



The Good News at St George's

September 2026

Dn. Beth Lipp, Publisher

Fr. Hal Weidman, Editor

Church Picnic Sertoma Park, September 13

Please join us for the annual parish picnic on Sunday, September 13th at Sertoma Park, Shelter 10. **This is a great opportunity to invite friends.**



(near volleyball courts and horseshoe complex)

Holy Eucharist will be celebrated starting at 10:00 followed by picnic food catered by Cash Wise. For anyone interested, we will provide free admission to the zoo.



If the weather does not co-operate, we will move the service and picnic to the church.

Please help us estimate the amount of food we will need by signing up on one of the sign-up sheets upstairs or downstairs.

You can also signup by email to

stgeorges@stgeorges-bismarck.com

Sign up now! Hope to see you there!

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Listen to the stories of others...



Photo taken by Fr Hal Weidman at the Indigenous Ministry Prayer and Talking Session

St. George's began an Indigenous Ministry in keeping with our Divine Purpose of valuing and welcoming the diversity of all people. In the Land Acknowledgment, we ask Creator to "give us courage and humility to listen to the stories of others, so that we might begin to earn trust as we seek to reconcile with Creator and with one another."

It was in that spirit we formed a committee consisting of JoAnn Keehn, Dan Dailey, Mtr Jackie Bernacchi, Deacon Ashley Hubbard, Diane Hartman, Facilitator and Fr Hal Weidman, Rector and Spiritual Advisor.

After several meetings, we decided to hold a Prayer and Talking Circle on Transfiguration Day. We began with "The People Gather" service followed by the Prayer and Talking Session. We ended the evening with a traditional native meal of corn soup, fry bread and Juneberry Pudding prepared by Lori Ross and her son Andrew.

Eighteen people showed up and shared their stories and thoughts on how to make our parish more welcoming and representative of all our family and friends. We were very encouraged by the attendance and participation and look forward to continuing this ministry with guidance from the Holy Spirit. Fr Hal has been extremely supportive of this mission, guiding us along the way.

Please mark your calendars. We are planning our next Prayer and Talking Circle for Thursday, September 24th at 5:30 in the Parish Hall.

Diane Hartmann cottonwoods49@gmail.com

From our listening during the talking circle, we learned one way to be more welcoming is to sing the doxology in a native language. Going forward the first Sunday of each month, we will sing the Doxology in Lakota and then in English.

My Faith, My Life: A Teen's Guide to the Episcopal Church.

Adults, don't let the title of the book fool you.
It's written for you too!

Christianity didn't begin with us. The faith we profess reaches back to Jesus Christ, the apostles, the first Christians, and the Church throughout the centuries. In our upcoming confirmation class at St. George's, we will explore that story through Jenifer Gamber's *My Faith, My Life: A Teen's Guide to the Episcopal Church*.

Here are a few highlights from "Knowing Our History"

Christianity begins with Jesus Christ. Jesus called disciples, taught about the Kingdom of God, welcomed those who were rejected, and proclaimed God's love. He was crucified, died, and, as Christians proclaim, was raised from the dead.

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles, and the Church began to spread. Acts describes those first Christians as devoted to "the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers." Those same things remain at the heart of Christian life today: teaching, fellowship, Eucharist, and prayer.

The early Church wrestled with questions about Jesus and what his death and resurrection meant. Through the centuries, this reflection helped shape the great Creeds. Every Sunday when we say the Nicene Creed at St. George's, we join Christians who have confessed this faith for nearly 17 centuries.

That is one of the beautiful things about Anglican Christianity: we aren't trying to invent Christianity all over again. We have received a faith handed down to us.

Christianity eventually became established throughout the British Isles. The Church of England developed its own traditions, especially

during the 16th-century English Reformation. One important figure was Thomas Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury.

Cranmer helped shape a defining characteristic of Anglican Christianity: the Book of Common Prayer. The first Prayer Book appeared in 1549, placing The Bible, prayer, and the sacraments at the center of common worship.

When we open our 1979 Prayer Book at St. George's, we participate in a tradition larger than ourselves, connected with generations of Christians who have prayed, heard The Bible, confessed the Creeds, and gathered around the Lord's Table.

Our Anglican heritage teaches us to listen—to The Bible, to the wisdom of Christians who came before us, to one another, and ultimately to the Holy Spirit.

That is why Anglican heritage matters. We are receiving a living faith so we can faithfully hand it on to the next generation.

Preparing for Confirmation or want to know more about the Episcopal Church?

Our first class begins on Sunday, September 20, at 8:45 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

All are welcome, but especially those interested in being confirmed or received into the Episcopal Church by Bishop Shay on All Saints' Day, Sunday, November 1.

If you have been considering Confirmation or Reception, or simply want to learn more about our faith, I encourage you to join us. Come with your questions and be ready to learn.

Grace and peace,

Fr Hal priest@stgeorges-bismarck.org



Home Meal Delivery

St. George's would like to fill one more home meal delivery route for the Age Well Sr Center on Friday mornings. If you are interested in delivering meals to individuals, contact Dn Beth Lipp, 701-471-7583. It is best to have a team of two so you are not obligated to be available every Friday.

blipp@bis.midco.net



Little Free Pantry

It is up to you and me to support this outreach! We can store provisions in the closet just inside the

entrance of the church and we can help monitor the pantry when in the area, placing supplies as needed.

September suggestions – please bring:

- Canned chili
- Canned or packet Tuna
- Cereal/Granola

Thank you for your support of this Ministry!

Steve Tillotson

zoetillotson@msn.com

St. Georgians – Walking Together to End Alzheimer's

This fall, St. George's is once again stepping out into our community to support individuals and families whose lives have been touched by Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.



= I've lost someone to the disease.

For many of us, Alzheimer's and dementia are personal. Whatever brings you to the Walk, you are welcome.

Please join **Team St. Georgians** at [2026 Walk to End Alzheimer's - Bismarck Mandan: St. Georgians | Walk to End Alzheimer's](#) for the **2026 Walk to End Alzheimer's – Bismarck-Mandan** on **Saturday, October 3, 2026**, at the North Dakota State Capitol, everyone is invited to join our team.

As a faith community, this is one small but meaningful way that we can live out our call to love and serve our neighbors. We can show up, walk together, remember those we have lost, support those who are currently living with Alzheimer's and dementia, and offer encouragement to the family members and caregivers who walk alongside them every day.

Walk Details

Saturday, October 3, 2026
North Dakota State Capitol
600 E. Boulevard Ave., Bismarck

9:00 a.m. – Registration

10:00 a.m. – Opening Ceremony

Walk immediately following the ceremony

Whether you walk with us, support our team, or keep those affected by Alzheimer's and dementia in your prayers, we hope you will be part of this special day. **Come walk with your fellow St. Georgians as we put our faith into action – one step at a time.**

Joanne Lassiter, jlassiter@umary.edu

Blessing of the Animals

Each year, St. George's celebrates the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, Patron Saint of Animals, with our annual Blessing of the Animals. This beloved tradition brings together members of St. George's and our wider community to give thanks for the animals who enrich our lives with companionship, joy, and unconditional love.

The service begins with a brief liturgy honoring



St. Francis and his love and care for all of God's creation, followed by individual blessings offered

by Fr. Hal for each beloved animal. Dogs, cats, and pets of all kinds – and, of course, their humans – are welcome!

Through this special gathering, we celebrate not only the bond we share with our animals, but also our call to care for all of God's creation with compassion and gratitude.

Join us Sunday, October 4, beginning at Noon at St. George's Episcopal Memorial Church.

We will also be collecting non-food donations for Furry Friends Rockin' Rescue as we extend the spirit of St. Francis beyond our church grounds and support animals in need throughout our community.

Joanne Lassiter, jlassiter@umary.edu

Formation Children and Youth

Formation for children and youth begins September 20 at 10 AM. The Godly Play

curriculum will be used.

We will be hearing the stories of the Prophets and how they tell of Jesus coming to God's people.



Parents: We want your input in designing programming that works for your family. Nothing is too big or small to mention or request.

Michelle Weidman

smixonweidman@gmail.com

The Things They Carried

Book Discussion

September 21, 2 PM



A classic work of American literature that has not stopped changing minds and lives since it burst onto the literary scene, *The Things They Carried* is a ground-breaking work of Vietnam War fiction

and a meditation on war, memory, imagination, and the redemptive power of storytelling.

Dn Beth Lipp, blipp@bis.midco.net

A bit of Episcopal History Trivia—Leah Parkhurst



Among the men engaged in the construction of the Northern Pacific Rail Road bridge in 1882 was an assistant to the chief engineer by the name of Parkhurst. He and his wife lived in a small house on the hillside near the old river landing. Mrs. Parkhurst was a devout and faithful Church woman and regularly attended the services of the little Church on the hill. And so, when Leah Parkhurst went out of this life forever, a victim of typhoid, her husband placed a tribute to her memory in the little Church where her interest and affection lay centered, far from her grave and earlier surroundings. So, an undefined beauty and pathos lie hidden in those leaded panes of "In Memoriam to Leah Parkhurst." To those who understand, it is no longer a mere window but a tribute to a sweet personality – a loving daughter of the Church.

Tom Tudor, tstudor@bis.midco.net

St. George's Finance Update

Income	YTD July	YTD Budget
From Giving	\$84,907	\$74,113
From Investments	\$83,000	\$105,256
Total Income	\$167,907	\$179,368
Expense	YTD July	YTD Budget
All expenses	\$156,081	\$169,651
Income less Exp	\$11,826	\$9,717



Did you know?

Utilities budget for the year is \$14,500

Property Insurance per year is \$16,000

Cleaning service budget for the year is \$5,000

15% of all our income is given to the Episcopal Diocese of ND for our Diocesan Stewardship Share.

Giving YTD is above the budget estimate. We were cautious in income projections.

From Investments YTD is below expected income. We have not asked for the full amount of money from investments as Karan completed her work in April 2026. That investment income was budgeted for \$9,700 July YTD, only \$3,000 has been transferred from the Ellen Kelsch Investment.

Expenses are under budget

Our administrative assistant resigned to stay home with her child the end of May. This position has not been filled yet, thus saving \$3,500 of YTD expense. We are using volunteers while we evaluate the workload. Again the educator position expense was \$3,000 from investments, the YTD budget was \$9,700.

Beth Lipp, blipp@bis.midco.net



They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

1 TIMOTHY 6:18-19 NRSVA

Community Life

Over the last couple decades there have been a number of studies highlighting how important community life is for our wellbeing. These studies have shown that strong community life can actually improves our quality of life by giving us a sense of belonging, sustains resiliency, decreases anxiety and depression, increases longevity and more.

In light of this, I've come to realize that community life doesn't just happen organically, we have to "build it". I am interested to know if there are any women who would like to join me in creating a women's sharing group, a safe place where we can share our thoughts, experiences and wisdom with each other. If there is enough interest, we can meet to develop the details of when, where and topics of interest to you.

If you are interested you can either meet me after church September 20th, or email/call me: #425-3217; coletterudolph5@gmail.com

God Bless

Colette Rudolph

Turning to One Another

—Margaret Wheatley, "Turning to One Another" 2002

There is no power greater than a community discovering what it cares about. Ask "Whats possible? Not "What's wrong. Keep asking.

Notice what you care about.

Assume that many others share your dreams.

Be brave enough to start a conversation that matters. Talk to people you know. Talk to people you don't know. Talk to people you never talk to.

Be intrigued by the differences you hear. Expect to be surprised.

Treasure curiosity more than certainty.

Invite in everybody who cares to work on what's possible. Acknowledge that everyone is an expert about something. Know that creative solutions come from new connections.

Remember, you don't fear people whose story you know. Real listening always bring people closer together.

Trust that meaningful conversation can change your world.

Rely on human goodness. Stay together.

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 5:30PM Executive Cmt 6:30 PM Leadership Zoom	2 5:30PM Eucharist 6PM Potluck 6:45 Choir Practice	3 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	4 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	5
6 10AM Eucharist 11AM Coffee Fellow- ship	7	8 11 AM Centering Prayer 5:30 PM Vestry Mtg	9 5:30PM Eucharist 6 PM Potluck 6:45 Choir Practice	10 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	11 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	12
13 10AM Eucharist Church Picnic, Sertoma Park, Shelter #10	14	15 10AM Touchmark Eucharist, Rite one all are Invited to attend.	16 5:30PM Eucharist 6 PM Potluck 6:45 Choir Practice	17 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	18 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	19
20 8:45 Confirmation Class 8:45 Adult Godly Play 10AM Holy Eucharist 10 AM Children Godly Play 11AM Worship Cmt.	21 2 PM Book Discussion "The things they carry"	22	23 5:30PM Eucharist 6 PM Potluck 6:45 Choir Practice	24 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals 5:30 Prayer and Talking Circle	25 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	26
27 8:45 Confirmation Class 8:45 Adult Godly Play 10AM Holy Eucharist 10 AM Children Godly Play	28	29	30 5:30PM Eucharist 6 PM Potluck Supper 6:45 Choir Practice			



Matt Koch	September 5
Carol Kitko	September 5
Brian Hanlon	September 10
Luke Johnson	September 12
Steve Tillotson	September 13
Madison Gendron	September 16
Drew Combs	September 20
Alison Hiatt	September 23
Lori Ross	September 26
Sloan Ressler	September 28
Deb Napper	September 29
Asiah Gross	September 30
Ariana Rasmussen	September 30

Birthday Prayer

BCP page 831

Watch over your children, O Lord, as *their* days increase; bless and guide *them* wherever they may be. strengthen *them* when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *them* up if they fall; and in *their* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer for a Anniversary

BCP page 831

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as *they* begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *their* trust in your goodness all the days of *their* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



Perry & Jodi Sullivan	September 3
Josh & Myra Castleberry	September 17
Matt & Kristin Koch	September 24
Tom & Sharon Tudor	September 27
Dan and Bree Gallagher	September 28

Creation Care—Conserve Water



In this time of drought, here are some simple things you and I can do to conserve water.

- Turn off the faucet while you are brushing your teeth or soaping your hands.
- Take shorter showers—even 2-3 minutes helps.
- Wash full loads of laundry instead of partial loads.
- Keep drinking water in the refrigerator so you don't run the tap waiting for it to get cold.
- What ideas do you have to conserve water?

Dn Beth Lipp, blipp@bis.midco.net

Did you know you can view the entire Book of Common Prayer on your phone or computer?

Book of Common Prayer Online
Bcponline.org

OUR DIVINE PURPOSE STATEMENT

We Believe that through Jesus Christ we are meant to faithfully and joyfully serve God and our neighbors..

We Worship as a community of believers who make people feel welcome from every walk of life. We value and welcome the diversity of all people.

We Serve seekers inside and outside the church to live in



LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

(as presented by the Provisional Bishop at the 52nd Annual Convention in October 2022)

The traditional tribal homelands for the Dakota, Lakota, Nakota, Turtle Mountain Chippewa, Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara people encompass the Episcopal Diocese of North Dakota.

We acknowledge and understand that the land which comprises our diocese was cared for by people Indigenous to this place, who lived here for thousands of years before the arrival of colonizing Europeans. With humility, we express our gratitude to Indigenous peoples for their faithful stewardship of this land, its waters, and creatures, then and now. We acknowledge the many injustices that are part of the past and present experience of Indigenous people. We acknowledge with humility the historical, intergenerational, and contemporary trauma faced by Indigenous people, including the Church's complicity with cultural genocide inflicted by Indian boarding schools, where the stated goal was to "kill the Indian, save the man."

In this reality, we ask Creator to give us courage and humility to listen to the stories of others, so that we might begin to earn trust as we seek to reconcile with Creator and with one another. And we acknowledge the need for a deeper understanding that there can be no healing without confession of sin.

St George's Episcopal Memorial Church Established 1880
National Registry of Historic Places, 2021

Contact Us

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Let's Get Social

Facebook: [St.Georges.Episcopal.Bismarck](https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgesEpiscopalBismarck)

YouTube Channel is: St Georges Memorial Church