



August, 2016

*St. Mary's Episcopal Church*

# The Bell Ringer

Online at [www.stmaryskinston.com](http://www.stmaryskinston.com)



## **A Note from Fr. Michael Singer: "God has a sense of humor"**

Sunday, June 12, 2016, was a day of emotions. I wish to thank all those who played a role in planning the celebration on my last Sunday at St. Mary's. It was a day Teresa and I will always remember. The liturgy was joyous. The reception was festive. The gifts were appreciated. Linda Clark's paintings and the Vestry resolution will hang in my office at Church of the Servant here in Wilmington. The gift of money will help us settle into our home. Ike Hines' photo of me, hanging with the other clergy who have served at St. Mary's, will be a constant reminder of the time God allowed me to serve as your Rector.

Some have said they wish me well in my retirement. I am not retired, I am doing a new thing. For years I used to joke during the summer months that St. Mary's suffered from "beach erosion." Where does God send me.....to the beach. What a sense of humor.

I know that St. Mary's will continue to share the love of Christ among you and your neighbors, near and far. You shall always be in my thoughts and prayers. Please keep Teresa and me in your prayers as I follow God's call to do interim ministry for the next few years.

Faithfully,

The Rev. A. Michael Singer, onetime Rector of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Kinston, NC.

## The Episcopal Church

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### In the Anglican Communion

A global community of 80 million Anglicans in 38 member provinces/churches.

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### In the United States

A community of 1.9 million members in 118 dioceses in the Americas and abroad.

Established in 1788.

Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry

Episcopal Church Center

815 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

New York, N.Y. 10017 212-716-6000

[www.dfms.org/](http://www.dfms.org/)

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### In the Diocese of East Carolina

A community of more than 15,000 communicants in 70 churches.

Founded in 1883.

Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Robert S. Skirving

Diocesan Office, 705 Doctors Dr.

P.O. Box 1336, Kinston, NC 28503

Tel: 252-522-0885

Fax: 252-523-5272

Website: [www.diocese-eastcarolina.org](http://www.diocese-eastcarolina.org)

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### St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A church of 362 baptized members whose mission is to worship and serve God joyfully, to nurture each other in faith and wholeness, to minister to others, and to manifest the "good news" of Christ.

800 Rountree Street

Kinston, NC 28501-3655

Tel: 252-523-6146

Fax: 252-523-5134

Website: [www.stmaryskinston.com](http://www.stmaryskinston.com)

Sr. Warden

Mr. P.C. Barwick, Jr.

Jr. Warden

Mr. J. Mark Herring

Assistant Rector

The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren

Parish Administrator

Mrs. LaTonya Smith

Parish Secretary

Mrs. Linda Johnson

Director of Children's Ministries

Mrs. Shelly L. Yarbrough

## News at St. Mary's

# 5th Annual St. Mary's Neighborhood Block Party!!!



### Some event details:

**What?** - An evening of fellowship with the members and neighbors of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. There will be pigs to pick with plenty of sides & desserts, live music, and a bounce house & games for kids of all ages!

**When?** - Wednesday, August 10th from 6:00 - 8:00 pm

**Where?** - ON Rountree St. between Rhem and Bond

**Who?**

**The guests** are the residents of homes that surround St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Each home within a two-block radius of the church will receive a hand-delivered invitation.

**The hosts** are the members of St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Things that are needed:

Canopies for shade, food to share, and volunteers to set up, serve food, play games with kids, and clean up.

*Please contact Holly Warren ([holly3799@hotmail.com](mailto:holly3799@hotmail.com)) with any questions!*

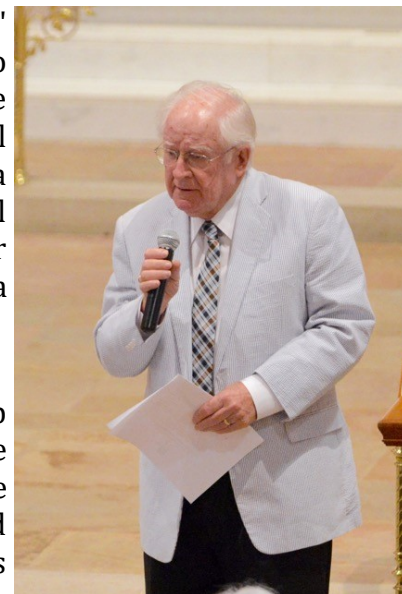
## ONLINE GIVING

Beginning in August, another option for fulfilling pledges or other contributions to the ministries of St. Mary's Church will be possible. St. Mary's has partnered with two secure and reputable church-software companies (ACS and Vanco) to enable credit card contributions through the 'online giving' section of our website. Options for one-time donations, recurring giving schedules, and contributions toward designated funds will be available. You may also access your giving statements online through the "Member Log-In" link on our website.

Please contact the church office if you have any questions. May God continue to bless others through the giving that comes through St. Mary's Church.

## From the Senior Warden - Mr. P.C. Barwick

Thanks to everyone who helped to make our "Farewell to the Singers" one of the great days in the history of St. Mary's. And a special thanks to all of you who filled the church and the Parish Hall for the "reception" (which felt more like a feast!!!!!!) following the service, to all of you who participated in the presentation of gifts, and especially to Linda Clark and Anne Lindley. Linda's renderings of the church and rectory will be constant reminders of the love our congregation held for Father Michael, Teresa and Rachel. Lindley organized the reception. What a reception!!!!!!



After accepting Father Michael's resignation the Vestry met with Bishop Skirving in an informational type of meeting. The Bishop answered some of the key questions concerning the Vestry during a time of change. He pointed out that congregations often were not aware of the support and resources that they receive from the Diocese and The Episcopal Church as a whole and that transition time helps raise the awareness of a congregation to its denominational heritage, ministries, and resources.

Bishop Skirving said that we would be working with Canon Matt Stockard in seeking assistance in the selection of our Interim Rector and ultimately, in the calling of a Rector.

The Vestry met with Canon Stockard on Wednesday, July 13. He outlined the usual procedures during transition and answered questions from the Vestry. It is anticipated that the calling of our Interim Rector will require a much shorter time of two or three months than the calling of our next Rector.

As soon as the Vestry is able to get some idea of a timeline for the entire process we'll share that information. In the meantime, the Vestry will consider the various options for discernment knowing that we have the benefits from the work of the Renewal Works Committee.

The Parish is blessed to have Father Tom "On Board!" There have been many periods of change at St. Mary's, even in the recent past, when there was no Assistant Rector. With Father Tom and the Interim Rector the pastoral needs of the parish and ongoing support beyond worship will continue to be met.

Your Vestry understands that during this time of change that it must develop a vision of HOPEFULNESS, shared by the entire Parish. Remembering, as our Catechism says, the Christian hope is "to live with confidence in newness and fullness of life, and to await the coming of Christ in glory, and the completion of God's purpose fore the world."

Keep your vestry in your daily prayers.

P.C Barwick, Jr.

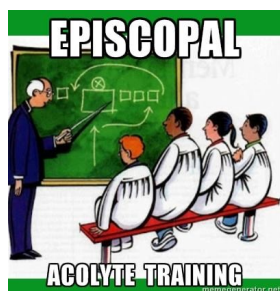
Senior Warden



# Worship

*"Serve the Lord with Gladness!"* -  
Psalm 100:2

Serving as an acolyte is open to any rising 5th grader or older. All acolytes of every level of experience should meet with Fr. Tom at either of the following times:



**Wednesday,  
August 17 at  
2pm  
or  
Sunday,  
August 21 at  
9:15am**

We will meet in the nave (the main part of the sanctuary). Adults are welcome to serve as acolytes as well if they are interested!

## Blessing Of The Backpacks

What do you carry with you in order to get your work done? For students, backpacks are the norm. Others carry tool bags, briefcases, doctors' bags, gym bags, etc. The Lord calls us all to good work that honors Him and so we ask God's blessing on these tools of our various trades.

This blessing will be part of a time of prayer on Sunday, August 21st, at the 10am liturgy, marking the beginning of a new school year. Students and all others are encouraged to bring their bags of choice to the service to be blessed.



## St. Mary's Day Celebration

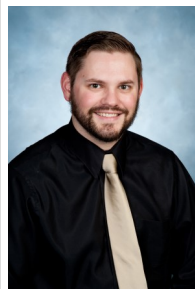
Plan to be with us on Sunday, September 11th, as we celebrate our feast day, the Feast of St. Mary the Virgin.



Come to Trinity Center from August 18-21 for the Conference on Church Music in the Anglican Tradition. This is a conference that gives participants an opportunity to expand their knowledge of musical resources available for the congregation and choir as well as offers an opportunity to share ideas, reunite with friends and sing in a large choir.

The cost ranges from \$275-350. Interested folks may find registration forms at [www.ecdio.org](http://www.ecdio.org).

## A New Season of Ministry



Beginning September 1st, I will begin a new season of my ministry at St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Providence, RI. The opportunity is incredibly appealing as the parish wishes to branch out into the community forming better connections with its fellow Episcopal parishes and schools.

My responsibilities will be part of a team effort to elevate worship through innovative ideas and styles of worship using the music of Taize and other alternative resources in the traditional style; some of which we have used from time to time here at St. Mary's. As one could imagine, I am going through a sushi roll of emotions moving forward.

Additionally, I would like to thank the vestry for giving me an extra month to continue my search. Again, I thank the clergy, the vestry, and the parish for providing the opportunity to lead your music program. I wish St. Mary's all the best in finding a new organist and choirmaster.

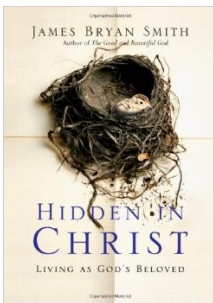
Sincerely,  
Nick Voermans

# Christian Formation

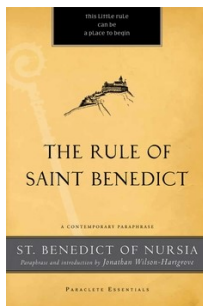
Your Christian Formation leaders are gearing up to make 2016-2017 an engaging year for every generation at St. Mary's. Here's a glimpse of what's to come. Stay tuned for more details!

## For Adults

Sunday mornings



**Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study**  
 ← resumes Sep 14 →



**It's time for another Epic, Extreme year of**



A charismatic program that invites 2nd-5th graders to explore, engage, and enjoy their faith together.



**Date:** Wednesday evenings beginning Sept. 14

**Time:** 5:30–6:15 pm

**Place:** next door to St. Mary's nursery room

**SEE YOU THERE** →

Pre-school through 5th Graders:  
 You're invited to the  
 3rd Annual



Come help us kick off a brand new year of the exciting Project FreeFALL kids' program!

**Date:** Saturday, September 17, 2016

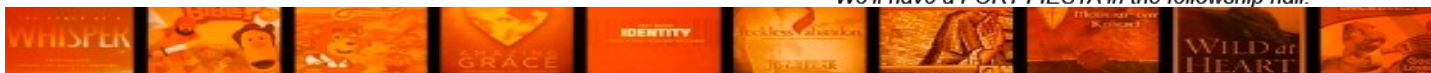
**Time:** 5:00 pm

**Place:** St. Mary's Episcopal Church  
 800 Rountree Street  
 Kinston, NC

water balloons!



Come even if the weather's bad.  
 We'll have a FORT FIESTA in the fellowship hall!



**rightnow MEDIA**  
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## Youth Community News

August is a time for the EYC Leadership to make plans for the year. Please keep the Youth Council in your prayers as we do this important work! Mark Your Calendars for what we do know is coming up!!

**Wednesday, August 3**

*Youth Council Meeting; TBD*

**Wednesday, August 10; 6pm**

*Come to the Block Party!!!*

**Tuesday, September 6**

*Happening Team Registration Deadline*

**Saturday September 17**

*yOUTHREACH (Diocesan Youth Event for grades 6-12)*

**Wednesday, September 14**

*EYC Meets!!!!*

**Wednesday, September 21**

*Happening Registration Deadline*

**Saturday, September 24**

*Happening #68 Team Meeting*

**October 21-23**

*Happening #68 @ Trinity Center*



The youth group's mission trip to Glory Ridge in Madison County, NC this July was full of GRACE and JOY! We are so thankful for the support of the St. Mary's Parish Family that enabled this trip to happen. Your prayers and contributions were signs of grace in and of themselves. We look forward to sharing our experiences with you during our presentation to the church in September. Grace and Peace to you all!!



*For it is by* **Grace** *you have been saved, through faith-and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.*

*Ephesians 2:8*

## Other news



Dear Charity Administrator,

This email is to notify you that Marys Kitchen C/O St Marys Episcopal Church (EIN: [REDACTED]) has been issued a \$140.20 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between January 1 and March 31, 2016. The donation was deposited to your organization's bank account on or before May 15, 2016. It may take several days for the donation to appear in the account.

Did you know that you can support Mary's Kitchen through your regular shopping activities on Amazon if you simply log on to "smile.amazon.com" instead of the usual "amazon.com" and select "Mary's Kitchen C/O St Mary's Episcopal Church" as your charity of choice?

See how Mary's Kitchen has already benefited?!

Thank you to all who have signed up and to you who will in the future!

### From the Parish Register

**Burial:** June Carol Hipkiss  
July 7, 2016

**Baptisms:** Ava AnnMarie Bragg  
Janie Rose Bragg  
Kate Elizabeth Bragg  
July 24, 2016

### *HAND IN HAND Partnership with Northwest Elementary School*

School begins soon, offering St. Mary's the incredible opportunity to reach out to our neighborhood school, Northwest Elementary, to show Christ's love. For St. Mary's, our Hand-in-Hand partnership is not about meeting a single need, but a commitment to collaborate for the purpose of making a long term impact and building lasting relationships.

As volunteers develop relationships with staff and students, this outreach program goes well beyond buying boxes of crayons to a passion to partner with Northwest in caring for her students. Our partnership with Northwest has meant everything from providing snacks for children to purchasing books for the library; praying for staff and students in church on Sundays or as a part of the prayer team; volunteering to spend time reading with students or serving as a math tutor; replenishing school supplies in classrooms or distributing books to students for summer reading and much more. Through these simple acts of kindness, we are sharing God's love and changing lives.

Being a part of St. Mary's Hand in Hand ministry with Northwest Elementary School is as easy as 1,2,3:

1. Pray for the students & staff of Northwest and our Hand in Hand ministry
2. Volunteer your time: whether you have an hour a week, a month, or occasionally, we have a place for you
3. Donate money to support this ministry

Please contact Laury Sargeant at [jsarg4@suddenlink.net](mailto:jsarg4@suddenlink.net)

### Pastoral News

**WE OFFER THANKSGIVING** for two births in our extended parish family: Abigail Scott Carey was born July 3, 2016. Abigail is the daughter of Patrick and Emily Carey and granddaughter of Clifton and Linda Carey.

George William Layton was born on July 1, 2016. George is the son of Wade and Blaire Layton and grandson of Ron and Shirley Layton. Praise God!



### SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

We are collecting the following needed items until August 21, 2016. No donation is too small! Please place them in the container in the Narthex or you may bring them to the Parish Office.

- ◆ Backpacks
- ◆ Wide ruled notebook paper
- ◆ No. 2 pencils
- ◆ Pens: black, blue, red
- ◆ Crayola Crayons
- ◆ Erasers
- ◆ Glue Sticks and Bottled Glue
- ◆ Colored pencils
- ◆ Student Scissors

**St. Mary's Episcopal Church**  
**800 Rountree Street**  
**Kinston, NC 28501-3655**

## Sundae Sunday

What tastes better in the heat of summer than any other time of year? . . . ice cream.

Be sure to join us on Sunday, August 21st, following the 10:00 am service, when members of the Vestry will be serving up ice cream for people to make their own sundae.



### SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays 8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I  
 10:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
 11:15 a.m. – Sunday School

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m.—Morning Prayer

### ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2016

Stephen B. Hill  
 Isaac C. Hines  
 Barbara A. LaRoque  
 Kevin M. Zoltek

2017

H. Earl Harper  
 J. Mark Herring  
 John K. John John  
 "Sandy" Shimer, Jr.

2018

P.C. Barwick, Jr.  
 Clifton W. Carey  
 Rebecca "Becky" C.  
 Darst  
 Milton D. "Dee" Warner,

Senior Warden – P.C. Barwick, Jr.

Junior Warden – J. Mark Herring

Clerk – Becky Darst

Treasurer – D. Stuart Lindley