

MAGGIE'S CROSS



Casting our net

StM
Stewardship
2024

On behalf of the St. Margaret's Vestry and Finance Committee, I'm happy to kick off our **2024 Stewardship Campaign** with some information we hope you'll find helpful as you prayerfully consider giving to the church.

To begin, we should always recognize the generosity of our parishioners and the attentive management of previous Vestry teams. With these contributions, St. Margaret's can confidently move forward and grow, starting from a good financial position. Thank you to all who have given and served to bring us to where we are today.

As we consider the financial needs of the parish this October, a few larger items come to mind. After a lot of research and consideration, we have embarked on a project to refurbish the façade of our building. By the time you read this, the project will be underway! While we're excited to sustain the beautiful and welcoming face of StM, the cost to do so is in excess of

\$100,000. In addition to this one-time expenditure, we continue to feel the effects of widespread inflation across our cost structure. Costs for maintenance, landscaping, utilities, etc. have all risen recently. Finally, the Vestry recognizes that the StM lay staff is the core of our ministry, and we should prioritize salary and benefit increases to help deal with these same inflationary pressures.

To add some data and further understand the expenses and financial needs of StM, check out our 2023 Expense Budget (on next page). You'll see that a very low percentage of our costs are "discretionary" or easily adjusted. This has been a condition for St. Margaret's for some time now. We would love to increase the percentage of spending we allocate to programs, missions and outreach, etc. However, we still have some ground to cover before we can do so.

To illustrate, look next at our revised revenue projection for 2023. The giving we have seen thus far through 9 months has actually exceeded our expectation from the beginning of the year, and we are very grateful! However, we are still projecting a slight loss for 2023 (total Revenue expected to be less

"Thank you to all who have given and served to bring us to where we are today."

than total Expenses as seen above). As always, StM total revenue is a combination of what is pledged at Stewardship time, and the collections we make via "Plate" which are collected throughout the year independent of pledges made.

Our goal for 2023 is to increase total pledges to \$925,000. You'll see from the third chart what this would mean in terms of growth, as well as indicators of average pledge per family, and the number of pledging units STM has had in previous years.

Hitting our goal can facilitate so much good – Children's programs, building improvements, more outreach in our community and so much more. If there is more information that will help each of you reach a decision on a pledge commitment, I hope you'll reach out to me directly via email or contact the church office. Thanks to all of you!

Yours in Christ,
David Feldser
dmfeldser@gmail.com



Casting our net

StM
Stewardship
2024

Stewardship Data



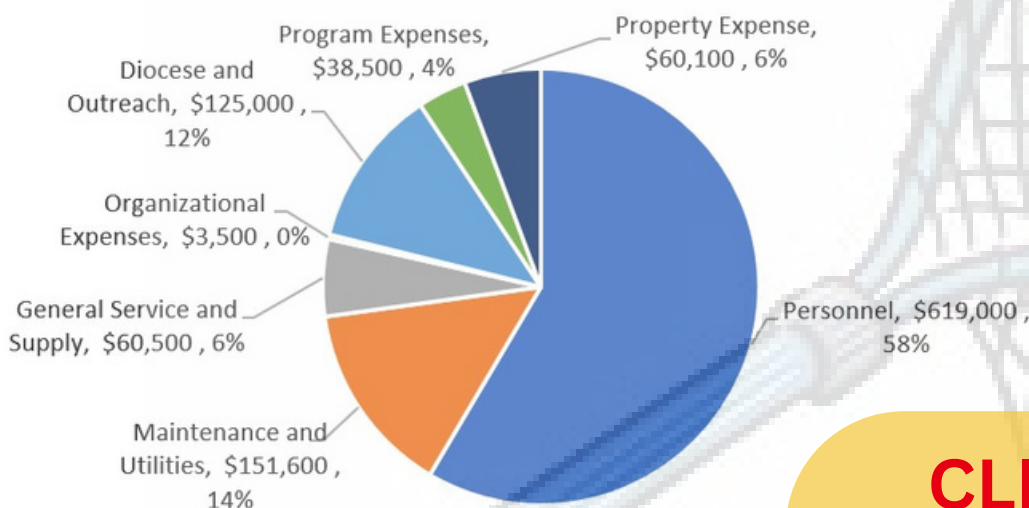
2023 Revised Revenue Projection

	\$ Revenue	% of Total
Pledge Giving	\$ 850,800	80.4%
Plate Giving	\$ 140,000	13.2%
Misc	\$ 11,500	1.1%
Total Revenue	\$ 1,002,300	

- **Current total member households at StM:** 335
- 2023 Pledging units: 217
- 2023 Pledging participation: 65%

2024 Pledge Goal:
\$925,000

2023 Expense Projection



CLICK HERE
TO PLEDGE TODAY!

Your pledge to our General Fund supports these ministry needs:

Worship services
Staff salaries & benefits
Building maintenance & repairs
Landscaping
Utilities
Mortgage
Office & program supplies
Parish breakfasts & events
Preschool program for 74 children
Nursery care
Children's formation
Vacation Bible School
Youth group & retreats
Adult formation
Music & choir programs
Outreach projects
Mission trips
Building security
Health & safety
Memorial garden
Home Eucharistic visits
Pastoral care
...and much more!

Please support Saint Margaret's with your pledge.

**CLICK HERE
TO PLEDGE TODAY!**



Notes from our Director of Music & Organist

music@saintmargarets.net

BY GAVIN D. CRAIG

Harpsichord Recital

10/13

6 PM

Harpsichord Recital: Elaine Funaro

I've written about our harpsichord, donated in April of this year, and many of you have heard it several times in worship. This month, we will inaugurate its use as a concert instrument in a recital by North Carolina's most acclaimed harpsichordist.

In her worldwide performances, Elaine Funaro stands out as a champion for newly-composed harpsichord music. First trained in Florence, Italy, her studies have included Europe's leading keyboard musicians, including Ton Koopman and Gustav Leonhardt. She is active as a performing and recording artist, and she was the first president of the Historical Keyboard Society of North America.

The recital, titled "Now and Then", will showcase the instrument's versatility under the skilled hands of a master. Ms. Funaro will play diverse works by mid-eighteenth century composers, such as Scarlatti and Arne. She will also perform American compositions for harpsichord from the past few decades, an innovative and engaging repertoire rarely heard outside of her own celebrated performances.

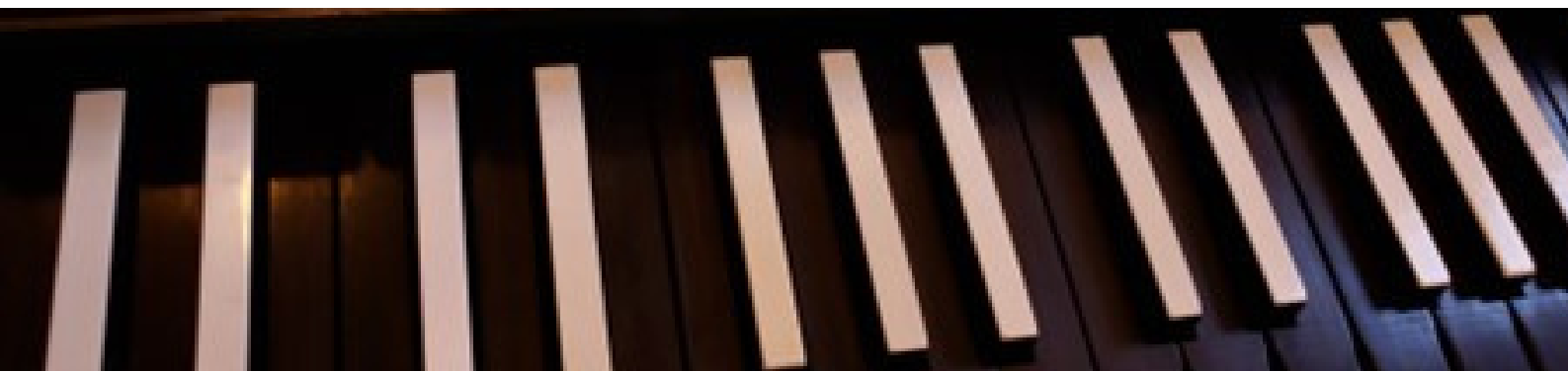


Plan to join us, and invite your friends and family, on Friday, October 13, at 6:00pm as we celebrate this remarkable addition to our church. The recital is free of charge and will be followed by a celebratory reception. You won't want to miss this one-of-a-kind musical event!

Music Program Funding

- The core of our music programming are the volunteers in the Adult Choir and Children's Choir, but the task of building and increasing excellence in worship cannot be met through dedication of volunteers alone. Among our expenses are:
- Guest musicians in worship and concerts
- Increasing costs of sheet music
- New vestments and other equipment
- Servicing of instruments
- Expansion of music ministries to match church growth

The general operating budget funds the music program, but donations are always accepted and appreciated. In the past year, we gratefully accepted the memorial gift of a harpsichord from Mrs. Regina Dill. For around \$100, an anthem can be purchased and dedicated as a memorial, and for larger donations, I am always happy to discuss ways that they can be best used and properly recognized.





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 (and lots!) of new and returning faces and have spent the month playing games, getting to know one another, and talking about what it means to be a disciple.



Our first four meetings have been structured around Matthew 28:16-20 in which Jesus commands his disciples to “Go and make disciples of all nations” but before we can do that, **we have to understand what it means to be a disciple!** As a group, we have discussed how disciples show up and support others through physical presence or a presence of prayer; live our lives in a way that invites other to learn more about God, and how we show that Jesus is for everyone.

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 1st, 8th, and 15th from 5:00-6:30pm with dinner 6:30-7:00pm. We will not meet on Oct 22nd due to our fall retreat overnight that weekend. On Oct 29th, we will meet at the church as usual from 5:00-6:30pm with dinner 6:30-7:00pm.





The St. Margaret's youth group is able to do many things courtesy of the generosity and financial gifts of our parish family.

In this calendar year, we have been able to:

- hold weekly youth group meetings
- end our school year by taking 38 students on a beach retreat
- participate in an international mission trip to Costa Rica with 22 members of the parish
- hold gatherings over the summer and welcome rising 6th graders to join us for bowling or Carowinds
- catch up with our college and young adult students over coffee or meals
- kick off our fall meetings with 77 youth in attendance
- and so much more!



During the school year, your financial contributions support our weekly youth group meetings! Elizabeth regularly buys name tags, candy, restocks markers and art supplies, resource books, and incredibly random Amazon or Target orders. They may seem like small, and even silly, purchases, but they allow Elizabeth to think creatively and bring hands-on activities to youth group meetings. Students can dive into big questions and activities to consider how God moves and work in their life.

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



Your financial support allows for St. Margaret's to continue to build relational ministry in a safe space for teenagers. They are encouraged to come and ask questions about their faith, fellowship with one another, serve others, and (above all) learn or be reminded that God has loved them since before they were born and will love them forever.

Your support makes our youth program possible. Thank you for your generosity and I ask that you continue to support us in 2024!



EYC OCTOBER SCHEDULE

Oct 1st, Oct 8th, and Oct 15th: EYC

Oct 21-22: EYC Fall Retreat Overnight for all 6th-12th graders

Oct 22nd: NO EYC due to Fall Retreat

Oct 29th: EYC

**EYC meets from 5:00-6:30pm with
dinner 6:30-7:00pm**

**STAY UP TO DATE:
TEXT STMYOUTH1 TO
43506**



Children's Ministry

BY JAMIE PETERS

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

childrensministry@saintmargarets.net

love first

I must admit this is my favorite time of year. Everything from the chilly nights, sweaters, and apples to pumpkins, family bonfires, and hayrides. Fall for me is a magical time where I am so thankful to God for the beauty in nature.

Sunday School is in full swing now and we are so excited to see so many faces! Our classes meet from 9:30-10:15am Sunday mornings, and we have been focusing this month on our Love Self unit. While learning about Moses, specifically the **Call of Moses**, children have been discovering how God made each one of them special and unique in their own way.

We want to make sure we have the most up-to-date contact info for your family. In addition to Sunday School, our Children's Ministry hosts seasonal events, Holy Communion classes, Vacation Bible School, and more. **Please [click here](#) to register your family for our Children's Ministry and this will ensure you receive invitations, registration links, etc.** You may also use this form to alert the Children's Ministry staff to any pertinent information on your child and any special accommodations needed.

Our 4th and 5th graders had an awesome first Club 4-5 meeting last month, where we enjoyed fellowship, games, and a pizza lunch! We are excited for a great year ahead with this amazing group so mark your calendars for our next meeting on Oct. 8th.

Don't forget our nursery has NEW fall hours! The nursery is now open for our littlest parishioners from 8am to noon each Sunday morning with two professional caregivers.



Be sure to mark your calendars for these upcoming dates in Children's Ministry:

October 8th:

Club 4-5 11:45am-1:00pm

October 8th, 15th, & 22nd:

Fall Holy Communion Classes 9:30-10:15am

October 29th:

Holy Communion Celebration at 10:30am service

November 5th:

Parish Breakfast with Children's Craft Table at 9:15am

November 12th:

Club 4-5 11:45am-1:00pm

December 2nd:

Annual Saint Nicholas Festival 4:30-6:30pm

I pray you all have a blessed autumn ahead!

Blessings,

Jamie



SAINT MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*As we honor the feast day of St. Francis, we invite
you to bring your pet for a special blessing.*

**Sunday, October 8th
4:30 pm**

In front of the red doors





Parish Connection

BY TRACI SCOTT

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR
FOR OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION

connection@saintmargarets.net

Hints of fall are in the air which also means that it's Stewardship season! For the past 4 years, I have been blessed to be a part-time employee at St. Margaret's, hired specifically to focus on welcoming newcomers, connecting parishioners with ministries and coordinating our Outreach efforts in the community.

With the support of our parish, we have been able to do so much good both inside and outside the walls of St. Margaret's. I have seen first-hand the generous and kind spirit that our parishioners have and how we are impacting the lives of others in our community each month.

During the stewardship campaign, we do ask for your generosity in funding the work that we do here, but we also ask that you think about ways you can give more of your time to our ministries. Can you serve a meal at the homeless shelter? Are you willing to be an usher? Can you deliver some food to a neighbor in Waxhaw? Do you have a truck that could help us transport Angel Tree bikes to the Christmas Bureau? Can you help cook for our monthly Parish breakfasts?

If you need help connecting with a ministry, please let me know, I'd be happy to help!

Saint Margaret's Welcomes our newest members



- Clarence Hodgson
- Joyce Groves

Join us for StM 101 Class

Are you new to St. Margaret's or never been able to attend 101? This 2-part session of our newcomers class will take place October 8 & 15 at 9:30am in the Connector 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.
Please RSVP to: connection@saintmargarets.net

Movie Series

Our monthly free movie series is returning for season 2! This year, the focus will be on homelessness. Understanding the complexity of the problem, its causes and solutions is an issue we cannot afford to ignore.

Dates: The 2nd Friday each month from
October 13, 2023 – May 10, 2024

Time: 9:00am-12:00pm

Location: St. Margaret's Youth Room (please park in the rear of the building)

[RSVP here](#) for the movie(s) you plan to attend:
[CLICK HERE](#) for a full schedule of movies:

Brew Crew with Fr. Jay

continues on Tuesday, October 17th at 9:15am in the Parish Hall. Gather with fellow men in the parish for discussion, fellowship and prayer.

Saint Margaret's Day lunch on November 19th needs volunteers

We'll be marking our celebration of Saint Margaret with a parish-wide lunch after the 10:30 service and we could use some help with set-up and clean-up.

If you're available, please contact Traci at connection@saintmargarets.net



Outreach

CKF Monthly Meal Delivery.

One more driver needed on Saturday, October 21st at 11:00am to help deliver meals to our Waxhaw neighbors in need. It will only take you about 1 hour to deliver to 4 homes in the Waxhaw area. If you need a partner to ride with, please let us know. We also need 4 more people to help prep the meal. Questions, please email Traci at connection@saintmargarets.net

Click Here to sign up for DELIVERY

Click here to sign up for COOKING

Looking ahead to Thanksgiving!

Help us deliver meals to our friends in Waxhaw. 2 more drivers are needed to pick up Thanksgiving meals at Common Heart at 9:45am on Nov 18th and bring them back to St. Margaret's. Another team of drivers will then deliver them to homes in Waxhaw.

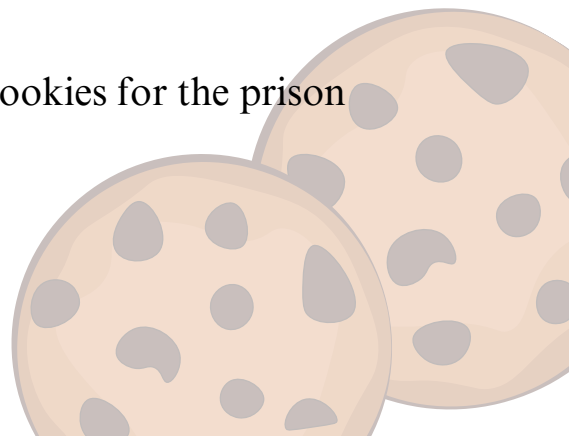


**CLICK HERE
to sign up**

If you'd like to do more to help Common Heart with their Great Turkey Countdown on November 18th, please check out their website for ways to volunteer or donate. They plan to deliver 1,500 turkey meals in Union County again. They put on a fabulous event, but need lots of help to get it all done! <https://commonheart.org/great-turkey-countdown/>

Cookies for Kairos:

Stay tuned for details about baking cookies for the prison ministry at the end of October.



StM CHOIR hosting Judy Family Fundraiser Dinner on 10/26!

The Judy family, Roger and Kristy, with their children Grace, Makenna, and Nathan, joined St. Margaret's in 2010.

They have been active in the church community - Roger as an advisor to the church's finance committee, and Kristy in the choir. Last October, Kristy began to experience some loss of dexterity in her hands, followed by a progressive neuromuscular weakness. In March, she was diagnosed with ALS. Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord.

Since her diagnosis, Kristy has remained positive and strong; she wants to bring attention to ALS. Her symptoms have progressed fairly rapidly, and she can no longer walk or stand and is losing her ability to speak.

Kristy's friends in the St. Margaret's choir are hosting a fundraiser dinner to support the Judy Family in an effort to ease the financial burden of this disease. They hope to see you for food & fellowship on October 26. The event will run 5:30 - 7:30 pm in the StM Parish Hall.



Facts About ALS



5,000+
people are diagnosed
per year



2-5 years
is the average
life expectancy



10 percent
of cases are inherited
through a mutated gene



90 percent
of cases occur without
family history



\$2 billion
is the estimated cost
to develop a drug to
slow or stop the
progression of ALS



\$250,000
is the estimated out-of-
pocket cost for caring
for a person with ALS



Every **90 minutes**
someone is diagnosed
and someone passes
away from ALS

**There is
NO CURE
for ALS**



**CLICK HERE
TO RSVP**



Kristy Judy & family, summer 2023



Sunday evening EYC field games

October Calendar



[CLICK HERE for our YouTube channel](#)
SERMONS in library!

- 10/1 Monthly Parish Breakfast
- 10/1 Stewardship 2024: CAMPAIGN KICK OFF
- 10/4 Wednesday Evenings in October programming, 5:30 pm
- 10/8 Club 4/5, 11:45 – 1:00pm
- 10/8 Blessing of the Animals, 4:30 pm **meet in front by red doors*
- 10/13 Harpsicord Dedication Recital, 6:00 pm
- 10/15 Commitment Sunday: 2024 Pledge Cards Due
- 10/17 Men's Brew Crew, coffee & conversation with Fr. Jay, 9:15 am
- 10/21-22 EYC Fall Retreat
- 10/26 Choir Ministry Dinner Fundraiser *in support of Kristy Judy*
- 10/29 Holy Communion Class Celebration Sunday (at the 10:30 service)



Wednesdays in October

Please join us for
**Wednesday evenings in
October
(4th, 11, 18th, and 25th) for
food, fellowship, and
formation.**

*Childcare for those 5th grade and
under is available with an RSVP.*

- Dinner will be served 5:30-6:15pm
- Programming from 6:15-7pm
- Compline 7-7:15pm

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)



Our building will be
undergoing masonry
repairs in the month of
October.

This project will
refurbish the façade of
our building to sustain
the beautiful and
welcoming face of StM.
We thank you for your
patience in this effort as
you may see workers,
lifts & ladders on our
campus.



*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+
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

Assistant to the Rector for Youth Ministries

Elizabeth Pfeifer
pfeifer@saintmargarets.net

Assistant to the Rector for Preschool Ministries

Dana Platé
preschool@saintmargarets.net

Assistant to the Rector for Finance & Accounting

Kathy Marakoff
finance@saintmargarets.net

Assistant to the Rector for Children's Ministry

Jamie Peters
childrensministry@saintmargarets.net

Assistant to the Rector for Outreach
& Parish Connection

Traci Scott
connection@saintmargarets.net

2023 Vestry

Kathyann Dugan
Hugh Laughlin
Simon Haaroff
Paula Holbein
Philip Huff
Colin Miles
Josh Ward
Emily Nelson
Tom Washington
David Feldser, Treasurer