

MAGGIE'S CROSS



A Letter from our Rector



BY FATHER TODD R. DILL+

*Where There
is Hatred,
Let us
Sow Love*

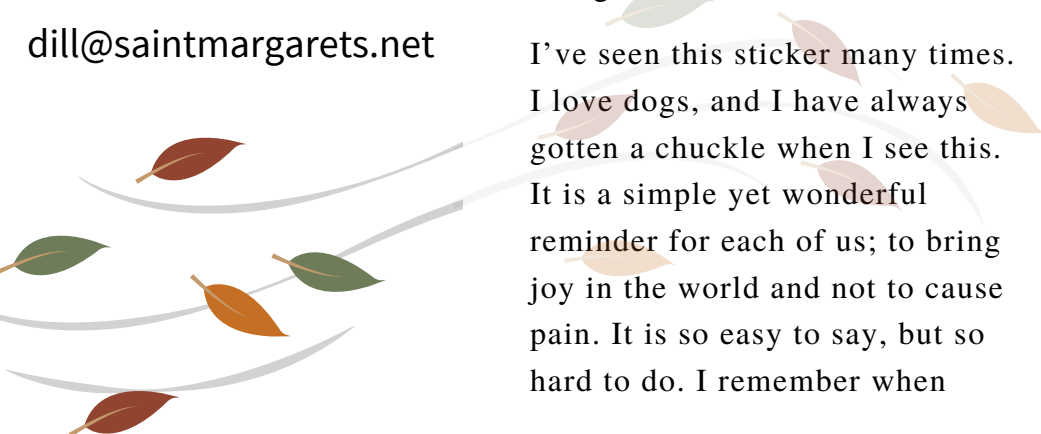
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I was driving along recently, minding my own business, when I noticed two drivers close to me acting a bit perturbed with one another. I don't know what started this clash, but as we all sat at a red light, the tensions between the two grew greater. Honks turned into yelling, and it was getting quite uncomfortable for those of us in cars witnessing this confrontation. In today's world, you never know how these situations might escalate. In this case, however, the light turned red, and fortunately the two vehicles continued their separate ways, turning in different directions. What I found most interesting about this exchange was a sticker on one of the cars involved in the skirmish. It read, "Wag More, Bark Less!"

I've seen this sticker many times. I love dogs, and I have always gotten a chuckle when I see this. It is a simple yet wonderful reminder for each of us; to bring joy in the world and not to cause pain. It is so easy to say, but so hard to do. I remember when

Father Lito+ joined us so many years ago, in his first sermon at our parish he preached to us about the choices set before each one of us every single day. He stated that we had the choice to bless others or curse others, and encouraged us to do our best to be followers of Jesus by choosing to be agents of blessing. To put it another way, he encouraged us to wag more, and bark less.

It seems to me that this is a message that needs to be heard by us again, and we need to recommit ourselves to this endeavor. Our culture has become so coarse; from the language in our television shows, to our political discourse, and finally to the ever-increasing uncivil interactions that all too often take place between ourselves and others. It feels like our world is careening down a dark path, and while others may choose to participate in this coarsening of our society, we can choose the better way. **We can love when others hate, we can bless when others curse, we can wag when other bark.**





On October 4th, we celebrated the feast day of Saint Francis. He was a man of great humility, a saint of incredible importance, and his faithful witness for the church goes far beyond the stories that most of us know. But the prayer that has been attributed to him offers us powerful words to help orient our souls toward love and encourage us to participate in a life of blessing and joy.

I commend it to you this day for your use and for your contemplation.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is discord, union;

where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console;

to be understood as to understand;

to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

(BCP pg. 833)

And Wag more, Bark less!

Your priest,

-Fr. Todd+

Rector



Thoughts from Rev. Sarah

Rev. Sarah Hollar+

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Looking for Good News

School started back. Labor Day came and went. Red Door Rally with its welcome, Sunday School rotations, Backpack Blessings came together nicely. Fall weather is bringing cooler temperatures. But even so, if you're like me, you are weary, weary of sad news and mean-spirited postings, bad mouthing political ads and doomsday predictions. Wildfires, low teacher pay, untreated vets with PTSD, refugees with no place to call home, graduates with exorbitant student loans, dangers and disasters seem relentless.

If you're like many folk, the drone of negative stuff is wearing you down and you too are in need of relief, respite, and refreshment! Looking for things to lift spirits, for things that encourage faith, faith in God, faith in humanity, faith in the possibility of peace and the conviction that goodness overcomes evil in the world, I've been on a quest. I've been looking for Good News to revive souls, Good News to infuse arid prayer lives, and Good News to help people dance with joy like David in the presence of the Lord.

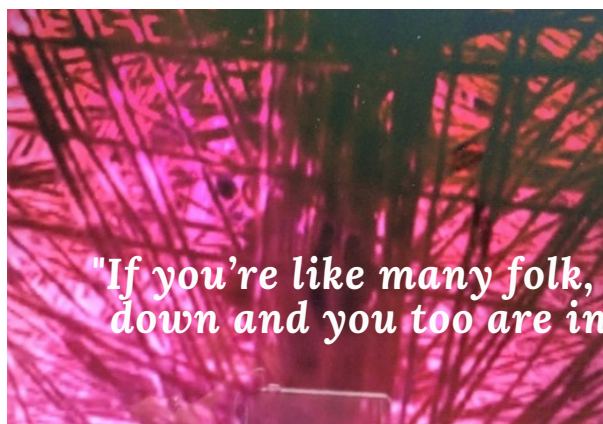
Here are two sites I've found that encourage relief and refreshment for me. *Pray as you Go* is an app for your phone or a site for your tablet. It's produced by the Society of Jesuits and it's really fine. Each day they provide a 10-13 minute meditation. It begins with bells chiming calling you to prayer. Then a piece of glorious music follows. An English accented voice describe the music and then stops as you listen. Another English accented voice reads the lesson of the day waits a few minutes then provides a question to ponder. The lesson is read again by yet another English accented voice. More music follows and then several voices join for the closing. On easy days, I pray the app on my deck with coffee. On hectic days, I pray the app on my drive in to work. **Here's a link:** <http://pray-as-you-go.org/70/>.

Sometimes just seeing something beautiful created by human hands from the human imagination is enough to lift me up and remind me that loveliness is not accidental nor is it inconsequential. Manmade beauty has an origin and that origin is from the Preceding and Final Originator. We are created in the image of God and therefore we are capable of wondrous deeds. The [picture in pink seen below](#) is a community art installation in Alexandria, VA. It was designed by strangers trusting each other and revealing themselves by connecting threads and personal descriptions. It's called *The Unity Project* and **here's a link to more:** <https://youtu.be/qNnvovbWkCA>

Following Jesus Christ, is no small thing. It requires courage to be vulnerable with oneself and compassionate with others. It requires wisdom and perseverance. It requires optimism in the face of mounting negativity. Therefore, followers of Jesus also require refreshment and renewal. As we walk this way together, let us remember to share the signs of Good News we find with one another.

Prayers for the journey,

Rev. Sarah



"If you're like many folk, the drone of negative stuff is wearing you down and you too are in need of relief, respite, and refreshment!"



From the Deacon's Bench

Deacon Ludwig Wallner
thewallners@hotmail.com

Evangelical, Charismatic or Anglo-Catholic

Have you ever heard the following three terms: **Evangelical**, **Charismatic** or **Anglo-Catholic**, when speaking about the Episcopal Church?

Evangelical:

This term refers to a people who believe in the sole authority of the Bible – relating to or being in agreement with the Christian Gospels especially as it is represented in the four Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. These congregations tend to emphasize learning and applying the Scriptures to their everyday lives. Evangelical originally comes from the Greek word Evangelion – meaning Good News.

Charismatic:

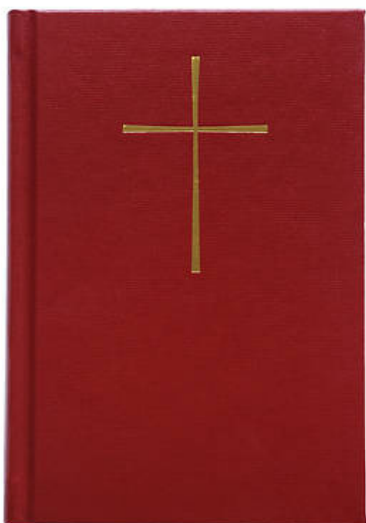
This term refers to people who focus on the emphasis of a personal religious experience. Also believing in the Divine inspired powers of healing, prophecy, gift of speaking in tongues, and the interpretation of tongues (just to name a few).

Anglo-Catholic/Angelical-Catholic:

This term refers to congregations who reflect the beliefs, practices, and rituals within Anglicanism which emphasises the catholic elements in its teaching, practices and medieval worship of the Roman Catholic Church.

Regardless of focus, **our worship service is divided into two very distinctive parts:**

1. The first part is the **Liturgy of the Word** – which includes Scripture readings, prayers and a sermon.
2. The second half of the service is the Holy Communion or **Great Thanksgiving**.



In our first Prayer Book (1549) Thomas Cramer referred to it as “The Supper of the Lord.” This then became commonly known as “Holy Communion” and now the commonly used term is “The Eucharist.” The traditional name for the Eucharist is called the Mass because of the dismissal at the end of the Latin text which reads “Ite missa est” – Go, it is finished.

During the worship service, if the Celebrant is joined by a person functioning as a Deacon, other servers such as acolytes, L.E.M’s. and others it is usually referred to as a High Mass. When the Celebrant is not assisted by other clergy and servers the Mass is referred to as a Low Mass. This model is usually used for services during the week.

The High Mass model for a celebration of the Eucharist is the most ancient. This service is usually accompanied by especially rich ceremonial and elaborate music with the Celebrant chanting some of the prayers and wearing vestments including a chasuble and the possible use of incense. This style of celebrating the Eucharist is now becoming known as a Solemn Eucharist as well as a High Mass.

Strange as it may seem, with all of these possible differences in approach to building our relationship with God and how we might worship, we are one church – The Episcopal Church.



Youth Spotlight

BY ELIZABETH PFEIFER

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR
FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

pfeifer@saintmargarets.net



Youth Group had a wonderful September with meetings full of fellowship, fun, and God.

After meeting last year in separate middle and high school groups, it has been fantastic to meet as one large group with all 6th-12th graders attending the same gathering. We are getting to know each other, remembering names and faces after a long hiatus, and enjoying having large group discussions.

A big project we accomplished in early September was painting the new picnic tables where we have been having our meetings. Students were split in groups by grade and had to work together to create and execute a design. The artwork and themes our students created were imaginative and the tables help to create a welcoming space to our outside meeting space.

Later in the month, we had discussions on writings from Micah (6:8) and James (5:13-16) and dove into how we live a God-centric life by walking humbly with God and turning to God in prayer.

We would love to have your student join us at a meeting soon! All 6th-12th graders (and their friends) are welcome at our gatherings.

EYC will meet on Oct. 10th and 17th from 5:00-6:30pm. On Oct 24th we will meet off-site for dinner from 5-6:30pm and we will not gather on Oct 31st.

As of writing, we are spending most of our meeting outside at the picnic tables behind the playground. When we go inside, all in our group must wear masks; masks are not required outside. When coming to youth group, please use the back entrance off of Crane Rd.

Stay up-to-date with youth group gatherings by signing up for our EYC text updates: text stmyouth1 to 43506 and reply "yes" if prompted with an opt-in text message.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BY CATHERINE CHINTALA

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



What a wonderful blessing it is to see our students back at Sunday School!

We have had so much fun learning and playing together, and enjoying the beautiful weather and outdoor space at Saint Margaret's! Our students learned different ways to pray, and how important it is to pray to God every day. We also had fun singing and playing instruments with Mara, and we even got to learn more about our church through a scavenger hunt around the building and grounds. We also practiced our Bible basics with fun games and activities. And we've enjoyed relaxing and playing together on the playground too!

Our Sunday School meets every Sunday during the school year, and students 4 years of age through 5th grade are welcome to join us! Classes will be held outside (weather permitting) from 10:00 – 10:45am at the picnic tables by the playground. Masks will be required in case we need to go indoors. If you have any questions about Sunday School, please reach out to me at childrensministry@saintmargarets.net.



Last month club 4/5 met outside for a fun afternoon of games and fellowship! We enjoyed the beautiful weather, and had fun eating pizza and getting to know one another with some fun icebreakers! Club 4/5 meets once a month for lunch and is a great way to meet other 4th and 5th graders at Saint Margaret's....and friends are welcome too! These meetings focus on building friendships and fellowship through games, activities, and a short time for prayers/devotions. Our next meeting will be on October 10th from 12:15 – 1:30pm. Weather permitting, our gatherings will be outside at the picnic tables. Registration is not required, just bring a water bottle and a mask (in case we go inside) and be ready to have fun!

All Saints' Letter Club

I know it seems like November 1st is a long way off, but fall is flying by! The Diocese of NC is offering their All Saints' Letter Club again this year. Your child/children will receive 4 letters throughout the month of October, all from a different saint. This is a really fun program, and my daughters participated last year. Once a week they got a letter in the mail, and we all had fun reading and learning about a new saint together. I was asked to write a letter "from" Saint Margaret last year, and was so excited that children across NC got to learn about our patron saint! It's free to sign up, and it's a super simple and fun way to bring formation into your home. **Click here to sign up!**

I'm praying for all of our families and I hope you have a healthy & happy Fall!
Blessings,
Catherine

childrensministry@saintmargarets.net



OUTREACH



& PARISH CONNECTION

BY TRACI SCOTT

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR OUTREACH
& PARISH CONNECTION



Spotlight on Community Kitchen Fellowship (CKF)

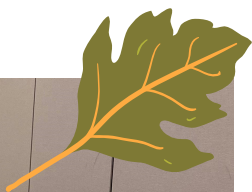
A new ministry is starting to deliver a hot meal to our Waxhaw neighbors in need. Many of the men who used to cook breakfast for our parish wanted to gather again to cook so, they decided that cooking for the community would be a great way to serve!

On October 16th, they will cook their first meal and a separate team of volunteers will deliver the meals to about 30 people in Waxhaw.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please contact Traci at connection@saintmargarets.net



Thank you to Karen Schaphorst and the team of volunteers who provided our September meal at the Community Shelter of Union County! Our next meal is on November 30.



Newcomers Karen Mills and Laura Tyson assembled and delivered our September backpack snacks to South Providence School. Thank you ladies and welcome to StM! (pic attached)
Backpack snack bags are provided to the students at South Providence that need a little extra food at home over the weekend.

The **"Thursday Lunch Bunch"** ECW Circle recently assembled Bless-A-Baby kits for Bright Blessings in Matthews that provides birthday party supplies and gifts for homeless and impoverished children in our community. Thank you ladies!



connection@saintmargarets.net

OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION CONTINUED...

ECW Meeting / Circles

The Episcopal Church Women's (ECW) group had a great first meeting back together in September. Our next gathering will be making advent wreaths on November 20th.

If you are interested in joining an ECW Circle, please contact Traci at: connection@saintmargarets.net



Next ECW Meeting is:
**Saturday,
November
20th**
11:30 am in the Parish Hall
Advent Wreath making



Introducing StM Foyer Groups!

Want to get to know your fellow parishioners and build relationships in a small group setting? Sign up for a Foyer Group!

These are groups of 6-8 parishioners that get together to share food, fun and conversation each month.

Hosting duties rotate and you can meet in each other's homes, restaurants, have a picnic, etc.

The idea is to bring people together for Christian fellowship outside of our normal worship service.

Foyers will meet October through May.
Deadline to sign up is October 10th.

Use link below to sign up:

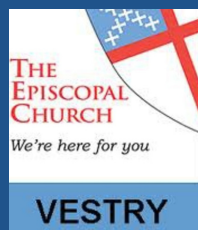
<https://stm.breezechms.com/form/foyer>



Welcome new members:

- Michael Zurat
- Michael, Matthew & William Irwin
- Jay & Karen Mills
- Brad & Lenora Critcher

VIEW FROM THE VESTRY



FROM OUR JUNIOR WARDEN

Most probably come each Sunday to enjoy a wonderful experience coming into Christ's church. Many are here during the week for their children attending our preschool. Some things may go unnoticed unless it is pointed out to us. In this, it's not everyday we get a chance to see something that desperately needs our attention.

I heard, when it rains, it pours. This is definitely the case for the drainage of our preschool wing. If you happen to be here when it rains, you may have noticed it needed our attention. The photo (below right) shows how much water we get outside our classroom windows. The downspouts here were backing halfway up the pipes and spewing out the seams of all our gutters & downspouts. In addition, we found other indicators of how invasive water can be and the potential damage it can cause.

On the other side of this wing, the offices and choir room were found with paint "bubbling" from water getting inside the cinder blocks.

Thankfully, with your continued tithing, we have been able to address this water issue and have dug up and installed new underground pipes to move the water correctly away from the building into the proper French drain. We have further weather-proofed the cinder blocks, and as of writing this, the paint on the inside walls are scheduled to be scraped, sealed and re-painted against further water invasion before months end.

This work will help ensure that water stops pooling up in our columbarium area during a rain storm and it will protect our preschool classroom walls from moisture getting inside

Just like our own homes our campus needs constant attention. This wonderful gift of a worship space and school wing we are blessed with require regular maintenance to keep it looking good and operating efficiently.

With your support, we will be able to keep up with the needed preventative maintenance to protect our house of worship.

God bless.

Hugh Laughlin, *Junior Warden*





Please note: Our church office is open M- Th from 9-4 and on Fridays from 9-12 noon. Drop in visits are discouraged. Please call ahead and make an appointment.

Rector

The Reverend Fr. Todd R. Dill+

dill@saintmargarets.net

Priest Associate

The Reverend Sarah Hollar+

hollar@saintmargarets.net

Deacon

The Rev. Ludwig Wallner

thewallners@hotmail.com

Director of Music & Organist

Mara DeLuca

music@saintmargarets.net

Executive Assistant to the Rector

Joanie Cameron

parishadmin@saintmargarets.net

Assistant to the Rector for Youth Ministries

Elizabeth Pfeifer

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Assistant to the Rector for Preschool Ministries

Dana Plate'

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Assistant to the Rector for Finance & Accounting

Denise Kilinski

finance@saintmargarets.net

Assistant to the Rector for Children's Ministry

Catherine Chintala

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Assistant to the Rector for Outreach

& Parish Connection

Traci Scott

connection@saintmargarets.net

2021 Vestry

Terry Anderson

Mike Murphy

Densel White

Jessica Parker

Chad Hinton

Brian Scott

Kathyann Dugan

Hugh Laughlin

Simon Haarhoff

David Feldser, *Treasurer*



October Calendar



In our continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are following the direction of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina.

Guidelines for worshipping at StM in the season of covid:

- Masks are required, regardless of vaccination status.
- Communion will be offered in one kind.
- The offering plate will remain in the center isle by the font, where the remembrance of the gift of eternal life given to you by our Lord at your baptism can be properly acknowledged with your generous financial support of the church!

Service times are as follows:



[CLICK HERE for our YouTube channel](#)

- Saturday at 5pm
- Sunday at 8:45am and 11:00am

At this time, all services are Holy Eucharist Rite II. Our 8:45 service will continue to be livestreamed.

*Nursery care is provided for both Sunday services.

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|----------|--|
| 10/11 | Church Office Closed |
| 10/16 | Community Kitchen Fellowship Cooking Day |
| 10/16 | Knots of Love Meeting |
| 10/16 | EYC Middle School Outing |
| 10/17 | Stewardship 2022 kick off |
| 10/19 | Vestry Business Meeting |
| 10/22-24 | EYC High School Retreat |

COMING SOON!



Special thanks to:

Denise Kilinski for faithfully serving as our Bookkeeper.

We welcome:

Kathy Marakoff as her replacement.
Denise will be leaving by month end.

Please be on the lookout for your quarterly statement, especially as Denise will be training Kathy to take over her position.

Should you have any questions on your statement, please call the office at 70-243-3523.