

Saint Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church

December 2020 Newsletter

New Vestry Members Begin Term in January



Lin Lindner and John Sapp have graciously agreed to serve as vestry members, effective January 1, 2021. A vestry term is three years.

Lin served several terms as a vestry member in her previous church in upstate NY, twice as Senior Warden. John and wife Linda moved from Wisconsin to Pinehurst about six years ago. They previously attended Emmanuel Church in Southern Pines.

Lin and John will be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting, Dec. 6, following Morning Prayer. You will receive a Zoom link for this meeting. Please do join us.

Our sincere thanks to outgoing vestry members Jane Fisher and Pete Olson. They have served faithfully and we appreciate their contribution.



Thanks, Tim Burgess, for keeping our sign updated and interesting.

Due to Covid 19, church gatherings have been suspended until further notice



DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Tuesday Morning – Healing & Intercessory Prayer, 11:00 a.m., from Home. Prayer list available. Contact Valerie Doolittle

Dec. 6 – Morning Prayer (9:30) via Zoom followed by Annual Meeting - Watch for a link.

Dec. 21 - Vestry Meeting, 3:00 p.m. – (Third Monday of each Month) - All Are Welcome! If you wish to join in, contact Bob Rinaldi for a Zoom link.

Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Service 7:00 p.m. Watch for Zoom link

Dec. 27– Articles for January Newsletter are due. Contact Phyllis Olson.

“[Stewardship is] our personal response to God's generosity in the way we share our resources of time, talent, and money. Stewardship reflects our commitment to making God's love known through the realities of human life and our use of all that God has given us. It is also our service to God's world and our care of creation. Parish members are encouraged to make an annual stewardship pledge. This pledge represents their specific Christian commitment to ‘work, pray, and give for the spread of the kingdom of God.’” (BCP, p. 856):“



**His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor,
The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The
Prince of Peace. ISAIAH 9:6 KJV**



The following people celebrate

December birthdays:

Jane Fisher
Stephen Becker
Dale Schmidt
Susanne Clarke
Mary Ann Matthewson
Fred Thompson
Kensley Wahl



The following couples celebrate December wedding anniversaries:

Linda and Bob Rinaldi
Maureen and Bob Miller



CREATIVE ISOLATION:

Connie Windham is enjoying the beautiful weather, walking about three miles a day, taking pictures of the colorful foliage. She and son Matt had Thanksgiving together. She often catches up with friends via zoom.

Barb and Mel Keiffer had daughter Kristi with them for Thanksgiving. Kristi did the cooking,...a turkey with all the trimmings. They enjoyed a quiet family day, dining with beautiful Lake Auman in view.

Kim and Valerie Doolittle were blessed with a visit from children, Emma and Ian and their spouses. They shared the cooking chores and enjoyed their porch and the lake view on such a beautiful day.

Bette's daughter, Bonnie, joined her for Thanksgiving dinner, dining in Bette's room per current restrictions.

Peggy Loomis plays pickleball three times a week, and Steve plays golf regularly. Recently they traveled to Alabama for granddaughter Winter's first birthday.



Bette Hanham's grandson, Holden, helps prepare mac and cheese for Thanksgiving dinner. He will be eight on November 30. Happy Birthday, Holden.

ST. MM PREPARES FOR VIRTUAL WORSHIP IN THE MONTHS AHEAD

The Vestry approved a budget of \$2000 for the purchase of equipment designed for virtual worship services. Kim Doolittle has purchased this equipment which includes a tripod, a camera, wireless microphones and software. It is available for preparation of the Christmas Eve Service.

Kim also has applied for a diocesan grant for the purchase of the equipment. If the grant proposal is approved, the church will be reimbursed by the diocese for this purchase.

Vestry votes to donate \$500 to Karimu Project

The following is a thank you letter from Jessie Mackay:

Tally told me that SMM has donated \$500 to Karimu. Thank you so much for SMM's faithful care for Karimu and its work for the women in Tanzania.

In this time of stress and dire need for so many of our country men and women, I am touched that this little church has been so faithful to our work.

I pray all the members of SMM have a safe and good Thanksgiving and look forward to the time when we all can gather together in worship.

With thanks,

Jessie

ST. MM'S OUTREACH REPORT

Stewardship and giving during our isolation has remained steady. At the Nov. 16th Vestry meeting, the vestry voted to contribute \$6500 for community outreach as follows:

- \$1000 – West End Methodist Church Food Bank
- \$1000 – Military Missions in Action
- \$1000 – Moore County Veterans
- \$1000 - Friend to Friend
- \$500 - National Alliance on Mental Health (Local Chapter)
- \$500 – Karimu
- \$500 - Animal Advocates
- \$500 - An orphanage group to be determined by Fr. Stephen

Jane Fisher, Outreach Chair for the last three years, rotates off vestry in January and we thank her for her thoughtful service.



File Photos



2014
Jan, Laura, and Lindsay



Kim and Bob 2018



Teeny and Fr. Fred
Church picnic 2010



Proud Grampa Steve 2018



Our Choir - December 2014

All present!

(Front) Bob, Bette, Carol, Grace, Phyllis

(Back) Ernie, Hollis, Tim, Phil, Sherol, & Linda.



Editorial

Everywhere, Everywhere Christmas tonight

Phillip Brooks

*Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas to-night!
Christmas in lands of the fir tree and pine,
Christmas in lands of the palm tree and vine;
Christmas where snow-peaks stand solemn and white,
Christmas where corn-fields lie sunny and bright;
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas to-night.*

*Christmas where children are hopeful and gay,
Christmas where old men are patient and gray,
Christmas where peace, like a dove in his flight,
Broods o're brave men in the thick of the fight;
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!
For the Christ-child who comes is the Master of all;
No palace too great, no cottage too small.*

This poem was written in 1903 by Phillip Brooks, an Episcopal Clergyman. (the same man who wrote *O, Little Town of Bethlehem*)

As a sixth grader I had to memorize the poem and I well remember standing in front of the class reciting it, trembling with fright. Due to the last two lines of

the poem, I am sure no public school teacher could assign it these days, or even read it in class.

I am stirred as I consider that around the world, ...
everywhere, everywhere,.... people will pause to rejoice at the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

I pray for peace,...peace in our hearts and Peace on Earth. Merry Christmas *Phyllis*

ANGELS, EXPLAINED BY CHILDREN:



Angels talk all the way while they're flying you up to heaven. The main subject is where you went wrong before you got dead. Daniel, age 9

Angels live in cloud houses made by God and his son, who's a very good carpenter. Jared, age 8

Some of the angels are in charge of helping heal sick animals and pets. And if they don't make the animals get better, they help the child get over it. Vicki, age 8



2019

Vestry Members

Senior Warden – Skip Ragland
Junior Warden – Bob Rinaldi
Charlotte Kennedy, Jane Fisher,
Pete Olson, Phyllis Marion and
Julia Poisson

Treasurer- David Poisson

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A Mission of the Episcopal Diocese of North Carolina

