

January 2023



*St. Mary's Episcopal Church:
Serving with JOY!*

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com



THE 31ST ST. MARY'S The Boar's Head and Yule Log FESTIVAL AND BANQUET

JANUARY 8, 2023

3PM & 5PM - BOTH PERFORMANCES ARE FREE

Boar's Head Performers: See page 5 for full rehearsal schedule

St. Mary's has offered the Boar's Head Festival as its annual gift to the community since 1990, the 650th anniversary of the festival's start at Queen's College, Oxford, England, in 1340. With the exception of an ice storm (2018) and the COVID-19 pandemic (2021 & 2022), the Boar's Head Festival has been a constant celebration for this community. We are thrilled for its return in 2023!!

But why, you may wonder, a "boar's head"?! We, in Eastern NC, understand well the cultural significance of a pig pickin! The Romans, likewise, served boar as the first course at their banquets, and it would draw a crowd like it does today! Additionally, the boar was a fierce and dangerous creature. So, as the Gospel spread throughout Europe, the boar's head came to represent evil's ultimate defeat by the power of God through Jesus Christ.

The pageant follows a similar narrative arc. While clearly a Christian celebration from the start, the pageant's early sections feature secular wintertime celebratory songs. But as all of the characters gather for a feast, the story dramatically shifts to tell the story of Immanuel: *how God became with us in the person of Jesus*. Shepherds, angels, and wise men soon join the more than 150 other people dressed up as peasants and nobility, beggars and kings, clergy, and cooks. In the end, everyone in attendance can relate to one or many of the characters and find his or herself uniquely placed at the Christ child's manger, where all people are found to be beloved recipients of God's greatest gift, and no one is left unchanged.

The services at 3pm and 5pm are free as a gift to all. Following the 5pm service, a delicious banquet is offered as a full meal of wonderful food & drink, all set in the king's decorated hall. Tickets are \$40 per person and may be purchased from the church office or [online](#). We hope you will join us as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with the JOY that is the Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival!

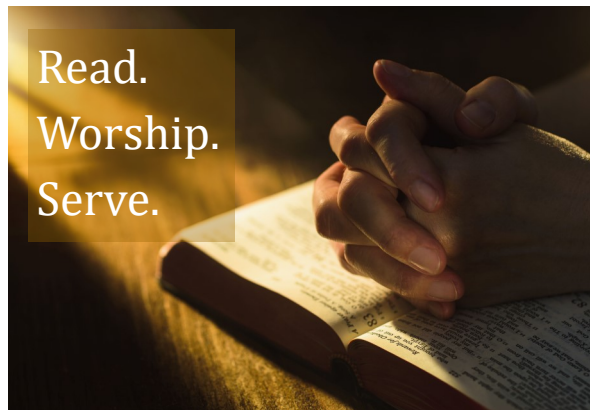


From the Rector

New Year Greetings!!

Maybe you're a New Year's resolution kind of person... maybe not. If you are, here's a prayer that I lift for you: may God grant you wisdom in discerning ways to commit your time and talents to God that are fitting and fruitful for this season of your life... and may these efforts be a blessing to you and others! For all of us, I pray that the new year before us will be one in which the people of St. Mary's thrive in our daily walks with Jesus and may His love in us be shared widely with grace and joy.

Read.
Worship.
Serve.



I invite you to join me in being intentional about three simple but critical practices this year: **Read, Worship, & Serve.** In your email and at the church, you should be able to find an invitation to **The Bible Challenge** that includes reading plans for the Bible in 2023. I hope you'll join me in a regular pattern of reading the Bible, and let me know how I can pray for you!

Speaking of praying, let us commit to regular patterns of prayer and worship together. Sundays are, of course, the primary times for this! **Additionally, in 2023, we offer mid-week celebrations of the Holy Eucharist on Feast Days of the church.** See January's offerings below and please join as you're able!

Finally, **serve!** Jesus invited those who were drawn to His Good News to Follow Him and to share this Good News with others in word and deed. The Scriptures that we read and the ways that we are fed spiritually in worship are intended to nourish us for the everyday living and sharing of this faith. Perhaps God is calling you to more fully engage in the work of Mary's Kitchen? Perhaps you might want to be a "Trash-Basher" in and around your neighborhood? Throughout this January edition of the BellRinger, you will find news about ways to learn, grow, and serve that will help equip you to share the Gospel with others in your life. May God bless you and yours in the beginning of 2023 as you bear the Light of Christ!

Peace, 

SAVE THE DATE!

**Chili Cookoff
Super Bowl Sunday
Sunday, February 12th - Noon!!**

The competition is back, along with in-person dining with a wide variety of chili in Moseley Hall!! Heat up your chili pots, brush up your favorite recipes, and come see who will take home the awards for "Best in Show" and "Most Original!" More details to come!!!



Feast Days in January



30-Minute Holy Eucharist Liturgies in the Chapel

Jan 6 - Friday at Noon: The Feast of the Epiphany

Jan 18 - Wednesday at Noon: Confession of Saint Peter

Jan 25 - Wednesday at Noon: Conversion of Saint Paul

Monthly Outdoor Worship

Our next Outdoor Worship experience will be a liturgy of Compline on the West Lawn of St. Mary's Church on **Sunday, January 22nd at 5pm.** At this time, we'll also enjoy the annual "2nd Lighting of the Warren Family Christmas Tree." Hope to see you there!



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 2nd Avenue

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

www.episcopalchurch.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.

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

www.diocese-eastcarolina.org

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St. Mary's Episcopal Church

"Serving with JOY!!

Jesus First,

Others Second,

Yourself Last"

800 Rountree Street

Kinston, NC 28501-3655

Tel: 252-523-6146

Fax: 252-523-5134

www.stmaryskinston.com

Rector	The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren
Sr. Warden	Mrs. Vicki Kennedy
Jr. Warden	Mr. Harry Wooten
Parish Administrator	Mrs. Lori Kelly
Family Ministry Coordinator	Mrs. Liz Hengst
Organist & Choirmaster	Mrs. Sharon Veitch
Communications Director	Mrs. Sherry Tanner
Mary's Kitchen Executive Director	Mr. Jim Godfrey

News at St. Mary's



From the Parish Register

Wedding

Madison Mauck and Taylor Ellis

December 10, 2022

Burial

Shade Aldridge

December 13, 2022



It is with great sympathy that we offer prayers to the families of Paul Delman (husband of Alexandria Delman) and Shade Aldridge (father of Pam Mazingo). Let us pray:

Father of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer, especially Paul and Shade: Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Join Us! We're Hiring!

St. Mary's is now receiving applications for several part-time Nursery Staff positions. The ideal applicant will have experience working with and caring for children, ages birth-5th grade. CPR Certified is a plus, but training would be provided. Hours will be 9:00am - noon on Sundays, Wednesdays 5:30-8pm, and occasional other hours for seasonal events. Interested applicants should contact Liz Hengst, Family Ministry Coordinator, at lhengst@stmaryskinston.com with your resume or letter of experience.



ADDRESS CHANGE

Mrs. Nelda Potter

908 Scottish Rite Dr. ~ Apt. 218

Greensboro, NC 27407

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Advent observances & Christmas celebrations here at St. Mary's. You made the parish look beautiful and served in ways that have been a blessing to so many. May God grant you a joyous Christmas season and may you and those you hold dear have a happy New Year!

News at St. Mary's



The Cookie Walk was a great success again this year! Moseley Hall was decorated beautifully, fun, and festive. The day was full of joy and laughs, and we felt the support of many. Much love was shared which is the main goal of the event. Thank you to all the cookie bakers, decorators, and volunteers - you are the true Cookie HEROES!



Mary's Kitchen Food Drive & Quarterly Service Date

Our next food drive for Mary's Kitchen will be **Sunday, January 15th**. This quarter, we will be collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly, and we want to challenge everyone to participate!!! Donate as an individual, family, or pick a ministry group -- such as ECW, EYC, Men's Prayer Breakfast, Parish Staff, etc -- and let's see who can raise **THE MOST** on behalf of St. Mary's!!! Please drop off your donations to the church during business hours during the week of January 9th-January 13th, or bring it on Sunday, January 15th at the morning liturgy. The items will be taken to the kitchen that week to coincide with our next quarterly service date on **Saturday, January 21st**. The Outreach Committee group is scheduled to serve. Please contact Audra Haddad if you would like to serve on this date.



New Vestry Class of 2025



The Annual Parish Meeting was held on December 6th, 2022, at the 10:30am liturgy. At that time, the Vestry Class of 2025 was elected: **Andrew Duppstadt, Whitney Grady, Anne Lindley, and Jim Purnell**. As you get the opportunity, please thank them for their discernment to serve St. Mary's and keep them (with the rest of our vestry and leadership) in your prayers. We are grateful for the members of the outgoing Vestry Class (**John John - Christian Formation for Adults Chair, Scott Turik - Finance Chair, Dee Warner - Personnel Chair, and Harry Wooten - Jr. Warden & Fellowship Chair**). We are also grateful for their faithful service for their work as the Vestry Nominating Committee and SO MUCH more throughout their three-year term! The Vestry will hold its annual **Vestry Retreat Weekend on January 13th - 14th**, at which time the new Wardens, Clerk, & Treasurer will be selected. Then, on **Sunday, January 15th, 2023** the new Vestry class and Officers will be commissioned. May God bless the upcoming seasons of ministry for these leaders of our church family.



140th Convention of the
Episcopal Diocese of East Carolina

February 10th-11th, 2023

The 2023 Annual Convention of the Diocese of East Carolina will be held February 10th-11th at the Greenville Convention Center in Greenville, NC this year. During our Annual Parish Meeting, the following members of our church were elected to represent St. Mary's at the upcoming Diocesan Convention:

Lay Delegates: *Richard Crumbacker, Jo Parrott, & Morgan Wade*

Alternate Lay Delegates: *Terah Archie & Barbara Crumbacker*

Youth Representative: *Madi Hengst*

We give thanks for your ministry and keep you in our prayers!

Worship

BOAR'S HEAD REHEARSAL SCHEDULE



• **Tuesday, January 3; 6pm - Spot Rehearsal for Pageant Start:** Door Marshalls, Beefeaters, Lord & Lady of the Manor & their Pages, Choir, Masters of the Revels, Rector, Yule Sprite. Choir will begin their music practice at 6:30pm.



• **Wednesday, January 4; 6pm - Spot Rehearsal for "Boar's Head Carol" & "Deck the Halls":** Door Marshalls, Masters of the Revels, Trumpeters, Herald, Trencher Bearers, Banner Bearers, Huntsmen, Scholar, Cooks, Pilgrims, Bishop, Dame Julian & Orphans, Knight, Manor Ladies & Children, Puppeteers, Wenceslas & Page, Woods & Yule Log Company, Poor Man, Holly Bearers, Skipping Sprites

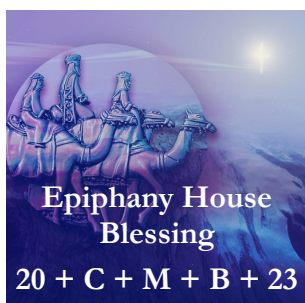


• **Thursday, January 5; 6pm - Spot Rehearsal for "Here We Come A Wassailing" through "Nativity" Spot:** Door Marshalls, Jugglers & Apprentices, Waits, Wizard, Cookie Girls, Tinkerer, Shepherds, Tintinnabulum, Star & Angels, Wise Men & their Pages, Torchbearers



• **Friday, January 6; 6pm - Full Cast Walkthrough with Everyone (except the animals!)**
 • **Saturday, January 7 (arrive at 8am, hard start at 9am) - Dress Rehearsal for Everyone (except the animals!)**

Blessing of the Homes at Epiphany



The Church has a custom of blessing homes on the Feast of the Epiphany (which is January 6 every year) and the season which follows, ending on Shrove Tuesday (which is February 21 in 2023). Historically, family and friends would gather to ask God's blessing on their homes and those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows. A traditional way of doing this is to invite the clergy of the church to visit your home for the blessing. During this liturgy, "20 + C + M + B + 23" may be written with chalk above the home's


entryway. The letters C, M, B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi who bear gifts to the Christ Child at Epiphany: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin words *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless this house." The "+" signs represent the cross of Christ and the numbers "2023" indicate the year of the blessing.

It is a blessing to your clergy to share in your lives! They would be glad to offer prayers of blessing for your home if requested. Being invited to offer this gift of the church to your home would be a great joy, so please don't hesitate.



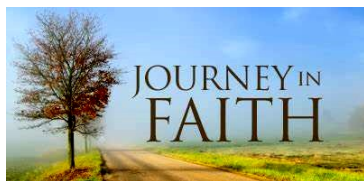
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

St. Mary's will celebrate the First Sunday in the Christmas Season with Lessons and Carols on **Sunday, January 1st, at 10:30am. Please note: there will be only one service that day!**



We are thrilled to have baptisms planned for Marissa Howard and her sons Edward Stark & Warren Howard on **Sunday, January 8th, during the 10:30 am** liturgy. We will renew our baptismal vows at both services that day as well. Please keep Marissa, Edwards, and Warren, their baptismal sponsors, and their family in your prayers as we welcome the newest members of the household of God!

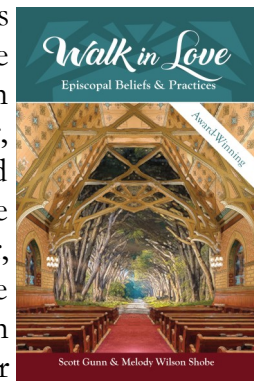
Adult Christian Formation



Journey in Faith: Christian Discipleship

“Journey in Faith” is a small group series of interactive sessions with Fr. Tom through which we explore the fundamentals of Christianity, Anglicanism, and the Episcopal Church. All are welcome to participate in Journey in Faith even if they have already been confirmed or if they are not sure if they desire to be.

JiF is especially appropriate for anyone curious about baptism, newcomers to St. Mary's who are interested in joining the church, and anyone considering baptism or confirmation when Bishop Skirving visits St. Mary's on **Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023**. **Beginning Sunday, January 15th**, Journey in Faith will meet each Sunday morning during the Christian Formation Hour in the church's Parlor (unless noted otherwise). Our primary reference books throughout the course include: *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices*, Scott Gunn & Melody Wilson Shobe; *The Holy Bible*, New Revised Standard Version; *The Book of Common Prayer*, 1979 American Edition; and *The Hymnal*, 1982. Copies of the Bible, Prayer Book, and Hymnal will always be available on Sundays, and some copies of *Walk in Love* will be available for purchase in the parish Book Store in the new year (if you're an e-reader, there is a Kindle version too). Sessions will follow a basic outline, but will be flexible enough to respond to emerging needs and spiritual prompts. If you interested in joining JiF, please contact Fr. Tom by email at tomwarren@stmaryskinston.com for more information.



ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

During the season following Boar's Head, the Adult Christian Formation class will focus on

Contemplative Prayer. Led by Randy Spaugh, this 3-week series will meet **Sunday mornings at 9:30am beginning January 15th**. All are welcome to join!

THE GOOD BOOK CLUB



Join with adults from around the diocese for the second diocesan-wide Good Book Club! This study will be on Ruth and Esther with online and hybrid! Go to www.diocese-eastcarolina.org/blog/the-good-book-club-2023/ for more information and resources.

ECW



Sunday, January 15th at
3:00 pm
Moseley Hall
(with light refreshments)

Save the Date

For several years, the ECW has lovingly offered its annual ECW Valentine's Heart & Soul Event in February as part of the fundraising efforts to support the ministries of the Episcopal Church Women of St. Mary's. Mark your calendars for **Saturday, February 11th, from 5-6:30pm** for the return of our Heart & Soul Drive-Thru Event at "Heart Alley." Our event will continue to maintain COVID-safety guidelines. There will be many opportunities to be involved in the fun... just contact Audra Haddad (252-526-8537) or Laury Sargeant (252-268-6521) to help share the LOVE!



Children, Youth, & Families @ St. Mary's

JANUARY



Coffee with Liz

Thursdays in January ~ 4-5:30pm
Join us at Middle Grounds for discussion, fellowship, and goal setting for the New Year.

Wednesday Dinner and Activities

January 11th, 18th, 25th ~ 6-7:30pm
All kids and EYC are invited to join us for supper and lessons/activities.

Boar's Head Festival

Sunday, January 8th ~ 3pm & 5pm
All kids and EYC who are not in the Boar's Head performance are encouraged to attend this event with their families.

EYC Post Holidays Holiday Party

Saturday, January 14th ~ Details TBA

EYC Goes to New Bern!

Sunday, January 22nd ~ 4:45-8:30pm
All EYC students are invited to join us for dinner, fellowship, games, and discussion with the EYC from Christ Church in New Bern!!! Please RSVP for this event, so we know how many will be carpooling.

All Ages Common Ground Garden Work Day

Saturday, January 28th ~ 9-11am
Join us for digging in the dirt, painting, fellowship, fun, and work at the garden.

FROM THE DESK OF LIZ ~



Although Christmas Day has passed, we still find ourselves in the Christmas Season, approaching Epiphany, in the church year.

However, the calendar of our lives will turn to 2023 soon, and with that comes the return to our everyday routines of school, work, and life.

I hope we can all find time to sit with God, listen, and reflect in our busy weekly schedules in 2023.

Our questions for kids and EYC students this month is:

WHAT IS HOLY SPACE?



Take some time to reflect on "Holy Space," then join us this month as we can talk more about what that means to you.

IN PEACE, LIZ



Sundays in January

9:30-10:15am

KEEP
CALM
AND
COME
TO

CHURCH
ON SUNDAYS

Kids' Sunday School
Birth-5th Grade

EYC Formation
6th-12th Grade

Youth Confirmation Class
Confirmation Students

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

STEWARDSHIP

Final year-end statements for 2022 will be mailed in mid-January of 2023.



Another big thank you to the members of St. Mary's who provided gifts for foster children as well as those who made contributions. We were able to provide Christmas for 18 foster children as well as make a contribution to the Lenoir County Salvation Army Christmas Fund for their Angel Tree. Thank you to all who participated. (Check presentation pictured above: Becky Darst - event coordinator, Lori Kelly - Parish Administrator, & Dawn Whitaker - Salvation Army representative.)

SUNDAYS

8:00 am - Holy Eucharist: Rite 1 in the All Saints' Chapel
 9:00 am - Breakfasts for all in Moseley Hall
 9:30 am - Christian Formation for all ages
 10:30 am - Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 in the Church
 (livestreamed to [YouTube](#) and shared in [Facebook](#))

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

8:30 am - Morning Prayer in the All Saints' Chapel

WEDNESDAYS

7:00 am - Men's Prayer & Bible Breakfast in Moseley Hall

Regarding face coverings at St. Mary's, the familiar Anglican phrase (usually referring to private confession) applies: All may, some should, none must. While all are welcome to wear a face covering at any time, we affirm the CDC recommendations regarding when it is advised that face coverings are to be worn indoors while other people are present. No one is required to wear a face covering at St. Mary's.

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2022	2023	2024
John John	Skip Greene	Clifton Carey
Scott Turik	Audra Haddad	Jess Edwards
Dee Warner	Vicki Kennedy	Jo Parrott
Harry Wooten	Pam Mazingo	Ginny Wade
Senior Warden – Vicki Kennedy	Clerk – Audra Haddad	
Junior Warden – Harry Wooten	Treasurer – Jon Sargeant	