

# MAGGIE'S CROSS



## From Our Rector

# One Heart and Soul!

Happy Eastertide! As I write this article it is officially day three of the fifty days of Easter. It is the most glorious season of the year, and it gives the beloved followers of Jesus the chance to give thanks for the resurrection of our Lord, and for the new life He offers to us and to His entire Church. Let me encourage us all to be bold, be public, and be unafraid to take the message of Jesus into the world so that all may know His loving presence.

I also would love to take this opportunity to thank the multitude of folks who work so hard on behalf of Saint Margaret's. As you know Lent, and especially Holy Week, takes a lot of effort and sacrifice to provide the parish with meaningful worship, faith-filled events, and life changing outreach opportunities. These things do not

happen with a small group of people, but with a plethora of faithful parishioners who give of their time and effort to allow our shared ministries to thrive. While Lent might be an especially intense time on our calendar, these ministries help us to flourish throughout the year. When you can, please seek out members of these ministry teams and thank them for their hard work and dedication.

**Our Worship Team Ministers:** Altar Guild, Choir, Ushers, Chalice bearers, Acolytes, Vergers, Readers, Live streaming crew, and Vestry. A special shout out to Gavin Craig, Priscilla Dabney, and Janet Mills, who worked particularly hard in making this liturgical season a reality.

**Our staff:** Kathy, Jamie, Elizabeth, Dana, Traci, Gavin, and Joanie, who do so much behind the scenes but are invaluable in Saint Margaret's being able to thrive and accomplish so much in our varied ministries.

**Our cleaning company,** Amaze Clean and for our Landscaping Company. For John, Nicole, Clara, and all the good people who work so hard to

keep God's Sacred space clean, and for Chris and his team who work to beautify the Saint Margaret's campus.

**Our clergy team:** Reverend Sarah and Deacon Ludwig work very hard and are faithful to their calls to this parish. I trust you all know what blessings they are, but please let them know how thankful you are for their ministry.

As the early Church began to organize and gather, they thrived by following Jesus and being of one heart and soul (Acts 4: 32). I cannot give thanks enough for the good people of this parish, for our unity in Christ, and for our hearts and souls together being fixed on Jesus. When we come together and draw close to Jesus, amazing things happen.

I give thanks for this parish, and for the amazing things that Jesus has done amongst us!

Your priest,

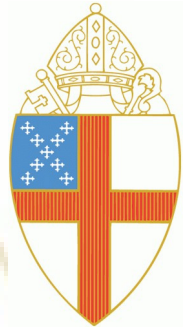
*Fr. Todd*



[dill@saintmargarets.net](mailto:dill@saintmargarets.net)

## Slate of 4 bishops announced for 28th presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church

An election for a new presiding bishop will take place this June at the General Convention. We are sharing this link to the Episcopal News Service to share the bios of the four candidates. Please keep this election in your prayers.



*"that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people  
and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen"*



[CLICK HERE](#) for more information on the four candidates.



*The Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry is presiding bishop and primate of The Episcopal Church. At the church's 78th General Convention in June 2015, he was elected to a nine-year term in this role and installed in November of that year; he serves as The Episcopal Church's chief pastor, spokesperson, and president and chief executive officer.*

# ADULT FORMATION OPPORTUNITY

## SUNDAY SCHOOL 4/14, 4/21, 4/28, 5/5

*"How to Disagree Gently with Someone You Care About"* is a series designed to help us remember how to talk about difficult things and resolve conflicts without damaging the relationships that are important to a rich and fulfilling life and to living our faith authentically.

In several Sunday sessions, we will examine:

- How to recognize the physical reaction to conflict and learn what to do with it.
- The types of questions and comments that help people disagree with one another productively. And the kind that don't.
- How to listen to understand rather than to respond. The power of the pause in tough conversations.
- How to recognize your own biases and keep them from derailing your conversations.
- Strategies for turning down the heat when a disagreement threatens to become an argument.
- How to recognize when the best thing to do is table the conversation for another time, and how to do it gently.

In these times, when we all seem ready to pounce at the slightest provocation, it's important to develop the tools necessary to respond gently and with respect, especially when our relationships are at stake.

*The series will be facilitated by Beth Hunt and Rev. Sarah. After a 33-year career as a business journalist, talent developer, and corporate trainer, Beth Hunt left journalism to become a facilitator and conflict coach.*

*The fraught times we live in drove her to pursue a master's degree in conflict analysis and resolution from the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter School for Peace and Conflict Resolution at George Mason University. These days, she works with individuals, families, companies, schools, churches, and other organizations looking to reclaim how to disagree gently when the world around them is filled with anger and discord.*

*She is a former adjunct professor at Wake Forest University whose teaching and speaking style is engaging and inclusive. She has a good sense of humor, and her self-effacing manner helps attendees let their guard down so they can absorb what they're learning. All of her workshops include hands-on practice.*

Ending each session, we'll consider how does this discussion tie to what we know to be true to what Jesus said and did. **How does what we heard help us uphold our 4th baptismal vow? *Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?***

**JOIN US! Sundays 9:30-10:15**

4/14, 4/21, 4/28, 5/5

Adult  
SUNDAY SCHOOL





# Music

**BY GAVIN CRAIG**  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC AND ORGANIST

[music@saintmargarets.net](mailto:music@saintmargarets.net)

# Rich Acousticals

## Harpsichord Recital

**Friday, April 26, 6:00pm**

Gavin D. Craig, Director of Music, will present a recital of harpsichord music on Friday, April 26, at 6:00pm. The recital will be held in the Narthex, where rich acoustics will enhance the tone of our instrument, as well as provide an intimate environment close to the instrument and performer. Favorite compositions by Bach and others will be played, as well as arrangements for flute performed by Regina Dill.

A reception with the artists will follow in the connector hallway, and donations to the music ministries of St. Margaret's will be accepted.

*Come, and enjoy a musical experience unlike any other!*



*Gavin D. Craig, Director of Music*



# Youth Spotlight

**BY ELIZABETH PFEIFER**

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

[pfeifer@saintmargarets.net](mailto:pfeifer@saintmargarets.net)



**Spring is here** and youth group is thrilled about longer days, warmer temperatures, and plenty of sunshine! EYCC spent most of March discussing passages centered around Jesus' last interactions with his followers. We prepared for Palm Sunday by reading about Jesus' time right before he entered Jerusalem. We looked at how Jesus gave sight to Bartimaeus after Bartimaeus persisted in calling out for him and how Jesus was anointed with oil by Mary, whose brother, Lazarus, he had raised from the dead. We finished out the season of Lent on Palm Sunday with a discussion on Maundy Thursday and Jesus' institution of the Last Supper.

In between our big discussions, we played capture the flag, ultimate frisbee, celebrated St. Patrick's Day with Lucky Charms, had an unexpectedly competitive game of Name that Tune, and more.

**EYCC is excited about the remainder of spring calendar and the last few gatherings we have planned. We invite all 6th-12th graders (and their friends) to join us from 5:00-6:30pm with dinner 6:30-7:00pm. We would love to have your student join us!** Please note upcoming meeting times below.

## Upcoming Calendar:

★ **EYCC will meet off-site for dinner on April 7th from 5:00-6:30pm.** We will meet at McAlisters-Blakeney at 5:00pm and then walk to Cold Stone for dessert, please bring money for dinner, your dessert will be covered. Drop off at McAlisters at 5:00pm and pick up at Cold Stone at 6:30pm.

★ **EYCC will meet as usual at the church on April 14th, April 21st, April 28th, and May 5th from 5:00-6:30 with dinner 6:30-7.** May 5th is our final gathering for the school year, we hope you'll mark your calendars and plan to join us for our final meetings!

★ **Save the Date** for our EYCC Beach Retreat for all 6th-12th graders May 17-19 to Oak Island. Registration out in mid-April.



# STM EYC

*final meetings*

**JOIN US FOR OUR FINAL EYC MEETINGS!  
ALL 6TH-12TH GRADERS INVITED.  
FRIENDS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.**

**APRIL 14, APRIL 21, APRIL 28, MAY 5**

**5:00-6:30 WITH DINNER 6:30-7:00  
ST. MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**CONNECT WITH US:**

**IG: STMYOUTHG**

**TEXT: text stmyouth1 to 43506**



# Children's Ministry

childrensministry@saintmargarets.net

**BY JAMIE PETERS**

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

## What a joyous time of year!

I hope this Easter season finds your family and you well.



Sunday School classes were busy this past month with Lent lessons. Students particularly enjoyed the lessons about Lenten pretzels, where they were able to practice making their own pretzels using Play-Doh and then receive their own snack as a reminder to pray like the folding arms of the Lenten pretzel treat. We also learned about why Jesus is called the Lamb of God and made String Art Crosses on Palm Sunday. Sunday School classes will continue through April.

**Club 4-5** met on March 10th for our monthly pizza and fellowship. We



talked about the Kairos ministry, an international organization led by "everyday people" to bring God's love and forgiveness to those in prison and their families. Saint Margaret's participates in a weekend at a men's prison about an hour away. When a team of people go for a Kairos weekend, they bring cookies to hand out and everyone in the prison receives a dozen cookies as a tangible reminder of people caring about them- those in prison are not forgotten. Our Club 4-5 students baked 11 dozen cookies to send with our Kairos team to remind those there that we are praying for them.

**Congratulations** to the following students and their families who completed Holy Communion classes and received the Sacrament on March 17th: *Jack Paul Bremner, Joseph James Chimento, Noah Larmondra & Benjamin Stephens.*



## Mark your calendars for:

**April 7th**

**Easter Egg Hunt & Parish Breakfast**

at 9:30am

**April 14 & May 5**

**Club 4-5**

11:45am-1:00pm

**June 24th-27th**

**Vacation Bible School**

Children's Ministry con't

## Join us for our Egg Hunt the Sunday AFTER Easter!

Sunday, April 7th  
at 9:30AM  
*\*the Sunday  
after Easter\**

Join us after or  
before one of our  
services.

8:15AM or 10:30AM



The season of Easter is 50 days long, please join us for an Easter blessing and egg hunt on our beautiful church grounds!

*Parish Breakfast served after until 10:15am.*

Children 5th grade and under are welcome to bring a basket and participate!

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Don't miss out on all the fun because spots are filling up fast for Vacation Bible School! Let's dive into a friendship with God! Kids will dive deep into an amazing undersea adventure June 24-27, 2024 from 9am to 12:30pm where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. VBS is open to students 4 years of age (as of 08/31/2024) to rising 5th grade. We will have an amazing week of fun and fellowship through games, activities, crafts, and music! [Click here to register!](#) Questions or want to volunteer? Have youth that want to volunteer?



Please contact Jamie at [childrensministry@saintmargarets.net](mailto:childrensministry@saintmargarets.net) so you can be contacted closer to VBS with more information.





# Parish Connection

connection@saintmargarets.net

BY TRACI SCOTT

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR  
FOR OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION



## MONTHLY MOVIE SERIES

Join us for our monthly movie series on April 12th at 9am in the Youth Room. Please park in the rear of the building. Guests are welcome. Click here to sign-up: <https://bit.ly/stmmovies>

*Beyond the Blackboard* is a Hallmark Hall of Fame made-for-television drama starring Emily VanCamp and Treat Williams. It is based on the memoir by Stacey Bess titled *Nobody Don't Love Nobody*. The story follows a young teacher and mother of two who, fresh from college, ends up teaching homeless children at a school without a name. With the support of her husband, she overcomes fears and prejudice to give these children the education they deserve.

[RSVP here](#) for the movie(s) you plan to attend.

[CLICK HERE](#) for a full schedule of movies.


### Welcome new members:

- The Stockstill family
- The Nevins family
- The Storer family

Only two Parish Breakfasts left before we take a summer break. Join us for fellowship and great food on April 7 and May 5 from 9:15-10:15 in the Parish Hall!

We also need 3 more volunteers to help with the meal on May 5th. [CLICK HERE](#) to help.

### Kairos Prison Ministry

 Many thanks to all of our bakers who made 109 dozen cookies for the Kairos Prison Ministry last month! They ended up with a total of over 2,500 dozen cookies gathered from all of the churches. The Kairos volunteer team disbursed them to the 30+ men who attended last month's program, as well as the 1,400 other inmates at the prison. A small ray of light for these men to remind them that we care. The 4-day program in the prison went very well and we also thank the StM parishioners that prayed for this ministry throughout the week. Seeds were planted and the Kairos team will continue to minister to these men at monthly reunions. If you are interested in learning more about Kairos, please speak with parishioners Chris Ronayne, Brian Scott or David Rourke.



## Sunday, April 7th

9:15-10:15 in the Parish Hall

# StM MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST



## Hunger Walk a huge success

March's Common Heart on a beautiful afternoon! StM had a wonderful team led by Rosemary Nelson. St.M won first place in fundraising with over **\$11,000** donated! Overall, the event brought in **\$77,000** to help fight hunger in Union County. *Thank you to all who walked and supported this amazing group.*



## The Common Heart Food Distribution is off to a great start!

Every Wednesday evening, we are filling cars with a week's worth of groceries right here in our parking lot.

**Volunteers will be needed every week at 6pm for about 2 hours to help unload the truck, pack food, load cars and take applications.** This is a fun event where our community can come together to provide a little extra help to our neighbors in need so, we hope you'll make plans to join us as often as you are able. Children under 14 may serve with a parent; 14 and above may serve on their own.

Sign up thru Common Heart's Volunteer Registration system. You'll have to set up a profile the first time, but after that, you'll enjoy the ease of using their scheduling system. [CLICK HERE](#) to register.



## Community Kitchen Fellowship

We need a few more helpers for our April meal delivery day. You can bake desserts ahead of time, help us prepare the meals at 9am or deliver at 11am.

**If you are available, please sign up using these links below:**

[CLICK HERE](#) to sign up for cooking, baking, shopping:

[CLICK HERE](#) to sign up for delivery.

Contact Traci Scott at [connection@saintmargarets.net](mailto:connection@saintmargarets.net) with questions.



Volunteers help Common Heart  
Wednesday evening Food Pantry  
pickup on the StM 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

Deacon

**The Rev. Ludwig Wallner**

Organist & Director of Music

**Gavin D. Craig**  
music@saintmargarets.net

Executive Assistant to the Rector

**Joanie Cameron**  
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Assistant to the Rector for Youth Ministries

**Elizabeth Pfeifer**  
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Assistant to the Rector for Preschool Ministries

**Dana Platé**  
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Assistant to the Rector for Finance & Accountin

**Kathy Marakoff**  
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Assistant to the Rector for Children's Ministry

**Jamie Peters**  
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Assistant to the Rector for Outreach  
& Parish Conection

**Traci Scott**  
connection@saintmargarets.net

## 2024 Vestry

**Emily Nelson, Senior Warden**  
**Tom Washington, Junior Warden**

**Paula Holbein**  
**Philip Huff**  
**Bill MacMinn**  
**Jenny Marlier**  
**Colin Miles**  
**Amy Pharr**  
**Josh Ward**

**David Feldser, Treasurer**



# April Calendar

- 4/1 Church Office Closed
- 4/3 Common Heart Food Pantry, 7:00 - 8:00 pm
- 4/7 Monthly Parish Fellowship Breakfast, 9:15-10:15 am in the Parish Hall
- 4/7 Easter Egg Hunt, 9:30 am
- 4/8 Prayer Time with Father Todd, 10:00 am
- 4/10 Common Heart Food Pantry, 7:00 - 8:00 pm
- 4/12 Monthly Movie Series, 9:00 am
- 4/13 DOK Monthly Meeting, 10:00 am
- 4/16 Vestry Business Meeting, 7:00 pm
- 4/17 Common Heart Food Pantry, 7:00 - 8:00 pm
- 4/20 CKF: Community Kitchen Fellowship, 9:00 am
- 4/20 Knots of Love monthly meeting, 10:00 am
- 4/20 Wedding of Ashleigh Clark & Miller Smyth, 11:00 am
- 4/23 Marvin Ridge High School IB Testing in the Parish Hall begins
- 4/24 Common Heart Food Pantry, 7:00 - 8:00 pm
- 4/26 Harpsicord Recital, 6:00 pm
- 4/27 Acolyte Training, 10:00 am in the nave

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

 **REMINDER:**  
Wednesday Evening Compline with Father Todd, 9 pm on Facebook

### CAMPUS NOTE:



You may notice a new addition to our campus next time you enter the back doors. We have dedicated the birch tree bed to former Junior Warden and dear friend of StM, Mr. Bob Platé who passed away in 2022.

This is recognition for Bob's dedication to the beautification of our church grounds and for his hands that thoughtfully & lovingly planted many trees on our campus.

