



The Good News at St George's

October 2026

Dn. Beth Lipp, Publisher

Fr. Hal Weidman, Editor

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Making Room at the Table

One of the things I appreciate about the Episcopal Church is that we do not all have to look alike to worship together. We do not all come from the same background, have the same experiences, or understand our faith in exactly the same way. We come together because Christ has called us together.

That is one of the things I appreciate about St. George's. On Sunday mornings, we gather as people who are at different places in life and in faith. Some have been Episcopalians for most of their lives. Others are newer to the Episcopal Church. Some have a strong and settled faith. Others are asking questions and trying to figure out what they believe. Some come carrying joy, while others come carrying grief, worry, or uncertainty.

And there is room for all of us.

Jesus often used the image of a table when he talked about the kingdom of God. Around a table, people sit together, share food, and listen to one another. When we gather around the altar for Holy Communion, we are reminded that this is not a table we create for ourselves. It is God's table, and Christ is the one who invites us.

This November, we will have a special opportunity to celebrate that invitation. Bishop Shay Craig will be with us on All Saints Sunday to baptize two people and confirm four others. These are important moments in the lives of those being baptized and confirmed, but they are also reminders to all of us that faith is a journey. We are all still learning, growing, and becoming more deeply rooted in Christ.

Our celebration will continue that evening as St. George's welcomes our UCC community for a shared meal at **5:00 p.m.**, followed by a **Taizé service at 6:00 p.m.** We will eat together, pray together, and make room for one another. What a wonderful picture of the Church: different people and traditions gathered around the same table and before the same God.

And there is room for you.

The table is God's. The invitation is Christ's. And there is room for all of us.

Fr. Hal, priest@stgeorges-bismarck.org



Diocesan Convention

Theme: Unconditional

Seven Lay delegates will be representing St. George's at the Diocesan Convention in Minot, October 23 and 24th. Lay delegate representatives are Tammy Enockson, Diane Hartman, Alison Hiatt, JoAnn Keehn, Joanne Lassiter, Colette Rudolph, and Jane White

Alternates lay delegates are Richard Ruud, Lori Ross and Michelle Weidman. Clergy delegates are Fr. Hal Weidman, Mtr. Jackie Bernacchi, Deacon Beth Lipp, Deacon Ed Wos

What happens at a Diocesan Convention?

The two main purposes of the Episcopal Diocese of ND convention are reviewing and approving the budget for the upcoming fiscal year and electing lay and clergy persons to serve in leadership positions of the Diocese. These include positions on Diocesan Council and Standing Committee, and representing the Diocese at General Convention next summer.

Another important function is to build relationships among Episcopalians from every congregation. The diocese currently has 18 congregations. To learn more about these congregations, visit the diocesan webpage <https://ndepiscopal.org/find-a-church/#congregations>

Submitted by Deacon Beth Lipp,
blipp@bis.midco.net

WODAKOTA CAMPAIGN

The annual WoDakota campaign by the diocese raises money for specific ministries. Bishop Shay states: "Our WoDakota goals in 2026 and 2027 are very ambitious:

- ◇ We want to throw all three of these events in the summer of 2027;
- ◇ As a means of bringing together people from across the diocese;
- ◇ In the hope of beginning a wave of youth and young adult leaders;
- ◇ To connect our youth to their faith before they go into the world;
- ◇ As a statement of our commitment to young people in EDND;
- ◇ Because we love them."

The program includes:

One retreat of 30 middle schoolers with 5 adult chaperones

One retreat of 30 high schoolers with 5 adult chaperones

One retreat for 60 middle and high schoolers with 10 adult chaperones

These programs will all take place under the leadership of a deacon of this diocese with an undergraduate degree in Youth and Family Ministry and a Master of Arts in Children, Youth and Family Ministry (Surprise, it is Dn. Jess Krzewina!). The total cost for this transformational project is \$55,000.

My hope is that we can raise \$25,000 in 2026 for WoDakota Youth Retreats. I would love to bring those offerings to the altar at the Holy Eucharist at Diocesan Convention, on October 24th, 2026."

St. George's plan is to ask individuals and families to donate to this. There will be a basket at the back of the church on Oct. 11. We will take St. George's donations to Convention two weeks later. Jane White, kayak121@hotmail.com

Blessing of the Animals

October 4, Noon at Trinity Lutheran



St. George's will once again celebrate the Feast of St.

Francis of Assisi with our annual Blessing of the Animals! This year, we are excited to partner with our friends at Trinity Lutheran Church, who will host the event at 502 N. 4th St. in Bismarck.

Please join us Sunday, October 4, at noon and bring your pets—big, small, furry, feathered, or otherwise—to receive a special blessing.

Monetary donations to Furry Friends

We will also be collecting monetary donations for Furry Friends in support of the wonderful work they do for animals in our community.

Invite your family, friends, and neighbors. All are welcome, and we hope to see you and your four-legged (or otherwise!) friends there!

Joanne Lassiter,
jlassiter@umary.edu

Come to the Movie

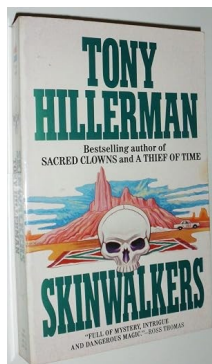
St. George's book discussion group is hosting a movie viewing on Monday, October 19th at 2 PM in the church basement. The movie "We were soldiers" is based on the book written by Lt. Gen. Hal Moore (who commanded the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry and UPI journalist Joseph L. Galloway (the only civilian reporter on the ground for the duration of the fight). The story is the four-day conflict of The Battle of the Ia Drang Valley in November 1965.



The book, We were soldiers once....and young, was widely praised for its unflinching, realistic portrayal of combat, grief, and leadership, and selected as professional reading for military branches (such as the U.S. Marine Corps Commandant's reading list.

November Book Choice is Skinwalkers

by author Tony Hillerman



Tony Hillerman served as president of the Mystery Writers of America and received the Edgar and Grand Master Awards. His other honors include the Center for the American Indian's Ambassador Award, the Spur Award for Best Western Novel, and the Navajo Tribal Council Special Friend of the Dineh Award. A native of Oklahoma, Tony Hillerman lived in Albuquerque, New Mexico, until his death in 2008.

You might be familiar with the TV show "Dark Winds" based on Hillerman's books. In this book Lieutenant Joe Leaphorn wonders why Chee was a target and what connection the assault has to a series of gruesome murders that has been plaguing the reservation. But the investigation is leading them both into a nightmare of ritual, witchcraft, and blood . . . and into the dark and mystical domain of evil beings of Navajo legend, the "skinwalkers."

Submitted by Deacon Beth, blipp@bis.midco.net

Special Evening Events

Join us the evening of All Saints' Day – November 1, 2026, for a pair of special experiences hosted at St George's by both St. George's and Bismarck United Church of Christ congregations.

Dia de Los Muertos

At 5:00pm, there will be a meal and program celebrating the beauty of the Dia de Los Muertos tradition of Mexico. Dia de Los Muertos is a 2-day holiday, usually celebrated on November 1st and 2nd, when the lives of family and friends who have died are remembered and honored through music, food, and festive decorations. We will honor this tradition with a special meal, music, and invited speakers.



All Saints' Taizé service

After dinner, at 6:00pm, we will hold our All Saints' Taizé service. Taizé is a meaningful and meditative service. Taizé music often takes a simple melody that repeats over and over and is meant to serve as a kind of musical centering prayer. This ecumenical service will offer an opportunity to remember loved ones who have died.

Feel free to attend either or both events.
Traci Juhala
cloudslippers@hotmail.com



*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

A Way of Life

As long as we live on earth, we are faced with daily decisions about how we spend our time, with whom we spend our time and how we will manage our financial lives. As Christians we are committed to loving God and loving our neighbors as ourselves. The dance for each of us is to determine how to organize our lives so we are living into that commitment.

Stewardship Quotes

Luke Timothy Johnson, Professor of NT Emory University

Stewardship of the NT is not about raising money, it is about disposing of money. In our life of faith it is about the way we dispose of our possessions every moment.

When we inventory our material things remember we have our bodies to dispose; i.e. where we put it (next to someone who is struggling) and how we use it. (listening, be the presence of God's love to them.)

blipp@bis,midco.net

Greetings, St. Georgians

I would like to take this time to personally thank everyone who joined in celebrating my diaconal Ordination at Saint George's on June 13, 2026 in person, online, or in spirit. I will remember this special day forever and think fondly of you all - my sending parish and church family.



I would especially like to thank each person who lovingly served on this day including Father Hal Weidman (Master of Ceremonies), Rev. Deacon Dr. Ed Wos (Deacon of the Word and Eucharistic Minister), Rev. Deacon Beth Lipp (Deacon of the Table), Joanne Lassiter (Litanist and Eucharistic Minister), Solveigh Barney and Kate Hanlon (Lectors), Jody Simmons (Crucifer), Tom Tudor (Acolyte), Jane White (Acolyte and Eucharistic Minister), Diane Hartman and Richard Ruud (Greeters and Ushers), and the St. George's Vestry (Presenters).



The music was absolutely beautiful and I give God thanks and praise for the gifts of Traci Juhala (Choir and Music Director), David Sorenson (Organist), Dr. Jason Thoms (Cantor), and the St. George's choir (Cindy Rains, Tammy Enockson, Sam Kaitfors, Matthew Lobmeyer, Jessica Paulsen, Anne Reynolds, Claudia Schoellkopf). I would also like to thank Dan Dailey for his digital ministry and photography skills. My family, friends, and colleagues from far and wide were able to join in the

celebration. And last but certainly not least, I would like to thank each member of the St. George's Hospitality Team (including Bonnie Tomac, Michelle Wiedman, Kate Hanlon, Diane Hartman and all you other unnamed hard working children of God). I appreciate your skills and creativity with creating a southern garden party themed reception. The pimento cheese, cucumber sandwiches, pecan bars, lemon bars, pralines, and fruit kabobs were heavenly. This day was special because of each one of you - your love for and service to God.



I would also like to thank you for my prayer book and hymnal - and offer gratitude to everyone who contributed to my diaconal Ordination discretionary fund. Through your generosity, I have purchased priestly stoles for every liturgical season and a tippet with the Virginia Theological Seminary seal and The Episcopal Church shield. I am humbled and proud to say that my St. George's family will be with me at every service, and I will give God thanks and praise for you every time I vest.

I ask for your prayers as I continue the journey towards priestly Ordination. My next Commission on

Ministry meeting is October 13th, and God willing, I will be Ordained to the priesthood Saturday, December 12th at 1 PM at Gethsemane Cathedral in Fargo. Please make plans to join this very special celebration, and may God continue to bless St. George's and each one of you.



Submitted by Ashley Hubbard

ashley.d.hubbard4@icloud.com



Prayer and Listening Circle

Please join us for the October Prayer and Listening Circle on the 29th at 5:30 in the church basement. All are welcome! We end the evening with a meal.

If you have questions, please contact anyone on the Indigenous Ministry committee.

Fr Hal Weidman
Rev Jackie Bernacchi
Deacon Ashley Hubbard
Jo Ann Keehn
Dan Dailey
Diane Hartman

Blessing and Dedication of Star Quilt

This beautiful Star Quilt was hand-quilted for us by Lori Ross (pictured on right) and is being donated to us by the Ross family. It will hang in the South Transept. Please join us for the blessing, dedication and Holy Eucharist on **October 12, at noon**. We are grateful for this beautiful gift.

St. George's Finance Update

Income	YTD August	YTD budget
From Giving	\$94,163	\$74,113
From Investments	\$83,000	\$105,256
Total Income	\$177,163	\$204,992
Expense	YTD August	YTD Budget
All expenses	\$172,961	\$193,887
Income less Exp	\$4,202	\$11,105



Did you know?

The Diocesan Steward Share (15% of all budgeted income) is what each congregation contributes to the work of the Diocese. That work includes supporting the positions of Bishop and Administrator.

Narrative Budget Update

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

From Investments YTD income is below budget. We have not asked for the full amount of budgeted dollars from investments. We will estimate the additional amount needed to take us through the end of the year. It will be requested in October.

Expenses are under budget

Expenses remain under budget with the two open positions, administrative assistant and education coordinator. The vestry continues to evaluate the positions while volunteers are currently completing the essential tasks.

Beth Lipp, blipp@bis.midco.net



St. George's Supports WoDakota Campaign

On Sunday, October 11, St. George's will receive a special offering for the Diocesan Youth Ministry work explained on page 2 of this newsletter. Place your gifts in the basket at the back of the church on Sunday, Oct. 11th.

Little Free Pantry



It is up to us to support our Little Free Pantry! When you shop buy one or two items that you can share with people in need of food.

Our food offerings will be brought forward at the time of offertory.

October suggestions – please bring:

- Canned meal with pop top
- Canned meat
- Cereal/Granola

A complete list of items may be found on the bulletin board in the church entrance. Thank you for caring for your neighbor.

Steve Tillotson zoetillotson@msn.com

Alzheimer's Donations

A team of St. Georgians is raising funds for the Alzheimer's walk, Saturday, October 3, 2026. Your donations support research and support systems for those with Alzheimer's. Donations may be made online

[2026 Walk to End Alzheimer's - Bismarck Mandan: St. Georgians | Walk to End Alzheimer's](#)

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.

Joanne Lassiter
jlassiter@umary.edu

Home Meal Delivery

St. George's would like to fill one more home meal delivery route for the Age Well Sr Center one morning per week. Your time commitment is approximately from 10 AM to 11:30, which include sign-in, delivery and return. There is mileage reimbursement. 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 week. blipp@bis.midco.net

ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

OCTOBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	2 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	3 10 AM Alzheimer's Walk ND Capitol
4 8:45 Confirmation 8:45 Adult Godly Play 10AM Holy Eucharist 10 AM Godly Play Children 11 AM Fellowship	5	6 10 AM Norma Boutrous Funeral Service 5:30 PM Executive Mtg	7 5:30PM Eucharist 6 PM Potluck 6:45 Choir Practice	8 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	9 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	10 1 PM Deacon Jess Recep- tion at Geth- semane
11 8:45 Confirmation 8:45 Adult Godly Play 10AM Holy Eucharist 10 AM Godly Play Children 11AM Fellowship	12 Noon Quilt Dedication and Eucha- rist	13 11 AM Centering Prayer 5:30 PM Vestry Mtg	14 5:30PM Eucharist 6 PM Potluck 6:45 Choir Practice	15 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	16 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	17
18 8:45 Confirmation 8:45 Adult Godly Play 10AM Holy Eucharist 10 AM Godly Play Children 11AM Fellowship	19 2 PM Come to the Movie	20 10AM Touchmark Eucharist, Rite one all are Invited to attend.	21 5:30PM Eucharist 6 PM Potluck 6:45 Choir Practice	22 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	23 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals Diocesan Convention Minot	24 Diocesan Convention Minot
25 8:45 Confirmation 8:45 Adult Godly Play 10AM Holy Eucharist 10 AM Children Godly Play 11AM Fellowship	26	27	28 5:30PM Eucharist 6 PM Potluck 6:45 Choir Practice	29 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals 5:30 Prayer & Listening Circle	30 10AM St G's Delivers Sr Meals	31



Owen Britton	October 7
Danni Askew	October 8
Marshall Olson	October 9
Sharon Tudor	October 11
Jeremy Gross	October 11
Mary Henderson	October 14
Taye Gross	October 18
Traci Juhala	October 21
LeAnn Tillotson	October 24
Laurie Peters	October 26
Charlie Welch	October 29

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.*



Dan & Paz Dailey	October 12
Keith & Mary Henderson	October 21
Salem & Tiffany Towne	October 31

Creation Care—Conserve Water

Stewardship is also about using our resources rightly and for the good of all people. Here are some simple things we can do to be good stewards of 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.

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

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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