



October 2020

Dear Beloved Community,

I celebrate your steadfastness in faith and prayer! I am excited to share how I see God expanding your faithfulness in small things and bearing kingdom fruit exponentially.

Beloved, Love in Action: “Do your little bit of good where you are. It’s those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world.” –Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Last year, you prayed while a few went out to all the Texas City schools on the first day of school. We prayed and declared Hope over all those involved in our schools. We also staked Signs of Hope as a sign post and a seed of God’s word of Hope declared. Love is a verb. Not simply a feeling or thought. Grounded in God’s love for us, we are called to act, to love. 1 John 4:11 puts it this way. “Beloved since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.”

As we take seemingly small actions to live out God’s love being faithful with little, God multiplies our efforts. Here is the beautiful thing: **together in community, we can change the world!** This year, we were a catalyst for inspiring 15 other churches to go out in teams and declare Hope over schools not only in Texas City but also La Marque and Dickinson in groups of 5 – 25. This is God’s economy. It seems he is taking what we offer in faith and growing it exponentially.

As we know, faith moves mountains. While the world looks grim when viewed through our human eyes, when we look through the eyes of faith, we know anything is possible with God. You know how to practice faith in the face of Disasters and hard times. You have faith—God is with us and will see us through. Your confidence and Hope in God is a treasure our world needs.

As such, I invite you to engage in your faith and share your hope for the sake of our country. You can do this by:

- Praying Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will Be Done on Earth as in Heaven with us at Noon on Facebook: Monday - Friday
- Praising God for His Character: Love, All knowing, Redeemer, Sustainer, Creator (His presence inhabits our praises.)
- Fast and Pray: Give up something like sweets or TV and pray instead
- Purchase a Sign of Hope and post it in your yard and declare God’s Hope over America & invite others to do the same. God promises our prayers will not return void
- Pray the prayers on the next page for our Country and an Election—up to the Election

We are uniquely empowered to pray God’s kingdom of Heaven here on earth by the Grace of God. May we model the grace we have been given with others. As we do this work we will be loving God, our neighbor and ourselves. This is our call at this hour.

Prayers for Our Country (pg. 820 in the Book of Common Prayer)

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayers for An Election (pg. 822 in the Book of Common Prayer)

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United State in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation be enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Also, please pray for the healing of all with Covid-19 including President and First Lady Trump.

This may be the most important work we will do as we seek to Be the Beloved Community of Love. We will explore more of what Being the Beloved Community of Love is over the next month. This newsletter lists how we are putting action to our faith in Inviting, Welcoming and Connecting with Others, Caring for Each Other and Going Out Into the World. All ways we seek to live out our mission.

In Hope and Faith,

Pastor Robin+

Private Memorial Service for Nancy Sims (Ramirez)

Tree Planting in honor of Nancy by her daughter, Treasure.



It is with sadness, we inform you Nancy Sims Ramirez passed away September 21st from breathing complications. Nancy was a bright reflection of God's light in our midst. She will be greatly missed. May she Rest In Peace and perpetual light with all the saints. May God comfort her daughter, Treasure and the rest of her family. We will be hosting an online service to celebrate Nancy's life in the future. We will let you know when that will be in advance.

With Hope in the Resurrected Life we can say, Alleluia, Alleluia, even in the face of death.

This Newsletter Focuses on Living into our Mission:

To love Jesus, with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind while loving our neighbors as ourselves. We then know and share this Love and Hope courageously with others by the grace of God!

On this issue, you can see practical ways you can join us in living out God's great commandment. It is what you are made for and what will bear fruit of the spirit and joy.

You can engage in community by serving, joining one of the love teams, invite or bring a friend, and give generously to further our mission as we serve our community in raising up Faith over fear, and hope!

HELP US TAKE OUR HOPE FESTIVAL, HAM, & CHILI SALES OUT INTO THE WORLD:

Cooking for Christ November Fundraiser

We normally have our Hope Festival in November; thanks to COVID, we need your help to share our great chili and ham with others! Our ham and chili fundraiser will continue. You can find the form in your packet or online on our website under Cooking For Christ, which is under the Community Tab. Consider sharing forms with friends and neighbors! We will make it shareable on Facebook and electronically, so you can just forward it on to friends. Then pray with us it is a bug success.

The Hope Festival has been about fun, food, and connecting people in need with hope and resources.

We invite you to put your faith in action and help raise the Hope in our area—Sharing Seeds of Hope One Sign at Time.

- Purchase a yard sign to post in your yard (\$15). A prayer card will be included on how to declare Hope and a blessing prayer for our nation before the elections.
- Purchase and post a sign for your yard to show your support of 1st Responders (\$8)



Appreciation & Prayer
for Our 1st Responders

Sevolution
Mainland

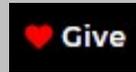
SHARING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD: Via Facebook & Our Website

*Challenge to you as members—share our Facebook page with friends!
Invite others to like our page. Make sure you like our page too!*

Changes have and will be made on our website to help Connect us with our Growing Online Audience!

- Our Welcome Page has our updated Mission Statement and Core Values and will have a link to get more information.
- New pictures have been added for our Vestry page, so people can see who we are!
- We've added Cooking for Christ, GriefShare, and Servolution Mainland to our Community Section/Tab, so that everyone can learn more about each ministry and participate.
- Our Sunday Services and Noonday Prayer Pages continue to be updated each week. You can always go back and view the videos you've missed!

It is now easier to give online! In both the header and footer of our website, you will now see a Give button with a red heart icon. This will lead you directly to our Paypal donate page.



Sharing our Stories Help Make Meaning

A Look at Discipleship and Fellowship from the Past — This will be a page on our website where we will share and reminisce about the past through stories and photos!

Bring in pictures or share a favorite story you had while at St. George's by emailing it to us at hope@stgeorgestc.org or by mailing/dropping it off at St. George's 510 13th Ave. N. Texas City, TX 77590. We want to hear from our St. George's family and friends! As we gather more information and images, we will have a section where we will post photos and you will have the chance to win a prize by guessing everyone in the photo!

Members who once attended St. George's Episcopal Church and still call it home. Gathered to give thanks and remember John Jacobson's life.

Send us your pictures with a few words describing the event and naming who is in it!



Love Teams — This will be a page where you will be able to learn more about our newly formed teams which help us to live into our mission, grow as disciples, and make new stories. The teams are: Mission, Vision; Caring for Each Other; Invite, Welcome, Connect, and Into the World. We will also have a section about the positions each team has and the roles they play.

LOVE GOD: Engage Your Faith in Community!



In-person services Sundays at 11AM! We have room for you!
Up to 50 people with social distancing can safely worship.
Join us!



All wear masks, sanitize hands, sit 6 feet apart, stay in their seats to be served communion, and the ushers have people leave from the back maintaining social distance.

**Not ready to come back yet? That's okay;
you can continue to join us online at 9:30 AM on Facebook or
Zoom—you can access anytime after the service too!**

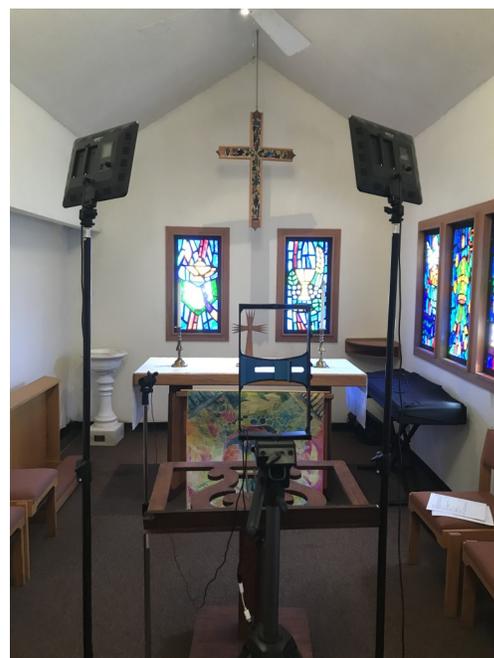
Sunday's at 9:30 AM, online services are still being aired on Facebook and Zoom. For the first couple of Sundays back in church, we moved our online service to the Chapel. You can see the setup in the picture to the left.

Our internet connection has been spotty, so we will pre-record services for now.

We are learning people's attention span for online services are limited to around 7 minutes. *As such, we will have a shorter format consisting of 1 reading, 1 song, and shorter prayers hoping this will help people stay engaged!*

We welcome and need your feedback!

You can catch our online service anytime after 2 PM on Sunday. For your convenience, it can be viewed in your newsletter sent out on Sunday afternoon with all that's happening next week. Be on the lookout for it!



LOVING OTHERS: 16 Servolution Churches Unite in Prayer for our Schools in Texas City, La Marque, and Dickinson!

Doing what churches do best—Pray!

Join us each month in-person or from home as we pray over Roosevelt Wilson and the administration building. We will be praying Sunday, October 11th from 12:30-12:45 p.m.



St. George's members along with other churches united in praying over schools in Texas City, La Marque, and Dickinson on Sunday, September 23rd at 2 p.m. To learn more about Servolution Mainland and updates on ways to serve, you can go to their Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/servolutionmainland.

Above: Several Pastors and members joined by Melissa Tortorici and her daughter prayed over the School Administration Building and all who work there. Prayer changes things! Area churches want the best school year possible for all! We invite you all to pray for them and extend grace! They are working hard for our kids in Texas City and La Marque!

Below: Just a few churches that went out and prayed over the schools.



United We Pray . . .

We are all united in prayer for a great school year. You can show your support by purchasing a Servolution sign at St. George's and putting it in your yard (\$6) or by joining us on Sunday, October 11th to pray over Roosevelt Wilson. Here are three yard signs pictured!



Last year, St. George's leaders helped declare Hope for our youths' future by posting Signs of Hope and praying over all the schools in Texas City (*pictured first*). This year, we were the catalyst for expanding this to now 16 churches deploying teams up to 20 people to pray, declare hope, and bless the buildings before in-person worship at schools in Texas City, La Marque and Dickinson.

Now we are challenging you and these same folks to join us in praying each Month over the adopted school. St. George's will be praying on Roosevelt Wilson on October 11 at 12:30 p.m. Join us for this brief prayer time in the parking lot (in your car) or from your home as the spirit leads. As we know, prayers can Move Mountains! Let's unite ours for the sake of our kids! May God increase our Faith over fear.

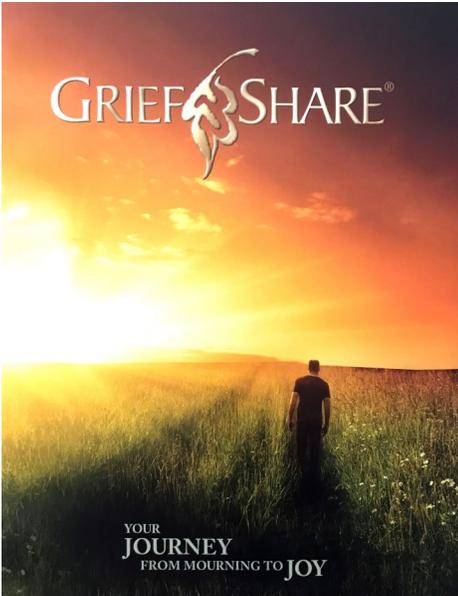
Here is the prayer we will be praying:

Almighty God, we come to You today to offer this school year into Your safe-keeping. We pray that You would lead and guide the teachers, staff and parents as well as the children whom they teach. We pray that our schools and homes will be places of safety and learning, places of encouragement and excellence. May this year be a time of adventure and great discovery, of learning and creativity, of mutual support and encouragement. May every student develop a thirst for learning, a respect for each other and a deep love of the truth.

We pray your peace replace fear, anxiety and frustration. Bring provision for the needs of all involved. May they feel encouraged by the community gathered around them. May the peace of Christ guard our hearts, so that together we might trust your leading and walk in the way of unity that only the Spirit of God can make possible.

We declare HOPE over this school year! Lord, we pray that in all things You may be magnified and glorified. This we ask in Jesus mighty name. Amen

LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS & OURSELVES GriefShare 13 Week Course Begins In-Person w/Safety Precautions



Classes begin on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 from 6:30-8 PM. Support is available in a variety of ways for those whom have had a loved one die. You don't have to grieve alone!

GriefShare Group – 13 week class with videos of experts and guided discussion. Each week your GriefShare group will watch a video seminar featuring top experts on grief and recovery subjects. After viewing the video, you and the other group members will spend time as a support group, discussing what was presented in that week's video seminar and what is going on in your lives. During the week you will have the opportunity to use your workbook for further personal

study of the grieving process and to help sort out your emotions through journaling. Your group will spend time discussing questions and comments from the workbook study *Book cost is \$25. Scholarships available. Save your spot by calling 409-948-1178 or by emailing hope@stgeorgestc.org*

Our leaders have been through GriefShare. They would be happy to share their experience, hope, and strength; David Kautz, Lynn Koepp, Byron Hambrick, and Beverly Ross.

"A Season of Grief" daily emails – Receive an encouraging email message every day for a year. You can sign up at <https://www.griefshare.org/dailyemails>. When a loved one dies, grieving that loss can take a long time, but you are not alone.

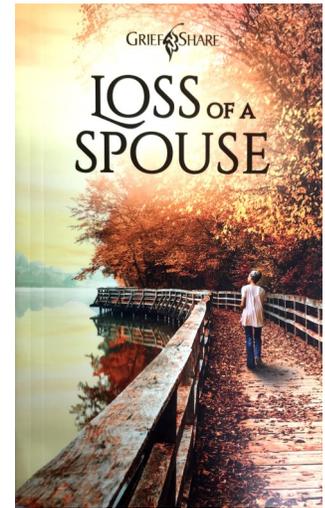
Here's a preview of Day 1 – Understanding Your Grief.

Grief is not an enemy or a sign of weakness. It is a sign of being human. Grief is the cost of loving someone. Since grief comes to everyone, why do some people seem to work through it better than others?

"Some people think that going through the losses or crises of life are the exceptional times," says Dr. H. Norman Wright. "I see it differently. I see the times of calm as the exceptions. Life really is going through one loss after another, one crisis after another." . . . *(Read more as you sign up)*

GriefShare: Loss of a Spouse

We will have a *Loss of a Spouse 2 Hour Seminar* on Saturday, October 17th from 10-12 PM. Grief is always disorientating. Even if you anticipated your spouse's death, the reality of your loss can be surprisingly unsettling. In our seminar, you will learn: How each person's grief experience is unique, common physical effects of grief, and the value of occasional "grief breaks."



Is My Grief Normal? (below are a few reactions)

Grief Reaction	What's Normal	What Could Be a Problem
Sadness and loneliness	Crying, sometimes unexpectedly A profound sense of loss and what you'll miss in your life	There are no breaks in the feelings of sadness (<i>no memories of funny events that can break the tension of sadness</i>) Avoiding people for days
Anger	Upset over your spouse's choice not to get help (soon enough) Regret over your response to your spouse's death Upset over being left alone	You entertain thoughts of harming yourself You are so irritable with people that they are no longer stopping by You are often agitated because you keep thinking about how unfair your loss is
Anxiety or Worry	Feeling jittery or "on edge" most of the time Being more aware of your own	Panic Attacks Unable to turn off "what if" thinking Not leaving your house for days

"Options in Care & Planning for our Future & our Loved Ones"

Tuesday, October 13, 2020
11 a.m.

Ageing specialist, Alice Williams, MS, LBSW Community Education Specialist with the Sealy Center on Aging will be available to answer questions for those aging and their families about what you need to have in place before a crisis occurs. She will also take questions from those gathered. Alice comes with a wealth of knowledge and practical wisdom. She runs the caregiver connection for families who have someone with dementia or Alzheimer's.

STEWARDED ALL WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN: Building & Property

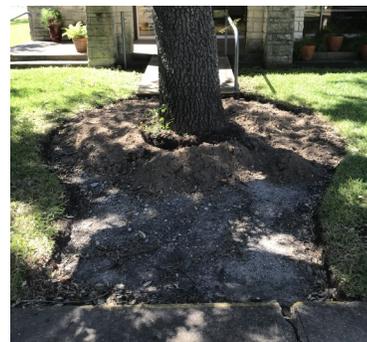


Boy Scout Troop 246 Gave us Hope — as they served!

On Saturday, September 19th, six boys, three parents, and their leader Angel Urbina (*troop affiliated with St. Mary's*) spent the morning painting our fence! They are interested in using our Garden of Hope as a field for growth and achieving merit badges.

Removing Cracked Sidewalks

Scott, a friend of Less Sanders, has helped haul off concrete and keep up with the flower beds.



Men's Fellowship & Yard Teams

2 yard teams work and fellowship every other week while caring for the yard. If you are interested in helping a few hours once every 2 weeks, contact Rip Howell at 409-739-0915 or Haynes Dunn at 409-797-4968!

Work Day at St. George's!

Wednesday, October 14th

10 - 1 p.m.

We will have mask making, tying and counting shoes for "Soles for Souls," a part of Servolution Mainland's goal to gather 10,000 shoes for other countries, and other small tasks inside. We will also have mini projects outside like painting the north wall and window caulking. Any help is appreciated! We just need to spiff up our sweet little church. If you are interested in helping, you can contact Susan Dunn at 409-797-4968.

STEWARDED ALL WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN: Our Talents

Forming Teams to Help Stay Connected in the COVID Times

The Caring For Each Other Team formed a **call committee** to help keep connected with members. If you'd like to help, contact Marie Carlson at 409-948-0265.

A **Prayer Team** of the chaplains has also been formed. Anyone who'd wish to join can contact Pastor Robin at 832-922-7022. Can't join in person? We will do it over the phone. Willing to send out notes — "We prayed for you?" contact Pastor Robin.

The Invite, Welcome, Connect Team wants to know if you like to write notes? Join their team of **note writers** by contacting Beverly Ross at 409-948-1178.

Mask Making

During our St. George's Work Day on Wednesday, October 14th, we will be making masks! If you have any questions, you can contact Eleanore Wuthrich at 409-945-7136. Mask making will be from 10 –1 p.m.

Ushers

We are in need of ushers on Sundays at 11 a.m. services! Can you volunteer once a month for our 11 a.m. service? Contact Susan Dunn at 409-797-4968.

Online Services Hospitality Team

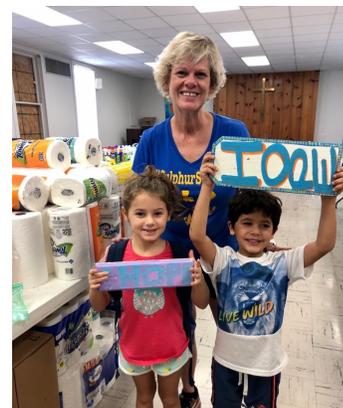
We are in need of volunteers to post statements (*prepared for you*) in the comment section on Facebook during the live service at 9:30 a.m. and noon M-F.

Saturday Serve with 4B Disaster Response Network

Help do Hurricane Harvey repair work in empty homes from 8 - 12 p.m. or 12 - 4 p.m. Come serve on **any Saturday beginning Oct. 3rd (except holidays)**. Bring some friends too! Upcoming dates in October are the 10th, 18th, 24th, and 31st. You can sign up at <https://4bresponse.org/volunteer/>.

Hurricane Laura Relief Supplies Collection

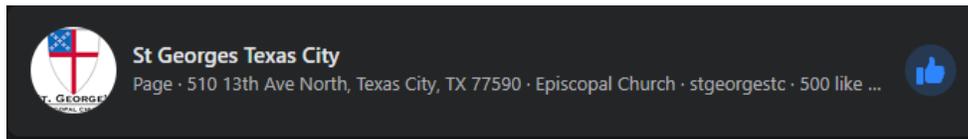
Loving and helping our neighbors in Sulfur, Louisiana after Hurricane Laura devastated homes and businesses. Recently, Hope Signs, water, and cleaning supplies were sent from our small town to theirs. You can help by bringing bottled water and cleaning supplies such as Mold Killer (Microban, Concrobium, Mold Control), Bleach, Odoban, Laundry Detergent, Household Cleaner, and Work Gloves to St. John's Methodist 8200 25th Ave. N. Texas City, TX 77591. M-F from 9-1PM.



Help us Pass on God's Love & Good News Into the World . . .

*Share the Good News with Friends with a few clicks!
If you haven't, make sure to like our Facebook Page!*

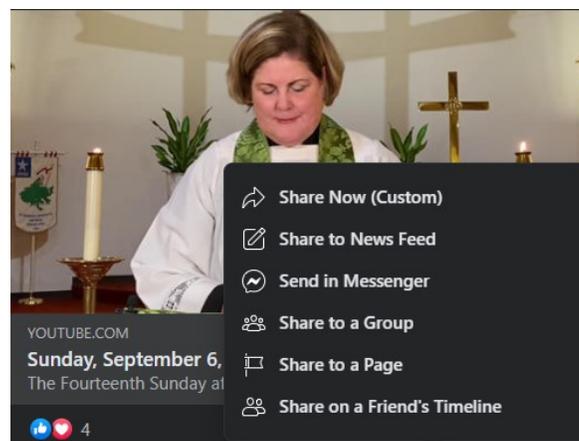
1. Go to St Georges Texas City Facebook Page



2. Scroll down to Sunday's Service (or Noonday Prayer)



3. Click Share—you can choose how (Your Newsfeed, Page, Messenger, Watch Party, etc.)



4. Invite Friends to like our page! It's easy to do on your phone!

