



April 2023

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

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com

Easter
AT ST. MARY'S

hope is alive

On Easter Sunday, April 9th, the Feast of the Resurrection of our Lord will begin with the Holy Eucharist in the Chapel at 8am. At the 10:30am service, we will celebrate the Festal Holy Eucharist with full choir, flowering of the cross, and all the glory of Easter Morning! St. Mary's will welcome the Right Reverend Robert Skirving, Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina, who will preach and celebrate the Eucharist at both services. We will welcome into the Episcopal Church candidates for confirmation during the 10:30am service as well.



From the Rector

An Invitation to the Rite of Reconciliation:

All may, some should, none must.

"Reconciliation of a Penitent, or Penance, is the rite in which those who repent of their sins may confess them to God in the presence of a priest, and receive the assurance of pardon and the grace of absolution." ~ The Book of Common Prayer, p. 859

The Rite of Reconciliation, also known as Confession or Penance, is a sacramental rite in the Episcopal Church. In the Episcopal Church, penance is not mandatory before receiving Eucharist as it is in some traditions, though a corporate confession of sin is part of every service of the Holy Eucharist, with an absolution of sin following.

There may be times in our lives when we feel the need to more fully experience God's grace and forgiveness. At these times a private confession to a priest can be helpful. God already knows our sins even before we speak them, but it is a helpful practice for our spiritual formation to spend time contemplating our sins and confessing them in the presence of others as it helps us to have greater clarity about our thoughts and actions. The season of Lent, which is a penitential season, is a good time to do this. Anything disclosed to a priest in the context of confession is confidential. Father Tom is available to hear confessions by appointment.



Safe Harbor

Recently, I traveled to Depoe Bay, Oregon for Coast Guard Reserve duty. It was part of my final work trip before my retirement from the Coast Guard at the end of May. I can't verify this, but it has been claimed that Depoe Bay is the smallest natural and navigable harbor in the world. What I can verify is that Depoe Bay is breathtaking in its natural beauty and that the harbor truly is a haven of refuge and safety from the often-savage conditions of the Pacific Ocean on the other side of the breakers. I marveled at images around town of small boats traversing the narrow 50-ft wide channel, being covered with the dangerous waters. It makes a lot of sense for there to be a Coast Guard Station in Depoe Bay! And it is also no wonder that the concept of a harbor has been a meaningful illustration to convey the life of faith in Christ Jesus.

Friends, we are about to enter into Holy Week. In Holy Week, we are invited to walk the way of the cross, and find in it that we are not alone in our suffering. And not only that, but Easter reminds us that the suffering of this world will not be the final experience of God's creation. Out of perfect love, Jesus has walked the worst path of pain and has promised that redemption and total healing is what God offers as a gift to all. I wonder if the image of Depoe Bay might be helpful to you today as you consider the stormy conditions around and within. Jesus invites us to come to Him and to take refuge. The Way that He walks is not easy, but it leads to fullness of life, and there is peace to be found in that promise. I pray that this Holy Week & Easter season will be helpful in your hearing and receiving this Good News. I am grateful to God for the privilege of walking The Way with you.

Tom +

Vestry Meeting Highlights



Clergy Sabbatical This Summer

Just as God gave the sabbath commandment for rest and spiritual growth, the church has a tradition of granting clergy sabbaticals: *limited periods when a pastor steps away from the roles and responsibilities of parish life for physical and spiritual rest and renewal.* For several months, St. Mary's vestry and Fr. Tom have been at work on sabbatical plans for this summer. More details will be shared in the coming weeks, but in the meantime please hold in your prayers the development of these plans as we work to make this a JOYful

time of revitalization. Additionally, at its March meeting, the Vestry approved the allocation of some capital reserve funds to proceed with plans to paint the 2nd floor classrooms for the first time in more than 30 years, and begin an improvement to church door security and the installation of a fire alarm system.

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. Jim Purnell
Parish Administrator	Mrs. Lori Kelly
Family Ministry Coordinator	Mrs. Liz Hengst
Organist & Choirmaster	Dr. Sharon Veitch
Communications Director	Mrs. Sherry Tanner
Mary's Kitchen Executive Director	Mr. Jim Godfrey

News at St. Mary's



From the Parish Registry

Burials

Katherine "Kitti" Michalowicz
March 21, 2023



Transfers In

Gayle Smith
February 23, 2023 from St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Goldsboro

Ann and Celia Ann Rouse
March 17, 2023 from Queen Street Methodist Church, Kinston

Transfers Out

Ann Ruth Hodges
March 17, 2023 to Edenton Baptist Church, Edenton



Congratulations for the birth of Ellerbe Bennett Franklin, born on March 1 to Harper (Ballard) & Kaeden Franklin in Loretto, TN. Ellerbe joins big sister, Piper, and big brother, Aerosyn, as well. Mother and baby, are healthy, and the whole family rejoices for this new season of life! Please join in lifting prayers of thanksgiving as they

begin this new season of life together!

O God, you have taught us through your blessed Son that whoever receives a little child in the name of Christ receives Christ himself: We give thanks for the blessing you have bestowed upon this family in giving them a child. Confirm their joy by a lively sense of your presence with them, and give them calm strength and patient wisdom as they seek to bring this child to love all that is true and noble, just and pure, lovable and gracious, excellent and admirable, following the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.



Become a Habitat homeowner!

Applications for Lenoir County accepted through **May 12.**

To apply visit habitatgoldsboro.org

Questions? Call 919-736-9592 x1 or email office@habitatgoldsboro.org.



www.habitatgoldsboro.org has announced they have opened the application process for two qualified homeowners to partner with to build in Lenoir County in 2024. Applications can be picked up and dropped off in person at Habitat Goldsboro-Wayne's office (2719 Graves Dr, Suite 3), as well as at St. Mary's Episcopal Church (800 Rountree Street) and First Presbyterian Church (2101 N. Heritage Street). Applications can also be accessed online at <https://hfhgw.my.site.com/s/homeownerapplication>.



The Parish Office will be closed on **Good Friday, April 7th, 2023.** The staff of St. Mary's pray you have a blessed Holy Week and Easter.

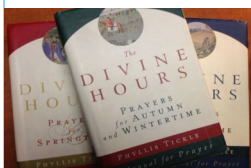
News at St. Mary's



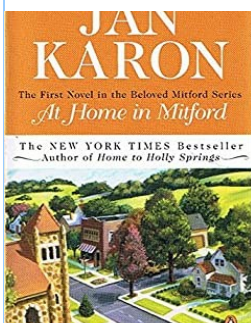
In Our Bookstore

A few years ago, Margaret and I were walking in downtown New Bern, as we occasionally do. Besides walking in various shops, we noted that the Episcopal Church had a yard sale in progress. I exited with one book, called **"The Divine Hours"** by Phyllis Tickle, which I bought for \$1. I found it to be a great devotional book with scripture and prayers for each day of the year, following closely the Christian Year. It contained morning, midday and afternoon prayer and was written for people on the go. Most of it is scripture with the prayers being taken from our BCP as well as older prayer books and even a few from foreign prayer books. I bought volume II from another book sale, and I got the third from the Amazon Marketplace.

Why do I mention this? Because all three volumes are squirreled away in our Bookstore!



This is a treasure you should check out before someone else gets it. It was put together by one of the great Episcopalian historians of our time, who died only a few years ago.
~ Randy Spaugh



Stop by the St. Mary's Book Store (across from Fr. Tom's office), open each Sunday from 11:30am-12:00pm, to find "The Divine Hours," as recommended by Randy Spaugh. Browse our shelves for seasonal selections, specific topics, bibles, prayer books, Christian fiction, greeting cards, children's books, and gift items. (*Sales are cash or check only.*) If you'd like to serve as a volunteer Book Store clerk, call or text Vicki Kennedy 252-560-5893.



Mary's Kitchen Food Drive & Quarterly Service Date

We offer thanksgivings for this valuable ministry and for those people who serve and are served. **As we approach our next Quarterly service date on Saturday, April 15th**, our parish has been asked to collect loaves of bread for the Kitchen. As before, donate as an individual, family, or as a ministry group (such as ECW, EYC, Men's Prayer Breakfast, Parish Staff, etc.). Please drop off your items to the church during business hours during the week of April 3rd-7th, or bring items to the morning liturgy on **Easter Sunday, April 9th**. Donations will be carried to the Kitchen that Monday, April 10th. The Vestry of St. Mary's is scheduled to serve on April 15th, so please contact Audra Haddad if you would like to volunteer for this date.



Yoga at St. Mary's

Bring your mats, water, and friends and join us **every Thursday at 8pm** in Moseley Hall for **free** yoga, led by long-time St. Mary's member & certified yoga instructor, Lee Albritton.

Blood Drive

+

**A BLOOD
DONOR
SAVED
MY
LIFE**

St. Mary's will host a Blood Drive on **Monday, April 24th**, from **noon-4pm** in Moseley Hall. Walk-ins are always welcome, but reservations (www.redcrossblood.org or 1-800-REDCROSS) will make your time go more smoothly.



Easter Lilies on the Altar

Contributions in honor or memory of someone will be used by the Altar Guild to decorate the church for Easter before the flowers are shared with members of our community as a sign of God's love. You may make a [contribution online \(indicating the special purpose in the memo section\)](#) or send a check by mail. Please email Sherry Tanner at stanner@stmaryskinston.com for any questions. To ensure your honorarium or memoriam is included in the Easter Sunday bulletin, please submit your information by **4:30pm on Tuesday, April 4th**.

Worship

HOLY WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

MONDAY 5:30pm - Teaching Eucharist	MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:30pm - Eucharist w/Foot Washing & Stripping of Altar followed by vigil at Altar of Repose	GOOD FRIDAY Noon - Good Friday Liturgy w/ Eucharist from Reserved Sacrament 5:45pm - Way of the Cross
TUESDAY 7:30pm - Liturgy of the Word		
WEDNESDAY 6:30pm - Parish Supper 7:30pm - Tenebrae with music from Taizé		HOLY SATURDAY 7:30pm - The Great Vigil of Easter with Holy Baptism

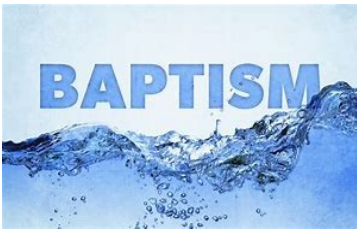


Good Friday Offering

For 101 years, friends and supporters from all over the world have generously shared their love, compassion, and financial gifts to support the ministry of the Anglican Communion Province of Jerusalem and the Middle East. Presiding Bishop Michael Curry recently spoke on continued support of the Good Friday Offering that focuses on health care, education, and pastoral care to meet the needs of all people in a wide variety of circumstances throughout the region. The Good Friday Offering affirms the dignity of the poor, the war-torn, and those in desperate need as God's ministry is done. Scan the QR code above to read more and find the various ways to donate to this valuable mission.

The Kinston-Lenoir County Association of Congregations Holy Week Worship & Lunch Noon Daily

<p>Monday, April 3 Queen Street United Methodist Church 500 North Queen Street Pastor Hilda Jones, Preaching Jones Shekinah Church of Deliverance</p>	<p>Tuesday, April 4 St. Mary's Episcopal Church 800 Roundtree Street Pastor Khayyam Shepherd, Preaching Revive and Restore Church</p>
<p>Wednesday, April 5 First Presbyterian Church 2101 North Heritage Street Rev. Tom Warren, Preaching St. Mary's Episcopal Church</p>	<p>Thursday, April 6 Golden Progress Community Center 524 South Queen Street Rev. Creighton Alexander, Preaching Queen Street United Methodist Church</p>



We are thrilled to have several baptisms planned for April! During the Great Easter Vigil on **Saturday of Holy Week, April 8th**, the baptism is planned for Jayden Wright, nephew of Judy Johnson.

During the 10:30am liturgy on **Sunday, April 16th**, baptisms are planned for Amare and Julian Walker, sons of Summer Jackson and grandsons of Barbara and Richard Crumbacker. Then, at the 10:30am liturgy on **Sunday, April 23rd**, baptisms are planned for Jackson and Preston Hazelgrove, sons of Tori and Wes Hazelgrove. Proud grandparents are Kim and Doug Hazelgrove, Vicky and Tim Barnes, and Bob Bright. We will renew our Baptismal vows at both in-person services on those days as well. Please keep Jayden, Amare, Julian, Jackson, and Preston, their baptismal sponsors, and all of these families in your prayers as we welcome the newest members of the household of God!

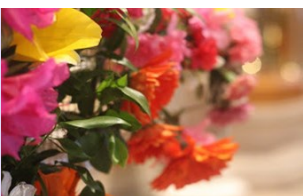
One LORD,
One Faith,
One BAPTISM.
Ephesians 4:5

Feast Day Eucharists

April 2023
Noon in the All Saints' Chapel

Saint Mark
the Evangelist
APRIL 25th

Flowering of the Cross Easter Morning 10:30am Liturgy



Please bring greenery and flowers from your yard, garden, or even from the store to adorn the Cross on Easter Sunday.

All are welcome to participate!

Adult Christian Formation

Who Are the Saints?

Christian Formation will continue to meet at 9:30am. on Easter Sunday and the first Sunday after Easter. Then, **beginning Sunday, April 23rd**, we will begin a new series that invites us to consider the question, who are the Saints? The saints witness to us what the life of faith looks like, lived out in real time, and they challenge us to live out our own discipleship more fully and fearlessly. We hope you will join us as we study the lives of some of the saints who have gone before us. Adult Christian Formation **meets each Sunday at 9:30am in Moseley Hall!**

unanswered prayer

the prayer course II

Following the success of the first Prayer Course, these five sessions go deeper, provoking honest conversation around the hardest and most personal questions we all ask about prayer. The Prayer Course II: Unanswered Prayer will take place on Wednesday nights beginning April 19. Supper begins at 6pm.

ECW



Lenten Almsgiving Live Lent with Love & Generosity

This year our parish
O u t r e a c h

Committee has selected to support the Women's House of Hope in Kinston for our Lenten Almsgiving. The House of Hope is an organization that provides transitional housing and needs for women who are in recovery. **Place your offerings in the basket in Moseley Hall on Wednesday evenings or in the Narthex on Sunday mornings, or deliver them to the church office during business hours.** Checks may be made out to St. Mary's Episcopal Church, memo line: Lenten Almsgiving/House of Hope. God bless you!

Join us for a
Mother's Day Movie
Sunday Evening, May 14th @ 5:30pm



Featuring the "Berry" Best Breakfast Menu

Baked Strawberry and Cream Stuffed Croissant French Toast
Ham and Cheese Quiche
Apple Wood Bacon
Berry Fruit Salad

Berry Fruit Mimosa Cocktails and Mocktails
\$20 tickets may be purchased in the upcoming months
by calling the St. Mary's Church office @ 252-523-6146

Bring Your Own Blanket/Chairs

In Other News

Please note: There will *not* be a Cherished Members' Luncheon in April. Be sure to mark your calendars for **Wednesday, May 3rd at 11:30am** for the next gathering.



With Thanks

Thank you for supporting African Team Ministries! We were able to raise close to \$900 which will be used to purchase drip irrigation kits.

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



EYC Coffee

Thursdays in April ~ 4-5:30pm
Join us at Middle Grounds
for discussion and fellowship.

Wednesday Dinner and Activities

Wednesdays in April ~ 6-7:30pm
Join us for supper and lessons/activities.
**Please Note: Wednesday Dinner & Activities
will NOT meet on April 12th.**

EYC Lent Dinner

Sunday, April 2nd ~ 6-8pm
Enjoy dinner and fellowship as we talk
about our Lent experience and upcoming Easter.

EYC Holy Week Tuesday Service

Tuesday, April 4th ~ Arrive at 6:30pm
All EYC involved in leading this service need
to arrive by 6:30pm for preparations and set-up.

EYC Movie at the Theater

Tuesday, April 11th ~ Time/Movie TBA

EYC at Mary's Kitchen

Friday, April 14th ~ 8:30-11:30am
Join us to cook, serve, and clean!

EYC Baseball Night at the DEWD Game

Thursday, April 20th ~ 6:30-9:30pm
Limited seats available. Contact Liz to reserve your spot.

New Beginnings

Friday, April 21-Sunday, April 23
There is still time to sign up!

Join Youth Event at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday, April 23rd ~ 5-7pm
All EYC are invited to join us for a great night with our
youth group friends at First Presbyterian!



Through Saturday, April 8th, please drop off donations of candy and plastic Easter eggs to the church for our annual Easter Morning Egg Hunt! Plastic eggs may be prefilled, or we will fill them with candy that is donated. **On Easter Sunday, April 9th, EYC Students will help hide the eggs for the hunt.** All children through 5th grade may participate in the hunt and are encouraged to bring a basket! to Contact Liz for questions.

FROM THE DESK OF LIZ ~

Save the Date



Community Vacation Bible School

June 26 - 29, 2023

5:00-7:30 PM

PreK-5th

Hosted @ First Presbyterian Church



Pre-registration Opening Soon

Adults and High School Youth Wanted for Leadership and Assistance



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF KINSTON

St. Mary's
Episcopal Church
Kinston, North Carolina

Hi St. Mary's Family!

VBS will be here sooner than you think. This year VBS will be hosted at First Presbyterian Church (Kinston, NC). Monday June 26 - Thursday June 29 from 5-7:30pm (dinner will be served). All 4 year olds - 5th graders are invited to register using the link below and join us for a great time with "the HERO hotline".

Register today at:

<https://form.jotform.com/230824245283151>

We are also looking for volunteers!

Teens - If you are 6th grade or above, available on those dates, and would like to help shepherd a group of little kids, assist with crafts, tell stories, play games, or help cook, please let me know.

Adults - If you are available and would like to help lead one of our stations (games, crafts, story, music) or be a group leader, please let me know. Also, if you are available to help cook and serve dinner one of the nights, please let me know!

More information will come as we get closer. Contact me if you have any questions.

IN PEACE, LIZ



Sunday, April 2nd
12:00 pm

There will be training for anyone interested in becoming an acolyte or for those wishing for a refresher course.

Contact Liz with questions.

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

April 2023 Serving Schedules



April 2: Team 2
April 9: Team 3
April 16: Team 4
April 23: Team 1
April 30: Team 2



Breakfast Crew



April 2: Mark Moore's Team
(Palm Sunday)
 April 9: Punk Grady's Team
(Easter Sunday with Bishop & Confirmation)
 April 16: Mike Haddad's Team
 April 23: Sandy Shimer's Team
 April 30: Amistead Mauck's Team

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 on [Facebook](#))

TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, & THURSDAYS

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

WEDNESDAYS

7:00 am - Men's Prayer & Bible Group in Moseley Hall
 6:00 pm - Wednesday Evening Meal & Program (note that there will not be Wednesday evening gatherings on April 12)



Available Part-time Positions: Church Nursery Staff

- Experience working with/caring for children, ages birth-5th grade
- CPR certified but training can be provided
- Hours: Sundays 9am-noon, Wednesdays 5:30-8pm, & Seasonal events

Contact Liz Hengst (Family Ministry Coordinator) at lhengst@stmaryskinston.com with your resume or letter of experience.

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2023	2024	2025
Skip Greene	Clifton Carey	Andrew Duppstadt
Audra Haddad	Jess Edwards	Whitney Grady
Vicki Kennedy	Jo Parrott	Anne Lindley
Pam Mazingo	Ginny Wade	Jim Purnell
Senior Warden – Vicki Kennedy	Clerk – Audra Haddad	Treasurer – Corey Fader
Junior Warden – Jim Purnell		