

Saint George's Parish News

September 2019

From Canon Hal



Lingering in the Past?

The other day our Administrator, Jody Simmons and I were talking about St. George's and its amazing history. Jody was talking about how the church and its leadership have functioned or not over our history. I asked him if he thought our parish family was dwelling in too much in the past. He said he don't know, but it was worth thinking about. So, I got to thinking about it the other day while listening to some classical music. You see, my attitude is that the past should be honored when appropriate, but if we linger too much in the past, we are ignoring the present and creating hurdles for the future. Being a Dietrich Bonhoffer fan, I wondered what this German Lutheran Pastor during the Second World War wrote about living to much in the past.

As luck would have it, I found one of his quotes in a devotional titled, *Seize the Day with Dietrich Bonhoffer*, by Charles Ringma. The reflection for February 5th is "Not Relaying on the Past;"—Exodus 16:15-19. It begins with a Bonhoffer quote¹, "I do not do something again today because it seemed to me to be to be good yesterday, but because the will of God points out this way to me today."

The devotion's words are: We can quite easily begin to live the Christian life out of habit. We live by the lessons of the past and draw life from experiences of yesterday. While it is important to gain wisdom from lessons of the past, the past cannot sustain the present. For the present we need new grace, inspiration and direction. Therefore, we should be thankful for all we have gained in the past, but we need to be open to new possibilities in the present. The closing thought, "Your mercies, O Lord, are new every morning."

Why this article today? Well, I'm new to this parish and have barely been here six weeks. I am learning about you, your history, your leadership and traditions of how you worship the Lord. I want you to know that we will not always agree about how we should proceed, but I promise you this, any suggestion or idea I have will be offered with respect for the past, a vision for the future and the groundedness of the present.

I hope you'll join me in this joint experiment known as a "new call."

--Canon Hal



¹ "No Rusty Swords; letters, lectures and notes, 1928-1936," by Bonhoffer, from *The Collected works of Dietrich Bonhoffer*, Volume 1, edited by Edwin H Robertson and John Bowden.

St. George's Episcopal Memorial Church

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2019 Church Picnic Highlights

St. George's Picnic was held on August 25th at Sertoma Park Shelter #7. 95 people were served an old fashion Picnic with chicken, watermelon, corn on the cob, beans & homemade ice cream cake. About 20 people took advantage of visiting the zoo. Everyone had a great time and the weather was perfect! We want to THANK everyone who helped plan, set-up, serve the meal and clean-up.—Picnic Committee; Meghan Gendron, Joanne Lassiter and Shirel Zillier



2019 Church Officers

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--|--------------|
| Priest in Charge | Canon Hal Weidman | padreausig@gmail.com | 605-390-3570 |
| Sr. Warden | Jane White | kayak121@hotmail.com | 701-471-2660 |
| Jr. Warden | Vacant | | |
| Treasurer | | | |
| General | Mike DeWall | mikedewallcpa@yahoo.com | 701-527-0170 |
| Foundation | Steve Tillotson | zoetillotson@msn.com | 701-425-6978 |
| Clerk | Tiffany Towne | tiffanytowne@outlook.com | 701-400-1862 |
| Vestry | Jan Beck | Janice.beck701@gmail.com | 701-471-1887 |
| | Josh Gendron | jgendron@hotmail.com | 701-426-0473 |
| | Jim Guerant | jg429886@gmail.com | 701-595-2127 |
| | Cindy Torpen | ectorp@midco.com | 701-206-1385 |
| | Rusty Towne | rst3722@gmail.com | 701-226-3395 |

To all parishioners: Your vestry would like to remind everyone that we are your vestry, elected by you to serve you. Please let us know about any concerns you have, any issues you think should be brought to our attention, or any suggestions you have for outreach or fellowship opportunities. –Jane White

2019 Church Clean up Highlights

Thanks to all the people that helped spruce up the church and church grounds. St. George's looks better now, thanks to you! Thanks too to all the people that made our church service and lunch in the park so lovely.—Jane White

Traditional Hymn Sing-Along

Come sing in an ensemble that you do not need to audition to participate, accompanied by me, on the Moller Pipe Organ, on September 19, October 17, and November 21 at

St. George's Episcopal Memorial Church from

12:10 pm to 12:50 pm.

Come, enjoy, congregational singing, accompanied by the majestic sounds of the pipe organ. This is not an organized worship service, but rather a sing along of familiar, beloved, standard, hymns from the 1982 Episcopal Hymnal. All ages and all singing abilities are welcome and encouraged to come and participate.

--Arlene Gray



Quilt Raffle

The Piece Quilt Raffle will be held October 13 at St George's Memorial Episcopal Church. Tickets will be sold for one for \$5.00 or three for \$10.00 beginning October 1st and will continue until the time of the drawing on the 13th at 11:30 am. There will be 5 or 6 one of a kind quilts to be won.

Many unique crafts & blankets for sale come and have a good time and support the good works of the "Piecemakers". --The Piecemakers

Adult Forum

The Adult Forum will resume on October 6. We meet at 9:00 in the Rita Murphy Hall each Sunday. We will continue watching the Center for Action and Contemplation's conference video on Richard Rohr's new book, The Universal Christ. Anyone is welcome to join us!

--Jane White

Website

Our church website is undergoing some big changes. You'll notice a new look, new links, and new features. Canon Hal is recording his sermons for us to stream or download from the website, so if you are out of town and miss church, you can still hear his sermon.

We'd like some help from parishioners; would you please take pictures when you are participating in activities at church and send them electronically to Ted Poppke at ted.poppke@protonmail.com. This will liven up the site with more color and personality.

--Jane White

Homeless Dinner

St George's will once again be preparing a meal at the church for 60 people Friday afternoon, September 6th. Around 6:15 p.m. we load up the prepared food, transport and serve the meal at the Homeless Shelter. Are you interested in helping prepare or serve that day? Please e-mail me at blipp@bis.midco.net. We typically need 4 to 5 people, 2 to 3 for food prep on Friday afternoon and 2 - 3 people to serve.

--Deacon Beth Lipp

Thursday Evening Book Study

The Thursday Evening Book study group is open to all. The book chosen to read this fall is "On the Brink of Everything" *Grace, Gravity and Getting Old* written by Parker Palmer. The first meeting will be Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 7 pm at the church and typically meeting every other Thursday. Please e-mail blipp@bis.midco.net to express your interest. Participants are asked to purchase the book and bring it to the first meeting.

--Deacon Beth Lipp

2019 Crop Walk- 50th Year

Join us at the 2019 Bismarck-Mandan Crop Walk for Hunger. This year's event will begin at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on October 13, 12:30 pm registration, games and music, 1:30 pm walk around Tom O' Leary Golf Course. Sponsorship and registration information will be available in September at St. George's.

--Deacon Beth Lipp

Ministry Fair

COME ONE COME ALL: To the Ministry Fair

Yes, St George's family, a Ministry Fair is coming on Sunday, September 8th from 11:30-12:30 in the Parish Hall. A Ministry Fair is loosely defined as an opportunity of the various groups within St George's to show each of you what they have done, what they currently do and what they might do in the future. A big part of their time will be in exploring how you can come a part of the ministry. Again, this will be held Sunday, September 8th, 11:30-12:30 in the Parish Hall. If you've ever wanted to know about one of our ministries, September 8th is the day. Seize it! Grace and peace,

--Canon Hal

Music Starting Up

The St. George's Music Ministry team is tuning strings and warming up the vocal chords. If you want to join us, we will welcome you with open arms and resonant voices. Our first rehearsal is Wednesday, Sept 4 at 6:45 p.m. in the choir transept. Please come!

-- Traci Juhala

Tai Chi Continues...

Tai chi at St George's continues on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in Rita Murphy Hall. Our leader Craig would like to hold classes until the end of September and then assess interest. If you've been wanting to learn, join the fun! Tai chi is for everyone.

-Traci Juhala

13th Annual



SAVE THE DATE: The 13th Annual St. George's Pet Blessing will occur on Sunday, October 6 at 12 noon in the sanctuary. If you are available to help (post posters, put a magnet on your car, make beverages, make cookies, monitor the free will offering and collect donations, fill in certificates, hand out prayer cards or tokens, help with animals, sell pet quilts, deliver donations, etc.), please contact me (amy.juhala@icloud.com). -Amy Juhala

Diocesan Convention Delegates & Alternates

Diocesan Convention will be Friday and Saturday October 10th and 11th, at the Bismarck Radisson Hotel. Please let me know if your interest in being a delegate or Alternate as the elections will be September 9th. If you have any questions contact me 701-471-2260.—Jane White

Call to Convention

The Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota
An Open Letter to Congregational Leadership and Clergy:

What is God up to? What is God up to in your community? Yes, that includes your congregation, but it is a broader question than that. Yes, it is the diocese, but it is a broader question than that as well. It is "What is God up to in this place, North Dakota?" We are, as it were, backing up the train from running full steam ahead to select a Bishop and once more, for this generation of Episcopalians, asking the question that our members – and especially our Deacons ourselves to once again push the lever into forward on this train."

We aren't being called together to make decisions. Jesus once told his disciples to regroup and wait for the Holy Spirit to move us into the places of familiarity, renewal in the Spirit, and then most likely into some unfamiliar territory. By the time Convention comes we will have a Diocesan Discernment Task Force named that will act as the conductors in this movement. They will conduct us to gather from each of our congregations those things that need to be considered for the long haul ahead. Each and everyone of us be called on to stoke the fire of this train.

As our first Bishop would put the Cathedral Car onto the siding tracks to help establish many of our congregations, we believe it is now time to revisit those places. That mode of commerce and transportation has changed in North Dakota. Our own ways of organizing how we do things will begin to be revisited, so come with us and get on board.

Faithfully in Christ,

The Rev Dr John Floberg

President of the Standing Committee

It is time to get our congregations, councils and committees ready to come to Bismarck for the 49th Annual Diocesan Convention Meeting at the Radisson Hotel in downtown Bismarck

October 11 & 12

The theme of the Convention is:

"What is God up to in North Dakota?"

It is the beginning of the diocesan wide effort to discern our call in this place and what kind of episcopal leadership we will need to engage that call.

Who is coming to your Congregation and not attending another Episcopal Church?

Congregational delegations to Convention are governed by Canon provides for

2 Delegates for each congregation with up to 15 people that are 16 years older

3 Delegates for each congregation with 16 to 30 people that are 16 years older

31 to 60+ – 4 delegates

61 to 90+ – 5 delegates

91 to 120+ – 6 delegates

121 to 150+ – 7 delegates

151 to 180+ - 8 delegates

181 to 280+ – 9 delegates

Are you called to this ministry?

We're looking for members for the

DIOCESAN DISCERNMENT TASK FORCE

Your Standing Committee invites members of the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota to apply to be one of about eight (8) members of the “Diocesan Discernment Task Force” (DDTF). The purpose of this team will be to engage the Diocese in active discernment of the question, “What is God up to with the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota.” As you may have read in The Sheaf, the Standing Committee has determined that we need to address this crucial question before making any decision about calling another bishop. Indeed, the answer to that key question might be not to enter into a calling process, but to create a different model for being the Episcopal Church in North Dakota.

The DDTF, working with our consultant, the Rev. Thad Bennett, will design and work a process that will involve the whole diocese in determining the answer or answers to that question – What God is up to with us. The time commitment is between 8-10 hours per month and some travel to meetings with the diocese in different locations will be necessary. However, most meetings of the DDTF will happen electronically via Zoom. The Standing Committee will select and name the membership of the DDTF, trying to ensure representative diversity of the diocese. The first DDTF meeting will be with our consultant at the Diocesan Convention in Bismarck, October 11-12. Members **MUST** be able to attend that meeting. Note: Diocesan funds will support the work of the Team and pay for the normal expenses of its members.

We are looking for individuals who have the following kinds of qualifications/gifts/skills:

-Has a passion about being a Christian and has an active prayer/spiritual life

- Is active in and knows the Episcopal Church

- Is creative and likes to question; Has organizational skills

- Is tech savvy: ability to join Zoom meetings, receive email, Google documents, etc.

- Is a good listener; Is reliable, will “show up” and fulfill what they commit to

- Has the ability to collect and analyze data;

- Willing to receiving feedback and discern what it all means

- Works well with others and can help “hold the group together”

If you feel called to this ministry, please use the attached application form to tell us about yourself, some of your experiences, your gifts and skills and why you feel called to this ministry. Your application material must be sent electronically and received no later than 5pm on Tuesday, September 10th and should be sent to: Mr. Don Henderson, Standing Committee Member, at

donhenderson@gra.midco.net

See attachments for the forms.

We would like to thank the following for their help during the month of September:



Acolyte

September 01, 2019 Hannah Gendron
September 08, 2019 Solveigh Barney
September 15, 2019 Jody Simmons
September 22, 2019 Solveigh Barney
September 29, 2019 Hannah Gendron

Ushers

September 01, 2019 Jackie Napper & Shirel Zillier
September 08, 2019 Tom & Sherrie Hopkins
September 15, 2019 Jody & Jacinda Simmons
September 22, 2019 Tom & Sharon Tudor
September 29, 2019 Jan Beck & Shirel Zillier

EM

September 01, 2019
Joanne Lassiter
September 08, 2019
8 am Jody Simmons
10 am Solveigh Barney
September 15, 2019
8 am Tom Tudor
10 am Colette Rudolph
September 22, 2019
8 am Joanne Lassiter
10 am Joanne Lassiter
September 29, 2019
8 am Tom Tudor
10 am Tom Tudor

We would like to thank the following for their help during the month of September:



Lectors

September 01, 2019
Keith Henderson
September 08, 2019
8 am Jacinda Simmons
10 am Justin Berger
September 15, 2019
8 am Mark Lehr
10 am Claudia Schoellkopf
September 22, 2019
8 am Darlene Anagnost
10 am Solveigh Barney
September 29, 2019
8 am Mark Lehr
10 am Kate Hanlon

Counters

September 01, 2019
10 am Krista Reynolds & Jacinda Simmons
September 08, 2019
10 am Kate Hanlon & Mary Henderson
September 15, 2019
10 am Claudia Schoellkopf
September 22, 2019
10 am Krista Reynolds & Jacinda Simmons
September 29, 2019
10 am Anne Reynolds & Claudia Schoellkopf



- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 4 Zanne Ness | 5 Carol Kitko |
| 5 Matt Koch | 6 Madeline Heer |
| 6 Sherry Tschosik | 8 Becky Poppke |
| 9 Toby Skinner | 10 Denise Brown |
| 10 Brian Hanlon | 12 Luke Johnson |
| 12 Keith Henderson | 13 Steve Tillotson |
| 14 Malvin Olson | 15 Rylam Pinks |
| 16 Madison Gendron | 16 Michelle Weidman |
| 20 Joyce Tello | 20 Ron Tello |
| 28 Ed Englerth | 28 Sloan Ressler |
| 29 Deborah Pierce | 30 Asiah Gross |
| 30 Ariana Rasmussen | |



- 2 John & Jan Maddock
- 3 Perry & Jodi Sullivan
- 6 Jim & Peggy Helphrey
- 14 Ed & Nancy Englerth
- 24 Matt & Kristin Koch
- 27 Tom & Sharon Tudor

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