



November, 2017

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com



**It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
to declare your steadfast love in the morning
and your faithfulness by night.**

Psalms 92:1-2

Consecration Sunday

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

St. Mary's Vestry has selected the *New Consecration Sunday* Stewardship Program as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, member of St. Mary's, followers of Jesus Christ, are invited to give, simply, as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

There will be ONE worship service on Consecration Sunday November 12, 2017 at 10:30 am - and during that time, we are asking members to make their financial commitments to this church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend, even if they feel strongly opposed to completing a card. During morning worship, there will be a brief period of instruction and inspiration, concluding with an opportunity for members to make their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

Immediately following the liturgy, we will gather for a Celebration Banquet in Moseley Hall as an act of thanksgiving for God's blessings and looking forward to God's work in, among, and through us as a church family. **Because this is a catered meal, please respond in a timely manner to the invitations that will be given out at church in the coming Sundays.** We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete giving cards, but you may expect a call if we haven't received an RSVP to the Celebration Banquet from your household.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

P. C. Barwick, Jr.

Senior Warden



Pastoral News

WE OFFER THANKSGIVING for the births of:

Audrey Kinlaw Means, born on October 3rd. Audrey is the daughter of Trey & Abby Means, sister to Charles, grand-daughter of Stephen & Holly Hill, and niece/cousin to Claire Hill and the Mooring Family.

Ruby Jean Bragg, born on October 20th. Ruby is the daughter of Rob and Stacy Bragg, and sister to Ava, Rosie, and Kate.

Maeve Victoria Coley, born on October 19th. Maeve is the daughter of Eric and Rachel Coley and grand-daughter of Vicki & Claude Kennedy. She is also sister to Rowan and Eloise.

Congratulations to all in these families!

Episcopal Church Women

Mary's Market

21st Annual Thanksgiving Event *Sunday, November 19th, Noon - 2:00 pm*

Mary's Market will be here before we know it! Last year we changed our business model to pre-orders, coupled with a great bakery section, all built around holiday meals with specialty items that complement these dinners. Well, it worked! We tried it on for size, and so far, we think it fits! So, we're doing it again!

Please note that quantities of pre-orders will be limited so you will want to respond quickly. The deadline to place orders and pay for the item is November 12th. By now, you should have received an email with the flyer attached so you may forward it to others who might want to order or attend. The email also contains [a link to the church website where you can download the flyer and order form.](#)

We hope all of you are planning on making lots of items for our now famous bakery section. We welcome all kinds of homemade cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, cheese straws, breads...anything that makes losing weight hard. Please package and wrap all of your items as attractively as you can. This really helps to sell our "goodies."

Please bring your bakery items to Moseley Hall on Saturday, November 18th, between 2:00 and 4:00 pm. This will be a big help, as we will have to price these items to be ready to sell the next day.

Lunch will be available at this year's Market and will be catered by the Queen Street Deli. Tickets are \$10 at the door. There also will be a \$500 RAFFLE at \$5 a ticket.

Let's really make another big effort this year. Our community has so many people in need. Remember that 50% of our profits go to Outreach and 50% to Pastoral Care. Working together we can do great things again this year! Let's put on our aprons and shake and bake!



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.

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

St. Mary's Episcopal Church

A church of 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

Interim Rector The Rev'd Judith Foster Reese

Asst. Rector The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren

Sr. Warden

Mr. P.C. Barwick, Jr.

Jr. Warden

Mr. Walt Poole

Parish Administrator

Mrs. Lori Kelly

Director of Children's Ministries

Mrs. Shelly L. Yarbrough

Interim Rector

*"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers
for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now."*

Philippians 1:3-5



Dear Friends,

What an honor and privilege it has been to walk with you through this time of transition at St. Mary's! It has been pure joy to see a renewed spirit and a re-commitment to the mission and ministry of Christ Jesus. Many people ask me why I continue in the rigorous vocation of interim priest and the answer lies in the opportunity to experience God's Spirit working with and through a congregation to bring about spiritual renewal and growth in faith and discipleship. It never ceases to be an awesome experience of the Triune God.

I am eternally grateful to Father Tom Warren for his deep devotion to Christ and passion for the gospel. Having such a partner in ministry truly has been a joy. I also am grateful to your awesome Wardens, P. C. Barwick and Walter Poole, who have worked so diligently and so well during the transition. And, none of the accomplishments of the interim period could have happened without the hard work of the excellent staff of St. Mary's. Thank you all so very much!

David and I both have enjoyed being here at St. Mary's and are so very grateful to all of you who have helped us and offered us your friendship and gracious hospitality.

To each and every one of you who loved and supported this parish during the transition time, I offer you my deepest gratitude. To each and every one of you who stepped out of your comfort zone and stepped into the service of our Lord, I offer you my deepest gratitude. I truly am excited about the future of St. Mary's. Not only are new and renewed ministries strengthening Christ's mission here in Kinston, they are making St. Mary's more visible in the community and inviting others to meaningful worship and work in Christ's name.

As our pathways diverge, this is not a time to be anxious, but rather, a time to stand at the edge of God's good future, looking forward with hope, gratitude, and trust. In Christ, we remain ever connected by God's Holy Spirit—no matter the distance between us. Please know that you ever will remain in my heart and in my prayers.

May God bless and keep you always, may Christ ever surprise you with joy and may the Spirit's power continue to strengthen and guide you both now and forever.

With much love and gratitude,

Judith⁺



Worship



All Saints Sunday, November 5th

For all the saints, who from their labors rest – Our All Saints worship is a deeply meaningful feast day and this year will be no different. Following our 8:00 am worship service, we will gather in a **multi-generational Baptismal Celebration at 9:15am** during which time we will hear a presentation about baptism and hear the stories of some of the beloved saints of St. Mary's past. Special treats that remind us of baptism will also be served during this time. Later, at the 10:30am liturgy, **Ruby Jean Bragg will become the newest member of the church as she is baptized into the family of God.**

That evening, evening at 5:00 pm, our wonderful choir will lead us in an **All Saints Evensong**. During this service, the names of those who have been interred in the St. Francis' Garden will be named in prayer, along with the names of other loved ones who have been listed on the Roll of Remembrance. It always is a very moving time of thanking God for the lives of those who have gone before us and also for giving witness to Christ's resurrection.

Third Wednesday Worship



Our Third Wednesday Worship is off to a great start! These services are contemplative, casual, and wonderfully joyful! They also include prayers for healing for participants and on behalf of others. Last month we were blessed to have the musical leadership of Chloe Albritton, Jess Edwards, Jude Warren, and Father Tom. We have also used newer liturgies and prayers found in *Enriching Our Worship*. Please make a special effort to attend these monthly, mid-week services – you'll be glad you did! Our next Third Wednesday Worship will be on **Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 5:45 pm.**

Compline Under the stars

Sunday, November 19, 2017

6:15pm

Prayers. Campfires. S'mores. Hot Chocolate.

St. Mary's Episcopal Church - West Lawn

Get ready for
Boar's Head 2018!

Marion Classen & Vicki Barker will be in the costume room for fittings on Wednesdays, November 8 & 29 from 3-7:30pm. Let the festival begin!!

Vestry Election Process

The following is excerpted from a pastoral letter that will soon be emailed to the church and made available in hard copy in the Narthex:

The Vestry of St. Mary's has a vital role in the leadership of this parish. Broadly defined by the Canons of the Episcopal Church and our diocese, the responsibilities of the vestry encompass areas of leadership and management in partnership with the Rector. Serving on the Vestry of St. Mary's is service to Christ himself and is an honor and privilege.

Twelve Vestry members serve for rotating terms of three years each. Four Vestry members are elected each year at the Annual Parish Meeting that occurs on the second Sunday of Advent (December 10, 2017).

Vestry members meet together on the third Monday of every month and occasionally in called meetings. Attendance is extremely important. Each Vestry member is responsible for overseeing at least one of parish ministry.

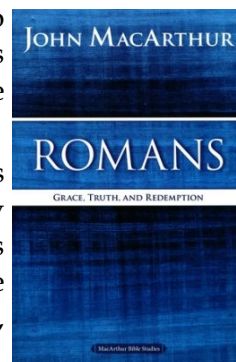
Those qualified for nomination for election to the Vestry are required by canon to be adult, confirmed communicants in good standing which is defined as: *A member sixteen years or older who has been faithful in corporate worship as evidenced by the receiving of Communion in this church three (3) times during the previous year, unless for good cause prevented; and, has been faithful in working, praying, and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God.*

A list of parishioners who are eligible was sent via email and is posted in the Narthex. Confirmed adults of the church are asked by the Vestry to nominate no more than 6 names from this list, either by emailing the names to lkelly@stmaryskinston.com or by printing the list, circling the names, and bringing the list to the church office. **Emails or hard-copies must be signed by the person submitting the nomination and must be received no later than Tuesday, November 7, 2017.**

Adult Christian Formation

The Adult Christian Formation Class continues its study of the Apostle Paul's Epistle to the Romans this fall. Bishop N. T. Wright calls the letter to the Christians in Rome "Paul's masterpiece." This masterpiece is all about God, who unveils divine power and grace through the good news of Christ Jesus.

"Invitation to Romans" is a video series published by Disciple Bible Study. The video lasts about 15 minutes and will be augmented with supplemental material, including the study guide to Romans from the MacArthur Bible Studies series. A free copy of the book is provided to every participating household. There will be plenty of time for discussion! We meet in Mosely Hall Sundays beginning at 9:15 am. Our Adult Christian Formation Team, led by Dr. John John, are the facilitators for this class.



The Education for Ministry program at St. Mary's has had a great start! We began meeting in September with ten seekers in the class. The group began with each of the members honing the skill of active listening and being fully present as each member shared vignettes of their lives with each other. This year all of us are exploring the Old Testament which brings us new insights as we delve into our text and the Bible together.

Our next step is to dive into the process of theological reflection which is the heart of the course. We are truly thankful to St. Mary's for supporting us in this new venture for our class. We will continue to meet throughout the year for the completion of 36 lessons.

Victoria Brown, EfM Mentor

Youth & St. Mary's

Mark Your Calendars

Wednesday, November 1

3:00pm Homework Hangout

5:30pm EYC!!!

6:15pm Parish Family Night

Sunday, November 5

9:15am Baptismal Celebration
and Reception 10:30am
Worship

****DC PILGRIMAGE &
FALL CONFERENCE
REGISTRATIONS ARE
DUE TODAY!!****

5pm Evensong

Wednesday, November 8

Same as Nov 1 w/ EYC
Supper!

Sunday, November 12

9:15am THE STORY for
Middle School in the Parlor
and SEALED & SENT
FORTH for High School in
the Youth Room

10:30am Worship

Wednesday, November 15

3:00pm Homework Hangout

5:30pm EYC w/ Wed. Worship

6:15pm Parish Family Night

Fri-Sun, November 17-19

Fall Conference (Trinity
Center)

Sunday, November 19

Same as Nov 12

6:15pm Compline Under the
Stars

Wednesday, November 22

8-Noon EYC Serves @ Mary's
Kitchen!

Sunday, November 26

Same as Nov 12

Wednesday, November 29

Same as Nov 1



What's Cookin' @ Your EYC?!

Many thanks to the many young folks (a few of whom are pictured here) who made "EYC BRUNCH" happen on a Wednesday Night for the first time this year. The parishioners who came were so impressed with your meal!! Well done!!

Life as a Christian means that we take seriously what Jesus said about the "greatest commandments" - Love God first, and love your neighbors as yourself. At St. Mary's, we **LEARN** about these things through Christian Formation classes, liturgies, and EYC times. And we also put them in action, as individuals, but also as a church. EYC "brunch" is a fine example of this. **Another example is our tradition of serving the meal at Mary's Kitchen on the day before Thanksgiving. We'll do this again in 2017, meeting from 8am until Noon on Wednesday, Nov 22 at the kitchen (110 N Independence St).** We all have so much to be thankful for. I am thankful to serve Jesus alongside you all!

Fr. Tom +

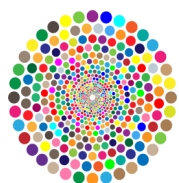


PILGRIMAGE TO WASHINGTON DC

I hope you'll pray about if God has something for you to experience on pilgrimage to Washington, DC with the youth groups from St. Paul's (Beaufort) and Christ Church (New Bern) over Presidents' Day Weekend (February 16-19). Elements of

this pilgrimage will include staying at [Church of the Epiphany](#) and participating in their ["Welcome Table" ministry](#), visiting the [National Cathedral](#) and other significant sites in the Capital area, and as good Pilgrims, of course, lots of walking & praying!

Given the joint nature of this trip, there are a limited number of spots. **A firm commitment with registration and community covenant forms along with deposit will be required by Sunday, November 5.** Full payment is due Sunday, January 21. [Find the forms at the St. Mary's Youth webpage.](#)



"FULL CIRCLE" FALL CONFERENCE FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLERS

will be November 17 - 19 at Trinity Center. *We all come "Full Circle" in our lives, in our relationship with God, and with others. Full Circle is this year's Fall Conference theme. The story of Joseph and his brothers shows us what happens when we compare ourselves to others, become jealous and hold grudges, but also shows the power of forgiveness.* As always, Fall Conference will be full of fellowship, music, worship and a chance to live in community for the weekend at Trinity Center! [Registration forms are available on the Diocesan website and are due to Fr. Tom by Sunday, November 5th.](#)

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

Cherished Members and Friend's Luncheon

Senior members of St. Mary's and their friends are invited to the next luncheon to be held on **Thursday, November 2, 2017. The luncheon gets underway at 11:30 a.m. in Moseley Hall.**

If you've not been before we, why wait?! It's a great time to get together with friends and enjoy a delicious meal.

Those planning to attend are asked to sign up in the Narthex or contact the Parish Office by Tuesday, Oct. 31st. The luncheons are a ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church Women.



SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays 8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite I

9:15 a.m. – Sunday School

10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist, Rite II

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

3rd Wednesday 5:45pm - Holy Eucharist w/ Healing Prayers

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 – Walter R. Poole

Clerk – Becky C. Darst

Treasurer – D. Stuart Lindley