

VOLUME

52

ISSUE

8

September
2011

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FOR ST. GEORGE'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Orbit

St. George's Fall Rummage Sale

THIS ISSUE

FROM THE RECTOR P.2
 SENIOR WARDEN / SECOND SUNDAY SUPPERS P.3
 MUSIC AT ST. GEORGE'S / FINANCIAL UPDATE P.4
 CHRISTIAN FORMATION / BAPTISMS P.5
 PARKING LOT PROJECT DETAIL P.6
 PARKING LOT FINANCES P.7
 CALENDAR P.8

Saturday, October 1, 2011

9:00 a.m.--1:00 p.m.

Proceeds support Outreach Projects locally, nationally, and internationally.

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.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO:

- Sort and display donations the week prior to the sale
- Set up the weekend of September 24 and 25
- Work during sale hours on Saturday
- Help to sack and load unsold items for the Salvation Army
- Help to take down and store our equipment



DONATIONS OF CLEAN, GENTLY USED ITEMS may be placed in the Undercroft

- Before and after services on Sunday, September 25, 2011.
- 9:30 a.m.--2:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26 through Thursday, September 29, 2011
- 9:30 a.m.--12:00 p.m. Friday, September 30, 2011
- 7:00 p.m.--8:00 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27 and Thursday, September 29, 2011

This year we CANNOT accept computers, monitors, full-size and analog TV's, printers, CPU's, scanners, or keyboards. These items do not sell, many charities do not accept them, and they must be hauled elsewhere.

PLEASE include some aspect of this sale in your fall calendar.

Jane Gallienne, Director

299-6012 or JGallienne@aol.com

Esther Wright, Coordinator

253-5857 or jwright@gemair.com

Michelle Johnson, Co-Chair

848-9186 or petepuma01@yahoo.com

Jean Case, Co-Chair

434-4260 or ecase001@woh.rr.com



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.



What a month August was – we welcomed the newest member of our family, Catherine Elizabeth Phillips, on August 19th. She is absolutely adorable and we are all doing well – albeit a little tired! Thank you all for your loving support and prayers throughout the pregnancy, and for sharing in our excitement.

When I arrived at St. George's a little over a year ago there were three aspects of the parish which the Search Commission and the Parish Profile indicated as key items for the new Rector to address. These three items are (in no particular order): finances, youth, and growth. Let me say a bit about the finances first.

Over the last year the Vestry, Staff, and Finance Commission have worked diligently with me to refine our finances, ask tough questions, and enable our

parish to do as much as possible with what the Lord has given us. Maintaining financial stability is an ongoing goal and requires constant vigilance, so I won't say "mission accomplished", but with our operating budget in the black (year to date), gifted and dedicated (and happy!) staff, and a new parking lot on the way, I think we're doing really well!

So how about the other two goals: youth and growth. I believe that building our youth ministry (and also increasing our existing children's ministry) is directly tied to the goal of overall parish growth. The Vestry and I have spent the last six months looking at some of these growth concepts, and this fall I'll be using my monthly Orbit article to communicate to our parish some concepts and ideas on church growth, so we can then properly approach questions and goals surrounding the building up of our children/youth/family ministries.

To kick things off, let me first say that healthy growth is always two-dimensional. There is numerical growth (increasing church membership) but also

growth of the individual in their faith in Jesus Christ. To be sure our desire is to attain to both.

Secondly, let me say that the essential beginning step for questions of church growth (vision, ministry, goals, etc.) is to understand where we are at present. Understanding the dynamics of our parish size, our expectations (particularly of our leaders and clergy), how decisions are made, and so on, is key to figuring out how we can grow together.

So, next month I'll be presenting some essential concepts to understanding church size dynamics. In November I'll be looking at children & youth ministry and how these affect and are related to the wider parish. Then in December I'll wrap all these ideas up and present some potential goals for the parish to consider as we begin to look at the New Year ahead. As we move through this series I certainly welcome conversation and responses from you all as we prayerfully and diligently seek to grow in the Lord!

Yours in Christ

Ben

Senior Warden Report

Time flies when you're having fun! It has now been over a year since Ben, Amy and David arrived at St. George's. I can still recall meeting Ben and Amy during their visit with us in May 2010, while the Search Commission was still deciding which candidate to call as our next rector. Pat MacKenzie and I spoke with Ben for much of that night and I left dinner feeling confident that God had good plans for St. George's. During my drive home, I had a moment where I knew God was calling me to pray about the pending Search Commission decision. I deviated from my route home and drove to St. George's to pray in the sanctuary. I do think God answered our collective prayers and has sent us a rector to lead us into the future.

Max Heintz and I recently conducted a Ministry Performance Review with

Ben. While preparing for the review, both of us spoke with several parishioners to gather their thoughts on how Ben has served us. Overwhelmingly, the comments we received praised Ben's efforts this past year. In mid-August, Ben, Max and I spent some time together discussing some of the successes we as a parish have enjoyed since he arrived and offered some advice on how to continue his great start with us. I know the three of us enjoyed reflecting on his time with us over the past year. While this was his formal review, I'm sure Ben would welcome any feedback you may have on his tenure with us so far. I encourage you to speak with Ben directly- I know he'll appreciate the feedback.

While not as exciting as a new rector is, St. George's is about to get another new addition—a new parking lot

with improved drainage and lighting. Thanks to Mamle Anim for leading the efforts to close the financial gap to get this project completed. I think she did a terrific job in educating all of us about why the additional work and funds are needed.

Thanks to the parish for responding so well to this call—we're well on our way to having this key project completed with the needed financial resources. Once the parking lot is completed, the work outlined in the Visions project will be complete. It took a few years but for those of us who were here when Visions was launched, we can see the terrific physical transformation that has taken place to our facilities. One last note—the annual Rummage Sale is fast approaching. We always do well with the donations for this sale that helps fund our Social Issues Commission

outreach activities. One thing I hope we can get broader participation for is the need for volunteer workers. If you haven't volunteered to work the Rummage Sale in the past, please consider doing so this year. We can always use more hands to help with the sorting and pricing. You don't need to work the entire time in the week leading up or the actual event—a few hours of your time would be welcomed. And you never know what kind of treasure you may get a sneak preview to!

Rob Johnson



Building and Grounds Commission

Your Building and Grounds Commission has met monthly and dealt with many issues from water intrusion at the beginning of summer to finalizing plans for the restoration of the parking lot. Frank Gentner, Barry Greene, Carol Herrick, Jim Montgomery, Rob Pinchott, Garth Williams and I are working to gain approval of our plan with the Township. We are working with surveyors to assure efficient parking space and improved drainage. Requests for final bids will be mailed out soon. In the meantime, if you haven't made a contribution or a pledge towards the project, please do so.

The Dragon Slayers have been hard at it every Thursday morning since spring. Bill Boyer, Barry Greene, Steve Gustafson, Rob Pinchott, Ron Shubert and I have done a lot of handy work both inside and outside the church. Perhaps the most striking example is the beams framing the entrance of the church. They are now a very Episcopal red. In addition, doors have been hung, benches and fences have been power-washed, batteries in emergency light fixtures have been replaced, computer wiring has been strung, brush and debris have been removed and on and on. And how about those "Welcome!" signs that now cover the "\$250 Fine" signs at our handicap parking spots? Thanks to the keen eyes of our Business Manager, Mitzi Stoner, and the ideas that pour forth from Steve Gustafson, there is always something to do. Now, if we only had a garden group that could tend to all the beds around the church.

Uh, Oh! I promised Mary Ann the bathroom sink drain would be cleaned out before she gets home from work. Being retired has its responsibilities! Gotta go!

Pat MacKenzie

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

Music Notes

SEPTEMBER 2011

“Singing our Faith” begins



Perhaps you're looking at this photo and wondering if I've gone mad...or ...What's around the next bend?...or Man, what a long, strange trip it's been this summer! I would answer probably yes to at least 2 of the above! It has been a long, crazy summer, full of unexpected turns, but also full of delightful and inspirational moments. And yes, some of those moments on the road, listening to music.

I'm not sure how many church musicians you've met in

your life, but I'd wager they all claim they hear scripture in terms of song phrases. Psalm 46 has a particular “sound” to it for me... “God is my refuge and strength, a very present help in

trouble”.

It was hours in the car listening music that led me to develop the “*Singing our Faith*” series this year. The series will highlight 4 musical services in addition to our church festivals (Christmas, Easter, All Saint's, etc).

October: Singing our Faith: Songs of Thankfulness

December: Singing our Faith: Songs of Expectation

February: Singing our Faith: Songs of Revival

Adult Choirs

St George's Church has plenty o' good room for you! We invite you to join us this season as we ramp up for “Singing our Faith” as well as providing music for weekly 10:30am services. If you love singing, but aren't sure of your ability or the time involved, it's really quite easy, just contact Linda:

Tuesdays at 11:00

CHOIR 101: an intro to singing and reading music, no experience required and we eat lunch together when we're finished!

Thursdays 7-9pm

Adult CHOIR rehearsal begins September 8th

Festival choir: meets on Thursdays for select weeks preceding a festival service, but these members don't sing in the weekly choir

Men's Choir, Women's Chorus and St George's Chamber Singers are also options if you'd like to sing.

ST GEORGE'S CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children's choir begins Sunday, September 11th at 9:30am in the choir room.

Parents please plan to stay with your child for this opening session. GET READY because this is going to be a GREAT year: We have all new Orff instruments: xylophones and drums for our use in services! Open to children grades 3-6, although teens are welcome to join us, too! So much great music to learn and lots of fun awaits us as we learn how to worship God thru music and share our discoveries with the congregation! Schedules for Sundays we sing will be published for parents.

Christian Formation Corner

Where can you find more than 100 people – children, youth and adults – singing, worshipping, and learning about “Being Ready for God”, “Giving Happily to God”, “Believing Fully in Jesus”, “Remembering Jesus Often”, and “Celebrating God Forever”? **St. George’s VBS** – that’s where! We had a great week together! I don’t think I have room on the page to list all of the people I want to thank who played HUGE supporting roles in this VBS adventure – just know it couldn’t have happened without you!

Moving into Fall (already?):

- **Sunday School** will resume its regular schedule beginning Sunday, September 11! We have an exciting year ahead of us!
- **Don’t forget** to join us for our annual “Start-up Sunday Sundaes Spectacular” following the 10:30 service.
- **9:30 a.m.** -- There will be a “Children’s Corner” in the Undercroft for all children ages 3 years – 3rd grade. Parents, please sign your children in at the desk located by the East Undercroft door (downstairs).
- **10:30 a.m.** -- We will be resuming our use of the Episcopal Children’s Curriculum (we will be in the “Cross” year). Children will be divided by Pre-K – K, 1st – 2nd, and 3rd – 5th age groups. Children will report to their classrooms after being signed in at the desk located by the East Undercroft door (downstairs).

We respectfully request your cooperation in signing your children in the Nursery and Sunday School.

Save the Date:

Saturday, September 17, 5:00p.m.

Gather your Moms, Grandmothers, Aunts, Daughters, and special friends for a “Girls Movie Night”. We will treat ourselves to mani/pedi’s (if you want), chocolate and other goodies, of course, and a special “chick flick”. Meet in the Parish Hall.

Wednesday, September 21, 5:00p.m.

Christian Formation meeting to gather and pray about future events - think Christmas!



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



Second Sunday Suppers



Sunday, September 11
Sunday, October 9
Sunday, November 13
 Time: 6:00 p.m.
 Location: Parish Hall

We've had such a good time this summer, we want more in the fall! 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)

New Eucharistic Visitors Coordinator

Musical would like to thank St. George's for the use of their building for the group's August retreat. The singers really appreciated the use of the kitchens, Parish Hall, and sanctuary. The retreat was a success and beautiful music was made! *Musical* hopes to see many of you at their concerts this season. Thank you again for your generosity.

For the past ten and a half years I have coordinated the Eucharistic Visitors effort at St. George's. It has been a wonderful journey and a rewarding challenge to serve the church in this way. I have enjoyed working with clergy, Eucharistic Visitors, and church members. At this time, I find it necessary to give up some church responsibilities and so I am stepping aside as coordinator; I will continue to serve as Eucharistic Visitor.

Ginny Reusing has agreed to be the coordinator. She knows firsthand the importance of home communion for those who are ill or infirm. Her husband, Chuck, was unable to attend church services for eight years due to a neurological illness. He received communion on a regular basis from dedicated EVs.

As in the past, if you need communion brought to you due to special circumstances, or you know someone who does, please call the church office or the Rector directly to make a request. Ginny will learn of the need this way and will follow through on the request; she is enthusiastic and eager to serve. There are currently nine EVs who are trained and licensed to serve.

Faithfully,
 Fay Layden

FINANCIAL UPDATE

St. George's Episcopal Church

	Current Period	Year to Date	2011	2011
	July	Totals	7/12 Budget	Total Budget
Income				
Contributions	\$ 36,174	\$ 257,087	\$ 228,759	\$ 392,158
Other Income	\$ 1,313	\$ 14,822	\$ 14,392	\$ 24,672
Total Income	\$ 37,487	\$ 271,909	\$ 243,151	\$ 416,830
Expenses				
Parish Program	\$ 9,999	\$ 71,502	\$ 83,946	\$ 143,908
Personnel	\$ 15,371	\$ 110,701	\$ 108,628	\$ 186,220
Bldg/Ground	\$ 8,922	\$ 84,626	\$ 79,899	\$ 136,969
Total Expenses	\$ 34,292	\$ 266,829	\$ 272,473	\$ 467,097
Prior Year Carry-over				\$ 42,375
Net Inc/(Exp)	\$ 3,195	\$ 5,080	\$ (29,322)	\$ (7,892)



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

Miami Valley Episcopal Russian Network (MVERN) Presents:

Borscht Bash II

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)
C.O.D. bar for soft drinks, wine, and Russian beer

Send Reservations to:

Ms. Mary Siegel
1915 Cider Mill Way
Tipp City, OH 45371
(maryesiegel@aol.com)



Checks payable to **MVERN**

Return Service Requested

SEPTEMBER 2011 CALENDAR

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