



ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Valley Lee, Maryland



PRAYERS FOR A HAPPY LABOR DAY!

"...that we never forget that our common life depends on each other's toil"

More than the unofficial end of summer, Labor Day honors the common toil of countless women and men who make our nation and, indeed, our world prosperous, strong, and well. As disciples of Jesus, we also lift up these persons and the common good to God, our heavenly Father. This Sunday, lend your prayers and presence at St. George's as we give thanks and praise to God, and remember, too, to enrich your cookouts and holiday gatherings with some prayers while you're at it! The Prayer Book gives you some great ready-made prayers, in fact. Try these:

For Labor Day, Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p.261

Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

For Commerce and Industry, BCP p.259

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ in his earthly life shared our toil and hallowed our labor: Be present with your people where they work; make those who carry on the industries and commerce of this land responsive to your will; and give to us all a pride in what we do, and a just return for our labor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

From Compline, BCP p.134

O God, your unfailing providence sustains the world we live in and the life we live: Watch over those, both night and day, who work while others sleep, and grant that we may never forget that our common life depends upon each other's toil; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY!

Sept. 11 9:15am Chapel 9:30am Classes & Adult Forum

St. George's is blessed with a great group of children, youth and families -- and we're looking forward to kicking off another dynamic year of formation and learning! Starting Sunday, Sept. 11, we look forward to a great new year of Sunday School & Formation ministries. [Click here for the registration form!](#) Chapel for the younger ones is at 9:15am in the parish hall, and classes for Pre-K to 1st Grade / 2nd Grade to 5th Grade / and 6th Grade & up start at 9:30am. Also on Sept. 11 we kick off our 9:30am Adult Forum -- which will be held in the parish hall dining room every Sunday *except the breakfast Sundays*. Mary Kay Peterson, chair of the Christian Formation committee, is interested in talking with any of you who might feel inclined to help our formation ministries, and especially those who might be able to help teach, even every so often, so please feel free to reach out to her. Also speak with Fr. Greg if you may be interested, or don't be surprised if he or Mary K. also reach out to you! Thank you.



SHARING PARISH ADMINISTRATION

Parish Administrator, Gail Dobson, to serve both churches

- ***Developing the Covenant between Ascension & St. George's***

As part of our collaboration with Ascension, Lexington Park, the Joint Executive Committee (JEC), which includes Fr. Greg, Bob Ertter, and Mike Mead from St. George's, have agreed to try sharing a parish administrator. St. George's incredibly gifted parish administrator, Gail Dobson, has agreed to serve both parishes. For the short term, Gail will be physically present at St. George's throughout the week, and on her more regular schedule on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. (A reminder, however, that the office is closed on Fridays so that important, week-end administrative duties can be carefully performed.) Gail will be at Ascension on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9am to Noon. In addition to providing administrative support for the Church of the Ascension, Gail will be assessing other areas where the two



parishes might achieve economies of scale. Her careful understanding of church systems and, indeed, her personal and professional investment in the wider mission of the church is not only an asset to this congregation in Valley Lee, but will help St. George's vestry and leadership better understand how we can move forward into God's brilliant future, while appreciating and honoring the work to date which has brought us to this point. We look forward to continued growth, and we remain especially grateful to Gail Dobson, who is undertaking a significant and hopeful service. Please join St. George's leadership in pledging to Gail our prayers and support.

ASCENSION'S FOOD PANTRY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS *A Few Hours a Week, a Lot of Good*

The food pantry at Ascension, Lexington Park is looking for a few more volunteers. Do you have some time to give? Thank you to the several St. Georgians who've already stepped forward to inquire and volunteer! There's always room for others. You'll spend roughly three hours a week, from 8:45 to 11:45 Monday through Thursday, welcoming clients, filling grocery bags, and helping with the necessary paper work. The need is particularly urgent on Wednesday and Thursday. All volunteers work in pairs. For more information or to get on the schedule, please contact Ascension's Joan Coleman -- jcoleman@md.metrocast.net or (240) 298-4492. Thank you!



LOBSTER DINNER *Saturday, Oct. 1 - 5pm & 6:30pm*

Maine comes to Maryland with St. George's Oct. 1 Lobster Dinner. We'd love to see you and your friends, and reservations are now open! The \$25 dinner includes a 1.25 lb. lobster, baked potato with toppings, cole slaw, homemade roll, drinks, and a homemade dessert. An optional Cornish Game Hen dinner is \$20. There'll be two

seatings - at 5pm and 6:30pm - and we're serving a total of 80 dinners. Reservation forms are available in church, the parish hall, [or on the website](#). Payment must accompany the reservation. We'll accept reservations until the 80 slots are taken, or until Sept. 19. If you're volunteering to help, please make your reservations early to be sure both your volunteer time and your dinner time can be accommodated. Questions? Want to help? Contact Pam Baake at (301)994-1706 or (240)577-3679. Thank you!

THANKS FOR GIVING TO THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN! *Fundraising to Improve Campus, Match duPont Grant*

- *Thank you to those who've given or pledged \$13,635 so far!*

Thank you to those who've given and/or pledged so far to St. George's 2016 Capital Campaign! \$13,635 has been pledged so far, and we are very grateful for your generosity. This mid-year capital campaign is an opportunity to invest directly in the physical campus of this congregation, as well as keep us ahead of long-term maintenance issues. Specifically this year, we're targeting an improvement in the parish hall's HVAC



system -- a more efficient improvement, all around -- and this special fundraising also puts us on schedule to raise matching funds for the every-five-year Jessie Ball duPont Fund's Repair & Restoration Grant, a 2:1 matching program up to \$50,000 on their part! In other words, every dollar you give or pledge to give is matched by \$2 from the duPont Fund (up to \$50,000 on their part)! If you would like to give, there's always time. Talk with wardens Bob and/or Jen, or make your contribution or pledge with Capital Campaign in the memo line, or note to the office. If you wish to give a more significant contribution, please talk with Gail Dobson, our parish administrator, or Greg Syler, our rector. And thank you, in advance, for your generosity!

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Mid-day, Mid-week worship every Wednesday

Mid-day, mid-week worship continues every Wednesday at St. George's. Starting at 11am, come for quiet, contemplative healing prayers. At 11:30am we begin a simple celebration of Holy Communion. Both of these are rich breaks in the middle of your week, and we hope you might take advantage of this prayer resource. If you have special intentions you would like us to hold in prayer, especially in this more intimate time mid-week, please let Fr. Greg or the parish office know. We would be glad to hold you in prayer.



ST. GEORGE'S CEMETERY POLICIES

New Policies & Prices effective July 15, 2016



Now effective (as of July 15, 2016), [click here](#) for St. George's revised cemetery and churchyard policies. Now, a single cemetery plot costs \$600 for members in good standing; \$1,200 for non-members. The cornerstones are \$35 each, and each purchaser needs to purchase four -- so \$140. The cost of cornerstones is over and above the cost of the lot(s). Columbarium niches for members are \$900 for a single niche, or \$1,500 for a double. For non-members, the fee is \$1,500 for a single

columbarium niche; \$2,500 for a double. For more information, please be in direct contact with parish administrator, Gail Dobson, or cemetery manger, Dave Larson.

AMAZON SMILE

You shop, Amazon gives!

Thank you to those who've already registered with *Amazon Smile!* -- the same place where you buy all kinds of knick-knacks and whatchamacallit's, and which (this time) gives money back to St. George's Episcopal Church. In fact, St. George's received \$10.91 as a result of your AmazonSmile shopping activity between April 1 and June 30, 2016. All that online shopping is a real gift to St. George's. It's all thanks to you -- those who've registered with *Amazon Smile!*

It's really easy:

1. First, go to www.smile.amazon.com
2. Click on the charity you want to support -- enter "St George's Episcopal Church Valley Lee, MD"
3. Now every time you go to amazon.com, it'll ask you "Do you want to go to Amazon Smile! Click "Yes," and Amazon will give a portion of whatever you buy directly to St. George's.
4. And **THANK YOU**



ST. GEORGE'S SECOND COLLECTION

In September, still supporting Snack Sak Program

- ***\$545.91 to Snack Sak Program in August!***

Every Sunday, the St. George's community prays for justice. The *Second Collection* is a tangible way we express these prayers. Every Sunday, that is, please bring some loose change or n on-perishable food items. In August and September -- these back-to-school months --



we're giving your 'loose change' to the Snack Sak program. Sponsored by the United Way and several local organizations, St. George's among them, Snack Saks provide food relief for hungry local school children for over the weekends during the school year when meals are otherwise scarce. In one nearby elementary school, more than 300 students are considered hungry. Snack Saks not only plug gaps, but save lives -- and we at St. George's feel especially called to support it as Christians and as this wider community prepares to go back to school. It only

costs \$9.25 to provide this service per child per week; just \$300 per child per school year. Anonymous testimonials from children who participate in the program tug at your heart and suggest it really helps them, and their families, too. If you would like to talk further or invest

more of your resources, please reach out to vestry member Mike Mead, who is the Honorary Chairman for St. Mary's County United Way for 2016. In August, thank you for giving \$545.91 in 'loose change' to this program! And thank you for donating an entire *trunk*-full of non-perishable food items, which we've given to our partners at the Church of Ascension food pantry. We continue this Second Collection, again, in September, and thank you, in advance, for all your generosity.



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