



ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

ANNAPOLIS • MARYLAND • ESTABLISHED 1692

1601 Pleasant Plains Road
Annapolis, Maryland 21409
(410) 974-0200 www.st-margarets.org



The Spire

Aug./Sept. 2015
Vol. X, Issue V

WHERE GOD IS LEADING YOU

By the Rev. Peter W. Mayer

What excites you about God? In doing some deep reflection on our relationship, God and I spent some time together on vacation, getting to know each other again. And excitement wasn't one of the first things either one of us said about the other (or at least, I didn't hear God come right out and say that I rock God's world. I heard a lot of love, and acceptance and forgiveness, but it wasn't electric, y'know?).

It wasn't really until my first day back at the office from vacation when I walked through the packed parish hall towards the kitchen when I saw light coming from the southeast corner of the room. Sure enough, the wonderful workers of Whiting-Turner had taken down the plywood to open the parish hall to our new building's entryway. (I only wish I was there to give my best Ronald Reagan impression: "Mr. Gorbachev! Take down this plywood!") Where for ten months stood a less-than-beautiful wall of brown boards, was now sunlit and bright, beaming with hope and promise. I began to think of the people who would walk through that entryway, to learn about God and Jesus, to learn about how to live a Christian life, to learn about what God wants for the world. I thought of the people who will mourn, who will share, who will laugh there. I thought of the welcome we will give the community in that space. And it was very exciting.

That excitement is building. Terrific things are happening in our office and on our campus, thanks to our tremendous staff and our new senior administrator, Elizabeth Radley. We are very close to bringing in our formation staff for the coming year, which begins with an open house in the new building on September 13. First Sunday School classes take place the following week, and on September 27 we will bless the building at its grand opening.

The most exciting thing though is what God is doing in your lives. How is that relationship between you and God? When was the last time you went out for coffee, or watched a show together, or just talked? Come and kindle that relationship with us at St. Margaret's. Come get involved, and ask where God is leading you. Through worship and music, formation and fellowship, giving and service, God is doing incredibly exciting things in your life. Come tell us about them.



CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY SCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE
SEPT. 13

FAITH &
FELLOWSHIP
NIGHTS BEGIN
SEPT. 14

SUNDAY SCHOOL
1ST CLASSES
SEPT. 20

FLU SHOTS SUNDAY
SEPT. 20

BYLAWS VOTE
SEPT. 20

FOYERS KICKOFF
SEPT. 20

CELEBRATION OF
NEW BUILDING
SEPT. 27

MISSIONS FAIR
OCT. 4

BLESSING OF THE
ANIMALS
OCT. 4

NEWCOMERS
DINNER
OCT. 4



Living Through Giving @ St. Margaret's

by Anne Sessions



Years ago my niece stood in a pumpkin patch staring at acres of pumpkins and was frozen with indecision. One million pumpkins lay before her, and she couldn't choose the one for her. She almost missed out on Halloween that year.

Many times St. Margaret's has asked you to participate or help, and I'm not going to lie, there are a lot of choices. The *Dragon Tales* weekly email can bombard you with choices -- attend a conference at Claggett Center, teach Sunday School, sing, weed, counsel, pray, feed, distribute, heal, pray, knit, drive, applaud, listen, pray pray pray. It's a big pumpkin patch out there. Did God really make that many pumpkins? And is God really going to speak to us through pumpkins? And while we're at it, which is the perfect pumpkin? "Perfect" is a dangerous aspiration which freezes with indecision and fear of failure all who go there. Perfect doesn't exist. Better to seek challenge, or change, or a good dinner, which I'll explain.



Please join us...



**Celebration
of our
New Formation Building
Sunday, Sept. 27th
10:15 a.m.**

All are welcome to gather at the exterior front doors of the new building for a short program and ribbon cutting followed by celebratory coffee and cake in the new Fellowship Hall. (SS teachers will then collect their students for class.) Self-guided tours will be available with maps of the new classrooms.



When our family joined St. Margaret's, Berry Pigeon nurtured me, asked me to do small tasks that got bigger. She introduced me to Mack Ridout, Jim Knorr, Ann Lallande and Wendy Gargano. With their insistence, I tried some more challenging things and was spectacularly incompetent. Ask Julie Svendsen about my attempts to lead a Sunday School class. But I tried. Rev. Wes Wubbenhorst said I had potential, a vast overstatement, but I was pleased, and those children are relatively unscarred. Mack pushed me into other things and I grew immensely, and was wonderfully rewarded with new friendships and small triumphs for the community. I found that God worked gifts through the skilled and the not so skilled, like me.

"Living through Giving" is a theme you're going to see often at St. Margaret's this year, and with 15,000 square feet more space opening soon, we can participate and give in more ways. That's more room to teach, feed, shelter, and create. "Just what we need, more pumpkins to choose from," you may cry, or whimper. So narrow your choices. I'll even make a pitch for a few. Help broaden our Winter Relief reach, share peace and prayer through the Healing Team, caffeinate our loved ones by hosting Coffee Hour once every few months, or support the beauty and ceremony of Altar Guild. One of my favorites is Faith & Formation Night, nee Acolytes, on Monday evenings with youth and Motet choir rehearsal, acolyte training, homework help, crafts, and adult book studies starting in the fall with Professor Ernie Tucker, and a locally-sourced, amazing dinner overseen by Carolyn Surrick.

Be a mentor, or find a mentor, and help escort people like me, frozen by the choices, through the pumpkin patch. I found "Living Through Giving" to be a circle, and giving returns me to living.

SMC FOYERS BEGINS NEW YEAR



It's that time again! St. Margaret's Foyers ministry will begin in September. **The Foyer Team will be assigning interested members to groups during August. If you wish to continue to participate, please contact one of the team members listed below. If we do not hear from you, we will not place you in a group.**

If you have not participated before, please consider joining us. Foyer Groups have been an integral part of community life at St. Margaret's for many years. Foyer Groups are a fun and easy way for parishioners to gather together on a regular, informal basis, to develop new friendships, deepen old ones, and connect with other parishioners.

Each small group consists of 6-8 parishioners who meet between September and May. The gatherings generally include a communal meal, but the format is flexible. The members within each group decide what they will do at their gatherings and take turns acting as hosts. The uniqueness of these groups is their lack of formal structure, openness of communication and spirit of fellowship.

We will kick off this season with a social event on the SMC campus on Sept. 20th at 4 p.m. Then in December and May, there will an opportunity for all participants to come together, extending our friendships even further.

If this sounds interesting to you and you would like to learn more about Foyer Groups, please contact any of the Foyer Team. Gentle reminder: please be sure to contact a team member if you want to continue to participate. Thank you.

Susan Roberts

roberts.susan1948@gmail.com or 703-725-9250

Jane Piche

star2d2@aol.com or 410-349-0961

Jan Little

jbl123md@yahoo.com or 443-221-7231

Vera Torrence

vdtorrence@verizon.net or 410-573-1601

Newcomers' Dinner Sunday, Oct. 4

- *Join us for an evening of fellowship
- *Hear from church leaders
- *Learn about St. Margaret's offerings

6 p.m. * Parish Hall
Childcare Provided

Please RSVP with Jane Piche at
star2d2@aol.com or 410-349-0961.

CARDS FOR STUDENTS



A parishioner has once again volunteered to coordinate sending cards periodically from St. Margaret's to students from our parish who are living away from home during the school year. If you would like your student to be added to the list, please email name and mailing address to info@st-margarets.org.

55 & BETTER MEATLOAF & MEMORIES SATURDAY, OCT. 17 1 P.M.



Join us for an afternoon of food & fellowship as we share memories of our past and enjoy remembering the music and highlights of yesteryear.

Bring a side dish to share for our meatloaf meal and be prepared to share special memories and stories from your unique past.

Please RSVP with Jim Knorr at
tugknorr@aol.com.

Note: As part of our Living Through Giving campaign, we are encouraging all parishioners to include faith formation as a part of living and growing here at St. Margaret's.

Here are options for adults that will be provided this fall--

HERETICS CLASS ON SUNDAYS

Don't let the name put you off! "Heretics" is a study group at St. Margaret's that reads and discusses books on important theological and spiritual issues. Each week, the group reads a chapter and come prepared for lively discussion. They welcome visitors and encourage newcomers to stop by and see how they like it.

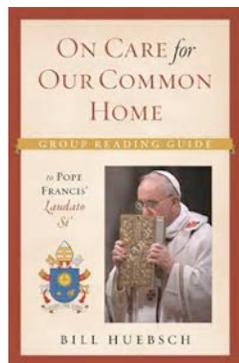
The group meets every Sunday from 10:30-11:15 a.m. Starting on September 13, the group will discuss *Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home* written by Pope Francis. This important book calls on all Christians to extend their compassion to the poor, the oppressed and all of Creation.

For more information, contact Rand Wentworth at rwentworth@lta.org.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON SUNDAYS: GOSPEL LESSON OF THE WEEK

Every Sunday morning during formation hour at 10:15 a.m. to 11 a.m., an adult formation class will meet in a classroom in the new building. The study will center on the Gospel lesson of that particular Sunday. Led by an impressive list of parishioners, the class promises to challenge and reinforce beliefs, understanding, and complexities of Christ's teachings.

For more information, contact the Rev. Jane Hague at jane@st-margarets.org or 410-974-0200.



STARTING THIS FALL...
MONDAY NIGHTS @ ST. MARGARET'S

Faith & Fellowship Night

Formerly Pick and Mix

Starting on Sept. 14th

*Acolytes Practice @ 5 p.m.
(ages 6-18)

in the Church

*Spirit Singers @ 5:00 p.m.
(ages 6-10)

in the new Choir Room

*Crafts for Kids @ 5:30 p.m.
(All ages)

in the Parish Hall

*St. Margaret's Chorale @ 5:30 p.m.
(ages 11-16)

in the new Choir Room

*Fellowship Dinner @ 6 p.m.
(Donations accepted)

in the Parish Hall

*Motet Ensemble Rehearsal @ 6:30 p.m.
(ages 16-Adult)

in the new Choir Room

*Adult Formation Study @ 6:45 p.m.
in the New Building

& more youth activities
to be announced!

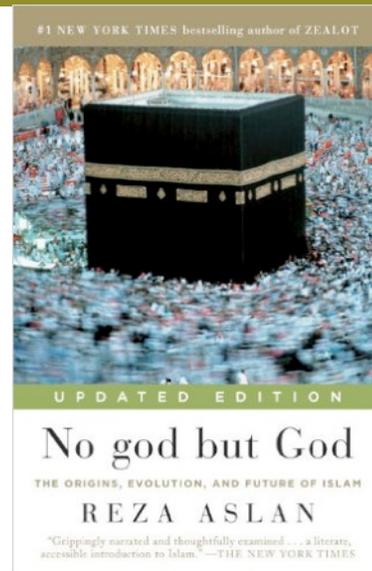
**For more information on these activities,
email info@st-margarets.org
or contact a member of the clergy.**

FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP - BOOK STUDY - SEPT/OCT 2015

Vestry member Ernie Tucker will lead the first book study discussion on Reza Aslan's *No god but God* over five Monday evenings, 50-minute sessions (Sept. 14, 21, 28, Oct. 5 & 12) during Faith & Fellowship evenings. This book is a general introduction to the origins, history, present, and future of the Muslim faith.

Ernie, who received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, is a professor of Middle Eastern history at the Naval Academy. All are invited to join in a Fellowship Dinner in the Parish Hall on those evenings at 6 p.m. (donations accepted) before class begins.

To order the book, go to the St. Margaret's website at www.st-margarets.org and find the book study link. Also look for links in weekly *Dragon Tales*.



RECTOR'S FALL BOOK STUDY - SEARCHING FOR SUNDAYS

From the *New York Times* bestselling author Rachel Held Evans comes a book that is both a heartfelt ode to the past and hopeful gaze into the future of what it means to be a part of the Church. On Sundays from Oct. 11- 25th, join the Rev. Peter W. Mayer in the fellowship hall of the new building as he leads readers through a liturgical year with stories about baptism, communion, confirmation, confession, marriage, vocation, and death that are funny, heartbreaking, and sharply honest. A memoir about making do and taking risks, about the messiness of community and the power of grace, *Searching for Sunday* is about overcoming cynicism to find hope and, somewhere in between, Church.

To purchase a book for \$10, stop by the church office, order a copy on the "Purchasing Online" page of our website at www.st-margarets.org, or email peter@st-margarets.org.



EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY - SEPT-MAY

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a unique four-year learning certificate program in theological education based upon small-group study and practice. Since its founding in 1975, this international program has assisted more than 80,000 participants in discovering and nurturing their call to Christian service. EfM helps the faithful encounter the breadth and depth of the Christian tradition and bring it into conversation with their experiences of the world as they study, worship, and engage in theological reflection together.

The St. Margaret's EfM group meets on Wednesday mornings, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the church. Registration goes through the summer and the program year begins in September lasting through May. Check out the video on the church's website on the Education for Ministry page to hear from participants about the program's impact.

For more information, contact parishioner Kathy Polk at kkpolk@yahoo.com or at 410-757-0989.

COMING IN OCTOBER DURING FAITH & FELLOWSHIP MONDAY NIGHTS

Opening to the Flow of Grace - Grace is present always and everywhere, whether we know it or not. How, in our hectic and distracted lives, can we become more open and responsive to it? Various practices have long been recognized as helpful, including breath prayer, body prayer, *lectio divina* (praying with scripture), and the prayer of quiet. In this evening study series (starting Oct. 19th), participants will engage with these practices, exploring which may be drawing them to a more long-term discipline. The facilitator will be parishioner Sue Wentworth (Ph.D., Theology).

LIVING THROUGH GIVING - SUMMER COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Thanks to everyone who helped with donations to the Light House during our July food drive and summer lunch drive. Because of your generosity, St. Margaret's donated 172 bags of groceries and personal care items that will be made available to families in the Annapolis area. Hundreds of lunches were also donated this summer to Light House guests and clients. Many thanks to Beth Arruda for heading the lunch program and Jim MacGregor for chairing the pantry drive. As a reminder -- We accept pantry donations all year long--so, whenever you are able, get some extra nonperishable groceries while you are doing your own shopping and deposit them in the labeled box in the narthex.



Thank you, St. Margaret's Volunteers!



And many thanks to our parishioners who shopped and packed bags of supplies for selected students of Cape St. Claire Elementary. Thanks also to the SMC Missions Commission for purchasing backpacks and kudos to coordinator Barbara Marder for delivering!

Thank you to St. Margaret's coordinator Russell Jackson and our volunteers who helped with picking up food from the county food bank, and then packing and distributing food for about 130 local households through My Brother's Pantry this month!

A Willing Heart

by the Rev. Jane Milliken Hague

What is your heart telling you? Is God speaking to you through the heart beats of your life? Do you want to get involved in the amazing work that St. Margaret's is doing in our area? Don't know where to start? Maybe helping at the Light House suppers? Or selling pumpkins at the Pumpkin Patch? Buying a pack of diapers for the Emergency Baby Pantry?

If your heart is calling for you to 'do something' this fall, here are some guidelines to help you choose:

1. Start with prayer. All God is asking for is a willing heart. Where is the spirit taking you?
2. Follow your instincts. What do you want to do? Practice your spanish? Work with children? Adults? God uses our 'likes' as well as our skills and resources.
3. Be realistic. You can't do everything. What is it that you have time to do? Do you have couple of hours a week? A month? It can be as simple as buying an extra something at the grocery store for the county baby pantry bin or the Light House food pantry bin in the narthex.
4. Join with others. Ask a friend or a stranger in the pew next to you. Ask them what they do or want to do. One of the greatest gifts about being at St. Margaret's is the chance to meet new and amazing people through working together to help others.

On Sunday, October 4, the Missions Commission will be hosting a Missions Fair at 10:15 a.m. in the new Fellowship Hall. We are honored to have Elizabeth Kinney, executive director of the Light House Shelter, as our guest preacher for the 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. services that day. Come and see what your friends are doing with their willing hearts. At the fair, we will have exhibits from the various projects and partnerships we have with our local community. We will also have some of our endowment grant recipients who will highlight the ways our financial gifts are helping others. Bring your willing heart and see where God is calling you.



Missions Fair

Sunday, Oct. 4
Fellowship Hall
10:15 a.m.

LIGHT HOUSE PUMPKIN PATCH

**Saturday & Sunday
in October
@ St. Martin's,
Annapolis**



Help St. Margaret's sell pumpkins as a fundraiser for the Light House shelter

Look for the volunteer sign-up link in *Dragon Tales* and church announcements



Prayer Shawl Ministry



*providing God's love
and comfort to those in need*

Join our group every
1st Sat. of the month
(including
Sept. 5 & Oct. 3)
in the conference room

For more information, contact Jane Piche
at star2d2@aol.com
& look for our video on www.st-margarets.org.



for all ages

Registration Now Available!

- *Paper forms available in the parish hall foyer
- *Automated forms online at www.st-margarets.org

**Open House:
September 13th**

**First Class:
Sept. 20th**



**Still needed for the
2015-16 Year --
Sunday School Teacher for 4-5th grade**

- *Curriculum provided
- *Materials assembled
- *Co-Leaders provided

Contact the Rev. Peter Mayer if interested.



A NEW SPACE & EXCITING NEW SCHOOL YEAR

After a successful summer of themed learning camps, St. Margaret's Day School is now planning for the new year. The staff is caught up in the excitement, anticipation and sense of gratefulness permeating the campus as they move into the new formation building. School staff, parents, students and parishioners are now moving the school furniture and equipment into the bottom floors of the new building. Thank you to Bob Sanderson, coordinator, and all who volunteer their time and brawn! Staff has now begun their week of preparing classrooms for an amazing year ahead.

The Day School's academic year will officially start on Tuesday, September 8th, with 98 children from 2-year-olds to kindergarteners reaping the benefits of a beautiful, new school in our shared space. The playground has additional new rubber mulch donated by St. Anne's. Some of the classrooms have new furniture and educational, electronic equipment provided by contributions from our parents.

We look forward to a productive, exciting year as part of this special St Margaret's community. There are just a few spots open, so any new registration questions can be sent to the Day School Director Tricia McVeigh at tricia@st-margarets.org.



A member of the construction team shows church staff members the entryway located on the back, downstairs level of the building which will have a "buzz in" security system and a large office to accommodate Day School staff needs.



The hallway of the new Day School campus has colorful tiles marking the specific room of each class. Cubbies for backpacks with hooks for coats line one side of the floor, with bulletins boards to display art work on the other side.

NEWCOMERS' SESSION ON STEWARDSHIP SEPT. 6TH - 10:30 A.M. - IN THE CHURCH

AN INVITATION FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

As you may know, this summer and fall your Stewardship Commission is holding "listening sessions" to get input from the congregation on St. Margaret's priorities for 2016 programming and spending.

You are part of a group we would really like to hear from -- people who have joined the St. Margaret's community in the last two years. Please join me to participate from 10:30 to 11 a.m. on Sunday, September 6th. We will meet in the church.

Be assured you will not be asked for money. We seek only your thoughts on priorities for next year. I look forward to seeing you.

Cordially,
Dave Boyce, Stewardship Chairman



Sunday, Sept. 20th in the Parish Hall

Influenza season will be upon us before we know it. To help us prepare, Rite Aid on Taylor Ave. has again volunteered to send their staff to the church to offer flu vaccines (both regular and senior versions).

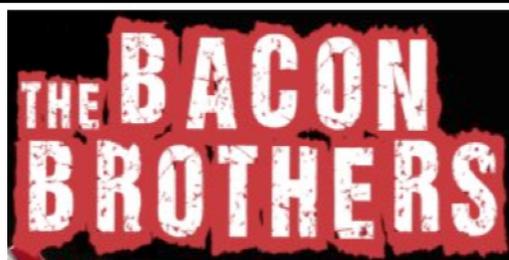
In addition, this year they will also offer pneumonia vaccinations. Stop by the parish hall anytime from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Look for cost information in Dragon Tales. If you have questions, contact Pat Hall at 410-956-5120.

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, Oct. 4th, 4 p.m.



A short service with our beloved animal family members celebrating the work and gifts of St. Francis of Assisi. All pets welcome, but please make sure they are either contained or on a leash.



**Saturdays
September 12th
& October 10th
in the Parish Hall**

A time when the Rev. Peter Mayer and men of our parish community gather on a Saturday morning enjoying great food, sharing meaningful dialogue, and exploring faith together.

Special Notice

**Change to Bylaws
Vote on Sept. 20th**

The Vestry will hold a special vote to change a part of the bylaws dealing with youth representatives and dates and times of the annual and vestry meetings. The vote will be on Sunday, Sept. 20th in the new Fellowship Hall at 10:30 a.m. Please take the time to stop by and submit your official vote.

2015-2016 Season

Music @ St. Margaret's

St. Margaret's Church
1601 Pleasant Plains Rd.
Annapolis, MD 21409

410 974-0200
www.st-margarets.org



Friday, September 18, 2015 7:30 PM \$20.00

William Feasley *Theorbo, Baroque Guitar, 19th Century Guitar, and Guitar*

From the Renaissance to the Bossa Nova, concert artist William Feasley brings a brilliant recital of music for the guitar and its predecessors.

"Feasley's guitar sounded, in the words of Segovia, like 'a small orchestra' in its variety of colors."

— Joseph McLellan, *The Washington Post*

Sunday, November 15, 2015 4:00 PM \$20.00

The Bair-Kirkeby Duo *Flute and Keyboards*

The former Principal Flutist from the U.S. Navy Band in Washington, DC joins a renowned organist, harpsichordist and pianist for music spanning the centuries. Peggy Bair and Gary Kirkeby have been delighting audiences in the area with performances at the Collington Candlelight Concert Series and many other concert venues. Don't miss their vibrant and charming concert this season!



Peggy Bair



Gary Kirkeby

Sunday, April 17, 2016 7:30 PM \$20.00 **Marlissa Hudson** *Soprano with Marvin Mills, Piano*



American soprano Marlissa Hudson has been described as a "superb lyric coloratura" (St. Louis Post-Dispatch). At home both on the operatic and concert stage, Ms. Hudson made her professional debut with the Baltimore Symphony Pops Orchestra under the baton of Marvin Hamlisch. Recognized as an international concert performer, she has been featured in concerts in Bulgaria and Paraguay. In the U.S. she has collaborated with such esteemed organizations as the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, National Philharmonic Orchestra, and Choralis. Ms. Hudson thrilled audiences at St. Margaret's this past year as the soprano soloist for the Schubert Mass in E Flat.

"Ms. Hudson.....voted Top Performance of 2014" — Patrick D. McCoy, *Washington Life Magazine*

"Hudson sings them all in a rich, expressive voice that doesn't stint on high notes, with clear diction and true feeling." — Sarah Bryan Miller, *The St. Louis Post-Dispatch*



Friday, January 15, 2016 7:30 PM \$20.00

Ashu *Classical Saxophone*

Think you know the saxophone? Think again. Ashu is single handedly reviving the classic repertoire of the sax. His recent performances include the Ravinia Festival the Vienna Chamber Orchestra, St. Petersburg Chamber Philharmonic, Montreal Chamber Orchestra, Cape Town Philharmonic, Metropolitan Orchestra of Lisbon, and such venues as NY Central Park and the Vienna Konzerthaus.

"As much fun to watch as to listen to" — *The Chicago Tribune*

"Riveting, Brilliant, Pizzazz to Burn!" — *NPR*



Friday, October 18, 2015 7:30 PM
Ensemble Galilei \$20.00

Celtic Favorites, and New Music for the Heart!

RETURN ENGAGEMENT BY DEMAND!

"The blend of old and new pieces, arranges for fiddle, harp, pipes, viola da gamba, recorder and percussion, is as seamless as it is evocative, and the [musicians] who make up Galilei Ensemble once again perform with seemingly effortless grace and precision." - The Washington Post

Sunday, March 13, 2016 4:00 PM The Steve LaSpina Group
Direct from New York A Jazz Lover's Jazz Quartet! \$20.00

Steve LaSpina has played and recorded with many great musicians in jazz history including Benny Carter, Stan Getz and Phil Woods, vocalists Joe Williams and Mark Murphy, trumpeters Clark Terry, Chet Baker and Randy Brecker, and guitarist Pat Martino. He has spent the last decade traveling around the world and recording with the legendary guitarist Jim Hall. LaSpina also has a great dedication as a composer of both jazz and classical music. He has recorded over 75 original tunes on the Steeplechase and Ram record labels. His new group brings a fresh approach to jazz of all styles.



"LaSpina, the possessor of formidable chops, combines elements of the big-toned percussive Wilbur Ware/Charlie Haden school with complex Scott LaFaro-like lines... A wonderfully subtle effort." - Harvey Pekar, The Cleveland Plain Dealer



Sunday, May 8, 2016 4:00 P.M. \$20.00
Ronn McFarlane and Ayreheart

New Music and Ancient Instruments! A Terrific Combination.

Grammy-nominated lutenist Ronn McFarlane and his group Ayreheart combine melodies from the Renaissance and Baroque periods with the drive of rock 'n' roll. A wonderfully upbeat program for your Mothers' Day enjoyment! A perfect gift for families to enjoy together.

"A delightful surprise of unusual charm, American lutenist McFarlane, subtle master of his instrument, illuminates the little trod path of Scottish lute music from the early 1600's...McFarlane brings a loving touch to these gems." -The Cincinnati Enquirer

"McFarlane won hearts with fresh original compositions that explored a fascinating variety of colors and techniques." - The Cleveland Plain Dealer

Free Concerts!



Sunday, February 14, 2016 4:00 PM Michael Britt Theatre Organ

Join the hilarity as Michael Britt brings to life Buster Keaton's silent classic **Steamboat Bill, Jr.** with his improvised score played on the theatre organ. Enjoy popcorn in the pews!

Friday, July 22, 2016 7:00 PM
International Music Institute and Festival

The finest in classical music played by accomplished young participants (ages vary from 12 to 21) and brilliant faculty of the Intermuse International Music Institute and Festival USA. **DO NOT MISS!** Perfect for families!



Prices

Single Subscription to all 7 concerts \$110.00
 (save \$30 over individual ticket prices)

Family Subscription to all 7 concerts - up to 6 tickets per concert \$150.00
 (Save \$130 or more on individual ticket prices) **BEST SAVINGS!**

Make checks out to "St. Margaret's Church" and put "concert series" in the memo line. Payment by credit card is available on our website @ www.st-margarets.org. Individual concert tickets are available at the door and on our website.

The Sunday School Building

Part 1 of a 2 part story

Michael Winn, St. Margaret's Church History & Archives Project

On a Lenten Sunday in March 1958, (nearly 60 years ago) St. Margaret's Church announced bold plans to erect *The Sunday School Building*. The goal: raise \$60,000 through pledges over 150 weeks for a 10 room Sunday School addition and increased capacity in the church, with the promise that *The gain and increase in the spiritual life of each of us and to St. Margaret's Church will far exceed any amount of money which is raised.*



Despite public statements of support and his appeal for *prayerful thought and sacrificial giving*, the **Rev. G. Albert Cooper** (left), rector (1946-1963), had reservations about constructing a building for the Sunday School. Ten years earlier in 1948, two years after arriving at St. Margaret's Church as rector, Mr. Cooper had achieved some necessary repairs and updates to the church building with little money and a number of gifts. In 1958, however, the church was cluttered, the building basically unchanged since it was rebuilt 1895-1896 — except for the addition of stained glass windows. (Mr. Cooper would survive five more difficult years before he was removed as rector in 1963.)

In 1958 the church building required even more work (that would wait 18 years), the parish hall needed to be replaced (12 years later), and the rectory was barely standing (two years later the rectory was replaced). Not surprising Mr. Cooper had other priorities — he was willing to put up with the noise and the confusion and the Sunday crush of small bodies jammed into every space as he attempted to deal with what he felt were more urgent, more important needs of the parish.

And it was more than coincidence that events leading up to construction of The Sunday School Building began when Sunday School superintendent Folger McKinsey (Mack) Ridout, Sr., (1925-2011) was first elected to the (still all male) vestry in 1957. More about the people and the process in the second part of this two-part story. The story of the building and fund raising process and the people making the decisions has not previously been written.

A compromise produced a campus plan whereby the Sunday School Building would precede a new church and a new parish hall. The Sunday School Building would be two stories, with the first floor — allowing for natural light — sunk into the ground so that the second story could be on the same level as the new church and the new parish hall. A new rectory would be constructed near the old rectory and the old rectory razed when the new was completed. All this from a parish with just a few dollars in the checking account and no savings.

The so-called *broad brush plan* was expected to cover *all* (emphasis added) *future needs*. However, the broad brush plan conceded *the present church structure having been found to be unsound it may be desirable to replace this building sooner.*

Making the Case for a Sunday School Building

In 1957, Sunday School enrollment had reached nearly 200 children; average Sunday attendance was 145. Supporters of the Sunday School Building projected that by 1977 — 20 years out — enrollment would increase to 305 with average Sunday attendance of 220. Church attendance, averaging 100 persons per Sunday in 1957, was projected to average 180 persons each Sunday by 1977.

Typical Sunday School conditions (classes met for an hour before Sunday worship in the church) were described as



- seven different classes meeting in the then parish hall, without partitions
- other classes met in the kitchen
- some were held in the church (disturbing the men's bible study held at the same time)
- one class met in the furnace room and at least one other in the rectory

The Sunday School Building location, 1958



The appeal for The Sunday School Building heralded *Such facilities are not only inadequate for the teaching of the young whose distraction level is low, they are also the despair of the teacher who must contend with such distractions - - quite unsuccessfully. It is imperative therefore that we move expeditiously if our children are to receive the spiritual guidance they need, if a sufficient number of trained teachers are to be retained, if we are ever to offer family services - - to the whole family.*

The Sunday School Building was built though not as planned. Fundraising fell short. Since 1959 four classrooms (eight classrooms when separated with dividers) and not 10 as planned served Sunday's church school classes, a variety of proprietary pre-schools during the week (they oftentimes cleaned not only the school but the church when the parish could not afford to clean), and most recently St. Margaret's Day School. Church school and day school move across campus into St. Margaret's Church new formation building this year. The Sunday School Building has also held its share of Girl Scout meetings, vacation bible schools, and other events. Acolytes long vested for service at the altar in some of the most dismal space available anywhere.

Newcomers are often surprised to learn that parish offices were long located in this building: clergy upstairs in what is now the first classroom at the top of the stairs and administrative staff and volunteers in what is now St. Margaret's Day School offices. In 1984 the rector installed a divider in his office to create space for the newly-hired associate. Donated soft, plush, bedroom-type carpeting was placed on the floors to dampen noise in clergy offices. The rector chose to work from home whenever he could — the rectory built in 1960. That rectory became the administration building in the mid-1990s. The office of the Rt. Rev. Mary D. Glasspool, rector 1992-2001, was in this building for more than five years — divider and carpeting removed — before moving into the newly established administration building.

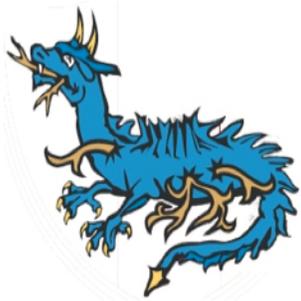
Our research shows only one official name — The Sunday School Building. In 2015, when *The Sunday School Building* is repurposed for uses that meet pressing parish needs, the opportunity exists to rename the building — honoring the legacy of those from our past, who cared about our future, leaving St. Margaret's Church in our care today.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU-- THE TOMKO FAMILY

The Tomkos returned to the East Coast in September 2014 after a four-year stint in Missouri. Laurie was born and raised in Virginia and Toby in Pennsylvania so the couple is pleased to call Maryland home where they are much closer to family and friends.

Toby's career brought them to Arnold and it keeps him busy running Gibson Island as the General Manager. Laurie was formerly the Director of Sales and Marketing for a retirement consulting firm, and now that the family is settled, she is looking forward to finding another exciting opportunity. Toby and Laurie have two children, Ella who will be in 7th grade at Magothy, and Wells who will be in 2nd grade at Broadneck. They love spending time at Smith Mountain Lake in Virginia, cheering on the Orioles, enjoying Chick and Ruth's milkshakes (see photo, Toby's adult girls, Alex and Chelsea were visiting) and playing with their goldendoodle puppy, Buoy, who just turned one. The Tomkos were originally drawn to St. Margaret's Church because of what the new Formation Building represents and have come to love the church because of the hospitality shown by the parishioners and clergy. They look forward to becoming more active in church life and meeting more families.



TEAM DRAGON SLAYERS RALLY FOR A WINNING SEASON



In the beginning, it did not appear St. Margaret's athletes were keen on taking on other churches in the Annapolis area in the game of softball. Player/Manager Kemp Hammond, however, would have none of that attitude and assembled a solid core group of players. Although slow to get started, the team took shape, largely comprised of the following regular Dragon Slayers from years past who dusted off their gear and took the field: Rusty Peacock, Tug Knorr, Russell Jackson, Ryne Clifton, John Purgason, Dave Kopak, Debbie Hammond, Kurt Svendsen, Julie Whittington, and Len Morgan (on the DL for 6 weeks). Newcomers Sam Svendsen, Tim Ritchie, Steve Flounlacker, Michelle and Michelle Japak, Austin and others suited up to join the team this year to become softball Dragon Slayers.

Everyone contributed to the effort. The pitching included wily veteran Tug Knorr and reliever Dave Kopak with battery mates behind the plate including Debbie and Michelle. Kemp, Rusty, Sam, Steve, John, Michelle and Len were part of the iron curtain infield. The outfield included Russell, Dave, Kurt, Ryne, Tim, and Julie. As the season progressed, they managed to beat every other team in the Annapolis church league except St. Mary's. With a 7-3 record, it did not match the unbeaten Dragon squads in the 2009 - 2011 era, but they fought to the bitter end as true Dragon Slayers.

If anybody between the ages of 14 and 78 consider playing in the June - July Annapolis Ministerium Softball League as a fellow Dragon Slayer, they suggest that you find a temperature controlled gymnasium to get acclimated to 90-95 degree softball playing conditions. It may be hot, but the Dragon Slayers are a really "cool" squad to join. Our motto - "Go Dragon Slayers, beat the Knights of Columbus."

A THANK YOU FROM SARAH

Thank you so much for the wonderful celebration and send-off on August 16. I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of this community and by the love and support I've felt. The many notes, kind words, pictures, and presents will all be lasting memories I'll treasure. Every time I wear the stole you gave me, I will remember the times I celebrated the Eucharist with you and all the ways we lived out God's mission together.

As I said in my sermon, in the midst of this time of change and transition, God's mission remains the same. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to proclaim the good news in this community, to teach and nurture, to tend the sick and the dying, to help transform lives, and to treasure the gifts that we share.

My pastoral responsibilities for the members of St. Margaret's have now come to an end, and I will not be part of your lives in the same way. I will however be staying in the area, as my wife Diana continues to serve as rector of St. Luke's Eastport. While I discern my next calling, I will continue to work on my part-time Doctor of Ministry in Congregational Development.

Once again, thank you for your generosity and your prayers.

Shalom,
Sarah
therevsarah@gmail.com



ST. MARGARET'S WOMEN'S GUILD

SEPTEMBER MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 9

1 P.M.
PARISH HALL

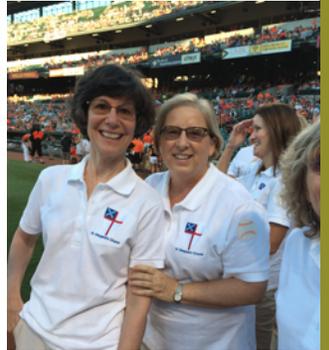


All are welcome to join the next Guild meeting for a program that will feature parishioner Pat Hall discussing her recent trip to the Holy Land led by Bishop Sutton. For more information about the Guild, contact Judy Hall at judy.hall0404@gmail.com. She is also in the office volunteering most Wednesdays.



EPISCOPAL NIGHT @ CAMDEN YARDS

Kudos to our St. Margaret's choirs who performed the National Anthem at the August 22 Orioles ballgame!





St. Margaret's Church Contact Information

Phone 410-974-0200 * Pastoral Emergency 443-837-5463

The Rev. Peter W. Mayer	Rector	peter@st-margarets.org
The Rev. Jane Milliken Hague	Asst. to Rector	jane@st-margarets.org
Elizabeth Radley	Senior Administrator	elizabeth@st-margarets.org
James R. Fitzpatrick	Director of Music	james@st-margarets.org
Laura Tayman	Communications Dir.	laura@st-margarets.org
Harriet Newquist	Bookkeeper	office@st-margarets.org
Tricia McVeigh	Day School Director	tricia@st-margarets.org
Izzy Winn	Grants Coordinator	ewinn421@verizon.net

Anne Sessions
Mark Torrence

Senior Warden
Junior Warden

aksletm@earthlink.net
mhtorrence@verizon.net

Sunday Services:
7:30 a.m. - Rite I
9:00 a.m. - Rite II
10:15 a.m. - Formation Hour
11:15 a.m. - Rite II
Nursery Care - 8:45 to 12:30

Wednesday Service:
7:30 a.m. - Rite II

The church is always open for
prayers and meditation.

Find us @ www.st-margarets.org



ST. MARGARET'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1601 Pleasant Plains Road
Annapolis, MD 21409-5928
www.st-margarets.org

