



Our Mission

St. George Greek Orthodox Church is a *Christ-centered Community* that: inspires faith and worship, cultivates spiritual growth and fellowship, and encourages benevolence and outreach.

Our Vision

Ascending together to the fullness of Life.



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A Word from Father Perry

I don't believe in ghosts. In fact, in the past, I have offered a few sermons and even written about the topic. However, one phenomenon that both exists and is becoming increasingly prevalent in our time is ghosting. According to Psychology Today, "Ghosting is abruptly ending communication with someone without explanation. The concept most often refers to romantic relationships but can also describe disappearances from friendships and the workplace." Many of us may have experienced ghosting in one form or another. Some may have had a dating interest cease communication with little explanation. Others may have lost a friend, to this day, not knowing why. Others may have made a new acquaintance that never returned their phone call, or an employee or coworker disappear without a trace. It's no fun to be ghosted. Apart from some serious exceptions (there is a time and place for strict separation in cases of abuse and healthy boundaries while working through serious issues), ghosting is not a healthy practice.

God created humanity for communion with Him and with one another. Genesis chapter two, verse 18 puts it this way "And the Lord God said, 'It is not good for man to be alone. I will make him a helper comparable to him.'" It doesn't get much clearer than that. It is not good for us to be alone. However, communion, that is to say, living in a community, is challenging. We have our quirks, and so do others. Our shortcomings have the potential to create distance in relationships as much as other people's shortcomings can be the cause of our withdrawal. We distance ourselves because no one likes to be hurt. And therein lies the challenge of living in communion. Others wound us, and we wound others. Maybe not on purpose. Many times, it is what we fail to do that hurts. We may not mean to, but the reality is that at one point or another, we will fall short in all of our relationships.

We are all in the process of becoming, which implies that we will make mistakes. Thus, our relationships will struggle. Our dating relationships will not always go as they do in the movies, friendships will experience betrayal, marriages will stagnate, working environments will not always be perfect, we may go through various seasons of depression and anxiety, and we will forget to call on a birthday or two, and so forth.

As our Good and Loving Lord highlights many times in the Gospel, repentance and forgiveness are vital to living in a healthy community. "From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand'" (Matthew 4:17). Repentance here implies the act of us coming to terms before God and man with our shortcomings. It also means the action of us changing our patterns of behavior, becoming more mature, growing in the virtues, becoming more courageous, and becoming more loving. In short, it speaks to the process by which we grow.

The Lord speaks quite directly and warns us of the importance of forgiving one another in the parable of the Unforgiving Servant in the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 18. "32 Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 33 Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?' This parable is like a giant red-warning flag waving in front of our eyes! God forgives us even though we don't deserve it. How much more should we realize that others need to be forgiven by us? No one is perfect but God. No one is without sin but God.

The problem with ghosting is that it removes the opportunity for relationships and individuals to grow. Ghosting inhibits and removes vital opportunities for repentance and forgiveness to blossom. The persistent act of ghosting denies the reality of the communal nature of life. When things go

"A Word from Father Perry" continued from page 1

reasonably wrong, and they will, we cannot just run away. When we run away, we avoid facing the issues in our lives that we need to face in order to grow.

When we ghost others under reasonable circumstances, we repeat the error of Adam and Eve when they attempted to hide from God in the garden. We may feel justified in our ghosting. After all, how could that person do that to ME? However, what if we are wrong? What if we have a part in the breakdown of a relationship? What if we have a blind spot or if we need to grow in self-awareness? If we consistently and persistently ghost, we harm others and ourselves. We cannot repent when we don't allow others to share how we have fallen short. We cannot forgive if we do not give a person the time or space to say that they are sorry. St. John Chrysostom highlights the importance of forgiveness when he says, "nothing makes us more godlike than our ability to forgive." Forgiveness necessitates allowing someone the opportunity to reenter our space to apologize. Simply put, an unhealthy pattern of ghosting can take away the opportunity for us to become more like God because God forgives!

May we be mindful of this ghosting phenomenon. We may wish it didn't, but it increasingly exists. Let us do our best to avoid ghosting one another. Let us encourage those who have experienced this phenomenon and those who have been impacted by it. People make mistakes. We need to allow each other the opportunity to apologize, change, and grow. Unhealthy and persistent ghosting denies the communal reality of life. As challenging as living in communion can be, we were made for it. It is not good for us to be alone. It takes maturity, patience, courage, mercy, forgiveness, empathy, fortitude, and love to stick it out in relationships. Let us work toward those virtues. Let us discern the everyday challenges that call for perseverance from the serious abusive ones. As we recognize the difference, may we allow the space for others and ourselves to grow, repent, and forgive, thereby experiencing the transformation that comes from living in communion with one another in all its messy beauty. Ghosts do not exist. Let's work at making ghosting exist a little less for the growth of all.

Summer Church Visits



Peter & Stella Hofrenning, Agia Dynamis (Holy Strength)



Jim Lake & Tammy Newman, May 2022, St. Athanasios GOC, Gulf Shores, AL



Peter & Stella Hofrenning, Hagia Sophia (Holy Wisdom)



Katina Koutroumanes & Stella Hofrenning, Hagios Yiannis (St. John) neighborhood church



Registry

40-Day Blessings

July 10	Anna Kanavati & baby Mina
August 7	Sophia Pachito & baby Alexi
August 14	Elizabeth Paraschos & baby Anastasios

Baptisms

August 13	Sophia & Savana (Barbara) Matuska; godparents are Lani Hattling, Tina Sageotis
August 13	Jolene Balzart; godparents are Emily and John Boosalis
August 13	Mina Kanavati; godparents are Soule & Vicky Paraschou

Chrismations

August 13	June Balzart; godparent is Nicole Wallenta
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Memorials

August 14	Chris (10 Years) & Helen (5 Years) Zubulake, Charles Zubulake (12 Years)
August 14	Jim (1 Year) & Maria (13 Years) Theros, Steve Theros (12 Years)

Funerals

July 11	John W. Lambros
August 31	Sophia D. Pathos

Church Staff and Office Hours

Church Office Hours
Tues-Fri 9:00am—2:00pm
(Closed Mondays)

Fr. Perry Kallis, Pastor
(651) 706-9672 cell
Email: frperry@stgeorgegoc.org

Julie Delton
Administrative Assistant
(651) 222-6220
Email: office@stgeorgegoc.org

Editor, Glad Tidings newsletter
Email: GladTidings@stgeorgegoc.org

Dean Natto
Parish Council President
(612) 501-8647
Email: dean@stgeorgegoc.org

Aleka Pitsavas
Sunday School Developer & Organizer
(507) 213-8044
Email: louieandaleka@gmail.com

Vicky Paraschou
Philoptochos President
(763) 785-8882
Email: vicky.paraschou@yahoo.com

Eleni Hoffhines
Welcome & Outreach Coordinator
(651) 484-0382
Email: eleni42@aol.com

Alexis Bighley
Stewardship Chair
(651) 308-8814
Email: abighley@aol.com

George Mastrogiorgis
Missions & Benevolence Coordinator
Email: gmastrogiorgis@yahoo.com

Stephen & Minda Arsenault
Bookstore
Email: bookstore@stgeorgegoc.org

Niko Vasilopoulos
Ministries Coordinator
Email: niko@stgeorgegoc.org

*Submissions for upcoming issues
are due by the 10th of the preceding
month.*

Scripture Readings

For a complete listing of daily readings go to <https://www.goarch.org/chapel/calendar>

Sunday, September 04:	I Corinthians 15:1-11 Matthew 19:16-26
Sunday, September 11:	Galatians 6:11-18 John 3:13-17
Sunday, September 18:	Galatians 2:16-20 Mark 8:34-38; 9:1
Sunday, September 25:	II Corinthians 4:6-15 Luke 5:1-11
Sunday, October 02:	II Corinthians 6:1-10 Luke 6:31-36
Sunday, October 09:	II Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1 Luke 7:11-16
Sunday, October 16:	Titus 3:8-15 Luke 8:5-15
Sunday, October 23:	Galatians 1:11-19 Luke 8:26-39
Sunday, October 30:	Galatians 1:11-19 Luke 16:19-31

STREAMING SERVICES

Click one of the links below to stream upcoming services:

YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/c/stgeorgestpaul>

Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/stgeorgestpaul/>



OCF Outreach

Parents and college students: if you know any students attending the University of St. Thomas or the University of St. Catherine in St. Paul who would be interested in joining an OCF (Orthodox Christian Fellowship), please send their contact information to niko@stgeorgegoc.org.

Intro to Orthodox Christianity - Fall 2022

Our MEOCCA catechism course, *Intro to Orthodox Christianity*, will begin on Tuesday, *September 13*, from 7-9 pm. Catechism is open to all; people interested in learning more about Orthodox Christianity, inquirers, catechumens, and current Orthodox Christians as well! The course is an excellent opportunity to deepen our knowledge of the Orthodox Christian Faith. Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings in-person or online via Zoom. Register online at <https://forms.gle/aFAzYJf7QH2A7dGb6>. Learn more at meocca.org. Feel free to join us for an individual session as well!

Engaging Orthodoxy - An Advanced Catechism Course

This course will offer a pragmatic engagement of the Orthodox Christian tradition to help the students deepen both their understanding and their practice of the faith. Com-

pletion of the MEOCCA Introduction to Orthodox Christianity Course is a prerequisite for enrollment in the advanced course. The course will be 6 sessions scheduled every other week on Tuesdays, 7-9 pm, starting *September 20*. Classes will address topics such as scriptures, liturgy, feasts, prayer, iconography, and saints. Register here: <https://forms.gle/PprBks8ZYZvcSIWt5>. For more information, please contact our Assistant Coordinator, Dr. Ann Woods, at ann@stgeorgegoc.org or (651) 222-6220. This course has been made possible by a grant from our Metropolis of Chicago Mustard Seed Fund.

Taste of Greece, in Minneapolis, Sept 9-11

Taste of Greece at St. Mary's GOC in Minneapolis, September 9-11.

<https://mplsgreekfest.org/>

Volunteer at A Taste of Greece

It's time to volunteer to help make A Taste of Greece 2022 a great success! To sign up for projects where help is needed leading up to the Festival (most of these take place during the late afternoon and early evening) click [Festival Preparations Sign Up](#) or <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b44a9ab2babfd0-festival2>.

To sign up for a shift during the festival, click [Festival Weekend Sign Up](#) or <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b44a9ab2babfd0-festival1>

Annual Gala LOMCP

Please support the Lyn Olson Medical Crisis Program by attending their annual gala on *September 18, 2022*, from 3:30-6pm at the Korluka

Equestrian Farm in Stillwater, MN. Enjoy great food, horses, yard games, silent auction, music, and more. See flyer at <https://www.lomcp.com/gala>.

About LOMCP

The mission of the Lyn Olson Medical Crisis Program is to help pay medical bills, overdue mortgage/rent, and utility bills due to loss of income as a result of a medical crisis. We still have more grants to give this year. Do you or someone you know need financial assistance due to a medical crisis? Go to <https://www.lomcp.com/> to learn the criteria for receiving a grant.

Family Camp 2022: PRAYER

Join us *October 7-9* at beautiful Camp Courage near Annandale, MN to take a break from the world and spend time with Orthodox Families from around the Twin Cities. We are excited to announce that Fr. Andrew Jaye and David Benson will share unique perspectives on a



topic that could benefit us all... young and old! For more information on speakers and answers to questions about Family Camp, go to <https://stmaryscamp.com/family-camp/>. Family Camp is a great way to introduce young campers to the idea of camping and a great chance to reacquaint campers to summer camp friends. Programming is

χρόνια πολλά!

Many Years!

SEPTEMBER NAMEDAYS

Sept 1: Aphrodite Anastos, Joshua Berge, Antigone Delton, Margaret Gabrik, Theoni Giannakis, Penelope Kallis, Athena Keifer, Aspasia Marazes, Antigoni Mylonopoulos, Athena Pitsavas, Melpomeni Poullos;
Sept 5: Zachary Gounaikis, Elizabeth Kochiras, Tamara Merkouris, Elizabeth Ploumidis, Elisabet Samonides-Hamrick; **Sept 6:** Misael Jordan; **Sept 7:** Pres. Cassie Kallis; **Sept 14:** Stella Treiber; **Sept 17:** Sophia Boosalis, Sophia Creamer, Sophia Paraschou, Sally Pathos, Sofia Pitsavas, Sophia Rizzo, Sophia Selliris; Sept 20: Steve Hatzis, Steve Tsepelis; Sept 23: Polyxeni Angelis; Sept 26: Reva Adkins, Pres. Jane Andrews, Nanette Gomez, Joanne Halatsis, Ms. Theologia Pitsavas, Mrs. Theologia Pitsavas.

OCTOBER NAMEDAYS

Oct 6: Thomas Knocke, Ryan McMorro, Thomas Rice; **Oct 18:** Luke Loudas, Scott Matuska, Luke Simon, Keegan Tountas; **Oct 23:** Eric Chadwick; **Oct 26:** Fr. Rick Andrews, Dimitri Balasis, James Canelake, Dimitri Cender, Jim Gounaikis, Demetri Halatsis, Demetrios Hatzis, Dimitra Hatzistamoulos, Demetrios Kallis, Dimitra Kaniamos, Dimitrios Kaniamos, James Lake, Dimitrios Paraschou, James Pathos, Dimitri Pitsavas, Dimitrios Van Cleave, Demetrios Verros.

*If you do not see your name listed, or if it is listed incorrectly, please contact Julie in the office.

available for children 4 and older. For those of us who attend, it is an annual highlight...come see why!

GEKAS Scholarships Announced

The St Paul AHEPA chapter wishes to announce the initial list of college students that will receive a GEKAS grant/scholarship for the school year 2022-2023:

1. Dinah Lampros, DePaul University, Chicago, IL (Junior)
2. Nicholas Petanitis University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire (Sophomore)
3. Sophia Selliris, University of Wisconsin, River Falls (Senior)
4. Mark Simon, Minneapolis Community Technical College, Minneapolis, MN (Sophomore)
5. Sho Kato, St John's University, Collegeville, MN (Freshman)
6. Rachel Tukua, Iowa State University, Ames, IA (Sophomore)

Thank You, Festival Volunteers!

We would like to thank our dedicated volunteers for organizing and planning the Greek Summer Festival! We appreciate their tireless work in supporting the mission of St. George.

Memory Eternal

It is with a heavy heart, but with hope in the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, that we share with you the passing of +John Lambros, on July 06, 2022. Click <https://willwerscheid.com/tribute/details/273373/John-Lambros/obituary.html#tribute-start> to view +John's obituary.

And also the passing of +Sophia D. Pathos, on August 10, 2022. <https://www.hulkefamilyfh.com/obituary/Sophia-Pathos>, May their memory be eternal! May the Lord grant them rest

where all the saints repose.

Stewardship Message

As a parish we have an incredible group of donors at St. George Greek Orthodox Church! The year to date Stewardship income is \$132,408, compared to \$127,197 in 2021. We are thankful for your generosity and continued support of our wonderful parish.

P.S. Mid-year statements were mailed on August 12 (sorry for the delay). Yours in Christ, Alexis Bighley

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour hosts are needed for the month of September. Please contact Elise Werger EDWerger@aol.com or 612-867-8047 if you can help.

St. George Youth



College Scholarship Presentation August 14

The winning essay in this year's John Pitsavas Memorial Scholarship is by *Evangelios Pappas*. Thank you to *Mrs. Theologia Pitsavas* for generously sponsoring this scholarship. Missions & Benevolence scholarships are awarded to *Evie Jordan* and *Parry Paraschou*. Essayists discussed the topic, "As you go

on to college, how might your Orthodox Christian faith give you direction and strength for the road ahead, especially during difficult times or when your faith is tested? You are encouraged to use examples from any past struggles." and were judged according to adherence to the topic, quality of content, and organization of ideas. Congratulations to all!



First Ever Youth Talent Show—NEW DATE TBA!

All are invited to the first-ever Youth Talent Show at Saint George! Sign up your children to show off their musical skills, singing, acrobatic feats ... and more! As a guide, please plan for each performance to be roughly 3-7 minutes. Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0D4CA5AD2BABFF2-youth>. In the comment section, please provide an explanation of the talent performance. Email niko@stgeorgegoc.org with specific set-up requirements.



College Student Blessing,
August 14



Summer Camp Sunday, August 14



Greek Summer Festival, July 30

Philoptochos

To aid the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the imprisoned, the widowed, the handicapped, the victims of disasters, to undertake the burial of impoverished persons and to offer assistance to anyone who may need the help of the Church through fund raising effort

—From the Mission Statement of National Philoptochos

For over 75 years our chapter has been working tirelessly to uphold the mission of Philoptochos. By reaching out to others in need. We in Philoptochos find the joy, in sharing, giving, caring and helping. We extend an open invitation to all women in our church community to join with us to continue hon-

oring God in our community and to continue the legacy of hope, faith, charity and love.



Our first meeting of the new ecclesiastical year will take place on Sunday, September 11th following Divine Liturgy. There will be a presentation on the highlights from the National Philoptochos Convention which took place this past July in New York City. If you are interested to learn more about Philoptochos, we would love to have you attend our next meeting. New members are always welcomed!

In Christ's service,
Vicky Paraschou
Philoptochos President



Update From the Parish Council



Greetings St. George community,

Another successful Greek festival is in the books. It was great spending time bonding with everyone at this event. Preliminary numbers show that we did \$78,000 in gross sales, which was over the festival projection of \$69,000. It will take a little bit of time to factor in the expenses and come up with the net, but this will be a nice boost to the ministries at St. George. This two day event ran smoothly. This is due to the amazing volunteers who spent countless hours planning, organizing, and working at the event. Special thank you to the executive team of Event Chair Phyllis Kapetanakis, Co-Chair Food Dino Contolatis, and Co-Chair Operations Jon Kennedy for stepping up to the task of leading this festival. Thank you also to our Chairs- Richard Kanavati, Scott Matuska, Lani Hattling, Angela Mortari, Frank Mortari, Stella Hofrenning, Nanette Gomez,

Irene Loudas, Anastasia Mastrogiorgis, George Mastrogiorgis, Dan Simon, Yodahe Gamada, Elise Werger, Steve Arsenault, Ted ROUNGOU, Denise Smith, Emilio Kapetanakis, Lisa Jordan, Cassandra Kapetanakis, Spiros Kapetanakis, Tom Lampros, and Angie Kontenakos. And a huge thank you to all of our volunteers!

The PC has approved to move forward with working with DJR on the future renderings of the capital campaign. We are in the preliminary stages. If you would like to share your thoughts or be on the sub-committee, please reach out to Dan Simon.

Thank you to all who showed up for the kickball game. Next year I recommend we do some pregame stretching before stepping onto the field.

Regards,

Dean Natto

dean@stgeorgegoc.org

612-501-8647



SEPTEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Ecclesiastical New Year	2	3
4 12th Sunday of Matthew Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am	5 Labor Day	6 Office Closed—Labor Day holiday	7 Online Bible Study 1:30pm Doxology 6:15pm Evening Divine Liturgy 6:30pm	8 †Nativity of Theotokos	9*	10
11 Sunday before Holy Cross Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Philoptochos meeting 11am	12	13 Vespers 6pm Catechism— Introduction 7pm	14 †Elevation of the Holy Cross Orthros 8am Liturgy 9am	15 AHEPA meeting 7pm	16 †St. Euphemia	17 †St. Sophia
18 †Sunday after Holy Cross Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Procession of the Cross Sunday School begins Church Picnic at Jordan Ranch 11:30am	19 Parish Council meeting 6:30pm	20 †St. Eustathios Catechism— God: Holy Trinity 7pm Engaging Orthodoxy—advanced catechism course 7pm	21 Online Bible Study 1:30pm	22	23* †Conception of Forerunner	24 †Martyrs St. Thekla & St. Juvenal of Alaska Divine Liturgy in Eau Claire, WI 9:30am
25 1st Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Sunday School	26 †Dormition of St. John Theologian	27 Catechism— Mankind: Creation, the Fall, Messiah 7pm	28	29	30	

Key: shaded day = Fast Day

* Wine and oil are allowed. Refrain from meat, fish, dairy, and eggs

** Fish, oil and wine are allowed: Refrain from meat, dairy and eggs

*** Dairy Allowed: Dairy, eggs, fish, oil and wine are allowed. Refrain from meat

OCTOBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 †Holy Protection of Theotokos
2 2nd Sunday of Luke Church Music Sunday Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Sunday School	3 Loaves & Fishes at St. Matthew's 4:30pm	4 Catechism - Christ I: Incarnation, Theotokos & Saints 7pm Engaging Orthodoxy—advanced catechism course 7pm	5 Online Bible Study 1:30pm	6 †St. Thomas Apostle	7	8 <div>FAMILY CAMP</div>
9 3rd Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Sunday School Philopiochos meeting 11:15am <div>FAMILY CAMP</div>	10	11 Catechism - Christ II: His Work & Teachings 7pm	12	13 Doxology 6:15pm Evening Divine Liturgy 6:30pm	14 †St. Paraskeve Petka of Romania	15
16 Sunday of the 7th Ecumenical Council Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Sunday School Youth & Family trip to Afton Orchard	17 Parish Council meeting 6:30pm	18 †St. Luke Evangelist Catechism - Church I: Birth, Mission, Structure 7pm Engaging Orthodoxy—advanced catechism course 7pm	19 Online Bible Study 1:30pm	20 AHEPA meeting 7pm	21	22 Divine Liturgy at Holy Trinity OCA 9:30am Sensory Saturday Special Needs Families Get-together
23 6th Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Sunday School	24	25 Doxology 6:15pm Evening Divine Liturgy 6:30pm Catechism - Church II: Councils, Creeds, Bible, Tradition 7pm	26* †St. Demetrios	27	28 †Holy Protection—OXI Day	29 Divine Liturgy in Eau Claire, WI 9:30am
30 5th Sunday of Luke Orthros 8:30am Divine Liturgy 9:30am Sunday School	31	<div> Calendar events are subject to change; please visit website for updates: http://stgeorgegoc.org/calendar/ </div>				

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

September-October 2022

