

The

St. Margaret's Church - Annapolis

Fall 2017

Spire



Transforming Lives in Christ through worship, formation, and giving.



Looking Forward to This Year By the Rev. Peter W. Mayer, Rector

The question came again and again from various family members over vacations this summer: what are you excited about at your church? What are you looking forward to returning to?

Each year, there seems to be something different at St. Margaret's. Whether it's a program that's just starting up, or something we're expanding, or when I'm just waiting to see where God is going to work in our life, it's never dull around here.

We will start September by saying goodbye to two of God's wonderful children who have served our community faithfully over the past years: Jenelle Mejia and the Rev. Jane Milliken Hague. Their work in formation and outreach respectively, have grown each program so well, but they will continue to need your help if they are to thrive. We are hoping to fill some part-time positions that will fill the gap until such time as we can look for an assistant clergy person that can oversee and support the lay-led ministries of formation and missions. We will keep you informed on our progress: as I've said, it's never dull around here but I am confident that God continues to work through us!

So what I am looking forward to this year? A tremendous formation program, led by dedicated volunteers on Sunday morning and Monday evenings! I'm looking forward to the expansion of our children's music ministry by extending their Monday rehearsal by 30 minutes (5:00 pm through 6:00 pm). I'm thrilled with our adult formation offerings, from Monday nights to Wednesday mornings (Education for Ministry) and Thursday morning's bible study. I'm excited for our October 1 Missions Fair, when we will welcome Allison Matthews as a guest preacher. You'll remember her as our contact at local elementary schools and our tutoring program at Windsor Farms and now Broadneck.

I'm also looking forward to celebrating all that St. Margaret's has been, is and will be at our 325th Anniversary weekend, October 20-22. We'll be visited by former rector, the Rt. Rev. Mary Glasspool, who will preach at a special evensong that Sunday afternoon at 5 pm. At that service, our choirs will offer Vivaldi's *Gloria*, which they performed in May at Lincoln Center in New York City. It's a celebration of all that our wonderful community has become, thanks to you and your gifts of support and ministry. I am so proud to be a part of it all, and I look forward to continuing to explore what God has for us.

Be Transformed

Most of us know that when we join a gym, we have to commit to putting in the time to truly experience success. The facility could offer a variety of workout options, schedules, and trainers, but unless you put in the time, it just won't matter.

This program year, we are challenging our parishioners to get out of their comfort zone, take a chance, and put in the time to transform their and possibly their family's life through Christ.

You can probably tell who in our parish has taken the opportunity to participate in a St. Margaret's program or activity that connects them to each other, to their community, and to their own spiritual well-being. Whether it is an altar guild member who lovingly prepares the altar for Holy communion before a service, a choir member who joyfully processes in the sanctuary leading the congregation in opening worship, or a member of the youth group who shows up on Monday nights because it is a place they feel welcomed and understood, you have probably witnessed how people can be truly transformed through Christ.

We are a church of busy people. We have jobs, activities, and plans. You may feel it is a success just to get yourself or possibly your kids to church on some Sundays. And that could be so. But is it enough? Is occasional attendance meeting your spiritual needs? Is knowing that others will make sure the communion wafers and wine will always be available, that your child will have caring Sunday School teachers every week, that there will always be coffee available before and after church enough for you? Are you good with just coming on Sundays, but never traveling to campus the rest of the week? Is putting a check in the offertory plate but not providing your time and talents to better the lives of others good enough?

Maybe not. Commit to pick and choose what you can realistically do. But the point is CHOOSE - DECIDE - COMMIT. And once you do, see if you, too, are transformed. And if not, PICK SOMETHING ELSE.

On Sunday, Sept. 10, each SMC family will be offered a "Be Transformed" folder providing you with a church program year calendar and more information on the many offerings we provide at St. Margaret's. You are a witness to what life transformation means to some of our members. Join us and change your life forever. It is an experience like no other.



Vestry Note

By Anne Sessions, Senior Warden

Let me tell you a little bit about something that happened to my family this month. My father's cousin has a daughter (Anyone know what that makes us? Second cousins? Friends who are related?) in Salt Lake with whom I regularly chat via email or Facebook. About a month ago our extended family was in a panic because her five-year-old son Archer was found on the bottom of a pool, unconscious. He was rushed to Primary Children's Hospital and I begged everyone I know to pray. I asked for prayers for Archer, for the doctors, for Bethea his mom, Peter his dad... I laid it on thick.

Prayer is mysterious how it calms, restores, clarifies, and unites. Archer is home now, he's walking, he's recovering his speech (and everything is funnier when it has to do with poop), and he's eating watermelon on the back porch.

St. Margaret's will go through a tremendous challenge over the next year as we release Associate Rector Jane Hague to her inspired calling in New Hampshire, and Director of Family Ministry Jenelle Mejia to her next exciting calling. I received a lot of calls and emails from you asking how we're coping, what's going on, is this a full moon thing? Kathy Polk handed me a prayer that begins: Disturb us, Lord.

This I get.

As Senior Warden I can assure you, thought and planning has gone into mission and vision over the past years – so as changes happen there is a course Rev. Peter, the Vestry, and the staff have been sighting. But still, to be disturbed, is, well, disturbing. So I'm asking again for everyone to pray. Pray for St. Margaret's, for our staff, for everyone in the pews, in our mission efforts, and in our communities. Pray for Jane and Jenelle as they take these steps in new directions. We'll have challenges, tough discussions, interesting decisions to make, and then hopefully, we'll have some watermelon together on the back porch when we celebrate St. Margaret's next step.



Goodbye
to
Rev. Jane

Join us
Sun., Sept. 10
10:20-11 a.m.
in the
Parish Hall
before she leaves
for New Hampshire.

Forum from St. Margaret's
Long-Term Planning committee
Sunday, Sept. 17 - 10:15 - 11 a.m.
in the Fellowship Hall



To donate toward
a parish gift,
make checks to
"St. Margaret's Church"
with "Jane's gift"
in the memo line.

325th Anniversary



In less than two months, we will be celebrating a milestone event in the life of our parish—the establishment of the Broadneck Hundred, Westminster Parish, in 1692 as one of the 30 original parishes in Maryland.

A schedule of events is included in the column to the right. We hope you will be able to join us that weekend. Please invite your neighbors and other guests as well as former parishioners and families that have been connected to St. Margaret's over the years.

There will be a special reception during coffee hour on Sunday coordinated by Kathy Lang. Following the choral evensong at 5 p.m. there will be another reception coordinated by Carol Dressler. If you would like to help in some way with the receptions, please speak to them or reply to the email listed below.

Our special guest for the weekend will be the Right Reverend Mary D. Glasspool, our former rector from 1992-2001, who is currently Assistant Bishop of New York. She will join the Rev. Peter Mayer in celebrating the Eucharist at all Sunday morning services and will preach at the 5:00 Choral Evening.

Look for our Anniversary table at coffee hour on Sunday mornings beginning September 10 to learn about our "buckets of remembrances" for that weekend, to sign up to help, and to provide food for the receptions.

For further information, please contact Barbara Breedon (History and Archives Project) at bkbreedon@comcast.net or call 410-320-3469.

325th Anniversary Weekend Schedule of Events

Friday, October 20

7 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

A Service of Remembrance

A quiet vespers service will provide an opportunity to remember those who have gone before us in the parish. Special music will be provided by Carolyn Surrick and Ginger Hildebrand.

Saturday, October 21

7 p.m. in the Parish Hall

An Evening of Reflection

The Third Sunday Band, begun at St. Margaret's nearly 20 years ago, will provide a variety of music in a coffeehouse atmosphere. This will be an opportunity to socialize and enjoy an informal time with music and light refreshments. A few brief reflections on the past, present and future of St. Margaret's will be offered.

Sunday, October 22

7:30 a.m. Rite 1

9:00 and 11:15 a.m. with Eucharist

and a special reception in the Parish Hall @ 10:15

A Day of Celebration

Join us for Sunday morning services with Eucharist, incorporating elements of historical liturgies and music honoring the anniversary of our church's establishment. These services will feature music from all periods of worship in the church, as well as commemorative acknowledgements and inclusion of historic information.

Sunday, October 22

5 p.m. Evensong in our church

with sermon by the Rt. Rev Mary Glasspool

followed by a reception in the Parish Hall

We welcome the community to join with current and former clergy who have served our church to worship that will feature the combined choirs of St. Margaret's. They will present the brief choral work "Gloria" by Antonio Vivaldi as part of the service. A festive reception follows where friends, old and new, will gather and celebrate the rich history of our church.



St. Margaret's Stewardship Campaign
Celebrating 325 Years of Giving
September 5 - October 27

Stewardship Campaign is Coming!

The mission of St. Margaret's Church is "Transforming our lives in Christ through worship, formation and giving." Stewardship "giving" is one expression of thankfulness for God's blessings. This spiritual commitment provides the resources for St. Margaret's to act on and fulfill its mission. Because of the successful stewardship campaign last year and this year's celebration of our church's 325th year, we are optimistic our congregation will continue to support St. Margaret's through thoughtful stewardship.

As we embark on the 2018 Stewardship campaign, St. Margaret's extends a heartfelt "Thank You!" to everyone who contributed to the outstanding campaign of 2017 when you pledged over \$860,000! As a result, St. Margaret's moved forward on several facility issues, including an update of the outdated telecommunications system. Our missions work also benefitted from our stewardship, supporting our work with the Light House shelter and Winter Relief and continuing other work of our Missions Commission. And fellowship grew because of stewardship support, too. Our Monday night Faith & Fellowship dinners are fulfilling (and filling!) evenings attended by all ages of the St. Margaret's community. The Thursday morning Bible Study is a rousing success and our Sunday School curriculum is new and engaging because of stewardship support. We will be sharing more details about the effects of stewardship during this year's campaign.

Our stewardship effort will also celebrate our church's 325th anniversary. Our campaign will focus on continuing St. Margaret's legacy as the "church that gives." The campaign will kick off in early September when all members will receive a pledge card in the mail. More information will follow, and **we will be hosting an adult forum on Sept. 24 to discuss and provide more information on how this year's campaign can support the mission of St. Margaret's.** If you have any questions about Stewardship, please contact our Stewardship chairs, Brad Callahan (brad@tanvip.com; 443.326.3333) or Doug Seybert (doug_seybert@yahoo.com; 703.599.8746), or go to the Stewardship page under the "GIVING" tab on the St. Margaret's website.

Additionally, if you are interested in helping with this year's campaign, we are looking for ambassadors. These ambassadors will serve as additional resources to the congregation – to answer questions, provide updates and direct people to information. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Brad or Doug.

Music Notes

By James R. Fitzpatrick, Director of Music

We begin our program year yet again and I am thinking about why we do this stuff, why we have hymns, why I choose the hymns I do, why we have a choir, why organs are important to the church, why some churches still have wars over music, why we always need more musicians in the church, and why so many people think they cannot participate in the music program.



For those who believe in God, the concept that something greater than ourselves exists humbles us. We experience such awe and wonder as we look about us. Mere words do not do justice to the universe nor to our feelings about God. We need a more emotional expression in order to convey the fullness of our wonder, love, and praise. Music provides the vehicle for just that.

For those who have a more agnostic approach to belief, music helps us to order our minds and find beauty in the universe.

Music that is based upon text requires singing the text, be it an actual piece of scripture or a metric version of it, or a meditation on a particular truth, or a theologically complex poem, etc. The Episcopal Church has a rich collection of traditional hymns, most of which have extraordinary texts. Others are great truths presented in traditional folk songs or forms. And in singing them aloud, we form a kind of corporate prayer. Those who don't sing, miss out on the opportunity to feel united with other worshippers.

Our chants come directly from the Old Testament tradition of psalm singing. Many of our Plainsong chants have great similarities with traditional Jewish chants and are clearly derived from the older tradition. Those Psalms are part of the Lectionary of scriptures that provides a calendar to the church of which to use on particular days.

Hymns are first chosen by text to suit the scriptures of the day (again, directly from the Lectionary). Hymn tunes that suit the texts are chosen initially for singability (though that doesn't always work for a particular hymn text), then hopefully fitting these categories: At least one hymn from the Anglican tradition, one hymn using a traditional American hymn tune, and one hymn that is sung in other denominations. This way, we honor the scripture, honor tradition, honor our heritage as one of the first churches in America, and honor our members who come from other traditions or denominations.

Choirs take the time to learn the more difficult pieces of music that praise God. This often requires much rehearsal (we want it to be an acceptable sacrifice of praise and not something shabby if we are giving it to God). In singing an anthem, the choir substitutes for the congregation in terms of singing but hopefully conveys the emotion of the congregation to God. What so often proves to be the case: choir members find personal joy in a united effort of praise. Singing provides great benefits for the mind and body, as well as connection to people of similar interests and commitment to God.

Organs are always a charged topic in church congregations, but the Anglican tradition of church music has been associated with the organ since the Middle Ages. There is something about the symphony of sound that organs produce which makes both heart and voice sing more fervently. Again, the organ is not the only way to make music that praises God (as the Psalms tell us). Whether it is timbral, lyre, sackbutt, trumpet or cymbal, we are charged to use every instrument possible to sing praise to God. Some churches have factions within them that insist only the organ is to be used for worship. Other factions say that guitars and drums are the only way to reach people with religious music. Fortunately, at St. Margaret's we embrace a great diversity in music and offer both contemporary and traditional music for praising God. We try to use music from different cultures from time to time and we encourage EVERYONE to sing EVERYTHING possible.

Descriptions of heaven found in the Book of Revelations show us that when it comes to praising God, everyone will be singing and/or playing instruments in a glorious expression of the Universe and the Light of Love that shines at the center of it. Those who help with musical praise in church bring part of that joy to earth in the here and now. Imagine if the entire church sang heartily and made music on instruments! We can make that happen through members of our congregation. EVERYONE can sing, even those who were told by nasty old school teachers that their voices ruined the chorus. And ALL are welcomed to participate in one of our choirs or instrumental groups. And we can always do with accompanists and soloists and instrumentalists. So as this program year begins, consider joining the Music Program and bring a little heaven to earth.

Music

St. Margaret's Church
Music Department
1601 Pleasant Plains Rd
Annapolis, MD 21409
(410) 974-0200
James R. Fitzpatrick, Dir.
james@st-margarets.org

Special Services

Sept. 11, 7 p.m.-	Remembering September 11 with Holy Eucharist
Nov. 5, 9 & 11:15 a.m. -	All Saints Dixieland Mass with Peabody Ragtime Ens.
Dec. 3, 5 p.m. -	Advent Lessons & Carols
Dec. 24, 7:30 & 10:30 p.m.-	Musical Prelude for Christmas Eve
Dec. 31, 9:00 & 11:15 a.m.-	Christmas Lessons and Carols
March 18, 9 & 11:15 a.m.-	Celtic Service with Third Sunday Band
March 25, 9 & 11:15 a.m.-	Palm Sunday with Brass Quartet
March 29, 7 p.m.-	Maundy Thursday with Third Sunday Band
March 31, 8 p.m.-	Special Music for the Great Vigil of Easter
April 1, 9 & 11:15 a.m.-	Easter Service with Brass Quintet
June 3, 11:15 a.m.-	Bluegrass Mass with Third Sunday Band



Anniversary Events

Oct. 20 - 7 pm. - Service of Remembrance with Carolyn Surrick and Ginger Hildebrand
Oct. 21 - 7 p.m. - Service of Reflection and sing-a-long with the Third Sunday Band
Oct. 22 - 5 p.m. - Choral Evensong with Marcello Concerto in D minor & Vivaldi Gloria with Fatma Dagler, Oboe

Performances @ St. Margaret's

Nov. 17 - 7 p.m. - Church Circle Singers - www.churchcirclesingers.org
Feb. 11 - 4 p.m. - Annual Silent Movie with Michael Britt, Organist
Feb. 24 - 7 p.m. - Blues Coffeehouse with the Third Sunday Band
April 7 - 7 p.m. - Heinavanker, the Estonian Vocal Ensemble - www.emic.ee/heinavanker
April 14 - 7 p.m. - Francisco Roldan, Guitar - www.franciscoroldan.com
April 20 - 7 p.m. - Church Circle Singers - www.churchcirclesingers.org
April 28 - 7 p.m. - Arundel Vocal Arts Society - www.arundelvocalarts.org

St. Margaret's Offsite

Jan. 27 - 7:30 p.m. - SMC Choir sings *The Chichester Psalms*
with the Londontown Symphony at Heritage Baptist Church
Jan. 28 - 3 p.m. - SMC Choir sings *The Chichester Psalms*
with the Londontown Symphony at Southern High School

Concert dates are subject to change.

Check for announcements on Sunday morning, in our Dragon Tales E-News, and on our website at www.st-margarets.org.



Music Calendar

Program Year 2017-2018

By Christine Duray Feldmann, Missions Commission Chair

One of my favorite scripture verses is 1 Peter 4:10, "Use your God-given gifts to serve others." We all have talents and skills that can be used to help those in our community and beyond. Whether you can teach children, build things, cook a meal for 40 or march for injustice, your passion and talents are needed to support the programs of the Missions Commission.

Tutoring at Broadneck Elementary- Contact: Jean Clarke
A team of tutors will provide weekly academic help to struggling students at Broadneck Elementary. The relationships these tutors build with their students are invaluable.

The Light House - Homelessness Prevention Center
Volunteers are needed to: serve dinner to center guests on the 4th Sunday of every month. (Contact: Bill Sauer), collect donations for the center's food pantry, (Contact: Jim MacGregor), and provide bagged lunches during winter relief & every Monday and in the summer to families and working poor. (Contact: Beth Arruda)

Helping Local Families and Students
Help is desired to: distribute thanksgiving and Christmas meals for local needy families. (Contact: Barbara Marder), collect household items for H.O.P.E for All, local organization supporting area needy. (Contact: Arvilla Wubbenhorst)

Relay for Life- Contact: Judy Hall
You can support parish participants in the local event to benefit the American Cancer Society. Walkers, helpers and financial supporters are critical to the program's success.

My Brother's Pantry- Contact: Russell Jackson
We need help providing food each month for the local ecumenical food bank serving residents of the Broadneck peninsula and delivering food to residents twice a year.

Camp Allen- Contact: Sarah Hyde
Help is required to assist with set up, provide fun activities on site or chaperone field trips during the week-long day camp for friends at the Allen Apartments in Annapolis.



On the anniversary of our 325th year, we will focus on efforts within 3.25 miles of the church's location.

Endowment Grants- Contact: Izzy Winn
You are invited to serve as a grant liaison and evaluate applications of finalists or serve on the team of committee members who votes on the grants awards annually.

Homelessness Advocacy- Contacts: Harry Caldwell, Jim Hall
A group of SMC parishioners, along with advocates from around the county are attempting to address the complex issues of homelessness and provide not only emergency assistance but also long-term solutions. We want you to join us in aiding this vulnerable population.

Refugees and New Americans
Supporting refugees and advocating for human rights of immigrants is one of the newest outreach programs at St. Margaret's Church.

Through the Good Neighbor Team, parishioners are supporting families new to our country by providing household items, help with navigating everyday life in a new country and offering friendship. (Contacts: Sarah Balcom and Pam Roth)

Additionally, a group of parishioners are looking for ways to support the newest Latino Americans through education and support. (Contacts: Bill Sauer and Joanna Tillman)

Endowment Grant Report
By Izzy Winn, Grants Coordinator

Twice each year, St. Margaret's receives reports from our most recent grant recipients. Some of the recipients have received more than one annual grant, each for a different need. Since the inaugural year of our grants program in 1998, St. Margaret's has issued 286 grants totaling over \$2.5 million from endowment earnings. Among all the grantees, some have maintained ongoing relationships with parishioners beyond the granting process.

One of our grant recipients, Dageno Girls (located in Karatu, Tanzania) has been expanding its school enrollment and building sustainability on its campus. A team of our parishioners has been advising the Dageno director on many administrative matters including fundraising. In response to this involvement and as part of the reporting to the grants committee, the Dageno founder and director, Andie Trotter, sent the following:

"Things are going well in general at Dageno, despite an overwhelming outbreak of the chicken pox. We have 142 young women, and nearly half of them will take their national exams this year, which is the ultimate measuring stick for whether we are a 'good' school or not. We just completed building a 52,000 liter underground water storage tank, rainwater collection system on all classrooms and the kitchen, a grey water system that cleans the shower and laundry water and recycles it into the garden through a pump and sprinkler system, and a laundry area with a privacy fence. Yesterday we started building a biogas system, cow house for 4 cows, greenhouse for the garden, and an oyster mushroom house for the Akiba Entrepreneurship Program. On Saturday, we held our annual Family Meeting with more than 80 parents in attendance. Everyone is pleased with the progress Dageno is making. However, parents expressed they are in a difficult position to pay their share of school fees because they are mostly subsistence farmers and this season featured a long drought followed by a flood which ruined most of the harvest of maize and beans. We have rented a storeroom nearby with the aim of purchasing as many bags of maize and beans as we can find, before the food crisis sets in. It will cost about \$8000 to buy what we need to get through until the next harvest. We have hired a new Guidance Counselor who has been amazing with the girls. She's been meeting with each of our Form 4 students to discuss their hopes and dreams for the future, and to design a program for them to get ahead while they await their national exam results from November until April. The program will include experiential entrepreneurship training, community change projects, computer literacy, career exploration, and intensive advanced English."



Dormitory beds and cabinets custom built in Tanzania using a 2015 St. Margaret's grant.



Above ground water tanks made possible with a 2017 St. Margaret's grant.



Water conservation system for sustainable garden using 2016 grant.

Children & Youth



Online registration now available

@ www.st-margarets.org

Sunday School Open House - Sept 10

First Youth Group - Sept. 11

First Day of Sunday School - Sept. 17

Sunday Mornings

Children's Chapel - during 9 a.m. service - for ages 3 through second grade - from September through June

Children process to chapel during the Gospel hymn, where they hear the Gospel story, sing songs, and participate in other age-appropriate activities. The children then return to "big" church for The Peace.

Godly Play - 10:15 a.m. to 11 a.m. - for ages 3 and 4 and Kindergarten through first grade - Form. Classrooms A & B
Godly Play teaches children the art of using Christian language, a parable, a sacred story, silence and liturgical action to help them become more fully aware of the mystery of God's presence in their lives.

Coordinator: Gwen Davis, gwen@llamaworks.com

SPARK Class - 10:15 to 11 a.m. - for second through third grade - Form. Classroom C

The SPARK curriculum is friendly, fun, and gets kids digging into the Bible and seeing the connection to their life, as well as gets the family involved to keep the lesson going through the week.

Connect Class - 10:15 to 11 a.m. - for fourth and fifth grade - - **NEW ROOM** Parish Hall library

The class engages preteens in God's big story through videos, Bible exploration, and hands-on projects.

Middle School Class - 10:15 to 11 a.m. - for grades six through eight - Form. Classroom E

The "re:form" curriculum is a youth ministry program of 40 lessons that tackle questions about the Bible, creed, disciples, Jesus, other beliefs, and hot topics.

High School Class 10:15 to 11 a.m. - for grades nine through twelve - Form. Classroom D

Problem-based learning allows students to discover for themselves the history and richness of the Bible, God, and faith. Students are invited to bring their questions and curiosity to every class.

Faith & Fellowship Mondays

On Mondays from Sept. 18 through May, families gather at St. Margaret's for a variety of formation activities and a healthy meal. Starting at 5 p.m., the Spirit Singers (elementary ages) and St. Margaret's Chorale (youth choir) rehearse. At 5:30 p.m., acolytes practice in the church.

Starting at Sept. 11 at 6 p.m., St. Margaret's parishioners can gather for a healthy meal in the parish hall. At 6:30 p.m., our youth will gather for the first Youth Group of the program year. Other activities will begin on Sept. 18th.



Children in elementary school grades through high school are encouraged to become an Acolyte in the sanctuary worship services. Acolytes serve at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Sunday services as well as special services. Acolytes should arrive 10-15 minutes prior to the service to put on their robes and receive special instructions for the day. Practice and training sessions are held at 5:30 p.m. Monday evenings from September through May during our Faith & Fellowship Nights. Anyone interested in participating in the Acolyte program at St. Margaret's should sign up on their registration forms or contact the Rev. Peter Mayer.

Youth Group Begins Monday, Sept. 11 - 6:30 p.m.

A call to all adults who are NOT Youth Group parents!

By Jeff Conover, Youth Activities Leader



As all of you know, Jenelle is leaving us to go a short way up the road and continue her ministry at College Parkway Baptist Church. I am thrilled for her and for her new congregation. I anticipate continuing to work with Jenelle and her new Youth Group, along with other parishes on the Broadneck Peninsula. Jenelle's leaving here just means that we can spread our reach that much more!

So, what does this have to do with you? We have intersecting needs, and I'm here to offer you a chance to share in some joy and enthusiasm. I've said it hundreds of times, and I will keep saying it because it is true— no matter how tired or dispirited I may be on a given Monday evening, five minutes into Youth Group I've forgotten my fatigue and I'm filled with joy! When you spend a little time with our young ladies and gentlemen, you find the hope and energy to combat the scariness of the rest of the world – even if only for a few hours.

I no longer have the luxury of Jenelle helping me out each Monday night. See where I am going with this? You get joy, I get some assistance, and the youth widen the circle of adults they know and can depend on. Everyone wins! If you are interested, please contact me at jeff@st-margarets.org.

Day School

From June through August, St. Margaret's Day School held very successful summer camps on our campus offering quality learning experiences for young children in the local community at affordable prices. Each camp had over 100 children per week learning about topics like space exploration, LEGO engineering, and science experimentation. Dozens of local youth were hired to help instructors provide a fun, active but safe environment.

The school year begins the Tuesday after Labor Day, Sept. 5. Though most programs are full once again, you can always contact the school office at 410-757-2333 or email Tricia McVeigh, school director, at tricia@st-margarets.org. Please keep in mind that staff will be assisting with arrival and dismissal and are less available between 8:45-9:30 a.m. and 2:30-3:15 p.m. For a tour, contact Tricia.

A quick note about our Day School—SMDS is one of a handful in the area that has been accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and was recently named a Maryland Green School. It has developed a one-of-a-kind STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) curriculum. But it is also committed to meeting the needs of all learners, including those with special needs. And, just as important, the school is committed to showing other students that all children can learn and that everyone should be treated with respect and empathy.



Church Camera

Camp Allen 2017

The 17th annual Camp Allen, held from July 31-August 4, had a theme of unity and togetherness: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands." The 60 children who participated were directed and supported by ten youth counselors and thirty-four adult volunteers. For the first two days, the campers designed T-shirts, painted a mural, heard stories, played games, and made other crafts. On Wednesday, everyone piled in a bus and went to the Patuxent Wildlife Visitor Center. On Thursday, the group enjoyed the Cape St. Claire beach, swimming, building sandcastles, and playing soccer. Friday was the highlight of the week for most of the campers, a pool party with pizza at the Cape St. Claire pool. If you would like to be a part of this wonderful opportunity to share God's love with His children, please leave open the first week in August 2018!



VBS 2018



Adult Formation

Faith & Fellowship Mondays

Healthy fellowship meal at 6 p.m. in the parish hall.
Classes begin at 6:45 p.m. in the formation building.

To mark the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's "Ninety-Five Theses" (1517-2017) and St. Margaret's 325th anniversary (1692-2017), adult education on Monday evenings will begin this fall with a journey through the history of Christianity and the Episcopal Church.

On Sept. 18th, Jim Hall will closely examine a key part of our weekly worship: the Nicene Creed.

On Sept. 25th, Valery Weekley will introduce "lectio divina": a traditional practice of scriptural reading, meditation and prayer to promote communion with God.

On October 2, 16, 23, 30, & Nov 6, presentations and discussions will focus on the history and legacy of the Reformation led by parishioners Ernie Tucker and Paul O'Donnell, as well as by John Freymann--an expert on the history of Christianity who teaches at the Naval Academy.

On November 13th, Mary Klein, archivist of the Diocese of Maryland, will make a presentation about the history of the Episcopal Church in our region.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

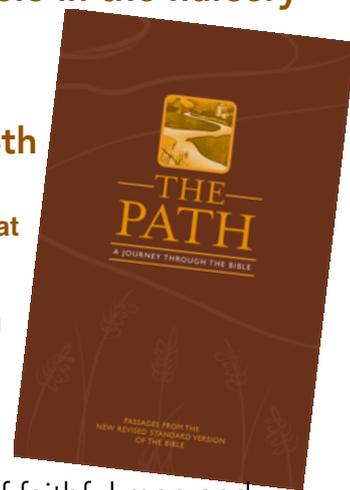
9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

Formation Classroom E

Childcare available in the nursery

Starting Sept. 14th

Available for purchase at
amazon.com
and
forwardmovement.org



Walk in the footsteps of faithful men and women who have done their best to follow God's call. The Path is the story of the Bible, excerpted from the New Revised Standard Version so that it is clear and easy to read. Follow the path of God's love all the way from the beginning to the end, from Adam's creation to John's revelation.

With informative trail signs to help you see how each piece of the narrative fits together, *The Path* is an overview of the vast, sweeping story of God's extraordinary love for ordinary people. Join us on this epic adventure, a journey through the Bible to grow closer to God.

The study group is made up of men and women of all ages. All are welcome!

The Seekers

Sundays - 10:15-11 a.m.
Admin. Conf. Room

Exploring scripture, books, articles and other literature that expands personal knowledge and enlightens our spiritual pilgrimage

All welcome! Questions?

Email wsjohnson63@gmail.com



Mark Your Calendar



**Sunday, October 1 -
4 p.m. on the church campus**

In celebration of St. Francis of Assisi and his love for animals, we welcome all animals and their caretakers for a short service celebrating the love we have for our pets. The ceremony will be held outdoors, weather permitting. All animals must be contained/controlled at all times and be up to date on vaccines. Owners are responsible for cleaning up after their animals.



**Sunday, October 29 -
10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
in the Fellowship Hall**

featuring

*Flu and pneumonia shots
including special immunizations for seniors
(Please bring your insurance cards/medicare cards.)

Also available—

- *Blood pressure checks
- *Healing Team members
- *Information and resources for all ages



Hosted by the Newcomers Committee
Children welcome - Childcare provided

Come hear from church leaders about the programs and opportunities for growth at St. Margaret's.

Please RSVP to Jane Piche
at star2d2@aol.com



**Sunday, Oct. 1
10:15-11 a.m.**

Parish & Fellowship Halls

Hosted by the SMC Missions Commission

Come learn more about the nonprofits and programs supported by St. Margaret's Church through grants, donations, funding, and the time and talents of our parishioners!

Representatives from numerous organizations will be available to answer questions and provide more information on the amazing things taking place locally and around the world.



Women's
Fellowship Night
Saturday, Sept. 16
7 p.m. - Parish Hall

All ladies of St. Margaret's are welcome to join the regional chapter of the Daughters of King for a night of fellowship and discussion about the women of the bible.

Membership in the Order is open to women at every stage of life. The diversity of different ages strengthens and enriches their chapters. Younger women benefit from the discipleship of experienced spiritual mentors, and older women are invigorated by the fresh faith and energy of youth.

Members meet at St. Margaret's the second Saturday AM of the month. For more information, contact Pam Roth at rothsbythebay@verizon.net.

St. Margaret's
Women's Guild



Next Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 6
Fellowship Hall
Lunch at 12 p.m., Meeting at 1 p.m.

Guest speaker-Jeffrey Wubbenhorst
on his mission trips to Uganda

The Guild is open to all women whether or not they are members of St. Margaret's. Members raise money throughout the year for community and youth outreach programs, and for improvements to St. Margaret's buildings and grounds. The group meets the first Wednesday of the month to enjoy food and fellowship, as well as hear information on topics of interest from parishioners as well as local leaders and experts in various fields. They also sponsor an annual Christmas and summer luncheon and open it up to all parishioners. If you would like to become a member of St. Margaret's Guild, contact Pat Hall at pshall1@verizon.net.

Guild Annual
Holiday
Bazaar

Saturday,
November 18

Save your
donations for the
White Elephant
Sale!

Contact coordinator Judy Hall at
judy.hall0404@gmail.com



Sunday, Nov. 12
Starting after the 9 a.m. service

Wear your work clothes to church and join other parishioners as they spruce up the grounds of St. Margaret's.

Bring your work gloves, tools, rakes, and wheelbarrows.

Questions? Contact hydroman1037@gmail.com.



Meets every 1st Saturday of the Month
9 a.m. to 12 p.m. - in the Admin. Conf. Room
Make prayer shawls for those suffering from illness and loss, as well as the newly baptized.
All skill levels welcome!



The **22nd Annual Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Retreat** is scheduled for September 15-17 at the Claggett Center near Frederick. The program is presented by the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania for women across the church. Learn more and register online at <http://bit.ly/ECW2017retreat>.

Join Canon Scott Slater for a **Prayer Walk in Baltimore** on September 22, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. to commemorate victims of gun violence in Baltimore City's Waverly neighborhood. Participants will walk 3-4 miles, stop briefly to pray for victims who died along the route in the previous 12 months, and return to the starting point, St. John's in the Village at 3009 Greenmount Ave.

Join Canon Angela Shepherd and Deacon Lauren Welch as they lead **a book study of the Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon's book *The Witness of Religion in the Age of Fear***.

Sessions will take place on Wednesdays beginning September 27, Diocesan Center, or via web conference. Registration coming soon.

A Golf Tournament for Baltimore International Seafarers' Center (BISC) is on Thursday, Oct. 5, at the Elkridge Club, in Baltimore starting at 9 a.m. Registration is now open for golfers and sponsors. Enjoy a great day of golf at one of the area's most storied courses! All proceeds support the center's ministry to those who bring the world to our shores.

Be the feet and support the hands that serve! **Join/support Episcopal Service Corp-MD's Team ESC-MD at the Baltimore Running Festival, October 21, 2017**. Run the 5K, marathon, half marathon, or relay. Go to <http://www.esmaryland.org/baltimore-running-festival-team/>.

The **fourth annual Trail of Souls Event will be held on Saturday, November 4, 2017**. This day-long event, "A Baltimore Journey," will be the second Trail of Souls Pilgrimage. The pilgrimage will begin at 9 a.m. at the Diocesan Center, and will include stops at four historic Baltimore churches.

The **2017 Chapman Dialogues** will focus on "Faith and Civility: Beyond the Golden Rule." Dates are November 12-14 at the Claggett Center. Join Dan Buccino, director of the Johns Hopkins Civility Initiative, and others to explore this most-timely topic. For more information, go to www.claggettcenter.org.

Pilgrimage to Spain "driving" the Camino de Santiago—June 2018

Have you heard of the Camino de Santiago—the Way of St. James—in northwestern Spain? The Rev. Canon **Scott Slater** walked a portion of it last fall on his sabbatical. He is planning to lead a "driving" pilgrimage next year June 12-23. A walking option each afternoon will be offered for those who wish. Contact Canon Slater, sslater@episcopalmaryland.com if interested. **An informational meeting will be Tuesday, September 26, 2017 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the Diocesan Center.**

Stay Engaged @ St.Margaret's

Editor's Note - St. Margaret's Church puts a lot of effort in providing the convenience of modern technology to communicate effectively with parishioners. Here is a reminder of all of the ways members can stay informed and be alerted to the news, events, and opportunities available at any point in time during the church year.



www.st-margarets.org



- *Have someone you want to put on the prayer list? Look for the green box on the homepage for a link to submit a name directly to clergy.
- *Submit a credit card payment for your annual pledge amount or capital campaign pledge by going to our "Online Purchasing/Giving" tab at the top.
- *Parents can register their children for Sunday School using our automated form linked under our "Quick Links" section on our homepage.
- *Want to order altar flowers in the loving memory or honor of a special person (notated in the bulletin)? Look under the "Giving" tab at the top look for an "Altar Flowers Donation" option.
- *Download Sunday bulletins under "Quick Links" and use your tablet or cell phone to follow the worship service (and save paper) each Sunday. Announcements are also downloadable each week.
- *Sunday readings, and the newest *Spire & Dragon Tales* are always located in "Quick Links" on the homepage.
- *The Sunday service schedule for each season is always available under the "Quick Links" section.
- *Want to check the church calendar? Look for the green "Calendar" box on the homepage.
- *Interested in baptism at St. Margaret's? Look for the scheduled dates and submit a request to clergy under the "Baptisms" page in the "About Us" tab at the top of the homepage.



TEXT ALERTS

Every once in awhile there will be a need to communicate immediately to the parish. There is a text messaging system available to all parishioners.

To sign up text @SMCGeneral to 81010. You will get a request for your name and once that is entered, you will receive parish-wide texts.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Like our Facebook Public Page -
www.facebook.com/pages/smcannapolis

Be a member of our private Facebook Group -
www.facebook.com/groups/smcannapolis

Be a Twitter Follower - @SMCAnnapolis

View our videos on YouTube - Saint Margaret

Convenient Giving

By Izzy Winn, SMC Grants Administrator

What a deal! Your "stuff" can support two local St. Margaret's grants program recipients. Mike and I recently moved—a retirement downsizing effort. While we have put all our special and meaningful furnishings in our new home, the back of my car has become my repository for the oddball things that don't qualify as keepers but that I can't justify throwing away. My tax receipt file is getting thick with donation lists from a few places that have seen me frequently. After my latest load, I thought I would share with others about two places that gladly accept my donations. Both of these have been multiple time recipients of St. Margaret's endowment grants. While it is not the norm to give repetitive grants, we at St. Margaret's like to support local programs that are in sync with our mission criteria. So here are two suggestions, both past grant recipients, for your donations of furnishings and clothing.



H.O.P.E. (He Opens Paths to Everyone) for All - This non-profit operation was started by a retired teacher and his wife to help the homeless. Now they provide free of charge basic furniture, new bedding, and household supplies to women and children in Anne Arundel County and parts of Baltimore City who are moving from homelessness to subsidized housing. These families are referred by a number of county government agencies and other local non-profits. They also donate clothing to some 3,000 people (mostly children referred by Anne Arundel County Public Schools) including some families at two West Virginia distribution sites. St. Margaret's has awarded this organization three grants since 2011.

The H.O.P.E. collection and distribution site is their huge new 14,000 sq. ft. warehouse located 122 Roelser Road which intersects Ritchie Highway at Bowl America in Glen Burnie. Hours for drop off are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Mornings. For significant furniture type donations, depending on volunteers, pick up might be available - so call to check. Volunteers are also needed on those mornings. But, you ask, for instance can they use my old dog crate, or my no longer used weed wacker? Yes. Not necessarily for the families they are housing, but rather to sell in their monthly "indoor yard sale." Yard sales are at the warehouse on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 8-11a.m. Believe me, they have a ton of items, all culled from donations that will not be used for the client apartments. Proceeds from the sales are used to buy what is in short supply and to buy new (required) mattresses and pillows.

Partners in Care and the Upscale Resale Boutique, 8151-C Ritchie Hwy, Pasadena MD located in the shopping plaza perpendicular to BJ's Wholesale Club - Partners in Care is a six-time St. Margaret's grant recipient over the past 17 years. PIC is a senior citizen volunteer "service bank" cooperatively supporting independent living senior citizens thru no-cost transportation, home repairs and advocacy programs. Service hours are "banked" by members who are over 55. It is a "give and take" for seniors by seniors. If you are over 55, you might want to volunteer your time and talents and reap the return benefits of this great program for yourself.

A great part of PIC is its upscale resale boutique open Tuesday thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The phone is 410-544-0568. In July, it relocated from the intersection of East West Blvd and Ritchie Hwy to a grand new space a little further north at 8151 Ritchie Hwy. Volunteers graciously accept your "upscale" clothes, household items and treasures! They take dog leashes to fur coats! They also accept no longer needed medical equipment (walkers, canes etc.) Tax donation forms await you, but don't forget to look for that one thing you might want for yourself.

If it wasn't for the Upscale Resale Boutique and H.O.P.E. my new garage would still be full of moving cartons packed with unneeded treasures too good to discard. What about you? Searching for a secret treasurer or trying to help a friend in need, shop where it might change a life. And next time you have just one thing or many to pass on, avoid the landfill and support our community through one of these non-profits.

Bible-led Stewardship

By Gail Morton



St. Margaret's has invested a great deal in recent years to environmental stewardship- greening our buildings, installing pollution protecting landscaping and utilizing renewable energy resources. We have a green team. We recycle and use biodegradable products. We teach our children about the value of caring for God's creation.

I was pondering what, as a large group of very diverse people, we share that creates such focused agreement and commitment on the importance of environmental efforts at St. Margaret's and hopefully beyond.

Excerpts from Ecology and Bible- Principles for Interpretation seem to speak to this point and provide insight on the answer. I share them here for your consideration.

1. The Principle of Intrinsic Worth- The expression "and God saw that X was good" in Genesis 1 is often viewed as a formula of divine pronouncement, but it is preferable to speak of a divine reaction. When God sees the light and the Earth emerge from the waters, God reacts to what God sees, and what God sees is good. The Earth and its components are valued as 'good' by God when God discovers them to be so, not because God pronounces them to be so. The Earth is 'good' in and of itself.

2. The Principle of Inter-connectedness- The Earth is not a controlled or mechanical structure consisting of independent parts governed by the so-called laws of nature. Each member of each and every species is connected by complex webs of interrelationships. Humans are dependent on and integral to the wide diversity of life that inhabits these domains. All breathing creatures inhale the same air. The same oxygen is recycled by living plants every two thousand years. We breathe today the same air once recycled by the cedars of Lebanon. The task before us is to discern traditions which affirm an interconnection and interdependence between the domains of the biological world as well as human beings.

3. The Principle of Voice- The Earth is a living entity capable of raising its voice in celebration and against injustice. The Earth reacts to the way it is treated- for better or worse.

4. The Principle of Purpose- The Earth, and indeed the Universe, and all its components are part of a dynamic cosmic design within which each piece has a place in the overall goal of that design. When we corrode its ability to fulfill its purpose as designed, its interconnection is destroyed and its function breaks down affecting everything in its sphere of influence.

5. The Principle of Mutual Custodians- The earth is a balanced and diverse domain where responsible custodians can and must function as partners with, rather than rulers over, the Earth if we expect it to sustain its balance and diversity.

6. The Principle of Resistance- The Earth and its components not only suffer from injustices at the hands of humans, but actively resist them in the struggle for justice.

I am proud of the "green" effort at St. Margaret's. Our collective commitment shows throughout our campus and encourages other congregations to consider what is possible on their own campuses. I hope this example influences parishioners to make their own commitment in their homes, businesses and neighborhoods.

God calls us to demonstrate purposeful stewardship to his creation. Our reward for thoughtful caring of God's creation is seeing it work as designed and appreciating the place given to us in balance with all others. I think this is what we strive for at St. Margaret's. Well done.





ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

ANNAPOLIS · MARYLAND · ESTABLISHED 1692

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Pastoral Emergency (443) 837-5463

www.st-margarets.org

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Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Sundays at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m.

Wednesdays at 7:30 a.m.

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