

MAGGIE'S CROSS



From Our Rector

Save some time for Jesus!

Can you believe it is already August? Maybe it's just me, but this summer feels like it has gone by so quickly. I do hope that your summer was filled with joy, connection, rest, and refreshment, and that you and your family are feeling rejuvenated as we all approach the fall season. School begins again, work takes on a more hectic pace, and a myriad of activities and events begin to fill our calendars. As you sit down and prepare yourself for the months ahead, I'd like to make a request of each of you; Save some time for Jesus and save some time for Saint Margaret's.

As I've gotten older (and hopefully wiser along the way) I have learned that I need to be very intentional with my time. With so many things fighting for my time and energy, it is so easy to get to the end of a day, or the end of the week, and realize that I have given Jesus too little of my attention. I get myself

in trouble with my schedule when I fail to sit down with intentionality before the month begins, and schedule my time with Jesus before I do anything else. As followers of Jesus, we are called to give God the best of our time, and to give it to Him first, and then everything else flows from that. To put it in biblical terms, "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Mt 6:33).

As you plan your schedule for the coming months, make sure you set aside time to join us at Saint Margaret's for worship on Sundays. There is no more important gathering that you will have during the week. Jesus offers His Word, His teaching, and His very self to us in the Blessed Sacrament. It is vital to our spiritual health, and nothing is as important. Plan some time for prayer. Listening for the voice of Jesus will provide with guidance and comfort. Pray together, because when two or three are gathered together in His name, God has promised that He will be with you in a deep and profound way. And plan for time to study God's Word. Being washed with the truth of His Word is an important way that God teaches us and directs us. Plan time to read Scripture so that through God's Holy Word your heart might be

transformed and your life in Christ might be renewed.

I would also encourage you to take this opportunity to invite a friend to join you for worship this fall at Saint Margaret's. August 25th will serve as our Red Door Welcome, and we will bless the children, youth, teachers, and their backpacks as they begin a new academic calendar year. This will be a wonderful week to invite someone new to accompany you to church, and I hope that you will take the opportunity to invite a friend or a neighbor to sit with you and hear God's Word and to receive Jesus in the Sacrament.

So plan ahead. Get ready for all the good things coming your way. Seek first His Kingdom. And most importantly, save some time for Jesus, and save some time for Saint Margaret's.

I hope and pray that I see you in church this Sunday!

Your priest,

Fr. Todd

dill@saintmargarets.net



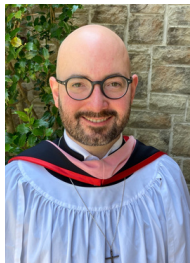
SAINT MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

RED DOOR WELCOME



Sunday, August 25

Please plan to join us for worship on 8/25 as we kick off the new school year! We will have our annual *Blessing of the Backpacks* at both 8:15 and 10:30 services. It's our way of welcoming parishioners, friends and visitors to our Fall season of worship and fellowship.



Music

BY GAVIN D. CRAIG

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & ORGANIST

Reasons to Learn to Sing


William Byrd (ca. 1542-1623) was an English composer who wrote some of the most beautiful and celebrated music for both the Anglican and Roman liturgies.


The following is taken from a 1588 publication of his works:

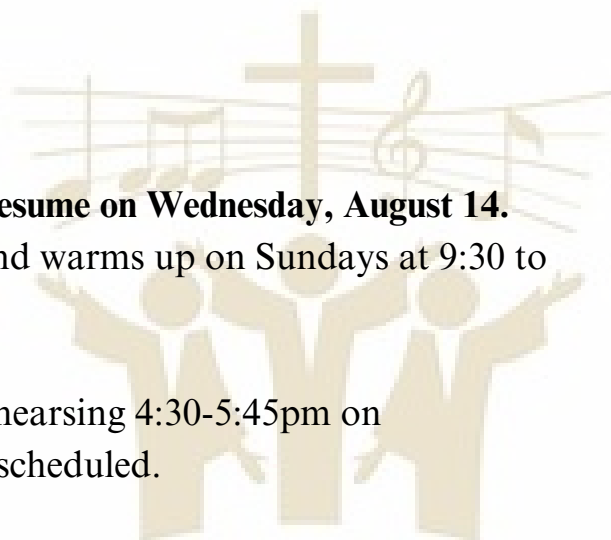
Reasons briefly set down by the author, to persuade everyone to learn to sing:

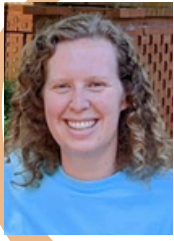
1. First, it is a knowledge easily taught, and quickly learned, where there is a good master, and an apt scholar.
2. The exercise of singing is delightful to Nature, and good to preserve the health of man.
3. It doth strengthen all parts of the breast, and doth open the pipes.
4. It is a singularly good remedy for stuttering and stammering in the speech.
5. It is the best means to procure a perfect pronunciation, and to make a good Orator.
6. It is the only way to know where Nature has bestowed the benefit of a good voice: which gift is so rare, as there is not one among a thousand that has it: and, in many that excellent gift is lost, because they want art to express Nature.
7. There is not any Music of Instruments whatsoever, comparable to that which is made of the voices of men, where the voices are good, and the same well sorted and ordered.
8. The better the voice is, the meeter it is to honour and serve God therewith: and the voice of man is chiefly to be employed to that end. Let every spirit praise the Lord. Since singing is so good a thing, I wish all men would learn to sing.

To learn to better use your voice,

 **Consider singing in the Adult Choir. Rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, August 14.**
The choir rehearses each Wednesday 7:00-8:30pm and warms up on Sundays at 9:30 to sing for the 10:30am Eucharist.

 **The Children's Choir will resume on September 4,** rehearsing 4:30-5:45pm on Wednesdays and singing for the 10:30 Eucharist as scheduled.





Youth Spotlight

pfeifer@saintmargarets.net

BY ELIZABETH PFEIFER

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR YOUTH MINISTRY

EYC High School Dinner on Thurs, Aug 15th! Our EYC high school students, rising 9th-12th, are invited to dinner on Thurs, Aug 15th. Meet at DeSanos in Waverly at 6:00pm. We'll share some large pizzas and then grab Haagen Dazs. Youth can be picked up near Haagen Dazs at 7:30pm. Please bring \$5 cash to contribute to the cost of pizza; the church will cover any additional costs and your ice cream. RSVP to Elizabeth (email or call/text 704-451-2968) always appreciated but not necessary.

EYC will have our Fall 2024 Kick Off on August 25th from 5:00-6:30pm (no dinner served). All 6th-12th graders are invited to our first meeting of the school year. Our 6th graders are invited to a welcome gathering on the 25th at 4:30pm in the Parish Hall (older siblings welcome as well!). We will welcome our group and go over what to expect at EYC for our newest members. Youth will then stay for our EYC kick off following the meeting. Dinner is not served at our EYC Kick Off and parents may leave after dropping their student off.

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.

Rising 6th grade families are invited to sign up!

St. Margaret's Episcopal Youth Community

EYC

FALL 2024 KICK OFF

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25th
5:00-6:30pm. 6th-12th grade.
St. Margaret's Episcopal

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works.

Ephesians 2:10

Children's Ministry



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

childrensministry@saintmargarets.net



It is hard to believe that the school year is just around the corner. As you start to prepare for the new school year, be sure to mark in your calendars some important dates coming up at Saint Margaret's. We hope you will join us for our Blessing of the Backpacks which will be Sunday, August 25th at the 8:15am and 10:30am services.

We are excited to offer Sunday School this year for children 4 years of age through 5th grade each Sunday starting on September 8th from 9:30 to 10:15am. Our curriculum this year is *Mini Revolutions by Illustrated Ministry*. Our lessons will reflect Saint Margaret's Church mission: Love Jesus. Love your neighbor. Bless the World. **CLICK HERE** to register your child(ren) for Sunday School. This helps us greatly with planning activities and resources.

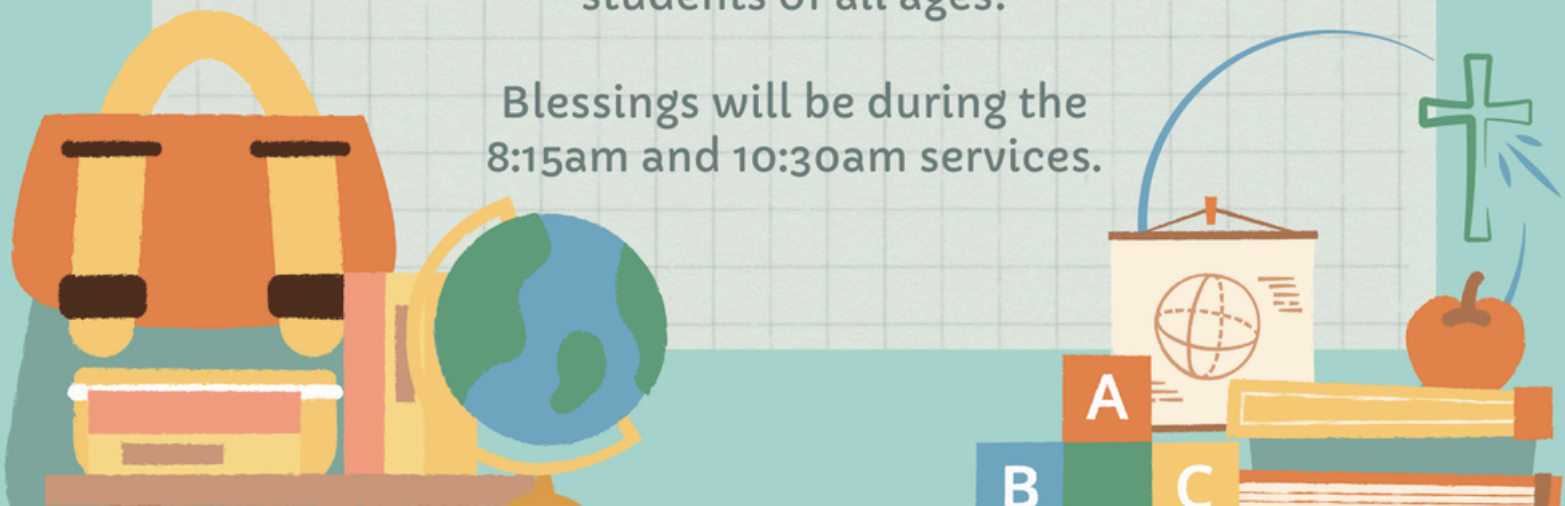
We are looking for volunteers to help teach classes and support this important ministry. All volunteers need to be active parishioners for at least six months. Training will be provided and volunteers will teach in pairs 1-2 times every 6 to 8 weeks. All supplies and lesson plans will be provided, so our teachers can focus on the fun and meaningful part...teaching our kids! If you have any questions, or are interested in joining this ministry, please contact Jamie at childrensministry@saintmargarets.net.

SAINT MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Blessing of the Backpacks!

Join us on Sunday, August 25th as we bless backpacks, briefcases, and workbags for students of all ages!

Blessings will be during the 8:15am and 10:30am services.





Upcoming dates in Children's Ministry.

August 25th:

Red Door Welcome & Blessing of the Backpacks
at the 8:15am and 10:30am services

September 1st:

Parish Breakfast *at 9:15 am -10:15 am in the Parish Hall*

September 8th:

Sunday School starts 9:30-10:15am

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

May everyone have a wonderful and healthy start to the new school year!

Prayers for the new year.

For the First Day of School

Gracious Father, we give you thanks for the beginning of another school year.

As our children prepare for this new journey, and as we prepare to send them forth in joy and expectation, be with them and protect them in their daily lives.

Give them inquiring minds, help their hearts to be full of love, and give them your wisdom that they might thrive in school and in all of their endeavors.

Help this year to be an amazing year for them and help them to know that when they struggle and when they thrive, they are still yours and are cherished by you.

All this we ask through the Blessed Name of your Son, Jesus Christ.

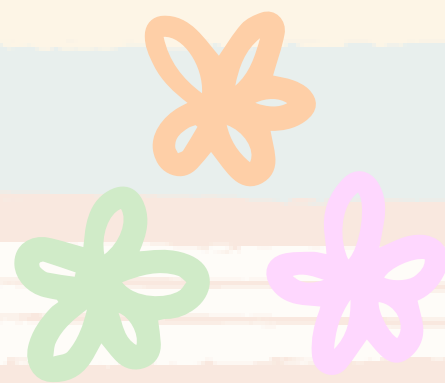
Amen.

For the Care of Children

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

(BCP page 829)





Parish Connection

BY TRACI SCOTT

ASSISTANT TO THE RECTOR FOR OUTREACH & PARISH CONNECTION

connection@saintmargarets.net



Red Door Welcome

Plan to join us for our annual **Red Door Welcome** day on Sunday, August 25. Our StM team will be by our front doors to kick off the new school year and to share what is planned for the parish in the months ahead. *Kids: be sure to grab a backpack tag!*

Women of StM are invited to join us on Saturday, August 24th at 10am in the Parish Hall. We had a wonderful gathering in June with about 20 ladies and hope to add even more this month. **All StM women are invited.** We'll get to know each other better, share a devotional and have discussion time. Coffee and light snacks provided.

Please RSVP to Traci Scott at connection@saintmargarets.net

NEW Women's Bible Study starting in September!

Looking for Lovely

Mondays 7:00 - 8:30 pm in the Youth Room beginning 9/9.

When we learn to spot the lovely in the midst of hardship can we experience the transcendent peace of God that keeps us persevering when we want to give up. In this 7-session Bible study, Annie F. Downs examines the ordinary people of the Bible—fishermen, gardeners, women, soldiers—to reveal the moments they found beauty in everyday circumstances and hope in God's timing.

Books may be purchased on Amazon [HERE](#) or we can order one for you. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to register and let us know how you would like to purchase your book.

Questions? Contact Traci Scott at connection@saintmargarets.net.

Welcome new members:

- Ami Fox
- Marsha Walker
- Jim & Christina Ptasinski
- Doug & Eowyn Tilley & Ethan



NOW is a great time to update your info!

Please take the the time to update your profile picture and contact detail 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



Textured Haircare Product Collection – August 23 thru September 6



An StM parishioner, Elaine Parker, is leading a project for her Girl Scout Troop to collect haircare products for people with wavy and textured hair. [CLICK HERE for more details.](#)

Needed items for textured hair are shampoo, conditioner, curl cream, hair oils, edge control, silk bonnets, detangling combs. Suggested brands: Mielle, Cantu, Shea Moisture. Items may be placed in the collection bin outside the restrooms beginning on August 23rd.



Blood Drive

Our next blood drive will take place on August 25th from 9am-1pm. The OneBlood bus will be on-site for whole blood donations. [CLICK HERE for the DONOR SIGNUP LINK](#)

Help needed for our next monthly hot meal delivery day on August 17th

Each month, we cook and deliver 60 meals to local neighbors in the Waxhaw area. We need a few more volunteers to help with cooking in the StM kitchen, baking desserts and delivering.

If you are available, please sign up on the appropriate link:

Cook & desserts: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F4EABA7283-cooking#/>

Delivery: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0F4EABA7283-delivery#/>

Contact Traci with questions at connection@saintmargarets.net

Pantry Update



Common Heart's Wednesday night pantry at St. Margaret's has been busy this summer! Each week, we provide groceries to 50-75 households, representing 160-300 individuals in our area. The children and teens have been excited about the donated books that we have been able to distribute as well.

All of our volunteer slots have been filled, mainly by local students needing to fulfill service hour requirements. However, as they all return to school and fall activities, we should have more volunteer slots available for StM parishioners and we look forward to having you join us for this special outreach opportunity.



**COMMON
HEART**
a small revolution of kindness

September dates are open.
CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP



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

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
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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




- 8/3 DOK luncheon
- 8/10 Father Todd's 16th anniversary at StM
- 8/14 Adult Choir resumes, 7:00 pm
- 8/17 Community Kitchen Fellowship
- 8/21 Wednesday Bible Study resumes
- 8/24 Women's Group Gathering
- 8/25 StM Red Door Welcome
- 8/26 UCPS & CMS First Day of School
- 9/1 Fr. Matt Addington starts at StM
- 9/1 Monthly Parish Breakfast, 9:15 am -10:15 am
- 9/4 First day of St. Margaret's Preschool

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

*Wednesday Evenings: Food Pantry, 6:00 pm

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

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

St. Margaret's to welcome new Assistant Priest



Father Matt Addington has been called to serve as Assistant to the Rector at Saint Margaret's beginning September 1st, 2024.

Father Matt brings a wealth of experience of faithful and fruitful ministry in the Episcopal Church. He previously served as a youth minister for two congregations in the Diocese, of North Carolina, including eleven years at Saint

Mark's Episcopal Church in Huntersville with Reverend Sarah. Fr. Matt has successfully served at Saint Francis Episcopal Church in Greensboro as the Assistant Rector since 2020 and currently serves as the Chair of the Costa Rican Companion Diocesan Committee. Fr. Matt and his wife Jennifer have two children, Kylee, who is a first-year student at Western Carolina University, and Camdyn, a junior at Mountain Island Charter School.

Welcome Fr. Matt!