# MAGGIE'S CROSS

## Fr. Jay's Journal

**BY FATHER JAY MILLS+** 

# A recommendation

In this edition of my contribution to the monthly newsletter I wanted to recommend a diocesan program to you. It is the *Dismantling Racism* program which is conducted from time to time by the diocese.

My iteration of the program was on Zoom, but they are now doing both Zoom and in person sessions.

I must admit that I did not really look forward to the program. Seven and a half hours on Zoom really did not excite me. Also, I have been through other similar training programs and with mixed reviews. I must say I was pleasantly surprised at how good the program was here in the Diocese of North Carolina. I highly recommend it.

If interested, please see the info below:

#### **Dismantling Racism**

The Racial Justice and Reconciliation Committee recently updated, redesigned and renamed "Seeing the Face of God," the previous diocesan anti-racism training program. A partnership among diocesan staff, the Racial Justice and Reconciliation Committee and notable consultants such as Dr. Catherine Meeks of the Absalom Jones Center in Atlanta, the new "Dismantling Racism: **Reclaiming Our Baptismal** Promise" is an interactive workshop designed to deepen spiritual commitment to dismantling racism as participants in the Jesus Movement. Through presentations, prayer, story sharing, videos and small group discussion, participants explore how the sin of racism impacts all lives.

Upcoming training dates for the fall include:

Oct. 14, 5-8 p.m., and Oct. 15, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. **<u>Register Here.</u>** 

Nov. 11, 5-8 p.m., and Nov. 12, 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m., via Zoom. **<u>Register Here</u>**.

God's Peace,

-Fr. Jay+ mills@saintmargarets.net

Father Jay's typical office hours are on Mondays & Tuesdays



It's TIME to talk Stewardship! Oct. 9-Nov. 13

#### CLICK HERE

to give now or look for a 2023 pledge card in the church pews starting 10/9.

*Commitment Sunday is November 13.* 

Every pledge makes an impact.

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# It's TIME!

Pull up a chair... it's time for a meeting with God about where you want to be a year from now.

> An honest conversation about where you are giving your time, your talents and your treasure?

This meeting will reveal what is most important in your life.

# Stewardship 2023 begins on 10/2

St.N

Look for your pledge card in the pews or **click this link** to pledge elctronically.

Commitment Sunday is 11/13.



The Deacon's Bench

Deacon Ludwig can be reached at: thewallners@hotmail.com



#### James, the Son of Zebedee

Of the three men we usually think of when we talk about the disciples, who comprised the inner circle of Christ's 12, we always think of Peter, James and John. We know the least about James. Despite the relative silence of the scriptures concerning James he is noteworthy among the apostles. Perhaps the most unusual thing about his life was the manner and time of his death. James was the first of Christ's apostles to be martyred. Judas and James are the only two of the original apostles whose deaths have scriptural accounts.

James was the older brother to John (The Beloved). With John he was partner with Andrew and Peter and their father Zebedee in the fishing trade. They owned several boats and employed hired servants, it is assumed that they were rather affluent. There is also some evidence that James may have been a first cousin of Jesus and would have been acquainted with him from infancy.

James was present at the raising of Jarius's daughter, the Transfiguration and the agony in the garden of Gethsemane. Tradition tells of a missionary journey of Peter and James to India. James is said to have preached to the twelve scattered tribes abroad and as such persuaded them to give their first-fruits to the church instead of Herod Tradition also has James connected with two magicians called Hermogenes and Philerus. Philerus was converted by James and was on the verge of leaving Hermogenes, but Hermogenes cast a spell on Philerus. Hermogenes sent devils to bring James and Philerus back to him, but the devils were powerless against James who ordered the devils back and to bring Hermogenes bound and brought to James. James released Hermogenes from his binds and he was converted, and spent the rest of his life doing charitable deeds and miracles for the benefit of his fellow man.

An interesting mystery to consider, is that James is not mentioned in the Gospel of John. If we accept the fact that John wrote the Gospel of John one has to wonder why James, John's brother, would not be mentioned since this Gospel contains the only source of information about Philip, Andrew and Nathanael Bartholomew. John also hides his identity in this Gospel by referring to himself as "beloved disciple".



One Legend surrounding James' death, taken from the book of Clement of Alexander, tells the story of one person who led James to his final judgement in Jerusalem was so moved by James' testimony that he also confessed that he was a Christian. He then begged for James to forgive him. Both James and the other man were led away and beheaded together. Upon his death, it is assumed that James' friends and disciples would have taken his body and head and buried it somewhere in Jerusalem. There is some thought that the burial might have taken place in the family tomb.

There are some scholars who think that some of James' bones might have been taken to Spain to escape the invading Persians. James' head may have been kept in Jerusalem and hidden from the invading Persians. During the early medieval times, the practice of the veneration of apostolic relics (in particular pieces of bone) had become widespread. As a result of this practice it is possible that pieces of James' bones may very well rest in parts of Spain and in Jerusalem.

**Side Note:** James was murdered by King Herod Agrippa about the year AD 44 shortly before Herod's own death. "About that time King Herod began to persecute some believers in the church. He had the apostle James (John's brother) killed with a sword." (Full account is found in Acts 12:1-2)

# JOIN US!

Four Wednesdays in October Food, Fellowship & Formation for ALL AGES

Facilitated by Rev. Sarah & Fr. Todd

dinner served 5:30 - 6pm programming: 6:15 - 7pm



CLICK HERE for RSVP link & menu

#### Oct. 5th The Problem with Evil:

Where does it come from? Who's in charge? How do we resist and prevail? \*separate children's & youth programming will be available kindly RSVP & pay NOW or each Monday before

## Oct. 12th

## Heaven & Hell

Are they real? How good or bad can they really be? Who's in or out? \*separate children's & youth programming will be available

## Oct. 19th

#### Marriage What it means Why it matters \*separate children's & youth programming will be available

## Oct. 26

Sanctity of Life More than a sound bite God's call to deep wrestling \*separate children's & youth programming will be available

Not interested in eating dinner, but want to come to class...please come! RSVP encouraged but not required to attend.

at noon so we can plan

accordingly.



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. We were excited to gather in the youth room with lots of new and returning faces and have spent the month playing games, getting know one another, and talking about how we are the light of the world and ways we can shine that light!

Our first four meetings have been structured around Matthew 5:14-16 in which Jesus tells us we are the light of the world! As a group, we came

up with characteristics of Jesus and are discussing how we can embody those characteristics today as we figure out what exactly it means to let our light shine before others.

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 2nd, 9th, and 16th from 5:00-6:30pm with dinner 6:30-7:00pm. On Oct 23rd, we will meet off-site for dinner from 5:00-6:30pm. On Oct 30th, we will meet at the church as usual from 5:00-6:30pm with dinner 6:30-7:00pm.

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.



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Middle School boys enjoying an EYC dinner.



Middle School girls engage in a Sunday night EYC activity.

Rev. Sarah Hollar facilitated Adult Formation classes in September. Thanks to all who attended.





Children's Ministry

**BY CATHERINE CHINTALA** ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

childrensministry@saintmargarets.net

## What's new in Children's Ministry?

#### We're settling into a new year of fun & formation!

Our Sunday School classes are off to a great start! This year we are using the *Love First* book and curriculum to guide our weekly gatherings. All our lessons, activities, discussions, and crafts are based on the three principles of **Love God, Love Neighbor, and Love Self.** We are exploring the idea that God's love is present all around us, and we are all loved by Him, and we can take specific actions to show that love to everyone around us. This ties perfectly into our church's tagline: Love Jesus. Love your neighbor. Bless the World.

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Something as simple as noticing others, listening to people, and showing kindness and support are something we can all do, no matter our age. Even the youngest children are equipped to share God's love with the world. When we love God, love our neighbor, and are kind to ourselves, we can change the world!

Each week dedicated volunteers share a lesson with our students and learn and practice the three principles of Love God, Love Neighbor, and Love Self. We do this through studying Bible stories, listening to children's books from a variety of authors, and engaging in discussion, games, and crafts. Each month we will have a service project during class to highlight what we've learned. This month we will learn about Saint Margaret's Card Ministry and spread love with encouraging cards.

We talked about Jesus healing the paralyzed man (Mark 2:1-12), and really focused on the amazing love and dedication that the man's friends showed for him. Our Pre-K through 2nd grade class also read the children's books *A Sick Day for Amos McGee* by Philip Stead and *When God Made You* by Matthew Paul Turner. We would love to see you! **We meet each Sunday from 10-10:45am in the preschool classrooms at the end of the hall.** We have so many fun lessons and celebrations planned for this year!

#### CLUB 4-5

We are also excited to offer Club 4-5 this year! This is a fun and relaxed way for our 4th and 5th graders to fellowship together, eat pizza, and do fun games and devotions! Our 2022 gathering dates are October 9, November 13, and December 11.

#### >>> WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN OCTOBER

Please join us for dinner, fun, and fellowship on Wednesday nights in October! Be sure to check your email for complete information on our Wednesday evening offerings. Children's programming (all preschool and elementary ages) will be available from 6:15-7:00pm, and will feature fun games and activities based on the book The Spy on Noah's Ark and Other Bible Stories from the Inside Out by Lindsay Freeman.

#### "Something as simple as noticing others, listening to people, and showing kindness and support are something we can all do, no matter our age."

#### Are you interested in learning more about the sacrament of Holy Communion?

Students ages 7 and up are invited to attend classes on October 16, 23, and 30 during the Christian Education hour (10:00-10:45am) to learn about Holy Communion. We will learn what sacraments are, where Communion comes from in the Bible, the various parts of our worship service, and most importantly learn why Communion is central to our worship. Students must have one parent present for each class. Holy Communion Celebration will be held on Sunday, November 6th at the 8:45am service.

Please contact Catherine (childrensministry@saintmargarets.net) with any questions and **click this link** to register.



Butreach & Parish Connection

**BY TRACI SCOTT** *Assistant to the rector for outreach & parish connection* 

connection@saintmargarets.net

Join St. Margaret's Episcopal Church Women (ECW) for a free movie series designed to open the eyes of our hearts to people whose abilities, age, ethnicity, class, and social status may differ from our own.



Dates: The 2nd Friday each month from October 14, 2022 – May 12, 2023 Time: 9:00 AM – Noon (Movies start promptly at 9:15 AM) Location: St. Margaret's Youth Room

Not exclusively for ECW members. Guests and men are welcome! For a schedule of movies <u>click here.</u>

**<u>RSVP here</u>** for the movie(s) you plan to attend.

**Fall Fellowship night** is planned for **Friday, Oct 14th** at **Waxhaw Tap House** from **6-8 pm** on the back porch. They have plenty of beers on tap and wines are available as well. You can order dinner from the food



truck on-site or any local restaurant. There's a great area out back where we'll be for the kids (and adults) to play as well.

Address: 110 McDonald St. in Waxhaw

#### OUTREACH SAVE THE DATES:

- Saturday, November 19th help us pick up turkey dinners at Common Heart and deliver them to our monthly CKF meal recipients in Waxhaw
- Tuesday, November 22nd cook, bake or serve at our next dinner for the Community Shelter of Union County: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0f4eaba7283-2022

#### Welcome new members

The Flanigan Family Rick & Janice Carter



#### **OUTREACH:**

Our monthly food delivery ministry, *Community Kitchen Fellowship*, COMPUTE COMPUTE

will be making 65 taco meals on Saturday, October 15th. If you've never joined us for one of these events, come see what it's all about! **We need NEW volunteers** to join our "veterans" to help us cook and assemble the meals at 8:30am OR deliver them to homes in the Waxhaw area at 11:00am. Great opportunity for the children and youth of our parish to help! If you can help on October 15th, please sign up here to <u>DELIVER:</u> and sign up here to <u>COOK or BAKE</u>:

#### Common Heart's annual Great Turkey Countdown

is gearing up with a new goal of providing 2,000 dinners to those in need in Union County. Common Heart has seen an unprecedented number of people attending their food distribution events this year and expect the demand to be much higher this year. On November 19th, St. Margaret's will pick up and deliver Common Heart Thanksgiving dinners to our 30+ neighbors in Waxhaw that we visit each month and you can <u>sign</u> <u>up here</u> to help with that effort.

In addition to that, Common Heart will need financial support, volunteer prep support and delivery drivers leading up to Nov 19th as well as on that day. To donate or

volunteer, <u>click here</u>.



# Join us October 28 for An Evening of Flute Music

On January 1, 2021 my mother lost her battle against Alzheimer's disease at the age of 73. My mother did not want a funeral and even if she had, she passed away when churches were very limited in what they could do for weddings and funerals. On January 2, 2021 I began planning a recital to celebrate Mom's life and if I am being honest, I felt a bit rebellious as I developed a work around to her 'no funeral' wishes. She would love the idea of me performing this music and she would want me to say good-bye in a way others could enjoy. She would have ultimately acquiesced for my sake!

My Mom was born in the same hospital Edgar Allan Poe died in.

She sometimes thought about writing a book about him. I contacted Damon Junk, a composer Todd and I went to college with, and commissioned a piece for flute and organ based on Poe's works. Damon did an amazing job and the melody in the last third of the piece sounds just like a Mom theme and he did not even know her. If you come to the recital, you will get to hear a world premiere and maybe even meet the composer!

Most of the other selections on the recital have some kind of connection to my Mom and the beautifully designed program by Joanie Cameron will give the audience little details to read about during the performance. Mara DeLuca will return to play the organ and Janet Mills will play a lovely flute duet with me.

St. Margaret's funeral liturgy is the best I have ever participated in, but since my Mom did not want a funeral I am grateful to my St. Margaret's family for making it possible for me to honor her in this way. There will be a love offering for the Outreach Ministry. The recital will be livestreamed on YouTube for those who cannot attend in person.



Please consider experiencing a Friday evening of flute music on October 28th at 7 p.m.

Save the date!

Friday, 10/28

recital at

St. Margaret's

- Reggie Dill

"She would love the idea of me performing this music and she would want me to saw good-bye in a way others could enjoy."

# September Calendar

- Saturday Worship: Rite II, 5:00 pm
- Sunday Worship: Rite II, 8:45 am
- Sunday Worship: Rite II, 11:00 am



**CLICK HERE for our YouTube channel** SERMONS in library!

# 式 calendar notes:

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10/1	Blessing of the Animals, 4 pm *weather permitting
10/4	Father Todd returns from sabbattical
10/7	First (of four) Wednesday Nights in October
10/8	DOK Monthly Meeting, 9:30 am
10/9	Stewardship 2023 Campaign begins Rector's Roundtable 10-10:45 am
10/10	Funeral for Marg Joy, 11am
10/12	Second (of four) Wednesday Nights in October
10/14	Movie Series, hosted by ECW. 9 am
10/14	Buy your priest a beer night - Waxhaw Tap House
10/15	EYC: Middle School Overnight
	Community Kitchen Fellowship
	Knots of Love Monthly Meeting
10/19	Third (of four) Wednesday Nights in October
10/21 🛌	High School Fall Retreat
10/26	Fourth (and final) Wednesday Nights in October
10/28	Flute Recital by Regina Dill, 7 pm



\*weather pending



Our church office is open M-Th from 9:00-4:00 & 9:00-12:00 noon on Friday.

#### Rector

The Reverend Fr. Todd R. Dill+ dill@saintmargarets.net

#### Priest Associate

The Reverend Sarah Hollar+ hollar@saintmargarets.net

Priest Associate The Reverend Fr. Jay Mills+ mills@saintmargarets.net

Deacon

The Rev. Ludwig Wallner

Organist & Director of Music

Gavin D. Craig music@saintmargarets.net

Executive Assistant to the Rector Joanie Cameron parishadmin@saintmargarets.net

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Assistant to the Rector for Children's Ministry

Catherine Chintala childrensministry@saintmargarets.net

Assistant to the Rector for Outreach & Parish Conection **Traci Scott** connection@saintmargarets.net

#### 2022 Vestry

Jessica Parker Chad Hinton Brian Scott Kathyann Dugan Hugh Laughlin Simon Haaroff Paula Holbein Colin Miles Charlie Winsman David Feldser, *Treasurer*