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From the Interim Rector

Dear Friends and Parishioners of St. Mary's

I guess it is time to stop talking about how "In the days and weeks ahead" - **the time is at hand**. Robbie, Sandy and I are making our plans for the transition from St. Mary's to St. Andrew's in Greensboro, where I will become the interim rector. From day one, each of us has fallen in love with you, and it is a hard move for us. You have embraced us individually and as family, and we will forever give God the thanks and glory. Last April, just after Easter, I began to feel a bit anxious about what lay ahead. That quickened for a while and then a sense of peace came over me, and I knew the change was in the air. It was interesting because I actually said to myself one day "Wow! It is time." It is time for us to begin making plans for the future and realize we will be saying good-bye to this wonderful family we have found at St. Mary's. And even more I began to find a deep peace for St. Mary's and its future. (I must confess, inside I had this still small voice saying, "I hope they don't blow it!") BUT your faithfulness and prayer have remained strong and the Holy Spirit has moved mightily with God's will for St. Mary's. You're not in good hands but great hands with faithful leadership and a loving God. In the prayers of Julian of Norwich she says, "In God's unbounded love and mercy 'All things will be well'", beloved you are there, wrapped in God's love and mercy.

We remember back to our first month. Actually, the very first day Robbie came running into the church and began looking for his friends from the Church of the Epiphany - he thought they were moving with us. On our first Sunday, you had a wonderful reception, and he was really excited about all of the food. The second Sunday we had the annual parish picnic across the street - he was ecstatic. The third Sunday as we were getting in the car he said with his usual enthusiasm, "I wonder what we are having for lunch today?"

Every week "wonders" (regarding the coffee connection) I wonder what we will have at the party and weather Lindsey and Katie are going to be there. It was a blow to him that Michael, Samantha, and Alexandra moved on with their parents. He loves how you embrace him and care for him. Isn't it wonderful that you are getting James, not a replacement for Robbie, but to discover again through his being another beautiful "inquiring and discerning spirit" view?

Robbie's enthusiasm and love for St. Mary's, in many ways, mirrors ours only in his innocence it is worn somewhat on the sleeves. We will each go through our withdrawals and cherish the wonderful memories that each day has brought to us. St. Mary's is far more than the lovely buildings that people talk about when they walk through the doors. Tuesday a delightful woman drove up, as I was about to leave for the day. She unrolled her window and asked if the pastor was around. I said yes and she asked might that be you. I said yes and she said, "I need some help". I invited her back into my office (she saw the boxes packed and knew she was talking to a person in transition but that did not matter).

Continued on page 2...

Where faith embraces reason and tradition

St. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Senior Warden's Corner

A Letter from the Senior Warden

by Carroll Ann Miller

Dear Fellow Parishioners,

What busy, exciting, challenging, and rewarding days we are living! What a glorious day we had for the announcement of our new rector and our parish picnic! How blessed we are that we have chosen to strengthen and share our faith, together, at St. Mary's! Our future holds endless possibilities for individual and corporate growth, expansion of our outreach to each other and to the larger community, and opportunities to grow in faith and in our knowledge of God and his will for us.

Under the guidance of Candy Fenn, Beth Penley, and their enthusiastic team members, we are making a renewed effort to not only welcome newcomers, but to fully integrate them into the life of St. Mary's. This dedicated group can lead the way, but it is incumbent upon all of us to serve as de facto committee members by making a concerted effort to speak to someone you don't know, invite them to walk with you to Coffee Connection, to share with them the ways in which you participate in parish life, and to invite them to join you. All it takes for a newcomer to feel welcome is someone they can count on to speak to them and someone who will miss them if they are not at church. The ultimate extension of hospitality is to ask them to do something, with you, to serve the church. Although it was almost 22 years ago, I remember vividly how thrilled I was to be asked to help with Bible Camp. We had been at St. Mary's less than 3 months, and I was so honored. The camp allowed me to meet other young mothers and their children and to feel needed and a real part of parish life. I also remember the kindness extended to us by older members of the congregation who, since our parents were in

Pennsylvania and Florida, gave us that sense of multi-generational family that we sought as a young couple. Please be that person for someone new to St. Mary's.

By the time you receive the *Herald* you should have received (and hopefully returned) your pledge card. Yes, stewardship is important in that the yearly "ask" for the money needed to execute the worship, programming, and outreach is vital to our life together. This year we have been meeting the budget for this work because we have no assistant rector, no youth director, and no Christian Education co-coordinator. It will be up to our new rector to configure the staff as works best for him. It is up to us to provide the means for David to do so. THE YEARLY CANVASS IS ONLY ONE ASPECT OF STEWARDSHIP. The other, and far greater aspect, has to do with our relationship with God and the gifts He has given us – gifts of time, talent, AND treasure. If we truly believe that, "All things come of Thee, O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee", then making a monetary pledge to the church becomes a natural and necessary part of our lives.

Sunday, November 1st, will be an important day in our lives together. We will celebrate the in-gathering of enough pledges to provide for the work of the church, and we will share in our first Eucharist with our new rector, David Umphlett. We will gather at the table as a community of faith, ever mindful of our blessings and of His sacrifice for us.

Faithfully yours,
Carroll Ann

From the Interim Rector.....continued

She told me the story about her cancer and the removal of a lung and "now it's in my brain". She just wanted someone to talk with and grieve. I told her about our healing service. I took her into the church and the minute we opened the door she said with a deep sigh, "Oh, you are really going to miss this aren't you?" (Ouch) Such honesty. The next day she came to the healing service and each one embraced her, and what for her the day before was a beautiful worship space, had become a glorious church. You, St. Mary's, are a beautiful church and people. You have embraced and loved us for a wonderful season and send us forth. Now, in the wonderful power of the Holy Spirit continue to love and serve the Lord in those who will be sent to you. And love, love, love the family of David, Lorinda, and James Umphlett.

As always "Grace and peace" - With Love - Robbie, Sandy and Bob
PS. I was always truthful wasn't I - "I married above myself."

Sunday School

Classes are Sundays 10:00 - 10:45 a.m. Please note the dates and classroom locations.

Adults

Lectionary Class

Dates: Sept. 13 - Nov. 22

Facilitator: Ed Crissman

Location: Rm. 115 Ed. Bldg.

This class discusses the lessons for each Sunday. Usually we focus on the Gospel lesson, since most of our sermons are based on the Gospel. Each Sunday you will receive a copy of the Synthesis, a lectionary guide, which gives background and additional information about the events going on in the lessons. A discussion then takes place inspired by the lessons and application to our daily lives.

The Bible and Theology

Dates: Sept. 13 - Nov. 22

Facilitators: David Idol and Craig Popalis

Location: Common Room

This group will continue their exploration of two facets of our faith: Soteriology (how we are saved), and Authority. Join this thought provoking and free thinking group of parishioners as they delve into matters of our deep faith.

NOOMA - Sunday School for Parents of Teens

Dates: Sept. 13 - TBD

Location: Rm. 201 Ed. Bldg.

The NOOMA format provides spiritual direction for this contemporary world as we struggle with everyday issues like forgiveness, discipleship, and unconditional love. The films are 10 to 14 minutes long, are artfully produced and provide a fresh perspective on the teachings of Jesus.

Youth

Classes begin September 13 through November 22

Grades	Curriculum	Room
K - 1st	Godly Play I	215
2nd - 5th	Godly Play II	217
6th - 8th	Making It Real	Youth House
9th - 12th	Making It Real	Youth House

Upcoming Events

EYC Events

10/4	EYC Meeting - Van Cleaning
10/9 - 10/11	Diocesan Fall Middlers Retreat
10/11	High School EYC Activity
10/18	No EYC due to Furniture Market
10/25	Youth Softball
10/31	EYC Activity TBA

A Farewell Reception for Bob & Sandy Cook

To thank Bob and Sandy for their commitment to St. Mary's and for the gifts they have so freely given us, we will host a reception in their honor following the 11:00 service on Bob's last day, October 11th.

Fall Youth Event

Fall Youth Event (FYE) this year is centered around the theme Hey Seuss, focusing on four of Dr. Seuss' books. The world is a confusing, confounding, confuzzling place! Do you ever feel lost? Ignored? Afraid? Left out? Visit the world of Dr. Seuss and learn to let your faith guide you along. For grades 6- 8th grade at Haw River State Park, October 9th-11th, 2009

We are looking forward to having The Rev. John Tampa, and Jake Melynk as our priest and musician for the weekend.

We are so excited about FYE, and we can't wait to see you there; as these stories creatively come to life and shed a new meaning on some of the familiar classics. You can register at www.episdioncyouth.org

LOOKING AHEAD

October 6

Men's Lunch Gathering
Meet at 11:15 a.m. at the church

October 9 - 11

Fall Middlers Retreat

October 11

Informal Service - 9:00 a.m.
UTO Sunday
Bob Cook's Last Sunday

October 12

Columbus Day

October 17-22

High Point Furniture Market

October 19

Herald Deadline
Staff Meeting - 10:00 a.m.
Vestry Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

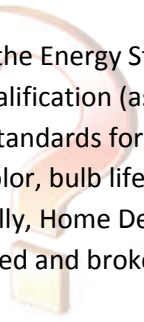
October 31

Halloween

For a complete list of events, view our calendar at www.stmarysepisc.org

Did You Know?

Not all CFL bulbs meet the Energy Star-qualification. Those receiving the qualification (as marked on the package) meet higher standards for start and warm-up times, brightness, color, bulb life, energy use and mercury content. Locally, Home Depot maintains a recycle bin for expired and broken CFL bulbs.



A Prayer for Pumpkin People

After Liz Curtis Higgs wrote the popular children's book *The Pumpkin Patch Parable*, people began using her analogies to say a prayer while carving their Halloween pumpkins. The pumpkin prayer, a Christian alternative to Halloween traditions, reminds people of all ages what God has done for us. Use it this fall when your family makes jack-o'-lanterns.



Build God's Kingdom

Austrian psychologist Alfred Adler (1870-1937) believed mankind would evolve to the point where everyone would love others. "There is a law that man should love his neighbor as himself," he wrote. "In a few hundred years it should be as natural to mankind as breathing or the upright gait; but if he does not learn it, he must perish."

Wars, hate, prejudice and evil deeds make Adler's hope seem impossible. Surely anyone heeding the daily news can't trust the old saying, "Day by day, in every way, humankind is getting better and better."

Christians look for God's ultimate triumph over all evil. We pray for Christ's return, for God's kingdom to come and for his will to be done on earth. We await the shout: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Messiah, and he will reign forever and ever" (Revelation 11:15, NRSV).

If you have had a change of address, phone number and/or e-mail address, please notify the office. It costs the church if your Herald is returned to us. So, please keep us informed. Thank you!

While cutting off the top of the pumpkin, pray, "Lord, open my mind so I can learn new things about you."

(See Proverbs 1:7.)

While removing the seeds and pulp, pray, "Remove the things in my life that don't please you. Forgive the wrong things I do, and help me forgive others."

(See Matthew 6:14-15.)

While making eyes, pray, "Open my eyes to see the beauty you've made in the world around me."

(See Psalm 104:24.)

While making the nose, pray, "I'm sorry for the times I've turned up my nose at your many gifts."

(See James 1:17.)

While making the mouth, pray, "Let everything I say please you." (See Psalm 19:14.)

While lighting the candle, pray, "Lord, help me show your light to others through the things I do."

(See Matthew 5:16.)

Prayers & Milestones

Dot Forward
 Geoffrey & Megan Williams
 Kathy Brown
 Anne Howell
 Ann Hampton
 Alice Jordan
 Michael Cody
 Elaine Teachout
 Michael Bellamy
 Cecil Goddard
 Elaine Fansler
 The Hill Family



Kate Thornton
 Melissa Anderson
 Esker Amos
 Barry Myers
 Robert Davis
 Tim Foster
 Connie & Terry Strader
 Belcke Family
 Julie Cross
 Lee Jordan
 Spencer Wilson & Family

“O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen”

October Birthdays



01	Kathryn Congdon Eric Hill	09	Colin Merritt Alice Jordan	21	Emily Finch Jane Johnson
02	Mary Darby Loretta Menzel	12	Christiana Conrad Judy Stalder	23	David Congdon Robert Whitehorne
03	Samantha Gaefke Andrew Hill Evelyn Morales	14	Craig Darby Stephen Greig Emory Howell	26	Stewart Greig Ryan Saunders
04	Alex Rankin IV	15	Sandy Rankin III John Yowell	27	Jake Goeke
05	Gene Crowder Rick Lewis Will Moore	16	Tyler Barrier Carroll Ann Miller Paul Sicheloff	29	Jason Schaffer
06	Andrew Reagan	17	Fritz Falkson Jackson Merritt	30	Trevor Gay Maggie McDonald Denise Reagan
07	Benjamin White	19	Michael Charles Austin Finch Mary Wolff		
08	Elsa Karcher Thelma Sasser John Wall Jr. Marlon Winters				

To notify the church of illness, hospitalization, birth, death, or prayer request, contact Shannon in the church office: 886-4756 x21 or administrator@stmarysepisc.org.

Serving This Month

DATE	TIME	ACOLYTES	READERS	CHALICERS	GREETERS	USHERS
04-Oct 18th Sunday after Pentecost	8:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Jessica Zander Sam Blackman Lindsey Tripp Trevor Gay Madeline Rhoton	Jon Baird	Bob Bender Famatta DeShield Marty Purser	Beth Penley Nancy Robinson	Sonny White Doug Witcher Tim Yates John Yowell
11-Oct 19th Sunday after Pentecost	8:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Margaret Hanson Adam Howell Jackson Fetner Will Moore Alex Hill Braeden Moore	Nancy Robinson Elizabeth Finch	Bryan Noah Bryan Noah Rick Manning Diane Popalis	Dave Farshing Jim Armstrong	Sonny White Doug Witcher Tim Yates John Yowell
18-Oct 20th Sunday after Pentecost	8:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Sam Duckett Katie Cottam John Drake Karcher Jessica Zander Sam Stalder	Todd Brewbaker	Stephen Greig Braeden Moore Barry Collum	No Greeters	Jim Armstrong Jon Baird Bob Bender James Boggs
25-Oct 21st Sunday after Pentecost	8:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Katherine Hanson Sarah Lindner Christian Witcher George Lindner Spencer Witcher	Kay Brower	Alicia Archibald Sam Duckett Kim Gay	Bob Bender	Jim Armstrong Jon Baird Bob Bender James Boggs

COFFEE CONNECTION

October 4 - Memorials Committee

October 11 - Vestry

October 18 - Christian Formation

October 27 - ECW



**ST. MARY'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

108 W. Farriss Avenue
High Point, NC 27262

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We're on the Web:
www.stmarysepisc.org

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We Pray for the Health and Wellness of:

The deadline for the next Herald is **October 19th**. Please e-mail your submissions to:
administrator@stmarysepisc.org

Services at St. Mary's

Sundays

8:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. - Informal Worship
11:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays

12:00 noon – Holy Eucharist
includes Healing



Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

CLERGY & STAFF

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