



May 2023

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

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com

Pentecost Sunday
May 28, 2023



From the Rector

Dear Partners in the Gospel of Christ at St. Mary's,

It is with great appreciation that I have worked with our vestry, staff, and other parish leaders over this last year to plan and prepare for the time of clergy sabbatical that is to begin at the end of this month. Along with some vacation time, I will be away from the church from May 29 until September 5. I am writing to share some of these plans with you all.

First, it is important to me that I am clear that the purpose of this sabbatical is not to search for another call to serve in ministry elsewhere. I continue to cherish the season of ministry to which God has called us to live and serve together here at St. Mary's! Additionally, I am not burned out, though admittedly, I am tired and welcome this opportunity to rest.

The purpose of a sabbatical is exactly that: rest and renewal in Christ. One definition of sabbatical that I have found helpful is that it is a string of *consecutive sabbath days during which one fasts from work in order to rest in God's work and learn to live in Jesus' easy yoke every day*. In the biblical understanding of sabbath, it is a time of resting and renewing in God, from which our work eventually comes forth. So, sabbath isn't a day to recover from overworking. It is meant to be a time for us to rest, first, in God's presence so that we can then do our work and live in the overflow of God's love for us.


The vision that I have sensed that God has given me for this sabbatical includes days for healing, celebration, prayer, play, worship, intentional nurturing of family relationships, and enjoying gifts of creation (especially music & food). These pursuits will help me be forward-thinking so that I can live well into the next chapter of our season of ministry. I look forward to sharing more details about the plans for me and my family at the Wednesday Night Supper on **Wednesday evening, May 24**, but part of these plans include time to travel together (including a road trip to Seattle for Holly, the boys, & me) in order to be truly present with each other and observe together the gifts of God's creation and cultures around us. I will also be taking an extended time to be 'in residence' away from Kinston for a particular focus on prayer, immersion in Scripture, study, spiritual direction, and other forms of self-care.

Other clergy and friends have advised me about the difficulty of stepping away completely from priestly and pastoral duties and have emphasized that in order to have a true sabbatical, it's very necessary that I disengage from regular communication with the parish (not an easy task for me!). So to prevent myself from checking email or phone messages, I will change my email password to some random series of numbers and letters that I won't be able to remember, write it down on an index card, and give it to Holly. She will give it back to me shortly before my return to my Church Study.

In the meantime, plans and procedures have been carefully put together for the continuance of the church's vibrant mission and ministry. Your vestry committee leaders, other ministry leaders, and the parish staff are well equipped for this time, but will benefit greatly from your supportive patience and grace as they exercise new forms of leadership. We have also worked hard to bring together a varied and capable group of visiting ministers as well as members of St. Mary's to preach and lead our Sunday liturgies - the full schedule will be shared soon! The Rev. Canon Mollie Roberts and our own Fr. Greg Smith will be on-call clergy for pastoral situations that may arise. And our Senior Warden, Vicki Kennedy, will be the primary point of contact for any outstanding parish leadership needs during this time.

As we look ahead to the beginning of this sabbatical time, please also mark your calendars for the Adult Forum hour on **Pentecost Sunday morning, May 28** during which we will be discussing worship, fellowship, and other ministry plans here at St. Mary's throughout the summertime. Then, later that morning, **our 10:30am liturgy** will include a time of commissioning of our vestry and other leaders for this sabbatical, as well as prayers for us all during this time.

May God continue to bless and work powerfully through the people of St. Mary's Church.

Yours in Christ, 

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

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 Register



Confirmations

April 9, 2023

Michael "Brent" Campbell

Corey Patrick Fader

Megan Hunsucker Fader

Everette Michel Haddad

Joseph "Joe" Matthew Hale (Joined St. Mary's Church)

Madison "Madi" Elizabeth Hengst

Marissa Lanier Howard

Katherine "Kathy" Holt Hyler

Judith "Judy" Lynn Anderson Johnson

Winston Anthony McKissick

Rudolph "Dolph" Ivey Mintz, III

Heather Shaw Mintz

Bonnie Lee Smith (Joined St. Mary's Church)

Erin Joyce Stover

Jude Patrick Tanner

Levi Ethan Wentz

Baptisms

Jayden Anderson Wright ~ April 8, 2023

Amare Carmelo Walker ~ April 16, 2023

Julian Latrell Walker ~ April 16, 2023

Aaden Tyrell Atkinson ~ April 16, 2023

Kinley Elaine Miller ~ April 16, 2023

Jackson Martin Hazelgrove ~ April 23, 2023

Preston Douglas Hazelgrove ~ April 23, 2023

Transfer In

Blake Rouse ~ March 17, 2023

from Westminster United Methodist Church, Kinston



News at St. Mary's



MAY 5

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT FUNDRAISER

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
May 5 from 5:30 - 7:30 pm

EAT IN or TAKE OUT

All funds will support the construction of a pergola at the Shirley Herring Memorial Park, downtown Kinston across from Pearson Park.

QUESTIONS: PLEASE CALL EVERETTE 252-531-1782

please join us for

CHERISHED MEMBERS' LUNCHEON

Thursday, May 4th
11:30am in Moseley Hall

RSVP by calling the Parish Office



Save the Dates!



St. Mary's will enjoy a Night at the Ballpark this summer! Be on the lookout for information on a wonderful night of baseball and fellowship with your parish family at a Down East Wood Ducks game on **Tuesday, July 18th!**



This year's annual Block Party is planned for a cooler time of year and will be on **Sunday, October 1st!** Make plans now to join us for fellowship with the members and neighbors of St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

Stay tuned for updates!

BBQ FEST ON THE NEUSE



MAY 6TH, 2023

MARY'S KITCHEN
along with Servpro and Piggly Wiggly on McLewean St.

ENCOURAGE YOU TO DONATE:

BOTTLED WATER, CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP, VEGETABLE BEEF SOUP, INDIVIDUAL PACKS OF CHIPS AND COOKIES, NUMBER 10 CANS OF FRUIT (APPLES, PEACHES, PEARS, PINEAPPLES, MIXED FRUIT)

BRING 3 OR MORE OF THESE ITEMS TO OUR BOOTH BESIDE LOVICKS'S TO BE ENTERED INTO A RAFFLE FOR A \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE FROM PIGGLY WIGGLY ON MCLEWEAN ST.



The Parish Office will be closed on **Monday, May 29, 2023** in observance of Memorial Day. The staff of St. Mary's join you in honoring those who lost their lives in service of our nation.

Lemonade on the Lawn



One of the joys of our summertime gatherings is sharing light refreshments after church. Lemonade on the Lawn provides a relaxed, refreshing, time to catch up and share life together. **Beginning Sunday, June 4th, join us each Sunday immediately following the 10:30am liturgy** to share this special time together before the rest of the week begins.

Individuals or families are encouraged to join together to host the refreshments. Hosts are asked to provide lemonade and something light to eat. Paper products will be provided. The sign up sheet will be located

in the Narthex. **Sherry Tanner** will coordinate this ministry, and you may email her stanner@stmaryskinston.com with any questions.

Worship

Class of 
2023

CONGRATULATIONS to those who have been formed in the Christian faith at St. Mary's as they celebrate graduation milestones in their lives! In similar fashion to the previous classes (2020, 2021, and 2022), the Class of 2023 has displayed resiliency, steadfastness, courage, and hope during this third year of the pandemic. In contrast to their predecessors, the Class of 2023 also experienced the joy in the return of many things: class trips, proms, in-person events without restrictions, and mask-free school days. We celebrate all the ways God has blessed the Class of 2023 with their accomplishments as they graduate from high school and institutions of higher learning. Our community is strengthened by them, and we look forward to how God calls them in the days to come. Please join us on **Sunday, May 21st**, when we will honor our graduates during the 10:30am service.

ARENDELL PARROTT ACADEMY

Chloe Albritton ~ (North Carolina State University)
 Thomas Grady ~ (East Carolina University)
 Teal Herlong ~ (Savannah College of Arts and Design)

NORTH LENOIR HIGH SCHOOL

Isabel Rosa-Irizarry ~ (University of North Carolina in Wilmington)
 Jane Herring ~ (North Carolina State University)
 Brayden Tyndall ~ (Lenoir Community College)
 Brendan Tyndall ~ (Lenoir Community College)
 Morgan Wade ~ (North Carolina State University)

KINSTON HIGH SCHOOL

Ty Wentz ~ (Lenoir Community College)

EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE

Justin Shimer ~ Doctor of Medicine in Dentistry, May 5th

Weekly Wednesday Worship

Noon in the All Saints' Chapel

BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

Join us each Wednesday in the Chapel for a noonday service. These liturgies will usually be a celebration of the Holy Eucharist, but will on occasion be a service of Noonday Prayer from the Prayer Book. These liturgies will last about 30 minutes in order to accommodate lunch-break schedules. We hope that this time will be a blessing to you!

Pentecost is a Principle Feast Day of the church, celebrated on the seventh Sunday after Easter. This year, **Pentecost is May 28th.**



While there is an ancient Jewish holiday of the same name, for Christians, Pentecost commemorates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles and other followers of Jesus while they were in Jerusalem observing the Jewish custom. Because the Holy Spirit has inspired the spread of the Good News of Jesus to the world, Pentecost is often understood to be the birthday of the Church. Happy Birthday!!! On this day, the clergy wear **RED** vestments, and the altar will be adorned with red hangings. It is even customary for the people of the congregation to wear **RED** as well.

LORD, SEND OUT
 YOUR SPIRIT,
 AND RENEW THE
 FACE OF THE EARTH.

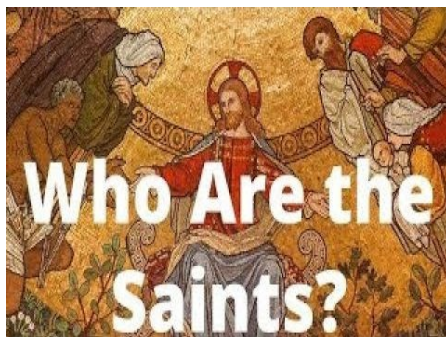
Christian Formation

unanswered prayer

the prayer course II

Wednesday Evenings

Join us each Wednesday at 6pm in Moseley as we continue The Prayer Course II: Unanswered Prayer. Begin your evening with fellowship over a shared meal followed by honest conversation around the hardest and most personal questions we all ask about prayer. Join us for a deeper study and practice of prayer. ALL are welcome!



Adult Christian Formation *WHO ARE THE SAINTS?*

Christian Formation continues its series: Who Are The Saints? Join us as we discuss the saints, how their lives of faith were lived in real time, and how 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!**

On Sunday May 28, the Adult Christian Formation discuss worship, fellowship, and other ministry plans during this summer's upcoming sabbatical time.

Sabbatical
— refresh | rest | refocus —

ECW



Celebrate Mother's Day with St. Mary's

We hope you can join us on Mother's Day Weekend (Saturday, May 13th from 5:30 - 8:30) for a relaxing evening of great food and a great movie. Bring a blanket or comfortable chair to Moseley Hall at St. Mary's Episcopal Church so you can sit back and enjoy the movie while sipping on Berry Mimosa Cocktails or Mocktails.

The "Berry Best" Menu includes: Strawberry and Cream French Toast, Ham and Cheese Quiche, Sausage, Fruit Salad, Juice, Coffee, and Berry Mimosa Cocktails and Mocktails.

This is a mini fundraiser sponsored by ECW. Cost is \$20 per person, and donations are welcome. Please invite your friends and purchase your tickets from the link below.

<https://onrealm.org/stmaryskinston/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=YjcyMWZiMGQ0ODI1ZC00MzUxLTkyMTgtYWZmMTAwMDk3MTQ0>

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



EYC Coffee with Liz

Thursdays in May @ 4:00-5:30pm
(at Middle Grounds Coffeehouse)

Wednesday Dinner and Activities

Wednesdays in May @ 6~7:30pm
All kids and EYC are invited to join us for supper and lessons/activities. EYC will do a curriculum from "Disney Shorts" films, while Kids' Ministries will do a curriculum from "Veggie Tales" episodes.

Family Game Night

Friday, May 12 @ 6-8pm
Join us for board games, card games, and more. Bring a snack to share and/or your favorite game!
(in Moseley Hall)

Family Hike

Saturday, May 13 @ 10am-noon
All ages are invited to join us for this intergenerational hike at Cliffs of the Neuse. Meet at 10am at the visitor center. Bring water and sun protection. If you would like, bring a lunch with you to enjoy at the end of our hike.

EYC Graduation Celebration

Sunday, May 15 ~ Time/Place TBD
Be on the lookout for your invite to this celebration of our Seniors!

Graduation Sunday

Sunday, May 21 @ 10:30am
Join us for a service to celebrate our St. Mary's High School and College Graduates.
(on the West Lawn)

Pentecost Party

Sunday, May 28 @ 9:30-10:30am
All kids and EYC will celebrate Pentecost during Formation time. There will be something special immediately following the 10:30am service as well.....Stay Tuned!

FROM THE DESK OF LIZ ~

Hi Families!

Summer is almost here, and I can't believe the shift to those summer routines is near. As we prepare to celebrate this transition from spring to summer, we will also celebrate the shift for students (our graduates) and the church calendar (Pentecost). Transition and Summer give us new ways to appreciate and celebrate all that God provides us in the midst of change. In May, take a moment to reflect on where you have been and where you will be in the coming months.

What does your transition look like?

IN PEACE, LIZ



Save the Date

Community Vacation Bible School
June 26 - 29, 2023
5:00-7:30 PM
PreK-5th
Hosted @ First Presbyterian Church



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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF KINGSTON

StMary's
Episcopal Church
KINGSTON, VA



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

COMMUNITY BABY SHOWER

A Partnership With
Healthy Blue
Lenoir County Public Health
Kinston Community Health Center



You are cordially invited to our
Drive-Thru Community Baby Shower

Date: Saturday, May 13, 2023

Time: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Location: Lenoir County Health Department,

201 N. McLewain Street, Kinston, NC 28501

(Please enter North St., turn right on Independence St., enter the LCHD parking lot, and visit
for further instructions from a team member)

**This event will offer pack 'n' play cribs, safe sleep education, CPS
 checks/installation of car seats, and new gender-neutral baby items!**



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
 12:00 pm - Weekly Wednesday Worship in the Chapel
 6:00 pm - Wednesday Evening Meal & Program

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2023

Skip Greene
 Audra Haddad
 Vicki Kennedy
 Pam Mazingo

2024

Clifton Carey
 Jess Edwards
 Jo Parrott
 Ginny Wade

2025

Andrew Duppstadt
 Bonnie Holton
 Anne Lindley
 Jim Purnell

Senior Warden – Vicki Kennedy
 Junior Warden – Jim Purnell

Clerk – Audra Haddad
 Treasurer – Corey Fader