December 2017

St. Mary's Episcopal Church **The Bell Ringer** Online at www.stmaryskinston.com

Behold, the dwelling of God is with mankind. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God. - Revelation 21:3

Sunday, December 24th

There will only be 1 liturgy this morning! It will be at: 9:00 a.m. 4th Sunday of Advent Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 in the Chapel (Nursery open)

5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 in the Church with Christmas Pageant (Nursery open)

11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Festal Holy Eucharist: Rite 2 with traditional music and choir that will lead us into Christmas morning. Monday, December 25th

10:30 a.m. The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ Holy Eucharist: Rite 2, spoken (no music), in the Chapel

> The Cookie Walk is back on Dec 9‼ See details on Pg. 9

A Blessed Advent and Merry Christmas from St. Mary's Episcopal Church

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

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. Walter R. Poole
Assistant Rector	The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren
Parish Administrator	Mrs. Lori Kelly
Minister of Music	Mrs. Sharon Veitch
Mary's Kitchen Executive D	lirector Mr. Jim Godfrey
Director of Children's Mini	
	Mrs. Shelly L. Yarbrough

From the Senior Warden

Dear Members of St. Mary's,

It's hard to believe that we are finishing our church year and beginning a new one. Boy!!! This year has flown by. And what an exciting and event filled year it has been at St. Mary's. We were so fortunate to have Mother Judith as our interim. She and Father Tom made a great team during this year of transition and both were very instrumental in contributing to the success of our changes in our office staff and the hiring of our new Parish Administrator, Lori Kelly, and Executive Director for Mary's Kitchen, Jim Godfrey. Thanks to all who joined in our October Sunday appreciation day for Mother Judith and David, wishing success in Hillsborough.

Your Search Committee has worked so hard since its formation and continues to perform its duties in a diligent and enthusiastic manner. I know that we all are looking forward to the completion of the committee's task, their recommendation to the Vestry, and the calling of our new Rector. Please keep the committee and our entire parish in your prayers. When you see a committee member, say "thank you."

Finally, I hope that you are planning to be in church on December 10 for our ANNUAL PARISH MEETING following our main service. At that time, you will hear updates on various ministries of the parish, vote for the next class of 4 Vestry members, and appoint 3 delegates to represent St. Mary's at the next Diocesan Convention (February 8-10 in New Bern, NC). If you are interested in serving as a delegate, to Convention, contact Lori Kelly in the church office by December 5th. Candidates for the next Vestry class, are Jess Edwards, Gerry Fox, Whitney Grady, Dirk Griffith, Jo Parrott, Jim Purnell, & Harry Wooten. A short biography and photo of each is found on pages 5-6. The Vestry, Wardens, & clergy are grateful for these members who are willing to serve Christ and this church!

Looking forward to a wonderful Advent Season with all of you!

P.C. Barwick, Jr



Flowers for Christmas

At the Christmas liturgies, the altars and chancel are decorated with a sea of poinsettias in celebration of Christ's birth and

given in memory or honor of loved ones.

If you would like to remember a loved one or offer flowers in thanksgiving for someone, please contact the church office. Special offering envelopes may also be found on the Narthex tables. Checks should be made out to St. Mary's Church. **Monday, December 18th is the deadline** to ensure that names will appear in the Christmas bulletin.

A Word of Thanks from Mo. Judith

Dear People and Staff of St. Mary's,

Oh, the depth of your kindness and generosity absolutely overwhelm David and me! Your substantial financial gifts will help us greatly as we move to our new home in Hillsborough. That was unexpected and is so greatly appreciated. And I will forever cherish the beautiful Marian blue stole and think of you every time I wear it. The prayer shawl has kept me warm in the mountain chill and gives me great joy as I remember my friends in the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Their loving hearts and hands have meant so much to me over the past year. David and I also thank you so much for all of your expressions of appreciation and love. During my time in the mountains, I have read your reading. Thank you so much!

My "last" Sunday was so very special and I am deeply

grateful to Father Tom, Sharon Veitch, the Choir, the Acolytes and everyone who had a part in our worship that day. And, I also thank Anne Lindley and all the Episcopal Church Women for the beautiful ~ and delicious! reception following our worship.

our excellent parish administrator, Lori Kelly. Even in the short time she has been with St. Mary's, her kindness, energy and amazing organizational skills have blessed me and blessed the parish abundantly. And what a joy to have Jim Godfrey heading up Mary's Kitchen! Already this important ministry is growing and becoming more visible and valued in the Kinston community. My thanks also goes to LaTonya Smith and Linda Johnson who preceded Lori. I have been very, very blessed by such a wonderfully competent staff.

My heart truly overflows with gratitude! Thanks to all of you who have fed us and laughed with us and shared your lives with us. For every prayer, every kindness, every thoughtful act of cards and notes over and over and am touched with every love and support, we thank you. Saying goodbye is very difficult, but the bonds of love will always remain no matter the distance between us.

> "Therefore. my beloved. be steadfast. immovable. always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." I Corinthians 15:58

My new position is as interim rector of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Hillsborough, NC. David and I hope that you will come visit us there—their rectory is on St. Mary's Road (no kidding)! And, in this technological age, keeping in

In the midst of preparing for Mary's Market, I especially touch is easier than ever; so, please do let us hear from you. appreciate this special effort.

truly are making a difference in the life of St. Mary's.

"Thank you" is very inadequate for the gratitude that I feel for Father Tom. His many gifts and devotion to Christ and to this such a year filled with faith, hope and love. May the God who parish have blessed me in more ways that I could ever name. I will forever thank God for such a capable partner in ministry.

I am also deeply grateful to the staff of St. Mary's. It has been such a joy and privilege to work (and sing!) with Sharon Veitch. With grace and much talent, she musically lifts our hearts to those places where angels sing. My gratitude is also extended to . Judith

I pray that you will experience this "in-between" time as a It has been a special joy working with your Senior Warden, gift that will offer you the opportunity to grow in faith and P.C. Barwick, over the past year and I am so grateful for his discipleship as you assume ever greater responsibility and step wisdom, guidance, humor and deep devotion to Christ and to St. up into increased service for the sake of the Lord Jesus. Your Mary's. I know that during this "in-between" time, you are in the clergy cannot do this work of ministry for you. We can pray, good and capable hands of an excellent leader. Likewise, I so lead, organize, counsel, encourage and so on, but we cannot do appreciate the knowledge, experience and faith of your Junior the work of ministry for you. The success of the Jesus movement Warden, Walter Poole. Along with your Vestry, Walter made at St. Mary's doesn't depend on your next rector; it depends upon the impossible possible this year. Thank you so much! A deep each and every one of you. So, as St. Paul admonishes, "may you and heartfelt "thank you" also goes to the Vestry—both last be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the year's Vestry and this year's Vestry. Interim times challenge Lord." And, as you work and worship, please know that "you do vestries in special ways and you rose to those challenges and not work in vain." The Lord indeed will continue the good work that he has begun in you.

> From the very depths of my heart, I thank you, St. Mary's, for created us grant you vital and vibrant life; may the God who is redeeming you grant you joy in believing; and, may the God who sustains us grant you peace both now and every more.

Much love to each one of you,

Worship & Boar's Head Festival News

The Boar's Head and Pule Log Festival 2018

We will hold our 29th Annual Boar's Head and Yule Log festival on Sunday, January 7th at our traditional 3:00 p.m.



The Boar's Head and Pule Log Festival Rehearsal Dates

and 5:00 p.m. times. A banquet will follow the 5:00 p.m. performance. Tickets for the banquet are \$30 per person. Tickets are on sale now! Tickets may be purchased in the church office or <u>online via the church website</u>.

Costume Fittings

We encourage everyone to see Marion Classen & Vicki Barker in the Boar's Head closet to be fitted for your costume, especially if you have a new role or are still growing!. Upcoming costume fitting dates and times are: Wednesday, November 29th from 3:00 p.m. ~ 7:30 p.m. Sunday, December 3rd from 11:30 a.m. ~ 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 13th from 3:00 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

New Choir Rehearsal Time



The choir of St. Mary's has moved its regular weekly rehearsal time to Tuesdays at 5:30pm. Light refreshments are available at the

beginning of rehearsals. Come make a JOYFUL sound to our Lord with this wonderful group. All are welcome, regardless of singing experience!



Caroling for Christmas

An afternoon of Christmas caroling is planned for Sunday, December 17th.

We'll meet at the church in Moseley Hall at 4:00 pm, before venturing out to spread good news and cheer to the homebound members of our community. Wednesday, January 3 - 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Full Cast Walk-Through Thursday, January 4 - 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Saturday, January 6 - 8:00 a.m. – Sign In and Costumes 9:00 a.m. - Mandatory Full Dress Rehearsal Sunday, January 7 - 2:00 p.m. Sign In and Costumes 3:00 & 5:00 p.m. - The Festival Begins <u>Please refer to the Facebook page "Boar's Head 2018 Cast Info" for updates.</u>

Lector Training

Worshipers at St. Mary's have an encounter with the Living Word of God in many ways on Sunday mornings. Hearing God's Word read aloud is an incredibly important ministry of the church. Members of the parish who sense a call to read aloud in the liturgies are called Lectors. There will be a training/refresher for all Lectors on Sundays, Dec 17 and 31 after the 10.30am liturgy. All current and prospective Lectors should make every effort to attend one of these meetings.



St. Mary's will celebrate the First Sunday in the Christmas Season with Lessons and Carols during the 10:30 a.m. liturgy on Sunday, December 31.

Vestry Nominations



Jess Edwards has been a member of St. Mary's since 2013. He serves as an Usher on Sunday morning and as a Beefeater in the Boars Head Festival. Jess and his wife, Dacie, were married at St Mary's in 2014 and they serve as Greeters on Sunday mornings. They have a daughter, Leah Rose Edwards (15 months), and a Goldendoodle named Wembley. Jess is the Owner of ERA Kinston Realty Group and Eastern Outdoor Development, Inc. an outdoor advertising company. He graduated from Arendell Parrott Academy and then went on to NC State University to receive a BA of Economics in 2009. Jess enjoys going for walks with his family and spending time on the golf course.



Gerry Fox has been a member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church since his marriage to Susan Fox in 1976. The Foxes have two children – Tracy and Marty, and have six grandchildren. Gerry was born in Kinston. He graduated from East Carolina University with a Masters in Mathematics. He worked 34 years at Lenoir Community College and retired in 2006. Since then, Gerry has enjoyed helping around the Church – installing new computers, being an Usher, helping with the Bell Ringer, attending the Men's Prayer Breakfast, cooking with the 4th Sunday Breakfast Team, being a member of the Communications Committee, and helping the ECW in providing the Cherished Member Luncheon. He also was a Beefeater in the Boar's Head Festival for 25 years. He is also a active tennis player and biker and really enjoys retirement.



Whitney Grady has served St. Mary's church for years as a Sunday School teacher, as the former owner and director of St. Mary's Nursery School, and as a wedding director. She has enjoyed helping with Souls for Soles, the Cookie Walk, and Mary's Market. You may have seen her calling out Bingo at Wednesday night family nights or as a manor lady in the annual Boar's Head festival.

Her two children, Thomas and Eliza, serve as acolytes and her husband, James "Punk" Grady, ushers. Her entire family has enjoyed years as a part of the St. Mary's church family: from baptism to St. Cecilia's choir, from the Boar's Head Festival to caroling with the church, and now spreading literacy locally through the Little Free Library that is on the Rhem St side of the church yard. St. Mary's holds a special place in the hearts of the Grady family.



Dirk Griffith has been the Executive Director of the Lenoir Hospital Foundation since April 2011. Prior to holding this position at UNC Lenoir Health Care in Kinston, North Carolina, he had 17 years of fundraising and friend-raising experience in the development office of his alma mater, St. Mary's College of Maryland.

While living in St. Mary's County, Maryland, Dirk served on several boards including the Rotary Club of Leonardtown, Christmas in April, the St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce, and the vestry of St. Andrews Episcopal Church, including tenures as president of his Rotary Club and Christmas in April. Since moving to Kinston, Dirk has been a board member of the Rotary Club of Kinston, serving as Club president in 2014–2015.

Dirk is a regular worshipper at the 8am liturgy at St. Mary's and serves as a Eucharistic Minister. Dirk lives at 1703 Saint George Place with his daughter, Katie, and enjoys gardening, kayaking, and cycling.

Vestry Nominations



Jo Parrott, a native of Hendersonville, NC has lived in Kinston for almost 45 years and has been a member of St. Mary's for much of that time. She is the wife of Jimmy, mother of Hunter and Jake and mother-in-law to Phil, Gran of Hutton and Reaben. She holds a Masters' degree from ECU with degrees in Child and Family and Marriage and Family Therapy. She retired from the Lenoir County Public Schools as Counseling Department Chair, Kinston High School. She has served as board member of the Arts Council.

Blessed by St. Mary's, Jo has been an active Eucharistic Minister & Visitor and Lay Reader. Her service to St. Mary's has included Vestry Member, Director of Religious Education, member and Chair of Altar Guild for many years, Sunday School teacher for children and adults, ECW member, Boar's Head participant, Wedding Director, and member of the Search Committee for the Rev. Michael Singer and the current Rector Search Committee.

She is also a member of the EFM bible study group, the parish Prayer Shawl ministry, and enjoys the fellowship of Wednesday night suppers. Jo has served as parish Diocesan Convention delegate for many years.

Jo's ministry extends to the diocese as well, having served at many levels, including President of the Standing Committee, Executive Council, Commission on Ministry, Chair of The Trinity Center Board of Managers, Chair of the Transition Committee for the Election of the VIII Bishop (Skirving) and delegate to General Convention (2000).

She says "My service to the diocese is a gift that originates in my love for St. Mary's and the Episcopal Church. It is my humble pleasure to take the heart of St. Mary's with me as I serve in whatever ministries the Lord calls me to. I am touched daily by this parish family and I am honored to serve St. Mary's in its many opportunities for ministry. I am thankful for the opportunity to be nominated to serve St. Mary's on its Vestry during this most important time of transition. I am blessed to be a lover of my family, dear friends, spaniels, this parish family, this diocese and its people."



Jim Purnell was born in Charlotte, NC and grew up attending Christ Church. Jim graduated from NC State University (2004) with a degree in Business Management. He then earned his law degree at NC Central University School of Law (2012). Followed by a Master of Laws in taxation from NY University School of Law (2013).

In 2013, Jim and his wife, Carrie Dale, moved to Kinston. Jim and Carrie Dale have two wonderful sons, Bo Purnell (3) and Yates Purnell (1). Jim is an attorney with White & Allen, P.A. His practice is concentrated in the areas of estate planning and administration, corporate law and tax planning.

In 2014, Jim and his family joined St. Mary's Episcopal Church. Since that time Jim has served as an Usher and a participant in the Boar's Head Festival. Jim enjoys being outdoors (be it at the beach, boating, fishing or hunting), playing tennis, and spending time with his family.



Harry Wooten has been a member of St. Mary's Episcopal Church for over 54 years. He participates and contributes to the church as an Usher and in The Boar's Head. He has served on the Vestry as Junior Warden and on the Search Committee. The love and commitment Harry has for St. Mary's began as a young child and continues to grow. Harry is a landscape contractor and has been in business for over 30 years. He married his wife, Crystal, in 1990, and they have three children, Reid, Lilli, and Ellie.

Christian Formation



The Path

The Diocese of East Carolina invites you to a day-long vocational discernment retreat called The Path at Trinity Center on January 6, 2018. This event is not restricted to people contemplating ordained ministry, but instead is designed for anyone who is trying to more fully discern where God is calling them in their vocation. <u>Visit</u> www.ecdio.org/the-path.html to learn more.



Calling all angels... shepherds, animals, and a few wise men too!

All children three years of age through the Fifth Grade are invited to join others of all ages to be a part of the Nativity Play, which will be part of the 5:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th. There are no lines to learn, just a willingness to share the Good News of Jesus' Birth! Children are encouraged to invite their friends who may want to participate too.

Rehearsal will be **Sunday, December 17, after the 10:30am liturgy** in the Church. Please contact Shelly Yarbrough with any guestions.

A community performance of Handel's *Messiah* will be on Monday, December 18th, at 7:00 p.m.



This community performance will take place at First Presbyterian Church, 2101 N. Herritage Street, Kinston.

A donation of \$7 is requested to attend. For more information, contact John O'Brian (252-367-1892) johnobrien@suddenlink.net

Youth Community News

Mark Your Calendars!!

Sunday, December 3; 9:15 am Advent Workshop in Moseley Hall

Wednesday, December 6 STUDY. PRAY. EAT. 3:00pm Homework Hangout 5:30pm EYC!!! 6:15pm Parish Family Night

Saturday, December 9; 11am-1pm Cookie Walk in Moseley Hall!

Sunday, December 10

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

10:30am Worship followed by Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday, December 13

Same as Dec 6 w/ EYC Supper!

Sunday, December 17

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

10:30am Worship

...Then, caroling around town. Meet in Moseley Hall @ 4pm

Wednesday, December 20

3:00pm Homework Hangout 5:30pm EYC w/ Wed. Worship 6:15pm Parish Family Night

EYC will not meet on Sundays, Dec 24 & 31 or Wednesday, Dec 27... Merry Christmas!!

> Please come and bring a friend!!!!

A Couple Recent EYC Highlights!

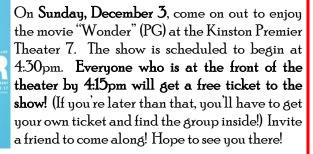


Shown above, 23 volunteers came together to serve at Mary's Kitchen on the day before Thanksgiving. Serving this day has been an EYC tradition for the last 5 years. What a joy it was to be together... and <u>the Free Press</u> even showed up to spread this Good News!



Pictured above is the group of EYC young people who gathered to carve pumpkins at the first ever EYC Pumpkin Carving Party. There were some VERY creative designs and a great time was had by all! Some of these pumpkins made an appearance at St. Mary's Trunk-or-Treat a couple days later where 15 spaces in the church parking lot were decorated and hosted for a wonderful neighborhood Trick-or-Treating experience!

EYC Movie Night!



Other news



CONGRATS!

The team from St. Mary's (Lee Albritton, Cyndi Rafferty, Diane Bowen, and Bruce Rafferty) finished second in the

Adult Spelling Bee, edged out by the team from the Beauty Box in a technical decision that essentially came down to the number of misses the teams had to buy their way out of. As a result of their success, \$200 was awarded to Northwest Elementary School, our Hand-In-Hand Partner School. CONGRATULATIONS to our *logophiles*.



Decorating for Christmas

Please come join the merry group of St. Mary's members who will be decorating the

church for Christmas. Do you have an eye for decorating? Or maybe you are simply looking for a way to contribute to the beauty of worship this Christmas? Please come to the church on Wednesday, December 20th, at 9:30 a.m., or swing by later in the morning. Thank you!



THE 6th ANNUAL COOKIE WALK December 9; 11am ~ 1pm in Moseley Hall

Come to Moseley Hall and stock up on beautiful and delicious holiday treats. Decorated boxes will be available to fill up with cookies. They are then sold by the pound and all proceeds go towards Educational Outreach ministries of St. Mary's, like our Hand in Hand partnership with Northwest Elementary School and scholarships for children in the Dominican Republic. A lunch will also be served, so come hungry!

Church members are asked to bake [heavy!] cookies to bring for the sale and invite all your friends! You can bring your cookies to church on Sunday, December 3rd (if they can be frozen) or you may drop your cookies during office hours with church staff beginning Monday, December 4th-Thursday, December 7th (if they can be frozen). Beginning Friday, December 8th, you may drop your cookies off with a Cookie Walk volunteer in the parlor from 9AM-7PM. Thank you!



Pictured at left is Adrian King accompanying the children of St. Mary's Nursery School (SMNS) at their Thanksgiving program. Adrian is one of several members of St. Mary's Church who are ministering with SMNS. Other activities

have included hosting an open house and reading with the children. Please speak with Sarah Warner and Laury Sargeant if you would like to be a part of this ministry. Thank you Adrian and all!

From the Parish Register

Baptism:	Ruby Jean Bragg
	November 5, 2017
Death:	Benjamin Rives Baker
	November 10, 2017
	Bettie Jones Saville
	November 25, 2017

American St. Mary's will host a Blood Drive on Tuesday, December 28 from 2–6pm in Moseley Hall. To **Red Cross** make your time go more smoothly, <u>make a reservation at the Red Cross website</u>!

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



3RD WEDNESDAY WORSHIP!

More than 20 worshipers have come to our 3rd Wednesday liturgies this Fall. The next will be on December 20 at 5:45pm, before our Wednesday Night Supper. The service will include prayers for healing and special musical offerings by members of the congregation. This liturgy has a distinctive feel to it that you may truly enjoy. Come and see!



Year end contributions

All contributions to St. Mary's Church for 2017 must be received in the church office no later than 12:00 p.m. on Friday, December 29, 2017 to be credited for 2017. Statements will be mailed in mid January.

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays 8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist: Rite I 9:15 a.m. – Christian Formation for all ages 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

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Jr.			
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Senior Warden – P.C. Barwick, Jr.			
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Clerk – Becky C. Darst

Treasurer – D. Stuart Lindley