

# The Parish Paper

OF

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

Vol. 47 No. 46

The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

October 9, 2016

## SPECIAL COLLECTION THIS SUNDAY – ANGLICAN RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

*Please give generously to assist our partner churches in the Global South.*

*Thank you to all who have already turned in your Mission Envelopes for the ARDF!*

### PARISH KALENDAR THIS WEEK

**Monday, October 10**

*Office closed for Columbus Day*

*No daily services*

**Tuesday to Friday**

*Morning and Evening Prayer*

8:15 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.

**In addition, on Wednesday**

9:45 a.m. *Litany*

10 a.m. *Eucharist*

### VISITING PRIEST

Please welcome warmly Father Rick Buechner, sometime priest associate at St. John's, who is celebrating at 8:00 a.m., and officiating and preaching at 10:30 a.m. today. Father Patrick Hunt celebrates at noon in the chapel.

### THE PARADOX OF GENEROSITY (I)

There was a time when I would have disdained to read a work of social science, and perhaps for good reason. Yet even in social science, at least the better sort, wisdom is to be found, by those who humble themselves to look for it. So do not be surprised when I say that one of the most *convicting* books I have read recently is a work of social science, *The Paradox of Generosity*, (2014) by Christian Smith and Hilary Davidson. Its thesis, summed up in the subtitle, is one that any Christian should recognize:

"Giving we receive, grasping we lose"; but it is a thesis backed up by statistical firepower. Fortunately, there is a lot more in this book than just statistics - the in-depth interviews provide a powerful qualitative counterpart to the quantitative analysis. It strongly confirms the words of the Lord Jesus, that "*it is more blessed to give than to receive*" (Acts 20:35).

It confirms ancient religious and moral wisdom (C. S. Lewis' *Tao*) about the benefits of giving - but it also confirms what only the Christian religion has taught, about the 'covetousness which is idolatry'. The authors are smart (and humble) enough to conclude that social science can analyze the problem, but it cannot provide a solution. It is not in any wisdom of this world, but only in the wisdom of God, the wisdom of the cross, that we are set free from idolatry.

First, the study shows a **strong correlation between habits of generosity and happiness**. The same correlation did not appear for one-time events, but rather for habitual practices, done voluntarily ("*let every man do according as he is disposed in his heart, for God loveth a cheerful giver*" 2 Cor. 9.7), with an intention to seek the good of the other ("*charity seeketh not her*

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Junior Warden.....Mr. Richard L. Wright  
Clerk of Vestry.....Mr. E. Brian Culver  
Treasurer.....Jonathan D. Sprague, Esq.  
Chancellor.....M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Esq.

The Vestry: *Esqs.*, M. Tyus Butler, Jr., Joseph R. Ross, Jonathan D. Sprague; *Drs.* James S. McClellan, Jr., Roland S. Summers; Mrs. Henry F. Inglesby, Jr., Mrs. Richard C. E. Jennings, Mrs. Austin O. Kennedy, Mrs. Morgan W. Murray, Mrs. Mark D. Stevens; *Messrs.* David C. Barrow III, E. Brian Culver, John C. Helmken II, R. Scott Howard, Joseph O. Mercer, Peter A. Pollak, Jr., L. Allan Reynolds, Jr., William C. Rodgers, R. Gilbert Wells, Richard L. Wright.

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*President, ECW*.....Mrs. R. Scott Howard  
*President, Chancel Society*..... Mrs. Roland S. Summers  
*President, Men of St. John's*.....Mr. R. Scott Howard

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**STANDING NOTICES**

The occasional Sacraments of Baptism, Matrimony, Penance, Communion and Unction of the Sick, and the Office of Burial of the Dead are always available by appointment, at announced times, or as necessary. Please call the Church Office to notify the clergy if you or a loved one is in the hospital.

**VESTRY OFFERING CHAIRMEN**

8:00 Mr. Arthur D. Weed  
10:30 Mr. William C. Rodgers

**USHER CHAIRMAN**

Mr. Randolph H. Kulp II

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The flowers at the altar this Sunday are given to the glory of God and in loving memory and honor of loved ones by the John Helmken family.

**MICHAELMAS BRASS**

Donations were given to the glory of God by:  
Mr. R. Steven Branyon  
Mr. B. Franklin Williams, Jr.

**CHANCEL SOCIETY**

Mrs. John G. Bradshaw, Jr., Mrs. Jayne G. Holland,  
Mrs. Carter C. Hubbard, Ms. Anne H. Mingleddorff,  
Mrs. Martin R. Sullivan, Mrs. William E. Dillard III,  
Ms. Laura M. Reid, Mrs. Benjamin W. Baxter

**ACOLYTES**

8:00 a.m. Jamie McClellan  
10:30 a.m. Jackson McClellan Finn Repella  
Turner Stevens Patrick Perrie  
William Taylor Edwin Shepherd

**COFFEE HOUR CHAIRMAN**

The Men of St. John's

**SUNDAY 9:30 A.M.**

**ADULT & YOUTH CLASSES**

*Cranmer Hall – Third Floor*

CONFIRMATION CLASS-GRADE 6- *Catechism*

MIDDLE SCHOOL-GRADES 7,8-

*Twenty-Five Bible Saints*

UPPER SCHOOL-GRADES 9, 10, 11, 12

*Apologetics for Teenagers*

**FOR ADULTS:**

*I Samuel* with Fr. Dunbar will resume

**Sunday October 23**

CH3: *Joshua: Man of Faith, Man of Courage,*  
*Man of War- Jack Wray*

**MEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION**

Tuesday- Men's Breakfast  
6:45 a.m., Parish House  
Thursday- *Romans* with Father Dunbar  
7:00 a.m., CH Reading Room  
**RESUMES OCTOBER 20**  
Thursday- Men's Small Group with lunch  
Noon- Fellowship Hall CH1

**WOMEN'S WEEKDAY STUDY & DISCUSSION**

**Wednesday- C. S. Lewis Women's Fellowship**  
11:00 a.m. CH Reading Room

**Thursday Book Study** with Father O'Brien

9:15 a.m. Reading Room  
Shudoku Endo's *Silence*

**WILL NOT MEET 10/13**

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH IN YOUR WILL

own” 1 Cor. 13.5). The habits of generosity that exhibit this correlation are four: giving money, giving time (volunteering), giving attention to others, especially emotionally (relational generosity), and being hospitable and helpful to others (neighbourly generosity). Not only did such persons report higher levels of happiness, but also higher levels of bodily health, sense of purpose, avoidance of depression, and interest in personal growth. Although this data is self-reported, and therefore might seem questionable, it is strongly confirmed by the self-reports of those who do *not* report high levels of generous practice – for they report significantly lower levels of personal happiness, bodily health, sense of purpose, avoidance of depression and interest in personal growth. If there is a delusion about the correlation of habitual generosity with happiness, it is a delusion the ungenerous also share!

Second, the authors argue that these **habits of generosity cause happiness**. Correlation itself of course does not prove causality. It is not inconceivable, for instance, that the causality might run the other way – happy people are more generous, because they are happy. The authors argue that it is in fact both – happiness leads to generosity, and generosity leads to happiness, in a kind of virtuous cycle. The authors identify nine causal mechanisms that tend to increase happiness through the practice of generosity, and conclude: “In multiple, complex, and interacting ways, bodies, brains, spirits, minds, and social relationships are stimulated, connected, and energized by generous practices in ways that are good for people. Thus, as

a result of the generous practices themselves, those who live more generous lives also tend to enjoy greater well-being in life”. Again, the social science confirms what believing Christians also know: “*He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully*” (2 Corinthians 9:6). *To be continued.*

**HOLLY DAYS BAZAAR NOTICES**

**Desserts-** We need delicious, homemade desserts for the luncheon! Please call Shannon Alva (665-5321) to offer your sweet specialty!

**Treasure Room-** Collectibles, Silver, China, Rugs, Lamps, etc. Call Holly- 897-6202 or Robin-843-706-3558 for pick up!

**Books-** Clear your shelves and donate the books to the Bazaar! Call for pick up! Kathryn- 667-4894 or Karen- 398-8006

**Arts and Crafts-** If you sew, knit, or craft, please donate your handmade treasures to the Bazaar! Martha Sullivan- 663-6221

**Jane’s Cannery** are in the kitchen each Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome! Jane Pressly- 233-6551

**White Elephant** needs donations! No clothes/shoes/toys/puzzles/electronics/pillows(decorative-ok)/luggage/plastic containers. Caroline Warner- 713-1116

**SECOND HARVEST COLLECTION**

Don’t forget to bring individual-size snacks to fill the bins in Cranmer Hall! Also, Backpack Buddies pack on Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. at the Food Bank. Join us! Contact Martha Sullivan at 912-663-6221.

**DAUGHTERS OF THE KING**

The Daughters of the King are back! Please join them as they continue a study on Prayer this Wednesday, October 12, after Evening Prayer (6:00 p.m.) in Cranmer Hall. Call Karen Wray (398-8006) for details.

**ST. JOHN’S DIRECTORY APP**

If you are interested in accessing St. John’s members’ contact information on your smart phone, please call Wendy Corbin in the Church Office at 232-1251. It’s simple and easy!

**8:00 A.M.–HOLY COMMUNION**

COLLECT, EPISTLE, and GOSPEL .....Prayer Book, page 217

*A continental breakfast is available in Cranmer Hall following this service.*9:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Noon) - **Nursery** (*Cranmer Hall*)**9:30 A.M. – ADULT & YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION** (*Cranmer Hall*)*Supervised Fellowship and Fun is available for children from Preschool to Grade Five whose parents are attending class.***10:30 A.M. - MORNING PRAYER, SERMON & SUNDAY SCHOOL**

HYMN: #370 <i>Spirit Divine, Attend our Prayers</i> .....	Graefenberg
Sentences, Confession, Absolution and Lord's Prayer .....	Prayer Book, pages 3-7
Versicles and Responses.....	7-8
VENITE EXULTEMUS DOMINO: #609.....	9
Psalm #119, Pts 1-3 <i>Devotion to the word and will of God</i> .....	489
First Lesson: Proverbs 9 <i>The invitations of Wisdom and Folly</i> .....	Insert
BENEDICTUS ES, DOMINE #626 .....	11
Second Lesson: Ephesians 5:15 & St. Matthew 22:1 .....	217-218
BENEDICTUS #634.....	14
<i>Children may exit following the cross for SUNDAY SCHOOL (Kindergarten – Grade 5).</i>	
Apostles' Creed.....	15
Versicles and Responses.....	16
Collect for the Day .....	217
Other Collects, Prayers and the Grace .....	17-20
HYMN: #257 <i>Hasten the Time Appointed</i> .....	Lancashire
THE SERMON .....	Father Buechner

**OFFERING**

Sentences

Anthem: *See What Love* .....Felix Mendelssohn

Presentation of Alms: Doxology #139 and Hymn #141, Stanza 4

General Thanksgiving (*said by all*) and Aaronic Blessing ..... 19HYMN: #280 *God, My King, Thy Might Confessing*..... StuttgartVOLUNTARY: *Allegro Maestoso e vivace Sonata II (Op 65)*.....Felix Mendelssohn*Everyone is invited to attend Coffee Hour in the Parish House immediately after the 10:30 a.m. service.**If you are a guest and visiting our Parish, please make yourself known.***12:00 P.M. (Noon) HOLY COMMUNION** in the Chapel (Collect, Epistle, Gospel as at 8:00 a.m.)