

The Spire

St. Margaret's Church
Annapolis, Maryland

Spring 2020

Spreading Gifts as Stewards

By The Rev. Peter W. Mayer, Rector



I have a pendant on my keychain that tells me to "HAVE FAITH." I need that message more and more, not only as my children age, but as I understand that I'm closer to my exit than my entrance. Am I doing the right thing? Am I doing enough for my family? Am I becoming the man I want to become? Have faith. Trust.

I needed this message earlier this winter when we were facing a sizeable deficit in our church's budget for 2020. Every rector at one time or another conflates their worth with the church's income or attendance or health. So if attendance is sagging and no one is pledging, it would be natural for the rector to feel like he's not doing well. Whatever faith I could muster was rewarded in a stunning rally in late December and January to put us very close to our pledge goal of \$925,000. I was thrilled that we were able to fund just about everything we wanted, even though we are still woefully short in formation and music.

My faith was just rewarded in the fortune of the church. I don't think necessarily that God answered my prayers with parishioners' pledges. One vestry member who I value greatly would ask me routinely through Advent and Christmas, "How are you sleeping at night?" They were asking more about how my soul was, rather than how the budget looked. There's a tremendous difference between the two. I had faith that even if we fell well short of our goals, we'd make it work somehow. In fact, that's how God works with us. We try our best, and fail often, and God is there willing to carry us the rest of the way.

I am more impressed with the number of people who minister within and outside of this church on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. While I can brag about our generosity, I am more concerned with how that generosity transforms our lives, and is a product of transformation. From the number of people who signed up to serve at Winter Relief to the number of newcomers who seek transformation in this place, our faith is being rewarded.

Through Lent and Easter, I'd like you to not only think about how you can best develop your spiritual gifts through our church, I'd like you to reflect on what God has given you. What is it? Qualities? Relationships? How do you share those blessings with others? Are you giving back a portion of what you've been given? This isn't just about wealth or riches; in fact, it's MORE about the qualities of love, respect, compassion, forgiveness, faith, leadership and understanding. How are you spreading those gifts in your community?

Being Intentional This Lent

By The Rev. Patti Sachs - Associate Rector

Blessings on your Lenten journey everyone! And I hope you make it an intentional journey. Take the time to really think about "the reason for the season." What does Easter mean to me? How do I live an Easter life? What in my life needs attention? How can I live more gratefully and fully into my life in Christ? Ponder these things during Lent. Take stock. Be honest. Think of it as spring cleaning for the soul! And trust that Jesus walks this journey with you.

On Monday nights during March, we will have our Faith and Fellowship dinner followed by a forum. The Lenten forum is titled "Signs of Life – Why Church Matters." We use very elemental signs in our worship and liturgy – fire, water, food, shelter, community. This program will help us explore the layers of meaning these symbols carry, and how we live with them each day. We'll learn to pray what we live and live what we pray. I sincerely hope you will be able to make this a part of your schedule in March.

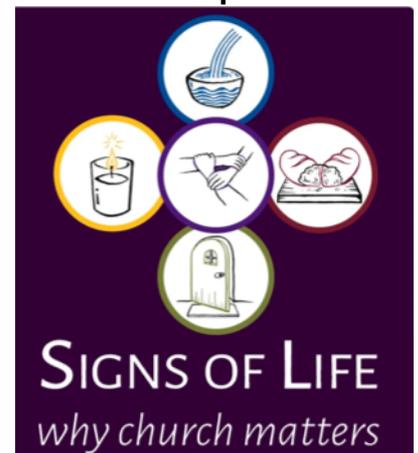
Also, about Monday night forums – as scheduling for springtime is about to happen, I am wondering what topics you would like to explore. Would you like a Bible study? A lecture series? Another art topic? I'd like to hear from many of you about this. Email me - patti@st-margarets.org.

Something else for your journey is a Quiet Day Retreat. On March 22nd, from 1-4, Dalyn Huntley and I will lead a few hours of quiet meditation. We will have a short service in the sanctuary, rooms for journaling, quiet music and meditation. (Hopefully it will be a pleasant day, as walking around our campus makes for a beautiful meditation.) Mark your calendars and please plan to make a little time just to be quiet and walk with God.

As you all know, my discretionary fund is used as a community assistance fund and our funds are getting pretty low. Those who call for assistance have done so because they are in real need and have few options. (I have turned one or two away. Unfortunately, sometimes a story just doesn't ring true, or claims can't be verified.) I am grateful to be in a position to help, and the recipients are grateful not only for the help, but also for a listening ear and a few minutes of prayer. Pray for this ministry. Help if you feel led. Thanks and many blessings on you!!



**Lenten Study
Monday Nights in March
7:00 p.m.**



**Lenten Check-up
w/the Rev. Peter Mayer
March 8 & 22
10:30 a.m.**



**Campus-wide
Sunday, March 22
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
starting in the church**

Easter Flowers Order

Parishioners are encouraged to honor or remember a loved one by purchasing Easter flowers to beautify the sanctuary. Cost is \$35 and deadline is April 5. Dedications will be included in the Easter bulletins.

Purchaser Name: _____

In honor of _____

or

In memory of _____

____ I have enclosed cash or a check to "St. Margaret's Church" with "Easter flowers" in the memo line.

____ I will purchase by credit card at onrealm.org/smcannapolis/Give - Write donation in Memo space.



UTO Offerings for Lent

The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings (through depositing spare change) and make a small offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box.

Small blue boxes will be available in the church, the parish hall, the church office, and the Formation lobby throughout Lent. All parishioners are encouraged to take one during the Lenten season. Please bring back the filled boxes by April 5, either to the church or to the church office.

UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings, and to distribute 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.



A 2020 United Thank Offering Lenten Devotional Calendar is offered that will introduce you and help you get to know the recipients of the 2019 UTO Grants.

For more informatio, go to: <https://episcopalchurch.org/united-thank-offering>

Maryland Because the world can change a lot in 40 days.

Lenten Creation Care 2020

Lent is a time for prayer, fasting, and more intentional sharing. This year, our church is joining with many others in heeding the call to be stewards of God's Creation throughout this season. May this calendar remind us to be more mindful of the ways that our daily habits impact both our common home and all those with whom we share it. On behalf of future generations and all living in poverty—those most harmed by our damaged climate—may we answer God's call to be faithful stewards, speaking out for Creation care.

Compiled from many sources by...



IPLdmv.org

Our religious response to climate change.



and

InterfaithChesapeake.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>A prayer from Psalm 51:</p> <p><i>Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Creator God, we begin this Lenten season asking for Your renewal. Through prayer, fasting, and sharing over these 40 days, we ask that our eyes be opened to the ways we can do better; in our relationships with You, Your Creation, and all those with whom we share this, our common home. Lord, help us to restore what has been damaged through our sinful overconsumption and the systemic injustices that surround us, returning to You with renewed spirits.</i></p>	<p>FEBRUARY</p> <p>In Maryland, we are still burning coal for electricity. Speak out for a clean energy future and just transition for workers: bit.ly/MDcoalbill</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Need help bringing Creation care to your church? Check out IPC's trainings and learning labs: interfaithchesapeake.org/greenteams and sign up for more info: bit.ly/IPCgreenteam</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Tomorrow, United Methodists in the Baltimore-Washington Conference will be advocating in Annapolis for stronger climate policies. Pray for them and learn more about priority environmental legislation: bit.ly/legislativebriefing2020</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Join your church green team, or start one! Tonight at 7 pm, call in to IPC's Learning Lab webinar on how to plan green team actions at your congregation: bit.ly/greenteamactions</p>	<p>6</p> <p>"My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth." - Psalm 121:2</p> <p>Care for all of God's Creation by fighting for cleaner air and water throughout our state. Support the ban on chlorpyrifos: bit.ly/MDchlorban</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Turn down your thermostat by at least 1 degree. In cold weather, aim for 68° during the day and 60° at night. Buy a programmable thermostat if you can. Always turn the heat off when you leave home.</p>
<p>8</p> <p>"For God so loved the Cosmos ..." - John 3:16</p> <p>God's circle of love is infinite and all-inclusive. Reflect and open your heart today to those in Creation, human or non-human, who sometimes fall outside your circle of love.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Care for Creation and support clean energy by divesting from fossil fuels and reinvesting in ways that support people and the planet: GreenAmerica.org/divest-reinvest and choose a bank that aligns with your values: GreenAmerica.org/better-banking</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Wash laundry in cold water this week and hang it up to dry to save energy and money. Read more here: bit.ly/DitchYourDryer</p>	<p>11</p> <p>How will your church celebrate the 50th anniversary of Earth Day? Invite a guest speaker: IPLdmv.org/speakers and find worship resources: InterfaithChesapeake.org/materials, CreationJustice.org/urgency</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Maryland has an opportunity to guarantee all residents the right to a healthy environment through a constitutional amendment! Read more and get involved: bit.ly/healthygreenMD</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Purchase locally-grown food this weekend. Walk to a farmers' market or join a community-supported agriculture group: LocalHarvest.org or sign up to receive rescued produce weekly: HungryHarvest.net</p>	<p>14</p> <p>"I am establishing my covenant with you, your descendants, and with every living creature ..." - Gen. 9:9-10</p> <p>Take a walk and observe the interdependence of God's Creation. Use IPC's Spiritual Walk guide: bit.ly/IPC-Walk</p>
<p>1</p> <p>Connect outdoors today! Church of the Wild gathers at Dayspring in Germantown at 3 pm. CenterForSpiritualityInNature.org/church-of-the-wild</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Need help bringing Creation care to your church? Check out IPC's trainings and learning labs: interfaithchesapeake.org/greenteams and sign up for more info: bit.ly/IPCgreenteam</p>	<p>3</p> <p>In Maryland, we are still burning coal for electricity. Speak out for a clean energy future and just transition for workers: bit.ly/MDcoalbill</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Tomorrow, United Methodists in the Baltimore-Washington Conference will be advocating in Annapolis for stronger climate policies. Pray for them and learn more about priority environmental legislation: bit.ly/legislativebriefing2020</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Join your church green team, or start one! Tonight at 7 pm, call in to IPC's Learning Lab webinar on how to plan green team actions at your congregation: bit.ly/greenteamactions</p>	<p>6</p> <p>"My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth." - Psalm 121:2</p> <p>Care for all of God's Creation by fighting for cleaner air and water throughout our state. Support the ban on chlorpyrifos: bit.ly/MDchlorban</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Turn down your thermostat by at least 1 degree. In cold weather, aim for 68° during the day and 60° at night. Buy a programmable thermostat if you can. Always turn the heat off when you leave home.</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Christians have fasted from meat during Lent for centuries. Try eating vegetarian today and check out Oxfam's Eat for Good online for other ways to use your fast to bless others: bit.ly/eat4good</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Plastic bags are both wasteful and harmful. Fast from plastic bags this Lent, and opt for reusable ones instead. Let your your state legislators know that you support reducing our reliance on single-use plastics: bit.ly/MDbagban</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Ash Wednesday Today, the United Church of Christ and environmental justice groups are releasing a report on the worst air pollutants and the people and communities who are sickened by dirty air: bit.ly/ashwedpress</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Ash Wednesday Today, the United Church of Christ and environmental justice groups are releasing a report on the worst air pollutants and the people and communities who are sickened by dirty air: bit.ly/ashwedpress</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Plastic bags are both wasteful and harmful. Fast from plastic bags this Lent, and opt for reusable ones instead. Let your your state legislators know that you support reducing our reliance on single-use plastics: bit.ly/MDbagban</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Christians have fasted from meat during Lent for centuries. Try eating vegetarian today and check out Oxfam's Eat for Good online for other ways to use your fast to bless others: bit.ly/eat4good</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Talk with your church about ordering "eco palms" for Palm Sunday. These palms help improve workers' living standards and protect forests in Mexico and Guatemala. Order by 3/13 to receive them in time: EcoPalms.org</p>

URLs that begin with bit.ly are case-sensitive; all other links are not.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>15</p> <p>Honor the Lord's day (and the Lord's Creation) by walking, biking, or taking public transportation to church today! Planning a trip? Fund a project that helps offset your travel-related carbon footprint: NativeEnergy.com</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Is your local stream clean enough for baptisms? Locate your watershed and its condition: bit.ly/watershedfinder</p> <p>Pray: <i>God of sacred waters, may we be a blessing to your waters.</i></p>	<p>17</p> <p>"As he was coming up out of the water ..." - Mark 1:10</p> <p>Choose one way you can restore God's sacred waters: bit.ly/actionmenu</p> <p>Share your Lenten commitment with others to inspire them to make their own.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Use cleaner energy at home. Support 100% wind power through your energy bills: IPLdmv.org/CleanEnergy or go solar through a purchasing group or subscribe to a community solar project: IPLdmv.org/go-green/solar-at-home</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Green grass lawns are not so "green." Learn how to cultivate grounds that are good for people, plants, and creatures at home: bit.ly/greengrounds and at church: bit.ly/sacredchurchgrounds</p>	<p>20</p> <p>As you fast from meat today, consider plant-based dishes for Easter Sunday: StFrancisAlliance.com/recipes</p>	<p>21</p> <p>In the US, > 30% of all food is wasted. Reduce your food waste by planning well and eating leftovers. Consider composting what's left at home or get table scraps picked up: CompostCrew.com, VeteranCompost.com, KeyCompost.com</p>
<p>22</p> <p>"You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord..." Read Ephesians 5:8-14 and "live as children of light" without electricity! As a Sabbath practice, turn off or unplug everything you can.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Organize a congregation and community stream cleanup for Earth Month in April. Participate in Project Clean Stream: bit.ly/projectcleanstream</p>	<p>24</p> <p>What role does your church community play in repairing our climate? Get involved with our green work, and flock together with other "green sheep" through IPL-DMV: bit.ly/IPLsignup</p>	<p>25</p> <p>"Whoever serves me must follow me ..." - John 12:26a</p> <p>Pray for all our neighbors who face environmental devastation and for the courage of Jesus to sustain your commitment to environmental justice. Read more: bit.ly/IPCEj</p>	<p>26</p> <p>"God's promise depends on faith and rests upon grace to be guaranteed to all descendants of Sarah and Abraham." - Romans 4:16</p> <p>Join IPC to protect your watershed for your descendants: bit.ly/ipcnewsletter</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Planning to make Easter baskets? Purchase Fair Trade Certified™ chocolate, which is free from child labor, and supports farmer communities; such as: EqualExchange.coop/products/chocolate</p>	<p>28</p> <p>At 8:30 pm, join hundreds of millions of people around the world who will be switching off all lights for one hour to commit to global climate action and more mindful energy use: EarthHour.org</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Read Matt. 5:43-48 and reflect on our call to love our "enemies." Pray for all those, especially business or elected leaders, who stand in the way of climate action or perpetuate injustices. Call or write to express your concerns: MDElect.net</p>	<p>30</p> <p>"On either side of the river is the tree of life ... and its leaves are for the healing of the nations." - Rev. 22:2</p> <p>Plant trees for healing during Earth Month! Use this coupon to buy a tree: bit.ly/MDtreecoupon</p>	<p>31</p> <p>APRIL</p> <p>Read "Letter to a Young Climate Activist on the First Day of the New Decade" and reflect on the beauty that still surrounds us and the hope we can find through collective action: bit.ly/RebeccaSolnitletter</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Talk with your family about your Lenten Creation care journey. What ideas do you have to continue your stewardship into the Easter season?</p>	<p>2</p> <p>In your home, replace incandescent and compact fluorescent lights with LEDs. Each bulb replaced will save hundreds of pounds of climate pollution over time. Google your utility for rebate and incentive programs.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Fast from meat today and read aloud "Prayer After Eating" by Wendell Berry: "I have taken in the light that quickened eye and leaf. May my brain be bright with praise of what I eat ... May I be worthy of my meat."</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Learn about how our Jewish neighbors give thanks, before and after meals, praising the One who "brings forth bread from the earth": bit.ly/foodblessings</p>
<p>5</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p> <p>Rest today. Take a break from the TV and internet. Turn off everything, and unplug it if you can. Play a game, go for a walk, or read a book! Read Blessed Earth's resources on Sabbath living: SabbathLiving.org</p>	<p>6</p> <p>On average, a family of four in the US uses 40 gallons of water per day just in the shower! Set a timer for 5 minutes and consider installing a low-flow shower head: EPA.gov/WaterSense/showerheads</p>	<p>7</p> <p>How will you continue to seek God through Creation? "Although we have done everything we can to separate ourselves from other(s) ... from the land and its waters and from God, God has never left us." - Bahnsen & Wirzba, <i>Making Peace with the Land</i></p>	<p>8</p> <p>Today we remember Jesus's last supper with his disciples and his prayers in the garden of Gethsemane. Following Jesus' example, take time today to pray outdoors, remembering all who suffer.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Maudy Thursday</p> <p>Contemplate destruction already caused by climate change through wildfires, floods, and stronger storms.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Good Friday</p> <p>"At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two ... the earth shook, and the rocks were split." - Matt. 27:51</p> <p>Contemplate destruction already caused by climate change through wildfires, floods, and stronger storms.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Holy Saturday</p> <p>"God looked at everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good." - Gen. 1:31a</p> <p>Take a walk and notice signs of new life, resurrection, and spring in your neighborhood. Take pictures or notes in a journal of what you see.</p>

12

Easter Sunday

"For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace by the blood of his cross." - Colossians 1:19-20

"The New Testament does not only tell us of the earthly Jesus and his tangible and loving relationship with the world. It also shows him risen and glorious, present throughout Creation by his universal Lordship." - Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*

Trusting in the words of Philippians 1:6, "that the One who began a good work in you will bring it to completion,"

take time to give thanks for the changes of heart and habit you have taken on since Lent began, and continue to live out your call to Creation stewardship with the hope of the resurrection always in your heart!



Take some time today to reflect on all of the activities that you have performed during Lent, and how they have brought you into greater harmony with the earth and with all life. Conclude your Lenten Creation care practice by making a personal pledge to serve God and serve others by pursuing a more sustainable way of life.

Way of the Cross at Manresa A Mission of the Heart for Jim Knorr

After Christmas celebrations of the birth of Christ are over, we usually have numerous weeks to prepare ourselves for the time period when Jesus' journey takes its tragic end.

But for 20 years starting in January, St. Margaret's parishioner Jim (Tug) Knorr was busy organizing the annual Way of the Cross at Manresa, a former monastery now used as an assisted living center. The lovely grounds along the beautiful banks of the Severn River make a perfect setting to bring local churches together to travel a path notating the scenes from the Passion, from his sentencing at the hands of Pilate to the laying of his body in the tomb.

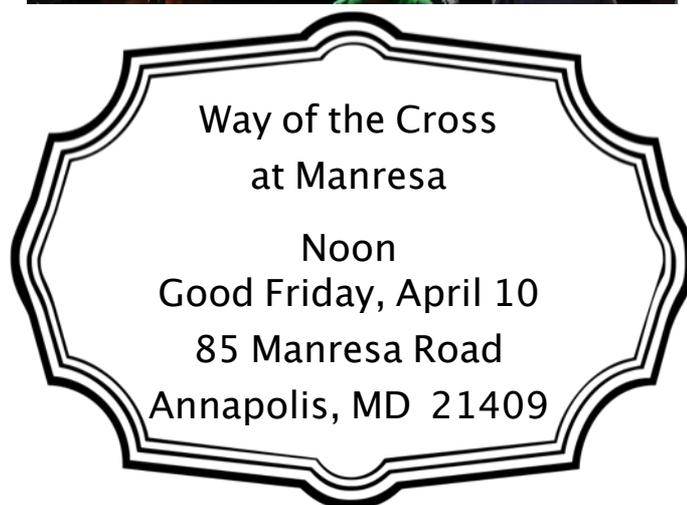
Over the years a variety of churches and organizations have taken part by cleaning, planting, and beautifying each of the stations along the way, mostly assigned by Tug.

Now, the organizing is handed off this year to Julie Barkat and Jody Brooks at Calvary UMC. "We should applaud them for stepping forward to keep our ecumenical service going," said Tug.

The Stations were created back in 1926. "Steve Hays from First Presbyterian Church led his youth group in cleaning around Station 11 in late 1999, and now in 2020 will take responsibility for Station 11," Tug said, adding, "Laura Graham who for 20 years, along with her two sons, have not only manhandled the portable speakers for our services, but have secured priests and other guests to perform the opening devotions." Tug also appreciates the Rev. Randy Callander at St. Philip's and Mother Angela Shepherd for 20 years of keeping Station 2 solvent. And from the earliest days of the WOC on Kiwanis Hill, the Kiwanis Clubs from Annapolis and Severna Park sponsored stations.

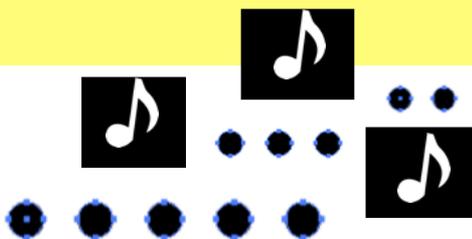
"St. James in Lothian were so helpful with their 'Heavenly Haulers' who hauled an abundance of vines, ivy and debris from around Stations, to the woods surrounding the Manor, said Tug. "And we must not forget Wendi Winters and Paul Gillespie from *The Capital* for covering the event for years."

Though not managing the the program this year, Tug will probably still be there with his beloved Beth by his side.



Music Heading into Easter

From Jim Douglas, Director of Music



As the spring season arrives (and, of course, college basketball March Madness begins) the clergy and staff are amidst the annual office "March Madness" gearing up for Holy Week and Easter, and all of our ensembles are hard at work preparing music to lead all of the services we will offer.

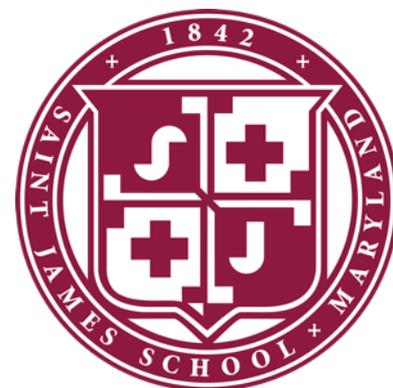
For those of us who work for the church, Holy Week is the busiest AND most fulfilling time of year. It's the time of the church year where we pause to step outside regular Sunday routine, with the season of Lent providing time for spiritual renewal, and Eastertide time for renewing our commitment to God following the resurrection. With Holy Week on the horizon, I want to briefly highlight that March 15 is our annual Celtic Mass with music led by the Third Sunday Band. Joining the band will be parishioners Jason Healey on fiddle and Kristen Berthelotte on harp.

For Holy Week, the Chancel Choir will offer music for Palm Sunday, including a rousing anthem setting of the text "Hosanna to the Son of David" by American church musician and composer Robert Lehme. The Third Sunday Band will again offer music for Maundy Thursday including originals from our own Al Todd. On Good Friday, we will offer two services, the first an interactive family service with simple music at noon and, the second, our traditional Good Friday liturgy and veneration of the cross at 7:00 p.m. with music sung by the Chancel Choir. The Motet Ensemble will sing for the Great Vigil of Easter (my personal favorite liturgy of the year) and music will include plainchant psalm and Renaissance polyphony. The week culminates on Easter Sunday and the beginning of Eastertide with festive music for choir, organ, brass and timpani in the sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. led by our combined adult choirs, and music for choir, piano, trumpet, and flute in the parish hall at 9:00 a.m. led by our Youth Chorale.

I hope you will join us for any and all of these special services, and if you can, try something different and deeper by attending one you may normally not attend. Perhaps the Easter Vigil might become your favorite service too! A list of music for the week, and past music lists, may be found on the music page on the church website.



**Next Visiting
Youth Choir
Chapel Choir
from St. James School
in Hagerstown
Sunday, March 29
9:00 & 11:15 a.m.**



Holy Week



Sunday, April 5 - Nursery 8:30-12:30 p.m.

Celebrate Christ's joyful celebration into Jerusalem with palms distributed. For the 9:00 and 11:15 a.m. services, we will again meet in the parish hall where palms are given out and then we'll proceed following the cross accompanied by brass players into the sanctuary.

Holy Monday-Wednesday - April 6-8

Our clergy will offer videos that will be emailed on those days and posted on social media with the readings for each of these Holy days, prayers, and reflections on the path to Maundy Thursday.



Thursday - April 9 - Childcare provided

This meaningful service begins at 7 p.m. and centers around Jesus' final meal and last interactions with his disciples. This year we offer a Tenebrae service, with the readings of the Passion events before Jesus' arrest. Music will be provided by the Third Sunday Band, and a stripping of the altar in preparation for Good Friday is conducted.

Good Friday - April 10 - Family Service at Noon

This year we will again host an interactive journey through the stations of the cross with the Rev. Peter and the Rev. Patti. The event is family-friendly for all ages. Participants should meet in the Fellowship Hall at noon.



The service on the Passion event commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus Christ with the veneration of the Cross will be held at 7 p.m.

Great Vigil of Easter April 11



Starting at 8 p.m. in the columbarium (weather permitting), this service reflects the ancient practice of believers gathering in the hours of darkness the night before Easter morning to hear scripture and offer prayer with baptisms that link the meanings of Christ's dying and rising. The evening offers special music, meaningful lessons, and Holy Eucharist.

Easter Sunday, April 12

Nursery 8:30-12:30 p.m.

7:30 a.m.- in the Sanctuary

9:00 a.m.- in the Sanctuary & Parish Hall

11:15 a.m. - in the Sanctuary



SHROVE TUESDAY Pancake SUPPER



Tuesday, February 25

4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Parish Hall

**Tickets available on Sundays
or at the door**

Burning of the Palms

7:00 p.m.



Wednesday, February 26

7:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

9:00 a.m. - Fellowship Hall

Noon - Sanctuary

7:00 p.m. - Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent, a six-week period during which Christians often abstain from rich foods such as meat and dairy. Christians take part in the annual abstinent period of Lent in order to commemorate Jesus Christ, who, according to a biblical narrative, once spent 40 days and nights fasting in the Judean desert while being tempted by Satan.

Women's Guild

Wednesday, March 4

Morning Prayer Service at 11:00 a.m.

Soup and Salad Luncheon at 11:30 a.m.

All are welcome!

April 1

12:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Bring a bagged lunch - dessert served

Program: Interactive Activity with
St. Margaret's Day School Students

Other Meetings:

May 6

June 3 Summer Luncheon

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Meets first Saturday of the month

March 7

April 4

May 2

9:00 a.m. in Classroom E

All knit levels welcome!

Knit and crochet shawls for baptismal candidates and those who are grieving, ill or going through a difficult time in life.

Missions

By Judy Hall, Winter Relief Volunteer Coordinator

Well, we did it again. What a wonderful experience we had during our recent Winter Relief week. We hosted 25 men and women this year, and only three were repeat guests. We had two guests find full-time work. One is now a baker at Safeway and the other is now an associate at Home Depot. Our guests were able to rest and feel safe while either working, or looking for work.

Parishioners Beth Arruda and Alice Conover came to register guests to vote, Arvilla Wubbenhorst came with her guitar to lead guests in song, and Hillary Bolea appeared one night and did nails. We played bingo every evening, and the guests looked forward to it. All the guests were able to shower and have their laundry done daily.

Over 100 shifts were covered by 62 different volunteers. Over 500 volunteer hours made on site, 105 bagged lunches prepared off site and 42 loads of laundry done off site. Ninety showers were taken, 16 hearty meals were served, and the list goes on.

I will admit that Monday morning was quite emotional for all of us as the guests packed up their belongings, said goodbye and many gave hugs as they piled in the vehicles to start another week at another church. I was saddened on the morning to find out that one of our guests was taken to the hospital overnight and we weren't able to say goodbye.

I am so proud of my St. Margaret's church home because of the love that we show to our neighbors in need. Thanks to everyone that volunteered to make Winter Relief week the success that it was. I hope there was a lot of transforming lives, both for our guests and our volunteers.



Help Fill 24 Suitcases for Dageno Girls Center

Needed by 3/10/19:

- **Old suitcases**
- **Tech equipment:** laptops, digital cameras, unlocked cell phones, projectors, SD storage cards
- **Science lab supplies:** microscopes, beakers, test tubes, magnets, scales, legos
- **Art supplies:** construction paper, markers, crayons, colored pencils, colored chalk, certificate/award paper, paint pens, fabric scissors
- **Gardening supplies:** drip irrigation pipes, vegetable seeds
- **Games:** soccer balls, volley balls, kick balls, whiffle ball set, board games, puzzles
- **Camping supplies** for the Dageno graduates' tourism business: tents and sleeping bags
- **Bedding and towels** for Dageno graduates' lodge business: double and twin sheet sets, hand towels, bath towels
- **Kitchen supplies** for Dageno graduates' restaurant

Or Donate: \$1,000 covers tuition, books, food, healthcare and housing for a girl for a full year:

-Checks to: "Empowerment Works" with "Dageno" in the memo – drop off to Missions Commission box at church.

-Credit card: <https://www.empowermentworks.org/> - designate Dageno

Questions? Contact: Janice Graham (443-871-2308) janicejohnrg@gmail.com or Gail Pelton (301-385-3816) peltongail@gmail.com



St Margaret's is looking for volunteers to help out at My Brother's Pantry during March. The MBP pantry is located at College Parkway Baptist Church on College Parkway.

The biggest thing that My Brother's Pantry does each month is to provide a monthly food supplement to more than 125 local families who could use a little extra help with:

1. Packing Grocery Bags - 6:30 pm on Thursday March 12, at the Pantry (~1.5 hours)

We'll set up a joyful little assembly line at the Pantry to pack the bags for our big monthly distribution.

2. Delivering Grocery Bags - 8:45 am on Saturday March 14, meeting at the Pantry (~1.5 hours)

We'll send one group of volunteers loaded with packed bags of groceries to our families at College Parkway Place, while a smaller group stays at the Pantry to help our other families who come to pick up their food.

Questions? Contact SMC parishioner Russell Jackson on Realm.

Children/Youth

Easter Egg Hunt



Sunday, April 12

Children ages 2-9
on the SMC campus

Adults and youth helpers needed for set
up at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

No Sunday School on Easter morning

Participants meet in the Fellowship Hall
at 10:20 a.m. for instructions

Donations Needed!

Individually wrapped candy (no nuts or nut oil)
may be left in bins in the Formation building and
church office.



Upcoming Holy Baptism Dates:

April 11 @ Easter Vigil
April 19
May 31
July 19

Go to www.st-margarets.org.
Click on "About Us" tab at top.
Click on "Baptisms"



Confirmation in Spring 2020

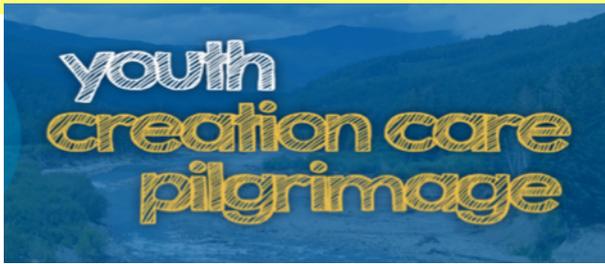
The date for the next regional Confirmation service has been set – it will be **April 19, 4 p.m., at St. John's in Ellicott City**. If you/your child are interested and ready to make a mature, informed decision, please contact jeff@st-margarets.org

As a reminder, EVERYTHING in Youth Group pertains to a participant's own progress on their faith journey. Everyone in the group, regardless of age or grade in school, should be familiar with what we as Christians believe, and how we as Episcopalians put those beliefs into action. That is why they study the Nicene and the Apostle's Creeds. It is why they spend time in youth-led service. It is why they serve others in our community. When the Holy Spirit finds them, they'll be ready!

**Bishop Unplugged: Spring
March 7 (grades 6-12)
Saturday 2:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.
Cost: \$5**



Spend the afternoon with Bishop Sutton in fellowship and fun! Hosted in part by All Saints, Frederick. A revamp of our annual Bishop's Bash: we will gather for a few hours of music, Bible study, and time to talk with our bishops. We ask that all adult leaders join us for a special gift and prayers of thanks! Join us for this time to gather with youth from the region and have fun.



PURPOSE: Service, environmental stewardship, learning to see beyond the façade a new place may present, forging deeper connections with God and each other.

WHEN: July 6-13, 2020

COST: TBD but around \$400

NOTE: Due to a number of factors, both logistical and related to infrastructure, we are limited to 15 pilgrims total

WHERE: Southport, Maine

DESCRIPTION: "Roughing" it a bit on a private, 24-acre island off of the coast of Maine (the name is Boston Island, and it does show up on Google Maps). We have access to a house with a kitchen for all cooking, dining, meetings, games during some down time, etc.

RSVP: Please contact Jeff by March 1 if interested. There will be a trip meeting during coffeeshour in the youth room on March 8.



No Sunday School on April 5 and 12

Last Day of Sunday School: May 15

Last Youth Group of year: June 8



St. Margaret's Church
Vacation Bible School
June 22-26, 2020
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Ages 4 to 10

Automated Registration available at
www.st-margarets.org
starting April 13
Fee \$50
For Children of VBS Volunteers: \$25



March 20-21

6 p.m. Friday evening until 8 a.m. Saturday morning
Youth Annual Game Night

Bring a game, play a game - Food & crafts
For questions, contact Jeff@st-margarets.org.

New Beginnings #7

April 24-26 (grades 6-8)

Arrive at Camp Wright Friday at 7:00 p.m.
Parent pick-up on Sunday at 3:00p.m.
Cost: \$75 Deadline: April 18th

The diocesan annual retreat for middle school youth is a fantastic weekend at Camp Wright in nearby Stevensville, MD. The weekend is dedicated to youth working through the transitions of middle school through talks, skits, and small groups. The New Beginners will find community in Christ and mentors in high school students. Parents, family, and adult leaders are warmly invited to attend closing Eucharist at 2:00 PM in the dining hall.

For more information, contact Jeff Conover, Youth Ministries Leader, at jeff@st-margarets.org.

Day School

Spring is coming for SMDS

By Tricia McVeigh, Director

Besides a great deal of working hard and learning, our students have been busy this winter with many activities. From pajama days, to "Doughnuts with Dads" and Valentines Day celebrations, we have had a busy two months.

We have also had two days of very successful open houses, and are now, in fact, full in all classes for the next school year. We are now taking applications for waiting lists. Our summer camps are also being filled quickly. If you have an interest in a child participating, please register ASAP. (See below.)

Some of our students are participating in physical activities such as ballet, basketball, and marine science after school this winter. We are so grateful to have the space to offer these opportunities to our students.

We were once again re-accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, an honor that few preschools in the area have been awarded.

For Lent, our students will join St. Margaret's parishioners in Ash Wednesday services as well as giving daily offerings through Lent for the Episcopal United Thank Offering, something the parish will also be doing.



Join us from June to August at our fun-filled day camp! Every two weeks we will have a new exciting camp theme with crafts, projects, games, science explorations, and more. Interested in becoming a summer camp counselor? If so, please submit a form on the "careers" page of our website.



*St. Margaret's Day School
Annual Celebration & Auction*

RAISE *the* SAILS

*Saturday, The Twenty-Eighth Of March
At Six O'Clock In The Evening*

*Chesapeake Bay Foundation
6 HERNDON AVENUE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND*

**HORS D'OEUVRES | ENTERTAINMENT
OPEN BAR | SILENT & LIVE AUCTIONS**



\$60 PER PERSON

\$500 PREMIERE TICKET PACKAGE

*Four (4) Tickets To The Event
Bottle Of Champagne And A Reserved Hightop Table*

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE STARTING AT \$100

<https://one.bidpal.net/smdsauction/welcome>

**June 8th - August 7th
Ages 2-9**

Themes: Sea Adventures, Mad Scientist,
Legos, and Pirates

Registration available at
www.stmargaretsdayschool.org

Upcoming Events

Writer's Retreat @ Claggett Center

March 2 - March 5, 2020

This dynamic writer's workshop includes keynote presentations, workshop sessions, and time to work on your writing. This retreat is designed for people who are passionate about writing, gifted writers and publishers, and those who have a story they wish to tell.



EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND

www.episcopalmaryland.org

Women's Retreat @ Claggett Center

March 13-15, 2020

Join women of all walks of life for an intimate weekend of fellowship, worship, and study. This retreat is centered around small-group sessions, in which participants reflect on and discuss teaching from a plenary session. A special opportunity to dive into scripture and connect with friends old and new, the 2020 Women's Lenten Retreat will be on the theme "Covenants, Commandments, and Creeds."



Episcopal Youth Event (EYE), July 7-11, 2020

for youth: rising 10th graders - recent graduates, adults: 21 and older, at the University of Maryland, College Park.

A gathering of more than 2,000 young Episcopalians that happens only once every three years. We are hoping to take a full 25 students and five chaperones for this once-in-a-lifetime experience. We will gather with people of faith from across the globe for worship, workshops, public forums, and fellowship.

Register at <http://episcopalmarylandyouth.weebly.com/events.html>

South Africa Pilgrimage of Creation, Reconciliation and Hope, November 6-18, 2020

Join Bishop Sutton trip to both Cape Town and Johannesburg, visiting historic sites related to Apartheid, President Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Participants will tour the countryside, including nature preserves, and take part in whale watching and a safari. The group will spend two nights at an Anglican monastery, but otherwise stay in hotels. Most meals and all transportation will be included in the price. For more information, go to the Diocesan website.

SUMMER CAMP 2020

@ Claggett Center

www.claggettcenter.org

- ***High School Camp**: (grades completed 9-12) June 21-26
- ***Adventure Camp** (grades completed 5-8, special focus on outdoor skills and activities): June 28-July 3
- ***Middle School Camp** (grades completed 6-8): July 5-10
- ***Youth Camp** (grades completed 2-5): July 12-17
- ***Family Camp** (July 31-August 2): families of all shapes, sizes, and ages are welcome
- ***Camp Spirit Song** (August 9-14): (for youth impacted by opioid substance abuse of a family member or close loved one - grades completed grades 4-8). August 9-14
- ***Special Challenge Camp** (for adults 21+ with developmental disabilities) July 26-30



ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

ANNAPOLIS · MARYLAND · ESTABLISHED 1692

1601 Pleasant Plains Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21409
Office (410) 974-0200 Pastoral Emergency (443) 837-5463
www.st-margarets.org

Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Friday by appointment

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

Rev. Peter W. Mayer, Rector - peter@st-margarets.org
Rev. Patti Sachs, Asst. Rector - patti@stmargarets.org
Jim Douglas, Director of Music - music@st-margarets.org
Elizabeth Radley, Director of Operations - elizabeth@st-margarets.org
Jeff Conover, Youth Ministry Leader - jeff@st-margarets.org
Laura Tayman - Director of Communications - laura@st-margarets.org
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Judy Hall, Churchyard Administrator - churchyard@st-margarets.org
Christine Feldmann, Grants Admin. - missions@st-margarets.org
Jim Bowersox, - Facilities & Maintenance Assistant

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