Announcements for November 15, 2020

Newcomers Welcome!
If you are new to St. Margaret's, we offer a special welcome. Our parish is very dynamic where service is a priority, where you can question your own faith journey, and where everyone is welcome to receive communion. If you would like to know more about our church, please contact us by emailing our Rector Peter W. Mayer at peter@st-margarets.org.

Re-Gathering at St. Margaret’s
Due to the rising rates of Covid-19 related cases, the Diocese of Maryland has requested all in-person gatherings be cancelled through Nov. 22. We will continue our live-stream of the service at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings on our public Facebook page: www.facebook.com/smcannapolis.

Thanksgiving Meals Program
Again this season, members of the parish will have an opportunity to provide holiday meals for neighbors in need. We will receive the names of those requesting help in purchasing their holiday dinner from the A.A. County Dept. of Social Services. As in prior years, the Mission Commission will provide the turkeys; and parishioners will provide for the rest of the meal. You or another parishioner will deliver the food basket to the recipient a few days BEFORE Thanksgiving Day, NO COOKING INVOLVED. For those who are comfortable making direct contact [social distancing and masks observed] the procedure will be the same as prior years: we will pair our donors with the names of recipients. The donor/family will make contact, shop for the dinner ingredients and arrange a convenient time to deliver to the recipient's address. Turkeys will be available for pick-up in the Parish Hall on Sunday, Nov. 22, or by separate arrangement. In advance, participants will receive the name of the recipient and delivery instructions. Those who are uncomfortable making this direct contact this year may arrange to leave your donation food at the church for another volunteer to pick up and deliver OR order food from a store and have it delivered directly to the recipient OR provide a gift card from one of the markets in the local area, i.e. Graul’s, Green Valley, Safeway OR send a specific donation to the church, clearly labeled for Holiday Sharing—Thanksgiving. All donor parishioners/families are asked to contact coordinator Barbara Marder. For questions, call Barbara Marder at 410-518-9978 or email scubaesc@aol.com.

Winter Wear for Woodside/Allen Apartments
Winter will soon be upon us, and St. Margaret's has been asked to donate new hats and gloves for the residents of Woodside Gardens and Allen Apartments in Annapolis. While the communities have a partner supplying winter coats, they are in need of all sizes of new hats and gloves. We will be packaging the hats and gloves, along with cloth face masks, hand sanitizer, and laundry detergent (items requested by the community liaison) to be distributed in early December. Please drop off new items in the hats/gloves box in the narthex or at the office, labeling items "For hat/glove drive" by Friday, December 4th. A non-contact way to support this drive is to donate through the Amazon Wish List. Any questions, please contact Jen Denney, jendenney@gmail.com or 410-271-5346.

Virtual Christmas Card
We know it’s still a way off, but we wanted to give you plenty of time to plan for our St. Margaret’s video Christmas card! We know you miss seeing your fellow parishioners over the past few months, so this will allow us to share the images of our friends and families in 2020. Whether in your Christmas finest or ugliest sweaters, send those photos to Laura at laura@st-margarets.org. She will assemble a video montage of all of our St. Margaret’s families for our very own Christmas video card! Get your pictures in to Laura by December 1.

Thanksgiving Hymn Sing
Next Sunday, Nov. 22, St. Margaret’s Director of Music will offer up some favorite seasonal hymns on our Facebook page and YouTube channel. Look for more information in this week’s Dragon Tales E-News.

Advent

#AdventWord 2020
Did you know that St. Margaret's Church has an Instagram account? The Rev. Peter W. Mayer is using this social media app to share stories and information through photos. The Rev. Peter will be sharing thoughts and photos every day in Advent in our Instagram account. Each day from the first Sunday of Advent through Christmas Day, he will use the theme of #AdventWord to offer meditations and images to inspire and connect individuals to the themes of Advent. You are invited to participate by posting your own images using the hashtag #AdventWord and the word of the day in your own social media account.

Monday Bible Study for Advent
This new study will be led by parishioner David Allen and will take place Monday evenings at 7 p.m. on Nov. 30, Dec. 7, Dec. 14, and Dec. 21. Titled “What are we waiting for?” this study conducted through Zoom provides an opportunity in this year’s Advent season to contemplate how our faith in God’s kingdom fires our hopes, eases our fears, and guides our interactions with one another. Email patti@st-margarets.org if you would like to participate.

Compline for Advent
Sunday, December 20 @ 8 p.m. Led by Sarah Balcom and Jim Douglas. Look on our Facebook public page and our YouTube channel.

Christmas

Christmas with the Third Sunday Band
Saturday, December 12 @ 7 p.m.
Live-streamed from the St Margaret’s campus on our Facebook public page and then posted on our YouTube channel.

Christmas Services (subject to change)
Out of an abundance of caution and with cases continuing to increase daily, St. Margaret’s is now planning to still hold four services but in a different way.

Christmas Eve
- **Outdoor services** will be held on campus at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., weather permitting.
- There will be a special **Family Service video** that will be broadcast on our Facebook and YouTube pages at 5:00 p.m.
- The traditional candlelight service will be live-streamed in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m.

All services on campus will require a sign-up list that will be available through Sign-up Genius starting Dec. 1. You will be emailed the link through Realm and it will be placed on our website.

Senior Sessions Continues on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
As we continue to physically distance ourselves during the pandemic, our clergy are committed to keeping in touch with our senior parishioners. Our “Senior Sessions” are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 10:00 a.m. through Zoom. If you are 65+ and wish to participate with clergy, discuss the Gospel reading of the week and share joys and challenges, contact the Rev. Patti Sachs at patti@st-margarets.org. Next meeting is Nov. 17.

Now Soliciting Grants Program Applications
Applications or St. Margaret’s endowment grants program have been posted on our website (under missions tab at the top). **Deadline is Nov. 30.** For questions or to volunteer to be a grants liaison for the program, email Grants Administrator Christine Feldmann at missions@st-margarets.org.

We are roughly halfway through the Stewardship campaign, and to date there have been 122 pledges totaling $649,255. There is still thousands of dollars left in the Matching Fund, so please consider making a new pledge if you haven’t in the past, increasing last year’s pledge or converting your plate donations to a pledge. Every new or increased dollar will be matched. And as a fun way to celebrate our Stewardship progress, Peter has agreed to complete “challenges” as we hit pledge milestones. As a result of receiving 100 pledges, please check out the latest the Rev. Peter put his substantial oratory skills to the test. When we hit 150 pledges, Peter will attempt his next challenge. Hint: it involves a wet suit. Let’s get those pledges in! Go to our Stewardship page on our website (click on the logo above) at www.st-margarets.org to view how to pledge.

Send us Your Prayers
Please send your prayer requests to the Rev. Patti at patti@st-margarets.org. She leads a live-streaming prayer service on Friday evenings at 8:00 p.m. on our Facebook public page. As a reminder, if you have a pastoral EMERGENCY, you can reach clergy at 443-837-5463.

Prayers of the People
The Rancourt Family, Dorothy Carter, Nancy, Amanda Freeland, Suzie Clifton, Shirley Greene, Betsy, Randy, Barbara, Joe, Rosemarie, David, the Day family, Don and Maureen Jackson, the Eggleston Family, Karen, the Hounsell Family, Jim, Liza, Tommy Engstrom, Lucy, Vicki and Pete Layman, Mickey and Kathy Turken, Esther Edson.

For Those Who Have Died: Malcolm Holec.