



The Cathedral Messenger

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A Publication of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Cathedral



fall festival fun



This past Sunday, we held our annual Fall Festival in our newly renovated church hall. With a moon bounce, funhouse, and many games to play from, the kids enjoyed an incredible evening. A thank you is due to those who donated soda and desserts and as well as the teens who helped run the games. Thank you so much! Lastly, a very special thank you is necessary for all those who donated their time and efforts through volunteering, food preparation, and organization as well as by many other means. Without your help, this evening wouldn't have been possible. Overall, it was a wonderful evening full of laughter, fun, and memories and we're already looking forward to next year's Festival. May God bless and keep you always. — Ben Mosley



Dean, V. Rev. Paul O'Callaghan • St. George Orthodox Christian Cathedral

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MEMORY ETERNAL

Helen McGuire, 10/5
mother of Terese Johnson

HERITAGE BOOKS

If you have not received your complimentary Heritage Book, you may stop by during office hours. 1 book per parish family. If you would like to purchase extra - \$20 Softback - \$40 Hardback.



Beginning

Wednesday, November 6th, 7:15p

A series focused on the uniqueness of Orthodoxy

NOVEMBER FASTING



On Wednesdays and Fridays prior to November 15, the normal fasting traditions are observed: abstinence from meat, poultry, and dairy products. The Nativity Fast begins Thursday, November 15th. The usual fasting regime is kept everyday during the Fast in November, except we are dispensed from fasting on Thanksgiving Day, and wine and in some traditions, fish, is permitted on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and weekends.

MABROOK! BLESSINGS!

baptisms

Simone Josephine Gusé was baptized 10/5
(daughter of Paul and Nicole)

Cecilia Evangeline Marie Oller was baptized 10/19
(daughter of Jonathan and Lori)

birth

Philip Alexander Learned was born 10/30
(son of Alex and Caroline)

marriage

Andrew Hourani and Morgan Lovett
were married 10/19

MANY YEARS!

Bishop Basil Endowment

Honor Bishop BASIL on his name day, the Feast of St. Basil the Great, January 1, with a gift to the Endowment Fund that bears his name for establishing and maintaining missions within the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America. See one of our Mission Support Team Members at the table in the hallway starting November 4th through the end of the month. Make checks payable to "St George Cathedral and earmark "Bishop Basil Endowment", and take this opportunity to honor Bishop BASIL.

2019 STEWARDSHIP SUNDAYS

Please remember to complete your pledge card for 2020 and bring it to the Cathedral on **Sunday, November 24 and December 1.**



Women's Faith & Growth

Join us Thursday
November 7, 7:15p

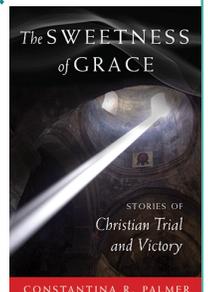
in the Youth Center

for an evening of fellowship & faith

Studying book by Constantina R. Palmer:

"The Sweetness of Grace"

Leader, Megan Gilbert



Rachel Garton

Coming Home

Chad Cornish



I am a born and raised Wichitan, and currently work in town as an RN. I spent my early life attending a mainline Protestant church with my family. My parents eventually decided a change was in order and we began attending churches more evangelical in nature. I continued in the evangelical world through college

where I was involved with Campus Crusade. I eventually left the evangelical movement after graduating and decided to re-explore my Methodist roots. While I enjoyed learning about the history and origins of the denomination, I found the present churches to be pretty disconnected from their own tradition. While this was disappointing, once I had tugged on the historical thread I could not stop. I kept following it and soon realized that the early church was still around, but looked a lot different than church as I knew it. I have the Henry family to thank for first inviting me to St. George and helping me find my feet. I have enjoyed every bit of my time here thus far, and have been amazed at how many people I have met with stories similar to mine. I am thankful for the welcoming atmosphere I have encountered at St. George, and look forward to getting to know this community even more in the time to come.

After being a part of different evangelical churches my entire life, I finally decided to undertake a serious study of church history, specifically the compilation of the bible and the early church councils. This came at a time when my wife and I were “church shopping” in Hutchinson, Kansas - where we had moved to a few years ago. My thought was to find the “correct church” and I had the daunting task of sifting through hundreds (if not thousands) of different competing theologies and doctrines - in a world where most churches have abandoned any real semblance of true doctrines or dogmas beyond their obvious desire to conform to the world to attract more seekers. Every church we came across professed that their church had it right - that their lens of interpretation was correct. But I was determined to find the Church I read about in my bible. To my shame, in my studies of the patristics and councils I discovered an entire holy infrastructure and rich history that had been seemingly kept from me in all my previous studies, including 12 years of Christian-schooling. In my desire to find a “good church”, I found “The Church” and it was not something new and novel that had been “re-discovered” in 1517 or in the 18th, 19th or 20th centuries. After over two years of further study, official catechesis classes at St. George, and much prayer, I was chrismated and finally became a part of the Church I had been searching for my entire life. It is a drive for us from Hutchinson, but I would gladly make the trip even if it were across the entire country.

New Security System

As you may have noticed, we have now installed a new building locking and camera system. The building is being video monitored and is set to unlock/lock the exterior/interior doors on the following schedule:

Weekly Office Hours: 9:00-4:00p

Weekday Vespers: 6:15p-7:15p

**Weekday Vespers
with Evening Programs/Meetings:** 6:15-8:30p

Saturday Confessions/Great Vespers: 4:45p-7:15p

Sunday Divine Liturgy: 8:15a-1:00p

The above schedule may be modified for special events or as events or times change.

Within the next several weeks the building will be rekeyed. A notification alert will be sent when this is to take place. If you need to enter the building outside the established schedule, please contact the Cathedral office. Please note that even if the building is locked, for your safety you can always exit through any door.

Any questions, please contact the Cathedral office.

Leap of Faith

by, Kh Gigi Shadid, who served on the steering committee of Christ the Savior Academy”

This fall, our family took a great leap of faith. The kids no longer go to a public school, and I no longer teach at one. Though we had many positive experiences at our local public schools, which are some of the best in the state of Texas, we now attend (and I teach) at an Orthodox Christian classical school in Houston, The Saint Constantine School (TSCS).

The mission of the school is to “nurture the minds and hearts of students for their own salvation, for the benefit of the world, and to the glory of God.”

What a breath of fresh air, and so different than what the public school has to offer! Our family took this leap of faith because the most important thing for us as Orthodox Christians is the salvation of our souls. I often remind my church school students that we are trying to “get into the icon” of All Saints. That is the goal – to be holy and at home in the presence of Christ, “for what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, but to forfeit his soul?” (Mark 8:36)

Being in a public school can often feel like living inside of a pressure cooker with the endless testing, data collecting, and sometimes cut throat student competition. In the public schools, the focus is on data and numbers; at an Orthodox school, the pursuit is wisdom, virtue, and joy. A former student of TSCS reflected on her experience writing, “I learned to seek excellence not just in the pursuit of a grade, but of a better life.”

In an Orthodox classical school, the curriculum is rich! We teach history in three-year cycles starting with Ancient History in Kindergarten, Medieval History in 1st Grade, Modern History in 2nd Grade, and then repeat the three-year cycle of learning. Each year, their knowledge and understanding gets deeper and more rooted. We get to learn church history and religion along the way, using art and music in an engaging and hands-on way. Once students enter middle school, they delve into “Great Books,” which are the classics. Their understanding of the classics is enriched by their study

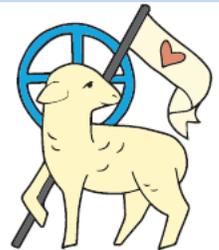


of history over the years. Students learn to think, not just regurgitate what they have been told.

Let’s not forget that the most important thing we get to do at an Orthodox

Christian school is pray. We pray as individual classroom families, and we pray collectively as a school community. Icons surround us and remind us of our end goal. What a blessing to have the opportunity to go to a school where you can make life-long friends who share the same faith values, see students and teachers making the sign of the cross, and engage in a classical curriculum that has been tried and true for centuries! The Cathedral is blessed to have such a school on its campus, Christ the Savior Academy. We would do well to take a leap of faith and send our children and grandchildren here.

Little
LAMBS



**A monthly gathering for mamas + tots
(Ages 0-5, older siblings welcome too!)**

Begins November 6th and will be held the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 10:00a-11:00a. We’ll meet in the Chapel and begin with a prayer and a word from Fr. Jeremiah. We’ll move to the hall for fellowship time including a lesson + craft to learn, play and grow together in Christ. Every other month, a Saturday event will be held to fellowship outside of the church. Details to come at the first gathering.

For more information email:
Tawny at design.tawny@gmail.com

Your Missions Dollars at Work

by Sally Buxton

The St. Nicholas Uganda Children's Fund is directed by Peter and Sharon Georges. No schooling in Uganda is free, and without education there is no future.

- From preschool to seventh grade, the youngest children receive everything they need for academic success, including comprehensive health care.
- Every secondary student is offered the opportunity to attend boarding school where they can escape the risks and temptations of their urban slum neighborhoods.
- Students are afforded opportunity and assistance to attend vocational training and a university education. Over 100 students have completed their vocational education and have entered the workforce with confidence and competence. More than 40 have graduated from a university!



Five Years of Engineers

In Advanced Level Secondary School (Senior 5 & 6) each student specializes in a combination of three subjects in either Arts or Sciences. The level of instruction is similar to a Junior College in the U.S. and science subjects are particularly challenging. Students who pass well with a science combination typically choose a career in healthcare or engineering. In each of the past five years, we have had a student admitted for a university engineering degree. Prior to joining our program, these young men and women had no chance of even completing high school.



Student of the Month

Vincent is in his final year at Nkumba University, pursuing a degree in Tourism Operations and Management. His parents were Rwandan refugees and he had already missed two years of school when he joined our program as a third grader. Last year, he was awarded a full scholarship to spend a semester abroad at FH Joanneum University of Applied Science in Graz, Austria. During the semester, he would study Health Management in Tourism. All classes were to be taught in German! He received the admission letter in October and the semester was beginning in February. That gave him less than four months to take a crash course in the German language. Undaunted, Vincent assured us that he was up to the task. He returned to Uganda at the end of his Austrian semester with an equivalent GPA of 3.14!



“Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.”
(Matt. 19:14) Learn more at ugandachildrensfund.org

Annual DOWAMA SOYO Basketball Tournament - OKC

by Ben Mosley



Greetings in Christ! Thirteen of our teens from St. George recently traveled to Oklahoma City and completed in the 13th annual DOWAMA SOYO Basketball Tournament along with over 200 other teens from our diocese. Congratulations to our teens who came in 3rd place out of a dozen different parishes from across our diocese! We're proud of you! While in Oklahoma City, we also had the opportunity to hear from speaker Steve Christoforou, from the YouTube series "Be the Bee" during three different enlightening sessions. It's opportunities like these when our teens get to spend time with their "DOWAMA family" and deepen relationships with their Orthodox peers that are truly something that our teens cherish. Overall, it was an incredibly

memorable weekend filled with competition, friends, and faith-enriching experiences.

Additionally, during October we've had a strong response for bulletin, tray, and epistle signups for Youth Month. Thank you to all the teens who have stepped forward and volunteered to serve. Looking forward, WAMP (Winter Camp) is just around the corner as well as the bi-annual ski trip in February. We are eager to begin fundraising for the ski trip and ask for your prayers that we may continue to foster a growing and active Teen SOYO.

In Christ,
Ben



W I N T E R
C A M P
f St. Raphael

REGISTRATION

"Registration for WAMP (Winter Camp) at Camp St. Raphael in Chouteau, Oklahoma, will open November 18th at noon (central time). WAMP is open to all those in grades 7-12. The dates for the event are set for Martin Luther King weekend, January 17-20. Registration cost is \$140 with a required deposit of at least \$40. Please see Ben Mosley for more information. YABOY!"

Community Support

by Traci Spencer

we'd love to have you join us!

"for I was hungry and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me" — Matthew 25: 35-36

Completed Projects

Lord's Diner

On Sunday, October 20th , St. George volunteers served the homeless in our community at the Broadway location from 5:00-7:30 p.m. Thank you for your heart for feeding the homeless! Join us the third Sunday of every month to serve together. Please call Mikell Awwad at 250-3016 if you are able to serve.

Young At Heart

On Tuesday, October 22nd, Community Support provided a catered meal, BINGO, fellowship, and prizes from 11:30-1:00 p.m. in the St. George Fellowship Hall for our beloved Seniors. We had a wonderful turnout! Thank you to all who contributed their time and talents to make it a success!!



What's Coming Up ?

DUI Victim Center - Red Ribbon Project

On Thursday, November 14th, volunteers are needed to write the names of DUI victims on red ribbons in their memory; which will be displayed on police officer's cars during the holiday season. We will meet at the DUI Victim Center on Thursday, November 14th at 11:00 am at their **NEW LOCATION:** AT 313 N. Seneca, suite 110. Light

Next Meeting November 12th

12:00 noon in the Conference Room.

We would love to have you join us!!

Please let committee members know of agencies that you would like St. George to support in 2020. We will vote at the November 12th meeting!

We would love for you to join us! We usually meet the 2nd Tuesday of every month at noon. Please consider sharing your gifts and talents with our community. Please contact Traci Spencer at 371-5599 if you would like to be involved.

snacks will be provided. Please let Traci Spencer know if you can help with this project at 371-5599. In addition, Community Support will provide \$500 towards food to honor the sacrificial service of local police officers.

Cook Up A Storm

On Saturday, November 16th, volunteers are needed in the St. George kitchen at 10:00 am to make casseroles and cookies for homeless men and women in our community. Please let Cindy Abdallah know if you can help serve at 648-9576.

The Lord's Diner

On Sunday, November 17th , St. George volunteers will be serving the homeless in our community at the Broadway location from 5:00-7:30 p.m. Please let Mikell Awwad know if you can serve at 250-3016.

Warming Souls Center

On Thursday, November 21st, from 5:45-7:30 p.m., St. George volunteers will meet at the Warming Soul's Center, 841 N. Market (park on west side) to serve homeless men and women in our community. Please let Traci Spencer know if you can help serve at 371-5599.

The Ascetic Experience
www.asceticexperience.com

Recommended by Fr. Paul:
"This site is full of soul-profiting articles."

*The Cathedral
Messenger*

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