



January, 2017

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com



The Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival

St. Mary's has been offering the Boar's Head Festival as its annual gift to the community since 1990, the 650th anniversary of the festival. This Boar's Head tradition originated at Queen's College, Oxford, England, in 1340, and is probably the oldest continuing Christmas festival.

The performances are at 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 8, 2017 and mark St. Mary's 28th retelling of the tale. Entrance is free and open to everyone. There will be a free-will offering.

But why, you may wonder, a "boar's head"?! The pageant of killing the boar is ancient: The Romans served boar as the first course at their banquets. 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 itself follows a similar narrative arc. Beginning with a secular celebration as all of the characters gather for a feast, the story dramatically shifts to telling 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. Everyone in attendance can relate to one or many of the characters and find his or herself uniquely placed in the end at the Christ child's manger, where all lives are made equal and no one is left unchanged.

Following the 5:00 p.m. performance, a delicious banquet is offered. For the banquet, you will need to purchase a ticket, which costs \$30 per person. The banquet offers a full meal of wonderful offerings, including wine, all set in the king's decorated hall. To purchase your ticket, contact the church at 252-523-6146.



Join the St. Mary's New Year Resolution! See more on Page 5.



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/

α

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

Website: 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

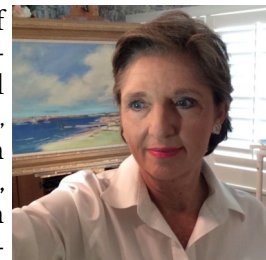
Sr. Warden	Mr. P.C. Barwick, Jr.
Jr. Warden	Mr. J. Mark Herring
Interim Rector	The Rev'd Judith Foster Reese
Assistant Rector	The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren
Parish Administrator	Mrs. LaTonya Smith
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Linda Johnson
Director of Children's Ministries	Mrs. Shelly L. Yarbrough

News at St. Mary's

New Lay Leadership



Members of the Vestry of St. Mary's Church, newly-elected at the Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, December 6th, are: Ron Albertson, Juliet Barrus, Walter Poole and Jon Sargeant (pictured clockwise from top left). These Vestry members will officially begin their ministry on Sunday, January 15, 2017, as they are installed during the 10:00 a.m. liturgy. Thank you to everyone who allowed their name to be



placed in nomination to run for Vestry. The Vestry will be meeting in retreat on January 27-28, 2017, at which time new wardens will be elected.

We extend our deep appreciation to the outgoing Vestry members: Stephen Hill, Ike Hines, Barbara LaRoque and Kevin Zoltek for serving St. Mary's faithfully the past three years.

From the Parish Register

Married:

Derek Haysom and Emily Broadway
December 10, 2016

Pastoral News

Born:

Yates Southerland Purnell
to Jim & Carrie Dale Purnell, and big brother Bo
on December 12, 2016

New Address:

Michael & Teresa Singer
2429 Tara Forest Drive
Leland, NC 28451

Congratulations Graduates:

Reid Wooten

Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from
East Carolina University

LaTonya Smith, St. Mary's Parish Administrator

Master's Degree in Business Administration from
University of Mount Olive

From the Interim Rector

Dear Friends,

For most of the world Christmas is over; however, here at St. Mary's we continue to celebrate the birth of Christ Jesus into our world. Our celebrations continue through the twelve days of Christmas, ending with Epiphany. And, Epiphany, of course, brings us to the Boar's Head Festival. I am so looking forward to my first Boar's Head Festival here at St. Mary's!

The Epiphany often is referred to as a feast of light as we remember the light of the Star of Bethlehem that led the Magi to the manger and the Christ Child. Perhaps, we can think of the Boar's Head Festival somewhat similarly; that is, out of earthly joys and creatures great and small, out of sacred music and the beauty of holiness, God's light shines brightly, guiding those in Kinston and beyond to St. Mary's, where they may find the Christ Child and know God's transforming love. How wonderful to begin the New Year as a beacon of God's own light and life!

Each of us are keepers of the light, working to keep the beams of God's love shining so that its radiance may draw others to Christ's own warmth and welcome. It sounds rather lofty, but, actually, it's very simple. The light that radiates out of a personal connection and invitation, out of a word of welcome and acceptance, is absolutely dazzling. Try inviting a friend to worship with us and watch their eyes light up! Speak a word of welcome to a visitor to our worship and ask them to sit with you – and watch for the reflection of holy light on their face!

As we make New Year's resolutions for 2017, I encourage you to resolve to participate more fully in holy hospitality here at St. Mary's. And as you consider your important contribution to the hospitality of this parish, I also ask you to prayerfully consider being a Greeter or serving on a Newcomers Ministry. In the coming weeks, you will be hearing more about the formation of these hospitality ministries and I hope that your discernment will move you to serve in one or both of them.

May those glorious beams of God's love brighten your own life, may the radiant rays of Christ's peace bring you hope and may the light of the Holy Spirit illuminate the Way of Christ so you may follow both now and forever.

Judith⁺

Mission trip to the Dominican Republic

All are invited to learn about St. Mary's upcoming Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic at an informational social on Tuesday, January 17, 7pm in the Parlor.

Plans are underway for a 2017 return to Divina Gracia in Mosovi, Dominican Republic, July 9-15. The cost of the trip is \$1500 per person. The cost includes airfare, meals (Monday–Friday), transportation and lodging.

The mission team will provide a Vacation Bible School to the children in Mosovi and minor repair work at the church. A \$500 deposit will be required in February with final payment is due in April. Those with questions should contact Laury Sargeant at jsarg4@suddenlink.net



Worship

The Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival

On Sunday, January 8th, St. Mary's will celebrate our 28th anniversary of offering celebration of the Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival.

There will be two performances: 3pm and 5pm.

Tickets to the Renaissance Banquet, following the 5pm performance are still available. Please contact the church office at 252-523-6146 if you are interested in purchasing a ticket. They will make a marvelous Christmas gift!

Open Dress Rehearsal on January 7th

Members of St. Mary's are strongly encouraged to attend the open dress rehearsal for our annual Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival on Saturday morning, January 7, at 9:00 a.m. to make available additional seats for our out-of-town guests for the Festival on Sunday. We are truly blessed to offer this profound celebration as a gift to our community and enjoy sharing the wonder of Olde Christmas at St. Mary's.

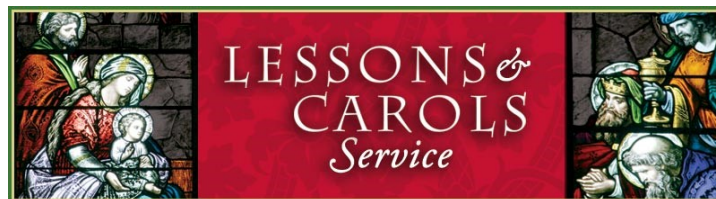


Thank you!

Our deepest appreciation goes to everyone who contributed to Advent and Christmas celebrations here at St. Mary's. You made the parish look beautiful, you added your

voices to make our worship joyous, and your faithful attendance enriched the family of God.

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*



On Sunday, January 1, 2017, the First Sunday after Christmas Day falls on New Year's Day. On that Sunday, St. Mary's will have a joint worship service at 10:00 a.m. This will be a Service of Lessons and Carols, with Holy Eucharist. Lessons and Carols is adapted from the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols that has been celebrated annually. We will hear five Scripture lessons, selected from those traditionally used at the Festival, while the carols provided to accompany each passage have been selected from the Hymnal 1982, or as sung by St. Mary's Choir.

The multiple readings present an opportunity to involve a number of different people from the congregation in worship. Children, young people, and adults who wish to read are asked to contact Linda Johnson, parish secretary, by December 28th.

The Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival Rehearsal Dates

MONDAY, January 2 - 7:00 p.m. - Wassail Spot, Waits, Jugglers & Apprentices, Puppeteers, Sugar & Spice Girls, Wizard, Tinker

TUESDAY, January 3 - 7:00 p.m. - Nativity Spot Star of the East, Angels, Torchbearers, Tintinnabulum, Balthazar, Kaspar, Melchior and their pages, Shepherds

WEDNESDAY, January 4 - 7:00 p.m. - Yule Log Spot Poor Man, Red & Green Skipping Sprites, Log Sprites, Yule Log Co., Woods Co., Wenceslas & Pages, Holly Bearers, Choir in Choir Room

THURSDAY January 5 - 6:30 p.m. - Church Banner Bearers [St. Augustine's, St. Mary's, I AM, Diocesan]

7:00 p.m. - Manor Spot, Banner Bearers & Trencher Bearers for Boar's Head, Mince Pie & Plum Pudding; Chief Herald, Huntsman & Apprentices, Scholar, Cooks' Co., Manor Ladies, Manor Children, Bishop, Pilgrims, I Am Banner Bearer, Dame Julian & Orphans

FRIDAY, January 6 - 7:00 p.m. - Full Cast Walk-Thru

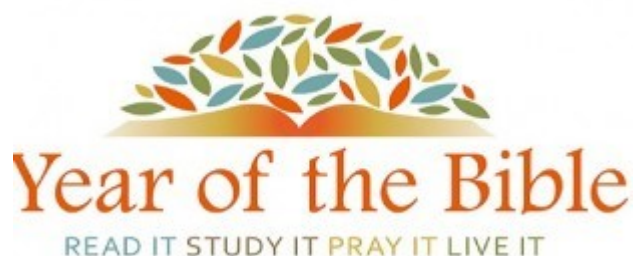
SATURDAY, January 7 - 8:00 a.m. - Building Open

9:00 a.m.—FULL DRESS REHEARSAL

SUNDAY January 8 - 2:00 p.m. - Sign in & costumes

3:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. FESTIVAL!

Christian Formation



Take The Bible Challenge!!

Make 2017 a year of strengthening your faith by reading God's word. As you consider new year resolution options, ask God in prayer if you are being called to join others in your church family who are committing to reading some of the Bible every day. Possible goals for the year include reading the New Testament, the Psalms, or even the whole Bible! Reading plans are available in the narthex.

As one member of St. Mary's who has participated in The Bible Challenge put it:

"The Bible Challenge was a gratifying experience. Every Christian should read the book that is the basis for our faith."

Visit www.thecenterforbiblicalstudies.org for more information on The Bible Challenge and join us!

ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION

Programs for all ages return on Sunday, January 15th

January 1st - Lessons and Carols - We will worship together at 10:00 a.m. with a liturgy of Christmas Lessons and Carols with Holy Eucharist. Our carols on this day will be traditional Christmas carols.

January 8th - The Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival - Join us at 3:00 or 5:00 p.m. for the 28th annual Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival.

January 15th - The Story - Chapter 24 - "No Ordinary Man" *The Story* is an abridged, chronological Bible that reads like a novel. There are no verse references, and Scripture segments are seamlessly woven together with transition text into a single grand narrative.

January 22nd - The Story - Chapter 25 - "Jesus, the Son of God"

Training for Acolytes & Eucharistic Ministers

The annual training for our Eucharistic Ministers will be Sunday, January 15. Acolyte training will be Sunday, January 22. Both trainings will take place at 11:15 in the church. All servers, new or experienced, should make every effort to attend these important training sessions.

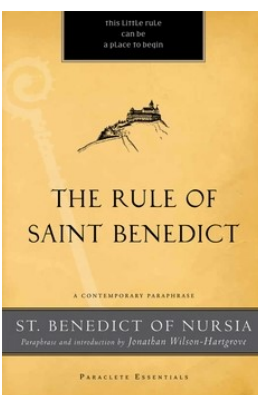
History and diocesan policy place high priority on development of strong lay ministries. From colonial days when East Carolina churches functioned almost completely under the care of vestries, since clergy were rarely available, the Diocese has been blessed with exceptionally strong lay leadership. The Catechism of the Book of Common Prayer (p. 855) describes the ministry of lay persons: "The ministry of lay persons is to represent Christ and His Church; to bear witness to Him wherever they may be; and, according to the gifts given them, to carry on Christ's work of reconciliation in the world; and to take their place in the life, worship, and governance of the Church." Especially in the worship of the Church, the whole people of God are represented in our worship services as lay people serve alongside ordained clergy.

Our Prayer Book, as well as the canons of the Episcopal Church and the Diocese of East Carolina, provide opportunities for the laity to function in particular roles in worship.

Adult Book Study Returns:

Wednesdays 5:30-6:15pm, Bookstore

Audra Haddad continues a book study of a contemporary translation of *The Rule of St. Benedict* by Jonatham Wilson-Hartgrove of Durham, NC. Jonathan is a leader in the *new monastic*



movement throughout the worldwide church where Christians have found great value in the 21st century by learning from the wisdom of this ancient way of living the life of discipleship to Jesus. Copies of the book are available for free. They may be picked up in the book study meeting or at the church office during regular office hours.

Youth Community News

Mark Your Calendars!!

Sun. Jan 1 & Wed. Jan 4

No EYC - Happy New Year!

Sunday, January 8

Celebrate Leah Rose Edwards' Baptism at the 10am liturgy and then live into the Nativity Story in the Boar's Head Festival!!

Wednesday, Jan 11, 5:30-7pm

Study. Pray. Eat.

Homework Hangout 3p

EYC/Compline 5:30p

EYC Supper 6:15p

Sunday, January 15

Prayer walk 11:15-noon

EYC Old Christmas Party &

2nd Lighting of the Warren

Family Christmas Tree 5:30-

6:30

Wed, Jan. 18, 5:30-7pm

Study. Pray. Eat. Same schedule as Jan 11.

Sunday, January 22, 11:15-12

Acolyte Training!

Wed, Jan. 25, 5:30-7pm

Study. Pray. Eat. Same schedule as Jan 11.

Sunday, January 29

EYC Brunch!

Please come and bring a friend!!!!

Recipe from the December 18 EYC Brunch

The EYC is so grateful to all in the church family who have given SO generously at the EYC brunches this year. The EYC Brunch concept was intended to be a gift TO the whole St. Mary's church family FROM the EYC. Accordingly, there is no charge for any of the meals, only a \$3 requested donation. However, with the church's giving heart, donations have exceeded the costs of the brunches each time (even when we made salmon for everyone!). After last month's brunch, many requests were made for us to publish the recipe for the lasagna that was served. Here it is, printed below, with a spirit of gratefulness to God and to you all. We hope to see you and many more that you might bring with you at our next EYC Brunch on Sunday, January 29!

Winter Greens and Sweet Potato Lasagna

Ingredients:

- 2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- 1 med. white onion, diced
- 3 garlic cloves, pressed
- 2 c. heavy cream
- 2 lbs steamed mixed greens (EYC used collards, turnips, hen peck mustard)
- 1 1/2 c. plain greek yogurt
- 2 med. sweet potatoes, peeled & sliced very thinly on mandolin or cheese grater
- 1 lb fresh ricotta cheese
- 2 c. freshly grated Parmesan cheese
- Kosher salt and ground black pepper



Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 400F. Heat oil in large skillet. Add onion and garlic, season with salt and pepper. Cook until soft, approx 5 min.
2. Add cream and greens, cook for approx 10 min. Season with more salt and pepper to taste.
3. Meanwhile, spread 1 cup yogurt in bottom on 13"x9" baking dish. Cover with layer of sweet potato "noodles".
4. Using slotted spoon, scoop 1/3 greens mixture over "noodles," followed by 1/3 ricotta, and 1/4 Parmesan. Top with another layer of "noodles."
5. Repeat step 4 twice.
6. Evenly pour enough reserved warm cream over top layer of "noodles" to moisten well, then top with remaining yogurt and Parmesan.
7. Cover w/ foil and bake until bubbling, approx 30 min. Then, uncover and bake 10 more minutes.
8. Give thanks to the Lord and enjoy with friends, new and old!

THANK YOU!!!!

Thank you so much to all the wonderful adults of St. Mary's whose gifts of hospitality and financial support have allowed the EYC to enjoy food and fellowship when there were no Wednesday Night Suppers: the Haddad family, the Kennedy family, and the Albritton & Sargeant families! You are truly wonderful cooks and we love you!!



Other news

Year end Financial Statements

Financial statements for 2016 will be mailed out by mid-January. If you have a discrepancy in your statement, please contact our Parish Administrator, LaTonya Smith, by the end of January. The Vestry wishes to thank everyone who contributed. Thank you for your gift which enables St. Mary's to minister in our community and beyond.



Blessing of homes on the Epiphany

The Church has a custom of blessing homes on the Feast of the Epiphany (January 6th) and the season following. Family and friends 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 + 17 is written 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: 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 2017 indicates the year of the blessing. It is a blessing to Mo. Judith and Fr. Tom to share in your lives. Being invited to offer this gift of the church to your home would be a great joy to them!



Wednesday, February 1
Moseley Hall

Fundraiser for the Mission Trip to Glory Ridge!

Everyone is invited to enter a chili and/or enjoy the evening's festivities! New this year: Cornbread Contest!

The Chef Visits Mary's Kitchen!



Thanks to initiation and planning from Mary Hosea, Chef Vivian Howard and friends from [Chef & The Farmer](#) served lunch at Mary's Kitchen on December 21. We are grateful for this partnership and hope to see more from this event on [A Chef's Life](#). Thank you, Mary, Vivian, and all who played a part in this wonderful Christmas meal!!

Ingathering of Gifts

What a joy it was to see the church with brightly wrapped Christmas gifts on Sunday, December 4th, as gifts for children in Lenoir County Foster care were blessed and distributed to the Department of Social Services. Thank you so much to everyone who took a name, purchased and wrapped gifts for these children. Thank you also to David Reese and Horace Smith who helped deliver the gifts to DSS on Monday, December 5th.



St. Mary's will host a Blood Drive on Thursday, December 29 from 2-6pm in Moseley Hall. This Blood Drive is a scholarship event for our own Melissa Glen, an undergrad at ECU. If we meet or exceed the drive's goal of collected units, then

she will be a candidate to receive a scholarship! To make your time go more smoothly, make a reservation at the [American Red Cross website](#)!

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

Returning in January 2017

January 4th

6:45 a.m. - Men's Prayer Breakfast

January 10th

8:30 a.m. - Morning Prayer
 (each Tuesday & Thursday)



January 11th

3 p.m. - Homework Hangout

5:30 p.m. - adult study, (E) EYC and
 EYC

5:45 p.m. - St. Cecilia's Choir

6:15 p.m. - Wednesday dinner

7:00 p.m. - Adult Choir

January 15th

11:15 a.m. - Christian Formation
 classes for all ages

St. Mary's Market & The Cookie Walk

Thank you to everyone who pitched in and supported St. Mary's Market & Cookie Walk in recent weeks. A special thank you to Anne Lindley, Susan Grady, & Cathy Sale for coordinating Mary's Market and to Laury Sargeant, for chairing this year's Cookie Walk. God bless you all!

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

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2017	2018	2019
H. Earl Harper	P.C. Barwick, Jr.	Ron J. Albertson
J. Mark Herring	Clifton W. Carey	Juliet S. Barrus
John K. John	Becky C. Darst	Walter R. Poole, Jr.
John "Sandy" Shimer, Jr.	Milton D. "Dee" Warner, Jr.	Jonathan L. Sargeant
Senior Warden – P.C. Barwick, Jr.		
Junior Warden – J. Mark Herring		
Clerk – Becky C. Darst		
Treasurer – D. Stuart Lindley		