

MAGGIE'S CROSS



From Our Rector

A Blessing & a Challenge

As I have announced the past few weeks in worship, I have the blessing to share the wonderful news that I have issued a call for a new full-time priest to join us in ministry at Saint Margaret's. I am so very excited about this call and am confident that we have found the right person at the right time to join us at our parish. Additionally, this new priest will not only expand our opportunities for ministry but will allow Reverend Sarah to enter a life that more reflects the life of retirement. She will continue to serve at Saint Margaret's, but in a new role; a role that will be integral to the spiritual health and needs of this parish. Our new clergy is currently serving at another parish and will announce to that community their departure on August 4th. At that time, I will be more able to share with you more fully the details about our new priest and communicate the role they will have as well as Reverend Sarah's new responsibilities.

First, I want to offer thanks to our Lord for answering our prayers. To find a new member of the clergy to join our staff is

never an easy venture. I continue to be amazed at the steadiness of our Lord Jesus, who continues to hear our pleas and offers answers to our petitions. What a blessing to know we matter to Jesus, our Church matters to Jesus, and that He is with us as we journey together building His Kingdom. To be clear, this person comes to us not because of our own faithfulness, but of the faithfulness of Jesus. For his love, grace and help, I am profoundly grateful.

Secondly, with this blessing comes a challenge for us. To add a priest to the staff of Saint Margaret's requires a significant financial investment from its members. The additional monetary commitment needed for this position will add some stress to our budget, but it is an investment that is vital to our ongoing growth. In looking at our attendance numbers for 2022 and 2023, our current year shows a continued trend of substantial and accelerated growth in our parish. The need for pastoral care, teaching, fellowship and worship opportunities demand that we have sufficient clergy to care for the community. I share this with you so that we can each continue to offer our prayers to God, not just in thanksgiving, but also for the graciousness and will to continue to give generously for the benefit of this parish, its members, and the surrounding communities. The beloved people of Saint

Margaret's have always been generous and have always stepped up when called. I ask that we all collectively do our prayers, listen for the small, still voice of Jesus, and offer back to him His offerings for His purposes.

These are exciting times, and I am so thankful for each one of you. What a blessing it is for us to be allowed the privilege of serving together in this beautiful parish. It is a blessing, and it comes with a challenge. Let us endeavor to be faithful to Him who is always faithful to us.

Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent.

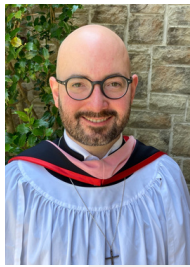
Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP pg 817)

Your grateful priest,

Fr. Todd+

dill@saintmargarets.net





Music

BY GAVIN D. CRAIG

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST

A Brief History of the Hymnal

I was recently tasked with replacing several damaged hymnals in our pews, which led me to some research into the printing of The Hymnal 1982. I was interested to learn that, while the hymnal was authorized by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in 1982, it began printing in June of 1985, making the hymnal the same age as myself! Indeed, no major denomination has an older hymnal in regular use.

Despite its advanced age, I consider it the finest modern hymnal in America. It is the seventh incarnation of The Hymnal, and I hope you'll enjoy a few highlights of its history:

- **1640:** The first book – of any sort – to be published in North America was The Bay Psalm Book, published in Cambridge with poetic paraphrases of the Psalms for use in Anglican worship.
- **1789:** The first Hymnal for our church was authorized as part of the first American Book of Common Prayer. It consisted of 50 hymns recommended to be printed as an appendix to the prayerbook, or to be included in other collections of hymns.
- **1871:** The General convention authorized, for the first time, a Hymnal separate from the Book of Common Prayer. This was still only a set of approved texts, with publishers creating various editions with tunes of their choosing.
- **1916:** The first hymnal was approved with both words and music. It was compiled by eminent American musicians, including T. Tertius Noble, the composer of “Come, labor on.” Also beginning with this hymnal, sales would benefit the Church Pension Fund, which still oversees its publication and printing.
- **1940:** A yet more ambitious hymnal, this revision aimed to instill a repertoire beyond a century or so of English favorites. Although most hymns were from the Anglo-American tradition, 105 hymns were translations of ancient Latin and Greek texts, 45 from German, 3 each from Dutch and Italian, 2 each from French and Hebrew, and one hymn each from Irish, Swahili, Syriac, and Welsh sources.
- **1982:** The modern Hymnal was created for use with the dramatically reformed 1979 Book of Common Prayer. The service music section contains eclectic settings for every liturgy of the church to be nearly totally sung. The compilers sought to draw even more from diverse sources, including texts in other languages and plainchant melodies, and to make conservative updates for comprehension of archaic language.

More than forty years since its approval, some have argued that the time has come to again replace The Hymnal 1982. However, an extensive discernment process reported in 2018 that congregations remain fiercely loyal to The Hymnal 1982, and discussion of revision was ended. Although supplements exist to further diversify our music, the core repertoire of The Hymnal 1982 remains a shining example of the best of Christian hymnody through the millennia.



Youth Spotlight

BY ELIZABETH PFEIFER

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

pfeifer@saintmargarets.net

Our youth group had the joy of serving in Gatlinburg, TN for a week in June. We traveled with 10 students and 3 adults, and it was the first mission trip for about 2/3 of our students. Our group served with TEAMeffort, a non-denominational nonprofit specializing in organizing service experiences.

We spent our week at Ms. Melinda's house and our main project was clearing overgrowing brush and trees. We also cleared off overgrown walkways to her front and back doors, cleaned out a front porch area so she could access her front door again, and began digging a trench and hole for a French drain to be put in to assist with getting kitchen water away from underneath her home.

In addition to our projects, our students had the pleasure of getting to know Ms. Melinda, who lost her husband of 30 years just one month ago. We heard about their life together, what trees he planted in their yard, and where he sat in the house to watch the birds after a medical event confined him to home. We saw pictures of their wedding, heard talk of their families, and heard the grief in Ms. Melinda's voice that her husband was not there to see the work that had taken place while also hearing the gratitude that she "had her yard back" and could enjoy her morning coffee in a place loved by her and her husband.

Thank you to those who traveled and served with us:

Dylan, Leah, Jack, Elaine, Julia, Aidan, Sawyer, Rachel, Briley, MacKenzie and our adults: Matt, Danyeale, and Elizabeth



Youth Spotlight con't



Thank you to our incredible teens who volunteered at Vacation Bible School in June! We love your energy and appreciate the time and energy you gave to help provide a fun week at Scuba VBS for our younger students.

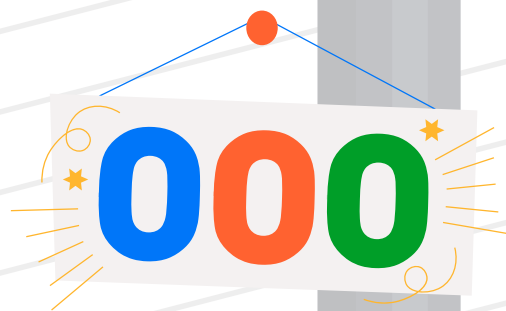
sabbatical noun

a period of time during which one does not work at his or her regular job and is able to rest, travel, do research, etc.

In a world that can glorify busyness and constant "work grind culture", St. Margaret's believes it is important to honor and recognize the need for rest and rejuvenation. After almost fourteen years of ministry, Elizabeth Pfeifer is now on a five-week sabbatical, beginning July 4th and returning August 12th.

During this time, she will not be meeting with students, answering emails, posting on our Instagram page, signing off on service hours or writing recommendation letters, or coordinating activities for our students.

Our St. Margaret's ministry team is committed to ensuring that our youth and their families feel supported during Elizabeth's sabbatical time. For pastoral care, please reach out to Father Todd Dill at dill@saintmargarets.net; for general church or calendar questions, please reach out to Joanie Cameron at parishadmin@saintmargarets.net.



Children's Ministry



BY JAMIE PETER
ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR
FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



This past month was an exciting time for Children's Ministry as we held our *Scuba VBS* on June 24th-27th!

In the weeks leading up to VBS, volunteers worked hard to transform the hallways into an undersea adventure for the children. We kicked off Scuba VBS with a week filled with fun and fellowship as children dived into a friendship with God! Throughout the week, children participated in games, activities, crafts, and music as they learned about the never-ending love of God. It was so nice to see all the smiling faces and hear the laughter of the children all week long.

In *Deep Bible Adventures*, children were transported back in time into Bible stories like Jesus calming the storm and Jonah and the whale. Children even got to spend time inside our very own "whale!" In *Imagination Station*, children participated in various science experiments and made their own calming bottles to help them remember that "Jesus can calm any storm" they may face. *Reef Rec Games* was a blast and *Tidal Treats* provided delicious snacks.

Our local outreach this year for VBS was collecting food donations for our Wednesday night food pantry at Saint Margaret's along with our partnership with Common Heart. Throughout the week, children brought in food and kid-friendly snacks to provide help to those in need in our local community.

Scuba VBS was a bright and colorful week filled with fun, laughter, and fellowship that showed children that God is a friend who is real, loves, trusts, and is for everyone!

I hope you continue to have a happy and healthy summer!

"I liked the games because they were super fun and I got to play with my friends. My favorite part of VBS was the singing and dancing to the music, especially the song "Thanks, God!"

Reagan Peters

"I loved the snacks and the whale in Bible Adventures. But most important was the snacks!"

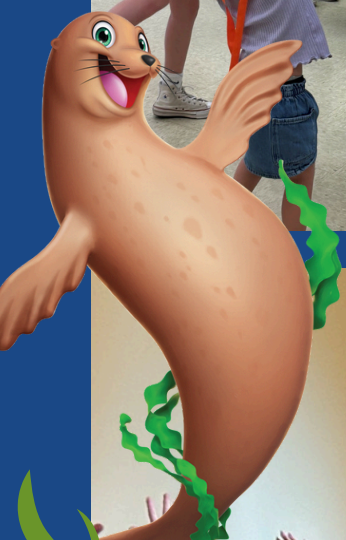
Mason Peters

Thank you VBS Volunteers!



Thank you to all the adult and youth volunteers who gave their time and love to Scuba VBS. The week would not have been possible without you! Thank you for your dedication to the Saint Margaret's Children's Ministry and for helping to make VBS a wonderful experience for children to come and experience the never-ending love of God. Special thanks to Catherine Chintala and Crystal Sepulveda for their extra time and guidance in planning.















Parish Connection



BY TRACI SCOTT

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION

connection@saintmargarets.net

Do you have a nametag?

Check the nametag board outside the restrooms for your nametag to wear to service. If you need a paper nametag in the plastic holder, email Traci at connection@saintmargarets.net

If you'd like to order the smaller magnetic nametags for \$14 each, please use this link:

<https://stm.breezechms.com/form/nametag>

StM Women's Group

On June 22, we had a wonderful gathering with about 20 StM ladies! We spent over an hour discussing how we can strengthen our relationship with God so that we can be clear about who we are as Christian women. So much wisdom and inspiring words were shared and we were all reminded of the amazing support network we have in our parish family. **Our next meeting will be on Saturday August 24th at 10am in the Parish Hall.** We hope you can join us!

Media Ministry

Helpers are needed to record the sermon each week at our worship services. Are you willing to learn our simple recording system and volunteer for a service every 4-6 weeks? Great for older teens too! Contact Traci to find out more...connection@saintmargarets.net.

Summer is a great time to update your info!

Update your profile picture and contact details



in StM Connect, our online member directory! Our clergy and staff rely on these pictures to help put faces with names so, please make sure to upload yours.

Just click STM CONNECT in the top right of our home page: <https://www.saintmargarets.net/>

If you need help logging in, contact Traci at connection@saintmargarets.net



Outreach



Common Heart Pantry at StM

Our weekly Wednesday night pantry continues to provide our neighbors with much-needed food this summer. We are grateful that all volunteer slots are full through July. The August slots will be opening in early July. The slots have been filling up very quickly this summer thanks to the local Young Men's Service League (YMSL) that operates in several local high schools.

A huge thanks to all who have served and donated children's books! We look forward to partnering with Common Heart to build this successful and meaningful ministry.

Thank you Sponsors and our Union County Neighbors!

Interested in helping
on Wednesday evenings?

[CLICK HERE](#)
to sign up.

Desserts for Shelter Meal

Our next meal at the Union County Shelter is July 23rd and we need some more desserts. Are you able to help by baking 24 cookies or brownies?

[CLICK HERE](#) to **[SIGN UP:](#)**



The Little Free Pantry turns 7!

The Little Free Pantry (located near the back parking lot off Crane Rd.) is celebrating 7 years on St. Margaret's campus. StM is grateful for all who generously donate food to fill its shelves and to Elaine Sweeney for her dedication to restocking it regularly. Many thanks to Ben Scott and The Scott family for all the work to create & maintain this important ministry in the community.





St M
 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
 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

July Calendar



- 7/4-5 Church Office Closed
- 7/8 DOK program committee meeting, 10:00 am
- 7/10 Common Heart Food Pantry (& all other Wednesdays in July)
- 7/23 Shelter meal cook & serve day



CLICK HERE for our YouTube channel
SERMONS in library!



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

PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.