



Volume 30, Number 6
JUNE 2021

The Cathedral Messenger

A Publication of St. George Antiochian Orthodox Christian Cathedral

OUR 2021 HIGHSCHOOL GRADUATES

It is always a wonderful opportunity to be able to honor the hard work and many accomplishments of our parish's graduating seniors. This year we had 13 seniors graduate from their respective high schools. Congratulations to Ceridwyn Alleman, Rhys Ashton, Hannah Doom, Kiarra Farha, Mark Hourani, Marc Jamail, Celine Khalife, Alex Mandanis, Caitlan Mattar, Ian Moufarrij, Noah Moufarrij, David Spencer, and Serena Zakharia on your many successes and achievements.

Graduates, your St. George family commends you, loves you greatly, and is always praying for you as you begin the next steps of your journeys. In both your future education and your future endeavors, pursue your goals with joy in your heart while emulating the love of Christ to all those whom you encounter. May God bless you and keep you always!



Ceridwyn Alleman



Rhys Ashton



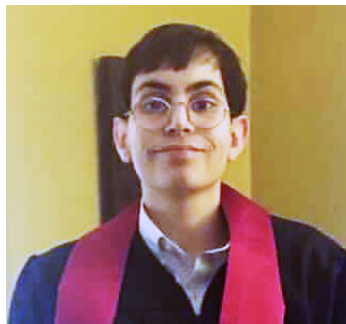
Hannah Doom



Kiarra Farha



Mark Hourani



Marc Jamail



Celine Khalife



Alex Mandanis



Caitlin Mattar



Ian & Noah Moufarrij



David Spencer



Serena Zakharia

Dean, V. Rev. Paul O'Callaghan • St. George Orthodox Christian Cathedral

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MEMORY ETERNAL

Sandy Sipp, 4/30

2021 SAM & JACQUE KOURI & RUTH COHLMIA



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

RHYS ASHTON - HANNAH DOOM & DAVID SPENCER



ST. GEORGE CHAMPIONS

Summer Sunday School

Join us for Summer Sunday School in the courtyard after communion for a lesson and activity. We will be focusing on the readings/feast of the day, and hope to see our Pre-K through 5th grade students on these Sundays! Come to enjoy fellowship and learn together about our faith!

Summer Sunday School days include:
Jun 13, Jun 27, Jul 11, Jul 25, Aug 15, Aug 29

Mabrook! Blessings!

many years!

baptisms

Slaydon Maximos & Troy Joseph Cornish, 5/1
sons of Chad & Tammy

Theodore Gordon Gleason, 5/1
son of John & Jamie

chrismation

Tammara Cornish, 5/1

DOVAMA VIRTUAL PLC SCHEDULE



12:30 - 2:30pm
Organization Meeting

- SOYO
- Antiochian Women
- St. Ignatius Governing Council
- College of Deacons

3:00 - 5:00pm

- Diocesan General Assembly Prayer & Welcome by His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH
- Meeting & address by His Grace Bishop BASIL

To join us, go to <http://www.antiochianevents.com/wichita>

Zoom link will be emailed to you closer to the event.

Executive Committee Meetings will be scheduled by each organization as needed

2022 PLC in Person • June 15-18 in Wichita
Hosted by St. George Cathedral



JUNE FASTING



During this period, The Apostles' Fast takes place June 28th, as the normal fasting traditions are observed: abstaining from meat, poultry and dairy. There is no fasting June 23rd or June 25th.

Floyd Frantz Wichita Missionary to Romania, Moldova, Africa, and Alaska Your Missions Dollars at Work

Chapter 3

In the long month since our last installment, we've all been waiting.....waiting for the pandemic to clear.....waiting for our hopes and plans that we've made to be fulfilled. At last there are specks of light and soon we may be able to address the many needs which existed even before the COVID struck, that are likely more critical now.

In the summer of 2019 we shared Floyd Frantz's excitement that, his 10-year vision for working in Alaska, through Archbishop David's encouragement was about to begin.

As he began in the fall, there were days of shocking discoveries at St. Herman's Seminary. Floyd discovered that English was not the first language of many of the students at the seminary. Yupik—one of the many native Alaskan languages was the primary language of many of the Seminarians, and they came from many villages with their own dialects. As he had



The best thing they did was to use Scripture—a protestant-produced “Life-Recovery Bible” that focuses on AA’s Twelve Steps—that did resonate with them, in spite of the language difficulties. It was the same in Kenya, as the clergy over there also related to the Biblical base of the 12 Steps, as do Orthodox Christians in Romania and Moldova. He also used our Lenten teaching, Liturgics, and Tradition to speak about the everyday condition of our powerlessness over our own human failings, and that it is through the Spirit if we have any control of our lives. It follows then the necessity of humility and acceptance of God’s will alongside confession and reconciliation, and then a process of daily meditation, seeking God’s will, and helping others. Floyd says that our Lenten tradition is throughout the 12 Steps. Through the Life Recovery Bible, they taught the students about all Twelve Steps, and the Seminarians got a lot out of it.

An OCMC mental health nurse, Felice Stuart, assisted Floyd, and the students loved her. They paired up students with more education with those having difficulty so they could help each other, and then.....the pandemic struck. Students had to go home to their villages where some couldn’t Zoom for classes, or had trouble with phone connections, from poor or nonexistent internet connection.

The families exist by supplemental income from hunting and fishing, and they have less access to support groups—or help, generally. Between last Pascha (2020) and October there were three known suicides in the OCA Alaska Diocese. The issues are very real.



discovered in his work in Kenya, where English was the “first” language, it was not the language of their birth, and had to be learned in school. As Floyd encouraged them to read a book necessary to their focus, Steps to Transformation, they said, “We don’t understand many of the ideas and we don’t understand the words.”

continues next pg



Related to the alcoholism and addiction, there is much domestic violence, and people reach a point of feeling hopelessness and they see no way out.

Archbishop David had worked to develop a plan to get the priests behind the program, and to have a network with qualified volunteers to listen to the needs of the people and to get a plane to fly out the abused to a safe house. But then it began to seem as if the devil was working against them. The programs begun at St. Herman's were interrupted and Archbishop David became ill with cancer. But, Floyd reminds us, if the devil is there, so is God. That's what God does...God fights the devil!



Floyd has been in Wichita this past winter and spring, teaching on Zoom, taking care of personal and health needs, and encouraging a young catechumen at St. Mary's. In May, Floyd plans to return to Romania and to be with his wife Ancuta, whom he's not seen since Christmas of 2019 due to his health-related issues and the COVID situation. From Romania, he will continue to teach classes through the seminary and to develop an outreach program for Alaska with the help of his staff in Romania. He has been holding Zoom meetings with Romania to continue the work there. He wants to get Romanians involved to help Alaska. But, he says, it will count for nothing if the Church is not behind it. Those of us who are now more knowledgeable about this tragic situation can pray and keep ourselves updated with the news from this needy region of our own country!

Floyd apprised us of all this information through a Zoom meeting with Father Paul and the Missions Support Team. He concluded with another reminder of the spiritual basis for the Twelve Steps program. He said that people in recovery are able to connect it immediately to Orthodoxy.

An American pastor in the early 20th century was fired for helping with problems and homelessness, so he went to England and helped to establish the "Oxford Groups" of Christians doing social work—like the Salvation Army. They were searching through Scriptures and the early Fathers, asking, "What are those things in Christianity that are helpful to people?" They believed in showing absolute honesty, purity, love, selflessness, and confession of faults... [again, qualities we dedicate to during our Lenten Springs!]. By the 1930's there were several Oxford Groups around the US. Two co-founders of the AA had some exposure to the groups. One had been sober for six months and understood alcoholism as a disease. Then he met a doctor who was going to the group but didn't know the disease model. After two years people were starting to get sober, so they branched out and started the AA in 1935. As a result of this, Scriptures are a part of the AA program, although unrecognized as such....I Corinthians 13, The Lord's Prayer, the book of James with its passages on confession and showing faith by works along with other spiritual principals are examples.

When Floyd returns to Romania, he'll be glad he can continue in this work! This author is in awe to hear that the work that Floyd and his team have developed in churches, monasteries, hospitals, and community centers in Romania will be offered to the Church in Alaska, and perhaps to North America some day!! Will you join in prayer for Floyd's health, Ancuta's well-being and their long-awaited reunion sometime this year? And as we go through our Lent, may we be reminded



of those same Twelve Steps that we can take, as our expression of gratitude to our dear Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ for all his wonders of love and His supreme sacrifice for each of us!

Screenshots are from the Pastoral Care video of the Romanian National Anti-Drug Program.



The Importance of Iconography

A series on the role of Iconography in the Orthodox Church

- June 9** **The Origins of Iconography**
– Fr. Paul
- June 16** **The Iconoclastic Controversy and the Theology of the Icon**
– Erin Doom
- June 23** **“Seeing” Icons - Form and Content in Iconography**
– Vasiliki Oldziej
- June 30** **The Spirituality of Iconography**
– Vasiliki Oldziej

All presentations are scheduled to follow Vespers on Wednesday at approximately 7:20pm – in person and LiveStreamed

Time to Update

St. George Parish:

In order to best keep in synch and in communication with **YOU** regarding notices, updates or anything relating to parish announcements, we ask that you **PLEASE** keep **US** up to date of any changes - as in a **new home address, home/mobile phone numbers, or any email address edits.**

Please email: gina@stgeorgecathedral.net or call the Cathedral office - 636-4676.

Thank you.



St George Sewing Sisters

We'd like to announce a plan to start the St. George Sewing Sisters! If you are interested in building friendships at St. George, sharing your creative sewing projects and learn to quilt, please attend our first Planning Meeting on Thursday, June 10, 2021, 10 am to noon, located in the Teen Center in the basement of the Cathedral.

The future plans for this group will be discussed at the Planning Meeting, but some of the projects we may consider include piecing/quilting baby blankets for new mothers in our Church and the repair of vestments for Clergy.

Please bring to the Thursday meeting any sewing projects you are currently working on (crocheting, knitting, embroidery, quilting, sewing). For those who do not have something started, a simple quilting project will be provided. If you have a portable sewing machine, please bring that as well!

Please come and enjoy a time of fellowship and planning on June 10!

Nancy Claassen, Martha Sturgill and Jenny Wall

Parishioner needing a ride to church on Sundays - Mid-town Wichita. Please contact Fr. Paul if you are able to help. Thank you!

*The Cathedral
Messenger*

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