



The work of the Vestry and School Board is now closely coordinated. We thank all of our parish leaders for their dedication to St. George's this past year.

Rector's Message **Sharing the Vision**

The Rev. Canon Albert Ogle

Dear Friends of God,
I thank God for all God's blessings to me, our Academy and Church as we examine the way we have SHARED a common journey. Bunyan's pilgrim in *Pilgrim's Progress* once stopped for a while on the "delectable mountains" to take a deep breath and review the vista of the path he had just taken. Although he had not reached his destination (and with a path still ahead of him), he found inspiration in taking in the vision of where God had traveled alongside of him as a pilgrim. Please use this edition of *Sword and Shield* as your stopping to "breathe deeply" the sweet air of "delectable mountains."

One of the toughest parish ministries we share together is service on the Vestry. During 2004, the parish had our seventh year of a continued deficit, with the added pressure of reducing the deficit to \$50,000 in 2005. The new members spent a lot of time training for their new roles and we were able to encourage the congregation to pledge more support through Golden Circle and *This Is My Church* pledges. Although programs and full time staff were not cut in 2004, the instability caused by our fiscal issues were factors in Rich Cook and Garrett Mettler looking for alternative work in other churches.

We enter a new fiscal year with decreased staff and cutting overhead expenses as much as we can. As the Endowment shrinks, we can no longer depend on the generosity of past members of St. George's to keep the ministries of the parish going. Thank you to all the generous parishioners who have made pledges for 2005 and for the increase of support you are showing to our shared ministry. We are still not "out of the woods" and God (who is with us even in the woods!) is demanding faithfulness from us in time, talent and treasure.

Vestry Achievements

The Vestry remained committed to "the Journey" and finding a first class replacement for Rich Cook in Dr. Janet Harms. The most important work the Vestry accomplished this year was studying *Twelve keys to an effective church* by Kenneth Callan. We also completed our Mutual Ministry Review in August and have just approved the parish strategic plan "**Vision 20/08.**" Five seats are now vacant and we are using a new model of Vestry recruitment and ministry to ensure the most able and committed leadership moves this parish forward. Although the Vestry was not as visible to the congregation as in past years, their regular phone calls to parishioners, hosting luncheons for newcomers like the Covington residents, and working very hard behind the scenes meant each vestry member

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St. George's Academy

Wayne Lumpkin, Ph.D., School Head

In examining events of the academy over the last 12 months I am awed by the many people that have given of their time, talents and resources to make life for our students so rich. Without our many volunteers the academy would



Academy students visit fire victims.

not be the treasured community that it is. Our outreach to the wildfire victims in Julian and Crestline became experiential learning opportunities for students because of two parishioners, T. Grey and Caroline Shacklett. The Academy Booster Club members organized many, many events which have fed us fine meals such as *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* and *Garrett's Farewell*, entertained families such as *Halloween Happening* and *Kids' Night Out*, and raised funds which have contributed significantly to balancing our budget such as *Red Apple Gift Wrap* and *Donna B's Cookie Dough*. While School Board members and Vestry members are recognized for their role in these parish organizations, they do much more than is readily apparent. They fulfill virtually anonymous roles on the committees which serve the academy—Executive, Admissions/Marketing, Buildings/Grounds, Communications, Development, Educational Policy and Finance. Without these individuals and the academy/church volunteers from the parent body and church membership,

that join them on the committees, we could not possibly fulfill our mission as a school. The external staircases of Hasler Hall, which have leaked for years, are now watertight, thanks to the generosity of Paul McShane. Our assets and liabilities are now accurately reflected in our budget and our marketing efforts are yielding results, as are our development projects. Thank you to all!

It is difficult to miss the transformation that has happened with our pre-school in the last six months. The pre-school facilities were renovated, and the amount of hands-on classroom resources enriched to complement our program focus on developmental learning experiences. The age range was expanded to include 2-yr-olds and our pricing became highly competitive. Our silly-looking, eye-appealing dragon has attracted the attention of many families to inquire about our



program. But, it is our program, and the everyday warmth and caring demonstrated by the Pre-school Director and pre-school teachers that has made many families decide to enroll in our pre-school. In mid-July we had 7 students enrolled in the pre-school; today, we have 56 pre-school students. We expect to continue to expand the size of our pre-school as long as space is available and we will certainly increase our staff size to maintain the quality of our program.

In the joint School Board/Vestry retreat held earlier this past year, it became apparent that both the Academy and Church could make good use of parish transportation. The newly acquired van is already in use by the Church to transport homebound parishioners. The van will do much to alleviate our challenges of always need to find parent drivers for every field trip. It will also permit us to develop athletic programs at nearby community facilities. This is very exciting for the students who desire green space on which to play a variety of competitive sports. Such cooperation between the church and academy attest to our union as one body.

I look forward to the time when we can acquire a second van.

In partnership with Richard Woo, program coordinator for Eureka Education, St. George's has become the newest host school for the *Korean Foreign Exchange Student Program*. The goal of this program is to allow participating students from Korea to learn about the American culture in the context of a Christian school and



as a guest member of a caring American family.

We are excited to host 10 Korean exchange students for the next two months. We believe that this program will further our goal to prepare our students for as wide a range of future opportunities as possible. As people are increasingly changing locations and careers throughout their lives it is becoming more and more valuable to have a broad awareness of different social customs, languages, and cultural norms.



SR. WARDEN'S REPORT: A Year of Challenge

Bob Wilson

The 2004 vestry was faced immediately with many challenges at the start of the year, particularly with the budget and the deficit. We were blessed with five new members that brought a lot of energy and passion to an already highly committed vestry. These new members combined with our returning members, quickly came together to work as a team and proved to be a very financially responsible vestry.

The vestry implemented a Transition Plan that clarified our roles and responsibilities and outlined an action plan for the year. The diligence of the clergy and the vestry contributed to a very near completion of the plan and its action items.

The vestry gave strong support to the "This is My Church" campaign, as some of the members were very involved with its development and presentation to the congregation. In addition, this year's vestry has been

actively involved in the 2004 Stewardship Campaign.

All of these efforts and hard work have created a special bond among the vestry members which is hard to describe, and can only be realized when working together in a group like this. The care and love for our church from this vestry has been impeccable and truly rewarding to experience.

Our joint Vestry/School Board Retreat last April, facilitated by Tom Clarke, was a great opportunity for the Church and the Academy to work as one. At the end of the weekend, it was a wonderful feeling to walk away knowing that special bond had been made between these two very important groups of dedicated people.

Lastly, it has been an honor and privilege to have been the Senior Warden and to work closely with and support Father Albert this past year in an effort to help make St. George's a special place for all.

JR. WARDEN'S REPORT

Sue Strang

It has been a pleasure serving as your Junior Warden this past year and learning not only your concerns for St. Georges's, but also some of the things that you feel make it a special place. The good participation in the potlucks, supper clubs, etc. was very rewarding, but one of the highlights was the great response to the first annual Parish Picnic. Also noteworthy, was the purchase of the new van this year that will provide much needed transportation, not only to services, but to events outside the Parish.

I look forward to continuing to serve you as a Vestry member next year and, as always, welcome any comments you may have.



Christian Education

Reverend Pam Tyler

New Testament Professor Leander Keck argues that the real authority of the Bible lies not in absolutist views of scripture which suppose every word to be literally true or big "C" church authorities who interpret meaning of it for us. Rather, the authority of the Bible resides in its capacity to be a catalyst for an encounter with God. There are no guarantees that this will happen every time one reads or hears scripture read publicly. However, given sufficient engagement with biblical scripture, God may well apprehend us. Keck points out that since God is as free as God is sovereign, God is free to address the reader through any part of the Bible, even those parts with which we have serious troubles. He says, "In a sense, God's word is like lightning which cannot be predicted or controlled, precisely because it is God's Word."

To this end St. George's plans to immerse itself more fully in on-going Bible study in the hopes that by chewing on the 'tough texts,' the parish will more fully experience God's zealous pursuit of us.

Education for Ministry

St. George's Education for Ministry (EFM) courses require sustained weekly Bible reading. EFM participants report deep appreciation of the Biblical text's complexity and mystery but also immense delight in the theological reflection component of the course. We are recruiting for next year and if you are interested, please speak to me about what this commitment involves.

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was involved with the congregation in a deeper way. I am grateful to Bob Wilson as Senior Warden this year for his quiet and strong presence and stability in a sea of anxiety and uncertainty. Sue Strang was also a great addition to our Vestry leadership and took responsibility for our clergy house rental and Buildings and Grounds Committee. If you see one of the Vestry members on the patio in the next few weeks, please thank them personally for all their dedication to blessing so many people's lives.

Christian Education

Our Christian Education program continued to expand with an additional EFM (Education for Ministry) class, tightened Sunday School Program, and Rector's Forum Series. I loved researching the early Celtic church and the history of the Reformation and counter-Reformation. The insights helped me to stay spiritually centered this year and helped St. George's continue to live out our mission statement and gospel values through a very tough year in the Anglican Communion. We had memorable debates on the Windsor Report and evenings to share divergent opinions on the *Fahrenheit 9/11* movie.

Network

On a personal note, like some of you, I completed the Network Course and was able to get in touch with specific spiritual gifts that I need to use more, i.e. teaching, creative communication and prophetic ministry. These gifts are based in scriptural models of shared ministry in the church and God has given gifts to all of us. In sharing them, all the needs of the church and the community we are attempting to serve, can be met. I have decided to preach more this year because of my new awareness of my spiritual gifts through Garrett's

wonderful gift to us of the Network Course. I encourage others to spend the eight hours to get in touch with how God has wired you. We are going to offer this course on Saturday mornings so many more of us can experience it and exercise our God given passion.

Building Community

We had a variety of wonderful social events...from the Seder to the parish picnic. We enjoyed the beauty of a traditional harvest festival and Christmas always seems to get more profound as relationships deepen and the holiness of Bethlehem still touches us.

Profound Outreach

Our Outreach ministries continue to amaze me. For such a small congregation, your love and commitment to the Jesus in your neighbor is profound. We honored Robin Saunders this year for her quiet strength in feeding and clothing so many in this community and beyond. Corazon, Habitat for Humanity and our work with the homeless project in Santa Ana kept us reminded of the need to reach out to others. A Prison Ministry began in early stages and our Lay Eucharistic

ally we remained committed to orphan support in Uganda through our Sunday School and more recently the victims of war and famine in Sudan



Parishioners work on the Habitat for Humanity project.

(\$2,500 was raised this Christmas for Episcopal Relief and Development.)

A Crucible for Leadership

St. George's is becoming a training ground for Christian leadership. Kurt Condra was ordained this year for a Unity congregation in Dallas and attributes much of his leadership formation to his time with St. Georges. Karen and David Maurer went off to seminary in Ambridge and Liz Hendrick was accepted by the Diocese as a postulant, sponsored by this parish. Some of you remember Terri Jones who helped establish our Christian education plan and she is also now in seminary. St. George's gave the best send off I have ever seen to one of the great young stars of the diocese, Garrett Mettler, now one of the youngest Rector's in the Episcopal church at St. Timothy's, Apple Valley. Our own Pam Tyler was honored by the Bishop this year by becoming a Diocesan Chancellor and your support



Parish members enjoy the Seder.

Visitors expanded their liturgical services to more home-bound and nursing home bound neighbors. *Paws-itive* (a training program to help those who need assistance dogs) joined the ministries who meet every week on our campus like Alcoholics Anonymous (3 meetings). Internation-

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of me as Diocesan Episcopal Relief and Development Officer, allowed our Diocese to rank second in the nation with \$508,000 sent to help our brothers and sisters in need all over the world. St.

George's is SHARING the gifts God has given us with the wider church community.

Ministry of Prayer

To share deeply with others, one has to have a strong and deep center core at the heart of community. We have this at St. George's with the ongoing ministries of prayer, healing, sacraments and pastoral care that helped many of our members and others get through a year of illness, loss and tragedy. Two of our military personnel serving in Iraq and Afghanistan returned safely to us. The Altar Guild took wonderful care of our clergy so we can take care of everyone else. Our Daughters of the King and thrice-weekly Academy chapel services ensure prayer and worship remains the energy source from which all ministry flows.

Academy Growth

Our Head of School, Dr. Wayne Lumpkin, continued to attract amazingly talented and committed teachers and saw our pre-school burst with new life with 58 children. The vitalized relationship between the school and the church is now talked about as a model within the National Episcopal School Network by Canon Tom Clarke. Our recent Vestry/School Board Christmas party and recognition of the Dice, Zadra, McShane, Connair and Bradshaw families was a blessing of our gifted people as well as lot of fun! The Strategic Planning process

helped us to see our potential and success in working together. Sharing has brought mutual respect and trust to us all.

Communications

The Communications Committee has designed a simple brochure that describes our shared vision. It is one of the most important documents you need to familiarize yourself with. The new Vestry and School Board will

become the twin tracks upon which the wagons of Ministry with Seniors, Ministry with Families, Ministry with Pilgrims and Anglican Identity will roll over the next few years. Who will ride on the St. George's train into the future? Do you see yourself as a passenger on the train or one of the service crew? That is a very good question each one of us needs to ask ourselves. How can you SHARE this exciting and life-changing journey with others in 2005?

Yours sincerely,

The Rev. Canon Albert J. Ogle
Rector



The Corazon house build was a success in 2004 thanks to Anita, Laura and many others.



Albert Ogle and Bishop Talton at the Candlelight Vigil for Sudan in 2004.

Education, Continued from page 3

Rector's Forum (Sunday, 9:15 a.m.)

The Rector's Forum during Lent will focus on Paul's Letter to the Romans. The course will include an overview on Pauline ideas and language plus several meditations on particular texts. Come Fall 2005, we will continue the study of Paul's Letter to the Romans with the assistance of outside speakers.

Via Media

Post-Easter, *Via Media* will be offered on Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. This seven session part video/dialogue addresses matters of faith and polity from an Episcopal perspective. This class is open to everyone but is required for persons wanting to be confirmed on June 5th 2005 when Bishop Bruno will be with us.

Women's Umbrella

This year the Women's Umbrella (1st Sunday, 9:15 a.m.) will explore Benedictine spirituality via a variety of topics pertinent to daily life. Benedictine voices across the centuries will be heard on patience, reverence, mutual support, stability, and separation.

Confirmation

Confirmation at St. George's will be held June 5th. The Rt. Reverend Jon Bruno will preside. Persons over 16 who wish to be confirmed or received into the Episcopal church from another denomination should speak to the Rev. Pam Tyler immediately. All confirmands must take the *Via Media* course (Sunday 9:15 a.m.), attend three Sunday evening classes (TBA) and a pre-confirmation day retreat on June 4th.

The Library

Continued efforts to complete the library cataloguing and shelving are underway. St. George's is much blessed by Richard Sneed's large contribution of scholarly religious books.

The Year



St. George's is filled again for Easter.



Academy students led the parish in a well-attended Las Posadas celebration at Christmas.



St. Francis' Day brought out the parish pets and their owners.



Albert meets with the Anglican Club.



Ed Langley accepts a gift at the dedication of the Church library named in his honor, with his great grandson Jaylan looking on.



Father Garrett and parishioners attend a luncheon with Bishop Bruno at The Covington.



Academy Head Wayne Lumpkin, Ph.D., with Academy teachers during the commissioning.

In Photos



Academy “angels” prepare for the Academy’s Halloween Happening.



Academy students perform a skit during St. George’s International Fair.



Colonel Tom Jagush talks about his experiences after serving in Afghanistan.



Parish youth learn the intricacies of Texas Hold-Em under the watchful eyes of adults during the Parish picnic at our mother church in Heritage Hill Park.



St. George’s honors The Rev. Canon Sam and Virginia D’Amico on the occasion of his 60th year of ministry.



Parish youth perform the musical “Go Climb Up A Tree” about Zacheus, for Homecoming Sunday in September.

Vestry Accomplishments in 2004

Skip Jennings

Transition Plan: The Vestry and Priests of St. George's completed the Vestry Transition Plan of 2004. This Transition Plan marked the most effective orientation of new Vestry members.

Congregational Development Committees: Each of the congregations (8, 10:30, 5) now has representation with the clergy through this committee. These committees work to improve the quality of our worship and to draw newcomers to our parish.

Newcomer Luncheons: Three Newcomer Luncheons were held this year under the leadership of Katie Dunbar.

New Associate for Administration: Mark Wills joined the parish as our Administrator in August. He has demonstrated himself to be an integral part of the functioning of our parish.

First Annual Parish Picnic: June saw the first parish picnic held at the site of the old St. George's Church in Lake Forest. The event also celebrated Sam D'Amico's 60th year of Ministry.

Mutual Ministry Review: The Rev. Canon Tom Clark led the Vestry and Fr. Ogle in the Mutual Review process. This proved to be an important moment in our understanding of how we work together as ministers to achieve our shared goals as a parish.

Strategic Plan: The Vestry, School Board, and Clergy used parish and school surveys as the basis for the creation of a strategic plan. After many meetings with all parish and school constituencies, the Strategic Plan, *Vision 20/08*, is now in place to guide our efforts for the next five years.

New Choir Organist and Director: After a national search, Dr. Janet Harms was called to the Music Ministry of St. George's. She brings a background of classical and Episcopal music to this position.

Incorporation: Over the past year, the Incorporation Ministry has continued to welcome newcomers, oversee the Sunday hospitality, organize the greeter program and lead supper clubs.

Harvest Service: The Congregational Development Committee for the 8 a.m. service spearheaded the decoration of the church for the Fall Harvest Service that was very successful in creating fellowship as all worked to embellish the church with fall decor. This service saw the ingathering of pledges toward the ministries of our parish.

Gay and Lesbian Social Group: Aaron Ashcroft opened his home for the inauguration of the parish Gay and Lesbian Social Group. The group has ongoing events on the 2nd Sunday of every month.

The Journey: The Sunday evening contemporary service celebrated its first year this past September. This is a young, but important ministry in our parish.

School Board and Vestry Joint Retreat: The School Board and Vestry came together this past year to examine our shared ministries and to plan for our future. Much of this hard work is reflected in the Strategic Plan.

This is My Church Campaign: Parishioners responded wholeheartedly to the call to review their pledges and consider giving more of themselves to the parish ministries. This response enabled us to maintain our ministries this past year.

Christmas Boxes: Pam Tyler, again, called upon us to remember our homeless brothers and sisters through the donation of shoeboxes, small food items, toiletries, and warm socks. The boxes were packed and decorated and distributed to the homeless. We were able to share the spirit of Christmas with hundreds of brothers and sisters.



Ministry Reports

Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee members include Marcus Bruninghaus, Harry Marlow, Colin Stewart, David Clem, Alix Perkins, Sara Thornton, and Woody Thornton. The team is committed to identifying and serving needy individuals and groups outside the parish walls. In 2004, they provided a full year of service supporting the homeless and working poor at the Southwest Community Center. They provided Time and Treasure contributions to a total of thirteen different groups in the past year, including an ongoing collaboration with St. Dunstan's on the Corazon homebuilding project.



Practicing the Gospel through feeding the homeless.

The Committee expects to continue their association with the Southwest Community Center in 2005 and to expand participation within the parish group. We are expecting to conduct a fundraising event in February to support the tsunami victims, in addition to the work being done by Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD). The Committee hopes to expand participation in the outreach programs by increasing website visibility, including listing all outreach and volunteer opportunities so they are more accessible to a broader audience within the parish.



Christian Formation Committee

The Rev. Pam Tyler chairs this group, which is run by Richard Sneed, Lucina Moses, Colin Stewart, and Freda Gulley. In 2004 the Committee added a second Education for Ministry (EFM) Program. Using the Parish Discernment Groups, the Committee mentored Karen Mauer, mentored Liz Hendrick, and began a program for Jonathan Sy. The Committee was also responsible for getting new shelving put up in the Library to make that space more organized and efficient.

The Episcopal Church launched a program that St. George's test piloted for rollout to the entire congregation. It is called *Via Media* and is a series of videos and discussions centered around the Episcopal faith. The Committee solicited volunteers to preview the program and worked to customize and adapt it to the needs of St. George's.

The Committee's goals for 2005 include finalizing development of and launching the *Via Media* program as well as offering a basic Christianity course to the parish. They also expect to participate in the Kaleidoscope Project (Pilgrim Ministry's goal), and implement a Library of Congress system within our parish library to manage and circulate our resources.



The Flower Guild

Every week we sit in the pews and look up at the altar to see beautiful flowers. The Flower Guild, which is chaired by Christy Kellner, is responsible for making this happen. In 2004, the Flower Guild held its first fundraising event on Homecoming Sunday, which was a huge success. The Guild members include Catherine Day, Barrie Dasso, and Ellie Gero, as well as various parish members who assisted during the fundraiser event. Many members volunteered to make the beautiful floral arrangements that were then sold to raise funds for the Guild. We discovered that we have many talented and creative people within our congregation!

In 2005, the Guild is planning to hold two fundraising events similar to the one held in 2004. Volunteers are requested to assist, and any ideas that members have on improving the process are welcome. The Guild is also interested in recruiting some additional members, and is planning a trip to the Flower Mart and is looking into taking a Floral Arranging class to expand its offerings to the parish.



Flower Guild members Christy and Catherine, and Flower Guild Director Kathy Caukins with Ramona Manofsky. (l. to r.)

Ministry Reports, cont.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV)

This group is committed to providing worship to those who cannot physically attend St. George's. This past year, the 18 LEVs, led by Rev. Pam Tyler, expanded the offsite Sunday worship to include The Renaissance, and also began seeing homebound individuals at The Covington Episcopal Facility. All of the offsite worship sites increased their resident participation during the year through the efforts, communication and dedication of the LEVs.



The group expects to develop the offsite programs in 2005 with the goal of further expanding attendance. Additionally, they plan to recruit and train six to 10 new LEVs, provide another annual training session for all LEVs, and identify more support resources for the existing LEVs.



The Worship Team

The Worship Team was active this past year in expanding participation in the Oblations, and offered training for Special Prayers of the People Intercessors. Additionally, they expanded attendance at the offsite worship ministries at Freedom Village, Renaissance, and Wellington.

The Worship Team has aggressive goals for 2005 and plans to expand the

team members through an annual recruitment and training in January and February. Specifically, they are looking to train eight new chalice bearers, eight new ushers, six new LEVs, and eight new Lectors.

The new Lectors that are selected will receive a full day of training, including microphone and voice usage, eye contact, text preparation, and reading with meaning to enhance the experience for both the Lector and the parish members.

In addition to the work being done by the LEVs, the Worship Team plans to build on the existing offsite worship ministries by supporting current leadership development, offering worship resources and musical materials, and adding worship leader assistants.

Anyone interested in volunteering for any of the team member positions should contact Pam Tyler.



Wedding Guild

During 2004, the Wedding Guild, which is chaired by Martha Hasty and Diane Victor, successfully facilitated four weddings at St. George's. One of the weddings was an interfaith marriage, officiated by the Rev. Pam Tyler and a Jewish rabbi.

The Guild's goals for 2005 include being available to assist and coordinate weddings throughout the year, including weddings for non-members as they seek a possible new faith home, and to work closely with the clergy to make every wedding a successful and memorable event.



Music Ministry

Music has always been an important part of our worship at St. George's. With the loss of our beloved Rich Cook's services this year, an exhaustive search was conducted to find a replacement. We are blessed to be able to retain the services of nationally renowned organist and choral conductor Dr. Janet Harms.



Dr. Janet Harms conducts the choir on Christmas eve.

During 2005, music at the 10:30 a.m. service will center each month on one of the Churches of the Anglican Communion depicted in the stained glass windows of St. George's. The schedule is as follows: January-The Church of England; February-The Church of Wales; March-The Church of Ireland; April-The Church of Scotland; May-The Church of Mexico; June-The Church of Brazil; July-The Church of Japan; August-The Church of Australia; September-The Church of New Zealand; October-The Church of Uganda; November-The Church in the USA; and, December-The Church of Canada.

New singers are always welcome in the choir. Rehearsals are held Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. before the service. Join us now for a year of exciting new music and help grow this wonderful part of our worship together.



Ministry Reports, cont.

Daughters of the King

Daughters of the King (DOK) is chaired by Diane Victor. Other officers include Jayne Bailey (Vice President), Clara Baker (Secretary) and Mickey Bell (Treasurer). During 2004 the DOK performed outreach visitation to shut-in members, participated and assisted in the Annual ECW Worship at St. George's, as well as participating in forming the Women's Umbrella and the Annual Samaritan's Purse—Operation Christmas Child. They also contribute to and facilitate in the United Thank Offering for St. George's. Throughout the year they maintain a continuous Active Prayer Chain among all members.



The Daughters of the King gather for their annual meeting.

During 2005, the Daughters of the King plan to expand their outreach by participating in the preparing and serving of meals at the Southwest Community Center in Santa Ana and organizing a Quiet Day Fall 2005 for all DOK members in Deanery 9/10. Their outreach to DOK shut-ins and their internal prayer chain will also continue. All women in St. George's are encouraged to join.



Communications Commission

The Communications Commission is responsible for overseeing the parish communications, both internally with parishioners and externally to those unfamiliar with St. George's. This small but active group is made up of Brian Cooke, Paula Malone, Roger Norquist, Stan Sholik and Mark Wills, under the guidance of Rev. Ogle and Wayne Lumpkin.

Within the parish we produce the Sword and Shield twice yearly and the weekly e-mail announcement. In the past year we have generated other material such as the Vision 20/08 brochure, the material for the Bus Capital Campaign and the parish posters seen around the campus. The Communications Commission also produced, programmed and did the data reduction of the on-line survey last year.

For the outside world, we maintain the Church web site at www.stgeorgesparish.org, the Journey site at www.experiencethejourney.org and the Academy site at www.stgeorges-academy.org. The Commission also produces ads for the parish and a weekly press release of our activities.

In addition to our on-going activities, this year we are planning to expand the parish web site to include copies of the Sunday clergy sermons so that they can be downloaded and listened to at leisure, as well as updating various internal documents, such as the Ministries brochure.

We are always looking for additional help on the commission so we can do more. Anyone with writing, editing, photo or computer skills, or interests in these areas, is welcome. Just let Mark Wills know.



Incorporation Commission

The Incorporation Commission is chaired by Katie Dunbar, and the members include Dottie Andrews, Brennan James, Kathryn Taylor, Jeri McGill, Joan Shuff, and Charlotte Roberts. The purpose of the Commission is to welcome and inform visitors and newcomers about parish life at St. George's. They oversee the "Greeter" program, and in 2004 created new visitor packets, the Sunday morning coffee hour, and "Supper Clubs". They also held several Newcomer Brunches, and looked for ways to extend hospitality to everyone who passed through the doors throughout the year.

The Commission plans to develop additional programs in 2005 to reach out and attract young families to the parish. The feedback has been very positive on the Supper Clubs, so the Commission plans to extend that program further this year as well. In addition, they want to identify and execute more opportunities for newcomers to socialize with existing church members, find ways to get them back to church after their first visit, and get them involved so they keep coming back.

Join St. George's Supper Clubs

Sign up now to reserve your spot to join with a small group of fellow parishioners for the purpose of getting to know each other in an informal and relaxed setting. Each small dinner club of 10-12 people will be deciding their schedule and format: dinner at a home, at a favorite restaurant or a picnic at the local park! Our grand kickoff for this fun group adventure begins with a Supper Club Luncheon on Sunday, Jan.30 following the 10:30 service. The period for the groups is 1 year and it is hoped that the groups will meet every 4 to 6 weeks. Everyone in the parish is invited whether you are a senior, baby boomer or young family. For information, call Katie Dunbar (949-830-3569). Sign ups are at the Vestry table or call Katie.

Love Is...

A group of professionals posed this question, "What does love mean?" to a group of 4 to 8 year olds. The answers they got were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined!

When my grandma got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandpa does it for her now all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love. Rebecca- age 8

When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouths. Billy- age 4

Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other. Kari- age 5

Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French Fries without making them give you any of theirs.

Chrissy- age 6

Love is what makes you smile when you're tired. Terri- age 4

Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK.

Danny- age 7

Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen. Bobby- age 7

If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate. Nikka- age 6

Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it everyday. Noelle- age 7

Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well. Tommy- age 6

My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night. Clare- age 6

Love is when mommy gives daddy the best piece of chicken. Elaine- age 5

Love is when mommy sees daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford. Chris- age 7

Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day. Mary Ann- age 4

Love is when mommy sees daddy on the toilet and doesn't think it's gross. Mark- age 6

You really shouldn't say "I LOVE YOU" unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget.

Jessica- age 8

And the winner was a 4 year old child whose next door neighbor was an elderly man who had just lost his wife. When the child saw the man cry, the little boy went over into the man's yard and climbed on top of the man's lap and just sat there. When the boy's mother asked him what he'd said to the neighbor, the little boy said, "Nothing, I just helped him cry."



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