

# St. Margaret's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1601 Pleasant Plains Road  
Annapolis, Maryland • 21409  
st-margarets.org



# The Spire

Lent/Easter 2015

Vol. X, Issue II

## Upcoming Events

February 24

Shrove Tuesday  
Pancake Supper

February 27

Guild Board Meeting

March 1

Ministry Fair  
Relay for Life Kickoff

March 7

Seamless Faith  
Workshop  
Blues Coffeehouse

March 8

Newcomers  
Dinner

March 29

Palm Sunday

March 30-April 1

Holy Week  
Noonday Services

April 2

Maundy Thursday  
Services

April 3

Good Friday  
Services

April 4

Easter Vigil

April 5

Easter Morning

## A Very Promising Time Here at St. Margaret's

By The Rev. Peter W. Mayer

I had a dream the other night. I had the chills earlier in the evening, and I had cereal for a late night snack, which usually leads to weird dreams, but there I was, getting ready for a service at St. Margaret's.

Only it wasn't at St. Margarets. Instead, I was in an amphitheater, that was slowly filling up. Below me must have been about twenty rows leading up to a stage with an altar in the middle. Looking up a few rows, there was an open air concourse in which there was an incredible sense of belonging. People wanted to be there. They wanted to worship and be moved. They were expectant.

Now, before I get all Jungian and start interpreting, let me tell you about the dream I had the next night. I dreamed that I was in the Caribbean, on an island. After some of the machinations that we all have in our dreams (you start out with one set of friends at a bar, then all of a sudden you're with your fifth grade class in a library) I found myself at a building site. St. Margaret's, or what I perceived to be our community, was building something. It was a 14-story structure, almost like a small skyscraper. I don't know what it was for. I only know it wasn't here on our current campus. It was somewhere else. And I look to my left out my window, and the cinder blocks for our new formation building are now almost level with my eyes.

Let me tell you first what these dreams are NOT telling me. They are not telling me that we need to start planning for a new amphitheater-style church. They are not telling me that we need to plan for a 14-story building in the Caribbean. We have much more pressing things to do in the here and now, and by no means do I want to forego our current responsibilities and challenges to go live in the future.

What these dreams tell me is that we are in a very fun and promising time. We're in a position where the future is unwritten and our horizons are nothing save the limit of our sight. Fundamentally, these dreams gave me a FEELING that our church needs to be a place where people want to be. Where people belong. Where they can come and be changed and grow.

And our church needs to grow. The fact that we will need a new organ soon should be proof alone that we will soon need to look at the space in our current church and come up with some solutions. Perhaps that's the reason there was an open-air concourse outside the worship space: we need space for people to gather and feel our welcome before they come into worship. I don't know, it's just a guess, but I think it has merit.

I also think that we need to reignite something that takes us out into the world with our hands and feet. I asked at our annual meeting how we raise up the next Bailey Barcome or the next John Willard. One response was echoed again and again: Honduras. Years ago, St. Margaret's had a vibrant mission to Honduras. What's the next chapter of our overseas story? Humbly speaking, God is too good for us to stay on this peninsula.

These are things that are on my mind. So as our vestry and many other leadership groups wrestle with vision, mission, strategic goals and core values, we dream. We allow God's Holy Spirit to move in our souls and tell us where we will go. It's a tremendously exciting time. I'm so glad you're along for the ride.



## What to do now?

By the Rev. Jane Milliken Hague



Recently, the Missions Commission met to discuss our budget for 2015. We are faced with the stark reality that the funding for grants and mission has been reduced by a third. The way the endowment draw has been restructured indicates that we will have much less money to give away through the grants program and to assist parishioner initiated outreach.

The St. Margaret's Endowment Grants program is already in the midst of the discernment process. This year we received 52 applications, an increase of 10 from last year. Izzy Winn, the Grants Administrator, is aware that we have about \$50,000 less to award in 2015 and perhaps only 10 applicants will receive grants. Please hold the Grants Committee and the liaisons in your prayers as they proceed in making extremely difficult decisions.

The Missions Commission faces similar difficult decisions. It is very hard to say no to a fellow parishioner's request for assistance in an outreach project that they are passionate about and to which they are deeply committed. The Mission Commission has spent this last year evaluating the priorities of our giving and asking ourselves questions when considering funding such as, "Does this program empower the participants? Does it enable the participants with the skills to transform their lives? Should we fund emergency relief?" With the 2015 budget being diminished, these questions will become even more important.

The good news is that St. Margaret's Church has never backed down from a challenge. What we lack in money to give will be made up by people power. Though our budget line is much smaller, we have an abundance of compassion in our pews. When we cannot give monetary donations, we can contribute experience and talent and most treasured of all, the heart for hard work and passion to do God's will.

This Lent and Easter, please consider volunteering for one of our multiple outreach programs. We can always use you.

## Thank You, Winter Relief Volunteers!



Thank you to all of our parishioners who signed up to assist St. Philip's with their hosting of Light House guests for winter relief in February. From transporting guests to cooking and serving dinners, we thank everyone who contributed to this holy hospitality mission project! And special thanks to volunteer Judy Hall who organized the entire effort and took these photos!



**May 30-31, 2015  
Anne Arundel  
Community College**

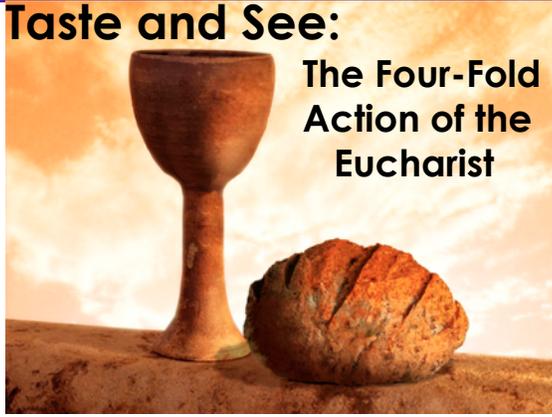
**SMC Kickoff  
March 1**



Last year, we had over 40 members on our St. Margaret's Dragonslayers team participate and many more praying and donating, raising over \$8,000 to fight cancer!

Join us in 2015. Sign up on our team to participate by using the link on our website homepage or by going to our registration table at coffeeshour on Sundays. More information on how you can help is coming soon!

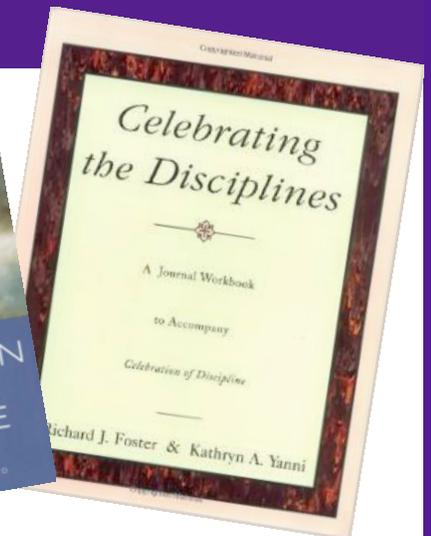
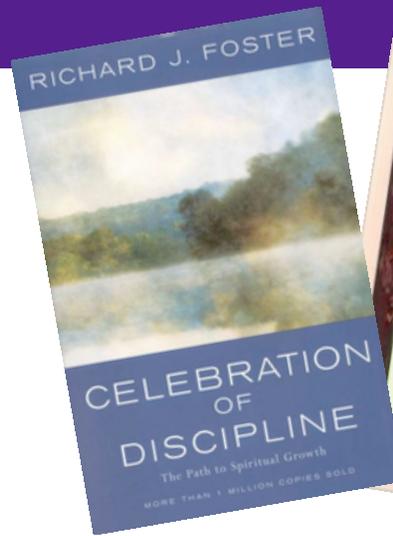
## Taste and See:



### The Four-Fold Action of the Eucharist

Many Episcopalians have placed the Eucharist at the center of their weekly spiritual worship since the revision of the Prayer Book in the 1970's. Now, it's possible to have Eucharist many times a week. Why is it so important? What does this ritual offer us?

Our Rector will offer weekly reflections on the Eucharist throughout Lent, and they will be posted on our website and Facebook page each Tuesday. He will present a special Adult Forum in the Church on March 22 to talk about the four-fold action of the Eucharist (taking, blessing, breaking and giving). This will all lead up to a Maundy Thursday potluck supper in the Parish Hall on Thursday, April 2 at 6 p.m. Please join us for this spiritually refreshing Lenten exercise.



### Building Disciples at St. Margaret's This Lent - Not too Late to Register!

As the formation building grows brick by brick, we are building 'disciples of Christ.' Are you being called to deepen your spiritual life and strengthen your commitment to God? Started on Ash Wednesday, the course runs through Wednesday, May 13th from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the Conference Room.

The two-book set (In Celebration of Disciplines and Celebrating the Disciplines Workbook) is available for approximately \$31 in paperback or \$26 for a combination Kindle (study book) and paper (Workbook).



#### **Holy Week Eucharist: Monday - Wednesday**

Services will be held at 12 p.m. on Monday in the conference room and Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week in the church. Please join us as you are able.

#### **Maundy Thursday:**

We will have two Maundy Thursday liturgies this year. One will be held earlier in the day at noon that will be easier to follow for families with young children. The traditional Maundy Thursday liturgy will begin with a potluck in the parish hall at 6 p.m. followed by the stripping of the altar at 7:30 p.m.

#### **Holy Saturday Morning:**

Please join us for a short liturgy including readings for the day in the church at 9:30 a.m. before the Flower and Altar Guilds begin decorating and setting up for Easter.

#### **Easter Vigil (Saturday Evening):**

An evening service that begins at 8 p.m. in darkness outside in the columbarium, remembering the brokenness both of our world and the body of Christ in the tomb.

#### **Easter Sunday:**

We celebrate Jesus' resurrection with jubilant services that will be held at regular times, 7:30 (spoken) and the 9, and 11:15 a.m. services featuring the joyous sounds of our St. Margaret's Choirs.

# ST. MARGARET'S DAY SCHOOL

By Tricia McVeigh, Director

Registration for fall 2015 classes has begun and SMDS is already full in several classes. We are happily anticipating our new school year in a new building!

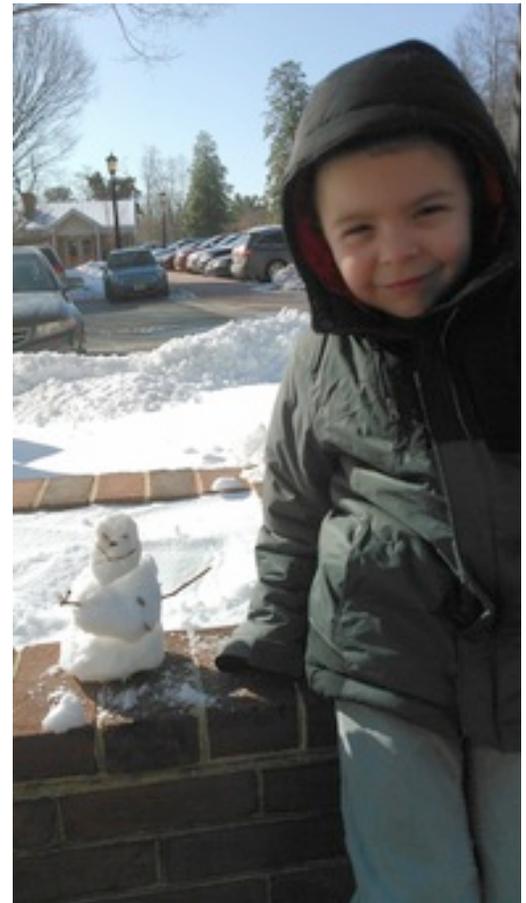


Thanks to everyone who has recommended our program and sent us new families this winter, making our community even bigger. We enjoyed visiting "green" Maryland authors Elaine Allen and Jennifer Curtis last month. We also enjoyed another great presentation of rescued birds and reptiles by Bob Baltz! In March our little leprechauns will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday and the Kindergarteners will host their annual Dr. Seuss poem contest in honor of his birthday. We will also welcome the Annapolis Maritime Museum and look forward to their presentation on the Chesapeake Bay. The Pre K and K classes will once again visit Port Discovery and we are looking forward to our Music Together music party on march the 26th.

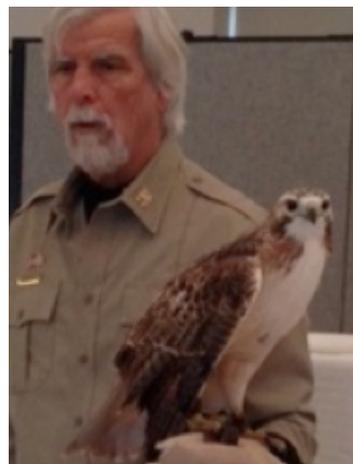
The Day School will be closed for Easter break from March 30-April 6.

Be sure to save the date of May 2nd at 5:30 p.m. St Margaret's Day School PTO will once again host our annual Silent Auction. This year's theme will be "Derby" and our event will be held at the Ulmstead Barn due to the construction on campus. If you have any items for donations, please contact Tracy Seybert at [tracy\\_seybert@yahoo.com](mailto:tracy_seybert@yahoo.com). If you are interested in reserving tickets or sponsoring the event, contact the day school office. Thanks for your support of this great event that helps provide items for our school campus and playground.

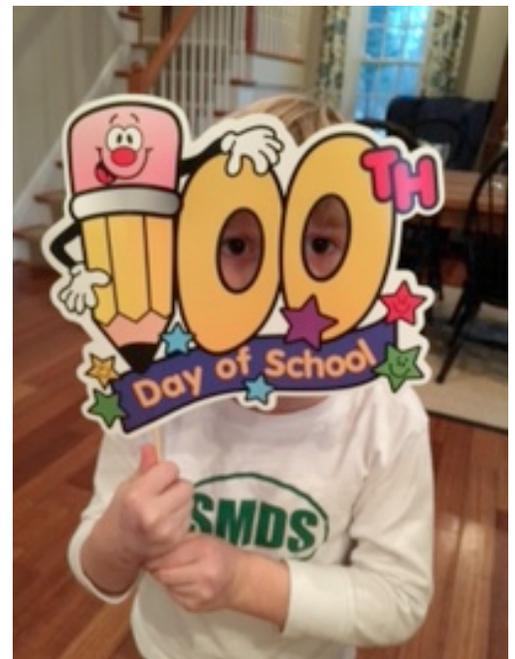
Summer camp registration is open. We are taking 2 year olds through 9 year olds this year. We will play, laugh and create for 7 weeks this summer. Each session will culminate with a field trip for the older campers. Visit our website for an application at [www.stmargaretsdayschool.org](http://www.stmargaretsdayschool.org). Spaces fill up, so get your registration in early!



First Day of Snow



Bob Baltz's  
Animal Visit



100th Day of School

Lent/Easter

[www.st-margarets.org](http://www.st-margarets.org)

## Schubert Mass Rescheduled for April 12

by James R. Fitzpatrick, Director of Music

The presentation of the choral Mass in E Flat by Franz Schubert at St. Margaret's Church has been rescheduled to Sunday, April 12 at 5 p.m. The mass, a concert length Missa Solemnis, considered to be Schubert's crowning work of choral beauty, will feature Soprano Marlissa Hudson, Tenors Benjamin Greenfield and Adam Caughey, Contralto Candace Potts, and Bass Philip Greenfield. A small chamber orchestra and organist Gary Kirkeby will accompany the choirs of St. Margaret's Church under the direction of James R. Fitzpatrick. The concert is free and open to the public.

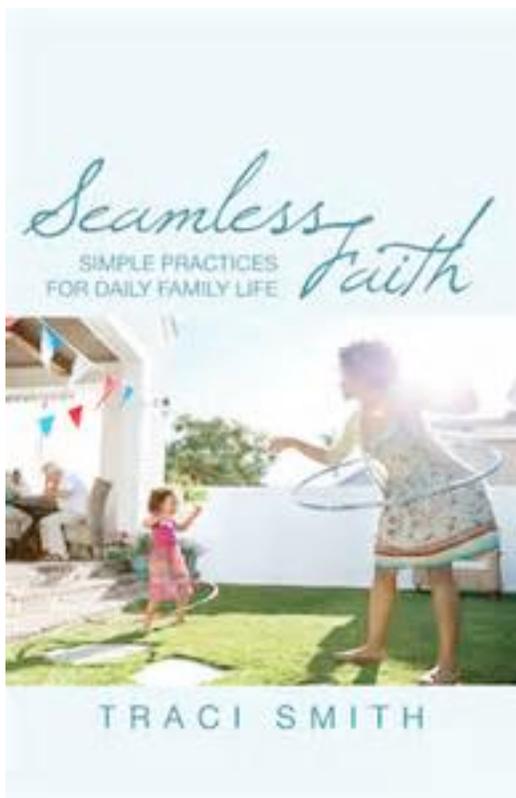


American soprano Marlissa Hudson has been described as a "superb lyric coloratura" (St. Louis Post-Dispatch). At home both on the operatic and concert stage, Ms. Hudson made her professional debut while a student, performing Summertime from Porgy and Bess with the Baltimore Symphony Pops Orchestra under the baton of Marvin Hamlisch. She later performed the entire role of Bess with Union Avenue Opera in St. Louis. As a concert soloist, Ms. Hudson has collaborated with such esteemed organizations as the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra, Baltimore Symphony Pops Orchestra, National Philharmonic Orchestra, Choralis, St. Louis Civic Orchestra, and the Prince George's Philharmonic. Recitals are a definitive niche for Ms. Hudson, and she has performed as a featured recitalist across the continental U.S. and St. Croix US VI. She has sung at St. Margaret's before, most notably in recital with pianist Marvin Mills. Ms. Hudson received her formal training at Duke University and the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University. She earned awards for music at both schools, including a Peabody Career Development Grant. Find out more about Marlissa Hudson and hear her sing at <http://marlissahudson.ironsage.com/artists/marlissahudson/>

The two soloists with the same last name are father and son. Annapolis resident Philip Greenfield is a noted baritone in the Greater Washington area. He most recently appeared at St. Margaret's as a soloist in the Mozart Requiem. In addition to being a music journalist and educator, Philip is cantor at Mishkan Torah Synagogue in Greenbelt, MD. Tenor Benjamin Greenfield studied voice at Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore and currently serves as Tenor Soloist at the Cathedral of the Incarnation in Baltimore, MD. He last appeared at St. Margaret's as the tenor soloist in a performance of Bach's Magnificat.

Contralto Candace Potts is a frequent guest at St. Margaret's bringing her rich velvety voice to solos in such works as "The Atonement" by Samuel Coleridge Taylor and Leonard Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms" as well as sharing her distinctive Gospel stylings to a variety of worship services at St. Margaret's. Coming from a musical family, Candace is a graduate of Morgan State University and currently sings with Danton Whitley and Mosaic Sound.

Adam Caughey, tenor, originally from San Diego, CA, completed his Master of Music degree at the Peabody Conservatory as a student of Dr. Stanley Cornett. Before coming to Baltimore, Mr. Caughey performed the roles of Don Ottavio, Don Basilio, Sam Kaplan in Weill's Street Scene, and Flute in Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream while obtaining a B.M at UC Santa Cruz. A versatile performer, Mr. Caughey also has performed the Evangelist in J.S. Bach's St. John Passion under the coaching of John Shirley-Quirk and Dr. Cornett, Peter Quint in Britten's The Turn of the Screw, the comic tenors in Les Contes d'Hoffmann and Monostatos while covering the role of Tamino in Mozart's Magic Flute. Mr. Caughey's 2009 debut as Albert Herring with Opera Vivente received critical acclaim from The Baltimore Sun's Tim Smith. Mr. Caughey has performed small roles with area opera houses including Lyric Opera of Baltimore and Young Victorian Theatre Company. He has appeared as a soloist with the Annapolis Chorale and has frequently sung as a guest performer at St. Margaret's.



## Seamless Faith Workshop Saturday, March 7 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

The Rev. Sarah Lamming is holding a workshop for parish parents to help incorporate faith practices used in our Lenten study "Seamless Faith" into their family's life.

Participants will have a time to interact with other parents, learn about traditions, ceremonies and spiritual practices and come away with practical ideas that you can use at home.

And look for a daily post corresponding to our Seamless Faith calendar (see next page) on the St. Margaret's Facebook Group page.



Every child who would like to participate in the Easter Egg Hunt will receive some eggs and a bag of candy, but they will also help other people, too.

This year, because of space, we will be doing timed slots. When the children arrive at church, they will be given a ticket for the Egg Hunt (10:15, 10:30, 10:45 & 12:15). The children are invited to collect as many eggs as they can in their time slot. Inside each egg, there will be a quarter. At the end of the hunt, the children will donate their quarters into a bucket for their charity of choice and receive a bag of candy. The three charities are: (1) The Light House shelter, (2) Relay for Life, and (3) the J2A Pilgrimage. (This is modeled on the Nickels for Non-Profits program at Whole Foods.)

Parishioners are asked to donate plastic eggs with a quarter in them and drop them off at the church office by Saturday, April 4th.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>LENTEN PRACTICES CALENDAR FOR FAMILIES 2015</b>						
<b>FEBRUARY 22</b> [F] No snacks between meals today	<b>FEBRUARY 23</b> [S] Do something kind for a neighbor.	<b>FEBRUARY 24</b> [P] GRATITUDE	<b>FEBRUARY 25</b> [F] Only water to drink today	<b>FEBRUARY 26</b> [S] Buy or find 5+ items for a food bank. (Deliver on March 28)	<b>FEBRUARY 27</b> [P] JESUS	<b>FEBRUARY 28</b> [F] Eat very simple meals for breakfast, lunch, & dinner.
<b>MARCH 1</b> [S] Pick up litter outside your house or at a park.	<b>MARCH 2</b> [P] SPIRIT	<b>MARCH 3</b> [F] Do not use toys that require batteries or electricity	<b>MARCH 4</b> [S] Call someone and tell them you are thinking of them today.	<b>MARCH 5</b> [P] HOLY	<b>MARCH 6</b> [F] Do not listen to music in the car.	<b>MARCH 7</b> [S] Take a treat or meal to someone
<b>MARCH 8</b> [P] PATIENCE	<b>MARCH 9</b> [F] No desserts or treats today	<b>MARCH 10</b> [S] Say something nice about each person in your family.	<b>MARCH 11</b> [P] DESERT	<b>MARCH 12</b> [F] No TV or screens today (except for homework)	<b>MARCH 13</b> [S] Invite someone to your house for dinner.	<b>MARCH 14</b> [P] JOURNEY
<b>MARCH 15</b> [F] No snacks between meals today	<b>MARCH 16</b> [S] Give someone real or paper flowers.	<b>MARCH 17</b> [P] SERVICE	<b>MARCH 18</b> [F] Only water to drink today	<b>MARCH 19</b> [S] Draw a picture for someone and mail it.	<b>MARCH 20</b> [P] FRIENDSHIP	<b>MARCH 21</b> [F] Eat very simple meals for breakfast, lunch, & dinner.
<b>MARCH 22</b> [S] Write someone a thank you note	<b>MARCH 23</b> [P] GOD	<b>MARCH 24</b> [F] Do not use toys that require batteries or electricity	<b>MARCH 25</b> [S] Learn something about another country or culture	<b>MARCH 26</b> [P] MERCY	<b>MARCH 27</b> [F] Do not listen to music in the car.	<b>MARCH 28</b> [S] Deliver your food bank items
<b>MARCH 29</b> [P] PEACE	<b>MARCH 30</b> [F] No desserts or treats today	<b>MARCH 31</b> [S] Buy dog or cat food for an animal shelter (deliver Sat.)	<b>APRIL 1</b> [P] KINDNESS	<b>APRIL 2</b> [F] No TV or screens today (except for homework)	<b>APRIL 3</b> [S] Plant a tree or flowers	<b>APRIL 4</b> [S] Deliver animal items.
<b>APRIL 5</b> Easter! [P] RESURRECTION	<p>These activities are based around the traditional "3 Pillars" of Lent. Prayer [P], Fasting [F] and Almsgiving/Service [S]. The pillars are rotated throughout lent with simple activities. On the prayer days, use the word provided to inspire a prayer you write, draw, or sing. All of the activities are suggestions. Modify them for your own family!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">© Traci Smith 2015 <a href="http://www.traci-smith.com">www.traci-smith.com</a></p>					



AAMC Bloodmobile  
visiting St. Margaret's  
Sunday, March 8  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

To make an appointment, go to  
[www.mysignup.com/stmarg](http://www.mysignup.com/stmarg)  
Walk-ins welcome!



Did you know...

a single blood donation can save up to 3 lives?



**Sunday, March 1**

**10:15 to 11 a.m. in the Parish Hall**

Sat., February 28 before the 5 p.m. service  
Sun., March 1 after the 7:30 a.m. service

Visit with representatives from a variety of  
church ministries and find opportunities  
for you to learn and grow in faith  
through service @ St. Margaret's!

### Spring Newcomers Dinner



**Sunday, March 8 - Parish Hall**

6 p.m. - Childcare provided

Please RSVP with [star2d2@aol.com](mailto:star2d2@aol.com)

*Come meet church leaders and learn of the  
opportunities available for you and your family to  
grow in faith @ St. Margaret's*

### Blues Coffeehouse

**Saturday, March 7**

**Parish Hall**

**w/ the Third Sunday Band**



**Doors open at 6:30 p.m.**

**Music begins at 7 p.m.**

Donations accepted for refreshments being served.

### Spring Fair Flea Market



**Saturday, March 14, 2015**

**8 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**St. Philip's Episcopal Church  
730 Bestgate Road, Annapolis**





*“Walk with us* where Jesuit Retreatants  
have worshipped since 1926 at the  
Stations of the Cross  
overlooking the Severn River”

**Good Friday  
Friday, April 3  
Program begins at noon**

Join Us ...

*Good Friday  
for the  
14th Anniversary  
Way of the Cross  
at Manresa  
(WOC 2013)*

*Directions: From Annapolis take Route 50 East across the Severn River staying in the right lane. Take Exit 27 (Rt. 450 South-Naval Academy). Make the first right turn onto Boulter’s Way and an immediate left onto Manresa Road.*

Musical selections begin at 11:40 a.m.—Come early—  
Wear comfortable clothes and walking shoes

Participating Churches -

- St. Margaret’s Episcopal
- St. Martin’s in the Field Episcopal
- St. Andrew by the Bay Roman Catholic
- St. Mary’s Roman Catholic
- Kiwanis Club of Annapolis
- Calvary United Methodist
- Gloria Dei! Lutheran
- Epiphany Roman Catholic Community
- St. Philip’s Episcopal
- St. James’ Episcopal, Lothian
- St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic
- College Parkway Baptist
- St. Philip Neri Roman Catholic
- Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians
- St. Andrew’s Episcopal, Pasadena

## Order for Easter Flowers

Easter Lilies and Flowers to decorate the altar and church for Easter are available as memorials or in thanksgiving of a loved one. Please fill in the form below and place in the collection plate or send to the church office. **Make checks out to “St. Margaret’s Church” and write “Easter Flowers” on the memo line of the check.**

If you would like to help decorate for Easter in the church, the Flower Guild will be working on Saturday, April 4, at 10 a.m.

**Cost is \$25 per plant - Due date March 23, 2015**

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_

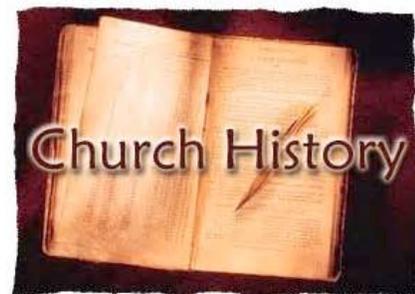
by \_\_\_\_\_.



## TRAIL OF SOULS: A Pilgrimage Toward Truth & Reconciliation

### Part 5 of 5

#### from St. Margaret's History & Archives Project



Editor's note: Since Part Two in this five part series appeared in a 2014 issue of the Spire, new information has been found about religious services conducted by St. Margaret's clergy for persons of African descent — "colored services" — including baptisms, marriages, funeral services, and burials— none in St. Margaret's churchyard. We are now compiling records from the second parish register dating from after the 1884 death of rector Rev. Dr. Samuel Ridout. These records will one day become digitized and available online in the same manner that the records contained in the first parish register from the late 1600s through 1884 now are available online. We expect to establish that no person of color was ever confirmed and consequently never became a communicant and a member of the church during the 19th century despite numerous baptisms and marriages conducted for persons of color.

Inspired by the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland's Truth and Reconciliation Pilgrimage marking the 150th anniversary of the end of legal chattel slavery in the State of Maryland, St. Margaret's dedicated five hand-crafted historical markers to remember its history during the slave period in Maryland. This fifth article in the five-part series describes what is behind one of the three historical makers placed outside the church.

Historical Marker V located at the western edge of the churchyard and immediately in front of both a cemetery marker placed in 1972 and a plain stone placed there in the late 19th century, acknowledges that enslaved persons were typically buried outside white-only portions of graveyards and churchyards and their simple markers (if any) soon disintegrated.

Most burials of enslaved persons took place on private property at the farms and plantations where they were enslaved. They were buried unceremoniously with perhaps a fieldstone or wooden post to designate where the body was placed. More than likely there was no marking. One nearby example is at Walnut Hill, located one half-mile from the present site of St. Margaret's church where at least 50 enslaved persons are reportedly buried near the barn. There are no markings or names. Five persons buried there and who received their freedom in 1788 are known in available burial records only by their first names; their graves are without any other markings.

Even at Whitehall plantation there were three dozen enslaved and formerly enslaved persons buried outside the family cemetery in the unmarked area.

There is no historical evidence at this time that enslaved persons or free blacks were ever buried in the current parish churchyard. If enslaved persons were buried at the Winchester Heights (Sevenside) church (second church and second location), they would have been buried similarly to those buried at Whitehall with no markings or perhaps a wooden post that has since decayed. It is known that some remains were moved to the current churchyard that was established after 1884, although there is no list of individuals. Individual graves were not created and were not marked when remains were moved. Wooden headboards and crosses used to mark the burial sites/graves of poorer whites, free-blacks, indentured (white) servants and enslaved persons fast disintegrated.

In 1972, according to the parish vestry minutes . . .the Reverend Forrest Farris [rector] reported a suggestion from Mr. Bowie to create a suitable enclosure and marker for those remains entered in the ancient St. Margaret's cemetery during colonial days and removed to the present cemetery during the construction of Rt. 50. Mr. Goldsborough moved that the vestry approve the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$150.00 from the Cemetery Fund for the purpose of enclosing and marking the site of this reminder of our colonial heritage.

The motion was approved and a marker commissioned bearing the inscription In memory of all those who have gone before us who are buried here and are only known to God. 1825-1895. The historical accuracy of those dates is open to question.

## Master Watershed Steward Academy Comes to St. Margaret's

By Gail Morton

In seeking a LEED certification for our new formation building, St. Margaret's has converted its financial commitment into an action item towards its claim of environmental stewardship.



Just walking our campus reinforces that action. We have planted over 200 trees, installed a rain garden, and instructed our building partners that we expect our new building to be environmentally responsible inside and out. As a congregation, vestry and clergy, we should be proud of our efforts and should plan to press forward with new and better environmental conservation methods. With that in mind, St. Margaret's has sponsored me to attend the Chesapeake Master Watershed Steward Academy. The vast knowledge available from that resource will be a guideline for our conservation projects here on campus but also available to you as individual property owners.

Through the Master Steward initiative, we can now move the lessons learned here on Pleasant Plains Road from our church to our homes, teach our children of these efforts, and be a model to our neighbors. The Watershed Academy resource enables you to reclaim your own properties as watershed stewards and hopefully be a model to reach out to others in your neighborhood -- the impact of one multiplied by many.

There are things that each and every one of us can do, regardless of our economic limits, to be more responsible to the environmental impact we impose on our own corner of the earth. I hope over the next year you will learn along with me on how to assess your own property and design ways to alleviate, restore and conserve water run-off, decrease habitat degradation, and implement sustainable landscaping with responsible conservation techniques.

In each *Spire* newsletter, I hope to share a different focus on information and conservation methods that you can consider for your own home.

Rain run-off is a great place to start so our next article will deal with:

**Fact #1 - a 1" rainfall on a 1,000 square foot roof produces 623 gallons of water.**

How do we receive that water on our property, what do we do with it and what is its quality when it leaves our property?

Learn what you can do!

### Upcoming St. Margaret's Guild Programs

#### March Service/Luncheon - all are invited

11:30 a.m. Prayer Service in the Church

12:00 p.m. Soup Luncheon

#### April Meeting & Presentation

1:00 p.m. Fellowship and Refreshments

1:30 p.m. Presentation on the Schubert Mass

by James Fitzpatrick and the Rev. Sarah Lamming



**Look for the blue UTO envelopes in your Palm Sunday bulletins!**

### A Note from Our New Senior Warden- Anne Sessions

I am originally from the Midwest, raised in a multi-racial, multi-religion family. I attended Denison University, graduated with a BA in Political Science and English Writing. I came to Washington, D.C. to work in political media during a political campaign year and have been in the area ever since. My first experience with the Episcopal church was joining St. Margaret's about 18 years ago, on the insistence of our oldest daughter. (And a little child shall lead them...)



My husband, James Hanrahan and I, have three daughters who have grown up in St. Margaret's, as accolytes, babysitters, Sunday Schoolers, and the like. At St. Margaret's I have served as a Sunday School teacher, delegate to the Maryland Diocesan Convention, a mentor for the Grants Committee, part of a Pastoral Search Committee, and I led the Joust Committee for 10 years (with a team of extraordinary talents, you know who you are Steve Brennan and Janice Roper-Graham, Don Schroeder and Jim Knorr). Currently I sing in the Chancel Choir, and spent 2013-2014 working to launch the new Formation Building effort, and managing the Capital Campaign. I also volunteer in the community at large.

Professionally my husband and I have a media production company, LCTM Industries, Inc, that creates media (e.g. broadcast commercials, corporate communications, tradeshow, museum installatons, large scale "events") for a variety of clients. Every two years I am usually very busy working with political clients all over the U.S., who are running for local, state, and national office. I also do a lot of work for independent expenditure efforts and state referenda.

Since we have joined the parish I have watched the congregation and the area grow. I am anxious to work with St. Margaret's in guiding that growth, making a fearless and honest assessment where and how best to commit resources so that we stay true to our mission, in-reach and out-reach. St. Margaret's has a very special identity within Annapolis and the diocese. While technically we may no longer be that small church nestled amongst farmlands, we can retain our unique St. Margaret's perspective and assets, while growing our strength in mission, diversity and service.

### A Note from Peter



St. Margaret's Church has been incredibly blessed by the work and presence of Pat Hall as parish nurse for these many years. Pat's love of the people of St. Margaret's and their health knows no bounds, and we will miss her service. I will miss working with her on a weekly basis, but I look forward to her continuing some of the work she began: the blood drives, CPR classes and making sure the AEDs are up to date.

The majority of the pastoral work Pat has shouldered will now be handled by the clergy directly. We will most likely reconvene some sort of Lay Pastoral Care group to make sure we are caring for our people as best as we can. Pat will continue to worship with us, and I will count on her counsel when I need it.



*Please join us on  
Sunday, Feb. 22,  
10:30 a.m. in the  
parish hall as we  
celebrate Pat's  
ministry among us,  
and thank her for all  
of her care!*

## NEW FORMATION BUILDING PROGRESS

By Tom Wenz, [wenzt@yahoo.com](mailto:wenzt@yahoo.com)

Excitement is growing while we watch the now visible progress of the new formation building. We'd like to remind everyone why we took on such a large project. The building is not only to expand our footprint, but to expand our faith, our ability to care for one another, as well as our service and reach into the community. As Peter likes to say, the new building is helping us become transformed by God's love.

Weather is the biggest challenge we face at this point, as snow and cold bring work to a standstill. Coupled with delay in the project start, as of this writing the project is about 5 weeks behind the original schedule. We are currently projected to move in late September.



The hope is the contractor will be able to make up some of that lost time, but more poor weather could add further delays.

The first submission for LEED certification has been sent in (design review) and we still stand at about 55 points – in the middle of the Silver level for certification. We won't learn our final score until we've been in the building for a few months and a final assessment is made. There are a few grants we plan to apply for which will help the cause, including one that might allow for solar panel installation.

We'd like to thank the volunteers who continue to step forward to assist with both the Interior Finishes committee and the Landscape committee. Others who are interested should contact Teresa Todd to find out how they can help. Another as yet unnamed committee is expected to stand up soon – one which will consider how to repurpose the space in the existing education wing once the Day School has established itself in the new building.

The excitement of the new building is expected to bring many offers of assistance in the form of donations of art and/or decorations, however we've decided that's something that needs further consideration. To be thoughtful about this we have established a two-year moratorium, a discernment period, so we can all live in the building and feel how the new building lives within our community, before we add to it on the inside or the outside.

As we mentioned in the annual report, we have secured enough donations to move forward with the project, although the actual amount remains fluid as some pledgers have moved away or experienced other life events that have made it impractical for them to meet their initial commitment. We have secured a construction loan at a very favorable rate to cover the existing gap in funds for the project, but donations to help us close that gap on the amount that needs to be financed are still greatly appreciated. Ongoing management of the Capital Campaign is something we will be looking for help with as Anne Sessions moves on to a new leadership position within the church. Most of the heavy lifting has been done and the job now is mostly custodial. It's not an accounting job, but rather one of maintaining and developing the relationships with our dedicated pledgers and tracking the status of their pledges. If you feel called to take on these duties, please let us know.

Again we ask for continued prayers for the project and especially the safety of the workers.



John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. (Mark 1:4)

From The Rt. Rev. Eugene Taylor Sutton  
February 17, 2015

"I'm sorry."

Are there any two words more powerful than these? How many times have you longed to hear them be spoken by someone you felt has failed you? How many days and nights have been wasted in anger and bitterness; how many hearts needlessly hardened; how many broken relationships could have been repaired if only those two simple words had been spoken from a place of true repentance.

We could, in fact, say our Christian gospel begins with a call for sincere apology. The author of the Gospel according to Mark seems to believe so. That gospel account opens with: "The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God," before leading us directly to John the Baptist proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

To repent means to turn around, to change the direction of your life. And as you have most likely experienced personally, this is not easy to do. But repentance is a process, one involving a series of steps we must take before we're truly able to joyfully travel the path leading to glory. That first and essential step involves confessing to God and to others with these simple words, "I'm sorry."

When John the Baptist told the people they needed to repent, they didn't get their backs up and deny having anything to repent. We learn that they did quite the opposite. Upon hearing his call, "...people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins." (Mark 1:5)

The whole community, it appears, repented of behaviors and actions, something that serves to remind us how repentance is not a solitary act. Repentance is a corporate act of righting things within a spiritual community so that community can restore its right relationship with God.

During Lent, we are called to self-examination, called to identify what holds us back from walking in the light of God. And this process calls us to say, "I'm sorry."

For me personally and as your bishop, the process of repentance must begin with the Palermo family who suffered the unbearable loss of Thomas Palermo on December 27. I'm sorry for their loss and regret his death was by all accounts caused by the extreme impairment of my recently-installed bishop colleague Heather Cook.

I regret that my sister in faith, Heather apparently caused so much damage and suffering due to her disease of alcoholism, and sorry I was unable to recognize warning signs of her illness. I humbly repent not learning more about the "cunning, baffling and powerful" nature of alcoholism. I pledge to do everything I can to educate myself and churches of the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland about the insidious nature of addiction.

I regret not knowing all the details of Heather's September 2010 DUI. I humbly repent relying on the information we were given rather than insisting on getting more detailed information about her earlier arrest. I pledge to do everything I can within the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland to reexamine and revise a process that failed us at some crucial points.

Know that I received with gratitude the recent communication from the Episcopal Church's President of the House of Deputies calling for a rigorous examination of processes for bishop searches and policies regarding alcohol and addictions, as well as our Presiding Bishop's Lenten call for healing and wholeness.

As Lent begins, I call upon members of our diocese to join with the larger Church as we enter this season of repentance, and to do so with courage and conviction. Let us be willing to identify ways we fall short, individually and collectively.

Finally, for now, I commend to you two prayers that are guiding my journey this Lent. The first is the general confession found in the Book of Common Prayer (p. 360):

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name.

The second is part of a longer prayer authored by American Protestant theologian Reinhold Niebuhr and adopted by Alcoholics Anonymous and other 12-Step recovery programs as The Serenity Prayer:

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,  
The courage to change the things I can,  
And the wisdom to know the difference.

May the voices of the prophets lead you into repentance this season, and may you have a holy Lent.

Faithfully yours,  
+Eugene



**Chapman Dialogues: Conversations on Faith - April 13-16, 2015**  
**The Future of Interfaith is Now!**  
**@ the Claggett Center - [www.claggettcenter.org](http://www.claggettcenter.org)**  
**with The Right Rev. Mary Glasspool**  
**Bishop Suffragan of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles**

Designed to inspire, enliven and educate, the Chapman Dialogues: Conversations on Faith, bring acclaimed speakers to the Claggett Center in the rolling hills near Frederick, Maryland, for a unique and personal experience. This new conference series is for laity, clergy and practitioners of all beliefs, focusing on contemporary issues of faith. The setting inspires and so will the speakers.

The first Conversation on Faith with Bishop Glaspool will explore the intersection and divergence of the world's faiths through education, relationships and practice. Participants will be inspired by plenary sessions, stimulating group discussions and workshops, an opportunity to delve deeper into spiritual practices and being in conversation with the presenters.

To register or for more information, go to [www.claggettcenter.org](http://www.claggettcenter.org).



# St. Margaret's Church Contact Information

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Anne Sessions	Senior Warden	akslctm@earthlink.net
Mark Torrence	Junior Warden	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  Saturday Service: 5:00 p.m. - Rite II	The church is always open for prayers and meditation.
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**Find us on: [www.st-margarets.org](http://www.st-margarets.org)**



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