### MAGGIE'S CROSS



### From Our Rector

## It's Time to Give Thanks!

There is so much for us to be thankful for at Saint Margaret's. Last Saturday we were able to come together and celebrate the wonderful new reality that our mortgage for the church is paid off. Worship in this holy place is reverent, sacred, and participation in our services is growing. We are blessed with an extraordinary staff, and our parish is busy in active ministry almost every day.

I remind us all of this because our world is increasingly living in a time of fear and anxiety. A headline from USA Today last week was THE UNITED STATES OF ANXIETY. We are routinely informed about political turmoil, natural disasters, national strife, economic stress, etc., etc., etc! It hard not to be anxious when we are constantly bombarded with these stories, and it seems indeed that we are living in a time of great fear.

I believe that one way to counter this is to intentionally endeavor to form an attitude of thanksgiving. Even in the most difficult of times, whether the struggle is

in the world or in our personal life, intentionally being thankful for what we have can be so vitally important. To sit down for a few moments each day and give thanks for all our blessings is a powerful balm against the sting of negativity, and the faithful people of the Way of Jesus should be some of the most thankful people in the world! While Saint Paul's writes of this in many of his letters, perhaps the end of his letter to the Philippians says it best, "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

In order to help frame our lives with an attitude of thanksgiving, I offer a litany from our *Prayer Book* that might be helpful. Perhaps we all might pray this more regularly, and may we never forget the blessings that surround us that can be so easy sometimes to forget.

Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea. We thank you, Lord.

For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ, We thank you, Lord.

For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends, We thank you, Lord.

For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve, We thank you, Lord.

For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play, We thank you, Lord.

For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity, We thank you, Lord.

For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice, We thank you, Lord.

For the communion of saints, in all times and places, We thank you, Lord.

Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

Your priest,

Fr. Todd+

dill@saintmargarets.net





This time of year we often think of turkey and stuffing. I know I think about pumpkin pie and all the really good sweet things that are being made.

Giving thanks is also something that has become a priority this time of year. In a world such as ours, I believe it is most helpful to remember all that we are thankful We thank you for setting us at tasks which for. For all the blessings, for my family, for St. Margaret's, for good health and so much more I am deeply thankful. For Jesus, for the love of God, for the beauty of creation, I say We thank you also for those prayers of thanksgiving. During this season, beloved, what are you most thankful for, and acknowledge our dependence on you alone. what do you offer prayers of thanksgiving

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.

demand our best efforts, and for leading us to accomplishments which satisfy and delight us.

disappointments and failures that lead us to

Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ; for the

truth of his Word and the example of his life; for his steadfast obedience, by which he overcame temptation; for his dying, through which he overcame death; and for his rising to life again, in which we are raised to the life of your kingdom.

Grant us the gift of your Spirit, that we may know him andmake him known; and through him, at all times and in all places, may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.



BY REV. FATHER MATT ADDINGTON

for?



2025 PLEDGING UNITS AS OF 11/4/24:
AMOUNT PLEDGED TO DATE:
AMOUNT NEEDED TO REACH GOAL:
% REMAINING:

Haven't pledged yet?

Please **PLEDGE NOW:** 



Many thanks to the households who have pledged to support the work of St.

Margaret's in 2025!

We are still roughly \$240,000 short of the amount needed in pledges to cover our 2025 operating budget.

Our Finance Committee is working to finalize the budget so that the Vestry has time to review and approve it by early December.

For those who have not pledged, we hope that you will prayerfully consider giving so that the work that is done in our building and in our community can continue. Where are you rooted?

202

23%

\$799,185

\$240,815



# The Early Music Revolution

BY GAVIN D. CRAIG

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST

Is the movie better than the book? Is the UK version of The Office better than the US version? Would you rather have barbecue from a shack just outside Lexington or from Arby's?

While tastes can differ, there is something special about the original, the "real deal." This sentiment applies to music; over the last few generations, interest has grown in early music and its stylistically accurate performance. This move towards authenticity informs scholars and trains performers, allowing audiences to enjoy a deeper connection to the music of the past, as well as to the men and women who wrote it.

The idea that age can confer value in an antique or a landmark is a recent notion. The music of previous eras was treated much the same way: Audiences and patrons always wanted to hear the newest, most fashionable music and had no interest in that of older eras. The great composers were forgotten within their lifetimes, advocated for only by family and pupils. In 1829, a twenty-year-old virtuoso, Felix Mendelssohn, conducted a long-forgotten work whose score he had been gifted by his grandmother: The *St. Matthew Passion* by J. S. Bach. This sold-out performance kicked off an interest in the music of earlier eras, as performers and audiences sought out the music of Bach and others.

Still, this music was informed by modern fashions. Rather than the intimacy of 8-16 singers and a small chamber ensemble, a thunderous 158 singers competed with a large orchestra and piano in this performance. And why not? Music is music, whether in 1727 or 1829. But instruments of Bach's time had different sounds, and performers had different expectations of the notes on the page. In the early twentieth century, research into historic instrument building techniques began, reaching its zenith in the sixties. At the same time, modern assumptions about how this music was performed were challenged more and more as old treatises about playing were dusted off and examined. By the end of the century, informed study into early music and its playing was firmly a part of top schools of music, and today many celebrated performing artists and ensembles exclusively perform music from before 1800 in this manner.

This development was a great boon to performers. For example, by understanding how Bach would have performed his organ works, we gain insight into why the music was written the way it is. Furthermore, mastering multiple playing styles and different techniques on an instrument builds skills, much like diversifying abilities in any discipline. Early techniques also expand the expressive capabilities of performers who study them, while informing the performance of newer music.

For the listener, it's important to remember that the composer's notation carried with it many unwritten assumptions which performance practice can bring back. It lets the listener hear the work as it would have been heard in its time, and thus connect more deeply not only with the composer but also with the audiences of a prior age. It places the music, as you hear it, in a historical context. And the experience of discovering the sights and sounds of new instruments, as well as uncovering the music of forgotten composers, adds a freshness to the enjoyment of music.

As this revolution gains steam, there are more and more opportunities to hear historically-informed performances of music from the distant past. As performers dedicate themselves to authentic performances of this music, audiences gain a rich opportunity to connect with history in a new way. If you haven't yet been exposed to this fresh approach to music performance, I encourage you to join us this month as we hear members of the North Carolina Baroque Orchestra, a leading ensemble in historic performance practice, present music from the time of Mozart.



The Oboe Quartet in the Time of Mozart

Friday, November 22 at 6:30pm \$20 suggested donation



Join Us!



## Youth Spotlight

#### BY ELIZABETH PFEIFER

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

### pfeifer@saintmargarets.net

I do not know if it is getting older and the impacts of nostalgia, social media's constant highlighting of fall leaves and cozy sweaters, or the annual occurrence of me rewatching the most fall show there is, *Gilmore Girls*, but I am "so glad I live in a world where there are Octobers" (L.M. Montgomery, Anne of Green Gables).

Our StM youth group had a wonderful October, and we are looking forward to meeting every Sunday in November! We squeezed every ounce of fun out of this last month and are thankful to those who have joined us at youth group recently. We celebrated Saint Francis of Assisi early in the month and read his Canticle to Creation and groups created canvas paintings showcasing different aspects of God's creation. We had a music themed night where we played



name that tune and listened to a song that challenges us to remember that God will pull us "Up!" from the slimy pit. We finished out the month starting a new series on Jesus: Our Healer & Teacher and we heard about Jesus preforming two miraculous healings.

Our group also spent a beautiful fall Saturday at Bethelwoods Camp in York, SC. The group conquered several team building building challenges, got to try their hand at archery, and went canoeing! We finished up the overnight with a campfire, playing games, dancing, and more. We introduced our newest members to Compline and Morning Prayer and gave thanks over and over again for a picture-perfect fall day.

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 every Sunday now until Thanksgiving: Nov 10, Nov 17, and Nov 24 from 5:00-6:30pm with dinner 6:30-7:00pm. There will be no EYC on Dec 1st due to the Thanksgiving holiday. When joining us for youth group, please enter from Crane Rd. and use the double glass doors by the playground.



# Children's Ministry



BY JAMIE PETER

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR
FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



With the colorful leaves all around, I marvel at the wonders of God's creation. Fall is a busy time for lots of families, but let's make time remember the many blessings of this life.

Our Sunday School classrooms have been busy with our Mini Revolutions curriculum and discussing weekly bible stories. We most recently read *Mark 10: 46-52* about Jesus healing Bartimaeus, the blind beggar. Children discussed how Bartimaeus used his voice and held strong to his faith, which lead to Jesus healing him. Children made Bartimaeus masks to remind them that your "faith has made you well."

This past month the StM's Children's Sunday School held a food drive with Common Heart in connection with their Great Turkey Countdown. Before starting the drive, the students learned about what it means to be a "cheerful giver" and more about the amazing work Common Heart does in the area. We were able to collect multiple boxes of food and donate to help support the community in need.

Our 4th and 5th graders enjoyed another great Club 4-5 meeting in October. We had a devotion about having faith over fear and challenged each other to a mummy wrapping race! We would love to welcome some more 4th and 5th graders to this awesome group, so mark your calendars for our next meeting on Nov. 10th.



childrensministry@saintmargarets.net



**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following students and their families who completed our fall Holy Communion classes and received the Sacrament on October 27th.

Landon Covert
Declan Kelly
Reagan Peters



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

**November 10th**: Club 4-5 11:45am-1:00pm

December 7th:
Annual Saint Nicholas Festival 9:30-11:30am

December 8th: Club 4-5 11:45am-1:00pm

December 24th:
Children's Pick-Up Christmas Pageant
during 3pm Christmas Eve Service







## Parish Connection & Outreach

BY TRACI SCOTT

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION

connection@saintmargarets.net



### Welcome new members!

The Co<mark>vert Fa</mark>mily: Brett, Miche<mark>le, Landon, Hud</mark>son

### REMINDER: Don't throw away your leftover Halloween candy...donate it to our troops!

We are excited to again partner with **NC Support our Troops** (*new name, same organization*) to collect and ship candy to our U.S. Military deployed in combat areas.

The troops love the candy for themselves, but also to give out to the children in the communities they patrol. All types of candy are acceptable (including chocolate).

We will also be collecting individually-packages toothbrushes, dental floss and toothpaste to send along with all that candy.

There is a collection box in the Connector Hall by the restrooms where you can drop off your donations.

DONATE
CANDY FOR
THE TROOPS
NOV 1 - NOV 14

Deadline is Sunday, November 17th.

Questions, contact Penny Feldser at pennylopen@gmail.com

### Thanksgiving meal delivery on Saturday, November 23rd



Two more drivers needed to help us deliver turkey dinners to 30 local families in Waxhaw. We'll meet at 11:15am at St. Margaret's and deliver to homes in the Waxhaw area. It will take you about 1 hour. *Great family activity before Thanksgiving!* If you are able to help,

please sign up here: https://bit.ly/CKFdelivery

Questions, contact Traci at connection@saintmargarets.net

#### Shelter meal – November 26th

More volunteers are needed on Tuesday, Nov 26 to prepare or serve our regular meal at the Union County Shelter.

- 1pm at St. Margarets to prepare the meal.
- 5:30pm at the Shelter in Monroe to serve the meal.

If you're able to help, please sign up here: https://bit.ly/2024Shelter

Questions, please contact Karen Schaphorst at karen@schaphorst.com

### The Angel Tree is coming soon!



Once again, we will have names and wish lists for Union County children and seniors available in mid to late November. You'll be able to "adopt" as many as you'd like to shop for and gifts are due back on December 8th.





## November Calendar





11/16 Saint Margaret's Day

11/16 Knots of Love Meeting, 10:00 am

11/17 Saint Margaret's Celebration with bagpipes, 9:30 - 10:15

11/22 Diocesan Convention through 11/23

11/22 Music at St. Margaret's, 6:30 pm in the Nave

11/23 Community Kitchen Fellowship, 9:00 am

11/23 Christmas Tree Lot opens

11/27 Church Office closes at noon

11/28-29 Church Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

12/7 Annual Saint Nicholas Festival

\*First Monday of the month: Prayer time in the nave with Father Todd, 10:00 am

\*Wednesday Evenings: Food Pantry, 6:00 pm & Compline on FB Lve at 9:00 pm



11/9

11/11

**CLICK HERE for our YouTube channel SERMONS in library!** 



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

THIS MONTH we are celebrating TWENTY YEARS of being "Rooted on Rea" and paying off our mortgage! We are so thankful for all those who have helped us get here. To all the memories we have and those to come, we give thanks to God.



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

Rector

The Reverend Fr. Todd R. Dill+ dill@saintmargarets.net

Assisstant to the Rector

The Reverend Fr. Matt Addington+

addington@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

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

### 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