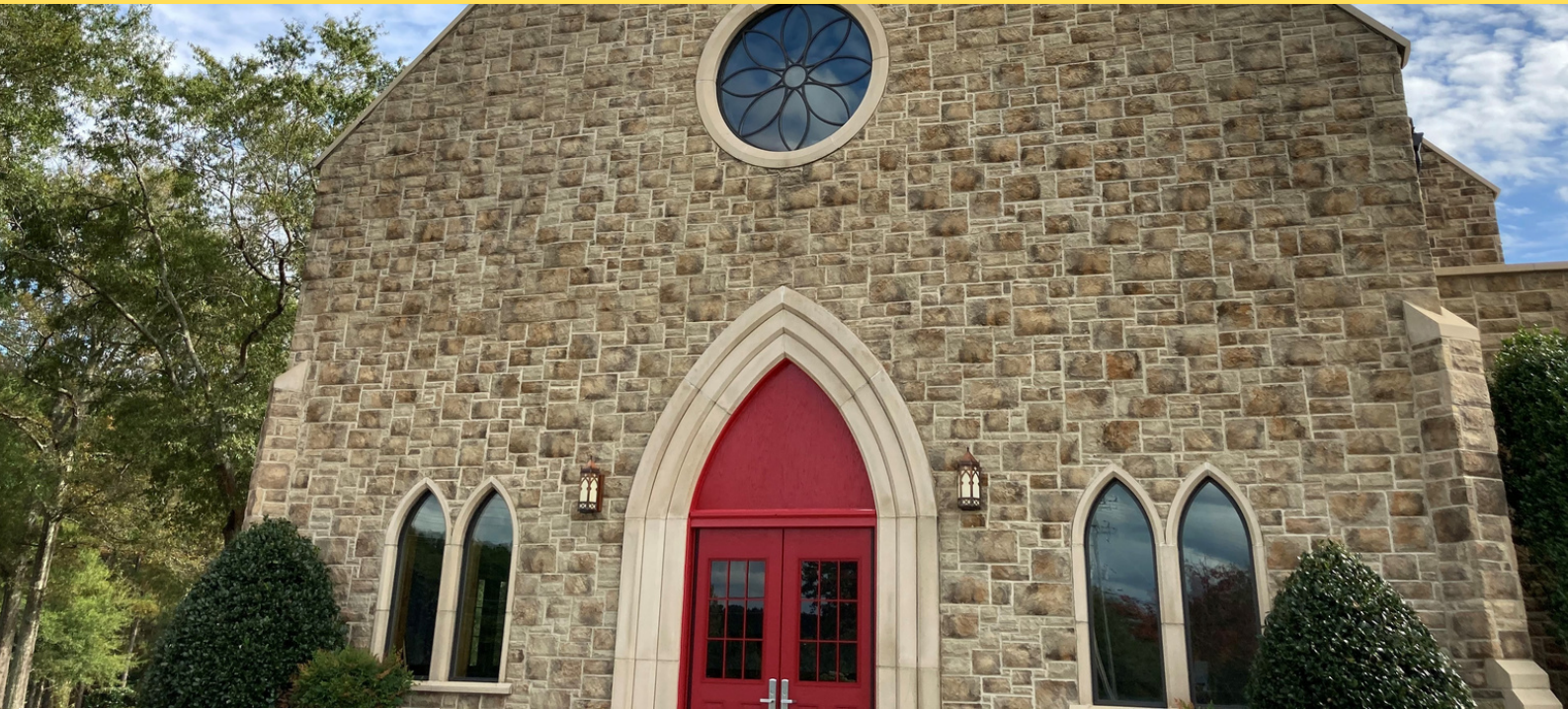


MAGGIE'S CROSS



BY REVEREND SARAH HOLLAR+

When we go someplace new, a conference, the first day of school, a workshop or meet up group, there is usually a table with name tags and the expectation we will wear one so folk will be able to identify us. After noticing names, we ask and answer questions that help give us context. Where do you work? What grade are you in? What position do you play? Do you have kids? Many identifiers fall easily off our tongues when making introductions.

I'm in IT. I'm an attorney, a pediatrician, a teacher, a non-profit fundraiser. I have two boys, so basically, I'm a recreational sports facilitator. I work in security and hunt on the weekends. I facilitate strength training and care for my aged parents.

All these descriptors give a sense of what the person does, what they enjoy and how they orient themselves in the world.

Having a sense of our own identity helps structure our lives. Recognizing where we put out time and energy and passion tells what we value and what we value, informs our day-to-day decisions and puts us on the path for accomplishing long term, complex goals and the desires of our heart. How we identify ourselves indicates what is most true about ourselves, what we love most, whether we see the world as a fundamentally safe or dangerous place, and how we want the world to engage with us.

One identifier that is often not as easily shared is our relationship with our faith. We can be hesitant to lead with or even list it as part of our being. How comfortable would we be slapping the name tag above onto our shirt? Would we smile or panic if asked, "So Christian, tell me about you and what that name means?" Does our dis-ease with the question make us feel bad about ourselves? Do we wish we were more confident in our faith beliefs? How about articulating those ideas to others? Do we have a nagging sense that a little more time, a little more direction, a little more

reflection on parts and pieces of our faith would yield long neglected but still good and tasty fruit?

If so, I invite you to put a 20 minute appointment on your calendar, select a quiet place to sit, invite God to meet you there. In that time and place, **CLICK HERE**, open up the variety of formation options St. Margaret's is currently offering. Find the one(s) that stir your soul or pique your interest and meet friends, fellow seekers, hopeful believers, novice and committed contemplatives in engaging relationship with God and the Way of Jesus.

Come and see.

Come and taste.

Come and maybe know yourself a little more as God knows and loves you.

Formation Blessings,

Rev. Sarah

Priest Associate, Rev. Sarah Hollar is in the church office on Wednesdays.

She can be reached at hollar@saintmargarets.net



RED DOOR WELCOME

COME ON IN...
and share the sacred meal!

SAT 5:00 pm
SUN 8:45 am
SUN 11:00 am

"Therefore let us keep the feast."
1 Corinthians 5:8

[CLICK HERE](#)

for details on
formation offerings
this fall

*"I invite you to put a 20 minute appointment on your calendar,
select a quiet place to sit, invite God to meet you there.
In that time and place, open up the variety of formation options
St. Margaret's is currently offering. Find the one(s)
that stir your soul or pique your interest "*

-Rev. Sarah



BY ELIZABETH PFEIFER

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

pfeifer@saintmargarets.net



EYC had our Fall 2022 Kick Off on August 28th. We introduced our 6th graders and new members to EYC and our love of silly games, icebreakers, God, candy, and a decent amount of laughter and general noise. It was great to see so many new faces (and familiar ones). If your youth was not able to make it to our first meeting, we hope they will join us at one of our next gatherings.

EYC will meet on the following Sundays for the remainder of September: 11th, 18th, and 25th. EYC meets from 5:00-6:30pm with dinner 6:30-7:00pm. All 6th-12th graders, and friends, are welcome!

Save the Dates for our EYC Fall Overnights! Our weekend retreats are a great time of fellowship, fun and making new friends, worship, and program time. More information and registration out in late September.

Sat & Sun, Oct 15 & 16 for a MIDDLE SCHOOL ONLY overnight. We're headed to Bethelwoods Camp in York, SC for an afternoon of camp activities like canoeing, archery, a bonfire, and more followed by a sleepover at the church.

October 21-23 for our HIGH SCHOOL ONLY retreat. With busy fall schedules and several students having weekend school commitments, we're doing something new and staying a bit closer to home so students can join us as they are able. We've rented a house at Lake Norman (I-77 exit 42) and will have a variety of activities at the house (kayak, paddle boarding, etc.) and off-site.

**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.**

-Elizabeth



Youth Spotlight con't

JESUS & DONUTS:



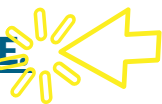
ST. MARGARET'S YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS FOR STUDENTS IN 6TH-12TH GRADE IS BACK! SUNDAY MORNING FORMATION CLASSES WILL RESUME ON SEPTEMBER 11TH FROM 10:00-10:45AM AND WILL BE HELD IN THE YOUTH ROOM.

WE HAVE GRAND HOPES OF ONE BRAND NEW ASPECT FOR THIS CLASS: **DONUTS! AND PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT!**

IT IS THE CHURCH'S HOPE THAT EACH SUNDAY A FAMILY WILL PROVIDE A DOZEN DONUTS FOR THIS CLASS AND ONE PARENT (OR BOTH, IF SO INCLINED) WILL STAY FOR THE CLASS TO HEAR THE LESSON, CONTRIBUTE ADDITIONAL INSIGHT, AND MEET THE OTHER AMAZING STM YOUTH WHO ARE IN OUR PROGRAM ALONGSIDE OF YOUR STUDENT.

GRAB YOUR PREFERRED DATE TO JOIN US HERE:

[CLICK HERE](#)





CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BY CATHERINE CHINTALA

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR CHILDRENS MINISTRY

childrensministry@saintmargarets.net



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: FALL 2022

I love getting daily devotions sent to my inbox....it makes taking time out of my day to pause and reflect so easy, even on those really hectic days. I'm a fan of [d365](#). It's young adult/student focused, but I get so much out of the readings and reflections. Earlier this summer I was planning Sunday School for the fall, and this reading popped up from the Book of Matthew: When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees speechless, they met together. One of them, a legal expert, tested him. *"Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?"*

He replied, *"You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: You must love your neighbor as you love yourself."*

I wanted to also share part of the reflection that day:

Sometimes as Christians, people will also try to catch us off guard and challenge our faith by asking really hard questions. I find comfort in this passage knowing that the greatest commandment that we are called to is to love God with all of our hearts, minds, and souls and love our neighbor as ourselves. Never once did Jesus mention that we had to have everything figured out or have answers to every question that might be asked of us. We are simply commanded to love.

This scripture passage and reflection go along perfectly with the curriculum we have planned for Sunday School this year. I'm so excited to share ***Love First by Colette Potts***. This year we will focus on what it means to love God, love our neighbor, and love ourselves. Love and kindness will be our central themes, and we will explore them through activities, service projects, and Bible stories. I can't wait to see all of our students back on September 11th!

Make it a point to join us this fall for formation....we have something for everyone!

Each Sunday between the 8:45am and 11:00am services we will hold formation classes for children, youth, and adults. Nursery care will be available for our littlest parishioners.



[Click here to register for Sunday School!](#)

love first

Love in action:

Saint Margaret's VBS students made and shared 90 suncatchers with the residents of White Oak of Waxhaw. Through VBS we also donated \$300 and non-perishable food to Common Heart!





BY TRACI SCOTT

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION
connection@saintmargarets.net

Outreach

Upcoming Shelter meal on Tuesday, September 27th ****VOLUNTEERS NEEDED****

More volunteers are needed to help cook at the church or serve at the Shelter. One group will cook the meal at 1pm in the St. Margaret's kitchen and another group will serve it at the Community Shelter in Monroe at 5:30pm. Please [click here](#) if you are able to help with cooking, baking or serving.

Kairos Prison Ministry is starting back up again!

In preparation for their upcoming 4-day "walk" at Kershaw Correctional Institution, the group will be holding 4 breakfast meetings at St. Margaret's on Sept 10, 24, Oct 8 & 22. If you've always wanted to learn more about this ministry, this is a great opportunity to see it in action. There are also monthly "reunions" at Kershaw which involve less of a time commitment, but are still quite rewarding. Please reach out to Brian Scott at briantscott@me.com or David Rourke at runssub5@yahoo.com to learn more.

Can you help us make bagged lunches for several Fixing it for Christ work crews the week of Sept 19-24? There will be several home repair projects taking place in the Waxhaw area and St. Margaret's has been asked to provide some simple lunches for the crews over multiple days. Please contact Traci if you are able to help at connection@saintmargarets.net

Interested in helping us with the monthly backpack snack bags that we make for the students at South Providence School who need extra food over the weekend? Contact Traci to hear what's involved. Very flexible and you can do this on your own schedule and even involve your own children! connection@saintmargarets.net

Thank you to all who helped us at our Bright Blessings summer service project! (Photo Below)





Ways to help

Our monthly food delivery ministry, ***Community Kitchen Fellowship***, will be back in action on Saturday, September 17th. If you've never joined us for one of these events, come see what it's all about!

We need more NEW volunteers to help us cook, assemble the meals and deliver them in the Waxhaw area.

If you can help on September 17th, please **[CLICK HERE](#)** to DELIVER.
[CLICK HERE](#) to COOK or BAKE.

Questions?

contact Traci Scott at connection@saintmargarets.net



Join us for StM 101 Class on September 11 & 18

Are you new to St. Margaret's or never been able to attend 101? The next 2-part session of our newcomers class will take place on September 11 & 18 in the Parish Hall. We will discuss the Episcopal faith, our church's history, our various ministries and how to get engaged in the life of our parish. We'll even take a tour of the building. If you are able to join us, please email Traci Scott at connection@saintmargarets.net. Our next 101 session will be on Nov 13 & 20.

StM Connect reminder: all StM parishioners have access to our password-protected StM Connect online directory where you can view/update your own profile, add a picture of yourself, look up contact info for fellow parishioners and view our church calendar of events. If you need help signing onto this valuable database, please contact Traci at 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

RSVP here for the movie(s) you plan to attend: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F4EABA7283-ecwmovie>
Not exclusively for ECW members. Guests and men are welcome! **[Click Here for a Schedule of movies.](#)**

StM Foyer Groups are back! 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.

[Click here for more information:](#)

Deadline to sign up is September 30th.

Click this link to sign up: <https://stm.breezechms.com/form/foyer>

Questions? please contact Traci at connection@saintmargarets.net



BY GAVIN D. CRAIG

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST

"Who here loves to sing?"

As a sullen high school senior, and as a keyboardist stuck in a large group of singers in my college visit, I found the question by the masterclass presenter silly and uncomfortable. It sounded like something out of a Disney movie to me. I kept my hand down, as did 90% of the room of awkward high school musicians, to his express disappointment.

Today, vocal music is perhaps my second greatest passion, next to the organ. As I reflect on the path that took me to St. Margaret's, I find myself musing as to how that came to be.

Probably the most obvious change from high school to today is my skill in singing. Singing is a skill that anyone (and yes, I mean anyone!) can master. The human voice is the only instrument designed and built by God. We all have the same vocal mechanism, and by learning how to use that mechanism, we can create a sound that meets the potential it was designed for. That skill was built not only through formal study, but also through choral singing and gaining the experience singing intently.

Additionally, I've found singing to have many practical benefits in my life. In countless voice lessons, upon correcting some aspect of my technique, my professor would exclaim, "Look, you just grew half an inch!" or "Your face actually has color in it now!" Skilled singing, which involves learning to use the body to its fullest potential, has numerous physiological benefits. In *Breath: The New Science of a Lost Art*, journalist James Nestor explores the ways that well-used lungs benefit multiple systems, ranging from improving cellular metabolism to benefitting emotional regulation. Additionally, the disciplined practice of music is well known to promote neurological resilience.

Finally, vocal music has become an essential vehicle for living my faith. The corpus of traditional hymnody contains treasures that speak to us all, whether old familiar hymns like "Amazing grace" or the hidden gems we find when we dig into the less-worn pages of the Hymnal. In the same way, the Anglican choral repertory has an incomparable beauty to it, with its great works providing a rewarding challenge of

artistry. Too, Nestor's book describes the unique ways that religious rituals concerning breathing provide physiological benefits, stemming from intentional timing of breath according to prayer, spoken or sung. In this way, we might think of singing as uniting the spiritual act of prayer to a beneficial use of the body.

So today would I have raised my hand in that auditorium full of prospective college students? Absolutely. And I hope you would, too. We have many opportunities to engage spiritually with music, whether to build skills in the choir, or to use your God-given voice in our great hymns. As we begin our work together, I look forward to the riches we will share as we live out our faith through music.

"The human voice is the only instrument designed and built by God. We all have the same vocal mechanism, and by learning how to use that mechanism, we can create a sound that meets the potential it was designed for."

Gavin Craig

Gavin is in the office T-F, 9-4 pm.

Adult Choir meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm

He can be reached at: music@saintmargarets.net



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

Ludwig Wallner
mills@saintmargarets.net

Director of Music & Organist

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music@saintmargarets.net

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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

September Calendar

9/5	Office Closed for Labor Day
9/7	First Day of Preschool
9/10	Kairos Ministry Breakfast
9/10	DOK monthly meeting
9/11	Sunday School BEGINS
9/11	Club 4-5 (12:15 pm)
9/17	CKF: Community Kitchen Fellowship
9/17	Knots of Love monthly meeting
9/20	Vestry Business meeting
9/24	Kairos Ministry Breakfast
9/27	Shelter Meal Cook & Serve Day
9/30 - 10/1	Vestry Retreat

Love Jesus.
Love Your neighbor.
Bless the world.

2022 Vestry

Brian Scott, *Senior Warden*
Hugh Laughlin, *Junior Warden*
Kathyann Duggan
Simon Haarhoff
Chad Hinton
Paula Holbein
Colin Miles
Jessica Parker
Charlie Winsman
David Feldser, *Treasurer*