



*St. George's Mission  
Committed Christians  
providing hope, help, and hospitality  
in Northern Newport News*

## THE WEEKLY WORD – JANUARY 28, 2026

### **St. George's News**

**Servers for Sun. Feb 1<sup>th</sup>**

**Open: Sarah Thurmond**

**AV/Sound: Dave Adams**

**Coffee Hour:**

**Greeter & Usher: Sarah Thurmond**

**Lector 1: Bonnie Dodson**

**Lector 2: Sarah Thurmond**

**Close: Lisa Adams**

### **Thursdays Bible Study**

Held 7-8 pm; new attendees welcome! Material used is published on the Episcopal website written by church teachers, organized by liturgical occasion & church season. Join the Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84370729616?pwd=M2JoVGw1bVpEMFBFTk55QWphN2RPdz09>

### **ZOOM LINK FOR 10:30 am SERVICE**

<https://zoom.us/j/117414681?pwd=Mk1Da29jRk9Wb3V2N1hEY2V6M1I3dz09>

**Meeting ID: 117 414 681 - Password: 016023**

---

#### **An important announcement**

**for all who join us for Sunday Worship on Zoom: During the service, remember to:  
mute your home microphone - it will look like this →**



**and**

**turn off your computer camera - it will look like this →**



**If left on, your image appears & comments heard and that's a distraction. Thank you!**

---

**Be on the outlook for notices about the possible cancellation of our Sunday Church Service. We are watching the weather and will let you know via email if service is cancelled and that we will Zoom the Sunday Service.**

**\*\*PLEASE JOIN ST. AUGUSTINE ON JANUARY 31<sup>ST</sup> AS THEY COOK, COOK COOK AND BAKE\***

**SUPER BOWL CROCK POT COOKING CONTEST and Bake Sale**

**The SUPER BOWL Crockpot Cooking Contest and Bake Sale will take place at**

**St. Augustine's on Saturday, January 31, 2026, from 12 noon to 3:00 PM.**

**Admission is \$12/ and includes your meal. There's also a raffle and much more.**

**Contact Phyllis Mather at 757-874-0102 or text 757-871-8683; or, Forrest Black at**

**757-778-0100 for more information regarding contest, door prizes, raffles and more.**

**Annual Meeting**

The St. George's Annual Meeting scheduled for this afternoon has been **postponed until February 8<sup>th</sup>** due to inclement weather.



***Pastoral Letter: Radiating the Light for Minnesota***

*When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." (Matthew 4:12-17)*

Many would reasonably argue that darkness engulfs our world and that we are desperately in need of a “great light.” We long to realize that a “light has dawned.” As we watch what is unfolding on the streets of Minneapolis, it is hard for us to believe and even harder to proclaim that “the kingdom of heaven has come near.” It is hard for us to turn our faces to the light that is dawning upon us.

When Jesus exhorts us to “repent,” He is inviting us to change our mind about something. He is inviting us to realize that our minds belong to and can be transformed by the values of the Kingdom of Heaven which has come near. Our minds do not belong to the culture, values, and darkness of today’s society. We have a new hope. A new light has dawned upon us. Jesus is inviting us to radiate that new light and the values of that Kingdom of Heaven to the world around us.

In his recent message to the church, Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe says this: “In the coming years, our church will continue to be tested in every conceivable way as we insist that death and despair do not have the last word...” So, how can we insist that death and despair do not have the last word? What does that look like for you? What specifically is God calling you to do radiate the Light of Christ to the world? How are you being called to combat the darkness? We are in need of light. What candle are you lighting?

This morning, in a telephone conversation, Bishop Craig Loya shared with me that the people of Minnesota deeply value your prayers and expressions of solidarity and support. Additionally, he asks, if you are so inclined to contact your political representatives, he would encourage you to do that. And finally, he commends to you the ministry of Casa Maria in Minneapolis, MN: <https://www.saint-nicks.org/casamaria> This is a feeding ministry of the Episcopal Church who is now actively engaged in delivering groceries to immigrants who do not want to risk leaving their homes. If you choose, you may donate through the website or send a check to the Episcopal Church in Minnesota, 1101 W Broadway #1, Minneapolis, MN 55411. (Please write in the memo line that the donation is intended for Casa Maria).

*Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of his marvelous works: who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

The following message from the Episcopal Bishop of Minnesota:

Fellow Americans,

Things are impossibly hard in Minnesota right now. We are a state that feels under siege, and the people of this place are doing everything possible to resist. The campaign of reckless brutality being waged by the federal government has been well documented, including today's killing of a citizen who was restrained and immobilized. The clear evidence of what's happening exposes cartoonish lies from federal agencies that echo the most cynical propaganda machines in human history. The images are clear, and we are told, don't believe what you see.

But there is also something much more powerful, and not as widely reported, happening. We are mobilizing for revolutionary love. Vast networks of care, compassion, and solidarity, organized by churches to deliver food and supplies to those who cannot leave their homes.

People are documenting the violence being used against us in a way that puts their own lives at risk. People are standing guard outside schools and daycares, and at bus stops to protect our children from real risks of harm. Others are taking turns watching each others' kids stuck in online learning because some schools aren't safe. Health care workers are bravely caring for people in hospitals that also are no longer safe, and risking being targets of arrest and detention for protecting the patients. A rich web of underground care and hidden love is taking deep root, and it's amazing to think what fruit that might bear when this occupation ends.

Minnesotans cannot do more than we are doing. Here are a few ways you can help.

- 1) Please flood your US senators with appeals to not to further fund ICE, by rejecting a bill the US House has already passed. Please flood all your members of congress with calls for deescalation in Minnesota; for ICE, Customs and Border Patrol, and other federal agents to leave Minnesota now; and to write and pass legislation that requires proper and extensive training for all those working for the federal government in our states and local communities.
- 2) Organize peaceful demonstrations in your cities and communities. We live in a very big country, and it's possible what's happening in Minnesota feels removed. What is happening to us here is happening to all of America, and it is eroding the last remaining threads of our democracy. Minneapolis and Minnesota have been a model for the entire country over these past two weeks, with tens of thousands standing together in deep cold to peacefully protest the violence being used against us.
- 3) You can help nurture the Diocese of Minnesota's primary engine of underground care and subversive love by donating to Casa Maria, which is providing much-needed food, supplies, and community to those rightfully afraid to go about their daily lives amidst the violence. Some of Casa Maria's leaders are also working with a diocesan team to help families locate and access members who have been taken by ICE. Donations do real and immediate work to help people in Minnesota that are in real need of help.

The greatest danger we face right now is not the very real threat to our safety. It's not even the erosion of democracy. The greatest threat we face as a nation is the assault being waged on hope. We must not give in to despair. We must not be consumed by the very justified anger we feel. The only way hatred can be effectively resisted is doubling down on love. The only way

darkness can be defeated is light. The only way the forces of death can be overcome is by embracing, every moment of every day, God's unstoppable life.

The Rt. Rev. Craig Loya

Episcopal Bishop of Minneapolis Posted on Facebook, January 24, 2026 at 7:05 pm

### **EPISCOPAL 101: For the Curious and More!**

Are you new to the Episcopal Church? Would you like to learn more about the church's history, her customs and traditions, her theological understandings? Been around for a while and still curious about why we do this and that?

Never been **Confirmed**? Confirmed in another faith but ever been officially **Received** into the Episcopal tradition? Or maybe you might be interested in recommitting to your faith with an official **Reaffirmation** of your Baptismal Vows? Or maybe you're just interested in brushing up on your Episcopal know-how.

Join Fr. Charlie for a journey into the heart of the "Anglican identity and ethos" as we explore the depths of our particular approach to the Christian faith. We'll look into our history, our approach to theology and biblical interpretation, how we make decisions at local, regional and international levels, our experience over time with social justice movements, and our worship. Bring your questions, ideas, and "things that make you go hmm."

We will meet at a mutually convenient day and time starting in Lent for a short series of 90-minute sessions. Interested? Please email Fr. Charlie at [c\\_de\\_kay@hotmail.com](mailto:c_de_kay@hotmail.com).

### **Days to Remember**

Today is Nat'l Lego Day

Jan. 29<sup>th</sup> is Nat'l Carnation Day

Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> is Nat'l Wig Day

Jan. 31<sup>th</sup> is Nat'l Seed Swap Day

Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> is Nat'l Dark Choc Day

Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> is Nat'l Groundhog Day

Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup> is Nat'l Carrot Cake Day

### **Time for a little Humor**

Can you make Holy Water? Yes, you take water and cook the devil out of it.

Who was Boaz before he was married? A Ruth less man

## Things that make you go hmmmm.....

Mary delivered Jesus and Jesus was a lamb so does that mean that Mary had a little lamb? HMMMMMM

If a has a third hand why is it called the second hand? HMMMMMM

## Did you know this week.....

**In 1925** Temperature record was broke in Pittsburgh, New Hampshire as it dipped to -46 degrees and we thought we were cold

**In 1958** first Lego brick patented and since has made 500 billion Lego pieces enough to build 10 tall buildings from the Earth to the Moon.

## **City's News**

---

### PORT WINTER SHELTER - (People Offering Resources Together)

PORT is an emergency winter shelter to house the homeless on cold nights. Starting in 1991 - now in its 33<sup>rd</sup> year, PORT serves upwards of 120 people per night.

<b>Week 10:</b> Jan 7-Jan 13	<b>First Baptist of Newport News</b> 12716 Warwick Blvd., NN, VA 23606
<b>Week 11:</b> Jan 14-Jan 20	<b>Chestnut Memorial UMC</b> 1024 Harpersville Rd., NN, VA 23601
<b>Week 12:</b> Jan 21-Jan 27	<b>All Generations Church</b> 28 Harpersville Rd., NN, VA 23601
<b>Week 13:</b> Jan 28-Feb 3	<b>All Generations Church</b> 28 Harpersville Rd., NN, VA 23601
<b>Week 14:</b> Feb 4-Feb 10	<b>First Baptist Church of Denbigh</b> 3628 Campbell Rd., NN, VA 23602
<b>Week 15:</b> Feb 11-Feb 17	<b>Chestnut Memorial UMC</b> 1024 Harpersville Rd., NN, VA 23601
<b>Week 16:</b> Feb 18-Feb 24	<b>Denbigh United Presbyterian Church</b> 302 Denbigh Blvd., NN, VA 23608
<b>Week 17:</b> Feb 25-Mar 3	<b>Denbigh United Presbyterian Church</b> 302 Denbigh Blvd., NN, VA 23608
<b>Week 18:</b> Mar 4-Mar 10	<b>Hiddenwood Presbyterian Church</b> 414 Hidden Blvd., NN, VA 23606
<b>Week 19:</b> Mar 11-Mar 17	<b>Warwick Memorial UMC</b> 38 Hoopes Rd., NN, VA 23602
<b>Week 20:</b> Mar 18-Mar 24	<b>Warwick Memorial UMC</b> 38 Hoopes Rd., NN, VA 23602

Visit [LINK of Hampton Roads at www.linkhr.org](http://LINK of Hampton Roads at www.linkhr.org)

---

WINTER SAFETY TIP

## PREPARE YOUR HOME

- » Make sure your home is properly insulated
- » Check the weather stripping around your windows and doors
- » Have additional heat sources on hand in case of a power outage
- » Replace the batteries in your Carbon Monoxide detector annually
- » Learn how to shut off water valves in case a pipe bursts
- » Keep a fire extinguisher easily accessible



[WWW.VAEMERGENCY.GOV/WINTER-WEATHER](http://WWW.VAEMERGENCY.GOV/WINTER-WEATHER)



### Sunday Holy Eucharist

On Facebook and Zoom at 10:30 am

#### Face Book LIVE:

You don't need an account! Just go to St. George's web page: <http://www.stgeorgesnn.org>

You can access FaceBook Live during the Service time and any time after it takes place-it's recorded.

### St. George's Prayer List

Deania, Teresa & Steve S., Davidsinia, Christina M., Richard, Vincent, Linell, Henrietta, Lacy, Wil, David G., Peggy, Skip J., Darlene M., Gale, Sandra, Serena, Gerald, Joan M., Carmen, Jennifer H., Bobby, Gwen, Candace, Urith, Janette, Phyllis M., Calvin, Ronda, Mary S., Pamela E., Bill B., Leslie T., Brian M., Connie, Billy, Celestina, Thelma, Aimee S., Mark, Yvette, and Connie H.

**And Our Military:** Eduardo, Joe, Ashley, Charles, Anthony, Nyla, and Dominique.

## Readings for Feb 1<sup>st</sup>

### **Old Testament: Micah 6:1-8**

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?  
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses,  
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

“With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,  
with calves a year old?

Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

## Psalm 15

- 1 LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
    who may abide upon your holy hill?
- 2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
    who speaks the truth from his heart.
- 3 There is no guile upon his tongue;  
    he does no evil to his friend; \*  
    he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.
- 4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
    but he honors those who fear the LORD.
- 5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
    and does not take back his word.
- 6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
    nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
- 7 Whoever does these things \*  
    shall never be overthrown.

## The Epistle 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
    and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source

of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

## **The Gospel**

### **Matthew 5:1-12**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."