thankfully, insurance is taking care of things and some much needed work on the house will now be completed thanks to this natural disaster. The whole scenario reminded me of our rectory. While it was heartbreaking to learn that the house we intended to be the rectory was destroyed on the interior, it certainly turned out well in the end. There is no doubt that that “disaster” turned into something wonderful—after all of the gutting and reconstruction, our rectory is in terrific shape. I’m sure the same will occur for

my mother’s house and should help make it even more sellable (if it isn’t sold already).

While back home, we were able to attend the church where I grew up—the Church of the Epiphany. It is a much smaller church than St. George’s—it was built in 1848 and you could probably fit two of that church building within St. George’s. If you’re curious, there is a neat nighttime picture here: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Church-of-The-Epiphany/111563108883022> Attendance wise, it is much smaller as well. Weekend attendance probably rarely cracks 30 people between two services.

During my teen years in the 1980’s, attendance was much stronger and there were plenty of youth. While we had a youth group, it was rare that we ever did anything. Looking back, the fact that we had a youth group may have been more a “me too” marketing story than anything of real value.

When Michele and I first arrived at St. George’s in 1998, the youth program was one of the things that most impressed me about St. George’s. While part of that impression was probably due to the strong contrast of my own experience as a youth, most of it was due to the true strength of the program and commitment our parish had to it. Unfortunately, this program experienced a decline over the past few years to the point of being almost like my personal youth experience. You may recall that our parish survey during our search process revealed that a strong youth program, parish growth and stable financials were the top three priorities for our parish. Our finances have been stable for several years now and Ben has now been here over a year—it is time tackle our other priorities. Our Stewardship campaign for this year has a goal to reach more people for God’s kingdom. A key component of meeting this goal is to bring our youth program back

to previous levels. To bring our youth program back to the level it once was, we’ll need someone who is focused on building a strong program that is appealing to both parents and youth. We believe bringing on a part time youth minister will help us meet this goal. We don’t make this goal without acknowledging the economic realities we face today. But if we want the attention on the program that we’ve indicated via our parish survey, a youth minister will be a key piece. During this Stewardship campaign season, I encourage you to consider how you can assist St. George’s in restoring a crucial part of our parish life and future.

Rob Johnson



**Second
Sunday
Suppers**



Sunday, October 9
Sunday, November 13
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Parish Hall

Please join us for these potluck suppers and enjoy time together. The whole family is welcome. Bring a dish to share and even a bottle of wine if you want. Questions can be addressed to Elizabeth Gustafson (433-4170, gustafso@udayton.edu) or Diane Gentner (438-1257, dtgentner@gmail.com)

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

CONTACT: MUSIC@STGEORGEOHIO.ORG

MUSIC NOTES

October 2011

Linda Mench, music director

SINGING OUR FAITH
music@StGeorge series
"SONGS OF THANKFULNESS"

SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 16TH

10:30AM
SERVICE

SINGING OUR FAITH series begins...

JOIN THE MUSICIANS OF ST
GEORGE'S FESTIVAL CHOIR
AND THE OAKWOOD BRASS
FOR

"SONGS OF THANKFULNESS"

Singing our Faith is a music series designed to enhance our worship experience throughout the year in addition to our festival services on days such as Christmas and Easter. "Songs of Thankfulness" is intended to support the grateful giving and blessings our community has received by working with the MVERN folks. As we prepare to celebrate the Borscht Bash later in the evening, let our songs of thankfulness set your hearts and minds on the many blessings we have received!

"Tell me, I forget...
show me,
I remember...
Involve me, I
understand."
Carl Orff

St George's Music OPPORTUNITIES:
CONTACT LINDA MENCH for details....

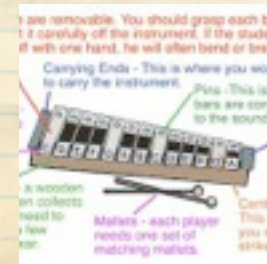
Sundays 9:20am Children's Choir (choir room for children grades 2 and up)

Sundays 9:30am Joyful Noise Choir (undercroft for ages 3 thru 1st grade)

Tuesdays@11am Choir 101 (choir room: adults: intro to singing and music reading, bring your lunch!)

Thursdays @ 7pm: Adult Choir: (choir room, sings most Sundays during the school year)

FESTIVAL CHOIR: (sing 3 rehearsals then special services such as Faith series and Christmas)



Orff Instruments arrive for Children's Choir!

Christian Formation Corner

Soup on the stove, a warm sweater, the chill in the air reminds me – IT'S TIME TO PLAN THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT! Linda has selected a wonderful, meaningful, and humorous play for the children (and a few adults) to perform on December 18. So please take a look at all of the activities we have to look forward to and plan to participate in a few, if not all, of them!

Every Sunday:

- 9:20 a.m. – "Children's Choir" for children 2nd grade and up. Meet in the choir room to learn to worship with music!
- 9:30 a.m. – "Joyful Noise" choir begins October 2. Children ages 3 Years – 1st grade meet in the undercroft for fun and music!
- 10:30 a.m. – We continue to learn about worship in the Episcopal Church. Children ages 3 years – 6th grade meet in the classrooms downstairs. We are in the "Cross" year of the Episcopal Children's Curriculum. To view the curriculum visit: vtsepiscopalchildren'scurriculum.com.

Sunday, October 9: Let's go to "Young's Jersey Dairy" after church for lunch, ice cream, putt-putt, or a trip through the Corn Maze! Sign up in the lounge!

Sunday, October 30: We continue our quest for the "Best Chili". Let's see who can try to win over our Reigning Chili King: Nate

Also

Pageant auditions/rehearsal: There are many parts to fill – speaking parts, singing parts, quiet parts, and noisy parts. Come see what fits you! Attending Sunday morning rehearsals will be required!

If you have any questions regarding activities, etc., please call or e-mail Becky Grushon at (937)434-1781, ext.108 or formation@stgeorgeohio.org



PARISH PHOTOGRAPHERS

Photos in the Orbit are submitted by our Parish Photographers:
 Peg Cothorn,
 Dave Cottrill,
 Marty Cottrill,
 Diane Gentner,
 Becky Grushon,
 Carol Knox,
 Ted Knox,
 Joan McGannon,
 Mike Mushala,
 Eric Schryver,
 Lisa Sweeny 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 Lericusue@sbcglobal.net.

Re-Keying Project - New Locks for the Parish

St. George's is growing. The number of parish leaders and volunteers, as well as the number of outside groups who use our space, is increasing. To keep up with this we need to keep track of how many keys, and what type, are in circulation, and who has them in their possession. It has also been a number of years since the building was re-keyed and is something that should happen as a regular part of a church's life. In order to be better stewards of our property, to increase accountability that reflects a church of our size and activity, and in the interest of long term security, the Vestry, with the recommendation of the Building & Grounds Com-

mission, determined that new locks were needed.

The work will begin on October 17th and involve every door in the building. All new keys will be issued through the Business Office beginning on Wednesday, October 19th and may be signed out during regular office hours, Mon-Thurs, 9:00am-3:00pm. Keys must be signed out in person, and requires agreeing to the St. George's key policy. Please contact Business Manager, Mitzi Stoner, with any questions. Please note that this applies to both internal members/leaders/volunteers who have keys (such as Vergers, Altar Guild, ushers, etc.) as well as outside

groups who use and/or rent our facilities.

Please also note that projects of this nature always carry a certain degree of disruption to the church's life. Be assured everything is being done to minimize any disruption and ensure as smooth and expedient a transition as possible. We ask for your patience as we go about completing this good and necessary project.



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

Diocesan Convention Volunteers Needed

Do you want to volunteer to work at the 137th Diocesan Convention being held at the Hope Hotel & Holbrooke Conference Center in Dayton, OH? You will be able to experience the excitement of our Diocese while being an integral part of the workings of the convention.



Volunteers needed include pages, ushers, credentials, registration, and people to help put all of the packets together. Some of the jobs require you to be able to stand for long periods or to lift boxes; others don't, so everyone has the opportunity to help.

The main dates for volunteering are Thursday November 10th 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at Canterbury Court to assemble convention packages. Friday November 11th 8:00 – 5:00 first day of convention (you can work all or part of the day), and Saturday November 12th 8:00 – 5:00 second and final day of the convention (you can work all or part of the day).

We need a large number of volunteers to ensure the convention runs smoothly so please help out.

To sign-up to volunteer use the link below:

<https://diosohio.wufoo.com/forms/convention-volunteer-signup/>

Or you can go to the main DSO Website <http://www.diosohio.org/> then go to the conventions tab and click volunteers from there.

If you have any questions please contact Kendall Rubino at 937-426-2749



Christianity and Literature Conference

The University of Dayton will host the 2011 Midwest regional meeting of the Conference on Christianity and Literature, with the theme *The Deeds of Love in the Service of Peace*, on October 28-29, 2011. The conference, which runs late Friday afternoon through late Saturday afternoon, features keynote addresses by poet, essayist, and memoirist Nancy Mairs and by scholar, poet, and novelist Richard Kearney. Concurrent sessions will offer panels addressing a variety of perspectives, periods, critical approaches, and religious traditions addressing the conference theme and other topics relevant to the study of Christianity and literature. A morning prayer in the Taizé tradition and a dance workshop with members of the renowned Dayton Contemporary Dance Company will also be part of the conference program.

Information on the keynote speakers is available on our Web page. The complete schedule and registration details will soon be added as well. You can find us on the Web by searching for the Department of English at UD or by using this condensed link: <http://tiny.cc/ekv4w>

St. George's member Sheila Hassell Hughes (English Dept. chair at UD) will be happy to answer any questions. You can also contact Molly.Sexton@notes.udayton.edu for more information.



FINANCIAL UPDATE

St. George's Episcopal Church

	Current Period	Year to Date	2011	2011
	August	Totals	8/12 Budget	Total Budget
Income				
Contributions	\$ 26,592	\$ 283,680	\$ 261,439	\$ 392,158
Other Income	\$ 672	\$ 15,494	\$ 16,448	\$ 24,672
Total Income	\$ 27,264	\$ 299,174	\$ 277,877	\$ 416,830
Expenses				
Parish Program	\$ 11,039	\$ 82,541	\$ 95,939	\$ 143,908
Personnel	\$ 15,961	\$ 126,663	\$ 124,147	\$ 186,220
Bldg/Ground	\$ 10,674	\$ 95,300	\$ 91,313	\$ 136,969
Total Expenses	\$ 37,674	\$ 304,504	\$ 311,398	\$ 467,097
Prior Year Carry-over				\$ 42,375
Net Inc/(Exp)	\$ (10,410)	\$ (5,330)	\$ (33,511)	\$ (7,892)



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

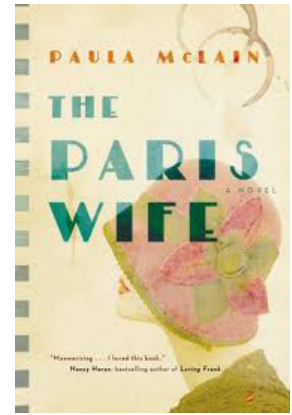
Reading Group Selections

October 10 at 7:00 p.m. THE PARIS WIFE by Paula McLain

A deeply evocative story of ambition and betrayal, *The Paris Wife* captures a remarkable period of time—Paris in the twenties—and an extraordinary love affair between two unforgettable people: Ernest Hemingway and his wife Hadley.

In Chicago in 1920, Hadley Richardson is a quiet twenty-eight-year-old who has all but given up on love and happiness—until she meets Ernest Hemingway and finds herself captivated by his good looks, intensity, and passionate desire to write. Following a whirlwind courtship and wedding, the pair set sail for Paris, where they become the golden couple in a lively and volatile group of expatriates that includes Gertrude Stein, Ezra Pound, and F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald.

But the hard-drinking and fast-living café life does not celebrate traditional notions of family and monogamy. As Hadley struggles with jealousy and self-doubt and Ernest wrestles with his burgeoning writing career, they must confront a deception that could prove the undoing of one of the great romances in literary history.

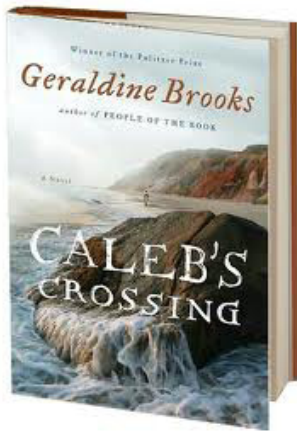


November 14 at 7:00 p.m. *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks

Once again, Geraldine Brooks takes a remarkable shard of history and brings it to vivid life. In 1665, a young man from Martha's Vineyard became the first Native American to graduate from Harvard College. Upon this slender factual scaffold, Brooks has created a luminous tale of love and faith, magic and adventure.

The narrator of *Caleb's Crossing* is Bethia Mayfield, growing up in the tiny settlement of Great Harbor amid a small band of pioneers and Puritans. Restless and curious, she yearns after an education that is closed to her by her sex. As often as she can, she slips away to explore the island's glistening beaches and observe its native Wampanoag inhabitants. At twelve, she encounters Caleb, the young son of a chieftain, and the two forge a tentative secret friendship that draws each into the alien world of the other. Bethia's minister father tries to convert the Wampanoag, awakening the wrath of the tribe's shaman, against whose magic he must test his own beliefs. One of his projects becomes the education of Caleb, and a year later, Caleb is in Cambridge, studying Latin and Greek among the colonial elite. There, Bethia finds herself reluctantly indentured as a housekeeper and can closely observe Caleb's crossing of cultures.

Like Brooks's beloved narrator Anna in *Year of Wonders*, Bethia proves an emotionally irresistible guide to the wilds of Martha's Vineyard and the intimate spaces of the human heart. Evocative and utterly absorbing, *Caleb's Crossing* further establishes Brooks's place as one of our most acclaimed novelists.



Lunch at The Castle

St. George's has begun a program of providing lunch once a month to The Castle. The Castle provides an environment that encourages people who have mental disorders to achieve an improved level of competence and independence. Several members of St. George's have been involved at The Castle, which operates five days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. offering various programs in a supportive environment for those who experience mental disorders. Because lunch is the main meal for most of their members, the turkey tetrazzini that we took to the Booth House is expected to work well at The Castle.

Our first lunch was served on September 22nd and we will be providing lunch on the third Thursday of each month beginning on October 20, 2011. We will be serving approximately 50 people. Based on previous experience, there will be an ongoing need for volunteers to do such things as preparing and cooking the main courses, serving at the Castle, cooking turkeys, bringing desserts, etc. Everyone is welcome to participate. Food preparation will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the meal will be delivered about 11:00 a.m.



We will need desserts for the meal each month. Please bring them to St. George's before 10:30 a.m. on the day of the lunch (Oct. 20). If possible, use disposable containers. If you wish to bring them before the 20th, mark them for The Castle and place them in the downstairs kitchen or freezer. There are five or six members who have diabetes, so one sugar free dessert would be wonderful.

For more information feel free to contact Mary MacLean (delivery and serving of food) timmarymac@aol.com or Marcie Weiler (purchase, preparation of food and desserts) john.weiler@earthlink.net.

John Weiler, Chair
Social Issues Commission

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

5520 Far Hills Avenue
Dayton, Ohio 45429
OFFICE: (937) 434-1781
FAX: (937) 434-2148

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit #131
Dayton, Ohio

Return Service Requested

OCTOBER 2011 CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Children's Choir 9:20 a.m. Rector's Bible Study & Joyful Noise Choir 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayer Ministry 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.	3	4 Staff Meeting 10:00 a.m. Choir 101 11:00 a.m. Social Issues Commission 7:00 p.m. C.S. Lewis Reading Group 7:30 p.m.	5	6 Dragon Slayers 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	7 Office Closed AA Meeting 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.	1 / 8 NA (Closed) 8:00 p.m.
9 Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Children's Choir 9:20 a.m. Rector's Bible Study & Joyful Noise Choir 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. SECOND SUNDAY SUPPER 6:00 P.M.	10 Prayer Shawl Ministry 1:00 p.m. Reading Group 7:00 p.m.	11 Staff Meeting 10:00 a.m. Choir 101 11:00 a.m. C.S. Lewis Reading Group 7:30 p.m.	12 Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Building & Grounds 5:30 p.m. Education for Ministry 6:30 p.m. Finance Meeting 7:30 p.m.	13 Dragon Slayers 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	14 Office Closed AA Meeting 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.	15 NA (Closed) 8:00 p.m. Monthly Orbit Deadline
16 Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Children's Choir 9:20 a.m. Rector's Bible Study & Joyful Noise Choir 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Prayer Ministry 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.	17 Vestry Meeting 7:15 p.m.	18 Stephen Ministry 9:30 A.M. Staff Meeting 10:00 a.m. Choir 101 11:00 a.m. C.S. Lewis Reading Group 7:30 p.m.	19 Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Education for Ministry 6:30 p.m.	20 Dragon Slayers 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	21 Office Closed AA Meeting 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.	22 NA (Closed) 8:00 p.m.
23 Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Children's Choir 9:20 a.m. Rector's Bible Study & Joyful Noise Choir 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.	24	25 Staff Meeting 10:00 a.m. Choir 101 11:00 a.m. C.S. Lewis Reading Group 7:30 p.m.	26 Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Education for Ministry 6:30 p.m.	27 Dragon Slayers 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	28 Office Closed AA Meeting 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting 8:30 p.m.	29 NA (Closed) 8:00 p.m.
30 Holy Eucharist 8 a.m. Children's Choir 9:20 a.m. Rector's Bible Study & Joyful Noise Choir 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.	31					