MAGGIE'S CROSS





From the Rector

BY FATHER TODD R. DILL+

The Light of the World

I remember the first time I saw our beautiful church. I was driving to Waxhaw from Kanuga Conference Center, where my previous parish was on a weekend retreat. I left the retreat early to come and meet in person with the vestry of Saint Margaret's during their search process for a new rector. As Reg and I were driving south on Rea Road, we came around the corner and saw this extraordinary church and its campus and I exclaimed. "Oh my gosh, is that it? It's stunning!" Knowing now that this spot is said to be the highest point in Union County, it truly does embody the words of Matthew in his gospel, "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid."

My guess is that many of you had similar experiences when you first saw Saint Margaret's. One of the many things I am thankful for at our parish are the good people who have come before us, who have so much and given us this beautiful setting in order that we might gather and worship the Risen Lord. All of us,

and all our shared ministry, is built upon those who have come before us, from apostolic times to now, and I am so grateful for the faithful people who have laid the actual physical foundation and the spiritual bedrock that allows us to witness together in this time and in this place.

Saint Margaret's was founded 40 years ago this month, and from the very first prayers offered that day, Saint Margaret's has served not only as a physical haven for worship, but as a spiritual sanctuary of prayer, service, and transformation for its people and the wider community around us. Not only can this building not be hidden, but the witness that springs forth from its walls cannot be stopped as we strive together to follow Jesus and help build His Kingdom on Earth as it is in Heaven.

The Universal Church often refers to itself as Acts 29. If you look in the Bible, the Acts of the Apostles ends with the 28th chapter, but the story of Jesus and His people is still ongoing. We are living in the times of Acts 29. The exciting question for the good people of Saint Margaret's as we live out our part of God's story is this: What will the people of Waxhaw, Weddington, Marvin and beyond say about this parish in 2063? When people drive by, stop in, or contemplate our ministry, what will the story of Saint Margaret's look like after 80 years in this place?

"Saint Margaret's has served not only as a physical haven for worship, but as a spiritual sanctuary of prayer, service, and transformation for its people and the wider community around us."

Beloved of the Lord, our call is to continue the good work begun in this place, to proclaim Jesus as Lord, to offer His Sacraments, and to preach the Good News to the ends of the Earth.

I am so thankful for this beautiful place, but I am even more grateful for the people in this church with whom I serve alongside to witness to our Savior. I give thanks to God every day for you, and I cherish each day that I am allowed to serve among you. It is my fervent prayer that the community of Saint Margaret's continues to be a place of blessing, so that our blessings may not be hidden, but might shine abundantly throughout this community.

May our Lord's peace and blessings

be upon you and your family during this holy season of Eastertide!

-Fr. Todd+
dill@saintmargarets.net





The mission continues...

To meet the needs of the rapidly growing population of southeast Charlotte in the early 80's, The Diocese of North Carolina began a mission church. After several years of organization and planning, the first public worship service was conducted on May 8, 1983 at Living Savior Lutheran Church on Carmel Road.

Within a few short months, many important steps of growth took place and a name was chosen. Bishop Robert Estill announced the name of the congregation would be Saint Margaret's, to honor the Queen of Scotland and patron Saint of expectant mothers. A nod to the first service of the mission being held on Mother's Day, May 8, 1983.

Soon enough, a charter member named Eleanor Booth donated 5 acres of land on Hwy 51 for a church building to be built on. "Mission 51" as it was referred to started fundraising and in March 1987 a ground breaking took place. The first service in the new building was March 31, 1988.

As growth continued in South Charlotte in the late 80's, a need for more space was again in discussion. After many prayers and searches for another piece of land to build on, 8515 Rea Road became the next dream. Mr. Jarvin Warren sold the land we now sit on, as he always envisoned a church sitting on

it. He tithed back 10% of the sale to the church and the current structure was built on what is known as the highest point in Union County. Bishop Michael Curry walked the property praying over it before anything was ever built. In November 2004 the new Saint Margaret's was complete.

Fast forward to 2023 and the Saint Margaret's campus we all call home is approaching 19 years and has over 800 family units walking through its red doors. The old "Mission 51" church has been torn down and is now a development of townhomes.

On this 40th anniversary of our parish, we thank all those who generously gave of their time, talents and treasure to make StM what it is today.





Special thanks to Maureen Barclay, founding member of Saints Margaret's for her years of service as Parish Administrator and sharing stories and memories to help write this article.

Notes from our Director of Music & Organist

BY GAVIN D. CRAIG

A Golden Sequence

For a roughly thousand years, Veni, sancte Spiritus, known as the Golden Sequence, has been a centerpiece of the Eucharist on Whitsunday, or Pentecost. In the medieval Church, a convention arose in France and Germany of singing, in addition to the ancient appointed chants, a newlycomposed prose before the Gospel, which was called a sequence. Only a few of these sequences, including Veni, sancte Spiritus, survived past the sixteenth century, but it is from that tradition that we have our "sequence hymn" in the Anglican tradition.

The Golden Sequence is attributed to Pope Innocent III, and deals vividly and at length with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. It follows the best conventions of the medieval sequences, such as a clearly structured rhyme scheme, a structure of repeated melody, and beautifully composed Latin. Anglican priest John M. Neale translated it as follows (see right); note how every stanza ends with the same vowel sound, matching the structure of the Latin:

This coming Whitsunday, our sequence hymn will be hymn 228, a paraphrase of this text. Another translation, with the original melody, is at 226, and I commend both to your reflection. I find the original Gregorian melody, which can be found in many places online, to have an energy and a pleading character which suits the text well. Another setting worthy of your attention is that by contemporary American composer Morten Lauridsen, a movement filled with light and movement in his larger work, Lux Aeterna. The words "Veni, sancte Spritus" may also be familiar to those with an interest in the Taizé community, which published a popular contemplative setting found in many modern hymnals.

One theologian of the Renaissance said of the Golden Sequence that it is "above all praise because of its wondrous sweetness, clarity of style, [and] pleasant brevity combined with wealth of thought." As the riches of this sequence have fed a millennium of Christians, I hope its inclusion in the liturgy will do the same for us, as well as further rooting our liturgy in the best of the Christian tradition.



music@saintmargarets.net

Come, Thou holy Paraclete, And from Thy celestial seat Send Thy light and brilliancy:

Father of the poor, draw near; Giver of all gifts, be here; Come, the soul's true radiancy.

Come, of comforters the best, Of the soul the sweetest guest, Come in toil refreshingly:

Thou in labour rest most sweet, Thou art shadow from the heat, Comfort in adversity.

O Thou Light, most pure and blest, Shine within the inmost breast Of Thy faithful company.

Where Thou art not, man hath nought; Every holy deed and thought Comes from Thy divinity.

What is soiled, make Thou pure; What is wounded, work its cure; What is parched, fructify;

What is rigid, gently bend; What is frozen, warmly tend; Strengthen what goes erringly.

Fill Thy faithful, who confide
In Thy power to guard and guide,
With Thy sevenfold mystery.



Youth Spotlight

BY ELIZABETH PFEIFER

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

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After a fun April filled with kickball, Holy Week discussions, ice cream, walking with Jesus on the road to Emmaus, and more, our weekly youth activities for the school year are coming to an end... EYC's final gathering for the school year is May 7th and Graduate Recognition will be on June 4th at the 10:30am service.

Over the summer there will be periodic activities for the youth of St. Margaret's: volunteer opportunities, grabbing food together, Carowinds, and more. Keep an eye on the bulletin, weekly parish e-mail announcements, and Instagram (stmyouthg) as information will be communicated through those outlets. You can also sign up for EYC text updates by texting "stmyouth1" to 43506 and reply "yes" to opt in.







Children's Ministry

childrensministry@saintmargarets.net

BY JAMIE PETERS

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

God, thank you for Spring and the hope of warmer, longer, and brighter days!

The birds are singing, and the flowers are blooming! God, thank you for Spring and the hope of warmer, longer, and brighter days!

Club 4-5 had their final two meetings of the year on April 2nd and April 30th. Students participated in making a Cheerio Cross Bird Feeder on Palm Sunday, where we discussed the upcoming Easter season bringing new life and a new hope. They left with their cross and planned to put them outside on Easter Sunday morning as a reminder that Jesus is alive. At our final meeting, students made their own door prayers. As well as asking God to bless the house or room, the idea is that every time you enter or leave the house (room), you are reminded to pray.

Sunday School classes will continue from 9:30 to 10:15am, until our last class on Sunday, May 7th. At our parish breakfast this past month, we made palm frond crosses in observance of Palm Sunday. Special thanks to Jeff Culver for sharing with us his amazing palm frond folding skills! Due to the weather, our annual Easter Egg Hunt was postponed from Easter Sunday until the following week. The sounds of laughter and joy as children made their quick dashes for eggs will make anyone smile. How amazing it is that Easter is a whole season so we could celebrate even a week later? In Sunday School, we have been reviewing our key points from our Love First curriculum this year with Love Neighbor, Love Self, and Love God.



Mark your calendars for these upcoming dates in Children's Ministry this summer, and keep a lookout for emails with additional details:

- May 7th: Final Sunday School class from 9:30-10:15am
- June 17th: Playground Family Meet Up at the StM Playground at 9:30am
- June 19th-22nd: Vacation Bible School from 9am-Noon
- July 15th: Playground Family Meet Up at Dogwood Park at 9:30am
- August 19th: Playground Family Meet Up at the Blakeney Playground at 9:30am

Vacation Bible School is full! Thank you so much for the amazing response and we are so excited to explore what it means to shine Jesus' light in everyday life and have an amazing week of fun and fellowship. Mark your calendar for VBS Workdays on June 12th and June 13th from 10am-2pm. Have you signed up to volunteer? We would love to have more adult and youth volunteers so if you are interested, contact me at childrensministry@saintmargarets.net.

Blessings, Jamie



Parish Connection

BY TRACI SCOTT

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION

connection@saintmargarets.net

NEW!StM SUMMER SESSIONS

We will be offering many opportunities to gather THIS SUMMER in smaller groups with fellow parishioners.

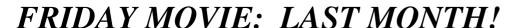
- Coffee hours and "happy hours" for the men
- Mom's support group for the ladies
- Playground meet & greets
- Hiking for our families
- Return of "pop-up socials" for pizza & ice cream

Watch for more details and a calendar coming soon.



SAVE THE DATE:

Join us June 4th after the 10:30 service to celebrate the 40th anniversary of St. Margaret's!



May 10: Minari

The ECW MONTHLY MOVIE SERIES wraps up on May 12 with "Minari."

Join us for this final movie in our series! This series is designed to open the eyes of our hearts to people whose abilities, age, ethnicity, class and social status may differ from our own. We'll meet in the Youth Room from 9am-12pm. Questions? Contact Kathy Couture at kcouture28105@gmail.com



Welcome new members

- Cheryl Hagans
- Chris, Elizabeth, Michael, James & Carmen Corcoran
- Mike, Caitlin, Emily, Kaylie & Liam Reidway
- Lois Krysa

Interested in officially joining St. Margaret's to be included in our parish records?



Please contact Traci for details at connection@saintmargarets.net



Outreach

BY TRACI SCOTT

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION

A HUGE thank you to all who donated to our special Easter gift baskets and to those who helped assemble them! What a special way our parish came together to spread a little love during the Easter season. Thirty "baskets" were assembled from the donated



items and each included a devotional book, a lighted magnifier, lotion, soap, socks, lip balm, seeds, candy, snacks and gift cards. They were delivered on April 15th to those on our regular monthly meal delivery routes and we got so much feedback that they were very grateful and appreciative. Another reminder of how we live out: "Love Jesus. Love your neighbor. Bless the world."

connection@saintmargarets.net

Are you able to help us deliver meals at our next monthly

event on May 20th? It only takes 1 hour and we need 2 more drivers. Click here to sign up.

Shelter meal on Tuesday, May 23rd

More volunteers are needed to help cook our next meal at 1pm in the St. Margaret's kitchen. Another group will serve it at the Community Shelter in Monroe at 5:30pm. <u>Click here for link</u> to sign-up to help with cooking on 5/23. Questions, please contact Karen Schaphorst at karen@schaphorst.com or Traci at connection@saintmargarets.net

Prayers for Kairos

Please pray for our StM Kairos Team: Fr. Jay Mills, David Rourke & Brian Scott who are headed into Kershaw Correctional Facility. They will minister to the inmates during their 4-day program on May 9-12.

Cookies for Kairos due on 517



We are finally able to once again bake homemade cookies for our Kairos prison ministry group that is going into the Kershaw Correctional Facility May 9-12. Please return all donations of home baked cookies to the bins in the connector hallway outside the restrooms. **DUE DATE: Sunday, May 7th.**

Toiletry collection for South Providence School students.

South Providence's supply of toiletry items is almost depleted and we'd like to send the students home for the summer with as much as they need. We'll be collecting the following items through Sunday, May 21st.

- soap, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, feminine hygiene, toothbrushes, toothpaste, laundry detergent, toilet paper, towels and washcloths.
- All full-sized and new, please no travel size.

Questions, contact connection@saintmargarets.net

Collection bins will be in the Connector Hall near the restrooms.

Preschool Director Dana Plate' and Assistant, Jen Pohorence enjoy Teacher Appreciation Day festivities with Father Todd & Joanie Cameron in the office workroom.



Easter Egg Hunt fun!



Spring Snapshots



Paula Holbein and Eloise Lee assemble Easter baskets for April's Community Kitchen Fellowship outreach.



EYC Middle Schoolers out for dinner in Waverly.



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5/7	Bishop's Visitation/Confirmation & Reception
5/7	LAST DAY of Children's Sunday School and EYC
5/7	Due date for Kairos Ministry Cookies
5/8	StM 40th Anniversary
5/12	Spring Fellowship Night at DreamChaser's in Waxhaw, 6 pm
5/13	DOK monthly meeting
5/18	Ascension Day Mass, 5:30 pm
5/20	CKF: Community Kitchen Fellowship, 8:30 am

Knots of Love meeting, 10 am

Last day of Preschool

Troop 101 BBQ Fundraiser

EYC Beach Retreat at Oak Island, NC

Church Office Closed for Memorial Day

5/20

5/23

5/23

5/29

6/4

5/31-6/3

5/19-21



Meal Prep & Serve: Community Shelter of Union County

Parish Picnic to celebrate 40 years of St. Margaret's

CLICK HERE for our YouTube channel SERMONS in library!



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

Rector

The Reverend r. Todd R. Dill+

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Priest Associate

The Reverend Sarah Hollar+

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Priest Associate

The Reverend Fr. Jay Mills+

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Deacon

The Rev. Ludwig Wallner

Organist & Director of Music

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Assistant to the Rector for Outreach & Parish Conection

Traci Scott

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2023 Vestry

Kathyann Dugan Hugh Laughlin

Simon Haaroff Paula Holbein

Colin Miles

Charlie Winsman

Josh Ward

Emily Nelson

Tom Washington

David Feldser, Treasurer