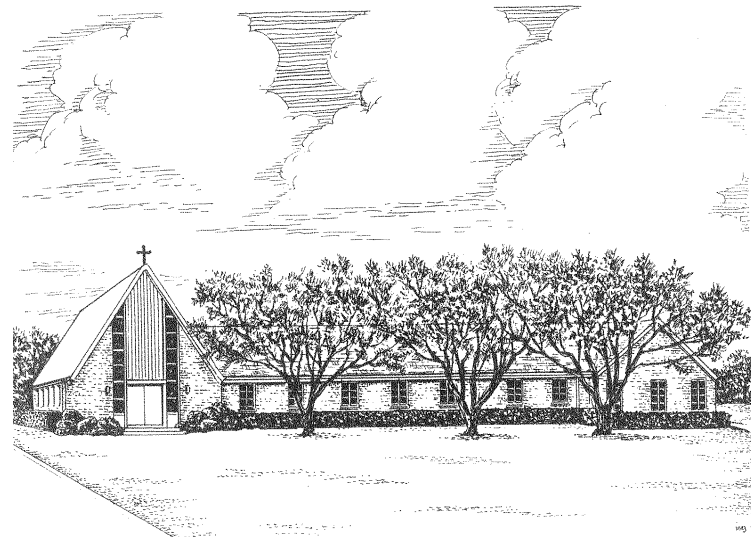


St George's Episcopal Church
1959 Airline Drive
Bossier City, LA 71112

Stgeorges@suddenlinkmail.com



St. George's Episcopal Church.

Bossier City, Louisiana.

Sundays :

**8:30A.M. -
Holy Eucharist**

**9:30A. M. -
Adult Study**

**10:30A.M. -
Holy Eucharist**

April 2024

Volume 15 Issue 4

The Good News

from St. George's



**St George's Episcopal Church
1959 Airline Drive, Bossier City, LA 71112**

The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby, PhD, DD *Bishop*
The Rev. Terry Deokaran, *Rector*
The Rev. Lois Maberry, *Deacon*
Maestro Kermit Poling, *Organist/Choir Director*

Recognizing the Resurrection Takes Time

Easter is a season of celebration and joy. But what about times when we struggle with adversity: illness, grief, fear, or uncertainty about the future? At these moments, it may seem less clear how the Easter story is our story.

I take comfort in knowing that this was *exactly* the situation for Jesus' friends and followers not only during his Passion, but even in the earliest days of the Resurrection. It took time for them to recognize the reality of the Resurrection, and it can take time for us as well. The truth of the Resurrection is that God's love is victorious. That is the essence of our faith. Love wins out over hate. Good wins out over evil. Life wins out over death. Really. And yet, Jesus' friends had to discover this over time in their lived experience. Sometimes, so do we.

Consider the ways we see the discovery of the Resurrection unfold in Scripture.

Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb and finds it empty, and initially she weeps, thinking that the body of her beloved one is gone and that she will never be near to him again. She is in deep mourning. It takes time for Mary to meet the resurrected Jesus and to recognize that it is really him and not only the gardener.

The Resurrection has already happened when the disciples are still hiding out in the upper room. Jesus breaks into the room against all their expectations. For them, it is an experience of utter surprise. Soon after, **Thomas doubts** and will not believe until he can see Jesus for himself. His experience of the world does not match the celebratory mood of the others, who have already had their Easter experience.

The **friends who walk on the road to Emmaus** spend a long time with Jesus right there in their midst, before they later recognize him in the burning of their hearts and the breaking of the bread. He is right there, walking alongside them at every moment, yet their recognition takes time.

Peter, when he is out on the boat, spots Jesus and leaps into the sea to get to him; it might seem that Peter, at least, has no doubts as to what he is seeing. But even in his enthusiasm and insight, it takes **breakfast on the seashore** and a talk on the beach to grow more fully into understanding what the Resurrection means for him, especially in terms of the healing of his companionship with the Lord.

These stories and others help me to remember that it is not my action that makes Easter happen. It is not about "willing myself" into the Easter mindset. Rather, it is about taking the time to be attentive to God's creative action. God's unstoppable love resurrected Jesus from the dead. And it is God's love and not my own action that will lead to our own resurrections—both our bodily resurrections (someday) and the ways we experience new life now, in the midst of fear, suffering, grief, and even death.

Bishop:

The Rt. Rev. Jacob W. Owensby, PhD, DD

4th Bishop of the Episcopal Church in

Western Louisiana

bishopjake@epiwnla.org

(318) 442-1304

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 4330

Pineville, LA 71361

Vestry:

Senior Warden

Jacob North (2026)

318-268-8214

Jr. Warden:

Ande Arnold (2025)

318-592-0075

Clerk:

Sandy Simpson (2025)

318-294-3962

Vestry Members:

Barbara Moore (2024) 318-230-0804

Kristi Stoll (2025) 318-820-0574

Treasurer :

Malcolm Smith

Rector: The Rev. Terry Deokaran

Cell phone 318-716-0881

Office: 318-746-2571

Email: terryrose12@yahoo.com

Deacon: Lois Maberry

318-286-5414

lrhma@bellsouth.net

Church Office Phone:

318-746-2571

Email:

Stgeorges@suddenlinkmail.com

Website:

www.stgeorgesbossier.org

Like us on Facebook at


www.facebook.com/StGeorgesEpiscopal

ChurchBossier

Welcome to St. George's Episcopal Church! To make donations via Paypal, scan the QR code with your mobile device: Thanks for your generosity!



April 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 Book Study 5:30pm in Parish Hall	4 11:00 Centering Prayer Noon/1:00 BBBS	5	6  ECW Spring Tea 2:00pm Parish Hall
7:30 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Book Study 10:30 Holy Eucharist	8	9	10 Book Study 5:30pm in Parish Hall Vestry 5:30	11 11:00 Centering Prayer Noon/1:00 BBBS	12	13  Sewing for Lauve's Pediatric 10:00am Parish Hall
14:30 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Parish Breakfast 10:30 Holy Eucharist	15	16 Hope House Lunch	17 Book Study 5:30pm in Parish Hall	18 11:00 Centering Prayer Noon/1:00 BBBS	19	20
21:30 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Book Study 10:30 Holy Eucharist	22	23	24 Book Study 5:30pm in Parish Hall	25 11:00 Centering Prayer Noon/1:00 BBBS	26	27
28:30 Holy Eucharist 9:30 Book Study 10:30 Holy Eucharist	29	30				

My part is simply to acknowledge my feelings, pay attention, wonder, and pray.

If I am feeling emptiness or grief, I can bring my sense of emptiness to God and, like Mary Magdalene, wait for God, paying attention to where I might find new life beyond the tomb.

If I am feeling fear and am shut inside my own room, I can bring those fears to God and know that God will enter right into that space with me. God can surprise me beyond the confines of my own understanding.

If I am feeling doubt, I can express these doubts to God and, like Thomas, wonder how God invites me to touch the reality of the Resurrection.

If I am feeling a desire for increased connection with God, I can let God walk with me, talk with me, and even "feed" me with the divine presence. I can let myself love God and let God love me in turn.

Think about your own Easter experience. Where is there new life? Where is there wonder? Where do you see God's love made real?

(Credit to Ignatian Spirituality for these meditative thoughts)



Mother Terry +





Welcome Noah Kai North March 6, 2024



Dialogue with the Deacon

The joy of being a Deacon at St. George's is that so many of our church family do multiple acts of kindness at church and in their neighborhoods. So many write kind notes to many people. So many visit and bring food or cookies or fruit to those who are sick. So many send texts to check up on each other. So many stop after service and wish people "Happy Birthday", "Have a safe trip", "How is your grandchild and did you enjoy your visit?". Some people call these random acts of kindness. I would like you to think of them as intentional acts of Love as Jesus taught us to do. In our study during Lent, we were reminded that doing kind things needs to be connected to the teachings of Jesus. Our Food Box is not there because we are nice people, it is there to feed people because that is what Jesus did. Please remember to share with those you meet to have a blessed day because that is what Jesus wants them to have.



4 Malcolm & Gene Smith



- 4 Shetwan Roberison
- 10 Kayla North
- 13 Mary Godwin
- 29 Maxine Reardon
- 30 Steve Arnold

Daughters of the King

The Diocesan Assembly of Western Louisiana hosted The Order of the Daughters of the King Province VII Spring Assembly on March 15 -16, 2024 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Shreveport.

The guest speaker, Mrs. Rachel Rabirn Norris (Bryan, TX), shared her testimony as she molded clay into beautiful pottery. Rachel reminded us that we (the clay) are controlled by God (the potter). Our lives are made into what God molds us to be. We need to repent of our sins, renew our spirits, and become better people.

The most impactful thing that I took away from the weekend is no matter how big of a mess we may feel we are, God can remold us over and over again. "Yet you, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand." (Isaiah 64:8).

*Shetwan Roberison,
DOK President of the Margery Kempe Chapter, St. George's*



45th Annual Diocesan Convention

Live the Gospel

Spread the Gospel

May 3-4, 2024



Our Delegates are Jacob North, Sandra Simpson, and Denise Brady. Our Alternates are Andrew Arnold, Kristi Stoll and Kevin Kerney. The Convention will be held at the Pineville Convention Center.



Scripture for the Month of April

April 7, The Second Sunday of Easter	Lesson: Acts 4:32-35 Psalm: Psalm 133 Epistle: 1 John 1:1-2:2 Gospel: John 20:19-31
April 14, The Third Sunday of Easter	Lesson: Acts 3:12-19 Psalm: Psalm 4 Epistle: 1 John 3:1-7 Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48
April 21, The Fourth Sunday of Easter	Lesson: Acts 4:5-12 Psalm: Psalm 23 Epistle: 1 John 3:16-24 Gospel: John 10:11-18
April 28, The Fifth Sunday of Easter	Lesson: Acts 8:26-40 Psalm: Psalm 22:24-30 Epistle: 1 John 4:7-21 Gospel: John 15:1-8

What is Happening at St. George's

Weekly:

Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 Holy Eucharist

Thursday-11:00 Centering Prayer

12:00 Brown Bag Bible Study

Monthly:

2nd Saturday — Second Saturday Gathering (Yard Cleanup)

2nd Sunday– Parish Breakfast at 9:30

3rd Tuesday Hope House lunch

3rd Sunday at 11:30 Daughters of the King

A New Ministry: Reading with Wildcats



Join us in our new Community Outreach program as we partner with the Waller Elementary Wildcats to share our love of books and our neighbors. We plan to read to kindergarten classes Wednesdays at noon. The school will supply the books and pairs of volunteers will spend about 30 minutes reading to the students.

Waller is one of the schools in St. George's neighborhood; they are so appreciative of our backpack ministry and are looking forward to our new partnership.

Join us to share your love of books with students who are part of our neighborhood.

Contact Kathy O'Neal at 318 455-8407 to schedule dates and times.

Date	8:30	10:30	Contributions
March 3	19	23	\$ 7,529.00
March 10	12	28	\$ 2,779.00
March 17	18	25	\$ 4,426.00
March 24	16	27	\$ 8,211.00
Total			\$22,945.00
Monthly Expenses			\$16,000.00

Curiosity Crusaders

The Curiosity Crusaders explored Meadows Museum, one of Shreveport's hidden treasures, on March 23. We gathered in the exhibition room for "Divine Inspiration: A Collection from Three Perspectives on God, Giants, and G.O.A.T.s." The three artists depicted figures who made marks on American culture, from music to poetry to boxing. One artist used vivid colors in his works, while another used textured or layered effects. The third artist had a large painting at the end of the room that included a quote: "Stars never mind the race beneath their glow," depicting the controversy surrounding the Caddo Parish Sheriff's race.

Our tour guide, Kristin Sorensen, took us upstairs to a smaller room, where she introduced us to a few works by Jean Despujolis, a French artist who settled in Shreveport. Meadows Museum has 360 pieces of his work, many of which depict Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos before the Vietnam War. He tried to depict this part of the world without Western influence. It was very interesting to see his work evolve. Taught traditional art methods, he started with sketches, then moved to larger compilations before the final work was finished. His works also include portraits and landscapes.

We took a brief view at an upcoming exhibit, "Sketch/Comic: The Making of Duck and Moose," by Centenary Alum Kirk Reedstrom. Another room contained art from the museum's permanent collection selected by students and staff on the theme of isolation and loss, as everyone experienced during the pandemic.

Finally, we enjoyed "Collage Poetry" by Centenary students. Using repurposed items such as stamps, music, newspapers, magazines, beads, etc., the students used text from their finds to make poetry, assembled on a mixed media canvas that reflects their youthful thoughts and feelings.

Many thanks to Kathy O'Neal for suggesting and coordinating our visit! It was delightful, and something many of us have never taken the time from our busy schedules to see.

Stay tuned, as Deacon Lois is coordinating our next adventure, hopefully soon!



ECW



It is almost time for our **Spring Tea and Time with a Friend!** The Tea will be held Saturday, **April 6**, at 2:00pm in the Parish Hall. Please come and enjoy an afternoon of Tea, Treats, and Fellowship. All ladies of the church are invited to come and bring a friend.

The winners of the "Step to Easter" activity will be announced April 7, 2024. Participants should have their score sheets in to Wendi Kotal by April 2.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the "Note Your Blessings" ECW donation drive. Total proceeds from the Drive were \$945.00, which will be used for future Outreach Projects.

Upcoming Events – Mark Your Calendars!



Sewing for Lauve's Pediatric Daycare: Anyone interested in helping to sew bibs for our neighbor, Lauve's Pediatric Daycare, is invited to meet Saturday, April 13, at 10:00am in the Parish Hall. All material will be provided, but "cutters," and "pinners" are needed, as well as, those who sew. Please do bring your own scissors!

The **Spring ECW Meeting** will be Wednesday, May 1, at 5:30pm, at the Olive Garden Restaurant in Bossier City. Election of new officers will be done. Please let Barbara Moore or Gene Smith know if you are interested in serving as an officer for ECW.

The **Annual Backpack Bingo** event will be Saturday, June 22, at 3:00pm in the Parish Hall.

Anyone interested in helping with the committee for the Backpack Bingo event, please let Barbara Moore know. Meetings will begin Saturday, May 4, at 9:00am, and continue every Saturday until the event, June 22, 2024. You do not have to be present at all meetings. Tickets will go on sale in May.

The **Fall ECW Meeting** will be Saturday, September 7, at 10:00am in the Parish Hall.

The **Annual Christmas Market** will be held November 23, from 9:00am – 1:00pm in the Parish Hall.

Happy Easter

