



October, 2015

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com



THE STORY

OUR JOURNEY TO THE HEART OF GOD'S STORY

Beginning October 18th
at 11:15 am in Moseley Hall

The book called *The Story* is a best-selling abridged chronological Bible. There are no verse references in the text, and the segments of scripture are woven together with transition text written to connect the storyline so it reads like a seamless story. For people new to the Bible, this way of reading scripture reduces the intimidation one might feel when approaching the full-length unabridged Bible, and it gives them a holistic and sequential picture of the storyline of scripture. For seasoned Bible veterans, the chronological arrangement of the essential texts reveals the way the whole Bible fits together in a single grand narrative. Reading through *The Story* triggers interest and understanding, and drives people back to the original Bible texts for further exploration.

You will find a list of all the passages included in each chapter of *The Story* on the "Chart of References" pages in the back of the book. Additional versions of the list are provided in the "Online Resource Library". One of the most common requests of people is for footnoted references or an indication of the scripture references somewhere within each chapter. In order to preserve the story-like reading of the passages, the scripture references are intentionally not provided with the text. Without the standard points of reference and biblical structures, readers of *The Story* are far more likely to experience new discoveries within familiar passages, and that is one of the main purposes of this book. (*The Story* accompanies the NIV Bible translation).

On Sunday, October 4th, there will be available one copy of *The Story* and *The Participant's Guide* free to each household. The books will be on a table in the Narthex. To keep track of the books we ask that you write your families name on the sheet next to the books. If you would like to purchase your own private copy, the cost is \$16 for both books.

We look forward to your participation in this learning experience. May *The Story*, become part of your story.

Guest preacher on Sunday, November 8th

The Rev. Julian Pridgen Sr., is Pastor of St. Augustus AME Zion Church, in Kinston. Pastor Pridgen will be our guest preacher on Sunday, November 8th.



Pastor Pridgen is from Whiteville, NC. After graduating from Whiteville High School, Julian joined the United States Marine Corps and remained on active duty until retirement.

As for his ministry life, Pastor Pridgen has been a licensed preacher in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church since 1992 and has served churches in Memphis, TN; Mississippi; Sneads Ferry, NC; and currently St. Augustus here in Kinston. Pridgen is also an employee of Duke University, Durham, NC, where he serves as a Ministry Coordinator for the Duke Youth Academy, attended recently by our own Melissa Glen.

Pastor Pridgen is married to Mrs. Deborah Register Pridgen and their union has produced two fascinating and gifted children: Julian II and Christian Pridgen.

Please note: On Sunday, November 8th, there will be one service only at 10:00 a.m.

Following the service, dinner will be in Moseley Hall. All food preparation, setup, and cleanup will be provided for the members of St. Mary's... and there will be no speakers.

Guest preacher on page 2

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 2 million members in 118 dioceses in the Americas and abroad.

Established in 1788.

Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori

The Rt. Rev. Michael B. Curry

Presiding Bishop Elect

Episcopal Church Center

815 2nd Avenue

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

www.dfms.org/

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In the Diocese of East Carolina

A community of more than 15,000 communicants in 69 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

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St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A church of 397 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

Rector	The Rev'd A. Michael Singer
Assistant	The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren
Director of Music	Mr. Nick Voermans
Parish Administrator	Mrs. LaTonya Smith
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Linda Johnson
Director of Children's Ministries	Mrs. Shelly L. Yarbrough
Sr. Warden	Mr. W. Scott Newton, II
Jr. Warden	Mr. J. Mark Herring

Upcoming events

Guest preacher page 1

That will all be done for us. At a later point in time, you will be contacted to determine how many from your family will be in attendance.

It will be a time for us to gather as a parish family to celebrate the many good ministries taking place at St. Mary's and the many people who give their financial resources.

Pastor Pridgen will be our guest preacher for *Consecration Sunday*. Plan to join us.

Mass on the Grass this fall

As you will read on Page 4, we will hold a Fall version of the Spring favorite *Mass on the Grass*, on Sunday, October 11th. Following the service on the church's West Lawn, there will be a covered dish picnic. We will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, drinks, and paper products. Everyone is asked to bring a LARGE side dish or dessert to share for this meal.



Following the meal we hope everyone will stick around for some games, such as: egg toss, balloon toss, three-legged sack race and more. There will be ribbons awarded to the top four winners in each category. These games are designed for the young and the young at heart.

Save the dates

- * **October 4th** - *Blessing of the Animals* - 5:00 pm
- * **October 15th** - *Red Cross Blood Drive* - 2:00 - 6:00 pm - Moseley Hall
- * **October 24th** - *Anti-Racism Training* in Moseley Hall - 9:00a
- * **November 1st** - *All Saints' Evensong* - 5:00 pm
- * **November 8th** - *Consecration Sunday* - 10:00 am Holy Eucharist with catered dinner to follow *Compline Under the Stars* - 6:00 pm
- * **November 23rd** - *Mary's Market* - 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
- * **November 25th** - *Thanksgiving Eve* Holy Eucharist - 7:00 pm
- * **December 5th** - *Advent Quiet Day* with the Rev. Mary Ogus - 9:00 - 11:30 am - Chapel
- * **December 6th** - *Annual Parish Meeting* of St. Mary's Church, 11:15 am in the church
- * **December 12th** - *Cookie Walk* - 11:00 am - 1:00 pm
- * **December 13th** - *Christmas Caroling* - 4:00 -6:00 pm

From the Rector - Father Michael Singer

THE PRIMARY TASK OF A PARISH CHURCH is to form Christian disciples and to build Christian proficiency. It has been my desire and calling, the core understanding in my ministry. For us as Episcopalians, it is also about being who we are. The Anglican approach to spirituality tends to be appreciative of many approaches to the spiritual life. Our focus, of course, is on living in our own tradition, doing that well, and offering it to others who might find it a way of grace and life.



Our roots are in the Celtic and Benedictine traditions of spiritual life – the common prayer of communities, day by day, week by week, shaping belief and action. In the 16th century, that tradition

expressed itself in Thomas Cranmer's *Book of Common Prayer*. The tradition continues now among more than 80 million people throughout the world who call themselves Anglicans/Episcopalians including us, here at St. Mary's Church in Kinston.

We are called to be catholic in substance and faith AND evangelical in embracing the vitality of the Gospel. These cannot be separated. We are not "reformed" in the strict theological or historical meaning of that word. From the book "Fill All Things: The Dynamics of Spirituality in the Parish Church" -

Our worship tradition as Episcopalians is based on a three-part structure. Michael Ramsey, the one-hundredth Archbishop of Canterbury, referred to it as the "Benedictine triangle." Martin Thornton called it the "Catholic Threefold Rule of Prayer." It is the Prayer Book's way of prayer. The three elements, Eucharist, Daily Office, and Personal Devotions, comprise the fundamentals of a disciplined Christian spirituality in the Anglican tradition.

The use of this pattern can help individuals and parishes move away from the attempt to base our prayer life on a self-made, unintegrated list of "rules" toward an integrated Rule grounded in The Book of Common Prayer. It is as a parish, as a local expression of the Body of Christ, that we may fully participate in and offer this threefold pattern. As individuals we will at times participate in this pattern, carrying others in prayer. At other times we will be carried.

There is a place for everyone at the Table. Be a part of the community in this place who regularly gather for prayer.

Live Below the Line

Live Below the Line is an annual anti-poverty campaign, which challenges participants to feed themselves on the equivalent of the extreme poverty line for five days.

The goal of **Live Below the Line** is to raise widespread awareness by enabling participants to gain a small insight into some of the hardships faced by those in our world that live in extreme poverty.

Live Below the Line also raises money for poverty reduction projects across the globe.

The concept of **Live Below the Line** was born in the backyard of a Melbourne, Australia house by two friends - Rich Fleming and Nick Allardice - over a few drinks one evening in late 2009. Both were passionate about fighting poverty, and had already been doing so for a number of years - but together they were worried at their ability to really understand at an emotional level the realities of extreme poverty.

Together they plotted the creation of a campaign that could simultaneously help tens of thousands of Australians begin to understand and connect with the issue of extreme poverty while also providing a platform for creating incredible change for the world's poor.

Seeing an incredible opportunity to engage huge numbers of people with the realities of extreme poverty while also achieving really substantial and significant outcomes in anti-poverty initiatives, they came together to create **Live Below the Line**.

This year, together with nearly 20,000 people across the world, **Live Below the Line** raised nearly \$3m for anti-poverty projects across the world, money vital to ending extreme poverty, to making people healthier, more educated, and more equal.

As global citizens we have a responsibility to make sure we're making the right choices, choices that help lift people out of extreme poverty.

2016 dates have yet to be announced, but will probably be in April or May. I plan to take the challenge and invite you to join me. I plan to live on \$1.75 a day for five days.



Michael +

Worship

Mass on the Grass

A fall *Mass on the Grass* will be held Sunday, October 11th, at 10:00 am on the West Lawn. Please bring a chair. Dress is Fall Casual for this outdoor worship experience. Worship music will be provided by the band **Look Homeward**. Banjo player, Wilson Greene, has joined the St. Mary's mission team to Glory Ridge for the last 3 years. Among several accolades for this new group, Look Homeward was the "On The Rise" winner at this year's FloydFest music festival and will play on their main stage next summer. We look forward to their musical offerings to God as we join in worship on October 11... see you on the lawn!



Blessing of the Animals Sunday, October 4th at 5:00 p.m.

Pets, perk up your ears, blessings are on their way! All are invited to bring their creatures, great and small, furry and smooth, noisy and quiet, to our annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 4, at 5:00 p.m. in the church.



The service will commemorate St. Francis, who loved all God's creatures and preached peace and justice, calling upon us to do the same. Please invite your friends and neighbors to bring their beloved pets to this celebration. Dogs and larger animals need to be kept on a leash. All other animals should be brought in a carrier. An offering, both monetary and pet food will be collected to benefit the Lenoir County S.P.C.A.

Tell your friends to join us for this brief, but very meaningful experience.

Children's Sabbath

The annual Children's Sabbath celebration will be held on Sunday, October, 18th. At the 10:00 am service we welcome the Greenville Choral Society Youth Choir who has happily joined us for worship the past couple of years. The choir is under the direction of Paul Flowers.

The Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival 2016

This coming January, we will hold our 27th Annual Boar's Head and Yule Log festival on Sunday, January 10, 2016 at our traditional 3 PM and 5 PM times with a banquet following the 5 PM performance. Tickets for the banquet have been lowered to \$30. Tickets will go on sale Monday, November 2nd.

Yule Sprite

Every year, a special second grade girl is randomly cast for the part of the Yule Sprite of the Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival. In order to be eligible, that second grade girl must be a member of St. Mary's Church and have been a part of the festival for two years. Girls interested in the position are asked to notify our Parish Secretary, Linda Johnson, by Sunday, November 29, 2015. The names of those interested will be placed in a hat and the name of the Yule Sprite will be drawn from the hat at the Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2015.



Make plans now to join us on Sunday, November 1st, All Saints' Sunday, for special music at the 10:00 a.m. service.

Later in the afternoon (5:00 p.m.) we will gather for our traditional All Saints' Evensong where we will remember and light a candle for those who have died during the past year. Invite your friends to join us in remembering departed loved ones.

Christian Formation

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Christian Formation classes take place Sunday mornings from 11:15 a.m. until 12:00 noon. We encourage all adults to join us for a cup of coffee the sessions listed below.

October 4th - The 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church is now part of the history books. Many important, exciting, far-reaching, and impactful actions were discussed, reviewed, and approved.

Father Michael was a deputy to General Convention from the Diocese of East Carolina. He will inform those present of his experience of General Convention.

October 11th - Mass on the Grass- During this outdoor worship experience we will have a Sunday school lesson as taught by Father Tom and Father Michael.

October 18th - The Story - (Chapter 1) The Beginning of Life as We Know It - in Moseley Hall

This book tells the greatest, most compelling story of all time: the story of a true God who loves His children, who established for them a way to salvation and provided a route to eternity. Each story in the 31 chapters reveals the God of grace--God who speaks; the God who acts; the God who listens; the God whose love for his people culminated in his sacrifice of Jesus, His only Son to atone for the sins of humanity."

These classes will each week be lead by lay leaders.

October 25th - The Story - (Chapter 2) God Builds a Nation - in Moseley Hall

When Christian formation classes return in January 2016, we will have two options on Sunday mornings for adults. *The Story* will continue in Moseley Hall. Our second class will be a parenting class as led by a local psychologist. We will first offer a session for parents with children through the 5th Grade, and later a class for parents with children in 6th - 12th Grades.



All men of the parish and friends are invited to Moseley Hall on Wednesday morning's for coffee, biscuits, fellowship, prayer and Bible study. We meet at 6:45 am. We would love to have you.

Journey in Faith

Journey in Faith classes for adults and youth continue as we move closer to Bishop Skirving's visitation to St. Mary's on Sunday, January 31. Upcoming JiF and YJiF dates are:

- Sunday, Oct 25 - Journey in Faith
- Sunday, Nov 1 - Youth Journey in Faith
- Sunday, Nov 22 - Journey in Faith
- Sunday, Dec 6 - Youth Journey in Faith



Dear Parish Family,
We can't thank you enough for the incredibly thoughtful, generous, and graceful ways that you have supported us over the years and especially now as you have helped welcome Mason into

the household of God. Hearing your exuberant "AMEN" as Mason emerged from the baptismal waters is a sound that we hope never to forget. He and we are blessed to be in this community that will continue to "confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share in his eternal priesthood."



In His love,
The Warrens

Youth Community News

Mark Your Calendars!!

Sunday, Oct. 4, 11am-noon

EYC Neighborhood Prayer Walk... Bring your walking shoes!

Wed, Oct. 7, 5:30-6:15pm

EYC Bible Study Groups (Jr & Sr meet separately)

Sunday, Oct. 11, 5-6:30pm

EYC LOCAL MISSION to Common Ground. No morning EYC due to Mass on the Grass.

Wed, Oct. 14, 5:30-6:15pm

EYC Bible Study Groups

Oct. 16-18

Happening #66—High School Diocesan Event @ Trinity Center

Sunday, Oct. 18, 11am-1pm

EYC Sunday Brunch

Jr. & Sr. EYC meets during Christian Formation hour to prepare brunch for the whole church to be served after classes.

Wed, Oct. 21, 5:30-6:15pm

EYC Bible Study Groups

Sunday, Oct. 25

Morning EYC meets!

Also, Halloween Carnival & Campfire.

Wed, Oct. 28, 5:30-6:15pm

EYC Bible Study Groups

**St. Mary's EYC
Halloween Carnival**



**Sunday, October 25th
4-5:30PM**

Admission:
ages 4-10 \$4.00
ages 2-3 \$3.00
(under 2- free!)
Hot Dog Meal Tickets \$3.00

& Much More!



An annual EYC favorite is back! The Youth of the church always love to dress up and host a fun & safe time in a Christian atmosphere for the smallest ones of our community at the Halloween Carnival. Set up will begin at 3:30. Following the Carnival, the EYC is invited to the Warren home for S'mores & stories around a campfire!

TO *GLORY RIDGE:*
275 DAYS!!

That's right, our 2016 Glory Ridge dates are set! We will return to Madison County to MAKE WORK WORSHIP July 3-9. Can't wait to be there with YOU!!

Other news



The Trinity District Meeting of the Episcopal Church Women will meet at St. Mary's on Thursday, October 8th. The Trinity District comprises church along Route 70, from Goldsboro to Beaufort.

The day will begin with coffee, refreshments and registration in Moseley Hall at 9:30 am. The ladies will move to the church at 10:00 am for a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Bishop Skirving will be the celebrant.

Following the Eucharist, the women will return to Moseley Hall for the day's speakers; Ginger Jacock, President Diocesan ECW, Zona Tounsley, 1st VP, Diocesan, ECW; Annie Jacob, UTO Coordinator; and Vanessa Stovall, Trinity District Chair; and lunch will be available at 12:30 pm.

Anne Lindley, St. Mary's ECW President, asks for the help of women of the parish to make this a good day for our guests. If you can assist, please contact Anne at 252-521-6404 or anneblindley@gmail.com.



St. Mary's is on the route for Kinston's first ½ Marathon! In the spirit of Christian hospitality, St. Mary's will serve as an Aid Station near the home stretch for the race on October 10. Can you cheer on the runners and hand out water that Saturday morning? If so, please contact the church office or sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex!



Service at St. Barnabas Church

A service from the 1928 Book of Common Prayer will be held Saturday, October 31st, at 10:00 a.m. at St. Barnabas Church in Snow Hill. Father Tom will preach and celebrate the Eucharist, and George Mewborn (Snow Hill) will play the organ. Stay for a covered-dish potluck lunch at Frank and Sandra Warren's home (106 W Greene St.). Call 747-3529 for directions. We hope to see you there!

Clergy away

Father Michael and Father Tom will be away at Trinity Center attending the Clergy Conference of the Diocese of East Carolina from October 26 - 28, 2015. In an emergency, please contact a member of the parish staff.

Blood Drive



American Red Cross

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.™

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

St. Mary's is now a host site for regularly recurring Blood Drives with the American Red Cross. The next Blood Drives at St. Mary's are:

- Thursday, October 15; 2-6pm
- Tuesday, December 22; 2-6pm

Walk ins are welcome or reservations may be made at the Red Cross website. If you are able and willing to be a blood donor or are interested in helping to provide hospitality to donors during the blood drives, please contact the parish office!

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

Wednesday Nights At St. Mary's!

Wednesday Nights have a new look this year. Bible Studies for adults, high schoolers, and middle schoolers AND an Elementary EYC group all meet at 5:30. St. Cecilia's choir is at 5:45. Dinner follows at 6:15 p.m. and are a delightful occasion for parish fellowship including a fun activity... and you leave the cooking to us!

*Each week a signup sheet may be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex listing the week's dinner. **Those planning to attend must sign up prior to noon on Tuesday.***

The cost of the meal is \$8 for adults (10 and older) \$6.00 for children under 10 and no more than \$28 for a family of 2 adults and children under 10.

Join your parish family on Wednesday evenings, and leave dinner to us!

Cherished Members' Lunch Returns

Cherished Members and Friends Luncheons return November 5th. Plan to join us in November. Invite a friend!

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

2015	2016	2017
W. Scott Newton, II	Stephen B. Hill	H. Earl Harper
Cyndi L. Rafferty	Isaac C. Hines	J. Mark Herring
Joseph V. Stark	Barbara A. LaRoque	John K. John
Stuart L. Stroud	Kevin M. Zoltek	John "Sandy" Shimer, Jr.

Senior Warden – W. Scott Newton, II

Junior Warden – J. Mark Herring

Clerk – Cyndi Rafferty

Treasurer – D. Stuart Lindley