

St. George's Q & A

Q1. Where is God as we keep having to leave our building—due to fleas and now mildew?

God is with us & for us. He adores us. He is our HOPE. We declare Hope & full restoration over our church building and the life of our community! Nature is a strong force and post the freeze many churches have experienced swarms and mildew from the rainy summer we have had. That being said, your prayers get his attention. **Please pray:** God, bless all who are helping and order the timing of repairs and insurance company approvals, etc. May communications be clear and happen with ease in a timely manner between all concerned. Amen.

Q2. Why can't we meet in our building right now?

We have mildew throughout the building—on furniture, prayer books, door jambs and walls. It is worse in the church wing. Per the Diocese recommendation, we closed the building immediately on June 29, 2021 to prevent anyone getting sick.

Q3. When will we be back in our building for worship and other ministries?

As soon as it is safe; This will depend on how quickly insurance approves the professional clean up. Possibly 2-3 weeks for approval and cleanup. We are hoping for sooner. **We will be updating you weekly with the latest news via text and e-newsletter.** Although we cannot meet in our building yet, we will continue to gather as a community for worship, fun, and mission. See questions 4 and 14.

Q4. Where will we worship in the meantime?

We have decided for the upcoming weeks to worship closer to our church, where we can come together on our own as a community. **Beginning Sunday, July 25, 2021, we will meet in-person at First Christian's sanctuary at 9 a.m.** Their first worship service is at 10:30 a.m., so we will need to be out by 10:15 a.m. Our online service will remain the same; Zoom and Facebook at 9:30 a.m.

Q5. How will worship happen?

Worship will still be in the Episcopal Tradition as close as possible to what we normally do.

Q6. What are the safety protocols being practiced during worship?

At the guidance of the CDC and the Diocese, the vestry voted that people that have been fully vaccinated are not required to wear a mask; however, please feel free to wear one if you feel more comfortable doing so. If not fully vaccinated, please wear a mask.

Q7. Does our building only have mildew or is mold too?

We had a Mold remediation company come and test the air and surfaces for mold. We received their report Thursday, July 15, 2021. We have mildew at this time; left untreated, the mildew will become mold which is the most dangerous health-wise and requires a more extensive cleanup. Mildew is not as dangerous as mold but it can cause illness for those who are vulnerable.

Q8. Who will do the mildew cleanup?

We have sought bids from 3 companies who cleanup Mildew on all surfaces. We expect to have all bids by Monday, July 19, 2021. We also expect the insurance to cover the cleanup as it is likely a result of the air-conditioning being out for so long. Please pray this gets processed easily and quickly.

Q9. What happened to A/C?

With the February freeze, our HVAC tower froze, bursting the core. This required parts to be remanufactured. The parts will be completed at the end of July and will be installed near the beginning of August. Depending on Hunton's schedule, we hope to have it repaired by mid-August. **Again, please pray for ease in scheduling and communications.**

Q10. How will we be paying for these repairs? Do we have to pay anything out of pocket?

The repairs and the temporary cooling towers are covered by insurance. There is a \$1000.00 deductible though for the cooling tower repairs.

Q11. Is there a special fund for the A/C?

There is a special fund for replacing Air-conditioning. With that being said, it is difficult for the vestry to manage special funds sometimes, and it can even prevent them from doing their work. If you wish to make a contribution, please designate it for special projects or the general fund as the leaders see fit; the vestry was elected by St. George's members, so trust them to appropriate funds for the wellbeing of the church. If you are wanting to make a contribution, please make sure that it isn't from the amount you have pledged to St. George's already; this can create an issue of covering our staff's salaries among other things in our budget.

Q12. How is the church work being done and where?

Pastor Robin and Raquel continue to record online services from home and meet with other leaders for planning and prayer. Game days and meetings have been happening at Rigos, in their meeting room. Several churches have even offered their facilities for our use. From the beginning, St. George's has met in houses, military encampments, storefronts, and at other churches. We are a tenacious, committed group of believers – it is in our DNA as a church!

Q13. Is the office open? Where should I send my pledge or who do I call if I need something?

Mail is checked daily even though the office is closed until the mildew is removed. So, please send your pledges in or bring them to worship on Sunday. You may call Susan Dunn at 912-856-3770 regarding church business and Pastor Robin regarding pastoral needs at 832-922-7022. Phone messages from the church are checked remotely by Beverly Ross.

Q14. Are we having events?

Yes! We dubbed this a summer of play and celebration for these things are restorative. We will have several more game days in which we will be playing bingo and other games at Rigos. The Kautz will be hosting a Tamale Making Party Sunday, July 25th, so reserve your spot now! Susan and Haynes will even be hosting a Kolache and Swim Breakfast Party at their house to beat the heat of the day. We are open to your ideas of fun things we can do together as community. Send us your thoughts via text or through email.