



September 2019

St. Mary's Episcopal Church:
Serving with JOY!

The Bell Ringer

Online at www.stmaryskinston.com

Alpha @ St. Mary's

Alpha is a Fall offering that explores Christianity in a relaxed, engaging, and supportive way. It will be **Wednesday evenings this Fall, beginning September 25 at 6pm.**

**FREE DINNER,
FREE CHILDCARE,
NO COMMITMENT,
JUST YOUR TIME
AND THOUGHTS.**



Freely discuss matters of faith without judgement. No Wrong Answers, No Wrong Questions. If you like it, come on back! All Are Welcome!

Food

Whether it's a gathering around a table or a quick coffee and cake, food has a way of bringing people together. Alpha sessions start with food because it's a great way to build community and get to know each other.

Talk

The talks are usually around thirty minutes long. Delivered over about eleven weeks, they explore the big issues around faith and unpack the basics of Christianity.

Discussion.

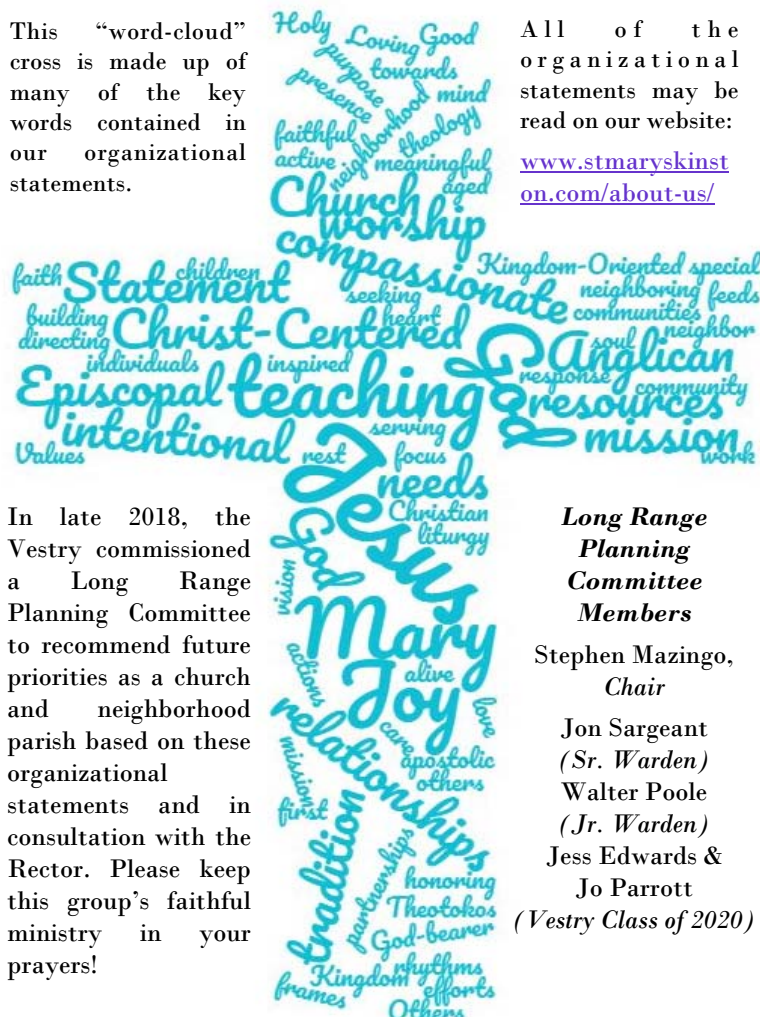
Probably the most important part of any Alpha: the chance to share thoughts and ideas on the topic and discuss it in the honest, friendly, open environment of a small group.

*Read more about the new **ALPHA** class at St. Mary's on page 5*

From the Rector

Each of the 12 elements of our organizational statements will be featured in the 2019 Bell-Ringers as a way of explaining and celebrating how we hear God calling us into JOY-ful service in this time. In this edition, we look at the 2nd part of the Vision Statement...

This “word-cloud” cross is made up of many of the key words contained in our organizational statements.



In late 2018, the Vestry commissioned a Long Range Planning Committee to recommend future priorities as a church and neighborhood parish based on these organizational statements and in consultation with the Rector. Please keep this group's faithful ministry in your prayers!

All of the organizational statements may be read on our website:

www.stmaryskinston.com/about-us/

Long Range Planning Committee Members

Stephen Mazingo,
Chair

Jon Sargeant
(Sr. Warden)
Walter Poole
(Jr. Warden)

Jess Edwards &
Jo Parrott
(Vestry Class of 2020)

Several years ago, some mischievous soul rummaged through our car in the dark of night. The next day, we discovered that several things were missing. I also couldn't find my Bible. It was a new Bible that I'd purchased, looking forward to reading through that particular translation for the first time that year. I missed it. In the midst of my frustration, I took solace in the thought that at least the criminal would have God's Word to comfort whatever struggles might have led to the act of theft... and also to convict a change of heart! "There's hunger for the Word!" I added as I share the news with others.

Turns out, my Bible hadn't been stolen. I found it a few days later... in my son's basinet (#dadlife)! Regardless of what really happened in the mysterious re-locating of the Bible, I wasn't wrong - there truly is hunger for the Word.

This is a theological foundation for all Christians, championed by the very first apostles and carried through every generation: that the Word of God is the gift of life and salvation for all people. At our core, all creatures are *hungry* for relationship and life with their Creator. At one level, the "Word of God" refers to the Bible itself, which we believe is inspired by the Holy Spirit, both as it was originally spoken & written and as it is heard & read in every age. But this spoken/written word is witness to The Word - another name for Jesus. It is Jesus who saves. It is Jesus who feeds. It is Jesus who calls us to follow Him in love and service to God and neighbor. There is hunger for The Word! And it is the responsibility of Christ's Body, the Church, to share the Good News of the Word of God in how we live together.

This is the reason for which the leadership of St. Mary's included "faithful apostolic teaching that feeds the mind and soul" as a part of the vision which we know that God is calling us to embody. Through the Christian formation programs that we offer and the preaching that we proclaim, we are striving to equip all people for the joyful work of ministry. May you find your mind and soul fed here at St. Mary's, and invite others to the feast!

Tom +

The Vision Statement of St. Mary's

Through the love of Jesus, St. Mary's will be a joy-filled Christian community for all individuals through:

- inspired joy-filled worship in the Anglican tradition
- ***faithful apostolic teaching that feeds the mind and soul***
- compassionate response to the needs of all, with special focus on the needs of the aged, children, and those in crisis
- partnerships with neighboring faith communities and others
- meaningful relationships with the neighborhood
- honoring God in rhythms of work and rest, and in the intentional use of all resources

The Episcopal Church

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In the Anglican Communion

A global community of 80 million Anglicans in 38 member provinces/churches.

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In the United States

A community of 1.9 million members in 118 dioceses in the Americas and abroad.

Established in 1788.

Presiding Bishop

The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry

Episcopal Church Center

815 2nd Avenue

New York, N.Y. 10017 212-716-6000

www.episcopalchurch.org

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In the Diocese of East Carolina

A community of more than 15,000 communicants in 70 churches.

Founded in 1883.

The Rt. Rev. Robert S. Skirving

Diocesan Office, 705 Doctors Dr.

P.O. Box 1336, Kinston, NC 28503

Tel: 252-522-0885

Fax: 252-523-5272

www.diocese-eastcarolina.org

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St. Mary's Episcopal Church

"Serving with JOY!!

Jesus First,

Others Second,

Yourself Last"

800 Rountree Street

Kinston, NC 28501-3655

Tel: 252-523-6146

Fax: 252-523-5134

www.stmaryskinston.com

Rector	The Rev'd Thomas P.H. Warren
Sr. Warden	The Hon. Jon Sargeant
Jr. Warden	Mr. Walt Poole
Parish Administrator	Mrs. Lori Kelly
Organist & Choirmaster	Mrs. Sharon Veitch
Communications Director	Mrs. Sherry Tanner
Mary's Kitchen Executive Director	Mr. Jim Godfrey

News at St. Mary's



MARY'S DAY & MINISTRY FAIR

On Sunday, September 8 we kick off the Program Year with a special celebration of our Matron Saint and a Ministry Fair that will accompany the breakfast in Moseley Hall in between our two liturgies that morning. What a wonderful way to showcase the great ministries to which God has called us at St. Mary's, as well as give our parishioners and guests the opportunity to CONNECT, GROW, and SERVE. Please see Laury Sargeant (jsarg4@suddenlink.net) with any questions about the Ministry Fair.

Fellowship

The Fellowship Committee is hosting a **St. Mary's Social Night** at the Mother Earth Brewing Tap Room on **Wednesday, September 4, 6-8pm**. The church will provide hors d'oeuvres and non-alcoholic beverages. All members on our email list will receive an evite requesting your RSVP. Please be sure to let us know if you plan to attend either through your evite or by contacting Kevin Zoltek at 252-521-3302.



From the Parish Register

Baptisms:

Claire Stevens Shimer

Daughter of John & Kristen Shimer

Granddaughter of Sandy & Jessica Shimer

August 11, 2019

Maeve Victoria Coley

Daughter of Eric & Rachel Coley

Granddaughter of Vicki & Claude Kennedy

August 18, 2019

Cherished Members' Luncheons return this fall on the first Thursday of each month from 11:30am-12:30pm. Retired members of our parish and their friends are invited to attend a luncheon that will be lovingly prepared by parish members. If you are interested in serving in this ministry, please contact Anne Lindley at 252-521-6404. Mark your calendar for the first luncheon on **Thursday, October 3rd, at 11:30am**.



News at St. Mary's



PARISH FAMILY BREAKFAST

Please join us each Sunday, beginning September 8th from 9-9:30am in Moseley Hall for a parish family breakfast. Don't miss this special time of fellowship! We are so grateful to ALL those who make this wonderful Sunday morning ministry possible!

MARY'S KITCHEN BINGO NIGHT

Join us at The Exchange (121 W. Gordon St.) on **Friday, September 27, at 6pm** for this exciting fundraiser! For \$25/person, you'll get 12 Bingo games, a hot dog dinner, and many chances to win additional prizes. Come support the Mary's Kitchen ministry. For reservations or questions, contact Jim Godfrey, Executive Director of Mary's Kitchen, at 252-523-6146 or maryskitchen@stmaryskinston.com.



DID YOU KNOW there are only **126 days** between September 1st and the 2020 Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival on January 5?

- The Boar's Head Planning Committee meets September 10th at 5:30pm



Many thanks for your help with the 8th Annual Block Party on August 7th. From the setting up, to the speedy relocation of food/tables/chairs/people to Moseley Hall (!), to the food preparation, to the fellowship, our parish and neighbors were so blessed by all of you! The rain may have changed our location, but it didn't hamper the JOY of the event as the blessings of our Lord truly rained down from above!



PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, September 2, 2019 in observance of Labor Day. We would like to wish you a safe, happy holiday and may the Lord's presence refresh, renew, and restore you!

Episcopal Church Women



Plans are being made for an ECW Fall Gathering! Please be sure to check your email in the coming weeks for more information.



Looking ahead...

remember to mark your calendars for **Sunday, November 24th, 2019!** Mary's Market will be here before we know it!

*Mary's
Market
2019*



Christian Formation



Education for Ministry (EfM) is a four-year program of intense Biblical and theological study which helps its participants prepare to listen for and respond to God's call. EfM is offered through the School of Theology at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. Using a unique format of mentor-led sessions and in-depth theological reflection, participants make scripture and theology a relevant and meaningful part of their daily lives. The EfM group also forms a community of believers who can get a taste of college level theological study without having to travel to a seminary or university.

While the complete program consists of four years of study in different areas, you can begin the course during any year as a part of the existing St. Mary's group. The cost of EfM is \$275 for the first year and \$375 for subsequent years; however, generous local scholarship monies are available which will make the course available to anyone who wants to participate. The St. Mary's EfM group will resume regular meetings on Tuesday evenings in the Vestry Room from 6:30-8:30pm beginning Tuesday, September 10, 2019. During all of the September meeting dates, the group will have an open house at no cost to welcome anyone interested. If you have any questions or would like to give this group a try, feel free to contact Jon Sargeant, Jo Parrott, or Father Tom Warren, or simply join us on any Tuesday in September.

Alpha. Wednesdays this Fall.

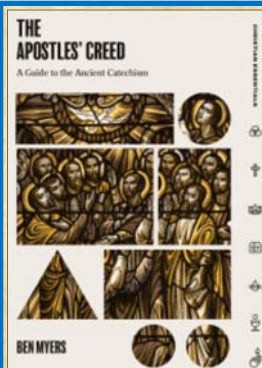
One piece of consistent feedback that has been voiced in recent years about our Wednesday evening gatherings is a desire for additional programming that will feed the soul, as well as the body. So, the Christian Formation Committee is excited to offer **Alpha** as our Wednesday night program **beginning Sep. 25 through Dec 11**. Developed in 1990, Alpha has been translated into 112 different languages and has assisted millions of people around the world to explore the Christian faith. Alpha has 3 main components to it - food, talk, group discussion - all in a casual, friendly environment. Every opinion matters. Every perspective matters. You can be yourself while you explore the timeless questions about life, faith, and God. This program also includes our youth! Following the community meal, middle and high schoolers are invited to participate in **Alpha Youth**. We hope you will accept this invitation to a special season of meaningful spiritual growth and exploration this Fall with **Alpha**.



Wednesday Evening Alpha Programming Schedule:

- 6:00 pm join together as a community for a meal in Moseley Hall
- 6:30pm watch an Alpha video on a topic like "Is there more to life than this?", "Who is Jesus?", "How does God guide us?" and "Does God heal today?"
- 7:00pm share ideas in small group

*** The nursery will be available every week!*



ADULT CHRISTIAN FORMATION




The Christian Formation Committee for Adults is looking forward to our new Fall Adult Forum series led by Fr. Tom which will follow the book *The Apostles' Creed*, by Ben Myers. Mr. Myers is the director of the Millis Institute in Brisbane, a research fellow of the Centre for Public and Contextual Theology at Charles Sturt University in Canberra, and an author of theology, literature, and the history of Christian thought. Christians throughout time, place, and tradition have been united by the eternal truths of the Apostles' Creed. It is the creed upon which our baptismal covenant is founded and is spoken in many of our liturgies. The fact that so many in the early church died for their faith means they were caught up in something greater than themselves. The Apostle's Creed speaks those truths. One copy of the book will be provided for every participating household - additional copies are available for sale in the Bookstore. This September, we invite you to join us on Sunday mornings after breakfast at 9:30am for *The Apostles' Creed*.



Christian Formation

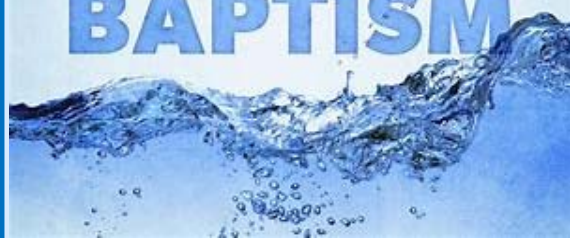


St. Mary's **ONE** - *one family, leading & guiding each other in Christ*

	AGE	OPPORTUNITY	CONTACT
	Infant-Kindergarten	Nursery (Rainbow Room) 9:00am-noon every Sunday	Heather Wentz hawentz@msn.com
	Infant-Kindergarten	CAP (Child & Parent) Rm 110 9:30am every Sunday	Whitney Grady whitneygradya@aol.com
	3yrs-1st Grade 	St. Cecilia's Choir 6:00pm every Wednesday	Sharon Veitch sveitch@stmaryskinston.com
	1st-5th Grades Elementary	YTY (Youth Teaching Youth) 9:30am every Sunday	Jen McKinley ncmommy54@gmial.com
	Elementary 	Training Choristers 5:30pm every Wednesday	Sharon Veitch sveitch@stmaryskinston.com
	Middle & High School	Sunday School Youth Room 9:30am every Sunday	Audra Haddad/Terah Archie 5haddad@suddenlink.net archie15@ecu.edu
	Middle & High School	EYC 5:15pm every Wednesday	Holly Warren holly3799@hotmail.com
	Middle & High School	YouthAlpha 6-7:30pm Wednesdays (Sep 25-Dec11)	Whitney Grady whitneygradya@aol.com
	Age 3-High School	Liturgical Dancers Seasonal practices/performances	Whitney & Eliza Grady whitneygradya@aol.com
	ALL YOUTH	Boar's Head Seasonal practices/performances	Holly Warren holly3799@hotmail.com

Worship

BAPTISM



We are thrilled to have a baptism planned for the month of September: **Mary Helen Edwards**, daughter of Dacie & Jess Edwards and sister to **Leah Rose**, on Sunday, September 29 at the 10:30am liturgy. Please keep Mary Helen and her family in your prayers, and plan to be present in body and spirit as we welcome the newest member into the household of God!

Youth Community News

Mark Your Calendars!!

UPCOMING EVENTS & DATES:

EYC returns

- Wednesday, September 11
- 5:15pm

Christian Formation for Youth

- Sunday, September 15
- 9:30am

yOUThREACH 2019

- Saturday, September 21
- St. Andrew's (Goldsboro)
- Registration due to Terah Archie September 11

HAPPENING #74

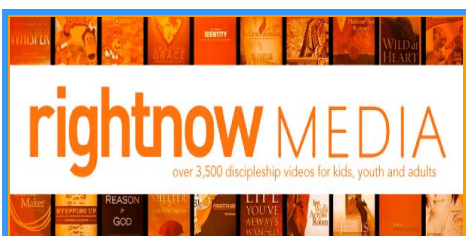
- October 18-20, 2019
- For 9-12th graders at Trinity Ctr
- Team & Candidate Forms can already be found at the Diocesan website!

FALL CONFERENCE

- November 15-17, 2019
- For Middle Schoolers @ Trinity Ctr
- Team & Candidate Forms will be available early Fall



St. Mary's Episcopal Church
800 Rountree Street
Kinston, NC 28501-3655



Be sure to accept your free invitation to join RightNow Media! This entire video library offers something for each family member, including tons of children's shows. To access your free invitation, simply go to www.stmaryskinston.com and click on the RightNow Media picture on the home page rotator. We hope you will take advantage of this excellent resource for you and your family!

GOD BLESS YOUR GIVING!

Your year-round giving is important to the mission and ministry of St. Mary's Church and allows for the events included in this newsletter as well as things like air conditioned worship spaces, staff payment, and so much more. Giving statements for the 2nd quarter have been emailed recently. Please contact the church office if you notice any corrections that need to be made. Thank you!

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP SERVICE

Sundays 8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist: Rite I

Sundays 10:30 a.m. – Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

ST. MARY'S VESTRY

2019	2020	2021
Juliet Barrus	Jess Edwards	Jimmy Ballard
Walter Poole	Gerry Fox	Sam Gilmore
Jim Purnell	Whitney Grady	Jessica Shimer
Jon Sargeant	Jo Parrott	Stuart Stroud

Senior Warden – Jon Sargeant

Junior Warden – Walter Poole

Clerk – Whitney Grady

Treasurer – Billy Page

RECTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesdays: 9am-noon

Wednesdays: 9am-Noon

Thursdays: 2pm-4:30pm

Fridays: 9am-Noon

* other times by appointment