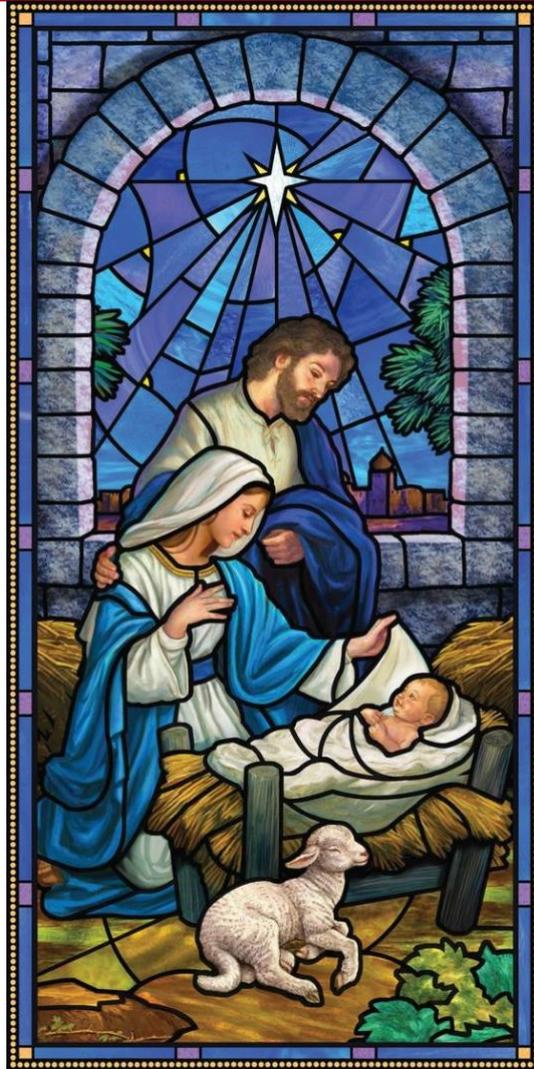




# ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

ANNAPOLIS • MARYLAND • ESTABLISHED 1692

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



***Family-Friendly Christmas Eve Pre-recorded Service  
December 24, 2020 – 5:00 p.m.***

## **A Note to Parents**

As we continue to socially distance, St. Margaret's leadership has decided to offer safer options for worship during the Christmas season, including this family-friendly recorded Christmas Eve service.

At the beginning of this service after the opening carol, we light the Advent candles and share the importance of each candle.

In this packet, we have provided

\*coloring pages of the advent wreath and candles that the children can cut out and glue on to their own wreath when it takes place in the video, and

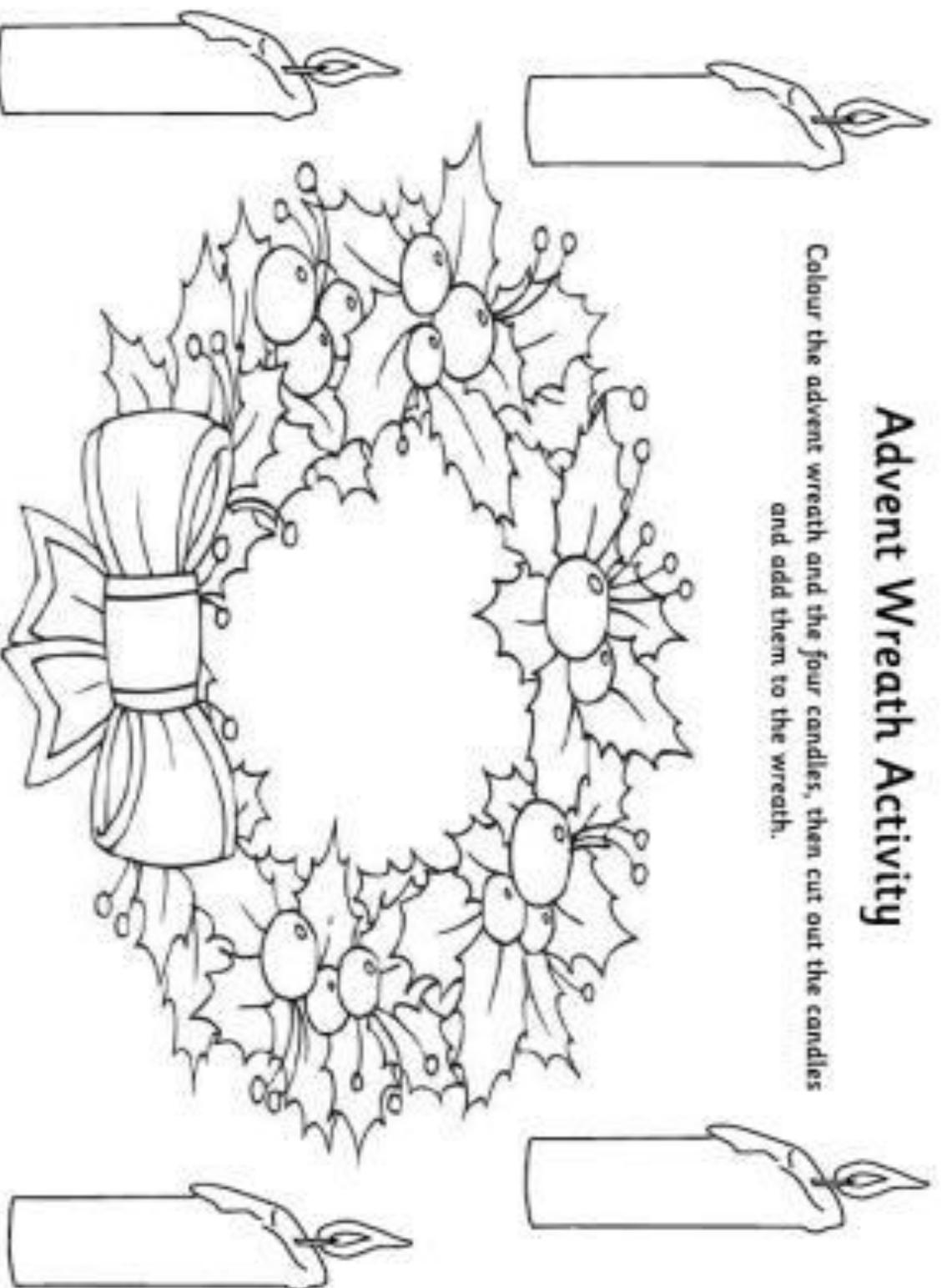
\* coloring pages with characters from the Nativity story which can be decorated and cut out so your child can produce their own manger scene during the program.

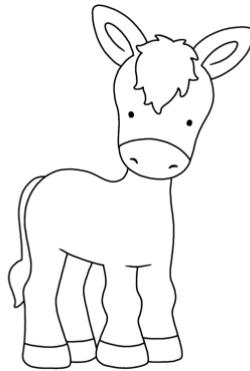
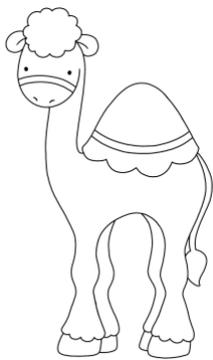
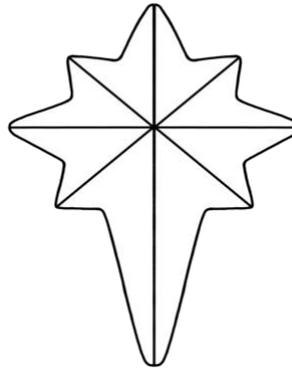
As children in the parish narrate the Christmas story, we will include carol singing focused on each of the story's characters.

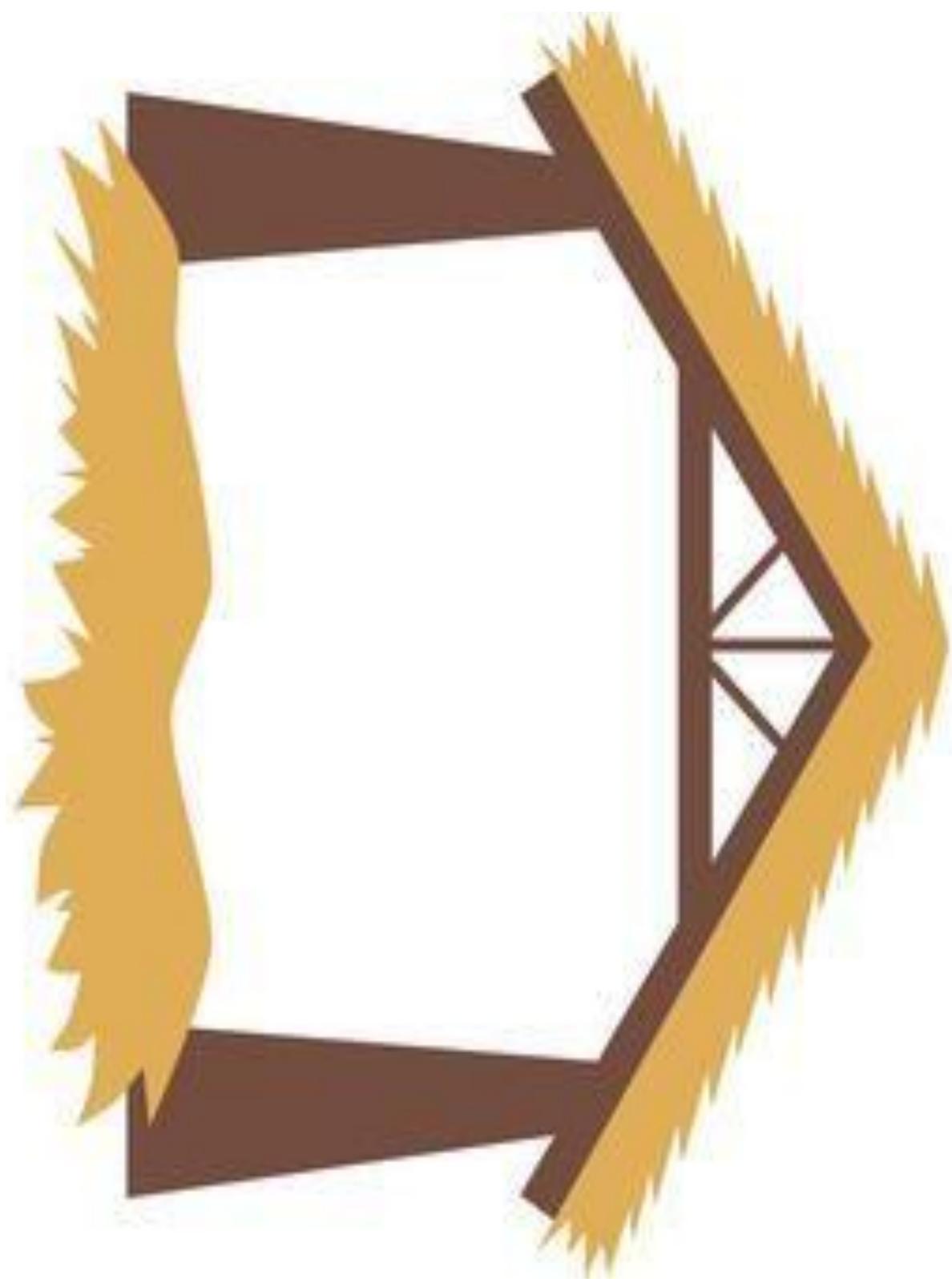
We would enjoy seeing your child's work. If you wish, you can share it with parishioners on our parish's private Facebook members group page—  
[www.facebook.com/groups/smcannapolis](http://www.facebook.com/groups/smcannapolis).

## Advent Wreath Activity

Colour the advent wreath and the four candles, then cut out the candles and add them to the wreath.







**Family-Friendly Christmas Eve Service**  
**December 24, 2020**  
**5:00 p.m.**

**WELCOME**

The Rev. Peter W. Mayer

**O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL**

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him, Born the King of angels;  
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.*

**LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLES**

The Rev. Patti Sachs

We light the Advent candles for the last time this season.

We light the candle of hope,  
**for that which is best in us to rise,  
and enliven our souls and our relationships.**

The second candle we light for peace:  
**for the courage to soften what is rigid in our hearts,  
to find the soft spot and stay with it.**

We light the third candle in the name of joy:  
**joy in the shape of gratitude for all that is our life,  
and joy in expectation of the world  
that we are building and creating with one another.**

We light the fourth candle in the name of love,  
**as the creating force in our lives.**

And finally, we light the central candle:  
**the light that shines in the darkness  
with the full power of our faith.**

May this light bear our hopes, as well as our faith in love, in goodness, in compassion, in justice. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness shall not overpower it.

**THE CHRISTMAS STORY**

**Luke 2:1-5**

Read by Katherine Parker

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child

**O Little Town of Bethlehem**

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

**Luke 2:6-7**

Read by Caroline Viscardi

While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

**Away in a Manger**

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.  
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

**Luke 2: 8-14**

Read by Ryan Campbell

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace and goodwill among all people!"

### **Hark the Herald Angels Sing**

*Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinner reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

### **Luke 2:15-20**

Read by Samuel Radley-Taylor

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

### **The Shepherd and the Sheep**

*Al Todd*

### **Matthew 2:1-11**

Grace/Connor Feldmann

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen

at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

### **We Three Kings**

*We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain following yonder star.  
Oh, star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding guide us to thy Perfect Light.*

### **MESSAGE FROM THE REV. PETER W. MAYER**

#### **OFFERING**

Give by texting GIVESMC to 73256 or go to  
<https://onrealm.org/smcannapolis/Give>

#### **SILENT NIGHT**

*Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child  
Holy Infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace*

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

And now let us all pray together.  
**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

#### **BLESSING**

**The Rev. Patti Sachs**

Dear Lord, on that wondrous night you sent your son to take on frail human flesh. You sent angels to herald his birth in Bethlehem and a star to proclaim it to the

ends of the earth. Send us now as messengers of your good news and proclaimers of your peace. In Jesus name we pray. **Amen.**

### **Joy to the World**

Joy to the world! The Lord has come:

Let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare him room,

And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,

And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

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## Join us

### **Christmas Day**

Message from Clergy at 10:00 a.m.

### **Christmas Lessons & Carols**

Sunday, December 27

9:00 a.m.

### **New Year's Evening Prayer**

Thursday, Dec. 31

7:00 p.m.

### **All Advent and Christmas Programs**

are available

on our church website at

<https://www.st-margarets.org/advent--christmas.html>

### **Presiding Bishop Curry's Christmas Message 2020**

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come. In your hearts, in your homes, in your lives, prepare him room.*

Perhaps like me, you've sung this hymn for years – in church, at home with your family, gathered with friends and neighbors. Perhaps you've sung it to yourself – in your car, on a walk, or quietly in the dark of night.

Joy to the world!

While we may not feel joyful this year – as the pandemic of disease continues to bring sickness and death, when fear and mistrust – a darkness – threatens to overcome the light – we, as followers of Jesus Christ must bear joy to this aching world. We must shine light into the darkness.

Joy to the world!

Like much in our lives, proclaiming joy is difficult work – also good and essential work – especially now. Though we mourn that which is lost in our lives, our families, and our communities –

Joy to the world!

While we strive to pull up the twisted and thorny vines of hatred and bigotry and anger –

Joy to the world!

Through streaming tears and gritted teeth –

Joy to the world! – because God is breaking into our lives and into this world anew.

While this is a strange year, the ministry He gives us remains the same. We will prepare him room in our hearts by taking on the ministry Jesus demands of us: feed those who are hungry; welcome the stranger; clothe those who are naked; heal those who are sick; visit the prisoner. Love God. Love your neighbor. Sing joy into this old world. Prepare him room.

St. Luke writes of the first Christmas, “[Mary] gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.” There, in the simplest bed, in the cool of the night, in a trough, in bands of cloth, lies the One for whom no room was made. And yet strangely, there lies the One whom not even the universe can contain.

Joy to the world! The Lord is come. In your hearts, in your homes, in your lives, prepare him room.

God love you; God bless you; and may God hold us all in those almighty hands of love.



### **St. Margaret's Church**

The Rev. Peter W. Mayer, Rector – [peter@st-margarets.org](mailto:peter@st-margarets.org)  
The Rev. Patti Sachs, Associate Rector – [patti@st-margarets.org](mailto:patti@st-margarets.org)  
Elizabeth Radley, Director of Operations – [elizabeth@st-margarets.org](mailto:elizabeth@st-margarets.org)

Jim Douglas, Director of Music – [music@st-margarets.org](mailto:music@st-margarets.org)  
Laura Tayman, Director of Communications – [laura@st-margarets.org](mailto:laura@st-margarets.org)  
Jeff Conover, Youth Programs Leader – [jeff@st-margarets.org](mailto:jeff@st-margarets.org)  
Teresa McCorkle, Bookkeeper – [office@st-margarets.org](mailto:office@st-margarets.org)  
Tricia McVeigh, Director of Day School – [tricia@st-margarets.org](mailto:tricia@st-margarets.org)  
Judy Hall, Churchyard Administrator – [churchyard@st-margarets.org](mailto:churchyard@st-margarets.org)  
Christine Feldmann, Grants Administrator – [missions@st-margarets.org](mailto:missions@st-margarets.org)  
Jim Bowersox – Assistant for Operations and Grounds

### Vestry

Paul O'Donnell, Senior Warden  
Steve Brennan, Junior Warden  
Charlie Lang, Treasurer  
Jim Barnett, Clerk

### Vestry Members

Kristen Berthelotte  
Stacia Bontempo  
Marti Engstrom  
Barbara Friedmann  
Cory Greene  
Beth Kopack  
Luke Morgan  
Rex Pingle  
Paul Shurko  
Ella Tomko  
Sarah Westcott  
Brian Williams

