

# MAGGIE'S CROSS



## From Our Rector

### *Spending Meaningful Time in Sabbath*

One of the things I do when I have some extra time is to look at random church websites to see how that community lives out its spiritual calling. I see extraordinary things happening in different congregations, and it gives me great hope, inspiration, and sometimes new ideas for things we might be able to do here at Saint Margaret's. Recently, I found a church that published a list of habits that the church not only encourages, but that the members of its community agree to strive to do together. It is a list of daily and weekly habits, and I am spending some time now praying and contemplating what we might agree as a parish to do in our daily and weekly walk with Jesus. I was especially struck by one of their daily disciplines that encouraged "spending meaningful time in Sabbath."

The idea of Sabbath comes from the book of Genesis as instituted by God in creation, as God Himself rested on the seventh day after creating the heavens and the earth. It was formalized for the Israelites in the Ten Commandments

where God commands His people to Remember the Sabbath and Keep it Holy. We have talked a lot about Sabbath in the past, but what struck me about this church's approach was their daily commitment of its practice. Certainly, God commands us to remember our weekly day of rest and worship, but what might that look like if we took time for rest and reflection each day? If we took daily time for sabbath and strived to make that time meaningful, what would that look like?

Jesus was very intentional about His need for solitude and rest, and the Gospel narratives are full of examples when Jesus went off to spend time in seclusion. In the Gospel of Mark, right before Jesus fed the five thousand, Mark shares with us, "Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest'." Rest is essential for our physical, emotional, and spiritual well-being. In our contemporary world, it seems like our lives get busier and more frantic, and our ability to slow down and say no to the demands of the world on our time is becoming more and more difficult. Rest is something that God wants for us because it is good for us, and I fear too many of us have given up

on the pursuit of a more balanced life. To use a phrase again that I tend to use quite frequently: if it's good enough for God and good enough for Jesus, maybe we should take it more seriously!

God rested. Jesus rested. I really do think that this church may be onto something that is vitally important. Yes, we should work hard, labor for the Lord, and be productive and contributing members of our society. Yes, we should keep a day of rest and worship as part of our faithful following of Jesus. But perhaps too, we might all benefit from taking time each day to spend some portion of our time in meaningful Sabbath, to connect more deeply with Jesus, and perhaps more deeply with one another.

The next time I find myself with free time, and my instinct is to google church websites, I'm going to stop. It's the perfect time to enter into Sabbath. My invitation to each of you is to find your own way to join me in this daily endeavor.

Your priest,

*Fr. Todd*



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

# Choral Evensong Whitsunday

**SUNDAY, MAY 19**  
**AT 4:00 PM**

**Join us for a service of Choral Evensong to mark the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost!**

**The adult choir will present this beautiful service of prayer, scripture, and music to sanctify the close of our day.**

*Works will include:*

*HARRIS: Come down, O Love divine*

*STANFORD: Evening Service in D*

*BYRD: Preces and Responses*

*DURUFLÉ: Variations on Veni Creator*



# Youth Spotlight

BY ELIZABETH PFEIFER

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

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



After a fun April filled with Easter celebrations, musical chairs, making our own resurrection stones, hearing about the peace of Jesus, ice cream, 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 5th and Graduate Recognition will be on June 2nd at the 10:30am service.**

We want to thank our volunteers who since August have given many, many hours spending time with us on Sunday evenings along with retreats. Youth ministry wouldn't happen without you.

*A special thanks to:* Sue Jaquish, Julie Jenkins, Erin Nelson, Mark Shaffer, and Sharon Sullivan for their weekly commitment to being a presence at EYC and supporting the youth of St. Margaret's in their walk with Christ.

Look for more information on our summer programming in June. Parents of rising 6th graders are invited to join our EYC text updates! 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.





# Children's Ministry

BY JAMIE PETERS

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

childrensministry@saintmargarets.net



## Spring has sprung

It is hard to believe that we are already in May! Spring has been a busy time for everyone. Sunday School classes have wrapped up for the school year, and now is the time to start getting ready for Vacation Bible School!

On April 7th, we held our annual Easter Egg Hunt on our beautiful church grounds. It was so nice to have several children and their families join us for a blessing and the hunt as we continue the Easter season!

Sunday School classes finished strong in April with lessons on the Bible stories The Road to Emmaus and Jesus Calms the Storm. Students also learned about creation care. They were able to make their own ocean calming bottles to remind them that Jesus is always with them during any storm they may face and plant seeds in pots to remind them to be good keepers of the earth. It has been a fantastic school year in Sunday School!

*Special thanks to the Sunday School teachers* who dedicated their time to this ministry this year because with every lesson they taught, the love of God was shared: Catherine Chintala, Keri Collins, Carolyn Dunand, Jennifer Ensley, Laura Gregorovic, Page Hinton, Tara McLellan, Crystal Sepulveda, Michelle Stephens, Kim Trawick, Sarah Whalen, and Christine Wilkins.

**Club 4-5** met on April 14th for our monthly pizza and fellowship. At this month's meeting we talked about creation care and how God calls us to be good keepers of the earth. The students did an amazing job discussing ways they do a wonderful job caring for God's creation and they came up with plenty other ways on how we can all work together to be good stewards. To help remind them to be good keepers, each student was able to plant grass seeds in their own individual ceramic pot to water and take care of at home. We are happy to report the grass plants are thriving! Mark your calendars for our last Club 4-5 meeting of the school year on Sunday, May 5th 11:45am to 1pm.



### The deadline to register for VBS is May 15th!

Don't miss out on this week of fun and fellowship!

Let's dive into a friendship with God! Kids will dive deep into an amazing undersea adventure June 24-27, 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 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.

I hope everyone has a wonderful rest of the school year!

Blessings,  
Jamie





# Parish Connection

connection@saintmargarets.net

**BY TRACI SCOTT**

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR  
FOR OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION



## Welcome new members:

- The McLaughlin Family

### StM Social Groups:

Ladies lunch groups are active and ever-growing at St. Margaret's. StM has a total of 9 social groups (including 7 Foyer Groups and 2 Ladies Lunch groups) that meet monthly for food, fellowship and fun. *Interested in joining one of these groups?* Contact Traci for more details.

### Fellowship Night, 5/4

Join Father Todd and the StM staff at the Waxhaw Tap House in downtown Waxhaw on Friday, May 3rd for a spring fellowship night before you head out for summer activities. We'll be there from 6-8:00 pm. Families are welcome! *Waxhaw Tap serves non-alcoholic beverages, beer and wine.*

**EYC becomes EGC for one-night only!** Join us for Episcopal Grown-Up Community where grown-ups can play, learn, and connect just like our Episcopal Youth Community does during the school year. Join Elizabeth and embrace your inner-kid for a night of games, Jesus, and candy. **Sunday, June 2 5:00-6:30pm.**



## Sunday, May 5th

9:15-10:15 in the Parish Hall

# StM MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

*This monthly event will take a break for the summer and will resume in September.*

# Outreach



## Common Heart Food Pantry update



In our first 6 weeks, our numbers have grown from 33 households served to 67. The need is growing and the word about our new location is spreading. We have met many local neighbors (several who live on Crane Rd) as well as many refugees from Ukraine, including some who have been in the US for just a matter of weeks. They are so grateful for the groceries, but are struggling to find jobs, learn the language and get their children settled into school. Please continue to pray for our neighbors.

Volunteers needed every Wednesday at 6pm for the food distribution at StM! We have been so blessed to have every volunteer spot filled for the first 6 weeks.

If you haven't been able to make it yet, please plan to join us soon. 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. 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.

Please let Traci know if you have any questions or problems signing up at [connection@saintmargarets.net](mailto:connection@saintmargarets.net)

Visit this link to register: <https://bit.ly/stmpantry>.

## 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.

## Blood Drive Honor Roll

*Thank you* to the parishioners listed below for making the **One Blood HONOR ROLL** for your frequent participation in our Blood Drive ministry.



**oneblood**  
Share your power.

**Jeremy Ervin**

**Jared Shelley**

**Tyler Peters**

**Sarah Smith**

**Brad Lucas**

**David Collins**

**Dan Jaquish**

**Jody Hoffman**

**Densel White**

**Rich Hoffman**

## Children's Book Collection

St. Margaret's is collecting new and gently used children's books for all ages (infant through high school) to hand out at our Common Heart pantries to families with children. Books may be left in the hallway box by the nametag board. It's a great time to clean out your old books!



If you have a large donation requiring pickup or need more information, contact

Tara at [tara.mclellan@gmail.com](mailto:tara.mclellan@gmail.com).



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 & Accounting

**Kathy Marakoff**  
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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

## 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**

# May Calendar

- 5/3 Spring Fellowship Night, 6:00 pm
- 5/5 Club 4/5, 11:45 am
- 5/11 DOK monthly meeting, 9:30 am in the Parish Hall
- 5/12 Bishop's Visit with Baptisms (8:15) & Confirmation (10:30)
- 5/12 Blessing of the Brains (both services)
- 5/17-19 EYC Beach Retreat
- 5/18 Community Kitchen Fellowship, 9:00 am in the Parish Hall kitchen
- 5/18 Knots of Love monthly meeting, 10:00 am in the Prayer Room
- 5/19 Pentecost
- 5/19 Evensong, 4:00 pm
- 5/21 Preschool Graduation Day & last day of Preschool
- 5/21 Vestry Business meeting
- 5/27 Church Office Closed for Memorial Day
- 5/28 Cook & Serve day for Union County Community Shelter



**[CLICK HERE for our YouTube channel](#)**

***SERMONS in library!***



**REMINDER:**

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

## Let us pray....

*As we enter into discernment for a priest to join our community, it is good for the church and its people to enter into a time of prayer for God's guidance in this holy endeavor. Nothing important ever begins in our church without prayer, and so I invite you, and all the good people of this parish, to incorporate this prayer into your daily discipline of time with God. Jesus tells us to pray for our needs, and so I humble offer this prayer to you as a means by which we might do just that together.*

*May the Lord bless you and keep you during this Holy Season of Eastertide!*  
*Fr. Todd+*



**Almighty God, giver of every good gift:**

**Look graciously upon the people of Saint Margaret's, and so guide us by your Holy Spirit, that as we choose a new priest that will come and serve among us, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for ministries.**

**Grant this, O Lord, for the honor of your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

